

Proof By Induction (Challenging) Exam Questions MS

Q1, (Cambridge 9795/01, 2011 Specimen, Q13)

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| (i) Differentiate $x(\ln x)^n$ as a product Obtain $(\ln x)^n + n(\ln x)^{n-1}$ Deduce $\int_1^c (\ln x)^n dx + n \int_1^c (\ln x)^{n-1} dx = [x(\ln x)^n]_1^c$ Obtain given result correctly | M1 A1 M1 A1 | 4 |
| (ii) $I_1 = \int_1^c \ln x dx = [x \ln x - x]_1^c = 1$ (e.g. by parts) $J_n = \frac{e}{n!} - J_{n-1}$ noted at any point $J_1 = 1 \Rightarrow J_2 = \frac{1}{2}e - 1$ $\sum_{r=2}^2 \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} = \frac{1}{2!} = \frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{e}(1 + (-1)^2 J_2) = \frac{1}{e}(1 + \frac{1}{2}e - 1) = \frac{1}{2}$ so result is true for $n = 2$ Assume $\sum_{r=2}^k \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} = \frac{1}{e}(1 + (-1)^k J_k)$ induction hypothesis Then $\sum_{r=2}^{k+1} \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} = \sum_{r=2}^k \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} + \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(k+1)!}$ attempt at $S_k + u_{k+1}$ Then $\sum_{r=2}^{k+1} \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} = \frac{1}{e}(1 + (-1)^k J_k) + \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(k+1)!}$ use of induction hypothesis $J_k = \frac{e}{(k+1)!} - J_{k+1}$ used to express this in terms of J_{k+1} $\sum_{r=2}^{k+1} \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} = \frac{1}{e}(1 + (-1)^k \left[\frac{e}{(k+1)!} - J_{k+1} \right]) + \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(k+1)!}$ legitimately rearranged into form $\frac{1}{e}(1 + (-1)^{k+1} J_{k+1})$ Induction explanation rounded off convincingly | B1 B1 B1 B1 B1 M1 M1 M1 M1 A1 B1 | |

Q2, (Cambridge 9795/01, 2013, Q12)

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| (i) $y'(x) = (2x + 1)e^{2x}$, $y''(x) = (4x + 4)e^{2x}$, $y'''(x) = (8x + 12)e^{2x}$, $y^{(4)}(x) = (16x + 32)e^{2x}$ | B1 B1 B1 B1 | [4] |
| (ii) Conjecture $\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} = (2^n x + n \cdot 2^{n-1})e^{2x}$ One mark each: coefft. of x , constant | B1 B1 | |
| (iii) Differentiating their conjectured expression (must be linear $\times e^{2x}$) | M1 | [2] |
| $\frac{d^{n+1} y}{dx^{n+1}} = 2 \times (2^n x + n \cdot 2^{n-1})e^{2x} + 2^n \times e^{2x}$ FT max 1/2 | A1 A1 | |
| $= (2^{n+1} x + (n+1) \cdot 2^{(n+1)-1})e^{2x}$ Shown of correct form | A1 | |
| Usual induction round-up/explanation of proof, including clear demonstration that $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$ formula is in the right form. | E1 | [5] |

Q3, (Cambridge 9795/01, 2016, Q11)

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| (i) | $F_3 = 2, F_4 = 3, F_5 = 5, F_6 = 8$ | B1 | all |
| (ii) (a) | $p_2(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{x+1} = \frac{x+2}{x+1}$ | B1 | [1] |
| | $p_3(x) = \frac{2x+3}{x+2}$ | B1 | |
| | $p_4(x) = \frac{3x+5}{2x+3}$ | B1 | (AG) |
| | | [3] | |
| (b) | $p_n(x) = \frac{F_n x + F_{n+1}}{F_{n-1} x + F_n}$ | B1 | |
| | Result is true for $n = 2$ (and 3 and 4) | B1 | May be mentioned in later in their |
| | Assuming $p_k(x) = \frac{F_k x + F_{k+1}}{F_{k-1} x + F_k}$ (not separate | B1 | "round up" |
| | from their conjecture) | | |
| | $p_{k+1}(x) = 1 + \frac{F_{k-1} x + F_k}{F_k x + F_{k+1}}$ | M1 | |
| | $= \frac{F_k x + F_{k+1}}{F_k x + F_{k+1}} + \frac{F_{k-1} x + F_k}{F_k x + F_{k+1}}$ | | |
| | $= \frac{(F_k + F_{k-1}) x + (F_k + F_{k+1})}{F_k x + F_{k+1}}$ | M1 | Collecting coeffs. into successive Fib. terms |
| | $= \frac{F_{k+1} x + F_{k+2}}{F_k x + F_{k+1}}$ | A1 | |
| | which is the required formula with $n = k + 1$. Accept this as sufficient that proof follows by induction. | [5] | |

Q4, (Cambridge 9795/01, 2018, Q8)

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| 8(i) | $a = 6, b = 4$ | B1 | |
| 8(ii) | For $n = 1$, LHS = $1^5 = 1$ and RHS = $\frac{1}{6} \cdot 2^3 - \frac{1}{12} \cdot 2^2 = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3} = 1$ so that the result is true for $n = 1$ | B1 | Both sides must be established |
| | Assume that $\sum_{r=1}^k r^3 = \frac{1}{6} k^3 (k+1)^3 - \frac{1}{12} k^2 (k+1)^2$ | M1 | Induction hypothesis clearly stated somewhere |
| | Then $\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} r^3 = \frac{1}{6} k^3 (k+1)^3 - \frac{1}{12} k^2 (k+1)^2 + (k+1)^3$ | M1 | Attempt at S_{k+1} with S_k used |
| | $= \frac{1}{6} k^3 (k+1)^3 - \frac{1}{12} k^2 (k+1)^2$ $+ \frac{1}{6} (k+1)^3 [6(k+1)^2 + 2] - \frac{1}{12} (k+1)^2 [4(k+1)]$ | M1 | Use of (i)'s result with $m = k + 1$ for the $(k+1)^3$ term |
| | $= \frac{1}{6} (k+1)^3 [k^3 + 6(k^2 + 2k + 1) + 2] - \frac{1}{12} (k+1)^2 [k^2 + 4(k+1)]$ | M1 | Terms collected appropriately |
| | $= \frac{1}{6} (k+1)^3 (k+2)^3 - \frac{1}{12} (k+1)^2 (k+2)^2$ | A1 | Legitimately shown so |
| | Hence result true for $n = k \Rightarrow$ result true for $n = k + 1$. Since result true for $n = 1$, it follows that it is true for $n = 2, n = 3$, etc. and the result is true for all positive integers n by induction | E1 | Induction process clearly explained: minimum requirement is $(P_1 \checkmark)$ and $(P_k \checkmark \Rightarrow P_{k+1} \checkmark)$ |

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| (ii) | Alt. I For $n = 1$, LHS = $1^5 = 1$ and RHS = $\frac{1}{6} \cdot 2^3 - \frac{1}{12} \cdot 2^2 = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3} = 1$ so that the result is true for $n = 1$ | B1 | Both sides must be established |
| | Assume that $\sum_{r=1}^k r^5 = \frac{1}{6}k^3(k+1)^3 - \frac{1}{12}k^2(k+1)^2$ | M1 | Induction hypothesis clearly stated somewhere |
| | Then $\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} r^5 = \frac{1}{6}k^3(k+1)^3 - \frac{1}{12}k^2(k+1)^2 + (k+1)^5$ | M1 | Attempt at S_{k+1} with S_k used |
| | $= \frac{1}{12}(k+1)^2(2k^4 + 14k^3 + 35k^2 + 36k + 12)$ | M1 | Factorising out the $(k+1)^2$ |
| | $= \frac{1}{12}(k+1)^2(k^2 + 4k + 4)(2k^2 + 6k + 3)$ | | |
| | $= \frac{1}{12}(k+1)^2(k+2)^2(2(k+1)(k+2)-1)$ | M1 | Factorising and splitting the final factor suitably |
| | $= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)^3(k+2)^3 - \frac{1}{12}(k+1)^2(k+2)^2$ | A1 | Legitimately shown so |
| | Hence result true for $n = k \Rightarrow$ result true for $n = k + 1$. Since result true for $n = 1$, it follows that it is true for $n = 2, n = 3$, etc. and the result is true for all positive integers n by induction | E1 | Induction process clearly explained: minimum requirement is $(P_1 \checkmark)$ and $(P_k \checkmark \Rightarrow P_{k+1} \checkmark)$ |

Q5, (Cambridge 9795/01, 2017, Q12)

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| (i) | Method I $F_{n+2}(\theta) - \frac{1}{4} \sin^2(2\theta) F_{n+1}(\theta)$ $\equiv (c^2 + s^2)(c^{2n+4} + s^{2n+4})$ $\quad - \frac{1}{4}(2sc)^2(c^{2n+2} + s^{2n+2})$ | M2 | M1 all F_n terms M1 $\sin 2\theta$ form |
| | $\equiv c^{2n+6} + c^2 s^{2n+4} + s^2 c^{2n+4} + s^{2n+6}$ $\quad - c^2 s^2 (c^{2n+2} + s^{2n+2})$ | A1 | |
| | $\equiv c^{2n+6} + s^{2n+6} \equiv F_{n+3}(\theta)$ | A1 | AG |
| | Method II $\equiv c^{2n+4} + s^{2n+4} - s^2 c^2 (c^{2n+2} + s^{2n+2})$ | M1 | Use of $\sin 2\theta$ form |
| | $\equiv c^{2n+4} + s^{2n+4} - s^2 c^{2n+4} - c^2 s^{2n+4}$ | A1 | |
| | $\equiv (1-s^2)c^{2n+4} + (1-c^2)s^{2n+4}$ | M1 | |
| | $\equiv c^{2n+6} + s^{2n+6} \equiv F_{n+3}(\theta)$ | A1 | AG |

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| (ii)(a) | Use of $z = c + is$ and $z^{-1} = c - is$ | M1 | |
| | $z + z^{-1} = 2c$ and $z - z^{-1} = 2is$ | A2 | A1 for each |
| (ii)(b) | Method I $(2c)^6 = (z + z^{-1})^6 = z^6 + 6z^4 + 15z^2 + 20$ $+ 15z^{-2} + 6z^{-4} + z^{-6}$ | M1 | |
| | $= 2\cos 6\theta + 12\cos 4\theta + 30\cos 2\theta + 20$ | A1 | |
| | $-(2s)^6 = (z - z^{-1})^6 = z^6 - 6z^4 + 15z^2 - 20$ $+ 15z^{-2} - 6z^{-4} + z^{-6}$ $= 2\cos 6\theta - 12\cos 4\theta + 30\cos 2\theta - 20$ | B1 | FT (Must have - sign) |
| | Subtracting: $64(c^6 + s^6) = 12(z^4 + z^{-4}) + 40$ $= 12 \cdot 2\cos 4\theta + 40$ | M1 | |
| | Dividing by 8: $8(c^6 + s^6) = 3\cos 4\theta + 5$ | A1 | AG |
| | Use of $\cos 4\theta = 2\cos^2 2\theta - 1$ and $1 = \cos^2 2\theta + \sin^2 2\theta$ | M1 | |
| | $\Rightarrow c^6 + s^6 = \frac{3}{8}(2\cos^2 2\theta) + (-\frac{3}{8} + \frac{5}{8})(\cos^2 2\theta + \sin^2 2\theta)$ $= \cos^2 2\theta + \frac{1}{4}\sin^2 2\theta$ | A1 | AG |
| (ii)(b) | Method II $\cos 4\theta = \operatorname{Re}(c + is)^4$ | M1 | |
| | $= c^4 - 6c^2s^2 + s^4 = c^4 - 6c^2(1 - c^2) + (1 - c^2)^2$ $= 8c^4 - 8c^2 + 1$ | A1 | |
| | $c^6 + s^6 = c^6 + (1 - c^2)^3 = c^6 + 1 - 3c^2 + 3c^4 - c^6$ | M1 | |
| | $= 3c^4 - 3c^2 + 1$ | A1 | |
| | so that $8(c^6 + s^6) = 3\cos 4\theta + 5$ | A1 | AG |
| | Use of $\cos 4\theta = \cos^2 2\theta - \sin^2 2\theta$ and $1 = \cos^2 2\theta + \sin^2 2\theta$ | M1 | |
| | $\Rightarrow 8(c^6 + s^6) = 3\cos 4\theta + 5$ $= 3(\cos^2 2\theta - \sin^2 2\theta) + 5(\cos^2 2\theta + \sin^2 2\theta)$ $\Rightarrow c^6 + s^6 = \cos^2 2\theta + \frac{1}{4}\sin^2 2\theta$ | A1 | AG |

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| (iii) | Case for $n = 1$ established in (ii) (b): | B1 | noted explicitly (possibly at end) |
| | Assume $c^{2k+4} + s^{2k+4} \leq \cos^2 2\theta + \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} \sin^2 2\theta$ | B1 | i.e. the case for $n = k$ |
| | A clear statement of the result must be given, possibly within what follows Then $c^{2k+6} + s^{2k+6} = c^{2k+4} + s^{2k+4} - \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\theta (c^{2k+2} + s^{2k+2})$ | M1 | attempt at $n = k + 1$ case using (i)'s identity |
| | $\leq \cos^2 2\theta + \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} \sin^2 2\theta - \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\theta (c^{2k+2} + s^{2k+2})$ | M1 | use of the induction hypothesis (i.e. the $n = k$ case) |
| | $= \cos^2 2\theta + \frac{1}{2^{k+2}} \sin^2 2\theta - \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\theta \left(c^{2k+2} + s^{2k+2} - \frac{1}{2^k} \right)$ | M1A1 | splitting up the $\sin^2 2\theta$ term into two equal parts |
| | $\leq \cos^2 2\theta + \frac{1}{2^{k+2}} \sin^2 2\theta$ Proof follows by induction since $\sin^2 2\theta \geq 0$ and given result that $c^{2k+2} + s^{2k+2} \geq \frac{1}{2^k}$ | A1 | |