

Theorem: For any integer  $n$ , at least one of the integers  $n$ ,  $n+2$ ,  $n+4$  is divisible by 3.

Proof:

Case 1:

Choose an arbitrary  $n$  such that  $n = 3m$ . Then  $n$  is divisible by 3.

Case 2:

Choose an arbitrary  $n$  such that  $n = 3m + 1$ , then using  $n+4$ :

$$3m+1=n+4$$

$$3m+1-4=n$$

$$3m+3=n$$

$$3(m+1)=n$$

This proves  $3m+1$  would be divisible by  $n+4$ .

Case 3:

Choose an arbitrary  $n$  such that  $n = 3m + 2$ , then using  $n+2$ :

$$3m+2=n+2$$

$$3m+2-2=n$$

$$3m=n$$

This proves  $3m+2$  would be divisible by  $n+2$ .

Case 4:

Since  $3m+3 = 3p$ , where  $p = m+1$ , the cycle would restart by being divisible by  $n$ .

Since all cases show that any integer is divisible by 3, the theorem is proved.