

## Examples from Class

### Connor Baker, March 2017

**Example 1** (Prove that if  $(3|a) \wedge (3|b)$  then  $9|(ab)$ ). Assume that  $\exists k, j \in \mathbb{N} : 3k = a, 3j = b$ . Then,  $ab = 9kj$ . Since  $k, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $(kj) \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(9kj) \in \mathbb{N}$ . By the definition of divisibility,  $9|(ab)$ .

**Example 2** (Let  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q$  prime. Then  $q|m \iff q|m^2$ ). If  $q|m$ , then  $q|m^2$ . Then  $\exists k \in \mathbb{N} : qk = m$ . Then,  $m^2 = q^2k^2$ . By definition, since it has the same factor twice,  $q|m^2$ .

If  $q|m^2$ , then  $q|m$ . Let the unique prime factor decomposition of  $m = p_1^{n_1} \cdot p_2^{n_2} \cdots p_k^{n_k}$ . Then  $m^2 = p_1^{2n_1} \cdot p_2^{2n_2} \cdots p_k^{2n_k}$ . Since  $q|m^2, q = p_i^{2n_i}$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}, i \leq k$ . Since  $q$  is prime and is in  $\mathbb{N}, 2n_i \geq 2 \implies n_i \geq 1$ . Furthermore,  $q$  must be in the unique prime factorization of  $m$  (which we can infer from  $q$ 's being prime and a factor of  $m^2$  – it must have a factor of at least  $q^2$ ). As such,  $q|m$ . Therefore,  $q|m \iff q|m^2$ .

**Example 3** ( $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational). If  $(x > 0) \wedge (x^2 = 2)$ , then  $x$  is irrational. We will prove by contradiction that  $x$  is irrational.

Assume that  $x$  is rational and  $x > 0, x^2 = 2$ . Then, since  $x$  is rational,  $\exists m, n \in \mathbb{N} : x = \frac{m}{n}$ , and  $m, n$  have no common factors. As such,  $2 = x^2 = \frac{m^2}{n^2} \implies m^2 = 2n^2$ , and  $2|m^2$ , which by the previous example, means  $2|m$ .

Since  $2|m, \exists k \in \mathbb{N}$  where  $m = 2k$ . As such,  $x = \frac{2k}{n} \implies x^2 = \frac{4k^2}{n^2} = 2 \implies 2k^2 = n^2$ .

Therefore,  $2|n^2 \implies 2|n$ .

So,  $m, n$  both have no factors in common, yet they have a factor of two, which is a contradiction. Therefore, it must be the case that if  $(x > 0) \wedge (x^2 = 2)$ , then  $x$  is irrational.