

Fundamental theorem proof

Theorem: Every positive integer *greater than 1* is a product of (one or more) primes.

Proof by strong induction, with $b = 2$ and $j = 0$.

Basis step: WTS property is true about 2.

Recursive step: Consider an arbitrary integer $n \geq 2$. Assume (as the IH) that the property is true about each of $2, \dots, n$. WTS that the property is true about $n + 1$.

Case 1:

Case 2:

Least greatest proofs

Prove or disprove: There is a least prime number.

Prove or disprove: There is a greatest integer.

Approach 1, De Morgan's and universal generalization:

Approach 2, proof by contradiction:

Extra examples: Prove or disprove that \mathbb{N} , \mathbb{Q} each have a least and a greatest element. Prove that there is no greatest prime number.

Gcd def

Greatest common divisor Let a and b be integers, not both zero. The largest integer d such that d is a factor of a and d is a factor of b is called the greatest common divisor of a and b and is denoted by $\gcd(a, b)$.