

**2.32 Theorem.** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  $(n, n + 1) = 1$ .

**Proof.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be given. Let  $(n, n + 1) = d$  with  $d \geq 1$  such that  $d|n$  and  $d|(n + 1)$ . By Theorem 1.2,  $d|[n - (n + 1)]$ . By definition,  $[n - (n + 1)] = dt$  for  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} dt &= n - n + 1 \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $d \geq 1$ , we could assume  $d = 1$ . But suppose not. That is, given  $dt = 1$ , suppose  $d > 1$  such that  $1 \leq t < dt$ . It follows that  $1 < dt$ . This is a contradiction to our given  $dt = 1$ . Thus,  $d = 1 = (n, n + 1)$ .  $\square$