

**Theorem 1**

- The theorem statement is incorrect: for example, if  $a = 6, b = 3, c = 4$ , then  $a|(bc)$  but  $a \nmid b$  and  $a \nmid c$ .
- The proof only looks at one case and generalizes to the entire integers.

**Corrected Theorem and Proof**

**Theorem 1.** Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a < b < c$ . If  $a|(bc)$ , then  $a|b$  or  $a|c$

*Proof.* Suppose toward contradiction that for  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a|(bc)$ ,  $a \nmid b$ , and  $a \nmid c$ . Then  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $b \neq xa$  and  $c \neq ya$ . Then,  $bc \neq (xy)a$ . However, this means  $a \nmid bc$ , as  $xy \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\perp$   $\square$

**Theorem 2.** If  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a > 1$ , then  $0 < \frac{1}{a} < 1$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $1 \leq \frac{1}{a}$ . Since  $a > 1$ , we can divide both sides by  $a$  (without reversing the inequality) to get  $\frac{a}{a} > \frac{1}{a}$  so  $1 > \frac{1}{a}$ . This contradicts the assumption that  $1 \leq \frac{1}{a}$ . Thus it must be that  $a > \frac{1}{a}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** If  $absx < \epsilon$  for every real number  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $x = 0$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $|x| < \epsilon$  for every positive number  $\epsilon$ , but  $x \neq 0$ . Since  $x \neq 0$ , necessarily  $\frac{|x|}{2} > 0$ , so in particular  $|x| < \epsilon$  for the positive number  $\epsilon = \frac{|x|}{2} > 0$ . This means

$$|x| < \frac{|x|}{2}.$$

But,  $|x| \neq 0$  by assumption, so we can divide both sides by  $|x|$  to conclude that  $1 < \frac{1}{2}$ , which is a contradiction. Thus, if  $|x| < \epsilon$  for every real number  $\epsilon > 0$ , it must be the case that  $x = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and  $b \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . Then  $(a + b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  there is an integer  $k$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = 3k + 1$ . Since  $b \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , we can write  $b = 3k + 2$ . Thus,  $a + b = (3k + 1) + (3k + 2) = 6k + 3 = 3(2k + 1)$ , so  $(a + b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.** There are no integers  $a, b$  for which  $2a + 4b = 1$ .

*Proof.* Suppose the theorem is false, so that there are integers  $a, b$  for which  $2a + 4b = 1$ . Dividing both sides of this equation by 2, we conclude that  $a + 2b = \frac{1}{2}$ . Since  $a$  and  $b$  are integers,  $a + 2b$  is also an integer. But  $\frac{1}{2}$  is not an integer, so this is impossible. Therefore, the theorem can not be false, so it must be true.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.** Let  $n$  be an integer. If  $n^2 + 5$  is odd, then  $n$  is even.

*Proof.* Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $n^2 + 5$  is odd and  $n$  is also odd. By definition, then, there exists an integer  $k$  so that  $n^2 + 5 = 2k + 1$  and  $n = 2k + 1$ . Hence we have

$$2k + 1 = n^2 + 5 = (2k + 1)^2 + 1 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 + 5 = 2(2k^2 + 2k + 3)$$

. Therefore,  $2k + 1$  is even. This is clearly impossible, and hence we cannot have that  $n^2 + 5$  is odd and  $n$  is also odd. Therefore, if that  $n^2 + 5$  is odd, we must have  $n$  is even.  $\square$