

**1. Prove that: If  $x$  is an odd integer, then  $x + 1$  is even.**

- a. The definition of an odd integer is an integer that can be represented as  $2k + 1$ , where  $k$  is an integer. Thus, adding 1 to an odd integer equals  $(2k + 1) + 1$ , which equals  $2k + 2$ . We can factor 2 out of this expression to give us  $x = 2(k + 1)$ . Let  $k + 1 = n$ . Since both  $k$  and 1 are integers,  $n$  is also an integer. Thus, we now have  $x = (2k + 1) + 1 = 2k + 2 = 2(k + 1) = 2(n)$ . Since the definition of an even number is any number that can be written as  $2k$ , where  $k$  is an integer, this number is even. (Alternatively, since  $2k + 2$  is the sum of two even numbers, it must also be even.)

**2. Theorem:  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, 3 \mid (n^3 - n)$ . Prove the theorem using induction.**

- a. To prove using induction, we begin with a base case. Take  $n = 0$  or 1. Thus, we have  $(0^3 - 0) = 0$ , or  $(1^3 - 1) = 0$ . Since 0 is divisible by 3 ( $0/3 = 0$ ), we have proven the base case.

Next, we must prove that assuming the theorem is true for any natural number  $i$  (what we will call the **original expression**), it remains true for  $i + 1$  (hereafter called the **" $i + 1$ " expression**).

Substituting  $i$  for  $n$  in the expression and factoring, our original expression becomes:  
 $(i^3 - i) = i(i^2 - 1) = \mathbf{i(i + 1)(i - 1)}$ .

Plugging in  $i + 1$  for  $i$  in this expression, we get:  $(i + 1)[(i + 1) + 1][(i + 1) - 1]$ . This expression can be simplified to give us:  $(i + 1)(i + 2)(i) = \mathbf{i(i + 1)(i + 2)}$ .

At this point, the original expression –  $\mathbf{i(i + 1)(i - 1)}$  – is very similar to our " $i + 1$ " expression –  $\mathbf{i(i + 1)(i + 2)}$ . In fact, they are both a multiple of three integers, the first two of which are identical between them:  $i(i + 1)$ . To simplify things, we may set  $i(i + 1) = x$ , where  $x$  is an integer. Our original expression now becomes  $x(i - 1)$ , and our " $i + 1$ " expression becomes  $x(i + 2)$ .

If we let  $(i - 1) = m$ , we see that our original expression can be written as  $\mathbf{mx}$ , a product of two integers. Since  $[(i - 1) + 3] = (i + 2)$ , substituting  $m$  for  $(i - 1)$ , our " $i + 1$ " expression becomes:  $x(i + 2) = x(m + 3) = \mathbf{mx + 3x}$ .

Since we know that  $\mathbf{mx}$  is divisible by 3 (since it is equivalent to the original proposition, which we are presuming to be true), and  $\mathbf{3x}$  must be divisible by 3, as it is the product of an integer  $x$  and 3, we have proven that if the theorem holds true for any natural number  $i$ , it must also be true for  $i + 1$ .

Thus, by induction, the theorem must be true.