

1. (3 points) Prove by contradiction that if n is an integer, and n is odd, then n^2 is odd.

Proof by Contradiction

Assume n^2 is even

We know n is odd $\rightarrow n = 2b+1$, $b \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{Then, } n^2 = (2b+1)^2 = 4b^2 + 4b + 1 = 2(2b^2 + 2b) + 1$$

Let $a = 2b^2 + 2b$, $a \in \mathbb{Z}$

Then, $n^2 = 2a + 1 \rightarrow$ odd

Therefore, we have n^2 is odd AND n^2 is even.

CONTRADICTION!

2. (5 points) Prove that the product of any five consecutive integers is divisible by 120.
(For example, the product of 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 is 2520, which is equal to 120 times 21.)

Proof

Given any 5 consecutive integers,

at least one must be a multiple of 2, and

at least one must be a multiple of 3, and

at least one must be a multiple of 4, and

at least one must be a multiple of 5.

Hence, the product of these numbers is

$$2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = 120 \quad \checkmark$$

Another way to put it,

$$2a \cdot 3b \cdot 4c \cdot 5d \cdot e = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot \overbrace{(a \cdot b \cdot c \cdot d \cdot e)}^K = 120 \cdot K$$

where $a, b, c, d, e, K \in \mathbb{Z}$

divisible
by 120

3. (2 points) Prove or disprove that if a and b are natural numbers, then $a + b < ab$.

Disproof by Counter example:

Let $a=1$, $b=1$ where $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$

Then, $a + b < a \cdot b$

$$1 + 1 < 1 \cdot 1$$

$$2 < 1$$

↑ false!