

Let  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  be a list of integers. Define the function  $f$  that maps a list of  $k$  integers to an integer by the rule  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = a_1x_1 + \dots + a_kx_k$ . Let  $R$  be the range of the function  $f$ . Prove:

- For all  $m, n \in R$  we have  $m + n \in R$ . Suppose  $m, n$  are arbitrary integers in the range  $R$ . We must show that  $m + n$  is in the range  $R$ . By definition,  $m, n$  have representations in the set of the list of integers of length  $k$  such that  $m = f(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  and  $n = f(n_1, \dots, n_k)$ . Therefore  $m + n$  can be rewritten as:  

$$m + n = f(m_1, \dots, m_k) + f(n_1, \dots, n_k) = a_1m_1 + \dots + a_km_k + a_1n_1 + \dots + a_kn_k = a_1(m_1 + n_1) + \dots + a_k(m_k + n_k).$$
 Since the integers are closed under addition and multiplication then the list  $(m_1 + n_1, \dots, m_k + n_k)$  is a valid list of  $k$  integers, which has been shown above defines  $m + n$ , then  $m + n \in R$ .
- For all  $n \in R$  and  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have  $cn \in R$ . Suppose  $n, c$  are arbitrary integers, and  $n \in R$ . By definition of being in the range of  $R$  there exist a list  $(n_1, \dots, n_k)$  such that  $n = f(n_1, \dots, n_k) = a_1n_1 + \dots + a_kn_k$ . Therefore multiplying  $n$  by  $c$  yields:  

$$cn = c(a_1n_1 + \dots + a_kn_k) = ca_1n_1 + \dots + ca_kn_k.$$
 Since the integers are closed under multiplication, then  $(cn_1, \dots, cn_k)$  is a valid list of  $k$  integers. Therefore  $f$  is defined over that list, and as shown above that is the representation of  $cn$ , therefore  $cn \in R$ .