

Conjecture: For any integer  $n$ , the number  $n^2 + n + 1$  is odd.

We assume the conjecture is true. Any arbitrary integer,  $n$ , can either be odd or even.

If  $n$  is even, then  $n = 2k$ , for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 + n + 1 &= (2k)^2 + 2k + 1 \\ &= 4k^2 + 2k + 1 && \text{Expanding equation} \\ &= 2(2k^2 + 1) + 1 && \text{Factoring to the form } 2r + 1 \end{aligned}$$

which is odd.

If  $n$  is odd, then  $n = 2k + 1$ , for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 + n + 1 &= (2k + 1)^2 + (2k + 1) + 1 \\ &= 4k^2 + 6k + 3 && \text{Expanding equation} \\ &= 2(2k^2 + 3k + 1) + 1 && \text{Factoring to the form } 2r + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Which is also odd.

Therefore, for any integer  $n^2 + n + 1$  is odd. The conjecture is true.