How to Prove It: Exercises Rachel Shu May 20, 2023

Introduction

Exercise 0.0.1

a. Factor $2^{15} - 1 = 32,767$ into a product of two smaller positive integers.

Answer. One such product is 7 * 4681.

b. Find an integer x such that $1 < x < 2^{32767} - 1$ and $2^{32767} - 1$ is divisible by x.

Answer. We have 32767 = 7 * 4681 from above. By Proof of Conjecture 2, let $x = 2^7 - 1$. Then x = 127, and x is a factor of 2^{32767} .