

Prime Property

Lemma (Prime property):

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{P} \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (p \mid xy \rightarrow p \mid x \vee p \mid y)$$

Proof: Assume $p \in \mathbb{P}$, $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$, and $p \mid xy$.

Either $p \mid x$ or $p \nmid x$.

If $p \mid x$ then we're done.

If $p \nmid x$ then $\gcd(p, x) = 1$.

By Bézout's Identity, $\exists a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (1 = ax + bp)$

$$\text{Now } y = y \cdot 1 = y(ax + bp) = axy + byp$$

$p \mid xy$ and $p \mid p$ so $p \mid (axy + byp)$ and thus $p \mid y$.

In either case, $p \mid x \vee p \mid y$, as needed.