

Turn the following true statements into propositions with explicitly described variables, premise, and conclusion, and then prove that proposition.

1. The cube of any even integer is even.

Proposition 1. For integer n , if n is even, then n^3 is even.

Proof. From our premise that n is even, we may determine that $n = 2k$ for some integer k . Thus $n^3 = (2k)^3 = 8k^3 = 2(4k^3)$. Since $4k^3$ is an integer, n^3 is definitionally even. \square

2. If the square of a rational number is not an integer, then the rational number itself is also not an integer.

Proposition 2. For a rational number q , if $q^2 \notin \mathbb{Z}$, then $q \notin \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof. Let us instead prove the contrapositive, that if $q \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $q^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. This is a triviality: since the product of any two integers is an integer, our new premise that q is an integer guarantees that $q \cdot q$ is also an integer. \square

3. Any non-negative real number plus one is positive.

Proposition 3. For a real number x , if x is non-negative, then $x + 1$ is positive.

Proof. From our premise, we may assume that $x \geq 0$. Then $x + 1 \geq 1$. Since $1 > 0$, we then derive that $x + 1 > 0$. Thus, $x + 1$ is positive. \square

4. If the product of two integers is even, then at least one of the two factors in the product must be even.

Proposition 4. For integers m and n , if mn is even, then either m is even or n is even.

Proof. Let us instead prove the contrapositive, that if neither m nor n is even, then mn is not even. Noting that noneven integers are odd, we may more concisely phrase the statement to be proven as: if m and n are both odd, then mn is odd. From our premises that m is odd and that n is odd, we may respectively deduce that $m = 2k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and that $n = 2\ell + 1$ for some $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$mn = (2k + 1)(2\ell + 1) = 4k\ell + 2k + 2\ell + 1 = 2(2k\ell + k + \ell) + 1$$

and since $2k\ell + k + \ell$ is an integer, the above demonstrates that mn is odd. \square