

100 Prove that the square of an odd natural number is odd, and the square of an even natural number is even.

After trying the question, scroll down to the solution.

§ The even naturals are $2 \times nat$ and the odd naturals are $2 \times nat + 1$. To say that the square of an odd natural is odd is easy:

$$(2 \times nat + 1)^2: 2 \times nat + 1$$

But arithmetic on bunches is tricky; for example, nat^2 and $nat \times nat$ differ; $2 \times nat$ and $nat + nat$ differ. To be safe, we prove

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall a: 2 \times nat + 1 \cdot \exists b: 2 \times nat + 1 \cdot a^2 = b && \text{change of variable, twice} \\ = & \forall n: nat \cdot \exists m: nat \cdot (2 \times n + 1)^2 = 2 \times m + 1 && \text{various number laws} \\ = & \forall n: nat \cdot \exists m: nat \cdot 2 \times (2 \times n^2 + 2 \times n) + 1 = 2 \times m + 1 && \text{generalization} \\ \Leftarrow & \forall n: nat \cdot 2 \times (2 \times n^2 + 2 \times n) + 1 = 2 \times (2 \times n^2 + 2 \times n) + 1 && \text{reflexivity and identity laws} \\ = & \top \end{aligned}$$

To prove the square of an even natural number is even, we prove

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall a: 2 \times nat \cdot \exists b: 2 \times nat \cdot a^2 = b && \text{change of variable, twice} \\ = & \forall n: nat \cdot \exists m: nat \cdot (2 \times n)^2 = 2 \times m && \text{various number laws} \\ = & \forall n: nat \cdot \exists m: nat \cdot 2 \times (2 \times n^2) = 2 \times m && \text{generalization} \\ \Leftarrow & \forall n: nat \cdot 2 \times (2 \times n^2) = 2 \times (2 \times n^2) && \text{reflexivity and identity laws} \\ = & \top \end{aligned}$$