

Evaluation of Proof Exercise

Following the instructions for [\(linked\) Evaluation of Proofs](#) exercises (which also are posted on the course homework page), evaluate the below justification of the given conjecture.

►. **Conjecture A.** For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ , if  $(a + 2b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , then  $(2a + b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

*Proposed Proof.* We shall show that Conjecture A is true. We assume  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(a + 2b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . We shall show that  $(2a + b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

Since  $(a + 2b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , we know 3 divides  $a + 2b$ . Hence, there exists  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$a + 2b = 3m. \tag{16}$$

Hence

$$a = 3m - 2b. \tag{17}$$

For  $(2a + b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , there exists an integer  $x$  such that

$$2a + b = 3x. \tag{18}$$

Hence by equations (17) and (18) and then algebra

$$2(3m - 2b) + b = 3x$$

$$6m - 3b = 3x$$

$$3(2m - b) = 3x$$

$$2m - b = x.$$

Since  $(2m - b) \in \mathbb{Z}$  this proves that 3 divides  $(2a + b)$  and hence,  $(2a + b) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . □

Hint. (16)  $\iff a + 2b = 3m \iff 2a + 4b = 6m \iff 2a + b + 3b = 6m$ .

.....

DELETE this whole sentence and THEN put your answer to ALL parts down here.