

Warm-Up: Let  $d, n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that if  $d|n$  and  $d|m$ , then  $d|(n+m)$ .

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Thm: For any  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

①  $a|a$ . [Reflexivity]

② If  $a|b$  and  $b|a$ , then  $a=b$ . [Antisymmetry]

③ If  $a|b$  and  $b|c$ , then  $a|c$ . [Transitivity]

Proof: HW 10.

This theorem says divisibility is a partial order on  $\mathbb{N}$ .

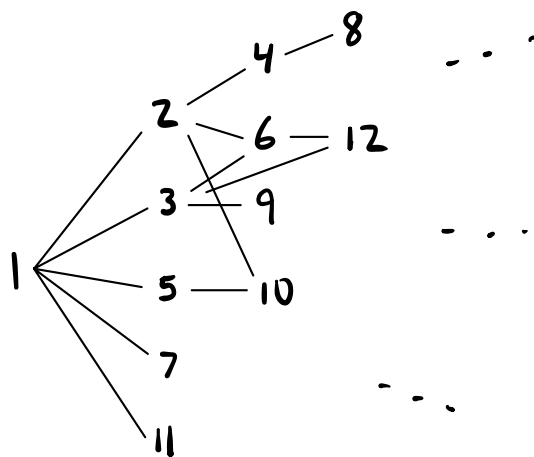
Another partial order is  $\leq$ .

## $\mathbb{N}$ ordered by $\leq$

$$1 \leq 2 \leq 3 \leq 4 \leq \dots$$

Boring. This is a total order - it arranges  $\mathbb{N}$  along a line.

## $\mathbb{N}$ ordered by divisibility



This looks much more interesting...

# Primes

Def: An integer  $p$  is a prime number if

①  $p > 1$

and

② For any  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ , if  $p = ab$  then  $a = 1$  or  $b = 1$

Ex: 2, 3, 5, 7, 11 are prime

Warning: You sometimes hear that  $p$  is prime if its only divisors are 1 and  $p$ . This isn't quite right.

- 1 and  $p$  are the only positive divisors of a prime  $p$
- We also need  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p \neq 1$  for  $p$  to be prime.

Non-Ex: 21 is not prime, because  $21 = 3 \cdot 7$ .

If we set  $a = 3$  and  $b = 7$ , then  $21 = ab$  but  $a \neq 1$  and  $b \neq 1$ .

Def: An integer  $n$  is composite if

①  $n > 1$

and

②  $n$  is not prime

By Generalized de Morgan, ② means there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n = ab$  and  $a \neq 1$  and  $b \neq 1$ .

Thm: If  $p$  is prime, then its only positive divisors are 1 and  $p$ .

Proof: Suppose  $p$  is prime and let  $d$  be a positive divisor of  $p$ .

By definition of divisibility, there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $p = dk$ . Since  $p$  and  $d$  are positive, so is  $k$ . Thus,  $d, k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $p = dk$ , so  $d = 1$  or  $k = 1$ .

If  $d = 1$ , we're done.

If  $k = 1$ , then  $p = dk = d \cdot 1 = d$ .

Thus,  $d = 1$  or  $d = p$ .



In fact, the converse is true.

Thm: Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n > 1$ .  
If the only divisors of  $n$  are 1 and  $n$ ,  
then  $n$  is prime.

Proof: Suppose  $n > 1$  is an integer, and the only positive divisors of  $n$  are 1 and  $n$ .

We must show, for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ , if  
 $n = ab$  then  $a = 1$  or  $b = 1$ .

So suppose  $n = ab$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ .  
Then, by definition of divisibility,  $a \mid n$ .  
Thus,  $a = 1$  or  $a = n$ .

If  $a = 1$ , then we're done.

If  $a = n$ , then  $n = n \cdot b$ . So  $n \cdot 1 = n \cdot b$ .

By cancellation,  $1 = b$ .

Thus,  $a = 1$  or  $b = 1$ .

Together, the last two theorems prove

$p$  is prime  $\iff p > 1$  and the only positive divisors of  $p$  are 1 and  $p$ .

Equivalently,

$n$  is composite  $\iff n > 1$  and  $n$  has a positive divisor  $d$  with  $d \neq 1$  and  $d \neq n$ .

Note: We can think of these biconditional ( $\iff$ ) sentences as alternate (but equivalent) definitions.