

**Conjecture 1.** If  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ .

*Proof.* We assume  $n$  is an odd integer, and will show that  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . In other words, from the definition of congruence, we will show that  $1 - n$  is an integer multiple of 2. Since  $n$  is odd, we have  $n = 2a + 1$  for some integer  $a$ , and so

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - n &= 1 - (2a + 1) \\ &= -2a \\ &= 2(-a) \end{aligned}$$

Since integers are closed under multiplication (by negative 1 in this case),  $-a$  is an integer, and so  $1 - n$  is an integer multiple of 2. We have therefore shown that if  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ .  $\square$