Using Unique Factorization to Proof Numbers Irrational

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Recap of Unique Factorization

Thm Every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ factors into primes uniquely.

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So it looks like 6 factors two different ways. But need that $2, 3, 1 + \sqrt{5}, 1 - \sqrt{5}$ are all primes.

Recall If *D* is a domain then there are three kinds of numbers:

- 1. *u* is a **unit** if $(\exists u')[uu' = 1]$. Only units of *D*: 1, -1.
- 2. x is a **composite** if x = yz where y, z are not units.
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N is helpful since it maps elements of *D* (which we don't understand) to \mathbb{N} (which we do understand).

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N(x) = 4, so N(y) = 1: y is a unit OR N(x) = 2-not possible OR N(x) = 1 so x is a unit. 3 is prime: Similar to 2.

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 $N(x) = 1$ so x is a unit.
Proof for $1 - \sqrt{5}$ is similar.

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Moral of the Story

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1. Using UF we obtain a different proof that $\sqrt{7} \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Technique works for other proofs of irrationality.

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- 1. Using UF we obtain a different proof that $\sqrt{7} \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Technique works for other proofs of irrationality.
- UF is not obvious. Its false for D so the proof that Z has UF would need to use properties of Z that D does not have. We won't be doing that proof, but you now know that it is worthy of proof.