

Prove that the difference between the square of any two consecutive odd integers is divisible by 8

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An integer is odd if it can be expressed in the form  $2n + 1$

Let the first odd integer =  $2n + 1$

Square the first odd integer =  $(2n + 1)^2$

Expand and simplify =  $4n^2 + 4n + 1$

The next consecutive odd integer =  $2n + 3$

Square the first odd integer =  $(2n + 3)^2$

Expand and simplify =  $4n^2 + 12n + 9$

Find the difference between the square numbers =  $(4n^2 + 12n + 9) - (4n^2 + 4n + 1)$

=  $8n + 8$

=  $8(n + 1)$

...which is divisible by 8