

gcd!

we set $(x, y, t) = 1$

$$3x^2 + 5y^2 = 7t^2$$

reduce mod 7

$$3x^2 \equiv -5y^2 \equiv 2y^2 \pmod{7}$$

$$5x^2 \equiv x^2 \pmod{7} \quad 5y^2 \equiv y^2 \pmod{7}$$

$$y \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x \equiv 0 \Rightarrow 7 \mid 3x^2 + 5y^2 = 7t^2 \Rightarrow 7 \mid t^2 \Rightarrow 7 \mid t$$

$$\& y \not\equiv 0 \& y^6 \equiv 1 \& y(y^5) \equiv 1$$

$$\& x^2 \alpha^2 = (x\alpha)^2 = c^2 \equiv 3y^2 \alpha^2 = 3(y\alpha)^2 \equiv 3(1)^2 \equiv 3$$

$$\& c^2 \equiv 3 \text{ for some } c.$$

But! $1^2 \equiv 1 \quad 2^2 \equiv 4 \quad 3^2 \equiv 2 \quad 4^2 \equiv 2 \quad 5^2 \equiv 4 \quad 6^2 \equiv 1$ \rightarrow can't hit 3.

$$x^4 + y^4 = z^2 \quad \text{if } g \mid x, y, z \text{ then } \left(\frac{x}{g}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{y}{g}\right)^4 = \left(\frac{z}{g}\right)^2$$

$$x^2 = 2rs \quad y^2 = r^2 - s^2 \quad z = r^2 + s^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{wlog } (x, y, z) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (x, y) = 1$$

$$\text{NOTE} \Rightarrow (r, s) = 1$$

$$\text{note } s^2 + y^2 = r^2 \Rightarrow s \text{ even, } r \text{ odd}$$

$$x^2 = r(r^2 - s^2) \quad (r, r^2 - s^2) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} r = u^2 \\ r^2 - s^2 = v^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow v \text{ even}$$

$$\Rightarrow s = 2w^2$$

$$y^2 = r^2 - s^2 \Rightarrow y^2 + s^2 = r^2 = u^4$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 + 4w^4 = r^2 = u^4$$

$$\text{NOTE} \quad (\text{check! } (y, w) = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 + 4w^4 = u^4 \text{ has a solution}$$

$$y^2 + (2w^2)^2 = (u^2)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow y = a^2 - b^2 \quad 2w^2 = 2ab \quad u^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow w^2 = ab \quad \text{NOTE} \quad (\text{check! } (a, b) = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \alpha^2, b = \beta^2$$

$$\Rightarrow u^2 = \alpha^4 + \beta^4 \quad (\text{wlog } \beta \text{ even})$$

Bt! $x^2 = 2rs > s = 2w^2 = 2ab \geq b = \beta^2$
 $\Rightarrow \beta < x$, i.e., this is a "smaller" solution!

$$x^4 + y^4 = z^4 \implies x^4 + y^4 = (z^2)^2 = w^2$$

If \exists solution with $x, y > 0$ then

WMA $(x, y) = 1$ (If $d|x, d|y$, then $d^4 | x^4 + y^4 = w^2 \implies d^2 | w$, and

$$\left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{y}{d}\right)^4 = \left(\frac{w}{d^2}\right)^2.$$

Then $\boxed{x^4 + y^4 = w^2}$ $(x^2, y^2) = 1$ WMA x^2 odd, y^2 even

Then $x^2 = r^2 s^2$, $y^2 = 2rs$, $w = r^2 + s^2$ for some $r, s > 0$

Note: $x^2 + s^2 = r^2$; $(r, s) = 1$ (%w $d|r, d|s \implies d^2 | x, d^2 | y \implies (x, y) \neq 1$)

$\implies (x, s) = 1$ (%w $d|x, d|s \implies d^2 | x^2 + s^2 = r^2 \implies d|r$)

x^2 odd $\implies x$ odd $\implies s$ even, r odd

$(r, s) = 1 \implies (r, 2s) = 1$ $y^2 = r(2s) \implies r = u^2, 2s = v^2 = (2t)^2$
 $\implies s = 2t^2$

$x^2 + s^2 = r^2$ x odd, s even \implies

$x = a^2 - b^2$, $s = 2ab$, $r = a^2 + b^2$ for some $a, b > 0$

Note: $(a, b) = 1$ (%w $d|a, d|b \implies d^2 | 2ab = s, d^2 | a^2 + b^2 = r \implies (r, s) \neq 1$)

$2t^2 = s = 2ab \implies t^2 = ab \implies a = \alpha^2, b = \beta^2$ some $\alpha, \beta > 0$

$\implies \alpha^4 + \beta^4 = a^2 + b^2 = r = u^2$, & $\boxed{\alpha^4 + \beta^4 = u^2}$ Note: $(\alpha, \beta) = 1$

But: $0 < \alpha < \alpha^2 = a < 2ab = s < 2rs = y^2$ & $\alpha^2 < y^2 \implies \alpha < y$
 $0 < \beta < \beta^2 = b < 2ab = s < 2rs = y^2$ & $\beta^2 < y^2 \implies \beta < y$

So whichever one is even is smaller than y .

& a solution to $x^4 + y^4 = w^4$ with α, y even and smallest count exist \implies no solution with $y > 0$ can exist.

Another proof by infinite descent

* $\boxed{x^2 + y^4 = z^4}$, i.e. $x^2 + (y^2)^2 = (z^2)^2$, has no solutions with $x, y, z > 0$.

PF: Suppose we have a solution. If $p \mid x, p \mid y$, then $p \mid x^2 + y^4 = z^4$, so $p \mid z$.

Then $p^4 \mid z^4 y^4 = x^2$, so $p^2 \mid x$, so $(\frac{x}{p^2})^2 + (\frac{y}{p})^4 = (\frac{z}{p})^4$ is a solution.

So wlog $(x, y) = (x, y^2) = 1$.

Then (x, y^2, z^2) is a primitive Pythagorean triple. Unlike our other example, we will need to treat the cases x even/ y^2 odd and x odd/ y^2 even differently; we cannot simply interchange x and y .

We treat x odd, y^2 even first. There are $r, s > 0$ so that

$$x = r^2 - s^2, y^2 = 2rs, z^2 = r^2 + s^2, \text{ with } r-s \text{ odd. } (x, y) = 1 \text{ implies } (r, s) = 1$$

whether r is even, s is odd (the opposite case is similar) (just put the 2 in the other place.)

Then $(2r, s) = 1$ so $y^2 = (2r)s \Rightarrow 2r = u^2, s = v^2$ for some $u, v > 0$.

Then u is even, so $2r = (2w)^2 = 4w^2$ so $r = 2w^2$. $(r, s) = 1$ implies $(w, v) = 1$.

$z^2 = r^2 + s^2$ implies that there are $\alpha, \beta > 0$ so that

$$r = 2\alpha\beta = 2w^2, s = \alpha^2 - \beta^2. (r, s) = 1 \Rightarrow (\alpha, \beta) = 1. \text{ Then}$$

$$\alpha\beta = w^2 \Rightarrow \alpha = a^2, \beta = b^2 \text{ for some } a, b > 0. \text{ Then}$$

$$s + \beta^2 = \boxed{u^2 + b^4 = a^4} = \alpha^2. \text{ But } a < \alpha^2 = \alpha < 2\alpha\beta = r < \sqrt{r^2 + s^2} = z, \text{ so}$$

$$a < z. \text{ Note that } (\alpha, \beta) = 1 \text{ implies } (a, b) = 1, \text{ which implies } (u, b) = 1.$$

But note: u is even, so b is odd. We have ~~not~~ found a smaller solution to the other case! Remember this; we will look at the other case now.

If $x^2 + (y^2)^2 = (z^2)^2$, $(x, y^2) = (x, y) = 1$, x even, y odd, then there are $r, s > 0$ so that $x = 2rs, y^2 = r^2 - s^2, z^2 = r^2 + s^2$, with $r-s$ odd. $(x, y) = 1$ implies $(r, s) = 1$, so $(y, s) = 1$.

$y^2 + s^2 = r^2$ and y odd implies s is even, r is odd.

Then $y^2 + s^2 = r^2$, $r^2 + s^2 = z^4$, so $y^2 + 2s^2 = z^2$, so $\left(\frac{y}{z}\right)^2 + 2\left(\frac{s}{z}\right)^2 = 1$

One solution to $A^2 + 2B^2 = 1$ is $A=1, B=0$, to find all other rational solutions, set $B = r(A-1)$, $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ ($A=1$ is our first solution)

Then $A^2 + 2(r(A-1))^2 = 1$, so $(A-1)((A+1) + 2r^2(A-1)) = 0$, so $A=1$ or $A+1 + 2r^2A - 2r^2 = 0$, i.e. $A = \frac{2r^2-1}{2r^2+1}$. Then

$B = r\left(\frac{2r^2-1}{2r^2+1} - 1\right) = \frac{-2r}{2r^2+1}$. Setting $r = \frac{-a}{b}$ ($a > b > 0$ gives positive solutions) gives $A = \frac{2a^2-b^2}{2a^2+b^2}$, $B = \frac{2ab}{2a^2+b^2}$, so

$y = 2a^2 - b^2$, $s = 2ab$, and $z = 2a^2 + b^2$ for some $a, b > 0$

Plugging into $y^2 + s^2 = r^2$ gives $r^2 = (2a^2 - b^2)^2 + (2ab)^2$
 $= 4a^4 - 4a^2b^2 + b^4 + 4a^2b^2 = (2a^2)^2 + (b^2)^2$

r odd implies b^2 odd, which implies b is odd

WMA $(a,b)=1$, otherwise we can divide numerator and denominator of A and B by $(a,b)^2$ to replace a, b by $\frac{a}{(a,b)}$, $\frac{b}{(a,b)}$.

Then $(b^2, 2a^2)=1$, so $(2a^2, b^2, r)$ is a primitive Pythagorean triple, so there are $u, v > 0$ so that $2a^2 = 2uv$, $b^2 = u^2 - v^2$, $r = u^2 + v^2$.

$(a,b)=1$ implies $(u,v)=1$, and $a^2 = uv$ implies that $u = \alpha^2$, $v = \beta^2$ for some $\alpha, \beta > 0$. Then $b^2 = \alpha^4 - \beta^4$, i.e. $\boxed{b^2 + \beta^4 = \alpha^4}$. ($\alpha, \beta=1$, so $(b, \beta)=1$.)

But ~~$\alpha < \alpha^2 = u < 2uv = 2a^2 < 2a^2 + b^2 = z$~~ , so

$\alpha < z$. Again, however, b is odd, so β is even, and we have found a smaller solution to the other case! But taken

together, if we have a solution x, y, z with $x, y, z > 0$ and z smallest, ~~then~~ no matter which case it is, we can find a new solution with smaller z , a contradiction. So

there are no solutions to $x^2 + y^4 = z^4$ with $x, y, z > 0$.

p an odd prime, then $\exists x, y$ s.t.

$$(*) \quad \boxed{x^2 + y^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}}$$

Let at $\{n \mid 0 \leq n \leq p-1 : x^2 \equiv n \pmod{p} \text{ has a solution}\} = H$

note that since $(2, p-1) = 2$, every eqn $x^2 \equiv n \pmod{p}$ that has a solution has $(n=0 \text{ one solution or})$ two solutions.

If $(*)$ has no solution then $n \notin H \Rightarrow p-n-1 \notin H$.

$$\Rightarrow x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \text{ has no solution} \Rightarrow \boxed{p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}}$$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1) \pmod{p} \Rightarrow \frac{p-1}{2} \text{ is odd}$$

$$p-1 = 2(2k+1) \\ p = 4k+3 \quad \checkmark$$

I.e. \swarrow

$$x^2 \equiv n \pmod{p} \text{ has soln} \Rightarrow n^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow (p-n-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &\equiv (p-(n+1))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} (n+1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ &\equiv (-1) (n+1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (n+1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow x^2 \equiv n+1 \pmod{p} \text{ has soln!}$$

Local vs global solutions

~~#~~

If $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$ has solutions with $x_i \in \mathbb{Q}$,
then it certainly has solutions with $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$. Also,

$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \equiv 0$ has a solution for any N
(use the solutions x, y, z from \mathbb{Q} !)

Any solution to the latter kind of equation is called
a local solution to $f = 0$. By analogy, a
solution to $f = 0$ with $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ is called a global soln.

So global soln \implies local soln for \mathbb{R} , and for
any N .

So no local soln (for any one instance)
 \implies no global solution.

This can be very effective in showing that a Diophantine
eqn has no solutions!

But it isn't perfect: $x^4 - 17 = 2y^2$ always has a
local solution, but has no global ones

$$3(3^{k-1}-1)$$

~~not sol.~~

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = -1$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2 = -1$$

no $i\mathbb{R}$

all \mathbb{R}_n .

$$2x^2 + 3y^2 = -1$$

$$2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{n}$$

$$2^k \equiv 3 \pmod{n} ?$$

$$5^k \equiv 3 \pmod{n}$$

$$3^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

$$x^2 + 2y^2 = p$$

$$x^2 + 2y^2 = p$$

$$3^n \equiv 3 \pmod{n}$$

3

3

$$3^{\phi(n)+1} \equiv 3 \pmod{n}$$

$$x^2 + y^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{n}$$

~~not solvable for $n \equiv 4 \pmod{n}$
solvable for all other n , and for \mathbb{R} .~~

$$x^2 + y^2 = kn + 3 = N$$

$$\begin{matrix} N \equiv 3 \\ N \equiv 1 \end{matrix} \bigg| \checkmark$$

p odd prime, then $x^2 + y^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ has a solution

~~$x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod p$~~ If $x^2 \equiv p \pmod{p^2}$ then $(p-x)^2 \equiv p \pmod{p^2}$

$0 \leq x, y \leq p-1$.
 $x^2 \equiv y^2 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow (x-y)(x+y) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow p \mid (x-y) \text{ (} y=x \text{)} \text{ or } p \mid (x+y) \text{ (} y=p-x \text{)}$
 then

\Rightarrow for exactly half of $1 \leq n \leq p-1$ there are solutions to $x^2 \equiv n \pmod{p}$

\Rightarrow exactly half of $1 \leq x \leq p-1$ has $x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

$x^2 \equiv n \pmod{p}$ has solution $\iff x^2 \equiv (p-n)-1 \pmod{p}$ has no solution.

for all $1 \leq n \leq p-1$, But! $x^2 \equiv n \pmod{p}$ has a solution \Leftrightarrow

$n^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. But $x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv n^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$ and $x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$.
 $n^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$. (Note: p prime $\Rightarrow n^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$.)

$$\text{So } n^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \iff (p-(n+1))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}.$$
$$\text{But! } p-(n+1) \equiv -(n+1) \pmod{p} \stackrel{-1}{\equiv} (p-(n+1))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} (n+1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$$
$$\sum_p (-1)^{l(p)} (1+p)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \mathcal{A}.$$
$$\Rightarrow (1+t) \frac{P}{2} \approx \frac{P}{2}$$

$\Rightarrow x^2 \equiv n+1 \pmod{p}$ has a solution

$\Rightarrow x^2 \equiv n+1 \pmod p$ has a solution.

Since $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod p$ has a solution, this $\Rightarrow x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod p \Rightarrow x^2 \equiv 3 \pmod p$

⇒ they all do, contrast.