

1. Assume 3 positive integers a, b, c , $a \neq b$ and $b \neq c$. Please prove for 3 numbers $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$, one of them is divisible by 10.

Answer:

$$a^3b - ab^3 = ab(a^2 - b^2) = ab(a + b)(a - b)$$

$$b^3c - bc^3 = bc(b^2 - c^2) = bc(b + c)(b - c)$$

$$c^3a - ca^3 = ca(c^2 - a^2) = ca(c + a)(c - a)$$

If a, b, c are all odd numbers, then $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$ are all even number, so divisible by 2;

If a, b, c are two odd, one even number, $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$ are all even number, so divisible by 2;

If a, b, c are one odd, two even numbers, $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$ are all even number, so divisible by 2.

If any one of a, b, c is divisible by 5, then one of 3 numbers $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$ is divisible by 5, then one of the 3 numbers $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$ is divisible by 10;

If none of a, b, c is divisible by 5, then the unit digit of a, b, c must be 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and likely unit digits of a^2, b^2, c^2 are 1, 4, 6, 9. Thus out of these 4 unit digits, there are always 3 of them allowing at least one of $(a^2 - b^2)$, $(b^2 - c^2)$, $(c^2 - a^2)$ divisible by 5.

Therefore, prove for 3 numbers $a^3b - ab^3$, $b^3c - bc^3$, $c^3a - ca^3$, one of them is divisible by 10.

2. Please prove: for whole number a , it is not divisible by 2 and 3, then $24 \mid (a^2 - 1)$.

Answer:

If a whole number a can't be divided by 2, then this number can be written as $a = 2k + 1$ where k is a whole number;

If a whole number a can't be divided by 3, then this number can be written as $a = 3m + 1$ or $a = 3n + 2$ where m or n is a whole number.

When $a = 2k + 1$, then $(a^2 - 1) = (2k + 1)^2 - 1 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 - 1 = 4k^2 + 4k = 4k(k + 1) = 8p$ where p is a whole number and $p = k(k + 1)/2$. Thus $8 \mid (a^2 - 1)$

When $a = 3m + 1$, then $(a^2 - 1) = (3m + 1)^2 - 1 = 9m^2 + 6m + 1 - 1 = 3m(3m + 2)$. When $a = 3m + 2$, then $(a^2 - 1) = (3m + 2)^2 - 1 = 9m^2 + 12m + 4 - 1 = 3(3m^2 + 4m + 1)$. Thus $3 \mid (a^2 - 1)$.

Therefore, $24 \mid (a^2 - 1)$.

3. Numbers p and q are prime, and are bigger than 3, please prove $24 \mid (p^2 - q^2)$.

Answer:

Because p and q are prime and bigger than 3, therefore, we can assume $p = 2m + 1$ and $q = 2n + 1$ while both m and n bigger than 1, and m, n would allow p, q are primer numbers respectively, and also m, n are even numbers:

Thus $p^2 - q^2 = (p + q)(p - q) = (2m + 2n + 2)(2m - 2n) = 4(m + n + 1)(m - n) = 8(m + n + 1)p$ while $m - n = 2p$ since both m and n are even numbers. Thus $8 \mid (p^2 - q^2)$.

We can also assume $p = 3m + 1$, $q = 3n + 1$ or $p = 3m + 2$ and $q = 3n + 2$, then $(p^2 - q^2) = (p + q)(p - q) = (3m + 3n + 2 \text{ or } 4)(3m - 3n)$ which is divisible by 3;
 Considering the scenario $p = 3m + 1$, $q = 3n + 2$ or $p = 3m + 2$ and $q = 3n + 1$, then $(p^2 - q^2) = (p + q)(p - q) = (3m + 3n + 3)(3m - 3n + 1 \text{ or } -1)$ which is divisible by 3. Thus $3 \mid (p^2 - q^2)$.

Combine $8 \mid (p^2 - q^2)$ and $3 \mid (p^2 - q^2)$, we get $24 \mid (p^2 - q^2)$.

4. $36x + 83y = 1$. If x and y are integers, please find x and y .

Answer:

Based on Euclidean algorithm, we get following:

$$83 = 2 \times 36 + 11 \Rightarrow 11 = 83 - 2 \times 36$$

$$36 = 3 \times 11 + 3 \Rightarrow 3 = 36 - 3 \times 11$$

$$11 = 3 \times 3 + 2 \Rightarrow 2 = 11 - 3 \times 3$$

$$3 = 2 + 1 \Rightarrow 1 = 3 - 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } 1 &= 3 - 2 = 3 - (11 - 3 \times 3) = 4 \times 3 - 11 = 4 \times (36 - 3 \times 11) - 11 = 4 \times 36 - 13 \times 11 \\ &= 4 \times 36 - 13 \times (83 - 2 \times 36) = 36 \times 30 - 83 \times 13. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $x = 30$ and $y = -13$ is one set of the solution.