

3.3.02a If 1 is added to a product of twin primes, prove that a perfect square is always obtained.

Proof. Let p and $p + 2$ be twin primes. Then,

$$p(p + 2) + 1 = p^2 + 2p + 1 = (p + 1)^2$$

Which is a perfect square.

Therefore, if 1 is added to a product of twin primes, a perfect square is always obtained \square

3.3.02b Show that the sum of twin primes p and $p + 2$ is divisible by 12, provided that $p > 3$.

Proof. Let p and $p + 2, p > 3$ be twin primes. Then we can rewrite p as $6k + 1$ and $6k + 3$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then,

$$p + p + 2 = 6k + 1 + 6k + 3 = 12k + 4$$

Therefore, the sum of twin primes p and $p + 2$ is divisible by 12, provided that $p > 3$. \square

3.3.06 Prove that the Goldbach conjecture that every integer greater than 2 is the sum of two primes is equivalent to the statement that every integer greater than 5 is the sum of three primes.

Proof. Let p_1 and p_2 be primes. Let $n \in \mathbb{Z} > 2$ then $2n - 2 > 2$. Then,

$$2n - 2 = p_1 + p_2 \Rightarrow 2n = p_1 + p_2 + 2$$

But $n > 2 \Rightarrow 2n > 4 \Rightarrow 2n + 1 > 5$. So, $2n + 1 = p_1 + p_2 + 3$.

Therefore, every integer greater than 2 is the sum of two primes is equivalent to the statement that every integer greater than 5 is the sum of three primes \square

3.3.24 Determine all twin primes p and $q = p + 2$ for which $pq - 2$ is also prime.

Proof. Let p and q be twin primes. If $p = 3$ and $q = 5$ then $pq - 2 = 13$ which is prime. Suppose that $p > 3$. Then $p = 6k + 1$ or $p = 6k + 5$. If $p = 6k + 1 \Rightarrow p + 2 = 6k + 3$ which is composite. Thus $p = 6k + 5 \Rightarrow p + 2 = 6k + 7$. Notice,

$$pq - 2 = (6k + 5)(6k + 7) - 2 = 36k^2 + 72k + 33 - 2 = 36k^2 + 72k + 31 = 3(12k^2 + 24k + 11)$$

which is divisible by 3.

Thus, 3 and 5 are the only twin primes for which $pq - 2$ is prime. \square

3.3.28a If $n > 1$, show that $n!$ is never a perfect square.

Proof. Let $n > 1$.

Case 1: n is prime. Then for $n!$ to be a perfect square one of $n-1, n-2, \dots, 2$ must contain n as a factor. But this means one of $n-1, n-2, \dots, 2 \geq n$ which is impossible.

Case 2: n is not prime. Then the first prime less than n is for all $p, k \in \mathbb{Z}, p = n - k, 0 < k < n - 1, 2 \leq p < n$. No number less than p will contain p as a factor. Thus, for $n!$ to be a perfect square there exists a multiple of p , called $bp, 1 < b < n$, such that $p < bp < n$. There must exist a prime number between p and $2p$. Then if $r < n < 2r$ and also $p < n$, so such an $n!$ would never be a perfect square.

□

3.3.28b Find the values of $n \geq 1$ for which

$$n! + (n+1)! + (n+2)!$$

is a perfect square.

Proof. Let $n \geq 1$. Notice.

$$n! + (n+1)! + (n+2)! = n!(1 + (n+1) + (n+1)(n+2)) = n!(n+2)^2$$

As $n!$ is never a perfect square, the only n for which

$$n! + (n+1)! + (n+2)!$$

is a perfect square is when $n = 1$.

□