

MTH 26001 - Elementary Number Theory

Student ID: 20202026.

Student Name: Nguyen Minh Duc.

~~ASSIGN~~

ASSIGNMENT 2.

Sec 3.1.

Problem 4.

- ⊗ Since  $p \geq 5$  is an odd prime, when dividing by 6,  $p$  takes the form of  $6k+1$ ,  $6k+3$  or  $6k+5$  ( $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).
- ⊗ However,  $6k+3 = 3(2k+1)$  is divisible by 3, hence, not prime.
- Thus, for  $p \geq 5$  is a prime number,  $p$  takes one of the forms  $6k+1$  or  $6k+5$ .
- ⊗ Case 1.  $p = 6k+1$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- $$p^2 + 2 = (6k+1)^2 + 2 = 36k^2 + 12k + 1 + 2 = 36k^2 + 12k + 3 = 3(12k^2 + 4k + 1)$$
- $\Rightarrow 3 \mid p^2 + 2 \Rightarrow p^2 + 2$  is composite. — ①
- ⊗ Case 2:  $p = 6k+5$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- $$p^2 + 2 = (6k+5)^2 + 2 = 36k^2 + 60k + 25 + 2 = 36k^2 + 60k + 27 = 3(12k^2 + 20k + 9).$$
- $\Rightarrow 3 \mid p^2 + 2 \Rightarrow p^2 + 2$  is composite. — ②
- ⊗ From ① and ②, if  $p \geq 5$  is prime then  $p^2 + 2$  is composite.

# Problem 8. $p, q \geq 5$ .

⊗ Let  $\begin{cases} p = 6k_1 + r_p, & k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}, 0 \leq r_p < 6 \\ q = 6k_2 + r_q, & k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}, 0 \leq r_q < 6 \end{cases}$

From the ~~pre~~ previous problem, we know that  $r_p, r_q \in \{1, 5\}$

⊗  $p^2 - q^2 = (p+q)(p-q) = (6k_1 + 6k_2 + r_p + r_q)(6k_1 - 6k_2 + r_p - r_q)$ .

Consider 2 cases:

⊗ Case 1.  $r_p = r_q \Rightarrow \begin{cases} r_p + r_q \in \{2, 10\} \Rightarrow r_p + r_q = 2k_3 \text{ (} k_3 \in \{1, 5\} \text{) is even.} \\ r_p - r_q = 0. \end{cases}$

Now, we obtain:  $p^2 - q^2 = (6k_1 + 6k_2 + 2k_3)(6k_1 - 6k_2)$   
 $= 2 \times 6 \times (3k_1 + 3k_2 + k_3)(k_1 - k_2)$ .

Note that  $k_3 \in \{1, 5\}$  is odd.

- If both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  is even or odd, then  $k_1 - k_2$  is even, i.e.  $k_1 - k_2 = 2k'_1$ ,  $k'_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$\Rightarrow p^2 - q^2 = 2 \times 6 \times 2(3k_1 + 3k_2 + k_3)k'_1$   
 $= 24 k'_1(3k_1 + 3k_2 + k_3)$ .

$\Rightarrow 24 \mid p^2 - q^2$ . — (1)

- If one of  ~~$k_1$  or  $k_2$~~  is even and the other is odd, then  $k_1 + k_2$  is odd.  
 This implies  $3k_1 + 3k_2$  is also odd, hence  $3k_1 + 3k_2 + k_3$  is even ( $\because k_3$  is odd).

$\Rightarrow 3k_1 + 3k_2 + k_3 = 2k', k' \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now,  $p^2 - q^2 = 2 \times 6 \times 2 \times k'(k_1 - k_2)$   
 $= 24 k'(k_1 - k_2)$

$\Rightarrow 24 \mid p^2 - q^2$ . — (2)

⊗ Case 2.  $r_p \neq r_q \Rightarrow \begin{cases} r_p + r_q = 6 \\ r_p - r_q \in \{-4, 4\} \Rightarrow r_p - r_q = \pm 4 \end{cases}$

Now, we obtain:  $p^2 - q^2 = (6k_1 + 6k_2 + 6)(6k_1 - 6k_2 \pm 4)$   
 $= 2 \times 6 \times (k_1 + k_2 + 1)(3k_1 - 3k_2 \pm 2)$ .

- If both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  is even or odd,  $k_1 - k_2$  is even  $\Rightarrow 3k_1 - 3k_2 \pm 2$  is also even  
 $\Rightarrow 3k_1 - 3k_2 \pm 2 = 2k', k' \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now,  $p^2 - q^2 = 2 \times 6 \times 2 \times (k_1 + k_2 + 1)k'$   
 $= 24(k_1 + k_2 + 1)k'$

$\Rightarrow 24 \mid p^2 - q^2$ . — (3)

- If one of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  is even and the other is odd then  $k_1 + k_2 + 1$  is even.  
 So  $k_1 + k_2 + 1 = 2k', k' \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now,  $p^2 - q^2 = 2 \times 6 \times 2 \times k'(3k_1 - 3k_2 \pm 2)$   
 $= 24 k'(3k_1 - 3k_2 \pm 2)$

$\Rightarrow 24 \mid p^2 - q^2$ . — (4)

⊗ From (1), (2), (3) and (4), in any case,  $24 \mid p^2 - q^2$  for  $p, q \geq 5$  are primes.



### Problem 13. $n > 1$

⊗  $n = 6k + r, k \in \mathbb{Z}, r \in \{0, 1, 2, 4, 5\}$

~~⊗ Case 1.  $n$  is even, i.e.  $n \in \{0, 2, 4\}$~~

⊗ Case 1.  $r$  is even, i.e.  $r \in \{0, 2, 4\}$ .

Let  $r = 2k', k' \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now,  $n = 6k + 2k' = 2(3k + k')$

$\Rightarrow 2 | n \Rightarrow 2 | n^2 \Rightarrow 2 | n^2 + 2^n$  ( $\because 2 | 2^n, n > 1$ ). — (1)

⊗ Case 2.  $r$  is odd, i.e.  $r \in \{1, 5\} \Rightarrow n$  is also odd.

For  $r = 5, n = 6k + 5 = 6k + 6 - 1 = 6(k+1) - 1, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Hence,  $n$  is of the form  $6k - 1$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now,  $r \in \{-1, 1\} \Rightarrow r = \pm 1$ .

Substitute in  $n^2 + 2^n$ , we have:

$$n^2 + 2^n = (6k \pm 1)^2 + 2^n = 36k^2 \pm 12k + 1 + 2^{6k \pm 1}.$$

Note that  $x^n + y^n = (x+y)(x^{n-1} - x^{n-2}y + \dots + (-1)^{n-1}y^{n-1})$  for  $n$  is odd.

Substitute  $(x, y) = (1, 2)$ , we obtain.

$$1 + 2^{6k \pm 1} = 1^{6k \pm 1} + 2^{6k \pm 1} = (1+2)(1^{6k} - 1^{6k-1} \cdot 2 + \dots + (-1)^{6k} \cdot 2^{6k}).$$

$$= 3u, \text{ where } u = 1^{6k} - 1^{6k-1} \cdot 2 + \dots + (-1)^{6k} \cdot 2^{6k} \Rightarrow u \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Now, we have:  $n^2 + 2^n = 36k^2 \pm 12k + 3u$   
 $= 3(12k^2 \pm 4k + u).$

$\Rightarrow 3 | n^2 + 2^n$ . — (2)

⊗ Note that  $n > 1 \Rightarrow n^2 + 2^n > 1^2 + 2^1 \Rightarrow n^2 + 2^n > 3$  — (3)

From (1), (2), (3),  $\Rightarrow n^2 + 2^n$  is composite for  $n > 1$ .

## Sec 3.2

Problem 2.  $\sqrt{200} \approx 14.14$

⊗ Since  $14 < \sqrt{200} < 15$ , it is suffice to test prime less than 14, i.e.  
 $p \in \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13\}$ .

<del>100</del>	<del>101</del>	<del>102</del>	<del>103</del>	<del>104</del>	<del>105</del>	<del>106</del>	<del>107</del>	<del>108</del>	<del>109</del>
<del>110</del>	<del>111</del>	<del>112</del>	<del>113</del>	<del>114</del>	<del>115</del>	<del>116</del>	<del>117</del>	<del>118</del>	<del>119</del>
<del>120</del>	<del>121</del>	<del>122</del>	<del>123</del>	<del>124</del>	<del>125</del>	<del>126</del>	<del>127</del>	<del>128</del>	<del>129</del>
<del>130</del>	<del>131</del>	<del>132</del>	<del>133</del>	<del>134</del>	<del>135</del>	<del>136</del>	<del>137</del>	<del>138</del>	<del>139</del>
<del>140</del>	<del>141</del>	<del>142</del>	<del>143</del>	<del>144</del>	<del>145</del>	<del>146</del>	<del>147</del>	<del>148</del>	<del>149</del>
<del>150</del>	<del>151</del>	<del>152</del>	<del>153</del>	<del>154</del>	<del>155</del>	<del>156</del>	<del>157</del>	<del>158</del>	<del>159</del>
<del>160</del>	<del>161</del>	<del>162</del>	<del>163</del>	<del>164</del>	<del>165</del>	<del>166</del>	<del>167</del>	<del>168</del>	<del>169</del>
<del>170</del>	<del>171</del>	<del>172</del>	<del>173</del>	<del>174</del>	<del>175</del>	<del>176</del>	<del>177</del>	<del>178</del>	<del>179</del>
<del>180</del>	<del>181</del>	<del>182</del>	<del>183</del>	<del>184</del>	<del>185</del>	<del>186</del>	<del>187</del>	<del>188</del>	<del>189</del>
<del>190</del>	<del>191</del>	<del>192</del>	<del>193</del>	<del>194</del>	<del>195</del>	<del>196</del>	<del>197</del>	<del>198</del>	<del>199</del>
<del>200</del>									

Problem 4.

(a) Assume that  $\sqrt{p}$  is rational, i.e.  $\sqrt{p} = \frac{r}{s}$ ,  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\gcd(r, s) = 1$ .

Now, square both sides:  $p = \frac{r^2}{s^2} \Rightarrow p s^2 = r^2$   
 $\Rightarrow p | r^2 \Rightarrow p | r$ .

Let  $r = pk$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , now,  $p s^2 = p^2 k^2 \Rightarrow s^2 = p k^2$   
 $\Rightarrow p | s^2 \Rightarrow p | s$ .

Since  $p$  is prime,  $p > 1$ . Thus,  $\begin{cases} p | r \\ p | s \end{cases} \Rightarrow \gcd(r, s) \neq 1$ , contradicts assumption  $\gcd(r, s) = 1$ .

Therefore,  $\sqrt{p}$  is irrational for  $p$  is prime.

(b) Let  $\sqrt[n]{a} = \frac{p}{q}$ ,  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$ .

$\Rightarrow a = \frac{p^n}{q^n} \Rightarrow a q^n = p^n \Rightarrow q^n | p^n \Rightarrow q | p$ , but  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow q = 1$ .

Thus,  $\sqrt[n]{a} = \frac{p}{q} = p \in \mathbb{Z}$ .



(c) Assume  $\sqrt[n]{n}$  is rational.  
From (b),  $\sqrt[n]{n}$  is actually integer.

$$\text{Let } x = \sqrt[n]{n} \Rightarrow x^n = n, \text{ but } n < 2^n \\ \Rightarrow x^n < 2^n$$

$$\text{Since } n \geq 2, \sqrt[n]{n} \geq \sqrt[2]{2} > 1. \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow x < 2 \\ \Rightarrow 1 < x < 2. \text{ But } x \in \mathbb{Z}. \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{This is a contradiction.}$$

Thus,  $\sqrt[n]{n}$  is irrational.

### Problem 5.

Since  $n$  is prime  $\Leftrightarrow p \nmid n \quad \forall p \leq \sqrt{n}$ ,  
 $n$  is composite  $\Leftrightarrow \exists p \leq \sqrt{n} : p \mid n$ .

$$\text{Now, } \sqrt{999} > \sqrt{936} = 31 \Rightarrow \sqrt{999} > 31.$$

Hence, for any 3-digit composite, i.e. less than 999 will have a prime divisor less than ~~31~~ or equal to 31.

### Problem 12.

(a) Base case: For  $n=5$ ,  $P_n = 11 > 2(5)-1 = 9$ .

$\Rightarrow$  The statement is true for  $n=5$ .

Induction: Assume that the statement is true for  $n=k$ ,  
That is  $P_k > 2k-1$ .

$$\Rightarrow P_{k+2} > 2k-1+2 = 2(k+1)-1.$$

Since  $P_{k+1}$  is even, the next prime must be at least  $P_{k+2}$ ,

$$\text{Thus, } P_{k+1} \geq P_{k+2} > 2(k+1)-1.$$

$\Rightarrow$  The statement also holds for  $n=k+1$ .

Thus, by induction hypothesis,  $P_n > 2n-1 \quad \forall n \geq 5$ .

(b) Note that  $P_1 = 2$ ,  $P_n = 2(P_2 P_3 \dots P_n) + 1 \Rightarrow P_n$  is odd.

Using Division algorithm,  $P_n = 4k+r$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $0 \leq r < 4$ .

Since  $P_n$  is odd,  $r \in \{1, 3\}$ .

If  $r=1$ , then  $P_1 P_2 \dots P_n + 1 = 4k+1 \Rightarrow 2(P_2 P_3 \dots P_n) = 4k \Rightarrow P_2 P_3 \dots P_n = 2k$ .

But it is impossible since  $P_i$  is odd for  $i \geq 2$ .

Thus,  $r=3$ , i.e.  $P_n = 4k+3, \forall n$ .

Let  $P_n = s^2$ ,  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\Rightarrow s^2$  is odd  $\Rightarrow s$  is also odd. Let  $s = 2a+1$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\text{Now, } \cancel{4k+3} = s^2 = (2a+1)^2 = 4a^2 + 4a + 1 = 4(a^2 + a) + 1.$$

Note that the left hand side is of form  $4k+1$  while the right is of the form  $4k+1$ .  
~~This~~  $\Rightarrow$  This is contradiction, hence  $P_n$  cannot be perfect square  $\forall n$ .

(c) Let  $S_n = \frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{p_n}$ . Assume that  $S_n$  is an integer.

Now, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 p_2 \dots p_n S_n &= 2 p_2 \dots p_n \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{p_n} \right) \\ &= \underbrace{p_2 p_3 \dots p_n}_{\text{Odd}} + \underbrace{2 p_3 p_4 \dots p_n + \dots + 2 p_2 p_3 \dots p_{n-1}}_{\text{Even}} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow p_1 p_2 \dots p_n S_n$  is odd.

However,  $p_1 = 2$ , which implies  $p_1 p_2 \dots p_n S_n = 2(p_2 p_3 \dots p_n S_n)$  is even. This is contradiction, hence,  $S_n$  is never an integer,  $\forall n$ .

### Sec 3.3

#### Problem 12.

From the hint, we know that  $p_{n+3}^2 < 4 p_{n+2}^2 < 8 p_{n+1} p_{n+2}$ .

Since  $p_5 = 11 > 8$ , we obtain:

$$p_{n+3}^2 < 8 p_{n+1} p_{n+2} < 11 p_{n+1} p_{n+2}.$$

Thus, for  $n \geq 5$ , we have  $p_n > p_5$ , hence, the inequality holds:

$$p_{n+3}^2 < p_5 p_{n+1} p_{n+2} = p_n p_{n+1} p_{n+2}.$$

For  $n = 4$ ,  $p_{4+3}^2 = p_7^2 = 17^2 = 289 < 1001 = 7 \times 11 \times 13 = p_4 p_5 p_6$ .

For  $n = 3$ ,  $p_{3+3}^2 = p_6^2 = 13^2 = 169 < 385 = 5 \times 7 \times 11 = p_3 p_4 p_5$ .

Therefore,  $p_{n+3}^2 < p_n p_{n+1} p_{n+2} \forall n \geq 3$ .

#### Problem 13.

\* Firstly, let's calculate products of numbers of form  $6k+1$  and  $6k+3$ .

$$(6k_1+1)(6k_2+1) = 36k_1k_2 + 6k_1 + 6k_2 + 1 = 6(6k_1k_2 + k_1 + k_2) + 1$$

$$(6k_1+1)(6k_2+3) = 36k_1k_2 + 18k_1 + 6k_2 + 3 = 6(6k_1k_2 + 3k_1 + k_2) + 3$$

$$(6k_1+3)(6k_2+3) = 36k_1k_2 + 18k_1 + 18k_2 + 9 = 6(6k_1k_2 + 3k_1 + 3k_2 + 1) + 3.$$

Thus, Product of numbers in the form  $6k+1$  and  $6k+3$  will also be in the form of  $6k+1$  and  $6k+3$ .



⊗ Assume that there are only finite number of primes of form  $6n+5$ . Let those primes be  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k$ .

⊗ Consider  $Q = 6p_1p_2 \dots p_k - 1 = 6(p_1p_2 \dots p_k - 1) + 5$ .

Let  $Q = r_1 r_2 \dots r_s$  be prime factorization.

Since  $Q$  is odd,  $r_i \neq 2 \forall i \Rightarrow r_i$  can be of the form  $6n+1, 6n+3$  or  $6n+5$ .

⊗ We know that product of numbers of form  $6n+1$  and  $6n+3$  will also be of form  $6n+1$  and  $6n+3$ . ~~They~~

Thus,  $Q$  must contain at least 1 prime factor  $r_i$  of form  $6n+5$ .

⊗ From the construction of  $Q$ ,

$$Q - 6p_1p_2 \dots p_k = -1 \Rightarrow 1 = 6p_1p_2 \dots p_k - Q.$$

Note that  $r_i \mid 6p_1p_2 \dots p_k$  and  $r_i \mid Q$ .

$$\Rightarrow r_i \mid 6p_1p_2 \dots p_k - Q \Rightarrow r_i \mid 1 \Rightarrow \text{But } r_i \text{ is a prime.}$$

This is a contradiction, thus, there are infinitely many prime number of the form  $6n+5$ .

## Problem 20.

⊗ For  $p \geq 5$ , we know that  $p = 6k+1$  or  $p = 6k+5$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow p^2+8 &= 36k^2+12k+9 \text{ or } p^2+8 = 36k^2+60k+33 \\ &= 3(12k^2+4k+3) \quad \quad \quad = 3(12k^2+20k+11). \end{aligned}$$

In both cases,  $3 \mid p^2+8$  and since  $p^2+8 > 3$ ,  $p^2+8$  is composite.

Thus, if  $p \neq 5$  is a prime number,  $p^2+8$  cannot be prime.

⊗ For  $p=3$ ,  $p^2+8 = 3^2+8 = 17$  is a prime number.

Consider  $p^3+4 = 3^3+4 = 31$  also a prime number

⊗ For  $p=2$ ,  $p^2+8 = 2^2+8 = 12$  not a prime number  $\Rightarrow$  Needn't proceed

⊗ Thus, if  ~~$p=5$~~   $p$  and  $p^2+4$  are both prime numbers then  $p^3+4$  is also prime.