

## Sommersemester 2025 Blatt 2

## 1. QUESTIONS

- (1) Find the solution set to the linear equation

$$2x + 3y + 5z = 10.$$

- (2) Consider the Diophantine equation

$$x^2 + y^2 = z^2.$$

- (a) Show that for any positive integer  $k$ , the triple  $(2k + 1, 2k^2 + 2k, 2k^2 + 2k + 1)$  gives a solution to this equation.
- (b) Are these all of the solutions?
- (3) (\*) Find all integer solutions for the Diophantine equation

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

## 2. COMMENTS

- (1) Before attempting to solve Question 1, first make sure you understand what the question is asking.
- (a) One way to approach this problem is to solve *two easier equations* instead of one more difficult question. How can we do this?
- (b) What is difficult with this question is that we have three variables. We know from first week how to find the solution set to a linear Diophantine equation. So, we can try to reduce the problem to that.
- (c) If we have  $ax + by + cz = d$  with  $a, b, c \neq 0$  and  $\gcd(a, b, c) | d$ , then we can let  $E = \gcd(b, c)$  and solve for the system

$$\begin{aligned} ax + Ew &= d \\ by + cz &= Ew \end{aligned}$$

where  $w$  is now a new variable.

- (d) Did you notice that the second system here is homogeneous? How is this related to the first exercise from Blatt 1?
- (e) Why does this method give us solutions to the original equation?
- (f) Why does this method give us *all* solutions to the original equation?
- (2) (a) The (English) Wikipedia page for Pythagorean triples contain 46 links as notes, 12 references and 17 external links. In your free time, you can look at all of them!
- (b) Is  $(12, 17, 46)$  a Pythagorean triple?
- (3) (a) This question is a starred question. What does that mean? First, let me tell you what it does not mean: it does not mean that it is more difficult. It means that the question requires a method that does not align with the methods you learn in the lecture.
- (b) In particular, you will solve this question using some "calculus".
- (c) Go to <https://www.desmos.com/calculator>.

- (i) In the first line, type in  $a = (x - 1)^3$ . It will draw the graph for you.
- (ii) In the second line, type in  $b = x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$ .
- (iii) In the third line, type in  $b - a$ .

By looking at the graph of  $b - a$ , conclude that  $(x - 1)^3 \leq y^3$ .

- (d) Similarly, conclude that  $y^3 \leq (x + 1)^3$ .
- (e) Now, you have  $x^3 \leq y^3 \leq (x + 1)^3$ . Both  $x, y$  are integers. What does this tell you?