
Problem 1

Prove $\forall p = 4n + 3, p|a^2 + b^2 \implies p|a, p|b$

Solution:

Claim : $\forall p = 4n + 3, p|a^2 + b^2 \implies p|a, p|b$

Assume $p|(a^2 + b^2)$ but $p \nmid a, p \nmid b$

$$a^2 + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies a^2 \equiv -b^2 \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies a^{4k+2} \equiv -b^{4k+2} \pmod{p} \text{ Power both sides by } 2k + 1$$

Fermat's theorem says $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ hence, $a^{4k+2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$\implies 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies p = 2 \text{ Contradiction}$$

QED

Problem 2

Prove $21|(a^2 + b^2) \implies 441|(a^2 + b^2)$

Solution:

$$21 | a^2 + b^2 \implies 3 | a^2 + b^2$$

$$\text{Using property in Problem 1 } 3 | a^2 + b^2 \implies 3|a, 3|b \implies 9|a^2, 9|b^2$$

$$\implies 9 | a^2 + b^2$$

$$21 | a^2 + b^2 \implies 7 | a^2 + b^2$$

$$\text{Using property in Problem 1 } 7 | a^2 + b^2 \implies 7|a, 7|b \implies 49|a^2, 49|b^2$$

$$\implies 49 | a^2 + b^2$$

$$\text{GCD of 49 and 9 is 1} \implies 441 | a^2 + b^2$$

QED

Problem 3

Prove if prime $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, then $x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ has no integer solution.

Solution:

Assume if $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ then $x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ has integer solution.

Fermat's theorem says $x^{4k+2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$\implies (x^2)^{2k+1} \equiv 1^{2k+1} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies -1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \quad \{Given x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}\}$$

$$\implies p = 2$$

Contradiction

QED

Problem 4

$\#n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ does $\frac{n^3+10}{n+3}$ have integer solution.

Solution:

$$\frac{n^3+10}{n+3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n^3+27-17}{n+3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n^3+3^3}{n+3} - \frac{17}{n+3}$$

$$\Rightarrow -17 \equiv 0 \pmod{n+3}$$

17 is a prime number so $n+3$ is a factor of 17

$$\Rightarrow n+3 = 17$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 14$$

or

$$\Rightarrow n+3 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow n = -2$$

$n < 0$ its rejected

Only 1 solution

Problem 5

Prove or Disprove $1463 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 1463 \mid a, 1463 \mid b$

Solution:

$$1463 = 11 \times 7 \times 19$$

$$\Rightarrow 11 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 11 \mid a, 11 \mid b \quad \{11 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow 7 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 7 \mid a, 7 \mid b \quad \{7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}\}$$

$$19 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 19 \mid a, 19 \mid b \quad \{19 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}\}$$

QED

Problem 6

Prove or Disprove $1001 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 1001 \mid a, 1001 \mid b$

Solution:

$$1001 = 7 \times 13 \times 11$$

$$\Rightarrow 11 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 11 \mid a, 11 \mid b \quad \{11 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow 7 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 7 \mid a, 7 \mid b \quad \{7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}\}$$

$$13 \mid a^2 + b^2$$

For $a = 12$ and $b = 5$, $13 \mid a^2 + b^2$ but $12 \equiv -1 \pmod{13}$ and $5 \equiv 5 \pmod{13}$

Since $13 \nmid a, 13 \nmid b \Rightarrow 1001 \nmid a, 1001 \nmid b$

$$\Rightarrow 77 \mid a \Rightarrow a = 77k, 77 \mid b \Rightarrow b = 77l$$

$$\Rightarrow a \equiv 77k \equiv -k \equiv -1 \pmod{13}, \Rightarrow b \equiv 77l \equiv -l \equiv 5 \pmod{13}$$

$$\Rightarrow k = 1, l = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 77 \text{ and } b = 8 \times 77$$

$$\text{But } 13 \mid a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 13 \mid (77)^2(8^2 + 1^2) \Rightarrow 13 \mid (1001) \cdot (77) \cdot 5$$

QED

Problem 7

Find the number of positive integer solutions to the equation $x^2 - y^2 = 37^5 \times 41$

Solution:

Let's solve for $x^2 - y^2 = k$

$$\Rightarrow (x - y)(x + y) = ab \quad \{k = ab \text{ where } a, b \text{ are integers} \}$$

$$x - y = a \text{ and } x + y = b$$

Solving the system of equation

$$x = \frac{a+b}{2} \text{ and } y = \frac{b-a}{2}$$

For x and y to have integer values a and b both needs to odd or both needs to be even.

Since there 12 divisors of $37^5 \times 41$ and all divisors are odd since 2 isn't a factor.

There are 12 pairs (a, b) having unique relation to ordered pair integer solution (x, y) to the equation $x^2 - y^2 = 37^5 \times 41$.

$$y > 0 \Rightarrow b - a > 0 \Rightarrow b > a \text{ Hence 6 pairs of } (a, b) \text{ gives } (x, y).$$

Problem 8

Can the number A consisting of 600 sixes and some zeros be a square?

Solution:

$$\text{Any } x^2 \pmod{4} \equiv s \in \{0, 1\}$$

To Prove: A consisting of 600 sixes and some zeros is not a square

Since it's a square it must have even number of zeros at the end.

$$\text{Removing it completely should also give us a square since } k^2 = 10^{2k} \times m^2$$

m^2 can have 66 or 06 in the end.

$$\text{Since } 66 \pmod{4} \equiv 2 \text{ and } 06 \pmod{4} \equiv 2$$

Both cases $k^2 \pmod{4} \equiv 2$ Which is a contradiction.

QED

Problem 9

How often does the factor 2 occur in the product $(n+1)(n+2)\Delta\Delta\Delta(2n)$?

Solution:

Property 1: $\left\lfloor \frac{a}{b} \right\rfloor$ is number of multiples of $b \in [1, a]$

In other words find the sum of multiples of 2, $2^2, \dots, 2^k$ in $(n+1)(n+2)\Delta\Delta\Delta(2n)$ such that $2^{k+1} > 2n$

$$\text{Number of multiples of 2 in the given expression is } \Rightarrow \left\lfloor \frac{2n}{2} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{2n}{2^2} \right\rfloor$$

Number of multiples of 2^2 in the given expression is $\implies \lfloor \frac{2n}{2^2} \rfloor - \lfloor \frac{2n}{2^3} \rfloor$

.

Number of multiples of 2^k in the given expression is $\implies \lfloor \frac{2n}{2^k} \rfloor - \lfloor \frac{2n}{2^{k+1}} \rfloor \implies \lfloor \frac{2n}{2^k} \rfloor$ Since $2^{k+1} > 2n \implies \lfloor \frac{2n}{2^{k+1}} \rfloor = 0$

Summing up all the multiples

$$\implies \lfloor \frac{2n}{2} \rfloor = n$$

Problem 10

Prove $9 \mid a^2 + b^2 + ab \implies 3 \mid a, 3 \mid b$

Solution:

Any $k^2 \pmod{9} \equiv s \in \{0, 1, 4, 7, -8, -5, -2\}$

Also any $3k^2 \pmod{9} \equiv s \in \{0, 3, -6\}$

$$9 \mid a^2 + b^2 + ab \implies 4(a^2 + b^2 + ab) \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\implies (2a + b)^2 + 3b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\implies (2a + b)^2 \equiv -3b^2 \pmod{9}$$

There isn't any $\{-0, -3, 6\}$ in $\{0, 1, 4, 7, -8, -5, -2\}$ except 0

$$\implies 3b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\implies 9k = 3b^2$$

$$\implies 3k = b^2$$

$$\implies 3 \mid b^2 \implies 3 \mid b \dots (1)$$

Also

$$(2a + b)^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\implies 2a + b \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \text{ Using if } p^2 \mid n^2 \implies p \mid n$$

Using (1)

$$\implies 2a \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$\implies a \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$\implies 3 \mid a$$

□

Problem 11

Find all positive integers solutions (m, n) to the following equations

$$m^2 = 1! + 2! + 3! + \dots + n!$$

Solution:

Claim: To prove there doesn't exist a solution (m, n) for $n > 3$

Assume there exist a solution (m, n) for $n > 3$

$$m^2 \equiv 1 + 2 + 6 + 24 \pmod{5}$$

$$\implies m^2 \equiv 33 \pmod{5}$$

Any $x^2 \pmod{5}$ is in $\{0, 1, 4\}$

$$\implies m^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

$m^2 \pmod{5}$ can't be 3 hence, contradiction

QED.

for $n = \{1, 3\}$

$$1^2 = 1!$$

$$3^2 = 1! + 2! + 3!$$

Hence $(3, 3)$ and $(1, 1)$ are the only solutions

Problem 12

Is it possible to arrange the numbers $1^1, 2^2, \dots, 2008^{2008}$ one after the other in such a way the obtained number is a perfect square ?

Solution:

Sum of the digits is not dependent upon the order of the numbers.

Assume given numbers make a square let it be k^2 then $k^2 \bmod 3$ must be in $\{1, 0\}$

$$1 + -1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + -1 + 0 + \dots + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + -1 + 0 + 1 \bmod 3$$

$$\equiv 2 \times 334 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 \bmod 3$$

$$\equiv 668 + 3 \bmod 3$$

$$\equiv 671 \bmod 3$$

$$\equiv 2 \bmod 3$$

$$2 \notin \{0, 1\}$$

CONTRADICTION !

Problem 13

Find the number of positive integer solutions to the equation $x^2 - y^2 = 2^{10} \cdot 37^5 \cdot 41$

Solution:

Let's solve for $x^2 - y^2 = k$

$$\implies (x - y)(x + y) = ab \quad \{k = ab \text{ where } a, b \text{ are integers} \}$$

$$x - y = a \text{ and } x + y = b$$

Solving the system of equation

$$x = \frac{a+b}{2} \text{ and } y = \frac{b-a}{2}$$

For x and y to have integer values a and b both needs to odd or both needs to be even.

k is an even number so calculate number of ordered pairs (a, b) where a and b are even

In this case both $a = 2r$ and $b = 2s$ needs to be even .

Hence $x = r + s$ and $y = s - r$ where $rs = 2^8 \cdot 37^5 \cdot 41$

Number of different divisors of rs is $9 * 6 * 2 = 108$.

$$\text{Total divisors} = \#\{a < b\} + \#\{a > b\}$$

$$\text{Total divisors} = 2 \times \#\{a < b\}$$

Hence ans is 54.
