

### 3.3 The Goldbach Conjecture

Note Title

12/27/2004

1. Verify 1949 and 1951 are twin primes.

From table of primes,  $p_{296} = 1949$ ,  $p_{297} = 1951$ .

Also,  $\sqrt{1951} = 44.2$ , and neither divisible by primes  $\leq 43$ .

2. (a).  $p_1, p_2$  twin primes, show  $n^2 = p_1 p_2 + 1$  for some  $n$ .

$$\text{Pf: } p_2 = p_1 + 2$$

$$\therefore p_1 p_2 + 1 = p_1 (p_1 + 2) + 1$$

$$= p_1^2 + 2p_1 + 1 = (p_1 + 1)^2$$

$$\therefore \text{Let } n = p_1 + 1$$

(b) The sum of twin primes  $p, p+2$  is divisible by 12, assuming  $p > 3$ .

$$\text{Pf: Let } N = p + p + 2 = 2p + 2 = 2(p+1)$$

Since  $p+1$  is even,  $p+1 = 2m$ , some  $m$ .  
 $\therefore N = 4m$ ,  $\therefore 4 \mid N$ .

Now let  $p = 3q + r$ ,  $r = 0, 1, 2$  by Div. Alg.

$r \neq 0$  since  $p$  is prime

If  $r = 1$ , Then  $p + 2 = 3q + 3$ , so  $3 \mid p + 2$ . Since  $p + 2$  is prime,  $r \neq 1$

$\therefore r = 2$ , and  $p = 3q + 2$

$$\therefore p + 2 = 3q + 4 = 3(q + 1) + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore N = p + p + 2 &= 3q + 2 + 3(q + 1) + 1 \\ &= 3(2q + 1) + 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore 3 \mid N$$

$\therefore 3 \mid N$ ,  $4 \mid N$ , and since  $\gcd(3, 4) = 1$ ,  $3 \cdot 4 = 12 \mid N$  (corollary 2, p. 24).

$$\therefore 12 \mid p + (p + 2)$$

3. Find all pairs of primes s.t.  $p - q = 3$ .

Pf: Since  $p = q + 3$ , if  $q$  is odd,  $p$  is even.

And  $p > 3$ . But There is no even prime  $> 3$ .

$\therefore q$  is even, and  $\therefore q = 2$ .  $\therefore p = 5$ .

4. Every even integer  $2n > 4$  is the sum of two primes, one  $> n/2$ , the other  $< 3n/2$ .  
Verify for integers  $6 \leq 2n \leq 26$

Test for  $3 \leq n \leq 13$

$2n$	$n$	$> n/2$	$< 3n/2$
$6 = 3 + 3$	3	1.5	4.5
$8 = 3 + 5$	4	2	6
$10 = 3 + 7$	5	2.5	7.5
$12 = 5 + 7$	6	3	9
$14 = 7 + 7$	7	3.5	10.5
$16 = 5 + 11$	8	4	12
$18 = 7 + 11$	9	4.5	13.5
$20 = 7 + 13$	10	5	15
$22 = 11 + 11$	11	5.5	16.5
$24 = 11 + 13$	12	6	18
$26 = 13 + 13$	13	6.5	19.5
$28 = 11 + 17$	14	7	21
$30 = 11 + 19$	15	7.5	22.5
$32 = 13 + 19$	16	8	24
$34 = 11 + 23$	17	8.5	25.5
$36 = 13 + 23$	18	9	27
$38 = 17 + 19$	19	9.5	28.5
$40 = 17 + 23$	20	10	30

42 = 19 + 23	21	10.5	31.5
44 = 13 + 31	22	11	33
46 = 17 + 29	23	11.5	34.5
48 = 19 + 29	24	12	36
50 = 19 + 31	25	12.5	37.5
52 = 23 + 29	26	13	39
54 = 23 + 31	27	13.5	40.5
56 = 19 + 37	28	14	42
58 = 29 + 29	29	14.5	43.5
60 = 29 + 31	30	15	45
62 = 31 + 31	31	15.5	46.5
64 = 23 + 41	32	16	48
66 = 23 + 43	33	16.5	49.5
68 = 31 + 37	34	17	51
70 = 23 + 47	35	17.5	52.5
72 = 29 + 43	36	18	54
74 = 31 + 43	37	18.5	55.5
76 = 29 + 47	38	19	57

5. Every odd integer can be written as  $p + 2a^2$ ,  $p$  is prime or 1,  $a \geq 0$ . Show not true for 5777.

$$5777 = p + 2a^2, \quad a = \sqrt{\frac{5777 - p}{2}}$$

Minimum of  $p$  would be  $p = 2$ .

$\therefore$  Largest  $a$  would be  $\sqrt{\frac{5775}{2}} = 53.7$   
 Smallest  $a$  would be 0.

$\therefore$  Test  $0 \leq a \leq 53$ , or

test  $5777 - 2a^2$  for  
 $0 \leq a \leq 53$  and see if  
 it is prime.

From spreadsheet, left  
 column is  $a$ , middle  
 column is  $5777 - 2a^2$ , and  
 right column is a factor of  
 $5777 - 2a^2$ , showing  
 that the numbers are not  
 primes.

$\therefore$  No prime  $p$  exists s.t.

$$5777 = p + 2a^2$$

53	159	3
52	369	3
51	575	5
50	777	3
49	975	3
48	1169	7
47	1359	3
46	1545	3
45	1727	11
44	1905	3
43	2079	3
42	2249	13
41	2415	3
40	2577	3
39	2735	5
38	2889	3
37	3039	3
36	3185	5
35	3327	3
34	3465	3
33	3599	59
32	3729	3
31	3855	3
30	3977	41
29	4095	3
28	4209	3
27	4319	7
26	4425	3
25	4527	3
24	4625	5
23	4719	3
22	4809	3
21	4895	5
20	4977	3
19	5055	3
18	5129	23
17	5199	3
16	5265	3
15	5327	7
14	5385	3
13	5439	3
12	5489	11
11	5535	3
10	5577	3
9	5615	5
8	5649	3
7	5679	3
6	5705	5
5	5727	3
4	5745	3
3	5759	13
2	5769	3
1	5775	3
0	5777	53

6. Prove: (a) Every even integer  $> 2$  is the sum of two primes  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  (b) Every integer  $> 5$  is the sum of three primes

Pf: (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) Let  $N$  be any integer  $> 5$ .  
If  $N$  is even, so is  $N-2$ , and  $N-2 > 3$ .  $\therefore$  by (a),  
 $N-2 = p_1 + p_2$ ,  $\therefore N = 2 + p_1 + p_2$   
If  $N$  is odd,  $N-3$  is even, and  $N-3 > 2$ .  $\therefore$  by (a),  $N-3 = p_1 + p_2$ ,  
 $\therefore N = 3 + p_1 + p_2$ .  
 $\therefore N$  is the sum of three primes.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) Let  $N$  be any even integer  $> 2$ .  
Since  $4 = 2 + 2$ , let  $N \geq 6$ .  
Consider  $N+2$ . From (b),  $N+2 > 5$ ,  
 $N+2 = p_1 + p_2 + p_3$ . Since  $N+2$  is even, not all of  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  is odd.  
One of  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  must be even, and so one of  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  must be 2, the only even prime. Let it be  $p_1$ .  
 $\therefore N+2 = 2 + p_2 + p_3$ ,  $N = p_2 + p_3$

7. Every odd integer  $> 5$  can be written as  $p_1 + 2p_2$   
 Confirm for all odd integers  $\leq 75$ .

Pf: $7 = 3 + 2 \cdot 2$	$41 = 37 + 2 \cdot 2$
$9 = 3 + 2 \cdot 3$	$43 = 29 + 2 \cdot 7$
$11 = 5 + 2 \cdot 3$	$45 = 41 + 2 \cdot 2$
$13 = 7 + 2 \cdot 3$	$47 = 37 + 2 \cdot 5$
$15 = 11 + 2 \cdot 2$	$49 = 23 + 2 \cdot 13$
$17 = 11 + 2 \cdot 3$	$51 = 29 + 2 \cdot 11$
$19 = 13 + 2 \cdot 3$	$53 = 43 + 2 \cdot 5$
$21 = 17 + 2 \cdot 2$	$55 = 29 + 2 \cdot 13$
$23 = 17 + 2 \cdot 3$	$57 = 43 + 2 \cdot 7$
$25 = 19 + 2 \cdot 3$	$59 = 37 + 2 \cdot 11$
$27 = 23 + 2 \cdot 2$	$61 = 47 + 2 \cdot 7$
$29 = 23 + 2 \cdot 3$	$63 = 59 + 2 \cdot 2$
$31 = 17 + 2 \cdot 7$	$65 = 59 + 2 \cdot 3$
$33 = 29 + 2 \cdot 2$	$67 = 53 + 2 \cdot 7$
$35 = 29 + 2 \cdot 3$	$69 = 59 + 2 \cdot 5$
$37 = 31 + 2 \cdot 3$	$71 = 67 + 2 \cdot 2$
$39 = 29 + 2 \cdot 5$	$73 = 59 + 2 \cdot 7$
	$75 = 53 + 2 \cdot 11$

8.  $60 = p_1 + p_2$  in 6 ways

$60 = 53 + 7$	$60 = 43 + 17$	$60 = 37 + 23$
$60 = 47 + 13$	$60 = 41 + 19$	$60 = 31 + 29$

$28 = p_1 + p_2$  in 7 ways

$$28 = 23 + 5$$

$$28 = 61 + 17$$

$$28 = 41 + 37$$

$$28 = 71 + 7$$

$$28 = 59 + 19$$

$$28 = 67 + 11$$

$$28 = 47 + 31$$

$84 = p_1 + p_2$  in 8 ways

$$84 = 79 + 5$$

$$84 = 53 + 31$$

$$84 = 67 + 17$$

$$84 = 73 + 11$$

$$84 = 47 + 37$$

$$84 = 61 + 23$$

$$84 = 71 + 13$$

$$84 = 43 + 41$$

9. (a) For  $n > 3$ ,  $n, n+2, n+4$  cannot all be prime.

Pf: By Division Alg.,  $n$  can be expressed as

$$6q + r, \quad 0 \leq r \leq 5$$

$r \neq 0, 2, 4$ , for then  $n$  would be even.

$$\therefore r = 1, 3, 5$$

$r = 1$ :  $n = 6q + 1$ , so  $n+2 = 6q+3$ , which is divisible by 3.

$$\therefore r \neq 1$$

$r = 3$ :  $n = 6q + 3$ , but then  $3 \mid n$ .

$$\text{so } r \neq 3.$$

$r = 5$ :  $n = 6q + 5$ , then  $n+4 = 6q+9$ , so  $3 \mid n+4$ .  $\therefore r \neq 5$ .



$\therefore$  for no value of  $r$  can all three numbers be prime.

(6) prime triplets:  $p, p+2, p+6$

5, 7, 11

41, 43, 47

11, 13, 17

101, 103, 107

17, 19, 23

10.  $(n+1)! - 2, (n+1)! - 3, \dots, (n+1)! - (n+1)$  produces  $n$  consecutive composite numbers.

Pf: For each  $k \leq n+1$ ,  $k$  is in the term  $(n+1)!$ , so that  $k \mid [(n+1)! - k]$

11.  $f(n) = n^2 + n + 17$   
 $g(n) = n^2 + 21n + 1$   
 $h(n) = 3n^2 + 3n + 23$  Find smallest  $n$  for each function that makes value a composite.

$$f(16) = 289 = 17^2$$

$$g(18) = 703 = 19 \times 37$$

$$h(22) = 1541 = 23 \times 67$$

12. Let  $p_n$  be  $n^{\text{th}}$  prime number. For  $n \geq 3$ , prove  $p_{n+3}^2 < p_n p_{n+1} p_{n+2}$

Pf: From section 3.2,  $p_{n+1} < 2p_n$

$$\therefore p_{n+3} < 2p_{n+2}$$

$$\text{so } p_{n+3}^2 < 4p_{n+2}^2 < 4p_{n+2}(2p_{n+1}) = 8p_{n+2}p_{n+1}$$

$$\text{Since } p_5 = 11, 8p_{n+2}p_{n+1} < p_5 p_{n+2}p_{n+1}$$

$$\therefore p_{n+3}^2 < p_n p_{n+1} p_{n+2} \quad \text{if } n \geq 5$$

$$\text{For } n=4, p_7^2 = 17^2 = 289 < p_4 p_5 p_6 = 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 = 1001$$

$$n=3: p_6^2 = 13^2 = 169 < p_3 p_4 p_5 = 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 = 385$$

$$n=2: p_5^2 = 11^2 = 121 < p_2 p_3 p_4 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 105$$

$$\therefore \text{for } n \geq 3, p_{n+3}^2 < p_n p_{n+1} p_{n+2}$$

13. There are infinitely many primes of form:  $6n+5$

Pf: Assume only finite number of primes of form  $6n+5$ . Let these be  $q_1, q_2, q_3, \dots, q_s$

Consider  $N = 6q_1 q_2 \dots q_s - 1 = 6(q_1 q_2 \dots q_s - 1) + 5$

Let  $N = r_1 r_2 \dots r_t$  be the prime factorization.  
Since  $N$  is odd,  $r_i \neq 2$ , so each  $r_i$  can only be of form  $6n+1$ ,  $6n+3$ , or  $6n+5$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Since } (6n+1)(6m+1) &= 36nm + 6m + 6n + 1 \\ &= 6(6nm + m + n) + 1\end{aligned}$$

product of two integers of  $6n+1$  form is same form.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Since } (6n+3)(6m+3) &= 36nm + 18m + 18n + 9 \\ &= 6(6nm + 3m + 3n + 3) + 3\end{aligned}$$

product of two integers of  $6n+3$  form is same form.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Since } (6n+1)(6m+3) &= 36nm + 6m + 18n + 3 \\ &= 6(6nm + m + 3n) + 3\end{aligned}$$

product of two integers of  $6n+1$  form and  $6n+3$  form is of  $6n+3$  form.

So, the only way for  $N$  to be of form  $6n+5$ , of which it is,  $N$  must contain at least one factor  $r_i$  of form  $6n+5$ .  
But can't find such a prime among

the  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_s$ . If such a prime existed, then from construction of  $N$ ,  $N - 6q_1q_2 \dots q_s = -1$ , both

terms on left side would be divisible by this prime of  $6n+5$  form, so  $-1$ , and thus,  $1$ , would be divisible by this prime, a contradiction.

$\therefore$  Can't be finite # of primes of  $6n+5$  form.

14.  $4(3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11) - 1 = 13 \times 71$ , 71 is of form  $4n+3$

$4(3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 15) - 1 = 13,859$ , a prime of form  $4n+3$

15. Five consecutive odd integers, 4 of which are prime.

3, 5, 7, 9, 11

11, 13, 15, 17, 19

171, 173, 175, 177, 179

5, 7, 9, 11, 13

101, 103, 105, 107, 109

16.  $23 = p_9 = p_{2 \cdot 4 + 1} = 2p_{2 \cdot 4} + \sum_{k=0}^{2 \cdot 4 - 1} \epsilon_k p_k$

$$= 2p_8 + \sum_{k=0}^7 \epsilon_k p_k$$

$$\therefore 23 = 2 \cdot 19 + \epsilon_0 + 2\epsilon_1 + 3\epsilon_2 + 5\epsilon_3 + 7\epsilon_4 + 11\epsilon_5 + 13\epsilon_6 + 17\epsilon_7$$

$$= 38 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 5 - 7 + 11 - 13 - 17$$

$$= 38 + (2 - 17) + (1 + 3 + 5) + (-7 + 11 - 13)$$

$$= 38 - 15 + 9 - 9$$

$$29 = p_{10} = p_{2 \cdot 5} = p_{2 \cdot 5 - 1} + \sum_{k=0}^{2 \cdot 5 - 2} \epsilon_k p_k = 23 + \sum_{k=0}^8 \epsilon_k p_k$$

$$= 23 + \epsilon_0 + 2\epsilon_1 + 3\epsilon_2 + 5\epsilon_3 + 7\epsilon_4 + 11\epsilon_5 + 13\epsilon_6 + 17\epsilon_7 + 19\epsilon_8$$

$$= 23 + 6 + 12 + 6 - 6$$

$$= 23 + (1 + 2 + 3) + (5 + 7) + (-11 + 17) + (13 - 19)$$

$$= 23 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 5 + 7 - 11 + 17 + 13 - 19$$

$$31 = p_{11} = p_{2 \cdot 5 + 1} = 2p_{2 \cdot 5} + \sum_{k=0}^{2 \cdot 5 - 1} \epsilon_k p_k = 2 \cdot 29 + \sum_{k=0}^9 \epsilon_k p_k$$

$$= 2 \cdot 29 + \epsilon_0 + 2\epsilon_1 + 3\epsilon_2 + 5\epsilon_3 + 7\epsilon_4 + 11\epsilon_5 + 13\epsilon_6 + 17\epsilon_7 +$$

$$19\epsilon_8 + 23\epsilon_9$$

$$31 = 5 \cdot 8 - 27, \text{ so find } -27$$

$$\begin{aligned} -27 &= 0 - 8 + (-11 - 4 \cdot 4) \\ &= (2+3-5) + (-1-7) + (-11-4-4) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore 31 = 2 \cdot 29 - 1 + 2 + 3 - 5 - 7 - 11 + 13 - 17 + 19 - 23$$

$$37 = p_{12} = p_{2 \cdot 6} = p_{2 \cdot 6 - 1} + \sum_{k=0}^{2 \cdot 6 - 2} \epsilon_k p_k = 31 + \sum_{k=0}^{10} \epsilon_k p_k$$

$$= 31 + \epsilon_0 + 2\epsilon_1 + 3\epsilon_2 + 5\epsilon_3 + 7\epsilon_4 + 11\epsilon_5 + 13\epsilon_6 + 17\epsilon_7 +$$

$$19\epsilon_8 + 23\epsilon_9 + 29\epsilon_{10}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 37 &= 31 + 6 = 31 + 6 + (-21 - 2 + -42) + 46 \\ &= 31(1+2+3) + (5-7+11-13-19-23) + (17+29) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore 37 = 31 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 5 - 7 + 11 - 13 + 17 - 19 - 23 + 29$$

17. show 509 and 877 can't be the sum of a prime and power of 2.

From spreadsheet,  
 1st column is  $n$ ,  
 2nd column is  $2^n$ ,  
 3rd column is  $509 - 2^n$   
 4th column is  $877 - 2^n$

0	1	508	876
1	2	507	875
2	4	505	873
3	8	501	869
4	16	493	861
5	32	477	845
6	64	445	813
7	128	381	749
8	256	253	621
9	512	-3	365
10	1024	-515	-147

None of the positive entries  
 in 3rd or 4th cols. is prime.

18. (a).  $p$  prime,  $p \nmid b$ , show every  $p$ th term in  
 $a, a+b, a+2b, \dots$  is divisible by  $p$ .

Better restatement: there is a term within  
 the first  $p$  terms that is divisible by  $p$ , and  
 every  $p$ th term thereafter is divisible by  $p$ .  
 (because the  $p$ th term from the beginning is not  
 always divisible by  $p$ ).

Pf: Since  $p \nmid b$ , and  $p$  is prime,  $\gcd(p, b) = 1$ .

$\therefore$  There exist integers  $r, s$  s.t.  $pr + bs = 1$  [1]

Consider  $n_k = kp - as$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

For  $k=1$ ,  $n_1 = p - as$ , and clearly  $n_1 < p$ .  
 Note that  $n_2$  is the  $p$ th term after  $n_1$ ,  
 $n_3$  the  $p$ th term after  $n_2$ , etc.

$$\begin{aligned}
 a + n_k b &= a + (kp - as)b = a + kp b - a b s \\
 &= a(1 - bs) + kp b \\
 &= a(pr) + kp b \quad (\text{using [1]})
 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore p \mid a + n_k b$ , so there is a term within the first  $p$  terms that is divisible by  $p$ , and every  $p$ th term after that is divisible by  $p$ .

(b) if  $b$  is odd in  $a, a+b, a+2b, \dots$

then since  $2 \nmid b$  and  $2$  is prime, by (a) either  $a$  or  $a+b$  is divisible by  $2$ , and every 2nd term is also. So every other term is even.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 19. \quad 25 = 5 + 7 + 13 & 81 = 3 + 5 + 73 \\
 69 = 3 + 5 + 61 & 125 = 5 + 7 + 113
 \end{array}$$

20. If  $p$  and  $p^2 + 8$  are both prime, then  $p^3 + 4$  is prime.

Pf: As in prob. # 4 of Problem 3.1, if  $p > 3$  is prime it is of form  $6k+1$  or  $6k+5$ .



$$\therefore p^2 + 8 = 36k^2 + 12k + 9, \text{ or } 36k^2 + 60k + 33$$

$$\text{But } 3 \mid (36k^2 + 12k + 9)$$

$$\text{And } 3 \mid (36k^2 + 60k + 33)$$

So  $p^2 + 8$  is not prime if  $p > 3$ .

$$\therefore p = 3$$

$$p^2 + 8 = 17$$

$$p^3 + 4 = 31$$

21. (a). Let  $k > 0$  be any integer, and let  $a, b$  be integers with  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ . Prove the series,

$a + b, a + 2b, a + 3b, \dots$  contains  $k$  consecutive composite terms.

Pf: Let  $k$  be any integer, and let  $n$  be the integer formed by:

$$n = (a + b)(a + 2b) \dots (a + kb)$$

Consider the series of  $k$  terms:

$$a + (n+1)b, a + (n+2)b, \dots, a + (n+k)b$$

For the " $i$ "th term,  $(1 \leq i \leq k)$

$$a + (n+i)b =$$

$$a + nb + ib = a + ib + nb$$

But  $n$  contains  $(a+ib)$  as one of its terms by definition of  $n$ .

$$\therefore (a+ib) \mid (a+(n+i)b) \text{ for all } i$$

$$\text{For } K \geq 2, a+ib < a+(n+i)b$$

For  $K=1$ ,  $n = a+b$ , and the " $i$ "th term of our series is  $a+(a+b+1)b =$

$$a + a + b + b^2 + b = a(1+b) + b(b+1) \\ = (a+b)(b+1)$$

$$\therefore a+b < a+(a+b+1)b$$

$$\therefore \text{for } K \geq 1, a+ib < a+(n+i)b$$

$$\text{Also, } 1 < a+ib \text{ for all } i.$$

$\therefore$  all  $K$  terms of  $a+(n+1)b, \dots, a+(n+K)b$  are divisible by an integer that is  $> 1$  and  $<$  the term.

$\therefore$  all  $K$  terms are composite.

Note: proof doesn't use  $\gcd(a,b)=1$ .  
it does assume  $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$ .

(b) From our construction, let

$$n = (6+5)(6+2\cdot 5)(6+3\cdot 5)(6+4\cdot 5)(6+5\cdot 5) \\ = 2,978,976$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 6 + (n+1)5 &= 14,894,891 \div 6+5 = 11 \\ 6 + (n+2)5 &= 14,894,896 \div 6+2\cdot 5 = 16 \\ 6 + (n+3)5 &= 14,894,901 \div 21 \\ 6 + (n+4)5 &= 14,894,906 \div 26 \\ 6 + (n+5)5 &= 14,894,911 \div 31 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  The above 5 consecutive terms are composite.

22. show 13 is largest prime that can divide two successive integers of form  $n^2+3$

Pf: First, look at first possibilities for  $n$

$n$	$n^2+3$	prime fac.	$n$	$n^2+3$	prime fac.
0	3	3	9	84	$2^2 \times 3 \times 7$
1	4	$2^2$	10	103	103
2	7	7	11	124	$2^2 \times 31$
3	12	$2^2 \times 3$	12	147	$3 \times 7^2$
4	19	19	13	172	$2^2 \times 43$
5	28	$2^2 \times 7$	14	199	199
6	39	$3 \times 13$	15	228	$2^2 \times 3 \times 19$
7	52	$2^2 \times 13$	16	259	$7 \times 37$
8	67	67			

It seems that after  $n \geq 8$ , there are no common factors for adjacent terms.

Adjacent terms are  $n^2+3$  and  $(n+1)^2+3 = n^2+2n+4$

Use Euclid's algorithm to find gcd for  $n \geq 8$

$\therefore$  Suppose 1st term is even, i.e.,  $n=2s$ , and  $s \geq 4$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \text{ terms are } (2s)^2+3 &= 4s^2+3 \\ (2s+1)^2+3 &= 4s^2+4s+4\end{aligned}$$

$$4s^2+4s+4 = 1 \cdot (4s^2+3) + 4s+1 \quad 4s+1 < 4s^2+3$$

$$4s^2+3 = s(4s+1) - s+3 \quad \text{but } -s+3 < 0 \text{ for } s \geq 4$$

$$\therefore 4s^2+3 = (s-1)(4s+1) + 3s+4 \quad \text{and for } s \geq 4, 4s+1 > 3s+4$$

$$4s+1 = 1 \cdot (3s+4) + s-3 \quad 3s+4 > s-3, \text{ for } s \geq 4$$

$$3s+4 = 3 \cdot (s-3) + 13 \quad (*)$$

$$\gcd(s-3, 13) = 13 \text{ or } 1$$

So  $\gcd = 1, 13$  if  $s-3 > 13$ , or  $s > 16$

So, must prove  $\gcd = 1, 13$  for  $4 \leq s \leq 16$  for (\*)

So (\*) becomes for each  $s$ :

$$3s+4 = a(s-3) + r$$

$$\therefore s=4: 16 = 16 \cdot 1 \quad \gcd = 1$$

$$s=5: 19 = 9 \cdot 2 + 1, \quad 2 = 2 \cdot 1, \quad \gcd = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
s=6 : 22 &= 7 \cdot 3 + 1, & 3 &= 3 \cdot 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=7 : 25 &= 6 \cdot 4 + 1, & 4 &= 4 \cdot 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=8 : 28 &= 5 \cdot 5 + 3, & 5 &= 1 \cdot 3 + 2, & 3 &= 1 \cdot 2 + 1, & 2 &= 2 \cdot 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=9 : 31 &= 5 \cdot 6 + 1, & 6 &= 6 \cdot 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=10 : 34 &= 4 \cdot 7 + 6, & 7 &= 1 \cdot 6 + 1, & 6 &= 6 \cdot 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=11 : 37 &= 4 \cdot 8 + 5, & 8 &= 1 \cdot 5 + 3, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=12 : 40 &= 4 \cdot 9 + 4, & 9 &= 2 \cdot 4 + 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=13 : 43 &= 4 \cdot 10 + 3, & 10 &= 3 \cdot 3 + 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=14 : 46 &= 4 \cdot 11 + 2, & 11 &= 5 \cdot 2 + 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=15 : 49 &= 4 \cdot 12 + 1, & 12 &= 12 \cdot 1, & \gcd &= 1 \\
s=16 : 52 &= 4 \cdot 13, & \gcd &= 13
\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Examples show  $\gcd = 1$  or  $\gcd = 13$  for adjacent terms  $0 \leq n \leq 16$ , and above shows  $\gcd = 1$  or  $\gcd = 13$  for all  $n$  if 1st term is even.

Now suppose first term is odd, i.e.,  $n = 2s + 1$ , and  $s \geq 4$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore (2s+1)^2 + 3 &= 4s^2 + 4s + 4 \\
(2s+2)^2 + 3 &= 4s^2 + 8s + 7
\end{aligned}$$

$$4s^2 + 8s + 7 = 1 \cdot (4s^2 + 4s + 4) + 4s + 3$$

$$4s^2 + 4s + 4 = s(4s + 3) + s + 4 \quad 4s + 3 > s + 4 \text{ for } s \geq 4$$

$$4s+3 = 3(s+4) + s-9 \quad (*) \quad 0 < s-9 < s+4 \quad \text{if } s > 9$$

$$s+4 = 1 \cdot (s-9) + 13 \quad 13 < s-9, \text{ if } 22 < s$$

$$\gcd(s-9, 13) = 1 \text{ or } 13$$

$\therefore \gcd = 1$  if  $s > 22$ , and so must test (\*) for  $4 \leq s \leq 22$ . (\*) becomes

$$4s+3 = a(s+4) + r$$

$s=4$	$: 19 = 2 \cdot 8 + 3$	$8 = 2 \cdot 3 + 2$	$3 = 1 \cdot 2 + 1$	$\gcd = 1$
$s=5$	$: 23 = 2 \cdot 9 + 5$	$9 = 1 \cdot 5 + 4$	$5 = 4 + 1$	$\gcd = 1$
$s=6$	$: 27 = 2 \cdot 10 + 7$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=7$	$: 31 = 2 \cdot 11 + 9$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=8$	$: 35 = 2 \cdot 12 + 11$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=9$	$: 39 = 3 \cdot 13$			$\gcd = 13$
$s=10$	$: 43 = 3 \cdot 14 + 1$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=11$	$: 47 = 3 \cdot 15 + 2$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=12$	$: 51 = 3 \cdot 16 + 3$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=13$	$: 55 = 3 \cdot 17 + 4$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=14$	$: 59 = 3 \cdot 18 + 5$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=15$	$: 63 = 3 \cdot 19 + 6$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=16$	$: 67 = 3 \cdot 20 + 7$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=17$	$: 71 = 3 \cdot 21 + 8$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=18$	$: 75 = 3 \cdot 22 + 9$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=19$	$: 79 = 3 \cdot 23 + 10$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=20$	$: 83 = 3 \cdot 24 + 11$			$\gcd = 1$
$s=21$	$: 87 = 3 \cdot 25 + 12$	$25 = 2 \cdot 12 + 1$		$\gcd = 1$
$s=22$	$: 91 = 3 \cdot 26 + 13$			$\gcd = 13$

$\therefore$  for  $4 \leq s \leq 22$ ,  $\gcd = 1$  or  $\gcd = 13$   
 for  $s > 22$ ,  $\gcd = 1$  or  $13$   
 $\therefore$  for all  $s \geq 4$ ,  $\gcd = 1$  or  $13$   
 $\therefore$  for all terms of  $n^2+3$ ,  $(n+1)^2+3$  beginning with  $n$  odd and  $n \geq 9$ ,  $\gcd = 1$  or  $13$ .

$\therefore$  for all  $n \geq 0$ , adjacent terms have  $\gcd$  of 1 or 13

Note: it would have been difficult to start with

$$n^2+2n+4 = 1(n^2+3) + 2n+1$$

$$n^2+3 = n(2n+1) - n^2-2n+3$$

This approach is not fruitful.

23. (a) Twin primes with a triangular mean

Some triangular numbers:  $1+2=3$ ,  $1+2+3=6$ ,  
 $1+2+3+4=10$ ,  $10+5=15$ ,  $15+6=21$ ,  $21+7=28$   
 $19, 23$  are adjacent but not twin primes.

$(5+7)/2 = 6$ , so 5, 7 work. Suppose  $p > 7$ .

From problem #1(a), sec. 1.3, a number is triangular  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is of form  $n(n+1)/2$

$$\therefore (p + p+2)/2 = n(n+1)/2$$

$$\therefore 2p+2 = n^2+n, \quad 2p = n^2+n-2 = (n+2)(n-1)$$

Since  $2p$  is even, one of  $n+2$  or  $n-1$  must be even.

$$\text{Suppose } n-1 = 2k. \therefore n+2 = 2k+3$$

$$\therefore 2p = (2k+3)(2k)$$

$$p = (2k+3)(k)$$

For  $p$  to be prime,  $k=1, \therefore p=5$

$$\text{Suppose } n+2 = 2k. \therefore n-1 = 2k-3$$

$$\therefore 2p = 2k(2k-3)$$

$$p = k(2k-3)$$

$$\therefore 2k-3 = 1, k=2, \text{ or}$$

$$k=1, 2k-3 = -1.$$

$$\therefore n+2 \neq 2k.$$

So, only possible twin primes are 5, 7.

(6) Twin primes with square mean.

$$\text{Suppose: } (p+p+2)/2 = n^2$$

$$\therefore p+1 = n^2, \quad p = n^2-1 = (n+1)(n-1)$$



For  $p$  to be prime,  $n-1=1$ ,  $\therefore n=2$   
 $\therefore n^2=4$

$\therefore$  Only possibility is 3, 5

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

Pf: 3, 5 :  $3 \cdot 5 - 2 = 13$

Suppose  $p > 3$ . All primes  $> 3$  are of form  $6k+1$  or  $6k+5$ . But  $p$  must be of form  $6k+5$  since  $6k+1+2 = 6k+3 = 3(2k+1)$ .

$\therefore$  Let  $p = 6k+5$ ,  $q = 6k+7$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore (6k+5)(6k+7)-2 &= 36k^2 + 72k + 35 - 2 \\ &= 36k^2 + 72k + 33 \\ &= 3(12k^2 + 24k + 11) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  if  $p > 3$ , there are no twin primes such that  $pq-2$  is prime.  
3, 5 is The only pair.

25. Let  $p_n$  be  $n$ th prime. For  $n > 3$ , show  
 $p_n < p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_{n-1}$

$$\text{Pf: } p_3 = 5 = 2 + 3 = p_1 + p_2$$

$$p_4 = 7 < 2 + 3 + 5 = p_1 + p_2 + p_3$$

$\therefore$  Assume for  $k > 4$ ,

$$p_k < p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_{k-1}$$

$$\therefore 2p_k < p_1 + \dots + p_{k-1} + p_k$$

By Bertrand's conjecture,  $\exists p$  s.t.  
 $p_k < p < 2p_k$

$$\text{But } p_k < p_{k+1} \leq p$$

$$\therefore p_{k+1} \leq p < 2p_k < p_1 + \dots + p_{k-1} + p_k$$

$\therefore$  true for  $k+1$

$\therefore$  True for all  $n > 4$

26. (a) Infinitely many primes ending in 33.

Pf:  $100 = 2^2 \times 5^2$  and  $33 = 3 \times 11$  are relatively prime.

$\therefore$  By Dirichlet's Theorem, The series  
 $33, 33+100, 33+2 \cdot 100, \dots$   
 $= 33, 133, 233, \dots$  contains infinitely  
 many primes.

(6) Infinitely many primes which do not belong  
 to any pair of twin primes.

Pf: 5 and  $21=3 \cdot 7$  are relatively prime.  
 $\therefore$  By Dirichlet's Theorem, The series,

$$5+21k, \text{ for } k=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

contains infinitely many primes.

Let  $p$  be one such prime.

$$\therefore \text{For some } k, p = 5 + 21k.$$

$$\therefore p+2 = 7+21k = 7(1+3k)$$

$$p-2 = 3+21k = 3(1+7k).$$

$\therefore p+2$  and  $p-2$  can't be prime.

$\therefore$  all The primes contained in  
 $5+21k$  cannot be members of  
 twin primes.

(c) There exists a prime ending in as many consecutive 1's as desired.

Pf:  $R_n = (10^n - 1)/9$  by def.

Since  $1 \cdot 10^n - 9 \cdot R_n = 1$ ,  $\gcd(10^n, R_n) = 1$   
 $\therefore$  Using Dirichlet's Theorem, form the series

$10^n \cdot k + R_n$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$   
which is for  $n=1$ :  $11, 21, 31, \dots$   
 $n=2$ :  $111, 211, 311, \dots$

Each contains infinitely many primes.  
 $\therefore$  each contains at least one prime ending in  $n$  1's.

(d) There are infinitely many primes that contain but do not end in the block of digits 123456789.

Pf: Consider  $10^n = 2^n \times 5^n$

The number 1234567891 is odd, so contains no factor of 2, and does not end in 0 or 5, so contains no factor of 5.

$\therefore 10^n$  and 1234567891 are relatively prime.

$\therefore$  By Dirichlet's Theorem, The series

$10^k + 1234567891$  contains infinitely many primes, and each number in the series contains 123456789 but ends in 1.

A few numbers in the series are:

$11234567891, 21234567891, 31234567891, \dots$

27. For every  $n \geq 2$ , There exists a prime  $p \leq n < 2p$ .

Pf: Suppose  $n$  is odd.  $\therefore \exists k$  s.t.  $n = 2k + 1$ , and since  $n \geq 2$ ,  $k \geq 1$ .

By Bertrand's conjecture, There is a prime  $p$  s.t.  $k < p < 2k$ .

$\therefore p < p+1 < 2k+1 = n$ , so  $p < n$

Also,  $2k < 2p$ , so  $2k+1 \leq 2p$

$\therefore n \leq 2p$ . But  $2k+1$  is odd, and

$2p$  is even.  $\therefore n < 2p$

$\therefore \exists a p$  s.t.  $p < n < 2p$

Suppose  $n$  is even.  $\therefore \exists k$  s.t.  $n = 2k$ ,  $k \geq 1$

By Bertrand's conjecture, There is a prime  $p$  s.t.  $k < p < 2k = n$ , so  $p < n$

$$\therefore n = 2k < 2p, \text{ so } n < 2p$$

$$\therefore p < n < 2p$$

28. (a) If  $n \geq 1$ , show that  $n!$  is never a perfect square.

Pf: Lemma 1: If  $p_1 < p_2$  are adjacent primes,

Then if  $p_1 < N < p_2$ , Then  
The prime factors of  $N$  are  
less than  $p_1$  (for  $p_1 > 3$ ).

Pf: Let  $q_1 q_2 \dots q_r = N$ ,  $r \geq 2$ . Suppose  $q_i = p_i$  for some  $i$ .

$$\text{Since } q_i \geq 2 \text{ for all } i, N = q_1 \dots q_r \geq p_i 2^{r-1}$$

$$\therefore N = q_1 \dots q_r \geq p_i \cdot 2 \cdot 2^{r-2} > p_2$$

Since  $2p_1 > p_2$  (top p. 50, a  
direct consequence of Bertrand  
conjecture).  $\therefore N > p_2$ ,  
a contradiction.

Lemma 2: Let  $q_1^{k_1} q_2^{k_2} \dots q_r^{k_r}$  be the prime  
canonical factorization of  $n!$ .  
Then  $k_r = 1$  for all  $n \geq 2$ .

Pf: Clearly true for  $n=2, n=3$ .

Let  $N$  be any integer  $> 3$

Suppose true for  $N$ .

$$\therefore N! = q_1^{k_1} \dots q_{r-1}^{k_{r-1}} q_r \quad (q_i < q_r)$$

Since each term of  $N!$  is  $< N$ , Then the prime factors of each term (which are  $<$  each term) are  $< N$ .  $\therefore q_i < N$ , and so  $q_r < N$ .

$$\text{Consider } (N+1)! = N! (N+1)$$

$$\text{If } N+1 \text{ is prime, then } q_r < N+1. \\ \therefore (N+1)! = q_1^{k_1} \dots q_{r-1}^{k_{r-1}} q_r (N+1)$$

$\therefore$  lemma true

Suppose  $N+1$  is not prime.

Then  $q_r$  must be largest prime  $< N+1$ . If a larger prime existed, it would be a term in  $(N+1)!$ , and  $\therefore$  would be represented in the prime factorization:  $q_1^{k_1} \dots q_{r-1}^{k_{r-1}} q_r$

By Lemma 1 above, prime factors of  $N+1$  are  $< g_r$ .  
 $\therefore g_r$  remains largest prime factor and it has exponent 1.

$\therefore$  Lemma true for  $N+1$  when true for  $N$ .

Back to main problem:

$\therefore$  The prime factorization of  $n!$  has exponent 1 for largest factor.

$\therefore$  If  $n! = a^2$ , some  $a$ , all prime factors would have even exponents, as would the last factor.

$\therefore n! \neq a^2$  for any  $n \geq 2$ .

Note: By Lemma 2,  $n!$  can't be any power of any number.

(6). Find values of  $n \geq 1$  for which  $n! + (n+1)! + (n+2)!$  is a perfect square.



$$\begin{aligned}
 n! + (n+1)! + (n+2)! &= n! [1 + (n+1) + (n+1)(n+2)] \\
 &= n! [1 + (n+1) + n^2 + 3n + 2] \\
 &= n! [n^2 + 4n + 4] \\
 &= n! (n+2)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{let } a^2 = n! (n+2)^2$$

From (a), all the prime factors of  $a^2$  have even exponents.  $\therefore$  prime factors of  $n! (n+2)^2$  should have even exponents.

But  $n!$  has, for its largest prime factor ( $n \geq 2$ ), an exponent of 1. (from (a) above). Call this factor  $p$ . Even if  $(n+2)^2$  had  $p$  as a factor, its exponent would be even.

Thus, the exponent of  $p$  in the factorization of  $n! (n+2)^2$  will be odd. This contradicts expectation of  $a^2$ .

$\therefore n$  can't be  $\geq 2$ .

$$\therefore \text{for } n=1, \quad n! + (n+1)! + (n+2)! = 9 = 3^2.$$

$\therefore$  Only  $n=1$  is statement true.