

Pythagorean Triple:

Def:- A Pythagorean triple is a set of three integers x, y, z such that $\tilde{x} + \tilde{y} = \tilde{z}$.
A Pythagorean triple is called primitive if $\gcd(x, y, z) = 1$

e.g. $(3, 4, 5)$ is a primitive Pythagorean triple.

But $(6, 8, 10)$ is a non-primitive Pythagorean triple.

If (x, y, z) is a Pythagorean triple st. $\gcd(x, y, z) = d$,
then $\exists x_1, y_1, z_1$ st. $x = dx_1, y = dy_1$, and $z = dz_1$,
such that $\gcd(x_1, y_1, z_1) = 1$

$$\text{Then } \tilde{x}_1 + \tilde{y}_1 = \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^{\sim} + \left(\frac{y}{d}\right)^{\sim} = \frac{\tilde{x} + \tilde{y}}{d^{\sim}} = \frac{\tilde{z}}{d^{\sim}} = \tilde{z}_1$$

so (x_1, y_1, z_1) is a primitive Pythagorean triple.

Lemma:-

If x, y, z is a primitive Pythagorean triple,
then one of x or y is even, while z is odd.

Proof:- If both x & y even then $2|x, 2|y$.

$$\Rightarrow \text{implies } 2|\tilde{x} + \tilde{y} \Rightarrow 2|\tilde{z} \Rightarrow 2|z$$

Thus $\gcd(x, y, z) \geq 2$ is a contradiction to x, y, z is a primitive triple. So one of x or y is ~~even~~ odd.

If both x, y are odd then $\tilde{x} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$
 $\tilde{y} \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow \tilde{x} + \tilde{y} \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$
 $\Rightarrow \tilde{z} \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ is a contradiction as
square of an integer either $\equiv 0$ or $1 \pmod{4}$

Since one of x or y is even and other is odd so ~~sum~~ one of $\tilde{x}$ or $\tilde{y}$ is even and other is odd. Thus $\tilde{x} + \tilde{y}$ is odd i.e. $\tilde{z}$ is odd. So z is odd.

Lemma: If $ab = c^n$, where $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, then a and b are n th powers; that is, there exist positive integers a_1, b_1 for which $a = a_1^n$, $b = b_1^n$.

Proof: Assume that $a > 1$ and $b > 1$

and let $a = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \dots p_r^{k_r}$

$$b = q_1^{j_1} q_2^{j_2} \dots q_s^{j_s}$$

Since $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ therefore the primes p_i and q_i are distinct.

$$\text{So } ab = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \dots p_r^{k_r} q_1^{j_1} q_2^{j_2} \dots q_s^{j_s} = c^n$$

Therefore each k_i and j_i are divisible by n

$$\text{Hence } a = (p_1^{\frac{k_1}{n}} p_2^{\frac{k_2}{n}} \dots p_r^{\frac{k_r}{n}})^n = a_1^n$$

$$\text{and } b = (q_1^{\frac{j_1}{n}} q_2^{\frac{j_2}{n}} \dots q_s^{\frac{j_s}{n}})^n = b_1^n$$

Theorem:- All the solutions of the Pythagorean equation $\tilde{x}^2 + \tilde{y}^2 = \tilde{z}^2$

satisfying the conditions

$\gcd(x, y, z) = 1$, $z \nmid x$, $x > 0$, $y > 0$, $z > 0$ are given by

the formulas

$$x = 2st, \quad y = s^2 - t^2, \quad z = s^2 + t^2 \quad \text{for}$$

integers $s > t > 0$, such that $\gcd(s, t) = 1$ and $s \not\equiv t \pmod{2}$

Proof: - Let x, y, z be a primitive Pythagorean triple.

Since one of x or y is even so let x be even and y and z be odd.

Thus $z+y$ and $z-y$ both are even

Let $z+y=2v$ and $z-y=2u$

Now from $\tilde{x} + \tilde{y} = \tilde{z}$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{x} = \tilde{z} - \tilde{y} = (z-y)(z+y) \\ = 4uv$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{\sim} = uv$$

Note that $\gcd(u, v) = 1$, if $\gcd(u, v) = d > 1$ then $d \mid u+v$ and $d \mid u-v$

$$\Rightarrow d \mid y, d \mid z$$

$$\Rightarrow d \mid x \text{ also}$$

Then $\gcd(x, y, z) > d > 1$ is a contradiction.

Since $\gcd(u, v) = 1$ and $uv = \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{\sim}$ by the 10 we

have $u = t^{\sim}$ and $v = s^{\sim}$ (Second lemma)

where s and t are positive integers. Then-

$$z = u+v = \tilde{s} + \tilde{t}$$

$$y = v-u = \tilde{s} - \tilde{t}$$

$$\tilde{x} = 4uv = 4\tilde{s}\tilde{t} \Rightarrow x = 2st$$

We claim $\gcd(s, t) = 1$. If $\gcd(s, t) = d > 1$. then $d \mid s, d \mid t$ implies $d \mid \tilde{s}, d \mid \tilde{t} \Rightarrow d \mid z+y, d \mid z-y$

$$\Rightarrow d \mid z, d \mid y \Rightarrow \gcd(z, y) > d > 1$$

which is impossible as $\gcd(y, z) = 1$

So, both of s, t can't be even or odd at some time. If so it will make $\gcd(y, z) > 1$

$$\text{Hence } s \not\equiv t \pmod{2}$$

Conversely let s, t be two integers such that

$$s \not\equiv t \pmod{2} \text{ and}$$

$$x = 2st, \quad y = \tilde{s} - \tilde{t}, \quad z = \tilde{s} + \tilde{t}, \text{ with } s > t.$$

$$\text{Then } \tilde{x} + \tilde{y} = 4\tilde{s}\tilde{t} + s^2 + t^2 - 2\tilde{s}\tilde{t} = s^2 + t^2 + 2s\tilde{t} = (\tilde{s} + \tilde{t})^2 = z^2$$

If $\gcd(x, y, z) = d > 1$ then d has to be a prime

divisor of d then $d \mid y \Rightarrow d \mid \tilde{s} - \tilde{t}$

$$\Rightarrow d \mid (\tilde{s} + \tilde{t})(\tilde{s} - \tilde{t})$$

$$\Rightarrow p \mid \tilde{s} - \tilde{t}$$

$$\text{Similarly } p \mid \tilde{s} + \tilde{t}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow p \mid \tilde{s} \Rightarrow p \mid s \\ p \mid \tilde{t} \Rightarrow p \mid t \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \gcd(s, t) > p$$

is a contradiction.

$$\text{Then } \gcd(x, y, z) = 1$$