

## MATH 4573: HOMEWORK 8

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**Due: April 5, 2024.**

This homework has two sections: the first section has the problems that you'll turn in for credit. The second section contains recommended problems from the textbook, myself or other sources; you are not required to do these, but I recommend that you check them out.

For any problem in this assignment, **you must show all of your work in order to receive full credit.** Please do not use words such as “clear”, “obvious” or “trivial” in your solutions.

**Your solutions should not use theorems from sections which come after the day the homework was assigned.** This HW should use up to what we've covered in class so far (including “§5.0”, §5.1 and §5.3).

### 1. PROBLEMS TO SUBMIT

**Exercise 1.** Determine whether the following Diophantine equations have integral solutions. If they do, give a complete description of their solutions (don't forget to show your work for calculating GCD's of larger numbers).

- a)  $10x - 7y = 17$ .
- b)  $903x + 731y = 60$ .
- c)  $mx + (m + 1)y = 10$ , where  $m > 1$  is a fixed positive integer.
- d)  $(n - 1)x + (n + 1)y = 4573$ , where  $n > 1$  is a fixed odd integer.

**Exercise 2.**

Show that the line

$$L : ax + by = c$$

has an integral point if and only if for any integer  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , the line

$$L_n : ax + by = na + c$$

has an integral point. Briefly argue that this still holds if we replace  $na$  with  $nb$  in  $L_n$ .

**Exercise 3.** Show that the Diophantine equation

$$x^2 + y^2 = 9z + 6$$

has no integral solutions.

**Exercise 4.** Show that the Diophantine equation

$$x^8 + 1 = 7y$$

has no integral solutions. However, demonstrate that it has infinitely many rational solutions.

**Exercise 5.** Show that every Pythagorean triple  $(x, y, z)$  is such that 3 divides (at least) one of  $x, y, z$  and 5 divides (at least) one of  $x, y, z$ .

**Exercise 6.** Determine all primes  $p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that the equation

$$x^2 - y^2 = p$$

has integral solutions.

**Exercise 7.** Who did you consult for this assignment? What resources did you use?

## 2. OTHER RECOMMENDED PROBLEMS

From the textbook, pages 218 – 219: #2 – 7, 10 – 12.

Page 213: #1, 4 – 8.

**Bonus Exercise 8.** > 99% of people can't solve this! Find all  $\text{grapes}, \text{orange}, \text{strawberry} \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with

$$\frac{\text{grapes}}{\text{orange} + \text{strawberry}} + \frac{\text{orange}}{\text{strawberry} + \text{grapes}} + \frac{\text{strawberry}}{\text{grapes} + \text{orange}} = 4$$

(see e.g. <https://mathoverflow.net/questions/227713/estimating-the-size-of-solutions-of-a-diophantine-equation>).

**Bonus Exercise 9.** 99.9% of people cannot solve this one! For  $\text{egg} \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\text{egg} \geq 3$ , find all  $\text{broccoli}, \text{carrot}, \text{corn} \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with

$$\text{broccoli} \cdot \text{egg} + \text{carrot} \cdot \text{egg} = \text{corn} \cdot \text{egg}.$$

## REFERENCES

- [NZM91] I. Niven, H.S. Zuckerman and H.L. Montgomery, *An introduction to the theory of numbers*, 5th Ed., John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York (1991).