

Assignment #6 due Friday 10/20 by 5pm

Exam 2 will cover chapters 4 and 5.

Scheduled for Monday 10/31.

For assignment #6 problem 2

You may use the fact that

- odd + odd = even
- odd + even = odd
- even + even = even.

Proposition If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then

$a+b$  is even if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  have the same parity.

proof

Assume  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

( $\leftarrow$ ) Assume  $a$  and  $b$  have the same parity.

That is, either  $a=2k$  and  $b=2l$  for some  $k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$

OR

$a=2k+1$  and  $b=2l+1$  for some  $k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

In the former case  $a+b=2k+2l=2(k+l)$  which is even.

In the latter case  $a+b = 2k+1+2l+1 = 2(k+l+1)$  which is even.

( $\rightarrow$ ) Assume  $a$  and  $b$  do not have the same parity.

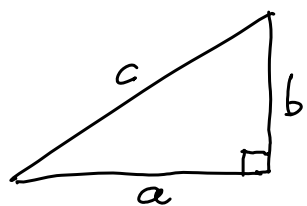
Therefore, without a loss of generality,

$$a = 2k \text{ and } b = 2l+1 \text{ for some } k, l \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

So now  $a+b = 2k+2l+1 = 2(k+l)+1$  which is not even. ▣

## Extra topic      Pythagorean Theorem

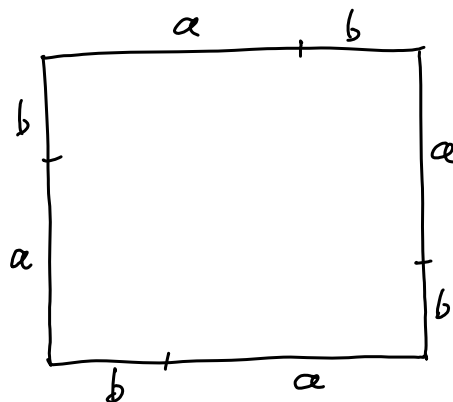
Theorem For the right triangle shown with side lengths as indicated,



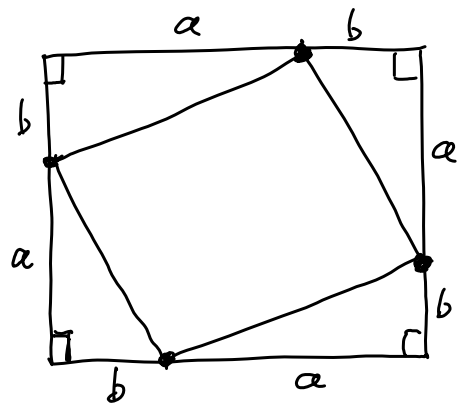
$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

proof

Consider the square shown whose sides have length  $a+b$  each.

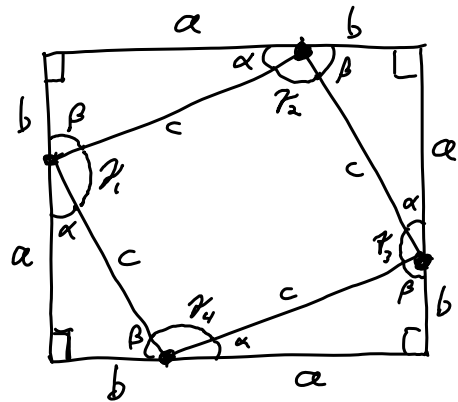


Connect The dividing marks with lines as shown.



Since the four triangles created in this picture are right triangles whose legs have lengths  $a$  and  $b$ , the third side must therefore have length  $c$ .

Labeling the angles of the four triangles and the inner rhombus. We now use the fact that a straight-line



angle is  $180^\circ$  to obtain the fact that  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma_i = 180^\circ$ , that is  $\gamma_i = 180^\circ - \alpha - \beta$  for each  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Now assuming that the sum of the angles of a triangle is  $180^\circ$  we obtain

$$\alpha + \beta + 90^\circ = 180^\circ \quad \text{so}$$

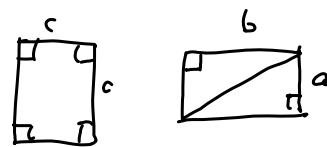
$$\alpha + \beta = 90^\circ \quad \text{so}$$

$$\gamma_i = 180^\circ - 90^\circ = 90^\circ.$$

Thus the inner rhombus is a square.

Now the area of the large square is  $(a+b)^2$ .

Also, the area of the large square is  $c^2 + 2ab$



Therefore  $(a+b)^2 = c^2 + 2ab$  so

$$a^2 + b^2 + 2ab = c^2 + 2ab \quad \text{so}$$

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2.$$



## Pythagorean Triples

A Pythagorean Triple is 3 positive integers  $a < b < c$

such that  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ .

example  $3^2 + 4^2 = 5^2$   
 $5^2 + 12^2 = 13^2$

example  $a < b < c$  is a Pythagorean triple if and only if  $ka < kb < kc$  is a Pythagorean triple for any positive integer  $k$ .

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \quad \text{iff}$$

$$k^2(a^2 + b^2) = k^2c^2 \quad \text{iff}$$

$$k^2 a^2 + k^2 b^2 = k^2 c^2 \text{ iff}$$

$$(ka)^2 + (kb)^2 = (kc)^2.$$

A pythagorean triple  $a, b, c$  is called primitive when  $a, b, c$  have no common factor.

Proposition A If  $m < n$  are positive integers, then

$$n^2 - m^2, 2mn, n^2 + m^2$$

is a pythagorean triple.

proof

$$(n^2 - m^2)^2 + (2mn)^2 = n^4 - 2n^2m^2 + m^4 + 4n^2m^2 = n^4 + 2n^2m^2 + m^4 = (n^2 + m^2)^2. \quad \blacksquare$$

Proposition B If  $m < n$  are positive integers without a common factor and with different parity, then

$$m^2 - n^2, 2mn, m^2 + n^2$$

is a primitive pythagorean triple.

proof

Proposition A already tells us that  $m^2 - n^2, 2mn, m^2 + n^2$  is a pythagorean triple. We need to assume  $\mathcal{P}_e$

following facts. ① a prime number  $p$  is a factor of an integer  $n$  if and only if  $p$  is a factor of  $n^2$ . Also integer  $k$  is a factor of  $n$  if and only if there is a prime number  $p$  which is a common factor of both  $k$  and  $n$ .

By way of contradiction, assume that  $m$  and  $n$  have no common factor and different parities but

$$n^2 - m^2, 2mn, n^2 + m^2$$

is not primitive, that is, there is a positive integer  $k \geq 2$  which is a common factor of  $n^2 - m^2, 2mn, n^2 + m^2$ .

Therefore there is a prime number  $p$  which is a common factor of  $n^2 - m^2, 2mn, n^2 + m^2$ .

Suppose  $p=2$ . That is  $n^2 - m^2, 2mn, n^2 + m^2$  are all even.

Well  $n^2 + m^2$  is even if and only if  $n^2$  and  $m^2$  have

the same parity if and only if  $n$  and  $m$  both have

the same parity, a contradiction of our assumption.

Suppose  $p \geq 3$ . Assuming that  $p \mid mn$  it and only if  $p \mid m$  or  $p \mid n$  we now get without loss of generality that  $p \mid m$ .

So  $p$  is a factor of  $m^2$ . So since  $p$  is a factor of  $m^2 + n^2$  we must also have that  $p$  is a factor of  $n^2$ , as well. Thus  $p$  is a factor of  $n$  as well, a contradiction.  $\blacksquare$

Theorem:  $a < b < c$  is a primitive Pythagorean triple if and only if

$a, b, c$  is of the form  $n^2 - m^2, 2nm, n^2 + m^2$  for some positive integers  $m < n$  which have no common factor and have different parities.