

(1)

Legendre's Theorem: V.

Let p be an odd prime and let $0 < x < y < z = (y+1)$ be relatively prime integers and let $x^p + y^p = z^p = (y+1)^p$.

We obtain a contradiction.

$$x^p \equiv x \pmod{p}, y^p \equiv y \pmod{p}, z^p \equiv z \pmod{p}.$$

$$\text{So } 0 \equiv x^p + y^p - z^p \equiv x + y - z \equiv x - 1 \pmod{p}.$$

$$\text{So } x \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

$$\text{So } x^p \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}.$$

$$\text{Then } 0 \equiv x^p + y^p - z^p \pmod{p^2}$$

$$\equiv 1 + y^p - z^p$$

$$\equiv 1 + (y + b p^k) - (z + b' p^l) \pmod{p^2}$$

where b, b' are integers.

$$\text{So } b \equiv b' \pmod{p} \text{ and}$$

$$y^p \equiv (y + b p) \pmod{p^2}$$

$$\text{and } z^p \equiv (z + b' p) \pmod{p^2} \text{ for some integers } b, b'.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } x^p &= z^p - y^p = (z - y)(z^{p-1} + z^{p-2}y + \dots + y^{p-1}) \\ &= (z^{p-1} + z^{p-2}y + \dots + y^{p-1}) \\ &= (z^{p-1} + z^{p-3}y^2 + \dots + y^{p-1}) \\ &\quad + yz(z^{p-3} + z^{p-5}y^2 + \dots + y^{p-3}) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{(z^{p+1} - y^{p+1})}{(z^2 - y^2)} + yz \frac{(z^{p-1} - y^{p-1})}{(z^2 - y^2)} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(1) $\times (ay+1)$:

$$(ay+1)x^p = (z^{p+1} - y^{p+1}) + yz(z^{p-1} - y^{p-1})$$

$$= \{z(z+by^p) - y(y+by^p)\}$$

$$+ \{y(z+by^p) - z(y+by^p)\}$$

$$= (z^2 - y^2) + (z+y)by^p + (yz - yz) - (y+z)by^p$$

~~$$= (ay+1)(1 + by^p - by^p) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$~~

~~So $x^p = 1$ unless $(ay+1) = 0$.~~

~~So $x = 1$ unless $(ay+1) = 0$.~~

~~But $y > 0$, so $ay > 0$ and $(ay+1) > 0$.~~

~~So $x^p = 1$.~~

~~So $1 = z^{p-1} + z^{p-2}y + \dots + y^{p-1} > p > a$.~~

~~This contradiction proves that if FLT fails for odd prime exponent p , then Legendre's theorem holds ($z \neq (y+1)$).~~

~~(2) gives $x^p = (y+1+by^p) - (y+by^p) = z^p - y^p$.~~