

1. Given that $13 = 3^2 + 2^2$, $29 = 5^2 + 2^2$, and $50 = 7^1 + 1^2$, write each of the following integers as the sum of two squares:

(a) $377 = 13 \cdot 29$

(b) $650 = 13 \cdot 50$

(c) $18850 = 13 \cdot 29 \cdot 50$

2. Determine whether each of the following integers can be written as the sum of two squares:

(a) 19

(b) 29

(c) 99

(d) 999

(e) 1000

(f) 80

3. Show that the positive integer n is not the sum of three squares of integers if $n = 8k + 7$ for some integer k

4. Show that every integer $n \geq 170$ is the sum of five positive squares.

Hint: $169 = 13^2 = 12^2 + 5^2 = 12^2 + 4^2 + 3^2 = 10^2 + 8^2 + 2^2 + 1^2$

5. Show Thue's lemma: If p is prime and $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, then there exist integers x, y so that $ax \equiv y \pmod{p}$ with $0 < |x| < \sqrt{p}$ and $0 < |y| < \sqrt{p}$.

Hint: Use the pigeonhole principle to show that there are two integers of the form $au - v$ with $0 \leq u < \sqrt{p}$ and $0 \leq v < \sqrt{p}$ that are congruent mod p . Construct x and y from the two values of u and v .

Consider: How does this give a "small fractional representation" of a modulo p ?

6. Use the previous problem to show that if p is prime and $p \not\equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, then p can be written as the sum of two squares.

Hint: There is an a so that $a^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$. Apply Thue's lemma to that value of a .

Note: This is the theorem we skipped in class.