

On the Exponential Diophantine Equation $305^x + 503^y = z^2$

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Abstract: In this paper, we compute and prove the solution to the exponential Diophantine equation $305^x + 503^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. The result indicates that the equation has no solution.

Keywords: divisibility; exponential Diophantine equation; modular arithmetic method; Quadratic residue; Prime number

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I. Introduction

An exponential Diophantine equation is a classical problem in Mathematics. Because one equation contains more than one unknown variable, the theory of number must be applied to find a solution. From 2006 to 2022, mathematicians investigated several exponential Diophantine equations of type $a^x + b^y = z^2$, where x, y and z are unknown variables and a, b are positive integers. The examples of the studied equation can be read in [1, 4, 6-9, 11]. Recently, many researches on the exponential Diophantine equation have been published. For instance, N. Viriyapong and C. Viriyapong [12] studied the exponential Diophantine equation $255^x + 323^y = z^2$ in 2023. They proved that $(x, y, z) \in \{(1, 0, 16), (0, 1, 18)\}$ are two solutions to the equation. After that, S. Aggrawal et al. [2] proved that the exponential Diophantine equation $145^x + 85^y = z^2$ has a unique non-negative integer solution which is $(x, y, z) = (1, 0, 12)$. Next, another similar equation, $143^x + 485^y = z^2$, was studied [3]. In the same year, S. Tadee and N. Thaneepoon [10] studied the exponential Diophantine equation $6^x + p^y = z^2$. They proved that if $p \leq 7$ and x is even, then the solutions to the equation are $(p, x, y, z) \in \{(2, 0, 3, 3), (3, 0, 1, 2), (2, 2, 6, 10), (3, 4, 6, 45)\}$. In this paper, we use the knowledge in number theory to find the solution to the Diophantine equation $305^x + 503^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers.

II. Preliminaries

Theorem 1: [5] The number 2 is a quadratic residue of primes of the form $p = 8k + 1$ and $p = 8k + 7$. The number 2 is not a quadratic residue of primes of the form $p = 8k + 3$ and $p = 8k + 5$.

Lemma 2: If $z \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $z^2 \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{5}$.

Proof: Let $z \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have $z \equiv 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 \pmod{5}$. It yields that $z^2 \equiv 0, 1, 4, 9, 16 \pmod{5} \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{5}$.

Lemma 3: If y is an odd positive integer, then $3^y \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5}$.

Proof: Suppose y is an odd positive integer. There exist $q \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$ such that $y = 4q + 1$ or $4q + 3$.

If $y = 4q + 1$, then we have $3^y = (3^4)^q \cdot 3 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$.

If $y = 4q + 3$, then we have $3^y = (3^4)^q \cdot 27$. Since $3^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ and $27 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$, we obtain $3^y \equiv 1^q \cdot 2 \pmod{5}$ or $3^y \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$. Therefore, we can conclude that $3^y \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5}$.

III. Main Result

Main Theorem: The exponential Diophantine equation $305^x + 503^y = z^2$, where x, y and z are non-negative integers, has no solution.

Proof: Let $x, y, \text{ and } z \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$ such that

$$305^x + 503^y = z^2. \quad (1)$$

We separated into four cases as follows.

Case 1: $x = y = 0$. Equation (1) becomes $z^2 = 2$, which is impossible.

Case 2: $x = 0$ and $y > 0$. Equation (1) becomes $z^2 = 1 + 503^y$, which implies that $z^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{251}$. This contradicts Theorem 1 because of $251 \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$.

Case 3: $x > 0$ and $y = 0$. Equation (1) becomes $z^2 = 305^x + 1$, which results in $z^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. This is impossible because of $z^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$.

Case 4: $x > 0$ and $y > 0$. To clarify, we consider y to be two sub cases as follows.

Sub case 4.1: y is a positive odd integer. By Lemma 3, we have $3^y \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5}$, while equation (1) yields $z^2 \equiv 3^y \pmod{5}$. Thus, we have $z^2 \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5}$, which contradicts Lemma 2.

Subcase 4.2: y is a positive even integer. We have $3^y \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Equation (1) yields $z^2 \equiv 1 + 3^y \pmod{4}$ or $z^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, which contradicts $z^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$.

IV. Conclusion

We studied solution to the exponential Diophantine equation $305^x + 503^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. We derive two Lemmas to prove that the equation has no solution.

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