

Vidya
(6)

25/9/2020 (Sat)

(15)

Fermat's Theorem



Fermat was not a mathematician. He gave some important results in the field of mathematics.

① Fermat's Factorisation Method :-

Let n be an odd positive integer which is the difference of square of two integers i.e.

$$n = x^2 - y^2$$
$$= (x+y)(x-y)$$

again if $n = ab$, $a \geq b \geq 1$ we can write

$$n = \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{a-b}{2}\right)^2$$
$$= \frac{a^2 + b^2 + 2ab}{4} - \frac{a^2 - b^2 - 2ab}{4}$$
$$= \frac{4ab}{4} = ab \quad (? n = ab)$$

Since n is an odd integer, we have a and b will be odd integers and $\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{a-b}{2}\right)$ will be non

negative integers

we have to find the value of x and y satisfying $n = x^2 - y^2$

$$x^2 - n = y^2$$

for this we observe the numbers $x^2 - n, (k+1)^2 - n, (k+2)^2 - n, \dots$

$$x = k, k+1, \dots$$

Ex - use fermat's method to factor 10541.

Proof: - from the table of squares we see that $102^2 < 10541 < 103^2$. Therefore, we have to consider the values of $k^2 - 10541$ or $k \geq 103$ taking $k = 103, 104, \dots$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 103^2 - 10541 &= 10609 - 10541 = 68 \\
 104^2 - 10541 &= 10816 - 10541 = 275 \\
 105^2 - 10541 &= 11025 - 10541 = 484 \\
 &= 22^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Last relation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 10541 &= 105^2 - 22^2 \\
 &= (105 + 22)(105 - 22) \\
 &= 127 \times 83
 \end{aligned}$$

are the required factors.

Ex - use fermat's method to factor 23499.

Proof: from the table of squares we see that $153^2 < 23499 < 154^2$. we have to consider the value of $k^2 - 23499$ for $k \geq 154$.

Taking $k = 154, 155, \dots$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 154^2 - 23499 &= 23716 - 23499 = 217 \\
 155^2 - 23499 &= 24025 - 23499 = 526 \\
 &= 23^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Last relation can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 23499 &= 155^2 - 23^2 \\
 &= (155 + 23)(155 - 23) \\
 &= 178 \times 131
 \end{aligned}$$

178 and 131 are the required factors.