

Two conjectures involving the sum of a prime and a factorial number

Marius Coman
Bucuresti, Romania
email: mariuscoman13@gmail.com

Abstract. In this paper I state two conjectures about the sum of a prime and a factorial.

Note:

For a list of factorial numbers see the sequence A000142 in OEIS.

Conjecture 1:

For any odd prime p there exist at least one prime q such that $p + n! = q$, where n is a positive integer, $n < p$.

Verifying the conjecture:

(for the first five odd primes p)

- : $3 + 2! = 5$, so $[p, q, n] = [3, 5, 2]$;
- : $5 + 2! = 7$ and $5 + 3! = 11$ and $5 + 4! = 29$, so $[p, q, n] = [5, 7, 2]$ or $[5, 11, 3]$ or $[5, 29, 4]$;
- : $7 + 3! = 13$ and $7 + 4! = 31$ and $7 + 5! = 127$ and $7 + 6! = 727$ so $[p, q, n] = [7, 13, 3]$ or $[7, 31, 4]$ or $[7, 127, 5]$ or $[7, 727, 6]$;
- : $11 + 2! = 13$ and $11 + 6! = 17$ and $11 + 5! = 131$ and $11 + 7! = 5051$ and $11 + 10! = 3628811$ so $[p, q, n] = [11, 13, 2]$ or $[11, 17, 6]$ or $[11, 131, 10]$ or $[11, 5051, 7]$ or $[11, 3628811, 10]$;
- : $13 + 3! = 19$ and $13 + 4! = 37$ and $13 + 6! = 733$ so $[p, q, n] = [13, 19, 3]$ or $[13, 37, 4]$ or $[13, 733, 6]$.

Note:

From the primes q , $q \geq 5$, $q \leq 401$, just three primes can't be written as $p + n!$, where p is a lesser odd prime and n is a positive integer, *i.e.* the primes 41, 101, 367 (but, interesting, 367 can be written as $7^3 + 5!$); indeed:

- : q can be written as $p + 2!$ for $q = 5, 7, 31, 43, 61, 73, 103, 109, 139, 151, 181, 193, 199, 229, 241, 271, 283, 313, 349$ [...];
- : q can be written as $p + 3!$ for $q = 11, 13, 17, 23, 29, 37, 47, 53, 59, 67, 79, 89, 107, 113, 157, 163, 173, 179, 197, 239, 251, 257, 263, 269, 277, 337, 359, 373, 379, 389$ [...];

- : q can be written as $p + 4!$ for $q = 71, 83, 97, 127, 131, 191, 223, 251, 281, 293, 307, 317, 331, 383, 397$ [...];
- : q can be written as $p + 5!$ for $q = 149, 167, 227, 233, 311, 347, 353, 401$ [...].

Conjecture 2:

For any odd prime p , $p \geq 5$, there exist an infinity of primes q of the form $q = (p + n!)/n^k$, where n and k are positive integers and $n \geq p$.

Examples:

- : for $p = 5$, we have:
 - : $q = 29 = (6! + 5)/5^2$;
 - : $q = 1009 = (7! + 5)/5^1$;
 - : $q = 1613 = (8! + 5)/5^2$;
 - : $q = 72577 = (9! + 5)/5^1$;
 - [...]
- : for $p = 7$, we have:
 - : $q = 103 = (7! + 7)/7^2$;
 - : $q = 823 = (8! + 7)/7^2$;
 - [...]
- : for $p = 11$, we have:
 - : $q = 329891 = (11! + 11)/11^2$;
 - [...]
- : for $p = 13$, we have:
 - : $q = 2834329 = (13! + 13)/13^3$;
 - : $q = 515847877 = (13! + 13)/13^2$;
 - [...].