

Dirichlet's proof of Fermat's Last Theorem for $n = 5$ is flawed

Nguyen Van Quang
Hue - Vietnam, 04-2018

Abstract

Dirichlet's using algorithm is not enough for proving FLT of $n = 5$.

1 Dirichlet's proof for $n = 5$

First, we rewrite a proof in the case z is odd and divisible by 5 (summary only, for details, please see: $x^5 + y^5 = z^5$ (Dirichlet's proof) in [1], [2]), which was proven by Dirichlet as follows:

Lemma. *if the equation $x^5 + y^5 = z^5$ is satisfied in integers, then one of the numbers x , y , and z must be divisible by 5 (corollary of Sophie Germain's theorem)*

Since x and y are both odd, their sum and difference are both even numbers.

$$2p = x + y$$

$$2q = x - y$$

Where the non-zero integers p and q are coprime and have different parity (one is even, the other odd). Since $x = p + q$ and $y = p - q$, $z = 2^m 5^n z'$ it follows that

$$2^m 5^n z' = x^5 + y^5 = (p + q)^5 + (p - q)^5 = 2p(p^4 + 10p^2q^2 + 5q^4) \quad (1)$$

Since 5 divides $2p(p^4 + 10p^2q^2 + 5q^4)$, then there must be r such that $p = 5r$

$$2p(p^4 + 10p^2q^2 + 5q^4) = 2(5r)[(5r)^4 + 10(5r)^2q^2 + 5q^4] =$$

$$2 \cdot 5^2 r (125r^4 + 50r^2q^2 + q^4)$$

$$2 \cdot 5^2 r (q^4 + 50r^2q^2 + 125r^4)$$

Define three values u , v , t to be the following:

$$t = q^4 + 50r^2q^2 + 125r^4$$

$$u = q^2 + 25r^2$$

$$v = 10r^2$$

And note that $t = u^2 - 5v^2$

and t is a fifth power since $z^5 = 2 \cdot 5^2 r \cdot t$, two factors $2 \cdot 5^2 r$, and t are relatively prime, so t is a fifth power and $2 \cdot 5^2 r$ is a fifth power.

By using the infinite descent, Dirichlet claimed that if t is a fifth power, then there must be a smaller solution.

Setting:

$$u = c(c^4 + 50c^2d^2 + 125d^4)$$

$$v = 5d(c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4)$$

now $2 \cdot 5^2 r$ is a fifth power, so $(2 \cdot 5^2 r)^2$ is a fifth power

$$(2 \cdot 5^2 r)^2 = 2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 10r^2 = 2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot v = 2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 5d(c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4)$$

since $\gcd(2 \cdot 5^4 d, c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4) = 1$, then $2 \cdot 5^4 d$ and $c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4$ are fifth power.

$$\text{In other hand, } c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4 = (c + 5d^2)^2 - 5(2d^2)^2 = u'^2 - 5v'^5$$

Setting:

$$u' = c'(c'^4 + 50c'^2d'^2 + 125d'^4)$$

$$v' = 5d'(c'^4 + 10c'^2d'^2 + 5d'^4)$$

Since 2.5^4d is a fifth power, so $(2.5^4d)^2$ is also a fifth power

$$(2.5^4d)^2 = 2.5^8d^2 = 2.5^8v' = 2.5^9d'(c'^4 + 10c'^2d'^2 + 5d'^4)$$

So $2.5^9d'$, and $c'^4 + 10c'^2d'^2 + 5d'^4$ are also fifth power. $c'^4 + 10c'^2d'^2 + 5d'^4$ and $c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4$ are the same form, and $d' < d$, by infinite descent, the original equation $t = u^2 - 5v^2$ has no solution.

2 Dirichlet's mistake

Dirichlet showed that, there are other ways in which can be a fifth power, but they have the same form as $u_0 = c(c^4 + 50c^2d^2 + 125d^4)$

$$v_0 = 5d(c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4)$$

That means, the other solution will be:

$$u_i = c_i(c_i^4 + 50c_i^2d_i^2 + 125d_i^4)$$

$$v_i = 5d_i(c_i^4 + 10c_i^2d_i^2 + 5d_i^4)$$

Since $t = u^2 - 5v^2 = (c^2 - 5d^2)^5$, he claimed that if $c^2 - 5d^2$ has a prime factor, they are the same form as $c^2 - 5d^2$:

so all solutions must be the same form as u_0, v_0

However, this argument is incorrect as below:

The fact that, if N is not divisible by 5, then $N = e - 5f$

$$, \text{ so } N^5 = (e - 5f)^5 = e(e^2 + 50ef + 125f^2)^2 - 55^2f(e^2 + 10ef + 5f^2)^2$$

in other hand, $N^5 = u_0^2 - 5v_0^2$

$$\text{Select*}: u_0^2 = e(e^2 + 50ef + 125f^2)^2$$

$$\text{and } 5v_0^2 = 55^2f(e^2 + 10ef + 5f^2)^2$$

then e and f must be square, $e = c^2, f = d^2$

It gives : $u_0 = c(c^4 + 50c^2d^2 + 125d^4)$

$$v_0 = 5d(c^4 + 10c^2d^2 + 5d^4)$$

$$\text{and } N = c^2 - 5d^2$$

However, select* is the only way? There is no proof.

$$N = c^2 - 5d^2 \text{ is from select*}, \text{ and is not from } N^5 = u_0^2 - 5v_0^2$$

Note that: Gives: $A_1 = a_1^2 - 5b_1^2, A_2 = a_2^2 - 5b_2^2$, then:

$$A = A_1A_2 = (a_1^2 - 5b_1^2)(a_2^2 - 5b_2^2)$$

$$A = A_1A_2 = (a_1a_2 + 5b_1b_2)^2 - 5(a_1b_2 + 5a_2b_1)^2$$

$$A = A_1A_2 = (a_1a_2 - 5b_1b_2)^2 - 5(a_1b_2 - 5a_2b_1)^2$$

A is the same form as A_1, A_2

but if $A = a^2 - 5b^2 = A_1A_2$, then A_1, A_2 are not always the same form as A .

In Euler's proof of FLT for n = 3, we have seen a similar formula (lemma) such as:

$$a^2 + 3b^2 = (c^2 + 3d^2)^3$$

Here: $a = c(c^2 - 9d^2), b = 3d(c^2 - d^2)$ with $\text{gcd}(c,d) = 1$, and c, d are nonezero.

Euler also used the technique of infinite descent, but by other way in modified version, unfortunately, his proof is also incorrect [3].

The algorithm above (using by Euler and Dirichlet) is the one way to find a solution of FLT for n = 3 and 5, if a solution is not found by this algorithm, it is not enough to conclude that the equation has no solution in integer.

References

- [1] Fermat's Last theorem: Proof for $n = 5$ <http://fermatslasttheorem.blogspot.com>
- [2] Paulo Ribenboim's *Fermat's last theorem for Amateurs*, Springer 1999
- [3] Quang N V, Euler's proof of Fermat Last's Theorem for $n = 3$ is incorrect
Vixra:1605.0123v3(NT)

Email:

nguyenvquang67@gmail.com

quangnhu67@yahoo.com.vn