

Fermat's Last Theorem: In Defense of Fermat

January 23, 2004

Abstract

To point of this paper, is to look at Fermat's defense, if he really did have a proof, what it might involve and look like. At his disposal were Calculus, Binomial theorem and rudimentary number theory.

1 Fermat's Last Theorem

According to Fermat's Last Theorem, equation of the form

$$X^n + Y^n = Z^n \quad (1)$$

cannot have distinct integer solutions for X,Y and Z, for $n > 2$.

Proof. Differentiating the above expression by some variable t, we get

$$nX^{n-1} \frac{dX}{dt} + nY^{n-1} \frac{dY}{dt} = nZ^{n-1} \frac{dZ}{dt} \quad (2)$$

One has to notice that the above expression would not make a difference, if we replace $n \frac{dX}{dt}$, $n \frac{dY}{dt}$ and $n \frac{dZ}{dt}$ by labels a' , b' , c' .

$$a' X^{n-1} + b' Y^{n-1} = c' Z^{n-1} \quad (3)$$

Normalizing the equation by c' , would yeild,

$$aX^{n-1} + bY^{n-1} = Z^{n-1} \quad (4)$$

Suppose, we differentiate the system,

$$a' X^{n-1} + b' Y^{n-1} = c' Z^{n-1} \quad (5)$$

again by another variable t' .

$$\frac{da'}{dt'} X^{n-1} + a'(n-1)X^{n-2} \frac{dX}{dt'} + \frac{db'}{dt'} Y^{n-1} + b'(n-1)Y^{n-2} \frac{dY}{dt'} = \frac{dc'}{dt'} Z^{n-1} + c'(n-1)Z^{n-2} \frac{dZ}{dt'} \quad (6)$$

Replacing $\frac{da'}{dt'}$, $(n-1)\frac{dX}{dt'}$, and others with unknowns d , e , f , g , m and n , we would end up with

$$dX^{n-1} + eX^{n-2} + fY^{n-1} + gY^{n-2} = mZ^{n-1} + nZ^{n-2} \quad (7)$$

Set $\omega_x = \frac{X}{Z}$ and $\omega_y = \frac{Y}{Z}$. Now, FLT becomes

$$\omega_x^n + \omega_y^n = 1 \quad (8)$$

$$a\omega_x^{n-1} + b\omega_y^{n-1} = 1 \quad (9)$$

Rewriting the above statements, we end up with,

$$\omega_x^n = 1 - \omega_y^n \quad (10)$$

$$a\omega_x^{n-1} = 1 - b\omega_y^{n-1} \quad (11)$$

Dividing one expression by another we get,

$$\omega_x/a = \frac{1 - \omega_y^n}{1 - b\omega_y^{n-1}} \quad (12)$$

Rewriting the above expression, we have

$$\omega_x = a \frac{1 - \omega_y^n}{1 - b\omega_y^{n-1}} \quad (13)$$

Substituting the above expression into $\omega_x^n + \omega_y^n = 1$.

$$a^n \frac{(1 - \omega_y^n)^n}{(1 - b\omega_y^{n-1})^n} = 1 - \omega_y^n \quad (14)$$

$$a^n (1 - \omega_y^n)^{n-1} = (1 - b\omega_y^{n-1})^n \quad (15)$$

If one can solve the above polynomial equation, one can obtain the expression for ω_y . Similarly, we can obtain a polynomial equation e for ω_x ,

$$b^n (1 - \omega_x^n)^{n-1} = (1 - a\omega_x^{n-1})^n \quad (16)$$

Now, substituting $X = \omega_x Z$, and $Y = \omega_y Z$,

$$d\omega_x^{n-1} Z^{n-1} + e\omega_x^{n-2} Z^{n-2} + f\omega_y^{n-1} Z^{n-1} + g\omega_y^{n-2} Z^{n-2} = mZ^{n-1} + nZ^{n-2} \quad (17)$$

$$d\omega_x^{n-1} Z + e\omega_x^{n-2} + f\omega_y^{n-1} Z + g\omega_y^{n-2} = mZ + n \quad (18)$$

$$[e\omega_x^{n-2} + g\omega_y^{n-2} - n] = [m - d\omega_x^{n-1} - f\omega_y^{n-1}] Z \quad (19)$$

It yields an expression of Z .

$$Z = \frac{e\omega_x^{n-2} + g\omega_y^{n-2} - n}{m - d\omega_x^{n-1} - f\omega_y^{n-1}} \quad (20)$$

We can get

$$Y = \omega_y Z \quad (21)$$

$$Y = \omega_y \frac{e\omega_x^{n-2} + g\omega_y^{n-2} - n}{m - d\omega_x^{n-1} - f\omega_y^{n-1}} \quad (22)$$

$$X = \omega_x Z \quad (23)$$

$$X = \omega_x \frac{e\omega_x^{n-2} + g\omega_y^{n-2} - n}{m - d\omega_x^{n-1} - f\omega_y^{n-1}} \quad (24)$$

□

Proving FLT , would be equivalent to proving that above expressions for X,Y,Z cannot have integer solutions.[will complete later].