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SUB.:MATHEMATICS

1. Check whether 6^n can end with the digit 0 for any natural number n.

Solution: If the number 6^n , for any n, were to end with the digit zero,

That is, the prime factorisation of 6^n would contain the prime 5.

But $6^n = (2 \times 3)^n = 2^n \times 3^n$ So the primes in factorisation of 6^n are 2 and 3.

So the uniqueness of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic guarantees that (here are no other primes except 2 and 3 in the factorisation of 6^n .)

So there is no natural number n for which 6^n ends with digit zero.

Question 1.

Show that there is no positive integer n for which $\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n-1}$ is rational.

Solution: Let there be a positive integer n for which $\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n-1}$ be rational number.

$$\sqrt{n-1} + \sqrt{n+1} = \frac{p}{q}; \text{ where } p, q \text{ are integers and } q \neq 0 \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{n-1} + \sqrt{n+1}} = \frac{q}{p} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{n-1} - \sqrt{n+1}}{(\sqrt{n-1} + \sqrt{n+1})(\sqrt{n-1} - \sqrt{n+1})} = \frac{q}{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{n-1} - \sqrt{n+1}}{(n-1) - (n+1)} = \frac{q}{p} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{n-1} - \sqrt{n+1}}{n-1-n-1} = \frac{q}{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n-1}}{2} = \frac{q}{p} \quad \Rightarrow \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n-1} = \frac{2q}{p} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Adding (i) and (ii), we get

$$\sqrt{n-1} + \sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n-1} = \frac{p}{q} + \frac{2q}{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\sqrt{n+1} = \frac{p^2 + 2q^2}{pq} \quad \Rightarrow \sqrt{n+1} = \frac{p^2 + 2q^2}{2pq}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{n+1} \text{ is rational number as } \frac{p^2 + 2q^2}{2pq} \text{ is rational}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{n+1} \text{ is perfect square of positive integer} \quad \dots(A)$$

Again subtracting (ii) from (i), we get

$$\sqrt{n-1} + \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n-1} = \frac{p}{q} - \frac{2q}{p} \Rightarrow 2\sqrt{n-1} = \frac{p^2 - 2q^2}{pq}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{n-1} \text{ is rational number as } \frac{p^2 - 2q^2}{2pq} \text{ is rational.}$$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt{n-1}$ is also perfect square of positive integer From (A) and (B)

$\sqrt{n-1}$ and $\sqrt{n+1}$ are perfect squares of positive integer. It contradicts the fact that two perfect squares differ at least by 3.

Hence, there is no positive integer n for which $\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n-1}$ is rational.

Question 2. Let a, b, c, k be rational numbers such that k is not a perfect cube. if $a + bk^{1/3} + ck^{2/3} = 0$ then prove that $a = b = c = 0$.

Solution:

$$\text{Given, } a + bk^{1/3} + ck^{2/3} = 0 \quad \dots(i)$$

Multiplying both sides by $k^{1/3}$, we have

$$ak^{1/3} + bk^{2/3} + ck = 0 \quad \dots(ii)$$

Multiplying (i) by b and (ii) by c and then subtracting, we have

$$\Rightarrow (ab + b^2k^{1/3} + bck^{2/3}) - (ack^{1/3} + bck^{2/3} + c^2k) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (b^2 - ac)k^{1/3} + ab - c^2k = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 - ac = 0 \text{ and } ab - c^2k = 0 \quad [\text{Since } k^{1/3} \text{ is irrational}]$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = ac \text{ and } ab = c^2k$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = ac \text{ and } a^2b^2 = c^4k^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2(ac) = c^4k^2 \quad [\text{By putting } b^2 = ac \text{ in } a^2b^2 = c^4k^2]$$

$$\Rightarrow a^3c - k^2c^4 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow (a^3 - k^2c^3)c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a^3 - k^2c^3 = 0, \text{ or } c = 0$$

$$\text{Now, } a^3 - k^2c^3 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow k^2 = \frac{a^3}{c^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow (k^2)^{1/3} = \left(\frac{a^3}{c^3}\right)^{1/3} \quad \Rightarrow k^{2/3} = \frac{a}{c}$$

This is impossible as $k^{2/3}$ is irrational and a/c is rational.

$$\therefore a^3 - k^2c^3 \neq 0$$

Hence, $c = 0$

Substituting $c = 0$ in $b^2 - ac = 0$, we get $b = 0$

Substituting $b = 0$ and $c = 0$ in $a + bk^{1/3} + ck^{2/3} = 0$, we get $a = 0$

Hence, $a = b = c = 0$

Question 3. Find the largest positive integer that will divide 398, 436 and 542 leaving remainders 7, 11 and 15 respectively.

Solution: It is given that on dividing 398 by the required number, there is a remainder of 7. This means that $398 - 7 = 391$ is exactly divisible by the required number. In other words, required number is a factor of 391.

Similarly, required positive integer is a factor of $436 - 11 = 425$ and $542 - 15 = 527$

Clearly, the required number is the HCF of 391, 425 and 527.

Using the factor tree, we get the prime factorisations of 391, 425 and 527 as follows:

$$391 = 17 \times 23, 425 = 5^2 \times 17 \text{ and } 527 = 17 \times 31$$

\therefore HCF of 391, 425, and 527 is 17.

Hence, the required number = 17.

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