

More on the Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = z^2$

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Abstract: In this paper, we show that $(1, 0, 2)$ is a unique non-negative integer solution (x, y, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. This result implies that $(1, 0, 0, 2)$ is a solution (x, u, v, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 5^u 17^v = z^2$.

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1. Introduction

In [9], Sroysang showed that $(0, 1, 2)$, $(3, 0, 3)$ and $(4, 2, 5)$ are only three solutions (x, y, z) for the Diophantine equation $2^x + 3^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers.

In [8], Rabago solved the two Diophantine equations $3^x + 19^y = z^2$ and $3^x + 91^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. The solutions are in $\{(1, 0, 2), (4, 1, 10)\}$ and $\{(1, 0, 2), (2, 1, 10)\}$, respectively.

In [11, 12], Sroysang showed that $(1, 0, 2)$ is a unique non-negative integer solution (x, y, z) for both two Diophantine equations $3^x + 5^y = z^2$ and $3^x + 17^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. We note that $5 \times 17 = 85$. In

this paper, we will solve the Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. The solution (x, y, z) is $(1, 0, 2)$. Moreover, we obtain that $(1, 0, 0, 2)$ is a solution (x, u, v, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 5^u 17^v = z^2$.

For other results, we refer to [1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17].

2. Preliminaries

Proposition 2.1. [5] **(Catalan's conjecture)** $(3, 2, 2, 3)$ is a unique solution (a, b, x, y) for the Diophantine equation $a^x - b^y = 1$ where a, b, x and y are integers such that $\min\{a, b, x, y\} > 1$.

Lemma 2.2. [11] $(1, 2)$ is a unique solution (x, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 1 = z^2$ where x and z are non-negative integers.

Lemma 2.3. The Diophantine equation $1 + 85^y = z^2$ has no non-negative integer solution where y and z are non-negative integers.

Proof. Suppose that there are non-negative integers y and z such that $1 + 85^y = z^2$. If $y = 0$, then $z^2 = 2$ which is impossible. This implies that $y \geq 1$. Thus, $z^2 = 1 + 85^y \geq 1 + 85^1 = 86$. We obtain that $z \geq 10$. Now, we consider on the equation $z^2 - 85^y = 1$. By Proposition 2.1, we have $y = 1$. This implies that $z^2 = 86$. This is a contradiction. Hence, the Diophantine equation $1 + 85^y = z^2$ has no non-negative integer solution. \square

3. Main Results

Theorem 3.1. $(1, 0, 2)$ is a unique non-negative integer solution (x, y, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers.

Proof. Let x, y and z be non-negative integers such that $3^x + 85^y = z^2$. Since z is even, we obtain that $z^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. Note that $85^y \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. This implies that $3^x \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. By Lemma 2.3, we have $x \geq 1$. It follows that x is odd. Now, we will divide the number y into two cases.

Case $y = 0$. By Lemma 2.2, we have $x = 1$ and $z = 2$.

Case $y \geq 1$. Note that $85^y \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$. Since $3^y \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ or $3^y \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$, we obtain that $z^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ or $z^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$. This implies that z is even. This is a contradiction.

Hence, $(1, 0, 2)$ is a unique non-negative integer solution (x, y, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = z^2$ where x, y and z are non-negative integers. \square

Corollary 3.2. *The Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = w^4$ has no non-negative integer solution where x, y and w are non-negative integers.*

Proof. Suppose that there are non-negative integers x, y and w such that $3^x + 85^y = w^4$. Let $z = w^2$. This implies that $3^x + 85^y = z^2$. By Theorem 3.1, we have $(x, y, z) = (1, 0, 2)$. This implies that $w^2 = z = 2$. This is a contradiction. Hence, the Diophantine equation $3^x + 85^y = w^4$ has no non-negative integer solution where x, y and w are non-negative integers. \square

Corollary 3.3. *$(1, 0, 0, 2)$ is a solution (x, u, v, z) for the Diophantine equation $3^x + 5^u 17^v = z^2$.*

Proof. This follows from Theorem 3.1 where $y = u = v$. \square

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