

Hence, t must be even and $L_r = s^2$. Substituting this result in (5), we obtain: $sL_t - s^2 = 2$, which implies $s|2$, and so $s = 1$ or 2 .

SUBCASE A : $s = 1$

Thus, $L_r = 1^2 = 1$, and $r = 1$. Thus, by (2), $F_t = 1 = F_1$. Since t must be even, thus $t = 2$. Hence, $(1, 1, 2)$ is another possible solution. Since

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \{ (1 + \alpha)^n - (1 + \beta)^n \} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \{ \alpha^{2n} - \beta^{2n} \} = F_{2n} = 1^n F_{2n},$$

thus $(1, 1, 2)$ is a valid solution, the only one yielded by this subcase.

SUBCASE B : $s = 2$

Then $L_r = 2^2 = 4$, so $r = 3$. Thus, by (2), $F_3 = 2 = 2F_1$. As in Subcase A above, $t = 2$. This yields the possible solution $(3, 2, 2)$. Now

$$(1 + \alpha^3) = 2\alpha + 2 = 2\alpha^2;$$

similarly, $(1 + \beta^3) = 2\beta^2$. Hence,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \{ (1 + \alpha^3)^n - (1 + \beta^3)^n \} = \frac{2n}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^{2n} - \beta^{2n}) = 2^n F_{2n},$$

which shows that $(3, 2, 2)$ is indeed a valid solution, the only one yielded by this subcase.

Therefore, all solutions (r, s, t) of the desired identity are given by (7), and also by $(1, 1, 2)$ and $(3, 2, 2)$.

Also solved by the Proposer.

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[Continued from page 87.]

Proof. From Corollary 2 and [4, p. 205] we have $s(p^2) = s(p)$ if and only if $f(p^2) = f(p)$ if and only if

$$\phi_{(p-1)/2}(5/9) \equiv 2k(3/2) \pmod{p}.$$

From Wall's remark we note that $\phi_{(p-1)/2}(5/9) \not\equiv 2k(3/2) \pmod{p}$ for all primes p such that $5 < p < 10,000$.

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