

Odd perfect numbers conjecture

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Abstract

When defining $O(N)$ as the sum of all divisors of N including himself, it is to be proved that there is no odd number which satisfy the equation:

$$O(N)=2N$$

And from that proof, it follows that there is no odd prime by definition.

The work showed here, is based on the work Euler did on the subject.

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Introduction

Let N be an odd natural number. $O(N)$ is a function of N defined as the sum of all the positive divisors of N , including himself.

If we take this sum and decrease N from it, we will get the sum of N 's proper positive divisors – which is defined in this way. As also defined, a number is called perfect if its sum of proper positive divisors is equal to the number N itself.

$$O(N) - N = N$$

Or

$$O(N) = 2N$$

In this paper, I will show beyond doubt that for no N this equality is being satisfied.

This problem has been around for the last 3 centuries, and has been investigated by a lot of known mathematicians. Some of them even showed some interesting and groundbreaking progress, in what conditions we can relate to N to satisfy the equation.

In this paper there is a use of some of this progress, mainly made by Euler. The following condition will be proved in part 3.

N is of the form $k^w p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$ where a_i [$1 \leq i \leq n$] is even, k, p_1, \dots, p_n are distinct primes, and w is odd.

Notations

p, k – a prime number.

N – a natural number.

$L(q)$ – the group of the positive divisors of q .

$O(q)$ – the sum of the positive divisors of q .

$E(q)$ – the group of the unique primed divisors of q .

$D(q)$ – the sum of the unique primed divisors of q .

$|q|$ – the amount of terms in q

Lemmas

I The formula

$$|L(N)| = (a_1 + 1)(a_2 + 1) \cdots (a_n + 1)$$

first of all, we know that every natural number N we can divide to prime divisors

$$N = p_1^{a_1} \cdot p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_n^{a_n}$$

when $(a_1 \dots a_n) > 0$ and we also know, that since N is odd, none of its prime divisors is equal to 2.

The amount of positive divisors of N is defined as all of the ways to choose a set of $a_{i1}, a_{i2}, a_{i3} \dots a_{in}$ when $0 \leq a_{i1} \leq a_i$.

The amount of options for each a_{it} , is $a_t + 1$ because the range is all the numbers below a_t , adding 0.

That gives us the formula:

$$|L(N)| = (a_1 + 1)(a_2 + 1) \cdots (a_n + 1)$$

II If $2^j | A \rightarrow 2^j | 2^A$

First we will show that $A > j$.

$$2^j \cdot b = A \rightarrow 2^j \leq A$$

And we can also see that $2^j > j$ for any value of j, because if we will take the derivative of

$$m(j) = 2^j - j \rightarrow m'(j) = \ln(2) \cdot 2^j - 1 = 0 \rightarrow \frac{1}{\ln(2)} = 2^j \rightarrow j = \log_2 \left(\frac{1}{\ln(2)} \right) = 0.5287$$

$$m(0.5287) = 0.913 > 0$$

$$m''(j) = \ln^2(2) \cdot 2^j \rightarrow m''(0.5287) = 0.693 > 0 \rightarrow (0.5287, 0.913) \text{ min.}$$

so $2^j > j$, and so $j < 2^j \leq A \rightarrow j < A$.

now we can see that $2^j < 2^A$, and $2^j | 2^A$.

III Only one of $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots a_n$ is odd.

As we know N is odd, and $2N$ divides by 2 only once.

Every term in $L(n)$ is odd, and so we can relate the terms as $2f_i+1$, Where $1 \leq i \leq |L(n)|$ the sum of these terms will be:

$$O(N) = \sum_{i=1}^{|L(n)|} 2f_i + 1 = |L(n)| + \sum_{i=1}^{|L(n)|} 2f_i = |L(n)| + 2^{|L(n)|} \sum_{i=1}^{|L(n)|} f_i$$

By lemma II we know that the power of 2 in $2^{|L(n)|}$ will be bigger than the power of 2 in $|L(N)|$, and the total minimum power of 2 in $O(N)$ is $L(N)$. Now as we know, if each of $a_{i1}, a_{i2}, a_{i3} \dots a_{in}$ is odd, then the power of 2 in $|L(N)|$ will get bigger by 1 so we have 2 options to keep it divisible by 2 only once:

1. all $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots a_n$ are even

We will revoke this option negatively.

We know that all the terms in $L(N)$ are odd, since p_1, \dots, p_n are odd too.

If all the terms are odd, and the amount of them is odd too, then the sum $O(N)$ is odd which contradicts the fact that $O(N)$ needs to be divisible by 2 once.

2. only one of $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots a_n$ is odd.

This is the only possibility, as showed.

IV For N to be able to satisfy the equation, N needs to be of the following form:

$k^w p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$ where $a_i [1 \leq i \leq n]$ is even and k, p_1, \dots, p_n are distinct primes.

This one is easy to prove by lemma III.

we have already showed that only one of $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots a_n$ is odd, and we will mark it as w .

V The formula:

$$O(N) = \left[\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{k - 1} \right] \cdot \left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1} - 1}{p_1 - 1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1} - 1}{p_n - 1} \right]$$

We will prove by induction, on the amount of unique prime divisors (n).

For n=1:

$N = p_1^{a_1}$, we know we have $a_1 + 1$ options and they are generated by the formula $p_1^{a_i}$ when $1 \leq a_i \leq a_n$. This condition answers to the requires of a geometric sum, when $b_1 = 1$, $q = p_1$, $n = a_n$ and by the formula:

$$O(N) = S_{a_n} = \left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1} - 1}{p_1 - 1} \right]$$

Because k, p_1, \dots, p_n are independent primes, the total $O(N)$ is achieved by the following multiply:

$$O(N) = \left[\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{k - 1} \right] \cdot \left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1} - 1}{p_1 - 1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1} - 1}{p_n - 1} \right]$$

Summation

In this part, we will do use of the proved lemmas to show the solution to the conjecture. We will also do use of the functions $E(q)$ and $D(q)$.

Lets return to the first equation, which is equivalent to the conjecture itself:

$$O(N) = 2N$$

We will put both sides of the equation into the function $E(q)$ first to determinate is it possible for the two numbers to be equal:

$$2N = 2k^w p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n} \rightarrow E(N) = n + 2$$

Because by definition $2, k$, and p_1, \dots, p_n are distinct primes.

Now we will see the value of $E(O(N))$:

$$O(N) = \left[\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{k - 1} \right] \cdot \left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1} - 1}{p_1 - 1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1} - 1}{p_n - 1} \right] \rightarrow E(O(N)) \geq n + 2$$

Because $\left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1}-1}{p_1-1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1}-1}{p_n-1} \right]$ are distinct primes and $\left[\frac{k^{w+1}-1}{k-1} \right]$ is divisible by 2, the minimum amount of divisors is $n+2$ and **we get it only when $\left[\frac{k^{w+1}-1}{k-1} \right], \left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1}-1}{p_1-1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1}-1}{p_n-1} \right]$ are primes.**

This fact is useable for us- since there are exactly equal amount of prime divisors to N , $O(N)$ we know that there should be an one to one correspondence between the factors – and if the factor k appears in the prime divisors of N , one of the divisors of $O(N)$ must be equal to it.

Now we will use the function $D(q)$ to determinate if the conjecture to be true, using also the previews discovery.

$$2N = 2k^w p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n} \rightarrow D(2N) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i + k + 2$$

$$O(N) = 2 \left[\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{2k - 2} \right] \cdot \left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1} - 1}{p_1 - 1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1} - 1}{p_n - 1} \right] \rightarrow D(O(N)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} \right] + \left[\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{2k - 2} \right] + 2$$

Now we will look at the difference $D(O(N)) - D(N)$:

$$D(O(N)) - D(2N) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] + \left[\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{2k - 2} - k \right]$$

We will look at the minimum of first term of the sum:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] \text{ for a minimal value, } a_i \text{ needs to be minimal (2) =}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^3 - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] = \sum_{i=1}^n [p_i^2 + p_i + 1] \text{ for a minimal value, } p_i \text{ needs to be minimal (3) =}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n [3^2 + 3 + 1] = 13n > 0$$

So the first term is always positive. Now we'll check whether the second term is always positive or not:

$$\frac{k^{w+1} - 1}{2k - 2} - k \text{ for a minimal value, } w \text{ needs to be minimal (1) =}$$

$$\frac{k^2 - 1}{2k - 2} - k = \frac{k + 1}{2} - k = \frac{1 - k}{2} < 0$$

So the conjecture is possible when $w=1$. For $w=3$ or bigger:

$$\frac{k^3 - 1}{2k - 2} - k = \frac{k^2 + k + 1}{2} - k = \frac{k^2 - k + 1}{2} > 0$$

So we can conclude, that $w=1$.

$$2N = 2k \cdot p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

We also know, that the following inequality must be true:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] < \frac{k-1}{2}$$

For that to happen, k needs to be max.

The biggest value that k can get, is the biggest of the terms $\left[\frac{p_1^{a_1+1}-1}{p_1-1} \right] \dots \left[\frac{p_n^{a_n+1}-1}{p_n-1} \right]$, which we'll mark as:

$$k = \left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right]$$

So now we will put the value of k in the formula above:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] < \frac{\left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right] - 1}{2} \rightarrow 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] + 1 < \left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right] \rightarrow$$

Because t is in [1, n] we know that: $2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{p_i^{a_i+1} - 1}{p_i - 1} - p_i \right] + 1 \geq 2 \left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right] + 1$

and by transitive law: $2 \left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right] + 1 < \left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right] \rightarrow \left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right] < -1$

which is impossible, because as known $\left[\frac{p_t^{a_t+1} - 1}{p_t - 1} \right]$ is positive.

Completion

Now we will go back through the steps, to make the proof more clear:

- We showed that no k is possible, in a way that $D(O(N)) - D(2N) \leq 0$, So we know that $D(O(N)) \neq D(2N)$.
- If $O(N)$ and N were equal, we would have gotten $D(O(N)) = D(2N)$ So we also know that $O(N) \neq 2N$
- We showed that N of the form presented in lemma IV, and so there is no other option for N values which will might get the equality $D(O(N)) = D(2N)$, to be perfect numbers.
- And finally, we showed that the Odd Perfect Conjecture is equivalent to the equality $O(N) = 2N$, and by showing it never holds we have solved the conjecture.