

Title Goldbach Conjecture

Author Barry Foster

Abstract The Goldbach Conjecture may be stated as follows:

Every even number greater than 4 can be written as the sum of two primes.

Examples:

$$6 = 3+3$$

$$8 = 3+5$$

$$10 = 3+7; 5+5$$

We will call the two primes summing to a particular number a Goldbach Pair (GP) for that number.

Method

Absent a function for generating every prime this demonstration uses the obvious fact that the prime components of a GP must each be less than the subject number.

Consider the following identity, valid for all real numbers  $(N,u,v)$ .

$$N = (N-u) + (N-v) - (N-u-v) \quad (1)$$

We will limit our considerations to the set:  $\{N, u, v \text{ even}; N > v >= u; N > 6\}$  (S)

Further we assume  $N$  is the next number in the series  $\{6, 8, 10, \dots, N-2\}$  and all the even numbers  $< N$  are GP's.

Thus if  $N$  is a GP its primes can be found amongst the above numbers  $< N$ .

Apparently, under the conditions (S) the following solution to (1) exists but the primes must be found by informed inspection:

$$N = (A+a) + (B+b) - (a,b) \quad (A,B,a,b \text{ are all prime})$$

Where  $(A+a) = (N-u)$   
 $(B+b) = (N-v)$   
 $(a+b) = (N-u-v) = E \text{ say}$

Thus  $u+v = N-E$   
 $u = B-a$   
 $v = A-b$

Examples

$$N = 12 = (7+\underline{3}) + (5+\underline{3}) - (\underline{3}+\underline{3}) = (7+5) \quad \text{A unique solution}$$

$$N = 30 = (23+\underline{3}) + (7+\underline{5}) - (\underline{3}+\underline{5}) = (23+7) \quad \text{One of several solutions}$$

Etc.