

Thm 2.8: There are infinitely many primes p with $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. (1)

IF $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ then $p = 4n + 3$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

So Thm 2.8 is equivalent to:

Thm 2.8*: There are infinitely many primes of the form $4n + 3$.

Proof: To prove this we need first the following two claims:

Claim 1:

~~IF~~ IF N is odd then N is of the form $4n + 1$ or $4n + 3$.

Pf: N odd, then $N = 2K + 1$ for some $K \in \mathbb{Z}$.

• IF K is even, then $K = 2n_1$ and therefore $N = 2(2n_1) + 1 = 4n_1 + 1$
for some $n_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$.

• IF K is odd, then $K = 2n_2 + 1$ and therefore $N = 2(2n_2 + 1) + 1 = 4n_2 + 3$
for some $n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. ■

Claim 2: Let a and b be two integers of the form $4n + 1$. Then $a \cdot b$ is also of the same form.

Pf: $a = 4l_1 + 1$, $b = 4l_2 + 1$

$$a \cdot b = (4l_1 + 1)(4l_2 + 1)$$

$$= 16l_1l_2 + 4l_1 + 4l_2 + 1$$

$$= 4(4l_1l_2 + l_1 + l_2) + 1$$

$$= 4K + 1 \quad \text{where } K = 4l_1l_2 + l_1 + l_2. \quad \blacksquare$$

Proof of Thm 2.8: (by contradiction)

Suppose there are only finitely many primes of the form $4n+3$, say, p_0, p_1, \dots, p_k , where $p_0 = 3$. Consider the positive integer $N = 4p_1 \dots p_k + 3$. Clearly, $N > p_k$ and is also of the same form.

case 1: If N itself is a prime, then N would be larger than the largest prime p_k of the form $4n+3$, which is a contradiction.

case 2: Suppose N is composite. Since N is odd and using Claim 1, we have that every factor of N is of the form $4n+1$ or $4n+3$. If every factor is of the form $4n+1$, then, by Claim 2, N would be of the same form. But, since N is of the form $4n+3$, at least one of the prime factors, say, p , must be of the form $4n+3$.

subcase 1: Let $p = p_0 = 3$. Then $3 \mid N$, so $3 \mid (N-3)$ by Prop 1.4 (iii), that is $3 \mid 4p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$. So, by Thm 1.23 and Rmk 1.24, i.e., Euclid's Lemma, $3 \mid 2$ or $3 \mid p_i$, where $1 \leq i \leq k$, but both are impossible.

subcase 2: Let $p = p_i$, where $1 \leq i \leq k$. Then $p \mid N$ and $p \mid 4p_1 \dots p_k$, so $p \mid (N - 4p_1 \dots p_k)$, that is, $p \mid 3$, again a contradiction.

Both cases lead us to a contradiction, so our assumption must be false. Thus, there is an infinite number of primes of the given form. \square