

## **Integral solutions of the quadratic with four unknowns $(x + y)(z + w) = xy + 4zw$**

**M. A. Gopalan and B. Sivakami**

*Department of Mathematics ,  
Srimathi Indira Gandhi College, Tiruchirapalli-620002  
E. mail : mayilgopalan@gmail.com*

*Department of Mathematics,  
Chettinad College of Engineering and Technology, Karur-639114  
E. mail : srisivasakthi08@yahoo.com*

### **Abstract**

The quadratic equation with four unknowns  $(x + y)(z + w) = xy + 4zw$  is analysed for non trivial integral solutions. A few interesting relations between the solutions and the special numbers are presented.

**Keywords** Integral solutions , Quadratic with four unknowns.

**MSC 2000 Subject Classification number :** 11D09

### **Introduction**

The theory of Diophantine equations offers a rich variety of fascinating problems. In particular, homogeneous or non-homogeneous quadratic Diophantine equations with two or more variables have been an interest to mathematicians since antiquity [1-8]. In this context, one may refer [9-17] for different choices of quadratic diophantine equations with four unknowns. This communication concerns with yet another interesting parametric integral solutions of the quadratic equation with four unknowns  $(x + y)(z + w) = xy + 4zw$  is analyzed for different patterns of non-zero distinct integer solutions. Given a solution, a general formula for generating a sequence of integer solutions is also exhibited.

Polygonal Numbers	Notations for rank 'n'	Definitions
Triangular number of rank n	$T_n$	$\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$
Pentagonal number of rank n	$Pen_n$	$\frac{1}{2}(3n^2 - n)$
Hexagonal number of rank n	$Hex_n$	$2n^2 - n$
Heptagonal number	$Hep_n$	$\frac{1}{2}(5n^2 - 3n)$
Octagonal number of rank n	$Oct_n$	$3n^2 - 2n$
Decagonal number of rank n	$Dec_n$	$4n^2 - 3n$
Hendecagonal number	$HD_n$	$\frac{1}{2}(9n^2 - 7n)$
Dodecagonal number	$DD_n$	$\frac{1}{2}(10n^2 - 8n)$
Octadecagonal number	$OD_n$	$\frac{1}{2}(16n^2 - 14n)$
Icosagonal number	$IC_n$	$\frac{1}{2}(18n^2 - 16n)$
Gnomonic number of rank n	$Gno_n$	$2n - 1$
Pronic number of rank n	$Pro_n$	$n(n+1)$
Stella Octangula number of rank n	$SO_n$	$n(2n^2 - 1)$
Star number of rank n	$Star_n$	$6n(n-1) + 1$

### Method of Analysis

The equation under consideration is

$$(x + y)(z + w) = xy + 4zw \quad (1)$$

To start with, it is noted that (1) is satisfied by the following quadruples:

$(3,2,1,1)$ ,  $(2t,t,t,t)$ ,  $(2t,s,t,t)$ ,  $(s,2t,t,t)$ .

In addition to the above solutions, two more patterns of solutions are illustrated below:

Applying the transformations  $x = u + p$ ,  $y = u - p$ ,  $z = p + q$  and  $w = p - q$ , equation (1) is reduced to

$$(u - 2p)^2 = p^2 + (2q)^2 \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

**Pattern 1**

**Case 1:** Let  $2q = 2\alpha\beta$ ,  $p = \alpha^2 - \beta^2$  and  $u - 2p = \alpha^2 + \beta^2$

Then the solutions of (1) are given by,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x(\alpha, \beta) &= 4\alpha^2 - 2\beta^2 \\ y(\alpha, \beta) &= 2\alpha^2 \\ z(\alpha, \beta) &= \alpha^2 - \beta^2 + \alpha\beta \\ w(\alpha, \beta) &= \alpha^2 - \beta^2 - \alpha\beta \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (3)$$

**Observations**

1.  $3y$  is a Nasty number.
2.  $2(x - y)$  and  $2(z + w)$  can be written as the difference of two perfect squares.
3.  $x(\alpha, 1) + 2$  is a perfect square.
4.  $x - y = z + w$
5.  $z(\alpha, 1) - w(\alpha, 1) = Gno_\alpha + 1$
6.  $x(1, \beta) + z(1, \beta) + 2Pen_\beta \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$
7.  $x(\alpha, 1) - z(\alpha, 1) + 2w(\alpha, 1) = 2Hep_\alpha - 3$
8.  $z(\alpha, 1) - Pro_\alpha + 1 = 0$
9.  $x(\alpha, 1)y(\alpha, 1) = 4Hex_{\alpha^2}$
10.  $10z(\alpha, 1)y(\alpha, 1) + 20w(\alpha, 1) - 10SO_\alpha - 4Oct_{\alpha^2} - 16T_{\alpha^2} + 5Gno_\alpha + 25 = 0$
11.  $x(1, \beta) - w(1, \beta) + Oct_\beta - Hex_\beta \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$
12.  $x(1, \beta)w(1, \beta) + Star_\beta - SO_\beta - Gno_{\beta^4} - 27Dec_\beta + 36Oct_\beta - 6 = 0$

**Case 2:** Let  $2q = \alpha^2 - \beta^2$ ,  $p = 2\alpha\beta$ ,  $u - 2p = \alpha^2 + \beta^2$

Assume  $\alpha = 2A$ ,  $\beta = 2B$

Then  $q = 2A^2 - 2B^2$ ,  $p = 8AB$  and  $u = 4A^2 + 4B^2 + 16AB$

The solutions of (1) are given by,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x(A, B) &= 4A^2 + 4B^2 + 24AB \\ y(A, B) &= 4A^2 + 4B^2 + 8AB \\ z(A, B) &= 2A^2 - 2B^2 + 8AB \\ w(A, B) &= 2B^2 - 2A^2 + 8AB \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (4)$$

**Observations**

1. Each of the following is a Nasty number:

- (i)  $6y$  is a Nasty number.  
(ii)  $6(x - y)(z + w)$
2. Each of the following represents a perfect square:  
(i)  $2[x + y - z - w]$  is a perfect square.  
(ii)  $2y(1, B) - 2w(1, B) - 12$
3.  $x(A, 1) - 8T_A - 10Gno_A - 14 = 0$
4.  $z - w$  can be written as the difference of two perfect squares.
5.  $y(A, 1) - Dec_A - 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$
6.  $z(A, 1) - 4Gno_A - 4Hex_A + 2(Oct_A) - 2 = 0$
7.  $x(1, B) - w(1, B) - 2Pro_B - 7Gno_B \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$

### Pattern 2

Let  $u - 2p = a^2 + b^2$

Then, (2) gives  $(a^2 + b^2)^2 = p^2 + (2q)^2$

which is written as

$$(a^2 + b^2)^2 * 1 = p^2 + (2q)^2 \tag{5}$$

Now write 1 as  $1 = \frac{(m^2 - n^2 + 2mni)(m^2 - n^2 - 2mni)}{(m^2 + n^2)^2}$

Then (5) implies

$$(a^2 + b^2)^2 \frac{(m^2 - n^2 + 2mni)(m^2 - n^2 - 2mni)}{(m^2 + n^2)^2} = p^2 + (2q)^2 \tag{6}$$

Define  $(a + ib)^2 \frac{(m^2 - n^2 + 2mni)}{(m^2 + n^2)} = p + i(2q)$

By equating the real and imaginary parts on both sides we get,

$$p(m^2 + n^2) = (m^2 - n^2)(a^2 - b^2) - 4mnab$$

$$q(m^2 + n^2) = (m^2 - n^2)ab + mn(a^2 - b^2)$$

For clear understanding, consider  $m = 2, n = 1$

Then the values of  $p$  and  $q$  are

$$p = \frac{1}{5}[3(a^2 - b^2) - 8ab]$$

$$q = \frac{1}{5}[3ab + 2(a^2 - b^2)]$$

Since our aim is to find integral solutions, let us choose  $a = 5A$  and  $b = 5B$

Then

*Integral solutions of the quadratic with four unknowns  $(x + y)(z + w) = xy + 4zw$  577*

$$\left. \begin{aligned} p &= 15A^2 - 15B^2 - 40AB \\ q &= 10A^2 - 10B^2 + 15AB \\ u &= 55A^2 - 5B^2 - 80AB \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (7)$$

Therefore, the solutions  $x, y, z$  and  $w$  of (1) are given by

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x(A, B) &= 70A^2 - 20B^2 - 120AB \\ y(A, B) &= 40A^2 + 10B^2 - 40AB \\ z(A, B) &= 25A^2 - 25B^2 - 25AB \\ w(A, B) &= 5A^2 - 5B^2 - 55AB \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (8)$$

### Observations

1. Each one of the following is a Nasty number:
  - (i)  $15y(A, 1) + 300Gno_A + 150$
  - (ii)  $5[z(A, A) - w(A, A)]$
2. Each of the following is a perfect square:
  - (i)  $25Dec_A - 25Oct_A - z(A, 1)$
  - (ii)  $z(1, B) + 50T_B$
3.  $x(A, 1) - 20Nan_A - 70Dec_A + 140Hex_A + 20 = 0$
4.  $w(A, 1) - DD_A + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{51}$
5.  $x(1, B) + 60Gno_B + 40HD_B - 20(OD_B) - 10 = 0$
6.  $y(1, B) - 20DD_B + 10IC_B \equiv 0 \pmod{40}$
7.  $w(1, B) + 5Pr o_B + 25Gno_B + 20 = 0$

### Conclusion

One may search for other patterns of solutions and the corresponding observations.

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