

ON THE SUM OF CUBES

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Large capital letters A, B, \dots (without or with subscripts) will represent integers of the quadratic number field $Ra(\rho)$ where $\rho = (-1 + (-3)^{1/2})/2$. Small latin letters a, b, \dots represent rational integers, and the conjugate of a number X is denoted by \bar{X} .

The object of this paper is to give a method for obtaining the complete rational integer solution for the diophantine equations of the form

$$(1) \quad \sum_{i=1}^m z_i^3 = 0, \quad m > 3.$$

This equation with m even, $m = 2n$, can be written as $\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i + \bar{X}_i)X_i\bar{X}_i = 0$ where

$$(2) \quad X_i = z_{2i-1} + \rho(z_{2i-1} - z_{2i})$$

and thus the problem of solving (1) in this case is reduced to that of finding all the integers x_i, X_i satisfying the equations

$$(3) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n x_i X_i \bar{X}_i = 0,$$

$$(4) \quad x_i = X_i + \bar{X}_i \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

and (2). When m is odd, $m = 2n - 1$, we solve the system (α) consisting of (3), $x_n = X_n = z_{2n-1}$ and (2), (4) for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$.

The resolution of these two systems hinges on techniques developed by E. T. Bell [2],¹ being equivalent to the resolution of a system of multiplicative equations and a system of linear homogeneous equations in Ra in which the number of unknowns always exceeds the number of equations.

In solving (1) the following equations appear:

$$(5) \quad x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \dots + x_n y_n = 0$$

in which the x_i, y_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) are $2n$ independent variables;

$$(6) \quad a_{i1} x_1 + \dots + a_{in} x_n = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, m \leq n - 1)$$

in which the n independent variables x_i are to be solved in terms of the coefficients a_{ij} ;

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¹ Numbers in brackets refer to references cited at the end of the paper.