



Representation of Integers in the Form $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$

Nattaporn Thongngam

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Science in Mathematics

Prince of Songkla University

2022

Copyright of Prince of Songkla University



Representation of Integers in the Form $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$

Nattaporn Thongngam

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Science in Mathematics

Prince of Songkla University

2022

Copyright of Prince of Songkla University

Thesis Title Representation of Integers in the Form $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$
Author Miss Nattaporn Thongngam
Major Program Mathematics

Major Advisor

Examining Committee:

Supawadee Prugsapitak.....

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supawadee Prugsapitak)

Janyarak Tongsoomporn.....

(Asst. Prof. Dr. Janyarak Tongsoomporn)

Chairperson

Supawadee Prugsapitak.....

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supawadee Prugsapitak)

Committee

.....

(Asst. Prof. Dr. Sompong Chuysurichay)

Committee

.....

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Boonrod Yuttanan)

Committee

The Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University, has approved this thesis as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science Degree in Mathematics

.....

(Prof. Dr. Damrongsak Faroongsarng)

Dean of Graduate School

This is to certify that the work here submitted is the result of the candidate's own investigations. Due acknowledgement has been made of any assistance received.

Supawadee Prugsapitak Signature

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supawadee Prugsapitak)

Major Advisor

Nattaporn Thongngam Signature

(Miss Nattaporn Thongngam)

Candidate

I hereby certify that this work has not been accepted in substance for any degree, and is not being currently submitted in candidature for any degree.

Nattaporn Thongngam Signature

(Miss Nattaporn Thongngam)

Candidate

ชื่อวิทยานิพนธ์	การเขียนจำนวนเต็มในรูป $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$
ผู้เขียน	นางสาวนัฏภร ทองงาม
สาขาวิชา	คณิตศาสตร์
ปีการศึกษา	2564

บทคัดย่อ

สำหรับจำนวนเต็มบวก k และ l เราจะเรียก l ว่า k -special ถ้าทุกจำนวนเต็ม n สามารถเขียนในรูป $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$ โดยที่ x, y และ z เป็นจำนวนเต็มที่ไม่เป็นศูนย์

ในการศึกษาครั้งนี้เราจะหาเงื่อนไขจำเป็นและเงื่อนไขเพียงพอสำหรับ 1 -special และหาเงื่อนไขของจำนวนเต็มบวกคือ l ที่จะเป็น k -special และ $2k$ -special

Thesis Title	Representation of Integers in the Form $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$
Author	Miss Nattaporn Thongngam
Major Program	Mathematics
Academic Year	2021

ABSTRACT

For positive integers k and l , we call l a k -special if every integer can be represented in the form $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$ where x, y , and z are non-zero integers. In this thesis, we find the necessary and sufficient conditions for 1-special and find the conditions for an odd positive integer l to be k -special and $2k$ -special.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my advisor, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supawadee Prugsapitak for the continuous support of my graduate studies and research, for her inspiration, enthusiasm, patience, and immense knowledge. Her guidance helped me in all time for research and writing this thesis.

My special appreciation is expressed to Asst. Prof. Dr. Janyarak Tong-somporn, Asst. Prof. Dr. Sompong Chuysurichay, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Boonrod Yuttanan for many valuable comments and helpful suggestions.

I wish to thank all my teachers of Mathematics major, Division of Computational Science, Prince of Songkla University for sharing their knowledge and support so that I can obtain this Master degree.

Nattaporn Thongngam

CONTENTS

ABSTRACT IN THAI	v
ABSTRACT IN ENGLISH	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
CONTENTS	viii
1 Introduction	1
2 Preliminaries	3
3 k -Special Numbers	9
4 $2k$ -Special Numbers	30
5 Conclusion	51
BIBLIOGRAPHY	52
VITAE	53

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

In number theory, the representation of integers as sums of squares are concerned by many mathematicians. For example, in 1640, Fermat [9] proved that every prime number p of type $p = 4k + 1$ can be represented as a sum of two squares of integers. This implies that a positive integer n can be written as a sum of two squares of integers if and only if all prime factors of n of the form $4k + 3$ have even exponents in the prime factorization of n . In 1770, Lagrange [9] showed that every positive integer n can be written as

$$w^2 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \tag{1.1}$$

where w, x, y , and z are integers. In 1798, Lagrange [2] proved that a positive integer can be represented in the form

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \tag{1.2}$$

where x, y , and z are integers if and only if it is not of the form $4^a(8b+7)$ for integers $a, b \geq 0$. In connection with Lagrange's four-square theorem, in 1917, Ramanujan [7] determined all positive integers a, b, c , and d such that every natural number n is representable in the form

$$aw^2 + bx^2 + cy^2 + dz^2. \tag{1.3}$$

Finally, he found 54 quadruples (a, b, c, d) with $1 \leq a \leq b \leq c \leq d$. In 2005, Panaitopol [5] showed that there exist no natural numbers a, b , and c such that all even positive integers can be expressed in the form

$$ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2 \tag{1.4}$$

and he proved that for each odd natural number there exist non-zero integers x, y and z in (1.4) if and only if 3 triples (a, b, c) with $1 \leq a \leq b \leq c$ are $(1, 1, 2)$, $(1, 2, 3)$, or $(1, 2, 4)$. However, if we allow c in (1.4) to be negative, then the representation is

possible . In 2015, Nowicki [4] showed that if all natural numbers are representable in the form

$$x^2 + y^2 - cz^2, \quad (1.5)$$

then c is of the form q or $2q$, where either $q = 1$ or q is a product of primes of the form $4m+1$. In the same year, Lam [3] proved its sufficiency. In 2021, Prugsapitak and Thongngam [6] proved that if k is not divisible by 4, then all integers can be written as

$$x^2 + ky^2 - z^2, \quad (1.6)$$

where x, y , and z are non-zero integers. In what follows, we study the representation of integers of the form

$$x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2 \quad (1.7)$$

for given positive integers k and l , where $xyz \neq 0$.

To obtain the result that we mentioned above, we separate our work into three chapters as follows:

In Chapter 2, we review definitions and theorems, which use throughout the dissertation.

In Chapter 3, we first define k -special. Let k be a positive integer. We say that a positive integer l is k -special if all integers n can be expressed in the term $n = x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$ where x, y , and z are non-zero integers. We find the necessary and sufficient conditions for representing all integers in the form $x^2 + ky^2 - z^2$ where x, y , and z are non-zero integers. For an odd positive integer k , we find the conditions of an odd positive integer l to be k -special and we proved that there are infinitely many k -special. Moreover, we show that if k is odd, then $4m$ is not k -special.

In Chapter 4, for a positive odd integer k , we find the conditions of an odd positive integer l to be $2k$ -special and we proved that there are infinitely many $2k$ -special. Moreover, we show some properties of k -special when $k \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ and $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$.

CHAPTER 2

Preliminaries

In this chapter, we recall some definitions, theorems and examples that will be used throughout our study.

Definition 2.1 ([8]). If a and b are integers with $a \neq 0$, we say that a divides b if there is an integer c such that $b = ac$. If a divides b , we also say that a is a divisor or factor of b and that b is a multiple of a . If a divides b we write $a \mid b$, and if a does not divide b we write $a \nmid b$.

Theorem 2.1 ([8]). If a, b , and c are integers with $a \mid b$ and $b \mid c$, then $a \mid c$.

Theorem 2.2 ([8]). If a, b, m , and n are integers, and if $c \mid a$ and $c \mid b$, then $c \mid (ma + nb)$.

Theorem 2.3 ([8]). (*The Division Algorithm*) If a and b are integers such that $b > 0$, then there are unique integers q and r such that

$$a = bq + r \text{ with } 0 \leq r < b.$$

Definition 2.2 ([8]). The greatest common divisor of a and b , which are not both 0, is the largest integer that divides both a and b . We denote the greatest common divisor of a and b by $\gcd(a, b)$.

Definition 2.3 ([8]). The integers a and b , with $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$, are relative prime if a and b have the greatest common divisor $\gcd(a, b) = 1$.

Definition 2.4 ([8]). A prime is an integer greater than 1 that is divisible by no positive integers other than 1 and itself.

Definition 2.5 ([8]). An integer greater than 1 that is not prime is called composite.

Definition 2.6 ([8]). If a and b are integers, then a linear combination of a and b is a sum of the form $ma + nb$, where both m and n are integers.

Theorem 2.4 ([8]). *The greatest common divisor of the integers a and b , not both 0, is the least positive integer that is a linear combination of a and b .*

Corollary 2.5 ([8]). *The integers a and b are relatively prime integers if and only if there are integers m and n such that $ma + nb = 1$.*

Theorem 2.6 ([8]). (**The Euclidean Algorithm**) *Let $r_0 = a$ and $r_1 = b$ be integers such that $a \geq b > 0$. If the division algorithm is successively applied to obtain $r_j = r_{j+1}q_{j+1} + r_{j+2}$, with $0 < r_{j+2} < r_{j+1}$ for $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 2$ and $r_{n+1} = 0$, then $\gcd(a, b) = r_n$, the last non-zero remainder.*

Definition 2.7 ([8]). Let m be a positive integer. If a and b are integers, we say that a is congruent to b modulo m if $m \mid (a - b)$.

If a is congruent to b modulo m , we write $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$. If $m \nmid (a - b)$, we write $a \not\equiv b \pmod{m}$, and we say that a and b are incongruent modulo m .

Theorem 2.7 ([8]). *If a and b are integers, then $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ if and only if there is an integer k such that $a = b + km$.*

Theorem 2.8 ([8]). *Let m be a positive integer. Congruences modulo m satisfy the following properties:*

1. *Reflexive property: If a is an integer, then $a \equiv a \pmod{m}$.*
2. *Symmetric property: If a and b are integers such that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$, then $b \equiv a \pmod{m}$.*
3. *Transitive property: If a, b , and c are integers with $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{m}$, then $a \equiv c \pmod{m}$.*

Theorem 2.9 ([8]). *If a, b, c, d , and m are integers with $m > 0$, such that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$, and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$, then*

1. $a + c \equiv b + c \pmod{m}$,
2. $a - c \equiv b - c \pmod{m}$,
3. $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$,

$$4. a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m},$$

$$5. a - c \equiv b - d \pmod{m},$$

$$6. ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}.$$

Theorem 2.10 ([8]). *If a, b, c , and m are positive integers such that $m > 0$, $d = \gcd(c, m)$, and $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$, then $a \equiv b \pmod{\frac{m}{d}}$.*

Definition 2.8 ([8]). If m is a positive integer, we say that an integer a is a quadratic residue of m if $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ and the congruence $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{m}$ has a solution. If the congruence $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{m}$ has no solution, we say that a is a quadratic nonresidue of m .

Definition 2.9 ([8]). Let p be an odd prime and a be an integer not divisible by p . The Legendre symbol $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ is defined by

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \text{ is a quadratic residue of } p; \\ -1 & \text{if } a \text{ is a quadratic nonresidue of } p. \end{cases}$$

Definition 2.10 ([1]). A nonzero, nonunit element p of an integral domain D is called a prime if $p \mid ab$, where $a, b \in D$, implies that $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.

Example 1. 2 is not a prime in $\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\sqrt{-5}$ as $2 \mid (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$ yet $2 \nmid 1 \pm \sqrt{-5}$.

Definition 2.11 ([1]). **(Element integral over a domain)** Let A and B be integral domains with $A \subseteq B$. The element $b \in B$ is said to be integral over A if it satisfies a polynomial equation

$$x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1x + a_0 = 0,$$

where a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1} .

Definition 2.12 ([1]). **(Algebraic integer)** A complex number which is integral over \mathbb{Z} is called an algebraic integer.

Definition 2.13 ([1]). **(Element algebraic over field)** Let A and B be integral domains with $A \subseteq B$. Suppose that A is a field and $b \in B$ is integral over A ; then b is said to be algebraic over A .

Definition 2.14 ([1]). **(Algebraic number)** A complex number that is algebraic over \mathbb{Q} is called an algebraic number.

Theorem 2.11. *A rational number is an algebraic integer if and only if α is an integer.*

Proof. Let α be a rational number. Suppose that α is an algebraic integer. Let f be the monic polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ of least degree having α as a root, i.e., $f(\alpha) = 0$. So $f(x) = (x - \alpha)h(x)$ for some $h(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Since $f(x)$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} , $h(x) = 1$ or -1 . So $x - \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$. Therefore α is an integer as desired. For the converse, it is easy to see that if α is an integer then α is a rational number. \square

We next prove the lemma that we will use in the proof of our main results.

Lemma 2.12. *Let a, b, c, d be integers. If $\frac{an+n}{cn+d}$ is an integer for some integer n , then $cn + d \mid ad - bc$.*

Proof. Suppose $\frac{an+b}{cn+d}$ is an integer for some integer n . Then $\frac{c(an+b)}{cn+d}$ is also an integer.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{c(an+b)}{cn+d} &= \frac{acn + ad + (bc - ad)}{cn+d} \\ &= a - \frac{ad - bc}{cn+d} \\ \frac{ad - bc}{cn+d} &= a - \frac{c(an+b)}{cn+d}. \end{aligned}$$

Since a and $\frac{c(an+b)}{cn+d}$ are integers, $\frac{ad-bc}{cn+d}$ is also an integer.

Hence $cn + d \mid ad - bc$. \square

Lemma 2.13. *Let m be a rational. If m^2 is an integer, then m is an integer.*

Proof. Suppose that m^2 is an integer. Thus m is an algebraic integer because it is a root of $x^2 - m^2 = 0$. Since a rational number is an algebraic integer if and only if it is an integer, m is an integer as desired. \square

Lemma 2.14. *If x and y can both be represented as $a^2 + 2b^2$, for some integers a and b , then xy can be written of this form.*

Proof. Suppose $x = a^2 + 2b^2$ and $y = c^2 + 2d^2$ for some $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} xy &= (a^2 + 2b^2)(c^2 + 2d^2) \\ &= a^2c^2 + 2a^2d^2 + 2b^2c^2 + 4b^2d^2 \\ &= (ac - 2bd)^2 + 2(ad + bc)^2, \end{aligned}$$

which is of the desired form. \square

Lemma 2.15 ([1]). *Let p be a prime of the form $8k+1$ or $8k+3$, then $p = x^2 + 2y^2$ for some $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$.*

Lemma 2.16. *If $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ is of the form $x^2 + 2y^2$ for some integers x and y , then all primes p of the form $8k+5$ or $8k+7$ have even exponent in the prime factorization.*

Proof. Let $n = x^2 + 2y^2$ for some integers x and y . We have

$$n = x^2 + 2y^2 = (x + y\sqrt{-2})(x - y\sqrt{-2}).$$

Let p be a prime of the form $8k + 5$ or $8k + 7$ and $p|n$. Since -2 is quadratic nonresidue modulo p , we can see that p is a prime in $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-2}]$. Thus $p|x + y\sqrt{-2}$ or $p|x - y\sqrt{-2}$. If $p|x + y\sqrt{-2}$, then $p|x - y\sqrt{-2}$. Thus $p|2x$ and $p|2y$. Since p is odd, we have $p|x$ and $p|y$. Similarly, we can show that if $p|x - y\sqrt{-2}$, then $p|x$ and $p|y$. Thus $p|x + y\sqrt{-2}$ and $p^2|n$. Write $x = px_1$ and $y = py_1$ for some integers x_1 and y_1 . Thus $n = p^2x_1^2 + 2p^2y_1^2 = p^2(x_1^2 + 2y_1^2)$. So $\frac{n}{p^2} = x_1^2 + 2y_1^2$. If $p \nmid x_1^2 + 2y_1^2$, then $p^2 \nmid n$. If $p|x_1^2 + 2y_1^2$ then $p^2|x_1^2 + 2y_1^2$. We can continue this process and thus p has even multiplicity in the prime factorization of n . \square

Lemma 2.17. *A positive integer n can be written as $x^2 + 2y^2$ for some integers x and y if and only if all primes of the form $8k + 5$ or $8k + 7$ have even exponent in the prime factorization of n .*

Proof. Let n be a positive integer of the form $n = x^2 + 2y^2$ for some integers x and y . Let p be a prime of the form $8k + 5$ and $8k + 7$. By Lemma 2.16, if $p|n$, then p has even multiplicity in the prime factorization of n . Conversely, we know that $2 = 0^2 + 2(1^2)$. Let p be a prime divisor of n . If $p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}$, then its exponent is even and we have $p^2 = p^2 + 2(0^2)$. If $p \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}$, then by Lemma 2.15 we have $p = a^2 + 2b^2$ for some integers a and b . Thus by Lemma 2.14 any product of integer of the form $x^2 + 2y^2$ is still an integer of the form $x^2 + 2y^2$. \square

In 2005, L. Panaitopol [5] expressed natural numbers as sums of three squares as follows:

Theorem 2.18 ([5]). *Consider integers a, b , and c satisfying $1 \leq a \leq b \leq c$. There exist for each odd natural number n non-negative integers x, y , and z such that*

$$n = ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2$$

if and only if (a, b, c) are $(1, 1, 2)$, $(1, 2, 3)$, or $(1, 2, 4)$.

Theorem 2.19 ([5]). *There exist no natural numbers a, b , and c such that every even natural number n has the representation*

$$n = ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2$$

in which x, y , and z are integers.

In 2015, A. Nowicki [4] and P. C. H. Lam [3] provided necessary and sufficient conditions for representing all integers in the form $x^2 + y^2 - cz^2$ as follows:

Definition 2.15 ([4]). Let c be a positive integer. We say that c is special if for every integer k there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $x^2 + y^2 - cz^2 = k$.

Theorem 2.20 ([3]). *If c is of the form q or $2q$, where either $q = 1$ or q is a product of prime numbers of the form $4k + 1$, then c is special.*

Theorem 2.21 ([4]). *Every special number is of the form q or $2q$, where either $q = 1$ or q is a product of prime numbers of the form $4k + 1$.*

Theorem 2.22 ([4]). *There are infinitely many special numbers.*

CHAPTER 3

k -Special Numbers

In this chapter, we first define k -special where k is a positive integer. We say that a positive integer l is k -special if for all integers n there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$n = x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2.$$

We provide the necessary and sufficient conditions for 1 to be k -special and we find the condition for an odd positive integer l to be k -special for a given odd positive integer k . Moreover, we provide some properties of k -special.

Definition 3.1. Let k and l be positive integers. Let $[x, y, z]_{k,l}$ denote the number $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$ where x, y , and z are integers and we say that l is **k -special** if for every integer n there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = [x, y, z]_{k,l}$.

A. Nowicki [4] showed that 1 is 1-special by giving the following identities.

Lemma 3.1 ([4]). *1 is 1-special.*

Proof. It is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} 2j - 1 &= 2^2 + (j - 2)^2 - (j - 3)^2, \\ 2j &= j^2 + 1^2 - (j - 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

for $j \in \mathbb{Z}$. However, one of the variables $j - 3, j - 2, j - 1$, and j becomes zero if $j = 3, 2, 1$, and 0 respectively. So we can use the representations $0 = [3, 4, 5]_{1,1}$, $2 = [3, 3, 4]_{1,1}$, $3 = [6, 4, 7]_{1,1}$, and $5 = [5, 4, 6]_{1,1}$. □

Theorem 3.2. *Let k be a positive integer. If k is divisible by 4, then 1 is not k -special.*

Proof. Let k be divisible by 4. Assume that 1 is k -special. Then there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$x^2 + ky^2 - z^2 = 2.$$

So we have $x^2 - z^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. Since quadratic residues modulo 4 are 0 and 1, we deduce that $x^2 - z^2 \equiv 0, 1, 3 \pmod{4}$. This is a contradiction. Hence 1 is not k -special. \square

Theorem 3.3. *Let k be a positive integer. If k is not divisible by 4, then 1 is k -special.*

Proof. Let k be a positive integer not divisible by 4. We will show that for any integer n there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$n = x^2 + ky^2 - z^2,$$

i.e., $x^2 - z^2 = (x - z)(x + z) = n - ky^2$.

We now consider the following four cases on the value of n :

Case 1. Suppose $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. Thus $n = 4j$ for some integer j .

We next find non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $(x - z)(x + z) = 4j - ky^2$.

We choose $y = 4j + 2$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (x - z)(x + z) &= 4j - k(4j + 2)^2 \\ &= 2(2j - k(2j + 1)(4j + 2)). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x - z = 2$ and $x + z = 2j - k(2j + 1)(4j + 2)$.

Then $2x = 2 + 2j - k(2j + 1)(4j + 2)$ and $2z = 2j - k(2j + 1)(4j + 2) - 2$.

So we obtain $x = 1 + j - k(2j + 1)^2$ and $z = j - k(2j + 1)^2 - 1$.

We next show that x, y , and z are non-zero.

Since $y \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, it implies that $y \neq 0$.

If $z = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} j - k(2j + 1)^2 - 1 &= 0 \\ k(2j + 1)^2 &= j - 1 \\ k &= \frac{j - 1}{(2j + 1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $k > 0$, we deduce that $j > 1$. Thus $1 \leq j - 1 < (2j + 1)^2$.

This implies that $\frac{j-1}{(2j+1)^2}$ is not an integer. Therefore z is non-zero.

If $x = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + j - k(2j + 1)^2 &= 0 \\ k(2j + 1)^2 &= 1 + j \\ k &= \frac{1 + j}{(2j + 1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $k > 0$, we deduce that $j > -1$. If $j > 0$, then $\frac{1+j}{(2j+1)^2}$ is not an integer.

If $j = 0$, then $k = 1$ and $n = 0$. We need to provide a presentation for 0, namely $0 = [x, y, z]_{1,1}$ where $xyz \neq 0$. We can write 0 as $0 = 3^2 + 4^2 - 5^2$.

Case 2. Suppose $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Thus $n = 4j + 1$ for some integer j .

We next find non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $(x - z)(x + z) = 4j + 1 - ky^2$.

We choose $y = 2(4j + 1)$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (x - z)(x + z) &= 4j + 1 - 4k(4j + 1)^2 \\ &= (4j + 1)(1 - 4k(4j + 1)). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x - z = 4j + 1$ and $x + z = 1 - 4k(4j + 1)$.

Then $2x = 4j + 2 - 4k(4j + 1)$ and $2z = -4k(4j + 1) - 4j$.

So we obtain $x = 1 + 2j - 2k(4j + 1)$ and $z = -2j - 2k(4j + 1)$.

We next show that x, y , and z are non-zero.

Since $y \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$, we have $y \neq 0$.

If $x = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 2j - 2k(4j + 1) &= 0 \\ 2k(4j + 1) &= 2j + 1 \\ k &= \frac{2j + 1}{2(4j + 1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $2j + 1$ is odd and $2(4j + 1)$ is even, we deduce that $\frac{2j+1}{2(4j+1)}$ is not an integer.

So this is a contradiction.

If $z = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} -2j - 2k(4j + 1) &= 0 \\ 2k(4j + 1) &= -2j \\ k &= \frac{-j}{4j + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since k is an integer and by Lemma 2.12, we deduce that $4j + 1 \mid (-1)(1) - (0)(4)$.

This implies that $4j + 1 \mid -1$. Thus $4j + 1 = -1, 1$ and hence $j = 0$.

If $j = 0$, then $k = 0$. This contradicts the fact that k is a positive integer.

Thus z is non-zero.

Case 3. Suppose $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. Thus $n = 4j + 2$ for some integer j .

Subcase 3.1. Suppose $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. Thus $k = 4r + 2$ for some non-negative integer r . We next find non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$(x - z)(x + z) = 4j + 2 - (4r + 2)y^2.$$

We choose $y = 2j + 1$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (x - z)(x + z) &= 4j + 2 - (4r + 2)(2j + 1)^2 \\ &= (4j + 2)(1 - (2r + 1)(2j + 1)) \\ &= (4j + 2)(-4rj - 2j - 2r). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x - z = 4j + 2$ and $x + z = -4rj - 2j - 2r$.

Then $2x = -4rj + 2j - 2r + 2$ and $2z = -4rj - 6j - 2r - 2$.

So we obtain $x = j - r - 2rj + 1$ and $z = -3j - r - 2rj - 1$.

We next show that x, y , and z are non-zero.

Since y is odd, we have $y \neq 0$.

If $x = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} j - r - 2rj + 1 &= 0 \\ r(2j + 1) &= j + 1 \\ r &= \frac{j + 1}{2j + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since r is an integer and by Lemma 2.12, we deduce that $2j + 1 \mid (1)(1) - (1)(2)$.

This implies that $2j + 1 \mid -1$. Thus $2j + 1 = -1, 1$ and hence $j = 0$ and $j = -1$.

If $j = 0$, then $r = \frac{j+1}{2j+1} = 1$. So $k = 6$ and $n = 2$. We need to provide a presentation for 2, namely $2 = [x, y, z]_{6,1}$ where $xyz \neq 0$. So we can use the representation $2 = [12, 3, 14]_{6,1}$.

If $j = -1$, then $r = \frac{j+1}{2j+1} = 0$. So $k = 2$ and $n = -2$. We need to provide a presentation for -2, namely $-2 = [x, y, z]_{2,1}$ where $xyz \neq 0$. We can write -2 as

$$-2 = [4, 3, 6]_{2,1}.$$

If $z = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} -3j - r - 2rj - 1 &= 0 \\ r(2j + 1) &= -3j - 1 \\ r &= \frac{-3j - 1}{2j + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since r is an integer and by Lemma 2.12, we deduce that $2j + 1 \mid (-3)(1) - (-1)(2)$. This implies that $2j + 1 \mid -1$. Thus $2j + 1 = -1, 1$ and hence $j = 0$ and $j = -1$. If $j = 0$, then $r = -1$. This contradicts the fact that r is a non-negative integer. If $j = -1$, then $r = -2$. This contradicts the facts that r is a non-negative integer. Thus z is non-zero.

Subcase 3.2. Suppose $k \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$. Thus $k = 2r + 1$ for some non-negative integer r . We next find non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$(x - z)(x + z) = 4j + 2 - (2r + 1)y^2.$$

We choose $y = 2j + 1$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (x - z)(x + z) &= 4j + 2 - (2r + 1)(2j + 1)^2 \\ &= (2j + 1)(2 - (2r + 1)(2j + 1)) \\ &= (2j + 1)(1 - 4rj - 2r - 2j). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x - z = 2j + 1$ and $x + z = 1 - 4rj - 2r - 2j$.

Then $2x = -4rj - 2r + 2$ and $2z = -4rj - 2r - 4j$.

So we obtain $x = 1 - r - 2rj$ and $z = -r - 2j - 2rj$.

We next show that x, y , and z are non-zero.

Since y is odd, it implies that y is non-zero.

If $x = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - r - 2rj &= 0 \\ r(2j + 1) &= 1 \\ r &= \frac{1}{2j + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since r is an integer and by Lemma 2.12, we deduce that $2j + 1 \mid (0)(1) - (1)(2)$. This implies that $2j + 1 \mid -2$. Thus $2j + 1 = -1, 1, 2, -2$ and hence $j = 0$ and $j = -1$.

If $j = 0$, then $r = 1$. We obtain $k = 3$ and $n = 2$. We will use the representation $2 = 1^2 + 3(3)^2 - 13^2$.

If $j = -1$, then $r = -1$. This contradicts the fact that r is a non-negative integer. If $z = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} -r - 2j - 2rj &= 0 \\ r(2j + 1) &= -2j \\ r &= \frac{-2j}{2j + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since r is an integer and by Lemma 2.12, we deduce that $2j + 1 \mid (-2)(1) - (0)(2)$. This implies that $2j + 1 \mid -2$. Thus $2j + 1 = -1, 1, 2, -2$ and hence $j = 0$ and $j = -1$.

If $j = 0$, then $r = 0$. We obtain $k = 1$ and $n = 2$. We will use the representation $2 = 3^2 + 1(3)^2 - 4^2$ instead.

If $j = -1$, then $r = -2$. We obtain $k = -3$. This contradicts the fact that $k > 0$.

Case 4. Let $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Thus $n = 4j + 3$ for some integer j .

We next find non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $(x - z)(x + z) = 4j + 3 - ky^2$. We choose $y = 2(4j + 3)$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (x - z)(x + z) &= 4j + 3 - 4k(4j + 3)^2 \\ &= (4j + 3)(1 - 4k(4j + 3)). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x - z = 4j + 3$ and $x + z = 1 - 4k(4j + 3)$.

Then $2x = 4j + 4 - 4k(4j + 3)$ and $2z = -4k(4j + 3) - 4j - 2$.

So we obtain $x = 2j - 6k - 8kj + 2$ and $z = -2j - 6k - 8kj - 1$.

We next show that x, y , and z are non-zero.

Since $y \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$, we have that y is non-zero.

If $x = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 2j - 6k - 8kj + 2 &= 0 \\ k(8j + 6) &= 2j + 2 \\ k &= \frac{j + 1}{4j + 3}. \end{aligned}$$

Since k is an integer and by Lemma 2.12, we deduce that $4j + 3 \mid (1)(3) - (1)(1)$.

This implies that $4j + 3 \mid -2$. Thus $4j + 3 = -1, 1, -2, 2$ and hence $j = -1$.

If $j = -1$, then $k = 0$. This contradicts the fact that $k > 0$.

If $z = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} -2j - 6k - 8kj - 1 &= 0 \\ k(8j + 6) &= -(2j + 1) \\ k &= \frac{-(2j + 1)}{8j + 6}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $2j + 1$ is odd and $8j + 6$ is even, we deduce that $\frac{-(2j+1)}{8j+6}$ is not an integer.

Both cases imply that x and z are non-zero. \square

In conclusion, we have proved the following theorem.

Theorem 3.4. *Let k be a positive integer. Then 1 is k -special if and only if k is not divisible by 4.*

We next provide examples when 1 is k -special where $k \leq 20$ and k is not divisible by 4.

Example 2. We show that 1 is 1-special and next we will show that 1 is k -special for $2 \leq k \leq 20$ by giving the following identities:

- 1 is 2-special.

$$\begin{aligned} [8j^2 + 3j + 1, 4j + 2, 8j^2 + 7j + 3]_{2,1} &= 4j, \\ [14j + 3, 8j + 2, 18j + 4]_{2,1} &= 4j + 1, \\ [j + 1, 2j + 1, 3j + 1]_{2,1} &= 4j + 2, \\ [14j + 10, 8j + 6, 18j + 13]_{2,1} &= 4j + 3, \end{aligned}$$

and $[4, 3, 6]_{2,1} = -2$.

- 1 is 3–special.

$$\begin{aligned} [12j^2 + 11j + 2, 4j + 2, 12j^2 + 11j + 4]_{3,1} &= 4j, \\ [22j + 5, 8j + 2, 26j + 6]_{3,1} &= 4j + 1, \\ [2j, 2j + 1, 4j + 1]_{3,1} &= 4j + 2, \\ [22j + 16, 8j + 6, 26j + 19]_{3,1} &= 4j + 3, \end{aligned}$$

and $[12, 3, 13]_{2,1} = 2$.

- 1 is 5–special.

$$\begin{aligned} [20j^2 + 19j + 4, 4j + 2, 20j^2 + 19j + 6]_{5,1} &= 4j, \\ [38j + 9, 8j + 2, 42j + 10]_{5,1} &= 4j + 1, \\ [4j + 1, 2j + 1, 6j + 2]_{5,1} &= 4j + 2, \\ [38j + 28, 8j + 6, 42j + 31]_{5,1} &= 4j + 3. \end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 6–special.

$$\begin{aligned} [24j^2 + 23j + 5, 4j + 2, 24j^2 + 23j + 7]_{6,1} &= 4j, \\ [46j + 11, 8j + 2, 50j + 12]_{6,1} &= 4j + 1, \\ [j, 2j + 1, 5j + 2]_{6,1} &= 4j + 2, \\ [46j + 34, 8j + 6, 50j + 37]_{6,1} &= 4j + 3, \end{aligned}$$

and $[12, 3, 14]_{6,1} = 2$.

- 1 is 7–special.

$$\begin{aligned} [28j^2 + 27j + 6, 4j + 2, 28j^2 + 27j + 8]_{7,1} &= 4j, \\ [54j + 13, 8j + 2, 58j + 14]_{7,1} &= 4j + 1, \\ [6j + 2, 2j + 1, 8j + 3]_{7,1} &= 4j + 2, \\ [54j + 40, 8j + 6, 58j + 43]_{7,1} &= 4j + 3. \end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 9–special.

$$\begin{aligned} [36j^2 + 35j + 8, 4j + 2, 36j^2 + 35j + 10]_{9,1} &= 4j, \\ [70j + 17, 8j + 2, 74j + 18]_{9,1} &= 4j + 1, \\ [8j + 3, 2j + 1, 10j + 4]_{9,1} &= 4j + 2, \\ [70j + 52, 8j + 6, 74j + 55]_{9,1} &= 4j + 3. \end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 10–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[40j^2 + 39j + 9, 4j + 2, 40j^2 + 39j + 11]_{10,1} &= 4j, \\
[78j + 19, 8j + 2, 82j + 20]_{10,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[3j + 1, 2j + 1, 7j + 3]_{10,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[78j + 58, 8j + 6, 74j + 61]_{10,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 11–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[44j^2 + 43j + 10, 4j + 2, 44j^2 + 43j + 12]_{11,1} &= 4j, \\
[86j + 21, 8j + 2, 90j + 22]_{11,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[10j + 4, 2j + 1, 12j + 5]_{11,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[86j + 64, 8j + 6, 90j + 67]_{11,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 13–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[52j^2 + 51j + 12, 4j + 2, 52j^2 + 51j + 14]_{13,1} &= 4j, \\
[102j + 25, 8j + 2, 106j + 26]_{13,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[12j + 5, 2j + 1, 14j + 6]_{13,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[102j + 76, 8j + 6, 106j + 79]_{13,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 14–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[56j^2 + 55j + 13, 4j + 2, 56j^2 + 55j + 15]_{14,1} &= 4j, \\
[110j + 27, 8j + 2, 114j + 28]_{14,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[5j + 2, 2j + 1, 9j + 4]_{14,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[110j + 82, 8j + 6, 114j + 85]_{14,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 15–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[60j^2 + 59j + 14, 4j + 2, 60j^2 + 59j + 16]_{15,1} &= 4j, \\
[118j + 29, 8j + 2, 122j + 30]_{15,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[14j + 6, 2j + 1, 16j + 7]_{15,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[118j + 88, 8j + 6, 122j + 91]_{15,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 17–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[68j^2 + 67j + 16, 4j + 2, 68j^2 + 67j + 18]_{17,1} &= 4j, \\
[134j + 33, 8j + 2, 138j + 34]_{17,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[16j + 7, 2j + 1, 18j + 8]_{17,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[134j + 100, 8j + 6, 138j + 103]_{17,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 18–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[72j^2 + 71j + 17, 4j + 2, 72j^2 + 71j + 19]_{18,1} &= 4j, \\
[142j + 35, 8j + 2, 146j + 36]_{18,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[7j + 3, 2j + 1, 11j + 5]_{18,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[142j + 106, 8j + 6, 146j + 109]_{18,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

- 1 is 19–special.

$$\begin{aligned}
[76j^2 + 75j + 18, 4j + 2, 76j^2 + 75j + 20]_{19,1} &= 4j, \\
[150j + 37, 8j + 2, 154j + 38]_{19,1} &= 4j + 1, \\
[18j + 8, 2j + 1, 20j + 9]_{19,1} &= 4j + 2, \\
[150j + 112, 8j + 6, 154j + 115]_{19,1} &= 4j + 3.
\end{aligned}$$

We next provide some properties of k –special.

Theorem 3.5. *Let k be a positive integer. Then k is k –special if and only if $k = 1$.*

Proof. It is known that 1 is 1-special by Lemma 3.1. Now if $k = 2$, then for any integer n there exist non-zero integers x , y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - 2z^2$. Since $x^2 \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{8}$, by a direct calculation $2y^2 \equiv 0, 2 \pmod{8}$ and $-2z^2 \equiv 0, -2 \pmod{8}$, we have $x^2 + 2y^2 - 2z^2 \not\equiv 5 \pmod{8}$. Thus 2 is not 2–special. For $k > 2$, if k is k –special then for any integer n there exist non-zero integers x , y , and z such that $n = x^2 + ky^2 - kz^2$. Since $k > 2$, there exists a non-quadratic residue modulo k , namely k' . Thus $k' \equiv x^2 \pmod{k}$. This is a contradiction. \square

Next, we apply P. C. H. Lam’s method [3] to identify k –special numbers when k is odd.

Theorem 3.6. *Let l and k be odd positive integers. If $l = x^2 + ky^2$ for some positive integers x and y and $\gcd(x, ky) = 1$, then l is k -special.*

Proof. Suppose $l = x^2 + ky^2$ for some positive integers x and y where $\gcd(x, ky) = 1$. Since $\gcd(x, ky) = 1$, there exist integers α_0 and β_0 such that $x\alpha_0 + ky\beta_0 = 1$.

For any positive integer n , We define $\alpha_n = \alpha_0 + nky$ and $\beta_n = \beta_0 - nx$. Consider

$$\begin{aligned} x\alpha_n + ky\beta_n &= x(\alpha_0 + nky) + ky(\beta_0 - nx) \\ &= x\alpha_0 + xnky + ky\beta_0 - knyx \\ &= x\alpha_0 + ky\beta_0. \end{aligned}$$

So (α_n, β_n) is a solution of $x\alpha_0 + ky\beta_0 = 1$.

Let $a_n = xj + \alpha_n$, $b_n = yj + \beta_n$ and $c = j$, where j is an integer which will be selected later. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} a_n^2 + kb_n^2 - lc_n^2 &= a_n^2 + kb_n^2 - (x^2 + ky^2)c_n^2 \\ &= (xj + \alpha_n)^2 + k(yj + \beta_n)^2 - (x^2 + ky^2)j^2 \\ &= x^2j^2 + 2xj\alpha_n + \alpha_n^2 + ky^2j^2 + 2kyj\beta_n + k\beta_n^2 - x^2j^2 - ky^2j^2 \\ &= 2xj\alpha_n + \alpha_n^2 + 2kyj\beta_n + k\beta_n^2 \\ &= 2j(x\alpha_n + ky\beta_n) + \alpha_n^2 + k\beta_n^2. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_n^2 + k\beta_n^2 &= (\alpha_0 + nky)^2 + k(\beta_0 - nx)^2 \\ &= \alpha_0^2 + 2nk\alpha_0y + n^2k^2y^2 + k\beta_0^2 - 2kn\beta_0x + kn^2x^2 \\ &\equiv \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 + n^2k^2y^2 + kn^2x^2 \pmod{2} \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 \pmod{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 + y^2 + x^2 \pmod{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Since l and k are odd, we can see that x and y have different parities. Thus

$$\alpha_n^2 + k\beta_n^2 \equiv \begin{cases} \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 \pmod{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 + 1 \pmod{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

For any non-negative integer r , We obtain the following identities

$$a_{2r}^2 + kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2 = 2j_{2r} + \alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 \equiv 2j_{2r} + \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 \pmod{2}$$

$$a_{2r+1}^2 + kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2 = 2j_{2r+1} + \alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 \equiv 2j_{2r+1} + \alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 + 1 \pmod{2}.$$

We can see that all integers can be represented in the form $a^2 + kb^2 - lc^2$ by using both identities.

Case 1. $\alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$. We first consider an even integer.

Let m be an even integer. We choose a suitable value of j_{2r} such that

$$m = 2j_{2r} + \alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 = a_{2r}^2 + kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$$

where $a_{2r} = xj_{2r} + \alpha_{2r}$, $b_{2r} = yj_{2r} + \beta_{2r}$ and $c_{2r} = j_{2r}$. We can see that $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $\alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2$, $\alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r}}{x}$ or $\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{2\beta_{2r}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $\alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r}}{x} > m$, $\alpha_{2r} > 0$, and $\beta_{2r} < 0$. Thus we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r}^2 + kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$ where $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} \neq 0$.

Next, we consider a representation for an odd integer m . Let m be an odd integer. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r+1} such that

$$m = 2j_{2r+1} + \alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 = a_{2r+1}^2 + kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$$

where $a_{2r+1} = xj_{2r+1} + \alpha_{2r+1}$, $b_{2r+1} = yj_{2r+1} + \beta_{2r+1}$ and $c_{2r+1} = j_{2r+1}$. We can see that $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2$, $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r+1}}{x}$ or $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{2\beta_{2r+1}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r+1} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r+1}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r+1}}{x} > m$, $\alpha_{2r+1} > 0$, and $\beta_{2r+1} < 0$. Therefore we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r+1}^2 + kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$ where $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} \neq 0$.

Case 2. $\alpha_0^2 + k\beta_0^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$. We first find a representation for an even integer m . Let m be an even integer. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r+1} such that

$$m = 2j_{2r+1} + \alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 = a_{2r+1}^2 + kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$$

where $a_{2r+1} = xj_{2r+1} + \alpha_{2r+1}$, $b_{2r+1} = yj_{2r+1} + \beta_{2r+1}$ and $c_{2r+1} = j_{2r+1}$. We can see that $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2$, $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r+1}}{x}$ or $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{2\beta_{2r+1}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r+1} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r+1}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r+1}}{x} > m$, $\alpha_{2r+1} > 0$, and $\beta_{2r+1} < 0$. Therefore we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r+1}^2 + kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$ where $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} \neq 0$.

Next, let m be an odd integer. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r} such that

$$m = 2j_{2r} + \alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 = a_{2r}^2 + kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$$

where $a_{2r} = xj_{2r} + \alpha_{2r}$, $b_{2r} = yj_{2r} + \beta_{2r}$ and $c_{2r} = j_{2r}$. We can see that $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $\alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2$, $\alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r}}{x}$ or $\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{2\beta_{2r}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $\alpha_{2r} > 0$, $\alpha_{2r}^2 + k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{2\alpha_{2r}}{x} > m$ and $\beta_{2r} < 0$. Therefore we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r}^2 + kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$ where $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} \neq 0$. Thus l is k -special. \square

We next provide examples how to obtain representation for any integer n of the form $x^2 + ky^2 - lz^2$ for $(k, l) = (3, 7), (3, 13), (3, 19)$, and $(3, 49)$.

Example 3. Let $l = 7$. Then $l = 2^2 + 3(1^2)$. So that $x = 2$ and $y = 1$. Since $\gcd(x, 3y) = \gcd(2, 3) = 1$, there exist integers $\alpha_0 = -1$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $2(-1) + 3(1)(1) = 1$. Using the notation in Theorem 3.6, we obtain $\alpha_1 = 2$ and $\beta_1 = -1$.

Thus the identities are given by

$$\begin{aligned} (2k-1)^2 + 3(k+1)^2 - 7k^2 &= 2k+4, \\ (2k+2)^2 + 3(k-1)^2 - 7k^2 &= 2k+7. \end{aligned}$$

So all integers except 2, 4, 5, 7, and 9 can be written in the form $x^2 + 3y^2 - 7z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. Thus we have to find new representations for 2, 4, 5, 7, and 9.

We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 6y, \beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x, \alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 9y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 5, \beta_2 = -3, \alpha_3 = 8$ and $\beta_3 = -5$.

Then we obtain new identities given by

$$\begin{aligned}(2k + 5)^2 + 3(k - 3)^2 - 7k^2 &= 2k + 52, \\ (2k + 8)^2 + 3(k - 5)^2 - 7k^2 &= 2k + 139.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}2 &= 45^2 + 3(28^2) - 7(25^2), \\ 4 &= 43^2 + 3(27^2) - 7(24^2), \\ 5 &= 126^2 + 3(72^2) - 7(67^2), \\ 7 &= 124^2 + 3(71^2) - 7(66^2), \\ 9 &= 122^2 + 3(70^2) - 7(65^2).\end{aligned}$$

Hence 7 is 3-special as desired.

Example 4. Let $l = 13$. Then $l = 1^2 + 3(2^2)$. So that $x = 1$ and $y = 2$. Since $\gcd(x, 3y) = \gcd(1, 6) = 1$, there exist integers $\alpha_0 = -5$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-5) + 3(2)(1) = 1$. Using the notation in Theorem 3.6, we obtain $\alpha_1 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 0$.

Thus the identities are given by

$$\begin{aligned}(k - 5)^2 + 3(2k + 1)^2 - 13k^2 &= 2k + 28, \\ (k + 1)^2 + 3(k)^2 - 13k^2 &= 2k + 1.\end{aligned}$$

So all integers except $-1, 1, 28$, and 38 can be written in the form $x^2 + 3y^2 - 13z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. Thus we have to find new representation of $-1, 1, 28$, and 38 .

We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 6y, \beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x, \alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 9y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 7, \beta_2 = -1, \alpha_3 = 13$ and $\beta_3 = -2$.

Then we obtain new identities given by

$$\begin{aligned}(k + 7)^2 + 3(2k - 1)^2 - 13k^2 &= 2k + 52, \\ (k + 13)^2 + 3(2k - 2)^2 - 13k^2 &= 2k + 181.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 28 &= 5^2 + 3(25^2) - 13(12^2), \\ -1 &= 78^2 + 3(184^2) - 13(91^2), \\ 1 &= 77^2 + 3(182^2) - 13(90^2). \end{aligned}$$

We again find the representation of 38. We define $\alpha_4 = \alpha_0 + 12y$ and $\beta_4 = \beta_0 - 4x$, i.e., $\alpha_4 = 19$ and $\beta_4 = -3$. Thus the new identity is given by

$$(k + 19)^2 + 3(2k - 3)^2 - 13k^2 = 2k + 388$$

and $38 = 156^2 + 3(353)^2 - 13(175^2)$.

Hence 13 is 3–special as desired.

Example 5. Let $l = 19$. Then $l = 4^2 + 3(1^2)$. So that $x = 4$ and $y = 1$. Since $\gcd(x, 3y) = \gcd(4, 3) = 1$, there exist integers $\alpha_0 = 1$ and $\beta_0 = -1$ such that $4(1) + 3(1)(-1) = 1$. Using the notation in Theorem 3.6, we obtain $\alpha_1 = 4$ and $\beta_1 = -5$.

Thus the identities are given by

$$\begin{aligned} (4k + 1)^2 + 3(k - 1)^2 - 19k^2 &= 2k + 4, \\ (4k + 4)^2 + 3(k - 5)^2 - 19k^2 &= 2k + 91. \end{aligned}$$

So all integers except 6, 4, 89, 101, and 91 can be written in the form $x^2 + 3y^2 - 19z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. Thus we have to find new representation of 6, 4, 89, 101, and 91.

We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 6y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 9y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 7$, $\beta_2 = -9$, $\alpha_3 = 10$ and $\beta_3 = -13$.

Then we obtain new identities given by

$$\begin{aligned} (4k + 7)^2 + 3(k - 9)^2 - 19k^2 &= 2k + 292, \\ (4k + 10)^2 + 3(k - 13)^2 - 19k^2 &= 2k + 607. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 6 &= 565^2 + 3(152^2) - 19(143^2), \\ 4 &= 569^2 + 3(153^2) - 19(144^2), \\ 89 &= 1026^2 + 3(272^2) - 19(259^2), \\ 101 &= 1002^2 + 3(266^2) - 19(253^2), \\ 91 &= 1022^2 + 3(271^2) - 19(258^2). \end{aligned}$$

Hence 19 is 3–special as desired.

Example 6. Let $l = 49$. Then $l = 1^2 + 3(4^2)$. So that $x = 1$ and $y = 4$. Since $\gcd(x, 3y) = \gcd(1, 12) = 1$, there exist integers $\alpha_0 = -11$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-11) + 3(4)(1) = 1$. Using the notation in Theorem 3.6, we obtain $\alpha_1 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 0$.

Thus the identities are given by

$$\begin{aligned}(k - 11)^2 + 3(4k + 1)^2 - 49k^2 &= 2k + 124, \\ (k + 1)^2 + 3(4k)^2 - 49k^2 &= 2k + 1.\end{aligned}$$

So all integers except 146, 124, -1 , and 1 can be written in the form $x^2 + 3y^2 - 49z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. Thus we have to find new representation of 146, 124, -1 , and 1.

We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 6y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 9y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 13$, $\beta_2 = -1$, $\alpha_3 = 25$ and $\beta_3 = -2$.

Then we obtain new identities are given by

$$\begin{aligned}(k + 13)^2 + 3(4k - 1)^2 - 49k^2 &= 2k + 172, \\ (k + 25)^2 + 3(4k - 2)^2 - 49k^2 &= 2k + 637.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}124 &= 11^2 + 3(97^2) - 49(24^2), \\ -1 &= 294^2 + 3(1278)^2 - 49(319^2), \\ 1 &= 293^2 + 3(1274^2) - 49(318^2).\end{aligned}$$

We again find the representation of 146. We define $\alpha_4 = \alpha_0 + 12y$ and $\beta_4 = \beta_0 - 4x$, i.e., $\alpha_4 = 37$ and $\beta_4 = -3$. Thus the new identity is given by

$$(k + 37)^2 + 3(4k - 3)^2 - 49k^2 = 2k + 1396$$

and $146 = 588^2 + 3(2503)^2 - 49(625^2)$.

Hence 49 is 3–special as desired.

We present an odd integer l which is k –special for some odd integer k where $l < 50$ by providing the following identities:

- 5 is 1–special.

$$\begin{aligned}[2k + 1, k - 1, k]_{1,5} &= 2k + 2, \\ [2k + 2, k - 3, k]_{1,5} &= 2k + 13,\end{aligned}$$

$[27, 20, 15]_{1,5} = 4$, $[29, 21, 16]_{1,5} = 2$, $[50, 34, 27]_{1,5} = 11$, $[42, 30, 23]_{1,5} = 19$, and $[48, 33, 26]_{1,5} = 13$.

- 7 is 3–special.

$$[2k - 1, k + 1, k]_{3,7} = 2k + 4,$$

$$[2k + 2, k - 1, k]_{3,7} = 2k + 7,$$

$[45, 28, 25]_{3,7} = 2$, $[43, 27, 24]_{3,7} = 4$, $[126, 72, 67]_{3,7} = 5$, $[124, 71, 66]_{3,7} = 7$, and $[122, 70, 65]_{3,7} = 9$.

- 9 is 5–special.

$$[2k - 2, k + 1, k]_{5,9} = 2k + 9,$$

$$[2k + 3, k - 1, k]_{5,9} = 2k + 14,$$

$[92, 53, 50]_{5,9} = 9$, $[94, 54, 51]_{5,9} = 7$, $[90, 52, 49]_{5,9} = 11$, $[265, 144, 139]_{5,9} = 16$, and $[267, 145, 140]_{5,9} = 14$.

- 11 is 7–special.

$$[2k - 3, k + 1, k]_{7,11} = 2k + 16,$$

$$[2k + 4, k - 1, k]_{7,11} = 2k + 23,$$

$[159, 88, 85]_{7,11} = 14$, $[157, 87, 84]_{7,11} = 16$, $[462, 245, 240]_{7,11} = 19$, $[456, 242, 237]_{7,11} = 25$, and $[458, 243, 238]_{7,11} = 23$.

- 13 is 3–special.

$$[k - 5, 2k + 1, k]_{3,13} = 2k + 28,$$

$$[k + 1, k, k]_{3,13} = 2k + 1,$$

$[5, 25, 12]_{3,13} = 28$, $[78, 184, 91]_{3,13} = -1$, $[77, 182, 90]_{3,13} = 1$, and $[156, 353, 175]_{3,13} = 38$.

- 15 is 11–special.

$$[2k - 5, k + 1, k]_{11,15} = 2k + 316,$$

$$[2k + 6, k - 1, k]_{11,15} = 2k + 47,$$

$[337, 180, 177]_{11,15} = 34$, $[335, 179, 176]_{11,15} = 36$, $[990, 514, 509]_{11,15} = 41$, $[982, 510, 505]_{11,15} = 49$, and $[984, 511, 506]_{11,15} = 47$.

- 17 is 13–special.

$$[2k - 6, k + 1, k]_{13,17} = 2k + 49,$$

$$[2k + 7, k - 1, k]_{13,17} = 2k + 52,$$

$$[442, 234, 231]_{13,17} = 55, [450, 238, 235]_{13,17} = 47, [448, 237, 234]_{13,17} = 49,$$

$$[1327, 685, 680]_{13,17} = 54, \text{ and } [1329, 686, 681]_{13,17} = 52.$$

- 19 is 15–special.

$$[2k - 7, k + 1, k]_{15,19} = 2k + 64,$$

$$[2k + 8, k - 1, k]_{15,19} = 2k + 79,$$

$$[579, 304, 301]_{15,19} = 62, [577, 303, 300]_{15,19} = 64, [1710, 879, 874]_{15,19} = 71,$$

$$[700, 874, 869]_{15,19} = 81, \text{ and } [1702, 875, 870]_{15,19} = 79.$$

- 21 is 5–special.

$$[k - 9, 2k + 1, k]_{5,21} = 2k + 86,$$

$$[k + 1, 2k, k]_{5,21} = 2k + 1,$$

$$[420, 905, 451]_{5,21} = 104, [1, 21, 10]_{5,21} = 106, [9, 41, 20]_{5,21} = 86,$$

$$[210, 464, 231]_{5,21} = -1, \text{ and } [209, 462, 230]_{5,21} = 1.$$

- 23 is 7–special.

$$[4k + 2, k - 1, k]_{7,23} = 2k + 11,$$

$$[4k + 9, k - 5, k]_{7,23} = 2k + 256,$$

$$[1604, 414, 405]_{7,23} = 13, [1608, 415, 406]_{7,23} = 11, [2869, 736, 723]_{7,23} = 266, \text{ and}$$

$$[2889, 741, 728]_{7,23} = 256.$$

- 25 is 1–special.

$$[4k + 1, 3k - 1, k]_{1,25} = 2k + 2,$$

$$[4k + 4, 3k - 5, k]_{1,25} = 2k + 41,$$

$$[249, 201, 64]_{1,25} = 2, [450, 358, 115]_{1,25} = 39, \text{ and } [446, 355, 114]_{1,25} = 41.$$

- 27 is 23–special.

$$[2k - 11, k + 1, k]_{23,27} = 2k + 144,$$

$$[2k + 12, k - 1, k]_{23,27} = 2k + 167,$$

$[1255, 648, 645]_{23,27} = 1420$, $[1253, 647, 644]_{23,27} = 144$, $[3726, 1897, 1892]_{23,27} = 155$, $[3712, 1890, 1885]_{23,27} = 169$, and $[3714, 1891, 1886]_{23,27} = 167$.

- 29 is 5–special.

$$[3k - 3, 2k + 1, k]_{5,29} = 2k + 14,$$

$$[3k + 7, 2k - 2, k]_{5,29} = 2k + 69,$$

$[580, 403, 199]_{5,29} = 16$, $[583, 405, 200]_{5,29} = 14$, $[1440, 986, 489]_{5,29} = 71$, and $[1443, 988, 490]_{5,29} = 69$.

- 31 is 3–special.

$$[2k - 4, 3k + 1, k]_{3,31} = 2k + 19,$$

$$[2k + 5, 3k - 1, k]_{3,31} = 2k + 28,$$

$[186, 303, 100]_{3,31} = 23$, $[190, 309, 102]_{3,31} = 19$, and $[553, 869, 288]_{3,31} = 28$.

- 33 is 29–special.

$$[2k - 14, k + 1, k]_{29,33} = 2k + 225,$$

$$[2k + 15, k - 1, k]_{29,33} = 2k + 254,$$

$[1914, 982, 979]_{29,33} = 239$, $[1930, 990, 987]_{29,33} = 223$, $[1928, 989, 986]_{29,33} = 225$, $[5725, 2904, 2899]_{29,33} = 256$, and $[5727, 2905, 2900]_{29,33} = 254$.

- 35 is 31–special.

$$[2k - 15, k + 1, k]_{31,35} = 2k + 256,$$

$$[2k + 16, k - 1, k]_{31,35} = 2k + 287,$$

$[2187, 1120, 1117]_{31,35} = 254$, $[2185, 1119, 1116]_{31,35} = 256$, $[6510, 3299, 3294]_{31,35} = 271$, $[6492, 3290, 3285]_{31,35} = 289$, and $[6494, 3291, 3286]_{31,35} = 287$.

- 37 is 3–special.

$$[5k - 1, 2k + 1, k]_{3,37} = 2k + 4,$$

$$[5k + 5, 2k - 4, k]_{3,37} = 2k + 73,$$

$[889, 369, 180]_{3,37} = 4$, $[1998, 820, 403]_{3,37} = 71$, $[1983, 814, 400]_{3,37} = 77$, and $[1993, 818, 402]_{3,37} = 73$.

- 39 is 35–special.

$$[2k - 17, k + 1, k]_{35,39} = 2k + 324,$$

$$[2k + 18, k - 1, k]_{35,39} = 2k + 359,$$

$$[2749, 1404, 1401]_{35,39} = 322, [2747, 1403, 1400]_{35,39} = 324, [8190, 4144, 4139]_{35,39} = 341, [8170, 4134, 4129]_{35,39} = 361, \text{ and } [8172, 4135, 4130]_{35,39} = 359.$$

- 41 is 5–special.

$$[6k + 1, k - 1, k]_{5,41} = 2k + 6,$$

$$[6k + 6, k - 7, k]_{5,41} = 2k + 281,$$

$$[2863, 492, 479]_{5,41} = 8, [2869, 493, 480]_{5,41} = 6, [5330, 910, 891]_{5,41} = 279,$$

$$[5282, 902, 883]_{5,41} = 295, \text{ and } [5324, 909, 890]_{5,41} = 281.$$

- 43 is 3–special.

$$[4k - 2, 3k + 1, k]_{3,43} = 2k + 7,$$

$$[4k + 7, 3k - 3, k]_{3,43} = 2k + 76,$$

$$[776, 601, 198]_{3,43} = 7, [1795, 1376, 455]_{3,43} = 78, \text{ and } [1799, 1379, 456]_{3,43} = 76.$$

- 45 is 41–special.

$$[2k - 20, k + 1, k]_{41,45} = 2k + 441,$$

$$[2k + 21, k - 1, k]_{41,45} = 2k + 482,$$

$$[3690, 1879, 1876]_{41,45} = 461, [3712, 1890, 1887]_{41,45} = 439, [3710, 1889, 1886]_{41,45} = 441, [11047, 5580, 5575]_{41,45} = 484, \text{ and } [11049, 5581, 5576]_{41,45} = 482.$$

- 47 is 43–special.

$$[2k - 21, k + 1, k]_{43,47} = 2k + 484,$$

$$[2k + 22, k - 1, k]_{43,47} = 2k + 527,$$

$$[4065, 2068, 2065]_{43,47} = 482, [4063, 2067, 2064]_{43,47} = 484, [12126, 6122, 6117]_{43,47} = 505, [12102, 6110, 6105]_{43,47} = 529, \text{ and } [12104, 6111, 6106]_{43,47} = 527.$$

- 49 is 3–special.

$$[k - 11, 4k + 1, k]_{3,49} = 2k + 172,$$

$$[k + 1, 4k, k]_{3,49} = 2k + 1,$$

$[11, 97, 24]_{3,49} = 124$, $[294, 1278, 319]_{3,49} = -1$, $[293, 1274, 318]_{3,49} = 1$,
and $[588, 2503, 625]_{3,49} = 146$.

We now present some results obtained from Theorem 3.6.

Corollary 3.7. *Let k be an odd positive integer. There are infinitely many k -special numbers.*

Proof. For any odd integer k , we can always choose infinitely many integers x and y such that $\gcd(2x, ky) = 1$. By Theorem 3.6, we have that $l = (2x)^2 + ky^2$ is k -special. \square

Theorem 3.8. *Let k and l be positive integers. If k is odd, then $4l$ is not k -special.*

Proof. Assume that $4l$ is k -special. For any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + ky^2 - 4lz^2 &= n \\x^2 + ky^2 &\equiv n \pmod{4}.\end{aligned}$$

We now consider the following two cases on the values of k .

Case 1. $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then

$$x^2 + y^2 \equiv n \pmod{4}.$$

We can see that $x^2 + y^2 \not\equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. This is a contradiction.

Case 2. $k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Then

$$x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv n \pmod{4}.$$

We can see that $x^2 + 3y^2 \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. This is a contradiction.

Therefore $4l$ is not k -special. \square

CHAPTER 4

2k–Special Numbers

In this chapter, we provide conditions for an integer l to be $2k$ –special where k is odd. Furthermore, we show that there are infinitely many $2k$ –special. Moreover, we provide some properties of k –special when $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ and $k \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$.

Theorem 4.1. *Let l be a positive integer. If l is 2–special, then $l = x^2 + 2y^2$ for some integers x and y .*

Proof. Let l be 2–special. Then there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $x^2 + 2y^2 - lz^2 = 2lc^2$ where $c \in \mathbb{Z}$. So $x^2 + 2y^2 = l(2c^2 + z^2)$. By Lemma 2.17,

$$l(2c^2 + z^2) = \prod_{p_i \equiv 5,7 \pmod{8}} p_i^{a_i} \prod_{q_i \not\equiv 5,7 \pmod{8}} q_i^{b_i}$$

where p_i, q_i are primes, b_i is a non-negative integer and a_i is even for all i .

By Lemma 2.17,

$$2c^2 + z^2 = \prod_{p_i \equiv 5,7 \pmod{8}} p_i^{a'_i} \prod_{q_i \not\equiv 5,7 \pmod{8}} q_i^{b'_i}$$

where b'_i is a non-negative integer and a'_i is even for all i ,

$$l = \prod_{p_i \equiv 5,7 \pmod{8}} p_i^{a_i - a'_i} \prod_{q_i \not\equiv 5,7 \pmod{8}} q_i^{b_i - b'_i}.$$

So we have $a_i - a'_i$ is even for all i .

Hence again by Lemma 2.17, l is of the form $x^2 + 2y^2$. □

Example 7. From Theorem 3.4, 1 is 2–special because $1 = 1^2 + 2(0^2)$.

The converse of the above theorem is not true. As we will see in the next theorem that 8 is not 2–special.

Theorem 4.2. *Let k be an odd integer. If l is divisible by 8, then l is not $2k$ –special.*

Proof. Let l be divisible by 8. Suppose on the contrary that l is $2k$ -special.

Then

$$x^2 + 2ky^2 - lz^2 = 5$$

for some non-zero integers x, y , and z . So $x^2 + 2ky^2 = lz^2 + 5$.

This implies that $x^2 + 2ky^2 \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$. Since $x^2 \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{8}$ and $2ky^2 \equiv 0, 2k \pmod{8}$, it is easy to see that $x^2 + 2ky^2 \equiv 0, 1, 2k, 2k + 1, 2k + 4 \pmod{8}$. Since k is odd, we can see that $x^2 + 2ky^2 \not\equiv 5 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction. \square

Next, we apply P. C. H. Lam's method [3] to identify $2k$ -special numbers when k is odd.

Theorem 4.3. *Let k and l be odd positive integers. If l can be written as $x^2 + 2ky^2$ for some positive integers x and y where $\gcd(x, 2ky) = 1$, then l is $2k$ -special.*

Proof. Let l be an odd positive integer and $l = x^2 + 2ky^2$ where $\gcd(x, 2ky) = 1$.

Case 1. We first find the representation of odd numbers of the form $x^2 + 2ky^2 - lz^2$ where x, y , and z are non-zero integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 2ky) = 1$, there exist integers α_0 and β_0 such that

$$x\alpha_0 + 2ky\beta_0 = 1.$$

For any positive integer n , let $\alpha_n = \alpha_0 + 2kny$ and $\beta_n = \beta_0 - nx$.

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} x\alpha_n + 2ky\beta_n &= x(\alpha_0 + 2kny) + 2ky(\beta_0 - nx) \\ &= x\alpha_0 + 2kxny + 2ky\beta_0 - 2kynx \\ &= x\alpha_0 + 2ky\beta_0. \end{aligned}$$

So (α_n, β_n) is another solution of $x\alpha_0 + 2ky\beta_0 = 1$.

Let $a_n = xj + \alpha_n$, $b_n = yj + \beta_n$ and $c_n = j$, where j is an integer which will be selected later. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} a_n^2 + 2kb_n^2 - lc_n^2 &= (xj + \alpha_n)^2 + 2k(yj + \beta_n)^2 - (x^2 + 2ky^2)j^2 \\ &= x^2j^2 + 2xj\alpha_n + \alpha_n^2 + 2ky^2j^2 + 4kyj\beta_n + 2k\beta_n^2 - x^2j^2 - 2ky^2j^2 \\ &= 2xj\alpha_n + 4kyj\beta_n + \alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2 \\ &= 2j(x\alpha_n + 2ky\beta_n) + \alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since x is odd and $x\alpha_n + 2ky\beta_n = 1$, we can see that α_n is odd.

Then we obtain the identity of odd given by

$$(xj_i + \alpha_i)^2 + 2k(yj_i + \beta_i)^2 - (x^2 + 2ky^2)j_i^2 = 2j_i + \alpha_i^2 + 2k\beta_i^2,$$

for any non-negative integer i . We can use these identities to represent odd integers. Let m be an odd integer. For any non-negative integer n , we choose a suitable value of an integer j_n such that

$$m = 2j_n + \alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2 = a_n^2 + 2kb_n^2 - lc_n^2$$

where $a_n = xj_n + \alpha_n$, $b_n = yj_n + \beta_n$ and $c_n = j_n$. We can see that $a_nb_nc_n = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values; $\alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2$, $\alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2 - \frac{2\alpha_n}{x}$ or $\alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2 - \frac{2\beta_n}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_n) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer n such that $\alpha_n > 0$, $\alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2 - \frac{2\alpha_n}{x} > m$ and $\beta_n < 0$. Therefore we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_n^2 + 2kb_n^2 - lc_n^2$ where $a_nb_nc_n \neq 0$.

Case 2. We next find the representation of even numbers of the form $x^2 + 2ky^2 - lz^2$ where x, y , and z are non-zero integer.

Since $\gcd(x, 2ky) = 1$, $\gcd(x, ky) = 1$. Then there exist integers α_0 and β_0 such that

$$x\alpha_0 + ky\beta_0 = 1.$$

For any positive integer n , let $\alpha_n = \alpha_0 + kny$ and $\beta_n = \beta_0 - nx$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} x\alpha_n + kny\beta_n &= x(\alpha_0 + kny) + ky(\beta_0 - nx) \\ &= x\alpha_0 + kxny + ky\beta_0 - kynx \\ &= x\alpha_0 + ky\beta_0. \end{aligned}$$

So (α_n, β_n) is another solution of $x\alpha_0 + ky\beta_0 = 1$.

Let $a_n = xj + 2\alpha_n$, $b_n = yj + \beta_n$ and $c = j$ where j is an integer which will be selected later. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_n^2 + 2kb_n^2 - lc_n^2 \\
&= (xj + 2\alpha_n)^2 + 2k(yj + \beta_n)^2 - (x^2 + 2ky^2)j^2 \\
&= x^2j^2 + 4xj\alpha_n + 4\alpha_n^2 + 2ky^2j^2 + 4yjk\beta_n + 2k\beta_n^2 - x^2j^2 - 2y^2ky^2j^2 \\
&= 4j(x\alpha_n + ky\beta_n) + 4\alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Since x is odd, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
4\alpha_n^2 + 2k\beta_n^2 &= 4(\alpha_0 + kny)^2 + 2k(\beta_0 - nx)^2 \\
&= 4\alpha_0^2 + 8kny\alpha_0 + 4k^2n^2y^2 + 2k\beta_0^2 - 4knx\beta_0 + 2kn^2x^2 \\
&\equiv 2k\beta_0^2 + 2kn^2x^2 \pmod{4} \\
&\equiv 2k\beta_0^2 + 2kn^2 \pmod{4} \\
&\equiv \begin{cases} 2k\beta_0^2 \pmod{4} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ 2k(\beta_0^2 + 1) \pmod{4} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

For any non-negative integer r , we obtain two identities of even given by

$$\begin{aligned}
& (xj_{2r} + 2\alpha_{2r})^2 + 2k(yj_{2r} + \beta_{2r})^2 - (x^2 + 2ky^2)j_{2r}^2 = 4j_{2r} + 4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2, \\
& (xj_{2r+1} + 2\alpha_{2r+1})^2 + 2k(yj_{2r+1} + \beta_{2r+1})^2 - (x^2 + 2ky^2)j_{2r+1}^2 = 4j_{2r+1} + 4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Let m be an even integer. we can write m as follows:

Subcase 2.1. $m \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ and $\beta_0^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r} such that

$$m = 4j_{2r} + 4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 = a_{2r}^2 + 2kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$$

where $a_{2r} = xj_{2r} + 2\alpha_{2r}$, $b_{2r} = yj_{2r} + \beta_{2r}$ and $c_{2r} = j_{2r}$. We can see that $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2$, $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r}}{x}$ or $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{4\beta_{2r}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $\alpha_{2r} > 0$, $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r}}{x} > m$ and $\beta_{2r} < 0$. Therefore we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r}^2 + 2kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$ where $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} \neq 0$.

Subcase 2.2. $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ and $\beta_0^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r+1} such that

$$m = 4j_{2r+1} + 4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 = a_{2r+1}^2 + 2kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$$

where $a_{2r+1} = xj_{2r+1} + 2\alpha_{2r+1}$, $b_{2r+1} = yj_{2r+1} + \beta_{2r+1}$ and $c_{2r+1} = j_{2r+1}$. We can see that $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2$, $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r+1}}{x}$ or $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{4\beta_{2r+1}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r+1} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r+1}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r+1}}{x} > m$, $\alpha_{2r+1} > 0$, and $\beta_{2r+1} < 0$. Therefore we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r+1}^2 + 2kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$ where $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} \neq 0$.

Subcase 2.3. $m \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ and $\beta_0^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r+1} such that

$$m = 4j_{2r+1} + 4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 = a_{2r+1}^2 + 2kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$$

where $a_{2r+1} = xj_{2r+1} + 2\alpha_{2r+1}$, $b_{2r+1} = yj_{2r+1} + \beta_{2r+1}$ and $c_{2r+1} = j_{2r+1}$. We can see that $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2$, $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r+1}}{x}$ or $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{4\beta_{2r+1}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r+1} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r+1}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $4\alpha_{2r+1}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r+1}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r+1}}{x} > m$, $\alpha_{2r+1} > 0$, and $\beta_{2r+1} < 0$. Thus we obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r+1}^2 + 2kb_{2r+1}^2 - lc_{2r+1}^2$ where $a_{2r+1}b_{2r+1}c_{2r+1} \neq 0$.

Subcase 2.4. $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ and $\beta_0^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. We choose a suitable value of an integer j_{2r} such that

$$m = 4j_{2r} + 4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 = a_{2r}^2 + 2kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$$

where $a_{2r} = xj_{2r} + 2\alpha_{2r}$, $b_{2r} = yj_{2r} + \beta_{2r}$ and $c_{2r} = j_{2r}$. We can see that $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} = 0$ if and only if m is one of the following values: $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2$, $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r}}{x}$ or $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{4\beta_{2r}}{y}$. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{2r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (-\beta_{2r}) = \infty,$$

there exists a non-negative integer r such that $\alpha_{2r} > 0$, $4\alpha_{2r}^2 + 2k\beta_{2r}^2 - \frac{8\alpha_{2r}}{x} > m$ and $\beta_{2r} < 0$. Hence we again obtain a representation for m , namely $m = a_{2r}^2 + 2kb_{2r}^2 - lc_{2r}^2$ where $a_{2r}b_{2r}c_{2r} \neq 0$. Therefore, l is $2k$ -special as desired. \square

We next provide examples of how to obtain representations for any integer n of the form $x^2 + 2ky^2 - lz^2$ where $(k, l) = (2, 3), (2, 9), (2, 11), (2, 17), (2, 19), (6, 7), (10, 11),$ and $(10, 19)$.

Example 8. We will show that 3 is 2-special. So we have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers $x, y,$ and z such that $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - 3z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Write $3 = 1^2 + 2(1^2)$. Then $x = y = 1$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 2y) = \gcd(1, 2) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -1$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-1) + 2(1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(j - 1)^2 + 2(j + 1)^2 - 3j^2 = 2j + 3.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 1, 3,$ and 5 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 3z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 2y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -1 + 2 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 1 = 0$.

Then a representation for odd integers is

$$(j + 1)^2 + 2(j)^2 - 3j^2 = 2j + 1.$$

We can use this identity to represent 3 and 5. So we can write 3 and 5 as follows:

$$3 = 2^2 + 2(1^2) - 3(1^2),$$

$$5 = 3^2 + 2(2^2) - 3(2^2).$$

We next find a new representation for 1. We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 4y$ and $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = -1 + 4 = 3$ and $\beta_2 = 1 - 2 = -1$.

Then a new representation for odd integers is

$$(j + 3)^2 + 2(j - 1)^2 - 3j^2 = 2j + 11.$$

So the representation for 1 is $2^2 + 2(6^2) - 3(5^2) = 1$.

Case 2. We next find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(1, 1) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = 2$ and $\beta_0 = -1$ such that $1(2) + (1)(-1) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 3$ and $\beta_1 = -2$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(j+4)^2 + 2(j-1)^2 - 3j^2 = 4j + 18,$$

$$(j+6)^2 + 2(j-2)^2 - 3j^2 = 4j + 44.$$

The above identity gives a representation for even integers $n \neq 2, 22, 18, 20, 52$, and 44 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 3z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. We next define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 2y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 3y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 4$, $\beta_2 = -3$, $\alpha_3 = 5$ and $\beta_3 = -4$.

Then the new representations for even integers are given by

$$(j+8)^2 + 2(j-3)^2 - 3j^2 = 4j + 82,$$

$$(j+10)^2 + 2(j-4)^2 - 3j^2 = 4j + 132.$$

Thus

$$2 = 12^2 + 2(23^2) - 3(20^2),$$

$$22 = 7^2 + 2(18^2) - 3(15^2),$$

$$18 = 8^2 + 2(19^2) - 3(16^2),$$

$$20 = 18^2 + 2(32^2) - 3(28^2),$$

$$52 = 10^2 + 2(24^2) - 3(20^2),$$

$$44 = 12^2 + 2(26^2) - 3(22^2).$$

Therefore from both cases we can conclude that 3 is 2-special.

Example 9. We will show that 9 is 2-special. So we have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - 9z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Write $9 = 1^2 + 2(2^2)$. Then $x = 1$ and $y = 2$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 2y) = \gcd(1, 4) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -3$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-3) + 2(2)(1) = 1$. A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(j-3)^2 + 2(2j+1)^2 - 9j^2 = 2j + 11.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 11$ and 17 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 9z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$. We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 2y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -3 + 4 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 1 = 0$.

Then a representation for odd integers is

$$(j+1)^2 + 2(2j)^2 - 9j^2 = 2j + 1.$$

We can use this identity to represent 17 and 11. So we can write 17 and 11 as follows:

$$17 = 9^2 + 2(16^2) - 9(8^2),$$

$$11 = 5^2 + 2(10^2) - 9(5^2).$$

Case 2. We next find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(1, 2) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -1$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-1) + (2)(1) = 1$.

We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 0$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(j-2)^2 + 2(2j+1)^2 - 9j^2 = 4j + 6,$$

$$(j+2)^2 + 2(2j)^2 - 9j^2 = 4j + 4.$$

The above identities give a representation for even integers $n \neq 14, 6, -4$, and 4 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 9z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 2y, \beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x, \alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 3y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 3, \beta_2 = -1, \alpha_3 = 5$ and $\beta_3 = -2$.

Then the representations for even integers are

$$(j+6)^2 + 2(2j-1)^2 - 9j^2 = 4j + 38,$$

$$(j+10)^2 + 2(2j-2)^2 - 9j^2 = 4j + 108.$$

Thus

$$6 = 2^2 + 2(17^2) - 9(8^2),$$

$$-4 = 18^2 + 2(58^2) - 9(28^2),$$

$$4 = 16^2 + 2(54^2) - 9(26^2).$$

We next find a representation for 6.

We define $\alpha_4 = \alpha_0 + 4y$ and $\beta_4 = \beta_0 - 4x$, i.e., $\alpha_4 = 7$ and $\beta_4 = -3$.

Then a new representation for even integers is

$$(j+14)^2 + 2(2j-3)^2 - 9j^2 = 4j + 214.$$

So the representation for 14 is $14 = 36^2 + 2(103)^2 - 9(50^2)$.

Therefore 9 is 2–special.

Example 10. We will show that 11 is 2–special. We have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - 11z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Write $11 = 3^2 + 2(1^2)$. Then $x = 3$ and $y = 1$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 2y) = \gcd(3, 2) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = 1$ and $\beta_0 = -1$ such that $3(1) + 2(1)(-1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(3j + 1)^2 + 2(j - 1)^2 - 11j^2 = 2j + 3.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 3$ and 5 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 11z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 2y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = 1 + 2 = 3$ and $\beta_1 = -1 - 3 = -4$.

Then a representation for odd integers is

$$(3j + 3)^2 + 2(j - 4)^2 - 11j^2 = 2j + 41.$$

We can use this identity to represent 3 and 5. So we can write 3 and 5 as follows:

$$3 = 54^2 + 2(23^2) - 11(19^2),$$

$$5 = 51^2 + 2(22^2) - 11(18^2).$$

Case 2. We will find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(3, 1) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = 1$ and $\beta_0 = -2$ such that $3(1) + 1(-2) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 2$ and $\beta_1 = -5$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(3j + 2)^2 + 2(j - 2)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 12,$$

$$(3j + 4)^2 + 2(j - 5)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 66.$$

The above identities give a representation for even integers $n \neq 20, 12, 86$, and 66 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 11z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 2y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 3y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 3$, $\beta_2 = -8$, $\alpha_3 = 4$ and $\beta_3 = -11$.

Then the new representations for even integers are

$$(3j + 6)^2 + 2(j - 8)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 164,$$

$$(3j + 8)^2 + 2(j - 11)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 306.$$

Thus

$$20 = 10^2 + 2(4^2) - 11(3^2),$$

$$12 = 10^2 + 2(4^2) - 11(3^2),$$

$$86 = 15^2 + 2(6^2) - 11(5^2),$$

$$66 = 17^2 + 2(7^2) - 11(6^2).$$

Therefore 11 is 2-special.

Example 11. We will show that 17 is 2-special. We have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - 17z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Write $17 = 3^2 + 2(2^2)$. Then $x = 3$ and $y = 2$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 2y) = \gcd(3, 4) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -1$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $3(-1) + 2(2)(1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(3j - 1)^2 + 2(2j + 1)^2 - 17j^2 = 2j + 3.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 3$ of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 17z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 2y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -1 + 4 = 3$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 3 = -2$.

Then a new representation for integers is

$$(3j + 3)^2 + 2(2j - 2)^2 - 17j^2 = 2j + 17.$$

So we can write $3 = 18^2 + 2(1^2) - 17(7^2)$.

Case 2. We will find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(3, 2) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = 1$ and $\beta_0 = -1$ such that $3(1) + 2(-1) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 3$ and $\beta_1 = -4$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$\begin{aligned}(3j + 2)^2 + 2(2j - 1)^2 - 17j^2 &= 4j + 6, \\ (3j + 6)^2 + 2(2j - 4)^2 - 17j^2 &= 4j + 68.\end{aligned}$$

The above identities give a representation for even integers $n \neq 6, 60, 76$, and 68 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 17z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 2y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 3y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 5$, $\beta_2 = -7$, $\alpha_3 = 7$ and $\beta_3 = -10$.

Then the representation for even integers are

$$\begin{aligned}(3j + 10)^2 + 2(2j - 7)^2 - 17j^2 &= 4j + 198, \\ (3j + 14)^2 + 2(2j - 10)^2 - 17j^2 &= 4j + 396.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}6 &= 134^2 + 2(103^2) - 17(48^2), \\ 60 &= 238^2 + 2(178^2) - 17(84^2), \\ 76 &= 226^2 + 2(170^2) - 17(80^2), \\ 68 &= 232^2 + 2(174^2) - 17(82^2).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore 17 is 2-special.

Example 12. We will show that 19 is 2-special. We have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - 19z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Write $11 = 1^2 + 2(3^2)$. Then $x = 1$ and $y = 3$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 2y) = \gcd(1, 6) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -5$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-5) + 2(3)(1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(j - 5)^2 + 2(3j + 1)^2 - 19j^2 = 2j + 27.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 27$ and 37 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 19z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 2y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -5 + 6 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 1 = 0$.

Then a new representation for odd integers is

$$(j + 1)^2 + 2(3j)^2 - 19j^2 = 2j + 1.$$

We can use this identity to represent 27 and 37 . So we can write 27 and 37 as follows:

$$27 = 14^2 + 2(39^2) - 19(13^2),$$

$$37 = 19^2 + 2(54^2) - 19(18^2).$$

Case 2. we will find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(1, 3) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -2$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-2) + 3(1) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 0$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(j - 4)^2 + 2(3j - 1)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 18,$$

$$(j + 2)^2 + 2(3j)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 4.$$

The above identities give a representation for even integers $n \neq 34, 18, -4$, and 4 of the form $x^2 + 2y^2 - 19z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 2y, \beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x, \alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 3y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 4, \beta_2 = -1, \alpha_3 = 7$ and $\beta_3 = -2$.

Thus the representations for even integers are

$$(j + 8)^2 + 2(3j - 1)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 66,$$

$$(j + 14)^2 + 2(3j - 2)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 204.$$

Thus

$$18 = 4^2 + 2(37^2) - 19(12^2),$$

$$-4 = 38^2 + 2(158^2) - 19(52^2),$$

$$4 = 36^2 + 2(152^2) - 19(50^2).$$

Next, we have to find the representation for 34. Then we define $\alpha_4 = \alpha_0 + 4y$ and $\beta_4 = \beta_0 - 4x$, i.e., $\alpha_4 = 10$ and $\beta_4 = -3$.

So the new representation for even integers which congruent 2 modulo 4 is

$$(j + 20)^2 + 2(3j - 3)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 418.$$

Thus $34 = (76^2) + 2(291^2) - 19(96^2)$.

Therefore 19 is 2-special.

Example 13. We will show that 7 is 6-special. We have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 6y^2 - 7z^2$. We will use the notation in theorem 4.3. Write $7 = 1^2 + 6(1^2)$. Then $x = 1$ and $y = 1$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 6y) = \gcd(1, 6) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -5$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-5) + (6)(1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(j - 5)^2 + 6(j + 1)^2 - 7j^2 = 2j + 31.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 29, 31$, and 41 of the form $x^2 + 6y^2 - 7z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 6y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -5 + 6 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 1 = 0$.

Then a new representation for odd integers is

$$(j + 1)^2 + 6(j)^2 - 7j^2 = 2j + 1.$$

So we can write $29 = 15^2 + 6(14^2) - 7(14^2)$, $31 = 16^2 + 6(15^2) - 7(15^2)$, and $41 = 21^2 + 6(20^2) - 7(20^2)$.

Case 2. we will find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 3y) = \gcd(1, 3) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -2$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-2) + 3(1) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 0$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(j - 4)^2 + 6(j + 1)^2 - 7j^2 = 4j + 22,$$

$$(j + 2)^2 + 6(j)^2 - 7j^2 = 4j + 4.$$

The above identities give a representation for even integers $n \neq 38, 18, 22, -4$, and 4 of the form $x^2 + 6y^2 - 7z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 6y, \beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x, \alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 9y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 4, \beta_2 = -1, \alpha_3 = 7$ and $\beta_3 = -2$.

Then the representation for even integers are

$$(j + 8)^2 + 6(j - 1)^2 - 7j^2 = 4j + 70,$$

$$(j + 14)^2 + 6(j - 2)^2 - 7j^2 = 4j + 220.$$

Thus

$$18 = 5^2 + 6(14^2) - 7(13^2),$$

$$22 = 4^2 + 6(13^2) - 7(12^2),$$

$$-4 = 42^2 + 6(58^2) - 7(56^2),$$

$$4 = 40^2 + 6(56^2) - 7(54^2).$$

We next find a representation for 38.

We define $\alpha_4 = \alpha_0 + 12y$ and $\beta_4 = \beta_0 - 4x$, i.e., $\alpha_4 = 10$ and $\beta_4 = -3$. Then a new representation for even integers is

$$(j + 20)^2 + 6(j - 3)^2 - 7j^2 = 4j + 454.$$

Thus $38 = (84^2) + 6(107^2) - 7(104^2)$.

Therefore 7 is 6-special.

Example 14. We will show that 11 is 10-special. We have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 10y^2 - 11z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Thus $11 = 1^2 + 10(1^2)$. Then $x = 1$ and $y = 1$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 10y) = \gcd(1, 10) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -9$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-9) + (10)(1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers are given by

$$(j - 9)^2 + 10(j + 1)^2 - 11j^2 = 2j + 91.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 89, 91$, and 109 of the form $x^2 + 10y^2 - 11z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 10y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -9 + 10 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 1 = 0$.

Then a new representation for odd integers is

$$(j+1)^2 + 10(j)^2 - 11j^2 = 2j + 1.$$

So we can write $89 = 45^2 + 10(44^2) - 11(44^2)$, $91 = 46^2 + 10(45^2) - 11(45^2)$, and $109 = 55^2 + 10(54^2) - 11(54^2)$.

Case 2. we will find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 5y) = \gcd(1, 5) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -4$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $1(-4) + 5(1) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 1$ and $\beta_1 = 0$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(j-8)^2 + 10(j+1)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 74,$$

$$(j+2)^2 + 10(j)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 4.$$

The above identity gives a representation for even integers $n \neq 106, 70, 74, -4$, and 4 of the form $x^2 + 10y^2 - 11z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 10y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 15y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e., $\alpha_2 = 6$, $\beta_2 = -1$, $\alpha_3 = 11$ and $\beta_3 = -2$.

Then the representation for even integers are

$$(j+12)^2 + 10(j-1)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 154,$$

$$(j+22)^2 + 10(j-2)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 524.$$

Thus

$$70 = 9^2 + 10(22^2) - 11(21^2),$$

$$74 = 8^2 + 10(21^2) - 11(20^2),$$

$$-4 = 110^2 + 10(134^2) - 11(132^2),$$

$$4 = 108^2 + 10(132^2) - 11(130^2).$$

We next find the representation for 106 .

We define $\alpha_4 = \alpha_0 + 20y$ and $\beta_4 = \beta_0 - 4x$, i.e., $\alpha_4 = 16$ and $\beta_4 = -3$. So the representation of even integers which congruent 2 modulo 4 is

$$(j + 32)^2 + 10(j - 3)^2 - 11j^2 = 4j + 1114.$$

So we can write $106 = (220^2) + 10(255^2) - 11(252^2)$.

Therefore 11 is 10–special.

Example 15. We will show that 19 is 10–special. We have to show that for any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that $n = x^2 + 10y^2 - 19z^2$. We will use the notation in Theorem 4.3. Write $11 = 3^2 + 10(1^2)$. Then $x = 3$ and $y = 1$.

Case 1. We will find the representation for odd integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 10y) = \gcd(3, 10) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = -3$ and $\beta_0 = 1$ such that $3(-3) + (10)(1) = 1$.

A representation for odd integers is given by

$$(3j - 3)^2 + 10(j + 1)^2 - 19j^2 = 2j + 19.$$

The above identity gives a representation for odd integers $n \neq 21, 17$, and 19 of the form $x^2 + 10y^2 - 19z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We next define $\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + 10y$ and $\beta_1 = \beta_0 - x$, i.e., $\alpha_1 = -3 + 10 = 7$ and $\beta_1 = 1 - 3 = -2$.

Then a new representation for odd integers is

$$(3j + 7)^2 + 10(j - 2)^2 - 19j^2 = 2j + 89.$$

So we can write $21 = 95^2 + 10(36^2) - 19(34^2)$, $17 = 101^2 + 10(38^2) - 19(36^2)$, and $19 = 98^2 + 10(37^2) - 19(35^2)$.

Case 2. we will find the representation for even integers.

Since $\gcd(x, 5y) = \gcd(3, 5) = 1$, there exist $\alpha_0 = 2$ and $\beta_0 = -1$ such that $3(2) + 5(-1) = 1$. We also obtain $\alpha_1 = 7$ and $\beta_1 = -4$.

The representations for even integers are given by

$$(3j - 4)^2 + 10(j - 1)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 26,$$

$$(3j + 14)^2 + 10(j - 4)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 356.$$

The above identities give a representation for even integers $n \neq 30, 26, 372$, and 356 of the form $x^2 + 10y^2 - 19z^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

We define $\alpha_2 = \alpha_0 + 10y$, $\beta_2 = \beta_0 - 2x$, $\alpha_3 = \alpha_0 + 15y$ and $\beta_3 = \beta_0 - 3x$, i.e.,

$\alpha_2 = 12, \beta_2 = -7, \alpha_3 = 17$ and $\beta_3 = -10$.

Then the representations for even integers are

$$(3j + 24)^2 + 10(j - 7)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 1066,$$

$$(3j + 34)^2 + 10(j - 10)^2 - 19j^2 = 4j + 2156.$$

Thus

$$30 = 753^2 + 10(266^2) - 19(259^2),$$

$$26 = 756^2 + 10(267^2) - 19(260^2),$$

$$372 = 1304^2 + 10(456^2) - 19(446^2),$$

$$356 = 1316^2 + 10(460^2) - 19(450^2).$$

Therefore 19 is 10–special.

We now present examples of 2–special. We show that l is 2–special for $l < 50$ by giving identities to represent any integer n of the form $n = x^2 + 2y^2 - kz^2$ where $xyz \neq 0$.

- 3 is 2–special.

$$[j - 1, j + 1, j]_{2,3} = 2j + 3,$$

$$[j + 4, j - 1, j]_{2,3} = 4j + 18,$$

$$[j + 6, j - 2, j]_{2,3} = 4j + 44,$$

$[2, 6, 5]_{2,3} = 1$, $[12, 23, 20]_{2,3} = 2$, $[2, 1, 1]_{2,3} = 3$, $[3, 2, 2]_{2,3} = 5$, $[8, 19, 16]_{2,3} = 18$,
 $[18, 32, 28]_{2,3} = 20$, $[7, 18, 15]_{2,3} = 22$, $[12, 26, 22]_{2,3} = 44$, and $[10, 24, 20]_{2,3} = 52$.

- 9 is 2–special.

$$[j - 3, 2j + 1, j]_{2,9} = 2j + 11,$$

$$[j - 2, 2j + 1, j]_{2,9} = 4j + 6,$$

$$[j + 2, 2j, j]_{2,9} = 4j + 4,$$

$[18, 58, 28]_{2,9} = -4$, $[16, 54, 26]_{2,9} = 4$, $[5, 10, 5]_{2,9} = 11$, $[2, 17, 8]_{2,9} = 6$, $[9, 16, 8]_{2,9} = 17$, and $[36, 103, 50]_{2,9} = 14$.

- 11 is 2–special.

$$[3j + 1, j - 1, j]_{2,11} = 2j + 3,$$

$$[3j + 2, j - 2, j]_{2,11} = 4j + 12,$$

$$[3j + 4, j - 5, j]_{2,11} = 4j + 66,$$

$[54, 23, 19]_{2,11} = 3$, $[51, 22, 18]_{2,11} = 5$, $[108, 46, 38]_{2,11} = 12$, $[102, 44, 36]_{2,11} = 20$,
 $[172, 71, 60]_{2,11} = 66$, and $[157, 66, 55]_{2,11} = 86$.

- 17 is 2–special.

$$[3j - 1, 2j + 1, j]_{2,17} = 2j + 3,$$

$$[3j + 2, 2j - 1, j]_{2,17} = 4j + 6,$$

$$[3j + 6, 2j - 4, j]_{2,17} = 4j + 68,$$

$[18, 1, 7]_{2,17} = 3$, $[134, 103, 48]_{2,17} = 6$, $[238, 178, 84]_{2,17} = 60$, $[232, 174, 82]_{2,17} = 68$,
and $[226, 170, 80]_{2,17} = 76$.

- 19 is 2–special.

$$[j - 5, 3j + 1, j]_{2,19} = 2j + 27,$$

$$[j - 4, 3j - 1, j]_{2,19} = 4j + 18,$$

$$[j + 2, 3j, j]_{2,19} = 4j + 4,$$

$[38, 158, 52]_{2,19} = -4$, $[36, 152, 50]_{2,19} = 4$, $[4, 37, 12]_{2,19} = 18$, $[14, 39, 13]_{2,19} = 27$,
 $[76, 291, 96]_{2,19} = 34$, and $[19, 54, 18]_{2,19} = 37$.

- 27 is 2–special.

$$[5j + 1, j - 2, j]_{2,27} = 2j + 9,$$

$$[5j + 2, j - 4, j]_{2,27} = 4j + 36,$$

$$[5j + 4, j - 9, j]_{2,27} = 4j + 178,$$

$[232, 54, 47]_{2,27} = 13$, $[242, 56, 49]_{2,27} = 9$, $[484, 112, 98]_{2,27} = 36$, $[464, 108, 94]_{2,27} =$
 52 , $[752, 171, 152]_{2,27} = 178$, and $[707, 162, 143]_{2,27} = 214$.

- 33 is 2–special.

$$[j - 7, 4j + 1, j]_{2,33} = 2j + 51,$$

$$[j - 6, 4j + 1, j]_{2,33} = 4j + 38,$$

$$[j + 2, 4j, j]_{2,33} = 4j + 4,$$

$[66, 338, 84]_{2,33} = -4$, $[64, 330, 82]_{2,33} = 4$, $[6, 65, 16]_{2,33} = 38$, $[26, 100, 25]_{2,33} = 51$,
 $[132, 635, 158]_{2,33} = 62$, and $[33, 128, 32]_{2,33} = 65$.

• 41 is 2–special.

$$[3j + 3, 4j - 1, j]_{2,41} = 2j + 11,$$

$$[3j - 2, 4j + 1, j]_{2,41} = 4j + 6,$$

$$[3j + 6, 4j - 2, j]_{2,41} = 4j + 44,$$

$[166, 245, 60]_{2,41} = 6$, $[205, 292, 72]_{2,41} = 9$, $[202, 288, 71]_{2,41} = 11$, and
 $[410, 584, 144]_{2,41} = 36$.

Corollary 4.4. *Let k be an odd positive integer. There are infinitely many $2k$ –special numbers.*

Proof. For any odd integer k , we can always choose infinitely many integers x and y such that $\gcd(x, 2ky) = 1$. By Theorem 4.3, we have that $l = x^2 + 2ky^2$ is $2k$ –special. \square

Theorem 4.5. *Let k be a positive integer. If 4 is k –special, then $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$.*

Proof. Let 4 be k –special. Then $x^2 + ky^2 - 4z^2 = n$ for all integers n , there exist integers x, y , and z such that $x^2 + ky^2 \equiv n \pmod{4}$.

Case 1. $k \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. Then $x^2 \equiv n \pmod{4}$. If $n \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$, then $x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$. We know that the Legendre symbol $\left(\frac{-1}{4}\right) = -1$. Hence there is no integer x such that $x^2 + ky^2 - 4z^2 = n$ where $n \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$.

Case 2. $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then $x^2 + y^2 \equiv n \pmod{4}$. We have $x^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ and $y^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$. If $n \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$, then $x^2 + y^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$. We know that $x^2 + y^2 \equiv 0, 1, \text{ and } 2 \pmod{4}$.

Hence there is no integers x and y such that $x^2 + y^2 - 4z^2 = n$ where $n \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$.

Case 3. $k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Then $x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv n \pmod{4}$. We have $x^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ and $y^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$. Then $x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 0, 1, \text{ and } 3 \pmod{4}$. Moreover, if $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, then $x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. This is a contradiction. \square

Theorem 4.6. *Let k and l be positive integers. If $k \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ and $l \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, then $4l$ is not k –special.*

Proof. Suppose that $k \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$. Then $k = 8m + 2$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Suppose on the contrary that $4l$ is k -special.

For any integer n , there exist non-zero integers x, y , and z such that

$$x^2 + (8m + 2)y^2 - 4lz^2 = 2n.$$

Since $2n$ is even, we can see that x is even. Let $x = 2x'$ for any integer x' .

Thus

$$4x'^2 + (8m + 2)y^2 - 4lz^2 = 2n$$

$$2x'^2 + (4m + 1)y^2 - 2lz^2 = n.$$

If n is odd, then y is odd. Since y is odd, $y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$.

We consider $2x'^2 - 2lz^2 = n - (4m + 1)y^2$.

We now consider the following three cases on the values of l .

Case 1. $l \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. Thus $l = 4r$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$2x'^2 - 2(4r)z^2 \equiv n - (4m + 1) \pmod{8}$$

$$2x'^2 \equiv n - (4m + 1) \pmod{8}.$$

Subcase 1.1. m is even. Then

$$2x'^2 \equiv n - 1 \pmod{8}.$$

Since the quadratic residues modulo 8 are 0, 1, and 4, we have $2x'^2 \equiv 0, 2 \pmod{8}$.

If $n \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}$, then $2x'^2 \equiv 4, 6 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction.

Subcase 1.2. m is odd. Then

$$2x'^2 \equiv n - 5 \pmod{8}.$$

Since the quadratic residues modulo 8 are 0, 1, and 4, we have $2x'^2 \equiv 0, 2 \pmod{8}$.

If $n \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}$, then $2x'^2 \equiv 4, 6 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction.

Case 2. $l \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Thus $l = 4r + 1$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$2x'^2 - 2(4r + 1)z^2 \equiv n - (4m + 1) \pmod{8}$$

$$2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv n - (4m + 1) \pmod{8}.$$

Subcase 2.1. m is even. Then

$$2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv n - 1 \pmod{8}.$$

Since the quadratic residues modulo 8 are 0, 1, and 4, we have $2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv 0, 2, 6 \pmod{8}$. If $n \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$, then $2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2. m is odd. Then

$$2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv n - 5 \pmod{8}.$$

Since the quadratic residues modulo 8 are 0, 1, and 4, we have $2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv 0, 2, 6 \pmod{8}$. If $n \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$, then $2x'^2 - 2z^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction.

Case 3. $l \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Thus $l = 4r + 3$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$2x'^2 - 2(4r + 3)z^2 \equiv n - (4m + 1) \pmod{8}$$

$$2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv n - (4m + 1) \pmod{8}.$$

Subcase 3.1. m is even. Then

$$2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv n - 1 \pmod{8}.$$

Since the quadratic residues modulo 8 are 0, 1, and 4, we have $2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv 0, 2, 4 \pmod{8}$. If $n \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$, then $2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction.

Subcase 3.2. m is odd. Then

$$2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv n - 5 \pmod{8}.$$

Since the quadratic residues modulo 8 are 0, 1, and 4, we have $2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv 0, 2, 4 \pmod{8}$. If $n \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$, then $2x'^2 - 6z^2 \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$. This is a contradiction.

Therefore $4l$ is not k -special.

□

CHAPTER 5

Conclusion

Let k be a positive integer. We define a positive integer l to be k -special if for every integer n there exist non-zero integers a, b , and c such that

$$n = a^2 + kb^2 - lc^2.$$

In Chapter 3, we first show that 1 is k -special when k is not divisible by 4. We next widen the scope of k and l . We show that k is k -special if and only if $k = 1$. We let k and l be odd positive integers and show that l is k -special if $l = x^2 + ky^2$ for some positive integers x and y and $\gcd(x, ky) = 1$. Moreover, there are infinitely many k -special when k is an odd integer. Furthermore, we prove that for any positive odd integer k , $4l$ is not k -special.

In Chapter 4, we show that if l is 2-special, then $l = x^2 + 2y^2$ for some integers x and y but the converse is not true. We provide conditions of l to be $2k$ -special where k is odd. That is $l = x^2 + 2ky^2$ for some positive integers x and y and $\gcd(x, 2ky) = 1$. Moreover, we show that there are infinitely many $2k$ -special when k is an odd integer. Furthermore, we prove that if 4 is k -special, then $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. However, for any positive integer l , $4l$ is not k -special if $k \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ and $l \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$.

Bibliography

- [1] S. Alaca and K. S. Williams, *Introductory Algebraic Number Theory*, Cambridge University Press, (2004).
- [2] E. Deza and M. Deza, *Figurate numbers*, World Scientific, (2012), 314.
- [3] P. C. H. Lam, Representation of integers using $a^2 + b^2 - dc^2$, *Journal of Integer Sequences*, **18** (2015), Article 15.8.6.
- [4] A. Nowicki, The numbers $a^2 + b^2 - dc^2$, *Journal of Integer Sequences*, **18** (2015), Article 15.2.3.
- [5] L. Panaitopol, On the representation of natural numbers as sums of squares. *American Mathematical Monthly*, **112** (2005), 168-171.
- [6] S. Prugsapitak and N. Thongngam, Representation of Integers of the Form $x^2 + my^2 - z^2$, *Journal of Integer Sequences*, **24** (2021), Article 21.7.7.
- [7] S. Ramanujan, On the expression of a number in the form $ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2 + dw^2$, *Proceeding Cambridge Philosophical Society*, **19** (1917), 11-21. Reprinted in *Collected Papers of Srinivasa Ramanujan*, AMS Chelsea Publishing, (2000), 169-178.
- [8] K. H. Rosen, *Elementary Number Theory*, 6th ed., Pearson New International Edition, (2014).
- [9] W. Sierpinski, *Elementary Theory of Numbers*, Wroclawska drukarnia naukowa, Wroclaw, (1964).

VITAE

Name Miss Nattaporn Thongngam
Student ID 6310220031

Educational Attainment

Degree	Name of Institution	Year of Graduation
Bachelor of Science (Mathematics)	Prince of Songkla University	2019

Scholarship Awards during Enrolment

Development and Promotion of Science and Technology Talents Project (DPST)

List of Publication and Proceeding

S. Prugsapitak and N. Thongngam, Representation of Integers of the Form $x^2 + my^2 - z^2$, *Journal of Integer Sequences*, **24** (2021), Article 21.7.7.