

Another Constraint on the Perfect Cuboid

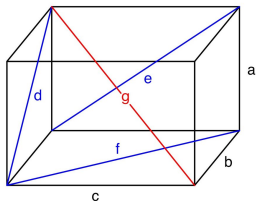
Dean Quach

Temple University

April 1, 2023

What is the Perfect Cuboid?

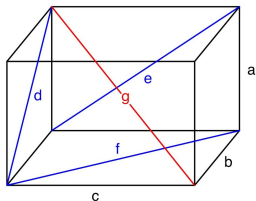
The Perfect Cuboid



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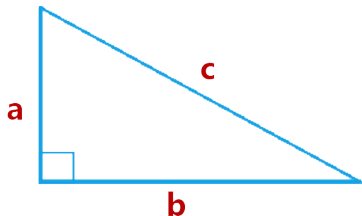


$$\begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = d^2 \\ a^2 + c^2 = e^2 \\ b^2 + c^2 = f^2 \\ a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = g^2 \end{cases}$$

where $a, b, c, d, e, f, g \in \mathbb{N}$

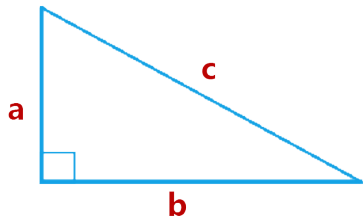
A quick history lesson.

The Pythagorean Triangle.



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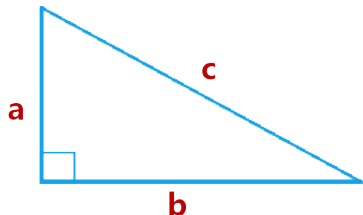
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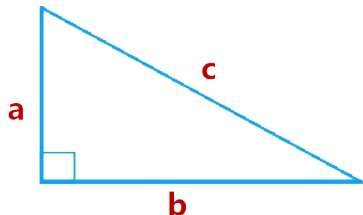
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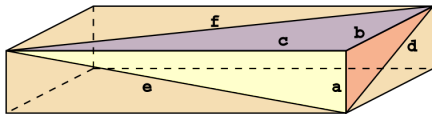
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 - $(a, b, c) = (m^2 - n^2, 2mn, m^2 + n^2)$ where $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$
 - $m > n$, $m \not\equiv n \pmod{2}$, $\gcd(m, n) = 1$

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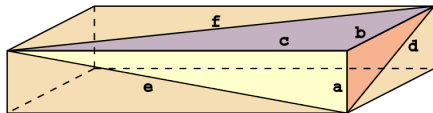
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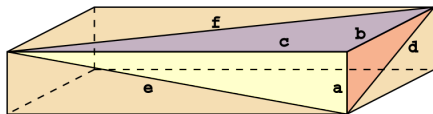
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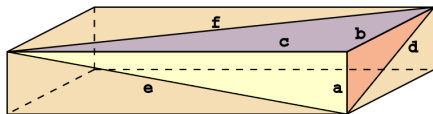
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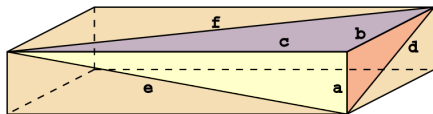
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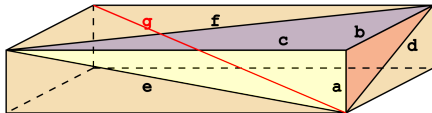


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- $(a, b, c) = (240, 252, 275)$ and $(d, e, f) = (348, 365, 373)$

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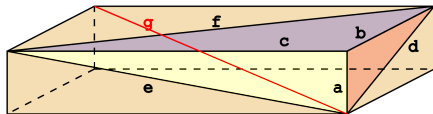
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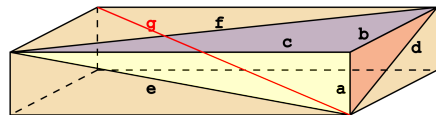
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- With the new constraint: $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = g^2$

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- For $p \in \{5, 7, 11, 19\}$, one edge must be divisible by p .
- One edge or space diagonal must be divisible by 13.
- For $p \in \{17, 29, 37\}$, one edge, face diagonal or space diagonal must be divisible by p .

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- So far $2^8 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 29 \cdot 37$
- Can we add another prime?
- Can we raise the power of one of these primes?

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Goal: Raise one of these known prime divisors, $7 \leq p_i \leq 37$.

We will look to see if there exists an n , such that $7^n | P$.

The Reduction Mod n

$$A = \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = d^2 \\ a^2 + c^2 = e^2 \\ b^2 + c^2 = f^2 \\ a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = g^2 \end{cases}$$

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$$\implies A = \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 \equiv d^2 \pmod{n} \\ a^2 + c^2 \equiv e^2 \pmod{n} \\ b^2 + c^2 \equiv f^2 \pmod{n} \\ a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \equiv g^2 \pmod{n} \end{cases}$$

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And if we know the set of Quadratic Residues mod $n := QR$

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where $a, b, c \in QR$ themselves.

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$$1^2 \equiv x \pmod p \quad \implies 1 \equiv 1 \pmod 7$$

$$2^2 \equiv x \pmod p \quad \implies 4 \equiv 4 \pmod 7$$

$$3^2 \equiv x \pmod p \quad \implies 9 \equiv 2 \pmod 7$$

$$4^2 \equiv x \pmod p \quad \implies 16 \equiv 2 \pmod 7$$

$$5^2 \equiv x \pmod p \quad \implies 25 \equiv 4 \pmod 7$$

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So we get $QR \pmod 7 = \{0, 1, 2, 4\}$

Quadratic Residues

Pseudocode for $QR \pmod{7} = \{0, 1, 2, 4\}$

```
Enter p=7
for n=1: floor(p/2)
    QR(n)= rem(n^2,p)
end

QR=[0,B]          %adding 0, and sorting it
QR=sort(QR)

print(QR)={0,1,2,4}
```

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But notice that all combinations have a 0, so we can conclude that at least one square is divisible by 7, and therefore at least one edge is divisible by 7.

Combinations

Pseudocode: $C = QR \times QR \times QR = (QR)^3$

```
A=allcomb(QR,QR,QR)
    %First we make all combinations of C

H= sum("all columns" of A)
    %we are checking a+b+c in QR?
    %(for each row/vector/combination)

A=
    0,0,0
    0,0,1
    0,0,2
    0,0,4
    0,1,0
    ...
H= 0,1,2,4,1,2,3,5,...
```


Psuedocode: Keeping what we want, Deleting the rest

```
Pass123=[vector (we don't know yet)]

for i = 1 to length(H)
    for k = 1 to length(QR)
        if H mod p \in QR
            Pass123 = [Pass123 i]
            %this counts the index of each H (sum)
        end
    end
end

A_123=A(Pass123,:)
    % we choose the Pass123(i) rows of A, and keep them.
    %the rest are just "deleted"
```

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Note, if final array has combinations, then there exist combinations such that 0 isn't a part of it, so we cannot conclude that p is a divisor. (it can still be shown that p is a divisor in other ways, just not with modular arithmetic).

Final Remarks and Conclusion

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As I was checking and running larger primes past 100, my professor had the great idea of checking 7^2 .

Lo and behold it works, an empty final array \implies all combinations had 0 (or $\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$) \implies the edge is divisible by 7^2 .

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 - From these, 4 cases arise:

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 - Result: $\left(\frac{2,3}{p}\right) = 1 \iff p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{24}$
- The reason why this is less impressive, is that it just means if you were to check the divisors $p \equiv 1 \pmod{24}$, you would know that they could never be a divisor of the perfect cuboid. Not as “cool” as finding divisors.

References

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- Thomas A. Plick, “A New Constraint on Perfect Cuboids,” *Integers*, **17** (2017).
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