

**Number  $p^2 - q^2$  where  $p$  and  $q$  primes needs very few iterations of "reverse and add" to reach a palindrome**

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**Abstract.** In this paper I make the following observation: the number  $n = p^2 - q^2$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are primes, needs very few iterations of "reverse and add" to reach a palindrome. For instance, taking  $q = 563$  and  $p = 104723$ , it can be seen that only 3 iterations are needed to reach a palindrome:  $n = 104723^2 - 563^2 = 10966589760$  and we have:  $10966589760 + 6798566901 = 17765156661$ ;  $17765156661 + 16665156771 = 34430313432$  and  $34430313432 + 23431303443 = 57861616875$ , a palindromic number. So, relying on this, I conjecture that there exist an infinity of  $n$ , even considering  $q$  and  $p$  successive, that need just one such iteration to reach a palindrome (see sequence A015976 in OEIS for these numbers) and I also conjecture that there is no a difference between two squares of primes to be a Lychrel number.

**Conjecture I:**

There exist an infinity of numbers  $n = p^2 - q^2$ , where  $q$  and  $p$  successive primes, that need just one iteration of "reverse and add" to reach a palindrome (see sequence A015976 in OEIS for these numbers).

**The sequence of palindromes obtained from these numbers  $n$ :**

: 77 (5<sup>2</sup> - 3<sup>2</sup> = 16 and 16 + 61 = 77);  
: 66 (7<sup>2</sup> - 5<sup>2</sup> = 24 and 24 + 42 = 66);  
: 99 (11<sup>2</sup> - 7<sup>2</sup> = 72 and 72 + 27 = 99);  
: 141 (17<sup>2</sup> - 13<sup>2</sup> = 120 and 120 + 21 = 141);  
: 99 (19<sup>2</sup> - 17<sup>2</sup> = 72 and 72 + 27 = 99);  
: 525 (29<sup>2</sup> - 23<sup>2</sup> = 312 and 312 + 213 = 525);  
: 141 (31<sup>2</sup> - 29<sup>2</sup> = 120 and 120 + 21 = 141);  
: 525 (41<sup>2</sup> - 37<sup>2</sup> = 312 and 312 + 213 = 525);  
: 606 (53<sup>2</sup> - 47<sup>2</sup> = 600 and 600 + 6 = 606);  
: 282 (61<sup>2</sup> - 59<sup>2</sup> = 240 and 240 + 42 = 282);  
: 3333 (89<sup>2</sup> - 83<sup>2</sup> = 1032 and 1032 + 2301 = 3333);  
: 888 (107<sup>2</sup> - 103<sup>2</sup> = 840 and 840 + 48 = 888);  
: 666 (109<sup>2</sup> - 107<sup>2</sup> = 432 and 432 + 234 = 666);  
: 3993 (127<sup>2</sup> - 113<sup>2</sup> = 3360 and 3360 + 633 = 3993);  
: 3333 (131<sup>2</sup> - 127<sup>2</sup> = 1032 and 1032 + 2301 = 3333);  
: 9669 (137<sup>2</sup> - 131<sup>2</sup> = 1608 and 1608 + 8061 = 9669);  
(...)

On the fact that the value of these differences is sometimes the same, note that, according to A069482 in OEIS [prime(n + 1)^2 - prime (n)^2], it is conjectured that "There is no upper bound on the number of repetitions that will occur for some a(n) values, because the number of possible ways of producing a value of a(n) grows with increasing n, despite decreasing prime density".

**Conjecture II:**

There is no a difference between two squares of primes to be a Lychrel number.

An heuristic argument in the favor of this supposition is the fact that these differences seem to need very few iterations of "reverse and add" to reach a palindrome; for instance:

: for  $n = 104723^2 - 563^2 = 10966589760$  we have:  
10966589760 + 6798566901 = 17765156661;  
17765156661 + 16665156771 = 34430313432;  
34430313432 + 23431303443 = 57861616875.