

# (pk mk qk) or an Unexpected Inconsistency

Ralf Wüsthofen <sup>1</sup>

**Abstract.** This note proves the inconsistency of the Peano arithmetic (PA) by deriving both the strong Goldbach conjecture and its negation.

**Notations.** Let  $\mathbb{N}$  denote the natural numbers starting from 1 and let  $\mathbb{P}_3$  denote the prime numbers starting from 3.

**Theorem 1** (Strong Goldbach conjecture (SGB)). *Every even integer greater than 2 can be expressed as the sum of two primes.*

*Proof.* We define the set  $S_g := \{ (pk, mk, qk) \mid k, m \in \mathbb{N}; p, q \in \mathbb{P}_3, p < q; m = (p + q)/2 \}$ . Then, SGB is equivalent to saying that for any fixed  $k \geq 1$  all multiples  $xk$ , where  $x \geq 4$  is composite, are given by the triple components  $mk$ . Let us assume  $\neg$ SGB now. The difference between SGB and the negation  $\neg$ SGB is that in the former case for each  $k \geq 1$  there is no  $nk$ ,  $n \geq 4$  composite, different from all the  $mk$  in  $S_g$  and that in the latter case there is at least one such  $nk$ .

Because of  $4 = (3 + 5)/2$  we consider  $n > 5$ . Then, for each  $k \geq 1$  the assumed  $nk$  is part of a sum  $(s_1 + s_3)$ ,  $(s_1, s_2, s_3) \in S_g$ , by being written as some  $pk'$  when  $n$  is composite and not a power of 2, or as  $(3 + 5)k'$  when  $n$  is a power of 2;  $p \in \mathbb{P}_3, k, k' \in \mathbb{N}$ .

This implies that for all  $S_g$  triples  $(pk, mk, qk)$  the sums  $(pk + qk)$  are the same, regardless of whether one or more than one of the above  $nk$  exists or not. This means, all the  $(pk + qk)$  are the same in both cases, SGB and  $\neg$ SGB. So, all the  $mk = (pk + qk)/2$  are the same in both cases, SGB and  $\neg$ SGB, which is a contradiction to the assumption  $\neg$ SGB. Therefore,  $\neg$ SGB is false.

□

**Theorem 2** ( $\neg$ SGB). *There is an even integer greater than 2 that cannot be expressed as the sum of two primes.*

*Proof.* Let us assume SGB. In the proof of Theorem 1 we have seen that for all  $S_g$  triples  $(pk, mk, qk)$  the arithmetic means  $mk = (pk + qk)/2$  are the same in both cases, SGB and  $\neg$ SGB. This is a contradiction to the assumption SGB. Therefore, SGB is false.

□

---

<sup>1</sup> rwesthofen@gmail.com