

Example $n=5$.

$$5 = 2^2 + 1^2 = (-2)^2 + 1^2 = 2^2 + (-1)^2 = (-2)^2 + (-1)^2 \\ = 1^2 + 2^2 = 1^2 + (-2)^2 = (-1)^2 + 2^2 = (-1)^2 + (-2)^2$$

So $r_2(5) = 8$.

$$d_1(5) = 2 \quad \text{since } 1, 5 \mid 5.$$

$$d_3(5) = 0.$$

Waring's Problem Let $k \geq 1$ be given. Determine if there is an integer s (depending only on k) such that the equation

$$n = x_1^k + x_2^k + \dots + x_s^k$$

has solutions for every $n \geq 1$.

Example

Every $n \geq 1$ can be represented as a sum of 4 squares.

..... 9 cubes.

..... 19 fourth powers.

Let $g(k)$ be the least value of s .

$$g(2) = 4 \quad [\text{Lagrange (1770)}]$$

$$g(3) = 9 \quad \text{Wieferich (1909)}$$

$$g(4) = 19 \quad \text{Balasubramanian, Desh aidedness (1986)}$$

$$g(5) = 37 \quad \text{Chen (1964)}.$$

Unrestricted partitions Let $n \geq 1$. An (unrestricted) partition of n is a representation of n as a sum of positive integers

$$n = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_k.$$

Order of parts is irrelevant and k is not restricted.

Usually the parts are arranged in descending order.