

A problem of Diophantus and Dickson's conjecture

Andrej Dujella

Abstract. A Diophantine m -tuple with the property $D(n)$, where n is an integer, is defined as a set of m positive integers with the property that the product of its any two distinct elements increased by n is a perfect square. It is known that if n is of the form $4k + 2$, then there does not exist a Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$. The author has formerly proved that if n is not of the form $4k + 2$ and $n \notin \{-15, -12, -7, -4, -3, -1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 20, 21, 24, 28, 32, 48, 60, 84\}$, then there exist at least two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$.

The main problem of this paper is to consider the set U of all integers n , not of the form $4k + 2$, such that there exist at most two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$. One open question is whether the set U is finite or not. It can be proved that if $n \in U$ and $|n| > 48$, then n can be represented in one of the following forms: $4k + 3$, $16k + 12$, $8k + 5$, $32k + 20$. The main results of the this paper are:

If $n \in U \setminus \{-9, -1, 3, 7, 11\}$ and $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, then the integers $|n - 1|/2$, $|n - 9|/2$ and $|9n - 1|/2$ are primes, and either $|n|$ is prime or n is the product of twin primes.

If $n \in U \setminus \{-27, -3, 5, 13, 21, 45\}$ and $n \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$, then the integers $|n|$, $|n - 1|/4$, $|n - 9|/4$ and $|9n - 1|/4$ are primes.

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification: 11D09, 11A41

1. Introduction

The Greek mathematician Diophantus of Alexandria noted that the rational numbers $\frac{1}{16}$, $\frac{33}{16}$, $\frac{17}{4}$ and $\frac{105}{16}$ have the following property: the product of any two of them increased by 1 is a square of a rational number (see [3]). The first set of four integers with the above property was found by Fermat, and it was $\{1, 3, 8, 120\}$. In 1969, Davenport and Baker [1] showed that if d is a positive integer such that the set $\{1, 3, 8, d\}$ has the property of Diophantus, then d has to be 120.

Let n be an integer. A set of positive integers $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\}$ is said to have the property $D(n)$, if for all $1 \leq i < j \leq m$ the following holds: $a_i a_j + n = b_{ij}^2$, where b_{ij} is an integer. Such a set is called a *Diophantine m -tuple*. If n is an integer of the form $4k + 2$, $k \in \mathbf{Z}$, then there does not exist Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$ (see [2, Theorem 1], [4, Theorem 4] or [9, p. 802]). If an integer n is not of

the form $4k + 2$ and $n \notin \{-15, -12, -7, -4, -3, -1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 20, 21, 24, 28, 32, 48, 60, 84\}$, then there exist at least two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$ (see [4, Theorems 5 and 6] and [5, p. 315]). The proof of the former result is based on the fact that the sets

$$\{m, m(3k+1)^2 + 2k, m(3k+2)^2 + 2k + 2, 9m(2k+1)^2 + 8k + 4\},$$

$$\{m, mk^2 - 2k - 2, m(k+1)^2 - 2k, m(2k+1)^2 - 8k - 4\}$$

have the property $D(2(2k+1)m+1)$. These formulas are used in [7] and the above results are generalized to the set of Gaussian integers. More formulas of this type were obtained in [6].

These formulas were used in [8], where some improvements of the results of [4] were obtained. It was proved that if $n \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ and $n \notin \{-15, -7, 17, 33\}$, or $n \equiv 4 \pmod{32}$ and $n \notin \{-28, 68\}$, or $n \equiv 0 \pmod{16}$ and $n \notin \{-16, 32, 48, 80\}$, then there exist at least six, and if $n \equiv 8 \pmod{16}$ and $n \notin \{-8, 8, 24, 40\}$, then there exist at least four distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$. These results imply that if an integer n is not of the form $4k + 2$, $|n| > 48$, and there exist at most two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$, then n can be represented in one of the following forms:

$$4k + 3, \quad 16k + 12, \quad 8k + 5, \quad 32k + 20.$$

The main problem of this paper is to consider those n for which *there are at most two Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$* . We will prove that for an integer n , not of the form $4k + 2$, the assumption that there exist at most two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$ has very strong consequences, which are connected with the problem of existence of primes in arithmetical progressions.

Since multiplying all elements of quadruples with the properties $D(4k + 3)$ and $D(8k + 5)$ by 2 we obtain the quadruples with the properties $D(16k + 12)$ and $D(32k + 20)$, respectively (by [4, Remark 3], all quadruples with the property $D(16k + 12)$ can be obtained on this way), we will restrict our attention to the integers of the forms $4k + 3$ and $8k + 5$.

2. The case $n=4k+3$

Theorem 1. *Let n be an integer such that $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, $n \notin \{-9, -1, 3, 7, 11\}$, and there exist at most two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$. Then the integers $|n - 1|/2$, $|n - 9|/2$ and $|9n - 1|/2$ are primes. Furthermore, either the integer $|n|$ is prime or $n = pq$, where p and q are twin primes.*

To prove this theorem we need the following lemmas.

Lemma 1. *Let n be an integer such that $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ and let $n = st$, where s and t are integers such that $s \geq 1$ and $s - t > 2$. Let $v = (s - t - 2)/4$. Then the*

set

$$\{1, (3v+1)^2 + 2vt, (3v+2)^2 + 2(v+1)t, 9(2v+1)^2 + 4(2v+1)t\} \quad (2.1)$$

is a Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$.

Proof. From $st \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ it follows that $s \equiv t+2 \pmod{4}$. Hence v is a positive integer. Set

$$\begin{aligned} b &= (3v+1)^2 + 2vt \\ c &= (3v+2)^2 + 2(v+1)t \\ d &= 9(2v+1)^2 + 4(2v+1)t. \end{aligned}$$

By [6, proof of Theorem 1], the product of any two distinct elements of the set $\{1, b, c, d\}$ increased by n is a perfect square. Thus, it is sufficient to prove that 1, b , c and d are distinct positive integers. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} b-1 &= v(9v+2t+6) = v(v+2s+2) > 0 \\ c-1 &= (v+1)(9v+2t+3) = (v+1)(v+2s-1) > 0 \\ d-1 &= (2v+1)(18v+4t+9) - 1 = (2v+1)(2v+4s+1) - 1 > 0 \\ c-b &= 6v+2t+3 = (3s+t)/2 \neq 0 \\ d-b &= (3v+2)(9v+2t+4) = (3v+2)(v+2s) > 0 \\ d-c &= (3v+1)(9v+2t+5) = (3v+1)(v+2s+1) > 0, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the lemma. \square

Lemma 2. *If the integer $|2k+1|$ is composite, then there exists a Diophantine quadruple $\{a, b, c, d\} \subset \mathbf{N} \setminus \{1\}$ with the property $D(4k+3)$.*

Proof. Let

$$2k+1 = (2l+1)m,$$

where $l \notin \{-1, 0\}$ and $m \geq 3$. Then $4k+3 = 2(2l+1)m+1$. Set

$$\begin{aligned} a &= m \\ b &= (3l+1)^2m + 2l \\ c &= (3l+2)^2m + 2l + 2 \\ d &= 9(2l+1)^2m + 8l + 4. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that the set $\{a, b, c, d\}$ has the desired property. By [4, (13)] it suffices to show that a, b, c and d are distinct integers and $b, c, d \geq 2$. Since $l \notin \{-1, 0\}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} b-a &= (9l^2+6l)m + 2l \geq 27l^2 + 20l > 0 \\ c-a &= (9l^2+12l+3)m + 2l + 2 \geq 27l^2 + 28l + 11 > 0 \\ d-a &= (36l^2+36l+8)m + 8l + 4 \geq 144l^2 + 152l + 36 > 0 \\ c-b &= 3(2l+1)m + 2 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}d - b &= (3l + 2)[(9l + 4)m + 2] \neq 0 \\d - c &= (3l + 1)[(9l + 5)m + 2] \neq 0.\end{aligned}$$

Hence a, b, c and d are distinct integers and $b, c, d > a \geq 3$. \square

Lemma 3. *If the integer $|2k - 3|$ is composite and $k \notin \{-3, 6\}$, then there exists a Diophantine quadruple $\{a, b, c, d\} \subset \mathbf{N} \setminus \{1\}$ with the property $D(4k + 3)$.*

Proof. Let

$$2k - 3 = (2l + 1)m,$$

where $l \notin \{-2, -1, 0, 1\}$ and $m \geq 3$. Then $4k + 3 = 2(2l + 1)m + 9$. Set

$$\begin{aligned}a &= m \\b &= l^2m + 2l - 2 \\c &= (l + 1)^2m + 2l + 4 \\d &= (2l + 1)^2m + 8l + 4.\end{aligned}$$

To prove that the set $\{a, b, c, d\}$ has the desired property, by [4, (23)], it suffices to show that a, b, c and d are distinct integers and $b, c, d \geq 2$. Since $l \notin \{-2, -1, 0, 1\}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}b - a &= (l^2 - 1)m + 2l - 2 \geq 3l^2 + 2l - 5 > 0 \\c - a &= (l^2 + 2l)m + 2l + 2 \geq 3l^2 + 8l + 2 > 0 \\d - a &= (4l^2 + 4l)m + 8l + 4 \geq 12l^2 + 20l + 4 > 0 \\c - b &= (2l + 1)m + 6 \neq 0 \\d - b &= (l + 1)[(3l + 1)m + 6] \neq 0 \\d - c &= l[(3l + 2)m + 6] \neq 0,\end{aligned}$$

which gives the desired conclusion. \square

Lemma 4. *If the integer $|18k + 13|$ is composite, then there exist a Diophantine quadruple $\{a, b, c, d\} \subset \mathbf{N} \setminus \{1\}$ with the property $D(4k + 3)$.*

Proof. Let

$$18k + 13 = (2l + 3)m, \tag{2.2}$$

where $l \notin \{-2, -1\}$ and $m \geq 5$. Then $4k + 3 = [2m(2l + 3) + 1]/9$. Set

$$\begin{aligned}a &= m \\b &= (l^2m - 2l - 6)/9 \\c &= [(l + 3)^2m - 2l]/9 \\d &= [(2l + 3)^2m - 8l - 12]/9.\end{aligned}$$

The numbers b, c and d are integers, by (2.2). We claim that the set $\{a, b, c, d\}$ has the desired property. From [6, proof of Theorem 1] it follows that the product of

any two distinct elements of this set is a perfect square. Thus it suffices to prove that a, b, c and d are distinct integers and $b, c, d \geq 2$. Since $l \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} b - a &= (l + 3)[(l - 3)m - 2]/9 \neq 0 \\ c - a &= l[(l + 6)m - 2]/9 \neq 0 \\ d - a &= [(4l^2 + 12k)m - 8l - 12]/9 \geq (20l^2 + 52l - 12)/9 > 0 \\ c - b &= [(2l + 1)m + 2]/3 \neq 0 \\ d - b &= (l + 1)[(l + 3)m - 2]/3 \neq 0 \\ d - c &= (l + 2)[lm - 2]/3 \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

It remains to prove that $b \geq 2$ and $c \geq 2$. Since $k \notin \{-3, -2\}$ and $m \geq 5$, we have:

$$c \geq \frac{1}{9}(5k^2 + 28k + 45) > 1.$$

Suppose that $k \neq 1$. Then $b \geq (5k^2 - 2k - 6)/9 > 1$. If $k = 1$, then from $54q + 49 = 5m$ it follows that $m \geq 53$ and $b = (m - 8)/9 > 5$. \square

Proof of Theorem 1. It is clear that the assertion is valid for $n = 15$. If $n \neq 15$, then there exist at least two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$ which contain the number 1 (see [4, (7) and (17)]).

If either of the integers $|n - 1|/2$, $|n - 9|/2$ and $|9n - 1|/2$ is not prime, then it is composite. Note that the integer $|27 \cdot 9 - 1|/2 = 121$ is composite. From Lemmas 2, 3 and 4 it follows that there exists a Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$ which does not contain the number 1. This contradicts to our assumption.

Suppose that $|n|$ is not a prime and that n is not a product of twin primes. If $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and $n \notin \{3, 15\}$, the integer $|n - 9|/2$ is composite.

Thus $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and $n = st$, where $s \geq 5$, $|t| \geq 5$ and $s - t > 2$. Write $v = (s - t - 2)/4$. Then the set (2.1) is the Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$, by Lemma 1. We claim that this quadruple is different from quadruples [4, (7)] and [4, (17)]. Indeed, the sums of elements of quadruples (2.1), [4, (7)] and [4, (17)] are $3(18v^2 + 18v + 5 + 4vt + 2t)$, $3(18k^2 + 22k + 7)$ and $3(2k^2 - 2k - 1)$, respectively, where $n = 4k + 3$. Since $18k^2 + 22k + 7 \geq 2k^2 - 2k - 1$ for every integer k , it is sufficient to prove that

$$18v^2 + 18v + 5 + 4vt + 2t < 2k^2 - 2k - 1. \quad (2.3)$$

The relation (2.3) is equivalent to

$$(2v + 1)(2v + 4s + 1) < \frac{1}{4}(n - 1)(n - 9). \quad (2.4)$$

Let $t > 0$. Then

$$v \leq \frac{\frac{n}{5} - 5 - 2}{4} = \frac{n - 35}{20}$$

and

$$(2v + 1)(2v + 4s + 1) \leq \frac{n - 25}{10} \cdot \frac{9n - 25}{10}.$$

If $t < 0$, then $n = -m < 0$, and we have

$$v \leq \frac{\frac{m}{5} + 5 - 2}{4} = \frac{m + 15}{20}$$

and

$$(2v + 1)(2v + 4s + 1) \leq \frac{m + 25}{10} \cdot \frac{9m + 25}{10} = \frac{n - 25}{10} \cdot \frac{9n - 25}{10}.$$

If $|n| > 5$, then $(n - 25)(9n - 25) < 25(n - 1)(n - 9)$, which establishes the formula (2.4) and completes the proof. \square

3. The case $n=8k+5$

Theorem 2. *Let n be an integer such that $n \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$, $n \notin \{-27, -3, 5, 13, 21, 45\}$, and there exist at most two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$. Then the integers $|n|$, $|n - 1|/4$, $|n - 9|/4$ and $|9n - 1|/4$ are primes.*

To prove this theorem we need the following lemmas.

Lemma 5. *Let n be an integer such that $n \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ and let $n = st$, where s and t are integers such that $s \geq 1$, $s - t > 4$ and $t \neq -3s$. If $v = (s - t - 4)/8$, then the set*

$$\{2, 2(3v + 1)^2 + 2vt, 2(3v + 2)^2 + 2(v + 1)t, 18(2v + 1)^2 + 4(2v + 1)t\} \quad (3.5)$$

is the Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$.

Proof. From $st \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ it follows that $s \equiv t + 4 \pmod{8}$. Hence v is a positive integer. Set

$$\begin{aligned} b &= 2(3v + 1)^2 + 2vt \\ c &= 2(3v + 2)^2 + 2(v + 1)t \\ d &= 18(2v + 1)^2 + 4(2v + 1)t. \end{aligned}$$

By [6, proof of Theorem 1], it is sufficient to prove that 2, b , c and d are distinct positive integers. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} b - 2 &= 2v(9v + t + 6) = 2v(v + s + 2) > 0 \\ c - 2 &= 2(v + 1)(9v + t + 3) = 2(v + 1)(v + s - 1) > 0 \\ d - 2 &= 2(2v + 1)(18v + 2t + 9) - 2 = 2[(2v + 1)(2v + 2s + 1) - 1] > 0 \\ c - b &= 2(6v + t + 3) = (3s + t)/2 \neq 0 \\ d - b &= 2(3v + 2)(9v + t + 4) = 2(3v + 2)(v + s) > 0 \\ d - c &= 2(3v + 1)(9v + t + 5) = 2(3v + 1)(v + s + 1) > 0, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the lemma. \square

Lemma 6. *If the integer $|2k + 1|$ is composite, then there exists a Diophantine quadruple $\{a, b, c, d\} \subset \mathbf{N} \setminus \{2\}$ with the property $D(8k + 5)$.*

Proof. Let

$$2k + 1 = (2l + 1)m,$$

where $l \notin \{-1, 0\}$ and $m \geq 3$. Then $8k + 5 = 4(2l + 1)m + 1$. Set

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 2m \\ b &= 2m(3l + 1)^2 + 2l \\ c &= 2m(3l + 2)^2 + 2l + 2 \\ d &= 18m(2l + 1)^2 + 8l + 4. \end{aligned}$$

An analysis similar to the one in the proof of Lemma 2 shows that the set $\{a, b, c, d\}$ has the desired property. \square

Lemma 7. *If the integer $|2k - 1|$ is composite and $k \notin \{-4, 5\}$, then there exists a Diophantine quadruple $\{a, b, c, d\} \subset \mathbf{N} \setminus \{2\}$ with the property $D(8k + 5)$.*

Proof. The proof of Lemma 7 is completely analogous to the proof of Lemma 3. \square

Lemma 8. *If the integer $|18k + 11|$ is composite and $k \notin \{-2, 3\}$, then there exist a Diophantine quadruple $\{a, b, c, d\} \subset \mathbf{N} \setminus \{2\}$ with the property $D(8k + 5)$.*

Proof. Let

$$18k + 11 = (2l + 3)m, \tag{3.6}$$

where $l \notin \{-2, -1\}$ and $m \geq 5$. Then $8k + 5 = [4m(2l + 3) + 1]/9$. Set

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 2m \\ b &= (2ml^2 - 2l - 6)/9 \\ c &= [2m(l + 3)^2 - 2l]/9 \\ d &= [2m(2l + 3)^2 - 8l - 12]/9. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that the set $\{a, b, c, d\}$ has the desired property. Let us first observe that (3.6) implies that b , c and d are integers. Similarly, as in the proof of Lemma 4 we obtain that a , b , c and d are distinct integers and $d > a$.

If $l \neq 1$, then $b \geq (10l^2 - 2l - 6)/9 > 2$, and if $l = 1$, then from $18l + 11 = 5m$ and $k \neq 3$ it follows that $m \geq 31$ and $b = (2m - 8)/9 \geq 6$.

If $l \neq -4$, then $c \geq (10l^2 + 58l + 90)/9 > 2$, and if $l = -4$ then from $18k + 11 = -5m$ and $k \neq -2$ it follows that $m \geq 23$ and $c = (2m + 8)/9 \geq 6$. \square

Proof of Theorem 2. If n satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 2 then there exist at least two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$ which contain the number 2 (see [4, (9) and (19)]).

If either of the integers $|n - 1|/4$, $|n - 9|/4$ and $|9n - 1|/4$ is not prime, then it is composite. Assume that $n \notin \{-11, 29\}$. Then from Lemmas 6, 7 and 8 it follows that there exists a Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$ which does not contain the number 2.

For $n = -11$ the construction of Lemma 8 gives the quadruple $\{2, 10, 18, 30\}$, while [4, (9) and (19)] gives the quadruples $\{2, 30, 46, 150\}$ and $\{2, 6, 10, 30\}$ with the property $D(-11)$.

For $n = 29$ the construction of Lemma 8 gives the quadruple $\{2, 26, 46, 70\}$, while [4, (9) and (19)] gives the quadruples $\{2, 206, 250, 910\}$ and $\{2, 10, 26, 70\}$ with the property $D(29)$. This completes the proof that the integers $|n - 1|/4$, $|n - 9|/4$ and $|9n - 1|/4$ are primes.

It remains to prove that $|n|$ is prime. Suppose that the integer $|n|$ is composite. We need to consider three cases.

First, let $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$. Since $n \notin \{-3, 21\}$, the integer $|n - 9|/4$ is composite, a contradiction.

Next, let $n = st$, where $s \geq 5$, $|t| \geq 5$ and $s - t > 4$. Let $v = (s - t - 4)/8$. Then the set (3.5) is the Diophantine quadruple with the property $D(n)$, by Lemma 5. We will show that this quadruple is different from quadruples [4, (9)] and [4, (19)]. Indeed, the sums of elements of quadruples (3.5), [4, (9)] and [4, (19)] are $6(18v^2 + 18v + 5 + 2vt + t)$, $6(18k^2 + 20k + 6)$ and $12k^2$, respectively, where $n = 8k + 5$. Thus, it is sufficient to prove that

$$18v^2 + 18v + 5 + 2vt + t < 2k^2, \quad (3.7)$$

or, equivalently, that

$$(2v + 1)(2v + 2s + 1) < \frac{1}{16}(n - 1)(n - 9). \quad (3.8)$$

The proof of (3.8) is completely analogous to the proof of (2.4).

Finally, let $n = pq$, where p and q are primes and $p - q = 4$. Since $n \neq 21$, we conclude that n is of the form $n = (6x + 1)(6x + 5)$, $x \geq 1$. An easy computation shows that the set

$$\{2, 32x^2 + 32x + 10, 288x^4 + 672x^3 + 542x^2 + 178x + 22, \\ 288x^4 + 480x^3 + 254x^2 + 42x + 2\}$$

is the Diophantine quadruple with the property $D((6x + 1)(6x + 5))$. From $32x^2 + 32x + 10 < n$ it follows easily that this quadruple is different from quadruples [4, (9)] and [4, (19)]. This completes the proof of the theorem. \square

4. Connection with Dickson's conjecture

Let U denote the set of all integers n , not of the form $4k + 2$, such that there exist at most two distinct Diophantine quadruples with the property $D(n)$. It is not yet known, whether the set U is finite or not. From the results of [8] and Theorems 1 and 2 it follows that if U is infinite then at least one of the sets

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{k \in \mathbf{Z} : |2k - 3|, |2k + 1|, |4k + 3|, |18k + 13| \text{ are primes}\}, \\ B &= \{l \in \mathbf{N} : 2l - 1, 2l + 1, 2l^2 - 5, 2l^2 - 1, 18l^2 - 5 \text{ are primes}\}, \\ C &= \{k \in \mathbf{Z} : |2k - 1|, |2k + 1|, |8k + 5|, |18k + 11| \text{ are primes}\} \end{aligned}$$

is infinite. The question whether the sets A , B and C are infinite or not is still unanswered. Let us observe that the linear polynomials appearing in the sets A and C satisfy the conditions of following Dickson's conjecture ([10, p. 292]):

Let $s \geq 1$, $f_i(x) = b_i x + a_i$, with a_i, b_i integers, $b_i \geq 1$ (for $i = 1, \dots, s$). Assume that the following condition is satisfied:

There does not exist any integer $n > 1$ dividing all the products $f_1(k)f_2(k) \cdots f_s(k)$ for every integer k .

Then there exist infinitely many natural numbers m such that all numbers $f_1(m), f_2(m), \dots, f_s(m)$ are primes.

Indeed, if $f_1(x) = 2x - 3$, $f_2(x) = 2x + 1$, $f_3(x) = 4x + 3$ and $f_4(x) = 18x + 13$, then the integers $f_1(0)f_2(0)f_3(0)f_4(0) = -117$ and $f_1(2)f_2(2)f_3(2)f_4(2) = 2695$ are relatively prime, and if $g_1(x) = 2x - 1$, $g_2(x) = 2x + 1$, $g_3(x) = 8x + 5$ and $g_4(x) = 18x + 11$, then the integers $g_1(0)g_2(0)g_3(0)g_4(0) = -55$ and $g_1(1)g_2(1)g_3(1)g_4(1) = 1131$ are relatively prime. Furthermore, the polynomials from the set B satisfy the conditions of the Schinzel-Sierpiński conjecture ([11], [10, p. 312]), which is an analogue of Dickson's conjecture for irreducible polynomials. Therefore, the validity of the Schinzel-Sierpiński conjecture would imply that the sets A , B and C are infinite.

References

- [1] Baker, A., Davenport, H., The equations $3x^2 - 2 = y^2$ and $8x^2 - 7 = z^2$. Quart. J. Math. Oxford Ser. (2) 20 (1969), 129–137
- [2] Brown, E., Sets in which $xy + k$ is always a square. Math. Comp. 45 (1985), 613–620
- [3] Diophantus of Alexandria, Arithmetics and the Book of Polygonal Numbers. Nauka, Moscow 1974 (in Russian)
- [4] Dujella, A., Generalization of a problem of Diophantus. Acta Arith. 65 (1993), 15–27
- [5] —, Diophantine quadruples for squares of Fibonacci and Lucas numbers. Portugal. Math. 52 (1995), 305–318
- [6] —, Some polynomial formulas for Diophantine quadruples. Grazer Math. Ber. (to appear)
- [7] —, The problem of Diophantus and Davenport for Gaussian integers. Glas. Mat. Ser. III (to appear)

- [8] —, Some estimates of the number of Diophantine quadruples. (preprint)
- [9] Gupta, H., Singh, K., On k -triad sequences. *Internat. J. Math. Math. Sci.* 8 (1985), 799–804
- [10] Ribenboim, P., *The Book of Prime Number Records*. Springer Verlag, New York-Berlin-Heidelberg 1989
- [11] Schinzel, A., Sierpiński, W., Sur certaines hypothèses concernant les nombres premiers. *Acta Arith.* 4 (1958), 185–208, Corrigendum, 5 (1959), 259