

## The conductor of a cyclic quartic field

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**Abstract.** Explicit formulae are obtained for the conductor and the discriminant of a cyclic quartic field  $K = Q(\theta)$ , where  $\theta$  is a root of an irreducible polynomial  $q(X) = X^4 + AX^2 + BX + C \in Z[X]$ , and the integers  $A, B, C$  are such that there are no primes  $p$  with  $p^2 \mid A$ ,  $p^3 \mid B$ ,  $p^4 \mid C$ .

Let  $Z$  denote the domain of rational integers, let  $Q$  denote the field of rational numbers, and let  $K$  be a cyclic quartic extension field of  $Q$ , that is,  $[K:Q] = 4$  and  $Gal(K/Q) \simeq Z/4Z$ . As  $K$  is a normal extension of  $Q$  and  $Gal(K/Q)$  is an abelian group,  $K$  is an abelian field, and so by the Kronecker-Weber Theorem there exists a positive integer  $f$  such that  $K \subseteq Q(\exp(2\pi i/f))$ . The least such positive integer  $f$  is called the conductor of  $K$  and is denoted by  $f(K)$ . In this paper we take  $K$  in the form  $K = Q(\theta)$ , where  $\theta$  is a root of an irreducible polynomial  $q(X) = X^4 + AX^2 + BX + C \in Z[X]$ , and determine  $f(K)$  explicitly in terms of the coefficients  $A, B, C$  of  $q(X)$ . As  $q(X)$  is irreducible over  $Z$ , we cannot have  $A^2 - 4C = B = 0$ . From [3] and [4] it is easy to deduce a necessary and sufficient condition for the splitting field  $K$  of the irreducible polynomial  $q(X)$  to be cyclic.

For a prime  $p$  and a non-zero integer  $m$ , we denote by  $v_p(m)$  the largest exponent  $k$  such that  $p^k \mid m$ , and write  $p^{v_p(m)} \parallel m$ . If for any prime  $p$  we have

$$v_p(A) \geq 2, \quad v_p(B) \geq 3, \quad v_p(C) \geq 4,$$

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then  $\theta/p$  is an algebraic integer, which is a root of the irreducible polynomial

$$X^4 + (A/p^2)X^2 + (B/p^3)X + (C/p^4) \in Z[X],$$

and  $K = Q(\theta/p)$ . Therefore we can make the following simplifying assumption:

- (1) there does not exist a prime  $p$  such that  $p^2 \mid A, p^3 \mid B, p^4 \mid C$ .

Our main result is the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $K = Q(\theta)$  be a cyclic quartic extension of  $Q$ , where  $\theta$  is a root of the irreducible polynomial  $q(X) = X^4 + AX^2 + BX + C \in Z[X]$  with coefficients  $A, B, C$  satisfying (1).*

Case (i):  $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B \neq 0$ : Set

$$\ell = v_2(A^2 - 4C), \quad b = v_2(B),$$

and for a prime  $p \neq 2$  set

$$e_p = \min(v_p(A^2 - 4C), v_p(B)).$$

Then

$$f(K) = 2^\alpha \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ e_p \text{ odd}}} p \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ e_p(\text{even}) \geq 2, p \mid A}} p,$$

where the values of  $\alpha$  are given in TABLE (i).

Case (ii):  $A^2 - 4C = 0, B \neq 0$ : Here

$$f(K) = 2^\beta \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ v_p(B) \text{ odd}}} p \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ v_p(B)(\text{even}) \geq 2, p \mid A}} p,$$

where the values of  $\beta$  are given in TABLE (ii).

Case (iii):  $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B = 0$ : Here

$$f(K) = 2^\gamma \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p \mid A, p \mid C}} p,$$

where the values of  $\gamma$  are given in TABLE (iii).

**PROOF** of Theorem 1. We just treat case (i) ( $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B \neq 0$ ) as cases (ii) and (iii) can be treated in a similar but easier manner.

We begin by outlining the ideas involved in the proof. First we solve the quartic equation  $q(\theta) = \theta^4 + A\theta^2 + B\theta + C = 0$  for  $\theta$  in terms of

$A, B, C$  and the unique integral root  $t$  of the cubic resolvent of  $q(X)$ , see (2) and (3). We then use this solution to express  $K = Q(\theta)$  in the form  $K = Q(\sqrt{m + n\sqrt{S}})$ , where  $m, n, S$  are integers such that  $(m, n)$  and  $S$  are both squarefree and  $m + n\sqrt{S}$  is not a square in  $Q(\sqrt{S})$ , see (11) and (12). Various relationships involving  $A, B, C, t, S, m, n$  are recorded in (4)–(10) for later use. For  $K$  expressed in the form  $Q(\sqrt{m + n\sqrt{S}})$ , Huard, Spearman and Williams have given an explicit expression for  $d(K)$  in terms of  $m, n$  and  $S$  [2, Corollary 4]. Using the discriminant-conductor formula, it is easy to deduce from their result an explicit expression for the conductor  $f(K)$  of  $K$  in terms of  $m, n$  and  $S$ , see (13)–(15). From this formula for  $f(K)$  in terms of  $m, n$  and  $S$ , it is easy to see what arithmetic relations between  $m, n, S$  and  $A, B, C$  must be proved in order to deduce the form of  $f(K)$  given in Theorem 1, see (16) and (17). The remainder of the proof of Theorem 1 requires a lot of technical but straightforward arithmetic results, see (18)–(56).

TABLE (i)/1: Values of  $\alpha$

$\alpha$	congruence conditions		
0	$A \equiv 1(4), B \equiv 0(4), C \equiv 1(2)$		
	$A \equiv 1(4), B \equiv 2(4), C \equiv 0(2)$		
	$A \equiv 3(4), B \equiv 0(4), C \equiv 0(2)$		
	$A \equiv 3(4), B \equiv 2(4), C \equiv 1(2)$		
	$A \equiv 0(2), B \equiv 1(2), C \equiv 1(2)$		
	$A \equiv 2(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 5(8)$		
	$A \equiv 10(16), B \equiv 8(16), C \equiv 5(8)$		
	$A \equiv 6(8), B \equiv 0(64), C \equiv 1(8), b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1(4)$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 32(64), C \equiv 1(8), (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1(4)$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{even}) = b + 1 \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3(4)$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3(4)$		
	$A \equiv 14(16), B \equiv 32(64), C \equiv 1(8), (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3(4)$		
	$A \equiv 14(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1(4)$		
2	$A \equiv 1(4), B \equiv 0(4), C \equiv 0(2)$		
	$A \equiv 1(4), B \equiv 2(4), C \equiv 1(2)$		
	$A \equiv 3(4), B \equiv 0(4), C \equiv 1(2)$		
	$A \equiv 3(4), B \equiv 2(4), C \equiv 0(2)$		
	$A \equiv 0(8), B \equiv 0(8), C \equiv 4(8)$		
	$A \equiv 2(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 1(8), \ell \geq 6$		
	$A \equiv 2(16), B \equiv 8(16), C \equiv 5(8)$		
	$A \equiv 4(8), B \equiv 8(16), C \equiv 4(8)$		
	$A \equiv 6(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 5(8)$		
	$A \equiv 6(8), B \equiv 0(64), C \equiv 1(8), b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3(4)$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 32(64), C \equiv 1(8), (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3(4)$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1(4)$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{even}) = b + 1 \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1(4)$		
$A \equiv 14(16), B \equiv 32(64), C \equiv 1(8), (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1(4)$			
$A \equiv 14(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3(4)$			
3	$A \equiv 0(4), B \equiv 0(4), C \equiv 1(2)$		
	$A \equiv 2(4), B \equiv 0(8), C \equiv 0(4)$		
	$A \equiv 2(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 1(8), \ell = 5$		
	$A \equiv 6(8), B \equiv 16(32), C \equiv 1(8)$		
	$A \equiv 6(8), B \equiv 0(64), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{even}) = b + 2 \geq 8$		
	$A \equiv 6(16), B \equiv 0(64), C \equiv 1(8), \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 1 \geq 7$		
	$A \equiv 14(16), B \equiv 0(128), C \equiv 1(8), b \geq \ell(\text{odd}) \geq 7$		
	$A \equiv 4(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 4(8), b = \ell - 1 \geq 5 \text{ or } b \geq \ell$		

TABLE (i)/2: Values of $\alpha$		
$\alpha$	examples	
0	$X^4 - 55X^2 - 60X + 145$	$f(K) = 3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 51X^2 - 34X + 68$	$f(K) = 17$
	$X^4 - 65X^2 - 260X - 260$	$f(K) = 5 \cdot 13$
	$X^4 - 17X^2 - 34X - 17$	$f(K) = 17$
	$X^4 - 26X^2 - 39X + 13$	$f(K) = 3 \cdot 13$
	$X^4 - 182X^2 - 624X - 299$	$f(K) = 3 \cdot 13$
	$X^4 - 102X^2 - 136X + 221$	$f(K) = 17$
	$X^4 - 170X^2 - 1088X - 1751$	$f(K) = 17$
	$X^4 - 170X^2 - 544X + 2329$	$f(K) = 17$
	$X^4 - 490X^2 - 1920X + 9145$	$f(K) = 3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 714X^2 - 2176X + 33881$	$f(K) = 17$
	$X^4 - 130X^2 - 480X + 145$	$f(K) = 3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 2210X^2 - 8320X + 946465$	$f(K) = 5 \cdot 13$
2	$X^4 - 119X^2 - 68X + 5848$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
	$X^4 - 15X^2 - 10X + 5$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 45X^2 - 20X + 305$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 85X^2 - 102X + 34$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 17$
	$X^4 - 272X + 884$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
	$X^4 - 102X^2 - 544X + 6953$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
	$X^4 - 30X^2 - 40X + 5$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 20X^2 - 40X - 20$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 50X^2 - 80X + 205$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 + 102X^2 - 1088X + 2873$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
	$X^4 - 90X^2 - 160X + 905$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 330X^2 - 640X + 18905$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 170X^2 - 640X + 505$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 50X^2 - 160X - 95$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
$X^4 + 1054X^2 - 2176X + 297313$	$f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$	
3	$X^4 - 20X^2 - 20X - 5$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 50X^2 - 40X + 220$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 70X^2 - 240X - 95$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 50X^2 - 80X + 145$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 490X^2 - 960X + 43705$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 90X^2 - 320X - 55$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
	$X^4 - 1170X^2 - 16640X - 59215$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 13$
	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X^4 - 60X^2 - 160X + 20 \\ X^4 - 180X^2 - 320X + 4820 \end{array} \right\}$	$f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$

TABLE (i)/3: Values of $\alpha$	
$\alpha$	congruence conditions
4	$A \equiv 0(8), B \equiv 0(8), C \equiv 0(8)$
	$A \equiv 0(8), B \equiv 0(8), C \equiv 2(4)$
	$A \equiv 4(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 2(8)$
	$A \equiv 4(8), B \equiv 0(16), C \equiv 4(8), b = \ell - 1 = 4$ or $b \leq \ell - 2$

TABLE (i)/4: Values of $\alpha$	
$\alpha$	examples
4	$X^4 - 24X^2 - 32X + 8 \quad f(K) = 2^4$
	$X^4 - 8X^2 - 8X - 2 \quad f(K) = 2^4$
	$X^4 - 20X^2 - 16X + 34 \quad f(K) = 2^4$
	$\left\{ \begin{matrix} X^4 - 12X^2 - 16X - 4 \\ X^4 - 20X^2 - 32X + 4 \end{matrix} \right\} \quad f(K) = 2^4$

TABLE (ii): Values of $\beta$		
$\beta$	conditions	examples
0	$v_2(B) = 0$	$X^4 + 10X^2 + 25X + 25 \quad f(K) = 5$
2	$v_2(B) \equiv 1(2)$	$X^4 + 442X^2 - 9248X + 48841 \quad f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
3	$v_2(B) = 4$	$X^4 + 190X^2 + 400X + 9025 \quad f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
4	$v_2(B) = 6$	$X^4 + 28X^2 + 64X + 196 \quad f(K) = 2^4$

TABLE (iii): Values of $\gamma$		
$\gamma$	congruence conditions	examples
0	$A \equiv 1(4), C \equiv 1(2)$	$X^4 - 15X^2 + 45 \quad f(K) = 3 \cdot 5$
	$A \equiv 3(4), C \equiv 0(4)$	$X^4 - 17X^2 + 68 \quad f(K) = 17$
	$A \equiv 2(8), C \equiv 5(8)$	$X^4 - 78X^2 + 1053 \quad f(K) = 3 \cdot 13$
	$A \equiv 6(8), C \equiv 1(8)$	$X^4 - 34X^2 + 17 \quad f(K) = 17$
2	$A \equiv 1(4), C \equiv 0(4)$	$X^4 - 51X^2 + 612 \quad f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 17$
	$A \equiv 3(4), C \equiv 1(2)$	$X^4 - 5X^2 + 5 \quad f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
	$A \equiv 2(8), C \equiv 1(8)$	$X^4 + 34X^2 + 17 \quad f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
	$A \equiv 6(8), C \equiv 5(8)$	$X^4 - 10X^2 + 5 \quad f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 5$
3	$A \equiv 2(4), C \equiv 0(4)$	$X^4 - 10X^2 + 20 \quad f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
	$A \equiv 4(8), C \equiv 4(16)$	$X^4 - 68X^2 + 68 \quad f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 17$
4	$A \equiv 4(8), C \equiv 2(8)$	$X^4 - 4X^2 + 2 \quad f(K) = 2^4$
	$A \equiv 8(16), C \equiv 8(32)$	$X^4 - 8X^2 + 8 \quad f(K) = 2^4$

By [3: Theorem 1 (iv)] the cubic resolvent  $c(X) = X^3 - AX^2 - 4CX + (4AC - B^2)$  of  $q(X)$  has exactly one root  $t \in Z$ . Thus we have

$$(2) \quad (t - A)(t^2 - 4C) = B^2.$$

Clearly we see that  $t - A \neq 0$ ,  $t^2 - 4C \neq 0$ , as  $B \neq 0$ . Solving the quartic equation  $\theta^4 + A\theta^2 + B\theta + C = 0$  we find

$$(3) \quad \theta = \frac{\varepsilon(t - A) + \delta\sqrt{(A^2 - t^2) - 2B\varepsilon\sqrt{t - A}}}{2\sqrt{t - A}},$$

where  $\varepsilon = \pm 1$ ,  $\delta = \pm 1$ . If  $t - A \in Z^2$  then we have  $[K : Q] = [Q(\theta) : Q] = 1$  or 2, contradicting  $[K : Q] = 4$ . Hence  $t - A \notin Z^2$  and we can write

$$(4) \quad t - A = R^2S,$$

where  $S (\neq 1)$  is squarefree. From (2) and (4) we see that  $RS \mid B$  so that

$$(5) \quad B = B_1RS,$$

$$(6) \quad t^2 - 4C = B_1^2S.$$

From (4) and (6) we obtain

$$(7) \quad A^2 - 4C = S(B_1^2 - R^2(t + A)).$$

The unique quadratic subfield of  $K$  is

$$(8) \quad k = Q(\sqrt{t - A}) = Q(\sqrt{S}).$$

As  $k$  is real, we have  $S \geq 2$ . The splitting field of the cubic resolvent

$$c(X) = (X - t)(X^2 + (t - A)X + (t^2 - At - 4C))$$

is

$$Q\left(\sqrt{(t - A)^2 - 4(t^2 - At - 4C)}\right) = Q\left(\sqrt{-3t^2 + 2At + (A^2 + 16C)}\right).$$

Since  $K$  is cyclic, by [3: Theorem 1 (iv)], we must have

$$Q\left(\sqrt{-3t^2 + 2At + (A^2 + 16C)}\right) = k = Q(\sqrt{S}),$$

so there exists an integer  $z$  such that

$$(9) \quad -3t^2 + 2At + (A^2 + 16C) = Sz^2.$$

Equivalent forms of (9) are

$$(9)' \quad (t + A)^2 - 4(t^2 - 4C) = Sz^2,$$

$$(9)'' \quad (t - A)^2 - 4t(t - A) + 16C = Sz^2.$$

Further, from (3), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} K = Q(\theta) &= Q\left(\sqrt{(A^2 - t^2) - 2B\epsilon\sqrt{t - A}}\right) \\ &= Q\left(\sqrt{(A^2 - t^2) + 2B\sqrt{t - A}}\right) \\ &= Q\left(\sqrt{-R^2S(t + A) + 2B_1R^2S\sqrt{S}}\right), \quad \text{by (4), (5),} \\ &= Q\left(\sqrt{-(t + A) + 2B_1\sqrt{S}}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $M^2$  denote the largest square dividing both  $t + A$  and  $2B_1$ . Set

$$(10) \quad t + A = -M^2m, \quad 2B_1 = M^2n,$$

so that

$$(11) \quad (m, n) \text{ is squarefree,}$$

and

$$(12) \quad K = Q\left(\sqrt{m + n\sqrt{S}}\right).$$

Appealing to [2, Corollary 4], as well as the conductor-discriminant formula, we obtain

$$f(K) = 2^\lambda \frac{(m, n)S}{(m, n, S)},$$

where the values of  $\lambda$  are given in TABLE (iv).

Thus

$$(13) \quad f(K) = f_E(K)f_O(K),$$

where the 2-part  $f_E(K)$  of  $f(K)$  is

$$(14) \quad f_E(K) = \begin{cases} 2^\lambda, & \text{if } 2 \nmid (m, n), 2 \nmid S, \\ 2^{\lambda+1}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and the odd part  $f_O(K)$  of  $f(K)$  is

$$(15) \quad f_O(K) = \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ (p|S) \text{ or } (p|S, p|(m, n))}} p,$$

where  $p$  runs through primes.



TABLE (iv): Values of $\lambda$	
$\lambda$	congruence conditions
-1	$m \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ $m \equiv 6 \pmod{8}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$
0	$m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ $m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$
1	$m \equiv 6 \pmod{8}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ $m \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$
2	$m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ $m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ $m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$
3	$m \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, S \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ $m \equiv 4 \pmod{8}, n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, S \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, S \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$

Thus, to complete the proof, we must show that

$$(16) \quad \alpha = \begin{cases} \lambda, & \text{if } 2 \nmid (m, n), 2 \nmid S, \\ \lambda + 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where the values of  $\alpha$  are given in TABLE (i), and that for odd primes  $p$  we have

$$(17) \quad (p \mid S) \text{ or } (p \mid m, p \mid n, p \nmid S) \\ \iff (e_p \equiv 1 \pmod{2}) \text{ or } (e_p \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, e_p \geq 2, p \mid A),$$

where  $e_p = \min(v_p(A^2 - 4C), v_p(B))$ . We prove (17) first and then (16).

PROOF of (17). Although we use  $b$  for  $v_2(B)$  and  $\ell$  for  $v_2(A^2 - 4C)$ , just for the proof of (17), we set for an odd prime  $p$

$$(18) \quad b = v_p(B), \ell = v_p(A^2 - 4C)$$

and

$$(19) \quad b_1 = v_p(B_1), u = v_p(t + A).$$

We need a number of preliminary results ((20) to (45) below). By (5) we have

$$(20) \quad 0 \leq b_1 \leq b$$

and

$$(21) \quad v_p(R) = \begin{cases} b - b_1, & \text{if } p \nmid S, \\ b - b_1 - 1, & \text{if } p \mid S. \end{cases}$$

Further, from (4), we see that

$$(22) \quad v_p(t - A) = \begin{cases} 2(b - b_1), & \text{if } p \nmid S, \\ 2(b - b_1) - 1, & \text{if } p \mid S, \end{cases}$$

and, from (6), that

$$(23) \quad v_p(t^2 - 4C) = \begin{cases} 2b_1, & \text{if } p \nmid S, \\ 2b_1 + 1, & \text{if } p \mid S. \end{cases}$$

Considering the power of  $p$  in both sides of (7), we see that exactly one of the following three possibilities must occur

$$(24) \quad \begin{cases} \ell = 2x < 2(b - x) + u, & \text{if } p \nmid S, \\ \ell - 1 = 2x < 2(b - x - 1) + u, & \text{if } p \mid S, \end{cases}$$

$$(25) \quad \begin{cases} 2x > 2(b - b_1) + u = \ell, & \text{if } p \nmid S, \\ 2x > 2(b - b_1 - 1) + u = \ell - 1, & \text{if } p \mid S, \end{cases}$$

$$(26) \quad \begin{cases} 2x = 2(b - b_1) + u \leq \ell, & \text{if } p \nmid S, \\ 2x = 2(b - b_1 - 1) + u \leq \ell - 1, & \text{if } p \mid S. \end{cases}$$

From (24), (25) and (26), we see immediately that

$$(27) \quad (p \nmid S, \ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}) \text{ or } (p \mid S, \ell \equiv 0 \pmod{2}) \\ \implies (24) \text{ cannot occur}$$

$$(28) \quad (p \nmid S, \ell \not\equiv u \pmod{2}) \text{ or } (p \mid S, \ell \equiv u \pmod{2}) \\ \implies (25) \text{ cannot occur,}$$

$$(29) \quad u \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \implies (26) \text{ cannot occur.}$$

Next, from (10), (11) and (19), we see that

$$(30) \quad u \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, b_1 \geq u \implies p \mid (m, n),$$

$$(31) \quad x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, b_1 \leq u \implies p \mid (m, n),$$

$$(32) \quad u \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, b_1 \geq u \implies p \nmid m,$$

$$(33) \quad x \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, b_1 \leq u \implies p \nmid n.$$

From (5) and (10) we have

$$(34) \quad p \nmid B \implies p \nmid S, p \nmid n.$$

From (7) and (10) we have

$$(35) \quad \ell = 0 \implies p \nmid S, p \nmid (m, n).$$

From (5) and (7) we have

$$(36) \quad b \geq 1, \ell \geq 1, p \nmid S \implies b_1 \geq 1.$$

From (10) and (20) we have

$$(37) \quad u = 0 \implies p \nmid m.$$

Next we show that

$$(38) \quad p \nmid S, b \geq 1, \ell \geq 1, u = 0 \implies p \nmid A.$$

Suppose  $p \mid A$ . Then, by (18), we have  $p \mid B$ ,  $p \mid A^2 - 4C$ ,  $p \mid C$ . As  $p \nmid S$ , by (5),  $p$  divides one of  $B_1$  and  $R$ . By (7)  $p$  must divide both of  $B_1$  and  $R$ . Hence, by (4), we have  $p \mid t - A$  and thus, by (9)'',  $p \mid z$ . By (6) we have  $p \mid t^2 - 4C$  and so, by (9)',  $p \mid t + A$ , contradicting  $u = 0$ . This completes the proof of (38).

Our next result asserts that

$$(39) \quad p \nmid A, u \geq 1 \implies b_1 = b.$$

As  $p \nmid A$  and  $u \geq 1$  we have  $p \nmid t - A$ , so that, by (4), we have  $p \nmid RS$ , and thus, by (5),  $b_1 = b$ . This completes the proof of (39).

We now prove that

$$(40) \quad p \nmid S, p \nmid A, \ell \geq 2 \implies u \neq 1.$$

Suppose  $u = 1$ , that is,  $p \parallel t + A$ . By (7) we see that  $p \mid B_1$  and  $p \mid R$ . Then, by (4), we have  $p \mid t - A$  and so  $p \mid A$ , contradicting  $p \nmid A$ . This completes the proof of (40).

We next show that

$$(41) \quad p \nmid S, b_1 \geq 2, u \geq 2 \implies b_1 = b.$$

Suppose  $b_1 \neq b$ . By (20) and (21) we have  $p \mid R$ . Then, by (4), we have  $p^2 \mid t - A$ , so that as  $p^2 \mid t + A$  we have  $p^2 \mid t$  and  $p^2 \mid A$ . Further, as

TABLE (v) ( $p$ (prime) $\neq 2$ , $b = v_p(B)$ , $\ell = v_p(A^2 - 4C)$ )		
case	conditions	conclusion
1	$b = 0$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \nmid (m, n)$
2	$\ell = 0$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \nmid (m, n)$
3	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$
4	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \mid S$
5	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \nmid (m, n)$
6	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \nmid (m, n)$
7	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$
8	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \mid S$
9	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \nmid (m, n)$
10	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$
11	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \mid S$ , if $v_p(C)$ odd $p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$ , if $v_p(C)$ even
12	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \mid S$
13	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$
14	$b$ (even) $\geq 2$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \nmid (m, n)$
15	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \mid S$ , if $v_p(C)$ odd $p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$ , if $v_p(C)$ even
16	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \mid A$	$p \mid S$
17	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b \geq \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$
18	$b$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $\ell$ (odd) $\geq 1$ , $b < \ell$ , $p \nmid A$	$p \nmid S$ , $p \mid (m, n)$

$p^2 \mid B_1$ ,  $p \mid R$ , from (5), we see that  $p^3 \mid B$ . Then, from (6), as  $p^4 \mid t^2$  and  $p^4 \mid B_1^2$ , we see that  $p^4 \mid C$ . This contradicts (1) and so we must have  $b_1 = b$  as claimed.

Next we prove that

$$(42) \quad p \nmid A \implies p \nmid S.$$

Suppose  $p \nmid A$  yet  $p \mid S$ . Then, by (4), we have  $p \mid t - A$ , and, by (6), we deduce  $p \mid t^2 - 4C$ . Then, appealing to (9)', we see that  $p \mid t + A$ . Hence we have  $p \mid A$ , which is a contradiction, proving (42).

We now show that

$$(43) \quad p \nmid S, u = 1 \implies \ell \leq b.$$

We know that exactly one of the possibilities (24), (25), (26) must occur. If (24) holds with  $u = 1$  then  $\ell = 2b_1 < 2(b - b_1) + 1$ , so  $\ell = 2b_1 \leq 2(b - b_1)$ , that is,  $\ell = 2b_1 \leq b$ . If (25) holds with  $u = 1$  then  $\ell = 1 + 2(b - b_1) < 2b_1$ , so  $\ell = 1 + 2(b - b_1) \leq 2b_1 - 1$ , and thus  $\ell = 1 + 2b - 2b_1 \leq b$ . The possibility (26) cannot occur with  $u = 1$  by (29). This completes the proof of (43).

TABLE (v) ( $p$ (prime) $\neq 2$ , $b = v_p(B)$ , $\ell = v_p(A^2 - 4C)$ )		
case	examples	
1	$X^4 - 20X^2 - 40X - 20$	$p = 3, b = 0, S = 5, m = 5, n = -2$
2	$X^4 - 20X^2 - 40X - 20$	$p = 7, \ell = 0, S = 5, m = 5, n = -2$
3	$X^4 - 120X^2 - 200X + 1550$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 2, S = 2, m = 10, n = -5$
4	$X^4 - 210X^2 - 800X + 1025$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 4, S = 5, m = 25, n = -10$
5	$X^4 - 100X^2 - 360X - 20$	$p = 3, b = 2, \ell = 2, S = 5, m = 5, n = -2$
6	$X^4 - 7592X^2 - 314600X - 3286634$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 4, S = 26, m = 26, n = 5$
7	$X^4 - 336X^2 - 216X + 24318$	$p = 3, b = 3, \ell = 2, S = 2, m = 6, n = 3$
8	$X^4 - 260X^2 - 500X + 11275$	$p = 5, b = 3, \ell = 4, S = 5, m = 5, n = -1$
9	$X^4 - 200X^2 - 1080X - 890$	$p = 3, b = 3, \ell = 2, S = 10, m = 10, n = 3$
10	$X^4 - 104X^2 - 40X + 2254$	$p = 5, b = 1, \ell = 2, S = 2, m = 50, n = 5$
11	$X^4 - 260X^2 - 100X + 14395$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 1, S = 5, m = 1, n = 2$
	$X^4 - 1968X^2 - 2658X + 182286$	$p = 3, b = 4, \ell = 3, S = 82, m = 246, n = -27$
12	$X^4 - 60X^2 - 200X - 100$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 3, S = 5, m = -25, n = -10$
13	$X^4 - 2368X^2 - 22200X + 657046$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 1, S = 74, m = 1110, n = 75$
14	$X^4 - 504X^2 - 200X + 60254$	$p = 5, b = 2, \ell = 3, S = 2, m = 10, n = 1$
15	$X^4 - 442X^2 - 1664X + 24713$	$p = 13, b = 1, \ell = 1, S = 13, m = 13, n = 2$
	$X^4 - 1560X^2 - 13000X + 254150$	$p = 5, b = 3, \ell = 3, S = 26, m = 13, n = 25$
16	$X^4 - 5080X^2 - 36000X + 40266$	$p = 5, b = 3, \ell = 5, S = 10, m = 250, n = 45$
17	$X^4 - 1036X^2 - 8880X + 70300$	$p = 3, b = 1, \ell = 1, S = 74, m = 444, n = 30$
18	$X^4 - 204X^2 - 80X + 9404$	$p = 5, b = 1, \ell = 3, S = 2, m = 100, n = -10$

Next we prove

$$(44) \quad p \nmid S, u = 0 \implies \begin{cases} \ell < b, & \text{if (24) or (25) holds,} \\ \ell \geq b, & \text{if (26) holds.} \end{cases}$$

If (24) holds with  $u = 0$  then  $2b_1 < 2(b - b_1)$ ,  $2b_1 < b$ ,  $\ell < b$ . If (25) holds with  $u = 0$  then  $2b_1 > 2(b - b_1)$ ,  $2b_1 > b$ ,  $\ell = 2(b - b_1) < b$ . If (26) holds with  $u = 0$  then  $2b_1 = 2(b - b_1)$ ,  $b = 2b_1 \leq \ell$ . This completes the proof of (44).

Our last preliminary result is the following

$$(45) \quad p \nmid S, \quad b = b_1, \quad u \geq 1 \implies p \nmid A.$$

As  $b = b_1$ , by (21), we have  $p \nmid R$ . Hence, by (4), we deduce  $p \nmid t - A$ . But  $u \geq 1$  so that  $p \mid t + A$ . Thus we must have  $p \nmid A$  as asserted.

We are now ready to prove (17). We do this by justifying the assertions of TABLE (v) above.

Cases 1 and 2 of TABLE (v) follow immediately from (34) and (35). It remains to treat cases 3–18. For these cases we have  $b \geq 1$  and  $\ell \geq 1$ . To complete the proof of the table we must show that

$$(46) \quad p \nmid S, \text{ cases } 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 (v_p(C) \text{ even}), \\ 13, 14, 15 (v_p(C) \text{ even}), 17, 18,$$

$$(47) \quad p \mid S, \text{ cases } 4, 8, 11 (v_p(C) \text{ odd}), 12, 15 (v_p(C) \text{ odd}), 16,$$

$$(48) \quad \begin{cases} p \mid (m, n), & \text{cases } 3, 7, 10, 11 (v_p(C) \text{ even}), \\ & 13, 15 (v_p(C) \text{ even}), 17, 18, \\ p \nmid (m, n), & \text{cases } 5, 6, 9, 14. \end{cases}$$

Clearly (46) follows from (42) in cases 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18. We establish (46) for cases 3 and 7 by proving that

$$b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 2, \quad p \mid A \implies p \nmid S.$$

We assume that  $p \parallel S$  and obtain a contradiction. As  $p \mid S$ , by (4), we see that  $p \mid t - A$ , and thus  $p \mid t + A$ . If  $p \parallel t - A$  then by (4)  $p \nmid R$ . Hence by (5)  $p^{b-1} \parallel B_1$  so that by (6)  $p^{2b-1} \parallel t^2 - 4C$ . As  $b \geq \ell > 1$  we have  $2b - 1 > \ell$  so that  $p^\ell \mid p^{2b-1} \parallel SB_1^2$ . Hence by (7) we see that  $p^\ell \parallel SR^2(t + A)$ , that is,  $p^{\ell-1} \parallel t + A$ . It is clear from (9)' that  $v_p((t + A)^2 - 4(t^2 - 4C)) = v_p(Sz^2) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  so that

$$\min(2(\ell - 1), 2b - 1) = 2b - 1,$$

implying  $b \leq \ell - 1$ , which contradicts  $b \geq \ell$ . If  $p \parallel t + A$  then as  $p \mid A$  we have  $p \mid t$ . Next, as  $\ell \geq 2$ , we have  $p^2 \mid A^2 - 4C$  so  $p^2 \mid C$ , and thus  $p^2 \mid t^2 - 4C$ . By (6),  $v_p(t^2 - 4C) = v_p(B_1^2 S) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  so that  $p^3 \mid t^2 - 4C$ . Then, by (9)', we see that  $v_p((t + A)^2 - 4(t^2 - 4C)) = 2$ , contradicting that  $v_p(Sz^2) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . Hence we must have  $p^2 \mid t - A$  and  $p^2 \mid t + A$ . Thus  $p^2 \mid A$  and, by (4), we have  $p \mid R$ . Next, as  $\ell \geq 2$ , from (7) we see that  $p \mid B_1$ , and thus, by (5),  $p^3 \mid B$ . Then, from (7), we see that  $p^3 \mid A^2 - 4C$ . But  $\ell$  is even so  $p^4 \mid A^2 - 4C$  and thus  $p^4 \mid C$ , contradicting (1).

We establish (46) for cases 11 and 15 when  $v_p(C)$  is even by proving that

$$b \geq \ell(\text{odd}) \geq 1, p \mid A, p^{2k} \parallel C \implies p \nmid S.$$

As  $\ell \geq 1$  we have  $p \mid A^2 - 4C$  so that  $p \mid C$ , and thus  $k \geq 1$ . Hence  $p^2 \mid C$  so  $p^2 \mid A^2 - 4C$  showing that  $\ell \geq 2$ . But  $\ell$  is odd so we must have  $\ell \geq 3$ . Further, as  $p^\ell \parallel A^2 - 4C$ , where  $\ell$  is odd, and  $p^{2k} \parallel C$ , we see that  $p^{2k} \parallel A^2$ , that is  $p^k \parallel A$ . Moreover, as  $b \geq \ell \geq 3$ , we have  $p^3 \mid B$ . If  $k \geq 2$  then  $p^2 \mid A$ ,  $p^3 \mid B$ ,  $p^4 \mid C$ , contradicting (1). Hence we must have  $k = 1$ , that is  $p \parallel A$  and  $p^2 \parallel C$ . Suppose now that  $p \mid S$ , so that  $p \parallel S$ , we will obtain a contradiction. We consider two cases according as  $p \nmid R$  or  $p \mid R$ . If  $p \nmid R$  then by (4) we have  $p \parallel t - A$ . From (5) we see that  $p^{b-1} \parallel B_1$ , so that  $p^{2b-1} \mid SB_1^2$ , where  $2b - 1 \geq 2\ell - 1 > \ell$ . Hence from (7) we deduce that  $p^\ell \parallel SR^2(t + A)$ , that is,  $p^{\ell-1} \parallel t + A$ . From (6) we see that  $p^{2b-1} \parallel t^2 - 4C$ . Then, from (9)', as  $Sz^2$  is divisible by an odd power of  $p$ , we deduce that  $2b - 1 < 2\ell - 2$ , that is,  $b \leq \ell - 1$ , which contradicts  $b \geq \ell$ . We now turn to the case  $p \mid R$ , say,  $p^r \parallel R$ , where  $r \geq 1$ . From (4) we deduce that  $p^{2r+1} \parallel t - A$ . As  $p \parallel A$  and  $p^3 \mid t - A$  we have  $p \parallel t + A$ . From (5) we deduce that  $p^{b-r-1} \parallel B_1$ , so that by (6)  $p^{2(b-r-1)+1} \parallel t^2 - 4C$ . Then, from (9)', as  $Sz^2$  is divisible by an odd power of  $p$ , we must have  $2(b-r-1)+1 = 1$ , that is  $r = b - 1$ , and hence  $p \parallel t^2 - 4C$ . On the other hand we have  $p \mid t$  and  $p^2 \mid C$  so that  $p^2 \mid t^2 - 4C$ , which is the required contradiction. This completes the proof of (46).

Next we prove (47). First we treat cases 4 and 12. We prove

$$(49)_1 \quad b(\text{even}) \geq 2, \quad b < \ell, \quad p \mid A, \quad p^i \parallel C \quad (i = 2, 3) \implies p \mid S$$

and

$$(49)_2 \quad b(\text{even}) \geq 2, \quad b < \ell, \quad p \mid A, \\ p^i \parallel C \quad (i = 0, 1 \text{ or } i \geq 4) \text{ cannot occur.}$$

$i = 0, 1$ . Here  $\ell > b \geq 2$  so  $p^2 \mid A^2 - 4C$ . But  $p \mid A$ , so  $p^2 \mid A^2$ , and thus  $p^2 \mid C$ , contradicting  $i = 0, 1$ . This case cannot occur.

$i = 2$ . Here  $p^2 \parallel C$ ,  $\ell > b \geq 2$  so  $\ell \geq 3$ ,  $p^3 \mid A^2 - 4C$ , and thus  $p \parallel A$ . Assume  $p \nmid S$ . Then, by (5), we have  $p \mid B_1$  or  $p \mid R$ . If  $p \nmid R$ , so that  $p \mid B_1$ ,

we have by (4)  $p \nmid t - A$ . But, by (7), we have  $p^2 \mid t + A$ , contradicting  $p \mid A$ . Hence we must have  $p \mid R$ . Then, by (7), we see that  $p \mid B_1$ . By (4) we have  $p^2 \mid t - A$  so, as  $p \parallel A$ , we have  $p \parallel t + A$ , that is  $u = 1$ . Hence, by (43), we have  $\ell \leq b$ , contradicting  $b < \ell$ . Thus we must have  $p \mid S$  in this case.

$i = 3$ . Here  $p^3 \parallel C$ ,  $\ell > b \geq 2$ ,  $\ell \geq 3$ ,  $p^3 \mid A^2 - 4C$ , so that  $p^2 \mid A$ . Assume  $p \nmid S$ . Then, by (5), we have  $p \mid B_1$  or  $p \mid R$ . If  $p \nmid R$ , so that  $p \mid B_1$ , by (4) we have  $p \nmid t - A$ . But, by (7), we have  $p^2 \mid t + A$  contradicting  $p \mid A$ . Hence we must have  $p \mid R$ . Then, by (7), we see that  $p \mid B_1$ . From (6), we see that  $p^3 \parallel t^2 - SB_1^2$ , so that  $p \parallel B_1$ ,  $p \parallel t$ . Hence we have  $p^2 \parallel S(B_1^2 - R^2(t + A))$ , contradicting  $p^3 \mid A^2 - 4C$ . Thus we must have  $p \mid S$  in this case.

$i \geq 4$ . As  $\ell > b \geq 2$ , we have  $\ell \geq 3$ , so  $p^3 \mid A^2 - 4C$ . But  $p^4 \mid C$ , so  $p^3 \mid A^2$ ,  $p^2 \mid A$ . Now  $p^2 \mid B$  so, by (5), we have either  $p \mid R$  or  $p \nmid R$ ,  $p \mid B_1$ . Suppose  $p \mid R$ . Then, by (4), we have  $p^2 \mid t - A$ , and thus  $p^2 \mid t + A$ ,  $p^4 \mid R^2(t + A)$ , so that  $p^3 \mid SB_1^2$  by (7). If  $p \mid S$  then  $p \mid B_1$ ,  $p^3 \mid B$ , contradicting (1). If  $p \nmid S$  then  $p^3 \mid B_1^2$ ,  $p^2 \mid B_1$ ,  $p^3 \mid B$ , contradicting (1). Thus we must have  $p \nmid R$ ,  $p \mid B_1$ . By (7) we have  $p^2 \mid t + A$ , so  $p^2 \mid t - A$ ,  $p^2 \mid R^2S$ ,  $p \mid R$ , contradicting  $p \nmid R$ . Thus this case cannot occur. This completes the proof of (49), and hence of (47), for cases 4 and 12.

We now prove (47) for cases 8 and 16. We prove

$$\ell > b(\text{odd}) \geq 1, \quad p \mid A \implies p \mid S.$$

Assume that  $p \nmid S$ . As  $\ell \geq 2$  we have  $p^2 \mid A^2 - 4C$  so that  $p^2 \mid C$ . As  $b \geq 1$  we have  $p \mid B$  so by (2) either  $p \mid t - A$  or  $p \mid t^2 - 4C$ . For both possibilities we must have  $p \mid t$ , so that  $p \mid t - A$ ,  $p \mid t + A$ ,  $p^2 \mid t^2 - 4C$ . Hence  $u = v_p(t + A) \geq 1$ . If  $u = 1$ , by (43), we have  $\ell \leq b$  contradicting  $\ell > b$ . Hence  $u \geq 2$  so that  $p^2 \mid t + A$ . From (6) we deduce  $p \mid B_1$ , and from (4) that  $p \mid R$  and  $p^2 \mid t - A$ . Hence  $p^2 \mid A$ . From (5) we see that  $p^2 \mid B$  so that  $b \geq 2$ . But  $b$  is odd so  $b \geq 3$ , and  $p^3 \mid B$ . As  $\ell > b \geq 3$  we have  $\ell \geq 4$  so  $p^4 \mid A^2 - 4C$ , and thus  $p^4 \mid C$ , contradicting (1). This completes the proof of (47) for cases 8 and 16.



We now prove (47) for cases 11 and 15 when  $v_p(C)$  is odd by proving that

$$b \geq \ell(\text{odd}) \geq 1, \quad p \mid A, \quad p^{2k+1} \parallel C \implies p \mid S.$$

Let  $a = v_p(A)$  so that  $p^a \parallel A$ , where  $a \geq 1$ . As  $p^\ell \parallel A^2 - 4C$ , where  $\ell$  is odd,  $p^{2a} \parallel A^2$  and  $p^{2k+1} \parallel C$ , we must have  $\ell = 2k + 1 < 2a$ . If  $k \geq 2$  then  $b \geq \ell \geq 5$  and  $a \geq 3$ , so that  $p^3 \mid A$ ,  $p^5 \mid B$ ,  $p^5 \mid C$ , which contradicts (1). Hence we must have  $k = 0$  or  $k = 1$  that is  $\ell = 1$  or  $\ell = 3$ . We suppose that  $p \nmid S$  and obtain a contradiction. We consider two cases according as  $p \nmid R$  or  $p \mid R$ . If  $p \nmid R$  then by (4) we see that  $p \nmid t - A$ . As  $p \mid A$  we have  $p \nmid t$ . On the other hand as  $p \mid B$  and  $p \nmid t - A$  from (2) we see that  $p \mid t^2 - 4C$ , so that as  $p \mid C$ , we have the contradiction  $p \mid t$ . If  $p \mid R$  then  $p^r \parallel R$  for some  $r \geq 1$ . From (4) we deduce that  $p^{2r} \parallel t - A$  and thus as  $p \mid A$  we have  $p \mid t$  and  $p \mid t + A$ . From (5) we obtain  $p^{b-r} \parallel B_1$ . Thus, from (7), as

$$p^\ell \parallel A^2 - 4C \quad (\ell = 1 \text{ or } 3), \quad p^{2(b-r)} \parallel SB_1^2, \\ p^{2r+v_p(t+A)} \mid SR^2(t+A), \quad 2r + v_p(t+A) \geq 3,$$

we must have

$$\ell = 3, \quad b - r \geq 2, \quad 2r + v_p(t+A) = 3.$$

Hence

$$k = 1, \quad a \geq 2, \quad r = v_p(t+A) = 1, \quad b \geq 3,$$

and thus

$$p^3 \parallel C, \quad p \parallel R, \quad p^2 \parallel t - A, \quad p \parallel t + A, \\ p^2 \mid A, \quad p \parallel t, \quad p^2 \parallel t^2 - 4C, \quad p \parallel B_1 \text{ (by (6))},$$

$p^2 \parallel B$  (by (5)),  $b = 2$ , contradicting  $b \geq 3$ . This completes the proof of (47).

We now prove (48). Let  $p$  be an odd prime with  $p \nmid S$ , so that we are in cases 3, 5-7, 9-10, 11 ( $v_p(C)$  even), 13-14, 15 ( $v_p(C)$  even), 17-18. By (36) we have  $x \geq 1$ . Exactly one of (24), (25), (26) occurs.

We begin by supposing that (24) occurs, so  $\ell$  is even, and we are in cases 3, 5-7, 9-10. (48) follows from the table below.

	cases	assertion	reason
$u = 0$	3, 7,	cannot occur	(38)
	6, 10	cannot occur	(44)
	5, 9	$p \nmid m$	(32)
$u = 1$	3, 7	$p \mid (m, n)$	(30)
	6, 10	cannot occur	(43)
	5, 9	cannot occur	(40)
$u \geq 2, b_1 = 1$	3, 7, 10	$p \mid (m, n)$	(31)
	6	cannot occur	(24)
	5, 9	cannot occur	(39)
$u \geq 2, b_1 \geq 2$	3, 5, 7, 9	cannot occur	$\ell = 2b_1 = 2b > b(24), (41)$
	10	$p \mid (m, n)$	(24), (31), (41)
	6	$p \nmid n$	(24), (33), (41)

Next we suppose that (25) occurs, so that  $\ell \equiv u \pmod{2}$ . In cases 3, 5-7, 9-10,  $\ell$  and  $u$  are both even, whereas, in cases 11, 13-15, 17-18,  $\ell$  and  $u$  are both odd. (48) follows from the table below.

	cases	assertion	reason
$u = 0$	3, 7,	cannot occur	(38)
	11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18	cannot occur	$u$ odd
	6, 10	cannot occur	(44)
	5, 9	$p \nmid m$	(32)
$u = 1$	11, 13, 15, 17, 18	$p \mid (m, n)$	(30)
	14	cannot occur	(43)
	3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10	cannot occur	$u$ even
$u \geq 2, b_1 = 1$	3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18	$p \mid (m, n)$	(31)
	5, 6, 9, 14	cannot occur	(39)
$u \geq 2, b_1 \geq 2$	10, 18	$p \mid (m, n)$	(25), (31), (41)
	6, 14	$p \nmid n$	(25), (33), (41)
	5, 9	$p \nmid m$	(25), (32), (41)
	11, 13, 15, 17	$p \mid (m, n)$	(25), (30), (41)
	3, 7	cannot occur	(41), (45)

Finally we suppose that (26) occurs, so that  $u$  is even. (48) follows from the table below.

	cases	assertion	reason
$u = 0$	5, 6, 14	$p \nmid m$	(37)
	7, 9, 11, 13	cannot occur	(44)
	3, 15	cannot occur	(38)
	10, 17, 18	cannot occur	(26)
$u \geq 2, b_1 = 1$	3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18	$p \mid (m, n)$	(31)
	5, 6, 9, 14	cannot occur	(39)
$u \geq 2, b_1 \geq 2$	3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17	cannot occur	(26), (41)
	6, 14	$p \nmid n$	(26), (33), (41)
	10, 18	$p \mid (m, n)$	(26), (31), (41)

This completes the proof of (17).

PROOF of (16). We treat each of the cases specified in TABLE (iv) separately. We just give the details for the case

$$m \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, \quad n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \quad S \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

as this serves as a model for the rest of the cases. Recall that  $2^b \parallel B$ ,  $2^\ell \parallel A^2 - 4C$ . We define the integers  $r$  and  $\mu$  by  $2^r \parallel R$ ,  $2^\mu \parallel M$ , so that

$$(50) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} R \equiv 2^r \pmod{2^{r+1}}, & \\ R^2 \equiv 2^{2r} \pmod{2^{2r+3}}, & \\ t - A \equiv 2^{2r} \pmod{2^{2r+3}}, & \text{by (4),} \\ M \equiv 2^\mu \pmod{2^{\mu+1}}, & \\ t + A \equiv -2^{2\mu+1} \pmod{2^{2\mu+3}}, & \text{by (10),} \\ B_1 \equiv 2^{2\mu} \pmod{2^{2\mu+1}}, & \text{by (10),} \\ b = 2\mu + r, & \text{by (5).} \end{array} \right.$$

From the congruences for  $t - A$  and  $t + A$ , we obtain the following congru-

ences:

$$(51) \quad \begin{cases} t \equiv -2^{2\mu} \pmod{2^{2\mu+2}}, \\ A \equiv -2^{2\mu} \pmod{2^{2\mu+2}}, & \text{if } r \geq \mu + 2, \\ t \equiv 2^{2\mu} \pmod{2^{2\mu+2}}, \\ A \equiv 2^{2\mu} \pmod{2^{2\mu+1}}, & \text{if } r = \mu + 1, \\ t \equiv -2^{2\mu-1} \pmod{2^{2\mu+2}}, \\ A \equiv 5 \cdot 2^{2\mu-1} \pmod{2^{2\mu+1}}, & \text{if } r = \mu, \\ t \equiv 2^{2r-1} \pmod{2^{2r+2}}, \\ A \equiv -2^{2r-1} \pmod{2^{2r+2}}, & \text{if } r \leq \mu - 1. \end{cases}$$

Appealing to (7) we see that there are integers  $g$  and  $h$  such that

$$A^2 - 4C = (8g + 1)2^{4\mu} + (4h + 1)2^{2r+2\mu+1},$$

so that

$$(52) \quad \ell = \begin{cases} 4\mu, & \text{if } r \geq \mu, \\ 2r + 2\mu + 1, & \text{if } r \leq \mu - 1, \end{cases}$$

and

$$(53) \quad (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv \begin{cases} 1 \pmod{8}, & \text{if } r \geq \mu + 1, \\ 3 \pmod{8}, & \text{if } r = \mu, \\ 3 \pmod{4}, & \text{if } r = \mu - 1, \\ 1 \pmod{4}, & \text{if } r \leq \mu - 2. \end{cases}$$

Next, from (6), we obtain

$$(54) \quad \begin{cases} C \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{4\mu+1}}, & \text{if } r \geq \mu + 1, \\ C \equiv 2^{4\mu-4} - 2^{4\mu-2} \pmod{2^{4\mu-1}}, & \text{if } r = \mu, \\ C \equiv 2^{4r-4} \pmod{2^{4r-1}}, & \text{if } r \leq \mu - 1. \end{cases}$$

Thus we have

$$(55) \quad \begin{cases} 2^{2\mu} \parallel A, \quad 2^{3\mu+2} \mid B, \quad 2^{4\mu+1} \mid C, & \text{if } r \geq \mu + 2, \\ 2^{2\mu} \parallel A, \quad 2^{3\mu+1} \mid B, \quad 2^{4\mu+1} \mid C, & \text{if } r = \mu + 1, \\ 2^{2\mu-1} \parallel A, \quad 2^{3\mu} \parallel B, \quad 2^{4\mu-4} \parallel C, & \text{if } r = \mu, \\ 2^{2r-1} \parallel A, \quad 2^{3r+2} \mid B, \quad 2^{4r-4} \parallel C, & \text{if } r \leq \mu - 1, \end{cases}$$

and so, by (1), we have

$$(56) \quad \begin{cases} \mu = 0, & \text{if } r \geq \mu + 2, \\ \mu = 0, & \text{if } r = \mu + 1, \\ \mu = 1, & \text{if } r = \mu, \\ r = 1, & \text{if } r \leq \mu - 1. \end{cases}$$

Appealing to (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), and (56), we have:

---

I:  $m \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

---

$A \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ,
$b \geq 2, \ell = 0, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,		
$A \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ,
$b = 1, \ell = 0, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,		
$A \equiv 10 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}$ ,	$C \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$
$b = 3, \ell = 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ ,		
$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$
$b = 5, \ell = 7, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,		
$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .		

---

Similarly for the remaining eleven cases in TABLE (iv) we obtain:

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II:  $m \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$

---

$A \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,
$\ell = 0, b \geq 2, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$		
$A \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,
$\ell = 0, b = 1, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 10 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}$ ,	$C \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell = 4, b = 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$		

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III:  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

---

$A \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,
$\ell = 0, b \geq 2, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$		
$A \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,
$\ell = 0, b = 1, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ,
$\ell = 0, b \geq 2, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$		
$A \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,	$B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,	$C \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,
$\ell = 0, b = 1, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$b \geq \ell = 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{256}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		

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IV:  $m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$

---

$A \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ,	$B \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,
$\ell \geq 2, b = 0, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$		
$A \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{16}$ ,	$C \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ ,
$b \geq \ell = 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell(\text{even}) = b + 1 \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$		
$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}$ ,	$B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}$ ,	$C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ,
$\ell = 6, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$		

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---

V:  $m \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

---

$$A \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, \quad C \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, \\ \ell = 0, b \geq 2, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$$

$$A \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \quad B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \quad C \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, \\ \ell = 0, b = 1, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$$

$$A \equiv 2 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 5 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = 4, b = 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$$

$$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$


---

VI:  $m \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$

---

$$A \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \quad B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, \\ \ell = 0, b = 1, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$$

$$A \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, \\ \ell = 0, b \geq 2, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$$

$$A \equiv 2 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 5 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = 4, b = 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 2 \geq 9, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$


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VII:  $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

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$$A \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = 5, b \geq 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 4 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{16}, \\ b + 1 \geq \ell \geq 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 1 \geq 7, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ b \geq \ell(\text{odd}) \geq 7, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$


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VIII:  $m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

---

$$A \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{16},$$

$$b \geq \ell = 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell \geq b(\text{odd}) + 3 \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$b \geq \ell = 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{256}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$b \geq \ell(\text{even}) \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$


---

---

IX:  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$

---

$$A \equiv 4 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 12 \pmod{16},$$

$$\ell = 5, b = 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 5 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell = 4, b \geq 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell(\text{even}) = b + 1 \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 14 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell = 6, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$


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X:  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $S \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

---

$$A \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, \quad B \equiv 4 \pmod{8}, \quad C \equiv 3 \pmod{4},$$

$$\ell = b = 2, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, \quad C \equiv 0 \pmod{4},$$

$$\ell = 2, b \geq 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 16 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell \geq 7, b = 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 6 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell(\text{even}) = b + 2 \geq 8, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$


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XI:  $m \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $S \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$

---

$$A \equiv 4 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 16 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 28 \pmod{32},$$

$$\ell = 5, b = 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 8 \pmod{32},$$

$$\ell = 5, b \geq 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 64 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32},$$

$$\ell \geq 10, b = 6, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{256}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32},$$

$$\ell(\text{odd}) = b + 3 \geq 11, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$


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XII:  $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $S \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$

---

$$A \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 6 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell = b = 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 4 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 2 \pmod{8},$$

$$\ell = 3, b \geq 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32},$$

$$\ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32},$$

$$\ell(\text{even}) = b + 3 \geq 10, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$


---

From these tables, and TABLES (i) and (iv), we obtain the following values of  $\lambda$  and  $\alpha$

I	$\lambda = -1, \quad \alpha = 0$	VII	$\lambda = 2, \quad \alpha = 3$
II	$\lambda = -1, \quad \alpha = 0$	VIII	$\lambda = 2, \quad \alpha = 2$
III	$\lambda = 0, \quad \alpha = 0$	IX	$\lambda = 2, \quad \alpha = 2$
IV	$\lambda = 0, \quad \alpha = 0$	X	$\lambda = 3, \quad \alpha = 3$
V	$\lambda = 1, \quad \alpha = 2$	XI	$\lambda = 3, \quad \alpha = 4$
VI	$\lambda = 1, \quad \alpha = 2$	XII	$\lambda = 3, \quad \alpha = 4$

which proves (16).

This completes the proof of case (i) of Theorem 1.  $\square$

We now give the special case  $A = 0$  as a corollary to Theorem 1.

**Corollary.** Let  $K = Q(\theta)$  be a cyclic quartic extension of  $Q$ , where  $\theta$  is a root of the irreducible polynomial  $X^4 + BX + C$ , where  $B$  and  $C$  are (nonzero) integers for which there does not exist a prime  $p$  with  $p^3 \mid B$ ,  $p^4 \mid C$ . Then the conductor  $f(K)$  of  $K$  is given by

$$f(K) = 2^\delta \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p \mid B, p \mid C}} p,$$

where the values of  $\delta$  are given in Table (vi).

TABLE (vi): Values of $\delta$		
$\delta$	congruence conditions	examples
0	$B \equiv C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$	$X^4 - 5X + 5 \quad f(K) = 5$
2	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, C \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$	$X^4 - 272X + 884 \quad f(K) = 2^2 \cdot 17$
3	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, C \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$	$X^4 - 20X + 95 \quad f(K) = 2^3 \cdot 5$
4	$B \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, C \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$	$X^4 + 8X + 14 \quad f(K) = 2^4$

**PROOF.** We first show that we cannot have

$$A = 0, B \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, C \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$$

in case (i) of the theorem. Suppose this possibility occurs. Then, by (1), we must have  $C \equiv 8 \pmod{16}$ , and, by Proposition 1, we have  $S \equiv 1, 2, \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}$ . Define the integers  $r, s$  and  $x$  by

$$2^r \parallel R, 2^s \parallel S, 2^x \parallel B_1.$$

As  $S$  is squarefree we have  $s = 0$  or  $1$ . From (4) (with  $A = 0$ ) and (5) we obtain

$$2^{2r+s} \parallel t, \quad 2^{x+r+s} \parallel B.$$

As  $B \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  we must have

$$x + r + s \geq 3.$$

From (6) we have

$$4C = t^2 - B_1^2 S.$$

Note that  $2^{4r+2s} \parallel t^2$  and  $2^{2x+s} \parallel B_1^2 S$ . We consider three cases

- (a)  $4r + 2s < 2x + s,$
- (b)  $4r + 2s = 2x + s,$
- (c)  $4r + 2s > 2x + s.$

*Case (a).* In this case we have  $2^{4r+2s} \parallel 4C$ , so that  $4r + 2s = 5$ , which is impossible.

*Case (b).* In this case  $4r + 2s = 2x + s \leq 5$  so that  $s = 0, x = 2r, r = 0$  or  $1$ . If  $r = 0$  then we have  $x = 0$  contradicting  $x + r + s \geq 3$ . Hence we have  $r = 1, x = 2, s = 0$ , so that

$$2 \parallel R, S \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, 2^2 \parallel B_1, 2^2 \parallel t, 2^3 \parallel B, 2^3 \parallel C.$$

Setting

$$t = 4t_1, B_1 = 4B_2, C = 8C_1,$$

where  $t_1, B_2, C_1$  are all odd, in  $4C = t^2 - B_1^2 S$ , and dividing by  $2^4$ , we obtain  $2C_1 = t_1^2 - B_2^2 S$ . Taking this equation modulo 4 we obtain

$$2 \equiv 2C_1 \equiv t_1^2 - B_2^2 S \equiv 1 - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4},$$

which is impossible.

*Case (c).* In this case we have  $4r + s > 2x$  and  $2^{2x+s} \parallel 4C$  so that  $2x + s = 5$ . Hence we have  $s = 1, x = 2$  and  $r \geq 1$ . Thus we have

$$2^r \parallel R, S \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, 2^2 \parallel B_1, 2^{2r+1} \parallel t, 2^{r+3} \parallel B, 2^3 \parallel C.$$

Setting

$$t = 2^{2r+1} t_1, B_1 = 4B_2, C = 8C_1, S = 2S_1,$$

where  $t_1 \equiv B_2 \equiv C_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, S_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , in  $4C = t^2 - B_1^2 S$ , and dividing by  $2^5$ , we obtain  $C_1 = 2^{4r-3} t_1^2 - B_2^2 S_1$ . Taking this equation modulo 4 we obtain

$$C_1 \equiv \begin{cases} 2 - 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, & \text{if } r = 1, \\ 0 - 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, & \text{if } r \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

From (9) with  $A = 0$  we have  $16C - 3t^2 = Sz^2$ , so that  $S_1 z^2 = 2^6 C_1 - 3 \cdot 2^{4r+1} t_1^2$ . If  $r = 1$  then we have  $2^5 \parallel S_1 z^2$ , which is impossible. Hence we have  $r \geq 2$  and so  $2^6 \parallel S_1 z^2, 2^6 \parallel z^2, 2^3 \parallel z$ , say  $z = 2^3 z_1$ , where  $z_1$  is odd. Thus  $S_1 z_1^2 = C_1 - 3 \cdot 2^{4r-5} t_1^2$ . Taking this equation modulo 4 we obtain

$$1 \equiv S_1 z_1^2 \equiv C_1 - 3 \cdot 2^{4r-5} t_1^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{4},$$

which is impossible.

This completes the proof that  $B \equiv C \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  does not occur when  $A = 0$ . The corollary now follows from case (i) of Theorem 1 with  $A = 0$ .  $\square$

Our next two results give the unique quadratic subfield  $k$  (Theorem 2) and the discriminant  $d(K)$  (Theorem 3) of the cyclic quartic field  $K = Q(\theta)$ , where  $\theta^4 + A\theta^2 + B\theta + C = 0$ , explicitly in terms of the prime factors of  $A, B$  and  $C$ .

**Theorem 2.** *With the notation of Theorem 1, the unique quadratic subfield of the cyclic quartic field  $K = Q(\theta)$  where  $\theta^4 + A\theta^2 + B\theta + C = 0$ , is  $k = Q(\sqrt{S})$ , where  $S$  is given as follows:*

Case (i):  $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B \neq 0$ .

$$S = 2^\theta \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p|A, p|B, p|C \\ v_p(B) < v_p(A^2 - 4C)}} p \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p|A, p|B, p|C \\ v_p(A^2 - 4C)(\text{odd}) \leq v_p(B), v_p(C) \text{ odd}}} p,$$

where  $\theta = 0$  except in the following cases when  $\theta = 1$ :

$$A \equiv 4 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 16 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 28 \pmod{32}, \\ \ell = 5, b = 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$A \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{32}, \quad C \equiv 8 \pmod{32}, \\ \ell = 5, b \geq 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 64 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32}, \\ \ell \geq 10, b = 6,$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{256}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32}, \\ \ell(\text{odd}) = b + 3 \geq 11,$$

$$A \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 8 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 6 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = b = 3, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$A \equiv 4 \pmod{8}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{16}, \quad C \equiv 2 \pmod{8}, \\ \ell = 3, b \geq 4, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 32 \pmod{64}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32}, \\ \ell = 7, b = 5, (A^2 - 4C)/2^\ell \equiv 3 \pmod{4},$$

$$A \equiv 12 \pmod{16}, \quad B \equiv 0 \pmod{128}, \quad C \equiv 4 \pmod{32}, \\ \ell(\text{even}) = b + 3 \geq 10,$$

where  $\ell = v_2(A^2 - 4C)$  and  $b = v_2(B)$ .

Case (ii):  $A^2 - 4C = 0, B \neq 0$ .

$$S = 2^\phi \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p|A, p^2 \parallel B}} p \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p \parallel A, p^3 \parallel B}} p,$$

where  $\phi = 0$  except where  $v_2(B) = 6$  in which case  $\phi = 1$ .

Case (iii):  $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B = 0$ .

$$S = 2^\rho \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ v_p(C) \text{ odd}}} p,$$

where

$$\rho = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } v_2(C) \text{ even,} \\ 1, & \text{if } v_2(C) \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

PROOF. We just treat Case (i). By (8) we have  $k = Q(\sqrt{S})$ . From the tables immediately following (56), we see that the 2-part of  $S$  is  $2^\theta$ , where

$$\theta = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{in cases I-X,} \\ 1, & \text{in cases XI, XII.} \end{cases}$$

From Table (v), remembering that  $S$  is squarefree, we see that the odd part of  $S$  is

$$\prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p|A, p|B, p|C \\ v_p(B) < v_p(A^2 - 4C)}} p \quad \prod_{\substack{p \neq 2 \\ p|A, p|B, p|C \\ v_p(A^2 - 4C)(\text{odd}) \leq v_p(B) \\ v_p(C) \text{ odd}}} p.$$

This proves the asserted formula for  $S$ .  $\square$

Before stating our next theorem, we recall that  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \theta, \phi, \rho$  are defined in Table (i), Table (ii), Table (iii), Theorem 2 (Case (i)), Theorem 2 (Case (ii)), Theorem 2 (Case (iii)) respectively.

**Theorem 3.** *With the notation of Theorems 1 and 2, the discriminant  $d(K)$  of the cyclic quartic field  $K = Q(\theta)$ , where  $\theta^4 + A\theta^2 + B\theta + C = 0$ , is given as follows:*

Case (i):  $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B \neq 0$ .

$$d(K) = 2^{2\alpha+3\theta} \prod_{p \in S_2} p^2 \prod_{p \in S_3} p^3,$$

where

$$S_2 = \left\{ p \neq 2 \mid \begin{array}{l} v_p(B)(\text{odd}) < v_p(A^2 - 4C), p \nmid C \\ \text{or } v_p(A^2 - 4C)(\text{odd}) \leq v_p(B), v_p(C) \text{ even} \\ \text{or } 2 \leq v_p(A^2 - 4C)(\text{even}) \leq v_p(B), p \mid C \end{array} \right\}$$

and

$$S_3 = \left\{ p \neq 2 \mid \begin{array}{l} 1 \leq v_p(B) < v_p(A^2 - 4C), p \mid C \\ \text{or } v_p(A^2 - 4C)(\text{odd}) \leq v_p(B), v_p(C) \text{ odd} \end{array} \right\}.$$

Case (ii):  $A^2 - 4C = 0, B \neq 0$ .

$$d(K) = 2^{2\beta+3\phi} \prod_{p \in S_2} p^2 \prod_{p \in S_3} p^3,$$

where

$$S_2 = \left\{ p \neq 2 \mid p \parallel B \text{ or } p \nmid A, v_p(B)(\text{odd}) \geq 3 \right\},$$

and

$$S_3 = \left\{ p \neq 2 \mid p \mid A, p^2 \parallel B \text{ or } p \parallel A, p^3 \mid B \right\}.$$

Case (iii):  $A^2 - 4C \neq 0, B = 0$

$$d(K) = 2^{2\gamma+3\rho} \prod_{p \in S_2} p^2 \prod_{p \in S_3} p^3,$$

where

$$S_2 = \left\{ p \neq 2 \mid p \mid A, v_p(C)(\text{even}) \geq 2 \right\},$$

and

$$S_3 = \left\{ p \neq 2 \mid v_p(C) \text{ odd} \right\}.$$

PROOF. This theorem follows from  $d(K) = f(K)^2 d(k)$ ,  $d(k) = 2^{2v_2(S)} S$ , Theorem 1 and Theorem 2.  $\square$

Our final theorem gives a necessary and sufficient condition for a cyclic quartic field to be totally imaginary.

**Theorem 4.** *With the notation of Theorem 1, let  $K$  be the cyclic quartic field  $Q(\theta)$ , where  $\theta$  is a root of  $\theta^4 + A\theta^2 + B\theta + C = 0$ . Then*

Case (i):  $K$  is totally imaginary  $\iff 2A^3 - 8AC + B^2 > 0$ ,

Case (ii):  $K$  is always totally imaginary,

Case (iii):  $K$  is totally imaginary  $\iff A > 0$ .

PROOF. We just treat Case (i). We have  $K = Q(\sqrt{m + n\sqrt{S}})$ . As  $K$  is cyclic we have  $K = Q(\sqrt{m \pm |n|\sqrt{S}})$ , and there exists an integer  $k (\neq 0)$  such that  $m^2 - Sn^2 = Sk^2$ . Thus  $|m| > |n|\sqrt{S}$ . If  $m > 0$  then  $m > |n|\sqrt{S}$  so  $m - |n|\sqrt{S} > 0$  and  $K$  is totally real. If  $m < 0$  then

$-m > |n|\sqrt{S}$  so  $m + |n|\sqrt{S} < 0$  and  $K$  is totally imaginary. We have thus shown that

$$K \text{ is totally imaginary} \iff m < 0.$$

By (10) we have

$$m < 0 \iff t + A > 0,$$

and, as  $t + A$  is the unique real root of the polynomial

$$X^3 - 4AX^2 + (5A^2 - 4C)X + (-2A^3 + 8AC - B^2),$$

we have

$$t + A > 0 \iff -2A^3 + 8AC - B^2 < 0,$$

completing the proof.  $\square$

We close by remarking that Theorem 5 of [1] follows easily from Theorem 1.

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