

# Group Theoretic Proof of Infinitude of Primes

**Lemma.** *If there are finitely many primes namely  $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_n$ , and  $n = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdot p_3 \dots p_{n-1}$ , and  $n - 1 = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdot p_3 \dots p_{n-1} - 1$  then  $|U(n)| = 2$ ,  $\forall n > 2$  where  $U(n)$  is a group under multiplication modulo  $n$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that,  $|U(n)| > 2$ .

Then there exists at least one  $k \in U(n)$  other than  $n - 1$  such that  $k$  is not a new prime.

Since,  $\gcd(k, n) = 1 \implies k \neq \prod_{i=1}^n p_i^{m_i}, (m_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+)$ .

Otherwise,  $\gcd(k, n) \neq 1 \implies k \notin U(n)$

It's only possible if  $k = n - 1$  or  $k$  is a new prime. Both of these cases contradicts our assumption.

Since,  $k$  is arbitrary there is no such  $k \in U(n) \implies |U(n)| = 2$ . □

**Theorem.** *There are infinitely many primes.*

*Proof.* From the preceding section, it's clear that,  $|U(n)| = 2$ , if the number of primes are finite.

It's known that, there are infinitely many  $U(n)$  groups where the number of non-identity elements in  $U(n)$  that satisfy the equation,

$$x^4 = 1.$$

is a multiple of 4 i.e.  $|U(n)| = 4q + r$ , for infinitely many  $n$  where  $q$  and  $r$  are arbitrary constants.

But, here in this case,  $\forall n, |U(n)| = 2$  i.e. there is only one element that satisfies the equation.  
(**contradiction**)

Hence, it is proved that, primes can not be finite. So, there are infinite number of primes. □