

Tom's Query: Perfect n-bics?

Abstract: A number theory query related to Fermat's last theorem in higher dimensions.

Author: Tom Masterson, tom.masterson@colorado.edu

When I first encountered Fermat's Last Theorem [$\forall n > 2 : m_1^n + m_2^n = m^n$, where n, m and m_i are integers] more than 50 years ago, I posed the query,

are there positive integers m_i, m such that $m_1^3 + m_2^3 + m_3^3 = m^3$?

Or, more generally, positive integers m, m_i and $N > 2$ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^N m_i^N = m^N ?$$

I immediately found one example: $3^3 + 4^3 + 5^3 = 6^3$ ($27 + 64 + 125 = 216$, a perfect cu-bic) but since then have had no time to pursue the matter further.

Query: has anyone worked on this problem?

Challenge: examples of perfect n-bics for $n \geq 3$