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## Note on the Jacobi sum $J(\chi, \chi)$ .

par STANISLAV JAKUBEC

### Notation

$$\zeta_l = \cos \frac{2\pi}{l} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{l}$$

$$\zeta_p = \cos \frac{2\pi}{p} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{p}$$

$$m = \frac{l-1}{2}$$

$\chi$  - the Dirichlet character modulo  $p$ ,  $\chi(x) = \zeta_l^{\text{ind}(x)}$

$J(\chi, \chi) = \sum_{x+y=1} \chi(x)\chi(y)$  - Jacobi sum

$$\tau(\chi) = \sum_{x=1}^{p-1} \chi(x)\zeta_p^x \text{ - Gaussian sum}$$

Recall that  $\tau(\chi) \in K\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$ , where  $K \subset \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_p)$  and  $[K : \mathbf{Q}] = l$ .

### Introduction

Let  $J(\chi, \chi)$  be the Jacobi sum,  $J(\chi, \chi) \in \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$ . It is well known that  $J(\chi, \chi)\overline{J(\chi, \chi)} = p$ , and one easily proves that

$$J(\chi, \chi) \equiv \overline{\chi}(4) \pmod{2}.$$

The main aim of this paper is to solve the problem: When is  $J(\chi, \chi)$  up to association and conjugation uniquely determined by the solution of the equation

$$X\overline{X} = p, X \in \mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l), X \equiv 1 \pmod{2}?$$

We give a complete solution in cases  $l = 11, 19$ .

On the basis of this result, the following question is answered:

When is the prime 2 an 11-th resp. a 19-th power modulo  $p$  if  $p$  is not representable by the quadratic form  $x^2 + 11y^2$ , resp.  $x^2 + 19y^2$ .

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We shall now present a survey of results obtained by solving the problem when the prime 2 is an  $l$ -th power modulo  $p$ .

Jacobi has given necessary and sufficient conditions for primes  $q < 37$  to be cubes modulo primes  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . For example, he proves the following

PROPOSITION 1. *2 is a cube modulo  $p$  if and only if  $L \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , where*

$$4p = L^2 + 27M^2,$$

$$L \equiv 1 \pmod{3}.$$

Emma Lehmer [2] finds the following result:

PROPOSITION 2. *Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$  be a prime. Then 2 is a fifth power modulo  $p$  if and only if  $x \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , where  $(x, u, v, w)$  is one of the exactly four solutions  $(x, u, v, w)$ ,  $(x, -u, -v, w)$ ,  $(x, v, -u, -w)$ ,  $(x, -v, u, -w)$  of the diophantine system (Dickson):*

$$16p = x^2 + 50u^2 + 50v^2 + 125w^2,$$

$$xw = v^2 - 4uv - u^2,$$

$$x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}.$$

P.A. Leonard and K.S. Williams [4] prove the following

PROPOSITION 3. *Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$  be a prime. Then 2 is a seventh power modulo  $p$  if and only if  $x_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , where  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_6)$  is one of the exactly six non-trivial solutions of the diophantine system of equations*

$$(i) \quad 72p = 2x_1^2 + 42(x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2) + 343(x_5^2 + 3x_6^2),$$

$$(ii) \quad 12x_2^2 - 12x_4^2 + 147x_5^2 - 441x_6^2 + 56x_1x_6 + 24x_2x_3 - 24x_2x_4 + 48x_3x_4 + 98x_5x_6 = 0,$$

$$(iii) \quad 12x_3^2 - 12x_4^2 + 49x_5^2 - 147x_6^2 + 28x_1x_5 + 48x_2x_3 + 24x_2x_4 + 24x_3x_4 + 490x_5x_6 = 0,$$

$$(iv) \quad x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}.$$

P.A. Leonard, B.C. Mortimer and K.S. Williams [3] prove the following

PROPOSITION 4. Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$  be a prime. Then 2 is an eleventh power modulo  $p$  if and only if a certain condition involving solutions of a very complicated diophantine system holds (the exact statement may be seen in [3]).

J.C. Parnami, M.K. Agrawal and A.R. Rajwade [5] have the following

PROPOSITION 5. Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$ . Then 2 is an  $l$ -th power modulo  $p$  if and only if

$$a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{l-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{2},$$

where  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{l-1})$  is one of the exactly  $l - 1$  solutions of the diophantine system of equations

$$(i) \quad p = \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+1},$$

$$(ii) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+2} = \dots = \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+l-1},$$

$$(iii) \quad p \text{ does not divide } \prod_{\lambda(2k) > k} \sigma_k \left( \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i \zeta_l^i \right),$$

where  $\lambda(n)$  is the least non-negative residue of  $n$  modulo  $l$ , and  $\sigma_k$  is the automorphism  $\zeta_l \rightarrow \zeta_l^k$ ,

$$(iv) \quad 1 + a_1 + \dots + a_{l-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{l},$$

$$(v) \quad a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + (l - 1)a_{l-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{l}.$$

Now let  $X\bar{X} = p$ , and let  $J(\chi, \chi)$  be associated with the number  $X$ , i.e.  $J(\chi, \chi) = \varepsilon X$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is a unit of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$ . Then

$$J(\chi, \chi)\overline{J(\chi, \chi)} = p = \varepsilon\bar{\varepsilon}X\bar{X}$$

implies  $\varepsilon\bar{\varepsilon} = 1$  and hence  $\varepsilon = (-\zeta_l)^n$ . So we have

$$J(\chi, \chi) = (-\zeta_l)^n X.$$

Let 2 be a primitive root modulo  $l$ . Consider a residue class field  $\mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)/(2)$  of the degree  $f = l - 1$  over  $\mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}$ . Let  $g$  be a generator of the multiplicative group  $(\mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)/(2))^*$  of the field  $\mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)/(2)$  such that there holds  $\varphi(g) = g^2$ , where  $\varphi$  is a generator of the Galois group  $G(\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)/\mathbf{Q})$ .

LEMMA 1. Every unit  $\varepsilon$  of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$  is a  $\frac{2^m+1}{l}$ -th power in the group  $(\mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)/(2))^*$ ,  $m = \frac{l-1}{2}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon \equiv g^n \pmod{2}$ . It is necessary to prove that  $\frac{2^m+1}{l} | n$ . Consider the unit  $\varepsilon_1 = \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} \varphi^i(\varepsilon)$ . Then  $\varepsilon_1 \cdot \bar{\varepsilon}_1 = N(\varepsilon) = 1$ , hence  $\varepsilon_1$  must be a root of 1, therefore  $\varepsilon_1^{2^l} = 1$ . Further,

$$1 = \varepsilon_1^{2^l} = \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} \varphi^i(\varepsilon)^{2^l} \equiv \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} \varphi^i(g^n)^{2^l} \equiv \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} g^{2^{nl} \cdot 2^i} \equiv g^{2^{ln}(2^m-1)} \pmod{2}.$$

It follows that  $2^{ln}(2^m - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{l-1} - 1}$ , and therefore  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{\frac{2^m+1}{l}}$ .  $\square$

LEMMA 2. Let 2 be a primitive root modulo  $l$ . For a natural number  $a$ ,  $0 < a \leq l - 1$  the following identity holds

$$a \frac{2^{l-1} - 1}{l} = \sum_{n=1}^{l-1} \left[ \frac{2n}{l} \right] 2^{r_n}$$

(the decomposition into binary system), where  $r_n \equiv l - 2 - \text{ind}(n) + \text{ind}(a) \pmod{l-1}$ ,  $0 \leq r_n < l - 1$ , and  $\text{ind}(x)$  is the index of the element  $x$  in the group  $(\mathbf{Z}/l\mathbf{Z})^*$  under the base 2, i.e.  $2^{\text{ind}(x)} \equiv x \pmod{l}$ .

*Proof.* The lemma can be readily proved when the rational number  $\frac{a}{l}$  is expressed in the binary system,  $\frac{a}{l} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n 2^{-n}$ .

LEMMA 3. The factorisation of the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$  into prime divisors of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$  is  $J(\chi, \chi) \approx \prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \sigma_{\frac{1}{n}}(\mathfrak{p})^{\lfloor \frac{2n}{l} \rfloor}$ , where  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a prime divisor of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$ ,  $\mathfrak{p} | l$ , and  $\sigma_{\frac{1}{n}}$  is an automorphism  $\sigma_{\frac{1}{n}}(\zeta_l) = \zeta_l^{\frac{1}{n}}$ .

*Proof.* According to [1],

$$J(\chi, \chi) = \frac{\tau(\chi)\tau(\chi)}{\tau(\chi^2)}.$$

The factorisation  $J(\chi, \chi) \approx \prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \sigma_{\frac{1}{n}}(\mathfrak{p})^{\lfloor \frac{2n}{l} \rfloor}$  is obtained using the factorisation of the Gaussian sum into prime divisors of the field  $K\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$ .  $\square$

Consider a divisor  $A = \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p})^{j_i}$ , where  $j_i = 0; 1$ , and define

$$\Psi\left(\prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p})^{j_i}\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i.$$

LEMMA 4. *The factorisation  $A = \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p})^{j_i}$  is a conjugation of the factorisation  $J(\chi, \chi) = \prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \sigma_{\frac{1}{n}}(\mathfrak{p}) \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right]$  if and only if  $\Psi\left(\prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p})^{j_i}\right) = a \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{l}$ , where  $0 < a \leq l-1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be a conjugation of  $J(\chi, \chi)$ . Then  $A = J(\chi^s, \chi^s)$  for some  $s$ . If  $s \equiv \frac{k}{2} \pmod{l}$ , then we can write

$$\begin{aligned} J_s &= J_{\frac{k}{2}} \approx \prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \sigma_{\frac{1}{n}}(\mathfrak{p}) \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right] = \prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \varphi^{\text{ind}(\frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{k}{2})}(\mathfrak{p}) \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right] \\ \Psi\left(\prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \varphi^{\text{ind}(\frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{k}{2})}(\mathfrak{p}) \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right]\right) &= \sum_{n=1}^{l-1} \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right] 2^{\text{ind}(\frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{k}{2})} = \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{l-1} \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right] \cdot 2^{l-1-\text{ind}(n)+\text{ind}(k)-1} = k \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{l} \quad (\text{by Lemma 2}). \end{aligned}$$

2. Conversely, let  $\Psi\left(\prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p})^{j_i}\right) = a \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{l}$ ,  $0 < a \leq l-1$ .

By Lemma 2,

$$a \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{l} = \sum_{n=1}^{l-1} \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right] 2^{r_n} = \Psi\left(\prod_{n=1}^{l-1} \varphi^{\text{ind}(\frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{a}{2})}(\mathfrak{p}) \left[\frac{2n}{l}\right]\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i \cdot 2^i.$$

Since the expansion of a number in the binary system is uniquely determined, Lemma 4 is proved.  $\square$

For  $\mathfrak{p}|p$ , denote by  $h_{\mathfrak{p}}$  the least natural number such that a principal divisor  $\mathfrak{p}^{h_{\mathfrak{p}}} = (\alpha)$ .

THEOREM 1. *Let 2 be a primitive root modulo  $l$ , and let  $\alpha \equiv g^M \pmod{2}$ , where  $(M, \frac{2^m+1}{l}) = 1$ .*

If

$$X \in \mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l), \quad X\bar{X} = p, \quad X \equiv 1 \pmod{2},$$

then  $X$  is, up to association and conjugation, equal to the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$ .

*Proof.* According to Lemma 1, the choice of a generator  $\alpha$  of the principal divisor  $\mathfrak{p}^{h_p} = (\alpha)$  is not substantial.

Suppose the factorisation of  $X$  into prime divisors of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$  is

$$X \approx \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p})^{j_i}.$$

It is necessary to prove that this factorisation is a conjugate of the factorisation  $J(\chi, \chi)$ .

Clearly

$$X^{h_p} \approx \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\mathfrak{p}^{h_p})^{j_i} \approx \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\alpha)^{j_i},$$

hence

$$X^{h_p} = \varepsilon \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\alpha)^{j_i},$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a unit of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$ .

But  $\varepsilon\bar{\varepsilon} = 1$  implies  $\varepsilon = (-\zeta_l)^s$ , and therefore

$$X^{h_p} = (-\zeta_l)^s \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\alpha)^{j_i}.$$

From  $X \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\equiv (-\zeta_l)^s \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(\alpha)^{j_i} \equiv (-\zeta_l)^s \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(g^M)^{j_i} \equiv (-\zeta_l)^s \prod_{i=0}^{l-2} g^{M j_i \cdot 2^i} \equiv \\ &\equiv (-\zeta_l)^s g^{M \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\zeta_l \equiv -\zeta_l \pmod{2}$ , we have

$$g^{Ml \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i} \equiv 1 \pmod{2},$$

hence

$$lM \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{l-1} - 1}.$$

Consequently

$$M \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i \equiv 0 \pmod{\frac{2^{l-1} - 1}{l}}. \tag{1}$$

It is easy to prove that the condition  $X\bar{X} = p$  gives

$$\sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i \equiv 0 \pmod{2^m - 1}. \tag{2}$$

From the congruences (1) and (2), using the assumption  $(M, \frac{2^m+1}{l}) = 1$  and the fact that  $(2^m - 1, 2^m + 1) = 1$ , we obtain the congruences

$$\sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i \equiv 0 \pmod{\frac{2^{l-1} - 1}{l}}, \tag{3}$$

hence

$$\sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i = a \frac{2^{l-1} - 1}{l}.$$

From  $X\bar{X} = p$ , it follows that  $j_i \leq 1$ , and this implies  $a \leq l - 1$ . Due to Lemma 4, Theorem 1 is proved.  $\square$

*Remark.* If  $(M, \frac{2^m+1}{l}) = d > 1$ , then instead of the congruence (3) we get the congruence

$$\sum_{i=0}^{l-2} j_i 2^i \equiv 0 \pmod{\frac{2^{l-1} - 1}{ld}}.$$

It can be proved that this congruence has always the solution  $(j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{l-2})$  which is not corresponding to the conjugates of the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$ .

The question of whether for  $p$  with  $d > 1$  the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$  can be uniquely determined transforms in the question, for which  $j_i$  the divisor

$$\prod_{i=0}^{l-2} \varphi^i(p)^{j_i},$$

is principal.



**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $2$  be a primitive root modulo  $l$ , and let the class number of the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_l)$  be equal to  $1$ . Then the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$  is uniquely determined, up to association and conjugation, from the solution of the equation  $X\bar{X} = p, X \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, X \in \mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)$  if and only if  $(M, \frac{2^m+1}{l}) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* This follows from the preceding Remark, because in such a case, every divisor is principal.

**EXAMPLE 1.**  $l = 5, \frac{2^m+1}{l} = \frac{2^2+1}{5} = 1$ . *It follows that for all  $p$  one has  $d = 1$ , hence the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$  is uniquely determined, up to association and conjugation, by the solution of the equation  $X\bar{X} = p, X \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, X \in \mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)$ .*

**EXAMPLE 2.**  $l = 11, \frac{2^m+1}{l} = \frac{2^5+1}{11} = 3; l = 19, \frac{2^m+1}{l} = \frac{2^9+1}{19} = 27$ .

It is easy to see, that if we want to answer the question, for which primes  $p$  is the Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$  uniquely determined, up to association and conjugation, by the solution of the equation  $X\bar{X} = p, X \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, X \in \mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)$ , then we must know for which primes  $p$  the number  $\alpha$ , where  $N(\alpha) = p$ , is a third power in the group  $(\mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)/(2))^*$ . This question is solved in the following lemma.

**LEMMA 5.** *Let  $2$  be a primitive root modulo  $l \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}|p$ , and  $\mathfrak{p}^{h_p} = \alpha$ .*

*Then  $\alpha$  is a third power in the group  $(\mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l)/(2))^*$  if and only if  $\mathfrak{p}^{h_p} = x^2 + ly^2$ , where  $x, y$  are not simultaneously divisible by  $\mathfrak{p}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 1, the choice of a generator  $\alpha$  of the principal divisor  $\mathfrak{p}^{h_p}$  is not substantial.

Consider the product

$$\beta = \prod_{(\frac{z}{l})=1} \sigma_z(\alpha), \text{ hence } \beta \in \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{-l}).$$

Let

$$\beta = a' \sum_{(\frac{z}{l})=1} \zeta_l^z + b' \sum_{(\frac{z}{l})=1} \zeta_l^{-z}, \quad a', b' \in \mathbf{Z},$$

and let  $\alpha \equiv g^r \pmod{2}$ , where  $r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,

$$\beta = \prod_{(\frac{z}{l})=1} \sigma_z(\alpha) \equiv \prod_{i=0}^{\frac{l-3}{2}} g^{r \cdot 2^i} \equiv g^{r \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{3}} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}.$$

So we have  $a' \equiv b' \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ .

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= a' \sum_{\left(\frac{z}{l}\right)=1} \zeta_l^z + b' \sum_{\left(\frac{z}{l}\right)=1} \zeta_l^{-z} = a' \frac{-1 + \sqrt{-l}}{2} + b' \frac{-1 - \sqrt{-l}}{2} \\ &= a + b\sqrt{-l}, \quad a, b \in \mathbf{Z}, \end{aligned}$$

therefore

$$\beta\bar{\beta} = p^{h_p} = a^2 + lb^2.$$

Let conversely  $p^{h_p} = a^2 + lb^2$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} a + b\sqrt{-l} &= a' \frac{-1 + \sqrt{-l}}{2} + b' \frac{-1 - \sqrt{-l}}{2} = \\ &= (b - a) \frac{-1 + \sqrt{-l}}{2} + (-a - b) \frac{-1 - \sqrt{-l}}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

This implies  $a' \equiv b' \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , hence

$$\beta = a' \sum_{\left(\frac{z}{l}\right)=1} \zeta_l^z + b' \sum_{\left(\frac{z}{l}\right)=1} \zeta_l^{-z} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}.$$

Let  $p|\beta$ . Then since  $\beta$  is invariant on  $\sigma_z$ , where  $\left(\frac{z}{l}\right) = 1$ , we set that  $\sigma_z(\mathfrak{p})|\beta$ .

But if  $\left(\frac{z}{l}\right) = -1$ , then  $\sigma_z(\mathfrak{p})$  does not divide  $\beta$  (in the opposite case we would get  $p|\beta$ , hence a contradiction).

It implies

$$\beta \approx \prod_{\left(\frac{z}{l}\right)=1} \sigma_z(\mathfrak{p})^{h_p},$$

therefore

$$1 \equiv \beta \equiv (-\zeta_l)^s \prod_{\left(\frac{z}{l}\right)=1} \sigma_z(\mathfrak{p})^{h_p} \equiv (-\zeta_l)^s g^{r \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{3}} \pmod{2},$$

and

$$g^{lr \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{3}} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}.$$

From this we finally obtain

$$lr \frac{2^{l-1}-1}{3} \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{l-1}-1} \text{ which implies } r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}.$$

□

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $l = 11; 19$ , and let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$ ,  $4p = A^2 + lB^2$ . The Jacobi sum  $J(\chi, \chi)$  is uniquely determined, up to conjugation and association, by the solution of*

$$X\bar{X} = p, \quad X \in \mathbf{Z}(\zeta_l), \quad X \equiv 1 \pmod{2},$$

*if and only if  $A \equiv B \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ .*

*Proof.* The proof follows from Lemma 5 and Corollary 1.  $\square$

By Proposition 5 and Theorem 2, we come to the following

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $l = 11; 19$ , and let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$ ,  $4p = A^2 + lB^2$ ,  $A \equiv B \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . Then 2 is an  $l$ -th power modulo  $p$  if and only if*

$$a_1 \equiv a_2 \equiv \cdots \equiv a_{l-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{2},$$

*where  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{l-1})$  is one of the exactly  $l - 1$  solutions of the diophantine system of equations*

$$(i) \quad p = \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+1}, \quad .$$

$$(ii) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+2} = \cdots = \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} a_i a_{i+l-1},$$

$$(iv) \quad 1 + a_1 + \cdots + a_{l-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{l},$$

$$(v) \quad a_1 + 2a_2 + \cdots + (l-1)a_{l-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{l}.$$

*Remark.* As we can see, Theorem 2 enables us to remove condition (iii) of Proposition 5.

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