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W R O C Ł A W S K A D R U K A R N I A N A U K O W A

Lehmer's numbers

by

A. ROTKIEWICZ (Warsaw) and R. WASÉN (Djursholm)

The  $n$ th Lehmer number  $w_n^{(f)}(\beta, \bar{\beta})$  with respect to the trinomial  $f(z) = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$  ( $L$  and  $M$  are rational integers) with the roots  $\beta$  and  $\bar{\beta}$  is defined by

$$(1) \quad w_n^{(f)}(\beta, \bar{\beta}) = \begin{cases} (\beta^n - \bar{\beta}^n)/(\beta - \bar{\beta}) & \text{if } 2 \nmid n, \\ (\beta^n - \bar{\beta}^n)/(\beta - \bar{\beta}^2) & \text{if } 2 \mid n. \end{cases}$$

We shall write, for brevity,  $u_n$  instead of  $w_n^{(f)}(\beta, \bar{\beta})$ .

Since  $u_0 = 0, u_1 = 1, u_{n+2} = Lu_{n+1} - Mu_n$  for  $2 \nmid n$  and  $u_{n+2} = u_{n+1} - Mu_n$  for  $2 \mid n$ , the numbers  $u_n$  are rational integers and form a recurring sequence, the so-called Lehmer sequence with respect to  $f(z)$ . The  $n$ th term in the associated recurring sequence is defined by

$$(2) \quad v_n = v_n^{(f)}(\beta, \bar{\beta}) = \begin{cases} (\beta^n + \bar{\beta}^n)/(\beta + \bar{\beta}) & \text{if } 2 \nmid n, \\ \beta^n + \bar{\beta}^n & \text{if } 2 \mid n. \end{cases}$$

Since  $v_0 = 2, v_1 = 1, v_{n+2} = Lv_{n+1} - Mv_n$  for  $2 \mid n$  and  $v_{n+2} = v_{n+1} - Mv_n$  for  $2 \nmid n$ , these numbers are rational integers. We can assume without any essential loss of generality that  $(L, M) = 1$  and  $L > 0$  (cf. [5]). In the sequel any trinomial  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$  is supposed to be such that  $L$  and  $M$  are rational integers,

$$K = L - 4M = K(f) \neq 0, \quad L > 0, \quad M \neq 0, \quad (L, M) = 1.$$

One of the most interesting applications of the sequences  $v_n$  concerns tests of primality. In this context we have found it convenient to introduce the following concepts:

DEFINITION 1.  $n$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$  iff  $n$  is odd,  $(n, KL) = 1$ , and  $n \mid V_{[n - (KL/n)]/2}$ .

From Professors J. Brillhart and S. Wagstaff we get the following information.

Let  $p$  be odd,  $p > 2$ . Write  $p-1 = d \cdot 2^s$ , where  $d$  is odd and  $s$  is a positive integer. Then  $p$  is called a *strong pseudoprime to base  $t$*  if either

$$(3) \quad t^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \text{ or}$$

$$(4) \quad t^{d \cdot 2^r} \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \text{ for a certain non-negative } r < s.$$

The concept of strong pseudoprime, useful in the investigation of primality is due to John Selfridge. Pomerance, Selfridge and Wagstaff, Jr. gave a list of all pseudoprimes (composite) to base 2 below  $25 \cdot 10^9$  (see [20]).

An odd  $n$  which satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f(z) = z^2 - (t+1)z + t$  is a strong pseudoprime to base  $t$  satisfying (4) with  $r = s-1$ .

**DEFINITION 2.** A sequence  $\{s_i\}_0^\infty$  of integers is called an *s-sequence* iff  $s_i = s_{i-1}^2 - 2$  for  $i \geq 1$ .

For any trinomial  $f$  with roots  $\beta, \bar{\beta}$ , and for any natural number  $h$ , if  $S_0 = V_{2h}^{(f)} / (\beta \cdot \bar{\beta})^h$ , then the following generalization of a well-known relation (cf. [18]) results by induction:

$$(5) \quad (\beta \cdot \bar{\beta})^{h \cdot 2^{n-2}} S_{n-2} = V_{h \cdot 2^{n-1}}^{(f)}; \quad n \geq 2.$$

Denote by  $M_p$  the  $p$ th Mersenne number  $M_p = 2^p - 1$ , where  $p$  is an odd prime. A well-known theorem of Lucas and Lehmer (see [4], [6], [18]) runs as follows:

$M_p$  is a prime iff  $M_p | S_{p-2}$ , where  $S_0 = 4$  and  $\{S_i\}_0^\infty$  is an *s-sequence*. If  $f(z) = z^2 - \sqrt{2}z - 1$  then

$$(6) \quad S_{n-2} = V_{2^{n-1}}, \quad n \geq 2 \quad \text{if} \quad S_0 = 4.$$

Suppose that  $m = M_p$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{2}z - 1$ . We have  $(KL|2^p-1) = (3|2^p-1) = -1$  and  $m | V_{[m-(KL|m)]/2} = V_{2^{p-1}}$ . Now, by (6),  $m = M_p | S_{p-2}$  and so by the theorem of Lucas and Lehmer  $M_p$  is a prime. On the other hand, if  $M_p$  is a prime, then  $M_p | S_{p-2}$  by the theorem of Lucas and Lehmer. By (6) this implies that

$$(7) \quad M_p | V_{2^{p-1}}.$$

Since  $m = M_p$  is a prime,  $M_p$  is odd and  $2 | M_p - (KL|M_p) = 2^p$  ( $L = 2$ ,  $(KL|M_p) = (3|M_p) = -1$ ), we have by (7)  $m = M_p | V_{[m-(KL|m)]/2}$  and  $m = M_p$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{2}z - 1$ . Hence the Lucas and Lehmer theorem can be given in the following equivalent form:

**REFORMULATION OF THE LUCAS AND LEHMER THEOREM** (a particular case of Theorem 1).  $M_p$  is a prime iff  $M_p$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{2}z - 1$ .

In a similar way we arrive at the following reformulation of theorems of Pepin and Proth:

**PEPIN'S THEOREM.** The Fermat number  $F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1$  is a prime iff  $F_n | 3^{(F_n-1)/2} + 1$  (see [1], p. 376).

**PROTH'S THEOREM.** Let  $N = k \cdot a^n + 1$  where  $0 < k < 2^n$ . Suppose that  $(a|N) = -1$ . Then  $N$  is a prime iff  $a^{(2^n-1)/2} \equiv -1 \pmod{N}$  (see [11], [12], [17]).

**REFORMULATION OF PEPIN'S THEOREM** (a particular case of Proth's theorem).  $F_n$  is a prime iff  $F_n$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - 4z + 3$ .

**REFORMULATION OF PROTH'S THEOREM** (a particular case of the reformulation of Riesel's theorem). Let  $N$  and  $a$  satisfy the conditions of Proth's theorem; then  $N$  is a prime iff  $N$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - (a+1)z + a$ .

The following theorem of Riesel can also be reformulated.

**RIESEL'S THEOREM** (see Theorem 5 in [10]). Suppose that  $n \geq 2$ ,  $h$  is odd  $< 2^n$ ,  $N = h \cdot 2^n - 1$ ,  $r = |a^2 - b^2 D|$  with square free  $D$ ,  $\beta = (a + b\sqrt{D})^2 / r$  integer in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$ ,  $(\beta, N) = 1$  in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$ ,  $(D|N) = -1$  and  $(r|N)(a^2 - b^2 D) / r = -1$ . Then a necessary and sufficient condition that  $N$  be a prime is

$$(8) \quad S_{n-2} \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \quad \text{if} \quad S_n = S_{n-1}^2 - 2 \quad \text{with} \quad S_0 = \beta^n + \beta^{-n}.$$

Note that  $\beta$  is a unit. Hence if  $\beta$  is not up to a sign a power of the fundamental unit in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$ , then  $\beta$  must be a root of unity. We have the following three possible cases: (I)  $\beta = \pm 1$ ; (II)  $\beta = \pm i$ ; (III)  $\beta = \pm(-1 \pm \sqrt{-3})/2$ .

By a straightforward calculation it may be shown that (I) is impossible. This case corresponds to the situation where  $ab = 0$ . Hence without any loss of generality we may assume that  $ab \neq 0$ . Case (III) can likewise be shown to be impossible. Case (II) corresponds to the only possible imaginary field in the method of Riesel, namely to the Gaussian field  $Q(i)$ . In this case his method works for exactly  $N = 3$  and  $N = 11$ . As noted by Riesel,  $a$  and  $b$  may be supposed to be rational integers. This follows directly from the definition of  $\beta = (a + b\sqrt{D})^2 / |a^2 - b^2 D|$  since if  $a, b$  equal, respectively,  $a'/2$  and  $b'/2$ ,  $a'$  and  $b'$  being odd rational integers, then  $\beta = (a' + b'\sqrt{D})^2 / |a'^2 - b'^2 D|$ . Moreover, a similar argument may be applied to show that we may also assume that  $(a, b) = 1$  and that  $a > 0$  and  $b > 0$ . Altogether this implies that  $a$  and  $b$  may always be assumed to be relatively prime natural numbers. In practice, Riesel finds suitable  $a$  and  $b$  by taking the fundamental unit  $\varepsilon$  in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$ , where  $D$  is chosen so that  $(D|N) = -1$ , and writes it in the form  $\varepsilon = (a + b\sqrt{D})^2 / |a^2 - b^2 D|$  if  $\varepsilon$  has such a representation. Obviously Riesel chooses  $r$  as  $|a^2 - b^2 D|$  in order to get a positive  $S_0$ .

**THEOREM 1** (Reformulation of Riesel's theorem). *Suppose  $a, b, D, h$  and  $n$  satisfy the conditions in Riesel's theorem. Then  $N = h \cdot 2^n - 1$  is a prime iff  $N$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - 2az + (a^2 - Db^2)$ .*

First we shall prove the following

**LEMMA 1.** *If  $a, b, D, h$  and  $n$  satisfy the conditions in the Riesel theorem,  $\{S_i\}_0^\infty$  denotes the  $s$ -sequence in the Riesel theorem and  $\{S_i^*\}_0^\infty$  the  $s$ -sequence determined by*

$$S_0^* = [(a + b\sqrt{D})^{2h} + (a - b\sqrt{D})^{2h}] / (a^2 - b^2D)^h,$$

then  $S_0^* = S_0 \operatorname{sgn}(a^2 - b^2D)$ .

**Proof.** I.  $a^2 - b^2D > 0$ . We have

$$S_0^* = [(a + b\sqrt{D})^{2h} + (a - b\sqrt{D})^{2h}] / |a^2 - b^2D|^h = \beta^h + \beta^h = \beta^h + \beta^{-h} = S_0.$$

II.  $a^2 - b^2D < 0$ . We get

$$S_0^* = -(\beta^h + \beta^{-h}) = -S_0.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1.

**Proof of Theorem 1.** Suppose that  $a, b, D, h$  and  $n$  satisfy the conditions in the Riesel theorem and that  $\{S_i\}_0^\infty$  and  $\{S_i^*\}_0^\infty$  are as in Lemma 1. We note that  $(\beta, N) = 1$  in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$  implies that  $(r, N) = 1$  in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$ . Now if  $N$  is a prime, then by the Riesel theorem

$$(9) \quad N | S_{n-2}$$

and so by Lemma 1

$$(10) \quad N | S_{n-2}^*$$

If  $f = z^2 - 2az + (a^2 - b^2D)$  then, since

$$S_0^* = [(a + b\sqrt{D})^{2h} + (a - b\sqrt{D})^{2h}] / (a^2 - b^2D)^h$$

if  $\gamma$  and  $\bar{\gamma}$  denote the roots of  $f$ , we get

$$(11) \quad (\gamma \cdot \bar{\gamma})^{h \cdot 2^{n-2}} \cdot S_{n-2}^* = V_{h \cdot 2^{n-1}}^{(f)}; \quad n \geq 2$$

and, by (10),  $N | V_{h \cdot 2^{n-1}}^{(f)}$ . Now  $D(f) = 4b^2D$  so  $(D(f) | N) = (4b^2D | N) = -1$ . Hence  $[N - (D(f) | N)] / 2 = h \cdot 2^{n-1}$  and so  $N | V_{h \cdot 2^{n-1}}^{(f)}$  implies that  $N$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f$ . On the other hand, if  $N$  satisfies the Lucas condition for  $f$ , then  $N | V_{h \cdot 2^{n-1}}^{(f)}$  and so by (11),  $N | (\gamma \cdot \bar{\gamma})^{h \cdot 2^{n-2}} \times S_{n-2}^*$ . But  $\gamma \cdot \bar{\gamma} = \pm r = \pm |a^2 - b^2D|$  and  $(r, N) = 1$  in  $Q(\sqrt{D})$  and so certainly also in  $Q$  and we have  $N | S_{n-2}^* = \pm S_{n-2}$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

In view of what we have already shown it would be of interest to know if there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas

condition for any fixed trinomial  $f$ . For a special class of composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition, namely those corresponding to trinomials with positive discriminant, we prove the following stronger

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $K = K(f) > 0$ . Every arithmetical progression  $ax + b$ , where  $(a, b) = 1$ , which contains prime numbers  $n$  such that*

$$(12) \quad n | V_{[n - (KL|n)]/2}^{(f)}; \quad (n, 2KL) = 1$$

contains also composite numbers  $n$  which satisfy (12), i.e. every arithmetical progression  $ax + b$ , where  $(a, b) = 1$ , which contains prime numbers which satisfy the Lucas condition contains also infinitely many composite numbers  $n$  satisfying the Lucas condition for any fixed trinomial  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$ .

We shall write, for brevity,  $K$  instead of  $K(f)$  and  $V$  instead of  $V^{(f)}(\beta, \bar{\beta})$ .

The idea of the proof of Theorem 2 consists in using the conditions in the theorem to show that if the prime  $p$  and the number  $k$  satisfy certain conditions in which  $k$  is chosen as a suitable function of  $p$ , then  $p \in \{ax + b\}$ ,  $k \in \{ax + 1\}$ ,  $k > 1$ ,  $(p, k) = 1$ ,  $p | V_{[kp - (KL|kp)]/2}^{(f)}$  and  $k | V_{[kp - (KL|kp)]/2}^{(f)}$  and so of course  $pk \in \{ax + b\}$  and  $pk$  is a composite number satisfying the Lucas condition for  $f$ . Then we show that there are infinitely many couples  $\langle p, k \rangle$  satisfying these conditions, and so the proof is complete.

With no essential loss of generality we can assume that  $2 | a$  and  $2 \nmid b$ .

We write  $c = m(ML)$  for the conductor of the quadratic character  $(ML | n)$  and denote by  $R_{ML}$  and  $\bar{R}_{ML}$  the sets of residues mod  $m(ML)$  for which this character takes the values  $+1$  and  $-1$ , respectively. Then the following facts are well known:

$$(13) \quad |R_{ML}| = |\bar{R}_{ML}| = \frac{1}{2} \varphi(m(ML));$$

$$(14) \quad \text{For any proper divisor } d \text{ of } m(ML), \text{ for any } g, \text{ where } (g, d) = 1 \text{ there is at least one element in } R_{ML} \text{ and } \bar{R}_{ML} \text{ congruent to } g \pmod{d};$$

$$(15) \quad m(ML) | 4 \cdot ML \text{ and if } m(ML) \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \text{ then } 4 | m(ML).$$

**LEMMA 2.** *For all pairs of arithmetical progressions  $\{a_1x + b_1\}$ ,  $\{a_2x + b_2\}$  such that  $(a_1, b_1) = 1$ ,  $(a_2, b_2) = 1$ , if  $\{a_1x + b_1\} \cap \{a_2x + b_2\} \neq \emptyset$  then there are  $a_3, b_3$  such that  $\{a_1x + b_1\} \cap \{a_2x + b_2\} = \{a_3x + b_3\}$ , where  $(a_3, b_3) = 1$ .*

The proof may be omitted.

**LEMMA 3.** *Let  $K = K(f) > 0$ ,  $(L, M) = 1$ ,  $(a, b) = 1$ ,  $2 | a$ ,  $c = m(ML) \nmid a$  or  $c | a$  and  $b \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$  for a certain  $d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$ ; then there exist infinitely many  $s$  which satisfy the following relations:*

$$(16) \quad (as + b, KL) = 1, \quad as + b > 1,$$

$$(17) \quad as + b \equiv d_i \pmod{c} \quad \text{for some } d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}.$$

Proof. I.  $c \nmid a$ . In this case  $d = (a, c) \geq 1$  is a proper divisor of  $c$  and  $(\bar{d}, b) = 1$ . Hence (14) applies and ensures that there is a  $\bar{d}_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$  ( $\bar{d}_i, c) = 1$  such that

$$(18) \quad d \mid \bar{d}_i - b, \quad (\bar{d}_i, c) = 1.$$

We regroup (17) and get

$$(19) \quad a \cdot s \equiv \bar{d}_i - b \pmod{c} \quad \text{with} \quad c = m(ML).$$

On putting  $a/\bar{d} = a', c/\bar{d} = c'$  we get

$$(20) \quad a's \equiv \frac{\bar{d}_i - b}{\bar{d}} \pmod{c'}.$$

Since  $(a', c') = 1$  and  $d \mid \bar{d}_i - b$ , (20) is solvable and all solutions are given by  $\{c'x + r\}$ ,  $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  for a suitable  $r$ . Since  $s = c'x + r$ , we have  $as + b = a(c'x + r) + b = ac'x + (ra + b)$ . If  $(ac', ra + b) > 1$ , then there exists an odd prime  $p$  such that  $p \mid c', p \mid ra + b$ . Then  $p \mid as + b = ac'x + (ra + b)$ ,  $p \mid c$ . But  $as + b \equiv \bar{d}_i \pmod{c}$ , and hence  $p \mid \bar{d}_i$ , which is impossible, since  $(c, \bar{d}_i) = 1$ . By Dirichlet's theorem there are infinitely many  $x$  such that  $as + b = ac'x + (ra + b)$  is a prime  $> KL$ . Then (16) and (17) hold.

II.  $c \mid a$ . In this case it is obviously necessary and sufficient that  $b \equiv \bar{d}_i \pmod{c}$  for a certain  $\bar{d}_i$  in  $\bar{R}_{ML}$  in order that (17) be satisfied. If  $c \mid a$ ,  $b \equiv \bar{d}_i \pmod{c}$ , then for every  $s$ :  $as + b \equiv \bar{d}_i \pmod{c}$ . If  $as + b$  is a prime  $> KL$ , then (16) and (17) hold. This completes the proof of Lemma 3.

Now we shall give well-known facts from the theory of Lehmer's numbers.

Put

$$Q_n = Q_n^{(j)}(\beta, \beta) = \prod_{\substack{r=1 \\ (r, n)=1}}^n (\beta - \zeta_n^r \beta) = \prod_{i \mid n} (\beta^i - \beta^i)^{\mu(n/i)},$$

where  $\zeta_n$  is a primitive  $n$ th root of unity and  $\mu$  is the Möbius function.

We have

$$Q_n \mid u_n; \quad Q_n \mid V_{n/2} \text{ if } 2 \mid n; \quad V_m \mid V_n \text{ iff } 2 \nmid \frac{n}{m}, \quad m \mid n; \quad p \mid u_{p-(KL|p)}, \text{ if } p$$

is an odd prime and  $(KL, p) = 1$ .

$u_m \mid u_n$  if  $m \mid n$ ;  $p \mid V_{[p-(KL|p)]/2}$  if  $p$  is an odd prime,  $(KL, p) = 1$  and  $(ML|p) = -1$ .

Let  $\{cx + \bar{d}_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \varphi(c)/2$  be the  $[\varphi(c)]/2$  arithmetical progressions with minimal difference determining the odd primes for which  $ML$  is a quadratic non-residue,  $\{\bar{d}_i\}_{i=1}^{\varphi(c)/2} = \bar{R}_{ML}$ .

We denote by  $\Psi(p)$  the assertion that for an odd prime  $p$  there exist integers  $s$ ,  $\bar{d}_i$  and  $\lambda$  satisfying the following conditions:

$$(21) \quad p \equiv b \pmod{a}, \quad (KL, p) = 1, \quad (ML|p) = -1;$$

$$(22) \quad p - (KL|p) = 2^\lambda p_1 p_2 p_3 q^2 h, \text{ where } p_1, p_2, p_3 \text{ and } q \text{ are odd primes, } (2p_1 p_2 p_3 q, h) = 1;$$

$$(23) \quad 2^\lambda \parallel as + b - (KL|as + b), \quad (2^\lambda aKL, c) \mid sa + b - \bar{d}_i;$$

$$(24) \quad as + b > 1, \quad (KL, as + b) = 1, \quad \bar{d}_i \in \bar{R}_{ML};$$

$$(25) \quad (acKL, p_1 p_2 p_3) = 1,$$

$$(26) \quad 2^\lambda acKL p_1 p_2 p_3 \varphi_1 (2^\lambda acKL p_1 p_2 p_3) \mid q - 1, \text{ where} \\ \varphi_1(q_1^{\lambda_1} q_2^{\lambda_2} \dots q_g^{\lambda_g}) = 2q_1^{\lambda_1} q_2^{\lambda_2} \dots q_g^{\lambda_g} (q_1^{\lambda_1} - 1)(q_2^{\lambda_2} - 1) \dots (q_g^{\lambda_g} - 1).$$

LEMMA 4. If  $K > 0$  then  $Q_n > 0$ .

Proof. Since  $Q_n$  is symmetrical in  $\beta$  and  $\bar{\beta}$ , we may assume that  $\beta = (\sqrt{L} + \sqrt{K})/2 \geq 1$ ; hence  $\beta^i - \bar{\beta}^i > 0$  and the lemma follows from the formula  $Q_n = \prod_{i \mid n} (\beta^i - \bar{\beta}^i)^{\mu(n/i)}$ .

LEMMA 5. If  $q^2 \parallel n$ ,  $m\varphi_1(m) \mid q - 1$  where  $q$  is a prime, then

$$Q_n \equiv 1 \pmod{m}.$$

For the proof see Lemma 5 of [13].

A prime  $p$  is called a *primitive prime factor of the number  $u_n$*  if  $p \mid u_n$  but  $p \nmid KL u_n \dots u_{n-1}$ . It is a well-known fact (see [16]) that if  $K > 0$ ,  $n > 12$  then  $u_n$  has at least one primitive prime factor and all primitive prime factors of  $u_n$  are divisors of  $Q_n$ . Hence if  $n_1, n_2 > 12$ ,  $K > 0$  then  $Q_{n_1} = Q_{n_2}$  implies  $n_1 = n_2$ . This means that for  $n > 12$ ,  $K > 0$  we may introduce the notion  $J(k) = n$  if  $k = Q_n$ .

LEMMA 6. Let  $n \neq 2^v, 3 \cdot 2^v$ ; then

I. The greatest prime divisor  $r$  of  $n$  divides  $Q_n$  iff  $r$  is a primitive prime factor of  $u_{n/r^\omega}$ , where  $r^\omega \parallel n$ ;

II. All prime factors  $u$  of  $Q_n$  different from  $r$  are primitive factors of  $u_n$ , they are relatively prime to  $KL$  and they are of the form  $nx + (KL|u)$ .

For the proof of Lemma 6 see [5].

COROLLARY. (22) and (26) imply that for at least one  $i \leq 3$  we have

$$(27) \quad p \mid Q_{[p-(KL|p)]/p_i}$$

$$(28) \quad \text{the greatest prime factor of } [p - (KL|p)]/p_i \text{ does not divide } Q_{[p-(KL|p)]/p_i}.$$

Proof. Put  $k_i = Q_{[p-(KL|p)]/p_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Suppose that  $p \mid k_i$  for at least two  $i$ 's. Since  $[p - (KL|p)]/p_i \neq 2^v, 3 \cdot 2^v$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , Lemma 6 implies and ensures, in view of  $p > [p - (KL|p)]/p_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , that  $p$  is a primitive prime factor of the numbers  $u_{J(k_i)}$  ( $J(k_i) > 12$ ), which is impossible



since  $i \neq j$  implies that  $J(k_i) \neq J(k_j)$ . Hence we may assume that  $p \nmid k_1$  and  $p \nmid k_2$ . Denote by  $r$  the greatest prime divisor of  $p - (KL|p)$ . Since  $r \geq q > p_1 p_2 p_3$ , in view of  $q^2 | p - (KL|p)$ ,  $p_1 p_2 p_3 | q - 1$  we have  $r > p_1$  and  $r > p_2$  and so  $r$  is the greatest prime factor of  $J(k_1)$  and  $J(k_2)$ . Hence in order to complete the proof it is enough to show that  $r \nmid k_1$  or  $r \nmid k_2$ . If  $r | k_1$  and  $r | k_2$ , then by Lemma 6 I it follows that  $r$  is a primitive factor of  $u_{J(k_1)/r^\omega}$  and  $u_{J(k_2)/r^\omega}$ , where  $r^\omega || [p - (KL|p)]/p_i$ ;  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , which is impossible since certainly  $J(k_1)/r^\omega \neq J(k_2)/r^\omega$ .

By  $\Psi(p, k)$  we denote the conjunction of  $\Psi(p)$ , (27), (28) and the equality

$$(29) \quad k = Q_{[p - (KL|p)]/p_i}.$$

LEMMA 7.  $\Psi(p, k)$  implies that

- (a)  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{2^a acKLp_1 p_2 p_3}$ ,
- (b)  $(k, KL) = 1$ ,  $(KL|k) = 1$ ,
- (c) every prime divisor  $q_i$  of  $k$  is prime to  $KL$  and  $\equiv (KL|q_i) \pmod{J(k)}$ ,
- (d)  $k \equiv (KL|k) \pmod{J(k)}$ ,
- (e)  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{2[p - (KL|p)]}$ ,
- (f)  $[p - (KL|p)]/2 \mid [kp - (KL|kp)]/2$ ;  $\{[kp - (KL|kp)]/[p - (KL|p)]\} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,
- (g)  $k \mid V_{[p - (KL|p)]/2}$ ,
- (i)  $p \mid V_{[pk - (KL|pk)]/2}$ ,
- (j)  $k \mid V_{[pk - (KL|pk)]/2}$ ,
- (k)  $pk$  is a composite number satisfying the Lucas condition and is of the form  $ax + b$ .

LEMMA 8. If  $s, d_i, \lambda$  are integers and  $q, p_1, p_2, p_3$  are distinct odd primes satisfying the relations (23)–(26) then there exists an integer  $m$  such that

$$(30) \quad \begin{aligned} m &\equiv b + sa \pmod{2^a acKL}, \\ m &\equiv d_i \pmod{c}, \quad c = m(ML), \\ m &\equiv (KL|b + sa) + lq^2 \pmod{l^2 q^3}, \quad \text{where } l = p_1 p_2 p_3, \end{aligned}$$

and all primes  $p$  in the progression

$$(31) \quad 2^a acKLl^2 q^3 x + m,$$

satisfy  $\Psi(p)$ , the above progression represents infinitely many primes and for each of them there exists a  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{a}$  such that  $pk$  is a composite number satisfying the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$ ,  $\equiv b \pmod{a}$ .

Proof of Lemma 7. Since  $2^a acKLp_1 p_2 p_3 \varphi_1(2^a acKLp_1 p_2 p_3) | q - 1$ ,  $q^2 || [p - (KL|p)]/p_i$ , Lemma 5 applies and we get  $k = Q_{[p - (KL|p)]/p_i} \equiv 1 \pmod{2^a acKLp_1 p_2 p_3}$  and (a) holds.

Now  $2 | a$  and so, by (a),  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4KL}$ , and thus certainly  $(KL, k) = 1$ ; hence  $(KL|k) = (KL|4KLx + 1) = (KL|1) = 1$ .

Since  $p - (KL|p) = 2^a p_1 p_2 p_3 q^2 h$ , we have  $[p - (KL|p)]/p_i \neq 2^v$ ,  $3 \cdot 2^v$ . By Lemma 6 II, (c) now follows directly.

Say that  $k = \prod_{i=1}^h q_i^{t_i}$  is the decomposition of  $k$  into prime factors. By (b),  $(KL|k) = 1$ . We have by (c),

$$k \equiv \prod_{i=1}^h q_i^{t_i} \equiv \prod_{i=1}^h (KL|q_i)^{t_i} \equiv (KL|k) \pmod{J(k)}$$

and (d) holds.

By (b) and (d) we have  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{[p - (KL|p)]/p_i}$ , where  $[p - (KL|p)]/p_i = J(k)$ . Now, by (a),  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i}$ . Since  $p_i | p - (KL|p)$  and  $2^a || p - (KL|p)$ , we have:  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{2[p - (KL|p)]}$  and the proof of (e) is complete.

Since  $(KL, p) = 1$  and  $(KL|k) = 1$  by (b), from (e) it follows that

$$kp - (KL|kp) = [2(p - (KL|p))t + 1]p - (KL|k)(KL|p)$$

or a certain  $t$ . Since, by (b),  $(KL|k) = 1$ , we have

$$[kp - (KL|kp)]/2 = (2pt + 1)[p - (KL|p)]/2$$

and this completes the proof of (f).

Formula (g) follows directly from the formula  $Q_n | V_{n/2}$ , where  $2 | n$ .

From (f) it follows that  $V_{[p - (KL|p)]/2} | V_{[pk - (KL|pk)]/2}$  and, since  $(LM|p) = -1$ , we have:  $p | V_{[p - (KL|p)]/2}$  and (i) follows. Since by (g),  $k | V_{[p - (KL|p)]/2}$ , thus  $k | V_{[pk - (KL|pk)]/2}$  and (j) holds.

Since  $p \equiv b \pmod{a}$ ,  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{a}$ ,  $(p, k) = 1$ , (k) follows from (i) and (j).

Proof of Lemma 8. The linear system of congruences  $x \equiv b_1 \pmod{m_1}$ ,  $x \equiv b_2 \pmod{m_2}$  is solvable iff  $(m_1, m_2) | b_1 - b_2$  and the solutions belong to

$\left\{ \frac{m_1 m_2}{(m_1, m_2)} x + em_1 + b_1 \right\}$ , where  $e$  is a solution of the congruence

$\frac{m_1}{(m_1, m_2)} x \equiv \frac{b_2 - b_1}{(m_1, m_2)} \pmod{\frac{m_2}{(m_1, m_2)}}$ . The question of the solvability

of the linear congruences  $x \equiv b_1 \pmod{m_1}$ ,  $x \equiv b_2 \pmod{m_2}$  is equivalent

to the question whether  $\{m_1 x + b_1\} \cap \{m_2 x + b_2\} = \left\{ \frac{m_1 m_2}{(m_1, m_2)} x + em_1 + b_1 \right\}$

for a certain  $e$ .

In our case, since  $(2^a acKL, c) | b + sa - d_i$ , the congruence system  $x \equiv b + sa \pmod{2^a acKL}$ ,  $x \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$  is solvable and exactly all sol-

utions belong to  $\left\{ \frac{2^l a K L c}{(2^l a K L, c)} x + e \cdot 2^l a K L + b + sa \right\}$  for a certain  $e$ . Since  $(2^l a K L c, p_1 p_2 p_3) = 1$ ,  $(2^l a c K L, q) = 1$ ,  $l = p_1 p_2 p_3$  it follows that  $(2^l a K L c, l^2 q^3) = 1$ . Thus

$$\left\{ \frac{2^l a K L c}{(2^l a K L, c)} x + e \cdot 2^l a K L + b + sa \right\} \cap \{l^2 q^3 x + (K L | b + sa) + l \cdot q^2\} \neq \emptyset$$

and this implies that any number  $m$  in this intersection satisfies the linear system  $m \equiv b + sa \pmod{2^l a K L}$ ,  $m \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$ ,  $m \equiv (K L | b + sa) + l^2 \pmod{l^2 q^3}$ . Next we prove that if  $m$  is a number satisfying the last linear system, then  $\Psi(p)$  holds for all primes  $p$  in the progression  $2^l a c K L l^2 q^3 x + m$ .

Since  $m \equiv b \pmod{a}$  and all the primes in the progression  $2^l a c K L l^2 q^3 x + m$  are  $\equiv m \pmod{a}$ , we have  $p \equiv b \pmod{a}$ . Moreover,  $(K L, p) > 1$  implies in view of  $m \equiv b + sa \pmod{2^l a K L}$  that  $(K L, b + sa) > 1$ , which is impossible in view of the assumption of our lemma, and hence the condition  $(K L, p) = 1$  is satisfied. Since  $m \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$ , we have  $(M L | p) = -1$ . Since  $2 \nmid b + sa > 1$ ,  $\lambda \geq 1$ ,  $2 | a$ , we have  $p \equiv b + sa \pmod{4 K L}$ ,  $p = b + sa + 4 K L x$ . In view of the fact that  $2 \nmid b + sa$  for all  $s$  we get  $(K L | b + sa) = (K L | b + sa + 4 K L x) = (K L | p)$ .

Since  $p \equiv m \pmod{l^2 q^3}$  and  $m \equiv (K L | b + sa) + p_1 p_2 p_3 q^2 \pmod{p_1^2 p_2^2 p_3^2 q^3}$ , it follows that  $p - (K L | p) \equiv l q^2 \pmod{l^2 q^3}$  and so we have  $p_i | p - (K L | p)$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$  and  $q^2 | p - (K L | p)$ . Since  $p$  belongs to the progression  $2^l a c K L l^2 q^3 x + m$ , we have  $p = 2^l a K L c s_1 + m$  for a certain  $s_1$ . Since  $m = b + sa + 2^l a K L s_2$ , we get

$$p - (K L | p) = 2^l a K L c s_1 + 2^l a K L s_2 + (b + sa - (K L | b + sa))$$

in view of  $(K L | p) = (K L | b + sa)$ .

Since by (23),  $2^l | b + sa - (K L | b + sa)$ , we have in view of  $2 | a$ ,  $2^l | p - (K L | p)$ .

If  $(p, l) > 1$  then, since  $p \equiv m \pmod{l}$  by (31), by (30) we get  $|(K L | b + sa)| > 1$ , which is absurd.

Finally we prove that the progression  $2^l a c K L l^2 q^3 x + m$  represents infinitely many primes. In view of Dirichlet's theorem on primes in arithmetical progression it is clearly enough to show that  $(2^l a c K L l^2 q^3, m) = 1$ .

Since  $b$  is odd and  $2 | a$  by (30), it follows that  $2 \nmid m$  and so  $(m, 2^l) = 1$ .  $(m, a) = 1$  since otherwise, by (30),  $(a, b + sa) > 1$  in contradiction to the condition in the lemma that  $(a, b) = 1$ .  $(m, c) = 1$  since otherwise, by (30),  $(d_i, c) > 1$ , which is impossible since  $cx + d_i$  represents infinitely many primes,  $(K L, m) = 1$  since otherwise  $(K L, b + sa) > 1$  by (30) in contradiction to (24); hence in order to complete the proof it is enough to show that  $(l q, m) = 1$ , and this is clear in view of (30).

Hence there are infinitely many primes  $p$  satisfying  $\Psi(p)$ . Moreover, by Corollary to Lemma 6 for each such prime  $p$  there is a  $k$  such that

$k = Q_{[p - (K L | p)]/p_i}$  satisfies (27) and (28). Hence we have  $\Psi(p, k)$  and so, by Lemma 7,  $pk$  is a composite number satisfying the Lucas condition for  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$  and belonging to  $ax + b$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 8.

LEMMA 9. Any arithmetical progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $c = m(M L) \nmid a$  contains infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for any fixed trinomial  $f = z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$ , where  $K(f) > 0$ .

If  $c = m(M L) | a$ ,  $K = K(f) > 0$ , then  $ax + b$  contains infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for  $f$  if  $b \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$  for a certain  $d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$ .

Proof of Lemma 9. We may find three distinct odd primes  $p_1, p_2$  and  $p_3$  such that  $(ac K L, l) = 1$ , where  $l = p_1 p_2 p_3$ . This follows in fact from the existence of infinitely many primes. Choose for example the three smallest such primes. By Lemma 8 there exist infinitely many  $s$  which satisfy the following relations:

$$(as + b, K L) = 1, \quad as + b \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$$

for some  $d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$ . We define  $\lambda$  by the condition  $2^\lambda | b + sa - (K L | b + sa)$ . Clearly  $(2^l a K L, c) | b + sa - d_i$ . Next by Dirichlet's theorem there are infinitely many primes  $q$  such that  $2^l a c K L l p_1 (2^l a c K L l) | q - 1$ . Take for example the smallest such  $q$ . By Lemma 8 there is an  $m$  which satisfies (30). Now Lemma 9 follows from Lemma 8.

Proof of Theorem 2. If the arithmetical progression  $ax + b$ , where  $(a, b) = 1$  contains prime numbers  $p$  such that  $p | V_{[p - (K L | p)]/2}$ ,  $(p, 2 K L) = 1$ , where  $K > 0$ , then  $(M L | p) = -1$  and  $p \in \{cx + d_i\}$  for a certain  $d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$  and  $\{ax + b\} \cap \{cx + d_i\} \neq \emptyset$ . By Lemma 2:  $\{ax + b\} \cap \{cx + d_i\} = \{a_3 x + b_3\}$ , where  $(a_3, b_3) = 1$ . Then  $c \nmid a$  or in the case  $c | a$  there exists such a  $d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$  that  $b \equiv d_i \pmod{c}$  for a certain  $d_i \in \bar{R}_{ML}$ ,  $(d_i, c) = 1$ . Now Theorem 2 follows from Lemma 9.

COROLLARY 1. In every arithmetical progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $12 \nmid a$  or  $12 | a$  and  $b \equiv \pm 5 \pmod{12}$  there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for any fixed trinomial  $z^2 - Lz + 3M^2 = f(z)$ , where  $K(f) > 0$ .

Remark. The Lucas numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - Lz + M$  correspond to the Lehmer numbers with respect to the polynomial

$$z^2 - \sqrt{\frac{L^2}{(L^2, M)}} z + \frac{M}{(L^2, M)} = z^2 - \sqrt{L_1} z + M_1; \quad K = L^2 - 4M, \quad K_1 = L_1 - 4M_1.$$

We have

$$(L_1 M_1 | p) = \left( \frac{L^2}{(L^2, M)} \cdot \frac{M}{(L^2, M)} \mid p \right) = (M | p) \quad \text{for} \quad (LM, p) = 1$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (K_1 L_1 | p) &= ((L_1 - 4M_1) L_1 | p) = \left( \left( \frac{L^2}{(L^2, M)} - \frac{4M}{(L^2, M)} \right) \frac{L^2}{(L^2, M)} \middle| p \right) \\ &= (L^2 - 4M | p) = (K | p) \quad \text{for} \quad (KL, p) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

In the case of the Lehmer numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - \sqrt{L}z + M$  we can assume without loss of generality that  $(L, M) = 1$ . (This is not true for the Lucas numbers.) This follows from the equality

$$\begin{aligned} (\sqrt{dL_1} + \sqrt{dL_1 - 4M_1d})^n \pm (\sqrt{dL_1} - \sqrt{dL_1 - 4M_1d})^n \\ = (\sqrt{d})^n [(\sqrt{L_1} + \sqrt{L_1 - 4M_1})^n \pm (\sqrt{L_1} - \sqrt{L_1 - 4M_1})^n], \end{aligned}$$

where  $d = (L, M)$ ,  $L = L_1 d$ ,  $M = M_1 d$ .

**Proof of Corollary 1.** The Lucas numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - Lz + 3M^2$  correspond to the Lehmer numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - \sqrt{L^2/(L^2, 3M^2)}z + 3M^2/(L^2, 3M^2)$ . We have

$$m \left( \frac{L^2}{(L^2, 3M^2)} \cdot \frac{3M^2}{(L^2, 3M^2)} \right) = m(3M^2) = m(3) = 12, \quad \bar{R}_3 = \{5, 7\}$$

and Corollary 1 follows directly from Lemma 9. For example there exist infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition in the arithmetic progression  $ax + b$  (where  $(a, b) = 1$ ,  $12 \nmid a$  or  $12 | a$  and  $b \equiv \pm 5 \pmod{12}$ ) for the polynomial  $z^2 - 4z + 3$  and so there are infinitely many odd composite  $n$  in  $ax + b$  such that  $n | 3^{(n-1)/2} + 1$  (cf. [15]).

**COROLLARY 2.** *In every arithmetic progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $8 \nmid a$  or  $8 | a$  and  $b \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}$  there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for any fixed trinomial  $z^2 - Lz - 2M^2 = f(z)$  where  $K(f) > 0$ .*

**Proof.** The Lucas numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - Lz - 2M^2$  correspond to the Lehmer numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - \sqrt{L^2/(L^2, 2M^2)}z - 2M^2/(L^2, 2M^2)$ . We have

$$m \left( \frac{L^2}{(L^2, 2M^2)} \cdot \frac{-2M^2}{(L^2, 2M^2)} \right) = m(-2) = 8, \quad \bar{R}_{-2} = \{5, 7\}$$

and Corollary 2 follows directly from Lemma 9.

For example the Lucas numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - 2z - 2$  correspond to the Lehmer numbers with respect to the poly-

nomial  $z^2 - \sqrt{2}z - 1$  (here  $K = 6, L = 2$ ) and there are infinitely many odd composite  $n$  coprime with 12 in  $ax + b$ , where  $(a, b) = 1$ , and  $8 \nmid a$  or  $8 | a$  and  $b \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} n | (1 + \sqrt{3})^{(n+1)/2} + (1 - \sqrt{3})^{(n+1)/2} & \quad \text{if} \quad n \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{12}, \\ n | (1 + \sqrt{3})^{(n-1)/2} + (1 - \sqrt{3})^{(n-1)/2} & \quad \text{if} \quad n \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{12}. \end{aligned}$$

This holds in view of the fact that  $(KL | n) = (6 \cdot 2 | n) = (3 | n) = -1$  if  $n \equiv \pm 5 \pmod{12}$  and  $(3 | n) = 1$  if  $n \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{12}$ .

**COROLLARY 3.** *In every arithmetic progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $4 \nmid a$  or  $4 | a$  and  $b \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for any fixed trinomial  $z^2 - Lz - M^2 = f(z)$ , where  $K(f) > 0$ .*

**Proof.** The Lucas numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - Lz - M^2$  correspond to the Lehmer numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - \sqrt{L^2/(L^2, M^2)}z - M^2/(L^2, M^2)$ . We have:

$$m \left( \frac{L^2}{(L^2, M^2)} \cdot \frac{-M^2}{(L^2, M^2)} \right) = m(-1) = 4, \quad \bar{R}_{-1} = \{3\}$$

and the corollary follows directly from Lemma 9.

For example, in every arithmetic progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $4 \nmid a$  or  $4 | a$  and  $b \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for the trinomial  $f = z^2 - z - 1$  and so there are infinitely many composite  $n$  in  $ax + b$ , coprime with 10 such that

$$n \left| \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{(n-1)/2} + \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{(n-1)/2} \right. \quad \text{if} \quad n \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$$

and

$$n \left| \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{(n+1)/2} + \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{(n+1)/2} \right. \quad \text{if} \quad n \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}.$$

This holds in view of the fact that  $K(z^2 - z - 1) = 5$ ,  $(5 | n) = 1$  if  $n \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$  and  $(5 | n) = -1$  if  $n \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}$ .

**COROLLARY 4.** *In every arithmetic progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $8 \nmid a$  or  $8 | a, b \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for any fixed trinomial  $z^2 - Lz + 2M^2 = f(z)$ , where  $K(f) > 0$ .*

Proof. The Lucas numbers with respect to the polynomial  $z^2 - Lz + 2M^2$  correspond to the Lehmer number with respect to the polynomial

$$z^2 - \sqrt{L^2/(L^2, 2M^2)} z + 2M^2/(L^2, 2M^2).$$

We have

$$m\left(\frac{L^2}{(L^2, 2M^2)} \cdot \frac{2M^2}{(L^2, 2M^2)}\right) = m(2) = 8, \quad \bar{R}_2 = \{3, 5\}$$

and Corollary 4 follows directly from Lemma 9. For example in every arithmetic progression  $ax + b$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$  and  $8 \nmid a$  or  $8 \mid a$  and  $b \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  there are infinitely many composite numbers satisfying the Lucas condition for  $z^2 - 3z + 2$  and so in  $ax + b$  there are infinitely many composite  $n$  such that  $n \mid 2^{(n-1)/2} + 1$ .

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INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS, POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES  
WARSAW UNIVERSITY DIVISION, Białystok, Poland

INSTITUT MITTAG-LEFFLER, SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
Auravägen 17, S-18202 Djursholm, Sweden

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