

2024.2 Question 1

1. In the $n + k$ integers, the first one is c , and the final one is $c + n + k - 1$.
In the n integers, the first one is $c + n + k$, and the final one is $c + 2n + k - 1$.
Hence, the sums are equal if and only if

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{(n+k)[c + (c + n + k - 1)]}{2} &= \frac{n[(c + n + k) + (c + 2n + k - 1)]}{2} \\ (n+k)(2c + n + k - 1) &= n(2c + 3n + 2k - 1) \\ 2cn + n^2 + nk - n + 2ck + kn + k^2 - k &= 2cn + 3n^2 + 2kn - 1 \\ 2ck + k^2 &= 2n^2 + k,\end{aligned}$$

as desired. All the above steps are reversible.

2. (a) When $k = 1$, $2c + 1 = 2n^2 + 1$, and $c = n^2$.

Hence,

$$(c, n) \in \{(t^2, t) \mid t \in \mathbb{N}\},$$

and n can take all positive integers.

- (b) When $k = 2$, $4c + 4 = 2n^2 + 2$, and $2c = n^2 - 1$.

By parity, n must be odd. Let $n = 2t - 1$ for $t \in \mathbb{N}$, and we have

$$2c = (2t - 1)^2 - 1 = 4t^2 - 4t,$$

and hence

$$c = 2t^2 - 2t.$$

Hence,

$$(c, n) \in \{(2t^2 - 2t, 2t - 1) \mid t \in \mathbb{N}\},$$

and n can take all odd positive integers.

3. If $k = 4$, we have $8c + 16 = 2n^2 + 4$, and hence $n^2 = 4c + 6$.

By considering modulo 4, the only quadratic residues modulo 4 are 0 and 1, but the right-hand side equation is congruent to 2 modulo 4.

Hence, there are no solutions for n and c .

4. When $c = 1$, we have $2n^2 + k = 2k + k^2$, and hence $2n^2 = k^2 + k$.

- (a) When $k = 1$, $k^2 + k = 2$, and so $(n, k) = (1, 1)$ satisfies the equation.

When $k = 8$, $k^2 + k = 64 + 8 = 72$, and so $(n, k) = (6, 8)$ satisfies the equation.

- (b) Given that $2N^2 = K^2 + K$, notice that

$$\begin{aligned}(2N'^2) - (K'^2 + K') &= 2(3N + 2K + 1)^2 - (4N + 3K + 1)^2 - (4N + 3K + 1) \\ &= 2(9N^2 + 4K^2 + 1 + 12NK + 6N + 4K) \\ &\quad - (16N^2 + 9K^2 + 1 + 24NK + 8N + 6K) \\ &\quad - (4N + 3K + 1) \\ &= 2N^2 - K^2 - K \\ &= 2N^2 - (K^2 + K) \\ &= 2N^2 - 2N^2 \\ &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

and this means that

$$2N'^2 = K'^2 + K',$$

and hence

$$(N', K') = (3N + 2K + 1, 4N + 3K + 1)$$

is another pair of solution for (n, k) .

- (c) When $(n, k) = (6, 8)$, $3n + 2k + 1 = 35$, $4n + 3k + 1 = 49$, and $(n, k) = (35, 49)$ is also possible.
When $(n, k) = (35, 49)$, $3n + 2k + 1 = 204$, $4n + 3k + 1 = 288$, and $(n, k) = (204, 288)$ is also possible.