

**SOLVING THE GENERAL QUADRATIC DIOPHANTINE  
EQUATION  $ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 + dx + ey + f = 0$**

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1. INTRODUCTION

This note originates from studying the paper [11, pp. 38–40] where a new method of solving the general quadratic diophantine equation

$$(1) \quad ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 + dx + ey + f = 0.$$

is given in the case where (1) represents an hyperbola. This was an improvement on a classical method of Lagrange mentioned in [11, p. 39].

In our note, we give a variation of the method of [11] due to John Robertson, which uses a transformation of variables where the centre of the hyperbola becomes the origin.

The rest of the note is a standard treatment of the special cases that correspond to an ellipse, parabola, or two straight lines, possibly coincident.

The underlying algorithm has been coded as BCMath program [3].

An earlier computer program for solving (1) due to Dario Alpern is available at [4].

2. THE CASES

Let  $D = b^2 - 4ac$ . We assume not all of  $a, b, c$  are zero.

**Case 1.**  $D = 0$ . We use completion of the square, as in Hua's book [8, p. 278]. We can assume  $a \neq 0$  (by interchanging  $x$  and  $y$ , as one of  $a$  and  $c$  is nonzero) and multiply (1) by  $4a$  to get an equivalent equation:

$$(2) \quad (2ax + by)^2 + 4adx + 4aey + 4af = 0.$$

Let  $t = 2ax + by$ . Then (2) becomes

$$(3) \quad (t + d)^2 = uy + v.$$

where  $u = 2(bd - 2ae)$  and  $v = d^2 - 4af$ .

(i) Assume  $u = 0$ . Then (3) becomes  $(t + d)^2 = v$ . Let  $h = \gcd(2a, b)$ .

If  $v = 0$ , then equation (3) becomes  $2ax + by + d = 0$  and we have a line of integer solutions  $(2a/h)x + (b/h)y = d/h$  for (1) if  $h$  divides  $d$ , but no integer solution if  $h$  does not divide  $d$ .

If  $v < 0$  or  $v > 0$  and  $v$  is nonsquare, there is no integer solution of (1).

Next assume  $v = g^2, g > 0$ . Then  $t + d = \pm g$ , i.e.,

$$2ax + by = \pm g - d$$

and we have the following possibilities:

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(a) If  $h$  divides  $g - d$ , we have a line of integer solutions of (1):

$$(2a/h)x + (b/h)y = (g - d)/h.$$

(b) If  $h$  divides  $g + d$ , we have a line of integer solutions of (1):

$$(2a/h)x + (b/h)y = (-g - d)/h.$$

(c) Neither  $g - d$  nor  $g + d$  is divisible by  $h$ . Then there is no integer solution of (1).

(ii) Assume  $u \neq 0$ . Then (3) gives rise to the congruence

$$(4) \quad T^2 \equiv v \pmod{|u|},$$

where  $T = t + d$  and  $t = ax + by$ .

If there are no solutions of (4), then there are no integer solutions of (1). So let  $T_1, \dots, T_c$  be the solutions in the range  $-|u|/2 < T_i \leq |u|/2$ . Then

$$t = T_i - d + uk, \quad k \text{ arbitrary.}$$

We now process each  $T_i$ . Equation (3) gives

$$(5) \quad y = r + sk + uk^2,$$

where  $r = (T_i^2 - v)/u$  and  $s = 2T_i$ . We have to choose  $k$  such that  $x$  is integral in the equation

$$2ax + by = t = T_i - d + ku,$$

or equivalently

$$(6) \quad 2ax = T_i - d - br + (u - bs)k - buk^2.$$

Fortunately  $-bu/2a$  is an integer. For  $bu = 2b(bd - 2ae) = 2b^2d - 4bae$  and since  $b^2 = 4ac$ , we see that  $-bu/2a = 2be - 4cd$ , an integer. Hence we have to solve the congruence

$$(u - bs)k \equiv d + br - T_i \pmod{2a}.$$

If this is not soluble, we pass on to  $T_{i+1}$ . Otherwise let the solution have the form

$$k = x' + zw, \quad \text{where } z \geq 1, 0 \leq x' < z \text{ and } w \text{ is arbitrary.}$$

Then equation (5) gives

$$\begin{aligned} y &= r + s(x' + zw) + u(x' + zw)^2 \\ &= r + sx' + ux'^2 + (sz + 2ux'z)w + uz^2w^2. \end{aligned}$$

Also, with  $j = u - bs$ ,  $K = d + br - T_i$  and  $t = 2be - 4cd$ , equation (6) gives

$$x = (x'j - K)/2a + tx'^2 + (zj/2a + 2tx'z)w + t^2z^2w^2.$$

Note that  $t$  is nonzero, as  $t = 0$  implies  $u = 0$ . The solutions  $(x, y)$  lie on a parabola.

**Case 2.**  $D \neq 0$ . We multiply (1) by  $D^2$  and translate the origin to  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , where

$$\alpha = 2cd - be, \beta = 2ae - bd,$$

using the transformation of Legendre ([9, p. 105])

$$Dx = X + \alpha, Dy = Y + \beta,$$

to get the equation

$$(7) \quad aX^2 + bXY + cY^2 = k,$$

where

$$k = -D(ae^2 - bed + cd^2 + fD).$$

Let  $t = \gcd(a, b, c)$ . If  $t$  does not divide  $k$ , then (1) has no integer solution. Otherwise we replace  $(a, b, c, k)$  by  $(a/t, b/t, c/t, k/t)$  in (7).

- (a) Assume  $k = 0$  and  $D$  not a square. Then the only integer solution of (7) is  $(X, Y) = (0, 0)$  and so  $Dx = \alpha$  and  $Dy = \beta$ . Hence if  $D|\alpha$  and  $D|\beta$ , we have the unique solution  $(x, y) = (\alpha/D, \beta/D)$ , whereas if  $D$  does not divide  $\alpha$  or  $D$  does not divide  $\beta$ , there is no integer solution of (1).
- (b) Assume  $D < 0$  and  $k \neq 0$ . Then (1) describes an ellipse. We use the recent algorithm of Matthews ([10]) to find all integer solutions  $(X_i, Y_i)$  of  $aX^2 + bXY + cY^2 = k$ . If  $D$  divides  $X_i + \alpha$  and  $D$  divides  $Y_i + \beta$ , we get a corresponding integer solution of (1):

$$(x, y) = ((X_i + \alpha)/D, (Y_i + \beta)/D).$$

- (c) Assume  $D = g^2, g > 0$ .

- (i) Assume  $a \neq 0$ . Then on multiplying by  $4a$ , equation (7) becomes

$$(2aX + (b + g)Y)(2aX + (b - g)Y) = 4ak.$$

Let  $g_1 = \gcd(2a, b + g), g_2 = \gcd(2a, b - g)$ .

If  $g_1g_2$  does not divide  $4ak$ , then equation (1) has no integer solution.

If  $g_1g_2$  divides  $4ak$ , we now have to solve

$$\left(\frac{2a}{g_1}X + \frac{(b + g)}{g_1}Y\right) \left(\frac{2a}{g_2}X + \frac{(b - g)}{g_2}Y\right) = \frac{4ak}{g_1g_2}.$$

We consider the cases  $k = 0$  and  $k \neq 0$  separately:

First the case  $k = 0$ . We get two equations  $2aX + (b \pm g)Y = 0$ . Using  $Dx = X + \alpha$  and  $Dy = Y + \beta$ , these in turn give two equations

$$(8) \quad 2aDx + (b + g)Dy = 2a\alpha + (b + g)\beta$$

$$(9) \quad 2aDx + (b - g)Dy = 2a\alpha + (b - g)\beta.$$

If  $Dg_1$  does not divide  $2a\alpha + (b + g)\beta$ , then equation (8) does not lead to a solution for  $(x, y)$ .

If  $Dg_1$  divides  $2a\alpha + (b + g)\beta$ , then we get the line of integer solutions:

$$(2a/g_1)x + ((b + g)/g_1)y = (2a\alpha + (b + g)\beta)/Dg_1.$$

Similarly for (9).

Secondly, consider the case  $k \neq 0$ . We are dealing with an equation of the form

$$(A_1X + B_1Y)(A_2X + B_2Y) = 4ak/(g_1g_2),$$

where  $A_1 = 2a/g_1, A_2 = 2a/g_2, B_1 = (b + g)/g_1, B_2 = (b - g)/g_2$ .

We have to examine all divisors  $d_i$  of  $4ak/(g_1g_2)$  and test for integer solutions  $(X, Y)$  of

$$(10) \quad A_1X + B_1Y = d_i$$

$$(11) \quad A_2X + B_2Y = 4ak/(g_1g_2d_i).$$

If there are no integer solutions of the system of equations (10) and (11) for any  $i$ , then there are no integer solutions of (1).

However if there is an  $i$  such that (10) and (11) have integer solutions  $(X, Y)$ , then each such solution, we have to check if  $D$  divides  $X + \alpha$  and  $Y + \beta$ , in which case we get an integer solution of (1):

$$(x, y) = ((X + \alpha)/D, (Y + \beta)/D).$$

- (ii) Assume  $a = 0$ . Then (7) becomes  $Y(bX + cY) = k$ . Again we consider the cases  $k \neq 0$  and  $k = 0$  separately. Let  $h = \gcd(b, c)$ . First assume  $k \neq 0$ . If  $h$  does not divide  $k$ , then (1) has no integer solutions.

If  $h$  divides  $k$ , we get the equation

$$Y((b/h)X + (c/h)Y) = k/h.$$

We then have to examine all divisors  $d_i$  of  $k/h$  and solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= d_i \\ (b/h)X + (c/h)Y &= k/(hd_i) \end{aligned}$$

in integers.

Secondly, assume  $k = 0$ . Then (3) becomes  $Y(bX + cY) = 0$ , i.e.,

$$(Dy + \beta)(bDx + cDy + b\alpha + c\beta) = 0.$$

If  $D$  divides  $\beta$ , we get one family of integer solutions of (1), namely  $y = \beta/D$ , with  $x$  arbitrary. Let  $g' = \gcd(b, c)$  and  $t = b\alpha + c\beta$ .

If  $g'D$  does not divide  $t$ , there are no integer solutions of (1).

If  $g'D$  divides  $t$ , we get a line of integer solutions of (1):

$$(b/g')x + (c/g')y + t/Dg' = 0.$$

- (d) Assume  $D > 0$  and nonsquare and  $k \neq 0$ . Then (1) describes an hyperbola. We assume that for the original  $a, b, c$ , we have  $\gcd(a, b, c) = 1$ . We distinguish between  $D$  odd and even.

- (i)  $D$  odd. Let  $(\phi, \psi)$  be the least positive solution of  $\phi^2 - D\psi^2 = 4$ . We then find representatives  $(X_i, Y_i)$  for the solution classes of equation (7). The general solution for each class is given by

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \gamma F + \delta G \\ Y &= \epsilon F + \zeta G, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\gamma = X_i, \epsilon = Y_i, \delta = -(2c\epsilon + b\gamma), \zeta = b\epsilon + 2a\gamma$$

and  $F + G\sqrt{D} = \pm(\phi/2 + (\psi/2)\sqrt{D})^n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

By a result of John Robertson, it is enough to test  $\gamma F + \delta G + \alpha$  and  $\epsilon F + \zeta G + \beta$  for divisibility by  $D$  when  $(F, G) = (1, 0), (-1, 0), (\phi/2, \psi/2)$  and  $(-\phi/2, -\psi/2)$ .

When divisibility is successful, we get a corresponding solution family  $(x, y)$  of the form

$$\begin{aligned} Dx &= \gamma F + \delta G + \alpha \\ Dy &= \epsilon F + \zeta G + \beta, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{D} = s(\phi/2 + (\psi/2)\sqrt{D})^{2m+t}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $s = \pm 1$  and  $t = 0$  or  $1$ .

- (ii)  $D$  even. Let  $(\phi, \psi)$  be the least positive solution of  $\phi^2 - D\psi^2 = 1$ . We then find representatives  $(X_i, Y_i)$  for the solution classes of equation (7). The general solution for each class is given by

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \gamma F + \delta G \\ Y &= \epsilon F + \zeta G, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\gamma = X_i, \epsilon = Y_i, \delta = -(c\epsilon + (b/2)\gamma), \zeta = (b/2)\epsilon + a\gamma$$

and  $F + G\sqrt{D} = \pm(\phi + \psi\sqrt{D})^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then by a result of John Robertson, it is enough to test  $\gamma F + \delta G + \alpha$  and  $\epsilon F + \zeta G + \beta$  for divisibility by  $D$  when  $(F, G) = (1, 0), (-1, 0), (\phi, \psi)$  and  $(-\phi, -\psi)$ .

When divisibility is successful, we get a corresponding solution family  $(x, y)$  of the form

$$\begin{aligned} Dx &= \gamma F + \delta G + \alpha \\ Dy &= \epsilon F + \zeta G + \beta, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{D} = s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{D})^{2m+t}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $s = \pm 1$  and  $t = 0$  or  $1$ .

- (e) Lastly we assume  $D > 0$ , nonsquare and  $k \neq 0$  and that for the original  $a, b, c$ , we have  $\gcd(a, b, c) = g > 1$ . We return to the original equation (1) and make the transformation  $gx = x', gy = y'$  in equation (1) and consider instead the equation

$$(12) \quad a'x'^2 + b'x'y' + c'y'^2 + dx' + ey' + fg = 0,$$

where  $a' = a/g, b' = b/g, c' = c/g$  and  $D' = b'^2 - 4a'c'$ . Then  $\gcd(a', b', c') = 1$  and we make the transformation  $D'x' = X + \alpha', D'y' = Y + \beta'$  to get an equation

$$(13) \quad a'X^2 + b'XY + c'Y^2 = k'.$$

Then, as in the previous case, we find solution classes  $(x', y')$  for (12) of the form

$$\begin{aligned} D'gx &= D'x' = \gamma F_m + \delta G_m + \alpha' = X_m \\ D'gy &= D'y' = \epsilon F_m + \zeta G_m + \beta' = Y_m, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi^2 - D'\psi^2 = 4$  and  $F_m + G_m\sqrt{D'} = s(\phi/2 + (\psi/2)\sqrt{D'})^{2m+t}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $s = \pm 1$  and  $t = 0$  or  $1$ , when  $D'$  is odd, and

$$\begin{aligned} D'x' &= \gamma F_m + \delta G_m + \alpha' = X_m \\ D'y' &= \epsilon F_m + \zeta G_m + \beta' = Y_m, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi^2 - D'\psi^2 = 1$  and  $F_m + G_m\sqrt{D'} = s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{D'})^{2m+t}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $s = \pm 1$  and  $t = 0$  or  $1$ , when  $D'$  is even.

Then  $X_n$  and  $Y_n$  satisfy recurrence relations of the form

$$\begin{aligned} X_{n+1} &= u_1 X_n - X_{n-1} + w_1 \\ Y_{n+1} &= u_2 Y_n - Y_{n-1} + w_2. \end{aligned}$$

(See the Appendix for definitions of  $u_1, u_2, w_1, w_2$ .)

We determine the period (mod  $D'g$ ) of the sequence  $(X_n, Y_n)$  and test each  $(X_n, Y_n)$  in the first period for divisibility by  $D'g$ . Then each case of divisibility where  $X_{n_i} = gD'x_{n_i}$  and  $Y_{n_i} = gD'y_{n_i}$ , will yield a solution family  $(x_n, y_n)$ ,  $n = 2(D'gm + n_i) + t$  of (1). There may be several such solutions found in such a period.

### 3. EXAMPLES

- (1)  $x^2 - 15y^2 = 61$ . [8, p. 285]. Ans.  $x + y\sqrt{15} = \pm(11 \pm 2\sqrt{15})(4 + \sqrt{15})^n$ .  
 (2)  $3x^2 - 8xy + 7y^2 - 4x + 2y - 109 = 0$ . Exercise (a), [8, p. 286].

Ans.  $D = -20, (2, 5), (2, -3), (14, 9), (-10, -7)$ .

- (3)  $3xy + 2y^2 - 4x - 3y - 12 = 0$ . Exercise (b), [8, p. 286].

Ans.  $D = 9$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (5, 2), (-3, 6), (-1, 4), (-13, 20), (-13, 1), \\ (-1, -1), (-3, 0), (5, -8), (2, -4), (24, -36). \end{aligned}$$

- (4)  $9x^2 - 12xy + 4y^2 + 3x + 2y - 12 = 0$ . Exercise (c), [8, p. 286].

Ans.  $D = 0$ . Four families:

$$\begin{aligned} x = 2 - 2t - 24t^2, x = 0 + 14t - 24t^2, x = 1 + 10t - 24t^2, x = -5 + 26t - 24t^2, \\ y = 3 + 3t - 36t^2, y = -2 + 27t - 36t^2, y = 0 + 21t - 36t^2, y = -11 + 45t - 36t^2. \end{aligned}$$

- (5)  $x^2 - 8xy - 17y^2 + 72y - 75 = 0$ . Exercise (d), [8, p. 286].

Ans.  $D = 132$ . Two families: With  $F + G\sqrt{33} = -(23 + 4\sqrt{33})^n$  and

$$\begin{aligned} 11x = 70F + 297G + 48, \quad 11x = -62F - 231G + 48, \\ 11y = F + 66G + 12, \quad 11y = F - 66G + 12, \end{aligned}$$

- (6)  $x^2 + 8xy + y^2 + 2x - 4y + 1 = 0$ . Art. 221, [7, p. 220–221].

Ans.  $D = 60$ . Two families:

$$\begin{aligned} 5x &= -8F + 30G + 3 \\ 5y &= 2F - 2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{15} = (4 + \sqrt{15})^{2m}$  or  $-(4 + \sqrt{15})^{2m+1}$ . We remark that equivalently  $F$  and  $G$  satisfy  $F^2 - 15G^2 = 1$  and  $F \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ . This then relates more readily to the solution given by Gauss, namely

$$\begin{aligned} 5x &= 2t + 3 \\ 5y &= -8t + 30u - 2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $t^2 - 15u^2 = 1$  and  $t \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ . These solutions correspond under the transformation

$$t = -4F + 15G, u = -F + 4G.$$

(7)  $x^2 + 2xy + y^2 + x + y - 6 = 0$ .

Ans.  $D = 0$ .  $x + y = 2$  and  $x + y = -3$ .

(8)  $2x^2 + 7xy + 6y^2 + 5x + 7y - 27 = 0$ .

Ans.  $D = 1$ . Sixteen solutions:

$$(56, -29), (18, -9), (29, -15), (1, 1), (11, -5), (-21, 15), (-7, 6), (-59, 40), \\ (-34, 15), (4, -5), (-7, 1), (21, -15), (11, -9), (43, -29), (29, -20), (81, -54).$$

(9)  $81x^2 + 78xy + 22y^2 = 225$ . Exercise III.3, [6, p. 115].

Ans.  $D = -1044$ . Two solutions:  $(3, -3), (-3, 3)$ .

(10)  $2x^2 + 3xy + 5y^2 = 3352$ . Exercise III.4, [6, p. 115].

Ans.  $D = -31$ . Six solutions:  $(31, 10), (-31, -10), (-17, -19), (17, 19), (46, -10), (-46, 10)$ .

Note. Faisant does not list four of these solutions.

(11)  $3x^2 - 22xy + 25y^2 = 81$ . Exercise III.6, [6, p. 115].

Ans.  $D = 184$ . Five families of solutions:

$$x = -658F - 4463G, \quad x = -2F - 47G, \quad x = -156F + 1059G \\ y = -111F - 753G, \quad y = F - 17G, \quad y = -111F + 753G, \\ \\ x = 54F + 369G, \quad x = -12F + 93G, \\ y = 9F + 63G, \quad y = -9F + 63G,$$

with  $F + G\sqrt{46} = \pm(24335 + 1794\sqrt{46})^m$ . Note. Faisant has an incorrect answer  $(-111, -156)$  instead of  $(-156, -111)$ .

(12)  $2x^2 + 8xy - y^2 - 4x + 10y - 7 = 0$ . Ans.  $(-1, 1)$ .

(13)  $41x^2 + 25xy - 125y^2 - 10x + 9y - 7 = 0$ . An example of John Robertson, April 13, 2015.

Ans.  $D = 21125$ . Two families of solutions:

representatives  $(3, 2)$  and  $(-1224927844935779, -834638485983846)$ ,  
with corresponding general solutions given by

$$65x = 188F + 27040G + 7 \\ 1625y = 3174F + 484750G + 76,$$

where respectively  $F + G\sqrt{21225} = \epsilon^{2m}$  or  $-\epsilon^{2m+1}$ , with

$$\epsilon = 425730551631123/2 + (2929115241679/2)\sqrt{21125} = (843/2 + (29/2)\sqrt{845})^5.$$

(14)  $3x^2 + 14xy + 6y^2 - 17x - 23y - 505 = 0$ . An example of Dario Alpern [5].

Ans.  $D = 124$ . Eight families of solutions:

(i)  $(610, -1275)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$62x = -7809F + 43617G + 59 \\ 62y = 1841F - 10540G + 50,$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = (1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m+1}$ ;

(ii)  $(-31, 7)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$62x = -1981F + 11563G + 59 \\ 62y = 384F - 3255G + 50,$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = (1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m}$ ;

(iii)  $(-1291, 2707)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$62x = -3661F + 20677G + 59 \\ 62y = 825F - 5208G + 50,$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = -(1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m+1}$ ;

(iv)  $(70, -15)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 62x &= -4281F + 24087G + 59 \\ 62y &= 980F - 5983G + 50, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = -(1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m}$ ;

(v)  $(-125, 265)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 62x &= -7809F - 43617G + 59 \\ 62y &= 16380F + 91233G + 50, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = (1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m}$ ;

(vi)  $(4, 7)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 62x &= -189F + 3627G + 59 \\ 62y &= -384F - 3255G + 50, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = -(1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m}$ ;

(vii)  $(211015, -441995)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 62x &= -4281F - 24087G + 59 \\ 62y &= 9009F + 50220G + 50, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = -(1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m+1}$ ;

(viii)  $(20605, -43157)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 62x &= -189F - 3627G + 59 \\ 62y &= 825F + 5208G + 50, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{31} = -(1520 + 273\sqrt{31})^{2m+1}$ ;

$$(15) \quad 6x^2 + 24xy + 12y^2 + x - y + 7 = 0.$$

Ans.  $D = 288$ . Two families of solutions:

(i)  $(2, -3)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 12x &= -16F + 13G + 2 \\ 24y &= 19F + 6G - 3, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{2} = -(3 + 2\sqrt{2})^{4m+1}$ ;

(ii)  $(13, -22)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 12x &= -14F + 7G + 2 \\ 24y &= 21F + 14G - 3, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{2} = -(3 + 2\sqrt{2})^{4m+2}$ ;

$$(16) \quad 6x^2 + 30xy + 18y^2 + x - y - 11 = 0.$$

Ans.  $D = 468$ . Two families of solutions:

(i)  $(2, -3)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 78x &= -158F + 676G + 11 \\ 78y &= 19F - 221G - 7, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{13} = (11/2 + (3/2)\sqrt{13})^{6m+1}$ ;

(ii)  $(7, -10)$  with corresponding general solution given by

$$\begin{aligned} 78x &= 2F - 364G + 11 \\ 78y &= 59F + 299G - 7, \end{aligned}$$

where  $F + G\sqrt{13} = -(11/2 + (3/2)\sqrt{13})^{6m+1}$ ;



## 4. APPENDIX

Let  $D = b^2 - 4ac$ , with  $\Delta = D/4$  if  $D$  is even.  
 Suppose  $D$  is odd, let

$$\begin{aligned} X_m &= \gamma F_m + \delta G_m + \alpha', \\ Y_m &= \epsilon F_m + \zeta G_m + \beta', \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi^2 - D\psi^2 = 4$  and  $F_m + G_m\sqrt{D} = s(\phi/2 + (\psi/2)\sqrt{D})^{2m+t}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $s = \pm 1$  and  $t = 0$  or  $1$ .

If  $D$  is even, let

$$\begin{aligned} X_m &= \gamma F_m + \delta G_m + \alpha', \\ Y_m &= \epsilon F_m + \zeta G_m + \beta', \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi^2 - \Delta\psi^2 = 1$  and  $F_m + G_m\sqrt{\Delta} = s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^{2m+t}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $s = \pm 1$  and  $t = 0$  or  $1$ .

Then  $X_m$  and  $Y_m$  satisfy recurrence relations of the form

$$\begin{aligned} X_{n+1} &= u_1 X_n - X_{n-1} + w_1, \\ Y_{n+1} &= u_2 Y_n - Y_{n-1} + w_2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $u_1, u_2, w_1, w_2$  are defined as follows:

(a) Suppose  $D$  is even. Let

$$\begin{aligned} f &= s, g = 0 \text{ if } t = 0, \\ f &= \phi, g = \psi \text{ if } t = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_0 &= \gamma f + \delta g + \alpha', \\ Y_0 &= \epsilon f + \zeta g + \beta'. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f + g\sqrt{\Delta} = \begin{cases} s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^2 & \text{if } t = 0, \\ s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^3 & \text{if } t = 1. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \gamma f + \delta g + \alpha', \\ Y_1 &= \epsilon f + \zeta g + \beta'. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\phi_2 + \psi_2 = (\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^2$  and define  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= 2\alpha' - 2\phi_2\alpha', \\ \beta_1 &= 2\beta' - 2\phi_2\beta'. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_{n+1} &= 2\phi_2 X_n + \alpha_1 - X_{n-1}, \\ Y_{n+1} &= 2\phi_2 Y_n + \beta_1 - Y_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $D$  odd. Let

$$\begin{aligned} f &= s, g = 0 \text{ if } t = 0, \\ f &= \phi, g = \psi \text{ if } t = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_0 &= (\gamma f + \delta g)/2 + \alpha', \\ Y_0 &= (\epsilon f + \zeta g)/2 + \beta'. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f + g\sqrt{\Delta} = \begin{cases} s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^2 & \text{if } t = 0, \\ s(\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^3 & \text{if } t = 1. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= (\gamma f + \delta g)/8 + \alpha', \\ Y_1 &= (\epsilon f + \zeta g)/8 + \beta'. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\phi_2 + \psi_2 = ((\phi + \psi\sqrt{\Delta})^2)/2$  and define  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= 2\alpha' - \phi_2\alpha', \\ \beta_1 &= 2\beta' - \phi_2\beta'. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_{n+1} &= \phi_2 X_n + \alpha_1 - X_{n-1}, \\ Y_{n+1} &= \phi_2 Y_n + \beta_1 - Y_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

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