

$$(2x+1)^2 = 4x^2+4x+1$$

$$\frac{4x^2+4x+1}{8} = \frac{4x^2}{8} + \frac{4x}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{8}$$

- If x is even then x and x^2 are both even and therefore divisible by two which means that the division of the terms leaves a remainder of 1.
- If x is odd then x and x^2 have a sum that is even (because the sum of two odd numbers is even) and therefore divisible by two which means that the division of the terms leaves a remainder of 1.

$$(2x)^2 = 4x^2$$

$$\frac{4x^2}{8}$$

- If x is even, the product of two multiples of four is divisible by eight, so the remainder is 0.
- If x is odd, the product of 4 and x^2 is a multiple of 4, but is not a multiple of 8, since x^2 is odd, so the remainder is 4, because it is halfway between two multiples of eight.

$8n+7$, where n is a positive integer, can not be expressed as a sum of three squares, because $8n+7$ gives a remainder of 7 in mod 8 and as the previous proofs show that square numbers divided by eight leave remainders of 0, 1 or 4.

In mod 8:

$$0+0+0 \neq 7$$

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$$1+1+1 \neq 7$$

$$0+0+4 \neq 7$$

$$0+4+4 \neq 7$$

$$4+4+4 \neq 7$$

$$0+1+4 \neq 7$$

$$1+1+4 \neq 7$$

$$1+4+4 \neq 7$$

So

$$8n + 7 \neq x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$