

## CHAPTER VI

## ROOM SQUARES AND FERMAT NUMBERS

Definition 6.1 A number in the form  $2^{2^k} + 1$  where  $k$  is a non-negative integer is called a Fermat number and we shall denote this number by  $F_k$ .

6.2 Existence of Room Square of side  $F_k$  except  $k = 0, 1, 3$ .

Lemma 6.2.1 If there exists a Room Square of side  $2^d + 1$  and a Room Square of side  $2^{a+d} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $2^a + 1$ , then there is a Room Square of side  $2^{a+md} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $2^{a+(m-1)d} + 1$  for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$

Proof. We proceed by induction on  $m$ . The case  $m = 1$  follows immediately from the hypothesis of the lemma.

Suppose the case  $m = k$  is true, so that there is a Room Square of side  $2^{a+kd} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $2^{a+(k-1)d} + 1$ .

Observe that

$$2^{a+(k+1)d} + 1 = (2^d + 1) \left[ (2^{a+kd} + 1) - (2^{a+(k-1)d} + 1) \right] + (2^{a+(k-1)d} + 1).$$

To apply theorem 4.1.2 we must show that  $(2^{a+kd} + 1) - (2^{a+(k-1)d} + 1) \neq 2$  or 6

$$\text{Observe that } (2^{a+kd} + 1) - (2^{a+(k-1)d} + 1) = 2^{a+(k-1)d} \cdot [2^d - 1].$$

Since the existence of Room Squares of sides  $2^d + 1$  and  $2^a + 1$  are assumed, hence  $a, d \neq 0, 1, 2$ . Therefore  $2^d - 1 > 6$ . Therefore

$$(2^{a+kd} + 1) - (2^{a+(k-1)d} + 1) \neq 2 \text{ or } 6.$$

Therefore by theorem 4.1.2 , the case  $m = k+1$  is true

Hence the lemma holds.

Q.E.D.

Lemma 6.2,2 If there exist Room Squares of sides  $x + 1$ ,  $x - 1$  and  $x^2 + 1$ , then there exists a Room Square of side  $x^{2n+3} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $x^2 + 1$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

Proof. Since Room Squares of sides  $x + 1$  and  $x - 1$  exist. Hence  $x$  must be even and  $x + 1 \neq 3, 5$  and  $x - 1 \neq 5$ . Therefore  $x \neq 2$  or  $4$  or  $6$ . Hence  $x > 6$ .

For  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  we define

$$S_0 = x^2 - x + 1,$$

$$S_n = x^{2n+2} - x^{2n+1} + S_{n-1}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

We can show by induction on  $n$  that

$$(x+1)S_n = x^{2n+3} + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad S_{n+1} - S_n > 6 \quad \text{for all } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

For each  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , let  $S(n)$  be the statement that there exists a Room Square of side  $S_n$  with subsubsquares of sides  $S_{n-1}$  and  $x^2 + 1$ .

Observe that  $S_0 = (x-1) [(x+1) - 1] + 1$ , and that

$$(x+1) - 1 = x \neq 2 \text{ or } 6.$$

Therefore by theorem 4.1.2, there is a Room Square of side

$$(x-1) [(x+1) - 1] + 1 = S_0.$$

Since a Room Square of side  $x^2 + 1$  exists and a Room Square of side  $S_0$  with a subsquare of side 1. exists. Furthermore

$$S_0 - 1 = x(x-1) > 6(6-1), \quad \text{hence } S_0 - 1 \neq 2 \text{ or } 6.$$

Therefore by theorem 4.1.2 there is a Room Square of side

$$(x^2 + 1)(S_0 - 1) + 1 = S_1 \quad \text{with a subsquares of sides } x^2 + 1 \text{ and } S_0.$$

Therefore  $S(1)$  holds.

Suppose that  $S(k)$  is true, that is there exists a Room Square of side  $S_k$  with subsquares of sides  $S_{k-1}$  and  $x^2 + 1$ .

We observe that

$$\begin{aligned} S_{k+1} &= x^{2k+4} - x^{2k+3} + x^{2k+2} - x^{2k+1} + S_{k-1}, \\ &= (x^2 + 1) \cdot [S_k - S_{k-1}] + S_{k-1}. \end{aligned}$$

So, by theorem 4.1.2, there exists a Room Square of side  $S_{k+1}$  with subsquares of sides  $S_k$  and  $x^2 + 1$ .

Hence  $S(k+1)$  is true. Therefore the lemma holds.

Q.E.D.

Lemma 6.2.3 If  $F_k$  is not prime, then there is a Room Square of side  $F_k$ . In particular there are Room Squares of sides  $F_5, F_6, F_7$  and  $F_8$ .

Proof. It can be proved by induction on  $n$  that

$$(*) \quad F_n = F_{n-1} \cdot F_{n-2} \cdots F_2 \cdot F_1 \cdot F_0 + 2, \text{ for all}$$

non-negative integers  $n$ . Assume that  $F_k$  is composite. Hence it has a factorization into primes :

$$F_k = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_t .$$

From a (\*), we see that none of the prime factors  $p_i$  of  $F_k$  is of the form

$p_i = 2^{2^q} + 1$ . Hence by appendix 1. all  $p_i$  must be of the form

$p_i = 2^{q_i} t_i + 1$  where  $t_i > 1$ . By corollary 3.1.6, there is a Room Square of side  $p_i$  for all  $i$ . So, by theorem 4.1.4, there is a Room Square of side  $F_k$ .

According to [2] it is known that  $F_5, F_6, F_7$  and  $F_8$  are composite.

Hence by Lemma 6.2.3 there are Room Square of sides  $F_5, F_6, F_7$  and  $F_8$ .

Q.E.D.



Lemma 6.2.4 Room Square of side 17 exist.

Proof. We prove by displaying Room Square of side 17

|       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |       |       |       |     |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 0,1   |       | 12,7  | 10,9  | 16,3  |       | 17,2  |       | 6,13 | 11,8 | 4,15 |       | 4,15  |       |     |
|       | 0,2   |       | 13,8  | 11,10 | 17,4  |       | 1,3   |      | 7,14 | 12,9 |       | 5,16  |       | 15, |
| 16,7  |       | 0,3   |       | 14,9  | 12,11 | 1,5   |       | 2,4  |      | 8,15 | 13,10 |       | 6,17  |     |
|       | 17,8  |       | 0,4   |       | 15,10 |       | 2,6   | 3,5  |      |      |       | 14,11 |       | 7,  |
| 8,2   |       | 1,9   |       | 0,5   |       | 16,11 | 3,7   | 4,6  |      |      |       |       | 15,12 |     |
|       | 9,3   |       | 2,10  |       | 0,6   |       | 17,12 | 4,8  | 5,7  |      |       |       |       | 16, |
| 17,14 |       | 10,4  |       | 3,11  |       | 0,7   |       | 1,13 | 5,9  | 6,8  |       |       |       |     |
|       | 1,15  |       | 11,5  |       | 4,12  |       | 0,8   |      | 2,14 | 6,10 | 7,9   |       |       |     |
|       |       | 2,16  |       | 12,6  | 5,13  |       | 0,9   |      | 3,15 | 7,11 |       | 8,10  |       |     |
|       |       |       | 3,17  |       | 13,7  | 6,14  | 0,10  |      | 4,16 | 8,12 | 9,    |       |       |     |
| 10,12 |       |       | 4,1   |       | 14,8  | 7,15  | 0,11  |      | 5,17 | 9,13 |       |       |       |     |
|       | 11,13 |       |       | 5,2   |       | 15,9  | 8,15  | 0,12 |      | 8,1  | 10,   |       |       |     |
| 11,15 |       | 12,14 |       |       | 6,3   | 16,10 | 9,17  | 0,13 |      | 7,2  |       |       |       |     |
|       | 12,16 |       | 13,15 |       |       | 7,4   | 17,11 | 10,1 | 0,14 |      | 8,    |       |       |     |
| 9,4   |       | 13,17 |       | 14,16 |       |       | 8,5   | 1,12 | 11,2 | 0,15 |       |       |       |     |
|       | 10,5  |       | 14,1  |       | 15,17 |       |       | 9,6  | 2,13 | 12,3 | 0,16  |       |       |     |
|       |       | 11,6  |       | 15,2  | 16,1  |       |       | 10,7 | 3,14 | 13,4 | 0,    |       |       |     |

Figure 6.1

This Room Square is found by R.C. Mullin by using computer search [10].

Lemma 6.2.5 There are Room Square of sides  $F_2$ ,  $F_4$  and  $F_5 - 2$  .

Proof. From Lemma 6.2.4 we see that Room Square of side  $F_2 = 17$  exists.

Observe that the following identity holds;

$$(1) \quad 77 = 7 \cdot 11 ,$$

$$(2) \quad 989 = 13(77 - 1) + 1,$$

$$(3) \quad F_4 = 65537 = 67(989 - 11) + 11 .$$

By Corollary 3.1.6, there exist Room Square of side 7, 11, 13 and 67 .

From (1) and theorem 4.1.3, it follows that Room Square of side 77 with subsquare of side 11 exists .

From (2) and theorem 4.1.2, it follows that Room Square of side 989 with subsquare of side 77, which in turn has a subsquare of side 11, exists.

From (3) and theorem 4.1.2 , it follows that Room Square of side  $F_4 = 65537$  exists.

By theorem 3.1.5 there exist Room Square of sides 47 and 83. Hence, by 4.1.2 there exists a Room Square of side  $3855 = 47(83 - 1) + 1$  .

Since  $F_5 - 2 = 65537 \cdot 17 \cdot 3855$  .

Hence by theorem 4.1.4 , there is a Room Square of side  $F_5 - 2$  .

Q.E.D.

Theorem 6.2.6 There is a Room Square of side  $F_k$  unless  $k = 0, 1, 3$ .

Proof Lemma 6.2.3 and 6.2.5 guarantee the existence of Room Square of sides  $F_2, F_4, F_5, F_6, F_7$  and  $F_8$ .

Hence we need only to discuss the case  $k > 8$ .

Let  $x = 2^{32}$ , hence  $F_k = x^{4(2^{k-7})} + 1$ . The case  $F_6 = x^2 + 1$ ,  $F_5 = x + 1$  and  $F_5 - 2 = x - 1$ , so from lemma 6.2.3 and 6.2.5, there are Room Square of side  $x^2 + 1$ ,  $x + 1$  and  $x - 1$ . So by lemma 6.2.2 there is a Room Square of side  $x^{2n+3} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $x^2 + 1$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

Letting  $a = 64$  and  $d = 64n + 32$ , in lemma 6.2.1 we see that the existence of a Room Square of side  $2^d + 1 = 2^{64n+32} + 1 = x^{2n+1} + 1$  and a Room Square of side  $2^{a+d} + 1 = 2^{96 + 64n} + 1 = x^{2n+3} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $2^a + 1 = 2^{64} + 1 = x^2 + 1$  implies the existence of Room Square of side  $2^{a+md} + 1 = 2^{64 + m(64n+32)} + 1 = x^2 + (2n+1)m + 1$  for  $m \geq 0$ . In particular when  $m = 2$ , the Room Square of side  $x^{4(n+1)} + 1$  exists. Since there exists a Room Square of side  $x^{2n+3} + 1$  with subsquare of side  $x^2 + 1$  for every  $n \geq 1$ . Hence there exists a Room Square of side  $x^{2(n-1)+3} + 1 = x^{2n+1} + 1$  with subsquare of side  $x^2 + 1$  for every  $n \geq 2$ . So the existence of Room Square of side  $x^{2n+1} + 1$  and a Room Square of side  $x^{2n+3} + 1$  with a subsquare of side  $x^2 + 1$

implies the existence of Room Square of side  $x^{4(n+1)} + 1$  for  $n \geq 2$ .

Since  $2^{k-7} = n+1$ , hence  $2^{k-7} \geq 3$ , that is  $k > 9$ .

Therefore there is a Room Square of side  $F_k$  unless  $k = 0, 1, 3$ .

Q.E.D.

### 6.3 Existence of Room Square of side $F_3 = 257$ .

Theorem 6.3.1 Suppose there is a Room Square of side  $r$  with a subsquare of side  $s$ ; where  $r - s \neq 2, 4, \text{ or } 12$ . Then there is a Room Square of side  $5(r-s) + s$  with subsquares of sides  $r$  and  $s$ .

Proof. Observe that if  $r = s$ , we have  $5(r-s) + s = s$ . In this case the theorem is trivial. Hence we assume  $s < r$ .

Let  $\mathcal{R}^{(1)}$  be a Room Square of side  $r$  with a subsquare  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  of side  $s$ . Since  $r$  and  $s$  are odd integers, hence  $r - s$  is even. Let us write  $r - s = 2n$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer.

We may assume that  $\mathcal{R}^{(1)}$  is standardized and based on  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$  and  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  is based on  $\{0, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$ , whence  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  occupied the last  $s$  rows and the last  $s$  columns of  $\mathcal{R}^{(1)}$ , hence we may represent  $\mathcal{R}^{(1)}$  as follows :



$$\mathcal{R}^{(1)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline A^{(1)} & A^{(2)} \\ \hline A^{(3)} & \bar{\mathcal{R}} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Figure 6.2

where  $A^{(1)}$ ,  $A^{(2)}$ ,  $A^{(3)}$  are some arrays.

We shall build a Room Square  $\mathcal{R}^*$  of side  $5(r-s) + s = 10n + s$  based on  $S = \{0, 1_0, 2_0, \dots, (2n)_0, 1_1, 2_1, \dots, (2n)_1, \dots, 1_4, 2_4, \dots, (2n)_4, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{L} = \{0, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$ , let  $R^{**} = \{1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$  and for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$  let  $R_i = \{1_i, 2_i, \dots, (2n)_i\}$ .

For each  $j = 1, 2, 3$ , let us construct arrays  $A_i^{(j)}$ ;

$i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ , of the same size as that of  $A^{(j)}$  as follows :-

$$\text{Let } g_i(x) = \begin{cases} x_i & \text{if } 0 < x \leq 2n \\ x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For each  $j = 1, 2, 3$ , whenever  $\{x, y\}$  occurs in  $A^{(j)}$  we place  $\{g_i(x), g_i(y)\}$  in the same position in  $A_i^{(j)}$ .

Since  $r - s = 2n \neq 2, 4$ , or  $12$ . Hence  $n \neq 1, 2$  or  $6$ . Therefore there exists a pair of orthogonal Latin Square of order  $n$ .

Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be a orthogonal Latin Squares of order  $n$  based on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

$$\text{Let } h_i(x) = \begin{cases} x_i & \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq 4 \\ (x+n)_{i-5} & \text{if } 5 \leq i \leq 9. \end{cases}$$

For each  $i$ ;  $1 \leq i \leq 9$ , let  $P_i$  be obtained from  $P$  by replacing every entry  $x$  by  $h_i(x)$ . Similary for  $Q_i$  be obtained from  $Q$  as the same fashion.

For  $i, j = 1, \dots, 9$ , let  $L_{ij}$  be an  $n \times n$  array obtained by replacing each entry  $(x, y)$  of  $(P_i, Q_j)$  by  $\{x, y\}$ .

We now arrange all the arrays  $A_i^{(j)}$ 's  $L_{ij}$ 's into a new array  $R^*$  as follows :



$\mathcal{R}^* =$

|             |          |             |          |             |          |             |          |             |          |                     |
|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|---------------------|
| $A_0^{(1)}$ |          | $L_{24}$    |          | $L_{39}$    |          | $L_{67}$    |          | $L_{18}$    |          | $A_0^{(2)}$         |
|             |          |             | $L_{79}$ |             | $L_{34}$ |             | $L_{12}$ |             | $L_{68}$ |                     |
| $L_{47}$    |          | $A_1^{(1)}$ |          |             | $L_{08}$ |             | $L_{59}$ |             | $L_{23}$ | $A_1^{(2)}$         |
|             | $L_{29}$ |             |          |             | $L_{58}$ |             | $L_{04}$ |             | $L_{37}$ |                     |
|             | $L_{48}$ |             | $L_{03}$ | $A_2^{(1)}$ |          |             | $L_{19}$ |             | $L_{56}$ | $A_2^{(2)}$         |
| $L_{89}$    |          | $L_{35}$    |          |             |          |             | $L_{46}$ |             | $L_{01}$ |                     |
| $L_{26}$    |          | $L_{09}$    |          | $L_{14}$    |          | $A_3^{(1)}$ |          |             | $L_{57}$ | $A_3^{(2)}$         |
|             | $L_{17}$ |             | $L_{45}$ |             | $L_{69}$ |             |          |             | $L_{02}$ |                     |
| $L_{13}$    |          | $L_{78}$    |          | $L_{06}$    |          | $L_{25}$    |          | $A_4^{(1)}$ |          | $A_4^{(2)}$         |
|             | $L_{36}$ |             | $L_{28}$ |             | $L_{15}$ |             | $L_{07}$ |             |          |                     |
| $A_0^{(3)}$ |          | $A_1^{(3)}$ |          | $A_2^{(3)}$ |          | $A_3^{(3)}$ |          | $A_4^{(3)}$ |          | $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$ |

Figure 6.3

We shall show that  $\mathcal{R}^*$  is a Room Square of side  $10n + s$  based on  $S$ . It is clear from the construction of  $\mathcal{R}^*$  that each cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$  that each cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$  may be empty or contain two distinct elements of  $S$ . Next, we shall show that each row of  $\mathcal{R}^*$  contains all elements of  $S$  precisely once.

Let  $1 \leq i \leq 10n + s$ . Let  $a$  be any element of  $S$ . We claim that  $a$  appears in row  $i$  precisely once.

First, we consider the case  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Assume that  $a \in R_0 \cup \mathcal{L}$

We first observe that the array  $K = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline A^{(1)} & A^{(2)} \\ \hline \end{array}$  is the first

$2n$  rows of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Therefore row  $i$  of  $K$  contains all elements of

$R_0 \cup \mathcal{L} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$  precisely once. Using this fact together with the definition of  $A_0^{(1)}$ ,  $A_0^{(2)}$ , we see that

row  $i$  of the array  $K^* = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline A_0^{(1)} & A_0^{(2)} \\ \hline \end{array}$  contains all elements

of  $R_0 \cup \mathcal{L} = \{0, 1_0, 2_0, \dots, (2n)_0, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$  precisely once.

Therefore each element of  $R_0 \cup \mathcal{L} = \{0, 1_0, 2_0, \dots, (2n)_0, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$

appears precisely once in the row  $i$  of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Hence  $a$  appears in row  $i$  of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Now, if  $a \notin R_0 \cup \mathcal{L}$ , then  $a \in R_1 \cup R_2 \cup R_3 \cup R_4$ .

Assume that  $a \in R_1$ . Therefore  $a = x_1$ ; where  $1 \leq x \leq 2n$ .

By the construction of  $L_{18}$  from  $(P_1, Q_8)$  we see that row  $i$  of  $L_{18}$

contains  $a = x_1$ , where  $1 \leq x \leq n$  precisely once. By the same

reason, we see that row  $i$  of  $L_{67}$  contains  $a = x_1$  where  $n < x \leq 2n$

precisely once. Hence row  $i$  of the array  $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline L_{67} & L_{18} \\ \hline \end{array}$  contains all

elements of  $R_1$  precisely once.

We observe that  $a = x_1$  can not appear in  $L_{24}$  and  $L_{39}$  because the entries in  $L_{24}$  and  $L_{39}$  are of the form  $\{x_2, y_4\}$  and  $\{x_3, (y+n)_4\}$  respectively.

Therefore  $a = x_1$  appears precisely once in row  $i$  of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

By the same arguments we shall show that if  $a = x_2$  or  $a = x_3$  or  $a = x_4$   $a$  will appear precisely once in row  $i$  of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Therefore  $a \in S$  appears precisely once in row  $i$  of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

By similar argument, it can be seen that what we claim holds for the case  $n < i \leq 10n$ .

Now, assume that  $10n < i \leq 10n + s$ . Row  $i$  is one of the last  $s$  - rows of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . We first observe that the array  $S^* = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline A^{(3)} & \bar{\mathcal{R}} \\ \hline \end{array}$  consists of the last  $s$  - row of  $\mathcal{R}^{(1)}$ . Therefore each row of  $S$  contains all elements of  $\mathcal{R}^{(1)} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n, 2n+1, \dots, 2n+s\}$  precisely once. Using this fact together with the definition of  $A_i^{(3)}$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ , we see that row  $i$  of the array

$S^{**} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline A_0^{(3)} & A_1^{(3)} & A_2^{(3)} & A_3^{(3)} & A_4^{(3)} & \bar{\mathcal{R}} \\ \hline \end{array}$  contains all elements

of  $S$  precisely once.

Therefore row  $i$  of  $\mathcal{R}^*$  contains all elements of  $S$  precisely once.

Similar proof is applied to columns.

It remains to be shown that every unordered pair of elements of  $S$  appears precisely once in  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Let  $u, t$  be any two distinct elements of  $S$ . We shall show that  $\{u, t\}$  must appear in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If one of the element of  $\{u, t\}$  is 0, say  $u = 0$ , then  $t = x_i$  where  $1 \leq x \leq 2n$ ;  $0 \leq i \leq 4$  or  $t = 2n + z$  for  $0 < z \leq s$ .

If  $t = x_i$ , then  $\{u, t\} = \{0, x_i\}$  appears in some cell of  $\Delta_i^{(1)}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{0, x_i\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $t = 2n+z$ , then  $\{u, t\} = \{0, 2n+z\}$  appears in some cell of  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{0, 2n+z\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If none of the element of  $\{u, t\}$  is 0, then  $u = x_i$  or  $2n + z_1$  and  $t = y_j$  or  $2n + z_2$  where  $0 \leq i, j \leq 4$ ;  $1 \leq x, y \leq 2n$  and  $0 < z_1, z_2 \leq s$ .

If  $u = x_i$  and  $t = y_j$ ; where  $1 \leq x, y \leq n$ , then  $\{s, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in  $L_{ij}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $u = x_i$  and  $t = y_j$ ; where  $n < x, y \leq 2n$  then

$\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in  $L_{i+5, j+5}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $u = x_i$  and  $t = y_j$ ; where  $1 \leq x \leq n$  and  $n < y \leq 2n$  then

$\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in  $L_{ij+5}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $u = x_i$  and  $t = y_j$ ; where  $n < x \leq 2n$  and  $1 \leq y \leq n$ , then

$\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in  $L_{i+5j}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{x_i, y_j\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $u = x_i$  and  $t = 2n + z_2$  where  $1 \leq x \leq 2n$  and  $z_2 > 0$ , then  $\{u, t\} = \{x_i, 2n + z_2\}$

appears in  $A_i^{(1)}$  or  $A_i^{(2)}$  which are subarrays of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Therefore

$\{u, t\} = \{x_i, 2n + z_2\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $u = 2n + z_1$  and  $t = y_j$  where  $1 \leq y \leq n$  and  $z_1 > 0$ , then

$\{u, t\} = \{2n + z_1, y_j\}$  appears in  $A_j^{(1)}$  or  $A_j^{(2)}$  which are subarrays of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{2n + z_1, y_j\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

If  $u = 2n + z_1$  and  $t = 2n + z_2$  where  $z_1, z_2 > 0$ , then

$\{u, t\} = \{2n + z_1, 2n + z_2\}$  appears in  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  which is a subarray of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Therefore  $\{u, t\} = \{2n + z_1, 2n + z_2\}$  appears in some cell of  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Therefore every unordered pair of elements of  $S$  appears in  $\mathcal{R}^*$  at least once.

Now, we shall that each unordered pair of elements of  $S$  appears at most once in  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .

Since each  $A^{(1)}$  and  $A^{(2)}$  together contains  $\frac{1}{2}(2n + s + 1)$  pairs per row. Hence  $A_i^{(1)}$  and  $A_i^{(2)}$  together contains  $\frac{1}{2}(2n + s + 1)$

pairs per row. Each row of  $L_{ij}$  contains  $n$  pairs. Each row of  $A_i^{(3)}$

contains  $\frac{1}{2}(2n)$  pairs and  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  contains  $\frac{1}{2}(s + 1)$  pair per row.

So, the number of pairs in  $\mathcal{R}^*$  is

$$\begin{aligned} & 10n \left[ \frac{1}{2}(2n + s + 1) + 4n \right] + s \left[ \frac{1}{2}(s + 1) + \frac{5}{2}(2n) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ 20n^2 + 10ns + 10n + 80n \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[ s^2 + s + 10ns \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ 10n + s \right] \cdot \left[ 10n + s + 1 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

This is precisely the number of unordered pair which can be formed from  $S$ ,

so each unordered pair of elements of  $S$  appears at most once in  $\mathcal{R}^*$ .  
 Therefore  $\mathcal{R}^*$  is a Room Square of side  $10n+s$  and based on  $S$ .

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| $A_4^{(1)}$ | $A_4^{(2)}$         |
| $A_4^{(3)}$ | $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$ |

Finally, observe that subarray  
 requires subsquares of sides  $r$  and  $s$ .

and  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$  are the

Therefore the theorem follows.

Q.E.D

Lemma 6.3.2 Room Square of side 9 exists.

Proof We prove by displaying Room Square of side 9.

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 0,1 | 6,9 | 4,8 |     |     |     |     | 5,7 | 2,3 |
| 3,4 | 0,2 | 7,1 | 5,9 |     |     |     |     | 6,8 |
| 7,9 | 4,5 | 0,3 | 8,2 | 6,1 |     |     |     |     |
|     | 8,1 | 5,6 | 0,4 | 9,3 | 7,2 |     |     |     |
|     |     | 9,2 | 6,7 | 0,5 | 1,4 | 8,3 |     |     |
|     |     |     | 1,3 | 7,8 | 0,6 | 2,5 | 9,4 |     |
|     |     |     |     | 2,4 | 8,9 | 0,7 | 3,6 | 1,5 |
| 2,6 |     |     |     |     | 3,5 | 9,1 | 0,8 | 4,7 |
| 5,8 | 3,7 |     |     |     |     | 4,6 | 1,2 | 0,9 |

Figure 6.4

This Room Square is found by R.C. Mullin by using computer search [10].



Corollary 6.3.3     There exists a Room Square of side 257.

Proof.     By lemma 6.3.2, there is a Room Square of side 9 with subsquare of side 1. By Corollary 3.1.6, there is a Room Square of side 7. Hence by theorem 4.1.2 there is a Room Square of side  $7(9 - 1) + 1 = 57$ , with subsquare of side 7. Therefore by theorem 6.3.1 there is a Room Square of side  $5(57 - 7) + 7 = 257$ .

Therefore the Corollary follows .

Q.E.D