

One is thus led to the conclusion that

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow 0} 2 \cdot 2^{1/2} \int_0^a (F(a) - F(x))^{-1/2} dx = 2\pi b^{-1/2}.$$

Hence we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 3. *The period of vibration T under restoring force $f(x)$, conditioned by hypotheses (A), (B), and (C), approaches the limit $2\pi b^{-1/2}$ as the amplitude approaches zero.*

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

A NOTE ON FERMAT'S LAST THEOREM

D. H. LEHMER*

In 1925 H. S. Vandiver† proved the following theorem.

THEOREM 1. *If*

$$(1) \quad x^p + y^p + z^p = 0$$

is satisfied by integers x, y, z , prime to the odd prime p , then the first factor of the class number of the field generated by $e^{2\pi i/p}$ is divisible by p^8 .

In the seventh of a series of articles on Fermat's last theorem, T. Morishima‡ has given the following improvement upon Theorem 1.

THEOREM 2. *In Theorem 1 we may replace p^8 by p^{12} provided p does not divide 75571 · 20579903.*

It is the purpose of this note to show that the proviso of Theorem 2 is unnecessary by showing that (1) is not satisfied by the prime factors of 75571 · 20579903. This is done by applying Wieferich's|| criterion.

THEOREM 3. *If (1) is satisfied by integers x, y, z , prime to p , then $2^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$.*

* National Research Fellow.

† Annals of Mathematics, (2), vol. 26, p. 232.

‡ Proceedings of the Imperial Academy of Japan, vol. 8 (1932), pp. 63–66.

|| Journal für Mathematik, vol. 136 (1909), p. 203.