



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PLATTEVILLE
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

PROBLEM OF THE WEEK #5
(Spring 2017)

Does the equation

$$a^2 + b^7 + c^{13} + d^{14} = e^{15}$$

have a solution in positive integers a, b, c, d, e ?

[Please fully explain your answer.]

Solutions should be submitted to Cinda Furry, in Gardner Hall 435, by 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

Every week, the best solution submitted earns a \$10 Platteville gift certificate; the top scorer each semester also wins a cash award. Good luck!

You can always see the Problem of the Week (and complete rules) online at:

<http://uwpmath.weebly.com/>