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Sophie Germain Primes and the Exceptional Values of the Equal-Sum-And-Product Problem,

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Abstract

Using elementary methods we show that if an integer $n > 2$ is an exceptional value of the equal-sum-and-product-problem, then $n - 1$ must be a Sophie Germain prime number. This result gives further evidence to the sparsity conjecture for the set of exceptional values of the equal-sum-and-product problem.