

# MAT315 Introduction to Number Theory

## 1 Division and Primes

### 1.1 Division

#### **Definition: 1.1: Divisors**

Let  $n, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We say  $d$  divides  $n$  if  $\exists e \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $n = de$ .  
Notation:  $d|n$ .

#### **Theorem: 1.1: Division Algorithm**

Let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . There exists unique  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $a = qb + r, 0 \leq r < b$ .

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{a - bq \geq 0 : q \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

Note that if we let  $q = -|a|$ ,  $a - qb = a + |a|b \geq 0$ , so  $-|a| \in S, S \neq \emptyset$ .

By well-ordering property, there exists a least element  $r = a - bq$ , s.t.  $a = bq + r, r \geq 0$ .

If  $r \geq b$ , then  $0 \leq r - b = a - b(q + 1)$ ,  $r$  is not the least element in  $S$ , contradiction, thus  $r < b$ .

Uniqueness: Suppose  $bq_1 + r_1 = bq_2 + r_2 = a$ , then  $r_1 - r_2 = b(q_2 - q_1)$ .

Since  $0 \leq r < b$ , then  $-b < r_1 - r_2 < b$ . But it is a multiple of  $b$ , then  $r_1 - r_2 = 0, r_1 = r_2$  and  $q_1 = q_2$ .  $\square$

#### **Theorem: 1.2: Properties of Divisors**

1. If  $a|b$  and  $b|c$ , then  $a|c$
2. If  $a|b$  and  $c|d$ , then  $ac|bd$
3. For all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ , if  $d|a$  and  $d|b$ , then  $d|ax + by$

*Proof.* 1. If  $a|b$  and  $b|c$ , then by Definition 1.1,  $\exists n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $b = na$  and  $c = mb$ , then  $c = m(na) = (mn)a$ , thus  $a|c$ .

2. If  $a|b$  and  $c|d$ , then  $\exists n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $b = na$  and  $d = mc$ , then  $bd = (na)(mc) = (mn)(ac)$ , thus  $ac|bd$ .

3. If  $d|a$  and  $d|b$ , then  $\exists n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $a = nd$  and  $b = md$ , then  $ax + by = (nd)x + (md)y = d(nx + my)$ , thus  $d|(ax + by)$ .  $\square$

#### **Definition: 1.2: Greatest Common Divisors**

For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , their greatest common divisor (GCD) is the natural number  $\gcd(a, b)$  which is the largest common divisor of  $a, b$ . If  $a = b = 0$ , then  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

**Lemma: 1.1: Bezout's Lemma**

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . The equation  $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$  has a solution.

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{c \in \mathbb{N} : ax + by = c \text{ has a solution.}\}$ . Obviously  $a \in S, S \neq \emptyset$ .  
By well-ordering property, it has the least element  $s$ . We want to show that  $s = \gcd(a, b)$ .

1. Firstly,  $s \geq \gcd(a, b)$ , since  $\gcd(a, b) | s$  by Theorem 1.2 (3).
2. Now we show that  $s \leq \gcd(a, b)$   
Apply Theorem 1.1 to  $s, a$ .  $a = qs + r$  with  $0 \leq r < s$ .  
 $a = q(ax + by) + r$ , which gives  $a(1 - qx) + b(-y) = r$ , is solvable by definition of  $s$ . Thus  $r = 0$ .  $s | a$   
and similarly  $s | b$ . Therefore  $s \leq \gcd(a, b)$

Thus  $s = \gcd(a, b)$ . □

**Theorem: 1.3:**

Let  $a, b, d \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $d | a$  and  $d | b$ , then  $d | \gcd(a, b)$ .

*Proof.* Apply Lemma 1.1,  $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$  has a solution.  
Then by Property 3 of Theorem 1.2,  $d | \gcd(a, b)$ . □

**Definition: 1.3: Coprime**

$a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  are coprime, if  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ . i.e.  $ax + by = 1$  has solutions.

**Theorem: 1.4:**

$ax + by = c$  is solvable if and only if  $\gcd(a, b) | c$ .

*Proof.* ( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $c = k\gcd(a, b)$ . By Lemma 1.1,  $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$ . Multiplying both sides by  $k$ ,  $a(kx) + b(ky) = k\gcd(a, b) = c$

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Solvable by property 3 of Theorem 1.2. □

**Note:** If we let  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ ,  $ax + by = dk$ ,  $\frac{a}{d}x + \frac{b}{d}y = k$ .  $\frac{a}{d}$  and  $\frac{b}{d}$  are coprime. Therefore, we can always assume that  $a, b$  are coprime.

**Lemma: 1.2:**

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  be coprime,  $c \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $a | bc$ , then  $a | c$ .

*Proof.* If  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  are coprime, by Lemma 1.1,  $ax + by = 1$  has solutions.  
Multiply both sides by  $c$ ,  $a(cx) + (bc)y = c$ , has solutions.  $a | a$  and  $a | bc$ , so  $a | c$  by Theorem 1.4. □

Suppose  $a, b$  are coprime, and  $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1)$  are two pairs of solutions to  $ax + by = c$ .

$$ax_0 + by_0 = c = ax_1 + by_1 \Rightarrow a(x_0 - x_1) = b(y_1 - y_0)$$

Since  $a, b$  are coprime,  $a | y_1 - y_0, b | x_0 - x_1$ .

Let  $t, s \in \mathbb{Z}, y_1 - y_0 = at, x_0 - x_1 = bs$ .

Plug back into the equation,  $abs = bat$ , thus  $s = t$ .  $x_1 = x_0 - bt, y_1 = y_0 + at$ .

Given  $ax_0 + by_0 = c, ax_0 - abt + abt + by_0 = c$ , and  $a(x_0 - bt) + b(y_0 + at) = c$ .

### Theorem: 1.5: Linear Diophantine Equation Theorem

Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ ,  $x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  be solutions s.t.  $ax_0 + by_0 = c$ . Then all solutions to  $ax + by = c$  are of the form  $x = x_0 - \frac{b}{d}t$ ,  $y = y_0 + \frac{a}{d}t$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

### Theorem: 1.6: Euclidean Algorithm

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . Apply division algorithm,  $a = qb + r$ ,  $0 \leq r < b$ . Then  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, r)$ .

*Proof.* If  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ ,  $d|a$  and  $d|b$ , then  $d|a - bq = r$

If  $d = \gcd(b, r)$ ,  $d|b$  and  $d|r$ , then  $d|qb + r = a$ . □

**Example:**  $a = 450$ ,  $b = 100$ ,  $a = 4b + 50$ . Let  $a_1 = 100$ ,  $b_1 = 50$ ,  $a_1 = 2b_1 + 0$ . Thus  $\gcd(450, 100) = \gcd(100, 50) = \gcd(50, 0) = 50$

**Example:**  $a = 315$ ,  $b = 17$ ,  $a = 18b + 9$ .

Let  $a_1 = 17$ ,  $b_1 = 9$ ,  $a_1 = 1b_1 + 8$ .

Let  $a_2 = 9$ ,  $b_2 = 8$ ,  $a_2 = 1b_2 + 1$ .

Let  $a_3 = 8$ ,  $b_3 = 1$ ,  $a_3 = 8b_3 + 0$ .

Thus  $\gcd(315, 17) = \gcd(17, 9) = \gcd(9, 8) = \gcd(8, 1) = 1$ .

We can now iterate backwards to construct a solvable diophantine equation.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= 9 - 1 \cdot 8 \\ &= 9 - 1(17 - 9) = 2 \cdot 9 - 17 \\ &= 2 \cdot (315 - 18 \cdot 17) - 17 \\ &= 2 \cdot 315 + (-37)(17) \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $x = 2$ ,  $y = -37$  is a solution to  $ax + by = c$ , where  $a = 315$ ,  $b = 17$ ,  $c = \gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

### Theorem: 1.7: Euclidean Algorithm (Formally)

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a \geq b$ . Define a sequence by repeated divisions

$$\begin{aligned} a &= q_1b + r_1, 0 \leq r_1 < b \\ b &= q_2r_1 + r_2, \\ r_{n-3} &= q_{n-2}r_{n-2} + r_{n-1} \\ r_{n-2} &= q_{n-1}r_{n-1} + r_n \\ r_{n-1} &= q_n r_n + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\gcd(a, b) = r_n$  and we can solve for  $x, y$  in  $ax + by = r_n$  by  $r_n = r_{n-2} - q_{n-1}r_{n-1} = r_{n-2} - q_{n-1}(r_{n-3} - q_{n-2}r_{n-2})$ .

This terminates in  $\log_2(a, b)$ .

## 1.2 Primes

### Definition: 1.4: Prime Numbers

A number  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $p > 1$  is prime if its only divisors are 1 and itself.

**Theorem: 1.8:**

For a prime number  $p$  and any number  $a$ ,  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  or  $p$  and  $\gcd(a, p) = p \Leftrightarrow p|a$ .

**Corollary 1.** If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $p|ab$ , then  $p|a$  or  $p|b$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 1.8, either  $p|a$  or  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  and  $p|b$ . □

**Corollary 2.** If  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $p|a_1 \cdots a_n$ , then  $p|a_i$  for some  $i$ .

*Proof.* By induction on  $i$  and previous corollary. □

**Theorem: 1.9: Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetics**

For any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \neq 0$ , there exists a factorization  $n = \pm p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$  where  $p_j$  are distinct primes,  $k_j \in \mathbb{N}$  and this is unique up to reordering of  $p_j$ .

*Proof.* Existence: (By strong induction)

Base:  $1=1$  and  $2=2$  work

Inductive step: Suppose the statment holds for  $1 \dots n$ , consider  $n + 1$

If  $n + 1$  is prime, then we are done. Otherwise,  $\exists 1 < d < n + 1$  s.t.  $d|n + 1$ , then  $n + 1 = de$  for  $1 < d, e \leq n$ .

By Induction,  $d, e$  factors, so  $n + 1$  factors.

Uniqueness: Observe that if  $p, q$  are prime and  $p|q$ , then  $p = q$

Write  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r} = q_1^{t_1} \cdots q_s^{t_s}$ . By Corollary 2, since  $q_1|n$ , then  $q_1|p_i$  for some  $i$ , and thus  $q_1 = p_i$ . By reordering, we can assume  $p_1 = q_1$ , and cancel out to get  $p_1^{k_1-1} p_2^{k_2} \cdots p_r^{k_r} = q_1^{t_1-1} \cdots q_s^{t_s}$ . Keep cancelling  $q_1$ , we will eventually have  $p_1^{k_1-t_1} p_2^{k_2} \cdots p_r^{k_r} = q_2^{t_2} \cdots q_s^{t_s}$ .

If  $k_1 \neq t_1$ , then  $p_1|q_i$  for some other  $2 \leq i \leq s$ . Then  $q_i$  is not distinct from  $q_1$ , contradiction. Thus  $k_1 = t_1$  and  $p_2^{k_2} \cdots p_r^{k_r} = q_2^{t_2} \cdots q_s^{t_s}$ .

Iterating this procedure, we get  $r = s$ ,  $k_i = t_i$ ,  $p_i = q_i$ . □

**Theorem: 1.10: Properties of Prime Factorization**

If  $a = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$  and  $b = p_1^{t_1} \cdots p_r^{t_r}$ . Then

1.  $ab = p_1^{k_1+t_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r+t_r}$
2.  $\frac{b}{a} = p_1^{k_1-t_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r-t_r}$  and  $a|b$  if  $k_i - t_i \geq 0$  for all  $i$ . The divisors of  $b$  are  $d = p_1^{z_1} \cdots p_r^{z_r}$  for  $0 \leq z_j \leq t_j$
3.  $\gcd(a, b) = p_1^{\min(k_1, t_1)} \cdots p_r^{\min(k_r, t_r)}$

**Note:**  $p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $a_j \geq 0$ . Suppose  $a_j < 0$  for some  $j$ , then  $p_j^{a_j} \notin \mathbb{Z}$ .

**1.3 Counting Primes****Theorem: 1.11: Euclid**

There are infinitely many primes

*Proof.* Let  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  be primes. Consider  $N = p_1 \cdots p_r + 1 > 1$ . It has a prime factor  $q$ .

If  $p_j|N$ , then  $p_j|N - p_1 \cdots p_r = 1$ . Contradiction. Thus  $q \neq p_j$  for any  $j$

Then  $p_1, \dots, p_r, p_{r+1} = q$  is a larger set of primes. □

### Theorem: 1.12: Number of Primes

Let  $\pi(x)$  be the number of primes  $\leq x$ . Then  $\pi(x) \approx \frac{x}{\log x}$ .

How do we estimate  $\pi(x)$  and what is the distribution of primes? We can say that  $p, p+1$  are not both prime if  $p \geq 2$ . And Bertrand postulate states that  $p_k$  and  $p_{k+1}$  can be far from each other, but for any natural number  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is always a prime  $p$  s.t.  $n \leq p \leq 2n$ .

### Lemma: 1.3: Upper Bound for $\pi(x)$

Let  $p_n$  denote the  $n$ th prime number, then  $p_n \leq 2^{2^{n-1}}$ .

*Proof.* Base:  $p_1 = 2 \leq 2^{2^0} = 2$

Induction Step: Suppose  $p_j \leq 2^{2^{j-1}}$  for  $j \leq n$ .

We know that there is a new prime  $q$  dividing  $M = p_1 \cdot p_n + 1$  from Theorem 1.11. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{n+1} &\leq q \leq p_1 \cdots p_n + 1 \\
&\leq 2^{2^{1-1}} 2^{2^{2-1}} \cdots 2^{2^{n-1}} + 1 \\
&= 2^{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^i} + 1 \\
&= 2^{2^n - 1} + 1 \leq 2^{2^n}
\end{aligned}$$

□

### Definition: 1.5: Integer and Fraction Parts

For  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $[x] = n \in \mathbb{Z}$  when  $n \leq x < n+1$  and  $\{x\} = n - [x]$  is the fraction part.

**Corollary 3.**  $\pi(x) \geq [\log_2 \log_2 x] + 1$

*Proof.*  $\pi(x) = \#\text{primes} \leq x$ . We want to (at least) count the primes with  $2^{2^{n-1}} \leq x$  as from Lemma 1.3. Therefore,  $n \leq [\log_2 \log_2 x] + 1$ . □

**Fact:** If  $n$  is a composite number, it has non-trivial divisor  $d \leq \sqrt{n}$ . i.e. one of  $d, \frac{n}{d} \leq \sqrt{n}$  for all  $d|n$ .

**Principal of Inclusion-Exclusion:** For  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  finite sets,  $|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3| = |A_1| + |A_2| + |A_3| - |A_1 \cap A_2| - |A_1 \cap A_3| - |A_2 \cap A_3| + |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3|$ .

Using the fact and principal of inclusion-exclusion, we can define a sum form of the number of primes  $\leq x$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi(x) &= \#n \leq x - \#n \leq x, 2|n - \#n \leq x, 3|n - \cdots - \#n \leq x, p|n \text{ and } p \leq \sqrt{x} + \#n \leq x, b|n + \cdots \\
&= [x] - \sum_{p \leq \sqrt{x}} \left[ \frac{x}{p} \right] + \sum_{p_1 < p_2 \leq \sqrt{x}} \left[ \frac{x}{p_1 p_2} \right] - \cdots
\end{aligned}$$

Then  $\pi(x) - \pi(\sqrt{x}) + 1 = \sum_{d|P_{\leq \sqrt{x}}} N(d) \left[ \frac{x}{d} \right] = x \sum_{d|P_{\leq \sqrt{x}}} \frac{N(d)}{d} - \sum_{d|P_{\leq \sqrt{x}}} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\}$ , where  $P_{\leq \sqrt{x}}$  is the product of all primes  $\leq \sqrt{x}$ .

## 2 Congruence and Chinese Remainder Theorem

Consider  $x^8 + 1 = 3y^3$ . Can it be solved with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ?

We check if  $x^8 + 1$  is divisible by 3. We consider  $x^4 = 3k + r$ . If  $r = 0$ , then  $3 \nmid x^8 + 1$ . Similar for  $r = 1$  or  $2$ .  $x^8 + 1 = 3m + 2$ .

We want to find an efficient way of writing the modulo relation.

### Definition: 2.1: Equivalence Relation

Given a set  $X$ , an equivalence relation on  $X$  is a relation  $\sim$  s.t.

1. Reflexive:  $x \sim x, \forall x \in X$
2. Symmetric: if  $x \sim y$ , then  $y \sim x$
3. Transitive: if  $x \sim y$  and  $y \sim z$ , then  $x \sim z$

### Definition: 2.2: Congruence

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we define an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $a \sim b$  iff  $n|(a - b)$ . When  $a \sim b$ , we write  $a \equiv b \pmod n$

*Proof.* Reflexive:  $n|0 = a - a$ , so  $a \sim a$

Symmetric:  $n|a - b \Rightarrow n|b - a$ , so  $a \sim b \Rightarrow b \sim a$

Transitive: If  $n|a - b$  and  $n|b - c$ , then  $n|(a - b) + (b - c) = a - c$  □

### Theorem: 2.1: Properties of Congruence

1. Addition is preserved: if  $a \equiv a' \pmod n$  and  $b \equiv b' \pmod n$ , then  $a + b \equiv a' + b' \pmod n$
2. Multiplication is preserved: if  $a \equiv a' \pmod n$  and  $b \equiv b' \pmod n$ , then  $ab \equiv a'b' \pmod n$

*Proof.* Addition: if  $n|(a - a')$  and  $n|(b - b')$ , then  $n|(a - a') + (b - b') = (a + b) - (a' + b')$ , thus  $a + b \equiv a' + b' \pmod n$ .

Multiplication: Note that  $ab - a'b' = ab - ab' + ab' - a'b' = a(b - b') + b'(a - a')$ , if  $n|(a - a')$  and  $n|(b - b')$ , then  $n|ab - a'b'$ , so  $ab \equiv a'b' \pmod n$  □

**Corollary 4.** If  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  (polynomial ring with integer coefficients) and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $f(a) \equiv f(b) \pmod n$

### Definition: 2.3: Equivalence Classes

The equivalence class of a point  $x \in X$  is  $[x] = \{y \in X : x \sim y\}$

**Note:**  $[x] \cap [y] \neq \emptyset$  iff  $x \sim y$  and  $[x] = [y]$ . We can write  $X/\sim = \{[x_1], \dots, [x_n], \dots\}$

For congruence, there are  $n$  equivalence classes  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \{[0], [1], \dots, [n - 1]\}$ . Often, we drop the  $[\cdot]$  bracket.

**Example:**  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1, \dots, 11\}$ .

$3 + 9 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  $2(8) + 4 \equiv 8 \pmod{12}$ ,  $3(7) \equiv 9 \pmod{12}$

$3(9) \equiv 3(-3) \equiv -9 \equiv 3 \pmod{12}$

However, we cannot divide,  $\nexists x_0$  s.t.  $6x_0 \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$ .

*Remark 1.* For  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \{[0], [1], \dots, [n - 1]\}$ , define  $[a] + [b] = [a + b]$ ,  $[a][b] = [ab]$ . The operations are well-defined as by Theorem 2.1.

*Remark 2.* So by induction, if  $p(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , then  $p([a]) = [p(a)]$  is well-defined. *i.e.* if we are studying polynomial equations  $p(x) = 0$ , the solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}$  ( $p(a) = 0$ ) give solutions modulo  $n$  ( $[a]$ ).

**Note:** Similarly, we can define  $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \sim$  as equivalence classes, where  $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{3}{6} = \dots$ . However,  $f : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $f\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = a - b$  is not well defines, since  $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$ , but  $f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -1 \neq -2 = f\left(\frac{2}{4}\right)$ .

We know that  $[a] = [b]$  if and only if  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , but we don't know how to divide or if we can even divide.

**Definition: 2.4: Division in Congruence Form**

We can divide by  $a \pmod{n}$  if the equation  $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  has a solution. We call the solution  $a^{-1}$  or the multiplicative inverse of  $a$  modulo  $n$ . It has a solution if and only if  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ .

**Theorem: 2.2:**

The equation  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  has a solution if and only if  $d = \gcd(a, n) | b$ . If  $x_0$  is a solution, then the distinct solutions modulo  $n$  are  $x_0, x_0 + \frac{n}{d}, x_0 + \frac{2n}{d}, \dots, x_0 + \frac{(d-1)n}{d}$ .

*Remark 3.*  $\gcd(a, n) | d$  is fine because  $\gcd(m, qm + r) = \gcd(m, r)$  by Theorem 1.7, and  $d | n$ . So if  $n | b - b'$ , then  $d | b \Leftrightarrow d | b'$ , since  $b = b' + nk$ .

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $ax_0 \equiv b \pmod{n}$  for some  $x_0$ . Then  $n | ax_0 - b$ , so there exists  $y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $ax_0 - b = ny_0$ . Then  $ax_0 + n(-y_0) = b$ ,  $\gcd(a, n) | b$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $\gcd(a, n) | b$ , then  $\exists x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $ax_0 + ny_0 = b$  by Lemma 1.1, so  $n | ax_0 - b$ , or equivalently,  $ax_0 \equiv b \pmod{n}$ .

Now, we show that the solutions modulo  $n$  to  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  are exactly the congruence of the  $x$  s.t.  $ax + ny = b$ . By Theorem 1.5, the solutions are of the form  $x_0 + \frac{nd}{t}$  for  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then we show that  $x_0, x_0 + \frac{n}{d}, x_0 + \frac{2n}{d}, \dots, x_0 + \frac{(d-1)n}{d}$  are distinct and a complete list of solutions.

Distinct: suppose  $x_0 + j\frac{n}{d} \equiv x_0 + i\frac{n}{d} \pmod{n}$ , then  $n | \frac{(i-j)n}{d}$ , but  $0 \leq i - j \leq d - 1$ ,  $\frac{(i-j)d}{n} < n$ , so  $i - j = 0$   
 Complete, for any  $x = x_0 + \frac{n}{d}t$ , apply Division algorithm for  $t$  and  $d$ , we get  $x = x_0 + \frac{n}{d}t = x_0 + \frac{n}{d}(qd + r) = x_0 + \frac{nr}{d} + qn$  for  $0 \leq r < d$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 5.** If  $\gcd(a, n) | b$ , then  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  has  $d = \gcd(a, n)$  distinct solutions modulo  $n$ . If  $d = 1$ , then there's a unique solution.

**Example:**  $10x \equiv 11 \pmod{9} \equiv 2 \pmod{9}$ , so  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{9}$ .

**Example:** Solve for  $x$  s.t.  $7x \equiv 13 \pmod{15}$

*Proof.* since  $a = 7, n = 15, b = 13$  are coprime, there is a unique solution.

We consider  $7x + 15y = 13$ . We can firstly solve  $7x + 15y = 1$  using Theorem 1.7.

$15 = 2 \cdot 7 + 1$ , and thus  $x = -2, y = 1$ . Multiply both sides by 13, and we get  $x = -26, y = 13$  is a solution to  $7x + 15y = 13$

So the solution to  $7x \equiv 13 \pmod{15}$  is  $x \equiv -26 \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$ .  $\square$

**Example:** Solve for  $x$  s.t.  $10x \equiv 6 \pmod{16}$

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 1.7,

$$\begin{aligned} 10x + 16y &= 6 \\ 16 &= 1 \cdot 10 + 6 \\ 10 &= 1 \cdot 6 + 4 \\ 6 &= 1 \cdot 4 + 2 \\ 4 &= 2 \cdot 2 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then back substitute,  $2 = 6 - 1(4) = 6 - 1(10 - 1(6)) = 6(2) + 10(-1) = 2(16 - 1(10)) + 10(-1) = 10(-3) + 16(2)$

Thus  $x = -3, y = 2$  is a solution to  $10x + 16y = 2$

Multiply both sides by 3, we get  $x = -9, y = 6$  is a solution to  $10x + 16y = 6$

Thus the solutions are  $7 \equiv -9 \pmod{16}$  and  $15 \equiv -9 + \frac{16}{2} \pmod{16}$ .  $\square$

### **Theorem: 2.3: Independence Condition**

If  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$ , then for  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$  if and only if  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p_j^{k_j}}$  for all  $1 \leq j \leq r$ .

*Proof.*  $(\Rightarrow)$   $n = p_j^{k_j} (p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_{j-1}^{k_{j-1}} p_{j+1}^{k_{j+1}} \cdots p_r^{k_r}) | a$ . Thus  $p_j^{k_j} | a$ .

$(\Leftarrow)$  by applying the corollary of Theorem 1.8.  $p_j^k$ s are coprime.  $\square$

### **Theorem: 2.4: Chinese Remainder Theorem**

Let  $m, n \geq 1$  be coprime integers. Then the map

$$\varphi : \mathbb{Z}/nm\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } \varphi(a \pmod{nm}) = (a \pmod{n}, a \pmod{m})$$

is a bijection. Moreover,  $\varphi(x + y) = \varphi(x) + \varphi(y)$ ,  $\varphi(1) = 1$ ,  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$ .

*Remark 4.* If  $p(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , then  $\varphi(p(x) \pmod{mn}) = (p(x) \pmod{n}, p(x) \pmod{m})$ .

*Remark 5.* For  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} = \{([a]_n, [b]_m) : a = 0, \dots, n-1, b = 0, \dots, m-1\}$ ,  
 $([a]_n, [b]_m) + ([c]_n, [d]_m) = ([a+c]_n, [b+d]_m)$ , where  $(0, 0)$  is the additive identity.  
 $([a]_n, [b]_m) \cdot ([c]_n, [d]_m) = ([ac]_n, [bd]_m)$ , where  $(1, 1)$  is the multiplicative identity.

*Proof.* Well defined: if  $a \equiv a' \pmod{nm}$ , then  $nm | a - a'$ , since  $nm$  coprime, by Theorem 1.8,  $n | a - a'$ ,  $a \equiv a' \pmod{n}$  and  $m | a - a'$ ,  $a \equiv a' \pmod{m}$ .

Injective: If  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , i.e.  $\varphi(a) = \varphi(b)$ , since  $n, m$  are coprime,  $n | a - b$  and  $m | a - b \Rightarrow nm | a - b$ , thus  $a \equiv b \pmod{nm}$ .

Surjective: For any  $b \pmod{n}, c \pmod{m}$ , we want to find  $a \pmod{nm}$  s.t.  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  and  $a \equiv c \pmod{m}$ .

By Lemma 1.1, there are  $x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $nx_0 + my_0 = 1$

Construct  $a = b(my_0) + c(nx_0)$ , then  $a \equiv b(my_0) \pmod{n}$  and  $a \equiv c(nx_0) \pmod{m} = c \pmod{m}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x + y) &= ((x + y) \pmod{n}, (x + y) \pmod{m}) = (x \pmod{n} + y \pmod{n}, x \pmod{m} + y \pmod{m}) \\ &= (x \pmod{n}, x \pmod{m}) + (y \pmod{n}, y \pmod{m}) = \varphi(x) + \varphi(y) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(xy) &= (xy \pmod n, xy \pmod m) = (x \pmod{ny} \pmod n, x \pmod{my} \pmod m) \\ &= (x \pmod n, x \pmod m)(y \pmod n, y \pmod m) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)\end{aligned}$$

$$\varphi(1) = (1 \pmod n, 1 \pmod m) = (1, 1) \quad \square$$

**Example:** Solve for  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{14}$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.4, it is enough to solve for  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod 2$  and  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod 7$ , and then we can construct solutions  $\pmod{14}$ .

The first one gives  $x \equiv 0 \pmod 2$ . The second one gives  $x^2 \equiv 2 \equiv 9 \pmod 7$ ,  $x \equiv \pm 3 \pmod 7$ .

So we have the left side of the correspondance,  $\{(0, 3), (0, -3)\}$ .

This means we need to solve  $\begin{cases} x \equiv 0 \pmod 2 \\ x \equiv 3 \pmod 7 \end{cases}$ , and  $\begin{cases} y \equiv 0 \pmod 2 \\ y \equiv -3 \pmod 7 \end{cases}$

We want  $z \pmod{nm}$  that maps to  $(a \pmod n, b \pmod m)$ .

Apply a similar idea in proving the surjection. We use  $z = a(my) + b(nx)$  s.t.  $nx + my = 1$ , then use the Euclidean algorithm.

To solve the first one, take  $z = 0(7y) + 3(2x)$ , where  $7y + 2x = 1$ . Then  $x = -3, y = 1, z = -18 \equiv 10 \pmod{14}$ .

For the second one,  $z = 0(7y) - 3(2x)$  where  $7y + (-2)x = 1$ ,  $x = 3, y = 1, z = 18 \equiv 4 \pmod{14}$ .  $\square$

**Example:** Solve for  $6x \equiv 15 \pmod{385}$ .

*Proof.* Note  $385 = 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ .

So we solve for  $6x \equiv 15 \equiv 0 \pmod 5$ ,  $6x \equiv 15 \equiv 1 \pmod 7$  and  $6x \equiv 15 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$ .

Consider the first 2 congruence equations:

We solve for  $5x + 7y = 1$  and get  $x = 3, y = -2$ , so we have  $a = 0(7y) + 1(5x) \equiv 15 \pmod{35}$ .

Then combine this with  $6x \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$ ,

We solve for  $11x + 35y = 1$ :  $35 = 3 \cdot 11 + 2$ ,  $11 = 5 \cdot 2 + 1$ , so  $1 = 11 - 5(2) = 11 - 5(35 - 3(11)) = (-5)(35) + 16(11)$ . *i.e.*  $x = 16, y = -5$ . Then we have  $b = 4(35y) + 15(11x) = 1940 \equiv 15 \pmod{385}$ .

Thus  $6x \equiv 1940 \pmod{385}$ ,  $x \equiv 195 \pmod{385}$ .  $\square$

**Example:** (General Problem) You are the general of an army with less than 1000 troops. After the battle, you have  $n$  troops left.

When you ask them to get into groups of 7, there are 5 leftover.

When you ask them to get into groups of 11, there are 9 leftover.

When you ask them to get into groups of 13, there are 2 leftover.

What is  $n$ ?

*Proof.* We have three congruence equations:

1.  $n \equiv 5 \pmod 7$
2.  $n \equiv 9 \pmod{11}$
3.  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{13}$

Note that  $1001 = 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ . And  $n \equiv a \pmod{1001}$  has a unique value.

Use the first 2 equations. We solve for  $7x + 11y = 1$ , and get an  $a = 5(11y) + 9(7x)$ .

Apply Theorem 1.7,  $x = -3, y = 2$ .  $a = -79 \equiv -2 \pmod{77}$

Use  $a \equiv -2 \pmod{77}$  and  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{13}$ . We solve for  $13x + 77y = 1$ , and get  $n = 2(77y) - 2(13x)$ .  
 $x = 6, y = -1$ . So  $n = 2(77)(-1) - 2(13)(6) = -310 \equiv 691 \pmod{1001}$ .

Thus  $n = 691$ . □

### Theorem: 2.5: General Strategies

The general strategies for solving  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$

1. Factor  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$
2. Solve the system  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_1^{k_1}}, \dots, f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_r^{k_r}}$
3. Use Theorem 2.4 to combine the solutions.

Since for a number  $a$ ,  $\gcd(a, p^n) = 1$  if and only if  $p \nmid a$ . We claim that to solve  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^k}$ , we can solve in steps of solving  $\pmod{p}$ , then lift to  $\pmod{p^2}, \pmod{p^3}, \dots$

**Example:**  $x^4 \equiv 7 \pmod{81}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $81 = 3^4$ , we can work with  $\pmod{3}$  first.

$x^4 \equiv 7 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , thus  $x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{3}$ .

And we can lift up to  $x \equiv 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 \pmod{9}$ . □

### 3 Rationals

Previously, we consider the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$  in the integer domain. We want to know if it has rational solutions and how to find them.

**Theorem: 3.1: Property of Rationals**

If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $\frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Then we can divide by  $z$  on both sides,  $(\frac{x}{z})^2 + (\frac{y}{z})^2 = 1$  or equivalently,  $u^2 + v^2 = 1$  for  $u, v \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Geometrically, the solutions lie on the unit circle. And we know that  $(1, 0)$  is a solution. If  $(u, v)$  is another rational solution to  $u^2 + v^2 = 1$ , then the slope of the line connecting  $(u, v)$  and  $(1, 0)$  must be rational.

Conversely, if we have a line through  $(1, 0)$  with rational slope  $v = t(u - 1)$  for  $t \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then the system

$$\begin{cases} v = t(u - 1) \\ u^2 + v^2 = 1 \end{cases} \text{ gives the other rational solution.}$$

By substitution,

$$\begin{aligned} u^2 + t^2(u - 1)^2 &= 1 \\ (1 + t^2)u^2 - 2t^2u + t^2 - 1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Using quadratic formula, we get  $u = \frac{2t^2 \pm \sqrt{4t^2 - 4(1+t^2)(t^2-1)}}{2(t^2+1)} = \frac{2t^2 \pm 2}{2(t^2+1)}$ .  $u = 1$  or  $\frac{t^2-1}{t^2+1}$ .

If  $t$  is rational,  $u$  is rational, and  $v = t(u - 1) = t \frac{t^2-1-t^2-1}{t^2+1} = \frac{-2t}{t^2+1}$  is rational.

If we write in lowest terms  $t = \frac{m}{n}$ ,  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\frac{t^2-1}{t^2+1} = \frac{m^2-n^2}{m^2+n^2}$ .  $\frac{-2t}{t^2+1} = -\frac{2mn}{m^2+n^2}$ .

Then clearing our denominators, we get integer solutions to  $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$ ,  $(m^2 - n^2, -2mn, m^2 + n^2)$ .

**Theorem: 3.2:**

If  $\frac{m}{n} = \frac{a}{b}$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $a = \lambda m$ ,  $b = \lambda n$ , for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

However, the same strategy will fail for degree  $> 2$ .

## 4 Polynomials

In previous sections, we often work with modulo a prime number. The modulo world also works nicely for polynomial long divisions.

**Example:** Suppose we want to divide  $x^4 + 3x^3 + x + 1$ , with divisor  $5x^2 + 3$ .

The first step is removing the highest degree term,  $x^4 + 3x^3 + x + 1 - \frac{1}{5}x^2(5x^2 + 3) = 3x^4 - \frac{3}{5}x^2 + x + 1$ . Continue until the degree of polynomial drops below the degree of the divisor.

And we will get  $x^4 + 3x^3 + x + 1 = q(x)(5x^2 + 3) + r(x)$ , with  $r(x) = 0$  or  $\deg(r(x)) < 2$ .

We can do exactly the same thing mod  $p$ . When  $p$  is a prime, we have a division algorithm for polynomials. Suppose  $f(x)$  is a polynomial with  $f(a) \equiv 0 \pmod p$ , then  $f(x) = (x - a)g(x)$ .

**Notation:**  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{F}_p[x] = \{a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 : a_n, \dots, a_0 \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ .

### Theorem: 4.1: Division Algorithm for Polynomials

Let  $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$ ,  $g(x)$  non constant. There exists  $q(x), r(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  s.t.  $f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x)$  and  $r(x) = 0$  or  $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ ,  $a_i \neq 0$ ,  $g(x) = b_n x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + b_1 x + b_0$ ,  $b_i \neq 0$ . If  $m > n$ , then  $q(x) = 0$ ,  $r(x) = f(x)$  suffices.

If  $m \leq n$ , then  $f(x) - \frac{a_n}{b_m} x^{n-m} g(x) = c_{n-1} x^{n-1} + c_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$ .

Continue the iteration until it terminates. What is left is  $r(x)$  and  $q(x) =$  sum of all terms we multiply  $g(x)$  by.  $\square$

*Remark 6.* The fact we have a division algorithm means we have unique factorization in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ . More relevantly, the division algorithm lets us connect roots of polynomials with linear factors.

Suppose  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  and  $x - a | f(x)$ , i.e.  $\exists g(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  with  $f(x) = (x - a)g(x)$ . Then  $f(a) \equiv (a - a)g(a) \equiv 0 \pmod p$ .

### Theorem: 4.2:

Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{F}_p$ . If  $f(a) \equiv 0 \pmod p$ , then  $x - a | f(x)$ .

*Proof.* Apply Division algorithm to get  $f(x) = q(x)(x - a) + r(x)$ . We know  $r(x) = 0$  or  $\deg(r) < \deg(x - a) = 1$ , so  $r(x) = b_0$  constant.

But  $f(a) \equiv (a - a)q(a) + b_0 \pmod p$ ,  $0 \equiv b_0 \pmod p$ .  $\square$

**Note:** If we write  $f(x) = (x - a_1)(x - a_2) \dots (x - a_k)g(x)$ , then  $\deg(f) \geq k$ .

### Theorem: 4.3:

Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  be nonzero. Then the number of roots of  $f(x) \leq \deg(f)$  counted with multiplicity.

*Proof.* We prove by induction on degree.

Base case:  $\deg = 0$  and  $\deg = 1$  are clear.

Suppose this is true if  $\deg = n$ . Consider  $f(x)$  with degree  $n + 1$ .

If  $f$  has no roots, then we are done.

If  $f$  has a root, then  $f(x) = (x - a)g(x)$  and  $\deg(f) = 1 + \deg(g)$

So  $\deg(g) = n$  and by induction, the number of roots of  $g$  with multiplicity  $\leq \deg(g)$ .

Therefore, the number of roots of  $f$  with multiplicity  $\leq 1$  + number of roots of  $g$  with multiplicity  $\leq 1 + \deg(g) = 1 + n = \deg(f)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem: 4.4:**

For any  $p$ , we can construct  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  with no roots.

**Example:**  $x^2 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  has no roots.

What are the roots of  $x^p - x \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ?

As long as  $p$  is a prime,  $x^p - x \equiv 0$  has  $p$  roots. For  $a \neq 0$ ,  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

**Definition: 4.1: Group of Units Modulo  $n$**

For  $n > 1$ , define the group of units modulo  $n$  by  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* = \{a \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} : \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$  = invertible elements modulo  $n$  with the following properties

1. If  $x, y \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ , then  $xy \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . Also the product is associative and commutative.
2.  $\forall x \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*, 1x \equiv x \pmod{n}$
3.  $\forall x \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*, \exists y \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  s.t.  $xy \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  (inverse exists) and the inverse is unique

**Definition: 4.2: Euler  $\phi$ -function**

Define the function on the positive integers by  $\phi(1) = 1$ ,  $\phi(n) = |(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*|$  for  $n > 1$ .

**Example:** for  $p$  prime,  $\phi(p) = p - 1$ ,  $\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$

**Example:** For  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ , define  $m_a : (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  s.t.  $m_a = ax$ .  $m_a$  is a bijection. Since the inverse  $a^{-1}$  exists,  $m_a \circ m_{a^{-1}} = m_{a^{-1}} \circ m_a = \text{id}$ .

**Theorem: 4.5: Euler's Theorem**

For  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ ,  $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

*Proof.* Write  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* = \{x_1, \dots, x_{\phi(n)}\} = \{ax_1, \dots, ax_{\phi(n)}\}$ .

Multiply everything together,  $x_1 \cdots x_{\phi(n)} = ax_1 \cdots ax_{\phi(n)} = a^{\phi(n)} x_1 \cdots x_{\phi(n)}$  by associativity.

Since inverse of  $x_1 \cdots x_{\phi(n)}$  exists, we get  $1 \equiv a^{\phi(n)} \pmod{n}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem: 4.6: Fermat's Little Theorem**

For  $p$  prime,  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

**Theorem: 4.7:**

If  $n, m$  are coprime, then  $\phi(nm) = \phi(n)\phi(m)$ .

*Proof.* Theorem 2.4 gives us  $\mathbb{Z}/mn\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

And we can reduce to  $(\mathbb{Z}/mn\mathbb{Z})^* \cong (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* \times (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$   $\square$

Now given an arbitrary  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$  with  $p_i^{k_i}, p_j^{k_j}$  coprime. Then  $\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{k_1}) \cdots \phi(p_r^{k_r})$ .  
 If we want  $1 \leq a \leq p^k$  s.t.  $\gcd(a, p^k) = 1$ , there are  $p^k - \left\lfloor \frac{p^k}{p} \right\rfloor = p^k - p^{k-1}$  such numbers.  $\left\lfloor \frac{p^k}{p} \right\rfloor$  is the number of elements dividing  $p^k$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^k\mathbb{Z} = \{[0], [1], \dots, [p^k - 1]\} = \{[1], [2], \dots, [p^k - 1], [p^k]\}$

**Theorem: 4.8: Properties of Euler  $\phi$ -function**

1.  $\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1} = p^{k-1}(p - 1)$  for  $p$  prime and  $k \geq 1$
  2. if  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$ , then  $\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{k_1}) \cdots \phi(p_r^{k_r}) = p_1^{k_1-1}(p_1 - 1) \cdots p_r^{k_r-1}(p_r - 1)$
- Some times, we write  $p^k - p^{k-1} = p^k \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$ , then  $\phi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$

**Example:**  $n = 13^4 3^5 19^7$ , then  $\phi(n) = \phi(13^4)\phi(3^5)\phi(19^7) = 13^3(13 - 1)3^4(3 - 1)19^6(19 - 1)$

**Example:** Compute  $3^{1492} \pmod{100}$  (i.e. the last two digits)

*Proof.* We know  $3^{\phi(100)} \equiv 1 \pmod{100}$ .

If we apply division algorithm  $1492 = q\phi(100) + r$  for  $0 \leq r < \phi(100)$ , then  $3^{1492} \equiv (3^{\phi(100)})^q 3^r \pmod{100} \equiv 3^r \pmod{100}$ .

Since  $100 = 2^2 5^2$ ,  $\phi(100) = \phi(2^2)\phi(5^2) = 2(2 - 1)5(5 - 1) = 40$

$1492 = 37 \cdot 40 + 12$ ,  $1492 \equiv 12 \pmod{\phi(100)}$ , then  $3^{1492} \equiv 3^{12} \pmod{100}$

Successive squaring: every number has a binary expansion  $m = c_n 2^n + \cdots + c_1 2 + c_0$  where  $c_j = 0$  or  $1$ . Then  $x^m = x^{c_n 2^n + \cdots + c_1 2 + c_0} = (x^{2^n})^{c_n} \cdots (x^2)^{c_1} x^{c_0}$ .

$12 = 2^3 + 2^2$ ,  $3^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{100}$ ,  $3^4 \equiv 81 \pmod{100}$ ,  $3^8 \equiv (81)^2 \equiv (-19)^2 \equiv 61 \pmod{100}$ .

$3^{12} \equiv 3^8 3^4 \equiv 61 \cdot 81 \pmod{100} \equiv 41 \pmod{100}$ . □

Suppose we want to solve  $x^d \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ . We consider  $a^d \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $a^{-1} \equiv a^{d-1} \pmod{n}$ .

**Definition: 4.3: Order**

For  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ , the order of  $a$  is the smallest positive integer  $d$  s.t.  $a^d \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ . We write  $\text{ord}(a)$  for the order.

**Theorem: 4.9:**

For  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . If  $a^m \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $\text{ord}(a) | m$ .

*Proof.* Apply division algorithm,  $m = q\text{ord}(a) + r$ , where  $0 \leq r < \text{ord}(a)$

$1 \equiv a^m \equiv a^{q\text{ord}(a)} a^r \equiv a^r \pmod{n}$ , then  $r = 0$ ,  $\text{ord}(a) | m$ . □

**Corollary 6.** For every  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ ,  $\text{ord}(a) | \phi(n)$ .

In part, we know  $x^d \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  is only solvable with order  $d$  element when  $d | \phi(n)$ .

Suppose  $g^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  and  $\phi(n) = \text{ord}(g)$ , then  $g^{\frac{\phi(n)}{k}}$  has order  $k$ .

**Claim:** We can always find an order  $d$  element for  $d | \phi(n)$  if and only if we can find an order  $\phi(n)$  element.

Aside (Cryptography): You have a large (hard to factor)  $N$  and some exponent  $e$ . If someone wants to send a message  $A$  in terms of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  elements. They send you  $A^e \pmod{N}$  where  $\gcd(e, \phi(N)) = 1$ .

Lemma 1.1 tells us that  $ef + \phi(N)h = 1$  for some  $f, h$ , then  $A^1 \equiv A^{ef + \phi(N)h} \equiv A^{ef}(A^{\phi(N)})^h \equiv (A^e)^f \pmod{N}$ .

If  $g$  is an element of order  $\phi(N)$  (a generator), then  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* = \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{\phi(N)-1}\}$ . The existence of a generator gives us a discrete logarithm to each  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . There is some unique  $0 \leq k \leq \phi(N) - 1$  s.t.  $g^k \equiv a \pmod{N}$ , so  $k = \log_g a$  and  $\log(A^e) = e \log A$ .

**Definition: 4.4: Primitive Root**

$g \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  is a primitive root if  $\text{ord}(g) = \phi(N)$ .

**Theorem: 4.10:**

For  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ ,  $\text{ord}(a) = |\{a^k : k \geq 0\}|$

*Proof.* Define a map  $\{1, \dots, \text{ord}(a)\} \rightarrow \{a^k : k \geq 0\}$  by  $k \mapsto a^k$

The map is surjective from division algorithm

The map is injective: if  $a^i \equiv a^j \pmod{N}$  for  $i \geq j$ , then  $a^{i-j} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$ ,  $0 \leq i - j < \text{ord}(N)$ , then  $i = j$ .  $\square$

Consider the polynomial  $x^d - 1$ . If  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$  of order  $d$ , then  $a$  is a root. In fact,  $1 = a^0, a^1, \dots, a^{d-1}$  are roots of the polynomial, with no repeats. Since  $x^d - 1$  should have  $\leq d$  roots. The set  $a^0, a^1, \dots, a^{d-1}$  is exactly the set of roots. The set of elements of order  $d$  is some subset of lists, consisting  $a^k$  where  $\text{gcd}(d, k) = 1$ .

**Theorem: 4.11:**

Let  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . If  $\text{ord}(a) = d$ , then  $\text{ord}(a^k) = \frac{d}{\text{gcd}(d,k)}$ ,  $k \geq 1$ .

*Proof.*  $(a^k)^{\frac{d}{\text{gcd}(d,k)}} \equiv (a^{\frac{k}{\text{gcd}(d,k)}})^d \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

Assume  $a^{kj} \equiv (a^k)^j \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $d|kj$ .

Divide both side by the gcd,  $\frac{d}{\text{gcd}(d,k)} | \frac{k}{\text{gcd}(d,k)} j$

But now  $\frac{d}{\text{gcd}(d,k)}$  and  $\frac{k}{\text{gcd}(d,k)}$  are coprime, then by Lemma 1.2,  $\frac{d}{\text{gcd}(d,k)} | j$ , so as long as  $j > 0$ ,  $j \geq \frac{d}{\text{gcd}(d,k)}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 7.**  $\text{ord}(a^k) = \text{ord}(a)$  if  $\text{gcd}(\text{ord}(a), k) = 1$ .

**Theorem: 4.12:**

In  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$ , there are either 0 elements of order  $d$  or there are  $\phi(d)$  of such elements.

Let  $\eta(d) = \#$  elements of order  $d$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$ .  $\sum_{d|p-1} \eta(d) = \phi(p) = p - 1$ . We want to show that all  $\eta(d) \neq 0$ .

**Theorem: 4.13: Gauss Theorem**

For any  $m \geq 1$ ,  $\sum_{d|m} \phi(d) = m$ .

*Proof.* Consider  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  and for each  $d|m$ , let

$$S_d = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} : dx \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \text{ and } lx \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m} \text{ for any } l < d\}$$

Firstly,  $S_{d_1} \cap S_{d_2} = \emptyset$  if  $d_1 \neq d_2$ .

Consider  $d_1 x \equiv 0 \equiv d_2 x \pmod{m}$  for any  $x \in S_{d_1} \cap S_{d_2}$ , but by definition,  $d_1 \leq d_2$  and  $d_2 \leq d_1$ , thus  $d_1 = d_2$ .

Also,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x \in S_d$  for some  $d|m$ , therefore,  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} = \bigcup_{d|m} S_d$  as disjoint union. Therefore,  $m =$

$$\sum_{d|m} |S_d|.$$

Suppose  $x \in S_d$ ,  $dx \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ , equivalently,  $m|dx$ . Since  $d|m$ , we have  $\frac{m}{d}|x$ , so  $x = \frac{m}{d}t$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

We claim that  $\gcd(t, d) = 1$ .

Since  $x = \frac{m}{d}t = \frac{m}{d/\gcd(d,t)} \frac{t}{\gcd(d,t)}$ , then  $\frac{d}{\gcd(d,t)}x \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ .

But since  $x \in S_d$ ,  $d \leq \frac{d}{\gcd(d,t)} \leq d$ . Therefore  $d = \frac{d}{\gcd(d,t)}$ ,  $\gcd(d, t) = 1$ .

Therefore,  $S_d = \{\frac{m}{d}t : 0 \leq t \leq d-1, \gcd(d, t) = 1\}$  and  $|S_d| = \phi(d)$  by definition.  $\square$

#### **Theorem: 4.14:**

Primitive roots exist mod  $p$  (prime).

*Proof.* We have  $\sum_{d|p-1} \eta(d) = p-1 = \sum_{d|p-1} \phi(d)$  and  $\eta(d) \leq \phi(d)$ , so  $\eta(d) = \phi(d)$ .

In particular,  $\eta(p-1) = \phi(p-1) > 0$ .  $\square$

**Example:**  $(\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z})^* = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$ ,  $1^2 \equiv 1$ ,  $3^2 \equiv 9 \equiv 1$ ,  $5^2 \equiv 25 \equiv 1$ ,  $7^2 \equiv 49 \equiv 1$ . There are no primitive roots.

**Example:** Let  $p$  be an odd prime,  $(\mathbb{Z}/4p\mathbb{Z})^*$  has no primitive roots.

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.4,  $(\mathbb{Z}/4p\mathbb{Z})^* \cong (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^* \times (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$ . Then  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{4p}$  for all  $a$ .

But  $\phi(4p) = 2(p-1)$ , so there is no primitive roots. ( $\phi(4p) \neq p-1$ )  $\square$

**Example:** Let  $p, q$  be distinct odd primes,  $(\mathbb{Z}/pq\mathbb{Z})^*$  has no primitive roots.

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.4,  $(\mathbb{Z}/pq\mathbb{Z})^* \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^* \times (\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})^*$ .

Consider  $a^{\frac{(p-1)(q-1)}{2}}$ .

Since  $p, q$  are distinct odds,  $p-1, q-1$  are even.  $\frac{p-1}{2}, \frac{q-1}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then  $a^{\frac{(p-1)(q-1)}{2}} \mapsto \left( (a^{p-1})^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \pmod{p}, (a^{q-1})^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{q} \right) \equiv (1 \pmod{p}, 1 \pmod{q})$  for all  $a$ , since  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  for  $p$  primes.

Thus,  $a^{\frac{(p-1)(q-1)}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{pq}$ .

But  $\phi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$ , so there is no primitive roots.  $\square$

#### **Lemma: 4.1: Reduction**

For  $n|m$ , the reduction map  $\pi : (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  s.t.  $\pi([x]_m) = [x]_n$  is surjective.



*Proof.* Let  $1 \leq x \leq n$ ,  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$ , i.e.  $x \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ .

If  $y \in (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^*$  with  $y \equiv x \pmod n$ , then for any  $y' \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $y' \equiv x \pmod n$ ,  $y' \equiv y + nt$ , so the elements in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  above  $x$  are  $x + nt$ .

If  $\gcd(x, m) = 1$ , then we are good, there's only one element.

Otherwise there are primes  $p|m$  with  $p|x$ . Note  $m = \frac{m}{n}n$ .

Since  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$ ,  $p \nmid \frac{m}{n}$ , otherwise  $o|n$  and  $\gcd(x, n) = p$ .

Take  $t_0$  be the product of  $p$  s.t.  $p \nmid \frac{m}{n}$ .

Claim:  $\gcd(x + nt_0, m) = 1$

Take a prime  $p$  s.t.  $p \nmid \frac{m}{n}$

If  $p|x$ , then  $p|x + nt_0$  implies that  $p|nt_0$ , so  $p|t_0$  contradiction.

If  $p \nmid x$ , then by construction  $p|t_0$ . So  $p|x + nt_0$  implies  $p|x$ , contradiction.

Thus  $\gcd(x + nt_0, m) = 1$ . □

### Theorem: 4.15:

Let  $n|m$ . If  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^*$  has a primitive root, then so does  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\pi : (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  be a reduction map.

Suppose  $g$  is a primitive root  $\pmod m$ .

Take  $h = \pi(g) \pmod n$ , then for any  $x \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ , there exists  $y \in (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^*$  with  $\pi(y) \equiv x \pmod n$ .

But  $y = g^k \pmod m$  by definition of primitive roots,  $k \geq 0$ .

Since  $\pi$  preserves multiplication,  $h^k \equiv \pi(g)^k \equiv \pi(g^k) \equiv \pi(y) \equiv x \pmod n$ . Thus  $h$  is a primitive root  $\pmod n$ . □

### Theorem: 4.16: Obstruction Theorem

If  $8|n$  or  $4p|n$  for  $p$  prime or if  $pq|n$  for distinct odd primes, then  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  has no primitive root.

### Theorem: 4.17:

$(\mathbb{Z}/p^k\mathbb{Z})^*$  has a primitive root for  $p$  odd prime,  $k \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* We have shown the theorem for  $k = 1$  in Theorem 4.14.

Consider  $k = 2$ . Given  $g$  a primitive root  $\pmod p$ . Claim that  $g$  or  $g + p \pmod{p^2}$  is a primitive root.

If  $g$  is a primitive root  $\pmod{p^2}$ , then done.

Otherwise, let  $d$  be the order of  $g$  in  $\pmod{p^2}$ .  $g^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$ , then  $g^d \equiv 1 \pmod p$ , so by order argument (Theorem 4.9),  $p - 1|d$ .

Also if  $d$  is the order of  $g$  in  $\pmod{p^2}$ , we know that  $d|\phi(p^2) = p(p - 1)$ . Therefore,  $p - 1|d|p(p - 1)$ .

This implies that  $d = p - 1$  or  $d = p(p - 1)$ . Since we assume  $g$  is not a primitive root  $\pmod{p^2}$ , we have  $d = p - 1$ .

Then  $(g + p)^{p-1} \equiv g^{p-1} + (p - 1)g^{p-2}p \equiv 1 + (p - 1)g^{p-2}p \pmod{p^2}$  (the higher order terms vanish)

If  $(g + p)^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$ , then  $0 \equiv (p - 1)g^{p-2}p \pmod{p^2}$ . i.e.  $p^2|(p - 1)g^{p-2}p$ , so  $p|(p - 1)g^{p-2}$ , but this cannot hold, since  $p$  does not divide  $p - 1$  or  $g$ .

Therefore  $(g + p)$  has order  $p(p - 1)$  in  $\pmod{p^2}$ , it is a primitive root.

Now we proceed by induction.

Claim: if  $h$  is a primitive root  $\pmod{p^k}$ ,  $k \geq 2$ , then it is a primitive root  $\pmod{p^{k+1}}$ .

Let  $d = \text{order of } h \text{ in } \pmod{p^{k+1}}$ , then  $h^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{k+1}}$  so  $h^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p^k}$ .

By order argument,  $\phi(p^k)|d$  and  $d|\phi(p^{k+1})$ . Then  $d = \phi(p^k) = p^{k-1}(p - 1)$  or  $\phi(p^{k+1}) = p^k(p - 1)$ .

Observe that  $\phi(p^k) = p\phi(p^{k-1})$ .

$h^{\phi(p^{k-1})} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{k-1}}$  tells us that  $h^{\phi(p^{k-1})} = 1 + p^{k-1}t$

$h^{\phi(p^k)} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p^k}$  tells us that  $p \nmid t$ .

Then  $h^{\phi(p^k)} \equiv h^{p\phi(p^{k-1})} \equiv \left(h^{\phi(p^{k-1})}\right)^p \equiv (1 + p^{k-1}t)^p \equiv 1 + p^k t + \binom{p}{2} p^{2(k-1)} t^2 \pmod{p^{k+1}}$ .

The remaining terms vanish  $\pmod{p^{k+1}}$ .

$2(k-1)$  is not always  $\geq k+1$ , but  $p \mid \binom{p}{2}$ , so the third term is divisible by  $2(k-1)+1$  and it is  $\geq k+1$ , so it vanishes as well.

$h^{\phi(p^k)} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{k+1}} \Leftrightarrow p^k t \equiv 0 \Leftrightarrow p \mid t$ . Contradiction.

Thus  $h$  is a primitive root  $\pmod{p^{k+1}}$  and  $h^6 \phi(p^{k+1}) \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{k+1}}$ . □

*Remark 7.* If  $g$  is a primitive root  $\pmod{p^2}$ , then  $g$  is a primitive root  $\pmod{p^k}$  for  $k \geq 1$ .

**Theorem: 4.18:**

Note that for  $\phi(2p^k) = \phi(p^k)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Z}/2p^k\mathbb{Z})^*$  has a primitive root for  $p$  odd prime and  $k \geq 0$ .

*Proof.*  $k = 0$ ,  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^*$  has one element only, and it is the primitive root.

When  $k \geq 1$ , let  $g$  be a primitive root  $\pmod{p^k}$ . Suppose it is odd. let  $d = \text{order of } g \text{ in } \pmod{2p^k}$ .

Then  $d \mid \phi(2p^k) = \phi(p^k)$ . and  $g^d \equiv 1 \pmod{2p^k}$ , then  $g^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p^k}$ , so  $\phi(p^k) \mid d$ .

Then since  $d \mid \phi(p^k)$ ,  $d = \phi(p^k)$ .

Hence  $g$  has a primitive root  $\pmod{2p^k}$

If  $g$  is even, take  $g + p^k$  instead. □

**Theorem: 4.19:**

$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  has a primitive root if and only if  $n = 1, 2, 4, p^k, 2p^k$  for  $p$  an odd prime and  $k \geq 1$ .

**Example:** Find primitive roots  $(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})^* = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8\}$

*Proof.* We know that 2 is a primitive root for  $(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ . We look for its powers in  $(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})^*$  which are 2,5,8

Enumerate all powers of 2 in  $(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})^*$ :  $2^1 \equiv 2, 2^2 \equiv 4, 2^3 \equiv 8, 2^6 \equiv 1$ .

2 is a primitive root. Actually 2 is a primitive root for all  $(\mathbb{Z}/3^k\mathbb{Z})^*$ . □

**Example:** What are the solutions to  $x^7 \equiv 8 \pmod{81}$ ?

*Proof.* We can always write  $x \equiv 2^y \pmod{81}$  (by previous example). Then  $2^{7y} \equiv 8 \equiv 2^3 \pmod{81}$

Then we only need to solve for  $7y \equiv 3 \pmod{\phi(81)}$  by Theorem 4.8. □

**Notation:** if  $p$  is a prime,  $n$  is an integer,  $k \geq 0$ , then  $p^k \parallel n$  means  $p^k \mid n$  and  $p^{k+1} \nmid n$ .

**Lemma: 4.2:**

For  $n \geq 0$ ,  $2^{n+2} \parallel 5^{2^n} - 1$

*Proof.* For  $n = 0$ ,  $5^{2^0} - 1 = 4, 2^{0+2} = 4$ , so  $2^{0+2} \parallel 5^{2^0} - 1$

Suppose this holds for  $n \geq 0$ . Now consider  $5^{2^{n+1}} - 1$ .

Note  $5^{2^{n+1}} = 5^{2 \cdot 2^n} = (5^{2^n})^2$ , so  $5^{2^{n+1}} - 1 = (5^{2^n} - 1)(5^{2^n} + 1)$ .

We know by induction  $2^{n+2} \parallel 5^{2^n} - 1$ .

$5^{2^n} + 1 \equiv 1 + 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , so only,  $2 \parallel 62^n + 1$ , then  $2^{n+3} \parallel 5^{2^{n+1}} - 1$ . □

**Theorem: 4.20:**

For  $n \geq 3$ ,

1. 5 has order  $2^{n-2}$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^*$
2. Every element of  $(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^*$  can be written uniquely as  $(-1)^i 5^j$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq 2^{n-2} - 1$

*Proof.* 1. Because  $\phi(2^n) = 2^{n-1}$ , then  $d = \text{ord}(5) = 2^k$  for some  $k \geq 0$  by Theorem 4.11. Moreover,  $5^{2^k} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^n}$ , so  $2^n | 5^{2^k} - 1$ . By Lemma 4.2,  $2^{k+2} || 5^{2^k} - 1$ , so  $n \leq k + 2$ . We know  $(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^*$  has no primitive root, so  $k < n - 1$ . Therefore  $n - 2 \leq k < n - 1 \Rightarrow k = n - 2$ .

2. We know that each of  $5^0, 5^1, \dots, 5^{2^{n-2}-1}, -5^0, -5^1, \dots, -5^{2^{n-2}-1}$  has no overlap. So in total there are  $2 \cdot 2^{n-2} = 2^{n-1}$  elements and  $|(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^*| = 2^{n-1}$ .  
No-overlap: suppose  $5^i \equiv -5^j \pmod{2^{n-1}}$ , then  $1 \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$  Contradiction. □

**Example:** Solve  $x^7 \equiv 9 \pmod{280}$

*Proof.*  $280 = 2^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ . By Theorem 2.4, we can split it up.

1.  $x^7 \equiv 9 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ . By Theorem 4.5,  $x^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ ,  $x^7 \equiv x \pmod{7}$ .  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$  is the only solution
2.  $x^7 \equiv 9 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$ . By Theorem 4.5,  $x^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , so  $x^3 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$  is the only solution
3.  $x^7 \equiv 9 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ . By Theorem 4.5,  $\phi(8) = 2^2(2-1) = 4$ ,  $x^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , thus  $x^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .  
By Theorem 4.20, all elements  $\pmod{8}$  has the form  $\pm 5^0, \pm 5^1$  ( $n = 3$ ).  $(\pm 5^i)^3 \equiv \pm 5^{3i}$ ,  $5^4 \equiv 125 \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ .  
 $(\pm 5^i)^3 \equiv \pm 5^{3i} \equiv \pm 5^i \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ . Thus  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .

We can then combine the solutions using Theorem 2.4. □

For any general quadratic equations  $x^2 + bx + c \pmod{p}$ , we can follow the quadratic formula  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4c}}{2}$ , and the square root can be found by  $y^2 \equiv r \pmod{p}$ , which has 0, 1, 2 solutions, and if  $s$  is a solution, then  $-s$  is a solution.

**Lemma: 4.3: Hensel's Lemma**

Let  $f(x)$  be a polynomial with integer coefficients. Let  $k$  be a positive integer, and  $r$  an integer such that  $f(r) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^k}$ . Suppose  $m \leq k$  is a positive integer. Then if  $f'(r) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , there is an integer  $s$  such that  $f(s) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{k+m}}$  and  $s \equiv r \pmod{p^k}$ . So  $s$  is a lifting of  $r$  to a root mod  $p^{k+m}$ . Moreover  $s$  is unique mod  $p^{k+m}$ .

## 5 Midterm

Q1. Solve  $\begin{cases} x \equiv 13 \pmod{514} \\ x \equiv 33 \pmod{144} \end{cases}$ .

*Proof.*  $514 = 2 \cdot 257$ ,  $144 = 12^2 = 2^4 \cdot 3^2$ .

The system is the same as  $\begin{cases} x \equiv 13 \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ x \equiv 13 \pmod{257} \\ x \equiv 33 \pmod{144} \end{cases}$ . But the first equation is implied by the third, so we

can solve  $\begin{cases} x \equiv 13 \pmod{257} \\ x \equiv 33 \pmod{144} \end{cases}$  instead. This can be done by CRT (Theorem 2.4)  $\square$

Q2.

(a) Show that if  $p|n^6 + n^3 + 1$ , then  $p = 3$  or  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$

(b) Show that there are infinitely many primes  $p$  s.t.  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$

*Proof.* (a) Consider  $x^3 - 1 = (x - 1)(x^2 + x + 1)$ . Let  $x = n^3$ , we get  $n^9 - 1 = (n - 1)(n^6 + n^3 + 1)$ . Since  $p|(n^6 + n^3 + 1)$ , we have  $p|n^9 - 1$ .

Equivalently,  $\text{ord}(n)|9 \Rightarrow \text{ord}(n) = 1, 3, 9$ .

If  $\text{ord}(n) = 9$ , then by Theorem 4.6 and Theorem 4.9,  $9|p - 1$ , so  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$

If  $\text{ord}(n) = 1, 3$ , then  $n^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , then  $0 \equiv n^6 + n^3 + 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{p}$ ,  $p = 3$

(b) Suppose there are finitely many  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  s.t.  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$ . Consider the prime divisors of  $m^6 + m^3 + 1$ ,  $m = 3p_1, \dots, p_n$ . It must be distinct from any of them.  $\square$

Q3. Find the smallest  $n$  with  $n/10$  a 7th power and  $n/7$  a 5th power.

*Proof.*  $2^a 5^b 7^c p_1^{k_1} \dots p_r^{k_r} = n = 10m^7 = 2 \cdot 5(2^d 5^e 7^f p_1^{j_1} \dots p_r^{j_r})^7$

$2^a 5^b 7^c p_1^{k_1} \dots p_r^{k_r} = n = 7m^5 = 7(2^g 5^h 7^i p_1^{l_1} \dots p_r^{l_r})^5$

This gives that  $\begin{cases} a = 7d + 1 = 5g \\ b = 7e + 1 = 5h \\ c = 7f = 1 + 5i \end{cases}$ , and  $7|k_j, 5|l_j$ . We can set  $k_j$  to 0 to get the smallest number.

We just need to solve:  $\begin{cases} a \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \\ a \equiv 0 \pmod{5} \end{cases}$ ,  $\begin{cases} b \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \\ b \equiv 0 \pmod{5} \end{cases}$ ,  $\begin{cases} c \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \\ c \equiv 0 \pmod{7} \end{cases}$ . The solutions are  $a = b =$

$15, c = 21$   $\square$

Q4. Solve  $ax + by = c$

*Proof.* Use Euclidean's algorithm (Theorem 1.7) to find  $d = \text{gcd}(a, b)$ . If  $d|c$ , then we can find solutions to  $ax_0 + by_0 = d$   $\square$

Q6. Solve  $x^3 + x^2 - 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{7^4}$

*Proof.* Use Lemma 4.3, start with  $x^3 + x^2 - 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$ ,  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ .

$f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 5$ ,  $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 2x$ ,  $f'(2) = 3 \cdot 4 + 2^2 = 16 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{7}$ , thus Hensel's lemma is valid.

Iteratively, we compute  $a_1 = 2$ ,  $a_2 = 2 - \frac{f(a_1)}{f'(a_1)}$  to get solution mod  $7^4$ .  $\square$

Q7. Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Show that  $\left(\left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)!\right)^2 \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} \pmod{p}$ .

**Theorem: 5.1: Wilson's Theorem**

$$(p-1)! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (p-2)(p-1) \equiv 1(-1) \pmod{p} = -1 \pmod{p}$$

*Proof.* For Q7, we have  $\left(\left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)!\right)^2 = \left(1 \cdot 2 \cdots \frac{p-1}{2}\right) \left(1 \cdot 2 \cdots \frac{p-1}{2}\right)$   
 $\equiv \left(1 \cdot 2 \cdots \frac{p-1}{2}\right) (1-p)(2-p) \cdots \left(\frac{p-1}{2} - p\right)$   
 $\equiv \left(1 \cdot 2 \cdots \frac{p-1}{2}\right) (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} (p-1)(p-2) \cdots \left(\frac{p-1}{2} + 1\right) \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} (p-1)! \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} \pmod{p} \quad \square$

## 6 Quadratic Reciprocal

In this section, we always consider  $p$  as an odd prime.

### Definition: 6.1: Quadratic Residue

$a \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is a quadratic residue (QR) if the equation  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  has a solution. If there are no solutions, it is a non-residue (NR).

### Theorem: 6.1:

There are  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  QRs mod  $p$  and  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  NRs.

*Proof.* Consider the list  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, (p-1)^2$ . This contains all quadratic residues.

Since  $(-x)^2 = x^2$ , the list  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2$  contains all quadratic residues. For  $\frac{p-1}{2} < n \leq p-1$ ,  $1 \leq p-n \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ .

There are no duplicates in the list, because if  $1 \leq a, b \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$  with  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{p}$ , then  $(a-b)(a+b) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ .

$p|(a-b)(a+b) \Rightarrow p|a-b$  or  $p|a+b$ .

Because  $2 \leq a+b \leq p-1$ ,  $p \nmid a+b$ , then  $p|a-b$ . We know that  $-p < a-b < p$ , then  $a=b$ .  $\square$

Notation (Legendre symbol): For  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & a \text{ is a QR mod } p \\ -1, & a \text{ is a NR mod } p \end{cases}$

### Theorem: 6.2: QR Multiplicative Rule

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a, b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$ . That is QR $\times$ QR=QR, QR $\times$ NR=NR, NR $\times$ NR=QR.

*Proof.* 1) QR $\times$ QR=QR:

Suppose  $a \equiv s_1^2 \pmod{p}$ ,  $b \equiv s_2^2 \pmod{p}$ , then  $ab \equiv (s_1 s_2)^2 \pmod{p}$

2) QR $\times$ NR=NR:

Suppose  $a \equiv s_1^2 \pmod{p}$  and  $b$  is a NR. Assume  $ab \equiv t^2 \pmod{p}$ . Then  $s_1^2 b \equiv t^2 \pmod{p}$ ,  $b \equiv \left(\frac{t}{s_1}\right)^2 \pmod{p}$ . Contradiction.

3) NR $\times$ NR=QR:

Suppose  $a$  is NR. Let QRs be  $q_1, \dots, q_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ , NRs be  $n_1, \dots, n_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$

The list  $aq_1, \dots, aq_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$  consists of NRs and there are  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  distinct ones, so they are all of the NRs.

The list  $an_1, \dots, an_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$  has  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  elements and is disjoint from above. Therefore, the list is all QRs. For a NR  $b$ ,  $ab$  is in the list, hence it is a QR.  $\square$

**Example:** Does  $x^2 \equiv 3^4 5^7 11^3 \pmod{13}$  have a solution?

*Proof.*  $\left(\frac{3^4 5^7 11^3}{13}\right) = \left(\frac{3}{13}\right)^4 \left(\frac{5}{13}\right)^7 \left(\frac{11}{13}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{5}{13}\right) \left(\frac{11}{13}\right)$

The list of QRs for 13 contains  $1^2, 2^2, 3^2, 4^2, 5^2, 6^2 = 1, 4, 9, 3, 12, 10$ , so 5 and 11 are NRs.

Thus  $\left(\frac{5}{13}\right) \left(\frac{11}{13}\right) = 1$ ,  $x^2 \equiv 3^4 5^7 11^3 \pmod{13}$  has a solution.  $\square$

Observation: For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $(-1)^k = (-1)^{k \bmod 2}$ . Given  $n = \pm q_1^{k_1} \cdots q_r^{k_r}$  with  $q_j$  disjoint from  $p$ . Then  $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{\pm 1}{p}\right) \left(\frac{q_1}{p}\right)^{k_1} \cdots \left(\frac{q_r}{p}\right)^{k_r} = \left(\frac{\pm 1}{p}\right) \left(\frac{q_1}{p}\right)^{k_1 \bmod 2} \cdots \left(\frac{q_r}{p}\right)^{k_r \bmod 2}$ .  
 Note:  $\left(\frac{1}{p}\right) = 1$ . We want to understand  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)$ ,  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$  for prime  $q \neq p$ .

**Theorem: 6.3: Euler's Criterion**

For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$ ,  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod p$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 4.6, the polynomial  $x^{p-1} - 1$  has exactly  $p - 1$  roots mod  $p$ . Since  $p$  is odd,  $\frac{p-1}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We get  $x^{p-1} - 1 = \left(x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1\right) \left(x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} + 1\right)$ . Therefore,  $x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1$  and  $x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} + 1$  each have exactly  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  roots.

Consider  $s \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$ ,  $(s^2)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1 \equiv s^{p-1} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod p$ .  
 So  $\left\{ \text{roots of } x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1 \right\} = \text{set of QRs}$ .  $\left\{ \text{roots of } x^{\frac{p-1}{2}} + 1 \right\} = \text{set of NRs}$ .  
*i.e.*,  $a$  is QR  $\Leftrightarrow a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod p$ , so for a QR,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod p$   
 $a$  is NR  $\Leftrightarrow a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod p$ , so for a NR,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod p$  □

**Corollary 8.**  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod 4 \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod 4 \end{cases}$

Using Theorem 6.3, we can prove Theorem 6.2.  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) \equiv (ab)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \pmod p$ .

To upgrade this to an equality, observe that if  $p$  is an odd prime and  $\epsilon, \delta \in \{\pm 1\}$  with  $\epsilon \equiv \delta \pmod p$ , then  $\epsilon = \delta$ . This is because  $\epsilon \equiv \delta \pmod p \Rightarrow p | \epsilon - \delta$ , but  $\epsilon - \delta \in \{-2, 0, 2\}$ , and only 0 can be divided by an odd prime  $p$ . Thus  $\epsilon - \delta = 0, \epsilon = \delta$ , so  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$ .

**Example:** Compute  $\left(\frac{7}{11}\right)$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 6.3, we can compute  $7^{\frac{11-1}{2}} \equiv 7^5 \pmod{11}$ , which can be done using successive squares, which is faster ( $\mathcal{O}(\log p)$ ) than exploring all squares mod 11 ( $\mathcal{O}(p)$ ). □

To make Euler's Criterion more useful, we want to investigate  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod p$ . To do this, recall the proof of Theorem 4.6 by listing all equivalence classes.

Consider the list  $1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}$ , adding a negative sign gives all numbers  $1 \leq n \leq p - 1$ . Consider also the related list  $a, 2a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}a$ .

**Example:**  $p = 13, a = 7$ , 1st list: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 2nd list: 7, 14  $\equiv$  1, 8, 2, 9, 3

Reduce the second list mod 13, we get -6, 1, -5, 2, -4, 3.

The number of negative signs = the number of  $1 \leq k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$  so that  $ka \pmod p > \frac{p-1}{2}$ . Call this number  $\mu$ . Observe that  $(-1)^\mu 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \equiv 7^6 (1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6)$ , so  $7^6 \equiv (-1)^\mu \pmod{13}$ .

**Theorem: 6.4: Gauss' Criteria**

Let  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$ ,  $\mu = \text{number of } 1 \leq k \leq \frac{p-1}{2} \text{ s.t. } ka \pmod p > \frac{p-1}{2}$ . Then  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^\mu \pmod p$ , and as a result  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = (-1)^\mu$ .

*Proof.* Start with the list  $1, 2, 3, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}$ , and consider the related list  $a, 2a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}a$ . We know for each  $1 \leq k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ , we can work with  $ka \equiv \epsilon_k y_k \pmod{p}$  for  $1 \leq y_k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ ,  $\epsilon_k = \pm 1$ .

As a result, the product of elements in the second list is  $a(2a) \cdots \left(\frac{p-1}{2}a\right) \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! \pmod{p}$ .

On the other hand,

$$a(2a) \cdots \left(\frac{p-1}{2}a\right) \equiv (\epsilon_1, y_1) \cdots (\epsilon_{\frac{p-1}{2}} y_{\frac{p-1}{2}}) \equiv (\epsilon_1 \cdots \epsilon_{\frac{p-1}{2}}) (y_1 \cdots y_{\frac{p-1}{2}}) \equiv (-1)^\mu (y_1 \cdots y_{\frac{p-1}{2}}) \pmod{p}.$$

We need  $y_1 \cdots y_{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! \pmod{p}$ . One way to guarantee this is for  $\{y_1, \dots, y_{\frac{p-1}{2}}\} = \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\}$

It suffices to show that  $y_k$ 's are all distinct.

Suppose  $y_i = y_j$ , then  $ia \equiv \epsilon_i y_i \equiv \epsilon_j y_j \equiv \pm ja \pmod{p}$ . Then  $a(i \pm j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ .

Since  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,  $p \mid i \pm j$ . Since  $1 \leq i, j \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ , we require  $i \pm j = 0$ , so  $i = \pm j$ ,  $i = j$ .

Thus  $y_1 \cdots y_{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)!$ , so  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! \equiv (-1)^\mu y_1 \cdots y_{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^\mu \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! \pmod{p}$ .

Thus  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^\mu \pmod{p}$ . □

**Theorem: 6.5:**

Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \text{ or } p \equiv 7 \pmod{8} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{8} \text{ or } p \equiv 5 \pmod{8} \end{cases}$

*Proof.* We want to use Theorem 6.4, so we compute  $\mu(2, p)$ .

We know that for  $1 \leq k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ ,  $2 \leq 2k \leq p-1$ , so  $2k \pmod{p} = 2k$

Case 1:  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\frac{p-1}{4} \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mu(2, p) = \frac{p-1}{2} - \frac{p-1}{4} = \frac{p-1}{4}$

Case 2:  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\frac{p-1}{4} = \frac{p-3}{4} + \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $\frac{p-1}{4} < k \Leftrightarrow \frac{p-3}{4} + 1 \leq k$ . Hence,  $\mu(2, p) = \frac{p-1}{2} - \frac{p-3}{4} - 1 + 1 = \frac{p+1}{4}$

Now, we compute  $(-1)^{\mu(2, p)}$ . All that matters is if  $\mu(2, p)$  is even. This is a condition on  $p \pmod{8}$  and there are 4 cases to consider.

Case 1:  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ . This gives  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\mu(2, p) = \frac{p-1}{4} \equiv 0$  is even.

Case 2:  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ . This gives  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\mu(2, p) = \frac{p-1}{4} \equiv 1$  is odd.

Case 3:  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ . This gives  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\mu(2, p) = \frac{p+1}{4} \equiv 1$  is odd.

Case 4:  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . This gives  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\mu(2, p) = \frac{p+1}{4} \equiv 0$  is even. □

Because we know how to compute  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right)$  and  $\left(\frac{bc}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \left(\frac{c}{p}\right)$ . We just need to know how to compute  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$  when  $a$  is odd.

Recall that there are unique  $q_k, r_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $ka = q_k p + r_k$ , where  $-\frac{p-1}{2} \leq r_k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ .

Then  $\frac{ka}{p} = q_k + \frac{r_k}{p}$ ,  $-\frac{1}{2} < \frac{r_k}{p} < \frac{1}{2}$ . Therefore  $\left[\frac{ka}{p}\right] = \begin{cases} q_k, & \text{if } r_k > 0 \\ q_k - 1, & \text{if } r_k < 0 \end{cases}$ .

$\sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left[\frac{ka}{p}\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} q_k - \mu(a, p)$ , where  $\mu(a, p)$  = number of  $1 \leq k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$  s.t.  $ka \pmod{p} > \frac{p-1}{2}$  (negative value).

**Theorem: 6.6:**

Let  $p$  be an odd prime,  $a$  be odd s.t.  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Then  $\mu(a, p) = \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left[\frac{ka}{p}\right] \pmod{2}$



*Proof.* From before,  $\mu(a, p) \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left\lfloor \frac{ka}{p} \right\rfloor + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} q_k \pmod{2}$ . (plus and minus are interchangeable when mod 2)

Since  $a, p$  are odd,  $ka \equiv q_k p + r_k \pmod{2}$ ,  $k \equiv q_k + r_k \pmod{2}$ .

$$\text{So } \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} q_k \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} k + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} r_k \pmod{2}.$$

The list of  $r_k$  is exactly  $\epsilon_1 1, \epsilon_2 2, \dots, \epsilon_{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{p-1}{2}$  where  $\epsilon_j = \pm 1$ .

But  $-1 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , so the list of  $r_k \pmod{2}$  is  $1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}$

$$\text{So } \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} r_k \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} k \pmod{2} \text{ and } \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} q_k \equiv 2 \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} k \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \quad \square$$

**Example:**  $a = 7, p = 11$ , find  $\mu(7, 11)$

$$\frac{p-1}{2} = 5, \left\lfloor \frac{1 \cdot 7}{11} \right\rfloor = 0, \left\lfloor \frac{2 \cdot 7}{11} \right\rfloor = 1, \left\lfloor \frac{3 \cdot 7}{11} \right\rfloor = 1, \left\lfloor \frac{4 \cdot 7}{11} \right\rfloor = 2, \left\lfloor \frac{5 \cdot 7}{11} \right\rfloor = 3.$$

$$\mu(7, 11) \equiv (0 + 1 + 1 + 2 + 3) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

Also, consider the list  $7, 14 \equiv 3, 10, 6, 2, \mu(7, 11) = 3$ .

Geometric perspective:

Firstly notice that  $\left\lfloor \frac{ka}{p} \right\rfloor$  count the integers  $1 \leq m < \frac{ka}{p} = \frac{a}{p}k$ .

$\sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left\lfloor \frac{ka}{p} \right\rfloor$  = number of lattice points (integer coordinate points) inside the triangle with vertices  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(\frac{p}{2}, \frac{a}{2})$ ,  $(\frac{p}{2}, 0)$ . Write as  $T(a, p)$ .

### Theorem: 6.7: Quadratic Reciprocity

Let  $p, q$  be distinct odd primes. Then  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \frac{q-1}{2}}$ . Equivalently,  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \frac{q-1}{2}}$ . Specifically, if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  or  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $x^2 \equiv p \pmod{q}$  has a solution  $\Leftrightarrow x^2 \equiv q \pmod{p}$  has a solution; if  $p \equiv q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then  $x^2 \equiv p \pmod{q}$  has a solution  $\Leftrightarrow x^2 \equiv q \pmod{p}$  does not have a solution.

$$\text{Proof. } \left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\mu(p,q)} (-1)^{\mu(q,p)} = (-1)^{\mu(p,q) + \mu(q,p)} = (-1)^{T(p,q) + T(q,p)}$$

Now, we use symmetry from triangle argument.

$T(p, q)$  = number of interior points with  $y = \frac{p}{q}x$ .  $T(q, p)$  = number of integer points with  $y = \frac{q}{p}x$ .

The two triangles form a rectangle. Also, there is no lattice point on the diagonal, otherwise,  $p, q$  are not coprime.

$$\text{Thus } T(p, q) + T(q, p) = \text{number of interior points in the rectangle } (0, 0), \left(\frac{p}{2}, \frac{q}{2}\right) = \frac{p-1}{2} \frac{q-1}{2}. \quad \square$$

**Example:** Let  $p$  be an odd prime,  $p \neq 5$ , when is  $x^2 \equiv 5 \pmod{p}$  solvable?

*Proof.* We want to find  $\left(\frac{5}{p}\right)$ , we know by Theorem 6.7 that  $\left(\frac{5}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \frac{5-1}{2}} = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right)$ .

$$x = 1, 2, x^2 = 1, 4 \equiv -1. \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5} \\ 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{5} \end{cases} \quad \square$$

**Example:**  $p \neq 7$ , find  $\left(\frac{7}{p}\right)$

*Proof.*  $\left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{7}\right) (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \frac{7-1}{2}} = \left(\frac{p}{7}\right) (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ .

$x = 1, 2, 3, x^2 = 1, 4, 9 \equiv 2$ .  $\left(\frac{p}{7}\right) = \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \\ 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \end{cases}$ . Also,  $(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$

And we can combine the results using Theorem 2.4 □

## 6.1 Sum of Two Squares

Which primes can be written as a sum of two squares? *i.e.*  $p = x^2 + y^2, x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*e.g.* if  $p = 2, p = 1^2 + 1^2$ .

### Theorem: 6.8:

If  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p = x^2 + y^2$ , then  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

*Proof.* Check squares mod 4,  $x \equiv 0, 1, 2, 3, x^2 \equiv 0, 1, 0, 1$

so  $x^2 + y^2 \equiv 0, 1, 2 \pmod{4}$ . But  $p$  is odd, so  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . □

### Theorem: 6.9:

If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $p$  is a sum of two squares.

Recall that  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$ , so if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then there is some  $a$  with  $a^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

or equivalently,  $p|a^2 + 1$ , which we can write as  $a^2 + 1^2 = pk, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

The argument is  $x^2 + y^2 + pk, k > 2$ , then we can find  $x, y, t$  s.t.  $x^2 + y^2 = pt, 1 \leq t < k$ .

This follows from the following two facts: 1)  $(x^2 + y^2)(u^2 + v^2) = (xu - vy)^2 + (yu + vx)^2$ ; 2) if  $x^2 + y^2 = zw^2$ , then  $z$  should be a sum of two squares  $\left(\frac{x}{w}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{w}\right)^2 = z$ . The second is not literally true, because we don't always have  $w|x$  and  $w|y$ .

### Theorem: 6.10: Descent Procedure

Input: write  $A^2 + B^2 = pk, 1 \leq k < p$

1. If  $k = 1$ , then  $A^2 + B^2 = p$ , done
2. Find  $-\frac{k}{2} \leq u, v \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , with  $u \equiv A \pmod{k}, v \equiv B \pmod{k}$
3. Notice  $u^2 + v^2 \equiv A^2 + B^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$ , so  $u^2 + v^2 = kt$ , where  $1 \leq t < k$
4. Multiply  $k^2 pt = (kt)(pt) = (u^2 + v^2)(A^2 + B^2) = (vA - uB)^2 + (uA + vB)^2$
5. Notice  $k|vA - uB$  and  $k|uA + vB$ , so  $pt = \left(\frac{vA - uB}{k}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{uA + vB}{k}\right)^2$

*Proof.* 1. is fine

2. We can do this because of Division Algo (Theorem 1.1)

3.  $u^2 + v^2 \equiv A^2 + B^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$  is clear, so we can write  $u^2 + v^2 = kt$ .

$kt = u^2 + v^2 \leq \frac{k^2}{4} + \frac{k^2}{4} = \frac{k^2}{2}$ , so  $t \leq \frac{k}{2} < k$

Now we show that  $t \leq 1$ . Since  $u^2 + v^2 > 0$ , obviously,  $t \geq 0$ .

If  $t = 0$ , then  $u = v = 0, k|A$  and  $k|B$ . Since  $A^2 + B^2 = pk$ , also we have  $A = ka$  and  $B = kb$ . Then  $k^2(a^2 + b^2) = A^2 + B^2 = pk$ , then  $k|p, k = 1$  contradiction. Thus  $t \geq 1$ .

4. algebraic manipulation

5.  $vA - uB \equiv BA - AB \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$ ,  $uA + vB \equiv A^2 + B^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$

□

*Proof.* (Theorem 6.9) We can write  $a^2 + b^2 = pk$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $1 \leq k < o$ , apply Descent procedure (Theorem 6.10) until it terminates with  $p = x^2 + y^2$ . It takes  $\mathcal{O}(\log k)$  steps. □

## 7 Arithmetic Functions

### Definition: 7.1: Arithmetic Functions

An arithmetic function is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .

**Example:**  $\tau(n) = \#$  positive divisors,  $\tau(3) = 2, \tau(12) = 6, \tau(33) = 4$

For  $n > 1, \tau(n) = 2 \Leftrightarrow n$  is prime.

**Example:**  $\phi(n) = |\{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}\}^n|$  (Euler's totient function),  $\phi(3) = 2, \phi(12) = 4, \phi(33) = 30$

**Example:**  $\sigma(n) = \text{sum of all positive divisors of } n,$

$\sigma(3) = 1 + 3 = 4, \sigma(12) = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 6 + 12 = 28, \sigma(33) = 1 + 3 + 11 + 33 = 48$

**Example:**  $w(n) = \#$  prime divisors of  $n, w(3) = 1, w(12) = w(33) = 2$

1.  $w(n)$  is roughly  $\log \log n$
2.  $w(n)$  behaves like a normally distributed random variable.

### Definition: 7.2: Multiplicative Arithmetic Functions

An arithmetic function  $f$  is multiplicative if

1.  $f(1) = 1$
2. For all  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}, \gcd(n, m) = 1, f(nm) = f(n)f(m)$

### Theorem: 7.1:

Let  $f$  be multiplicative. For any  $n > 1, n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}, f(n) = f(p_1^{k_1}) \cdots f(p_r^{k_r})$ .

*Proof.* By induction that if  $m_1, \dots, m_t$  are s.t.  $\gcd(m_i, m_j) = 1, i \neq j,$  then  $f(m_1 \cdots m_t) = f(m_1) \cdots f(m_t)$ . □

**Note:**  $f(p^2) \neq f(p)^2$ .

### Definition: 7.3: Totally Multiplicative

An arithmetic function is totally multiplicative if

1.  $f(1) = 1$
2. For all  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}, f(nm) = f(n)f(m)$

### Theorem: 7.2:

Let  $f$  be totally multiplicative. For any  $n > 1, n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}, f(n) = f(p_1)^{k_1} \cdots f(p_r)^{k_r}$ .

### Lemma: 7.1:

Let  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(n, m) = 1$ . Then  $\forall d | nm, d > 0,$  there exists unique divisors  $d_1 | n, d_2 | m$  s.t.  $d = d_1 d_2$ .

*Proof.* Take  $d_1 = \gcd(d, n), d_1 | n$ . Let  $d_2 = \frac{d}{d_1}$ . Then  $d_1 d_2 = d$ . Also  $\gcd\left(\frac{d}{d_1}, \frac{n}{d_1}\right) = 1$ . So  $d_1 d_2 | nm \Rightarrow d_2 | \frac{n}{d_1} m \Rightarrow d_2 | m$ .

Suppose  $e_1|n, e_2|m$ , with  $d = e_1e_2$ , then  $d_1d_2 = d = e_1e_2$ .

Since  $\gcd(n, m) = 1$ ,  $\gcd(e_1, d_2) = 1$ , so  $e_1|d_1$ . By a similar argument,  $d_1|e_1$ . So  $d_1 = \pm e_1$ , but  $e_1 \geq d_1 > 0$ . So  $d_1 = e_1$ .

Similarly,  $d_2 = e_2$ . □

**Note:** there is a bijection  $\phi : \{\text{positive divisors of } n\} \times \{\text{positive divisors of } m\} \rightarrow \{\text{positive divisors of } nm\}$  s.t.  $\phi(d_1, d_2) = d_1d_2$ .

So if  $n, m$  are coprime, then  $\sum_{d|nm} \cdot = \sum_{d_1|n, d_2|m} \cdot = \sum_{d_1|n} \cdot \sum_{d_2|m} \cdot$ .

### Theorem: 7.3:

$\tau(n) = \sum_{d|n} 1$  and  $\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d$  are multiplicative.

*Proof.*  $\tau(1) = \sigma(1) = 1$ .

Let  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gcd(n, m) = 1$ ,  $\tau(nm) = \sum_{d|nm} 1 = \sum_{d_1|n} \sum_{d_2|m} 1 = \sum_{d_1|n} 1 \sum_{d_2|m} 1 = \tau(n)\tau(m)$

Similarly,  $\sigma(nm) = \sum_{d|nm} d = \left( \sum_{d_1|n} d_1 \right) \left( \sum_{d_2|m} d_2 \right) = \sigma(n)\sigma(m)$ . □

## 7.1 Dirichlet Series

### Definition: 7.4: Generating Series

A generating series is  $\left( \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n z^n \right) \left( \sum_{m \geq 1} b_m z^m \right) = \sum_{k \geq 1} \left( \sum_{i+j=k} a_j b_i \right) z^k$ .

### Definition: 7.5: Riemann Zeta Function

The Riemann zeta function is  $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$ .

Consider  $D(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^s}$ ,  $E(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(n)}{n^s}$ ,  $D(s)E(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{ab=n} f(a)g(b) \right) \frac{1}{n^s}$ .

We can rewrite the first term as  $\sum_{d|n} f(d)g\left(\frac{n}{d}\right)$ .

### Definition: 7.6: Dirichlet Convolution

If  $f, g$  are arithmetic functions, the Dirichlet convolution is an arithmetic function  $f * g$  s.t.  $(f * g)(n) = \sum_{d|n} f(d)g\left(\frac{n}{d}\right)$ .

**Example:** Let  $\mathbb{1}$  be s.t.  $\mathbb{1}(n) = 1, \forall n$ .

Then  $(\mathbb{1} * \mathbb{1})(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mathbb{1}(d)\mathbb{1}\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) = \sum_{d|n} 1 \cdot 1 = \sum_{d|n} 1 = \tau(n)$ .

**Example:** Let  $I(n) = n$ .

Then  $(I * \mathbb{1})(n) = \sum_{d|n} I(d) \mathbb{1}\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) = \sum_{d|n} d = \sigma(n)$ .

**Theorem: 7.4:**

Let  $f, g$  be multiplicative, then  $f * g$  is multiplicative.

*Proof.*  $(f * g)(1) = \sum_{d|1} f(d)g\left(\frac{1}{d}\right) = f(1)g(1) = 1$

Let  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gcd(n, m) = 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (f * g)(nm) &= \sum_{d|nm} f(d)g\left(\frac{nm}{d}\right) = \sum_{d_1|n} \sum_{d_2|m} f(d_1 d_2)g\left(\frac{n}{d_1} \frac{m}{d_2}\right) \\ &= \sum_{d_1|n} \sum_{d_2|m} f(d_1)f(d_2)g\left(\frac{n}{d_1}\right)g\left(\frac{m}{d_2}\right) \\ &= \sum_{d_1|n} f(d_1)g\left(\frac{n}{d_1}\right) \sum_{d_2|m} f(d_2)g\left(\frac{m}{d_2}\right) \\ &= (f * g)(n)(f * g)(m) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition: 7.7: Identity**

Let  $i(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

**Claim 1.** If  $f$  is an arithmetic function, then  $f * i = f$

*Proof.*  $(f * i)(n) = \sum_{d|n} f(d)i\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) = f(n)$

□

There is a special class of arithmetic functions  $f$  for which there is an arithmetic function  $g$  s.t.  $f * g = i$ .

**Example:** Let  $f = \mathbb{1}$ ,  $f(n) = 1$ . For  $g$  to be an inverse of  $f$ , we need  $f * g = i$  or  $(f * g)(n) = i(n)$ . *i.e.*

$$\sum_{d|n} g(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$n = 1$ ,  $g(1) = 1$ ;  $n = 2$ ,  $g(2) + g(1) = 0$  gives  $g(2) = -1$ ; similarly,  $n = 3$ ,  $g(3) + g(1) = 0$  gives  $g(3) = -1$

$n = 4$ ,  $g(4) + g(2) + g(1) = 0$  gives  $g(4) = 0$

Note  $g(n) = \sum_{d|n, d < n} g(d) = 0$ .

### Definition: 7.8: Mobius Function

$$\mu(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n \text{ is square free and has even number of prime factors} \\ -1, & \text{if } n \text{ is square free and has odd number of prime factors} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

Square free means no square divisors. i.e.  $p^t$  with  $t \geq 2$  are not divisors.

### Theorem: 7.5:

$$\sum_{d|n} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* RHS is multiplicative.  $\mu(n)$  is multiplicative and thus LHS is multiplicative. Then it suffices to check if this equality holds for  $n = p^k$ ,  $p$  prime,  $k \geq 1$ .

$$\sum_{d|p^k} \mu(d) = \sum_{j=0}^k \mu(p^j) = \mu(p^0) + \mu(p^1) = \mu(1) + \mu(p) = 1 + (-1) = 0$$

Note that anything larger will have a square divisor and  $\mu(p^j) = 0$ . □

### Theorem: 7.6: Mobius Inversion Formula

Let  $f, g$  be arithmetic functions, then

$$f(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d) \Leftrightarrow g(n) = \sum_{d|n} f(d) \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right)$$

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $f(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d)$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d|n} f(d) \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) &= \sum_{d|n} \left( \sum_{e|d} g(e) \right) \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) \\ &= \sum_{d|n} \sum_{e|d} g(e) \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) &= \sum_{e|n} g(e) \sum_{d|n, e|d} \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) \text{ (switching sums)} \end{aligned}$$

Note  $d|n, e|d \Leftrightarrow d = ed'$  and  $ed'|n$  or  $d'|\frac{n}{e}$ .

Continuing the transformation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{e|n} g(e) \sum_{d'|\frac{n}{e}} \mu\left(\frac{n/e}{d'}\right) \\ &= \sum_{e|n} g(e) i\left(\frac{n}{e}\right) = g(n) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $f = g * 1 \Leftrightarrow f * \mu = g * 1 * \mu = g * i = g$ . □

**Example:**  $\phi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) = \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \frac{n}{d} \Leftrightarrow n = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$ .

## 8 Extra Topics

### 8.1 Probability in Number Theory (Analytic Number Theory)

Q1: If I pick two positive integers  $n, m$  at random, how likely is it that they are coprime?

Q: If I pick two positive integers  $n, m$  at random from  $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ , how likely is it that they are coprime?

If we call this probability  $p_N$ , then the limit  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p_N$ , if exists, is a descent answer to Q1.

Total number of outcomes = total number of pairs  $(n, m)$  s.t.  $1 \leq n, m \leq N = N^2$

Total number of pairs  $(n, m)$  s.t.  $1 \leq n, m \leq N, \gcd(n, m) = 1 = \sum_{1 \leq n, m \leq N, \gcd(n, m) = 1} 1$

Substitute  $M = \gcd(n, m)$  into the Mobius function (Definition 7.8), we get  $\sum_{n|M} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } M = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ ,

we get  $\sum_{n|\gcd(n, m)=1} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \gcd(n, m) = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq n, m \leq N, \gcd(n, m) = 1} 1 &= \sum_{n, m \leq N} \sum_{d|\gcd(n, m)} \mu(d) \\ &= \sum_{d \leq N} \mu(d) \# \text{pairs } (n, m) \text{ s.t. } d|n, d|m, 1 \leq n, m \leq N \\ &= \sum_{d \leq N} \mu(d) \left[ \frac{N}{d} \right]^2 \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\frac{N}{d} - \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\} = \left[ \frac{N}{d} \right]$ .

Square both sides  $\left( \frac{N}{d} - \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\} \right)^2 = \left[ \frac{N}{d} \right]^2$ , we get  $\frac{N^2}{d^2} - 2 \frac{N}{d} \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\} + \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\}^2 = \left[ \frac{N}{d} \right]^2$

Since  $0 \leq \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\} < 1$ , by triangle inequality,

$$\left| -2 \frac{N}{d} \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\} + \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\}^2 \right| \leq \left| 2 \frac{N}{d} \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\} \right| + \left| \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\}^2 \right| \leq 2 \frac{N}{d} + 1 \leq 3 \frac{N}{d}$$

Then  $\left[ \frac{N}{d} \right]^2 = \frac{N^2}{d^2} + \mathcal{O} \left\{ \frac{N}{d} \right\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq n, m \leq N, \gcd(n, m) = 1} 1 &= \sum_{d \leq N} \mu(d) \left[ \frac{N}{d} \right]^2 \\ &= \sum_{d \leq N} \mu(d) \frac{N^2}{d^2} + \mathcal{O} \left( \sum_{d \leq N} \frac{N}{d} \right) \\ &= N^2 \sum_{d \leq N} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} + \mathcal{O} \left( N \sum_{d \leq N} \frac{1}{d} \right) \\ &= N^2 \sum_{d \leq N} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} + \mathcal{O}(N \log N) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
p_N &= \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{1 \leq n, m \leq N, \gcd(n, m) = 1} 1 \\
&= \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{d \leq N} \left( N^2 \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} + \mathcal{O}(N \log N) \right) \\
&= \sum_{d \leq N} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log N}{N}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $p = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p_N = \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} = \frac{6}{\pi^2}$ .

*i.e.* If we pick two positive integers  $n, m$  at random, they are coprime with probability  $\frac{6}{\pi^2}$

We know that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$ , how is that related to  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^2} = \frac{6}{\pi^2}$ ?

Consider the Dirichlet convolution (Definition 7.6),  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\mu * \mathbb{1})(n)}{n^s} = 1$ ,  
so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} = \frac{1}{\zeta(s)}$ .

**Euler's Product:** Consider

$$\begin{aligned}
\prod_p \left( \frac{1}{1 - 1/p} \right) &= \prod_p \left( 1 + \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^2} + \dots \right) = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots \right) \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots \right) \\
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}
\end{aligned}$$

This is due to the unique prime factorization of integers.

This also shows that there must be infinitely many primes, because RHS is infinite.

If  $f$  is multiplicative,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^s} = \prod_p \left( 1 + \frac{f(p)}{p^s} + \frac{f(p^2)}{p^{2s}} + \dots \right).$$

If  $f$  is totally multiplicative,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^s} = \prod_p \left( 1 + \frac{f(p)}{p^s} + \left( \frac{f(p)}{p^s} \right)^2 + \dots \right) = \prod_p \frac{1}{1 - f(p)/p^s}$$

For Mobius function,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} = \prod_p \left( 1 + \frac{\mu(p)}{p^s} + \frac{\mu(p^2)}{p^{2s}} \dots \right) = \prod_p \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p^s} \right) = \frac{1}{\zeta(s)}$$

Then,

$$\frac{6}{\pi^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^2} = \prod_p \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p^2} \right) = \text{probability } n, m \text{ are not both divisible by } p$$

Q: If I pick two positive integers  $n, m$  at random, how likely is it that  $m|n$ ?

Start with finite  $N$ ,  $q_N = \frac{\#\{(n,m) \text{ s.t. } n,m \leq N, m|n\}}{N^2}$

$$\sum_{n,m \leq N, m|n} 1 = \sum_{n \leq N} \sum_{m|n} 1 = \sum_{n \leq N} \tau(n)$$

Note that  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n \leq N} \tau(n) \approx \log N$ , so  $q_N \approx \frac{\log N}{N} \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Why the same technique won't work for the first problem?

Fix  $n$ , how many  $m \leq N$  are there with  $\gcd(n, m) = 1$ ?

**Example:**  $N = 15$ ,  $n = 4$ ,  $\phi(n) = 2$ . There are 8 such  $n$  with  $\gcd(n, m) = 1$

In each modular partition, there are exactly  $\phi(n)$  occurrence. But there are either  $\lfloor \frac{N}{n} \rfloor$  or  $\lfloor \frac{N}{n} \rfloor + 1$  different partitions. The error term cannot be ignored.

## 8.2 Fermat's Last Theorem (Algebraic Number Theory)

Find solutions to  $x^2 - y^2 = z^2$  for  $\gcd(x, y, z) = 1$ , i.e.  $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(y, z) = \gcd(x, z) = 1$ .

This means that exactly two of  $x, y, z$  are odd. WLOG, assume  $x, z$  are odd,  $y$  is even.

By difference of square  $(x - y)(x + y) = z^2$ .

Since  $x + y = x - y + 2y$ ,  $\gcd(x - y, x + y) = \gcd(x - y, 2y) = \gcd(x - y, y) = \gcd(x, y) = 1$ .

Write  $z = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$ ,  $z^2 = p_1^{2k_1} \cdots p_r^{2k_r}$ , so  $(x - y)(x + y) = p_1^{2k_1} \cdots p_r^{2k_r}$ .

As a result, there are coprime  $s$  and  $t$  s.t. 
$$\begin{cases} x - y = s^2 \\ x + y = t^2 \\ z = st \end{cases} .$$

This gives 
$$\begin{cases} x = \frac{s^2 + t^2}{2} \\ y = \frac{t^2 - s^2}{2} \\ z = st \end{cases} .$$
 So we find all possible integer solutions to  $x^2 = y^2 + z^2$ .

However, this idea can fail for  $x^3 + y^3 = z^3$ ,  $\gcd(x, y, z) = 1$

$x^3 = z^3 - y^3 = (z - y)(z^2 + zy + y^2)$ , which cannot be factored anymore in integers.

For  $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$ , we can also consider  $x^2 - (iy)^2 = z^2$  where  $i^2 = -1$ . Then  $(x - iy)(x + iy) = z^2$ .

Now, we are working with Gaussian integer  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Since  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  has unique prime factorization, this still works.

With a similar idea, we consider  $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}$ ,  $\omega^3 = 1$  with  $\omega \neq 1$ .

$x^3 - 1 = (x - 1)(x^2 + x + 1) = (x - 1)(x - \omega)(x - \omega^2)$ .

Then  $z^3 = x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)(x + \omega y)(x + \omega^2 y)$ .

Now, we work with the Eisenstein integers  $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ .

More generally, for an odd prime  $p$ , there is  $\zeta_p = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{p}}$  with  $\zeta_p^p = 1$  and  $\zeta_p, \zeta_p^2, \dots, \zeta_p^{p-1} \neq 1$ .

$z^p = x^p + y^p = (x + y)(x + \zeta_p y) \cdots (x + \zeta_p^{p-1} y)$

Now, we are in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ . As long as we can show that  $\zeta_p, \zeta_p^2, \dots, \zeta_p^{p-1}$  are coprime and there is unique prime factorization in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ , we are done.

However, it fails. Consider  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}i]$ ,  $6 = (1 + \sqrt{5}i)(1 - \sqrt{5}i) = 2 \cdot 3$  has multiple factorizations.  $x^2 + 5y^2 = (x + \sqrt{5}iy)(x - \sqrt{5}iy) = z^2$  won't work the same way.

This is the issue in Lamé's proof of Fermat's Last Theorem.

### **Theorem: 8.1: Fermat's Last Theorem**

For  $n \geq 3$ , there are no positive integer solutions to  $x^n + y^n = z^n$ .