

The problems below come from a variety of sources, including previous final exams. I may add more problems to this list over the next couple days. I will try to post solutions to at least some of them, and can post specific solutions by request.

1. Prove the following “divisibility rules.”

- (a) Prove the following famous divisibility rule for 9: a number  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of its digits is divisible by 9.
- (b) Suppose that  $n = 10m + d$ , so that  $d$  is the units digits and  $m$  is the part of the number before the units digit. Prove that  $n$  is divisibly by 7 if and only if  $m - 2d$  is divisible by 7.

2. (From 2014 final exam) Let  $p$  be an odd prime other than 5 Prove that  $\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = 1$  if and only if  $p \equiv 1, 3, 7, \text{ or } 9 \pmod{20}$ .

3. (From 2014 final exam) Let  $a, b, c$  be integers. Suppose that  $p$  is an odd prime which does not divide  $a$ .

- (a) Show the number of solutions to

$$ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

is given by  $1 + \left(\frac{b^2 - 4ac}{p}\right)$  where  $\left(\frac{\cdot}{p}\right)$  is the Legendre symbol.

- (b) Find all the solutions to  $2x^2 + 9x + 10 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ .

4. (From 2014 final exam)

- (a) Conjecture a relationship between  $\phi(n)$  and  $\phi(n^2)$ .
- (b) Prove your conjecture is true.

5. (From 2014 final exam) Suppose that  $p \geq 2$  is a prime number such that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ . Compute the following:

- (a)  $\left(\frac{p+1}{p}\right)$
- (b)  $\left(\frac{p-1}{p}\right)$
- (c)  $\left(\frac{(p-1)(p+2)}{p}\right)$

6. (From 2016 final exam) Compute each of the following:

- (a) Find  $\sigma(2000)$ , where  $\sigma(n)$  is the sum of all divisors of  $n$  (including 1 and  $n$ ).
- (b) Find the smallest positive integer which is congruent to -1 modulo 3 and 7 and which is divisible by 11.
- (c) Simplify  $7^{167} \pmod{20}$ .

7. (From the 2016 final exam) Let  $p$  be prime. Prove that the congruence  $x^3 + x \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  if has exactly three solutions  $\pmod{p}$  if and only if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

8. (from the 2017 final exam) Compute each of the following.

- (a) The two solutions to the equation  $12x + 9y = 15$  with the smallest positive  $x$ -values.

- (b) The sum of the divisors of 3000 .
  - (c) The smallest positive integer that leaves a remainder of 2 when divided by 12 , a remainder of -1 when divided by 7 and is divisible by 5 .
  - (d) A solution to  $x^{47} \equiv 11 \pmod{100}$ .
9. (from the 2017 final exam) For each of the following, either give a short proof of the statement or give a counter example.
- (a) A number is divisible by  $2^n$  if and only if its last  $n$  digits are divisible by  $2^n$ .
  - (b)  $n^3 + 1$  is composite for every natural number  $n \geq 2$ .
  - (c) If  $a = bq + r$  then  $\gcd(a, q) = \gcd(q, r)$ .
  - (d) If  $a = bq + r$  then  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(q, r)$ .
  - (e) The number  $(a - b)(a - c)(b - c)$  is even for all integers  $a, b, c$ .
  - (f) The equation  $x^2 + 3y^4 = 7z^2$  has no nonzero integer solutions.
  - (g) The equation  $(x + y)^2 = 79 + 2xy$  has no integer solutions.
10. (from the 2017 final exam) Let  $p \geq 5$  be a prime. Show that the congruence
- $$x^2 - 3y^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$
- has a nontrivial solution (that is, a solution in which  $x, y \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ) if and only if  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{12}$ .
11. (from the 2018 final exam) Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Suppose  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  is a primitive root for  $p^k$ . Prove that either  $r$  or  $r + p^k$  must be a primitive root for  $2p^k$ .