

Math 201 Class Discussion 31 October 2019

More on congruence

Fermat's Little Theorem

1. **Bezout's theorem:** For all integers, a and b , not both zero, there exist integers x and y such that $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$. For example, $\gcd(24, 30) = (-1)24 + (1)30$, $\gcd(7, 9) = (4)7 + (-3)9$.

2. **Euclid's lemma:** If p is prime and $p|ab$ then $p|a$ or $p|b$.

Proof: Suppose that p is prime but not a divisor of a and that $p|ab$.

We claim that p is a divisor of b .

Now $\gcd(p, a) = 1$ (Why?)

Bezout's theorem implies that $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \quad ax + py = 1$.

Multiplying both sides by b : $abx + bpy = b$

This implies that p is a divisor of b . (Why?)

3. Prove the more general version of Euclid's lemma: Same hypotheses except that p is assumed to be relatively prime to a (instead of requiring p to be prime). Same conclusion.

4. If $ca \equiv cb \pmod{n}$, must it follow that $a \equiv b$? (cancellation law?)

5. Suppose that c and n are relatively prime. Is the cancellation law valid?

6. Find the remainder when 7^{456} is divided by 8.

7. Find the remainder when 8^{2019} is divided by 9. Hint: consider 8^3 .

8. Find the units digit of 3^{99} .

9. Find $17^{341} \pmod{5}$.

10. Find $2^{501} \pmod{17}$

11. Find $3^{701} \pmod{80}$.

12. Find $11^{23456} \pmod{5}$.

13. Find $13^{2345} \pmod{5}$.

14. **Fermat:** If p is a prime number, then for any integer a , the number $a^p - a$ is an integer multiple of p . In the notation of modular arithmetic, this is expressed as

$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$. If a is not divisible by p , then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

15. Proof of Fermat: Consider $a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (p-1)a$. Show that these $p-1$ numbers are distinct, non-zero, and thus must consist of $\{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$. Multiply together. Then use cancellation rule.

16. Use Fermat's little theorem to show that 17 divides $11^{104} + 1$.

17. If $\gcd(a, 35) = 1$, show that $a^{12} \equiv 1 \pmod{35}$. Hint: Using Fermat, $a^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ and $a^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$.

18. If $\gcd(a, 133) = \gcd(b, 133) = 1$, show that, for $n \geq 0$, 133 is a divisor of $a^{18} - b^{18}$.

19. If $\gcd(a, 42) = 1$, prove that $163 = (3)(7)(8)$ divides $a^6 - 1$.

20. Let a, b be integers. Then $a \equiv b \pmod{6}$ if and only if $a \equiv b \pmod{2}$ and $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$

21. Find the units digit of 3^{100} by using Fermat.

22. Show that, for $n \geq 0$, 13 is a divisor of $11^{12n+6} + 1$.

- 23.** The three most recent appearances of Haley's comet were in the years 1835, 1910, and 1986. The next occurrence will be in 2061. Prove that $1835^{1910} + 1986^{2061} \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$.
- 24.** Prove that $a^7 \equiv a \pmod{42}$ for all n .
- 25.** Prove that $a^{21} \equiv a \pmod{15}$ for all n .
- 26.** If $\gcd(a, 35) = 1$, show that $a^{12} \equiv 1 \pmod{35}$. Hint: Using Fermat, $a^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ and $a^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$.
- 27.** Let a, b be integers. Then $a \equiv b \pmod{6}$ if and only if $a \equiv b \pmod{2}$ and $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$
- 28.** Find the units digit of 3^{100} .