

KFUPM

Department of Mathematics

Math 427, Exam I, Term 242.

Part I (50 points)

1. [10 points] Find all integers n such that $5n + 3 \mid 7n + 3$.
2. [10 points] Use Fermat's Factorization method to find, if possible, two nontrivial factors of the number 846319.
3. [10 points] Solve $2025x - 1446y = 6$ in integers.
4. [10 points] Find the remainder when Fermat Number $F_{100} = 2^{2^{100}} + 1$ is divided by 7.
5. [10 points] Determine whether or not $70 = 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ is a pseudoprime to the base 11.

Part II (50 points)

6. [10 points] Prove that $n + 1 \mid \binom{2n}{n}$ for any integer $n \geq 1$.
7. [10 points] Let a and b be positive integers. Let $[a, b] = m$ and write $m = a\alpha$ and $m = b\beta$ for some positive integers α and β . Prove that $(\alpha, \beta) = 1$.
8. [10 points] Prove that the following fraction is in lowest form for any integer n :

$$\frac{n^2 + n - 1}{2n^3 + n^2 - n + 1}.$$

9. [10 points] Let $p \geq 3$ be a prime number. Prove that $p \mid (p-3)! + 2^{p-2}$. **Hint:** Use Wilson's Theorem and Fermat's Theorem.
10. [10 points] Let r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{p-1} be a reduced residue system modulo a prime $p \geq 3$. Prove that

$$p \mid r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_{p-1}.$$

Good luck,

Ibrahim Al-Rasasi

Solutions

Q1: Find all integers n such that $5n + 3 \mid 7n + 3$.

Solution: Note that $7 \cdot (5n + 3) - 5 \cdot (7n + 3) = 6$. Then $5n + 3 \mid 7n + 3$ if and only if $5n + 3 \mid 6$. This implies that $5n + 3 = \pm 1$ or ± 2 or ± 3 or ± 6 . Solving, we conclude that the only possible integers are $n = -1$ and $n = 0$.

Q2: Use Fermat's Factorization method to find, if possible, two nontrivial factors of the number 846319.

Solution: As $\sqrt{846319} \approx 919.56$, we start by taking $x = 920, 921, 922, \dots$.

Now

$$x^2 - 846319 = 920^2 - 846319 = 81 = 9^2, \text{ a square.}$$

$$\text{Then } 846319 = 920^2 - 9^2 = (920 - 9)(920 + 9) = 911 \times 929.$$

Q3: Solve $2025x - 1446y = 6$ in integers.

Solution: We use the Euclidean algorithm to find $(2025, 1446)$:

$$2025 = 1446(1) + 579,$$

$$1446 = 579(2) + 288,$$

$$579 = 288(2) + 3,$$

$$288 = 3(96).$$

Thus $(2025, 1446) = 3$ and $3 \mid 6$ and hence the equation is solvable. Solving backward for the remainders we find that

$$3 = 2025(5) - 1446(7).$$

Multiplying by 2, we get

$$6 = 2025(10) - 1446(14).$$

Thus $(x_0, y_0) = (10, 14)$ is one solution of the equation. All other solutions are

$$x = 10 + \left(\frac{1446}{3}\right)t = 10 + 482t, y = 14 + \left(\frac{2025}{3}\right)t = 14 + 675t, t \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Q4: Find the remainder when Fermat Number $F_{100} = 2^{2^{100}} + 1$ is divided by 7.

Solution: Note that $2^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$. Next we divide 2^{100} by 3: $2^{100} = 3q + r$. Using congruences, $2 \equiv -1 \pmod{3}$ and so $2^{100} \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. This implies that $2^{100} = 1 + 3q$ for some positive integer q . Now we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 2^3 &\equiv 1 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow 2^{3q} \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow 2^{3q+1} \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \\ &\Rightarrow 2^{2^{100}} \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow F_{100} \equiv 3 \pmod{7}. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that the required remainder is 3.

Q5: Determine whether or not 70 is a pseudoprime to the base 11.

Solution: We need to check whether or not $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{70}$. As $70 = 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$, we have first to compute 11^{69} modulo 2, 5, and 7.

Since $11 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$, then $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$.

By Fermat's Theorem, $11^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$. As $69 = 4 \cdot 17 + 1 = 68 + 1$, then raising to the 17th power, we get $11^{68} \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$, and multiplying by 11, we get $11^{69} \equiv 11 \pmod{5}$. But $11 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$. Then $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$.

Again, by Fermat's Theorem, $11^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$. As $69 = 6 \cdot 11 + 3 = 66 + 3$, then raising to the 11th power, we get $11^{66} \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$, and multiplying by 11^3 , we get $11^{69} \equiv 11^3 \pmod{7}$. But $11^3 \equiv 4^3 = 8 \cdot 8 \equiv 1 \cdot 1 = 1 \pmod{7}$. Then $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$.

Now since $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$, $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$, and $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$, then

$$11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{[2, 5, 7]},$$

and hence $11^{69} \equiv 1 \pmod{70}$. We conclude that 70 is a pseudoprime to the base 11.

Q6: Prove that $n + 1 \mid \binom{2n}{n}$ for any integer $n \geq 1$.

Solution: Note that

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{2n}{n} &= \frac{(2n)!}{n! \cdot n!} = \frac{(n+1) \cdot (n+2) \cdots (2n-1) \cdot (2n)}{n!} \\ &= \frac{(n+1) \cdot (n+2) \cdots (2n-1) \cdot (2n)}{n \cdot (n-1)!} \\ &= \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot \frac{(n+2) \cdots (2n-1) \cdot (2n)}{(n-1)!} = \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot a,\end{aligned}$$

where a is some integer (the product of $n - 1$ consecutive integers is divisible by $(n - 1)!$). This can be written as

$$n \cdot \binom{2n}{n} = (n+1) \cdot a.$$

As $n + 1 \mid n \cdot \binom{2n}{n}$ and $(n + 1, n) = 1$, then $n + 1 \mid \binom{2n}{n}$.

Q7: Let a and b be positive integers. Let $[a, b] = m$ and write $m = a\alpha$ and $m = b\beta$ for some positive integers α and β . Prove that $(\alpha, \beta) = 1$.

Solution: Let $(a, b) = d$. As $a, b = ab$, then $md = ab$. This implies that

$$a\alpha d = ab \Rightarrow \alpha d = b,$$

$$b\beta d = ab \Rightarrow \beta d = a.$$

Now $d = (a, b) = (\beta d, \alpha d) = d(\beta, \alpha)$ and hence $(\alpha, \beta) = 1$.

Q8: Prove that the following fraction is in lowest form for any integer n :

$$\frac{n^2 + n - 1}{2n^3 + n^2 - n + 1}.$$

Solution: We need to show that $(2n^3 + n^2 - n + 1, n^2 + n - 1) = 1$. By dividing we get

$$2n^3 + n^2 - n + 1 = (n^2 + n - 1)(2n - 1) + 2n.$$

This implies that

$$(2n^3 + n^2 - n + 1, \quad n^2 + n - 1) = (n^2 + n - 1, \quad 2n).$$

Let $(n^2 + n - 1, 2n) = g$. As

$$2(n^2 + n - 1) - (2n)(n + 1) = -2,$$

then $g|2$ and hence either $g = 1$ or $g = 2$. But $n^2 + n - 1 = n(n + 1) - 1$ is odd (as $n(n + 1)$ is even). Then $g = 1$ and so the given fraction is in lowest form.

Q9: Let $p \geq 3$ be a prime number. Prove that $p|(p - 3)! + 2^{p-2}$. **Hint:** Use Wilson's Theorem and Fermat's Theorem.

Solution: By Wilson's Theorem, $(p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ implies that

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

and hence $(-1)(-2) \cdot (p - 3)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$, or

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

Multiplying both sides by 2^{p-2} gives $2^{p-1} \cdot (p - 3)! \equiv -2^{p-2} \pmod{p}$. But, by Fermat's Theorem, $2^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. So the last congruence reduces to

$$1 \cdot (p - 3)! \equiv -2^{p-2} \pmod{p},$$

and so $p|(p - 3)! + 2^{p-2}$.

Q10: Let r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{p-1} be a reduced residue system modulo a prime $p \geq 3$. Prove that

$$p|r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_{p-1}.$$

Solution: We are given that the set $T = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{p-1}\}$ is a RRS_p . Note first that the set $S = \{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$ is a RRS_p . Thus every element of T is congruent to one element of S , and no two elements of T are congruent to the same element of S :

If $r_i \equiv a \pmod{p}$ and $r_j \equiv a \pmod{p}$, where $1 \leq i < j \leq p-1$ and $1 \leq a \leq p-1$, then $r_i \equiv r_j \pmod{p}$, contradicting the given assumption that the set T is a RRS_p .

This implies that there is a one-to-one correspondence (via \equiv) between the elements of T and the elements of S :

$$\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{p-1}\} \overset{\equiv}{\leftrightarrow} \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}.$$

(Not necessarily in the same order). Thus, we have

$$r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_{p-1} \equiv 1 + 2 + \dots + (p-1) \pmod{p}.$$

Since $1 + 2 + \dots + (p-1) = \frac{p-1}{2}p$ and $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is an integer, then

$$1 + 2 + \dots + (p-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{p},$$

and hence

$$r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_{p-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{p},$$

which is the same thing as $p \mid r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_{p-1}$.