

# Solutions to Discrete Math Quiz on Number Theory

1. Find the prime factors of the following two numbers:

(a)  $252 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7$

(b) 103 is prime and therefore its only prime factor is 103.

2. Compute  $(n \bmod d)$  for the following  $n$  and  $d$ .

- $(101 \bmod 3) = 2$  because  $101 = 33 \cdot 3 + 2$
- $(101 \bmod 5) = 1$  because  $101 = 20 \cdot 5 + 1$
- $(101 \bmod 7) = 3$  because  $101 = 14 \cdot 7 + 3$
- $(101^2 \bmod 3) = 1$  because  $(101^2 \bmod 3) = ((101 \bmod 3)^2 \bmod 3) = (2^2 \bmod 3) = (4 \bmod 3) = 1$
- $(101^2 \bmod 5) = 1$  because  $(101^2 \bmod 5) = ((101 \bmod 5)^2 \bmod 5) = (1^2 \bmod 5) = (1 \bmod 5) = 1$
- $(101^2 \bmod 7) = 2$  because  $(101^2 \bmod 7) = ((101 \bmod 7)^2 \bmod 7) = (3^2 \bmod 7) = (9 \bmod 7) = 2$

3. Find, if it exists,  $(n^{-1} \bmod d)$  (inverse of  $n$  modulo  $d$ ) for the following  $n$  and  $d$ .

- $(3^{-1} \bmod 7) = 5$  because  $3 \cdot 5 = 15 = 2 \cdot 7 + 1$
- $(4^{-1} \bmod 7) = 2$  because  $4 \cdot 2 = 8 = 1 \cdot 7 + 1$
- $(5^{-1} \bmod 6) = 5$  because  $5 \cdot 5 = 25 = 4 \cdot 6 + 1$
- $(3^{-1} \bmod 6)$  does not exist because  $(n \cdot 3 \bmod 6)$  is either 0 or 3 for any integer  $n$ .

4. Compute  $\varphi(n)$  for the following  $n$ .

- $\varphi(17) = 17 - 1 = 16$
- $\varphi(25) = \varphi(5^2) = 5^2 - 5^1 = 25 - 5 = 20$
- $\varphi(35) = \varphi(5 \cdot 7) = \varphi(5)\varphi(7) = (5 - 1)(7 - 1) = 4 \cdot 6 = 24$
- $\varphi(54) = \varphi(2 \cdot 27) = \varphi(2 \cdot 3^3) = \varphi(2)\varphi(3^3) = (2 - 1)(3^3 - 3^2) = 1 \cdot (27 - 9) = 18$

5. Compute  $(n^k \bmod d)$  for the following  $n$ ,  $k$ , and  $d$ .

- $(2^{200} \bmod 3) = ((2^2)^{100} \bmod 3) = (4^{100} \bmod 3) = ((4 \bmod 3)^{100} \bmod 3) = (1^{100} \bmod 3) = 1$
- $(100^{16} \bmod 17) = 1$  by Fermat's little Theorem because 17 is prime that is not a divisor of 100.
- $(1001^8 \bmod 15) = 1$  by Euler's Theorem because  $\gcd(1001, 15) = 1$  and

$$\varphi(15) = \varphi(3 \cdot 5) = \varphi(3)\varphi(5) = (3 - 1)(5 - 1) = 2 \cdot 4 = 8$$

6. Find the greatest common divisors for the following set of numbers.

- $\gcd(64, 81) = 1$  because the only divisors of 64 are powers of 2 while the only divisors of 81 are powers of 3.
- $\gcd(18, 27, 45, 63) = 9$  because 9 divides these four numbers, 18 does not divide the other three numbers, and any number between 9 and 18 does not divide 18.

7. Find the least common multiply in the first part and answer the question in the second part.

- $\text{lcm}(18, 27, 45) = 9 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 = 270$  because 9 divides 18, 27, and 45, and the other prime factors of these numbers are 2, 3, and 5.
- $\text{lcm}(6, 8) + 3 = 24 + 3 = 27$  is the smallest integer  $n > 3$  for which  $(n \bmod 6) = (n \bmod 8) = 3$ .

8. Compute  $10! \bmod 11$ .

$$10! = 10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 10 \cdot (9 \cdot 5) \cdot (8 \cdot 7) \cdot (6 \cdot 2) \cdot (4 \cdot 3) = 10 \cdot 45 \cdot 56 \cdot 12 \cdot 12$$

$$(10! \bmod 11) = (10 \bmod 11) \cdot (45 \bmod 11) \cdot (56 \bmod 11) \cdot (12 \bmod 11) \cdot (12 \bmod 11) = 10 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = 10$$