

PROBLEM 1. 1. We see that

$$5^2 = 25 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$$

Thus by exponentiating the above congruence we get

$$(5^2)^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$$

Therefore

$$5^{21} = 5 \times 5^{20} \equiv 5 \times 1 \equiv 5 \pmod{8}.$$

2. We have that $201 = 5 \times 40 + 1$. First notice that

$$31 \equiv -2 \pmod{33}$$

Thus

$$(31)^5 \equiv (-2)^5 \equiv -32 \equiv 1 \pmod{33}$$

Now raising both sides to the 40-th power we get

$$((31)^5)^{40} \equiv (1)^{40} \equiv 1 \pmod{33}$$

3. The last two digits of any number belongs to the set $\{00, 01, 02, 03, 04, \dots, 97, 98, 99\}$. This set can be easily identified as the set of numbers modulo 100. Thus to find the last two digits 9^{30} we must find its modulo w.r.t 100. We have

$$9^5 = 59049 \equiv 49 \pmod{100}$$

Therefore

$$9^{10} = (9^5)^2 \equiv 49^2 = 2401 \equiv 1 \pmod{100}$$

Thus

$$9^{30} = (9^{10})^3 \equiv 1^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{100}$$

So the last two digits of 9^{30} are 0, 1.

PROBLEM 2. We know from the Bezout's theorem that for any integers a, b

$$\gcd(a, b) = \alpha a + \beta b$$

for some integers α, β . Note that if the $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, then we have that

$$\alpha a = -\beta b + 1$$

Thus

$$\alpha a \equiv 1 \pmod{b}$$

As a result we have that $\alpha = (a)^{-1} \pmod{b}$.

1. Using the extended Euclid's algorithm we have

$$\gcd(5, 26) = 1 = (-5)5 + (1)26$$

Thus $-5 \equiv 21 \equiv (5)^{-1} \pmod{26}$.

2. Using the extended Euclid's algorithm we have

$$\gcd(11, 36) = 1 = (-13)11 + (4)36$$

Thus $-13 \equiv 23 \equiv (11)^{-1} \pmod{36}$.

3. Using Euclid's algorithm we have

$$\gcd(14, 35) = 7 \neq 1$$

So, $14^{-1} \pmod{35}$ does not exist.

PROBLEM 3. 1. Since m is a prime number the only integers among $1, 2, \dots, m^4$ which have a factor common with m are the multiples of m . The multiples of m less than m^4 are $\{1 \cdot m, 2 \cdot m, 3 \cdot m, \dots, m^3 \cdot m\}$. Thus there are m^3 multiples of m . As a result

$$\phi(m^4) = m^4 - m^3 = m^3(m - 1).$$

2. Since p and q are prime numbers, the only positive integer factors of pq are $1, p, q$ and pq . So to find $\phi(pq)$ we must count the multiples of p, q, pq and subtract it from pq . Among the numbers $1, 2, \dots, pq$ there are $\frac{pq}{p} = q$ multiples of p and there are $\frac{pq}{q} = p$ multiples of q . Since p and q are distinct prime numbers, if for an integer number n , both p and q are factors of n then n is divisible by product of them (i.e n is divisible by pq). This means that the only number among $1, 2, 3, \dots, pq$ which is divisible by both numbers p and q is pq . Therefore,

$$\phi(pq) = pq - p - q + 1 = (p - 1)(q - 1)$$

PROBLEM 4. 1. $42 = 2 \times 3 \times 7$. We know that if m, n are relatively prime then $\phi(mn) = \phi(m)\phi(n)$. Thus $\phi(42) = \phi(2)\phi(3)\phi(7)$. And for any prime number m , $\phi(m) = m - 1$. Thus $\phi(42) = (2 - 1)(3 - 1)(7 - 1) = 12$.

2. We know from the Euler's theorem that if a, m are relatively prime then

$$a^{\phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}.$$

This implies that

$$a^{\phi(m)-1}a \equiv 1 \pmod{m}.$$

Thus $a^{\phi(m)-1} \equiv a^{-1} \pmod{m}$. In this problem since $11, 42$ are relatively prime, we have

$$11^{\phi(42)-1} = 11^{11} \equiv 11^{-1} \pmod{42}$$

using the fact that $\phi(42) = 12$. But

$$11^2 = 121 \equiv -5 \pmod{42}$$

$$11^4 \equiv (-5)^2 \equiv 25 \pmod{42}$$

$$11^6 = (11^4) \times (11^2) \equiv 25 \times (-5) \equiv -125 \equiv 1 \pmod{42}$$

$$11^{11} = (11^6) \times (11^4) \times 11 \equiv (1)(25)(11) \equiv 275 \equiv 23 \pmod{42}$$

Thus $23 \equiv 11^{-1} \pmod{42}$.

PROBLEM 5. 1. We enumerate x starting from 0 to see that $x = 5$ satisfies the congruence equation.

2. By Euler's theorem we know that $3^{\phi(17)} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$ since $\gcd(3, 17) = 1$. Therefore $3^{16} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$. Thus

$$3^{5+16} = 3^5 \times 3^{16} \equiv 5 \times 1 \equiv 5 \pmod{17}.$$

This means $x = 5 + 16 = 21$ is another solution. In fact, the same method gives us infinitely many solutions for this congruence equation.

3. This congruence equation does not have a solution for x . To prove this let us assume that there exists a number $x \geq 0$ such that $3^x \equiv 5 \pmod{15}$. This implies that 15 divides $3^x - 5$. Therefore 3 also divides $3^x - 5$ but this is not possible since 3^x is divisible by 3 but 5 is not.