

# Quadratic Reciprocity Proofs

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## Introduction

This course notebook is the collection of theorem proofs, exercises and answers from Unit 7 of the Number Theory Through Inquiry (Mathematical Association of America Textbooks).

## Theorems to Mark

### 7.1 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  not divisible by  $p$ . Then there are integers  $b'$  and  $c'$  such that the set of solutions to the congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is equal to the set of solutions to a congruence of the form  $x^2 + b'x + c' \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $p$  is a prime and let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c \in \mathbf{Z}$  with  $a$  not divisible by  $p$ . Assume that there are integers  $b'$  and  $c'$  such that the set of solutions to the congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . This implies that the value of  $ax^2 + bx + c \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Now, we know that  $p \nmid a \implies (a, p) = 1 \implies a \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . This also implies that the inverse of  $a$  exists  $a^{-1} \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Now by direct proof we can express  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} ax^2 + bx + c &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ a^{-1}(ax^2 + bx + c) &\equiv 0 \times a^{-1} \pmod{p} \\ x^2 + a^{-1}bx + a^{-1}c &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ x^2 + b'x + c' &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{where } b' = a^{-1}b, c' = a^{-1}c \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if there are integers  $b'$  and  $c'$  such that the set of solutions to the congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is equal to the set of solutions to a congruence of the form  $x^2 + b'x + c' \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ .  $\square$

### 7.8 Theorem

*Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either  $a$  or  $b$ . Then*

$$\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right).$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either  $a$  or  $b$ .

- Case 1:  $a$  and  $b$  are quadratic residues modulo  $p$ . Then by 7.7,  $ab$  is a quadratic residue. Thus by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \\ 1 &= 1 \times 1 \\ 1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- Case 2:  $a$  is quadratic residue modulo  $p$  and  $b$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ . Then by 7.7,  $ab$  is a quadratic non-residue. Thus by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \\ -1 &= 1 \times -1 \\ 1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- Case 3:  $a$  and  $b$  are quadratic non-residues modulo  $p$ . Then by 7.7,  $ab$  is a quadratic residue. Thus by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \\ 1 &= -1 \times -1 \\ 1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

□

## 7.9 Theorem (Euler's Criterion)

*Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide the natural number  $a$ . Then  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ; and  $a$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . This criterion can be abbreviated using the Legendre symbol:*

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide the natural number  $a$ .

- Case 1:  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . By definition,  $\frac{a}{p} = 1$ . Then by

direct proof,

$$\implies x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p} (\implies (x^2, p) = 1)$$

$$\implies x^{2^{\frac{p-1}{2}}} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies x^{2^{\frac{p-1}{2}}} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies x^{p-1} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

Since  $(x^2, p) = 1$ , then  $(x, p) = 1$

$$(x, p) = 1 \implies x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \quad \text{By Fermat's Little Theorem}$$

$$\implies x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies 1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies 1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies \frac{a}{p} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p} \text{ since } \frac{a}{p} = 1$$

- Case 2:  $a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ . By definition,  $\frac{a}{p} = -1$ . Then  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  has no solution. Suppose that for some integer  $x$  such that  $1 \leq x < p$ , there is  $x^{-1}$  such that  $1 \leq x^{-1} < p$  and  $x \cdot x^{-1} \equiv a \pmod{p}$ . Now since we know that  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  has no solution, this implies that  $x \neq x^{-1}$ . Therefore, by direct proof,

$$\prod_{j=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} x \cdot x^{-1} \equiv \prod_{j=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} a \pmod{p} \quad (p-1)! \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$-1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{By Wilson's Theorem}$$

$$\frac{a}{p} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

Therefore, for any natural number  $a$  while  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide  $a$ , then

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

□

## 7.16 Theorem

Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{8}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{8}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

The above can be then expressed as

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}}.$$

Then, by direct proof,

- Case 1:  $\frac{2}{p} = 1$  when 2 is a quadratic residue modulo p

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)$$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = 1$$

**By definition**

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} = 2k \quad \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$$

$$\implies p^2 = 16k + 1$$

$$\implies p^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \sqrt{1} \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$$

- Case 2:  $\frac{2}{p} = -1$  when 2 is a quadratic non-residue modulo p

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)$$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = -1$$

**By definition**

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} = 2k + 1 \quad \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$$

$$\implies p^2 = 16k + 9$$

$$\implies p^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \sqrt{9} \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$$

Therefore,

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 1 \equiv 1 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{8}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 3 \equiv 3 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

□

### 7.23 Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime congruent to 3 modulo 4. Let  $a$  be a natural number with  $1 < a < p - 1$ . Then  $a$  is quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $p - a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime congruent to 3 modulo 4. Let  $a$  be a natural number with  $1 < a < p - 1$ . Thus,  $(p, a) = 1$ . Suppose  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} && \text{By Euler's Criterion} \\ a^{\frac{4k+2}{2}} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} && p = 4k + 3, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z} \\ a^{2k+1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{2k+1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, suppose  $a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} && \text{By Euler's Criterion} \\ a^{\frac{4k+2}{2}} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} && p = 4k + 3, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z} \\ a^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} (p - a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv (p - a)^{2k+1} \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv (0 - a)^{2k+1} \pmod{p} && p \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv -1^{2k+1} a^{2k+1} \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv -1(1) \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

From this result we can conclude that  $(p-a)$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ . Now, conversely, suppose that  $(p-a)$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (p - a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ (p - a)^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ -1^{2k+1} a^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ -a^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{2k+1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Euler's Criterion,  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  when  $(p-a)$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ .  $\square$

## 7.27 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $i$  and  $j$  be natural numbers with  $i \neq j$  satisfying  $1 < i, j < \frac{p}{2}$ . Then  $i^2 \not\equiv j^2 \pmod{p}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $i$  and  $j$  be natural numbers with  $i \neq j$  satisfying  $1 < i, j < \frac{p}{2}$ . Suppose by contradiction,  $i^2 \equiv j^2 \pmod{p} \implies i^2 - j^2 \equiv (i-j)(i+j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Thus,  $p \mid (i-j)(i+j) \implies p \mid (i-j)$  or  $p \mid (i+j)$ . However, since  $1 < i, j < \frac{p}{2}$ , then  $i+j < p$  and  $|i-j| < p$  which implies that  $p$  can not divide  $(i+j)$  or  $(i-j)$ . Therefore  $i^2 \not\equiv j^2 \pmod{p}$  holds.  $\square$

## Practice Theorems from The Golden Rule: Quadratic Reciprocity

### 7.1 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  not divisible by  $p$ . Then there are integers  $b'$  and  $c'$  such that the set of solutions to the congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is equal to the set of solutions to a congruence of the form  $x^2 + b'x + c' \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$*

*Proof.* Suppose  $p$  is a prime and let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c \in \mathbf{Z}$  with  $a$  not divisible by  $p$ . Assume that there are integers  $b'$  and  $c'$  such that the set of solutions to the congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . This implies that the value of  $ax^2 + bx + c \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Now, we know that  $p \nmid a \implies (a, p) = 1 \implies a \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . This also implies that the inverse of  $a$  exists  $a^{-1} \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Now by direct proof we can express  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} ax^2 + bx + c &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ a^{-1}(ax^2 + bx + c) &\equiv 0 \times a^{-1} \pmod{p} \\ x^2 + a^{-1}bx + a^{-1}c &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ x^2 + b'x + c' &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{where } b' = a^{-1}b, c' = a^{-1}c \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if there are integers  $b'$  and  $c'$  such that the set of solutions to the congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is equal to the set of solutions to a congruence of the form  $x^2 + b'x + c' \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ .  $\square$

### 7.2 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $b$  and  $c$  be integers. Then there exists a linear change of variable,  $y = x + \alpha$  with  $\alpha$  an integer, transforming the congruence  $x^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  into a congruence of the form  $y^2 \equiv \beta \pmod{p}$  for some integer  $\beta$ .*

*Proof.* Given  $p \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ , and  $b, c \in \mathbf{Z}$ . By theorem 7.1, we know that  $x^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Now suppose that

- $p \neq 2$ . Then by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}
x^2 + bx + c &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\
4 \times (x^2 + bx + c) &\equiv 0 \times 4 \pmod{p} \\
4x^2 + 4bx + 4c + b^2 - b^2 &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\
4x^2 + 4bx + b^2 + 4c - b^2 &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\
(2x + b)^2 + 4c - b^2 &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\
(2x + b)^2 &\equiv b^2 - 4c \pmod{p} \\
y' &\equiv b^2 - 4c \pmod{p} \quad \text{let } y' = (2x + b)^2
\end{aligned}$$

Since,  $y' = 2x + b$  and  $p \nmid 2 \implies (2, p) = 1 \implies 2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , this also implies that the inverse of 2 exists  $2^{-1} \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Now let  $y = y'2^{-1} = (2x + b)(2^{-1}) = x + 2^{-1}b, \alpha = 2^{-1}b \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Then  $\alpha$  is an integer modulo  $p$ . This results to  $y^2 \equiv \beta \pmod{p}$  for some integer  $\beta = b^2 - 4c$ .

- $p = 2$ . Then either  $x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  or  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . This then implies that suppose  $x = y$  then  $y^2 \equiv \beta \pmod{p}$  for some integer  $\beta$ .

□

### 7.3 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then half the numbers not congruent to 0 in any complete residue system modulo  $p$  are perfect square modulo  $p$  and half are not.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $p \in \mathbf{Z}_p, p \neq 2$ . Then by Theorem 6.6 and 6.17, we know that every prime  $p$  has  $\phi(p - 1)$  primitive roots and that we can have a primitive root  $g$  for each  $p$  which forms a complete residue system modulo  $p$  as follows,

$$\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p - 1\} \equiv \{g^0, g, g^2, \dots, g^{p-1}\}.$$

Now since  $p \neq 2$ , then we can rewrite the above set  $\{0, 1, g^2, g^4, g^6, \dots, g^{p-3}, g^{p-1}\}$  as  $\{0, 1, g^2, (g^2)^2, (g^3)^2, \dots, g^{\frac{(p-3)}{2} \cdot 2}, g^{\frac{(p-1)}{2} \cdot 2}\}$ . This implies that there  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  numbers in the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$  that are perfect square and each odd power of  $g$  can not be a perfect square. Thus, if  $g^{2k+1}$  is perfect square then we have some  $x \in \{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$  such that  $g^{2k+1} = x^2, 0 < 2k + 1 < p - 1$ .

Now since  $x \in \{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$ , then  $x = g^i, 0 < i \leq p - 1$ . Thus we have  $g^{2k+1} = g^{2i} \implies g^{2k+1-2i} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \implies p - 1 \mid 1$ . However, this is a contradiction since  $p - 1$  is even and  $2k + 1 - 2i = 2(k + 1) - i$  is odd. So, no odd power of  $g$  is a perfect square modulo  $p$ . Since  $\{g^0, g, g^2, \dots, g^{p-1}\}$  are the result of the powers of  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$ . We can deduce that  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$  is half odd and half even. Thus, there are half the numbers not congruent to 0 in any complete residue system modulo  $p$  are perfect square modulo  $p$  and half are not. □

## 7.4 Exercise

Determine which of the numbers  $1, 2, 3, \dots, 12$  are perfect squares modulo 13. For each such perfect square, list the number or numbers in the set whose square is that number.

- $1^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{13}$
- $2^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{13}$
- $3^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{13}$
- $4^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{13}$
- $5^2 \equiv 12 \pmod{13}$
- $6^2 \equiv 10 \pmod{13}$
- $7^2 \equiv 10 \pmod{13}$
- $8^2 \equiv 12 \pmod{13}$
- $9^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{13}$
- $10^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{13}$
- $11^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{13}$
- $12^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{13}$

Thus, the numbers that are perfect squares are 1, 4, 9, 3, 12, 10.

## 7.5 Question

Can you characterize perfect squares modulo a prime  $p$  in terms of their representation as a power of a primitive prime.

*Solution.* We know that for every prime  $p$ , there are  $\phi(p-1)$  primitive roots, by Theorem 6.17. Suppose that the set of all primitive roots modulo  $p$  is  $\{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{p-1}\}$ .

Any number that is a perfect square can not be primitive root modulo  $p$  since  $a_i$  is a square of any  $x$  then  $x$  can be written as power of  $a_i \pmod{p}$ . Hence for each  $x$  (perfect square), there exists  $b_i \in \mathbf{Z}$  such that

$$a_i^{b_i} \equiv x \pmod{p} \text{ if } b_i \mid \phi(p-1).$$



## 7.6 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime. Then half the numbers not congruent to 0 modulo  $p$  in any complete residue system modulo  $p$  are quadratic residues modulo  $p$  and half are quadratic non-residues modulo  $p$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $p \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . By Theorem 6.8, we know that for every prime, there exist at least 1 primitive root modulo  $p$ . Suppose that for  $p$ , that primitive root is  $g$ . Also we know that  $(\frac{a}{p}) \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) &\equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p} \\ \left(\frac{g^k}{p}\right) &\equiv g^{k\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p} \quad \exists k \in \mathbf{Z} \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $g$  is not a quadratic residue, hence  $g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . Therefore,  $(\frac{a}{p}) \equiv (-1)^k \pmod{p}$ .

Moreover, we can suggest that

$$\sum_{a=1}^{p-1} \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \sum_{a=1}^{p-1} (-1)^k = 0.$$

Therefore, half the numbers not congruent to 0 modulo  $p$  in any complete residue system modulo  $p$  are quadratic residues modulo  $p$  and half are quadratic non-residues modulo  $p$ .  $\square$

## 7.7 Theorem

*Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either of the two integers  $a$  or  $b$ . Then*

1. If  $a$  and  $b$  are both quadratic residues modulo  $p$ , then  $ab$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ ;

*Proof.* Given that  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either of the two integers  $a$  or  $b$ . We know that  $(\frac{a}{p}) = 1$  if and only if  $(\frac{a}{p}) \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$ . Therefore,  $a \equiv x^k \pmod{p}, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$  and  $b \equiv y^k \pmod{p}$ . This implies that  $ab \equiv (xy)^k \pmod{p}$  then  $ab$  is a quadratic residue.  $\square$

2. If  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  and  $b$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ , then  $ab$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ ;

*Proof.* Given that  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either of the two integers  $a$  or  $b$ . We know that  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  and  $b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . This implies that  $(ab)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1) \pmod{p}$  then  $ab$  is a not quadratic residue.  $\square$

3. If  $a$  and  $b$  are both quadratic non-residues modulo  $p$ , then  $ab$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ .

*Proof.* Given that  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either of the two integers  $a$  or  $b$ . We know that  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  and  $b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . This implies that  $(ab)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  then  $ab$  is a quadratic residue.  $\square$

## 7.8 Theorem

*Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either  $a$  or  $b$ . Then*

$$\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right).$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide either  $a$  or  $b$ .

- Case 1:  $a$  and  $b$  are quadratic residues modulo  $p$ . Then by 7.7,  $ab$  is a quadratic residue. Thus by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \\ 1 &= 1 \times 1 \\ 1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- Case 2:  $a$  is quadratic residue modulo  $p$  and  $b$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ . Then by 7.7,  $ab$  is a quadratic non-residue. Thus by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \\ -1 &= 1 \times -1 \\ 1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- Case 3:  $a$  and  $b$  are quadratic non-residues modulo  $p$ . Then by 7.7,  $ab$  is a quadratic residue. Thus by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) \\ 1 &= -1 \times -1 \\ 1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

$\square$

## 7.9 Theorem (Euler's Criterion)

*Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide the natural number  $a$ . Then  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ; and  $a$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . This criterion can be abbreviation using the Legendre symbol:*

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide the natural number  $a$ .

- Case 1:  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . By definition,  $\frac{a}{p} = 1$ . Then by direct proof,

$$\implies x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p} (\implies (x^2, p) = 1)$$

$$\implies x^{2 \frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies x^{p-1} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies x^{p-1} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\text{Since } (x^2, p) = 1, \text{ then } (x, p) = 1$$

$$(x, p) = 1 \implies x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \quad \text{By Fermat's Little Theorem}$$

$$\implies x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies 1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies 1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$\implies \frac{a}{p} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p} \text{ since } \frac{a}{p} = 1$$

- Case 2:  $a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ . By definition,  $\frac{a}{p} = -1$ . Then  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  has no solution. Suppose that for some integer  $x$  such that  $1 \leq x < p$ , there is  $x^{-1}$  such that  $1 \leq x^{-1} < p$  and  $x \cdot x^{-1} \equiv a \pmod{p}$ . Now since we know that  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  has no solution, this implies that  $x \neq x^{-1}$ . Therefore, by direct proof,

$$\prod_{j=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} x \cdot x^{-1} \equiv \prod_{j=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} a \pmod{p} \quad (p-1)! \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$-1 \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{By Wilson's Theorem}$$

$$\frac{a}{p} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

Therefore, for any natural number  $a$  while  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p$  does not divide  $a$ , then

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

□

## 7.10 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then  $-1$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $p$  is of the form  $4k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Or, equivalently,*

$$\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}.$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $p \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Then by Theorem 7.9,  $a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod{p}$  if  $p$  does not divide natural number  $a$ . Now we know that  $p$  does not divide  $-1$ , then  $-1^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  if and only if  $-1$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . This holds if and only if the exponent  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  is an even integer which can be expressed as  $\frac{p-1}{2} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  or  $\frac{p-1}{2} \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Now by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{p-1}{2} &\equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ p &\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \implies p &= 4k+1, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $p$  is of the form  $4k+1$  for some integer  $k$  when  $-1$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ .  $\square$

### 7.11 Theorem

*Let  $k$  be a natural number and  $p = 4k+1$  be a prime congruent to 1 modulo 4. Then*

$$(\pm(2k)!)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}.$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $k$  is a natural number and  $p = 4k+1$  is a prime congruent to 1 modulo 4. By Wilson's Theorem, we know that  $(p-1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . Now suppose residue classes in the interval of  $[-2k, 2k]$ , then by Wilson's Theorem,  $(-1)^{2k}(2k)!(2k)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  or  $((2k)!)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . We also know that the negative square root of  $-1$  is also the square root of  $-1$  thus both of the following holds  $-(2k)!^2 \equiv ((2k)!)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , thus  $(\pm(2k)!)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ .  $\square$

### 7.12 Theorem (Infinitude of $4k+1$ Primes Theorem)

*There are infinitely many primes congruent to 1 modulo 4.*

*Hint: if  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$  are primes each congruent to 1 modulo 4, what can you say about each prime factor of the number  $N = (2p_1p_2 \cdots p_r)^2 + 1$ ?*

*Proof.* Assume that there are primes each congruent to 1 modulo 4,  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$ . Consider  $N = (2p_1p_2 \cdots p_r)^2 + 1$ . Let  $p$  be a prime that divides  $N$ . The prime  $p$  is relative prime to 2,  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$ , so it is not 2 and is not congruent to 1 modulo 4. But  $(2, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , so  $-1$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . This contradicts Theorem 7.9, so there cannot be finitely many primes congruent to 1 modulo 4.  $\square$

### 7.13 Lemma

Let  $p$  be a prime,  $a$  an integer not divisible by  $p$ , and  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$  the representative of  $a, 2a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}a$  in the complex residue system

$$\{-\frac{p-1}{2}, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\}.$$

Then

$$a \cdot 2a \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{p-1}{2}a \equiv (-1)^g (\frac{p-1}{2})! \pmod{p}$$

where  $g$  is the number of  $r_i$ 's which are negative.

*Hint:* It suffices to show that we never have  $r_i \equiv -r_j \pmod{p}$  for some  $i$  and  $j$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime,  $a$  an integer not divisible by  $p$ , and  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$  the representative of  $a, 2a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}a$  in the complex residue system

$$\{-\frac{p-1}{2}, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\}.$$

Suppose  $\exists i, j \in \mathbf{Z}$  where  $1 \leq i, j \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$  then with  $ia \not\equiv ja \pmod{p}$  implies that  $i - j \leq \frac{p-1}{2} < p$ . Now, suppose that  $r_i \equiv -r_j \pmod{p}$  for some  $i$  and  $j$ . Then  $ax \equiv ay \pmod{p}$  where  $r_i \equiv ax \pmod{p}$  and  $-r_j \equiv ay \pmod{p}$ , where  $-\frac{p-1}{2} \leq k, a \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ . This implies that  $p \mid (x - y)a$  but this is a contradiction since  $p \nmid a$  and  $p \nmid x - y$  since  $x - y < p$ . Therefore,  $r_i \not\equiv -r_j \pmod{p}$  for some  $i$  and  $j$ .

Thus,

$$r_1 r_2 \cdot \dots \cdot r_{\frac{p-1}{2}} = (-1)^g (1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{p-1}{2})$$

**$g$  is number of negative  $r_i$**

$$= (-1)^g (\frac{p-1}{2})! \pmod{p}$$

**Since, there are  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  and  $r_i \not\equiv -r_j \pmod{p}$**

□

### 7.14 Theorem (Gauss' Lemma)

Let  $p$  be a prime and  $a$  an integer not divisible by  $p$ . Let  $g$  be the number of representatives of  $a, 2a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}a$  in the complex system residue  $\{-\frac{p-1}{2}, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\}$ . Then

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = (-1)^g.$$

*Proof.* Given that  $p$  is a prime and  $a$  an integer not divisible by  $p$ ,  $a$  is relatively prime to  $p$ ,  $a_i \equiv \pm a_j \pmod{p}$  if and only if  $i \not\equiv \pm j \pmod{p}$ . Since  $1 \leq i, j \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ , this congruence can only hold if  $i = j$ . Therefore,  $a \cdot 2a \cdot \dots \cdot$

$\frac{p-1}{2}a \equiv (-1)^g (\frac{p-1}{2})! \pmod{p}$ , where  $g$  is the number of representatives that are negative. Since  $(\frac{p-1}{2})!$  is relatively prime to  $p$ ,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}}(-1)^g \pmod{p}$ . By Theorem 7.9,  $a$  is a quadratic residue if and only if  $(-1)^g = 1$ .  $\square$

### 7.15 Question

*Does the prime's residue class modulo 4 determine whether or not 2 is a quadratic residue? Consider the primes' residue class modulo 8 and see whether the residue class seems to correlate with whether or not 2 is a quadratic residue. Make a conjecture.*

**Conjecture.** *Let  $p$  be a prime and  $a$  an integer not divisible by  $p$ . Then the prime's residue class modulo 4 determine whether or not 2 is a quadratic residue* Incomplete

### 7.16 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then*

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{8}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{8}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

The above can be then expressed as

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}}.$$

Then, by direct proof,

- Case 1:  $\frac{2}{p} = 1$  when 2 is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)$$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = 1$$

**By definition**

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} = 2k \quad \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$$

$$\implies p^2 = 16k + 1$$

$$\implies p^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \sqrt{1} \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$$

- Case 2:  $\frac{2}{p} = 1$  when 2 is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)$$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} = -1$$

By definition

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$\implies \frac{p^2-1}{8} = 2k+1 \quad \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$$

$$\implies p^2 = 16k+9$$

$$\implies p^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \sqrt{9} \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{16}$$

$$\implies p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$$

Therefore,

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 1 \equiv 1 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{8}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 3 \equiv 3 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

□

### 7.17 Exercise

Table 1 shows  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$  for the first several odd primes. For example, the table indicates  $\left(\frac{7}{3}\right) = 1$ , but that  $\left(\frac{3}{7}\right) = -1$ . Make another table that shows when  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$  and when  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \neq \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$ .  
Done manually on book.

### 7.18 Exercise

Make a conjecture about the relationship between  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$  and  $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$  depending on  $p$  and  $q$ .

**Conjecture.** Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes, then  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$  and  $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$  if  $p$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $q$  and  $q$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . Also if  $p$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $q$  and  $p$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ .

### 7.19 Theorem (Quadratic Reciprocity Theorem-Reciprocity Part)

Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes, then

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ or } q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\left(\frac{q}{p}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

*Hint: Try to use the techniques used in the case of  $(\frac{2}{p})$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes. Suppose  $x$  is the number of pairs  $(a, b)$ ,  $1 \leq a \leq \frac{q-1}{2}$  such that  $-\frac{q}{2} < ap - bq < 0$ . Also, for each  $a$ , if there is a  $b$  for which  $ap - bq$  satisfies this pair of inequalities, then  $b$  is unique and  $0 \leq a \leq \frac{p}{2}$ . By Gauss' Lemma,  $(p | q) = (-1)^x$ .

Similarly, let  $y$  be the number of pairs  $(a, b)$ ,  $1 \leq b \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$  such that  $-\frac{p}{2} < bq - ap < 0$ . For each  $b$ , there is at most one value of  $a$  for which  $bq - ap$  satisfies this pair of inequalities, and  $0 < a < \frac{q}{2}$ . By Gauss's Lemma,  $(b | a) = (-1)^y$ . Therefore,  $(a | b)(b | a) = (-1)^{x+y}$  where  $x + y$  is the number of pairs  $(a, b)$  such that  $0 < a < \frac{q}{2}$ ,  $0 < b < \frac{p}{2}$ , and  $-\frac{2}{2} < ap - bq < \frac{p}{2}$ .

If  $(a, b)$  is such a pair, then  $(\frac{q-1}{2} - a, \frac{p-1}{2} - b)$  also satisfies these inequalities. These two pairs are distinct unless  $a = \frac{q+1}{4}$  and  $b = \frac{p+1}{4}$ , which can happen if and only if  $p \equiv q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Therefore,  $x + y$  is even unless  $p \equiv q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , in which case  $x + y$  is odd.  $\square$

## 7.20 Exercise (Computational Technique)

*Given a prime  $p$ , show how you can determine whether a number  $a$  is quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . Equivalently, show how to find  $(\frac{a}{p})$ . To illustrate your method, compute  $(\frac{1248}{93})$  and some other examples.*

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime and  $a$  be an integer such that  $p \nmid a$ .  $a$  is said to be a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if there exists some integer  $x$  such that

$$x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}.$$

We also know that the Legendre Symbol  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$  is

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

Also by definition, we know that  $(\frac{a}{p}) = 1$  if  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  and  $(\frac{a}{p}) = -1$  if  $a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ . Moreover, by the fundamental theorem of arithmetic, we can express a natural number say  $n$  as a product of primes such as  $n = p_1^{r_1} p_2^{r_2} \dots p_t^{r_t}$ . Then  $(\frac{a}{n}) = (\frac{a}{p_1})^{r_1} (\frac{a}{p_2})^{r_2} \dots (\frac{a}{p_t})^{r_t}$ . This is called Jacobi Symbol.

If  $(\frac{a}{n}) = -1$ , then  $a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $n$ . Thus,

$$\left(\frac{1248}{93}\right) = \left(\frac{1248}{31}\right) \left(\frac{1248}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{8}{31}\right) \left(\frac{0}{3}\right) = 0.$$

Therefore, 1248 is a quadratic non-residue modulo 93.  $\square$



### 7.21 Exercise

*Find all the quadratic residues modulo 23.*

$$x^2 \equiv a \pmod{23}$$

- $1^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{23}$
- $2^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{23}$
- $3^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{23}$
- $4^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{23}$
- $5^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{23}$
- $6^2 \equiv 13 \pmod{23}$
- $7^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{23}$
- $8^2 \equiv 18 \pmod{23}$
- $9^2 \equiv 12 \pmod{23}$
- $10^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{23}$
- $11^2 \equiv 6 \pmod{23}$
- $12^2 \equiv 6 \pmod{23}$
- $13^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{23}$
- $14^2 \equiv 12 \pmod{23}$
- $15^2 \equiv 18 \pmod{23}$
- $16^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{23}$
- $17^2 \equiv 13 \pmod{23}$
- $18^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{23}$
- $19^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{23}$
- $20^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{23}$
- $21^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{23}$
- $22^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{23}$

Thus the set of quadratic residue modulo 23 is  $\{1, 4, 9, 16, 2, 13, 3, 18, 12, 8, 6\}$

### 7.22 Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is a prime. Then every natural number  $a$ ,  $0 < a < p - 1$ , is either a quadratic residue or a primitive root modulo  $p$ .

*Proof.*

□

### 7.23 Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime congruent to 3 modulo 4. Let  $a$  be a natural number with  $1 < a < p - 1$ . Then  $a$  is quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $p - a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime congruent to 3 modulo 4. Let  $a$  be a natural number with  $1 < a < p - 1$ . Thus,  $(p, a) = 1$ . Suppose  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ , then

$$\begin{array}{ll} a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} & \text{By Euler's Criterion} \\ a^{\frac{4k+2}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} & p = 4k + 3, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z} \\ a^{2k+1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} & \\ a^{2k+1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} & \end{array}$$

Similarly, suppose  $a$  is a quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ , then

$$\begin{array}{ll} a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p} & \text{By Euler's Criterion} \\ a^{\frac{4k+2}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p} & p = 4k + 3, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z} \\ a^{2k+1} \equiv -1 \pmod{p} & \\ a^{2k+1} \equiv -1 \pmod{p} & \end{array}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} (p - a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv (p - a)^{2k+1} \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv (0 - a)^{2k+1} \pmod{p} & p \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv -1^{2k+1} a^{2k+1} \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv -1(1) \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

From this result we can conclude that  $(p - a)$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ .

Now, conversely, suppose that  $(p-a)$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}(p-a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ (p-a)^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ -1^{2k+1} a^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ -a^{2k+1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{2k+1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Euler's Criterion,  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  when  $(p-a)$  is quadratic non-residue modulo  $p$ .  $\square$

### 7.24 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Then  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .*

*Proof.* Given that  $p$  is a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Since  $q$  is prime, we can express  $q = 2k + 1, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Then, by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned}p &= 2q + 1 \\ p &= 2(2k + 1) + 1 & \mathbf{q = 2k + 1} \\ p &= 4k + 3 \\ p &\equiv 4k + 3 \pmod{4} \\ p &\equiv 3 \pmod{4} & \mathbf{since\ 4 \mid 4k}\end{aligned}$$

$\square$

### 7.25 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Let  $a$  be a natural number,  $1 < a < p - 1$ . Then  $a$  is a quadratic residue if and only if  $p - a$  is a primitive root modulo  $p$ .*

*Proof.* Given that  $p$  is a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. By Theorem 7.24,  $p = 2q + 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Therefore, if  $a$  is a quadratic residue, then  $p - a$  is a quadratic non-residue. The order of  $p - a$  must divide  $p - 1 = 2q$ , and therefore it must be  $1, 2, q$ , or  $2q$ . Since the only residue of order 1 is 1 and the only residue of order 2 is  $p - 1$  and  $1 < p - a < p - 1$ , the order of  $p - a$  must be  $q$  or  $2q$ . Since  $p - a$  is quadratic non-residue,  $(p - a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . Since  $\frac{p-1}{2} = q$ , the order of  $p - a$  is not  $q$ . Therefore, the order of  $p - a$  is  $2q = p - 1$ , so  $p - a$  is a primitive root.

If  $p - a$  is a primitive root, then  $(p - a)^{\frac{(p-1)}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , which implies that  $p - a$  is not a quadratic residue. Since  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $a$  must be a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ .  $\square$

### 7.26 Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime and  $a$  be an integer. Then  $a^2$  is not a primitive root modulo  $p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime and  $a$  be an integer. By contradiction, suppose  $a^2$  is a primitive root modulo  $p$ . Then,  $\text{ord}_p(a^2) = p - 1$ , by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned} (a^2)^{p-1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} && \text{By Fermat's Little Theorem} \\ (a^2)^{2(p-1)} - 1 &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ (a^{p-1} - 1)(a^{p-1} + 1) &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p$  is prime then  $p \mid (a^{p-1} - 1)$  or/and  $p \mid (a^{p-1} + 1)$ .

- Case 1: Suppose  $p \mid (a^{p-1} - 1)$ . This implies that  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \implies \text{ord}_p(a) \mid p - 1 \implies \text{ord}_p(a^2) = p - 1$  where  $p-1$  is even. Then  $\text{ord}_p(a) = p - 1 \not\Rightarrow \text{ord}_p(a^2) = p - 1$  which is a contradiction.
- Case 2: Suppose  $p \mid (a^{p-1} + 1)$ . This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} a^{p-1} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{2(p-1)} &\equiv -1^2 \pmod{p} \\ (a^2)^{(p-1)} &\equiv -1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\text{ord}_p(a) = 2(p - 1)$  which is not possible since  $(p-1, a) = 1$ .

Therefore,  $\text{ord}_p(a^2) = p - 1$  is not possible thus  $a^2$  is not a primitive root of  $p$ .  $\square$

### 7.27 Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $i$  and  $j$  be natural numbers with  $i \neq j$  satisfying  $1 < i, j < \frac{p}{2}$ . Then  $i^2 \not\equiv j^2 \pmod{p}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $i$  and  $j$  be natural numbers with  $i \neq j$  satisfying  $1 < i, j < \frac{p}{2}$ . Suppose by contradiction,  $i^2 \equiv j^2 \pmod{p} \implies i^2 - j^2 \equiv (i - j)(i + j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Thus,  $p \mid (i - j)(i + j) \implies p \mid (i - j)$  or  $p \mid (i + j)$ . However, since  $1 < i, j < \frac{p}{2}$ , then  $i + j < p$  and  $|i - j| < p$  which implies that  $p$  can not divide  $(i + j)$  or  $(i - j)$ . Therefore  $i^2 \not\equiv j^2 \pmod{p}$  holds.  $\square$

### 7.28 Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Then the complete set of numbers that are not primitive roots modulo  $p$  are  $1, -1, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, q^2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Suppose that the complete set of numbers that are not primitive roots modulo  $p$  are  $1, -1, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, q^2$ . Then, by direct proof,

- $(q+1)^2 \equiv q^2 + 2q + 1 \equiv q^2 \pmod{p}$
- $(q+2)^2 \equiv (q+1)^2 + 2(q+1) + 1 \equiv q^2 + 2 \pmod{p}$
- $(q-1)^2 \equiv q^2 - 2q + 1 \equiv q^2 + 2 \pmod{p}$
- Thus,  $(q+2)^2 \equiv (q-1)^2 \pmod{p}$
- $(q+3)^2 \equiv (q+2)^2 + 2(q+2) + 1 \equiv q^2 + 6 \pmod{p}$
- $(q-2)^2 \equiv q^2 + 4q + 1 \equiv q^2 + 6 \pmod{p}$
- Thus,  $(q+3)^2 \equiv (q-2)^2 \pmod{p}$

Now,

$$(2q)^2 \equiv 4q^2 \equiv -4q - 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Therefore,  $1, -1, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, q^2$  are the complete set of numbers that are not primitive roots modulo  $p$ .  $\square$

Alternate Proof:

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Suppose that the complete set of numbers that are not primitive roots modulo  $p$  are  $1, -1, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, q^2$ . Since for any  $a \in \{2, 3, \dots, q-1\}$  then  $(a^2)^b \equiv a^{2b} \equiv a^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$ , thus  $\text{ord}_p(a^2) = p < q$  which implies that  $a^2$  is not a primitive root modulo  $q$ .  $\square$

## 7.29 Theorem

*Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Then the complete set of numbers that are primitive roots modulo  $p$  are  $-2^2, -3^2, \dots, -q^2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $p = 2q + 1$  where  $q$  is an odd prime. Suppose the complete set of numbers that are primitive roots modulo  $p$  are  $-2^2, -3^2, \dots, -q^2$ . Then  $p$  is odd prime so for any  $a \in \{2, 3, \dots, q-1\}$ . Now  $(-a)^2 p \equiv -1 \pmod{q}$  so  $-a^2$  is a primitive root modulo  $p$ .

Now, we must prove that the set  $-2^2, -3^2, \dots, -q^2$  contains all primitive roots and the set  $1, -1, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, q^2$  contains all non-primitive roots (By Theorem 7.28). If we prove that the union of both these sets forms  $\mathbf{Z}_q$ . Then we are done. Now note that for  $a \neq b$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \implies a^2 &\equiv b^2 \pmod{q} & a, b &\in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, q-1\} \\ \implies a &\equiv -b \pmod{q} \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\{1^2, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, (q-1)^2\} = \frac{q-1}{2} = p.$$

Similarly,

$$\{-2^2, -3^2, \dots, -(q-1)^2\} = p-1.$$

Thus, all sets are disjoint. Therefore, the complete set of numbers that are primitive roots modulo are  $-2^2, -3^2, \dots, -q^2$ .  $\square$

### 7.30 Exercise

*Verify that the primitive roots modulo 23 that we listed earlier in this section are in fact the same as those given by Miller's Theorem.*

- $1^2 \equiv 22^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{23}$
- $2^2 \equiv 21^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{23}$
- $3^2 \equiv 20^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{23}$
- $4^2 \equiv 19^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{23}$
- $5^2 \equiv 18^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{23}$
- $6^2 \equiv 17^2 \equiv 13 \pmod{23}$
- $7^2 \equiv 16^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{23}$
- $8^2 \equiv 15^2 \equiv 18 \pmod{23}$
- $9^2 \equiv 14^2 \equiv 12 \pmod{23}$
- $10^2 \equiv 13^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{23}$
- $11^2 \equiv 12^2 \equiv 6 \pmod{23}$

Thus the set of quadratic residue modulo 23 is  $\{1, 4, 9, 16, 2, 13, 3, 18, 12, 8, 6\}$

### 7.31 Exercise

*List the primitive roots and quadratic residues modulo 47.*

- $1^2 \equiv 46^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{47}$
- $2^2 \equiv 45^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{47}$
- $3^2 \equiv 44^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{47}$
- $4^2 \equiv 43^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{47}$
- $5^2 \equiv 42^2 \equiv 25 \pmod{47}$
- $6^2 \equiv 41^2 \equiv 36 \pmod{47}$
- $7^2 \equiv 40^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{47}$
- $8^2 \equiv 39^2 \equiv 17 \pmod{47}$

- $9^2 \equiv 38^2 \equiv 34 \pmod{47}$
- $10^2 \equiv 37^2 \equiv 6 \pmod{47}$
- $11^2 \equiv 36^2 \equiv 27 \pmod{47}$
- $12^2 \equiv 35^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{47}$
- $13^2 \equiv 34^2 \equiv 28 \pmod{47}$
- $14^2 \equiv 33^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{47}$
- $15^2 \equiv 32^2 \equiv 37 \pmod{47}$
- $16^2 \equiv 31^2 \equiv 21 \pmod{47}$
- $17^2 \equiv 30^2 \equiv 7 \pmod{47}$
- $18^2 \equiv 29^2 \equiv 42 \pmod{47}$
- $19^2 \equiv 28^2 \equiv 32 \pmod{47}$
- $20^2 \equiv 27^2 \equiv 24 \pmod{47}$
- $21^2 \equiv 26^2 \equiv 18 \pmod{47}$
- $22^2 \equiv 25^2 \equiv 14 \pmod{47}$
- $23^2 \equiv 24^2 \equiv 12 \pmod{47}$

Thus the set of quadratic residue modulo 23 is

$$\{1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 2, 17, 34, 6, 27, 3, 28, 8, 37, 21, 7, 42, 32, 24, 18, 14, 12\}$$

### 7.32 Blank Paper Exercise

- Quadratic Congruences
- Quadratic Residues
- Legendre Symbol
- Euler's Criterion
- Gauss' Lemma
- Quadratic Reciprocity
- Sophie Germain

## Diagramming Numbers Modulo a Prime

### 7.1.1 Exercise

Construct squaring diagrams similar to that of Figure 7.1 for all primes up to  $p = 31$  by hand.

### 7.1.2 Theorem

Let  $p$  be prime. For  $0 \leq a \leq p$ , the only solutions to the congruence  $a^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  are  $a = 0$  and  $a = p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be prime. For  $0 \leq a \leq p$ , the only solutions to the congruence  $a^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  are  $a = 0$  and  $a = p$ . Since  $p \nmid a$  when  $0 \leq a \leq p$ .  $\square$

### 7.1.3 Theorem

Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $a, b$  be integers,  $1 \leq a < b < p$ , such that  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{p}$ . Then  $a + b = p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $a, b$  be integers,  $1 \leq a < b < p$ , such that  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{p}$ . Then by direct proof,

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 &\equiv b^2 \pmod{p} \\ a &\equiv b \pmod{p} \\ a + b &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Then,  $p \mid a + b \implies a + b = kp, \exists k \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Thus,  $a + b = p$ .  $\square$

### 7.1.4 Exercise

Denote the tree rooted at 1 in the squaring diagram as  $T_1$ .

### 7.1.5 Theorem

Let  $p = 2^k m + 1$ , with  $m$  an odd prime.

*Proof.* Suppose prime  $p$  such that  $p = 2^k m + 1$ , with  $m$  an even prime. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 2^k(2) + 1 \\ p &= 2^{k+1} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Now by Fermat's Little Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} a^{p-1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \\ a^{2^k} &\equiv 1^{0.5} \pmod{p} \\ a^{2^k} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $m$  must be odd.  $\square$



### 7.1.6 Theorem

*If  $p$  is a Fermat prime, the squaring diagram for  $p$  consists of the single binary tree  $T_1$ .*

### 7.1.7 Theorem

*Let  $p = 2^k m + 1$  be prime.*

### 7.1.8 Question

*For  $p$  prime, can you make a conjecture about cycle periods in the squaring diagram?*

### 7.1.9 Question

*What conjecture can you make about the relation of the squaring diagram for a prime  $p$  and for the composite number  $2p$ ?*