

**4.6 Theorem.** Let  $a, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(a, n) = 1$ . Then there exists a natural number  $k$  such that  $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $a, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(a, n) = 1$  be given. By Theorem 4.2,  $(a^k, n) = 1$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . By Theorem 2.32 and letting  $n = a^k - 1$ , we find that  $(a^k, a^k - 1) = 1$ . Now observing  $n(1) = a^k - 1$ , we find  $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .  $\square$