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HW 15: 3.8-3.10

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**3.8 Theorem.** Suppose  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  is a polynomial of degree  $n > 0$  with integer coefficients. Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $m$  be integers with  $m > 0$ . If  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , then  $f(a) \equiv f(b) \pmod{m}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $f(x) = c_n x^n + c_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + c_0$  is a polynomial of degree  $n > 0$  with integer coefficients. Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $m$  be integers with  $m > 0$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ . We will show  $f(a) \equiv f(b) \pmod{m}$ . First, since  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , we know that  $a^k \equiv b^k \pmod{m}$  for any integer  $k$  by theorem blah. Combining with theorem blah, we can see that for each term in  $f$ ,  $c_{n-j} a^{n-j} \equiv c_{n-j} b^{n-j} \pmod{m}$ , where  $j$  is some integer such that  $0 \leq j \leq n$ . Now, by theorem blah, since  $c_n a^n \equiv c_n b^n \pmod{m}$  and  $c_{n-1} a^{n-1} \equiv c_{n-1} b^{n-1} \pmod{m}$ , we have that  $c_n a^n + c_{n-1} a^{n-1} \equiv c_n b^n + c_{n-1} b^{n-1} \pmod{m}$ . By theorem blah again,  $c_n a^n + c_{n-1} a^{n-1} + c_{n-2} a^{n-2} \equiv c_n b^n + c_{n-1} b^{n-1} + c_{n-2} b^{n-2} \pmod{m}$ . We can apply this same logic for each term in  $f(x)$  to show that  $f(a) \equiv f(b) \pmod{m}$ .  $\square$

**3.9 Corollary.** Let the natural number  $n$  be expressed in base 10 as

$$n = a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0.$$

Let  $m = a_k + a_{k-1} + \dots + a_1 + a_0$ . Then  $9 \mid n$  if and only if  $9 \mid m$ .

*Proof.* Let the natural number  $n$  be expressed in base 10 as

$$n = a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0.$$

Let  $m = a_k + a_{k-1} + \dots + a_1 + a_0$ . We will show that  $9 \mid n$  if and only if  $9 \mid m$ .

Let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 x^0$ . We can now express  $n$  as  $f(10)$  and  $m$  as  $f(1)$ . Since  $10 - 1 = 9$ , by definition of congruence mod  $n$  we have that  $10 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$ . So by theorem 3.8,  $f(10) \equiv f(1) \pmod{9}$ , or equivalently,  $n \equiv m \pmod{9}$ . Therefore by definition of congruence mod  $n$ ,  $9 \mid n - m$ .

First, assume that  $9 \mid m$ . In this case,  $9 \mid m$  and  $9 \mid n - m$ , so by theorem 1.1?  $9 \mid m + (n - m)$ , that is  $9 \mid n$ .

Now assume that  $9 \mid n$ . In this case,  $9 \mid n$  and  $9 \mid n - m$ , so by theorem 1.2?  $9 \mid n - (n - m)$ , that is  $9 \mid m$ .

Therefore  $9 \mid n$  if and only if  $9 \mid m$ . □

**3.10 Corollary.** *Let the natural number  $n$  be expressed in base 10 as*

$$n = a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0.$$

*If  $m = a_k + a_{k-1} + \dots + a_1 + a_0$ . Then  $3 \mid n$  if and only if  $3 \mid m$ .*

*Proof.* Let the natural number  $n$  be expressed in base 10 as

$$n = a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0.$$

If  $m = a_k + a_{k-1} + \dots + a_1 + a_0$ . We will show that  $3 \mid n$  if and only if  $3 \mid m$ .

Let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 x^0$ . We can now express  $n$  as  $f(10)$  and  $m$  as  $f(1)$ . Since  $10 - 1 = 9$  and  $3 \mid 9$ , by definition of congruence mod  $n$  we have that  $10 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . So by theorem 3.8,  $f(10) \equiv f(1) \pmod{3}$ , or equivalently,  $n \equiv m \pmod{3}$ . Therefore by definition of congruence mod  $n$ ,  $3 \mid n - m$ .

First, assume that  $3 \mid m$ . In this case,  $3 \mid m$  and  $3 \mid n - m$ , so by theorem 1.1?  $3 \mid m + (n - m)$ , that is  $3 \mid n$ .

Now assume that  $3 \mid n$ . In this case,  $3 \mid n$  and  $3 \mid n - m$ , so by theorem 1.2?  $3 \mid n - (n - m)$ , that is  $3 \mid m$ .

Therefore  $3 \mid n$  if and only if  $3 \mid m$ . □