

Finally, we present a theorem that can be used to reduce the work in identifying whether a given integer, n , is prime. In it we show that we need only attempt to divide n by all the primes $p \leq \sqrt{n}$. If none of these is a divisor, then n must itself be prime.

Theorem:

If $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ is composite, then n has a prime divisor p such that $p \leq \sqrt{n}$.

Proof:

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ be composite.

$\therefore n = ab$ where $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $n > a > 1$ and $n > b > 1$.

If $a > \sqrt{n}$ and $b > \sqrt{n}$, then $ab > n$, which is a contradiction.

\therefore at least one of a or b must be $\leq \sqrt{n}$.

Without loss of generality, suppose $a \leq \sqrt{n}$.

Since $a > 1$, there exists a prime p such that $p \mid a$. {Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic}

But $a \mid n$, so $p \mid n$. $\{p \mid a \text{ and } a \mid n \Rightarrow p \mid n\}$

Since $p \leq a \leq \sqrt{n}$, n has a prime divisor p such that $p \leq \sqrt{n}$.

EXERCISE 1E

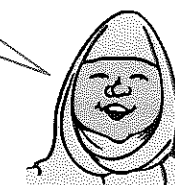
- 1 Determine which of the following are primes:
a 143 b 221 c 199 d 223
- 2 Prove that 2 is the only even prime.
- 3 Which of the following repunits is prime?
a 11 b 111 c 1111 d 11111
- 4 Show that if p and q are primes and $p \mid q$, then $p = q$.
- 5 $2^8 \times 3^4 \times 7^2$ is a perfect square. It equals $(2^4 \times 3^2 \times 7)^2$.
a Prove that:
i all the powers in the prime-power factorisation of $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ are even $\Leftrightarrow n$ is a square
ii given $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, the number of factors of n is odd $\Leftrightarrow n$ is a square.
b Hence prove that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.
- 6 a Prove that if $a, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $n \geq 2$ and $a^n - 1$ is prime, then $a = 2$.
b **Hint:** Consider $1 + a + a^2 + \dots + a^{n-1}$ and its sum.
c It is claimed that $2^n - 1$ is always prime for $n \geq 2$. Is the claim true?
d It is claimed that $2^n - 1$ is always composite for $n \geq 2$. Is the claim true?
e If n is prime, is $2^n - 1$ always prime? Explain your answer.

Primes of the form $2^n - 1$ are called **Mersenne primes**.



- 7 Find the prime factorisation of:
a 9555 b 989 c 9999 d 111111
- 8 Which positive integers have exactly:
a three positive divisors b four positive divisors?
- 9 a Find all prime numbers which divide 50!
b How many zeros are at the end of 50! when written as an integer?
c Find all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n!$ ends in exactly 74 zeros.
- 10 Given that p is prime, prove that:
a $p \mid a^n \Rightarrow p^n \mid a^n$ b $p \mid a^2 \Rightarrow p \mid a$ c $p \mid a^n \Rightarrow p \mid a$
- 11 There are infinitely many primes, and 2 is the only even prime.
a Explain why the form of odd primes can be $4n + 1$ or $4n + 3$.
b Prove that there are infinitely many primes of the form $4n + 3$.

There are also infinitely many primes of the form $4n + 1$, but the proof is beyond the scope of this course.



- 12 The **Fermat primes** are primes of the form $2^{2^n} + 1$.
a Find the first four Fermat primes.
b Fermat conjectured that all such numbers were prime whenever n was prime. By examining the case $n = 5$, show that Fermat was incorrect.

RESEARCH

- The first two **perfect numbers** are 6 and 28. Research how these numbers are connected to the Mersenne primes of the form $2^n - 1$.
- The repunits R_k are prime only if k is prime, and even then only rarely. Thus far, the only prime repunits discovered are $R_2, R_{19}, R_{23}, R_{317}$, and R_{1031} . Research a proof that a repunit R_k may only be prime if k is prime.

In 1 to 25 there are 6 factors of 5
 In 26 to 50 there are 6
 In 51 to 75 there are 6
 In 76 to 100 there are 6
 In 101 to 125 there are 7 {125 has 3 factors of 5}
 $\frac{31}{62}$
 In 126 to 250 there are 31
 $\frac{62}{74}$
 In 251 to 300 there are 12

\therefore we have 74 ending zeros for
 300!, 301!, 302!, 303!, 304!

10 a By the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic,
 $a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} p_3^{a_3} \dots p_k^{a_k}$
 $\therefore a^n = p_1^{na_1} p_2^{na_2} p_3^{na_3} \dots p_k^{na_k}$
 So, if $p \mid a^n$, then p is one of the p_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, k$)
 $\Rightarrow p^n \mid a^n$

b $a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} p_3^{a_3} \dots p_k^{a_k}$
 {Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic}

$\therefore a^2 = p_1^{2a_1} p_2^{2a_2} p_3^{2a_3} \dots p_k^{2a_k}$
 So, if $p \mid a^2$, then p is one of the p_i
 $\Rightarrow p \mid a$

c $a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} p_3^{a_3} \dots p_k^{a_k}$
 $\therefore a^n = p_1^{na_1} p_2^{na_2} p_3^{na_3} \dots p_k^{na_k}$
 So, if $p \mid a^n$, then p is one of the p_i
 $\Rightarrow p \mid a$

11 a All integers have form $4n$, $4n+1$, $4n+2$, or $4n+3$
 where $4n$ and $4n+2$ are composites (they are even).
 \therefore all odd primes must have form $4n+1$ or $4n+3$.

b Suppose there are a finite number of primes of the form
 $4n+3$ and these are $p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, \dots, p_k$ where
 $p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < p_4 < \dots < p_k$.

Now consider $N = 4(p_1 p_2 p_3 \dots p_k) + 3$ which is of the
 form $4n+3$.

If N is a prime number, then p_k is not the largest prime of
 the form $4n+3$.

If N is composite, then it must contain prime factors of the
 form $4n+1$ or $4n+3$.

But N cannot contain only prime factors of the form $4n+1$
 since the product of such numbers is not of the form $4n+3$.

This is shown by: $(4n_1+1)(4n_2+1)$
 $= 16n_1 n_2 + 4n_1 + 4n_2 + 1$
 $= 4(4n_1 n_2 + n_1 + n_2) + 1$.

Hence, N must contain a prime factor of the form $4n+3$.
 Since $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_k$ are not factors of N , there exists
 another prime factor of the form $4n+3$.

This is a contradiction.

So, there are infinitely many primes of the form $4n+3$.

12 a If $n=1$, $2^{2^1}+1=5$, a prime.
 If $n=2$, $2^{2^2}+1=2^4+1=17$, a prime.
 If $n=3$, $2^{2^3}+1=2^8+1=257$, a prime.
 If $n=4$, $2^{2^4}+1=2^{16}+1=65537$, a prime.

b If $n=5$, $2^{2^5}+1=4294967297$
 $= 641 \times 6700417$

{using a prime factors calculator via the internet}
 \therefore Fermat's conjecture was incorrect.

EXERCISE 1F.1

i a, b are congruent (mod 7) $\Leftrightarrow a \equiv b \pmod{7}$
 $\Leftrightarrow 7 \mid a-b$

a $15-1=14$ and $7 \mid 14$

$\therefore 1, 15$ are congruent (mod 7)

b $8-(-1)=9$ and $7 \nmid 9$

$\therefore -1, 8$ are not congruent (mod 7)

c $99-2=97$ and $7 \nmid 97$

$\therefore 2, 99$ are not congruent (mod 7)

d $699-(-1)=700$ and $7 \mid 700$

$\therefore -1, 699$ are congruent (mod 7)

2 a $29-7=22$ and 22 has factors 1, 2, 11, 22.

$\therefore m=1, 2, 11, 22$.

b $100-1=99$ and 99 has factors 1, 3, 9, 11, 33, 99.

$\therefore m=1, 3, 9, 11, 33, 99$.

c $53-0=53$ which is a prime with factors 1, 53.

$\therefore m=1, 53$.

d $61-1=60$ which has factors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15,
 20, 30, 60.

$\therefore m=1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, 60$.

3 a $2^{28} = (2^3)^9 \times 2$

$\equiv 1 \times 2 \pmod{7}$ { $2^3 = 8 \equiv 1$ }

$\equiv 2 \pmod{7}$

b $10 \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$ { $10-3=7=1 \times 7$ }

$\therefore 10^{33} \equiv 3^{33} \pmod{7}$

$\equiv (3^3)^{11} \pmod{7}$

$\equiv (-1)^{11} \pmod{7}$ { $3^3 = 27 \equiv -1$ }

$\equiv -1 \pmod{7}$

$\equiv 6 \pmod{7}$

c $3^{50} = (3^3)^{16} \times 3^2$

$\equiv (-1)^{16} \times 2 \pmod{7}$ { $3^3 = 27 \equiv -1$ }

$\equiv 2 \pmod{7}$

d $41 \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$ { $41-(-1)=42=6 \times 7$ }

$\therefore 41^{23} \equiv (-1)^{23} \pmod{7}$

$\equiv -1 \pmod{7}$

$\equiv 6 \pmod{7}$

4 a $2^{28} = (2^5)^5 \times 2^3$

$\equiv (-5)^5 \times 8 \pmod{37}$ { $2^5 = 32 \equiv -5$ }

$\equiv (-5)^2 \times (-5)^2 \times (-5) \times 8 \pmod{37}$

$\equiv -12 \times -12 \times -40 \pmod{37}$

$\equiv -12 \times -12 \times -3 \pmod{37}$ { $(-5)^2 = 25 \equiv -12$ }

$\equiv -12 \times 36 \pmod{37}$

$\equiv -12 \times -1 \pmod{37}$

$\equiv 12 \pmod{37}$

b $3^{65} = (3^3)^{21} \times 3^2$

$\equiv 1^{21} \times 9 \pmod{13}$ { $3^3 = 27 \equiv 1$ }

$\equiv 9 \pmod{13}$

c $7^{44} = (7^2)^{22}$

$\equiv 5^{22} \pmod{11}$ { $7^2 = 49 \equiv 5$ }

$\equiv (5^2)^{11} \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 3^{11} \pmod{11}$ { $5^2 = 25 \equiv 3$ }

$\equiv (3^2)^5 \times 3 \pmod{11}$

$\equiv (-2)^5 \times 3 \pmod{11}$ { $3^2 = 9 \equiv -2$ }

$\equiv -32 \times 3 \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 1 \times 3 \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 3 \pmod{11}$

5 a $53 \equiv 14 \pmod{39}$ and $103 \equiv -14 \pmod{39}$

$\therefore 53^{103} + 103^{53} \pmod{39}$

$\equiv 14^{103} + (-14)^{53} \pmod{39}$

$\equiv 14^{103} - 14^{53} \pmod{39}$

$\equiv 14^{53}(14^{50} - 1) \pmod{39}$

$\equiv 14^{53}[(14^2)^{25} - 1] \pmod{39}$

$\equiv 14^{53}[1^{25} - 1] \pmod{39}$ { $14^2 = 196 \equiv 1$ }

$\equiv 0 \pmod{39}$

Thus $53^{103} + 103^{53}$ is divisible by 39.

b $333 \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$ and $111 \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$

$\therefore 333^{111} + 111^{333} \pmod{7}$

$\equiv 4^{111} + (-1)^{333} \pmod{7}$

$\equiv [(4^2)^{55} \times 4 - 1] \pmod{7}$

$\equiv [2^{55} \times 2^2 - 1] \pmod{7}$ { $4^2 = 16 \equiv 2$ }

$\equiv [2^{57} - 1] \pmod{7}$

$\equiv [(2^3)^{19} - 1] \pmod{7}$

$\equiv [1^{19} - 1] \pmod{7}$ { $2^3 = 8 \equiv 1$ }

$\equiv 0 \pmod{7}$

$\therefore 333^{111} + 111^{333}$ is divisible by 7.

6 $2^{100} + 3^{100}$

$= (2^2)^{50} + (3^4)^{25}$

$\equiv (-1)^{50} + 1^{25} \pmod{5}$ { $2^2 = 4 \equiv -1$; $3^4 = 81 \equiv 1$ }

$\equiv 1 + 1 \pmod{5}$

$\equiv 2 \pmod{5}$

\therefore the remainder when $2^{100} + 3^{100}$ is divided by 5 is 2.

7 $203 \equiv 3 \pmod{100}$

$\therefore 203^{20} \equiv 3^{20} \pmod{100}$

$\equiv (3^4)^5 \pmod{100}$

$\equiv (-19)^5 \pmod{100}$ { $3^4 = 81 \equiv -19$ }

$\equiv 361 \times 361 \times -19 \pmod{100}$

$\equiv -39 \times -39 \times -19 \pmod{100}$

$\equiv 1521 \times -19 \pmod{100}$

$\equiv 21 \times -19 \pmod{100}$

$\equiv -399 \pmod{100}$

$\equiv 1 \pmod{100}$

\therefore last two digits are 01.

8 a $5! = 120 \equiv 0 \pmod{20}$

$\therefore k! \equiv 0 \pmod{20}$ for all $k \geq 5$

$\therefore \sum_{k=1}^{50} k! \pmod{20} \equiv (1! + 2! + 3! + 4!) \pmod{20}$

$\equiv 1 + 2 + 6 + 24 \pmod{20}$

$\equiv 33 \pmod{20}$

$\equiv 13 \pmod{20}$

b $7! = 5040 \equiv 0 \pmod{42}$

$\therefore k! \equiv 0 \pmod{42}$ for all $k \geq 7$

$\therefore \sum_{k=1}^{50} k! \pmod{42}$
 $\equiv (1! + 2! + 3! + 4! + 5! + 6!) \pmod{42}$
 $\equiv 873 \pmod{42}$
 $\equiv 33 \pmod{42}$

c 4×3 is contained in $10!$

$\therefore 10! \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$

$\therefore k! \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ for all $k \geq 10$

$\therefore \sum_{k=10}^{100} k! \pmod{12} \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$

d 2×5 is contained in $5!$

$\therefore 5! \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$

$\therefore k! \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$ for all $k \geq 5$.

Now $\sum_{k=4}^{30} k! = 4! + \sum_{k=5}^{30} k!$
 $\equiv 24 + 0 \pmod{10}$
 $\equiv 4 \pmod{10}$

9 a i $5^{10} \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 25^5 \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 3^5 \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 1 \pmod{11}$

ii $3^{12} \pmod{13}$

$\equiv (3^3)^4 \pmod{13}$

$\equiv 27^4 \pmod{13}$

$\equiv 1^4 \pmod{13}$

$\equiv 1 \pmod{13}$

iii $2^{18} \pmod{19}$

$\equiv (2^4)^{4.5} \pmod{19}$

$\equiv 16^4 \times 4 \pmod{19}$

$\equiv (-3)^4 \times 4 \pmod{19}$

$\equiv 81 \times 4 \pmod{19}$

$\equiv 5 \times 4 \pmod{19}$

$\equiv 1 \pmod{19}$

iv $7^{16} \pmod{17}$

$\equiv (7^2)^8 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv 49^8 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv (-2)^8 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv 2^8 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv (2^4)^2 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv 16^2 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv (-1)^2 \pmod{17}$

$\equiv 1 \pmod{17}$

b Conjecture: (from a)

For $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. n may have to be prime.

c i $4^{11} \pmod{12}$

$\equiv (4^3)^3 \times 4^2 \pmod{12}$

$\equiv 64^3 \times 16 \pmod{12}$

$\equiv 4^3 \times 4 \pmod{12}$

$\equiv 4 \times 4 \pmod{12}$

$\equiv 16 \pmod{12}$

$\equiv 4 \pmod{12}$

ii $5^8 \pmod{9}$

$\equiv (5^2)^4 \pmod{9}$

$\equiv (-2)^4 \pmod{9}$

$\equiv 16 \pmod{9}$

$\equiv 7 \pmod{9}$

iii $33^{10} \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 0^{10} \pmod{11}$

$\equiv 0 \pmod{11}$

iv $34^{16} \pmod{17}$

$\equiv 0^{16} \pmod{17}$

$\equiv 0 \pmod{17}$

d New conjecture: based on c examples.

For $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, and p