# **Properties of Powers of 3**

### **Key Concepts:**

- Powers of 3
- Modular arithmetic
- Decimal representation
- Odd digits
- Divisibility rules

#### **Important Definitions:**

- Modular arithmetic: A system of arithmetic for integers, where numbers 'wrap around' upon reaching a certain value (modulus).
- Decimal representation: The way a number is represented in base 10.

### **Examples:**

- The powers of 3 modulo 20:  $3^1 = 3$ ,  $3^2 = 9$ ,  $3^3 = 7$ ,  $3^4 = 1$
- The decimal representation of 3<sup>4</sup>: 81

#### **Introduction to Modular Arithmetic**

- Understanding the concept of modular arithmetic
- Applying modular arithmetic to powers of 3

## **Analyzing Decimal Representation**

- Understanding how numbers are represented in decimal
- Relating decimal representation to modular arithmetic

#### **Summary:**

This problem involves showing that powers of 3 (with  $n \ge 3$ ) cannot have only odd digits in their decimal representation, using modular arithmetic and properties of

powers of 3.