

# Euler's Theorem

First, we'll define a new function called the Euler phi-function or the Euler totient-function,  $\phi(n)$ . If  $n$  is a positive integer, then  $\phi(n)$  represents the number of positive integers not exceeding  $n$  that are relatively prime to  $n$ . You should verify that  $\phi(8) = 4$ .

**Theorem 4.1 Euler's Theorem:** If  $m$  is a positive integer and  $a$  is a positive integer with  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ , then  $a^{\phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ .

1. Find  $\phi(n)$  for the following integers.

(a) 7

The following numbers are relatively prime to 7: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Therefore,  $\phi(7) = 6$ .

(b) 10

The following numbers are relatively prime to 10: 1, 3, 7, 9. Therefore,  $\phi(10) = 4$ .

(c) 11

The following numbers are relatively prime to 11: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Therefore,  $\phi(11) = 10$ .

(d) 16

The following numbers are relatively prime to 16: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15. Therefore,  $\phi(16) = 8$ .

2. Find the last digit in the decimal expansion of  $3^{1000}$ .

We're trying to find  $3^{1000} \pmod{10}$ .  $\phi(10) = 4$ .  $3^{1000} = (3^4)^{250} \equiv 1^{250} = 1 \pmod{10}$ . The last digit is 1.

3. Find the last digit in the decimal expansion of  $7^{999,999}$ .

$7^{999,999} = 7^{1,000,000} \times 7^{-1} = (7^4)^{250,000} \times 7^{-1}$ . We're still in mod 10, so  $(7^4)^{250,000} \times 7^{-1} \equiv 1^{250,000} \times 7^{-1} = 1 \times 7^{-1} = 7^{-1}$ . By iterating from numbers 1 to 7, I found that the multiplicative inverse of 7 mod 10 is 3, so the last digit is 3.

4. Find the number in  $\mathbb{Z}_{35}$  congruent to  $3^{100,000}$ .

The following numbers are relatively prime to 35: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34. Thus,  $\phi(35) = 24$ .  $3^{100,000} = (3^{24})^{4000} \times 3^{4000} \equiv 1^{4000} \times 3^{4000} = 3^{4000} = (3^{24})^{160} \times 3^{160} \equiv 1^{160} \times 3^{160} = (3^{24})^6 \times 3^{16} \equiv 1^6 \times 3^{16} = (3^5)^3 \times 3 = 243^3 \times 3 \equiv (-2)^3 \times 3 = -24 \equiv 11 \pmod{35}$ . Thus,  $3^{100,000} \equiv 11 \pmod{35}$ .

5. Use Euler's Theorem to find the multiplicative inverse of 2 modulo 9.

9 is relatively prime to: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8.  $\phi(9) = 6$ . Therefore,  $2^6 = 2 \times 2^5 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$ . Therefore, the multiplicative inverse of 2 mod 9 is  $2^5$ .  $2^5 = 32 \equiv 5$ , so 5 is the multiplicative inverse of 2 modulo 9.

6. Solve each of the following linear congruences using Euler's Theorem.

(a)  $5x \equiv 3 \pmod{14}$

$x = 5^{-1} \times 3 \pmod{14}$ . 14 is relatively prime to: 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13. Therefore,  $\phi(14) = 6$ , so  $5^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{14}$ , so  $5^{-1} \equiv 5^5 \pmod{14}$ .  $5^5 = 25 \times 25 \times 5 \equiv -3 \times -3 \times 5 = 45 \equiv 3$ . So,  $5^{-1} \equiv 3 \pmod{14}$ , so  $x = 3 \times 3 = 9$ .

(b)  $4x \equiv 7 \pmod{15}$

$x = 4^{-1} \times 7 \pmod{15}$ . 15 is relatively prime to: 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14. Therefore,  $\phi(15) = 8$ , so the multiplicative inverse of 4 modulo 15 is  $4^7$ .  $4^7 = (4^2)^3 \times 4 = 16^3 \times 4 \equiv 1^3 \times 4 = 4$ . Therefore,  $x = 4 \times 7 = 28 \equiv 13 \pmod{15}$ .  $x = 13$ .

(c)  $3x \equiv 5 \pmod{16}$

$x = 3^{-1} \times 5 \pmod{16}$ . 16 is relatively prime to: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15. Therefore,  $\phi(16) = 8$ , so the multiplicative inverse of 3 modulo 16 is  $3^7$ .  $3^7 = 3^3 \times 3^3 \times 3 = 27 \times 27 \times 3 \equiv 11 \times 11 \times 3 = 11 \times 33 \equiv 11 \times 1 = 11$ .  $x = 11 \times 5 = 55 \equiv 7 \pmod{16}$ .  $x = 7$ .

7. If  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes, what is  $\phi(pq)$ ? It is safe to assume that  $\phi$  is a multiplicative function (i.e.,  $\phi(pq) = \phi(p) \cdot \phi(q)$ ) if  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes.

Because  $p$  is prime, only 1 and  $p$  divide it evenly. Thus, for every number  $n$  such that  $0 < n < p$ ,  $\gcd(n, p) = 1$ .  $n$  can be any integer in the range  $[1, p-1]$ , so there are  $p-1$  numbers less than and relatively prime to  $p$ , so  $\phi(p) = p-1$ . By the same reasoning,  $\phi(q) = q-1$ . Since  $\phi$  is multiplicative,  $\phi(pq) = \phi(p) \cdot \phi(q) = (p-1)(q-1)$ .