

Number Theory

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1. If p is an odd divisor of $a^{2^n} + 1$, prove that $p \equiv 1 \pmod{2^{n+1}}$.
2. Let p be a prime and let n be coprime to $p-1$. Prove that the numbers $1^n, 2^n, \dots, (p-1)^n$ are all distinct modulo p .
3. If $a > 1$, prove that $\varphi(a^n - 1)$ is divisible by n .
4. (a) Find all positive integers n such that n divides $2^n - 1$.
(b) Find all positive integers n such that n divides $2^{n-1} + 1$.
5. Find (a) the order of 2 modulo 3^n ; the order of 3 modulo 2^n .
6. Find the largest (a) power of 2; (b) power of 11 that divides $3^{100!} - 1$.
7. Let p be an odd prime divisor of $a - b$, not dividing a or b .
(a) If $p \nmid n$, prove that $p \nmid \frac{a^n - b^n}{a - b}$.
(b) $\frac{a^p - b^p}{a - b}$ is divisible by p , but not by p^2 .
- Let a and b be integers with $|a| \neq |b|$. Prime p divides $a - b$, but not a and b . Then
$$v_p(a^n - b^n) = v_p(a - b) + v_p(n),$$
provided that either $p > 2$, or $p = 2$ and $4 \mid a - b$. (*Lifting the exponent Lemma*)
8. What is the largest power of 5 dividing $2^{299} + 2^{199} - 1$?
9. Find all positive integers n for which n^2 divides $2^n + 1$.
10. Find all positive integers x, y and n for which $x^3 + y^3 = 3^n$.
11. Let $n > 2$ be a positive integer. Prove that the number $2^{2^n - 1} - 2^n - 1$ is composite.