

**Problem 4.30.** Show that if  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$  then  $ac \equiv bd \pmod{n}$ .

The converse of Problem 4.30 need not be true. For example,  $4 \cdot 7 \equiv 2 \cdot 2 \pmod{12}$ . However 7 is not congruent to 2 modulo 12.

**Theorem 4.31.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$  if and only if  $2a + b \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$ . Then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(a - b) = 3k$  which implies  $2(a - b) = 6k$ . Moreover,  $2a - 2b + 3b = 6k + 3b$  which implies  $2a + b = 6k + 3b = 3(2k + b)$ . It follows that  $2a + b \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Conversely, suppose  $2a + b \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $2a + b = 3k$ . Hence  $b = 3k - 2a$ . Now

$$a - b = a - (3k - 2a) = 3a - 3k = 3(a - k).$$

Therefore  $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$ . □

**Theorem 4.32.** (Fermat's Little Theorem) Let  $p$  be a prime and  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $c$  is not divisible by  $p$  then  $c^p \equiv c \pmod{p}$ .

**Problem 4.33.** Determine  $5^{17} \pmod{17}$ .