

Primes and Primality Testing

Number Theory and Cryptography Workshop
Maths and Physics Club, IIT Bombay

December 23, 2020

- Define a sequence by $a(1) = 1$, $a(2) = 11$, $a(3) = 111$, $a(4) = 1111$ and so on. Let p be a prime. Define $A_p = \{n, p|a(n)\}$. Prove that, if $p = 2$ or $p = 5$, then the set A_p is empty, and is an infinite set for all other primes. Bonus: For a given prime p , find the set A_p . (Difficulty level- easy)
- An integer k is an even perfect number if and only if it has the form $2^{n-1}(2^n - 1)$ and $2^n - 1$ is prime. (Difficulty level- moderate)
- For each integer $a \geq 2$, there are infinitely many Fermat pseudoprimes base a . (In other words, for a given a , there are infinitely many n such that n is composite and $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$). (Difficulty level- hard)