

# Homework 1

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1. **a** We can prove the statement by induction. First, let  $n = 1$ . As such,  $n^2 = 1$ . By the Division Algorithm,  $n^2 = 8 \cdot 0 + 1$ . Thus, the statement holds for  $n = 1$ . Next, assume the statement holds for  $1, 3, 5, \dots, n$ . Since  $n$  is odd, the next consecutive odd number is  $n + 2$ . Because  $n^2$  leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 8, let  $n^2 = 8 \cdot k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . As such,  $(n + 2)^2 = n^2 + 4 \cdot n + 4 = 8k + 4n + 1$ . Therefore,  $(n + 2)^2$  leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 8. By induction, for any odd number  $n$ ,  $n$  leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 8.

**b** Let  $n = 2^{a_0} \cdot p_1^{a_1} \cdot p_2^{a_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{a_k}$  be the prime factorization of  $n$  such that  $p_i$  are distinct prime numbers for all  $i$  and there is no  $i$  such that  $p_i = 2$ . As such,  $n^2 = 2^{2a_0} \cdot p_1^{2a_1} \cdot p_2^{2a_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{2a_k}$ . Since  $p_i$  is odd for all  $i$  (since all  $p_i$  are primes and do not equal 2),  $p_1^{a_1} \cdot p_2^{a_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{a_k}$  is also odd. By 1a,  $p_1^{2a_1} \cdot p_2^{2a_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{2a_k}$  leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 8. Let  $p_1^{2a_1} \cdot p_2^{2a_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{2a_k} = 8b + 1$  for some integer  $b$ . Thus,  $n^2 = 2^{2a_0} \cdot (8b + 1) = 4^{a_0} \cdot (8b + 1) = 8 \cdot (4^{a_0}b) + 4^{a_0}$ . Since multiples of 4 can only leave a remainder of either 0 or 4 when divided by 8 ( $4(2k) = 8k$  and  $4(2k + 1) = 8k + 4$  for all integers  $k$ ) and  $n^2 = 8 \cdot (4^{a_0}b) + 4^{a_0}$ ,  $n^2$  can only leave a remainder of 0 or 4 when divided by 8.

2. If  $3 \nmid n$ , then, by the Division Algorithm, either  $n = 3k + 1$  or  $n = 3k + 2$  for some integer  $k$ . First, assume  $n = 3k + 1$ . Thus,  $n^2 - 1 = (3k + 1)^2 - 1 = 3 \cdot (3k^2 + 2k)$ . Therefore,  $3 \mid (n - 1)^2$  for this case. Next, assume  $n = 3k + 2$ . Thus,  $n^2 - 1 = (3k + 2)^2 - 1 = 3 \cdot (3k^2 + 4k + 1)$ . Therefore,  $3 \mid (n - 1)^2$  for all  $n$  such that  $3 \nmid n$ .
3. Let  $a = p_1^{x_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{x_k}$  and  $b = p_1^{y_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{y_k}$  be the prime factorizations of  $a$  and  $b$  respectively such that  $x_i \geq 0$  and  $y_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \leq k$ . Let  $c = q_1^{z_1} \cdot \dots \cdot q_j^{z_j}$  be the prime factorization of  $c$  given there are no  $m, n$  such that  $p_m = q_n$ . This holds because  $(a, c) = 1$  and  $(b, c) = 1$ , meaning  $a$  and  $c$  have no common prime factors and  $b$  and  $c$  have no common prime factors. Thus,  $ab = p_1^{x_1+y_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{x_k+y_k}$ . Therefore,  $ab$  and  $c$  also do not have any common prime factors. This implies that  $(ab, c) = 1$ .
4. Either  $(a, b) = 1$  or  $(a, b) \neq 1$ . First, suppose  $(a, b) = 1$ . Since  $a$  and  $b$  do not have any common prime factors,  $c$  must be a multiple of  $ab$  in order to be divisible by both  $a$  and  $b$ . Next suppose  $(a, b) \neq 1$ . Let  $a = p_1^{x_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{x_k}$  and  $b = p_1^{y_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{y_k}$  be the prime factorizations of

$a$  and  $b$  respectively such that  $x_i \geq 0$  and  $y_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \leq k$ . If  $a$  and  $b$  both divide  $c$ , then  $m = p_1^{\max(x_1, y_1)} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{\max(x_k, y_k)}$  is a factor of  $c$ . If  $(a, b) = p_1^{\min(x_1, y_1)} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{\min(x_k, y_k)}$ , then  $m \cdot (a, b) = ab$ . Let  $c = m \cdot x$  for some integer  $x$ . Thus,  $c = m \cdot x \cdot (a, b) = a \cdot b \cdot x$  is divisible by  $ab$ .

5. If  $(a, 6) = 1$ , then either  $a = 6x + 1$  or  $a = 6x - 1$  for some integer  $x$  (since  $(k, 6) > 1$  for all  $2 \leq k \leq 4$ ). Similarly, either  $b = 6y + 1$  or  $b = 6y - 1$ . Suppose  $a = 6x + 1$ . Consequently,  $a^2 = 36x^2 + 12x + 1 = 12x(3x + 1) + 1$ . Either  $x$  is even or odd. First, assume  $x$  is even, so  $x = 2k$  for some integer  $k$ . Therefore,  $a^2 = 24k(6k + 1) + 1$ , which leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 24. If  $x$  is odd, then  $x = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . As such,  $a^2 = 24(6k^2 + 7k + 2) + 1$ , which also leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 24. Next, suppose  $a = 6x - 1$ . By the same logic as before,  $a^2 = 24k(6k - 1) + 1$  when  $x$  is even and  $a^2 = 24(6k^2 + 5k + 1) + 1$  when  $x$  is odd, both of which leave a remainder of 1 when divided by 24. Therefore,  $a^2$  always leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 24. By the same logic,  $b^2$  also always leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 24. Let  $a^2 = 24m + 1$  and  $b^2 = 24n + 1$  for some integers  $m, n$ . Therefore,  $a^2 - b^2 = (24m + 1) - (24n + 1) = 24(m - n)$ , which is divisible by 24.
6. First, assume  $n$  is a square number. If  $n = p_1^{a_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{a_k}$ , then  $\sqrt{n} = p_1^{a_1/2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{a_k/2}$ . By the definition of prime factorization,  $a_i$  and  $a_i/2$  must be integers for all  $i$  such that  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Thus,  $a_i/2$  can only be an integer if 2 evenly divides  $a_i$ . Therefore, each  $a_i$  must be even. Next, assume each  $a_i$  is even. Let  $a_i = 2b_i$  for some integers  $b_i$ . Thus,  $n = p_1^{2b_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{2b_k}$ . Since each  $b_i$  is an integer,  $\sqrt{n} = p_1^{b_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{b_k}$  is an integer and  $n$  must be a square number.
7. Let  $a = p_1^{x_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{x_k}$  and  $b = q_1^{y_1} \cdot \dots \cdot q_j^{y_j}$  be the prime factorizations of  $a$  and  $b$  respectively such that  $p_m \neq q_n$  for all  $m, n$ . As such,  $ab = p_1^{x_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_k^{x_k} \cdot q_1^{y_1} \cdot \dots \cdot q_j^{y_j}$ . If  $ab$  is a square, then  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_j$  must be even. Because  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  are even,  $a$  must be a square. Similarly, since  $y_1, \dots, y_j$  are even,  $b$  must also be a square.