

Q 34 Let p and q be two distinct odd primes such that $p-1 \mid q-1$. If $\gcd(n, pq) = 1$, show that

$$n^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{pq}.$$

Sol: We will remember

first: Little Fermat's theorem: If p is a prime number and a is a natural number, then $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$.

Also remember the Chinese Remainder Theorem: let r and s be positive integers which are relatively prime and let a and b be any two integers. Then there is an integer N such that $N \equiv a \pmod{r}$ and $N \equiv b \pmod{s}$. Moreover, N is uniquely determined

modulo rs . } In this problem: $p-1 \mid q-1 \Rightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$:

$$q-1 = k(p-1) \quad \text{By L.F.T. we have: } n^p \equiv n \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow n^p - n \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow n(n^{p-1} - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow n^{p-1} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad (\text{because } \gcd(n, p) = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow n^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow 1 \equiv 1^k \equiv (n^{p-1})^k \equiv n^{q-1} \pmod{p}$$

So we have. ~~$n^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$~~ ~~$n^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$~~ $n^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

and $n^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$ (by F.L.T.) And by

the Chinese Remainder Theorem, we know that n^{q-1} is uniquely determined modulo $pq \Rightarrow n^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{pq}$ \square