

**22.** First we check for  $p = 5$  that the number  $|p^4 - 86| = 539 = 7^2 \cdot 11$  is not a prime, so we can assume  $p \neq 5$ . Since  $1^4 \equiv 2^4 \equiv 3^4 \equiv 4^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , we have  $p^4 - 86 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ . For  $|p^4 - 86|$  to be a prime, we must have either  $p^4 - 86 = 5$  or  $p^4 - 86 = -5$  because 5 is the only prime which is 0 modulo 5. The former case is not satisfied by an integer  $p$  while the latter cases gives  $p = 3$ .

**23.** We observe

$$\begin{aligned} 0^4 &\equiv 2^4 \equiv 4^4 \equiv 6^4 \equiv 8^4 \equiv 10^4 \equiv 12^4 \equiv 14^4 \equiv 0 \pmod{16} \\ 1^4 &\equiv 3^4 \equiv 5^4 \equiv 7^4 \equiv 9^4 \equiv 11^4 \equiv 13^4 \equiv 15^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}, \end{aligned}$$

and hence  $a_i^4 \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{16}$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 14$ . Then, we clearly have  $a_1^4 + a_2^4 + \dots + a_{14}^4 \not\equiv 15 \pmod{16}$ , so there is no integer solution.

**24.** We claim that the only integer solution is  $(0, 0, 0)$ . Now suppose there is another solution  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ . Then, clearly  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  is also a solution where we define  $x_1 = \frac{x_0}{\gcd(x_0, y_0, z_0)}$ ,  $y_1 = \frac{y_0}{\gcd(x_0, y_0, z_0)}$ , and  $z_1 = \frac{z_0}{\gcd(x_0, y_0, z_0)}$ . This solution  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  also satisfies  $\gcd(x_1, y_1, z_1) = 1$  since we cancelled out the common factors of  $x_0, y_0, z_0$ .

First we observe that none of the numbers  $x_1, y_1, z_1$  can be 0 because it would make the other numbers 0 as well and we must have a different solution than  $(0, 0, 0)$ .

Since  $3z_1^2 = x_1^2 + y_1^2$  must be divisible by 3 and a square can only be 0 or 1 modulo 3, we must have  $x_1^2 \equiv y_1^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . That means both  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  are divisible by 3 and hence  $3z_1^2 = x_1^2 + y_1^2$  must be divisible 9. So, we must also have  $z_1$  divisible by 3 which makes  $\gcd(x_1, y_1, z_1) \neq 1$ , a contradiction.

**25.** For  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , we can write  $a = kn + b$  for an integer  $k$  and then we have

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(kn + b, n) = \gcd(kn + b - kn, n) = \gcd(b, n).$$

**26.** Since  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , we can talk about the inverse  $a^{-1} \pmod{n}$ . Multiplying the both sides of the second congruence by  $a^{-1} \pmod{n}$ , we get

$$a^k \equiv b^{k+1}a^{-1} \pmod{n} \implies b^k \equiv b^{k+1}a^{-1} \pmod{n}$$

Also,

$$\gcd(a, n) = 1 \implies \gcd(a^k, n) = 1 \implies \gcd(b^k, n) = 1$$

means we can divide both sides of last congruence we obtained by  $b^k$ . After that we have  $1 \equiv ba^{-1} \pmod{n}$  and this gives  $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$  by multiplying both sides of the congruence by  $a \pmod{n}$ .

This won't be true without  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ . A counter-example is given by  $n = 9, a = 3, b = 6$ , and  $k = 2$ .

**27.** It is enough to prove that 2, 3, and 5 divides  $n^5 - n$  for every integer  $n$ . We have

$$0^5 - 0 \equiv 1^5 - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2},$$

so  $2 \mid n^5 - n$  for every  $n$ , and

$$0^5 - 0 \equiv 1^5 - 1 \equiv 2^5 - 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3},$$

so  $3 \mid n^5 - n$  for every  $n$ , and

$$0^5 - 0 \equiv 1^5 - 1 \equiv 2^5 - 2 \equiv 3^5 - 3 \equiv 4^5 - 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{5},$$

so  $5 \mid n^5 - n$  for every  $n$ .

**28.** (This is a little bit difficult and long) We are looking for an  $n$  that satisfies  $n^2 \equiv 444 \pmod{1000}$ . We begin with rewriting this congruence by splitting into two congruences modulo prime powers

$$n^2 \equiv 444 \equiv 69 \pmod{125} \text{ and } n^2 \equiv 444 \equiv 4 \pmod{8}.$$

Trying all possible values of  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_8$ , we find  $n \equiv 2$  or  $6 \pmod{8}$  for the second congruence. We will solve the first congruence step by step: first in  $\mathbb{Z}_5$ , then in  $\mathbb{Z}_{25}$ , and finally in  $\mathbb{Z}_{125}$ .

In  $\mathbb{Z}_5$ , we need

$$n^2 \equiv 69 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$$

which has the solutions  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$  and  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ . Since we were only asked to find one such integer  $n$ , we don't have to find all solutions and we can continue with  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$  to reach a solution in  $\mathbb{Z}_{125}$ . Now we replace  $n$  with  $5k + 2$  in the first congruence.

In  $\mathbb{Z}_{25}$ , we need

$$(5k+2)^2 \equiv 25k^2+20k+4 \equiv 69 \equiv 19 \pmod{25} \implies 20k \equiv 15 \pmod{25} \implies 4k \equiv 3 \pmod{5} \implies k \equiv 2 \pmod{5}.$$

Now we replace  $n$  with  $5k + 2 = 5(5l + 2) + 2 = 25l + 12$  in the first congruence.

Finally in  $\mathbb{Z}_{125}$ , we are solving

$$(25l+12)^2 \equiv 625l^2+600l+144 \equiv 69 \pmod{125} \implies 100l \equiv 50 \pmod{125} \implies 4l \equiv 2 \pmod{5} \implies l \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

and we have  $n = 25l + 2 = 25(5m + 3) + 2 = 125m + 87$ , i.e.  $n \equiv 87 \pmod{125}$ .

Now, we need to find an  $n$  satisfying both of the congruences  $x \equiv 87 \pmod{125}$  and  $n \equiv 2$  or  $6 \pmod{8}$ . For  $n \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$ , we have  $n = 462$  satisfying both congruences. Indeed we have  $462^2 = 213444$ .

The last four digits cannot be 4 because it would mean

$$n^2 \equiv 4444 \pmod{10000} \implies n^2 \equiv 4444 \equiv 12 \pmod{16},$$

but a square can never be  $12 \pmod{16}$ .

- 29.** We can solve the given congruences using the standard techniques, but there is an easier method for this problem. Adding one to both sides of these congruences, we find

$$n + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$n + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$

$$n + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$$

$$n + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$$

which can be solved as  $n + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11}$ , i.e.  $n \equiv -1 \pmod{1155}$ . So, the three smallest positive integers satisfying them will be  $1155 - 1$ ,  $2 \cdot 1155 - 1$ , and  $3 \cdot 1155 - 1$ .

- 30.** We first split the given congruences into three congruences:

$$x^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$x^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$x^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{13}.$$

As  $0^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  ;  $1^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  ;  $2^3 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , we have only one solution in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ .

Since  $0^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  ;  $1^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$  ;  $2^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$  ;  $3^3 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$  ;  $4^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$  ;  $5^3 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$  ;  $6^3 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$ , we have three solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}_7$ .

Similarly, we will have three solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}_{13}$  as well. By the Chinese Remainder Theorem, there are 9 solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}_{273}$ .

- 31.** Let's split the congruence classes in  $\mathbb{Z}_{2022}$  into 1012 groups:

$$(1, 2021), (2, 2020), (3, 2019), \dots, (1010, 1012), (0), (1011).$$

To not have  $a_i \equiv a_j \pmod{2022}$ , each  $a_i$  must correspond to a different congruence class. Each of the 1013 numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{1013}$  correspond a congruence class in one of these 1012 groups. Since  $1013 > 1012$ , two of the given numbers must correspond to the numbers in the same group but that means these two numbers will satisfy  $a_i \equiv -a_j \pmod{2022}$ .

- 32.** Since we can replace each number with any representative of its congruence class in  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  in a summation modulo  $m$ , we have

$$r_0 + r_1 + \cdots + r_{m-1} \equiv 0 + 1 + \cdots + m - 1 \equiv \frac{(m-1)m}{2} \pmod{m}.$$

If  $m = 2k + 1$  is odd, then we have

$$\frac{(m-1)m}{2} \equiv \frac{2k(2k+1)}{2} \equiv k(2k+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{2k+1}$$

and if  $m = 2k$  is even, then we have

$$\frac{(m-1)m}{2} \equiv \frac{(2k-1)2k}{2} = 2k^2 - k \equiv k \pmod{2k}.$$

- 33.** Clearly, given  $m$  numbers form a complete residue system modulo  $m$  if and only if they are all distinct modulo  $m$ .

If  $\gcd(c, m) = 1$ , then we have  $cr_i \not\equiv cr_j \pmod{m}$  for every  $i \neq j$  because  $c(r_i - r_j) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  requires  $r_i - r_j \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  by cancelling out  $c$  from both sides of the congruence and we know that  $r_i \not\equiv r_j \pmod{m}$  since  $\{r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{m-1}\}$  is a complete residue system modulo  $m$ .

Assume now that  $\gcd(c, m) = k \neq 1$ . Since  $\{r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{m-1}\}$  is a complete residue system modulo  $m$ , we can find some  $i \neq j$  such that  $r_i \equiv \frac{m}{k} \pmod{m}$  and  $r_j \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ . Then we will have  $cr_i \equiv cr_j \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  and therefore  $\{cr_0, cr_1, \dots, cr_{m-1}\}$  cannot be a complete residue system.

- 34.** (a)  $\gcd(a, p^k) = 1$  is equivalent to  $p \nmid a$ . We should count all the values in  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^k}$  (there are  $p^k$  of them) except  $0, p, 2 \cdot p, \dots, p^{k-1} \cdot p$  (there are  $p^{k-1}$  of them), so there are exactly  $p^k - p^{k-1} = p^{k-1} \cdot (p - 1)$  values of  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_{p^k}$  satisfying  $\gcd(a, p^k) = 1$ .
- (b)  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  is equivalent to  $\gcd(a, p_i^{\alpha_i}) = 1$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . From the previous part there are  $p_i^{\alpha_i-1} \cdot (p_i - 1)$  values of  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{p_i^{\alpha_i}}$  satisfying  $\gcd(a, p_i^{\alpha_i}) = 1$ . By the Chinese Remainder Theorem, there are  $\phi(n) = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i-1} \cdot (p_i - 1)$  values of  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \mathbb{Z}_{p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}}$  satisfying  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , i.e.  $\gcd(a, p_i^{\alpha_i}) = 1$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .