

# BBM205 Midterm Exam II

Time: 9:00-11:00

14 November 2021

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Points:	12	18	10	15	15	10	20	100
Score:								

1. (12 points) Use proof by induction to show that for any positive integer  $n$ ,  $13 \cdot 7^{n-1} + 5^{2n-1}$  is divisible by 18.

**Solution:** Let  $P(n)$  to be the statement  $13 \cdot 7^{n-1} + 5^{2n-1}$  is divisible by 18.

**Base step:** ( $n=1$ )  $13 \cdot 7^0 + 5^1 = 18$ , hence divisible by 18.

**Inductive Step:** Assuming that  $P(n)$  is true (*Inductive Hypothesis*), we show that  $P(n+1)$  is true.

To show  $13 \cdot 7^{(n+1)-1} + 5^{2(n+1)-1}$ , we rewrite it as

$$13 \cdot 7^{(n+1)-1} + 5^{2(n+1)-1} = 7(13 \cdot 7^{n-1} + 5^{2n-1}) + 18 \cdot 5^{2n-1}.$$

Note that the expression inside the paranthesis is divisible by 18 because of the inductive hypothesis. So, also  $P(n+1)$  is true.

2. (18 points) (a) Determine the following numbers by showing all your work:

$$2^{2021} \mod 11, \quad 3^{2021} \mod 11, \quad 4^{2021} \mod 11$$

- (b) Determine the following numbers by showing all your work:

$$2^{2021} \mod 9, \quad 3^{2021} \mod 9, \quad 4^{2021} \mod 9$$

- (c) An inverse of  $k$  modulo  $n > 1$  is an integer  $k^{-1}$  such that  $k \cdot k^{-1} \equiv 1 \mod n$ . Show that  $k$  has an inverse if and only if  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ .
- (d) For any natural number  $a$ , show that  $10x+3$  and  $7x+2$  are coprime (relatively prime).

**Solution:**

(a)

$$\begin{array}{lll}
2^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, & 3^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, & 4^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, \\
2^1 \equiv 2 \pmod{11}, & 3^1 \equiv 3 \pmod{11}, & 4^1 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}, \\
2^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}, & 3^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{11}, & 4^2 \equiv 5 \pmod{11}, \\
2^3 \equiv 8 \pmod{11}, & 3^3 \equiv 5 \pmod{11}, & 4^3 \equiv 9 \pmod{11}, \\
2^4 \equiv 5 \pmod{11}, & 3^4 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}, & 4^4 \equiv 3 \pmod{11}, \\
2^5 \equiv 10 \pmod{11}, & 3^5 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, \dots & 4^5 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, \dots \\
2^6 \equiv 9 \pmod{11} & & \\
2^7 \equiv 7 \pmod{11} & & \\
2^8 \equiv 3 \pmod{11} & & \\
2^9 \equiv 6 \pmod{11}, \dots & & \\
2^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11} & & 
\end{array}$$

Since the pattern  $(1, 2, 4, \dots, 7, 3, 6)$  repeats in  $2^i \pmod{11}$  (every 10 steps) and  $2021 \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$ , we have  $2^{2021} \pmod{11} \equiv 2^1 \pmod{11} \equiv 2$ .

Since the pattern  $(1, 3, 9, 5, 4)$  repeats in  $3^i \pmod{11}$  (every 5 steps) and  $2021 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , we have  $3^{2021} \pmod{11} \equiv 3^1 \pmod{11} \equiv 3$ .

Since the pattern  $(1, 4, 5, 9, 3)$  repeats in  $4^i \pmod{11}$  (every 5 steps) and  $2021 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , we have  $4^{2021} \pmod{11} \equiv 4^1 \pmod{11} \equiv 4$ .

(b)

$$\begin{array}{lll}
2^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}, & 3^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}, & 4^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}, \\
2^1 \equiv 2 \pmod{9}, & 3^1 \equiv 3 \pmod{9}, & 4^1 \equiv 4 \pmod{9}, \\
2^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{9}, & 3^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}, & 4^2 \equiv 7 \pmod{9}, \\
2^3 \equiv 8 \pmod{9}, & 3^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}, \dots & 4^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}, \dots \\
2^4 \equiv 7 \pmod{9} & & \\
2^5 \equiv 5 \pmod{9} & & \\
2^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{9} & & 
\end{array}$$

As we observe above,  $3^{2021} \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$ .

Since the pattern  $(1, 2, 4, 8, 7, 5)$  repeats in  $2^i \pmod{9}$  (every 6 steps) and  $2021 \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ , we have  $2^{2021} \pmod{9} \equiv 2^5 \pmod{9} \equiv 5$ .

Since the pattern  $(1, 4, 7)$  repeats in  $4^i \pmod{9}$  (every 3 steps) and  $2021 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , we have  $4^{2021} \pmod{9} \equiv 4^2 \pmod{9} \equiv 7$ .

(c) In proving both parts, we use the fact that if  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ , then there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $sk + tn = 1$  by definition of the greatest common divisor.

If  $k \cdot k^{-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then there is an integer  $m$  such that  $k \cdot k^{-1} + m \cdot n = 1$ . Hence  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ .

Conversely, if  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ , then there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $sk + tn = 1$ . Therefore,  $sk \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  implying that  $s$  is  $k^{-1} \pmod{n}$ .

(d) By using Euclid's algorithm, we have

$$\gcd(10x + 3, 7x + 2) = \gcd(7x + 2, 3x + 1) = \gcd(3x + 1, x) = \gcd(x, 1) = 1.$$

3. (10 points) Determine whether the following are true or false.

**Solution:**

(False): Having the same number of vertices and edges are sufficient conditions for two graphs to be isomorphic.

(False): If more than half of the vertices of a graph  $G$  have degree at most 1, then  $G$  is not connected.

(True): If a bipartite graph  $G$  has an Euler circuit, then this Euler circuit has even length.

(True): If a bipartite graph has a Hamilton cycle, then the two parts of this bipartite graph have equal number of vertices.

(False): If a graph has an Euler circuit, then it has a Hamilton cycle.

4. (15 points) Let  $P(n)$  be the statement that every positive integer that is greater than or equal to 18 can be written as a sum of 3's and 10's. As an example,  $P(19)$  is true since  $19$  can be written as  $10+3+3+3=19$ .

Prove that  $P(n)$  is true using the principle of mathematical induction. Be sure to state your inductive hypothesis in the inductive step explicitly and include clear explanations on your reasoning for different cases.

**Solution:** Let  $P(n)$  be the statement that every positive integer  $n$ , where  $n \geq 18$ , can be written as a sum of 3's and 10's.

**Base step:**  $P(18)$  is true, since  $18 = 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3$ .

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for  $k \geq 18$  (*inductive hypothesis*), i.e. we can write  $k$  as a sum of 3s and 10s; we will show that  $P(k + 1)$  is also true.

There are two cases:

1- If the sum of  $k$  includes two 10s (i.e.  $10+10$ ), then we replace them by seven 3s  $7 \cdot 3 = 2 \cdot 10 + 1$ .

2- If there is at least three 3s are included in the sum of  $k$ ;  $k$  is written either using

just 3s, or from one 10 and  $(k - 10)$  3s. Because  $k \geq 18$ , there must be at least three 3s involved in either case. In this case, we replace three 3s (i.e.  $3+3+3$ ) by one 10, and we have formed  $k + 1$ . (since  $10 = 3 \cdot 3 + 1$ ).

5. (15 points) a) Find a recurrence relation  $(a_n)$  for the number of strings of length  $n$  that contains two consecutive b's using only the letters from the set  $A = \{b, c, d, e\}$ .  
 b) What are the initial conditions of the recurrence relation that is stated in (a) above?  
 c) Calculate the number of such strings of length 4, i.e.  $a_4$ , using the recurrence relation you obtained.

(a) Finding a recurrence relation  $(a_n)$

**Solution:** Let  $a_n$  be the number of strings of length  $n$  that contains two consecutive b's using only the letters from the set  $A = \{b, c, d, e\}$ .

To construct such a string:

- 1) We could start with either  $c$ ,  $d$  or  $e$  and follow with a string containing two consecutive b's (this can be done in  $3a_{n-1}$  ways), or
- 2) We could start with  $bc$  or  $bd$  or  $be$ , and follow with a string containing two consecutive b's (and this can be done in  $3a_{n-2}$  ways),
- 3) We could start with  $bb$  and follow with any string of length  $n - 2$  (of which there are  $4^{n-2}$ ).

Therefore the recurrence relation, valid for all  $n \geq 2$ , is:

$$a_n = 3a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2} + 4^{n-2}$$

(b) The initial conditions of the recurrence relation:

**Solution:**  $a_0 = a_1 = 0$ .

(c) Calculation of  $a_4$ :

**Solution:**

$$a_2 = 3a_1 + 3a_0 + 4^0 = 0 + 0 = 1$$

$$a_3 = 3a_2 + 3a_1 + 4^1 = 3 + 0 + 4 = 7$$

$$a_4 = 3a_3 + 3a_2 + 4^2 = 21 + 3 + 16 = 40$$

6. (10 points) Consider the following inequality

$$(a + \theta)^t \geq (a + t\theta)$$

where  $t \in \mathbb{N}, \theta \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and  $a$  is arbitrary.

Using mathematical Induction, find a value for  $a$  that the inequality given above must hold for every case.

**Solution:** Consider  $a=1$ , then inequality becomes

$$(1 + \theta)^t \geq (1 + t\theta)$$

Then, we can prove this by using induction on  $t$ .

**Base case:** When  $t = 0$ , the claim holds since

$$(1 + \theta)^0 \geq (1 + 0\theta)$$

**Inductive Hypothesis:** Now, assume that  $(1 + \theta)^k \geq 1 + k\theta$  holds for some value of  $t = k$  where  $k > 0$ .

**Inductive Step:** For  $t = k + 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \theta)^{k+1} &= (1 + \theta)^k(1 + \theta) \\ &\geq ((1 + k\theta))(1 + \theta) \quad (\text{by inductive hypothesis}) \\ &\geq 1 + k\theta + \theta + k\theta^2 \\ &\geq 1 + (k + 1)\theta + k\theta^2 \\ &\geq 1 + (k + 1)\theta \quad (k\theta^2 > 0 \text{ since } k, \theta > 0) \end{aligned}$$

q.e.d

7. (20 points) Consider the following sequence

$$\sqrt{x}, \sqrt{x\sqrt{y}}, \sqrt{x\sqrt{y\sqrt{x}}}, \dots$$

where  $x, y \in \mathbb{N} - \{0, 1\}$  and  $x < y$  is arbitrary.

a) Find the recurrence relation for this sequence

b) Using mathematical Induction with recurrence relation in a) , show that it is an increasing sequence or a decreasing sequence.

**Solution: a)** The terms in the sequence given by the problem are denoted by  $a_n$ . Then, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can define followings.

$$a_{2n+2} = \sqrt{x\sqrt{ya_{2n}}} \quad (\text{gives the even terms})$$

$$a_{2n+1} = \sqrt{x\sqrt{ya_{2n-1}}} \quad (\text{gives the odd terms})$$

b) To prove that sequence is increasing or not, using induction, we will prove following inequality.

$$a_{2n-1} < a_{2n} < a_{2n+1} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

which implies  $\{a_n\}$  is increasing.

**Base:**  $n = 1$

$$a_1 = \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{x\sqrt{1}} < \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{x\sqrt{y}} = a_2 = \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{x\sqrt{y\sqrt{1}}} < \sqrt{x\sqrt{y\sqrt{x}}} = a_3$$

$$a_1 < a_2 < a_3$$

**Inductive Step:** Assume

$$a_{2k-1} < a_{2k} < a_{2k+1}$$

Then we have

$$a_{2(k+1)-1} = a_{2k+1} = \sqrt{x\sqrt{y}a_{2k-1}} < \sqrt{x\sqrt{y}a_{2k}} = a_{2(k+1)}$$

Similarly we have

$$a_{2k+2} < a_{2k+3}$$

Thus,  $\{a_n\}$  is increasing.