

## 9.1 Euler's Criterion

Note Title

5/10/2006

1. Solve The following quadratic congruences.

$$(a) \quad x^2 + 7x + 10 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$$

$$\text{Let } y = 2ax + b = 2x + 7, \quad d = b^2 - 4ac = 9$$

$$\therefore y^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{11}, \quad \therefore y \equiv 3, 8 (= 11-3)$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \therefore 2x + 7 \equiv 3 \pmod{11} & 2x + 7 \equiv 8 \pmod{11} \\ 2x \equiv -4 & 2x \equiv 1, \quad 10x \equiv 5 \\ x \equiv -2 \equiv 9 & -x \equiv 5, \quad x \equiv -5 \equiv 6 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \underline{x \equiv 6, 9 \pmod{11}}$$

$$(b) \quad 3x^2 + 9x + 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} y = 2ax + b = 6x + 9, \quad d = b^2 - 4ac = -3 \\ \therefore y^2 \equiv -3 \equiv 10 \equiv 10 + 2 \cdot 13 = 36 \pmod{13} \\ \therefore y \equiv 6, 7 (= 13-6) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \therefore 6x + 9 \equiv 6 \pmod{13} & 6x + 9 \equiv 7 \pmod{13} \\ 6x \equiv -3 \equiv 36 & 6x \equiv -2, \quad 12x \equiv -4 \\ x \equiv 6 & -x \equiv -4, \quad x \equiv 4 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \underline{x \equiv 4, 6 \pmod{13}}$$

$$(c) 5x^2 + 6x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{23}$$

$$y = 2ax + b = 10x + 6, \quad d = b^2 - 4ac = 16$$

$$\therefore y^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{23}, \quad y \equiv 4, 19 (= 23-4)$$

$$\therefore 10x + 6 \equiv 4 \pmod{23}$$

$$10x \equiv -2, \quad 20x \equiv -4$$

$$-3x \equiv -4, \quad -24x \equiv -32$$

$$-x \equiv -32, \quad x \equiv 9$$

$$10x + 6 \equiv 19 \pmod{23}$$

$$10x \equiv 13, \quad 20x \equiv 26$$

$$-3x \equiv 3, \quad x \equiv -1$$

$$x \equiv 22$$

$$\therefore \underline{x \equiv 9, 22 \pmod{23}}$$

2. Prove that the quadratic congruence,  $6x^2 + 5x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  has a solution for every prime  $p$ , even though  $6x^2 + 5x + 1 = 0$  has no solution in integers.

$$\text{Pf: } 6x^2 + 5x + 1 = 0, \quad \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 24}}{12} = \frac{-5 \pm 1}{12}$$

$$\therefore x = -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$6x^2 + 5x + 1 = (3x+1)(2x+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore 3x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{or} \quad (2x+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

(1) If  $p$  is odd, Then choose  $x$  s.t.  $2x+1=p$

$$\therefore 2x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow 6x^2+5x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$(2) \text{ If } p=2, \text{ Then } 3x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$3x \equiv -1 \equiv 1, x \equiv 1$$

$$\therefore x \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \Rightarrow 3x \equiv 3, 3x+1 \equiv 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 6x^2+5x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$\therefore$  There is a solution to  $6x^2+5x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$   
for all prime  $p$ .

3. (a) For an odd prime  $p$ , prove that the quadratic residues of  $p$  are congruent mod  $p$  to the integers  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2$

$$\text{Pf: (1) For } a = 1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2,$$

$$a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = 1^{p-1}, 2^{p-1}, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^{p-1}$$

But for  $b = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}$ ,  $\gcd(b, p) = 1$   
as  $1 \leq b < p-1$  and  $p$  is prime.

$$\text{By Fermat's Th., } b^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$\therefore$  By Euler's Criterion,  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2$  are quadratic residues of  $p$ .

(2)  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2$  are incongruent mod  $p$

For if  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{p}$ ,  $1 \leq a, b \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ ,  $a \neq b$ ,

Then  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Leftrightarrow (a-b)(a+b) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

But  $a+b \leq \frac{p-1}{2} + \frac{p-1}{2} = p-1$

$\therefore \gcd(a+b, p) = 1$ , so can divide by  $a+b$ ,

$\therefore a-b \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow a \equiv b \Rightarrow a = b$ ,  
a contradiction.

(3) Let  $a$  be any quadratic residue of  $p$ .

$\therefore x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  has a solution.

Let it be  $x_0$  s.t.  $1 \leq x_0 \leq p-1$ .

$\therefore p-x_0$  is also a solution.

One of  $x_0, p-x_0$  must be  $\leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ .

For if  $x_0 > \frac{p-1}{2}$ , then  $-x_0 < -\frac{p-1}{2}$ ,

$$\text{so } p-x_0 < p - \frac{p-1}{2} = \frac{p-1}{2}$$

$\therefore$  One of  $x_0^2$  or  $(p-x_0)^2$  is equal to  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2$

Since  $x_0^2 \equiv (p-x_0)^2 \equiv a$ , Then  $a$  must be

congruent to one of  $1^2, 2^2, \dots, \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2$

(6) Verify That The quadratic residues of 17 are 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{By (a),} & 1^2 \equiv 1 & 5^2 \equiv 25 \equiv 8 \\ & 2^2 \equiv 4 & 6^2 \equiv 36 \equiv 2 \\ & 3^2 \equiv 9 & 7^2 \equiv 49 \equiv 15 \\ & 4^2 \equiv 16 & 8^2 \equiv 64 \equiv 13 \end{array}$$

4. Show That 3 is a quadratic residue of 23, but a nonresidue of 31.

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{\frac{23-1}{2}} &= 3^{11} = 3^2 (3^3)^3 = 9 (27)^3 \equiv 9 \cdot (4)^3 \pmod{23} \\ &\equiv 9 \cdot 64 \equiv 9(-5) \equiv -45 + 46 \equiv 1. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \underline{3^{\frac{23-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{23}} \Rightarrow 3 \text{ a quadratic residue of } 23$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{\frac{31-1}{2}} &= 3^{15} = (3^3)^5 = 27^5 \equiv (-4)^5 \pmod{31} \\ &\equiv -4^3 \cdot 4^2 \equiv (-64)(16) \equiv (-64 + 62)(16) \equiv -32 \equiv -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \underline{3^{\frac{31-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{31}} \Rightarrow 3 \text{ a quadratic nonresidue of } 31.$$

5. Given That  $a$  is a quadratic residue of odd prime  $p$ , prove The following

(4)  $a$  is not a primitive root of  $p$

Pf: If  $a$  were a primitive root of  $p$ , Then  $a^n \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  for  $1 \leq n < p-1$ , by def.

But by Euler's criterion,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$   
 $p$  is odd so  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  is an integer, and  $1 \leq \frac{p-1}{2} < p-1$ , which contradicts the above.

(5) The integer  $p-a$  is a quadratic residue or nonresidue of  $p$  according as  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  or  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$

Pf: Consider  $x^2 \equiv p-a \pmod{p}$ . This is equivalent to  $x^2 \equiv -a \pmod{p}$ .

$\therefore -a$  (or  $p-a$ ) is a quadratic residue or nonresidue according to whether  $(-a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  or  $(-a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ ,  
Since  $a$  is a quadratic residue,  
Then  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

$$\text{But } (-a)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}.$$

$\therefore p-a$  is a quadratic residue or nonresidue according to whether  $(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$  is 1 or  $-1$ , and this according to whether  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  is even or odd.

$$\frac{p-1}{2} \text{ is even} \Leftrightarrow \frac{p-1}{2} = 2k, \text{ some } k,$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p-1 = 4k$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$\frac{p-1}{2} \text{ is odd} \Leftrightarrow \frac{p-1}{2} = 2k+1, \text{ some } k$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p-1 = 4k+2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p = 3 + 4k$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

$\therefore p-a$  is a quadratic residue or nonresidue according to whether  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  or  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$

(c) If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , Then  $x \equiv \pm a^{\frac{p+1}{4}} \pmod{p}$  are the solutions of the congruence  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$ .

$$\text{Pf: } x \equiv \pm a^{\frac{p+1}{4}} \Rightarrow x^2 \equiv a^{\frac{p+1}{2}} = a^{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1} = a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \cdot a$$

Since  $a$  is a quadratic residue,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1$   
 $\therefore a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \cdot a \equiv a$ .

$\therefore x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  when  $x \equiv \pm a^{\frac{p+1}{4}}$

$\frac{p+1}{4}$  is an integer when  $\frac{p+1}{4} = k$ , some  $k$ ,  
 $\therefore p+1 = 4k$ ,  $p = -1 + 4k$ ,  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ ,  
or  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

Also, by Lagrange's Th. (Th. 8.5),  
There are at most 2 solutions, so

$x \equiv \pm a^{\frac{p+1}{4}}$  are the exact solutions.

6. Let  $p$  be an odd prime and  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ . Establish that the quadratic congruence  $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is solvable  $\iff b^2 - 4ac$  is zero or a quadratic residue of  $p$ .

Pf: Since  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  and  $p$  is an odd prime,  
 $\gcd(4a, p) = 1$ .

$\therefore$  Solutions to

$$4a(ax^2 + bx + c) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad [1]$$



are equivalent to  
 $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  [2]

since you can divide [1] by  $4a$  to  
get [2]

$$\begin{aligned}\text{But } 4a(ax^2 + bx + c) &= 4a^2x^2 + 4abx + 4ac \\ &= (2ax + b)^2 - b^2 + 4ac \\ &= (2ax + b)^2 - (b^2 - 4ac)\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Solutions to  
 $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  [2]

are equivalent to

$$(2ax + b)^2 \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p} \quad [3]$$

(a) Suppose  $b^2 - 4ac \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

$\therefore$  Solutions to [2] are equivalent to  
 $(2ax + b)^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$   
which is equivalent to  
 $2ax \equiv -b \pmod{p}$

Since  $\gcd(2a, p) = 1$ , this has a unique solution mod  $p$  (Th. 4.7).

$$\therefore ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \text{ is solvable} \Leftrightarrow b^2 - 4ac \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

(6)  $b^2 - 4ac \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and is a quadratic residue of  $p$ .

$\therefore y^2 \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p}$  has a solution by definition.

Let  $y_1$  be s.t.  $y_1^2 \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p}$ ,  $1 \leq y_1 \leq p-1$ .

$\therefore p - y_1$  is also a solution.

By Lagrange Th., these are the only solutions. They are also incongruent.

For if  $y_1 \equiv p - y_1 \pmod{p}$ , then

$2y_1 \equiv p \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Leftrightarrow y_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  as  $\gcd(p, 2) = 1$ .  $\therefore b^2 - 4ac \equiv 0$ , a contradiction

Letting  $y_1 = 2ax + b$ , then

$y^2 \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p}$  is equivalent to

$$2ax + b \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p} \text{ and } p - (2ax + b) \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p}, \text{ or}$$

$$2ax \equiv b^2 - 4ac - b \pmod{p} \quad [4]$$

and  $2ax \equiv 4ac - b^2 - b \pmod{p} \quad [5]$

Since  $\gcd(2a, p) = 1$ , by Th. 4.7,  
[4] and [5] have unique solutions.

$\therefore$  Assuming  $b^2 - 4ac \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,

$b^2 - 4ac$  a quadratic residue of  $p$

$\Leftrightarrow (2ax + b)^2 \equiv b^2 - 4ac \pmod{p}$  is solvable,

$\Leftrightarrow ax^2 + bx + c \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is solvable.

7. If  $p = 2^k + 1$  is prime, verify that every quadratic nonresidue of  $p$  is a primitive root of  $p$ .

Pf: Let  $a$  be a quadratic nonresidue of  $p$ .

$\therefore$  By Euler's criterion,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

Since  $2^k + 1$  is prime,  $k \geq 1$ .  $p-1 = 2^k$ ,  
 $\therefore \frac{p-1}{2} = 2^{k-1}$

$\therefore a^{2^{k-1}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}. \quad [1]$

$$\therefore (a^{2^{k-1}})^2 = a^{2^k} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \text{ and}$$

$$\phi(p) = p-1 = 2^k.$$

Let  $n$  be order of  $a \pmod{p}$ .  $\therefore n \mid 2^k$   
by Th. 8.1.

$\therefore$  if  $n \neq 2^k$ , then  $n = 2^r$ ,  $r < k$

$$\therefore a^{2^r} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \quad [\Sigma 2]$$

If  $r = k-1$ , Then a contradiction is reached by  $[\Sigma 1]$ .

If  $r < k-1$ , Then square  $[\Sigma 2]$   
 $k-1-r$  times.

$$\therefore (a^{2^r})^2 = a^{2 \cdot 2^r} = a^{2^{r+1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$(a^{2^{r+1}})^2 = a^{2 \cdot 2^{r+1}} = a^{2^{r+2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$(a^{2^{k-2}})^2 = a^{2 \cdot 2^{k-2}} = a^{2^{k-1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$\therefore$  again, a contradiction is reached  
by  $[\Sigma 1]$

$\therefore n = 2^k$ , so order of  $a$  is  $p-1 = \phi(p)$

8. Assume  $r$  is a primitive root of prime  $p$ , where  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .

(a) Show that The solutions of the quadratic congruence  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{p}$  are given by

$$x \equiv \pm (r^{7(p-1)/8} + r^{(p-1)/8}) \pmod{p}$$

Pf: Since  $r$  is a prim. root of  $p$ ,  $r^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$   
But  $p-1 = 8k$ , some  $k$ , or  $\frac{p-1}{8} = k$ , an integer.

$$\text{Let } x \equiv \pm (r^{7(p-1)/8} + r^{(p-1)/8}) \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore x^2 \equiv (r^{7(p-1)/8} + r^{(p-1)/8})^2 \pmod{p}$$

$$= r^{14(p-1)/8} + r^{2(p-1)/8} + 2r^{p-1}$$

$$\equiv r^{14(p-1)/8} + r^{2(p-1)/8} + 2 \pmod{p}$$

$\therefore$  Need to show  $r^{14(p-1)/8} + r^{2(p-1)/8} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$   
to show  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{p}$ .

$$r^{14(p-1)/8} + r^{2(p-1)/8} = r^{2(p-1)/8} (r^{12(p-1)/8} + 1)$$

But  $\gcd(r, p) = 1$ , so  $\gcd(r^{2(p-1)/8}, p) = 1$

$\therefore$  If can show  $r^{12(p-1)/8} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ ,

Then  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{p}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} r^{12(p-1)/8} &= r^{8(p-1)/8} \cdot r^{4(p-1)/8} \\ &= r^{p-1} \cdot r^{4(p-1)/8} \end{aligned}$$

$$\equiv r^{4(p-1)/8} = r^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$$

Since  $(r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} + 1)(r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1) = r^{p-1} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

Then  $r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1$  or  $r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , but not both, since otherwise  $-1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , so  $p \equiv 2$ , a contradiction to  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .

But  $r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \not\equiv 1$  since  $r$  is a primitive root (order of  $r = p-1$ ).

$$\therefore r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore r^{12(p-1)/8} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore \text{if } x \equiv \pm (r^{7(p-1)/8} + r^{(p-1)/8}) \pmod{p},$$

Then  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{p}$ , and Lagrange's Th. shows there are no more solutions.

(6) Use part (a) to find all solutions to the two congruences  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{17}$  and  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{41}$

(1)  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{17}$

3 is a primitive root of 17

$$\therefore x \equiv \pm \left( 3^{7(17-1)/8} + 3^{(17-1)/8} \right) \pmod{17}$$

$$= \pm (3^4 + 3^2) \pmod{17}$$

$$= \pm 3^2(3^2 + 1) = \pm 9(3^2 + 1)$$

$$3^2 \equiv 9, 3^4 \equiv -4, 3^8 \equiv 16 \equiv -1, 3^{12} \equiv 4$$

$$\therefore x \equiv \pm 9(4+1) = \pm 45 \equiv \underline{6, 11} \pmod{17}$$

(2)  $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{41}$

6 is a prim. root of 41 (table p. 166)

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore x &\equiv \pm (6^{7(41-1)/8} + 6^{(41-1)/8}) \pmod{41} \\ &= \pm (6^{35} + 6^5) = \pm 6^5(6^{30} + 1)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}6^2 &\equiv 36 \equiv -5, \quad 6^3 \equiv -30 \equiv 11, \quad 6^4 \equiv 66 \equiv 25 \equiv -16 \\ 6^5 &\equiv -96 \equiv -14, \quad 6^6 \equiv -84 \equiv -2 \\ \therefore 6^{30} &\equiv (-2)^5 \equiv -32 \equiv 9\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore x \equiv \pm 14(9+1) = \pm 140 \equiv \pm 17 = 17, 24$$

$$\therefore x \equiv 17, 24 \pmod{41}$$

9. (a) If  $ab \equiv r \pmod{p}$ , where  $r$  is a quadratic residue of the odd prime  $p$ , prove that  $a$  and  $b$  are both quadratic residues of  $p$  or both nonresidues of  $p$ .

Pf: Since  $\gcd(r, p) = 1$ , Then  $\gcd(ab, p) = 1$ ,  
 $\therefore \gcd(a, p) = 1$  and  $\gcd(b, p) = 1$ .

Suppose  $a$  is a quadratic residue and  $b$  a nonresidue.

$$\therefore a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1, \quad b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$



$$\therefore r^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \cdot b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p},$$

which makes  $r$  a nonresidue by corollary to Euler's criterion.

$$\therefore a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \text{ or } a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

(6) If  $a$  and  $b$  are both quadratic residues of the odd prime  $p$  or both nonresidues of  $p$ , show that the congruence  $ax^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$  has a solution.

Pf: Assume  $\gcd(a, p) = \gcd(b, p) = 1$ .

$$\therefore ax^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$$

is equivalent to,

$$a^2 x^2 \equiv ab \pmod{p}, \text{ or}$$

$$(ax)^2 \equiv ab \pmod{p}.$$

$\therefore ax^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$  has a solution  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $ab$  is a quadratic residue.

By (a)  $ab$  is a quadratic residue  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $a, b$  are both quadratic residues or

both nonresidues.

$\therefore ax^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$  has a solution  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $a, b$  are both quadratic residues or  
both nonresidues.

10. Let  $p$  be an odd prime and  $\gcd(a, p) = \gcd(b, p) = 1$ .  
Prove that either all three of the quadratic  
congruences  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$ ,  $x^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$ ,  $x^2 \equiv ab \pmod{p}$   
are solvable or exactly one of them admits a  
solution.

Pf: Suppose more than one congruence  
admits a solution.

(1) Assume  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$ ,  $x^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$  are  
solvable.  
By Euler's criterion,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$   
 $\therefore a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \cdot b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (ab)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ,  
and so  $x^2 \equiv ab \pmod{p}$  is solvable.

(2) Assume  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$ ,  $x^2 \equiv ab \pmod{p}$  are  
solvable (case of  $x^2 \equiv b$  and  $x^2 \equiv ab$  is analogous).

$\therefore$  By Euler's criterion,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$\text{and } (ab)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \cdot b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \quad [1]$$

Since  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ , Then  $\gcd(a^{\frac{p-1}{2}}, p) = 1$

$\therefore$  Dividing by [1] by  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ , we get

$$b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

$\therefore$  By Euler's criterion,  $x^2 \equiv b \pmod{p}$  is solvable.

11. (a) Knowing 2 is a primitive root of 19, Find all The quadratic residues of 19.

Proof to Th. 9.1 shows That if  $a$  is a quadratic residue, Then if  $r$  is a prim. root of 19, Then  $r^k \equiv a \pmod{p}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p-1$ , and  $k$  is even.

$\therefore$  Look at all  $2^k$  for  $k$  even and  $1 \leq k \leq 18$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \therefore 2^2 \equiv 4 & 2^8 \equiv 4 \cdot 7 \equiv 9 & 2^{14} \equiv -32 \equiv 6 \\ 2^4 \equiv 16 & 2^{10} \equiv 4 \cdot 9 \equiv -2 \equiv 17 & 2^{16} \equiv 2^4 \equiv 5 \\ 2^6 \equiv 64 \equiv 7 & 2^{12} \equiv -8 \equiv 11 & 2^{18} \equiv 20 \equiv 1 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 16, 17$$

(6) Find The quadratic residues of 29 and 31

Can use method in (a), or easier, method in Example 9.1

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 29: 1^2 \equiv 28^2 \equiv 1 & 8^2 \equiv 21^2 \equiv 64 \equiv 6 \\
 2^2 \equiv 27^2 \equiv 4 & 9^2 \equiv 20^2 \equiv 81 \equiv 23 \\
 3^2 \equiv 26^2 \equiv 9 & 10^2 \equiv 19^2 \equiv 13 \\
 4^2 \equiv 25^2 \equiv 16 & 11^2 \equiv 18^2 \equiv 121 \equiv 5 \\
 5^2 \equiv 24^2 \equiv 25 & 12^2 \equiv 17^2 \equiv 144 \equiv -1 \equiv 28 \\
 6^2 \equiv 23^2 \equiv 7 & 13^2 \equiv 16^2 \equiv 169 \equiv 24 \\
 7^2 \equiv 22^2 \equiv 20 & 14^2 \equiv 15^2 \equiv 196 \equiv 51 \equiv -7 \equiv 22
 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28$$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 31: 1^2 \equiv 30^2 \equiv 1 & 9^2 \equiv 22^2 \equiv 81 \equiv 19 \\
 2^2 \equiv 29^2 \equiv 4 & 10^2 \equiv 21^2 \equiv 7 \\
 3^2 \equiv 28^2 \equiv 9 & 11^2 \equiv 20^2 \equiv -3 \equiv 28 \\
 4^2 \equiv 27^2 \equiv 16 & 12^2 \equiv 19^2 \equiv 20 \\
 5^2 \equiv 26^2 \equiv 25 & 13^2 \equiv 18^2 \equiv 169 \equiv 45 \equiv 14 \\
 6^2 \equiv 25^2 \equiv 5 & 14^2 \equiv 17^2 \equiv 196 \equiv 10 \\
 7^2 \equiv 24^2 \equiv 18 & 15^2 \equiv 16^2 \equiv 225 \equiv 8 \\
 8^2 \equiv 23^2 \equiv 2 &
 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 25, 28$$

12. If  $n > 2$  and  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , Then  $a$  is called a quadratic residue of  $n$  whenever There exists an integer  $x$  s.t.  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$ . Prove that if  $a$  is a quadratic residue of  $n > 2$ , Then  $a^{\phi(n)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

Pf: Since  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  and  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$ , then  $\gcd(x^2, n) = 1$ , and so  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$  (if  $x$  and  $n$  had a common divisor,  $d > 1$ , Then  $d \mid x \Rightarrow d \mid x^2$ ).

$$\text{By Euler's Th., } x^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

$$\therefore a^{\phi(n)/2} \equiv (x^2)^{\phi(n)/2} = x^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

13. Show that The result of The previous problem does not provide a sufficient condition for the existence of a quadratic residue of  $n$ ; i.e., find relatively prime integers  $a$  and  $n$ , with  $a^{\phi(n)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , for which The congruence  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$  is not solvable.

Intuition suggests, from section 8.3, that

if  $n$  is composite and doesn't have a prim. root,  
Then finding such an  $a$  will be easier.

$$\therefore \text{Let } n = 6 \pmod 6, \begin{array}{ll} 1^2 \equiv 1 & 4^2 \equiv 4 \\ 2^2 \equiv 4 & 5^2 \equiv 1 \\ 3^2 \equiv 3 \end{array}$$

$\therefore x^2 \equiv 5 \pmod 6$  is not solvable  
 $\phi(6) = 2$ , however  $5 \not\equiv 1 \pmod 6$

$$\text{Try } n = 8 \pmod 8, \begin{array}{lll} 1^2 \equiv 1 & 4^2 \equiv 0 & 7^2 \equiv 1 \\ 2^2 \equiv 4 & 6^2 \equiv 1 & \\ 3^2 \equiv 1 & 5^2 \equiv 4 & \end{array}$$

$\therefore x^2 \equiv a \pmod 8$  not solvable if  $a = 3, 5, 7$

$$\phi(8) = 4 \therefore \phi(8)/2 = 2$$

$$\text{And, } 3^2 \equiv 5^2 \equiv 7^2 \equiv 1 \pmod 8.$$

$\therefore \text{Let } n = 8, a = 3, 5, \text{ or } 7.$