

**QUIZ 3**  
**(Math 258)**

1. Show that if  $a, b, c,$  and  $d$  are integers s.t.  $a|c$  and  $b|d$ , then  $ab|cd$ .

If  $a|c$ , then there exists some integer  $s$  such that  $c = sa$ .

Similarly, if  $b|d$ , then there exists some integer  $t$  such that  $d = tb$ .

So multiplying  $c$  and  $d$ , we get:

$$cd = (sa)(tb) = (st)(ab)$$

And this is, by definition,  $ab|cd$ .

2. Show that if  $2^n - 1$  is prime, then  $n$  is prime.

Suppose  $n$  is not prime. Then by definition,  $n = ab$  for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ , each greater than 1. Since  $a > 1$ ,  $2^a - 1$  is greater than 1. The second factor is greater than 1 also. Thus,  $2^n - 1 = 2^{ab} - 1$  is the product of two integers greater than 1, and hence is not prime. But this is a contradiction.

3.(a) Encrypt the message “MATH IS FUN” by translating the letters into numbers, applying the encryption function below, and then translating the numbers back into letters. The function is:  $f(x) = (p + 13) \bmod 26$ .

Letter	Number Value	$f(x)$	Value at $f(x)$	New letter value
M	13	$(13 + 13) \bmod 26$	0	Z
A	1	$(1 + 13) \bmod 26$	14	N
T	20	$(20 + 13) \bmod 26$	7	G
H	8	$(8 + 13) \bmod 26$	21	U
I	9	$(9 + 13) \bmod 26$	22	V
S	19	$(19 + 13) \bmod 26$	6	F
F	6	$(6 + 13) \bmod 26$	19	S
U	21	$(21 + 13) \bmod 26$	8	H
N	14	$(14 + 13) \bmod 26$	1	A

(b) Decrypt the encrypted message below, using the Caesar cipher:

**WHVW WRGDB**

Caesar cipher is shifting the letter's number value by 3.

Letter	Number Value	$f(x)$	Value at $f(x)$	New letter value
W	23	$23 - 3$	20	T
H	8	$8 - 3$	5	E
V	22	$22 - 3$	19	S
W	23	$23 - 3$	20	T
W	23	$23 - 3$	20	T
R	18	$18 - 3$	15	O
G	7	$7 - 3$	4	D
D	4	$4 - 3$	1	A
B	2	$2 - 3$	25	Y

So, the message is: TEST TODAY

**4. Find the gcd(111, 201) using the Euclidean algorithm.**

$$201 = (1)111 + 90, \text{ and we know that } \gcd(111, 201) = \gcd(111, 90)$$

$$111 = (1)90 + 21, \text{ and we know that } \gcd(111, 90) = \gcd(90, 21)$$

$$90 = (4)21 + 6, \text{ and we know that } \gcd(90, 21) = \gcd(21, 6)$$

$$21 = (3)6 + 3, \text{ and we know that } \gcd(21, 6) = \gcd(6, 3)$$

$$6 = (2)3 + 0, \text{ and we know that } \gcd(6, 3) = \gcd(3, 0) = 3$$

Hence, from above,  $\gcd(111, 201) = 3$ .

**5. Which of the following have an inverse and why; Find the inverse for the case that the inverse exists.**

**(a) 3 in  $Z_6$**

Since  $\gcd(3, 6) = 3 \neq 1$ , 3 has no inverse in  $Z_6$ . Since there are only 6 possibilities, let us check them all to be sure:

$$\text{For } x = 0, \text{ we have } 0 \cdot 3 = 0 \neq 1.$$

$$\text{For } x = 1, \text{ we have } 1 \cdot 3 = 3 \neq 1.$$

$$\text{For } x = 2, \text{ we have } 2 \cdot 3 = 6 = 0 \neq 1.$$

$$\text{For } x = 3, \text{ we have } 3 \cdot 3 = 9 = 3 \neq 1.$$

For  $x = 4$ , we have  $4 \cdot 3 = 12 = 0 \neq 1$ .

For  $x = 5$ , we have  $5 \cdot 3 = 15 = 3 \neq 1$ .

So, also, by trial and error, we see that 3 has no inverse.

**(b) 4 in  $Z_5$**

Since  $\gcd(4, 5) = 1$ , 4 has an inverse in  $Z_5$ .

We need to find a number  $x$  st  $4x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$  (or,  $4x = 1$  in  $Z_5$ )

It is not hard to see that  $x = 4$  works, as  $4 \cdot 4 = 16 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ .