

# Prime Numbers Modulo 4

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# Outline

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# Pigeonhole Principle (weak version )

## Theorem

*If  $n+1$  objects are placed in  $n$  places, there must be at least two objects in the same place.*

## Proof.

Let assume the contrary, that every place there would have at most 1 object, we would have in all place a total at most  $n$  objects, which contradicts the hypothesis. □

# Pigeonhole principle

## Theorem

*If  $n$  objects are placed in  $k$  places, there must be at least  $\lceil \frac{n}{k} \rceil$  objects in the same place.*

Where  $\lceil x \rceil$  is the ceiling part of  $x$ , the smallest integer that is greater than or equal

## Proof.

Let assume the contrary, that every place there would have at most  $\lceil \frac{n}{k} \rceil - 1$  objects, we would have in all place a total of at most  $k \times (\lceil \frac{n}{k} \rceil - 1) < n$  objects because  $\frac{n}{k} - 1 \leq (\lceil \frac{n}{k} \rceil - 1) < \frac{n}{k}$ , which contradicts the hypothesis. □

# Infinite Pigeonhole Principle

## Theorem

*Given an infinite number of objects, if they are placed in a finite number of places, there is at least one place with an infinite number of objects.*

## Proof.

Let assume the contrary, that every place there would have finitely object, we would have in all place finitely many objects, which contradicts the hypothesis. □

# Prime numbers

## Definition

A positive number  $p > 1$  is a prime number if no integer  $d > 1$  and  $d \neq p$  such that  $d|p$  divide  $p$ .

We are interested in prime numbers since every tout entier  $n > 1$  is either a prime number, or can be written as a unique product of prime numbers (ignoring the order).

# Euclid Theorem

## Theorem

*There are infinitely many prime numbers*

## Proof.

Let assume the contrary, there exist finitely many prime numbers, the set is a part of the set of the non negative integers upper bounded nonempty because it contains 2, so the set has a maximum, let denote  $p$  this prime number. Let consider the number  $p!+1$  greater than  $p$  so it is composite.

There exists a prime  $q$  that divides  $p!+1$

We have  $q \leq p$  hence  $q|p!$

We deduce that  $q|(p! + 1) - p! = 1$

Contradiction. □

# Title page

## Theorem

*There are infinitely many prime numbers of the form  $4k+3$ .*

## Proof.

Let assume the contrary that there exist only finitely many prime number of the form  $4k+3$ .

Let denote this set  $P_3$ . This set is nonempty (for exemple 3).

$P_3$  is a part of the set of the non negative integers upper bounded nonempty, so the set has a maximum, let denote  $p$  this prime number. Let consider the number  $N=4p! - 1$  which is greater than  $p$  and congruent to 3 modulo 4.

Let assume the contrary that all divisors of  $N$  are of the form of  $4k+1$ , so  $4p! - 1$  remain of the form of  $4k+1$ , contradiction. There exists a prime  $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  that divides  $p! + 1$

We have  $q \leq p$  hence  $q | 4p!$

Thus  $q | 4p! - (4p! - 1) = 1$  Contradiction.

Thus the result. □



# Wilson's Theorem

## Theorem

$(p - 1)! + 1 \equiv 0 [p]$  if and only if  $p$  is prime.

## Proof.

$\Rightarrow$  Let suppose that  $p$  divides  $(p-1)!+1$ , hence there exists an integer  $k$  such that:  $pk=(p-1)!+1$

Hence  $\gcd(p,i)=1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq p - 1$

so the only positive divisor of  $p$  are 1 and  $p$ .

Therefore  $p$  is prime.

$\Leftarrow$  Let suppose  $p$  is prime

We have  $p$  divides  $(p-1)!+1$  for  $p=2,3$ .

For  $p \geq 5$ .

Method 1: Let  $1 \leq k \leq p - 1$ ,  $k$  is coprime with  $p$ , so

$\{0, k, \dots, (p - 1)k\}$  is a complete system of residues modulo  $p$  (a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, (p - 1)\}$  modulo  $p$ ) □

## Proof.

We solve for  $x$ :  $x^2 - 1 \equiv 0 [p]$  for classes modulo  $p$ .

Since  $p$  is a prime,

$$p \mid x^2 - 1 \iff p \mid (x-1)(x+1) \iff x \equiv 1 [p] \text{ ou } x \equiv p-1 [p]$$

By Bezout's Theorem, we multiply the distinct pairs that have product 1 from  $(p-1)!$ ,

$$\text{so } (p-1)! \equiv 1 \times (p-1) \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\text{Hence } (p-1)! + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

Method 2:

We consider the polynomial  $X^{p-1} - \bar{1}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}[X]$  that have as roots  $\{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \dots, \overline{p-1}\}$  By Little Fermat Theorem.

Using Viet relation between coefficients and root of the polynomial, we have  $\bar{1} \times \bar{2} \times \dots \times \overline{p-1} = (-1)^{p-1} \times \overline{-1} = \overline{-1}$  since  $p-1$  odd.

Therefore  $p$  divides  $(p-1)! + 1$  □

# Theorem

## Theorem

Let  $p$  is an odd prime number then

$$\exists u / u^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \iff p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \quad [2]$$

## Proof.

$\implies$

Let suppose that  $\exists u / u \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

$$u^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$(u^2)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$u^{p-1} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

$$u^{p-1} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$$

Using Little Fermat Theorem, this is true if and only

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



## Proof.

← Let suppose that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

By Wilson Theorem

$$-1 \equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv [(1)(p-1)][(2)(p-2)] \dots \left[ \binom{p-1}{2} \binom{p+1}{2} \right] \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv [(1)(-1)][(2)(-2)] \dots \left[ \binom{p-1}{2} \left(-\frac{p-1}{2}\right) \right] \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left[ \binom{p-1}{2}! \right]^2 \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv \left[ \binom{p-1}{2}! \right]^2 \pmod{p}$$

We take  $u = \left[ \binom{p-1}{2}! \right]^2$



## Theorem

*There are infinitely many prime numbers of the form  $4k+1$*

## Proof.

Let assume the contrary that there exist only finitely many prime number of the form  $4k+1$ .

Let denote this set  $P_1$ . This set is nonempty (for exemple 5).

$P_1$  is a part of the set of the non negative integers upper bounded nonempty, so the set has a maximum, let denote  $p$  this prime number. Let consider the number  $N = [(2p)!]^2 + 1$  which is greater than  $p$  and let put  $u = [(2p)!]^2$ .

Using the last theorem, the prime divisor(s) are of the form  $4k+1$ .

Let  $q$  be one of these divisors.

We have  $q \leq p$  hence  $q \mid [(2p)!]^2$

We deduce that  $q \mid ([(2p)!]^2 + 1) - [(2p)!]^2 = 1$

Contradiction. □

*Comment:* Dirichlet Theorem states: for any two positive coprime integers  $a$  and  $b$ , there are infinitely many primes of the form  $a + nb$  (congruent to  $a$  modulo  $b$ ), where  $n$  is also a positive integer.

The proof requires some calculus and analytic number theory. For the special case  $a=1$  can be proven by cyclotomic polynomials.

# An Introduction to Cyclotomic Polynomial

## Definition

For a positive integer  $d$ , define the polynomial  $\Phi_d(X)$  by

$$\Phi_d(X) = \prod_{1 \leq k \leq d, \gcd(d,k)=1} (X - e^{\frac{2\pi ik}{d}})$$

## Theorem

For a positive integer  $n$   $X^n - 1 = \prod_{d|n} \Phi_d(X)$

and  $\deg(\Phi_d(X)) = \phi(d)$

where  $\phi(d)$  is the Euler indicator, i.e. the number of numbers less than or equal to  $d$ , and coprime with  $d$ .

A well known result is  $n = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$

# Lemma

## Lemma

For two integers  $n$  and  $u$ , there exist  $x, y$  not both 0 such that

$$-\sqrt{n} \leq x \leq \sqrt{n}, -\sqrt{n} \leq y \leq \sqrt{n}$$

and  $x-uy$  is divisible by  $n$ . [1]

## Proof.

Let  $k + 1 = \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor$  be the largest integer that is smaller than or equal to  $\sqrt{n}$ . We consider the numbers of the form  $x - uy$  where  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\{0, 1, \dots, k\}$ . Each integer has  $k + 1$  options, so there are  $(k + 1)^2 > n$  possible options.

By the pigeonhole principle, there are two numbers of the form  $x - uy$  that leave the same remainder modulo  $n$ . □



### Proof.

Let  $x_1 - uy_1$  and  $x_2 - uy_2$  the two integers, their difference is divisible by  $n$ . Let put  $x = x_1 - x_2$  and  $y = y_1 - y_2$ , these integers are not both 0, since  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  are distincts. □

# Fermat's Theorem

## Theorem

Every prime number  $p$  of the form  $4k+1$  can be written as sum of two squares. [1]

## Proof.

Let  $u$  be an integer such that  $u^2 + 1$  is divisible par  $p$ .

Using proposition , there exist two integers  $x$  and  $y$  not both 0 such that  $x-uy$  is divisible by  $p$  and

$$-\sqrt{n} \leq x \leq \sqrt{n}, -\sqrt{n} \leq y \leq \sqrt{n}$$

Hence  $x^2, y^2 \leq p$ .

Since  $p$  is a prime number the inequalities are strict.


We have  $x \equiv uy \pmod{p}$ , hence  $x^2 \equiv (uy)^2 \equiv -y^2 \pmod{p}$  hence  $x^2 + y^2$  is divisible by  $p$ . □


Proof.

By the double inequality  $0 < x^2 + y^2 < 2p$ .

We deduce that  $x^2 + y^2 = p$ . □

# References

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*Problem-Solving methods in combinatorics.*  
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