

Professor Kenneth A. Ribet

May 13, 2021

7–10PM

Please do all nine problems on this final exam; the problems all have the same value. You have three hours to work on the exam and 15 minutes to upload your work to Gradescope. You may consult the textbook, all the material on bCourses, the class piazza and your own notes. In case of questions, post a private note to instructors on piazza. Any clarifications or corrections that need to be promulgated will be added to a pinned post on piazza.

Explain all your answers fully; write in complete English sentences.

Not permitted: online searches, other uses of the internet, collaboration with other people (electronic or otherwise). Please act with honesty, integrity and respect for others.



Artwork Ig: @itchyscabs @mimithemimo

Please remember to explain all of your answers fully.
Please remember to copy and sign the honor pledge.

1. Suppose that m is a positive integer of the form $12k + 7$. Show that 3 is not a square modulo m .

2. Given Euler's theorem that all integer solutions to $y^2 = x^3 + 1$ have $x = -1, 0, 2$, use the substitutions $x = 2ab$, $y = 4b^3 + 1$ to determine the integer solutions to $a^3 - 2b^3 = 1$.

3. Consider the numbers $2^{p-1}(2^p - 1)$, where p is an odd prime number:

$$28, \quad 496, \quad 8128, \quad 2096128, \quad 33550336, \dots$$

Prove that they are all congruent to 1 mod 9.

4. Find the number of solutions to the congruence $x^2 - 2x - 8 \equiv 0 \pmod{63}$.

5. Determine the elements of $\mathbf{Z}[i]$ with norm $101 \cdot 109$.

6. Let p be an odd prime. Suppose that $(\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z})^*$ is written as the disjoint union of *nonempty* subsets S and T of $(\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z})^*$ and that

$$xy \in \begin{cases} S, & \text{if } x, y \in S; \\ S, & \text{if } x, y \in T; \\ T, & \text{if } x \in S \text{ and } y \in T. \end{cases}$$

a. Show that all primitive roots mod p are contained in T .

b. Show that S is the set of quadratic residues and T is the set of non-residues modulo p .

7. Let p and q be distinct odd primes, and let $m = pq$. How many elements of $(\mathbf{Z}/m\mathbf{Z})^*/\{\pm 1\}$ have square 1 (mod $\{\pm 1\}$)? Your answer might depend on p and q but should be sufficiently transparent that you can find the number of elements without hesitation if m is $59 \cdot 61$ or $61 \cdot 101$, for example.

8. Let p be a prime number. Suppose that n is an integer > 1 for which all binomial coefficients $\binom{n}{1}, \binom{n}{2}, \dots, \binom{n}{n-1}$ are divisible by p . Show that n is a power of p .

9. Consider primitive Pythagorean triples (a, b, c) with a odd and b even. It is possible for the positive integers a, b and c to sum to a perfect square; for example, $(63, 16, 65)$ satisfies $63^2 + 16^2 = 65^2$ and $63 + 16 + 65 = 12^2$. Find a formula that generates all primitive Pythagorean triples whose entries sum to a square and use your formula to show that there are infinitely many such triples.

To finish: Please copy and sign the statement below.

“As a member of the UC Berkeley community, I acted with honesty, integrity, and respect for others during this exam. The work that I am uploading is my own work. I did not collaborate with or contact anyone during the exam. I did not seek or obtain solutions from chegg.com or other sites. I adhered to all instructions for this examination.”

Please remember to explain all of your answers fully.

Please remember to copy and sign the honor pledge.
--