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We showed

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The **Legendre symbol** of  $a$  modulo  $p$  is

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \text{ is a QR,} \\ -1 & \text{if } a \text{ is a NR,} \\ 0 & \text{if } a \text{ is a multiple of } p. \end{cases}$$

So

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{ab}{p}\right).$$

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*If  $p$  is an odd prime then*

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*Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then*

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**Strategy:** use  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$ , and compute  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$  for small values, like primes.

$\leftarrow q \rightarrow$ 

$\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$	3	5	7	11	13	17	19	23
3	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
5	-1	0	-1	1	-1	-1	1	-1
7	-1	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-1	1
11	1	1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	1
13	1	-1	-1	-1	0	1	-1	1
17	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	0	1	-1
19	-1	1	1	1	-1	1	0	1
23	1	-1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	0

		$\leftarrow q \rightarrow$						
$\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$	3	5	7	11	13	17	19	23
3	0	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$
5	$\boxed{-1}$	0	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$
7	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$
11	$\textcircled{1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$
13	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$
17	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	0	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$
19	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	0	$\textcircled{1}$
23	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0

$\uparrow$   
 $p$   
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11	$\textcircled{1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$
13	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$
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23	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\textcircled{1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	$\boxed{-1}$	0

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 $p$   
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**blue:**  $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$       **red:**  $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$

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Cols/rows that are all blue:

$$p, q = 5, 13, 17$$

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Cols/rows that are all blue:

$$p, q = 5, 13, 17, 29, 37, 41, \dots \equiv_4 1$$



## Theorem (Quadratic reciprocity, primes)

Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes. Then

$$\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv_4 1, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv_4 -1, \end{cases} \quad \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv_8 \pm 1, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv_8 \pm 3, \end{cases}$$

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Since  $13 \equiv_4 1$ , we have

$$\left(\frac{7}{13}\right) = \left(\frac{13}{7}\right) = \left(\frac{5}{7}\right) = \left(\frac{-2}{7}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{7}\right) \left(\frac{2}{7}\right) = (-1)(1).$$

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Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes. Then

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(Presented without proof)

**You try:** Compute

$$\left(\frac{20}{31}\right), \quad \left(\frac{14}{137}\right), \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{55}{179}\right).$$

(31, 137, and 179 are prime)

**Thm.** For a composite number  $b = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_\ell$ , we have

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p_1}\right) \left(\frac{a}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(\frac{a}{p_\ell}\right).$$

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### Theorem (Quadratic reciprocity, composites)

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be *odd positive integers*. Then

$$\left(\frac{-1}{b}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } b \equiv_4 1, \\ -1 & \text{if } b \equiv_4 -1, \end{cases} \quad \left(\frac{2}{b}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } b \equiv_8 \pm 1, \\ -1 & \text{if } b \equiv_8 \pm 3, \end{cases}$$

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