

Theorem (Fermats Little Theorem)

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Example: $a^i \pmod{6}$

		$\leftarrow i \rightarrow$				
		2	3	4	5	6
	1	1	1	1	1	1
\uparrow	2	4	2	4	2	4
a	3	3	3	3	3	3
\downarrow	4	4	4	4	4	4
	5	1	5	1	5	1
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$\leftarrow i \rightarrow$

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1
6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1	7	1	7	1	7	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$\uparrow a$
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So what if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, but n is not prime?

Are there solutions to $a^i \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ when $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, but n is not prime?

Example: $a^i \pmod{6}$

		2	3	4	5	6
	1	1	1	1	1	1
\uparrow	2	4	2	4	2	4
a	3	3	3	3	3	3
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	6	0	0	0	0	0

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Example: $a^i \pmod{8}$

		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
\uparrow	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\downarrow	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1
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Step 1: Show that the numbers

$$a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (p-1)a$$

form the same set as

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n	$\{1 \leq a \leq n-1 \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$
2	{1}
3	{1, 2}
4	{1, 3}
5	{1, 2, 3, 4}
6	{1, 5}
7	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}
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mod 4:

×	1	3
1	1	3
3	3	1

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×	1	3
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mod 6:

×	1	5
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×	1	3	×	1	5	×	1	3	5	7
1	1	3	1	1	5	1	1	3	5	7
3	3	1	5	5	1	3	3	1	7	5
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You try: Compute the integers $1 \leq a \leq 11$ that are relatively prime to 10, and compute their multiplication table modulo 10.

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Lemma

Let $\Phi(n) = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$ be the set of numbers between 1 and $n-1$ that are relatively prime to n . Then, for any integer a with $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, the numbers

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$$a^m x \equiv x \pmod{n}, \quad \text{where } x = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_m.$$

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$$a^m x \equiv x \pmod{n} \quad \text{implies} \quad a^m \equiv 1 \pmod{n}.$$

Step 3 ✓

Answer (Euler's formula): $a^i \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ has a solution if and only if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, in which case it is solved by

$$i = \#\{\text{numbers between 1 and } n-1 \text{ relatively prime to } n\}.$$

Big question:

Are there solutions to $a^i \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ when $\gcd(a, n) = 1$?

Step 3: Since $(p-1)!$ is relatively prime to p , we can cancel.

Analog for composite modulus:

Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, and let $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$ be the set of numbers between 1 and $n-1$ relatively prime to n . So

$$a^m x \equiv x \pmod{n}, \quad \text{where } x = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_m.$$

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What is this value?

Euler's phi function

Let

$\Phi(n) = \{ \text{integers } 1 \leq x \leq n - 1 \text{ relatively prime to } n \}$,
and define $\phi(n) = |\Phi(n)|$.

Examples:

n	$\{1 \leq a \leq n - 1 \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$	$\phi(n)$
2	{1}	1
3	{1, 2}	2
4	{1, 3}	2
5	{1, 2, 3, 4}	4
6	{1, 5}	2
7	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}	6
8	{1, 3, 5, 7}	4

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From your example: What is $\phi(10)$?

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Next time: $\phi(mn) = \phi(m)\phi(n)$ whenever $\gcd(m, n) = 1$.

