## 9. Introductory Number Theory

- 1. For a and b given below, find q and r such that a = qb + r and  $0 \le r < b$ .
  - (a) a = 10, b = 3.
  - (b) a = -84, b = 5.
  - (c) a = 75, b = 5.
  - (d) a = -66, b = 11.
- The C programming language uses % for the mod operation. However if you calculate -12 % 5 in C, it returns -2. Explain why this is a problem if you are a mathematician.
- 3. Prove that  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  is an equivalence relation.
- 4. What are the equivalence classes of  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ ?
- 5. Calculate gcd(a, b) for:
  - (a) a = 20, b = 25.
  - (b) a = 203, b = 56.
  - (c) a = -453, b = -36.
  - (d) a = 17, b = 15.
  - (e) a = 24, b = 0.
- 6. For each of the above pairs of numbers, find x and y such that ax + by = gcd(a, b).
- 7. Let a and n be relatively prime. Prove that there is some b such that  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{(n)}$ .
- 8. Disprove: If p is prime, then given any integer a, a and p are relatively prime.
- 9. Calculate the following:
  - (a)  $5 + 6 \pmod{8}$ .
  - (b)  $7 16 \pmod{19}$ .
  - (c)  $-3 \pmod{5}$ .
  - (d)  $7 \times 5 \pmod{12}$ .
  - (e)  $-(4 \times 2) \pmod{7}$ .
  - (f)  $6 \times 8 \pmod{12}$ .

- Write out the addition and multiplication tables (mod 4).
- 11. Write out the multiplication table  $\pmod{7}$ .
- 12. Find the inverses of  $1, 2, \ldots, 6 \pmod{7}$ .
- 13. Prove that if a is invertible (mod n), then  $a^{-1}$  is invertible (mod n) and  $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a \pmod{n}$ .
- 14. Find  $27^{-1} \pmod{41}$ .
- 15. Find all solutions of  $x^2 = 1 \pmod{3}$ .
- 16. A field is a mathematical object  $\mathbb{F} = (F, +, \times, 0, 1)$ , where F is a set,  $+: F \times F \to F$  and  $\times: F \times F \to F$  are functions, and  $0, 1 \in F$ , which satisfies the following conditions:
  - (a) for all  $x, y \in F$ , x + y = y + x.
  - (b) for all  $x, y, z \in F$ , x + (y+z) = (x+y) + z.
  - (c) for all  $x \in F$ , x + 0 = x.
  - (d) for all  $x \in F$ , there is some  $y \in F$  such that x + y = 0 (we usually write y = -x).
  - (e) for all  $x, y \in F, x \times y = y \times x$ .
  - (f) for all  $x, y, z \in F$ ,  $x \times (y \times z) = (x \times y) \times z$ .
  - (g) for all  $x \in F$ ,  $x \times 1 = x$ .
  - (h) for all  $x \in F$  such that  $x \neq 0$ , there is some  $y \in F$  such that  $x \times y = 1$  (we usually write  $y = x^{-1}$ ).
  - (i) for all  $x, y, z \in F$ ,  $x \times (y+z) = x \times y + x \times z$ .

The real numbers, complex numbers, and rational numbers are all examples of fields. Prove that  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is a field if and only if n is prime.