

1. (5 points) Prove that the odd prime divisors of the number $n^2 + 1$ are of the form $4k + 1$ (use Wilson's theorem, by first converting "p divides $n^2 + 1$ " into a congruence equation).

suppose $p | n^2 + 1$ and p is odd

then $n^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow X^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ has a solution $X = n$

$\Rightarrow p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ (if $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, $X^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ has no solutions).

eg $7^2 + 1 = 50 = 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 5$ $5 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

2. (3 points) Solve the congruence (you need not simplify the answer) $x^2 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{53}$.

$$X = \left(\frac{53-1}{2}\right)! \equiv 26! \quad \text{or } X \equiv -26! \pmod{53}.$$

3. Let $n = 2p$ show that $n = 2p$ divides $a^{n-1} - a$ by showing that both 2 and p divide $a^{n-1} - a$.

show
 $2 | a^{n-1} - a$

if $2 | a$ then $2 | a^{n-1}$

$\Rightarrow 2 | a^{n-1} - a$

if $2 \nmid a$, $a \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$

$a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \Rightarrow a^{n-1} - a \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$

show
 $p | a^{n-1} - a$

case 1: $p | a$ then $p | a^{n-1} \Rightarrow p | a^{n-1} - a$

case 2: if $p \nmid a$ then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$\Rightarrow a^{2p-2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$\Rightarrow a^{2p-1} \equiv a \pmod{p}$ (since $2p-1 = n-1$).

4. (4 points) Determine $\tau(300)$, $\sigma(300)$ (the number of divisors of 300 and the sum of divisors of 300).

$$300 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \tau(300) = (2+1)(1+1)(2+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(300) &= \frac{2^3-1}{2-1} \cdot \frac{3^2-1}{3-1} \cdot \frac{5^3-1}{5-1} = 7 \cdot \frac{8}{2} \cdot \frac{24}{4} \\ &= 28 \cdot 6 \\ &= 168 \end{aligned}$$