

Name:

Problem 1: *Please evaluate this Legendre symbol:*

$$\left(\frac{-219}{383}\right).$$

Note that $219 = 3 \cdot 73$ and 383 is prime. Also you might like to know that $383 \equiv 18 \pmod{73}$.

Solution: We have that

$$\left(\frac{-219}{383}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{383}\right) \left(\frac{3}{383}\right) \left(\frac{73}{383}\right).$$

We compute each Legendre symbol separately.

Since $383 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, $\left(\frac{-1}{383}\right) = -1$.

For the next two symbols we can use Quadratic Reciprocity because the top and bottom are both odd primes. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{3}{383}\right) &= (-1)^{\frac{3-1}{2} \frac{383-1}{2}} \left(\frac{383}{3}\right) \\ &= - \left(\frac{383}{3}\right) \\ &= - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 1, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{73}{383}\right) &= (-1)^{\frac{73-1}{2} \frac{383-1}{2}} \left(\frac{383}{73}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{383}{73}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{18}{73}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{73}\right) \left(\frac{9}{73}\right) \\ &= 1 \cdot 1 = 1, \end{aligned}$$

where $\left(\frac{2}{73}\right) = 1$ because $73 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$.

Therefore

$$\left(\frac{-219}{383}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{383}\right) \left(\frac{3}{383}\right) \left(\frac{73}{383}\right) = -1.$$