

Math 255 - Spring 2018  
Homework 12

This homework is due on Monday, April 30.

1. Let  $m > 1$  be an integer. Show that if there is  $a$  an integer with  $(a, m) = 1$  and the order of  $a$  modulo  $m$  is  $m - 1$ , then  $m$  is prime.
2. Let  $p$  be an odd prime and  $g$  and  $h$  be primitive roots of  $p$ . Show that  $g \equiv h^k \pmod{p}$  for some  $k$ , and that in this case  $k$  is odd.
3. Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Show that if  $a$  has order 3 modulo  $p$ , then  $a + 1$  has order 6 modulo  $p$ .  
Hint: You may use the following result without proof: If  $a \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  and  $a$  has order  $t$  modulo  $p$ , then

$$a^{t-1} + a^{t-2} + \dots + a + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

4. In this problem we will show that if  $n > 2$ , then  $\phi(n)$  is even in two different ways.
  - (a) Show this directly, using the explicit formula we have for  $\phi(n)$ .
  - (b) Show this by first showing that if  $n > 2$ , then there is  $a$  with  $(a, n) = 1$  and  $a$  has order 2 modulo  $n$ . Then apply Theorem 2 of Section 10 to conclude.

Extra problem for graduate credit:

5. Let  $m$  be any integer that has a primitive root. Show that in this case

$$\prod_{a \in (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^\times} a \equiv -1 \pmod{m}.$$