

Name:

Problem 1: *Lemma 3 of Section 6 states that if p is an odd prime, then the least residues*

$$2, 3, 4, \dots, p-4, p-3, p-2$$

can be partitioned into $\frac{p-3}{2}$ pairs (a, a') such that for each pair,

$$aa' \equiv 1 \pmod{p},$$

with $a \not\equiv a' \pmod{p}$.

Let $p = 11$. Partition the set

$$\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$$

into four pairs (a, a') such that in each case $aa' \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$.

Solution:

We have that $12 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$, therefore we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \cdot 6 &= 12 \equiv 1 \pmod{11} \quad \text{and} \\ 3 \cdot 4 &= 12 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives us the two pairs $(2, 6)$ and $(3, 4)$.

We can also negate each integer:

$$\begin{aligned} (-2) \cdot (-6) &\equiv 9 \cdot 5 \equiv 1 \pmod{11} \quad \text{and} \\ (-3) \cdot (-4) &\equiv 8 \cdot 7 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives us the pairs $(5, 9)$ and $(7, 8)$.

All of the least residue classes now belong to one pair, and we are done, the pairs are

$$(2, 6), (3, 4), (5, 9), (7, 8).$$