

Math 255 - Spring 2022  
Advanced congruence proofs  
10 points

This homework invites you to work on slightly less straightforward proofs about congruences. To do this homework, you will need the following definition: A set  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  of integers is a **complete set of residues modulo  $n$**  if every integer is congruent modulo  $n$  to one and only one of the  $a_i$ s.

1. Prove that a set of  $n$  integers is a complete set of residues modulo  $n$  if and only if no two of the integers are congruent modulo  $n$ .
2. If  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  is a complete set of residues modulo  $n$  and  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , prove that  $\{aa_1, aa_2, \dots, aa_n\}$  is also a complete set of residues modulo  $n$ .
3. Let  $c$  be any integer, and let  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ . Prove that the set

$$\{c, c + a, c + 2a, c + 3a, \dots, c + (n - 1)a\}$$

is a complete set of residues modulo  $n$ .

4. (a) Show that if  $a \equiv b \pmod{n_1}$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{n_2}$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , where  $n = \text{lcm}(n_1, n_2)$ .  
(b) Show that if  $a \equiv b \pmod{n_1}$  and  $a \equiv c \pmod{n_2}$ , then  $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$ , where  $n = \gcd(n_1, n_2)$ .