

1. a) Find the first four  $n > 1$  such that  $6n + 1$ ,  $12n + 1$ , and  $18n + 1$  are all prime.  
 b) If  $6n+1$ ,  $12n+1$ , and  $18n+1$  are prime for an  $n \geq 1$  then prove  $N := (6n+1)(12n+1)(18n+1)$  is a Carmichael number:  $a^{N-1} \equiv 1 \pmod N$  for all  $a$  that are relatively prime to  $N$ .
2. When  $m$  is composite and not a Carmichael number (there is a solution to  $a^{m-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod m$  with  $(a, m) = 1$ ), it was stated in the lecture that the proportion of Fermat witnesses for  $m$  in  $\{1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$  is greater than 50%. Can 50%, as a common lower bound, be improved?  
 a) Show Hypothesis H implies  $p$  and  $2p-1$  are both prime together infinitely often.  
 b) If  $p$  and  $2p-1$  are both odd primes, let  $m = p(2p-1)$ . Prove exactly half the units  $a \pmod m$  satisfy  $a^{m-1} \equiv 1 \pmod m$  and deduce from this that

$$\frac{|\{1 \leq a \leq m-1 : a^{m-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod m\}|}{m-1} = \frac{m-1 - \varphi(m)/2}{m-1} = \frac{p+2}{2p+1},$$

which tends to  $1/2$  (from above) if we can let  $p \rightarrow \infty$ . (Hint:  $m-1$  has a nice factorization.)

3. For each integer  $a$  that is not  $-1$  or a perfect square, show Hypothesis H with two well-chosen linear polynomials (depending on  $a$ ) implies  $a$  generates  $U_p$  for infinitely many primes  $p$ .
4. A *primitive Pythagorean triple* is a triple of positive integers  $(a, b, c)$  such that  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$  and  $\gcd(a, b, c) = 1$ . Either  $a$  or  $b$  must be even. Such triples with  $b$  even can be described as  $(a, b, c) = (m^2 - n^2, 2mn, m^2 + n^2)$  where  $m > n > 0$ ,  $(m, n) = 1$ , and  $m \not\equiv n \pmod 2$ .  
 a) If two of the three terms in a primitive Pythagorean triple are prime, show  $m = n + 1$  and the triple is  $(2n + 1, 2n^2 + 2n, 2n^2 + 2n + 1)$ .  
 b) Prove the set  $\{2T + 1, 2T^2 + 2T + 1\}$  satisfies the conditions of Hypothesis H.  
 c) When  $n$  is 1 and 2, the triple in part a is  $(3, 4, 5)$  and  $(5, 12, 13)$ . Find the next four  $n > 2$  for which the triple in part a has two of its terms being prime numbers.
5. Bunyakovsky's condition makes sense for integer-valued polynomials, but is the equivalence in 3d on Set 1 true for such polynomials? Care is needed since for integer-valued polynomials  $f(T)$  we have  $a \equiv b \pmod c \not\Rightarrow f(a) \equiv f(b) \pmod c$  in general. (Try  $f(T) = (T^2 + T)/2$  with  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 2$ , and  $c = 2$ .)

Let  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $p$  be a prime number.

- a) If  $p^r > k$ , prove for all  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$  that  $a \equiv b \pmod{p^r} \implies \binom{a}{k} \equiv \binom{b}{k} \pmod p$ . Note the modulus at the end is  $p$ , not  $p^r$ . (Hint: Use the polynomial identity  $\binom{X+Y}{k} = \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{X}{i} \binom{Y}{k-i}$ .)
- b) If  $p^r \leq k$  find integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $a \equiv b \pmod{p^r}$  and  $\binom{a}{k} \not\equiv \binom{b}{k} \pmod p$ .
- c) Use part a to prove the equivalence in 3d on Set 1 holds for integer-valued polynomials.