

Thm 4.10: Let  $a$  and  $n$  be natural numbers, with  $(a, n) = 1$  and  $k = \text{ord}_n(a)$ .

If  $m$  is a natural number, then

$$a^m \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

if and only if  $k \mid m$ .

Proof: By Division Alg., we have

$$m = q \cdot k + r, \text{ where } 0 \leq r < k.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } a^m &\equiv a^{qk+r} \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv (a^k)^q \cdot a^r \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv 1^q \cdot a^r \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv a^r \pmod{n} \quad 0 \leq r < k \end{aligned}$$

Hint: The numbers  $a^0, a^1, a^2, \dots, a^{k-1}$  ( $a^k \equiv a^0 \pmod{n}$ ) are pairwise incongruent. In particular, only one is congruent to  $1 \pmod{n}$ .

So  $a^m \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  if and only if  $r=0$ , i.e.  $k \mid m$ .



Fun takeaway: If  $(a, n) = 1$ ,  $k = \text{ord}_n(a)$

When we look at powers of  $a$  modulo  $n$ ,  
Under multiplication, we just add exponents modulo  $k$ .

Reason:  $a^i \equiv a^j \pmod{n}$   $i \geq j$

$$(a^{i-j})a^j \equiv a^j \pmod{n}$$

$$a^{i-j} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

$$\text{Thm 4.10} \Rightarrow k \mid (i-j) \Rightarrow i \equiv j \pmod{k}$$

Ex:  $a = 7$ ,  $n = 10$

$$7^1 \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$$

$$7^2 \equiv 49 \pmod{10} \equiv 9 \pmod{10}$$

$$7^3 \equiv 7 \cdot 9 \pmod{10} \equiv 3 \pmod{10} \quad \text{ord}_{10}(7) = 4$$

$$7^4 \equiv 7 \cdot 3 \pmod{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$$

So when we work with powers of 7 modulo 10,  
we add exponents modulo 4.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex: } 7^{26} \cdot 7^{41} &\equiv 7^{4 \cdot 6 + 2} \cdot 7^{4 \cdot 10 + 1} \pmod{10} \\ &\equiv \cancel{(7^4)^6} \cdot 7^2 \cdot \cancel{(7^4)^{10}} \cdot 7^1 \pmod{10} \\ &\equiv 7^3 \pmod{10} \end{aligned}$$

## Portfolio

- Entries imported
- Turn in unfinished entries ASAP
- Volunteer for extra portfolio entries worth extra credit
  - ↳ see Canvas announced later today

## Exit Survey

- Next week
- Must respond to receive participation grade

## Final Exam

- Monday, May 10 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
- Cumulative, emphasis on Ch. 3/4

## Next Week

Monday: Fun math

Wednesday: Reflection

Friday: Review