

**Problem 1.** This problem is about the ring  $\mathbb{Z}/17\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $\gcd(8, 17) = 1$  we know that the element  $[8]_{17} \in \mathbb{Z}/17\mathbb{Z}$  has a multiplicative inverse.

- (a) Use the Extended Euclidean Algorithm to find the inverse  $[8^{-1}]_{17} \in \mathbb{Z}/17\mathbb{Z}$ .
- (b) Use your answer from part (a) to solve the following equations for  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$[8x]_{17} = [2]_{17},$$

$$[8y]_{17} = [3]_{17},$$

$$[8z]_{17} = [4]_{17}.$$

**Problem 2.** In this problem you will give an induction proof of Fermat's Little Theorem. You may assume that the following statement, which we proved in class: For all  $a, b, p \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $p$  prime we have

$$[(a + b)^p]_p = [a^p]_p + [b^p]_p.$$

Now fix a prime  $p$  and for each integer  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  consider the following statement:

$$P(n) = "[n^p]_p = [n]_p."$$

- (a) Explain why the statements  $P(0)$  and  $P(1)$  are true.
- (b) If  $P(n)$  is true, prove that  $P(-n)$  is true. [Hint:  $p = 2$  is a special case.]
- (c) If  $P(n)$  is true, prove that  $P(n + 1)$  is true.

**Problem 3.** In this problem you will prove a formula related to the RSA Cryptosystem.

- (a) Consider  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ . If  $a|c$  and  $b|c$ , prove that  $ab|c$ . [Hint: There exist integers  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $ax + by = 1$ . Multiply both sides by  $c$ .]
- (b) Consider  $a, p \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $p$  prime and with  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  (i.e., with  $p \nmid a$ ). Prove that  $[a^{p-1}]_p = [1]_p$ . [Hint: Use Problem 2 and the fact that  $[a^{-1}]_p$  exists.]
- (c) Consider  $m, p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $p \neq q$  prime and with  $\gcd(m, pq) = 1$  (i.e., with  $p \nmid m$  and  $q \nmid m$ ). Prove that

$$[m^{(p-1)(q-1)}]_{pq} = [1]_{pq}.$$

[Hint: Use part (b) to show that  $p|(m^{(p-1)(q-1)} - 1)$  and  $q|(m^{(p-1)(q-1)} - 1)$ . You will need to mention the extended version of Euclid's Lemma. Then use part (a).]