1. If  $a = 2^4 13^2 19$  and  $b = 2^3 5^2 13$  then find the prime factorization of

- (a) (a, b)
  ▶ Solution. (a, b) = 2<sup>3</sup> · 13
  (b) [a, b]
  ▶ Solution. [a, b] = 2<sup>4</sup>5<sup>2</sup>13<sup>2</sup>19
  (c) (a<sup>2</sup>, b<sup>3</sup>)
  - ▶ Solution.  $a^2 = 2^8 13^4 19^2$  and  $b^3 = 2^9 5^6 13^3$  so  $(a^2, b^3) = 2^9 13^4 5^6 19^2$ .
- 2. Prove that any whole number amount greater than 23 cents could be made up using an unlimited supply of 5 cent and 7 cent coupons.

▶ Solution. Prove by induction. For the base step,  $24 = 2 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot 7$ . Induction Step: Assume that  $k = x \cdot 5 + y \cdot 7$  with  $x, y \ge 0$  and  $k \ge 24$ . If  $y \ge 2$  then  $k + 1 = (x + 1) \cdot 5 + (y - 2) \cdot 7$ , that is, remove two 7's and add three 5's. If  $x \ge 4$  then  $k + 1 = (x - 4) \cdot 5 + (y + 3) \cdot 7$ , that is, remove four 5's and add three 7's. One of these two cases must occur since  $x \le 3, y \le 1$  only give  $k \le 3 \cdot 5 + 1 \cdot 7 = 22 < 24$ . Hence, if  $k \ge 24$  can be written as 5x + 7y for  $x, y \ge 0$ , then so can k + 1. Hence the principle of induction implies that all integers  $\ge 24$  can be written in the form 5x + 7y.

3. (a) Evaluate  $\phi(3000)$ .

▶ Solution.  $3000 = 3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 5^3$  so  $\phi(3000) = \phi(3)\phi(2^3)\phi(5^3) = (3-1)(2^3-2^2)(5^3-5^2) = 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 100 = 1200.$ 

(b) Find the remainder when  $11^{2402}$  is divided by 3000.

▶ Solution. From Euler's theorem  $11^{2402} = 11^{2 \cdot 1200 + 2} = (11^{1200})^2 \cdot 11^2 \equiv 1^2 \cdot 11^2 \equiv 121 \pmod{3000}$ . Thus, the remainder when  $11^{2402}$  is divided by 300 is 121.

4. Use induction to prove that  $6^n \equiv 5n + 1 \pmod{25}$  for all positive integers n.

▶ Solution. For the base step,  $6^1 = 6 = 5 \cdot 1 + 1$  so  $6^1 \equiv 5 \cdot 1 + 1 \pmod{25}$ . Induction step: Assume that  $6^k \equiv 5k + 1 \pmod{25}$  for some positive integer k. Then

> $6^{k+1} = 6^k \cdot 6 = 6^k (5+1)$   $\equiv (5k+1)(5+1) \pmod{25} \quad \text{by the induction hypothesis}$   $\equiv 25k+5k+5+1 = 25k+5(k+1)+1 \pmod{25}$  $\equiv 5(k+1)+1 \pmod{25}.$

Thus, if  $6^n \equiv 5n+1$  for n = k then it is also true for n = k+1, and by the induction principle, it is valid for all  $n \ge 1$ .

5. Use induction to prove that  $2^n \mid (2n)!$ 

▶ Solution. For the base step,  $2^1 = 2 = 2!$  so  $2^1 | (2 \cdot 1)!$ .

Induction step: Assume that  $2^k \mid (2k)!$ . This means that  $(2k)! = 2^k \cdot c$  for some integer c. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (2(k+1))! &= (2(k+1))(2k+1)(2k)! \\ &= 2(k+1)(2k+1) \cdot 2^k \cdot c \\ &= 2^{k+1} \cdot (k+1)(2k+1)c. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if  $2^k \mid (2k)!$  then  $2^{k+1} \mid (2(k+1))!$  and by the principle of induction,  $2^n \mid (2n)!$  for all positive integers.

6. Give a proof that there are infinitely many primes.

▶ Solution. Let  $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_r$  be any finite set of prime numbers. Define  $N = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_r + 1$ . Then N is an integer and hence there is a prime divisor q of N. q cannot be one of the primes  $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_r$ , since, if q is one of these primes, then  $q \mid p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_r$  and since  $q \mid N$  it would follow that  $q \mid (N - p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_r)$  or  $q \mid 1$ . But any prime is greater than 1 and so  $q \nmid 1$ . Hence, q must be different from  $p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_r$ . Therefore, any finite list cannot contain all primes, so there is an infinite number of primes.

- 7. Find all right-angled triangles with relatively prime integer sides and base of given length:
  - (a) 28

▶ Solution. x = 2st = 28 so st = 14 which gives two cases: s = 1, t = 14 and s = 2, t = 7.

**Case 1:** 
$$x = 28$$
,  $y = t^2 - s^2 = 14^2 - 1^2 = 195$ ,  $z = t^2 + s^2 = 14^2 + 1^2 = 197$   
**Case 2:**  $x = 28$ ,  $y = t^2 - s^2 = 7^2 - 2^2 = 45$ ,  $z = t^2 + s^2 = 7^2 + 2^2 = 53$ 

(b) 55

▶ Solution.  $y = 55 = t^2 - s^2 = (t + s)(t - s)$ Case 1: t + s = 55, t - s = 1. Solving for t, s gives t = 28, s = 27. Thus,

$$x = 2st = 1512, \quad y = 55, \quad z = t^2 + s^2 = 1513.$$

**Case 2**: t + s = 11, t - s = 5 so t = 8, s = 3. Thus,

$$x = 2st, \quad y = 55, \quad z = t^2 + s^2 = 73.$$

- 8. (a) Find the prime factorization of 600.
  - ▶ Solution.  $600 = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2$

(b)  $\tau(n)$  is the number of positive divisors of n. Evaluate  $\tau(600)$ .

► Solution. 
$$\tau(600) = \tau(2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2) = \tau(2^3)\tau(3)\tau(5^2) = (3+1)(1+1)(2+1) = 24$$

- (c)  $\sigma(n)$  is the sum of the positive divisors of n. Evaluate  $\sigma(600)$ .
  - ► Solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(600) &= \sigma(2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2) = \sigma(2^3)\sigma(3)\sigma(5^2) \\ &= \frac{2^{3+1} - 1}{2 - 1}(1 + 3)\frac{5^{2+1} - 1}{5 - 1} = 15 \cdot 4 \cdot 31 \\ &= 1860. \end{aligned}$$

(d)  $\phi(n)$  is the Euler phi function. Evaluate  $\phi(600)$ .

▶ Solution.

$$\phi(600) = \phi(2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2) = \phi(2^3)\phi(3)\phi(5^2)$$
  
=  $(2^3 - 2^2)(3 - 1)(5^2 - 5) = 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 20$   
= 160.

(e)  $\mu(n)$  is the Möbius function. Evaluate  $\mu(600)$ .

▶ Solution. Since  $4 \mid 600, \mu(600) = 0$ .

9. Give a non-trivial factor of  $2^{55} - 1$ . (Bonus points for two.)

## ► Solution.

$$2^{55} - 1 = (2^5)^{11} - 1$$
  
=  $(2^5 - 1)((2^5)^{10} + (2^5)^9 + (2^5)^8 + (2^5)^7 + (2^5)^6 + (2^5)^5 + (2^5)^4 + (2^5)^3 + (2^5)^2 + 2^5 + 1)$ 

Therefore,  $2^5 - 1 = 31$  is a factor of  $2^{55} - 1$ . Similarly,

$$2^{55} - 1 = (2^{11})^5 - 1$$
  
=  $(2^{11} - 1)((2^{11})^4 + (2^{11})^3 + (2^{11})^2 + (2^{11})^1 + 1)$ 

Therefore,  $2^{11} - 1 = 2048 - 1 = 2047$  is also a factor of  $2^{55} - 1$ .

10. Prove that if  $a \mid b$  and  $a \mid c$  then  $a^2 \mid 7bc$ .

▶ Solution. If  $a \mid b$  then b = ak for some integer k. If  $a \mid c$ , then c = am for some integer m. Then

$$7bc = 7(ak)(am) = a^2(7km),$$

and thus  $a^2 \mid 7bc$ .

11. Use congruences to prove that  $x^2 - 5y^2 = 3$  has no integer solutions.

▶ Solution. If  $x^2 - 5y^2 = 3$  then  $x^2 = 3 + 5y^2$  so  $x^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ . However, if  $x \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  then  $x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ , if  $x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$  then  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , and if  $x \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}$  then  $x^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$ . Since these cases account for all integers x, it follows that  $x^2 \not\equiv 3 \pmod{5}$  so the given equation has no integer solutions.

12. (a) If  $F(n) = \sum_{d|n} \sigma(d)$  then evaluate F(175).

▶ Solution. Since  $\sigma(n)$  is a multiplicative function, so is F(n). Thus, to evaluate F(175) it is only necessary to evaluae F(7) and  $F(5^2)$  since  $175 = 5^2 \cdot 7$ . But,

$$F(7) = \sigma(1) + \sigma(7) = 1 + (1+7) = 9,$$

and

$$F(5^2) = \sigma(1) + \sigma(5) + \sigma(5^2) = 1 + (1+5) + (1+5+5^2) = 38.$$
  
Therefore,  $F(175) = F(5^2 \cdot 7) = F(5^2)F(7) = 38 \cdot 9 = 342.$ 

- (b) Evaluate  $\sigma(22, 491)$ . (Hint:  $22, 491 = 27 \cdot 49 \cdot 17$ .)
  - ▶ Solution. Since  $\sigma(n)$  is multiplicative,

$$\sigma(22, 491) = \sigma(3^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 17)$$
  
=  $\sigma(3^3)\sigma(7^2)\sigma(17)$   
=  $(1 + 3 + 3^2 + 3^3)(1 + 7 + 7^2)(1 + 17)$   
=  $40 \cdot 57 \cdot 18 = 41,040.$ 

13. Suppose g(n) is a multiplicative function satisfying  $\tau(n)^2 = \sum_{d|n} g(d)$ .

(a) Use the Möbius inversion formula to give a formula for g(n).

► Solution. From the Möbius inversion formula  $g(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \tau^2(n/d)$ .

(b) Evaluate  $g(5^3)$ .

-

**Solution.** If p is a prime, then

$$g(p^{k}) = \mu(1)\tau^{2}(p^{k}) + \mu(p)\tau^{2}(p^{k-1}) + \mu(p^{2})\tau^{2}(p^{k-2}) + \cdots$$
$$= (k+1)^{2} - k^{2},$$

since  $\mu(p^t) = 0$  for  $t \ge 2$ . Therefore,  $g(5^3) = 4^2 - 3^2 = 7$ .

- (c) Evaluate g(700).
  - ▶ Solution. Since g is multiplicative and  $700 = 2^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7$  we have that

$$g(700) = g(2^2)g(5^2)g(7) = (3^2 - 2^2)(3^2 - 2^2)(2^2 - 1^2) = 75.$$

14. (a) What can you say about the prime factorization of n if  $\tau(n) = 8$ ?

▶ Solution. If  $\tau(n) = 8$ , then  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$  is the prime factorization of n and possible factorization of  $\tau(n)$  are given by

$$\tau(p_1^{k_1}\cdots p_r^{k_r}) = (k_1+1)\cdots(k_r+1) = 8 = 2 \cdot 4 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2.$$

This gives  $n = p^7$ ,  $n = p_1(p_2)^3$ , or  $n = p_1p_2p_3$ 

(b) What is the smallest n with  $\tau(n) = 8$ .

▶ Solution. The smallest n with  $\tau(n) = 8$  is obtained by taking the smallest possible primes in calculating n in part (a).  $2^7 = 128$ ,  $2^2 \cdot 3 = 24$ , and  $2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 = 30$ . Therefore, the smallest n with  $\tau(n) = 8$  is n = 24.

(c) Find three n with  $\phi(n) = 16$ .

▶ Solution.  $\phi(p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}) = \prod_{i=1}^r p_i^{k_i-1}(p_i-1) = 2^4$ . If  $p-1 \mid 2^4$  then p=2, 3, 5, 17 and if  $p^{k-1} \mid 2^4$  then p=2 and  $1 \le k \le 5$  Thus some candidates for n are 17, 32, 34, 40, 48, 60.

- 15. (a) Suppose that  $d = \operatorname{ord}_m a$ . Prove that if  $a^n \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$  then  $d \mid n$ .
  - ▶ Solution. By the division algorithm, n = dq + r where  $0 \le r < d$ . Then

$$1 \equiv a^n \equiv a^{dq+r} \equiv (a^d)^q a^r \equiv 1^q a^r \pmod{m}.$$

But r < d and d is the smallest positive integer k with  $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . Thus, r cannot be positive so it must be 0 and hence n = dq. That is  $d \mid n$ .

(b) Find (with justification)  $\operatorname{ord}_m b$  if  $b^8 \equiv -1 \pmod{m}$  with  $m \geq 2$ .

▶ Solution.  $b^{16} = (b^8)^2 \equiv (-1)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . Therefore,  $d - \operatorname{ord}_m b \mid 16 \text{ so } d = 1, 2, 4, 8 \text{ or } 16$ . If d = 1, 2, 4, or 8 then  $a^8 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . But  $a^8 \equiv -1 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{m}$  since  $m \geq 2$ . Thus, d = 16.

16. (a) What is the order of 3 modulo 23?

▶ Solution. From Fermat's theorem  $3^{22} \equiv 1 \pmod{23}$ . Thus  $d = \operatorname{ord}_{23} 3 \mid 22$  so d = 1, 2, 11, or 22. Calculating modulo 23, we have  $3^2 \equiv 9, 3^3 = 27 \equiv 4, 3^4 \equiv 12$ ,  $3^8 \equiv 12^2 \equiv 144 \equiv 6, 3^{11} = 3^33^8 \equiv 4 \cdot 6 \equiv 24 \equiv 1$ . Thus,  $\operatorname{ord}_{23} 3 = 11$  since  $3^{11} \equiv 1 \pmod{23}$  but  $3^2 \not\equiv 1$ .

(b) If the order of b modulo m is 15, what is the order of  $b^6$  modulo m.

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▶ Solution. If \operatorname{ord}_m b = 15 then \operatorname{ord}_m b^6 = \frac{15}{(15, 6)} = \frac{15}{3} = 5.
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17. Use the Chinese Remainder Theorem to solve the simultaneous congruences:

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$
$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$$
$$x \equiv 1 \pmod{6}$$

▶ Solution. Let  $M = 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 = 210$ ,  $M_1 = 7 \cdot 6 = 42$ ,  $M - 2 = 5 \cdot 6 = 30$ ,  $M_3 = 5 \cdot 7 = 35$ . Then solve the linear congruences:

 $\begin{array}{l} M_1x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \implies 42x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \implies 2x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \implies x_1 \equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\ M_2x_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \implies 30x_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \implies 2x_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \implies x_2 \equiv 4 \pmod{7} \\ M_3x_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{6} \implies 35x_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{6} \implies (-1)x_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{6} \implies x_3 \equiv -1 \pmod{6}. \end{array}$ 

Then the solution of the simultaneous congruences is

 $x \equiv a_1 M_1 x_1 + a_2 M_2 x_2 + a_3 M_3 x_3 \pmod{M}$  $\equiv 3 \cdot 42 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 30 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot 35 \cdot (-1) \pmod{210}$  $\equiv 583 \equiv 163 \pmod{210}.$ 

- 18. (a) Use the Euclidean algorithm to compute the greatest common divisor (2517, 2370).
  - ▶ Solution. Use the Euclidean Algorithm:

251723700 2517 1 0 1 23701 |147| = 2517 - 2370-1-1617 $18 = 2370 - 16 \cdot 147$ 129-137 $3 = 147 - 8 \cdot 18$ 

Thus,  $(2517, 2370) = 3 = 2517 \cdot 129 + 2370 \cdot (-137)$ .

◄

**Solutions** 

▶ Solution. From part (a),  $2517 \cdot 129 + 2370 \cdot (-137) = 3$  and multiplying by 23 gives

$$2517 \cdot 2967 - 2370 \cdot 3151 = 69.$$

That is,  $x_0 = 2967$  and  $y_0 = 3151$  is one solution to the linear equation. The remaining solutions are given by

$$x_k = x_0 + k \frac{2370}{3} = 2967 + k \cdot 790, \qquad y_k = y_0 + k \frac{2517}{3} = 3151 + k \cdot 839$$

where k is an arbitrary integer.

(c) Solve the linear congruence  $2370x \equiv 69 \pmod{2517}$  or explain why there are no solutions.

▶ Solution. From part (b), one solution to this linear congruence is  $x = -3151 \pmod{2517}$ or  $x \equiv 1883 \pmod{2517}$  is the least residue. Since (2517, 2370) = 3 there are 3 incongruent solutions modulo 2517:  $x_0 \equiv 1883, x_1 = 1883 + \frac{2517}{3} = 1883 + 839 = 2722 \equiv 205, x_2 = x_1 + 839 = 1044$ 

19. (a) For which odd primes p does the Legendre symbol  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1$ ?

▶ Solution.  $\binom{2}{p} = 1$  if and only if  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ .

(b) For which distinct odd primes p, q does the Legendre symbol satisfy  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = -\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$ ?

**Solution.** When p and q are both congruent to 3 modulo 4.

- (c) Evaluate the Legendre symbol  $\left(\frac{431}{1097}\right)$ .
  - ▶ Solution. Since  $1097 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 431\\ 1097 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1097\\ 431 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cdot 431 + 235\\ 431 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 235\\ 431 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} 5\\ 431 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 47\\ 431 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 431\\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 47\\ 431 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1\\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 47\\ 431 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 47\\ 431 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= -\begin{pmatrix} 431\\ 47 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 431\\ 47 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 9 \cdot 47 + 8\\ 47 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= -\begin{pmatrix} 8\\ 47 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 2^2 \cdot 2\\ 47 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 2\\ 47 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 2\\ 47 \end{pmatrix} = -1$$

where the last equality is because  $47 \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$ .

## Solutions

20. Find a complete solution to the congruence  $x^2 - 5x + 6 \equiv 0 \pmod{187}$ . (Note that  $187 = 11 \cdot 17$ .)

▶ Solution. First solve  $x^2 - 5x + 6 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$  and  $x^2 - 5x + 6 \equiv 0 \pmod{17}$ . Since 11 and 17 are prime, each of these quadratic congruences has at most 2 incongruent solutions by Lagrange's theorem. Since  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x - 2)(x - 3)$  it is clear that the first congruence has the solutions  $x \equiv 2$ , 3 (mod 11) and the second has the solutions  $x \equiv 2$ , 3 (mod 17). Thus, to solve the original congruence we need to solve the simultaneous systems

$$x \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{11}$$
$$x \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{17}.$$

Since  $17 \cdot 2 - 11 \cdot 3 = 1$  we get that  $34 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ ;  $34 \equiv 0 \pmod{17}$  while  $-33 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$ ;  $-33 \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$ . Thus, the solutions of the simultaneous congruences are given by

$$x \equiv \{2, 3\} \cdot 34 + \{2, 3\} \cdot (-33) \pmod{187}.$$

This gives the 4 incongruent solutions

$$x_1 \equiv 2 \cdot 34 - 2 \cdot 33 \equiv 2 \pmod{187} 
 x_2 \equiv 2 \cdot 34 - 3 \cdot 33 \equiv -31 \equiv 156 \pmod{187} 
 x_3 \equiv 3 \cdot 34 - 2 \cdot 33 \equiv 36 \pmod{187} 
 x_4 \equiv 3 \cdot 34 - 3 \cdot 33 \equiv 3 \pmod{187}.$$

21. Solve  $x^2 + x + 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{121}$ .

▶ Solution. First solve  $x^2 + x + 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$ . The discriminant is  $b^2 - 4ac = 1 - 8 = -7 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$ . The solutions of  $y^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$  are  $y \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{11}$ . Hence the solutions of the quadratic are  $x_1 \equiv (-1+2)/2 \equiv 6 \pmod{11}$  and  $x_2 \equiv (-1-2)?3 \equiv 8/2 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$ . Extend each of these to a solution of  $f(x) = x^2 + x + 2 \pmod{12}$ .

**Case 1**:  $x_1 = 6$ . Look for a solution modulo 121 of the form  $x'_1 = x_1 + 11y$  where y satisfies the linear congruence

$$\frac{f(x_1)}{11} + f'(x_1)y \equiv 0 \pmod{11}.$$

Since f'(x) = 2x + 1 this congruence becomes

$$\frac{f(x_1)}{11} + f'(x_1)y \equiv \frac{44}{11} + 13y \equiv 4 + 2y \pmod{11},$$

and hence  $y \equiv -2 \equiv 9 \pmod{11}$ . Thus,  $x'_1 = x_1 + 11y = 6 + 11 \cdot 9 \equiv 105 \equiv -16 \pmod{11}$ .

**Case 1**:  $x_2 = 4$ . Look for a solution modulo 121 of the form  $x'_2 = x_2 + 11y$  where y satisfies the linear congruence

$$\frac{f(x_2)}{11} + f'(x_2)y \equiv 0 \pmod{11}.$$

Since f'(x) = 2x + 1 this congruence becomes

$$\frac{f(x_2)}{11} + f'(x_2)y \equiv \frac{22}{11} + 9y \equiv 2 - 2y \pmod{11},$$

-

and hence  $y \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ . Thus,  $x'_2 = x_2 + 11y = 4 + 11 \cdot 1 \equiv 15 \pmod{11}$ . Therefore, the only solutions of the quadratic modulo 121 are  $x \equiv 15$ , 105 (mod 121).

- 22. Determine if each of the following congruences have a solution.
  - (a)  $x^2 \equiv 15 \pmod{41}$ .

 $\blacktriangleright$  Solution. It is necessary to determine if 15 is a quadratic residue modulo 41. For this, use the Legendre symbol.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{15}{41} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{41} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{41} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{41}{5} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{41}{3} \end{pmatrix} \text{ since } 41 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5 \cdot 8 + 1}{41} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{13 \cdot 3 + 2}{41} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 1 \cdot (-1) = -1.$$

Thus, 15 is a quadratic non-residue modulo 41 so the equation  $x^2 \equiv 15 \pmod{41}$  is no solvable.

(b)  $x^2 + 5x + 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{97}$ .

▶ Solution. It is necessary to determine if the discriminant is a quadratic residue or non-residue modulo 97. The discriminant is  $b^2 - 4ac = 25 - 28 = -3$ . Thus compute the Legendre symbol

Thus,  $x^2 + 5x + 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{97}$  is solvable.

(c)  $3x^2 + 4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{51}$ .

▶ Solution. Since  $51 = 3 \cdot 17$ ,  $3x^2 + 4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{51}$  is solvable if and only if  $3x^2 + 4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $3x^2 + 4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{17}$  are both solvable. The first equation is  $4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  which is solvable since (4, 3) = 1. For the second one, the congruence is solvable if and only if the discriminant is a quadratic residue modulo 17. The discriminant is  $b^2 - 4ac = 16 - 60 = -44 \equiv 7 \pmod{17}$ . Now use the Legendre symbol

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{7}{17} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{17}{7} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{7} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= -\begin{pmatrix} \frac{7}{3} \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix} = -1.$$

Thus, the discriminant is a quadratic non-residue modulo 17 and hence  $3x^2 + 4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{17}$  is not solvable. Therefore,  $3x^2 + 4x + 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{51}$  is not solvable.

23. Circle True (T) or False (F). Reasons are not required.

- **T** | F | (a) If  $15 \mid a^2$  then  $15 \mid a$ .
- T F (b) If  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{35}$  then  $x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{35}$ .
- T  $(\mathbf{F})$  (c)  $\{21, -3, 13, -15, -4\}$  is a complete residue system modulo 5.

 $(T) | F | (d) 7^{753} \equiv 2 \pmod{11}.$ 

- T | F | (e) {1, 3, -3, 9} is a reduced residue system modulo 10.
- $\bigcirc$  F | (f) The Fibonacci numbers satisfy  $f_{2n+3} f_{2n+2} = f_{2n+1}$ .
- T (g)  $\underbrace{727272727272727272727272}_{10 \text{ times}} \equiv 6 \pmod{11}.$
- $\bigcirc$  F | (h) If p is an odd prime then  $2^p \equiv 2 \pmod{p}$ .
- T  $|\mathbf{F}|$  (i) The composition  $\tau(\tau(n))$  is a multiplicative function.
- T  $|\mathbf{F}|$  (j) If p is prime then  $\phi(pm) = \phi(m)$ .