

**Problem 1.** Characterize the set of positive integers  $n$  such that  $\phi(2n) > \phi(n)$ .

**Answer.** If  $n$  is odd then  $\phi(2n) = \phi(2) \cdot \phi(n) = 2\phi(n)$ . If  $n$  is even, it can be written as  $n = 2^k \cdot m$  with  $m$  odd. Thus  $\phi(2n) = \phi(2^{k+1} \cdot m) = \phi(2^{k+1}) \cdot \phi(m) = (2^{k+1} - 2^k) \cdot \phi(m) = 2 \cdot \phi(n) > \phi(n)$ . Therefore the set of positive integers such that  $\phi(2n) > \phi(n)$  coincides with the set of even integers.

**Problem 2.** What are the last two digits, that is the tens and units digits of  $2^{1000}, 3^{1000}$ ?

**Answer.** For the first one, you can notice that  $2^{12} \equiv -4 \pmod{100}$  so  $2^{12 \cdot 12} \equiv 2^4$ . Therefore  $2^{1000} \equiv 2^{6 \cdot 144 + 136} \equiv 2^{6 \cdot 4} \cdot 2^{136} \equiv 2^{12 \cdot 12 + 16} \equiv 2^4 \cdot 2^{16} = 2^{12+8} \equiv (-4) \cdot 2^8 \equiv -24 \equiv 76$ . Therefore the last two digits are 76. For 3, things are much simpler:  $3^{\phi(100)} \equiv 1$  so  $3^{40} \equiv 1$ . Thus  $3^{1000} \equiv 3^{40 \cdot 25} \equiv 1$ , so the last digits are 01.

**Problem 3.** Prove that for  $n \geq 2$  the sum of all the positive integers less than  $n$  and coprime with  $n$  is  $\frac{n}{2} \cdot \phi(n)$ .

**Answer.** The answer I proposed to you was a bit long (you can still ask me if you tried it). Instead here is a simpler one, by one of you, Kevin Donahue. First, realize that  $n/2$  is never coprime with  $n$ . Then if you pick any integer  $a$  coprime with  $n$  and less than  $n/2$ , the integer  $n - a$  is coprime with  $n$  too and is between  $n/2$  and  $n$ . Therefore the  $\phi(n)$  integers that are coprime with  $n$  and less than  $n$  can be partitioned into two collections  $A$  and  $B$  with the same number of elements ( $\phi(n)/2$ ), and each  $a \in A$  can be paired with  $n - a \in B$ . Thus when you sum all of these pairs you get  $n \cdot \frac{\phi(n)}{2}$ , which is the answer.

**Problem 4.** Find all the primes  $p$  such that  $p$  divides  $2^p + 1$ .

**Answer.** The prime 2 has not the property, so we can assume now that  $p$  is odd, but then Fermat's theorem implies that  $2^p + 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{p}$ , therefore  $p$  must divide 3. Now 3 actually divides 9, so 3 is the only prime with this property.

**Problem 5.** Show that  $x^2 - 2y^2 + 8z = 3$  has no solutions  $(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{Z}^3$ . (**Hint:** reduce modulo 8).

**Answer.** Clearly  $x$  must be odd (therefore congruent to 1, 3, 5, 7 whose squares are all congruent to 1). So necessarily,  $2y^2 \equiv -2$ . But this is impossible because  $2t^2$  only takes the values 0 or 2 modulo 8

**Problem 6.** For any  $n$  show that  $\phi(n) = n \cdot (1 - \frac{1}{p_1}) \dots (1 - \frac{1}{p_k})$  where the  $p_i$  are the prime factors present in the prime decomposition of  $n$ . (**Hint:** compute first  $\phi(p^s)$ , for any prime  $p$ .)

**Answer.** First,  $\phi(p^s) = p^s - p^{s-1} = p^s(1 - \frac{1}{p})$  because the only integers less than  $p^s$  and not coprime to  $p^s$  are the multiples of  $p$ . Since we proved that  $(G.C.D.(m, n) = 1 \Rightarrow \phi(m.n) = \phi(m).\phi(n))$ , we can consider the decomposition of  $n$  in prime factors,  $n = p_1^{r_1} \dots p_k^{r_k}$  and thus obtain

$$\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{r_1}) \dots \phi(p_k^{r_k}) = (p_1^{r_1} \cdot (1 - \frac{1}{p_1})) \dots (p_k^{r_k} \cdot (1 - \frac{1}{p_k})).$$