

Some notes on the homework assignment:

- Remember to acknowledge your collaborators and cite your sources. The template has a section built in for you to do this (see the comments in the template).
- Remember to let me know if you can't do your peer review this week (for any reason)!
- A helpful fact for this assignment: $x^n - 1 = (x - 1)(x^{n-1} + x^{n-2} + \cdots + x + 1)$

Here's the schedule of when things are due for this assignment.

Component Due	Date
Draft of Solutions	Thursday, January 27
Peer Review	Tuesday, February 1
Final Copy	Friday, February 4

And finally, here are the problem statements.

1. Show that $8n + 3$ and $5n + 2$ are relatively prime for all integers n .
2. Using Euclid's proof that there are infinitely many primes (this is the first proof we gave in class), show that the n th prime, p_n , does not exceed $2^{2^{n-1}}$ for $n \geq 1$. Conclude that when n is a positive integer, there are at least $n + 1$ primes less than 2^{2^n} . Conclude that for integers x of the form 2^{2^n} , $\pi(x) \geq \log_2 \log_2 x$.

Hint: if you're having a hard time with this one, it may be helpful to do problem 4a first.

3. Show that if $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ and $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ with $1 \leq i < j \leq n$, then

$$(n! \cdot i + 1, n! \cdot j + 1) = 1$$

Hint: You may use the fact that if p is prime and $p \mid ab$, then $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.

4. Show that if $a^k - 1$ is prime (with $a \geq 1$ and $k \geq 2$), then...

(a) $\dots a = 2$

(b) $\dots k$ is prime

Hint: Use a computer or website (e.g. type "factor 15" into Wolfram Alpha) to find some prime factors of $2^k - 1$ when k isn't prime for several values of k (try a few even composite values of k and also $k = 15$). If you have a hard time proving this, you may make a conjecture about which sorts of numbers divide $2^k - 1$ when k is not prime and provide some supporting evidence for partial credit.