

1. Let  $n \geq 1$ . Compute  $\varphi(2^n)$  (and make sure to prove that your answer is correct).

**Approach 1.**

Of the elements in the set  $\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$ , half are even and half are odd. Since an integer is relatively prime to  $2^n$  if and only if it is odd, we must have that  $(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is half the size of  $\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $\varphi(2^n) = \#(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , we must have

$$\varphi(2^n) = \frac{\#(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})}{2} = \frac{2^n}{2} = 2^{n-1}$$

**Approach 2.**

We first claim that

$$\left(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}\right)^\times = \left\{2k+1 : k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}\right\}$$

Suppose  $x \in (\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ . Then  $x$  must be relatively prime to  $2^n$  and hence, odd. Moreover,  $0 \leq x < 2^n$ , so writing  $x = 2k+1$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  gives  $2k+1 < 2^n$ , implying that  $k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}$ . Therefore  $x \in \{2k+1 : k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}\}$  and so we conclude that

$$\left(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}\right)^\times \subseteq \left\{2k+1 : k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}\right\}$$

For the reverse containment, suppose that  $x \in \{2k+1 : k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}\}$ . Then  $x$  is relatively prime to  $2^n$  since  $x$  is odd and moreover, writing  $x = 2k+1$  with  $0 \leq k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}$  gives  $0 \leq 2k+1 = x$  and  $x = 2k+1 < 2^n$ . Hence,  $x \in (\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ . Therefore,

$$\left(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}\right)^\times \supseteq \left\{2k+1 : k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}\right\}$$

Hence, we conclude that

$$\left(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}\right)^\times = \left\{2k+1 : k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad k < \frac{2^n-1}{2}\right\}$$

Since  $\varphi(2^n) = \#(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , we must have

$$\varphi(2^n) = \left\lfloor \frac{2^n-1}{2} \right\rfloor + 1 = 2^{n-1}$$

2. Use Euler's theorem to find the last digit of the decimal expansion of  $13^{999999}$ .

Note that

$$\left(\mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}\right)^\times = \{1, 3, 7, 9\}$$

so  $\varphi(10) = 4$ . Since  $(13, 10) = 1$ , Euler's theorem implies that  $13^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$ . Therefore,

$$13^{999999} \equiv 13^{4 \cdot 249999 + 3} \equiv (13^4)^{249999} \cdot 13^3 \equiv 3^3 \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$$

Therefore, the last digit of  $13^{999999}$  is 7.

3. Find the last digit of the decimal expansion of  $2^{999999}$ .

**Approach 1.**

We first claim that  $2^{a+4k} \equiv 2^a \pmod{10}$  whenever  $k \geq 0$  and  $a \geq 1$ . To prove this, observe that  $2^{a+4k} - 2^a = 2^a(2^{4k} - 1) = 2^a(16^k - 1)$ . Since  $16 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , we must have  $16^k \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$  and hence,  $16^k - 1$  is divisible by 5. Moreover,  $2^a$  is divisible by 2 since  $a \geq 1$ . Therefore,  $2^a(16^k - 1) = 2^{a+4k} - 2^a$  is divisible by 10.

Using the fact we just proved with  $k = 249999$  and  $a = 3$ , we have

$$2^{999999} = 2^{3+4 \cdot 249999} \equiv 2^3 \equiv 8 \pmod{10}$$

Therefore, the last digit of  $2^{999999}$  is 8.

**Approach 2.**

First observe that  $2^{999999} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ . Additionally since  $(2, 5) = 1$ , Fermat's Little Theorem implies that

$$2^{999999} = 2^{3+4 \cdot 249999} \equiv 2^3 \cdot (2^4)^{249999} \equiv 8 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

By Sun-Tsu's Theorem, the only numbers which are equivalent to  $0 \pmod{2}$  and  $3 \pmod{5}$  are equivalent to  $8 \pmod{10}$ , so  $2^{999999} \equiv 8 \pmod{10}$ . Hence, the last digit of  $2^{999999}$  is 8.