



**Problem 1 (5pts)**

Suppose  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  are two positive integers such that

$$2a - 3b = 5.$$

(a) There are two possibilities for  $\gcd(a, b)$ . What are they? **Answer Only.**

$\gcd(a, b) =$ or
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(b) *Explain* why there are no other possibilities.

(c) Give an example of a pair  $(a, b)$  for each of the two possibilities in (a). **Answer Only.**

Possibility 1 in (a): $(a, b) = ( \quad , \quad )$
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Possibility 2 in (a): $(a, b) = ( \quad , \quad )$
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**Problem 2 (10pts)**

Define a sequence  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$  by

$$a_1 = 1, \quad a_2 = 2, \quad \text{and} \quad a_{n+2} = a_n^2 + a_{n+1} \quad \forall n \geq 1.$$

- (a) Determine the first 5 numbers,  $a_n$  with  $n=1, \dots, 5$ , in this sequence. The answer must appear in the box below; no explanation is required for this part.

- (b) Prove that every two successive terms in this sequence,  $a_n$  and  $a_{n+1}$ , are relatively prime.

**Problem 3 (12pts)**

Show and explain your work clearly below.

(a) Find  $\gcd(11, 64)$  and express it in the form  $11s+64t$  for some  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(b) Find the inverse of 11 mod 64 (the answer should be an integer between 0 and 63).

**Problem 4 (12pts)**

A public key code has base 85 and exponent 11, i.e.  $m \equiv \beta^{11} \pmod{85}$  is the message determined by a block  $\beta$  being encoded. The encoded message received is 81. Decode this message. *Show and explain your work clearly.*

### Problem 5 (15pts)

Show and explain your work clearly below.

- (a) Let  $p$  be an odd prime. How many distinct solutions  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  does the equation

$$x^2 = [1]_p$$

have?

- (b) Let  $p$  be an odd prime. How many elements does the subset

$$\{x^2 : x \in \mathbb{Z}_p\} \subset \mathbb{Z}_p$$

contain?

- (c) Let  $p$  and  $q$  be distinct odd primes. How many distinct solutions  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{pq}$  does the equation

$$x^2 = [1]_{pq}$$

have?

### Problem 6 (16pts)

Solve the linear congruences and systems of congruences below. Show and explain your work clearly.

(a)  $3x+5 \equiv x-3 \pmod{7}$

(b) 
$$\begin{cases} 3x+5 \equiv x-3 & \pmod{7} \\ 2x \equiv 4 & \pmod{8} \end{cases}$$

(c) 
$$\begin{cases} 3x+5 \equiv x-3 & \pmod{7} \\ 2x \equiv 4 & \pmod{8} \\ 3x \equiv 5 & \pmod{9} \end{cases}$$