

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Score (Out of 9 points):

A non-programmable, non-scientific calculator may be used.

1. This question concerns the uses of Fermat's Little Theorem in primality testing.

We recall that Fermat's Little Theorem states the following: If  $p > 0$  is a prime integer, and  $a$  is any unit modulo  $p$ , then  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

- (a) [2 points] Suppose that you compute  $2^{589,312} \equiv 111,577 \pmod{589,313}$ . What can you conclude, if anything, about whether 589,313 is prime? Briefly explain.

The number  $n = 589,313$  is not prime. If it were, then Fermat's Little Theorem would imply that  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{589,313}$  for any unit  $a$  modulo 589,313, including  $a = 2$ . Since  $2^{n-1}$  is not congruent to 1,  $n$  cannot be prime.

- (b) [2 points] Suppose that you compute  $2^{78,552} \equiv 1 \pmod{78,553}$ . What can you conclude, if anything, about whether 78,553 is prime? Briefly explain.

The number  $n = 78,553$  may or may not be prime. Because  $2^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , it is consistent with the conclusion of Fermat's Little Theorem. In fact, it is rare that  $2^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  for composite numbers  $n$ , so the result strongly suggests that the number  $n$  is prime, but ultimately the test is inconclusive.

2. You are communicating privately with a colleague using RSA. You publish modulus  $n = 133 = (7)(19)$  and the encryption exponent  $e = 7$ .
- (a) [1 point] Find  $\phi(n)$ .

$$\phi(n) = (7 - 1)(19 - 1) = 108$$

- (b) [2 points] Find a decryption exponent  $d$ .

We run the Euclidean algorithm on 7 and 108 to find a multiplicative inverse to 7 modulo 108:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 108 & = & 15(7) + 3 \\ 7 & = & 2(3) + 1 \\ & & 1 = 7 - 2(3) \\ & & 1 = 7 - 2(108 - 15(7)) \\ & & 1 = 31(7) - 2(108) \end{array}$$

And so  $d = 31$  is a suitable decryption exponent.

- (c) [2 points] Your colleague sends you the message  $5 \pmod{n}$ . Decrypt it. If you don't have a calculator, you can leave your answer as an unsimplified product.

You may find the following helpful:

$$5^2 \equiv 25 \pmod{n}, \quad 25^2 \equiv 93 \pmod{n}, \quad 93^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{n}, \quad 4^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{n}, \quad 16^2 \equiv 123 \pmod{n}$$

We need to compute  $5^d \pmod{n}$ . First, we write  $d$  as a sum of powers of 2:

$$d = 16 + 8 + 4 + 2 + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } 5^d &= 5^{16+8+4+2+1} \\ &= 5^{16}5^85^45^25^1 \\ &\equiv (16)(4)(93)(25)(5) \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv 744,000 \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv 131 \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that the decrypted message is 131.