

A Quick problem to start with

- (i) Is 91 prime? What about 127 or 221?
- (ii) Calculate $\gcd(1001, 4199)$
- (iii) Calculate $\text{lcm}(91, 169)$

Problems to start with

- If $3|n^2$, does it follow that $3|n$?
- Suppose that n is a positive integer for which all three of n , $n + 2$ and $n + 4$ are prime numbers. Prove that n must equal 3.
- Does there exist integers x and y for which $x^2 - y^2 = 2026$?
- Prove that for all positive integers n , we have $\gcd(21n + 4, 14n + 3) = 1$.
- Consider the polynomial $p(n) = n^2 + n + 41$. Note that $p(0) = 41$, $p(1) = 43$, $p(2) = 47$, $p(3) = 53$, $p(4) = 61$ are each prime numbers. Does there exist a positive integer n for which n is not a prime number?
- Find all positive integers a , b and c which satisfy the condition $a + b + c = \text{lcm}(a, b, c)$. Here $\text{lcm}(a, b, c)$ denotes the least integer N so that $a|N$, $b|N$ and $c|N$.

Slightly harder questions

- Let n be a positive integer. Prove that there exists a positive integer k so that none of the integers $k, k + 1, \dots, k + n$ is a prime number.
- Let m and n be distinct positive integers. Prove that $\gcd(2^{2^m} + 1, 2^{2^n} + 1) = 1$.
- Suppose that $2^n - 1$ is a prime number, where n is a positive integer. Prove that n must be a prime number.
- Suppose that $2^a + 1$ is a prime number, where a is a positive integer. Prove that there exists a non-negative integer n for which $a = 2^n$.
- Let F_n be a sequence of integers defined by setting $F_0 = F_1 = 1$ and $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ for every $n \geq 2$. Prove that $\gcd(F_n, F_{n-1}) = 1$ for every integer n . (The sequence F_n is the Fibonacci sequence).
- Let n be an integer. Let k and $a_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$ be integers chosen so that $n = \sum_{j=0}^k 10^j a_j$, i.e. the base 10 representation of n is $a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0$. Prove that $9|n$ if and only if $9|\sum_{j=0}^k a_j$, i.e. an integer n is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of its digits is divisible by 9.

7. Prove that there are infinitely many primes p that are of the form $4n + 3$ for some integer n .
8. Given $n > 1$ be a positive integer that is not a prime number, and let $1 = d_1 < d_2 < \dots < d_k = n$ be the divisors of n for some $k \geq 3$. Find all such integers n for which $d_i | d_{i+1} + d_{i+2}$ for every $i \leq k - 2$.

Difficult problems

1. Call admissible a set A of integers that has the following property:

If $x, y \in A$ (possibly $x = y$) then $x^2 + kxy + y^2 \in A$ for every integer k .

Given integers m and n , prove that the only admissible set containing both m and n is the set of all integers if and only if $\gcd(m, n) = 1$.

2. The number $N = 4444^{4444}$ is written on the board. Let A denote the sum of the digits of N (when N is written in base 10), and let B denote the sum of the digits of A . What is the sum of the digits of B ? (As an example, if the number 12411624662401682 is written on the board, its sum of digits is $1 + 2 + 4 + 1 + 1 + 6 + 2 + 4 + 6 + 6 + 2 + 4 + 0 + 1 + 6 + 8 + 2 = 56$, whose sum of digits is $5 + 6 = 11$, whose sum of digits is $1 + 1 = 2$.)
3. Let n be an odd integer greater than 1, and let k_1, \dots, k_n be given integers. Let $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be any of the $n!$ orderings of the integers $1, 2, \dots, n$, and define $S(a) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j \cdot k_j$. Prove that there exist two distinct orderings b and c so that $n!$ divides the difference $S(b) - S(c)$. Here $n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (n-1) \cdot n$ denotes the number of distinct ways to order the numbers $1, 2, \dots, n$.

Numerical answers to the first question

1. $91 = 7 \cdot 13$ is not a prime; 127 is a prime; $221 = 13 \cdot 17$ is not a prime.
2. $\gcd(1001, 4199) = 13$
3. $\text{lcm}(91, 169) = \frac{91 \cdot 169}{13} = 91 \cdot 13 = 1183$.