
Contents

Preface	vii
Logical dependence of chapters	xi
1. The Fundamental Theorem, Greatest Common Divisors and Least Common Multiples	1
1. Primes and the fundamental theorem	1
2. Greatest common divisor and least common multiple	7
3. Euclid’s algorithm for the gcd	12
4. $[x]$ and applications	24
5*. Further projects	29
2. Listing Primes	37
1. Primes by division	37
2. Primes by multiplication (elimination of composites)	50
3. Approximations to $\pi(x)$	52
4. The sieve of Eratosthenes	55
3. Congruences	69
1. Congruences: basic properties	69
2. Inverses mod m and solutions of certain congruences	74
3. Further examples of congruences	81
4. Powers and Pseudoprimes	86
1. Fermat’s (little) theorem	86
2. The power algorithm	89
3. Head’s algorithm for multiplication mod m	93

4. Pseudoprimes	98
5. Wilson's theorem	102
5. Miller's Test and Strong Pseudoprimes	104
1. Miller's test	104
2. Probabilistic primality testing	109
6. Euler's Theorem, Orders and Primality Testing	112
1. Euler's function (the ϕ -function or totient function)	112
2. Euler's theorem and the concept of order	119
3. Primality tests	124
4. Periods of decimals	130
7. Cryptography	133
1. Exponentiation ciphers	134
2. Public key cryptography: RSA ciphers	136
3. Coin-tossing by telephone	145
8. Primitive Roots	147
1. Properties and applications of primitive roots	147
2. Existence and nonexistence of primitive roots	149
9. The Number of Divisors d and the Sum of Divisors σ	158
1. The function $d(n)$	158
2. Multiplicative functions and the sum function $\sigma(n)$	162
3. Tests for primality of the Mersenne numbers $2^m - 1$	170
10. Continued Fractions and Factoring	174
1. Continued fractions: initial ideas and definitions	175
2. The continued fraction for $\sqrt{n}$	180
3. Proofs of some properties of continued fractions	186
4. Pell's equation	189
5. The continued fraction factoring method	191
11. Quadratic Residues	200
1. Definitions and examples	200
2. The quadratic character of 2	203
3. Quadratic reciprocity	206
4. The Jacobi symbol and a program for finding $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)$	211
5. Solving the equation $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$: quadratic congruences	217
Bibliography	225
Index	231
Index of Listed Programs	236
Index of Notation	237