

Math 406-Practice Questions For Final

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1. (20 points) Determine if the equation

$$3x^2 = 100 + 163y$$

has a solution with  $x$  and  $y$  integers.

2. (20 points) Use Euler's theorem to find the last digit of the decimal expansion of  $17^{200,007}$ .

3. (20 points) For every positive integer  $n$ , let  $\pi(n)$  denote the number of prime number less than or equal to  $n$ . Using Wilson's theorem, show that

$$\pi(n) = \sum_{j=2}^n \left[ \frac{(j-1)! + 1}{j} - \left\lfloor \frac{(j-1)!}{j} \right\rfloor \right].$$

4. (20 points) The point of this question is to work through an alternate proof of the fact that  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1$  for  $p$  a prime congruent to 3 or 5 modulo 8. This proof is the one written in Gauss's book.

(a) Show that  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = -1$  by direct computation.

(b) Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime with  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1$ . Show that there is an odd integer  $x$  such that  $3 \leq x \leq p-4$  and an integer  $k$  such that

$$x^2 - 2 = pk.$$

(c) Show that the integer  $k$  above is odd and satisfies  $0 < k < p$ .

(d) Now suppose that  $p$  is congruent to 3 or 5 modulo 8. Show that the integer  $k$  above has a prime factor  $q$  which is congruent to 3 or 5 modulo 8.

(e) Using induction, conclude that  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1$  for all primes congruent to 3 or 5 modulo 8.

5. (20 points) Find at least three solutions to the linear diophantine equation

$$63x + 163y = 13.$$