

ELEMENTARY NUMBER THEORY

MIDTERM I REVIEW

The first midterm will cover material up to (not including) Euclidean rings.

1. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Definitions of the basic notions (divisibility, unit, irreducible, prime, gcd, congruence, residue class, Euler's phi function, order of a residue class; Legendre symbol, Jacobi symbol)

The basic results: primes are irreducible; in \mathbb{Z} , irreducibles are prime; unique factorization domain; Fermat's Little Theorem; Wilson's Theorem; Euler-Fermat; Fermat's two squares theorem; Chinese Remainder Theorem; Gauss's Lemma; quadratic reciprocity law plus supplementary laws.

2. WHAT YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO

Apply the Euclidean algorithm to compute gcd's and Bezout representations; use Bezout to compute the inverse of residue classes; solve systems of two linear congruences; compute Euler's phi function; apply the quadratic reciprocity law.

3. PROOFS

You should be familiar with Euler's proof that there are infinitely many primes, and with the proofs of Fermat's Little Theorem and Euler-Fermat, and Gauss's Lemma; you also should be able to explain the main steps in the proofs of the important theorems (without going into details), as well as the background of RSA.