

### Math 445 Homework 3

Due Friday, September 20

For this homework, the symbol “ $P(n)$ ” will denote the length of the period of the repeating decimal expansion of  $1/n$ . (I.e., it is the order of 10 mod  $n$ .)

10. Show that if  $p|q$ , then for any  $a \geq 1$ ,  $a^p - 1 | a^q - 1$
11. Show that if  $(m, n) = 1$ ,  $a^p \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ , and  $a^q \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then
$$\exp_a\left(\frac{pq}{(p,q)}\right) \equiv 1 \pmod{mn} \quad (\text{where } \exp_a(x) = a^x).$$
12. Show that if  $(m, n) = 1$  ( and  $(10, m) = (10, n) = 1$  ), then  $P(mn) = \frac{P(m)P(n)}{(P(m), P(n))}$ .
13. Show that if  $(3, n) = 1$  ( and  $(10, n) = 1$  ), then  $P(3n) = P(n)$ .
14. Show that, for any  $n$ ,  $P(n) | P(n^2)$ . Use this to (quickly?) compute  $P(49)$ .  
Hint: note that  $\phi(49) = 42$ , not 48 ....