

1 Elementary number theory, VI

The setup is the same as in Worksheets I – V. You may assume all the Propositions from Worksheets I – V. [But, be warned that you are expected to know the proofs of these, and we will be revisiting them.]

Definition 51. We say that a natural number $n > 1$ is **composite** if n is the product of natural numbers less than n .

Definition 52. We say that a natural number $p > 1$ is **prime** if p is not the product of natural numbers less than p .

Theorem 53. Let $n > 1$ be a natural number. Then there exists a prime p such that $p|n$.

Proposition 54. Suppose that p is a prime and that a is a natural number. Then either $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ or $\gcd(a, p) = p$. The case $\gcd(a, p) = p$ happens if and only if $p|a$.

Theorem 55. Suppose that p is a prime, and that a and b are natural numbers. If $p|ab$ then $p|a$ or $p|b$.

Remark 56. Theorem 55 is called Euclid's Lemma.

Theorem 57. Suppose that p is a prime and let \mathbf{Z}_p be the set of equivalence classes of integers modulo p . Then \mathbf{Z}_p (with the usual operations of addition and multiplication) is a field.

Theorem 58. There are infinitely many prime numbers.