

**THEORY OF NUMBERS, Math 115 B**  
**Homework**

1. Explain in your own words what is a public-key encryption system.
2. What is the knapsack problem?
3. (8.5.2) Show that if  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is a super-increasing sequence, then  $a_j \geq 2^{j-1}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
4. (8.5.6) Encrypt the message BUY NOW using the knapsack cipher based on the sequence obtained from the super-increasing sequence (17, 19, 37, 81, 160) by performing modular multiplication with multiplier  $w = 29$  and modulus  $m = 331$ .
5. (9.1.4) Find a primitive root modulo each of the following integers: 4,5,10,13,14,18.
6. (9.1.5) Show that 20 has no primitive roots.
7. (9.1.16) Show that if  $r$  is a primitive root modulo the positive integers  $m$ , then  $r^{-1}$  is also a primitive root modulo  $m$ .
8. (9.2.1) Find the number of incongruent roots modulo 11 of each of the following polynomials  $x^2 + 10$  and  $x^4 + x^2 + 1$ .
9. What is a discrete logarithm and why is it interesting for cryptographic applications?