




**Problem 1.** Do there exist positive integers  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  such that each of the numbers  $ab$ ,  $bc$ ,  $ca$  ends with the digits 20?

**Source:** *Kwadrat* no. 11, Journal of the Junior Mathematical Olympiad, December 2013

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**Solution:** Note that if a number ends in the digits 20, then it is divisible by 5 but not by 25 (since numbers divisible by 25 end in 00, 25, 50, or 75). Suppose such integers  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  exist as described in the problem. Then each of the numbers  $ab$ ,  $bc$ ,  $ca$  has exactly one factor of 5 in its prime factorization. Hence the product  $ab \cdot bc \cdot ca = (abc)^2$  has exactly three factors of 5 in its prime factorization, which is impossible because it is a perfect square (in a square, all prime factors appear an even number of times).

 **Problem 2.** Find the remainder when  $345^{679}$  is divided by 16.

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**Solution:** Observe that

$$345^{679} \equiv 9^{679} \pmod{16}$$

We know that

$$9 \equiv 9 \pmod{16}$$

and

$$9^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}.$$

So we can write:

$$345^{679} \equiv (9^2)^{339} \cdot 9 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}.$$

Thus, the sought remainder is 1.