

# RP-184: Formulation of solutions of standard bi-quadratic congruence modulo double of a prime integer raised to the power n

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## ABSTRACT

This paper presents the results of the author's study on formulation of solutions of the standard bi-quadratic congruence of composite modulus modulo double of an odd prime integer raised to the power n. It is found that the congruence under consideration has exactly two incongruent solutions in first case while it has exactly  $p^3$  incongruent solutions in the second case. A large number of solutions are formulated here in the second case. This makes the study and finding of the solutions very interesting and easy way for the said congruence. Such type of congruence is never formulated earlier; first time the author has formulated the congruence.

## KEY-WORDS

Bi-quadratic congruence, Bi-quadratic residue, Binomial expansion.

## INTRODUCTION

The congruence of the type:  $x^4 \equiv b \pmod{m}$  is called a standard *bi-quadratic congruence*. It is said to be solvable if  $b$  is *bi-quadratic residue* of  $m$  and so it can be written as:

$b \equiv a^4 \pmod{m}$ . Then the congruence becomes:  $x^4 \equiv a^4 \pmod{m}$ . It is always solvable.

In this paper, the author considered  $m = 2p^n$ ,  $p$  being an odd prime positive integer.

## PROBLEM-STATEMENT

Here the author's problem of study for the current paper is-

"To formulate the solutions of the standard bi-quadratic congruence:

$x^4 \equiv a^4 \pmod{2p^n}$ ;  $p$  odd prime in two different cases".

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The author referred many books of Number Theory [1], [2], [3]; but found no discussion on standard bi-quadratic congruence of prime and composite modulus. Only a definition of standard bi-quadratic congruence in [1] and a definition of bi-quadratic residue in [2]. The author first time started formulating the standard bi-quadratic congruence of composite modulus and his research-results are presented in different international journals [4], [5], [6], [7].

At last it is found that the current problem of study was remained unformulated by the author; hence, the same congruence is considered here for study and formulation.

## ANALYSIS & RESULTS

**Case-I:** Let  $a$  be any positive integer, odd or even but  $a \neq p$ .

Now, consider the congruence:  $x^4 \equiv a^4 \pmod{2p^n}$ ;  $p$  an odd prime.

Then,  $x^4 - a^4 \equiv 0 \pmod{2p^n}$

It can be factored as:  $(x - a)(x + a)(x^2 + a^2) \equiv 0 \pmod{2p^n}$

So,  $x \equiv a, -a \pmod{2p^n}$

$$\equiv \pm a \pmod{2p^n}.$$

These are the two solutions as the congruence  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$  and hence

$x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p^n}$  always has two solutions [1], [2], [3].

**Case-II:** Let  $a = p$ ,  $p$  an odd prime.

Consider the congruence:  $x^4 \equiv p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$ ;  $p$  odd prime.

For the solutions, consider  $x \equiv 2p^{n-3}k + p \pmod{2p^n}$

Then,  $x^4 \equiv (2p^{n-3}k + p)^4 \pmod{2p^n}$ .

Expanding by using Binomial Expansion Formula, one must have

$$x^4 \equiv (2p^{n-3}k)^4 + 4(2p^{n-3}k)^3 \cdot p + \frac{4 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 1} (2p^{n-3}k)^2 \cdot p^2 + \frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} 2p^{n-3}k \cdot p^3 + p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv 2p^n k \{8p^{3n-12}k^3 + 16k^2p^{2n-8} + 12kp^{n-4} + 4\} + p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv 0 + p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$$

So,  $x \equiv 2p^{n-3}k + p \pmod{2p^n}$  can be considered as solutions formula of the said congruence.

But for  $k = p^3$ , the solutions formula reduces to

$$x \equiv 2p^{n-3} \cdot p^3 + p \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv 2p^n + p \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv 0 + p \pmod{2p^n}.$$

This is the same solution as for  $k = 0$ .

Also, for  $k = p^3 + 1$ , the solutions formula reduces to

$$x \equiv 2p^{n-3} \cdot (p^3 + 1) + p \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv 2p^n + 2p^{n-3} + p \pmod{2p^n}$$

$$\equiv 0 + 2p^{n-3} + p \pmod{2p^n}.$$

$$\equiv 2p^{n-3} + p \pmod{2p^n}$$

This is the same solution as for  $k = 1$ .

Therefore, all the solutions of the said congruence are given by

$$x \equiv 2p^{n-3}k + p \pmod{2p^n}; k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, (p^3 - 1).$$

## ILLUSTRATIONS

**Example-1:** Consider the congruence:  $x^4 \equiv 16 \pmod{54}$

It can be written as:  $x^4 \equiv 2^4 \pmod{2 \cdot 3^3}$ .

It is of the type:  $x^4 \equiv a^4 \pmod{2p^n}$  with  $p = 3, n = 3, a = 2$ , an even positive integer.

It has exactly two incongruent solutions given by

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv \pm a \pmod{2p^n} \\ &\equiv \pm 2 \pmod{2 \cdot 3^3} \\ &\equiv 2, 54 - 2 \pmod{54} \\ &\equiv 2, 52 \pmod{54}. \end{aligned}$$

**Example-2:** Consider the congruence:  $x^4 \equiv 81 \pmod{250}$

It can be written as:  $x^4 \equiv 3^4 \pmod{2 \cdot 5^3}$ .

It is of the type:  $x^4 \equiv a^4 \pmod{2p^n}$  with  $p = 5, n = 3, a = 3$ , an odd positive integer.

It has exactly two incongruent solutions given by

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv \pm a \pmod{2p^n} \\ &\equiv \pm 3 \pmod{2 \cdot 5^3} \\ &\equiv 3, 250 - 3 \pmod{250} \\ &\equiv 2, 247 \pmod{250}. \end{aligned}$$

**Example-3:** Consider the congruence:  $x^4 \equiv 625 \pmod{1250}$

It can be written as:  $x^4 \equiv 5^4 \pmod{2 \cdot 5^4}$ .

It is of the type:  $x^4 \equiv p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$  with  $p = 5, n = 4, a = 5, a = p$ .

It has  $p^3 = 125$  incongruent solutions given by

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 2p^{n-3}k + p \pmod{2p^n} \\ &\equiv 2 \cdot 5^{4-3}k + 5 \pmod{2 \cdot 5^4}; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, p^3 - 1. \\ &\equiv 2 \cdot 5^1k + 5 \pmod{1250}; k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, 125 - 1. \\ &\equiv 10k + 5 \pmod{1250}; k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 124. \\ &\equiv 0 + 5; 10 + 5; 20 + 5; 30 + 5; 40 + 5; \dots, 1240 + 5 \pmod{1250} \\ &\equiv 5, 15, 25, 35, 45, \dots, 1245 \pmod{1250}. \end{aligned}$$

## CONCLUSION

Therefore it can be concluded that the bi-quadratic congruence:  $x^4 \equiv a^4 \pmod{2p^n}$ ,

$p$  an odd prime, has exactly two incongruent solutions given by

$$x \equiv \pm a \pmod{2p^n} \text{ for odd as well as even positive integer } a.$$

But, if  $a = p$ , then the congruence:  $x^4 \equiv p^4 \pmod{2p^n}$  has exactly  $p^3$  incongruent solutions given by  $x \equiv 2p^{n-3}k + p \pmod{2p^n}; k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, (p^3 - 1)$ .

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