



# MATH PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Spring 2023

## Problem 8

**Fermat's little theorem.** If  $a$  is an integer coprime to  $n$  then

$$a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n},$$

where  $\varphi(n)$  is the Euler's totient function.

Use the result above to identify  $3^{2023^{2023}} \pmod{7}$ .

**We welcome solutions from everyone. The undergraduate participant from the NMSU main campus with the most correct solutions at the end of the semester will receive an award of \$500.**

Solutions must be mathematically rigorous and originally obtained by the participants. Participants will be notified if their solutions are correct within a week.

**Deadline: Monday, April 24, 10 am**

Next problem will be posted on April 24

**Send solutions to: [mathpotw@nmsu.edu](mailto:mathpotw@nmsu.edu)**

**More information at: <https://math.nmsu.edu/activities/math-problem-of-the-week.html>**