

Assignment - 3

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1) If a and b are relatively prime and bc is a multiple of a , show that c is a multiple of a .

Ans:-

Assume that a, b and c are integers
We know that a and b are relatively prime

$$\text{Therefore } \gcd(a, b) = 1$$

By the multiplicative inverse theorem,

$$ma + nb = 1 \text{ --- (1) where } m \text{ and } n \text{ are integers}$$

We know that bc is a multiple of a

Therefore a divides bc and

$$bc = ak \text{ --- (2) where } k \text{ is an integer}$$

Take the (1) and substitute it with multiplication of c on both sides

$$mac + nbc = c$$

substitute bc with ak from (2)

$$mac + nak = c$$

$$a(mc + nk) = c \text{ --- (3)}$$

$$\text{substitute } mc + nk = q$$

$$aq = c$$

where q is an integer

Therefore, this shows that a divides c which implies that

c is a multiple of a

2) In mod n arithmetic, the quotient of two numbers r and m is a number q such that $mq = r \pmod{n}$. Given r, m, n how can you find q ? How many q s are there? Under what conditions is q unique?

Ans: We know that $mq = r \pmod{n}$ — ①
Dividing ① by $\gcd(m, n)$ we get,

$$\frac{m \times q}{\gcd(m, n)} = \frac{r \pmod{n}}{\gcd(m, n)}$$
$$= r / \gcd(m, n) \pmod{n / \gcd(m, n)}$$

As $mq = r \pmod{n}$, we know that $r = nk + mq$
Therefore several values of q exist as $\gcd(m, n) \mid r$ holds
or there are no values of q .

We can get a unique value of q for the condition
 $\pmod{n / \gcd(m, n)}$

3) In the final step of Euclid's algorithm for finding $\gcd(m, n)$ we get u and v such that $um + vn = 0$. Is $|um|$ (which = $|vn|$) the least common multiple of m and n ?

Ans: yes, $|um|$ is the least common multiple of m and n

Let us prove this with an example,

consider two integers $m = 48$
 $n = 16$

$$\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(48, 16) = 16$$

where $u \times 48 + 16 \times v = 0$

Now to find the values of u and v ,

$$16 \times v = -48 \times u$$

$$v = -3 \times u$$

Therefore $v = -3$ and $u = 1$

$$|um| = |1 \times 48| = 48$$

$$|vn| = |-3 \times 16| = |-48| = 48$$

$$|um| = |vn|$$

We need to prove that $|um| = \text{LCM}(48, 16)$

$$\text{LCM}(48, 16) = 48$$

Hence proved.

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 16 & 48, 16 \\ 3 & 3, 1 \\ \hline & 1, 1 \end{array}$$

4) Is it possible for $\phi(n)$ to be bigger than n ?

Ans: No, it is not possible for $\phi(n)$ to be bigger than n because $\phi(n) = |Z_n^*|$ where Z_n^* is defined as the set of mod n integers that are relatively prime to n . $\phi(n)$ is defined as the number of elements in Z_n^* and range of $\phi(n) = [0 \text{ to } n-1]$. Therefore $\phi(n)$ cannot be bigger than n .