

# Elementary Number Theory

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## **Abstract**

Hello

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# 1 Primitive Roots

## 1.0.1 primitive roots of $p^2$

We have primitive root of  $p$ , let that be  $r$ . Then  $r^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Now we have if  $r^{p-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$  then  $r$  is the primitive root of  $p^2$ . Then we have total number of primitive roots are  $\phi(\phi(p^2)) = (p-1)\phi(p-1)$ . Our goal here is to find explicitly what are they.

**Claim:** If  $r^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$  then we have for  $r' = r + kp \quad \forall k = 1(1)(p-1)$ ,  $(r')^{p-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$  and hence we have in total  $p-1$  many incongruent primitive roots of  $p^2$  for each  $r$  with this property.

**Claim:** For  $r^{p-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$  we already have it to be a primitive root. Then considering the set  $\{r + kp \mid 0 < k < p\}$ . There exists exactly one element in this set such that  $(r + kp)^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$ . Hence we get exactly  $p-1$  primitive roots. So intotal  $(p-1)\phi(p-1)$  many. And hence they are the exact primitive roots of  $p^2$ .

Now, we are going to find the exact form of  $k$  for which  $(r + kp)^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$  so that we can easily find out it and exclude it from primitive roots set.

Note that  $r^{p-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$  in this case and  $r^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  that means  $r^{p-1} = 1 + pk_1 + p^2k_2$ , where  $p \nmid k_1$ .  $(r + kp)^{p-1} \equiv r^{p-1} + kp(p-1)r^{p-2} \equiv 1 + pk_1 - kpr^{p-2} \pmod{p^2}$ . Now, for  $k \equiv k_1 r \pmod{p}$ , we have the desired result. Now, as  $k_1, r$  is unique for each  $r$  hence is  $k$  hence we exclude only one member.