

7.2.4c  $\phi(3n) = 3\phi(n)$  if and only if  $3|n$

*Proof.* Let  $n = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$

Assume  $3|n$ . Thus, one of the  $p_i = 3$  and we can write  $n = 3^k m$ , where  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $\gcd(3, m) = 1$ . Observe.

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(3n) &= \phi(3^{k+1}m) \\ &= \phi(3^{k+1})\phi(m) \\ &= (3^{k+1} - 3^k)\phi(m) \\ &= 3(3^k - 3^{k-1})\phi(m) \\ &= 3\phi(3^k m) \\ &= 3\phi(n)\end{aligned}$$

Thus, if  $3|n$  then  $\phi(3n) = 3\phi(n)$

Going the other way, assume  $\phi(3n) = 3\phi(n)$ . Suppose  $3 \nmid n$ . Then  $\gcd(3, n) = 1$ . Notice.

$$\phi(3n) = \phi(3)\phi(n) = 2\phi(n)$$

This contradicts  $\phi(3n) = 3\phi(n)$ .

Thus, if  $\phi(3n) = 3\phi(n)$  then  $3|n$

Therefore,  $\phi(3n) = 3\phi(n)$  if and only if  $3|n$  □

7.2.05 Prove that the equation  $\phi(n) = \phi(n+2)$  is satisfied by  $n = 2(2p-1)$  whenever  $p$  and  $2p-1$  are both odd primes.

*Proof.* Assume  $p$  and  $2p-1$  are both odd primes. Notice  $\gcd(2, 2p-1) = 1$ . Then,

$$\phi(n) = \phi(2)\phi(2p-1) = (2p-1)\left(1 - \frac{1}{2p-1}\right) = 2p-2$$

Notice,

$$n+2 = 2(2p-1) + 2 = 4p$$

As  $p$  is a odd prime,  $\gcd(4, p) = 1$

$$\phi(n+2) = \phi(4)\phi(p) = 2p\left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) = 2p-2$$

Thus,  $\phi(n) = \phi(n+2)$

Therefore, the equation  $\phi(n) = \phi(n+2)$  is satisfied by  $n = 2(2p-1)$  whenever  $p$  and  $2p-1$  are both odd primes. □

7.2.10 If every prime that divides  $n$  also divides  $m$ , establish that  $\phi(nm) = n\phi(m)$ ; in particular  $\phi(n^2) = n\phi(n)$  for every positive integer  $n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$  be the primes of  $n$  that divide  $m$ . Let  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$ . Then  $m = p_1^{j_1} \cdots p_r^{j_r} q_1^{m_1} \cdots q_s^{m_s}$  where  $q_i$  is prime and  $q_i \nmid p_j$ . We then have,  $nm = p_1^{k_1+j_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r+j_r} q_1^{m_1} \cdots q_s^{m_s}$ . Observe.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(nm) &= p_1^{k_1+j_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r+j_r} q_1^{m_1} \cdots q_s^{m_s} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_s}\right) \\ &= p_1^{j_1} \cdots p_r^{j_r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_s}\right) p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r} \\ &= \phi(m) \cdot p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r} \\ &= n\phi(m) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, If every prime that divides  $n$  also divides  $m$ , then  $\phi(nm) = n\phi(m)$  □

7.2.20 If  $p$  is a prime and  $k \geq 2$ , show that  $\phi(\phi(p^k)) = p^{k-2}\phi((p-1)^2)$

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a prime and  $k \geq 2$ . Notice,  $\phi(\phi(p^k)) = p^{k-1}(p-1)$ . Since  $\gcd(p, p-1) = 1 \Rightarrow \gcd(p^{k-1}, p-1) = 1$ . As  $\phi$  is multiplicative, notice.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\phi(p^k)) &= \phi(p^{k-1}(p-1)) \\ &= \phi(p^{k-1})\phi(p-1) \\ &= p^{k-2}(p-1)\phi(p-1) \end{aligned}$$

By the previous problem. We have  $\phi(n^2) = n\phi(n)$  i.e  $(p-1)\phi(p-1) = \phi((p-1)^2)$

$$= p^{k-2}\phi((p-1)^2)$$

Therefore, if  $p$  is a prime and  $k \geq 2$ ,  $\phi(\phi(p^k)) = p^{k-2}\phi((p-1)^2)$  □