

A Book of Abstract Algebra | (2nd Edition)



Chapter 33, Problem 4EC



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Problem

Let p be a prime number, and ω a primitive p th root of unity in the field F .

Use part 3 to prove that $b^p = a^m$.

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 4

Here, objective is to prove that $b^p = a^m$

Consider $\text{degree } p(x) = m$

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Step 2 of 4

Consider the polynomial $x^p - a$.

$$x^p - a = 0$$

$$x = \sqrt[p]{a} \omega$$

Then, the root $d = \sqrt[p]{a}$, ω is the p^{th} root of unity

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Step 3 of 4

Consider the polynomial $x^p - a \in F(x)$

p is a prime and $x^p - a$ is reducible in $F(x)$

Let us assume d_1, d_2, \dots, d_p are the roots of $x^p - a$

Then,

$$x^p - a = (x - d_1)(x - d_2).....(x - d_p)$$

$p(x) = (x - d_1)(x - d_2).....(x - d_m)$ $p(x)$ is equal to the product of m number of these factors. Since, degree $p(x) = m$

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Step 4 of 4

Let the Constant term of above equation is b , is the product of d_1, d_2,d_m

$$b = (d_1 d_2d_m)$$

$$b = \sqrt[p]{a} \sqrt[p]{a}$$

$$b = \omega^k (\sqrt[p]{a})^m$$

$$b = \omega^k a^m$$

$$b = \left(\sqrt[p]{a} \right)^m \quad (\because \omega^k = 1)$$

$$b = a^{m/p}$$

$$b = \left(a^m \right)^{1/p}$$

$$b^p = a^m$$

Hence, proved

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