

A Book of Abstract Algebra | (2nd Edition)



Chapter 23, Problem 3EB



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Problem

Use Theorems 3 and 4 to prove the following: Suppose we are given k congruences

There is an x satisfying all k congruences simultaneously if for all $i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, $c_i \equiv c_j \pmod{d_{ij}}$, where $d_{ij} = \gcd(m_i, m_j)$. Moreover, the simultaneous solution is of the form $x \equiv c \pmod{t}$, where $t = \text{lcm}(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k)$.

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 4

Here, objective is to prove the given statement.

Number of congruence = k

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Step 2 of 4

Theorem 3 :

Consider $x \equiv a \pmod{n}, x \equiv b \pmod{m}$ there is an integer satisfying both congruence's simultaneously if and only if , $a \equiv b \pmod{\gcd(m,n)}$

Theorem 4 :

If a pair of congruence's $x \equiv a \pmod{n}, x \equiv b \pmod{m}$ has a simultaneous solution, then the solution is of the form $x \equiv c \pmod{t}$

Where t is the least common multiple of (m,n)

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Step 3 of 4

Consider

$$x = c_1 \pmod{m_1}, x = c_2 \pmod{m_1}, \dots, x = c_k \pmod{m_k}$$

Consider the first two equations $x = c_1 \pmod{m_1}, x = c_2 \pmod{m_1}$,

The solution is of the form $x = c \pmod{t}$

Where $t = \text{lcm}(m_1, m_2)$

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Step 4 of 4

Consider the first two congruence's simultaneously with

$$x = c_3 \pmod{m_3}$$

$$\text{gcd}(t, m_3) = \text{lcm}(d_{13}, d_{23})$$

$$c_3 = c_1 \pmod{d_{13}}$$

$$c_3 = c_2 \pmod{d_{23}}$$

$$c_3 = c \pmod{\text{gcd}(t, m_3)}$$

Repeat the above process for k times

Then, $c_i = c_j \pmod{d_{ij}}$; where $d_{ij} = \text{gcd}(m_i, m_j), i, j \in \{1, 2 \dots k\}$

The solution is of the form $x = c \pmod{t}$

Where, $t = \text{lcm}(m_1, m_2 \dots m_k)$

Hence, proved.

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