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# 21-127-T: Concepts of Mathematics

## Homework 5

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### Question 1

Compute the following quantities:

#### Part a

$$(a + b)^5 = (\text{mod } 5)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Answer: } (a + b)^5(\text{mod } 5) &= \\ &= a^5 + b^5 + 5a^4b + 10a^3b^2 + 10a^2b^3 + 5a^1b^4 = \\ &= a^5 + b^5 + 5(a^4b + 2a^3b^2 + 2a^2b^3 + a^1b^4)(\text{mod } 5) = \\ &= a^5 + b^5\end{aligned}$$

#### Part b

$$(a + b)^3 = ? (\text{mod } 3)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Answer: } (a + b)^3(\text{mod } 3) &= \\ &= a^3 + b^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 = \\ &= a^3 + b^3 + 3(a^2b + ab^2)(\text{mod } 3) = \\ &= a^3 + b^3\end{aligned}$$

#### Part c

$$(a + b)^2 = ? (\text{mod } 2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Answer: } (a + b)^2(\text{mod } 2) &= \\ &= a^2 + b^2 + 2ab = \\ &= a^2 + b^2 + 2ab(\text{mod } 2) = \\ &= a^2 + b^2\end{aligned}$$

## Part d

Let  $p$  be a positive prime.  $(a + b)^p = ? \pmod{p}$

**Answer:**  $(a + b)^p \pmod{p} =$

Using binomial expansion:

$$(a + b)^p = \binom{p}{0}a^pb^0 + \binom{p}{1}a^{p-1}b^1 + \dots + \binom{p}{1}a^1b^{p-1} + \binom{p}{p}a^0b^p$$

By computing binomial coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} &= a^p + b^p + p(a^{p-1}b^1 + 2a^{p-2}b^2 + \dots + 2a^2b^{p-2} + a^1b^{p-1}) = \\ &a^p + b^p + p(a^{p-1}b^1 + 2a^{p-2}b^2 + \dots + 2a^2b^{p-2} + a^1b^{p-1}) \pmod{p} = \\ &= a^p + b^p \end{aligned}$$

So,  $(a + b)^p \pmod{p} = a^p + b^p$

## Question 2

Let  $p > 1$  be an integer. Suppose the following property holds Prove that  $p$  is prime.

**Answer:**

Proof:

By contradiction, assume  $\exists a, b$  s.t.  $ab \pmod{p} = 0$  and  $a \pmod{p} \neq 0$  or  $b \pmod{p} \neq 0$

So, if  $ab \pmod{p}$  then  $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $ab = pk$

Then  $a \pmod{p} \neq 0$  and  $b \pmod{p} \neq 0$

Observe that this is absurd

So there exists prime number  $p$  that satisfies the above property

## Question 3

### Part a

Let  $\{S_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a collection of subsets of the real line satisfying the following property

1.  $i < j \Rightarrow S_j \subseteq S_i$
2.  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists n(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $S_{n(\epsilon)}$  has measure at most  $\epsilon$

Prove that if  $S \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in \mathbb{N}} S_i$  then  $S$  has measure zero.

**Answer:**

Proof:

By definition of measure, if  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists n(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $S_{n(\epsilon)}$  has measure at most  $\epsilon$  then  $\bigcap_{i \in \mathbb{N}} S_i$  has measure zero.

Choose  $S_i \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in \mathbb{N}} S_i$

Then  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists n(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$   $S_i$  has  $\epsilon > 0$

Observe that subset has the same sequence of intervals

Then  $S$  has measure zero.

### Part b

Prove the Cantor Set has measure zero.

**Answer:**

Proof: Let  $C_k$  denote the  $k$ th element of Cantor set  $C$

According to Cantor set definition,  $C_0 = [0, 1], [0, 1/3] \cup [2/3, 1]$  and so on, and  $\bigcap_i C_i$

Adding up size of intervals of Cantor set gives us:

$$1/3 + 2(1/3)^2 + 2^2(1/3)^2 + 2^3(1/3)^3 + \dots + 2^{i-1}(1/3)^i$$

So  $C$  is the complement of a set of size  $1/3 + 2(1/3)^2 + 2^2(1/3)^2 + 2^3(1/3)^3 + \dots = 1$ , observe that it has measure 0 as it has 1:1 correspondence with rational numbers

## Question 4

Do problem 16 from page 105.

**Answer:**

Proof:

By definition of upper bound,  $\exists x \in R$  s.t  $x \geq s, \forall s \in S$

Observe that the complement of upper bound is  $x \in R$  s.t  $x < s, \forall s \in S$

We see that the complement of  $U(S)$  is an open set

The set is closed if its complement is open

Then by definition,  $U(S)$  is closed set

## Question 5

Formulate modular equality as a relation and show it's reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

**Answer:**

Reflexive. Equality is reflexive since for each  $x \in R$ ,  $x = x$

Symmetric. Equality is symmetric since for each  $x, y \in R$  if  $x = y$  then  $y = x$

Transitive. Equality is transitive since for each  $x, y, z \in R$  if  $x = y$  and  $y = z$  then  $x = z$