
21-127-T: Concepts of Mathematics

Homework 5

Due date: 6/19/2015, 11:59 PM

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Collaborators:

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 ϵ

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 ϵ 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 $x = z$