

Math 215: Theorem Packet

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1 Proof of The Division Algorithm

Claim: Let a, b be integers with b not equal to zero. Then, there exists a unique pair of integers q and r , such that $a = b \cdot q + r$ and $0 \leq r < |b|$

Proof: Let a and b be integers with b not equal to zero. If $b = 1$, then $q = a$, so we will assume that $b > 1$. Then there exists a set S of the form $a - k \cdot b$, where k is an integer, and the set S contains all natural numbers that fit the form.

We must now show that S is non-empty, because if S is non-empty the well ordering principle will give us the least element of S . This least element will be r .

Case 1: $a \geq 0$, so we will set $k = 0$, plugging into our formula we get $a - 0 \cdot b$. The solution is then simply just a , which means that $a \geq 0$ of S , thus the set S is non-empty.

Case 2: $a < 0$, so we will set $k = a$. Plugging into our formula we get $a - kb$, with k being equal to a we once again substitute to get $a - ab$. Factoring out an a gives us the form $a(1 - b)$, and due to $a < 0$ and $b > 1$, $a(1 - b)$ must be greater than 0 of S . Thus the set S is non-empty.

With both cases of a either being greater than 0, and being less than zero resulting in a non-empty empty set S , S must have a least element r which is equal to $a - qb$ for some integer q . Thus $a = q \cdot b + r$ and $r \geq 0$. Now we need to show that $r < b$, and that q and r are unique.

Show $r < b$: Suppose $r \geq b$, then $r = b + z$, where z is an integer that fits the form of $0 \leq z < r$. Using our original equation $a = q \cdot b + r$ and the fact that $r = b + z$ we perform a substitution for r in the original equation resulting in $a = q \cdot b + b + z$. Simplifying we arrive at the result $z = a - (q + 1) \cdot b$ which is also an element of our set S , and is smaller than r . Using this we arrive at a contradiction where r is not the least element of S , thus $r < b$.

Show q and r are unique: Let there exist integers x and y that satisfy $a < xb + y$ and $0 \leq y < b$. Using the assumption of $y \geq r$ we get $0 \leq r - y < b$. With $xb + y$ being equal to $qb + r$ we get $r - y = b(x - q)$. With us knowing $0 \leq r - y < b$, we then know b divides $r - y$. This $y = r$ and $x = q$ and thus they are unique.

QED

2 Proof of the Extended Euclidean Algorithm

Claim: If d divides a , d divides b , and $d = ax + by$ for some integers x and y , then $d = \gcd(a, b)$.

Proof: Let there exist integers a , b , x , y , and d , such that d divides a , d divides b , and $d = ax + by$. We want to show that $d = \gcd(a, b)$. With d dividing both a and b , d cannot exceed the greatest common divisor which means that $d \leq \gcd(a, b)$. Also, since the $\gcd(a, b)$ is a common factor of a and b , it must also divide $ax + by$. Using this we get $\gcd(a, b) \leq d$. After finding the facts that $d \leq \gcd(a, b)$ and $\gcd(a, b) \leq d$ we can conclude that $d = \gcd(a, b)$.

QED

3 Proof of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

Claim: If a is an integer larger than 1, then a can be written as a product of primes. Furthermore, this factorization is unique except for the order of the factors.

Proof: This proof will be divided up into two parts, each of which will use the well-ordering principle for the set of natural numbers. First we will prove that every $a > 1$ can be written as a product of prime factors. Then we will prove that this factorization is unique except for reordering of the factors. Let there exist an integer z , which is greater than 1, that cannot be written as a product of primes. Using the well ordering principle there is a smallest z that fits the criteria, thus z is not prime so $z = b \cdot c$ where $1 < b$ and $c < a$ for a and b being integers. So b and c can be written as a product of prime factors due to z being the smallest integer that cannot be, but since $z = b \cdot c$ this makes a contradiction as the equation makes z a product of prime factors. In order to prove uniqueness let there exist an integer $z > 1$ that has two different prime factorizations, say $z = p_1 \dots p_k$ and $z = q_1 \dots q_t$ where $p_1 \dots p_k$ and $q_1 \dots q_t$ are all primes. Thus $p_1 | q_1 \dots q_t$, and since p_1 is prime, $p_1 | q_j$ for some integer j . Since q_j is prime and $p_1 > 1$, this means $p_1 = q_j$. Using that fact we can cancel p_1 from both sides of the equation to get $p_2 \dots p_k = q_2 \dots q_t$. With the assumption being that a is the smallest positive integer with a non-unique prime factorization, $p_2 \dots p_k < a$, $p_2 \dots p_k = q_2 \dots q_t$, $k = t$ and $p_1 = q_1$ we arrive at a contradiction to the assumption that these were two unique factorizations as they are equivalent.

QED

4 Proof of the Chinese Remainder Theorem

Claim: Let $r \in \mathbb{N}$, $n_1, \dots, n_r \in \mathbb{N}$, and $a_1, \dots, a_r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let the $\gcd(n_i, n_j) = 1$ for $i \neq j$. Then the system of congruences

$$x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i} \text{ where } i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$$

has a unique solution modulo $\prod_{i=1}^r n_i$.

Proof: This proof will be done by using induction on r . Let $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, $r \in \mathbb{N}$, and $a_1, \dots, a_r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $Q(r)$ be the fact that $x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$ for $i \in 1, \dots, r$ has a solution modulo $\prod_{i=1}^r n_i$ whenever the $\gcd(n_i, n_j) = 1$ for $i \neq j$.

Base Case: Let the $\gcd(n_i, n_j) = 1$ for all $i \neq j$. With the system of congruences $x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$ for $i \in 1, 2$, a solution can only be found if and only if $\gcd(n_1, n_2) \mid (a_1 - a_2)$. Also that solution modulo $n_1 n_2$ is unique only when $\gcd(n_1, n_2) = 1$. Thus when $r = 2$ the statement holds, which in return proves our base case.

Induction Step: Suppose that $x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$ where $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ has a solution modulo $\prod_{i=1}^r n_i$. Now using PMI, we must consider the system of congruences with $x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$ where $i \in \{1, \dots, r+1\}$. By the inductive hypothesis there is a solution Y in which $Y \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$ for all $i \in \{1, \dots, r+1\}$. Using this fact and the fact that $x \equiv a_{i+1} \pmod{n_{r+1}}$ we know the two systems of congruences have a unique solution Z . Which means $Z \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$ for all $i \in \{1, \dots, r+1\}$ and Z is a unique solution determined using modulo $\prod_{i=1}^{r+1} n_i$.

Thus by the principle of mathematical induction Z has a unique solution. Every other solution to the system is congruent to Z modulo $\prod_{i=1}^r n_i$.

QED

5 Proof of Euler's Theorem

Claim: Let $n \geq 2$ be an integer and $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. Then we wish to prove three core points to get a conclusive proof. First we wish to prove $\{b \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\} = \{ab \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\}$. Secondly is to prove if $B = \{b \mid 1 \leq b \leq n-1 \text{ with } \gcd(b, n) = 1\}$ then

$$\prod_{b \in B} ab \equiv \prod_{b \in B} b \bmod n$$

After proving these two we will be able to show and prove that $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \bmod n$

Proof: For the first section of this proof we want to show equivalence between $\{b \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\}$ and $\{ab \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\}$. Let $X = \{b \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\}$ and $Y = \{ab \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\}$. Then we will number of elements of the sets with the ϕ function, which then has the elements of X as $b_1, \dots, b_{\phi(n)}$ and the elements of Y being $ab_1, \dots, ab_{\phi(n)}$. We must now show that the $\gcd(ab_i, n) = \gcd(b_i, n) = 1$ and that $ab_i \not\equiv ab_j \bmod n$ for all $i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, \phi(n)\}$. For the second condition we will suppose that $ab_i \equiv ab_j \bmod n$ then, a is invertible modulo n , $b_i \equiv b_j \bmod n$ and that $b_i = b_j$. Further $ab_i \not\equiv ab_j \bmod n$ whenever $b_i \neq b_j$. In order to show the $\gcd(ab_i, n) = \gcd(b_i, n) = 1$, we will assume that $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b_i$ which results in a contradiction as $\gcd(ab_i, n) = \gcd(b_i, n) = 1$ means we have $p = 1$, and this is a contradiction. In conclusion we know that all elements of Y are distinct modulo n and that the $\gcd(ab_i, n) = 1$ for all i , which means $X = Y$. This proves $(\{b \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\} = \{ab \bmod n \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(b, n) = 1\})$.

Using what we just proved $ab_1, \dots, ab_{\phi(n)} \equiv b_1, \dots, b_{\phi(n)} \bmod n$, and combining terms we can get $a^{\phi(n)} b_1, \dots, b_{\phi(n)} \equiv b_1, \dots, b_{\phi(n)} \bmod n$. With all $b \in B$ being invertible mod n we can conclude that $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \bmod n$, which thus proves Eulers theorem.

QED

6 Proof of Fermats Little Theorem (a special case of Eulers Theorem)

Claim: Let n be a prime and $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. Assume $n \nmid a$, then $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

Proof: Using Eulers theorem (proven above) we have the formula $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. In our case we are dealing with a prime number, which gives us $\phi(n) = n - 1$. Substituting this into our equation we get $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. Which then proves Fermats little theorem.

QED