

Introduction to Coding Theory Assignment 15

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1 Q1

As p is prime, and $\gcd(a, p) = 1$, $a \bmod p \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$
This holds true for $2a, \dots, (p-1)a$

Let us suppose there exists an x and y where $1 \leq x < y \leq (p-1)$
Such that $xa \equiv ya \pmod{p}$
 $\therefore p | a(x-y)$ which means that $p | a(x-y)$ (As $\gcd(a, p) = 1$)

But the fact that $x, y < p$ and $x < y$, meaning that $0 < x - y < p$ which gives us a contradiction.

Thus, mod p gives us a bijective map between $\{a, 2a, \dots, (p-1)a\}$ and $\{1, 2, \dots, (p-1)\}$
 $\therefore a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

2 Q2

$d = \gcd(a, b)$

Let us assume that the above is false, such that $d \neq ax' + by'$

Then let $c = \min\{ax' + by' : ax' + by' > 0\} = ax + by$ for some x, y

Say $a = ci + j$, $0 < j < a$

Then $ci = a - j$

$\therefore i(ax + by) = a - j$

$\therefore j \in \{ax' + by' : ax' + by' > 0\}$, $j < c$

But as c is the smallest positive integer, this is a contradiction.

Say $c | a$, and similarly $c | b$.

Let $a = dk$, $b = dl$

$c = ax + by = d(kx + ly) = d$

But d is the gcd, and $c = ax + by$

$\therefore d = ax + by$ for integers x and y .

3 Q3

We know that F is a field.

So, the additive axioms of vector spaces hold in F , as do the multiplicative axioms.

As $K \subset F$ the multiplicative axioms hold for any $x \in K$ as well.

Thus, F is a vector space over K .