

LEONARDO EULER - phi function

Coprime integers - two integers m, n are coprime if $\text{lcm}(m, n) = 1$

Definition:

Let $\phi(n)$ denote the number of integers in the range $1 \leq x \leq n$ that are coprime to n .

e.g. $\phi(8) \Rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$
 $\phi(8) = 4$

$\phi(6) \Rightarrow 1, 5$
 $\phi(6) = 2$

$\phi(100) = 40$
 \hookrightarrow prime

$\phi(19) = 18$

We call $\phi(n)$ EULER'S PHI FUNCTION or EULER'S TOTIENT FUNCTION

THEOREM: a proposition that's arbitrarily more important

PROPOSITION 1

\rightarrow if p is a prime integer, then $\phi(p) = p - 1$.

PROPOSITION 2

$\phi(2^1) = \phi(2) = 1 = 2^1 - 2^0$

$\phi(2^2) = \phi(4) = 2 = 2^2 - 2^1$

$\phi(2^3) = \phi(8) = 4 = 2^3 - 2^2$

\rightarrow if p is prime, then $\phi(p^n) = p^n - p^{n-1}$

$\phi(3 \cdot 5) = \phi(15) = 8$

$\phi(3) = 2$ $\phi(5) = 4$

PROPOSITION 3

$\rightarrow \phi(m \cdot n) = \phi(m) \cdot \phi(n)$

\hookrightarrow if $m \neq n$ are coprime

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi(4 \cdot 6) = \phi(24) \\ \phi(4) \cdot \phi(6) = \phi(24) \\ 2 \cdot 2 \neq 8 \end{array} \right\}$$

Example

$\phi(220)$

$\hookrightarrow 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 \Rightarrow \phi(2^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11)$ (all primes)

$= \phi(2^2) \cdot \phi(5) \cdot \phi(11)$ (... proposition 3)

$= (2^2 - 2^1) \cdot \phi(5) \cdot \phi(11)$ (... proposition 2)

$= 2 \cdot 4 \cdot 10$ (... proposition 1)

$= 80$

Look at lecture notes for proofs