

1. Show that 2 is a primitive root modulo 11.

Answer :

Given that,

A number  $g$  is a primitive root modulo 11.  
since 11 is prime, we need the order of 2 modulo 11 to be  $\phi(11) = 10$ .

Compute powers of 2 mod 11.

$$2^1 \equiv 2$$

$$2^2 \equiv 4$$

$$2^3 \equiv 8$$

$$2^4 \equiv 16 \equiv 5$$

$$2^5 \equiv 2^4 \cdot 2 = 5 \cdot 2 = 10$$

$$2^6 \equiv 10 \cdot 2 = 20 \equiv 9$$

$$2^7 \equiv 9 \cdot 2 = 18 \equiv 7$$

$$2^8 \equiv 7 \cdot 2 = 14 \equiv 3$$

$$2^9 \equiv 3 \cdot 2 = 6$$

$$2^{10} \equiv 6 \cdot 2 = 12 \equiv 1$$

We reached 1 first at exponent 10. So the order of mod 11 is  $\phi(11)$ .

Therefore 2 is a primitive root modulo 11.

2. How many incongruent primitive roots does 14 have?

Answer:

Primitive roots exist for  $n = 2, 4, p^k$  or  $2p^k$  with odd prime  $p$ . Since  $14 = 2 \cdot 7$ , primitive roots exist. The number of incongruent primitive roots modulo  $n$

compute:

$$\phi(14) = \phi(2) \phi(7) = 1 \cdot 6 = 6$$

$$\text{So, number of primitive roots} = \phi(6) = 2$$

(Ans)

3. a. Show that,

$$\text{ord}_n(a) = \text{ord}_n(a^{-1})$$

$$\text{Let } \text{ord}_n(a) = k$$

$$\text{That means: } a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

Now,

$$(a^k)^{-1} \equiv 1^{-1} \pmod{n}$$

$$\text{simplify: } (a^{-1})^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

That means the order of  $a^{-1}$  divides  $k$ .

Hence the two orders divided each other.

So, they are equal.

$$\text{ord}_n(a) = \text{ord}_n(a^{-1})$$

(Showed)



b.

Answer:

Yes.

If  $a$  is a primitive root mod  $n$ ,  
then  $\text{ord}_n(a) = \phi(n)$

From part (a),

$$\text{ord}_n(a^{-1}) = \text{ord}_n(a) = \phi(n)$$

So,  $a^{-1}$  also has order  $\phi(n)$ .

Therefore,  $a^{-1}$  is also a primitive root modulo  $n$ .

(Ans.)