

Solutions for Number theory, Talteori 6hp, Kurskod TATA54, Provkod TEN1
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- 1) Find all integers n such that $n + 1$ is *not* divisible by 3 and $n + 2$ is divisible by 5.

Solution: Clearly, $n + 1$ is indivisible by 3 iff $n \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{3}$, and $n + 2$ is divisible by 5 iff $n \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$. By the Chinese remainder theorem, the case $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and simultaneously $n \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ is equivalent to $n \equiv 3 \pmod{15}$. Similarly, $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ and simultaneously $n \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ iff $n \equiv 13 \pmod{15}$. In conclusion, $n \equiv 3, 13 \pmod{15}$.

- 2) Let n be a positive integer. How many solutions are there to the congruence $x^3 + x \equiv 0 \pmod{2^n}$?

Solution: Modulo 2, both 0 and 1 are roots, but modulo 4 only 0 is a root. The formal derivative is $3x^2 + 1$, which evaluates to 1 at zero, so this zero will lift uniquely henceforth.

- 3) How many primitive roots are there mod 7? Find them all. For each primitive root a mod 7 that you find, check which of the “lifts”

$$a + 7t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 6$$

are primitive roots mod 49.

Solution: We see that 2 is not a primitive root modulo 7, but 3 is. Since $\phi(7) = 6$, the primitive roots modulo 7 are 3^1 and $3^5 \equiv 5 \pmod{7}$.

A dumb search reveals that all lifts of 3 except $31 = 3 + 4 * 7$ are primitive roots modulo 49, as are all lifts of 5 except $19 = 5 + 2 * 7$.

- 4) Determine the (periodic) continued fraction expansion of $\sqrt{3}$ by finding the minimal algebraic relation satisfied by $\sqrt{3} - 1$.

Solution: Put $a = \sqrt{3} - 1$, $a^* = -\sqrt{3} - 1$. Then a, a^* are the zeroes of $(x - a)(x - a^*) = x^2 + 2x - 2$. So $a(3 + a) = 2 + a$, hence $a = (2 + a)/(3 + a)$. It follows that

$$a = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{2+a}} = [0; \overline{1, 2}]$$

whence $\sqrt{3} = a + 1 = [1; \overline{1, 2}]$.

- 5) For a positive integer n , let $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, $[n]^2 = \{(i, j) | i, j \in [n]\}$, $C(n) = \{(i, j) \in [n]^2 | \gcd(i, j) = 1\}$. Show that

$$\#C(n) = \sum_{d=1}^n \mu(d) \lfloor \frac{n}{d} \rfloor^2.$$

Solution: For any predicate P , we say that $[P] = 1$ if P is true, and zero otherwise. With this notation,

$$\#C(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n [\gcd(i, j) = 1].$$

By Möbius inversion, $[n = 1] = \sum_{d|n} \mu(d)$, and in particular

$$[\gcd(i, j) = 1] = \sum_{d|\gcd(i, j)} \mu(d).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \#C(n) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n [\gcd(i, j) = 1] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{d|\gcd(i, j)} \mu(d) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{d=1}^n [d|\gcd(i, j)] \mu(d) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{d=1}^n [d|i][d|j] \mu(d) \\ &= \left(\sum_{d=1}^n \mu(d) \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n [d|i] \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n [d|j] \right) \\ &= \sum_{d=1}^n \mu(d) \left[\frac{n}{d} \right]^2 \end{aligned}$$

where we have used that $[d|\gcd(i, j)] = [d|i][d|j]$ and that $\sum_{i=1}^n [d|i] = \left[\frac{n}{d} \right]$.