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**UNIT – V : CLASSICAL THEOREMS AND
MULTIPLICATIVE FUNCTIONS**

MA8551 - Algebra and Number Theory

UNIT - V CLASSICAL THEOREMS AND MULTIPLICATIVE FUNCTIONS

Wilson Theorem:

1. State and prove Wilson's Theorem

Statement:

If p is prime, then $(p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$.

Proof :

We have to prove $(p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

When $p = 2$, $(p - 1)! = (2 - 1)! = 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{2}$.

So, the theorem is true when $p = 2$.

Now let $p > 2$ and let a be a positive integer such that $1 \leq a \leq p - 1$.

Since p is a prime and $a < p$, $(a, p) = 1$.

Then the congruence $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ has a solution a' congruence modulo p .

$$\therefore aa' \equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \text{ where } 1 \leq a' < p - 1$$

$\therefore a, a'$ are inverses of each other modulo p .

If $a' = a$, then $a \cdot a \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore p \mid a^2 - 1 \Rightarrow p \mid (a - 1)(a + 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow p \mid a - 1 \text{ or } p \mid a + 1$$

Since $a < p$, if $p \mid a + 1$ then $a = p - 1$.

If $p \mid a - 1$, then $a - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow a = 1$.

$$\Rightarrow a = 1 \text{ or } p - 1 \text{ if } a = a'$$

i.e., 1 and $p - 1$ are their own inverses.

If $a' \neq a$, excluding 1 and $p - 1$, the remaining $p - 3$ residues $2, 3, 4, \dots, (p - 3), (p - 2)$ can be grouped into $\frac{p - 3}{2}$ pairs of the type a, a' such that $aa' \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

Multiplying all these pairs together we get, $2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \dots (p - 3)(p - 2) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \dots (p - 2)(p - 1) \equiv p - 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$(p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \quad (\text{Since } p - 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p})$$

Hence the theorem.

This can be rewritten as $(p - 1)! + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

$$\Rightarrow p \mid (p - 1)! + 1,$$

which is the result suggested by Wilson.

2. Let p be a prime and n any positive integer. Prove that $\frac{(np)!}{n!p^n} \equiv (-1)^n \pmod{p}$

Proof:

First, we can make an observation. Let a be any positive integer congruent to 1 modulo p .

Then by Wilson's theorem, $a(a + 1)\dots(a + (p - 2)) \equiv (p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

In other words, the product of the $p - 1$ integers between any two consecutive multiples of p is congruent to $-1 \pmod{p}$.

$$\text{Then } \frac{(np)!}{n!p^n} = \frac{(np)!}{p \cdot 2p \cdot 3p \dots (np)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \prod_{r=1}^n [(r-1)p+1] \dots [(r-1)p+(p-1)] \\
&\equiv \prod_{r=1}^n (p-1)! \pmod{p}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\equiv \prod_{r=1}^n (-1) \pmod{p} \equiv (-1)^n \pmod{p}$$

Fermat's Little Theorem:

1. State and prove Fermat's little theorem.

If p is a prime and a is any integer not divisible by p , then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

Proof:

Given p is a prime and a is any integer not divisible by p

When an integer is divided by p , the set of possible remainders are $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1$

Consider the set of integers $1 \cdot a, 2 \cdot a, 3 \cdot a, \dots, (p-1) \cdot a$ ----- (1)

Suppose $ia \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, then $p \mid ia$.

But $p \nmid a \therefore p \mid i$, which is impossible, since $i < p$.

$$ia \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p-1.$$

So, no term of (1) is zero.

Next we prove they are all distinct

Suppose $ia \equiv ja \pmod{p}$, where $1 \leq i, j \leq p-1$.

Then $(i-j)a \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow p \mid (i-j)a$

Since $p \nmid a$, $p \mid i-j$ and $i, j < p \Rightarrow |i-j| < p$.

$$\therefore i-j = 0 \Rightarrow i \equiv j \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore i \neq j \Rightarrow ia \neq ja.$$

This means, no two of the integers in (1) are congruent modulo p .

\therefore The least residues (or remainders) of the integers $a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (p-1)a$ modulo p are the same as the integers $1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1$ in some order.

So, their products are congruent modulo p .

$$a \cdot 2a \cdot 3a \dots (p-1)a \equiv 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (p-1) \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot (p-1) \cdot a^{p-1} \equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow (p-1)! a^{p-1} \equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \text{ (since } p \nmid (p-1))$$

The result $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ is equivalent to $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$.

2. Find the remainder when 24^{1947} is divided by 17

Solution.

We have to find the remainder when 241947 is divided by 17.

Here $a = 24$, $p = 17$

We know 17 is a prime & $17 \mid 24$

\therefore By Fermat's theorem, $24^{17-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$

$$\Rightarrow 24^{16} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$$

$$\therefore (24^{16})^{121} \equiv 1^{121} \pmod{17}$$

$$\Rightarrow 24^{1936} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$$

Now

$$24^{1947} = 24^{1936} + 11 = 24^{1936} \cdot 24^{11}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& 242 = 576 \equiv -2 \pmod{17} \\
\therefore & (242)^2 \equiv (-2)^2 \pmod{17} \\
\Rightarrow & 244 \equiv 4 \pmod{17} \\
& (244)^2 \equiv 4^2 \pmod{17} \\
\Rightarrow & 248 \equiv 16 \pmod{17} \\
& \equiv -1 \pmod{17} \\
& 2411 = 248 \cdot 242 \cdot 24 \equiv (-1) \cdot (-2) \cdot 7 \pmod{17} \\
& \equiv 14 \pmod{17} \\
\therefore & 241947 \equiv 14 \pmod{17} \\
& \equiv 14 \pmod{17} \\
\therefore & \text{The remainder is 14 when 241947 is divided by 17.}
\end{aligned}$$

Euler's Theorem:

1. State and prove Euler's theorem.

Let m be a positive integer and a be any integer such that $(a, m) = 1$.

Then $a^{\Phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$.

Proof :

Given m is a positive integer and a is any integer such that $(a, m) = 1$.

Let $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{\Phi(m)}$ be all the positive integers $< m$ and relatively prime to m .

Since $r_i - r_j < m$, clearly $r_i \not\equiv r_j \pmod{m}$ if $i \neq j$

Consider the products $ar_1, ar_2, \dots, ar_{\Phi(m)}$

Since $(a, m) = 1$, $ar_i \not\equiv ar_j \pmod{m}$ if $i \neq j$

we find $ar_1, ar_2, \dots, ar_{\Phi(m)} \pmod{m}$ are distinct.

We now prove $(ar_i, m) = 1$

For, suppose $(ar_i, m) > 1$, then let p be a prime factor of $(ar_i, m) = d$.

$$\therefore \quad p \mid a \text{ and } p \mid m$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad p \mid a \text{ or } p \mid r_i \text{ and } p \mid m.$$

If $p \mid r_i$ and $p \mid m$ then, $(r_i, m) \neq 1$, a contradiction.

If $p \mid a$ and $p \mid m$, then $p \mid (a, m) \Rightarrow (a, m) \neq 1$, which is again a contradiction.

$$\therefore \quad (ar_i, m) = 1, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, \Phi(m)$$

\therefore the $\Phi(m)$ least residues $ar_1, ar_2, \dots, ar_{\Phi(m)}$ modulo m are distinct and relatively prime to m .

So, they are the same as integers $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{\Phi(m)}$, in some order modulo m .

$$\therefore \text{ their product } ar_1 \cdot ar_2 \cdot \dots \cdot ar_{\Phi(m)} \equiv r_1 \cdot r_2 \cdot \dots \cdot r_{\Phi(m)} \pmod{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad a^{\Phi(m)} r_1 \cdot r_2 \cdot \dots \cdot r_{\Phi(m)} \equiv r_1 r_2 \cdot \dots \cdot r_{\Phi(m)} \pmod{m}$$

Since each r_i is relatively prime to m , $(r_1 r_2 \cdot \dots \cdot r_{\Phi(m)}, m) = 1$

We get $a^{\Phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$

2. Using Euler's theorem, find the remainder when 245^{1040} is divided by 18.

Solution.

We have to find the remainder when 2451040 is divided by 18.

Here $a = 245 = 5 \cdot 72$ and $m = 18 = 3^2 \cdot 2$, $(a, m) = 1$

Hence by Euler's theorem,

$$a^{\Phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m} \Rightarrow 245^{\Phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$$

$$\varphi(18) = \varphi(3^2 \cdot 2) = \varphi(3^2) \cdot \varphi(2) = 3^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \cdot 1 = 6$$

But

$$\therefore 245^6 \equiv 1 \pmod{18}$$

$$\therefore (245^6)^{173} \equiv 1^{173} \pmod{18}$$

$$245^{1038} \equiv 1 \pmod{18}$$

$$245^{1040} = 245^{1038+2} = 245^{1038} 245^2$$

$$\text{But } 245 \equiv 11 \pmod{18}$$

$$2452 \equiv 11^2 \pmod{18}$$

$$\equiv 121 \pmod{18}$$

$$\equiv 13 \pmod{18}$$

$$2451040 \equiv 1 \cdot 13 \pmod{18}$$

$$\equiv 13 \pmod{18}$$

\therefore The remainder is 13 when 2451040 is divided by 18.

If $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_k^{e_k}$ is the canonical decomposition of a positive integer n then derive the

formula for the phi function $\phi(n)$ and use it to find $\phi(6860)$

Proof:

To prove : If p is prime and e any positive integer then prove that $\phi(p^e) = p^e - p^{e-1} = p^e \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$

$\phi(p^e) =$ number of positive integers $\leq p^e$ and relatively prime to it

$$= \{ \text{number of positive integers } \leq p^e \} - \{ \text{number of positive integers } \leq p^e \text{ and not relatively prime to it} \}$$

The number of positive integers $\leq p^e$ is p^e (because they are 1, 2, 3, ..., p^e)

The number of positive integers $\leq p^e$ and not prime to it are the various multiples of p .

They are $p, 2p, 3p, \dots, (p^{e-1})p$

The number of such numbers $= p^{e-1}$

$$\text{Hence } \phi(p^e) = p^e - p^{e-1} = p^e \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$$

Since $\phi(p^e) = p^e - p^{e-1} = p^e \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$ is a multiplicative function,

$$\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_k^{e_k}) = \phi(p_1^{e_1}) \phi(p_2^{e_2}) \dots \phi(p_k^{e_k})$$

$$= p_1^{e_1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) p_2^{e_2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \dots p_k^{e_k} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k}\right)$$

$$= p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_k^{e_k} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k}\right)$$

$$= n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k}\right)$$

To find $\phi(6860)$:

$$\phi(6860) = \phi(2^2) \cdot \phi(5) \cdot \phi(7^3)$$

$$= 2^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) 4 \cdot 7^3 \left(1 - \frac{1}{7}\right) = 252$$

Euler phi function:

Let $\phi : N \rightarrow N$ be a function defined by

$$\phi(1) = 1 \text{ and}$$

for $n > 1$ $\phi(n) =$ the number of positive integer $\leq n$ and relative prime to n .

1. Prove that Euler phi function is multiplicative:

Proof:

Let m and n be positive integers such that $(m, n) = 1$.

To prove $\varphi(mn) = \varphi(m) \varphi(n)$

Arrange the mn integers $1, 2, 3, \dots, mn$ in m rows of n numbers each.

1	$m+1$	$2m+1$	$3m+1$...	$(n-1)m+1$	
2	$m+2$	$2m+2$	$3m+2$...	$(n-1)m+2$	
3	$m+3$	$2m+3$	$3m+3$...	$(n-1)m+3$	
:	:	:	:	:	:	
:	:	:	:	:	:	
r	$m+r$	$2m+r$	$3m+r$...	$(n-1)m+r$	
:	:	:	:	:	:	
rth row	m	$2m$	$3m$	$4m$...	nm

Let r be a positive integer $\leq m$ such that $(r, m) > 1$.

We will now show that no element of the r th row in the array is relatively prime to mn .

Let $d = (r, m)$. Then $d \mid r$ and $d \mid m \Rightarrow d \mid km + r$ for any integer k

This means d is a factor of every element in the r th row.

Thus, no element in the r th row is relatively prime to m and hence to mn if $(r, m) > 1$.

In other words, the elements in the array relatively prime to mn come from the r th row only if $(r, m) = 1$.

Since $r < m$ and relatively prime to m , we find there are $\varphi(m)$ such integers r and have $\varphi(m)$ such rows.

Now let us consider the r th row where $(r, m) = 1$.

The elements in the r th row are $r, m+r, 2m+r, \dots, (n-1)m+r$.

When they are divided by n , the remainders are $0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ in some order of which $\varphi(n)$ are relatively prime to n .

Therefore, exactly $\varphi(n)$ elements in the r th row are relatively prime to n and hence to mn .

Thus there are $\varphi(m)$ rows containing positive integers relatively prime to mn and each row contain $\varphi(n)$ elements relatively prime to it.

Hence the array contains $\varphi(m)\varphi(n)$ positive integers $\leq mn$ and relatively prime to mn .

That is $\varphi(mn) = \varphi(m)\varphi(n)$.

Hence φ is multiplicative function.

2. If p is prime and e any positive integer then prove that $\varphi(p^e) = p^e - p^{e-1}$. Also show that

$$\varphi(n) = \frac{n}{2} \text{ when } n = 2^k$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(p^e) &= \text{number of positive integers } \leq p^e \text{ and relatively prime to it} \\ &= \{ \text{number of positive integers } \leq p^e \} - \{ \text{number of positive integers } \leq p^e \\ &\quad \text{and not relatively prime to it} \} \end{aligned}$$

The number of positive integers $\leq p^e$ is p^e (because they are $1, 2, 3, \dots, p^e$)

The number of positive integers $\leq P$ and not prime to it are the various multiples of p .

They are $p, 2p, 3p, \dots, (p^{e-1})p$

The number of such numbers $= p^{e-1}$

Hence
$$\varphi(p^e) = p^e - p^{e-1}$$

$$\varphi(n) = \frac{n}{2} \text{ when } n = 2^k$$

To prove that

Given $n = 2^k$

$$\therefore \varphi(n) = \varphi(2^k) = 2^k \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^k \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{n}{2}$$

$$\frac{2^{p-1} - 1}{p}$$

3. Find the primes p for which $\frac{2^{p-1} - 1}{p}$ is a square.

Solution:

$$\frac{2^{p-1} - 1}{p} = n^2$$

Suppose $\frac{2^{p-1} - 1}{p}$ for some positive integer n . Then $2^{p-1} - 1 = pn^2$

Clearly both p and n must be odd.

Let $p = 2k + 1$ for some positive integer k .

Then $2^{2k} - 1 = pn^2$

$$\Rightarrow (2^k - 1)(2^k + 1) = pn^2$$

Suppose $(2^k - 1)$ is a perfect square, $(2^k - 1) = r^2 \Rightarrow 2^k = r^2 + 1$

$$2^{p-1} = 2^{2k} = (2^k)^2 = (r^2 + 1)^2$$

Since $r \geq 1$ and is odd, $r = 2i + 1$ for some integer $i \geq 0$.

Then $r^2 = (2i + 1)^2$ has to be an odd number.

But $r^2 + 1 = 2k \Rightarrow r^2 + 1$ has to divide 2.

$$\Rightarrow r^2 + 1 = 1 \text{ or } 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 0 \text{ or } 1$$

$r = 0, 2^{p-1} = (0^2 + 1)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow p = 0 \text{ which is not possible}$

$r = 1, 2^{p-1} = (1^2 + 1)^2 = 4 \Rightarrow p = 3$

Suppose $(2^k + 1)$ is a perfect square

$$(2^k + 1) = s^2 \Rightarrow 2^k = s^2 - 1$$

$$2^{p-1} = (s + 1)^2 (s - 1)^2$$

Then both $s - 1$ and $s + 1$ both must be the factors of 2

$$s - 1 = 1 \text{ or } 2, \quad \& \quad s + 1 = 1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$\Rightarrow s = 0, 1, 2 \text{ or } 3$$

If $s = 0; 2^{p-1} = (0 + 1)^2 (0 - 1)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow p = 1$

which is not possible

If $s = 1; 2^{p-1} = (1 + 1)^2 (1 - 1)^2 = 0$

which is not possible

If $s = 2; 2^{p-1} = (2 + 1)^2 (2 - 1)^2 = 9$

which is not possible

$$\text{If } s = 3; 2^{p-1} = (3+1)^2 (3-1)^2 = 2^6 \Rightarrow p = 7$$

Thus p must be 3 or 7

Tau function:

Let n be a positive integer then

$$\tau(n) \text{ denotes the number of positive factors of } n \text{ that is } \tau(n) = \sum_{d/n} 1$$

Sigma function:

Let n be a positive integer then $\sigma(n)$ denotes the sum of the positive factors of n that is

$$\sigma(n) = \sum_{d/n} d$$

Problems:

1. Evaluate $\tau(18)$ and $\tau(23)$

Solution:

The positive divisors of 18 are 1,2,3,6,9,18 so that $\tau(18) = 6$

23 being a prime, has exactly two positive divisors so $\tau(23) = 2$

2. Evaluate $\sigma(12)$ and $\sigma(28)$

Solution:

The positive divisors of 12 are 1,2,3,4,6,12 so that $\sigma(12) = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 6 + 12 = 28$

The positive divisors of 28 are 1,2,4,7,14,28 so that $\sigma(28) = 1 + 2 + 4 + 7 + 14 + 28 = 56$