

## Some properties of the phi-function

Thm (Gauss) For each +ve integer  $n \geq 1$

$$n = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$$

the sum being extended over all +ve divisors of  $n$

P Case I  $n=1$   $\sum_{d|n} \phi(d) = \sum_{d|1} \phi(d) = \phi(1) = 1 = n$

Case II  $n > 1$  Consider the  $f_n$

$$F(n) = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$$

$\therefore \phi$  is multiplicative therefore  $F$  is also multiplicative

Let  $n = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \dots p_n^{k_n}$  be the prime factorization of  $n$ . Then

$$F(n) = F(p_1^{k_1}) F(p_2^{k_2}) \dots F(p_n^{k_n})$$

For each  $i$

$$F(p_i^{k_i}) = \sum_{d|p_i^{k_i}} \phi(d)$$

$$= \phi(1) + \phi(p_i) + \phi(p_i^2) + \dots + \phi(p_i^{k_i})$$

$$= 1 + p_i - 1 + p_i^2 - p_i + \dots + p_i^{k_i} - p_i^{k_i-1}$$

$$= p_i^{k_i}$$

$$\therefore F(n) = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} \dots p_n^{k_n} = n$$

$$\text{i.e. } n = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$$

Thm For  $m > 1$  the sum of the +ve integers less than  $m$  and relatively prime to  $m$  is  $\frac{1}{2} m \phi(m)$ .

Pf Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{\phi(m)}$  be the positive integers less than  $m$  and relatively prime to  $m$ .

We know that  $\gcd(a_i, m) = 1 \iff \gcd(m - a_i, m) = 1$ . [Use division algorithm to find gcd technique]

[Note that since  $a_i < m$  therefore  $m - a_i < m$ ]

Hence  $m - a_i \equiv a_i \pmod{m} \quad 1 \leq i \leq \phi(m)$

i.e.  $m - a_i = a_j \quad (\because m - a_i, a_j \text{ are both } < m)$

$\forall i, j$

i.e. the numbers  $m - a_1, m - a_2, \dots, m - a_{\phi(m)}$  are equal in some order to  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{\phi(m)}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{\phi(m)} &= (m - a_1) + (m - a_2) + \dots + (m - a_{\phi(m)}) \\ &= \phi(m) \cdot m - (a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{\phi(m)}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{\phi(m)}) = \phi(m) \cdot m$$

Example  $m = 30$ .  $\phi(30) = \phi(5 \times 6) = \phi(5 \times 3 \times 2)$

$$= \phi(5 \times 3 \times 2) = (5-1)(3-1)(2-1) = 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 8$$

There are 8 +ve integers less than 30 and relatively prime to 30 which are:

1, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29

Hence  $1 + 7 + 11 + 13 + 17 + 19 + 23 + 29 = 120 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 30 \cdot 8$

Also note  $1 + 29 = 30 \quad 11 + 19 = 30$

$7 + 23 = 30 \quad 13 + 17 = 30$

Thm For any +ve integer  $m$

$$\phi(m) = m \sum_{d|m} \frac{\mu(d)}{d}$$

Pf. We have  $F(m) = m = \sum_{d|m} \phi(d)$

Applying the inversion formula

$$\phi(m) = \sum_{d|m} \mu(d) F\left(\frac{m}{d}\right) = \sum_{d|m} \mu(d) \frac{m}{d}$$