

CONGRUENCES in \mathbb{Z}

Definition and operations in $\mathbb{Z} / n\mathbb{Z}$

I- Definition of CONGRUENCE in \mathbb{Z} :

If a and b are Integers, and n is a Natural number : $\forall (a; b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N},$

$$\boxed{\text{"}a \text{ is congruent to } b \text{ modulo } n\text{"} \Leftrightarrow a \equiv b [n] \Leftrightarrow a - b = k \cdot n}$$

1. Properties of Congruence :

i. $a \equiv b [n] \Leftrightarrow a$ and b have the **same Rest** in the Euclidian division by n

$$\text{ii. } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \equiv b [n] \\ a' \equiv b' [n] \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a + a' \equiv b + b' [n] \\ a \cdot a' \equiv b \cdot b' [n] \end{array} \right\}$$

iii. $\forall p \in \mathbb{N}, \quad a \equiv b [n] \Rightarrow a^p \equiv b^p [n]$

“Congruence is a relationship compatible with Addition and Multiplication”

2. Equivalence relationship : $\forall (a; b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N},$

i. Reflexivity : $a \equiv a [n]$

ii. Symetry : $b \equiv a [n] \Leftrightarrow a \equiv b [n]$

iii. Transitivity : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \equiv b [n] \\ b \equiv c [n] \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a \equiv c [n]$

3. Classes of Congruence :

Let $a \in [0, 1, 2, \dots, (n-1)]$, then the set $\{x \in \mathbb{Z}, x \equiv a [n]\}$ is noted $\overset{\cdot}{a}$

and is called the **CLASS** of a **Modulo** n .

• Any integer x belongs to one of the n classes modulo n .

• The set of all classes modulo n is noted $\mathbb{Z} / n\mathbb{Z}$

Example : $\mathbb{Z} / 6\mathbb{Z} = \{\overset{\cdot}{0}; \overset{\cdot}{1}; \overset{\cdot}{2}; \overset{\cdot}{3}; \overset{\cdot}{4}; \overset{\cdot}{5}\}$ with $\overset{\cdot}{2} = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}, x = 2 + k \cdot 6\}$

$$\overset{\cdot}{2} = \{2; 8; 14; 20; \dots; -4; -10; -16; \dots\}$$

Hence we can say that $\overset{\cdot}{2} \oplus \overset{\cdot}{4} = \overset{\cdot}{0}$ and $\overset{\cdot}{3} \otimes \overset{\cdot}{4} = \overset{\cdot}{0}$