

Complete Solutions to Exercises 5.1

1. Since we are given a prime in each case, so we use Proposition (5.2):

If p is prime then $\phi(p) = p - 1$.

- (a) $\phi(13) = 13 - 1 = 12$.
 (b) $\phi(211) = 211 - 1 = 210$.
 (c) $\phi(311) = 311 - 1 = 310$.
 (d) $\phi(1973) = 1973 - 1 = 1972$.
 (e) $\phi(1999) = 1999 - 1 = 1998$.
 (f) $\phi(2017) = 2017 - 1 = 2016$.

2. In each case we use formula (5.9):

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \quad \text{where } n = p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}$$

This means we need to factorize each of the given numbers into its primes.

- (a) The prime decomposition of $15 = 5 \times 3$. Applying (5.9) gives

$$\phi(15) = 15 \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) = 15 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = 8.$$

(There are 8 integers between 1 and 15 that are relatively prime to 15.)

- (b) We need to find the prime decomposition of 64;

$$64 = 2^6.$$

Applying (5.9) with $p = 2$ and $k = 6$ gives

$$\phi(2^6) = 2^6 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^6 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^5 = 32.$$

Therefore $\phi(64) = 32$.

- (c) Evaluating the prime decomposition of 200 gives

$$200 = 8 \times 25 = 2^3 \times 5^2$$

Using formula (5.9) with $n = 200$, $p_1 = 2$ and $p_2 = 5$:

$$\phi(200) = 200 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) = 200 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = 80.$$

- (d) We can write 1000 in its prime decomposition as

$$1000 = 10^3 = (2 \times 5)^3 = 2^3 \times 5^3.$$

Using formula (5.9) gives

$$\phi(1000) = 1000 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) = 1000 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = 400.$$

(e) Which prime numbers go into 1001?

$$1001 = 7 \times 11 \times 13.$$

Using the above formula gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(1001) &= 1001 \left(1 - \frac{1}{7}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{11}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{13}\right) \\ &= 1001 \left(\frac{6}{7}\right) \left(\frac{10}{11}\right) \left(\frac{12}{13}\right) = 720 \end{aligned}$$

(f) The prime factorization of 666 is

$$666 = 6 \times 111 = (2 \times 3) \times (3 \times 37) = 2 \times 3^2 \times 37.$$

So 666 is made up of the primes 2, 3 and 37 therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(666) &= 666 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{37}\right) \\ &= 666 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(\frac{36}{37}\right) = 216 \end{aligned}$$

There are 216 integers between 1 and 666 that only have a common factor of 1 with 666.

3. In each case we only have one prime factor. We can still use formula (5.9):

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$$

(a) We are given 2^{1000} . Applying this formula with $n = 2^{1000}$ and $p_1 = 2$ we obtain

$$\phi(2^{1000}) = 2^{1000} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^{1000} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^{999}.$$

Since the only factor is 2 so $\phi(2^{1000}) = 2^{999}$ is the number of odd numbers up to 2^{1000} which is $\frac{1}{2}$ of 2^{1000} , hence 2^{999} .

(b) Similarly for 3^{1000} we have

$$\phi(3^{1000}) = 3^{1000} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) = 3^{1000} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 2 \times 3^{999}.$$

$\phi(3^{1000})$ means the number of natural numbers up to 3^{1000} which are *not* multiples of 3 is 2×3^{999} .

(c) For 5^{1000} we have

$$\phi(5^{1000}) = 5^{1000} \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) = 5^{1000} \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = 4 \times 5^{999}.$$

Similarly, $\phi(5^{1000}) = 4 \times 5^{999}$ is the number of integers between 1 and 5^{1000} which are *not* multiples of 5.

(d) Also for 7^{1000} we have

$$\phi(7^{1000}) = 7^{1000} \left(1 - \frac{1}{7}\right) = 7^{1000} \left(\frac{6}{7}\right) = 6 \times 7^{999}.$$

Hence there are 6×7^{999} natural numbers up to 7^{1000} which are *not* multiples of 7.

4. We need to prove $\phi(p^m) = \phi(p)p^{m-1} = (p-1)p^{m-1}$ where p is prime.

Proof.

Using formula (5.9) with one prime factor p gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(p^m) &= p^m \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \\ &= p^m \left(\frac{p-1}{p}\right) = p^{m-1}(p-1) = p^{m-1}\phi(p) \quad [\text{By (5.2) } \phi(p) = p-1] \end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof. ■

5. How do we show $\phi(2^n) = \frac{1}{2}(2^n)$?

Use the result of question 4.

Proof.

Using $\phi(p^m) = (p-1)p^{m-1}$ with $p = 2$ and $m = n$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(2^n) &= (2-1)2^{n-1} \\ &= 2^{n-1} = 2^{-1}2^n = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)2^n \end{aligned}$$

$\phi(2^n) = 2^{n-1} = \frac{1}{2}(2^n)$ means that half the natural numbers from 1 to 2^n are relatively prime to 2^n . Of course, these are all the odd numbers from 1 to 2^n . ■

6. We need to show that $\phi(10^m) = 4(10^{m-1})$.

Proof.

We use formula (5.9):

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$$

With $n = 10^m$. The prime factors of 10 are 2 and 5, so

$$10^m = 2^m \times 5^m.$$

Substituting $n = 10^m$, $p_1 = 2$ and $p_2 = 5$ into formula (5.9) yields

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(10^m) &= 10^m \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) \\ &= 10^m \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = 10^m \left(\frac{4}{10}\right) = 4(10^{m-1})\end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof. ■

7. We need to prove that $\phi(n^m) = n^{m-1}\phi(n)$.

Proof.

Let the prime decomposition of n be

$$n = p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times p_3^{k_3} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r} \text{ where } p_j \text{'s are distinct primes.}$$

Expanding the right-hand-side of the given statement:

$$\begin{aligned}n^{m-1}\phi(n) &= \left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}\right)^{m-1} \phi\left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}\right) \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Substituting} \\ n = p_1^{k_1} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r} \end{array} \right] \\ &\equiv p_1^{k_1 m - k_1} \times p_2^{k_2 m - k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r m - k_r} \left[\phi(p_1^{k_1}) \times \phi(p_2^{k_2}) \times \cdots \times \phi(p_r^{k_r}) \right] \\ &\quad \text{Using the rules of indices} \\ &= p_1^{k_1 m - k_1} \phi(p_1^{k_1}) \times p_2^{k_2 m - k_2} \phi(p_2^{k_2}) \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r m - k_r} \phi(p_r^{k_r}) \\ &\equiv p_1^{k_1 m - k_1} \left[p_1^{k_1} - p_1^{k_1 - 1} \right] \times p_2^{k_2 m - k_2} \left[p_2^{k_2} - p_2^{k_2 - 1} \right] \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r m - k_r} \left[p_r^{k_r} - p_r^{k_r - 1} \right] \\ &\quad \text{Using } \phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1} \\ &\equiv \underbrace{\left[p_1^{k_1 m} - p_1^{k_1 m - 1} \right]}_{= \phi(p_1^{k_1 m})} \times \underbrace{\left[p_2^{k_2 m} - p_2^{k_2 m - 1} \right]}_{= \phi(p_2^{k_2 m})} \times \cdots \times \underbrace{\left[p_r^{k_r m} - p_r^{k_r m - 1} \right]}_{= \phi(p_r^{k_r m})} \\ &\quad \text{Using the rules of indices} \\ &= \phi(p_1^{k_1 m}) \times \phi(p_2^{k_2 m}) \times \cdots \times \phi(p_r^{k_r m}) \\ &= \phi(p_1^{k_1 m} \times p_2^{k_2 m} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r m}) = \phi\left[\left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}\right)^m\right] = \phi(n^m)\end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof because we have $n^{m-1}\phi(n) = \phi(n^m)$. ■

8. There is only one example of $\phi(n) = n$ which is $n = 1$.

9. In the main text we have $\frac{\phi(n)}{n}$ gives the probability that a number we choose

between 1 and n is relatively prime to n . Let $n = 164$ then

$$\phi(164) = \phi(2 \times 82) = \phi(4 \times 41) = \phi(4) \times \phi(41) = 2 \times 40 = 80.$$

Therefore, the probability that $m \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 164\}$ is relatively prime to 164 is

$$\frac{\phi(164)}{164} = \frac{80}{164} = \frac{20}{41}.$$

10. (a) Recall $\phi(310)$ gives the number of incongruent residues which have an inverse modulo 310. Converting 310 into its prime factorization $310 = 31 \times 10 = 2 \times 5 \times 31$ and applying (5.9) yields

$$\phi(310) = 310 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{31}\right) = 120.$$

- (b) *Proof.* We have $\phi(p^n) = p^n - p^{n-1}$. By part (a) this number $\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$ tells us how many integers have an inverse modulo p^n . Therefore the probability of a given residue $a \pmod{p^n}$ having an inverse is

$$\frac{\phi(p^n)}{p^n} = \frac{p^n - p^{n-1}}{p^n} = \frac{p^n}{p^n} - \frac{p^{n-1}}{p^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{p}.$$

This completes our proof. ■

11. (a) We need to find n such that $\phi(n) = \frac{n}{2}$.

Recall that $\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$ where the p 's are the primes in the prime decomposition of n . This implies we need to find n such that

$$n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) = \frac{n}{2}.$$

So n can only have one prime $p = 2$ so $n = 2^a$ where a is a natural number and

$$n \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{n}{2}.$$

- (b) We need to find n such that $\phi(n) = \frac{n}{3}$. Similarly to part (a) we have

$$n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) = \frac{n}{3}.$$

The only prime *cannot* be 3 because

$$n \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{2n}{3}.$$

Since we want to cancel the 2 on the numerator so the prime 2 must be present:

$$n \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) = n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{n}{3}$$

Hence $n = 2^a 3^b$ where a and b are natural numbers.

12. We need to find a natural number n such that $\phi(n) < \frac{n}{3}$. This means we are looking for a number where less than a third of the natural numbers up to n have *no* factor in common with n apart from 1. This implies that we need a number which has lots of factors because $2/3$ of the natural numbers up to n must have a common factor greater than 1.

By the solution to question 11(b) we can say that if n has the prime factors 2 and 3 present then $\phi(n) = \frac{n}{3}$. If we add another prime factor, 5 say, then we have the integer 30 because $2 \times 3 \times 5 = 30$ then

$$\phi(30) = \phi(2) \times \phi(3) \times \phi(5) = 1 \times 2 \times 4 = 8 < \frac{30}{3} = 10.$$

Therefore, one example of $\phi(n) < \frac{n}{3}$ is $n = 30$.

13. We need to prove that $\phi(n) = \frac{4}{15}n$ given $n = 2^{k_1} \times 3^{k_2} \times 5^{k_3}$.

Proof.

Using formula (5.9):

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$$

With $n = 2^{k_1} \times 3^{k_2} \times 5^{k_3}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(n) &= n \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) \\ &= n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = \frac{4}{15}n \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\phi(n) = \frac{4}{15}n$. ■

14. We are asked to prove that $\phi(n) < \frac{n(p-1)}{p}$ where $p \mid n$.

Proof.

We are given that the prime p satisfies $p \mid n$ therefore $\gcd(p, n) = p > 1$. Let S be the set of *some* residues modulo n that are *not* relatively prime to n :

$$S = \left\{ p, 2p, 3p, \dots, \frac{n}{p}p \right\}.$$

Then $\text{Card}(S) = \frac{n}{p}$. These $\frac{n}{p}$ residues are *not* relatively prime to n . There may be others as n may have other prime factors present. By the definition of the Euler totient function $\phi(n)$ we have

$$\phi(n) \leq (n-1) - \frac{n}{p} < n - \frac{n}{p} = \frac{np-n}{p} = \frac{n(p-1)}{p}$$

This completes our proof. ■

15. (i) The only instance where $\phi(n) = n$ is if $n = 1$ (see question 8). But for $n > 1$ we have $\phi(n) < n$.

This $\phi(n) \geq n$ is impossible because $\phi(n)$ counts the natural numbers up to n which are relatively prime to n . This number *cannot* exceed n .

(ii) *Proof.*

To show that $0 < \frac{\phi(n)}{n} < 1$ we use the result of part (i). By the definition of $\phi(n)$

and part (i) we have $1 \leq \phi(n) < n$. Substituting this into $\frac{\phi(n)}{n}$ gives

$$0 < \frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{\phi(n)}{n} < \frac{n}{n} = 1.$$
■

16. We need to produce a counter example. Well

$$\phi(3+7) = \phi(10) = 4 \text{ but } \phi(3) + \phi(7) = 2 + 6 = 8.$$

17. We are required to prove that $\phi(\phi(p^k)) = p^{k-2}\phi[p(p-1)]$.

Proof.

In question 4 we have already shown that $\phi(p^m) = (p-1)p^{m-1}$. Applying this to $\phi(p^k)$ gives

$$\phi(p^k) = p^{k-1}(p-1).$$

We want to use the multiplicative property of ϕ . However to use this we need our natural numbers to be relatively prime, that is

$$\gcd(p^{k-1}, p-1) = 1.$$

Suppose $\gcd(p^{k-1}, p-1) = g > 1$. Then $g \mid p^{k-1}$ and $g \mid (p-1)$.

Now one of the factors of p^{k-1} is p . Clearly $p \leq g$ because the only divisors greater than 1 of p^{k-1} are $p, p^2, p^3, \dots, p^{k-1}$. This implies that $p \mid g$ because $g \mid p^{k-1}$.

Since $g \mid (p-1)$ so $p \mid (p-1)$ which is impossible. Therefore our supposition

$\gcd(p^{k-1}, p-1) = g > 1$ must be wrong, so $\gcd(p^{k-1}, p-1) = 1$.

Hence using the multiplicative property of ϕ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \phi[\phi(p^k)] &= \phi[p^{k-1}(p-1)] \\ &= \phi(p^{k-1})\phi(p-1) \\ &= p^{k-2}(p-1)\phi(p-1) && [\text{By using the result of question 4}] \\ &= p^{k-2}\phi(p)\phi(p-1) && [\text{Because } \phi(p) = p-1] \\ &= p^{k-2}\phi(p(p-1)) && [\text{By the multiplicative property of } \phi] \end{aligned}$$

We have shown $\phi(\phi(p^k)) = p^{k-2}\phi(p(p-1))$. ■

18. We need to prove that $\phi(d) \mid \phi(n)$ provided $d \mid n$.

Proof.

Using the hint and writing d and n in its prime decomposition:

$$d = p_1^{m_1} \times p_2^{m_2} \times \dots \times p_r^{m_r} \text{ and } n = p_1^{m_1+k_1} \times p_2^{m_2+k_2} \times \dots \times p_r^{m_r+k_r} \times p_{r+1}^{m_{r+1}} \times \dots \times p_k^{m_k}$$

where the p 's are distinct primes. From $d = p_1^{m_1} \times p_2^{m_2} \times \dots \times p_r^{m_r}$ we have $p_1^{m_1} \mid d$

where m_1 is the highest power of the prime p_1 which divides into d . However,

there may be higher powers of p_1 which divide into n . We have written the

highest power of p_1 which divides into n as $m_1 + k_1$. Similarly, for p_2, p_3, \dots, p_r .

That is why we have

$$n = p_1^{m_1+k_1} \times p_2^{m_2+k_2} \times \dots \times p_r^{m_r+k_r} \times p_{r+1}^{m_{r+1}} \times \dots \times p_k^{m_k}$$

Finding the Euler totient function for each of these numbers gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(d) &= \phi(p_1^{m_1} \times p_2^{m_2} \times \dots \times p_r^{m_r}) \\ &= \phi(p_1^{m_1}) \times \phi(p_2^{m_2}) \times \dots \times \phi(p_r^{m_r}) && [\text{By Lemma (5.7)}] \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we have

$$\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{m_1+k_1}) \times \phi(p_2^{m_2+k_2}) \times \cdots \times \phi(p_r^{m_r+k_r}) \times \phi(p_{r+1}^{m_{r+1}}) \times \cdots \times \phi(p_k^{m_k}) \quad (*)$$

By result of question 4:

$$\phi(p^m) = (p-1)p^{m-1}$$

We have

$$\phi(p_1^{m_1}) = (p_1-1)p_1^{m_1-1}$$

$$\phi(p_1^{m_1+k_1}) = (p_1-1)p_1^{m_1+k_1-1}$$

Therefore $\phi(p_1^{m_1}) \mid \phi(p_1^{m_1+k_1})$. Similarly, $\phi(p_2^{m_2}) \mid \phi(p_2^{m_2+k_2}), \dots, \phi(p_r^{m_r}) \mid \phi(p_r^{m_r+k_r})$

.

From this last evaluation and using (*) we have

$$\underbrace{\phi(p_1^{m_1})\phi(p_2^{m_2})\cdots\phi(p_r^{m_r})}_{=\phi(d)} \mid \phi(n)$$

Therefore $\phi(d) \mid \phi(n)$. ■

19. We need to show that $\phi(2^{2k+1}) = l^2$.

Proof.

Using the result of question 4:

$$\phi(p^m) = (p-1)p^{m-1},$$

with $p = 2$ and $m = 2k+1$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(2^{2k+1}) &= (2-1)2^{2k+1-1} \\ &= 2^{2k} = (2^k)^2 = l^2 \quad \text{where } l = 2^k. \end{aligned}$$

This is our required result. ■

20. How do we prove $\phi(p^k q^k) = p^{k-1} q^{k-1} \phi(q) \phi(p)$?

By using the multiplicative property of the ϕ function and Proposition (5.4):

$$\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$$

Proof.

Since we are given that p and q are distinct primes so by Lemma (5.7):

$$\phi(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}) = \phi(p_1^{k_1}) \times \phi(p_2^{k_2}) \times \cdots \times \phi(p_r^{k_r})$$

We can use this multiplicative property because p and q are distinct primes so

$$\gcd(p^k, q^k) = 1:$$

$$\phi(p^k \times q^k) = \phi(p^k) \times \phi(q^k)$$

Applying Proposition (5.4) to each of these gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(p^k q^k) &= \phi(p^k) \phi(q^k) \\ &= (p^k - p^{k-1})(q^k - q^{k-1}) \\ &= p^k q^k - p^k q^{k-1} - p^{k-1} q^k + p^{k-1} q^{k-1} && [\text{Expanding brackets}] \\ &= p^{k-1} q^{k-1} [pq - p - q + 1] && [\text{Factorizing}] \\ &= p^{k-1} q^{k-1} [q(p-1) - (p-1)] \\ &= p^{k-1} q^{k-1} [q-1](p-1) && [\text{Factorizing}] \\ &= p^{k-1} q^{k-1} \phi(q) \phi(p) && [\text{Because } \phi(p) = p-1] \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have $\phi(p^k \times q^k) = p^{k-1} q^{k-1} \phi(p) \phi(q)$ which is our required result. ■

21. We need to prove Corollary (5.6) which claims:

$\phi(m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_k) = \phi(m_1) \times \phi(m_2) \times \cdots \times \phi(m_k)$ provided the integers m_j are pairwise prime. That is $\gcd(m_i, m_j) = 1$ for $i \neq j$ and $1 \leq i, j \leq k$.

How do we prove this result?

Use mathematical induction and the three steps of induction are:

Step 1: Check for some base case m_1, m_2 .

Step 2: Assume the result is true for $m_1, m_2, m_3, \dots, m_j$.

Step 3: Prove this for $m_1, m_2, m_3, \dots, m_j, m_{j+1}$.

Proof.

Step 1: Since we are given that $\gcd(m_i, m_j) = 1$ so $\gcd(m_1, m_2) = 1$.

By Proposition (5.5):

$$\phi(m \times n) = \phi(m) \times \phi(n) \text{ provided } \gcd(m, n) = 1$$

We have

$$\phi(m_1 \times m_2) = \phi(m_1) \times \phi(m_2)$$

Step 2:

Assume that

$$\phi(m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j) = \phi(m_1) \times \phi(m_2) \times \cdots \times \phi(m_j) \quad (*)$$

Provided $\gcd(m_i, m_j) = 1$ where $i \neq j$.

Step 3:

We are required to prove that

$$\phi(m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j \times m_{j+1}) = \phi(m_1) \times \phi(m_2) \times \cdots \times \phi(m_j) \times \phi(m_{j+1})$$

Consider the left-hand-side of this:

$$\phi(m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j \times m_{j+1}) = \phi([m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j] \times m_{j+1}) \quad (\ddagger)$$

In order to split the right-hand-side we need to ensure that

$$\gcd([m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j], m_{j+1}) = 1$$

We are given that

$$\gcd(m_1, m_{j+1}) = \gcd(m_2, m_{j+1}) = \gcd(m_3, m_{j+1}) = \cdots = \gcd(m_j, m_{j+1}) = 1$$

By the result of question 15(ii) of Exercises 1.3:

$$\gcd(a, n_1) = \gcd(a, n_2) = \cdots = \gcd(a, n_k) = 1 \Rightarrow \gcd(a, n_1 \times n_2 \times \cdots \times n_k) = 1$$

We have $\gcd([m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j], m_{j+1}) = 1$.

Now we are in a position to apply Proposition (5.5) to (\ddagger) :

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j \times m_{j+1}) &= \phi([m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j] \times m_{j+1}) \\ &= \phi([m_1 \times m_2 \times \cdots \times m_j]) \times \phi(m_{j+1}) \\ &= \underbrace{\phi(m_1) \times \phi(m_2) \times \cdots \times \phi(m_j)}_{\text{By } (*)} \times \phi(m_{j+1}) \end{aligned}$$

By mathematical induction we have our result;

$$\phi(m_1 \times \cdots \times m_k) = \phi(m_1) \times \cdots \times \phi(m_k).$$

■

22. We need to prove the following:

If $n = p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times p_3^{k_3} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}$ then

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$$

Proof.

By Proposition (5.8) we have

$$\phi(n) = (p_1^{k_1} - p_1^{k_1-1})(p_2^{k_2} - p_2^{k_2-1})(p_3^{k_3} - p_3^{k_3-1}) \cdots (p_r^{k_r} - p_r^{k_r-1})$$

Taking out factors gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(n) &= (p_1^{k_1} - p_1^{k_1-1})(p_2^{k_2} - p_2^{k_2-1})(p_3^{k_3} - p_3^{k_3-1}) \cdots (p_r^{k_r} - p_r^{k_r-1}) \\
&= p_1^{k_1} (1 - p_1^{-1}) p_2^{k_2} (1 - p_2^{-1}) p_3^{k_3} (1 - p_3^{-1}) \cdots p_r^{k_r} (1 - p_r^{-1}) \\
&= \underbrace{p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} p_3^{k_3} \cdots p_r^{k_r}}_{=n} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_3}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \right] \quad \left[\text{Because } p_m^{-1} = \frac{1}{p_m} \right] \\
&= n \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_3}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof. ■

23. We are required to prove that if $\gcd(m, n) = 2$ then

$$\phi(m \times n) = 2 \times \phi(m) \times \phi(n).$$

Proof.

We are given that $\gcd(m, n) = 2$ so there are integers x and y such that

$$2x = m \text{ and } 2y = n.$$

Then $\gcd(x, y) = 1$. *Why?*

Because $x = \frac{m}{2}$ and $y = \frac{n}{2}$ so by Proposition (1.5) of chapter 1:

$$\gcd(a, b) = g \text{ implies } \gcd\left(\frac{a}{g}, \frac{b}{g}\right) = 1$$

We have $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd\left(\frac{m}{2}, \frac{n}{2}\right) = 1$.

Since $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ we can apply the multiplicative property of the Euler totient function ϕ . Therefore, we have

$$\phi(m \times n) = \phi(2x \times 2y) = \phi(2^2 xy).$$

Let the primes of x which are distinct from 2 be p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r and the primes of y distinct from 2 be q_1, q_2, \dots, q_t .

By formula (5.9):

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$$

Applying this formula to $\phi(mn) = \phi(2^2 xy)$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(2^2 xy) &= 2^2 xy \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_t}\right) \\
&= 2xy \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_t}\right) \quad (\dagger)
\end{aligned}$$

Applying formula (5.9) to $2\phi(m)\phi(n)$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\phi(m)\phi(n) &= 2 \times \phi(2x) \times \phi(2y) \\
 &= 2 \times 2x \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \times 2y \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_t}\right) \\
 &= 2 \times x \times y \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_t}\right) \\
 &= 2xy \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_t}\right) \\
 &= \phi(2^2 xy) \quad [\text{By } (\dagger)]
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have $\phi(mn) = \phi(2^2 xy) = 2\phi(m)\phi(n)$ which is our required result. ■

24. We need to prove $\phi(m) = 2^{n-1}(2^n - 1)$ given that $m = 2^{n-1}(2^n - 1)$ where $2^n - 1$ is prime (Mersenne prime).

Proof.

Since we are given that $2^n - 1$ is prime and as $n \geq 2$ so this number is an *odd* prime. The only prime factor of 2^{n-1} is 2. Therefore

$$\gcd(2^{n-1}, 2^n - 1) = 1.$$

We apply the multiplicative property of ϕ on m :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi(m) &= \phi(2^{n-1}(2^n - 1)) \\
 &= \underbrace{\phi(2^{n-1})}_{\substack{= (2-1)2^{n-2} \\ \text{by question 4}}} \times \underbrace{\phi(2^n - 1)}_{\substack{= 2^n - 1 - 1 \\ \text{because } 2^n - 1 \text{ is prime}}} \\
 &= 2^{n-2} \times (2^n - 2) \\
 &= 2^{n-1} 2^{-1} \times (2^n - 2) \\
 &= 2^{n-1} (2^{n-1} - 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

We have our required result. ■

25. (i) We are asked to prove $\phi(m \times n) = \frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n) \times g}{\phi(g)}$.

Proof.

Let $\gcd(m, n) = g$.

Case I If $m = n$ then $m \times n = n^2$ then by the result of question 7:

$$\phi(n^m) = n^{m-1} \phi(n)$$

We have $\phi(n^2) = n^{2-1}\phi(n) = n\phi(n)$. Also $g = \gcd(n, n) = n$ so evaluating the right-hand-side of the given result:

$$\frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n) \times g}{\phi(g)} = \frac{\phi(n) \times \cancel{\phi(n)} \times n}{\cancel{\phi(n)}} = n\phi(n)$$

Hence, we have our result if $m = n$.

Case II

If $m \neq n$ then m and n will have some *different* primes in their decomposition.

Let $m = (p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_r^{e_r}) \times (q_1^{a_1} q_2^{a_2} \cdots q_l^{a_l})$ and $n = (p_1^{f_1} p_2^{f_2} \cdots p_r^{f_r}) \times (s_1^{b_1} s_2^{b_2} \cdots s_j^{b_j})$ be the prime decompositions of m and n and $e_j > 0$ and $f_j > 0$.

By Proposition (2.21) of Chapter 2 the gcd is given by:

$$\gcd(m, n) = p_1^{\min(e_1, f_1)} \times p_2^{\min(e_2, f_2)} \times \cdots \times p_k^{\min(e_k, f_k)}$$

Therefore, we have

$$g = p_1^{\min(e_1, f_1)} \times p_2^{\min(e_2, f_2)} \times \cdots \times p_r^{\min(e_r, f_r)}.$$

By formula (5.9):

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$$

We have $\phi(g) = g \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)$ which implies

$$\frac{\phi(g)}{g} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \quad (\dagger)$$

Similarly, by this formula (5.9):

$$\phi(m) = m \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_l}\right)$$

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_j}\right)$$

$$\phi(mn) = mn \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \right] \times \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_l}\right) \right] \times \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{s_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_j}\right) \right] \quad (*)$$

Evaluating $\frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n)}{\phi(g) / g}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n)}{\phi(g)/g} &= \frac{m \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_l}\right) \times n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_j}\right)}{\underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right)}_{\text{by (i)}}} \\
&= mn \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_l}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{s_j}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

The last line is identical to (*). Therefore, we have

$$\phi(mn) = \frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n)}{\phi(g)/g} = \frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n) \times g}{\phi(g)}.$$

This completes our proof, ■

(ii) We need to prove that Euler's totient function is multiplicative.

Proof.

Substituting $g = 1$ into part (i) gives us our required result:

$$\phi(m \times n) = \phi(m) \times \phi(n) \text{ provided } \gcd(m, n) = 1.$$
■

[Here is another proof of this result:

Consider the array of positive integers:

$$\left. \begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\
n+1 & n+2 & n+\cdots & n+n \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
(m-1)n+1 & (m-1)n+2 & (m-1)n+\cdots & mn
\end{array} \right\} m \text{ rows}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{n \text{ columns}}$

There are $\phi(n)$ columns which are relatively prime to n . In each of these columns there are only $\phi(m)$ elements which are relatively prime to m . The number of elements in the array which are relatively prime to $m \times n$ is $\phi(m \times n)$. Each of these numbers are relatively prime to m or n . From above we have there are $\phi(m) \times \phi(n)$ of these numbers. Therefore $\phi(m \times n) = \phi(m) \times \phi(n)$.] ■

26. We need to prove $\phi(\text{lcm}(a, b)) \times \phi(\gcd(a, b)) = \phi(a) \times \phi(b)$ because we are given that $[a, b] = \text{lcm}(a, b)$.

Proof.

Let $g' = \gcd(\text{lcm}(a, b), \gcd(a, b))$. Then by the definition of gcd we have

$$g' = \gcd(\gcd(a, b), \gcd(a, b)) = \gcd(a, b) = g \text{ say.}$$

By Proposition (2.22):

$$\gcd(a, b) \times [a, b] = a \times b$$

We have $\gcd(a, b) \times \gcd(a, b) = a \times b$. Therefore

$$\phi(\gcd(a, b) \times \gcd(a, b)) = \phi(a \times b) \quad (*)$$

Re-arranging the result of the last question part (i):

$$\phi(m \times n) = \frac{\phi(m) \times \phi(n) \times g}{\phi(g)}$$

We have

$$\phi(m) \times \phi(n) = \frac{\phi(m \times n) \phi(g)}{g}$$

Applying this with $m = \gcd(a, b)$ and $n = \gcd(a, b)$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\gcd(a, b)) \times \phi(\gcd(a, b)) &= \frac{\phi(\gcd(a, b) \times \gcd(a, b)) \phi(g)}{g} \\ &= \frac{\phi(a \times b) \phi(g)}{g} \quad [\text{By } (*)] \\ &= \phi(a) \times \phi(b) \end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof. ■

27. (i) We are asked to prove $\sum_{d|p^k} \phi(d) = p^k$.

Proof.

The divisors of p^k are $1, p, p^2, \dots, p^{k-1}, p^k$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d|p^k} \phi(d) &= \phi(1) + \phi(p) + \phi(p^2) + \dots + \phi(p^{k-1}) + \phi(p^k) \\ &= 1 + (p-1) + (p^2-p) + \dots + (p^{k-1}-p^{k-2}) + (p^k-p^{k-1}) \\ &= 1 + (p-1) + p(p-1) + \dots + p^{k-2}(p-1) + p^{k-1}(p-1) \quad [\text{Factorizing}] \\ &= 1 + (p-1) \underbrace{[1 + p + \dots + p^{k-2} + p^{k-1}]}_{=\frac{1-p^k}{1-p} \text{ by sum of geometric series}} \\ &= 1 + (p-1) \frac{1-p^k}{1-p} = 1 + \cancel{(p-1)} \left[\frac{p^k-1}{\cancel{p-1}} \right] \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Multiplying numerator and} \\ \text{denominator by } -1 \end{array} \right] \\ &= 1 + p^k - 1 = p^k \end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof.

(ii) Similarly, we prove $\sum_{d \mid p^k q^m} \phi(d) = \sum_{d \mid p^k} \phi(d) \sum_{d' \mid q^m} \phi(d') = p^k q^m$.

Proof.

It is longer proof than part (i) but the procedure is very similar. Since the given primes p and q are distinct so $\gcd(p, q) = 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{d \mid p^k q^m} \phi(d) &\stackrel{\substack{\text{Divisor 1} \\ \text{is included in the} \\ \text{first term on the right} \\ \text{hand side.}}}{=} \phi(1) + \underbrace{\left[\sum_{d \mid p^k} \phi(d) - 1 \right]}_{\text{by part (i)}} + \underbrace{\left[\sum_{d' \mid q^m} \phi(d') - 1 \right]}_{\text{by part (i)}} + \\
 &\quad + \phi(pq) + \phi(p^2q) + \cdots + \phi(p^kq) \\
 &\quad + \phi(pq^2) + \phi(p^2q^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^kq^2) \\
 &\quad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
 &\quad + \phi(pq^m) + \phi(p^2q^m) + \cdots + \phi(p^kq^m) \\
 &\stackrel{\text{By multiplicative property of } \phi}{=} \phi(1) + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + \phi(p)\phi(q) + \phi(p^2)\phi(q) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)\phi(q) \\
 &\quad + \phi(p)\phi(q^2) + \phi(p^2)\phi(q^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)\phi(q^2) \\
 &\quad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
 &\quad + \phi(p)\phi(q^m) + \phi(p^2)\phi(q^m) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)\phi(q^m) \\
 &\stackrel{\text{By } \phi(q^\ell) = q^\ell - q^{\ell-1}}{=} \phi(1) + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + \phi(p)(q - 1) + \phi(p^2)(q - 1) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)(q - 1) \\
 &\quad + \phi(p)(q^2 - q) + \phi(p^2)(q^2 - q) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)(q^2 - q) \\
 &\quad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
 &\quad + \phi(p)(q^m - q^{m-1}) + \phi(p^2)(q^m - q^{m-1}) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)(q^m - q^{m-1}) \\
 &\stackrel{\text{Factorizing}}{=} \phi(1) + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + (q - 1)[\phi(p) + \phi(p^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)] \\
 &\quad + (q^2 - q)[\phi(p) + \phi(p^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)] \\
 &\quad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
 &\quad + (q^m - q^{m-1})[\phi(p) + \phi(p^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^k)] \qquad (*)
 \end{aligned}$$

From part (i) we have

$$\phi(p) + \phi(p^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^k) = p^k - 1$$

Substituting this into (*) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{d \mid p^k q^m} \phi(d) &= \phi(1) + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + (q - 1)[p^k - 1] \\
&\quad + (q^2 - q)[p^k - 1] + \cdots + (q^m - q^{m-1})[p^k - 1] \\
&= 1 + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + [p^k - 1] \left[(q - 1) + (q^2 - q) + \cdots + (q^m - q^{m-1}) \right] \\
&= 1 + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + [p^k - 1] \underbrace{(q - 1)}_{\text{Factorizing out } (q-1)} [1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^{m-1}] \\
&= 1 + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + [p^k - 1] (q - 1) \left[\frac{1 - q^m}{1 - q} \right] \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Using the sum of} \\ \text{geometric series on the} \\ \text{last brackets.} \end{array} \right] \\
&= 1 + [p^k - 1] + [q^m - 1] + [p^k - 1] (q^m - 1) \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Multiplying the numerator} \\ \text{and denominator by } -1. \end{array} \right] \\
&= 1 + p^k - 1 + q^m - 1 + p^k q^m - p^k - q^m + 1 \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Expanding} \end{array} \right] \\
&= p^k q^m
\end{aligned}$$

By Part (i) we have

$$\sum_{d \mid p^k q^m} \phi(d) = p^k q^m = \sum_{d \mid p^k} \phi(d) \sum_{d' \mid q^m} \phi(d')$$

Hence, we have our required result. ■

(iii) To prove $\sum_{d \mid n} \phi(d) = n$ we write n in prime decomposition form and then apply proof by induction.

Proof.

Let $n = p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_r^{k_r}$ where p are distinct primes. Then by part (i) we have

$$\sum_{d \mid p_1^{k_1}} \phi(d) = p_1^{k_1}$$

We assume the result is true for $r = m$:

$$\sum_{d \mid p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m}} \phi(d) = p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \quad (*)$$

Required to prove the result for $r = m + 1$:

$$\sum_{d \mid p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \times p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}} \phi(d) = p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \times p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}.$$

We can write

$$p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \times p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}} = \left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \right) \times p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}.$$

Since the p 's are distinct primes so $\gcd(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m}, p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}) = 1$. By part (ii) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{d \mid \left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \right) \times p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}} \phi(d) &= \sum_{d \mid \left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \right)} \phi(d) \times \sum_{d \mid p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}} \phi(d) \\
&= \underbrace{\left(p_1^{k_1} \times p_2^{k_2} \times \cdots \times p_m^{k_m} \right)}_{\text{by (*)}} \times \underbrace{p_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}}_{\text{by part (i)}} = n
\end{aligned}$$

This completes our proof. ■