

Congruence

Here is an example soln to (B2).

Defn. For integers x and y , and posint K , say that

$$x \equiv_K y$$

IFF $[x - y] \mid K$; ie. there exists an **integer** n such that

$$x - y = nK. \quad \square$$

Remark. Henceforth, fix a posint K and let “ \equiv ” mean “ \equiv_K ”. \square

1: **Theorem.** Consider integers b, β, g, γ . If

$$b \equiv \beta \quad \text{and} \quad g \equiv \gamma$$

then

$$* : [b \cdot g] \equiv [\beta \cdot \gamma]. \quad \diamond$$

Proof. By the above defn of congruence, **there exist integers** ℓ and m **such that**

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \beta + \ell K \quad \text{and} \\ g &= \gamma + m K. \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the two eqns yields that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LhS(*)} &= \beta\gamma + \beta \cdot mK + \ell K \cdot \gamma + \ell K \cdot mK \\ \text{Y:} \quad &\stackrel{\text{note}}{\equiv} \text{RhS(*)} + nK, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$n := \beta m + \ell \gamma + \ell K m.$$

Hence n is an **integer**, since \mathbb{Z} is sealed under multiplication and addition. Thus (Y) shows that

$$\text{LhS(*)} \equiv \text{RhS(*)},$$

as desired. \spadesuit

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