

Title: Counting invertible sums of squares modulo n and a new generalization of Euler's totient function

Author(s): C. Calderón, J. M. Grau, A. M. Oller-Marcén and L. Tóth

In this paper we introduce and study a family Φ_k of arithmetic functions generalizing Euler's totient function. These functions are given by the number of solutions to the equation $\gcd(x_1^2 + \cdots + x_k^2, n) = 1$ with $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ which, for $k = 2, 4$ and 8 coincide, respectively, with the number of units in the rings of Gaussian integers, quaternions and octonions over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$. We prove that Φ_k is multiplicative for every k , we obtain an explicit formula for $\Phi_k(n)$ in terms of the prime-power decomposition of n and derive an asymptotic formula for $\sum_{n \leq x} \Phi_k(n)$. As a tool we investigate the multiplicative arithmetic function that counts the number of solutions to $x_1^2 + \cdots + x_k^2 \equiv \lambda \pmod{n}$ for λ coprime to n , thus extending an old result that dealt only with the prime n case.

Address:

Catalina Calderón
Departamento de Matemáticas
Universidad del País Vasco
Facultad de Ciencia y Tecnología
Barrio Sarriena, s/n, 48940 Leioa
Spain

Address:

José María Grau
Departamento de Matemáticas
Universidad de Oviedo
Avda. Calvo Sotelo, s/n, 33007 Oviedo
Spain

Address:

Antonio M. Oller-Marcén
Centro Universitario de la Defensa
Ctra. de Huesca, s/n, 50090 Zaragoza
Spain

Address:

László Tóth
Department of Mathematics
University of Pécs
Ifjúság u. 6, H-7624 Pécs
Hungary