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Abstract:

Many governments of countries are used unique identification number for their citizens for the purpose of taxation, government benefits, health care and other governmentally related functions. One feature to all of these Identification numbers is the inclusion of an extra digit, called a check digit, designed to detect errors in reading/typing the Identification number. When a machine (or a human) reads/types information, there is always the possibility of the information being read/typed incorrectly. In this article we consider how the check digit works and the mathematics behind the working of the check digit.

Keywords : Check digit, Identification Number, Congruence

1. Introduction

Almost all countries, the Government issues Unique identification number for their citizens for multipurpose functions. Similarly banks, organizations etc issues identification numbers to their employee. Banks like firms also give unique identification number for their customers like bank account number, Credit card numbers etc. Generally speaking identification numbers are everywhere today: International Book Numbers (ISBNs), International Standard Serial Number (ISSN),