

(41) Consistency of equations

Any system of equations

$$x \equiv b_1 \pmod{n_1}$$

$$\vdots$$
$$x \equiv b_r \pmod{n_r}$$

where n_i and n_j are coprime for $i \neq j$

has a ^{unique} solution $\pmod{\prod n_i}$

because then $\text{lcm}(n_1, \dots, n_r) = n_1 \cdot \dots \cdot n_r = \prod_{i=1}^r n_i = n$

and $b \pmod{n} \mapsto (b \pmod{n_1}, \dots, b \pmod{n_r})$ is

a bijection. In other cases we might need to work to

see if the equations are consistent, that is, if they have a solution.

Examples

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x \equiv 1 \pmod{21} \\ x \equiv 2 \pmod{9} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, x \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \\ x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, x \equiv 2 \pmod{9} \end{array}$$

So is consistent.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 3x \equiv 6 \pmod{21} \\ x \equiv 2 \pmod{9} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \Leftrightarrow x \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \\ \Rightarrow x \equiv 2 \pmod{9} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{has a solution} \\ (x \equiv 2 \pmod{63}) \end{array}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 14x \equiv 7 \pmod{21} \\ x \equiv 2 \pmod{9} \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} 2x \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ x \equiv 2 \pmod{9} \end{array} \Leftrightarrow x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$$

Solution is $x \equiv 2 \pmod{9}$!

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Chinese Remainder Theorem

This is the theorem that if $\gcd(n_i, n_j) = 1 \quad \forall i \neq j$

then $x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i} \quad (1 \leq i \leq r)$

has a unique solution mod n where $n = \prod_{i=1}^r n_i$

The Chinese proof is a formula that is very useful

$$x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i} \iff$$

$$x = a_1 \left(\prod_{j \neq 1} n_j \right)^{-1} \pmod{n_1} \left(\prod_{j \neq 1} n_j \right) + \dots + a_r \left(\prod_{j \neq r} n_j \right)^{-1} \pmod{n_r} \left(\prod_{j \neq r} n_j \right) \pmod{n}$$

n_i divides all the terms in the sum apart from the i 'th.

Examples

Solve ~~$x \equiv 1 \pmod{90}$~~ $79x \equiv 1 \pmod{90}$

This can of course be done using the Euclidean algorithm to compute $79^{-1} \pmod{90}$.

Alternatively this is equivalent to

$$79x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$79x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$79x \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

$$4x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}, \quad x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, \quad 7x \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

$$\iff x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}, \quad x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, \quad x \equiv 4 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \equiv 4 \pmod{45} \quad x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$\gcd(45, 1) = 1$$

$$x = 4 \times (2^{-1} \pmod{45}) \times 2 + 1 \times (45^{-1} \pmod{2}) \times 45 \pmod{90}$$

$$= 4 \times 23 \times 2 + 1 \times 1 \times 45 \pmod{90}$$

$$= 4 \times 46 + 45 \pmod{90} \equiv 4 + 45 \equiv 49 \pmod{90}$$

Check: $49 \equiv 4 \pmod{45}$ and $49 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$.

$$\text{Check } 79 \times 49 = 3871 = (43 \times 90) + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{90}$$

Using the Euclidean algorithm

$$\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{c} 90 \\ 79 \end{array} \right. \xrightarrow{R_1 - R_2} \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{c} 11 \\ 79 \end{array} \right. \xrightarrow{R_2 - 7R_1} \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & -1 \\ -7 & 8 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{c} 11 \\ 2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 - 5R_2} \begin{array}{c|c} 36 & -41 \\ -7 & 8 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$36 \times 90 - 41 \times 79 = 1$$

$$79 \times (-41) \equiv 1 \pmod{90}$$

This agrees with the previous answer as

$$-41 \equiv 49 \pmod{90}.$$

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Other examples

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$$

$$x \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \times (77^{-1} \pmod{5}) \times 77 + 2 \times (55^{-1} \pmod{7}) \times 55 + 1 \times (35^{-1} \pmod{11}) \times 35 \pmod{385}$$

$$\equiv 3 \times (2^{-1} \pmod{5}) \times 77 + 2 \times (6^{-1} \pmod{7}) \times 55 + 1 \times (2^{-1} \pmod{11}) \times 35$$

$$\equiv 9 \times 77 + 12 \times 55 + 6 \times 35$$

$$\equiv (-1) \times 77 + 5 \times 55 - 5 \times 35 \pmod{385}$$

$$\equiv -77 + 100 \equiv 23 \pmod{385}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \begin{aligned} 2x &\equiv 1 \pmod{5} &\Rightarrow x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\ 3x &\equiv 2 \pmod{7} &\Rightarrow x &\equiv 3 \pmod{7} \quad (\text{mult by } 5) \\ x &\equiv 1 \pmod{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } x \equiv 3 \pmod{35}, \quad x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \times (3^{-1} \pmod{35}) \times 3 + 1 \times (35^{-1} \pmod{3}) \times 35 \pmod{105}$$

$$\equiv 3 \times 12 \times 3 + 1 \times 2 \times 35 \pmod{105}$$

$$= 3 \times 36 + 70 \pmod{105}$$

$$\equiv 178 \equiv 73 \pmod{105}$$

(4) (i) $2x \equiv 4 \pmod{6} \Leftrightarrow x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

(ii) $3x \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \Leftrightarrow x \equiv 5 \pmod{7}$

$$x \equiv 2 \times (7^{-1} \pmod{3}) \times 7 + 5 \times (3^{-1} \pmod{7}) \times 3 \pmod{21}$$

$$\equiv 14 + 25 \times 3 \equiv 14 + 12 \pmod{21} \equiv 5 \pmod{21}$$

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$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \Rightarrow x = 3y + 2$$

$$3(3y + 2) \equiv 2y + 6 \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow 2y \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$$

$$\Rightarrow y \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \quad y = 7z + 1$$

$$x = 3(7z + 1) + 2 = 21z + 5 \equiv 5 \pmod{21}$$

(5) $3x \equiv 2 \pmod{5} \Rightarrow 2 \times 3x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$

$$3x \equiv 6 \pmod{17} \Rightarrow x \equiv 2 \pmod{17}$$

Using the Chinese Remainder Theorem

$$x \equiv 4 \times (17^{-1} \pmod{5}) \times 17 + 2 \times (5^{-1} \pmod{17}) \times 5$$

$$= 4 \times (2^{-1} \pmod{5}) \times 17 + 2 \times 7 \times 5$$

$$\equiv 4 \times 3 \times 17 + 70 \equiv 12 \times 17 + 70 \pmod{85}$$

$$\equiv 2 \times 17 = 34 \equiv 19 \pmod{85}$$

(6) $3x \equiv 4 \pmod{11} \quad 2x \equiv 6 \pmod{7} \quad 3x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$
 $4 \times 3x \equiv x \equiv 16 \equiv 5 \pmod{11} \quad x \equiv 3 \pmod{7} \quad 2 \times 3x \equiv x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$

Using the Chinese Remainder Theorem

$$x \equiv 5 \times (35^{-1} \pmod{11}) \times 35 + 3 \times (55^{-1} \pmod{7}) \times 55 + 4 \times (77^{-1} \pmod{5}) \times 77$$

$$\equiv 5 \times (2^{-1} \pmod{11} \times 35) + 3 \times (-13^{-1} \pmod{7}) \times 55 + 4 \times (2^{-1} \pmod{5}) \times 77$$

$$\equiv 5 \times 6 \times 35 + -3 \times 55 + 4 \times 3 \times 77 \pmod{385} = 385$$

$$\equiv 3 \times 350 - 3 \times 55 + 12 \times 77 \pmod{385}$$

$$\equiv 3 \times 295 + 2 \times 77 \equiv 885 + 154 \equiv 115 + 154 \equiv 269 \pmod{385}$$

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So find all solutions to

$$4x \equiv 5 \pmod{9} \quad 2x \equiv 6 \pmod{12} \quad 3x \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$$

Equivalently $7 \times 4x \equiv x \equiv 8 \pmod{9}$ $x \equiv 3 \pmod{6}$ $5 \times 3x \equiv x \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$

$$x \equiv 8 \pmod{9} \Rightarrow x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{6} \Rightarrow x \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

So there are no solutions.

(8) A nonlinear example.

Find all solutions to $x^2 \equiv x \pmod{100}$

$$x(x-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{100} \Rightarrow 100 \mid x(x-1) \Rightarrow 2^2 \times 5^2 \mid x(x-1)$$

If $2 \mid x$ then $2 \nmid x-1$ and if $2 \mid x-1$ then $2 \nmid x$ because $2 \nmid 1$

So either $2^2 \mid x$ or $2^2 \mid x-1$ (from)

Similarly either $5^2 \mid x$ or $5^2 \mid x-1$

If $2^2 \mid x$ and $5^2 \mid x$ then $100 \mid x$ and $x \equiv 0 \pmod{100}$

If $2^2 \mid x-1$ and $5^2 \mid x-1$ then $100 \mid x-1$ and $x \equiv 1 \pmod{100}$

If $2^2 \mid x$ and $5^2 \mid x-1$ then we consider 1, 26, 51, 76

we see that $x \equiv 76 \pmod{100}$

If $2^2 \mid x-1$ and $5^2 \mid x$ then from considering 0, 25, 50, 75

we see that $x \equiv 25 \pmod{100}$

So altogether $x \equiv 0, 1, 25$ or $76 \pmod{100}$

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Use the order of an element mod n

We have seen that for any $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+, n \geq 2$

$G_n = \{m \text{ mod } n : \gcd(m, n) = 1\}$ is a group under multiplication.

If n is prime then $G_n = \{m \text{ mod } n : 1 \leq m < n\}$

Defⁿ If G is any finite group then the order of $g \in G$ is the smallest integer m s.t. $g^m = 1$

Examples in $G_3 = \{1, 2\}$ the order of 1 is 1 and 2 is 2
 $1^1 = 1$ $2^1 \not\equiv 1 \text{ mod } 3$ $2^2 \equiv 1 \text{ mod } 3$

$G_4 = \{1, 3\}$ $3^2 \equiv 1 \text{ mod } 4$. The order of 3 is 2

$G_5 = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ $2^2 = 4$ $2^3 \equiv 3 \text{ mod } 5$ $2^4 \equiv 1$
 $3^2 \equiv 4$ $3^3 \equiv 2$ $3^4 \equiv 1$

The orders of 2 and 3 are 4 (mod 5)

The order of 4 is 2 mod 5 because $4^2 \equiv 1 \text{ mod } 5$

Fermat's Little Theorem

If p is prime and $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ then

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \text{ mod } p$$

For all integers a , $a^p \equiv a \text{ mod } p$

Euler's Theorem

If $n \geq 2$ is any integer and a is coprime to n ,

$$a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \text{ mod } n.$$

This is a generalization of the previous theorem because if p

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

Proof of both these Theorems

In a finite group G , the order of any element divides the order $|G|$ of the group. (This is in itself a special case of Lagrange's Theorem; that the order of any subgroup $\{g^i : i \geq 1\}$ divides $|G|$. In this case the subgroup is $\{g^i : i \geq 1\}$ whose order is the order of g .)

$|G_n| = \phi(n)$ so the order of any element of G_n divides $\phi(n)$ and $g^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n} \forall g \in G_n$.

Examples (1) 17 is prime so $a^{16} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$ whenever $\gcd(a, 17) = 1$ e.g. $2^{16} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$

Check: $2^2 = 4$ $2^4 = 16 \equiv -1 \pmod{17}$ so $2^8 \equiv (-1)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$

So $2^{16} \equiv 1^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$.

$3^2 = 9$ $3^4 = 81 \equiv -4 \pmod{17}$ $3^8 \equiv (-4)^2 = 16 \equiv -1 \pmod{17}$

$3^{16} \equiv (-1)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$.

(2) $|G_{24}| = \phi(24) = \phi(8) \times \phi(3) = 2^2(2-1) \times (3-1) = 8$

$G_{24} = \{\pm 1, \pm 5, \pm 7, \pm 11\}$

$5^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{24}$ $7^2 \equiv 1$, $11^2 = 121 \equiv 1 \pmod{24}$

So $5^8 \equiv 7^8 \equiv 11^8 \equiv 1$.

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(3) Show that $5^{50} + 3^{130}$ is divisible by 17

$$5^{16} \equiv 1 \equiv 3^{16} \pmod{17}$$

$$5^{50} = 5^{48} \times 5^2 \equiv 5^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{17}$$

$$3^{130} \equiv 3^{128} \times 3^2 \equiv 3^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{17}$$

$$\text{So } 5^{50} + 3^{130} \equiv 8 + 9 \equiv 0 \pmod{17}$$

Fermat Pseudo primes

If n is prime then $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ $\forall a$ coprime to n ,
in particular for $1 \leq a < n$

So if $\exists a$ with $1 \leq a < n$ and $a^{n-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ then

we know a is not prime

Examples

(1) Using the Big Number Calculator $n = 841$
 $a = 2$ $2^{840} \equiv 30$

So 841 is not prime

(2) $n = 65431$ $2^{65430} \equiv 37824 \pmod{65431}$

So 65431 is not prime. In fact $65431 = 59 \times 1109$

(3) $n = 341$ $a = 2$ $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{341}$

But if $a = 3$ $3^{340} \equiv 56 \pmod{341}$

So n is not prime n is a pseudoprime to base 2

but 2 is a Fermat liar for $341 = 11 \times 31$

④ $n = 2047$

$$2^{2046} \equiv 1 \pmod{2047}$$

$$3^{2046} \equiv 1013 \pmod{2047}$$

So 2047 is a pseudoprime to base 2

2 is a Fermat liar for 2047

Why do these work?

For ③ $341 = 11 \times 31$ $2^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ by Fermat's Little Theorem

for 11. So $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$

$$2^{10} = 1024 = 1 + 1023 = 1 + 3 \times 341$$

$$2^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{341}$$

For ④ see last question on sheet 5. $2047 = 2^{11} - 1$

Checking primality

Another exam

$2^{23} - 1$: Is this prime?

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Suppose $2^{23} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

$$2^{23} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

23 must divide $p-1$.

$$p \equiv 1 \pmod{23}$$

Therefore p must divide the order of the group.

$$p = 47, 139, \dots$$

$2^{29} - 1$ Is this prime?

If p prime

$$p \mid 2^{29} - 1$$

$$\text{then } p \equiv 1 \pmod{29}$$

$$p = 59, \text{ ~~171~~ }$$

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