# Modular Arithmetic (Part 2)

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# Review of Modular Arithmetic Properties

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This is the relation for modular addition that we implemented in code.

```
• a+b\equiv (a \bmod x+b \bmod x) \pmod x

int add(int a, int b, int mod) {

return (a % mod + b % mod + mod) % mod;

}
```

# Review of Modular Arithmetic Properties

Meanwhile, this is the relation we used for modular multiplication.

```
• ab \equiv (a \bmod x \cdot b \bmod x) \pmod x

int mul(int a, int b, int mod) {

return (a % mod * b % mod + mod) % mod;

}
```

With what we know, we can now tackle modular exponentiation.

Recall that exponentiation is just repeated multiplication. Then, from what we know about modular multiplication, we have the following relation for modular exponentiation:

$$a^{b} \equiv \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a}_{b \text{ times}}$$

$$\equiv \underbrace{(a \bmod x) \cdot (a \bmod x) \cdot \dots \cdot (a \bmod x)}_{b \text{ times}}$$

$$\equiv (a \bmod x)^{b} \pmod x$$

How can we code this?

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The obvious solution would be to use a loop, like so:

```
int modpow(int a, int b, int mod) {
   int ret = 1;
   for (int i = 0; i < b; i++) {
      ret = (ret % mod * a % mod + mod) % mod;
   }
   return ret;
}</pre>
```

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The algorithm has a time complexity of O(b) because of the single for loop. However, we can still do better!

An idea is to make use of the fact that  $a^b=(a^{b/2})^2$ . Instead of computing for  $a^b$  directly, we can instead compute  $a^{\lfloor b/2 \rfloor}$  and use that computation to get  $a^b$ .

We can implement this idea using recursion!

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```
int modpow(int a, int b, int mod) {
   if (b == 0) return 1; // base case
   int pre = modpow(a, b / 2, mod);
   if (b \% 2 == 0) {
       return (pre % mod * pre % mod + mod) %
          mod;
   } else {
       return (a % mod * pre % mod * pre % mod
           + mod) % mod:
```

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Observe that our recursive calls stop when b equals 0, and with each recursive call, we are halving b. Thus, if we look at our recursion tree, it will have  $\log_2(b)$  levels. Assuming that the integers we are multiplying together are small enough, multiplication takes constant O(1) time.

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Thus, all in all, our algorithm has a time complexity of  $O(\log_2(b))!$ 

As intuitive as our recursive function is, we would like a function that uses iteration as much as possible. Remember that recursion is slower due to the overhead of repeated function calls.

We can translate our recursive function as follows:

```
int modpow(int a, int b, int mod) {
   int ret = 1;
   while (b > 0) {
       if (b % 2 == 1) {
           ret = (ret % mod * a % mod + mod) % mod;
       a = (a \% mod * a \% mod + mod) \% mod;
       b >>= 1:
   return ret;
}
```

Now, we can move onto Fermat's Little Theorem.

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For example, if a=5 and p=3, then by Fermat's Little Theorem,  $5^3\equiv 5\equiv 2\pmod 3$ , which we can verify.



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#### Solution

By Fermat's Little Theorem, we know that  $2^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ . Then, we can rewrite the congruence as follows:

$$2^{303} \equiv (2^{10})^{30} \cdot 2^3$$
$$\equiv 1^{30} \cdot 2^3$$
$$\equiv 8 \pmod{11}$$

Thus,  $2^{303} \equiv 8 \pmod{11}$ .



#### Example:

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From Fermat's Little Theorem, we know that  $7^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ . From this, we deduce that  $7x \equiv 7^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ , and since 7 and 11 are coprime,  $x \equiv 7^9 \pmod{11}$ . Since  $7^3 \equiv 2 \pmod{11}$ , we can simplify the congruence into  $x \equiv (7^3)^3 \equiv 2^3 \equiv 8 \pmod{11}$ . Thus, x = 8.

What we did in the last example was find the modular inverse of an integer. For an integer a and a modulus x, its modular inverse is an integer b such that  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{x}$ . Essentially,  $b \equiv a^{-1} \pmod{x}$ .

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With the modular inverse, we can do modular division (since division is just multiplying by the multiplicative inverse). Do note, however, that this is only possible if the modular inverse is defined.

Given a modulus x, the modular inverse of an integer a is not defined if a and x are not coprime. That is, there exists no integer b such that  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{x}$ .

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For example, no integer b satisfies the congruence  $2b \equiv 1 \pmod 4$  because  $\gcd(2,4)=2$ .

From our example before, we know that (a,b,x)=(7,8,11) satisfies the congruence  $ab\equiv 1\pmod x$ , with b=8 being the modular inverse of a=7 given a modulus x=11. So, how can we do modular division?

From our example before, we know that (a,b,x)=(7,8,11) satisfies the congruence  $ab\equiv 1\pmod x$ , with b=8 being the modular inverse of a=7 given a modulus x=11. So, how can we do modular division?

Let us say we are computing  $\frac{343}{7} \mod 11$ . Of course, we know that  $\frac{343}{7} \equiv 49 \equiv 5 \pmod{11}$ , but using the modular inverse b=8, we can achieve the same result:

$$\frac{343}{7} \equiv 343 \cdot 7^{-1}$$
$$\equiv 343 \cdot 8$$
$$\equiv 2 \cdot 8$$
$$\equiv 5 \pmod{11}$$



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If the modulus x is prime, then finding the modular inverse is simple. From Fermat's Little Theorem, we know that  $a^{x-1} \equiv 1 \pmod x$  (we can assume a and x are coprime because the modular inverse would not exist otherwise).

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Then, multiplying both sides by  $a^{-1}$ , we get that  $a^{x-2} \equiv a^{-1} \pmod x$ , or, equivalently,  $a^{-1} \equiv a^{x-2} \pmod x$ .

Thus, translating what we know into code:

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```
// definition of modpow here
int modinv(int a, int p) {
   return modpow(a, p - 2, p);
}
```

Now, but what if our modulus x isn't prime?

For this, we will need the Extended Euclidean Algorithm. Given two integer arguments a and b, the algorithm finds two integers x and y such that  $ax + by = \gcd(a,b)$ , which is known as Bezout's Identity. Since we are trying to find the modular inverse, let us assume that  $\gcd(a,b)=1$ .

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 $(a,b) = (1,0) \rightarrow 1 = 0 \cdot 1 + 1$ 

Here is an example of how the Extended Euclidean Algorithm works. Let us find the GCD of 83 and 14 and find the integer coefficients x and y that satisfy  $83x + 14y = \gcd(83, 14)$ .

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 $(a,b) = (14,13) \rightarrow 14 = 1 \cdot 13 + 1$   
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$$1 = 14 - 1 \cdot 13$$
$$= 14 - 1 \cdot (83 - 5 \cdot 14)$$



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= -1 \cdot 83 + 6 \cdot 14

Thus, (x, y) = (-1, 6).



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• If we know the coefficients  $x_n$  and  $y_n$  that satisfy Bezout's Identity for some arguments  $a_n$  and  $b_n$ , we can do some algebra to find the coefficients x and y for our original arguments a and b

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- The final two arguments of the algorithm will always be  $a_n = \gcd(a,b) = 1$  and  $b_n = 0$ , to which the corresponding solution is  $(x_n,y_n) = (1,0)$ .

Let's say we know the coefficients  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  that will satisfy Bezout's Identity for some arguments b and  $(a \mod b)$ . How can we then find the coefficients x and y that will do the same for a and b?

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$$1 = bx_1 + (a \mod b)y_1$$
  

$$1 = bx_1 + \left(a - \left\lfloor \frac{a}{b} \right\rfloor \cdot b\right)y_1$$
  

$$1 = ay_1 + b\left(x_1 - \left\lfloor \frac{a}{b} \right\rfloor \cdot y_1\right)$$

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$$1 = ay_1 + b\left(x_1 - \left\lfloor \frac{a}{b} \right\rfloor \cdot y_1\right)$$

Thus, matching the coefficients yields:  $x=y_1$  and  $y=x_1-\left\lfloor\frac{a}{b}\right\rfloor\cdot y_1.$ 



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```
// returns \{x_n, y_n\}
pair<int, int> gcd(int a, int b) {
    if (b == 0) {
       return {1, 0}:
    auto [x, y] = gcd(b, a \% b);
   return \{y, x - (a / b) * y\};
}
// x is the modulus
int modinv(int a, int x) {
   return gcd(a, x).first; // why?
}
```

The factorial of an integer n, denoted by n!, is defined as the product of all positive integers less than or equal to n. That is:

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$$n! = n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \ldots \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

For example,  $3!=3\cdot 2\cdot 1=6$ , and  $5!=5\cdot 4\cdot 3\cdot 2\cdot 1=120$ . Note that 0!=1.

The factorial function is important in many areas of mathematics and is especially prominent in combinatorics.



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From our definition of the factorial, we can note that  $n!=n\cdot(n-1)!$ , which will be very useful for doing our precomputation.

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```
vector<int> f(N + 1); // list of factorials
f[0] = 1;
for (int i = 1; i <= N; i++) {
    f[i] = (f[i - 1] % p * i % p + p) % p;
}</pre>
```

Now that we have talked about factorials, we can now discuss basic permutations and combinations involving distinct items.

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For example, the permutations of  $\{1,2,4\}$  are:

- 1, 2, 4
- 1, 4, 2
- 2, 1, 4
- 2, 4, 1
- 4, 1, 2
- 4, 2, 1

The total number of permutations of k elements taken from a set containing n elements is given by  ${}^{n}P_{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$ .

The total number of permutations of k elements taken from a set containing n elements is given by  ${}^n\!P_k=\frac{n!}{(n-k)!}.$ 

With our precomputed list of factorials, how can we compute this value, modulo some prime integer p (p > n)?

Let's assume that we already have all of the factorials until n! precomputed. Then, finding  ${}^n\!P_k$  is simple:

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• Retrieve  $n! \mod p$  from our array

Let's assume that we already have all of the factorials until n! precomputed. Then, finding  ${}^{n}P_{k}$  is simple:

- **1** Retrieve  $n! \mod p$  from our array
- 2 Multiply it by the modular inverse of  $(n-k)! \mod p$

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For example, if we are picking 3 elements from the set  $\{1,2,4,8\}$ , the combinations are:

- 1, 2, 4
- 1, 2, 8
- 1, 4, 8
- 2, 4, 8

The total number of combinations of k elements taken from a set containing n elements is given by  ${}^nC_k=\frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}.$ 

The total number of combinations of k elements taken from a set containing n elements is given by  ${}^nC_k = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ .

Once again, we can compute this value modulo some prime integer p using the same methods that we used to compute permutations. This time, though, we have an additional multiplication of the modular inverse of k!.

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```
// put modular exponentiation definition here
// Again, I suggest using a long long instead
   of an int
int comb(int n, int k) {
    int res = f[n];
   res = (res \% p * modpow(f[n - k], p - 2, p)
        % p + p) % p;
   res = (res \% p * modpow(f[k], p - 2, p) \% p
        + p) % p;
   return res;
}
```

### Additional Resources

Here are some extra links you might find helpful :3

- Binary Exponentiation Algorithms for Competitive Programming
- Fermat's Little Theorem Brilliant
- Extended Euclidean Algorithm Explained Mike the Coder
- Modular multiplicative inverse GeeksForGeeks
- Combinations and Permutations Math Is Fun

### Homework:3

Check the Reboot website for the homework problems :D