

# CHINESE REMAINDER THEOREM

**What is chinese remainder theorem?**

The Chinese Remainder Theorem is a mathematical theorem that describes a method for solving a system of linear congruences. It is named after the ancient Chinese mathematicians who first discovered and used the theorem.

## Example:

Suppose we have the following system of congruences:

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ x &\equiv 3 \pmod{4} \\ x &\equiv 1 \pmod{5} \end{aligned}$$

We want to find a solution for  $x$  that satisfies all three congruences simultaneously.

- First, we check if the moduli (3, 4, and 5) are pairwise coprime, meaning that their greatest common divisors are all 1. It is true in this case.
- Next, we compute the product of all the moduli:  
 $n = 3 * 4 * 5 = 60$   
 This value will be used as the modulus in the final solution.
- Now, we can use the Chinese Remainder Theorem algorithm to compute the solution. The algorithm involves the following steps:

## Statement of theorem:

*Let  $N_1, N_2, \dots, N_k$  be positive integers that are pairwise relatively prime, and let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$  be any integers. Then the system of linear congruences:*

$$x \equiv a_1 \pmod{N_1}$$

$$x \equiv a_2 \pmod{N_2} \dots$$

$$x \equiv a_k \pmod{N_k}$$

*has a unique solution modulo  $N = N_1 * N_2 * \dots * N_k$ .*

1. Compute the values of the "partial remainders"( $n_k$ ) for each congruence.

For the first congruence ( $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ ):  $n_1 = 60 / 3 = 20$

For the second congruence ( $x \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ):  $n_2 = 60 / 4 = 15$

For the third congruence ( $x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ ):  $n_3 = 60 / 5 = 12$

2. Compute the multiplicative inverse of each partial remainder modulo its corresponding modulus.

For  $n_1 = 20 \pmod{3}$ :  $20^{-1} \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

For  $n_2 = 15 \pmod{4}$ :  $15^{-1} \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$

For  $n_3 = 12 \pmod{5}$ :  $12^{-1} \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

3. Compute the solution  $x$  by taking the sum of the products of the original congruences, the corresponding partial remainders, and the corresponding multiplicative inverses modulo the modulus.

$$x \equiv (2 * 20 * 2 + 3 * 15 * 3 + 1 * 12 * 3) \pmod{60}$$

$$x \equiv 80 + 135 + 36 \pmod{60}$$

$$x \equiv 251 \pmod{60}$$

So, the solution  $x \equiv 251 \pmod{60}$  satisfies all three congruences simultaneously.

## Properties and applications:

- **Existence and Uniqueness of Solutions:** The CRT guarantees that a solution exists and is unique, provided that the moduli are pairwise coprime.
- **Efficient Computation:** The CRT provides an efficient algorithm for computing the solution.
- **Applications in Cryptography:** The CRT has applications in cryptography, since it is used in some algorithms for encrypting and decrypting messages, such as the RSA algorithm.
- **Error Detection and Correction:** The CRT can be used for error detection and correction in computer systems, such as in error-correcting codes and digital communication systems.

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