

# 离散数学及其应用 第4章 数论与密码学

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## 4. Number Theory and Cryptography

Number theory is the part of mathematics devoted to the study of the integers and their properties.

💡 这些都是初中奥数的知识了，看看英文怎么表达基本上就能搞定。

### 4.1 Divisibility and Modular Arithmetic

#### 4.1.1 Division

If  $a$  and  $b$  are integers with  $a \neq 0$ , then  $a$  **divides**  $b$  if there exists an integer  $c$  such that  $b = ac$ , or equivalently  $\frac{b}{a} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , denoted by  $a|b$ . When  $a$  divides  $b$ , we say that  $a$  is a **factor** or **divisor** of  $b$  and that  $b$  is a **multiple** of  $a$ . If  $a$  does not divide  $b$ , we write  $a \nmid b$ .

📖 Properties of Divisibility

Let  $a$  ,  $b$  , and  $c$  be integers, where  $a \neq 0$  .

- If  $a|b$  and  $a|c$  , then  $a|(mb + nc)$  whenever  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  ;
- If  $a|b$  , then  $a|bc$  for all integers  $c$  ;
- If  $a|b$  and  $b|c$  , then  $a|c$  .


#### Division Algorithm


If  $a$  is an integer and  $d$  a positive integer, then there are unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  , with  $0 \leq r < d$  , such that  $a = dq + r$  . Here  $d$  is called the **divisor** ,  $a$  is called the **dividend** ,  $q$  is called the **quotient** ,  $r$  is called the **remainder** . The notation is  $q = a \mathbf{div} d$  and  $r = a \mathbf{mod} d$  .


 Note that the remainder cannot be negative.  $-4 = -11 \mathbf{div} 3$  ,  $1 = -11 \mathbf{mod} 3$  .+

### 4.1.2 Congruence

**Congruence Relation** If  $a$  and  $b$  are integers and  $m$  is a positive integer, then  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$  if  $m|(a - b)$  , denoted by  $a \equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m)$  . We say that  $a \equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m)$  is a **congruence** and that  $m$  is its **modulus** . If  $a$  is not congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$  , we write  $a \not\equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m)$  .

 Two integers are congruent mod  $m$  if and only if they have the same remainder when divided by  $m$  , or equivalently there is an integer  $k$  such that  $a = b + km$  .

 Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers, and let  $m$  be a positive integer. Then  $a \equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m) \leftrightarrow a \mathbf{mod} m = b \mathbf{mod} m$  .

 The use of "mod" in  $a \equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m)$  and  $a \mathbf{mod} m = b \mathbf{mod} m$  are different.

$a \equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m)$  is a relation on the set of integers, while in  $a \mathbf{mod} m = b \mathbf{mod} m$  , the notation **mod** denotes a function.

#### Congruences of Sums and Products

Let  $m$  be a positive integer.

If  $a \equiv b(\mathbf{mod} m)$  and  $c \equiv d(\mathbf{mod} m)$  ,

then  $a + c \equiv b + d(\mathbf{mod} m)$  and  $ac \equiv bd(\mathbf{mod} m)$  .

Corollary: Let  $m$  be a positive integer and let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers, then

$$(a + b) \mathbf{mod} m = [(a \mathbf{mod} m) + (b \mathbf{mod} m)] \mathbf{mod} m$$

$$ab \mathbf{mod} m = [(a \mathbf{mod} m)(b \mathbf{mod} m)] \mathbf{mod} m$$

## Algebraic Manipulation of Congruences

- Multiplying both sides of a valid congruence by an integer preserves validity.
  - If  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  holds, then  $c \cdot a \equiv c \cdot b \pmod{m}$ , where  $c$  is any integer, holds by the theorem of congruences of products with  $d = c$ .
- Adding an integer to both sides of a valid congruence preserves validity.
  - If  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  holds then  $c + a \equiv c + b \pmod{m}$ , where  $c$  is any integer, holds by the theorem of congruences of sums with  $d = c$ .

### 4.1.3 Arithmetic Modulo

The operation  $+_m$  is defined as  $a +_m b = (a + b) \bmod m$ . This is **addition modulo m**.

The operation  $\cdot_m$  is defined as  $a \cdot_m b = (a \cdot b) \bmod m$ . This is **multiplication modulo m**.

Using these operations is said to be doing **arithmetic modulo m**.


Let  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  be the set of nonnegative integers less than  $m$ . That is


$$\mathbb{Z}_m = \{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\}.$$

 e.g.

$$7 +_{11} 9 = (7 + 9) \bmod 11 = 5$$

$$9 \cdot_{11} 7 = (9 \cdot 7) \bmod 11 = 8$$

 The operations  $+_m$  and  $\cdot_m$  satisfy many of the same properties as ordinary addition and multiplication.

- Closure:  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow (a +_m b), (a \cdot_m b) \in \mathbb{Z}_m$
- Associativity:  
$$a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow [(a +_m b) +_m c = a +_m (b +_m c)] \wedge [(a \cdot_m b) \cdot_m c = a \cdot_m (b \cdot_m c)]$$
- Commutativity:  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow (a +_m b = b +_m a) \wedge (a \cdot_m b = b \cdot_m a)$
- Identity elements: The elements 0 and 1 are identity elements for addition and multiplication modulo  $m$ , respectively. If  $a$  belongs to  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ , then  $a +_m 0 = a$  and  $a \cdot_m 1 = a$ .
- Additive inverses: If  $a \neq 0$  belongs to  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ , then  $m - a$  ( not  $-a$  because it is not in  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ ) is the additive inverse of  $a$  modulo  $m$  and 0 is its own additive inverse.

$$a +_m (m - a) = 0 \text{ and } 0 +_m 0 = 0 .$$

- Distributivity: If  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ , then  $[a \cdot_m (b +_m c) = (a \cdot_m b) +_m (a \cdot_m c)]$  and  $[(a +_m b) \cdot_m c = (a \cdot_m c) +_m (b \cdot_m c)]$

⚠ Multiplicative inverses have not been included since they do not always exist. For example, there is no multiplicative inverse of 2 modulo 6.

4.2 节没什么知识，跳过了。

## 4.3 Primes and GCDs

### 4.3.1 Primes

A positive integer  $p$  greater than 1 is called **prime** if the only positive factors of  $p$  are 1 and  $p$ . A positive integer that is greater than 1 and is not prime is called **composite**.

📖 The Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

Every positive integer greater than 1 can be written uniquely as a prime or as the product of two or more primes where the prime factors are written in order of nondecreasing size.

📖 Trial division

Trial division, a very inefficient method of determining if a number  $n$  is prime, is to try every integer  $i \leq \sqrt{n}$  and see if  $n$  is divisible by  $i$ . This is because if an integer  $n$  is a composite integer, then it has a prime divisor less than or equal to  $\sqrt{n}$ . To see this, note that if  $n = a \cdot b$ , then  $a \leq \sqrt{n}$  or  $b \leq \sqrt{n}$ .

📖 Infinitude of Primes (proof by Euclid)

There are infinitely many primes.

Proof:

Assume finitely many primes:  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ .

Let  $q = p_1 p_2 \dots p_n + 1$ , then  $q$  is a prime not in the list of all the primes.

So there are infinitely many primes.

### 4.3.2 GCD and LCM

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers, not both zero. The largest integer  $d$  such that  $d|a$  and also  $d|b$  is called the **greatest common divisor (GCD)** of  $a$  and  $b$ . The greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  is denoted by  $\gcd(a, b)$ .

The **least common multiple (LCM)** of the positive integers  $a$  and  $b$  is the smallest positive integer that is divisible by both  $a$  and  $b$ . It is denoted by  $\text{lcm}(a, b)$ .

The integers  $a$  and  $b$  are **relatively prime** if their greatest common divisor is 1.

The integers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are **pairwise relatively prime** if  $\gcd(a_i, a_j) = 1$  whenever  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ .

#### Finding GCDs and LCMs Using Prime Factorizations


Suppose the prime factorizations of  $a$  and  $b$  are:

$$a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}, b = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n},$$

where each exponent is a nonnegative integer, and where all primes occurring in either prime factorization are included in both. Then:

$$\gcd(a, b) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$

 Let  $a$  and  $b$  be positive integers. Then  $ab = \gcd(a, b) \cdot \text{lcm}(a, b)$ .

#### Euclidean Algorithm (辗转相除法)

The Euclidean algorithm is an efficient method for computing the greatest common divisor of two integers. It is based on the idea that  $\gcd(a, b)$  is equal to  $\gcd(b, r)$  when  $a > b$  and  $r$  is the remainder when  $a$  is divided by  $b$ .

The Euclidean algorithm expressed in pseudocode is:

```

procedure gcd( $a, b$ : positive integers)
 $x := a$ 
 $y := b$ 
while  $y \neq 0$ 
     $r := x \bmod y$ 
     $x := y$ 
     $y := r$ 
return  $x$  {gcd( $a, b$ ) is  $x$ }
    
```

#### Bézout's Theorem (裴蜀定理)

If  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers, then there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $\gcd(a, b) = sa + tb$ . Integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $\gcd(a, b) = sa + tb$  are called **Bé**

**Bézout coefficients** of  $a$  and  $b$ . The equation  $\gcd(a, b) = sa + tb$  is called **Bézout's identity** (裴蜀恒等式). To find Bézout coefficients, first use the Euclidean algorithm to find the gcd, and then work backwards to express the gcd as a linear combination of the original two integers.

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 e.g.

Express  $\gcd(252, 198) = 18$  as a linear combination of 252 and 198.

**Solution:** First use the Euclidean algorithm to show  $\gcd(252, 198) = 18$

- i.  $252 = 1 \cdot 198 + 54$       ii.  $198 = 3 \cdot 54 + 36$
- iii.  $54 = 1 \cdot 36 + 18$       iv.  $36 = 2 \cdot 18$


- ♦ Now working backwards, from (iii) and (ii) above
  - $18 = 54 - 1 \cdot 36$
  - $36 = 198 - 3 \cdot 54$
- ♦ Substituting the 2nd equation into the 1st yields:
  - $18 = 54 - 1 \cdot (198 - 3 \cdot 54) = 4 \cdot 54 - 1 \cdot 198$
- ♦ Substituting  $54 = 252 - 1 \cdot 198$  (from i)) yields:
  - $18 = 4 \cdot (252 - 1 \cdot 198) - 1 \cdot 198 = 4 \cdot 252 - 5 \cdot 198$

 If  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are positive integers such that  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$  and  $a|bc$ , then  $a|c$ .


Proof:

Since  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , by Bézout's Theorem there are integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $sa + tb = 1$ . Multiplying both sides of the equation by  $c$ , yields  $sac + tbc = c$ .

Since  $a|sac$  and  $a|tbc$ , we can conclude that  $a|sac + tbc$ .

 If  $p$  is prime and  $p \mid a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$ , then  $p \mid a_i$  for some  $i$ .

(Proof uses mathematical induction. It is crucial in the proof of the uniqueness of prime factorizations.)

 A prime factorization of a positive integer where the primes are in nondecreasing order is unique.

**Proof:** (by contradiction) Suppose that the positive integer  $n$  can be written as a product of primes in two distinct ways:

$$n = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_s \text{ and } n = q_1 q_2 \cdots q_t.$$

- ♦ Remove all common primes from the factorizations to get  $p_{i_1} p_{i_2} \cdots p_{i_u} = q_{j_1} q_{j_2} \cdots q_{j_v}$
- ♦ By Lemma 3, it follows that  $p_{i_1}$  divides  $q_{j_k}$  for some  $k$ , contradicting the assumption that  $p_i$  and  $q_j$  are distinct primes.
- ♦ Hence, there can be at most one factorization of  $n$  into primes in nondecreasing order.

□ Let  $m$  be a positive integer and let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be integers. If  $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$  and  $\gcd(c, m) = 1$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ .

Proof: Since  $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$ ,  $m \mid ac - bc = c(a - b)$  and the fact that  $\gcd(c, m) = 1$ , it follows that  $m \mid a - b$ . Hence,  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ .

## 4.4 Solving Congruences

### 4.4.1 Linear Congruences

A congruence of the form  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , where  $m$  is a positive integer,  $a$  and  $b$  are integers, and  $x$  is a variable, is called a **linear congruence**. The solutions to a linear congruence  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  are all integers  $x$  that satisfy the congruence.

An integer  $\bar{a}$  such that  $\bar{a}a \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$  is said to be an **inverse** of  $a$  modulo  $m$ .

The Euclidean algorithm and Bézout coefficients gives us a systematic approaches to finding inverses.

□ If  $a$  and  $m$  are relatively prime integers and  $m > 1$ , then an inverse of  $a$  modulo  $m$  exists. Furthermore, this inverse is unique modulo  $m$ . (This means that there is a unique positive integer  $\bar{a}$  less than  $m$  that is an inverse of  $a$  modulo  $m$  and every other inverse of  $a$  modulo  $m$  is congruent to  $\bar{a}$  modulo  $m$ .)

Proof:

Since  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ , there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $sa + tm = 1$ . Hence,  $sa + tm \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . Since  $tm \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ , it follows that  $sa \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . Consequently,  $s$  is an inverse of  $a$  modulo  $m$ .

□ Finding Inverses

The Euclidean algorithm and Bézout coefficients gives us a systematic approaches to finding inverses.

🍎e.g.

Find an inverse of 3 modulo 7.

Solution:

3 and 7 are relatively prime, so there exist an inverse of 3 modulo 7. Using the Euclidian algorithm:  $7 = 2 \times 3 + 1$ , so  $-2$  and 7 are Bézout coefficients of 3 and 7.

$-2 \times 3 + 1 \times 7 = 1$ , and  $-2 \times 3 + 1 \times 7 \equiv -2 \times 3 \pmod{7}$ , so  $-2$  is an inverse of 3 modulo 7. And every integer congruent to  $-2$  modulo 7 is an inverse of 3 modulo 7.

### 📖Solving Congruences Using Inverses

We can solve the congruence  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  by multiplying both sides by  $\bar{a}$ .

🍎e.g.

What are the solutions of the congruence  $3x \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$ ?

Solution:

$-2$  is an inverse of 3 modulo 7, so multiply both sides of the congruence by  $-2$  giving  $-2 \times 3x \equiv -2 \times 4 \pmod{7}$ . Because  $-6 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$  and  $-8 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$ , it follows that if  $x$  is a solution, then  $x \equiv -8 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$ .

We need to determine if every  $x$  with  $x \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$  is a solution. Multiply both sides by 3 and get  $3x \equiv 18 \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$ , which shows that all such  $x$  satisfy the congruence.

### 📖Solving Systems of Linear Congruences Using Back Substitution

Substitute the value for the variable into another congruence, and continuing the process until we have worked through all the congruences.

🍎e.g.

Use the method of back substitution to find all integers  $x$  such that  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$ , and  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$ .

Solution:

The first congruence can be rewritten as  $x = 5t + 1$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Substituting into the second congruence yields  $5t + 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$ . Solving this tells us that  $t \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ . So  $t = 6u + 5$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Substituting this back into  $x = 5t + 1$ , gives  $x =$



$$5(6u + 5) + 1 = 30u + 26.$$

Inserting this into the third equation gives  $30u + 26 \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$ . Solving this congruence tells us that  $u \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$ . So  $u = 7v + 6$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Substituting this expression for  $u$  into  $x = 30u + 26$ , tells us that  $x = 30(7v + 6) + 26 = 210v + 206$ .

Translating this back into a congruence we find the solution  $x \equiv 206 \pmod{210}$ .

## 4.4.2 The Chinese Remainder Theorem

It is a different method to solve a system of linear congruences.

 The Chinese Remainder Theorem

Let  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n$  be pairwise relatively prime positive integers greater than 1 and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  arbitrary integers. Then the system:

$$x \equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1}$$

$$x \equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2}$$

...

$$x \equiv a_n \pmod{m_n}$$

has a unique solution modulo  $m = m_1 \times m_2 \times \dots \times m_n$ . (That is, there is a solution  $x$  with  $0 \leq x < m$  and all other solutions are congruent modulo  $m$  to this solution.)

Proof:

It is a constructive proof.

First let  $M_k = m/m_k$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Since  $\gcd(m_k, M_k) = 1$ , there is an integer  $y_k$ , an inverse of  $M_k$  modulo  $m_k$ , such that  $M_k y_k \equiv 1 \pmod{m_k}$ . Form the sum  $x = a_1 M_1 y_1 + a_2 M_2 y_2 + \dots + a_n M_n y_n$ . Note that because  $M_j \equiv 0 \pmod{m_k}$  whenever  $j \neq k$ , all terms except the  $k$ -th term in this sum are congruent to 0 modulo  $m_k$ . Because  $M_k y_k \equiv 1 \pmod{m_k}$ , we see that  $x \equiv a_k M_k y_k \equiv a_k \pmod{m_k}$ , for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Hence,  $x$  is a simultaneous solution to the  $n$  congruences.

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 e.g.

有物不知其数，三三数之剩二，五五数之剩三，七七数之剩二。问物几何？（《孙子算经》）

Solution:

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}, x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}.$$

$$m = 3 \times 5 \times 7 = 105, M_1 = m/3 = 35, M_2 = m/5 = 21, M_3 = m/7 = 15.$$

2 is an inverse of  $M_1$  modulo 3, 1 is an inverse of  $M_2$  modulo 5, 1 is an inverse of  $M_3$  modulo 7.

Hence,  $x = a_1 M_1 y_1 + a_2 M_2 y_2 + a_3 M_3 y_3 = 2 \times 35 \times 2 + 3 \times 21 \times 1 + 2 \times 15 \times 1 = 233 \equiv 23 \pmod{105}$ . So 23 is the smallest positive integer that is a simultaneous solution.

It is important to solve systems of linear congruences. Computers sometime store big integers in the form of their remainders and moduli.

### 4.4.3 Fermat's Little Theorem

#### Fermat's Little Theorem

If  $p$  is prime and  $a$  is an integer not divisible by  $p$ , then  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Furthermore, for every integer  $a$ , no matter if it is divisible by  $p$ , we have  $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ .

Proof:

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Fermat's little theorem is useful in computing the remainders modulo  $p$  of large powers of integers.

 e.g.

Find  $7^{222} \pmod{11}$ .

Solution:

By Fermat's little theorem, we know that  $7^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ , and so  $(7^{10})^k \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ , for every positive integer  $k$ . Therefore,  $7^{222} = 7^{22 \cdot 10 + 2} = (7^{10})^{22} \times 7^2 \equiv (1)^{22} \times 49 \equiv 5 \pmod{11}$ . Hence,  $7^{222} \pmod{11} = 5$ .

A number  $p$  not satisfying Fermat's Little Theorem must be a composite, but not every  $p$  satisfying Fermat's Little Theorem is a prime. Let  $b$  be a positive integer. If  $n$  is a composite integer, and  $b^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $n$  is called a **pseudoprime** to the **base**  $b$ . Among the positive integers not exceeding a positive real number  $x$ , compared to primes, there are relatively few pseudoprimes to the base  $b$ .

 e.g.

Show that 341 is a pseudoprime to the base 2.

Proof:

$341 = 11 \cdot 31$ , so 341 is a composite.  $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{341}$ , so it is a pseudoprime.

We can replace 2 by any integer  $b \geq 2$  as well.

There are composite integers  $n$  that pass all tests with bases  $b$  such that  $\gcd(b, n) = 1$ . A composite integer  $n$  that satisfies the congruence  $b^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  for all positive integers  $b$  with  $\gcd(b, n) = 1$  is called a **Carmichael number**.

🍎e.g.

Show that 561 is a Carmichael number.

Proof:

561 is composite, since  $561 = 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$ .

If  $\gcd(b, 561) = 1$ , then  $\gcd(b, 3) = \gcd(b, 11) = \gcd(b, 17) = 1$ .

Using Fermat's Little Theorem:  $b^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $b^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ ,  $b^{16} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$ .

Then

$$b^{560} = (b^2)^{280} \equiv 1 \pmod{3},$$

$$b^{560} = (b^{10})^{56} \equiv 1 \pmod{11},$$

$$b^{560} = (b^{16})^{35} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}.$$

It follows that  $b^{560} \equiv 1 \pmod{561}$  for all positive integers  $b$  with  $\gcd(b, 561) = 1$ . Hence, 561 is a Carmichael number.