

1.6.9 Solution:

Claim: If prime number $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_r$, then p divides one of the factors.

Proof: Since $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_r$, we know that $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_r = q_0 p$, $q \in \mathbb{Z}$. And without losing generality we can denote the factor as a_i , thus $a_i = qp$.

For base case, if $p \mid a_1$, $p \mid a_1$ is obviously true.

Suppose when $r = k$, namely, $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k$, p divides one of the factors is true, then when $r = k + 1$, if $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{k+1}$, so $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{k+1} = q_1 p$. Then there're 2 cases.

If $p \mid a_{k+1}$, the statement is proved.

If $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k$, the hypothesis gives that $p \mid a_i$.

So when $r = k + 1$, namely, $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{k+1}$, p divides one of the factors is true.

Thus, we can conclude that if prime number $p \mid a_1 a_2 \cdots a_r$, then p divides one of the factors. ■

1.7.4 Solution:

Claim: $[4^{237}] = [4]$.

Proof: In \mathbb{Z}_5 , $[4^2] = [1]$. Thus $[4^{2n}] = [1]$, so $[4^{236}] = [1]$. And since $[4] = [-1]$, $[4^{237}] = [4^{236}][4] = [1][-1] = [-1] = [4]$. ■

1.7.11 Solution:

Claim: If a is relatively prime to n and there are integers s and t so that $as + nt = 1$. The inverse of $[a]$ is $[s]$.

Proof: Since a is relatively prime to n and $as + nt = 1$, we have $as - 1 = -nt$. So $n \mid (as - 1)$ and as a result $as \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. Which means that $[as] = [1]$, so $[a][s] = [1]$.

Thus, $[s]$ is the inverse of $[a]$ in \mathbb{Z}_n . ■

1.7.14 Solution:

(a) **Claim:** $\forall b \in \mathbb{Z}$, $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$ has a solution.

Proof: For all integer a, b , if we want to make $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$ holds, $ax - b = qn, q \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow ax - qn = b$ must hold. Therefore, $\gcd(a, n) \mid b$ must be true. Since a and n are relatively prime, $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, the statement above must be true.

So we can conclude that $\forall b \in \mathbb{Z}$, $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$ has a solution. ■

(b) Base on the logical deduction above, we need to find a pair of integer (s, r) with the inverse of Euclidean Algorithm so that $sa + rn = 1$, so $(bs)a + (br)n = b$, and one $x_0 = bs$. And all the solutions become a set $\{x|x = kn + x_0, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

(c) **Claim:** For $8x \equiv 12 \pmod{125}$, $x = 64$.

Proof: Since $8x \equiv 12 \pmod{125}$, $8x - 12 = 125q, q \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow 8x - 125q = 12$
So apply Euclidean Algorithm to 8 and 125 first:

$$\begin{aligned} 125 &= 8 \times 15 + 5 \\ 8 &= 5 \times 1 + 3 \\ 5 &= 3 \times 1 + 2 \\ 3 &= 2 \times 1 + 1 \\ 2 &= 1 \times 2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} 125 - 8 \times 15 &= 8 - 3 \\ \Rightarrow 125 - 8 \times 16 &= -3 \\ \Rightarrow 8 \times 16 - 125 &= 3 \\ \Rightarrow 8 \times 16 - 125 &= 5 - 2 \\ \Rightarrow 8 \times 16 - 125 &= (125 - 8 \times 15) - 2 \\ \Rightarrow 8 \times 31 - 125 \times 2 &= -2 \\ \Rightarrow 125 \times 2 - 8 \times 31 &= 3 - 1 = (8 - 5) - 1 \\ \Rightarrow 125 \times 2 - 8 \times 32 &= -5 - 1 = -6 \\ \Rightarrow 125 \times 4 - 8 \times 64 &= -12 \\ \Rightarrow 8 \times 64 - 125 \times 4 &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

As a result, $x_0 = 64$. And all solutions consist a set $\{x|x = 64 + 125k, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ ■.