

Solution: $\gcd(84, 18): 6 = 18 \cdot (-9) + 84 \cdot 2.$

Question # 8:

(04 points)

An old man goes to market and a camel steps on her basket and crushes the oranges. The camel rider offers to pay for the damages and asks him how many oranges he had brought. He does not remember the exact number, but when he had taken them out five at a time, there were 3 oranges left. When he took them six at a time, there were also three oranges left, when he had taken them out seven at a time, there was only one orange was left and when he had taken them out eleven at a time, there was no orange left. What is the number of oranges he could have had?

Solution:

We will follow the notation used in the proof of the Chinese remainder theorem.

We have $m = m_1 * m_2 * m_3 * m_4 = 2310$.

Also, by simple inspection we see that:

$y_1 = 3$ is an inverse for $M_1 = 462$ modulo 5,

$y_2 = 1$ is an inverse for $M_2 = 385$ modulo 6,

$y_3 = 1$ is an inverse for $M_3 = 330$ modulo 7 and

$y_4 = 1$ is an inverse for $M_4 = 210$ modulo 11.

The solutions to the system are then all numbers x such that

$x = a_1 M_1 y_1 + a_2 M_2 y_2 + a_3 M_3 y_3 = (3 * 462 * 3) + (3 * 385 * 1) + (1 * 330 * 1) + (0 * 210 * 1) = 5643 \pmod{2310} = 1023$.

He could have 1023 oranges.

BEST OF LUCK!