

# Session 55: Modular Arithmetic

- Modular addition and multiplication
- Properties of modular arithmetic

# mod $m$ Function of Products and Sums

**Corollary:** Let  $m$  be a positive integer and let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers. Then

$$(a + b) \text{ (mod } m) = ((a \text{ mod } m) + (b \text{ mod } m)) \text{ mod } m$$

and

$$a \cdot b \text{ mod } m = ((a \text{ mod } m) \cdot (b \text{ mod } m)) \text{ mod } m.$$

# Arithmetic Modulo $m$

**Definitions:** Let  $\mathbf{Z}_m$  be the set of nonnegative integers less than  $m$ :

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

The **addition modulo  $m$**  operation  $+_m$  is defined as

$$a +_m b = (a + b) \bmod m.$$

The **multiplication modulo  $m$**  operation  $\cdot_m$  is defined as

$$a \cdot_m b = (a \cdot b) \bmod m.$$

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

# Example

Computing  $7 +_{11} 9$  and  $7 \cdot_{11} 9$ .

# Arithmetic Modulo $m$

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

- **Closure:** If  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ , then  $a +_m b$  and  $a \cdot_m b$  belong to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ .
- **Commutativity:** If  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ , then  $a +_m b = b +_m a$  and  $a \cdot_m b = b \cdot_m a$ .
- **Associativity:** If  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  belong to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ , then  $(a +_m b) +_m c = a +_m (b +_m c)$  and  $(a \cdot_m b) \cdot_m c = a \cdot_m (b \cdot_m c)$ .
- **Distributivity:** If  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  belong to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ , then  $a \cdot_m (b +_m c) = (a \cdot_m b) +_m (a \cdot_m c)$  and  $(a +_m b) \cdot_m c = (a \cdot_m c) +_m (b \cdot_m c)$ .

# Arithmetic Modulo $m$

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

- **Identity elements:** The elements 0 and 1 are identity elements for addition and multiplication modulo  $m$ , respectively.
  - If  $a$  belongs to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ , then  $a +_m 0 = a$  and  $a \cdot_m 1 = a$ .
- **Additive inverses:** If  $a \neq 0$  belongs to  $\mathbf{Z}_m$ , then  $m - a$  is the additive inverse of  $a$  modulo  $m$  and 0 is its own additive inverse:
  - $a +_m (m - a) = 0$  and  $0 +_m 0 = 0$

# Commutative Ring

Multiplicative inverses have not been included since they do not always exist.

**Example:** There is no multiplicative inverse of 2 modulo 6.

In the terminology of abstract algebra:

$\mathbf{Z}_m$  with  $+_m$  is a **commutative group**

$\mathbf{Z}_m$  with  $+_m$  and  $\cdot_m$  is a **commutative ring**.

# Summary

- Modular addition and multiplication
- Commutative Ring