

# Modulus Arithmetic

## 1 Congruences Modulo $m$ .

Given an integer  $m \geq 2$ , we say that  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$ , written  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , if  $m$  divides  $a - b$ . Note that the following conditions are equivalent

(1)  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$

(2)  $a = b + km$  for some integer  $k$ .

(3)  $a$  and  $b$  have the same remainder when divided by  $m$ .

For instance 6 and 21 are congruent modulo 5 because when divided by 5 both have the same remainder of 1.

$$[x] = [x]_m = \{x + km \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

Remark: when writing " $r$ " as a notation for the class of  $r$  we may stress the fact that " $r$ " represent the class of  $r$  rather than the integer  $r$  by including " $(\text{mod } p)$ " at some point. For instance  $8 \equiv 3 \pmod{p}$ . Note that in " $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ ",  $a$  and  $b$  represent integers, while in " $a = b \pmod{m}$ " they represent elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ .

Reduction Modulo  $m$ : Once a set of representatives has been chosen for the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ , we will call " $r$  reduced modulo  $m$ ", written " $r \pmod{m}$ ", the chosen representative for the class of  $r$ . For instance, if we choose the representatives for the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  in the interval from 0 to 4 ( $\mathbb{Z}_5 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ), then  $9 \pmod{5} = 4$ .

$$[x] + [y] = [x+y]$$

$$[x] \cdot [y] = [x \cdot y]$$

Let's see Turkish  
modların sonuçları 4 işleni olarak yapılır  
ve tekrardan modları alınır. pozitif ve negatif  
sayı olacak şekilde modlar uygulanır,

$$\underline{x \cdot x^{-1} = x^{-1} \cdot x = 1}$$

In general

(1) The elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  can be classified into two classes:

- (a) Units: elements with multiplicative inverse.
- (b) Divisors of zero: elements that multiplied by some other non-zero element give product zero.

(2) An element  $[a] \in \mathbb{Z}_m$  is a unit (has a multiplicative inverse) if and only if  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ .

(3) All non-zero elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  are units if and only if  $m$  is a prime number.

The set of units in  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  is denoted  $\mathbb{Z}_m^*$ . For instance

$$\mathbb{Z}_2^* = \{1\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_3^* = \{1, 2\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_4^* = \{1, 3\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_5^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_6^* = \{1, 5\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_7^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_8^* = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_9^* = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8\}$$