

# Chinese Remainder Theorem (Applications)

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# Linear Congruences, Inverses

A congruence of the form  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  is called a *linear congruence*.

- To solve the congruence is to find the  $x$ 's that satisfy it.

An *inverse of  $a$ , modulo  $m$*  is any integer  $a'$  such that  $a'a \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ .

- If we can find such an  $a'$ , notice that we can then solve  $ax \equiv b$  by multiplying through by it.
- Implies  $a'ax \equiv a'b$ , thus  $1 \cdot x \equiv a'b$ , thus  $x \equiv a'b \pmod{m}$ .

**Theorem:** If  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$  and  $m > 1$ , then  $a$  has a unique (modulo  $m$ ) inverse  $a'$ .

- Proof: By theorem 1,  $\exists st: sa + tm = 1$ , so  $sa + tm \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ .

Since  $tm \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ ,  $sa \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . Thus  $s$  is an inverse of  $a \pmod{m}$ .

From the result, if  $ra \equiv sa \equiv 1$  then  $r \equiv s$ .

Thus this inverse is unique mod  $m$ . (All inverses of  $a$  are in the same congruence class as  $s$ .)

**Note:** Linear congruences are the basis to perform arithmetic with large integers.

# Example:

## Find an inverse of 4 modulo 9

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Since  $\gcd(4, 9) = 1$ , we know that there is an inverse of 4, modulo 9.

Using the Euclidean algorithm to find the greatest common divisor:

$$9 = 2 \times 4 + 1$$

Rewrite:

$$9 - 2 \times 4 = 1$$

So, -2 is an inverse of 4 module 9

We have:  $-2 \times 4 = -8$ . And  $-8 \bmod 9 = 1$ .

What are the solutions of the linear congruence  $4x \equiv 5 \pmod{9}$ ? ✓

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Since we know that  $-2$  is an inverse for  $4 \pmod{9}$ ,  
we can multiply both sides of the linear congruence:

$$\underline{-2 \times 4x} \equiv \underline{-2 \times 5} \pmod{9}$$

Since  $-8 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$  and  $-10 \equiv 8 \pmod{9}$ ,

it follows that if  $x$  is a solution, then  $\underline{x \equiv -10 \equiv 8 \pmod{9}}$ .

We now have  $4x \equiv 4 \times 8 \equiv 5 \pmod{9}$  which shows that all such  $x$  satisfy the congruence.

So, solutions  $x$  such that  $\underline{x \equiv 8 \pmod{9}}$ , namely, 8, 17, 26, ..., and -1, -10, etc.

$K = (a, b)$   
 $a \pmod{m}$   
 $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$   
 $\exists a$

*exists*

# Puzzle

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There are certain things whose number is unknown.


- When divided by 3, the remainder is 2;
- when divided by 5, the remainder is 3; and
- when divided by 7, the remainder is 2.

What is the number of things?

What's  $x$  such that:

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}?$$


# Chinese Remainder Theorem

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**Theorem:** (Chinese remainder theorem.)

Let  $m_1, \dots, m_n > 0$  be relatively prime. ✓

Then the system of equations  $x \equiv a_i \pmod{m_i}$  (for  $i=1$  to  $n$ )

has a unique solution modulo  $m = m_1 \cdot \dots \cdot m_n$ .

**Proof:** Let  $M_i = m/m_i$ .

Since  $\gcd(m_i, M_i)=1$ ,  $\exists y_i$  such that  $y_i M_i \equiv 1 \pmod{m_i}$ .

Now let  $x = \sum_i a_i y_i M_i$ .

Since  $m_i \nmid M_k$  for  $k \neq i$ ,  $M_k \equiv 0 \pmod{m_i}$ , so  $x \equiv a_i y_i M_i \equiv a_i \pmod{m_i}$ .

Thus, the congruences hold.

(Uniqueness is an exercise.)

# Computer Arithmetic with Large Integers

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By Chinese Remainder Theorem, an integer  $a$  where  $0 \leq a < m = \prod m_i$ ,  $\gcd(m_i, m_{j \neq i}) = 1$ ,  
can be represented by  $a$ 's residues mod  $m_i$ :

$$\underline{(a \bmod m_1, a \bmod m_2, \dots, a \bmod m_n)}$$

Implicitly, consider the set of equations  $x \equiv a_i \pmod{m_i}$ , With  $a_i = a \bmod m_i$ .  
By the CRT, unique  $x \equiv a \bmod m$ , with  $m = \prod m_i$  is a solution.

How to represent uniquely all integers less than 12 by pairs, where the first component is the remainder of the integer upon division by 3 and the second component is the remainder of the integer upon division by 4?

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Finding the remainder of each integer divide by 3 and 4, we obtain:

$$a = (a \bmod 3, a \bmod 4) \text{ e.g. } 5 = ((5 \bmod 3), (5 \bmod 4)) = (2, 1)$$

0=(0,0);	1=(1,1);	2=(2,2);	3=(0,3);
4=(1,0);	5=(2,1);	6=(0,2);	7=(1,3);
8=(2,0);	9=(0,1);	10=(1,2);	11=(2,3)

Note we have the right “number of pairs”; one for each number up to  $4 \times 3 - 1$ .



# Computer Arithmetic with Large Integers

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To perform arithmetic upon large integers represented in this way,

- Simply perform operations on these separate residues!
  - Each of these might be done in a single machine operation.
  - The operations may be easily parallelized on a vector machine.
- Works so long as the **desired result**  $< m$ .

Suppose we can perform operation with integers less than 100 can be done easily; we can restrict ourselves to integers less than 100, if we represent the integers using their remainders modulo **pairwise relatively prime integers less than 100**; e.g., 99, 98, 97, 95.

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By the Chinese remainder theorem, any number up to

$$99 \times 98 \times 97 \times 95 = \underline{89,403,930} \quad \checkmark$$

can be represented uniquely by its remainders when divided by these four moduli.

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For example, the number 123684 can be represented as

$$(123684 \bmod 99; 123684 \bmod 98; 123684 \bmod 97; 123684 \bmod 95) = \underline{(33, 8, 9, 89)} \quad \checkmark$$

413456 can be represented as

$$(413456 \bmod 99; 413456 \bmod 98; 413456 \bmod 97; 413456 \bmod 95) = \underline{(32, 92, 42, 16)}$$

To perform a sum we only have to sum the residues:

$$\begin{aligned} & (33, 8, 9, 89) + (32, 92, 42, 16) \\ &= (65 \bmod 99, 100 \bmod 98, 51 \bmod 97, 105 \bmod 95) \\ &= (65, 2, \underline{51}, 10) \end{aligned}$$

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To find the sum we just have to solve the system of linear congruences:

$$x \equiv 65 \pmod{99}$$

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{98}$$

$$x \equiv 51 \pmod{97}$$

$$x \equiv 10 \pmod{95}$$

$$\text{Solution: } 537140 = 123684 + 413456$$

# “Bigger” Example

For example, the following numbers are relatively prime:

$$m_1 = 2^{25} - 1 = 33,554,431 = 31 \cdot 601 \cdot 1,801 \quad \checkmark$$

$$m_2 = 2^{27} - 1 = 134,217,727 = 7 \cdot 73 \cdot 262,657 \quad \checkmark$$

$$m_3 = 2^{28} - 1 = 268,435,455 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 29 \cdot 43 \cdot 113 \cdot 127 \quad \checkmark$$

$$m_4 = 2^{29} - 1 = 536,870,911 = 233 \cdot 1,103 \cdot 2,089 \quad \checkmark$$

$$m_5 = 2^{31} - 1 = 2,147,483,647 \text{ (prime)} \quad \checkmark$$

Thus, we can uniquely represent all numbers up to

$$m = \prod m_i \approx 1.4 \times 10^{42} \approx 2^{139.5}$$

by their residues  $r_i$  modulo these five  $m_i$ .

- E.g.,  $10^{30} = (r_1 = 20,900,945; \quad r_2 = 18,304,504; \quad r_3 = 65,829,085; \\ r_4 = 516,865,185; \quad r_5 = 1,234,980,730)$

To add two such numbers in this representation, just add their corresponding residues using machine-native 32-bit integers. Take the result mod  $2^k - 1$ :

If result is  $\geq$  the appropriate  $2^k - 1$  value, subtract out  $2^k - 1$

Note: No carries are needed between the different pieces!

**What's  $x$  such that:**  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$   
 $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$   
 $x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv a_i \pmod{m_i} \\ m &= \prod m_i \\ y_i &= m_i^{-1} \pmod{m_i} \\ m_i &= m / m_i \\ x &= \sum a_i y_i m_i \pmod{m}\end{aligned}$$

Using the Chinese Remainder theorem let:

$$m = 3 \times 5 \times 7 = 105$$

$$M_1 = m/3 = 105/3 = 35; \quad \underline{2 \text{ is an inverse of } M_1 = 35 \pmod{3} \text{ (since } 35 \times 2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3})}$$

$$M_2 = m/5 = 105/5 = 21; \quad \underline{1 \text{ is an inverse of } M_2 = 21 \pmod{5} \text{ (since } 21 \times 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{5})}$$

$$M_3 = m/7 = 15; \quad \underline{1 \text{ is an inverse of } M_3 = 15 \pmod{7} \text{ (since } 15 \times 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{7})}$$

$$\text{So } x \equiv 2 \times 35 \times 2 + 3 \times 21 \times 1 + 2 \times 15 \times 1 = 233 \equiv 23 \pmod{105}$$

So answer: 23

What is the  $x$  value in  $\mathbb{Z}_{15}$  such that

$$x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$$

$$a_1 = 1, m_1 = 3 \quad m = 3 \times 5 = 15$$

$$a_2 = 4, m_2 = 5 \quad M_1 = 5$$

$$M_2 = 3$$

$$y_1 = m_1^{-1} \pmod{3} = ?$$

$$y_2 = m_2^{-1} \pmod{5} = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a_1 y_1 m_1 + a_2 y_2 m_2 \pmod{15} \\ &= 34 \pmod{15} \\ &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\equiv 6 \pmod{11} \\
 x &\equiv 13 \pmod{16} \\
 x &\equiv 9 \pmod{21} \\
 x &\equiv 19 \pmod{25}
 \end{aligned}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 6 \pmod{11} \\ x &\equiv 13 \pmod{16} \\ x &\equiv 9 \pmod{21} \\ x &\equiv 19 \pmod{25} \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{Solve?}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_1 &= 6 & a_2 &= 13 & a_3 &= 9 & a_4 &= 19 \\
 m_1 &= 11 & m_2 &= 16 & m_3 &= 21 & m_4 &= 25
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(m_i, m_j) = 1, \text{ for } i \neq j$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m &= \prod m_i = m_1 m_2 m_3 m_4 \\
 &= 11 \times 16 \times 21 \times 25
 \end{aligned}$$

$$m_1 = m/m_1 = 16 \times 21 \times 25 = 8400$$

$$m_2 = m/m_2 = 11 \times 21 \times 25 = 5775$$

$$m_3 = m/m_3 = 11 \times 16 \times 25 = 4400$$

$$m_4 = m/m_4 = 11 \times 16 \times 21 = 3696$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= 2029869 \pmod{92400} \\
 &= 51669
 \end{aligned}$$

$$y_1 = m_1^{-1} \pmod{m_1} = 8$$

$$y_2 = m_2^{-1} \pmod{m_2} = 15$$

$$y_3 = m_3^{-1} \pmod{m_3} = 2$$

$$y_4 = m_4^{-1} \pmod{m_4} = 6$$

Ex: Find all solutions of  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{144}$

Sol:  $144 = 2^4 \cdot 3^2$  and  $\gcd(2^4, 3^2) = 1$

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$$m_1 = 16, m_2 = 9$$

$$x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$$

$$x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

Home work. ??



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