

CSC110 Lecture 17: Modular Arithmetic



For your reference, here is the definition of modular equivalence.

Let $a, b, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, with $n \neq 0$. We say that a is **equivalent to b modulo n** when $n \mid a - b$. In this case, we write $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$.

Exercise 1: Modular arithmetic practice

1. Expand the statement $14 \equiv 9 \pmod{5}$ into a statement using the divisibility predicate. Is this statement True or False?

$$5 \mid 14 - 9 \quad \text{True}$$

$$\hookrightarrow 5 \mid 5$$

2. Expand the statement $9 \equiv 4 \pmod{3}$ into a statement using the divisibility predicate. Is this statement True or False?

$$3 \mid 9 - 4 \quad \text{False}$$

$$\hookrightarrow 3 \mid 5$$

3. Prove the following statement using *only* the definitions of divisibility and modular equivalence (and no other statements/theorems):

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+, a \equiv b \pmod{n} \Rightarrow ca \equiv cb \pmod{n}$$

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Assume $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$, i.e., $\exists k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}, b - a = k_1 n$.

We want to show: $ca \equiv cb \pmod{n}$,

We want to show: $ca \equiv cb \pmod{n}$,
 i.e., $\exists k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}, cb - ca = k_2 n$.

Let $k_2 = \underline{ck_1}$.

...

Rough (given)

$$b - a = k_1 n$$

(want)

$$cb - ca = \underline{ck_1} n$$

$\downarrow \times c$

Exercise 2: Modular division

In lecture, we proved the following theorem about the existence of modular inverses. For your reference, we've also included an abridged proof with just the key steps shown.

Modular inverse theorem:

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+, \forall a \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(a, n) = 1 \Rightarrow (\exists p \in \mathbb{Z}, ap \equiv 1 \pmod{n}).$$

Key proof steps:

- Assuming $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, by the GCD Characterization Theorem there exist $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $1 = ap + qn$.
- Then $qn = 1 - ap$
- Then $ap \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$.

Now, you'll turn this proof into an algorithm. In the code below, we've provided the `extended_euclidean_gcd` function from last class, as well as the specification for a new `modular_inverse` function. Your task is to complete `modular_inverse` by writing appropriate precondition(s) and then writing the function body. Recall that last class, we implemented the following function:

$$10 \times 5 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$10 \times 5 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$$

$$\text{WTS } \exists p \in \mathbb{Z}, \underbrace{ap \equiv 1 \pmod{n}}_{\downarrow}$$

$$n \mid 1 - ap$$

↓

$$\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 - ap = kn$$

$$10 \times \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \equiv 1 \pmod{1112257}$$

$$ak = b$$

$$k = \frac{b}{a}$$

$$p^r ak \equiv p^r b \pmod{n}$$

$$p^r ak \equiv p^r b \pmod{n}$$

$$k \equiv p^r b \pmod{n}$$

(since $pa \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$)