

Congruence of Integers

Problem 1

- (a) Find r with $0 \leq r \leq 10$ such that $7^{137} \equiv r \pmod{11}$.
(b) Find r with $0 \leq r < 645$ such that $2^{81} \equiv r \pmod{645}$.
(c) Find the last two digits of 3^{124} (when expressed in decimal notation).
(d) Show that there is a multiple of 21 which has 241 as its last three digits.

(a) We have:

$$\begin{aligned}7^1 &\equiv -4 \pmod{11} \\7^2 &\equiv 5 \pmod{11} \\7^4 &\equiv 3 \pmod{11} \\7^8 &\equiv -2 \pmod{11} \\7^{16} &\equiv 4 \pmod{11} \\7^{32} &\equiv 5 \pmod{11} \\7^{64} &\equiv 3 \pmod{11} \\7^{128} &\equiv -2 \pmod{11}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $7^{137} \equiv 7^1 7^{128} 7^8 7^1 \equiv (-2)(-2)(-4) \pmod{11} \equiv 6 \pmod{11}$. Therefore, $r = 6$. ■

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}2^1 &\equiv 2 \pmod{645} \\2^2 &\equiv 4 \pmod{645} \\2^4 &\equiv 16 \pmod{645} \\2^8 &\equiv 256 \pmod{645} \\2^{16} &\equiv 391 \pmod{645} \\2^{32} &\equiv 16 \pmod{645} \\2^{64} &\equiv 256 \pmod{645}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $2^{81} \equiv 2^{16} 2^{64} 2^1 \equiv 391(256)(2) \pmod{645} \equiv 242 \pmod{645}$ ■

(c) To find the last two digits, we can modulo the number by 100. Therefore we have:

$$3^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{100}$$

$$3^4 \equiv 81 \pmod{100}$$

$$3^8 \equiv 61 \pmod{100}$$

$$3^{16} \equiv 21 \pmod{100}$$

$$3^{32} \equiv 41 \pmod{100}$$

$$3^{64} \equiv 81 \pmod{100}$$

We can write $3^{124} = 3^{64}3^{32}3^{16}3^83^4 \equiv 3^{32}3^{16}3^83^4 \pmod{100} \equiv 3^{64} \pmod{100} \equiv 81 \pmod{100}$. Therefore, the last two digits are 81. ■

(d) The statement in the question is equivalent as saying $21k \equiv 241 \pmod{1000}$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, and we can write this in the form of $21k - 1000r = 241$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Since $\text{hcf}(21, 1000) = 1$, there exist k and r to satisfy this equation, and that for some multiple of 21, the last three digits will be 241. ■

Problem 3

For each of the following congruence equations, either find a solution $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ or show that no solution exists:

(a) $99x \equiv 18 \pmod{30}$.

(b) $91x \equiv 84 \pmod{143}$.

(c) $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$.

(d) $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$.

(e) $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$.

(a) We can write the original equation as $99x - 30r = 18$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Since $\text{hcf}(99, 30) = 3$, and that 18 is a multiple of 3, the above equation holds for integer x and r . Therefore, there is integer solution to this congruence equation. $x = 2$ would be one solution. ■

(b) We can write the original equation as $91x - 143r = 84$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have $\text{hcf}(91, 143) = 13$, which is not a factor of 84. Therefore, $91x - 143r \neq 84$, and there is no solution for the original equation. ■

(c) We need to investigate the remainders of squares modulo 5.

CASE I. $x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE II. $x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$

CASE III. $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE IV. $x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE V. $x \equiv 5 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$

We can see that all squares are congruent to 0, 1, 4 modulo 5, but not 2 modulo 5. Therefore, there is no integer solution for this congruence equation. ■

(d) We need to investigate the remainders of different cases modulo 5:

CASE I. $x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

CASE II. $x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$

CASE III. $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

CASE IV. $x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE V. $x \equiv 5 \pmod{5}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

We can see that all $x^2 + x + 1$ are congruent to 1, 2, 3 modulo 5, but not 0 modulo 5. Therefore, there is no integer solution for this congruence equation. ■

(e) We need to investigate the remainders of different cases modulo 7:

CASE I. $x \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$

CASE II. $x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$: $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$

There is no need to explore more cases since we already hit a solution where $x^2 + x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$. $x \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ is a solution for this equation, say, $x = 2$. ■

Problem 4

(a) Prove the rule of 9: an integer is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of its digits is divisible by 9.

(b) Prove the rule of 11 stated in Example 13.6. Use this rule to decide in your head whether the number 82918073579 is divisible by 11.

(a) For any integer $a_1a_2a_3...a_n$ such that each $0 \leq a_n \leq 9, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}$, for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, is a digit of the integer. We can express the integer as $a_1(10^{n-1}) + a_2(10^{n-2}) + ... + a_n(10^0)$. We have:

$$10^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

$$10^1 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

$$10^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

By having the above congruence, we know that all powers of 10 are congruent to 1 mod 9. The integer can now be written as congruent to $a_1 + a_2 + ... + a_n \pmod{9}$. Therefore, if we have all the digits added up to be divisible by 9, then the original integer will also be divisible by 9. ■

(b) For any integer $a_1a_2a_3...a_n$ such that each $0 \leq a_n \leq 9, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}$, for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, is a digit of the integer. We can express the integer as $a_1(10^{n-1}) + a_2(10^{n-2}) + ... + a_n(10^0)$. We have:

$$10^0 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$$

$$10^1 \equiv -1 \pmod{11}$$

$$10^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$$

$$10^3 \equiv -1 \pmod{11}$$

By having the above congruence, we know that all powers of 10 are congruent to 1 or $-1 \pmod{11}$, 1 for even powers and -1 for odd powers. The integer can now be written as congruent to $a_n - a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} - \dots + (-1)^{n-1}a_1 \pmod{11}$. Therefore, we start from the adding right most digit of the integer, subtracting the second right most, adding the third right most... until the left most digit. If the number we get is divisible by 11, then the integer is divisible by 11. For integer 82918073579, we have $9-7+5-3+7-0+8-1+9-2+8 = 33$. Therefore, this number is divisible by 11. ■

Problem 5

- (a) Use the fact that 7 divides 1001 to find your own rule of 7. Use your rule to work out the remainder when 6005004003002001 is divided by 7.
(b) 13 also divides 1001. Use this to get a rule of 13 and find the remainder when 6005004003002001 is divided by 13.
(c) Use the observation that $27 \times 37 = 999$ to work out a rule of 37, and find the remainder when 6005004003002001 is divided by 37.

(a) Since we have $1001 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$, we have $1000 \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$. Therefore, $1000^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$. We can then split the given integer into groups from the right most, each group of size three. Then we can add then subtract alternate respectively from the right most group. For integer 6005004003002001 we have $1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + 5 - 6 = -3$, so the remainder of this integer divided by 7 is 4. ■

(b) Since we have $1001 \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$, we have $1000 \equiv -1 \pmod{13}$. Therefore, $1000^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{13}$. We can then split the given integer into groups from the right most, each group of size three. Then we can add then subtract alternate respectively from the right most group. For integer 6005004003002001 we have $1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + 5 - 6 = -3$, so the remainder of this integer divided by 13 is 10. ■

(c) Since we have $999 \equiv 0 \pmod{37}$, we have $1000 \equiv 1 \pmod{37}$. Therefore, $1000^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{37}$. We can then split the given integer into groups from the right most, each group of size three. Then we can then add from the right most group. For integer 6005004003002001 we have $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 21$, so the remainder of this integer divided by 37 is 21. ■

Problem 7 Show that every square is congruent to 0, 1 or -1 modulo 5, and is congruent to 0, 1 or 4 modulo 8. Suppose n is a positive integer such that both $2n + 1$ and $3n + 1$ are squares. Prove that n is divisible by 40. Find a value of n such that $2n+1$ and $3n+1$ are squares. Can you find another value? (Calculators allowed!)

To investigate the congruence of squares modulo 5, we can examine by cases. Let k be the base of the square, for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$:

CASE I. $k \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE II. $k \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$: $k^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{5}$

CASE III. $k \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE IV. $k \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

CASE V. $k \equiv 5 \pmod{5}$: $k^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$

Then to investigate the congruence of squares modulo 8, we can examine by cases. Let k again be the base of the square, for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$:

CASE I. $k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

CASE II. $k \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$

CASE III. $k \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

CASE IV. $k \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$

CASE V. $k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

CASE III. $k \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$

CASE IV. $k \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$

CASE V. $k \equiv 8 \pmod{8}$: $k^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$

Then we want to investigate the product of $2n + 1$ and $3n + 1$ to see if it is divisible by 5. Since both are squares, we can write $2n + 1 \equiv 0, 1, -1 \pmod{5}$ and $3n + 1 \equiv 0, 1, -1 \pmod{5}$. Then we can write $(2n + 1) + (3n + 1) \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$, which gives that $2n + 1 \pmod{5} = 3n + 1 \pmod{5}$.

Let $x = 2n + 1 \pmod{5}$, and $y = 3n + 1 \pmod{5}$,

$$(2n + 1) + (3n + 1) = 5n + 2 \equiv 2 \pmod{5} \equiv x + y \pmod{5}$$

$$5n + 2 - 2(2n + 1) \equiv x + y - 2x \pmod{5}$$

Therefore we have $n \equiv y - x \pmod{5}$. Since $x = y$, we have n divisible by 5.

Then we want to investigate the product of $2n + 1$ and $3n + 1$ to see if it is divisible by 8. Since both are squares, we can write $2n + 1 \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{8}$ and $3n + 1 \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{8}$. Then we can write $(2n + 1) + 2(3n + 1) \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$, which gives that $2n + 1 \pmod{8} = 3n + 1 \pmod{8}$.

Let $x = 2n + 1 \pmod{8}$, and $y = 3n + 1 \pmod{8}$,

$$(2n + 1) + 2(3n + 1) = 8n + 3 \equiv 3 \pmod{8} \equiv x + 2y \pmod{8}$$

$$8n + 3 - 2(2n + 1) - (3n + 1) \equiv x + 2y - 2x - y \pmod{8}$$

Therefore we have $n \equiv y - x \pmod{8}$. Since $x = y$, we have n divisible by 8. Therefore, n is divisible by 40. Two of the values that works for n are 40 and 3960. ■