

## Homework 2, Math 4150

1. Exercise Set 1.5, #61. Find the greatest common divisor and the least common multiple of each pair of integers below.

(a)  $2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ ,  $2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2$

We have,

$$a = 2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$$

$$b = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2$$

$$\text{So LCM is } 2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 = 4 \cdot 27 \cdot 5 \cdot 49 = 26460$$

$$\text{And GCD is } 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 1260$$

(b)  $2^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11^2$ ,  $3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17$

We have,

$$a = 2^2 \cdot 3^0 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^0 \cdot 17^0$$

$$b = 2^0 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^0 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17$$

$$\text{So LCM is } 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 = 2751648900$$

$$\text{And GCD is } 5 \cdot 11 = 55$$

(c)  $2^2 \cdot 5^7 \cdot 11^{13}$ ,  $3^2 \cdot 7^5 \cdot 13^{11}$

We have,

$$a = 2^2 \cdot 5^7 \cdot 11^{13}$$

$$b = 3^2 \cdot 7^5 \cdot 13^{11}$$

$$\text{So LCM is } 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^7 \cdot 7^5 \cdot 11^{13} \cdot 13^{11} = 2.9245868e + 36$$

$$\text{And GCD is } 1$$

(d)  $3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19^2 \cdot 23$ ,  $5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 29$

We have,

$$a = 3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19^2 \cdot 23$$

$$b = 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 29$$

$$\text{So LCM is } 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 17 \cdot 19^2 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 = 33094969215$$

$$\text{And GCD is } 19$$

2. Exercise Set 1.5, #70. Prove or disprove the following statements.

- (a) If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a, b > 0$ , and  $a^2 \mid b^3$ , then  $a \mid b$ .

Consider if  $a = 8$  and  $b = 12$ . We have  $8 \nmid 12$  however  $a^2 = 64$  and  $b^3 = 1728$  and we see that  $64 \mid 1728$  as  $64 \cdot 27 = 1728$ . This disproves the above statement.

- (b) If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a, b > 0$ , and  $a^2 \mid b^2$ , then  $a \mid b$ .

Let  $a = p_1^{a_1} \dots p_n^{a_n}$  and  $b = p_1^{b_1} \dots p_n^{b_n}$  here  $a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_n$  are greater than equal to zero which means that the primes not dividing one of the numbers get exponent zero. Now assume that  $a \nmid b$  this means that there is some  $p_i$  such that  $a_i > b_i$ . Now, if we square both the numbers we have the exponent as  $2a_i$  and  $2b_i$  respectively and we have  $2a_i > 2b_i$  which means that  $a^2 \nmid b^2$  which is a contradiction. This means our assumption that  $a \nmid b$  is wrong which means that  $a \mid b$ .

- (c) If  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a > 0$ ,  $p$  is a prime number, and  $p^4 \mid a^3$ , then  $p^2 \mid a$ .

First we write  $a = q_1^{a_1} \dots q_n^{a_n} p^k$  where  $q_1, \dots, q_n, p$  are prime numbers and  $a_1, \dots, a_n > 0$  while  $k \geq 0$ . This means that  $p$  need not be a divisor of  $a$ . We know that  $p^4 \mid a^3$  which means that,

$$p^4 \mid q_1^{3a_1} \dots q_n^{3a_n} p^{3k}$$

Now this must mean that  $3k \geq 4$  as otherwise  $p^4$  is not in the prime factorization of  $a$  which means  $p^4$  does not divide  $a$  which we know is not the case. So we have  $3k \geq 4$  which means that  $k \geq \frac{4}{3}$ . However, we know that  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  which must mean that  $k \geq 0, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So if  $k \geq \frac{4}{3}$  then we have  $k \geq 2$ . So we have,

$$a = q_1^{a_1} \dots q_n^{a_n} p^k \quad \text{where } k \geq 2$$

Now if  $k \geq 2$  then it means that  $p^2$  is in the prime factorization of  $a$  which means that,

$$p^2 \mid q_1^{a_1} \dots q_n^{a_n} p^k \implies p^2 \mid a$$

which completes our proof.

3. Exercise Set 1.5, #78 Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $n > 1$ . The  $n$ th *harmonic number*  $H_n$  is defined by  $H_n := 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n}$ . Prove that  $H_n \notin \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Solution.**

Let  $l = \text{LCM}(1, \dots, n)$ , so we have  $H_n = \frac{1}{l}(l + \frac{l}{2} + \cdots + \frac{l}{n})$ . We need to show that  $l \nmid l + \frac{l}{2} + \cdots + \frac{l}{n}$ . Now, we know that for some largest  $1 \leq k \leq n$  we have  $2^k \mid l$  so we know that  $l$  is even. But now consider  $l + \frac{l}{2} + \cdots + \frac{l}{n}$ . For any  $1 \leq m \leq n$  we know that if  $m = 2^r d$  where  $d$  is odd then if  $r < k$ ,  $m$  has to be even. So the only case where  $\frac{l}{m}$  is odd is when in  $m = 2^r d$  we have  $r = k$ . However, the only possible value for this is when  $m = 2^r$  where  $d = 1$  as else if  $d > 1$  then  $2^{r+1} \leq n$  which means that  $r$  is not the greatest power of 2 such that  $2^r \leq n$ . So, there is only one integer smaller than  $n$  that is divisible by  $2^r$  which means that  $\frac{l}{2^r}$  is not divisible by 2, or is odd. As for any other  $\frac{l}{m}$  we have  $2 \mid \frac{l}{m}$  this means that  $l + \frac{l}{2} + \cdots + \frac{l}{n}$  is an odd number as we only have one odd number in that list. But, we know that  $l$  is even and we can't have an even number dividing an odd number which means that  $H_n \notin \mathbb{Z}$ .

4. Exercise Set 1.5, #87.

- (a) Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that if  $a$  and  $b$  are expressible in the form  $6n + 1$ , where  $n$  is an integer, then  $ab$  is also expressible in that form.

**Solution.**

We have  $a = 6n + 1$  and  $b = 6m + 1$  which means that  $ab = (6n + 1)(6m + 1) = 36mn + 6n + 6m + 1 = 6(6mn + m + n) + 1 = 6k + 1$  where  $k = 6mn + m + n$

- (b) Prove that there are infinitely many prime numbers of the form  $6n + 5$ , where  $n$  is an integer. (Hint: Parallel the proof of Proposition 1.22 that uses proof by contradiction).

Assume to the contrary that there are not infinitely many primes of the form  $6n + 5$  so let  $p_0 = 5, p_1, \dots, p_r$  be the finitely many primes of that form. Now consider the number  $N = 6p_1 \dots p_r + 5$ . Now  $N$  has either primes of the form  $6k + 1$  or  $6k + 5$ . We know at least one of the primes must be of the form  $6k + 5$  as otherwise  $N$  will be of the form  $6k + 1$  itself based on (a). Therefore let  $p_i$  be the prime of the form  $6k + 5$ . So we have either  $5|N$  or  $p_i|N$  for some  $0 \leq i \leq r$ .

Case 1. If  $5|N$  then  $5|6p_1 \dots p_r + 5$  so  $5|6p_1 \dots p_r$ . But this is not possible as  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  are primes with 5 being not one of them.

Case 2. If  $p_i|N$  then we have  $p_i|N - 6p_1 \dots p_r$  as  $p_i|6p_1 \dots p_r$  so  $p_i|5$  which is not possible as  $p_i$  is a prime greater than 5.

Hence both cases lead to a contradiction. This implies our assumption is wrong and there are infinitely many primes such that  $p = 6n + 5$ .

5. Exercise Set 2.1, #12

Let  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$ . Prove or disprove the following statements.

- (a)  $(a - c) \equiv (b - d) \pmod{m}$ .

**Solution.**

We have  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  which means  $a - b = k_1m$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$  which means  $c - d = k_2m$ . Now subtracting second from the first we have,

$$\begin{aligned}a - c - b + d &= (k_1 - k_2)m \\a - c - (b - d) &= (k_3)m\end{aligned}$$

Or that  $a - c \equiv b - d \pmod{m}$

- (b) If  $c \mid a$  and  $d \mid b$ , then  $\frac{a}{c} \equiv \frac{b}{d} \pmod{m}$ .

**Solution.**

Let  $a = 33$  and  $b = 12$  so we have  $33 - 12 = 21$  so  $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$  now take  $c = 3$  and  $d = 3$  so we have  $c - d = 0$  so  $c \equiv d \pmod{3}$ . We also have  $c \mid a$  as  $3 \mid 33$  as well as  $d \mid b$  or  $3 \mid 12$ . However we see that  $\frac{a}{c} = 11$  and  $\frac{b}{d} = 4$  but  $11 - 4 = 7$  and  $3 \nmid 7$  which means that  $\frac{a}{c} \not\equiv \frac{b}{d} \pmod{m}$

6. Exercise Set 2.1 #13

- (a) Let  $a$  be an even integer. Prove that  $a^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ .

**Solution.**

If  $a$  is an even integer then  $a = 2m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So we have  $a^2 = (2m)^2 = 4m^2$ . So  $4 \mid 4m^2$  or  $4m^2 - 0 = 4k$  or  $4m^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$

- (b) Let  $a$  be an odd integer. Prove that  $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ . Deduce that  $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

**Solution.**

If  $a$  then  $a$  can be written as  $a = 2m + 1$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now  $a^2 = (2m + 1)^2 = 4m^2 + 4m + 1 = 4m(m + 1) + 1$ . If  $m$  is odd then  $m + 1$  is even, else  $m$  is even. In both cases either  $m$  or  $m + 1$  is even so take it as  $2k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So we have  $a^2 = 8k(m + 1) + 1$  or  $a^2 = 8km + 1$ . In both cases we can write  $a^2 = 8z + 1$  for some  $z$ . This gives us  $8z + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  as  $8 \mid 8z$  which means that  $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .

Now if  $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  we have  $8 \mid a^2 - 1$ . But this implies that  $4 \mid a^2 - 1$  as 4 is a factor for 8. Hence we get  $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

- (c) Prove or disprove the converse of the statement in part (c) above.

**Solution.**

We are given that  $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  which means that for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have  $a^2 - 1 = 8k$ . This means that  $a^2 - 1$  is even or that  $a^2$  is odd. If  $a$  is even then  $a^2$  is even therefore  $a$  has to be even for its square to be even. Hence  $a$  is even and we conclude our proof.

7. Exercise Set 2.2, #29 (b),(d),(f). Find the inverse modulo  $m$  of each integer  $n$  below.

(a)  $n = 8, m = 35$ .

**Solution.**

We need to find the inverse modulo  $m$  of 8, or  $x$  such that  $8x \equiv 1 \pmod{35}$ . We have,

$$35 = 8 \cdot 4 + 3$$

$$8 = 3 \cdot 2 + 2$$

$$3 = 2 \cdot 1 + 1$$

This gives us  $2 = 3 - 1$  so  $8 = 3 \times 2 + 3 - 1 = 3 \times 3 - 1$  so  $35 = 8 \times 4 + \frac{8+1}{3}$  or that,

$$35 \times 3 + 8 \times (-13) = 1$$

So we have  $x = -13$  such that  $8x = 8 \times -13 \equiv 1 \pmod{35}$

(b)  $n = 51, m = 99$ .

We see that  $\gcd(51, 99) > 1$ . Hence 51 does not have an inverse modulo 99.

(c)  $n = 1333, m = 1517$ .

We have,

$$1517 = 1333 \times 1 + 184$$

$$1333 = 184 \times 7 + 45$$

$$184 = 45 \times 4 + 4$$

$$45 = 4 \times 11 + 1$$

So we have  $4 = \frac{45-1}{11}$  So  $184 \times 11 = 45 \times 45 - 1$ ,  $1333 \times 45 = 184 \times (326) + 1$ . And,  $1 = 1333 \times 371 + 1517 \times -326$ .

So we have  $x = 371$  such that  $1333x = 1333 \times 371 \equiv 1 \pmod{1517}$ .

8. Exercise Set 2.3, #33(a),(e), 34 (b) Find the least non-negative solution of each system of congruences below.

(a)

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$$

**Solution.**

Let  $M = 4 \cdot 5 = 20$  so we have  $M_1 = 5$  and  $M_2 = 4$ . Now we solve,

$$5x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$4x_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

We have  $5 - 4 = 1$ . So inverse of 5 mod 4 is 1 and inverse of 4 mod 5 is  $-1$ . So we have  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_2 = -1$  by inspection. Now to construct our solution we have,

$$x = b_1M_1x_1 + b_2M_2x_2 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 4 \cdot -1 = 15 - 8 = 7$$

(b)

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

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

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

$$x \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$$

**Solution.**

Let  $M = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 210$  so we have  $M_1 = 105, M_2 = 70, M_3 = 42, M_4 = 30$ . Now we solve,

$$105x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$70x_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$42x_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$30x_4 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

We have the following,

$$105 - 2 \cdot 52 = 1$$

$$70 - 3 \cdot 23 = 1$$

$$5 \cdot 17 - 42 \cdot 2 = 1$$

$$7 \cdot 13 - 3 \cdot 30 = 1$$



So we have  $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1, x_3 = -2, x_4 = -3$  which gives us,

$$\begin{aligned} x &= b_1 M_1 x_1 + b_2 M_2 x_2 + b_3 M_3 x_3 + b_4 M_4 x_4 \\ &= 1 \cdot 105 + 2 \cdot 70 + 4 \cdot 42 \cdot -2 + 6 \cdot 30 \cdot -3 \\ &= 105 + 140 - 336 - 540 \\ &= -631 \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $-631 \equiv -1 \pmod{10}$ . So the least non-negative number is 209

(c)

$$3x \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$$

$$4x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$6x \equiv 3 \pmod{9}$$

**Solution.**

First we can rewrite  $6x \equiv 3 \pmod{9}$  to  $2x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and we have,  $4 - 3 = 1, 5 - 4 = 1$  and  $3 - 2 = 1$ . This gives us the following,

$$x \equiv -2 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$$

$$x \equiv -1 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$$

$$x \equiv -1 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$$

Now we have  $M = 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 = 60$  or  $M_1 = 15, M_2 = 12, M_3 = 20$ . We need to solve,

$$15x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$12x_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$20x_3 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

We have  $4 \cdot 4 - 15 = 1, 5 \cdot 5 - 2 \cdot 12 = 1$  and  $7 \cdot 3 - 20 = 1$ . Which gives us,

$$x_1 = -1, x_2 = -2, x_3 = -1$$

so,

$$\begin{aligned} x &= b_1 M_1 x_1 + b_2 M_2 x_2 + b_3 M_3 x_3 \\ &= 2 \cdot 15 \cdot -1 + 4 \cdot 12 \cdot -2 + 2 \cdot 20 \cdot -1 = -30 - 96 - 40 = -166 \end{aligned}$$

180 - Now as  $-166 \equiv 14 \pmod{60}$  our smallest positive integer is 14

9. Exercise Set 2.3 #35. There are  $n$  eggs in a basket. If eggs are removed from the basket 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 at a time, there remain 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 eggs in the basket, respectively. If eggs are removed from the basket 7 at a time, no eggs remain in the basket. What is the smallest value of  $n$  for which this scenario could occur (Show all of your work)?

**Solution.** We have the following equivalencies,

$$\begin{aligned}n &\equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\n &\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\n &\equiv 3 \pmod{4} \\n &\equiv 4 \pmod{5} \\n &\equiv 5 \pmod{6} \\n &\equiv 0 \pmod{7}\end{aligned}$$

First we see that  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  means that  $n - 3 = 4k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  which means that  $n - 1 = 4k + 2 = 2(2k + 1) = 2k'$  or that  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . Hence,  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  implies the other condition so we can ignore the second. Using similar reasoning  $n \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$  implies  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and hence we don't need to latter condition. So our system of congruence becomes as follows,

$$\begin{aligned}n &\equiv 3 \pmod{4} \\n &\equiv 4 \pmod{5} \\n &\equiv 5 \pmod{6} \\n &\equiv 0 \pmod{7}\end{aligned}$$

Now we see that 4 and 6 are not coprime. Both of them give us,  $n - 3 = 4k_1$  and  $n - 5 = 6k_2$ . Putting value of  $n$  from first to the second gives us,

$$\begin{aligned}4k_1 + 3 - 5 &= 6k_2 \\4k_1 - 2 &= 6k_2 \\2k_1 - 1 &= 3k_2 \\2k_1 &\equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\k_1 &\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \text{ as 2 is the inverse of 2 mod 3} \\k_1 &= 3x + 2\end{aligned}$$

Now putting this back to the first gives us,

$$\begin{aligned}n &= 4k_1 + 3 \\n &= 4(3x + 2) + 3 \\n &= 12x + 11n \equiv 11 \pmod{12}\end{aligned}$$

So our new system of congruence are,

$$\begin{aligned}n &\equiv 4 \pmod{5} \\n &\equiv 0 \pmod{7} \\n &\equiv 11 \pmod{12}\end{aligned}$$

So we have  $M = 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 12 = 420$  and  $M_1 = 84, M_2 = 60, M_3 = 35$  and we solve the following,

$$\begin{aligned}84x_1 &\equiv 1 \pmod{5} \\60x_2 &\equiv 1 \pmod{7} \\35x_3 &\equiv 1 \pmod{12}\end{aligned}$$

We have  $5 \cdot 17 - 84 = 1, 60 \cdot 2 - 7 \cdot 17 = 1$  and  $12 \cdot 3 - 35 = 1$  which gives us  $x_1 = -1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = -1$ . So our solution is,

$$\begin{aligned}x &= b_1M_1x_1 + b_2M_2x_2 + b_3M_3x_3 \\&= 4 \cdot 84 \cdot -1 + 0 + 11 \cdot 35 \cdot -1 \\&= -336 + -385 = -721\end{aligned}$$

And we have  $-721 \equiv 119 \pmod{420}$

10. Exercise Set 2.3, #40. Prove that the system of linear congruences in one variable given by

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv b_1 \pmod{m_1} \\x &\equiv b_2 \pmod{m_2} \\&\vdots \\x &\equiv b_n \pmod{m_n}\end{aligned}$$

is solvable if and only if  $(m_i, m_j) \mid b_i - b_j$  for all pairs  $i, j$  with  $i \neq j$ . In this case, prove that each solution is unique modulo  $[m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n]$ .

11. Exercise Set 2.4, #43.

- (a) Prove that if  $p$  is an odd prime number, then  $2(p-3)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ .
- (b) Find the least non-negative residue of  $2(100!) \pmod{103}$ .

12. Exercise Set 2.4, #48. Let  $p$  be an odd prime number. Prove that

$$1^2 3^2 5^2 \cdots (p-4)^2 (p-2)^2 \equiv (-1)^{(p+1)/2} \pmod{p}.$$