

# HW 3 Discrete

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October 24, 2022

## 1 Euclidean Algorithm Warm-Up

$\gcd(435, 667) = \gcd(667, 435 \bmod 667)$   
 $\gcd(667, 435 \bmod 667) = \gcd(667, 435)$   
 $\gcd(667, 435) = \gcd(435, 667 \bmod 435)$   
 $\gcd(435, 667 \bmod 435) = \gcd(435, 232)$   
 $\gcd(435, 232) = \gcd(232, 435 \bmod 232)$   
 $\gcd(232, 435 \bmod 232) = \gcd(232, 203)$   
 $\gcd(232, 203) = \gcd(203, 232 \bmod 203)$   
 $\gcd(203, 232 \bmod 203) = \gcd(203, 29)$   
 $\gcd(203, 29) = \gcd(29, 203 \bmod 29)$   
 $\gcd(29, 203 \bmod 29) = \gcd(29, 0)$   
 $\gcd(29, 0) = 29$ , as  $b=0$  (by Euclidean Algorithm)  
Therefore,  $\gcd(435, 667) = 29$

## 2 Modular Arithmetic Warm-Up

A) Find an inverse of 7 modulo 11.

**8 is an inverse of 7 modulo 11**, as  $8 * 7 = 56$  and  $56 \equiv_{11} 1$

Found answer by looking for multiples of 7 that are 1 greater than  $11 * N$ , where  $N$  is any integer.  $5 * 11 = 55$  and  $8 * 7 = 56$ , which is 1 greater.

B) Find an integer  $x$  such that  $7x \equiv_{11} 10$ .

**$x=3$**

$7 * 3 = 21$  and  $21 \equiv_{11} 10$

Found answer by looking for multiples of 7 that are 10 greater than  $N * 11$ , where  $N$  is any integer.

C) Which elements of  $\{1, 2 \dots 20\}$  are invertible modulo 21?

**Invertible elements** =  $\{1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20\}$

Multiples of 21 =  $\{1, 3, 7, 21\}$

To be invertible with respect to modulo 21,  $\gcd(N, 21) = 1$

Therefore remove numbers in the set where  $\gcd(N, 21) \neq 1$

$\gcd(3, 21), \gcd(6, 21), \gcd(9, 21), \gcd(12, 21), \gcd(15, 21), \gcd(18, 21) = 3$

$\gcd(7, 21), \gcd(14, 21) = 7$

### 3 Greatest Common Divisors

For each of the following statements, either prove that it holds for all integers  $a, b$  not both zero, or find a counterexample.

a)  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a + b, ab)$

Counterexample:  $a=3, b=6$

$\gcd(3, 6)=3$

$\gcd(9, 18)=9$

**Therefore**  $\gcd(a, b) \neq \gcd(a + b, ab)$

b) If  $\gcd(a, b) = d$ , then  $\gcd(a/d, b/d) = 1$ .

Because  $\gcd(a, b) = d$ , there must exist some integers  $n$  and  $m$ , where  $n = a/d$  and  $m = b/d$ .

Let  $a = nd$  and  $b = md$

Therefore,  $\gcd(a/d, b/d) = \gcd(nd/d, md/d)$

By definition of the gcd,  $d$  contains all factors that  $a$  and  $b$  have in common.

As  $n = a/d$  and  $m = b/d$ ,  $n$  and  $m$  must be relatively prime, meaning that  $\gcd(n, m) = 1$

**Therefore**,  $\gcd(a/d, b/d) = 1$ .

c) For all integers  $c$ , if  $c|ab$  and  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , then  $c|a$  or  $c|b$ .

Counterexample:  $a = 4, b = 7, c = 28$

$28|(4 * 7)$  is true and  $\gcd(4, 7) = 1$

Neither  $28|4$  or  $28|7$  are true

**Therefore**, if  $c|ab$  and  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , then  $c|a$  or  $c|b$  is not true.

## 4 Congruence Confluence

a) If  $k|n$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{k}$

Let  $n, k$  be some positive integers and let  $a, b$  be some integers

Assume that  $k|n$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$

If  $k|n$ , by definition of divisibility there must exist some integer  $d$  such that  $k * d = n$

If  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , then  $n|(a - b)$

Therefore  $kd|(a - b)$

As  $n, k$  are positive numbers, and  $k * d = n$ , then  $d \neq 0$

As  $d$  is a non-zero integer and  $kd|(a - b)$ , then  $k|(a - b)$

If  $k|(a - b)$ , by the definition of congruent,  $a \equiv b \pmod{k}$

**Therefore, if  $k|n$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{k}$**

b) If  $k|n$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{k}$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$

Counterexample: let  $k = 3, n = 15, a = 10, b = 7$

Therefore,  $3|15$  and  $10 \equiv 7 \pmod{3}$  are true.

However this would imply  $10 \equiv 7 \pmod{15}$ , which is not true

**Therefore the statement is false**

c) If  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{k}$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{kn}$

Counterexample: let  $k = 9, n = 3, a = 12, b = 3$

As  $12 \equiv 3 \pmod{3}$  and  $12 \equiv 3 \pmod{9}$ , conditions are true

However,  $12 \equiv 3 \pmod{3 * 9}$  is not true

$27|9$  is false, as no integer  $n$  exists such that  $27 * n = 9$

**Therefore the proof is false**

## 5 Primes

a) For all primes  $p$  and all integers  $a, b$ , if  $a$  and  $b$  are both invertible modulo  $p$ , then  $ab$  is invertible modulo  $p$ .

If  $a$  is invertible modulo  $p$ , then  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ , by Theorem 9.7

If  $b$  is invertible modulo  $p$ , then  $\gcd(b, p) = 1$ , by Theorem 9.7

If  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ , then  $p \nmid a$

If  $\gcd(b, p) = 1$ , then  $p \nmid b$

Consider Euclid's Lemma, as  $p$  is prime and  $a, b$  are integers such that  $p \mid ab$  then  $p \mid a$  or  $p \mid b$

As  $p \nmid b$  and  $p \nmid a$  then  $p \nmid ab$ , because of the contra positive of Euclid's Lemma.

Let  $d$  be an integer such that  $\gcd(ab, p) = d$ .

As  $p$  is prime,  $d$  must be 1 or  $p$

However, as  $p \nmid ab$ ,  $d \neq p$

Therefore,  $d = 1$ , and  $\gcd(ab, p) = 1$

If  $\gcd(ab, p) = 1$ , then  $ab$  is invertible modulo  $p$ .

b) For all primes  $p$ ,  $(p - 2)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ .

Let  $p$  be a prime number, then by Wilson's Theorem, for all primes  $p$ ,

$(p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

Let  $(p - 1)! = (p - 1) * (p - 2)!$ , by definition of a factorial function

Let  $(p - 1) * (p - 2)! = (p * (p - 2)!) + (-1 * (p - 2)!)$

Therefore,  $p(p - 2)! - (p - 2)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

Reduce to  $-(p - 2)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  (by modular rules)

Therefore  $(p - 2)! \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

## 6 Contributor List

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