

## Modular Arithmetic

**Definition:**

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}, a \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we define  $a \text{ mod } n$  to be the remainder when  $a$  is divided by  $n$ .

**Exercise:**

- a)  $10 \text{ mod } 4 = 2 \leftarrow \text{Since } \frac{10}{4} = 2 \text{ w/ remainder of } 2$
- b)  $18 \text{ mod } 3 = 0$
- c)  $-8 \text{ mod } 6 = 4 \leftarrow \text{Since } x = qn + r, -8 = (-2 \cdot 6) + r, r = 4$
- d)  $10 \text{ mod } 1 = 0 \leftarrow \text{anything mod 1 is always 0}$

- $a, b$  are **congruent modulo  $n$** , written  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , if  $n|(a - b)$
- Equivalently,  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  IFF  $a \text{ mod } n = b \text{ mod } n$

### Modular Equivalences

- Let  $a, b$  and  $n$  be integers and suppose  $n > 1$ . The following statements are all equivalent:
  - $n|(a - b)$
  - $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$
  - $a = b + kn$  for some integer  $k$
  - $a \text{ mod } n = b \text{ mod } n$

**Exercise:**

True or false?

- a)  $154 \equiv 56 \pmod{11}$   
 $11 | (154 - 56) \Leftrightarrow 11 | 98 \text{ False}$
- b)  $7 \equiv -9 \pmod{8}$   
 $8 | (7 - (-9)) \Leftrightarrow 8 | 16 \text{ True}$

**Exercise:**

Find  $x$  such that  $12 \equiv x \pmod{5}$ .

$$5 | (12 - x), \therefore x \text{ is any of } \{-8, -3, 2, 7, 12, \dots\}$$

**Exercise:**

If  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , what can we say about  $m$ ?

$$2 | (m - 0), \therefore m \text{ is an even number.}$$

### Theorem (Congruence Arithmetic):

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ , if  $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$  and  $b \equiv d \pmod{n}$ , then:
  - 1)  $(a + b) \equiv (c + d) \pmod{n}$ ;
  - 2)  $(a - c) \equiv (d - b) \pmod{n}$ ;
  - 3)  $ab \equiv cd \pmod{n}$ ;
  - 4)  $a^m \equiv c^m \pmod{n} \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{N}$ ;

Proof:

$$n|(a-c) \Rightarrow a-c = np, p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$n|(b-d) \Rightarrow b-d = nq, q \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(1) a+b = (np+c) + (nq+d) = n(p+q) + c+d$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b) \pmod{n} &\equiv [\underbrace{n(p+q)}_{\pmod{n} \rightarrow 0} + c+d] \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv (c+d) \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$(2) a-b = (np+c) - (nq+d) = n(p-q) + (c-d)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a-b) \pmod{n} &\equiv [\underbrace{n(p-q)}_{\pmod{n} \rightarrow 0} + (c-d)] \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv (c-d) \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$(3) ab = (np+c)(nq+d) = n^2pq + npd + nqc + cd$$
$$= n(npq + pd + qc) + cd$$

$$\begin{aligned} ab \pmod{n} &\equiv [\underbrace{n(npq + pd + qc)}_{\pmod{n} \rightarrow 0} + cd] \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv cd \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

(4) Induction

a)  $m=1$

$$a' \equiv c' \pmod{n} \quad \checkmark$$

b) Suppose  $a^k \equiv c^k \pmod{n}$ . Prove  $a^{k+1} \equiv c^{k+1} \pmod{n}$

$$a^{k+1} = a^k \cdot a \text{ and } c^{k+1} = c^k \cdot c.$$

$$\text{So by (3)} \quad a^k \cdot a \equiv c^k \cdot c \pmod{n} \Rightarrow a^{k+1} \equiv c^{k+1} \pmod{n}$$

$$\therefore a^m \equiv c^m \pmod{n} \quad m \in \mathbb{N}$$

*Exercise:*

- Given that  $2064 = 1715 + 349$ , find  $2064 \pmod{17}$
- Given that  $713064 = 803 \cdot 888$ , find  $713064 \pmod{8}$
- Find  $x$  such that  $3^9 \equiv x \pmod{5}$

a)  $(a+b) \equiv (c+d) \pmod{n}$

$1715 \equiv 15 \pmod{17}$  since  $17 \mid (1715 - 15)$  and,

$349 \equiv 9 \pmod{17}$  since  $17 \mid (349 - 9)$ .

$$(1715 + 349) \equiv (15 + 9) \pmod{17}.$$

$$2064 \equiv 7 \pmod{17} \text{ since } 17 \mid (2064 - 7) \quad \square$$

b)  $ab \equiv cd \pmod{n}$

$$803 \equiv 3 \pmod{8} \text{ and } 888 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$$

$$713064 \pmod{8} \equiv (803 \cdot 888) \equiv (3 \cdot 0) \pmod{8} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$$

c)  $ab \equiv cd \pmod{n}$

$$3^9 = 3^4 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 3 = 81 \cdot 81 \cdot 3$$

$$81 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$81 \cdot 81 \cdot 3 \pmod{5} \equiv 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \pmod{5} \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

$$\therefore x = 3$$

*Exercise:*

Find the remainder when  $7^8$  is divided by 16.

$$a^m \equiv c^m \pmod{n} \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$7^8 = (7^4)^2$$



$$\begin{aligned} (7^4)^2 \pmod{16} &= (7^4 \pmod{16})^2 \pmod{16} \\ &= (2401 \pmod{16})^2 \pmod{16} \\ &= (1)^2 \pmod{16} \quad (\text{because } \frac{2401}{16} = 150 \text{ r } 1) \\ &= 1 \pmod{16} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Cancellation Law):

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}, a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$
- If  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  and  $ab \equiv ac \pmod{n}$ , then  $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$ .

Proof:

$$ab \equiv ac \pmod{n}$$

$$(ab - ac) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

$$a(b - c) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

$\Rightarrow a(b - c) \equiv kn$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  but  $a$  and  $n$  are coprime by  $\textcircled{*}$ , so the factor of  $n$  on LHS is contained in  $(b - c)$ . Hence,

$$(b - c) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

$$b \equiv c \pmod{n}$$

- NOTE:  $\textcircled{*}$  is essential.

Counterexample:

$$60 \equiv 90 \pmod{15}$$

$$10 \cdot 6 \equiv 10 \cdot 9 \pmod{15}, \text{ but}$$

$$6 \not\equiv 9 \pmod{15}$$

Since 10 and 15 are not coprime, the cancellation law does not apply.

Exercise:

Given  $10904 \equiv 32 \pmod{9}$ , find the smallest  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x \equiv 1363 \pmod{9}$ .

$$10904 = 1363 \cdot 8$$

$$8 \cdot 1363 \equiv 8 \cdot 4 \pmod{9}$$

$$1363 \equiv 4 \pmod{9} \quad (\text{Since } 8 \text{ and } 9 \text{ are coprime})$$

$$\therefore x = 4 \quad (4 < 9, \text{ so there are no smaller congruence } > 0)$$

## Congruence Classes modulo n

- The quotient-remainder theorem gives us the following:

### Fact:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Every integer  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  is congruent modulo  $n$  to exactly one element in  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ .
- This allows us to group integers according to their remainders after dividing by  $n$ .

### Definition:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- The **congruence class (residue)** of  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  modulo  $n$  is the set  $[a] = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} : x \equiv a \pmod{n}\}$ .

### Exercise:

Write the congruence classes for  $n = 4$ . How many of them are there?

$$\begin{aligned}[0] &= \{ \dots, -8, -4, 0, 4, 8, \dots \} \quad (\text{since } 4 \bmod 4 = 0) \\ [1] &= \{ \dots, -7, -3, 1, 5, 9, \dots \} \quad (\text{since } 5 \bmod 4 = 1) \\ [2] &= \{ \dots, -6, -2, 2, 6, 10, \dots \} \quad (\text{since } -6 \bmod 4 = 2) \\ [3] &= \{ \dots, -5, -1, 3, 7, 11, \dots \} \quad (\text{since } -5 \bmod 4 = 3) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \\ \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Note: } -5 \bmod 4 &= 3 \\ x &= qn + r\end{aligned}$$

### Theorem:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . There are exactly  $n$  distinct congruence classes:  $[0], [1], \dots, [n - 1]$ .

### Proof:

First, show that no two of  $0, 1, \dots, n - 1$  are congruent modulo  $n$ .

Let  $0 \leq a < b < n, a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $b - a \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $b - a < n$ .

Thus,  $n \nmid (b - a)$ , so  $b \not\equiv a \pmod{n}$ .

Therefore, no two of  $0, 1, \dots, n - 1$  are congruent, and we have that  $[0], [1], \dots, [n - 1]$  are all distinct residues.

Next, show that every  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  is in one of these residues.

The Quotient-Remainder Theorem gives  $x = nq + r, 0 \leq r < n$ .

So,  $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ , and  $x - r = nq \Rightarrow x \equiv r \pmod{n}$ .

Therefore, every  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  is in one of  $[0], [1], \dots, [n - 1]$ .

## Definition:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The complete set of residues modulo  $n$  is the set.

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \{[0], [1], \dots, [n-1]\}$$

### Exercise:

$$\mathbb{Z}_3 = \{[0], [1], [2]\}.$$

In  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ , we have

$$[4] = [1]; [-1] = [2]; [30] = [0]$$

### Exercise:

In  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ ,

- a)  $[0] \cup [1] \cup \dots \cup [n-1] = \mathbb{Z}$   
b)  $[0] \cap [1] \cap \dots \cap [n-1] = \emptyset$

No two elements are the same.

## Operations on $\mathbb{Z}_n$

- We want to define addition and multiplication on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .
- Since different numbers can give the same residue, we must be careful with the definitions.

### Theorem:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

The operation  $+$ :

$$[a] + [b] = [a + b]$$

is well-defined addition on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , i.e. if  $[a] = [c]$  and  $[b] = [d]$ , then  $[a + b] = [c + d]$ .

Similarly, the operation  $\cdot$ :

$$[a][b] = [ab]$$

is well-defined multiplication on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , i.e. if  $[a] = [c]$  and  $[b] = [d]$ , then  $[ab] = [cd]$ .

### Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}[a] &= [c] \Rightarrow a \equiv c \pmod{n} \Rightarrow \exists k_1 \in \mathbb{Z} \exists a = c + k_1 \cdot n \\ [b] &= [d] \Rightarrow b \equiv d \pmod{n} \Rightarrow \exists k_2 \in \mathbb{Z} \exists b \equiv d + k_2 \cdot n\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}a + b &= (c + k_1 n) + (d + k_2 n) = c + d + n(k_1 + k_2) \\ &\Rightarrow (a + b) \equiv (c + d) \pmod{n} \\ \therefore [a + b] &= [c + d]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}ab &= (c + k_1 n)(d + k_2 n) = cd + n(k_2 c + k_1 d + nk_1 k_2) \\ &\Rightarrow ab \equiv cd \pmod{n} \\ \therefore [ab] &= [cd]\end{aligned}$$

**Exercise:**

Write addition and multiplication tables for  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ .

+	[0]	[1]	[2]
[0]	[0]	[1]	[2]
[1]	[1]	[2]	[0]
[2]	[2]	[0]	[1]

$$\leftarrow [2] + [1] = 2+1 \pmod{3} = 0$$

$$\leftarrow [2] + [2] = 2+2 \pmod{3} = 1$$

*	[0]	[1]	[2]
[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
[1]	[0]	[1]	[2]
[2]	[0]	[2]	[1]

$$\leftarrow [2] \cdot [1] = 2 \cdot 1 \pmod{3} = 2$$

$$\leftarrow [2] \cdot [2] = 2 \cdot 2 \pmod{3} = 1$$

**Properties of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$**

- 1)  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are closed (binary) operations.
- 2)  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are commutative
- 3)  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are associative
- 4)  $\cdot$  is distributive over  $+$
- 5) Identities are [0] under  $+$ , [1] under  $\cdot$
- 6) The additive inverse of  $[x]$  is  $[n-x]$
- 7) Multiplicative inverses exist only for  $x \exists \gcd(x, n) = 1$

**Theorem:**

- If  $a$  and  $n$  are coprime, then there exists  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .
- We call  $b$  the multiplicative inverse of  $a$  modulo  $n$ .
- $b$  is unique modulo  $n$ .
- We write  $b = a^{-1} \pmod{n}$ .

**Proof:**

Consider the set  $\{0, a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (n-1)a\}$ .

If we can show that there are all distinct modulo  $n$ , then exactly one of them is equal to  $1 \pmod{n}$ .

Suppose the contrary:  $\exists c, d \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, c, d < n \exists ca \equiv da \pmod{n}, c \neq d$ .

Then  $(c-d)a \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ , so  $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \exists (c-d)a = kn$ .

But  $a$  and  $n$  are coprime, so  $n|(c-d)$ .

This is a contradiction, since  $c$  and  $d$  are distinct nonnegative integers less than  $n$ .

*Exercise:*

Find a multiplicative inverse of  $43x$  modulo 60.

Given the theorem  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow b = a^{-1} \pmod{n}$

Let  $n = 60$ ,  $b = 43$ ,  $a = x$ ,

We need  $x \in \mathbb{N} \ni 43x \equiv 1 \pmod{60}$

Notice that  $43x$  must have a last digit at 1, since 60 is a multiple of 10. So any  $x$  such that  $43x$  ends in 1 has last digit 7.

i.e.  $61 \pmod{60} = 1$ ,  $43 \cdot 7 = 301 \leftarrow \text{one option}$ ,  
 $43 \cdot 17 = 731 \leftarrow \text{another option}$

The possibilities are 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57,

$$43 \cdot 7 = 301 \equiv 1 \pmod{60}$$

$$\therefore 43^{-1} = 7 \pmod{60}$$

*Exercise:*

Find  $3^{-1} \pmod{40}$ .

We need  $x \in \mathbb{N} \ni 3x \equiv 1 \pmod{40}$  where  $3^{-1} = x \pmod{40}$

$10 \mid 40 \rightarrow 3x$  must end in 1

$3 \cdot 7 = 21 \rightarrow x$  must end in 7

Possibilities are 7, 17, 27, 37, 47.

$$3 \cdot 7 = 21 \equiv 21 \pmod{40}$$

$$3 \cdot 17 = 51 \equiv 11 \pmod{40}$$

$$3 \cdot 27 = 81 \equiv 1 \pmod{40}$$

$$\therefore 3^{-1} = 27 \pmod{40}$$

## Application: Cryptography

- Cryptography is the study of methods for sending secret messages.
- There are many techniques for encryption and decryption, one of which is **public-key cryptography**.
- The method uses big prime numbers and modular arithmetic.
- **RSA** is one such public-key method.

### RSA

- 1) Choose 2 large primes  $p, q$ .
- 2) Choose  $e \in \mathbb{Z}$  that is coprime with  $(p - 1)(q - 1)$ .
- 3) Choose  $d \in \mathbb{Z} \ni ed \equiv 1 \pmod{(p - 1)(q - 1)}$ .
- 4) The public key is  $(e, pq)$ . This is available to everyone for encryption.
- 5) The private key is  $(d, pq)$ . This is available only to those who send wants to be able to decrypt.

#### *Encryption Step:*

- Let the message to be encrypted be  $M \in \mathbb{Z}, 0 \leq M < pq$  (a computer uses binary code for everything, so encrypting integers is sufficient).
- The encrypted message is  $C = M^e \pmod{pq}$ .

#### *Decryption Step:*

- $M$  is received by  $M = C^d \pmod{pq}$ .
- We will not see the proof.
- $p$  and  $q$  are chosen to be several hundred digits long each, making it impossible for a computer to find the factors  $(p - 1)(q - 1)$  in reasonable time.
- We will see some examples with small primes.

*Example:*

Let  $A = 1, B = 2, \dots, Z = 26$ , public key  $(3, 55)$ . Encrypt and decrypt the message "HEY."

A: Given pub. key  $(e, pq)$ ,  $pq = 55 \Rightarrow p = 5, q = 11, e = 3$  which is coprime with  $(5-1)(11-1) = 40$ .

$$\gcd(3, 40) = 1$$

Unencrypted method  $H = 8, E = 5, Y = 25$ .

Encryption:  $C = M^e \pmod{pq}$

$$8^3 = 64 \cdot 8 \equiv 9 \cdot 8 \pmod{55} = 72 \pmod{55} \equiv 17 \pmod{55}$$

$$5^3 = 125 \equiv 15 \pmod{55}$$

$$25^3 = 125 \cdot 125 \pmod{55} \equiv 15 \cdot 15 \pmod{55} = 225 \pmod{55} \equiv 5 \pmod{55}$$

The encrypted message is  $17, 15, 5$

Decryption:  $M = C^d \pmod{pq}$  or the inverse

From a previous example,  $3^{-1} \pmod{40} = 27$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 17^{27} &= 289^{13} \cdot 17 \equiv 14^{13} \cdot 17 \pmod{55} = 196^6 \cdot 14 \cdot 17 \pmod{55} = 196^6 \cdot 238 \pmod{55} \\ &\equiv 31^6 \cdot 18 \pmod{55} = 961^3 \cdot 18 \pmod{55} \equiv 26^3 \cdot 18 \pmod{55} \\ &\equiv 676 \cdot 468 \pmod{55} \equiv 16 \cdot 28 \pmod{55} = 448 \pmod{55} \\ &\equiv 8 \pmod{55} \end{aligned}$$

So the decrypted 17 is 8, the original "H".

Similarly, 15 decrypts to 5, and 5 decrypts to 25.



*Exercise:*

Decrypt the message 41 83 36 that was encrypted with public key (5, 91).

$$\begin{array}{l} 91 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 7 \quad 13 \end{array} \quad pq = 91 \Rightarrow e = 5, p = 7, q = 13$$
$$(13-1)(7-1) = 72$$

$$d = 5^{-1} (\text{mod } 72) \leftarrow d \ni 5d \equiv 1 \pmod{72}$$

