

MODULE 1

Basic Concepts of Number Theory and Finite Fields

Syllabus: Divisibility and the divisibility algorithm, Euclidean algorithm, Modular arithmetic, Groups, Rings and Fields, Finite fields of the form $\text{GF}(p)$, Polynomial arithmetic, Finite fields of the form $\text{GF}(2^n)$ (Text 1: William Stallings-> Chapter3)

Finite fields have become increasingly important in cryptography. A number of cryptographic algorithms rely heavily on properties of finite fields, notably the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) and elliptic curve cryptography. Other examples include the cipher based message authentication code CMAC and the authenticated encryption scheme GCM (Galois/Counter Mode (GCM) is a mode of operation for symmetric key cryptographic block).

Divisibility and the Division Algorithm:

Divisibility:

a nonzero b **divides** a if $a = mb$ for some m , where a , b , and m are integers. That is, b divides a if there is no remainder on division. The notation $b|a$ is commonly used to mean b divides a . Also, if $b|a$, we say that b is a **divisor** of a .

The positive divisors of 24 are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, and 24.
 $13|182$; $-5|30$; $17|289$; $-3|33$; $17|0$

Subsequently, we will need some simple properties of divisibility for integers, which are as follows:

- If $a|1$, then $a = \pm 1$.
- If $a|b$ and $b|a$, then $a = \pm b$.
- Any $b \neq 0$ divides 0.
- If $a|b$ and $b|c$, then $a|c$:

$$11|66 \text{ and } 66|198 = 11|198$$

- If $b|g$ and $b|h$, then $b|(mg + nh)$ for arbitrary integers m and n .

To see this last point, note that

- If $b|g$, then g is of the form $g = b \times g_1$ for some integer g_1 .
- If $b|h$, then h is of the form $h = b \times h_1$ for some integer h_1 .

So

$$mg + nh = mbg_1 + nbh_1 = b \times (mg_1 + nh_1)$$

and therefore b divides $mg + nh$.

$b = 7; g = 14; h = 63; m = 3; n = 2$
 $7 \mid 14$ and $7 \mid 63$.
 To show $7 \mid (3 \times 14 + 2 \times 63)$,
 we have $(3 \times 14 + 2 \times 63) = 7(3 \times 2 + 2 \times 9)$,
 and it is obvious that $7 \mid (7(3 \times 2 + 2 \times 9))$.

The Division Algorithm

Given any positive integer n and any nonnegative integer a , if we divide a by n , we get an integer quotient q and an integer remainder r that obey the following relationship:

$$a = qn + r \quad 0 \leq r < n; q = \lfloor a/n \rfloor \quad (4.1)$$

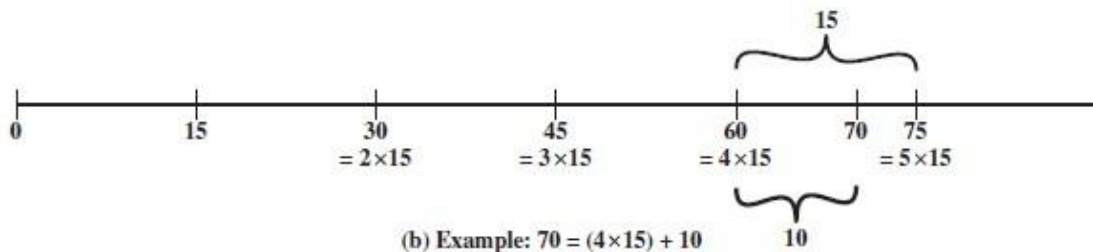
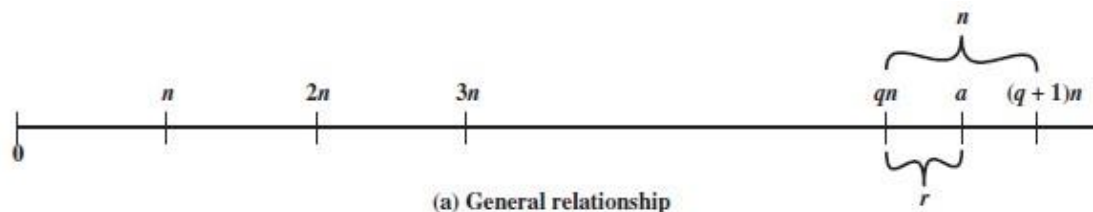


Figure 4.1 The Relationship $a = qn + r; 0 \leq r < n$

where $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the largest integer less than or equal to x . Equation (4.1) is referred to as the division algorithm.¹

Figure 4.1a demonstrates that, given a and positive n , it is always possible to find q and r that satisfy the preceding relationship. Represent the integers on the number line; a will fall somewhere on that line (positive a is shown, a similar demonstration can be made for negative a). Starting at 0, proceed to n , $2n$, up to qn , such that $qn \leq a$ and $(q+1)n > a$. The distance from qn to a is r , and we have found the unique values of q and r . The remainder r is often referred to as a **residue**.

$a = 11; \quad n = 7; \quad 11 = 1 \times 7 + 4; \quad r = 4 \quad q = 1$
 $a = -11; \quad n = 7; \quad -11 = (-2) \times 7 + 3; \quad r = 3 \quad q = -2$

Figure 4.1b provides another example.

THE EUCLIDEAN ALGORITHM:

One of the basic techniques of number theory is the Euclidean algorithm, which is a simple procedure for determining the greatest common divisor of two positive integers. First, we need a simple definition: Two integers are **relatively prime** if their only common positive integer factor is 1.

Greatest Common Divisor

Recall that nonzero b is defined to be a divisor of a if $a = mb$ for some m , where a , b , and m are integers. Use the notation $\gcd(a, b)$ to mean the **greatest common divisor** of a and b . The greatest common divisor of a and b is the largest integer that divides both a and b . We also define $\gcd(0, 0) = 0$.

More formally, the positive integer c is said to be the greatest common divisor of a and b if

1. c is a divisor of a and of b .
2. Any divisor of a and b is a divisor of c .

An equivalent definition is the following:

$$\gcd(a, b) = \max\{k, \text{such that } k|a \text{ and } k|b\}$$

Because we require that the greatest common divisor be positive, $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a, -b) = \gcd(-a, b) = \gcd(-a, -b)$. In general, $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(|a|, |b|)$.

$$\gcd(60, 24) = \gcd(60, -24) = 12$$

Also, because all nonzero integers divide 0, we have $\gcd(a, 0) = |a|$.

We stated that two integers a and b are relatively prime if their only common positive integer factor is 1. This is equivalent to saying that a and b are relatively prime if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$.

8 and 15 are relatively prime because the positive divisors of 8 are 1, 2, 4, and 8, and the positive divisors of 15 are 1, 3, 5, and 15. So 1 is the only integer on both lists.

Finding the Greatest Common Divisor:

Suppose integers a, b such that $d = \gcd(a, b)$. Because $\gcd(|a|, |b|) = \gcd(a, b)$, there is no harm in assuming $a \geq b > 0$. Now dividing a by b and applying the division algorithm, we can state:

$$a = q_1b + r_1 \quad 0 \leq r_1 < b \quad (4.2)$$

If it happens that $r_1 = 0$, then $b|a$ and $d = \gcd(a, b) = b$. But if $r_1 \neq 0$, we can state that $d|r_1$. This is due to the basic properties of divisibility: the relations $d|a$ and $d|b$ together imply that $d|(a - q_1b)$, which is the same as $d|r_1$. Before proceeding with the Euclidian algorithm, we need to answer the question: What is the $\gcd(b, r_1)$? We know that $d|b$ and $d|r_1$. Now take any arbitrary integer c that divides both b and r_1 . Therefore, $c|(q_1b + r_1) = a$. Because c divides both a and b , we must have $c \leq d$, which is the greatest common divisor of a and b . Therefore $d = \gcd(b, r_1)$.

Let us now return to Equation (4.2) and assume that $r_1 \neq 0$. Because $b > r_1$, we can divide b by r_1 and apply the division algorithm to obtain:

$$b = q_2r_1 + r_2 \quad 0 \leq r_2 < r_1$$

As before, if $r_2 = 0$, then $d = r_1$ and if $r_2 \neq 0$, then $d = \gcd(r_1, r_2)$. The division process continues until some zero remainder appears, say, at the $(n + 1)$ th stage where r_{n-1} is divided by r_n . The result is the following system of equations:

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} a = q_1b + r_1 & 0 < r_1 < b \\ b = q_2r_1 + r_2 & 0 < r_2 < r_1 \\ r_1 = q_3r_2 + r_3 & 0 < r_3 < r_2 \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ r_{n-2} = q_nr_{n-1} + r_n & 0 < r_n < r_{n-1} \\ r_{n-1} = q_{n+1}r_n + 0 & \\ d = \gcd(a, b) = r_n & \end{array} \right\} \quad (4.3)$$

At each iteration, we have $d = \gcd(r_i, r_{i+1})$ until finally $d = \gcd(r_n, 0) = r_n$. Thus, we can find the greatest common divisor of two integers by repetitive application of the division algorithm. This scheme is known as the Euclidean algorithm.

Let us now look at an example with relatively large numbers to see the power of this algorithm:

To find $d = \gcd(a, b) = \gcd(1160718174, 316258250)$		
$a = q_1b + r_1$	$1160718174 = 3 \times 316258250 + 211943424$	$d = \gcd(316258250, 211943424)$
$b = q_2r_1 + r_2$	$316258250 = 1 \times 211943424 + 104314826$	$d = \gcd(211943424, 104314826)$
$r_1 = q_3r_2 + r_3$	$211943424 = 2 \times 104314826 + 3313772$	$d = \gcd(104314826, 3313772)$
$r_2 = q_4r_3 + r_4$	$104314826 = 31 \times 3313772 + 1587894$	$d = \gcd(3313772, 1587894)$
$r_3 = q_5r_4 + r_5$	$3313772 = 2 \times 1587894 + 137984$	$d = \gcd(1587894, 137984)$
$r_4 = q_6r_5 + r_6$	$1587894 = 11 \times 137984 + 70070$	$d = \gcd(137984, 70070)$
$r_5 = q_7r_6 + r_7$	$137984 = 1 \times 70070 + 67914$	$d = \gcd(70070, 67914)$
$r_6 = q_8r_7 + r_8$	$70070 = 1 \times 67914 + 2156$	$d = \gcd(67914, 2156)$
$r_7 = q_9r_8 + r_9$	$67914 = 31 \times 2156 + 1078$	$d = \gcd(2156, 1078)$
$r_8 = q_{10}r_9 + r_{10}$	$2156 = 2 \times 1078 + 0$	$d = \gcd(1078, 0) = 1078$
Therefore, $d = \gcd(1160718174, 316258250) = 1078$		

Table 4.1 Euclidean Algorithm Example

Dividend	Divisor	Quotient	Remainder
$a = 1160718174$	$b = 316258250$	$q_1 = 3$	$r_1 = 211943424$
$b = 316258250$	$r_1 = 211943424$	$q_2 = 1$	$r_2 = 104314826$
$r_1 = 211943424$	$r_2 = 104314826$	$q_3 = 2$	$r_3 = 3313772$
$r_2 = 104314826$	$r_3 = 3313772$	$q_4 = 31$	$r_4 = 1587894$
$r_3 = 3313772$	$r_4 = 1587894$	$q_5 = 2$	$r_5 = 137984$
$r_4 = 1587894$	$r_5 = 137984$	$q_6 = 11$	$r_6 = 70070$
$r_5 = 137984$	$r_6 = 70070$	$q_7 = 1$	$r_7 = 67914$
$r_6 = 70070$	$r_7 = 67914$	$q_8 = 1$	$r_8 = 2156$
$r_7 = 67914$	$r_8 = 2156$	$q_9 = 31$	$r_9 = 1078$
$r_8 = 2156$	$r_9 = 1078$	$q_{10} = 2$	$r_{10} = 0$

In this example, we begin by dividing 1160718174 by 316258250, which gives 3 with a remainder of 211943424. Next we take 316258250 and divide it by 211943424. The process continues until we get a remainder of 0, yielding a result of 1078.

Modular Arithmetic: The Modulus

The Modulus

If a is an integer and n is a positive integer, we define $a \bmod n$ to be the remainder when a is divided by n . The integer n is called the **modulus**. Thus, for any integer a , we can rewrite Equation (4.1) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= qn + r \quad 0 \leq r < n; q = \lfloor a/n \rfloor \\ a &= \lfloor a/n \rfloor \times n + (a \bmod n) \end{aligned}$$

$$11 \bmod 7 = 4; \quad -11 \bmod 7 = 3$$

Two integers a and b are said to be **congruent modulo n** , if $(a \bmod n) = (b \bmod n)$. This is written as $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$.²

$$73 \equiv 4 \pmod{23}; \quad 21 \equiv -9 \pmod{10}$$

Note that if $a \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$, then $n \mid a$.

Properties of Congruences:

Properties of Congruences

Congruences have the following properties:

1. $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ if $n \mid (a - b)$.
2. $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ implies $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$.
3. $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$ imply $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$.

To demonstrate the first point, if $n \mid (a - b)$, then $(a - b) = kn$ for some k . So we can write $a = b + kn$. Therefore, $(a \bmod n) = (\text{remainder when } b + kn \text{ is divided by } n) = (\text{remainder when } b \text{ is divided by } n) = (b \bmod n)$.

$$\begin{aligned} 23 &\equiv 8 \pmod{5} && \text{because } 23 - 8 = 15 = 5 \times 3 \\ -11 &\equiv 5 \pmod{8} && \text{because } -11 - 5 = -16 = 8 \times (-2) \\ 81 &\equiv 0 \pmod{27} && \text{because } 81 - 0 = 81 = 27 \times 3 \end{aligned}$$

The remaining points are as easily proved.

Modular Arithmetic Operations:

The $(\text{mod } n)$ operator maps all integers into the set of integers $\{0, 1, \dots, (n - 1)\}$.

Modular arithmetic exhibits the following properties:

1. $[(a \text{ mod } n) + (b \text{ mod } n)] \text{ mod } n = (a + b) \text{ mod } n$
2. $[(a \text{ mod } n) - (b \text{ mod } n)] \text{ mod } n = (a - b) \text{ mod } n$
3. $[(a \text{ mod } n) \times (b \text{ mod } n)] \text{ mod } n = (a \times b) \text{ mod } n$

We demonstrate the first property. Define $(a \text{ mod } n) = r_a$ and $(b \text{ mod } n) = r_b$. Then we can write $a = r_a + jn$ for some integer j and $b = r_b + kn$ for some integer k . Then

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b) \text{ mod } n &= (r_a + jn + r_b + kn) \text{ mod } n \\&= (r_a + r_b + (k + j)n) \text{ mod } n \\&= (r_a + r_b) \text{ mod } n \\&= [(a \text{ mod } n) + (b \text{ mod } n)] \text{ mod } n\end{aligned}$$

The remaining properties are proven as easily. Here are examples of the three properties:

$$\begin{aligned}11 \text{ mod } 8 &= 3; 15 \text{ mod } 8 = 7 \\[(11 \text{ mod } 8) + (15 \text{ mod } 8)] \text{ mod } 8 &= 10 \text{ mod } 8 = 2 \\(11 + 15) \text{ mod } 8 &= 26 \text{ mod } 8 = 2 \\[(11 \text{ mod } 8) - (15 \text{ mod } 8)] \text{ mod } 8 &= -4 \text{ mod } 8 = 4 \\(11 - 15) \text{ mod } 8 &= -4 \text{ mod } 8 = 4 \\[(11 \text{ mod } 8) \times (15 \text{ mod } 8)] \text{ mod } 8 &= 21 \text{ mod } 8 = 5 \\(11 \times 15) \text{ mod } 8 &= 165 \text{ mod } 8 = 5\end{aligned}$$

Exponentiation is performed by repeated multiplication, as in ordinary arithmetic.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{To find } 11^7 \text{ mod } 13, \text{ we can proceed as follows:} \\11^2 &= 121 \equiv 4 \pmod{13} \\11^4 &= (11^2)^2 \equiv 4^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{13} \\11^7 &\equiv 11 \times 4 \times 3 \equiv 132 \equiv 2 \pmod{13}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the rules for ordinary arithmetic involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication carry over into modular arithmetic.

Table 4.2 provides an illustration of modular addition and multiplication modulo 8. Looking at addition, the results are straightforward, and there is a regular pattern to the matrix. Both matrices are symmetric about the main diagonal in conformance to the commutative property of addition and multiplication. As in ordinary addition, there is an additive inverse, or negative, to each integer in modular arithmetic. In this case, the negative of an integer x is the integer y such that $(x + y) \bmod 8 = 0$. To find the additive inverse of an integer in the left-hand column, scan across the corresponding row of the matrix to find the value 0; the

Table 4.2 Arithmetic Modulo 8

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0
2	2	3	4	5	6	7	0	1
3	3	4	5	6	7	0	1	2
4	4	5	6	7	0	1	2	3
5	5	6	7	0	1	2	3	4
6	6	7	0	1	2	3	4	5
7	7	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

(a) Addition modulo 8

×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	0	2	4	6	0	2	4	6
3	0	3	6	1	4	7	2	5
4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
5	0	5	2	7	4	1	6	3
6	0	6	4	2	0	6	4	2
7	0	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

(b) Multiplication modulo 8

w	$-w$	w^{-1}
0	0	—
1	7	1
2	6	—
3	5	3
4	4	—
5	3	5
6	2	—
7	1	7

(c) Additive and multiplicative inverse modulo 8

integer at the top of that column is the additive inverse; thus, $(2 + 6) \bmod 8 = 0$. Similarly, the entries in the multiplication table are straightforward. In ordinary arithmetic, there is a multiplicative inverse, or reciprocal, to each integer. In modular arithmetic mod 8, the multiplicative inverse of x is the integer y such that $(x \times y) \bmod 8 = 1 \bmod 8$. Now, to find the multiplicative inverse of an integer from the multiplication table, scan across the matrix in the row for that integer to find the value 1; the integer at the top of that column is the multiplicative inverse; thus, $(3 \times 3) \bmod 8 = 1$. Note that not all integers mod 8 have a multiplicative inverse; more about that later.

Properties of Modular Arithmetic

Define the set Z_n as the set of nonnegative integers less than n :

$$Z_n = \{0, 1, \dots, (n - 1)\}$$

This is referred to as the **set of residues**, or **residue classes (mod n)**. To be more precise, each integer in Z_n represents a residue class. We can label the residue classes (mod n) as $[0], [1], [2], \dots, [n - 1]$, where

$$[r] = \{a: a \text{ is an integer, } a \equiv r \pmod{n}\}$$

The residue classes (mod 4) are

$$[0] = \{\dots, -16, -12, -8, -4, 0, 4, 8, 12, 16, \dots\}$$

$$[1] = \{\dots, -15, -11, -7, -3, 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, \dots\}$$

$$[2] = \{\dots, -14, -10, -6, -2, 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, \dots\}$$

$$[3] = \{\dots, -13, -9, -5, -1, 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, \dots\}$$

Of all the integers in a residue class, the smallest nonnegative integer is the one used to represent the residue class. Finding the smallest nonnegative integer to which k is congruent modulo n is called **reducing k modulo n** .

If we perform modular arithmetic within Z_n , the properties shown in Table 4.3 hold for integers in Z_n . We show in the next section that this implies that Z_n is a commutative ring with a multiplicative identity element.

Table 4.3 Properties of Modular Arithmetic for Integers in Z_n

Property	Expression
Commutative Laws	$(w + x) \bmod n = (x + w) \bmod n$ $(w \times x) \bmod n = (x \times w) \bmod n$
Associative Laws	$[(w + x) + y] \bmod n = [w + (x + y)] \bmod n$ $[(w \times x) \times y] \bmod n = [w \times (x \times y)] \bmod n$
Distributive Law	$[w \times (x + y)] \bmod n = [(w \times x) + (w \times y)] \bmod n$
Identities	$(0 + w) \bmod n = w \bmod n$ $(1 \times w) \bmod n = w \bmod n$
Additive Inverse ($-w$)	For each $w \in Z_n$, there exists a z such that $w + z = 0 \bmod n$

There is one peculiarity of modular arithmetic that sets it apart from ordinary arithmetic. First, observe that (as in ordinary arithmetic) we can write the following:

$$\text{if } (a + b) \equiv (a + c) \pmod{n} \text{ then } b \equiv c \pmod{n} \quad (4.4)$$

$$(5 + 23) \equiv (5 + 7) \pmod{8}; 23 \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$$

Equation (4.4) is consistent with the existence of an additive inverse. Adding the additive inverse of a to both sides of Equation (4.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((-a) + a + b) &\equiv ((-a) + a + c) \pmod{n} \\ b &\equiv c \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

However, the following statement is true only with the attached condition:

$$\text{if } (a \times b) \equiv (a \times c) \pmod{n} \text{ then } b \equiv c \pmod{n} \text{ if } a \text{ is relatively prime to } n \quad (4.5)$$

Recall that two integers are **relatively prime** if their only common positive integer factor is 1. Similar to the case of Equation (4.4), we can say that Equation (4.5) is consistent with the existence of a multiplicative inverse. Applying the multiplicative inverse of a to both sides of Equation (4.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((a^{-1})ab) &\equiv ((a^{-1})ac) \pmod{n} \\ b &\equiv c \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

To see this, consider an example in which the condition of Equation (4.5) does not hold. The integers 6 and 8 are not relatively prime, since they have the common factor 2. We have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} 6 \times 3 &= 18 \equiv 2 \pmod{8} \\ 6 \times 7 &= 42 \equiv 2 \pmod{8} \end{aligned}$$

Yet $3 \not\equiv 7 \pmod{8}$.

The reason for this strange result is that for any general modulus n , a multiplier a that is applied in turn to the integers 0 through $(n - 1)$ will fail to produce a complete set of residues if a and n have any factors in common.

With $a = 6$ and $n = 8$,

Z_8	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Multiply by 6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42
Residues	0	6	4	2	0	6	4	2

Because we do not have a complete set of residues when multiplying by 6, more than one integer in Z_8 maps into the same residue. Specifically, $6 \times 0 \pmod{8} = 6 \times 4 \pmod{8}$; $6 \times 1 \pmod{8} = 6 \times 5 \pmod{8}$; and so on. Because this is a many-to-one mapping, there is not a unique inverse to the multiply operation.

However, if we take $a = 5$ and $n = 8$, whose only common factor is 1,

Z_8	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Multiply by 5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35
Residues	0	5	2	7	4	1	6	3

The line of residues contains all the integers in Z_8 , in a different order.

Euclidean Algorithm Revisited:

The Euclidean algorithm can be based on the following theorem: For any integers a, b , with $a \geq b \geq 0$,

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \bmod b) \quad (4.6)$$

$$\gcd(55, 22) = \gcd(22, 55 \bmod 22) = \gcd(22, 11) = 11$$

To see that Equation (4.6) works, let $d = \gcd(a, b)$. Then, by the definition of \gcd , $d \mid a$ and $d \mid b$. For any positive integer b , we can express a as

$$\begin{aligned} a &= kb + r \equiv r \pmod{b} \\ a \bmod b &= r \end{aligned}$$

with k, r integers. Therefore, $(a \bmod b) = a - kb$ for some integer k . But because $d \mid b$, it also divides kb . We also have $d \mid a$. Therefore, $d \mid (a \bmod b)$. This shows that d is a common divisor of b and $(a \bmod b)$. Conversely, if d is a common divisor of b and $(a \bmod b)$, then $d \mid kb$ and thus $d \mid [kb + (a \bmod b)]$, which is equivalent to $d \mid a$. Thus, the set of common divisors of a and b is equal to the set of common divisors of b and $(a \bmod b)$. Therefore, the \gcd of one pair is the same as the \gcd of the other pair, proving the theorem.

Equation (4.6) can be used repetitively to determine the greatest common divisor.

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(18, 12) &= \gcd(12, 6) = \gcd(6, 0) = 6 \\ \gcd(11, 10) &= \gcd(10, 1) = \gcd(1, 0) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

This is the same scheme shown in Equation (4.3), which can be rewritten in the following way.

Euclidean Algorithm	
Calculate	Which satisfies
$r_1 = a \bmod b$	$a = q_1b + r_1$
$r_2 = b \bmod r_1$	$b = q_2r_1 + r_2$
$r_3 = r_1 \bmod r_2$	$r_1 = q_3r_2 + r_3$
• • •	• • •
$r_n = r_{n-2} \bmod r_{n-1}$	$r_{n-2} = q_nr_{n-1} + r_n$
$r_{n+1} = r_{n-1} \bmod r_n = 0$	$r_{n-1} = q_{n+1}r_n + 0$ $d = \gcd(a, b) = r_n$

We can define the Euclidean algorithm concisely as the following recursive function.

```
Euclid(a,b)
  if (b=0) then return a;
  else return Euclid(b, a mod b);
```


The Extended Euclidean Algorithm:

This is important for computations in the area of finite fields and in encryption algorithms, such as RSA. For given integers a and b , the extended Euclidean algorithm not only calculate the greatest common divisor d but also two additional integers x and y that satisfy the following equation.

$$ax + by = d = \gcd(a, b) \quad (4.7)$$

It should be clear that x and y will have opposite signs. Before examining the algorithm, let us look at some of the values of x and y when $a = 42$ and $b = 30$. Note that $\gcd(42, 30) = 6$. Here is a partial table of values³ for $42x + 30y$.

x	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
y							
-3	-216	-174	-132	-90	-48	-6	36
-2	-186	-144	-102	-60	-18	24	66
-1	-156	-114	-72	-30	12	54	96
0	-126	-84	-42	0	42	84	126
1	-96	-54	-12	30	72	114	156
2	-66	-24	18	60	102	144	186
3	-36	6	48	90	132	174	216

Observe that all of the entries are divisible by 6. This is not surprising, because both 42 and 30 are divisible by 6, so every number of the form $42x + 30y = 6(7x + 5y)$ is a multiple of 6. Note also that $\gcd(42, 30) = 6$ appears in the table. In general, it can be shown that for given integers a and b , the smallest positive value of $ax + by$ is equal to $\gcd(a, b)$.

Now let us show how to extend the Euclidean algorithm to determine (x, y, d) given a and b . We again go through the sequence of divisions indicated in Equation (4.3), and we assume that at each step i we can find integers x_i and y_i that satisfy $r_i = ax_i + by_i$. We end up with the following sequence.

$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= q_1b + r_1 & r_1 &= ax_1 + by_1 \\
 b &= q_2r_1 + r_2 & r_2 &= ax_2 + by_2 \\
 r_1 &= q_3r_2 + r_3 & r_3 &= ax_3 + by_3 \\
 &\vdots & &\vdots \\
 &\vdots & &\vdots \\
 &\vdots & &\vdots \\
 r_{n-2} &= q_nr_{n-1} + r_n & r_n &= ax_n + by_n \\
 r_{n-1} &= q_{n+1}r_n + 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, observe that we can rearrange terms to write

$$r_i = r_{i-2} - r_{i-1}q_i \quad (4.8)$$

Also, in rows $i - 1$ and $i - 2$, we find the values

$$r_{i-2} = ax_{i-2} + by_{i-2} \quad \text{and} \quad r_{i-1} = ax_{i-1} + by_{i-1}$$

Substituting into Equation (4.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 r_i &= (ax_{i-2} + by_{i-2}) - (ax_{i-1} + by_{i-1})q_i \\
 &= a(x_{i-2} - q_ix_{i-1}) + b(y_{i-2} - q_iy_{i-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

But we have already assumed that $r_i = ax_i + by_i$. Therefore,

$$x_i = x_{i-2} - q_ix_{i-1} \quad \text{and} \quad y_i = y_{i-2} - q_iy_{i-1}$$

We now summarize the calculations:

Extended Euclidean Algorithm			
Calculate	Which satisfies	Calculate	Which satisfies
$r_{-1} = a$		$x_{-1} = 1; y_{-1} = 0$	$a = ax_{-1} + by_{-1}$
$r_0 = b$		$x_0 = 0; y_0 = 1$	$b = ax_0 + by_0$
$r_1 = a \bmod b$ $q_1 = \lfloor a/b \rfloor$	$a = q_1b + r_1$	$x_1 = x_{-1} - q_1x_0 = 1$ $y_1 = y_{-1} - q_1y_0 = -q_1$	$r_1 = ax_1 + by_1$
$r_2 = b \bmod r_1$ $q_2 = \lfloor b/r_1 \rfloor$	$b = q_2r_1 + r_2$	$x_2 = x_0 - q_2x_1$ $y_2 = y_0 - q_2y_1$	$r_2 = ax_2 + by_2$
$r_3 = r_1 \bmod r_2$ $q_3 = \lfloor r_1/r_2 \rfloor$	$r_1 = q_3r_2 + r_3$	$x_3 = x_1 - q_3x_2$ $y_3 = y_1 - q_3y_2$	$r_3 = ax_3 + by_3$
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
$r_n = r_{n-2} \bmod r_{n-1}$ $q_n = \lfloor r_{n-2}/r_{n-1} \rfloor$	$r_{n-2} = q_nr_{n-1} + r_n$	$x_n = x_{n-2} - q_nx_{n-1}$ $y_n = y_{n-2} - q_ny_{n-1}$	$r_n = ax_n + by_n$
$r_{n+1} = r_{n-1} \bmod r_n = 0$ $q_{n+1} = \lfloor r_{n-1}/r_n \rfloor$	$r_{n-1} = q_{n+1}r_n + 0$		$d = \gcd(a, b) = r_n$ $x = x_n; y = y_n$

Table 4.4 Extended Euclidean Algorithm Example

i	r_i	q_i	x_i	y_i
-1	1759		1	0
0	550		0	1
1	109	3	1	-3
2	5	5	-5	16
3	4	21	106	-339
4	1	1	-111	355
5	0	4		

Result: $d = 1; x = -111; y = 355$

We know from the original Euclidean algorithm that the process ends with a remainder of zero and that the greatest common divisor of a and b is $d = \gcd(a, b) = r_n$. But we also have determined that $d = r_n = ax_n + by_n$. Therefore, in Equation (4.7), $x = x_n$ and $y = y_n$.

As an example, let us use $a = 1759$ and $b = 550$ and solve for $1759x + 550y = \gcd(1759, 550)$. The results are shown in Table 4.4. Thus, we have $1759 \times (-111) + 550 \times 355 = -195249 + 195250 = 1$.

GROUPS, RINGS, AND FIELDS:

Groups, rings, and fields are the fundamental elements of a branch of mathematics known as abstract algebra, or modern algebra. In abstract algebra, we are concerned with sets on whose elements we can operate algebraically; that is, we can combine two elements of the set, perhaps in several ways, to obtain a third element of the set. These operations are subject to specific rules, which define the nature of the set.

Groups:

A **group** G , sometimes denoted by $\{G, \cdot\}$, is a set of elements with a binary operation denoted by \cdot that associates to each ordered pair (a, b) of elements in G an element $(a \cdot b)$ in G , such that the following axioms are obeyed:⁴

- (A1) **Closure:** If a and b belong to G , then $a \cdot b$ is also in G .
- (A2) **Associative:** $a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$ for all a, b, c in G .
- (A3) **Identity element:** There is an element e in G such that $a \cdot e = e \cdot a = a$ for all a in G .
- (A4) **Inverse element:** For each a in G , there is an element a' in G such that $a \cdot a' = a' \cdot a = e$.

Let N_n denote a set of n distinct symbols that, for convenience, we represent as $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. A **permutation** of n distinct symbols is a one-to-one mapping from N_n to N_n . Define S_n to be the set of all permutations of n distinct symbols. Each element of S_n is represented by a permutation of the integers π in $1, 2, \dots, n$. It is easy to demonstrate that S_n is a group:

- A1: If $(\pi, \rho \in S_n)$, then the composite mapping $\pi \cdot \rho$ is formed by permuting the elements of ρ according to the permutation π . For example, $\{3, 2, 1\} \cdot \{1, 3, 2\} = \{2, 3, 1\}$. Clearly, $\pi \cdot \rho \in S_n$.
- A2: The composition of mappings is also easily seen to be associative.
- A3: The identity mapping is the permutation that does not alter the order of the n elements. For S_n , the identity element is $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.
- A4: For any $\pi \in S_n$, the mapping that undoes the permutation defined by π is the inverse element for π . There will always be such an inverse. For example $\{2, 3, 1\} \cdot \{3, 1, 2\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$.

If a group has a finite number of elements, it is referred to as a **finite group**, and the **order** of the group is equal to the number of elements in the group. Otherwise, the group is an **infinite group**.

A group is said to be **abelian** if it satisfies the following additional condition:

- (A5) **Commutative:** $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$ for all a, b in G .

The set of integers (positive, negative, and 0) under addition is an abelian group. The set of nonzero real numbers under multiplication is an abelian group. The set S_n from the preceding example is a group but not an abelian group for $n > 2$.

When the group operation is addition, the identity element is 0; the inverse element of a is $-a$; and subtraction is defined with the following rule: $a - b = a + (-b)$.

CYCLIC GROUP We define exponentiation within a group as a repeated application of the group operator, so that $a^3 = a \cdot a \cdot a$. Furthermore, we define $a^0 = e$ as the identity element, and $a^{-n} = (a')^n$, where a' is the inverse element of a within the group. A group G is **cyclic** if every element of G is a power a^k (k is an integer) of a fixed element $a \in G$. The element a is said to **generate** the group G or to be a **generator** of G . A cyclic group is always abelian and may be finite or infinite.

The additive group of integers is an infinite cyclic group generated by the element 1. In this case, powers are interpreted additively, so that n is the n th power of 1.

RINGS:

Rings

A **ring** R , sometimes denoted by $\{R, +, \times\}$, is a set of elements with two binary operations, called *addition* and *multiplication*, such that for all a, b, c in R the following axioms are obeyed.

- (A1–A5) R is an abelian group with respect to addition; that is, R satisfies axioms A1 through A5. For the case of an additive group, we denote the identity element as 0 and the inverse of a as $-a$.
- (M1) **Closure under multiplication:** If a and b belong to R , then ab is also in R .
- (M2) **Associativity of multiplication:** $a(bc) = (ab)c$ for all a, b, c in R .
- (M3) **Distributive laws:**
 - $a(b + c) = ab + ac$ for all a, b, c in R .
 - $(a + b)c = ac + bc$ for all a, b, c in R .

In essence, a ring is a set in which we can do addition, subtraction [$a - b = a + (-b)$], and multiplication without leaving the set.

A ring is said to be **commutative** if it satisfies the following additional condition:

- (M4) **Commutativity of multiplication:** $ab = ba$ for all a, b in R .

Let S be the set of even integers (positive, negative, and 0) under the usual operations of addition and multiplication. S is a commutative ring. The set of all n -square matrices defined in the preceding example is not a commutative ring.

The set Z_n of integers $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$, together with the arithmetic operations modulo n , is a commutative ring (Table 4.3).

Next, we define an **integral domain**, which is a commutative ring that obeys the following axioms.

- (M5) **Multiplicative identity:** There is an element 1 in R such that $a1 = 1a = a$ for all a in R .
- (M6) **No zero divisors:** If a, b in R and $ab = 0$, then either $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.

Let S be the set of integers, positive, negative, and 0, under the usual operations of addition and multiplication. S is an integral domain.

FIELDS:

Fields

A **field** F , sometimes denoted by $\{F, +, \times\}$, is a set of elements with two binary operations, called *addition* and *multiplication*, such that for all a, b, c in F the following axioms are obeyed.

(A1–M6) F is an integral domain; that is, F satisfies axioms A1 through A5 and M1 through M6.

(M7) Multiplicative inverse: For each a in F , except 0, there is an element a^{-1} in F such that $aa^{-1} = (a^{-1})a = 1$.

In essence, a field is a set in which we can do addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division without leaving the set. Division is defined with the following rule: $a/b = a(b^{-1})$.

Familiar examples of fields are the rational numbers, the real numbers, and the complex numbers. Note that the set of all integers is not a field, because not every element of the set has a multiplicative inverse; in fact, only the elements 1 and -1 have multiplicative inverses in the integers.

\Figure 4.2 summarizes the axioms that define groups, rings, and fields.

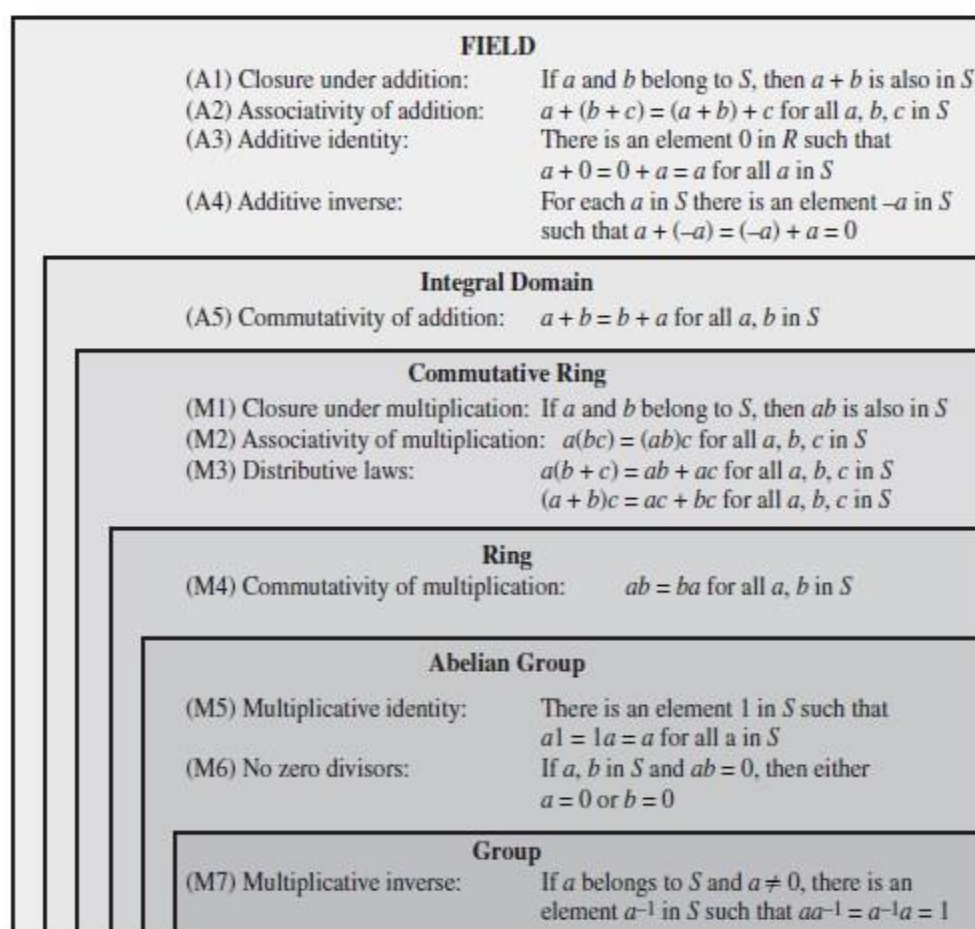


Figure 4.2 Group, Ring, and Field

Finite Fields of The Form $GF(p)$:

Finite fields play a crucial role in many cryptographic algorithms. It can be shown that the order of a finite field (number of elements in the field) must be a power of a prime p^n , where n is a positive integer. Here, we need only a prime number is an integer whose only positive integer factors are itself and 1. That is, the only positive integers that are divisors of p are p and 1.

The finite field of order p^n is generally written $GF(p^n)$; GF stands for Galois field, in honor of the mathematician who first studied finite fields. Two special cases are of interest for our purposes. For $n = 1$, we have the finite field $GF(p)$; this finite field has a different structure than that for finite fields with $n > 1$.

Finite Fields of Order p

For a given prime, p , we define the finite field of order p , $GF(p)$, as the set Z_p of integers $\{0, 1, \dots, p - 1\}$ together with the arithmetic operations modulo p .

The set Z_n of integers $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$, together with the arithmetic operations modulo n , is a commutative ring. If n is prime, then all of the nonzero integers in Z_n are relatively prime to n , and therefore there exists a multiplicative inverse for all of the nonzero integers in Z_n . Thus, for Z_p we can add the following properties to those listed in Table 4.3.

Multiplicative inverse (w^{-1})	For each $w \in Z_p, w \neq 0$, there exists a $z \in Z_p$ such that $w \times z \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$
---	---

Because w is relatively prime to p , if we multiply all the elements of Z_p by w , the resulting residues are all of the elements of Z_p permuted. Thus, exactly one of the residues has the value 1. Therefore, there is some integer in Z_p that, when multiplied by w , yields the residue 1. That integer is the multiplicative inverse of w , designated w^{-1} . Therefore, Z_p is in fact a finite field. Furthermore, Equation (4.5) is consistent with the existence of a multiplicative inverse and can be rewritten without the condition:

$$\text{if } (a \times b) \equiv (a \times c) \pmod{p} \text{ then } b \equiv c \pmod{p} \quad (4.9)$$

Multiplying both sides of Equation (4.9) by the multiplicative inverse of a , we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((a^{-1}) \times a \times b) &\equiv ((a^{-1}) \times a \times c) \pmod{p} \\ b &\equiv c \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

The simplest finite field is $GF(2)$. Its arithmetic operations are easily summarized:

+	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

Addition

\times	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

Multiplication

w	$-w$	w^{-1}
0	0	—
1	1	1

Inverses

In this case, addition is equivalent to the exclusive-OR (XOR) operation, and multiplication is equivalent to the logical AND operation.

Table 4.5 shows arithmetic operations in $GF(7)$. This is a field of order 7 using modular arithmetic modulo 7. As can be seen, it satisfies all of the properties required of a field (Figure 4.2). Compare this table with Table 4.2. In the latter case, we see that the set Z_8 , using modular arithmetic modulo 8, is not a field. Later in this chapter, we show how to define addition and multiplication operations on Z_8 in such a way as to form a finite field.

Finding the Multiplicative Inverse in $GF(p)$

It is easy to find the multiplicative inverse of an element in $GF(p)$ for small values of p . You simply construct a multiplication table, such as shown in Table 4.5b, and the desired result can be read directly. However, for large values of p , this approach is not practical.

If a and b are relatively prime, then b has a multiplicative inverse modulo a . That is, if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, then b has a multiplicative inverse modulo a . That is, for positive integer $b < a$, there exists a $b^{-1} < a$ such that $bb^{-1} = 1 \pmod{a}$. If a is a prime number and $b < a$, then clearly a and b are relatively prime and have a greatest common divisor of 1. We now show that we can easily compute b^{-1} using the extended Euclidean algorithm.

We repeat here Equation (4.7), which we showed can be solved with the extended Euclidean algorithm:

$$ax + by = d = \gcd(a, b)$$

Now, if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, then we have $ax + by = 1$. Using the basic equalities of modular arithmetic, defined in Section 4.3, we can say

$$\begin{aligned} [(ax \bmod a) + (by \bmod a)] \bmod a &= 1 \bmod a \\ 0 + (by \bmod a) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Table 4.5 Arithmetic in $GF(7)$

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	0
2	2	3	4	5	6	0	1
3	3	4	5	6	0	1	2
4	4	5	6	0	1	2	3
5	5	6	0	1	2	3	4
6	6	0	1	2	3	4	5

(a) Addition modulo 7

×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	0	2	4	6	1	3	5
3	0	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	0	4	1	5	2	6	3
5	0	5	3	1	6	4	2
6	0	6	5	4	3	2	1

(b) Multiplication modulo 7

w	$-w$	w^{-1}
0	0	—
1	6	1
2	5	4
3	4	5
4	3	2
5	2	3
6	1	6

(c) Additive and multiplicative inverses modulo 7

POLYNOMIAL ARITHMETIC:

Ordinary Polynomial Arithmetic:

A **polynomial** of degree n (integer $n \geq 0$) is an expression of the form

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0 = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$$

where the a_i are elements of some designated set of numbers S , called the **coefficient set**, and $a_n \neq 0$. We say that such polynomials are defined over the coefficient set S .

A zero-degree polynomial is called a **constant polynomial** and is simply an element of the set of coefficients. An n th-degree polynomial is said to be a **monic polynomial** if $a_n = 1$.

In the context of abstract algebra, we are usually not interested in evaluating a polynomial for a particular value of x [e.g., $f(7)$]. To emphasize this point, the variable x is sometimes referred to as the **indeterminate**.

Polynomial arithmetic includes the operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication. These operations are defined in a natural way as though the variable x was an element of S . Division is similarly defined, but requires that S be a field. Examples of fields include the real numbers, rational numbers, and \mathbb{Z}_p for p prime. Note that the set of all integers is not a field and does not support polynomial division.

Addition and subtraction are performed by adding or subtracting corresponding coefficients. Thus, if

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i; \quad g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i; \quad n \geq m$$

then addition is defined as

$$f(x) + g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m (a_i + b_i) x^i + \sum_{i=m+1}^n a_i x^i$$

and multiplication is defined as

$$f(x) \times g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+m} c_i x^i$$

where

$$c_k = a_0 b_k + a_1 b_{k-1} + \cdots + a_{k-1} b_1 + a_k b_0$$

In the last formula, we treat a_i as zero for $i > n$ and b_i as zero for $i > m$. Note that the degree of the product is equal to the sum of the degrees of the two polynomials.

As an example, let $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 2$ and $g(x) = x^2 - x + 1$, where S is the set of integers. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) + g(x) &= x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 3 \\ f(x) - g(x) &= x^3 + x + 1 \\ f(x) \times g(x) &= x^5 + 3x^2 - 2x + 2 \end{aligned}$$

Figures 4.3a through 4.3c show the manual calculations. We comment on division subsequently.

Polynomial Arithmetic with Coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p

Let us now consider polynomials in which the coefficients are elements of some field F ; we refer to this as a polynomial over the field F . In that case, it is easy to show that the set of such polynomials is a ring, referred to as a **polynomial ring**. That is, if we consider each distinct polynomial to be an element of the set, then that set is a ring.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^3 + x^2 \quad + 2 \\
 + (x^2 - x + 1) \\
 \hline
 x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 3
 \end{array}$$

(a) Addition

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^3 + x^2 \quad + 2 \\
 - (x^2 - x + 1) \\
 \hline
 x^3 \quad + x + 1
 \end{array}$$

(b) Subtraction

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^3 + x^2 \quad + 2 \\
 \times (x^2 - x + 1) \\
 \hline
 x^3 + x^2 \quad + 2 \\
 - x^4 - x^3 \quad - 2x \\
 \hline
 x^5 + x^4 \quad + 2x^2 \\
 \hline
 x^5 \quad + 3x^2 - 2x + 2
 \end{array}$$

(c) Multiplication

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 - x + 1 \overline{) x^3 + x^2 + 2} \\
 \underline{x^3 - x^2 + x} \\
 2x^2 - x + 2 \\
 \underline{2x^2 - 2x + 2} \\
 x
 \end{array}$$

(d) Division

Figure 4.3 Examples of Polynomial Arithmetic

When polynomial arithmetic is performed on polynomials over a field, then division is possible. Note that this does not mean that *exact division* is possible. Let us clarify this distinction. Within a field, given two elements a and b , the quotient a/b is also an element of the field. However, given a ring R that is not a field, in general, division will result in both a quotient and a remainder; this is not exact division.

Consider the division $5/3$ within a set S . If S is the set of rational numbers, which is a field, then the result is simply expressed as $5/3$ and is an element of S . Now suppose that S is the field \mathbb{Z}_7 . In this case, we calculate (using Table 4.5c)

$$5/3 = (5 \times 3^{-1}) \bmod 7 = (5 \times 5) \bmod 7 = 4$$

which is an exact solution. Finally, suppose that S is the set of integers, which is a ring but not a field. Then $5/3$ produces a quotient of 1 and a remainder of 2:

$$\begin{aligned}
 5/3 &= 1 + 2/3 \\
 5 &= 1 \times 3 + 2
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, division is not exact over the set of integers.

If the coefficient set is the integers, then $(5x^2)/(3x)$ does not have a solution, because it would require a coefficient with a value of $5/3$, which is not in the coefficient set. Suppose that we perform the same polynomial division over \mathbb{Z}_7 . Then we have $(5x^2)/(3x) = 4x$, which is a valid polynomial over \mathbb{Z}_7 .

Given polynomials $f(x)$ of degree n and $g(x)$ of degree (m) , ($n \geq m$), if we divide $f(x)$ by $g(x)$, we get a quotient $q(x)$ and a remainder $r(x)$ that obey the relationship

$$f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x) \quad (4.10)$$

with polynomial degrees:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree } f(x) &= n \\ \text{Degree } g(x) &= m \\ \text{Degree } q(x) &= n - m \\ \text{Degree } r(x) &\leq m - 1 \end{aligned}$$

With the understanding that remainders are allowed, we can say that polynomial division is possible if the coefficient set is a field.

In an analogy to integer arithmetic, we can write $f(x) \bmod g(x)$ for the remainder $r(x)$ in Equation (4.10). That is, $r(x) = f(x) \bmod g(x)$. If there is no remainder [i.e., $r(x) = 0$], then we can say $g(x)$ **divides** $f(x)$, written as $g(x) \mid f(x)$. Equivalently, we can say that $g(x)$ is a **factor** of $f(x)$ or $g(x)$ is a **divisor** of $f(x)$.

For the preceding example [$f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 2$ and $g(x) = x^2 - x + 1$], $f(x)/g(x)$ produces a quotient of $q(x) = x + 2$ and a remainder $r(x) = x$, as shown in Figure 4.3d. This is easily verified by noting that

$$\begin{aligned} q(x)g(x) + r(x) &= (x + 2)(x^2 - x + 1) + x = (x^3 + x^2 - x + 2) + x \\ &= x^3 + x^2 + 2 = f(x) \end{aligned}$$

For our purposes, polynomials over $\text{GF}(2)$ are of most interest. Recall from Section 4.5 that in $\text{GF}(2)$, addition is equivalent to the XOR operation, and multiplication is equivalent to the logical AND operation. Further, addition and subtraction are equivalent mod 2: $1 + 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$; $1 + 0 = 1 - 0 = 1$; $0 + 1 = 0 - 1 = 1$.

Figure 4.4 shows an example of polynomial arithmetic over $\text{GF}(2)$. For $f(x) = (x^7 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1)$ and $g(x) = (x^3 + x + 1)$, the figure shows $f(x) + g(x)$; $f(x) - g(x)$; $f(x) \times g(x)$; and $f(x)/g(x)$. Note that $g(x) \mid f(x)$.

A polynomial $f(x)$ over a field F is called **irreducible** if and only if $f(x)$ cannot be expressed as a product of two polynomials, both over F , and both of degree lower than that of $f(x)$. By analogy to integers, an irreducible polynomial is also called a **prime polynomial**.

The polynomial $f(x) = x^4 + 1$ over $\text{GF}(2)$ is reducible, because

$$x^4 + 1 = (x + 1)(x^3 + x^2 + x + 1).$$

Consider the polynomial $f(x) = x^3 + x + 1$. It is clear by inspection that x is not a factor of $f(x)$. We easily show that $x + 1$ is not a factor of $f(x)$:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 + x \\
 x + 1 \overline{) x^3 + x + 1} \\
 \underline{x^3 + x^2} \\
 x^2 + x \\
 \underline{x^2 + x} \\
 1
 \end{array}$$

Thus, $f(x)$ has no factors of degree 1. But it is clear by inspection that if $f(x)$ is reducible, it must have one factor of degree 2 and one factor of degree 1. Therefore, $f(x)$ is irreducible.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 \quad + x + 1 \\
 \quad \quad \quad + (x^3 \quad + x + 1) \\
 \hline
 x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4
 \end{array}$$

(a) Addition

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 \quad + x + 1 \\
 \quad \quad \quad - (x^3 \quad + x + 1) \\
 \hline
 x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4
 \end{array}$$

(b) Subtraction

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{r}
 x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 \quad + x + 1 \\
 \times (x^3 \quad + x + 1) \\
 \hline
 x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 \quad + x + 1 \\
 x^8 \quad + x^6 + x^5 + x^4 \quad + x^2 + x \\
 \hline
 x^{10} \quad + x^8 + x^7 + x^6 \quad + x^4 + x^3
 \end{array} \\
 \hline
 x^{10} \quad \quad \quad + x^4 \quad + x^2 \quad + 1
 \end{array}$$

(c) Multiplication

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{r}
 x^4 + 1 \\
 x^3 + x + 1 \overline{) x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 \quad + x + 1} \\
 \underline{x^7 \quad + x^5 + x^4} \\
 x^3 \quad + x + 1 \\
 \underline{x^3 \quad + x + 1} \\
 0
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

(d) Division

Figure 4.4 Examples of Polynomial Arithmetic over GF(2)

Finding the Greatest Common Divisor

We can extend the analogy between polynomial arithmetic over a field and integer arithmetic by defining the greatest common divisor as follows. The polynomial $c(x)$ is said to be the greatest common divisor of $a(x)$ and $b(x)$ if the following are true.

1. $c(x)$ divides both $a(x)$ and $b(x)$.
2. Any divisor of $a(x)$ and $b(x)$ is a divisor of $c(x)$.

An equivalent definition is the following: $\gcd[a(x), b(x)]$ is the polynomial of maximum degree that divides both $a(x)$ and $b(x)$.

We can adapt the Euclidean algorithm to compute the greatest common divisor of two polynomials. The equality in Equation (4.6) can be rewritten as the following theorem.

$$\gcd[a(x), b(x)] = \gcd[b(x), a(x) \bmod b(x)] \quad (4.11)$$

Equation (4.11) can be used repetitively to determine the greatest common divisor. Compare the following scheme to the definition of the Euclidean algorithm for integers.

Euclidean Algorithm for Polynomials	
Calculate	Which satisfies
$r_1(x) = a(x) \bmod b(x)$	$a(x) = q_1(x)b(x) + r_1(x)$
$r_2(x) = b(x) \bmod r_1(x)$	$b(x) = q_2(x)r_1(x) + r_2(x)$
$r_3(x) = r_1(x) \bmod r_2(x)$	$r_1(x) = q_3(x)r_2(x) + r_3(x)$
• • •	• • •
$r_n(x) = r_{n-2}(x) \bmod r_{n-1}(x)$	$r_{n-2}(x) = q_n(x)r_{n-1}(x) + r_n(x)$
$r_{n+1}(x) = r_{n-1}(x) \bmod r_n(x) = 0$	$r_{n-1}(x) = q_{n+1}(x)r_n(x) + 0$ $d(x) = \gcd(a(x), b(x)) = r_n(x)$

At each iteration, we have $d(x) = \gcd(r_{i+1}(x), r_i(x))$ until finally $d(x) = \gcd(r_n(x), 0) = r_n(x)$. Thus, we can find the greatest common divisor of two integers by repetitive application of the division algorithm. This is the Euclidean algorithm for polynomials. The algorithm assumes that the degree of $a(x)$ is greater than the degree of $b(x)$.

Find $\gcd[a(x), b(x)]$ for $a(x) = x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$ and $b(x) = x^4 + x^2 + x + 1$. First, we divide $a(x)$ by $b(x)$:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 + x \\
 x^4 + x^2 + x + 1 \overline{) x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1} \\
 \underline{x^6 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2} \\
 x^5 + x + 1 \\
 \underline{x^5 + x^3 + x^2 + x} \\
 x^3 + x^2 + 1
 \end{array}$$

This yields $r_1(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1$ and $q_1(x) = x^2 + x$.

Then, we divide $b(x)$ by $r_1(x)$.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x + 1 \\
 x^3 + x^2 + 1 \overline{) x^4 + x^2 + x + 1} \\
 \underline{x^4 + x^3 + x} \\
 x^3 + x^2 + 1 \\
 \underline{x^3 + x^2 + 1} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

This yields $r_2(x) = 0$ and $q_2(x) = x + 1$.

Therefore, $\gcd[a(x), b(x)] = r_1(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1$.

Finite Fields of The Form $GF(2^n)$:

Motivation

Virtually all encryption algorithms, both symmetric and public key, involve arithmetic operations on integers. If one of the operations that is used in the algorithm is division, then we need to work in arithmetic defined over a field. For convenience and for implementation efficiency, we would also like to work with integers that fit exactly into a given number of bits with no wasted bit patterns. Work with integers in the range 0 through $2^n - 1$, which fit into an n -bit word.

Table 4.6 Arithmetic in $GF(2^3)$

		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
	+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
000	0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
001	1	1	0	3	2	5	4	7	6
010	2	2	3	0	1	6	7	4	5
011	3	3	2	1	0	7	6	5	4
100	4	4	5	6	7	0	1	2	3
101	5	5	4	7	6	1	0	3	2
110	6	6	7	4	5	2	3	0	1
111	7	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

(a) Addition

		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
	×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
001	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
010	2	0	2	4	6	3	1	7	5
011	3	0	3	6	5	7	4	1	2
100	4	0	4	3	7	6	2	5	1
101	5	0	5	1	4	2	7	3	6
110	6	0	6	7	1	5	3	2	4
111	7	0	7	5	2	1	6	4	3

(b) Multiplication

	w	$-w$	w^{-1}
0	0	0	—
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	5
3	3	3	6
4	4	4	7
5	5	5	2
6	6	6	3
7	7	7	4

(c) Additive and multiplicative inverses

Modular Polynomial Arithmetic

Consider the set S of all polynomials of degree $n - 1$ or less over the field Z_p . Thus, each polynomial has the form

$$f(x) = a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \cdots + a_1x + a_0 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i x^i$$

where each a_i takes on a value in the set $\{0, 1, \dots, p - 1\}$. There are a total of p^n different polynomials in S .

For $p = 3$ and $n = 2$, the $3^2 = 9$ polynomials in the set are

$$\begin{array}{lll} 0 & x & 2x \\ 1 & x + 1 & 2x + 1 \\ 2 & x + 2 & 2x + 2 \end{array}$$

For $p = 2$ and $n = 3$, the $2^3 = 8$ polynomials in the set are

$$\begin{array}{lll} 0 & x + 1 & x^2 + x \\ 1 & x^2 & x^2 + x + 1 \\ x & x^2 + 1 & \end{array}$$

With the appropriate definition of arithmetic operations, each such set S is a finite field. The definition consists of the following elements.

1. Arithmetic follows the ordinary rules of polynomial arithmetic using the basic rules of algebra, with the following two refinements.
2. Arithmetic on the coefficients is performed modulo p . That is, we use the rules of arithmetic for the finite field \mathbb{Z}_p .
3. If multiplication results in a polynomial of degree greater than $n - 1$, then the polynomial is reduced modulo some irreducible polynomial $m(x)$ of degree n . That is, we divide by $m(x)$ and keep the remainder. For a polynomial $f(x)$, the remainder is expressed as $r(x) = f(x) \bmod m(x)$.

The Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) uses arithmetic in the finite field $\text{GF}(2^8)$, with the irreducible polynomial $m(x) = x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$. Consider the two polynomials $f(x) = x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1$ and $g(x) = x^7 + x + 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) + g(x) &= x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1 + x^7 + x + 1 \\ &= x^7 + x^6 + x^4 + x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \times g(x) &= x^{13} + x^{11} + x^9 + x^8 + x^7 \\ &\quad + x^7 + x^5 + x^3 + x^2 + x \\ &\quad + x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1 \\ &= x^{13} + x^{11} + x^9 + x^8 + x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1 \overline{) x^{13} + x^{11} + x^9 + x^8 + x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + 1} \\ \underline{x^{13} \phantom{+ x^{11} + x^9 + x^8} + x^9 + x^8 } \\ x^{11} + x^4 + x^3 \\ \underline{x^{11} + x^7 + x^6 } \\ x^7 + x^6 + 1 \end{array}$$

Therefore, $f(x) \times g(x) \bmod m(x) = x^7 + x^6 + 1$.

It can be shown that the set of all polynomials modulo an irreducible n th-degree polynomial $m(x)$ satisfies the axioms in Figure 4.2, and thus forms a finite field. Furthermore, all finite fields of a given order are isomorphic; that is, any two finite-field structures of a given order have the same structure, but the representation or labels of the elements may be different.

To construct the finite field $\text{GF}(2^3)$, we need to choose an irreducible polynomial of degree 3. There are only two such polynomials: $(x^3 + x^2 + 1)$ and $(x^3 + x + 1)$. Using the latter, Table 4.7 shows the addition and multiplication tables for $\text{GF}(2^3)$. Note that this set of tables has the identical structure to those of Table 4.6. Thus, we have succeeded in finding a way to define a field of order 2^3 .

We can now read additions and multiplications from the table easily. For example, consider binary $100 + 010 = 110$. This is equivalent to $x^2 + x$. Also consider $100 \times 010 = 011$, which is equivalent to $x^2 \times x = x^3$ and reduces to $x + 1$. That is, $x^3 \bmod (x^3 + x + 1) = x + 1$, which is equivalent to 011.

Finding the Multiplicative Inverse

Just as the Euclidean algorithm can be adapted to find the greatest common divisor of two polynomials, the extended Euclidean algorithm can be adapted to find the multiplicative inverse of a polynomial. Specifically, the algorithm will find the multiplicative inverse of $b(x)$ modulo $a(x)$ if the degree of $b(x)$ is less than the degree of $a(x)$ and $\text{gcd}[a(x), b(x)] = 1$. If $a(x)$ is an irreducible polynomial, then it has no factor other than itself or 1, so that $\text{gcd}[a(x), b(x)] = 1$. The algorithm can be characterized in the same way as we did for the extended Euclidean algorithm for integers. Given polynomials $a(x)$ and $b(x)$ with the degree of $a(x)$ greater than the degree of $b(x)$, we wish to solve the following equation for the values $v(x)$, $w(x)$, and $d(x)$, where $d(x) = \text{gcd}[a(x), b(x)]$:

$$a(x)v(x) + b(x)w(x) = d(x)$$

If $d(x) = 1$, then $w(x)$ is the multiplicative inverse of $b(x)$ modulo $a(x)$. The calculations are as follows.

Table 4.7 Polynomial Arithmetic Modulo $(x^3 + x + 1)$

		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
	+	0	1	x	$x + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$
000	0	0	1	x	$x + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$
001	1	1	0	$x + 1$	x	$x^2 + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + x$
010	x	x	$x + 1$	0	1	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + 1$
011	$x + 1$	$x + 1$	x	1	0	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + 1$	x^2
100	x^2	x^2	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$	0	1	x	$x + 1$
101	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + x$	1	0	$x + 1$	x
110	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + 1$	x	$x + 1$	0	1
111	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + 1$	x^2	$x + 1$	x	1	0

(a) Addition

		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
	\times	0	1	x	$x + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$
000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
001	1	0	1	x	$x + 1$	x^2	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$
010	x	0	x	x^2	$x^2 + x$	$x + 1$	1	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + 1$
011	$x + 1$	0	$x + 1$	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + 1$	$x^2 + x + 1$	x^2	1	x
100	x^2	0	x^2	$x + 1$	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + x$	x	$x^2 + 1$	1
101	$x^2 + 1$	0	$x^2 + 1$	1	x^2	x	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x + 1$	$x^2 + x$
110	$x^2 + x$	0	$x^2 + x$	$x^2 + x + 1$	1	$x^2 + 1$	$x + 1$	x	x^2
111	$x^2 + x + 1$	0	$x^2 + x + 1$	$x^2 + 1$	x	1	$x^2 + 1$	x^2	$x + 1$

(b) Multiplication

Extended Euclidean Algorithm for Polynomials			
Calculate	Which satisfies	Calculate	Which satisfies
$r_{-1}(x) = a(x)$		$v_{-1}(x) = 1; w_{-1}(x) = 0$	$a(x) = a(x)v_{-1}(x) + bw_{-1}(x)$
$r_0(x) = b(x)$		$v_0(x) = 0; w_0(x) = 1$	$b(x) = a(x)v_0(x) + b(x)w_0(x)$
$r_1(x) = a(x) \bmod b(x)$ $q_1(x) = \text{quotient of } a(x)/b(x)$	$a(x) = q_1(x)b(x) + r_1(x)$	$v_1(x) = v_{-1}(x) - q_1(x)v_0(x) = 1$ $w_1(x) = w_{-1}(x) - q_1(x)w_0(x) = -q_1(x)$	$r_1(x) = a(x)v_1(x) + b(x)w_1(x)$
$r_2(x) = b(x) \bmod r_1(x)$ $q_2(x) = \text{quotient of } b(x)/r_1(x)$	$b(x) = q_2(x)r_1(x) + r_2(x)$	$v_2(x) = v_0(x) - q_2(x)v_1(x)$ $w_2(x) = w_0(x) - q_2(x)w_1(x)$	$r_2(x) = a(x)v_2(x) + b(x)w_2(x)$
$r_3(x) = r_1(x) \bmod r_2(x)$ $q_3(x) = \text{quotient of } r_1(x)/r_2(x)$	$r_1(x) = q_3(x)r_2(x) + r_3(x)$	$v_3(x) = v_1(x) - q_3(x)v_2(x)$ $w_3(x) = w_1(x) - q_3(x)w_2(x)$	$r_3(x) = a(x)v_3(x) + b(x)w_3(x)$
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
$r_n(x) = r_{n-2}(x) \bmod r_{n-1}(x)$ $q_n(x) = \text{quotient of } r_{n-2}(x)/r_{n-1}(x)$	$r_{n-2}(x) = q_n(x)r_{n-1}(x) + r_n(x)$	$v_n(x) = v_{n-2}(x) - q_n(x)v_{n-1}(x)$ $w_n(x) = w_{n-2}(x) - q_n(x)w_{n-1}(x)$	$r_n(x) = a(x)v_n(x) + b(x)w_n(x)$
$r_{n+1}(x) = r_{n-1}(x) \bmod r_n(x) = 0$ $q_{n+1}(x) = \text{quotient of } r_{n-1}(x)/r_n(x)$	$r_{n-1}(x) = q_{n+1}(x)r_n(x) + 0$		$d(x) = \gcd(a(x), b(x)) = r_n(x)$ $v(x) = v_n(x); w(x) = w_n(x)$

Table 4.8 shows the calculation of the multiplicative inverse of $(x^7 + x + 1) \bmod (x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1)$. The result is that $(x^7 + x + 1)^{-1} = (x^7)$. That is, $(x^7 + x + 1)(x^7) \equiv 1 \pmod{(x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1)}$.

Computational Considerations

A polynomial $f(x)$ in $\text{GF}(2^n)$

$$f(x) = a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \cdots + a_1x + a_0 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i x^i$$

can be uniquely represented by the sequence of its n binary coefficients $(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_0)$. Thus, every polynomial in $\text{GF}(2^n)$ can be represented by an n -bit number.

Table 4.8 Extended Euclid $[(x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1), (x^7 + x + 1)]$

Initialization	$a(x) = x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1; v_{-1}(x) = 1; w_{-1}(x) = 0$ $b(x) = x^7 + x + 1; v_0(x) = 0; w_0(x) = 1$
Iteration 1	$q_1(x) = x; r_1(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + 1$ $v_1(x) = 1; w_1(x) = x$
Iteration 2	$q_2(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1; r_2(x) = x$ $v_2(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1; w_2(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$
Iteration 3	$q_3(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x; r_3(x) = 1$ $v_3(x) = x^6 + x^2 + x + 1; w_3(x) = x^7$
Iteration 4	$q_4(x) = x; r_4(x) = 0$ $v_4(x) = x^7 + x + 1; w_4(x) = x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$
Result	$d(x) = r_3(x) = \gcd(a(x), b(x)) = 1$ $w(x) = w_3(x) = (x^7 + x + 1)^{-1} \bmod (x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1) = x^7$

Tables 4.6 and 4.7 show the addition and multiplication tables for $\text{GF}(2^3)$ modulo $m(x) = (x^3 + x + 1)$. Table 4.6 uses the binary representation, and Table 4.7 uses the polynomial representation.

Consider the two polynomials in $\text{GF}(2^8)$ from our earlier example:

$$f(x) = x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1 \text{ and } g(x) = x^7 + x + 1.$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1) + (x^7 + x + 1) &= x^7 + x^6 + x^4 + x^2 \text{ (polynomial notation)} \\ (01010111) \oplus (10000011) &= (11010100) \text{ (binary notation)} \\ \{57\} \oplus \{83\} &= \{D4\} \text{ (hexadecimal notation)} \end{aligned}$$

MULTIPLICATION:

We will discuss the technique with reference to $\text{GF}(2^8)$ using $m(x) = x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$, which is the finite field used in AES. The technique readily generalizes to $\text{GF}(2^n)$.

The technique is based on the observation that

$$x^8 \bmod m(x) = [m(x) - x^8] = (x^4 + x^3 + x + 1) \quad (4.12)$$

A moment's thought should convince you that Equation (4.12) is true; if you are not sure, divide it out. In general, in $\text{GF}(2^n)$ with an n th-degree polynomial $p(x)$, we have $x^n \bmod p(x) = [p(x) - x^n]$.

Now, consider a polynomial in $\text{GF}(2^8)$, which has the form $f(x) = b_7x^7 + b_6x^6 + b_5x^5 + b_4x^4 + b_3x^3 + b_2x^2 + b_1x + b_0$. If we multiply by x , we have

$$\begin{aligned} x \times f(x) &= (b_7x^8 + b_6x^7 + b_5x^6 + b_4x^5 + b_3x^4 \\ &\quad + b_2x^3 + b_1x^2 + b_0x) \bmod m(x) \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

If $b_7 = 0$, then the result is a polynomial of degree less than 8, which is already in reduced form, and no further computation is necessary. If $b_7 = 1$, then reduction modulo $m(x)$ is achieved using Equation (4.12):

$$\begin{aligned} x \times f(x) &= (b_6x^7 + b_5x^6 + b_4x^5 + b_3x^4 + b_2x^3 + b_1x^2 + b_0x) \\ &\quad + (x^4 + x^3 + x + 1) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that multiplication by x (i.e., 00000010) can be implemented as a 1-bit left shift followed by a conditional bitwise XOR with (00011011), which represents $(x^4 + x^3 + x + 1)$. To summarize,

$$x \times f(x) = \begin{cases} (b_6b_5b_4b_3b_2b_1b_0) & \text{if } b_7 = 0 \\ (b_6b_5b_4b_3b_2b_1b_0) \oplus (00011011) & \text{if } b_7 = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4.14)$$

Multiplication by a higher power of x can be achieved by repeated application of Equation (4.14). By adding intermediate results, multiplication by any constant in $\text{GF}(2^8)$ can be achieved.

In an earlier example, we showed that for $f(x) = x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1$, $g(x) = x^7 + x + 1$, and $m(x) = x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$, we have $f(x) \times g(x) \bmod m(x) = x^7 + x^6 + 1$. Redoing this in binary arithmetic, we need to compute $(01010111) \times (10000011)$. First, we determine the results of multiplication by powers of x :

$$\begin{aligned} (01010111) \times (00000010) &= (10101110) \\ (01010111) \times (00000100) &= (01011100) \oplus (00011011) = (01000111) \\ (01010111) \times (00001000) &= (10001110) \\ (01010111) \times (00010000) &= (00011100) \oplus (00011011) = (00000111) \\ (01010111) \times (00100000) &= (00001110) \\ (01010111) \times (01000000) &= (00011100) \\ (01010111) \times (10000000) &= (00111000) \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} (01010111) \times (10000011) &= (01010111) \times [(00000001) \oplus (00000010) \oplus (10000000)] \\ &= (01010111) \oplus (10101110) \oplus (00111000) = (11000001) \end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to $x^7 + x^6 + 1$.

Using a Generator

An equivalent technique for defining a finite field of the form $GF(2^n)$, using the same irreducible polynomial, is sometimes more convenient. To begin, we need two definitions: A **generator** g of a finite field F of order q (contains q elements) is an element whose first $q - 1$ powers generate all the nonzero elements of F . That is, the elements of F consist of $0, g^0, g^1, \dots, g^{q-2}$. Consider a field F defined by a polynomial $f(x)$. An element b contained in F is called a **root** of the polynomial if $f(b) = 0$. Finally, it can be shown that a root g of an irreducible polynomial is a generator of the finite field defined on that polynomial.

Let us consider the finite field $GF(2^3)$, defined over the irreducible polynomial $x^3 + x + 1$, discussed previously. Thus, the generator g must satisfy $f(g) = g^3 + g + 1 = 0$. Keep in mind, as discussed previously, that we need not find a numerical solution to this equality. Rather, we deal with polynomial arithmetic in which arithmetic on the coefficients is performed modulo 2. Therefore, the solution to the preceding equality is $g^3 = -g - 1 = g + 1$. We now show that g in fact generates all of the polynomials of degree less than 3. We have the following.

$$\begin{aligned}g^4 &= g(g^3) = g(g + 1) = g^2 + g \\g^5 &= g(g^4) = g(g^2 + g) = g^3 + g^2 = g^2 + g + 1 \\g^6 &= g(g^5) = g(g^2 + g + 1) = g^3 + g^2 + g = g^2 + g + g + 1 = g^2 + 1 \\g^7 &= g(g^6) = g(g^2 + 1) = g^3 + g = g + g + 1 = 1 = g^0\end{aligned}$$

We see that the powers of g generate all the nonzero polynomials in $GF(2^3)$. Also, it should be clear that $g^k = g^{k \bmod 7}$ for any integer k . Table 4.9 shows the power representation, as well as the polynomial and binary representations.

Table 4.9 Generator for $GF(2^3)$ using $x^3 + x + 1$

Power Representation	Polynomial Representation	Binary Representation	Decimal (Hex) Representation
0	0	000	0
$g^0 (= g^7)$	1	001	1
g^1	g	010	2
g^2	g^2	100	4
g^3	$g + 1$	011	3
g^4	$g^2 + g$	110	6
g^5	$g^2 + g + 1$	111	7
g^6	$g^2 + 1$	101	5

This power representation makes multiplication easy. To multiply in the power notation, add exponents modulo 7. For example, $g^4 + g^6 = g^{(10 \bmod 7)} = g^3 = g + 1$. The same result is achieved using polynomial arithmetic: We have $g^4 = g^2 + g$ and $g^6 = g^2 + 1$. Then, $(g^2 + g) \times (g^2 + 1) = g^4 + g^3 + g^2 + 1$. Next, we need to determine $(g^4 + g^3 + g^2 + 1) \bmod (g^3 + g + 1)$ by division:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 g^3 + g + 1 \overline{) g^4 + g^3 + g^2 + g} \\
 \underline{g^4 + + g^2 + g} \\
 g^3 \\
 \underline{g^3 + + g + 1} \\
 g + 1
 \end{array}$$

We get a result of $g + 1$, which agrees with the result obtained using the power representation.

Table 4.10 shows the addition and multiplication tables for $GF(2^3)$ using the power representation. Note that this yields the identical results to the polynomial representation (Table 4.7) with some of the rows and columns interchanged.

Table 4.10 $GF(2^3)$ Arithmetic Using Generator for the Polynomial $(x^3 + x + 1)$

		000	001	010	100	011	110	111	101
	+	0	1	G	g^2	g^3	g^4	g^5	g^6
000	0	0	1	G	g^2	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$
001	1	1	0	$g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$	g	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	g^2
010	g	g	$g + 1$	0	$g^2 + g$	1	g^2	$g^2 + 1$	$g^2 + g + 1$
100	g^2	g^2	$g^2 + 1$	$g^2 + g$	0	$g^2 + g + 1$	g	$g + 1$	1
011	g^3	$g + 1$	g	1	$g^2 + g + 1$	0	$g^2 + 1$	g^2	$g^2 + g$
110	g^4	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	g^2	g	$g^2 + 1$	0	1	$g + 1$
111	g^5	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + 1$	$g + 1$	g^2	1	0	g
101	g^6	$g^2 + 1$	g^2	$g^2 + g + 1$	1	$g^2 + g$	$g + 1$	g	0

(a) Addition

		000	001	010	100	011	110	111	101
	\times	0	1	G	g^2	g^3	g^4	g^5	g^6
000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
001	1	0	1	G	g^2	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$
010	g	0	g	g^2	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$	1
100	g^2	0	g^2	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$	1	g
011	g^3	0	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$	1	g	g^2
110	g^4	0	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$	1	g	g^2	$g + 1$
111	g^5	0	$g^2 + g + 1$	$g^2 + 1$	1	g	g^2	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$
101	g^6	0	$g^2 + 1$	1	g	g^2	$g + 1$	$g^2 + g$	$g^2 + g + 1$

(b) Multiplication