

Solving C Modular Equations in Linear Time

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10/20/17

For a set of c arithmetic sequences $S = \{A_1, \dots, A_c\}$ where $A_i = \{x_{io}, \delta_i\}$
The sequences A_i and A_j intersect at x when

$$x \equiv x_{io} \pmod{\delta_i} \text{ and } x \equiv x_{jo} \pmod{\delta_j}$$

this occurs when

$$x \equiv x_{io} - \delta_i \frac{x_{io} - x_{jo}}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)} u \pmod{\frac{\delta_i \delta_j}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)}}$$

where u is the Bézout coefficient that is guaranteed to exist by the Bézout Identity such that

$$\delta_i u + \delta_j v = \gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)$$

Both u and $\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)$ can be calculated in $O(\log(\delta_i) + \log(\delta_j))$ time assuming modulus takes constant time using the Extended Euclidean Algorithm.

This result can be seen by writing A_i as

$$x = k\delta_i + x_{io} \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

plug into A_j to get

$$\begin{aligned} k\delta_i &\equiv x_{jo} - x_{io} \pmod{\delta_j} \\ k\delta_i \frac{u}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)} &\equiv (x_{jo} - x_{io}) \frac{u}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)} \pmod{\delta_j} \\ k &\equiv (x_{jo} - x_{io}) \frac{u}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)} \pmod{\delta_j} \\ k &= l\delta_j + (x_{jo} - x_{io}) \frac{u}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)} \quad \forall l \in \mathbb{Z} \\ x &= (l\delta_j + (x_{jo} - x_{io}) \frac{u}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)})\delta_i + x_{io} \\ x &\equiv x_{io} - \delta_i \frac{x_{io} - x_{jo}}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)} u \pmod{\frac{\delta_i \delta_j}{\gcd(\delta_i, \delta_j)}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, a pair of congruences can be used to represent a pair of arithmetic sequences. This pair of congruences can be reduced to a single congruence in near-constant time that only contains points where the original two congruences intersect. As a result any number of congruences c can be split into many pairs of congruences to be reduced to half as many congruences in $O(\frac{c}{2})$ time.

Therefore, assuming the gcd can be calculated in constant time, the recurrence relation for n congruences is $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(1)$ and the total runtime is $O(n)$. The single remaining congruence gives the arithmetic sequence of points where all C arithmetic sequences intersect.