

M 328K

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Lecture 1

August 27, 2024

1.1 Open Problems

- Twin Primes Conjecture: Do there exist infinitely many pairs of primes that are 2 apart?
- Collatz Conjecture, $3n+1$ Problem - Does this process eventually stop for all n ?
- Fermat's Last Theorem: The equation $x^n + y^n = z^n$ has no (non-trivial) integer solution when $n \geq 3$.
Note: When $n = 2$, there are infinite solutions (Pythagorean triples)

1.2 Notation

- Natural numbers: $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$
- Integers: $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$
- Rational Numbers: $\mathbb{Q} = \{\frac{a}{b} | a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, b \neq 0\}$

1.3 Divisibility

Definition 1.3.1. Let $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say that n divides m and write $n|m$ if there exists an integer k such that $m = nk$.

$$\text{Ex: } 2|4, 5|-5, 3|0, 0|0$$

If n does not divide m : $n \nmid m$

$$\text{Ex: } 2 \nmid 3, 0 \nmid 5$$

Theorem 1.3.1. For $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, the following hold:

1. $a|0, 1|a, a|a$
2. $a|1$ iff $a = \pm 1$
3. If $a|b$ and $c|d$ then $ac|bd$
4. If $a|b$ and $b|c$ then $a|c$
5. $a|b$ and $b|a$ iff $a = \pm b$
6. If $a|b$ and $b \neq 0$, then $|a| \leq |b|$
7. If $a|b$ and $a|c$, then $a|(bx + cy)$ for $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$
Ex. If b, c are even, then (any multiple of b) + (any multiple of c) is even.

Proof (2). First, assume $a|1$. By definition, there exists an integer k such that $1 = ak$.

Note: $k \neq 0$ and $a \neq 0$, so

$$|ak| = |a||k| \geq |a| \text{ since } |k| \geq 1$$

Thus, $1 = |ak| \geq |a|$.

Also, $|a| \geq 1$ since $a \neq 0$ and $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus, $|a| = 1$ which is equivalent to $a = \pm 1$.

Next, assume $a = \pm 1$.

- If $a = 1$: $a|1$ since $1 = a \cdot 1$
- If $a = -1$: $1 = a \cdot -1$

In both cases, $a|1$ as desired. □

Proof (4). Assume $a|b$ and $b|c$.

By definition, there exist integers i and j such that $b = a \cdot i$ and $c = b \cdot j$.

Then, $c = (a \cdot i) \cdot j = a(ij)$.

So, $a|c$ by definition. □

1.4 The Division Algorithm

Theorem 1.4.1. *Given integers a and b with $b \neq 0$, there exist unique integers q and r such that*

$$a = bq + r, \quad 0 \leq r < |b|$$

Lecture 2

August 29, 2024

2.1 Proof by Contradiction

To prove a statement p , assume p is false and derive a contradiction.

Theorem 2.1.1. $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.

Proof. Assume $\sqrt{2}$ is rational. So there exist integers a, b s.t.

$$\sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b}, \text{ where } a \text{ and } b \text{ have no common factors.}$$

Thus $2b^2 = a^2$. ie. $2|a^2$. Hence also $2|a$. By definition, we can write $a = 2k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} 2b^2 &= (2k)^2 = 4k^2 \\ b^2 &= 2k^2 \end{aligned}$$

So $2|b^2$, hence $2|b$. Thus, 2 is a common factor of a and b , a contradiction.
Therefore, $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational. □

2.2 Proof by Induction

Use to prove an infinite number of statements. Ex: Prove that the sum of the first n odd integers is n^2 .
Strategy:

- Prove base case(s) $n=0,1$
- Prove that if the statement is true for n , then it is true for $n+1$

Proof by Induction. Base case: For $n=1$, the sum of the first n positive odd integers is 1, which is n^2 .
Induction step: Assume that the sum of the first n odd integers is n^2 . Consider the sum of the first $n+1$ odd integers.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} 2k - 1 = 1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + 2n - 1 + 2(n+1) - 1$$

By the induction hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} 2k - 1 &= n^2 + 2(n+1) - 1 \\
 &= n^2 + 2n + 2 - 1 \\
 &= n^2 + 2n + 1 \\
 &= (n+1)^2, \text{ as desired}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 2.2.1. For $n \geq 1$, $\frac{d}{dx}x^n = nx^{n-1}$.

Proof by Induction. Base case: $n=1$. $\frac{d}{dx}x^1 = 1 = 1 \cdot x^0$.

Induction step: Assume $\frac{d}{dx}x^n = nx^{n-1}$ is true for some $n > 1$. Using the power rule, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dx}x^{n+1} &= x(nx^{n-1}) + x^n \\
 &= n \cdot x^{1+(n-1)} + x^n \\
 &= x^n(n+1) \\
 &= (n+1)x^n, \text{ as desired.}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

2.3 Well Ordering Principle (WOP)

Every nonempty subset of \mathbb{N} has a smallest element.

Theorem 2.3.1 (Division Algorithm). For any $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $b \neq 0$, there exist unique integers q, s s.t. $a = bq + r, 0 \leq r < |b|$.

Proof. Consider the set

$$S = \{a - bx \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}, a - bx \geq 0\}$$

For simplicity, assume $b > 0$. Note that S is nonempty since for $x = -|a|$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 a - bx &= a - b - (-|a|) = a + b|a| \\
 &\geq a + |a| \\
 &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

So, $a - bx \in S$.

By WOP, S has a smallest element r . Call the corresponding value of x by q .

So $r = a - bq \Leftrightarrow a = bq + r$.

Now, we want to show that $0 \leq r \leq |b|$ ($= b$) since $b > 0$.

By way of contradiction, assume $r \geq b$. Consider

$$\begin{aligned}
 a - b(q+1) &= a - bq - b \\
 &= r - b \\
 &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $a - b(q + 1)$ is an element of S that is smaller than r , a contradiction.

Suppose there exist $q_1, r_1, q_2, r_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$a = bq_1 + r_1 = bq_2 + r_2$$

where $0 \leq r_1, r_2 < b$ (still assuming $b > 0$). We want to show $q_1 = q_2, r_1 = r_2$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} bq_1 - bq_2 &= r_1 - r_2 \\ b(q_1 - q_2) &= r_1 - r_2 \\ b|q_1 - q_2| &= |r_1 - r_2| < b \end{aligned}$$

But $b|q_1 - q_2| < b$ implies (since $b > 0$) that

$$0 \leq |q_1 - q_2| < 1$$

So, $q_1 = q_2$ since $q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus also $r_1 = r_2$. □

Note: The division algorithm lets us make statements like "Every integer can be expressed uniquely in the form $4k, 4k + 1, 4k + 2$, or $4k + 3$ "

Theorem 2.3.2. *The square of every odd integer is of the form $8k + 1$.*

Proof. By the division algorithm, any odd integer n is of the form $n = 4k + 1$ or $4k + 3$. In the 1st case,

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &= (4k + 1)^2 \\ &= 16k^2 + 8k + 1 \\ &= 8(2k^2 + 3k + 1) \end{aligned}$$

In the 2nd case,

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &= (4k + 3)^2 \\ &= 16k^2 + 24k + 9 \\ &= 8(2k^2 + 3k + 1) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

□

Definition 2.3.1. *For $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, if $c|a$ and $c|b$, we say that c is a common divisor and has the property that for any other common c of a and b that $d \geq c$, we call d the greatest common divisor of a and b , and write $d = \gcd(a, b)$.*

Lecture 3

September 3, 2024

3.1 Problem - Diophantine Equations

If a rooster is worth 5 coins, a hen 3 coins, and 3 chicks together 1 coin, how many roosters, hens, and chicks, totaling 100, can be bought for 100 coins?

$$x = \#roosters$$

$$y = \#hens$$

$$z = \#chicks$$

$$x + y + z = 100$$

$$5x + 3y + \frac{1}{3}z = 100$$

Diophantine Equations

$$x^n + y^n = z^n$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2 = n$$

3.2 Bezout's Theorem

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ (not both zero). The gcd of a and b is the smallest positive integer d that can be written as $ax + by = d, x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof. Let $S = \{ax + by > 0 | x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. Note that S is nonempty since for $x = a, y = b$ we have $ax + by = a^2 + b^2 > 0$. By WOP, S has a smallest element, call it d . WTS:

1. $d|a, d|b$
2. if $c|a, c|b$, then $c \leq d$

To show $d|a$, apply the division algo to obtain $a = d \cdot q + r, 0 \leq r < d$. Writing $d = ax_0 + by_0$ for $x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} r &= a - d \cdot q \\ r &= a(ax_0 + by_0) \cdot q \\ r &= a(1 - x_0q) + b(-y_0q) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if $r > 0$ then $r \in S$ which is smaller than d , contradicting d being the smallest element. Then, $r = 0$ and $d|a$. (Same argument for $d|b$).

Now suppose that $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $c|a$ and $c|b$. Recall that if x and y are integers, then $c|(cx + by)$. Hence, $c|(ax_0 + by_0) \iff c|d$. Then $c \leq |d| = d$. Therefore, $d = \gcd(a, b)$. \square

Corollary 3.2.1. *Every common divisor of a and b divides $\gcd(a, b)$.*

Corollary 3.2.2. *The linear Diophantine equation $ax + by = c$ has a solution iff $d|c$.*

Proof. First assume that $ax + by = c$ has a solution: $c = ax_0 + by_0$. Since $d|a$, and $d|b$, we have $d|(ax_0 + by_0)$. On the other hand, suppose $d|c$. By definition, $c = d|k$ for some k . By Bezout's theorem, we can write

$$d = ax + by \text{ for some } x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} d \cdot k &= a(x \cdot k) + b(y \cdot k) \\ c &= a(x \cdot k) + b(y \cdot k) \end{aligned}$$

So c is an integer linear combo a < b as desired. \square

Definition 3.2.1. *We say that integers a and b (not both zero) are relatively prime or coprime if*

$$\gcd(a, b) = 1$$

Corollary 3.2.3. *Integers a and b are relatively prime iff there exist $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $ax + by = 1$.*

Corollary 3.2.4. *If a, b are coprime, then $ax + by = c$ has a solution for any $c \in \mathbb{Z}$.*

3.3 Euclidean Algorithm

1. Start with (a, b) (assume $|a| \geq |b|$)
2. Apply DA: $a = bq + r, 0 \leq r < |b|$
3. If $r = 0$, then $b|a$ and $\gcd(a, b) = |b|$.
4. Otherwise, replace (a, b) with (b, r) .
5. Repeat.
6. The final nonzero r is \gcd .

Example 3.3.0.1. $\gcd(12378, 3054)$

$$\begin{aligned} 12378 &= 3054 \cdot 4 + 162 \\ 3054 &= 162 \cdot 18 + 138 \\ 162 &= 138 \cdot 1 + 24 \\ 138 &= 24 \cdot 5 + 18 \\ 24 &= 18 \cdot 1 + 6 \\ 18 &= 6 \cdot 3 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\gcd = 6$$

Note: if you allow for negative remainders, that can be more efficient.

$$\begin{aligned} 3054 &= 162 \cdot 19 - 24 \\ 162 &= (-24)(-7) - 6 \\ -24 &= (-6)(4) + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3.3.0.2. Solve $1237x + 3054y = 6$ via "Extended Euclidean Algorithm".

$$\begin{aligned} 6 &= 24 - 18 \cdot 1 \\ &= 24 - (138 - 24 \cdot 5) \\ &= 24 \cdot 6 - 138 \\ &= (162 - 138) \cdot 6 - 138 \\ &= 162 \cdot 6 - 138 \cdot 7 \\ &= 162 \cdot 6 - (3054 - 162 \cdot 18) \cdot 7 \\ &= (12378 - 3054 \cdot 4) \cdot 6 - (3054 - (12378 - 3054)) \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3.3.0.3. Solve

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 100 \\ 5x + 3y + \frac{1}{3}z &= 100 \end{aligned}$$

Using $z = 100 - x - y$, we have $7x + 4y = 100$.

Note: $7(-1) + 4(2) = 1$.

So $7(-100) + 4(200) = 100$

$$\begin{aligned} 7 &= 4 \cdot 1 + 3 \\ 4 &= 3 \cdot 1 + 1 \\ 1 &= 4 - 3 \\ 1 &= 4 - (7 - 4) \\ 1 &= -7 + 4(2) \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3.3.1. If $ax + by = c$ has a solution $x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then any other solution $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ is given by

$$x = x_0 + \frac{b}{d}k, y = y_0 - \frac{a}{d}k$$

where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $d = \gcd(a, b)$.

If $x, y, z > 0$, then k must satisfy

$$\frac{200}{7} > k > 25$$

So

$k = 26, 27, 28$, so the only solutions are

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 4, y = 18, z = 78 \\ x &= 8, y = 11, z = 81 \\ x &= 12, y = -1, z = 89 \end{aligned}$$

Lecture 4

September 5, 2024

4.1 Bezout, Euclid's Lemma

1. If $a|c$ and $b|c$, must $ab|c$?
False: $a = b = c = 2$, $2|2$, $2|2$ but $4 \nmid 2$
2. If $a|bc$ and $a \nmid b$, must $a|c$?
False: $a = 4, b = c = 2$

But... Proposition: Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$

1. If $a|c, b|c$ and $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, then $ab|c$.

Proof. By Bezout, there exist integers x, y s.t. $ax + by = 1$. Then, $acx + bcy = c$.
By definition, there exist $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $c = ar = bs$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}a(bs)x + b(ar)y &= c \\ ab(sx + ry) &= c\end{aligned}$$

So, $ab|c$. □

2. If $a|bc$, and $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, then $a|c$. (Euclid's Lemma)

Proof. Again, there exist $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $ax + by = 1$. Then $acx + bcy = c$.
Since $a|bc$, we have $bc = ar$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned}acx + ary &= c \\ a(cx + ry) &= c\end{aligned}$$

So, $a|c$ as desired. □

4.2 Prime Numbers

Definition 4.2.1. A prime p is an integer greater than 1 that is only divisible by 1 and p .

Theorem 4.2.1 (Euclid's Lemma). If p is prime and $p|ab$ ($a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$), then $p|a$ or $p|b$ (or both).

Proof. Suppose $p \nmid a$. Since p is prime, this implies that $\gcd(p, a) = 1$.
Then by Euclid's Lemma, we have $p|b$. □

Corollary 4.2.1. If p is prime and $p|(a_1 a_2 \dots a_n)$ then $p|a_k$ for some $k, 1 \leq k \leq n$.

Proof by Induction. Base case ($n = 1$). Tautology *(If A then A)

Inductive step: Assume that for some $n \geq 1$, if p divides the product of any collection of n integers $a_1 \dots a_n$, then $p|c_k$ for some k .

Suppose $p|a_1 a_2 \dots a_n a_{n+1}$. By Euclid's Lemma, $p|a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$ OR $p|a_{n+1}$.

In the latter case, we are done.

Hence assume now that $p|a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$. By IH, $p|a_k$ for some $k, 1 \leq k \leq n$ as desired. \square

Corollary 4.2.2. *If p, q_1, q_2, q_n are primes, and $p|q_1 q_2 \dots q_n$, then $p = q_k$ for some k .*

Proof. By the previous result, $p|q_k$ for some k . Since q_k is prime and $p > 1$, we have $p = q_k$. \square

Theorem 4.2.2 (Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, FTA). *Every integer $n > 1$ can be expressed as a product of primes. Moreover, this expression is unique up to reordering the factors.*

Proof by Induction on n . Base case ($n = 2$).

Induction step: Assume that any integer (> 1) less than or equal to n satisfies FTA.

Now consider $n + 1$.

If $n + 1$ is prime, we are done. Otherwise, assume $n + 1 = ab$ for some $1 < a, b < n + 1$. By IH, a and b can be expressed as a product of primes, hence so can $n + 1$. This proves the existence statement.

For uniqueness, take the same IH. Suppose that we can express $n + 1$ as

$$n + 1 = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r = q_1 q_2 \dots q_s$$

where p_r, q_s are prime. Without loss of generality, assume

$$p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots \leq p_r, \text{ and } q_1 \leq q_2 \leq \dots \leq q_s$$

Note $p_1|q_1 q_2 \dots q_s$, so $p_1 = q_i$ for some i . By the same argument, $q_1 = p_j$ for some j .

Since $p_1 \leq p_j$ and $q_1 \leq q_2$, this implies $p_1 = q_1$. By cancelling, we have $p_2 \dots p_r = q_2 \dots q_s$.

Since $p_2 \dots p_r = q_1 \dots q_s \leq n$, we can apply IH to conclude that $r = s$ and $p_i = q_i$ for all i . \square

Theorem 4.2.3. *There exist infinitely many primes.*

Proof (Euclid). Assume that $p_1 \dots p_n$ is a list of n primes.

Consider the integer $N = p_1 \dots p_n + 1$. Note that no p_i can divide N , otherwise

$$\begin{array}{l} p_i|(N - p_1 \dots p_n) \\ p_i|1 \\ \text{nooooo} \end{array}$$

But N is divisible by some prime p with $p \neq p_1, \dots, p_n$. Thus, there are infinitely many primes. \square

Lecture 5

September 10, 2024

5.1 Modular Congruences

Recall: We often use arguments like "n is of the form $4k, 4k + 1, 4k + 2$, or $4k + 3 \dots$ "

Definition 5.1.1 (Precise). Let $a, b, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $n > 0$. We say that a is congruent to b mod n if $n|(a - b)$. We write

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

Definition 5.1.2 (Informal). $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ if a and b give the same remainder after division by n .
Examples:

- $7 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$
- $-31 \equiv 11 \pmod{7}$
- $10^{2024} + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$
- $a \equiv b \pmod{2}$ iff a and b are both even or both odd
- a can be written in the form

$$a = nk + r$$

$$\text{iff } a \equiv r \pmod{n}$$

Proposition 5.1.1. Every integer is congruent modulo n to exactly one of $0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$

Proof. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. By the division algorithm, we can write

$$a = nq + r, \quad 0 \leq r < n$$

Then $a - r = nq$, so $n|a - r$, ie.

$$a \equiv r \pmod{n}$$

Uniqueness follows from uniqueness of division algorithm remainder. □

Theorem 5.1.1. Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}, n > 0$. Then

1. $a \equiv a \pmod{n}$
2. if $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ then $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$
3. if $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$, then $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$

Proof (3). By definition, $n|a - b$ and $n|b - c$. Recall that if $n|r, n|s$, then $n|(rx + sy)$ for any $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. In particular,

$$n|((a - b) + (b - c)) \Leftrightarrow n|(a - c)$$

So $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$. □

Theorem 5.1.2. Let $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ and assume $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$.

1. if $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$, then $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{n}$.
2. if $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$, then $ac \equiv bd \pmod{n}$.
3. $a^k \equiv b^k \pmod{n} \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof (1). Suppose $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$. By definition, $n|a - b$ and $n|c - d$. But, $(a + c) - (b + d) = (a - b) + (c - d)$ which is divisible by n , so $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{n}$. □

Proof (3) by Induction. Base case: $k = 1$. Tautology

Inductive step: Assume for some $k > 1$ that $a^k \equiv b^k \pmod{n}$ (WTS: $a^{k+1} \equiv b^{k+1}$)

Note by (2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^k &\equiv b^k \pmod{n} && [IH] \\ a^k \cdot a &\equiv b^k \cdot b \pmod{n} && [2] \\ a^{k+1} &\equiv b^{k+1} \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

□

WARNING: In general, if $ac \equiv bc \pmod{n}$, it is not true that $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$. Ex: $2 \cdot 3 \equiv 2 \cdot 0 \pmod{6}$

Example 5.1.2.1. Show $41|(2^{20} - 1) \Leftrightarrow$ Show $2^{20} \equiv 1 \pmod{41}$.

First,

$$\begin{aligned} 2^5 &\equiv 32 \pmod{41} \\ (2^5)^2 &\equiv (-9)^2 \\ 2^{10} &\equiv 81 \pmod{41} \\ 2^{10} &\equiv -1 \pmod{41} \\ 2^{20} &\equiv (-1) \equiv 1 \pmod{41} \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 5.1.2. A decimal integer is divisible by 3 iff the sum of its digits is divisible by 3.

Proof. Let n be an integer whose decimal representation is

$$(a_n a_{n-1} \dots a_1 a_0)_{10}$$

Then

$$a = a_0 + a_1 \cdot 10 + a_2 \cdot 100 + \dots + a_n \cdot 10^n$$

Then

$$a \equiv a_0 + a_1 \cdot 10 + \dots + a_n \cdot 10^n \pmod{n}$$

Since $10 \pmod{3} \equiv 1$, we have

$$a \equiv a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_n \pmod{3}$$

□

5.2 Congruences with Unknowns

Example 5.2.0.1. *Solve*

$$\begin{aligned}x + 12 &\equiv 5 \pmod{8} \\ x &\equiv -7 \pmod{8}\end{aligned}$$

We also have

- $x \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ *is also a solution*
- $x \equiv 9$
- $x \equiv 17$

But we consider these to be the "same" since they are congruent.

Example 5.2.0.2. *Solve*

$$\begin{aligned}4x &\equiv 3 \pmod{19} \\ 20x &\equiv 15 \pmod{19} \\ x &\equiv 15 \pmod{19} \\ \text{Since } 20 &\equiv 1 \pmod{19}\end{aligned}$$

Example 5.2.0.3. *Solve*

$$6x \equiv 15 \pmod{514}$$

This has no solutions.

Why?! $6x - 15$ is always odd.

In particular, $514 \nmid (6x - 15)$.

In general, we want to understand when $ax \equiv b$ has solutions and how to find them.

Example 5.2.0.4. $18x \equiv 8 \pmod{22}$ *has incongruent solutions*
 $x \equiv 20 \pmod{22}$ *and* $x \equiv a \pmod{22}$

Lecture 6

September 12, 2024

6.1 From Last Time

Solve $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$.

It's possible for there to be no solutions OR a single solution OR multiple incongruent solutions.

Theorem 6.1.1. 1. $a \equiv a \pmod{n}$

2. if $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ then $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$

3. if $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$, $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$, then $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$

Example 6.1.1.1. $20 \equiv 1 \pmod{19}$

$$20 \equiv 1 \pmod{19}$$

$$20x \equiv x \pmod{19}$$

$$20x \equiv 15 \pmod{19}$$

$$x \equiv 20x \pmod{19}$$

$$x \equiv 15 \pmod{19}$$

We also have this

By (2)

By (3)

6.2 Solving stuff

WARNING: If $ac \equiv bc \pmod{n}$, we can't conclude $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$.

Theorem 6.2.1. If $\gcd(c, n) = 1$, then $ac \equiv bc \pmod{n}$ implies $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$.

Proof. By definition, we have

$$n \mid (a - b)c$$

By Euclid's Lemma, since $\gcd(n, c) = 1$, we have $n \mid (a - b)$, hence $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$. □

Proposition 6.2.1. Let $d = \gcd(a, b)$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $\gcd(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}) = 1$.

Proof. By Bezout, there exist integers x and y such that $ax + by = d$. Then,

$$(\frac{a}{d}x + \frac{b}{d}y) = 1$$

So $\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}$ are relatively prime. □

Theorem 6.2.2. Consider $ac \equiv bc \pmod{n}$ and let $d = \gcd(c, n)$. Then $a \equiv b \pmod{\frac{n}{d}}$.

Note: If $d = 1$, this is the same statement as before.

Proof. $n \mid (a - b)c$ as before. So there exists $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(a - b)c = nk$. Then,

$$(a - b)\frac{c}{d} = \frac{n}{d}k$$

So,

$$\frac{n}{d} \mid (a - b)\frac{c}{d}$$

By Proposition 2.1, $\gcd(\frac{n}{d}, \frac{c}{d}) = 1$, so Euclid's Lemma says

$$\frac{n}{d} \mid (a - b), \text{ ie. } a \equiv b \pmod{\frac{n}{d}}$$

□

Example 6.2.2.1.

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \cdot 3 &\equiv 2 \cdot 0 \pmod{6} \\ 3 &\equiv 0 \pmod{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\gcd(2, 6) = 2$$

Theorem 6.2.3 (Build-a-theorem). *Let $a, b, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $n > 1$, let $d = \gcd(a, n)$. Then the linear congruence $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$.*

- *has no solution if $d \nmid b$*
- *has exactly d incongruent solutions \pmod{n} if $d \mid b$*

In particular, if x_0 is a solution, then

$$x_0, x_0 + \frac{n}{d}, x_0 + 2\frac{n}{d}, \dots, x_0 + (d - 1)\frac{n}{d}$$

is a complete set of solutions \pmod{n} , ie. if x is a solution, then x is congruent modulo n to exactly one of

$$x_0 + t\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq d - 1$$

Study $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$. If this has a solution x , then $n \mid (ax - b)$. Then there exists $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$ax - b = ny$$

So,

$$ax - ny = b$$

This linear diophantine equation has a solution exactly when $\gcd(a, n) = d \mid b$.

Recall: $6x \equiv 15 \pmod{512}$. $\gcd(6, 512) = (1, 2, 3, \text{ or } 6)$. Note $3 \nmid 512$ since $3 + (5 + 1 + 2)$. But $2 \nmid 15$, so there are no solutions.

Example 6.2.3.1. *Solve*

$$9x \equiv 21 \pmod{30}$$

$d = \gcd(9, 30) = 3 \mid 21$ *Either write down*

$$9x - 30y = 21$$

dividing,

$$3x - 10y = 7$$

OR apply Theorem 2.2 to yield

$$3x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$$

leading to

$$3x - 10y = 7$$

Extended Euclidean algorithm

$$10 = 3 \cdot 3 + 1$$

$$10 - 3 \cdot 3 = 1$$

$$10 \cdot 7 - 3 \cdot 21 = 7$$

$$-10(-7) + 3(-21) = 7$$

$$\boxed{x=-21, y=-7}$$

But $x \equiv (-21) + 30 \pmod{30}$. $x \equiv 9 \pmod{30}$. So we have found one solution (up to congruence).

Note: $x = 9$ is a solution to $3x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$. So, $x = 19$ and $x = 29$ are also solutions to $3x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$ that are distinct $\pmod{30}$.

Example 6.2.3.2. Solve

$$18x \equiv 8 \pmod{22}$$

$d = \gcd(18, 22) = 2$. First find a solution to

$$9x \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$$

Solve

$$9x - 11y = 4$$

this has a solution $x = -2$, $y = -22$.

Choose $x = -2 + 11 = 9$ is one solution.

The other distinct solution $\pmod{22}$ is

$$x = 9 + 11 = 20$$

$x = 9, 20$ is a complete set of solutions up to congruence $\pmod{22}$.

Lecture 7

September 17, 2024

7.1 Last Time

1. $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$ If $d = \gcd(a, n)$, then
 - (a) If $d \nmid b$, then no solutions
 - (b) If $d \mid b$, then there are exactly d incongruent solutions mod n
 - (c) If $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, there is a unique solution mod n .
2. $9x \equiv 21 \pmod{30}$
 $d = \gcd(9, 30) = 3$
First divide by d to solve congruence

$$3x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$$

This applies to point 1(c) and has a unique solution mod 10.

Euclidean Algorithm: $x = -21$ is a solution. There are infinitely many solutions adding multiples of 10 to the solution.

$$-21 + 10k \text{ is also a solution}$$

They are all congruent to each other mod 10. Infinitely many integer solutions to $3x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$ are

$$\dots, -21, -11, -1, 9, 19, 29, 39, \dots$$

This list also includes all solutions to original congruence, but not all the same mod 30.

7.2 Multiplicative Inverse

Consider $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. This has a (unique) solution iff $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.

A solution is called a multiplicative inverse of a modulo n. We will write it as $x \equiv a^{-1} \pmod{n}$ so $aa^{-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. Note that $a^{-1} \neq \frac{1}{a}$.

Recall. $4x \equiv 3 \pmod{19}$.

Note.

$$4^{-1} \equiv 5 \pmod{19} \text{ Since}$$

$$4 \cdot 5 \equiv 20 \equiv 1 \pmod{19}$$

Multiply $4x \equiv 3 \pmod{19}$ by $4^{-1} \pmod{19}$ to get

$$5 \cdot 4x \equiv 5 \cdot 3 \pmod{19}$$

$$x \equiv 15 \pmod{19}$$

Example 7.2.0.1. Find $7^{-1} \pmod{17}$. Solve $7x \equiv 1 \pmod{17} \Leftrightarrow 7x - 17y = 1$.
EA:

$$\begin{aligned} 17 &= 7 \cdot 2 + 3 \\ 7 &= 3 \cdot 2 + 1 \\ 1 &= 7 - 3 \cdot 2 \\ 1 &= 7 - (17 - 7 \cdot 2)2 \\ &= 17(-2) + 7 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{x = 5}$$

7.3 Stuff

$$a^k \pmod{5}$$

a	a^2	a^3	a^4	a^5	a^6
0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1
2	4	3	1	2	4
3	4	2	1	3	4
4	1	4	1	4	1

$a^k \pmod{5}$

$$a^k \pmod{7}$$

a	a^2	a^3	a^4	a^5	a^6	a^7
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	4	1	2	4	1	2
3	2	6	4	5	1	3
4	2	1	4	2	1	4
5	4	6	2	3	1	5
6	1	6	1	6	1	6

$a^k \pmod{7}$

7.3.1 Fermat's Little Theorem

Theorem 7.3.1. *Let p be prime and $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $p \nmid a$. Then*

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

ie.

$$p \mid (a^{p-1} - 1)$$

Proof (Idea). $p = 5$

$$0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \pmod{5}$$

$$0, 2, 4, 1, 3 \pmod{5}$$

$$0, 3, 1, 4, 2$$

□

Claim: The integers $0, a, 2a, \dots, (p-1)a \pmod{p}$ are the same as the integers $0, 1, 2, \dots, (p-1)$ but maybe in a different order.

Proof of Claim. If claim is false, then $ia \equiv ja \pmod{p}$ for some i, j . Then $p \mid a(i-j)$.

□

Now Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & a(2a)(3a) \dots ((p-1)a) \\ &= a^{p-1}(1)(2)(3) \dots (p-1) \\ &= a^{p-1}(p-1)! \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, by the claim,

$$\begin{aligned} a(2a)(3a) \dots ((p-1)a) &\equiv (1)(2)(3) \dots (p-1) \pmod{p} \\ a^{p-1}(p-1)! &\equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

By HW,

$$\gcd((p-1)!, p) = 1$$

So we can cancel:

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

7.3.2 Example

$$p = 23. \quad 6^{22} \equiv 1 \pmod{23}.$$

ie.

$$23 \mid (6^{22} - 1)$$

7.3.3 Primality Test

$$n = 10^{100} + 37$$

Compute

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{n-1} &= 2^{10^{100}+36} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv 367 \dots 396 \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

So n is not prime.

Note: This will never show n is prime. It can be true that $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ even if n is composite.

Test 117 with $a = 2$.

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{116} &= 2^{64} \cdot 2^{32} \cdot 2^{16} \cdot 2^4 \\ &\equiv 16 \cdot 22 \cdot 16 \cdot 16 \\ &\equiv 22 \\ &\not\equiv 1 \pmod{117} \end{aligned}$$

So 117 is composite.

Lecture 8

September 19, 2024

8.1 Last Time

8.1.1 Fermat's Little Theorem

Let p be prime, $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, $p \nmid a$, then

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$ax \equiv 1 \pmod{n} \text{ has a solution whenever } \gcd(a, n) = 1$$

$$4x \equiv 3 \pmod{19}$$

$$4^{17}(4x) \equiv 4^{17} \cdot 3 \pmod{19}$$

$$4^{18}x \equiv 5 \cdot 3 \pmod{19}$$

$$x \equiv 15 \pmod{19}$$

Note: Definitely need p to be prime.

Example 8.1.0.1.

$$3^9 \equiv 3 \pmod{10}$$

8.2 Generalization to composite modulus

8.2.1 Euler Totient Function (Euler's Phi Function)

Definition 8.2.1. The Euler totient function ϕ is the function $\phi: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ defined by

$$\phi(n) = \#\{a \mid 1 \leq a \leq n-1, \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$$

Example 8.2.0.1.

$$\phi(1) = 1$$

$$\phi(2) = 1$$

$$\phi(3) = 2$$

$$\phi(4) = 2$$

$$\phi(20) = 8$$

Proposition 8.2.1. If p is prime, then

$$\phi(p) = p - 1$$

Proposition 8.2.2. *If p is prime and $k > 1$, then*

$$\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$$

Exclude all multiples of p between 1 and p^k :

$$p, 2p, 3p, \dots, (p^{k-1})p, p^{k-1}p$$

Note: $\phi(n) = n - 1$ iff n is prime. Intuition: ϕ is how close n is to being prime.

8.2.2 Euler's Theorem

Theorem 8.2.1 (Euler's Theorem). *Let $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. Then*

$$a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

Note: If $n = p$ is prime, then $\phi(n) = p - 1$, so we get

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Proof of Euler's Theorem. Let $0 < b_1 < b_2 < \dots < b_{\phi(n)}$ be the integers between 1 and n that are coprime to n . The claim: The integers $ab_1, ab_2, \dots, ab_{\phi(n)}$ are the same as $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{\phi(n)} \pmod{n}$ but maybe in a different order.

Example 8.2.1.1. $n = 10$; $a = 3$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & b_4 \\ 1 & 3 & 7 & 9 \\ ab_1 & ab_2 & ab_3 & ab_4 \\ 3 & 9 & 1 & 7 \end{array} \pmod{10}$$

Proof is same from HW.

So

$$\begin{aligned} (ab_1)(ab_2) &\equiv b_1b_2 \dots b_{\phi(n)} \pmod{n} \\ a^{\phi(n)}(b_1b_2 \dots b_{\phi(n)}) &\equiv b_1b_2 \dots b_{\phi(n)} \end{aligned}$$

Since each b_i is coprime to n , we can cancel to get

$$a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

□

8.2.3 More on ϕ

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(p) &= p - 1 \quad \text{for } p \text{ prime} \\ \phi(p^k) &= p^k - p^{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 8.2.2. *Let a, b be coprime positive integers. Then,*

$$\phi(a, b) = \phi(a) \cdot \phi(b)$$

" ϕ is multiplicative."

WARNING: *We need $\gcd(a, b) = 1$. Ex. $\phi(4) = 2$, $\phi(2)\phi(2) = 1$*

Corollary 8.2.1. *If $n = p_1^{r_1} \dots p_k^{r_k}$, then*

$$\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{r_1}) \dots \phi(p_k^{r_k}) = (p_1^{r_1} - p_1^{r_1-1}) \dots (p_k^{r_k} - p_k^{r_k-1})$$

To prove this, we first need to understand how to solve this problem from 4th century China:

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\ x &\equiv 2 \pmod{7} \end{aligned}$$

We will solve this using the Chinese Remainder Theorem.

8.2.4 Chinese Remainder Theorem

Theorem 8.2.3 (Chinese Remainder Theorem). *Suppose $\gcd(n_1, n_2) = 1$ for pos integers n_1 and n_2 . Then for any $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, the system*

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1} \\ x &\equiv a_2 \pmod{n_2} \end{aligned}$$

has a unique solution $0 \leq x < n_1 n_2$.

Proof (Existence). By Bezout, there exist $m_1, m_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$n_1 m_1 + n_2 m_2 = 1$$

Now let $x = a_2 n_1 m_1 + a_1 n_2 m_2$. Then reducing $\pmod{n_1}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a_2 n_1 m_1 + a_1 n_2 m_2 \equiv a_1 n_2 m_2 \pmod{n_1} \\ &\equiv a_1 (1 - n_1 m_1) \pmod{n_1} \\ &\equiv a_1 - a_1 n_1 m_1 \pmod{n_1} \\ &\equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1} \end{aligned}$$

By the same argument,

$$x \equiv a_2 \pmod{n_2}$$

Take $x \pmod{n_1 n_2}$ to be a solution between 0 and $n_1 n_2$. □

Example 8.2.3.1. *Going back to this problem,*

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\ x &\equiv 2 \pmod{7} \end{aligned}$$

First use Bezout:

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \cdot 2 + 5(-1) &= 1 \\ x &= 3(6) + 2(-5) \pmod{15} = 8 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 8 \pmod{15} \\ x &\equiv 2 \pmod{7} \\ 15 \cdot 1 + 7(-2) &= 1 \\ x &= 2(15) + 8(-14) \pmod{105} \\ -82 &\pmod{105} = 23 \end{aligned}$$

Relationship with ϕ : To show

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$$

when $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, we need to count two things:

$$\{x \mid 0 \leq x < ab, \gcd(x, ab) = 1\}$$

$$\text{Size: } \phi(ab)$$

$$\{(y_1, y_2) \mid 0 \leq y_1 < a, \gcd(y_1, a) = 1, 0 \leq y_2 < b, \gcd(y_2, b) = 1\}$$

$$\text{Size: } \phi(a)\phi(b)$$

Lecture 9

September 24, 2024

9.1 Last Time

Chinese Remainder Theorem

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1} \\x &\equiv a_2 \pmod{n_2}\end{aligned}$$

has a unique solution mod n_1n_2 .

$$x \equiv \text{a unique integer in } 0, 1, 2, \dots, n_1n_2 - 1$$

Lecture 10

September 26, 2024

10.1 Some more properties of primes

Freshmen's Dream

$$(x + y)^n = x^n + y^n \quad \text{False!}$$

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n x^k y^{n-k}$$

$$\text{where } \binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

If $n = p$ is prime, then

$$(x + y)^p = \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{p}{k} x^k y^{p-k}$$

From HW: for $0 < k < p$, we have $p \mid \binom{p}{k}$.

So, $(x + y)^p = x^p + y^p + p \cdot \text{some poly w/ } \mathbb{Z} \text{ coeffs.}$

Reducing $(\text{mod } p)$, we have

$$(x + y)^p \equiv x^p + y^p \pmod{p}$$

On the topic of polynomials...

Solving $F(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ can be weird.

Example 10.1.0.1. Find all solutions (up to congruence) to

$$x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$x = 0, x = 3, x = 6 \leftarrow 3$ roots to a polynomial $F(x) = x^2$ of degree 2.
This happens because 9 is not prime.

Theorem 10.1.1. Let $F(x)$ be a polynomial of degree r . Then $F(x)$ has at most r roots mod any prime p (as long as $p \nmid$ (leading coeff)).

Example 10.1.1.1. From HW you showed that the only square roots of 1 $(\text{mod } p)$ were 1 and -1.

10.2 Wilson's Theorem

Theorem 10.2.1 (Wilson's Theorem). *Let p be a prime. Then*

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

Example 10.2.1.1. $p = 11$:

$$(1)(2) \dots (9)(10)$$

- 1 and 10 pair to themselves.
- 2 pairs with 6. $(2 \cdot 6) - 1$
- 3 pairs with 4.
- 5 pairs with 9.
- 7 pairs with 8.

$$\begin{aligned} 10! &= (1)(2 \cdot 6)(3 \cdot 4)(5 \cdot 9)(7 \cdot 8) \cdot 10 \\ &\equiv (1)(1)(1)(1)(1)(-1) - 1 \pmod{11} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let p be prime and consider the integers $2, 3, \dots, p-2$. Each one of these integers has some inverse $(\text{mod } p)$. ie. If $a \in \{2, 3, \dots, p-2\}$, then $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ has a solution.

Claim: For each $a \in \{2, 3, \dots, p-2\}$,

$$a \not\equiv a^{-1} \pmod{p}$$

Why? If $a \equiv a^{-1} \pmod{p}$, then

$$a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

From HW, the solutions are exactly

$$a \equiv 1 \quad \text{or} \quad a \equiv -1$$

Then we can pair each $a \in \{2, 3, \dots, p-2\}$ with its inverse $(\text{mod } p)$ to get

$$(p-1)! = 1((2)(3) \dots (p-2))(p-1) \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

Note: $(2)(3) \dots (p-2) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$, $(p-1) \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$. □

Note: We really need p to be prime.

Example 10.2.1.2. Look at $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$.

$$x \equiv 1, x \equiv -1(\equiv 7), x \equiv 3, x \equiv 5, x \equiv 7$$

Remark: $F(x) = x^2 - 1$ has 4 roots $(\text{mod } 8)$.

10.3 Review

Example 10.3.0.1. Compute $3^{104} \pmod{101}$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{100} &\equiv 1 \pmod{101} \\ 3^4 \cdot 3^{100} &\equiv 3^4 \pmod{101} \\ 3^{104} &\equiv 81 \pmod{101} \end{aligned}$$

Example 10.3.0.2. For $n > 3$, $\phi(n)$ is even.

ϕ is multiplicative. \rightarrow compute ϕ from prime factorization.

Write $n = p_1^{k_1} \dots p_r^{k_r}$ then

$$\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{k_1} \dots p_r^{k_r}) = (p_1^{k_1} - p_1^{k_1-1}) \dots (p_r^{k_r} - p_r^{k_r-1})$$

Lecture 11

October 3, 2024

11.1

Lecture 12

October 8, 2024

12.1 Miscellaneous

12.1.1 Least Common Multiple

Definition 12.1.1. Let a, b be positive integers. The least common multiple of a and b denoted by $\text{lcm}(a, b)$ is the smallest positive integer divisible by a and b .

Examples

- $\text{lcm}(2, 3) = 6$
- $\text{lcm}(4, 6) = 12$
- $\text{lcm}(1, n) = n$
- $\text{lcm}(n, n) = n$

$$4 \cdot 6 = 24, \text{gcd}(4, 6) = 2, \text{lcm}(4, 6) = 12$$

$$3 \cdot 9 = 27, \text{gcd}(3, 9) = 3, \text{lcm}(3, 9) = 9$$

Theorem 12.1.1. For positive integers a, b we have

$$ab = \text{gcd}(a, b) \cdot \text{lcm}(a, b)$$

12.1.2 More about ϕ (and number-theoretic functions)

Definition 12.1.2. A number theoretic function (or arithmetic function) is a function

$$f : \mathbb{N} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad (\text{or } \mathbb{Z} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{Z})$$

that has "number theory properties"

Ex:

- ϕ
- $\tau(n) = \#$ of divisors of n

$$10 : 1, 2, 5, 10$$

$$\tau(10) = 4$$

$$12 : 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12$$

$$\tau(12) = 6$$

- $\sigma(n)$ = sum of divisors of n

$$\sigma(10) = 1 + 2 + 5 + 10 = 18$$

$$\sigma(12) = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 6 + 12 = 28$$

Facts: ϕ, τ, σ are all multiplicative.

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$$

$$\sigma(ab) = \sigma(a)\sigma(b) \quad \text{if } \gcd(a, b) = 1$$

$$\tau(ab) = \tau(a)\tau(b)$$

Notice: $\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d$, $\tau(n) = \sum_{d|n} 1$
 ($d | n$ is sum over positive divisors of n)

Example 12.1.1.1. Define $F(n) = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$

$$\begin{aligned} F(12) &= \sum_{d|12} \phi(d) \\ &= \phi(1) + \phi(2) + \phi(3) + \phi(4) + \phi(6) + \phi(12) \\ &= 1 + 1 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 4 \\ F(12) &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(15) &= \phi(1) + \phi(3) + \phi(5) + \phi(15) \\ &= 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 \\ F(15) &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 12.1.2. For all pos integers n ,

$$n = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$$

Proof. (Step 1) Lemma: If $f : \mathbb{N} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is multiplicative, then the function

$$F(n) = \sum_{d|n} f(d)$$

is multiplicative. (Proof: HW)

(Step 2) We know that $F(n) = \sum_{d|n} \phi(d)$ is multiplicative, since ϕ is multiplicative.

Lets show $F(n) = n$ for primes and prime powers.

If p is prime, then $F(p) = \sum_{d|p} \phi(d) = \phi(1) + \phi(p) = 1 + (p - 1) = p$

Now calculate for $k \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} F(p^k) &= \sum_{d|p^k} \phi(d) \\ &= \phi(1) + \phi(p) + \phi(p^2) + \cdots + \phi(p^k) \\ &= 1 + (p - 1) + (p^2 - p) + \cdots + (p^j - p^{j-1}) + (p^k - p^{k-1}) \\ F(p^k) &= p^k \end{aligned}$$

Now let $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$

$$\begin{aligned} F(n) &= F(p_1^{k_1}) \cdots F(p_r^{k_r}) \\ &= p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r} \\ &= n \end{aligned}$$

□

12.1.3 Lagrange's Theorem

Recall $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ has $x \equiv 1, 3, 5, 7$ (4 solutions). But...

Theorem 12.1.3 (Lagrange's Theorem). *Let $f(x)$ be a polynomial of degree d with integer coefficient and p be prime. Suppose $p \nmid$ (leading coefficient).*

Then $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ has at most d incongruent solutions.

Proof. By induction on the degree d .

Base case: $d = 1$, $f(x) = a_1x + a_0$ and $p \nmid a_1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ a_1x + a_0 &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ a_1x &\equiv -a_0 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

has a unique solution since $\gcd(a_1, p) = 1 \leq d$.

Induction step: Let's assume the statement is true for all polynomials of degree $\leq k$.

Now let $f(x) \equiv a_{k+1}x^{k+1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0$ where $p \nmid a_{k+1}$. If $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ has no solutions, then we are done since $0 < k + 1$. Hence suppose $x = a$ is a solution.

By the division algorithm applied to $f(x)$ and $x - a$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (x - a) \cdot q(x) + r, \quad r \in \mathbb{Z} \\ f(a) &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ r &\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $f(x) \equiv (x - a) \cdot q(x) \pmod{p}$. By IH, $q(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ has at most k solutions. Thus $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ has at most $k + 1$ solutions. □

12.2 Order

12.2.1

Definition 12.2.1. *Let $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. Then the smallest positive integer k such that $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ is called the order of a modulo n and is denoted by $\text{ord}_n(a)$ or just $\text{ord}(a)$ if it's unambiguous.*

Example 12.2.0.1. $a^k \pmod{7}$

Theorem 12.2.1. *Suppose $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ and $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. Then $\text{ord}(a) \mid k$.*

Proof. By division algorithm, write

$$k = \text{ord}(a) \cdot q + r, \quad 0 \leq r < \text{ord}(a)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} a^k &\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \\ a^{\text{ord}(a) \cdot q} \cdot a^r &\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \\ a^{\text{ord}(a) \cdot q} \cdot a^r &\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \\ a^r &\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

Then $r = 0$, otherwise r is a smaller exponent for $a^r \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ contradicting $\text{ord}(a)$ being the smallest. Thus $k = \text{ord}(a) \cdot q$ so $\text{ord}(a) \mid k$. □

Lecture 13

October 10, 2024

13.1

Lecture 14

October 15, 2024

14.1 Recap

If $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, the order of a is the smallest positive exponent k such that $a^k \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

- If $a^m \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$, then $\text{ord } a \mid m$
- $a, a^n, \dots, a^{\text{ord } n}$ are all incongruent \pmod{n}
- If $\text{ord } a = \phi(n)$, then a is called a primitive root and $a, \dots, a^{\phi(n)} \pmod{n}$ are congruent to all the integers between 1 and n , coprime to n

14.2 All primes have a primitive root

Theorem 14.2.1. *Let p be prime and $d \mid p - 1$. Then there are exactly $\phi(d)$ integers (that are mutually incongruent \pmod{p}) that have order $d \pmod{p}$. In particular there are $\phi(p - 1)$ primitive roots.*

Lemma 1. *If $d \mid p - 1$, then $x^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ has exactly d incongruent solutions \pmod{p} .*

Proof. $x^{p-1} - 1 \equiv x^{dk} - 1 = (x^d - 1)(x^{d(k-1)} + \dots + x^d + 1)$ □

Proof of Thm. Define $\psi(d) = \#$ of integers $1 \leq x \leq p - 1$ having order $d \pmod{p}$.

WTS: $\psi(d) = \phi(d)$ for $d \mid p - 1$

Instead, let's prove $\psi(d) \leq \phi(d)$ when $d \mid p - 1$. If there are no integers with order d , then

$$\psi(d) = 0 \leq \phi(d)$$

Hence assume there exists at least one integer a with $\text{ord}_p a = d$.

Claim: If b has order d , then $b \equiv a^h \pmod{p}$ for some h . Why? If b has order d , then b satisfies:

$$x^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \quad *$$

which has exactly d incongruent solutions. On the other hand, the integers a, a^2, a^3, \dots, a^d are all incongruent \pmod{p} and they all satisfy $*$, since

$$(a^i)^d \equiv (a^d)^i \equiv 1^i \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Since $*$ has exactly d solutions \pmod{p} , we must have $b \equiv a^h \pmod{p}$ for some h , $1 \leq h \leq d$.

Now, we need to determine which a^k has $\text{ord } a^k = d$. But $\text{ord } a^k = \frac{d}{\gcd(h,d)}$ precisely when $\gcd(h,d) = 1$. Hence there are exactly $\phi(d)$ exponents h such that a^h has order d . Thus, we find $\psi(d) = \phi(d)$. We have shown for $d \mid p-1$, $\psi(d)$ is either 0 or $\phi(d)$. But we know $\psi(d) \leq \phi(d)$.

Consider the sum

$$\sum_{d \mid p-1} \psi(d).$$

Note every integer a between $1 \leq a \leq p-1$ has some $\text{ord } a$ that divides $p-1$. Since each integer between 1 and $p-1$ is counted exactly once, we have

$$\sum_{d \mid p-1} \psi(d) = p-1$$

Example 14.2.1.1. $p = 7$

$$\text{ord } 1 = 2$$

$$\text{ord } 2 = 3$$

$$\text{ord } 3 = 6$$

$$\text{ord } 4 = 3$$

$$\text{ord } 5 = 6$$

$$\text{ord } 6 = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d \mid p-1} \psi(d) &= \sum_{d \mid 6} \psi(d) \\ &= \psi(1) + \psi(2) + \psi(3) + \psi(6) \\ &= 1 + 1 + 2 + 2 \\ &= 6 \\ &= p-1 \end{aligned}$$

Recall

$$\sum_{d \mid p-1} \phi(d) = p-1$$

Hence

$$\sum_{d \mid p-1} \psi(d) = \sum_{d \mid p-1} \phi(d), \quad \psi(d) \leq \phi(d)$$

Thus $\psi(d) = \phi(d) \quad \forall \quad d \mid p-1$. □

Note: Once you have a primitive root g , then all the other primitive roots are congruent to g^h where $\gcd(h, p-1) = 1$.

14.3 How to find a primitive root

Definition 14.3.1. Let g be a primitive root of p (or n if n has a primitive root). If $1 \leq a \leq p-1$, the smallest positive exponent k with $a \equiv g^k \pmod{p}$ is called the index of $a \pmod{p}$ relative to g , denoted $\text{ind}(a)$.