

# NUMBER THEORY

## Lecture 15

# DIVISIBILITY AND MODULAR ARITHMETIC

---



# INTRODUCTION

- Division of an integer by a positive integer produces a quotient and a remainder.
- Working with these remainders leads to modular arithmetic.
- Modular Arithmetic plays important role in math and CS.
- Applications of Modular Arithmetic includes generating pseudorandom numbers, assigning computer memory locations to files, constructing check digits and encrypting messages.

# DIVISION

**Definition:** If  $a$  and  $b$  are integers with  $a \neq 0$ , then  $a$  *divides*  $b$  if there is an integer  $c$  such that  $b = ac$  (or equivalent if  $b/a$  is an integer).

- When  $a$  divides  $b$  we say that  $a$  is a *factor or divisor* of  $b$ , and that  $b$  is a *multiple* of  $a$ .
- The notation  $a \mid b$  denotes that  $a$  divides  $b$ .
- If  $a \mid b$ , then  $b/a$  is an integer.
- If  $a$  does not divide  $b$ , we write  $a \nmid b$ .

**Theorem 1:** Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be integers, where  $a \neq 0$ . Then

- i. If  $a \mid b$  and  $a \mid c$ , then  $a \mid (b + c)$ ;
- ii. If  $a \mid b$ , then  $a \mid bc$  for all integers  $c$ ;
- iii. If  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid c$ , then  $a \mid c$

**Corollary:** If  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be integers, where  $a \neq 0$ , such that  $a \mid b$  and  $a \mid c$ , then  $a \mid mb + nc$  whenever  $m$  and  $n$  are integers.

# DIVISION ALGORITHM

**Division Algorithm:** If  $a$  is an integer and  $d$  a positive integer, then there are unique integers  $q$  and  $r$ , with  $0 \leq r < d$ , such that  $a = dq + r$ .

In the equality given above,  $d$  is *divisor*,  $a$  is *dividend*,  $q$  is *quotient*,  $r$  is *remainder*.

This notion is used to express the quotient and remainder:

$$q = a \text{ **div** } d$$

$$r = a \text{ **mod** } d$$

div and mod

$$q = a \text{ div } d$$

$$r = a \text{ mod } d$$

*Remark:* Note that both  $a \text{ div } d$  and  $a \text{ mod } d$  for a fixed  $d$  are functions on the set of integers. Furthermore, when  $a$  is an integer and  $d$  is a positive integer, we have  $a \text{ **div** } d = \left\lfloor \frac{a}{d} \right\rfloor$  and  $a \text{ **mod** } d = a - d \cdot \left\lfloor \frac{a}{d} \right\rfloor$ .

# INTEGER REPRESENTATION AND ALGORITHMS

# BASE B REPRESENTATIONS

- Theorem 1: Let  $b$  be a positive integer greater than 1. Then if  $n$  is a positive integer, it can be expressed uniquely in the form:

$$n = a_k b^k + a_{k-1} b^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 b + a_0$$

where  $k$  is a nonnegative integer,  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k$  are nonnegative integers less than  $b$ , and  $a_k \neq 0$ . The  $a_j$ ,  $j = 0, \dots, k$  are called the base- $b$  digits of the representation.

- The representation of  $n$  given in Theorem 1 is called the base  $b$  expansion of  $n$  and is denoted by  $(a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0)_b$ .
- We usually omit the subscript 10 for base 10 expansions.

# ALGORITHM: CONSTRUCTING BASE B EXPANSIONS

```
procedure base b expansion(n, b: positive integers with  $b > 1$ )  
   $q := n$   
   $k := 0$   
  while ( $q \neq 0$ )  
     $a_k := q \bmod b$   
     $q := q \operatorname{div} b$   
     $k := k + 1$   
  return( $a_{k-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0$ )  $\{(a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0)_b$  is base b expansion of  $n\}$ 
```

- $q$  represents the quotient obtained by successive divisions by  $b$ , starting with  $q = n$ .
- The digits in the base  $b$  expansion are the remainders of the division given by  $q \bmod b$ .
- The algorithm terminates when  $q = 0$  is reached.



# COMPARISON OF HEXADECIMAL, OCTAL, AND BINARY REPRESENTATIONS

**TABLE 1** Hexadecimal, Octal, and Binary Representation of the Integers 0 through 15.

Decimal	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Hexadecimal	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
Octal	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Binary	0	1	10	11	100	101	110	111	1000	1001	1010	1011	1100	1101	1110	1111

Initial 0s are not shown

Each octal digit corresponds to a block of 3 binary digits.

Each hexadecimal digit corresponds to a block of 4 binary digits.

So, conversion between binary, octal, and hexadecimal is easy.

# OCTAL EXPANSIONS

The octal expansion (base 8) uses the digits  $\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7\}$ .

Example: What is the decimal expansion of the number with octal expansion  $(7016)_8$ ?

Solution:  $7 \cdot 8^3 + 0 \cdot 8^2 + 1 \cdot 8^1 + 6 \cdot 8^0 = 3598$

Example: What is the decimal expansion of the number with octal expansion  $(111)_8$ ?

Solution:  $1 \cdot 8^2 + 1 \cdot 8^1 + 1 \cdot 8^0 = 64 + 8 + 1 = 73$

# HEXADECIMAL EXPANSIONS

The hexadecimal expansion needs 16 digits, but our decimal system provides only 10. So letters are used for the additional symbols. The hexadecimal system uses the digits  $\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,A,B,C,D,E,F\}$ . The letters A through F represent the decimal numbers 10 through 15.

Example: What is the decimal expansion of the number with hexadecimal expansion  $(2AE0B)_{16}$ ?

Solution:

$$2 \cdot 16^4 + 10 \cdot 16^3 + 14 \cdot 16^2 + 0 \cdot 16^1 + 11 \cdot 16^0 = 175627$$

Example: What is the decimal expansion of the number with hexadecimal expansion  $(E5)_{16}$ ?

$$\text{Solution: } 14 \cdot 16^1 + 5 \cdot 16^0 = 224 + 5 = 229$$

# BASE CONVERSION

- To construct the base  $b$  expansion of an integer  $n$ :
  - Divide  $n$  by  $b$  to obtain a quotient and remainder.
    - $n = bq_0 + a_0 \quad 0 \leq a_0 \leq b$
  - The remainder,  $a_0$ , is the rightmost digit in the base  $b$  expansion of  $n$ .  
Next, divide  $q_0$  by  $b$ .
    - $q_0 = bq_1 + a_1 \quad 0 \leq a_1 \leq b$
  - The remainder,  $a_1$ , is the second digit from the right in the base  $b$  expansion of  $n$ .
  - Continue by successively dividing the quotients by  $b$ , obtaining the additional base  $b$  digits as the remainder. The process terminates when the quotient is 0.

# CONVERSION BETWEEN BINARY, OCTAL, AND HEXADECIMAL EXPANSIONS

Example: Find the octal and hexadecimal expansions of  $(11\ 1110\ 1011\ 1100)_2$ .

Solution:

- To convert to octal, we group the digits into blocks of three  $(011\ 111\ 010\ 111\ 100)_2$ , adding initial 0s as needed. The blocks from left to right correspond to the digits 3,7,2,7, and 4. Hence, the solution is  $(37274)_8$ .
- To convert to hexadecimal, we group the digits into blocks of four  $(0011\ 1110\ 1011\ 1100)_2$ , adding initial 0s as needed. The blocks from left to right correspond to the digits 3,E,B, and C. Hence, the solution is  $(3EBC)_{16}$ .

# CONVERSION EXAMPLE

## Example:

Convert  $n=122$  to base  $b=3$ :

- $122 \div 3 = 40$  remainder 2
- $40 \div 3 = 13$  remainder 1
- $13 \div 3 = 4$  remainder 1
- $4 \div 3 = 1$  remainder 1
- $1 \div 3 = 0$  remainder 1
- **Answer:**  $122 \text{ base } 10 = 11112 \text{ base } 3$

# BASE CONVERSION

Example: Find the octal expansion of  $(12345)_{10}$

Solution: Successively dividing by 8 gives:

- $12345 = 8 \cdot 1543 + 1$
- $1543 = 8 \cdot 192 + 7$
- $192 = 8 \cdot 24 + 0$
- $24 = 8 \cdot 3 + 0$
- $3 = 8 \cdot 0 + 3$

The remainders are the digits from right to left yielding  $(30071)_8$ .