

**Q05A** We know that the original expression can be expressed as:

$$[x]^{p_2} + [x] - [1] \equiv [0] \pmod{p_1 p_2}$$

We know that since  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are distinct odd primes such that  $\gcd(p_1, p_2) = 1$ . This means we can apply SMT, so we get two equations the together will have the same solution as in the  $(\text{mod } m)$  case:

$$\begin{cases} 1) & [x]^{p_2} + [x] - [1] \equiv [0] \pmod{p_1} \\ 2) & [x]^{p_2} + [x] - [1] \equiv [0] \pmod{p_2} \end{cases}$$

Before we continue we know that  $(p_1 - 1) \mid (p_2 - 1)$  by the definition of divisibility this implies for some integer  $n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} n(p_1 - 1) &= p_2 - 1 \\ n(p_1 - 1) + 1 &= p_2 \end{aligned}$$

Taking the the first equation we can thus substitute it in (Note the use of FLT):

$$\begin{aligned} [x]^{p_2} + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_1} \\ [x]^{n(p_1-1)+1} + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_1} \\ [x]^{n(p_1-1)}[x]^1 + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_1} \\ ([x]^{(p_1-1)})^n[x]^1 + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_1} \\ ([1])^n[x]^1 + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_1} \\ [x]^1 + [x] &\equiv [1] \pmod{p_1} \\ [2][x] &\equiv [1] \pmod{p_1} \end{aligned}$$

We know from Corollary 13 that  $[2]^{-1}$  exists and is unique. We will let this unique integer be  $[a] = [2]^{-1} \pmod{p_1}$ , our equation thus becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} [2][x] &\equiv [1] \pmod{p_1} \\ [2]^{-1}[2][x] &\equiv [1][2]^{-1} \pmod{p_1} \\ [x] &\equiv [a] \pmod{p_1} \end{aligned}$$

We thus will have an equation in the form of (where  $s$  is an integer):

$$[x] = [a] + [s] \cdot p_1$$

If we move on to the second equation now we can simplify (also used FLT):

$$\begin{aligned} [x]^{p_2} + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_2} \\ [x]^{p_2-1}[x]^1 + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_2} \\ [1][x]^1 + [x] - [1] &\equiv [0] \pmod{p_2} \\ [2][x] &\equiv [1] \pmod{p_2} \end{aligned}$$

We know from Corollary 13 that  $[2]^{-1}$  exists and is unique. We will let this unique integer be  $[b] = [2]^{-1} \pmod{p_2}$ , our equation thus becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} [2][x] &\equiv [1] \pmod{p_2} \\ [2]^{-1}[2][x] &\equiv [1][2]^{-1} \pmod{p_2} \\ [x] &\equiv [b] \pmod{p_2} \end{aligned}$$

We thus get an equation in the form of (where  $t$  is an integer):

$$[x] = [b] + [t] \cdot p_2$$

CRT tells us that since  $\gcd(p_1, p_2) = 1$  we can apply it and find a solution in  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  by replacing  $t$  with our value found for equation 1:

$$\begin{aligned} [x] &\equiv [b] + ([a] + [s] \cdot p_1) \cdot p_2 \pmod{m} \\ [x] &\equiv [b] + [a][p_2] + [s][p_1][p_2] \pmod{m} \\ [x] &\equiv [b] + [a][p_2] + [s][m] \pmod{m} \\ [x] &\equiv [b] + [a][p_2] \pmod{m} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $a$  and  $b$  and  $p_2$  can only be one set value, CRT thus shows that a unique solution  $[x]$  exists within  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ .

**Q05B** We know a solution will satisfy that equation if it satisfies both:

$$\begin{cases} 1) [2][x] \equiv [1] \pmod{p_1} \\ 2) [2][x] \equiv [1] \pmod{p_2} \end{cases}$$

are satisfied. Thus consider  $m = 39, p_1 = 3, p_2 = 13$  and our solution  $x_0 = 20$ . Notice that the solution is less than 39 and that:

$$\begin{cases} 1) [2][20] \equiv [40] \equiv [1] \pmod{3} \\ 2) [2][20] \equiv [40] \equiv [1] \pmod{13} \end{cases}$$

Since it satisfies the condition we have given an example and shown that it therefore exists.