

Recall

- Lagrange

- Fermat: $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ for $(a, p) = 1$

$$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p} \text{ for all } a$$

- Wilson

- "n passes base a test" if $a^n \equiv a \pmod{n}$

- passing base 2 test: pseudoprime.

e.g. $n = 341$ is a pseudoprime.

11.31
//
341 passes base 2 test. What about base 3 test?

$$\bullet 3^{341} \equiv \underbrace{(3^{10})}_{1}^{34} \cdot 3 \equiv 3 \pmod{11} \quad \begin{array}{l} 3^8 \equiv 144 \equiv 20 \equiv -11 \\ 3^4 \equiv 9^2 \equiv 19 \equiv -12 \end{array}$$

$$\bullet 3^{341} \equiv \underbrace{(3^{30})}_{1}^{11} \cdot 3^{11} \equiv 3^{11} \equiv 3^1 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 3^8 = 3 \cdot 9 \cdot (-11) \equiv 13 \pmod{31}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^{341} \not\equiv 3 \pmod{341}$$

$\Rightarrow 341$ fails base 3 test.

Question: Is there any composite number which passes base a test, i.e. $a^n \equiv a \pmod{n}$ for all a ?

Answer: Yes, and they are called Carmichael numbers.

$$3 \cdot 11 \cdot 17$$

Example: 561 is a Carmichael number

- $a^{561} \equiv (a^2)^{280} \cdot a \equiv a \pmod{3}$ when $(a, 3) = 1$,
 $a^{561} \equiv 0 \equiv a \pmod{3}$ if $(a, 3) \neq 1$.
- $a^{561} \equiv (a^{10})^{56} \cdot a \equiv a \pmod{11}$ when $(a, 11) = 1$,
 $a^{561} \equiv 0 \equiv a \pmod{11}$ if $(a, 11) \neq 1$.
- mod 17 is similar: $a^{561} \equiv (a^{16})^{35} \cdot a$.

$\Rightarrow a^{561} \equiv a \pmod{561}$ by CRT.

Exercise: Suppose $n = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$ is a product of distinct primes such that $p_i - 1 \mid n - 1$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, then n is a Carmichael number.

• Same idea with the example. The converse is also true, but we'll not prove now.

Congruences modulo p^k

polynomial

We now focus on $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^k}$

We can solve $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, using the solution we'll find we can next solve $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$, and then $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^3}$, until $\pmod{p^k}$.

Example: $x^3 - x^2 - x + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{27}$

Step 1: $x^3 - x^2 - x + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

$$\Rightarrow x \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3k+1 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 3k+2$$

Step 2.1: $x = 3k+1$

$$(3k+1)^3 - (3k+1)^2 - (3k+1) + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{27k^3} + \cancel{27k^2} + \cancel{9k} + 1 - \cancel{9k^2} - 6k - 1 - 3k - 1 + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{-9k} + 3 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}, \text{ no solution.}$$

Step 2.2: $x = 3k+2$

$$(3k+2)^3 - (3k+2)^2 - (3k+2) + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{27k^3} + \cancel{54k^2} + \cancel{36k} + 8 - \cancel{9k^2} - 12k - 4 - 3k - 2 + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow -15k + 6 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow -5k + 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow k + 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow k \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3k + 2 = 3 \cdot (3l + 1) + 2 = 9l + 5.$$

Step 3 : $x = 9l + 5$

$$(9l + 5)^3 - (9l + 5)^2 - (9l + 5) + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{9^3 l^3} + \cancel{3 \cdot 9^2 \cdot l^2 \cdot 5} + \cancel{3 \cdot 9 \cdot l \cdot 5^2} + 125 - \cancel{81 l^2} - 90l - 25 - 9l - 5 + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow -99l + 99 \equiv 0 \pmod{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow -11l + 11 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow l + 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow l \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$x = 9l + 5 = 9 \cdot (3m + 1) + 5 = 27m + 14.$$

$$x \equiv 14 \pmod{27}.$$

Hensel's Lemma: If $f(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^j}$ and $f'(a) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, then there is a unique $0 \leq t \leq p-1$ such that $f(a + t \cdot p^j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j+1}}$

• What does it mean? If $a \pmod{p}$ is a solution, then a can be lifted uniquely to $\pmod{p^2}$, and to $\pmod{p^3}$, ..., to $\pmod{p^k}$ when $f'(a) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad f(x) &= x^3 - x^2 - x + 4 & f(2) &\equiv 0 \pmod{3} \\ f'(x) &= 3x^2 - 2x - 1 & f'(2) &\not\equiv 0 \pmod{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \pmod{3} \rightarrow 14 \pmod{27}$$

However, $f'(1) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and we couldn't lift $1 \pmod{3}$ to $\pmod{27}$.

Before proving Hensel's Lemma,

Binomial Theorem:

$$(x+y)^n = \binom{n}{0} x^n + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} x y^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n} y^n$$

$$\text{e.g. } (x+y)^5 = x^5 + 5x^4y + 10x^3y^2 + 10x^2y^3 + 5xy^4 + y^5$$

Proof of Hensel : $f(x) = c_d x^d + c_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$.

We have $f(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^j}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(a+t \cdot p^j) &= c_d \cdot (a+t \cdot p^j)^d + c_{d-1} \cdot (a+t \cdot p^j)^{d-1} \\ &\quad + \dots + c_2 \cdot (a+t \cdot p^j)^2 + c_1 \cdot (a+t \cdot p^j) + c_0 \end{aligned}$$

• With Binomial Theorem

$$(a+t p^j)^d \equiv a^d + d \cdot a^{d-1} \cdot t p^j + \text{something divisible by } p^{j+1}$$

$$\equiv a^d + d \cdot a^{d-1} \cdot t p^j \pmod{p^{j+1}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow f(a+t p^j) &\equiv c_d \cdot (a^d + d a^{d-1} t p^j) + c_{d-1} (a^{d-1} + (d-1) a^{d-2} t p^j) \\ &\quad + \dots + c_2 \cdot (a^2 + 2 a t p^j) + c_1 \cdot (a+t p^j) + c_0 \\ &\equiv (c_d a^d + c_{d-1} a^{d-1} + \dots + c_2 a^2 + c_1 a + c_0) \\ &\quad + t p^j (c_d \cdot d \cdot a^{d-1} + c_{d-1} (d-1) a^{d-2} + \dots + c_2 \cdot 2 \cdot a + c_1) \\ &\equiv f(a) + t p^j \cdot f'(a) \pmod{p^{j+1}} \end{aligned}$$

$$f(a+t \cdot p^j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j+1}} \quad \text{means}$$

$$f(a) + t \cdot p^j \cdot f'(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j+1}}$$

Write $f(a) = p^j \cdot k$

$$p^j \cdot k + t \cdot p^j \cdot f'(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j+1}}$$

$$k + t \cdot f'(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

We proved $f(a + t \cdot p^j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j+1}}$
if and only if $k + t \cdot f'(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

If $f'(a) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, then there is a
unique solution t . ■

Actually, we proved something more.

Hensel's Lemma (continued) : Let $f(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^j}$

and $f'(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

Case 1 : $\frac{f(a)}{p^j} \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow a$ cannot be lifted
to $\text{mod } p^{j+1}$.

Case 2 : $\frac{f(a)}{p^j} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow f(a + t p^j) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

for all $t = 0, 1, \dots, p-1$, i.e. a can be lifted

to p solutions in $\text{mod } p^{j+1}$.

Remark: When $f'(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, either every lift is a solution or none of them is a solution.

Counting solutions with Hensel

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x^3 - x^2 + 4x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{125}$$

$$\text{In mod } 5, \quad f(1) \equiv f(4) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 2x + 4.$$

$$f'(1) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$

↓

no solution

$$\frac{f(1)}{5} \not\equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$

$$f'(4) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$

↓

unique solution in \mathbb{Z}_{125}

\Rightarrow One solution in \mathbb{Z}_{125} .

We'll continue with more examples on Wednesday.