
INF1003 Tutorial 2

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Topic: Number Theory
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1. Evaluate the following:

(a) $13 \bmod 3$.

Solution. We divide 13 by 3:

$$13 = 3 \cdot 4 + 1.$$

The remainder is 1, so

$$13 \bmod 3 = 1.$$

(b) $-22 \bmod 23$.

Solution. We want the remainder in the range $0 \leq r \leq 22$.

Note that

$$-22 + 23 = 1,$$

so -22 and 1 differ by a multiple of 23 :

$$-22 \equiv 1 \pmod{23}.$$

Therefore

$$-22 \bmod 23 = 1.$$

2. Find the integer a such that

$$a \equiv -15 \pmod{27} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq a \leq 26.$$

Solution. We add 27 to -15 to obtain an equivalent non-negative representative:

$$-15 + 27 = 12.$$

Hence

$$-15 \equiv 12 \pmod{27},$$

so the required integer is

$$a = 12.$$

3. Decide whether 80 and/or 103 are congruent to 5 (mod 17).

Solution. Compute each number modulo 17.

For 80:

$$80 = 17 \cdot 4 + 12 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 80 \equiv 12 \pmod{17}.$$

For 103:

$$103 = 17 \cdot 6 + 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 103 \equiv 1 \pmod{17}.$$

We compare with 5:

$$12 \not\equiv 5 \pmod{17}, \quad 1 \not\equiv 5 \pmod{17}.$$

Therefore, neither 80 nor 103 is congruent to 5 (mod 17).

4. Compute

$$(-133 \bmod 23) + (26 \bmod 23).$$

Solution. First find each remainder separately.

For $-133 \bmod 23$:

$$23 \cdot 6 = 138, \quad -133 + 138 = 5,$$

so

$$-133 \equiv 5 \pmod{23} \quad \Rightarrow \quad -133 \bmod 23 = 5.$$

For $26 \bmod 23$:

$$26 = 23 \cdot 1 + 3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 26 \bmod 23 = 3.$$

Add the two remainders:

$$(-133 \bmod 23) + (26 \bmod 23) = 5 + 3 = 8.$$

So the value of the expression is

8.

5. Compute

$$(89^3 \bmod 74)^4 \bmod 26.$$

Solution. Step 1: Compute $89^3 \bmod 74$.

First reduce 89 modulo 74:

$$89 = 74 + 15 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 89 \equiv 15 \pmod{74}.$$

Then

$$89^2 \equiv 15^2 = 225 \pmod{74}.$$

Now reduce 225 modulo 74:

$$74 \cdot 3 = 222, \quad 225 - 222 = 3,$$

so

$$89^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{74}.$$

Next,

$$89^3 \equiv 89^2 \cdot 89 \equiv 3 \cdot 15 = 45 \pmod{74}.$$

Thus

$$89^3 \bmod 74 = 45.$$

Step 2: Compute $45^4 \bmod 26$.

First reduce 45 modulo 26:

$$45 = 26 + 19 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 45 \equiv 19 \pmod{26}.$$

So

$$45^4 \equiv 19^4 \pmod{26}.$$

Compute 19^2 modulo 26:

$$19^2 = 361, \quad 26 \cdot 13 = 338, \quad 361 - 338 = 23,$$

so

$$19^2 \equiv 23 \pmod{26}.$$

Then

$$19^4 = (19^2)^2 \equiv 23^2 = 529 \pmod{26}.$$

Now reduce 529 modulo 26:

$$26 \cdot 20 = 520, \quad 529 - 520 = 9,$$

so

$$19^4 \equiv 9 \pmod{26}.$$

Therefore

$$(89^3 \bmod 74)^4 \bmod 26 = 9.$$

6. Determine whether each of these integers is prime.

- (a) 97
- (b) 111
- (c) 187

Solution.

- (a) 97.

We check divisibility by primes up to $\sqrt{97} \approx 9.8$, i.e. 2, 3, 5, 7.

- 97 is odd, so not divisible by 2.
- Sum of digits is $9 + 7 = 16$, not a multiple of 3, so not divisible by 3.
- It does not end with 0 or 5, so not divisible by 5.
- $97/7 = 13$ remainder 6, so not divisible by 7.

Since there is no prime divisor $\leq \sqrt{97}$, 97 is prime.

- (b) 111.

Sum of digits: $1 + 1 + 1 = 3$, which is divisible by 3, hence

111 is divisible by 3.

Indeed

$$111 = 3 \cdot 37.$$

Therefore 111 is not prime.

- (c) 187.

We test small primes:

- 187 is odd, so not divisible by 2.
- Sum of digits is $1 + 8 + 7 = 16$, not divisible by 3.
- It does not end with 0 or 5, so not divisible by 5.

Try dividing by 11:

$$11 \cdot 17 = 187.$$

So $187 = 11 \cdot 17$, and hence is not prime.

7. Find the prime factorisation of 1001 and 1111.

Solution.

For 1001:

$$1001 = 7 \cdot 143, \quad 143 = 11 \cdot 13.$$

Therefore

$$1001 = 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13.$$

For 1111:

First note that 1111 ends with 1, so it is not divisible by 2 or 5. Check divisibility by 11:

$$1111/11 = 101,$$

so

$$1111 = 11 \cdot 101.$$

Since 101 is prime, this is the prime factorisation.

8. Determine whether the integers in each of these sets are pairwise relatively prime.

(a) 11, 15, 19

(b) 12, 17, 31, 37

Solution.

A set of integers is *pairwise relatively prime* if the gcd of every pair of distinct integers in the set is 1.

(a) 11, 15, 19.

Factor each number:

$$11 = 11, \quad 15 = 3 \cdot 5, \quad 19 = 19.$$

The prime factors are:

$$11 : \{11\}, \quad 15 : \{3, 5\}, \quad 19 : \{19\}.$$

No prime factor is shared between any two numbers, so

$$\gcd(11, 15) = 1, \quad \gcd(11, 19) = 1, \quad \gcd(15, 19) = 1.$$

Hence the set is pairwise relatively prime.

(b) 12, 17, 31, 37.

Factor each number:

$$12 = 2^2 \cdot 3, \quad 17, 31, 37 \text{ are prime.}$$

The primes 17, 31, 37 are all distinct and none of them divides 12. Therefore every pair from $\{12, 17, 31, 37\}$ has gcd 1, so this set is also pairwise relatively prime.

9. What are the greatest common divisors of each of these pairs of integers?

(a) $(3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^3)$ and $(2^{11} \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^3)$.

(b) $(11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17)$ and $(2^9 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^5 \cdot 7^3)$.

(c) $(41 \cdot 43 \cdot 53)$ and $(41 \cdot 43 \cdot 53)$.

(d) $(3^{13} \cdot 5^{17})$ and $(2^{12} \cdot 7^{21})$.

Solution.

Recall: if

$$a = \prod p_i^{\alpha_i}, \quad b = \prod p_i^{\beta_i}$$

are prime factorisations over the same set of primes p_i , then

$$\gcd(a, b) = \prod p_i^{\min(\alpha_i, \beta_i)}.$$

(a)

$$a = 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^3, \quad b = 2^{11} \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^3.$$

Take the minimum exponents for each prime present in both:

$$\gcd(a, b) = 3^{\min(7,5)} \cdot 5^{\min(3,9)} \cdot 7^{\min(3,3)} = 3^5 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^3.$$

Numerically,

$$3^5 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^3 = 10,418,625.$$

(b)

$$a = 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17, \quad b = 2^9 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^5 \cdot 7^3.$$

The primes in a are 11, 13, 17, while the primes in b are 2, 3, 5, 7. There is no common prime factor, so

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

(c)

$$a = 41 \cdot 43 \cdot 53, \quad b = 41 \cdot 43 \cdot 53.$$

Here a and b are the same number, so

$$\gcd(a, b) = 41 \cdot 43 \cdot 53.$$

(Numerically, this is 93,439.)

(d)

$$a = 3^{13} \cdot 5^{17}, \quad b = 2^{12} \cdot 7^{21}.$$

The primes in a are 3 and 5; the primes in b are 2 and 7. There is no overlap, so

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

10. Find $\gcd(1000, 625)$ and $\text{lcm}(1000, 625)$ and verify that

$$\gcd(1000, 625) \cdot \text{lcm}(1000, 625) = 1000 \cdot 625.$$

Solution.

First find the prime factorisations:

$$1000 = 10^3 = (2 \cdot 5)^3 = 2^3 \cdot 5^3, \quad 625 = 5^4.$$

The \gcd takes the minimum power of each prime:

$$\gcd(1000, 625) = 2^{\min(3,0)} \cdot 5^{\min(3,4)} = 2^0 \cdot 5^3 = 125.$$

The lcm takes the maximum power of each prime:

$$\text{lcm}(1000, 625) = 2^{\max(3,0)} \cdot 5^{\max(3,4)} = 2^3 \cdot 5^4 = 8 \cdot 625 = 5000.$$

Now verify the product identity:

$$\gcd(1000, 625) \cdot \text{lcm}(1000, 625) = 125 \cdot 5000 = 625,000,$$

and

$$1000 \cdot 625 = 625,000.$$

So the equality holds.

11. Use the Euclidean algorithm to find:

- (a) $\gcd(111, 201)$;
- (b) $\gcd(1001, 1331)$;
- (c) $\gcd(1000, 5040)$.

Solution.

- (a) $\gcd(111, 201)$.

Apply the Euclidean algorithm:

$$201 = 1 \cdot 111 + 90,$$

$$111 = 1 \cdot 90 + 21,$$

$$90 = 4 \cdot 21 + 6,$$

$$21 = 3 \cdot 6 + 3,$$

$$6 = 2 \cdot 3 + 0.$$

The last non-zero remainder is 3, so

$$\gcd(111, 201) = 3.$$

(b) $\gcd(1001, 1331)$.

$$1331 = 1 \cdot 1001 + 330,$$

$$1001 = 3 \cdot 330 + 11,$$

$$330 = 30 \cdot 11 + 0.$$

The last non-zero remainder is 11, so

$$\gcd(1001, 1331) = 11.$$

(c) $\gcd(1000, 5040)$.

$$5040 = 5 \cdot 1000 + 40,$$

$$1000 = 25 \cdot 40 + 0.$$

The last non-zero remainder is 40, so

$$\gcd(1000, 5040) = 40.$$

12. Express the greatest common divisor of each of these pairs of integers a, b as

$$sa + tb$$

for some integers s and t .

(a) 117, 213

(b) 3454, 4666

Solution.

(a) $a = 117$, $b = 213$.

From the Euclidean algorithm:

$$213 = 1 \cdot 117 + 96,$$

$$117 = 1 \cdot 96 + 21,$$

$$96 = 4 \cdot 21 + 12,$$

$$21 = 1 \cdot 12 + 9,$$

$$12 = 1 \cdot 9 + 3,$$

$$9 = 3 \cdot 3 + 0.$$

Thus $\gcd(117, 213) = 3$.

Now work backwards to express 3 in terms of 117 and 213.

From $12 = 9 + 3$ we get

$$3 = 12 - 9.$$

From $21 = 12 + 9$ we get $9 = 21 - 12$, so

$$3 = 12 - (21 - 12) = 2 \cdot 12 - 21.$$

From $96 = 4 \cdot 21 + 12$ we get $12 = 96 - 4 \cdot 21$, hence

$$3 = 2(96 - 4 \cdot 21) - 21 = 2 \cdot 96 - 9 \cdot 21.$$

From $117 = 96 + 21$ we get $21 = 117 - 96$, so

$$3 = 2 \cdot 96 - 9(117 - 96) = 11 \cdot 96 - 9 \cdot 117.$$

From $213 = 117 + 96$ we get $96 = 213 - 117$, giving

$$3 = 11(213 - 117) - 9 \cdot 117 = 11 \cdot 213 - 20 \cdot 117.$$

Thus

$$3 = (-20) \cdot 117 + 11 \cdot 213,$$

so we can take

$$s = -20, \quad t = 11.$$

(b) $a = 3454$, $b = 4666$.

First use the Euclidean algorithm to find the gcd:

$$4666 = 1 \cdot 3454 + 1212,$$

$$3454 = 2 \cdot 1212 + 1030,$$

$$1212 = 1 \cdot 1030 + 182,$$

$$1030 = 5 \cdot 182 + 120,$$

$$182 = 1 \cdot 120 + 62,$$

$$120 = 1 \cdot 62 + 58,$$

$$62 = 1 \cdot 58 + 4,$$

$$58 = 14 \cdot 4 + 2,$$

$$4 = 2 \cdot 2 + 0.$$

So $\gcd(3454, 4666) = 2$.

Now work backwards to express 2 as a linear combination of 3454 and 4666.

From $58 = 14 \cdot 4 + 2$ we have

$$2 = 58 - 14 \cdot 4.$$

From $62 = 58 + 4$ we have $4 = 62 - 58$, hence

$$2 = 58 - 14(62 - 58) = 15 \cdot 58 - 14 \cdot 62.$$

From $120 = 62 + 58$ we have $58 = 120 - 62$, so

$$2 = 15(120 - 62) - 14 \cdot 62 = 15 \cdot 120 - 29 \cdot 62.$$

From $182 = 120 + 62$ we have $62 = 182 - 120$, hence

$$2 = 15 \cdot 120 - 29(182 - 120) = 44 \cdot 120 - 29 \cdot 182.$$

From $1030 = 5 \cdot 182 + 120$ we have $120 = 1030 - 5 \cdot 182$, giving

$$2 = 44(1030 - 5 \cdot 182) - 29 \cdot 182 = 44 \cdot 1030 - 249 \cdot 182.$$

From $1212 = 1030 + 182$ we have $182 = 1212 - 1030$, so

$$2 = 44 \cdot 1030 - 249(1212 - 1030) = 293 \cdot 1030 - 249 \cdot 1212.$$

From $3454 = 2 \cdot 1212 + 1030$ we have $1030 = 3454 - 2 \cdot 1212$, hence

$$2 = 293(3454 - 2 \cdot 1212) - 249 \cdot 1212 = 293 \cdot 3454 - 835 \cdot 1212.$$

Finally, from $4666 = 3454 + 1212$ we have $1212 = 4666 - 3454$, so

$$2 = 293 \cdot 3454 - 835(4666 - 3454) = (293 + 835) \cdot 3454 - 835 \cdot 4666 = 1128 \cdot 3454 - 835 \cdot 4666.$$

Thus

$$2 = 1128 \cdot 3454 + (-835) \cdot 4666,$$

so we can take

$$s = 1128, \quad t = -835.$$