**Harold’s Modular Arithmetic**

**Cheat Sheet**

4 March 2025

**Modular Arithmetic**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Property** | **Condition (if)** | **Formula (then)** |
| **Visualization** | **24-Hour Clock (mod 12)** | **(mod 26)**  Shape  Description automatically generated with low confidence |
| **Variables** | *m* = modulus (+ int)  *r, n* = residue or remainder (+ int) | *a, b* = integers  *q, k* = quotient or multiples of (int) |
| **Modulus** |  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| *b* MOD *m* | *Integers r* or *n* |
| *b* DIV *m* | *Integers q* or *k* |
| **Congruence** | ≡ |  |
| m | (a - b) | *a* and *b* have the same remainder when divided by m. n is an integer.  m divides a – b. |
| The congruence relation satisfies all the conditions of an [equivalence relation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equivalence_relation): | | |
| **Reflexivity** |  |  |
| **Symmetry** | for all a, b, and n |  |
| **Transitivity** |  |  |

**Identities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Property** | **Condition (if)** | **Formula (then)** |
| **Addition** |  |  |
| Computing |  | |
| Translation |  | for any integer k |
| Combining |  |  |
| **Subtraction** |  |  |
| Negation |  |  |
| **Multiplication** |  |  |
| Computing |  | |
| Scaling |  |  |
| Combining |  |  |
| **Division** | (Meaning k and m are coprime) |  |
|  | where e is a positive integer that divides a and b |
| **Exponentiation** |  |  |
| Example: Find the last digit of  Hence, the last digit of | The exponentiation property only works on the base.  For powers, use Euler's theorem. |
| **Multiplicative Inverse mod n** | (a and m are relatively prime)  *m* ≥ 2 | is a multiplicative inverse of *a* mod *m* |
| Example: Solve for x in 2x ≡ 3 (mod 5)  To find the inverse first solve for r:  If 2∙r ≡ 1 (mod 5) then r = 3.  So, the multiplicative inverse of 2 is 3 with (mod 5).  Since and , then . | |
| *p* is prime |  |

**Theorems**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Theorem** | **Condition (if)** | **Formula (then)** |
| **Greatest Common Divisor (GCD)** | Largest positive integer that is a factor of both x and y.  Think Intersection (∩) of . | |
| **GCD Theorem** | x and y are positive integers where x < y | gcd (x, y) = gcd (y mod x, x) |
| **Euclid’s Algorithm** | if ( y < x ) Swap (x, y);  r = y mod x;  while ( r ≠ 0 ) {  y = x;  x = r;  r = y mod x;  }  return (x); | gcd (x, y) = xi |
| Example |  | |
| **Extended Euclidean Theorem** | Let x and y be integers, then there are integers s and t such that | gcd (x, y) = sx + ty |
| **Extended Euclidean Algorithm** | r = y **mod** x  r = y – **(y div x)** x  15 = 45 – (45 div 30) 30  15 = 45 – 1 ⋅ 30  Slide [y x r] window left  30 = 210 – (210 div 45) 45  30 = 210 - 4 ⋅ 45  Slide [y x r] window left  45 = 675 - 3 210  Back substitute green into red  gcd (675, 210) = 15 = **5 ⋅** 675 **– 16 ⋅** 210  Output Format: **gcd (x, y) = sx + ty**  where s and t are Bézout coefficients | Example:  gcd (675, 210) = 15  Do Euclid’s Algorithm first, Saving intermediate results.  Start with sliding window on right.  << [y x r]  675 210 45 30 15 |
| **Multiplicative Inverses** | gcd (x, y) = sx + ty | s = x’s inverse mod y  t = y’s inverse mod x |
| **Fermat’s Little Theorem** | p is prime  a is an integer not divisible by p |  |
| Example: Find 7222 mod 11  Since 710 ≡ 1 (mod 11)  and (710)k ≡ 1 (mod 11)  7222 = 722•10+2 = (710)22 •72  ≡ (1)22 • 49  ≡ 5 (mod 11)  Hence, 7222 mod 11 = 5 |  |
| **Euler’s Theorem** | *c ≡ d (mod φ(n))*  where φ is Euler's totient function | *ac ≡ ad (mod n)*  provided that a is coprime with n |
| a and m are coprime | *aφ(n) ≡* *1 (mod m)*  where φ is Euler's totient function |
| **Euler’s Totient Function** | φ(n) = number of integers ≤ n that do not share any common factors with n | |
| **Wilson’s Theorem** | p is prime if and only if (p − 1)! ≡ −1 (mod p) | |
| **Linear Congruence** |  | Solutions are all integers x that satisfy the congruence |
| **Chinese Remainder Theorem** | m1, m2, …, mn are pairwise relatively prime positive integers > 1  a1, a2, …, an are arbitrary integers | x ≡ a1 (mod m1)  x ≡ a2 (mod m2)  …  x ≡ an (mod mn)  has a unique solution modulo m = m1m2∙∙∙mn.  (Meaning 0 ≤ x < m and all other solutions are congruent (≡) modulo m to this solution.) |
| **Lagrange's Theorem** | The congruence *f (x) ≡ 0 (mod p)*, where p is prime, and *f (x) = a0 xn + ... + an* is a polynomial with integer coefficients such that a0 ≠ 0 (mod p), has at most n roots. | |
| **Primitive Root Modulo m** | A number g is a primitive root modulo m if, for every integer a coprime to m, there is an integer k such that gk ≡ a (mod m).  A primitive root modulo m exists if and only if n is equal to 2, 4, pk, or 2pk, where p is an odd prime number and k is a positive integer.  If a primitive root modulo m exists, then there are exactly *φ(φ(m))* such primitive roots, where φ is the Euler's totient function. | |

**Sources:**

* [SNHU MAT 260](https://www.snhu.edu/admission/academic-catalogs/coce-catalog#/courses/NkdqI-8Fe) - Cryptology, I[nvitation to Cryptology](https://www.amazon.com/Invitation-Cryptology-Thomas-H-Barr/dp/0130889768/ref=sr_1_1?crid=9A8O5P2JQ7F&keywords=978-0-13-088976-8&qid=1656057152&sprefix=978-0-13-088976-8%2Caps%2C71&sr=8-1), 1st Edition, Thomas Barr, 2001.
* [SNHU MAT 230](https://www.snhu.edu/admission/academic-catalogs/coce-catalog#/courses/4kVhSZLtg) - Discrete Mathematics, zyBooks.
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