

p. 61 #26

Prove that the congruence $ax = b \pmod{n}$ has a solution if and only if $d = (a, n)$ divides b . If $d \mid b$, prove that the congruence has exactly d incongruent solutions modulo n .

Proof:

a) Suppose $ax = b \pmod{n}$ has a solution \Rightarrow

$$ax - b = n \cdot q, \quad q \in \mathbb{I}$$

Take $d = (a, n)$. We have

(1)

$$\begin{cases} d = a \cdot t + n \cdot r \\ t, r \in \mathbb{I} \end{cases}$$

Since $d = (a, n) \Rightarrow d \mid a$ and $d \mid n \Rightarrow$

$$a = d \cdot q_1, \quad q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{I}$$

$$n = d \cdot q_2$$

Lastly from (1) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} b &= a \cdot x - n \cdot q = (d \cdot q_1) \cdot x - (d \cdot q_2) \cdot q \\ &= d (q_1 x - q_2 \cdot q) = d \cdot c \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$d \mid b$, d is a divisor of b .

b) Suppose $d = (a, n)$ and $d \mid b$.

Then we have

(2)

$$\begin{cases} d = a \cdot t + n \cdot r \\ t, r \in \mathbb{I} \end{cases}$$

$c \in \mathbb{I}$

From (2) it follows that

$$b = d \cdot c = (a \cdot t + n \cdot r) \cdot c = atc + nrc \Rightarrow$$

$$b - a \cdot (tc) = n \cdot (rc) \Rightarrow$$

$$a \cdot (tc) = b \pmod{n} \Rightarrow$$

$ax = b \pmod{n}$ has a solution
 $x = (t \cdot c)$.

c) Suppose $d \mid b$ ($b = d \cdot q_3$). Here $d = (a,n)$ and

(3) $ax = b \pmod{n}$.
 If $d = (a,n)$ then we have : $a = d \cdot q_1$, $q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{I}$
 $n = d \cdot q_2$

From (3) it follows that

(4) $ax - b = n \cdot q$, $q \in \mathbb{I}$
 Substituting a, b and n expressed in terms of d we
 obtain $ax - b = n \cdot q \Rightarrow$

(5) $d \cdot q_1 \cdot x - d \cdot q_3 = d \cdot q_2 \cdot q$

Let us divide (5) by d resulting in the following
 equation

$q_1 x - q_3 = q_2 \cdot q$
 or

(6) $q_1 x \equiv q_3 \pmod{q_2}$
 Here $1 = (q_1, q_2)$ (Since $d = (a,n)$)

Therefore solution of (6) can be found using
 Euclidean Algorithm (see p. 59).

Lastly we obtain solutions of (6) which are also
 solutions of (3) in the form of equivalence class $[x]$ by
 modulo q_2 meaning.

(7) $[x] = \{x, x \pm q_2, x \pm 2q_2, \dots, x \pm (d-1)q_2\}$
 But we know that $d \cdot q_2 = n$. Therefore in (7) there
 are only d different elements by modulo n
 $\{x, x + q_2, x + 2q_2, \dots, x + (d-1)q_2\}$

Example

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$$8 \cdot x = 66 \pmod{78}$$

1) $d = (a,n) = (8, 78) = 2$

2) Dividing expression

(*) $8 \cdot x - 66 = 78 \cdot q$

by $d = 2$ we get equivalent equation

(**) $4 \cdot x = 33 \pmod{39}$

$$(4 \cdot x - 33 = 39 \cdot q)$$

3) Now we can use Euclidian Alg. as follows

$$39 = 4 \cdot 9 + 3 \quad | \quad 3 = 39 - 4 \cdot 9 \quad (1)$$

$$4 = 3 \cdot 1 + 1 \quad | \Rightarrow \quad 1 = 4 - 3 \cdot 1 \quad (2)$$

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$$3 = 3 \cdot 1$$

Substituting (1) into (2) one obtains

(3) $1 = 4 - (39 - 4 \cdot 9 \cdot 1 = 4 \cdot 10 - 39$

Multiplying (3) by 33 we get that

$$33 = 4 \cdot 330 - 39 \cdot 33$$

or

$$4 \cdot (330) - 33 = 39 \cdot 33 \Rightarrow$$

$$4 \cdot (330) = 33 \pmod{39}$$

Lastly solution of (**) has the form

$$x = [330] \text{ by modulo } 39.$$

There are only 2 different elements from $[330]$ by modulus 78:
 330 and $330 + 39 = 369$ ($330 + 2 \cdot 39 = 330 + 78 \equiv 330 \pmod{78}$)

Thus solutions of (*) can be described as follows

1. $x_1 = 330 \pmod{78} = 18$
2. $x_2 = 330 + 39 = 369 \pmod{78} = 57$

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Suppose $(m,n) = 1$, and let $a, b \in \mathbb{I}$.

Prove that there exists an integer

$$x \text{ s.t. } \begin{cases} x \equiv a \pmod{m} \\ x \equiv b \pmod{n}. \end{cases}$$

Proof

$(m,n) = 1$ means that $m \cdot t + n \cdot r = 1$, $t, r \in \mathbb{I}$.

Now consider the following system

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} x \equiv a \pmod{m} \\ x \equiv b \pmod{n} \end{cases} \quad \text{or} \\ \begin{cases} x - a = m \cdot q_1 \\ x - b = n \cdot q_2 \end{cases} \quad , q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{I}$$

Subtracting second equation from the first we obtain

$$(2) \quad b - a = m \cdot q_1 + n \cdot (-q_2)$$

We know that there exist such t, r that

$$(3) \quad 1 = m \cdot t + n \cdot r$$

Multiply (2) by $(b - a)$:

$$(b - a) = m \cdot (t \cdot (b - a)) + n \cdot (r \cdot (b - a))$$

Comparing with (2) we get that

$$q_1 = t \cdot (b - a) \quad \text{and} \quad q_2 = r \cdot (b - a)$$

Solution of the system (1) can be represented as follows:

$$x = a + m \cdot [t \cdot (b - a)] = b + n \cdot [r \cdot (b - a)]$$

On the other hand if we multiply equations (1) by (q_2t) and (q_1r) respectively and then sum them up we get

$$x(q_2t + q_1r) - (aq_2 + bq_1r) = q_1q_2$$

Therefore our x satisfies this equation and we should consider $[x]$ modulo $(q_1 \cdot q_2)$ as a solution.

Example

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a) (4)
$$\begin{aligned} x - 2 &= 5 \cdot q_1 \\ x - 3 &= 8 \cdot q_2 \end{aligned} \quad \text{and } (5, 8) = 1$$

Use Euclidian alg. to obtain

$$(5) \quad 1 = 5 \cdot (-3) + 8 \cdot (2)$$

On the other hand subtracting second equation of (4) from the first we obtain

q2) (6)
$$1 = 5 \cdot q_1 - 8 \cdot q_2 = 5 \cdot q_1 + 8 \cdot (-q_2)$$

Comparing (6) with (5) we get that

(7)
$$\begin{aligned} q_1 &= -3, \quad q_2 = -2 \\ \text{and solution of (4) has the form} \\ x &= 2 + 5 \cdot q_1 = 3 + 8 \cdot q_2 = -13 \equiv 27 \pmod{40} \end{aligned}$$