## Introduction to modular arithmetic S2

Our discussions lie always in the set of integers  $(\mathbb{Z})$ .

## GCD and HCF

The greatest common divisor (GCD) or highest common factor (HCF) is the greatest or highest number (integer) that will divide a given set of numbers.

What is the gcd of the numbers (60,84,210)?

Look at the gcd of just 60, 84 at first.

Guessing: 2 as 2|60 and 2|84 (| denotes divides). 60=2.30, 84=2.42. Again 2 divides both 30 and 42, 30=2.15, 42=2.21. Thus far  $60=2^2.15$ ,  $84=2^2.21$ .

Now 3|15 and 3|21 i.e., 15=3.5, 21=3.7. We now have  $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3.5$ ,  $84 = 2^2 \cdot 3.7$ . Numbers 5 and 7 have no common factor other than 1. We conclude  $gcd(60,84) = 2^2 \cdot 3 = 12$ .

60 = 12.5 and 84 = 12.7.

Now find the gcd of 12 and 210. Factoring 210 we get 210=3.70=3.7.10=3.7.2.5. Then see that the gcd(60,84,210)=gcd(12,210)=gcd(2,2,3 and 2.3.5.7) =2.3=6. Often one omits the abbreviation gcd and just writes (60,84)=12 or (60,84,210)=6.

# Euclid's algorithm for finding the gcd

Divide 84 by 60 which has remainder, thus 84 = 1.60 + 24Divide the divisor (60) by the remainder (24) to get 60 = 2.24 + 12Divide the divisor (24) by the remainder (12) to get 24 = 2.12 with no remainder. So 12 is the gcd of 60 and 84. Continue on with 210 and 12, so that 210 = 17.12 + 6Next line 12 = 2.6 with no remainder. So finally gcd(60,84,210) = 6.

Given two numbers a,b if gcd(a,b) = 1, that is, they have no factor in common other than unity, we say that they are *relatively prime*, or *coprime*. If a set of numbers have gcd=1 we say that they are each *relatively prime in pairs* or *coprime* to every other in the set.

### Exercise 2

Find the gcd of 78,696 and 19,332 using Euclid's algorithm.

#### Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic - (some 'large numbers!)

Every number can be written as a product of prime power factors. For example  $4410 = 2.3^2 \cdot 5.7^2$ . Can you factorize

$$\begin{split} N &= & 114, 381, 625, 757, 888, 867, 669, 235, 779, 976, 146, 612, 010, 218, 296, \\ & & 721, 242, 362, 562, 561, 842, 935, 706, 935, 245, 733, 897, 830, 597, 123, \\ & & 563, 958, 705, 058, 989, 075, 147, 599, 290, 026, 879, 543, 541 \end{split}$$

This very large number (129 digits) is a product of two very large prime numbers. A *googol* is 1 with a hundred zeros after it

A googolplex is  $10^{googol}$ .

### Pierre de Fermat





Isaac Newton - 1643-1727. Fermat was 36 when Newton was born.

Fermat was the first person known to have evaluated the integral of general power functions. With his method, he was able to reduce this evaluation to the sum of geometric series. The resulting formula was helpful to Newton, and then Leibniz, when they independently developed the fundamental theorem of calculus.

In number theory, Fermat studied Pell's equation, perfect numbers, amicable numbers and what would later become Fermat numbers. It was while researching perfect numbers that he discovered Fermat's little theorem. He invented a factorization method—Fermat's factorization method—as well as the proof technique of infinite descent, which he used to prove Fermat's right triangle theorem which includes as a corollary Fermat's Last Theorem for the case n = 4. Fermat developed the two-square theorem, and the polygonal number theorem, which states that each number is a sum of three triangular numbers, four square numbers, five pentagonal numbers, and so on.

Although Fermat claimed to have proven all his arithmetic theorems, few records of his proofs have survived. Many mathematicians, including Gauss, doubted several of his claims, especially given the difficulty of some of the problems and the limited mathematical methods available to Fermat.

His famous Last Theorem was first discovered by his son in the margin in his father's copy of an edition of Diophantus, and included the statement that the margin was too small to include the proof. It seems that he had not written to Marin Mersenne about it. It was first proven in 1994, by Sir Andrew Wiles, using techniques unavailable to Fermat.

Although Pythagoras Theorem  $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$  has integer solutions, the equation  $x^n + y^n = z^n$  for n > 2 has no +ve integer solutions (Fermat's Last Theorem).

The full text of Fermat's statement, written in Latin, reads "Cubum autem in duos cubos, aut quadrato-quadratum in duos quadrato-quadratos, et generaliter nullam in infinitum ultra quadratum potestatem in duos eiusdem nominis fas est dividere cuius rei demonstrationem mirabilem sane detexi. Hanc marginis exiguitas non caperet" (Nagell 1951, p. 252). In translation, "It is impossible for a cube to be the sum of two cubes, a fourth power to be the sum of two fourth powers, or in general for any number that is a power greater than the second to be the sum of two like powers.

I have discovered a truly marvelous demonstration of this proposition that this margin is too narrow to contain."

A polynomial, or polynomial expression, in a variable, is a sum of terms in powers of the variable - with each power multiplied by a coefficient. Thus a polynomial, of degree n in x is of the form

$$f(x) = a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + a_2 x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1} x + a_n$$

We have seen that, if

 $x \equiv y \pmod{m}$ 

then

 $\begin{array}{ll} x \equiv y (\bmod m) & a_{n-1}x \equiv a_{n-1}y (\bmod m) \\ x^2 \equiv y^2 (\bmod m) & a_{n-2}x^2 \equiv a_{n-2}y^2 (\bmod m) \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ x^n \equiv y^n (\bmod m) & a_0x^n \equiv a_0y^n (\bmod m) \end{array}$ 

That is

$$f(x) \equiv f(y) \pmod{m}$$

A polynomial equation is of the form f(x) = 0.

### Fermat numbers (1607-1665 French lawyer and mathematician)

Fermat stated, though confessing he did not posess a valid proof, that all numbers of the form

 $2^{2^n} + 1$ 

are primes. This statement was refuted by Euler, who showed that the number  $2^{2^5} = 2^{32}$  was divisible by 641.

Without calculating  $2^{32}$  explicitly, the divisibility of this large number by 641 can be established with the help of congruences fairly easily.

We have (mod 641 in operation)

$$2^{2} \equiv 4, \quad 2^{4} \equiv 16 \quad 2^{8} \equiv 256 \quad 2^{16} = 256^{2} \equiv 154 \pmod{641}$$
$$2^{32} \equiv 154^{2} \equiv 640 \pmod{641} \quad \text{so } 2^{32} + 1 \equiv 641 \equiv 0 \pmod{641}.$$

The numbers  $F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1$  are called *Fermat numbers*.

As of 2016, the only known Fermat primes are  $F_0 = 3$ ,  $F_1 = 5$ ,  $F_2 = 17$ ,  $F_3 = 257$ ,  $F_4 = 65537$ .  $F_{11} = 2^{2^{11}} + 1 = 32,317,006,071,311,007,300,714,8...193,555,853,611,059,596,230,657$  (617 digits)  $= 319,489 \times 974,849 \times 167,988,556,341,760,475,137(21 digits) \times 3,560,841,906,445,833,920,513(22 digits) \times 173,462,447,179,147,555,430,258...491,382,441,723,306,598,834,177$  (564 digits) (fully factored 1988) There are no other known Fermat primes  $F_n$  with n > 4. However, little is known about Fermat numbers with large n. In fact, each of the following is an open problem:

Is  $F_n$  composite for all n > 4?

Are there infinitely many Fermat primes? (Eisenstein 1844)

Are there infinitely many composite Fermat numbers?

Does a Fermat number exist that is not square-free?

As of 2014, it is known that  $F_n$  is composite for  $5 \le n \le 32$ , although amongst these, complete factorizations of  $F_n$  are known only for  $0 \le n \le 11$ , and there are no known prime factors for n = 20 and n = 24. The largest Fermat number known to be composite is  $F_{3329780}$ , and its prime factor  $193 \times 2^{23329782} + 1$ , a megaprime, was discovered by the PrimeGrid collaboration in July 2014.

## Mersenne numbers (Mersenne 1588-1648, an ordained priest and polymath)

A number of the form  $M_p = 2^p - 1$  where p is a prime number is called a *Mersenne number*. Such a number which is itself prime is also called a *Mersenne prime*.

A new Mersenne prime was found in December 2017. As of January 2018, 50 are now known. The largest known prime number  $M_{77,232,917} = 2^{77,232,917} - 1$  is a Mersenne prime with 23,249,425 digits. It was found by the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search (GIMPS) in 2017.Since 1997, all newly found Mersenne primes have been discovered by the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search (GIMPS), a distributed computing project on the Internet.

#### Example 1

Find the remainder obtained by dividing  $3^{100}$  by 101.

In all cases when the exponent is large the operation will be greatly shortened by resorting to the fact that every integer is a sum of powers of 2. Thus in our case

$$100 = 64 + 32 + 4$$

and

$$3^{100} = 3^{64} \cdot 3^{32} \cdot 3^4$$
.

Now assuming we are working (mod 101), but not writing it out every time we write, in short 24

 $3^{4} = 81 \equiv -20 \qquad 3^{8} \equiv 20^{2} \equiv -4 \qquad 3^{16} \equiv 16 \qquad 3^{32} \equiv 256 \equiv -47 \qquad 3^{64} \equiv 47^{2} \equiv -13 \pmod{101}$ 

and again,  $3^4 \cdot 3^{32} \equiv (-20) \cdot (-47) \equiv 31$  and  $3^4 \cdot 3^{32} \cdot 3^{64} \equiv 31 \cdot (-13) = -403 \equiv 1 \pmod{101}$ , that is

$$3^{100} \equiv 1 \pmod{101}$$
.

It is also true that, e.g.,  $28^{100} \equiv 1 \pmod{101}$  or  $85^{100} \equiv 1 \pmod{101}$  or indeed any number *a* (not a multiple of 101) satisfies

$$a^{100} \equiv 1 \pmod{101}.$$

Or also  $a^{72} \equiv 1 \pmod{73}$  for any *a* not a multiple of 73, or  $a^{3670} \equiv 1 \pmod{3671}$  etc., etc. What is noticeable about these congruences?

#### Example 2

Familiar criteria of divisibility by 3, 9, 11 follow immediately from the properties of congruences. Let a number N be represented in the decimal notation thus:

$$N = a + 10b + 10^2c + 10^3d + \cdots$$

Noticing that

$$10 \equiv 1 \qquad 10^2 \equiv 1 \qquad 10^3 \equiv 1, \qquad \dots \pmod{9}$$

$$N \equiv a + b + c + d + \dots \pmod{9}.$$

Hence a number is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of its digits is divisible by 9. Since the congruence holding for a certain modulus evidently holds for any divisor of this modulus, we also have

$$N \equiv a + b + c + d + \cdots \pmod{3}.$$

With respect to the modulus 11, we have

$$10 \equiv -1$$
  $10^2 \equiv 1$   $10^3 \equiv -1$ , ... (mod 11)

and so

$$N \equiv a - b + c - d + \cdots \pmod{11}$$

## Euler's $\phi$ function or totient

If m is a +ve integer the number of +ve integers less than m and relatively prime to m is denoted by  $\phi(m)$  and  $\phi$  is called *Euler's totient or*  $\phi$  *function*. (The number 1 is counted).

For example, if m = 12,  $\phi(12) = \{\} = 4$ .

If p is prime,  $\phi(p) = p - 1$ . More generally,  $\phi(p^{\alpha}) = p^{\alpha} - p^{\alpha-1}$ . If  $\alpha = 1$  this says  $\phi(p) = p - 1$ . Euler's totient is useful in cryptography.

Let the integer n be expressed as the product of its prime powers

$$n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_s^{\alpha_s}$$
 think of  $360 = 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5$ 

Then

$$\phi(n) = n(1 - \frac{1}{p_1})(1 - \frac{1}{p_2})\cdots(1 - \frac{1}{p_s})$$

If n is a power of a single prime, say  $n = p^{\alpha}$  then

$$\phi(p^{\alpha}) = p^{\alpha}(1 - \frac{1}{p}) = p^{\alpha} - p^{\alpha - 1}$$
 see above.

For n = 360, we get  $\phi(360) = 360(1 - \frac{1}{2})(1 - \frac{1}{3})(1 - \frac{1}{5}) = 360 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{5} = 96$  - is the number of +ve integers less than 360 and relatively prime to it.

#### **Euler's Theorem**

If a is relatively prime to m then

$$a^{\phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}.$$

So, for m = 360, where  $\phi(m) = 96$  we have, for any integer *a* relatively prime to 360, that is, (a, 360) = 1 we have

$$a^{96} \equiv 1 \pmod{360}.$$

Most particularly if m = p a prime, so that  $\phi(p) = p - 1$  - see above - we get for any integer a such that (a, p) = 1,

# Fermat's Little Theorem

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Thus for example

 $3^{100} \equiv 1 \pmod{101}$  and  $94^{72} \equiv 1 \pmod{73}$  and  $1000000^{3670} \equiv 1 \pmod{3671}$ 

## Bezout's Theorem - Many congruences

If  $x \equiv a \pmod{m_1}$  and  $x \equiv b \pmod{m_2}$  then there exist integers  $p_1, p_2$  such that

$$m_1p_1 + m_2p_2 = \gcd(a, b).$$

A solution, now of both congruences is

$$x = bm_1p_1 + am_2p_2$$

That is

$$x \equiv bm_1p_1 + am_2p_2 \pmod{m_1m_2}.$$

Example 3

Solve the congruences

$$\begin{array}{ll} x &\equiv& 2(\operatorname{mod} 3) \\ x &\equiv& 3(\operatorname{mod} 5) \\ x &\equiv& 2(\operatorname{mod} 7). \end{array}$$

Consider just the first two congruences. Here,  $m_1 = 3, m_2 = 5, m_3 = 7$ . And a = 2, b = 3, and we put c = 2 for the third congruence.

Then, x will be congruent to 3.5.7 = 105.

For the first two congruences gcd(3,5) = 1. Can we find integers  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  such that

$$3p_1 + 5p_2 = 1$$

This can be solved as a congruence, but a mental solution quickly appears as  $p_1 = 2$ ,  $p_2 = -1$ . Thus a solution of the first two congruences is

$$x = 3.3.2 + 2.5.(-1) = 8.$$

So far we then have

$$x \equiv 8(\text{mod } 3.5) \equiv 8(\text{mod } 15)$$

So any x that satisfies this latter congruence also satisfies both the first and second congruences, e.g., 23, -7, 68 etc.

Now use this with the third congruence, that is

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x &\equiv& 8 \pmod{15} \\ x &\equiv& 2 \pmod{7} \end{array}$$

(Can we 'guess' a solution? Try using some numbers that solve the first congruence!)

Otherwise - GOOD EXERCISE - solve the two congruences by the method used above! You should get

 $x \equiv 23 \pmod{105}$  or x = 23 + 105k where k is an integer

CHECK. See the image on the rhs in the Wikipedia article https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese\_remainder\_theorem.

From Wiki: The earliest known statement of the theorem, as a problem with specific numbers, appears in the 3rd-century book Sunzi Suanjing by the Chinese mathematician Sunzi.

Sunzi's work contains neither a proof nor a full algorithm. What amounts to an algorithm for solving this problem was described by Aryabhata (6th century). Special cases of the Chinese remainder theorem were also known to Brahmagupta (7th century), and appear in Fibonacci's *Liber Abaci* (1202). The result was later generalized with a complete solution called Dayanshu in Qin Jiushao's 1247 Mathematical Treatise in Nine Sections (Shushu Jiuzhang).

#### Chinese Remainder Theorem

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PkxN\_r9up8 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PkxN\_r9up8 Read s 6. Case of Moduli relatively prime in pairs. Read, particularly, the Example.

Remainder

Theorem



You are doing very well indeed if you can follow the proof!!