

# Th<sup>m</sup> / THE CHINESE REMAINDER THEOREM:

Let  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r$  be pairwise relatively prime positive integers.

Then the system of congruences

$$x \equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1}, x \equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2}, \dots, x \equiv a_r \pmod{m_r}$$

has a unique sol<sup>n</sup> modulo  $M = m_1 m_2 \dots m_r$ .

Proof: 1<sup>st</sup> construct a sol<sup>n</sup> of the system. Let  $M_n = \frac{M}{m_n}$  where  $M = m_1 m_2 \dots m_r$ . Note,  $\gcd(M_n, m_n) = 1$  thus  $[M_n]^{-1}$  exists mod  $m_n$ . That is,  $\exists y_n$  such that  $y_n M_n \equiv 1 \pmod{m_n}$ .

Let,

$$x = a_1 M_1 y_1 + a_2 M_2 y_2 + \dots + a_r M_r y_r$$

← How to construct the sol<sup>n</sup>.

observe,  $M_j \equiv 0 \pmod{m_i}$  for  $i \neq j$  hence,

$$x \equiv a_i M_i y_i \pmod{m_i} \text{ for } y_i M_i \equiv 1 \pmod{m_i}$$

(other terms dropped to zero)  
 $\equiv a_i$  as  $y_i M_i \equiv 1$ .

Next, suppose  $x_0, x_1$  both be sol<sup>n</sup>s to the system of congruences. Then  $x_0 \equiv x_1 \equiv a_k \pmod{m_k}$  for  $k \in \{1, \dots, r\}$

Hence,  $m_k \mid (x_0 - x_1)$ . By Th<sup>m</sup>(4.8) ~~(which is in my Episode I)~~

~~we find  $M_k \mid$  linear comb over  $\mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow x_0 \equiv x_1 \pmod{m_k}$~~

we find  $\underbrace{m_1 m_2 \dots m_r}_M \mid (x_0 - x_1) \therefore M \mid (x_0 - x_1) \therefore x_0 \equiv x_1 \pmod{M}$

Example: 
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ x \equiv 7 \pmod{11} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} m_1 = 3 \\ m_2 = 11 \end{array} \right\} M = 33 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M_1 = \frac{33}{3} = 11 \\ M_2 = \frac{33}{11} = 3 \end{array} \right.$$

$$y_1 M_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \iff 11 y_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \therefore [y_1] = [11]^{-1} = [2]^{-1} = [2]$$

$$y_2 M_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{11} \rightarrow [y_2] = [3]^{-1} = [4] \text{ we find } y_1 = 2, y_2 = 4$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{mod 11 classes}} \therefore x = 2(11)(2) + 7(3)(4)$

Thus,  $x = 128$

Ex)  $\begin{cases} \textcircled{1} X \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ \textcircled{2} X \equiv 7 \pmod{11} \end{cases}$  solve via substitution method. (2)

$x = 2 + 3t$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$

Hence, subst. into  $\textcircled{2}$ ,

$2 + 3t \equiv 7 \pmod{11}$

$\Rightarrow 3t \equiv 5 \pmod{11}$

$\Rightarrow 4 \cdot 3t \equiv 20 \pmod{11}$  ( $4 \cdot 3 = 12 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ )

$\Rightarrow \underline{t \equiv 9 \pmod{11}}$

Thus,  $x = 2 + 3(9) = \boxed{29}$  (notice  $12t \equiv 29 \pmod{33}$ )  
same answer as last attempt.

Ex)  $\begin{cases} X \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ X \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ X \equiv 3 \pmod{5} \end{cases}$

(solved via substitution)

$x = 1 + 2t$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$

Hence,  $1 + 2t \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

$\Rightarrow 2t \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$\Rightarrow 2 - 2t \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

$\Rightarrow \underline{t \equiv 2 \pmod{3}}$

Thus,  $t = 2 + 3u$  for some  $u \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now

we have  $x = 1 + 2t = 1 + 2(2 + 3u) = 5 + 6u$

Plugging into  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

$5 + 6u \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

$6u \equiv -2 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$  (duh, could  $\rightarrow 0$ )

$6 \cdot 6u \equiv 6 \cdot 3 \pmod{5}$

$36u \equiv 18 \pmod{5}$

$\underline{u \equiv 3 \pmod{5}}$

Thus,  $u = 3 \hookrightarrow x = 5 + 6(3) = \underline{23} \therefore \boxed{x \equiv 23 \pmod{30}}$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Ex)} \quad x \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ \quad \quad x \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ \quad \quad x \equiv 3 \pmod{5} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow M_1 = 15 \\ \rightarrow M_2 = 10 \\ \rightarrow M_3 = 6 \end{array} \right. \quad \& M = 30$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Find: } [15]_2^{-1} = [1]_2^{-1} = 1 = y_1, \\ \text{Find: } [10]_3^{-1} = [1]_3^{-1} = 1 = y_2 \\ \text{Find: } [6]_5^{-1} = [1]_5^{-1} = 1 = y_3 \end{array} \right\} \text{funny.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore x &= a_1 M_1 y_1 + a_2 M_2 y_2 + a_3 M_3 y_3 \\ &= 1 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 10 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 6 \cdot 1 \\ &= 15 + 20 + 18 \\ &= \boxed{53 \equiv 23 \pmod{30}} \end{aligned}$$

(I'll call this sol<sup>n</sup>, "by Chinese Rem. Th<sup>m</sup>")

Remark: The sol<sup>n</sup>  $x = a_1 M_1 y_1 + a_2 M_2 y_2 + \dots + a_r M_r y_r$  (\*) can perhaps be derived by r-fold substitution. The proof given was fine, but perhaps the origin of this formula is just brute-force. Then again, I'd be interested if you have a deeper intuition for (\*).

$$\begin{cases} x \equiv 2 \pmod{11} \\ x \equiv 3 \pmod{12} \\ x \equiv 4 \pmod{13} \\ x \equiv 5 \pmod{17} \\ x \equiv 6 \pmod{19} \end{cases}$$

I'll try substitution Chinese Rem. 4

as  $M_1 = 12 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 = 50,388$

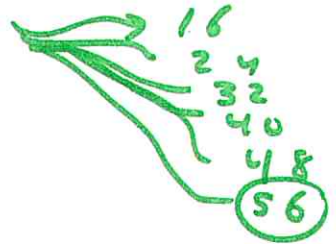
$$[M_1]_{11}^{-1} = [12 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19]_{11}^{-1}$$

$$= [1 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 \cdot 8]_{11}^{-1}$$

$$= [8]_{11}^{-1}$$

$$= [7]_{11}$$

$$\therefore y_1 = 7$$



$$[M_2]_{12}^{-1} = [11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19]_{12}^{-1}$$

$$= [-1 \cdot 1 \cdot 5 \cdot 7]_{12}^{-1}$$

$$= [-35]_{12}^{-1}$$

$$= [1]_{12}^{-1} = [1]_{12} \therefore y_2 = 1$$

46,189

$$[M_3]_{13}^{-1} = [11 \cdot 12 \cdot 17 \cdot 19]_{13}^{-1}$$

$$= [-2 \cdot (-1) \cdot 4 \cdot 6]_{13}^{-1}$$

$$= [48]_{13}^{-1} = [9]_{13}^{-1} = [3]_{13}$$

$$\therefore y_3 = 3$$

32,604

$$[M_4]_{17}^{-1} = [11 \cdot 12 \cdot 13 \cdot 19]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$= [-6 \cdot (-5) \cdot (-4) \cdot 2]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$= [30 \cdot (-8)]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$= [-4 \cdot (-8)]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$= [32]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$= [15]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$= [8]_{17}^{-1}$$

$$\therefore y_4 = 8$$

$(17, 15) = (a, b)$   
 $(15, 2) = (b, a-b)$   
 $(2, 1) = (a-b, b-2(a-b))$   
 $1 = -7a + 8b$   
 $1 = -7 \cdot 17 + 8 \cdot 15$

Fine.

$$(13, 9) = (a, b)$$

$$(9, 4) = (b, a-b)$$

$$(4, 1) = (a-b, b-2(a-b))$$

$$= (a-b, 3b-2a)$$

$$\therefore 1 = 3(9) - 2(13)$$

$$\therefore [9]_{13}^{-1} = [3]_{13}$$

well, duh.

$$(19, 7) = (a, b)$$

$$(7, 5) = (b, a-2b)$$

$$(5, 2) = (a-2b, b-a+2b)$$

$$(2, 1) = (3b-a, a-2b-2(3b-a))$$

$$1 = -8b + 3a = -8(7) + 3(19)$$

$$[7]_{19}^{-1} = [-8]_{19} = [11]_{19}$$

$$[M_5]_{19}^{-1} = [11 \cdot 12 \cdot 13 \cdot 17]_{19}^{-1}$$

$$= [8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 2]_{19}^{-1} = [7]_{19}^{-1}$$

$$[11]_{19}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$y_5 = 11$$

$(19, 15) = (a, b)$   
 $(15, 4) = (b, a-b)$   
 $(4, 3) = (a-b, b-3a+2b)$   
 $(3, 1) = (4b-3a, a-b-4a+2b)$   
 $1 = 4a - 5b$   
 $1 = 4(19) - 5(15)$

$$[5]_{19}^{-1} = [14]_{19}$$

$$\therefore y_5 = 14$$

$$x = 4585,143 \equiv 150,999$$

$$\therefore x = 2(50388)(7) + 3(46,189)(1) + 4(42,636)(3) + 2$$

$$+ 5(32,604)(8) + 6(29,172)(10) = 5110239$$

$$x \equiv 121,827 \pmod{554268}$$

## Concerning non-coprime moduli

(5)

Claim: The system of congruences

$$x \equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1}$$

$$x \equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2}$$

has sol<sup>n</sup> iff  $(m_1, m_2) \mid (a_1 - a_2)$ . Moreover, when  $\exists$  sol<sup>n</sup>, it is unique modulo  $[m_1, m_2]$ .

Proof:  $\nexists \gcd(m_1, m_2) \mid (a_1 - a_2)$ . If  $x \equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1}$ , then  $x = a_1 + m_1 t$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence,

$$m_1 t + a_1 \equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2} \Rightarrow m_1 t \equiv (a_2 - a_1) \pmod{m_2}$$

Note,  $m_1 t \equiv (a_2 - a_1) \pmod{m_2}$  has sol<sup>n</sup> when,

Th<sup>m</sup>/  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  has sol<sup>n</sup> iff  $\gcd(a, n) \mid b$   $\begin{cases} a = m_1 \\ n = m_2 \\ b = a_2 - a_1 \end{cases}$

$\gcd(m_1, m_2) \mid (a_2 - a_1)$ . As this (\*) was given we

find sol<sup>n</sup>'s  $t = t_0 + \frac{ns}{\gcd(m_1, m_2)} = t_0 + \frac{m_2 s}{\gcd(m_1, m_2)}$  for  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

If  $x_0, x_1$  both solve the system  $\Rightarrow \exists s_0, s_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.

$$x_0 = a_1 + m_1 \left( t_0 + \frac{m_2 s_0}{\gcd(m_1, m_2)} \right) \quad \text{likewise for } x_1 \text{ with } s_0 \rightarrow s_1$$

Hence, as the  $a_i$ 's cancel, and  $t_0$ 's cancel,

$$x_1 - x_0 = m_1 \left[ \frac{m_2 (s_1 - s_0)}{\gcd(m_1, m_2)} \right] = \frac{m_1 m_2 (s_1 - s_0)}{\gcd(m_1, m_2)}$$

Therefore, using  $\text{lcm}(m_1, m_2) \gcd(m_1, m_2) = m_1 m_2$  we find

$$x_1 - x_0 = (s_1 - s_0) \text{lcm}(m_1, m_2) \therefore x_1 \equiv x_0 \pmod{\text{lcm}(m_1, m_2)}$$

— (it remains to show  $\gcd(m_1, m_2) \nmid (a_1 - a_2) \Rightarrow$  no sol<sup>n</sup>'s) —  
I leave that to the reader.

Ex)  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$   
 $x \equiv 13 \pmod{15}$

Notice  $\gcd(6, 15) = 3 \neq 1$   
 thus this is not  
 the coprime case, but  
 we may attempt the  
 subst. sol<sup>n</sup> just the  
 same. (6)

$x \equiv 4 \pmod{6} \Rightarrow x = 4 + 6t$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$

$x \equiv 13 \pmod{15} \Rightarrow 4 + 6t \equiv 13 \pmod{15}$   
 $\Rightarrow 6t \equiv 9 \pmod{15}$

Recall:  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  has sol<sup>n</sup>  
 iff  $\gcd(a, n) \mid b$

$\rightarrow a = 6$   
 $\rightarrow b = 9$   
 $\rightarrow n = 15$   
 $\gcd(6, 15) = 3 \mid 9.$

Continuing,  
 $6t \equiv 9 \pmod{15}$   
 $3 \cdot 2t \equiv 3 \cdot 3 \pmod{15}$   
 $2t \equiv 3 \pmod{15}$   
 $8 \cdot 2t \equiv 3 \cdot 8 = 24 \equiv 9 \pmod{15}$   
 $t \equiv 9 \pmod{15} \Rightarrow x = 4 + 6(9) = 58$

$\text{lcm}(6, 15) = 30 \iff x \equiv 58 \equiv 28 \pmod{30}$

Ex)  $x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$   
 $x \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$

$x = 7 + 10t \Rightarrow 7 + 10t \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$   
 $\Rightarrow 10t \equiv -3 \pmod{15}$   $\gcd(10, 15) = 5 \nmid -3$   
 $\rightarrow$  no sol<sup>n</sup> to this system.