

Definition:

$a$  and  $b$  are coprime  $\iff \gcd(a, b) = 1$

Conclude:

$a$  and  $b$  are coprime  $\iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{Z}, ar - bs = 1$

$\implies$ : from Euclidean Alg.

$\Leftarrow$ :  $ar - bs = 1$   
 $d \mid a \wedge d \mid b \implies \underbrace{md}_a r - \underbrace{nd}_b s = 1$

$\implies d(mr - ns) = 1 \implies d = 1.$

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

Important feature of coprimes: Inverse

$$ar - bs = 1$$

$$ar = bs + 1$$

"The remainder of the division  $a/b$  is 1"

$$ar \equiv 1 \pmod{b}$$

like saying: "if we multiply  $a$  by  $r$ , we get 1"

$\equiv$  : congruence.

$r$  acts like the inverse of  $a$ , call it  $a^{-1}$ .

Definition :  $a \equiv b \pmod{n} \iff n \mid a - b$

•  $a$  &  $b$  have same  
remainder in division by  $n$

$\equiv$  "behaves" like equality, it's an "equivalence relation"  
later.

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

$$c \equiv d \pmod{n}$$

---

$$a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{n}$$

(same with subtraction)

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

$$c \equiv d \pmod{n}$$

---

$$a \times c \equiv b \times d \pmod{n}$$

(move from side to side)

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

$$b \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

---

$$a - b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

What about division?

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

$$c \equiv d \pmod{n}$$

---

$$\frac{a}{c} \equiv \frac{b}{d} \pmod{n} \quad ?$$

Well, is  $\frac{a}{c}$  even an integer?

Example:  $n=7$

$$\frac{2}{3} \equiv x \pmod{7}$$

$$2 \equiv 3x \pmod{7}$$

$\uparrow$  ?  
 $x=3$

$$\frac{3}{2} \equiv x \pmod{7}$$

$\uparrow$  ?  $x=5$

$$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{2} \equiv 3 \times 5 \equiv 15 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

So why does it work?

$$x \equiv \frac{2}{3} \pmod{7} \Rightarrow x \equiv 2 \cdot \underbrace{3^{-1}}_{\substack{\text{inverse} \\ \text{of } 3 \pmod{7}}} \pmod{7}$$

So  $x$  is well defined  $\in \mathbb{N}$  if  $3^{-1}$  exists mod 7.

$$3 \cdot 5 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}, \text{ so } 3^{-1} = 5.$$

$$x \equiv 2 \cdot 5 \pmod{7}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$$

So  $\frac{2}{3}$  "is" 3 (mod 7).

$\gcd(a, n) = 1 \iff a$  has an inverse  $a^{-1} \pmod n$ .

$$ar - ns = 1$$

$$ar = ns + 1$$

$$ar \equiv 1 \pmod n$$

$r$  acts like the inverse of  $a$

simply find  $r \pmod n$  (bring it to  $< n$ )

inverse is UNIQUE!

why? (see below)

Interesting fact:  $\gcd(a, n) = 1 \implies ax \equiv ay \pmod n$   
 $x < n$   
 $y < n$   $\implies x = y$

(mult. both sides by  $a^{-1}$ )

$$\underline{a^{-1}} \cdot ax \equiv \underline{a^{-1}} \cdot ay \pmod n$$

$$1 \cdot x \equiv 1 \cdot y \pmod n$$

$$x \equiv y \pmod n \implies x = y \text{ (because } x < n, y < n)$$

So, if  $ax \equiv ay \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$   
           $\underbrace{\quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad}$   
          inverse inverse

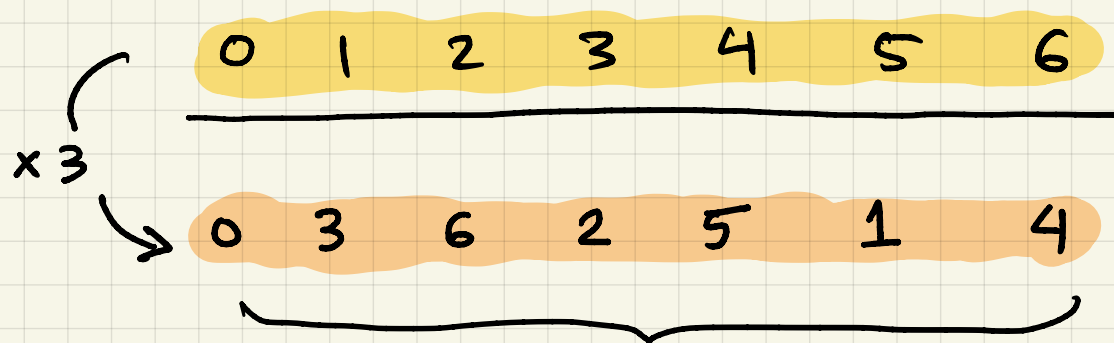
and  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  (so  $a^{-1}$  exists)

then  $x = y$  ( $x < n, y < n$ )

Inverse is unique.

Example:  $n=7$

$a=3$



$x \neq y$

$\Downarrow$

$3x \neq 3y$

they are all different  
(a permutation)

This is not generally true ; for instance ,

$$2 \cdot 3 \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$$

$$2 \cdot 7 \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$$

so  $2 \cdot 3 \equiv 2 \cdot 7$  but  $3 \neq 7$



Application: Solving with modular arithmetics.

$$13x \equiv 2 \pmod{21} \quad \text{Find } x.$$

$$\underbrace{13^{-1}} \cdot 13x \equiv 13^{-1} \cdot 2 \pmod{21}$$

$$1. x \equiv 13^{-1} \cdot 2 \pmod{21}$$

$$x \equiv 13^{-1} \cdot 2 \pmod{21}$$

Find inverse of 13 mod 21.

Inverse of 13 means:  $13 \cdot r \equiv 1 \pmod{21}$

$$13 \cdot r = 21 \cdot s + 1$$

$$13 \cdot r - 21 \cdot s = 1 \quad (\text{do Euclidean alg.})$$

a	21	13	8	5	3	2	1	0
x	1	0	1	-1	2	-3	5	
y	0	1	-1	2	3	5	-8	

$$21(5) + 13(-8) = 1$$

↑  
r

$$-8 \equiv 13 \pmod{21}$$

$$x \equiv 13 \cdot 2 \equiv 26 \equiv 5 \pmod{21}$$

Try:  $13 \times 5 = 65$

$$65 = 21 \times 3 + 2 \quad \checkmark$$

min  
Remainder