

Do the following exercises from the text:

Section 5.2: 2, 5, 6 (d), 14

2. Find the integer  $s$  such that  $-2310 \leq x \leq 2310$ , and

$$x \equiv 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$x \equiv 2 \pmod{20}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{11}.$$

► **Solution.** Since  $(21, 20) = (21, 11) = (20, 11) = 1$ , the Chinese Remainder Theorem applies. First, solve the linear congruences:

$$20 \cdot 11x \equiv 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$21 \cdot 11x \equiv 1 \pmod{20}$$

$$21 \cdot 20x \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$$

For the first one, apply the Euclidean Algorithm to the pair  $20 \cdot 11 = 220$  and 21 to get  $220 \cdot (-2) + 21 \cdot 21 = 1$  so  $x_1 = -2$  solves the first congruence. For the second apply the Euclidean Algorithm to  $21 \cdot 11 = 231$  and 20 to get  $231 \cdot (-9) + 104 \cdot 20 = 1$  so  $x_2 = -9$  is a solution of the second linear congruence. Similarly  $21 \cdot 20 = 420$  and the Euclidean Algorithm gives  $420 \cdot (-5) + 191 \cdot 11 = 1$  so  $x_3 = -5$  is the solution to the third linear congruence. Then a solution to the simultaneous congruences is

$$x = 220 \cdot (-2) \cdot 1 + 231 \cdot (-4) \cdot 2 + 420 \cdot (-5) \cdot 3 = -10,898.$$

and the solution is unique modulo  $21 \cdot 20 \cdot 11 = 4620$ . Thus, the general solution is  $x = -10,898 + 4620k$  where  $k$  is any integer. Taking  $k = 2$  gives the only solution  $-10,898 + 4620 \cdot 2 = -1658$  in the required range. ◀

5. Solve the system

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

$$4x \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$$

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}.$$

There will be two incongruence solutions modulo  $210 = [7, 6, 5]$ ; find both of them.

► **Solution.** First solve each of the linear congruences separately, and then use the Chinese Remainder Theorem to solve simultaneously. Since  $4 \cdot 2 = 8 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ , the first linear congruence has the solution  $x \equiv 4 \cdot 5 \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$ . The third one is already given in solved form. For the second, since the greatest common divisor  $(4, 6) = 2$  and  $2 \mid 2$ , there are two incongruence solutions to this congruence. Dividing by 2 gives the congruence  $2x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  which has the unique solution  $x = -1$

modulo 3. The other solution modulo 6 are  $-1 + (6/2)k$  modulo 6. Hence there are two solutions  $-1$  and  $-1 + 3 = 2$  modulo 6. Thus, there are 2 sets of simultaneous congruences to solve:

$$\begin{array}{ll} x \equiv -1 \pmod{7} & x \equiv -1 \pmod{7} \\ x \equiv -1 \pmod{6} & \text{and} \quad x \equiv 2 \pmod{6} \\ x \equiv 3 \pmod{5} & x \equiv 3 \pmod{5} \end{array}$$

To solve these, first solve the three linear congruences

$$\begin{array}{l} 30x \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \\ 35x \equiv 1 \pmod{6} \\ 42x \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \end{array}$$

Reducing modulo 7, the first congruence becomes  $2x \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ , which has the solution  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$ . The second has the solution  $x \equiv -1 \pmod{6}$ , and the third, after reducing modulo 5, is  $2x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , which has the solution  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ . Then the first set of simultaneous congruences has the solution

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 30 \cdot 4 \cdot (-1) + 35 \cdot (-2) \cdot 2 + 42 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \\ &= -120 + 35 + 378 = 293 \\ &\equiv 83 \pmod{210}, \end{aligned}$$

and the second set has the solution

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= 30 \cdot 4 \cdot (-1) + 35 \cdot (-1) \cdot 2 + 42 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \\ &= -120 - 70 + 378 \\ &\equiv 188 \pmod{210}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the two solutions of the original system of linear congruences are 83 and 188 (mod 210). ◀

6. Solve the following congruences using the method of Theorem 5.3.

(d)  $606x \equiv 138 \pmod{1710}$

► **Solution.** The prime factorization of 1710 is  $1710 = 2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 19$ . Thus, the congruence  $606x \equiv 138 \pmod{1710}$  is equivalent to the simultaneous system of congruences

$$\begin{array}{l} 606x \equiv 138 \pmod{2} \\ 606x \equiv 138 \pmod{5} \\ 606x \equiv 138 \pmod{9} \\ 606x \equiv 138 \pmod{19} \end{array}$$

Reducing each of these congruences by the respective modulus gives:

$$\begin{aligned}0 \cdot x &\equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\3x &\equiv 3 \pmod{9} \\17x &\equiv 5 \pmod{19}\end{aligned}$$

Solving these congruences gives:

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{2} \\x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\x &\equiv 1, 4, 7 \pmod{9} \\x &\equiv 7 \pmod{19}.\end{aligned}$$

To solve these simultaneous congruences, we need to first solve the following linear congruences:

$$\begin{aligned}5 \cdot 9 \cdot 19x &= 855x \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\2 \cdot 9 \cdot 19x &= 342x \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \\2 \cdot 5 \cdot 19x &= 190x \equiv 1 \pmod{9} \\2 \cdot 5 \cdot 9x &= 90x \equiv 1 \pmod{19}\end{aligned}$$

Reducing each of these congruences modulo the respective modulus gives

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\2x &\equiv 1 \pmod{5} \\x &\equiv 1 \pmod{9} \\14x &\equiv 1 \pmod{19}\end{aligned}$$

The solutions of these are, respectively,  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$ , and  $x \equiv -4 \pmod{19}$ . To find all the solutions of the simultaneous congruences, compute:

$$x \equiv 855 \cdot 1 \cdot (0 \text{ or } 1) + 342 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 + 190 \cdot 1 \cdot (1 \text{ or } 4 \text{ or } 7) + 90 \cdot (-4) \cdot 7 \pmod{1710}.$$

Do the calculations for each of the 6 choices (0 or 1 in one place and 1 or 4 or 7 in another) to get:

$$x \equiv 178, 463, 748, 1033, 1318, 1603 \pmod{1710}$$



14. Find all solutions to the system

$$\begin{aligned}3x^2 + 6x + 5 &\equiv 0 \pmod{7} \\7x + 4 &\equiv 0 \pmod{13}\end{aligned}$$

which are incongruence modulo 91.

► **Solution.** By direct calculation, we determine that 1 and  $-3$  are solutions of the quadratic congruence. Since the solutions are unique modulo 7 the solutions of the system are of the form  $1 + 7y$  and  $-3 + 7z$  where  $7(1 + 7y) + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$  and  $7(-3 + 7z) + 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$ . These yield  $y = 8$  and  $z = 3$  and hence the solutions 57 and 18 which are unique modulo 91. ◀

Section 5.3: 1, 2, 4

1. Solve:

(a)  $5x^3 - 2x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{343}$

► **Solution.** Since  $343 = 7^3$ , start by solving  $f(x) = 5x^3 - 2x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$ . This will be done by direct calculation:

$x$	$-3$	$-2$	$-1$	$0$	$1$	$2$	$3$
$f(x)$	$-128$	$-35$	$-6$	$1$	$4$	$37$	$127$

The only value of  $f(x)$  that is divisible by 7 is  $-35$ . Thus, the unique solution of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  is  $x_1 \equiv -2 \pmod{7}$ . Now apply Theorem 5.7 to find a solution (if it exists) of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{49}$ . Any such solution will have the form  $x_2 = x_1 + 7y$  where  $y$  is a solution of the linear congruence

$$\frac{f(x_1)}{7} + yf'(x_1) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}.$$

Since  $f'(x) = 15x^2 - 2$ ,  $f'(x_1) = f'(-2) = 58 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ , so the linear congruence for  $y$  is

$$\frac{-35}{7} + 2y \equiv 0 \pmod{7}.$$

This is  $-5 + 2y \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  which has the unique solution  $y \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$ , which gives  $x_2 = -2 - 7 = -9$  as the unique solution of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{49}$ . Now apply Theorem 5.7 again to find a solution of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{343}$ . Such a solution will have the form  $x_3 = x_2 + 49y$  where  $y$  is a solution of the linear congruence

$$\frac{f(x_2)}{49} + yf'(x_2) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}.$$

Calculate that  $f(-9) = -3626 = (-74)(49)$  and  $f'(-9) = 15(-9)^2 - 2$ . Since we only need  $f'(-9)$  modulo 7, we get that  $f'(-9) \equiv 1 \cdot (-2)^2 - 2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ . Thus, the linear congruence for finding  $x_3$  is  $\frac{f(-9)}{49} + yf'(-9) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  or  $-74 + 2y \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  which has the unique solution  $y \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ . Hence,  $x_3 = -9 + 2 \cdot 49 = 89 \pmod{343}$  is the unique solution of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{343}$ . ◀

(b)  $5x^3 - 2x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{25}$

► **Solution.** Proceed as in part (a). From the calculations of  $f(x)$  in part (a) we see that  $x_1 = -2$  is the unique solution of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ . A solution modulo 25 is obtained as  $x_2 = x_1 + 5y$  where  $y$  is a solution of the linear congruence

$$\frac{f(x_1)}{5} + yf'(x_1) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}.$$

From calculations done in part (a), this linear congruence for  $y$  becomes  $-7 + 3y \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ , which has the unique solution  $y \equiv -1 \pmod{5}$ . Thus, the unique solution of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{25}$  is  $x_2 = -2 + 5 \cdot (-1) = -7 \equiv 18 \pmod{25}$ . ◀

(c)  $5x^3 - 2x + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{8575}$

► **Solution.** Since  $8575 = 343 \cdot 25$  the solutions of  $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{8575}$  are the solutions of the simultaneous system

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\equiv 0 \pmod{343} \\ f(x) &\equiv 0 \pmod{25} \end{aligned}$$

These two prime power congruences were solved in parts (a) and (b). Thus, it is simply necessary to solve the simultaneous congruences

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 89 \pmod{343} \\ x &\equiv 18 \pmod{25} \end{aligned}$$

This is done via the Chinese Remainder Theorem. Apply the Euclidean Algorithm to the relative prime integers 343 and 25 to get  $7 \cdot 343 - 96 \cdot 25 = 1$ . Then the solution of the simultaneous congruence is

$$x = 18 \cdot 7 \cdot 343 - 96 \cdot 25 \cdot 89 = -170,382 \equiv 1118 \pmod{8575}.$$

◀

2. Solve  $2x^9 + 2x^6 - x^5 - 2x^2 - x \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ .

► **Solution.** Since  $2x^9 + 2x^6 - x^5 - 2x^2 - x = (x^5 - x)(2x^4 + 2x + 1)$  and since  $x^5 \equiv x \pmod{5}$  for any integer  $x$  by Fermat's theorem, it follows that every integer value of  $x$  is a solution of the given equation. ◀

4. Solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} 5x^2 + 4x - 3 &\equiv 0 \pmod{6} \\ 3x^2 + 10 &\equiv 0 \pmod{17}. \end{aligned}$$

► **Solution.** We solve each congruence separately, and then solve the system using the Chinese Remainder Theorem. For the first congruence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 5x^2 + 4x - 3 &\equiv 0 \pmod{6} \\ -x^2 + 4x - 3 &\equiv 0 \pmod{6} \\ x^2 - 4x + 3 &\equiv 0 \pmod{6} \\ (x - 3)(x - 1) &\equiv 0 \pmod{6} \\ x &\equiv 1 \text{ or } 3 \pmod{6}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 + 10 &\equiv 10 \pmod{17} \\ 3x^2 &\equiv 7 \pmod{17} \\ x^2 &\equiv 18x^2 \equiv 42 \equiv 25 \pmod{17} \\ x &\equiv \pm 5 \pmod{17}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we must solve the four systems:

$$\begin{array}{ll} x \equiv 1 \pmod{6} & x \equiv 1 \pmod{6} \\ x \equiv 5 \pmod{17} & x \equiv -5 \pmod{17} \\ \\ x \equiv 3 \pmod{6} & x \equiv 3 \pmod{6} \\ x \equiv 5 \pmod{17} & x \equiv -5 \pmod{17} \end{array}$$

Using the Chinese Remainder Theorem, we find that the solutions are 39, 63, 73 and 97 modulo  $102 = 17 \cdot 6$ . ◀

Section 5.4: 1, 3, 13

1. Prove the converse of Wilson's Theorem.

► **Solution.** Wilson's Theorem says that if  $p$  is a prime, then  $(p - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . The converse is if  $(n - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $n$  is prime. Thus, suppose that  $(n - 1)! \equiv -1 \pmod{n}$ . We show that the assumption  $n$  is composite leads to a contradiction. If  $n$  is composite, then  $n = rs$  for  $1 < r < n$  and  $1 < s < n$ . Thus,  $r \mid (n - 1)!$ , and our assumption is that  $(n - 1)! = -1 + qn$ . Since  $r \mid n$ , it follows that  $r \mid 1$ , which is a contradiction since  $r > 1$ . Thus,  $n$  cannot have any factors less than  $n$ , except for 1. Thus,  $n$  is prime. ◀

3. If  $p$  is an odd prime, show that  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  has precisely 2 incongruent solutions modulo  $p$ .

► **Solution.** Both 1 and  $p - 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  are solutions and  $1 \not\equiv p - 1 \pmod{p}$  since  $p$  is odd. If there were more than two solutions, it would contradict Lagrange's theorem. ◀

13. If  $p$  is an odd prime, use Fermat's theorem to show that  $x^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  has a solution only if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

► **Solution.** Suppose  $a^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . Therefore,  $p \nmid a$  and by Fermat's theorem  $1 \equiv a^{p-1} \equiv (a^2)^{(p-1)/2} \equiv (-1)^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}$ . Since  $p$  is an odd prime,  $1 \not\equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , so  $1 \equiv (-1)^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}$  can only occur if  $(p-1)/2$  is even. That is  $(p-1)/2 = 2k$  for some positive integer  $k$ , so that  $p = 4k + 1$ . That is  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . ◀