

---

# **Applied Cryptography and Computer Security**

**CSE 664 Spring 2017**

## **Lecture 12: Introduction to Number Theory II**

**Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
University at Buffalo**

# Lecture Outline

- **This time we'll finish the intro to number theory**
- **What to expect:**
  - **congruences**
  - **Fermat and Euler's theorems**
  - **the Chinese remainder theorem**
  - **finding large primes**

# Congruences

- A **congruence** is a statement about divisibility
  - such statements simplify reasoning about divisibility
- **Definition**
  - let  $a, b, m > 0$  be integers
  - if  $m$  divides  $a - b$ , then  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$  and we write  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$
  - if  $m$  does not divide  $a - b$ ,  $a$  is not congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$  and we write  $a \not\equiv b \pmod{m}$
  - the formula  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  is called a **congruence**
  - the integer  $m$  is called the **modulus**

# Congruences

- **Do not confuse  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  with binary operator “mod”**
  - $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  **if and only if**  $(a \bmod m) = (b \bmod m)$
- **For each integer  $a$ , the set of all integers  $b \equiv a \pmod{m}$  is called the congruence class or residue class of  $a$  modulo  $m$** 
  - **example: the residue class of  $27 \pmod{5}$  is**  
 $\dots, -13, -8, -3, 2, 7, 12, \dots$
  - **each value is a representative of the class, and the smallest positive value is the standard representative**

# Congruences

- The congruence relation has many similarities to equality
  - it, like equality, is an **equivalence relation**
  - **reflexive**:  $a \equiv a \pmod{m}$
  - **symmetric**: if  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , then  $b \equiv a \pmod{m}$
  - **transitive**: if  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $b \equiv c \pmod{m}$ , then  $a \equiv c \pmod{m}$

# Congruences

- **Properties of congruence relations**

- **let**  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  **and**  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$
- $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$
- $a - c \equiv b - d \pmod{m}$
- $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$
- **let**  $f$  **be a polynomial with integer coefficients, then if**  
 $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ ,  $f(a) \equiv f(b) \pmod{m}$
- **let**  $d|m$ , **then**  $a \equiv b \pmod{m} \Rightarrow a \equiv b \pmod{d}$

# Congruences

- Although addition, subtraction, and multiplication follow the usual rules, **division does not always work as expected**
  - $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$  **does not always imply**  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$
  - **example:**  $2 \cdot 3 = 6 \equiv 18 = 2 \cdot 9 \pmod{12}$ , but  $3 \not\equiv 9 \pmod{12}$
  - we next investigate when this implication is true
- **Theorem (division):**
  - for integer  $a, b, c \neq 0$ , and  $m > 0$ , if  $\gcd(c, m) = 1$ , then  $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$  **implies**  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$
  - **example:**  $5 \cdot 3 = 15 \equiv 39 = 13 \cdot 3 \pmod{8}$ ; **both**  $15 \equiv 39 \pmod{8}$  **and**  $5 \equiv 13 \pmod{8}$

# Congruences

- **Theorem (multiplicative inverse):**
  - **if  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ , then there is a unique  $x$  ( $0 < x < m$ ) such that  $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ , i.e.,  $x$  is  $a^{-1} \pmod{m}$**
  - **example:  $a = 3, m = 5; x \equiv 2 \equiv 3^{-1} \pmod{5}$**
  - **the inverse is normally computed using the extended Euclidean algorithm, where  $ax + my = 1$**



# Residue Sets

- A **complete set of residues** (CSR) modulo  $m$  is a set  $S$  of integers such that every integer is congruent to exactly one integer in that set  $S$ 
  - the **standard CSR** modulo  $m$  is  $\{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\}$ , i.e,  $\mathbb{Z}_m$
- A **reduced set of residues** (RSR) modulo  $m$  is a set  $R$  of integers such that every integer **relatively prime to  $m$**  is congruent to exactly one integer in  $R$ 
  - the **standard RSR** modulo  $m$  is all  $1 \leq r \leq m$  such that  $\gcd(r, m) = 1$
  - **example:** for  $m = 12$ , the standard RSR is  $\{1, 5, 7, 11\}$
  - for a prime  $p$ , this set is  $\{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$

# Linear Congruences

- Now **how do we solve congruences**  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  **for given**  $a, b, m$  **and unknown**  $x$ ?
  - we first need to determine when they are solvable
- **Theorem** (solvability of linear congruence)
  - $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  **has a solution if and only if**  $\gcd(a, m)$  **divides**  $b$
  - **example:**
    - solve  $165x \equiv 100 \pmod{285}$
    - ?

# Linear Congruences

- **Theorem** (solution to a linear congruence)

- let  $g = \gcd(a, m)$

- if  $g$  divides  $b$ , then  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  has  $g$  solutions

- the solutions are:

$$x \equiv \frac{b}{g}x_0 + t\frac{m}{g} \pmod{m}, \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, g - 1$$

- here  $x_0$  is any solution to  $\frac{a}{g}x_0 \equiv 1 \pmod{\frac{m}{g}}$

# Linear Congruences

- **Example of a linear congruence**
  - **solve  $7x \equiv 3 \pmod{12}$**
  - **first find  $g =$**
  - **determine the number of solutions**
  - **determine  $x_0$**
  - **find the solution**
  - **now solve  $8x \equiv 4 \pmod{12}$**

# Groups

- A **group**  $G$  is a set of elements together with a binary operation  $\circ$  such that
  - the set is **closed under the operation**  $\circ$ , i.e., for every  $a, b \in G$ ,  $a \circ b$  is a unique element of  $G$
  - the **associative law holds**, i.e., for all  $a, b, c \in G$ ,  
$$a \circ (b \circ c) = (a \circ b) \circ c$$
  - the set has a **unique identity element**  $e$  such that  $a \circ e = e \circ a = a$  for every  $a \in G$
  - every element has a **unique inverse**  $a^{-1}$  in  $G$  such that  
$$a \circ a^{-1} = a^{-1} \circ a = e$$

# Groups

- A group is called **commutative** or **abelian** if  $a \circ b = b \circ a$  for every pair  $a, b \in G$
- **Size of a group**
  - a group is **finite** if it has only a finite number of elements
  - a group is **infinite** if it has an infinite number of elements
  - the number of elements of a finite group is called the **order** of the group
- Groups is a convenient way to represent sets by strings of symbols

# Groups

- **Examples of groups**

- **the set of integers  $\{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  forms an infinite abelian group**
  - **addition is the binary operation**
  - **0 is the identity**
  - **$-a$  is the inverse of  $a$**
- **this set does not form a group with multiplication as the binary operation (lack of inverses)**

# Groups

- **Examples of groups**
  - if  $m \geq 2$  is an integer, a complete set of residues (CSR) modulo  $m$  forms an abelian group
    - addition modulo  $m$  is the binary operation
    - the residue class containing  $0$  is the identity
    - the inverse of the residue class containing  $a$  is the residue class containing  $-a$
  - this group is called the **additive group modulo  $m$**
  - a CSR modulo  $m$  does not form a group under multiplication



# Groups

- **Examples of groups**

- recall that a reduced set of residues (RSR) includes all numbers relatively prime to  $m$
- for  $m > 1$ , a RSR modulo  $m$  forms a group with multiplication modulo  $m$  as operation
- the identity element is the residue class containing 1
- it is called the **multiplicative group modulo  $m$**
- what is the group order?

# Euler's $\phi$ Function

- **Euler  $\phi$  function**

- $\phi(m)$  is the size of RSR modulo  $m$
- $\phi$  is called the Euler Phi or totient function

- **Properties of  $\phi$**

- if  $p$  is prime,  $\phi(p) = p - 1$
- $\phi$  is multiplicative:  $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$
- thus, if  $p \neq q$  are primes,  $\phi(pq) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
- if  $p$  is prime,  $\phi(p^e) = p^e - p^{e-1}$
- if  $n = \prod_i p_i^{e_i}$ , where  $p_i$ 's are distinct primes and  $e_i \geq 1$ ,  
 $\phi(n) = \prod_i p_i^{e_i-1} (p_i - 1)$

# Fermat and Euler's Theorems

- **Fermat's "Little" Theorem**

- let  $p$  be prime and  $a$  be an integer which is not a multiple of  $p$ , then

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

- **Euler's Theorem**

- let  $m > 1$  and  $\gcd(a, m) = 1$ , then

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

- **A Corollary of Euler's Theorem**

- let  $m, x, y$ , and  $g$  be positive integers with  $\gcd(g, m) = 1$

- if  $x \equiv y \pmod{\phi(m)}$ , then  $g^x \equiv g^y \pmod{m}$

# Fermat and Euler's Theorems

- **Another corollary of Euler's theorem**
  - we obtain an **alternative way of computing  $a^{-1} \pmod{m}$** 
    - recall that  $a \cdot a^{-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$
  - **factoring out one  $a$  gives us  $a a^{\phi(m)-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$**
  - **then  $a^{-1} \equiv$**
  - **for a prime modulus  $p$ ,  $a^{-1} \equiv$**
  - **computing the inverse using this approach requires roughly the same number of bit operations as the extended Euclidean algorithm**

## More on Groups

- If  $a$  is an element of a finite group with identity  $1$ , then there is a unique smallest positive integer  $i$  with  $a^i = 1$  (using multiplicative notation)
  - such  $i$  is called the **order of  $a$**  (different from the order of the group)
- The element  $a$  has **infinite order** if there is no positive integer  $i$  with  $a^i = 1$
- A **cyclic group** is one that contains an element  $a$  whose powers  $a^i$  and  $a^{-i}$  make up the entire group
- An element  $a$  with such property is called a **generator** of the group

# Cyclic Groups

- **Examples**

- the set of all integers with  $+$  for the operation is a cyclic group of infinite order
  - the group is generated by 1
  - the “powers” of 1 are  $0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$
  - every element  $a \neq 0$  has infinite order
- the integers modulo  $m$  with  $+$  operation form a cyclic group of order  $m$ , where the residue class of 1 is a generator
- the multiplicative group modulo  $m$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_m^*$ , may or may not be cyclic depending on  $m$

# Cyclic Groups

- **Theorem:** If  $p$  is prime, then  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  is cyclic.
- **Example**
  - consider multiplicative group over  $\mathbb{Z}_7^*$
  - what is the order of 2?
  - what is the order of 3?

# Fast Exponentiation

- We'll need to compute  $a^n$  often
- This can be done using only  $O(\log_2 n)$  multiplications

```
power(a, n) {  
    e = n; y = 1; z = a;  
    repeat {  
        if (e is odd) y = y · z;  
        if (e ≤ 1) return y;  
        z = z · z;  
        e = e ≫ 1;           ← e = ⌊e/2⌋  
    }  
}
```



# Fast Exponentiation

- **To compute  $a^n \bmod m$ , we want to keep numbers small (smaller than  $m$ )**
- **We reduce them modulo  $m$  after each multiplication**

```
power(a, n, m) {  
    e = n; y = 1; z = a;  
    repeat {  
        if (e is odd) y = (y · z) % m;  
        if (e ≤ 1) return y;  
        z = (z · z) % m;  
        e = e >> 1;  
    }  
}
```

# Fast Exponentiation

- **Example:** compute  $3^6 \bmod 11$ 
  - set  $e = 6$  (0110),  $y = 1$ ;  $z = 3$
  - execute the loop
    - iteration 1
    - iteration 2
    - iteration 3
- What's the **complexity** of fast exponentiation?

# The Chinese Remainder Theorem

- The **Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)** can be used to perform modular exponentiations even faster than in the above algorithm
- **The main advantage of CRT:**
  - it allows us to split up one large exponentiation into smaller exponentiations
- **The main idea:**
  - for a composite number  $m$  with factors  $p_1, p_2, \dots$ , it allows us to combine congruences of the form  $x \equiv a_i \pmod{p_i}$  into a congruence  $x \equiv a \pmod{m}$
- **Main uses:**
  - in public-key decryption and signing algorithms

# The Chinese Remainder Theorem

- **The Chinese Remainder Theorem**

- we are given  $n_1, \dots, n_r$  positive integers pair-wise relatively prime (i.e.,  $\gcd(n_i, n_j) = 1$  for any  $i \neq j$ )
- let  $n = n_1 \cdots n_r$
- then  $r$  congruences  $x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i}$  have common solutions modulo  $n$

- **The solution** to such congruences is

$$x \equiv \sum_{i=1}^r (n/n_i) b_i a_i \pmod{n}$$

- here  $b_i \equiv (n/n_i)^{-1} \pmod{n_i}$

# The Chinese Remainder Theorem

- **Example:**

- **solve a system of congruences**  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ ,  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{10}$ ,  
**and**  $x \equiv 8 \pmod{13}$

# Finding Large Primes

- In many constructions we rely on **large primes**
- **How do we find them?**
  - the probability that a randomly picked integer, say, 2000 bits long is prime is not great
- But even if we have a candidate, **how do we test it?**
  - Fermat's theorem says that if  $p$  is prime and  $p \nmid a$ , then  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$
  - this theorem gives us a test for **compositeness**
  - if  $p$  is odd,  $p \nmid a$ , and  $a^{p-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , then  $p$  is not prime
  - how about the converse, a **test for primality?**

# Finding Large Primes

- Unfortunately, **the converse is not always true**
  - consider  $p = 11 \cdot 13 = 341$  and  $a = 2$ ;  $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{341}$
  - it is, however, true for most  $p$  and  $a$
- The composite numbers that pass such “primality test” are called **Carmichael numbers** (pseudo-prime)
  - they result in  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  for **every** integer  $a$  with  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$
  - there are infinitely many of them
  - they must be detected and avoided in cryptosystems like RSA

# Finding Large Primes

- But there is a true converse of Fermat's theorem
- **Lucas-Lehmer test** (rigorous primality test):
  - let  $n > 3$  be odd
  - if for every prime  $p$  that divides  $n - 1$  there exists  $a$  such that  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , but  $a^{(n-1)/p} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $n$  is prime
  - using the test requires knowledge of factorization of  $n - 1$
- This theorem can be used iteratively to construct large, random primes
  - start with a rather small prime and make it several digits longer in each step
  - test for primality in each iteration



# Finding Large Primes

- **Constructing large primes:**
  - begin with a prime  $p_1$  and let  $i = 1$
  - repeat the following steps until  $p_i$  is large enough
    - for a random small  $k$  (9–10 digits), let  $n = 2kp_i + 1$
    - if  $2^{n-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , then  $n$  is composite and try another  $k$
    - otherwise,  $n$  is probably prime, so try to prove it using Lucas-Lehmer test
    - if you succeed in finding the base  $a$  to satisfy the test, then  $n$  is proved prime and set  $p_{i+1} = n$
    - otherwise try a new random  $k$

# Finding Large Primes

- Using Lucas-Lehmer approach adds about 10 digits to the length of the prime in each step
- It is possible to **construct large primes faster**
  - we can double the size of the prime in one step
  - complete factorization of the candidate prime is not required
- **Pocklington-Lehmer theorem** allows us to do so
  - given prime  $p_i$  set  $n$  to  $2Fp_i + 1$ , where factorization of  $F$  is not known
  - the idea is that if  $p_i \geq \sqrt{n}$ , then  $n$  is prime

## More on Primality Tests

- Given a large number  $n$ , can we test whether it is prime without other conditions?
- **History of primality tests development**
  - trying all numbers up to  $\sqrt{n}$  works, but is inefficient
    - this algorithm has been known for over 2000 years
  - applying **Fermat's theorem** is efficient, but not always works
    - Carmichael numbers satisfy the test as well
    - this theorem was the basis for many efficient primality tests

## More on Primality Tests

- **History of primality tests development**
  - In 1970s **randomized polynomial-time algorithms** have been developed
    - **Miller-Rabin test** determines composite numbers with probability at least  $1 - 4^{-k}$  for a chosen  $k$
    - **Solovay-Strassen test** determines composite numbers with probability at least  $1 - 2^{-k}$
  - In 1983 **Adleman, Pomerance, and Rumely** achieved a breakthrough
    - they gave the first deterministic test that doesn't require exponential time
    - the algorithm runs in  $(\log n)^{O(\log \log \log n)}$

## More on Primality Tests

- **History of primality tests development**
  - Finally, in 2004 **Agrawal, Kayal, and Saxena** proved that **PRIMES** is in P
    - their deterministic algorithm runs in  $O((\log n)^{15/2})$  time or better
    - the algorithm is based on a generalization of Fermat's theorem
- **History happens even now!**

# Summary

- **Congruences are statements about divisibility**
  - their properties often coincide with our intuition, but they also differ
- **Fermat and Euler's theorems**
  - provide an alternative way of computing an inverse modulo a number
  - provide a compositeness test
- **To find a large prime either**
  - choose a value at random and test for primality
  - construct a prime from smaller values
- **As of 2004, unconditional primality testing is in P**