

Ex: What is the remainder when $22 \cdot 19$ is divided by 3?

Recall: Remainder is the unique $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $0 \leq r \leq 2$ and $22 \cdot 19 \equiv r \pmod{3}$.

$$22 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \quad 19 \equiv 1 \pmod{3},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } 22 \cdot 19 &\equiv 1 \cdot 1 \pmod{3} \\ &\equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \end{aligned}$$

meaning $22 \cdot 19$ leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 3.

Ex: What is the remainder when

$$(754 + 1083) \cdot 17$$

is divided by 5?

$$\begin{aligned}(754 + 1083) \cdot 17 &\equiv (4 + 3) \cdot 2 \pmod{5} \\ &\equiv 7 \cdot 2 \pmod{5} \\ &\equiv 2 \cdot 2 \pmod{5} \\ &\equiv 4 \pmod{5}\end{aligned}$$

So the remainder is 4.

Ex: When $m=2$, every $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ satisfies exactly one of

$$\bullet a \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \iff a \text{ is even}$$

$$\bullet a \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \iff a \text{ is odd}$$

So when we do arithmetic mod 2, we can replace every integer by 0 or 1.

We have

$$0 + 0 = 0$$

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$0 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$0 \cdot 1 = 0$$

$$1 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

So we have the following $+$ and \cdot tables:

$+$ mod 2	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

mod 2	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

This recovers

+	even	odd
even	even	odd
odd	odd	even

•	even	odd
even	even	even
odd	even	odd

Note: Can make similar tables for arithmetic modulo 3, 4, 5, ...

Thm: Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. If

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

then

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

for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof: Let $P(n)$ be " $a^n \equiv b^n \pmod{m}$ ".

We'll use induction.

Base Case: $P(1)$ is given.

Inductive Step: Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and suppose $P(n)$ is true. That is, $a^n \equiv b^n \pmod{m}$.

Since $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$, we get

$$a^n \cdot a \equiv b^n \cdot b \pmod{m},$$

i.e., $a^{n+1} \equiv b^{n+1} \pmod{m}$. So $P(n+1)$ is true.

Thus, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ by P.M.I. ●

Ex: What is the remainder when 91^{100} is divided by 3?

Since $91 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 91^{100} &\equiv 1^{100} \pmod{3} \\ &\equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \end{aligned}$$

So the remainder is 1.

Ex: What is the remainder when 92^{100} is divided by 3?

Similarly, $92 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$, so

$$92^{100} \equiv 2^{100} \pmod{3}.$$

Now, $2^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, so

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{100} &\equiv (2^2)^{50} \pmod{3} \\ &\equiv 1^{50} \pmod{3} \\ &\equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the remainder is 1.

Ex: What is the remainder when 258^{50} is divided by 5?

Since $258 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$, we have

$$258^{50} \equiv 3^{50} \pmod{5}.$$

Now, $3^4 = 81$, so $3^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$.

Write

$$50 = 4 \cdot 12 + 2. \quad (50 \text{ divided by } 4)$$

Then

$$3^{50} = 3^{4 \cdot 12 + 2} = (3^4)^{12} \cdot 3^2,$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} 258^{50} &\equiv 3^{50} \\ &\equiv (3^4)^{12} \cdot 3^2 \pmod{5} \\ &\equiv 1^{12} \cdot 9 \pmod{5} \\ &\equiv 4 \pmod{5}. \end{aligned}$$

The remainder is 4.