

# 1 Modular arithmetic

[readtex arithmetic/sections/03\_divisibility/02\_euclidean-division.ftl.tex]

Let  $k, k', l, m, n, n', n''$  denote natural numbers.

Having seen Euclidean division we now can establish a new kind of arithmetic, called *modular arithmetic*. To do this we fix a natural number  $k$  and identify any two natural numbers if they have the same remainder when divided by  $k$ .

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $k$  be nonzero.  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$  iff  $n \bmod k = m \bmod k$ .

Let  $n$  and  $m$  be congruent modulo  $k$  stand for  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$ .

**Proposition 1.2.** Let  $m$  be nonzero. Then

$$n \equiv n \pmod{m}.$$

*Proof.* We have  $n \bmod m = n \bmod m$ .  $n \equiv n \pmod{m}$ . □

**Proposition 1.3.** Let  $m$  be nonzero. Then

$$n \equiv n' \pmod{m} \implies n' \equiv n \pmod{m}.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $n \equiv n' \pmod{m}$ . Then  $n \bmod m = n' \bmod m$ . Hence  $n' \bmod m = n \bmod m$ . Thus  $n' \equiv n \pmod{m}$ . □

**Proposition 1.4.** Let  $m$  be nonzero. Then

$$(n \equiv n' \pmod{m} \text{ and } n' \equiv n'' \pmod{m}) \implies n \equiv n'' \pmod{m}.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $n \equiv n' \pmod{m}$  and  $n' \equiv n'' \pmod{m}$ . Then  $n \bmod m = n' \bmod m$  and  $n' \bmod m = n'' \bmod m$ . Hence  $n \bmod m = n'' \bmod m$ . Thus  $n \equiv n'' \pmod{m}$ . □

**Proposition 1.5.** Let  $k$  be nonzero. Assume  $n \geq m$ . Then  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$  iff  $n = (k \cdot x) + m$  for some natural number  $x$ .

*Proof.* Case  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$ . Then  $n \bmod k = m \bmod k$ . Take a natural number  $r$  such that  $r < k$  and  $n \bmod k = r = m \bmod k$ . Take a nonzero natural number  $l$  such that  $k = r + l$ . Consider natural numbers  $q, q'$  such that  $n = (q \cdot k) + r$  and  $m = (q' \cdot k) + r$ .

Then  $q \geq q'$ .

*Proof.* Assume the contrary. Then  $q < q'$ . Hence  $q \cdot k < q' \cdot k$ . Thus  $(q \cdot k) + r < (q' \cdot k) + r$ . Therefore  $n < m$ . Contradiction. Qed.

Take a natural number  $x$  such that  $q = q' + x$ .

Let us show that  $n = (k \cdot x) + m$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& (k \cdot x) + m \\
&= (k \cdot x) + ((q' \cdot k) + r) \\
&= ((k \cdot x) + (q' \cdot k)) + r \\
&= ((k \cdot x) + (k \cdot q')) + r \\
&= (k \cdot (q' + x)) + r \\
&= (k \cdot q) + r \\
&= n.
\end{aligned}$$

End. End.

Case  $n = (k \cdot x) + m$  for some natural number  $x$ . Consider a natural number  $x$  such that  $n = (k \cdot x) + m$ . Take natural numbers  $r, r'$  such that  $n \bmod k = r$  and  $m \bmod k = r'$ . Then  $r, r' < k$ . Take natural numbers  $q, q'$  such that  $n = (k \cdot q) + r$  and  $m = (k \cdot q') + r'$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
& (k \cdot q) + r \\
&= n \\
&= (k \cdot x) + m \\
&= (k \cdot x) + ((k \cdot q') + r') \\
&= ((k \cdot x) + (k \cdot q')) + r' \\
&= (k \cdot (x + q')) + r'.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $r = r'$ . Thus  $n \bmod k = m \bmod k$ . Therefore  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$ . End.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.6.** Let  $k, k'$  be nonzero. Then

$$n \equiv m \pmod{k \cdot k'} \implies n \equiv m \pmod{k}.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $n \equiv m \pmod{k \cdot k'}$ .

Case  $n \geq m$ . We can take a natural number  $x$  such that  $n = ((k \cdot k') \cdot x) + m$ . Then  $n = (k \cdot (k' \cdot x)) + m$ . Hence  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$ . End.

Case  $m \geq n$ . We have  $m \equiv n \pmod{k \cdot k'}$ . Hence we can take a natural number  $x$  such that  $m = ((k \cdot k') \cdot x) + n$ . Then  $m = (k \cdot (k' \cdot x)) + n$ . Thus  $m \equiv n \pmod{k}$ . Therefore  $n \equiv m \pmod{k}$ . End.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.7.** Let  $k, k'$  be nonzero natural numbers. Then

$$n \equiv m \pmod{k \cdot k'} \implies n \equiv m \pmod{k'}.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $n \equiv m \pmod{k \cdot k'}$ . Then  $n \equiv m \pmod{k' \cdot k}$ . Hence  $n \equiv m \pmod{k'}$ .  $\square$