

## DMA Practice problems: Equations (diophantine, modular)

**Exercise 1:** Find all solutions  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  for the following diophantine equations:

(i)  $819x + 315y = 126$ ;      (ii)  $10x - 15y = 131$ ;      (iii)  $6x + 9y = 204$ .

**Exercise 2:** Solve the following congruences:

(i)  $84x \equiv -56 \pmod{308}$ ;      (ii)  $3x \equiv 7 \pmod{10}$ ;      (iii)  $12x \equiv 0 \pmod{20}$ .

**Exercise 3:** Solve the following equations in the given  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ :

(i)  $84x = 126 \vee \mathbb{Z}_{210}$ ;      (ii)  $10x = 0 \vee \mathbb{Z}_{35}$ ;      (iii)  $8x = 10 \vee \mathbb{Z}_{12}$ .

**Exercise 4:** Solve the following systems of congruences:

(i)  $x \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$       (ii)  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{2}$       (iii)  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$       (iv)  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$   
 $x \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$        $x \equiv -4 \pmod{3}$        $x \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$        $x \equiv 4 \pmod{4}$   
 $x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ ;       $x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$ ;       $x \equiv -1 \pmod{11}$ ;       $x \equiv 5 \pmod{3}$ .

**Solution 1:** (i):  $\gcd(819, 315) = 63 = 2 \cdot 819 + (-5) \cdot 315$ , 63 divides 126 so there is a solution. Multiply Bezout's identity by 2:  $819 \cdot 4 + 315 \cdot (-10) = 126$ . Solution  $x = 4$ ,  $y = -10$ .

Homogeneous eq.:  $819x + 315y = 0$  cancels to  $13x + 5y = 0$ , so  $x_h = -5k$ ,  $y_h = 13k$ . Solution is  $x = 4 - 5k$ ,  $y = 13k - 10$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , or  $(x, y) = (4 - 5k, -10 + 13k)$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(ii): We guess  $\gcd(10, -15) = 5$ , this does not divide 131. No solution.

(iii): We guess  $\gcd(6, 9) = 3$ , so instead of the Euclid algorithm we try just cancelling in the equation:  $2x + 3y = 68$ . We easily guess that  $\gcd(3, 2) = 1 = 1 \cdot 3 + (-1) \cdot 2$ , multiply to get 68:  $2 \cdot (-68) + 3 \cdot 68 = 68$ . Thus particular solution  $x = -68$ ,  $y = 68$ .

Homogeneous case:  $2x + 3y = 0$  yields  $x_h = -3k$ ,  $y_h = 2k$ , so the general solutions is  $x = 3k - 68$ ,  $y = 68 - 2k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , or also  $(x, y) = (-68 + 3k, 68 - 2k)$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Solution 2:** (i):  $-56 = 84x + 308n$ , Euclid:  $\gcd(308, 84) = 28 = (-1) \cdot 308 + 4 \cdot 84$ . Since  $\frac{-56}{28} = -2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , the equation is solvable. Multiplying the Bezout identity by that  $-2$  we obtain  $-56 = 84 \cdot (-8) + 2 \cdot 308$ , so  $x = -8$  is a solution.

Hom. case:  $84x + 308n = 0$  cancels to  $3x + 11n = 0$ , hence  $x_h = 11k$ . We get the solution  $x = -8 + 11k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . I prefer  $x = 3 + 11k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(ii):  $7 = 3x + 10n$ , obviously  $\gcd(3, 10) = 1 = (-3) \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot 10$  (we guess), multiply this by seven to get  $7 = 3 \cdot (-21) + 7 \cdot 10$ , hence  $x = -21$  is a solution.

Hom. case:  $3x + 10n = 0$  gives  $x_h = 10k$  (nothing to cancel), hence the given equation has solution  $x = -21 + 10k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . I prefer  $x = 9 + 10k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(iii): Obviously  $\gcd(12, 20) = 4$ , we cancel:  $3x + 5n = 0$  has the solution  $x = 5k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Solution 3:** (i):  $126 = 84x + 210n$ , Euklid's algorithm:  $\gcd(210, 84) = 42 = 1 \cdot 210 + (-2) \cdot 84$ , equation has a solution as  $\frac{126}{42} = 3 \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Multiplying Bezout's identity by 3 we obtain  $126 = 84 \cdot (-6) + 210 \cdot 3$ , hence  $x = -6$  is a solution.

Hom. case:  $84x + 210n = 0$  cancels to  $3x + 5n = 0$ , hence  $x_h = 5k$  and  $x = -6 + 5k$  solves the congruence. There are  $\gcd(210, 84) = 42$  solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}_{210}$ :  $x = 4 + 5k$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 41$ , that is,  $\{4, 9, 14, 19, \dots, 204, 209\}$ .

(ii): We solve  $10x + 35n = 0$ , we guess  $\gcd(35, 10) = 5$ , divide the equation:  $2x + 7n = 0$ , so the congruency has the solution  $x = 7k$ . There are  $\gcd(35, 10) = 5$  solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}_{35}$ , namely  $x = 7k$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ , that is,  $\{0, 7, 14, 21, 28\}$ .

(iii):  $10 = 8x + 12n$ , we can guess  $\gcd(12, 8) = 4 = 1 \cdot 12 + (-1) \cdot 8$ , no solution since 4 does not divide 10.

**Solution 4:** (i):  $n = 60$ ,  $N_1 = 20$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  is  $x_1 = -1$ ;  $N_2 = 15$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  is  $x_2 = -1$ ;  $N_3 = 12$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  is  $x_3 = -2$ .  $x = 0 \cdot 20 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 15 \cdot (-1) + 2 \cdot 12 \cdot (-2) = -63 \equiv 57 \pmod{60}$ . General solution is  $x = 60k - 63$  (I prefer  $57 + 60k$ ) for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(ii):  $n = 30$ ,  $N_1 = 15$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  is  $x_1 = 1$ ;  $N_2 = 10$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  is  $x_2 = 1$ ;  $N_3 = 6$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  is  $x_3 = 1$ .  $x = 4 \cdot 15 \cdot 1 + (-4) \cdot 10 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 1 = 44 \equiv 14 \pmod{30}$ . General solution is  $x = 44 + 30k$  (I prefer  $14 + 30k$ ) for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(iii):  $n = 693$ ,  $N_1 = 99$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_7$  is  $x_1 = 1$ ;  $N_2 = 77$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_9$  is  $x_2 = 2$ ;  $N_3 = 63$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_{11}$  is  $x_3 = -4$ .  $x = 1 \cdot 99 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 77 \cdot 2 + (-1) \cdot 63 \cdot (-4) = 351$ . General solution is  $x = 351 + 693k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(iv): Rewrite as  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .  $n = 60$ ,  $N_1 = 12$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  is  $x_1 = 3$ ; we need not worry about  $N_2$ ;  $N_3 = 20$ , inverse element in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  is  $x_3 = 2$ .  $x = 3 \cdot 12 \cdot 3 + 0 + 2 \cdot 20 \cdot 2 = 188$ . General solution is  $x = 188 + 60k$  (I prefer  $x = 8 + 60k$ ) for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .