

Solving modular equivalences

eg. Solve for x :

$$x + 7 \equiv_3 12$$

- Since $\equiv_3$ is reflexive, $-7 \equiv_3 -7$.

→ Since $\equiv_3$ is a congruence w.r.t. addition,

$$x + 7 + (-7) \equiv_3 12 + (-7).$$

$$\Rightarrow x \equiv_3 5.$$

- Now, since $5 \equiv_3 2$ and $\equiv_3$ is transitive,

$$x \equiv_3 2.$$

Note this means $x \in \{\dots, -4, -1, 2, 5, 8, 11, \dots\}$.

eg. $x + 28 \equiv_5 12$

$$\rightarrow x \equiv_5 -16$$

$$\rightarrow \underline{x \equiv_5 -1} \quad \text{or} \quad x \equiv_5 4$$

eg. $101x + 52 \equiv_{10} 68$

$$\rightarrow 101x \equiv_{10} 16 \equiv_{10} 6.$$

(Can't divide by 101!)

Note: since $101 \equiv_{10} 1$, therefore $101 \cdot x \equiv_{10} 1 \cdot x$

(because $\equiv_{10}$ is a congruence w.r.t. multiplication).

$$\rightarrow x \equiv_{10} 6.$$

$$3x + 19 \equiv_7 2(x - 73)$$

$$3x + 19 \equiv_7 2x - 146$$

$$\rightarrow 3x + 5 \equiv_7 2x - 6$$

$$\rightarrow 3x \equiv_7 2x - 11$$

$$\rightarrow 3x \equiv_7 2x - 4$$

$$\rightarrow x \equiv_7 -4$$

$$x + 22 \equiv_{19} 20x + 3$$

$$\rightarrow x + 19 \equiv_{19} 20x$$

$$\rightarrow x \equiv_{19} 20x$$

$$\rightarrow 0 \equiv_{19} 19x$$

$$\rightarrow 0 \equiv_{19} 0. \quad \text{Always true for any } x.$$

$$x + 22 \equiv_{19} 20x - 7$$

$$\rightarrow x + 29 \equiv_{19} 20x$$

$$\rightarrow x + 10 \equiv_{19} 20x$$

$$\rightarrow 10 \equiv_{19} 19x \equiv_{19} 0. \quad \text{No solutions.}$$

$$3x \equiv_7 5 \quad \text{--- don't know how to solve (yet!)} \quad \text{}$$