

DEFINITION OF MODULAR EQUIVALENCE AND DIRECT PROOFS

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Let a, b, c, d and m and n be integers and assume that $m, n > 0$. We say that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ if m divides $a - b$. We say ‘ a is equivalent to $b \pmod{m}$ ’ if this is true. The integer m is called the modulus. Operations which are performed “ \pmod{m} ” are called modular arithmetic.

WARNING: Don’t use the operation of division when using modular arithmetic unless you know that the result is an integer. It doesn’t make sense to say $\frac{a}{b} \equiv c \pmod{m}$ unless a/b is an integer. It just isn’t defined and it is best to not use fractions to avoid confusion. Instead if a/b is an integer, then write $a = kb$ and use k in place of a/b .

All of the following statements are true except for two. Give a proof for all the ones that are true and give a counterexample for the two that is false.

- (1) if $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$, then $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$
- (2) if $\gcd(a, m) = 1$, then there is an integer x such that $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$.
- (3) if $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$, then $ac \equiv bd \pmod{mn}$
- (4) if $ab \equiv ac \pmod{m}$ and $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$, then $b \equiv c \pmod{m}$
- (5) if $ab \equiv c \pmod{m}$ and $ad \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$, then $b \equiv cd \pmod{m}$.
- (6) if $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and k divides a and k divides m , then k divides b .

Now apply the results above to find all the values of x that solve following modular equations.

$$5x \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \quad 5x \equiv 1 \pmod{34} \quad 5x \equiv 1 \pmod{26} \quad 5x \equiv 6 \pmod{786}$$

$$7x \equiv 19 \pmod{84} \quad 7x \equiv 21 \pmod{84} \quad 139x \equiv 11 \pmod{1027} \quad 1197x \equiv 4 \pmod{1199}$$