

Chinese Remainder Theorem

Created by Mr. Francis Hung

Last updated: July 1, 2023

Question: N is a positive integer. When N is divided by 3, the remainder is 1. When N is divided by 5, the remainder is 2. When N is divided by 7, the remainder is 5. Find the least positive integral value of N .

Step 1: When N is divided by 3, the remainder is 1. Let $n_1 = 1$

When N is divided by 5, the remainder is 2. Let $n_2 = 2$

When N is divided by 7, the remainder is 5. Let $n_3 = 5$

$5 \times 7 = 35$, $3 \times 5 = 15$, $3 \times 7 = 21$, LCM of 3, 5, 7 is 105

Step 2: Solve $35m - 3k = 1$ for positive integral value of m gives $m = 2$, $k = 23$

Let $a_1 = 35 \times m = 70$

Step 3: Solve $21m - 5k = 1$ for positive integral value of m gives $m = 1$, $k = 4$

Let $a_2 = 21 \times m = 21$

Step 4: Solve $15m - 7k = 1$ for positive integral value of m gives $m = 1$, $k = 2$

Let $a_3 = 15 \times m = 15$

Step 5: Let $N = a_1 \times n_1 + a_2 \times n_2 + a_3 \times n_3 = 70 \times 1 + 21 \times 2 + 15 \times 5 = 187$

The minimum positive integral value of N is the remainder when 187 divided by 105, which is 82.

Please refer to the following website:

http://episte.math.ntu.edu.tw/articles/sm/sm_01_01_2/page6.html

有一組連續的四個正整數，從小到大依次排列，第一個是 5 的倍數；第二個是 7 的倍數；第三個是 9 的倍數；第四個是 11 的倍數。試求最小的可能整數。

Step 1:

Let the four numbers be $n, n + 1, n + 2, n + 3$

When n is divided by 5, the remainder is 0. Let $n_1 = 0$

$n + 1$ is divisible by 7; when n is divided by 7, the remainder is 6. Let $n_2 = 6$

$n + 2$ is divisible by 9; when n is divided by 9, the remainder is 7. Let $n_3 = 7$

$n + 3$ is divisible by 11, when n is divided by 11, the remainder is 8. Let $n_4 = 8$

$7 \times 9 \times 11 = 693$, $5 \times 9 \times 11 = 495$, $5 \times 7 \times 11 = 385$, $5 \times 7 \times 9 = 315$, LCM of 5, 7, 9, 11 is 3465

Step 2: Solve $5m + 693k = 1$ for positive integral value gives $m = -277, k = 2$

$$\text{Let } a_1 = 693 \times 2 = 1386$$

Step 3: Solve $7m + 495k = 1$ for positive integral value gives $m = -212, k = 3$

$$\text{Let } a_2 = 495 \times 3 = 1485$$

Step 4: Solve $9m + 385k = 1$ for positive integral value gives $m = -171, k = 4$

$$\text{Let } a_3 = 385 \times 4 = 1540$$

Step 5: Solve $11m + 315k = 1$ for positive integral value gives $m = 84, k = -3$

$$\text{Let } a_4 = 315 \times (-3) = -945$$

Step 6: Let $N = a_1 \times n_1 + a_2 \times n_2 + a_3 \times n_3 + a_4 \times n_4 = 1386 \times 0 + 1485 \times 6 + 1540 \times 7 - 945 \times 8 = 12130$

The minimum positive integral value of N is the remainder when 12130 divided by 3465, which is 1735.

2016 AIMO F.3 晉級賽 Q23

If x is a 4-digit positive integer satisfying
$$\begin{cases} 3x \equiv 17 \pmod{19} \\ 5x \equiv 27 \pmod{29} \\ 7x \equiv 2 \pmod{11} \end{cases}$$
, find the largest possible value of x .

$$3x - 17 = 19a \quad \dots\dots (1)$$

$$5x - 27 = 29b \quad \dots\dots (2)$$

$$7x - 2 = 11a \quad \dots\dots (3)$$

From (2), $5x - 29b = 27$

We solve $5x - 29b = 1$. A particular solution is $5 \times 6 - 29 \times 1 = 1$.

Multiply the whole equation by 27: $5 \times 162 - 29 \times 27 = 27$.

A particular solution to $5x - 29b = 27$ is $(x, b) = (162, 27)$.

The general solution is $(x, b) = (162 + 29k, 27 + 5k)$.

Sub. $x = 162 + 29k$ into (1): $3(162 + 29k) - 17 = 19a$

$$19a - 87k = 469$$

We solve $19a - 87k = 1$.

$$87 = 19 \times 4 + 11$$

$$19 = 11 + 8$$

$$11 = 8 + 3$$

$$8 = 3 \times 2 + 2$$

$$3 = 2 + 1$$

$$1 = 3 - 2$$

$$2 = 8 - 3 \times 2$$

$$3 = 11 - 8$$

$$8 = 19 - 11$$

$$11 = 87 - 19 \times 4$$

$$1 = 3 - 2 = 3 - (8 - 3 \times 2) = 3 \times 3 - 8$$

$$1 = (11 - 8) \times 3 - 8 = 11 \times 3 - 8 \times 4$$

$$1 = 11 \times 3 - (19 - 11) \times 4 = 11 \times 7 - 19 \times 4$$

$$1 = (87 - 19 \times 4) \times 7 - 19 \times 4 = 87 \times 7 - 19 \times 32$$

Multiply the whole equation by 469: $19 \times (-15008) - 87 \times (-3283) = 469$

A particular solution to $19a - 87k = 469$ is $(a, k) = (-15008, -3283)$.

The general solution is $a = -15008 + 87s$, $k = -3283 + 19s$.

$$x = 162 + 29k = 162 + 29(-3283 + 19s) = 551s - 95045$$

$$95045 = 551 \times 172 + 273$$

$$\text{Let } s = 173 + t$$

$$x = 551(173 + t) - 95045 = 278 + 551t$$

Sub. $x = 278 + 551t$ into (3): $7(278 + 551t) - 2 = 11a$

$$11a - 3857t = 1944$$

We solve $11a - 3857t = 1$

$$3857 = 11 \times 350 + 7$$

$$11 = 7 + 4$$

$$7 = 4 + 3$$

$$4 = 3 + 1$$

$$1 = 4 - 3$$

$$3 = 7 - 4$$

$$4 = 11 - 7$$

$$7 = 3857 - 11 \times 350$$

$$1 = 4 - 3 = 4 - (7 - 4) = 4 \times 2 - 7$$

$$1 = (11 - 7) \times 2 - 7 = 11 \times 2 - 7 \times 3$$

$$1 = 11 \times 2 - 7 \times 3 = 11 \times 2 - (3857 - 11 \times 350) \times 3 = 11 \times 1052 - 3857 \times 3$$

Multiply the whole equation by 1944: $11 \times 2045088 - 3857 \times 5832$

A particular solution to $11a - 3857t = 1944$ is $(a, t) = (2045088, 5832)$.

The general solution is $(a, t) = (2045088 + 3857m, 5832 + 11m)$.

$$x = 278 + 551t = 278 + 551(5832 + 11m) = 6061m + 3213710$$

$$3213710 = 530 \times 6061 + 1380$$

The largest possible 4-digit integer satisfying the condition is $1380 + 6061 = 7441$.