

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Score (Out of 8 points):

A non-programmable, non-scientific calculator may be used.

1. (a) [2 points] Find all congruence classes  $x$  modulo 14 that satisfy the equation

$$4x \equiv 10 \pmod{14}$$

Because  $d = \gcd(4, 14) = 2$  and  $2 \mid 10$ , we expect there to be  $d = 2$  solutions. To find these we divide through by  $d = 2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 2x &\equiv 5 \pmod{7} \\ 2x &\equiv 12 \pmod{7} && \text{Since } \gcd(7, 2) = 1, \text{ we can divide by 2.} \\ x &\equiv 6 \pmod{7} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the two solutions modulo 14 are the classes  $[6]$  and  $[6 + 7] = [13]$ .

- (b) [3 points] Find all congruence classes  $x$  modulo  $126 = (14)(9)$  that simultaneously satisfy the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 4x &\equiv 10 \pmod{14} \\ x &\equiv 5 \pmod{9} \end{aligned}$$

From part (a), we know the solutions to the first equation are  $[6]$  and  $[13]$ . Thus we need to find all solutions to the two simultaneous systems:

$$\begin{array}{ll} x \equiv 6 \pmod{14} & x \equiv 13 \pmod{14} \\ x \equiv 5 \pmod{9} & x \equiv 5 \pmod{9} \end{array}$$

By the Chinese Remainder Theorem, each of these systems has precisely one solution modulo 126, giving two solutions total. To find the solutions, we first use the Euclidean algorithm to find  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $14u + 9v = 1$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} 14 = 9 + 5 & 1 = 5 - 4 \\ 9 = 5 + 4 & 1 = 5 - (9 - 5) \\ 5 = 4 + 1 & 1 = 2(5) - (9) \\ & 1 = 2(14 - 9) - (9) \\ & 1 = 2(14) + (-3)(9) \end{array}$$

This gives the two solutions

$$(5)(2)(14) + (6)(-3)(9) = -22 \equiv 104 \pmod{126}$$

$$(5)(2)(14) + (13)(-3)(9) = -211 \equiv 41 \pmod{126}$$

and we conclude that the solutions are the classes  $[104]$  and  $[41]$  modulo 126.

2. [3 points] Suppose that  $\gcd(m, n) = d$ . Explain why, if  $a$  and  $b$  are **not** congruent modulo  $d$ , the following system of congruences has no solutions.

$$x \equiv a \pmod{m}$$

$$x \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

Suppose that  $x$  is an integer such that  $x \equiv a \pmod{m}$  and  $x \equiv b \pmod{n}$ .

By a result from Homework #1, since  $d \mid m$  we can further reduce congruence modulo  $m$  to congruence classes modulo  $d$ . We must have  $x \equiv a \pmod{d}$ . Similarly  $d \mid n$  so we must have  $x \equiv b \pmod{d}$ .

This implies that  $a \equiv b \pmod{d}$ . If  $a$  and  $b$  are not congruent modulo  $d$ , then this is a contradiction, and there can be no such solution  $x$ .