

A MULTIVARIABLE CHINESE REMAINDER THEOREM

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ABSTRACT. Using an adaptation of Qin Jiushao's method from the 13th century, it is possible to prove that a system of linear modular equations $a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = \vec{b}_i \pmod{m_i}, i = 1, \dots, n$ has integer solutions if $m_i > 1$ are pairwise relatively prime and in each row, at least one matrix element a_{ij} is relatively prime to m_i . The Chinese remainder theorem is the special case, where A has only one column.

1. THE STATEMENT WITH PROOF

Consider a linear system of equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, where A is an integer $n \times n$ matrix and \vec{b}, \vec{m} are integer vectors with coefficients $m_i > 1$.

Theorem 1.1 (Multivariable CRT). *If m_i are pairwise relatively prime and in each row, at least one matrix element is relatively prime to m_i , then $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ has solutions for all \vec{b} . There is a solution \vec{x} in an n -dimensional parallelepiped $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{Z}_M^n / L$ of volume $M = m_1 \dots m_n$, where L is a lattice in \mathbb{Z}_M^n .*

Proof. The map $\phi : x \rightarrow Ax \pmod{\vec{m}}$ is a group homomorphism from the Abelian group $X = \mathbb{Z}^n$ to the finite Abelian group $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n} = \mathcal{Y}/L$, where $L = (m_1\mathbb{Z}) \times \dots \times (m_n\mathbb{Z})$ is a lattice subgroup of \mathcal{Y} . The kernel of ϕ is a subgroup L_A of X and $\mathcal{X} = X/L_A$. The image of ϕ is a subgroup of \mathcal{Y} . By the first isomorphism theorem in group theory, the quotient group \mathcal{X} and the image are isomorphic. The kernel L_A is a lattice in X spanned by n vectors $\vec{k}_1, \dots, \vec{k}_n$. The map ϕ is injective on \mathcal{X} . By the Lagrange theorem in group theory, there exist finitely many vectors $\vec{y}_i \in \mathcal{Y}$ such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^{d(A)} A(\mathcal{X}) + \vec{y}_i = \mathcal{Y}$. The problem is solvable for all \vec{b} if and only if $d(A) = 1$. For every \vec{b} , there exists then a unique integer vector \vec{x} in \mathcal{X} such that $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$. As in the usual CRT, we have a solution if each equation has a solution. To construct a solution, pick matrix elements $a_{ij(k)}$ such that the i 'th row is relatively prime to m_i . Let \vec{e}_j denote the standard basis in n -dimensional space. Consider a line $\vec{x}(t) = t\vec{e}_{j(1)}$ in X , where t is an integer. There exists an integer t_1 so that $\vec{x}(t)$ solves the first equation. Now take the line $\vec{x}(t) = t_1\vec{e}_{j(1)} + tm_1\vec{e}_{j(2)}$. There is an integer t_2 so that $\vec{x}(t)$ solves the second equation. This is possible because m_1 is relatively prime to m_2 . Note that $\vec{x}(t)$ still solves the first equation for all t . We have now a solution to two equations. Continue in the same way until the final solution $\vec{x}(t) = \sum t_i(m_1 \dots m_i)\vec{e}_{ij(i)}$ is reached. \square

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Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 101 & 107 \\ 51 & 22 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 117 \\ 71 \end{bmatrix}}$$

is solved by $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 65 \end{bmatrix}$. The lattice L_A is spanned by $\begin{bmatrix} 73 \\ 47 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -82 \\ 61 \end{bmatrix}$.

Remark. The original paper of January 27, 2005 (google "multivariable chinese remainder") had been written in the context of multidimensional Diophantine approximation and was part of a talk on April 11, 2005 in Dmitry Kleinbock's seminar at Brandeis. [I had at that time been interested in the Diophantine problem to find for θ, α, β small integers n, m such that $\theta + \alpha n + \beta m$ is close to an integer. In one dimensions this is achieved by continued fraction expansions [16, 13], but the problem is complex in two or higher dimensions. Solving it effectively would lead to faster integer factorization algorithms.] Referees at that time found the paper too elementary. While this is probably true, I feel even after 7 years and more literature research, that the result might well have been overlooked. Additionally, the multi-variable CRT can serve as an exercise in algebra or spice up an exposition about the traditional CRT. The story also has a historical angle when looking for the origin of solving systems of linear equations with integer solutions. There was some controversy for example whether Nicomachus has known anything about the CRT even so there is much evidence against it [18]. Historically, it appears now certain that the method to solve the multivariable CRT is due to the mathematician Qin in the 13th century, an algorithm which in modern language would be considered a special case and precursor for the Schreier-Sims algorithm [1] in computational group theory, an algorithm which is naturally used by everybody who solves puzzles whether it is the simple 15 puzzle or the more challenging Rubik cube [14].

The following changes were done for the 2012 update: the statement, the proof and an example are stated initially, some figures are gone, the text is streamlined and examples and remarks are separated. Remarks 10)-16) as well as more references like [17, 26, 18, 24, 9, 28, 15, 25, 4, 19, 8, 11] as well as some Mathematica code was added. A new literature search revealed [11] from which one can deduce our theorem, but it looks considerably less elementary. More digging in sources revealed that the proof is close to Qin Jiushao's "method of finding one". This algorithm from the 13th century is especially remarkable because Qin did not have group theory nor even the notion of prime numbers at that time. For the 2014 update, the source [6] was added, a book which is devoted entirely to the theorem and contains many applications.

2. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Chinese remainder theorem (CRT) is one of the oldest theorems in mathematics. It has been used to calculate calendars as early as the first century AD [5, 23]. The earliest recorded instance of work with indeterminate equations in China can be found in the 'Chiu-Chang Suan Shu', the "Nine Chapters on the mathematical art", where a system of four equations with five unknowns appears [26]. This text is also an early source for Gaussian elimination [25, 15]. The mathematician Sun-Tsu (also Sun Zi), in the Chinese work 'Sunzi Suanjiing' (Sun Tzu Suan Ching) which translates to either "Master Sun's Mathematical Manual" or

“Sun-Tzu’s Calculation Classic” from the third century considered the problem to find integral solutions to

$$\begin{aligned}x &= 2 \pmod{3} \\x &= 3 \pmod{5} \\x &= 2 \pmod{7} .\end{aligned}$$

This example has the solution $x = 23$ (see also [4]). It has been reported in [5]¹ to appear also in a textbook of Nicomachus of Gerasa in the first century. The consensus is today however, Sun Zi’s text is indeed the first known occurrence of the CRT and that there is no Nicomachus connection. Unfortunately, ‘Sunzi Suanjing’ is hard to date. The average of all estimates points towards 250AD [3] but it could be dated as late as the 4th century [18].

Mathematics earlier than that is probably void of the CRT. It is not a topic of ‘Suan Shu Shu’ for example, an ancient Chinese collection of writings on bamboo strips [4] which is an anonymous text from about 200 BC and which does not contain linear algebra yet. Calendars were the presumably the major motivation for the CRT [24]: *Congruences of first degree were necessary to calculate calendars in ancient China as early as the 2nd century BC. Subsequently, in making the Jingchu calendar (237,AD), the astronomers defined Shangyuan as the starting point of the calendar.* “Master Sun’s math manual” is now considered the earliest source of the CRT and the ‘Shushu Jiuzhang’ = “Mathematical Treatise in Nine Sections” in 1247 the earliest description of a solution algorithm.² According to [28], Qin Jiushao called his technique “method of finding one”, which achieved his goal without using concepts like prime number or prime factors. While nine problems in that text were exercises without applications, there was one problem dealing with calendar applications [19], coding and cryptography [6]. The Mathematics in that work is a major topic in the thesis [18] of the sinologist Ulrich Libbrecht.

The development of the CRT from the fourth to the 16th century is fascinating and multi-cultural. In chapter 14 of [18] we can read: *In India there were Brahmagupta (ca 625) and Bhaskara (12th century), who developed the kuttaka method. In the Islamic world, Ibn al-Haitham treats this kind of problem and he may have influenced Leonardo Pisano (Fibonacci) in Italy. After the thirteenth century we do not find much further investigation in China, India or the Islamic world. But from the fifteenth century on there is a marked increase in European research, which reached its apogee in the studies of Lagrange, Euler and Gauss.* Also Japanese mathematicians were involved: from [24]: *The Japanese mathematician Seki Takakazua wrote “Kwatsuyo sampo” (Essential Algorithm) in 1683, the second chapter of which, Sho yukujutu su, deals with some algorithms corresponding to Qin’s work..* The last reference is of course to Qin Jiushao (=Chiu-Shao) the author of “Shushu Jiuzhang”.

¹Dickson references Y. Mikami, Abh. Geschichte Math, 30, 1912, p.32. The connection of Nicomachus with the CRT is disputed in [18]. We also could not find the example in [21] but other textbooks of Nicomachus are only referred to by other sources.

²This 13th century text should not be confused with the much older arithmetic textbook “Nine Chapters on the Mathematical Art”.

Linear congruences of more variables must have appeared only later. We do not count in examples like $5x + 3y + z/3 = 100, x + y + z = 100$ which occur in Zhanag Quijian's Mathematical manual of 475 [15] with two equations of three variables. This can be considered a case for single variables because a substitution leads to a modular equation in one variable. Dickson [5] gives as the first reference Schönemann, who considered in the year 1839 equations of the form $a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = 0 \pmod p$, where p is a prime. It was probably Gauss [9], who first looked at modular systems of n linear equations of n unknowns. The case of equal moduli definitely dominates. The case of different moduli is less clear since it was usually reduced to the case of equal moduli: George Mathews noted in [20] that a system of linear equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ can be reduced to a system $B\vec{x} = \vec{a} \pmod m$, where $m = \text{lcm}(m_1, \dots, m_n)$. For example, the system

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= 1 \pmod 3 \\ x - y &= 2 \pmod 5 \end{aligned}$$

which has solution $x = 3, y = 1$ is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} 5x + 5y &= 5 \pmod{15} \\ 3x - 3y &= 6 \pmod{15}. \end{aligned}$$

However, since many results and methods developed for a single moduli do not work - like row reduction or the inversion by Cramer's formula - there is not much gained with such a reduction. The Mathews reduction does also not allow to use the multivariable CRT generalization proven here. The reduction even does not help to solve the single variable CRT! Actually, the multivariable CRT we study here is in nature closer to the one variable CRT than to linear algebra.

Gauss treated in his "disquisitiones arithmetica" (see [9] page 29) of 1801 systems of linear congruences but also with equal moduli. He considered in particular the system

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 5y + z &= 4 \pmod{12} \\ 2x + 3y + 2z &= 7 \pmod{12} \\ 5x + y + 3z &= 6 \pmod{12} \end{aligned}$$

which has the four solutions $(2, 11, 3), (5, 11, 6), (8, 11, 9), (11, 11, 0)$ in \mathbf{Z}_{12}^3 . The discrete parallelepiped spanned by $(3, 0, 3), (12, 0, 0), (0, 12, 0)$ is mapped by the linear map A bijectively to a proper subset of \mathbf{Z}_{12}^3 . Indeed, the matrix A over the ring \mathbb{Z}_{12} is not invertible because $\det(A) = 4$ is not invertible in \mathbb{Z}_{12} . In Gauss example, there is a parallelepiped in \mathbf{Z}_{12}^3 which is mapped onto a proper subset of \mathbf{Z}_{12}^3 by the transformation $A\vec{x} \pmod{12}$. For the same matrix A , only one fourth of all vectors \vec{b} in \mathbf{Z}_{12}^3 allow that $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{12}$ can be solved. In that case, there are four solutions. Elimination was used by Gauss also as a method to solve such linear systems of Diophantine equations: subtracting the last row from the sum of the first two gives $7y = 5 \pmod{12}$ or $y = 11$. We end up with the system

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + z &= 9 \pmod{12} \\ 5x + 3z &= 7 \pmod{12}. \end{aligned}$$

Eliminating x gives $4z = 0 \pmod{12}$ or $z = 0 \pmod{3}$ which leads to the 4 solutions $z = 0, 3, 6, 9$. In each case, the solution x is determined. H.J.S. Smith [5] noted in

1859 that if all moduli are the same m and $\det(A)$ is relatively prime to m , then $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod m$ has a unique solution in the module \mathbb{Z}_m^n over the ring \mathbb{Z}_m . Also Cramer's rule (from 1750 even so in the context of real numbers) gives the explicit solution $\vec{x}_i = \det(A_{\vec{b},i})\det(A)^{-1}$ in which the determinant $\det(A)$ is inverted in \mathbb{Z}_m and $A_{\vec{b},i}$ is the matrix in which the i 'th column had been replaced by \vec{b} . Smith had noted first that $\det(A)$ must be prime to m . For integer matrix arithmetic in number theory, see [13].

Systems of linear modular equations definitely have been treated in the 18'th century, when all moduli m_i are equal. The general case with different m_i can be reduced to this case when all the moduli are all powers of prime numbers with the equivalence of each equation $a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = b \pmod{q_1^{k_1} \dots q_t^{k_t}}$ to

$$\begin{aligned} a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n &= b \pmod{q_1^{k_1}} \\ &\dots \\ a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n &= b \pmod{q_t^{k_t}}. \end{aligned}$$

As in the CRT, we can not do row-reduction with different moduli in general so that this is not a standard linear algebra problem any more. As the Mathew reduction has shown, the general case can also be reduced to the case when all moduli are equal but methods which worked before can no more be applied then. For example, the determinant of the new matrix is zero in \mathbb{Z}_m .

As in linear algebra, complexity problems of solving $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{p}}$ are far from trivial. Beside the aim to find the structure of the solutions of a system of modular linear equations, there is the computational task to find solutions and a minimal area parallelepiped in \mathbb{Z}_M^n on which A is injective as a map to $\mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n}$. How many computation steps are needed to decide whether a system has a solution and how many steps are required to find it? The question is addressed in [7], where the problem is dealt with the method of quantifier elimination in discretely valued fields.

Our approach here is elementary like the single variable CRT and generalizes Qin's approach to the usual CRT, in which solutions can be found in $\{0, \dots, M-1\}$, which can also be interpreted as a parallelepiped of length $M = m_1m_2 \dots m_n$ and width dimensions of length 1.

We still do not know the best way to find an optimal kernel (LLL helps a lot but is not always optimal) and decide effectively, when a general system $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ has a solution and when not. Our theorem only gives a sufficient condition. The efficiency part is especially relevant in cryptological context like in lattice attacks [12], where one tries to reconstruct the keys from several messages.

3. EXAMPLES

We look now at a few examples of systems of $n = 2$ equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, where $\vec{m} = (p, q)$ has the property that p, q are relatively prime. Unlike in the situation $\vec{m} = (p, p)$ with prime p , where the solution can be found in the fixed algebra over the finite field \mathbb{Z}_p , it does now not matter in general, how singular the matrix A is. The decision known from linear algebra about the existence of solutions, unique

solvability or non-solvability has still to be made:

Example 1)

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= 1 \pmod{3} \\x - y &= 2 \pmod{5} .\end{aligned}$$

To a given solution like $\vec{x} = (3, 1)$, we can add solutions of the homogeneous equation $A\vec{x}_0 = \vec{0}$ like $(2, 7), (3, 3), (-1, 4), (1, 11)$. This is an example, where solutions exist for all vectors \vec{b} . The curve $\vec{x}(t) = (3t, t) \pmod{p}$ reduces the problem to the single variable CRT case

$$\begin{aligned}4t &= 1 \pmod{3} \\2t &= 2 \pmod{5}\end{aligned}$$

which always can be solved for t .

Example 2)

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 3y &= 6 \pmod{7} \\-3x - 9y &= 3 \pmod{12} .\end{aligned}$$

This is an example, where the existence of integer solution (x, y) depends on the vector \vec{b} . The above example has a solution. The system

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 3y &= 1 \pmod{7} \\-3x - 9y &= 1 \pmod{12}\end{aligned}$$

has no solution. In the set $\mathbb{Z}_7 \times \mathbb{Z}_{12}$ with 84 elements, we count 28 vectors \vec{b} for which there is a solution and 56 elements, for which there is no solution.

Example 3)

$$\begin{aligned}6x - 4y &= 7 \pmod{7} \\10x - 5y &= 1 \pmod{5} .\end{aligned}$$

There is no solution because the second equation reads $0 = 1$ modulo 5. However, for a different \vec{b} like

$$\begin{aligned}6x - 4y &= 2 \pmod{7} \\10x - 5y &= 5 \pmod{5} ,\end{aligned}$$

we have a solution $\vec{x} = (1, 1)$. In the set $\mathbb{Z}_7 \times \mathbb{Z}_5$ with 35 elements, only 7 vectors \vec{b} give a system with a solution.

Example 4) The system

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= 1 \pmod{3} \\x + y &= 2 \pmod{5}\end{aligned}$$

can be reduced to a case of the CRT case:

$$\begin{aligned}z &= 1 \pmod{3} \\z &= 2 \pmod{5}\end{aligned}$$

and is solved for $z = 7$. In the set $\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_5$ with 15 elements, every vector \vec{b} has a unique solution z . The original system has now solutions like $\vec{x} = (1, 6)$ or $\vec{x} = (2, 5)$.

Example 5) The size of the lattice L in \mathbb{Z}_M^n can vary when \vec{m} is fixed. Here is a case with a relatively narrow lattice spanned by the vectors $(1, -3), (43, 14)$:

$$\begin{aligned} 6x - 2y &= 0 \pmod{11} \\ 11x - 5y &= 0 \pmod{13} . \end{aligned}$$

The extreme case is the CRT case, where the lattice has dimensions 143×1 :

$$\begin{aligned} 6x - 3y &= 0 \pmod{11} \\ 12x - 6y &= 0 \pmod{13} . \end{aligned}$$

Next, we look now at examples, where the moduli m_i are not necessarily pairwise prime:

Example 6) This example is a case for linear algebra. If $\vec{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_n) = (p, \dots, p)$, where p is a prime number, we have a linear system of equations over the finite field F_p . This is a problem of linear algebra, where solutions can be found by Gaussian elimination or by inverting the matrix. If the determinant of A is nonzero in the field \mathbb{Z}_p , then A^{-1} exists and $x = A^{-1}y$. For example, with $p = 11$, solving $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{11}$$

is done in the same way as over the field of real numbers. The determinant is 5 modulo $p = 11$ so that the matrix is invertible over F_p . The inverse of A in F_p is

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 6 & 1 \\ 7 & 9 & 10 \\ 0 & 6 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } A^{-1}\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} . \text{ Indeed } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \text{ solves the original system of equations.}$$

Example 7): If only one column is nonzero, we have the Chinese remainder theorem. If the matrix A has only one nonzero column, we are in the CRT situation. This problem was considered 2000 years ago and was given its final form by Euler. For example,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \\ 11 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ 7 \\ 13 \end{bmatrix}}$$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} 2x &= 5 \pmod{3} \\ 3x &= 8 \pmod{11} \\ x &= 11 \pmod{7} \\ 9x &= 9 \pmod{13} . \end{aligned}$$

Also the original CRT problem $a_i x = b_i \pmod{m_i}$ can be solved in a geometric language: with an integer "time" parameter t and the "velocity" $\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$,

the parameterized curve $\vec{r}(t) = t\vec{v} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ is a line on the "discrete torus" $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n}$. It covers the entire torus if the integers m_i are pairwise relatively prime and $a_i \neq 0 \pmod{m_i}$. One can solve the task of hitting a specific point \vec{b} on the torus by solving the first equation $v_1 x_1 = b_1 \pmod{m_1}$, then consider the curve $v_1(x_1 + m_1 t)$, reducing the problem to a similar problem in one dimension less. Proceeding like this leads to the solution. The solution for the CRT was easy to find, because the group was Abelian. The strategy to retreat in larger and larger centralizer subgroups is also the key to navigate around in non-Abelian finite groups like "Rubik" type puzzles, where one first fixes a part of the cube and then tries to construct words in the finitely presented group which fixed that subgroup. It is a natural idea which puzzle-solvers without mathematical training come up with. By the way, also the Gaussian elimination process is an incarnation of this principle.

Example 8) Here is a case where we have independent equations. If A is a diagonal matrix we have n independent equations of the form $a_i x_i = b_i \pmod{m_i}$. Solutions exist if $\gcd(a_i, m_i) = 1$ for all i . If $\gcd(a, m) > 1$ like $a = 3, p = 6$, there are no solutions of $3x = 2 \pmod{6}$ as can be seen by inspecting the equation modulo 3. Example:

$$A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \\ 11 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ 7 \\ 13 \end{bmatrix}}.$$

Example 9) Here is a case, where row reduction works. If A is upper triangular or lower triangular matrix, the system can be solved by successively solving systems $a_i x = b_i \pmod{m_i}$. Again, we have solutions if $\gcd(a_i, m_i) = 1$ for all i .

$$A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \\ 11 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ 7 \\ 13 \end{bmatrix}}.$$

Example 10) This is an example, when A is modular. If A^{-1} has only integer entries, solutions can be obtained directly with the formula $x = A^{-1}\vec{b}$ in \mathbb{Z}^n . This works if A is modular that is if A has determinant 1 or -1 :

$$A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}.$$

We get $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = A^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 & -4 & -13 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -18 & 5 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -33 \\ -2 \\ 43 \end{bmatrix}.$

Example 11). For

$$\begin{aligned} x + 3y + z &= 1 \pmod{8} \\ 4x + y + 5z &= 7 \pmod{8} \\ 2x + 2y + z &= 3 \pmod{8}, \end{aligned}$$

Gauss gives the solution $x = 6, y = 4, z = 7 \pmod{8}$. Indeed, we would write today modulo 8,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, A^{-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

On a more curious side, we could rewrite the original equations as

$$\begin{aligned} x + z + 8u &= 1 \pmod{3} \\ 4x + y + 8v &= 7 \pmod{5} \\ 2x + z + 8w &= 3 \pmod{2} \end{aligned}$$

and apply the multivariable CRT to see that there is a solution.

4. REMARKS

- 1) If all moduli m_i are equal to a prime $m = p$, the problem can be solved using linear algebra over the finite field F_p . As noted first 150 years ago by Smith, if m is not prime, but the determinant of the matrix A is invertible in the ring \mathbb{Z}_m , then the problem can be solved for all \vec{b} .
- 2) If A has only one nonzero column, the problem is the CRT, one of the first topics which appears in any introduction to number theory. Also if there is a column A_{ij} with fixed j for which $\gcd(A_{ij}, m_i) = 1$, then we can set $x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n = 0$ and solve for x_j with the one dimensional CRT.
- 3) The lattice L is not unique in general. For example, if the lattice spanned by $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$, then it is also spanned by $\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ and the volume is the same.
- 4) The multivariable CRT is sharp in the sense that the two conditions for solvability are necessary in general, as examples have shown. As examples with equal moduli show other conditions for solvability exist. The Matthew trick sometimes allows linear algebra methods, but not in general because matrix might have determinant 0 or even not be square. Already the single variable CRT can not be solved with linear algebra alone.
- 5) The parallelepiped can be very long. An extreme case is the CRT situation, where it has length $M = m_1 m_2 \cdots m_n$ and all other widths are 1.
- 6) It would be useful to quantize how large the diameter of the parallelepiped is. If A is unimodular, the eigenvalues of A are relevant.
- 7) A modern algebraic formulation of the single variable CRT is that for pairwise co-prime elements m_1, \dots, m_n in a principal ideal domain R , the map $x \pmod{M} \rightarrow (x \pmod{m_1}, \dots, x \pmod{m_n})$ is an isomorphism between the rings $R/(m_1 R) \times R/(m_n R)$ and $R/(MR)$. Using the same language, the multivariable CRT can be restated that if R is a principal ideal domain and a ring homomorphism $A : R^n \rightarrow R^n$, for which the i 'th row of A is not zero in $R/(q_i R)$ with factors $q_i > 1$ of m_i , there is a lattice L in R^n such that A is a ring isomorphism between R^n/L and $R/(m_1 R) \times \cdots \times R/(m_n R)$. When seen in such an algebraic frame work, the result is quite transparent and might be "well known" in the sense that the multivariable CRT could well have entered as a homework in an algebra text book, but we were unable to locate such a place yet. Also a search through number theory text books could not reveal the statement of the multivariable CRT.
- 8) While the problem of **systems** of linear modular equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ with different moduli m_i studied here certainly is elementary, the lack of linear

algebra and group theory two thousand years ago could explain why it had not been studied early. The problem has the CRT as a special case and must in general be understood and solved without linear algebra. Indeed, one of the proofs of the CRT essentially goes over to the multivariable CRT. But the constructive aspect of finding L and effectively inverting ϕ is interesting and much more difficult than in the special case of the CRT.

9) There is unique solution to systems of modular equations if and only if there is a line $A(t\vec{v}) \pmod{\vec{m}}$ which covers the entire torus $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n}$. If \vec{v} is known, then it reduces the multivariable CRT problem to a CRT problem.

10) It is no restriction of generality to assume the matrix A to be square. If we have less variables, we can add some zero column vectors and dummy variables which will be set to zero. If we have more variables, we can duplicate some of the equations. Both of these "completions" do not change anything in the theorem.

11) Systems of modular equations have either a unique solution, no solution or finitely many solutions. In the third case, the number of solutions is a factor of $M = m_1 \cdots m_n$.

12) Any system linear modular equations can be written as a linear system $Bx = y$ with one variable more. For example,

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 3x_2 &= 1 \pmod{5} \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 &= 1 \pmod{7} \end{aligned}$$

can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 &= 1 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 + 7x_3 &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

13) An important case is when we have only one equation $Ax = y$ like

$$3x + 5y + 7z = 11.$$

Then the system is solvable if and only if $\gcd(A_{11}, \dots, A_{1n})$ divides y . This is a central result in linear Diophantine equations (see e.g. [27] Theorem 2.1.2). Note that our theorem covers only the 'if' part here: if we rewrite the system as a modular equation like

$$3x + 5y = 11 \pmod{7}$$

and one of the coefficients has no common divisor with 7, then $\gcd(A_{11}, \dots, A_{1n}) = 1$.

14) Not every linear Diophantine system $Bx = y$ can be rewritten as a modular system. The book [27] mentions a problem from the 18th international math olympiad: *Show that $Ax = 0$ be a linear system of equations with $A_{ij} \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$, $1 \leq i \leq p$, $1 \leq j \leq 2p$ has a nonzero integer solution vector x with $|x_j| \leq q$.*

15) If we write down a random system of linear modular equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ like taking random integers $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ in each entry of the matrix, vector \vec{b} and \vec{m} . What is the chance to have a solution? It is well known that the probability of two numbers to be coprime is asymptotically $1/\zeta(2) = 6/\pi^2 \sim 0.61\dots$. Thus the condition that p_i is not coprime to any of the row entries A_{ij} has probability $(1 - 1/\zeta(2))^n$ and the condition to have this in one row is bound above by $n(1 - 1/\zeta(2))^n$ which goes to zero. The only relevant condition asymptotically is therefore the second condition that all the m_i are pairwise prime. The probability of the vector \vec{m} to be coprime is $1/\zeta(n)$ which goes to 1 exponentially fast, but the

probability to be pairwise coprime goes to zero. Thus we can only say that conditioned to the pairwise coprimality assumption of the m_i , a random linear modular system asymptotically has a solution almost surely.

16) A different generalization of the CRM theorem where the concept of congruence is generalized can be found in [8] who proves that M is a $n \times n$ matrix with determinant m different from zero and a, b are vectors such that m and $mM^{-1}a$ have no common divisor, then $xa = b \pmod M$ has exactly one solution modulo m .

17) In [11], the CRT has been generalized using a more general group context. The authors apply the theory to systems $Ax = b \pmod{\vec{m}}$ in section 2 (page 1205).

5. MORE ABOUT THE PROOF

Row operations as used in Gaussian elimination are not in general permitted to solve the problem $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ because each row is an equation in a different ring of integers. But the geometric solution of the CRT can be generalized to solve the general case as well as to locate **small** solution vectors.

Let us prove the multivariable CRT in more detail as in the introduction. Assume $\gcd(m_i, m_j) = 1$ for all $i \neq j$ and that for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, there exists j such that $\gcd(a_{ij}, m_i) = 1$. We show that there is a solution \vec{x} to the linear system $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ for all \vec{b} . We also have to prove that the solution \vec{x} is unique in a parallelepiped spanned by n vectors. This parallelepiped contains $M = m_1 m_2 \cdots m_n$ lattice points.

I. Existence.

We have seen that $\phi : x \rightarrow Ax \pmod{\vec{m}}$ is a group homomorphism from $X = \mathbb{Z}^n$ to the finite group $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n} = \mathcal{Y}/L$. We can think of \mathcal{Y} as a discrete torus with $M = m_1 \cdot m_2 \cdots m_n$ lattice points. We can think of the order M of the group as the "volume" of the torus \mathcal{Y} . $\ker(\phi)$ is a lattice L_A satisfying $\mathcal{X} = X/L_A$ and $\text{im}(\phi)$ is a subgroup of \mathcal{Y} . The quotient group \mathcal{X} and the image are isomorphic. The kernel L_A is a lattice in X spanned by n vectors $\vec{k}_1, \dots, \vec{k}_n$. We think of the quotient $\mathcal{X} = X/L_A$ as a "discrete torus" with "volume" $|\mathcal{X}|$. Because ϕ is injective on \mathcal{X} , there exist vectors $\vec{y}_i \in \mathcal{Y}$ such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^{d(A)} A(\mathcal{X}) + \vec{y}_i = \mathcal{Y}$ and $d(A)\text{vol}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{vol}(\mathcal{Y})$. If $d(A) = 1$ the problem is solvable: for \vec{b} , there exists a unique integer vector \vec{x} in \mathcal{X} such that $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$.

II. Construction of a solution In order to construct a solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, we have to find both the lattice L_A and a particular solution \vec{x} of the equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, then reduce x modulo the lattice to make it small.

i) Finding a particular solution

To find the particular solution, we pick **Pivot elements** $a_{ij(k)}$ in the matrix A : these are entries in the i 'th row which are relatively prime to m_i . Let \vec{e}_j denote the standard basis in n -dimensional space. Consider a curve $\vec{x}(t) = t\vec{e}_{j(1)}$ in X , where t is an integer. Using the assumption on the rows, we see that there exists an integer t_1 so that $\vec{x}(t)$ solves the first equation. Now take the curve $\vec{x}(t) = t_1\vec{e}_{j(1)} + tm_1\vec{e}_{j(2)}$. There is an integer t_2 so that $\vec{x}(t)$ solves the second equation. We use here the fact

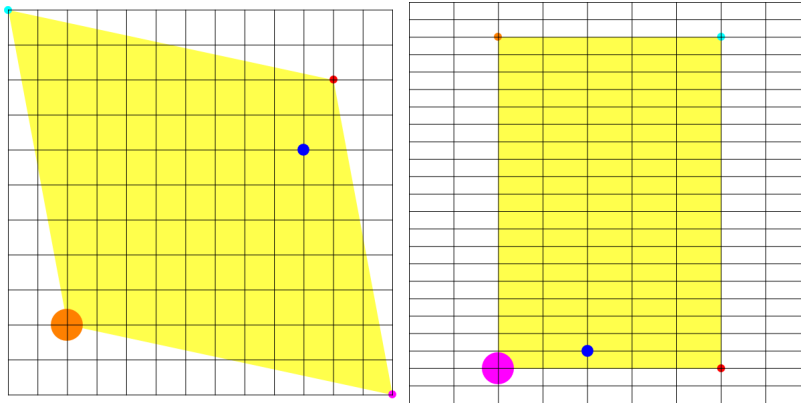


FIGURE 1. The map ϕ is a bijection between the two finite sets $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{Z}^n/L$ and $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n}$. The picture visualizes the linear system $4x + 17y = 2 \pmod{5}$, $11x + 13y = 1 \pmod{19}$ which has the solution $(x, y) = (8, 5)$. The vectors $(11, -2), (-2, 9)$ span the lattice of the kernel.

that m_1 is relatively prime to m_2 . Note that $\vec{x}(t)$ solves the first equation for all t . Continue now until the final solution $\vec{x}(t) = \sum t_i(m_1 \cdots m_i)\vec{e}_{ij(i)}$ is found.

Remark: Because \mathcal{X} and \mathcal{Y} are isomorphic groups, there is a one-dimensional “discrete line” $\vec{r}(t) = t\vec{v}$ such that $\vec{r}(t)/L_A$ covers \mathcal{Y} . We could find a special solution by searching on that line, which is a problem of the CRT. We have the problem to find a vector \vec{v} such that $A\vec{r}(t) = A(t\vec{v}) = t\vec{w}$ covers the entire set \mathcal{Y} .

Lets look at the example

$$\begin{aligned} 4x + 17y &= 2 \pmod{5} \\ 11x + 13y &= 1 \pmod{19}. \end{aligned}$$

Because all moduli are prime, any nonzero matrix element is a Pivot element in this example. We can pick $j(1) = 1, j(2) = 2$. Take the line $\vec{x}(t) = t\vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and look for t_1 such that the first equation is solved. This means $4x = 2 \pmod{5}$ which gives $x = 3$.

Now consider the line $\vec{x}(t) = 3\vec{e}_1 + 5t\vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5t \end{bmatrix}$. For every t , the first equation is solved. The second equation gives $33 + 65t = 1 \pmod{19}$. which is solved by $t = 15$. So, $\vec{x}(1) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 75 \end{bmatrix}$ solves the system.

We could have solved the system also by taking the parametrized line $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t)) = (t, t)$ which is mapped by A to the line $(A\vec{r}(t)) = (11t, 25t) = (t, 5t)$ on the discrete torus. It leads to the CRT problem

$$\begin{aligned} t &= 2 \pmod{5} \\ 5t &= 1 \pmod{19} \end{aligned}$$

which is solved for $t = 42$ so that we get the particular solution $(x, y) = \vec{r}(42) = (42, 210)$.

ii) Finding the kernel.

On every line $\vec{r}(t) = (0, \dots, t, \dots, 0)$, there is a point \vec{x} which solves $A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \pmod{\vec{m}}$. By the pigeon hole principle, the set $\{A\vec{x} \pmod{\vec{m}} \mid t \in [0, M]\}$ must hit some point in the image twice. But then $A(\vec{x} - \vec{y}) = \vec{0} \pmod{\vec{m}}$. If we take $n + 1$ equations $A\vec{x}^{(i)} = y^{(i)} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, then the collection of vectors $y^{(i)}$ is linearly dependent. Therefore, there exist rational numbers c_i such that $\sum_j c_j y^{(j)} = \vec{0} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ so that $\sum_j c_j \vec{x}^{(j)} = \vec{0}$ is in the kernel. After multiplying with a common multiple of the denominators of the rational numbers c_j , we can assume c_j to be integers. We first look for n linearly independent vectors \vec{k}_i solving $A\vec{k}_i = \vec{0} \pmod{\vec{m}}$. Define K to be a matrix which contains the vectors \vec{k}_i as row vectors. Use the LLL algorithm ([2] section 2.6) to reduce the lattice to a small lattice. It turns out that this is often not good enough. The lattice has a size which is a multiple of p . In order to find the lattice L_A of the kernel, we need

$$\det(K) = M = m_1 m_2 \cdots m_n .$$

Let $k = \det(A)/p$ and let $k = q_1 \dots q_l$ be the prime factorization of k . We can now look whether $\vec{y}^{(i)}/q_j$ are integer vectors in the kernel for each $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, \dots, l$ and if yes replace the basis vectors. Successive reduction of the lattice can lead us to the kernel for which $\det(K) = p$. If not, we start all over and construct a new lattice.

6. OUTLOOK

Complexity.

For a linear system of equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, the problem is to find a maximal lattice L_A in \mathbb{Z}^n , which is the kernel of the group homomorphism $\vec{x} \mapsto A\vec{x}$ from \mathbb{Z}^n to the module $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n}$ so that its fundamental region \mathcal{X} is mapped bijectively onto $A\mathcal{X} \subset \mathcal{Y}$. Next, we have to decide whether \vec{b} is in $A\mathcal{X}$ and if affirmative, construct $\vec{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ which satisfies $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$. How fast can this be done? To find the kernel of the group homomorphism $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x} \pmod{\vec{m}}$, we produce a large set of solutions of $T(\vec{x}) = 0$ and then reduce this to a small lattice using the LLL algorithm. If H is the matrix which contains the reduced kernel vectors as columns then $AH = \vec{0} \pmod{\vec{m}}$. In general, $\det(H) \neq M$, but we know that there exists a kernel for which $\det(H) = M$. How do we find such a matrix H directly? To decide whether $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ has a solution or not is addressed in [7]. The multivariable CRT gives a criterion for the existence of solutions. One can often detect, whether one of the equations has no solution. This happens for example, if $a_{i1}, \dots, a_{in}, m_i$ have a common denominator which is not shared by the denominators of b_i . If all m_i are equal to some number m with distinct prime factors can make a fast decision: by the CRT, a solution exists if and only if a solution exists modulo each prime factor of m and the later decisions can be done by computing determinants in finite fields.

Iteration of modular linear maps.

The map $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ defines a dynamical system on the finite group $\mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_n}$. Since the discrete torus \mathcal{Y} does not match with the torus \mathcal{X} , orbits on

this finite set behave in general rather irregularly. The system can be extended to the real torus $R/(m_1\mathbb{Z}) \times R/(m_n\mathbb{Z})$, where it is in general a hyperbolic map. The orbits behave differently, if A is very singular, for example if A has only one column. The map

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 31x + 34y \\ 3x + 38y \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix}}$$

for example has 6 different orbits on \mathcal{Y} with a maximal orbit length of 49. It seems difficult to find ergodic examples with different moduli where ergodic means that there is only one orbit besides the trivial orbit of $\vec{0} = (0, 0)$ a case which appears for example in

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 18x + 5y \\ 7x + 14y \end{bmatrix} \pmod{\begin{bmatrix} 37 \\ 37 \end{bmatrix}} .$$

Systems of modular polynomial equations

The algorithm to solve systems of linear modular equations extends also to solve systems of nonlinear polynomial equations $\vec{P}(\vec{x}) = \vec{b} \pmod{\vec{m}}$ with

$$P_k(x_1, \dots, x_n) = b_k \pmod{m_k}$$

too, but in general, we do not have criteria which assure that such a system has solution. We need to solve the individual equations. An example is Chevally's theorem (i.e. [10]) which tells that P is a polynomial of degree smaller than n and zero constant term, then $P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = p$ can be solved as long as p is prime. Lets look at the general problem. Start solving the first equation. Using $\vec{x} = (a_{11}t, \dots, a_{1n}t)$ we have to solve a problem for a single variable $q_1(t) = 0 \pmod{m_1}$, where q_1 is a polynomial. With a solution t_1 , try to solve the second equation for t using $\vec{x} = (m_1 a_{21}t, \dots, m_n a_{2n}t) + (a_{11}t_1, \dots, a_{1n}t_1)$. which solves the first equation etc.

For example, consider the system of nonlinear modular equations

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + y^3 + z^2 &= 1 \pmod{5} \\ x^3 + 2y^4 - z^2 &= 1 \pmod{7} \\ 3x - 2y^3 + 5z^4 &= 7 \pmod{11} . \end{aligned}$$

Start with the "Ansatz" $(x, y, z) = (t, t, t)$. The first equation is $t^2(2+t) = 1 \pmod{5}$ which has the solution $t = 2$. Now put $(x, y, z) = (2, 2, 2) + t \cdot 5(1, 1, 1)$. which solves the first equation and plug it into the second equation. This is $(2+5t)^2(2+3t+t^2) = 1 \pmod{7}$ and solved for $t = 0$. The point $(2, 2, 2) + t(5, 5, 5) = (2, 2, 2)$ solves also the second equation. Now plug-in $(2, 2, 2) + 5 \cdot 7(0, 2t, t)$, which solves the first two equations for all t , into the third equation which requires to solve $6 + 5(2 + 35t)^4 - 2(2+70t)^3 = 7 \pmod{11}$ which is equivalent to $4 + 4t + 2t^2 + 5t^3 + 3t^4 = 7 \pmod{11}$ and solved for $t = 1$. So, the final solution found is $(2, 2, 2) + 5 \cdot 7(0, 2, 1) = (2, 72, 37)$. This method does not necessarily find small solutions like $(2, 6, 4)$.

Nonlinear systems of modular equations with different moduli but with one variable can be treated with the CRT. Ore [22] illustrates it with the example

$$\begin{aligned} x^3 - 2x + 3 &= 0 \pmod{7} \\ 2x^2 &= 3 \pmod{15} . \end{aligned}$$

Because the first equation has solutions $x = 2 \pmod{7}$ and the second has solutions $x = \pm 3 \pmod{15}$, we are in the case of the CRT. In general, systems of polynomial equations in one variable often lead to CRT problems.

7. MATHEMATICA CODE

Here is some example code if a reader wants to experiment. The first few lines find and plot the lattice of solutions $A\vec{x} = 0 \pmod{\vec{p}}$ by brute force and then do LLL reduction.

```
a = 13; b = 19; c = 11; d = 15; q = 29; p = 31;
s = {}; Do[ If[ Mod[a*x+b*y, p]==0 && Mod[c*x+d*y, q]==0,
  s = Append[s, {x, y}], {x, -100, 100}, {y, -100, 100}];
L=LatticeReduce[s]; M={{0,0},L[[1]]+L[[2]]};
Graphics[{{Blue,PointSize[0.01],Map[Point, s]},
  {Yellow,Polygon[{M[[1]],L[[1]],M[[2]],L[[2]]}}},
  {Red,PointSize[0.02],Map[Point,Join[L,M]]}}
```

The following routines find solutions according to the proof of the multivariable CRT:

```
Pivot[A_,P_-]:=Module[{n=Length[A],p,p=Table[0,{n}]};
  Do[Do[ If[GCD[A[[i,j]],P[[i]]]==1,p[[i]]=j,{j,n}],{i,n}];p];
GCDv[p_-]:=Max[Table[GCD[p[[i]],p[[j]]],
  {i,Length[p]},{j,i+1,Length[p]}]];
HasSol[A_,P_-]:=Module[{p=PivotEntries[A,P]},
  Product[p[[i]},{i,Length[p]}]>0 && GCDv[P]==1];
CheckSol[A_,B_,X_,P_-]:=
  Table[Mod[(A.X)[[i]]-B[[i]],P[[i]]],{i,Length[A]}];
LinearModSol[A_,B_,P_-]:=Module[{n=Length[A],p,X,q,sum,j,pi},
  p=Pivot[A,P]; X=Table[0,{n}]; q=1;
  Do[j=p[[i]]; pi=P[[i]]; bi=B[[i]]; aij=A[[i,j]];
  sum=Sum[A[[i,k]]*X[[k]},{k,n}];
  t=Mod[PowerMod[q*aij,-1,pi]*(bi-sum),pi];
  X[[j]]=X[[j]]+t*q; q=q*pi,{i,n}]; X];

A={{4,3,3,3},{1,-1,5,5},{1,5,3,7},{1,5,2,2}};
B={1,2,3,4}; P = {3,5,7,11}; X=LinearModSol[A,B,P]
CheckSol[A,B,X,P]
```

Finally, here is the verification of the example in the introduction

```
A={{101,107},{51,22}}; b={3,7}; m={117,71};
x={25,65}; L={{73,47},{-82,61}};
{Mod[A.x-b,m],Mod[A.L[[1]],m],Mod[A.L[[2]],m]}
```

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