

This solution uses methods of the handout:

"Solving Simple Congruences"

The congruence under consideration is

$$7x \equiv 172 \pmod{13}$$

We need to find a $\pmod{13}$ inverse of 7.

The process for doing this is presented well on the next page in the second solution method shown.

On the next page, it is shown that

2 is a $\pmod{13}$ inverse of 7.

This is because $2 \times 7 = 14 = (13)(1) + 1$.

So, since 2 is a $\pmod{13}$ inverse of 7, we know that

$$2 \times 7 \equiv 1 \pmod{13}$$

To both sides of this congruence, $7x \equiv 172 \pmod{13}$, we multiply the factor 2,

$$\text{Then, } 2 \times (7x) \equiv 2(172) \equiv 344 \pmod{13},$$

by Theorem 8.4.3.

$$\text{Also, } 2(7x) \equiv (2 \times 7)x \equiv 1 \cdot x \equiv x \pmod{13}.$$

$\therefore x \equiv 344 \pmod{13}$, by Transitivity, and this is true about every solution of the congruence.

$344 \equiv 344 \pmod{13}$, so $x = 344$ is one solution.

$$344 = (13)(26) + 6 \text{ and } 0 \leq 6 < 13$$

so, $(344 \pmod{13}) = 6$ and $x = 6$ is the least non-negative

solution. The Solution Set is $[6] = \{\dots, -20, -7, 6, 19, 32, \dots\}$

The Solution to Part III of 11B using the methods shown in class

The Congruence to solve is $7x \equiv 172 \pmod{13}$
we need to find a $\pmod{13}$ inverse of 7.

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \overline{)13} \\ -7 \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \overline{)7} \\ -6 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

\Rightarrow

$$6 = (13)(1) - (7)(1)$$

$$1 = (7)(1) - (6)(1)$$

$$1 = (7)(1) - [(13)(1) - (7)(1)](1)$$

$$1 = (7)(2) - (13)(1)$$

$$1 = (7)(2) + (13)(-1).$$

So, $1 \equiv (7)(2) \pmod{13}$
by Thm 8.4.1.

Thus 2 is a $\pmod{13}$ inverse of 7.

It was shown in class that $x_0 = (2)(172)$ is one solution of the congruence; $x_0 = 344$

Check: $7 \times 344 = 2408$ and $2408 - 172 = 2236$

and so, $2408 - 172 = 2236 = (13)(172)$

so, $2408 \equiv 172 \pmod{13}$

so $7 \times 344 \equiv 172 \pmod{13}$. so $x_0 = 344$ is a solution.

$x_1 = (344 \pmod{13}) = 6$ is the least non-negative solution.

The Solution set is $[6] = [344]$, the equivalence class of 6 in the Equivalence Relation, $\equiv \pmod{13}$, namely,

$$[6] = \{ \dots, -20, -7, 6, 19, 32, \dots, 331, 344, 357, \dots \} \\ = [344].$$
