

# Modular Arithmetic

CS 2800: Discrete Structures, Fall 2014

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# Follow-up exercise

Read up on **Euclid's Algorithm** for finding the Greatest Common Divisor of two natural numbers

# Congruence (modulo $m$ )

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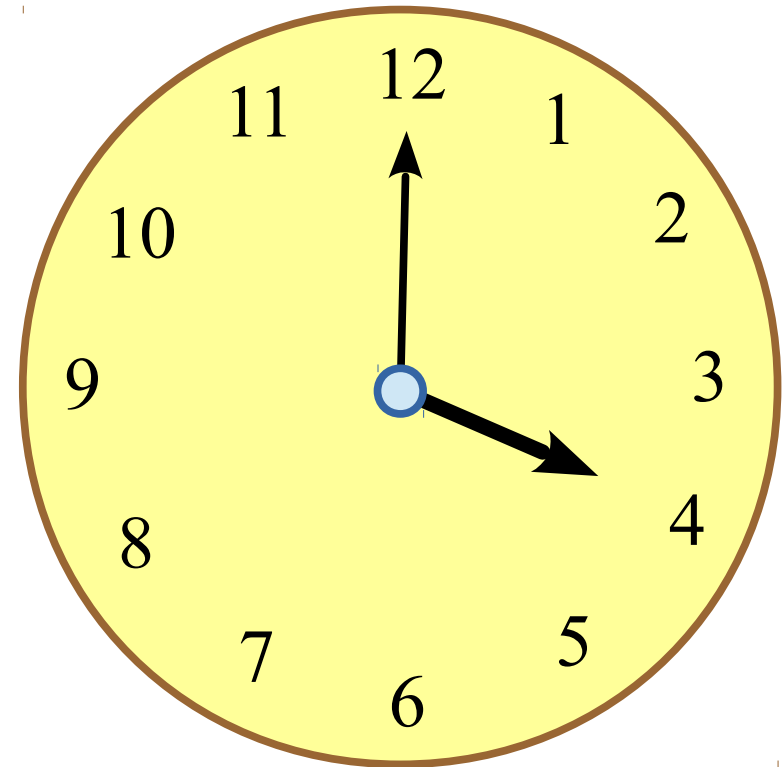
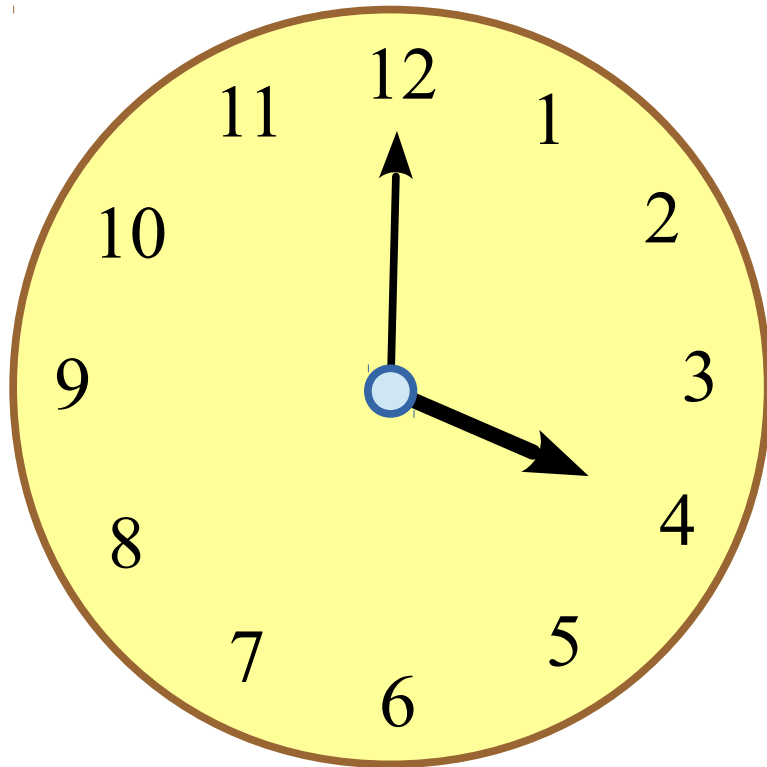
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E.g.

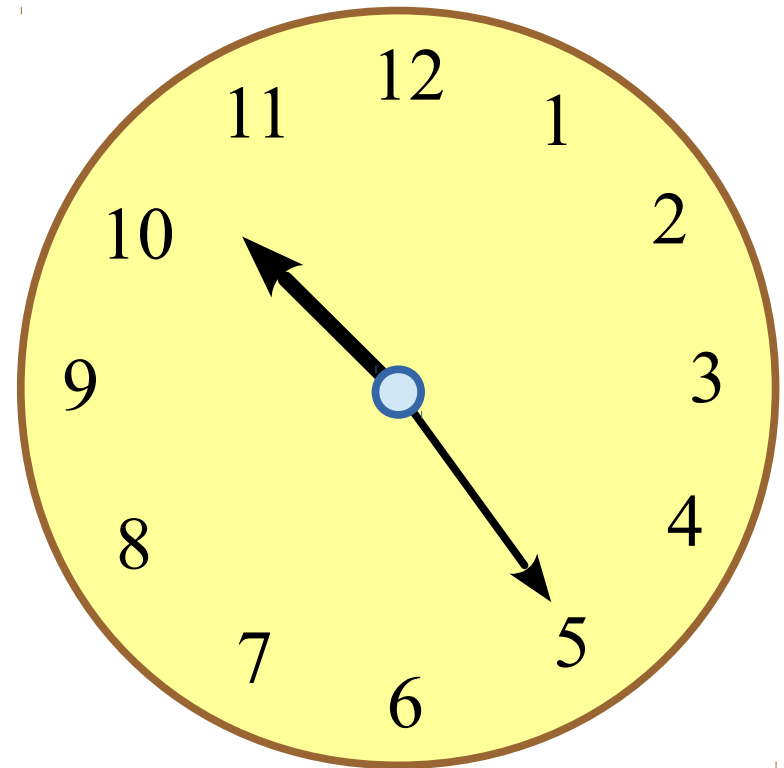
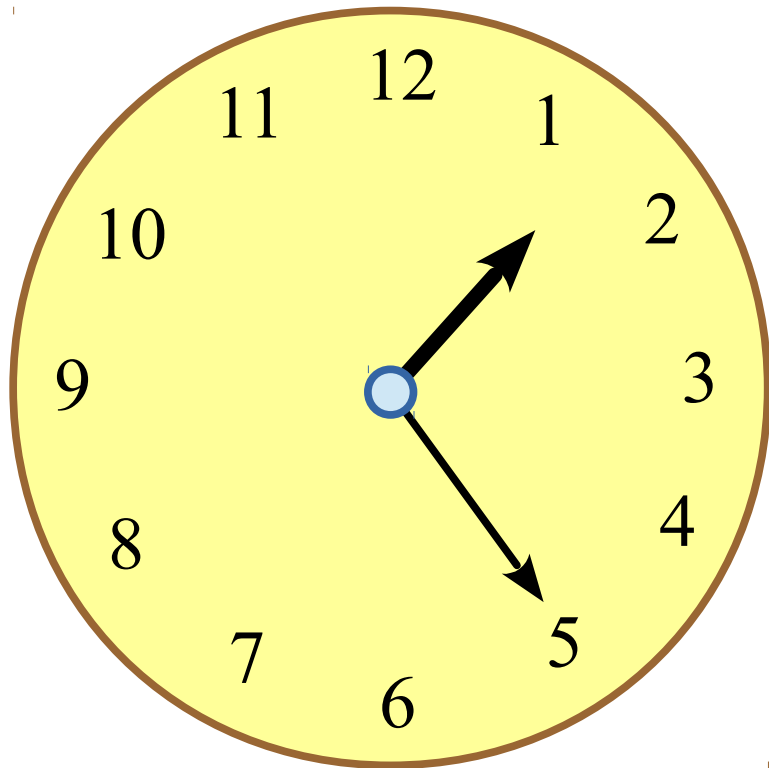
$$\begin{array}{rcll} 3 & \equiv & 7 & (\text{mod } 2) \\ 9 & \equiv & 99 & (\text{mod } 10) \\ 11^{999} & \equiv & 1 & (\text{mod } 10) \end{array}$$

$4\text{am} \equiv 4\text{pm} \pmod{12\text{h}}$

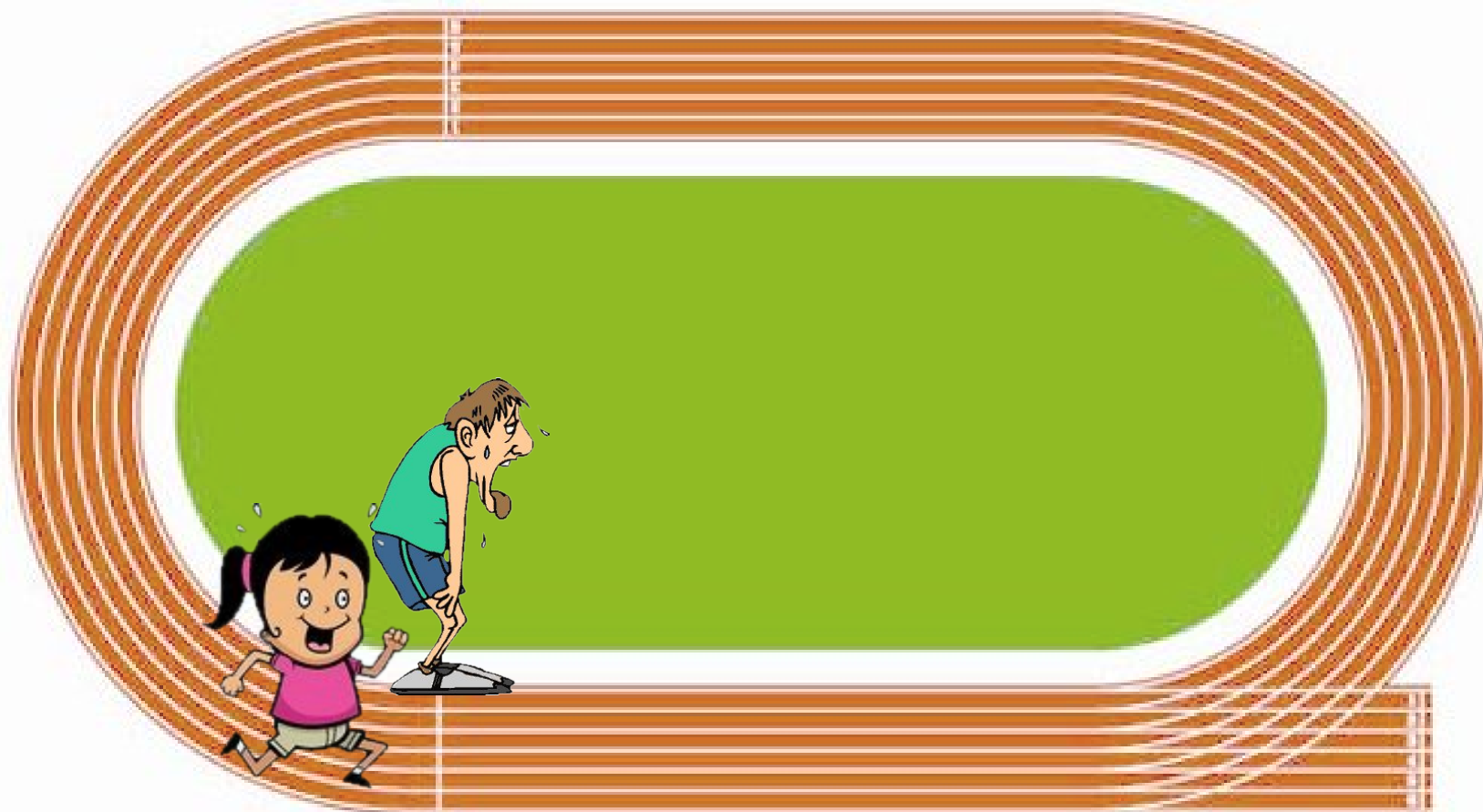
$4\text{pm Nov 12} \equiv 4\text{pm Nov 13} \pmod{24\text{h}}$



$1:25 \equiv 10:25 \pmod{60 \text{ mins}}$

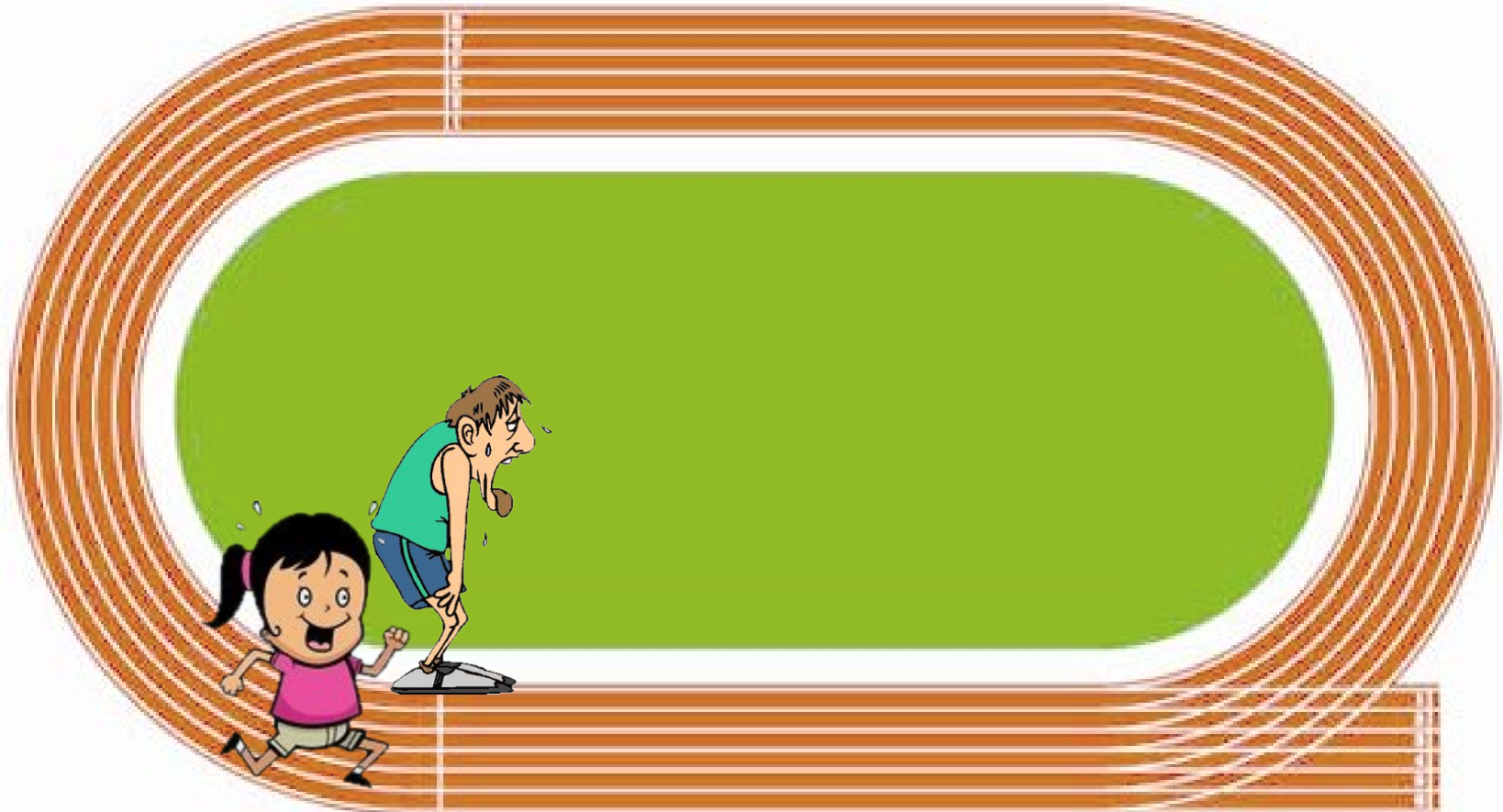


$300\text{m} \equiv 9900\text{m} \pmod{400}$





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Discards absolute information (days, hours, laps...)!

# The formal definition

- Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are said to be congruent modulo  $m$ , written  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , if and only if  $a - b$  is divisible by  $m$ 
  - ... i.e. iff  $m \mid a - b$
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  - **Note:** this does not directly say  $a$  and  $b$  have the same remainder upon division by  $m$ 
    - That is a *consequence* of the definition
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$$\Rightarrow a \pmod{m} = b \pmod{m}$$

# Properties of congruence

- If  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$ , then
  - $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$
  - $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$

E.g.  $11 \equiv 1 \pmod{10} \Rightarrow 11^{999} \equiv 1^{999} \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$

$$9 \equiv -1 \pmod{10} \Rightarrow 9^{999} \equiv (-1)^{999} \pmod{10}$$

$$7^{999} \equiv 49^{499} \cdot 7 \equiv (-1)^{499} \cdot 7 \equiv -7 \equiv 3 \pmod{10}$$

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Note: But  $rr'$  is not in general the remainder (since it can be  $\geq m$ )