

modular arithmetic:

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m} \iff m \mid b - a$$

\uparrow "is congruent to"

equivalently
if
 $a = q \cdot m + b$

eg hours

$$2 = 14 \pmod{12}$$

$$2 = 26 \pmod{12}$$

$$12 \mid \underbrace{26 - 2}_{24}$$

Typically we will always use the
smallest numbers possible,

eg

$$a \equiv r \pmod{m} \iff a = qm + r$$

with
 $0 \leq r < m$

Nice truth:

if $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$

then $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$

and $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$

division is tricky . . .

Reason funny things can happen...

eg

$$8 \cdot 6 \equiv 48 \pmod{24}$$

$$\text{So } 8 \cdot 6 \equiv 0 \pmod{24}$$

possible to have two non zero
numbers whose product is zero.

observe

$$k \cdot m \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \text{ for any } k$$