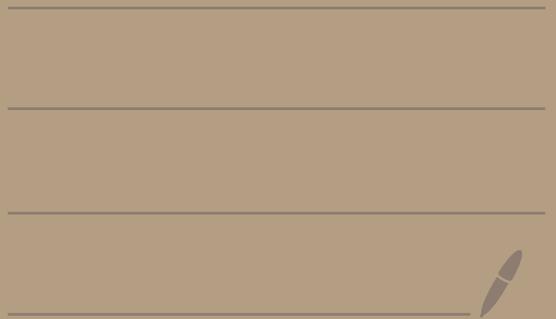


Math 4460

2/12/25

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Last time we learned  
the Euclidean algorithm.  
We can also use it to  
find  $x_0, y_0$  that solve

$$ax_0 + by_0 = \gcd(a, b)$$

Ex: Last time we found  
that  $\gcd(578, 153) = 17$ .  
Let's find  $x_0, y_0$  where

$$578x_0 + 153y_0 = 17$$

Step 1: Use the Euclidean  
algorithm.

$$\begin{aligned} 578 &= 3 \cdot 153 + 119 \\ 153 &= 1 \cdot 119 + 34 \\ 119 &= 3 \cdot 34 + 17 \\ 34 &= 2 \cdot 17 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

From  
Monday

Step 2: Disregard the last equation where  $r=0$ .

Rewrite the other equations by solving for the  $r$  in each of them.

$$119 = 1 \cdot \boxed{578} - 3 \cdot \boxed{153} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$34 = 1 \cdot \boxed{153} - 1 \cdot \boxed{119} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$17 = 1 \cdot \boxed{119} - 3 \cdot \boxed{34} \quad \textcircled{3}$$

Step 3: Start with the last equation and backsubstitute until only 578's and 153's are left.

We get

$$\begin{aligned} 119 &= 1 \cdot 578 - 3 \cdot 153 & \textcircled{1} \\ 34 &= 1 \cdot 153 - 1 \cdot 119 & \textcircled{2} \\ 17 &= 1 \cdot 119 - 3 \cdot 34 & \textcircled{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$17 = 1 \cdot 119 - 3 \cdot 34$$

$$\stackrel{\textcircled{1}/\textcircled{2}}{=} 1 \cdot \left( 1 \cdot 578 - 3 \cdot 153 \right)$$

119

$$- 3 \cdot \left( 1 \cdot 153 - 1 \cdot 119 \right)$$

34

consolidate terms

$$= 1 \cdot 578 - 6 \cdot 153 + 3 \cdot 119$$

$$\stackrel{\textcircled{1}}{=} 1 \cdot 578 - 6 \cdot 153 + 3 \cdot \left( 1 \cdot 578 - 3 \cdot 153 \right)$$

{consolidate terms}

$$= 4 \cdot 578 - 15 \cdot 153$$

$$\text{So, } 17 = 4 \cdot 578 - 15 \cdot 153$$

Thus,

$$578 \underbrace{(4)}_{x_0=4} + 153 \underbrace{(-15)}_{y_0=-15} = 17$$

Ex: Let

$$a = 60 = 10 \cdot 6$$

$$b = 350 = 10 \cdot 35$$

$$d = \gcd(a, b) = \gcd(60, 350) = 10$$

$$\gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right) = \gcd\left(\frac{60}{10}, \frac{350}{10}\right)$$

$$= \gcd(6, 35) = 1$$

If you divide  $a$  &  $b$  by their  $\gcd$ , the resulting numbers have  $\gcd 1$ .

You're removing the common factor

I  
D  
E  
A

Theorem: Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$   
be integers, not all zero.

Let  $d = \gcd(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$

Then,  $\gcd\left(\frac{a_1}{d}, \frac{a_2}{d}, \dots, \frac{a_n}{d}\right) = 1$

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Specific case  $n=2$ :

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , not both zero.

Let  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

Then,  $\gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right) = 1$

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We will prove the specific  
case. In my notes online  
it has the general case.

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proof when  $n = 2$ :

Let  $d = \gcd(a, b)$   
and  $d' = \gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right)$ .

Goal is to show  $d' = 1$ .

Since  $d = \gcd(a, b)$  we know  
 $d \mid a$  and  $d \mid b$ .

So,  $a = dx$  and  $b = dy$   
where  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then,

$$d' = \gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right) = \gcd(x, y)$$

So,  $d' \mid x$  and  $d' \mid y$ .

Thus,  $x = d'r$  and  $y = d's$

where  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

So,

$$a = dx = dd'r$$

$$b = dy = dd's$$

Thus,  $dd'$  is a positive common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ .

But  $d$  is the greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ .

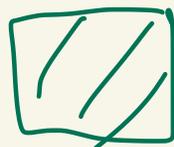
Thus,  $dd' \leq d$ .

So,  $d' \leq 1$ .

But  $d' = \gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right)$  so

$$1 \leq d'$$

Thus,  $d' = 1$ .



## Second proof:

Let  $d = \gcd(a, b)$

We know there exists

$x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  where

$$ax_0 + by_0 = d.$$

Thus,

$$\left(\frac{a}{d}\right)x_0 + \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)y_0 = 1$$

these are integers  
because  $d|a$  and  $d|b$

Let  $d' = \gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right)$ .

So,  $d' \mid \frac{a}{d}$  and  $d' \mid \frac{b}{d}$

Thus,  $\frac{a}{d} = d'r$  and  $\frac{b}{d} = d's$

where  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

So,  $d'r x_0 + d's y_0 = 1$

Thus,  $d'[r x_0 + s y_0] = 1$ .

So,  $d' \mid 1$ .  $\leftarrow$   $d' = \pm 1$

Since  $d'$  is a gcd we know  $d' \geq 1$ .

Thus,  $d' = 1$ .



Theorem: Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$

with  $c \neq 0$ .

If  $\gcd(c, a) = 1$  and  $c \mid ab$ ,  
then  $c \mid b$ .

---

Ex:  $3 \mid 30$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 3 \mid 5 \cdot 6 & \xrightarrow{\gcd(3,5)=1} & 3 \mid 6 \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow & & \\ c \quad a \quad b & & \end{array}$$

proof:

Since  $\gcd(a, c) = 1$  we get

$$ax_0 + cy_0 = 1 \quad (1)$$

where  $x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$

Since  $c \mid ab$  we get

$$ab = ck \quad (2)$$

for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

Multiply (1) by  $b$  to get

$$abx_0 + cby_0 = b$$

Then use (2)  $ab = ck$  to get

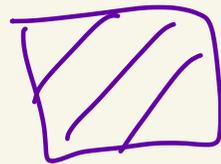
$$ckx_0 + cby_0 = b$$

So,

$$c \underbrace{[kx_0 + by_0]} = b$$

is an integer

Thus,  $c|b$ .



## GCD proof methods

Know:  $d = \gcd(a, b)$

Facts to use:

①  $ax_0 + by_0 = d$

where  $x_0, y_0$   
are integers

②  $d|a$  and  $d|b$

$d$  is a  
common  
divisor

③ If  $d'|a$  and  $d'|b$   
then  $d' \leq d$

$d$  is the  
greatest  
common  
divisor

