

Week of 5 November 2018

Greatest common divisor (GCD) of $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$: the largest $d \in \mathbf{Z}$ such that $d \mid a$ and $d \mid b$.

Least common multiple (LCM) of $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$: the smallest $m \in \mathbf{Z}$ such that $a \mid m$ and $b \mid m$.

Recall the **Euclidean algorithm**, which finds the GCD of $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$.

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 \text{put in } a, b, \text{ find } q_0, r_0 \in \mathbf{Z} & a = q_0b + r_0 & 0 \leq r_0 < |b| \\
 \text{move } b, r_0, \text{ find } q_1, r_1 \in \mathbf{Z} & b = q_1r_0 + r_1 & 0 \leq r_1 < |r_0| \\
 \text{move } r_0, r_1, \text{ find } q_2, r_2 \in \mathbf{Z} & r_0 = q_2r_1 + r_2 & 0 \leq r_2 < |r_1| \\
 \text{move } r_1, r_2, \text{ find } q_3, r_3 \in \mathbf{Z} & r_1 = q_3r_2 + r_3 & 0 \leq r_3 < |r_2| \\
 & \vdots & \\
 & r_{n-2} = q_n r_{n-1} + r_n & 0 \leq r_n < |r_{n-1}| \\
 & r_{n-1} = q_{n+1} r_n + 0 &
 \end{array}$$

Then r_n is the GCD of a and b . By substituting back all the r_i for $i < n$, we can find a **linear combination** $ax + by = r_n$ relating a , b , and their GCD. Moreover:

$$\text{There exist integers } x, y \text{ such that } ax + by = 1 \iff \gcd(a, b) = 1.$$

- Do not use a calculator for the following questions.
 - Compute the GCD of 403 and 187 by the Euclidean algorithm.
 - Compute the GCD of 2233 and -455 by the Euclidean algorithm.
 - Write each of the answers from parts (a) and (b) as linear combinations of the respective pairs of numbers.
- Find all integer solutions to the equation $40x + 25y = 600$.
Hint: Use the Euclidean algorithm on the coefficients to find one solution, then generalize.
- What combinations of 18-cent and 33-cent stamps can be used to mail a package which requires a postage of 6 dollars?
- Recall that $|a \cdot b| = \gcd(a, b) \cdot \text{lcm}(a, b)$. Find all the pairs of positive integers $a \leq b$ such that $\gcd(a, b) = 60$ and $\text{lcm}(a, b) = 4200$.
- For all $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}$ with $c > 0$, prove that $\gcd(ac, bc) = c \gcd(a, b)$.
- For all positive $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$, prove that $a \mid b$ if and only if $a^2 \mid b^2$.