

# Number-Theoretic Algorithm

## 31.2 Greatest common divisor

**Theorem 31.9:** For any nonnegative integer  $a$  and positive integer  $b$ ,

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \bmod b).$$

## Euclid's algorithm

EUCLID( $a, b$ )

```

1  if  $b = 0$ 
2    then return  $a$ 
3    else return EUCLID( $b, a \bmod b$ )

```

\*  $T(a, b) = O(\log(\min\{a, b\}))$

## 31.6 Powers of an element

Input:  $x, a$

Output:  $x^a$

\* Let  $a_{n-1}a_{n-2}\dots a_1a_0$  be the binary representation of  $a$ . We have

$$x^a = \prod_{a_i=1} x^{2^i}$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^{21_d} &= x^{10101_b} \\
 &= x^{10000_b} \times x^{00100_b} \times x^{00001_b} \\
 &= x^{16_d} \times x^{4_d} \times x^{1_d}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Algorithm Power( $x, a$ ) (right-to-left)

```

s=1
while  $a > 0$  do
begin
  if  $(a \bmod 2) = 1$       (check the rightmost bit)
    then  $s = s * x$ 
   $x = x * x$              (repeated squaring)
   $a = a \div 2$           (shift-right one bit)
end
return s

```

\*  $T(x, a) = O(\log a)$

**Homework:** Prob. 31-1.