

Discrete Mathematics 1

Lectures 1-3

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08/11/2017

Topics modular arithmetic; sets; membership; comprehension; gcd; Euclid's Algorithm; properties of gcds; Euclid's Theorem; fields of modular arithmetic; extended Euclid's Algorithm; integer linear combinations; Diffie-Hellman cryptographic method: shared secret key, key exchange.

Core questions (everyone is expected to solve these exercises)

1. Exercise sheet 3.1.1

Calculate the set $\text{CD}(666, 330)$ of common divisors of 666 and 330.

2. Exercise sheet 3.1.6

Prove that for all integers n and primes p , if $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ then either $n \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ or $n \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

3. Exercise sheet 3.2.2

Prove that for all positive integers a, b, c ,

$$\gcd(a, c) = 1 \implies \gcd(ab, c) = \gcd(b, c)$$

4. Exercise sheet 3.2.6

Prove that for all positive integers a and b ,

$$\gcd(13a + 8b, 5a + 3b) = \gcd(a, b)$$

5. 2007 Paper 2 Question 3 link

Tryhard questions (recommended)

1. Exercise sheet 3.3.1.a

Let a and b be natural numbers such that $a^2 | b(b+a)$. Prove that $a \mid b$.

Hint: For positive a and b , consider $a_0 = \frac{a}{\gcd(a,b)}$ and $b_0 = \frac{b}{\gcd(a,b)}$ so that $\gcd(a_0, b_0) = 1$, and show that $a^2 | b(b+a) \implies a_0 = 1$.

2. 2015 Paper 2 Question 9, Part A link