

Applications

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Outline

Least Common Multiple

Diophantine Equations: Examples

Diophantine Equations: Theorem

Modular Division

Least Common Multiple

Definition

The **least common multiple**, $\text{lcm}(a, b)$, of integers a and b (both different from zero) is the smallest positive integer that is divisible by both a and b

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$\text{lcm}(24, 16) = 48$, $\text{lcm}(9, 17) = 153$,
 $\text{lcm}(239, 0)$ — undefined

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Convention

We assume that a and b are positive

Working with Fractions

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$$\text{lcm}(177, 118) = 354 = 2 \cdot 177 = 3 \cdot 118$$

$$\frac{31}{177} + \frac{29}{118} = \frac{31 \cdot 2}{177 \cdot 2} + \frac{29 \cdot 3}{118 \cdot 3}$$

Working with Fractions

When adding or comparing simple fractions, we usually compute the **lowest common denominator** which is the least common multiple of the denominators:

$$\frac{31}{177} + \frac{29}{118}$$

$$\text{lcm}(177, 118) = 354 = 2 \cdot 177 = 3 \cdot 118$$

$$\frac{31}{177} + \frac{29}{118} = \frac{31 \cdot 2}{177 \cdot 2} + \frac{29 \cdot 3}{118 \cdot 3} = \frac{149}{354}$$

Naive Algorithm

Clearly, $a \cdot b$ is divisible by a and b . To find the *least* common multiple, simply try all numbers up to $a \cdot b$ and select the smallest one

Naive Algorithm: Code

```
def lcm(a, b):  
    assert a > 0 and b > 0  
  
    for d in range(1, a * b + 1):  
        if d % a == 0 and d % b == 0:  
            return d
```

Naive Algorithm: Code

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def lcm(a, b):  
    assert a > 0 and b > 0  
  
    for d in range(1, a * b + 1):  
        if d % a == 0 and d % b == 0:  
            return d
```

```
print(lcm(24, 16))
```

48

Naive Algorithm: Analysis

- If $\text{lcm}(a, b) = a \cdot b$, the algorithm will perform $a \cdot b$ divisions

Naive Algorithm: Analysis

- If $\text{lcm}(a, b) = a \cdot b$, the algorithm will perform $a \cdot b$ divisions
- Again, very slow: the call

```
print(lcm(531441, 262144))
```

will take more than one minute

Euclid's algorithm

Can we use efficient Euclid's algorithm to compute the **least common multiple**, too?



Euclid's algorithm

Can we use efficient Euclid's algorithm to compute the **least common multiple**, too?

Yes!

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) \cdot \text{gcd}(a, b) = a \cdot b$$



lcm and gcd

Lemma

If $a, b > 0$, then $\text{lcm}(a, b) = ab/\text{gcd}(a, b)$

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Proof

- Let $d = \text{gcd}(a, b)$, $a = dp$, $b = dq$



lcm and gcd

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If $a, b > 0$, then $\text{lcm}(a, b) = ab/\text{gcd}(a, b)$

Proof

- Let $d = \text{gcd}(a, b)$, $a = dp$, $b = dq$
- Then $m = ab/d = pb = qa$ is a multiple of a and b



lcm and gcd

Lemma

If $a, b > 0$, then $\text{lcm}(a, b) = ab/\text{gcd}(a, b)$

Proof

- Let $d = \text{gcd}(a, b)$, $a = dp$, $b = dq$
- Then $m = ab/d = pb = qa$ is a multiple of a and b
- If there was a smaller multiple $\bar{m} < m$, then $\bar{d} = ab/\bar{m} > d$ would be a common divisor: $a/\bar{d} = \bar{m}/b$, $b/\bar{d} = \bar{m}/a$



Outline

Least Common Multiple

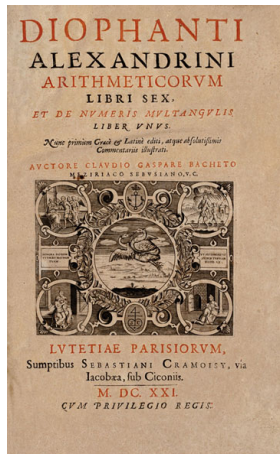
Diophantine Equations: Examples

Diophantine Equations: Theorem

Modular Division

Diophantine Equations

A **Diophantine equation**
is an equation where only
integer solutions are al-
lowed



Diophantine Equations: Examples

- 1 apple costs 22 pesos

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- 1 apple costs 22 pesos
- You only have 3-peso bills

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Diophantine Equations: Examples

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- $3x = 22 + 5y$, x, y are non-negative integers

Diophantine Equations: Examples

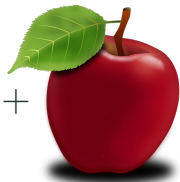
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$\times 9 =$



$\times 1 +$



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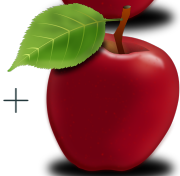
$\times 1 +$



$\times 14 =$





$\times 4 +$



Diophantine Equations: Examples



RECEIPT	
8 Lamps	
Each	\$49.36
Total	\$394.88

Diophantine Equations: Examples

RECEIPT	
 8 Lamps	
Each	\$49.36
Total	 \$7.28



- x lamps, each 4936 ¢

Diophantine Equations: Examples

RECEIPT	
 Lamps	
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- x lamps, each 4936 ¢
- $100 \leq y < 1000$

Diophantine Equations: Examples

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- Total: $1000y + 728$ ¢

Diophantine Equations: Examples

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 Lamps	
Each	\$49.36
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- $100 \leq y < 1000$
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- $4936x = 1000y + 728$,
 x, y are non-negative integers,
 $100 \leq y < 1000$

Diophantine Equations: Examples

RECEIPT	
98 Lamps	
Each	\$49.36
Total	\$4837.28

- x lamps, each 4936 ¢
- $100 \leq y < 1000$
- Total: $1000y + 728$ ¢
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 x, y are non-negative integers,
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- $187x + 55y = 45$, x and y are integers

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- $187x + 55y = 45$, x and y are integers
 - No solutions!

Diophantine Equations: Examples

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 - $187 \cdot 3 + 55 \cdot (-8) = 121$
 - $187 \cdot (-2) + 55 \cdot 9 = 121$
 - Infinitely many solutions!
- $187x + 55y = 45$, x and y are integers
 - No solutions!

When does a Diophantine equation have solutions?

Outline

Least Common Multiple

Diophantine Equations: Examples

Diophantine Equations: Theorem

Modular Division

Solutions of Diophantine Equations

Theorem

Given integers a, b, c (at least one of a and $b \neq 0$), the Diophantine equation

$$ax + by = c$$

has a solution (where x and y are integers) if and only if

$$\gcd(a, b) \mid c.$$

Proof of Theorem

Proof

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

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

$\Rightarrow a = dp$ and $b = dq$, thus,

$$c = ax + by = d(px + qy)$$

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\Leftarrow Extended Euclid's algorithm:

$$a\bar{x} + b\bar{y} = d$$

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$$c = ax + by = d(px + qy)$$

\Leftarrow Extended Euclid's algorithm:

$$a\bar{x} + b\bar{y} = d$$

If $c = td$, then $x = t \cdot \bar{x}, y = t \cdot \bar{y}$:

$$ax + by = t(a\bar{x} + b\bar{y}) = td = c$$



Finding a Solution

- $10x + 6y = 14$

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 $\gcd(391, 299) = 23 = 391 \cdot (-3) + 299 \cdot 4$

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 - $x = -7, y = 14$
- $391x + 299y = -69$
 - Extended Euclid's Algorithm:
 $\gcd(391, 299) = 23 = 391 \cdot (-3) + 299 \cdot 4$
 - $-69 = 391 \cdot (-3) \cdot (-3) + 299 \cdot 4 \cdot (-3)$
 - $x = 9, y = -12$
 - But $x = -4, y = 5$ is also a solution. How do we find **all** solutions?

Euclid's Lemma

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

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- $axb + nyb = b$

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Proof

- From Extended Euclid's algorithm (a, n) :
- $ax + ny = 1$
- $axb + nyb = b$
- From $ab = kn$,
$$b = axb + nyb = n(xk + yb)$$



Finding All Solution

Theorem

Let $\gcd(a, b) = d$, $a = dp$, $b = dq$. If (x_0, y_0) is a solution of the Diophantine equation $ax + by = c$:

$$ax_0 + by_0 = c ,$$

then all the solutions have the form

$$a(x_0 + tq) + b(y_0 - tp) = c ,$$

where t is an arbitrary integer.

Proof of Theorem

Proof

- $a = dp, b = dq, ax_0 + by_0 = c$

Proof of Theorem

Proof

- $a = dp, b = dq, ax_0 + by_0 = c$
- For any integer t ,

$$\begin{aligned} & a(x_0 + tq) + b(y_0 - tp) \\ &= ax_0 + by_0 + t(aq - bp) \\ &= c + t(dpq - dpq) = c \end{aligned}$$

is a solution

Proof of Theorem

Proof (continued)

- Consider 2 solutions: (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)

Proof of Theorem

Proof (continued)

- Consider 2 solutions: (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)
- $a(x_1 - x_2) + b(y_1 - y_2) = c - c = 0$

Proof of Theorem

Proof (continued)

- Consider 2 solutions: (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)
- $a(x_1 - x_2) + b(y_1 - y_2) = c - c = 0$
- $p(x_1 - x_2) + q(y_1 - y_2) = 0$

Proof of Theorem

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- $p(x_1 - x_2) + q(y_1 - y_2) = 0$
- $\gcd(p, q) = 1$

Proof of Theorem

Proof (continued)

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- $a(x_1 - x_2) + b(y_1 - y_2) = c - c = 0$
- $p(x_1 - x_2) + q(y_1 - y_2) = 0$
- $\gcd(p, q) = 1$
- By Euclid's lemma: $x_1 - x_2 = tq$

Proof of Theorem

Proof (continued)

- Consider 2 solutions: (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)
- $a(x_1 - x_2) + b(y_1 - y_2) = c - c = 0$
- $p(x_1 - x_2) + q(y_1 - y_2) = 0$
- $\gcd(p, q) = 1$
- By Euclid's lemma: $x_1 - x_2 = tq$
- Then $y_1 - y_2 = -tp$



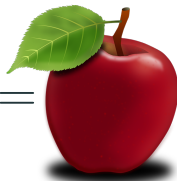
Example



$\times 9 +$



$\times 1 =$



Example



- $3x + 5y = 22$

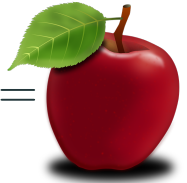
Example



$\times 9 +$



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- $3x + 5y = 22$
- $x_0 = 9, y_0 = -1$

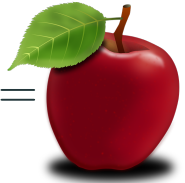
Example



$\times 9 +$



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- $3x + 5y = 22$
- $x_0 = 9, y_0 = -1$
- $a = 3, b = 5, d = 1$

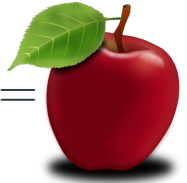
Example



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- $3x + 5y = 22$
- $x_0 = 9, y_0 = -1$
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- $a = dp, b = dq, p = 3, q = 5$

Example



- $3x + 5y = 22$
- $x_0 = 9, y_0 = -1$
- $a = 3, b = 5, d = 1$
- $a = dp, b = dq, p = 3, q = 5$
- All solutions:

$$x = x_0 + tq = 9 + 5t$$

$$y = y_0 - tp = -1 - 3t$$

Example

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Example

- All solutions:

$$x = x_0 + tq = 9 + 5t$$

$$y = y_0 - tp = -1 - 3t$$

- If we want $x \geq 0$ and $y \leq 0$, then take

$$9 + 5t \geq 0$$

$$-1 - 3t \leq 0$$

Example

- All solutions:

$$x = x_0 + tq = 9 + 5t$$

$$y = y_0 - tp = -1 - 3t$$

- If we want $x \geq 0$ and $y \leq 0$, then take

$$9 + 5t \geq 0$$

$$-1 - 3t \leq 0$$

- That is, $t \geq -1/3$, or $t \geq 0$

Outline

Least Common Multiple

Diophantine Equations: Examples

Diophantine Equations: Theorem

Modular Division

Division mod 7

×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	0	2	4	6	1	3	5
3	0	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	0	4	1	5	2	6	3
5	0	5	3	1	6	4	2
6	0	6	5	4	3	2	1

Division mod 7

\times	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	0	2	4	6	1	3	5
3	0	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	0	4	1	5	2	6	3
5	0	5	3	1	6	4	2
6	0	6	5	4	3	2	1

- Given $a \neq 0$ and b , there exists x such that $a \times x \equiv b \pmod{7}$

Division mod 7

\times	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	0	2	4	6	1	3	5
3	0	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	0	4	1	5	2	6	3
5	0	5	3	1	6	4	2
6	0	6	5	4	3	2	1

- Given $a \neq 0$ and b , there exists x such that $a \times x \equiv b \pmod{7}$
- x plays the role of modular division $x = b/a \pmod{7}$

Division mod 6

\times	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	4	0	2	4
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	4	2	0	4	2
5	0	5	4	3	2	1

Division mod 6

\times	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	4	0	2	4
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	4	2	0	4	2
5	0	5	4	3	2	1

- $2/5 \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$.
Indeed, $4 \times 5 \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$

Division mod 6

\times	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	4	0	2	4
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	4	2	0	4	2
5	0	5	4	3	2	1

- $2/5 \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$.
Indeed, $4 \times 5 \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$
- But there is no x s.t. $3 \times x \equiv 1 \pmod{6}$

Division mod 6

\times	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	4	0	2	4
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	4	2	0	4	2
5	0	5	4	3	2	1

- $2/5 \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$.
Indeed, $4 \times 5 \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$
- But there is no x s.t. $3 \times x \equiv 1 \pmod{6}$
- We can't divide 1 by 3 modulo 6!

Multiplicative Inverse

- A **multiplicative inverse** of $a \bmod n$ is \bar{a} s.t.

$$a \times \bar{a} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

Multiplicative Inverse

- A **multiplicative inverse** of $a \bmod n$ is \bar{a} s.t.

$$a \times \bar{a} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

- If a has a multiplicative inverse \bar{a} , then one can divide by a :

$$b/a \equiv b \times \bar{a} \pmod{n}$$

Multiplicative Inverse

- A **multiplicative inverse** of $a \bmod n$ is \bar{a} s.t.

$$a \times \bar{a} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

- If a has a multiplicative inverse \bar{a} , then one can divide by a :

$$b/a \equiv b \times \bar{a} \pmod{n}$$

- Indeed, for every b ,

$$b/a \times a \equiv b \times \bar{a} \times a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

Uniqueness of Inverses

Lemma

If a has a multiplicative inverse, then it is unique

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Proof

If x and y are multiplicative inverses of a , then

$$x = x \times (a \times y) = (x \times a) \times y = y$$



Existence of Inverses

Theorem

a has a multiplicative inverse modulo n if and only if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$

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- For fixed a and n , this Diophantine equation has a solution (x) iff $\gcd(a, n) \mid 1$



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 - Now $x \equiv b/a \equiv b \times s \pmod{n}$

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- Indeed, $8 \times 2 \equiv 7 \pmod{9}$