

Geoffrey Parker - grp352  
HW 6: 1.38-1.40, 1.48, 1.50, 1.51, 1.53, 1.54  
M328K  
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**1.38 Theorem.** *Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers. If  $(a, b) = 1$ , then there exist integers  $x$  and  $y$  such that  $ax + by = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers with  $(a, b) = 1$ . We will show that there exist integers  $x$  and  $y$  such that  $ax + by = 1$ . First, let  $S$  be the set of natural numbers of the form  $ax + by$  for any integers  $x$  and  $y$ . Now we will show that  $S$  is not empty. Because  $(a, b) = 1$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  cannot both be 0, so assume that  $|a| > 0$ . If  $a$  is positive, then  $a1 + b0$  will be in  $S$ , and if  $a$  is negative, then  $a(-1) + b0$  will be an element of  $S$ .

Since  $S$  is a non-empty subset of the natural numbers, then by the Well Ordering Axiom  $S$  has a least element, which we will call  $k$ . Since  $k$  is an element of  $S$ , it can be expressed as  $k = ax_0 + by_0$  for some integers  $x_0$  and  $y_0$ . Then by the Division Algorithm there exist integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that  $a = qk + r$  and  $0 \leq r < k$ . By substitution, this gives us  $a = q(ax_0 + by_0) + r$ , so  $r = a - q(ax_0 + by_0) = a(1 - qx_0) + b(y_0)$ . Now if we let  $x_1 = 1 - qx_0$  and  $y_1 = y_0$ , then we see that  $r = ax_1 + by_1$ . Assume by way of contradiction that  $r > 0$ . In this case,  $r$  is a natural number, and thus an element of the set  $S$ . However  $r < k$ , which is the least element of the set  $S$ , so we have a contradiction. Because  $0 \leq r$  and not  $r > 0$ ,  $r$  must be 0. Therefore  $a = qk$ , and so  $k \mid a$ . By similar logic, we can also establish that  $k \mid b$ . Now we have that  $k \mid a$  and  $k \mid b$ , so  $k$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ . However, because  $(a, b) = 1$ , it must be that  $k \leq 1$ . And because  $k$  is an element of  $S$ , which is a subset of the natural numbers,  $k \geq 1$ . Therefore  $k = ax_0 + by_0 = 1$ .  $\square$

**1.39 Theorem.** *Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers. If there exist integers  $x$  and  $y$  with  $ax + by = 1$ , then  $(a, b) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$  with  $ax + by = 1$ . We will show that  $(a, b) = 1$ . First, let  $d = (a, b)$ . Since  $d \mid a$  and  $d \mid b$ , then by theorem 1.6  $d \mid ax$  and  $d \mid ay$ . So by theorem 1.1,  $d \mid ax + by$ , meaning  $d \mid 1$ . Because  $d = (a, b)$ ,  $d$  cannot be 0. Therefore  $d = (a, b) = 1$ .  $\square$

**1.40 Theorem.** *For any integers  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0, there are integers  $x$  and  $y$  such that*

$$ax + by = (a, b).$$

*Proof.* Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers not both 0. First, we will redefine the Euclidean Algorithm as a collection of sequences, with a couple of extensions. Call it the Extended Euclidean Algorithm. Let  $i$ ,  $j$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$  be sequences of integers, defined as follows:  $i_k = j_{k-1}$ ,  $j_k = r_{k-1}$ , use the division algorithm to find  $q_k$  and  $r_k$  such that  $i_k = j_k q_k + r_k$ ,  $x_k = x_{k-2} - q_k x_{k-1}$ , and  $y_k = y_{k-2} - q_k y_{k-1}$ . Now take these initial values:  $i_2 = a$ ,  $j_2 = b$ ,  $x_0 = 1$ ,  $y_0 = 0$ ,  $x_1 = 0$ , and  $y_1 = 1$ . In effect, by filling out these sequences until you find a  $k$  such that  $r_k = 0$ , you are performing the Euclidean Algorithm. In addition, we will use induction to prove that for any  $k \geq 2$ ,  $r_k = ax_k + by_k$ .

As a base case, take  $k = 2$  and  $k = 3$ . This gives us:

$$i_2 = j_2 q_2 + r_2$$

$$r_2 = i_2 - q_2 j_2$$

$$r_2 = a - q_2 b$$

$$r_2 = (ax_0 + by_0) - q_2(ax_1 + by_1)$$

$$r_2 = a(x_0 - q_2 x_1) + b(y_0 + q_2 y_1)$$

$$r_2 = ax_2 + by_2$$

$$i_3 = j_2$$

$$j_3 = r_2$$

$$i_3 = j_3 q_3 + r_3$$

$$r_3 = i_3 - q_3 j_3$$

$$r_3 = b - q_3 r_2$$

$$r_3 = (ax_1 + by_1) - q_3(ax_2 + by_2)$$

$$r_3 = a(x_1 - q_3 x_2) + b(y_1 - q_3 y_2)$$

$$r_3 = ax_3 + by_3$$

Our induction hypothesis is that there exists some integer  $N \geq 3$  such that  $r_N = ax_N + by_N$ . We must now show that  $r_{N+1} = ax_{N+1} + by_{N+1}$ .

$$r_N = ax_N + by_N$$

$$i_{N+1} = j_N$$

$$j_{N+1} = r_N$$

$$i_{N+1} = q_{N+1} j_{N+1} + r_{N+1}$$

$$r_{N+1} = i_{N+1} - q_{N+1} j_{N+1}$$

$$r_{N+1} = r_{N-1} - q_{N+1} r_N$$

$$r_{N+1} = (ax_{N-1} + by_{N-1}) - q_{N+1}(ax_N + by_N)$$

$$r_{N+1} = a(x_{N-1} - q_{N+1} x_N) + b(y_{N-1} - q_{N+1} y_N)$$

$$r_{N+1} = ax_{N+1} + by_{N+1}$$

Now suppose we let  $M$  be an integer such that  $r_M = 0$ . Since this is the Euclidean Algorithm such an  $M$  must exist, and this means that  $(a, b) = j_M = r_{M-1} = ax_{M-1} + by_{M-1}$ .  $\square$

**1.48 Theorem.** *Given integers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  with  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0, there exist integers  $x$  and  $y$  that satisfy the equation  $ax + by = c$  if and only if  $(a, b) | c$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0.

First assume  $(a, b) | c$ . Then, by theorem 1.40, there exist integers  $x_0$  and  $y_0$  that satisfy  $ax_0 + by_0 = (a, b)$ . And by the definition of divides,  $c = (a, b)k$  for some integer  $k$ . So  $c = k(ax_0 + by_0) = ax_0k + by_0k$ . Let the integers  $x$  and  $y$  be  $x_0k$  and  $y_0k$ . Therefore  $ax + by = c$ .

Now assume by way of contradiction that  $ax + by = c$  and  $(a, b) \nmid c$ . Let  $d = (a, b)$ . Then by the definition of divides, there exist integers  $j$  and  $k$  such that  $c = jdx + kdy = d(jx + ky)$ . Since  $(jx + ky)$  is an integer,  $d | c$ , which contradicts our assumption. Therefore if  $ax + by = c$ , then  $(a, b) | c$ .  $\square$

**1.50 Exercise (Euler).** *A farmer lays out the sum of 1,770 crowns in purchasing horses and oxen. He pays 31 crowns for each horse and 21 crowns for each ox. What are the possible numbers of horses and oxen that the farmer bought?*

*Solution.* Let  $x$  be the number of horses and  $y$  be the number of oxen. So  $1770 = 31x + 21y$ .

$$x = 9, y = 71$$

$$x = 30, y = 40$$

$$x = 51, y = 9$$

$\square$

**1.51 Theorem.** Let  $a, b, c, x_0$ , and  $y_0$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0 such that  $ax_0 + by_0 = c$ . Then the integers

$$x = x_0 + \frac{b}{(a, b)} \text{ and } y = y_0 - \frac{a}{(a, b)}$$

also satisfy the linear Diophantine equation  $ax + by = c$ .

*Proof.* Let  $a, b, c, x_0$ , and  $y_0$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0 such that  $ax_0 + by_0 = c$ . Also let  $x = x_0 + \frac{b}{(a, b)}$  and  $y = y_0 - \frac{a}{(a, b)}$ . So all the following equations are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned} & ax_0 + by_0 \\ & ax_0 + by_0 + \frac{ab}{(a, b)} - \frac{ab}{(a, b)} \\ & ax_0 + \frac{ab}{(a, b)} + by_0 - \frac{ab}{(a, b)} \\ & a\left(x_0 + \frac{b}{(a, b)}\right) + b\left(y_0 - \frac{a}{(a, b)}\right) \\ & ax + by \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $ax + by = c$ .

□

**1.53 Theorem.** Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0. If  $x = x_0, y = y_0$  is an integer solution to the equation  $ax + by = c$  (that is,  $ax_0 + by_0 = c$ ) then for every integer  $k$ , the numbers

$$x = x_0 + \frac{kb}{(a, b)} \text{ and } y = y_0 - \frac{ka}{(a, b)}$$

are integers that also satisfy the linear Diophantine equation  $ax + by = c$ . Moreover, every solution to the linear Diophantine equation  $ax + by = c$  is of this form.

*Proof.* Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not both 0. Let  $S$  be the set of all pairs of integers  $\langle x, y \rangle$  such that  $x$  and  $y$  satisfy the equation  $ax + by = c$ . Let  $\langle x_0, y_0 \rangle$  be an element of  $S$ . Let  $x_k = x_0 + \frac{kb}{(a, b)}$  and  $y_k = y_0 - \frac{ka}{(a, b)}$ . We will show both that for all  $k$ ,  $\langle x_k, y_k \rangle$  is an element of  $S$  and that all elements of  $S$  may be expressed in the form  $\langle x_k, y_k \rangle$ .

First, for any  $\langle x_k, y_k \rangle$ , the following equations are equivalent.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & ax_k + by_k \\
 & a(x_0 + \frac{kb}{(a,b)}) + b(y_0 - \frac{ka}{(a,b)}) \\
 & ax_0 + \frac{akb}{(a,b)} + by_0 - \frac{bka}{(a,b)} \\
 & ax_0 + by_0 + \frac{abk}{(a,b)} - \frac{abk}{(a,b)} \\
 & ax_0 + by_0
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $ax_0 + by_0 = c$ ,  $ax_k + by_k = c$ , so  $\langle x_k, y_k \rangle$  is an element of  $S$ .

Now consider any pair of integers  $\langle x', y' \rangle$  which is an element of  $S$ . Once again, the following equations are all equivalent.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & ax' + by' \\
 & ax' + by' + \frac{abk}{(a,b)} - \frac{abk}{(a,b)} \quad \text{for some integer } k \\
 & ax' + \frac{akb}{(a,b)} + by' - \frac{bka}{(a,b)} \\
 & a(x' + \frac{kb}{(a,b)}) + b(y' - \frac{ka}{(a,b)}) \\
 & ax_k + by_k
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore any pair of integers  $\langle x', y' \rangle$  in  $S$  can be expressed as  $\langle x_k, y_k \rangle$ . □

**1.54 Exercise.** Find all integer solutions to the equation  $24x + 9y = 33$ .

*Proof.* Using the Extended Euclidean Algorithm from theorem 1.40, we find that  $3 = 24(-1) + 9(3)$ , where  $(24, 9) = 3$ . From here we see that  $33 = (3)11 = 3(24(-1) + 9(3)) = 24(-3) + 9(9)$ . Therefore by theorem 1.53, we see that all integer solutions to the equation  $24x + 9y = 33$  will be of the form  $x_k = -3 + \frac{k9}{3} = -3 + 3k$  and  $y_k = 9 - \frac{k24}{3} = 9 - 8k$ . □