

# Greatest Common Divisor, Linear Diophantine Equations, Congruence and Modular Arithmetic & The RSA Public-key Encryption Scheme

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# The Greatest Common Divisor

## Proposition 1

For all real numbers  $x$ , we have  $x \leq |x|$ .

## Proposition 2 - Bounds by Divisibility (BBD)

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ , if  $b|a$  and  $a \neq 0$  then  $b \leq |a|$ .

## Proposition 3 - Division Algorithm (DA)

For all integers  $a$  and positive integers  $b$ , there exist unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that

$$a = qb + r, \quad 0 \leq r < b$$

# The Greatest Common Divisor

## Proposition 4 - GCD with Remainders (GCD WR)

For all integers  $a, b, q$  and  $r$ , if  $a = qb + r$ , then  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, r)$ .

## Proposition 5 - GCD Characterization Theorem (GCD CT)

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ , and non-negative integers  $d$ , if

- $d$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ , and
- there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $as + bt = d$ ,

then  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

## Proposition 6 - Bézout's Lemma (BL)

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ , there exists integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $as + bt = d$ , where  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

# The Greatest Common Divisor

## Proposition 7 - Common Divisor Divides GCD (CDDGCD)

For all integers  $a, b$  and  $c$ , if  $c|a$  and  $c|b$ , then  $c|\gcd(a, b)$ .

## Proposition 8 - Coprimeness Characterization Theorem (CCT)

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$  if and only if there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $as + bt = 1$ .

## Proposition 9 - Division by the GCD (DB GCD)

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ , not both zero,  $\gcd(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}) = 1$ , where  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

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## Proposition 10 - Coprimeness and Divisibility (CAD)

For all integers  $a, b$  and  $c$ , if  $c|ab$  and  $\gcd(a, c) = 1$ , then  $c|b$ .

## Proposition 11 - Prime Factorization (PF)

Every natural number  $n > 1$  can be written as a product of primes.

## Proposition 12 - Euclid's Theorem (ET)

The number of primes is infinite.

## Corollary 13 - Euclid's Lemma (EL)

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$ , then prime numbers  $p$ , if  $p|ab$ , then  $p|a$  or  $p|b$

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## Proposition 14

Let  $p$  be a prime number,  $n$  be a natural number, and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be integers. If  $p|(a_1 a_2 \dots a_n)$ , then  $p|a_i$  for some  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

## Theorem 15 - Unique Factorization Theorem (UFT)

Every natural number  $n > 1$  can be written as a product of prime factors uniquely, apart from the order of factors.

## Proposition 16 - Finding a Prime Factor (FPF)

Every natural number  $n > 1$  is either prime or contains a prime factor less than or equal to  $\sqrt{n}$ .

# The Greatest Common Divisor

## Proposition 17 - Divisors From Prime Factorization (DFPF)

Let  $n \geq 2$  and  $c \geq 1$  be positive integers, and let

$$n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$$

be the unique representation of  $n$  as a product of distinct primes  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k$ , where  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k$  are positive integers. The integer  $c$  is a positive divisor of  $n$  if and only if  $c$  can be represented as a product.

$$c = p_1^{\beta_1} p_2^{\beta_2} \dots p_k^{\beta_k}, \quad \text{where } 0 \leq \beta_i \leq \alpha_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

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## Proposition 18 - GCD From Prime Factorization (GCD PF)

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be positive integers, and let

$$a = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}, \quad \text{and} \quad b = p_1^{\beta_1} p_2^{\beta_2} \dots p_k^{\beta_k},$$

be ways to express  $a$  and  $b$  as products of the distinct primes  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k$ , where some or all of the exponents may be zero. We have

$$\gcd(a, b) = p_1^{\gamma_1} p_2^{\gamma_2} \dots p_k^{\gamma_k} \text{ where } \gamma_i = \min\{\alpha_i, \beta_i\} \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$



# The Greatest Common Divisor

## Extended Euclidean Algorithm (EEA)

**input:** Integers  $a, b$  with  $a \geq b > 0$ .

**Initialize:** Construct a table with four columns so that

- the columns are labelled  $x, y, r$  and  $q$ ,
- the first row in the table is  $(1, 0, a, 0)$
- the second row in the table is  $(0, 1, b, 0)$

**Repeat:** For  $i \geq 3$ ,

- $q_i \leftarrow \left\lfloor \frac{r_{i-2}}{r_{i-1}} \right\rfloor$
- $\text{Row}_i \leftarrow \text{Row}_{i-2} - q_i \text{Row}_{i-1}$

**Stop:** When  $r_i = 0$ .

**Output:** Set  $n = i - 1$ . Then  $\gcd(a, b) = r_n$ , and  $s = x_n$  and  $t = y_n$  are a certificate of correctness.

# Linear Diophantine Equations

## Theorem 1 - Linear Diophantine Equation Theorem, Part 1 (LDET 1)

For all integers  $a, b$  and  $c$ , with  $a$  and  $b$  not both zero, the linear Diophantine equation

$$ax + by = c$$

(in variables  $x$  and  $y$ ) has an integer solution if and only if  $d|c$ , where  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

## Theorem 2 - Linear Diophantine Equation Theorem (LDET 2)

Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not zero, and define  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ . If  $x = x_0$  and  $y = y_0$  is one particular integer solution to the linear Diophantine equation  $ax + by = c$ , then the set of all solutions is given by

$$\{(x, y) : x = x_0 + \frac{b}{d}n, y = y_0 - \frac{a}{d}n, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

# Congruence and Modular Arithmetic

## Theorem 1 - Linear Diophantine Equation Theorem, Part 1 (LDET 1)

For all integers  $a, b$  and  $c$ , with  $a$  and  $b$  not both zero, the linear Diophantine equation

$$ax + by = c$$

(in variables  $x$  and  $y$ ) has an integer solution if and only if  $d|c$ , where  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

## Theorem 2 - Linear Diophantine Equation Theorem (LDET 2)

Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be integers with  $a$  and  $b$  not zero, and define  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ . If  $x = x_0$  and  $y = y_0$  is one particular integer solution to the linear Diophantine equation  $ax + by = c$ , then the set of all solutions is given by

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