

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

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

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

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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} .

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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

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

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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

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