

### 1. Paper GCD

Given a sheet of paper such as this one, and no rulers, describe a method to find the GCD of the width and the height of the paper. You can fold or tear the paper however you want, and ultimately you should produce a square piece whose side lengths are equal to the GCD.

### 2. Baby Fermat

Assume that  $a$  does have a multiplicative inverse  $(\text{mod } m)$ . Let us prove that its multiplicative inverse can be written as  $a^k (\text{mod } m)$  for some  $k \geq 0$ .

- Consider the sequence  $a, a^2, a^3, \dots (\text{mod } m)$ . Prove that this sequence has repetitions.
- Assuming that  $a^i \equiv a^j (\text{mod } m)$ , where  $i > j$ , what can you say about  $a^{i-j} (\text{mod } m)$ ?
- Prove that the multiplicative inverse can be written as  $a^k (\text{mod } m)$ . What is  $k$  in terms of  $i$  and  $j$ ?

### 3. Extended Euclid

In this problem we will consider the extended Euclid's algorithm.

1. Note that  $x \text{ mod } y$ , by definition, is always  $x$  minus a multiple of  $y$ . So, in the execution of Euclid's algorithm, each newly introduced value can always be expressed as a "combination" of the previous two, like so:

$$\begin{aligned} &gcd(2328, 440) \\ &= gcd(440, 128) [128 \equiv 2328 \text{ mod } 440 \equiv 2328 - 5 \times 440] \\ &= gcd(128, 56) [56 \equiv 440 \text{ mod } 128 \equiv 440 - \text{ } \times 128] \\ &= gcd(56, 16) [16 \equiv 128 \text{ mod } 56 \equiv 128 - \text{ } \times 56] \\ &= gcd(16, 8) [8 \equiv 56 \text{ mod } 16 \equiv 56 - \text{ } \times 16] \\ &= gcd(8, 0) [0 \equiv 16 \text{ mod } 8 \equiv 16 - 2 \times 8] \\ &= 8. \end{aligned}$$

(Fill in the blanks)

2. Now working back up from the bottom, we will express the final gcd above as a combination of the two arguments on each of the previous lines:

$$8$$

$$= 1 \times 8 + 0 \times 0 = 1 \times 8 + (16 - 2 \times 8)$$

$$= 1 \times 16 - 1 \times 8$$

$$= \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 56 + \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 16 \text{ [Hint: Remember, } 8 = 56 - 3 \times 16. \text{ Substitute this into the above line...]}$$

$$= \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 128 + \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 56 \text{ [Hint: Remember, } 16 = 128 - 2 \times 56]$$

$$= \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 440 + \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 128$$

$$= \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 2328 + \text{ \_\_\_\_\_\_ } \times 440$$

3. In the same way as just illustrated in the previous two parts, calculate the gcd of 17 and 38, and determine how to express this as a “combination” of 17 and 38.
4. What does this imply, in this case, about the multiplicative inverse of 17, in arithmetic mod 38?

#### 4. Product of Two

Suppose that  $p > 2$  is a prime number and  $S$  is a set of numbers between 1 and  $p - 1$  such that  $|S| > \frac{p}{2}$ . Prove that any number  $1 \leq x \leq p - 1$  can be written as the product of two (not necessarily distinct) numbers in  $S$ , mod  $p$ .