

Theorem 4.17. *Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then there exists integers m and n such that $\gcd(a, b) = ma + nb$.*

Example 4.18. Find m and n such that $630m + 196n = \gcd(630, 196)$. In Example 4.15 it was shown that $\gcd(630, 196) = 14$. Hence,

$$630 = 3(196) + 42$$

$$196 = 4(42) + 28$$

$$42 = 1(28) + 14$$

$$28 = 2(14) + 0.$$

Rewriting the previous equations we get,

$$630 - 3(196) = 42$$

$$196 - 4(42) = 28$$

$$42 - 1(28) = 14.$$

Now use backwards substitution to get,

$$42 - 1(196 - 4(42)) = 14 \quad \text{plug in expression}$$

$$5(42) - 1(196) = 14 \quad \text{simplify}$$

$$5(630 - 3(196)) - 1(196) = 14 \quad \text{plug in expression}$$

$$5(630) - 4(196) = 14 \quad \text{simplify}$$

Therefore $m = 5$ and $n = -4$. It is important to write $m = 5$ and not -4 and $n = -4$ and not $n = 4$.

Problem 4.19. *Find integers m and n such that $-19m + 119n = 1$.*