Alternative Methods for Calculating Inverses

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The first notes that it is not necessary to use a formal algorithmic approach, we can just *unwind* the equations to find the inverse.

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= $n_{k-1} - (m_{k-1} - n_{k-1} q_{k-1}) q_k$
= $-m_{k-1} q_k + n_{k-1} (1 + q_{k-1} q_k) \dots$

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$$r_3 = 1 = 4 - \mathbf{1}(3)$$

Find the inverse of $15 \mod 26$.

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Iterating "backwards" gives:

Step "3": 1 = 4 - 1(3)

Step "2": 1 = 4 - 1(11 - 2(4))

 $r_0 = 11 = 26 - 1(15)$

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The backwards iteration technique we just saw is easier to implement "by hand" than the formal technique we learnt in class. In reality, though, it's essentially the same as the technique we learnt in class.

In both techniques, we first ran the extended gcd algorithm until we found that the GCD equals 1, and then ran the second part of the algorithm backwards, using the intermediate results calculated by the initial GCD algorithm

On the next page we wil see a one-stage method that only runs forwards and not backwards. See if you can figure out why it works.

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- Continue calculation for one step beyond last step of Euclidean algorithm.

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