

1. Let a, b, c be integers such that a and b are not zero.

Prove that if $a|b$ and $b|c$ then $a|c$.

We are given that $a|b$ and $b|c$. So $b = ak$ and $c = bj$ for some $k, j \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus

$$c = bj = (ak)j = a(kj).$$

This implies that $a|c$, since $kj \in \mathbb{Z}$.

2. Given any two *odd* integers n and m , prove that $n^2 + m^2$ cannot be a perfect square.

First, observe that for any odd integer n , we have that n^2 equals $4q + 1$ for some $q \in \mathbb{Z}$. This is because if n is odd, then $n = 2k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, which implies $n^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 4(k^2 + k) + 1$.

Given any two odd integers n and m , we have that $n^2 + m^2$ is equal to

$$(4q_1 + 1) + (4q_2 + 1) = 4(q_1 + q_2) + 2.$$

Thus $n^2 + m^2$ is always of the form $4q + 2$ for some $q \in \mathbb{Z}$. We saw in class that squares can only be of the form $4q$ or $4q + 1$. Thus $n^2 + m^2$ cannot be a square (remainders when dividing by 4 are unique, so $n^2 + m^2$ cannot be of the form $4q + 2$ as well as another form).

3. (a) Use the Euclidean algorithm to show that $(514, 159) = 1$.

(b) Run the Euclidean algorithm backwards to find one pair of integers x and y such that

$$514x + 159y = 1.$$

- (c) Use your answer in part (b) to find one pair of integers x and y such that

$$514x + 159y = 100.$$

- (d) Find a pair of integers x and y , *different* from the integers you found in part (b), such that

$$514x + 159y = 1.$$

(a)

$$\text{I. } 514 = 3 \cdot 159 + 37$$

$$\text{II. } 159 = 37 \cdot 4 + 11$$

$$\text{III. } 37 = 11 \cdot 3 + 4$$

$$\text{IV. } 11 = 4 \cdot 2 + 3$$

$$\text{V. } 4 = 3 \cdot 1 + 1$$

$$\text{VI. } 3 = 1 \cdot 3 + 0.$$

Therefore, $(514, 159) = (159, 37) = (37, 11) = (11, 4) = (4, 3) = (3, 1) = (1, 0) = 1$.

(b)

$$1 = 4 - 3 \quad (\text{by using equation V})$$

$$1 = 4 - (11 - 2 \cdot 4) = -11 + 3 \cdot 4 \quad (\text{by equation IV})$$

$$1 = -11 + 3 \cdot (37 - 3 \cdot 11) = 3 \cdot 37 - 10 \cdot 11 \quad (\text{by equation III})$$

$$1 = 3 \cdot 37 - 10(159 - 4 \cdot 37) = -10 \cdot 159 + 43 \cdot 37 \quad (\text{by equation II})$$

$$1 = -10 \cdot 159 + 43(514 - 3 \cdot 159) = 43 \cdot 514 - 139 \cdot 159 \quad (\text{by equation I}).$$

Conclusion: $x = 43, y = -139$.

(c) Take the equation $43 \cdot 514 - 139 \cdot 159 = 1$ from part (b) and multiply through by 100.

Then $4300 \cdot 514 - 13900 \cdot 159 = 10$. So $x = 4300, y = -13900$.

(d) Take the equation $43 \cdot 514 - 139 \cdot 159 = 1$ from part (b) and add on the number $-159 \cdot 514 + 514 \cdot 159 = 0$. Then

$$(43 - 159) \cdot 514 + (-139 + 514) \cdot 159 = 1.$$

So $x = 43 - 159, y = -139 + 514$. Other answers are possible.

4. Let n and m be two integers. Prove that any common divisor of n and m also divides (n, m) .

Hint: Use the fact that (n, m) can be written as the linear combination of n and m .

$$\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } nx + my = (n, m).$$

A common divisor of n and m divides both n and m . If $d|n$ and $d|m$ then $n = dq_1$, $m = dq_2$ for some $q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. So $nx + my = (dq_1)x + (dq_2)y = d(q_1x + q_2y)$. Thus d divides $nx + my$. But $nx + my$ equals (n, m) . So $d|(n, m)$.

5. Let n and m be two positive integers. Suppose that $n \leq m$ and $n|(m! + 1)$. Prove that $n = 1$.

Hint: Recall that $m! = m \cdot (m - 1) \cdot (m - 2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1$. First, explain why $n \leq m$ implies that $n|m!$. Next, bring into play the assumption $n|(m! + 1)$. What do $n|m!$ and $n|(m! + 1)$ imply?

We are given that $n \leq m$. This implies that n divides $m!$ (because $m!$ is the product of all integers between 1 and m and n is one of these integers). We are also given that n divides $m! + 1$. Therefore n must divide the difference of these two numbers:

$$n|m! \text{ and } n|(m! + 1) \implies n|(m! + 1 - m!) \implies n|1.$$

The only possible value for n is therefore $n = 1$.

Bonus

6. Let n be a positive integer. Use the Euclidean algorithm to find $(4n^2 + 1, 2n + 1)$.

Hint: Polynomial division will enable you to divide $4x^2 + 1$ by $2x + 1$, etc.

Division of $4n^2 + 1$ by $2n + 1$ gives:

$$4n^2 + 1 = (2n + 1) \cdot (2n - 1) + 2 \quad (\text{remainder}=2).$$

Thus $(4n^2 + 1, 2n + 1) = (2n + 1, 2)$.

Division of $2n + 1$ by 2 gives:

$$2n + 1 = 2 \cdot n + 1 \quad (\text{remainder}=1).$$

Thus $(2n + 1, 2) = (2, 1)$.

Division of 2 by 1 gives:

$$2 = 1 \cdot 2 + 0 \quad (\text{remainder}=0).$$

Thus $(2, 1) = (1, 0) = 1$.

So $(4n^2 + 1, 2n + 1) = (2n + 1, 2) = (2, 1) = (1, 0) = 1$.