

Lecture 22: GCD and linear combinations. Induction proof practice.

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Review: Euclid's algorithm

Using { this notation } for assertions.

```

{a>0 and b>0 }
x := a; y := b;
while x ≠ y {
  { invariant: gcd(x,y) = gcd(a,b) }
  if x > y then x := x - y;
  else y := y - x;
} { gcd(x,y) = gcd(a,b) ∧ x=y }
{ x = gcd(a,b) }

```

Terminates because every iteration decreases $abs(x - y)$, and ...

Invariant maintained because

$$\forall a, b. (a > b \rightarrow gcd(a, b) = gcd(a - b, b))$$

Last assertion follows using $\forall a. gcd(a, a) = a$

GCD and linear combinations

Thm: For any integers a , b there are integers s , t such that $\gcd(a, b) = sa + tb$.

Proof idea: Add variables s , t to Euclid's algorithm, maintaining the invariant that $x = sa + tb$.

```
{a>0 and b>0 }  
x := a; y := b;  
s := 1; t := 0;  
while x  $\neq$  y {  
    { gcd(x,y) = gcd(a,b)  $\wedge$  x = s a + t b }  
    if x > y then { x := x - y; "update s,t — how?" }  
                  else { y := y - x; }  
}  
{ x = gcd(a,b)  $\wedge$  x = s a + t b }
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                else { y := y - x; }  
}  
{ x = gcd(a,b)  $\wedge$  x = s a + t b }
```

One solution

Given precondition $x > y \wedge x = sa + tb$, how to update s, t following assignment $x := x - y$ to restore invariant $x = sa + tb$?

After $x := x - y$ we have $x + y = sa + tb$ (why?),
so $x = sa + tb - y$.

Add variables s', t' and invariant $y = s'a + t'b$. Now

$$\begin{aligned} x &= sa + tb - y && \text{following } x := x - y \\ &= sa + tb - (s'a + t'b) && \text{using new invariant} \\ &= (s - s')a + (t - t')b && \text{by algebra} \end{aligned}$$

So update $s := s - s'$; $t := t - t'$.

The case $y > x$ is symmetric.

The algorithm finds x, s, t such that $x = \gcd(a, b)$ and $x = sa + tb$.

One solution

Given precondition $x > y \wedge x = sa + tb$, how to update s, t following assignment $x := x - y$ to restore invariant $x = sa + tb$?

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Review

If $a \mid b$ and $a \mid c$ then $a \mid (mb + nc)$ for $a, b, c, m, n \in \mathbf{Z}$

For $m \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, $a = (a \text{ div } m) \cdot m + (a \bmod m)$

If $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$ (for positive integer m)
then $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$ and $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$

$(a + b) \bmod m = ((a \bmod m) + (b \bmod m)) \bmod m$

$ab \bmod m = ((a \bmod m)(b \bmod m)) \bmod m$

If $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ then a, b are called *relatively prime*

NEW: Linear combination Thm:

$\forall a, b \in \mathbf{Z}^+. \exists s, t \in \mathbf{Z}. \gcd(a, b) = sa + tb$

Pedestrian proof style

(Be good at this, before indulging in discursive style of textbook.)

Lemma: for $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ and $a \mid bc$ then $a \mid c$.

Proof: (Assume antecedents, prove consequence.)

1. $sa + tb = 1$ (for some s, t) by $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, Lin Comb Thm
2. $sac + tbc = c$ from step 1 using arith
3. $a \mid tbc$ by $a \mid bc$ and property of \mid (what property?)
4. $a \mid sac$ by \mid property (which?)
5. $a \mid (sac + tbc)$ from 3 and 4 by a property of \mid
6. $a \mid c$ from 5 and 2

Not just one thing after another. Step 3 is from an assumption.
So to be utterly clear we're numbering the reasoning steps to make the logical connections clear.

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Another proof of same lemma

Lemma: for $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ and $a \mid bc$ then $a \mid c$.

Proof: (Assume antecedents, prove consequence.)

1. $sa + tb = 1$ (for some s, t) by $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, Lin Comb Thm
2. $a \mid tbc$ by $a \mid bc$ and first property of \mid on review slide
3. $a \mid sac$ by \mid property (which?)
4. $a \mid (sac + tbc)$ from 2 and 3 by \mid property
5. $a \mid c(sa + tb)$ from 4 by arith.
6. $a \mid c$ from 5 and 1 by arith.

Meticulous but more relaxed proof style

(Only mark things than need to be referred to.)

Lemma: for $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ and $a \mid bc$ then $a \mid c$.

Proof:

$sa + tb = 1$... (for some s, t) by $\gcd(a, b) = 1$, Lin Comb Thm

(*) $sac + tbc = c$... from preceding using arith

$a \mid tbc$... by $a \mid bc$ and property of \mid

$a \mid sac$... by another \mid property

$a \mid (sac + tbc)$... by preceding two lines and \mid property

$a \mid c$... from preceding and (*)

Induction exercise

We just proved: If $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ and $a \mid bc$ then $a \mid c$.

Lemma: If p is prime and $p \mid a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$ then $p \mid a_i$ for some i .

Proof by induction on n .

Base case $n = 1$: If $p \mid a_1$ then $p \mid a_1$. (It's “immediate”.)

Case $n > 1$. Hyp: $p \mid a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-1} \rightarrow \exists i (i \in 1..n-1 \wedge (p \mid a_i))$.

Suppose $p \mid a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$, to show $p \mid a_i$ for some i .

Subcase $\gcd(p, a_n) = 1$: Then by previous lemma,

$p \mid a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-1}$ so we can use the induction hypothesis and get $i \in 1..n-1$.

Subcase $\gcd(p, a_n) \neq 1$: Then since p is prime we have $p \mid a_n$.

Aside: If needed, we could have assumed that

$\forall b (p \mid b_1 b_2 \dots b_{n-1} \rightarrow \exists i (p \mid b_i))$ (induct “on length of product”)

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Induction exercises

Exercises 31–34 in sect 4.1 of Rosen.

Prove that 2 divides $n^2 + n$ whenever n is a positive integer.

(Can also be proved for any integer n , by cases on whether n is even: do the even case first.)

Prove that 3 divides $n^3 + 2n$ whenever n is a positive integer.

Prove that 5 divides $n^5 - n$ whenever n is a nonnegative integer.

Prove that 6 divides $n^3 - n$ whenever n is a nonnegative integer.

One solution

Thm: $2 \mid n^2 + n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Proof by induction on n . (By Natalie Barillaro.)

Base case $n = 1$. To prove $2 \mid 1^2 + 1$. Equivalent to $2 \mid 2$, an instance of the lemma $\forall a. a \mid a$.

Induction case. To prove: $2 \mid (n+1)^2 + (n+1)$.

1. $2 \mid n^2 + n$ assume induction hypothesis
2. $(n+1)^2 + (n+1) = (n^2 + n) + (2n+2)$ by algebra
3. $2 \mid 2n+2$ by property of \mid (i.e., $a \mid a$, lin. comb. thm.)
4. $2 \mid (n^2 + n) + (2n+2)$ from 1 and 3 by lin. comb.
5. $2 \mid (n+1)^2 + (n+1)$ from 4 using 2