

Division Algorithm:

Let a be any integer and b be a positive integer. Then there exists unique integers q and r such that

$$a = b \cdot q + r$$

dividend \downarrow | \downarrow remainder
 divisors | quotient

where $0 \leq r < b$.

Proof:

- Contains ≥ 2 parts
- Prove the existence ~~px~~ of the integers q and r .
- To prove q and r are unique

Existence proof:

Consider, a set S

$$S = \{ a - bn \mid (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \wedge (a - bn \geq 0) \}$$

where $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$

Case 1 :-

Suppose $a \geq 0$

then $a = a - b \cdot 0 \in S$. So set S is nonempty.

Case 2

$a < 0$, we know $b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

, $b \geq 1$.

Then $-ba \geq -a$

$\therefore a - ba \geq 0$.

Consequently $a - ba \in S$.

In both cases, S has at least one element so, S is non-empty.

By well ordering principle, which states that for every non-empty set of positive integer has a least element by which we can say that S contains a least element r .

Since $r \in S$, an integer q exists such that $r = a - bq$, where $r \geq 0$.

To prove that $r < b$.

By contradiction:

Assume $r \geq b$

Then $r - b \geq 0$

we know $r = a - bq$

$$r - b \Rightarrow (a - bq) - b = a - b(q+1)$$

which is in the form of $a - bn$
that is ≥ 0 .

So $a - b(q+1) \in S$

by which we know $r - b \in S$.

So $b > 0$, $r - b < r$.

So $r - b < r$ and is in S .

This is a contradiction to our assumption
so $0 \leq r < b$.

Uniqueness proof:

To show q and r are unique.

Let q, q' , r and r' be integers

such that

$$a = bq + r, \quad 0 \leq r < b$$

$$a = bq' + r', \quad 0 \leq r' < b$$

Assume $q > q'$ and $r' - r = b(q - q')$

Since $q > q'$, then $r' - r \geq 0$

But we know $r < b$, $r' < b$
So $r' - r < b$.

Suppose acc to our assumption

$$q > q', \text{ i.e., } q - q' > 1$$

$$\text{Then } b(q - q') \geq b$$

i.e. $r' - r \geq b$, which is
a contradiction to $r' - r < b$.

$$\therefore q \neq q'$$

Assume

$$q' > q \text{ and } r - r' = b(q' - q)$$

Since $q' > q$, then $r' - r^* \geq 0$

But we know $r < b$, $r < b'$
So $r' - r < b$.

Suppose acc to our assumption.

$$q' > q, \text{ ie } q' - q^* > 1$$

$$\text{Then } b(q' - q) \geq b$$

i.e., $r - r' \geq b$, which is a
contradiction to $r - r' \leq b$

$$\therefore q' > q$$

in

The only possibility $q = q'$ and

hence $n = n'$.

The integers q and n are unique.

Although called as division algorithm, we use familiar long division method.

Mod operator :

$a \bmod b = \text{remainder when } a \text{ is divided by } b.$

We know $q = a \text{ div } b \cdot = \lfloor a/b \rfloor \dots \textcircled{1}$

$$r = a \bmod b$$

$$= a - bq$$

$$= a - b \cdot \lfloor a/b \rfloor. \quad [\text{substituting } \textcircled{1}]$$