

Let us get into...

# Number Theory



# Introduction to Number Theory

- Number theory is about **integers** and their properties.
- We will start with the basic principles of
  - divisibility,
  - greatest common divisors,
  - least common multiples, and
  - modular arithmetic
- and look at some relevant algorithms.



# Division

- If  $a$  and  $b$  are integers with  $a \neq 0$ , we say that  $a$  **divides**  $b$  if there is an integer  $c$  so that  $b = ac$ .
- When  $a$  divides  $b$  we say that  $a$  is a **factor** of  $b$  and that  $b$  is a **multiple** of  $a$ .
- The notation  $a \mid b$  means that  $a$  divides  $b$ .
- We write  $a \nmid b$  when  $a$  does not divide  $b$
- (see book for correct symbol).



# Divisibility Theorems

- For integers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  it is true that
  - if  $a \mid b$  and  $a \mid c$ , then  $a \mid (b + c)$ 
    - **Example:**  $3 \mid 6$  and  $3 \mid 9$ , so  $3 \mid 15$ .
  - if  $a \mid b$ , then  $a \mid bc$  for all integers  $c$ 
    - **Example:**  $5 \mid 10$ , so  $5 \mid 20$ ,  $5 \mid 30$ ,  $5 \mid 40$ , ...
  - if  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid c$ , then  $a \mid c$ 
    - **Example:**  $4 \mid 8$  and  $8 \mid 24$ , so  $4 \mid 24$ .
- 



# Primes

- A positive integer  $p$  greater than 1 is called prime if the only positive factors of  $p$  are 1 and  $p$ .
- A positive integer that is greater than 1 and is not prime is called composite.
- The fundamental theorem of arithmetic:
- Every positive integer can be written **uniquely** as the **product of primes**, where the prime factors are written in order of increasing size.



# Primes

- Examples:

$$15 = 3 \cdot 5$$

$$48 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 2^4 \cdot 3$$

$$17 = 17$$

$$100 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 = 2^2 \cdot 5^2$$

$$512 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 2^9$$

$$515 = 5 \cdot 103$$

$$28 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 7$$



# Primes

- If  $n$  is a composite integer, then  $n$  has a prime divisor less than or equal  $\sqrt{n}$
- This is easy to see: if  $n$  is a composite integer, it must have two prime divisors  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  such that  $p_1 \cdot p_2 = n$ .
- $p_1$  and  $p_2$  cannot both be greater than  $\sqrt{n}$ , because then  $p_1 \cdot p_2 > n$ .



# The Division Algorithm

- Let  $a$  be an integer and  $d$  a positive integer.
- Then there are unique integers  $q$  and  $r$ , with  $0 \leq r < d$ , such that  $a = dq + r$ .
- In the above equation,
  - $d$  is called the divisor,
  - $a$  is called the dividend,
  - $q$  is called the quotient, and
  - $r$  is called the remainder.





# The Division Algorithm

- **Example:**

- When we divide 17 by 5, we have

- $17 = 5 \cdot 3 + 2.$

- 17 is the dividend,
- 5 is the divisor,
- 3 is called the quotient, and
- 2 is called the remainder.



# The Division Algorithm

- **Another example:**

- What happens when we divide -11 by 3 ?
- Note that the remainder cannot be negative.
- $-11 = 3 \cdot (-4) + 1$ .
- -11 is the dividend,
- 3 is the divisor,
- -4 is called the quotient, and
- 1 is called the remainder.



# Greatest Common Divisors

- Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers, not both zero.
- The largest integer  $d$  such that  $d \mid a$  and  $d \mid b$  is called the **greatest common divisor** of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- The greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  is denoted by  $\gcd(a, b)$ .
- **Example 1:** What is  $\gcd(48, 72)$  ?
- The positive common divisors of 48 and 72 are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, and 24, so  $\gcd(48, 72) = 24$ .
- **Example 2:** What is  $\gcd(19, 72)$  ?
- The only positive common divisor of 19 and 72 is 1, so  $\gcd(19, 72) = 1$ .



# Greatest Common Divisors

- **Using prime factorizations:**

- $a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$ ,  $b = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$ ,
- where  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_n$  and  $a_i, b_i \in \mathbf{N}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$
- $\gcd(a, b) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$

- **Example:**

$$a = 60 = 2^2 3^1 5^1$$

$$b = 54 = 2^1 3^3 5^0$$

$$\gcd(a, b) = 2^1 3^1 5^0 = 6$$



# Relatively Prime Integers

- **Definition:**

- Two integers  $a$  and  $b$  are **relatively prime** if  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

- **Examples:**

- Are 15 and 28 relatively prime?
  - Yes,  $\gcd(15, 28) = 1$ .
- Are 55 and 28 relatively prime?
  - Yes,  $\gcd(55, 28) = 1$ .
- Are 35 and 28 relatively prime?
  - No,  $\gcd(35, 28) = 7$ .



# Relatively Prime Integers

- **Definition:**

- The integers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are **pairwise relatively prime** if  $\gcd(a_i, a_j) = 1$  whenever  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ .

- **Examples:**

- Are 15, 17, and 27 pairwise relatively prime?
- No, because  $\gcd(15, 27) = 3$ .
- Are 15, 17, and 28 pairwise relatively prime?
- Yes, because  $\gcd(15, 17) = 1$ ,  $\gcd(15, 28) = 1$  and  $\gcd(17, 28) = 1$ .



# Least Common Multiples

- **Definition:**

- The **least common multiple** of the positive integers  $a$  and  $b$  is the smallest positive integer that is divisible by both  $a$  and  $b$ .
- We denote the least common multiple of  $a$  and  $b$  by  $\text{lcm}(a, b)$ .

- **Examples:**

$$\text{lcm}(3, 7) = 21$$

$$\text{lcm}(4, 6) = 12$$

$$\text{lcm}(5, 10) = 10$$



# Least Common Multiples

- **Using prime factorizations:**

- $a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$ ,  $b = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$ ,
- where  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_n$  and  $a_i, b_i \in \mathbf{N}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$
- $\text{lcm}(a, b) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$

- **Example:**

$$a = 60 = 2^2 3^1 5^1$$

$$b = 54 = 2^1 3^3 5^0$$

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = 2^2 3^3 5^1 = 4 \cdot 27 \cdot 5 = 540$$





# GCD and LCM

$$a = 60 = 2^2 \cdot 3^1 \cdot 5^1$$

$$b = 54 = 2^1 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^0$$

$$\gcd(a, b) = 2^1 \cdot 3^1 \cdot 5^0 = 6$$

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = 2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^1 = 540$$

**Theorem:**  $a \cdot b = \gcd(a, b) \cdot \text{lcm}(a, b)$



# Modular Arithmetic

- Let  $a$  be an integer and  $m$  be a positive integer. We denote by  $a \bmod m$  the remainder when  $a$  is divided by  $m$ .

- **Examples:**

$$9 \bmod 4 = 1$$

$$9 \bmod 3 = 0$$

$$9 \bmod 10 = 9$$

$$-13 \bmod 4 = 3$$



# Congruences

- Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers and  $m$  be a positive integer. We say that  **$a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$**  if  $m$  divides  $a - b$ .
- We use the notation  **$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$**  to indicate that  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$ .
- In other words:  
 $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  if and only if  **$a \bmod m = b \bmod m$** .



# Congruences

- Examples:**

- Is it true that  $46 \equiv 68 \pmod{11}$  ?
- Yes, because  $11 \mid (46 - 68)$ .
- Is it true that  $46 \equiv 68 \pmod{22}$ ?
- Yes, because  $22 \mid (46 - 68)$ .
- For which integers  $z$  is it true that  $z \equiv 12 \pmod{10}$ ?
- It is true for any  $z \in \{\dots, -28, -18, -8, 2, 12, 22, 32, \dots\}$

- Theorem:** Let  $m$  be a positive integer. The integers  $a$  and  $b$  are congruent modulo  $m$  if and only if there is an integer  $k$  such that  $a = b + km$ .



# Congruences

•**Theorem:** Let  $m$  be a positive integer.  
If  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$ , then  
 $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$  and  $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$ .

•**Proof:**

•We know that  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$  implies that there are integers  $s$  and  $t$  with  
 $b = a + sm$  and  $d = c + tm$ .

•Therefore,

• $b + d = (a + sm) + (c + tm) = (a + c) + m(s + t)$   
and

• $bd = (a + sm)(c + tm) = ac + m(at + cs + stm)$ .

•Hence,  $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$  and  $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$ .



# The Euclidean Algorithm

- The **Euclidean Algorithm** finds the **greatest common divisor** of two integers  $a$  and  $b$ .
- For example, if we want to find  $\gcd(287, 91)$ , we **divide** 287 by 91:
- $287 = 91 \cdot 3 + 14$
- We know that for integers  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ , if  $a \mid b$  and  $a \mid c$ , then  $a \mid (b + c)$ .
- Therefore, any divisor of 287 and 91 must also be a divisor of  $287 - 91 \cdot 3 = 14$ .
- Consequently,  $\gcd(287, 91) = \gcd(14, 91)$ .



# The Euclidean Algorithm

- In the next step, we divide 91 by 14:
- $91 = 14 \cdot 6 + 7$
- This means that  $\gcd(14, 91) = \gcd(14, 7)$ .
- So we divide 14 by 7:
- $14 = 7 \cdot 2 + 0$
- We find that  $7 \mid 14$ , and thus  $\gcd(14, 7) = 7$ .
- **Therefore,  $\gcd(287, 91) = 7$ .**



# The Euclidean Algorithm

• In **pseudocode**, the algorithm can be implemented as follows:

• **procedure** gcd(a, b: positive integers)

•  $x := a$

•  $y := b$

• **while**  $y \neq 0$

• **begin**

•      $r := x \bmod y$

•      $x := y$

•      $y := r$

• **end** {x is gcd(a, b)}





# Representations of Integers

- Let  $b$  be a positive integer greater than 1. Then if  $n$  is a positive integer, it can be expressed **uniquely** in the form:

- $n = a_k b^k + a_{k-1} b^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 b + a_0,$

- where  $k$  is a nonnegative integer,
- $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k$  are nonnegative integers less than  $b$ ,
- and  $a_k \neq 0$ .

- **Example for  $b=10$ :**

- $859 = 8 \cdot 10^2 + 5 \cdot 10^1 + 9 \cdot 10^0$



# Representations of Integers

- **Example for  $b=2$  (binary expansion):**

- $(10110)_2 = 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 = (22)_{10}$

- **Example for  $b=16$  (hexadecimal expansion):**

- (we use letters A to F to indicate numbers 10 to 15)

- $(3A0F)_{16} = 3 \cdot 16^3 + 10 \cdot 16^2 + 15 \cdot 16^0 = (14863)_{10}$

- 



# Representations of Integers

- How can we construct the base  $b$  expansion of an integer  $n$ ?
- First, divide  $n$  by  $b$  to obtain a quotient  $q_0$  and remainder  $a_0$ , that is,
  - $n = bq_0 + a_0$ , where  $0 \leq a_0 < b$ .
- The remainder  $a_0$  is the rightmost digit in the base  $b$  expansion of  $n$ .
- Next, divide  $q_0$  by  $b$  to obtain:
  - $q_0 = bq_1 + a_1$ , where  $0 \leq a_1 < b$ .
- $a_1$  is the second digit from the right in the base  $b$  expansion of  $n$ . Continue this process until you obtain a quotient equal to zero.



# Representations of Integers

- **Example:**

What is the base 8 expansion of  $(12345)_{10}$  ?

- First, divide 12345 by 8:
- $12345 = 8 \cdot 1543 + 1$
- $1543 = 8 \cdot 192 + 7$
- $192 = 8 \cdot 24 + 0$
- $24 = 8 \cdot 3 + 0$
- $3 = 8 \cdot 0 + 3$
- The result is:  $(12345)_{10} = (30071)_8$ .



# Representations of Integers

- **procedure** base\_b\_expansion( $n, b$ : positive integers)
- $q := n$
- $k := 0$
- **while**  $q \neq 0$
- **begin**
  - $a_k := q \bmod b$
  - $q := \lfloor q/b \rfloor$
  - $k := k + 1$
- **end**
- {the base  $b$  expansion of  $n$  is  $(a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0)_b$ }



# Addition of Integers

- Let  $a = (a_{n-1}a_{n-2}\dots a_1a_0)_2$ ,  $b = (b_{n-1}b_{n-2}\dots b_1b_0)_2$ .
- How can we add these two binary numbers?
- First, add their rightmost bits:
  - $a_0 + b_0 = c_0 \cdot 2 + s_0$ ,
  - where  $s_0$  is the **rightmost bit** in the binary expansion of  $a + b$ , and  $c_0$  is the **carry**.
- Then, add the next pair of bits and the carry:
  - $a_1 + b_1 + c_0 = c_1 \cdot 2 + s_1$ ,
  - where  $s_1$  is the **next bit** in the binary expansion of  $a + b$ , and  $c_1$  is the carry.



# Addition of Integers

- Continue this process until you obtain  $c_{n-1}$ .
- The leading bit of the sum is  $s_n = c_{n-1}$ .
- The result is:
- $a + b = (s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_1 s_0)_2$



# Addition of Integers

## •Example:

- Add  $a = (1110)_2$  and  $b = (1011)_2$ .
- $a_0 + b_0 = 0 + 1 = 0 \cdot 2 + 1$ , so that  $c_0 = 0$  and  $s_0 = 1$ .
- $a_1 + b_1 + c_0 = 1 + 1 + 0 = 1 \cdot 2 + 0$ , so  $c_1 = 1$  and  $s_1 = 0$ .
- $a_2 + b_2 + c_1 = 1 + 0 + 1 = 1 \cdot 2 + 0$ , so  $c_2 = 1$  and  $s_2 = 0$ .
- $a_3 + b_3 + c_2 = 1 + 1 + 1 = 1 \cdot 2 + 1$ , so  $c_3 = 1$  and  $s_3 = 1$ .
- $s_4 = c_3 = 1$ .
- Therefore,  $s = a + b = (11001)_2$ .





# Addition of Integers

- How do we (humans) add two integers?

• Example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 111 \text{ carry} \\ 7583 \\ + 4932 \\ \hline 12515 \end{array}$$

Binary expansions:

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \text{ carry} \\ (1011)_2 \\ + (1010)_2 \\ \hline (10101)_2 \end{array}$$



# Addition of Integers

- Let  $a = (a_{n-1}a_{n-2}\dots a_1a_0)_2$ ,  $b = (b_{n-1}b_{n-2}\dots b_1b_0)_2$ .
- How can we **algorithmically** add these two binary numbers?
- First, add their rightmost bits:
  - $a_0 + b_0 = c_0 \cdot 2 + s_0$ ,
  - where  $s_0$  is the **rightmost bit** in the binary expansion of  $a + b$ , and  $c_0$  is the **carry**.
- Then, add the next pair of bits and the carry:
  - $a_1 + b_1 + c_0 = c_1 \cdot 2 + s_1$ ,
  - where  $s_1$  is the **next bit** in the binary expansion of  $a + b$ , and  $c_1$  is the carry.



# Addition of Integers

- Continue this process until you obtain  $c_{n-1}$ .
- The leading bit of the sum is  $s_n = c_{n-1}$ .
- The result is:
- $a + b = (s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_1 s_0)_2$



# Addition of Integers

## •Example:

- Add  $a = (1110)_2$  and  $b = (1011)_2$ .
- $a_0 + b_0 = 0 + 1 = 0 \cdot 2 + 1$ , so that  $c_0 = 0$  and  $s_0 = 1$ .
- $a_1 + b_1 + c_0 = 1 + 1 + 0 = 1 \cdot 2 + 0$ , so  $c_1 = 1$  and  $s_1 = 0$ .
- $a_2 + b_2 + c_1 = 1 + 0 + 1 = 1 \cdot 2 + 0$ , so  $c_2 = 1$  and  $s_2 = 0$ .
- $a_3 + b_3 + c_2 = 1 + 1 + 1 = 1 \cdot 2 + 1$ , so  $c_3 = 1$  and  $s_3 = 1$ .
- $s_4 = c_3 = 1$ .
- Therefore,  $s = a + b = (11001)_2$ .



# Addition of Integers

- **procedure** add(a, b: positive integers)
- $c := 0$
- for  $j := 0$  to  $n-1$
- begin
  - $d := \lfloor (a_j + b_j + c)/2 \rfloor$
  - $s_j := a_j + b_j + c - 2d$
  - $c := d$
- end
- $s_n := c$
- {the binary expansion of the sum is  $(s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_1 s_0)_2$ }

