Defining GCF and LCM

Definition of Greatest Common Factor

Largest Number

• That Evenly Divides

• Two or more numbers

Example: GCF(20, 36)

Factors of 20: 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20

Factors of 36: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 36

The largest factor appearing in both lists is 4 and so it is the GCF

Definition of Least Common Multiple

• Smallest Number

Evenly Divisible by

• Two or more numbers

Example: LCM(7, 10)

Multiples of 7: 7, 14, 21, 28, 35, 42, 49, 56, 63, 70, 77, 84...

Multiples of 10: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100...

70 is the smallest multiple in both lists and so it is the LCM.