

Linear Diophantine

Defⁿ: A linear Diophantine Equation has the form:

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n = C$$

where a_1, \dots, a_n, C are integer constants, and x_1, \dots, x_n are integer variables.

Q1. Is there an integer solution?

Q2. If so, what are all integer solutions?

1-Var case. $ax = C$

① This has an int solⁿ if and only if $a|C$.

② if $a|C$, then $x = \frac{C}{a}$ is the only int solution, except when $a=0$. Since $a|C, C=0 \implies 0 \cdot x = 0$.
Any int is a solution.

2-var case: $ax + by = C$.

we represent int solns as $\{(x_0, y_0) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid ax_0 + by_0 = C\}$

Q1. Given a, b for which values of C does $ax + by = C$ has an integer solution?

Define $S = \{C \in \mathbb{Z} \mid \exists (x_0, y_0) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}, ax_0 + by_0 = C\}$

Example: $12x + 15y = C$

By EEA, $12x + 15y = 3$ ($\gcd(12, 15)$) has an int soln.

$(-1, 1)$ is one such solution.

$$12x + 15y = 33333 \quad | 12(-1) + 15(1) = 3 \quad \text{multiply by 11111 on both sides.}$$

$$12(-11111) + 15(11111) = 33333$$

$(-11111, 11111)$ is an int soln.

When $3|c$, $12x + 15y = c$ has an int soln.

Generally: $ax + by = c$ has an int soln when $\gcd(a, b) | c$.

Define $T = \{c \in \mathbb{Z} \mid \gcd(a, b) | c\}$

what have we "proved". $\boxed{T \subseteq S.}$

Is $S \subseteq T$? $12x + 15y = 10$

$3|12$ & $3|15$, so $3|(12x + 15y)$

But $3 \nmid 10$, so this has no int soln.

Proposition (LDE 1): Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, $d = \gcd(a, b)$.

The LDE $ax + by = c$ has an integer solution if and only if $d | c$ ($S = T$)

Proof (\Rightarrow) Suppose (x_0, y_0) is an int. solution to $ax + by = c$. Then $ax_0 + by_0 = c$. Since $d = \gcd(a, b)$, $d|a$ and $d|b$. By DIC, $d|(ax_0 + by_0)$, so $d|c$.

(\Leftarrow) suppose $d|c$. So $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $c = dk$.
By EEA, $\exists x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $ax_0 + by_0 = d$.
Multiply both sides by k to get $a(kx_0) + b(ky_0) = kd$
 $= c$.

So (kx_0, ky_0) is an int soln to $ax + by = c$.

Example: $119x + 84y = 777$

Use EEA on $119, 84$ to get $\gcd(119, 84) = 7$.
and $119 \cdot 5 + 84(-7) = 7$.

Since $7|777$, there is an integer solⁿ, which
is $(555, -777)$

$119x + 84y = 1000$ has no int soln since $7 \nmid 1000$.