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# GCD and the Euclidian Algorithm

CSE 311 Fall 2020  
Lecture 13

# Extra Set Practice

Show  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

Proof:

First, we'll show:  $A \cup (B \cap C) \subseteq (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary element of  $A \cup (B \cap C)$ .

Then by definition of  $\cup, \cap$  we have:

$$x \in A \vee (x \in B \wedge x \in C)$$

Applying the distributive law, we get

$$(x \in A \vee x \in B) \wedge (x \in A \vee x \in C)$$

Applying the definition of union, we have:

$$x \in (A \cup B) \text{ and } x \in (A \cup C)$$

By definition of intersection we have  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

So  $A \cup (B \cap C) \subseteq (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

Now we show  $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \subseteq A \cup (B \cap C)$

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary element of  $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

By definition of intersection and union,  $(x \in A \vee x \in B) \wedge (x \in A \vee x \in C)$

Applying the distributive law, we have  $x \in A \vee (x \in B \wedge x \in C)$

Applying the definitions of union and intersection, we have  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$

So  $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \subseteq A \cup (B \cap C)$ .

Combining the two directions, since both sets are subsets of each other, we have  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

# Extra Set Practice

Suppose  $A \subseteq B$ . Show that  $\mathcal{P}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

Let  $A, B$  be arbitrary sets such that  $A \subseteq B$ .

Let  $X$  be an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ .

By definition of powerset,  $X \subseteq A$ .

Since  $X \subseteq A$ , every element of  $X$  is also in  $A$ . And since  $A \subseteq B$ , we also have that every element of  $X$  is also in  $B$ .

Thus  $X \in \mathcal{P}(B)$  by definition of powerset.

Since an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  is also in  $\mathcal{P}(B)$ , we have  $\mathcal{P}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

# Extra Set Practice

Disprove: If  $A \subseteq (B \cup C)$  then  $A \subseteq B$  or  $A \subseteq C$

Consider  $A = \{1,2,3\}$ ,  $B = \{1,2\}$ ,  $C = \{3,4\}$ .

$B \cup C = \{1,2,3,4\}$  so we do have  $A \subseteq (B \cup C)$ , but  $A \not\subseteq B$  and  $A \not\subseteq C$ .

When you disprove a  $\forall$ , you're just providing a counterexample (you're showing  $\exists$ ) – your proof won't have "let  $x$  be an arbitrary element of  $A$ ."

# Facts about modular arithmetic

For all integers  $a, b, c, d, n$  where  $n > 0$ :

If  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$  then  $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{n}$ .

If  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  and  $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$  then  $ac \equiv bd \pmod{n}$ .

$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$  if and only if  $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$ .

$a \% n = (a - n) \% n$ .

We didn't prove the first, it's a good exercise! You can use it as a fact as though we had proven it in class.

# Another Proof

For all integers,  $a, b, c$ : Show that if  $a \nmid (bc)$  then  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$ .

Proof:

Let  $a, b, c$  be arbitrary integers, and suppose  $a \nmid (bc)$ .

Then there is not an integer  $z$  such that  $az = bc$

...

There is not an integer  $x$  such that  $ax = b$ , or there is not an integer  $y$  such that  $ay = c$ .

So  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$

# Another Proof

For all integers,  $a, b, c$ : Show that if  $a \nmid (bc)$  then  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$ .

Proof:

Let  $a, b, c$  be arbitrary

Then there is not an

...



$c$ ).

$a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$   
There has to be a better way!

# Another Proof

For all integers,  $a, b, c$ : Show that if  $a \nmid (bc)$  then  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$ .

There has to be a better way!

If only there were some equivalent implication...

One where we could negate everything...

Take the contrapositive of the statement:

For all integers,  $a, b, c$ : Show if  $a|b$  and  $a|c$  then  $a|(bc)$ .



# By contrapositive

Claim: For all integers,  $a, b, c$ : Show that if  $a \nmid (bc)$  then  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$ .

We argue by contrapositive.

Let  $a, b, c$  be arbitrary integers, and suppose  $a|b$  and  $a|c$ .

Therefore  $a|bc$

# By contrapositive

Claim: For all integers,  $a, b, c$ : Show that if  $a \nmid (bc)$  then  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$ .

We argue by contrapositive.

Let  $a, b, c$  be arbitrary integers, and suppose  $a|b$  and  $a|c$ .

By definition of divides,  $ax = b$  and  $ay = c$  for integers  $x$  and  $y$ .

Multiplying the two equations, we get  $axay = bc$

Since  $a, x, y$  are all integers,  $xay$  is an integer. Applying the definition of divides, we have  $a|bc$ .

So for all integers  $a, b, c$  if  $a \nmid (bc)$  then  $a \nmid b$  or  $a \nmid c$ .

# Try it yourselves!

Show for any sets  $A, B, C$ : if  $A \not\subseteq (B \cup C)$  then  $A \not\subseteq C$ .

1. What do the terms in the statement mean?
2. What does the statement as a whole say?
3. Where do you start?
4. What's your target?
5. Finish the proof 😊

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with your UW identity  
Or text cse311 to 22333

# Try it yourselves!

Show for any sets  $A, B, C$ : if  $A \not\subseteq (B \cup C)$  then  $A \not\subseteq C$ .

Proof:

We argue by contrapositive,

Let  $A, B, C$  be arbitrary sets, and suppose  $A \subseteq C$ .

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary element of  $A$ . By definition of subset,  $x \in C$ . By definition of union, we also have  $x \in B \cup C$ . Since  $x$  was an arbitrary element of  $A$ , we have  $A \subseteq (B \cup C)$ .

Since  $A, B, C$  were arbitrary, we have: if  $A \not\subseteq (B \cup C)$  then  $A \not\subseteq C$ .



# Divisors and Primes

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# Primes and FTA

## Prime

An integer  $p > 1$  is prime iff its only positive divisors are 1 and  $p$ . Otherwise it is “composite”

## Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

Every positive integer greater than 1 has a unique prime factorization.

# GCD and LCM

## Greatest Common Divisor

The Greatest Common Divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  ( $\gcd(a,b)$ ) is the largest integer  $c$  such that  $c|a$  and  $c|b$

## Least Common Multiple

The Least Common Multiple of  $a$  and  $b$  ( $\text{lcm}(a,b)$ ) is the smallest positive integer  $c$  such that  $a|c$  and  $b|c$ .

# Try a few values...

`gcd(100,125)`

`gcd(17,49)`

`gcd(17,34)`

`gcd(13,0)`

`lcm(7,11)`

`lcm(6,10)`



```
public int Mystery(int m, int n) {
    if (m < n) {
        int temp = m;
        m = n;
        n = temp;
    }
    while (n != 0) {
        int rem = m % n;
        m = n;
        n = rem;
    }
    return m;
}
```

# How do you calculate a gcd?

You could:

Find the prime factorization of each

Take all the common ones. E.g.

$$\text{gcd}(24,20)=\text{gcd}(2^3 \cdot 3, 2^2 \cdot 5) = 2^{\{\min(2,3)\}} = 2^2 = 4.$$

(lcm has a similar algorithm – take the maximum number of copies of everything)

But that's....really expensive. Mystery from a few slides ago finds gcd.

# Two useful facts

## gcd Fact 1

If  $a, b$  are positive integers, then  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$

Tomorrow's lecture we'll prove this fact. For now: just trust it.

## gcd Fact 2

Let  $a$  be a positive integer:  $\gcd(a, 0) = a$

Does  $a|a$  and  $a|0$ ? Yes  $a \cdot 1 = a$ ;  $a \cdot 0 = 0$ .

Does anything greater than  $a$  divide  $a$ ?

```
public int Mystery(int m, int n) {  
    if (m < n) {  
        int temp = m;  
        m = n;  
        n = temp;  
    }  
    while (n != 0) {  
        int rem = m % n;  
        m = n;  
        n = rem;  
    }  
    return m;  
}
```

# Euclid's Algorithm

gcd(660,126)

```
while(n != 0) {  
    int rem = m % n;  
    m=n;  
    n=rem;  
}
```

# Euclid's Algorithm

```
while(n != 0) {  
    int rem = m % n;  
    m=n;  
    n=rem;  
}
```

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(660, 126) &= \gcd(126, 660 \bmod 126) &= \gcd(126, 30) \\ &= \gcd(30, 126 \bmod 30) &= \gcd(30, 6) \\ &= \gcd(6, 30 \bmod 6) &= \gcd(6, 0) \\ &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Tableau form

$$\begin{aligned} 660 &= 5 \cdot 126 + 30 \\ 126 &= 4 \cdot 30 + 6 \\ 30 &= 5 \cdot 6 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Starting Numbers

Final  
answer

# Bézout's Theorem

## Bézout's Theorem

If  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers, then there exist integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that

$$\gcd(a,b) = sa + tb$$

We're not going to prove this theorem...

But we'll show you how to find  $s, t$  for any positive integers  $a, b$ .

# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.

Step 3 substitute backward

$\gcd(35,27)$



# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.

Step 3 substitute backward

$$\begin{aligned}\gcd(35,27) &= \gcd(27, 35\%27) = \gcd(27,8) \\ &= \gcd(8, 27\%8) = \gcd(8, 3) \\ &= \gcd(3, 8\%3) = \gcd(3, 2) \\ &= \gcd(2, 3\%2) = \gcd(2,1) \\ &= \gcd(1, 2\%1) = \gcd(1,0)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}35 &= 1 \cdot 27 + 8 \\ 27 &= 3 \cdot 8 + 3 \\ 8 &= 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \\ 3 &= 1 \cdot 2 + 1\end{aligned}$$

# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

**Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.**

Step 3 substitute backward

$$35 = 1 \cdot 27 + 8$$

$$27 = 3 \cdot 8 + 3$$

$$8 = 2 \cdot 3 + 2$$

$$3 = 1 \cdot 2 + 1$$

# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

**Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.**

Step 3 substitute backward

$$\begin{aligned} 35 &= 1 \cdot 27 + 8 \\ 27 &= 3 \cdot 8 + 3 \\ 8 &= 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \\ 3 &= 1 \cdot 2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 8 &= 35 - 1 \cdot 27 \\ 3 &= 27 - 3 \cdot 8 \\ 2 &= 8 - 2 \cdot 3 \\ 1 &= 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$$

# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.

**Step 3 substitute backward**

$$\begin{array}{l} 8 = 35 - 1 \cdot 27 \\ 3 = 27 - 3 \cdot 8 \\ 2 = 8 - 2 \cdot 3 \\ 1 = 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \end{array}$$

# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.

Step 3 substitute backward

$$\begin{array}{l} 8 = 35 - 1 \cdot 27 \\ 3 = 27 - 3 \cdot 8 \\ 2 = 8 - 2 \cdot 3 \\ 1 = 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \\ &= 3 - 1 \cdot (8 - 2 \cdot 3) \\ &= -1 \cdot 8 + 2 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$$

# Extended Euclidian Algorithm

Step 1 compute  $\gcd(a,b)$ ; keep tableau information.

Step 2 solve all equations for the remainder.

Step 3 substitute backward

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 = 35 - 1 \cdot 27 \\ 3 = 27 - 3 \cdot 8 \\ 2 = 8 - 2 \cdot 3 \\ 1 = 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \end{array}$$

$$\gcd(27,35) = 13 \cdot 27 + (-10) \cdot 35$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= 3 - 1 \cdot 2 \\ &= 3 - 1 \cdot (8 - 2 \cdot 3) \\ &= -1 \cdot 8 + 3 \cdot 3 \\ &= -1 \cdot 8 + 3(27 - 3 \cdot 8) \\ &= 3 \cdot 27 - 10 \cdot 8 \\ &= 3 \cdot 27 - 10(35 - 1 \cdot 27) \\ &= 13 \cdot 27 - 10 \cdot 35 \end{aligned}$$

When substituting back, you keep the larger of  $m, n$  and the number you just substituted. Don't simplify further! (or you lose the form you need)

# So...what's it good for?

Suppose I want to solve  $7x \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

Just multiply both sides by  $\frac{1}{7}$ ...

Oh wait. We want a number to multiply by 7 to get 1.

If the  $\gcd(7,n) = 1$

Then  $s \cdot 7 + tn = 1$ , so  $7s - 1 = -tn$  i.e.  $n \mid (7s - 1)$  so  $7s \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

So the  $s$  from Bézout's Theorem is what we should multiply by!

# Try it

Solve the equation  $7y \equiv 3 \pmod{26}$

What do we need to find?

The multiplicative inverse of  $7 \pmod{26}$



# Finding the inverse...

$$\begin{aligned}\gcd(26,7) &= \gcd(7, 26\%7) = \gcd(7,5) \\ &= \gcd(5, 7\%5) = \gcd(5,2) \\ &= \gcd(2, 5\%2) = \gcd(2, 1) \\ &= \gcd(1, 2\%1) = \gcd(1,0) = 1.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}1 &= 5 - 2 \cdot 2 \\ &= 5 - 2(7 - 5 \cdot 1) \\ &= 3 \cdot 5 - 2 \cdot 7 \\ &= 3 \cdot (26 - 3 \cdot 7) - 2 \cdot 7 \\ &= 3 \cdot 26 - 11 \cdot 7\end{aligned}$$

-11 is a multiplicative inverse.

We'll write it as 15, since we're working mod 26.

$$26 = 3 \cdot 7 + 5 ; 5 = 26 - 3 \cdot 7$$

$$7 = 5 \cdot 1 + 2 ; 2 = 7 - 5 \cdot 1$$

$$5 = 2 \cdot 2 + 1 ; 1 = 5 - 2 \cdot 2$$

# Try it

Solve the equation  $7y \equiv 3 \pmod{26}$

What do we need to find?

The multiplicative inverse of 7 ( $\pmod{26}$ ).

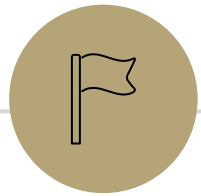
$$15 \cdot 7 \cdot y \equiv 15 \cdot 3 \pmod{26}$$

$$y \equiv 45 \pmod{26}$$

$$\text{Or } y \equiv 19 \pmod{26}$$

So  $26 \mid 19 - y$ , i.e.  $26k = 19 - y$  (for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) i.e.  $y = 19 - 26 \cdot k$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

So  $\{\dots, -7, 19, 45, \dots, 19 + 26k, \dots\}$



**And now, for some proofs!**

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# GCD fact

If  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers, then  $\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$

How do you show two gcds are equal?

Call  $a = \gcd(w, x)$ ,  $b = \gcd(y, z)$

If  $b|w$  and  $b|x$  then  $b$  is a common divisor of  $w, x$  so  $b \leq a$

If  $a|y$  and  $a|z$  then  $a$  is a common divisor of  $y, z$ , so  $a \leq b$

If  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$  then  $a = b$

$$\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$$

Let  $x = \gcd(a, b)$  and  $y = \gcd(b, a \% b)$ .

We show that  $y$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ .

By definition of gcd,  $y|b$  and  $y|(a \% b)$ . So it is enough to show that  $y|a$ .

Applying the definition of divides we get  $b = yk$  for an integer  $k$ , and  $(a \% b) = yj$  for an integer  $j$ .

By definition of mod,  $a \% b$  is  $a = qb + (a \% b)$  for an integer  $q$ .

Plugging in both of our other equations:

$a = qyk + yj = y(qk + j)$ . Since  $q, k$ , and  $j$  are integers,  $y|a$ . Thus  $y$  is a common divisor of  $a, b$  and thus  $y \leq x$ .

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$$

Let  $x = \gcd(a, b)$  and  $y = \gcd(b, a \% b)$ .

We show that  $x$  is a common divisor of  $b$  and  $a \% b$ .

By definition of gcd,  $x|b$  and  $x|a$ . So it is enough to show that  $x|(a \% b)$ .

Applying the definition of divides we get  $b = xk'$  for an integer  $k'$ , and  $a = xj'$  for an integer  $j'$ .

By definition of mod,  $a \% b$  is  $a = qb + (a \% b)$  for an integer  $q$

Plugging in both of our other equations:

$xj' = qxk' + a \% b$ . Solving for  $a \% b$ , we have  $a \% b = xj' - qxk' = x(j' - qk')$ . So  $x|(a \% b)$ . Thus  $x$  is a common divisor of  $b, a \% b$  and thus  $x \leq y$ .

$$\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$$

Let  $x = \gcd(a, b)$  and  $y = \gcd(b, a \% b)$ .

We show that  $x$  is a common divisor of  $b$  and  $a \% b$ .

We have shown  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$ .

Thus  $x = y$ , and  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$ .