

Bézout's identity

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ There exist $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ so that

$$ar + bs = \text{GCD}(a, b)$$

The proof is a bit similar to the proof of Euclid's algorithm

Let $S = \{ \text{ar + bs} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } av + bw > 0 \}$

S is non-empty, it has at least one element.

$$a \text{ or } -a \quad \text{i.e.} \quad v = \pm 1 \quad w = 0$$

Since S is non empty and it is a set of positive integers by the well-ordering theorem S has a minimum element.

Let $h = \text{minimum element of } S$.

Our goal is to show that $h = \text{GCD}(a, b)$

A) $h \mid a$ & $h \mid b$

B) If $e \mid a$ & $e \mid b \implies e \leq h$

A) By Euclid $a = qh + r$ $0 \leq r < h$
 $q \in \mathbb{Z}$

But then $0 \leq r = a - qh = a - q(ar + bs) = a(1 - qv) + b(-qw)$

$$r \in S \cup \{0\}$$

Since h is the minimum element of S , $0 \leq r < h$

$$\Rightarrow r = 0$$

So by minimality of h we must have

$$r = 0 \Rightarrow h \mid a$$

A similar argument shows that $h \mid b$

$h \mid a$ & $h \mid b$ h is a ~~common divisor~~ common divisor, a and b .

B) Now $e \mid a$ & $e \mid b$

$$a = es \quad \& \quad b = et \quad s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$h = av + bw = \underbrace{es}_a v + \underbrace{et}_b w = e(sv + tw)$$

$\Rightarrow e \mid h$ Since $h > 0$ this implies

$$e \leq h$$

$$\Rightarrow h = \text{GCD}(a, b)$$

Proposition

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ & $d \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the following are equivalent

1) The equation $ax + by = d$ has solⁿ $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

2) $\text{GCD}(a, b) \mid d$.

Examples

1) $2x + 4y = 3$ has no solution $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

$$2(x + 2y) = 3$$

the LHS is even
the RHS is odd.

Also $\text{GCD}(2, 4) = 2$ does not divide 3.

2) $5x + 15y = 25$ has a solution

$$5 \cdot 5 + 15 \cdot 0 = 25$$

$\text{GCD}(5, 15) = 5 \mid 25$ Yes!

Proof: " \Rightarrow " Let $g = \text{GCD}(a, b) \Rightarrow g|a \ \& \ g|b$
 $g|ax + by = d$

" \Leftarrow " By Bezout's theorem identity

$\exists u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $au + bv = g = \text{GCD}(a, b)$

As $g|d \ \exists q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $d = gq$

But then

$$d = gq = q \underbrace{(au + bv)}_g = a(qu) + b(qv)$$

So (uq, vq) is a solution of $ax + by = d$.

Thus very easily we can say whether $ax + by = d$ is solvable in \mathbb{Z}^2 or not: Just check $\text{GCD}(a, b) | d$ or not. [Find $\text{GCD}(a, b)$ via Euclid]

Primes & Factorization

You probably recall what a prime is

Def A natural number $p > 1$ is called **prime** if the following is true

$$d|p \Rightarrow d \in \{\pm 1, \pm p\}$$

that is the only integers that divide p are $+1, -1, +p, -p$.

The goal of this section is to show that every integer > 1 can be factorized into primes and that the factorization is unique up to re-orderings of the primes (permute the primes)

e.g. $30 = 2 \times 3 \times 5 = 5 \times 3 \times 2 = 3 \times 5 \times 2$
 $12 = 2 \times 2 \times 3 = 3 \times 2 \times 2 = 2 \times 3 \times 2$

Lemma Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and p be a prime

$$p \mid ab \iff p \mid a \text{ or } p \mid b$$

Proof " \Leftarrow " is obvious (convince yourself)

" \Rightarrow " Let $p \nmid a$ so we need to show $p \mid b$

Claim : $\text{GCD}(p, a) = 1$

Indeed if $d \mid p$ $d > 0$ then by definition of prime

$d = 1$ or $d = p$, but $p \nmid a \implies \text{GCD}(p, a) = 1$

Thus by Bezout's we have

$$x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } ax + py = 1$$

$$\text{Multiply by } b \quad abx + \overset{b}{b}py = \overset{b}{b}$$

$p \mid ab$ (by assumption) and $p \mid bpy$

$$\implies p \mid b \quad \square$$

The above lemma can be understood as a equivalent definition of a prime.

Lemma Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ $n > 1$ have the property

$$n \mid ab \implies n \mid a \text{ or } n \mid b$$

then n is prime.

Proof Let $n = ab$ $n \mid ab \implies n \mid a$ or $n \mid b$
Assumption

Let $n \mid a$ $a = qn$ for some $q \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$n = ab = \underbrace{q \cdot n}_{a} \cdot b = (qb)n \implies qb = 1$$

But $qb = 1$ has only two possible solⁿ in (q, b)

namely $(1, 1)$ or $(-1, -1)$

In any case $a = n$ & $b = 1$

or $a = -n$ & $b = -1$

In other words if $n = ab$ ^{and $n \neq 1$} we can have only

$$a = n, b = 1$$

$$a = -n, b = -1$$

In other words only possible divisor of n lie in

$$\{\pm 1, \pm n\} \implies n \text{ is a prime.}$$

Exercise Let $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and p be prime

If $p \mid a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots a_n$ then

$p \mid a_1$ or $p \mid a_2$ or \dots or $p \mid a_n$

[left as an exercise]

Fundamental theorem of arithmetics

This is the goal theorem. Namely:

Theorem (FTA)

Every $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $N > 1$ can be written as a product of primes.

Moreover this factorization is unique up to re-orderings of the primes.

Proof Existence of prime factors

By induction.

If $n = 2$ n is prime (base step)

Let the statement hold for $\forall n \leq N-1$ (induction step)

If N is prime there is nothing to do.

If N is not prime, then by definition of prime

$$\exists a, b \in \mathbb{N} \quad a, b > 1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad N = ab$$

$$a, b > 1 \implies a, b \leq N-1$$

By inductive hypothesis both a, b are product of primes.

Hence $N = ab$ is the same.

Uniqueness

$$\text{Let } n = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_k = q_1 \cdot q_2 \cdots q_\ell$$

p_i, q_j are prime.

As $p_1 \mid q_1 q_2 \cdots q_\ell$ by the previous exercise

$$p_1 \mid q_j \text{ for some } 1 \leq j \leq \ell$$

By reordering (which is allowed) we may assume

$$p_1 \mid q_1 \quad \text{But } q_1 \text{ is a prime } p_1 > 1 \Rightarrow p_1 = q_1$$

$$p_2 p_3 \cdots p_k = q_2 \cdot q_3 \cdots q_\ell \quad (\text{cancel } p_1 = q_1)$$

Repeat the above process!

This proves that the factorization is unique. \square

We end the lecture remarking that finding prime divisors of a very large number is extremely hard!

Even by a computer (basics of cybersecurity)