

## MTH 4104 Example Sheet I

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I-1. Using extended Euclid's algorithm, find  $\gcd(186, 132)$  and find a pair  $(x, y)$  of integers such that  $186x + 132y = \gcd(186, 132)$ .

I-2. (a) Use Euclid's algorithm to find a pair  $(x, y)$  of integers such that  $272x + 200y = 16$ . (b) Prove that there are no integers  $x$  and  $y$  such that  $272x + 200y = 4$ .

I-3. Find at least two integer solutions for  $206x + 64y = \gcd(206, 64)$ .

I-4. (a) Use Euclid's algorithm to find a pair  $(x, y)$  of integers  $61x + 18y = 1$ . (b) Find all pairs  $(x, y)$  of integers such that  $61x + 18y = 0$ . (c) Find all pairs  $(x, y)$  of integers such that  $61x + 18y = 1$ .

I-5. Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two positive integers. (a) Prove that every integer solution to the equation  $ax + by = 0$  is of the form  $x = cb/\gcd(a, b)$  and  $y = -ca/\gcd(a, b)$  for some integer  $c$ . (b) Suppose that  $(x, y) = (r, s)$  is a pair of integer solution for  $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$ . Prove that every solution to the equation  $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$  is of the form  $(x, y) = (r + cb/\gcd(a, b), s - ca/\gcd(a, b))$ .

I-6. Prove that  $a\gcd(b, c) = \gcd(ab, ac)$  for positive integers  $a, b, c$ .

I-7. Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be fixed integers. Prove that there is an integer solution to  $ax + by = c$  if and only if  $\gcd(a, b)$  divides  $c$ .

I-8. (a) Explain how to find the LCM of two positive integers using prime factorisations. (b) Prove that  $\gcd(a, b)\text{lcm}(a, b) = ab$  for any two positive integers  $a$  and  $b$ . (c) Describe an algorithm to compute the LCM of two positive integers, even when the integers are large.

I-9. Given a finite set  $S$  of integers and a prime number  $p$ , prove that if  $p$  divides the product of all integers in  $S$ , then there exists at least one integer in  $S$  that is divisible by  $p$ .

I-10. There are infinitely many primes that are congruent to  $-1 \pmod{4}$ . Fill in the argument below to prove the assertion. Suppose that the set  $S$  of prime numbers that are congruent to  $-1 \pmod{4}$  is finite. If this assumption leads to a contradiction, the assertion follows.

Let  $N_S$  be the product of all prime numbers  $p$  in  $S$  and let  $N = 4N_S - 1$ . By definition,  $N < \infty$  and  $N \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ . (a) Prove that  $N$  is not a prime number. (b) Prove that 2 is not a factor of  $N$ . (c) Prove that none of the prime numbers in  $S$  is a factor of  $N$  either. (d) Prove that any prime factor of  $N$  is congruent to  $1 \pmod{4}$ . (e) By observing that product of integers congruent to  $1 \pmod{4}$  is again congruent to  $1 \pmod{4}$ , deduce that (d) contradicts  $N \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , and therefore conclude that there are infinitely many primes  $\equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .