

LECTURE 2: taken from Chapter 2 of Stillwell's Elements of Number Theory.

§2.1 The gcd by subtraction

If natural #'s $a \neq b$ have common divisor d then this indicates $\exists a', b' \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t.

$$a = a'd \quad \text{and} \quad b = b'd$$

Hence,

$$a - b = a'd - b'd = (a' - b')d$$

$$[d/a \text{ and } d/b \Rightarrow d/(a-b)]$$

Since $d > 0$ and $a, b < \infty$ there must exist a largest (greatest) common divisor, the $\text{gcd}(a, b)$

Algorithm: $\exists a > b$ and let

$$a_1 = a, \quad b_1 = b$$

Define $a_{i+1} = \max(b_i, a_i - b_i)$, $b_{i+1} = \min(b_i, a_i - b_i)$

these #'s decrease ... eventually must reach k for which $a_k = b_k$ and $\text{gcd}(a, b) = a_k = b_k$.

In fact, $\text{gcd}(a_1, b_1) = \text{gcd}(a_2, b_2) = \dots = \text{gcd}(a_n, b_n)$

Example: $a = 17, b = 6$

$(a_1, b_1) = (17, 6)$	$17 - 6 = 11$
$(a_2, b_2) = (11, 6)$	$11 - 6 = 5$
$(a_3, b_3) = (6, 5)$	$6 - 5 = 1$
$(a_4, b_4) = (5, 1)$	$5 - 1 = 4$
$(a_5, b_5) = (4, 1)$	$4 - 1 = 3$
$(a_6, b_6) = (3, 1)$	$3 - 1 = 2$
$(a_7, b_7) = (2, 1)$	$2 - 1 = 1$
$(a_8, b_8) = (1, 1)$	

$\text{gcd}(17, 6) = 1$
17 and 6 are coprime or relatively prime.

§2.2: THE GCD BY DIVISION WITH REMAINDER:

This version of Euclid's Algorithm is faster.

Given pair (a_i, b_i) with $a_i > b_i$ the next pair is:
 $a_{i+1} = b_i, b_{i+1} = \text{remainder of } \frac{a_i}{b_i}$

This eliminates some steps where $a_i = a_{i+1}$ in §2.1 method. However, $\text{gcd}(a_1, b_1) = \text{gcd}(a_2, b_2) = \dots$ so same result holds. (see my typed notes for some proof of these assertions)

Example: $a = 17, b = 6$ (again.)

$(a_1, b_1) = (17, 6)$

$(a_2, b_2) = (6, 5)$

$(a_3, b_3) = (5, 1)$

$(a_4, b_4) = (1, 1) \iff \text{gcd}(17, 6) = 1$

HALT when $b_n | a_n$ and conclude $\text{gcd}(a, b) = b_n$

Comment: in \mathbb{N} it is true that division is repeated subtraction, however, in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ Stillwell argues that the division algorithm here still works whereas $17 = (4+i)(4-i) \iff \frac{17}{4-i} = 4+i$ does this still mean $(4-i)$ ~~subtractions~~ $4+i$ ~~times~~ gives... repeated subtraction?

Example: $a = 24, b = 4$

$(a_1, b_1) = (24, 4) \iff \text{gcd}(24, 4) = 4$
 ~~$= (4, 0)$~~ as $4/24$.

Consider the algebra below,

$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{bq_1 + r_1}{b} = q_1 + \frac{r_1}{b} = q_1 + \frac{1}{b/r_1}$$

$$\frac{b}{r_1} = \frac{r_1 q_2 + r_2}{r_1} = q_2 + \frac{r_2}{r_1} = q_2 + \frac{1}{r_1/r_2}$$

$$\frac{r_1}{r_2} = \frac{r_2 q_3 + r_3}{r_2} = q_3 + \frac{1}{r_2/r_3}$$

$$\frac{r_2}{r_3} = \frac{r_3 q_4 + r_4}{r_3} = q_4 + \frac{1}{r_3/r_4}$$

Compare with

$$(a, b) \rightarrow (b, r_1) \rightarrow (r_1, r_2) \rightarrow (r_2, r_3) \rightarrow (r_3, r_4) \rightarrow \dots$$

Therefore, we find a close connection between the continued fractions and Euclid's Algorithm,

~~$\frac{a}{b} = \dots$~~

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{b} &= q_1 + \frac{1}{\frac{b}{r_1}} = q_1 + \frac{1}{q_2 + \frac{1}{\frac{r_1}{r_2}}} \\ &= q_1 + \frac{1}{q_2 + \frac{1}{q_3 + \frac{1}{\frac{r_2}{r_3}}}} \dots \end{aligned}$$

Example:

- (34, 19)
- (19, 15)
- (15, 4)
- (4, 3)
- (3, 1)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{34}{19} &= 1 + \frac{1}{19/15} \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{1 + 4/15} \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{3}{4}}} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{3}}}}$$

§2.3 LINEAR REPRESENTATION OF THE GCD

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Proposition: $\gcd(a, b) = ma + nb$ for some $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$.
Moreover, all #'s a_i, b_i in Euclid's algorithm appear as \mathbb{Z} -linear combinations of a & b .

Proof: Suppose $a > b$ and set $a_1 = a, b_1 = b$. Observe,

$$a_1 = 1 \cdot a + 0 \cdot b \quad \& \quad b_1 = 0 \cdot a + 1 \cdot b.$$

Next assume inductively $a_i = m_a a + n_a b$ and $b_i = m_b a + n_b b$ observe,

$$a_i - b_i = (m_a - m_b) a + (n_a - n_b) b$$

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Stillwell
in case
you forgot.

and as $a_{i+1} = \max(b_i, a_i - b_i)$ and $b_{i+1} = \min(b_i, a_i - b_i)$
it follows a_{i+1} and b_{i+1} are \mathbb{Z} -linear comb. of a & b .

Example:

$$(a_1, b_1) = (17, 6) = (a, b)$$

$$\Rightarrow (6, 5) = (b, a - 2b)$$

$$\Rightarrow (5, 1) = (a - 2b, b - (a - 2b)) = (a - 2b, \underline{3b - a})$$

$$\Rightarrow (1, 1) = (3b - a, a - 2b - 4(3b - a)) \\ = (3b - a, 5a - 14b)$$

$$\boxed{-17 + 3(6) = 1}$$

$$\boxed{5(17) - 14(6) = 1}$$

could
stop here
really, this
already shows
 $\gcd(17, 6) = 1$
and

• See pg. 36 for more about the purple bit. Not important

$$\Rightarrow (1, 0) = (3b - a, \underbrace{(5a - 14b) - (3b - a)}_{6a - 17b}) \quad \text{for } \S 2.3.$$

$$\boxed{6a - 17b = 0}$$

§ 2.4 PRIMES AND FACTORIZATION

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Th^m / Each natural number n can be written as a product of primes; $n = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$

Proof: If $n = ab$ and both a, b prime then done. Otherwise, if a prime (wlog) then $a = a' b'$ and if a', b' prime then $n = a' b' b$ and were done. Otherwise, (wlog) $a' = a'' b''$ and again either a'', b'' both prime or we continue breaking into factors. However

$$a > a' > a'' \text{ etc.}$$

Hence by descent this terminates and we find the desired result //

Existence of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k for which $n = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$ is interesting, but, uniqueness is even better. We work towards proof of uniqueness upto reordering.

Th³ / PRIME DIVISOR PROPERTY: (Euclid 300 BC)
If a prime $p \mid ab$ then $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.

Proof: Suppose $p \mid ab$ but $p \nmid a$ then it remains to show $p \mid b$.
Notice $p \nmid a \Rightarrow \gcd(a, p) = 1 \Rightarrow \exists m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, ma + np = 1$.
Multiply by $b \Rightarrow b = mab + npb$. By assumption $\exists j \in \mathbb{Z}$ for which $ab = jp \therefore b = mjP + npb = (mj + nb)P$ which shows $p \mid b$ as desired. //

Th^m / UNIQUE PRIME FACTORIZATION: (Gauss 1801)

⑥

The prime factorization of each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is unique up to reordering

Proof: Suppose towards $\rightarrow \leftarrow$ $P_1 P_2 \dots P_n = q_1 q_2 \dots q_l$ \leftarrow all primes.
where $P_i \neq q_j \forall i, j$. (no loss of generality as common factors could be cancelled before this argument)

Note * $\Rightarrow P_1 \mid q_1 (q_2 \dots q_l) \therefore P_1 \mid q_1$ or $P_1 \mid (q_2 \dots q_l)$

continuing we deduce

$$P_1 \mid q_1 \text{ or } P_1 \mid q_2 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } P_1 \mid q_l$$

hence,

$P_1 = q_1$ or $P_1 = q_2$ \dots or $P_1 = q_l$ which contradicts $P_i \neq q_j \forall i, j$.

§2.5 CONSEQUENCES OF UNIQUE PRIME FACTORIZATION:

If $c = P_1^{m_1} P_2^{m_2} \dots P_n^{m_n}$ then $c^2 = P_1^{2m_1} P_2^{2m_2} \dots P_n^{2m_n}$

Also if $d = P_1^{2m_1} P_2^{2m_2} \dots P_n^{2m_n}$ then $d = c^2$.

Th^m / A natural number n is a square iff each prime in n is an even power.

Further, if $d = ab$ and $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ then $d = c^2 \Rightarrow a = c_1^2$ and $b = c_2^2$ by the Th^m above.

Th^m / If a, b are relatively prime and ab is a square then both a and b are squares.

Similar results hold for cubes.

Th^m / If N is a nonsquare natural number then \sqrt{N} is irrational

Proof: Suppose $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\sqrt{N} \in \mathbb{Q}$ then $\exists a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ for which $\sqrt{N} = a/b$. Squaring both sides,

$$N = a^2/b^2 = \underbrace{p_1^{2m_1} p_2^{2m_2} \dots p_n^{2m_n}}_{\text{formed by cancelling appropriate powers in the prime factorization of } b^2}$$

formed by cancelling appropriate powers in the prime factorization of b^2

Thus N is a square. Consequently, if N is a nonsquare then $\sqrt{N} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ which shows \sqrt{N} is irrational. //

Prime factorization, gcd, and lcm

Unique prime factorization $\Rightarrow p|n \Leftrightarrow n = p p_2^{m_2} \dots p_n^{m_n}$
 primes divide n only when they appear in the factorization. So, $\text{gcd}(a, b) | a$ and $\text{gcd}(a, b) | b$
 means whatever prime in $\text{gcd}(a, b)$ must appear in prime factorization of both a & b .

Example: $500 = 4 \times 125 = 4 \times 5 \times 25 = \underline{2^2} \times \underline{5^3}$
 $300 = 3 \times 100 = 3 \times 4 \times 25 = \underline{2^2} \times 3 \times \underline{5^2}$

$$\text{gcd}(300, 500) = 2^2 \cdot 5^2 = 4 \cdot 25 = \underline{100}.$$

wins. $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (500, 300) \\ (300, 200) \\ (200, 100) \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \underline{\text{gcd}(500, 300) = 100}.$

Example: $4444 = 4 \times 1111 = 4 \times 11 \times 101 = \underline{2^2} \times \underline{11} \times \underline{101}$
 $9090 = 9 \times 1010 = 9 \times 10 \times 101 = \underline{3^2} \times \underline{2} \times \underline{5} \times \underline{101}$

$gcd(4444, 9090) = 2 \cdot 101 = \underline{202}$.

$(9090, 4444)$
 $(4444, 202) \rightarrow gcd(4444, 9090) = 202$

~~$(102, 78)$
 $(78, 102)$~~

for comparison to Euclid's method.

$$202 \overline{) 4444}$$

$$\underline{404}$$

$$404$$

$$\underline{404}$$

$$0$$
 $\therefore 202 | 4444$

$$102 \overline{) 9090}$$

$$\underline{306}$$

$$589$$

$$\underline{306}$$

$$48$$

• Least common multiple: product of maximum prime powers appearing in their prime factorization

Example: $4444 = \underline{2^2} \times \underline{11} \times \underline{101}$
 $9090 = \underline{2} \times \underline{3^2} \times \underline{5} \times \underline{101}$

$lcm(4444, 9090) = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 \cdot 101 = \underline{199,980}$.

FUN FACT (Ex. 2.5.5 pg. 33) $gcd(a, b) lcm(a, b) = ab$

Hence $lcm(a, b) = \frac{ab}{gcd(a, b)} = \frac{(4444)(9090)}{202} = 199,980$.

§2.6 LINEAR DIOPHANTINE EQUATIONS

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Consider the following

$$ax + by = c$$

where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ and we seek $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ which solve this linear Diophantine Eqⁿ in 2-variables.

Example: $6x + 15y = 0$

Has solⁿ $x = 15t, y = -6t \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Example: $ax + by = 0$

Has solⁿ $x = bt, y = -at \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{Z}$.

But, sometimes, \nexists any solⁿs.

Example: $6x + 15y = 1$ has no solⁿ since the l.h.s. would be divisible by 3 yet the r.h.s. is not divisible by 3.

Example: $6x + 15y = 3 \iff 2x + 5y = 1$

$\gcd(6, 15) = 3$.

$(15, 6) = (a, b)$

$(6, 3) = (b, a - 2b)$

~~$(3, 0)$~~

$3 = a - 2b$

$\Rightarrow x = 1, y = -2$

~~check: $2 \cdot 6 \cdot 1 + 15(-2) = 12 - 30 = -18$~~

$1 \cdot 15 - 2 \cdot 6 = 3$

general solⁿ: $x = 1 + t(6), y = -2 - t(15)$.

$15(1 + 6t) + 6(-2 - 15t) = 15 - 12 = 3$

Sorry messy. Anyway, better. ↷

CRITERION FOR SOLVABILITY OF LINEAR DIOPHANTINE EQ'S

When $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ the eqⁿ $ax + by = c$ has an integer solⁿ iff $\text{gcd}(a, b)$ divides c .

Proof: since $\text{gcd}(a, b) | a$ and $\text{gcd}(a, b) | b \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(a, b) | (ax + by) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, if $\exists x, y$ s.t. $ax + by = c$ then $\text{gcd}(a, b) | c$.

Conversely, if $\text{gcd}(a, b) | c$ then $[\text{gcd}(a, b)]j = c$ for some $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ and we also know $\exists m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $am + bn = \text{gcd}(a, b)$ hence

$$c = \text{gcd}(a, b)j = (am + bn)j = a(mj) + b(nj)$$

thus $x = mj, y = nj$ gives integer solⁿ to $ax + by = c$.

Algorithm to solve $ax + by = c$

- 1.) Check if $c | \text{gcd}(a, b)$. If $c = d \cdot \text{gcd}(a, b)$ then continue, else stop since no solⁿ exists where $c \neq \text{gcd}(a, b)$.
- 2.) Find m, n for which $am + bn = \text{gcd}(a, b)$
- 3.) Set $x_0 = md$ and $y_0 = nd$, this solves $ax + by = c$.
- 4.) To form the general solⁿ write:

$$x = x_0 + \frac{bt}{\text{gcd}(a, b)}$$

$$y = y_0 - \frac{at}{\text{gcd}(a, b)}$$

return 0 as $0 = a\left(\frac{bt}{\text{gcd}(a, b)}\right) + b\left(\frac{-at}{\text{gcd}(a, b)}\right)$

produce c as $ax_0 + by_0 = c$.

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Proof of Algorithm to find solⁿ of $ax+by=c$

Observe if $c \mid \gcd(a,b)$ then $\exists m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t.

$am+bn = \gcd(a,b)$ and $c = d \cdot \gcd(a,b)$ for some d

Hence $a(md) + b(nd) = d \gcd(a,b) = c$ which \mathbb{Z}

proves $ax_0 + by_0 = c$ for $x_0 = md, y_0 = nd$.

Moreover, $x = \frac{bt}{\gcd(a,b)}, y = \frac{-at}{\gcd(a,b)}$ clearly

$$\text{has } ax+by = a\left(\frac{bt}{\gcd(a,b)}\right) + b\left(\frac{-at}{\gcd(a,b)}\right) = 0$$

where $\frac{b}{\gcd(a,b)}, \frac{a}{\gcd(a,b)} \in \mathbb{Z}$ since the

$\gcd(a,b)$ divides both a and b . Finally,

$$a(x+x_0) + b(y+y_0) = \underbrace{ax+by}_0 + \underbrace{ax_0+by_0}_c = c.$$

Conversely, if x, y is any solⁿ of $ax+by=c$

then $x' = x - x_0$ and $y' = y - y_0$ gives

$$ax' + by' = ax - ax_0 + by - by_0 = c - c = 0.$$

Hence, x', y' solve $a'x' = -b'y'$ where

$$a' = \frac{a}{\gcd(a,b)} \text{ and } b' = \frac{b}{\gcd(a,b)} \text{ have } \underline{\gcd(a', b') = 1.}^*$$

Thus a', b' have no common divisor \Rightarrow by prime divisor property, $a'x' = -b'y' \Rightarrow b' \mid x' \Rightarrow \underline{x' = b't}$.

for some $t \in \mathbb{Z}, \therefore a'b't = -b'y' \Leftrightarrow \underline{y' = -a't}$.

We found $x' = b't$ and $y' = -a't$ hence, (12)

$$x' = x - x_0 = \frac{bt}{\gcd(a,b)}$$

$$y' = y - y_0 = \frac{-at}{\gcd(a,b)}$$

Therefore, $x = x_0 + \frac{bt}{\gcd(a,b)}$ & $y = y_0 + \frac{(-at)}{\gcd(a,b)}$.

* Claim: $\gcd(a', b') = 1$ where $a' = \frac{a}{\gcd(a,b)}$
and $b' = \frac{b}{\gcd(a,b)}$.

Proof: $a = a' \gcd(a,b)$ and $b = b' \gcd(a,b)$
thus $a' \mid a$ and $b' \mid b$. If $a' \mid b'$ then
we'd have $a' \mid a$ and a'

$$ma + nb = \gcd(a,b)$$

Divide by $\gcd(a,b)$,

$$m \left[\frac{a}{\gcd(a,b)} \right] + n \left[\frac{b}{\gcd(a,b)} \right] = \frac{\gcd(a,b)}{\gcd(a,b)} = 1.$$

$$a' \quad b' \quad \therefore ma' + nb' = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \gcd(a', b') = 1. //$$

Example: find general solⁿ of $6x + 15y = 3$

$$(15, 6) = (a, b)$$

$$(6, 3) = (b, a - 2b)$$

Halt as $3|6$ we find $3 = a - 2b = \text{gcd}(6, 15)$.

That is, $6(-2) + 15(1) = 3$

We find particular solⁿ $x_0 = -2, y_0 = 1$

Following 4.) we write,

$$x = -2 + \frac{6t}{3} = -2 + 2t$$

$$y = 1 - \frac{15t}{3} = 1 - 5t$$

Then $\{ (-2 + 2t, 1 - 5t) \mid t \in \mathbb{Z} \}$ forms the solⁿ set of $6x + 15y = 3$ in \mathbb{Z} .

§27 THE VECTOR EUCLIDEAN ALGORITHM

Assume $a > 0$ and $b < 0 \dots \rightarrow$ Euclid. Alg. runs by addition

Number	Symbolic Pairs	Vector Pairs
(12, -5)	(a, b)	$((1, 0), (0, 1))$
(7, -5)	$(a+b, b)$	$((1, 1), (0, 1))$
(2, -5)	$((a+b)+b, b) = (a+2b, b)$	$((1, 2), (0, 1))$
(2, -3)	$(a+2b, b+(a+2b)) = (a+2b, a+3b)$	$((1, 2), (1, 3))$
(2, -1)	$(a+2b, 2a+5b)$	$((1, 2), (2, 5))$
(1, -1)	$(3a+7b, 2a+5b)$	$((3, 7), (2, 5))$
(1, 0)	$(3a+7b, 2a+5b 5a+12b)$	$((3, 7), (5, 12))$

(this is interesting because \rightarrow)

Relative Primality in vector Euclidean Algorithm

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- 1.) every vector produced from $(1,0)$ and $(0,1)$ is a relatively prime pair of natural numbers (such a vector is called primitive)
- 2.) every relatively prime pair (a,b) of natural numbers can be produced (by starting the ordinary Euclidean Algorithm on b and $-a$)

1.) Proof: If $((m_1, n_1), (m_2, n_2))$ is vector pair at some step then $m_1 n_2 - n_1 m_2 = 1$. Observe true for $(1,0), (0,1)$. Moreover inductively, if it is true for $((m_1, n_1), (m_2, n_2))$ then the next pair is either

$((m_1 + m_2, n_1 + n_2), (m_2, n_2))$ or $((m_1, n_1), (m_1 + m_2, n_1 + n_2))$
for which we have

$$(m_1 + m_2)n_2 - (n_1 + n_2)m_2 = \underline{m_1 n_2} + \cancel{m_2 n_2} - \underline{n_1 m_2} - \cancel{n_2 m_2} = 1 \text{ by induction step.}$$

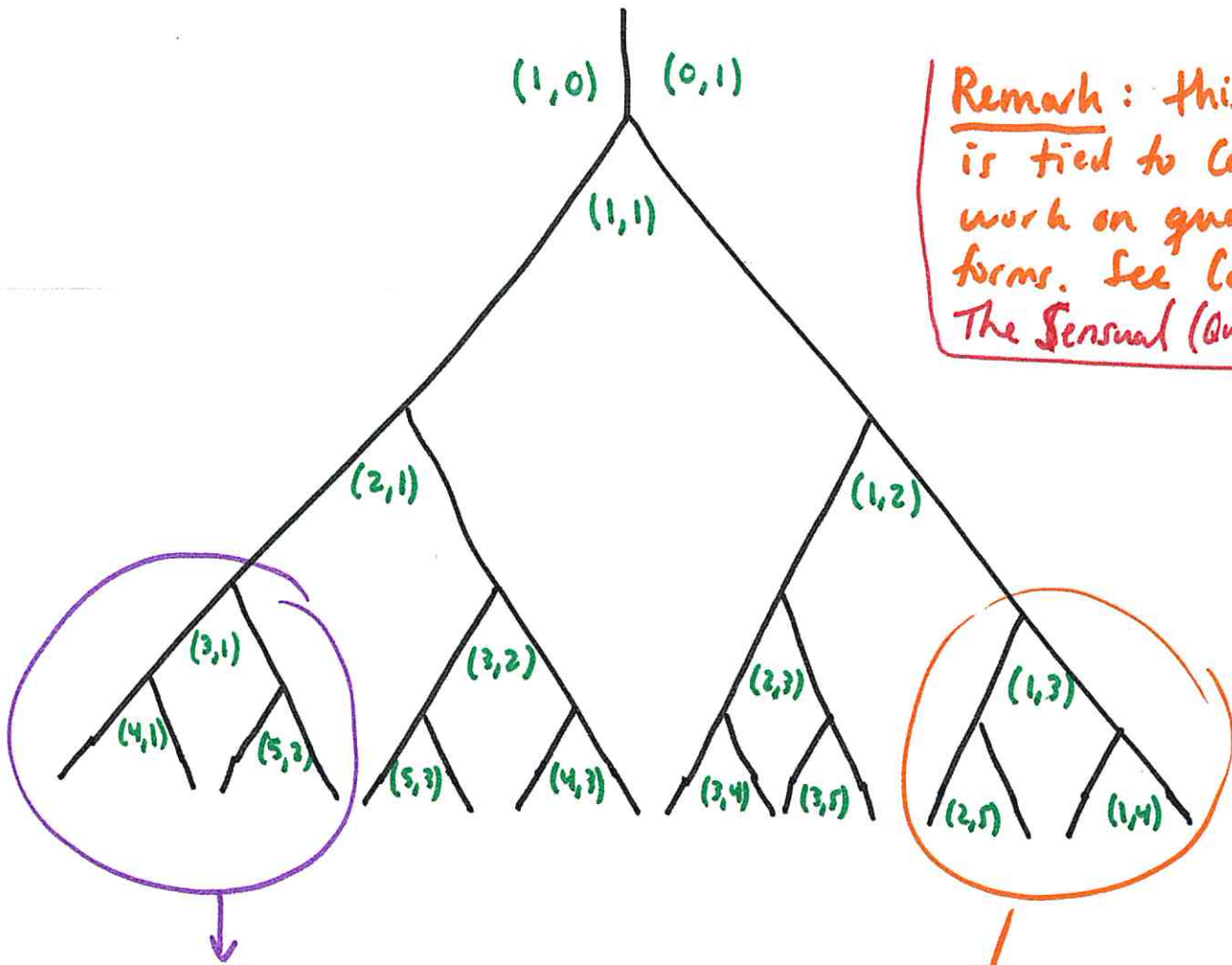
$$m_1(n_1 + n_2) - n_1(m_1 + m_2) = \cancel{m_1 n_1} + \underline{m_1 n_2} - \underline{n_1 m_1} - \underline{m_2 n_1} = 1.$$

Hence $\gcd(m_1, n_1) = 1$. (notice $n_2 m_1 - n_1 m_2 = 1$)
Likewise $\gcd(m_2, n_2) = 1$. $\hookrightarrow \gcd(m_1, n_1) = 1$

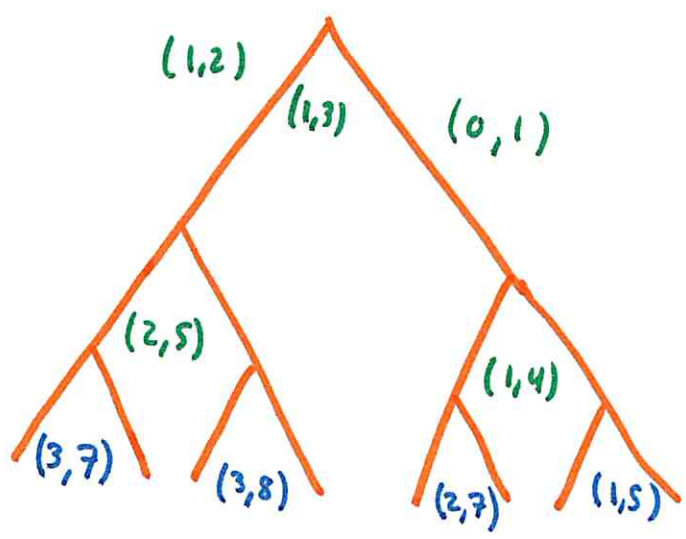
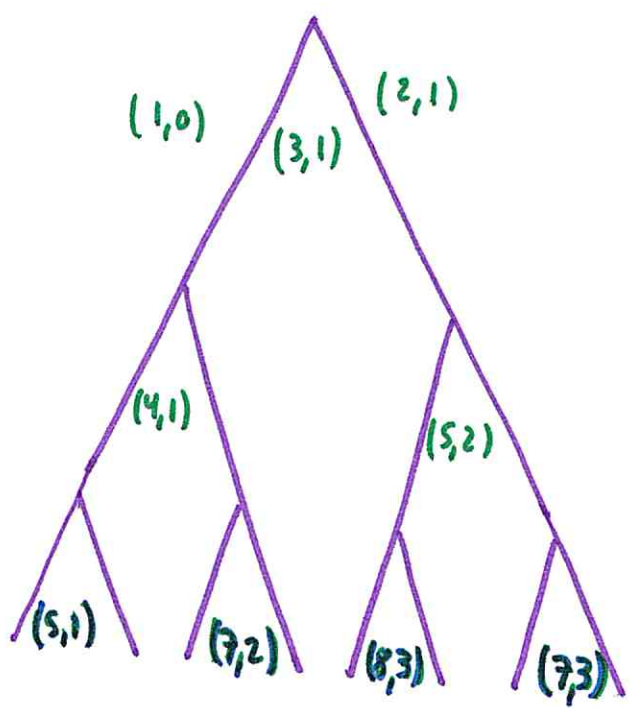
2.) If $\gcd(a,b) = 1$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$, then the vector Euclidean algorithm on $b, -a$ produces vector (m,n) s.t. $mb - na = 1$ with $\gcd(m,n) = 1$.
But, $mb = na$ for relatively prime a, b & m, n
 $\Rightarrow m = a$ and $n = b \Rightarrow$ can get (a,b) from the vect. algorithm.

(this explains the role of tree to follow \rightarrow)

§2.8 The map of relatively prime pairs



Remark: this game is tied to Conway's work on quadratic forms. See Conway's The Sensual (Quadratic) Form



(the blue row may be part of the answer to a hwk I assigned 😊)

§2.9 Discussion

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We've seen the main things that make \mathbb{Z} what it is

- Ring (+ and \times)
- Has Primes (known to Euclid, mastered by Gauss)
- Unique Factorization (1801 Gauss appreciated)

However, as usual, Euler comes into the story.

In 1748 Euler presented the product formula:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s} = \prod_{\text{primes } p} \left(\frac{1}{1-p^{-s}} \right)$$

the equality above \cong prime factorization of n .

Geometric series,

$$\frac{1}{1-p^{-s}} = 1 + p^{-s} + p^{-2s} + p^{-3s} + \dots$$

$$\prod_{\text{primes } p} \left(\frac{1}{1-p^{-s}} \right) = \prod_{\text{primes } p} \left(1 + p^{-s} + p^{-2s} + \dots \right)$$

... get \Rightarrow product of $p_1^{-m_1 s} p_2^{-m_2 s} \dots p_n^{-m_n s} =$
sum of 1
and $\frac{1}{2^s}, \frac{1}{3^s}, \dots$
 $\hookrightarrow = \frac{1}{(p_1^{m_1} p_2^{m_2} \dots p_n^{m_n})^s}$

Also, when $s=1$

harmonic series diverges

\Rightarrow ∞ many primes. (I finite # then \prod not diverge)

(BIRTH OF ANALYTIC # THEORY)

$\int (s)$ the zeta-function. We don't go into this as Math 331 is needed prereq. here.