## Proofs

- Methods of Proof
  - Divisibility
  - Floor and Ceiling
  - Contradiction & Contrapositive
  - Euclidean Algorithm

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Reading (Epp's textbook)
4.3 – 4.8
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# Divisibility

➤ The notation d | n is read "d divides n." Symbolically, if n and d are integers and d ≠ 0:

 $d \mid n \Leftrightarrow \exists$  an integer k such that n = dk.

- When "d divides n" we say that d is a factor of n and that n is a multiple of d.
- > We write  $d \nmid n$  when d does not divide n.

For all integers *n* and *d*, 
$$d \nmid n \Leftrightarrow \frac{n}{d}$$
 is not an integer.

## **Divisibility Theorems**

For integers a, b, and c it is true that

- If a | b and a | c, then a | (b + c)
   Example: 3 | 6 and 3 | 9, so 3 | 15.
- If a | b, then a | bc for all integers c
   Example: 5 | 10, so 5 | 20, 5 | 30, 5 | 40, ...
- ➢ If *a* | *b* and *b* | *c*, then *a* | *c* (Transitivity)
   Example: 4 | 8 and 8 | 24, so 4 | 24.

## Primes and Divisibility

- A positive integer p greater than 1 is called prime if the only positive factors of p are 1 and p.
- A positive integer that is greater than 1 and is not prime is called composite.
- > Any integer n > 1 is divisible by a prime number.

#### The fundamental theorem of arithmetic:

Every positive integer can be written uniquely as a product of primes (p1, p2, . . . , pk), and positive integers e1, e2, . . . , ek such that:

$$n = p1^{e_1}p2^{e_2}p3^{e_3} \dots pk^{e_k}$$

## Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic: Examples

- 75 =  $3 \times 5 \times 5 = 3 \times 5^2$
- 100 =  $2 \times 2 \times 5 \times 5 = 2^2 \times 5^2$
- 15 = 3 × 5
- 33 = 3 × 11
- 12 =  $2 \times 2 \times 3 = 2^2 \times 3$
- $28 = 2 \times 2 \times 7 = 2^2 \times 7$
- 512 =  $2 \times 2 = 2^9$

# Quotient – Remainder Theorem

Given any integer n and positive integer d, there exist unique integers q and r such that:

n = dq + r and  $0 \le r < d$ .

- $\succ$  In the above equation,
  - **d** is called the divisor,
  - n is called the dividend,
  - **q** is called the quotient, and
  - r is called the remainder.
- Note that the remainder cannot be negative!
- $\succ$  Examples where d = 5
  - $17 = 5 \times 3 + 2.$   $-13 = 5 \times (-3) + 2.$

# div, mod and Parity property

Symbolically, if *n* and *d* are integers and *d* > 0, then

*n* div d = q and *n* mod  $d = r \Leftrightarrow n = dq + r$ 

where q and r are integers and  $0 \le r < d$ .

> Thus  $n = d \cdot (n \operatorname{div} d) + n \operatorname{mod} d$ , and so

 $n \mod d = n - d \cdot (n \dim d).$ 

By the quotient-remainder theorem (with d = 2), there exist unique integers q and r such that

n = 2q + r and  $0 \le r < 2$ .

*n* = 2*q* + 0 (even) or *n* = 2*q* + 1 (odd).

> Any two consecutive integers have opposite parity.

## Proof by Division into Cases

To prove a statement of the form "If A1 or A2 or . . . or An, then C," prove all of the following:

> If A1, then C, If A2, then C,

If An, then C.

. . .

This process shows that C is true regardless of which of A1,  $A2, \ldots, An$  happens to be the case.

## Floor and Ceiling

Given any real number x, the floor of x, denoted [x], is defined as follows:

[x] = that unique integer *n* such that  $n \le x < n + 1$ .

Given any real number x, the ceiling of x, denoted [x], is defined as follows:

[x] = that unique integer *n* such that  $n - 1 < x \le n$ .



## Proving/Disproving a property of floor

Is the following statement true or false?

•  $\forall x, y \in R, [x + y] = [x] + [y]$ 

Counterexample

Is the following statement true or false?

•  $\forall x \in R \text{ and } \forall m \in Z, [x + m] = [x] + m.$ 

Let  $n = \lfloor x \rfloor$  and direct proof ...

# Proof by Contradiction

- 1. Suppose the statement to be proved is false.
  - That is, suppose that the negation of the statement is true.
- 2. Show that this supposition leads logically to a contradiction.
- 3. Conclude that the statement to be proved is true.

#### Theorem

There is no integer that is both even and odd.

Proof by Contradiction: 1) Suppose not. Assume that there is at least one integer *n* that is both even and odd.

**2)** By definition: n = 2b + 1 and n = 2a, for some integers a and b. Then  $2b + 1 = 2a \Leftrightarrow 1 = 2a - 2b \Leftrightarrow (a - b) = 1/2$ . (Contradiction?) **3)** The supposition is false and, hence, the theorem is true.

# **Proof by Contraposition**

- Express the statement to be proved in the form  $\forall x \text{ in } D$ , if P(x) then Q(x).
- Rewrite this statement in the contrapositive form  $\forall x \text{ in } D$ , if Q(x) is false then P(x) is false.
- Prove the contrapositive by a direct proof.
  - a. Suppose x is a (particular but arbitrarily chosen) element of D such that Q(x) is false.
  - b. Show that P(x) is false.

# Relation between Contradiction & Contraposition

Express the statement to be proved in the form  $\forall x \text{ in } D$ , if P(x) then Q(x).



#### **Proof by Contradiction**

## Example

For all integers *n*, if  $n^2$  is even then *n* is even. **Proof by Contraposition:** Suppose *n* is any odd integer. By definition of odd

n = 2k + 1 for some integer k.

 $n^2 = (2k+1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1.$ 

- But 2k<sup>2</sup> + 2k is an integer because products and sums of integers are integers.
- So  $n^2 = 2$ ·(an integer) + 1, and thus, by definition of odd,  $n^2$  is odd.

**Proof by Contradiction:** Suppose not. That is, suppose there is an integer n such that  $n^2$  is even and n is not even. Hence, n is odd, and thus, by definition

n = 2k + 1 for some integer k. (Same sequence of steps)

## **Greatest Common Divisors**

Let a and b be integers, not both zero.

- The largest integer d such that d | a and d | b is called the **greatest common divisor** of a and b.
- The greatest common divisor of a and b is denoted by gcd(a, b).

#### **Example 1:** What is gcd(48, 72) ?

The positive common divisors of 48 and 72 are
 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, and 24, so gcd(48, 72) = 24.

#### **Example 2:** What is gcd(19, 72) ?

 The only positive common divisor of 19 and 72 is 1, so gcd(19, 72) = 1.

## **Greatest Common Divisors**

#### **Theorem of arithmetic:**

$$\begin{array}{l} x = p_1{}^a 1 \ p_2{}^a 2 \ ... \ p_n{}^a n \ , \ y = p_1{}^b 1 \ p_2{}^b 2 \ ... \ p_n{}^b n \ , \\ \\ \text{where } p_1 < p_2 < ... < p_n \ \text{are primes and } a_i, \ b_i \in \mathbf{N} \ \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n \end{array}$$

$$\ge gcd(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$

#### **Example:**

 $a = 60 = 2^2 3^1 5^1$ 

 $b = 54 = 2^1 3^3 5^0$ 

 $gcd(a, b) = 2^1 3^1 5^0 = 6$ 

## Least Common Multiples

The least common multiple of the positive integers a and b is the smallest positive integer that is divisible by both a and b.

We denote the least common multiple of a and b by lcm(a, b).

## **Examples:**

lcm(3, 7) = 21lcm(4, 6) = 12lcm(5, 10) = 10

## Least Common Multiples

#### **Theorem of arithmetic:**

$$a = p_1^{a} 1 \ p_2^{a} 2 \dots p_n^{a} n , \ b = p_1^{b} 1 \ p_2^{b} 2 \dots p_n^{b} n ,$$
where  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_n$  are primes and  $a_i, b_i \in \mathbf{N}$  for  $1 \le i \le n$ 

$$\geq \operatorname{lcm}(a, b) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$

#### Example:

 $a = 60 = 2^2 3^1 5^1$ 

 $b = 54 = 2^1 3^3 5^0$ 

 $lcm(a, b) = 2^2 3^3 5^1 = 4 \times 27 \times 5 = 540$ 

## GCD and LCM





Theorem: a×b = gcd(a,b)×lcm(a,b)

# The Euclidean Algorithm

Lemma:

If *a* and *b* are any integers not both zero, and if *q* and *r* are any integers such that a = bq + r, then

gcd(a, b) = gcd(b, r).

The Euclidean Algorithm finds the greatest common divisor of two integers a and b.

- 1. Let A and B be integers with  $A > B \ge 0$ .
- Repeatedly apply the Lemma since the pair (B, r) is smaller than (A, B) until *r* = 0.

# The Euclidean Algorithm

For example, if we want to find gcd(287, 91), we divide 287 by 91:

- $287 = 91 \cdot 3 + 14$
- Apply the Lemma , gcd(287, 91) = gcd(91, 14).
- In the next step, we divide 91 by 14:
- 91 = 14.6 + 7
- This means that gcd(91,14) = gcd(14, 7).
- So we divide 14 by 7:
- $14 = 7 \cdot 2 + 0$
- We find that 7 | 14, and thus gcd(14, 7) = 7.

### Therefore, gcd(287, 91) = 7.

# The Euclidean Algorithm

In **pseu-docode**, the algorithm can be implemented as follows:

procedure gcd(a, b: positive integers)

```
x := a

y := b

while y \neq 0

begin

r := x mod y

x := y

y := r

end {x is gcd(a, b)}
```