

**MATH 465 NUMBER THEORY, SPRING TERM 2025,
SOLUTIONS 3**

1. Show that if $ad - bc = \pm 1$, then $(a + b, c + d) = 1$.

We have $(a + b, c + d) | (a + b)d - b(c + d) = ad - bc = \pm 1$.

2. Suppose that $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that there are integers a, b such that $(a, b) = m$ and $[a, b] = n$ if and only if $m | n$.

First suppose that $m | n$. Then choose $a = m, b = n$. Then $(a, b) = m(1, b/m) = m$ and $[a, b] = ab/(a, b) = mn/m = n$. Now suppose that there are a, b with $(a, b) = m$ and $[a, b] = n$. Then there are $u, v \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a = um, b = vm$. Hence $muv = \frac{mumv}{m} = \frac{ab}{(a, b)} = [a, b] = n$.

3. Find $(1819, 3587)$, and obtain the complete solution in integers x and y to $1819x + 3587y = (1819, 3587)$.

$$\begin{array}{rrrr} & 3587 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1819 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1768 & 1 & -1 \\ 34 & 51 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 34 & 35 & -69 \\ 2 & 17 & -36 & 71 \end{array}$$

Thus $17 = (16801, 2024) = (71)1819 + (-36)3587 = (71 + 211t)1819 + (-36 - 107t)3587$ for any $t \in \mathbb{Z}$.

4. Let $\{F_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be the Fibonacci sequence defined by $F_1 = 1, F_2 = 1, F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}$ and let

$$\theta = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} = 1.6180339887498948482045868343656 \dots$$

- (i) Prove that

$$F_n = \frac{\theta^n - (-\theta)^{-n}}{\sqrt{5}}.$$

- (ii) Suppose that a and b are positive integers with $b < a$ and we adopt the notation used in the description of Euclid's algorithm. Prove that for $k = 0, 1, \dots, s - 1$ we have $F_k \leq r_{s-1-k}$ and

$$s \leq 1 + \frac{\log 2b\sqrt{5}}{\log \theta}.$$

This shows that Euclid's algorithm runs in time at most linear in the bit size of $\min(a, b)$.

(i) θ and $\phi = -1/\theta = (1 - \sqrt{5})/2$ are both solutions to $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$ and hence to $x^{n+1} = x^n + x^{n-1}$. Moreover (i) holds for $n = 0$ and 1 and hence by induction for all n . (ii) $r_{s-1} \geq 1 \geq 0 = F_0$ and $r_{s-2} \geq 1 = F_1$. Suppose that $2 \leq k \leq s - 1$ and $F_j \leq r_{s-1-j}$ holds for $0 \leq j \leq k - 1$. Then $r_{s-1-k} = r_{s-1-(k-1)}q_{s-k+1} + r_{s-1-(k-2)} \geq r_{s-1-(k-1)} + r_{s-1-(k-2)} \geq F_{k-1} + F_{k-2}$, so by induction on k , $r_{s-1-k} \geq F_k$. Let $k = s - 1$. Then $F_{s-1} \leq r_0 = b$ and the desired inequality follows by taking logs and applying the formula for F_{s-1} .