

**Math 25**  
Homework 2

1. Find all integer solutions to  $11305x + 455y = 105$ .
2. Find all integer solutions to  $15x + 35y + 21z = 1$ . Hint: Your answer should have two free parameters.
3. The Fibonacci numbers are a sequence of recursively defined integers  $F_0, F_1, F_2, \dots$  where  $F_0 = 0$ ,  $F_1 = 1$  and  $F_{n+2} = F_{n+1} + F_n$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . A few values of  $F_n$ :

$n$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$F_n$	0	1	1	2	3	5	8	13	21	34	55

Their occurrence in nature is uncanny, from models of uncontrolled population growth, to phyllotaxis, to number of seeds in spirals of sunflowers.

- (a) For  $n \geq 0$ , show that  $\gcd(F_{n+1}, F_n) = 1$ .
- (b) Show that for  $n \geq 2$ , the Euclidean algorithm takes exactly  $n$  steps to compute  $\gcd(F_{n+2}, F_{n+1})$ .
- (c) Consider a **generating function** for the Fibonacci numbers:

$$G(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} F_n x^n = x + x^2 + F_3 x^3 + F_4 x^4 + F_5 x^5 + \dots$$

Show that

$$G(x) = \frac{x}{1 - x - x^2}.$$

Hint: Compute  $G(x) - xG(x) - x^2G(x)$ .

- (d) Exploration (**not required**). Show that for  $n \geq 0$ ,  $F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\alpha^n - \beta^n)$ , where

$$\alpha = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}, \text{ and } \beta = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

*Hint:* Start by using partial fractions to express

$$G(x) = \frac{x}{1 - x - x^2} = \frac{-x}{x^2 + x - 1} = \frac{A}{x - \alpha_0} + \frac{B}{x - \beta_0}.$$

4. Let  $a, b$  be positive integers, and suppose that  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ . We want to investigate **non-negative** integer solutions to  $ax + by = c$ , that is, solutions with both  $x, y \geq 0$ . Even though  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , there is no guarantee of any non-negative solutions, especially when  $c$  is small relative to  $a, b$ .

- (a) Show that for  $c = ab$ , the only non-negative solutions are  $(0, a)$  and  $(b, 0)$ .
- (b) Now let  $c > ab$ . Show that there is always a non-negative solution to  $ax + by = c$ .
5. Prove that there are infinitely many primes of the form  $6m + 5$  for  $m$  a non-negative integer.
6. Let  $m, n$  be relatively prime positive integers.
- (a) Prove that if an integer  $m > 1$  factors as  $m = p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_r^{e_r}$  and  $d \mid m$ , then  $d$  can be written as  $d = p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r}$  where  $0 \leq a_i \leq e_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ .
- (b) Show that every divisor  $d \mid mn$  can be written uniquely as  $d = d_m d_n$  where  $d_m \mid m$  and  $d_n \mid n$ .
- (c) Use the above to show that if  $n \geq 2$  is an integer with prime factorization  $n = p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_r^{e_r}$ , then every divisor  $d \mid n$  can be written uniquely as  $d = p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r}$  where  $0 \leq a_i \leq e_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ .