

**MATH 567 NUMBER THEORY I,  
FALL TERM 2003, PROBLEMS 1**

*Return by Thursday 11th September*

1. Calculate  $\gcd(4709, 6188)$ . (If unfamiliar with Euclid's algorithm, then review Exercises 1 and 2 on page 14.)
2. Find integers  $m$  and  $n$  so that

$$4709m + 6188n = \gcd(4709, 6188).$$

3. Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Show that the equation  $ax + by = c$  has solutions in integers  $x, y$  iff  $\gcd(a, b) | c$ . Assuming that the equation has a solution  $x_0, y_0$ , deduce that every solution is of the form

$$x = x_0 + t \frac{b}{\gcd(a, b)}, y = y_0 - t \frac{a}{\gcd(a, b)} \quad (t \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

4. Suppose that  $\gcd(u, v) = 1$ . Show that  $\gcd(u - v, u + v) = 1$  or  $2$ .
5. Let  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_s \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Define the greatest common divisor  $d$  of  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_s$  and prove that there exist integers  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_s$  such that  $n_1m_1 + n_2m_2 + \dots + n_sm_s = d$ .
6. Discuss the solubility of  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_sx_s = c$  in integers.
7. Find  $\gcd(x^{15} - 1, x^5 - x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - x - 2)$ .