

CUHK Department of Mathematics  
Enrichment Programme for Young Mathematics Talents 2019  
Number Theory and Cryptography (SAYT1114)

Quiz 1

- The total score for the quiz is  $100 + 20$  (20 points for the bonus question).
- If you obtain  $X$  points, your score will be  $\min(X, 100)$ .
- Time allowed:  $(60 + \varepsilon)$  minutes.
- The use of calculator is allowed.
- Unless otherwise specified, all variables defined in the quiz paper are integers.

**Q1. (10 points)** True or false. For each of the statements below, determine if it is true or false. You are **not** required to justify your answer.

- (a) (2 points) Given  $a, b$  where  $b > 0$ . Then there exists a unique pair of integers  $(q, r)$  such that  $a = qb + r$  and  $0 < r \leq b$ .
- (b) (2 points) Given  $a, b, c$  where  $c \neq 0$ . If  $c \nmid a + b$ , then  $c \nmid a$  and  $c \nmid b$ .
- (c) (2 points) Let  $a, b \neq 0$ . If  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid a$ , then  $a = b$ .
- (d) (2 points)  $\gcd(a, 1 - a^2) = 1$  for all integers  $a$ .
- (e) (2 points) Given  $a, b, c > 0$  such that  $c = a + b$ . Then  $\gcd(a, c) = \gcd(b, c)$ .

**Q2. (10 points)** Fill in the blanks to complete the following definitions and theorem statements. Each blank is worth 2 points.

(Definition of Divisibility) Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers,  $a \neq 0$ . We say  $a$  divides  $b$  if there exists

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_. In this case we write  $a \mid b$ .

(Bézout's Identity) Let  $m$  and  $n$  be integers, not both zero. Then there exists integers  $x$  and  $y$  such that \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ =  $\gcd(m, n)$ .

(Euclid's Lemma) Let  $a, b, c$  be integers,  $a \neq 0$ . If  $a \mid bc$  and \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_, then  $a \mid b$ .

(Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic) Given integer  $n > 1$ . Then we can write  $n = p_1 \dots p_r$ , where each  $p_i$  is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_. Furthermore, the expression is \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q3. (30 points)** Let  $a := 3990$  and  $b := 728$ .

- (a) (10 points) Let  $g := \gcd(a, b)$ . Using the Euclidean algorithm, find  $g$ .
- (b) (10 points) Using the calculation in (a), find **one** solution to the linear Diophantine equation  $3990x + 728y = g$ .
- (c) (10 points) Hence, find **all** solutions to the following linear Diophantine equations.
  - (i) (5 points)  $3990x + 728y = 56$
  - (ii) (5 points)  $3990x + 728y = 104$

**Q4. (25 points)** Prove the following statements. If you use the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, at most 60% of the points will be awarded.

- (a) (5 points) Given  $a, b, c, d$  with  $a, b \neq 0$ . Suppose  $a \mid c$  and  $b \mid d$ . Then  $ab \mid cd$ .
- (b) (10 points) Given  $a, b, c$ , all nonzero. Then  $\text{lcm}(\text{lcm}(a, b), c) = \text{lcm}(a, \text{lcm}(b, c))$ .
- (c) (10 points) Given  $a, b, c, d$ , all nonzero. Then  $\gcd(a, c)\gcd(b, d) \mid \gcd(ab, cd)$ .

**Q5. (25 points)** Given positive integers  $n$  and  $m$ , such that  $n$  is a perfect square,  $m \mid n$ , and  $m$  is square-free (that is,  $a^2 \nmid m$  for all  $a > 1$ ).

By the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, we can find primes  $p_i$  and non-negative  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ), such that  $n = p_1^{a_1} \dots p_r^{a_r}$  and  $m = p_1^{b_1} \dots p_r^{b_r}$ .

- (a) (6 points) Translate the three given conditions into conditions on  $a_i$  and  $b_i$ .
- (b) (8 points) Prove that  $m^2 \mid n$ . (Hint: prove that  $a_i \geq 2b_i$  for each  $i$ .)
- (c) (3 points) For each  $k \geq 3$ , find a counter-example to the following statement: Given positive integers  $n$  and  $m$ , such that  $n$  is a perfect  $k$ -th power,  $m \mid n$ , and  $m$  is  $k$ -th power-free (that is,  $a^k \nmid m$  for all  $a > 1$ ). Then  $m^k \mid n$ .
- (d) (8 points) Prove the following “correct” generalization: Given positive integers  $n$  and  $m$ , such that  $n$  is a perfect  $k$ -th power,  $m \mid n$ , and  $m$  is square-free (that is,  $a^2 \nmid m$  for all  $a > 1$ ). Then  $m^k \mid n$ .

**Q6 (Bonus Question). (20 points)** Given  $a, b > 0$  where  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ . For  $c \geq 0$ , we are interested in the existence of non-negative integer solutions to  $ax + by = c$ .

- (a) (5 points) Consider an example:  $a := 5, b := 7$ . Copy the following table to your answer book. Circle all values of  $c$  for which  $5x + 7y = c$  has **no** non-negative integer solutions.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34

- (b) (15 points) Prove the following statements. Partial credit will be awarded for stating “meaningful” observations from part (a).
- (i) (9 points) If  $c \geq (a - 1)(b - 1)$ , then  $ax + by = c$  has non-negative integer solution.
- (ii) (6 points) There are exactly  $\frac{(a-1)(b-1)}{2}$  values of  $c$  for which  $ax + by = c$  has no non-negative integer solutions.

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