



INTRO TO ABSTRACT MATH  
FALL 2009

HOMEWORK 27  
DUE NOVEMBER 23

**Exercise 78.** For each pair  $(a, b)$ , find  $\gcd(a, b)$  and express it in the form  $ra + sb$  with  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- a.  $a = 11, b = 3$
- b.  $a = 42, b = 77$
- c.  $a = 420, b = 288$

**Exercise 79.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ . Prove that if  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  then there is a  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  so that  $a \cdot_n b = 1$ . [*Hint:* If  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  then there are integers  $r, s$  so that  $ra + sn = 1$ .]

**Exercise 80.** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , let

$$U(n) = \{a \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}.$$

- a. Use the result of the previous exercise to show that  $(U(n), \cdot_n)$  is a group.
- b. Determine whether or not  $U(n)$  is cyclic for  $n = 8, 9, 10, 11, 12$ .