



MODERN ALGEBRA  
SPRING 2023

ASSIGNMENT 4.2  
DUE FEBRUARY 9

**Exercise 1.**

Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $d = \gcd(a, b) \neq 0$ , so that  $\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Use Bézout's Lemma to prove the following.

- a.  $\gcd\left(\frac{a}{d}, \frac{b}{d}\right) = 1$ . [*Suggestion.* Apply Bézout's Lemma to  $\gcd(a, b)$ , then divide everything by  $d$ .]
- b. [Euclid's Lemma] If  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$  and  $a|bc$ , then  $a|c$ . [*Suggestion.* Apply Bézout's Lemma to  $\gcd(a, b)$ , then multiply everything by  $c$ .]
- c. Recall that a positive integer  $p \geq 2$  is called *prime* if its only divisors in  $\mathbb{N}$  are 1 and  $p$ . Use part **b** to show that if  $p$  is prime and  $p|ab$ , then  $p|a$  or  $p|b$ .

**Exercise 2.** Use the fact that 1 has order 30 to compute the order of every element in  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ .

**Exercise 3.** Lang, Exercise II.1.16.