

**11.** (1 point.) Let  $d = \prod_p p^{a_p}$  be the canonical factorization of  $d$ . If  $p \mid d$ , then  $p \mid mn$ , and so  $p$  divides  $m$  or  $n$ , but not both (for otherwise  $p \mid (m, n)$ ). Let

$$r = \prod_{\substack{p \mid d \\ p \mid m}} p^{a_p} \quad \text{and} \quad s = \prod_{\substack{p \mid d \\ p \mid n}} p^{a_p}.$$

Then clearly  $rs = d$ ,  $r \mid m$ ,  $s \mid n$  and  $(r, s) = 1$ .

In other words, let  $r = (d, m) \mid m$  and let  $s = (d, n) \mid n$ . Then, since  $(m, n) = 1$ ,  $rs = (d, mn) = d$ . It is clear that  $(r, s) = 1$ , for if  $p$  divides  $(r, s)$  then  $p$  divides  $m$  and  $n$ , so  $p \mid (m, n)$ . (Or: if  $m = rr'$ ,  $n = ss'$ , then we have integers  $x, y$  such that  $1 = mx + ny = r(r'x) + s(s'y)$ .)

**14.** (2 points.)  $(x_0, y_0) = 1$  because  $a/d, b/d$  are integers and  $(a/d)x_0 + (b/d)y_0 = 1$ , and  $x_0, y_0$  are not unique because  $a(x_0 + bt/d) + b(y_0 - at/d) = d$  for every integer  $t$ .

**18.(a)** (1 point.) If  $(a, b) = (a, c) = 1$  then  $[a, b] = ab$  and  $[a, c] = ac$ , so if  $a \neq 0, b \neq c$  then  $[a, b] \neq [a, c]$ . For example any three distinct primes  $p, q, r$  are pairwise coprime and  $[p, q] = pq, [p, r] = pr, [q, r] = qr$  are all different.

**19.(a)** (1 point.) If  $d$  divides  $(a, b)$  then it divides  $a$ , and  $b$ , hence  $bc$ , hence  $(a, bc) = 1$ . Hence  $(a, b) = 1$ . Similarly  $(a, c) = 1$ . Or: we have integers  $x, y$  such that  $1 = ax + bcy = ax + b(cy) = ax + c(by)$ , hence  $(a, b) = (a, c) = 1$ .

**26.** We claim that  $(a^m - b^m, a^n - b^n) = a^{(m,n)} - b^{(m,n)}$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $(a, b) = 1$ . Write  $m = r_0, n = r_1$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= r_1 q_1 + r_2 \\ r_1 &= r_2 q_2 + r_3 \\ &\vdots \\ r_{t-2} &= r_{t-1} q_{t-1} + r_t \\ r_{t-1} &= r_t q_t + 0 \end{aligned}$$

as in the Euclidean algorithm. Then  $(m, n) = (r_0, r_1) = (r_1, r_2) = \dots = (r_t, 0) = r_t$ . Now for  $0 \leq i \leq t-2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^{r_i} - b^{r_i} &= a^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1} + r_{i+2}} - b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1} + r_{i+2}} \\ &= a^{r_{i+2}} (a^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}}) + b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}} (a^{r_{i+2}} - b^{r_{i+2}}) \\ &= a^{r_{i+2}} (a^{r_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1}}) Q_{i+1} + b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}} (a^{r_{i+2}} - b^{r_{i+2}}), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$Q_{i+1} = a^{r_{i+1}(q_{i+1}-1)} + a^{r_{i+1}(q_{i+1}-2)} b^{r_{i+1}} + \dots + b^{r_{i+1}(q_{i+1}-1)}.$$

Therefore

$$(a^{r_i} - b^{r_i}, a^{r_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1}}) = (a^{r_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1}}, b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}} (a^{r_{i+2}} - b^{r_{i+2}})), \quad 0 \leq i \leq t-2.$$

Now since  $(a, b) = 1$ ,  $(a^{r_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1}}, b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}}) = 1$ , so

$$(a^{r_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1}}, b^{r_{i+1} q_{i+1}} (a^{r_{i+2}} - b^{r_{i+2}})) = (a^{r_{i+1}} - b^{r_{i+1}}, a^{r_{i+2}} - b^{r_{i+2}}).$$

Thus

$$(a^{r_0} - b^{r_0}, a^{r_1} - b^{r_1}) = (a^{r_{t-1}} - b^{r_{t-1}}, a^{r_t} - b^{r_t}).$$

Finally,

$$a^{r-1} - b^{r-1} = a^{r_i q_i} - b^{r_i q_i} = (a^{r_i} - b^{r_i}) Q_i,$$

so  $(a^{r-1} - b^{r-1}, a^r - b^r) = a^r - b^r$ . Our claim is proved.

**27.** (1 point.) If  $n + 1$  divides  $n^2 + 1$  then it divides  $n^2 + 1 - (n + 1)(n - 1) = 2$ , so  $n = 1$  if it is a positive integer.

**39.** Note that  $N_k = 10^{k-1} + \dots + 1$  and  $(10 - 1)N_k = 10^k - 1$ . Suppose  $m = nq$ . Then

$$10^m - 1 = (10^n - 1)(10^{n(q-1)} + 10^{n(q-2)} + \dots + 10^n + 1) = (10^n - 1)X, \quad X = (10^{n(q-1)} + 10^{n(q-2)} + \dots + 10^n + 1).$$

Then  $(10 - 1)N_m = (10 - 1)N_n X$ , that is  $N_m = N_n X$ , hence  $N_n$  divides  $N_m$ .

For the converse, write  $m = nq + r$ ,  $0 \leq r \leq n - 1$ . Then

$$(10 - 1)N_m = 10^m - 1 = 10^r(10^{nq} - 1) + 10^r - 1 = 10^r(10^n - 1)X + 10^r - 1 = 10^r(10 - 1)N_n X + 10^r - 1.$$

Therefore if  $N_n$  divides  $N_m$  then  $N_n$  divides  $10^r - 1 \leq 10^{n-1} - 1 < N_n$ . Hence  $10^r - 1 = 0$ , that is  $r = 0$ , and  $m = nq$ .

**44.** Write  $m = n + k$ ,  $k \geq 1$ . We have

$$a^{2^{n+k}} - 1 = (a^{2^{n+k-1}} + 1)(a^{2^{n+k-1}} - 1),$$

so if  $a^{2^n} + 1$  divides  $a^{2^{n+1}} - 1$  ( $k = 1$ ), and if it divides  $a^{2^{n+k-1}} - 1$ , then it divides  $a^{2^{n+k}} - 1$ . The result follows by induction. Now we have

$$a^{2^m} + 1 = a^{2^m} - 1 + 2 = (a^{2^n} + 1)y + 2$$

for some integer  $y$ . Therefore  $(a^{2^m} + 1, a^{2^n} + 1)$  divides 2. If  $a$  is odd,  $2 \mid a^{2^m} + 1, a^{2^n} + 1$ , hence the greatest common divisor is 2. If  $a$  is even,  $2 \nmid a^{2^m} + 1, a^{2^n} + 1$ , hence the greatest common divisor is 1.

**2.** (1 point.) Let  $r$  be the largest integer such that  $2^r \mid n$ . Then  $r \geq 0$  and  $n = 2^r m$  where  $2 \nmid m$ , that is  $m$  is odd.

**4.(a)** (2 points.) Clearly  $p$  divides  $(a^2, b)$ . If  $q$  is a prime dividing  $(a^2, b)$  then  $q$  divides  $a^2, b$ , hence  $a, b$ , hence  $(a, b) = p$ , so  $q = p$ . Hence  $(a^2, b)$  is a positive power of  $p$ . If  $p^3$  divides  $(a^2, b)$  then  $p^2$  divides  $a^2, b$ , contradicting  $(a^2, b) = p$ . Hence  $(a^2, b) = p$  or  $p^2$ . Indeed both are possible, for example take  $a = b = p$ .

**5.** (a) (2 points.) Obviously  $(ab, p^5)$  is a power of  $p$ . Clearly  $p^3$  divides  $(ab, p^5)$ , for  $p$  divides  $a$  and  $p^2$  divides  $b$ . If  $p^4 \mid (ab, p^5)$  then  $p^2 \mid a$  or  $p^3 \mid b$ , contradicting  $(a, p^2) = p$  and  $(b, p^4) = p^2$  respectively. Hence  $(ab, p^5) = p^3$ .

(b) (2 points.) Obviously  $(a + b, p^4)$  is a power of  $p$ . We have  $a = pa', b = p^2 b'$ , where  $p \nmid a', b'$ . Then  $a + b = p(a' + pb')$  and  $p \nmid a' + pb'$ , so  $p$  divides  $a + b$  but  $p^2$  does not. Hence  $(a + b, p^4) = p$ .

**7.** (2 points.) We have  $ab = \prod_p p^{2v_p}$ , and since  $(a, b) = 1$ , if  $p \mid a$  then  $p \nmid b$  and vice-versa. By uniqueness of factorization, we must then have  $a = \prod_{p \mid a} p^{2v_p}$  and  $b = \prod_{p \mid b} p^{2v_p}$  are squares.

**8.** (2 points.)  $(n, n + 1) = 1$  (for  $(n + 1) \cdot 1 - n \cdot 1 = 1$ ), so if  $n(n + 1)$  is a square then  $n$  and  $n + 1$  are squares by 7. But this is impossible for no two squares differ by 1, except for  $(\pm 1)^2$  and  $0^2$ . To see this, note that if  $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b) = 1$ , then  $a + b = a - b = \pm 1$ .

Alternatively, note that if  $n$  is positive then  $n^2 < n(n + 1) < (n + 1)^2$ .

17 points, plus 3 points for a reasonable attempt at all questions = 20 points.