

Numb3rs

Prime Factorisation



Primes

- Definition: $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ is said to be a **prime number** if $p \geq 2$ and the only positive factors of p are 1 and p itself
 - 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 53, 59, 61, ...



Unique Factorisation

(Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic):

$\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}$, if $a \geq 2$ then $\exists!$ $(p_1, \dots, p_t, d_1, \dots, d_t)$ s.t.

$p_1 < \dots < p_t$ primes, $d_1, \dots, d_t \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, and $a = p_1^{d_1} p_2^{d_2} \dots p_t^{d_t}$

- Recall: We already saw that prime factorisation exists (using strong induction)
- Will prove uniqueness now

Primes

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Euclid's Lemma

$$\forall a, b, p \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } p \text{ is prime } (p \mid ab) \rightarrow (p \mid a \vee p \mid b)$$

- Since the only positive factors of p are 1, p , we have two cases: $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ or $\gcd(a, p) = p$.
- If $\gcd(a, p) = p$, then $p \mid a$ ✓
- If $\gcd(a, p) = 1$, then $\exists u, v$ s.t. $1 = ua + vp \Rightarrow b = uab + vpb$
 $\Rightarrow \exists k$ s.t. $b = ukp + vbp$ (since $p \mid ab$) $\Rightarrow p \mid b$

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- Generalisation of Euclid's Lemma (Prove by induction):
 $\forall a_1, \dots, a_n, p \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. p is prime, $(p \mid a_1 \cdots a_n) \rightarrow \exists i, p \mid a_i$
- Uniqueness of prime factorisation: Suppose z is the smallest positive integer with two distinct prime factorisations as $z = p_1 \cdots p_m = q_1 \cdots q_n$. $\max\{p_1, \dots, p_m\} \neq \max\{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$ (Why?).
So w.l.o.g., $p_m > q_i$, $i=1$ to $n \Rightarrow p_m \nmid q_i$, $i=1$ to n . But,
 $p_m \mid q_1 \cdots q_n \Rightarrow p_m \mid q_i$ for some i (by Lemma). Contradiction!

Divisors, Again

- Suppose $a = \prod_p \text{prime } p^{\alpha_p}$ and $b = \prod_p \text{prime } p^{\beta_p}$
(only finitely many primes p have $\alpha_p > 0$ or $\beta_p > 0$)
- $a|b$ iff for every p , $\alpha_p \leq \beta_p$
 - $a|b \Rightarrow b = aq$ where say, $q = \prod_p \text{prime } p^{\gamma_p}$
 \Rightarrow for every p , $\beta_p = \alpha_p + \gamma_p \geq \alpha_p$
 - For every p , $\alpha_p \leq \beta_p$
 \Rightarrow for every p , $\gamma_p := \beta_p - \alpha_p \geq 0$
 $\Rightarrow b = aq$ where $q = \prod_p \text{prime } p^{\gamma_p}$
 $\Rightarrow a|b$

GCD, Again

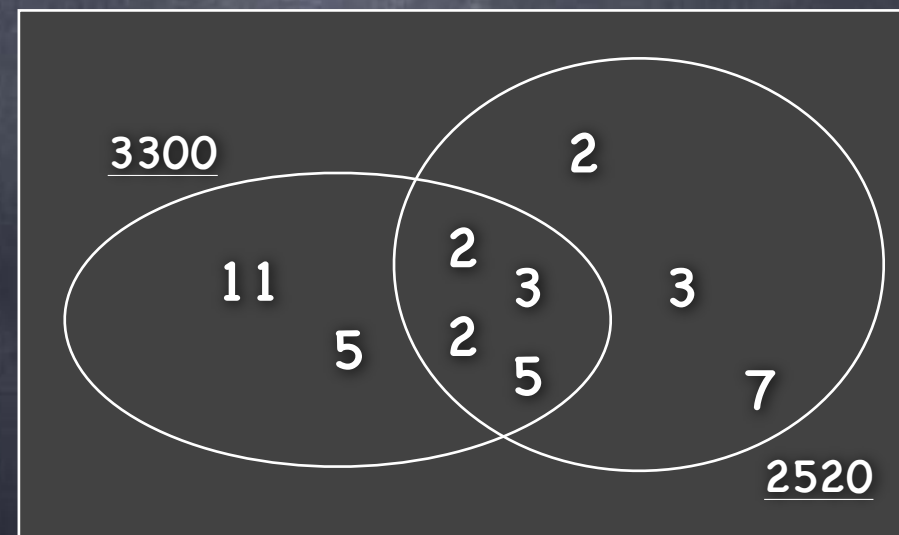
- An alternate algorithm for $\gcd(a,b)$: Given the prime factorisation of a,b , construct that of $\gcd(a,b)$
 - For each prime number p let α_p and β_p be its exponents in the factorisations of a and b resp. (Ignore p s.t. $\alpha_p=\beta_p=0$)
 - Then $\gamma_p = \min(\alpha_p, \beta_p)$ is p 's exponent in the prime factorisation of $\gcd(a,b)$

• $2520 = 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$

$3300 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11$

$\gcd(2520, 3300) = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$

- Not very practical compared to Euclid's algorithm, as prime factorisation is not easy



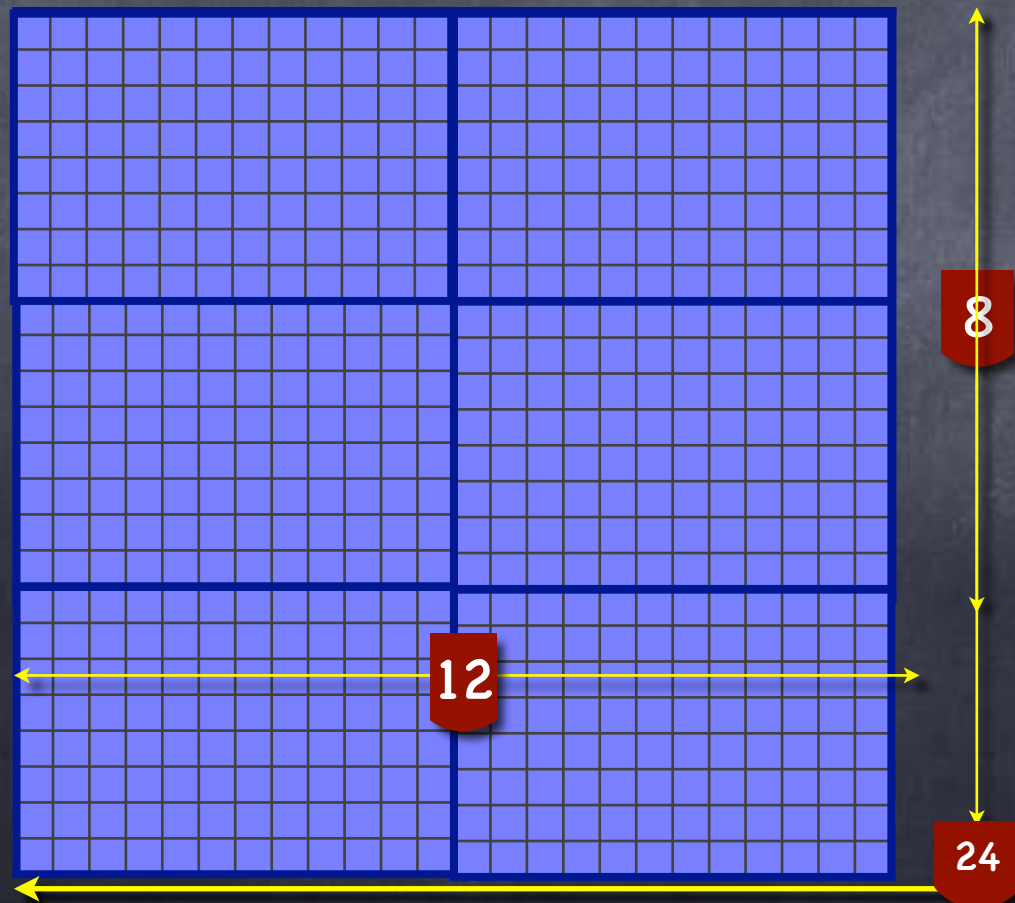
Common Multiples

- Common Multiple: c is a common multiple of a and b if $a|c$ and $b|c$.
- Least Common Multiple (for $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$)
 $\text{lcm}(a,b)$ = smallest positive integer among the common multiples of a and b
- Well-defined: $a \cdot b$ is a positive common multiple of (a,b) (unless $a=0$ or $b=0$) and we restrict to positive multiples. So an integer in the range $[1, a \cdot b]$.
- e.g. $36 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2$, $30 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$. $\text{lcm}(36,30) = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 = 180$

LCM as Tiling

[Here all numbers are positive integers]

- n is a common multiple of a & b , iff an $a \times b$ tile can be used to perfectly tile an $n \times n$ square

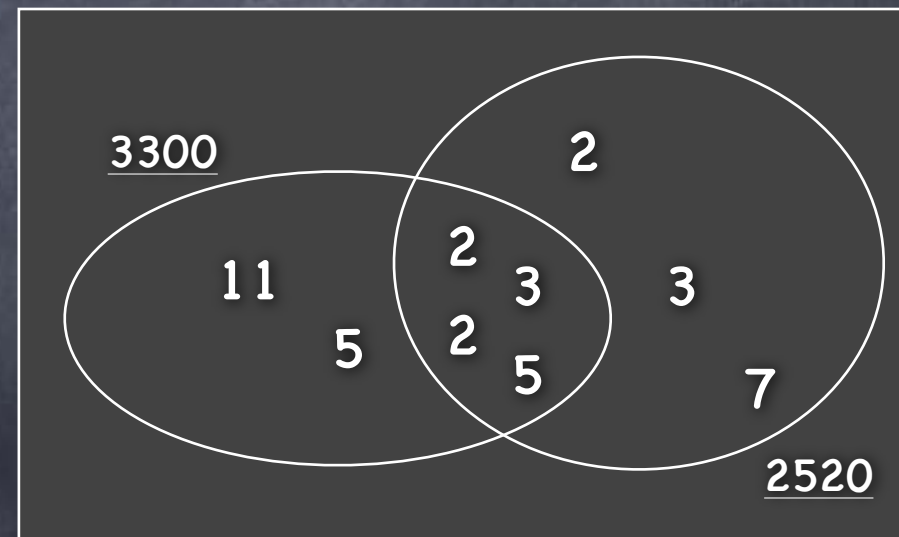


LCM: smallest such square

LCM from Factorisation

- For each prime number p let α_p and β_p be its exponents in the factorisations of a and b resp. (Ignore p s.t. $\alpha_p = \beta_p = 0$)
- Then $\lambda_p = \max(\alpha_p, \beta_p)$ is p 's exponent in the prime factorisation of $\text{lcm}(a,b)$

- $2520 = 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$
 $3300 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11$
 $\text{lcm}(2520, 3300)$
 $= 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$



- $\text{gcd}(a,b) \cdot \text{lcm}(a,b) = |a \cdot b|$ [Why?]