

**COMP340-08B**  
**Reasoning**  
**About Programs**

**12. Reasoning about Integers**  
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**A Property Greatest Common Divisors**

**Proposition**  
For any two integers  $x$  and  $y$ , it holds that

$$\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(y, x - y)$$

**Proof**  
Let  $x$  and  $y$  be two integers. It suffices to show that every common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$  also is a common divisor of  $y$  and  $x - y$ , and vice versa.

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**Euclidean Algorithm**

```
public int gcd(int x, int y)
{
    if (y == 0) {
        return x;
    } else {
        return gcd(y, x % y);
    }
}
```

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**Proving the Property** continued

- Let  $d$  be a common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ , i.e.,  $d$  divides  $x$  and  $y$ . Since  $d$  divides both  $x$  and  $y$ , it holds that  $x = nd$  and  $y = md$  for some integers  $n$  and  $m$ . It follows that  $x - y = (n - m)d$ , i.e.,  $d$  also divides  $x - y$ . Therefore,  $d$  is a common divisor of  $y$  and  $x - y$ .
- Let  $d$  be a common divisor of  $y$  and  $x - y$ . Then  $y = nd$  and  $x - y = md$  for some integers  $m$  and  $n$ . It follows that  $x = x - y + y = md + nd = (m + n)d$ , i.e.,  $d$  divides  $x$ . Therefore,  $d$  is a common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . □

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**Original Version of Euclidean Algorithm**

```
public int gcd(int x, int y)
{
    if (y == 0) {
        return x;
    } else {
        return gcd(y, x - y);
    }
}
```

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**A Theory of the Integers**

In this proof, several functions and relations regarding integers have been used (or will have to be used).

· +	}	Binary function symbols
mod gcd		
("divides")	}	Binary predicate symbols
< ≤		

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### Primitive Encoding of Integers

The theory of integers is based on the **primitive encoding**, represented by:

- Type predicate  $\text{nat}$
- Constant symbol  $0$
- Unary function symbol  $s$  (“successor”)

#### Axioms

- $\text{nat}(0)$
- $\forall x (\text{nat}(x) \rightarrow \text{nat}(s(x)))$

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### Axioms for Integer Comparisons

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x:\mathbb{N} \quad 0 < s(x) \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (x < y \rightarrow s(x) < s(y)) \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (x < y \rightarrow \neg(x = y \vee y < x)) \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (x \leq y \leftrightarrow x < y \vee x = y) \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (x > y \leftrightarrow y < x) \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (x \geq y \leftrightarrow x \leq y) \end{aligned}$$

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### Axioms for the Integer Functions

#### Addition

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x (\text{nat}(x) \rightarrow 0 + x = x) \\ \forall x \forall y (\text{nat}(x) \wedge \text{nat}(y) \rightarrow s(x) + y = s(x + y)) \end{aligned}$$

#### Multiplication

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x (\text{nat}(x) \rightarrow 0 \cdot x = 0) \\ \forall x \forall y (\text{nat}(x) \wedge \text{nat}(y) \rightarrow s(x) \cdot y = x \cdot y + y) \end{aligned}$$

#### Modulus

$$\forall x \forall y (\text{nat}(x) \wedge \text{nat}(y) \wedge y \neq 0 \rightarrow x \bmod y < y \wedge \exists n (\text{nat}(n) \wedge x = n \cdot y + (x \bmod y)))$$

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### Axiom for the “Divides” Predicate

$$\forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (x \mid y \leftrightarrow \exists n:\mathbb{N} \ y = n \cdot x)$$

$x \mid y$  (read as “ $x$  divides  $y$ ”)  
means that  
 $y$  can be divided by  $x$  without remainder,  
or in other words that  $y$  is a multiple of  $x$ .

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### Using Typed Quantification

*More concise notation  
using typed quantification*

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x:\mathbb{N} \quad 0 + x = x \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad s(x) + y = s(x + y) \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N} \quad 0 \cdot x = 0 \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad s(x) \cdot y = x \cdot y + y \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad (y \neq 0 \rightarrow x \bmod y < y \wedge \exists n:\mathbb{N} \ x = n \cdot y + (x \bmod y)) \end{aligned}$$

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### Axioms for the GCD

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad \text{gcd}(x,y) \mid x \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N} \quad \text{gcd}(x,y) \mid y \\ \forall x:\mathbb{N}, y:\mathbb{N}, d:\mathbb{N} \quad (d \mid x \wedge d \mid y \rightarrow d \leq \text{gcd}(x,y)) \end{aligned}$$

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