

Ex. We compute $\gcd(2024, 748)$ using repeated division with remainder:

$$\begin{aligned} 2024 &= 748 \cdot 2 + 528 \\ 748 &= 528 \cdot 1 + 220 \\ 528 &= 220 \cdot 2 + 88 \\ 220 &= 88 \cdot 2 + 44 \quad \leftarrow \gcd = 44 \\ 88 &= 44 \cdot 2 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: Compute the gcd of $\begin{matrix} r= \\ 1278, 234 \end{matrix}$:

$$\begin{aligned} 1278 &= 234 \cdot 5 + 108 \\ 234 &= 108 \cdot 2 + 18 \quad \leftarrow \gcd = 18. \\ 108 &= 18 \cdot 6 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 5b + 108 \Leftrightarrow 108 = a - 5b \\ b &= 234 = (a - 5b) \cdot 2 + 18 \\ b &= 2a - 10b + 18 \Leftrightarrow 18 = -2a + 11b \end{aligned}$$

By re-substituting substitution, we get a linear combination of a and b which is equal to the gcd of a and b . This leads to the Extended Euclidean Algorithm (EEA).

Theorem 2.4 Let a, b be positive integers. Then the equation

$a \cdot u + b \cdot v = \gcd(a, b)$
always has solutions in integers u and v .