

LA Session - Solving Linear Integer Equations Solutions

1) Find all integer solutions to the equation $847x + 539y = 7$.

This equation has no integer solutions because $847x + 539y = 77(11x + 7y)$. Thus, the left-hand side is divisible by 77 but the right-hand side is not. It follows there are no integer solutions for x and y to this equation.

2) (a) Find all integer solutions to the equation $108x + 47y = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}108 &= 2 \times 47 + 14 \\47 &= 3 \times 14 + 5 \\14 &= 2 \times 5 + 4 \\5 &= 1 \times 4 + 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}5 - 1 \times 4 &= 1 \\5 - (14 - 2 \times 5) &= 1 \\3 \times 5 - 1 \times 14 &= 1 \\3(47 - 3 \times 14) - 1 \times 14 &= 1 \\3 \times 47 - 9 \times 14 - 1 \times 14 &= 1 \\3 \times 47 - 10 \times 14 &= 1 \\3 \times 47 - 10(108 - 2 \times 47) &= 1 \\3 \times 47 - 10 \times 108 + 20 \times 47 &= 1 \\23 \times 47 - 10 \times 108 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

It follows that one solution is $(-10, 23)$. Since 108 and 47 are relatively prime, we can write all integer solutions as follows:

$$\{ (x, y) \mid x = -10 + 47c, y = 23 - 108c, c \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

(b) Find all integer solutions to the equation $108x + 47y = 9$.

Take the last line of the Extended Euclidean from the previous question:

$$23 \times 47 - 10 \times 108 = 1$$

Now, multiply through by 9:

$$\begin{aligned}(9 \times 23) \times 47 - (10 \times 9) \times 108 &= 1 \times 9 \\207 \times 47 - 90 \times 108 &= 9\end{aligned}$$

It follows that all solutions can be expressed as:

$$\{ (x, y) \mid x = -90 + 47c, y = 207 - 108c, c \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

If you want to “re-center” the solution, here’s a form of the same set that looks “nicer”:

$$\{ (x, y) \mid x = 4 + 47c, y = -9 - 108c, c \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

(c) Find $47^{-1} \pmod{108}$. (Note: Answer must be in between 0 and 107, inclusive.)

Once again, take the last line from the Extended Euclidean in part (a):

$$23 \times 47 - 10 \times 108 = 1$$

Take this equation mod 108 to get:

$$23 \times 47 \equiv 1 \pmod{108}$$

It follows that $47^{-1} \equiv 23 \pmod{108}$