

3. Let m and n be positive integers. Let H be the set of all linear combinations $an + bm$, where a and b are integers. It can be shown that there exists a positive element $h \in H$, so that every element of H is a multiple of h . PROVE that h is the greatest common divisor of m and n . (I am not asking you to prove the existence of h . I am saying, "Suppose h exists. Now prove that h is the g.c.d.") Let $d = \text{g.c.d.}(m, n)$.

$h \in H$ so $h = an + sm$ for some $a, s \in \mathbb{Z}$. We know $d | n$ and $d | m$ so d also $| h$.
 On the other hand, $n \in H$ so $h | n$ and $m \in H$ so $h | m$. Thus h is a common divisor of n and m . But d is the greatest common divisor of m and n .
 Thus $h \leq d$ and $d | h$, with d and h positive. This is possible only if $d = h$.

4. Give an example of a group G and elements a and b in G of finite order with the order of ab not equal to the order of a times the order of b .

$$G = S_3 \quad a = (12) \quad b = (13) \quad ab = (12)(13) = (132)$$

a and b have order 2 but ab has order 3.