

# The General Solution of the Diophantine Equation

$$mx + ny = c$$

**Theorem 5:** Let  $m, n, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  be non-zero integers and suppose that

$$g := \gcd(m, n) \mid c.$$

Then the **general integer solution**  $(x, y)$  of the equation

$$(1) \quad mx + ny = c$$

is given by the **formula**

$$(2) \quad \left. \begin{aligned} x &= \frac{c}{g}x_0 + \frac{n}{g}t \\ y &= \frac{c}{g}y_0 - \frac{m}{g}t \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ where } t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

and  $x_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  are (any) integers satisfying the equation

$$(3) \quad mx_0 + ny_0 = g.$$