

Recap from last class:

①

Fermat's little theorem:

For prime p , for a where $\gcd(a, p) = 1$,
$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Generalization: Euler's theorem:

For any N , for a where $\gcd(a, N) = 1$,
$$a^{\phi(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$$

where $\phi(N) = \#$ of $b \in \{1, 2, \dots, N-1\}$ where $\gcd(b, N) = 1$

For prime p , $\phi(p) = p-1$

For primes p & q , $\phi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$

Take integers d & e where $de \equiv 1 \pmod{(p-1)(q-1)}$

thus $de = 1 + k(p-1)(q-1)$ for some integer k .

then for a where $\gcd(a, pq) = 1$,

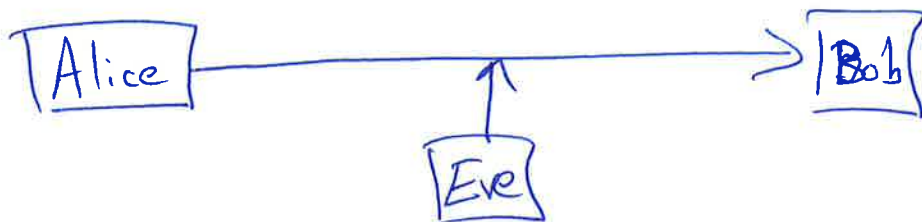
$$\begin{aligned} (a)^e &\equiv a^{de} \equiv a^{1+k(p-1)(q-1)} \equiv a \times \left(a^{(p-1)(q-1)} \right)^k \equiv a \pmod{pq} \\ &\equiv 1 \text{ by Euler's thm.} \end{aligned}$$

In fact, for all a , $a^{de} \equiv a \pmod{pq}$ ← (See Part I notes for the short proof of this fact)
This is the key to RSA.

RSA = [Rivest, Shamir, Adelman '77]

independently discovered by Clifford Cocks in '74.

Public-key cryptosystem:



Alice has a message m that she wants to send to Bob

Eve can see whatever message is transmitted

Public-key scheme:

Bob publishes a public key (N, e)

Alice uses Bob's public key to encrypt m

Bob uses his private secret key to decrypt.

RSA Protocol:

I. Bob: ① Bob picks 2 n -bit random primes p & q .
How? We'll see in a bit.
 n is big like $n = 1024$ or 2048 .

② Bob chooses e relatively prime to $(p-1)(q-1)$
by trying $e = 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots$
and testing $\gcd(e, (p-1)(q-1))$.

Let $N=pq$.

③ Bob publishes his public key (N, e) .

④ Bob computes his private key:

$$d \equiv e^{-1} \pmod{(p-1)(q-1)}$$

using Extended-Euclid algorithm.

⑤ Alice: To send message m ,

① Looks up Bob's public key (N, e)

② She computes $y \equiv m^e \pmod{N}$.

③ She sends y .

⑥ Bob:

① He receives y .

② He decrypts using:

$$m \equiv y^d \pmod{N}$$

use fast modular exponentiation algorithm
since d is probably big.

④
Key assumption: Given N, e , and y it is computationally difficult to determine m .

Natural approach is to factor N to get p & q
then one can get $(p-1)(q-1)$ and
hence $d \equiv e^{-1} \bmod (p-1)(q-1)$

Potential issues:

- if $e=3$ (or is too small) one needs to make sure that $m^e > N$
otherwise $\bmod N$ isn't doing anything
so to decrypt one can just compute $y^{1/3}$

To avoid this often "pad" m with random b .

- if send same m to e or more people ~~then~~
(all using the same e) then it can be decrypted (see HW problem).

Generating Random Primes:

Primes are dense:

generate a random n -bit number x
Check if x is prime (How?)
if x is prime, output x
else repeat

$$\text{Prob}(x \text{ is prime}) \approx \frac{1}{n} \quad \left(\text{Prime number theorem} \right)$$

Thus, n rounds in expectation.

How to test if x is prime?

If x is prime then for all $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, x-1\}$,
$$a^{x-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{x}$$

(by Fermat's little theorem)

What about composite x ?

Say $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, x-1\}$ is a Fermat witness if:
$$a^{x-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{x}$$

(such an a proves that x is composite)

⑥
For composite x , for a where $\gcd(a, x) = d > 1$
then: $a^{x-1} \bmod x = a^{x-1} - kx$ for some integer k
$$= d \left(\frac{a^{x-1}}{d} - k \frac{x}{d} \right)$$

So $a^{x-1} \bmod x$ is a multiple of d .

Thus, such an a is a Fermat witness.

So composite x have ≥ 2 Fermat witnesses but
are there Fermat witnesses which are not
divisors of x ?

Lemma: if x has ≥ 1 Fermat witness a
where $\gcd(a, x) = 1$ then at least half
the $b \in \{1, 2, \dots, x-1\}$ are Fermat witnesses

Carmichael number: composite x where
every a where $\gcd(a, x) = 1$ has $a^{x-1} \equiv 1 \bmod x$.
(so no non-trivial Fermat witnesses and
this lemma doesn't apply.)

⑦

Carmichael numbers are rare.

Smallest ones are 561, 1105, 1729, ...

Ignoring Carmichael numbers we have a primality testing algorithm:

For n -bit x :

1) Choose a_1, a_2, \dots, a_ℓ randomly from $\{1, 2, \dots, x-1\}$

2) For $i=1 \rightarrow \ell$, compute $a_i^{x-1} \bmod x$

3) a) if for all i we have $a_i^{x-1} \equiv 1 \bmod x$
then output " x is prime"
else output " x is composite"

For prime x , we always output " x is prime"

For composite x & not Carmichael,

$$\Pr(\text{output } x \text{ is prime}) \leq \frac{1}{2^\ell}$$

"false positive"

How to deal with Carmichael numbers

For x, N , if $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$ then

x is a square root of 1 mod N .

Note $x=1$ & $x \equiv -1 \equiv N-1 \pmod{N-1}$

are always square roots of 1 mod N .

if x is not ± 1 then it is a
nontrivial square root of 1 mod N .

Claim: For prime p , there are no nontrivial
square roots of 1 mod p .

So to show that x is composite we'll
find a nontrivial square root of 1
mod x .

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To see the claim:

note $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

hence $x^2 = 1 + kp$ for some integer k .

thus $x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1) = kp$

Since p divides kp it must also divide $(x-1)$ or $(x+1)$.

hence $x-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ or $x+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$
 $x \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ or $x \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

For odd x , $x-1$ is even so we can factor the largest power of 2 and get:

$$x-1 = 2^t u \text{ where } u \text{ is odd.}$$

Recall Fermat's test: check if $a^{x-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{x}$

We'll compute $a^{x-1} \bmod x$ by
 first computing $a^u \bmod x$
 then doing repeated squaring

So we'll get the sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} &a^u \bmod x \\ &a^{2u} \bmod x \\ &a^{2^2 u} \bmod x \\ &a^{2^3 u} \bmod x \\ &\vdots \\ &a^{2^i u} \bmod x \end{aligned}$$

if $a^{x-1} \not\equiv 1 \bmod x$ then we know x is
 composite by Fermat's little theorem.

if $a^{x-1} \equiv 1 \bmod x$ then look at the 1st i

where $a^{2^i u} \equiv 1 \bmod x$

check if $a^{2^{i-1} u} \equiv -1 \bmod x$

if not then we have a

nontrivial square root of $1 \bmod x$

So we know x is composite.

Claim: For at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, x-1\}$
they provide a nontrivial square root of 1
mod x for this algorithm.