



Number Theory

Dr Emiliano De Cristofaro

(Slides partially prepared by Jens Groth)

Why probability theory?

- Security definitions
 - What is the probability an attacker breaks a cryptographic scheme?
- Mathematical tools
 - Use mathematical reasoning about cryptographic schemes
- Probability theory in this module
 - Elementary but extensively used
 - If you don't have much probability background, you're expected to catch up this week!

Finite sets

- Sets $A = \{1,2\}$ $B = \{1,2,3,4\}$ $C = \{4\}$
- Empty set $\emptyset = \{\}$
- Subsets/supersets $A \subseteq B$
- Intersection $A \cap B = \{1,2\}$
- Disjoint sets $A \cap C = \emptyset$
- Union $A \cup C = \{1,2,4\}$
- Relative complement $B \setminus A = \{3,4\}$
- Cartesian product $A \times C = \{(1,4), (2,4)\}$
- Cardinality $|A| = 2, |\emptyset| = 0$
- Rules $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$

Probability mass

- Sample space $\Omega = \{a, b, \dots, z\}$
- Probability mass function
 - $\text{Pr}: \Omega \rightarrow [0;1]$
 - $\text{Pr}(a) + \text{Pr}(b) + \dots + \text{Pr}(z) = 1$
- Uniform distribution
 - All samples have equal probability mass
 $\text{Pr}(a) = \text{Pr}(b) = \dots = \text{Pr}(z)$
- Example
 - A die should have roughly $1/6$ chance of landing on either side

Events

- Event $A \subseteq \Omega$
- Define $\Pr[A] = \sum_{x \in A} \Pr(x)$
- Immediate consequences
 - $\Pr[\emptyset] = 0$
 - $\Pr[\Omega] = 1$
 - $0 \leq \Pr[A] \leq 1$
- Define A and B independent events if
$$\Pr[A \cap B] = \Pr[A] \Pr[B]$$

Various rules

- If $A \subseteq B$ then $\Pr[A] \leq \Pr[B]$
- $\Pr[A \cap B] \leq \min(\Pr[A], \Pr[B])$
- $\max(\Pr[A], \Pr[B]) \leq \Pr[A \cup B] \leq \Pr[A] + \Pr[B]$
- $\Pr[A \cup B] = \Pr[A] + \Pr[B] - \Pr[A \cap B]$
- $\Pr[A] - \Pr[B] \leq \Pr[A \setminus B] \leq \Pr[A]$
- Homework for next week:
 - Prove them

Conditional probability

- For B with $\Pr[B] > 0$ define

$$\Pr[A|B] = \Pr[A \cap B] / \Pr[B]$$

- Theorem: A and B are independent if and only if $\Pr[A|B] = \Pr[A]$
- Bayes theorem:

$$\Pr[A|B] = \Pr[B|A] \Pr[A] / \Pr[B]$$

Stochastic variables

- Random variable $X: \Omega \rightarrow R$

- Define

$$\Pr[X = y] = \Pr[X^{-1}(y)]$$

- Random variables

$$X: \Omega \rightarrow R, Y: \Omega \rightarrow S$$

give the natural joint random variable

$$(X, Y): \Omega \rightarrow R \times S$$

- Independent random variables if for all x, y
 $\Pr[(X, Y) = (x, y)] = \Pr[X = x] \Pr[Y = y]$

Dependent stochastic variables

- $X: \Omega \rightarrow R, Y: \Omega \rightarrow S$
- Properties
 - $\Pr[X=x|Y=y] = \Pr[(X,Y)=(x,y)] / \Pr[Y=y]$
 - $\Pr[X=x, Y=y] = \Pr[X=x|Y=y] \Pr[Y=y]$
- Useful observation
 - $\Pr[X=x|Y=y]\Pr[Y=y] + \Pr[X=x|Y \neq y]\Pr[Y \neq y] = \Pr[X=x]$
- Union bound
 - $\Pr[X=x \text{ or } Y=y] \leq \Pr[X=x] + \Pr[Y=y]$

Why number theory?

- Public key crypto builds on number theory!
- Number theory in this module
 - Elementary but extensively used, will be in the exam
 - You're expected to catch up on number theory by next week!

Prime numbers

- We write $a|b$ if $b = ax$ for some $x \in \mathbf{Z}$
- A natural number N is **prime** if:
 - Only divisors are 1 and N
 - Examples: 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, ...
- If p is a prime and $p|ab$ then $p|a$ or $p|b$
- Any natural number N has unique prime factorization $N = p_1^{r_1}p_2^{r_2}\dots p_s^{r_s}$

Modular reduction

- Given integers x, y we can find unique r, s such that

$$y = sx + r$$

with $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, x-1\}$

- We write

$$z \equiv y \pmod{x}$$

when

$$z - y = sx$$

- If $y = sx + r$ then $y = r \pmod{x}$

Greatest common divisor

- Greatest common divisor of a and b is the largest number that divides both a and b
- We define $\gcd(a,b) = \max\{d : d|a \text{ and } d|b\}$
- Note, $\gcd(p,a) \in \{1,p\}$ when p is prime
- Theorem:
 - For all a,b there are r,s so that $\gcd(a,b)=ra+sb$
 - If $c|ab$ and $\gcd(a,c)=1$ then $c|b$
 - If $a|N$ and $b|N$ and $\gcd(a,b)=1$ then $ab|N$

- Theorem:
For all a, b there are r, s so $\gcd(a, b) = ra + sb$

- Proof:

Define $\min = \min(\{ra + sb \mid ra + sb > 0\})$

– $\gcd \leq \min$

- $\gcd \mid a$ and $\gcd \mid b$ so $\gcd \mid ra + sb$ so $\gcd \mid \min$

– $\min \leq \gcd$

- If $\min \mid a$ and $\min \mid b$ then clear $\min \leq \gcd$
- True unless $[a \bmod \min]$ or $[b \bmod \min]$ non-zero
- Assume wlog $a = k \cdot \min + t$ for $0 < t < \min$
- Then $t = a - k \cdot \min = a - k(ra + sb) = (1 - kr)a - (ks)b$
- But then by definition $\min \leq t$ giving a contradiction₁₄

- Theorem:
If $c|ab$ and $\gcd(a,c)=1$ then $c|b$
- Proof:
 - Since $\gcd(a,c)=1$ there are r,s such that
$$1 = ra + sc$$
 - Multiply by b to get
$$b = rab + scb$$
 - This gives
$$b = (r(ab/c) + sb)c$$
 - So $c|b$

- Theorem:
If $a|N$ and $b|N$ and $\gcd(a,b)=1$ then $ab|N$
- Proof:
 - Since $a|N$ we can write $N=ra$
 - Since $b|ra$ and $\gcd(a,b)=1$ we get from the previous theorem $b|r$
 - Write $r=sb$ and we now have $N=sba$

- End of material covered
on September 30 -

Euclidean algorithm

- Theorem:

If $a|b$ then $\gcd(a,b) = a$

else $\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(a, b \bmod a)$

- Proof:

- Suppose $d|a$ and $d|b$, then $d|a$ and $d|b-xa$

- Suppose $d|a$ and $d|b-xa$, then $d|a$ and $d|b$

- Can compute $\gcd(a,b)$ with $b>a$ as follows:

$\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(a,c)$ where $c = b \bmod a$

$\gcd(a,c) = \gcd(d,c)$ where $d = a \bmod c$

...

Extended Euclidian example

- $\gcd(13, 18) = 1$ so $1 = x \cdot 13 + y \cdot 18$
 - Write $z = (a, b)$ for $z = a \cdot 13 + b \cdot 18$
 - $18 = (0, 1)$ and $13 = (1, 0)$
 - $18 \bmod 13$
 $= 5 = 18 - 13 = (0, 1) - (1, 0) = (-1, 1)$
 - $13 \bmod 5$
 $= 3 = 13 - 2 \cdot 5 = (1, 0) - 2(-1, 1) = (3, -2)$
 - $5 \bmod 3$
 $= 2 = 5 - 3 = (-1, 1) - (3, -2) = (-4, 3)$
 - $3 \bmod 2$
 $= 1 = 3 - 2 = (3, -2) - (-4, 3) = (7, -5)$
- So $1 = 7 \cdot 13 - 5 \cdot 18$

Modular arithmetic

- Many of the usual laws of the integers apply also when computing modulo N
- Associativity:
 - $(a+b \bmod N)+c \bmod N$
 $= a+(b+c \bmod N) \bmod N$
 $= a+b+c \bmod N$
 - $(ab \bmod N)c \bmod N$
 $= a(bc \bmod N) \bmod N$
 $= abc \bmod N$

Commutative ring \mathbb{Z}_N

- $(a+b)+c = a+(b+c) \pmod N$
- $a+0 = 0+a = a \pmod N$
- $a+(-a) = (-a)+a = 0 \pmod N$
- $a+b = b+a \pmod N$
- $(ab)c = a(bc) \pmod N$
- $1a=a1=a \pmod N$
- $ab = ba \pmod N$
- $a(b+c) = ab+ac \pmod N$
- $(a+b)c = ac+bc \pmod N$

Multiplicative inverses?

- Some numbers have inverses
 - Take 3 mod 10
 - $3 \cdot 7 = 21 = 1 + 20 = 1 \pmod{10}$
 - So 3 has an inverse
- But not all numbers have inverses
 - Look at 2 mod 10
 - There is no number b so $2b = 1 \pmod{10}$
- We define \mathbf{Z}_N^* = invertible elements in \mathbf{Z}_N

Multiplicative inverses

- Element a has multiplicative inverse modulo N if and only if $\gcd(a, N) = 1$
- Proof:
 - If $\gcd(a, N) = 1$ we can write $ra + sN = 1$ so $ra = 1 \pmod N$, i.e., r is an inverse to a
 - If on the other hand a has an inverse r , then $ra = 1 \pmod N$, which means $ra + sN = 1$ and therefore $\gcd(a, N) = 1$
- We write a^{-1} for the inverse of a
- The inverse is unique modulo N

Exercise

- What is \mathbf{Z}_{12} ?
- What is \mathbf{Z}_{12}^* ?
- For each element in \mathbf{Z}_{12}^* , find its inverse
- Answers:
 - $\mathbf{Z}_{12} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 11\}$
 - $\mathbf{Z}_{12}^* = \{1, 5, 7, 11\}$ $(\gcd(a, 12) = 1)$
 - Inverses: 1, 5, 7, 11
- Trick:
 - $11 = -1 \bmod 12, 7 = -5 \bmod 12$

Exercise II

- What is \mathbf{Z}_{23} ?
- What is \mathbf{Z}_{23}^* ?
- For each element in \mathbf{Z}_{23}^* find its inverse
- Answers:
 - $\mathbf{Z}_{23} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 22\}$
 - $\mathbf{Z}_{23}^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, 22\}$ (gcd(a,23)=1)
 - Element: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, -11, -10, ...
 - Inverse: 1, 12, 8, 6, -9, 4, 10, 3, -5, 7, -5, 5, -7, ...

The finite field \mathbf{Z}_p

- What is \mathbf{Z}_p^* when p is a prime?
- The elements that have $\gcd(a,p)=1$
- We have $\gcd(a,p) = 1$ for all a not divisible by p
- So $\mathbf{Z}_p^* = \{1,2,3,\dots,p-1\}$
- A field is a commutative ring where all non-zero elements are invertible
- \mathbf{Z}_p is a field with p elements

Group

- A group G is a set of elements with a binary operation $\bullet : G \times G \rightarrow G$ obeying the following laws:
- Associativity: $(a \bullet b) \bullet c = a \bullet (b \bullet c)$
- Neutral element: $e \bullet a = a \bullet e = a$
- Inverse: $a \bullet a^{-1} = a^{-1} \bullet a = e$
- The group is said to be abelian if it is Commutative: $a \bullet b = b \bullet a$

Example

- $\mathbf{Z}_N = \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$ is a finite abelian group
- The binary operation is addition mod N
- Associative: $(a+b)+c = a+(b+c) \bmod N$
- Neutral element: $0+a=a+0=a \bmod N$
- Inverse: $a+(-a) = (-a)+a = 0 \bmod N$
- Commutative: $a+b = b+a \bmod N$

Example

- \mathbf{Z}_N^* is a finite abelian group
- Binary operation is multiplication modulo N
- Associative: $(ab)c = a(bc) \bmod N$
- Neutral element: $1a = a1 = a \bmod N$
- Inverse: $aa^{-1} = a^{-1}a = 1 \bmod N$
- Commutative: $ab = ba \bmod N$

Subgroups

- H is called a subgroup of G , and we write $H \leq G$, if H is a subset of G and is a group with the same binary operation
- Example: $\{0, 2, 4, 6\} \leq \mathbf{Z}_8$
- Example: $\{1, 4\} \leq \mathbf{Z}_5^*$
- Lagrange's theorem:
If $H \leq G$ then $|H|$ divides $|G|$

Lagrange's Theorem

Theorem:

If $H \leq G$ then $|H|$ divides $|G|$

Proof:

- For all g : $|H| = |gH|$
 - Bijection: $h \leftrightarrow gh$
- For all g, g' : $gH = g'H$ or $gH \cap g'H = \emptyset$
 - If $gh = g'h'$ then $g = g'h'h^{-1}$ so
 $gH = g'h'h^{-1}H = g'H$
- Write $G = g_1H \cup \dots \cup g_kH$ with disjoint sets to see $|G| = k|H|$

Cyclic groups

- Definition:
 $g^i = g \bullet g \bullet \dots \bullet g$ (i times)
 $g^0 = 1$ and $g^{-i} = (g^{-1})^i$
- Theorem: $H = \{\dots g^{-2}, g^{-1}, 1, g, g^2, \dots\}$ is an abelian subgroup of G
- Proof:
 - Closure: $g^i g^j = g^{i+j}$
 - Associativity: $(g^i g^j) g^k = g^{i+j+k} = g^i (g^j g^k)$
 - Neutral element: $1g = g1 = g$
 - Inverses: $g^i g^{-i} = g^{-i} g^i = 1$
 - Commutativity: $g^i g^j = g^{i+j} = g^j g^i$

Order of finite group

- Definition:
The order of a group is the number of elements, i.e., $\text{ord}(G)=|G|$
- Theorem: For all $g \in G$ we have $g^{|G|} = 1$
- Proof:
 - Let $H = \{\dots g^{-2}, g^{-1}, 1, g, g^2, \dots\}$ and let k be the smallest k so $g^i = g^{i+k}$ for some i .
 - Then $g^k = 1$ and hence $H = \{1, g, \dots, g^{k-1}\}$.
 - Since it is a subgroup of G we have $k \mid \text{ord}(G)$ so $g^{|G|} = 1$

Examples

- Examples:
 - In \mathbf{Z}_6 we have $|\mathbf{Z}_6|=6$ and for $g=2$
 $2+2+2+2+2+2 = 2 \cdot 6 = 0 \pmod{6}$
 - In \mathbf{Z}_7^* we have $|\mathbf{Z}_7^*|=6$ and for $g=2$ that
 $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 2^6 = 64 = 1 \pmod{7}$
- Fermat's Little Theorem:
If p prime then $g^p - g = 0 \pmod{p}$
- Proof:
 - Clear if $g=0 \pmod{p}$
 - And else $g^{p-1} = 1 \pmod{p}$ (previous theorem)

Finite cyclic groups

- A finite group G is cyclic if there is an element g such that $G = \{1, g, g^2, \dots\}$
- We say g is a generator of G and write $G = \langle g \rangle$
- \mathbf{Z}_{12} is cyclic with generator 1, i.e., we can write all $x = 1+1+\dots+1 = 1 \cdot x \bmod 12$
- $\mathbf{Z}_5^* = \{1, 2, 2^2, 2^3\}$ (all mod 5) is cyclic
- Theorem (without proof):
If p is prime then \mathbf{Z}_p^* is cyclic

Exercise II from earlier

- Is $\mathbf{Z}_{23}^* = \{1, 2, \dots, 22\}$ cyclic?
- Yes, $p=23$ is a prime, so it is cyclic
 - There is a generator g such that $\mathbf{Z}_{23}^* = \langle g \rangle$
- Is $g = 2$ a generator?
 - No, $g=2$ gives $\langle 2 \rangle = \{2, 4, 8, 16, 9, 18, 13, 3, 6, 12, 1\}$
- Is $g = 20$ a generator?
 - Simplification: $20 = -3 \pmod{23}$
 - Yes, $g=-3$ gives us (modulo 23)
 $(-3)^1 = -3, (-3)^2 = 9, (-3)^3 = -4, (-3)^4 = 11, (-3)^5 = -10,$
 $(-3)^6 = 7, (-3)^7 = -2, (-3)^8 = 6, (-3)^9 = 5, (-3)^{10} = 8,$
 $(-3)^{11} = -1, \dots, (-3)^{22} = 12$

Simpler method

- $\mathbf{Z}_{23}^* = \{1, 2, \dots, 22\}$ is a cyclic group
- Is $g = -3$ a generator?
 - Yes, $g = -3$ gives us (modulo 23)
 $(-3)^1 = -3, (-3)^2 = 9, (-3)^3 = -4, (-3)^4 = 11, (-3)^5 = -10,$
 $(-3)^6 = 7, (-3)^7 = -2, (-3)^8 = 6, (-3)^9 = 5, (-3)^{10} = 8,$
 $(-3)^{11} = -1, \dots, (-3)^{22} = 1$
- Observe, $\langle -3 \rangle$ is a subgroup of \mathbf{Z}_{23}^*
- This means $|\langle -3 \rangle|$ divides $|\mathbf{Z}_{23}^*| = 22$
- Four options: $|\langle -3 \rangle| \in \{1, 2, 11, 22\}$
- If $(-3)^1 \neq 1, (-3)^2 \neq 1, (-3)^{11} \neq 1$ then $|\langle -3 \rangle| = |\mathbf{Z}_{23}^*|$

Probability - Further reading

- KL: Appendix A
- Trevisan's Discrete Prob. (first 7 pages)
 - See Moodle, optional

Algebra & Number Theory

- Further reading:
 - Tsudik's algebra review (slides)
 - Boneh's intro to number theory (slides)
 - KL Appendix B, 7.1, 7.2
- More:
 - Shoup's intro to number theory and algebra
 - Stallings 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4