

## 5 Number Theory

### 5.1 Introduction

#### Division

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers. We say that  $a$  **divides**  $b$ , or  $a|b$  if:

$$\exists d \text{ s.t. } b = ad$$

If  $b \neq 0$  then  $|a| \leq |b|$ .

**Division Theorem:** For any integer  $a$  and any positive integer  $n$ , there are unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that  $0 \leq r < n$  and  $a = qn + r$ .

The value  $r = a \bmod n$  is called the **remainder** or the **residue** of the division.

**Theorem:** If  $d|a$  and  $d|b$  then  $d|(xa + yb)$  for any integers  $x, y$ .

**Proof:**  $a = rd$  and  $b = sd$  for some  $r, s$ . Therefore,  $xa + yb = xrd + ysd = d(xr + ys)$ , so  $d|(xa + yb)$

#### Greatest Common Divisor

For integers  $a$  and  $b$ :

The **greatest common divisor**  $\gcd(a, b)$  is defined as follows:

$$\gcd(a, b) = \max(d \text{ s.t. } d|a \text{ and } d|b) \text{ (} a \neq 0 \text{ or } b \neq 0 \text{)}.$$

Note: This definition satisfies  $\gcd(0, 1) = 1$ .

The **lowest common multiple**  $\text{lcm}(a, b)$  is defined as follows:

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = \min(m > 0 \text{ s.t. } a|m \text{ and } b|m) \text{ (for } a \neq 0 \text{ and } b \neq 0 \text{)}.$$

$a$  and  $b$  are **coprimes** (or **relatively prime**) iff  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

#### Prime Numbers

An integer  $p \geq 2$  is called **prime** if it is divisible only by 1 and itself.

**Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic:** every positive number can be represented as a **product of primes** in a **unique** way, up to a permutation of the order of primes.

There are **infinitely many** primes

- Euclid gave simple proof by contradiction (c. 300BC).

The **number of primes**  $\leq n$ :  $\pi(n) \approx n / \ln n$

- Even though the number of primes is infinite, the **density of primes** gets increasingly sparse as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

## 5.2 Modular Arithmetic

### Modular Arithmetic

Modular arithmetic is fundamental to modern public key cryptosystems.

Given integers  $a, b, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  we say that  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $n$ :

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n} \text{ iff } n \text{ divides } b - a$$

Often we are lazy and just write  $a \equiv b$  if it is clear we are working modulo  $n$ .

The modulo operator is like the C-operator `%`.

Example:  $16 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$  since  $16 - 1 = 3 \times 5$

### Modular Arithmetic

For convenience we define the set:

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, \dots, n-1\}$$

which is the set of remainders modulo  $n$ .

It is clear that given  $n$ , every integer  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  is congruent modulo  $n$  to an element in the set  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , since we can write:

$$a = q \times n + r$$

with  $0 \leq r < n$  and  $a \equiv r \pmod{n}$

### Modular Arithmetic

The set  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  has two operations defined on it.

- Addition

$$- 11 + 13 \pmod{16} \equiv 24 \pmod{16} \equiv 8 \pmod{16}.$$

- Multiplication

$$- 11 \times 13 \pmod{16} \equiv 143 \pmod{16} \equiv 15 \pmod{16}.$$

Given integers  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have:

- $a + b \pmod{n} \equiv (a \pmod{n} + b \pmod{n}) \pmod{n}$
- $a - b \pmod{n} \equiv (a \pmod{n} - b \pmod{n}) \pmod{n}$
- $a \times b \pmod{n} \equiv (a \pmod{n} \times b \pmod{n}) \pmod{n}$

**Modular Arithmetic**

Properties of modular addition:

- **Closure:**

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a + b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$$

- **Associativity:**

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_n : (a + b) + c \equiv a + (b + c)$$

- **Commutativity:**

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a + b \equiv b + a$$

- **Identity** (0 is the identity):

$$\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a + 0 \equiv 0 + a \equiv a$$

- **Inverse** ( $n - a$  is the inverse of  $a$ ):

$$\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a + (n - a) \equiv (n - a) + a \equiv 0$$

**Modular Arithmetic**

Properties of modular multiplication:

- **Closure:**

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a \times b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$$

- **Associativity:**

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_n : (a \times b) \times c \equiv a \times (b \times c)$$

- **Commutativity:**

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a \times b \equiv b \times a$$

- **Distributivity** (distributes over addition):

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_n : (a + b) \times c \equiv a \times c + b \times c$$

- **Identity** (1 is the identity) :

$$\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}_n : a \times 1 \equiv 1 \times a \equiv a$$

**Multiplicative Inverse**

Division  $a/b$  in modular arithmetic is performed by multiplying  $a$  by the **multiplicative inverse** of  $b$ .

The multiplicative inverse of  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  is an element denoted  $b^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  with:

$$bb^{-1} \equiv b^{-1}b \equiv 1$$

**Theorem:**  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  has a unique **inverse modulo  $n$**  iff  $b$  and  $n$  are **relatively prime** i.e.  $\gcd(b, n) = 1$ .

**Theorem:** If  $p$  is a prime then every non-zero element in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  has an inverse.

**Multiplicative Inverse**

Consider  $\mathbb{Z}_{10}$ :

- 3 has a multiplicative inverse, since  $\gcd(3,10)=1$ .
  - $3 \times 7 \equiv 21 \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$ .
- 5 has no multiplicative inverse, since  $\gcd(5,10)=5$ .
  - We have the following table:

$0 \times 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$	$5 \times 5 \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$
$1 \times 5 \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$	$6 \times 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$
$2 \times 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$	$7 \times 5 \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$
$3 \times 5 \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$	$8 \times 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$
$5 \times 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$	$9 \times 5 \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$

**Greatest Common Divisor (GCD)**

We need a method to determine when  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  has a multiplicative inverse and compute it when it does.

We know this happens iff  $\gcd(a,n) = 1$ .

Therefore we need to compute the GCD of two integers  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- This is easy if we know the prime factorization of  $a$  and  $b$ , since:

$$a = \prod p_i^{\alpha_i} \text{ and } b = \prod p_i^{\beta_i} \Rightarrow d = \gcd(a, b) = \prod p_i^{\min(\alpha_i, \beta_i)}$$

- However, factoring is a very expensive operation, so we cannot use the above formula.
- A much faster algorithm to compute GCDs is Euclid's algorithm.

**GCD - Euclidean Algorithm**

To compute the GCD of  $a$  and  $b$  we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= q_0 b + r_0 \\ b &= q_1 r_0 + r_1 \\ &\vdots \\ r_{k-2} &= q_{k-1} r_{k-1} + r_k \\ r_{k-1} &= q_k r_k \end{aligned}$$

If  $d$  divides  $a$  and  $b$  then  $d$  divides  $r_0, r_1, r_2$  and so on.

Therefore:  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, r_0) = \gcd(r_0, r_1) = \cdots = \gcd(r_{k-1}, r_k) = r_k$

**GCD - Euclidean Algorithm**

As an example of this algorithm we want to show that:

$$3 = \gcd(21, 12)$$

Using the Euclidean algorithm we compute  $\gcd(21, 12)$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(21, 12) &= \gcd(21 \bmod 12, 12) \\ &= \gcd(9, 12) \\ &= \gcd(12 \bmod 9, 9) \\ &= \gcd(3, 9) \\ &= \gcd(9 \bmod 3, 3) \\ &= \gcd(0, 3) = 3 \end{aligned}$$

**XGCD - Extended Euclidean Algorithm**

Using the Euclidean algorithm, we can determine when  $a$  has an **inverse** modulo  $n$  i.e. iff  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ .

- But we do not know yet how to compute the inverse.

**Solution:** use an extended version of the Euclidean algorithm.

Recall that during the Euclidean algorithm we had:

$$r_{i-2} = q_{i-1}r_{i-1} + r_i$$

and finally  $r_k = \gcd(a, b)$ .

Now we **unwind** the above and write each  $r_i$  in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ .

**XGCD - Extended Euclidean Algorithm**

Unwinding the various steps in the Euclidean algorithm gives:

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= a - q_0b \\ r_1 &= b - q_1r_0 = b - q_1(a - q_0b) = -q_1a + (1 + q_0q_1)b \\ &\vdots \\ r_k &= xa + yb \end{aligned}$$

The XGCD takes as input  $a$  and  $b$  and outputs  $x, y, r_k$  such that:

$$r_k = \gcd(a, b) = xa + yb$$

**XGCD - Multiplicative Inverse**

Given  $a, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  we can compute  $d, x, y$  using XGCD such that:

$$d = \gcd(a, n) = xa + yn$$

Considering the above equation modulo  $n$  we get:

$$d \equiv xa + yn \pmod{n} \equiv xa \pmod{n}$$

Thus if  $d = 1$  then  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse given by:

$$a^{-1} \equiv x \pmod{n}$$

**Remark:** the more general equation  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  has precisely  $d = \gcd(a, n)$  solutions iff  $d$  divides  $b$ .

### Modular Exponentiation

Given a prime  $p$  and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  we want to calculate  $a^x \pmod{n}$ .

It does not make sense to compute  $y = a^x$  and then  $y \pmod{n}$ .

Consider  $123^5 \pmod{511} = 28153056843 \pmod{511} = 359$

There is a large intermediate result so this method takes a **very long time** and a **great deal of space** for large  $a$ ,  $x$  and  $n$ .

$123^5 \pmod{511}$  could also be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 123 \\ a^2 &= a \times a \pmod{511} = 310 \\ a^3 &= a \times a^2 \pmod{511} = 316 \\ a^4 &= a \times a^3 \pmod{511} = 32 \\ a^5 &= a \times a^4 \pmod{511} = 359 \end{aligned}$$

This requires four modular multiplications; it is still far too slow.

### Modular Exponentiation

It is much better to compute this example using the steps below:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 123 \\ a^2 &= a \times a \pmod{511} = 310 \\ a^4 &= a^2 \times a^2 \pmod{511} = 32 \\ a^5 &= a \times a^4 \pmod{511} = 359 \end{aligned}$$

This requires only 3 multiplications.

This shows that if we consider the binary representation of the exponent  $x = x_{k-1}x_{k-2} \dots x_1x_0$ , then the value represented by each bit of the exponent  $x_i$  can be obtained by **squaring** the value represented by the previous bit  $x_{i-1}$ .

**Multiplication** is required for every bit which is set after the first one.

Thus for an exponent with  $k$  bits of which  $j$  bits are set,  $k - 1$  **squarings** and  $j - 1$  **multiplications**.

### Modular Exponentiation

This suggests an algorithm which works through the exponent one bit at a time squaring and multiplying.

This is commonly known as the **square and multiply** algorithm.

Right to left variant for calculating  $y = a^x \pmod{n}$ :

```

y = 1
for i = 0 to k-1 do
  if xi = 1 then y = y*a (mod n)
  a = a*a (mod n)
end

```

Left to right variant for calculating  $y = a^x \pmod n$ :

```

y = 1
for i = k-1 downto 0 do
  y = y*y (mod n)
  if xi = 1 then y = y*a (mod n)
end

```

### Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)

Consider  $n = 15 = 3 \times 5$ .

We can represent every element  $a$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  by its **coordinates**  $(a \pmod 3, a \pmod 5)$ .

This leads to the following table:

	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	6	12	3	9
1	10	1	7	13	4
2	5	11	2	8	14

Note that all elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  have **different** coordinates, i.e. given  $(a_1, a_2)$  with  $0 \leq a_1 < 3$  and  $0 \leq a_2 < 5$  we can **reconstruct**  $a$ .

### Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)

Consider  $n = 24 = 4 \times 6$ .

We can represent every element  $a$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  by its **coordinates**  $(a \pmod 4, a \pmod 6)$ .

This leads to the following table:

	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0/12		8/20		4/16	
1		1/13		9/21		5/17
2	6/18		2/14		10/22	
3		7/19		3/15		11/23

Note that  $a$  and  $a + 12 \pmod{24}$  map to the **same coordinates**.

Therefore, given  $(a_1, a_2)$  with  $0 \leq a_1 < 4$  and  $0 \leq a_2 < 6$  we **cannot uniquely reconstruct**  $a$ .

### Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)

The previous examples indicate that if  $n = n_1 \times n_2$  with  $\gcd(n_1, n_2) = 1$ , we can replace computing modulo  $n$  by computing modulo  $n_1$  and modulo  $n_2$ :

$$\mathbb{Z}_n \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_2} \text{ iff } \gcd(n_1, n_2) = 1$$

If  $n = n_1 \times n_2$  then it is very easy to compute the coordinates of  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ , since these are simply  $(a \pmod{n_1}), a \pmod{n_2})$ .

However, given the coordinates  $(a_1, a_2)$  with  $0 \leq a_1 < n_1$  and  $0 \leq a_2 < n_2$  how do we compute the corresponding  $a$ ?

### Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)

We can reformulate our reconstruction problem as:

**Given:**  $n = n_1 \times n_2$  with  $\gcd(n_1, n_2) = 1$

**Compute:**  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  with  $x \equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1}$  and  $x \equiv a_2 \pmod{n_2}$

**Example:** If  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$  and  $x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$  then we have:

$$x \equiv 18 \pmod{35}$$

How did we work this out?

### CRT - Example

We want to find  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  with  $n = 35$  such that:

$$x \equiv 4 \pmod{7} \text{ and } x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

Therefore, for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have:

$$x = 4 + 7k \text{ and } x \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

Substituting the equality in the second equation gives:

$$4 + 7k \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$$

Therefore,  $k$  is given by the solution of:

$$2k \equiv 7k \equiv 3 - 4 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$$

Hence we can compute  $k$  as  $k \equiv 4/2 \pmod{5} \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ , so:

$$x \equiv 4 + 7k \equiv 4 + 7 \times 2 \equiv 18 \pmod{35}$$

### CRT - General Case

Let  $n_1, \dots, n_k$  be pairwise relatively prime and let  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  be integers.

We want to find  $x$  modulo  $n = n_1 n_2 \cdots n_k$  such that:

$$x \equiv a_i \pmod{n_i} \text{ for all } i$$

The CRT guarantees a unique solution given by:

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i \times N_i \times y_i \pmod{n}$$

$$N_i = n/n_i \text{ and } y_i = N_i^{-1} \pmod{n_i}$$

Note that  $N_i \equiv 0 \pmod{n_j}$  for  $j \neq i$  and that  $N_i \times y_i \equiv 1 \pmod{n_i}$



**CRT - General Case Example**

We want to find the unique  $x$  modulo  $n = 1001 = 7 \times 11 \times 13$  such that:

$$x \equiv 5 \pmod{7} \text{ and } x \equiv 3 \pmod{11} \text{ and } x \equiv 10 \pmod{13}$$

We compute:

$$N_1 = 143, y_1 = 5 \text{ and } N_2 = 91, y_2 = 4 \text{ and } N_3 = 77, y_3 = 12.$$

Then we reconstruct  $x$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv \sum_{i=1}^k a_i \times N_i \times y_i \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv 5 \times 143 \times 5 + 3 \times 91 \times 4 + 10 \times 77 \times 12 \pmod{1001} \\ &\equiv 894 \pmod{1001} \end{aligned}$$

**CRT - Modular Exponentiation**

Let  $n = 55 = 5 \times 11$  and suppose we want to compute  $27^{37} \pmod{n}$ .

This can be done in a number of ways:

- **Really stupid:** using 36 multiplications modulo 55:

$$(((27 \times 27) \pmod{n}) \times 27 \pmod{n}) \cdots 27 \pmod{n}$$

- **Less stupid:** using 5 squarings and 2 multiplications modulo 55:

$$((27^{2^5} \pmod{n}) \times 27^{2^2} \pmod{n}) \times 27 \pmod{n}$$

- **Rather intelligent:** using 5 squarings and 2 multiplications modulo 5 and modulo 11 and CRT to combine both results.

**Quadratic Residues**

An integer  $q$  is called a **quadratic residue** modulo  $n$  if there exists an integer  $x$  such that:

$$x^2 \equiv q \pmod{n}$$

Integer  $x$  is called the **square root** of  $q \pmod{n}$ .

If no such integer  $x$  exists,  $q$  is called a **quadratic nonresidue** modulo  $n$ .

Example ( $n = 11$ ):

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$x^2 \pmod{11}$	0	1	4	9	5	3	3	5	9	4	1

There are five quadratic residues modulo 11: 1, 3, 4, 5, and 9.

There are five quadratic non-residues modulo 11: 2, 6, 7, 8, 10.

The trivial case  $x^2 = 0$  is generally excluded from the list of quadratic residues.

### Quadratic Residues

If  $p$  is a prime **exactly half** of the numbers in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  are quadratic residues.

**Euler's Criterion:** Given odd prime  $p$  and  $q \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ :

- $q$  is a quadratic residue iff  $q^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .
- $q$  is quadratic nonresidue, iff  $q^{(p-1)/2} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ .

A quadratic residue  $q \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  cannot be a primitive root, since  $q^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  and the order of a primitive root is  $p-1$ .

### Quadratic Residues Modulo $n = pq$

Let  $n = pq$  where  $p$  and  $q$  are large primes.

If  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $n$ , then  $a$  has **exactly** four square roots modulo  $n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ .

Therefore **exactly a quarter** of the numbers in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  are quadratic residues modulo  $n$ .

### Legendre's Symbol

If  $p$  is a prime and  $a$  is an integer.

**Legendre's symbol**  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } a|p \\ +1, & \text{if } a \text{ is a quadratic residue modulo } p \\ -1, & \text{if } a \text{ is a quadratic non-residue modulo } p \end{cases}$

By **Euler's criterion**:  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = a^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}$ .

### Legendre's Symbol

Properties of Legendre's symbol:

1.  $a \equiv b \pmod{p} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$
2.  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$
3.  $\left(\frac{1}{p}\right) = 1$
4.  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$
5.  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = (-1)^{(p^2-1)/8}$
6. If  $p$  and  $q$  are odd primes:  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = (-1)^{((p-1)/2)((q-1)/2)} \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$

**Jacobi's Symbol**

**Jacobi's symbol** is a generalization of Legendre's symbol to **composite** numbers.

If  $n$  is odd with prime factorization  $n = p_1 \times p_2 \times \dots \times p_k$  and  $a$  is **relatively prime** to  $n$ :

Jacobi's symbol  $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p_1}\right) \times \left(\frac{a}{p_2}\right) \times \dots \times \left(\frac{a}{p_k}\right)$

$\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = -1 \Rightarrow a$  is a quadratic non-residue

$\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = 1 \nRightarrow a$  is a quadratic residue

**Jacobi's Symbol**

Properties of Jacobi's symbol:

1.  $a \equiv b \pmod{n} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{n}\right)$
2.  $\left(\frac{ab}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{n}\right) \left(\frac{b}{n}\right)$
3.  $\left(\frac{a}{mn}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{m}\right) \left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$
4.  $\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = 1$
5.  $\left(\frac{-1}{n}\right) = (-1)^{(n-1)/2}$
6.  $\left(\frac{2}{n}\right) = (-1)^{(n^2-1)/8}$
7. If  $m$  and  $n$  are odd co-primes:  $\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = (-1)^{((m-1)/2)((n-1)/2)} \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)$

**Square Roots Modulo Prime  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$** 

If the Legendre symbol is -1, then there is no solution.

If  $p$  is a prime and  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  then:

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \text{ (by Euler's criterion).}$$

Multiplying both sides by  $a$ :

$$a^{(p+1)/2} \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

Taking the square roots of both sides:

$$\pm a^{(p+1)/4} \equiv \sqrt{a} \pmod{p}$$

If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then  $(p+1)/4$  is an integer, and this can be used to calculate the square root.

**Square Roots Modulo Prime  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$** 

If  $p$  is a prime and  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  then:

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \text{ (by Euler's criterion).}$$

Taking the square roots of both sides:

$$a^{(p-1)/4} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$$

If  $a^{(p-1)/4} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  then:

$$\sqrt{a} = \pm a^{(p+3)/8} \pmod{p}$$

If  $a^{(p-1)/4} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  then:

$$\sqrt{a} = \pm 2a(4a)^{(p-5)/8} \pmod{p}$$

If  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$  then  $(p+3)/8$  and  $(p-5)/8$  are integers.

**Square Roots Modulo Prime  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$** 

If  $p$  is a prime s.t.  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and  $a$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  the probabilistic [Tonelli-Shanks](#) algorithm can be used to calculate  $\sqrt{a}$ :

Choose a random  $n$  until one is found such that  $(n/p) = -1$

Let  $e, q$  be integers such that  $q$  is odd and  $p-1 = 2^e q$

$$y = n^q \pmod{p}$$

$$r = e$$

$$x = a^{(q-1)/2} \pmod{p}$$

$$b = ax^2 \pmod{p}$$

$$x = ax \pmod{p}$$

**while**  $b \neq 1 \pmod{p}$  **do**

Find the smallest  $m$  such that  $b^{2^m} = 1 \pmod{p}$

$$t = y^{2^{r-m-1}} \pmod{p}$$

$$y = t^2 \pmod{p}$$

$$r = m$$

$$x = xt \pmod{p}$$

$$b = by \pmod{p}$$

**end**

**return**  $x$

**Square Roots Modulo  $n = pq$** 

If the Jacobi symbol is -1, then there is no solution.

If  $a$  is a quadratic residue and  $\sqrt{a} \pmod{p} = \pm x$  and  $\sqrt{a} \pmod{q} = \pm y$ , then we can use the Chinese Remainder Theorem to calculate  $\sqrt{a}$ .

Example: Compute the square root of 3 modulo  $11 \times 13$

$$\sqrt{3} \pmod{11} = \pm 5$$

$$\sqrt{3} \pmod{13} = \pm 4$$

Using the Chinese Remainder Theorem, we can calculate the four square roots as 82, 126, 17 and 61.

### 5.3 Group Theory

#### Groups

A **group**  $(S, \oplus)$  consists of a **set**  $S$  and an **operation**  $\oplus$ , satisfying:

- **Closure**:  $\forall a, b \in S : a \oplus b \in S$
- **Associativity**:  $\forall a, b, c \in S : a \oplus (b \oplus c) = (a \oplus b) \oplus c$
- **Identity element**  $e$ :  $\exists e \in S : \forall a \in S : a \oplus e = e \oplus a = a$
- Every element has an **inverse element**:

$$\forall a \in S : \exists a^{-1} \in S : a \oplus a^{-1} = a^{-1} \oplus a = e$$

- The group  $S$  is called **commutative** or **Abelian** if:

$$\forall a, b \in S : a \oplus b = b \oplus a$$

The **order** of a group  $S$ , denoted by  $|S|$ , is the number of elements in  $S$ . If a group  $S$  satisfies  $|S| < \infty$  then it is called a **finite group**.

#### Groups

$(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$  and  $(\mathbb{C}, +)$  are groups.

- the identity is 0, the inverse of  $x$  is  $-x$

$(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$  and  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$  are groups.

- the identity is 1, the inverse of  $x$  is  $1/x$

These are all examples of **infinite Abelian** groups.

$(\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$  is a **finite Abelian** group.

**Questions:**

- Why is  $(\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$  not a group?
- Why is  $(\mathbb{R}, \times)$  not a group?

#### Rings

A **ring**  $(S, \oplus, \otimes)$  consists of a set  $S$  together with two binary operators  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$ , satisfying:

- **Closure of  $\oplus$** :  $\forall a, b \in S : a \oplus b \in S$
- **Associativity of  $\oplus$** :  $\forall a, b, c \in S : a \oplus (b \oplus c) = (a \oplus b) \oplus c$
- **Commutativity of  $\oplus$** :  $\forall a, b \in S : a \oplus b = b \oplus a$
- **Identity for  $\oplus$** :  $\exists 0 \in S : \forall a \in S : a \oplus 0 = 0 \oplus a = a$

- **Inverse for  $\oplus$** :  $\forall a \in S : \exists -a \in S : a \oplus -a = -a \oplus a = 0$
- **Closure of  $\otimes$** :  $\forall a, b \in S : a \otimes b \in S$
- **Associativity of  $\otimes$** :  $\forall a, b, c \in S : a \otimes (b \otimes c) = (a \otimes b) \otimes c$
- **Identity for  $\otimes$** :  $\exists 1 \in S : \forall a \in S : a \otimes 1 = 1 \otimes a = a$
- **Distributivity of  $\otimes$  over  $\oplus$** :  $\forall a, b, c \in S : a \otimes (b \oplus c) = (a \otimes b) \oplus (a \otimes c)$  and  $(b \oplus c) \otimes a = (b \otimes a) \oplus (c \otimes a)$

### Rings

The following are all examples of **infinite rings**:

- $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \times)$
- $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times)$
- $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \times)$
- $(\mathbb{C}, +, \times)$

The following is an example of a **finite ring**:

- $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +, \times)$

### Fields

A **field**  $(S, \oplus, \otimes)$  consists of a set  $S$  together with two binary operators  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$ , satisfying all the properties of a ring plus the following:

- **Commutativity of  $\otimes$** :  $\forall a, b \in S : a \otimes b = b \otimes a$
- **Inverse for  $\otimes$** :  $\forall a \neq 0 \in S : \exists a^{-1} \in S : a \otimes a^{-1} = a^{-1} \otimes a = 1$

So  $(S, \oplus)$  is an abelian group with identity 0 and  $(S \setminus \{0\}, \otimes)$  is an abelian group with identity 1.

$(\mathbb{R}, +, \times)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \times)$  and  $(\mathbb{C}, +, \times)$  are all **infinite fields**.

$(\mathbb{Z}_n^*, +, \times)$  is a **finite field**.

### Finite Fields

A **finite field** is a field that contains a finite number of elements.

There is **exactly one** finite field of size (**order**)  $p^n$  where  $p$  is a prime (called the **characteristic** of the field) and  $n$  is a positive integer.

If  $p$  is a prime  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is the finite field  $\text{GF}(p)$  (note here that  $n = 1$  and so is omitted).

Finite fields are of central importance in **coding theory** and **cryptography**.

$\text{GF}(2^8)$  is of particular importance as an element can be represented in a single byte.

**Euler Groups**

We define the set of **invertible elements** of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  as:

$$\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{a \in \mathbb{Z}_n : \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$$

The set  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is always a group with respect to multiplication and is called an **Euler group**.

When  $n$  is a prime  $p$  we have:

$$\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{1, \dots, p-1\}$$

Examples:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbb{Z}_1 = \{0\} & \mathbb{Z}_1^* = \{0\} \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{0, 1\} & \mathbb{Z}_2^* = \{1\} \\ \mathbb{Z}_3 = \{0, 1, 2\} & \mathbb{Z}_3^* = \{1, 2\} \\ \mathbb{Z}_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3\} & \mathbb{Z}_4^* = \{1, 3\} \\ \mathbb{Z}_5 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\} & \mathbb{Z}_5^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \end{array}$$

**Euler Totient Function  $\phi(n)$** 

Euler's **totient** function  $\phi(n)$  represents the number of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ :

$$\phi(n) = |\mathbb{Z}_n^*| = |\{a \in \mathbb{Z}_n : \gcd(a, n) = 1\}|$$

$\phi(n)$  is therefore the number of integers in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  which are **relatively prime to  $n$** .

We know that an element  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  has a multiplicative inverse modulo  $n$  iff  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ .

Therefore, there are precisely  $\phi(n)$  **invertible elements** in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

**Euler Totient Function  $\phi(n)$** 

Given the **prime factorization** of  $n$ :

$$n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_i}$$

we can compute  $\phi(n)$  using the following formula:

$$\phi(n) = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_i-1} (p_i - 1)$$

The most important cases for cryptography are:

- If  $p$  is **prime** then:

$$\phi(p) = p - 1$$

- If  $p$  and  $q$  are **both prime** and  $p \neq q$  then:

$$\phi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$$

**Lagrange's Theorem**

The **order** of an element  $a$  of a group  $(S, \otimes)$  is the **smallest positive integer**  $k$  such that  $a^k = 1$ .

**Lagrange's Theorem:**

If  $S$  is a group of size  $|S| = n$  then  $\forall a \in S : a^n = 1$

**Corollary:** the order  $k$  of an element  $a \in S$  divides  $n = |S|$ , so if  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  then  $k$  divides  $\phi(n)$ .

Thus if  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  then  $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ , since  $|\mathbb{Z}_n^*| = \phi(n)$ .

This is known as **Euler's Theorem**.

**Euler's Theorem**

Euler's theorem allows us to simplify the calculation of modular exponentiation since the following holds:

$$a^k \pmod{n} \equiv a^{k \pmod{\phi(n)}} \pmod{n}$$

For example, to calculate  $101^{108} \pmod{109}$ , we can simplify this as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & 101^{108} \pmod{109} \\ = & 101^{108 \pmod{\phi(109)}} \pmod{109} \\ = & 101^{108 \pmod{108}} \pmod{109} \\ = & 101^0 \pmod{109} \\ = & 1 \end{aligned}$$

**Fermat's Little Theorem**

Not to be confused with Fermat's Last Theorem . . .

If  $p$  is a prime, Lagrange's Theorem tells us that  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

If we multiply both sides of this equation by  $a$ , we obtain **Fermat's Little Theorem**:

$$\text{if } p \text{ is a prime then } a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

Fermat's Little Theorem can be used to test whether a number  $n$  is probably a prime: this will be the case if  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

**Generators**

For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  the set  $\{a^0, a^1, a^2, a^3, \dots\}$  is called the group **generated** by  $a$ , denoted  $\langle a \rangle$ .

The **order** of  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is the size of  $\langle a \rangle$ , denoted  $|\langle a \rangle|$ .

**Examples** for  $\mathbb{Z}_7^*$ :

$\langle 3 \rangle = \{1, 3, 2, 6, 4, 5\}$ , so the order of 3 is 6

$\langle 2 \rangle = \{1, 2, 4\}$ , so the order of 2 is 3

$\langle 1 \rangle = \{1\}$ , so the order of 1 is 1



**Primitive Roots**

$a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is called a **primitive root** of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  if the order of  $a$  is  $\phi(n)$ .

Not all groups possess primitive roots e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  where  $n = pq$  and  $p, q$  are odd primes.

If  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  possesses a primitive root  $a$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is called **cyclic**.

If  $a$  is a primitive root of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  and  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  then  $\exists x$  s.t.  $a^x \equiv b \pmod{n}$ . This  $x$  is called the **discrete logarithm** or **index** of  $b$  modulo  $n$  to the base  $a$ .

**Examples** for  $\mathbb{Z}_7^*$ :

3 is a primitive root:  $\{3^0, 3^1, 3^2, 3^3, 3^4, 3^5\} = \{1, 3, 2, 6, 4, 5\} = \mathbb{Z}_7^*$

2 is not a primitive root:  $\{2^0, 2^1, 2^2, 2^3, 2^4, 2^5\} = \{1, 2, 4\} \neq \mathbb{Z}_7^*$

**Primitive Roots**

A primitive root exists in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  iff  $n$  has a value  $2, 4, p^k$  or  $2p^k$  for some odd prime  $p$  and integer  $k$ .

To determine whether  $a$  is a primitive root of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , we need to show for all prime factors  $p_1, \dots, p_k$  of  $\phi(n)$  that  $a^{\phi(n)/p_i} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ . This can be determined using **modular exponentiation**.

For a prime  $p$  the number of primitive roots mod  $p$  is  $\phi(p-1)$

**5.4 Primality Testing****Prime Numbers**

The generation of prime numbers is needed for many public key algorithms:

- **RSA**: Need to find  $p$  and  $q$  to compute  $N = pq$
- **ElGamal**: Need to find prime modulus  $p$
- **Rabin**: Need to find  $p$  and  $q$  to compute  $N = pq$

We shall see that testing a number for primality can be done very fast

- Using an algorithm which has a probability of error
- Repeating the algorithm lowers the error probability to any value we require.

**Prime Numbers**

Before discussing the algorithms we need to look at some basic heuristics concerning prime numbers.

A famous result in mathematics, conjectured by Gauss after extensive calculation in the early 1800's, is:

**Prime Number Theorem** The number of primes less than  $X$  is approximately  $\frac{X}{\log X}$

This means primes are quite **common**.

The number of primes less than  $2^{512}$  is about  $2^{503}$

### Prime Numbers

By the [Prime Number Theorem](#) if  $p$  is a number chosen at random then the probability it is prime is about:

$$\frac{1}{\log p}$$

So a random number  $p$  of 512 bits in length will be a prime with probability:

$$\approx \frac{1}{\log p} \approx \frac{1}{355}$$

So [on average](#) we need to select 177 odd numbers of size  $2^{512}$  before we find one which is prime.

Hence, it is practical to generate large primes, as long as we can test primality efficiently

### Primality Tests

For many cryptographic schemes, we need to generate [large primes](#). This is usually done as follows:

- Select a random large number
- Test whether or not the number is a prime.

Naive approach to primality testing on  $n$ :

- Check if any integer from 2 to  $n-1$  (or better:  $\sqrt{n}$ ) divides  $n$ .

An improvement:

- Check whether  $n$  is divisible by any of the prime numbers  $\leq \sqrt{n}$
- Can skip all numbers divisible by each prime number ([Sieve of Eratosthenes](#))

These methods are [too slow](#).

### Sieve of Eratosthenes

To find prime numbers less than  $n$ :

- List all numbers  $2, 3, 4, \dots, n-1$
- Cross out all numbers with factor of 2, other than 2
- Cross out all numbers with factor of 3, other than 3, and so on
- Numbers that “fall through” sieve are prime

	2	3	<del>4</del>	5	<del>6</del>	7	<del>8</del>	<del>9</del>	<del>10</del>
11	<del>12</del>	13	<del>14</del>	<del>15</del>	<del>16</del>	17	<del>18</del>	19	<del>20</del>
<del>21</del>	<del>22</del>	23	<del>24</del>	<del>25</del>	<del>26</del>	<del>27</del>	<del>28</del>	29	<del>30</del>

**Primality Tests**

Two varieties of primality test:

- Probabilistic
  - Identify **probable primes** with very low probability of being composite (in which case they are called **pseudoprimes**).
  - Much faster to compute than deterministic tests.
  - Examples:
    - \* Fermat
    - \* Solovay-Strassen
    - \* Miller-Rabin
- Deterministic
  - Identifies definite prime numbers.
  - Examples:
    - \* Lucas-Lehmer
    - \* AKS

**Fermat Primality Test**

**Fermat's Little Theorem**: if  $n$  is prime and  $1 \leq a < n$ , then:

$$a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

To test if  $n$  is prime, a number of random values for  $a$  are chosen in the interval  $1 < a < n-1$ , and checked to see if the following equality holds for each value of  $a$ :

$$a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

If  $n$  is composite then for a random  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ :

$$\Pr[a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}] \leq 1/2$$

A composite number  $n$  is called a **Fermat pseudoprime** to base  $a$  if  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

**Fermat Primality Test**

```

Pick random  $a$ ,  $1 < a < n-1$ 
if  $a^{n-1} \pmod{n} = 1$  then
  return PRIME
else
  return COMPOSITE
end

```

This test can be repeated  $k$  times to reduce the probability of classifying composites as primes.

If the algorithm outputs COMPOSITE at least once: output COMPOSITE; this will always be correct ( $a$  is called a [Fermat witness](#)).

If the algorithm outputs PRIME in all  $k$  trials: output PRIME (a [Fermat pseudoprime](#)); this will be an error with probability  $(1/2)^k$ .

Some composites always pass Fermat's test, and so are falsely identified as prime: the [Carmichael Numbers](#).

### Fermat Primality Test

[Carmichael numbers](#) are composite numbers  $n$  which fail Fermat's Test for every  $a$  not dividing  $n$ .

- Hence probable primes which are not primes at all.

There are infinitely many Carmichael Numbers

- The first three are 561, 1105, 1729

Carmichael Numbers  $n$  have the following properties:

- Always odd
- Have at least three prime factors
- Are square free
- If  $p$  divides  $n$  then  $p - 1$  divides  $n - 1$ .

### Fermat Primality Test

[Example](#): consider  $n = 15$ .

The values computed for  $a^{14} \pmod{15}$  for different values of  $a$  are as follows:

$a$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
$a^{14} \pmod{15}$	1	4	9	1	10	6	4	4	6	10	1	9	4	1

For  $a = 1, 4, 11, 14$  the algorithm will output PRIME: these values are called [Fermat liars](#).

For other values of  $a$  the algorithm will output COMPOSITE: these values are called [Fermat witnesses](#).

### Solovay-Strassen Primality Test

[Euler's Criterion](#): if  $n$  is an odd prime and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  then:

$$\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) \equiv a^{(n-1)/2} \pmod{n}$$

- $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$  is the [Jacobi symbol](#).

- If  $n$  is composite then for a random  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ :

$$\Pr\left[\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = a^{(n-1)/2}\right] \leq 1/2$$

Algorithm proposed by Solovay and Strassen (1973):

- A randomized algorithm.
- Never incorrectly classifies primes and correctly classifies composites with probability at least  $1/2$ .

### Solovay-Strassen Primality Test

```

Pick random  $a$ ,  $1 < a < n - 1$ 
if  $\gcd(a, n) > 1$  then
    return COMPOSITE
end
if  $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = a^{(n-1)/2}$  then
    return PRIME
else
    return COMPOSITE
end

```

This test can be repeated  $k$  times to reduce the probability of classifying composites as primes.

- If the algorithm outputs COMPOSITE at least once: output COMPOSITE; this will always be correct ( $a$  is called an Euler witness).
- If the algorithm outputs PRIME in all the  $k$  trials: output PRIME (an Euler pseudoprime); this will be an error with probability  $(1/2)^k$ .

### Solovay-Strassen Primality Test

**Example:** Consider  $n = 15$ .

For  $a = 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12$  the algorithm will output COMPOSITE

For the other values of  $a$  which are relatively prime to  $n$ :

$a$	1	2	4	7	8	11	13	14
$\left(\frac{a}{15}\right)$	1	1	1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1
$a^7 \pmod{15}$	1	8	4	13	2	11	7	14

For  $a = 1, 14$  the algorithm will output PRIME: these values are called Euler liars.

For other values of  $a$  the algorithm will output COMPOSITE: these values are called Euler witnesses.

**Miller-Rabin Primality Test**

Let  $2^k$  be the largest power of 2 dividing  $n - 1$ .

Thus we have  $n - 1 = 2^k m$  for some odd number  $m$ .

Consider the sequence:  $a^{n-1} = a^{2^k m}, a^{2^{k-1} m}, \dots, a^m$ .

We have set this sequence up so that each member of the sequence is a **square root** of the preceding member.

If  $n$  is prime, then by **Fermat's Little Theorem**, the first member of this sequence  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

When  $n$  is prime, the only square roots of  $1 \pmod{n}$  are  $\pm 1$ .

Hence either every element of the sequence is 1, or the first member of the sequence not equal to 1 must be  $-1 \pmod{n}$ .

The Miller-Rabin test works by picking a random  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ , then checking that the above sequence has the correct form.

**Miller-Rabin Primality Test**

```

Pick random  $a$ ,  $1 < a < n - 1$ 
 $b = a^m \pmod{n}$ 
if  $b \neq 1$  and  $b \neq n - 1$  then
   $i = 1$ 
  while  $i < k$  and  $b \neq n - 1$ 
     $b = b^2 \pmod{n}$ 
    if  $b = 1$  then
      return COMPOSITE
    end
     $i = i + 1$ 
  end
  if  $b \neq n - 1$  then
    return COMPOSITE
  end
end
return PRIME

```

**Miller-Rabin Primality Test**

For any composite  $n$  the probability  $n$  passes the Miller-Rabin test is at most  $1/4$ . On average it is significantly less.

The test can be repeated  $k$  times to reduce the probability of classifying composites as primes.

- If the algorithm outputs COMPOSITE at least once: output COMPOSITE; this will always be correct ( $a$  is called a **strong witness**).
- If the algorithm outputs PRIME in all the  $k$  trials: output PRIME (a **strong pseudoprime**); this will be an error with probability  $(1/4)^k$ .

Unlike the Fermat test, there are no composites for which no witness exists.

**Miller-Rabin Primality Test**

**Example:** Consider  $n = 15$ .

$n - 1 = 14 = 2 \times 7$ , so  $k = 1$ ,  $m = 7$ .

For  $a = 1, 14$  the algorithm will output PRIME: these values are called **strong liars**.

For other values of  $a$  the algorithm will output COMPOSITE: these values are called **strong witnesses**

**Lucas-Lehmer Primality Test**

A **Mersenne number** is an integer of the form  $2^k - 1$ , where  $k \geq 2$ .

If a Mersenne number is a prime, then it is called a **Mersenne prime**.

Subject of the **Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search (GIMPS)**.

The Mersenne number  $n = 2^k - 1$  ( $k \geq 3$ ) is prime if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:

1.  $k$  is prime
2. the sequence of integers defined by  $b_0 = 4$ ,  $b_{i+1} = (b_i^2 - 2) \pmod{n}$  ( $i \geq 0$ ) satisfies  $b_{k-2} = 0$ .

This is the basis of the **Lucas-Lehmer Primality Test**.

**Lucas-Lehmer Primality Test**

```

if  $k$  has any factors between 2 and  $\sqrt{k}$ 
  return COMPOSITE
end
 $b = 4$ 
for  $i = 1$  to  $k - 2$  do
   $b = (b^2 - 2) \pmod{n}$ 
end
if  $b = 0$  then
  return PRIME
else
  return COMPOSITE

```

**AKS Primality Test**

**AKS algorithm** discovered by Agrawal, Kayal and Saxena in 2002.

Result of many research efforts to find a deterministic polynomial-time algorithm for testing primality.

Based on the following property: if  $a$  and  $n$  are relatively prime integers with  $n > 1$ ,  $n$  is prime iff:

$$(x - a)^n \equiv x^n - a \pmod{n}$$

where  $x$  is a variable.

**Always** returns correct answer.

Polynomial time algorithm, but still too inefficient to be used in practice.

**AKS Primality Test**

```

if  $n$  has the form  $a^b$  ( $b > 1$ ) then
    return COMPOSITE
end
 $r = 2$ 
while  $r < n$ 
    if  $\gcd(n, r) \neq 1$  then return COMPOSITE
    if  $r$  is a prime  $> 2$  then
         $q = \text{largest factor of } r-1$ 
        if  $q > 4\sqrt{r} \log n$  and  $n^{(r-1)/q} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{r}$  then
            break
        end
         $r = r + 1$ 
    end
end
for  $a=1$  to  $2\sqrt{r} \log n$  do
    if  $(x-a)^n \not\equiv x^n - a \pmod{\gcd(x^r - 1, n)}$  then return COMPOSITE
end
return PRIME

```

**Primality Testing in Practice**

The Miller-Rabin test is preferable to the Solovay-Strassen test for the following reasons:

- The Solovay-Strassen test is computationally more expensive.
- The Solovay-Strassen test is harder to implement since it also involves Jacobi symbol computations.
- The error probability for Solovay-Strassen is bounded above by  $(1/2)^k$ , while the error probability for Miller-Rabin is bounded above by  $(1/4)^k$ .
- From a correctness point of view, the Miller-Rabin test is never worse than the Solovay-Strassen test.

AKS is a breakthrough result: proves that  $\text{PRIMES} \in \text{P}$ .

- Always gives correct results.
- No practical relevance: prohibitively slow run-times.