



CS201 DISCRETE MATHEMATICS FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE

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Application of Number Theory

- G. H. Hardy (1877 - 1947)

In his 1940 autobiography *A Mathematician's Apology*, Hardy wrote “The great modern achievements of applied mathematics have been in *relativity* and *quantum mechanics*, and these subjects are, at present, **almost as ‘useless’ as the theory of numbers.**”



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If he could see the world now, Hardy would be spinning in his grave.

Number Theory

- *Number theory* is a branch of mathematics that explores integers and their properties, is the basis of **cryptography**, **coding theory**, **computer security**, **e-commerce**, etc.



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- *Number theory* is a branch of mathematics that explores integers and their properties, is the basis of **cryptography**, **coding theory**, **computer security**, **e-commerce**, etc.
- At one point, the largest employer of mathematicians in the United States, and probably the world, was the **National Security Agency** (NSA). The NSA is the largest spy agency in the US (bigger than CIA, Central Intelligence Agency), and has the responsibility for code design and breaking.



Division

- If a and b are integers with $a \neq 0$, we say that a divides b if there is an integer c such that $b = ac$, or equivalently b/a is an integer. In this case, we say that a is a *factor* or *divisor* of b , and b is a *multiple* of a . (We use the notations $a|b$, $a \nmid b$)



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Example

◇ $4 \mid 24$

◇ $3 \nmid 7$



Divisibility

- **All integers divisible by $d > 0$ can be enumerated as:**
 $\dots, -kd, \dots, -2d, -d, 0, d, 2d, \dots, kd, \dots$



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- **Question:** Let n and d be two positive integers. How many positive integers **not exceeding n** are divisible by d ?



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- **Question:** Let n and d be two positive integers. How many positive integers **not exceeding n** are divisible by d ?

Answer: Count the number of integers such that $0 < kd \leq n$. Therefore, there are $\lfloor n/d \rfloor$ such positive integers.



Divisibility

■ Properties

Let a, b, c be integers. Then the following hold:

- (i) if $a|b$ and $a|c$, then $a|(b + c)$
- (ii) if $a|b$ then $a|bc$ for all integers c
- (iii) if $a|b$ and $b|c$, then $a|c$



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Proof.



Divisibility

- **Corollary** If a, b, c are integers, where $a \neq 0$, such that $a|b$ and $a|c$, then $a|(mb + nc)$ whenever m and n are integers.



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Proof. By part (ii) and part (i) of Properties.



The Division Algorithm

- If a is an integer and d a positive integer, then there are **unique** integers q and r , with $0 \leq r < d$, such that $a = dq + r$. In this case, d is called the *divisor*, a is called the *dividend*, q is called the *quotient*, and r is called the *remainder*.



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In this case, we use the notations $q = a \text{ div } d$ and $r = a \text{ mod } d$.



Congruence Relation

- If a and b are integers and m is a positive integer, then a is congruent to b modulo m if m divides $a - b$, denoted by $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$. This is called *congruence* and m is its *modulus*.



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Example

- ◇ $15 \equiv 3 \pmod{6}$
- ◇ $-1 \equiv 11 \pmod{6}$



More on Congruences

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Proof.

“only if” part

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- $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $a \bmod m = b$ are different.

- ◇ $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ is a relation on the set of integers
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- Let a and b be integers, and let m be a positive integer.
Then $a \equiv b \bmod m$ if and only if $a \bmod m = b \bmod m$



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Proof.



Congruences of Sums and Products

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Algebraic Manipulation of Congruences

- If $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$, then
 - $c \cdot a \equiv c \cdot b \pmod{m}$?
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 - $a/c \equiv b/c \pmod{m}$?



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$$14 \equiv 8 \pmod{6} \text{ but } 7 \not\equiv 4 \pmod{6}$$



Computing the mod Function

- **Corollary** Let m be a positive integer and let a and b be integers. Then

$$(a + b) \bmod m = ((a \bmod m) + (b \bmod m)) \bmod m$$

$$ab \bmod m = ((a \bmod m)(b \bmod m)) \bmod m$$



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Example

$$\diamond 7 +_{11} 9 = ?$$

$$\diamond 7 \cdot_{11} 9 = ?$$



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- **Commutativity:** if $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}_m$, then $a +_m b = b +_m a$
- **Distributivity:** if $a, b, c \in \mathbf{Z}_m$, then
 $a \cdot_m (b +_m c) = (a \cdot_m b) +_m (a \cdot_m c)$ and
 $(a +_m b) \cdot_m c = (a \cdot_m c) +_m (b \cdot_m c)$



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- We may use *decimal* (*base 10*) or *binary* or *octal* or *hexadecimal* or other notations to represent integers.
- Let $b > 1$ be an integer. Then if n is a positive integer, it can be expressed **uniquely in the form**
$$n = a_k b^k + a_{k-1} b^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 b + a_0,$$
 where k is nonnegative, a_i 's are nonnegative integers less than b . The representation of n is called **the base- b expansion of n** and is denoted by $(a_k a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0)_b$.



Base- b Expansions

- To get the decimal expansion is easy.



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Example

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- Conversions between binary, octal, hexadecimal expansions are easy.

Example

- ◇ $(101011111)_2 = (\underline{101}\overline{011}\underline{111}) = (537)_8$
- ◇ $(7016)_8 = (\underline{111}\overline{000}\underline{001}\overline{110})_2$
 $= (\underline{111}\overline{000}\underline{001}\overline{110})_2 = (E0E)_{16}$



Base- b Expansions

$$\begin{aligned}n &= a_k b^k + a_{k-1} b^{k-1} + a_{k-2} b^{k-2} + \cdots + a_2 b^2 + a_1 b + a_0 \\&= b(a_k b^{k-1} + a_{k-1} b^{k-2} + a_{k-2} b^{k-3} + \cdots + a_2 b + a_1) + \textcolor{red}{a_0} \\&= b(b(a_k b^{k-2} + a_{k-1} b^{k-3} + a_{k-2} b^{k-4} + \cdots + a_2) + \textcolor{red}{a_1}) + \textcolor{blue}{a_0} \\&= \cdots\end{aligned}$$



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To construct the base- b expansion of an integer n ,

- Divide n by b to obtain $\textcolor{blue}{n = bq_0 + a_0}$, with $0 \leq a_0 < b$
- The remainder a_0 is the rightmost digit in the base- b expansion of n . Then divide q_0 by b to get $\textcolor{blue}{q_0 = bq_1 + a_1}$ with $0 \leq a_1 < b$
- a_1 is the second digit from the right. Continue by successively dividing the quotients by b until **the quotient is 0**



Algorithm: Constructing Base- b Expansions

```
procedure base b expansion( $n, b$ : positive integers with  $b > 1$ )  
   $q := n$   
   $k := 0$   
  while ( $q \neq 0$ )  
     $a_k := q \bmod b$   
     $q := q \operatorname{div} b$   
     $k := k + 1$   
  return( $a_{k-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0$ ) {  $(a_{k-1} \dots a_1 a_0)_b$  is base  $b$  expansion of  $n$  }
```



Example

- $(12345)_{10} = (30071)_8$



Example

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$$12345 = 8 \cdot 1543 + 1$$

$$1543 = 8 \cdot 192 + 7$$

$$192 = 8 \cdot 24 + 0$$

$$24 = 8 \cdot 3 + 0$$

$$3 = 8 \cdot 0 + 3$$



Binary Addition of Integers

$$a = (a_{n-1}a_{n-2} \dots a_1a_0), \quad b = (b_{n-1}b_{n-2} \dots b_1b_0)$$

procedure *add*(*a, b*: positive integers)

{the binary expansions of *a* and *b* are $(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_0)_2$ and $(b_{n-1}, b_{n-2}, \dots, b_0)_2$, respectively}

c := 0

for *j* := 0 to *n* − 1

d := $\lfloor (a_j + b_j + c) / 2 \rfloor$

*s*_{*j*} := $a_j + b_j + c - 2d$

c := *d*

*s*_{*n*} := *c*

return(*s*₀, *s*₁, ..., *s*_{*n*}) {the binary expansion of the sum is $(s_n, s_{n-1}, \dots, s_0)_2$ }



Binary Addition of Integers

$$a = (a_{n-1}a_{n-2} \dots a_1a_0), \quad b = (b_{n-1}b_{n-2} \dots b_1b_0)$$

```
procedure add(a, b: positive integers)
{the binary expansions of a and b are  $(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_0)_2$  and  $(b_{n-1}, b_{n-2}, \dots, b_0)_2$ , respectively}
c := 0
for j := 0 to n − 1
    d :=  $\lfloor (a_j + b_j + c) / 2 \rfloor$ 
    sj :=  $a_j + b_j + c - 2d$ 
    c := d
sn := c
return(s0, s1, ..., sn) {the binary expansion of the sum is  $(s_n, s_{n-1}, \dots, s_0)_2$ }
```

$O(n)$ bit additions



Algorithm: Binary Multiplication of Integers

$$a = (a_{n-1}a_{n-2} \dots a_1a_0)_2, \quad b = (b_{n-1}b_{n-2} \dots b_1b_0)_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} ab &= a(b_02^0 + b_12^1 + \dots + b_{n-1}2^{n-1}) \\ &= \underline{a(b_02^0)} + \underline{a(b_12^1)} + \dots + \underline{a(b_{n-1}2^{n-1})} \end{aligned}$$

```
procedure multiply(a, b: positive integers)
{the binary expansions of a and b are  $(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_0)_2$  and  $(b_{n-1}, b_{n-2}, \dots, b_0)_2$ , respectively}
for j := 0 to n - 1
    if  $b_j = 1$  then  $c_j = a$  shifted j places      shift left
    else  $c_j := 0$ 
{ $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{n-1}$  are the partial products}
p := 0
for j := 0 to n - 1
    p := p +  $c_j$ 
return p {p is the value of ab}
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$O(n^2)$ shifts and $O(n^2)$ bit additions



Algorithm: Computing div and mod

```
procedure division algorithm ( $a$ : integer,  $d$ : positive integer)
   $q := 0$ 
   $r := |a|$ 
  while  $r \geq d$ 
     $r := r - d$ 
     $q := q + 1$ 
  if  $a < 0$  and  $r > 0$  then
     $r := d - r$ 
     $q := -(q+1)$ 
  return ( $q, r$ ) { $q = a \text{ div } d$  is the quotient,  $r = a \text{ mod } d$  is the remainder }
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```

$O(q \log a)$ bit operations. But there exist more efficient algorithms with complexity $O(n^2)$, where $n = \max(\log a, \log d)$



Algorithm: Binary Modular Exponentiation

$$b^n = b^{a_{k-1} \cdot 2^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 \cdot 2 + a_0} = \underline{b^{a_{k-1} \cdot 2^{k-1}}} \dots \underline{b^{a_1 \cdot 2}} \cdot \underline{b^{a_0}}$$

Successively finds $b \bmod m$, $b^2 \bmod m$, $b^4 \bmod m$, \dots , $b^{2^{k-1}} \bmod m$, and multiplies together the terms $b^{2^j} \bmod m$ where $a_j = 1$.

```
procedure modular_exponentiation(b: integer, n = (ak-1ak-2...a1a0)2, m: positive integers)
  x := 1
  power := b mod m
  for i := 0 to k - 1
    if ai = 1 then x := (x · power) mod m
    power := (power · power) mod m
  return x {x equals bn mod m}
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Successively finds $b \bmod m$, $b^2 \bmod m$, $b^4 \bmod m$, \dots , $b^{2^{k-1}} \bmod m$, and multiplies together the terms $b^{2^j} \bmod m$ where $a_j = 1$.

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  for i := 0 to k - 1
    if  $a_i = 1$  then x := (x · power) mod m
    power := (power · power) mod m
  return x {x equals  $b^n \bmod m$ }
```

$O((\log m)^2 \log n)$ bit operations



Primes

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- A positive integer p that is greater than 1 and is **not a prime** is called a *composite*.
- **Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic** Every integer greater than 1 can be written **uniquely as a prime or as the product of two or more primes** where the prime factors are written in order of nondecreasing size.



Primes and Composites

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Primes and Composites

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Approach 1: test if **each number** $x < n$ divides n .

Approach 2: test if each **prime** number $x < n$ divides n .

Approach 3: test if each **prime** number $x \leq \sqrt{n}$ divides n .



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- If n is composite, then n has a prime divisor less than or equal to \sqrt{n} .



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- If n is composite, then n has a prime divisor less than or equal to \sqrt{n} .

Proof.

◇ if n is composite, then it has a positive integer factor a such that $1 < a < n$ by definition. This means that $n = ab$, where b is an integer greater than 1.

◇ assume that $a > \sqrt{n}$ and $b > \sqrt{n}$. Then $ab > n$, contradiction. So either $a \leq \sqrt{n}$ or $b \leq \sqrt{n}$.

◇ Thus, n has a divisor less than \sqrt{n} .

◇ By the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, this divisor is either prime, or is a product of primes. In either case, n has a prime divisor less than \sqrt{n} .



Primes

- There are infinitely many primes.

Proof (by contradiction)



Greatest Common Divisor (GCD)

- Let a and b be integers, not both 0. The largest integer d such that $d|a$ and $d|b$ is called the *greatest common divisor* of a and b , denoted by $\gcd(a, b)$.



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The integers a and b are *relatively prime* if their greatest common divisor is 1.

A systematic way to find the gcd is **factorization**. Let

$a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_n^{a_n}$ and $b = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \cdots p_n^{b_n}$. Then

$$\gcd(a, b) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \cdots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$



Least Common Multiple (LCM)

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We can also use **factorization** to find the lcm. Let $a = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_n^{a_n}$ and $b = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \cdots p_n^{b_n}$. Then

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \cdots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$



Euclidean Algorithm

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Euclidean Algorithm

- Factorization can be **cumbersome** and **time consuming** since we need to find all factors of the two integers.
- Luckily, we have an efficient algorithm, called **Euclidean algorithm**. This algorithm has been known since ancient times and named after the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid.



Euclidean Algorithm

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Euclidean Algorithm

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$$\gcd(287, 91) = \gcd(91, 14) = \gcd(14, 7) = 7$$



Euclidean Algorithm

- The Euclidean algorithm in pseudocode

ALGORITHM 1 The Euclidean Algorithm.

procedure $\text{gcd}(a, b$: positive integers)

$x := a$

$y := b$

while $y \neq 0$

$r := x \bmod y$

$x := y$

$y := r$

return x {gcd(a, b) is x }



Euclidean Algorithm

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  return  $x$  {gcd( $a, b$ ) is  $x$ }
```

The number of divisions required to find $\text{gcd}(a, b)$ is $O(\log b)$, where $a \geq b$. (this will be proved later.)



Correctness of Euclidean Algorithm

- **Lemma** Let $a = bq + r$, where a, b, q and r are integers. Then $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, r)$.



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Proof.

- ◇ suppose that $d|a$ and $d|b$. Then d also divides $a - bq = r$. Hence, any common divisor of a and b must also be any common divisor of b and r .
- ◇ suppose that $d|b$ and $d|r$. Then d also divides $bq + r = a$. Hence, any common divisor of b and r must also be a common divisor of a and b .
- ◇ Therefore, $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, r)$.



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$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= r_1 q_1 + r_2 & 0 \leq r_2 < r_1, \\ r_1 &= r_2 q_2 + r_3 & 0 \leq r_3 < r_2, \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ r_{n-2} &= r_{n-1} q_{n-1} + r_n & 0 \leq r_n < r_{n-1}, \\ r_{n-1} &= r_n q_n. \end{aligned}$$

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(r_0, r_1) = \cdots = \gcd(r_{n-1}, r_n) = \gcd(r_n, 0) = r_n$$



GCD as Linear Combinations

- **Bezout's Theorem** If a and b are positive integers, then there exist integers s and t such that $\gcd(a, b) = sa + tb$. This is called *Bezout's identity*.



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Example: Express 1 as the linear combination of 503 and 286.

$$503 = 1 \cdot 286 + 217$$

$$286 = 1 \cdot 217 + 69$$

$$217 = 3 \cdot 69 + 10$$

$$69 = 6 \cdot 10 + 9$$

$$10 = 1 \cdot 9 + 1$$



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$$1 = 10 - 1 \cdot 9$$

$$= 7 \cdot 10 - 1 \cdot 69$$

$$= 7 \cdot 217 - 22 \cdot 69$$

$$= 29 \cdot 217 - 22 \cdot 286$$

$$= 29 \cdot 503 - 51 \cdot 286$$



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Proof. by induction. Will be given later.



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- We prove that a prime factorization of a positive integer where the primes are in nondecreasing order is **unique**.



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Proof. (by contradiction) Suppose that the positive integer n can be written as a product of primes in two distinct ways:

$$n = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_s \text{ and } n = q_1 q_2 \cdots q_t$$

Remove all common primes from the factorizations to get

$$p_{i_1} p_{i_2} \cdots p_{i_u} = q_{j_1} q_{j_2} \cdots q_{j_v}$$

It then follows that p_{i_1} divides q_{j_k} for some k , **contradicting** the assumption that p_{i_1} and q_{j_k} are distinct primes.



Next Lecture

- number theory, cryptography ...

