

ChatGPT - Number Theory for FAANG

Give detailed notes on Number Theory for FAANG preparation. Include all patterns/formulas with clear explanations from basic to advanced.

Comprehensive Notes on Number Theory for FAANG Preparation

Number theory is a critical topic in competitive programming and interviews. It involves the study of integers and their properties, often focusing on prime numbers, divisors, modular arithmetic, and patterns.

1. Basics of Number Theory

1.1 Divisors

- **Definition:** If a divides b (denoted as $a|b$), then there exists an integer k such that $b = a \times k$.
- **Properties:**
 - 1 and the number itself are always divisors of a number.
 - If $a|b$ and $b|c$, then $a|c$.
- **Finding Divisors:** Iterate up to \sqrt{n} to find all divisors. For every i such that $i|n$, both i and n/i are divisors.

Example:

text

Divisors of 36: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 36

1.2 Prime Numbers

- **Definition:** A prime number is greater than 1 and has only two divisors: 1 and itself.

- **Smallest prime number:** 2 (also the only even prime).
 - **Properties:**
 - If n is not prime, it has a divisor less than or equal to \sqrt{n} .
 - The total number of primes less than n can be approximated using the **Prime Number Theorem**: $\pi(n) \approx \frac{n}{\ln(n)}$.
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1.3 Euclidean Algorithm (GCD)

- **Greatest Common Divisor (GCD):** The largest number that divides both a and b .
- **Algorithm:**

$$\text{GCD}(a, b) = \text{GCD}(b, a \% b)$$

Repeat until $b = 0$, then $\text{GCD}(a, 0) = a$.

Code:

```
java

int gcd(int a, int b) {
    return b == 0 ? a : gcd(b, a % b);
}
```

1.4 Least Common Multiple (LCM)

- **Formula:**

$$\text{LCM}(a, b) = \frac{a \times b}{\text{GCD}(a, b)}$$

2. Modular Arithmetic

2.1 Basic Operations

- **Definition:** Modular arithmetic deals with remainders.

$$a \bmod m = r \quad \text{where } r = a - m \times \text{floor}(a/m)$$

- **Properties:**

1. $(a + b) \bmod m = [(a \bmod m) + (b \bmod m)] \bmod m$
 2. $(a - b) \bmod m = [(a \bmod m) - (b \bmod m)] \bmod m$
 3. $(a \times b) \bmod m = [(a \bmod m) \times (b \bmod m)] \bmod m$
 4. **Modular Exponentiation:** Efficiently computes $a^b \bmod m$ using repeated squaring.
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2.2 Modular Inverse

- **Definition:** x is the modular inverse of $a \bmod m$ if:

$$(a \times x) \bmod m = 1$$

- **Finding Modular Inverse:**

1. Using Extended Euclidean Algorithm.
2. Using Fermat's Little Theorem if m is prime:

$$a^{m-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{m} \implies a^{m-2} \equiv a^{-1} \pmod{m}$$

3. Prime Numbers in Depth

3.1 Sieve of Eratosthenes

- **Purpose:** Find all primes up to n in $O(n \log \log n)$.
- **Algorithm:**
 1. Create a boolean array `isPrime` initialized to `true`.
 2. Mark multiples of each prime starting from 2 as `false`.

Code:

java

```
void sieve(int n) {
    boolean[] isPrime = new boolean[n + 1];
    Arrays.fill(isPrime, true);
    isPrime[0] = isPrime[1] = false;
    for (int i = 2; i * i <= n; i++) {
        if (isPrime[i]) {
            for (int j = i * i; j <= n; j += i) {
                isPrime[j] = false;
            }
        }
    }
}
```

3.2 Segmented Sieve

- **Purpose:** Efficiently find primes in a range $[L, R]$.
- Combines the Sieve of Eratosthenes with direct range checking.

3.3 Prime Factorization

- Use trial division up to \sqrt{n} .
- Efficient for multiple queries using a precomputed smallest prime factor (SPF) array.

4. Advanced Concepts

4.1 Euler's Totient Function (ϕ)

- **Definition:** Counts integers k such that $1 \leq k \leq n$ and $\text{GCD}(k, n) = 1$.

- **Formula:**

$$\phi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$$

where p are prime factors of n .

4.2 Chinese Remainder Theorem

- Solves systems of congruences:

$$x \equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1}, \quad x \equiv a_2 \pmod{n_2}, \dots$$

- **Conditions:** n_1, n_2, \dots are pairwise coprime.
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4.3 Fermat's Little Theorem

- For a prime p :

$$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

If a is not divisible by p :

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

5. Patterns and Applications

1. Sum of Divisors:

- For $n = p_1^{e_1} \times p_2^{e_2}$:

$$\sigma(n) = (1 + p_1 + p_1^2 + \dots + p_1^{e_1}) \times (1 + p_2 + \dots + p_2^{e_2}) \dots$$

2. Count of Divisors:

$$d(n) = (e_1 + 1)(e_2 + 1) \dots$$

3. Modulo Properties in Large Numbers:

- Compute modulo directly at each step to avoid overflow.
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Mastering these concepts will prepare you for challenging problems involving number theory during FAANG interviews. Let me know if you want example problems or further clarification!