

Lenstra Elliptic Curve Factorization

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MATH 317

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Background 1-2 min



- ▶ Hendrik Lenstra Jr. received his doctorate from the University of Amsterdam in 1977.
- ▶ Discovered Elliptic Curve Factorization (ECM) in 1987.
- ▶ ECM is third-fastest known factoring algorithm and the best algorithm for finding divisors not exceeding 50-60 digits.
- ▶ The largest factor found using ECM has 83 digits.

Why Pollard $p - 1$ Works.

Lemma 2.2.5 Suppose that $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\gcd(m, n) = 1$. Then the map

$$\psi : (\mathbb{Z}/mn\mathbb{Z})^* \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* \times (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$$

defined by

$$\psi(c) = (c \pmod{m}, c \pmod{n})$$

is a bijection.

Example by hand 2 mins

- ▶ Let $B_i = \text{lcm}(1, \dots, i)$.

B_i	$2^i \pmod{1763}$	$(2^i \pmod{41}, 2^i \pmod{43})$
1	2	(2, 2)
2	4	(4, 4)
6	570	(37, 11)
60	575	(1, 16)

- ▶ We compute $\gcd(574, 1763) = 41$

Preliminaries 2 mins

- ▶ Let E be an elliptic curve over $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ of the form

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + 1$$

such that $4a^3 + 27 \in (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$. This forces non singularity and ensures $P = (0, 1)$ is on the curve.

- ▶ Definition 6.3.1 (Power Smooth). Let B be a positive integer. If n is a positive integer with prime factorization

$$n = \prod p_i^{e_i},$$

then n is B -power smooth if $p_i^{e_i} \leq B$ for all i .

- ▶ Example $30 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ is B power smooth for $B \geq 5$, but $150 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2$ is not 5-power smooth.

Motivation 1-2 mins

- ▶ Fix $B \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $p \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $p - 1$ is not B -power smooth.
- ▶ Recall, in Pollard $p - 1$, this would be equivalent to not having $p - 1 \nmid m = \text{lcm}(1, 2, \dots, B)$; i.e. $a^m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.
- ▶ On the interval $[10^{15}, 10^{15} + 10000]$ 15 percent of the primes p are such that $p - 1$ is not 10^6 -power smooth.
- ▶ The idea of ECM is to replace modular exponentiation on $(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$ by repeated addition of points on $E((\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*)$
- ▶ Recall, by the Hasse-Weil bound we can reduce the size of our group by $2 \cdot \sqrt{p}$.

Elliptic Curve Factorization 2 mins

Algorithm 6.3.10 (Elliptic Curve Factorization Method). Let N and B be positive integers.

1. Compute $m = \text{lcm}(1, 2, \dots, B)$.
2. Choose $a \in \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ such that $4a^3 + 27 \in (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$. This forces $P = (0, 1)$ to be a point on $y^2 = x^3 + ax + 1$ over $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$.
3. Try to compute mP . If at somepoint we cannot compute a sum of points, then some denominator g is not coprime to N , then $\gcd(g, N)$ is a nontrivial divisor of N .

Analogy to Pollard $p-1$ 1 min

Table: Let E be an elliptic curve, and $m = \text{lcm}(1, 2, \dots, B)$ for some B

Pollard $p-1$	ECM
$\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$	$E(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})$
$g \in (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$	$(0, 1)$
$g^m \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$	$mP \notin E(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})$
$\gcd(g^m - 1, N)$	$\gcd(m, N)$

- ▶ If Pollard $p-1$ fails, we have no choice but to increase B .
- ▶ However, ECM has a second option. We can choose another random elliptic curve.

Why ECM "Works"

We can consider an analogous mapping

$$"g : E(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \prod E(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})"$$

where p are prime divisors of N .

- ▶ Note the quotations. There is a subtlety in the difference between $E(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})$ and $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$.
- ▶ Let $P = (0 : 1 : 1) \in E(\mathbb{Z}/1763\mathbb{Z})$, $P_1 = (0 : 1 : 1) \in E(\mathbb{Z}/41\mathbb{Z})$ and $P_2 = (0 : 1 : 1) \in E(\mathbb{Z}/43\mathbb{Z})$

Example

i	$i * P_1$	$i * P_2$	$i * P$
0	(0 : 1 : 1)	(0 : 1 : 1)	(0 : 1 : 1)
1	(1 : 39 : 1)	(1 : 41 : 1)	(1 : 1761 : 1)
2	(8 : 23 : 1)	(8 : 23 : 1)	(8 : 23 : 1)
3	(38 : 38 : 1)	(13 : 17 : 1)	(1432 : 1350 : 1)
4	(23 : 23 : 1)	(2 : 23 : 1)	(1335 : 23 : 1)
5	(20 : 28 : 1)	(33 : 23 : 1)	(635 : 1012 : 1)
6	(26 : 9 : 1)	(20 : 0 : 1)	(149 : 1075 : 1)
7	(10 : 18 : 1)	(33 : 20 : 1)	(420 : 1740 : 1)
8	(22 : 19 : 1)	(2 : 20 : 1)	(432 : 880 : 1)
9	(40 : 11 : 1)	(13 : 26 : 1)	(1475 : 585 : 1)
10	(19 : 25 : 1)	(8 : 20 : 1)	(1126 : 1009 : 1)
11	(32 : 19 : 1)	(1 : 2 : 1)	(1549 : 1249 : 1)
12	(13 : 25 : 1)	(0 : 42 : 1)	$\gcd(\text{denom}, N) = 43$
13	(12 : 21 : 1)	(0 : 1 : 0)	

Implementation 2 mins

Run Time Analysis/Comparison 2 mins

Coded Example 2 mins

Animation 1 min