

# COMPUTATIONS WITH P-ADIC NUMBERS IN MAXIMA

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Abstract: This is just a first attempt to create a Maxima package for working with p-adic numbers. It is extremely ugly and slow, lacking anything remotely resembling elegance or optimization, but at least it gives correct answers (for all those examples that I have been able to find in the literature).

The current version is suitable for basic courses on the subject of p-adic analysis, and maybe for constructiong examples of some simple theoretical constructions.

Topics covered are:

1. p-adic norm and distance
2. Finite-segment representations of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  (Hensel codes)
3. p-adic arithmetic
4. Conversion from Hensel codes to rational functions
5. Newton's method and square roots in  $\mathbb{Q}_p$
6. p-adic systems of linear equations

REMARK: Some functions in the package make use of the commands `firstn` and `lastn`, which require a Maxima version 5.41 or higher.

## 1 Loading the package

The most simple way to do it consists in putting a copy of `padics.mac` in your working directory. If a wxMaxima worksheet is opened from that directory, you can load the package with

```
(% i1) load("padics.mac");
```

```
(% o1)
```

padics.mac

The other option is to do a global installation, putting a copy of padics.mac in /usr/share/maxima/5.42.1/share/contrib or its Windows equivalent. Then, load the package with the same command above.

## 2 p-adic norm

We can compute the p-adic order of a rational number with padicorder.

The syntax is padicorder(rational,prime):

```
(% i2) padicorder(144,3);
```

```
(% o2) 2
```

```
(% i3) padicorder(17,3);
```

```
(% o3) 0
```

We follow the convention that the order of 0 is always (real) infinity:

```
(% i4) makelist(padicorder(0,i),i,[2,3,5,7,11,13]);
```

```
(% o4) [∞, ∞, ∞, ∞, ∞, ∞]
```

```
(% i5) padicorder(3/10,5);
```

```
(% o5) -1
```

```
(% i6) padicorder(36015/88,7);
```

```
(% o6) 4
```

Notice that the p-adic order is an even function:

```
(% i7) padicorder(-3/10,5);
```

```
(% o7) -1
```

The reduction to the canonical form of a rational number

$$r=a/b=p^{\text{porder}(r)} a'/b'$$

can be achieved with `padiccan`. The result has the form of a list

$$[p^{\text{porder}(r)}, a'/b']$$

(% i8) `padiccan(0.234,2);`

$$(\% \text{ o8}) \quad \left[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{117}{125}\right]$$

(% i9) `padiccan(0,3);`

$$(\% \text{ o9}) \quad [1, 0]$$

The p-adic norm of a rational number is computed by `padicnorm`:

(% i10) `makelist(padicnorm(0,j),j,[2,3,5,7,11,13,17]);`

$$(\% \text{ o10}) \quad [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

(% i11) `padicnorm(17,17);`

$$(\% \text{ o11}) \quad \frac{1}{17}$$

(% i12) `padicnorm(144,3);`

$$(\% \text{ o12}) \quad \frac{1}{9}$$

(% i13) `padicnorm(12,5);`

$$(\% \text{ o13}) \quad 1$$

(% i14) `makelist(padicnorm(162/13,k),k,[3,13]);`

$$(\% \text{ o14}) \quad \left[\frac{1}{81}, 13\right]$$

The next example comes from <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/p-adicNorm.html>

(% i15) `makelist(padicnorm(140/297,k),k,[2,3,5,7,11]);`

$$(\% \text{ o15}) \quad \left[\frac{1}{4}, 27, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{1}{7}, 11\right]$$

Another example, this one from [www.asiapacific-mathnews.com/03/0304/0001\\_0006.pdf](http://www.asiapacific-mathnews.com/03/0304/0001_0006.pdf)

(% i16) makelist(padicnorm(63/550,k),k,[2,3,5,7,11,13]);

(% o16)  $[2, \frac{1}{9}, 25, \frac{1}{7}, 11, 1]$

(% i17) padicnorm(0.234,2);

(% o17) 4

Let us check the triangle equality:

(% i18) padicnorm(3/10,5);

(% o18) 5

(% i19) padicnorm(40,5);

(% o19)  $\frac{1}{5}$

(% i20) padicnorm(3/10-40,5);

(% o20) 5

The next examples come from <https://www.sangakoo.com/en/unit/p-adic-distance>

(% i21) padicnorm(10/12,2);

(% o21) 2

(% i22) padicnorm(10/12,5);

(% o22)  $\frac{1}{5}$

(% i23) padicnorm(10/12,7);

(% o23) 1

Of course, once we have a norm available, we can define the associated p-adic distance, here denoted padicdist:

(% i24) padicdist(2,28814,7);

(% o24)  $\frac{1}{2401}$

(% i25) padicdist(2,3,7);

(% o25) 1

(% i26) padicdist(2166^2,2,7);

(% o26)  $\frac{1}{2401}$

(% i27) padicdist(3,3+29^4,29);

(% o27)  $\frac{1}{707281}$

The next example comes from <https://www.sangakoo.com/en/unit/p-adic-distance>

(% i28) padicdist(82,1,3);

(% o28)  $\frac{1}{81}$

### 3 p-adic expansions (Hensel codes)

The only explicit representation we can get are those of rational numbers (periodic p-adic expansions). Here we consider Hensel (pseudo)codes, which basically are truncations of the p-adic expansions to a given order. The output has the form [[exponent],mantissa], and the algorithm used here is based on the one proposed by G. Bachman in [1].

(% i29) hensel(5/7,7,7);

(% o29) [[-1], 5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]

(% i30) hensel(-84,7,9);

(% o30) [[1], 2, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6]

(% i31) hensel(8/3,5,9);

(% o31) [[0], 1, 2, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3]

(% i32) hensel(3/4,5,4);  
 (% o32)  $[[0], 2, 1, 1, 1]$

(% i33) hensel(2/15,5,7);  
 (% o33)  $[[ -1], 4, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3]$

(% i34) hensel(7/6,5,4);  
 (% o34)  $[[0], 2, 4, 0, 4]$

(% i35) hensel(2/7,5,4);  
 (% o35)  $[[0], 1, 2, 1, 4]$

(% i36) hensel(1/12,5,7);  
 (% o36)  $[[0], 3, 4, 2, 4, 2, 4, 2]$

(% i37) hensel(5/8,5,4);  
 (% o37)  $[[1], 2, 4, 1, 4]$

(% i38) hensel(1/2,5,4);  
 (% o38)  $[[0], 3, 2, 2, 2]$

(% i39) hensel(1/3,5,4);  
 (% o39)  $[[0], 2, 3, 1, 3]$

(% i40) hensel(1/4,5,4);  
 (% o40)  $[[0], 4, 3, 3, 3]$

(% i41) hensel(1/4,5,7);  
 (% o41)  $[[0], 4, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3]$

```
(% i42) hensel(1/25,5,4);
```

```
(% o42) [[-2], 1, 0, 0, 0]
```

```
(% i43) hensel(-7/8,3,5);
```

```
(% o43) [[0], 1, 2, 1, 2, 1]
```

The command `nicehensel` displays the result in the form commonly found in textbooks and expository works (this form has the drawback that, when  $p > 7$ , is impossible to distinguish between the number 11 and two consecutive 1's, so it will not be used in what follows), that is, something like

$r = a_{-e} \dots a_{-1} a_0 a_1 a_2 \dots$

where  $e$  is the order of  $r$ .

```
(% i44) nicehensel(8/3,5,9);
```

```
(% o44)
```

```
.123131313
```

```
(% i45) nicehensel(8/75,5,9);
```

```
(% o45)
```

```
12.3131313
```

```
(% i46) nicehensel(3/4,5,4);
```

```
(% o46)
```

```
.2111
```

```
(% i47) nicehensel(2/15,5,7);
```

```
(% o47)
```

```
4.131313
```

```
(% i48) nicehensel(1/3,5,7);
```

```
(% o48)
```

.2313131

(% i49) nicehensel(-1/3,5,7);

(% o49)

.3131313

(% i50) nicehensel(5/1,5,4);

(% o50)

.0100

(% i51) nicehensel(25,5,4);

(% o51)

.0010

(% i52) nicehensel(2/7,5,4);

(% o52)

.1214

Let us compare this with the table presented in [2]

(% i53) h[i,j]:=nicehensel(i/j,5,4)\$

(% i54) genmatrix(h,17,17);



(% o54)	.1000	.3222	.2313	.4333	1.000	.1404	.3302	.2414	.4201	3.222	.1332	.3424	.2034	.4101	2.313	.1234	.3043
.2000	.1000	.3222	.4131	.3222	2.000	.2313	.1214	.4333	.3012	1.000	.2120	.1404	.4014	.3302	4.131	.2414	.1132
.3000	.4222	.1000	.2111	3.000	.3222	.4021	.3222	.1303	.2313	4.222	.3403	.4333	.1143	.2013	1.000	.3104	.4121
.4000	.2000	.3313	.1000	4.000	.4131	.2423	.3222	.3222	.1124	2.000	.4240	.2313	.3123	.1214	3.313	.4333	.2210
.0100	.0322	.0231	.0433	.1000	.0140	.0330	.0241	.0241	.0420	.3222	.0133	.0342	.0203	.0410	.2313	.0123	.0304
.1100	.3000	.2000	.4222	1.100	.1000	.3142	.2111	.2111	.4131	3.000	.1411	.3222	.2232	.4021	2.000	.1303	.3342
.2100	.1322	.4313	.3111	2.100	.2404	.1000	.4030	.4030	.3432	1.322	.2204	.1202	.4212	.3222	4.313	.2042	.1431
.3100	.4000	.1231	.2000	3.100	.3313	.4302	.1000	.1000	.2243	4.000	.3041	.4131	.1341	.2423	1.231	.3222	.4420
.4100	.2322	.3000	.1433	4.100	.4222	.2214	.3414	.3414	.1000	2.322	.4324	.2111	.3321	.1134	3.000	.4402	.2024
.0200	.0100	.0413	.0322	.2000	.0231	.0121	.0433	.0301	.0301	.1000	.0212	.0140	.0401	.0330	.4131	.0241	.0113
.1200	.3322	.2231	.4111	1.200	.1140	.3423	.2303	.4012	.4012	3.322	.1000	.3020	.2430	.4431	2.231	.1421	.3102
.2200	.1100	.4000	.3000	2.200	.2000	.1330	.4222	.3313	.3313	1.100	.2332	.1000	.4410	.3142	4.000	.2111	.1240
.3200	.4322	.1413	.2433	3.200	.3404	.4142	.1241	.2124	.2124	4.322	.3120	.4424	.1000	.2343	1.413	.3340	.4234
.4200	.2100	.3231	.1322	4.200	.4313	.2000	.3111	.1420	.1420	2.100	.4403	.2404	.3034	.1000	3.231	.4030	.2323
.0300	.0422	.0100	.0211	.3000	.0322	.0402	.0130	.0231	.0231	.4222	.0340	.0433	.0114	.0201	.1000	.0310	.0412
.1300	.3100	.2413	.4000	1.300	.1231	.3214	.2000	.4432	.4432	3.100	.1133	.3313	.2143	.4302	2.413	.1000	.3401
.2300	.1422	.4231	.3433	2.300	.2140	.1121	.4414	.3243	.3243	1.422	.2411	.1342	.4123	.3013	4.231	.2234	.1000

## 4 Arithmetic of p-adics

The basic functions are implemented as:

- `padicsum` (sum, addition)
- `padicsubtract` (difference, subtraction)
- `padicmult` (product, multiplication)
- `padivdiv` (division, quotient) The syntax is quite evident: each function takes the arguments  
(operand1,operand2,p)

Some test numbers:

```
(% i55) l1:hensel(3/10,5,4);
```

```
(l1) [[-1], 4, 2, 2, 2]
```

```
(% i56) l2:hensel(1/2,5,4);
```

```
(l2) [[0], 3, 2, 2, 2]
```

```
(% i57) padicsum(l1,l2,5);
```

```
(% o57) [[-1], 4, 0, 0, 0]
```

Notice that the Hensel code for the sum  $3/10+1/1$  corresponds to  $4/5$ :

```
(% i58) hensel(4/5,5,4);
```

```
(% o58) [[-1], 4, 0, 0, 0]
```

Also, notice that a consequence of using a finite segment representation is that adding up a really small number with a really big one just gives the bigger:

```
(% i59) padicsum([[2],2,5,1,5],[[-3],3,3,3,2],7);
```

```
(% o59) [[-3], 3, 3, 3, 2]
```

Another test (this is an example in [2]) with  $p=5$  and  $r=9$

```
(% i60) h1:hensel(2/3,5,9);
```

```
(h1) [[0], 4, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3]
```

(% i61) h2:hensel(5/6,5,9);

(h2)  $[[1], 1, 4, 0, 4, 0, 4, 0, 4, 0]$

(% i62) padicsum(h1,h2,5);

(% o62)  $[[0], 4, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2]$

Let us check the following example in [2]:

(% i63) padicsubtract(h1,h2,5);

(% o63)  $[[0], 4, 0, 4, 0, 4, 0, 4, 0, 4]$

And those of [3]:

(% i64) padicsubtract(hensel(3/4,5,4),hensel(3/2,5,4),5);

(% o64)  $[[0], 3, 3, 3, 3]$

An example on multiplication, also from [3]

(% i65) t1:hensel(4/15,5,4);

(t1)  $[[ -1], 3, 3, 1, 3]$

(% i66) t2:hensel(5/2,5,4);

(t2)  $[[1], 3, 2, 2, 2]$

(% i67) padicmult(t1,t2,5);

(% o67)  $[[0], 4, 1, 3, 1]$

Another example from [2]:

(% i68) padicmult(h1,h2,5);

(% o68)  $[[1], 4, 2, 0, 1, 2, 4, 3, 2, 0]$

Example from [4]:

(% i69) al:hensel(1/4,5,4);

(al)  $[[0], 4, 3, 3, 3]$

```
(% i70) be:hensel(1/3,5,4);
```

```
(be) [[0], 2, 3, 1, 3]
```

```
(% i71) padicmult(al,be,5);
```

```
(% o71) [[0], 3, 4, 2, 4]
```

The function `normalhensel` normalizes the Hensel code so that the first digit after the dot is not zero:

```
(% i72) normalhensel([[-1],0,0,1,2,3]);
```

```
(% o72) [[1], 1, 2, 3]
```

It is internally used by the function for computing divisions. Our first example is a trivial one:

```
(% i73) padicdiv([[0],4,0,0,0,0,0],[[0],2,0,0,0,0,0],7);
```

```
(% o73) [[0], 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
```

The next example is from [2]:

```
(% i74) dividend:[[0],4,1,3,1,3,1,3];
```

```
(dividend) [[0], 4, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3]
```

```
(% i75) divisor:[[0],3,4,2,4,2,4,2];
```

```
(divisor) [[0], 3, 4, 2, 4, 2, 4, 2]
```

```
(% i76) padicdivi(dividend,divisor,5);
```

```
(% o76) [[0], 3, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
```

```
(% i77) d1:[[0],2,1,1,1];
```

```
(d1) [[0], 2, 1, 1, 1]
```

```
(% i78) d2:[[-1],1,1,0,0];
```

```
(d2) [[-1], 1, 1, 0, 0]
```

```
(% i79) padicdiv(d1,d2,5);
```

```
(% o79) [[1], 2, 4, 1, 4]
```

```
(% i80) padicdiv([[0],4,3,3,3],[[0],0,1,4,0],5);
```

```
(% o80) [[-2], 0, 4, 2, 2]
```

This is the example presented in [3]:  $1/4/(1/2+1/3)+1/25$

```
(% i81) padicsum(padicdiv([[0],4,3,3,3],padicsum([[0],3,2,2,2],[[0],2,3,1,3],5),5),[[-2],1,0,0,0],5);
```

```
(% o81) [[-2], 1, 4, 2, 2]
```

A quick check that the answer is correct:

```
(% i82) 1/4/(1/2+1/3)+1/25;
```

```
(% o82) 17/50
```

```
(% i83) hensel(17/50,5,4);
```

```
(% o83) [[-2], 1, 4, 2, 2]
```

Another example, from [4]:

```
(% i84) alf:hensel(8/9,5,4);
```

```
(alf) [[0], 2, 2, 4, 3]
```

```
(% i85) bet:hensel(1/2,5,4);
```

```
(bet) [[0], 3, 2, 2, 2]
```

```
(% i86) padicdiv(alf,bet,5);
```

```
(% o86) [[0], 4, 4, 3, 2]
```

From [6]:

```
(% i87) hensel(1/333333,5,27);
```

```
(% o87) [[0], 2, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 1, 3, 1, 0, 2]
```

```
(% i88) time(%);
```

```
(% o88) [0.001]
```

Reference [6] states that 3 seconds were required for this computation, using a C++ library, in 2005.

## 5 From Hensel codes to rational numbers

Passing from Hensel codes to equivalent rational numbers in  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  requires the use of the appropriate Farey fractions. A function for generating the Farey fractions  $L_n$  is farey:

```
(% i89) farey(17);
```

```
(% o89)
```

```
[0,  $\frac{1}{17}$ ,  $\frac{1}{16}$ ,  $\frac{1}{15}$ ,  $\frac{1}{14}$ ,  $\frac{1}{13}$ ,  $\frac{1}{12}$ ,  $\frac{1}{11}$ ,  $\frac{1}{10}$ ,  $\frac{1}{9}$ ,  $\frac{2}{17}$ ,  $\frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\frac{2}{15}$ ,  $\frac{1}{7}$ ,  $\frac{2}{13}$ ,  $\frac{1}{6}$ ,  $\frac{3}{17}$ ,  $\frac{2}{11}$ ,  $\frac{3}{16}$ ,  $\frac{1}{5}$ ,  $\frac{3}{14}$ ,  $\frac{2}{9}$ ,  $\frac{3}{13}$ ,  $\frac{4}{17}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{15}$ ,  $\frac{3}{11}$ ,  $\frac{2}{7}$ ,  $\frac{5}{17}$ ,  $\frac{3}{10}$ ,  $\frac{4}{13}$ , 1]
```

```
(% i90) time(%);
```

```
(% o90)
```

```
[0.0]
```

The package implements the algorithm by Gregory and Krishnamurthy described in the book [7]. We have added a few cases detected independently to give cleaner results. For instance, cases such as  $[[m], a_0, 0, 0, \dots], [[m], a_0, p-1, p-1, p-1, \dots]$  or  $[[m], a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k, 0, 0, \dots, 0_s]$  with  $s > k$ .

Some trivial examples:

```
(% i91) henseltofarey([[2],3,0,0,0,0,0,0],7);
```

```
(% o91)
```

```
147
```

```
(% i92) henseltofarey([[0],4,4,4,4,4,4,4],5);
```

```
(% o92)
```

```
-1
```

```
(% i93) henseltofarey([[0],3,3,3,3,3,3,3],5);
```

```
(% o93)
```

```
 $-\frac{3}{4}$ 
```

```
(% i94) henseltofarey([[0],0,0,0,0,0,0],5);
```

```
(% o94)
```

```
0
```

From [6] (pg 12)

(% i95) henseltofarey([[0],2,3,1,5],7);

(% o95)  $\frac{9}{43}$

From [7] (pp. 100 and ff)

(% i96) henseltofarey([[0],0,2,4,1],5);

(% o96)  $\frac{5}{8}$

(% i97) henseltofarey([[1],2,4,1,4],5);

(% o97)  $\frac{5}{8}$

(% i98) henseltofarey([[-1],3,2,2,2],5);

(% o98)  $\frac{1}{10}$

(% i99) henseltofarey([[0],3,2,2,2],5);

(% o99)  $\frac{1}{2}$

(% i100) henseltofarey([[0],2,3,1,3],5);

(% o100)  $\frac{1}{3}$

(% i101) henseltofarey([[0],0,6,0,6],7);

(% o101)  $-\frac{7}{8}$

A quick check:

(% i102) hensel(1/3,5,4);

(% o102)  $[[0], 2, 3, 1, 3]$

i103)

(% o103) [[1], 6, 0, 6, 0]

Example from [11]:

i104)

$$\frac{4}{17}$$

i105)

$$(\% \text{ o105}) \quad \frac{2}{7}$$

Examples from the paper [8]:

i106)

$$(\% \text{ o106}) \quad \frac{4}{17}$$

i107)

$$(\% \text{ o107}) \quad \frac{17}{16}$$

i108)

$$(\% \text{ o108}) \quad \frac{13}{17}$$

i109)

$$(\% \text{ o109}) \quad -\frac{13}{17}$$

i110)

$$(\% \text{ o110}) \quad \frac{2}{7}$$



```
(%      henseltofarey([[0],3,4,2,3],5);
i111)
```

```
(% o111) 
$$\frac{11}{7}$$

```

## 6 Hensel codes of square roots

Now, suppose we want to compute the square root of 2 with  $p=7$ .

We will follow [9] for that.

An integer  $q$  is called a quadratic residue mod  $p$  if there exists an integer  $x$  such that  $x^2 = q \pmod{p}$ .

Remark: If  $p=2$ , every integer is a quadratic residue. If  $p$  is a prime different from 2, there are  $(p-1)/2$  residues and  $(p-1)/2$  non-residues in  $F_{p-0}$  (that is, the multiplicative group of  $F_p$  or  $F_p^*$ ).

As a consequence of the reciprocity law:

- a) If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $-1$  is a quadratic residue mod  $p$ .
- b) If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then  $-1$  is a non residue mod  $p$ .

Notice that every prime is equivalent to 1 or 3 mod 4.

Euler's criterion for quadratic reciprocity states that (given  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $p$  an odd prime) the Legendre symbol evaluates to  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = a^{(p-1)/2}$ .

And this equals 1 if  $a$  is a quadratic residue and  $-1$  if it is not.

First, we introduce a function to determine whether a given integer is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  or not:

```
(%      sqrtmod(2,5);
i112)
```

```
(% o112)
```

Not a quadratic residue

Thus  $n=2$  is not a quadratic residue modulo  $p=5$ . But it is modulo  $p=7$ :

```
(%      sqrtmod(2,7);
i113)
```

```
(% o113) [3, 4]
```

If  $n$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  with root  $x$ , then another root is given by the  $y$  such that  $y = -x \pmod{p}$ . We compute the  $p$ -adic roots with Newton's method, and the command `padicsqrt` –whose syntax is `padicsqrt(number,p)`– admits an optional argument fixing the number of iterations to be done, as in `padicsqrt(number,p,iterations)`.

```
(%      padicsqrt(2,7);
i114)
```

```
(% o114)      [ $\frac{215912063945802350977}{152672884556058511392}$ ,  $\frac{2267891697076964737}{1603641597827614272}$ ]
```

We can get the corresponding Hensel of the roots codes through

```
(%      map(lambda([u],hensel(u,7,9)),%);
i115)
```

```
(% o115)      [[[0], 3, 1, 2, 6, 1, 2, 1, 2, 4], [[0], 4, 5, 4, 0, 5, 4, 5, 4, 2]]
```

Another example: the square root of 7 in  $\mathbb{Q}_3$  (from [9])

```
(%      padicsqrt(7,3,3);
i116)
```

```
(% o116)      [ $\frac{977}{368}$ ,  $\frac{108497}{41008}$ ]
```

The first fraction contains  $3 \times 2 = 6$  exact digits to determine the square root of 7 in  $\mathbb{Q}_3$ . To get its corresponding Farey sequence it does not make sense to take more than 6 digits. Hence we do the following:

```
(%      map(lambda([u],hensel(u,3,6)),%);
i117)
```

```
(% o117)      [[[0], 1, 1, 1, 0, 2, 0], [[0], 2, 1, 1, 2, 0, 2]]
```

```
(%      henseltofarey(%[1],3);
i118)
```

```
(% o118)       $\frac{1}{25}$ 
```

The result is not exactly the rational we started with, but it is very close in  $\mathbb{Q}_3$ :

```
(%      padicdist(977/368,1/25,3);
i119)
```

```
(% o119)      
$$\frac{1}{2187}$$

```

More examples:

```
(%      padicsqrt(6,5)[1];
i120)
```

```
(% o120)      
$$\frac{80746825394092993}{32964753427463648}$$

```

```
(%      hensel(%,5,4);
i121)
```

```
(% o121)      
$$[[0], 1, 3, 0, 4]$$

```

The results can be compared against those given in  
<http://www.numbertheory.org/php/p-adic.html>

```
(%      padicsqrt(25,7);
i122)
```

```
(% o122)      
$$\left[\frac{552213837122886833247075521}{110442767424206762611644736}, 5\right]$$

```

```
(%      map(lambda([u],hensel(u,7,8)),%);
i123)
```

```
(% o123)      
$$[[[0], 2, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6], [[0], 5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]]$$

```

Example from [10]:

```
(%      padicsqrt(-2,3);
i124)
```

```
(% o124)      
$$\left[-\frac{28545857}{22783264}, \frac{28545857}{22783264}\right]$$

```

```
(%      hensel(%[1],3,8);
i125)
```

```
(% o125)      
$$[[0], 1, 1, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 1]$$

```

Again an example from [9], to see the influence of the choice of initial condition

in Newton's iteration (notice how we fix the number of iterations as 3 here):

```
(%      padicsqrt(1,3,3);
i126)
```

```
(% o126)       $\left[1, \frac{3281}{3280}\right]$ 
```

```
(%      map(lambda([u],hensel(u,3,8)),%);
i127)
```

```
(% o127)       $[[[0], 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2]]$ 
```

```
(%      map(lambda([u],henseltofarey(u,3)),%);
i128)
```

```
(% o128)       $[1, -1]$ 
```

## 7 Solving p-adic systems of linear equations

This is a topic of fundamental importance in applications. The algorithm implemented here is Gaussian reduction.

To solve the problem  $Ax=b$ , we have the commands `padicgauss` and `padicbacksub`. The first one triangularizes the system, and its syntax is `padicgauss(B,p)`, where  $B=A|b$  is the augmented matrix of the system (that is, the coefficient matrix  $A$  augmented with the column  $b$  of non homogeneous terms). The resulting triangular matrix is processed by `padicbacksub` to obtain the Hensel codes of the solution.

The following examples are from [4]:

```
(%      D:matrix([3,1,3,16],[1,3,1,8],[1,1,3,12]);
i129)
```

```
(D)      
$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 3 & 16 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

```

```
(%      padicgauss(D,11);
i130)
```

```
(% o130)      
$$\begin{pmatrix} [[0], 3, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 1, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 3, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 5, 1, 0, 0] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 10, 3, 7, 3] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 10, 3, 7, 3] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 2, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 6, 0, 0, 0] \end{pmatrix}$$

```

```
(%      padicbacksub(% ,11);
i131)
```

```
(% o131)      [[[0], 2, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 1, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 3, 0, 0, 0]]
```

Converting to Farey fractions we get the rational form of the solutions:

```
(%      map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,11)),%);
i132)
```

```
(% o132)      [2, 1, 3]
```

Another example:

```
(%      C:matrix([2,2,-1,5],[-3,0,2,-5],[4,-5,-1,0]);
i133)
```

$$(C) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ -3 & 0 & 2 & -5 \\ 4 & -5 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
(%      padicgauss(C,5);
i134)
```

```
(% o134)      (
[[0], 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]  [[0], 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]  [[0], 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4]  [[1], 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]  [[0], 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]  [[0], 3, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2]  [[1], 3, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2]
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]  [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]  [[0], 0, 3, 2, 2, 2, 2]  [[0], 0, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2])
```

```
(%      padicbacksub(% ,5);
i135)
```

```
(% o135)      [[[-2], 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0], [[-2], 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0], [[-2], 0, 0, 4, 4, 4, 4]]
```

We convert the solution to rational (Farey) expressions:

```
(%      map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,5)),%);
i136)
```

```
(% o136)      [1, 1, -1]
```

The examples above were trivial, the only intention was to show how the usual (rational) results are recovered within p-adic algebra. Now we consider more advanced examples, with some matrices that are highly unstable in rational arithmetic.

```
(%
i137) E:matrix(
      [10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1,1],
      [9,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1,2],
      [8,8,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1,-5],
      [7,7,7,7,6,5,4,3,2,1,9],
      [6,6,6,6,6,5,4,3,2,1,15],
      [5,5,5,5,5,5,4,3,2,1,1],
      [4,4,4,4,4,4,4,3,2,1,6],
      [3,3,3,3,3,3,3,3,2,1,14],
      [2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,1,3],
      [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1]
    );
```

$$(E) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 9 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 8 & 8 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & -5 \\ 7 & 7 & 7 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 9 \\ 6 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 15 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 5 & 5 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 14 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
(%      padicgauss(E,8209);
i138)
```

```
(% o138)
[[[0], 10, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 8, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 7389, 820, 7388, 820, 7388, 820, 7388, 820], [[0], 6568, 1641, 6567, 1641, 6567, 1641, 6567, 1641],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 913, 912, 912, 912, 912, 912, 912, 912],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]]]
```

```
(%      time(%);
i139)
```

```
(% o139) [1.038]
```

```
(%      padicbacksub(%th(2),8209);
```

```
i140)
```

```
(% o140)
```

```
[[[0], 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208], [[0], 8, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 8188, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208],
```

```
(%      map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,8209)),%);
```

```
i141)
```

```
(% o141)          [-1, 8, -21, 8, 20, -19, -3, 19, -9, -1]
```

Hibert matrices are known for their bad condition number. This is

a good opportunity to appreciate the advantages of working with

p-adics:

```
(%      F:addcol(hilbert_matrix(5),[137/60,87/60,459/420,743/840,1875/2520]);
```

```
i142)
```

$$(F) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{137}{60} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{87}{60} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{459}{420} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{743}{840} \\ \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{9} & \frac{1875}{2520} \end{pmatrix}$$

```
(%      padicgauss(F,8209);
```

```
i143)
```

```
(% o143)
```

```
[[[0], 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 4105, 4104, 4104, 4104, 4104, 4104, 4104, 4104] [[0], 5473, 5472, 5472, 5472, 5472, 5472, 5472, 5472]
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 7525, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524] [[0], 7525, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524, 7524]
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 3238, 8163, 3237, 8163, 3237, 8163, 3237, 8163]
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
```

```
(%      time(%);
```

```
i144)
```

```
(% o144)          [0.161]
```

```
(%      padicbacksub(%th(2),8209);
```

```
i145)
```

```
(% o145)
```

```
[[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 21, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 8120, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208], [[0], 141, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
```

```
(%      map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,8209)),%);
i146)
```

```
(% o146)          [0, 21, -89, 141, -69]
```

There will be a lot of situations where our simple heuristic for choosing  $t$  will lead to bad values. For those cases, one can manually choose  $t$  using the alternative function `padicgauss2`. Below we choose 8 digits:

```
(%      padicgauss2(E,8209,8);
i147)
```

```
(% o147)
[[[0], 10, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 8, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 7389, 820, 7388, 820, 7388, 820, 7388, 820], [[0], 6568, 1641, 6567, 1641, 6567, 1641, 6567, 1641],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 913, 912, 912, 912, 912, 912, 912, 912],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]]]
```

```
(%      padicbacksub(%,8209);
i148)
```

```
(% o148)
[[[0], 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208], [[0], 8, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 8188, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208, 8208],
```

```
(%      map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,8209)),%);
i149)
```

```
(% o149)          [-1, 8, -21, 8, 20, -19, -3, 19, -9, -1]
```

Let us see how  $p$ -adic arithmetics deal with the high condition number of Hilbert matrices and the associated instabilities:

```
(%      M1:addcol(hilbert_matrix(5),makelist(j,j,1,5));
i150)
```

$$(M1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & 2 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & 3 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{1}{8} & 4 \\ \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{9} & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$



```
(% M2:addcol(hilbert_matrix(5),makelist(j+29^(3+random(6)),j,1,5));
i151)
```

$$(M2) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & 20511150 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & 24391 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & 20511152 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{1}{8} & 500246412965 \\ \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{7} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{9} & 17249876314 \end{pmatrix}$$

Notice that the non-homogeneous coefficients in M2 are really close to the initial ones in M1:

```
(% makelist(padicdist(M1[j][6],M2[j][6],29),j,1,length(M1));
i152)
```

$$(\% \text{ o152}) \quad \left[ \frac{1}{20511149}, \frac{1}{24389}, \frac{1}{20511149}, \frac{1}{500246412961}, \frac{1}{17249876309} \right]$$

```
(% padicgauss2(M1,29,6);
i153)
```

$$(\% \text{ o153}) \quad \begin{pmatrix} [[0], 1, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 15, 14, 14, 14, 14] & [[0], 10, 19, 9, 19, 9, 19] & [[0], 22, 21, 21, 21, 21, 21] & [[0], 6, 23, 21, 21, 21, 21] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 17, 26, 16, 26, 16, 26] & [[0], 17, 26, 16, 26, 16, 26] & [[0], 24, 26, 23, 26, 23, 26] & [[0], 2, 27, 24, 26, 23, 26, 23, 26] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 5, 19, 14, 9, 24, 28] & [[0], 22, 28, 21, 28, 21, 28] & [[0], 21, 28, 22, 28, 21, 28, 21, 28] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 20, 8, 11, 17, 2, 26] & [[0], 11, 17, 20, 8, 11, 17, 2, 26] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 16, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] \end{pmatrix}$$

```
(% padicbacksub(% ,29);
i154)
```

$$(\% \text{ o154}) \quad [[0], 9, 4, 0, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 20, 16, 25, 28, 28, 28], [[0], 19, 6, 17, 0, 0, 0], [[0], 10, 20, 28, 27, 28, 28], [[0], 6, 21, 15, 0, 0, 0]$$

```
(% map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,29)),%);
i155)
```

$$(\% \text{ o155}) \quad [125, -2880, 14490, \frac{1}{47339632}, 13230]$$

```
(% padicgauss2(M2,29,6);
i156)
```

$$(\% \text{ o156}) \quad \begin{pmatrix} [[0], 1, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 15, 14, 14, 14, 14] & [[0], 10, 19, 9, 19, 9, 19] & [[0], 22, 21, 21, 21, 21, 21] & [[0], 6, 23, 21, 21, 21, 21] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 17, 26, 16, 26, 16, 26] & [[0], 17, 26, 16, 26, 16, 26] & [[0], 24, 26, 23, 26, 23, 26] & [[0], 2, 27, 24, 26, 23, 26, 23, 26] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 5, 19, 14, 9, 24, 28] & [[0], 22, 28, 21, 28, 21, 28] & [[0], 21, 28, 22, 28, 21, 28, 21, 28] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 20, 8, 11, 17, 2, 26] & [[0], 11, 17, 20, 8, 11, 17, 2, 26] \\ [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] & [[0], 16, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] \end{pmatrix}$$

```
(%      padicbacksub(% ,29);
i157)
(% o157)
[[[0], 9, 4, 0, 19, 18, 1], [[0], 20, 16, 25, 14, 20, 3], [[0], 19, 6, 17, 8, 15, 19], [[0], 10, 20, 28, 24, 27, 18], [[0], 6, 21, 15, 15, 0, 1
```

```
(%      map(lambda([x],henseltofarey(x,29)),%);
i158)
```

```
(% o158)      [ $\frac{1}{73774969}$ ,  $\frac{2}{122364169}$ ,  $-\frac{4725}{9013}$ ,  $\frac{1}{83362185}$ ,  $\frac{2}{80199829}$ ]
```

The solutions of the original system and the perturbed one, are quite close  
(in the p-adic distance, of course):

```
(%      makelist(padicdist(%[j],%th(4)[j],29),j,1,length(%));
i159)
```

```
(% o159)      [ $\frac{1}{24389}$ ,  $\frac{1}{24389}$ ,  $\frac{1}{24389}$ ,  $\frac{1}{24389}$ ,  $\frac{1}{24389}$ ]
```

For comparison, let us see how things work in the purely rational case:

```
(%      A:hilbert_matrix(5)$
i160)
```

```
(%      X:makelist(x[k],k,1,5)$
i161)
```

```
(%      B1:makelist(k,k,1,5)$
i162)
```

```
(%      B2:makelist(rat(k+random(0.01)),k,1,5)$
i163)
```

```
(%      for j:1 thru 5 do eq1[j]:sum(A[j,k]*X[k],k,1,5)=B1[j]$
i164)
```

```
(%      for j:1 thru 5 do eq2[j]:sum(A[j,k]*X[k],k,1,5)=B2[j]$
i165)
```

```
(%      solve(makelist(eq1[j],j,1,5),X);
i166)
```

```
(% o166)       $[[x_1 = 125, x_2 = -2880, x_3 = 14490, x_4 = -24640, x_5 = 13230]]$ 
```

```
(% solve(makelist(eq2[j],j,1,5),X),numer;
```

```
i167)
```

```
(% o167)
```

```
[[ $x_1 = 120.1003883272046$ ,  $x_2 = -2780.48089521768$ ,  $x_3 = 14040.16509590324$ ,  $x_4 = -23939.74158066582$ ,  $x_5 =$ 
```

Those solutions are far away from each other in the usual absolute value distance. This example is a striking evidence of the better stability properties of p-adic arithmetic over the traditional rational one.

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