

## Primality Testing

1. Deterministic Algo.: Always gives a correct answer.
2. Probabilistic Algo.: Gives a correct answer most of the time.

### Primality Testing Algo.

#### ①. Divisibility Algo:

- \* Most elementary test for primality.
- \*  $n$  is a given no., then  $n$  is a composite no. if  $n$  is divisible by any +ve integer less than or equals to  $\sqrt{n}$ .  
Otherwise  $n$  is a prime number.

Prime-divi.-test( $n$ )

```
r = 2
while (r < [√n])
    if r | n
        return ("n is a composite no.")
    r = r + 1
and
return ("n is a prime no.")
end
```

- \* If we assume that each arithmetic operation uses only one bit operation, then the bit operation complexity of this algo.

$$\begin{aligned} f(n_b) &= \sqrt{2^{n_b}} \quad \text{where } n_b = \text{No. of bits in } n. \\ &= 2^{n_b/2} \\ &O(2^{n_b}) \end{aligned}$$

⇒ The bit operation complexity of the divisibility test algo. is exponential.

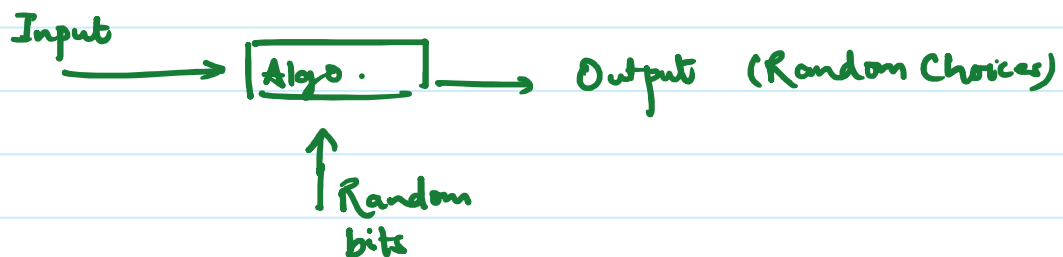
AKS Algorithm: Given by Agrawal, Kayal & Saxena in 2002.

\* Complexity is  $O((\log_2 n)^{12})$

\* For very large  $n$  it takes too much time.

### Probabilistic Algorithms (Randomized Algo.)

It receives, in addition to the input, a stream of random bits that it can use for the purpose of making random choices.



\* For a fixed input different runs of a randomized algo. may give different results.

There are two types of prob. algo.

- ① Monte Carlo Algo.
- ② Las Vegas Algo.

An Introduction to randomized Algorithms  
by Richard M. Karp  
Discrete Applied Mathematics.

Fermat Test: It is based on the Fermat's little theorem.

If  $n$  is prime, and if  $n \nmid a$  then  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod n$

$\Rightarrow$  If  $n$  is prime and  $n \nmid a$ , then  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

This doesn't imply that if  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  then  $n$  is a prime no. &  $n \nmid a$ .

\* To test the primality of a given number  $n$ , we pick a random integer  $a$  s.t.  $n \nmid a$  and if  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  doesn't hold then  $n$  is a composite number.

\* This congruence ( $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ ) is unlikely to hold for a random  $a$  if  $n$  is composite.

Now, if  $a=1$  then  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$   
and if  $a \equiv -1 \pmod{n}$  &  $n$  is odd  
 $\equiv n-1$

$$\begin{aligned} a^{n-1} &\equiv (-1)^{n-1} \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv (-1)^n (-1)^{-1} \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv (-1)(-1) \pmod{n} \\ &\equiv \underline{1 \pmod{n}} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we choose a number  $a$  in the interval  $1 < a < n-1$ .

### Miller-Rabin Test:

\* Any true odd integer  $n \geq 3$  can be written as  $n-1 = 2^k \cdot q$  with  $k > 0$ ,  $q$  odd.

\* If  $p$  is prime and  $a$  is a true integer less than  $p$  then  $a^2 \pmod{p} = 1$  if and only if either  $a \pmod{p} = 1$  or  $a \pmod{p} = -1 = \underline{p-1}$

Proof: If  $a^2 \bmod p = (a \bmod p)(a \bmod p)$

if  $a \bmod p = 1$  or  $a \bmod p = -1$  then

$$a^2 \bmod p = 1 \bmod p$$

\* If  $p$  is a prime number greater than 2 then

$$p-1 = 2^k \cdot q, \quad k > 0, \quad q \text{ odd}$$

Let  $a$  be any integer s.t.  $1 < a < p-1$

Then one of the following conditions is true-

(1)  $a^q \equiv 1 \bmod p$ .

(2) One of the numbers  $a^q, a^{2q}, a^{4q}, \dots, a^{2^{k-1}q}$  is congruent to  $-1 \bmod p$ .

Proof: By Fermat's theorem, for  $1 < a < p-1$

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \bmod p, \quad \text{if } p \text{ is prime.}$$

Now, we have,  $p-1 = 2^k \cdot q$

$$\Rightarrow a^{p-1} \bmod p = a^{2^k \cdot q} \bmod p$$

$$1 = a^{2^k \cdot q} \bmod p$$

$$\Rightarrow a^{2^k \cdot q} \equiv 1 \bmod p \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Now, consider the following list

$$a^q \bmod p, \quad a^{2q} \bmod p, \quad a^{4q} \bmod p, \quad \dots, \quad a^{2^{k-1}q} \bmod p, \quad a^{2^k \cdot q} \bmod p$$

Now,  $a^{2^k \cdot q} \equiv 1 \bmod p$

$$\dots (a^{2^{k-1}q})^2 \bmod p = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a^{2^{k-1}} \bmod p = 1 \text{ or } -1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Either } a^{2^{k-1} \cdot q} \bmod p = -1 = p-1$$

$$\text{or } a^{2^{k-1} \cdot q} \bmod p = 1$$

$$\text{if } a^{2^{k-1} \cdot q} \bmod p = 1$$

$$(a^{2^{k-2} \cdot q})^2 \bmod p = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a^{2^{k-2} \cdot q} \bmod p = -1 \text{ or } 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Either } a^{2^{k-2} \cdot q} \bmod p = p-1 \text{ or}$$

$$a^{2^{k-2} \cdot q} \bmod p = 1.$$

⋮

$$(a^q)^2 \bmod p = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a^q \bmod p = 1 \text{ or } -1$$

Therefore, either  $a^q \bmod p = 1$  and hence all subsequent no. in the list are equal to  $1 \bmod p$ .

or some numbers in the list doesn't equal 1 but its square mod p equal 1.

i.e. one of the no.  $a^q, a^{2q}, a^{4q}, \dots, a^{2^{k-1} \cdot q}$  is congruent to  $-1$ . i.e.  $p-1$ .

Miller-Rabin Test:

If  $n$  is prime, then either  $a^q \bmod n = 1$  (and hence  $a^{2q}, a^{4q}, \dots, a^{2^{k-1} \cdot q} \bmod n = 1$ )

or some elements in the list  $\{a^q, a^{2q}, \dots, a^{2^{k-1} \cdot q}\}$  equals  $-1$ .

otherwise  $n$  is composite.

Note: If the condition met for a no.  $n$  then this does not imply that  $n$  is prime.

Ex:  $n = 2047 = 23 \times 89$

$$n-1 = 2046 = 2 \times 1023 \quad (2^k \cdot q, \quad k=1, \quad q=1023)$$

$$2^{1023} \bmod 2047 = 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  2047 meets the condition but  $n$  is not prime.

### Algorithm

Test( $n$ )

(i) Find  $k$  &  $q$  ( $k > 0$ ,  $q$  odd) so that

$$n-1 = 2^k \cdot q$$

(ii) Select a random integer  $a$ ,  $1 < a < n-1$ .

(iii) If  $a^q \bmod n = 1$  then return("Inconclusive")

(iv) For  $j = 0$  to  $k-1$

if  $a^{2^j \cdot q} \bmod n = n-1$  then  
return("Inconclusive")

(v) Return ("n is composite")

Ex:  $n = 29$

$$n-1 = 28 = 2^2 \cdot 7 \quad (k=2, \quad q=7)$$

$$j = 0, 1$$

$$a^{2^j \cdot 7}$$

Now, we choose  $a$  ( $1 < a < 28$ )

$$\text{Let } a = 10$$

then  $10^7 \bmod 29$  which is neither 1 nor  $n-1$ .  
test cont.

$$(10^7)^2 \bmod 29 = 28 = n-1 \Rightarrow \text{Test is inconclusive (29 may be a prime)}$$

Let  $a=2$

then  $2^7 \bmod 29 = 12$

$$(2^7)^2 \bmod 29 = 28 = n-1$$

Again test is inconclusive.

for all  $1 < a < 28$  we get the return  
inconclusive (i.e. 29 may be a prime)

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Now, for  $n = 221 = 13 \times 17$

$$(n-1) = 220 = 2^2 \times 55 \quad (\Rightarrow k=2, q=55)$$

Let  $\underline{a=5}$  then  $\underline{a^q, a^{2q}}$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \underline{5^{55}} \bmod 221 = \underline{112} \\ \underline{(5^{55})^2} \bmod 221 = \underline{168} \end{array} \right\} \neq 1 \text{ or } -1$$

$\Rightarrow$  221 is definitely a composite number.