




Ma/CS 6a

Class 4: Primality Testing

Is $2^{6972593} - 1$ prime?

By Adam Sheffer

- 
- Send anonymous suggestions and complaints *from* here.
 - Email: adamcandobetter@gmail.com
 - Password: anonymous

There aren't enough crocodiles in the presentations

Only today! 75% off for Morphine and Xanax.

Why won't you tell me how to solve the homework?!

Adam make me a public key!



Reminder: Euler's Totient Function

- **Euler's totient $\varphi(n)$** is defined as follows:

Given $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then

$$\varphi(n) = |\{x \mid 1 \leq x < n \text{ and } \text{GCD}(x, n) = 1\}|.$$

- In more words: $\varphi(n)$ is the number of natural numbers $1 \leq x \leq n$ such that x and n are coprime.

$$\varphi(12) = |\{1, 5, 7, 11\}| = 4.$$



Reminder #2: The RSA Algorithm

- **Bob** wants to generate keys:
 - Arbitrarily chooses primes p and q . ?
 - $n = pq$ ✓ find $\varphi(n)$. ?
 - Chooses e such that $\text{GCD}(\varphi(n), e) = 1$. ?
 - Find d such that $de \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$. ?
- **Alice** wants to pass bob m .
 - Receives n, e from Bob.
 - Returns $X \equiv m^e \pmod{n}$. ✓
- **Bob** receives X .
 - Calculates $X^d \pmod{n}$. ✓

Finding $\varphi(n)$

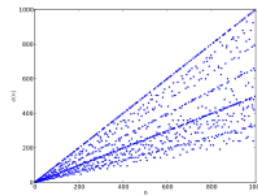
- **Problem.** Given $n = pq$, where p, q are large primes, find $\varphi(n)$.
 - We need the number of elements in $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ that are not multiples of p or q .
 - There are $\frac{n}{p} = q$ numbers are divisible by p .
 - There are $\frac{n}{q} = p$ numbers are divisible by q .
 - Only $n = pq$ is divided by both.
 - Thus: $\varphi(n) = n - p - q + 1$.

The RSA Algorithm

- **Bob** wants to generate keys:
 - Arbitrarily chooses primes p and q . ?
 $n = pq$ ✓ find $\varphi(n)$. ✓
 - Chooses e such that $\text{GCD}(\varphi(n), e) = 1$. ?
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- **Alice** wants to pass bob m .
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Choose e s.t. $\text{GCD}(\varphi(n), e) = 1$

- **Problem.** Given $n = pq$, where p, q are large primes, find $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\text{GCD}(\varphi(n), e) = 1$.
 - We can **choose arbitrary numbers** until we find one that is relatively prime to $\varphi(n)$.
 - For the “worst” values of $\varphi(n)$, a random number is **good with probability $1/\log \log n$** .



The RSA Algorithm

- **Bob** wants to generate keys:
 - Arbitrarily chooses primes p and q . **?**
 $n = pq$ ✓ find $\varphi(n)$. ✓
 - Chooses e such that $\text{GCD}(\varphi(n), e) = 1$. ✓
 - Find d such that $de \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$. **?**
- **Alice** wants to pass bob m .
 - Receives n, e from Bob.
 - Returns $X \equiv m^e \pmod{n}$. ✓
- **Bob** receives X .
 - Calculates $X^d \pmod{n}$. ✓

Find d such that $de \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$

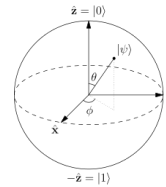
- **Recall.** Since $\text{GCD}(e, \varphi(n)) = 1$ then there exist $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $se + t\varphi(n) = 1$.
- That is, $se \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$.
- We can find s, t by the *extended Euclidean algorithm* from lecture 2.

The RSA Algorithm

- **Bob** wants to generate keys:
 - Arbitrarily chooses primes p and q . $n = pq$ ✓ find $\varphi(n)$. ✓ ?
 - Chooses e such that $\text{GCD}(\varphi(n), e) = 1$. ✓
 - Find d such that $de \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$. ✓
- **Alice** wants to pass bob m .
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Quantum Computing

- A **bit** of a computer contains a value of either 0 or 1.
- A quantum computer contains **qubits**, which can be in superpositions of states.
- **Theoretically**, a quantum computer can easily factor numbers and decipher almost any known encryption.



Should We Stop Ordering Things Online?



Finding Large Primes

- Let n be a LARGE integer (e.g., 2^{4000}).
- *The prime number theorem.* The probability of a random $p \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ being prime is about $1/\log n$.
- If we randomly choose numbers from $\{1, \dots, n\}$, we expect to have about $\log n$ iterations before finding a prime.
 - *But how can we check whether our choice is a prime or not?!*

Primality Testing

- Given a LARGE $q \in \mathbb{Z}$, how can we check whether q is prime?
- **The naïve approach.** Go over every number in $\{2, \dots, \sqrt{q}\}$ and check whether it divides q .
 - *But we chose our numbers to be too large for a computer to go over all of them!*

Recall: Fermat's Little Theorem

- For any prime p and integer a relatively prime to p , we have

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

- Pick a random integer a and check whether $a^q \equiv a \pmod{q}$.
 - If not, q is not a prime!
 - If yes, ???



Pierre de Fermat

Example: Fermat Primality Testing

- Is $n = 355207$ prime?

$$2^{355207} \equiv 84927 \pmod{355207}.$$

- n is not prime since $2^n \not\equiv 2 \pmod{n}$.
- We can try 1000 different values of a and see if $a^n \equiv a \pmod{n}$ for each of them.



Carmichael Numbers

- A number $q \in \mathbb{N}$ is said to be a **Carmichael number** if it is not prime, but still satisfies $a^q \equiv a \pmod{q}$ for every a that is relatively prime to q .
 - The smallest such number is 561.
 - Very rare – about one in 50 trillion in the range $1 - 10^{21}$.



R. D. Carmichael

Example: Carmichael Numbers

- **Claim.** Let $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ such that $6k + 1$, $12k + 1$, and $18k + 1$ are primes. Then

$$n = (6k + 1)(12k + 1)(18k + 1)$$
 is a **Carmichael number**.
- **Example.**
 - For $k = 1$, we have that 7, 13, 19 are primes.
 - $7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 = 1729$ is a Carmichael number.

Proof

- We need to prove that for **any a that is relatively prime to n** , we have

$$a^n \equiv a \pmod{n}.$$

- **Recall.** Since $\text{GCD}(a, n) = 1$, this is equivalent to $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$.
- We rewrite $n = 1296k^3 + 396k^2 + 36k + 1$.
- For any such a , we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^{n-1} &= a^{1296k^3 + 396k^2 + 36k} \\ &= (a^{6k})^{216k^2 + 66k + 6}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof (cont.)

- For any a relatively prime to n , we have

$$a^{n-1} = (a^{6k})^{216k^2 + 66k + 6}.$$

- **Recall.** If $a \in \mathbb{N}$ is not divisible by a prime p then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

- Since a and $6k + 1$ are relatively prime

$$a^{n-1} \equiv 1^{216k^2 + 66k + 6} \equiv 1 \pmod{6k + 1}.$$

- Similarly, we have $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{12k + 1}$ and $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{18k + 1}$.

- Since $a^{n-1} - 1$ is divisible by the three pairwise coprime integers $6k + 1$, $12k + 1$, and $18k + 1$, it is also divisible by their product n . That is, $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$.

Miller–Rabin Primality Test

- The *Miller–Rabin primality test* works on *every number*.



Gary Miller



Michael Rabin

Root of Unity

- **Claim.** For any prime p , the only numbers $a \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ such that $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ are 1 and $p - 1$.
- **Example.** The solutions to
$$a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{1009}$$
are exactly the numbers satisfying
$$a \equiv 1 \text{ or } 1008 \pmod{1009}.$$

Root of Unity

- **Claim.** For any prime p , the only numbers $a \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ such that $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ are 1 and $p - 1$.

- **Proof.**

$$a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$a^2 - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$(a + 1)(a - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

- That is, either $p|(a + 1)$ or $p|(a - 1)$.

Roots of Unity Properties

- Given a prime $p > 2$, we write

$$p - 1 = 2^s d$$

where d is odd and $s \geq 1$.

- **Claim.** For any **odd** prime p and any $1 < a < p$, one of the following holds.

- $a^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.
- There exists $0 \leq r < s$ such that

$$a^{2^r d} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}.$$

Roots of Unity Properties (2)

- **Claim.** For any **odd** prime p and any $1 < a < p$, one of the following holds.
 - $a^d \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.
 - There exists $0 \leq r < s$ such that $a^{2^r d} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$.
- **Proof.**
 - By **Fermat's little theorem** $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.
 - Consider $a^{(n-1)/2}, a^{(n-1)/4}, \dots, a^{(n-1)/2^s}$. By the previous claim, each such root is $\pm 1 \pmod{n}$.
 - If all of these roots equal 1, we are in the first case. Otherwise, we are in the second.

Composite Witnesses

- Given a composite (non-prime) **odd** number n , we again write $n - 1 = 2^s d$ where d is odd and $s \geq 1$.
- We say that $a \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots, n - 2\}$ is a **witness** for n if
 - $a^d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.
 - For every $0 \leq r < s$, we have $a^{2^r d} \not\equiv -1 \pmod{p}$.

Example: Composite Witness

- **Problem.** Prove that 91 is not a prime.

$$90 = 2 \cdot 45.$$

$$2^{45} \equiv 57 \pmod{91}.$$

- 2 is a witness that 91 is not a prime.

There are Many Witnesses

- Given an odd composite n , the **probability of a number $\{2, \dots, n-2\}$ being a witness is at least $\frac{3}{4}$.**
- Given an odd $n \in \mathbb{N}$, take i numbers and check if they are witnesses.
 - If we found a witness, n is composite.
 - If we did not find a witness, n is prime with probability at least

The End

