

COMP170

Discrete Mathematical Tools for Computer Science

The RSA Algorithm

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*Discrete Math for Computer Science
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Sections 2.3, 2.4, pp. 72-86*

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2.3 The RSA Cryptosystem

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- Assorted Tools and Definitions

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Consider multiplication in Z_7

\cdot_7	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
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For every nonzero $a \in Z_7$, the function $f_a(x) = x \cdot_7 a$ is one-to-one and therefore a permutation of $Z_7 - \{0\}$, i.e., every row is a permutation.

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Lemma 2.20: Let p be a prime number. For any nonzero number $a \in Z_p$, the function $f_a(x) = x \cdot_p a$ is 1-to-1. In particular, the numbers, $1 \cdot_p a, 2 \cdot_p a, \dots, (p-1) \cdot_p a$, are a permutation of the set $\{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$.

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Proof: Suppose $f_a(x)$ is not 1-to-1. Then there are $x \neq y$ with $f_a(x) = f_a(y)$. Since p is prime, Corollary 2.17 tells us that there is $a^{-1} \in Z_p$ s.t. $a \cdot_p a^{-1} = 1$.

Multiplying the two sides by a^{-1} gives

$$\begin{aligned} x &= (x \cdot_p a) \cdot_p a^{-1} = f_a(x) \cdot_p a^{-1} \\ &= f_a(y) \cdot_p a^{-1} = (y \cdot_p a) \cdot_p a^{-1} = y \end{aligned}$$

Contradiction!

Lemma 2.20: Let p be a prime number. For any nonzero number $a \in Z_p$, the function $f_a(x) = x \cdot_p a$ is 1-to-1. In particular, the numbers, $1 \cdot_p a, 2 \cdot_p a, \dots, (p-1) \cdot_p a$, are a **permutation** of the set $\{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$.

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Contradiction! \Rightarrow Then $f_a(x)$ is 1-to-1

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Knowing that g **exists**, though, does not always help in calcu-
lating $g(u)$. For a given u , $g(u)$ might be hard to calculate.

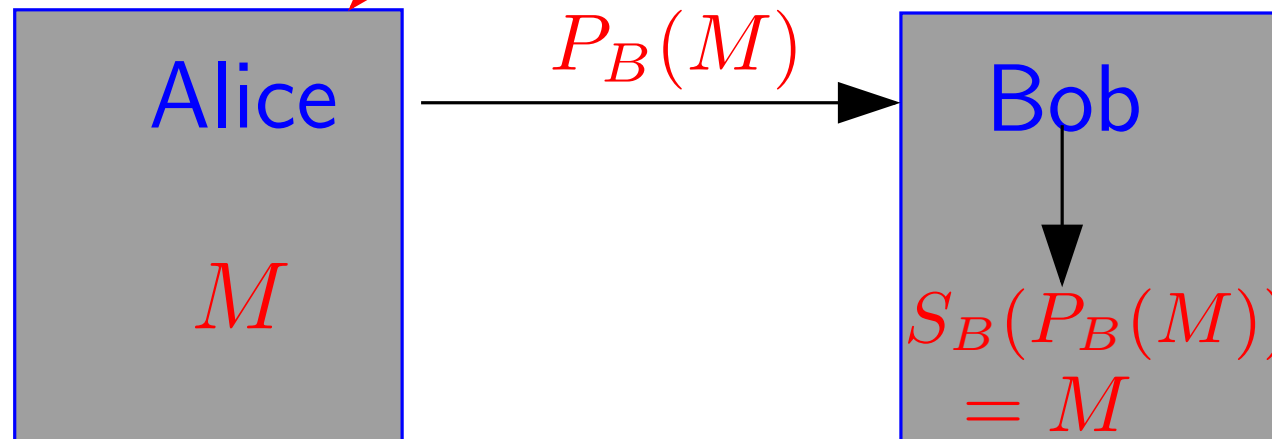
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lating $g(u)$. For a given u , $g(u)$ might be hard to calculate.
- For public-key cryptography,
the **public encoding function**, P_B , needs to be **one-way**.
The **secret decoding function**, S_B , is actually
an efficient way of calculating the inverse of P_B .
This efficient way is only available to the
“**owner**” who constructed P_B .

Recall the Public-Key Setup

- i) Alice wants to send M to Bob
- ii) In public directory, Alice looks up Bob's **Public Key**, P_B
- iii) Alice sends $P_B(M)$ to Bob
- iv) Bob uses his **Secret Key**, S_B to decrypt $M = S_B(P_B(M))$

The Black Pages Public Key Directory

Alice	P_A
Bob	P_B
Candice	P_C
Dick	P_D
\vdots	\vdots



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By Lemma 2.3, if $a \in Z_n$, then

$$a^j \bmod n = \underbrace{a \cdot_n a \cdot_n \cdots \cdot_n a}_{j \text{ factors}}.$$

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$a^j \bmod n$ is the product in Z_n of j factors, each equal to a .

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From Lemma 2.3 and exponentiation for integers, we have

Lemma 2.19:

For any $a \in Z_n$ and any nonnegative integers i, j ,

a)
$$(a^i \bmod n) \cdot_n (a^j \bmod n) = a^{i+j} \bmod n$$

b)
$$(a^i \bmod n)^j \bmod n = a^{ij} \bmod n$$

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Examples:

$$3^2 = 9$$

$$3^4 = 81$$

$$3^6 = 729$$

$$3^8 = 6561$$

$$3^2 \bmod 7 = 2$$

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a) $1 = (3^2 \bmod 7) \cdot_7 (3^4 \bmod 7) = 3^6 \bmod 7$

b) $2 = 16 \bmod 7 = (3^4 \bmod 7)^2 \bmod 7 = 3^8 \bmod 7$

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the sequence $x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3, \dots$.
Do you see a pattern?

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x	x^0	x^1	x^2	x^3	x^4	x^5	x^6
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For every $x \in Z_7$, the sequence starts *cycling*. In particular, for every $x \in Z_7$, we have $x^0 = 1 = x^6 = x^{7-1}$.

x	x^0	x^1	x^2	x^3	x^4	x^5	x^6
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
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Now let $x = 1 \cdot_p 2 \cdot_p \cdots \cdot_p (p-1)$.

The equation above is $x = x \cdot_p (a^{p-1} \bmod p)$

Since p is prime, x^{-1} exists in Z_p . So,

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Proof:

Direct application of Lemma 2.3, because if we replace a with $a \bmod p$, then Theorem 2.21 applies.

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Example: $a = 5, p = 7, m = 15$

$$\Rightarrow a^{15} \bmod 7 = a^{(2 \cdot 6 + 3)} \bmod 7 = a^3 \bmod 7 = 6$$

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Most famous for **Fermat's Last Theorem**. This says that the equation $x^n + y^n = z^n$ has no solution for integers x, y, z, n with $n > 2$. Fermat had written in the margin of one of his math books that



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It took mathematicians more than 300 years to "rediscover" a proof for this (if you believe that Fermat ever had one). Andrew Wiles finally managed to prove this in 1994.

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RSA are the initials of three Computer Scientists, Ron **R**ivest, Adi **S**hamir and Len **A**dleman, who discovered their algorithm when they were working together at MIT in 1977.



It is now known that Cifford Cocks, a mathematician working for Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), the secret coding agency in Britan, independently discovered this earlier, in 1973, but did not publish his work. This fact was not known until certain secret British documents were declassified in 1997.

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Bob's RSA Key Choice Algorithm

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- (5) Publish e, n as public key

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- (4) Calculate $d = e^{-1} \bmod T$
- (5) Publish e, n as public key
- (6) Keep d as secret key

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Extended GCD Alg

Alice-send-message-to-Bob(x) ($0 \leq x < n$)

- (1) Alice does:
- (2) Read public directory for Bob's public keys e and n .
- (3) Compute $y = x^e \bmod n$
- (4) Send y to Bob

- (5) Bob does:
- (6) Receive y from Alice
- (7) Compute $z = y^d \bmod n$, using secret key d
- (8) Read z

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To show that the RSA cryptosystem works — that is, that it allows us to correctly decode encoded messages — we must show that $x = z$, i.e., for all x , $0 \leq x < n$,

$$x = (x^e \bmod n)^d \bmod n = x^{ed} \bmod n$$

Story so far: We have (*)
Want to prove that,
if $0 \leq x < n$

$$x = x^{ed} \bmod n$$

p, q prime
$n = pq$
(*) $T = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
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Plan

(1) Proving that $x \pmod{p} = x^{ed} \pmod{p}$ for all x

(2) Proving that $x \pmod{q} = x^{ed} \pmod{q}$ for all x

(3) Showing that, if $0 \leq x < n$, (1) + (2) imply

$$x = x^{ed} \pmod{n}$$

Story so far: We have (*)

Want to prove

$$(1) \ x \bmod p = x^{ed} \bmod p$$

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$ed \bmod T = 1$ so there is some k such that $ed = 1 + kT$ and

$$\begin{aligned} x^{ed} \bmod p &= x^{1+k(q-1)(p-1)} \bmod p \\ &= x \left(x^{k(q-1)} \right)^{p-1} \bmod p \end{aligned}$$

There are two possible cases

- (a) $x^{k(q-1)}$ is a multiple of p
- (b) $x^{k(q-1)}$ is not a multiple of p

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(a) If $x^{k(q-1)}$ is a multiple of p

\Rightarrow since p is prime, x is also a multiple of p .

$\Rightarrow x^{ed} \bmod p = 0 = x \bmod p$

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Fermat's little thm:

If $p \nmid a$ then

$$a^{p-1} \bmod p = 1$$

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We have therefore just finished proving that, for all x

$$x^{ed} \bmod p = x \bmod p$$

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Want to prove that,

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$$n = pq$$

$$T = (p - 1)(q - 1)$$

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(3) Need to show that (1) + (2) imply

$$x = x^{ed} \bmod n$$

Quick review of prime number properties

If p and q are both prime numbers and *both* divide z
then pq divides z

Example:

$$p = 3, q = 11, z = 99$$

$$3, 11 \text{ both divide } 99 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 33 = pq \text{ also divides } 99$$

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Note that if p, q are *not* prime this is not necessarily true

Example:

$$p = 6, q = 15, z = 60$$

$$6, 15 \text{ both divide } 60 \quad \text{but} \quad 90 = pq \text{ does not divide } 60$$

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Then $v = x^{ed} - x = ip$ for some integers i, j
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Then $x^{ed} = kn + x$ for some k . Since $0 \leq x < n$,

$$x^{ed} \bmod n = x$$

We just saw that if

Alice-send-message-to-Bob(x) ($0 \leq x < n$)

- (1) Alice does:
- (2) Read public directory for Bob's public keys e and n .
- (3) Compute $y = x^e \bmod n$
- (4) Send y to Bob

- (5) Bob does:
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$$\Rightarrow \quad z = x^{ed} \bmod n = x$$

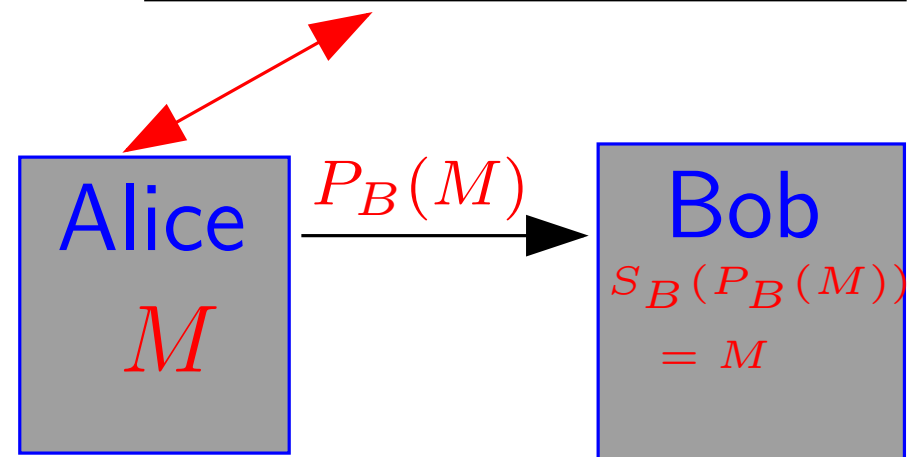
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The RSA procedure for encoding and decoding messages works correctly.

$$P_B(M) = M^{e_B} \bmod n_B \quad S_B(Y) = Y^{d_B} \bmod n_B$$

The Black Pages
Public Key Directory

Alice	$P_A = (n_A, e_A)$
Bob	$P_B = (n_B, e_B)$
Candice	$P_C = (n_C, e_C)$
Dick	$P_D = (n_D, e_D)$
⋮	⋮



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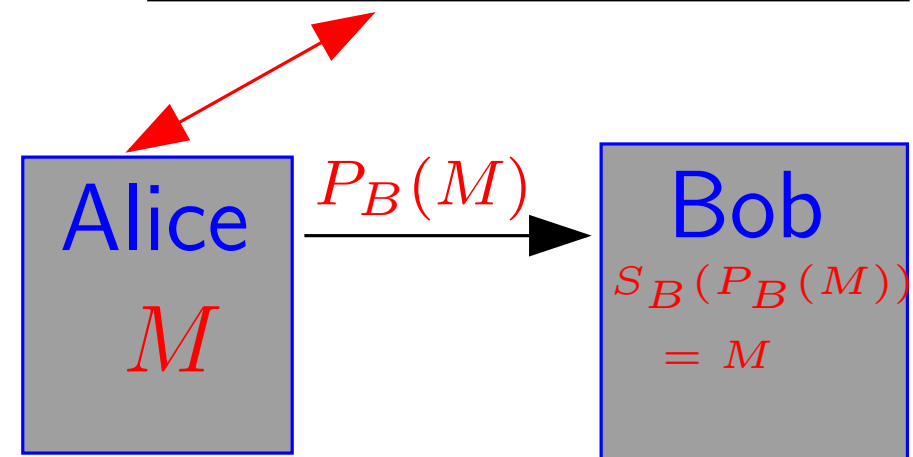
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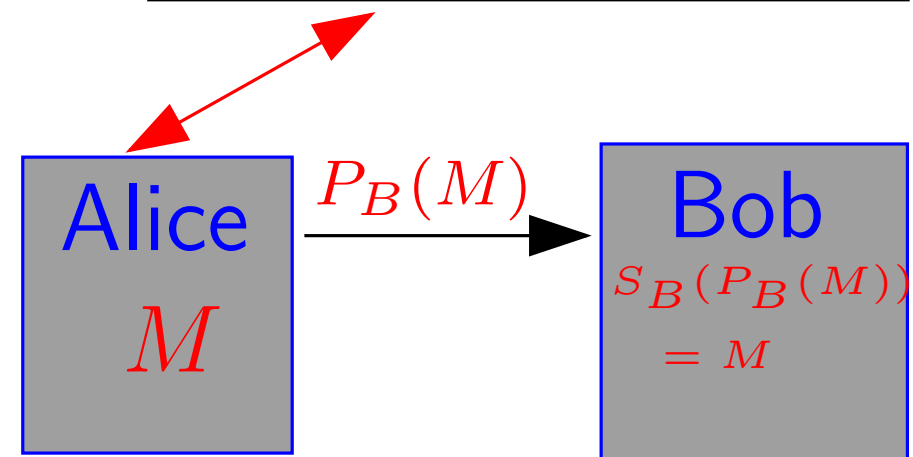
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Why is this secret?

We claim that someone (adversary) who knows the public information n, e and $M^e \bmod n$ can not figure out M .



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No!!. Nobody knows how to factor quickly!

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- So, if you could figure out a quick factoring scheme, you could break most modern computer security
- *Note: Although nobody knows how to factor quickly we don't have any proof that factoring **must** be slow. It's possible that there's a fast factorization algorithm out there that no one has found yet*

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Parameters: $p = 5, q = 11$: $\Rightarrow T = (p - 1) * (q - 1) = 40$.

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Examples: For the given $n = p \cdot q = 55, e = 7, d = 23$

for $x = 12$:

$12^7 \bmod 55 = 35831808 \bmod 55 = 23$ and

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$$33^{23} \bmod 55 = 84298649517881922539738734663399137 \bmod 55 = 22$$

2.3 The RSA Cryptosystem

- Assorted Tools and Definitions
- Exponentiation mod n
- The Rules of Exponents
- Fermat's Little Theorem
- The RSA Cryptosystem
- Practical Aspects of Exponentiation mod n
- The Chinese Remainder Theorem

Practical Aspects of Exponentiation mod n

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Suppose you want to
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Sizes to right not
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No! Too many iterations.
Sun would “burn out” before we finished!

Practical Aspects of Exponentiation mod n

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Suppose you want to
calculate $a^e \bmod n$

Sizes to right not
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a – 150 digits

e – 10^{120} , 121 digits

n – 150 digits

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first using 5 muls to find

$$a^2 = a \cdot a$$

$$a^4 = a^2 \cdot a^2$$

$$a^8 = a^4 \cdot a^4$$

$$a^{16} = a^8 \cdot a^8$$

$$a^{32} = a^{16} \cdot a^{16}$$

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first using 5 muls to find

and then another 2 muls to get

$$a^2 = a \cdot a$$

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$$a^8 = a^4 \cdot a^4$$

$$a^{16} = a^8 \cdot a^8$$

$$a^{32} = a^{16} \cdot a^{16}$$

$$a^{50} = a^{32} \cdot a^{16} \cdot a^2$$

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**Much better than 49 muls
needed by iterative method!**

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Setting $I_i = a^{2^i} \bmod n$ and

$$I_1 = (a \cdot a) \bmod n$$

$$I_2 = (I_1 \cdot I_1) \bmod n$$

$$I_3 = (I_2 \cdot I_2) \bmod n$$

$$I_4 = (I_3 \cdot I_3) \bmod n$$

$$I_5 = (I_4 \cdot I_4) \bmod n$$

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$$a^{50} \bmod n = (I_5 \cdot (I_4 \cdot I_1 \bmod n) \bmod n)$$

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$$I_5 = (I_4 \cdot I_4) \bmod n$$

$$a^{50} \bmod n = (I_5 \cdot (I_4 \cdot I_1 \bmod n) \bmod n)$$

Note: No factor is ever $\geq n$

Repeated squaring to evaluate $a^e \bmod n$

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- Calculate binary representation of e : $e_s e_{s-1} \cdots e_2 e_1 e_0$

$$e = \sum_{i=0}^s e_i 2^i \text{ and } s \leq \log_2 n$$

Example: $50 = 110010$

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Example: $50 = 110010$

- Now find k_1, k_2, \dots, k_t so that $e = 2^{k_1} + 2^{k_2} + \cdots + 2^{k_t}$.

The k_i are just the locations of the 1s in the bin rep of e

Example: $50 = 2^1 + 2^4 + 2^5$ so $(k_1, k_2, k_3) = (1, 4, 5)$

Repeated squaring to evaluate $a^e \bmod n$

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where $I_i = (I_{i-1})^2 \bmod n$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$
- $a^e \bmod n = (I_{k_1} I_{k_2} \cdots I_{k_t}) \bmod n$ so we can calculate this
using $t - 1$ multiplications where no factor is ever $\geq n$.

- How many multiplications and *mods* does this procedure use to calculate $a^e \bmod n$?

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- Note that if e has binary representation $e_s e_{s-1} \cdots e_2 e_1 e_0$ then it performs s multiplications and *mods* in the *repeated squaring* part, and, at most, another s multiplications and *mods* in the second part.

Since $s \sim \log_2 e$ this means it performs at most around $2 \log_2 e \leq 2 \log_2 n$ of these operations.

Compare this to the $e - 1$ operations it would require if we did naive exponentiation without repeated squaring.

- How many multiplications and *mods* does this procedure use to calculate $a^e \bmod n$?
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Since $s \sim \log_2 e$ this means it performs at most around $2 \log_2 e \leq 2 \log_2 n$ of these operations.

Compare this to the $e - 1$ operations it would require if we did naive exponentiation without repeated squaring.

- To put this in perspective, consider $e = 10^{120}$. This number is so big that, at current computer speeds, we would not be able to finish running the naive algorithm **before the sun died**. On the other hand, $2 \log_2 e = 240 \log_2 10 \sim 796$ so we could run the repeated squaring algorithm in **just a few seconds!**

Comment: This idea of designing *efficient* programs for solving problems and then analyzing their running times is something that you will see a lot more of in Data Structures and The Design and Analysis of Algorithms

2.3 The RSA Cryptosystem

- Assorted Tools and Definitions
- Exponentiation mod n
- The Rules of Exponents
- Fermat's Little Theorem
- The RSA Cryptosystem
- Practical Aspects of Exponentiation mod n
- The Chinese Remainder Theorem

The Chinese Remainder Theorem

While proving the correctness of RSA, we proved the following:

If (i) $0 \leq x < n = pq$,

(ii) $x^{ed} \bmod p = x \bmod p$ and

(iii) $x^{ed} \bmod q = x \bmod q$

$$\Rightarrow x^{ed} \pmod{n} = x$$

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(iii) $x^{ed} \bmod q = x \bmod q$

$$\Rightarrow x^{ed} \pmod{n} = x$$

This turns out to be a special case of a general rule:

The Chinese Remainder Theorem

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For each $x \in Z_{15}$, write
 $x \bmod 3$ and $x \bmod 5$.

Is x uniquely determined
by these values?

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x	$x \bmod 3$	$x \bmod 5$
0	0	0
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	0	3
4	1	4
5	2	0
6	0	1
7	1	2
8	2	3
9	0	4
10	1	0
11	2	1
12	0	2
13	1	3
14	2	4

The Chinese Remainder Theorem

For each $x \in Z_{15}$, write
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Is x uniquely determined
by these values? Yes!

Each $x \in Z_{15}$ has a different
 $x \bmod 3$, $x \bmod 5$ pair.

x	$x \bmod 3$	$x \bmod 5$
0	0	0
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	0	3
4	1	4
5	2	0
6	0	1
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10	1	0
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Is x uniquely determined
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Each $x \in Z_{15}$ has a different
 $x \bmod 3, x \bmod 5$ pair.

Thus, the function
 $f(x) = (x \bmod 3, x \bmod 5)$
from Z_{15} to the 15 pairs (i, j)
with $0 \leq i < 3$ and $0 \leq j < 5$
is one-to-one.

x	$x \bmod 3$	$x \bmod 5$
0	0	0
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	0	3
4	1	4
5	2	0
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from Z_{15} to the 15 pairs (i, j)
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$\Rightarrow x$ is uniquely determined by its
pair of remainders.

x	$x \bmod 3$	$x \bmod 5$
0	0	0
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	0	3
4	1	4
5	2	0
6	0	1
7	1	2
8	2	3
9	0	4
10	1	0
11	2	1
12	0	2
13	1	3
14	2	4

Theorem 2.24 (Chinese Remainder Theorem)

If m and n are relatively prime integers, then the equations $x \bmod m = a \in Z_m$ and $x \bmod n = b \in Z_n$ have one and only one solution for an integer x between 0 and $mn - 1$.

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Why is this called the Chinese Remainder Theorem?

The earliest reference known is from the Sun Tzu Suan Ching (also known as Sunzi Suanjing) written in approximately the late third century by Sun Zi. Problem 26 in the third volume of the Sun Tzu Suan Ching offers the earliest recorded description of the Chinese Remainder Problem.



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Proof: Let $f(x) = (x \bmod m, x \bmod n)$

$f : \{0, 1, 2, \dots, mn - 1\} \rightarrow$ the pairs $(a, b) : 0 \leq a < m$ and $0 \leq b < n$

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To prove the theorem we must show that f is a **bijection**.

f is mapping a set of size mn to a set of size mn , so,

to prove it's a bijection, it's enough to prove that f is **onto**.

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$y \bmod m = a$ and $y \bmod n = b$

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$$y \bmod m = a \text{ and } y \bmod n = b$$

y might **not** be $< mn$ but we can set $x = y \bmod (mn)$ and get

$$x < mn \text{ and (why?) } x \bmod m = a \text{ and } x \bmod n = b$$

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Given (a, b) want y s.t. $y \bmod m = a$ and $y \bmod n = b$

- Since $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ there exists, \overline{m} s.t. $m \cdot \overline{m} = 1 \bmod n$

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- Set $y = a\bar{n}n + b\bar{m}m$
- Then $y \bmod m = (a\bar{n}n) \bmod m = a$
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done!

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Example: $m = 6, n = 11, a = 3, b = 7$

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Example: $m = 6, n = 11, a = 3, b = 7$

- $\bar{m} = 2$ and $\bar{n} = 5$ since

$$6 \cdot 2 \bmod 11 = 12 \bmod 11 = 1$$

$$11 \cdot 5 \bmod 6 = 55 \bmod 6 = 1$$

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- Set $y = a\bar{n}n + b\bar{m}m = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 + 7 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 = 249$

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- Set $y = a\bar{n}n + b\bar{m}m = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 + 7 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 = 249$
- $249 = 3 * 66 + 51$ so $x = y \bmod (nm) = 51$

Theorem 2.24 (Chinese Remainder Theorem)

If m and n are relatively prime integers, then the equations $x \bmod m = a \in Z_m$ and $x \bmod n = b \in Z_n$ have one and only one solution for an integer x between 0 and $mn - 1$.

Example: $m = 6, n = 11, a = 3, b = 7$

- $\bar{m} = 2$ and $\bar{n} = 5$ since

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- Reality Check:
$$\begin{array}{l} 51 \bmod 6 = 3 \\ 51 \bmod 11 = 7 \end{array}$$

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- Our proof was a **constructive proof**.
We not only showed that the theorem was correct, but we did so by giving a procedure to **construct** an x satisfying the statement of the theorem.