

Math Background



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Special Topics

Quiz

There are two containers.

Their capacities are 11 gallons and 7 gallons.

How can you use the two containers to measure 5 gallons water?

Is it hard?

Prime numbers

- An integer that is greater than 1 and whose only positive divisors are 1 and itself
- Numbers that are not prime are composites
- 1 is neither a prime nor a composite

Every number > 1 can be written as a product of prime numbers, and there is only one way.

Example: $12 = 2^2 \times 3$ $15 = 3 \times 5$

Unique factorization of integers (fundamental theorem of number theory)

Question

- How many positive divisors does 72 have?
 - Including 1 and 72

Factorization

Given n , find all its prime factors.

For example:

135066410865995223349603216278805969938881475605667027
524485143851526510604859533833940287150571909441798207
282164471551373680419703964191743046496589274256239341
020864383202110372958725762358509643110564073501508187
510676594629205563685529475213500852879416377328533906
109750544334999811150056977236890927563

Is it hard?

Factorization - 2

- Factorization is **a hard problem!**
 - More formally, **intractable problem**
- Best algorithm for b bits numbers: $\exp((c + o(1))b^{1/3}\log^{2/3}b)$
- The largest number factored was RSA-768 (768-bit long) in 2009
 - Hundreds of computers over 2 years
- Factoring 1024-bit numbers is about 1,000 harder

Onewayness:

Given (large) prime numbers, it is easy to find their product.

Given a (large) product, it is hard to find its factors.

How many prime numbers?

- There are infinite number of prime numbers.
 - The largest is $2^{74,207,281}-1$ (as of Jan 2016)
- The number of prime numbers $\leq x$ is about $x / \ln(x)$.
 - So the probability of randomly chosen number is prime is $1 / \ln(x)$.
- The prime numbers become sparse.
- **Twin prime**: both p and $p+2$ are prime.
 - The difference is 2 (and the gap is 1).
- Yitang Zhang proved in 2013 that there are infinitely many gaps that do not exceed by 7×10^7 . The gap was reduced to 246 in 2015.

Find prime numbers

Given n , find all prime numbers $\leq n$.

The sieve of Eratosthenes

- List all the numbers from 1 to n
- Start from 2, delete all multiples of prime numbers
 - 2, 3, 5, ..., \sqrt{n}
- All remaining numbers are prime

When n is large, the process takes loooooong time

Primality test

Given a positive number n , is n prime?

Note that the problem is different from factorization.

Primality test in practice

Fermat primality test (we are going to learn in a moment)

Miller–Rabin and Solovay–Strassen primality test

AKS test runs in polynomial time (still slow in practice)

Greatest common divisor (GCD)

- The GCD of two or more non-zero integers is the largest positive integer that divide all the integers

Example:

$$\gcd(3, 9) = 3$$

$$\gcd(2^{20} \cdot 3^{50}, 2^{10} \cdot 3^5 \cdot 7) = 2^{10} \cdot 3^5$$

$$\gcd(5, 7) = 1$$

$$\gcd(221, 403) =$$

Is it hard?

Find gcd: Euclidean Algorithm

Suppose $N > D \geq 0$

Let $i = 0, N_0 = N, D_0 = D$.

1. Find $N_i = D_i \cdot q_i + r_i$ $0 \leq r_i < D_i$
(Quotient-Remainder Theorem)
2. If $r_i = 0$, return D_i
3. $N_{i+1} = D_i$ and $D_{i+1} = r_i$
4. Increment i and goto Step 1

The algorithm works because $\gcd(N_i, D_i) = \gcd(N_{i+1}, D_{i+1})$

Euclidean Algorithm Example

N	D	q	r
65	35	1	30
35	30	1	5

Coprime

- If two integers do not have any common positive factor other than 1, they are relatively prime, mutually prime, or **coprime**
 - x and y are co-prime if and only if $\gcd(x, y) = 1$
 - 1 is considered to be relatively prime to all numbers

Example

5 and 21

6 and 25

Modular Arithmetic

Quotient-Remainder Theorem

Given any integer n and an integer $m > 0$, there exist unique integers q and r such that

$$n = q \cdot m + r \text{ and } 0 \leq r < m$$

$$r = n \bmod m$$

Properties of modular arithmetic:

$$(x + y) \bmod m = ((x \bmod m) + (y \bmod m)) \bmod m$$

$$(x - y) \bmod m = ((x \bmod m) - (y \bmod m)) \bmod m$$

$$(x \cdot y) \bmod m = ((x \bmod m) (y \bmod m)) \bmod m$$

Notation Properties of modular arithmetic

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

a and b are **congruent** modulo m

When divided by m , a and b have the same remainder.

$a - b$ is a multiple of m .

Often we can write like this:

$$a = x^3 + y - z \pmod{m}$$

Example

$$7^{12} + 5^3 = 2^{12} + 0^3 \pmod{5}$$

Fermat's Little Theorem (FLT)

$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ for every prime p and every integer a .

If this is not true for some a , p is not prime.

We can use FLT for primality test, but there are better algorithms.

Modular exponentiation

Compute the following:

$$2^{65} \bmod 11$$

$$2^{123456789123456789} \bmod 11$$

Is it hard?

Group

- A group is defined as a set of elements G and an operation \circ such that
 - Closure
 - If a and b are in G , $c = a \circ b$ is also in G .
 - Associativity
 - $(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$.
 - Identity element e
 - $a \circ e = a$.
 - Inverse element
 - Any a , there exists b such that $a \circ b = e$.
- If the operation in a group is also commutative, the group is **an abelian group**

$$a \circ b = b \circ a.$$

Group Example

- Integers and addition form a group
- Integers and multiplication is not a group

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvx9TnK85bw&list=PLi01XoE8jYoi3SgmnGorR_XOW3IcK-TP6&index=10

Residue classes modulo m

- A set of numbers $Z_m = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$ is called residue classes modulo m
 - All remainders of integers modulo m
 - Can also be denoted as $Z(m)$ or Z/mZ
- Z_m and addition (+) form an abelian group
 - $a + b \pmod{m}$ is between 0 and $m-1$
 - $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
 - $a + 0 = a$
 - Any a , the additive inverse of a is $m - a$
 - $a + (m - a) = 0 \pmod{m}$
 - $a + b = b + a$

Multiplication

Let $Z_m \setminus \{0\}$ denote Z_m excluding 0

Do $Z_m \setminus \{0\}$ and $*$ (multiplication) form a group?

Example of Multiplicative Group

$$\mathbb{Z}_5 \setminus \{0\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

Let a and b are the numbers in the set.

$a \cdot b$ is also in the set

$$a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$$

$$a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 1, \quad 2 \cdot 3 = 1, \quad 4 \cdot 4 = 1$$

Example of Multiplicative Group

$$\mathbb{Z}_6 \setminus \{0\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

Let a and b are the numbers in the set.

$a \cdot b$ is also in the set

$$a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$$

$$a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 1,$$

$$2 \cdot ? = 1 \quad 3 \cdot ? = 1 \quad 4 \cdot ? = 1$$

Group and multiplication

Let $Z_m \setminus \{0\}$ denote Z_m excluding 0

Do $Z_m \setminus \{0\}$ and $*$ form a group?

If m is prime, yes.

If m is not prime, no.

Z_m^* is Z_m with elements that are not coprime to m removed

0 is removed

Z_m^* and $*$ form a group

Example of Multiplicative Group

$$\mathbb{Z}_8^* = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$$

	1	3	5	7
1	1	3	5	7
3	3	1	7	5
5	5	7	1	3
7	7	5	3	1

$$\mathbb{Z}_5 \setminus \{0\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

	1	2	3	4
1	1	2	3	4
2	2	4	1	3
3	3	1	4	2
4	4	3	2	1

Multiplication table in groups. Also called Cayley table.

Division

$$5 / 3 =$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_8^* = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$$

$$\frac{5}{3} = 5 \times 3^{-1} = 5 \times 3 = 7$$

	1	3	5	7
1	1	3	5	7
3	3	1	7	5
5	5	7	1	3
7	7	5	3	1

Is it hard?

Find the inverse: Euclidean Algorithm

We use Euclidean algorithm to find gcd.

We can also use it to find the inverse ([Extended Euclidean algorithm](#))

Given a and n , use Euclidean algorithm to find $\gcd(a, n)$.

If a and n are coprime, $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.

We can find x and k such that

$$a \cdot x + k \cdot n = 1$$

x is the inverse of $a \bmod n$ because $a \cdot x \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$.

If a and n are not coprime, a does not have an inverse.

Example: use Euclidean algorithm to find the inverse

Example: $a = 31$, $n = 73$. Find the inverse of $a \bmod n$.

N	D	q	r
73	31	2	11
31	11	2	9
11	9	1	2
9	2	4	1

$$9 - 2 * 4 = 1$$

$$5 * 9 - 4 * 11 = 1$$

$$5 * 31 - 14 * 11 = 1$$

$$33 * 31 - 14 * 73 = 1$$

$$\rightarrow 9 - (11 - 9 * 1) * 4 = 1$$

$$\rightarrow 5 * (31 - 11 * 2) - 4 * 11 = 1$$

$$\rightarrow 5 * 31 - 14 * (73 - 31 * 2) = 1$$

Fermat's Little Theorem (FLT) and the inverse

$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ for every prime p and every integer a

- If $a \neq 0$, $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$
 - Divide both sides by a
- a^{p-2} is the inverse of a in \mathbb{Z}_p

$$\begin{aligned} a^{p-1} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \\ a \cdot a^{p-2} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \\ \therefore a^{-1} &= a^{p-2} \end{aligned}$$

Finite group

- A group is called **finite** if it has a finite number of elements
- The number of elements is the **order** of the group
 - Denoted as $|G|$
- In group (G, \cdot) , the order of an element a is t if

$$\underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a}_t = 1$$

assuming 1 is the identity element

Cyclic group

- A **cyclic** group is a group **all** of whose elements can be generated from a single element
 - The element is called a **primitive** element, or a **generator**
- If the operation is addition, each element is a multiple of the generator
- If the operation is multiplication, each element is a power of the generator
- A cyclic group is abelian (commutative)

One line proof:

$$x + y = a \cdot g + b \cdot g = (a + b) \cdot g = (b + a) \cdot g = y + x$$

Example: Cyclic group

$Z_6 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and +

5 is a generator.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= 6 * 5, 1 = 5 * 5, 2 = 4 * 5, \\ 3 &= 3 * 5, 4 = 2 * 5, 5 = 1 * 5 \end{aligned}$$

2, 3, and 4 are not.

Multiplicative group of Z_5 , excluding 0, is cyclic

$$2^0 = 1 \quad 2^1 = 2 \quad 2^2 = 4 \quad 2^3 = 3$$

Multiplicative group of Z_8^* is not cyclic (see the multiplication table)

Example: Cyclic group

$$\mathbb{Z}_9^* = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8\}$$

6 elements. 2 is a generator.

*	1	2	4	5	7	8
1	1	2	4	5	7	8
2	2	4	8	1	5	7
4	4	8	7	2	1	5
5	5	1	2	7	8	4
7	7	5	1	8	4	2
8	8	7	5	4	2	1

Not every element in a cyclic group is a generator.

For example, 4 is not a generator
 $4^0 = 1, 4^1 = 4, 4^2 = 7, 4^3 = 1.$

Powers of 2:

exponents: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

results: 1 2 4 8 7 5 1

$$\mathbb{Z}_9^* = \langle 2 \rangle$$

Discrete Logarithm Problem (DLP)

Suppose G is a multiplicative cyclic group and a generator g of G .
Given an element h of G , find x such that

$$g^x = h$$

DLP is a hard problem if the group is chosen carefully.

Commonly used groups: \mathbb{Z}_p^* where p is a large **safe prime**.

Safe prime: Both p and $(p - 1)/2$ are prime.

Onewayness: easy from x to h , hard from h to x .

Quadratic residue

Solve the following equation for x :

$$x^2 = c \pmod{n}$$

- It is **hard** if the factors of n is unknown

Are the following equations hard?

$$x^2 = c \pmod{2^{64}}$$

$$x^3 = c \pmod{n}$$

Number of elements in a group

- How many elements are in the following group?

Z_p^* where p is prime.

Z_m^* where m is not prime.

Euler's totient function (1)

- If $0 < x \leq n$, and x is relatively prime to n , x is a **totative** of n
 - x and n do not have a common divisor that is larger than 1
- Euler's **totient function** $\varphi(n)$ is the number of totatives of n

$$\varphi(1) = 1, \varphi(2) = 1, \varphi(3) = 2, \varphi(4) = 2, \varphi(5) = 4, \\ \varphi(6) = 2, \dots$$

$$\varphi(24) = 8 \text{ The set of totatives is } \{1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23\}.$$

$$\varphi(p) = p - 1 \text{ if } p \text{ is prime}$$

Euler's totient function (2)

Suppose $n > 1$, and the standard factored form of n is

$$n = p_1^{k_1} p_2^{k_2} p_3^{k_3} \dots p_r^{k_r}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(n) &= n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right) \\ &= n \sum_{i=1}^r \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_i}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Totient function example

$$\varphi(9) = \varphi(3^2) = 9 \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) = 6$$

$$\varphi(10) = \varphi(2 \times 5) = 10 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) = 4$$

$$\varphi(100) = \varphi(2^2 \times 5^2) = 100 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) = 40$$

Example: product of two prime numbers

If p and q are prime, and $n = p \cdot q$,

$$\varphi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$$

Check:

Among $pq - 1$ numbers, these are not totatives:

$$p, 2p, 3p, \dots, (q - 1)p$$

$$q, 2q, 3q, \dots, (p - 1)q$$

Therefore,

$$\varphi(n) = (pq - 1) - (p - 1 + q - 1) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$$

Computing Euler's totient function

- If n 's factors are known, it is easy to compute $\varphi(n)$
 - Otherwise, it is **hard**
 - The two problems are equivalent

n	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$\phi(n)$	1	1	2	2	4	2	6	4	6	4
factors?	none	none	none	$2 \cdot 2$	none	$2 \cdot 3$	none	2^3	$3 \cdot 3$	$2 \cdot 5$

Carmichael's totient function conjecture:

For every positive integer n , there exists a positive integer m such that $m \neq n$ and $\varphi(m) = \varphi(n)$.

Euler's theorem

- If n is a positive integer and a is coprime to n , then

$$a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$$

- A generalization of Fermat's little theorem
 - $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ for every prime p and every integer a
 - If $a \neq 0$, $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$
- Further generalized by Carmichael's theorem
 - The exponent is smaller (than $\phi(n)$)

A formal proof: http://www.mizar.org/JFM/Vol10/euler_2.html

Find the inverse - 3

Given Z_n^* , how to find the multiplicative inverse of an element a .
Note that a and n are coprime.

If we know $\varphi(n)$,

$$\begin{aligned} a^{\varphi(n)} &= 1 \pmod{n} \text{ (Euler's theorem)} \\ a \cdot a^{\varphi(n)-1} &= 1 \pmod{n} \\ a^{-1} &= a^{\varphi(n)-1} \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

Special case: n is prime, $\varphi(n) = n - 1$.

$$a^{-1} = a^{n-2} \pmod{n}$$

Summary of problems

Can you identify the hard problems?

- Primality test
- Multiplication
- Exponentiation
- Factorization
- Find GCD
- Find modular inverse
- Discrete logarithm problem (DLP)
- Euler's totient function
- Quadratic residue

Field

- A field has addition, subtraction, multiplication and **division**
 - Allow division, but not division by zero
- A field has the following elements:
 - $F, +, -, *, /, 0, 1$
 - There are two groups in a field
 - $F, +, -, 0$
 - $F^* = F \setminus \{0\}, *, /, 1$ The **multiplicative group** of the field.

Finite field (Galois field)

- A field with finitely many elements
 - The number of elements in a field is **the order of the field**
- If p is prime, $Z_p = \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ is a finite field
 - Also denoted as F_p or $GF(p)$
- For every prime number p and positive integer n , there exists a finite field with p^n elements
- The order of a field can be represented as p^n , where p is prime
 - p is called the **characteristic** of the field
 - Called a prime field if $n = 1$
 - Called a binary field if $p = 2$
- Any two finite fields with the same number of elements are **isomorphic**

Multiplicative group in a finite field is cyclic

- The multiplicative group of a finite field is a cyclic group
- There are $\varphi(q - 1)$ generators for a group of size q
 - $\varphi(x)$ is the Euler's totient function

Links

- V. Shoup. A Computational Introduction to Number Theory and Algebra. <https://shoup.net/ntb/ntb-v2.pdf>

Évariste Galois

- Many myths surround Galois and his work
 - Trying to solve equations
 - General solution to quadratic equation was found many years ago
 - Solution also found for cubic and quartic equations
 - But how about quintic equations?
 - Submitted the paper to Grand Prize of the Paris Academy (1830)
 - Paper was rejected
 - Niels Henrik Abel proved quintic equations have no general solution (1826)
 - Extended the paper and ...
 - Submitted to Fourier. Unfortunately, Fourier died and the paper was lost
 - Submitted to Cauchy, but Cauchy lost it
 - That year's Prize was awarded to Abel and Carl Jacobi
 - Tried a year later
 - Nobody understood it
 - Three papers were published in 1830
 - Galois theory
 - Died on May 31, 1832 at the age of 20

Ring

Add multiplication operation (\bullet) on an abelian group with addition

- The **abelian** group is a ring if
 - Multiplication is closed
 - $a \bullet b$ is also an element in the set
 - Multiplication is commutative
 - $a \bullet b = b \bullet a$
 - Multiplication associative
 - $a \bullet (b \bullet c) = (a \bullet b) \bullet c$
 - There is a multiplication identity 1
 - $a \bullet 1 = 1 \bullet a = a$
 - **The distributive property is satisfied**
 - $(a + b) \bullet c = (a \bullet c) + (b \bullet c)$
 - $a \bullet (b+c) = (a \bullet b) + (a \bullet c)$

Examples of ring

- Integers \mathbb{Z}
- Real number \mathbb{R}
- Complex numbers \mathbb{C}
- \mathbb{Z}_m is a ring
 - \mathbb{Z}_m is a finite ring