

Using the Fermat test (requiring  $n$  to pass 10 tests with randomly generated values of  $a < n$ , which yields an error rate of less than  $2^{-10} = \frac{1}{256}$  for non-Carmichael numbers), primes close to  $10^{10}$  can be calculated, and rapidly so, in roughly 4 microseconds?, which is about 10 times faster than the most optimized version of the smallest-divisor version. To make logarithmic behavior easier to detect, the Fermat test is applied 100 times to each  $n$ :

Prime	Average Time to Pass 100 Fermat Tests	Difference
$10^3$	12	N/A
$10^4$	16.444	4.444
$10^5$	19.333	2.889
$10^6$	27.778	8.444
$10^7$	28.889	1.111
$10^8$	33.222	4.333
$10^9$	38.889	5.667

The average time seems to grow at a somewhat constant rate, despite the input size ( $n$ ) increasing tenfold, which would support the claim that the Fermat test has  $\Theta(\log n)$  growth.

Let's also use this data to answer the specific question that this exercise posed. Since the Fermat test has  $\Theta(\log n)$  growth, we would expect the time to test primes near 1,000,000 to be twice as much as the time to test primes near 1,000.

$$\frac{\log(10^6)}{\log(10^3)} = \frac{6}{3} = 2$$

Using the values from above, the average time at  $10^3$  is exactly 12 and the average time at  $10^6$  is approximately 27.778. The time to test primes at  $10^6$  is  $\frac{27.778}{12} \approx 2.315$  times slower than at  $10^3$ , which is close to the 2 times difference we expected.

Note: random does not work for numbers bigger than  $2^{32}$ , so so numbers higher than  $10^9$  cannot be tested.