

Recall: Let a be a unit of \mathbb{Z}_n

quadratic residue: $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$ has a solution

quadratic non-residue: $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$ has no solution.

Let p be an odd prime.

Legendre symbol $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$: 1 if QR; -1 if QNR; 0 if 0(mod p)

• g primitive root. $\left(\frac{g^k}{p}\right) = (-1)^k$

• $\frac{p-1}{2}$ QR and $\frac{p-1}{2}$ QNR.

• $\left(\frac{1}{p}\right) = 1$ • $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$ • $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a^{-1}}{p}\right)$

• a unit $\Rightarrow \left(\frac{a^2}{p}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{a^2 b}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$

Euler's Criterion: $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$

• $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow -1$ is a QR

• $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow -1$ is a QNR

a unit
call x

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

$$x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$$

Two types of questions:

• What are the quadratic residues modulo $\overset{p}{17}$?

$$1^2 \equiv 1, 2^2 \equiv 4, 3^2 \equiv 9, 4^2 \equiv 16, 5^2 \equiv 8, 6^2 \equiv 2, 7^2 \equiv 15, \overset{\frac{p-1}{2}}{8^2} \equiv 13$$

no need to check the rest because $9 \equiv -8, 10 \equiv -7, \dots$

• Is 7 a quadratic residue modulo 23?

We use Euler's criterion.

$$7^2 \equiv 3, \quad 7^4 \equiv 9, \quad 7^8 \equiv 12 \Rightarrow 7^{12} \equiv 12 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \equiv 13 \cdot 7 \equiv -1$$

$$\text{So, } \left(\frac{7}{23} \right) = -1.$$

An application: There are infinitely many primes of the form $4k+1$.

Suppose not, call them p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n .

$$\text{Consider } m = (2p_1 p_2 \dots p_n)^2 + 1.$$

$$\text{If } p \mid m, \text{ then } (2p_1 p_2 \dots p_n)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{-1}{p} \right) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \nmid m$, contradiction.

Can we compute $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$ using the idea in the proof of Fermat's theorem? $(a, p) = 1$

$$\text{Consider } \{a, 2a, 3a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2} \cdot a\} = S$$

Examples: $p=7, a=3$ $\left(\frac{3}{7} \right) = -1$

$$\{3, 6, 9\} \equiv \{2, 3, 6\} \equiv \{-1, 2, 3\}$$

$$p=13, a=2$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{13}\right) = -1$$

$$\{2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12\} \equiv \{-1, 2, -3, 4, -5, 6\}$$

$$p=13, a=5$$

$$\left(\frac{5}{13}\right) = -1$$

$$\{5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30\} \equiv \{2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12\}$$

$$\equiv \{-1, 2, -3, 4, 5, -6\}$$

The elements of S all different mod p :

$$i \cdot a \not\equiv j \cdot a \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i, j \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$$

We also cannot have $ia \equiv -ja$

$\Rightarrow S$ contains

- 1 or -1
- 2 or -2
- \vdots
- $\frac{p-1}{2}$ or $-\frac{p-1}{2}$.

Suppose there are n negative signs when we write S like that. The product of the elements will be

$$\left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! (-1)^n \pmod{p}$$

Gauss' Lemma: Suppose a is a unit modulo p . Write each of $a, 2a, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2} \cdot a$ between $-\frac{p-1}{2}$ and $\frac{p-1}{2}$ modulo p and say there are n negative signs. Then, $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = (-1)^n$.

An application: $a=2$, p an odd prime.

We consider $S = \{2, 4, 6, \dots, p-1\}$

Case I: $p = 4k+1$.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\equiv \{2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k, 2k+2, 2k+4, \dots, 4k\} \\ &\equiv \{2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k, -(2k-1), -(2k-3), \dots, -1\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow n = k$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1 \quad \text{if } k \stackrel{2m}{\text{is even}}, \text{ i.e. } p \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \quad p = 8m+1$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1 \quad \text{if } k \stackrel{2m+1}{\text{is odd}}, \text{ i.e. } p \equiv 5 \pmod{8} \quad p = 8m+5$$

Case II: $p = 4k+3$

$$\begin{aligned} S &\equiv \{2, 4, 6, \dots, 4k+2\} \\ &\equiv \{2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k, -(2k+1), -(2k-1), \dots, -1\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow n = k+1$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1 \quad \text{if } k \stackrel{=2m+1}{\text{is odd}}, \text{ i.e. } p \equiv 7 \pmod{8} \quad p = 8m+7$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1 \quad \text{if } k \stackrel{=2m}{\text{is even}}, \text{ i.e. } p \equiv 3 \pmod{8} \quad p = 8m+3$$

Conclusion:

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{8} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5 \pmod{8} \end{cases}$$

Exercise: Can you compute $\left(\frac{3}{p}\right)$ similarly?

$$\left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 11 \pmod{12} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{12} \\ 0, & \text{if } p = 3 \end{cases}$$

We still don't have a very fast way to compute $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ for large numbers other than Euler's criterion.

$$\text{Consider } \left(\frac{2^3 \cdot 17^2 \cdot 19 \cdot 23^3}{71}\right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{2^2 \cdot 17^2 \cdot 23^2}{71}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2}{71}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{19}{71}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{23}{71}\right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{19}{71}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{23}{71}\right)$$

Enough to compute $\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$ for odd primes p, q .

Law of Quadratic Reciprocity

Suppose $p \neq q$ are odd primes, then

$$\left(\frac{q}{p} \right) = \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \cdot (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}}.$$

If p or q or both $\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{q}{p} \right) = \left(\frac{p}{q} \right)$

If $p \equiv q \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{q}{p} \right) = - \left(\frac{p}{q} \right)$

We'll prove it on Wednesday.

How to use it?

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \left(\frac{83}{103} \right) = ?$$

$$\left(\frac{83}{103} \right) = - \left(\frac{103}{83} \right) = - \left(\frac{20}{83} \right) = - \left(\frac{4}{83} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{5}{83} \right)$$

$$= - \left(\frac{5}{83} \right) = - \left(\frac{83}{5} \right) = - \left(\frac{3}{5} \right) = -(-1) = 1.$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \left(\frac{219}{383} \right) = ?$$

$$\left(\frac{219}{383} \right) = \left(\frac{3}{383} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{73}{383} \right) = 1.$$

$$\bullet \left(\frac{3}{383} \right) = - \left(\frac{383}{3} \right) = - \left(\frac{2}{3} \right) = \textcircled{1}.$$

$$\bullet \left(\frac{73}{383} \right) = \left(\frac{383}{73} \right) = \left(\frac{18}{73} \right) = \left(\frac{2}{73} \right) = \textcircled{1}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \left(\frac{-42}{61} \right) = ?$$

$$\left(\frac{-42}{61} \right) = \underbrace{\left(\frac{-1}{61} \right)}_1 \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{2}{61} \right)}_{-1} \cdot \left(\frac{3}{61} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{7}{61} \right)$$

$$= 1 \cdot (-1) \cdot \left(\frac{61}{3} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{61}{7} \right)$$

$$= - \left(\frac{1}{3} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{5}{7} \right)$$

$$= - \left(\frac{7}{5} \right) = - \left(\frac{2}{5} \right) = 1.$$

Alternatively,

$$\left(\frac{-42}{61} \right) = \left(\frac{19}{61} \right) = \left(\frac{61}{19} \right) = \left(\frac{4}{19} \right) = 1.$$

Can we obtain results like

$$\left(\frac{3}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 11 \pmod{12} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{12} \\ 0, & \text{if } p = 3 \end{cases}$$

using Law of Quadratic Reciprocity?

$$\bullet \left(\frac{7}{p} \right) = ?$$

Case I : $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{p} \right) = \left(\frac{p}{7} \right)$

$$p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = 1$$

$$p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = -1$$

Combining with $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ by CRT,

$$\left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 1, 9, 25 \pmod{28} \\ -1, & \text{if } 5, 13, 17 \pmod{28} \end{cases}$$

Case II: $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{7}\right)$

$$p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = -1$$

$$p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = 1$$

Combining with $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ by CRT,

$$\left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 3, 19, 27 \pmod{28} \\ -1, & \text{if } 11, 15, 23 \pmod{28} \end{cases}$$

To summarize,

$$\left(\frac{7}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3, 9, 19, 25, 27 \pmod{28} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 11, 13, 15, 17, 23 \pmod{28} \\ 0, & p = 7 \end{cases}$$

or $p = 2$
 \wedge

• $\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) = ?$

$$\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \cdot (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{3-1}{2}}$$

\swarrow \nwarrow
 $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)$ 1

$$\left(\frac{-3}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ 0, & \text{if } p = 3 \end{cases}$$

We are done with odd prime p case.

Passing to p^k

Suppose p is odd and $(a, p) = 1$.

When $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p^k}$ has a solution?

① Solve $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$ first. If there is no solution, then no solution $\pmod{p^k}$ as well.

② If there is a solution, then we can lift uniquely to $\pmod{p^k}$

$f(x) = x^2 - a$ and $f'(x) = 2x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$
because $p \neq 2$ and $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ (otherwise a is also $0 \pmod{p}$).

Conclusion: a is a QR $\pmod{p^k}$ if and only if it is a QR \pmod{p}

How many QR in \mathbb{Z}_{p^k} ?

$$\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot p^{k-1} \text{ QR and } \frac{p-1}{2} \cdot p^{k-1} \text{ QNR}$$