

# Math Background



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**Special Topics**

# Quiz

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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

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- 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

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

# Factorization

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Given  $n$ , find all its prime factors.

For example:

135066410865995223349603216278805969938881475605667027  
524485143851526510604859533833940287150571909441798207  
282164471551373680419703964191743046496589274256239341  
020864383202110372958725762358509643110564073501508187  
510676594629205563685529475213500852879416377328533906  
109750544334999811150056977236890927563

Is it hard?

# Factorization - 2

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- 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?

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- 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  $7 \times 10^7$ . The gap was reduced to 246 in 2015.

# Find prime numbers

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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

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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)

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- 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

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Suppose  $N > D \geq 0$

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

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

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

# Coprime

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- 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

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## 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:

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

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

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

# Notation Properties of modular arithmetic

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Instead of writing mod everywhere, we can write like this:

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

or formally,

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

Example

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

$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  :  $a$  and  $b$  are **congruent** modulo  $m$

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

$a - b$  is a multiple of  $m$ .

# Fermat's Little Theorem (FLT)

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

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Compute the following:

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

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

Is it hard?



# Group

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- 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

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

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvx9TnK85bw&list=PLi01XoE8jYoi3SgnnGorR\\_XOW3IcK-TP6&index=10](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvx9TnK85bw&list=PLi01XoE8jYoi3SgnnGorR_XOW3IcK-TP6&index=10)

# Residue classes modulo $m$

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- 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

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

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

# Example of Multiplicative Group

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

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

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

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

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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

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

	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

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$$5 / 3 =$$

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

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

	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

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We use Euclidean algorithm to find gcd.

We can 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, find  $x$  and  $k$  so that

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

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

Note: the first term is  $a \cdot x$ , not  $-a \cdot x$

If  $a$  and  $n$  are not coprime,  $\gcd(a, n) > 1$ .  $a$  does not have an inverse.

# Example: use Euclidean algorithm to find the inverse

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Example:  $a = 31$ ,  $n = 72$ . Find the inverse of  $a \bmod n$ .

Step 1:

Dividend	Divisor	Remainder	
72	31	10	$72 = 31 * 2 + 10$
31	10	1	$31 = 10 * 3 + 1$

$\gcd(31, 72) = 1$  (they are coprime)

Step 2:

$$72 - 31 * 2 = 10$$
$$31 - 10 * 3 = 1$$
$$31 - (72 - 31 * 2) * 3 = 1$$
$$31 - 72 * 3 + 31 * 2 * 3 = 1$$
$$31 * 7 + 72 * (-3) = 1$$

Therefore, 7 is the inverse of 31.

# Fermat's Little Theorem (FLT) and the inverse

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$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$  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  $\mathbb{Z}_p$

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

# Finite group

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- 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

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- 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:

$$x + y = ag + bg = (a + b)g = (b + a)g = y + x$$

## Example: Cyclic group

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

$$0 = 6 * 5, 1 = 5 * 5, 2 = 4 * 5, 3 = 3 * 5, 4 = 2 * 5, 5 = 1 * 5$$

5 is a generator. 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)

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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.

Example:  $p$  is 1024 bits, and  $(p - 1)/2$  is also prime

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

## n-th root

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- Find the  $n^{th}$  root of  $c \bmod n$
- It is **hard** if the factors of  $n$  is unknown

For example:  $\sqrt{c} \pmod{n}$

Is  $\sqrt{c} \pmod{2^{64}}$  hard?

# Number of elements in a group

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- How many elements are in the following group?

$\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  where  $p$  is prime.

$\mathbb{Z}_m^*$

# Euler's totient function (1)

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- 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  $n$

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

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

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

## Euler's totient function (2)

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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

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

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

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

## Example: product of two prime numbers

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If  $p$  and  $q$  are prime, and  $n = pq$ ,

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

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

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

Carmichael's totient function conjecture:

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



# Euler's theorem

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- 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](http://www.mizar.org/JFM/Vol10/euler_2.html)

## Find the inverse - 3

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Given  $Z_n^*$ , how to find the multiplicative inverse of an element  $a$ .

If you know  $\varphi(n)$ ,

$$a^{\varphi(n)} = 1 \pmod{n} \quad (\text{Euler's theorem})$$

$$a \cdot a^{\varphi(n)-1} = 1 \pmod{n}$$

$$a^{-1} = a^{\varphi(n)-1} \pmod{n}$$

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

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

# Summary of problems

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Can you identify the hard problems?

- Primality test
- Multiplication
- Exponentiation
- Factorization
- Find GCD
- Find modular inverse
- Discrete logarithm problem (DLP)
- Euler's totient function
- $n$ -th root

# Field

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- 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)

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- A field with finitely many elements
  - The number of elements in a field is **the order of the field**
- If  $p$  is prime,  $\mathbb{Z}_p = \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$  is a finite field
  - Also denoted as  $\mathbb{F}_p$  or  $\text{GF}(p)$
- 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

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- 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

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

# Évariste Galois

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- 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

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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

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