

PROBLEM DOMAIN – NUMBER THEORY

Testing for Primes:

- Quadratic Residues
- Rabin-Miller algorithm
- Error Bounds and Time Complexity

QUADRATIC RESIDUES

Quadratic Residue Theorem :

○ For odd prime p and $e \geq 1$, the equation $x^2 = 1 \pmod{p^e}$ has only two solutions:

- $x = 1 \pmod{p^e}$ and $x = -1 \pmod{p^e}$

Proof:

- $x^2 = 1 \pmod{p^e}$ implies $p^e \mid (x-1)(x+1)$
- Since $p > 2$,
 - we may have $p \mid (x-1)$ or $p \mid (x+1)$ but not both
- If $p \nmid x-1$ then $\gcd(p^e, x-1) = 1$ and so $p^e \mid (x+1)$
- Similarly, if $p \nmid x+1$ then $\gcd(p^e, x+1) = 1$ and so $p^e \mid (x-1)$
- Thus $x = 1 \pmod{p^e}$ or $x = -1 \pmod{p^e}$



QUADRATIC RESIDUES

- A number x is a square root of 1 modulo n :
 - if it satisfies the equation $x^2 = 1 \pmod{n}$.
 - $1 \pmod{n}$ and $-1 \pmod{n}$ are referred to as trivial square roots
- A number x is a non-trivial square root of 1 modulo n :
 - if it satisfies the equation $x^2 = 1 \pmod{n}$ and
 - it is neither $1 \pmod{n}$ nor $-1 \pmod{n}$.



QUADRATIC RESIDUES

○ Corollary (to Quadratic Residue Theorem):

- If there exists a nontrivial square root of 1, modulo n , then n is composite.

○ Proof:

- $n \neq 1$ (obvious)
- $n \neq 2$ (easy to verify)
- By contra-positive of the (quadratic residue) theorem:
 - *if there exists a nontrivial square root of 1, modulo n , then n is not an odd prime.*



PRIMALITY TESTING – APPROACH II

Idea:

- *Instead of trying just one potential witness for compositeness*

- i.e. a in \mathbb{Z}_n^* not satisfying Fermat congruence

we try multiple potential witnesses and we use both Fermat congruence and non-trivial square roots.



PRIMALITY TESTING – APPROACH II: STEPS AND CORRECTNESS

Algorithm (outline):

1. Let a be a random witness

i.e. chosen randomly in $\mathbb{Z}_n \setminus \{0\}$

2. Let k and d be such that

$n-1 = 2^k * d$ where d is odd and $k \geq 1$.

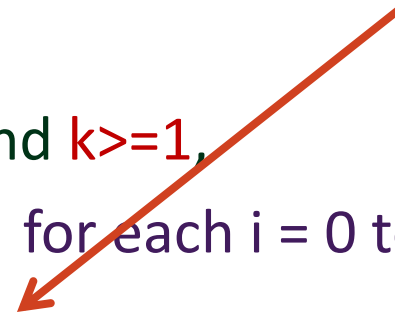
3. Compute $b_i = a^{(2^i * d)} \bmod n$, for each $i = 0$ to k

1. If $b_k \neq 1$ then n is composite

2. ...

This is correct by Fermat's Theorem because:

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



PRIMALITY TESTING – APPROACH II - STEPS AND CORRECTNESS [2]

Algorithm (outline):

1. Let a be a random witness
i.e. chosen randomly in $Z_n \setminus \{0\}$
2. Let k and d be such that
 $n-1 = 2^k * d$ where d is odd and $k \geq 1$,
3. Compute $b_i = a^{(2^i * d)} \bmod n$, for each $i = 0$ to k
 1. If $b_k \neq 1$ then n is composite
 2. If for any i , $b_i = 1$ but $b_{i-1} \neq 1$ and $b_{i-1} \neq n-1$ then n is composite

This is correct by the Corollary to the
Quadratic Residue Theorem because:

$$b_i = (b_{i-1})^2$$



PRIMALITY TESTING – APPROACH II – A MONTE-CARLO ALGORITHM

procedure WITNESS(a,n)

// n is odd and a is chosen randomly from Z_n and

1. $d = n - 1; k = 0;$
2. while ($d \bmod 2 == 0$) { /* Invariant: $n-1 = 2^k * d$ */
 $d = d / 2; k = k + 1;$
 }
*Multiplication of two m-bit numbers takes $m*m$ time (naive algorithm)*
3. $b_0 = a^d \bmod n$
4. for $i = 1$ to k {
 1. $b_i = b_{i-1} * b_{i-1} \pmod n;$
 2. if ($b_i == 1 \ \&\& \ b_{i-1} != 1 \ \&\& \ b_{i-1} != n-1$) return 1;}
4. if $b_k != 1$ return 1;
5. return 0; // n is prime

} k
steps

} k
steps

○ Running time = $k * m^2 = \Theta((\log n)^3)$

- because $k \leq \lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor$ and $m = \lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor$

PRIMALITY TESTING – APPROACH II – A MONTE-CARLO ALGORITHM

- Claim (w.o. proof): *The probability that WITNESS fails to produce a witness for an odd composite n is at most $1/4$.*
- Claim : *WITNESS successfully produces a witness for any odd composite n even if n is a Carmichael number.*
 - Proof: Corollary of the Quadratic Residue Theorem *applies for all composite numbers – including Carmichael numbers.*



PRIMALITY TESTING – MILLER-RABIN

○ Miller-Rabin Algorithm

MR(n,s) { // s is the number of trials

for k = 1 to s {

 a = random(1,n-1);

 if (WITNESS(a,n)) return “composite”;

}

return “prime”;

}

Running Time: $\Theta(s(\log n)^3)$

Claim:

- **Miller-Rabin** is a polynomial time Monte-Carlo algorithm with 1-way error :

- if it returns composite then it is correct and
- if it returns prime then it errs with probability at most 4^{-s}



MILLER-RABIN (MR): NUMBER OF TRIALS

Estimating the required number of trials of Miller-Rabin:

- Consider a number N randomly chosen (with a fixed bit length)
 - Let **A** denote the event that N is prime and
 - Let **B** denote the event **MR**(N,s) returns “prime”.
 - We must estimate **Pr[A/B]**

ASIDE: CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

- Bayes's Theorem (for events A and B):
 - $\Pr[A/B] = (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A]) / \Pr[B]$
- Since
 - $B = (B \cap A) \cup (B \cap A')$ and
 - $B \cap A$ and $B \cap A'$ are mutually exclusive
 - $\Pr[B] = \Pr[B \cap A] + \Pr[B \cap A']$
 - $\Pr[B] = \Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A] + \Pr[A'] * \Pr[B/A']$
- Now substituting $\Pr[B]$ into Bayes's Theorem:
 - $\Pr[A/B] = (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A]) / (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A] + \Pr[A'] * \Pr[B/A'])$

ASIDE: CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

- We can now estimate
 - the probability that
 - a number N is prime (i.e. event **A**)
 - given
 - $MR(N,s)$ returns “prime” (i.e. event **B**)
- using the result from previous slide
 - $\Pr[A/B] = (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A]) / (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A] + \Pr[A'] * \Pr[B/A'])$

ASIDE: CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

- For computing

- $\Pr[A/B] = (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A]) / (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A] + \Pr[A'] * \Pr[B/A'])$

- we must compute:

- $\Pr[A]$, the probability that N is prime



- $\Pr[B/A]$, the probability MR(N,s) returns “prime” when N is prime



- $\Pr[B/A']$, the probability MR(N,s) returns “prime” when N is composite



ESTIMATING THE PROBABILITY $MR(N,s)$ YIELDS THE CORRECT RESULT

- $\Pr[A]$, *the probability that N is prime*
 $= 1 / \ln(N)$ by Prime Number Theorem
- $\Pr[B/A]$, *the probability $MR(N,s)$ returns “prime” when N is prime*
 $= 1$
- $\Pr[B/A']$, *the probability $MR(N,s)$ returns “prime” when N is composite*
 $= 4^{-s}$

MILLER-RABIN (MR): NUMBER OF TRIALS

Estimating the required number of trials of MR:

- $\Pr[A/B]$
- $\geq (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A]) / (\Pr[A] * \Pr[B/A] + \Pr[A'] * \Pr[B/A'])$
- $\geq (1/\ln(N)) / ((1/\ln(N)) + (1 - (1/\ln(N))) * 4^{-s})$
- $\geq 1 / (1 + (\ln(N) - 1) * 4^{-s})$
- $\geq 1/2$ for $s \geq \log_4(\ln(N) - 1)$
- i.e. if we run **MR(N,s)** for $s \geq \log_4(\ln(N) - 1)$ and it returns “prime”,
 - then **N** is prime with probability $> 1/2$
- Let us call this **s** the **half-life** of **N** and denote it as $s_{\text{half}}(\mathbf{N})$:
 - if **MR(N,s)** returns “prime” for some $s > s_{\text{half}}(\log_2 \mathbf{N})$
 - then **N** is prime with probability $\geq 1 / (1 + 4^{(s_{\text{half}}(\mathbf{N}) - s)})$

MILLER-RABIN (MR): NUMBER OF TRIALS - EXAMPLE

- For example, for a 1024 bit number N,
 - $s_{\text{half}}(N) = \log_4(\ln(N)-1) = \log_4(\log_2(N)/\log_2(e) - 1)$
 - $\approx \log_4(1024/1.443) \approx 5$
 - i.e. if $MR(N, 5)$ returns “prime”
then N is prime with probability $\geq 1/2$
- For $s=50$
 - $\Pr[A/B] \geq 1 / (1 + 4^{-45}) \approx 1$ for most practical purposes

MILLER-RABIN (MR): TRIALS : GROWTH RATE

- Consider a 2m-bit number and an m-bit number
 - i.e. N^2 and N
 - $s_{\text{half}}(N^2) = \log_4(\ln(N^2)-1) = \log_4(\log_2(N^2)/\log_2(e) - 1)$
 - $\approx \log_4(\log_2(N^2)/\log_2(e))$
 - $= \log_4(2 * \log_2(N)/\log_2(e))$
 - $= \log_4 2 + s_{\text{half}}(N)$
 - $= 0.5 + s_{\text{half}}(N)$
- We can generalize this by induction :
 - $s_{\text{half}}(N^{2^k}) = k/2 + s_{\text{half}}(N)$
 - i.e. the half-life grows slowly with respect to N
 - in fact sub-linearly with respect to $\log N$
 - i.e. w.r.t. the size of N