

Application of Discrete Models

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November 30, 2023

1 Representation of Integers

1.1 Euclidean division

If $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $b \neq 0$ then $\exists! q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a = qb + r$ where $0 \leq r < |b|$. This is the *Euclidean division* or *long division* of the *dividend* a with the *divisor* b . The results of the division are the *quotient* q and the *remainder* r . The standard notation for the remainder is $a \bmod b$. In algorithmic setting we use $q, r \leftarrow \mathbf{divmod}(a, b)$.

1.2 Number systems

Let $1 < b \in \mathbb{Z}$ be the *base* of the *number system*. For each $0 \leq n \in \mathbb{Z}$ there exists a unique $1 \leq d \in \mathbb{Z}$ and a unique set of *digits* $0 \leq n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{d-1} < b$ all integers, such that

$$n = \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} n_k b^k.$$

If $n = 0$, then $d = 1$ and $n_0 = 0$. Otherwise $d = \lfloor \log_b n \rfloor + 1$ and we can extract the digits of n with long division, since

$$\begin{aligned} n &= n_{d-1}b^{d-1} + \dots + n_2b^2 + n_1b + n_0 \\ &= (n_{d-1}b^{d-2} + \dots + n_2b + n_1)b + n_0 \end{aligned}$$

where the quotient $n_{d-1}b^{d-2} + \dots + n_2b + n_1$ is a $d - 1$ digit number and n_0 is the extracted digit.

We call n_0 the *least significant digit* and n_{d-1} the *most significant digit*. The storage order of digits is called *little endian* if we start at the least significant digits and move towards the most significant one. Otherwise it is called *big endian*.

1.3 Operations on Integers

1.3.1 Addition

Let us assume that we have two unsigned integers stored as digits in a number system with base b :

$$n^{(i)} = \sum_{k=0}^{d^{(i)}-1} n_k^{(i)} b^k,$$

for $i = 1, 2$. The following algorithm computes the digits of the sum $s = n^{(1)} + n^{(2)} = \sum_{k=0}^{d^{(s)}-1} s_k b^k$:

Algorithm 1 Standard addition

```

1: procedure STANDARDADDITION( $n^{(1)}, n^{(2)}$ )
2:    $d^{(s)} \leftarrow \max(d^{(1)}, d^{(2)})$ 
3:    $c \leftarrow 0$ 
4:   for  $k = 0, \dots, d^{(s)} - 1$  do
5:      $c, s_k \leftarrow \text{divmod}(n_k^{(1)} + n_k^{(2)} + c, b)$ 
6:   end for
7:   return  $s$ 
8: end procedure

```

In Algorithm 1 we assume that $n_k^{(i)} = 0$ if $k \geq d^{(i)}$ for $i = 1, 2$. The time complexity of the standard addition is $O(d^{(s)})$.

1.3.2 Multiplication

Let $n^{(i)}$'s defined same as above for $i = 1, 2$. We will compute the digits of the product $p = n^{(1)} \cdot n^{(2)} = \sum_{k=0}^{d^{(p)}-1} p_k b^k$ with the naive multiplication method:

The time-complexity of Algorithm 2 is $O(d^{(1)} \cdot d^{(2)}) = O(d^2)$, where $d = \max(d^{(1)}, d^{(2)})$.

Karatsuba's idea for faster multiplication can be demonstrated on two-digit numbers. Let

$$x = x_1 b + x_0, \text{ and } y = y_1 b + y_0$$

with $0 \leq x_i, y_i < b$ integers. Naive multiplication of x and y is

$$\begin{aligned}
z = xy &= (x_1 b + x_0)(y_1 b + y_0) \\
&= x_1 y_1 b^2 + (x_1 y_0 + x_0 y_1) b + x_0 y_0 \\
&= z_1 b^2 + z_1 b + z_0.
\end{aligned}$$

This is 4 multiplication and 1 addition.

Algorithm 2 Naive multiplication

```
1: procedure NAIVEMULTIPLICATION( $n^{(1)}, n^{(2)}$ )
2:    $d^{(p)} \leftarrow d^{(1)} + d^{(2)}$ 
3:   for  $k = 0, \dots, d^{(p)} - 1$  do
4:      $p_k \leftarrow 0$ 
5:   end for
6:   for  $j = 0, \dots, d^{(2)} - 1$  do
7:      $c \leftarrow 0$ 
8:     for  $i = 0, \dots, d^{(1)} - 1$  do
9:        $c, p_{i+j} \leftarrow \text{divmod} \left( p_{i+j} + n_i^{(1)} n_j^{(2)} + c, b \right)$ 
10:    end for
11:     $p_{d^{(1)}+j} \leftarrow c$ 
12:  end for
13:  return  $p$ 
14: end procedure
```

Now we can express

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= x_1 y_0 + x_0 y_1 \\ &= x_1 y_0 + x_0 y_1 - x_1 y_1 + x_1 y_1 - x_0 y_0 + x_0 y_0 \\ &= (x_1 + x_0) y_1 + (x_1 + x_0) y_0 - x_1 y_1 - x_0 y_0 \\ &= (x_1 + x_0) (y_1 + y_0) - x_1 y_1 - x_0 y_0 \\ &= (x_1 + x_0) (y_1 + y_0) - z_2 - z_0. \end{aligned}$$

This is 3 multiplication and 3 additions. By extending this idea to more than two digits recursively, the multiplication algorithm performs $O(d^{\log_2 3}) \approx O(d^{1.58})$ single-digit multiplication.

Fast Fourier Transform based algorithms can achieve $O(d \log d)$ complexity.

1.4 Exponentiation

We want to compute x^n for some $1 \leq n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and x that has multiplication as an operation.

Naive exponentiation By repeated multiplication, we can compute

$$x^n = \underbrace{x \cdot x \cdots x}_{n \text{ times}}.$$

This method requires $n - 1$ multiplications.

Repeated squaring If $n = 2^s$ for $0 < s \in \mathbb{Z}$, then

$$x^{(2^s)} = (x^2)^{(2^{s-1})}.$$

This way we can compute x^n with $\log_2 n = s$ multiplications with the algorithm below:

Algorithm 3 Repeated squaring

```

1: procedure REPEATEDSQUARING( $x, s$ )
2:    $y \leftarrow x$ 
3:   for  $k = 0, \dots, s - 1$  do
4:      $y \leftarrow y^2$ 
5:   end for
6:   return  $y$ 
7: end procedure

```

Fast exponentiation If we write $n = \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} n_k 2^k$ in binary, then

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^n &= x^{(\sum_{k=0}^{d-1} n_k 2^k)} \\
 &= \prod_{k=0}^{d-1} x^{(n_k 2^k)} \\
 &= \prod_{k=0}^{d-1} x^{(2^k)^{n_k}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $y^{n_k} = y$ if $n_k = 1$ and $y = 1$ otherwise, we arrive at the following algorithm:

Algorithm 4 Fast exponentiation

```

1: procedure FASTEXP( $x, n$ )
2:    $y \leftarrow 1$ 
3:   while  $n > 0$  do
4:      $n, r \leftarrow \text{divmod}(n, 2)$ 
5:     if  $r = 1$  then
6:        $y \leftarrow y \cdot x$ 
7:     end if
8:      $x \leftarrow x^2$ 
9:   end while
10:  return  $y$ 
11: end procedure

```

This algorithm requires $O(\log_2 n)$ multiplication.

2 Number Theory and its Applications

2.1 Divisibility

If $aq = b$, then we say that a is a *divisor* of b , or b is a *multiple* of a . The notation is $a \mid b$. Otherwise $a \nmid b$. If $a \mid b$, then long division has remainder of 0 and in case of integers $\frac{b}{a}$ is an integer as well.

The following properties are natural consequences of the definition.

1. For every a , we have that $a \mid a$.
2. $a \mid 0$, for every a .
3. If $0 \mid a$, then $a = 0$.
4. If $a \mid b$ and $b \mid c$, then $a \mid c$.
5. If $a \mid b$ and $c \mid d$, then $ac \mid bd$.
6. If $a \mid b$, then $ac \mid bc$ for every c .
7. If $ac \mid bc$ and $c \neq 0$, then $a \mid b$.
8. If $a \mid b_i$ for some finite indices i , then $a \mid \sum_i c_i b_i$ for every c_i .

If $\varepsilon \mid a$ for every a , then we call ε a *unit element*. The unit elements of \mathbb{Z} are ± 1 .

If $a \mid b$ and $b \mid a$ and $a \neq b$, then we call a and b *associated elements*. Two elements a and b are associated if and only if $a = \varepsilon b$ for some unit element ε . Consequently, a and b are associated integers if and only if $|a| = |b|$.

Let $p \neq 0$ be a non-unit element. We say that p is an *irreducible element* if $p = ab$ implies that a or b is an associated element of p (and the other is a unit). If an element is not irreducible, then it is *composite*. We call p a *prime element* if $p \mid ab$ implies that $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$. If p is an irreducible element, then it is also a prime element. In case of integers, the reverse is also true, i.e. every prime element is irreducible.

Theorem 1 (The Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic). *If $a \neq 0$ is not a unit element, then it is a product of irreducible elements. The product is unique (up to ordering and up to multiplication with unit elements).*

If $1 < n \in \mathbb{Z}$, then the *canonical form* of

$$n = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_r^{\alpha_r}$$

where p_i 's are different prime numbers (positive prime elements of \mathbb{Z}) and $\alpha_i > 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, r$.

Theorem 2 (Euclid). *There are infinitely many prime numbers.*

Proof. Let us assume that there are only finite many primes p_1, \dots, p_n . In this case the long division of $n = p_1 \cdots p_n + 1$ with p_i yields a remainder of 1 for every prime. This means that n does not have canonical form, which contradicts Theorem 1. \square

Theorem 3 (Distribution of prime numbers). *The following statements illustrate some properties of the distribution of prime numbers:*

1. *If $N > 1$, then $\exists a > 2$ such that $a + 1, a + 2, \dots, a + N$ are all composite numbers.*
2. *For every $M > 2$, there is a prime number between M and $2M$.*

Let $\pi(x)$ denote the number of positive prime numbers below x .

Theorem 4 (Prime Number Theorem). *An approximation of $\pi(x)$ is $\frac{x}{\ln x}$. In other words*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\pi(x)}{x/\ln x} = 1.$$

2.2 Greatest common divisor

The *greatest common divisor* of a_1, \dots, a_n elements is d , if

- $d \mid a_i$ for all i , i.e. d is a common divisor of the elements and
- if $d' \mid a_i$ for all i , then $d' \mid d$ that is d is maximal with respect to divisibility.

From the definition, it is clear that if d is a greatest common divisor and ε is a unit element, then εd is also a greatest common divisor. We usually fix a greatest common divisor for integers by nominating the positive one. We will use the notation $\gcd(a_1, \dots, a_n)$.

From the definition we can see that

1. $\gcd(a, 0) = a$,
2. $\gcd(0, 0) = 0$,
3. $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a)$,
4. $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a - b, b)$ or in general $\gcd(a - qb, b) = \gcd(a, b)$ for any q . Specifically $\gcd(a \bmod b, b) = \gcd(a, b)$.

From the last property we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(a, b) &= \gcd(a \bmod b, b) \\ &= \gcd(a \bmod b, b \bmod (a \bmod b)) \\ &= \gcd((a \bmod b) \bmod b \bmod (a \bmod b), b \bmod (a \bmod b)). \end{aligned}$$

Let us define the recurrence relation $r_0 = a$, $r_1 = b$ and $r_{n+2} = r_n \bmod r_{n+1}$. In this case the equations above become

$$\begin{aligned}\gcd(r_0, r_1) &= \gcd(r_2, r_1) \\ &= \gcd(r_2, r_3) \\ &= \gcd(r_4, r_3).\end{aligned}$$

We can swap the arguments of gcd, so

$$\begin{aligned}\gcd(r_0, r_1) &= \gcd(r_1, r_2) \\ &= \gcd(r_2, r_3) \\ &= \gcd(r_3, r_4)\end{aligned}$$

The sequence is strictly decreasing, that is $r_n > r_{n+1}$ and $r_n \geq 0$ from $n = 2$. This means that there is an index N such that $r_N = 0$, but $r_{N-1} > 0$. From the properties and definition of recurrence relation it is clear, that

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(r_{N-1}, 0) = r_{N-1}.$$

The argument above gives the *Euclidean algorithm* in recursive form:

Algorithm 5 Recursive Euclidean algorithm

```

1: procedure GCD( $a, b$ )
2:   if  $b = 0$  then
3:     return  $a$ 
4:   end if
5:   return GCD( $b, a \bmod b$ )
6: end procedure
```

We can transform the recursion into a loop. At any given step, we only need r_n and r_{n+1} to produce r_{n+2} .

Algorithm 6 Iterative Euclidean algorithm

```

1: procedure GCD( $a, b$ )
2:    $r_{\text{old}}, r_{\text{new}} \leftarrow a, b$ 
3:   while  $r_{\text{new}} \neq 0$  do
4:      $r_{\text{old}}, r_{\text{new}} \leftarrow r_{\text{new}}, r_{\text{old}} \bmod r_{\text{new}}$ 
5:   end while
6:   return  $r_{\text{old}}$ 
7: end procedure
```

For later applications we not only need the $\gcd(a, b) = d$ but two additional elements x and y , such that

$$d = ax + by.$$

We can extend Euclidean algorithm to calculate x and y . For this, we are going to ensure that during the algorithm we are updating producing x_n and y_n for each r_n , such that

$$r_n = ax_n + by_n.$$

This will be our loop invariant property, i.e. this property will be true for n and $n + 1$ whenever we enter the body of the loop and we will make sure that it is true for $n + 2$ after the last statement of the body. Before the first execution of the loop body, the values $x_0 = 1$, $y_0 = 0$, $x_1 = 0$ and $y_1 = 1$ will suffice. Let $q = \lfloor r_n / r_{n+1} \rfloor$. During the body of the loop we have that

$$\begin{aligned} r_{n+2} &= r_n \bmod r_{n+1} \\ &= r_n - qr_{n+1} \\ &= (ax_n + by_n) - q(ax_{n+1} + by_{n+1}) \\ &= a(x_n - qx_{n+1}) + b(y_n - qy_{n+1}), \end{aligned}$$

so $x_{n+2} = x_n - qx_{n+1}$ and $y_{n+2} = y_n - qy_{n+1}$ will work. Again, we only need the last two value of x and y during the calculations. We call the procedure *Extended Euclidean algorithm*:

Algorithm 7 Extended Euclidean algorithm

```

1: procedure GCD( $a, b$ )
2:    $r_{\text{old}}, x_{\text{old}}, y_{\text{old}} \leftarrow a, 1, 0$ 
3:    $r_{\text{new}}, x_{\text{new}}, y_{\text{new}} \leftarrow b, 0, 1$ 
4:   while  $r_{\text{new}} \neq 0$  do
5:      $r_{\text{old}}, q, r_{\text{new}} \leftarrow r_{\text{new}}, \text{divmod}(r_{\text{old}}, r_{\text{new}})$ 
6:      $x_{\text{old}}, x_{\text{new}} \leftarrow x_{\text{new}}, x_{\text{old}} - qx_{\text{new}}$ 
7:      $y_{\text{old}}, y_{\text{new}} \leftarrow y_{\text{new}}, y_{\text{old}} - qy_{\text{new}}$ 
8:   end while
9:   return  $r_{\text{old}}, x_{\text{old}}, y_{\text{old}}$ 
10: end procedure

```

2.3 Linear Diophantine equation

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ and we search for the integers solutions $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ for the equation

$$ax + by = c.$$

If $d = \gcd(a, b)$ then $d \mid ax + by$ there $d \mid c$. Otherwise there is no solution. With Extended Euclidean algorithm, we can compute $d = ax' + by'$. Since $d \mid c$, there exists $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ for which $c = d \cdot m$. In summary

$$a(x'm) + (y'm) = d \cdot m = c,$$

so $x_0 = x'm$ and $y_0 = y'm$ is a pair of solution.

If there is a pair of solution, then there are infinitely many solutions in the form of

$$x = x_0 + k \frac{b}{d}, \quad y = y_0 - k \frac{a}{d}$$

where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and there are no other solutions.

2.4 Modular arithmetic

Let $m > 1$. We say that a is *congruent to* $b \pmod{m}$, if $m \mid a - b$. The notation for this relation $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$. Otherwise we say, that a is *incongruent to* b , or $a \not\equiv b \pmod{m}$.

For a fixed $m > 1$, $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ defines an equivalence relation over the \mathbb{Z} . The equivalence classes are called *residue classes*. The residue class of a is

$$\bar{a} = \{a + km : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Let us denote

$$\mathbb{Z}_m = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \dots, \overline{m-1}\}$$

the set of residue classes.

Theorem 5 (The compability of integer operations with the residue classes). *If $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$, then*

- $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$ and
- $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$.

This can be stated on residue class level as well:

1. $\bar{a} + \bar{b} = \{a' + b' : a' \in \bar{a}, b' \in \bar{b}\} = \overline{a + b}$ and
2. $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} = \{a'b' : a' \in \bar{a}, b' \in \bar{b}\} = \overline{ab}$.

Theorem 5 enables us to work on the *residue system* level, i.e. on

$$\mathbb{Z}_m = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \dots, \overline{m-1}\} \simeq \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$$

The operations on the residue system can be defined as

$$a +_m b = (a + b) \bmod m, \quad a \cdot_m b = ab \bmod m.$$

Theorem 6 (Structure of \mathbb{Z}_m). *Let $m > 1$ and $a \neq 0$.*

1. *If $\gcd(a, m) \neq 1$, then $ax \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ has non-zero solution.*
2. *If $\gcd(a, m) = 1$, then $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ has a solution.*

Proof. 1. If $d = \gcd(a, m) > 1$, then

$$\frac{a}{d}m = a \frac{m}{d} \equiv 0 \pmod{m},$$

so $x = m/d$ is nonzero solution.

2. With the extended Euclidean algorithm, we can compute $1 = ax + my$. Rearranging this, we have that $ax - 1 = -ym$. So $m \mid ax - 1$, which is by definition means that $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. □

If $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$, then we call x the *modular inverse* of a , denoted by $a^{-1} \pmod{m}$.

2.5 Solving linear congruence equations

We search for the integer solutions of $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$. We can convert this expression into the linear Diophantine equation $ax + my = b$. We know that $d = \gcd(a, m) \mid b$, that is $b = s \cdot d$ otherwise there is no solution.

A particular x_0 can be found by extended Euclidean algorithm. If $d = ax' + my'$, then $x_0 = x's$ and the general solutions have the form of $x = x_0 + k\frac{m}{d}$ for integers k .

We know that $x \equiv x + m \pmod{m}$ and for every $1 < n < m$, $x \not\equiv x + n \pmod{m}$. This means if $1 < k\frac{m}{d} < m$, then $x \not\equiv x + k\frac{m}{d} \pmod{m}$. So we can list all the different solutions \pmod{m} with $k = 0, \dots, d - 1$.

2.6 Solving systems of linear congruence relations

No we are searching for common integer solution of the following two linear congruence equations

$$z \equiv a \pmod{c}, \quad z \equiv b \pmod{d},$$

where $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $0 < c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 7 (Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)). *If $\gcd(c, d) = 1$, then the system above has a solution and the solution is unique \pmod{cd} .*

Proof. We only prove the existence.

With extended Euclidean algorithm we can compute $cx + dy = 1$. If we let $z = bcx + ady$, then

$$bcx + ady \equiv 0 + ady \equiv ady \equiv a \pmod{c},$$

since $c \mid bcx$ and $y = d^{-1} \pmod{c}$. The other congruence relation can proven in the same way. □

We can extend this method for solving more than two equations by replacing two of them with the common solution calculated with the help of previous theorem.

2.7 Euler's totient function

For $0 < n \in \mathbb{Z}$ we can define *Euler's totient function* as

$$\varphi(n) = |\{a \in \mathbb{Z} : 1 \leq a \leq n, \gcd(a, n) = 1\}|.$$

If p is a positive prime number, then $\varphi(p) = p - 1$.

If $1 < k \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $\gcd(a, p^k) > 1$ means that $p \mid a$ for integers $1 \leq a \leq p^k$. This means that $a = p, 2p, \dots, p^{k-1}p$. Due to this reasoning, we have that

$$\varphi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1} = p^k \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right).$$

If $\gcd(n, m) = 1$, then $\varphi(nm) = \varphi(n)\varphi(m)$. This last statement is the consequence of CRT.

In summary, if the canonical form of $1 < n = p_1^{\alpha_1} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$, then

$$\varphi(n) = n \prod_{i=1}^r \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_i}\right).$$

Theorem 8 (Euler-Fermat). *If $1 < n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ for $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$.*

2.8 Probabilistic primality testing

If p is a prime number, then for any $1 < a < n-1$, due to Euler-Fermat Theorem $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. This statement is known as *Fermat's little theorem* and we can use it as primality testing for $n > 2$ odd integer:

1. Select randomly $a \in_R \{2, \dots, n-2\}$.
2. If $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ and $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$, then n is probably a prime number. Otherwise it is composite.

There are examples of such composite numbers n that for every base a , where $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ the property $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ still holds. These are called *Carmichael numbers* and there are infinitely many of them.

We can use additional properties for further testing.

Theorem 9. *A positive integer p is a prime number if and only if the only solutions of $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ are $x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$. On the residue system level this means that p is a prime number if and only if in \mathbb{Z}_p the square roots of 1 are 1 and $p-1$.*

Let $n-1 = 2^s q$, where q is odd. Combining Fermat's little theorem and the previous property of prime numbers, the sequence

$$a^{2^s q} \pmod{n}, a^{2^{s-1} q} \pmod{n}, \dots, a^q \pmod{n}$$

must start with at least one 1 and if there are any elements not equal to 1, the first such element must be $n - 1$.

Based on these arguments we arrive the Miller-Rabin primality testing algorithm. The probability of false positive response $p < \frac{1}{4}$. If we repeat the trial k times independently, then $p < \frac{1}{4^k}$.

Algorithm 8 Miller-Rabin probabilistic primality test

```

1: procedure MILLERRABIN( $n$ )
2:   Compute integers  $s, q$  such that  $n - 1 = 2^s q$  and  $q$  is odd.
3:   Select  $a \in_R \{2, \dots, n - 2\}$ .
4:    $x \leftarrow a^q \bmod n$  ▷ Use fast modular exponentiation
5:   if  $x = 1$  then
6:     return probably prime
7:   end if
8:   for  $k = 0, \dots, s - 1$  do
9:     if  $x = n - 1$  then
10:      return probably prime
11:    end if
12:     $x \leftarrow x^2 \bmod n$ .
13:  end for
14:  return composite
15: end procedure

```

2.9 Discrete logarithm problem

Let us fix a prime number p . We will denote the nonzero elements of \mathbb{Z}_p with \mathbb{Z}_p^* . The (*multiplicative*) order of $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$, denoted by $\text{ord}_p(a)$ is defined by

$$\text{ord}_p(a) = \min \{0 < n \in \mathbb{Z} : a^n \bmod p = 1\}.$$

Due to Fermat's little theorem ($a^{p-1} \bmod p = 1$), the order of a always exists and $\text{ord}_p(a) \leq p - 1$. If $a^i \bmod p = a^j \bmod p$ with $i > j$, then $a^{i-j} \bmod p = 1$. This means $\text{ord}_p(a) \leq i - j$. From this, we can see that if $\text{ord}_p(a) = n$, then the elements a, a^2, \dots, a^n are all different. If the order the element g is maximal, i.e. $\text{ord}_p(g) = p - 1$, then $\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{g, g^2, \dots, g^{p-1}\}$. In this case we call g a *generator* element of \mathbb{Z}_p^* .

Let g be a generator element of \mathbb{Z}_p^* , $k \mid p - 1$ with $0 < k < p - 1$ and $p - 1 = kn$ for some n integer. In this case $g^{p-1} \bmod p = (g^k)^n \bmod p = 1$ and $g^k \bmod p \neq 1$. If $s \mid k$, then $s \mid p - 1$, so $g^s \bmod p \neq 1$ as well.

This reasoning gives us the following way of testing whether an element g is generator or not: If k is a maximal proper divisor of $p - 1$ (k does not divide any other factor of $p - 1$), then $g^k \bmod p \neq 1$. If the canonical form of $p - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$, then the maximal divisors of $p - 1$ are

$$\frac{p-1}{p_i} \quad i = 1, \dots, r.$$

We call p a *Sophie Germain prime*, if it is a prime number and $p = 2q + 1$, where q is also a prime number. In this case it is enough to test $g^2 \bmod p \neq 1$ and $g^q \neq 1$.

Let $b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$, $0 \leq k \leq p - 1$ and $a = b^k \bmod p$. In this case the *discrete logarithm* or *index* of a in base b in \mathbb{Z}_p^* is k . The notation is $\log_b a = k$ or $\text{ind}_b a = k \pmod{p}$.

The discrete logarithm problem (DLP) is to find k from b and a . Currently there is no efficient algorithm known to compute k .

2.9.1 Diffie-Hellman key exchange

Let us fix a large Sophie Germain prime number p and search for a generator element g . Alice secretly selects $1 \leq a \leq p - 1$ and Bob does the same with $1 \leq b \leq p - 1$. Alice computes $A = g^a \bmod p$ and Bob computes $B = g^b \bmod p$. They share A and B between each other. Alice computes $B^a \bmod p$, Bob computes $A^b \bmod p$. Since

$$B^a = (g^b)^a = g^{ba} = g^{ab} = (g^a)^b = A^b,$$

they have common secret key. The security of the key exchange depends on that we assume DLP cannot be solved efficiently.

3 RSA

Let us fix two large prime numbers, p and q and calculate their product $n = pq$. Also search for such integers e and d such that $ed \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$, i.e. $ed = k(p - 1)(q - 1) + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. We can make n and e public and keep p , q and d private. If $0 < m < n$ and $c = m^e \bmod n$, then

$$c^d = (m^e)^d = m^{ed} = m^{k(p-1)(q-1)+1} = (m^{p-1})^k m^{q-1} m \equiv m \pmod{p},$$

since $m^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. By the same argument we have that $m \equiv c^d \pmod{q}$. We can solve this system with the Chinese remainder theorem and the solution is $m = c^d \bmod n$.

Let $d_p = d \bmod (p - 1)$ and $d = k(p - 1) + d_p$. In this case

$$c^d = c^{k(p-1)+d_p} = (c^{p-1})^k c^{d_p} \equiv c^{d_p} \pmod{p}.$$

Also if $d_q = d \bmod (q - 1)$, then $c^d \equiv c^{d_q} \pmod{q}$. Let $m_1 = c^{d_p} \bmod p$ and $m_2 = c^{d_q} \bmod q$. In this case if m solves the system

$$m \equiv m_1 \pmod{p}, \quad m \equiv m_2 \pmod{q},$$

then m solves the original problem.

Let us search for the solution in the form of $m = m_2 + hq$. In this case $m \equiv m_2 \pmod{q}$. If $m_2 + hq \equiv m_1 \pmod{p}$, then $hq \equiv m_1 - m_2 \pmod{p}$. Let us denote $q_{\text{inv}} = q^{-1} \pmod{p}$. In this case with $h = q_{\text{inv}}(m_1 - m_2) \bmod p$, then m solves the system.

The security of RSA stands on the assumption that the factorization of n into p and q cannot be done efficiently. Due to this fact calculating $\varphi(n)$ without knowing p and q is hard as well. This means that even by knowing e , it is hard to compute d .

We can use RSA to sign messages digitally. If $\sigma = m^d \pmod{n}$, then we can check the signature of the m, σ pair by checking that $m \equiv \sigma^e \pmod{n}$.

4 Polynomials over Fields

Our main requirement from a field F is that the linear equation $ax = b$ with $a, b \in F$, $a \neq 0$ has a solution $x \in F$. We calculate the solution by cancelling a , i.e. $x = a^{-1}b$, where a^{-1} is the multiplicative inverse of a .

The main examples of fields are $\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}$ and \mathbb{Z}_p for prime p .

Informally, we can think of a polynomial as an expression in the form of

$$f = f_0 + f_1x + f_2x^2 + \cdots + f_nx^n.$$

Here f is the *polynomial*, f_i is a *coefficient*, f_ix^i is a *term*, f_0 term is the *constant term* and f_n is the *main coefficient*. We call x the indeterminate variable. If the coefficients are all from the field F , then f is a polynomial over the field F . The set of all polynomials over F is denoted by $F[x]$. Sometimes we consider the polynomials as infinite sums of terms, where the coefficients are zero after $f_n \neq 0$, i.e.

$$f = f_0 + f_1x + f_2x^2 + \cdots + f_nx^n + 0x^{n+1} + 0x^{n+1} + \cdots$$

Since we can map every $F \ni c \rightarrow c + 0x + 0x^2 + \cdots$, every constant is a polynomial also. We can write $x = 0 + 1x + 0x^2 + \cdots$, therefore $x \in F[x]$.

The *degree* of f is defined by

$$\deg(f) = \begin{cases} -1, & f = 0 \\ 0, & f = c \in F, c \neq 0 \\ n, & f_n \neq 0, f_{n+k} = 0, 0 < k \in \mathbb{Z}. \end{cases}$$

In some sense, we can say that if the degree of polynomial is greater than the degree of another, then the first one is "larger".

4.1 Operations of $F[x]$

We work with polynomials as expression, we can add and multiply them. Since we can identify a polynomial with its list of coefficients, we must determine the coefficients of the result of addition and multiplication from the coefficients of the operands.

Let

$$f = f_0 + f_1x + \cdots + f_nx^n,$$

and

$$g = g_0 + g_1x + \cdots + g_mx^m + 0x^{m+1} + \cdots 0x^n.$$

Addition After collecting the term $h_k x^k$ with $h = f + g$, we have that $h_k x^k = f_k x^k + g_k x^k$, so $h_k = f_k + g_k$. For the degree of $f + g$ we have that $\deg(f + g) \leq \max\{\deg(f), \deg(g)\}$.

Multiplication Again, we collect the term $h_k x^k$ with $h = fg$. We have that

$$h_k x^k = f_0 g_k x^k + f_1 g_{k-1} x^{k-1} + \cdots + f_k g_0,$$

so

$$h_k = \sum_{i=0}^k f_i g_{k-i} = \sum_{j=0}^k f_{k-j} g_j = \sum_{i+j=k} f_i g_j.$$

The degree of fg is $\deg(f) + \deg(g)$.

Theorem 10. *Euclidean division in $F[x]$ If $f, g \in F[x]$ with $g \neq 0$, then there exists a unique pair $q, r \in F[x]$ such that $f = qg + r$ with $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$.*

Proof. We only prove the existence. Let $n = \deg(f)$ and $m = \deg(g)$. If $n < m$, then $q = 0$, $r = f$ works.

Otherwise for the polynomial $f^* = f - f_n g_m^{-1} x^{n-m} g$ we have that $\deg(f^*) < \deg(f)$. We repeat this process until $r = \deg(f^*) < m$ and record $f_n g_m^{-1} x^{n-m}$ into q . \square

4.2 Error detection with polynomials over \mathbb{Z}_2

We want to send the bits $b_0 b_1 \dots b_{k-1}$ over a noisy channel. We assume that we receive the same number of bits, but the values might change. On the receiver's end we want to be able to detect any error in communication. For this reason we introduce redundant information $r_0 r_1 \dots r_{m-1}$ into our bits.

The simplest case is introducing only one bit. Let

$$r_0 = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} b_i \pmod{2}.$$

If we send $r_0 b_1 \dots b_{k-1}$, then we always send even number of bits that are set to 1. We reject the received message if there are odd number of bits set to 1 in it. This method is called *parity check*, r_0 is the *parity bit*. This simplest form of error detection method is able to detect all such errors where odd number of bits are flipped. But it is incapable to detect even number of errors.

We can think of the bits $b_0 b_1 \dots b_{k-1}$ as the coefficients of the polynomial

$$b = b_0 + b_1 x + \cdots + b_{k-1} x^{k-1} \in \mathbb{Z}_2[x].$$

If we denote $r_0 r_1 \dots r_{m-1} b_0 \dots b_{k-1}$ with $r||b$, then

$$r||b = r_0 + r_1 x + \cdots + r_{m-1} x^{m-1} + b_0 x^m + \cdots + b_{k-1} x^{k-1+m} = r + bx^m.$$

If $g \in \mathbb{Z}_2[x]$ with $\deg(g) = m$, then we can write $bx^m = qg + r$ where $\deg(r) < m$. From this we have $bx^m - r = qg$, so $g \mid bx^m - r$. But in $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$, the

polynomials $bx^m - r$ and $bx^m + r$ are the same. If we send the coefficients of $bx^m + r$, then on the receiver's end we can check if $g \mid bx^m + r$ still stands.

This error detection method is called *Cyclic redundancy check* or *CRR* and g is a *CRC polynomial*.

4.2.1 Designing CRC polynomials

We can think of the error of the transmission e as a polynomial over \mathbb{Z}_2 . So we receive $bx^m + r + e$. To be able to detect the error, we must design g such that $g \nmid e$. Some things to consider:

- The degree of g influences the error detection capabilities, for e.g. the length of messages that can be sent in one go.
- In case of one bit error, we have that $e = x^s$. If g has at least two bits set, i.e. $x^i + x^j \mid g$, then $g \nmid x^s$.
- Two bit errors can be written as $x^i + x^j = x^i(1 + x^j)$. We have already covered the x^i term. To protect against $(1 + x^j)$ we should make $1 + x^k \mid g$ with as big k as possible.
- The CRC polynomial $x + 1$ is the parity check method. If $x + 1 \mid g$, then CRC detects all odd number of errors.
- All burst error of n bits is detected a polynomial with $g_0 = 1$ and $\deg(g) \geq n$.