

# Lecture 12 : Identity and Primality testing

## 1. Identity testing

- Matrix multiplication verification
- Polynomial Identity Testing (PIT) via Schwartz-Zippel
- Perfect matching identification

## 2. Primality testing

- Fingerprinting
- Basics of Number Theory, Group theory
- Fermat test, Euler test, Miller-Rabin test

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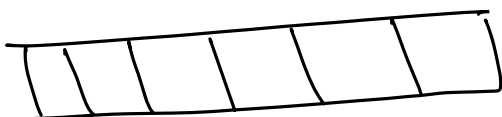
Is there an elephant in the room?

Deiter: Don't know, the lights are off.

Randy: [Runs around the room for a while] pretty sure there isn't one.

## Empty list checking

Given a large list  $A[1, \dots, n]$  that is either empty or has  $n/2$  non empty elements. For any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we get to know if  $A[i] = \emptyset$  or not.



Empty (YES)

or



Not empty (NO)

Any deterministic algorithm will have to probe  $n/2$  positions in the worst case.

probe  $c$  random indices  $i_1, \dots, i_c$

— if  $A[i_1] = \dots = A[i_c] = \emptyset$ , return "YES"

— else if  $A[i_k] \neq \emptyset$ , return "NO"

↘ **witness** for non-emptiness

one sided error → false positives are possible  
but probability  $\leq \frac{1}{2^c}$ .

→ NO false negatives

This is pretty much the core principle in what follows.  
Smarts in choosing the list and elements carefully.

Freivalds' Algorithm: Matrix Multiplication Verification

Given  $n \times n$  matrices  $A, B, C$ .

Output "yes" if  $AB = C$ . "NO" otherwise.

Trivial deterministic algorithm is to compute  $AB$  and  
entrywise compare with  $C$ . Takes  $n^{\omega} \xrightarrow{2.371552}$  time

(. pick a random vector  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  such that  
 $x_i$  is i.i.d uniform from some finite set  $S, |S| \geq 2$ .

2. if  $(AB)x \neq cx$ , return "NO"

else return "YES"

each run of this algorithm takes  $O(n^2)$  time as  $(AB)x = A(Bx)$ . checking  $(AB)x \stackrel{?}{=} cx$  requires three matrix-vector multiplications.

Lemma: If  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $P \neq 0$ , then  $\Pr_{x \sim \mathcal{S}}[Px = 0] \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|}$ .

Proof:- Without loss of generality, assume  $P_{11} \neq 0$ .

$$\text{If } Px = 0, \quad \sum_{j=1}^n P_{1j} x_j = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = -\frac{1}{P_{11}} \left[ \sum_{j=2}^n P_{1j} x_j \right]$$

For any fixed  $x_2, \dots, x_n$ , there is exactly one choice for  $x_1$  that satisfies the above condition.

$$\text{So } \Pr[Px = 0] \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|}.$$

□

Corollary: If  $AB \neq C$ ,  $\Pr[(AB)x = Cx] \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|}$ .

[set  $P = AB - C$  in lemma]

Intuitively, the null space  $\{x: Px = 0\}$  of a non-zero matrix  $P$  is "sparse". There is abundance of witness  $\{x: Px \neq 0\}$ .

$Px$  is a multivariate polynomial of degree 1. This property can be generalized to polynomials of degree  $d$ . The null space becomes roots/zeros of  $P$ .

A degree- $d$  polynomial is of the form:

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{\substack{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i \leq d \\ d_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}}} c_\alpha \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{d_i}.$$

$p$  is a polynomial over field  $\mathbb{F}$  if  $c_\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ .

The polynomial  $p$  should not be confused with the function it computes.  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} x^2, x \text{ compute the same} \\ \text{function in } \mathbb{F}_2. \text{ This happens} \\ \text{if degree} \geq \text{size of field.} \end{array} \right]$

If  $\deg(p) \leq |\mathbb{F}| - 1$ , then the polynomial is uniquely determined by the function it computes.

A zero polynomial is the polynomial with all coefficients  $c_\alpha = 0$ . So  $x^2 - x$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  is not a zero polynomial even though it computes zero everywhere.

Fact [degree mantra]

A univariate polynomial  $p(x)$  over field  $\mathbb{F}$  has at most  $\deg(p)$  roots, unless  $p(x)$  is the zero polynomial.

A corollary of the Fact above is that

$$\Pr_{x \sim S} [P(x) = 0] \leq \frac{d}{|S|}.$$

when  $x$  is picked uniformly randomly from a set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{F}$ .

Schwartz-Zippel

$$\text{For } P \neq 0, \Pr_{\substack{x_i \sim S \\ \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n}} [P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0] \leq \frac{d}{|S|}.$$

Proof:- proof is by induction on  $n$ . For the base case  $n=1$ ,  $P(x)$  has at most  $d$  roots. So

$$\Pr_{x \sim S} [P(x) = 0] \leq \frac{d}{|S|}.$$

For the inductive step, let  $k$  be the largest degree of  $x_1$  in  $P$  and write

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \underbrace{M(x_2, \dots, x_n)}_{\text{degree} \leq d-k} x_1^k + \underbrace{N(x_2, \dots, x_n)}_{\text{degree of } x_1 < k}$$

Let  $\Sigma$  be the event that  $M(x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ .

( $M$  is not the zero polynomial by definition)

Case 1:  $\Sigma$  happens. From inductive hypothesis,

$$\Pr[\Sigma] \leq \frac{d-k}{|S|}$$

Case 2:  $\neg \Sigma$  happens. Let  $P'(x) = P(x, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  be the univariate polynomial obtained by fixing  $x_2, \dots, x_n$  conditioned on  $\Sigma$  not happening

$$\Pr_{x \sim S} [p'(x) = 0 \mid \neg \mathcal{E}] \leq \frac{k}{|S|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr [P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0] &= \Pr [P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0 \mid \mathcal{E}] \cdot \Pr(\mathcal{E}) \\ &\quad + \Pr [P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0 \mid \neg \mathcal{E}] \cdot \Pr(\neg \mathcal{E}) \\ &\leq 1 \cdot \frac{d-k}{|S|} + \frac{k}{|S|} \cdot 1 = \frac{d}{|S|} \cdot D \end{aligned}$$

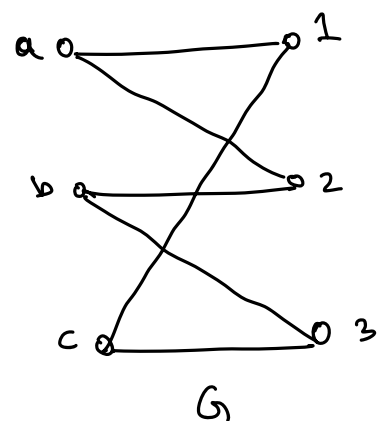
Schwartz-Zippel naturally gives an algorithm for Polynomial identity testing. To check if  $Q \equiv R$ , we check if  $P = Q - R$  is zero by evaluating at random points.

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} x+y & x^2-y^2 & 0 \\ 1 & x & 1 \\ 0 & y & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{zero?}$$

### Detecting Perfect Matchings by Computing a Determinant

$$\begin{matrix} & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \begin{matrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

bi-adjacency matrix



$$E = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & x_{22} & x_{23} \\ x_{31} & 0 & x_{32} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Edmonds matrix}$$

$$\det(E) = x_{11}x_{22}x_{33} + x_{12}x_{23}x_{31}$$

Fact:- every monomial in  $\det(E)$  corresponds to a perfect matching in  $G$ .

$\Downarrow$

$\det(E)$  is a non-zero polynomial over any field  $\mathbb{F}$  iff  $G$  contains a perfect matching.

PM-tester (bipartite graph  $G$ ,  $S \subseteq \mathbb{F}$ )

1.  $E \leftarrow$  edmonds matrix of graph  $G$
2. Sample each non-zero entry  $x_{i,j} \sim S$  uniformly and independently at random.

3.  $\tilde{E} \leftarrow$  matrix with sampled values substituted

if  $\det(\tilde{E}) = 0$  then

return  $G$  does not have a PM (No)

else

return  $G$  contains a PM (Yes)

No false positives,  $\Pr(\text{false negative}) \leq \frac{\eta}{|S|}$  (choose  $|S| \geq \eta^3$ )

$\rightarrow$  Computing the determinant takes  $O(n^3)$  time by gaussian elimination. But  $O(n^4)$  time algorithms

known [Bunch, Hopcroft]

→ parallel algorithms using  $O(\log^2 n)$  time,  $O(n^{3.5})$  processors  
known [Berkowitz]

The PM detection algorithm can be converted to a  
PM finding algorithm.

Find-PM (bipartite graph  $G, S \subseteq V$ )

1. Assume  $G$  has a perfect matching let  $e=uv$  be an  
edge in  $G$ .

if  $\text{PM-tester}(G[E-e]) = \text{YES}$  then

return  $\text{Find-PM}(G[E-e], S)$

else

$M' \leftarrow \text{Find-PM}(G[V - \{u, v\}], S)$

return  $M' \cup e$

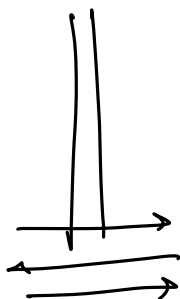
$O(MN^5)$  time

we conclude the identity testing part with  
another nice application of the monovariate  
case of Schwartz-Zippel (degree mantra)

Communication complexity of Equality

Alice

$a \in \{0,1\}^n$



Bob

$b \in \{0,1\}^n$



Can communicate  
back & forth

Goal: Test if  $a=b$  using min # bits communicated.

Any deterministic algorithm needs  $\geq n$  bits

(essentially, Alice sends Bob her message)

The following protocol uses  $O(\log n)$  bits of

communication with  $\Pr(\text{error}) \leq \frac{1}{\text{poly}(n)}$ .

↙ over coin flips of protocol

### Polynomial - Protocol

1. Alice sends Bob an arbitrary prime

$$n^2 \leq q \leq 2n^2$$

$\log q \rightarrow O(\log n)$  bits

2. Alice forms  $A(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x$

Bob forms  $B(x) = b_n x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + b_1 x$


Goal is to decide if  $A \equiv B$ .

3. Alice picks a random  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q$  and sends

$A(\alpha) \in \mathbb{F}_q$  to Bob  $O(\log n)$  bits

Bob computes  $B(\alpha)$ , says "Yes" if  $A(\alpha) = B(\alpha)$   
"No" otherwise.

if  $a=b$ ,  $\Pr[\text{"Yes"}] = 1$

if  $a \neq b$ ,  $\Pr[\text{"Yes"}] = \Pr_{\alpha \sim \mathbb{F}_q}[A(\alpha) = B(\alpha)] \leq \frac{n}{q} \leq \frac{1}{n}$ . 

We can design a protocol that does not involve polynomials but uses the properties of prime numbers.

### Prime - protocol

1. Alice picks a prime  $p$  u.a.r from  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, T\}$
2. Alice sends  $p$  and  $a \bmod p$  to Bob
3. Bob says "yes" if  $b \bmod p \equiv a \bmod p$   
"NO" otherwise

if  $a = b$ ,  $\Pr[\text{"YES"}] = 1$

if  $a \neq b$ ,  $\Pr[\text{"YES"}] = \Pr[b \equiv a \bmod p]$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $p \mid (b - a)$

$(b - a)$  is a  $n$  bit number so has  $\leq n$  distinct prime factors.

so  $\Pr[b \equiv a \bmod p] \leq \frac{n}{\# \text{primes} \leq T}$

$$\pi(\tau) := \# \text{ primes } \leq \tau$$

Theorem [Prime Number Theorem]

$$\frac{x}{\ln x} \leq \pi(x) \leq \frac{1.26 x}{\ln x} \quad \forall x \geq 17$$

$$\text{so } \frac{n}{\pi(\tau)} \leq \frac{n \ln \tau}{\tau}$$

$$\text{picking } \tau = cn \log n \text{ gives } \Pr[\text{error}] \leq \frac{1}{c} + o(1)$$

Step 2 requires  $\alpha(\log \tau) = o(\log n)$  bits of communication

How is step 1 executed?

Sample a random number in  $[2, \tau]$  until it is prime.

$$\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ trials}] \sim \frac{\tau}{\pi(\tau)} = \ln \tau \sim \ln n.$$

But how do we verify that a number is prime?

# Primality Testing

Fingerprinting, RSA cryptography, .. etc require a supply of primes (with thousands of bits).

Given an integer  $n$ , we wish to determine if  $n$  is prime or composite.

The following naive algorithm is known since 2000 years ago:

for  $a = 2, 3, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor$ ,  
if  $a | n$ , output "composite" and halt  
output "prime"

This takes  $O(\sqrt{n})$  iterations which is exponential in the input size. We want  $O(\text{poly}(\log n))$  run time.

Does choosing a random help?

NO. If  $n = pq$  for two primes  $p, q$ , there are only two non-trivial divisors

P, a.

## Some Preliminaries

1. Repeated exponentiation. For any  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can compute  $a^b \bmod n$  by repeated squaring using  $O(\log n)$  multiplications  
(of  $O(\log n)$  bit numbers)

2. Euclid's algorithm. For any  $a, b$  we can compute their gcd using  $O(\log a + \log b)$  additions and divisions. Binary gcd algorithm uses  $O(\log n)$  bit operations.

3. Group  $(G, \circ)$   $\xrightarrow{\text{set of elements}}$  binary operation  
(i)  $a \circ b \in G \quad \forall a, b \in G$  (closure)  
(ii)  $(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$  (associativity)  
(iii)  $\exists e$  s.t.  $a \circ e = e \circ a = a$  (identity)  
(iv)  $\exists a^{-1}$  for all  $a$  s.t.  $a \circ a^{-1} = a^{-1} \circ a = e$  (inverse)

[most groups we consider are also commutative]  
 $a \circ b = b \circ a$

examples :- 1.  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$   $\xrightarrow{\text{set of elements}} \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$   
2.  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$  numbers mod  $n$

3.  $(\mathbb{Z}_n^*, *)$  multiplicative group of numbers co-prime to  $n$ .

$$|\mathbb{Z}_n^*| = \varphi(n) \text{ (euler totient function)}$$

when  $n$  is prime, the elements are  $1, 2, \dots, n-1$

$H \subseteq G$  is a subgroup of  $G$  if  $H$  is a group.

### Lagrange's Theorem

For any subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ ,  $|H|$  divides  $|G|$ .

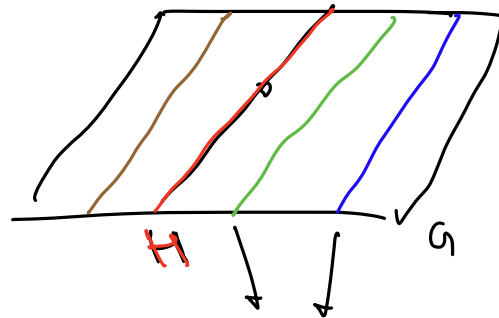
In particular, if  $H \neq G$ ,  $|H| \leq |G|/2$ .

rough proof idea:-

cosets of  $H$  partition  $G$ .

$$gH = \{goh : h \in H\}$$

each coset has same size as  $H$ .



cosets of  $H$   
(essentially translations  
of  $H$  by an element)

ex:-  $\mathbb{Z}_6^+ = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$   
 $H = \{0, 2, 4\}$  is a subgroup.

the group partitions into cosets  $0+H, 1+H$ .

# Fermat test

## Fermat's little theorem

For any prime  $p$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , one has

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

More generally for any (finite) group  $G$ , and  $a \in G$ , we have  $a^{|G|} = e$ .

$$(a^x = \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a}_{x \text{ times}})$$

Proof:- Let  $H = \{a^k : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Since  $G$  is finite,  $H$  is finite.

$$H = \{a, a^2, a^3, \dots, a^k = e\} \text{ as } e \in H.$$

$k \mid |G|$  from Lagrange's theorem.

$$a^{|G|} = (a^k)^{|G|/k} = e.$$

□

For general  $n$ , let  $A_n = \{a : a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}\}$

Fermat's little theorem says that  $A_n = \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  when  $n$  is prime.

Claim:- For any  $n$ ,  $A_n$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$

If it happens that for composite  $n$ ,  
 $A_n$  is always a proper subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ ,  
then  $|A_n| \leq |\mathbb{Z}_n^*|/2$  by Lagrange's theorem.

This would imply an abundance of witness  
 $a$  s.t.  $a^{n-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod n$  for composite  
numbers.

### Fermat test algorithm

1. pick random  $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$
2. if  $(a, n) \neq 1$ , return "NO" ( $n$  is composite)
3. if  $a^{n-1} \pmod n \neq 1$  return "NO" ( $n$  is composite)  
else return "YES"

Turns out there are numbers  $n$  s.t.  
 $A_n = \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ . That is,  $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod n$  for all  
 $a$  s.t.  $(a, n) = 1$ . Such  $n$  are called  
Carmichael numbers (561, 1105, 1729, 2465, ...)  
These numbers fool the Fermat test.



## Euler's test

This slightly strengthens Fermat test by checking that  $a^{(n-1)/2} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{For } x = a^{(n-1)/2}, \quad x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{n} \quad \text{for prime } n. \\ (x-1)(x+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \quad " \\ \Rightarrow x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n} \quad " \end{array} \right]$$

The last step need not follow for composite numbers.

1729, 2465 fool the Euler test.

## Miller - Rabin Algorithm

Euler test tries to find a non-trivial square root of 1 for just one step.

Miller Rabin test continues trying as long as possible.

Assume  $n$  is odd and not a prime power

( we can decide if  $n = p^s$  quickly by searching for  $1 \leq s \leq \log n$ , binary search for  $n^{1/s}$  )

So let  $n-1 = 2^c d$  where  $d$  is odd.

Miller - Rabin Test. pick random  $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$

if  $\gcd(a, n) \neq 1$  return NO. So assume  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ .

Consider  $a^{n-1}, a^{(n-1)/2}, \dots, a^d$  (in this order). There are three possibilities.

1. Either all the numbers are 1. Output Prime
2. The first entry that differs from 1 is not  $-1$ . Return composite (We found a non-trivial square root of 1)
3. The first entry that differs from 1 is  $-1$ . Output prime (We gave up on  $a$  being a witness, as we cannot proceed further once we see  $a = -1$ )

Example for Carmichael number  $n=561$ ,  $n-1=560=2^4 \cdot 35$   
For  $a=2$ ,  $a^{560} = 1$ ,  $a^{280} = 1$ ,  $a^{140} = 67$ , ... (mod 561)

### Theorem

For any composite number  $n > 2$  (not a prime power), the test returns composite for at least half the witnesses  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ .

Proof: Let  $t \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, c\}$  be the largest  $t$  power such that  $x^{2^t d} \not\equiv 1 \pmod n$  for some  $x$ .

$$\left[ n^{\frac{t-1}{2}d} = 1 \quad \forall x \right]$$

Such a  $t$  exists as  
 $x = n-1$  satisfies  $(n-1)^d = -1 \pmod n$   
 for  $t=0$ .

	$d$	$2d$	$4d$	...	$\frac{t}{2}d$	$n^{1/2}$	$n-1$
$a$	$a$	$a$	$a$	...	$a$	$a$	$a$
$a$					-1	1	1
$\vdots$						1	1
$\vdots$		-1				1	1
-1	-1	1	1			1	1

we will show at least half of the elements  
 $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  satisfy  $a^{\frac{t}{2}d} \neq \pm 1 \pmod n$ . These  $a$  are  
witness for  
compositeness

Let  $S = \{a : a^{\frac{t}{2}d} = \pm 1\}$ .  $S$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ .

It suffices to show that  $S$  is a proper  
 subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  (and hence  $|S| \in (\mathbb{Z}_n^*/2)$ )

Suppose for contradiction that  $S = \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ . We  
 know there is some  $x$  s.t.  $x^{\frac{t}{2}d} = -1 \pmod n$ .

Since  $n$  is composite,  $\exists r, s > 1$  s.t.  $n = r \cdot s$   
 ( $n$  is not a prime power is used here).

Let  $y$  be a number such that

$$y \equiv x \pmod r, \quad y \equiv 1 \pmod s$$

exists by  
(Chinese remainder  
theorem)

$$y^{2^t d} \equiv x^{2^t d} \pmod{r}, \quad y^{2^t d} \equiv 1 \pmod{S}$$

↓

$$-1 \pmod{r}$$

$$\text{If } y^{2^t d} \equiv 1 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow y^{2^t d} \equiv 1 \pmod{r} \Rightarrow 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{r} \times$$

$$\text{If } y^{2^t d} \equiv -1 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow y^{2^t d} \equiv -1 \pmod{S} \Rightarrow 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{S} \times$$

$y \notin S$  so  $S$  has to be a proper subgroup.

□

Miller observed that assuming the Generalized Riemann Hypothesis, a witness  $a$  exists in the first  $O((\log n)^2)$  values of  $a$ .

This gives a deterministic primality testing algorithm conditioned on GRH.