

# 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

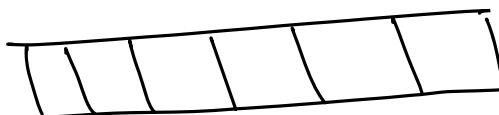
Is there an elephant in the room?

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  $\frac{n}{2}$  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  $\frac{n}{2}$  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  $A[i_c] \neq \emptyset$ , return "NO"

→ witness for non-emptiness

one sided error  $\rightarrow$  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  $\Pr_{x \sim \mathbb{S}^n} [Px = 0] \leq \frac{1}{|S|}$ .

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

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

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

$$\text{so } \Pr_{x \sim \mathbb{S}^n} [Px = 0] \leq \frac{1}{|S|}.$$

□

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

[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:

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

$P$  is a polynomial over field  $\mathbb{F}$  if  $c_d \in \mathbb{F}$ .

The polynomial  $P$  should not be confused with the function it computes.

$x^2, x$  compute the same function in  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . This happens if  $\deg(P) \geq \text{size of field}$ .

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  $c_d = 0$ . 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

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

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

$$\Pr_{x \sim S} [P(x_1) = 0] \leq \frac{d}{|S|}.$$

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

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = M(x_2, \dots, x_n) x_1^k + N(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\text{degree} \leq d-k \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{degree of } x_1 < k$$

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:  $\Sigma$  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

$$\Pr_{x \sim S} [P(x) = 0 \mid \neg \Sigma] \leq \frac{k}{|S|}$$

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

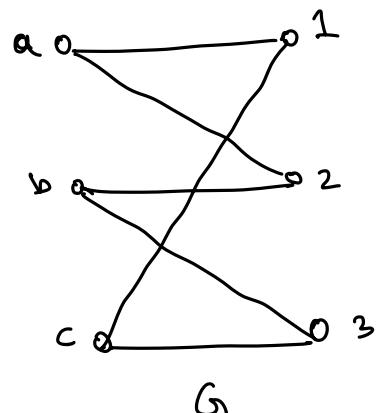
Schwart - zippel naturally gives an algorithm for Polynomial identity testing. To check if  $Q \equiv R$ , we check if  $P = Q - R$  is zero by evaluating at random points.

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

Detecting Perfect Matchings by Computing a Determinant

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

bi-adjacency Matrix



$$E = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & x_{22} & x_{23} \\ x_{31} & 0 & x_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Edmonds matrix}$$

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

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

↓

$\det(E)$  is a non-zero polynomial iff  $G$  contains a perfect matching.

over any field  $\mathbb{F}$

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,  $\Pr[\text{false negative}] \leq \frac{n}{|S|} \quad (\text{choose } |S| \geq n^3)$

Computing the determinant takes  $O(n^3)$  time by gaussian elimination. But  $O(n^2)$  time algorithms

known [Bunch, Hopcroft]

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

known [Berlekamp]

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

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

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

if  $\text{PM-tester}(G[V - \{u, v\}], S) = \text{YES}$  then

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

else

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

return  $M' \cup \{e\}$

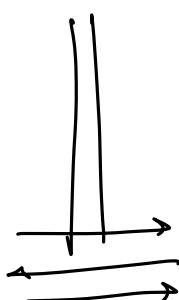
$O(mn^6)$  time

We conclude the identity testing part with another nice application of the multivariate 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  $\Pr[\text{error}] \leq \frac{1}{\text{Poly}(n)}$ .

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  $A = B$ .

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



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.y from  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, T\}$
2. Alice sends  $p$  and  $a \bmod p$  to Bob
3. Bob says "yes" if  $b \bmod p = a \bmod p$   
"no" otherwise

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

if  $a \neq b$ ,  $\Pr[\text{"YES"}] = \Pr[b \equiv a \pmod p]$

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

$$\text{so } P \vdash [b \equiv a \pmod{p}] \leq \frac{n}{\#\text{primes} \leq T}$$

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

Theorem [Prime Number Theorem]

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

so  $\frac{\pi}{\pi(\pi)} \leq \frac{\pi \ln \pi}{\pi}$

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

Step 2 requires  $O(\log \pi) = O(\log n)$  bits of communication

How is Step 1 executed?

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

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

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  $a \mid n$ , 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 randomly help?

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

## 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

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{of } O(\log n) \text{ bit} \\ \text{numbers} \end{array} \right\}$

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  $(G, \circ)$  set of elements binary operation  
 if  $a \circ b \in G$  +  $a, b \in G$  (closure)

(i)  $(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$  (associativity)

(ii)  $\exists e \in G$  s.t.  $a \circ e = e \circ a = a$  (identity)

(iii)  $\exists a'$  for all  $a$  s.t.  $a \circ a' = a' \circ a = e$  (inverse)

[most groups we consider are also commutative]  
 $a \circ b = b \circ a$   $\rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$

examples :- 1.  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  2.  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$  numbers mod  $n$

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

$|\mathbb{Z}_n^*| = \varphi(n)$  (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  $|G|$ .

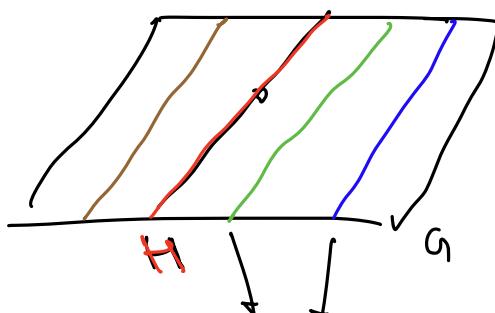
In particular, if  $H \neq G$ ,  $|H| \leq |G|/2$ .

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  $a^{|G|} = e$ .

$$(a^k = a \underbrace{\circ a \circ \dots \circ a}_{n \text{ times}})$$

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

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

$|H| \mid |G|$  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.  $a^{n-1} \neq 1 \pmod{n}$  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  $a^{\frac{(n-1)}{2}} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}$ .

For  $x = a^{\frac{(n-1)}{2}}$ ,  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  for prime  $n$ .

$$(x-1)(x+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$
$$\Rightarrow x \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}$$

The last step need not follow for composite numbers.

1729, 2465 fail 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  $n$ 's for  $1 \leq s \leq \log n$ , binary search for  $n$ '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  $\pm 1$ . Return composite (We found a non-trivial square root of 1)
3. The first entry that differs from 1 is  $\pm 1$ . Output prime (We gave up on  $a$  being a witness, as we cannot proceed further once we see  $a = \pm 1$ )

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

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 power such that  $n^{2^t} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$  for some  $\chi$ .

$$\left[ x^{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}} = 1 + x \right]$$

such a  $t$  exists as

$$x = n-1 \text{ satisfies } (n-1)^d = -1 \pmod{n}$$

for  $t=0$ .

$a$	$a^2$	$a^4$	$\dots$	$a^{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}}$	$a^{n-1}$
$a$	$a$	$a$	$\dots$	$-1$	$1$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$-1$	$1$
$-1$	$-1$	$1$	$\dots$	$1$	$1$

we will show at least half of the elements

$a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  satisfy  $a^{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}} \neq \pm 1 \pmod{n}$ . These  $a$  are witness for compositeness

let  $S = \{a : a^{2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}} = \pm 1\}$ .  $S$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ .

It suffices to show that  $S$  is a proper subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  (and hence  $|S| \leq (\mathbb{Z}_n^*)^{1/2}$ )

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

Since  $n$  is composite,  $\exists r, s \in S$  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

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



$$-1 \pmod{r}$$

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

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

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

□

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

This gives a deterministic primality testing algorithm conditioned on GRH.