

Class Notes

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Euclid's Algorithm is fast.

If $a > b$, we can show that the total number of arithmetic operations required to compute $\gcd(a,b)$ is less than $C \log a$ for a constant C . In big O notation this is $O(\log a)$.

Modular Exponentiation:

Example: Suppose you want to compute $3^{521} \pmod{19}$. If we compute 3^{521} , it is a number with 249 decimal digits. It would become difficult even for a computer.

Trick: Write the exponent in binary.

$$\begin{aligned} 521 &= 512 + 8 + 1 \\ &= 2^9 + 2^3 + 2^0 \end{aligned}$$

In binary it is: 1000001001

Use repeated squaring and reduce (mod 19) after each step.

$$3^1 = 3 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^2 = 9 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^4 = 81 \pmod{19} = 5 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^8 = 6 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^{16} = 17 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^{32} = 4 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^{64} = 16 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^{128} = 9 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^{256} = 5 \pmod{19}$$

$$3^{512} = 6 \pmod{19} \quad (3^{512} = (3^8)^{64} = (6)^{64} = (6^3)^{21} \cdot (6^2)^1 = (17)^{21} \cdot (3) = 13 \pmod{19})$$

We computed $3^{512} \pmod{19}$ by doing 12 multiplications where every number was smaller than 19. In general, modular exponentiation lets us compute $a^n \pmod{m}$ using at most $2 \log n$ multiplications where no numbers are bigger than m .

General steps for Modular Exponentiation:

1. Write out exponent in binary. Find the position of the largest "1" in its binary representation. Call this "k"
2. Do repeated squaring of $a \pmod{m}$ k times. Save all steps.
3. Multiply the results of repeated squaring for every position where there was a "1" in the binary representation in step 1. Reduce the answer \pmod{m} .

Fermat's Little Theorem:

If p is a prime number and a is not divisible by p , then $a^{p-1} = 1 \pmod{p}$.

Example: $p = 5$ and $a = 2$

$$2^4 = 16 = 1 \pmod{5}$$

Example: $p = 11$ and $a = 2$

$$2^{10} = 1024 = 1 \pmod{11}$$

~11 divides 1023 because $1-0+2-3 = 0$ ~

Non-example: $p = 6$ and $a = 2$

$$2^5 = 32 = 2 \pmod{6}$$

Proof:

Let $S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1\}$ (all non-zero residues).

Define $\Psi_a(x) = S \rightarrow S$

$$\Psi_a(x) = ax \pmod{p}$$

Check that $\Psi_a(x)$ is one-to-one and onto. Now suppose we have two elements x and y , $x \neq y$, but $\Psi_a(x) = \Psi_a(y)$. This means that $ax = ay$. a has an inverse \pmod{p} . $a^{-1}ax = a^{-1}ay$ which results in $x = y$. Since $\Psi_a(x)$ is one-to-one $x = y$ is a contradiction.

Compute now: $\Psi_a(1) * \Psi_a(2) * \dots * \Psi_a(p-1)$

$$= a * 2a * 3a * \dots * (p-1)a$$

$$= a^{p-1} (1 * 2 * 3 * \dots * (p-1))$$

$$\Psi_a(1) * \Psi_a(2) * \dots * \Psi_a(p-1) = 1 * 2 * 3 * \dots * (p-1)$$

$$a^{p-1} (1 * 2 * 3 * \dots * (p-1)) = (1 * 2 * 3 * \dots * (p-1)) \pmod{p}$$

$$a^{p-1} = 1 \pmod{p}$$

Example: Compute $2^{64} \pmod{11}$

By FLT, we know $2^{10} = 1 \pmod{11}$

$$2^{64} = (2^{10})^6 * 2^4 \pmod{11}$$

$$2^{64} = 1^6 * 2^4 \pmod{11}$$

$$2^{64} = 16 \pmod{11}$$

$$2^{64} = 5 \pmod{11}$$

Like to have a version of FLT for composite numbers.

Euler's Theorem work for composite numbers. Need Euler's ϕ (phi) function. This counts how many residues (r) modulo n have gcd 1 with n. $\gcd(r,n) = 1$

Example: $\phi(26) = 12$

No evens or 13

$\phi(27) = 18$

$\phi(29) = 28$

So if p is a prime number $\phi(p) = p-1$

If $n = p^k$, $\phi(n) = \phi(p^k) = \left(\frac{p-1}{p}\right) p^k$

Example: $27 = 3^3$

$$\phi(27) = \phi(3^3) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) 3^3 = 2 * 3^2 = 18$$

Using the Chinese Remainder Theorem, if m and n have $\gcd(m,n) = 1$, then

$$\phi(mn) = \phi(m) * \phi(n). \quad \phi(p^k * q^l) = p^k * q^l \left(\frac{p-1}{p}\right) \left(\frac{q-1}{q}\right)$$

Theorem: For any n

$$\phi(n) = n \prod \left(\frac{p-1}{p}\right)$$