

# Foundations of Computer Science

## Lecture 10

### Number Theory

Division and the Greatest Common Divisor  
Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic  
Cryptography and Modular Arithmetic  
RSA: Public Key Cryptography



### Last Time

- 1 Why sums and recurrences? Running times of programs.
- 2 Tools for summation: constant rule, sum rule, common sums and nested sum rule.
- 3 Comparing functions - asymptotics: Big-Oh, Theta, Little-Oh notation.  
 $\log \log(n) < \log^\alpha(n) < n^\epsilon < 2^{\delta n}$
- 4 The method of integration - estimating sums.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k \sim \frac{n^{k+1}}{k+1} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i} \sim \ln n \quad \ln n! = \sum_{i=1}^n \ln i \sim n \ln n - n$$

### Today: Number Theory

- 1 Division and Greatest Common Divisor (GCD)
  - Euclid's algorithm
  - Bezout's identity
- 2 Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic
- 3 Modular Arithmetic
  - Cryptography
  - RSA public key cryptography

### The Basics

Number theory has attracted the best of the best, because

“Babies can ask questions which grown-ups can't solve” – P. Erdős

$6 = 1 + 2 + 3$  is *perfect* (equals the sum of its proper divisors). Is there an odd perfect number?

#### Quotient-Remainder Theorem

For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n = qd + r$ . The quotient  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$  and remainder  $0 \leq r < d$  are *unique*.

e.g.  $n = 27, d = 6$ :  $27 = 4 \cdot 6 + 4 \rightarrow \text{rem}(27, 6) = 4$ .

**Divisibility.**  $d$  divides  $n$ ,  $d|n$  if and only if  $n = qd$  for some  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ . e.g.  $6|24$ .

**Primes.**  $\mathbb{P} = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\} = \{p \mid p \geq 2 \text{ and the only positive divisors of } p \text{ are } 1, p\}$ .

#### Division Facts (Exercise 10.2)

- 1  $d|0$ .
- 2 If  $d|m$  and  $d'|n$ , then  $dd'|mn$ .
- 3 If  $d|m$  and  $m|n$ , then  $d|n$ .
- 4 If  $d|n$  and  $d|m$ , then  $d|n+m$ .
- 5 If  $d|n$ , then  $xd|xn$  for  $x \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- 6 If  $d|m+n$  and  $d|m$ , then  $d|n$ .

## Greatest Common Divisor

Divisors of 30: {1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 15, 30}. Divisors of 42: {1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 21, 42}. Common divisors: {1, 2, 3, 6}.  
*greatest common divisor (GCD) = 6.*

### Definition. Greatest Common Divisor, GCD

Let  $m, n$  be two integers not both zero.  $\gcd(m, n)$  is the largest integer that divides both  $m$  and  $n$ :  $\gcd(m, n) | m$ ,  $\gcd(m, n) | n$  and any other common divisor  $d \leq \gcd(m, n)$ .

Notice that every common divisor divides the GCD. Also,  $\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(n, m)$ .

### Relatively Prime

If  $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ , then  $m, n$  are relatively prime.

Example: 6 and 35 are not prime but they are relatively prime.

### Theorem.

$$\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(\text{rem}(n, m), m).$$

*Proof.*  $n = qm + r \rightarrow r = n - qm$ . Let  $D = \gcd(m, n)$  and  $d = \gcd(m, r)$ .  
 $D | m$  and  $D | n \rightarrow D$  divides  $r = n - qm$ . Hence,  $D \leq \gcd(m, r) = d$ . ( $D$  is a common divisor of  $m, r$ )  
 $d | m$  and  $d | r \rightarrow d$  divides  $n = qm + r$ . Hence,  $d \leq \gcd(m, n) = D$ . ( $d$  is a common divisor of  $m, n$ )  
 $D \leq d$  and  $D \geq d \rightarrow D = d$ , which proves  $\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(n, r)$ . ■

## Euclid's Algorithm

### Theorem.

$$\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(\text{rem}(n, m), m).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gcd(42, 108) &= \gcd(24, 42) & 24 &= 108 - 2 \cdot 42 \\ &= \gcd(18, 24) & 18 &= 42 - 24 = 42 - \underbrace{(108 - 2 \cdot 42)}_{24} = 3 \cdot 42 - 108 \\ &= \gcd(6, 18) & 6 &= 24 - 18 = \underbrace{(108 - 2 \cdot 42)}_{24} - \underbrace{(3 \cdot 42 - 108)}_{18} = 2 \cdot 108 - 5 \cdot 42 \\ &= \gcd(0, 6) & 0 &= 18 - 3 \cdot 6 \\ &= 6 & \gcd(0, n) &= n \end{aligned}$$

Remainders in Euclid's algorithm are integer linear combinations of 42 and 108.

In particular,  $\gcd(42, 108) = 6 = 2 \times 108 - 5 \times 42$ .

This will be true for  $\gcd(m, n)$  in general:

$$\gcd(m, n) = mx + ny \quad \text{for some } x, y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

## Bezout's Identity: A "Formula" for GCD

From Euclid's Algorithm,

$$\gcd(m, n) = mx + ny \quad \text{for some } x, y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Can any smaller positive number  $z$  be a linear combination of  $m$  and  $n$ ?

suppose:  $z = mx + ny > 0$ .

$\gcd(m, n)$  divides RHS  $\rightarrow \gcd(m, n) | z$ , i.e  $z \geq \gcd(m, n)$  (because  $\gcd(m, n) | m$  and  $\gcd(m, n) | n$ ).

### Theorem. Bezout's Identity

$\gcd(m, n)$  is the *smallest positive integer linear combination* of  $m$  and  $n$ :

$$\gcd(m, n) = mx + ny \quad \text{for } x, y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

*Formal Proof.* Let  $\ell$  be the smallest positive linear combination of  $m, n$ :  $\ell = mx + ny$ .

- Prove  $\ell \geq \gcd(m, n)$  as above.
- Prove  $\ell \leq \gcd(m, n)$  by showing  $\ell$  is a common divisor ( $\text{rem}(m, \ell) = \text{rem}(n, \ell) = 0$ ).

There is no "formula" for GCD. But this is close to a "formula".

## GCD Facts

- ①  $\gcd(m, n) = \gcd(m, \text{rem}(n, m))$ . ✓
- ② Every common divisor of  $m, n$  divides  $\gcd(m, n)$ . ✓
- ③ For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gcd(km, kn) = k \cdot \gcd(m, n)$ . ✓
- ④ IF  $\gcd(l, m) = 1$  AND  $\gcd(l, n) = 1$ , THEN  $\gcd(l, mn) = 1$ . ✓
- ⑤ IF  $d | mn$  AND  $\gcd(d, m) = 1$ , THEN  $d | n$ . ✓

*Proof.*

- ①  $\gcd(m, n) = mx + ny$ . Any common divisor divides the RHS and so also the LHS.  
(e.g. 1,2,3,6 are common divisors of 30,42 and all divide the GCD 6)
- ②  $\gcd(km, kn) = kmx + kny = k(mx + ny)$ . The RHS is the smallest possible, so there is no smaller positive linear combination of  $m, n$ . That is  $\gcd(m, n) = (mx + ny)$ .  
(e.g.  $\gcd(6, 15) = 3 \rightarrow \gcd(12, 30) = 2 \times 3 = 6$ )
- ③  $1 = \ell x + m y$  and  $1 = \ell x' + n y'$ . Multiplying,  
 $1 = (\ell x + m y)(\ell x' + n y') = \ell \cdot (\ell x x' + n x y' + m y x') + m n \cdot (y y')$ .  
(e.g.  $\gcd(15, 4) = 1$  and  $\gcd(15, 7) = 1 \rightarrow \gcd(15, 28) = 1$ )
- ④  $d x + m y = 1 \rightarrow n d x + n m y = n$ . Since  $d | mn$ ,  $d$  divides the LHS, hence  $d | n$ , the RHS.  
(e.g.  $\gcd(4, 15) = 1$  and  $4 | 15 \times 16 \rightarrow 4 | 16$ )

Given 3 and 5-gallon jugs, measure exactly 4 gallons.

- 1: Repeatedly fill the 3-gallon jug.
- 2: Empty the 3-gallon jug into the 5-gallon jug.
- 3: If ever the 5-gallon jug is full, empty it by discarding the water.

$$(0, 0) \xrightarrow{1:} (3, 0) \xrightarrow{2:} (0, 3) \xrightarrow{1:} (3, 3) \xrightarrow{2:} (1, 5) \xrightarrow{3:} (1, 0) \xrightarrow{2:} (0, 1) \xrightarrow{1:} (3, 1) \xrightarrow{2:} (0, 4) \checkmark$$

After the 3-gallon jug is emptied into the 5-gallon jug, the state is  $(0, \ell)$ , where

$$\ell = 3x - 5y. \quad (\text{the 3-gallon jug has been emptied } x \text{ times and the 5-gallon jug } y \text{ times})$$

(integer linear combination of 3, 5). Since  $\gcd(3, 5) = 1$  we can get  $\ell = 1$ ,

$$1 = 3 \cdot 2 - 5 \cdot 1 \quad (\text{after emptying the 3-gallon jug 2 times and the 5 gallon jug once, there is 1 gallon})$$

Do this 4 times and you have 4 gallons (guaranteed). (Actually fewer pours works.)

$$(0, 0) \xrightarrow{1:} (3, 0) \xrightarrow{2:} (0, 3) \xrightarrow{1:} (3, 3) \xrightarrow{2:} (1, 5) \xrightarrow{3:} (1, 0) \xrightarrow{2:} (0, 1) \quad (\text{repeat 4 times})$$

If the producers of Die Hard had chosen 3 and 6 gallon jugs, there can be no sequel (phew 😊). (Why?)

**Theorem. Uniqueness of Prime Factorization**

Every  $n \geq 2$  is *uniquely* (up to reordering) a product of primes.

**Euclid's Lemma:** For primes  $p, q_1, \dots, q_\ell$ , if  $p|q_1q_2 \cdots q_\ell$  then  $p$  is one of the  $q_i$ .

Proof of lemma: If  $p|q_\ell$  then  $p = q_\ell$ . If not,  $\gcd(p, q_\ell) = 1$  and  $p|q_1 \cdots q_{\ell-1}$  by GCD fact (v). Induction on  $\ell$ .

*Proof.* (FTA) Contradiction. Let  $n_*$  be the smallest counter-example,  $n_* > 2$  and

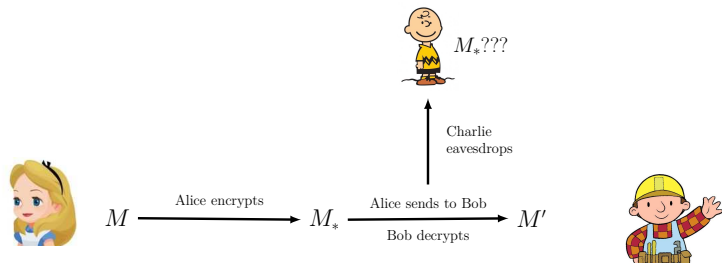
$$\begin{aligned} n_* &= p_1 p_2 \cdots p_n \\ &= q_1 q_2 \cdots q_k \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p_1|n_*$ , it means  $p_1|q_1q_2 \cdots q_k$  and by Euclid's Lemma,  $p_1 = q_i$  (w.l.o.g.  $q_1$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} n_*/p_1 &= p_2 \cdots p_n \\ &= q_2 \cdots q_k. \end{aligned}$$

That is,  $n_*/p_1$  is a smaller counter-example. **FISHY!** ■

Cryptography 101: Alice and Bob wish to securely exchange the prime  $M$



**Example.**

Alice Encrypts:  $M_* = M \times k$  ( $k$  is a shared secret – private key)

Alice and Bob know  $k$ , Charlie does not.

Bob Decrypts:  $M' = M_*/k = M \times k/k = M$ . (Hooray,  $M' = M$  and Charlie is in the dark.)

Secure as long as Charlie cannot factor  $M'$  into  $k$  and  $M$ . (Factoring is HARD)

One time use. For two *cypher-texts*,  $k = \gcd(M_{1*}, M_{2*})$ .

To improve, we need modular arithmetic.

Modular Arithmetic

$$a \equiv b \pmod{d} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad d|(a - b), \quad \text{i.e. } a - b = kd \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$41 \equiv 79 \pmod{19} \quad \text{because} \quad 41 - 79 = -38 = -2 \cdot 19.$$

**Modular Equivalence Properties.**

Suppose  $a \equiv b \pmod{d}$ , i.e.  $a = b + kd$ , and  $r \equiv s \pmod{d}$ , i.e.  $r = s + ld$ . Then,

$$(a) \ ar \equiv bs \pmod{d}. \quad (b) \ a + r \equiv b + s \pmod{d}. \quad (c) \ a^n \equiv b^n \pmod{d}.$$

$\begin{aligned} ar - bs &= (b + kd)(s + ld) - bs \\ &= d(ks + bl + kld). \end{aligned}$ <p>That is <math>d ar - bs</math>.</p>	$\begin{aligned} (a + r) - (b + s) &= (b + kd + s + ld) - b - s \\ &= d(k + l). \end{aligned}$ <p>That is <math>d (a + r) - (b + s)</math>.</p>	<p>Repeated application of (a) Induction.</p>
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Addition and multiplication are just like regular arithmetic.

**Example.** What is the last digit of  $3^{2017}$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} 3^2 &\equiv -1 \pmod{10} \\ \rightarrow (3^2)^{1008} &\equiv (-1)^{1008} \pmod{10} \\ \rightarrow 3 \cdot (3^2)^{1008} &\equiv 3 \cdot (-1)^{1008} \pmod{10} \\ &\equiv 3 \end{aligned}$$

## Modular Division is Not Like Regular Arithmetic

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 15 \cdot 8 \equiv 13 \cdot 8 \pmod{12} & 15 \cdot 8 \equiv 2 \cdot 8 \pmod{13} & 7 \cdot 8 \equiv 22 \cdot 8 \pmod{15} \\
 15 \not\equiv 13 \pmod{12} \quad \times & 15 \equiv 2 \pmod{13} \quad \checkmark & 7 \equiv 22 \pmod{15} \quad \checkmark
 \end{array}$$

**Modular Division:** cancelling a factor from both sides

Suppose  $ac \equiv bc \pmod{d}$ . You can cancel  $c$  to get  $a \equiv b \pmod{d}$  if  $\gcd(c, d) = 1$ .

*Proof.*  $d|c(a - b)$ . By GCD fact (v),  $d|a - b$  because  $\gcd(c, d) = 1$ . ■

If  $d$  is prime, then division with prime modulus is pretty much like regular division.

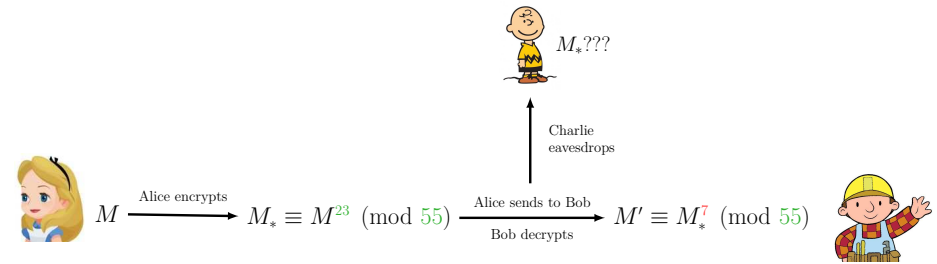
**Modular Inverse.** Inverses do not exist in  $\mathbb{N}$ . Modular inverse may exist.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 3 \times n = 1 & n = ? \\
 3 \times n = 1 \pmod{7} & n = 5
 \end{array}$$

## RSA Public Key Cryptography Uses Modular Arithmetic

Bob broadcasts to the world the numbers 23, 55.

(Bob's RSA *public key*).



**Examples.** Does Bob always decode to the correct message?

$M = 2.$	$M_* = 8$	$M' = 2$	$M' = M$ 😊
	$2^{23} \equiv 8 \pmod{55}$	$8^7 \equiv 2 \pmod{55}$	
$M = 3.$	$M_* = 27$	$M' = 3$	$M' = M$ 😊
	$3^{23} \equiv 27 \pmod{55}$	$27^7 \equiv 3 \pmod{55}$	

**Exercise 10.14.** Proof that Bob always decodes to the right message for special 55, 23 and 7. (How to get them?)

**Practical Implementation.** Good idea to pad with random bits to make the cypher text random.