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Outline: Number theory & number-theoretic groups

- Divisors & GCD algorithm
- multiplicative inverses using extended gcd alg.
- orders of elements; Euler's theorem
- generators & discrete logarithms (DLP)
- finding generators
- public key crypto based on DLP
- number-theoretic groups

GCD

- $d$  is a divisor of  $a$  if  $d \geq 0$  &  $d | a$
- $d | a \equiv a$  is a multiple of  $d \equiv (\exists k) a = d \cdot k$  "d divides a"
- $(\forall d) d | 0$        $(\forall a) 1 | a$
- If  $d$  is a divisor of  $a$  &  $d$  is a divisor of  $b$ , then  $d$  is a common divisor of  $a$  &  $b$ .
- The greatest common divisor of  $a$  &  $b$  is the largest of their common divisors. [But  $\text{gcd}(0,0) = 0$  by defn.]
- Ex:  $\text{gcd}(24, 30) = 6$        $\text{gcd}(5, 0) = 5$   
 $\text{gcd}(33, 12) = 3$
- Def:  $a$  &  $b$  are relatively prime if  $\text{gcd}(a, b) = 1$
- Euclid's alg for  $\text{gcd}(a, b)$  [ $a, b \geq 0$ ]

$$\text{gcd}(a, b) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } b = 0 \\ \text{gcd}(b, a \bmod b) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

• Ex:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{gcd}(7, 5) &= \text{gcd}(5, 2) \\ &= \text{gcd}(2, 1) \\ &= \text{gcd}(1, 0) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

• Thm  $(\forall a, b) (\exists x, y) ax + by = \text{gcd}(a, b)$

• Proof by example:

$$\begin{aligned} 7 &= 7 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 0 \\ 5 &= 7 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 1 \\ 2 &= 7 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot (-1) \\ 1 &= 7 \cdot (-2) + 5 \cdot 3 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} 7 &= 7 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 0 \\ 5 &= 7 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 1 \\ 2 &= 7 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot (-1) \\ 1 &= 7 \cdot (-2) + 5 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{initial values}$$

$$1 = \frac{7}{a} \frac{-2}{x} + \frac{5}{b} \frac{3}{y}$$

[Running time is polynomial; essentially  $\lg(a) \cdot \lg(b)$  bit operations]



Modular inverses

Suppose  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$   $1 \leq a < p$  &  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  ( $p$  prime?)

How to compute  $a^{-1} \pmod{p}$ ?

$$a^{-1} \equiv a^{p-2} \pmod{p} \quad \text{if } p \text{ is prime}$$

Otherwise:

$$\text{Find } x, y \text{ s.t. } ax + py = 1$$

$$ax = 1 \pmod{p}$$

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

$$[\text{E.g. } 5^{-1} \equiv 3 \pmod{7}]$$

Orders of elements (in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ )

Recall:  $(\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*) a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  [Fermat's Little Theorem]

In general:  $|\mathbb{Z}_n^*| = |\{a : \gcd(a, n) = 1\}| = \varphi(n)$

$$\text{e.g. } \mathbb{Z}_{10}^* = \{1, 3, 7, 9\} \quad \varphi(10) = 4$$

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

If  $p$  prime, then  $\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  &  $\varphi(p) = p-1$ .

Thm: [Euler]  $(\forall n) a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

Def:  $\text{order}_n(a) =$  "order of  $a$ , modulo  $n$ "  
 $=$  least positive  $t$  s.t.  $a^t \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

Example: mod 7

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	...	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	order(1) = 1
2	2	4	1	2	4	1	2	...	order(2) = 3
3	3	2	6	4	5	1	3	...	order(3) = 6
4	4	2	1	4	2	1	4	...	order(4) = 3
5	5	4	6	2	3	1	5	...	order(5) = 6
6	6	1	6	1	6	1			order(6) = 2

\* Fermat

Def:  $\langle a \rangle = \{a^i : i \geq 0\}$

Thm:  $order(a) = |\langle a \rangle|$

subgroup generated by a  
(  $\langle 2 \rangle = \{2, 4, 1\}$  )

Thm:  $order_p(a) \mid p-1$

p prime

Thm:  $|\langle a \rangle| \mid |\mathbb{Z}_n^*|$   
 $order_n(a) \quad \varphi(n)$

general

Def: If  $order(g) = p-1$  then g is a generator of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ .  
(i.e.  $\langle g \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ )

Thm: If g is a generator mod p, then

$$g^x = y \pmod{p}$$

has a unique soln x,  $0 \leq x < p-1$ , for each  $y \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ .

x is the "discrete log" of y, base g, modulo p.



(i.e.  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is cyclic)

Thm:  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  has a generator, iff  
 $n$  is ~~prime or a prime power~~  
 $2, 4, p^m, \text{ or } 2p^m$  for prime  $p$  &  $m \geq 1$ .

Thm: If  $p$  is prime, #generators modulo  $p$  is  $\phi(p-1)$

E.g.  $p = 11$

$$|\mathbb{Z}_p^*| = \phi(11) = 10 \quad \mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$$

how many generators?

$$\phi(10) = 4$$

generators are 2, 6, 7, 8

How to find them?

In general, requires knowledge of factorization of  $p-1$ .

Def:  $p$  is a "safe prime" (Sophie Germain) if

$$p = 2q + 1 \quad (\text{for } q \text{ prime})$$

Ex:  $p = 2 \cdot 5 + 1$

$$p = 2 \cdot 29 + 1$$

$$p = 2 \cdot 11 + 1$$

$$p = 2 \cdot 23 + 1$$

If  $p$  is a "safe prime" then  $\text{order}_p(a) \in \underbrace{\{1, 2, q, 2q\}}_{\text{divisors of } p-1}$

$g$  is a generator mod  $p = 2q + 1$

if  $g^{p-1} = 1$

( $\checkmark \geq b$ , Fermat's): no need to check)

&  $g^2 \neq 1$

&  $g^q \neq 1$

} check it

Thm: If  $p$  is prime, then

$$\varphi(p-1) = \# \text{generators mod } p \geq \frac{p-1}{6 \ln \ln(p-1)}$$

(i.e., they are dense, in general)

Thm: If  $p$  is <sup>"safe"</sup> prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(p-1) &= \# \text{generators mod } p \\ &= \frac{p-1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(almost half of them!)

Generate & test works very well!



## Common public-key setup:

- Public system parameters:  $p$  large prime (1024 bits)  
 $g$  generator mod  $p$
- Alice chooses  $x$   $0 \leq x < p-1$  as her secret key
- Alice publishes  $y = g^x \pmod{p}$  as her public key
- Secrecy of  $x$  protected by difficulty of computing discrete logs

~~the discrete log problem~~

$$\log_{g,p}(y) = x$$

- Commonly assumed that DLP (discrete log problem) is infeasible, for  $p$  large & random, or  $p$  s.t.  $p-1$  has large prime factor (e.g.  $p = \text{safe prime}$ ).
- About as hard as to factor # of same size as  $p$ .  
(Empirical statement, not a theorem.)

Crypto groups:

- $\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{a : 1 \leq a < p\}$      $|\mathbb{Z}_p^*| = p-1$   
 often  $p = 2r+1$ ,  $r$  prime,  $p =$  "safe prime"  
 always "cyclic":  $(\exists g) \langle g \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_p^*$   
 $= (\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*) (\exists k) g^k = a$

- $Q_p =$  quadratic residues mod  $p \subsetneq \mathbb{Z}_p^*$   
 $= \{a^2 : 1 \leq a < p\}$

$$|Q_p| = \frac{1}{2} |\mathbb{Z}_p^*| = \frac{p-1}{2}$$

cyclic: if  $\langle g \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , then  $\langle g^2 \rangle = Q_p$

$$Q_p = \{g^{2i} : 0 \leq i < (p-1)/2\}$$

If  $p = 2r+1$ :  $|Q_p| = r$  & any element in  $Q_p \neq 1$  generates  $Q_p$

- $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{a : \gcd(a, n) = 1 \text{ \& } 1 \leq a < n\}$

$$|\mathbb{Z}_n^*| \triangleq \phi(n)$$

if  $n = p \cdot q$  &  $p, q$  distinct odd primes:  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  not cyclic

$$\mathbb{Z}_n^* \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^* \times \mathbb{Z}_q^* \quad (\text{CRT})$$

- $Q_n^* = \{a^2 : 1 \leq a < n \text{ \& } \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$

~~not~~ if  $n = pg$  (distinct odd primes):  $p = 2r+1, q = 2s+1$

$$|Q_n| = rs$$

$Q_n$  is cyclic