

CIS 3362 - 10/16/23

Primality Testing : Miller-Rabin Primality Test

Orig alg - trial division $O(\sqrt{n})$, but if $n \sim 10^{200}$, this isn't viable!!!

Properties of prime #s.

Fermat's Thm if p prime $\gcd(a, p) = 1$,
then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

if n is composite a^{n-1} frequently $\not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

BASIC IDEA

- (1) pick random a
- (2) calc $a^{n-1} \pmod{n}$
- (3) if $a^{n-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow$ COMPOSITE
else $\Rightarrow$ "PROBABLY PRIME"

HOW TO IMPROVE

if prob given a comp n that
 $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n} \leq 50\%$

why not test a bunch of different
values of a ?

IMPROVED IDEA

Repeat 100 times =
pick random a ($2 \leq a \leq n-2$)
calc $a^{n-1} \bmod n$ if $\gcd(a, n) \neq 1$
return COMPOSITE
if ans $\neq 1$
return COMPOSITE
return "PROBABLY PRIME"

pretty close to the MILLER-RABIN
PRIMALITY TEST

Special #s called Carmichael #s.

(1) Composite

(2) if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

Carmichael # would almost always
"appear prime" to our primality test.

If n is actually prime, we know that
 $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ and that the cycle size
for exponentiating a divides evenly into $n-1$.
 $1^2 = 1$, but also $(-1)^2 = 1$

Imagine calculating $a^{n-1}, a^{\frac{n-1}{2}}, a^{\frac{n-1}{4}}, a^{\frac{n-1}{8}}, \dots$ (if n is prime there's a good chance we'll see a -1 in this chain)



Miller Rabin says:

when testing n for primality

first rewrite $n-1 = 2^k \cdot m, m \in \text{odd}$

Repeat 100 times:

Choose random a $2 \leq a \leq n-2$

Compute $b = a^m \bmod n$

if $b == 1$ continue $\rightarrow \text{comp} = \text{true}$

for ($i = 0; i < k; i++$)

if $b == -1 \pmod{n}$ break; $\rightarrow \text{comp} = \text{false}$

else

$b = (b * b) \bmod n$ // squares b

* if comp return COMPOSITE

return PROBABLY PRIME

this never happens most of the time for the Carmichael #s

Run Miller Rabin for

$$n = 561$$

$$n-1 = 560 = 8 \times 70 = 16 \times 35 = 2^4 \times 35$$

$$k=4, m=35$$

pick $a=7$

Calculate

$$k=0 \text{ to } 4$$

$$7^{35} \bmod 561 \rightarrow \text{241}$$

$$7^{70} \equiv 241^2 \bmod 561 \rightarrow 298$$

$$7^{140} \equiv 298^2 \bmod 561 \rightarrow 166$$

$$7^{280} \equiv 166^2 \bmod 561 \rightarrow 67$$

$$7^{560} \equiv 67^2 \bmod 561 \rightarrow 1$$

$$n=37$$

$$n-1 = 36 = 2^2 \times 9$$

$$a=5$$

$$1. 5^9 \bmod 37 = 6 \quad \checkmark$$

$$2. 5^{18} = 6^2 \bmod 37 = 36 \equiv -1 \bmod 37$$

passes

$$3. 5^{36} = (-1)^2 \bmod 37 = 1$$

$$\text{Prob Success} \geq 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{100}$$

quite good!