Discrete Mathematics & Mathematical Reasoning Multiplicative Inverses and Some Cryptography

Colin Stirling

Informatics

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- Notice gcd(8, 15) = 1 whereas gcd(12, 15) = 3

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Theorem

If m, x are positive integers and gcd(m, x) = 1 then x has a multiplicative inverse mod m (and it is unique mod m)

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Proof.

By Bézout's theorem there are s and t such that

$$sm + tx = 1 = \gcd(m, x)$$

So, $sm + tx \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. As $sm \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$, so $tx \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. For uniqueness mod *m*. Assume $tx \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ and $ux \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. Therefore, $tx \equiv ux \pmod{m}$. Since gcd(m, x) = 1 it follows that $t \equiv u \pmod{m}$.

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Compute the multiplicative inverse using extended euclidean algorithm

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- $x = 140 + 63 + 75 = 278 \equiv 68 \pmod{105}$

Fermat's little theorem

Theorem

If p is prime and p $\not|a$, then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. Furthermore, for every integer a we have $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$

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Proof.

Assume $p \not| a$ and so, therefore, gcd(p, a) = 1. Then a, 2a, ..., (p-1)a are not pairwise congruent modulo p; if $ia \equiv ja \pmod{p}$ because gcd(p, a) = 1 then $i \equiv j \pmod{p}$ which is impossible. Therefore, each element $ja \mod p$ is a distinct element in the set $\{1, ..., p-1\}$. This means that the product $a \cdot 2a \cdots (p-1)a \equiv 1 \cdot 2 \cdots p - 1 \pmod{p}$. Therefore, $(p-1)!a^{p-1} \equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p}$. Now because gcd(p,q) = 1 for $1 \leq q \leq p - 1$ it follows that $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. Therefore, also $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ and when p|a then clearly $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$.

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• Find 7²²² mod 11

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• $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$ because $2^{10} \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$

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- The challenge: De can't be feasibly computed from En; and given En(M) one can't feasibly compute M

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RSA Cryptosystem: Rivest, Shamir and Adleman

• Choose two distinct prime numbers *p* and *q*

- Let n = pq and k = (p 1)(q 1)
- Choose integer *e* where 1 < e < k and gcd(e, k) = 1
- (*n*, *e*) is released as the public key
- Let *d* be the multiplicative inverse of *e* modulo *k*, so *de* ≡ 1 (mod *k*)
- (n, d) is the private key and kept secret

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- Given *m*, she can recover the original message *M* by reversing the padding scheme

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- So decrypted message is HELP

RSA: correctness of decryption

Given that $c = m^e \mod n$, is $m = c^d \mod n$?

$$c^d = (m^e)^d \equiv m^{ed} \pmod{n}$$

By construction, *d* and *e* are each others multiplicative inverses modulo *k*, i.e. $ed \equiv 1 \pmod{k}$. Also k = (p-1)(q-1). Thus ed - 1 = h(p-1)(q-1) for some integer *h*. We consider $m^{ed} \mod p$ If $p \not\mid m$ then $m^{ed} = m^{h(p-1)(q-1)}m = (m^{p-1})^{h(q-1)}m \equiv 1^{h(q-1)}m \equiv m \pmod{p}$ (by Fermat's little theorem) Otherwise $m^{ed} \equiv 0 \equiv m \pmod{p}$ Symmetrically, $m^{ed} \equiv m \pmod{p}$ Since *p*, *q* are distinct primes, we have $m^{ed} \equiv m \pmod{pq}$. Since n = pq, we have $c^d = m^{ed} \equiv m \pmod{n}$