

# 15-251

## Great Theoretical Ideas in Computer Science

## Number Theory, Cryptography and RSA

Lecture 15, October 13, 2009)



$$a^{p-1} \equiv_p 1$$

The reduced system modulo  $n$ :

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$$

Define operations  $+_n$  and  $*_n$ :

$$a +_n b = (a+b \bmod n)$$

$$a *_n b = (a*b \bmod n)$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$$

$$a +_n b = (a+b \bmod n)$$

$$a *_n b = (a*b \bmod n)$$

$+_n$  and  $*_n$  are  
commutative and associative  
binary operators  
from  $\mathbb{Z}_n * \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$

The reduced system  
 $\mathbb{Z}_6 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

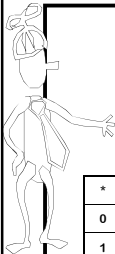
+	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5	0
2	2	3	4	5	0	1
3	3	4	5	0	1	2
4	4	5	0	1	2	3
5	5	0	1	2	3	4

An operator has  
the permutation  
property if each  
row and each  
column has a  
permutation of  
the elements.

For every  $n$ ,  $+_n$  on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  has the  
permutation property

+	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5	0
2	2	3	4	5	0	1
3	3	4	5	0	1	2
4	4	5	0	1	2	3
5	5	0	1	2	3	4


An operator has  
the permutation  
property if each  
row and each  
column has a  
permutation of  
the elements.



**What about multiplication?**  
Does  $\ast_6$  on  $Z_6$  have the permutation property? No

*	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	4	0	2	4
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	4	2	0	4	2
5	0	5	4	3	2	1


An operator has the permutation property if each row and each column has a permutation of the elements.



**Fundamental lemma of plus, minus, and times modulo n:**

If  $(x \equiv_n y)$  and  $(a \equiv_n b)$ . Then

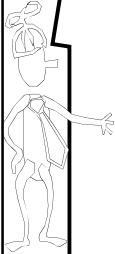
- 1)  $x + a \equiv_n y + b$
- 2)  $x - a \equiv_n y - b$
- 3)  $x \ast a \equiv_n y \ast b$



**Is there a fundamental lemma of division modulo n?**

$cx \equiv_n cy \Rightarrow x \equiv_n y$  ?

**No!**




**When can't I divide by c?**

If  $\text{GCD}(c, n) > 1$  then you can't always divide by c.

**Fundamental lemma of division modulo n.**  
If  $\text{GCD}(c, n) = 1$ , then  $ca \equiv_n cb \Rightarrow a \equiv_n b$

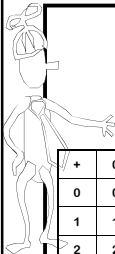
**So**  
Consider the set  
 $Z_n^* = \{x \in Z_n \mid \text{GCD}(x, n) = 1\}$

**Multiplication over this set  $Z_n^*$  will have the cancellation property.**



**Euler Phi Function  $\phi(n)$**


Define  $\phi(n)$   
= size of  $Z_n^*$   
= number of  $1 \leq k < n$  that are relatively prime to n.



$Z_6 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$   
 $Z_6^* = \{1, 5\}$

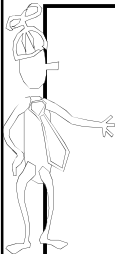
+	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5	0
2	2	3	4	5	0	1
3	3	4	5	0	1	2
4	4	5	0	1	2	3
5	5	0	1	2	3	4

*	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	4	0	2	4
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	4	2	0	4	2
5	0	5	4	3	2	1



$Z_{12}^* = \{0 \leq x < 12 \mid \gcd(x, 12) = 1\}$   
 $= \{1, 5, 7, 11\}$   $\phi(12) = 4$

$\cdot_{12}$	1	5	7	11
1	1	5	7	11
5	5	1	11	7
7	7	11	1	5
11	11	7	5	1



$Z_5^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} = Z_5 \setminus \{0\}$

$\cdot_5$	1	2	3	4
1	1	2	3	4
2	2	4	1	3
3	3	1	4	2
4	4	3	2	1

For all primes  $p$ ,  $Z_p^* = Z_p \setminus \{0\}$ ,  
 since all  $0 < x < p$  satisfy  $\gcd(x, p) = 1$

If  $p$  prime  
 then  $\phi(p) = (p-1)$

If  $p, q$  distinct primes  
 then  $\phi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$

If  $p$  prime  
 then  $\phi(p^2) = ?$

**What are the properties of  $Z_n^*$**

For  $\cdot_n$  on  $Z_n^*$  the following properties hold

[Closure]  $x, y \in Z_n \Rightarrow x \cdot_n y \in Z_n$


[Associativity]  $x, y, z \in Z_n \Rightarrow (x \cdot_n y) \cdot_n z = x \cdot_n (y \cdot_n z)$


[Commutativity]  $x, y \in Z_n \Rightarrow x \cdot_n y = y \cdot_n x$

The additive inverse of  $a \in Z_n$   
 is the unique  $b \in Z_n$  such that  
 $a +_n b \equiv_n 0$ .

We denote this inverse by “ $-a$ ”.

It is trivial to calculate:  
 “ $-a$ ” =  $(n-a)$ .






**Efficient algorithm to find multiplicative inverse  $a^{-1}$  from  $a$  and  $n$ .**

Extended Euclidean Algorithm( $a, n$ )

Get  $r, s$  such that  $ra + sn = \gcd(a, n) = 1$

So  $ra \equiv 1$

Output:  $r$  is the multiplicative inverse of  $a$



$Z_n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$   
 $Z_n^* = \{x \in Z_n \mid \gcd(x, n) = 1\}$

Define  $+_n$  and  $*_n$ :

$$a +_n b = (a+b \bmod n)$$

$$a *_n b = (a*b \bmod n)$$

$\langle Z_n, +_n \rangle$	$\langle Z_n^*, *_n \rangle$
1. Closed	1. Closed
2. Associative	2. Associative
3. 0 is identity	3. 1 is identity
4. Additive Inverses	4. Multiplicative Inverses
5. Cancellation	5. Cancellation
6. Commutative	6. Commutative

$$c *_n (a +_n b) \equiv_n (c *_n a) +_n (c *_n b)$$


new stuff starts here...

**Fundamental Lemmas until now**

For  $x, y, a, b$  in  $Z_n$ , ( $x \equiv_n y$ ) and ( $a \equiv_n b$ ).  
 Then

- 1)  $x + a \equiv_n y + b$
- 2)  $x - a \equiv_n y - b$
- 3)  $x * a \equiv_n y * b$

For  $a, b, c$  in  $Z_n^*$   
 then  $ca \equiv_n cb \Rightarrow a \equiv_n b$




~~Fundamental lemma of powers?~~

If ( $a \equiv_n b$ )  
 Then  $x^a \equiv_n x^b$  ?

**NO!**

( $2 \equiv_3 5$ ) , but it is not the case that:  
 $2^2 \equiv_3 2^5$



By the permutation property, two names for the same set:


$$Z_n^* = aZ_n^*$$

where

$$aZ_n^* = \{a *_n x \mid x \in Z_n^*\}, a \in Z_n^*$$

Example:  
 $Z_5^*$

*	1	2	3	4
1	1	2	3	4
2	2	4	1	3
a	3	1	4	2
4	4	3	2	1



Two products on the same set:


$$Z_n^* = aZ_n^*$$

$$aZ_n^* = \{a \cdot_n x \mid x \in Z_n^*\}, a \in Z_n^*$$

$$\prod x \equiv_n \prod ax \text{ [as } x \text{ ranges over } Z_n^*]$$

$$\prod x \equiv_n \prod x \text{ (} a^{\text{size of } Z_n^*} \text{) [Commutativity]}$$

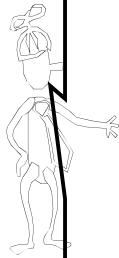
$$1 \equiv_n a^{\text{size of } Z_n^*} \text{ [Cancellation]}$$

$$a^{\Phi(n)} \equiv_n 1$$


**Euler's Theorem**

$$a \in Z_n^*, a^{\Phi(n)} \equiv_n 1$$

**Fermat's Little Theorem**


$$p \text{ prime, } a \in Z_p^* \Rightarrow a^{p-1} \equiv_p 1$$


**(Correct) Fundamental lemma of powers.**

Suppose  $x \in Z_n^*$ , and  $a, b, n$  are naturals.

If  $a \equiv_{\Phi(n)} b$  Then  $x^a \equiv_n x^b$


Equivalently,  
 $x^a \equiv_n x^{a \bmod \Phi(n)}$



**Defining negative powers**

Suppose  $x \in Z_n^*$ , and  $a, n$  are naturals.

$x^{-a}$  is defined to be the multiplicative inverse of  $x^a$

$$x^{-a} = (x^a)^{-1}$$


**Rule of integer exponents**

Suppose  $x, y \in Z_n^*$ , and  $a, b$  are integers.

$$(xy)^{-1} \equiv_n x^{-1} y^{-1}$$

$$x^a x^b \equiv_n x^{a+b}$$

**A note about exponentiation**

## How do you calculate

$26666666666661 \bmod 7$

Fundamental lemma of powers.

Suppose  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , and  $a, n$  are naturals.

$$x^a \equiv_n x^{a \bmod \phi(n)}$$

For  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ ,  $x^a \bmod n = x^{a \bmod \phi(n)} \bmod n$

## Time to compute

To compute  $a^x \bmod n$  for  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$   
first, get  $x' = x \bmod \phi(n)$

By Euler's theorem:  $a^x = a^{x'} \bmod n$

Hence, we can calculate  $a^{x'}$  where  $x' < n$ .

But still that might take  $x'-1 \approx n$  steps  
if we calculate  $a, a^2, a^3, a^4, \dots, a^{x'}$

## Faster exponentiation

How do you compute  $a^{x'}$  fast?

Suppose  $x' = 2^k$

Suppose  $2^k \leq x' < 2^{k+1}$

$a$	$a$	} multiply together the appropriate powers
$\rightarrow a^2 \bmod n$	$\rightarrow a^2 \bmod n$	
$\rightarrow a^4 \bmod n$	$\rightarrow a^4 \bmod n$	
...	...	
$\rightarrow a^{2^{k-1}} \bmod n$	$\rightarrow a^{2^{k-1}} \bmod n$	
$\rightarrow a^{2^k} \bmod n$	$\rightarrow a^{2^k} \bmod n$	

## How much time did this take?

Only  $2 \log x'$  multiplications

Instead of  $(x'-1)$  multiplications

Ok, back to number theory

## Agreeing on a secret

Alice and Bob have never talked before  
but they want to agree on a secret...

How can they do this?

## Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Alice:

Picks prime  $p$ , and a value  $g$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$

Picks random  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$

Sends over  $p, g, g^a \pmod{p}$

Bob:

Picks random  $b$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ; and sends over  $g^b \pmod{p}$

Now both can compute  $g^{ab} \pmod{p}$

## What about Eve?

Alice:

Picks prime  $p$ , and a value  $g$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$

Picks random  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$

Sends over  $p, g, g^a \pmod{p}$

Bob:

Picks random  $b$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , and sends over  $g^b \pmod{p}$

Now both can compute  $g^{ab} \pmod{p}$

If Eve's just listening in,  
she sees  $p, g, g^a, g^b$

It's believed that computing  $g^{ab} \pmod{p}$  from just  
this information is not easy...

btw, discrete logarithms seem hard

Discrete-Log:

Given  $p, g, g^a \pmod{p}$ , compute  $a$

How fast can you do this?

If you can do discrete-logs fast,  
you can solve the Diffie-Hellman problem fast.

How about the other way? If you can break the DH  
key exchange protocol, do discrete logs fast?

## The RSA Cryptosystem

## Our dramatis personae



Rivest



Shamir



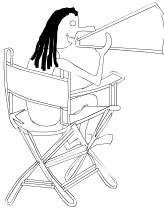
Adleman



Euler




Fermat



Pick secret, random large primes:  $p, q$   
 Multiply  $n = p * q$   
 "Publish":  $n$


$\phi(n) = \phi(p) \phi(q) = (p-1) * (q-1)$   
 Pick random  $e \in \mathbb{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*$   
 "Publish":  $e$

Compute  $d = \text{inverse of } e \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*$   
 Hence,  $e * d = 1 \pmod{\phi(n)}$   
 "Private Key":  $d$



$p, q$  random primes  
 $e$  random  $\in \mathbb{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*$   
 $n = p * q$   
 $e * d = 1 \pmod{\phi(n)}$

$n, e$  is my public key.  
 Use it to send me a message.



$p, q$  prime,  $e$  random  $\in \mathbb{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*$   
 $n = p * q$   
 $e * d = 1 \pmod{\phi(n)}$

$n, e$

message  $m$

$m^e \pmod{n}$

$(m^e)^d \equiv_n m$

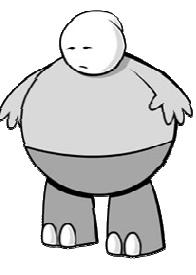


### How hard is cracking RSA?

If we can factor products of two large primes,  
 can we crack RSA?

If we know  $\phi(n)$ , can we crack RSA?

How about the other way? Does cracking RSA  
 mean we must do one of these two?  
 We don't know..



Here's What  
 You Need to  
 Know...

- Fundamental lemma of powers
- Euler phi function  $\phi(n) = |\mathbb{Z}_n^*|$
- Euler's theorem
- Fermat's little theorem
- Fast exponentiation
- Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange
- RSA algorithm