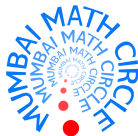


GCD and Chinese Remainder Theorem

Amitava Bhattacharya

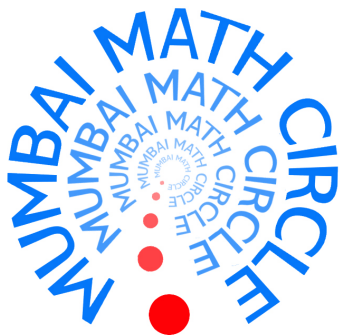
TIFR, Mumbai

2 Jan 2021



Mumbai Math Circle is a collaboration of TIFR and St Xaviers College Mumbai.





Designed by *Sukant Saran* (www.sukantsaran.in)

There are infinitely many prime numbers

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This implies there is at least 1 more prime.

Fermat number

For $n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

$$F(n) := 2^{2^n} + 1$$

3, 5, 17, 257, 65537, 4294967297, 18446744073709551617, ...

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Any two Fermat numbers are relatively prime.

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$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a) = \gcd(a - b, b)$ if $a > b$

Exercise: Consider the number $2^p - 1$ where p is a prime. Show that all its prime factors are greater than p .

Exercise: Consider any polynomial $P(x)$. Show that the sequence $P(0), P(1), \dots$ cannot be only prime numbers.

Frustenberg's proof: (Mercer's note)

Notation: All integers congruent to $r \pmod m$ is denoted by $r + m\mathbb{Z}$ and they are called AP.

Example:

$$3 + 11\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -30, -19, -8, 3, 14, 25, 36, \dots\}$$

For $m > 1$, set of integers not divisible (ND) by m are as

$$(1 + m\mathbb{Z}) \cup \dots \cup ((m - 1) + m\mathbb{Z}).$$

Assertion 1: Intersection of two AP's is either empty or infinite.

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Assertion 2: Finite intersection of finite unions of sets is also a finite union of finite intersections of sets.

Example:

$$(A \cup B \cup C) \cap (D \cup E) \cap (F \cup G) = (A \cap D \cap F) \cup (\dots)$$

Proof: If p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k is the set of all primes then

$$\{-1, 1\} = ND(p_1) \cap ND(p_2) \dots \cap ND(p_k)$$

RHS is either empty or infinite!

$$\mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} \cdots \rightarrow \infty$$

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What about prime numbers ?

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{11} + \cdots = ?$$

We give a proof by Erdős.

Paul Erdős (Hungarian: 1913 –1996)

Erdős published around 1,500 mathematical papers during his lifetime.



Suppose

$$\frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_2} + \frac{1}{p_3} + \cdots = M$$

(p_i 's are in increasing order) Then there must be a k such that

$$\sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p_i} < \frac{1}{2}$$

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Let $P_s = p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k$ be called small primes and $P_b := p_{k+1}, p_{k+2}, \dots$ be called big primes.

For any natural number N we must have

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Clearly $N_b + N_s = N$.

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Clearly $N_b + N_s = N$.

We will show that for a suitable N , $N_s + N_b < N$, a contradiction.

$$N_b \leq \sum_{i>k} \left\lfloor \frac{N}{p_i} \right\rfloor < \frac{N}{2}$$

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To estimate N_s , write $n < N$ as $n = ab^2$. a squarefree part and a squared part.

Total choices number of for square free part is at most 2^k .

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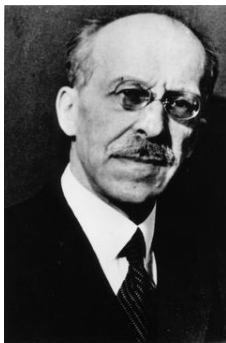
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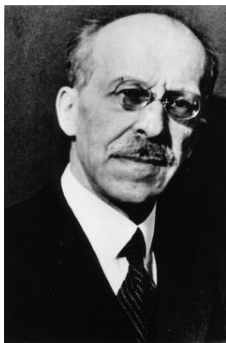
For contradiction find N such that $2^k \sqrt{N} < \frac{N}{2}$.



I. Schur



Issai Schur (1875–1941) was a Russian mathematician who worked in Germany. He was a student of the great group theorist Frobenius. Schur worked in various areas and proved many deep results in representation theory.



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Let $P(x)$ be a non-constant polynomial with integer coefficients. Then $\{P(i) : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ has infinitely many prime divisors.
(see Lemma 3 in <https://mast.queensu.ca/~murty/poly2.pdf>)

Christian Elsholtz: Prime divisors of thin sequences, Amer. Math. Monthly 119 (2012), 331–333

Let $S := \{s_1, s_2, \dots\} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ be a sequence of integers such that

- 1 No integer appears more than c times.
- 2 S has subexponential growth i.e. $|s_n| < 2^{2^{f(n)}}$ where $\frac{f(n)}{\log_2 n} \rightarrow 0$. ($f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$)

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Theorem: If a set S is “almost” injective and of sub-exponential growth (the above two conditions) then the set of prime numbers P_S that divide a member of S is infinite.

The two conditions are clearly required. Suppose the first condition does not hold. Then consider the sequence $S := \{2, 4, 4, 8, 8, 8, 8, 16, \dots\}$.

The two conditions are clearly required. Suppose the first condition does not hold. Then consider the sequence

$$S := \{2, 4, 4, 8, 8, 8, 8, 16, \dots\}.$$

If the second condition does not hold then the sequence $\{2^i 3^j\}$, $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ arranged in increasing order has $\frac{f(n)}{\log_2 n} \sim \frac{1}{2}$

Without loss of generality assume $f(n)$ is increasing.

Without loss of generality assume $f(n)$ is increasing.

Otherwise redefine it as $g(n) := \max_{i \leq n} f(i)$.

Suppose $P_S = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$.

Then $s_n = \epsilon_n p_1^{\alpha_1} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$ where $\epsilon_n = \{-1, 0, +1\}$ and $\alpha_i \geq 0$

This implies

$$2^{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_k} \leq |s_n| \leq 2^{2^{f(n)}}$$

for $s(n) \neq 0$.

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_k \leq 2^{f(n)} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k$$

.

$$\#\{|s(n)| \neq 0 \text{ and } n \leq N\} \leq (2^{f(N)} + 1)^k \leq 2^{(f(N)+1)k}.$$

$$\#\{|s(n)| \neq 0 \text{ and } n \leq N\} \geq \frac{N - c}{2c}$$

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$\log_2(N - c) - \log_2(2c) \leq k(f(N) + 1)$ for all N .

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$$\log_2(N - c) - \log_2(2c) \leq k(f(N) + 1) \text{ for all } N.$$

Divide both sides by $\log_2 N$. Then LHS goes to 1 and RHS goes to 0.

$$\frac{\log_2(N - c)}{\log_2 N} \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

and

$$\frac{f(N)}{\log_2 N} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty.$$

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and

$$\frac{f(N)}{\log_2 N} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty.$$

This is a contradiction.

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$$GCD(N, M) = \prod_p p^{\min(\alpha_p, \beta_p)}.$$

LCM – Least Common Multiple

$$LCM(4, 6) = 12, LCM(8, 9) = 72, LCM(8, 4) = 8, \dots$$

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Exercise: $GCD(N, M) \times LCM(M, N) = M \times N$.

How to find $GCD(N, M)$?

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$a \mid N$ and $a \mid M$ implies $a \mid (N + M)$ and $a \mid (N - M)$.

This generalizes to $a \mid N$ and $a \mid M$ implies $a \mid (xN + yM)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$.

This motivates us to consider the set

$$S(N, M) := \{xN + yM : x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

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Observations:

- (A) If $a \in S$ then all multiples of a are also in S .
- (B) There is a smallest positive number d in S .
- (C) $d \mid N$ and $d \mid M$

Proof of (C):

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$$N = d.q + r$$

(q quotient and r remainder)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= N - dq \\ &= N - q(aN + bM) \\ &= N(1 - a) - qbM \\ &= a'N + b'M \end{aligned}$$

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Let $g = \text{GCD}(N, M)$. We will show that $g = d$.

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Since d is smallest $d = g$

Bézout's identity

$GCD(N, M) = aN + bM$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$.

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Exercise: Generalize this question for $N_1, N_2, N_3, \dots, N_k$. Is it true ?

This leads to an algorithm to compute GCD .

Euclid: (300 B.C.)

Input: $N \geq M \geq 0$

Euclid (N, M)

1 if ($M == 0$)

2 then return N

3 else return *Euclid* ($M, N \bmod M$)

Input: X, Y

```
Set       $x, y, u, v := X, Y, Y, X;$   
do       $x > y \rightarrow x, v := x - y, v + u$   
         $\square$   $y > x \rightarrow y, u := y - x, u + v$   
od  
print    $\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{u+v}{2}$ 
```

Fibonacci numbers:

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 22, ...

$$F(n) = F(n - 1) + F(n - 2), \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

Examples:

Exercise: Number of ordered ways to partition n into parts greater than 1.

Exercise: Number of ordered ways to partition n into odd parts.

Exercise: Number of sequences of length n , consisting of 0's, 1's and 2's such that 1 does not follow a 0.

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Exercise: Number of sequences of length n , consisting of 0's, 1's and 2's such that 1 does not follow a 0.

(X is a Fibonacci number if one of $5X^2 \pm 4$ a perfect square.)

Assertion: If $N \geq M \geq 0$ and the procedure $Euclid(N, M)$ is repeated (invoked) L times, then $N \geq F(L + 2)$ and $M \geq F(L + 1)$. In particular if $M \leq F(L + 1)$ then the procedure is invoked at most L times.

Assertion: If $N \geq M \geq 0$ and the procedure $Euclid(N, M)$ is repeated (invoked) L times, then $N \geq F(L + 2)$ and $M \geq F(L + 1)$. In particular if $M \leq F(L + 1)$ then the procedure is invoked at most L times.

Exercise: Use induction to prove the above statement.

Solutions for all the Fibonacci related Exercises will be provided at a later date.

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Art of Computer Programming, Volume 2: Seminumerical Algorithms by Donald Knuth

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Page 333 – 379 (GCD algorithm) Page 346 *Euclids Algorithm*



“I have corrected every error that alert readers detected in the second edition (as well as some mistakes that, alas, nobody noticed); and I have tried to avoid introducing new errors in the new material. However, I suppose some defects still remain, and I want to fix them as soon as possible. Therefore I will cheerfully award \$2.56 to the first finder of each technical, typographical, or historical error. The webpage cited on page (iv) contains a current listing of all corrections that have been reported to me.”

– *Donald Knuth*

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MEMO

f2b.135

Donald Knuth

Congruence - Class of residues

$$x \equiv a \pmod{n}$$

Means n divides $x - a$.

Congruence - Class of residues

$$x \equiv a \pmod{n}$$

Means n divides $x - a$.

The different equivalent classes can be represented by $0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$.

Solve:

$$x = 1 \pmod{8}$$

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$$x = 1, 9, 17, 25, \dots$$

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$$x = 1 \pmod{8}$$

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$$x = 8k + 1 \text{ where } k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

Solve:

$$x^2 = 1 \pmod{8}$$

Solve:

$$x^2 = 1 \pmod{8}$$

$$x = 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, \dots$$

Properties of congruences.

$$a = b \pmod{n} \rightarrow b = a \pmod{n}$$

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$$a = a' \pmod{n}, b = b' \pmod{n} \Rightarrow a + b = a' + b' \pmod{n}$$

Exercise:

If $a = b \pmod m$ and $a = b \pmod n$ then

Exercise:

If $a = b \pmod m$ and $a = b \pmod n$ then

$$a = b \pmod{\text{lcm}(m, n)}$$

Solve The following system of Equations:

$$x = a_1 \pmod{n_1}$$

$$x = a_2 \pmod{n_2}$$

Given $GCD(n_1, n_2) = 1$

Case: $a_1 = a_2$

Case: $a_1 = a_2$

General case:

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General case:

Bézouts identity‘:

$$m_1n_1 + m_2n_2 = 1$$

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General case:

Bézouts identity':

$$m_1n_1 + m_2n_2 = 1$$

Set $x = a_1m_2n_2 + a_2m_1n_1$

Verification:

$$x = a_1 m_2 n_2 + a_2 m_1 n_1$$

Verification:

$$\begin{aligned}x &= a_1 m_2 n_2 + a_2 m_1 n_1 \\ &= a_1(1 - m_1 n_1) + a_2 m_1 n_1\end{aligned}$$

Verification:

$$\begin{aligned}x &= a_1 m_2 n_2 + a_2 m_1 n_1 \\ &= a_1 (1 - m_1 n_1) + a_2 m_1 n_1 \\ &= a_1 + (a_2 - a_1) m_1 n_1\end{aligned}$$

Verification:

$$\begin{aligned}x &= a_1 m_2 n_2 + a_2 m_1 n_1 \\ &= a_1(1 - m_1 n_1) + a_2 m_1 n_1 \\ &= a_1 + (a_2 - a_1)m_1 n_1\end{aligned}$$

This implies

$$x = a_1 \pmod{n_1}$$

What about k such equations ?

$$\begin{aligned}x &= a_1 \pmod{n_1} \\x &= a_2 \pmod{n_2} \\&\vdots \\x &= a_k \pmod{n_k}\end{aligned}$$

Where the n'_i s are pairwise co-prime, ($GCD(n_i, n_j) = 1$)

Let $N = \prod_{i=1}^k n_i$ and $N_i = \frac{N}{n_i}$.

Then we have

$$M_i N_i + m_i n_i = 1$$

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$$x = a_i M_i N_i \pmod{n_i} = a_i (1 - m_i n_i) \pmod{n_i} = a_i \pmod{n_i}.$$

This is true for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$