

# Preparing for Midterm 1

- These problems are taken from the lectures to help you prepare for our upcoming midterm exam. You can find solutions to all of these in the lecture sketches.
- Additional, more exam-like, practice problems are also posted to our course website.

$a$  is invertible modulo  $n \iff$

**Example 1.** Determine  $4^{-1} \pmod{13}$ .

**Example 2.** Solve  $4x \equiv 5 \pmod{13}$ .

**(Bézout's identity)** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  (not both zero). There exist  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

The integers  $x, y$  can be found using the **extended Euclidean algorithm**.

In particular, if  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , then  $a^{-1} \equiv$  .

**Example 3.** Find  $d = \gcd(17, 23)$  as well as integers  $r, s$  such that  $d = 17r + 23s$ .

**Example 4.** Determine  $17^{-1} \pmod{23}$ .

**Example 5.** Determine  $16^{-1} \pmod{25}$ .

**Definition 6.** Euler's phi function  $\phi(n)$  counts

If the prime factorization of  $n$  is  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$ , then  $\phi(n) =$  .

**Example 7.** Compute  $\phi(35)$ .

**Example 8.** Compute  $\phi(100)$ .

Our ultimate goal is to secure messaging (at least) against:

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**Example 9. (affine cipher)** A slight upgrade to the shift cipher, we encrypt each character as

$$E_{(a,b)}: x \mapsto ax + b \pmod{26}.$$

How does the decryption work? How large is the key space?

**Example 10.** Encrypt *HOLIDAY* using a Vigenere cipher with key *BAD*.

**Example 11.** In a few words, describe the following common kinds of attacks:

- ciphertext only attack
- known plaintext attack
- chosen plaintext attack
- chosen ciphertext attack

**Example 12.** Alice sends the ciphertext *BKNDKGBQ* to Bob. Somehow, Eve has learned that Alice is using the Vigenere cipher and that the plaintext is *ALLCLEAR*. Next day, Alice sends the message *DNFFQGE*. Crack it and figure out the key that Alice used! (What kind of attack is this?)

**Example 13. (substitution cipher)** In a substitution cipher, the key  $k$  is some permutation of the letters  $A, B, \dots, Z$ . For instance,  $k = FRA\dots$ . Then we encrypt  $A \rightarrow F$ ,  $B \rightarrow R$ ,  $C \rightarrow A$  and so on. How large is the key space?

**Example 14.** It seems convenient to add the space as a 27th letter in the historic encryption schemes. Can you think of a reason against doing that?

**Theorem 15. (Fermat's little theorem)**

**Theorem 16. (Euler's theorem)**

**Example 17.** Compute  $3^{1003} \pmod{101}$ .

**Example 18.** What are the last two (decimal) digits of  $3^{7082}$ ?

**Example 19.** Compute  $3^{25} \pmod{101}$ .

**Example 20.** Compute  $2^{20} \pmod{41}$ .

**Example 21.** Express 25 in base 2.

**Example 22.** Express 49 in base 2.

**Example 23.** What is  $(31)_8$  in decimal?

**Example 24.** What is ASCII?

**Example 25.** Compute:  $1011 \oplus 1111$

A **one-time pad** works as follows:

**Example 26.** Using a one-time pad with key  $k = 1100, 0011$ , what is the message  $m = 1010, 1010$  encrypted to?

If a one-time pad is used exactly once to encrypt a message, then perfect  is achieved.

**Example 27.** Alice made a mistake and encrypted the two plaintexts  $m_1, m_2$  using the same key  $k$ . How can Eve exploit that?

Using the one-time pad presents several challenges, including:

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**Example 28.** Explain why a ciphertext only attack on the one-time pad is entirely hopeless. What about the other attacks?

Yet, the one-time pad by itself provides little protection of .

**Example 29.** Alice sends an email to Bob using a one-time pad. Eve knows that and concludes that, per email standard, the plaintext must begin with To: Bob. Eve wants to tamper with the message and change it to To: Boo, for a light scare. Explain how Eve can do that!

**Example 30.** One thing that makes the one-time pad difficult to use is that the key needs to be the same length as the plaintext. What if we have a shorter key and just repeat it until it has the length we need? Why is that a terrible idea?

A **stream cipher** works as follows:

**(linear congruential generator)**  
 From the seed  $x_0$ , we produce the sequence  $x_{n+1} =$  .

**Example 31.** Generate values using the linear congruential generator  $x_{n+1} = 5x_n + 3 \pmod{8}$ , starting with the seed  $x_0 = 6$ . What is the period?

**Example 32.** Explain the idea behind using a **nonce** in a stream cipher.

**Example 33.** Let's use the PRG  $x_{n+1} = 5x_n + 3 \pmod{8}$  as a stream cipher with the key  $k = 4 = (100)_2$ . The key is used as the seed  $x_0$  and the keystream is  $\text{PRG}(k) = x_1 x_2 \dots$  (where each  $x_i$  is 3 bits). Encrypt the message  $m = (101\ 111\ 001)_2$ .

**Example 34.** Eve intercepts the ciphertext  $c = (111\ 111\ 111)_2$ . It is known that a stream cipher with PRG  $x_{n+1} = 5x_n + 3 \pmod{8}$  was used for encryption. Eve also knows that the plaintext begins with  $m = (110\ 1\dots)_2$ . Help her crack the ciphertext!

**(linear feedback shift register (LFSR))**  
 From the seed  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_\ell)$ , where each  $x_i$  is one bit, we produce the sequence

$$x_{n+\ell} \equiv$$
.

**Example 35.** Which sequence is generated by the LFSR  $x_{n+2} \equiv x_{n+1} + x_n \pmod{2}$ , starting with the seed  $(x_1, x_2) = (0, 1)$ ? What is the period?

**Example 36.** Which sequence is generated by the LFSR  $x_{n+3} \equiv x_{n+1} + x_n \pmod{2}$ , starting with the seed  $(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (0, 0, 1)$ ? What is the period?

**Example 37.** The recurrence  $x_{n+31} \equiv x_{n+28} + x_n \pmod{2}$ , with a nonzero seed, generates a sequence that has period .

**Example 38.** Eve intercepts the ciphertext  $c = (1111\ 1011\ 0000)_2$  from Alice to Bob. She knows that the plaintext begins with  $m = (1100\ 0\dots)_2$ . Eve thinks a stream cipher using a LFSR with  $x_{n+3} \equiv x_{n+2} + x_n \pmod{2}$  was used. If that's the case, what is the plaintext?

A PRG is **predictable** if

**Example 39.** Let us consider a baby version of CSS. Our PRG uses the LFSR  $x_{n+3} \equiv x_{n+1} + x_n \pmod{2}$  as well as the LFSR  $x_{n+4} \equiv x_{n+2} + x_n \pmod{2}$ . The output of the PRG is the output of these two LFSRs added with carry.

If we use  $(0, 0, 1)$  as the seed for LFSR-1, and  $(0, 1, 0, 1)$  for LFSR-2, what are the first 10 bits output by our PRG?

**Example 40.** In each case, determine if the stream could have been produced by the LFSR  $x_{n+5} \equiv x_{n+2} + x_n \pmod{2}$ . If yes, predict the next three terms.

(STREAM-1)  $\dots, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, \dots$       (STREAM-2)  $\dots, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, \dots$

**Theorem 41. (Chinese Remainder Theorem)**

**Example 42.** Solve  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$ .

**Example 43.** Solve  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$

**Example 44.** Solve  $x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$ ,  $x \equiv 10 \pmod{13}$ .

**Example 45.** Let  $p, q > 3$  be distinct primes.

- (a) Show that  $x^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{p}$  has exactly two solutions (i.e.  $\pm 3$ ).
- (b) Show that  $x^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{pq}$  has exactly four solutions ( $\pm 3$  and two more solutions  $\pm a$ ).

**Example 46.** Determine all solutions to  $x^2 \equiv 9 \pmod{35}$ .

**Example 47.** Determine all solutions to  $x^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{105}$ .

**Example 48.** List all quadratic residues modulo 11.

**Example 49.** List all quadratic residues modulo 15. How many invertible quadratic residues are there? Explain!

**Example 50.** Let  $p, q, r$  be distinct odd primes.

- The number of invertible residues modulo  $n$  is .
- The number of invertible quadratic residues modulo  $p$  is .
- The number of invertible quadratic residues modulo  $pq$  is .

- The number of invertible quadratic residues modulo  $pqr$  is .

**(Blum-Blum-Shub PRG)** Let  $M = pq$  where  $p, q$  are large primes  $\equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .  
 From the seed  $y_0$ ,

**Example 51.** Generate random bits using the B-B-S PRG with  $M = 77$  and seed 3.

**Theorem 52.**  $-1$  is a quadratic residue modulo (an odd prime)  $p \iff$  .

**Fermat primality test**  
**Input:**  
**Output:**  
**Algorithm:**

**Example 53.** If  $n$  is composite, then  $a \pmod{n}$  is called a **Fermat liar** if .

**Example 54.** A composite number  $n$  is an **absolute pseudoprime** if .

**Theorem 55. (prime number theorem)** Up to  $x$ , there are roughly  many primes.