

# Integer factoring and compositeness witnesses

Jacek Pomykała & Maciej Radziejewski

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# Integer factoring and compositeness witnesses

## 1 Objective: Factorization of a large integer $n$

Oracles

Techniques

How many hard numbers are there?

## 2 Compositeness witnesses

Fermat-Euclid

Miller-Rabin

Power difference

## 3 Results

Using the  $\Phi$  oracle

Using the  $\text{Dec } \Phi$  oracle

Using iterated  $\Phi$  oracle

## 4 Weaker oracles

$\Phi$  computes the value of  $\phi(n)$  for any given  $n$

**Dec  $\Phi$**  computes the prime factorization of  $\phi(n)$

**Mul  $\Phi$**  computes some multiple  $D = O(\exp((\log n)^{M'}))$  of  $\phi(n)$

**Dec Mul  $\Phi$**  computes the prime factorization of such a multiple

# Techniques

- Factorization witnesses  
i.e. residues mod  $n$  with special properties
  - We consider residues  $b = 1, \dots, B$ ,  
where  $B \leq (\log n)^{O(1)}$  is a parameter.
- Exponent  $m$  of the group generated by  $\{1, \dots, B\}$ 
  - because  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$  for primes  $p \mid n$
- Hensel-Berlekamp method
  - works if the exponent  $m$  is large enough
- Sieving out small prime factors  $p \leq y$ ,  
where  $y \leq (\log n)^{O(1)}$  is a parameter
- Reduction to square-free integers

Cf. Pomykała, Żrałek (2012), and Żrałek (2010).

# How many hard numbers are there?

## **Main task:**

Careful analysis how many numbers

$$n \leq x$$

are hard, i.e. unfactorable with a given method.

# How many hard numbers are there? And why do we care?

If we only know that there are  $o(x)$  such numbers, then they have density 0. However, it can mean many different things. E.g., there are

- $O\left(\frac{x}{\log x}\right) = o(x)$  primes  $p \leq x$
- $O\left(\frac{x \log \log x}{\log x}\right) = o(x)$  integers of the form  $n = pq \leq x$
- $O\left(\frac{x}{M \log \log x}\right) = o(x)$  integers  $n \leq x$  without prime factors  $p \leq (\log x)^M$
- $O(x^{1/2}) = o(x)$  squares  $n \leq x$
- $O(x^{1/3}) = o(x)$  cubes  $n \leq x$

# How many hard numbers are there?

Given an algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  we call  $n$

**hard** if  $\mathcal{A}$  does not find the complete factorization of  $n$

**\*-hard** if  $\mathcal{A}$  does not find any nontrivial divisor of  $n$

We count factorizable integers. We put:

$F(x, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{O}, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\mathcal{O}})$  the number of  $n \leq x$  that can be factored completely by  $\mathcal{A}$  in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}}$  with at most  $t_{\mathcal{O}}$  queries to oracle  $\mathcal{O}$ ,

$F^*(x, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{O}, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\mathcal{O}})$  the number of  $n \leq x$  that either are prime, or can be nontrivially factored by  $\mathcal{A}$  in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}}$  with at most  $t_{\mathcal{O}}$  queries to oracle  $\mathcal{O}$ .

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## Fermat-Euclid compositeness witness

A residue  $b$  such that

$$\gcd\left(b^{\frac{\text{ord}_n b}{r}} - 1, n\right) \neq 1.$$

for some prime  $r \mid \text{ord}_n b$ .

- Then  $r$  is called the **order** of the witness.
- If  $D$  is any multiple of  $\text{ord}_n b$ , we can check  $\gcd\left(b^{D/r^i} - 1, n\right)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$
- We have a witness, unless  $\text{ord}_n b = \text{ord}_p b$  for all  $p \mid n$ .
- Problem: how do we know which  $r$  to try?

## Miller-Rabin compositeness witness

is just a Fermat-Euclid compositeness witness of order 2.

## Lemma

Either there is a Miller-Rabin witness  $b \leq B$  for  $n$  (square-free, without large prime divisors) or

- $n$  is “ $B$ -exceptional”, i.e. for some Dirichlet character mod  $n$  the least non-residue is greater than  $B$ , or
- $n$  is determined by a pair of such exceptional integers

# Power difference

## Power difference compositeness witness

A residue  $b$  such that

$$1 < \gcd(b^u - b_0^{uj}, n) < n$$

for some prescribed  $b_0$  and  $u$ .

- We can often find it if there are no Fermat-Euclid witnesses of a given order  $r \geq 3$ , but
- we need to check  $j = 1, \dots, r$ .

## Lemma

Given  $r \geq 3$ , either there is a Fermat-Euclid witness  $b \leq B$  for  $n$  (square-free, without large prime divisors) or

- there is a power difference witness
- $n$  is “ $B$ -exceptional”, i.e. for some Dirichlet character mod  $n$  the least non-residue is greater than  $B$ , or

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## Theorem

We have, for arbitrary fixed  $M \geq 4$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_1), B, y)$ , and appropriate choices of  $B$  and  $y$ :

$$F(x, \mathcal{A}, \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\Phi}) \geq x - O_M(x(\log x)^{-6.5M})$$

and

$$F^*(x, \mathcal{A}, \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\Phi}) \geq x - O_M(x^{1.34/M}),$$

where  $t_{\Phi} = 1$  and  $t_{\mathcal{A}} = O((\log x)^{M+5})$ .

# Using the $\Phi$ oracle

In other words:

- the set of \*-hard numbers is very thin,
- the bound for hard numbers is much worse.

Reason:

- poor bounds for the smallest \*-hard number,
- related to the Vinogradov least-non-residue problem,
- solved under Extended Riemann Hypothesis,
- top results keep getting improved.

## Using the $\text{Dec } \Phi$ oracle

Using the  $\text{Dec } \Phi$  oracle we can compute the orders of all  $b = 1, \dots, B \bmod n$ , and thus:

- use Fermat-Euclid witnesses of all orders
- compute the exponent  $m$  and use techniques based on it



## Theorem

We have, for arbitrary fixed  $M \geq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_3), B, y)$ , and appropriate choices of  $B$  and  $y$ :

$$F(x, \mathcal{A}, \text{Dec } \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\text{Dec } \Phi}) \geq x - O_M \left( x \exp \left( - \frac{M^3 (\log \log x)^3}{9 (\log(M+2) + \log \log \log x)^2} \right) \right)$$

and

$$F^*(x, \mathcal{A}, \text{Dec } \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\text{Dec } \Phi}) \geq x - O_M(x^{1/M}),$$

where  $t_{\text{Dec } \Phi} = 1$  and  $t_{\mathcal{A}} = O((\log x)^{M+5})$ .

# Using the Dec $\Phi$ oracle

## Theorem

We have, for arbitrary fixed  $M \geq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_3), B, y)$ , and appropriate choices of  $B$  and  $y$ :

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, \mathcal{A}, \text{Dec } \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\text{Dec } \Phi}) &\geq x \\ &- O_M \left( x \exp \left( - \frac{M^3 (\log \log x)^3}{9 (\log(M+2) + \log \log \log x)^2} \right) \right) \\ &> x - O(x / (\log x)^c) \quad \text{for any fixed } c \end{aligned}$$

and

$$F^*(x, \mathcal{A}, \text{Dec } \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\text{Dec } \Phi}) \geq x - O_M(x^{1/M}),$$

where  $t_{\text{Dec } \Phi} = 1$  and  $t_{\mathcal{A}} = O((\log x)^{M+5})$ .

# Using iterated $\Phi$ oracle

Idea:

- If you try to factorize  $n$  and need the decomposition of  $\phi(n)$ ,
  - compute  $\phi(\phi(n))$ ,
    - compute  $\phi(\phi(\phi(n)))$ ,
    - ...
    - and factorize  $\phi(\phi(n))$ ,
  - and factorize  $\phi(n)$ .
- Then you can factorize  $n$ .

## Using iterated $\Phi$ oracle

It is not as easy as iterating the algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_3)$ , but we do have:

### Theorem

For arbitrary fixed  $M \geq 4$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_4, B, y)$ , and appropriate choices of  $B$  and  $y$ :

$$F(x, \mathcal{A}, \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\Phi}) \geq x - O_M \left( x \exp \left( - \frac{M^3 (\log \log x)^3}{9 (\log(M+2) + \log \log \log x)^2} \right) \right)$$

and

$$F^*(x, \mathcal{A}, \Phi, t_{\mathcal{A}}, t_{\Phi}) \geq x - O_M(x^{1.34/M}),$$

where  $t_{\Phi} \ll \log x$  and  $t_{\mathcal{A}} = O((\log x)^{M+5})$ .

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# Reduction to square-free integers

Reduction to square-free integers:

- shown by S. Landau (1988), with  $O(\log^3 n)$  calls to  $\Phi$ ,
- we do it with 0 extra calls to  $\Phi$ , reusing the initial value,
- we cannot do it if we replace  $\Phi$  by  $\text{Mul } \Phi$ .

Nevertheless we can do it for square-free integers.

## Theorem

All except  $O_M(x^{1/M})$  integers of the form  $n = pq \leq x$  can be factored using algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_1$  in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}} = O((\log x)^{M+M'+5})$  with one query to the oracle  $\text{Mul } \Phi$ .