EE 720: An Introduction to Number Theory and Cryptography (Spring 2020)

Lecture 16 — March 21, 2020

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1 Lecture Plan

- Properties of \mathbb{Z}_N^*
- Chinese Remainder Theorem

2 The Group \mathbb{Z}_N^*

- For any integer N > 1, we define $\mathbb{Z}_N^* = \{b \in \{1, 2, \dots, N-1\} \mid \gcd(b, N) = 1\}.$
- By the definition of the Euler phi function, the cardinality or order of \mathbb{Z}_N^* is $\phi(N)$.
- Theorem: For N > 1, \mathbb{Z}_N^* is a group under multiplication modulo N.
- Fermat's little theorem: If p is a prime and a is any integer not divisible by p, then $a^{p-1} = 1 \mod p$.
- Euler's theorem: For any integer N > 1 and $a \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$, we have $a^{\phi(N)} = 1 \mod N$.
- For an integer $e \ge 1$ and prime $p, \phi(p^e) = p^e \left(1 \frac{1}{p}\right)$.
- For distinct primes p, q, we have $\phi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$.
- For positive integers m, n such that gcd(m, n) = 1, we have $\phi(mn) = \phi(m)\phi(n)$.
 - Proof will follow from the Chinese Remainder Theorem
- **Theorem:** If N is a prime, \mathbb{Z}_N^* is a cyclic group.
 - Proof does not follow from Lagrange's theorem as $\phi(N)$ is composite.
 - Since proof requires results which we have not discussed, we will omit it.

3 Chinese Remainder Theorem

• **Definition:** Groups G and H are isomorphic if there exists a bijection $\phi: G \to H$ such that

$$\psi(\alpha \star \beta) = \psi(\alpha) \otimes \psi(\beta)$$

for all $\alpha, \beta \in G$. Here \star is the binary operation in G and \otimes is the binary operation in H. If G and H are isomorphic, we write $G \simeq H$.

• Given groups G and H with group operations \star and \otimes respectively, we can define a new group $G \times H$ as follows. The elements of $G \times H$ are ordered pairs (g, h) with $g \in G$ and $h \in H$. The group operation \circ of $G \times H$ is defined as

$$(g,h) \circ (g',h') = (g \star g',h \otimes h').$$

• Chinese Remainder Theorem: Let N = pq where p, q are integers greater than 1 which are relatively prime, i.e. gcd(p,q) = 1. Then

$$\mathbb{Z}_N \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_q$$
 and $\mathbb{Z}_N^* \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^* \times \mathbb{Z}_q^*$.

Moreover, the function $f: \mathbb{Z}_N \mapsto \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ defined by

$$f(x) = (x \bmod p, x \bmod q)$$

is an isomorphism from \mathbb{Z}_N to $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_q$, and the restriction of f to \mathbb{Z}_N^* is an isomorphism from \mathbb{Z}_N^* to $\mathbb{Z}_p^* \times \mathbb{Z}_q^*$.

• Example: $\mathbb{Z}_{15}^* = \{1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14\}$. This group is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_3^* \times \mathbb{Z}_5^*$.

4 References and Additional Reading

• Sections 8.1.4, 8.1.5 from Katz/Lindell