

# RSA Encryption

The two main requisite skills are

- finding multiplicative inverses mod( $m$ )  
main tool is the Extended Euclidean Algorithm
- modular exponentiation  
We have seen/worked through an algorithm called **fast modular exponentiation**: very generally applicable

## Modular exponentiation: some more tools

**Theorem:** [Fermat's Little Theorem] If  $p$  is prime, and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ .

Ex.

$$2^{17} \pmod{17} = 2$$

$$100^{17} \pmod{17} \equiv 100 \pmod{17}$$

Ex.

$$55^{73} \pmod{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 55^{73} &= 55^{70} \cdot 55^3 = (55^7)^{10} \cdot 55^3 \\ &\equiv (55)^{10} \cdot 55^3 \pmod{7} \\ &\equiv 55^7 \cdot 55^6 \equiv 55 \cdot 55^6 \equiv 55^7 \\ &\equiv 55 \pmod{7} \end{aligned}$$

$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$   
cancel an  $a$  from both sides (valid since  
 $p$  prime,  $p \nmid a$ ), to get  
 $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

Some consequences that follow, if  $p \nmid a$

- If  $p$  is prime, then  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .
- If  $p$  is prime, then  $a^{p-2}$  is the multiplicative inverse of  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .
- If  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  and  $a^{p-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , then  $p$  is not prime.

Ex.] Find multi. inverse of 11 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{17}$ .

Since 17 is prime and  $17 \nmid 11$ , we can conclude

$$11^{\overline{16}} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$$

Thus

$$11 \cdot 11^{15} \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$$

$\Rightarrow 11^{15} \pmod{17}$  is mult. inv. of 11 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{17}$ .

$$\pi(12) = |\{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}| = 5$$

**Definition:** As functions  $\mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , we define

$$\varphi(12) = |\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}| = 4$$

- the **prime-counting function**  $\pi$  so that

$$\pi(n) = |\{p \text{ is prime} \mid p \leq n\}|.$$

Due to the great interest in primes, this function was thoroughly investigated, with a major breakthrough being the **prime number theorem** (see p. 262).

- the **Euler totient function**  $\varphi$  so that

$$\varphi(n) = |\{a \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid a \leq n \text{ and } \gcd(a, n) = 1\}|.$$

Properties of  $\varphi$ :

- If  $p$  is prime, then  $\varphi(p) = p - 1$
- If  $p$  is prime, then  $\varphi(p^\alpha) = p^\alpha (1 - \frac{1}{p})$
- If  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , then  $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b)$ .
- If the prime factorization of  $n$  is

$$n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} p_3^{\alpha_3} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k},$$

then

$$\varphi(n) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(n) &= \varphi(p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}) = \varphi(p_1^{\alpha_1}) \cdot \varphi(p_2^{\alpha_2}) \cdots \varphi(p_k^{\alpha_k}) \\ &= p_1^{\alpha_1} (1 - \frac{1}{p_1}) \cdot p_2^{\alpha_2} (1 - \frac{1}{p_2}) \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k} (1 - \frac{1}{p_k}) \\ &= \underbrace{p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}}_{= n} (1 - \frac{1}{p_1}) (1 - \frac{1}{p_2}) \cdots (1 - \frac{1}{p_k}) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem:** [Euler] If  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  then  $a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

$$= n (1 - \frac{1}{p_1}) (1 - \frac{1}{p_2}) \cdots (1 - \frac{1}{p_k})$$

Ex.]  $37^{67} \pmod{120}$

Know  $\varphi(120) = 32$  (see next page)

$$\begin{aligned} 37^{67} &= 37^{64} \cdot 37^3 = (37^{32})^2 \cdot 37^3 \\ &\equiv 1 \cdot 37^3 \equiv 37^3 \pmod{120} \end{aligned}$$

formula for  $\varphi(n)$  requiring its prime factorization

If  $p$  is prime

$$\varphi(p) = |\{1, 2, 3, \dots, \cancel{p}\}| = p-1$$

$$\varphi(p^2) = |\{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, \cancel{p}, \\ p+1, p+2, p+3, \dots, \cancel{2p}, \\ 2p+1, 2p+2, \dots, \cancel{3p}\}|$$

$$\underline{\cancel{p^2}} \} |$$

$$= p^2 - p$$

$$\varphi(p^3) = p^3 - p^2$$

generally

$$\varphi(p^\alpha) = p^\alpha - p^{\alpha-1} = p^\alpha \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$$

Above, showed

$$\varphi(n) = \varphi(p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex.]} \quad \varphi(120) &= \varphi(2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5) \\ &= 120 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{5}\right) \\ &= 32. \end{aligned}$$

Ex. Find mult. inv. of 37 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{120}$ .

Since  $\varphi(120) = 32$ , and  $\gcd(37, 120) = 1$ , Euler's Thm says

$$37^{32} \equiv 1 \pmod{120}$$

That is,

$$37 \cdot 37^{31} \equiv 1 \pmod{120}$$

which means

$37^{31} \pmod{120}$   
is the multiplicative inverse of 37, in  $\mathbb{Z}_{120}$ .