

# Lecture 8: Fingerprinting

Danny Sleator

# How to Pick a Random Prime

- How to pick a random prime in the range  $\{0, 1, \dots, M-1\}$ ?
  - Pick a random integer  $X$  in the range  $\{0, 1, \dots, M-1\}$
  - Check if  $X$  is a prime. If so, output it. Else go back to the first step
- How to pick a random integer  $X$ ?
  - Pick a uniformly random bit string of length  $\lfloor \log_2 M \rfloor + 1$
  - If it represents a number  $< M$ , output  $X$ . Else go back to the last step
  - In expectation, repeat this step at most twice
- How to check if  $X$  is prime?
  - Miller-Rabin primality test very efficient but fails with tiny probability
  - Agrawal-Kayal-Saxena has a worse running time, but deterministic
- How likely is  $X$  to be prime?

# Density of Primes

- Let  $\pi(n)$  be the number of primes in the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- **Prime Number Theorem:**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi(n)}{n / \ln n} = 1$
- Chebyshev:  $\pi(n) > n / \ln n$  for every  $n \geq 2$ 
  - If we want at least  $k$  primes in  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , then  $n \geq 2k \lg k$ , if  $k \geq 4$
- Dusart: For  $n > 60184$ , we have  $\frac{n}{\ln n - 1.1} > \pi(n) > \frac{n}{\ln n - 1}$

# String Equality Problem

Alice



$x$

Is  $x = y$ ?

Bob



$y$

- $x$  and  $y$  are  $N$ -bit strings
- Alice and Bob want to exchange messages to decide if  $x = y$
- Alice could send  $x$  to Bob but this takes  $N$  communication
  - Is there a more efficient scheme?

# String Equality Problem

- Suppose we are OK if we achieve a probabilistic guarantee:
  - If  $x = y$ , then  $\Pr[\text{Bob says } \mathbf{equal}] = 1$
  - If  $x \neq y$ , then  $\Pr[\text{Bob says } \mathbf{unequal}] \geq 1 - \delta$
- Protocol
  - Alice chooses a random prime  $p$  from  $\{1, 2, \dots, M\}$  for  $M = \lceil 2 \cdot (5N) \cdot \lg(5N) \rceil$
  - She sends Bob  $p$  and the value  $h_p(x) = x \bmod p$ , where we think of  $x$  as an integer in  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^N - 1\}$
  - If  $h_p(x) = y \bmod p$ , Bob says **equal**, else he says **unequal**

# String Equality Problem

- **Lemma:** If  $x = y$ , then Bob always says **equal**
- **Proof:** If  $x = y$ , then  $x \bmod p = y \bmod p$ . So Bob's test will always succeed
- **Lemma:** If  $x \neq y$ , then  $\Pr[\text{Bob says equal}] \leq .2$
- **Proof:** Interpret  $x, y \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^N - 1\}$

If Bob says **equal**, then  $x \bmod p = y \bmod p$ , i.e.,  $(x-y) = 0 \bmod p$

So  $p$  divides  $D = |x-y|$ , and  $D < 2^N$

$D = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_k$  for primes  $p_1, \dots, p_k$  which may repeat

Since each  $p_i \geq 2$ , we have  $k < N$

$$\Pr[p \text{ divides } D] \leq \frac{N}{\text{number of primes in } \{1, 2, \dots, M\}} \leq \frac{N}{5N} = \frac{1}{5} \text{ why?}$$

# Communication Cost

- If Alice were to naively send  $x$  to Bob, would take  $N$  bits of communication
- Instead she sends a prime  $p$  and  $x \bmod p$ , where  $p$  is in  $\{1, 2, \dots, M\}$  and  $M = \lceil 2 \cdot (5N) \cdot \lg(5N) \rceil$
- Communication =  $O(\log p) = O(\log M) = O(\log N + \log \log N) = O(\log N)$  bits

# Reducing the Error Probability

- We have 20% error probability, how to reduce it to  $\delta$ ?
- Repeat the scheme  $r = \log_5(\delta^{-1})$  times independently with primes  $p_1, \dots, p_r \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$ , and  $M = \lceil 2 \cdot (5N) \cdot \lg(5N) \rceil$ 
  - Bob outputs **equal** if and only if  $x = y \pmod{p_i}$  for each  $i$
  - If  $x = y$ , Bob outputs **equal** with probability 1
  - If  $x \neq y$ , Bob outputs **equal** with probability at most  $\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{\lg_5(\frac{1}{\delta})} \leq \delta$
  - Communication cost is  $O(\log(1/\delta) \log N)$ . **Can we do better?**
- If instead Alice sets  $M = 2 \cdot sN \lg(sN)$ , the number of primes in  $\{1, 2, \dots, M\}$  is at least  $sN$ , and so error probability is  $1/s$ . Set  $s = 1/\delta$ .
  - Communication is  $O(\log M) = O(\log s + \log N) = O(\log(1/\delta) + \log N)$



# Fingerprinting (the Karp-Rabin Method)

- In the string-matching problem, we have
  - A text  $T$  of length  $m$
  - A pattern  $P$  of length  $n$
- **Goal:** output all occurrences of the pattern  $P$  inside the text  $T$ 
  - If  $T = \text{abracadabra}$  and  $P = \text{ab}$ , the output should be  $\{0,7\}$

**ab**racadabra

- Consider  $h_p(x) = x \bmod p$  for  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ , where we think of  $x$  as an integer in  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^n-1\}$

# Fingerprinting (the Karp-Rabin Method)

- $h_p(x) = x \bmod p$  for  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$
- Create  $x'$  by dropping the most significant bit of  $x$ , and appending a bit to the right
  - E.g., if  $x = 0011001$ , then  $x'$  could be  $0110010$  or  $0110011$
- Given  $h_p(x) = z$ , can we compute  $h_p(x')$  quickly?
- Suppose  $x'_{lb}$  is the lowest-order bit of  $x'$ , and  $x_{hb}$  is the highest order bit of  $x$
- $x' = 2(x - x_{hb} \cdot 2^{n-1}) + x'_{lb}$
- Since  $h_p(a + b) = (h_p(a) + h_p(b)) \bmod p$ , and  $h_p(2a) = 2h_p(a) \bmod p$ ,  
$$h_p(x') = (2h_p(x) - x_{hb} \cdot h_p(2^n) + x'_{lb}) \bmod p$$
- *Given  $h_p(x)$  and  $h_p(2^n)$ , this is just  $O(1)$  arithmetic operations mod  $p$*

# Fingerprinting (the Karp-Rabin Method)

- $T_{a\dots b}$  denotes the string from the a-th to b-th positions of  $T$ , inclusive
  - **Goal:** output all locations  $a$  in  $\{0, 1, \dots, m-n\}$  such that  $T_{a\dots a+(n-1)} = P$
1. Pick a random prime  $p \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$  with  $M = \lceil 2s n \lg(sn) \rceil$  for some  $s$
  2. Compute  $h_p(P)$  and  $h_p(2^n)$  and store the results
  3. Compute  $h_p(T_{0\dots n-1})$  and check if it equals  $h_p(P)$ . If so, output **match** at location 0
  4. For each  $i \in \{0, \dots, m-n-1\}$ , compute  $h_p(T_{i+1\dots i+n})$  using  $h_p(T_{i\dots i+n-1})$  and  $h_p(2^n)$ . If  $h_p(T_{i+1\dots i+n}) = h_p(P)$ , output **match** at location  $i+1$

## Error Probability

- $m - n + 1 \leq m$  comparisons, each with probability at most  $1/s$  of failure
- By a union bound, the probability there is at least one failure is at most  $m/s$
- If  $s = 100m$ , we succeed on all comparisons with probability  $\geq 99/100$
- $M = \lceil 2s n \lg(sn) \rceil = O(mn \log(mn))$ , so  $O(\log m + \log n)$  bits to store
- Since  $p$  in  $\{1, 2, \dots, M\}$ ,  $p$  takes  $O(\log m + \log n)$  bits to store
- Assume unit-cost RAM model, so operations on  $O(\log(mn))$  bits take  $O(1)$  time

# Running Time

- Computing  $h_p(x)$  for  $n$ -bit  $x$  can be done in  $O(n)$  time. **Why?**
  - Generate powers of 2, or use shifting
- So  $h_p(P)$ ,  $h_p(2^n)$ , and  $h_p(T_{0,\dots,n-1})$  can be computed in  $O(n)$  time
- Computing  $h_p(T_{i+1\dots i+n})$  using  $h_p(T_{i\dots i+n-1})$  and  $h_p(2^n)$  can be done in  $O(1)$  time!
- Total time is  $O(m + n)$ , which is optimal

# Fingerprinting Extensions

- Fingerprinting also works for strings  $x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, q - 1\}^n$
- Think of  $x$  as an integer  $\sum_{i=0, \dots, n-1} q^i \cdot x_i$  in its  $q$ -ary representation
- Drop the leftmost digit of  $x$  to create  $x'$ , and append a digit to the right
  - If  $x = x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}, x_{n-3}, \dots, x_0$ , then  $x' = x_{n-2}, x_{n-3}, \dots, x_0, x'_0$
- $x' = q(x - x_{n-1} \cdot q^{n-1}) + x'_0$
- $h_p(x') = (q \cdot h_p(x) - x_{n-1} \cdot h_p(q^n) + x'_0) \bmod p$
- Given  $h_p(x)$  and  $h_p(q^n)$ , if  $q < p$ , computing  $h_p(x')$  requires  $O(1)$  arithmetic operations mod  $p$

# Extensions

- How would you solve the following?
- Given an  $m_1 \times m_2$ -bit rectangular binary text  $T$ , and an  $n_1 \times n_2$ -bit pattern  $P$ , where  $n_1 \leq m_1$  and  $n_2 \leq m_2$ , find all occurrences of  $P$  inside  $T$ . Show how to do this in  $O(m_1 m_2)$  time
- Assume you can do modular arithmetic of integers at most  $\text{poly}(m_1 m_2)$  in  $O(1)$  time

# Extensions

- Walk through the columns of  $T$ , and create fingerprints  $h_q(T_{[i,i+n_1-1],j})$  of the  $n_1$  values

$$T_{i,j}, T_{i+1,j}, \dots, T_{i+n_1-1,j}$$

- $q \leq \text{poly}(m_1 m_2 n_1)$
- Walk through the rows of  $T$ , and for the  $(i,j)$ -th entry, create a fingerprint of the  $n_2$  values

$$h_q(T_{[i,i+n_1-1],j}), h_q(T_{[i,i+n_1-1],j+1}), \dots, h_q(T_{[i,i+n_1-1],j+n_2-1})$$

- **Note:** the fingerprints are of  $q$ -ary instead of binary strings, but when fingerprinting these strings we can use a prime  $p \leq \text{poly}(m_1 m_2 n_1 n_2)$ . **Show this!**
- Walking through the columns and rows and creating the fingerprints, and comparing with the hash of the pattern  $P$ , takes  $O(m_1 m_2)$  time