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# A FASTER PSEUDO-PRIMALITY TEST

JEAN-MARC COUVEIGNES, TONY EZOME, AND REYNALD LERCIER

ABSTRACT. We propose a pseudo-primality test using cyclic extensions of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . For every positive integer  $k \leq \log n$ , this test achieves the security of  $k$  Miller-Rabin tests at the cost of  $k^{1/2+o(1)}$  Miller-Rabin tests.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

**Pseudo-primality tests.** The most commonly used algorithm for prime detection is the so called Miller-Rabin test. It is a Monte Carlo probabilistic test of compositeness, also called a *pseudo-primality test* (see Papadimitrou’s book [14, page 254] for the definition of a Monte Carlo algorithm). A pseudo-primality test is a process based on a mathematical statement, the *compositeness criterion*, which gives a forecast (prime or composite) about a given integer  $n$ . From the compositeness criterion, one constructs for every odd integer  $n$ , a finite set  $W_n$  of *witnesses*, and a map

$$P_n : W_n \rightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$$

which provides information about the compositeness of  $n$  from witnesses  $x$  in  $W_n$ . When  $n$  is prime  $P_n(x) = \text{prime}$  for every witness  $x$  in  $W_n$ . So there are only *good witnesses* in that case. If  $n$  is composite,  $x$  is a witness in  $W_n$ , and  $P_n(x) = \text{prime}$  we say that  $x$  is a *bad witness*. The test picks a random witness  $x$  in  $W_n$  and evaluates  $P_n(x)$ . Two important characteristics of a pseudo-primality test are the run-time *complexity*  $n \mapsto T(n)$  of the algorithm evaluating  $P_n$ , and the *density*  $n \mapsto \mu(n)$  of bad witnesses.

To be quite rigorous, we do not need to be able to evaluate  $P_n$  in deterministic time  $T(n)$ . We are content with a Las Vegas probabilistic algorithm that on input  $n$ , runs in time  $T(n)$ , and returns with probability  $\geq 1/2$  at least one of the following two things

- a proof that  $n$  is composite,
- the value of  $P_n$  at a random (with uniform probability) element in  $W_n$ .

If this is the case, we say that the test  $P$  has complexity  $n \mapsto T(n)$  and density  $n \mapsto \mu(n)$ . See [14, page 256] for the definition of a Las Vegas algorithm.

**The Miller-Rabin test.** We assume  $n$  is odd. The set  $W_n$  of witnesses for the Miller-Rabin test is  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . The associated map

$$\text{MR}_n : (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* \rightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$$

is defined by  $\text{MR}_n(x) = \text{prime}$  if and only if  $x^m = 1$  or  $x^{m2^i} = -1$  for some  $0 \leq i < k$ . Here  $m$  is the largest odd divisor of  $n - 1$  and  $n - 1 = m2^k$ . We call  $\text{MR}_n$  a *Miller-Rabin map*.

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It is clear that if  $n$  is prime then  $\text{MR}(x) = \text{prime}$  for every  $x$  in  $W_n$ . In case  $n$  is composite, the density  $\mu_{\text{MR}}(n)$  of bad witnesses is bounded from above by  $1/4$  (see [15, Theorem 2.1]). It will be important for us that this density is actually bounded from above by  $2^{1-t}$  (see [15, proof of Theorem 2.1]) where  $t$  is the number of prime divisors of  $n$ . The complexity  $T_{\text{MR}}(n)$  is bounded from above by  $(\log n)^{2+o(1)}$  using fast exponentiation and fast arithmetic. If we run  $k$  independent Miller-Rabin tests, the probability of missing a composite number is  $\leq 4^{-k}$  and the complexity is  $k(\log n)^{2+o(1)}$ .

**A faster pseudo-primality test.** In this article we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1** (A faster test). *There exist a function  $\varepsilon : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  in the class  $o(1)$  and a probabilistic algorithm (described in Section 5.1) that takes as input an odd integer  $n$  and an integer  $\lambda$  such that  $1 \leq \lambda \leq \log n$ , runs in time*

$$T = (\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)} \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon(\lambda)},$$

*and returns prime always if  $n$  is prime, and with probability*

$$\leq 2^{-\lambda}$$

*if  $n$  is composite.*

This algorithm achieves the security of  $\lambda/2$  Miller-Rabin tests at the cost of  $\lambda^{1/2+o(1)}$  such tests. The two main ingredients of our test are the *product* of pseudo-primality tests and a primality criterion involving an extension of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Products.** We introduce the associative composition law

$$\vee : \{\text{composite, prime}\} \times \{\text{composite, prime}\} \rightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$$

with table

$\vee$	composite	prime
composite	composite	composite
prime	composite	prime

Let  $r \geq 2$  be an integer and let  $P_n^i : W_n^i \rightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$  be  $r$  pseudo-primality tests. One defines the product test

$$P_n = \vee_{1 \leq i \leq r} P_n^i$$

as

$$P_n : W_n = W_n^1 \times W_n^2 \times \cdots \times W_n^r \longrightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_r) \longmapsto \vee_{1 \leq i \leq r} P_n^i(x_i).$$

A witness for  $P$  is an  $r$ -uple of witnesses, one for each of the  $r$  tests  $P_n^1, \dots, P_n^r$ . For  $n$  composite, a witness is bad if and only if all its  $r$  coordinates are bad witnesses. So the density of bad witnesses is the product of all the densities for every tests. And the complexity is bounded by the sum of all  $r$  complexities, times  $\lceil \log_2 r \rceil + 1$ . This last factor is natural when chaining Las Vegas algorithms. In order to make sure that the resulting algorithm still succeeds with probability  $\geq 1/2$  we must repeat a little bit every step. As a special case, we consider the  $r$ -th power  $\vee^r P$  of a single test  $P$  with complexity  $T$  and density  $\mu$ . The density of bad witnesses for  $\vee^r P$  is equal to  $\mu^r$ , and its complexity is  $r \times T \times (\lceil \log_2 r \rceil + 1)$ .

**A compositeness criterion.** The test in Theorem 1 is based on the following compositeness criterion.

**Theorem 2** (Compositeness criterion). *Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer. Let  $S \supset \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  be a faithful, finite, associative, commutative  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra with unit. Let  $\sigma$  be an  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -endomorphism of  $S$ . Let  $\Omega \subset S$  be a subset of  $S$  such that the smallest  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -subalgebra of  $S$  containing  $\Omega$  and stable under the action of  $\sigma$  is  $S$  itself. Assume  $\omega^n = \sigma(\omega)$  for every  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ . If  $n$  is prime, then for every  $x$  in  $S$  we have  $x^n = \sigma(x)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be the subset of  $S$  consisting of all  $x$  such that  $x^n = \sigma(x)$ . Clearly  $T$  contains  $\Omega$ . If  $n$  is prime, then  $T$  contains  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  and is stable under addition, multiplication, and action of  $\sigma$ . So  $T = S$  and we have  $x^n = \sigma(x)$  for every  $x$  in  $S$ . □

Theorem 2 provides a compositeness criterion since the existence of an  $x$  in  $S$  such that  $x^n \neq \sigma(x)$  implies that  $n$  is not a prime. We call the associated pseudo-primality test a *Galois test*. The set  $W_n$  of witnesses is the group  $S^*$  of units in  $S$ . The map  $P_n$  is defined by  $P_n(x) = \text{prime}$  if  $\sigma(x) = x^n$  and  $P_n(x) = \text{composite}$  otherwise. In that situation, we call  $P_n$  a *Galois map*. In case  $n$  is composite, those  $x$  in  $S$  for which

$$x^n = \sigma(x) \tag{1}$$

are the *bad witnesses*.

**Plan.** We will show in Section 2 that one can bound from above the density of bad witnesses among the units of the algebra  $S$  in Theorem 2, at least when  $S$  is a cyclic extension of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . We will use the Galois module structure of the unit group of such an extension. The resulting pseudo-primality test is presented and analyzed in Section 3. Section 4 explains how to efficiently construct the cyclic  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -algebras required by our test. Theorem 1 is proven in Section 5.1. Implementation details are given in Section 5.2. We present the results of our experiments in Section 6.

**Context.** There exist many (families of) algorithms for prime detection. A recent survey can be found in Schoof's article [15]. The first polynomial time deterministic algorithm for distinguishing prime numbers from composite numbers is due to Agrawal, Kayal and Saxena [2]. An improvement of this algorithm, due to Lenstra and Pomerance [12], has deterministic complexity  $(\log n)^{6+o(1)}$ . This is the best known unconditional result for deterministic algorithms. There exists a deterministic algorithm with complexity  $(\log n)^{4+o(1)}$  under the generalized Riemann hypothesis, as observed by Miller in [13]. Dan Bernstein has found [5] a Las Vegas probabilistic algorithm with complexity  $(\log n)^{4+o(1)}$ . See also Avanzi and Mihăilescu [4]. The correctness and running time of this algorithm does not depend on the truth of any unproved conjecture. It is unconditional.

**Notation.** In this paper, the notation  $\Theta$  stands for a positive absolute constant. Any statement containing this symbol becomes true if the symbol is replaced in every occurrence by some large enough real number. Similarly, the notation  $\varepsilon(x)$  stands for a real function of the real parameter  $x$  alone, belonging to the class  $o(1)$ .

2. CYCLIC EXTENSIONS OF  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ 

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an odd integer and set  $R = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . A *cyclic* extension of  $R$  is a Galois extension  $S$  of  $R$  in the sense of [8, Chapter III], with finite cyclic Galois group  $\mathcal{G}$ . We denote by  $d$  the order of  $\mathcal{G}$ , and let  $\sigma$  be a generator of it. The Galois property implies [8, Chapter III, Corollary 1.3] that  $S$  is a projective  $R$ -module of constant rank  $d$ . Since  $R$  is semi-local we deduce [6, II.5.3, Proposition 5] that  $S$  is free of rank  $d$ . The sub-algebra  $S^{\mathcal{G}}$  consisting of elements in  $S$  fixed by  $\sigma$  is  $R$  itself [8, Chapter III, Proposition 1.2]. And  $S$  is a separable  $R$ -algebra in the sense that it is projective as a module over  $S \otimes_R S$ . We deduce [3, Theorem 2.5.] that  $S$  is an unramified extension of  $R$ . And  $S$  is a free  $R[\mathcal{G}]$ -module of rank 1. Equivalently there exists a normal basis [7, Theorem 4.2.]. In this section we study the group of units of such an algebra and count the solutions to Equation (1) in it. In Paragraph 2.1 we localize at a prime  $p$  and we study the Frobenius action on the residue algebra. We decompose the unit group as a direct product. The  $p$ -part is studied in Paragraph 2.2, and the prime to  $p$ -part is studied in Paragraph 2.3. In Paragraph 2.4 we deduce an estimate for the number of bad witnesses. We refer to the book by DeMeyer and Ingraham [8] for general properties of Galois extensions, and to Lenstra [10, 11] for their use in the context of primality testing.

**2.1. The structure of  $S^*$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -module.** We write  $n = \prod_p p^{v_p}$  the prime decomposition of  $n$ . If  $p$  and  $q$  are two distinct primes dividing  $n$ , then  $p^{v_p}S + q^{v_q}S = S$ . Furthermore, the intersection of all  $p^{v_p}S$  for  $p$  dividing  $n$  is zero. So  $S$  is isomorphic to the product

$$\prod_{p|n} S/p^{v_p}S = \prod_{p|n} S_p,$$

and this decomposition is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -modules. So we can and will assume now that  $n = p^v$  is a prime power.

We set  $\mathbf{L} = S/pS$  and  $\mathbf{K} = R/pR = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $pS \cap R = pR$ , the ring  $\mathbf{L}$  is a faithful  $\mathbf{K}$ -algebra. The  $R$ -automorphism  $\sigma : S \rightarrow S$  induces a  $\mathbf{K}$ -automorphism of  $\mathbf{L}$  that we call  $\sigma$  also. The  $\mathbf{K}$ -algebra  $\mathbf{L}$  has dimension  $d$  and is Galois with group  $\mathcal{G}$  [11, Proposition 2.7.]. From  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{L}^{\mathcal{G}}$  we deduce [6, Chapitre 5, paragraphe 1, numéro 9, proposition 22] that  $\mathbf{L}$  is integral over  $\mathbf{K}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal in  $\mathbf{L}$ . The intersection  $\mathfrak{p} \cap \mathbf{K}$  is a prime ideal in  $\mathbf{K}$ , so it is equal to 0. Since 0 is maximal in  $\mathbf{K}$ , the ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  is maximal in  $\mathbf{L}$  [6, Chapitre 5, paragraphe 2, numéro 1, Proposition 1]. Thus  $\mathbf{L}$  is a ring of dimension 0. Since  $\mathbf{L}$  is noetherian, it is an artinian ring [6, Chapitre 4, paragraphe 2, numéro 5, Proposition 9]. The automorphism  $\sigma$  acts transitively on the set of prime ideals in  $\mathbf{L}$  [6, Chapitre 5, paragraphe 2, numéro 2, Théorème 2]. We denote by  $\mathcal{G}^Z$  (resp.  $\mathcal{G}^T$ ) the decomposition group (resp. inertia group) of all these prime ideals. The Galois property [8, Proposition 1.2] implies that the inertia group is trivial. Let  $f$  be the order of  $\mathcal{G}^Z$ . We check that  $d = fm$  where  $m$  is the number of prime ideals in  $\mathbf{L}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{p}_0, \mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_{m-1}$  be all these prime ideals. They are pairwise comaximal: for  $i \neq j$  we have  $\mathfrak{p}_i + \mathfrak{p}_j = \mathbf{L}$ . The radical of  $\mathbf{L}$  is

$$\mathfrak{N} = \bigcap_{0 \leq i \leq m-1} \mathfrak{p}_i = \prod_{0 \leq i \leq m-1} \mathfrak{p}_i = 0,$$

because  $\mathbf{L}$  is unramified over  $\mathbf{K}$ . So the map

$$\mathbf{L} \longrightarrow \prod_{0 \leq i \leq m-1} \mathbf{L}/\mathfrak{p}_i$$

is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}^Z]$ -modules. For every  $i$  in  $\{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ , the decomposition group  $\mathcal{G}^Z$  is isomorphic to the group of  $\mathbf{K}$ -automorphisms of the residue field  $\mathbf{M}_i = \mathbf{L}/\mathfrak{p}_i$  [6, Chapitre 5, paragraphe 2, numéro 2, Théorème 2]. The Frobenius automorphism  $\Phi_i$  of  $\mathbf{M}_i = \mathbf{L}/\mathfrak{p}_i$  is the reduction modulo  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  of some power  $\sigma^{z_i m}$  of  $\sigma$  generating  $\mathcal{G}^Z$ . Especially, for every  $a$  in  $\mathbf{L}$ , one has  $\sigma^{z_0 m}(a) = a^p \bmod \mathfrak{p}_0$  for some integer  $z_0$ . We let  $\sigma$  act on the above congruence and deduce that  $z_0 = z_1 = \dots = z_{d-1} \bmod f$  because  $\sigma$  acts transitively on the set of primes. So there exists a prime to  $f$  integer  $z$  such that for every element  $x$  in  $\mathbf{L}$  we have

$$x^p = \sigma^{zm}(x).$$

We set

$$\mathbb{U} = \{x \in S \mid x \equiv 1 \pmod{p}\}.$$

This is a subgroup of the group  $S^*$  of units in  $S$ , and even a  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -module. We have an exact sequence of  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -modules

$$1 \rightarrow \mathbb{U} \rightarrow S^* \rightarrow (S/pS)^* \rightarrow 1.$$

While the group  $\mathbb{U}$  is a  $p$ -group, the group  $(S/pS)^* = \mathbf{L}^*$  has order prime to  $p$ . So  $\mathbb{U}$  is the  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $S^*$ . We denote by  $\mathbb{V}$  the product of all  $q$ -Sylow subgroups of  $S^*$  for  $q \neq p$ . Then

$$S^* = \mathbb{U} \times \mathbb{V} \tag{2}$$

and this decomposition is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -modules because both  $\mathbb{U}$  and  $\mathbb{V}$  are characteristic subgroups of  $S^*$ . Furthermore,  $\mathbb{V}$  is isomorphic to  $(S/pS)^*$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -module. We study either factors separately.

## 2.2. The structure of $\mathbb{U}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Log} : \quad & \mathbb{U} \longrightarrow pS \\ & x \longmapsto \text{Log}(x) = - \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(1-x)^k}{k} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Exp} : \quad & pS \longrightarrow \mathbb{U} \\ & x \longmapsto \text{Exp}(x) = 1 + \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{x^k}{k!} \end{aligned}$$

are well defined. They are indeed polynomial maps (recall that  $p$  is odd). In particular, both maps are equivariant for the action of  $\mathcal{G}$ . So  $\text{Log}$  is an isomorphism between the  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -modules  $(\mathbb{U}, \times)$  and  $(pS, +)$ . And  $\text{Exp}$  is the reciprocal map.

## 2.3. The structure of $\mathbb{V}$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime in  $S$  above  $p$ . We set  $\mathbf{M} = S/\mathfrak{p}$ . Recall that

$$pS = \prod_{0 \leq k \leq m-1} \sigma^k(\mathfrak{p}),$$

and there exists a prime to  $f$  integer  $z$  such that for every element  $x$  in  $S$  we have

$$x^p = \sigma^{zm}(x) \bmod p.$$

Let  $1 \leq t \leq f-1$  be the inverse of  $z$  modulo  $f$ . Note that if  $f = 1$ , we have  $z = t = 0$ . We turn  $\mathbf{M}^m$  into a  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -module by setting

$$\sigma.(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{m-1}) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{m-1}, x_0^{p^t}). \tag{3}$$

The map

$$\begin{aligned} S/pS &\longrightarrow (S/\mathfrak{p}S)^m \\ x &\longmapsto (\sigma^k(x) \bmod \mathfrak{p})_{0 \leq k \leq m-1} \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -module between  $S/pS$  and  $\mathbf{M}^m$ . So  $\mathbb{V}$  and  $(\mathbf{M}^*)^m$  are isomorphic as  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{G}]$ -modules.

**2.4. Counting bad witnesses.** We now show that in many cases one can bound from above the density of bad witnesses among the units of  $S$ .

**Theorem 3** (Density of bad witnesses). *Let  $A > 2$  and  $B \geq 3$  be two real numbers. Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer. Assume that every prime dividing  $n$  is bigger than or equal to  $B$ . Assume that  $n$  is not a prime power. Let  $S \supset \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  be a cyclic  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -algebra of dimension  $d$ . Let  $\sigma$  be a generator of the Galois group  $\mathcal{G}$ . Assume that  $n$  has a prime power divisor  $p^v$  satisfying*

$$v \log p \geq \frac{A \log n}{d}. \quad (4)$$

Then the density

$$\mu_S = \frac{\#\{x \in S^* \mid \sigma(x) = x^n\}}{\#S^*}$$

of bad witnesses among the units of  $S$  is such that

$$\mu_S \leq p^{-\frac{vd}{2}(1-\frac{2}{A}-\frac{4}{B})} \leq n^{-\frac{A}{2}(1-\frac{2}{A}-\frac{4}{B})}. \quad (5)$$

*Proof.* We count the solutions to Equation (1) in  $S^*$ . Since  $S$  is isomorphic to the product of all  $S_p$  for  $p$  a prime dividing  $n$ , we fix such a prime  $p$  and count the solutions to Equation (1) in  $S_p^*$ . Using the decomposition in Equation (2) we then reduce to counting solutions in the subgroups  $\mathbb{U}$  and  $\mathbb{V}$ .

If  $x \in \mathbb{U}$  is a solution to Equation (1) then  $x^{n^d} = x$ . Since  $\mathbb{U}$  is a  $p$ -group and  $p$  divides  $n$  we deduce that  $x = 1$ .

According to Section 2.3, the  $R[\mathcal{G}]$ -module  $\mathbb{V}$  is isomorphic to  $[(S/\mathfrak{p}S)^*]^m$  where  $m$  is the number of prime ideals in  $S$  above  $p$ , and  $\mathfrak{p}$  is one of them, and the action of  $\mathcal{G}$  is given by Equation (3). It is clear that any solution  $x$  to Equation (1) in the latter  $R[\mathcal{G}]$ -module is characterized by its first coordinate  $x_0$  and this coordinate must be a  $|n^m - p^t|$ -th root of unity in the field  $S/\mathfrak{p}S$ . Since the latter field has cardinality  $p^f$  we deduce that the number of solutions to Equation (1) in  $\mathbb{V}$  is

$$\gcd(n^m - p^t, p^f - 1).$$

The density of bad witnesses is thus

$$\mu_S = \prod_{p|n} \frac{\gcd(n^m - p^t, p^f - 1)}{(p^f - 1)^m p^{(v-1)d}}, \quad (6)$$

where the integers  $f, m, v$  and  $t$  depend on  $p$ . This density is bounded from above by any term in the product (6). So let  $p$  be a prime divisor of  $n$  such that  $v \log p \geq \frac{A \log n}{d}$ . Let  $m$  be the number of prime ideals in  $S$  above  $p$ .

We first assume that  $m \geq 2$ , so  $p$  splits in  $S$ . Then the density of bad witnesses is bounded from above by  $1/(p^f - 1)^{m-1} p^{(v-1)d}$ . We check that

$$N - 1 \geq N^{(1-\frac{2}{B})}, \quad (7)$$

for every integer  $N \geq B$ . So  $p^f - 1 \geq p^{f(1-\frac{2}{B})}$ . Since  $m - 1 \geq m/2$ , we find

$$\mu_S \leq 1/p^{\frac{d}{2}(1-\frac{2}{B})+(v-1)d}.$$

The result follows.

We now assume that  $m = 1$ , so  $p$  is inert in  $S$  and  $f = d$ . We first prove the following inequality

$$\gcd(n - p^t, p^d - 1) \leq np^{\frac{d}{2}}. \quad (8)$$

Indeed, if  $1 \leq t \leq \frac{d}{2}$ , Inequality (8) is granted because  $1 \leq |n - p^t| \leq \max(n, p^t) \leq np^t$ . In case  $\frac{d}{2} < t \leq d - 1$ , we call  $w$  the unique integer in  $[1, d[$  that is congruent to  $-t$  modulo  $d$ . We have

$$\gcd(n - p^t, p^d - 1) = \gcd(np^w - 1, p^d - 1). \quad (9)$$

Since  $w \leq (d - 1)/2$ , the right hand side of (9) is bounded from above by  $np^{\frac{d}{2}}$  as was to be shown. So Inequality (8) holds true in either case, and Inequality (5) follows using Equation (6), Equation (4), and Inequality (7). □

### 3. AN EFFICIENT PSEUDO-PRIMALITY TEST

A consequence of Theorem 3 is that a compositeness criterion as Theorem 2, when implemented with a cyclic  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -algebra of dimension  $d$ , is efficient, provided  $n$  has a large prime power divisor  $p^v$ . On the other hand, we saw in Section 1 that the Miller-Rabin test is efficient when  $n$  has many prime divisors. Combining these two tests we can construct a new probabilistic pseudo-primality test that takes advantage of either situation.

Fix two real numbers  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $A > 2$  and  $B \geq 4A/(A - 2)$ . In particular  $B > 4$ . Set  $C = 1 - 2/A - 4/B$  and note that  $C$  is positive.

Let  $n$  be a positive integer. We assume  $n$  is not a prime power, and every prime dividing  $n$  is bigger than or equal to  $B$ . We choose two positive integers  $r$  and  $d$  and we construct a pseudo-primality test which is the product of  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests and a Galois test of dimension  $d$ . We let  $\delta = \log(d/A)/\log \log n$  so

$$d = A(\log n)^\delta.$$

We let  $\rho = \log(2A^{-1}r \log 2)/(\log \log n)$  so

$$r = \frac{A(\log n)^\rho}{2 \log 2}.$$

We assume

$$\left(1 - \frac{A}{d}\right) (\log n)^{\delta+\rho} \leq C \log n, \quad (10)$$

or equivalently

$$dr \left(1 - \frac{A}{d}\right) \leq \frac{A^2 C \log n}{2 \log 2}.$$

We call  $P_1 : ((\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*)^r \rightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$  the product of  $r$  Miller-Rabin maps. And  $P_2 : S^* \rightarrow \{\text{composite, prime}\}$  a Galois map as in Theorem 2, associated with a cyclic algebra of dimension  $d$ . We set  $P = P_1 \vee P_2$ . The density of bad witnesses for  $P$  is bounded from



above by the densities of bad witnesses for  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Let  $p^v$  be the largest prime power dividing  $n$ . We set  $\pi = \log(v \log p) / \log \log(n)$ , so

$$\log p^v = (\log n)^\pi.$$

The number  $t$  of prime divisors of  $n$  satisfies

$$t > (\log n) / (v \log p) = (\log n)^{1-\pi}.$$

If

$$\delta + \pi \geq 1,$$

then  $v \log p \geq \frac{A \log n}{d}$ , and, according to Theorem 3, the density of bad witnesses for  $P_2$  is bounded from above by

$$p^{-\frac{vd}{2}(1-\frac{2}{A}-\frac{4}{B})} = \exp\left(-\frac{A}{2}\left(1-\frac{2}{A}-\frac{4}{B}\right)(\log n)^{\delta+\pi}\right). \quad (11)$$

On the other hand, the density of bad witnesses for every Miller-Rabin test is  $\leq 2^{-t+1}$ . The density of bad witnesses for  $r$  such tests is at most

$$2^{-r(t-1)} \leq \exp\left(-\frac{A}{2}\left(1-\frac{1}{t}\right)(\log n)^{1+\rho-\pi}\right). \quad (12)$$

Although we do not know the value of  $\pi$ , we can deduce from Equations (11) and (12) an upper bound for the density of bad witnesses of the product test  $P = P_1 \vee P_2$ .

If  $\pi$  lies in  $[0, 1 - \delta[$  then Equation (11) gives nothing and Equation (12) gives an upper bound

$$\exp\left(-\frac{A}{2}\left(1-\frac{A}{d}\right)(\log n)^{\rho+\delta}\right),$$

for the density of bad witnesses for  $P_1$ .

If  $\pi$  lies in  $[1 - \delta, 1]$  then Equation (11) gives an upper bound

$$\exp\left(-\frac{A}{2}\left(1-\frac{2}{A}-\frac{4}{B}\right)\log n\right),$$

for the density of bad witnesses for  $P_2$ . Using Inequality (10) we find the upper bound

$$\exp\left(-\frac{A}{2}\left(1-\frac{A}{d}\right)(\log n)^{\rho+\delta}\right),$$

in that case.

This discussion is illustrated in Figure 1 where the continuous line is the exponent of  $\log n$  in Equation (12), the dashed line is the exponent of  $\log n$  in Equation (11), and the bullet is the minimum of the maximum of the two functions.

**Theorem 4** (Density of the composed test). *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two real numbers such that  $A > 2$  and  $B \geq 4A/(A-2)$ . Let*

$$C = 1 - 2/A - 4/B. \quad (13)$$

*Let  $n$  be an integer that is not a prime power. Assume that  $n$  has no prime divisor smaller than  $B$ . Let  $r$  and  $d$  be two positive integers such that*

$$dr \left(1 - \frac{A}{d}\right) \leq \frac{A^2 C \log n}{2 \log 2} \quad (14)$$

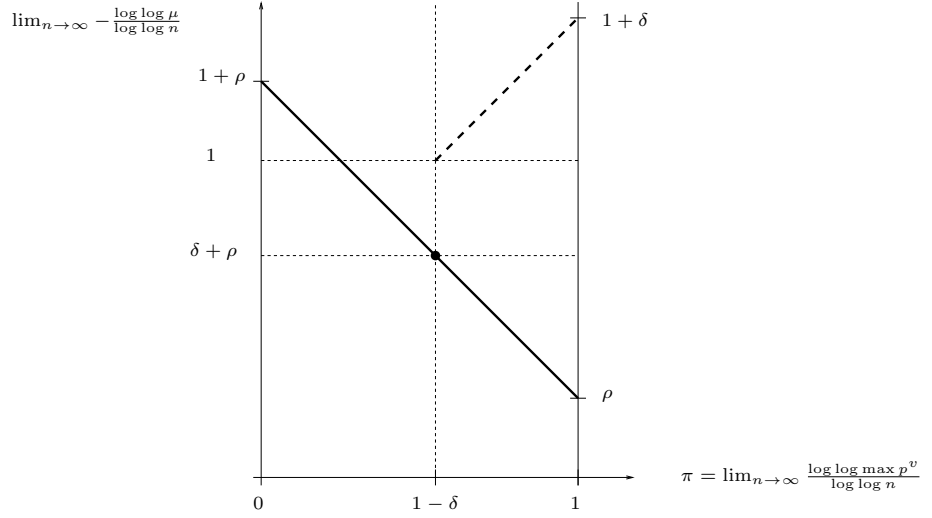


FIGURE 1. The Miller-Rabin (continuous) and Galois (dashed) densities.

and let  $P$  be the composite test of  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests and one Galois test of dimension  $d$ . The density of bad witnesses for  $P$  is bounded from above by

$$\leq 2^{-\frac{rd}{A}(1-\frac{A}{d})}.$$

Taking  $A = 2.1$ ,  $B = 1000$ , and  $d \geq 16$ , we have  $C \geq 0.043619$  and we obtain a density  $\leq 2^{-0.41369rd}$  provided  $rd \leq 0.13875 \log n$ .

Taking  $A = 4$ ,  $B = 1000$ , and  $d \geq 16$ , we have  $C \geq 0.496$  and we obtain a density  $\leq 2^{-0.18rd}$  provided  $rd \leq 5.72 \log n$ .

We note that the complexity of such a composed test is  $(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}(r + d^{1+\varepsilon(d)})$  under the condition that arithmetic operations in the  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra  $S$  can be performed in quasi-linear time in the degree  $d$ . It is asymptotically optimal to take  $d$  and  $r$  as close as possible. We thus prove Theorem 1 provided we can efficiently construct a Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  with degree  $d$  in some interval  $[k, k^{1+\varepsilon(k)}]$ . This is the purpose of the next Section 4.

**Heuristics.** There are many possible choices for the parameters  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $r$  and  $d$  when using Theorem 4. We will explain in Section 5.2 how to choose them optimally. Here we just collect a few simple minded observations on what could be a reasonable choice. We take

$$B = 8000. \tag{15}$$

Taking a too large  $A$  is pointless. We recommend

$$2 < A \leq 48. \tag{16}$$

In case we have a bigger value of  $A$  it will be more efficient to take smaller values for  $r$  and  $d$  and repeat the whole test. We also suggest that

$$d \geq 2A, \tag{17}$$

otherwise we would better use  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests only, and obtain better security at lower cost. It is reasonable also to have

$$d \leq r, \tag{18}$$

because the  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests and the one Galois test have similar effect on the security. So the time devoted to the  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests should not be smaller than the time devoted to the Galois test. Assume we want to bound from above the error probability by  $2^{-\lambda}$  for some integer  $\lambda$ . We must have

$$\lambda \leq \frac{rd}{A} \left(1 - \frac{A}{d}\right). \quad (19)$$

And we should have

$$\frac{rd}{A} \left(1 - \frac{A}{d}\right) \leq 2\lambda, \quad (20)$$

in order not to waste time.

We deduce from Equations (18), (20), (17), and (16) that

$$d \leq 2\sqrt{A\lambda} \leq 14\sqrt{\lambda}. \quad (21)$$

We deduce from Equations (19), (14), (13), and (16), that

$$\lambda \leq (0.9995A - 2) \frac{\log_2 n}{2} \leq 23 \log_2 n. \quad (22)$$

Under the reasonable hypotheses above, the smallest possible value for  $A$  when applying Theorem 4 is thus

$$\left(2 + \frac{2\lambda}{\log_2(n)}\right) / 0.9995.$$

So we recommend to take

$$A = \left(2 + \frac{2\lambda}{b-1}\right) / 0.9995, \quad (23)$$

where

$$b = \lfloor \log_2(n) \rfloor + 1,$$

is the number of bits of  $n$ .

#### 4. CONSTRUCTING ALGEBRAS

In this section we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 5** (Constructing algebras). *There exist a function  $\varepsilon : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  in the class  $o(1)$  and a probabilistic (Las Vegas) algorithm that takes as input an odd integer  $n$  and an integer  $k$  such that  $1 \leq k \leq \log n$ , runs in time  $(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}$ , and returns with probability  $\geq 1/2$  at least one of the following two data*

- A proof that  $n$  is composite,
- A cyclic algebra  $S$  over  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  with degree  $d$  and Galois group  $\mathcal{G} = \langle \sigma \rangle$  such that

$$k \leq d \leq k^{1+\varepsilon(k)}, \quad (24)$$

and there exists a basis  $\Omega$  of the  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $S$  such that  $\sigma(\omega) = \omega^n$  for every  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ .

Arithmetic operations in  $S$  are then performed in deterministic time  $(\log n)^{1+\varepsilon(n)} d^{1+\varepsilon(d)}$ .

From Theorem 5 and Theorem 4 one can easily deduce Theorem 1. We prove Theorem 5 in two steps. We first apply a single Miller-Rabin test to  $n$ . If  $n$  is composite we shall thus detect it with probability  $\geq 1/2$  in probabilistic time  $(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}$ . So this copes with the case when  $n$  is composite. We then try to construct an  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -algebra  $S$ . For the complexity analysis of this second step, we can assume that  $n$  is prime.

We shall use Kummer theory to construct an extension of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  with appropriate degree. This is a classical construction in this context. It appears in [1, 12] and even more explicitly in [5, 9]. We first construct a small cyclotomic extension  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ , then a Kummer extension  $S$  of  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ . We let  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  be the smallest positive integer such that the product  $Q$  of all prime integers  $q$  such that  $q - 1 | d_{\text{cyc}}$  exceeds  $k$ . According to [1, Theorem 3] we have

$$d_{\text{cyc}} \leq (\log k)^{\Theta \log \log \log \Theta k}.$$

We call  $d_{\text{kum}}$  the smallest divisor of  $Q$  that exceeds  $k$ . We set  $d = d_{\text{kum}} d_{\text{cyc}}$ . It is clear that  $d$  satisfies Inequality (24). We first use the algorithms in [16] to find a degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  unitary polynomial  $F(X)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}[X]$  that is irreducible if  $n$  is prime. This takes probabilistic time  $d_{\text{cyc}}^{2+\varepsilon(d_{\text{cyc}})}(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}$  that is  $(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}$ . We set

$$R_{\text{cyc}} = (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})[X]/F(X).$$

We set  $x = X \bmod F(X)$  and call  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}} : R_{\text{cyc}} \rightarrow R_{\text{cyc}}$  the  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -linear map that sends  $x^i$  to  $x^{ni}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq d_{\text{cyc}} - 1$ . We check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$  is a morphism of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -algebras. This boils down to checking that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}(x^i) = x^{ni}$  for  $d_{\text{cyc}} \leq i \leq 2d_{\text{cyc}} - 2$ . This takes time  $(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}$ . It is a matter of linear algebra to check that the fixed subalgebra by  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$  is  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . It takes time  $(d_{\text{cyc}})^3(\log n)^{1+\varepsilon(n)} = (\log n)^{1+\varepsilon(n)}$ . We pick a random  $u$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  and check that

$$\sigma_{\text{cyc}}^i(u) - u \in R_{\text{cyc}}^* \tag{25}$$

for every  $0 < i < d_{\text{cyc}}$ . If  $n$  is prime then the density of such elements in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  is at least  $1/2$ . So finding one of them takes probabilistic time  $(\log n)^{2+\varepsilon(n)}$ .

We check that  $d_{\text{kum}}$  divides  $n^{d_{\text{cyc}}} - 1$ . We check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}^{d_{\text{cyc}}}(x) = x$ .

We look for an element  $a$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}^*$  such that  $\zeta = a^{\frac{n^{d_{\text{cyc}}}-1}{d_{\text{kum}}}}$  has exact order  $d_{\text{kum}}$ . If  $n$  is prime, the density of such elements  $a$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}^*$  is  $\geq (\log \log \log n)^{-\Theta}$ . We check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}(a) = a^n$ .

We set

$$S = R_{\text{cyc}}[Y]/(Y^{d_{\text{kum}}} - a),$$

and  $y = Y \bmod Y^{d_{\text{kum}}} - a$ . Let  $\tau : S \rightarrow S$  be the unique endomorphism of  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ -algebra such that  $\tau(y) = \zeta y$ . The fixed subalgebra by  $\tau$  in  $S$  is  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ .

There exists a unique endomorphism of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -algebra  $\sigma : S \rightarrow S$  such that  $\sigma(y) = y^n$  and the restriction of  $\sigma$  to  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  is  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$ . It is clear that  $\sigma^{d_{\text{cyc}}}$  is  $\tau$ . Restriction to  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  gives an exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \langle \tau \rangle \rightarrow \langle \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \sigma_{\text{cyc}} \rangle \rightarrow 1.$$

So the order of  $\sigma$  is  $d = d_{\text{kum}} d_{\text{cyc}}$ . Every element in  $S$  fixed by  $\sigma$  is also fixed by  $\tau = \sigma^{d_{\text{kum}}}$ . So it belongs to  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ . But elements in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  fixed by  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$  actually lie in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . So

$$S^{\mathcal{G}} = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, \tag{26}$$

where  $\mathcal{G}$  is the group generated by  $\sigma$ . Furthermore, for every  $0 < i < d_{\text{kum}}$

$$\tau^i(y) - y = (\zeta^i - 1)y \in S^*. \tag{27}$$

From (26), (25), (27) and [8, Proposition 1.2] we deduce that  $S$  is a Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  with group  $\mathcal{G}$ . As for the basis  $\Omega$  we can take the  $x^i y^j$  for  $0 \leq i < d_{\text{cyc}}$  and  $0 \leq j < d_{\text{kum}}$ .

**Remark.** We expect [1, Remark 6.3] that

$$d_{\text{cyc}} \leq (2 \log d_{\text{kum}})^{1.5 \log \log \log d_{\text{kum}}},$$

for large enough  $k$ . This and Equations (21), (22) implies

$$d_{\text{cyc}} \leq (9 + \log b)^{1.5 \times \max(1, \log \log \log 68 \sqrt{\log_2 n})}, \quad (28)$$

where  $b$  is the number of bits of  $n$ . We shall use this estimate in Section 5.2.

## 5. AN ALGORITHM

It is now possible to specify an algorithm.

**5.1. A theoretical algorithm.** We prove Theorem 1 by describing the algorithm. The input consists of a large enough integer  $n$  and a bound  $\lambda$  such that  $1 \leq \lambda \leq \log n$ . The algorithm outputs either that  $n$  is composite or that  $n$  is a probable prime. The probability of missing a composite is at most  $2^{-\lambda}$ .

The algorithm is the following.

- i) Check that  $n$  has no prime factor smaller than 1000.
- ii) Check that  $n$  is not a prime power.
- iii) Set  $k = \max(16, \lfloor \sqrt{\lambda} \rfloor)$  and use the algorithm in the proof of Theorem 5 to construct a  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ -algebra  $S$  with degree  $d$  such that  $k \leq d \leq k^{1+\epsilon(k)}$ .
- iv) Set  $r = \lceil \lambda / (0.18 \times d) \rceil$ .
- v) Perform  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests. If one of them fails output composite.
- vi) Choose at random a non-zero  $z$  in  $S$  and check that it is invertible. If it is not, output composite.
- vii) Check that  $\sigma(z) = z^n$  and output composite or prime accordingly.

Applying Theorem 4 with  $A = 4$  and  $B = 1000$  we see that, for large enough  $n$ , the algorithm returns prime with probability  $\leq 2^{-\lambda}$  when  $n$  is composite. It runs in time  $(\log n)^{2+\epsilon(n)} \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon(\lambda)}$  because both  $d$  and  $r$  are  $\leq \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon(\lambda)}$ .

**5.2. A practical algorithm.** We let  $b$  be the number of bits of  $n$ . We assume  $\lambda \leq 23 \log_2 n$  according to Equation (22). For higher security we may just repeat the test. We set  $B = 8000$  and  $A = \left(2 + \frac{2\lambda}{b-1}\right) / 0.9995$  following Equations (15) and (23).

The algorithm of Section 5.1 can be reformulated as follows.

- Preliminaries.
  - 1) Check that  $n$  has no prime factor smaller than  $B$ .
  - 2) Check that  $n$  is not a prime power.
  - 3) Determine the integers  $d_{\text{cyc}}$ ,  $d_{\text{kum}}$  and  $r$ .
- Miller-Rabin tests.
  - 4) Perform  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests.
- Construction of the algebra  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ .
  - 5) Find an “irreducible” polynomial  $F(X)$  of degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  modulo  $n$  and construct the algebra  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ .
  - 6) Compute the action of the automorphism  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$  on every  $X^i \bmod F(X)$  for  $i = 0, \dots, 2d_{\text{cyc}} - 2$ .
  - 7) Check that the fixed submodule by  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  is  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .
  - 8) Find a  $u$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  such that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}^i(u) - u$  is a unit for every  $1 \leq i \leq d_{\text{cyc}} - 1$ .

- Construction of the algebra  $S$ .
  - 9) Find an element  $a$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  such that  $\zeta = a^{\frac{n^{d_{\text{cyc}}}-1}{d_{\text{kum}}}}$  has exact order  $d_{\text{kum}}$ . Check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}(a) = a^n$ .
- The Galois test.
  - 10) Choose at random a non-zero  $z$  in  $S$  and check that it is invertible.
  - 11) Check that  $\sigma(z) = z^n$ .

We now comment on each of these steps.

#### 5.2.1. Preliminary steps.

*Step 1: Check that  $n$  has no prime factor smaller than  $B$ .* Recall that  $B = 8000$ . We compute once and for all the product of all the primes smaller than  $B$  and check that the gcd with  $n$  is equal to 1. If this is not the case, we stop and output that  $n$  is composite.

*Step 2: Check that  $n$  is not a prime power.* For each integer  $d$  between 2 and  $b$ , we compute some integer approximation  $\eta$  of the positive real  $\sqrt[d]{n}$  such that  $|\eta - \sqrt[d]{n}| \leq 0.6$  (there exist fast methods based on Newton iterations for this task). Then we check that  $\eta^d$  is not equal to  $n$ . Otherwise we stop and output that  $n$  is composite.

*Step 3: Determine the integers  $d_{\text{cyc}}$ ,  $d_{\text{kum}}$  and  $r$ .* We consider all the small integers  $d_{\text{cyc}}$ , starting from 1 and ending at  $\lfloor (9 + \log b)^{1.5 \times \max(1, \log \log \log 68 \sqrt{\log_2 n})} \rfloor$  according to Equation (28). For each  $d_{\text{cyc}}$ , we enumerate the divisors  $d_{\text{kum}}$  of  $n^{d_{\text{cyc}}} - 1$  upper bounded by  $\lfloor 2\sqrt{A\lambda}/d_{\text{cyc}} \rfloor$  according to Equation (21). We set  $d = d_{\text{cyc}} \times d_{\text{kum}}$  and  $r = \lceil \lambda A / (d - A) \rceil$ .

This exhaustive search produces many 3-uples  $(d_{\text{cyc}}, d_{\text{kum}}, r)$ . Among these we select the one with the smallest estimated cost. The cost estimates are obtained from some systematic experiments with the available computer arithmetic (see Section 6 for our choices in a MAGMA implementation).

We compare then with the estimated cost of  $\lambda/2$  classical Miller-Rabin tests. If the latter are cheaper, we switch to these classical tests and output the result, otherwise we go to Step 4.

#### 5.2.2. Miller-Rabin tests.

*Step 4: Perform  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests.* Each of these  $r$  tests is a classical Miller-Rabin test as described in Section 1.

#### 5.2.3. Construction of the algebra $R_{\text{cyc}}$ .

We skip the next four steps when  $d_{\text{cyc}} = 1$ .

*Step 5: Find a unitary “irreducible” polynomial  $F(X)$  of degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  modulo  $n$ .* We use any efficient probabilistic algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  that produces a degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  unitary irreducible polynomial, with probability  $\geq 1/2$ , provided  $n$  is prime. For  $n$  prime,  $\mathcal{A}$  fails with probability  $\leq 1/2$ . In that case it returns nothing. If  $n$  is not prime, then  $\mathcal{A}$  may return either nothing or a unitary polynomial of degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})[X]$ .

We call  $\mathcal{B}$  the algorithm consisting of  $\mathcal{A}$  followed by a Miller-Rabin test. It returns with probability  $\geq 1/2$  either a proof that  $n$  is not prime or a polynomial of degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})[X]$ . We iterate  $\mathcal{B}$  until we get such an output.

Step 5 thus provides either a proof of compositeness or a polynomial which we know to be irreducible in case  $n$  is a prime. As for the choice of  $\mathcal{A}$  we distinguish several cases, for efficiency purposes.

- When  $d_{\text{cyc}} = 2$ , we look for an element  $o$  with Jacobi Symbol  $\left(\frac{o}{n}\right)$  equal to  $-1$  and we set  $F(X) = X^2 - o$ . Note that  $o$  is a quadratic non-residue when  $n$  is a prime.
- When  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  divides  $n - 1$ , we look for an element  $o$  such that  $o^{\frac{(n-1)}{d_{\text{cyc}}}}$  has order  $d_{\text{cyc}}$ , and we set  $F(X) = X^{d_{\text{cyc}}} - o$ .
- Otherwise, we test random unitary polynomials  $F(X)$  and we use the extended Euclidean algorithm to check that the ideal  $(X^{n^i} - X, F(X))$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})[X]$  is one for all  $i$  from 1 to  $\lfloor d_{\text{cyc}}/2 \rfloor$ . If we test more than  $\log(1/2)/\log(1 - 1/2d)$  polynomials  $F(X)$ , then the probability of success is  $\geq 1/2$  provided  $n$  is prime.

One may wonder why we incorporate a Miller-Rabin test in the loop. This is just to guarantee that we leave the loop in due time, even if  $n$  is composite. A similar caution should be taken in every loop occurring in the next steps. We only detail this here. In practice these Miller-Rabin test are completely useless. Indeed  $n$  is almost known to be prime and there is no risk that we keep blocked in such a loop.

*Step 6: Compute the action of the automorphism  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$ .* We set  $x = X \bmod F(X)$  and write  $x^{in}$  in the polynomial basis  $(x^k)_k$ , for  $i$  from 0 to  $d_{\text{cyc}} - 1$ . This yields a  $d_{\text{cyc}} \times d_{\text{cyc}}$  matrix over  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , that we denote  $M_{\sigma_{\text{cyc}}}$ . Using this matrix, we can check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}(x^i) = x^{in}$  for  $i$  from  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  to  $2d_{\text{cyc}} - 2$ , and  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}^{d_{\text{cyc}}}(x) = x$ . If this is not the case, we stop and output that  $n$  is composite.

*Step 7: Check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}$  fixes  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .* We try to compute the kernel of  $M_{\sigma_{\text{cyc}}} - \text{Id}$ , using Gauss elimination. It produces either the expected kernel or a zero divisor in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . In the latter case we stop and output that  $n$  is composite. Once computed the kernel, we check that it is equal to  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . If it is not the case, we stop and output that  $n$  is composite.

*Step 8: Find a  $u$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  such that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}^i(u) - u$  is a unit for every  $1 \leq i \leq d_{\text{cyc}} - 1$ .* If  $n$  is prime then at least half of the elements in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  satisfy the condition. So we pick at random  $u$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  and test the condition. We iterate if it fails. We again add a Miller-Rabin test in the loop to make sure that it stops with probability  $\geq 1/2$  even when  $n$  is composite.

To check that a non-zero element  $z$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  is a unit we try to compute an inverse using extended Euclidean algorithm. If it returns an element  $z'$ , we just need to check that  $z z' = 1$ . If it fails we know that  $n$  is not a prime and we stop.

#### 5.2.4. Construction of the algebra $S$ .

*Step 9: Find an element  $\zeta$  of exact order  $d_{\text{kum}}$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$ .* We pick a random  $a$  in the algebra  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  and compute  $\zeta = a^{(n^{d_{\text{cyc}}}-1)/d_{\text{kum}}}$ . If  $n$  is prime then the density of  $a$  such that the corresponding  $\zeta$  has exact order  $d_{\text{kum}}$  is  $\geq (\log \log \log n)^{-\Theta}$ . The test consists of checking that  $\zeta^{d_{\text{kum}}/q} - 1$  is a unit, for every prime divisor  $q$  of  $d_{\text{kum}}$ . We proceed as in Step 8.

As above, we add a Miller-Rabin test in the loop to make sure that it stops with probability  $\geq 1/2$  when  $n$  is composite.

We check that  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}(a) = a^n$  using the matrix  $M_{\sigma_{\text{cyc}}}$ . If this is not the case, we know that  $n$  is not a prime and we stop.

#### 5.2.5. The Galois test.

*Step 10:* Choose at random an invertible element in  $S$ . We pick a random non-zero  $z$  in  $S$  and try to compute the inverse  $z'$  of  $z$  with the extended gcd algorithm. If the extended gcd algorithm fails, or  $z' \times z$  is not equal to 1, then we know that  $n$  is not a prime and we can stop.

*Step 11:* Check that  $\sigma(z) = z^n$ . On the first hand, we compute  $z^n$  in  $S$  using fast exponentiation. On the other hand, we write  $z = \sum_i z_i y^i$  where  $z_i \in R_{\text{cyc}}$  and  $y = Y \bmod Y^{d_{\text{kum}}} - a$ . Then, we compute  $\sigma(z)$  as

$$\sum_i \sigma_{\text{cyc}}(z_i) \times y^{in}$$

where  $\sigma_{\text{cyc}}(z_i)$  is computed using the matrix  $M_{\sigma_{\text{cyc}}}$ . Note that  $y^{in}$  can be efficiently computed as  $a^\alpha y^\beta$  where  $\alpha$  (resp.  $\beta$ ) is the quotient (resp. the remainder) in the Euclidean division of  $in$  by  $d_{\text{kum}}$ .

If  $\sigma(z)$  is not equal to  $z^n$ , we output that  $n$  is composite. Otherwise, we output that  $n$  is a Galois pseudo-prime.

## 6. EXPERIMENTS

We first have determined power functions that best approximate the sub-quadratic timings that we have measured for elementary arithmetic polynomial operations in MAGMA v2.18-2. In our testing ranges, *i.e.*  $b$  between 512 and 8192 bits,  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  between 1 and 16 and  $d_{\text{kum}}$  between 8 and 1000, we have obtained the following upper bounds for the heaviest steps in the algorithm.

- Step 4. Computing  $r$  Miller-Rabin tests:

$$T_{\text{MR}}(b, r) = F \times r \times b^{2.6}.$$

- Step 5. Constructing an “irreducible” polynomial of degree  $d_{\text{cyc}}$  modulo  $n$  (worst case):

$$T_{\text{F}}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } d_{\text{cyc}} = 1, \\ F \times \log_2 b \times b^{2.6} & \text{if } d_{\text{cyc}} = 2, \\ 18 F \times \log_2 d_{\text{cyc}} \times d_{\text{cyc}}^{2.2} \times b^{2.4} & \text{for larger } d_{\text{cyc}}. \end{cases}$$

- Step 9. Finding an element  $\zeta$  of order  $d_{\text{kum}}$  in  $R_{\text{cyc}}$  (worst case):

$$T_{\zeta}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}) = \begin{cases} 19 F \times b^{2.4} & \text{if } d_{\text{cyc}} = 1, \\ 36 F \times d_{\text{cyc}}^{2.2} \times b^{2.4} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Step 11. Computing  $\sigma(x)$  in  $S$ :

$$T_{\sigma}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}, d_{\text{kum}}) = \begin{cases} F \times d_{\text{kum}} \times b^{2.6} & \text{if } d_{\text{cyc}} = 1, \\ 10 F \times (d_{\text{cyc}} \times d_{\text{kum}}) \times b^{2.4} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Step 11 bis. Computing  $x^n$  in  $S$ :

$$T_{\text{power}}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}, d_{\text{kum}}) = \begin{cases} 19 F \times d_{\text{kum}}^{1.2} \times b^{2.4} & \text{if } d_{\text{cyc}} = 1, \\ 36 F \times (d_{\text{cyc}} \times d_{\text{kum}})^{1.2} \times b^{2.4} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For the sake of completeness, we found that the constant  $F$  is equal to  $30 \times 10^{-9}$  seconds on our laptop (based on a INTEL CORE I7 M620 2.67GHz processor). Note that the knowledge



of  $F$  is not necessary to perform the comparisons in Step 3, since all the estimated costs, especially  $T_{\text{MR}}(b, \lambda/2)$  for  $\lambda/2$  Miller Rabin tests, and

$$T_{\text{Galois}}(b, r, d_{\text{cyc}}, d_{\text{kum}}) \simeq T_{\text{MR}}(b, r) + T_{\text{F}}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}) + T_{\zeta}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}) + T_{\sigma}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}, d_{\text{kum}}) + T_{\text{power}}(b, d_{\text{cyc}}, d_{\text{kum}}),$$

for Galois tests, are known up to  $F$ . Our conclusions should thus be valid on any computer.

The set of pairs  $(b, \lambda)$  for which a Galois test is more efficient than  $\lambda/2$  Miller-Rabin tests is the pale domain in Figure 2. We observe that when  $b$  tends to infinity, then the value of  $\lambda$  where the two methods cross tends to 47.

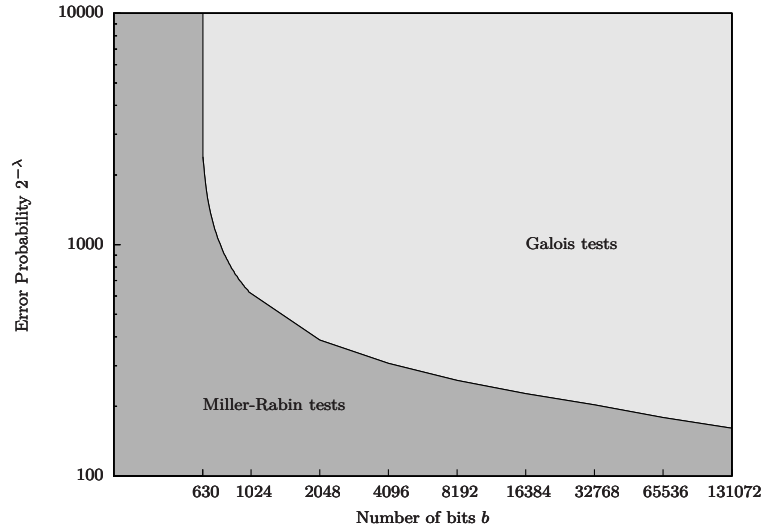


FIGURE 2. Ranges of efficiency for the Galois test

A reasonably optimized implementation in MAGMA v2.18-2 is available on the authors' web pages for independent checks. In order to see how practical is this implementation, we have picked a few random integers of sizes ranging from 1024 to 8192 bits, and we have measured the timings for those which turn to be pseudo-primes. As expected, the cost ratio between  $\lambda/2$  Miller-Rabin tests and one equivalent Galois test increases with  $b$ . Results are collected in Table 6.

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Parameters					Galois							Miller– Rabin
$b$	$\lambda$	$r$	$d_{\text{cyc}}$	$d_{\text{kum}}$	2	4	5	9	$\sigma(x)$	$x^n$	Tot.	
1024	512	129	1	15	0.0	0.3	–	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.5
		171	2	6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.7	
2048	1024	181	1	20	0.0	2.1	–	0.0	0.2	1.5	3.8	6.2
		237	2	8	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.1	0.2	2.0	5.2	
4096	2048	246	1	28	0.0	18.7	–	0.0	1.3	11.6	31.6	75.1
		293	2	12	0.0	22.6	0.0	1.0	1.9	19.8	45.3	
8192	4096	333	1	40	0.4	176.9	–	0.7	1.3	122.5	314.8	1215.0
		424	2	16	0.4	251.6	0.2	5.3	18.8	198.3	474.6	
		316	3	14	0.4	169.7	1.9	7.8	25.6	266.7	472.1	

TABLE 1. Compared timings for  $b$ -bit integers, and prob. up to  $2^{-b/2}$  (in seconds)

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INSTITUT DE MATHÉMATIQUES DE BORDEAUX, UNIVERSITÉ BORDEAUX I ET CNRS, 351 COURS DE LA LIBÉRATION, 33405 TALENCE CEDEX, FRANCE.

INRIA BORDEAUX SUD-OUEST, PROJET LFANT.  
*Email address:* [jean-marc.couveignes@math.u-bordeaux1.fr](mailto:jean-marc.couveignes@math.u-bordeaux1.fr)

UNIVERSITÉ DES SCIENCES ET TECHNIQUES DE MASUKU, FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES, DÉPARTEMENT DE MATHÉMATIQUES ET INFORMATIQUE, BP 943 FRANCEVILLE, GABON.  
*Email address:* [latonyo2000@yahoo.fr](mailto:latonyo2000@yahoo.fr)

DGA MI, LA ROCHE MARGUERITE, 35174 BRUZ, FRANCE.

INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE MATHÉMATIQUE DE RENNES, UNIVERSITÉ DE RENNES 1, CAMPUS DE BEAULIEU, 35042 RENNES, FRANCE.  
*Email address:* [reynald.lercier@m4x.org](mailto:reynald.lercier@m4x.org)