

Quadratic residues numbers of prime or compound integers

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We would want to precise here the fact that it is possible to establish if a number is prime or not by counting the number (that we note $R(n)$) of its not null quadratic residues¹.

More precisely, we induce from countings for numbers until 100 the following hypothesis :

- *If n is an odd number :*
 - *if $R(n)$ is equal to $(n - 1)/2$ then n is prime.*
 - *if $R(n)$ is lesser than $(n - 1)/2$ then n is compound ;*
- *If n is an even number :*
 - *if $R(n)$ is equal to $n/2$ then n is the double of a prime number ;*
 - *if $R(n)$ is lesser than $n/2$ then n is the double of a compound number.*

Our hypothesis can be written :

$$(H1) \quad \forall n, n \geq 3,$$

$$R(n) = \# \{y \text{ such that } \exists x \in \mathbb{N}^\times, \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, x^2 - kn - y = 0 \text{ with } 0 < y \} < \frac{n}{2}$$

$$\iff$$

$$n \text{ is the double of a compound number if it is even and } n \text{ is compound if it is odd}$$

$$(H2) \quad \forall n, n \geq 3,$$

$$R(n) = \# \{y \text{ such that } \exists x \in \mathbb{N}^\times, \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, x^2 - kn - y = 0 \text{ with } 0 < y \} = \frac{n}{2}$$

$$\iff$$

$$n \text{ is the double of a prime number if it is even and } n \text{ is prime if it is odd.}$$

To demonstrate our hypothesis, one should have to prove :

- 1) that it is true by elevating a prime number p to the power k ;
- 2) that it is true by multiplying powers of primes.

We recall that the number of quadratic residues of a prime number p is equal to $\frac{p-1}{2}$.

Let us understand the hypothesis heuristically.

The number of quadratic residues of powers p^k of a prime number p is always strictly lesser than $\frac{p^k - 1}{2}$ because all p 's multiples can't be quadratic residues of powers of p .

The modular equivalence of differences $a^2 - b^2 \equiv (a - b)(a + b) \pmod{n}$ has as consequence a great redundancy of squares that can be obtained modulo n and this reduces the number of quadratic residues of products of powers, rendering this number always lesser than the half of the product considered.

¹We will omit this non nullity of quadratic residues considered.

Let us show this redundancy mechanism on a simple example (in annex, we will provide as another example squares redundancy in the case of $n = 175 = 5^2 \cdot 7$).

Modulus $n = 35$ ($R(35) = 11$ and $11 < (35 - 1)/2$)

34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	4	9	16	25	1	14	29	11	30	16	4	29	21	15	11	9

Squares redundancy for modulus 35 are :

$$\begin{aligned}
 6^2 &\equiv 1^2 \pmod{35} & \text{since} & (6-1) \cdot (6+1) = 5 \cdot 7 & \text{and } 35 \mid 35. \\
 11^2 &\equiv 4^2 \pmod{35} & \text{since} & (11-4) \cdot (11+4) = 7 \cdot 15 = 105 & \text{and } 35 \mid 105. \\
 12^2 &\equiv 2^2 \pmod{35} & \text{since} & (12-2) \cdot (12+2) = 10 \cdot 14 = 140 & \text{and } 35 \mid 140. \\
 13^2 &\equiv 8^2 \pmod{35} & \text{since} & (13-8) \cdot (13+8) = 5 \cdot 21 = 105 & \text{and } 35 \mid 105. \\
 16^2 &\equiv 9^2 \pmod{35} & \text{since} & (16-9) \cdot (16+9) = 7 \cdot 25 = 175 & \text{and } 35 \mid 175. \\
 17^2 &\equiv 3^2 \pmod{35} & \text{since} & (17-3) \cdot (17+3) = 14 \cdot 20 = 280 & \text{and } 35 \mid 280.
 \end{aligned}$$

The quadratic residues number can be obtained by the following formulas :

$$R(2) = 1,$$

$$R(4) = 1,$$

$$R(p) = \frac{p-1}{2} \quad \forall p \text{ prime} > 2$$

$$R(2p) = p \quad \forall p \text{ prime} > 2$$

$$R(4p) = p \quad \forall p \text{ prime} > 2$$

$$R(2^k) = \left(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{2^k}{6} + \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{6} \right) - 1, \quad \forall k > 2$$

$$R(p^k) = \left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{(p-1)(-1)^{k+1}}{4(p+1)} + \frac{p^{k+1}}{2(p+1)} \right) - 1 \quad \forall p \text{ prime} > 2, \forall k \geq 2$$

$$R\left(\prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i}\right) = -1 + \prod_{i=1}^k (R(p_i^{\alpha_i}) + 1)$$

It can be noticed that in the case of powers, 1 is subtracted after the calculus between parentheses has been made to obtain an integer.

Bibliographie

[1] Victor-Amédée Lebesgue, *Démonstrations de quelques théorèmes relatifs aux résidus et aux non-résidus quadratiques*, Journal de Mathématiques pures et appliquées (Journal de Liouville), 1842, vol.7, p.137-159.

[2] Augustin Cauchy, *Théorèmes divers sur les résidus et les non-résidus quadratiques*, Comptes-rendus de l'Académie des Sciences, T10, 06, 16 mars 1840.

Annex 1 : Squares redundancy for modulus $175 = 5^2 \cdot 7$

For modulus 175, we write as couples numbers that have the same square, we don't precise the difference equality $a^2 - b^2 = (a - b)(a + b)$ that is such that factorizations of numbers $a - b$ and $a + b$ "are containing" all factors of $175 = 5^2 \cdot 7$:

(16, 9), (20, 15), (23, 2), (25, 10), (30, 5), (32, 18), (37, 12), (39, 11), (40, 5), (41, 34), (44, 19),
 (45, 10), (46, 4), (48, 27), (50, 15), (51, 26), (53, 3), (55, 15), (57, 43), (58, 33), (60, 10), (62, 13),
 (64, 36), (65, 5), (66, 59), (67, 17), (69, 6), (71, 29), (72, 47), (73, 52), (74, 24), (75, 5), (76, 1),
 (78, 22), (79, 54), (80, 10), (81, 31), (82, 68), (83, 8), (85, 15), (86, 61), (87, 38).

Moreover, 35 and 70 have their square that is null and we took as a convention not to count null quadratic residues.

$$R(175) = 43 \text{ and } 43 < (175 - 1)/2.$$

Annex 2 : Not null quadratic residues numbers for integers from 1 to 100

1 → 0	21 → 7	41 → 20	61 → 30	81 → 30
2 → 1	22 → 11	42 → 15	62 → 31	82 → 41
3 → 1	23 → 11	43 → 21	63 → 15	83 → 41
4 → 1	24 → 5	44 → 11	64 → 11	84 → 15
5 → 2	25 → 10	45 → 11	65 → 20	85 → 26
6 → 3	26 → 13	46 → 23	66 → 23	86 → 43
7 → 3	27 → 10	47 → 23	67 → 33	87 → 29
8 → 2	28 → 7	48 → 7	68 → 17	88 → 17
9 → 3	29 → 14	49 → 21	69 → 23	89 → 44
10 → 5	30 → 11	50 → 21	70 → 23	90 → 23
11 → 5	31 → 15	51 → 17	71 → 35	91 → 27
12 → 3	32 → 6	52 → 13	72 → 11	92 → 23
13 → 6	33 → 11	53 → 26	73 → 36	93 → 31
14 → 7	34 → 17	54 → 21	74 → 37	94 → 47
15 → 5	35 → 11	55 → 17	75 → 21	95 → 29
16 → 3	36 → 7	56 → 11	76 → 19	96 → 13
17 → 8	37 → 18	57 → 19	77 → 23	97 → 48
18 → 7	38 → 19	58 → 29	78 → 27	98 → 43
19 → 9	39 → 13	59 → 29	79 → 39	99 → 23
20 → 5	40 → 8	60 → 11	80 → 11	100 → 21