

# Divisores de $N$ próximo da raiz quadrada de $N$

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# Overview

- 1 Introdução
- 2 A quick test for factors of  $N$  near  $\sqrt{N}$
- 3 Going wider with Fermat numbers

# Prime divisors of $N$

Hardy and Ramanujan (1917)

Let  $\omega(N)$  be the number of distinct prime divisors of  $N$ . Then

$$\omega(N) \simeq \log \log N,$$

for almost all  $N$ .

Erdős (1946)

Let  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_r$  be the distinct prime factors of an integer  $N$ . Then

$$\log \log p_i \simeq i,$$

for almost all  $N$ .

# Divisors of $N$ - Random numbers

On average, an integer  $N$  has approximately  $\log(N)$  divisors. So it is appropriate to rescale and consider the numbers  $\log(d_i)$ , rather than  $d_i$ .

Class	556543680	556544340	556538400
0-2	7	6	6
2-4	20	15	21
4-6	34	28	34
6-8	31	42	29
8-10	17	50	18
10-12	17	53	16
12-14	29	42	29
14-16	37	29	34
16-18	22	13	22
18-20	8	6	7

Factors of  $N$  near  $\sqrt{N}$ 

## Theorem (A. &amp; Machiavelo)

Given  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $N > 3$ , put  $r := \lfloor \sqrt{N} \rfloor$  and write  $N$  in base  $r$ :  
 $N = r^2 + br + c$  (where  $0 \leq b, c < r$ ). If  $r \nmid N$  and the polynomial  
 $f(x) := x^2 + (b+1)x - (r-c)$  is irreducible (over  $\mathbb{Z}$ ), then  $N$  has no  
 factors in  $\left[ \frac{N}{\sqrt{N} + \sqrt[4]{N}}, \sqrt{N} \right]$ . Otherwise, if  $\delta \leq \epsilon$  and  $\delta$  and  $-\epsilon$  are the roots  
 of  $f(x)$ , then  $r - \delta$  and  $r + \epsilon$  are non-trivial factors of  $N$ .

## Proof

## Proof.

Let  $r = \lfloor \sqrt{N} \rfloor$  and  $N = r^2 + br + c$ , where  $0 \leq b, c < r$ . Suppose  $N = mn$ , with  $m \leq r$ . Put  $\delta = r - m \geq 0$  and  $\epsilon = n - r \geq 0$ . Then  $N = (r - \delta)(r + \epsilon) = r^2 + (\epsilon - \delta)r - \epsilon\delta$ . It follows that

$$\epsilon\delta \equiv r - c \pmod{r}.$$

Hence, if  $\delta, \epsilon$  are such that  $\delta\epsilon < r$ , then  $\delta\epsilon = r - c$ , and therefore  $b + 1 = \epsilon - \delta$ . Thus,  $f(x) = (x - \delta)(x + \epsilon)$ .

**When does the inequality  $\delta\epsilon < r$  hold?**

Since  $(n - m)^2 \geq 0$ ,  $(n + m)^2 \geq 4mn = 4N \geq 4r^2$ . So,  $n - r \geq r - m$ , that is  $\epsilon \geq \delta$ . So the inequality holds if  $\epsilon < \sqrt{r}$ , i.e.,  $n < r + \sqrt{r}$  and  $m > N/(r + \sqrt{r})$ . □

## Example - Fermat numbers

Using this result one can check that  $F_{20} = 2^{2^{20}} + 1$  has no factors in an interval that contains more than  $10^{78900}$  numbers, instantaneously.

If  $N = F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1$  is the  $n$ -th Fermat number, then  $r = \lfloor \sqrt{N} \rfloor = 2^{2^{n-1}}$ , and  $N = r^2 + 1$ . Therefore,  $f(x) = x^2 + x - (r - 1)$ , whose discriminant equals  $4r - 3$ , which is congruent to 5 modulo 8, for  $n \geq 1$ . Hence this discriminant is not a square, and thus  $f(x)$  has no rational roots. This shows that  $F_n$  has no factors in the interval

$$\left[ \frac{2^{2^n} + 1}{2^{2^{n-1}} + 2^{2^{n-2}}}, 2^{2^{n-1}} \right].$$

### Theorem (A. & Machiavelo)

*Given  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , set  $r = \lfloor \sqrt{N} \rfloor$ . For any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  exists a bound  $B_\lambda$  such that if, for all  $t = 0, 1, \dots, \lfloor B_\lambda \rfloor$ , the number  $\Delta_t = (t + 2r)^2 - 4N$  is not a square, then  $N$  has no factors in the interval  $[r - \lambda\sqrt{r}, r]$ .*

## Particular Case

### Corollary

Given  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , set  $r = \lfloor \sqrt{N} \rfloor$ , and let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that

$$(\lambda^2 + 3)\lambda < \sqrt{r}.$$

If, for all  $t = 0, 1, \dots, \lambda^2 + 2$ , the number  $\Delta_t = (t + 2r)^2 - 4N$  is not a square, then  $N$  has no factors in the interval  $[r - \lambda\sqrt{r}, r]$ .

### Example

Let  $N = 4n^2 + 1$ . In this case  $\Delta_t = t^2 + 8tn - 4$ . Clearly,  $\Delta_t \neq \square$  for  $t \in \{0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  and if  $t = 2$ ,  $\Delta_t = \square$  if and only if  $n = \square$ . Therefore, if  $n$  is not a square then the number  $4n^2 + 1$  has no factors in the interval  $[2n - 2\sqrt{2n}, 2n]$ .

## When can we get squares?

If  $N = F_m = 2^{2^m} + 1$  ( $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is a Fermat number, then  $r = 2^{2^{m-1}}$ , and

$$\Delta_{t,m} = 2^{2^{m-1}+2} t + t^2 - 4.$$

Suppose that  $t$  is odd. Then  $t^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , and  $\Delta_{t,m} \equiv -3 \pmod{8}$ , which entails that  $\Delta_{t,m}$  is not a square. Since

$$\Delta_{2t,m} = 4 \left( 2^{2^{m-1}+1} t + t^2 - 1 \right),$$

one sees that  $\Delta_{2t,m}$  is a square if and only if the number

$$\Delta'_{t,m} = 2^{2^{m-1}+1} t + t^2 - 1$$

is a square.

# First factorizations

Now,  $\Delta'_{4k,m} \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$  and  $\Delta'_{4k+2,m} \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$  imply that  $\Delta'_{t,m}$  cannot be a square when  $t$  is even, while  $\Delta'_{pk,m} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  implies that  $\Delta'_{t,m}$  is not a square if  $t$  is divisible by any prime  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . It follows, in particular, that  $\Delta'_{t,m}$  can only be a square for numbers

$$t \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

Notice  $\Delta'_{1,1} = 4$  and  $\Delta'_{5,2} = 64$ , which gives us the equations  $x^2 + 2x - 3 = 0$  and  $x^2 + 10x - 39 = 0$  and the factorizations  $5 = 1 \times 5$  and  $17 = 1 \times 17$ .

If  $m \geq 3$

Since  $\Delta'_{4k+1,m} = 2^{2^{m-1}+1} (4k+1) + 8k(2k+1)$ , one sees that in order for  $\Delta'_{4k+1,m}$  to be a square,  $k$  must be even. Define

$$\Gamma_{k,m} = 2^{2^{m-1}-3} (8k+1) + k(4k+1) = \frac{1}{16} \Delta'_{8k+1,m} = \frac{1}{64} \Delta_{16k+2,m}.$$

If  $m = 3$  and  $k = 14$  we obtain the square  $\Gamma_{14,3} = 1024$  which gives us the equation  $x^2 + 226x - 3615 = 0$  and the factorization  $257 = 1 \times 257$ .

If  $m \geq 4$

$\Gamma_{k,m} \equiv k(4k+1) \pmod{8}$ , and this can only be a square in the cases  $k \equiv 0, 4, 5 \pmod{8}$ . But  $k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$  implies that there is a prime  $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  that divides  $k$ , and for such a prime

$$\left(\frac{\Gamma_{k,m}}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1,$$

which implies that  $\Gamma_{k,m}$  is not a square. So  $4 \mid k$ .

$$\Omega_{k,m} = 2^{2^{m-1}-5} (32k+1) + k(16k+1) = \frac{1}{256} \Delta_{64k+2,m}.$$

# When is $\Omega_{k,m}$ a square?

- $\nu_2(k) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , if  $\nu_2(k) < 2^{m-1} - 5$ ;
- $k \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ ;
- $k \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{5}$  (for  $k \equiv 0, 3, 4 \pmod{5}$ ,  $\Omega_{k,m} \equiv 3, 3, 2 \pmod{5}$ );
- $k \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{8}$  (for  $k \equiv 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 \pmod{8}$ ,  $\Omega_{k,m} \equiv 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 \pmod{8}$ );
- If  $p \mid 32k + 1$  then  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  (if  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then  $\left(\frac{k(16k+1)}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{2^2}{p}\right) \left(\frac{32k}{p}\right) \left(\frac{32k+2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = -1$ );
- no prime congruent to  $-1$  modulo 8 can divide  $16k + 1$  (if  $p$  is such a prime, then  $32k + 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ ,  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1$ , and  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = -1$ , so  $\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = -1$ );
- no prime congruent to  $\pm 3$  modulo 8 can divide  $k$ .

Up to 1000, the only numbers  $k$  that simultaneously satisfy all these conditions are:

41, 137, 161, 272, 356, 476, 497, 932, 956, 977.

# Prime divisors of Fermat numbers give a help

## Theorem

Let  $p$  be a prime divisor of a Fermat number  $F_a$ , for some  $a \geq 3$ , and assume that  $k$  is such that

$$\left( \frac{8k^2 + k - \frac{p-1}{64}}{p} \right) = -1.$$

Then  $\Omega_{k,m} \neq \square$ , for  $m \geq a + 2$ . Moreover, if  $p = 17$  and  $k$  is such that

$$\left( \frac{k^2 - 2k - 8}{17} \right) = -1,$$

then  $\Omega_{k,m} \neq \square$ , for  $m \geq 3$ .

Using  $F_2 = 17$ ,  $F_3 = 257$ ,  $F_4 = 65537$ , and the two prime divisors of  $F_5$ , 641 and 6700417, one eliminates all the above values except for  $k = 137$ .

A larger desert in the distribution of divisors of  $F_m$ 

It follows from all this that, in particular,

$$\Delta_{t,m} \neq \square \text{ for } t = 0, 1, \dots, 64 \times 136 + 2 > 93^2 + 2.$$

Since  $(93^2 + 3) \times 93 < 2^{2^{m-2}}$  for  $m \geq 7$ , one concludes that:

For  $m \geq 7$ , the Fermat number  $F_m$  has no factor in the interval

$$\left[ 2^{2^{m-1}} - 93 \times 2^{2^{m-2}}, 2^{2^{m-1}} \right].$$

For  $m = 4$  the only  $\Omega_{k,4}$  that is a square is  $\Omega_{1016,4} = 4096^2$ , from where we get  $65537 = 1 \times 65537$  and  $F_4$  is a prime number. From  $\Omega_{102656,5} = 418736^2$  we obtain the decomposition  $F_5 = 641 \times 6700417$ , similarly from  $\Omega_{1051122369536,6} = 4205026314784^2$  we obtain  $F_6 = 274177 \times 67280421310721$ .

## But we can go further

Elimination of the value  $k = 137$ . One has

$$\Omega_{137,m} \equiv 2^{2^{m-1}-5} \times 7 + 9 \equiv -2^{2^{m-1}-3} - 2 \pmod{11}$$

and

$$\Omega_{137,m} \equiv -2^{2^{m-1}-4} + 34 \pmod{41}$$

Since  $2^{2^n}$  is eventually periodic modulo  $p$ , one can easily check that there is no value of  $m$  such that  $\Omega_{137,m}$  is a quadratic residue modulo 11 and, at the same time, a quadratic residue modulo 41.

Using this idea, we eliminate almost all  $k \leq 10^6$ , except for 128996, 411392, 559217, 662537, 706832, 804857 and 870401, using just a prime and considering all the possibilities that  $2^{m-1}$  modulus  $p - 1$  can have, for  $p \leq 20000$ .

## Even versus odd

Using primes for which  $\Omega_{p,m}$  is a square only when  $m$  is odd and other primes for which  $\Omega_{p,m}$  is a square only when  $m$  is even, we can eliminate all the 7 exceptions above.

128996 is eliminated using 13 ( $m$  always odd) and 193 ( $m$  always even);

411392 is eliminated using 11 ( $m$  always odd) and 7 ( $m$  always even);

559217 is eliminated using 193 ( $m$  always odd) and 19 ( $m$  always even);

662537 is eliminated using 31 ( $m$  always odd) and 13 ( $m$  always even);

706832 is eliminated using 97 ( $m$  always odd) and 31 ( $m$  always even);

804857 is eliminated using 7 ( $m$  always odd) and 193 ( $m$  always even);

870401 is eliminated using 11 ( $m$  always odd) and 13 ( $m$  always even).

# How large can the desert be?

Therefore

$$\Delta_{t,m} \neq \square \text{ for } t = 0, 1, \dots, 64 \times 10^6 + 2 \geq 8000^2 + 2.$$

Since  $(8000^2 + 3) \times 8000 < 2^{2^{m-2}}$  for  $m \geq 8$ , we obtain the following result

**Theorem (A. & Machiavelo)**

*For  $m \geq 8$ ,  $F_m = 2^{2^m} + 1$  has no factors in the interval*

$$\left[ 2^{2^{m-1}} - 8000 \times 2^{2^{m-2}}, 2^{2^{m-1}} \right].$$

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*Thank you for your attention!*