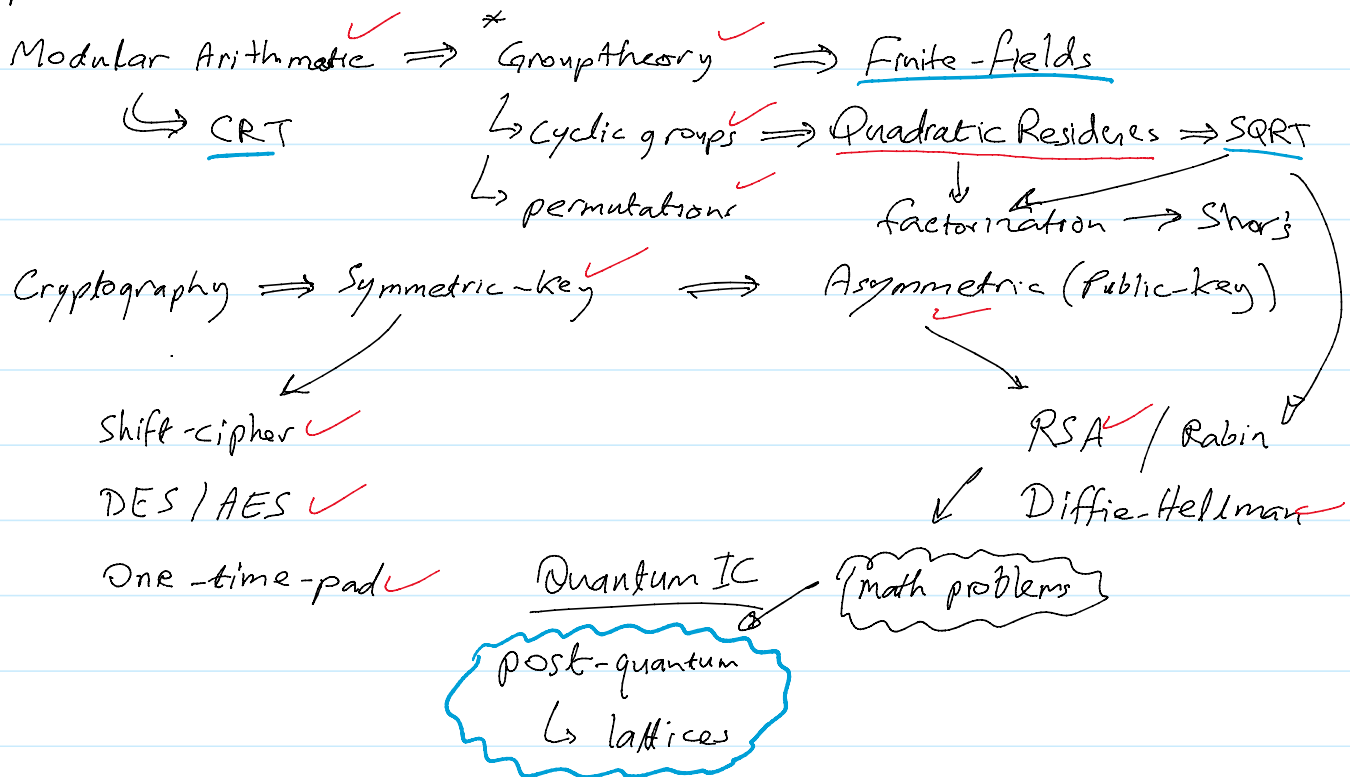


# Quadratic Residues

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 8:33 AM

Recall: RSA

Map:



1] Def<sup>n</sup>. Let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , § 9 - Forouzan  
If  $\exists x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , s.t.  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$   
then  $a$  is quadratic residue (QR)  
else  $a$  is quadratic nonresidue (QNR)

e.g.

in  $\mathbb{Z}_7^* = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

4 is QR for  $x=2$ ,  $2^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$

for  $x=-2 \equiv 5$ ,  $5^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$

3 is QNR

2 is QR for  $x=3$ ,  $3^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$

for  $x=-3 \equiv 4$ ,  $4^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$

2] Exer:  $\mathbb{Z}_{15}^* = \{1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14\}$

1 is QR for  $x=1$ ,  $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{15}$

also for  $x=14, 4, 11 \Rightarrow x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{15}$

4 is QR for  $x=2$ ,  $x^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$

also for  $x=8, 13, 7 \Rightarrow x^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$

3] Notation:

$$Q_n = \{a \mid a \text{ is QR in } (\text{mod } n)\}$$

$$\overline{Q}_n = \{a \mid a \text{ is QNR in } (\text{mod } n)\}$$

4] e.g.  $1 \in Q_n \quad \forall n$

$$4 \in Q_n \quad \forall n \geq 5$$

$$3 \in \overline{Q}_5$$

$$3 \in Q_{11} \quad \text{for } x=5 \Rightarrow x^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{11}$$

5] Note:  $0 \notin \mathbb{Z}_n^* \Rightarrow 0 \notin Q_n \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \notin \overline{Q}_n$

6] Thm: if  $p$  is an odd prime and  $\langle \alpha \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , then  
 $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ,  $a \in Q_p$  iff  $a = \alpha^i$  for even  $i$ .

Proof:

for  $x = \alpha^{i/2}$  is the root of  $a$ ,  $(\alpha^{i/2})^2 = a$

7] Thm: for odd prime  $p$ ,  $|\mathbb{Z}_p^*| = (p-1)$

$$|Q_p| = \frac{p-1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad |\overline{Q}_p| = \frac{p-1}{2}$$

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8] Thrm: if  $n = p \cdot q$  where  $p, q$  are odd primes,  $p \neq q$ , then  
 $a \in Q_n$  iff  $a \in Q_p \cap Q_q$

e.g.

$$n = 3 \cdot 7 = 21$$

① is  $a = 13 \in Q_{21}$ ?

$$a = 13 \begin{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 3} a = 1 \in Q_3 \\ \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 7} a = 6 \in \overline{Q}_7 \end{cases} \Rightarrow 13 \in \overline{Q}_{21}$$

② is  $a = 16 \in Q_{21}$ ?

$$a = 16 \begin{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 3} a = 1 \in Q_3 \\ \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 7} a = 2 \in Q_7 \end{cases} \Rightarrow 16 \in Q_{21}$$

9] Thrm: let  $n = p \cdot q$ , for odd primes  $p, q$

$$|Q_n| = |Q_p| \cdot |Q_q| = \frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2} = \frac{(p-1)(q-1)}{4} = \frac{|\mathbb{Z}_n^*|}{4}$$

e.g. in  $\mathbb{Z}_{15}^*$ ,  $|\mathbb{Z}_{15}^*| = \phi(15) = 8$

$$\Rightarrow |Q_{15}| = \frac{8}{2} = 2 \quad (\text{see Exer [2]})$$

10] Note: by Thrm [9], each  $a \in Q_n$  has 4 roots

e.g.  $16 \in Q_{21} \Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{16} = 4, 17, 10, 11$

e.g.  $16 \in \mathbb{Q}_{21} \Rightarrow \sqrt{16} = \underbrace{4, 17}_{\pm 4}, \underbrace{10, 11}_{\pm 10}$

Exer: find  $\sqrt{1} \pmod{21}$  HW | Linear  
 $x \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

11] Def<sup>n</sup>. The square-root problem (sqrt)  
Given  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$   
find  $x = \sqrt{a} \pmod{n}$   
i.e.  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$

12] Fact: the sqrt problem is infeasible for composite, without knowing the factors of  $n$ .