

# BILL START RECORDING

# Bill vs Student; Theory vs Practice

**Bill:** Alice should not use the same value of  $e$  all the time. If she does then that  $e$  becomes an object of study. Zan finds a Ramsey-Theory-connection to that  $e$ ! Eric finds an Automata-Theory-connection to that  $e$ ! Josh finds an Algebraic-Geometry-connection to that  $e$ ! etc.

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**Bill:** Dan Boneh is a **much better theorist** than me. Email me the website and paper and I'll see what's up. Well pierce my ears and call me drafty! In practice you SHOULD use  $e = 2^{2^4} + 1$ .

## Why $e = 2^{2^4} + 1$ is good to use

Recall that in RSA Bob must compute  $m^e$ .

**Bill:** Can do  $m^e$  with repeated squaring in **roughly**  $\lg_2(m)$  steps.

**Practitioner:** **roughly**  $\lg_2(m)$  steps? Lets see:

$e = 2^{2^4} + 1$ : You do the usual repeated squaring  $m^2, m^{2^2}, m^{2^3}, \dots, m^{2^{2^4}}$  in 16 steps. Total: 17 steps.

$e = 2^{2^4} - 1$ : You do the usual repeated squaring  $m^2, m^{2^2}, m^{2^3}, \dots, m^{2^{2^4-1}}$  in 15 steps. Then 15 MORE mults. so **roughly** 30 steps.

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**Practioner:** YES you moron.

**Bill:** Only Cheyenne is allowed to call me a moron.

# $e = 2^{2^4} + 1$ vs my fears

**In Practice:** Want to use  $e = 2^{2^4} + 1$  since:

1. Only 15 mults.
2.  $2^{2^4} + 1$  is big enough to ward off the low- $e$  attacks
3.  $2^{2^4} + 1$  is prime, so only way it fails to be rel prime to  $R = (p - 1)(q - 1)$ . is if it divides  $R$ . Unlikely and easily tested.

**In Theory:** Do not want to use **the same**  $e$  over and over again for fear of this being exploited.

**Who is Right:**  $e = 2^{16} + 1$  is right.

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# An Early Idea on Factoring: Jevons' Number

# Jevons' Number

In the 1870s William Stanley Jevons wrote of the difficulty of factoring. We paraphrase Solomon Golomb's paraphrase:

**Jevons observed that there are many cases where an operation is easy but its inverse is hard. He mentioned encryption and decryption. He mentioned multiplication and factoring. He anticipated RSA!**

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**Can the reader say what two numbers multiplied together will produce**

**8,616,460,799**

**I think it is unlikely that anyone aside from myself will ever know.**

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$$J = 8,616,460,799$$

We can now factor  $J$  easily. Was Jevons' comment stupid?

**Discuss**



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**Bill:** How indeed!

# Golomb's Method to Factor Jevons' Number

$$J = 8,616,460,799$$

We apply a method of Fermat (in the 1600's) to the problem of factoring  $J$ .

To factor  $J$  find  $x, y$  such that

$$J = x^2 - y^2 = (x - y)(x + y)$$

So we must narrow our search for  $x, y$ .

## Use Mods. Which Mod?

$$J = 8,616,460,799$$

$J$  ends in 99. Hence

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Ah-ha.  $-1$  is small! Mod 100 might be useful.

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$$J = x^2 - y^2$$

$$J \equiv x^2 - y^2 \pmod{100}$$

$$99 \equiv x^2 - y^2 \pmod{100}$$

$$y^2 + 99 \equiv x^2 \pmod{100}$$

$$y^2 \equiv x^2 - 99 \pmod{100}$$

$$y^2 \equiv x^2 + 1 \pmod{100}$$



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# Golomb's Works Mod 100

$$x^2 + 1 \equiv y^2 \pmod{100}$$

All squares mod 100:

$$\{00, 01, 04, 09, 16, 21, 24, 25, 29, 36, 41, 44, 49\} \cup$$

$$\{56, 61, 64, 69, 76, 81, 84, 89, 96\}$$

The only pairs which differ by 1 are  
(00,01) and (24,25). So either:

1.  $x^2 \equiv 0$ , so  $x \pmod{100} \in \{10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90\}$ , OR
2.  $x^2 \equiv 24$ , so  $x \pmod{100} \in \{18, 32, 68, 82\}$ .

# Golomb Works Mod 1000

$$x^2 - J \equiv y^2 \pmod{1000}, \text{ hence}$$

$$x^2 + 201 \equiv y^2 \pmod{1000}$$

If  $x \pmod{100} \in \{10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90\}$  then  
 $x = 100a + 10b$

where  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $b \in \{0, \dots, 9\}$ .

Easy but tedious to show that  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ . Hence

1.  $x^2 \equiv 0$ , so  $x \pmod{100} \in \{20, 40, 60, 80\}$
2.  $x^2 \equiv 24$ , so  $x \pmod{100} \in \{18, 32, 68, 82\}$

## Recap

Combine the two sets for  $x \pmod{100}$  to get

$$x \pmod{100} \in \{18, 20, 32, 40, 60, 68, 80, 82\}$$

Since  $J = x^2 - y^2$ ,  $x^2 = J + y^2$ , so

$$x \geq \lceil \sqrt{J} \rceil = 92824$$

Since  $J = x^2 - y^2$ ,  $x^2 - J = y^2$ , hence

$$x^2 - J = y^2 \text{ a square}$$

# Welcome BACK

After those tedious slides we have the next slide.

## Golomb's Method to Factor Jevons' Number:

$$\underline{x^2 \geq J}$$

1.  $x \pmod{100} \in \{18, 20, 32, 40, 60, 68, 80, 82\}$ .
2.  $x \geq \lceil \sqrt{J} \rceil = 92824$ .
3.  $x^2 - J = y^2$ , a square.

$x$	$y = (x^2 - J)^{1/2}$
92832	1148.6...
92840	1674.7...
92860	2553.1...
92868	2829.2...
92880	3199

AH-HA! We take  $x = 92880$ ,  $y = 3199$ .

$$92880^2 - 3199^2 = 8,616,460,799$$

$$(92880 - 3199)(92880 + 3199) = 8,616,460,799$$

$$(89681)(96079) = 8,616,460,799$$

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2. Charles Babbage also worked in Theology and wrote **The Ninth Bridgewater Treatise**. Jevons intended to write **The Tenth Bridgewater Treatise**.

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A lesson for us all!

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1. Reasonable that he didn't realize that computers would get so much better.
2. Foolish since  $J = 8,616,460,799$  isn't THAT big. Someone with enough determination could divide  $J$  by  $2, 3, \dots, \lceil \sqrt{J} \rceil$ . This is only  $\lceil \sqrt{J} \rceil = 92825$  trial divisions. Leave it to you to see if this is reasonable to finish in (say) 1 year.

# Eric's Opinion of Jevons

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When he proofread these slides he emailed me:

*I've heard of Jevons before because he's also an economist.  
I am not surprised that he claimed  $J$  could not be factored,  
because the Modus Operandi of 19th century economists  
is to make bold predictions that are totally wrong.*

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- ▶ **Conclusion**

- ▶ His arrogance: assumed the world would not change much.
- ▶ Our arrogance: knowing how much the world did change.

# Factoring Algorithms

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- ▶ We leave out the *expected time* but always mean it. Our algorithms are randomized.

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- ▶ Number Field Sieve (best known):  $N^{1/L^{2/3}} = 2^{L^{1/3}}$ .

# BILL STOP RECORDING