

## QUADRATIC RECIPROCITY

From last time:

**DEFINITION:** Let  $p$  be an odd prime. For  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  not a multiple of  $p$  we define the **Legendre symbol** of  $r$  with respect to  $p$  as

$$\left(\frac{r}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } [r] \text{ is a square in } \mathbb{Z}_p, \\ -1 & \text{if } [r] \text{ is a not square in } \mathbb{Z}_p. \end{cases}$$

**PROPOSITION:** Let  $p$  be an odd prime and  $a, b$  integers not divisible by  $p$ . Then

(1)  $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$  implies that  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$ .

(2)  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$ .

(3)  $\left(\frac{a^2}{p}\right) = 1$ . □

**THEOREM (QUADRATIC RECIPROCITY):** Let  $p$  and  $q$  be distinct odd primes. Then

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) \quad \text{if either } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ or } q \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = -\left(\frac{q}{p}\right) \quad \text{if both } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \text{ and } q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}.$$

**THEOREM (QUADRATIC RECIPROCITY PART 2):** Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1 \quad \text{if } p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8},$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1 \quad \text{if } p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}.$$

(1) Computing quadratic residues with QR & QR part 2:

(a) Compute  $\left(\frac{2}{7}\right)$ ,  $\left(\frac{2}{11}\right)$ , and  $\left(\frac{2}{101}\right)$ .

(b) What does QR say about  $\left(\frac{3}{7}\right)$ ? Simplify the new Legendre symbol and evaluate.

(c) Apply the same strategy as the previous part to compute  $\left(\frac{13}{107}\right)$ .

(2) Computing quadratic residues QR, QR part 2, and the proposition:

(a) Compute  $\left(\frac{10}{13}\right)$  by starting with Proposition part (2), then continuing as in the previous problem.

(b) Compute  $\left(\frac{38}{127}\right)$ .

(3) How many solutions does the equation  $[4]x^2 - [13]x + [5] = 0$  have in  $\mathbb{Z}_{103}$ ?

**GAUSS' LEMMA:** Let  $p$  be an odd prime and set  $p' = \frac{p-1}{2}$ . Note that every integer coprime to  $p$  is congruent modulo  $p$  to a unique integer in the set  $S = \{\pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm p'\}$ .

Let  $a$  be an integer coprime to  $p$ . Consider the sequence

$$a, 2a, 3a, \dots, p'a$$

and replace each element in the sequence with element of  $S$  that is congruent with modulo  $p$  to get a list  $L$  of  $p'$ -many elements of  $S$ .

Then  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = (-1)^\nu$ , where  $\nu$  is the number of negative integers in  $L$ .

**LEMMA:** Let  $p$  and  $q$  be two coprime odd positive integers. Then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left\lfloor \frac{kq}{p} \right\rfloor + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \left\lfloor \frac{\ell p}{q} \right\rfloor = \frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}.$$

(4) (Partial) proof of QR part 2 using Gauss' Lemma: Let's just deal with  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ . Write  $p = 8\ell + 3$ , so  $p' = 4\ell + 1$ . Compute  $L$  explicitly and deduce the result.

(5) Proof of Gauss' Lemma:

- Show that none of the elements of  $L$  equal each other, nor are  $\pm$  each other. Conclude that  $L$  is, in some order,  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm p'$ , with each of  $1, 2, \dots, p'$  occurring once with a definite sign.
- Compute the product of  $L$  modulo  $p$  two different ways and simplify.
- Apply Euler's criterion, and conclude the proof.

(6) Proof of QR using Gauss' Lemma and other lemma: Take  $p, q$  distinct odd primes. For each  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, p'\}$ , write  $kq = \lfloor kq/p \rfloor p + r_k$  with  $1 \leq r_k \leq p-1$ . Write

$$\{[q], [2q], \dots, [p'q]\} = \{[r_1], [r_2], \dots, [r_{p'}]\} = \{[a_1], \dots, [a_u]\} \cup \{[-b_1], \dots, [-b_v]\}$$

with  $0 < a_i < p'$  and  $0 < b_i < p'$ , as in the statement of Gauss' Lemma.

- Explain why  $\sum_{k=1}^{p'} k = \frac{p^2-1}{8}$ .
- Explain why  $\sum_{k=1}^{p'} r_k = \sum_{i=1}^t a_i - \sum_{i=1}^v b_i + vp$ .
- Explain why  $\sum_{i=1}^t a_i + \sum_{i=1}^v b_i = \frac{p^2-1}{8}$ .
- Explain why  $\frac{p^2-1}{8} q = p \sum_{k=1}^{p'} \lfloor kq/p \rfloor + \sum_{i=1}^t a_i - \sum_{i=1}^v b_i + vp$ .
- Explain why  $\frac{p^2-1}{8} (q-1) = p \sum_{k=1}^{p'} \lfloor kq/p \rfloor + vp - 2(\sum_{i=1}^v b_i)$ .
- Explain why  $v \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{p'} \lfloor kq/p \rfloor \pmod{2}$ , and apply Gauss' Lemma to deduce

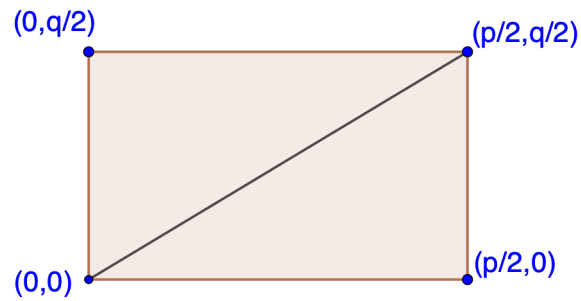
$$\left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\sum_{k=1}^{p'} \lfloor kq/p \rfloor}.$$

(g) Switch the roles of  $p$  and  $q$ , and plug the result into the other Lemma to show that

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}}.$$

Deduce the theorem.

(7) Proof of other lemma: Consider the rectangle below.



- (a) Show that the number of integer points inside the rectangle (excluding the edges) is  $\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}$ .
- (b) Show that there are no integer points on the diagonal.
- (c) Show that the number of integer points below the diagonal is  $\sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left\lfloor \frac{kq}{p} \right\rfloor$ .
- (d) Show that the number of integer points above the diagonal is  $\sum_{\ell=1}^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \left\lfloor \frac{\ell p}{q} \right\rfloor$ . Conclude the proof.