

SIEVE OF ERATOSTHENES AND WHEEL FACTORIZATION

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Abstract

This paper presents a refinement of the Sieve method of Eratosthenes in conjunction with wheel factorization.

Sieve Wheel

With the sieve of Eratosthenes^[1] algorithm in the Boolean vector *SIEVE* of size *n* initially all set to *true* all elements associated with multiples of primes *p* can be set to *false* using this pseudocode:

```
for (p=2; p<sqrt(n); p++)
  if ( SIEVE[p] )
    for (m=p*p; m<n; m+=p)
      SIEVE[m]=false;
```

An improvement can be made by using the Wheel factorization^[2] which can be associated with modular arithmetic^[3].

Given an integer *bW*, called modulus, two integers *p* and *q* are congruent modulo *bW* $p \equiv q \pmod{bW}$ if *bW* is a divisor of their difference $p - q$.

We therefore consider the modulo operator $p \bmod bW$ which denotes the unique integer *r* such that $0 \leq r < bW$ and $r \equiv p \pmod{bW}$

then $p = r + k \cdot bW$ where *r* is the remainder of *p* when divided by *bW*.

In modular arithmetic the set of integers $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, bW - 1\}$ is called the least residue system modulo *bW* so let's take a specific one residue system modulo *bW* set of $\varphi(bW)$ integers, where $\varphi(bW)$ is Euler's totient function^[4], that are relatively prime to *bW* and mutually incongruent under modulus *bW*, called a reduced residue system modulo *bW*, and we store it in a *RW* vector of size $nR = \varphi(bW)$.

Example if $bW = 30$ then $\varphi(30) = 8$ and $RW = [-23, -19, -17, -13, -11, -7, -1, 1]$ is a reduced residue system modulo *bW*.

In wheel sieve to find prime numbers less than *n* we choose $bW < \sqrt{n}$ and *bW* divisible by a set of prime numbers $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s\}$ then we choose an appropriate residue system modulo *bW* vector *RW* of length $nR = \varphi(bW)$.

In this way we only store the numbers belonging to the congruence class or residue in *RW*.

To find prime numbers different from $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s\}$ we use a Boolean array *SIEVE* of size $nR * \lceil n/bW \rceil$ in order to associate the possible residue in RW to each row of the array and so all elements associated with multiples of the prime numbers $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s\}$ are not stored.

So we want to get after the sieve that $p = RW[i] + bW \cdot j$ is prime if $SIEVE[i, j] == true$.

Example in the case of $bW=6$ it's used a Boolean array $2 * \lceil n/6 \rceil$ or two Boolean vectors of size $\lceil n/6 \rceil$.

In the second for loop of the pseudocode of the sieve of Eratosthenes for set to *false* all elements associated multiples of p the initial index is $m_{min}=p \cdot p$ so now we have

$$p=r+k \cdot bW \text{ and } p \cdot p \text{ must be replaced by } (r+bW \cdot k) \cdot (s+bW \cdot k)$$

where s is an integer such that $(r \cdot s) \% bW = t$ and the residue t is the one associated with the row we are using, then

$$(r+bW \cdot k) \cdot (s+bW \cdot k) = (r \cdot s) \% bW + bW \cdot (bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot r + k \cdot s + \lfloor (r \cdot s) / bW \rfloor)$$

and so for the row associated with remainder t for multiples of $p=r+k \cdot bW$ we use

$$m_{min}=bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot r + k \cdot s + \lfloor (r \cdot s) / bW \rfloor$$

Example $bW = 6$

for $p = -1+6 \cdot k$

in the row 0 corresponding to the remainder -1 : $s = 1 \ r = -1 \ r \cdot s = -1 \ m_{min} = 6 \cdot k \cdot k$

in the row 1 corresponding to the remainder 1 : $s = -1 \ r = -1 \ r \cdot s = 1 \ m_{min} = 6 \cdot k \cdot k - 2 \cdot k$

for $p = 1+6 \cdot k$

in the row 0 corresponding to the remainder -1 : $s = -1 \ r = 1 \ r \cdot s = -1 \ m_{min} = 6 \cdot k \cdot k$

in the row 1 corresponding to the remainder 1 : $s = 1 \ r = 1 \ r \cdot s = 1 \ m_{min} = 6 \cdot k \cdot k + 2 \cdot k$

Then in the Boolean array *SIEVE* of size $2 \cdot \lceil n/6 + 1 \rceil$ initially all set to *true* and elements associated with multiples of primes $-1+6 \cdot k$ and $1+6 \cdot k$ can be set to *false* using this pseudocode:

```
for (k=1; k<=sqrt(n)/6; k++){
  if (SIEVE[0,k]){
    for (m=6*k*k; m<n/6+1; m+=-1+6*k)
      SIEVE[0,m]=false;
    for (m=6*k*k-2*k; m<n/6+1; m+=-1+6*k)
      SIEVE[1,m]=false;}
  if (SIEVE[1,k]){
    for (m=6*k*k; m<n/6+1; m+=1+6*k)
      SIEVE[0,m]=false;
    for (m=6*k*k+2*k; m<n/6+1; m+=1+6*k)
      SIEVE[1,m]=false;}
}
```

In general if $p = RW[j] + bW \cdot k$ (for convenience we consider $RW[j] \leq 1$ and $k > 0$) and if $s = RW[x]$ we have:

$$(RW[x] + bW \cdot k) \cdot (RW[j] + bW \cdot k) = (RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) + bW \cdot (bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot RW[x] + k \cdot RW[j]) = \\ = (RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) \% bW + bW \cdot (bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot RW[x] + k \cdot RW[j] + \lfloor (RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) / bW \rfloor)$$

and $m_{min} = bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot (RW[x] + RW[j]) + \lfloor (RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) / bW \rfloor$

or if positive module $(RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) \% bW > 1$ adding and subtracting bW becomes

$$m_{min} = bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot (RW[x] + RW[j]) + \lfloor (RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) / bW \rfloor + 1$$

we build two array of size $nR * nR$ for the coefficients C_1 and C_2 then for each $RW[i]$

and for each $RW[j]$ finding $RW[x]$ such that $(RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) \% bW = RW[i]$

then if $(RW[x] \cdot RW[j]) \% bW = RW[i]$ we have $C_1[i, j] = RW[x] + RW[j]$

and if $RW[i] = 1$ then $C_2[i, j] = \lfloor (RW[x] + RW[j]) / bW \rfloor$

otherwise $C_2[i, j] = 1 + \lfloor (RW[x] + RW[j]) / bW \rfloor$

In the row corresponding to the residue $RW[i]$ if $p = RW[j] + bW \cdot k$ then

$$m_{min} = bW \cdot k \cdot k + k \cdot C_1[i, j] + C_2[i, j]$$

Example $bW = 30$

$nR=8$ and $RW=[-23, -19, -17, -13, -11, -7, -1, 1]$

$C1=$

```
-22, -32, -28, -32, -28, -8, -8, -22
-30, -18, -30, -30, -12, -30, -12, -18
-34, -26, -16, -14, -34, -26, -14, -16
-42, -42, -18, -12, -18, -18, -18, -12
-46, -20, -34, -26, -10, -14, -20, -10
-24, -36, -36, -24, -24, -6, -24, -6
-36, -30, -24, -36, -30, -24, 0, 0
-40, -38, -40, -20, -22, -20, -2, 2
```

$C2=$

```
0, 9, 7, 9, 7, 1, 1, 0
6, 0, 8, 8, 1, 6, 1, 0
9, 5, 0, 1, 9, 5, 1, 0
15, 15, 1, 0, 3, 3, 1, 0
18, 1, 10, 6, 0, 2, 1, 0
1, 11, 11, 5, 5, 0, 1, 0
10, 7, 4, 10, 7, 4, 0, 0
13, 12, 13, 3, 4, 3, 0, 0
```

In the Boolean array *SIEVE* of size $nR * \lceil n/bW \rceil$ initially all set to *true* all elements associated with multiples of primes $p = RW[j] + bW \cdot k$ can be set to *false* using this pseudocode:

```

for (k=1; k<=sqrt(n)/bW; k++)
  for (j=0; j<nR ; j++)
    if( SIEVE[j,k] )
      for (i=0; i<nR ; i++)
        {
          m_min=bW*k*k + k*C1[i,j] + C2[i,j];
          for (m=m_min; m<n/bW+1; m+=RW[j]+bW*k)
            SIEVE[i,m]=false;
        }

```

An improvement obtained is to have numbers smaller than n/bW and the use of a memory equal to $\varphi(bW) \cdot n / bW$.

In addition the possibility of making a segmented version using a bit space $\varphi(bW) \cdot \sqrt{n} / bW$, an example is shown below with the possible choice of the value of the wheel modulus.

Other sieves generally use \sqrt{n} as memory for segmentation instead this wheel sieve uses the product of the prime numbers following the basis $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s\}$ with $p_1=2$ and $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_s$ so that a pre-sieving can be done, in this way the memory used is slightly higher than $\varphi(bW) \cdot \sqrt{n} / bW$ but is always less than \sqrt{n} .

Segmented bit Wheel Sieve

Below is shown the C++ code of a segmented bit wheel sieve with adjustable modulus:

```
/// This is an implementation of the bit wheel segmented sieve  
/// with max modulus wheel choice 30, 210, 2310
```

```
#include <iostream>  
#include <cmath>  
#include <algorithm>  
#include <vector>  
#include <cstdlib>  
#include <stdint.h>  
#include <time.h>  
  
const int64_t PrimesBase[5]={2,3,5,7,11};  
const int64_t n_PB_max = 5;  
  
const int64_t del_bit[8] =  
{  
    ~(1 << 0),~(1 << 1),~(1 << 2),~(1 << 3),  
    ~(1 << 4),~(1 << 5),~(1 << 6),~(1 << 7)  
};  
  
const int64_t bit_count[256] =  
{  
    0, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 3, 1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 4,  
    1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 4, 2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5,  
    1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 4, 2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5,  
    2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6,  
    1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 4, 2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5,  
    2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6,  
    2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6,  
    3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6, 4, 5, 5, 6, 5, 6, 6, 7,  
    1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 4, 2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5,  
    2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6,  
    2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6,  
    3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6, 4, 5, 5, 6, 5, 6, 6, 7,  
    2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6,  
    3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6, 4, 5, 5, 6, 5, 6, 6, 7,  
    3, 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 5, 6, 4, 5, 5, 6, 5, 6, 6, 7,  
    4, 5, 5, 6, 5, 6, 6, 7, 5, 6, 6, 7, 6, 7, 7, 8  
};
```

```

int64_t Euclidean_Diophantine( int64_t coeff_a, int64_t coeff_b)
{
    // return y in Diophantine equation coeff_a x + coeff_b y = 1
    int64_t k=1;
    std::vector<int64_t> div_t;
    std::vector<int64_t> rem_t;
    std::vector<int64_t> coeff_t;
    div_t.push_back(coeff_a);
    rem_t.push_back(coeff_b);
    coeff_t.push_back((int64_t)0);
    div_t.push_back((int64_t)div_t[0]/rem_t[0]);
    rem_t.push_back((int64_t)div_t[0]%rem_t[0]);
    coeff_t.push_back((int64_t)0);
    while (rem_t[k]>1)
    {
        k=k+1;
        div_t.push_back((int64_t)rem_t[k-2]/rem_t[k-1]);
        rem_t.push_back((int64_t)rem_t[k-2]%rem_t[k-1]);
        coeff_t.push_back((int64_t)0);
    }
    k=k-1;
    coeff_t[k]=-div_t[k+1];
    if (k>0)
        coeff_t[k-1]=(int64_t)1;
    while (k > 1)
    {
        k=k-1;
        coeff_t[k-1]=coeff_t[k+1];
        coeff_t[k]+=(int64_t)(coeff_t[k+1]*(-div_t[k+1]));
    }
    if (k==1)
        return (int64_t)(coeff_t[k-1]+coeff_t[k]*(-div_t[k]));
    else
        return (int64_t)(coeff_t[0]);
}

```

```

void segmented_bit_sieve_wheel(uint64_t n, int64_t max_bW)
{

int64_t sqrt_n = (int64_t) std::sqrt(n);

int64_t count_p=(int64_t)0;

int64_t n_PB=(int64_t)3;
int64_t bW=(int64_t)30;
//get bW modulus equal to p1*p2*...*pn <=max_bW with n=n_PB
while(n_PB<n_PB_max&&(bW*PrimesBase[n_PB]<=std::min(max_bW,sqrt_n)))
{
    bW*=PrimesBase[n_PB];
    n_PB++;
}
for (int64_t i=0; i< n_PB; i++)
    if (n>PrimesBase[i])
        count_p++;

if (n>1+PrimesBase[n_PB-1]){

int64_t k_end = (n < bW) ? (int64_t)2 :(int64_t) (n/(uint64_t)bW+1);
int64_t k_sqrt = (int64_t) std::sqrt(k_end/bW)+1;

//find possible remainder of the congruence class
std::vector<char> Remainder_i_t(bW+1,true);
for (int64_t i=0; i< n_PB; i++)
    for (int64_t j=PrimesBase[i]*PrimesBase[i];j< bW+1;j+=PrimesBase[i])
        Remainder_i_t[j]=false;
std::vector<int64_t> RW;
for (int64_t j=PrimesBase[n_PB-1]+1;j< bW+1;j++)
    if (Remainder_i_t[j]==true)
        RW.push_back(-bW+j);
RW.push_back(1);
int64_t nR=RW.size();

std::vector<int64_t> C1(nR*nR);

```

```

std::vector<int64_t> C2(nR*nR);
for (int64_t j=0; j<nR-2; j++)
{
    int64_t rW_t,rW_t1;
    rW_t1=Euclidean_Diophantine(bW,-RW[j]);
    for (int64_t i=0; i<nR; i++)
    {
        if (i==j)
        {
            C2[nR*i+j]=0;
            C1[nR*i+j]=RW[j]+1;
        }
        else if(i==nR-3-j )
        {
            C2[nR*i+j]=1;
            C1[nR*i+j]=RW[j]-1;
        }
        else
        {
            rW_t=(int64_t)(rW_t1*(-RW[i]))%bW;
            if (rW_t>1)
                rW_t=bW;
            C1[nR*i+j]=rW_t+RW[j];
            C2[nR*i+j]=(int64_t)(rW_t*RW[j])/bW+1;
            if (i==nR-1)
                C2[nR*i+j]=-1;
        }
    }
    C2[nR*j+nR-2]=(int64_t)1;
    C1[nR*j+nR-2]=-(bW+RW[j])-1;
    C1[nR*j+nR-1]=RW[j]+1;
    C2[nR*j+nR-1]=(int64_t)0;
}
for (int64_t i=nR-2; i<nR; i++)
{
    C2[nR*i+nR-2]=(int64_t)0;
    C1[nR*i+nR-2]=-RW[i]-1;
    C1[nR*i+nR-1]=RW[i]+1;
    C2[nR*i+nR-1]=(int64_t)0;
}

```



```

int64_t nB=nR/8;
int64_t segment_size=1;
int64_t p_mask_i=(int64_t)4;
for (int64_t i=0; i<p_mask_i;i++)
    segment_size*=(bW+RW[i]);    // if bW=30 =7*11*13*17
while (segment_size<k_sqrt && p_mask_i<7)
{
    segment_size*=(bW+RW[p_mask_i]);    // if bW=30 max value =7*11*13*17*19*23*29
    p_mask_i++;
}

int64_t segment_size_b=nB*segment_size;
std::vector<uint8_t> Primes(nB+segment_size_b, 0xff);
std::vector<uint8_t> Segment_i(nB+segment_size_b, 0xff);
int64_t pb,mb,mmin,ib,i,jb,j,k,kb;
int64_t kmax = (int64_t) std::sqrt(segment_size/bW)+(int64_t)1;
for (k =(int64_t)1; k <= kmax; k++)
{
    kb=k*nB;
    for (jb = 0; jb<nB; jb++)
    {
        for (j = 0; j<8; j++)
        {
            if(Primes[kb+jb] & (1 << j))
            {
                for (ib = 0; ib<nB; ib++)
                {
                    for (i = 0; i<8; i++)
                    {
                        pb=nB*(bW*k+RW[j+jb*8]);
                        mmin=nB*(bW*k*k + k*C1[(i+ib*8)*nR+j+jb*8] + C2[(i+ib*8)*nR+j+jb*8]);
                        for (mb =mmin; mb <= segment_size_b && mb>=(int64_t)0; mb +=pb )
                            Primes[mb+ib] &= del_bit[i];
                        if (pb<nB*(bW+RW[p_mask_i]) && k_end>segment_size)
                        {
                            mb-=segment_size_b;
                            while (mb<(int8_t)0)
                                mb+=pb;
                            for (; mb <= segment_size_b; mb +=pb )
                                Segment_i[mb+ib] &= del_bit[i];
                        }
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

        }
    }
}

for (kb = nB; kb < std::min (nB+segment_size_b,nB*k_end); kb++)
    count_p+=bit_count[Primes[kb]];
if (kb==nB*k_end && kb<=segment_size_b && kb>(int64_t)0)
    for (ib = 0; ib<nB; ib++)
        for (i = 0; i < 8; i++)
            if(Primes[kb+ib]& (1 << i) && RW[i+ib*8]<(int64_t)(n%bW-bW))
                count_p++;

if (k_end>segment_size)
{
    int64_t k_low, kb_low;
    std::vector<uint8_t> Segment_t(nB+segment_size_b);
    for (int64_t k_low = segment_size; k_low < k_end; k_low += segment_size)
    {
        kb_low=k_low*nB;
        for (kb = (int64_t)0; kb <(nB+segment_size_b); kb++)
            Segment_t[kb]=Segment_i[kb];
        kmax=(std::min(segment_size,(int64_t)std::sqrt((k_low+segment_size)/bW)+2));
        j=p_mask_i;
        for(k=(int64_t)1; k<=kmax;k++)
        {
            kb=k*nB;
            for (jb = 0; jb<nB; jb++)
            {
                for (; j < 8; j++)
                {
                    if (Primes[kb+jb]& (1 << j))
                    {
                        for (ib = 0; ib<nB; ib++)
                        {
                            for (i = 0; i < 8; i++)
                            {

```

```

        pb=bW*k+RW[j+jb*8];
        mmin=-k_low+bW*k*k+ k*C1[(i+ib*8)*nR+j+jb*8] + C2[(i+ib*8)*nR+j+jb*8];
        if (mmin<0)
            mmin=(mmin%pb+pb)%pb;
        mmin*=nB;
        pb*=nB;
        for (mb =mmin; mb <= segment_size_b; mb += pb)
            Segment_t[mb+ib] &= del_bit[i];
    }
}
}
}
j=(int64_t)0;
}
}
for ( kb =nB+kb_low; kb <std::min (kb_low+segment_size_b+nB,nB*k_end); kb++)
    count_p+=bit_count[Segment_t[kb-kb_low]];
}
if (kb==nB*k_end && kb-kb_low<=segment_size_b && kb-kb_low>(int64_t)0)
    for (ib = 0; ib<nB; ib++)
        for (i = 0; i < 8; i++)
            if(Segment_t[kb-kb_low+ib]& (1 << i) && RW[i+ib*8]<(int64_t)(n%bW-bW))
                count_p++;
}
}

std::cout << " primes < " << n << ": " << count_p << std::endl;
}

int main()
{
    // segmented_bit_sieve_wheel(n, max_bW) with max_bW= 30 , 210 , 2310 for set modulus
    segmented_bit_sieve_wheel(100000000,30);

    return 0;
}

```

References

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sieve_of_Eratosthenes

[2] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheel_factorization

[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modular_arithmetic

[4] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler%27s_totient_function