

Primality criterion for $N = 4 \cdot 3^n - 1$

Predrag Terzić

Bulevar Pera Ćetkovića 139 , Podgorica , Montenegro

e-mail: predrag.terzic@protonmail.com

Abstract: Polynomial time primality test for numbers of the form $4 \cdot 3^n - 1$ is introduced .

Keywords: Primality test , Polynomial time , Prime numbers .

AMS Classification: 11A51 .

Theorem 0.1. Let $N = 4 \cdot 3^n - 1$ where $n \geq 0$. Let $S_i = S_{i-1}^3 - 3S_{i-1}$ with $S_0 = 6$. Then N is prime iff $S_n \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$.

Proof. The sequence $\langle S_i \rangle$ is a recurrence relation with a closed-form solution. Let $\omega = 3 + \sqrt{8}$ and $\bar{\omega} = 3 - \sqrt{8}$. It then follows by induction that $S_i = \omega^{3^i} + \bar{\omega}^{3^i}$ for all i :

$$S_0 = \omega^{3^0} + \bar{\omega}^{3^0} = (3 + \sqrt{8}) + (3 - \sqrt{8}) = 6$$

$$S_n = S_{n-1}^3 - 3S_{n-1} =$$

$$= \left(\omega^{3^{n-1}} + \bar{\omega}^{3^{n-1}} \right)^3 - 3 \left(\omega^{3^{n-1}} + \bar{\omega}^{3^{n-1}} \right) =$$

$$= \omega^{3^n} + 3\omega^{2 \cdot 3^{n-1}} \bar{\omega}^{3^{n-1}} + 3\omega^{3^{n-1}} \bar{\omega}^{2 \cdot 3^{n-1}} + \bar{\omega}^{3^n} - 3\omega^{3^{n-1}} - 3\bar{\omega}^{3^{n-1}} =$$

$$= \omega^{3^n} + 3\omega^{3^{n-1}} (\omega \bar{\omega})^{3^{n-1}} + 3\bar{\omega}^{3^{n-1}} (\omega \bar{\omega})^{3^{n-1}} + \bar{\omega}^{3^n} - 3\omega^{3^{n-1}} - 3\bar{\omega}^{3^{n-1}} =$$

$$= \omega^{3^n} + \bar{\omega}^{3^n}$$

The last step uses $\omega \bar{\omega} = (3 + \sqrt{8})(3 - \sqrt{8}) = 1$.

Necessity

If N is prime then S_n is divisible by $4 \cdot 3^n - 1$.

For $n = 0$ we have $N = 3$ and $S_0 = 6$, so $N \mid S_0$, otherwise since $4 \cdot 3^n - 1 \equiv 11 \pmod{12}$ for odd $n \geq 1$ it follows from properties of the Legendre symbol that $\left(\frac{3}{N}\right) = 1$. This means that 3 is a quadratic residue modulo N . By Euler's criterion, this is equivalent to $3^{\frac{N-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$. Since $4 \cdot 3^n - 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ for odd $n \geq 1$ it follows from properties of the Legendre symbol that $\left(\frac{2}{N}\right) = -1$. This means that 2 is a quadratic nonresidue modulo N . By Euler's criterion, this is equivalent to $2^{\frac{N-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{N}$.

Combining these two equivalence relations yields

$$72^{\frac{N-1}{2}} = \left(2^{\frac{N-1}{2}}\right)^3 \left(3^{\frac{N-1}{2}}\right)^2 \equiv (-1)^3 (1)^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{N}$$

Let $\sigma = 3\sqrt{8}$ and define X as the ring $X = \{a + b\sqrt{8} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_N\}$. Then in the ring X , it follows that

$$(12 + \sigma)^N = 12^N + 3^N (\sqrt{8})^N =$$

$$= 12 + 3 \cdot 8^{\frac{N-1}{2}} \cdot \sqrt{8} =$$

$$= 12 + 3(-1)\sqrt{8} =$$

$$= 12 - \sigma ,$$

where the first equality uses the Binomial Theorem in a finite field, and the second equality uses Fermat's little theorem.

The value of σ was chosen so that $\omega = \frac{(12 + \sigma)^2}{72}$. This can be used to compute $\omega^{\frac{N+1}{2}}$ in the ring X as

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^{\frac{N+1}{2}} &= \frac{(12 + \sigma)^{N+1}}{72^{\frac{N+1}{2}}} = \\ &= \frac{(12 + \sigma)(12 + \sigma)^N}{72 \cdot 72^{\frac{N-1}{2}}} = \\ &= \frac{(12 + \sigma)(12 - \sigma)}{-72} = \\ &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

Next, multiply both sides of this equation by $\bar{\omega}^{\frac{N+1}{4}}$ and use $\omega\bar{\omega} = 1$ which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^{\frac{N+1}{2}} \bar{\omega}^{\frac{N+1}{4}} &= -\bar{\omega}^{\frac{N+1}{4}} \\ \omega^{\frac{N+1}{4}} + \bar{\omega}^{\frac{N+1}{4}} &= 0 \\ \omega^{\frac{4 \cdot 3^n - 1 + 1}{4}} + \bar{\omega}^{\frac{4 \cdot 3^n - 1 + 1}{4}} &= 0 \\ \omega^{3^n} + \bar{\omega}^{3^n} &= 0 \\ S_n &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since S_n is 0 in X it is also 0 modulo N .

Sufficiency

If S_n is divisible by $4 \cdot 3^n - 1$ then $4 \cdot 3^n - 1$ is prime.

For $n = 0$ we have $N = 3$ and $S_0 = 6$, so $N \mid S_n$ and N is prime, otherwise consider the sequences:

$$U_0 = 0, U_1 = 1, U_{n+1} = 6U_n - U_{n-1}$$

$$V_0 = 2, V_1 = 6, V_{n+1} = 6V_n - V_{n-1}$$

The following equations can be proved by induction:

$$(1) : V_n = U_{n+1} - U_{n-1}$$

$$(2) : U_n = \frac{(3 + \sqrt{8})^n - (3 - \sqrt{8})^n}{\sqrt{32}}$$

$$(3) : V_n = (3 + \sqrt{8})^n + (3 - \sqrt{8})^n$$

$$(4) : U_{m+n} = U_m U_{n+1} - U_{m-1} U_n$$

One can show if $S_n \equiv 0 \pmod{(4 \cdot 3^n - 1)}$:

$$U_{2 \cdot 3^n} = U_{3^n} V_{3^n} \equiv 0 \pmod{(4 \cdot 3^n - 1)}$$

$$U_{3^n} \not\equiv 0 \pmod{(4 \cdot 3^n - 1)}$$

Theorem 0.2. With $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ let $f(x) = x^2 - ax + b$, $\Delta = a^2 - 4b$ and let n be a positive integer with $\gcd(n, 2b) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{\Delta}{n}\right) = -1$. If F is an even divisor of $n + 1$ and

$$V_{F/2} \equiv 0 \pmod{n}, \gcd(V_{F/2q}, n) = 1 \text{ for every odd prime } q \mid F,$$

then every prime p dividing n satisfies $p \equiv \left(\frac{\Delta}{p}\right) \pmod{F}$. In particular if $F > \sqrt{n} + 1$ then n is prime.

One can show if $S_n \equiv 0 \pmod{4 \cdot 3^n - 1}$ the conditions from Theorem 0.2 are fulfilled , hence $4 \cdot 3^n - 1$ is prime.

■