Artificial Prime Numbers: A New Perspective in Number Theory

Danilka H. Ureña

In number theory, one of the fundamental concepts is the prime number, a natural number greater than 1 that has no positive divisors other than 1 and itself. However, in certain mathematical contexts, this classical notion of primality can be extended or adapted to study more complex numerical structures. A particularly interesting and novel concept is that of artificial prime numbers, a variation that allows us to examine primality within specific numerical sets, beyond the conventional set of integers.

Key words: Artificial Prime Numbers, Fibonacci Sequence, Divisors, Sequences, Number Sets.

Definition of Artificial Prime

An artificial prime is a number that belongs to a set S of positive integers greater than 1, and whose only divisibility within that set is by itself. In other words, a number q in the set S is considered an artificial prime if no other number $d \in S$ (with $d \neq q$) divides q. Although the number may not be prime in the classical sense (i.e., it may have divisors in the larger set of integers), within S, it satisfies a property similar to that of a prime number.

Fundamentals and Applications

The notion of artificial primes arises from the need to study divisibility properties within a specific set. Instead of analyzing divisibility in the set of natural numbers, this concept is applied within particular numerical structures, such as sequences or specific sets of integers. This approach opens up new avenues for exploring how numbers interact with one another within a set and allows for a richer understanding of divisibility relationships in contexts where the sequence does not follow the regularity of natural numbers.

A concrete example of a set S where artificial primes can be studied is the Fibonacci numbers, whose sequence grows rapidly and whose divisibility properties can differ from those of the conventional integers. By applying the definition of artificial prime to Fibonacci numbers, we can identify which of these numbers have no divisors within the sequence, similar to how primes are identified in the set of integers.

Example: Fibonacci Numbers and Artificial Primes

Consider the Fibonacci sequence, we take only the numbers greater than 1:

2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, ...

By applying the definition of artificial prime, we observe the following:

- 2: It has no other number in the sequence that divides it, so it is an artificial prime.
- 3: It has no divisors in the sequence other than itself, so it is an artificial prime.
- 5: It has no divisors in the sequence other than itself, so it is an artificial prime.
- 8: It has divisors within the sequence, such as 2, so it is not an artificial prime.

- 13: It has no divisors within the sequence, so it is an artificial prime.
- 21: It has divisors within the sequence, such as 3, so it is not an artificial prime.
- 34: It has divisors within the sequence, such as 2, so it is not an artificial prime.
- 55: It has divisors within the sequence, such as 5, so it is not an artificial prime.
- 89: It has no divisors within the sequence, so it is an artificial prime.
- 144: It has divisors within the sequence, such as 2, so it is not an artificial prime.

From this analysis, we can conclude that the artificial primes in the Fibonacci sequence are:

2,3,5,13,89

Implications and Utility of the Concept

The concept of artificial primes has several interesting applications within mathematics and related fields, such as number theory, cryptography, sequence theory, and computational algorithms:

1. *Exploring Numerical Sequences*: This concept is useful when studying specific numerical sequences, such as the Fibonacci numbers, Lucas numbers, or even sequences generated by algorithms. It helps characterize which numbers in those sequences behave similarly to traditional primes.
2. *Set Theory and Algebraic Structures*: In the study of algebraic structures like rings or finite fields, where elements are not natural numbers, artificial primes offer a way to extend the notion of primality within a specific structure.
3. *Cryptography Algorithm Optimization*: In the field of cryptography, particularly in key generation algorithms, understanding how numbers behave within specific sets could improve the efficiency of primality tests and prime number generation.
4. *Pattern Studies in Sequences*: By studying numerical sequences, identifying which numbers satisfy primality properties within that sequence can reveal hidden patterns and relationships that might not be immediately apparent.

Conclusion

Artificial prime numbers provide an innovative perspective on primality by applying the notion of "being prime" within a specific set rather than in the entire set of natural numbers. This concept has the potential to enrich our understanding of divisibility and relationships between numbers in particular sequences and may open up new areas of research in number theory. Through examples like the Fibonacci numbers, we see how this concept can be used to explore properties of numerical sequences in a way that would not be possible with the classical definition of primality.

References

[1] José Acevedo Jiménez, Artificial Prime Numbers a Relative Perspective on Primality, available at: https://www.academia.edu/128004119/Artificial_Prime_Numbers_A_Relative_Perspective_on_Primality