

# Permutations of even residues modulo $p$

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*Decimations of I-sequences and permutations of even residues  
mod  $p$*

To appear.

**joint work with**

Jean Bourgain, Todd Cochrane, and Christopher Pinner

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# The Problem

Given a prime  $p$ , pick integers  $d$  and  $A$  with  $p \nmid A$ ,  $(d, p-1) = 1$ . Define  $\mathbb{E} = \{2, 4, 6, \dots, p-1\}$  and  $\mathbb{O} = \{1, 3, 5, \dots, p-2\}$  to be the even and odd residues mod  $p$ .

We want to determine when the map  $x \rightarrow Ax^d$  is a permutation of the elements of  $\mathbb{E}$  (i.e. when  $A\mathbb{E}^d \cap \mathbb{O}$  is empty).

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There is the trivial case ( $d = A = 1$ ). And there are some other cases. For instance if  $p = 5$ ,  $d = 3$ , and  $A = 3$ , then the map sending  $x$  to  $Ax^d$  sends the residue 2 to the residue 4 and sends the residue 4 to the residue 2.

The following 6 cases give permutations of  $\mathbb{E}$  :

$$(p, A, d) = (5, 3, 3), (7, 1, 5), (11, 9, 3), (11, 3, 7), (11, 5, 9), (13, 1, 5).$$

**Conjecture (Goresky and Klapper, 1997)**

*With the exception of the six cases listed before, if  $(A, d) \neq (1, 1)$  then  $A\mathbb{E}^d \cap \mathbb{O}$  is nonempty.*

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**Theorem (Bourgain, Cochrane, P., Pinner)**

*For  $p > 2.26 \cdot 10^{55}$  and  $(A, d) \neq (1, 1)$ ,  $A\mathbb{E}^d \cap \mathbb{O}$  is nonempty.*

# Motivation

## Definition

Given a prime  $p$ , an  $\ell$ -**sequence** based on  $p$  is a sequence  $\{a_i\}_i$  of 0's and 1's with  $a_i \equiv (2^{-i} \bmod p) \bmod 2$ .

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- Output sequence from maximal period feedback with carry shift register
- 2-adic expansion of a rational number  $r/p$  with  $(r, p) = 1$
- Single codeword in the Barrows-Mandelbaum arithmetic code

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If  $\mathbf{a}$  is an  $\ell$ -sequence based on  $p$  then if  $(d, p - 1) = 1$ , an **allowable decimation** of  $\mathbf{a}$  is the sequence  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}^d = \{a_{d \cdot i}\}_i$ .

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Two periodic binary sequences  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  with the same period  $T$  are **cyclically distinct** if  $\mathbf{a}_t \neq \mathbf{b}$  for all  $0 < t < T$ , where  $\mathbf{a}_t = \{a_{i+t}\}_i$ .

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## Conjecture (Goresky and Klapper, 1997)

*If  $p > 13$  is a prime such that 2 is a primitive root mod  $p$  and  $\mathbf{a}$  is an  $\ell$ -sequence based on  $p$ , then every pair of allowable decimations of  $\mathbf{a}$  is cyclically distinct.*

This conjecture would give many distinct sequences with **ideal arithmetic cross-correlation**.

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$\mathbf{a}$  is a cyclic permutation of  $\mathbf{a}^d$  if and only if there exists

$A \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$  with  $(A2^{-id} \bmod p) \equiv (2^{-i} \bmod p) \bmod 2$   
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### Conjecture (GK-Conjecture)

*If 2 is a primitive root modulo  $p$ , with the exception of the six cases listed before, if  $(A, d) \neq (1, 1)$  then  $A\mathbb{E}^d \cap \mathbb{O}$  is nonempty.*



# Previous Work

Goresky, Klapper, Murty, and Shparlinski verified the conjecture for primes  $p$  less than 2 million. And for the following cases:

①  $d = -1$

②  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $d = \frac{p+1}{2}$

③  $0 < d \leq \frac{(p^2-1)^4}{2^{24}p^7}$  or  $0 > d \geq -\frac{(p^2-1)^4}{2^{25}p^7}$

# Our Result

Theorem (Bourgain, Cochrane, P., Pinner)

*For  $p > 2.26 \cdot 10^{55}$  and  $(A, d) \neq (1, 1)$ ,  $A\mathbb{E}^d \cap \mathbb{O}$  is nonempty.*

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Show there exists a solution  $(x, y)$  to the equation  
 $A(2x)^d = 2y - 1$  over  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  with  $(x, y) \in I_1 \times I_2$ .

$$I_1 = \left\{0, 1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\right\} \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \quad I_2 = I_1 - \{0\} \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}.$$

For the intervals  $I = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{4}\}$  and  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{p+1}{4}\}$ , we let  $\chi_I$  and  $\chi_J$  be their characteristic functions.

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We then define  $\alpha(x, y) = \chi_I * \chi_I(x) \cdot \chi_I * \chi_J(y)$ .

$\alpha$  is supported on  $I_1 \times I_2$  (since  $I + I \subset I_1$  and  $I + J \subset I_2$ ).

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Goal: Show  $\sum_{A(2x)^d=2y-1} \alpha(x, y) > 0$ .



By results in finite Fourier series,

$$\sum_{\substack{A(2x)^{d=2y-1} \\ x \neq 0}} \alpha(x, y) = \sum_{\substack{A(2x)^{d=2y-1} \\ x \neq 0}} \sum_{u, v} a(u, v) e_p(ux + vy)$$

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We have a main term  $a(0, 0)(p - 1) = \frac{p-1}{p^2} |I|^3 |J|$ .

We estimate the error term (using various techniques, in particular binomial exponential sum bounds) and get that the main term is greater than the error term when  $M < .000823p^3$

$$M = \#\{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}^*)^4 \mid x_1 + x_2 = x_3 + x_4, x_1^d + x_2^d = x_3^d + x_4^d\}$$

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### Theorem (Bourgain, Cochrane, P., Pinner)

*For any integer  $d$  with  $(d, p - 1) = 1$  and  $d_1 < .18(p - 1)^{16/23}$  then  $M \leq 13658p^{66/23}$ .*

This gives us the conjecture for  $p > 2.26 \cdot 10^{55}$ .

# Large $d_1$

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## Theorem (Bourgain, Cochrane, P., Pinner)

(a) Let  $d_1 = (d-1, p-1) < p-1$ . If  $d_1 > 8\left(\frac{4}{\pi^2} \log p + 1\right)^2 \sqrt{p}$  then the GK-conjecture holds.

(b) If  $p > 2.1 \cdot 10^7$  and  $d_1 > 10\sqrt{p}$  then the GK-conjecture holds.

# Possible Generalizations

1. Apply the methods in the paper to  $q$ -ary  $l$ -sequences:  
 $a_i \equiv (q^{-i} \bmod p) \bmod q$  where  $q$  is a primitive root mod  $p$ .  
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Given  $d$  relatively prime to  $p - 1$  obtain an asymptotic formula for the number  $N_d$  of even residues  $x \bmod p$  such that  $x^d \bmod p$  is an odd residue. What we have done is establish that  $N_d$  is nonzero.

*The End*