

Around Montgomery's trick: A taste of a bit hack

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CS 4435 - CS 9624

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- If a, b, p have small sizes, say are **machine integers**, then enter [Peter Montgomery](#) and his famous reduction (Math. Computation, vol. 44, pp. 519–521, 1985) improved by [Xin Li](#) in his PhD thesis (University of Western Ontario 2009).

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- Therefore $x + fp$ writes qR and thus $\frac{x}{R} \equiv q \pmod{p}$.

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- To compute in $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$, we map each $a \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ to $aR \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$. Then the above procedure gives us $\frac{aRbR}{R} \bmod p$, that is, the image of ab in this new representation.

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- Let $R := 2^\ell$ and $0 \leq x \leq (p - 1)^2$. We get $\frac{x}{R} \bmod p$ by:

$$\begin{array}{l} x \\ r_1 \end{array} \left| \frac{R}{q_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{l} c2^n r_1 \\ r_2 \end{array} \left| \frac{R}{q_2} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{l} c2^n r_2 \\ 0 \end{array} \left| \frac{R}{q_3} \right.$$

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- Using $c2^n \equiv -1 \pmod p$ we have:

$$\frac{x}{R} \equiv q_1 + \frac{r_1}{R} \equiv q_1 - q_2 - \frac{r_2}{R} \equiv q_1 - q_2 + q_3 \pmod p.$$

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$$x \begin{array}{l} | \\ r_1 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} R \\ q_1 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{and} \quad c2^n r_1 \begin{array}{l} | \\ r_2 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} R \\ q_2 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{and} \quad c2^n r_2 \begin{array}{l} | \\ 0 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} R \\ q_3 \end{array} \right.$$

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- The last equality requires a proof. We have:

$$r_2 = c2^n r_1 - q_2 R = c2^n r_1 - q_2 2^\ell.$$

Hence $\boxed{2^n \mid r_2}$ thus $\boxed{2^{2n} \mid c2^n r_2}$ and $\boxed{R \mid c2^n r_2}$.

The Improved Montgomery Trick (2/5)

- Recall $p > 2$ is a Fermat prime, that is, $p - 1 = c2^n$ and $\ell \leq 2n$ where $\ell = \lceil \log_2(p) \rceil \leq b$ on b -bit machine words.
- Recall $R := 2^\ell$ and $0 \leq x \leq (p - 1)^2$. We get $\frac{x}{R} \pmod p$ by:

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leading to $\frac{x}{R} \equiv q_1 - q_2 + q_3 \pmod p$.

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- Recall $p > 2$ is a Fourier prime, that is, $p - 1 = c2^n$ and $\ell \leq 2n$ where $\ell = \lceil \log_2(p) \rceil \leq b$ on b -bit machine words.
- Recall $R := 2^\ell$ and $0 \leq x \leq (p - 1)^2$. We get $\frac{x}{R} \bmod p$ by:

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leading to $\frac{x}{R} \equiv q_1 - q_2 + q_3 \pmod{p}$.

- Moreover we have:

$$-(p - 1) < q_1 - q_2 + q_3 < 2(p - 1).$$

Hence the desired output is either $(q_1 - q_2 + q_3) + p$, or $q_1 - q_2 + q_3$ or $(q_1 - q_2 + q_3) - p$

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- Indeed $0 \leq x \leq (p - 1)^2$ and $p \leq R$ imply

$$q_1 = x \text{ quo } R \leq (p - 1)^2 / R < p - 1.$$

Next, we have: $q_2 = c2^n r_1 \text{ quo } R < c2^n = p - 1$, since $r_1 < R$. Similarly, we have $q_3 < p - 1$.

The Improved Montgomery Trick (3/5)

We describe now the C implementation for 32-bit machine integer assuming that we have at hand the following function:

```
/**
 * Input : The addresses of two unsigned machine integers a, b
 * Output : Store (a * b) quo 2^32 into a, and
           store (a * b) mod 2^32 into b
 *
 **/

inline void MulHiLoUnsigned (uint32_t *a, uint32_t *b) {

    uint64_t prod;
    prod = (uint64_t)(*a) * (uint64_t)(*b);

    *a = (uint32_t) (prod >> 32);
    *b = (uint32_t) prod;
}
```

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- $q_3 := c \frac{r_2}{2^{\ell-n}}$. The division $\frac{r_2}{2^{\ell-n}}$ is exact and the multiplication $c \frac{r_2}{2^{\ell-n}}$ is correct on 32 bits.

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- Finally we have performed 6 shifts, 5 additions, 2 64-bit multiplications and 1 32-bit multiplication.

The Improved Montgomery Trick (5/5)

- Consider $p = 257 = 1 + 2^8$. Hence $c = 1$, $n = 8$, $\ell = 9$ and $R = 2^9$.
- Take $a = 131$ and $b = 187$.
- Compute $2^{32-\ell}b = 1568669696$.
- Compute $q_1 = 47$ and $2^{32-\ell}r_1 = 3632267264$.
- Compute $q_2 = 216$ and $2^{32-\ell}r_2 = 2147483648$.
- Compute $q_3 = c \frac{r_2}{2^{\ell-n}} = 128$.
- Compute $A = q_1 - q_2 + q_3 = -41$.
- Adjust to get $\frac{ab}{R} \equiv 216 \pmod{p}$.