

Factoring Large Integers

By R. Sherman Lehman

Abstract. A modification of Fermat's difference of squares method is used for factoring large integers. This modification permits factoring n in $O(n^{1/3})$ elementary operations, where addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, or the extraction of a square root is considered as an elementary operation. A principal part is played by the use of a dissection of the continuum similar to the Farey dissection. This has been programmed for $n \leq 1.05 \times 10^{20}$ on the CDC 6400.

1. Introduction. Fermat's method for factoring an odd positive integer n consists of finding $n = x^2 - y^2$ where x and y are positive integers. We find in succession

$$x = [n^{1/2}] + 1, \quad x = [n^{1/2}] + 2, \dots$$

and determine whether the difference $x^2 - n$ is a square or not. If p and q are primes and $n = pq$, then Fermat's method is quite efficient if p/q is near 1, but it requires a large number of trials if p/q is not near 1. Lawrence [2] used a method which is designed to be efficient if p/q is near a/b where a and b are small relatively prime integers.

We consider $x^2 - y^2 = 4kn$, $k = ab$ with $1 \leq k \leq r$. The idea we wish to use is to divide up the interval $[0, 1]$ into parts. Each part will correspond to a fraction a/b , and these parts will fill the interval $[0, 1]$. This means that, for each r , we find a sequence S_r which includes a/b when $0 \leq a \leq b$, $b > 0$ and $ab \leq r$. This is reminiscent of the Farey sequence of order r . We prove in Section 3 that many of the ideas go over to the new sequence S_r . In particular, one obtains a dissection of the continuum similar to the Farey dissection of $[0, 1]$.

The main theorem is given in Section 2. Its proof is contained in Section 4. Numerical results were obtained by a computation on the CDC 6400 of the Computer Center of the University of California at Berkeley. An Algol program is also given in Section 5.

2. The Theorem. We shall use $\text{gcd}(a, b)$ for the greatest common divisor of a and b .

THEOREM. *Suppose that n is a positive odd integer and r is an integer such that $1 \leq r < n^{1/2}$. If $n = pq$ where p and q are primes and*

$$(n/(r + 1))^{1/2} < p \leq n^{1/2},$$

Received April 21, 1973.

AMS (MOS) subject classifications (1970). Primary 10A25.

Key words and phrases. Factorization, Farey series, minimum operations, Fermat's method.

Copyright © 1974, American Mathematical Society

then there are nonnegative integers x, y and k such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.1) \quad & x^2 - y^2 = 4kn, \quad 1 \leq k \leq r, \\
 & x \equiv k + 1 \pmod{2}, \\
 & x \equiv k + n \pmod{4} \quad \text{if } k \text{ is odd,} \\
 & 0 \leq x - (4kn)^{1/2} \leq (1/4(r + 1))(n/k)^{1/2}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(2.2) \quad p = \min(\gcd(x + y, n), \gcd(x - y, n)).$$

If n is a prime, then there are no integers satisfying (2.1).

Let us see how many elementary operations are required to obtain the primes p and q when $n = pq$. First, there are a constant times $(n/(r + 1))^{1/2}$ divisions involved to determine whether there is a small prime factor less than $(n/(r + 1))^{1/2}$. We find that there are

$$O((n/r)^{1/2}) + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq r} O((1/r)(n/k)^{1/2} + 1)$$

elementary operations, where the extraction of a square root is counted as one operation. We have

$$O((n/r)^{1/2}) + O((1/r)n^{1/2}r^{1/2}) + O(r)$$

operations. Here, if we choose r to be a constant times $n^{1/3}$, we find $O(n^{1/3})$ elementary operations are required.

3. The Sequence S_r . If r is a positive integer, then we denote by S_r the sequence of rational numbers a/b where $0 \leq a \leq b, b > 0$ and $ab \leq r$ with a and b relatively prime integers. We suppose that the sequence is arranged in order of increasing size. For example, S_{15} is the sequence

$$\frac{0}{1}, \frac{1}{15}, \frac{1}{14}, \frac{1}{13}, \frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{11}, \frac{1}{10}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{7}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{2}{7}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{1}.$$

LEMMA 1. If a/b and a'/b' are two successive terms of S_r , then

$$a'b - ab' = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad (a + a')(b + b') > r.$$

Proof. It is well known that the Farey series of order n , which consists of all reduced fractions between 0 and 1 whose denominators do not exceed n , can be generated starting from 0/1, 1/1 by the following process: Between two successive terms of the sequence generated, say a/b and a'/b' , insert their mediant $(a + a')/(b + b')$, which is always a reduced fraction, whenever $b + b'$ does not exceed n . A similar method can be used to generate S_r —we insert the mediant $(a + a')/(b + b')$ whenever $(a + a')(b + b') \leq r$. It follows that two successive terms of S_r are successive terms in a Farey series of some order and thus $a'b - ab' = 1$. To avoid insertion of the mediant $(a + a')/(b + b')$ between them, we must have $(a + a')(b + b') > r$. This completes the proof.

We now use a dissection of the interval $[0, 1]$ which is analogous to the Farey dissection of the continuum (see [1, p. 29]). We take the sequence S_r and form the mediants between each two successive terms. We then cut up the interval $[0, 1]$ into

pieces using the mediants as division points. Thus, we obtain a subinterval corresponding to each term of S_r . It will be convenient to use closed subintervals. Corresponding to $0/1$, we have the subinterval $[0, 1/(r + 1)]$, and, corresponding to $1/1$, we have the subinterval $[(a^* + 1)/(b^* + 1), 1]$ where a^*/b^* is the term preceding $1/1$ in S_r . If a'/b' , a/b , and a''/b'' are three successive terms of S_r , then, corresponding to a/b , we have the subinterval

$$\left[\frac{a + a'}{b + b'}, \frac{a + a''}{b + b''} \right].$$

By Lemma 1, we have

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{a + a'}{b + b'} = \frac{a}{b} - \frac{1}{b(b + b')}, \quad \frac{a + a''}{b + b''} = \frac{a}{b} + \frac{1}{b(b + b'')}.$$

We shall call this dissection with subintervals corresponding to S_r the *dissection of order r* .

LEMMA 2. *If α is in the subinterval corresponding to a/b with $a > 0$ in the dissection of order r , then*

$$\frac{a}{b} \{ 1 - \delta(1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 \} \leq \alpha \leq \frac{a}{b} \{ 1 + \delta(1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 \}$$

where $\delta = \{ab(r + 1)\}^{-1/2}$.

Proof. Let a'/b' be the term preceding and a''/b'' the term following a/b in S_r , and suppose that α is in the subinterval corresponding to a/b with $b \geq a \geq 1$. Since the mediant $(a + a')/(b + b')$ is not in S_r , we have, by (3.1) and Lemma 1,

$$r + 1 \leq (a + a')(b + b') = \frac{a + a'}{b + b'} (b + b')^2 = \frac{a}{b} (b + b')^2 - \frac{(b + b')}{b}.$$

Similarly, we have

$$r + 1 \leq \frac{a}{b} (b + b'')^2 + \frac{(b + b'')}{b}.$$

Using the first of these quadratic inequalities and that $b + b' > 0$, we obtain

$$b + b' \geq \{ 1 + (1 + 4ab(r + 1))^{1/2} \} / 2a$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b(b + b')} \leq \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{2}{1 + (1 + 4ab(r + 1))^{1/2}} = \frac{a}{b} \{ -\frac{1}{2}\delta^2 + \delta(1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} \}.$$

Hence, by (3.1), we obtain the first inequality of the lemma. Similarly, using the second of these quadratic inequalities, we obtain

$$b + b'' \geq \{ -1 + (1 + 4ab(r + 1))^{1/2} \} / 2a$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b(b + b'')} \leq \frac{a}{b} \{ \frac{1}{2}\delta^2 + \delta(1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} \}.$$

From this, we obtain the second inequality of the lemma. This completes the proof.

4. Proof of Theorem. Let n be an odd prime or let $n = pq$ where p and q are two odd primes with $p \leq n^{1/2} \leq q$. Consider the equation

$$(4.1) \quad (x + y)(x - y) = x^2 - y^2 = 4kn$$

where x and y are nonnegative integers and k is a positive integer. Then

$$(4.2) \quad x + y = sa'n, x - y = tb' \quad \text{or} \quad x + y = tb', x - y = sa'n,$$

where s, t, a' and b' are positive integers and $st = 4, a'b' = k$;

$$(4.3) \quad x + y = sa'q, x - y = tb'p \quad \text{or} \quad x + y = tb'p, x - y = sa'q,$$

where s, t, a' and b' are positive integers and $st = 4, a'b' = k$.

To consider (4.2), we add the two equations and we get in either case $2x = sa'n + tb'$. There are three possible cases: $s = 4, t = 1$; $s = 1, t = 4$; $s = 2, t = 2$. These give

$$x = 2a'n + \frac{1}{2}b', \quad x = \frac{1}{2}a'n + 2b', \quad x = a'n + b'.$$

In the first case, we see b' is even. Setting $a = 2a', b = \frac{1}{2}b'$, we get

$$(4.4) \quad x = an + b \quad \text{with} \quad ab = k.$$

In the second case, we see that $a'n$ is even, and because n is odd, a' must be even. Setting $a = \frac{1}{2}a', b = 2b'$, we again get (4.4). In the last case, we obtain (4.4) with $a = a', b = b'$.

We prove that if r is an integer such that $1 \leq r < n^{1/2}$, then

$$x - (4kn)^{1/2} > \frac{1}{4(r+1)} \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^{1/2}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq r,$$

is correct. This contradicts one of the inequalities in (2.1). Actually, we prove the stronger inequality

$$(4.5) \quad x - (4kn)^{1/2} > \frac{1}{4(k+1)} \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^{1/2}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq n-2.$$

It is equivalent to

$$an + b > 2k^{1/2}n^{1/2} + \frac{1}{4(k+1)} \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^{1/2}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq n-2, ab = k,$$

by (4.4). Squaring both sides, we obtain

$$a^2n^2 - 2kn + b^2 > n/(k+1) + n/16(k+1)^2k.$$

We see that it can be reduced to a special case $a = 1, b = k$ when the left side is $n^2 - 2kn + k^2$. For, if $a \geq 2$ and $1 \leq k \leq n-2$, then

$$(a^2 - 4)n^2 + (n^2 - k^2) + b^2 + 2n^2 \geq 0$$

or

$$a^2n^2 - 2kn + b^2 \geq n^2 - 2kn + k^2.$$

Thus, it is sufficient to consider $(n-k)^2 > n/(k+1) + n/16(k+1)^2k$ where $1 \leq k \leq n-2$. A stronger inequality is

$$(n - k)^2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right) \frac{n}{k + 1} \geq 0 \text{ or } G(k, n) = (k + 1)(n - k)^2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right)n \geq 0,$$

where $1 \leq k \leq n - 2, n \geq 3$ for all real values of k and n . Differentiating $G(k, n)$ with respect to k , we have

$$\partial G(k, n)/\partial k = (n - k)^2 - 2(k + 1)(n - k) = (n - k)(n - 2 - 3k).$$

For fixed n , we see that $\partial G/\partial k = 0$ at $k = n$ and $k = (n - 2)/3$, and that $G(k, n)$ is increasing for $0 \leq k < (n - 2)/3$ and decreasing for $(n - 2)/3 < k < n$. Thus, it is sufficient to check it on the two rays $k = 1, n \geq 3$ and $k = n - 2, n \geq 3$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} G(1, n) &= 2(n - 1)^2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right)n = 2n^2 - 4n + 2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right)n \\ &\geq 6n - 4n - \left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right)n + 2 > 2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$G(n - 2, n) = 4(n - 1) - \left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right)n \geq 8 - 3\left(1 + \frac{1}{16}\right) > 4.$$

It follows that it remains positive, and thus (4.5) is proved. We have shown that there is no solution to (2.1) when n is a prime.

Now, we consider (4.3). Adding the two equations, we get $2x = sa'q + tb'p$. There are three possible cases: $s = 4, t = 1; s = 1, t = 4; s = 2, t = 2$. These give

$$x = 2a'q + \frac{1}{2}b'p, \quad x = \frac{1}{2}a'q + 2b'p, \quad x = a'q + b'p.$$

In the first case, we see that $b'p$ is even and because p is odd, b' must be even. Setting $a = 2a', b = \frac{1}{2}b'$, we have

$$(4.6) \quad x = aq + bp, \quad y = |aq - bp|, \quad k = ab,$$

with a and b positive integers. In the second case, we see that $a'q$ is even and because q is odd, a' must be even. Setting $a = \frac{1}{2}a', b = 2b'$, we get (4.6). In the last case, we get (4.6) with $a = a', b = b'$.

Let $d = \text{gcd}(a, b)$. Then

$$(4.7) \quad x = aq + bp = d(a_1q + b_1p), \quad y = |aq - bp| = d|a_1q - b_1p|$$

where a_1 and b_1 are positive integers, and

$$(x/d)^2 - (y/d)^2 = 4a_1b_1n, \quad k = d^2a_1b_1.$$

Thus, it can be reduced to the case in which a and b are relatively prime positive integers.

If a and b are relatively prime, then we can prove that $x \equiv k + 1 \pmod{2}$. If $k = ab$ is even, then one of the integers aq and bp is even and the other is odd since, by assumption, p and q are odd while a and b are relatively prime. It follows that $x = aq + bp$ is odd. On the other hand, if k is odd, then the integers aq and bp are odd. It follows that x is even.

We can prove that if k is odd, then $x \equiv k + n \pmod{4}$. We consider p and q

which are odd and also a and b which are odd. Then $p - a$ is even and $q - b$ is even. Hence their product is divisible by 4. Hence, $(p - a)(q - b) = pq + ab - aq - bp = n + k - x$ is divisible by 4.

Since $ab = k < n^{1/2} \leq q$, we have

$$p = \gcd(2bp, n) = \min(\gcd(x + y, n), \gcd(x - y, n))$$

where any solution of (4.6) is used.

It remains to prove that

$$(4.8) \quad 0 \leq x - (4kn)^{1/2} \leq \frac{1}{4(r+1)} \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^{1/2}$$

where

$$(4.9) \quad p > (n/(r+1))^{1/2}.$$

Let $m = 4kn = 4abn$, and let $\tau = x - m^{1/2}$. Because the arithmetic mean is not less than the geometric mean

$$x = aq + bp \geq 2(abpq)^{1/2} = m^{1/2}$$

and thus $\tau \geq 0$ which proves the left half of (4.8).

Letting $\epsilon = \tau m^{-1/2}$, we have

$$x = (1 + \epsilon)m^{1/2}, \quad y = (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2} m^{1/2}.$$

The right half of the inequality (4.8) translates into

$$(4.10) \quad \epsilon \leq \frac{1}{8} \delta^2$$

where $\delta = \{ab(r+1)\}^{-1/2}$.

We now show that the point $\alpha = p/q$ lies in the subinterval corresponding to a/b in the dissection of order r discussed in Section 3. In applying Lemma 2, we must show that p/q does not lie in the interval $[0, 1/(r+1)]$. This follows from

$$\frac{p}{q} = \frac{p}{n/p} = \frac{p^2}{n} > \frac{1}{r+1}$$

by (4.9). We obtain

$$\xi_1 a/b \leq p/q \leq \xi_2 a/b$$

where

$$\xi_1 = 1 - \delta(1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2,$$

$$\xi_2 = 1 + \delta(1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} + \frac{1}{2}\delta^2$$

are the two positive roots of the equation

$$(4.11) \quad (1 - \xi)^2 = \xi \delta^2.$$

We consider separately two cases depending on whether $p/q \leq a/b$ or $p/q > a/b$. First, if $p/q \leq a/b$ then $aq \geq bp$, and, by (4.6), we have

$$\frac{p}{q} = \frac{a(x-y)}{b(x+y)} = \frac{a}{b} \left(\frac{1 + \epsilon - (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2}}{1 + \epsilon + (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2}} \right) = \frac{a}{b} (1 + \epsilon - (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2})^2.$$

Thus,

$$\xi_1 \leq (1 + \epsilon - (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2})^2 \quad \text{or} \quad \xi_1^{1/2} + (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2} \leq 1 + \epsilon.$$

Squaring both sides, we have $2\xi_1^{1/2}(2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2} \leq 1 - \xi_1$. Using that ξ_1 is a root of (4.11), we find

$$(4.12) \quad 2\epsilon + \epsilon^2 \leq \frac{1}{4}\delta^2.$$

Solving this inequality for ϵ , we obtain

$$\epsilon \leq -1 + (1 + \frac{1}{4}\delta^2)^{1/2} \leq -1 + (1 + \frac{1}{8}\delta^2) = \frac{1}{8}\delta^2,$$

which proves (4.10).

Second, if $p/a > a/b$, then $bp > aq$ and

$$\frac{p}{q} = \frac{a}{b}(1 + \epsilon + (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2})^2.$$

Then $\xi_2 \geq (1 + \epsilon + (2\epsilon + \epsilon^2)^{1/2})^2$. From this, we obtain (4.10). This completes the proof of the theorem.

5. The Program and Results. The program was first written in Algol without use of any recursive procedures. It was planned that after testing the program, it would be transferred over to Fortran IV which has available double precision routines. This transfer was feasible because the computation preserves integers.

A dissection of order r is given by a sequence S_r . Therefore, r must be chosen appropriately. We chose $r = [0.1 n^{1/3}]$ which is nearly the optimal value. Consequently, we are looking for factors which are greater than $(n/(r + 1))^{1/2} \approx 10^{1/2}n^{1/3}$. We obtained a Fortran routine which is valid for $n \leq 1.05 \times 10^{20}$ and which requires at most $1.4 \times 10^{-4}n^{1/3}$ seconds on the CDC 6400.

Professor René DeVogelaere furnished me with some integers of from 17 to 21 digits which he wished to factor. In Table I, they are given with the results. We give, along with the factor, the resulting k where $x^2 - y^2 = 4kn$ and x and y are integers. The time is given in seconds for the final version.

In our discussion of the program, we give only the Algol procedures. The first procedure is for finding $x \equiv a \pmod{b}$ where x is the least nonnegative residue of a modulo b where a and b are positive integers. The second is for finding the $\text{gcd}(a, b)$ where a and b are positive integers. The third is a procedure $\text{isqrt}(n, u)$ which gives as its value the smallest positive integer j such that $j^2 \geq n$ and gives to u the corresponding value of $j^2 - n$. This procedure uses the real procedure $\text{sqrt}(n)$ hence it may be in error. It is designed to correct this error.

We give the procedure $\text{factor}(n, r, f)$. We enter the procedure by giving n and r and leave it with f assigned a factor. Also, if no factor has been found, then f is set to be equal to 1.

In going through the integers k from 1 to r , there is an advantage in going through them in a prescribed order. Let $d(k)$ be the number of positive divisors of k . If a/b is closest to the ratio of the divisors of n , which $k = ab$ should we try first? As an example we take from Table I the first example

$$k = 23220 = 2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 43.$$

TABLE I

Number	Factor	k	Time in seconds
1123877887715932507	299155897	23220 = $2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 43$	2.6
1129367102454866881	25869889	6750 = $2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3$	1.3
29742315699406748437	372173423	25982 = $2 \cdot 11 \cdot 1181$	122.6
35249679931198483	59138501	14554 = $2 \cdot 19 \cdot 383$	17.8
208127655734009353	430470917	21390 = $2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 23 \cdot 31$	1.9
331432537700013787	114098219	14664 = $2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 13 \cdot 47$	6.0
3070282504055021789	1436222173	100620 = $2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 13 \cdot 43$	7.2
3757550627260778911	16053127	131229 = $3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 2083$	175.5
24928816998094684879	347912923	82380 = $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 1373$	8.3
10188337563435517819	70901851	18240 = $2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 19$	3.0

Thus, there are $d(k) = 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 48$ different representations a/b that we look at simultaneously. Clearly, it is better to first choose k with $d(k)$ large. For that reason, we chose to look at multiples of

$$30 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5, \quad 24 = 2^3 \cdot 3, \quad 12 = 2^2 \cdot 3, \quad 18 = 2 \cdot 3^2, \quad 6 = 2 \cdot 3, \quad 2, \quad 1.$$

The program is designed to go through these sequences.

We have set the Boolean array qr so that $qr[i]$ is true if i is a quadratic residue modulo $729 = 3^6$ and is false otherwise. We have picked 729 so that the proportion that is true is only $274/729 = 0.38$. For this proportion, we must do the additional work of finding $isqrt(u, t)$.

integer procedure mod (a, b); value a, b ; integer a, b ; mod: = $a - (a \div b) \times b$;

integer procedure gcd(a, b); value a, b ; integer a, b ;

begin integer i ;

if $a < b$ then begin $i := a$; $a := b$; $b := i$ end;

l : $i := \text{mod}(a, b)$; $a := b$; $b := i$;

if $i \neq 0$ then go to l ; gcd := a

end gcd;

integer procedure isqrt(n, u); value n ; integer n, u ;

begin integer $j, j1, j2$;

$j :=$ if $n=0$ then 1 else entier (sqrt(n))+1;

$j1 := j \times j - n$;

f : if $j1 < 0$ then

begin $j1 := j1 + 2 \times j + 1$; $j := j + 1$; go to f end;

l : $j2 := j1 - 2 \times j + 1$;

if $j2 \geq 0$ then

begin $j1 := j2$; $j := j - 1$; go to l end;

isqrt := j ; $u := j1$

end isqrt;

```

procedure factor(n, r, f); value n, r; integer n, r, f;
begin integer i, j, p;
    integer array c[1 : 8];
    Boolean array qr[0 : 728];
    procedure large(m, m0); value m, m0; integer m, m0;
    begin integer i, il, j, jump, k, s, t, u, x, y; Boolean odd;
        s := 1; k := m0;
    start:
        k := k + c[s]; s := if s = m then 1 else s + 1;
        if k ≤ r then
            begin
                x := isqrt(4 × k × n, u); j := (isqrt(n ÷ k, t) - 1) ÷ (4 × (r + 1));
                if mod(x + k, 2) = 0 then
                    begin il := 1; u := u + 2 × x + 1; x := x + 1 end else il := 0;
                    odd := mod(k, 2) = 1; jump := if odd then 4 else 2;
                    if odd then
                        begin
                            if mod(k + n, 4) = mod(x, 4) then
                                begin il := il + 2; u := u + 4 × (x + 1); x := x + 2 end
                            end;
                        for i := il step jump until j + 1 do
                            begin
                                if qr[mod(u, 729)] then
                                    begin
                                        y := isqrt(u, t);
                                        if t = 0 then
                                            begin
                                                p := gcd(n, x - y); if p > n ÷ p then p := n ÷ p;
                                                go to exit
                                            end;
                                        end;
                                        comment When a factor p is found, we leave the
                                        procedure by going to exit;
                                    end;
                                if odd then begin u := u + 8 × (x + 2); x := x + 4 end
                                else
                                    begin u := u + 4 × (x + 1); x := x + 2 end
                                end;
                            go to start
                        end
                    end large;
                for i := 0 step 1 until 728 do qr[i] := false;
                for i := 0 step 1 until 364 do
                    begin j := mod(i × i, 729); qr[j] := true end;
                c[1] := 30; large(1, 0);
                c[1] := 48; c[2] := c[3] := c[4] := 24; large(4, -24);
                c[1] := c[2] := c[4] := 24; c[3] := 48; large(4, -12);
                c[1] := c[2] := c[4] := 36; c[3] := 72; large(4, -18);
            end
        end

```

```
c[1] := c[4] := c[6] := 12; c[2] := c[8] := 36;  
c[3] := c[5] := c[7] := 24; large(8, -6);  
c[1] := 4; c[2] := 2; large(2, -2);  
c[1] := 2; large(1, -1);  
comment No factor has been found;  
p := 1;  
exit: f := p  
end factor;
```

Department of Mathematics
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

1. G. H. HARDY & E. M. WRIGHT, *An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers*, 4th ed., Oxford Univ. Press, London, 1960.
2. F. W. LAWRENCE, "Factorisation of numbers," *Messenger of Math.*, v. 24, 1895, pp. 100-109.