

Generating random primes faster

D. J. Bernstein

pqRSA project team:

Daniel J. Bernstein

Josh Fried

Nadia Heninger

Paul Lou

Luke Valenta

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The standard algorithm
to generate random primes:

```
proof.arithmetic(False)
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while True:
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    p = randrange(2^(n-1), 2^n)
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    if p.is_prime(): print p
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$n^{1+o(1)}$ iterations per prime.

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$n^{1+o(1)}$ iterations per prime.

Standard speedup using wheels:

e.g., force $p \bmod 6 \in \{1, 5\}$.

Wheel using all primes $q \leq n^{O(1)}$:

$n^{1+o(1)}$ iterations per prime.

Recall $\prod_{q \leq y} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) \in \Theta\left(\frac{1}{\log y}\right)$.

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2010 Bernstein conjecture:

correctly recognize primality using
 $n^{o(1)}$ tests, total $n^{2+o(1)}$ bit ops.

Fermat test, then Lucas test

(as in 1980 Baillie–Wagstaff, 1980
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Most iterations are much simpler:

Fermat test rejects p .

Fast reject by trial division/ECM?

Still $n^{3+o(1)}$ bit ops per prime.

Standard algorithm

Generate random primes:

`isPrime(n)`

return

`randrange(2^(n-1), 2^n)`

`Z(p)`

`is_prime(): print p`

Iterations per prime.

Speedup using wheels:

Choose $p \bmod 6 \in \{1, 5\}$.

Using all primes $q \leq n^{O(1)}$:

Iterations per prime.

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New: n^2
to generate

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algorithm

per prime:

(False)

$2^{n-1}, 2^n$

): print p

per prime.

using wheels:

$5 \in \{1, 5\}$.

times $q \leq n^{O(1)}$:

per prime.

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New: $n^{2.5+o(1)}$ bit
 to generate $2^{n^{0.5+o(1)}}$

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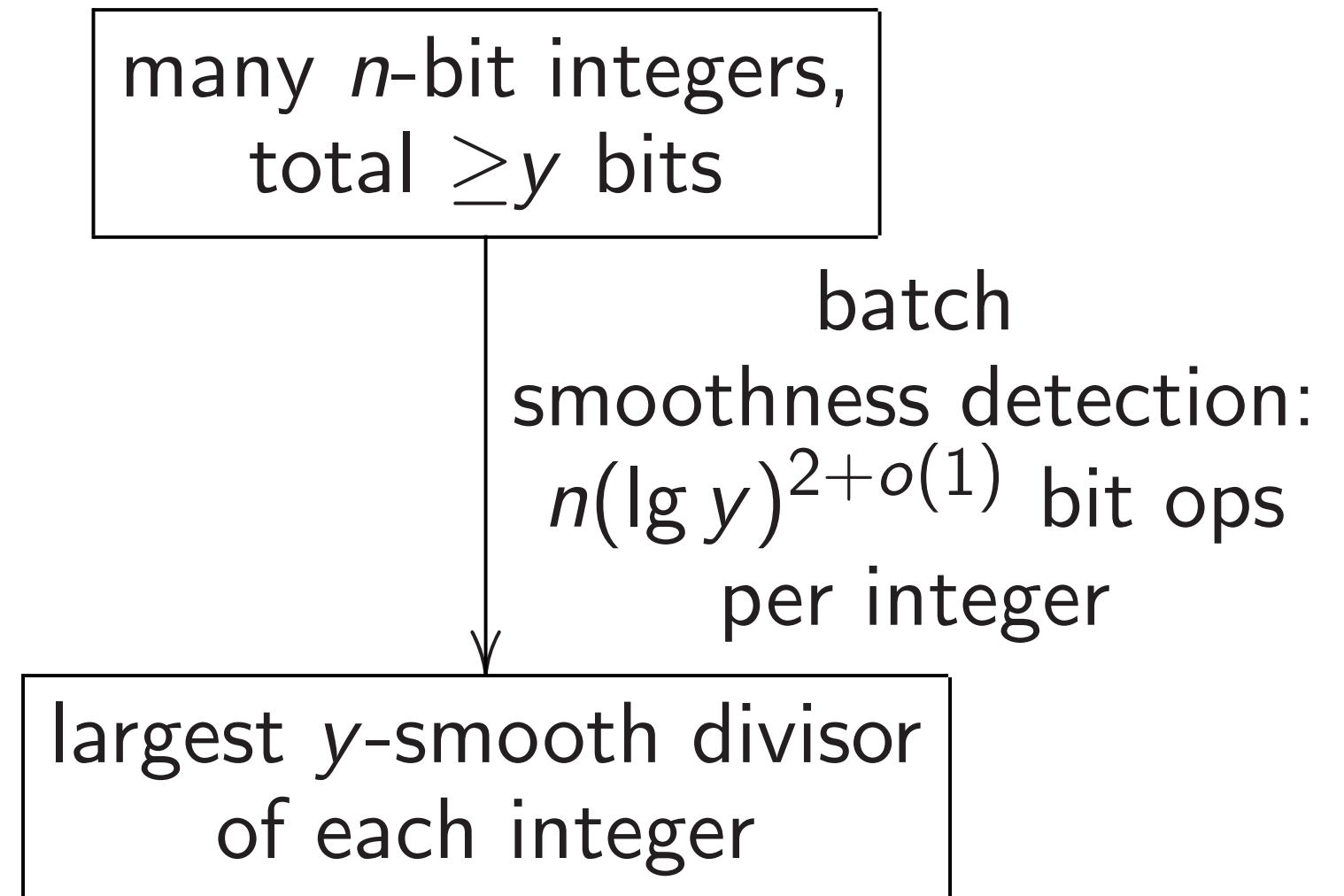
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Recall:



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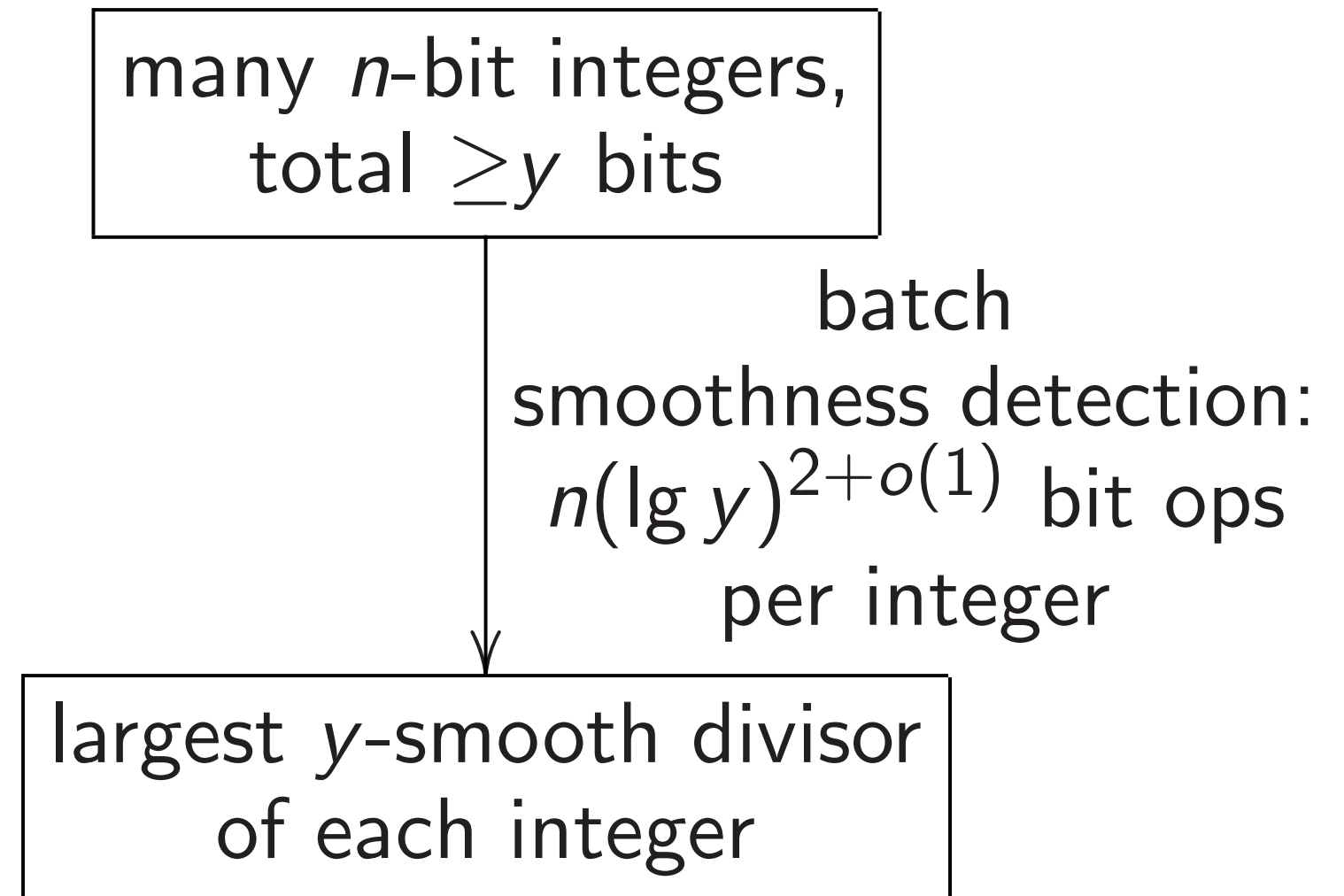
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Recall:



Apply batch smoothness detection for $y = 2^{2^0}$, then $y = 2^{2^1}$, then $y = 2^{2^2}$, ..., then $y \approx 2^{n^{0.5+o(1)}}$.