# What is...Frobenius' density theorem? 

## Or: Does it factor?

## The prime number theorem $\pi(n) \sim n / \log (n)$



The probability of $n$ being prime is (roughly) $1 / \log (n)$

Any hope to compute factors modulo $p$ ?

| $f(X)=X^{4}+X^{3}+1$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | $X^{4}+X^{3}+1$ | $(4)$ |
| 3 | $\left(X^{3}+2 X^{2}+2 X+2\right)(X+2)$ | $(3,1)$ |
| 5 | $\left(X^{3}+3 X^{2}+X+2\right)(X+3)$ | $(3,1)$ |
| 7 | $X^{4}+X^{3}+1$ | $(4)$ |
| 11 | $\left(X^{3}+9 X^{2}+6 X+4\right)(X+3)$ | $(3,1)$ |
| 13 | $X^{4}+X^{3}+1$ | $(4)$ |
| 17 | $\left(X^{3}+7 X^{2}+8 X+14\right)(X+11)$ | $(3,1)$ |
| 19 | $\left(X^{3}+11 X^{2}+15 X+17\right)(X+9)$ | $(3,1)$ |
| 23 | $\left(X^{2}+4 X+20\right)(X+6)(X+14)$ | $(2,1,1)$ |
| 29 | $\left(X^{2}+12 X+26\right)(X+7)(X+11)$ | $(2,1,1)$ |

For example $(-3)^{4}+(-3)^{3}+1=55=0 \bmod 5$ or 11

## The prime number theorem for factorizations

\# of appearances of types for the first 10000 primes for $f(X)=X^{4}+X^{3}+1$ :

| $(4)$ | $(3,1)$ | $(2,2)$ | $(2,1,1)$ | $(1,1,1,1)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2479 | 3367 | 1250 | 2489 | 414 |
| $\approx 1 / 4$ | $\approx 1 / 3$ | $\approx 1 / 8$ | $\approx 1 / 4$ | $\approx 1 / 24$ |

\# of appearances of types for the first 10000 primes for $g(X)=X^{4}-12 X^{3}+1$

| $(4)$ | $(3,1)$ | $(2,2)$ | $(2,1,1)$ | $(1,1,1,1)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2500 | 3319 | 1233 | 2516 | 430 |
| $\approx 1 / 4$ | $\approx 1 / 3$ | $\approx 1 / 8$ | $\approx 1 / 4$ | $\approx 1 / 24$ |

Side node. Finitely many exceptional cases of higher multiplicities, e.g. $g(X)=X^{4}-12 X^{3}+1 \equiv(X+1)^{4} \bmod 2$, are not counted!

## Enter, the theorem!

For each $f \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ of degree $n$ there exists a group $G \subset S_{n}$ such that the density of primes $p$ for which $f$ has decomposition type $c$ is

$$
d(c)=\frac{\#\{g \in G \mid \text { cycle type is } c\}}{\# G}
$$

$G$ is the Galois group associated to $f$
Consequences.
(a) $d(c)$ is the probability of a random prime having factorization type $c$
(b) Average number of zeros modulo $p$ is the number of factors of $f$ over $\mathbb{Z}$
(c) For a given $n$ there exist only finitely many classes of irreducible polynomials with the same probability type
(d) For $G=S_{n}$ we have $d(c)^{-1} \in \mathbb{N}$

## Only five patterns for degree 4

| $f$ | $G$ | $(4)$ | $(3,1)$ | $(2,2)$ | $(2,1,1)$ | $(1,1,1,1)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $X^{4}+X^{3}+1$ | $S_{4}$ | $1 / 4$ | $1 / 3$ | $1 / 8$ | $1 / 4$ | $1 / 24$ |
| $X^{4}+3 X^{2}+7 X+4$ | $A_{4}$ | 0 | $2 / 3$ | $1 / 4$ | 0 | $1 / 12$ |
| $X^{4}-X^{2}-1$ | $D_{4}$ | $1 / 4$ | 0 | $3 / 8$ | $1 / 4$ | $1 / 8$ |
| $X^{4}-X^{2}+1$ | $(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z})^{2}$ | 0 | 0 | $3 / 4$ | 0 | $1 / 4$ |
| $X^{4}+X^{3}+X^{2}+X+1$ | $\mathbb{Z} / 4 \mathbb{Z}$ | $1 / 2$ | 0 | $1 / 4$ | 0 | $1 / 4$ |

## Thank you for your attention!

I hope that was of some help.

