

# Magic squares $J(p)$ by Jarosław Wróblewski

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Let  $p$  be a prime of the form  $8n \pm 3$ . We are going to construct a magic square  $J(p)$  of size  $2^p \times 2^p$ .

We are going to identify integers from 0 to  $2^p - 1$  with sequences of their  $p$  binary digits (bits), possibly filled with leading zeros. We refer to positions of bits as from 0-th to  $(p-1)$ -th. It doesn't really matter whether we put oldest bit last or first as long as we are consistent.

Let for  $0 \leq i < p$  the sequence  $a_i$  has all bits 0 except  $i$ -th bit, which is 1.

In Mathematica format:

```
a[0]=Join[{1},Table[0,{i,1,p-1}]];
Do[a[i]=RotateRight[a[0],i],{i,1,p-1}];
```

Let  $a_p$  has 1 on position  $i$  iff  $i$  is quadratic residue mod  $p$ , 0 otherwise. We consider  $i=0$  to be quadratic residue here.

Let  $a_{p+i}$ , where  $1 \leq i < p$ , be  $a_p$  with bits rotated right by  $i$  positions.

```
a[p]=Ceiling[Mod[PowerMod[Range[p]-1,(p-1)/2,p]+1,p]/2];
Do[a[p+i]=RotateRight[a[p],i],{i,1,p-1}];
```

Let  $b_i = a_{i+1}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq p-2$  and  $b_{p-1} = a_0$ .

Let  $b_{p+i}$  be  $a_{p+i-1}$  with all bits reversed, for  $1 \leq i \leq p-1$ . Let  $b_p$  be  $a_{2p-1}$  with all bits reversed.

```
Do[b[i]=a[Mod[i+1,p]],{i,0,p-1}];
Do[b[p+i]=1-a[p+Mod[i+p-1,p]],{i,0,p-1}];
```

The table  $J(p)$  has entries

$$m_{ij} = \sum_{k=0}^{2^p-1} 2^k \cdot (i \circ a_k + j \circ b_k)_{(mod\ 2)}, \quad (\heartsuit)$$

where  $i \circ a_k$  means bitwise multiplication and then adding the products, i.e. counting common occurrences of 1's in  $i$  and  $a_k$ . The sum in parentheses is then taken modulo 2. Indices  $i$  and  $j$  are ranging from 0 to  $2^p - 1$ .

```
m=Table[
Sum[
2^k*Mod[Plus@@(Drop[IntegerDigits[2^p+i,2],1]*a[k]+
Drop[IntegerDigits[2^p+j,2],1]*b[k]),2],
{k,0,2^p-1}],
{i,0,2^p-1},{j,0,2^p-1}];
```

Matrix  $J(p)$  has consecutive integers from 0 to  $4^p - 1$  as entries if the  $2p \times 2p$  matrix  $X$  whose rows are concatenated  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  has odd determinant.

```
X=Table[Join[a[i],b[i]],{i,0,2p-1}];
```

That is the reason for assuming  $p = 8n \pm 3$ .

Let  $c_i$  be bitwise XOR of  $a_i$  and  $b_i$ .

We will call a set of  $p$ -bit sequences XOR- $d$ -independent iff every nonempty subset of at most  $d$  elements has nonzero bitwise XOR of its elements.

If  $(a_i)_{0 \leq i < 2p}$  is XOR- $d$ -independent, then square  $J(p)$  has  $d$ -magic columns.

If  $(b_i)_{0 \leq i < 2p}$  is XOR- $d$ -independent, then square  $J(p)$  has  $d$ -magic rows.

If  $(c_i)_{0 \leq i < 2p}$  is XOR- $d$ -independent, then square  $J(p)$  has both main diagonals  $d$ -magic.

I hope that the above facts are known or can be verified by people deep in the subject. I would hate to go through detailed proof of them. The idea is to replace powers of 2 by variables in  $(\heartsuit)$  and to observe that under above XOR-independency conditions, sum of powers up to  $d$ -th of a row, column or diagonal can be expressed without actually looking at particular bits of  $a_i$  and  $b_i$ . Note that this sum of powers is a polynomial in  $2p$  variables. Under XOR-independency conditions coefficients of this polynomial are "averaged" the same way, no matter what particular a's and b's are.

### Multimagic degree of J(p)

$p$	columns	rows	diagonals	square
5	3	2	2	2
11	6	5	6	5
13	5	6	6	5
19	6	7	6	6
29	11+	10	10	10
37	6+	6+	6+	6+
43	6+	6+	6+	6+

**Note:** 6+ means I have verified 6-magic (hexamagic) but haven't tested for 7-magic (heptamagic).

### Checking XOR-independence

In C: store XOR-sums of  $d$  elements on linked lists. Keep checking whether newly stored XOR-sum is already there. If so, system is not XOR- $2d$ -independent.

If no XOR-sum is repeated, system is XOR- $2d$ -independent provided it has been known to be XOR- $(2d-1)$ -independent.

Keep previously stored XOR-sums of  $d$  elements on linked lists and check them against XOR-sums of  $d+1$  elements. If no sum is repeated, we are sure system is XOR- $(2d+1)$ -independent.

### Remarks

You can take any integer as  $p$  and any binary vectors as  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  to create your own magic square. But if matrix  $X$  has even determinant, you do not get distinct entries.

If XOR-independence of  $(a_i)$ ,  $(b_i)$  and  $(c_i)$  is small, multimagic degree of your square is small. You can always present the square by generating 0-th row and 0-th column of the square. The rest is filled as XOR table:  $m_{ij}$  is bitwise XOR of  $m_{0j}$  and  $m_{i0}$ .

Files `ab<p>.txt` contain  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  in the form of decimal numbers.

In formula (♥) you can replace  $2^k$  by ANY numbers and you get multimagic square. You need to put there ANY permutation of powers of 2 to get a square with consecutive integers.

I have verified that  $X$  has odd determinant for  $p = 8n \pm 3$  and  $p < 50$ . I have no general proof of that, but I am 99,99999999% sure that is true for all  $p$  of that form.

I feel that multimagic degree of  $J(p)$  tends to  $\infty$  as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ , but I have no clue how to prove it.

### Using 5magic.exe

Create file `ab<p>.txt` with  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  in decimal form. One number per line, a's come first from  $a_0$  to  $a_{2^p-1}$ , then b's. Number  $p$  must be less than 32.

Then run `5magic p`

Same applies to `7magic.exe` and next programs.

### Decamagic J(29)

Computations I have performed indicate that  $J(29)$  is 10-magic (decamagic ???).

It has size  $2^{29} \times 2^{29}$  or  $536870912 \times 536870912$  and contains integer entries from 0 to  $2^{58} - 1 = 288230376151711743$ .

It has 11-magic columns, unlikely 12-magic, but it hasn't been ruled out at the moment.