

PrimeGrid's Generalized Fermat Prime Search

On 16 November 2017, 15:38:45 UTC, PrimeGrid's Generalized Fermat Prime Search found the Generalized Fermat mega prime:

$$3596074^{262144} + 1$$

The prime is 1,718,572 digits long and enters Chris Caldwell's "The Largest Known Primes Database" (<http://primes.utm.edu/primes>) ranked 6th for Generalized Fermat primes and 53rd overall.

The discovery was made by Howard Gordon of the United Kingdom using a Nvidia GeForce GTX 1060 in an AMD Ryzen 1950X with 32GB RAM, running Microsoft Windows 10 Core Edition. This GPU took about 30 minutes to probable prime (PRP) test with GeneferOCL3. Howard is a member of the PrimeSearchTeam team.

The prime was verified on 30 November 2017, 01:04:13 UTC, by user Brian Uitti of the United States using an Intel(R) Core(TM) i5 M 520 CPU @ 2.4GHz with 4GB RAM, running Linux. This CPU took about 3 days, 12 hours, 6 minutes to probable prime (PRP) test with Genefer. Brian is a member of the Project Blue Book team.

The PRP was confirmed prime by an Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-4670K CPU @ 3.40GHz with 24GB RAM, running Microsoft Windows 7 Professional Edition. This computer took about 10 hours 10 minutes to complete the primality test using multithreaded LLR.

The credits for the discovery are as follows:

1. Howard Gordon (United Kingdom), discoverer
2. PrimeGrid, et al.
3. AthGFNSieve, sieve program developed by David Underbakke
4. GFNSvCUDA, sieve program developed by Anand Nair
5. GeneferOCL, probable prime program developed by Yves Gallot
6. LLR, primality program developed by Jean Penné

Entry in "The Largest Known Primes Database" can be found here:

<http://primes.utm.edu/primes/page.php?id=123995>

Using a single PC would have taken years to find this prime. So this timely discovery would not have been possible without the hundreds of volunteers who contributed their spare CPU cycles. A special thanks to everyone who offered their advice and/or computing power to the search - especially Yves Gallot, Iain Bethune, David Underbakke, Anand Nair, Mark Rodenkirch and Geoff Reynolds who were major forces in moving the project forward. Also, thank you to all the sievers, especially Honza Cholt and Jim Breslin. A final thanks to Michael Goetz for porting to BOINC.

The Generalized Fermat Prime Search will continue to seek even larger primes. To join the search please visit PrimeGrid: <http://www.primegrid.com>

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About PrimeGrid

PrimeGrid is a distributed computing project, developed by Rytis Slatkevičius and currently managed by Iain Bethune, James Breslin, Scott Brown, Ulrich Fries, Charley Gielkens, Michael Goetz, Roger Karpin, Rytis Slatkevičius, and Van Zimmerman.

PrimeGrid utilizes BOINC and PRPNet to search for primes with the primary goal of bringing the excitement of prime finding to the "everyday" computer user. Simply download the software and let your computer do the rest. Participants can choose from a variety of prime forms to search. With a little patience, you may find a large or even record breaking prime.

BOINC

The Berkeley Open Infrastructure for Network Computing (BOINC) is a software platform for distributed computing using volunteered computer resources. It allows users to participate in multiple distributed computing projects through a single program. Currently BOINC is being developed by a team based at the University of California, Berkeley led by David Anderson.

This platform currently supports projects from biology to math to astronomy. For more information, please visit BOINC: <http://boinc.berkeley.edu>

PRPNet

PRPNet is a client/server application written by Mark Rodenkirch that is specifically designed to help find prime numbers of various forms. It is easily ported between various OS/hardware combinations. PRPNet does not run each PRP test itself, but relies on helper programs, such as LLR, PFGW, phrot, www, and genefer to do the work.

For more information, please visit PrimeGrid's PRPNet forum thread:
http://www.primegrid.com/forum_thread.php?id=1215

For more information about PrimeGrid and a complete list of available prime search projects, please visit: <http://www.primegrid.com>