

Galois Fields and Hardware Design

Construction of Galois Fields, Basic Properties, Uniqueness, Containment, Closure, Polynomial Functions over Galois Fields

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Lectures conducted Sept 23, 2019 onwards

- Introduction to Field Construction
- Constructing \mathbb{F}_{2^k} and its elements
- Addition, multiplication and inverses over GFs
- Conjugates and their minimal polynomials
- GF containment and algebraic closure
- Hardware design over GFs

Definition

An integral domain R is a set with two operations $(+, \cdot)$ such that:

- 1 The elements of R form an abelian group under $+$ with additive identity 0.
- 2 The multiplication is associative and commutative, with multiplicative identity 1.
- 3 The distributive law holds: $a(b + c) = ab + ac$.
- 4 The cancellation law holds: if $ab = ac$ and $a \neq 0$, then $b = c$.

Examples: $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Z}_p, \mathbb{F}[x], \mathbb{F}[x, y]$. Finite rings $\mathbb{Z}_n, n \neq p$ are not integral domains.

Definition

A Euclidean domain \mathbb{D} is an integral domain where:

- ① associated with each non-zero element $a \in \mathbb{D}$ is a non-negative integer $f(a)$ s.t. $f(a) \leq f(ab)$ if $b \neq 0$; and
- ② $\forall a, b (b \neq 0), \exists (q, r)$ s.t. $a = qb + r$, where either $r = 0$ or $f(r) < f(b)$.

- Can apply the Euclid's algorithm to compute $g = GCD(g_1, \dots, g_t)$
- $GCD(a, b, c) = GCD(GCD(a, b), c)$
- Then $g = \sum_i u_i g_i$, i.e. GCD can be represented as a linear combination of the elements

Euclid's Algorithm

Inputs: Elements $a, b \in \mathbb{D}$, a Euclidean domain

Outputs: $g = \text{GCD}(a, b)$

```
1: Assume  $a > b$ , otherwise swap  $a, b$  { /*  $\text{GCD}(a, 0) = a$  */ }
2: while  $b \neq 0$  do
3:    $t := b$ 
4:    $b := a \bmod b$ 
5:    $a := t$ 
6: end while
7: return  $g := a$ 
```

Algorithm 1: Euclid's Algorithm

$$\text{GCD}(84, 54) = 6$$

$$84 = 1 \cdot 54 + 30$$

$$54 = 1 \cdot 30 + 24$$

$$30 = 1 \cdot 24 + \underline{6}$$

$$24 = 4 \cdot \underline{6} + 0$$

Lemma

If $g = \text{gcd}(a, b)$ then $\exists s, t$ such that $s \cdot a + t \cdot b = g$.

Unroll Euclid's algorithm to find s, t . A HW assignment!

- $\mathbb{D} = \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Z}_p$
- The ring $\mathbb{F}[x]$ is a Euclidean domain where \mathbb{F} is any field
- The ring $R = \mathbb{F}[x, y]$ is NOT a Euclidean domain where \mathbb{F} is any field
 - For $x, y \in R$, $\text{GCD}(x, y) = 1$, but cannot write $1 = f_1(x, y) \cdot x + f_2(x, y)y$
- \mathbb{Z}_{2^k} is neither an integral domain nor a Euclidean domain

Definition

Let \mathbb{D} be a Euclidean domain, and $p \in \mathbb{D}$ be a prime element. Then $\mathbb{D} \pmod{p}$ is a field.

- That is why $\mathbb{Z} \pmod{p}$ is a field
- In $\mathbb{R}[x]$, $x^2 + 1$ is a prime — actually called an irreducible polynomial
- So $\mathbb{R}[x] \pmod{x^2 + 1}$ is a field and is the field of complex numbers \mathbb{C}
- $\mathbb{R}[x] \pmod{p} = \{f(x) \mid \forall g(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x], f(x) = g(x) \pmod{p}\}$

$$\mathbb{R}[x] \pmod{x^2 + 1} = \mathbb{C}$$

- Let $f, g \in \mathbb{R}[x] \pmod{x^2 + 1}$
- f = remainder of division by $x^2 + 1$, it is linear
- Let $f = ax + b$, $g = cx + d$

$$\begin{aligned} f \cdot g &= (ax + b)(cx + d) \pmod{x^2 + 1} \\ &= acx^2 + (ad + bc)x + bd \pmod{x^2 + 1} \\ &= (ad + bc)x + (bd - ac) \text{ after reducing by } x^2 = -1 \end{aligned}$$

- Replace x with $i = \sqrt{-1}$, and we get \mathbb{C}
- \mathbb{C} is a 2 (=degree($x^2 + 1$)) dimensional extension of \mathbb{R}
- Intuitively, that is why $\mathbb{C} \supset \mathbb{R}$ (containment and closure)

Recall from my previous slides:

From Rings to Fields

Rings \supset Integral Domains \supset Unique Factorization Domains \supset Euclidean Domains \supset Fields

Now you know the reason for this containment

- $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ is a Euclidean domain, let $P(x)$ be irreducible over \mathbb{F}_p , and let degree of $P(x) = k$
- $\mathbb{F}_p[x] \pmod{P(x)} = \mathbb{F}_{p^k}$, a finite field of p^k elements
- Denote GFs as \mathbb{F}_q , $q = p^k$ for prime p and $k \geq 1$
- \mathbb{F}_{p^k} is a k -dimensional **extension** of \mathbb{F}_p , so $\mathbb{F}_p \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^k}$
- Our interest $\mathbb{F}_{2^k} = \mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{P(x)}$ where $P(x) \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$ is a degree- k irreducible polynomial

- Irreducible polynomials of any degree k always exist over \mathbb{F}_2 , so \mathbb{F}_{2^k} can be constructed for arbitrary $k \geq 1$

Table: Some irreducible polynomials in $\mathbb{F}_2[x]$.

Degree	Irreducible Polynomials
1	$x; x + 1$
2	$x^2 + x + 1$
3	$x^3 + x + 1; x^3 + x^2 + 1$
4	$x^4 + x + 1; x^4 + x^3 + 1; x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$

- $\mathbb{F}_{2^k} = \mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{P(x)}$, let α be a root of $P(x)$, i.e. $P(\alpha) = 0$
- $P(x)$ has no roots in \mathbb{F}_2 (irreducible); root lies in its algebraic extension \mathbb{F}_{2^k}
- Any element $A \in \mathbb{F}_{2^k}$:

$$A = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (a_i \cdot \alpha^i) = a_0 + a_1 \cdot \alpha + \cdots + a_{k-1} \cdot \alpha^{k-1} \text{ where } a_i \in \mathbb{F}_2$$
- The “degree” of $A < k$
- Think of $A = \{a_{k-1}, \dots, a_0\}$ as a bit-vector

Example of \mathbb{F}_{16}

- \mathbb{F}_{2^4} as $\mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{P(x)}$, where $P(x) = x^4 + x^3 + 1$, $P(\alpha) = 0$
- Any element $A \in \mathbb{F}_{16} = a_3\alpha^3 + a_2\alpha^2 + a_1\alpha + a_0$ (degree < 4)

Table: Bit-vector, Exponential and Polynomial representation of elements in $\mathbb{F}_{2^4} = \mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{x^4 + x^3 + 1}$

$a_3a_2a_1a_0$	Expo	Poly	$a_3a_2a_1a_0$	Expo	Poly
0000	0	0	1000	α^3	α^3
0001	1	1	1001	α^4	$\alpha^3 + 1$
0010	α	α	1010	α^{10}	$\alpha^3 + \alpha$
0011	α^{12}	$\alpha + 1$	1011	α^5	$\alpha^3 + \alpha + 1$
0100	α^2	α^2	1100	α^{14}	$\alpha^3 + \alpha^2$
0101	α^9	$\alpha^2 + 1$	1101	α^{11}	$\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + 1$
0110	α^{13}	$\alpha^2 + \alpha$	1110	α^8	$\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha$
0111	α^7	$\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1$	1111	α^6	$\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1$

Definition

The characteristic of a finite field \mathbb{F}_q with unity element 1 is the smallest integer n such that $1 + \cdots + 1$ (n times) $= 0$.

- What is the characteristic of \mathbb{F}_{2^k} ? Of \mathbb{F}_{p^k} ?
- Characteristic = 2 and p , respectively, of course!
- In \mathbb{F}_{2^k} coefficients reduced modulo 2

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^5 + \alpha^{11} &= \alpha^3 + \alpha + 1 + \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + 1 \\ &= 2 \cdot \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 2 \\ &= \alpha^2 + \alpha \quad (\text{as characteristic of } \mathbb{F}_{2^k} = 2) \\ &= \alpha^{13}\end{aligned}$$

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Addition in \mathbb{F}_{2^k} is Bit-vector XOR operation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha^4 \cdot \alpha^{10} &= (\alpha^3 + 1)(\alpha^3 + \alpha) \\
 &= \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 + \alpha^3 + \alpha \\
 &= \alpha^4 \cdot \alpha^2 + (\alpha^4 + \alpha^3) + \alpha \\
 &= (\alpha^3 + 1) \cdot \alpha^2 + (1) + \alpha \quad (\text{as } \alpha^4 = \alpha^3 + 1) \\
 &= \alpha^5 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 \\
 &= \alpha^4 \cdot \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 \\
 &= (\alpha^3 + 1) \cdot \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 \\
 &= \alpha^4 + \alpha^2 + 1 \\
 &= \alpha^3 + \alpha^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Reduce everything (mod $P(x) = x^4 + x^3 + 1$), and $-1 = +1$ in \mathbb{F}_{2^k}

Every non-zero element has an inverse

- How to find the inverse of α ?
- HW for you: think Euclidean algorithm!
- What is the inverse of α in our \mathbb{F}_{16} example?

Vanishing Polynomials of \mathbb{F}_q

Lemma

Let A be any non-zero element in \mathbb{F}_q , then $A^{q-1} = 1$.

Theorem

[Generalized Fermat's Little Theorem] Given a finite field \mathbb{F}_q , each element $A \in \mathbb{F}_q$ satisfies: $A^q \equiv A$ or $A^q - A \equiv 0$

Example

Given $\mathbb{F}_{2^2} = \{0, 1, \alpha, \alpha + 1\}$ with $P(x) = x^2 + x + 1$, where $P(\alpha) = 0$.

$$0^{2^2} = 0; \quad 1^{2^2} = 1; \quad \alpha^{2^2} = \alpha \pmod{\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1}$$

and

$$(\alpha + 1)^{2^2} = \alpha + 1 \pmod{\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1}$$

Irreducible versus Primitive Polynomials

- An irreducible poly $P(x)$ is primitive if its root α can generate all non-zero elements of the field.
- $\mathbb{F}_q = \{0, 1 = \alpha^{q-1}, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3, \dots, \alpha^{q-2}\}$
- $x^4 + x^3 + 1$ is primitive but $x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$ is not

$$\alpha^4 = \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1$$

$$\alpha^5 = \alpha^4 \cdot \alpha$$

$$= (\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1)(\alpha)$$

$$= (\alpha^4) + \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha$$

$$= (\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1) + (\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha)$$

$$= 1$$

Theorem

Let $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$ be an arbitrary polynomial, and let β be an element in \mathbb{F}_{2^k} for any $k > 1$. If β is a root of $f(x)$, then for any $l \geq 0$, β^{2^l} is also a root of $f(x)$. Elements β^{2^l} are conjugates of each other.

Example

Let $\mathbb{F}_{16} = \mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{P(x) = x^4 + x^3 + 1}$. Let $P(\alpha) = 0$. Let us find conjugates of α as α^{2^l} .

$$l = 1 : \alpha^2$$

$$l = 2 : \alpha^4 = \alpha^3 + 1$$

$$l = 3 : \alpha^8 = \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha$$

$$l = 4 : \alpha^{16} = \alpha \quad (\text{conjugates start to repeat})$$

So $\alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3 + 1, \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha$ are conjugates of each other.

Get the irreducible polynomial back from conjugates

Example

Over $\mathbb{F}_{16} = \mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{x^4 + x^3 + 1}$, conjugate elements:

- $\alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^4, \alpha^8$
- $\alpha^3, \alpha^6, \alpha^{12}, \alpha^{24}$
- $\alpha^7, \alpha^{14}, \alpha^{28}, \alpha^{56}$
- α^5, α^{10}

Minimal Polynomial of an element β

Let e be the smallest integer such that $\beta^{2^e} = \beta$. Construct the polynomial $f(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{e-1} (x + \beta^{2^i})$. Then $f(x)$ is an irreducible polynomial, and it is also called the irreducible polynomial of β .

Get the irreducible polynomial back from conjugates

Minimal polynomial of any element β is: $f(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{e-1} (x + \beta^{2^i})$

Example

Over $\mathbb{F}_{16} = \mathbb{F}_2[x] \pmod{x^4 + x^3 + 1}$, conjugate elements and their minimal polynomials are:

- $\alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^4, \alpha^8$: $f_1(x) = (x + \alpha)(x + \alpha^2)(x + \alpha^4)(x + \alpha^8) = x^4 + x^3 + 1$
- $\alpha^3, \alpha^6, \alpha^{12}, \alpha^{24}$: $f_2(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$
- $\alpha^7, \alpha^{14}, \alpha^{28}, \alpha^{56}$: $f_3(x) = x^4 + x + 1$
- α^5, α^{10} : $f_4(x) = x^2 + x + 1$

Some observations....

Note that $f_4 = x^2 + x + 1$ is the polynomial used to construct \mathbb{F}_4 . Also notice that associated with every element in \mathbb{F}_{2^k} is a minimal polynomial and its roots (conjugates), that demonstrate the containment of fields and also the uniqueness of the fields upto the labeling of the elements.

Containment of fields and elements

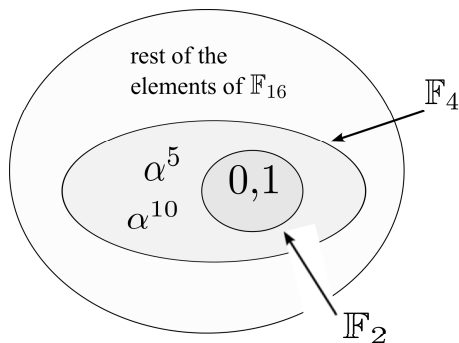


Figure: Containment of fields: $\mathbb{F}_2 \subset \mathbb{F}_4 \subset \mathbb{F}_{16}$

Additive & Multiplicative closure: $\alpha^5 + \alpha^{10} = 1$, $\alpha^5 \cdot \alpha^{10} = 1$.

Theorem

$\mathbb{F}_{2^n} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^m}$ if n divides m .

Example: $\mathbb{F}_2 \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^2} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^4} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^8} \subset \dots$

$\mathbb{F}_2 \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^3} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^6} \subset \dots$

$\mathbb{F}_2 \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^5} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} \subset \dots$

$\mathbb{F}_2 \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^7} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^{14}} \subset \dots$ and so on

Algebraic Closure of \mathbb{F}_q

The algebraic closure of \mathbb{F}_{2^k} is the union of ALL such fields \mathbb{F}_{2^n} where $k \mid n$.

- Any combinational circuit with k -bit inputs and k -bit output
 - Implements a function $f : \mathbb{B}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^k$
 - Can be viewed as a function $f : \mathbb{F}_{2^k} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{2^k}$ or $f : \mathbb{Z}_{2^k} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{2^k}$
 - Need symbolic representations: view them as polynomial functions
- Treat the circuit $f : \mathbb{B}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^k$ as a polynomial function
- Please see the last section in my book chapter

Polynomial Functions $f : \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$

- Every function is a polynomial function over \mathbb{F}_q
- Consider 1-bit right-shift operation $Z[2:0] = A[2:0] \gg 1$

$\{a_2 a_1 a_0\}$	A	\rightarrow	$\{z_2 z_1 z_0\}$	Z
000	0	\rightarrow	000	0
001	1	\rightarrow	000	0
010	α	\rightarrow	001	1
011	$\alpha + 1$	\rightarrow	001	1
100	α^2	\rightarrow	010	α
101	$\alpha^2 + 1$	\rightarrow	010	α
110	$\alpha^2 + \alpha$	\rightarrow	011	$\alpha + 1$
111	$\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1$	\rightarrow	011	$\alpha + 1$

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101	$\alpha^2 + 1$	\rightarrow	010	α
110	$\alpha^2 + \alpha$	\rightarrow	011	$\alpha + 1$
111	$\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1$	\rightarrow	011	$\alpha + 1$

$$Z = (\alpha^2 + 1)A^4 + (\alpha^2 + 1)A^2 \text{ over } \mathbb{F}_{2^3} \text{ where } \alpha^3 + \alpha + 1 = 0$$

Polynomial Functions $f : \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$

Theorem

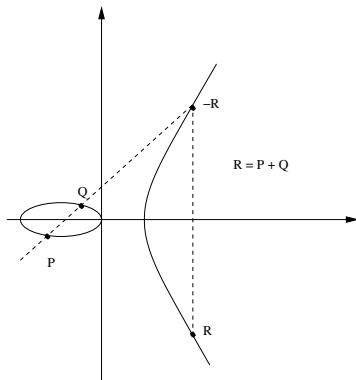
(From [1]) Any function $f : \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ is a polynomial function over \mathbb{F}_q , that is there exists a polynomial $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ such that $f(a) = \mathcal{F}(a)$, for all $a \in \mathbb{F}_q$.

Analyze f over each of the q points, apply **Lagrange's interpolation formula**

$$\mathcal{F}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^q \frac{\prod_{i \neq n} (x - x_i)}{\prod_{i \neq n} (x_n - x_i)} \cdot f(x_n), \quad (1)$$

Elliptic Curve Cryptography

$$y^2 + xy = x^3 + ax^2 + b \text{ over } \text{GF}(2^k)$$



Compute Slope: $\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$

Computation of
inverses over \mathbb{F}_{2^k} is
expensive

Point addition using Projective Co-ordinates

- Curve: $Y^2 + XYZ = X^3Z + aX^2Z^2 + bZ^4$ over \mathbb{F}_{2^k}
- Let $(X_3, Y_3, Z_3) = (X_1, Y_1, Z_1) + (X_2, Y_2, 1)$

$$A = Y_2 \cdot Z_1^2 + Y_1$$

$$E = A \cdot C$$

$$B = X_2 \cdot Z_1 + X_1$$

$$X_3 = A^2 + D + E$$

$$C = Z_1 \cdot B$$

$$F = X_3 + X_2 \cdot Z_3$$

$$D = B^2 \cdot (C + aZ_1^2)$$

$$G = X_3 + Y_2 \cdot Z_3$$

$$Z_3 = C^2$$

$$Y_3 = E \cdot F + Z_3 \cdot G$$

No inverses, just addition and multiplication

Multiplication in $\text{GF}(2^4)$

Input:

$$A = (a_3 a_2 a_1 a_0)$$

$$B = (b_3 b_2 b_1 b_0)$$

$$A = a_0 + a_1 \cdot \alpha + a_2 \cdot \alpha^2 + a_3 \cdot \alpha^3$$

$$B = b_0 + b_1 \cdot \alpha + b_2 \cdot \alpha^2 + b_3 \cdot \alpha^3$$

Irreducible Polynomial:

$$P = (11001)$$

$$P(x) = x^4 + x^3 + 1, \quad P(\alpha) = 0$$

Result:

$$\text{Output } G = A \times B \pmod{P(x)}$$

Multiplication over $\text{GF}(2^4)$

\times		a_3 b_3	a_2 b_2	a_1 b_1	a_0 b_0	
		$a_3 \cdot b_0$	$a_2 \cdot b_0$	$a_1 \cdot b_0$	$a_0 \cdot b_0$	
	$a_3 \cdot b_1$	$a_2 \cdot b_1$	$a_1 \cdot b_1$	$a_0 \cdot b_1$		
	$a_3 \cdot b_2$	$a_2 \cdot b_2$	$a_1 \cdot b_2$	$a_0 \cdot b_2$		
$a_3 \cdot b_3$	$a_2 \cdot b_3$	$a_1 \cdot b_3$	$a_0 \cdot b_3$			
s_6	s_5	s_4	s_3	s_2	s_1	s_0

In polynomial expression:

$$S = s_0 + s_1 \cdot \alpha + s_2 \cdot \alpha^2 + s_3 \cdot \alpha^3 + s_4 \cdot \alpha^4 + s_5 \cdot \alpha^5 + s_6 \cdot \alpha^6$$

S should be further reduced (mod $P(x)$)

Multiplication over $\text{GF}(2^4)$

s_6	s_5	s_4	s_3	s_2	s_1	s_0	
			s_4	0	0	s_4	$\Leftarrow s_4 \cdot \alpha^4 \pmod{P(\alpha)}$
			s_5	0	s_5	s_5	$\Leftarrow s_5 \cdot \alpha^5 \pmod{P(\alpha)}$
		+	s_6	s_6	s_6	s_6	$\Leftarrow s_6 \cdot \alpha^6 \pmod{P(\alpha)}$
			g_3	g_2	g_1	g_0	

$$s_4 \cdot \alpha^4 \pmod{\alpha^4 + \alpha^3 + 1} = s_4(\alpha^3 + 1) = s_4 \cdot \alpha^3 + s_4$$

$$s_5 \cdot \alpha^5 \pmod{\alpha^4 + \alpha^3 + 1} = s_5(\alpha^3 + \alpha + 1) = s_5 \cdot \alpha^3 + s_5 \cdot \alpha + s_5$$

$$\begin{aligned} s_6 \cdot \alpha^6 \pmod{\alpha^4 + \alpha^3 + 1} &= s_6(\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1) \\ &= s_6 \cdot \alpha^3 + s_6 \cdot \alpha^2 + s_6 \cdot \alpha + s_6 \end{aligned}$$

$$G = g_0 + g_1 \cdot \alpha + g_2 \cdot \alpha^2 + g_3 \cdot \alpha^3$$

Montgomery Architecture

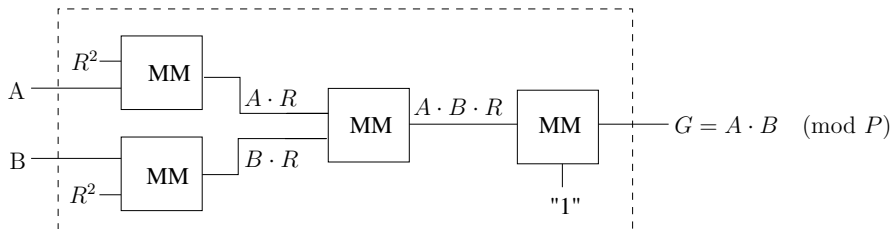


Figure: Montgomery multiplier over $GF(2^k)$

Montgomery Multiply: $F = A \cdot B \cdot R^{-1}$, $R = \alpha^k$

- Barrett architectures do not require precomputed R^{-1}
- We can verify 163-bit circuits, and also catch bugs!
- Conventional techniques fail beyond 16-bit circuits

Algorithm 1: Montgomery Reduction Algorithm [11]

Input: $A(x), B(x) \in \mathbb{F}_{2^k}$; irreducible polynomial $P(x)$.

Output: $G(x) = A(x) \cdot B(x) \cdot x^{-k} \pmod{P(x)}$.

$G(x) := 0$

for $(i = 0; i \leq k - 1; ++i)$ **do**

$G(x) := G(x) + A_i \cdot B(x)$ /* A_i is the i^{th} bit of A */;

$G(x) := G(x) + G_0 \cdot P(x)$ /* G_0 is the lowest bit of G */;

$G(x) := G(x)/x$ /*Right shift 1 bit*/;

end

- [1] R. Lidl and H. Niederreiter, *Finite Fields*. Cambridge University Press, 1997.