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On inverse permutation polynomials<sup>☆</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

We give an explicit formula of the inverse polynomial of a permutation polynomial of the form  $x^r f(x^s)$  over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $s \mid q-1$ . This generalizes results in [A. Muratović-Ribić, A note on the coefficients of inverse polynomials, Finite Fields Appl. 13 (4) (2007) 977–980] where  $s=1$  or  $f = g^{\frac{q-1}{s}}$  were considered respectively. We also apply our result to several interesting classes of permutation polynomials.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $p$  be prime,  $q = p^m$ , and  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field of order  $q$ . Let  $P(x)$  be a permutation polynomial (PP) over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $Q(x)$  be the compositional inverse polynomial of  $P(x)$ . By the modulo reduction  $x^q - x$ , we only need to consider polynomials of degree less than or equal to  $q-1$ . Because a permutation polynomial can not have degree  $q-1$ , we let  $P(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_{q-2}x^{q-2}$  be a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $Q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \cdots + b_{q-2}x^{q-2}$  be the inverse polynomial of  $P(x)$  modulo  $x^q - x$ . In [5], G.L. Mullen posed the problem of computing the coefficients of the inverse polynomial of a permutation polynomial efficiently (Problem 10). Recently Muratović-Ribić [6] characterized all the coefficients of the inverse polynomial of a permutation polynomial of the form  $x^r f(x^s)^{(q-1)/s}$  as follows:

**Theorem 1.1** (Muratović-Ribić). Let  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)^{\frac{q-1}{s}} \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  where  $r \geq 1$  is an integer with  $\gcd(r, q-1) = 1$ ,  $s$  is a divisor of  $q-1$  and  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  is a polynomial without roots in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Denote by  $Q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \cdots + b_{q-2}x^{q-2}$  the inverse of permutation polynomial  $P(x)$  modulo  $x^q - x$ . Let  $k_0$  be the

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least positive integer for which there exists a positive integer  $l_0$  such that  $l_0s = k_0r + 1$  and

$$f(x^s)^{\frac{q-1}{s}k_0} \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{(q-1)/s} d_i x^{is} \pmod{x^q - x}.$$

Then  $b_n \neq 0$  only if  $s \mid rn - 1$ . Moreover, if  $b_n \neq 0$ , then the following holds:

- (i) If  $rn \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$  and  $i \equiv \frac{rn-1}{s} \pmod{\frac{q-1}{s}}$  then  $b_n = d_i$ .
- (ii) If  $rn \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$  then  $b_n = d_0 + d_{(q-1)/s}$ .

The method used in the proof of Theorem 1.1 is based on Eq. (3) in [6] which applies to more general polynomial  $P(x)$ , for example,  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)$  where  $s = 1$ .

It is well known that any nonconstant polynomial  $h(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  can be written as  $ax^r f(x^s) + b$  where  $a \neq 0$  and  $s \mid q-1$  (see for example [1]). To find the inverse of  $h(x)$ , it is enough to find the inverse of permutation polynomial  $x^r f(x^s)$ . We refer to [4] or [8] for some general characterization of permutation polynomials  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)$ . For  $s = 1$ , an explicit formula of the inverse of permutation polynomial  $x^r f(x)$  is obtained directly from Eq. (3) in [6]. In this paper, we use the similar method as in [6] to give an explicit formula of the inverse polynomial of a permutation polynomial of the form  $x^r f(x^s)$  over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  for any  $s \mid q-1$  (Theorem 2.1). We also apply Theorem 2.1 to several interesting classes of permutation polynomials considered in [4]. These results (Corollaries 2.3, 2.4) are presented in Section 2. Finally we explore the connection (Theorem 3.1) between inverse polynomials of permutation binomials of the form  $x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and so-called generalized Lucas sequences over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Some examples of inverse polynomials of permutation binomials are also provided in Section 3.

## 2. General results

Let us assume that  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)$  is a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . It is well known that if  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)$  is a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  then we must have  $(r, s) = 1$ . Hence the inverse of  $r$  modulo  $s$  exists and we denote it by  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ . The notation  $a = b \pmod{c}$  means that  $a$  is an integer such that  $0 \leq a < c$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{c}$ . We will use this notation and the fact  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \pmod{s}$  frequently later on.

First we show that the inverse polynomial  $Q(x)$  of  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)$  has at most  $\ell := \frac{q-1}{s}$  nonzero coefficients and give the explicit formula to compute these coefficients. We assume that  $\ell \geq 2$  in this paper since  $\ell = 1$  is the trivial case.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  be a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $r \geq 1$ ,  $s = \frac{q-1}{\ell}$ ,  $\ell \geq 2$  is a divisor of  $q-1$ . Denote by  $Q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \cdots + b_{q-2}x^{q-2}$  the inverse polynomial of  $P(x)$  modulo  $x^q - x$ . Then the following holds.

- (i) If  $b_n \neq 0$ , then  $s \mid (rn - 1)$ . In particular, there are at most  $\ell$  such nonzero  $b_n$ 's such that  $0 \leq n \leq q-2$  and  $n \equiv r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ . That is,  $n = is + \bar{r}$  where  $i = 0, \dots, \ell-1$  and  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ .
- (ii) Let  $\bar{a} \equiv \frac{\bar{r}-1}{s} \pmod{\ell}$ . Then

$$b_{is+\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}-is}, \quad i = 0, \dots, \ell-1,$$

where  $\zeta$  is a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity.

- (iii) For each  $i = 0, \dots, \ell-1$ , let  $f(x^s)^{q-1-\bar{r}-is} \equiv \sum_{j=0}^{\ell} d_{i,j} x^{js} \pmod{x^q - x}$  and  $m_i = ir + \bar{a} \pmod{\ell}$ . Then  $b_{is+\bar{r}} = d_{i,m_i}$  if  $m_i \neq 0$  and  $b_{is+\bar{r}} = d_{i,0} + d_{i,\ell}$  if  $m_i = 0$ .

**Proof.** By Eq. (3) in [6],

$$b_n = - \sum_{x \in \mathbb{F}_q} x P(x)^{q-1-n} = - \sum_{x \in \mathbb{F}_q} x \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} c_i x^i = c_{q-2},$$

where  $P(x)^{q-1-n} \pmod{x^q - x} = c_0 + c_1 x + \cdots + c_{q-1} x^{q-1}$ . If  $b_n$  is nonzero, then the coefficient of  $x^{q-2}$  in the expansion of  $P(x)^{q-1-n}$  is nonzero. Hence there exists some  $j$  such that  $js + r(q-1) - rn \equiv q-2 \pmod{q-1}$  and thus  $js \equiv rn-1 \pmod{q-1}$ . Therefore,  $s \mid (rn-1)$ . That is,  $rn \equiv 1 \pmod{s}$ . Because  $(r, s) = 1$ , we have  $n \equiv r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ . Therefore there are at most  $\ell$  nonzero coefficients in the inverse polynomial  $Q(x)$  corresponding to  $n \equiv r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ . Hence  $n = is + \bar{r}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, \ell-1$  where  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ . It is therefore straightforward to obtain  $b_{is+\bar{r}} = - \sum_{x \in \mathbb{F}_q} x P(x)^{q-1-is-\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}-is}$ .

Finally,  $q-1 = \ell s$  implies that  $-s$  and  $\frac{1}{\ell}$  are the same in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Since  $m_i = ir + \bar{a} \pmod{\ell}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}-is} &= -s \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}-is} \\ &= - \sum_{x \in \mathbb{F}_q} x^{q-1-m_i s} f(x^s)^{q-1-\bar{r}-is}. \end{aligned}$$

However, the last term is equal to  $d_{i, m_i}$  if  $m_i \neq 0$  and is equal to  $d_{i,0} + d_{i,\ell}$  otherwise.  $\square$

**Remark.** For positive integers  $n, \ell, a$ , the lacunary sum for the coefficient  $C(n, j, k)$  of  $x^j$  in the polynomial expansion of  $f(x)^n = (f_0 + f_1 x + f_2 x^2 + \cdots + f_k x^k)^n$  is defined as

$$S(n, \ell, a, k+1) = \sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \equiv a \pmod{\ell}}}^{nk} C(n, j, k),$$

where

$$C(n, j, k) = \sum_{\substack{n_0+n_1+\cdots+n_k=n \\ n_1+2n_2+\cdots+kn_k=j}} \frac{n!}{n_0!n_1!\cdots n_k!} f_0^{n_0} f_1^{n_1} \cdots f_k^{n_k}.$$

Using

$$\sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \equiv a \pmod{\ell}}}^{nk} C(n, j, k) = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-at} \sum_{j=0}^{nk} C(n, j, k) \zeta^{jt} = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-at} f(\zeta^t)^n, \quad (1)$$

we obtain that

$$S(n, \ell, a, k+1) = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-at} f(\zeta^t)^n. \quad (2)$$

Hence (ii) of Theorem 2.1 can also be written as

$$b_{is+\bar{r}} = S(q-1-\bar{r}-is, \ell, ir+\bar{a}, k+1), \quad i = 0, \dots, \ell-1. \quad (3)$$

From the above theorem, we need to compute  $\ell$  different powers of  $f(x^s)$  in order to find all the coefficients of the inverse polynomial of  $P(x)$ . We note that it is not efficient to find all the coefficients of the inverse polynomial if  $s = 1$ . However, if  $s$  is big (i.e.,  $\ell$  is small), it is quite efficient to compute the inverse polynomial by using the above theorem. For example, for odd  $q$ , it is well known that  $P(x) = x^r f(x^{(q-1)/2})$  is a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  if and only if  $(r, (q-1)/2) = 1$  and  $(f(-1)f(1))^{\frac{q-1}{2}} = (-1)^{r+1}$ . The next result gives the explicit format of the inverse polynomial of such permutation polynomial by applying Theorem 2.1.

**Corollary 2.2.** For odd  $q$  and  $s = \frac{q-1}{2}$ , the inverse polynomial  $Q(x)$  of the permutation polynomial  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s)$  is given by  $b_{\bar{r}} x^{\bar{r}} + b_{s+\bar{r}} x^{s+\bar{r}}$  with  $b_{\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{2} (f(1)^{q-1-\bar{r}} + (-1)^{\bar{a}} f(-1)^{q-1-\bar{r}})$  and  $b_{s+\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{2} (f(1)^{s-\bar{r}} + (-1)^{\bar{a}'} f(-1)^{s-\bar{r}})$ , where  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \bmod s$ ,  $\bar{a} \equiv \frac{\bar{r}-1}{s} \pmod{2}$ ,  $\bar{a}' \equiv \bar{a} + r \pmod{2}$ .

Next we show in certain cases, we can also simplify this process by computing only one fixed power of each  $f(x^s)$  even for large  $\ell$ . The following theorem is one of such examples which also generalizes Theorem 1.1. Indeed, if  $f(x) = g(x)^\ell$  then  $f(x)^s = 1$ .

**Corollary 2.3.** Let  $q-1 = \ell s$  and  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  be a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $r \geq 1$  and  $s = \frac{q-1}{\ell}$ . Denote by  $Q(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots + b_{q-2} x^{q-2}$  its inverse polynomial modulo  $x^q - x$ . Assume that  $f(\zeta^t)^s = 1$  for a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity  $\zeta$  and any  $t = 0, \dots, \ell-1$ . Let  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \bmod s$  and  $\bar{a} \equiv \frac{\bar{r}-1}{s} \pmod{\ell}$ . Then, for all possible nonzero coefficients  $b_n$  corresponding to  $n = is + \bar{r}$  where  $i = 0, \dots, \ell-1$ , we have

$$b_{is+\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}}.$$

In particular, assume  $f(x^s)^{q-1-\bar{r}} \equiv \sum_{j=0}^{\ell} d_j x^{js} \pmod{x^q - x}$  and  $m_i = ir + \bar{a} \bmod \ell$ . Then  $b_n = d_{m_i}$  if  $m_i \neq 0$ , and  $b_n = d_0 + d_\ell$  if  $m_i = 0$ .

**Proof.** The first part follows immediately from Theorem 2.1 and  $f(\zeta^t)^s = 1$ . Because  $q-1 = \ell s$ ,  $-s$  and  $\frac{1}{\ell}$  are the same in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Hence  $\frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}} = -s \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a})t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}} = -\sum_{x \in \mathbb{F}_q} x^{q-1-(ir+\bar{a})s} f(x^s)^{q-1-\bar{r}}$ . However, the last term is equal to  $d_{m_i}$  if  $m_i \neq 0$  and is equal to  $d_0 + d_\ell$  otherwise. Hence the proof is complete.  $\square$

By using a similar proof, we obtain

**Corollary 2.4.** Let  $q-1 = \ell s$  and  $P(x) = x^r f(x^s) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  be a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $r \geq 1$  and  $s = \frac{q-1}{\ell}$ . Denote by  $Q(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots + b_{q-2} x^{q-2}$  its inverse polynomial modulo  $x^q - x$ . Let  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \bmod s$  and  $\bar{a} \equiv \frac{\bar{r}-1}{s} \pmod{\ell}$ . Assume that  $f(\zeta^t)^s = \zeta^{kt}$  for a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity  $\zeta$  and any  $t = 0, \dots, \ell-1$ . Then, for all possible nonzero coefficients  $b_n$  corresponding to  $n = is + \bar{r}$  where  $i = 0, \dots, \ell-1$ , we have

$$b_{is+\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \zeta^{-(ir+\bar{a}+ik)t} f(\zeta^t)^{q-1-\bar{r}}.$$

In particular, assume  $f(x^s)^{q-1-\bar{r}} \equiv \sum_{j=0}^{\ell} d_j x^{js} \pmod{x^q - x}$  and  $m_i = ir + \bar{a} + ik \bmod \ell$ . Then  $b_n = d_{m_i}$  if  $m_i \neq 0$ , and  $b_n = d_0 + d_\ell$  if  $m_i = 0$ .

We refer the readers to [4] for several interesting classes of permutation polynomials which satisfy the assumptions of Corollaries 2.3 and 2.4.

### 3. Binomials and sequences

In this section, we consider the inverse polynomial of a permutation binomial  $f(x) = x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $q = p^m$ ,  $q - 1 = \ell s$  for some positive integers  $\ell$ ,  $s$  and  $(e, \ell) = 1$ . We note that the characterization of permutation polynomials of the form  $x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  have been studied by Akbary and the author in [2,3] and [9]. In particular, if  $f(x) = x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  is a permutation polynomial over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  then  $p$  must be odd. Otherwise,  $P(0) = P(1) = 0$ . Since  $\ell \mid q - 1$ , let  $\zeta \in \mathbb{F}_q$  be a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity. Moreover, we must have  $\zeta^{ei} \neq -1$  for  $i = 0, \dots, \ell - 1$ . Hence  $\ell$  must be odd and then  $s$  must be even. So we can assume that  $\ell \geq 3$  as  $\ell = 1$  is trivial. Because both  $p$  and  $\ell$  are odd, there exists  $\eta \in \mathbb{F}_q$  such that  $\eta^2 = \zeta$ . Hence  $\eta$  is a primitive  $2\ell$ th root of unity in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

We define the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  by

$$a_n = \sum_{t=1}^{\frac{\ell-1}{2}} ((-1)^{t+1} (\eta^t + \eta^{-t}))^n = \sum_{\substack{t=1 \\ t \text{ odd}}}^{\ell-1} (\eta^t + \eta^{-t})^n.$$

The sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is called *generalized Lucas sequence of order  $\frac{\ell-1}{2}$*  because  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty = \{L_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  when  $\ell = 5$ , where the sequence  $\{L_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is the so-called Lucas sequence satisfying the recurrence relation  $L_{n+2} - L_{n+1} - L_n = 0$  and  $L_0 = 2$  and  $L_1 = 1$ .

For any integer  $n \geq 1$ , we recall that the Dickson polynomial of the first kind  $D_n(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  of degree  $n$  is defined by

$$D_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{n}{n-i} \binom{n-i}{i} (-1)^i x^{n-2i}.$$

Similarly, the Dickson polynomial of the second kind  $E_n(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  of degree  $n$  is defined by

$$E_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-i}{i} (-1)^i x^{n-2i}.$$

We consider the Dickson polynomial  $E_{\ell-1}(x)$  of the second kind with degree  $\ell - 1$ . It is well known that  $\eta^t + \eta^{-t}$  with  $1 \leq t \leq \ell - 1$  are all the roots of  $E_{\ell-1}(x)$  where  $\eta$  is a primitive  $2\ell$ th root of unity. Let

$$E_{\ell-1}^{\text{odd}}(x) = \prod_{\substack{t=1 \\ t \text{ odd}}}^{\ell-1} (x - (\eta^t + \eta^{-t})).$$

Then the characteristic polynomial of the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is  $E_{\ell-1}^{\text{odd}}(x)$  and  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is a sequence over the prime field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

Now we prove the following result which gives the explicit format of the inverse polynomials of permutation binomials of the form  $x^r(x^{e(q-1)/\ell} + 1)$  in terms of generalized Lucas sequence of order  $\frac{\ell-1}{2}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $p$  be odd prime and  $q = p^m$ . Assume that  $\ell, s, r, e$  are positive integers such that  $\ell \geq 3$  is odd,  $q - 1 = \ell s$ , and  $(e, \ell) = 1$ . If  $P(x) = x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  is a permutation polynomial of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $Q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_{q-2}x^{q-2}$  is the inverse polynomial of  $P(x)$  modulo  $x^q - x$ , then the following holds.*

- (i) *If  $b_n \neq 0$ , then  $n \equiv r^{-1} \pmod{s}$ . Hence  $Q(x)$  has at most  $\ell$  nonzero coefficients  $b_n$  corresponding to  $n = is + \bar{r}$  where  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \pmod{s}$  and  $i = 0, \dots, \ell - 1$ .*

$$(ii) \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\ell} \left( 2^{q-1-n} + \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor u_n/2 \rfloor} t_i^{(u_n)} a_{q-1-n+u_n-2i} \right), \quad (4)$$

where  $\bar{n} \equiv \frac{m-1}{s} \pmod{\ell}$ ,  $u_n = 2\bar{n}e^{\phi(\ell)-1} + n \pmod{2\ell}$ ,  $t_i^{(u_n)} = \frac{u_n}{u_n-i} \binom{u_n-i}{i} (-1)^i$ , and  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is the generalized Lucas sequence of order  $\frac{\ell-1}{2}$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.1,  $Q(x)$  has at most  $\ell$  nonzero coefficients  $b_n$  with  $n \equiv r^{-1} \pmod{s}$  and  $1 \leq n \leq q-2$ . Then  $n = is + \bar{r}$  where  $\bar{r} = r^{-1} \pmod{s}$  and  $i = 0, \dots, \ell-1$ . Moreover,  $\bar{n} \equiv \frac{m-1}{s} \equiv ir + \bar{a} \pmod{\ell}$  where  $\bar{a} \equiv \frac{\bar{r}-1}{s} \pmod{\ell}$ .

Let  $\xi = \zeta^{\bar{e}}$ . Since  $(e, \ell) = 1$ ,  $\xi$  is also a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity. Moreover, because  $2\ell \mid q-1$ , then there exists  $\eta \in \mathbb{F}_q$  such that  $\eta^2 = \xi$ . Because  $\zeta^{-1}$  is also a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity, by Theorem 2.1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \xi^{\bar{n}t} f(\zeta^{-t})^{q-1-n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \xi^{\bar{n}t} (\zeta^{-et} + 1)^{q-1-n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{t=0}^{\ell-1} \xi^{\bar{n}e^{\phi(\ell)-1}t} (\xi^{-t} + 1)^{q-1-n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\ell} \left( 2^{q-1-n} + \sum_{t=1}^{\ell-1} \eta^{2\bar{n}e^{\phi(\ell)-1}t-(q-1-n)t} (\eta^{-t} + \eta^t)^{q-1-n} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\ell} \left( 2^{q-1-n} + \sum_{t=1}^{\frac{\ell-1}{2}} (\eta^{(2\bar{n}e^{\phi(\ell)-1}+n)t} + \eta^{-(2\bar{n}e^{\phi(\ell)-1}+n)t}) (\eta^{-t} + \eta^t)^{q-1-n} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the last identity holds because  $q, n$  are odd and  $\eta^{\ell} = -1$ . Hence the result follows from the definition of  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  and the fact

$$\eta^{u_nt} + \eta^{-u_nt} = D_{u_n}(\eta^t + \eta^{-t}) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor u_n/2 \rfloor} \frac{u_n}{u_n-i} \binom{u_n-i}{i} (-1)^i (\eta^t + \eta^{-t})^{u_n-2i}.$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

We note that Eq. (4) can also be written as

$$b_{q-1-n} = \frac{1}{\ell} \left( 2^n + \sum_{j=0}^{u_n} c_j^{(u_n)} a_{n+j} \right), \quad (5)$$

where  $c_j^{(u_n)}$  is the coefficient of  $x^j$  in the expansion of the Dickson polynomial of the first kind  $D_{u_n}(x)$  of degree  $u_n = 2\hat{n}e^{\phi(\ell)-1} + (q-1-n) \pmod{2\ell}$  and  $\hat{n} \equiv \frac{(q-1-n)r-1}{s} \pmod{\ell}$ . Moreover, all the coefficients of the inverse polynomial  $Q(x)$  in Theorem 3.1 are in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Because the coefficients  $t_i^{(u_n)}$  and the general term of generalized Lucas sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  are quite easy to find, one can generate many examples of inverse polynomials by applying Theorem 3.1. For example, if  $\ell = 3$  and  $s = (q-1)/3$ , then  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is a constant sequence  $1, 1, \dots$ . Hence  $b_n = \frac{1}{3}(2^{-\bar{r}} + D_{u_n}(1))$  because  $P(x) = x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  is a permutation polynomial over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  if and only if  $(r, s) = 1$ ,  $2^s \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , and

**Table 1**Permutation binomials  $x^r(x^{\frac{e(q-1)}{7}} + 1)$  and inverse polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_{13^2}$ .

PP	Inverse of PP
$x + x^{25}$	$7x + 7x^{25} + 6x^{49} + 7x^{73} + 6x^{97} + 7x^{121} + 6x^{145}$
$x^5 + x^{29}$	$2x^5 + 9x^{29} + 7x^{53} + 8x^{77} + 8x^{101} + 7x^{125} + 9x^{149}$
$x^7 + x^{31}$	$5x^7 + 5x^{55} + 10x^{79} + x^{103} + x^{127} + 10x^{151}$
$x^{11} + x^{35}$	$x^{59} + x^{131}$
$x^{13} + x^{37}$	$7x^{13} + 6x^{37} + 7x^{61} + 7x^{85} + 6x^{109} + 6x^{133} + 7x^{157}$
$x^{17} + x^{41}$	$9x^{17} + 9x^{41} + 8x^{65} + 7x^{89} + 2x^{113} + 7x^{137} + 8x^{161}$
$x^{19} + x^{43}$	$10x^{43} + x^{67} + 5x^{91} + 5x^{115} + x^{139} + 10x^{163}$
...	...

**Table 2**Permutation binomials  $x^r(x^{\frac{e(q-1)}{9}} + 1)$  and inverse polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_{17^2}$ .

PP	Inverse of PP
$x + x^{33}$	$9x + 9x^{33} + 8x^{65} + 9x^{97} + 8x^{129} + 9x^{161} + 8x^{193} + 9x^{225} + 8x^{257}$
$x^3 + x^{35}$	$x^{11} + 5x^{43} + 10x^{75} + 10x^{107} + 5x^{139} + x^{171}$
$x^7 + x^{39}$	$16x^{23} + 9x^{55} + 7x^{87} + 2x^{119} + 7x^{151} + 9x^{183} + 16x^{215} + 2x^{247} + 2x^{279}$
$x^9 + x^{41}$	$4x^{25} + x^{57} + 7x^{89} + 7x^{153} + x^{185} + 4x^{217} + x^{249} + x^{281}$
$x^{13} + x^{45}$	$5x^5 + 12x^{37} + 3x^{69} + 7x^{101} + 5x^{133} + 5x^{165} + 7x^{197} + 3x^{229} + 12x^{261}$
$x^{15} + x^{47}$	$x^{47} + x^{111}$
$x^{19} + x^{51}$	$x^{27} + 5x^{59} + 10x^{91} + 10x^{123} + 5x^{155} + x^{187}$
...	...

$(2r + es, \ell) = 1$ . In the case  $\ell = 5$  and  $s = (q - 1)/5$ , the corresponding sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is the Lucas sequence. In this case,  $P(x) = x^r(x^{es} + 1)$  is a permutation polynomial over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  if and only if  $(r, s) = 1$ ,  $2^s \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ,  $(2r + es, \ell) = 1$ ,  $a_s = 2$ . In particular,  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is periodic with a period  $s$ . Hence we can use  $s$ -periodicity of  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  and  $2^s \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  to simplify the computation of Eq. (4) or Eq. (5). We observe that explicit formulas of inverse polynomials of permutation binomials for the cases  $\ell = 3, 5$  have also been obtained recently by Muratović-Ribić in [7] without using sequences. The formulas in [7] are similar to Eq. (3) for  $\ell = 3, 5$ . When  $\ell \geq 7$ , generalized Lucas sequences were introduced so that we can evaluate the lacunary sums. Here we give some examples of inverse polynomials of permutation binomials with  $\ell \geq 7$  (see Tables 1 and 2).

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