Value Sets of a Class of Trinomials

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Finite Fields

Definition

A **finite field** \mathbb{F}_q , $q = p^r$, p prime, is a field with $q = p^r$ elements.

Example

$$\mathbb{F}_7 = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$$

Polynomials in Finite Fields

Definition

Let f(x) be a polynomial defined over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q . This is $f: \mathbb{F}_q \to \mathbb{F}_q$.

Example

Consider f(x) = x + 3 over \mathbb{F}_5 . The domian of f is $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

Value Sets

Definition

Let f(x) be a polynomial defined over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q . Then the **value set** of f is defined as $V_f = \{f(a) \mid a \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$

Example

Consider $f(x) = x^2$ defined over \mathbb{F}_5 . Note:

$$f(0) = 0, f(1) = 1, f(2) = 4, f(3) = 4, f(4) = 1, \text{ so } V_f = \{0, 1, 4\}.$$



Permutation Polynomials

Definition

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Let $f(x) = x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_5 . We have that $V_f = \{0, 1, 4\}$ so f(x) is not a permutation polynomial over \mathbb{F}_5 .



Primitive Roots

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Example

Consider \mathbb{F}_7 . Since $2^1 = 2, 2^2 = 4, 2^3 = 1, 2^4 = 2, 2^5 = 4, 2^6 = 1, 2$ is not a primitive root of \mathbb{F}_7 .



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Our Polynomial

Let $d_1, d_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q$ such that $d_1 \mid (q-1)$ y $d_2 \mid (q-1)$. We are interested in the polynomial:

$$F_{a,b}(X) = X(X^{\frac{q-1}{d_1}} + aX^{\frac{q-1}{d_2}} + b)$$

with $a, b \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\times}$.

Denote the value set of this polynomial $V_{a,b}$.



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Problem

Our Problem

Study the value set of polynomials of the form

 $F_{a,b}(X) = X(X^{\frac{q-1}{d_1}} + aX^{\frac{q-1}{d_2}} + b)$ and determine conditions in a, b such that they are permutation polynomials.

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The class of equivalence [a, b]

$$F_{a,b}(X) = X(X^{\frac{q-1}{d_1}} + aX^{\frac{q-1}{d_2}} + b)$$

Let $a = \alpha^{j}$, $b = \alpha^{j}$, α a primitive root in \mathbb{F}_{q} and \sim the relation defined as $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$

$$\iff$$
 $\mathbf{a}' = \alpha^{i+h(\frac{q-1}{d_1} - \frac{q-1}{d_2})}, \mathbf{b}' = \alpha^{j+h(\frac{q-1}{d_1})}$

Example

Let q = 13, $d_1 = 2$, $d_2 = 3$, then we have $\alpha = 2$ and take $a = 4 = 2^2$, $b = 8 = 2^3$. Now $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$ if and only if $a' = \alpha^{2+2h}$, $b' = \alpha^{3+6h}$. For example $(a, b) \sim (3, 5)$

The class of equivalence [a, b]

Proposition

The relation \sim defined above is an equivalence relation.

Value set correspondence

$$F_{a,b}(X) = X(X^{\frac{q-1}{d_1}} + aX^{\frac{q-1}{d_2}} + b)$$

Lemma

Let [a,b] be the class of equivalence of (a,b). If $(a',b') \in [a,b]$, then $|V_{a',b'}| = |V_{a,b}|$.

Example

Let $q=13, d_1=2, d_2=3, a=4, b=8$. Since $(4,8) \sim (3,5)$ we have that $|V_{4,8}|=|V_{3,5}|$

Size of equivalence classes

$$F_{a,b}(X) = X(X^{\frac{q-1}{d_1}} + aX^{\frac{q-1}{d_2}} + b)$$

Lemma

 $|[a,b]| = lcm(d_1, d_2)$ where lcm(x, y) is the least common multiple of x and y.

Example

Let q = 13, $d_1 = 2$, $d_2 = 3$, a = 4, b = 8. Note that lcm(2,3) = 6 These are the elements of (a, b):

$$(4,8), (3,5), (12,8), (9,5), (10,8), (1,5), (4,8)$$

Polynomial Results

Proposition

The number of polynomials of the form $F_{a,b}(x)$ with $|V_{a,b}| = n$ is a multiple of |[a,b]|

Corollary

The number of permutation polynomials of the form $F_{a,b}(x)$ is a multiple of |[a,b]|

Future Work

• Study our results on the family of polynomials of the form

$$F_{a,b}(X) = X^m(X^{\frac{q-1}{d_1}} + aX^{\frac{q-1}{d_2}} + b)$$

ullet Find necessary and sufficient conditions such that $V_{a,b}=\mathbb{F}_q$