TABLE I COMPARISON OF  $S_{\bullet}(k)$  WITH UPPER AND LOWER BOUNDS

| $(n,k,\epsilon)$ | lower bd.(4) | lower bd.(5) | exact       | upper bd.(6) | upper bd.(4) |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 100,2,.001       | 4.48769E-3   | 4.63757E-3   | 4.63806E-3  | 4.63934E-3   | 4.63940E-3   |
| 100,5,.001       | 6.84612E-8   | 6.95605E-8   | 6.95609E-8  | 6.95635E-8   | 6.95637E-8   |
| 100,10,.001      | 1.58197E-17  | 1.59502E-17  | 1.59502E-17 | 1.59503E-17  | 1.59504E-17  |
| 100,2,.01        | 1.84865E-1   | 2.52917E-1   | 2.64238E-1  | 2.75239E-1   | 2.75904E-1   |
| 100,5,.01        | 2.89779E-3   | 3.42731E-3   | 3.43232E-3  | 3.44817E-3   | 3.44947E-3   |
| 100,10,.01       | 7.00604E-8   | 7.63088E-8   | 7.63158E-8  | 7.63652E-8   | 7.63721E-8   |
| 100,20,.01       | 2.39865E-20  | 2.49440E-20  | 2.49441E-20 | 2.49459E-20  | 2.49464E-20  |
| 100,15,.1        | 3.26824E-2   | 6.74719E-2   | 7.25729E-2  | 7.80727E-2   | 7.97673E-2   |
| 100,25,.1        | 8.97293E-6   | 1.30532E-5   | 1.30728E-5  | 1.31676E-5   | 1.32054E-5   |
| 100,50,.1        | 5.19971E-24  | 5.83192E-24  | 5.83203E-24 | 5.83366E-24  | 5.83537E-24  |
| 1000,2,.001      | 1.84032E-1   | 2.52917E-1   | 2.64241E-1  | 2.75840E-1   | 2.75910E-1   |
| 1000,10,.001     | 9.78284E-8   | 1.07417E-7   | 1.07428E-7  | 1.07513E-7   | 1.07514E-7   |
| 1000,25,.001     | 1.79614E-26  | 1.86607E-26  | 1.86608E-26 | 1.86618E-26  | 1.86619E-26  |
| 1000,15,.01      | 3.45417E-2   | 7.56543E-2   | 8.24123E-2  | 9.10951E-2   | 9.13424E-2   |
| 1000,25,.01      | 2.64426E-5   | 4.19411E-5   | 4.20292E-5  | 4.25498E-5   | 4.25661E-5   |
| 1000,50,.01      | 6.75067E-20  | 8.30600E-20  | 8.30637E-20 | 8.31476E-20  | 8.31524E-20  |
| 1000,120,.1      | 4.73891E-3   | 2.05769E-2   | 2.19961E-2  | 2.42322E-2   | 2.46922E-2   |
| 1000,150,.1      | 1.71500E-7   | 4.47936E-7   | 4.48944E-7  | 4.56417E-7   | 4.57895E-7   |
| 1000,200,.1      | 1.63938E-21  | 2.92767E-21  | 2.92805E-21 | 2.93688E-21  | 2.93918E-21  |

accuracy, especially for moderate to low probabilities. The two upper bounds are close across all parameter values tried. From this numerical evidence and an examination of the expressions, it appears that the degree of improvement of (6) over the upper bound of (4) may not be sufficient to warrant its use for most cases. The lower bound (5) gives good accuracy across a range of parameters and, in particular, gives significantly better results than the lower bound of (4) when  $\epsilon$  is relatively large and k small. This improvement of the lower bound is achieved at a modest increase in complexity and seems worthwhile for many applications. In general, the upper and lower bounds can be used with confidence in place of exact values when their ratio is close to unity. This will occur, for example, when  $r_1$  is small, which will be true when  $k\eta$  is much larger than  $n\epsilon$ .

In the foregoing computations exact values of  $b_n(k)$  were used. However, if efficiency of computation is of concern, then in most cases bounds on  $b_n(k)$  could be used along with the bounds of (5) and (6) (or (4)). This is a very well investigated problem and very tight bounds are available. In particular, the following version of Stirling's approximation to the factorial might be used:

$$(2\pi)^{1/2} n^{n+1/2} \exp\left(-n + \frac{1}{12n+1}\right)$$

$$< n! < (2\pi)^{1/2} n^{n+1/2} \exp\left(-n + \frac{1}{12n}\right).$$

While this approximation yields excellent results, it can easily be improved further by taking more terms in the argument (exponent) of the exponential [5]. This result can be used to upper and lower bound  $b_n(k)$  as follows:

where  $H(\lambda, \gamma) = -\lambda \log_2 \lambda - \gamma \log_2 \gamma$  is the binary entropy function and  $E(\lambda, \epsilon) = \lambda \log_2(\epsilon) + \gamma \log_2(\eta)$ .

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# On the Equivalence Between Berlekamp's and Euclid's Algorithms

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Abstract—It is shown that Berlekamp's iterative algorithm can be derived from a normalized version of Euclid's extended algorithm. Simple proofs of the results given recently by Cheng are also presented.

#### I. Introduction

The similarity between Berlekamp's iterative algorithm [1] and the extended Euclidean algorithm [7] has been previously noticed by several authors [3], [4]. Recently, Cheng [6] gave a more explicit description of the relations between the partial results produced by both algorithms. The original version of the iterative algorithm has been simplified by Massey [2]. We shall show in Section II that all partial results generated by this simplified version are in agreement (to a reciprocation and a normalization factor) with those given by Euclid's algorithm. The equivalence of the two algorithms is made more explicit in Section III by demonstrating that the iterative algorithm can be derived from a normalized version of Euclid's algorithm.

#### II. FORMAL EQUIVALENCE OF THE TWO ALGORITHMS

All polynomials to be considered in the following have their coefficients in a given commutative field K. By convention, the degree of the zero polynomial is  $-\infty$ . We will first restate some of the basic properties of the extended Euclidean algorithm for computing the greatest common divisor of  $R_0$  and  $R_{-1}$  when  $R_{-1} = X^n$  and  $R_0$  is the polynomial  $S(X) = S_0 + S_1X + \cdots + S_{n-1}X^{n-1}$  (the syndrome polynomial in the context of decoding BCH codes).

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$$\frac{1}{\left(2\pi n\lambda\gamma\right)^{1/2}} 2^{n(H(\lambda,\gamma)+E(\lambda,\epsilon))} \exp\left(\frac{1}{12n} - \frac{1}{12\lambda n + 1} - \frac{1}{12\gamma n + 1}\right) \le b_n(k)$$

$$\le \frac{1}{\left(2\pi n\lambda\gamma\right)^{1/2}} 2^{n(H(\lambda,\gamma)+E(\lambda,\epsilon))} \exp\left(\frac{1}{12n + 1} - \frac{1}{12\lambda n} - \frac{1}{12\gamma n}\right), \quad \gamma = 1 - \lambda, \, \lambda = k/n \quad (7)$$

The extended Euclidean algorithm generates a sequence of polynomials  $U_i, V_i, R_i, i \ge 0$  defined by the rules:

$$U_{-1} = V_0 = 0$$
  $U_0 = V_{-1} = 1$   $R_{-1} = X^n$   $R_0 = S(X)$   
 $R_{i-1} = Q_i R_i + R_{i+1}$   $\deg R_{i+1} < \deg R_i$ 

(which defines  $Q_i$  and  $R_{i+1}$ )

$$U_{i+1} = Q_i U_i + U_{i-1}$$
  $V_{i+1} = Q_i V_i + V_{i-1}$ .

The process eventually terminates with, say,  $R_m = 0$ .

The following properties are easily shown by induction on i:

- $\begin{array}{ll} \text{P1)} & \deg R_i < n \deg U_i, \\ \text{P2)} & U_i V_{i-1} U_{i-1} V_i = (-1)^i, \\ \text{P3)} & U_i S V_i X^n = (-1)^i R_i. \end{array}$

Combining P1) and P3), we obtain

P4) 
$$\deg(U_iS - V_iX^n) < n - \deg U_i$$
.

P4) is strong in the sense that it admits a converse, as follows.

Theorem 1: Let P and Q be two relatively prime polynomials such that

$$\deg\left(QS-PX^n\right)< n-\deg Q.$$

Then, there exist a nonzero scalar c and an integer  $i \le m$  such

$$Q = cU_i$$
  $P = cV_i$ .

For a proof, see [4, th. 8.5], or [5]. Let us define, for some fixed i < m.

$$S^*(X) \triangleq X^{n-1}S(X^{-1}) \qquad d \triangleq \deg U_i,$$
  
$$\sigma(X) \triangleq X^d U_i(X^{-1}) \qquad \omega(X) \triangleq X^{d-1} V_i(X^{-1}).$$

Lemma 1: a)  $\sigma(0) \neq 0$ . b)  $d = \max(\deg \sigma, 1 + \deg \omega)$ . c) The pair  $(\sigma, \omega)$  satisfies:

$$\sigma S^* \equiv \omega \bmod X^{2d}.$$

*Proof*: a) This follows trivially from the fact that  $d = \deg U_i$ . b) By P2),  $U_i$  and  $V_i$  are relatively prime; thus either  $U_i(0) = 0$ and then deg  $\sigma < d$  but  $V(0) \neq 0$  and hence deg  $\omega = d - 1$ , or  $U_i(0) \neq 0$  and deg  $\sigma = d$ , but always deg  $\omega < d$ . c) Dropping the index i, we have by P4)

$$U(X)S(X) = V(X)X^{n} + R(X)$$

and

$$\deg R \le n-1-d.$$

Multiplying by  $X^{1-d-n}$  yields

$$X^{-d}U(X)X^{1-n}S(X) = X^{1-d}V(X) + X^{1-d-n}R(X).$$

This may be written as

$$X^{d}U(X^{-1})X^{n-1}S(X^{-1}) = X^{d-1}V(X^{-1}) + X^{2d}(X^{n-1-d}R(X^{-1}))$$

or

$$\sigma(X)S^*(X) = \omega(X) + X^{2d}Q(X),$$

which concludes the proof.

Conversely, every pair of relatively prime polynomials  $(\sigma, \omega)$ such that

 $\sigma(0) \neq 0$ ,  $\sigma S^* \equiv \omega \mod X^{2d}$ ,  $\max(\deg \sigma, 1 + \deg \omega) = d$ may be converted by reversing the above process into a pair

$$P(X) = X^{d-1}\omega(X^{-1})$$
  $Q(X) = X^{d}\sigma(X^{-1})$ 

such that deg Q = d, deg  $(QS - X^nP) < n - d$ .

By Theorem 1, such a pair will be found by Euclid's algorithm. We now remark that the quantity max (deg  $\sigma$ , 1 + deg  $\omega$ ) is just a compact definition of Massey's minimum "shift register length." It is the smallest number of shift register stages that are necessary to generate linearly the power series  $\omega(X)/\sigma(X)$ . This informal argument can be made precise, as the following result shows.

Theorem 2: The Berlekamp-Massey algorithm solves the following problem: for each j,  $0 \le j \le n$ , find a pair  $(\sigma_j, \omega_j)$  such that  $\sigma_i(0) = 1$ ,  $\sigma_i S \equiv \omega_i \mod X^j$  and  $d_i = \max(\deg \sigma_i, 1 + 1)$  $\deg \omega_i$ ) is minimum.

The proof of Theorem 2, together with a slight variant of Massey's version of the iterative algorithm, is presented in the Appendix.

Defining the degree of an ordered pair of polynomials  $(\sigma, \omega)$ by

$$\deg(\sigma,\omega) = \max(\deg\sigma, 1 + \deg\omega)$$

we have the following unicity result.

Lemma 2: If, given j, the problem of Theorem 2 admits a solution  $(\sigma_i, \omega_i)$  of degree d, and  $2d \le j$ , then this is the only solution.

*Proof:* Suppose there are two pairs (a, b) and (e, f) that solve the problem and are of degree d. We have

$$aS^* \equiv b \mod X^j$$
  $eS^* \equiv f \mod X^j$ .

Thus  $af - be \equiv 0 \mod X^j$ , and since  $2d \le j$ , this congruence is an equality. The conclusion now follows from the fact that a and b are relatively prime since d is assumed to be the minimum possible.

The relationship between the two algorithms is now clear: every pair  $(\sigma, \omega)$  such that  $2d \le j$  yields a pair (Q, P) such that

$$\deg(QS - X^n P) < n - \deg Q$$

and this pair is necessarily found, within a constant factor, by Euclid's algorithm (Theorem 1).

Conversely, every output  $(U_i, V_i)$  generated by Euclid's algorithm may be converted into a pair  $(\sigma, \omega)$  such that

$$deg(\sigma, \omega) = deg U_i = d$$
  $\sigma S^* \equiv \omega \mod X^{2d}$ .

By Lemma 2, such a pair will be found by the iterative algorithm

If we denote by  $l_0, l_1, \cdots$  the successive values assumed by  $d_i$ ,  $(l_0 = 0)$ , it is easy to verify by inspecting the behavior of the iterative algorithm that

$$\deg(\sigma_{2l_k}, \omega_{2l_k}) = l_k.$$

Thus we have proved the following theorem.

Theorem 3: For each  $k, 0 \le k \le m$ , there is a nonzero scalar  $C_k$  such that

$$X^{l_k}U_k(X^{-1}) = C_k \cdot \sigma_{2l_k}(X)$$

$$X^{l_k}V_k(X^{-1})=C_k\cdot\omega_{2l_k}(X).$$

Of course, not all partial results generated by the iterative algorithm satisfy  $2d_i = j$ . However, those for which  $2d_i < j$  are identical to their predecessors.

For each i we have

$$U_{i+1} = Q_i U_i + U_{i-1}, Q_i(X) = q_{e_i} X^{e_i} + q_{e_i-1} X^{e_i-1} + \cdots + q_0,$$

$$e_i = l_{i+1} - l_i.$$

If we agree to consider the  $e_i$  extra pairs of polynomials defined

$$U_{i+1}^{s} = (q_{e_i}X^{e_i} + \dots + q_sX^s)U_i + U_{i-1}$$

$$V_{i+1}^{s} = (q_{e_i}X^{e_i} + \dots + q_sX^s)V_i + V_{i-1},$$

$$s = e_i, e_i - 1, \dots, 1$$

as "outputs" of Euclid's algorithm, then it is possible to check that these additional results (to be inserted between  $(U_i, V_i)$  and  $(U_{i+1}, V_{i+1})$ ) are in one-to-one correspondence, as in Theorem 3, with those of the iterative algorithm for which  $2d_i > j$ . (This is true provided that the initialization proposed in the Appendix is used. This would become false for the first few iterations, namely,  $l_1 \le j < 2l_1$ , if Massey's initialization were chosen.)

At this point, we could derive an explicit relation between the successive discrepancies  $\Delta$ , in the iterative algorithm and the coefficients of the quotient  $Q_i$ , but the various index manipulations are tedious.

Furthermore, such a derivation would not tell us why such a simplification of Euclid's venerable algorithm is possible when  $R_{-1}$  has the simple form  $X^n$ . (Remember that Euclid's algorithm is roughly twice as complex as the iterative algorithm if we discard  $\omega_i$ ,  $V_i$ , whereas both compute the same thing, according to the preceding discussion.)

The aim of Section III is to show how to simplify Euclid's algorithm when  $R_{-1} = X^n$ , the result of this simplification being nearly identical to the Berlekamp-Massey algorithm.

### III. DERIVATION OF THE ITERATIVE ALGORITHM FROM **EUCLID'S ALGORITHM**

By P3) in Section II we have, for  $i \ge 0$ ,

$$U_{i-1}S = V_{i-1}X^{n} - (-1)^{i}R_{i-1}$$
$$U_{i}S = V_{i}X^{n} + (-1)^{i}R_{i}.$$

The key observation is that it is not really necessary to track the various R, explicitly since they appear as the low degree part of  $U_iS$ . We really need only the quotients  $Q_i$  defined by

$$R_{i-1} = Q_i R_i + R_{i+1}.$$

For each i, we let  $t_i \triangleq \deg R_i$  and  $\Delta_i \triangleq$  (the leading coefficient of  $(-1)^i R_i$ ). Clearly, the leading coefficient of  $Q_i$  is  $-\Delta_{i-1} \Delta_i^{-1}$ . Suppose we start with the knowledge of  $U_{i-1}, U_i, t_{i-1}, \Delta_{i-1}$ 

and that we want to compute

$$Q_i = q_{e_i} X^{e_i} + q_{e_i-1} X^{e_i-1} + \cdots + q_0$$

without considering explicitly  $R_{i-1}$  and  $R_i$ . First, we want to find  $e_i = \deg Q_i$ ; for that purpose we compute the successive  $b_k$ ,

$$b_k \triangleq \left(\text{the coefficient of } X^{t_{i-1}-k} \text{ in } U_i S = V_i X^n + (-1)^i R_i\right)$$

until, say,  $b_i \neq 0$ . Note that  $b_k$  is just the coefficient of  $X^{t_{i-1}-k}$ 

in  $(-1)^{l}R_{i}$ . Thus  $t_{i-1} - l = t_{i}$  and  $\Delta_{i} = b_{l}$ . Since  $t_{i-1} = \deg Q_{i} + t_{i}$ , we also have  $e_{i} = l$ . At this point we also know  $q_{e_{i}} = -\Delta_{i-1}\Delta_{i}^{-1}$ , and we can start the computation of  $U_{i+1}$  as follows:

$$U \leftarrow q_{e_i} X^{e_i} U_i + U_{i-1}$$
.

To obtain the next coefficient  $q_{e_i-1}$ , the usual Euclidean division of  $R_{i-1}$  by  $R_i$  would lead us to consider b, the coefficient of  $X^{t_{i-1}-1}$  in  $(R_{i-1}-q_{e_i}X^{e_i}R_i)$ , and to set

$$q_{e_i-1} = b((-1)^i \Delta_i)^{-1} = -b(-1)^{i-1} \Delta_i^{-1}.$$

However,  $b(-1)^{i-1}$  is precisely  $a_{e_{i-1}}$ , the coefficient of  $X^{t_i+e_i-1}$ 

in US since

$$US = (q_{e_i} X^{e_i} U_i + U_{i-1}) S \equiv (-1)^i (q_{e_i} X^{e_i} R_i - R_{i-1}) \bmod X^n.$$

Thus we can go somewhat further in our computation of  $U_{i+1}$ ,

$$U \leftarrow U - a_{e_i-1} \Delta_i^{-1} X^{e_i-1} U_i = \left( q_{e_i} X^{e_i} + q_{e_i-1} X^{e_i-1} \right) U_i + U_{i-1}.$$

It is now clear that the whole quotient  $Q_i$  may be computed in the way described earlier. After  $e_i + 1$  iterations, the polynomial U is equal to  $U_{i+1}$ .

Furthermore, since we know  $t_i$  and  $\Delta_i$ , we can start the next computation, that of  $Q_{i+1}$ . The natural initialization

$$i = 0$$
  $U_{-1} = 0$   $U_0 = 1$   $t_{-1} = n$   $\Delta_{-1} = -1$ 

completes the resulting algorithm.

We can restate it in a more compact form, using a temporary storage polynomial T, two polynomials U, U', an integer t, and a scalar  $\Delta$ . At the beginning of one cycle (computation of  $Q_i$ ),  $U=U_i,~U'=U_{i-1},~t=t_{i-1},~\Delta=\Delta_{i-1};$  as soon as the first phase (determination of deg  $Q_i$ , steps 2) and 3) below) is completed, U' is set to  $U_i$ ,  $\Delta$  to  $\Delta_i$ , t to  $t_i$ , and U is used to build up  $U_{i+1}$  as in the description given earlier.

Simplified Euclidean Algorithm When  $R_{-1} = X^n$ 

- Initialization: U' = 0, U = 1, t = n,  $\Delta = -1$ , k = 1. Compute  $b_k \triangleq$  (coefficient of  $X^{t-k}$  in US).
- If  $b_k = 0$ , set  $k \leftarrow k + 1$  and return to 2). Now, the next quotient has degree k. Set

$$T \leftarrow U \qquad U \leftarrow U' - \Delta b_k^{-1} X^k U \qquad \Delta \leftarrow b_k$$

$$U' \leftarrow T \qquad t \leftarrow t - k \qquad k \leftarrow 1 - k.$$

5) Compute  $a_{-k} \triangleq \text{(coefficient of } X^{t-k} \text{ in } US\text{)}.$ 6) Set  $U \leftarrow U - a_{-k} \Delta^{-1} X^{-k} U'$ ,  $k \leftarrow k+1$ . If  $k \leq 0$ , then return to 5); otherwise, go to 2). (For simplicity, we omitted the stop test: the algorithm should be stopped at least when t < k.)

A further simplification is still possible. We can set in step 4):  $U \leftarrow c(U' - \Delta b_k^{-1} X^k U)$  for any nonzero scalar c. This simply multiplies the next  $a_{-k}$  computed in step 5) by c.

Thus after the cycle is completed, we just have cU instead of

U; the first nonzero  $b_k$  computed in step 2) at the beginning of the next cycle will also be multiplied by c, so that  $\Delta^{-1}U'$  never depends on c.

One reasonable choice for c is

$$c = -b_k \Delta^{-1}.$$

The new step 4) is to set

$$T \leftarrow U \qquad U \leftarrow X^k U - b_k \Delta^{-1} U' \qquad U' \leftarrow T$$
  
$$t \leftarrow t - k \qquad k \leftarrow 1 - k.$$

We get a normalized version of Euclid's algorithm since U is now always monic.

It may be observed that, between two consecutive executions of steps 2) or 5), the value of  $j = n - 1 - t + k + \deg U$  is increased by one, the initial value being zero. Thus if we rephrase the above algorithm using:

$$\sigma = X^{\deg U}U(X^{-1}) \qquad \sigma' = X^{\deg U}U'(X^{-1}),$$

we find exactly the iterative algorithm as described in the Ap-

We have  $d_j = \deg U$ ,  $k = j + 1 - 2d_j$ , the  $a_{-k}$  are the discrepancies for which  $2d_j \le j$  and the  $b_k$  those for which  $2d_j > j$ . In the general case, when  $R_{-1} = G(X)$ , an arbitrary poly-

nomial of degree n, it is still possible to derive a similar simplification of the Euclidean algorithm, but now we have to compute the  $V_i$  and to replace US by US - VG in steps 2) and 5): it becomes necessary to compute the V, even if they do not represent a useful output of the algorithm.

TABLE I

| Stop test   | deg R <sub>i</sub> < n/2 |           | deg R <sub>i</sub> = 0 |           |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| R <sub>-1</sub>   | xn                       | arbitrary | x <sup>n</sup>         | arbitrary |
| Euclidean algorithm,<br>U <sub>1</sub> only             | 1                        |           | 2                      |           |
| Euclidean algorithm, $\mathbf{U_i}$ and $\mathbf{V_i}$  | 5/4                      |           | 3                      |           |
| Generalized Berlekamp -Massey algorithm, o only         | 1/2                      | 1         | 3/2                    | 3         |
| Generalized Berlekamp<br>-Massey algorithm,<br>of and w | 3/4                      | 1         | . 1                    |           |

If we rephrase this more general version of the simplified Euclidean algorithm using the reciprocal polynomial variables as before, we find a generalized Berlekamp-Massey algorithm that is exactly that given in the Appendix except that the computation of the jth discrepancy  $\Delta_i$  reads as follows:

 $\Delta_i \triangleq \left( \text{the coefficient of } X^j \text{ in } \sigma_i(X) S^*(X) - \omega_i(X) G^*(X) \right)$ with

$$G^*(X) \triangleq X^n G(X^{-1}).$$

We remark that when  $G(X) = X^n$ , it is sufficient to look at  $\sigma_i(X)S^*(X)$  since  $G^*(X) = 1$  and deg  $\omega_i < j$  for all j.

Depending on the application of the Euclidean algorithm, one might be interested in  $U_i$  only, or both in  $U_i$  and  $V_i$ . The stop test also depends on the application: when computing multiplicative inverses, the Euclidean algorithm is stopped as soon as deg  $R_i$  = 0, while if the Euclidean algorithm is used as a Diophantine approximation tool (decoding BCH codes, for example), the algorithm is stopped as soon as deg  $R_i < n/2$ .

With  $n \triangleq \deg R_{-1}$ , we can express the complexity of these algorithms as  $Kn^2$ , neglecting linear terms. Table I gives the value of K, depending on what has to be computed, the stop test and the value of  $R_{-1}$ .

#### APPENDIX THE BERLEKAMP-MASSEY ALGORITHM

1) Initialization:

$$j = 0$$
  $\sigma_0 = -\omega_0' = 1$   $\sigma_0' = \omega_0 = 0$   $d_0 = 0$   $\Delta = 1$ .

Compute the jth discrepancy  $\Delta_i$  as the coefficient of  $X^j$ in

$$\sigma_j(X)S^*(X) - \omega_j(X).$$

3) If 
$$\Delta_j = 0$$
,  

$$d_{j+1} \leftarrow d_j \qquad \sigma_{j+1} \leftarrow \sigma_j \qquad \omega_{j+1} \leftarrow \omega_j$$

$$\sigma'_{j+1} \leftarrow X\sigma'_j \qquad \omega'_{j+1} \leftarrow X\omega'_j.$$

4) If  $\Delta_i \neq 0$ ,  $2d_i > j$ ,

4) If 
$$\Delta_j \neq 0$$
,  $2d_j > j$ ,
$$d_{j+1} = d_j \qquad \sigma_{j+1} \leftarrow \sigma_j - \Delta_j \Delta^{-1} \sigma_j' \qquad \omega_{j+1} \leftarrow \omega_j - \Delta_j \Delta^{-1} \omega_j'$$

$$\sigma_{j+1}' \leftarrow X \sigma_j' \qquad \omega_{j+1}' \leftarrow X \omega_j'.$$

5) If 
$$\Delta_{j} \neq 0$$
,  $2d_{j} \leq j$ , 
$$d_{j+1} = j + 1 - d_{j} \qquad \sigma_{j+1} \leftarrow \sigma_{j} - \Delta_{j} \Delta^{-1} \sigma_{j}'$$
$$\omega_{j+1} \leftarrow \omega_{j} - \Delta_{j} \Delta^{-1} \omega_{j}' \qquad \Delta \leftarrow \Delta_{j}$$
$$\sigma_{j+1}' \leftarrow X\sigma_{j} \qquad \omega_{j+1}' \leftarrow X\omega_{j}.$$

6)  $j \leftarrow j + 1$ , go to step 2).

This is Massey's version of the iterative algorithm, except for the inclusion of the polynomials  $\omega_i$ ,  $\omega'_i$ , the initialization step 1) and the omission of the stop test. Massey's initialization was  $\sigma_0' = X$ , but  $\omega_0$  and  $\omega_0'$  are unaffected by this change.

The reason for the slight change in the initialization is that, without it, the first few iterations do not give the same result as Euclid's algorithm. This turns out to be the simplest way to obtain a complete agreement with the Euclidean algorithm.

As a result, we do not have  $\Delta_i = 0$  for the first few odd j when decoding binary BCH codes, so that the original initialization is better from the computational point of view (see [1] for the details).

Proof of Theorem 2: The proof of Theorem 2 is similar to that given in [2]. We set

$$E_{j} \triangleq \left\{ (a, b)/a(X)S^{*}(X) \equiv b(X) \bmod X^{j} \right\}$$

$$d_{j} \triangleq \min_{\substack{(a, b) \in E_{j} \\ a(y) = 1}} \deg(a, b)$$

$$E_i^* \triangleq \{(a,b) \in E_i / \deg(a,b) = d_i, a(0) = 1\}.$$

We may restate [2, Lemma 1] as follows. Lemma: If  $(a, b) \in E_i^*, (a, b) \notin E_{i+1}$ , then  $d_{i+1} \ge j+1$ 

*Proof:* Since  $(a, b) \notin E_{i+1}$  we have  $a(X)S^*(X) \equiv b(X)$  $+\Delta X^{j} \mod X^{j+1}$  for some nonzero  $\Delta$ ; for any pair (e, f) in  $E_{i+1}^*$ , we have

$$af - be = e \Delta X^{j} + QX^{j+1}$$
 for some  $Q$ .

Since e(0) = 1, deg(af - be) > j, hence the lemma.

It may be shown by straightforward induction on j that

- the coefficient of  $X^j$  in  $(\sigma_i'S^* \omega_i')$  is  $\Delta$ ;
- $(\sigma_i, \omega_i) \in E_i, (\sigma'_i, \omega'_i) \in E_i;$
- $\deg(\sigma_i, \omega_i) + \deg(\sigma_i', \omega_i') = j + 1.$

It remains to be shown that  $deg(\sigma_i, \omega_i)$  is indeed minimum. This is done by induction on j. The induction hypothesis and the lemma proves that this is true whenever step 5) is executed. However, this is also true if steps 3) or 4) are executed since  $deg(\sigma_{i+1}, \omega_{i+1}) = deg(\sigma_i, \omega_i)$  and  $d_i$  is nondecreasing with j.

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