MEMO NUMBER: 03
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SUBJECT: Background on the Galois Field

1 Background

A Galois Field is a field with a finite number of elements. The nomenclature $GF(q)$ is to indicate a Galois field with q elements. For $GF(q)$ in general, q must be a power of a prime. The best known and most used Galois field is $GF(2)$, the binary field.

2 Algorithm

Input polynomials will be represented as 16 bit arrays, where the coefficient of the terms are represented as 1. The provided example polynomial, $x^3 + x^2 + x^0$ will be represented as

$$< 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 1101 > (4th,\ 3rd,\ and\ 1st\ bits)$$

2.1 Determining Irreducibility

A polynomial is irreducible if and only if:

1. the coefficient of its 1st term is 1
2. the number of terms is odd

2.2 Default Symbols

Once a polynomial is determined irreducible, its default symbols may be generated.

1. The symbols for $\{x^0, x^1, \ldots, x^{n-1}\}$ are generated by setting the corresponding bits to 1.
2. The symbol for x^n is generated by setting the corresponding bits for the terms in the polynomial after the highest degree term.
3. The symbol for x^{2^n-1} cycles back to x^0, and is set to x^0.

This would generate $n + 1$ terms. Therefore, the maximum of 16 bits would have 17 terms generated by default.

2.3 Generated Symbols

The rest of the symbols for the terms x^{n+1} to x^{2^n-2} must be generated. In total, that would require $2^n - 2 - n$ terms. Therefore, the maximum of 16 bits would require 65,518 terms to be generated.
TODO: NEED TO ADD ALGORITHM TO GENERATE THESE TERMS

Table 1: Default Symbols Generated for An Irreducible Polynomial of Degree n

Element	Polynomial Form	Symbol
0	$0_{n-1} + \ldots + 0_2 + 0_1 + 0_0$	$\{0_{n-1} \ldots 0_2 0_1 0_0\}$
γ^0	$0_{n-1} + \ldots + 0_2 + 0_1 + \gamma_0^0$	$\{0_{n-1} \ldots 0_2 0_1 1_0\}$
γ^1	$0_{n-1} + \ldots + 0_2 + \gamma_1^1 + 0$	$\{0_{n-1} \ldots 0_2 1_1 0_0\}$
γ^2	$0_{n-1} + \ldots + \gamma_2^2 + 0_1 + 0_0$	$\{0_{n-1} \ldots 1_2 0_1 0_0\}$
$\ldots$	$\ldots$	$\ldots$
γ^{n-1}	$1_{n-1} + \ldots + 0_2 + 0_1 + 0_0$	$\{1_{n-1} \ldots 0_2 0_1 0_0\}$
γ^n	$\gamma_{n-1}^{n-1} + \ldots + \gamma_2^2 + \gamma_1^1 + \gamma_0^0$	$\{x_{n-1} \ldots x_2 x_1 x_0\}$
$\ldots$	$\ldots$	$\ldots$
γ^{2^n-1}	$0_{n-1} + \ldots + 0_2 + 0_1 + \gamma_0^0$	$\{0_{n-1} \ldots 0_2 0_1 1_0\}$

3 Hardware Implementation

TODO: CAN ONLY BE ADDED ONCE ALGORITHM IS FIGURED OUT

4 Example

4.1 Show that $x^3 + x^2 + x^0$ is irreducible in $GF(2)[x]$

$$x = 0 : (0)^3 + (0)^2 + (0)^0 = 0 + 0 + 1 = 1 \ (not\ a\ root)$$
$$x = 1 : (1)^3 + (1)^2 + (1)^0 = 1 + 1 + 1 = 1 \ (not\ a\ root)$$
$$\therefore x^3 + x^2 + x^0 \text{ has no roots in } GF(2)[x].$$

4.2 Generate the 8 elements of $GF(2^3)$ using the primitive polynomial $x^3 + x^2 + x^0$.

$$\text{Let } \beta \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3) \text{ be a root of } x^3 + x^2 + x^0 \implies \beta^3 + \beta^2 + \beta^0$$
$$\therefore \text{The coefficients are in } GF(2) \implies \beta^3 = \beta^2 + \beta^0$$

$$\because a\ field\ has\ additive\ and\ multiplicative\ identities :$$
$$\therefore 0, 1 = \beta^0 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3)$$

$$\therefore \beta^1 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3) \ (\because \ closure\ of\ multiplication)$$

$$\therefore \beta^2 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3) \ (\because \ assumption)$$

$$\therefore \beta^3 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3) \ (\because \beta^3 = \beta^2 + \beta^0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \because \beta^4 &= \beta^1 \times \beta^3 \\ &= \beta^1(\beta^2 + \beta^0) \\ &= \beta^3 + \beta^1 \\ &= \beta^2 + \beta^1 + \beta^0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \beta^4 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \because \beta^5 &= \beta^1 \times \beta^4 \\ &= \beta^1(\beta^2 + \beta^1 + \beta^0) \\ &= \beta^3 + \beta^2 + \beta^1 \\ &= \beta^2 + \beta^0 + \beta^2 + \beta^1 \\ &= \beta^1 + \beta^0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \beta^5 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \because \beta^6 &= \beta^1 \times \beta^5 \\ &= \beta^1(\beta^1 + \beta^0) \\ &= \beta^2 + \beta^1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \beta^6 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \because \beta^7 &= \beta^1 \times \beta^6 \\ &= \beta^1(\beta^2 + \beta^1) \\ &= \beta^3 + \beta^2 \\ &= \beta^2 + \beta^0 + \beta^2 \\ &= \beta^0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \beta^7 \ \epsilon \ GF(2^3)$$

Table 2: The 8 Element Vectors of $x^3 + x^2 + x^0$ in $GF(2)[x]$

Element	**Polynomial Form**	**Symbol**
0	$0+0+0$	000
β^0	$0+0+\beta^0$	001
β^1	$0+\beta^1+0$	010
β^2	β^2+0+0	100
β^3	$\beta^2+0+\beta^0$	101
β^4	$\beta^2+\beta^1+\beta^0$	111
β^5	$0+\beta^1+\beta^0$	011
β^6	$\beta^2+\beta^1+0$	110
β^7	$0+0+\beta^0$	001

4.3 Generate the addition (bitwise XOR) and multiplication tables for the implementation of $GF(2)[x]$

Table 3: Addition Table for $x^3 + x^2 + x^0$ in $GF(2)[x]$

$+$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^0}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^1}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^2}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^3}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^4}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^5}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^6}$
$\mathbf{0}$	0	β^0	β^1	β^2	β^3	β^4	β^5	β^6
$\boldsymbol{\beta^0}$	β^0	0	β^5	β^3	β^2	β^6	β^1	β^4
$\boldsymbol{\beta^1}$	β^1	β^5	0	β^6	β^4	β^3	β^0	β^2
$\boldsymbol{\beta^2}$	β^2	β^3	β^6	0	β^0	β^5	β^4	β^1
$\boldsymbol{\beta^3}$	β^3	β^2	β^4	β^0	0	β^1	β^6	β^5
$\boldsymbol{\beta^4}$	β^4	β^6	β^3	β^5	β^1	0	β^2	β^0
$\boldsymbol{\beta^5}$	β^5	β^1	β^0	β^4	β^6	β^2	0	β^3
$\boldsymbol{\beta^6}$	β^6	β^4	β^2	β^1	β^5	β^0	β^3	0

Table 4: Multiplication Table for $x^3 + x^2 + x^0$ in $GF(2)[x]$

$\times$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^0}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^1}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^2}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^3}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^4}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^5}$	$\boldsymbol{\beta^6}$
$\mathbf{0}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$\boldsymbol{\beta^0}$	0	β^0	β^1	β^2	β^3	β^4	β^5	β^6
$\boldsymbol{\beta^1}$	0	β^1	β^2	β^3	β^4	β^5	β^6	β^0
$\boldsymbol{\beta^2}$	0	β^2	β^3	β^4	β^5	β^6	β^0	β^1
$\boldsymbol{\beta^3}$	0	β^3	β^4	β^5	β^6	β^0	β^1	β^2
$\boldsymbol{\beta^4}$	0	β^4	β^5	β^6	β^0	β^1	β^2	β^3
$\boldsymbol{\beta^5}$	0	β^5	β^6	β^0	β^1	β^2	β^3	β^4
$\boldsymbol{\beta^6}$	0	β^6	β^0	β^1	β^2	β^3	β^4	β^5