

- Core idea:
- replace MLE quotient-based evaluation arguments (Virgo/Libra/Hyrax) with a Sumcheck + Folding Combo
 - Utilize Foldable Linear Codes, which support recursive encoding and folding over arbitrary finite fields.
 - instead of relying on typical quotient polynomial approach

$$\frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y}$$

Basefold uses: \rightarrow Sumcheck to reduce MLE evaluations to a random point.
FRI-style folding to recursively prove proximity to a low-degree polynomial

\rightarrow Thus, working better over non-FFT friendly fields.

What are Foldable - Linear Codes

let's say we have a linear code

$$C_0 : F_p^{K_0} \rightarrow F_p^{N_0}$$

F_p ✓

$F_p^{K_0} \Rightarrow$ all messages of length K_0 over F_p

$F_p^{N_0} \Rightarrow$ all messages of length N_0 over F_p

A code is a way to map messages to codewords to add redundancy (for error correction/detection)

$\Rightarrow C_0$ is a function that encodes a message of K_0 elements into a longer vector of N_0 elements

$$\Rightarrow \text{message } m \in \mathbb{F}_p^{k_0} \xrightarrow{C_0} \text{codeword } c \in \mathbb{F}_p^{n_0}$$

Redundancy comes from encoding with $n_0 > k_0$

$$\Rightarrow R = \frac{n_0}{k_0} \Rightarrow \text{Code Rate} = \frac{1}{R}$$

now, for every linear code, there exists an encoding matrix $G_0: \mathbb{F}_p^{k_0 \times n_0}$ such that

$$m G_0 = c$$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
 message generator matrix resulting codeword

$$\begin{aligned}
 m &\Rightarrow 1 \times k_0 &\Rightarrow 1 \times k_0 \times k_0 \times n_0 \\
 G_0 &\Rightarrow k_0 \times n_0 &= 1 \times n_0 \\
 &&\hookrightarrow c \\
 &&=
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, basefold wants to build a bigger code C_1 from a base code C_0 such that

$$G_1 = \begin{bmatrix} G_0 & G_0 \\ G_0 \cdot T_0 & G_0 \cdot T_0' \end{bmatrix}$$

$T_0, T_0' \Rightarrow$ diagonal matrices with parameters

\hookrightarrow they allow recursive folding, like butterfly steps in FFT

\rightarrow Now, if we assume G_1 as encoding matrix of another linear code C_1 ,

\hookrightarrow parameters of C_1 are $[R, 2k_0, 2n_0]$ $\checkmark \Rightarrow$ Code Rate \rightarrow same
msg. & codeword \Rightarrow doubled length

e.g. $m = (m_0, m_1, m_2, m_3)$; base encoding scheme C_0 is a simple Repetition Code, $k_0 = 2$ & $n_0 = 4$

\downarrow

this means

↓

$$k_0 = 2 ; \text{ so for } m = (m_0, m_1) \\ n_0 = 4 \quad C = (m_0, m_1, m_0, m_1)$$

Therefore, message length m
exactly meets requirements of G_1 , i.e.

$$k_1 = 2 \cdot k_0 = 4 ; \quad n_1 = 2 \cdot n_0 = 8$$

we have $G_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ the encoding matrix of
base code C_0 .

assume, T_0 parameters $\Rightarrow (t_0, t_1, t_2, t_3)$
 T_0' parameters $\Rightarrow (t'_0, t'_1, t'_2, t'_3)$

$$\Rightarrow G_1 = \left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline t_0 & 0 & t_2 & 0 & t'_0 & 0 & t'_2 & 0 \\ 0 & t_1 & 0 & t_3 & 0 & t'_1 & 0 & t'_3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$m G_1 = [m_0, m_1, m_2, m_3] \left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline t_0 & 0 & t_2 & 0 & t'_0 & 0 & t'_2 & 0 \\ 0 & t_1 & 0 & t_3 & 0 & t'_1 & 0 & t'_3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{matrix} m_0 + t_0 m_2 & m_1 + t_1 m_3 & m_0 + t_2 m_2 & m_1 + t_3 m_3 \\ m_0 + t'_0 m_2 & m_1 + t'_1 m_3 & m_0 + t'_2 m_2 & m_1 + t'_3 m_3 \end{matrix}$$

↓ let's structure and make it more clear

$$\text{let } m_L = m_0, m_1 \Rightarrow m G_1 = (m_L \parallel m_R) G_1 \\ m_R = m_2, m_3$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_L & 0 \\ 0 & m_R \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} G_0 & G_0 \\ G_0 \cdot T_0 & G_0 \cdot T_0' \end{bmatrix} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_L G_0 & m_R G_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_r G_0 T_0 & m_r G_0 T_0' \end{bmatrix}$$

let's see, $m_l G_0 = [m_0 \ m_1] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = (m_0 \ m_1 \ m_0 \ m_1)$

$$m_r (G_0 T_0) = (t_0 m_2, t_1 m_3, t_2 m_2, t_3 m_3)$$

& similarly $m_r (G_0 T_0') = (t_0' m_2, t_1' m_3, t_2' m_2, t_3' m_3)$

simplifying, we have

$$m G_1 = m_l G_0 + (t_0, t_1, t_2, t_3) \circ m_r G_0 \parallel m_l G_0 + (t_0', t_1', t_2', t_3') \circ m_r G_0$$

↓

we can notice that the equation resembles butterfly operation in FFT

↓

$$a' = a + t \cdot b \quad b' = a - t \cdot b$$

↓

we can recursively construct G_2, \dots, G_d , obtaining a linear code: $C_d: \mathbb{F}_p^k \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p^n$

$$\text{where } k = K_0 \cdot 2^d \\ n = C \cdot K_0 \cdot 2^d$$

$$\text{the code rate is } \rho = \frac{1}{R}$$

K_0 : msg. length of base encoding

n_0 : base encoding length

• We use G_d to denote generator matrix of C_d , $G_d \in F_p^{k \times n}$

• for $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$, we have a recursive relation

$$G_i = \begin{bmatrix} G_{i-1} & G_{i-1} \\ G_{i-1} \cdot T_{i-1} & G_{i-1} \cdot T'_{i-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

here, T_{i-1} and T'_{i-1} are diagonal matrices,

$$T_{i-1} = \begin{bmatrix} t_{i-1,0} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & t_{i-1,1} & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & \sim & \sim & t_{i-1,n_i-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad T'_{i-1} = \begin{bmatrix} t'_{i-1,0} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & t'_{i-1,1} & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & \sim & \sim & t'_{i-1,n_i-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

and their diagonal elements at the same positions are distinct:

$$\forall j \in [0, n_i-1], \quad t_{i,j} \neq t'_{i,j}$$

Now, if we have G_d , then for message m_d of length k , the encoding would be

$$w_d = m_d G_d$$

which is inefficient with complexity $O(k \cdot n)$

\Downarrow

we can instead use the recursive relation

\Downarrow

we split m_d to m_ℓ and m_r

\Downarrow

$$w_d = (m_\ell G_{d-1} + \text{diag}(T_d) \circ m_r G_{d-1}) \parallel (m_\ell G_{d-1} + \text{diag}(T'_d) \circ m_r G_{d-1})$$

\Downarrow

splitting until we reach the message length K_0 , and then we use G_0 for base encoding



The encoding complexity at this stage would be $O(K_0 \cdot n_0)$ and with d recursive rounds, overall complexity becomes $O(n \log(n))$

RBO

$000(0) \rightarrow 000(0)$
 $001(1) \rightarrow 100(4)$
 $010(2) \rightarrow 010(2)$
 $011(3) \rightarrow 110(6)$
 $100(4) \rightarrow 001(1)$
 $101(5) \rightarrow 101(5)$
 $110(6) \rightarrow 011(3)$
 $111(7) \rightarrow 111(7)$

Therefore, we go from

this

$$G^{(RS)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 & \omega^3 & \omega^4 & \omega^5 & \omega^6 & \omega^7 \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 & 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 \\ 1 & \omega^3 & \omega^6 & \omega^1 & \omega^4 & \omega^7 & \omega^2 & \omega^5 \\ 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 \\ 1 & \omega^5 & \omega^2 & \omega^7 & \omega^4 & \omega & \omega^6 & \omega^3 \\ 1 & \omega^6 & \omega^4 & \omega^2 & 1 & \omega^6 & \omega^4 & \omega^2 \\ 1 & \omega^7 & \omega^6 & \omega^5 & \omega^4 & \omega^3 & \omega^2 & \omega \end{bmatrix}$$

→ to →

this

$$G_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 & 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 \\ 1 & \omega^6 & \omega^4 & \omega^2 & 1 & \omega^6 & \omega^4 & \omega^2 \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 & \omega^3 & \omega^4 & \omega^5 & \omega^6 & \omega^7 \\ 1 & \omega^5 & \omega^2 & \omega^7 & \omega^4 & \omega & \omega^6 & \omega^3 \\ 1 & \omega^3 & \omega^6 & \omega^1 & \omega^4 & \omega^7 & \omega^2 & \omega^5 \\ 1 & \omega^7 & \omega^6 & \omega^5 & \omega^4 & \omega^3 & \omega^2 & \omega \end{bmatrix}$$



$\omega \in F$ is n -th root of unity if $\omega^n = 1$ & $\omega^k \neq 1 \quad 1 \leq k < n$



generates all n -th roots of unity

↳ $\{1, \omega, \omega^2, \dots, \omega^{n-1}\}$

• cyclic group under multiplication

• $\omega^{-k} = \omega^{n-k}$ as $\omega^n = 1$

• $1 + \omega + \omega^2 + \dots + \omega^{n-1} = 0$

$$G_2 = \begin{bmatrix} G_1 & G_1 \\ G_1 T_1 & G_1 T_1' \end{bmatrix}$$

here

$$T_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \omega & & \\ & & \omega^2 & \\ & & & \omega^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_1' = \begin{bmatrix} \omega^4 & & & \\ & \omega^5 & & \\ & & \omega^6 & \\ & & & \omega^7 \end{bmatrix}$$

since $\omega^4 \Rightarrow -1$

$$\Downarrow \\ T_1' = -T_1$$

Similarly $T_2' = -T_2$

we can recursively decompose G_1

$$G_1 = \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^4 & 1 & \omega^4 \\ \hline 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 \\ 1 & \omega^6 & \omega^4 & \omega^2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow G_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & \omega^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_0' = \begin{bmatrix} \omega^4 & \\ & \omega^6 \end{bmatrix}$$