

Lecture 7: MacWilliams identities. Reed–Solomon codes.

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- 1 MacWilliams identities
- 2 MDS codes
- 3 Reed–Solomon codes
- 4 Bounded minimum distance decoding
- 5 List decoding

Outline

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Weight spectrum and enumerator

Definition

Let \mathcal{C} be a linear (n, k, d) code. A vector $A(\mathcal{C}) = [A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n]$, where

$$A_W = |\{c \in \mathcal{C} : \|c\| = W\}|.$$

is called a weight spectrum of \mathcal{C} .

Definition

Let $A(\mathcal{C}) = [A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n]$ be a weight spectrum of a code \mathcal{C} , then

$$W_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^n A_i x^{n-i} y^i = \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} x^{n-\|c\|} y^{\|c\|}$$

is called a weight enumerator of \mathcal{C} .

Example

Example

$$\mathcal{C} = \{000, 011, 101, 110\}$$

$$W_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) = x^3 + 3xy^2$$

MacWilliams identities

Theorem (F. J. MacWilliams, 1963))

$$W_{\mathcal{C}^\perp}(x, y) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|} W_{\mathcal{C}}(x + y, x - y).$$

Hadamard transform

Definition (Dot product)

Let $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$:

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = x_1 y_1 \oplus \dots \oplus x_n y_n.$$

Definition (Hadamard transform)

Let f be an arbitrarily function defined on \mathbb{F}_2^n . Then

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{a}).$$

is called a Hadamard transform of f .

Lemma

$$\sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} \hat{f}(\mathbf{x})$$

Proof of lemma

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{a}) = \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} f(\mathbf{a}) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} = \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a}) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} + \sum_{\mathbf{a} \notin \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a}) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}}\end{aligned}$$

- ① $\forall \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C} : \quad \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x} = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a}) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} = \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a}) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} 1 = |\mathcal{C}| \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a})$$

- ② $\forall \mathbf{a} \notin \mathcal{C}^\perp : \langle\!\langle \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x} = 0 \rangle\!\rangle \text{ и } \langle\!\langle \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x} = 1 \rangle\!\rangle \quad \text{occur equal times}$
in the second sum $\Rightarrow \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{a} \notin \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a}) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}} = 0$$

□

Proof of theorem

Consider

$$f(\mathbf{b}) = x^{n-\|\mathbf{b}\|} y^{\|\mathbf{b}\|}$$

Apply Hadamard transform

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}} f(\mathbf{b}) = \sum_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} (-1)^{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}} x^{n-\|\mathbf{b}\|} y^{\|\mathbf{b}\|} =$$

$$(\text{ Note, that } y^{\|\mathbf{b}\|} = y^{b_1} \dots y^{b_n} \text{ и } x^{n-\|\mathbf{b}\|} = x^{1-b_1} \dots x^{1-b_n})$$

$$= \sum_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n} (-1)^{a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n} \prod_{i=1}^n x^{1-b_i} y^{b_i} =$$

$$= \sum_{b_1=0}^1 \sum_{b_2=0}^1 \dots \sum_{b_n=0}^1 \prod_{i=1}^n (-1)^{a_i b_i} x^{1-b_i} y^{b_i} =$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{w=0}^1 (-1)^{a_i w} x^{1-w} y^w =$$

Proof of theorem

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{f}(\mathbf{a}) &= \dots = \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{w=0}^1 (-1)^{a_i w} x^{1-w} y^w = \\ &= (x+y)^{n-\|\mathbf{a}\|} (x-y)^{\|\mathbf{a}\|},\end{aligned}$$

as

$$\sum_{w=0}^1 (-1)^{a_i w} x^{1-w} y^w = \begin{cases} x+y, & \text{если } a_i = 0, \\ x-y, & \text{если } a_i = 1. \end{cases}$$

According to lemma

$$\frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|} \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}} \hat{f}(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} f(\mathbf{a}),$$

thus

$$\frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|} \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}} (x+y)^{n-\|\mathbf{a}\|} (x-y)^{\|\mathbf{a}\|} = \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp} x^{n-\|\mathbf{a}\|} y^{\|\mathbf{a}\|}.$$

□

Example

Example

Let $\mathbf{H} = [11 \dots 1]$ be a parity check matrix of single parity check (SPC) code with length n . Find its enumerator.

Note, that the dual code is a repetition code with

$$W_{\mathcal{C}^\perp}(x, y) = x^n + y^n,$$

thus we have

$$W_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}^\perp|} [(x+y)^n + (x-y)^n] = \frac{1}{2} [(x+y)^n + (x-y)^n].$$

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Definition

An (n, k, d) code is called Maximum Distance Separable (MDS) code if

$$d = n - k + 1.$$

This means, that the code meets the Singleton bound.

Properties of MDS codes

Proposition

A q -ary $[n, k]$ linear code is an MDS code precisely if the parity check matrix \mathbf{H} has every set of $n - k$ columns linearly independent.

Proposition

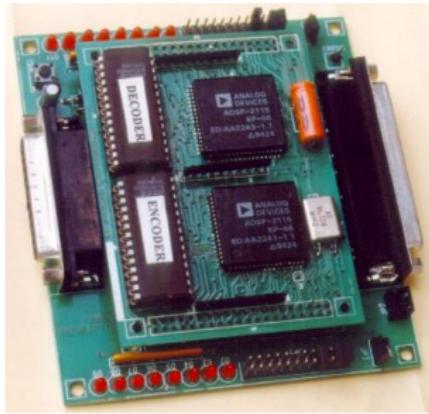
The code \mathcal{C}^\perp dual to \mathcal{C} is a linear MDS code if \mathcal{C} itself is a linear MDS code.

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The best algebraic codes

Millions of error-correcting codes are decoded **every minute**, with efficient algorithms implemented in custom VLSI circuits.



At least 50% of these VLSI circuits **decode Reed-Solomon codes**.

I.S. Reed and G. Solomon, Polynomial codes over certain finite fields,
Journal Society Indust. Appl. Math. 8, pp. 300-304, June 1960.

- *Magnetic recording* (all computer hard-disks use RS codes)
- *Digital video broadcasting* (ETSI DVB-T and DVB-H)
- *Digital versatile disks* (DVDs use products of RS codes)
- *Third generation (3G) wireless telephony* (IS-2000, Release D)
- *Optical fiber networks* (ITU-T G.795)
- *Compact disks* (use cross-interleaved shortened RS codes)
- *ADSL transceivers* (ITU-T G.992.1)
- *Wireless broadband systems – wireless MAN* (IEEE 802.16)
- *Intelsat Earth stations* (IESS-308)
- *Space telemetry systems* (CCSDS)
- *Digital satellite broadcast* (ETS 300-421S, ETS 300-429)
- *Frequency-hop communications* (primarily military)
- *Deep-space exploration* (all NASA probes)

Let \mathbb{F}_q be the finite field of order q and let $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ denote the ring of polynomials over \mathbb{F}_q in the variable x . Given a set \mathcal{B} of n pairwise different field elements

$$\mathcal{B} = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$$

from \mathbb{F}_q .

The Reed-Solomon code $RS(n, k)$, $1 \leq k \leq n$, is defined as follows

$$RS(n, k) = \{(f(\alpha_1), f(\alpha_2), \dots, f(\alpha_n)) : f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x], \deg f(x) < k\}.$$

The Reed-Solomon code is a linear code over \mathbb{F}_q . It has length $n \leq q$, dimension k and $d = n - k + 1$.

RS codes: distance and generator matrix

The polynomial of degree $\leq k - 1$ cannot have more than $k - 1$ roots (zeroes), thus

$$d = n - k + 1.$$

Generator matrix

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \dots & \alpha_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \alpha_1^{k-1} & \alpha_2^{k-1} & \dots & \alpha_n^{k-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Encoding

$$c = f\mathbf{G},$$

where $f = (f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{k-1})$ – vector of coefficients of $f(x)$.

RS codes: parity check matrix view

Generator polynomial:

$$g(x) = (x - \alpha)(x - \alpha^2) \cdots (x - \alpha^{d-1}).$$

Encoding:

$$c(x) = f(x)g(x).$$

Parity check matrix

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \alpha & \dots & \alpha^{n-1} \\ 1 & \alpha^2 & \dots & \alpha^{2(n-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \alpha^{d-1} & \dots & \alpha^{(d-1)(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

What is the connection in between two points of view?

Discrete Fourier Transform

$$F = [\alpha^{ij}]_{i=0, \dots, n-1}^{j=0, \dots, n-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & \alpha & \alpha^2 & \dots & \alpha^{n-1} \\ 1 & \alpha^2 & \alpha^4 & \dots & \alpha^{2(n-1)} \\ 1 & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ 1 & \alpha^{n-1} & \alpha^{2(n-1)} & \dots & \alpha^{(n-1)(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Discrete Fourier Transform

Information:

$$f = [f_0 f_1 \dots f_{k-1} 0 \dots 0]$$

Apply DFT to obtain a codeword

$$c = Ff$$

$$\begin{aligned} c(\alpha^{-k}) &= c(\alpha^{n-k}) = c(\alpha^{d-1}) = 0 \\ c(\alpha^{-k-1}) &= c(\alpha^{n-k-1}) = c(\alpha^{d-2}) = 0 \\ &\vdots = \vdots \\ c(\alpha^{-(n-1)}) &= c(\alpha) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Notations

Let us consider a situation when t errors $\{e_{j_1}, e_{j_2}, \dots, e_{j_t}\}$.
We introduce a notation of error locator

$$X_i = \alpha^{e_{j_i}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, t.$$

and error values $Y_i = e_{j_i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, t$.

Let $\mathbf{S} = (S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{2t})$. The syndrome can be calculated as follows

$$S_1 = Y_1 X_1 + Y_2 X_2 + \dots + Y_t X_t$$

$$S_1 = Y_1 X_1^2 + Y_2 X_2^2 + \dots + Y_t X_t^2$$

...

$$S_1 = Y_1 X_1^t + Y_2 X_2^t + \dots + Y_t X_t^t$$

Polynomials

Syndrome polynomial

$$S(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{2t} S_j z^{j-1}$$

Error locator polynomial

$$\sigma(z) = \prod_{i=1}^t (X_i z - 1)$$

Error value polynomial

$$\omega(z) = \sum_{i=1}^t Y_i X_i \prod_{l=1, l \neq i}^t (X_l z - 1).$$

Additional (unnamed) polynomial

$$\Phi(z) = \sum_{i=1}^t Y_i X_i^{2t+1} \prod_{l=1, l \neq i}^t (X_l z - 1).$$

Key equation

$$S(z)\sigma(z) = z^{2t}\Phi(z) - \omega(z)$$

To solve the equation use extended Euclidean algorithm. Start with polynomial z^{2t} and $S(z)$, stop when the degree of residue is less or equal $t - 1$ for the first time. Use extended Euclidean algorithm to find $\sigma(z)$ and $\omega(z)$

Chien search

We know $\sigma(z)$, find X_i by exhaustive search over all the elements of \mathbb{F}_q .

Forney's algorithm

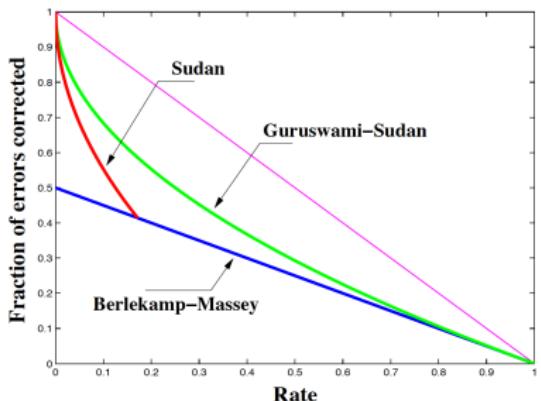
$$Y_i = \frac{\omega(X_i^{-1})}{\sigma'_z(X_i^{-1})} \quad i = 1, \dots, t.$$

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Can we do better?

The 2002 Nevanlinna Prize went to M. Sudan with the citation “...in the theory of error-correcting codes, he showed that certain coding methods could correct **many more errors** than previously **thought possible**.”



M. Sudan, Decoding of Reed-Solomon codes beyond the error correction bound, *Journal of Complexity*, 1997.

V. Guruswami and M. Sudan, Improved decoding of Reed-Solomon and algebraic-geometric codes, *IEEE Trans. Information Theory*, 1999.

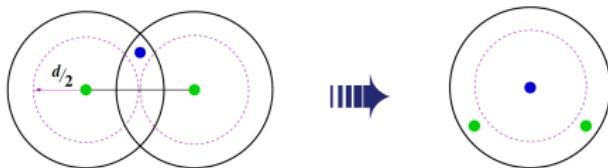
Johnson bound

List size is polynomial up to

$$\tau_J = n - \sqrt{n(n-d)}.$$

List decoding

If we attempt to correct more than $d/2$ errors by increasing the decoding radius, the decoding sphere could contain more than one codeword:



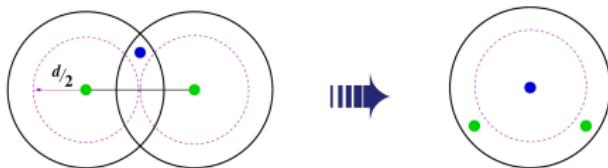
For this reason, conventional wisdom asserts that it is not possible to correct more than $d/2$ errors with a code of distance d .

List decoding: if there is more than one codeword in the decoding sphere, output the list of all of them!

- **In theory:** as long as one can guarantee that the size L of the list is small (say, constant), this is good enough for most purposes.
- **In practice:** the probability of having a list of size ≥ 2 is extremely low (less than 10^{-30} for long high-rate Reed-Solomon codes).

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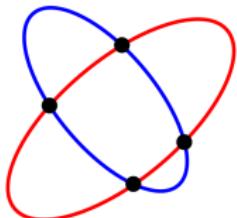
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List decoding

Every codeword of the Reed-Solomon code $\mathbb{C}_q(n, k)$ corresponds to a polynomial. The **unknown** transmitted codeword can be represented by the algebraic curve $Y - f(X)$ of degree at most $k - 1$.



Bézout's Theorem

Two algebraic curves of degrees d and δ intersect in δd points, and cannot meet in more than δd points unless the equations defining them **have a common factor**.

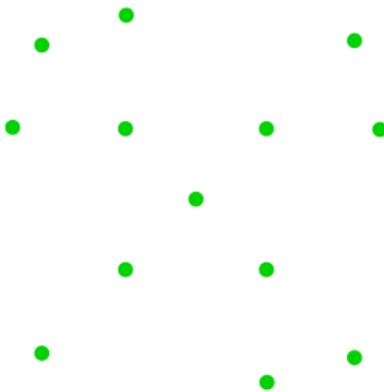
E. Bézout, *Théorie générale des équations algébriques*, Paris, 1779.

Application of Bézout's theorem for decoding

If we could construct $\mathcal{Q}(X, Y) \in \mathbb{F}_q[X, Y]$ which defines a curve of degree δ that intersects $Y - f(X)$ in more than $(k-1)\delta$ points (including points at ∞), then $Y - f(X)$ **can be recovered as a factor of $\mathcal{Q}(X, Y)$!**

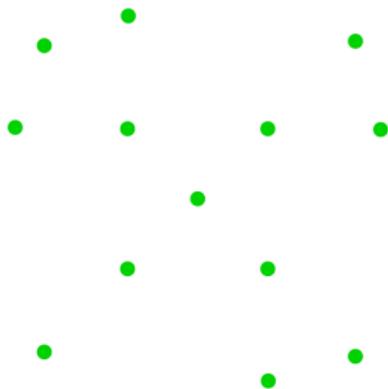
List decoding

Suppose $k = 2$, so that the Reed-Solomon codewords are lines $f(X) = aX + b$. Given 14 interpolation points, we want to compute all lines passing through **at least 5** of these points.



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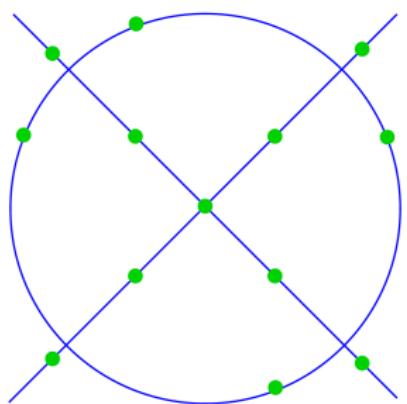


Compute a polynomial $\mathcal{Q}(X, Y)$ of degree < 5 such that $\mathcal{Q}(\alpha_i, \beta_i) = 0$ for all the 14 points:

$$\mathcal{Q}(X, Y) = Y^4 - X^4 - Y^2 + X^2$$

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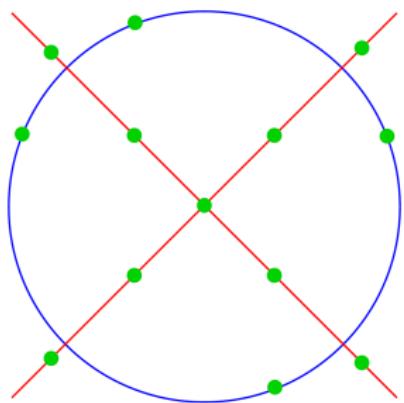
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Let's plot all the zeros of $\mathcal{Q}(X, Y)$.
All the relevant lines now emerge!

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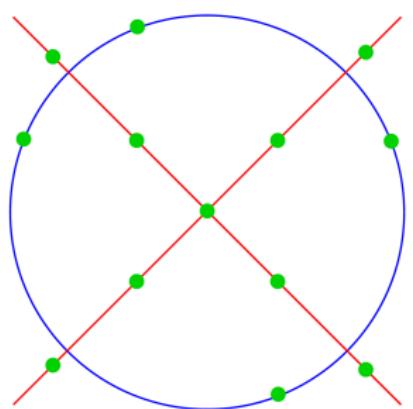
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Formally, $\mathcal{Q}(X, Y)$ factors as:

$$(Y + X)(Y - X)(X^2 + Y^2 - 1)$$

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Formally, $\mathcal{Q}(X, Y)$ factors as:

$$(Y + X)(Y - X)(X^2 + Y^2 - 1)$$

Bézout's Theorem says it must be so, since $\deg \mathcal{Q} \times \deg f = 4$ is strictly less than the number of intersection points, which is 5.

Polynomial Reconstruction

Given parameters n, t, k and n pairs $(\alpha_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{F}_q^2$, we want to find all degree $\leq k$ polynomials $f \in F[X]$ such that

$$|\{i : f(\alpha_i) = y_i\}| \geq t$$

Armed with the above intuition, consider the following algorithm:

- Find a low degree $Q(X, Y) \neq 0 \in \mathbb{F}_q[X, Y]$, such that $Q(\alpha_i, y_i) = 0$ for all i .
- Find all factors of the form $yf(x)$ of $Q(x, y)$. Output those with agreement at least t .

Definition

For a polynomial $Q(X, Y) \in \mathbb{F}_q[X, Y]$, its $(1, k)$ -weighted degree is defined to be the maximum value of $i + kj$ over all non-zero monomials $x^i y^j$ of Q .

How to find $Q(X, Y)$

Lemma

Given positive integer D and $kn < \binom{D+2}{2}$ points $\{(\alpha_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$, the following holds: There exists $Q(X, Y) \neq 0$, such that $Q(\alpha_i, y_i) = 0$ for all i and $(1, k)$ -weighted degree of Q is D . Moreover such Q can be found by solving a linear system.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor D/k \rfloor} (D - jk + 1) &= (D+1) \left(\left\lfloor \frac{D}{k} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) - \frac{k}{2} \left\lfloor \frac{D}{k} \right\rfloor \left(\left\lfloor \frac{D}{k} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) \\ &\geq \binom{D+2}{2}.\end{aligned}$$



Find $f(x)$

Lemma

Given a degree- k polynomial $f(x)$ with $f(\alpha_i) = y_i$ for t different points (α_i, y_i) : $Q(\alpha_i, y_i) = 0$, if $(1, k)$ -weighted degree of Q is $< t$, then $yf(x)|Q(x, y)$.

Proof.

$R(x) = Q(x, f(x))$. $R(x)$ has t different roots, at the same time the degree of $R(x) < t$.



Theorem

Given parameters n, t, k and n pairs (α_i, y_i) , if $t > \sqrt{2kn}$, we can find all degree $\leq k$ polynomials $f \in \mathbb{F}_q[X]$ such that

$$|\{i : f(\alpha_i) = y_i\}| \geq t,$$

in time polynomial in n, k and $|\mathbb{F}_q|$. Moreover there are at most $\sqrt{2n/k}$ such f s.

Proof.

$$D \leftarrow t - 1, \text{ then } \binom{D+1}{2} = \frac{t^2+2}{2k} > n.$$



Thank you for your attention!