

# Interpolation of Shifted-Lacunary Polynomials

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# A Simple, Small Example

Suppose we have a way to evaluate the following unknown polynomial at any chosen point:

$$g(x) = (x - 3)^{107} - 485(x - 3)^{54}$$

## Question

How can we use interpolation to determine  $g(x)$ ?

- Complexity should be proportional to the size of  $g(x)$  as written above, in particular **log of the degree** and number of terms

# Dense Interpolation

## Definition (Dense Representation)

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n,$$

where  $n = \deg(f)$  and  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$

Newton (1711), Waring (1779).

For  $g(x) = (x - 3)^{107} - 485(x - 3)^{54}$ , we will have

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) = & x^{107} - 321x^{106} + 51039x^{105} - 5359095x^{104} + \cdots \\ & + 40200992749659079854837585152311792674303590144819373x \\ & - 1127130637840908780976768693419860197828458989848152 \end{aligned}$$

**This is way too big!** (twice exponential in the desired size)

# Lacunary (i.e. Sparse) Interpolation

## Definition (Lacunary Representation)

$$f(x) = b_1x^{d_1} + b_2x^{d_2} + \cdots + b_sx^{e_s},$$

where  $d_1 < d_2 < \cdots < d_s = n$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_s \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$

Baron de Prony (1795), Ben-Or & Tiwari (1988)

- Complexity: **Polynomial in  $s$ ,  $\log n$ , and  $\log \|f\|_\infty$**

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}g(x) &= (x-3)^{107} - 485(x-3)^{54} \\g(x+3) &= x^{107} - 485x^{54}\end{aligned}$$

So we can interpolate  $g(x+3)$ .

# Shifted-Lacunary Interpolation

## Definition (Shifted-Lacunary Representation)

$$f(x) = c_1(x - \alpha)^{e_1} + c_2(x - \alpha)^{e_2} + \cdots + c_t(x - \alpha)^{e_t},$$

where  $e_1 < \cdots < e_t = n$  and  $t$  is minimal for any  $\alpha$

- $\alpha$  is called the *sparsest shift* of  $f(x)$
- First compute  $\alpha$ ,  
then interpolate  $f(x + \alpha)$ .

## Question

How to determine the sparsest shifted power basis of an unknown polynomial (i.e.  $\alpha$ )?

# Computing the Sparsest Shift

- Borodin & Tiwari (1991)  
Compute sparsest shift from evaluation points (open)
- Grigoriev & Karpinski (1993)  
Compute sparsest shift from a black-box function.  
State need for complexity *not* polynomial in  $n$
- Lakshman & Saunders (1996)  
Compute sparsest shift from dense representation
- Giesbrecht, Kaltofen, Lee (2003)  
Current best results (deterministic & probabilistic)

# Uniqueness and Rationality of Sparsest Shift

## Theorem (Lakshman & Saunders (1996))

*If the degree is at least twice the sparsity,  
then the sparsest shift is unique and rational.*

## Example

$$g(x) = (x - 3)^{107} - 485(x - 3)^{54}$$

$\Rightarrow 3$  is the only shift with  $\leq$  two terms

Condition not satisfied means polynomial is dense.

# Black Box Model

**Problem:** Arbitrary evaluations can be vary large.

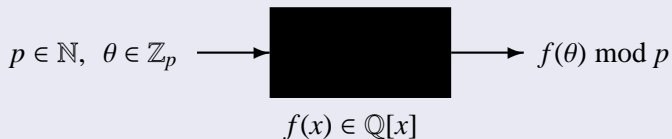
## Example

$$g(x) = (x - 3)^{107} - 485(x - 3)^{54}$$

$$g(1) = -162259276829222100374855109050368$$

To control evaluation size:

## The “Modular Black-Box”





# Modular Reduction

For  $\alpha \equiv \alpha_p \pmod{p}$  and a prime  $p$ :

## Definition (Modular-reduced polynomial)

$$f_p(x) = (c_1 \bmod p)(x - \alpha_p)^{e_1 \bmod (p-1)} + \dots + (c_t \bmod p)(x - \alpha_p)^{e_t \bmod (p-1)}$$

► Original definition of  $f, c_i, e_i, \alpha$

- $f(\theta) \bmod p = f_p(\theta \bmod p)$  whenever  $\theta \not\equiv \alpha \pmod{p}$   
(Fermat's Little Theorem)
- $\alpha_p$  is at least a  $t$ -sparse shift of  $f_p(x)$

# Outline of Algorithm

**Input:** A bound  $B$  on the bit length of the lacunary-shifted representation

- 1 Choose a prime  $p$  with  $p \in O(B^{O(1)})$
- 2 Evaluate  $f(1), \dots, f(p-1) \bmod p$   
to attempt to interpolate  $f_p(x)$
- 3 Use a dense sparsest shift method to compute  $\alpha_p$
- 4 Repeat Steps 1–3 enough times to recover  $\alpha$

# Example

## Unknown Polynomial in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

$$g(x) = (x - 3)^{107} - 485(x - 3)^{54}$$

- 1 Choose a prime  $p$  with  $p \in O(B^{O(1)})$
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to attempt to interpolate  $f_p(x)$
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## Step 1

$$p = 11$$

# Example

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## Step 2

$$g(1), \dots, g(p-1) \bmod p = 10, 9, 0, 0, 2, 5, 2, 5, 10, 3$$

$$g_p(x) = x^7 + x^6 + 2x^5 + 9x^3 + 2x^2 + 8x + 9$$

# Example

## Unknown Polynomial in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

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## Step 3

$$g_p(x) \equiv (x - 3)^7 + 10(x - 3)^4 \pmod{p}$$

$$\alpha_p = 3$$

# Example

## Unknown Polynomial in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

$$g(x) = (x - 3)^{107} - 485(x - 3)^{54}$$

- 1 Choose a prime  $p$  with  $p \in O(B^{O(1)})$
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## Step 4

$$\alpha_{11} = 3, \quad \alpha_{13} = 3, \quad \alpha_{17} = 3, \quad \dots$$

$$\alpha = 3$$

# Types of Failures

Failure categories:

- $f_p(x)$  is not computed correctly
- The sparsest shift of  $f_p(x)$  is not  $\alpha_p$

Second condition is equivalent to  $\deg f_p(x) < 2t - 1$

Next we develop sufficient conditions on  $p$  to avoid failure.

# Exponents Vanish

## Example ( $f_p(x)$ computed incorrectly)

$$f(x) = 10(x-1)^{12} + 8(x-1)^3$$

$$p = 7$$

$$f_7(x) = 3(x-1)^0 + (x-1)^3$$

$$f(1) \bmod 7 = 0 \neq 3 = f_7(1)$$

**Condition:**  $(p-1) \nmid \max\{1, e_1\} \cdot e_2 \cdot e_3 \cdots e_t$

**Test:** Constant coeff. of computed  $f_p(x)$  equals  
constant coeff. of  $f(x)$  modulo  $p$



# Exponents Too Small

Example (Sparsest shift of  $f_p(x)$  is not  $\alpha_p$ )

$$f(x) = -4(x-2)^{145} + 14(x-2)^{26} + 3$$

$$p = 13$$

$$f_{13}(x) = 9(x-2)^1 + (x-2)^2 + 3$$

$$\equiv (x-4)^2 + 12$$

**Condition:**  $(p-1) \nmid e_t(e_t-1)(e_t-2)\cdots(e_t-(2t-2))$

**Test:**  $\deg f_p(x) \geq 2B-1 \geq 2t-1$

# Exponents Collide

Example (Sparsest shift of  $f_p(x)$  is not  $\alpha_p$ )

$$f(x) = 4(x-1)^{59} + 2(x-1)^{21} + 7(x-1)^{19} + 20$$

$$p = 11$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{11}(x) &= 4(x-1)^9 + 2(x-1)^1 + 7(x-1)^9 + 9 \\ &= 2(x-1) + 9 \\ &\equiv 2(x-2) \end{aligned}$$

Condition:  $(p-1) \nmid (e_t - e_1)(e_t - e_2) \cdots (e_t - e_{t-1})$

Test:  $\deg f_p(x) \geq 2B - 1 \geq 2t - 1$

# Coefficients Vanish

Example (Sparsest shift of  $f_p(x)$  is not  $\alpha_p$ )

$$f(x) = 69(x - 5)^{42} - 12(x - 5)^{23} + 4$$

$$p = 23$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{23}(x) &= 0(x - 5)^{20} + 11(x - 5)^1 + 4 \\ &= 11(x - 5) + 4 \\ &\equiv 11(x - 13) \end{aligned}$$

Condition:  $p \nmid c_t$

Test:  $\deg f_p(x) \geq 2B - 1 \geq 2t - 1$

# Choosing Good Primes

Primes satisfying these conditions will be “good”:

- $p \nmid c_t$
- $(p - 1) \nmid C$ ,

where  $c_t < 2^B$  and  $C < 2^{4B^2}$

**Approach:** Choose  $p = qk + 1$  for unique primes  $q$

# Choosing Primes Deterministically

- 1 Let  $q_1, \dots, q_k$  be the first  $k$  primes, for  $k \in O(B^2 \log B)$ .
- 2 Let  $p_i$  be the smallest prime s.t.  $p_i \equiv 1 \pmod{q_i}$ .
- 3 Set  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$ .

## Example (Choosing a $p_i$ )

$$q_7 = 17$$

$$p_7 = 103 \equiv 1 \pmod{17}$$

- We know  $p_i \in O(q_i^{5.5})$   
(Linnik's Theorem, Heath-Brown '92)
- Probably  $p_i < q_i^2$

# Complexity of Deterministic Algorithm

Step 3 (computing sparsest shift of  $f_p(x)$ ) dominates.

**Deterministic complexity:**  $O(B^{78}(\log B)^{24} \log \log B)$

Factor	Source
5.5	Bounds on Linnik's constant
2	Need $(p - 1) \nmid C$ and $\log C \in O(B^2)$
7	Deterministic sparsest shift algorithm

# Improving from the Deterministic Complexity

Finding primes  $p$  probabilistically is much easier:

- 1 Choose a random prime  $q \in O(B^2 \log B)$ .
- 2 Choose random  $k$ 's less than  $q$  until a prime  $p = qk + 1$  is found.

Using randomization and Rousselet (1988),  
exponent in complexity is reduced from 78 to 17.

# Interpolation

Once  $\alpha$  is known, we can construct a modular black box for evaluating  $f(x + \alpha)$ .

Then use lacunary interpolation along the lines of Kaltofen, Lakshman, & Wiley (1990) and Avendaño, Krick, & Pacetti (2006).



# Conclusions

- Shifted-lacunary interpolation can be performed in polynomial time, for rational polynomials given by a modular black box.
- How to apply these techniques to other problems on lacunary polynomials?
- What about domains other than  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ ?
- What about multivariate rational polynomials?

# Shifted-Lacunary Representation

## Definition (Shifted-Lacunary Representation)

$$f(x) = c_1(x - \alpha)^{e_1} + c_2(x - \alpha)^{e_2} + \cdots + c_t(x - \alpha)^{e_t},$$

where  $e_1 < \cdots < e_t = n$  and  $t$  is minimal for any  $\alpha$

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