# Fast Algorithms for Determining the Minimal Polynomials of Sequences with Period kn over $GF(P^m)$

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# Abstract

A fast algorithm is derived for determining the linear complexity and the minimal polynomials of sequences over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn, where p is a prime number,  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$  and  $p^m - 1 = ku, n, k$  and u are integers. The algorithm presented here covers the algorithm proposed by Chen for determining the minimal polynomials of sequences over  $GF(p^m)$  with period  $2^tn$ , where pis a prime,  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$  and  $p^m - 1 = 2^tu, n$  and uare integers. Combining our result with some known algorithms, it is possible to determine the linear complexity of sequences over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn more efficiently. Finally an example applying this algorithm is presented.

Keywords: Cryptography, linear complexity, minimal polynomial, stream cipher

## 1 Introduction

The concept of linear complexity is very useful in the study of the security of stream ciphers for cryptographic applications. A necessary condition for the security of a key stream generator is that it produces a sequence with large linear complexity. In [4], Games and Chan presented a fast algorithm for determining the linear complexity of a binary sequence with period  $2^n$ . Ding, Xiao and Shan [3] and Blackburn [1] generalized the algorithm.

In [6], a fast algorithm for determining the linear complexity of a sequence with period  $p^n$  over GF(q) was presented, where p is an odd prime, q is a prime and a primitive root modulo  $p^2$ . The algorithm makes up for the shortcoming that the Games-Chan algorithm cannot compute the linear complexity of sequences with period  $N(\neq q^m)$  over GF(q) in part. The time complexity and the space complexity of the algorithm are both O(t), where  $t = p^n$ .

In [2], a result was presented to reduce the computation of the linear complexity of a sequence over  $GF(p^m)$  (p is an odd prime) with period 2n(n is a positive integer suchthat there exists an element  $b \in GF(p^m), b^n = -1$ ) to the computation of the linear complexities of two sequences with period n. By combining this result with some known algorithms such as the Berlekamp-Massey algorithm and the Games-Chan algorithm, one can determine the linear complexity of a sequence with period  $2^t n$  over  $GF(p^m)$ , where p is a prime,  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$  and  $p^m - 1 = 2^t u, n$ and u are integers.

In this correspondence, a fast algorithm is derived for determining the minimal polynomial and the linear complexity of sequences over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn, where p is a prime,  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$  and  $p^m - 1 = 2^t u, n, k$  and u are integers. The algorithm presented here covers the algorithm proposed by Hao Chen in [2]. Combining our result with some known algorithms, it is possible to determine the linear complexity of sequences over  $GF(p^m)$ with period kn more efficiently.

In this correspondence, we consider sequences over  $GF(p^m)$ , where p is a prime. Let  $s = \{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots\}$  be a sequence over  $GF(p^m)$ . If there exists a positive number N such that  $s_i = s_{i+N}$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , then s is called a periodic sequence, and N is called a period of s.

The generated function of a sequence  $s = \{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots, \}$  is defined by  $s(x) = s_0 + s_1 x + s_2 x^2 + s_3 x^3 + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} s_i x^i$ .

Let s be a periodic sequence with the first period  $s^N = \{s_0, s_1, s_2, \cdots, s_{N-1}\}$ . The generated function of  $s^N$  is defined by  $s^N(x) = s_0 + s_1 x + s_2 x^2 + \cdots + s_{N-1} x^{N-1}$ . If

s is a periodic sequence with the first period  $s^N$ , then,

$$\begin{split} s(x) &= s^{N}(x)(1+x^{N}+x^{2N}+\cdots) \\ &= \frac{s^{N}(x)}{1-x^{N}} \\ &= \frac{s^{N}(x)/\gcd(s^{N}(x),1-x^{N})}{(1-x^{N})/\gcd(s^{N}(x),1-x^{N})} \\ &= \frac{g(x)}{f_{s}(x)}, \end{split}$$

where  $f_s(x) = (1 - x^N) / \gcd(s^N(x), 1 - x^N), g(x) = s^N(x) / \gcd(s^N(x), 1 - x^N).$ 

Obviously,  $gcd(g(x), f_s(x)) = 1$ ,  $deg(g(x) < deg(f_s(x)))$ . The polynomial  $f_s(x)$  is called the minimal polynomial of s, and the degree of  $f_s(x)$  is called the linear complexity of s, that is  $deg(f_s(x)) = c(s)$  [6].

# 2 Main result

**Lemma 1.** Let p be a prime, and  $p^m - 1 = ku, k$  and u are all positive integers. If  $\alpha$  is a generator of  $GF(p^m)$ , then

- 1)  $1 x^k = \frac{1}{\alpha^u \alpha^{2u} \cdots \alpha^{(k-1)u}} (1 x)(\alpha^u x)(\alpha^{2u} x) \cdots (\alpha^{(k-1)u} x);$
- 2) If  $gcd(n, p^m 1) = 1$ , then  $\alpha^n$  is a generator of  $GF(p^m)$ ;
- 3)  $gcd(t(x), g(x)) = gcd(\overline{t}(x), g(x))$ , where  $\overline{t}(x)$  is the reduced polynomial of t(x) modulo g(x), i.e.,  $\overline{t}(x) \equiv t(x) \pmod{g(x)}$ ;
- 4) Let  $g(x) = g_1(x)g_2(x)\cdots g_j(x)$ , where  $g_i$ 's are polynomials over  $GF(p^m)$  which are pairwisely coprime (not necessarily irreducible over  $GF(p^m)$ ). Then  $gcd(t(x),g(x)) = \prod_{i=1}^{j} gcd(t(x),g_i(x)).$

Proof.

1) Since  $p^m - 1 = ku$ , so  $\alpha^{ku} = 1$ , hence  $1 - x^k = 0$  has roots: 1,  $\alpha^u, \alpha^{2u}, \dots, \alpha^{(k-1)u}$ . If k is odd, then  $1 - x^k = (1 - x)(\alpha^u - x)(\alpha^{2u} - x) \dots (\alpha^{(k-1)u} - x)$ , hence  $\alpha^u \alpha^{2u} \dots \alpha^{(k-1)u} = (-1)^{k-1}$ . If k is even, then  $1 - x^k = (-1)(1 - x)(\alpha^u - x)(\alpha^{2u} - x) \dots (\alpha^{(k-1)u} - x)$ , hence  $\alpha^u \alpha^{2u} \dots \alpha^{(k-1)u} = (-1)^{k-1}$ .

Combining the above results, the identity is immediate.

2) Since  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$ , if  $\alpha^{ni} = 1$ , then  $(p^m - 1)|i$ , hence  $\alpha^n, \alpha^{2n}, \dots, \alpha^{(p^m - 1)n}$  are distinct. Thus  $\alpha^n$  is a generator of  $GF(p^m)$ .

The remaining of Lemma is immediate [5].

The following statement is the main result of this note, which reduces the computation of the linear complexity of a sequence over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn to the computation of the linear complexities of k sequences with period n.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $s = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{kn-1}, a_0, a_1, \dots$  be a sequence over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn, where n, k and u are positive integers such that  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$  and  $p^m - 1 = ku$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a generator of  $GF(p^m)$ ,  $\beta = \alpha^u$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , let  $s_{(i)}$  be a sequence over  $GF(p^m)$  with period n and its first period  $s_{(i)}^n = \{s_{(i),0}, s_{(i),1}, s_{(i),2}, \cdots, s_{(i),n-1}\}$ , where  $s_{(i),v} = \{s_v + s_{n+v}(\beta^{i-1})^{n+v} + \cdots + s_{(k-1)n+v}(\beta^{i-1})^{(k-1)n+v}, 0 \leq v < n$ . Then  $\gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - x^{kn}) = \gcd(s_{(1)}^n(x), 1 - x^{kn})$ 

 $x^{n}) \operatorname{gcd}[s_{2}^{n}(\frac{x}{\beta^{2-1}}), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^{2-1}})^{n}] \cdots \operatorname{gcd}[s_{(k)}^{n}(\frac{x}{\beta^{k-1}}), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^{k-1}})^{n}].$ 

*Proof.* From the above Lemma, we have,  $1 - x^k = \frac{1}{\alpha^u \alpha^{2u} \cdots \alpha^{(k-1)u}} (1-x)(\alpha^u - x)(\alpha^{2u} - x) \cdots (\alpha^{(k-1)u} - x)$ . Since  $\gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$ , hence  $\alpha^n$  is also a generator of  $GF(p^m)$ . So,

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 1-x^{kn}=1-(x^n)^k \\ =& \displaystyle \frac{1}{\alpha^{nu}\alpha^{n2u}\cdots\alpha^{n(k-1)u}}(1-x^n)(\alpha^{nu}-x^n) \\ && (\alpha^{n2u}-x^n)\cdots(\alpha^{n(k-1)u}-x^n) \\ =& (1-x^n)(1-(\frac{x}{\alpha^u})^n)(1-(\frac{x}{\alpha^{2u}})^n)\cdots(1-(\frac{x}{\alpha^{(k-1)u}})^n) \\ =& \displaystyle \prod_{i=0}^{k-1}(1-(\frac{x}{\beta^i})^n). \end{array}$$

Thus,

$$gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - x^{kn}) = gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - x^n) gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta})^n) gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^2})^n) \cdots gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^{k-1}})^n) = \prod_{i=0}^{k-1} gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^i})^n).$$

On the other side,

$$s^{kn}(x) = s_0 + s_1 x + s_2 x^2 + \dots + s_{kn-1} x^{kn-1}$$
  
=  $x^0 [s_0 + s_n x^n + s_{2n} x^{2n} + \dots + s_{(k-1)n} x^{(k-1)n}]$   
+ $x^1 [s_1 + s_{n+1} x^n + s_{2n+1} x^{2n} + \dots$   
+ $s_{(k-1)n+1} x^{(k-1)n}] + \dots + x^{n-1} [s_{n-1} + s_{2n-1} x^n + s_{3n-1} x^{2n} + \dots + s_{kn-1} x^{(k-1)n}].$ 

Now it is obvious that,

$$[s_0 + s_n x^n + s_{2n} x^{2n} + \dots + s_{(k-1)n} x^{(k-1)n}]$$
  
mod(1 - x<sup>n</sup>)  
= [s\_0 + s\_n + s\_{2n} + \dots + s\_{(k-1)n}];

 $[s_{1} + s_{n+1}x^{n} + s_{2n+1}x^{2n} + \dots + s_{(k-1)n+1}x^{(k-1)n}] \mod (1-x^{n})$   $= [s_{1} + s_{n+1} + s_{2n+1} + \dots + s_{(k-1)n+1}];$   $\dots$   $[s_{n-1} + s_{2n-1}x^{n} + s_{3n-1}x^{2n} + \dots + s_{kn-1}x^{(k-1)n}] \mod (1-x^{n})$   $= [s_{n-1} + s_{2n-1} + s_{3n-1} + \dots + s_{kn-1}].$ 

Thus  $gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - x^n) = gcd(s^n_{(1)}(x), 1 - x^n).$ 

For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ , with a similar argument, the computation of factor,  $g_i(x) = \gcd(s^{kn}(x), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^i})^n))$  is worked out with the change of variable  $y = \frac{x}{\beta^i}$ . So we have,  $s^{kn}(\beta^i y) \mod (1-y^n) = s^n_{(i)}(y)$ .

Thus,  $g_i(x) = \gcd(s^{kn}(\beta^i y), 1 - y^n) = \gcd(s^n_{(i)}(y), 1 - y^n) = \gcd(s^n_{(i)}(\frac{x}{\beta^i}), 1 - (\frac{x}{\beta^i})^n).$ 

As multiplication over  $GF(p^m)$  takes much longer time than addition, thus additions are ignored concerning the complexity analysis. For  $i(1 < i \leq k)$ , the reduction needs less than 2kn field multiplication operations to compute  $s_j(\beta^{i-1})^j(0 < j < kn)$ . Thus, the total number of multiplication operations of the reduction is less than 2(k-1)(kn), where kn is the period of the original sequence.

### 3 Fast Algorithm

Note that with the condition  $gcd(n, p^m - 1) = 1$  and  $p^m - 1 = ku$ , where n, k and u are positive integers, we may combine the theorem above with some known algorithms to give some fast algorithms to compute the minimal polynomial and the linear complexity of a sequence over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn.

Combining the theorem above with the algorithm proposed in [6], we now give a fast algorithm to compute the linear complexity of sequences over GF(p) with period  $kq^m(p-1=ku)$  in the complexity  $O(kq^m)$ . Here we need the storage of one generator of GF(p) in advance.

**Algorithm:** Let  $s = (s_0, s_1, s_2 \cdots)$  be a sequence over GF(p) with period  $N = kq^m$ , where p - 1 = ku, p and q are primes and p is a primitive root modulo  $q^2$ , and  $s^N = (s_0, s_1, \cdots, s_{N-1})$  be the first period of s.

- 1) Initial values:  $\alpha$  is a generator of  $GF(p), \beta = \alpha^u, c = 0, f = 1.$
- 2) Loop: for  $1 \leq i \leq k, n = q^m$ , to compute  $s_{(i)}^n = \{s_{(i),0}, s_{(i),1}, s_{(i),2}, \cdots, s_{(i),n-1}\}$ , where  $s_{(i),v} = \{s_v + i\}$

 $s_{n+v}(\beta^{i-1})^{n+v} + \dots + s_{(k-1)n+v}(\beta^{i-1})^{(k-1)n+v}, 0 \le v < n.$ Call Function,  $c = c(s_{(i)}^n) + c; f = f \cdot f_{(i)}^n(\frac{x}{\beta^{i-1}}).$ 

3) End. The linear complexity of s is c; the minimal polynomial of s is f.

#### Function:

- 1) Initial values:  $a = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$  is the first period of  $s, n = q^m, c = 0, f = 1$ .
- 2) If  $a = (0, \dots, 0)$ , then end; If n = 1, then c = c + 1, f = (1 x)f, end.
- 3) n = n/q, let  $A_i = (a_{(i-1)n}, a_{(i-1)n+1}, \cdots, a_{in-1}), i = 1, 2, \cdots, q.$
- 4) If  $A_1 = A_2 = \cdots = A_q$ , then  $a = A_1$ ; else,  $a = A_1 + A_2 + \cdots + A_q$ , c = c + (q-1)n,  $f = f\Phi_{qn}(x)$ .
- 5) Goto 1).
- 6) End. The linear complexity of s is c; the minimal polynomial of s is f.

Note that the function above is just the algorithm for sequences over GF(p) (see [6]).

**Example 1.** Let the first period of s be  $S^{36} = 124130140$ 040322412 034210224 030211402 over GF(5). This is a sequence with period  $4 \times 3^2$  over GF(5). Since 5 is a primitive root modulo  $3^2$ , 4|(5-1) and  $gcd(3^2, 5-1)=1$ , we may apply the algorithm above for determining the minimal polynomial and the linear complexity of s as follows:

Since 2 is a generator of GF(5), thus

$$\begin{split} s^9_{(1)} &= 123323123; \\ s^9_{(2)} &= 120344121, \beta = 2; \\ s^9_{(3)} &= 123213000, \beta^2 = 4; \\ s^9_{(4)} &= 110404101, \beta^3 = 3. \end{split}$$

For  $s_{(1)}^9 = 123323123$ , call function.

**Step 1.** A1=123, A2=323, A3=123; Since  $A1 \neq A2$ , n = 3, thus c = 6,  $f = \Phi_9(x)$ , a = 014;

Step 2. A1=0, A2=1, A3=4;

Since  $A1 \neq A2$ , n = 1, thus c = 6 + 2 = 8,  $f = \Phi_9(x)\Phi_3(x)$ , a = 0; stop.

For  $s_{(2)}^9 = 120344121$ , call function.

Step 1. A1=120, A2=344, A3=121;

Since  $A1 \neq A2$ , n=3, thus c = 6,  $f = \phi_9(x)$ , a = 030;

Step 2. A1=0, A2=3, A3=0;

Since  $A1 \neq A2$ , n=1, thus  $c = 6 + 2 = 8, f = \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x), a=3;$ 

Step 3.  $c = 8 + 1 = 9, f = \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x)(1-x), stop.$ 

For  $s_{(3)}^9 = 123213000$ , call function.

Step 1. A1=123, A2=213, A3=000;

Since  $A1 \neq A2$ , n=3, thus  $c = 6, f = \phi_9(x), a = 331$ ;

Step 2. A1=3, A2=3, A3=1;

Since  $A1 \neq A3$ , n=1, thus  $c = 6 + 2 = 8, f = \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x), a=2;$ 

**Step 3.**  $c = 8 + 1 = 9, f = \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x)(1-x)$ , stop.

For  $s_{(4)}^9 = 110404101$ , call function.

Step 1. A1=110, A2=404, A3=101;

Since  $A1 \neq A2$ , n=3, thus  $c = 6, f = \phi_9(x), a = 110;$ 

Step 2. *A*1=1, *A*2=1, *A*3=0;

Since  $A1 \neq A3$ , n=1, thus  $c = 6 + 2 = 8, f = \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x), a = 2;$ 

**Step 3.**  $c = 8 + 1 = 9, f = \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x)(1-x), stop.$ 

Finally, the linear complexity of s is 35, the minimal polynomial is

$$\begin{aligned} f_s &= \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x)\phi_9(x/2)\phi_3(x/2)(1-x/2) \\ &\quad \phi_9(x/4)\phi_3(x/4)(1-x/4)\phi_9(x/3)\phi_3(x/3)(1-x/3) \\ &= \phi_9(x)\phi_3(x)\phi_9(3x)\phi_3(3x)(1-3x) \\ &\quad \phi_9(4x)\phi_3(4x)(1-4x)\phi_9(2x)\phi_3(2x)(1-2x), \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows by the fact that  $2 \times 3 = 1, 4 \times 4 = 1$  over GF(5).

# 4 Conclusion

We have proved a result reducing the computation of the linear complexity of sequences over  $GF(p^m)$  with period kn (where p is a prime and n is a positive integer such that  $gcd(n, p^m - 1)=1$  and  $p^m - 1 = ku$ ) to the computation of the linear complexities of k sequences with period n. Combining this reduction with some known algorithms, we can compute the linear complexity of sequences with period kn ( $gcd(n, p^m - 1)=1$  and  $p^m - 1 = ku$ ) over  $GF(p^m)$  more efficiently.

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