

# Generalization of the Lee-O’Sullivan List Decoding for One-Point AG Codes\*

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## Abstract

We generalize the list decoding algorithm for Hermitian codes proposed by Lee and O’Sullivan [11] based on Gröbner bases to general one-point AG codes, under an assumption weaker than one used by Beelen and Brander [3]. Our generalization enables us to apply the fast algorithm to compute a Gröbner basis of a module proposed by Lee and O’Sullivan [11], which was not possible in another generalization by Lax [10].

**Keywords:** algebraic geometry code, Gröbner basis, list decoding

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## 1 Introduction

We consider the list decoding problem of one-point algebraic geometry (AG) codes. Guruswami and Sudan [8] proposed the well-known list decoding algorithm for one-point AG codes, which consists of the interpolation step and the factorization step. The interpolation step has large computational complexity and many researchers have proposed faster interpolation steps, see [3, Figure 1]. Lee and O’Sullivan [11] proposed a faster interpolation step based on the Gröbner basis theory for one-point Hermitian codes. Beelen and Brander [3] proposed the

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fastest interpolation procedure for the so-called  $C_{ab}$  curves [15] with an additional assumption [3, Assumptions 1 and 2]. Little [12] generalized the method in Lee and O’Sullivan [11] to codes defined using a curve satisfying the same assumption as Beelen and Brander [3, Assumptions 1 and 2]. Lax [10] generalized part of [11], namely the interpolation ideal, to general algebraic curves, but he did not generalize the faster interpolation algorithm in [11]. The aim of this paper is to generalize the faster interpolation algorithm [11] to an even wider class of algebraic curves than [12]. We shall compare our proposal with the previously known interpolation algorithms for the code on the Klein quartic in Example 12. As a byproduct of our argument, in Corollary 7 we also clarify the relation between two different definitions of modules used by Sakata [19] and by Lax [10], Lee and O’Sullivan [11] for list decoding.

This paper is organized as follows: Section 2 introduces notations and relevant facts. Section 3 generalizes [11]. Section 4 concludes the paper.

## 2 Notation and Preliminary

Our study heavily relies on the standard form of algebraic curves introduced independently by Geil and Pellikaan [6] and Miura [16], which is an enhancement of earlier results [15, 18]. Let  $F/\mathbf{F}_q$  be an algebraic function field of one variable over a finite field  $\mathbf{F}_q$  with  $q$  elements. Let  $g$  be the genus of  $F$ . Fix  $n + 1$  distinct places  $Q, P_1, \dots, P_n$  of degree one in  $F$  and a nonnegative integer  $u$ . We consider the following one-point algebraic geometry (AG) code

$$C_u = \{(f(P_1), \dots, f(P_n)) \mid f \in \mathcal{L}(uQ)\}.$$

Suppose that the Weierstrass semigroup  $H(Q)$  at  $Q$  is generated by  $a_1, \dots, a_t$ , and choose  $t$  elements  $x_1, \dots, x_t$  in  $F$  whose pole divisors are  $(x_i)_\infty = a_iQ$  for  $i = 1, \dots, t$ . Without loss of generality we may assume the availability of such  $x_1, \dots, x_t$ , because otherwise we cannot find a basis of  $C_u$  for every  $u$ , i.e. we cannot construct the code  $C_u$ . Then we have that  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q) = \cup_{i=1}^\infty \mathcal{L}(iQ)$  is equal to  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_t]$  [18]. We express  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  as a residue class ring  $\mathbf{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t]/I$  of the polynomial ring  $\mathbf{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t]$ , where  $X_1, \dots, X_t$  are transcendental over  $\mathbf{F}_q$ , and  $I$  is the kernel of the canonical homomorphism sending  $X_i$  to  $x_i$ . Geil and Pellikaan [6] and Miura [16] identified the following convenient representation of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  by using the Gröbner basis theory [1]. The following review is borrowed from [14]. Hereafter, we assume that the reader is familiar with the Gröbner basis theory in [1].

Let  $\mathbf{N}_0$  be the set of nonnegative integers. For  $(m_1, \dots, m_t), (n_1, \dots, n_t) \in \mathbf{N}_0^t$ , we define the weighted reverse lexicographic monomial order  $>$  such that  $(m_1, \dots, m_t) > (n_1, \dots, n_t)$  if  $a_1 m_1 + \dots + a_t m_t > a_1 n_1 + \dots + a_t n_t$ , or  $a_1 m_1 + \dots + a_t m_t = a_1 n_1 + \dots + a_t n_t$ , and  $m_1 = n_1, m_2 = n_2, \dots, m_{i-1} = n_{i-1}, m_i < n_i$ , for some  $1 \leq i \leq t$ . Note that a Gröbner basis of  $I$  with respect to  $>$  can be computed by [18, Theorem 15], [20], [22, Theorem 4.1] or [23, Proposition 2.17], starting from any affine defining equations of  $F/\mathbf{F}_q$ .

**Example 1** According to Høholdt and Pellikaan [9, Example 3.7],

$$u^3 v + v^3 + u = 0$$

is an affine defining equation for the Klein quartic over  $\mathbf{F}_8$ . There exists a unique  $\mathbf{F}_8$ -rational place  $Q$  such that  $(v)_\infty = 3Q$ ,  $(uv)_\infty = 5Q$ , and  $(u^2 v)_\infty = 7Q$ . The numbers 3, 5 and 7 constitute the minimal generating set of the Weierstrass semigroup at  $Q$ . Choosing  $x_1$  as  $v$ ,  $x_2$  as  $uv$  and  $x_3$  as  $u^2 v$ , by Tang [22, Theorem 4.1] we can see that the standard form of the Klein quartic is given by

$$X_2^2 + X_3 X_1, \quad X_3 X_2 + X_1^4 + X_2, \quad X_3^2 + X_2 X_1^3 + X_3,$$

which is the reduced Gröbner basis for  $I$  with respect to the monomial order  $>$ . We can see that  $a_1 = 3$ ,  $a_2 = 5$ , and  $a_3 = 7$ .

For  $i = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1$ , we define  $b_i = \min\{m \in H(Q) \mid m \equiv i \pmod{a_1}\}$ , and  $L_i$  to be the minimum element  $(m_1, \dots, m_t) \in \mathbf{N}_0^t$  with respect to  $<$  such that  $a_1 m_1 + \dots + a_t m_t = b_i$ . Note that the set of  $b_i$ 's is the well-known Apéry set [2] and [17, Lemmas 2.4 and 2.6] of the numerical semigroup  $H(Q)$ . Then we have  $\ell_1 = 0$  if we write  $L_i$  as  $(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_t)$ . For each  $L_i = (0, \ell_{i2}, \dots, \ell_{it})$ , define  $y_i = x_2^{\ell_{i2}} \dots x_t^{\ell_{it}} \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$ .

The footprint of  $I$ , denoted by  $\Delta(I)$ , is  $\{(m_1, \dots, m_t) \in \mathbf{N}_0^t \mid X_1^{m_1} \dots X_t^{m_t}$  is not the leading monomial of any nonzero polynomial in  $I$  with respect to  $<$ \}, and define  $B = \{x_1^{m_1} \dots x_t^{m_t} \mid (m_1, \dots, m_t) \in \Delta(I)\}$ . Then  $B$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  as an  $\mathbf{F}_q$ -linear space [1], two distinct elements in  $B$  have different pole orders at  $Q$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \{x_1^m x_2^{\ell_2} \dots x_t^{\ell_t} \mid m \in \mathbf{N}_0, (0, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_t) \in \{L_0, \dots, L_{a_1-1}\}\} \\ &= \{x_1^m y_i \mid m \in \mathbf{N}_0, i = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1\}. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Equation (1) shows that  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  is a free  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -module with a basis  $\{y_0, \dots, y_{a_1-1}\}$ . Note that the above structured shape of  $B$  reflects the well-known property of every weighted reverse lexicographic monomial order, see the paragraph preceding to [5, Proposition 15.12].

**Example 2** For the curve in Example 1, we have  $y_0 = 1$ ,  $y_1 = x_3$ ,  $y_2 = x_2$ .

Let  $v_Q$  be the unique valuation in  $F$  associated with the place  $Q$ . The semi-group  $H(Q)$  is equal to  $\{ia_1 - v_Q(y_j) \mid 0 \leq i, 0 \leq j < a_1\}$  [17, Lemma 2.6].

### 3 Generalization of Lee-O'Sullivan's List Decoding to General One-Point AG Codes

#### 3.1 Background on Lee-O'Sullivan's Algorithm

In the famous list decoding algorithm for the one-point AG codes in [8], we have to compute the univariate interpolation polynomial whose coefficients belong to  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$ . Lee and O'Sullivan [11] proposed a faster algorithm to compute the interpolation polynomial for the Hermitian one-point codes. Their algorithm was sped up and generalized to one-point AG codes over the so-called  $C_{ab}$  curves [15] by Beelen and Brander [3] with an additional assumption. In this section we generalize Lee-O'Sullivan's procedure to general one-point AG codes with an assumption weaker than [3, Assumption 2], which will be introduced in and used after Assumption 9. The argument before Assumption 9 is true without Assumption 9.

Let  $m$  be the multiplicity parameter in [8]. Lee and O'Sullivan [11] introduced the ideal  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  for Hermitian curves containing the interpolation polynomial corresponding to the received word  $\vec{r}$  and the multiplicity  $m$ . The ideal  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  contains the interpolation polynomial as its nonzero element minimal with respect to the weighted reverse lexicographic monomial order  $<_u$  to be introduced in Section 3.3. We will give a generalization of  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  for general algebraic curves.

#### 3.2 Generalization of the Interpolation Ideal

Let  $\vec{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbf{F}_q^n$  be the received word. For a divisor  $G$  of  $F$ , we define  $\mathcal{L}(-G + \infty Q) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{L}(-G + iQ)$ . We see that  $\mathcal{L}(-G + \infty Q)$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  [13].

Let  $h_{\vec{r}} \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  such that  $h_{\vec{r}}(P_i) = r_i$ . Computation of such  $h_{\vec{r}}$  can be easily done as follows provided that we can construct generator matrices for  $C_u$  for all  $u$ . For  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , define  $\psi_j \in B$  such that  $\dim C_{-v_Q(\psi_j)} = j$ , and let

$$\begin{pmatrix} i_1 \\ \vdots \\ i_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(P_1) & \cdots & \psi_1(P_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \psi_n(P_1) & \cdots & \psi_n(P_n) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \vec{r}.$$

We find that  $h_{\vec{r}} = \sum_{j=1}^n i_j \psi_j$  satisfies the required condition for  $h_{\vec{r}}$ . Since  $-v_Q(\psi_n) \leq n + 2g - 1$ , we can choose  $h_{\vec{r}}$  so that  $-v_Q(h_{\vec{r}}) \leq n + 2g - 1$ .

Let  $Z$  be transcendental over  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$ , and  $D = P_1 + \cdots + P_n$ .  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$  denotes the univariate polynomial ring of  $Z$  over  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$ . For a divisor  $G$  we denote by  $\mathcal{L}_Z(-G + \infty Q)$  the ideal of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$  generated by  $\mathcal{L}(-G + \infty Q) \subset \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$ . Define the ideal  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$  as

$$I_{\vec{r},m} = \mathcal{L}_Z(-mD + \infty Q) + \mathcal{L}_Z(-(m-1)D + \infty Q)\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle + \cdots \\ + \mathcal{L}_Z(-D + \infty Q)\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^{m-1} + \langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^m, \quad (2)$$

where  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  denotes the ideal generated by  $\cdot$ , the plus sign  $+$  denotes the sum of ideals, and  $\mathcal{L}_Z(-iD + \infty Q)\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^{m-i}$  denotes the product of two ideals  $\mathcal{L}_Z(-iD + \infty Q)$  and  $\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^{m-i}$ . We remark that the above  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  is equal to  $\bar{I}_{m,v}$  defined by Lax [10]. Note that our definition does not involve coordinate variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  of the defining equations as used by Lax [10]. For  $Q(Z) \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$ , we say  $Q(Z)$  has multiplicity  $m$  at  $(P_i, r_i)$  if

$$Q(Z + r_i) = \sum_j \alpha_j Z^j \quad (3)$$

with  $\alpha_j \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  satisfies  $v_{P_i}(\alpha_j) \geq m - j$  for all  $j$ . Sakata [19, Section 3.2] introduced a special case of the following set for Hermitian curves. We give a more general definition (for any curve) as follows:

$$I'_{\vec{r},m} = \{Q(Z) \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z] \mid Q(Z) \text{ has multiplicity } m \text{ for all } (P_i, r_i)\}.$$

This definition of the multiplicity is the same as [8]. Therefore, we can find the interpolation polynomial used in [8] from  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$ . We shall explain how to find efficiently the interpolation polynomial from  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$ , after clarifying the relation between  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  and  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$ .

**Lemma 3** *We have  $I_{\vec{r},m} \subseteq I'_{\vec{r},m}$ .*

*Proof.* Observe that  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$ . Let  $\alpha(Z - h_{\vec{r}})^j \in \mathcal{L}_Z(-(m-j)D + \infty Q)\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^j$  such that  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(-(m-j)D + \infty Q)$ . Then we have

$$\alpha(Z + r_i - h_{\vec{r}})^j = \alpha(Z - (h_{\vec{r}} - r_i))^j = \sum_{k=0}^j \alpha_k (h_{\vec{r}} - r_i)^{j-k} Z^k,$$

where  $\alpha_k \in \mathcal{L}(-(m-j)D + \infty Q)$ . We can see that  $\alpha_k(h_{\vec{r}} - r_i)^{j-k} \in \mathcal{L}(-(m-k)P_i + \infty Q)$  and that  $\mathcal{L}(-(m-j)D + \infty Q)\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^j \subseteq I'_{\vec{r},m}$ , because  $\mathcal{L}_Z(-(m-j)D + \infty Q)\langle Z - h_{\vec{r}} \rangle^j$  is generated by  $\{\alpha(Z - h_{\vec{r}})^j \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{L}(-(m-j)D + \infty Q)\}$  as an ideal of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$ . Since  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$  is an ideal, it follows that  $I_{\vec{r},m} \subseteq I'_{\vec{r},m}$ . ■

The following Proposition 4 will be used in the proof of Proposition 6.

**Proposition 4** [8]  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]/I'_{\vec{r},m} = n \binom{m+1}{2}$ .

**Lemma 5** Let  $G$  be a divisor  $\geq 0$  whose support is disjoint from  $Q$ . If  $\deg P = 1$  for all  $P \in \text{supp}(G)$  then we have

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)/\mathcal{L}(-G + \infty Q) = \deg G.$$

*Proof.* Let  $n(\cdot)$  be a mapping from  $\text{supp}(G)$  to the set of nonnegative integers. Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be the set of those functions such that  $n(P) < v_P(G)$  for all  $P \in \text{supp}(G)$ . By the strong approximation theorem [21, Theorem I.6.4] we can choose a  $f_{n(\cdot)} \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  such that  $v_P(f_{n(\cdot)}) = n(P)$  for every  $P \in \text{supp}(G)$ . Any element in  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q) \setminus \mathcal{L}(-G + \infty Q)$  can be written as the sum of an element  $g \in \mathcal{L}(-G + \infty Q)$  plus an  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -linear combination of  $f_{n(\cdot)}$ 's by the assumption  $\deg P = 1$  for all  $P \in \text{supp}(G)$ , which completes the proof. ■

The following proposition is equivalent to Lax [10, Proposition 6], but we include its proof because our definition of  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  is apparently very different from that of  $\bar{I}_{m,v}$  by Lax [10].

**Proposition 6**  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]/I_{\vec{r},m} = n \binom{m+1}{2}$ .

*Proof.* Recall that  $I$  is an ideal of  $\mathbb{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t]$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q) = \mathbb{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t]/I$  as introduced in Section 2. Let  $G_i$  be a Gröbner basis of the preimage of  $\mathcal{L}(-iD + \infty Q)$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t]$ , and  $H_{\vec{r}}$  be the coset representative of  $h_{\vec{r}}$  written as a sum of monomials whose exponents belong to  $\Delta(I)$ . In this proof, the footprint  $\Delta(\cdot)$  is always considered for  $\mathbb{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t]$  excluding the variable  $Z$ . Then

$$G = \cup_{i=0}^m \{F(Z - H_{\vec{r}})^{m-i} \mid F \in G_i\}$$

is a Gröbner basis of the preimage of  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q[Z, X_1, \dots, X_t]$  with the elimination monomial order with  $Z$  greater than  $X_i$ 's and refining the monomial order  $>$  defined in Section 2. Please refer to [5, Section 15.2] for refining monomial orders. A remainder of division by  $G$  can always be written as

$$F_{m-1}Z^{m-1} + F_{m-2}Z^{m-2} + \dots + F_0$$

with  $F_i \in \mathbf{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_r]$ . Then  $F_{m-i}$  must be written as a sum of monomials whose exponents belong to the footprint  $\Delta(G_i)$  of  $G_i$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . This shows that

$$\dim_{\mathbf{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]/I_{\vec{r},m} \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \#\Delta(G_i).$$

On the other hand, by Lemma 5,

$$\#\Delta(G_i) = \dim_{\mathbf{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)/\mathcal{L}(-iD + \infty Q) = ni.$$

This implies

$$\dim_{\mathbf{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]/I_{\vec{r},m} \leq n \binom{m+1}{2}.$$

By Proposition 4 and Lemma 3, we see

$$\dim_{\mathbf{F}_q} \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]/I_{\vec{r},m} = n \binom{m+1}{2}.$$

■

The following corollary clarifies the relation between the module  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$  used by Sakata [19] and  $I_{\vec{r},m}$  used by Lax [10], Lee and O'Sullivan [11], which was not explicit in previous literature.

**Corollary 7**  $I'_{\vec{r},m} = I_{\vec{r},m}$ . ■

Since  $I'_{\vec{r},m}$  is the ideal used in [8], we can find the required interpolation polynomial directly from an  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -submodule of  $I_{\vec{r},m} = I'_{\vec{r},m}$  as explained in Section 3.3.

For  $i = 0, \dots, m$  and  $j = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1$ , let  $\eta_{i,j}$  to be an element in  $\mathcal{L}(-iD + \infty Q)$  such that  $-v_Q(\eta_{i,j})$  is the minimum among  $\{-v_Q(\eta) \mid \eta \in \mathcal{L}(-iD + \infty Q), -v_Q(\eta) \equiv j \pmod{a_1}\}$ . Such elements  $\eta_{i,j}$  can be computed by [13] before receiving  $\vec{r}$ . It was also shown [13] that  $\{\eta_{i,j} \mid j = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1\}$  generates  $\mathcal{L}(-iD + \infty Q)$  as an  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -module. Note also that we can choose  $\eta_{0,i} = y_i$  defined in Section 2. By Eq. (1), all  $\eta_{i,j}$  and  $h_{\vec{r}}$  can be expressed as polynomials in  $x_1$  and  $y_0, \dots, y_{a_1-1}$ . Thus we have

**Theorem 8 (Generalization of Beelen and Brander [3, Proposition 6] and Little [12])**

Let  $\ell \geq m$ . One has that

$$\begin{aligned} & \{(Z - h_{\vec{r}})^{m-i} \eta_{i,j} \mid i = 0, \dots, m, j = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1\} \\ \cup & \{Z^{\ell-m} (Z - h_{\vec{r}})^m \eta_{0,j} \mid \ell = 1, \dots, j = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1\} \end{aligned}$$

generates

$$I_{\vec{r},m,\ell} = I_{\vec{r},m} \cap \{Q(Z) \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z] \mid \deg_Z Q(Z) \leq \ell\}$$

as an  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -module.

*Proof.* Let  $e \in I_{\vec{r},m}$  and  $E$  be its preimage in  $\mathbf{F}_q[Z, X_1, \dots, X_t]$ . By dividing  $E$  by the Gröbner basis  $G$  introduced in the proof of Proposition 6, we can see that  $e$  is expressed as

$$e = \sum_{\ell=1}^m \alpha_{-\ell} Z^\ell (Z - h_{\vec{r}})^m + \sum_{i=0}^m \alpha_i (Z - h_{\vec{r}})^{m-i}$$

with  $\alpha_i \in \mathcal{L}(-\max\{i, 0\}D + \infty Q)$ , from which the assertion follows.  $\blacksquare$

### 3.3 Computation of the Interpolated Polynomial from the Interpolation Ideal $I_{\vec{r},m}$

For  $(m_1, \dots, m_t, m_{t+1}), (n_1, \dots, n_t, n_{t+1}) \in \mathbf{N}_0^{t+1}$ , we define the other weighted reverse lexicographic monomial order  $\succ_u$  in  $\mathbf{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_t, Z]$  such that  $(m_1, \dots, m_t, m_{t+1}) \succ_u (n_1, \dots, n_t, n_{t+1})$  if  $a_1 m_1 + \dots + a_t m_t + u m_{t+1} > a_1 n_1 + \dots + a_t n_t + u n_{t+1}$ , or  $a_1 m_1 + \dots + a_t m_t + u m_{t+1} = a_1 n_1 + \dots + a_t n_t + u n_{t+1}$ , and  $m_1 = n_1, m_2 = n_2, \dots, m_{i-1} = n_{i-1}, m_i < n_i$ , for some  $1 \leq i \leq t+1$ . As done in [11], the interpolation polynomial is the smallest nonzero polynomial with respect to  $\succ_u$  in the preimage of  $I_{\vec{r},m}$ . Such a smallest element can be found from a Gröbner basis of the  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -module  $I_{\vec{r},m,\ell}$  in Theorem 8. To find such a Gröbner basis, Lee and O'Sullivan proposed the following general purpose algorithm as [11, Algorithm G].

Their algorithm [11, Algorithm G] efficiently finds a Gröbner basis of submodules of  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]^s$  for a special kind of generating set and monomial orders. Please refer to [1] for Gröbner bases for modules. Let  $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_s$  be the standard basis of  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]^s$ . Let  $u_x, u_1, \dots, u_s$  be positive integers. Define the monomial order in the  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -module  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]^s$  such that  $x_1^{n_1} \mathbf{e}_i \succ_{\text{LO}} x_1^{n_2} \mathbf{e}_j$  if  $n_1 u_x + u_i > n_2 u_x + u_j$  or  $n_1 u_x + u_i = n_2 u_x + u_j$  and  $i > j$ . For  $f = \sum_{i=1}^s f_i(x_1) \mathbf{e}_i \in \mathbf{F}_q[x_1]^s$ , define  $\text{ind}(f) = \max\{i \mid f_i(x_1) \neq 0\}$ , where  $f_i(x_1)$  denotes a univariate polynomial in  $x_1$  over  $\mathbf{F}_q$ . Their algorithm [11, Algorithm G] efficiently computes a Gröbner basis with respect to  $\succ_{\text{LO}}$  of a module generated by  $g_1, \dots, g_s \in \mathbf{F}_q[x_1]^s$  such that  $\text{ind}(g_i) = i$ . The computational complexity is also evaluated in [11, Proposition 16].

Let  $\ell$  be the maximum  $Z$ -degree of the interpolation polynomial in [8]. The set  $I_{\vec{r},m,\ell}$  in Theorem 8 is an  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -submodule of  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]^{a_1(\ell+1)}$  with the module basis  $\{y_j Z^k \mid j = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1, k = 0, \dots, \ell\}$ .



**Assumption 9** We assume that there exists  $f \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  whose zero divisor  $(f)_0 = D$ .

By the algorithm of Matsumoto and Miura [13], we can find  $f$  in Assumption 9 if it exists.

The assumptions in [3] are

- The function field  $F$  was defined by a nonsingular affine algebraic curve of the form

$$\gamma_{a_2,0}X_1^{a_2} + \gamma_{0,a_1}X_2^{a_1} + \sum_{ia_2+ja_1 < a_1a_2} \gamma_{i,j}X_1^iX_2^j \quad (4)$$

with  $\gcd(a_1, a_2) = 1$ ,  $\gamma_{a_2,0} \neq 0$  and  $\gamma_{0,a_1} \neq 0$ ,

- and Assumption 9 above.

Since the function field can be defined in the form (4) if the Weierstrass semigroup  $H(Q)$  is generated by relatively prime positive integers  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  [14], we can see that Assumption 9 is implied by [3, Assumption 2] and is weaker than [3, Assumption 2].

Let  $\langle f \rangle$  be the ideal of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  generated by  $f$ . By [13, Corollary 2.3] we have  $\mathcal{L}(-D + \infty Q) = \langle f \rangle$ . By [13, Corollary 2.5] we have  $\mathcal{L}(-iD + \infty Q) = \langle f^i \rangle$ .

**Example 10** This is continuation of Example 2. Let  $f = x_1^7 + 1$ . We see that  $-v_Q(f) = 21$  and that there exist 21 distinct  $\mathbf{F}_8$ -rational places  $P_1, \dots, P_{21}$ , such that  $f(P_i) = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, 21$  by straightforward computation. By setting  $D = P_1 + \dots + P_{21}$  Assumption 9 is satisfied.

We remark that we have  $-v_Q(x_1^8 + x_1) = 24$  but there exist only 23  $\mathbf{F}_8$ -rational places  $P$  such that  $(x_1^8 + x_1)(P) = 0$ , other than  $Q$ , and that  $(x_1^8 + x_1)$  does not satisfy Assumption 9.

Without loss of generality we may assume existence of  $x' \in \mathcal{L}(\infty Q)$  such that  $f \in \mathbf{F}_q[x']$ , because we can set  $x' = f$ . By changing the choice of  $x_1, \dots, x_t$  if necessary, we may assume  $x_1 = x'$  and  $f \in \mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$  without loss of generality, while it is better to make  $-v_Q(x_1)$  as small as possible in order to reduce the computational complexity. Under the assumption  $f \in \mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ ,  $f^i y_j$  satisfies the required condition for  $\eta_{i,j}$  in Theorem 8. By naming  $y_j Z^k$  as  $\mathbf{e}_{1+j+ku}$ , the generators in Theorem 8 satisfy the assumption in [11, Algorithm G]. In the following, we assign weight  $-iv_Q(x_1) - v_Q(y_j) + ku$  to the module element  $x_1^i y_j Z^k$ . With this assignment of weights, the monomial order  $\succ_{\text{LO}}$  is the restriction of  $\succ_u$  to the  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -submodule

of  $\mathcal{L}(\infty Q)[Z]$  generated by  $\{y_j Z^k \mid j = 0, \dots, a_1 - 1, k = 0, \dots, \ell\}$ . We can efficiently compute a Gröbner basis of the  $\mathbf{F}_q[x_1]$ -module  $I_{\vec{r}, m, \ell}$  by [11, Algorithm G]. After that we find the interpolation polynomial required in the list decoding algorithm by Guruswami and Sudan [8] as the minimal element with respect to  $\succ_{LO}$  in the computed Gröbner basis.

**Proposition 11** *Suppose that we use [11, Algorithm G] to find the Gröbner basis of  $I_{\vec{r}, m, \ell}$  with respect to  $\succ_{LO}$ . Under Assumption 9, the number of multiplications in [11, Algorithm G] with the generators in Theorem 8 is at most*

$$[\max_j \{-v_Q(y_j)\} + m(n + 2g - 1) + u(\ell - m)]^2 a_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{a_1(\ell+1)} i^2. \quad (5)$$

*Proof.* What we shall do in this proof is substitution of variables in the general complexity formula in Lee and O’Sullivan [11] by specific values. The number of generators is  $a_1(\ell + 1)$ , which is denoted by  $m$  in [11, Proposition 16]. We have  $-v_Q(f) \leq n + g$  and  $-v_Q(h_{\vec{r}}) \leq n + 2g - 1$ . We can assume  $u \leq n + 2g - 1$ . Thus, the maximum weight of the generators is upper bounded by

$$\max_j \{-v_Q(y_j)\} + m(n + 2g - 1) + u(\ell - m).$$

By [11, Proof of Proposition 16], the number of multiplications is upper bounded by Eq. (5). ■

**Example 12** *Consider the  $[21, 10]$  code  $C_{12}$  over the Klein quartic considered in Examples 1, 2 and 10. Its Goppa bound is  $n - u = 21 - 12 = 9$ . The equivalent algorithms by Beelen and Høholdt [4], Guruswami and Sudan [8] can correct 5 errors with  $m = 40$  and  $\ell = 54$ . An advantage of Beelen and Høholdt [4] over Guruswami and Sudan [8] is that the former solves a smaller system of linear equations by utilizing the structure of the equations, and thus is faster than the latter.*

*We shall evaluate the number of multiplications and divisions by the method in [4]. One can choose the divisor  $A$  in [4, Section 2.6] as  $(m(n - 5) - 1)Q = 639Q$ . The algorithm by Beelen and Høholdt [4] solves a system of*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=0}^m ((m - i)n - \dim(A - iuQ) + \dim(-(m - i)D + A - iuQ)) \\ = & \sum_{i=0}^{40} (21(40 - i) - \dim(639 - 12i)Q + \dim(-(40 - i)D + (639 - 12i)Q)) \\ = & 2392 \end{aligned}$$

linear equations with

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{i=m+1}^{\ell} \dim(A - iuQ) + \sum_{i=0}^m \dim(-(m-i)D + A - iuQ) \\
= & \sum_{i=41}^{54} \dim(639 - 12i)Q + \sum_{i=0}^{40} \dim(-(40-i)D + (639 - 12i)Q) \\
= & 2399
\end{aligned}$$

unknowns. The number of multiplications and divisions is about  $2399^3/3 \simeq 4.6 \times 10^9$ .

On the other hand, The original algorithm by Guruswami and Sudan [8] requires us to solve a system of  $21 \times \binom{40+1}{2} = 17220$  linear equations. Solving such a system needs roughly  $17220^3/3 \simeq 1.7 \times 10^{12}$  multiplications and divisions in  $\mathbf{F}_8$ .

The value of Eq. (5) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
& [\max_j \{-v_Q(y_j)\} + m(n + 2g - 1) + u(\ell - m)]^2 a_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{a_1(\ell+1)} i^2 \\
= & [7 + 40 \cdot 26 + 12(54 - 40)]^2 / 3 \times \sum_{i=1}^{3.55} i^2 \\
= & 28,038,433,500 \simeq 2.8 \times 10^{10}.
\end{aligned}$$

We see that the proposed method can solve the interpolation step faster than Guruswami and Sudan [8], but the method by Beelen and Høholdt [4] is even faster.

## 4 Concluding Remarks

The interpolation step in Guruswami and Sudan [8] is computationally costly and many researchers proposed faster interpolation methods, as summarized by Beelen and Brander [3, Figure 1]. However, except Beelen and Høholdt [4], those researches assumed either Hermitian curves, e.g. Lee and O'Sullivan [11], Sakata [19] or  $C_{ab}$  curves e.g. [3, 12]. Our argument used no assumption until Assumption 9 that seems indispensable with application of Algorithm G in Lee and O'Sullivan [11]. The Klein quartic is the well-known family for constructing AG codes. In Example 12 we demonstrated that the proposed interpolation procedure is faster than the original [8] and comparable to [4] for codes on the Klein quartic.

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