

# A New Sparse Polynomial GCD by Separating Terms

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper, we propose a new sparse GCD algorithm for multivariate polynomials over finite fields. Our algorithm uses a new type of substitution to recover the terms of the GCD in batches. We present a detailed complexity analysis of our new algorithm and experimental results which show that our algorithm is faster than Zippel's GCD algorithm and competitive with the Monagan-Hu GCD algorithm.

## CCS CONCEPTS

• **Computing methodologies** → Symbolic and algebraic manipulation; • **Theory of Computation** → Analysis of Algorithms and Problem Complexity.

## KEYWORDS

Polynomial GCD, sparse polynomial, polynomial complexity

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and let  $G = \gcd(A, B)$  be their greatest common divisor (GCD). Computing  $G$  is a key operation in a Computer Algebra System. One application is to simplify the fraction  $A/B$ . Another is to compute  $\gcd(A, \partial A / \partial x_1)$  to identify the repeated factors in  $A$ . GCD computation is interesting because all modifications of the Euclidean algorithm [2, 4] to compute  $G$  result in an expression swell where the size of the intermediate polynomials grows exponentially in  $n$  the number of variables.

In 1971, Brown [1] solved the intermediate expression swell problem by interpolating  $x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$  in  $G$  from many univariate images of  $G$  in  $x_1$ . For polynomials of degree  $d$  Brown's algorithm uses  $O(d^{n-1})$  univariate images which is effective for dense polynomials but not sparse polynomials.

Early sparse GCD algorithms include Zippel's algorithm [20] from 1979 and Wang's EEZ-GCD algorithm [19] from 1980. Zippel's algorithm is currently the main GCD algorithm in Fermat, Magma, Maple and Mathematica. The literature for the polynomial GCD

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problem is large. Many ideas have been tried. We cite the works [3, 5, 7–13, 15–17]. See also Ch. 7 of [6].

Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements. In this work we present a new sparse GCD algorithm for  $\mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  that is different from all previous algorithms. The main result of the paper is given below.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $A, B$  be polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with partial degree bound  $d = \max_{i=1}^n \max(\deg(A, x_i), \deg(B, x_i))$ . Then there exists a randomized algorithm that takes as inputs  $A, B$  and returns  $G = \gcd(A, B)$  with probability  $\geq 11/12$ , using expected  $O(n T_{\text{in}} d \log q \log^3 T_0 + n^2 d^2 T_0 \log q)$  bit operations where  $T_{\text{in}} = \#A + \#B$  and  $T_0 = \#G$ .*

We've implemented our algorithm in Maple with parts of it implemented in C for increased efficiency. We use our algorithm to compute a GCD in  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  by computing it modulo primes and using the Chinese remainder theorem to recover the integer coefficients. This creates GCD problems over large prime fields. The benchmarks in Section 7 show that it is faster than the implementations of Zippel's algorithm in Maple and Magma and compares well with the Monagan-Hu algorithm [7, 11].

## 1.1 Overview of the Algorithm

Let  $A, B$  be in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ . Our new algorithm uses substitutions of the form

$$x_i = (\gamma_i z - \alpha_i) y^{s_i} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n$$

where  $\gamma_i, \alpha_i$  are chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $s_i$  are non-negative integers. The substitution converts a GCD problem in  $n$  variables into a bivariate GCD problem in  $\mathbb{F}_q[y, z]$ . The purpose of the  $\gamma_i$  is to prevent a degree loss in  $z$ . For now assume  $\gamma_i = 1$  works.

Our algorithm chooses  $\alpha_i$  from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  at random and distinct. It then chooses  $s_i$  from  $[0, T)$  at random where  $T$  is a parameter of the algorithm that takes on the values 2, 4, 8, 16, ... until the algorithm succeeds. Suppose  $q$  is a large prime and

$$G = x_1^2 + 3x_1x_2 + 2x_2^3 - x_2.$$

Suppose we choose  $\alpha = [2, 5]$  and  $\mathbf{s} = [2, 3]$ . Let  $\phi(f) = f((z - 2)y^2, (z - 5)y^3)$  be our substitution. We have

$$\phi(G) = (z - 2)^2 y^4 + 3(z - 2)(z - 5)y^5 + 2(z - 5)^3 y^9 - (z - 5)y^3.$$

Notice that each monomial in  $G$  mapped to a unique monomial in  $y$ . We say  $\mathbf{s}$  separated the terms of  $G$ . Since  $z - 2$  and  $z - 5$  are relatively prime, we can recover all terms in  $G$  from  $\phi(G)$  by dividing the coefficients of  $\phi(G)$  by  $z - 2$  and  $z - 5$ . If a coefficient factors as  $c(z - 2)^{d_1}(z - 5)^{d_2}$  for a constant  $c$ , we recover the term  $cx_1^{d_1}x_2^{d_2}$ .

If  $G$  has  $t$  terms, we need  $T \sim t^2$  for  $\phi(G)$  to be separated with reasonable probability. If  $D = \max(\deg A, \deg B)$ , this would create a bivariate gcd problem of degree  $O(Dt^2)$  in  $y$  and  $D$  in  $z$  which will be expensive to compute for large  $t$ . Instead, we use a much

smaller  $T$  and several choices for  $\mathbf{s}$ . Suppose we choose  $\mathbf{s} = [1, 1]$ . Let  $\phi_1(f) = f((z-2)y^1, (z-5)y^1)$ . Then

$$\phi_1(G) = 2(z-5)^3y^3 + (z-2)(4z-17)y^2 - (z-5)y.$$

Since GCDs are unique up to a scalar, the GCD algorithm will normalize  $\phi_1(G)$ . Suppose it makes  $\phi_1(G)$  monic in lexicographical order with  $y > z$ . Here  $\text{LC}(\phi_1(G)) = 2$  so we obtain

$$G_1 := \frac{1}{2}\phi_1(G) = (z-5)^3y^3 + \frac{1}{2}(z-2)(4z-17)y^2 - \frac{1}{2}(z-5)y.$$

The factor  $4z-17$  is divisible by neither  $z-2$  nor  $z-5$  thus at least two monomials collided in the term  $(z-2)(4z-17)y^2$ . If a coefficient of  $G_1$  factors as  $c(z-\alpha_1)^{d_1}(z-\alpha_2)^{d_2}$ , it is unlikely it comes from a collision because we chose the  $\alpha_i$  randomly from  $[0, q]$ . Thus  $x_2^3$  and  $x_2$  are monomials in  $G$  with high probability. We extract the good terms of  $G$  found in  $G_1$  as  $G^* := x_2^3 - \frac{1}{2}x_2$ .

Our algorithm now tries a new  $\mathbf{s}$  and  $\alpha$ , say  $\mathbf{s} = [2, 1]$  and  $\alpha = [2, 5]$ . Let  $\phi_2(f) = f((z-2)y^2, (z-5)y^1)$ . We have

$$G_2 := \phi_2(G) = (z-2)^2y^4 + (z-5)(2z^2-17z+44)y^3 - (z-5)y.$$

This time the monomials  $x_1x_2$  and  $x_2^3$  collided under  $\phi_2$ . We could recover one new monomial  $x_1^2$  in  $G$  but we can do better. We use  $G^*$  to recover more new monomials from  $G_2$ .

Notice that the monomial  $x_2$  is recovered from both  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  but the coefficient is  $-\frac{1}{2}$  and  $-1$  respectively. As long as  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  share at least one monomial  $M$ , we can scale  $G^*$  (or  $G_2$ ) so that  $G^*$  and  $G_2$  have the same coefficient for  $M$ . In our example we multiply  $G^*$  by 2 so that  $2G^* = 2x_2^3 - x_2$ . Now we compute

$$H_2 := G_2 - \phi_2(2G^*) = (z-2)^2y^4 + 3(z-2)(z-5)y^3.$$

The terms of  $H_2$  yield **two** new monomials  $x_1^2$  and  $x_1x_2$ . We obtain the new terms  $G^{**} := x_1^2 + 3x_1x_2$  of  $G$ . We set

$$G^* := 2G^* + G^{**} = x_1^2 + 3x_1x_2 + 2x_2^3 - x_2.$$

Since there were no collisions detected in  $H_2$  our algorithm stops and outputs  $G^*$ . Otherwise it would try another  $\mathbf{s}$ .

Our algorithm tries  $T = 2, 4, 8, 16, \dots$  until  $\log_2 T$  choices for  $\mathbf{s}$  are enough to recover all the terms of  $G$ . For example, on one of our benchmarks where  $G$  has  $n = 9$  variables,  $\#G = 996$  terms, and  $\deg(G) = 30$ , using  $T = 64$ , it recovered 279 good terms from  $G_1$  then 309, 226, 118, 56, 8 new terms from  $G_2, G_3, G_4, G_5, G_6$ .

## 2 NOTATION

Fix the lexicographical monomial order with  $x_1 > \dots > x_n$ . For a polynomial  $A \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , denote  $\text{LC}(A)$  as the leading coefficient of  $A$ . For a polynomial  $F \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n, y]$ , denote  $\text{LC}(F, y)$  as the leading coefficient of  $F$  w.r.t. the main variable  $y$ .

*Definition 2.1.* Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Then  $G$  is called the greatest common divisor (GCD) of  $A, B$  if

- (1)  $G$  divides  $A$  and  $B$ ,
- (2) every common divisor of  $A$  and  $B$  divides  $G$ , and
- (3)  $\text{LC}(G) = 1$ .

We say that  $A$  is similar to  $B$ ,  $A \sim_y B$ , if  $A = a \cdot y^k \cdot B$ , where  $a \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . In particular, if  $k = 0$ , we use notation  $A \sim B$ .

*Definition 2.2.* Let  $f \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . For  $\gamma_i, \alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}_q, s_i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $y, z$  new variables. We define

$$\phi(f) = f(x_i = (\gamma_i z - \alpha_i)y^{s_i} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n).$$

*Definition 2.3.* For  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$  define

$$f_{\mathbf{s}} = f(x_i = x_i y^{s_i} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n) = g_1 y^{d_1} + \dots + g_k y^{d_k},$$

where  $g_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $d_1 > \dots > d_k$ . If  $g_i = cm$  has only one term, then we call it a non-colliding term in  $f_{\mathbf{s}}$ . Collect all non-colliding terms in  $f_{\mathbf{s}}$  and generate the following set

$$\text{NC}(f, \mathbf{s}) = \{cm \in f \mid cm \text{ is a non-colliding term in } f_{\mathbf{s}}\}.$$

Define the other terms in  $f_{\mathbf{s}}$  as the colliding terms by

$$\text{C}(f, \mathbf{s}) = \{cm \in f \mid cm \text{ is a colliding term in } f_{\mathbf{s}}\}.$$

*Definition 2.4.* Let  $f = \sum_{i=1}^t a_i M_i(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a polynomial with coefficients  $a_i$  and monomials  $M_i$ . Define the monomial content  $\text{MoCont}(f) = \gcd(M_1, M_2, \dots, M_t) = \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{d_i}$  for some  $d_i \in \mathbb{N}$ . We say  $f$  is monomial primitive if  $\text{MoCont}(f) = 1$ .

## 3 PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Our proofs will make extensive use of the Schwartz-Zippel Lemma.

*LEMMA 3.1.* [18, Lemma 6.44] Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be an integral domain and  $A \in \mathcal{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be non-zero and with total degree  $D$  and let  $S \subset \mathcal{R}$  be a finite set. If  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  is chosen at random from  $S^n$  then  $\text{Prob}[A(\mathbf{a}) = 0] \leq \frac{D}{|S|}$ .

*LEMMA 3.2.* [7, Lemma 4] Let  $F_1, F_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n, y]$  with  $d = \deg(F_1, y) > 0$  and  $\ell = \deg(F_2, y) > 0$ . Let  $a_d = \text{LC}(F_1, y), b_\ell = \text{LC}(F_2, y)$  and  $R = \text{res}_y(F_1, F_2)$ . The resultant  $R \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . For  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ , if  $a_d(\alpha) \neq 0$  and  $b_\ell(\alpha) \neq 0$  then

- (i)  $\deg_y \gcd(F_1(\alpha, y), F_2(\alpha, y)) > 0 \iff R(\alpha) = 0$  and
- (ii)  $\text{res}_y(F_1(\alpha, y), F_2(\alpha, y)) = R(\alpha)$ .

*LEMMA 3.3.* Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ . If  $\gamma_i, \alpha_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  are regarded as variables and  $\phi(A), \phi(B), \phi(G) \in \mathbb{F}_q[z, y, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n]$ . Then  $\phi(G) \sim_y \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$ .

*PROOF.* (See Appendix)

## 4 OUR NEW GCD ALGORITHM

Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ . This section presents and analyses three algorithms.

(1) Algorithm 1: for any vector  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{N}^n$ , this algorithm computes the non colliding set  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$ .

(2) Algorithm 2: for an approximation  $G^*$  of  $G$ , this algorithm computes half of the terms in  $G - G^*$  using Algorithm 1.

(3) Algorithm 3: this is the main algorithm for computing the  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ . It calls Algorithm 2 in a loop.

### 4.1 Computing the non-colliding set

We hope to recover the polynomial  $G$  from the bivariate images  $\phi(G) = G((\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)y^{s_1}, \dots, (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)y^{s_n})$ . The variable  $y$  is used to separate the terms, and the variable  $z$  is used to compute the exponents of terms.

Let  $G = c_1 m_1 + \dots + c_t m_t \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . For  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ , assuming  $G(x_i = x_i y^{s_i} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n) = g_1 y^{d_1} + \dots + g_t y^{d_t}$ , where  $g_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $d_i$ 's are different degrees. Then

$$\phi(G) = \sum_{i=1}^t g_i (\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) y^{d_i}.$$

If  $\#g_i = 1$  and  $g_i = cx_1^{e_1} \dots x_n^{e_n}$ , then  $g_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) = c(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_1} \dots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_n}$ . If the  $\alpha_i/\gamma_i$ 's are different, then  $c(\gamma_1 z -$

$\alpha_1)^{e_1} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_n}$  is one-to-one corresponding to  $c x_1^{e_1} \cdots x_n^{e_n}$  by unique factorization. However, for some  $g_i$  with  $\#g_i > 1$ ,  $g_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$  may still have the form  $c(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_1} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_n}$ . The intuitive way to avoid this is to randomly select  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$  from a larger set. The following theorem indicates the success probability. We first assume  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \neq \emptyset$ .

**THEOREM 4.1.** *Let  $G \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$  and  $\text{MoCont}(G) = 1$ . Assuming  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \neq \emptyset$  and  $G(x_1 y^{s_1}, \dots, x_n y^{s_n}) = g_1 y^{d_1} + \cdots + g_k y^{d_k}$  where  $d_i$ 's are different and  $g_i \neq 0 \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . If  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$  is randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q^{2n}$ , then with a probability of  $\geq 1 - \frac{(3n+1)\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 3nD + n^2}{q}$ , the following hold.*

- (1)  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = 1$ .
- (2) If  $\#g_i = 1$ , then  $g_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$  has the form  $c(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_1} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_n}$  for some  $e_i \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (3) If  $\#g_i > 1$ , then  $g_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$  does not have a form  $c(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_1} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_n}$  for some  $e_i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**PROOF.** Suppose that  $\phi(G) = h_1 y^{d_1} + \cdots + h_k y^{d_k}$ , where  $h_i(z) = g_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$ . Thus  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = \gcd(h_1, \dots, h_k)$ . Since  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \neq \emptyset$ , there exists a  $h_i$  corresponding to a term in  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$ . Therefore  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = (z - \alpha_1/\gamma_1)^{\ell_1} \cdots (z - \alpha_n/\gamma_n)^{\ell_n}$  for some  $\ell_i \in \mathbb{N}$ . To prove  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = 1$ , it suffices to show that  $(z - \alpha_i/\gamma_i) \nmid \text{Cont}(\phi(G), y)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Due to  $\text{MoCont}(G) = \gcd(g_1, \dots, g_k) = 1$ , for each  $x_i$ , there is a  $g_{j_i}$  in  $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$  such that  $x_i \nmid g_{j_i}$ . Substitute  $x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i$  into  $g_{j_i}$ , then  $h_{j_i}(z) = g_{j_i}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Let  $\kappa_0 := \prod_{i=1}^n \gamma_i^D \cdot h_{j_i}(\frac{\alpha_i}{\gamma_i})$ . Claim: if  $\kappa_0 \neq 0$ , then  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = 1$ . This is because that if  $\kappa_0 \neq 0$ , then  $h_{j_i}(\alpha_i/\gamma_i) \neq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , which implies that  $(z - \alpha_i/\gamma_i) \nmid h_{j_i}(z)$ , thus  $(z - \alpha_i/\gamma_i) \nmid \text{Cont}(\phi(G), y)$ . Therefore  $\ell_i = 0$  and  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = 1$ . If  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$  are regarded as variables then  $\kappa_0 \in \mathbb{F}_q[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n]$ . Claim:  $\kappa_0$  is a non-zero polynomial with degree  $\leq 3nD$ . Proof of the claim: we prove the case  $i = 1$  that  $\gamma_1^D \cdot h_{j_1}(\frac{\alpha_1}{\gamma_1})$  is a non-zero polynomial. Let  $g_{j_1} = x_1 \theta + \eta$ , where  $\theta, \eta \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_2, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\eta \neq 0$ . Then  $h_{j_1}(\alpha_1/\gamma_1) = \eta(x_\ell = \gamma_\ell \alpha_1/\gamma_1) - \alpha_\ell$  for  $2 \leq \ell \leq n) = \eta(x_\ell = (\gamma_\ell \alpha_1 - \alpha_\ell \gamma_1)/\gamma_1)$  for  $2 \leq \ell \leq n$ . As  $\deg \eta \leq D$ , then  $\gamma_1^D \cdot h_{j_1}(\frac{\alpha_1}{\gamma_1})$  is a non-zero polynomial and the degree of  $\gamma_1^D \cdot h_{j_1}(\frac{\alpha_1}{\gamma_1})$  is  $\leq D + 2 \deg g_{j_1} \leq 3D$ . Other cases for  $i = 2, \dots, n$  can be similarly proven. Thus  $\kappa_0$  is a non-zero polynomial with degree  $\leq 3nD$ .

Case (2) is always correct. Consider case (3). Without loss of generality assume  $\#g_1 > 1$ . Let  $g_1 = cm \cdot Q$ , where  $x_i \nmid Q$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Assuming  $\beta(z) := Q(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n) = r_1 z^{u_1} + \cdots + r_t z^{u_t}$  where  $u_1 > \cdots > u_t$  and  $r_i \in \mathbb{F}_q$ . Here  $r_i$  depends on the choice of  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ . Let  $\kappa_1 := r_1 \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \gamma_i^D \cdot \beta(\alpha_i/\gamma_i)$ . Claim: if  $\kappa_1 \neq 0$ , then  $g_1(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$  does not have the form like  $c(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_1} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_n}$ . Proof of claim: it suffices to show that (i)  $(z - \alpha_i/\gamma_i) \nmid Q(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and (ii)  $Q(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) \notin \mathbb{F}_q \cdot \kappa_1 \neq 0$  implies that  $r_1 \neq 0$  and  $\beta(\alpha_i/\gamma_i) \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . First,  $r_1 \neq 0$  is enough to prove  $Q(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) \notin \mathbb{F}_q \cdot \kappa_1$ . Second,  $\beta(\alpha_i/\gamma_i) \neq 0$  implies that  $(z - \alpha_i/\gamma_i) \nmid \beta(z) = r(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$ . We proved it.

If  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$  are regarded as variables, then  $\kappa_1 \in \mathbb{F}_q[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n]$ . Claim:  $\kappa_1$  is a non-zero polynomial with degree  $\leq 3nD + D$ . As  $\#g_1 > 1$ , then  $u_1 > 0$  and  $r_1$  is a non-zero polynomial with

degree  $\leq D$ . As  $x_i \nmid Q$ , for the same reason for  $\kappa_0, \gamma_i^D \cdot \beta(\alpha_i/\gamma_i)$  is a non-zero polynomial with degree  $\leq 3D$ . We proved it.

Assuming  $g_{i_1}, \dots, g_{i_\ell}$  are all in  $G_s$  with more than one term, for the same reason, there are corresponding nonzero polynomials  $\kappa_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n]$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ . Then  $\kappa_1 \cdots \kappa_\ell \neq 0$  implies that case (3) is correct. Let

$$\Gamma := \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \gamma_i \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\alpha_i \gamma_j - \alpha_j \gamma_i) \cdot \prod_{i=0}^{\ell} \kappa_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n].$$

Therefore, if  $\Gamma \neq 0$ , then  $\gamma_i z - \alpha_i$  are different irreducible polynomials and Cases (1), (2) and (3) are all met. As  $\deg \kappa_0 \leq 3nD$  and  $\deg \kappa_i \leq 3nD + D$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  and  $\ell \leq \deg(G_s, y) \leq \|s\|_\infty D$ , we have  $\deg \Gamma \leq (3n+1)\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 3nD + n^2$ . By Lemma 3.1, if  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$  are randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q^{2n}$ , the probability that  $\Gamma(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \neq 0$  is  $\geq 1 - \frac{(3n+1)\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 3nD + n^2}{q}$ .  $\square$

The condition  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \neq \emptyset$  is necessary for Theorem 4.1. The following shows a counter-example.

**Example 4.2.** Assume  $G = x_1^2 x_2 + x_2 x_3^2 + x_1^2 + x_3^2$  and choose  $\mathbf{s} = (1, 1, 1)$ . Then  $G(x_1 y, x_2 y, x_3 y) = (x_1^2 x_2 + x_2 x_3^2) y^3 + (x_1^2 + x_3^2) y^2$ . So  $g_1 = x_1^2 x_2 + x_2 x_3^2$  and  $g_2 = x_1^2 + x_3^2$ . As  $\gcd(g_1, g_2) = x_1^2 + x_3^2$ , no matter what  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3 (\neq 0)$  choose,  $(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^2 + (\gamma_3 z - \alpha_3)^2 \mid \text{Cont}(\phi(G), y)$ . The coefficient of  $z^2$  is  $\gamma_1^2 + \gamma_3^2 = 0$ , then  $-1$  is a quadratic residue, which happens only in some finite fields, for example,  $\mathbb{F}_p$  with  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . In other finite fields, the content w.r.t  $y$  is not 1.

## 4.2 Solving the case $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) = \emptyset$

Let  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ , then  $G_s \sim_y \gcd(A_s, B_s)$ . We can quickly detect situations similar to Example 4.2 based on  $A_s$  and  $B_s$ .

Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are monomial primitive and

$$A(x_i = x_i y^{s_i} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n) = A_1 y^{v_1} + \cdots + A_k y^{v_k}, \quad (1)$$

$$B(x_i = x_i y^{s_i} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n) = B_1 y^{u_1} + \cdots + B_\ell y^{u_\ell}. \quad (2)$$

The main idea comes from the following two facts:

- (1) If  $\gcd(A_1, \dots, A_k, B_1, \dots, B_\ell) \neq 1$ , then  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) = \emptyset$ ;
- (2) If  $\gcd(A_1, \dots, A_k, B_1, \dots, B_\ell) = 1$ , then  $\text{Cont}(\phi(G), y) = 1$  with high probability if  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$  are randomly selected in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

**LEMMA 4.3.** *Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $A$  and  $B$  be monomial primitive. If  $\gcd(A_1, \dots, A_k, B_1, \dots, B_\ell) \neq 1$ , then  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) = \emptyset$ .*

**PROOF.** Denote  $H := \gcd(A_1, \dots, A_k, B_1, \dots, B_\ell)$ . Then  $H|A$  and  $H|B$ . Thus  $H | \gcd(A, B) = G$ . Therefore  $H_s | G_s$ . We prove  $H_s = H \cdot y^d$  for some  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ . Assume to a contradiction  $H_s = H_1 y^{d_1} + \cdots + H_t y^{d_t}$  where  $d_1 > \cdots > d_t$ . Since  $H|A_1$ , let  $A_1 = H \cdot \bar{H}$ . Then  $(A_1)_s = A_1 y^{v_1} = H_s \cdot \bar{H}_s = (H_1 y^{d_1} + \cdots + H_t y^{d_t}) \cdot \bar{H}_s$ . Then the number of terms w.r.t  $y$  in  $A_1 y^{v_1}$  is at least two, a contradiction.

Thus  $H \cdot y^d | G_s$ . So  $H$  divides all the coefficients of  $G_s$  w.r.t  $y$ . Since  $A$  and  $B$  are monomial primitive and  $H \neq 1$ ,  $H$  has at least two terms, which implies that each coefficient of  $G_s$  w.r.t  $y$  has at least two terms. Thus there is no non-colliding term in  $G_s$ .  $\square$

**LEMMA 4.4.** *Let  $G = \gcd(A, B)$  and let  $D = \max(\deg A, \deg B)$ . Then there exists a non-zero polynomial  $\Gamma$  with degree  $\leq 2D^2 +$*

$2D$ , such that if  $\Gamma(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \neq 0$  for  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i \in \mathbb{F}_q$ , then  $G(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) \sim \gcd(A(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n), B(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n))$ .

**PROOF.** If  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$ 's are regarded as variables, then by Lemma 3.3,  $\phi(G) \sim_y \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$  for  $\mathbf{s} = (0, \dots, 0)$ . As both sides have degree 0 in  $y$ ,  $\phi(G) \sim \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$ . Let  $\Gamma := \text{LC}(\phi(A), z) \cdot \text{LC}(\phi(B), z) \cdot \text{res}_z(\phi(A)/\phi(G), \phi(B)/\phi(G))$ . As the degrees of the coefficients of  $\phi(A)$  and  $\phi(B)$  in  $z$  are at most  $D$ ,  $\deg(\Gamma) \leq D + D + 2D^2$ . For  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i \in \mathbb{F}_q$ , by Lemma 3.2, if  $\Gamma(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \neq 0$ , then  $\phi(G), \phi(A), \phi(B) \in \mathbb{F}_q[z]$  and  $\phi(G) \sim \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$ .  $\square$

**COROLLARY 4.5.** Suppose  $\gcd(A_1, \dots, A_k, B_1, \dots, B_\ell) = 1$ . Let  $D = \max(\deg A, \deg B)$ . If  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$ 's are randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{(2D^2+2D)(2\|s\|_\infty D+1)}{q}$ ,  $\gcd(A_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n), B_j(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n), i = 1, \dots, k, j = 1, \dots, \ell) = 1$ .

**PROOF.** As  $\gcd(A_1, \dots, A_k) = \gcd(A_1, \gcd(\dots \gcd(A_{k-1}, A_k)))$  and  $\gcd(B_1, \dots, B_\ell) = \gcd(B_1, \gcd(\dots \gcd(B_{\ell-1}, B_\ell)))$ , we need to compute  $k + \ell - 1$  GCDs. For each GCD, there exists a non-zero polynomial  $\Gamma_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$ , so that if  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$ 's are chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $\Gamma_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \neq 0$ , then the GCD is still correct when replacing  $x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i$ . Multiply all polynomials  $\Gamma_i$  together, the degree of the product is  $\leq (2D^2 + 2D)(k + \ell - 1) \leq (2D^2 + 2D)(2\|s\|_\infty D + 1)$ . By Lemma 3.1, we proved it.  $\square$

### 4.3 Reduce Multivariate GCD to Univariate GCD

To compute  $\phi(G) = \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q[y, z]$  we interpolate  $z$  in  $\phi(G)$  from  $\gcd(\phi(A)(z = b_k, y), \phi(B)(z = b_k, y))$  for some  $b_k \in \mathbb{F}_q$ . Condition (2) in Lemma 4.6 identifies which  $b_k$  can be used.

**LEMMA 4.6.** Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ . Let  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ . If the  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$ 's are randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $b_k$  for  $0 \leq k \leq D$  are randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{(4\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 5D)(D+1) + n^2}{q}$ , we have

- (1) the  $\alpha_i/\gamma_i$  are distinct and the  $b_k$  are distinct;
- (2)  $\phi(G)(z = b_k, y) \sim_y \gcd(\phi(A)(z = b_k, y), \phi(B)(z = b_k, y))$ .

**PROOF.** Regard  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$ 's as variables. By Lemma 3.3, we have  $\phi(G) \sim_y \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$ . Suppose  $y^\ell \cdot \phi(G) \sim \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$  for some  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $R := \text{res}_y(\phi(A)/(\phi(G) \cdot y^\ell), \phi(B)/(\phi(G) \cdot y^\ell))$  and  $\Gamma := R \cdot \text{LC}(\phi(A), y) \cdot \text{LC}(\phi(B), y) \in \mathbb{F}_q[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, z]$ . By [6, p288, Sylvester's Criterion],  $R \neq 0$ , so  $\Gamma \neq 0$ . By the definition of resultant, we have  $\deg R \leq 4\|s\|_\infty D^2$ . So  $\deg \Gamma \leq 4\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 4D$ .

For each  $k$ , let  $\Gamma_k := \Gamma(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, z = b_k)$ . Let

$$\Omega := \prod_{k=0}^D \Gamma_k \cdot \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq D} (b_i - b_j) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\alpha_i \gamma_j - \alpha_j \gamma_i) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \gamma_i$$

Claim: if  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i, b_k$ 's are chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $\Omega \neq 0$ , then conditions (1) and (2) are satisfied. Proof of claim:  $\Omega \neq 0$  implies  $\Gamma_k \neq 0$  and  $\prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq D} (b_i - b_j) \neq 0$  and  $\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\alpha_i \gamma_j - \alpha_j \gamma_i) \neq 0$  and  $\gamma_i \neq 0$ . The last three inequalities imply that  $\alpha_i/\gamma_i$ 's are distinct and  $b_k$ 's are distinct. By (i) of Lemma 3.2,  $\Gamma_k \neq 0$  implies that  $\gcd(\phi(A)(z = b_k, y), \phi(B)(z = b_k, y)) \sim \phi(G)(z = b_k, y) \cdot y^\ell$ . We proved it. As  $\deg \Omega \leq (4\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 4D)(D+1) + (D+1)D/2 + n^2$ , by Lemma 3.1, if  $\alpha_i, \gamma_i$ 's and  $b_k$  are randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the probability that  $\Omega \neq 0$  is  $\geq 1 - \frac{(4\|s\|_\infty D^2 + 5D)(D+1) + n^2}{q}$ .  $\square$

### 4.4 An Algorithm for Computing $N(G, \mathbf{s})$

Let  $G^*$  be an approximation polynomial containing some terms of  $G$  and let  $\text{Terms}(G^*)$  denote those terms. For an  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{N}^n$ , the following algorithm computes the set  $(\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \setminus \text{Terms}(G^*)) \cup \text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s})$  which is a set that contains all the terms in  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$  and  $\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s})$  but not in  $\text{Terms}(G^*)$ .

#### Algorithm 1 Computing the Non-colliding Set

**Require:** Two monomial primitive polynomials  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ; an approximation polynomial  $G^*$  containing some terms of  $G$ ; a vector  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ ; a tolerance  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ .

**Ensure:** If  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) \neq \emptyset$  or  $G^* = 0$ , return the set  $(\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \setminus \text{Terms}(G^*)) \cup \text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s})$  with a probability of  $\geq 1 - \varepsilon$ ; or "Failure".

- 1: Let  $D = \max(\deg A, \deg B)$  and let  $\varepsilon := \min(\varepsilon, 1/D)$ .
- 2: **if**  $q < \frac{8\|s\|_\infty(D+1)^3 + 6n\|s\|_\infty(D+1)^2 + 3n^2}{\varepsilon}$  **then**
- 3: Find  $\ell$  such that  $q^\ell > \frac{8\|s\|_\infty(D+1)^3 + 6n\|s\|_\infty(D+1)^2 + 3n^2}{\varepsilon}$ . Extend  $\mathbb{F}_q$  to  $\mathbb{F}_{q^\ell}$ . We still denote  $\mathbb{F}_{q^\ell}$  as  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .
- 4: **end if**
- 5: Let  $D_{\min} := \min(\deg A, \deg B)$ .
- 6: Compute  $A_{\mathbf{s}} = A(x_1 y^{s_1}, \dots, x_n y^{s_n})$  and  $B_{\mathbf{s}} = B(x_1 y^{s_1}, \dots, x_n y^{s_n})$ . Assume  $A_{\mathbf{s}} = A_1 y^{v_1} + \dots + A_r y^{v_r}$  where  $v_1 > \dots > v_r$  and  $B_{\mathbf{s}} = B_1 y^{u_1} + \dots + B_\ell y^{u_\ell}$  with  $u_1 > \dots > u_\ell$ .
- 7: Randomly pick  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{D_{\min}}$  from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  until  $\alpha_i/\gamma_i$ 's are distinct and  $b_i$ 's are distinct and  $\deg_z A_1(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) = \deg A_1$  and  $A_1(\gamma_1 b_i - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n b_i - \alpha_n) \neq 0$  and  $B_1(\gamma_1 b_i - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n b_i - \alpha_n) \neq 0$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, D_{\min}$ .
- Stage 1:** Test if  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) = \emptyset$ . See section 4.2.
- 8: **if**  $\gcd(A_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n), B_j(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n), i = 1, \dots, r, j = 1, \dots, \ell) \neq 1$  **then**
- 9: return "Failure". [\* This means  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) = \emptyset$  (Lemma 4.3).\*]
- 10: **end if**

**Stage 2:** Interpolate the bivariate GCD  $\phi(G)$  (upto  $y^m$ ) from  $D_{\min} + 1$  monic univariate GCDs  $\bar{g}_k \in \mathbb{F}_q[y]$ . That  $D_{\min} + 1$  values are sufficient see Lemma 8.1 in the Appendix.

- 11: **if**  $\deg A < \deg B$  **then**  $\Gamma := A_1$  **else**  $\Gamma := B_1$  **end if**
- 12: **for**  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, D_{\min}$  **do**
- 13: Compute  $\bar{g}_k := \gcd(A((\gamma_1 b_k - \alpha_1) y^{s_1}, \dots, (\gamma_n b_k - \alpha_n) y^{s_n}), B((\gamma_1 b_k - \alpha_1) y^{s_1}, \dots, (\gamma_n b_k - \alpha_n) y^{s_n}))$ .
- 14: Set  $g_k := \Gamma(\gamma_1 b_k - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n b_k - \alpha_n) \cdot \bar{g}_k$  and assume  $g_k = c_{k,1} y^{d_1} + \dots + c_{k,t} y^{d_t}$ .
- 15: **end for**
- 16: **for**  $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$  **do**
- 17: Interpolate  $\bar{C}_i(z)$  from  $(b_k, c_{k,i})$  so that  $\bar{C}_i(b_k) = c_{k,i}$  for  $0 \leq k \leq D_{\min}$ .
- 18: **end for**
- 19: Compute  $\bar{C}(z) = \gcd(\bar{C}_1(z), \dots, \bar{C}_t(z))$  then  $C_i(z) := \bar{C}_i(z)/\bar{C}(z)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, t$ . [\* Then  $\phi(G) \sim_y C_1(z) y^{d_1} + \dots + C_t(z) y^{d_t}$ .\*]
- Stage 3:** compute the non-colliding set  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$ .
- 20:  $\text{NC} := \emptyset$ .
- 21: **for**  $i = 1, \dots, t$  **do**
- 22: **if**  $C_i(z)$  can be factored into the form  $c_i \prod_{j=1}^n (\gamma_j z - \alpha_j)^{e_{i,j}}$  **then**

23:  $NC := NC \cup \{c_i \cdot x_1^{e_{i,1}} \cdots x_n^{e_{i,n}}\}.$   
 24: **end if**  
 25: **end for**  
 26: **if**  $G^* = 0$  **then** return NC **end if**  
**Stage 4:** Adjust the coefficients of  $\phi(G)$  and  $\phi(G^*)$  using a common term to make them consistent to get  $\phi(G - G^*)$ .  
 27: Let  $h_1 := C_1(z)y^{d_1} + \cdots + C_t(z)y^{d_t}$ .  $\{^* h_1 \sim \phi(G)\}.$   
 28: Compute  $h_2 := G^*((\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)y^{s_1}, \dots, (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)y^{s_n})$  and assume  $h_2 = E_1(z)y^{w_1} + \cdots + E_r(z)y^{w_r}$ .  $\{^* h_2 = \phi(G^*)\}.$   
 29: **if** the monomials of NC and  $G^*$  do not have a common one **then** return "Failure" **end if**  
 30: Assume one of the same monomials corresponds to terms  $C_\rho(z)y^{d_\rho}$  and  $E_\delta(z)y^{w_\delta}$  in  $h_1$  and  $h_2$ .  
 31: Let  $h_3 := h_1 \cdot y^{\max(d_\rho, w_\delta) - d_\rho} \cdot \frac{LC(E_\delta(z))}{LC(C_\rho(z))} - h_2 \cdot y^{\max(d_\rho, w_\delta) - w_\delta}$ .  
 Assume  $h_3 = F_1(z)y^{l_1} + \cdots + F_\tau(z)y^{l_\tau}$ .  $\{^* h_3 = \phi(G - G^*)\}.$   
 32: **if**  $h_3 = 0$  return  $\emptyset$  **end if**  
 33: Multiply each term in NC by the scalar  $\frac{LC(E_\delta(z))}{LC(C_\rho(z))}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .  
**Stage 5:** Compute the non-colliding terms of  $NC(G - G^*, s)$ .  
 34: Set  $NCG^* := \emptyset$ .  $\{^* \text{Store the elements of } NC(G - G^*, s)\}.$   
 35: **for**  $k = 1, \dots, \tau$   
 36: **if**  $F_k(z)$  can be factored into the form  $c_k \prod_{i=1}^n (\gamma_i z - \alpha_i)^{e_{k,i}}$  **then**  
 $NCG^* := NCG^* \cup \{c_k \cdot x_1^{e_{k,1}} \cdots x_n^{e_{k,n}}\}.$   
 38: **end if**  
 39: **end for**  
 40: **if**  $NCG^* = \emptyset$  **then** return "Failure" **end if**  
 41: **return**  $(NC \setminus \text{Terms}(G^*)) \cup NCG^*.$

**THEOREM 4.7.** *Algorithm 1 works correctly as specified.*

**PROOF.** Consider two cases.

Case 1: If  $Q := \gcd(A_1, \dots, A_r, B_1, \dots, B_\ell) \neq 1$ , then by Lemma 4.3,  $NC(G, s) = \emptyset$ . In Step 7, as  $\deg_z A_1(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) = \deg A_1$ , then  $\deg_z Q(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n) = \deg Q \geq 1$ . Thus this case can be detected in Step 8. We analyse the success rate. In Step 7, the leading coefficient of  $A_1(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$  is a polynomial in  $\gamma_i$ 's with degree  $\leq D$ . To make  $\alpha_i/\gamma_i$  distinct, we should make  $\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\alpha_i \gamma_j - \alpha_j \gamma_i) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \neq 0$ . This polynomial has degree  $\leq n^2$ . As  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$  are randomly chosen from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the output of Step 8 is correct with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{D+n^2}{q} \geq 1 - \epsilon$ .

Case 2: If  $\gcd(A_1, \dots, A_r, B_1, \dots, B_\ell) = 1$ , Step 23 computes the correct  $NC(G, s)$  if the following three conditions are met.

- (1) The gcd in Step 8 is 1.
- (2) In Step 13  $\bar{g}_k$  is similar to  $\phi(G)(z = b_k, y)$  for all  $k$ .
- (3) In Step 22, if  $C_i$  corresponds to a non-colliding term in  $G_s$ , then  $C_i$  has the form of  $c_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_{i,1}} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_{i,n}}$ ; if not it doesn't have this form.

By Corollary 4.5, (1) happens with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{(2D^2+2D)(2\|s\|_\infty D+1)}{q}$ .

By Lemma 4.6, (2) happens with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{(4\|s\|_\infty D^2+5D)(D+1)+n^2}{q}$ .

By Theorem 4.1, (3) happens with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{(3n+1)\|s\|_\infty D^2+3nD+n^2}{q}$ .

Step 37 computes the correct  $NC(G - G^*, s)$  if the following condition is met.

(4) In Step 36, if  $F_k$  is corresponding to a non-colliding term in  $(G - G^*)_s$ , then  $F_k$  has the form of  $c_k(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1)^{e_{k,1}} \cdots (\gamma_n z - \alpha_n)^{e_{k,n}}$ ; if not it doesn't have this form. By Theorem 4.1, (4) happens with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{(3n+1)\|s\|_\infty D^2+3nD+n^2}{q}$ . Thus our algorithm returns the correct set with probability (1) times (2) times (3) times (4) which simplifies to  $\geq 1 - \frac{8\|s\|_\infty (D+1)^3+6n\|s\|_\infty (D+1)^2+3n^2}{q}$ .

As in Step 2, we have  $q > \frac{8\|s\|_\infty (D+1)^3+6n\|s\|_\infty (D+1)^2+3n^2}{\epsilon}$ , then the probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{8\|s\|_\infty (D+1)^3+6n\|s\|_\infty (D+1)^2+3n^2}{q} \geq 1 - \epsilon$ .  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.8.** *The expected bit complexity of Algorithm 1 is  $O^\sim(nT_{in})$  ( $\log d + \log \|s\|_\infty + \log^2 \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log q + (T_{in}D + \|s\|_\infty D^2 + T_0 D^2 + n\|s\|_\infty D) \cdot (\log q + \log(n\|s\|_\infty D/\epsilon))$ ), where  $T_{in} := \#A + \#B$  and  $T_0 := \#G$ .*

**PROOF.** In Step 3, as  $\ell = O(\log \|s\|_\infty + \log D + \log n + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon})$ , the complexity of extension is  $O(\ell^2 + \ell \log q)$  bit operations [14], which is  $O(\log^2 \|s\|_\infty + \log^2 D + \log^2 n + \log^2 \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \|s\|_\infty \log q + \log D \log q + \log n \log q + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log q)$ . Step 6 costs  $O^\sim(nT_{in}(\log d + \log \|s\|_\infty) + T_{in} \log q)$  bit operations.

In Step 8, first, compute  $A_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$  and  $B_i(\gamma_1 z - \alpha_1, \dots, \gamma_n z - \alpha_n)$ , which costs up to  $O^\sim(T_{in}D \log q)$  bit operations. Then compute  $r + \ell$  polynomial GCDs with degree  $D$ , resulting in a complexity of  $O^\sim((r + \ell)D \log q)$  bit operations. As  $r + \ell$  is  $O(\|s\|_\infty D)$ , the complexity is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D^2 \log q)$  bit operations.

In Step 13, compute all  $\phi(A)(z = b_k, y)$  and  $\phi(B)(z = b_k, y)$ , which costs  $O^\sim(T_{in}D \log q)$  bit operations. Then, we totally compute  $O(D)$  univariate GCDs of degree  $O(\|s\|_\infty D)$ , the complexity is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D^2 \log q)$  bit operations.

In Step 17, we interpolate  $t$  polynomials with degrees  $O(D)$ . As  $t \in O(\|s\|_\infty D)$ , the complexity is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D^2 \log q)$  bit operations.

In Step 19, we compute  $t$  polynomial GCDs of degree  $O(D)$ . As  $t \in O(\|s\|_\infty D)$ , the complexity is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D^2 \log q)$  bit operations.

Step 22 costs  $O(tD^2 \log q)$  bit operations to factor all  $C_i(z)$  by continuously dividing them by  $\gamma_j z - \alpha_j$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q[z]$ . If  $t > T_0$ , then we computed the wrong result, as stated in Theorem 4.7, the probability of this case happening is  $\leq \epsilon$ . In this case,  $t \leq \|s\|_\infty D$ , therefore the complexity is  $O(\|s\|_\infty D^3 \log q)$  bit operations. If  $t < T_0$ ,  $O(tD^2 \log q)$  is  $O(T_0 D^2 \log q)$ . In Step 1, we let  $\epsilon \leq \frac{1}{D}$ . The expected complexity is  $O(\epsilon \cdot \|s\|_\infty D^3 \log q + T_0 D^2 \log q)$ , which is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D^2 \log q + T_0 D^2 \log q)$  bit operations.

Step 28 does  $O^\sim(T_0 D \log q)$  bit operations as  $\#G^* \leq \#G$ .

In Step 31, the complexity is  $O^\sim((t+T_0) \log q + (t+T_0) \log \|s\|_\infty + (t+T_0) \log D)$  bit operations, as  $t \leq \|s\|_\infty D$ , the cost is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D \log q + T_0 \log q + T_0 \log \|s\|_\infty + T_0 \log D)$  bit operations.

Steps 35-37 have the same the complexity as Steps 21-23, which is  $O^\sim(\|s\|_\infty D^2 \log q + T_0 D^2 \log q + n\|s\|_\infty D \log q)$  bit operations.

After Step 6,  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is actually  $\mathbb{F}_{q^\ell}$ , so in the complexity analysis,  $\log q^\ell \in \max(O(\log q, \log(\frac{n\|s\|_\infty D}{\epsilon})))$ . To simplify it, we replace it with  $O(\log q + \log(\frac{n\|s\|_\infty D}{\epsilon}))$ .  $\square$

## 4.5 Good Kronecker Substitutions

When  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$  is chosen randomly, the substitution  $x_i = x_i y^{s_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  is called a *randomized Kronecker substitution*. We call a vector  $\mathbf{s}$  that causes  $\#NC(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq \frac{1}{2} \#G$  a "good" Kronecker substitution for  $G$ . The following key lemma shows that there is an upper bound on the number of "bad" vectors  $\mathbf{s}$ .

LEMMA 4.9. Let  $G \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $t = \#G$ . If there exist  $K$  different integer vectors  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$ , such that  $C(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq \ell$  then

$$K \leq t(t-1)N^{n-1}/\ell.$$

PROOF. Assume  $G = c_1m_1 + \dots + c_tm_t$  and  $m_i = x_1^{e_{i,1}} \dots x_n^{e_{i,n}}$ . Let  $h_{i,j}(s_1, \dots, s_n) = \sum_{k=1}^n (e_{i,k} - e_{j,k})s_k$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq t$ . Denote  $R_{i,j}$  as the number of integer roots in  $[0, N]^n$  and let  $R = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq t} R_{i,j}$ . For each  $h_{i,j}$ , there are up to  $N^{n-1}$  different points in  $[0, N]^n$ . Therefore  $R_{i,j} \leq N^{n-1}$  and  $R \leq \frac{t(t-1)}{2}N^{n-1}$ . Assuming  $\mathbf{s}$  is a vector such that  $C(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq \ell$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $c_1m_1, \dots, c_tm_t$  are colliding terms, then at least  $\lceil \frac{\ell}{2} \rceil$  pairs of terms in  $C(G, \mathbf{s})$  collide together. Therefore,  $\mathbf{s}$  is the root of at least  $\lceil \frac{\ell}{2} \rceil$  different  $h_{i,j}$ . There are  $K$  such points, so for all  $h_{i,j}$ 's, there are at least  $\lceil \frac{\ell}{2} \rceil \cdot K$  roots. So we have  $\frac{\ell}{2} \cdot K \leq \lceil \frac{\ell}{2} \rceil \cdot K \leq R \leq \frac{t(t-1)}{2}N^{n-1}$ , therefore  $\ell \cdot K \leq t(t-1)N^{n-1}$ .  $\square$

The following theorem provides a method to find a vector  $\mathbf{s}$  so that, with high probability,  $G_{\mathbf{s}}$  has at least  $\beta\#G$  non-colliding terms.

THEOREM 4.10. Let  $G(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $T \geq \#G = t$ . Let  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  and  $\mu \in (0, 1)$ . Let  $N = \lceil \frac{T-1}{\mu(1-\beta)} \rceil$ . If we choose  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$  at random, then  $\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \beta \cdot \#G] \geq 1 - \mu$ .

PROOF. Observe that  $\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \beta \cdot \#G] = 1 - \Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \leq \beta \cdot \#G] = 1 - \Pr[\#\text{C}(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq (1 - \beta) \cdot \#G]$ . The second equality follows from  $\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) + \#\text{C}(G, \mathbf{s}) = \#G$ . Thus it suffices to show that  $\Pr[\#\text{C}(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq (1 - \beta) \cdot \#G] \leq \mu$ . According to Lemma 4.9, the number of integer vectors  $\mathbf{s}$  in  $[0, N]^n$  such that  $\#\text{C}(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq (1 - \beta)\#G$  is  $\leq \frac{t(t-1)N^{n-1}}{(1-\beta)\#G}$ . Since there are  $N^n$  integer vectors in  $[0, N]^n$ , we have  $\Pr[\#\text{C}(G, \mathbf{s}) \geq (1 - \beta) \cdot \#G] \leq (t-1)N^{n-1}/(1-\beta)/N^n = (t-1)/(1-\beta)/N \leq \mu(t-1)/(T-1) \leq \mu$ . So  $\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \beta \cdot \#G] \geq 1 - \mu$ .  $\square$

If we choose  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\mu = \frac{1}{4} \lceil \log_2 T \rceil^{-1}$ , we have :

COROLLARY 4.11. Let  $G \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $T \geq \#G$  and  $N = 8(T-1) \lceil \log_2 T \rceil$ . If we choose  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$  at random then

$$\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \#G] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{4} \lceil \log_2 T \rceil^{-1}.$$

Actually, if we choose  $\beta = \mu = \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \#G] \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , the probability that at least half of the terms in  $G_{\mathbf{s}}$  do not collide, is  $\geq \frac{1}{2}$ . This is a very satisfactory result and  $N = 4(T-1)$ . However, because we only recover  $T/2$  terms each time, in order to find all the terms, we need to loop  $\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  times, which reduces the probability of success to  $2^{-\lceil \log_2 T \rceil} \leq \frac{1}{T}$ , which is too low. Therefore, in the Corollary 4.11, we increase  $N$  a little to increase the probability of success from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1 - \frac{1}{4} \lceil \log_2 T \rceil^{-1}$ , so the probability of computing all terms is  $(1 - \frac{1}{4} \lceil \log_2 T \rceil^{-1})^{\lceil \log_2 T \rceil} \geq \frac{3}{4}$ .

**4.5.1 Structure of Our GCD Algorithm. Stage 1:** First, randomly choose a vector  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$  where  $N = 8(T-1) \lceil \log_2 T \rceil$ . Then by Corollary 4.11, with high probability,  $\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \#G$ . By Algorithm 1, we can compute  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$ . Denote  $G^*$  as the sum of all terms in  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$ . Then  $G^*$  is an approximation polynomial of  $G$  and satisfies  $\#G^* \geq \frac{1}{2}\#G$  (or  $\#(G - G^*) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#G$ ). Generally  $G \neq G^*$ , so we choose other vectors  $\mathbf{s}'$  to find the remaining terms in  $G - G^*$ .

**Stage 2:** Let  $\text{Terms}(G^*)$  denote the set of all terms in  $G^*$ . We want to choose a new vector  $\mathbf{s}' \in \mathbb{N}^n$  that satisfies

- (1)  $\#\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}') > \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*)$ ;
- (2)  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}') \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) \neq \emptyset$ .

Condition (1) ensures  $\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}')$  contains at least half the terms in  $G - G^*$ . Let  $G^{**}$  be the sum of the terms in  $\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}')$ . Then we have  $\#(G - G^* - G^{**}) < \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*) < \frac{1}{4}\#G$ . By performing the same steps for  $G - G^* - G^{**}$ , we can find a polynomial  $G^{***}$  such that  $\#(G - G^* - G^{**} - G^{***}) < \frac{1}{2^3}\#G$ . Repeating this  $\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  times we obtain all the terms of  $G$ .

Condition (2) is used to match the terms in  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}')$  and the previous approximation polynomial  $G^*$ . This is because  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}')$  is computed based on the factorization of the coefficients of  $y$  in  $G_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ).

To compute  $G_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$ , we compute the GCD of  $A_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$  and  $B_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$ . We will get a polynomial  $\kappa y^m \cdot G_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$ , where  $\kappa \neq 1$  and  $m \neq 0$  are likely. We need to identify  $\kappa$  and  $m$  for our algorithm to work.

Let  $H := G - G^*$ .  $\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}')$  is computed based on the factorization of the coefficients of  $y$  in  $H_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$ . Here  $H_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i) = G_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i) - G_{\mathbf{s}'}^*(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$ .  $G^*$  is known, so  $G_{\mathbf{s}'}^*(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$  is known. But the  $\kappa$  and  $y^m$  are unknown to us, which means  $G_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$  is also unknown. Condition (2) means that  $G^*$  and  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}')$  have a common monomial, so we can remove the factor  $\kappa y^m$  in  $\kappa y^m \cdot G_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$  by comparing its coefficients with the coefficients of  $G^*$ , as they have at least one common term. Therefore we can compute  $H_{\mathbf{s}'}(x_i = \gamma_i z - \alpha_i)$  and ultimately find  $\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}')$ .

The following theorem shows the probability of successfully choosing a vector  $\mathbf{s}$  that satisfies the two conditions.

THEOREM 4.12. Let  $G \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $T \geq \#G$ . Let  $G^*$  be a polynomial containing some terms of  $G$ , and  $\#G^* \geq \frac{1}{2}\#G$ . Let  $N = 8(T-1) \lceil \log_2 T \rceil$ . If we choose  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$  at random then  $\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}) \geq \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*)$  and  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) \neq \emptyset] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{4 \lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ .

PROOF. Denote  $H := G - G^*$ . Assuming there are  $K_1$  integer vectors in  $[0, N]^n$ , such that  $\#\text{NC}(H, \mathbf{s}) < \frac{1}{2}\#(H)$  and there are  $K_2$  integer vectors in  $[0, N]^n$  such that  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) = \emptyset$ . Below we give an upper bound for  $K_1 + K_2$ .

Let  $t_H := \#H$ . Then  $t_H \leq \frac{T}{2}$ .  $\#\text{NC}(H, \mathbf{s}) < \frac{1}{2}\#(H)$  is equivalent to  $\#\text{C}(H, \mathbf{s}) > \frac{1}{2}t_H$ , by Lemma 4.9,

$$K_1 \leq (t_H(t_H - 1)N^{n-1}) / (\frac{1}{2}t_H) = 2(t_H - 1)N^{n-1} \leq (T - 2)N^{n-1}.$$

Now consider  $K_2$ . Assume  $G = \sum_{i=1}^t c_i m_i$  and  $m_i = x_1^{e_{i,1}} \dots x_n^{e_{i,n}}$ . W.l.o.g., assume  $c_1 m_1 \in \text{Terms}(G^*)$ . As  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) = \emptyset$ ,  $c_1 m_1 \notin \text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$ , which means  $c_1 m_1 \in C(G, \mathbf{s})$ . Set  $h(s_1, \dots, s_n) = \prod_{j=2}^t [(e_{j,1} - e_{1,1})s_1 + (e_{j,2} - e_{1,2})s_2 + \dots + (e_{j,n} - e_{1,n})s_n]$ . Then  $c_1 m_1 \in C(G, \mathbf{s})$  means  $h(s_1, \dots, s_n) = 0$ . Since  $\deg h(s_1, \dots, s_n) \leq T - 1$ , by Zippel's lemma, there exist at most  $(T - 1)N^{n-1}$  points  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$  such that  $h(s_1, \dots, s_n) = 0$ . So  $K_2 \leq (T - 1)N^{n-1}$ . Therefore we have  $K_1 + K_2 \leq 2(T - 1)N^{n-1}$ . So the probability  $\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}) \geq \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*)$  and  $\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) \neq \emptyset] \geq 1 - \frac{K_1 + K_2}{N^n} \geq 1 - \frac{2(T-1)}{N} = 1 - \frac{1}{4} \lceil \log_2 T \rceil^{-1}$ .  $\square$

Because we may only recover  $T/2$  terms each time, in order to find all the terms, we need to loop  $\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  times, so the probability of computing all terms becomes  $(1 - \frac{1}{4} \lceil \log_2 T \rceil^{-1})^{\lceil \log_2 T \rceil} \geq \frac{3}{4}$ .

**4.5.2 Algorithms.**

THEOREM 4.13. Algorithm 2 works correctly as specified.

**Algorithm 2** Generating a Newly Added Polynomial  $G^{**}$ 

**Require:** Monomial primitive polynomials  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ; an approximation polynomial  $G^*$  of  $G$ , satisfying  $\#(G - G^*) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#G$  or  $G^* = 0$ ; an upper bound  $T \geq \#G$ .

**Ensure:** A polynomial  $G^{**}$  such that  $\#(G - G^* - G^{**}) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*)$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{3\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$  or “Failure”.

- 1: Let  $N = 8(T - 1)\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$ . Randomly choose  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$ .
- 2: Compute  $C := (\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \setminus \text{Terms}(G^*)) \cup \text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s})$  by Algorithm 1 with input  $A, B, G^*, \mathbf{s}$  and  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ .
- 3: **if**  $C$  is “Failure” **then** return “Failure” **end if**
- 4: Let  $G^{**}$  be the sum of the terms in  $C$ .
- 5: **return**  $G^{**}$ .

**Algorithm 3** GCD algorithm

**Require:**  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ; an upper bound  $T \geq \#G$ .

**Ensure:**  $G^* = \text{gcd}(A, B)$  up to a constant with probability  $\geq \frac{2}{3}$ ; or “Failure”.

- 1: Compute monomial contents  $\text{MoCont}(A)$  and  $\text{MoCont}(B)$  and set  $\text{MoCont}(G) := \text{gcd}(\text{MoCont}(A), \text{MoCont}(B))$ . (see 2.4)
- 2:  $A := A/\text{MoCont}(A)$ .  $B := B/\text{MoCont}(B)$ .
- 3:  $G^* := 0$ ;
- 4: **for**  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  **do**
- 5:   Let  $G^{**}$  be the output of Algorithm 2 with inputs  $A, B, G^*$  and  $T$ .
- 6:   **if**  $G^{**} = \text{“Failure”}$  **then** return “Failure” **end if**
- 7:   **if**  $G^{**} = 0$  **then** return  $G^* \cdot \text{MoCont}(G)$  **end if**
- 8:    $G^* := G^* + G^{**}$ .
- 9: **end for**
- 10: **return** “Failure”.

**PROOF.** We consider two cases. (1)  $G^* = 0$ . In Step 1, as we choose  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$ , by Corollary 4.11, we have

$$\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \#G] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{4\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}.$$

In Step 2, we compute  $(\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \setminus \text{Terms}(G^*)) \cup \text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}) = \text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s})$  by Algorithm 1 with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ . So in Step 5, we have  $\#(G - G^{**}) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#G$  with probability  $\geq (1 - \frac{1}{4\lceil \log_2 T \rceil})(1 - \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{3\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ .

(2)  $\#(G - G^*) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#G$ . In Step 1, as we choose  $\mathbf{s} \in [0, N]^n$ , by Corollary 4.12, we have

$\Pr[\#\text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s}) \geq \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*) \text{ and } \text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \cap \text{Terms}(G^*) \neq \emptyset] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{4\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ . In Step 2, we compute  $(\text{NC}(G, \mathbf{s}) \setminus \text{Terms}(G^*)) \cup \text{NC}(G - G^*, \mathbf{s})$  by Algorithm 1 with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ . So in Step 5, we have  $\#(G - G^* - G^{**}) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*)$  with probability  $\geq (1 - \frac{1}{4\lceil \log_2 T \rceil})(1 - \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{3\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ .  $\square$

Now we analyse the complexity of Algorithm 2. We assume  $T \in O(T_0)$ , that is,  $T$  is not a bad bound.

**THEOREM 4.14.** *The expected complexity of Algorithm 2 is  $O^\sim(nT_{\text{in}}(\log d + \log T_0) + D(T_{\text{in}} + nT_0 + T_0D)(\log q + \log(nT_0)))$  bit operations, where  $T_{\text{in}} := \#A + \#B$  and  $T_0 := \#G$ , where  $D = \max(\deg A, \deg B)$ .*

**PROOF.** In Step 2, we call Algorithm 1, as  $\|\mathbf{s}\|_\infty$  is  $O^\sim(T_0)$  and  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ , the expected complexity is  $O^\sim(nT_{\text{in}}(\log d + \log T_0) + D(T_{\text{in}} + nT_0 + T_0D)(\log q + \log(nT_0)))$  bit operations, by Theorem 4.8.  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.15.** *Algorithm 3 works correctly as specified.*

**PROOF.** Steps 5-8 compute the new approximation  $G^* + G^{**}$  from  $G^*$  using Algorithm 2. As  $\#(G - G^* - G^{**}) \leq \frac{1}{2}\#(G - G^*)$ ,  $\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  loops are enough. If  $G^{**} = 0$ , then all terms have been discovered, so  $G^*$  is the monomial primitive part of the GCD  $G$ . Therefore we output  $G^* \cdot \text{MoCont}(G)$  in Step 7.

If when Algorithm 2 called in Step 5 it always returns the correct newly added polynomial  $G^{**}$ , Algorithm 3 returns the correct GCD in Step 7. Since Algorithm 2 is correct with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{3\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ , the probability is  $\geq (1 - \frac{1}{3\lceil \log_2 T \rceil})^{\lceil \log_2 T \rceil} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$ .  $\square$

We analyze the complexity of Algorithm 3. Again we assume  $T \in O(T_0)$ , that is,  $T$  is not a bad bound.

**THEOREM 4.16.** *The expected complexity of Algorithm 3 is  $O^\sim(nT_{\text{in}}(\log d \log T_0 + \log^2 T_0) + D(T_{\text{in}} + nT_0 + T_0D)(\log q \log T_0 + \log(nT_0) \log T_0))$  bit operations where  $T_{\text{in}} := \#A + \#B$ ,  $T_0 := \#G$  and  $D = \max(\deg A, \deg B)$ .*

**PROOF.** The cost of computing the monomial contents in Step 1 and the monomial primitive parts in Step 2 is  $O^\sim(nT_{\text{in}} \log d)$  which negligible. As we call Algorithm 2 at most  $\lceil \log_2 T_0 \rceil$  times, by Theorem 4.14, the complexity is  $O^\sim(nT_{\text{in}}(\log d \log T_0 + \log^2 T_0) + D(T_{\text{in}} + nT_0 + T_0D)(\log q \log T_0 + \log(nT_0) \log T_0))$  bit operations.  $\square$

**REMARK 4.1.** *If Algorithm 3 outputs a polynomial, with probability  $\geq \frac{11}{12}$ , this polynomial is the GCD of  $A$  and  $B$ , up to a constant. This probability is greater than  $2/3$  because we have excluded the case where the output is “Failure”. We analyze the rate. In Step 2 of Algorithm 2, Algorithm 1 is called. If Algorithm 1 returns a correct set, then Algorithm 2 also returns a correct newly added polynomial  $G^{**}$ . Therefore, in Algorithm 3, we get a truly better approximation  $G^* + G^{**}$ . Due to a maximum of  $\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  calls to Algorithm 1, and the selection of  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil}$ , the probability is  $\geq (1 - \frac{1}{12\lceil \log_2 T \rceil})^{\lceil \log_2 T \rceil} \geq \frac{11}{12}$ .*

**REMARK 4.2.** *In addition, from the above analysis, it can be seen that even if  $T$  is not the upper bound of  $G$ , if Algorithm 3 returns a polynomial, then with probability  $\geq \frac{11}{12}$ , it is still the correct GCD of  $A$  and  $B$  up to a constant. This is because the correctness of Algorithm 1 ensures the output of Algorithm 3 is always correct.*

**5 DROPPING THE TERM BOUND**

Algorithm 3 requires a term bound  $T$  for  $\#G$  as input. In this section we remove this requirement. Remark 4.2 means we can simply call Algorithm 3 with  $T = 2, 2^2, 2^3, 2^4, \dots$ . Once a polynomial is output instead of “Failure”, it is the GCD with probability  $\geq \frac{11}{12}$ .

**THEOREM 5.1.** *Algorithm 4 works correctly as specified.*

**PROOF.** We let  $T = 2, 4, 8, \dots$ , once  $T \geq T_0$ , then with probability  $\geq \frac{2}{3}$ , Algorithm 3 returns  $G = \text{gcd}(A, B)$  up to a constant. As mentioned in Remark 4.2, once Algorithm 3 returns a polynomial, with probability  $\geq \frac{11}{12}$ , it is the GCD of  $A$  and  $B$  up to a constant.  $\square$

The following theorem gives the complexity of Algorithm 4.

**Algorithm 4** GCD algorithm for  $\mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .**Require:** Two polynomials  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .**Ensure:**  $H = \gcd(A, B)$  up to a constant with probability  $\geq \frac{11}{12}$ .

- 1: Compute  $dmin = \max_{i=1}^n \min(\deg(A, x_i), \deg(B, x_i))$ .
- 2:  $T := 2$ .
- 3: **repeat**
- 4:   Compute  $H$  the GCD of  $A, B$  with the guess terms bound  $T$  using Algorithm 3.
- 5:   **if**  $H \neq$  "Failure" **then** return  $H$  **end if**
- 6:   **if**  $T < (dmin + 1)^n$  **then**  $T := 2T$  **end if**
- 7: **end repeat**

**THEOREM 5.2.** Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Algorithm 4 computes the correct GCD  $G = \gcd(A, B)$  using expected  $O^{\sim}(nT_{in}d \log q \log^3 T_0 + n^2 d^2 T_0 \log q)$  bit operations where  $T_{in} = \#A + \#B$  and  $T_0 = \#G$  and  $d = \max_{i=1}^n \max(\deg(A, x_i), \deg(B, x_i))$ .

**PROOF.** Let's first analyze the complexity when  $T$  is fixed. In Step 4, the complexity is  $C_T := O^{\sim}(nT_{in}d \log^2 T \log q + n^2 d^2 T \log q)$  bit operations as Algorithm 3 calling at most  $\lceil \log_2 T \rceil$  times Algorithm 1 and  $D \in O(nd)$ . We obtain the complexity due to Theorem 4.16.

Now  $T = 2, 2^2, \dots, 2^{\kappa-1}, 2^{\kappa}, 2^{\kappa}, 2^{\kappa}, \dots$ , where  $\kappa = n \lceil \log(dmin + 1) \rceil$ . We keep calling Algorithm 3 until it outputs a polynomial. When  $T \geq \#G$ , Algorithm 3 returns  $G$  with probability  $\geq \frac{2}{3}$ . Let  $L := \lceil \log_2 T_0 \rceil$ . Then  $2^L \geq T_0$ . Set the event  $E_\ell := \{\text{when Algorithm 4 calls Algorithm 3 } \ell \text{th times, it returns a polynomial}\}$ , where  $\ell \geq L$ . When event  $E_\ell$  occurs, it means that in the  $L, L+1, \dots, (\ell-1)$ -th calling of Algorithm 3, it does not return a polynomial. So the probability  $P(E_\ell) \leq (\frac{1}{3})^{\ell-L}$ . In this case,  $\text{Com}_L := \sum_{i=1}^L C_{2^i} \in O^{\sim}(nT_{in}d \log q \log^3 T_0 + n^2 d^2 T_0 \log q)$  is the bit complexity. And for  $\ell \geq L$ ,  $\text{Com}_\ell := \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} C_{2^i} \in O^{\sim}(nT_{in}d \log q \ell^3 + n^2 d^2 \ell \log q)$  is the bit complexity. So the expected complexity is  $\leq \text{Com}_L + \sum_{\ell=L}^{\infty} P(E_\ell) \text{Com}_\ell$ . As  $\sum_{\ell=L}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{3})^{\ell-L} \ell^3 = O(L^3)$  and  $\sum_{\ell=L}^{\infty} 2^\ell (\frac{1}{3})^{\ell-L} \in O(2^L)$ , we have  $\sum_{\ell=L}^{\infty} P(E_\ell) C_\ell + C_L \in O^{\sim}(nT_{in}d \log q \log^3 T_0 + n^2 d^2 T_0 \log q)$  bit operations.  $\square$

**6 IMPLEMENTATION NOTES**

We have implemented our algorithm in Maple and Stage 2 of Algorithm 1 coded in C for prime fields  $\mathbb{F}_p$  for  $p < 2^{63}$  using signed 64 bit integer arithmetic. We use Algorithm 4 to compute  $G = \gcd(A, B)$  of polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  by computing  $G$  modulo a sequence of primes and using Chinese remaindering. We wait until the result of Chinese remaindering does not change then use trial division over  $\mathbb{Z}$  to prove correctness.

Algorithm 4 tries  $T = 2, 4, 8, \dots$  until it succeeds. The total number of calls to Algorithm 1, equivalently, the total number of bivariate gcds in  $\mathbb{F}_q[y, z]$  done, is then  $\sum_{i=1}^{\log_2 T} i \in O(\log_2^2 T)$ . We can reduce this for the second and subsequent primes to  $O(\log_2 T)$  by, if Algorithm 4 used  $T = t$ , then for the next prime we initialize  $T := \max(2, \frac{t}{2})$  in Step 2 of Algorithm 4.

In Algorithm 1  $t$  is the number of terms in  $y$  of our the bivariate gcd. If  $|G^*| \ll t$ , this value for  $T$  is unlikely to succeed. So we require  $2|G^*| \geq t$  to try to recover more terms in  $G$ . This reduces the total number of calls to Algorithm 1 to  $O(\log_2 T)$ .

Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ ,  $C = A/G$  and  $D = B/G$ . Another key improvement is to reconstruct the smaller of  $G, C$  and  $D$ . If  $\#C \ll \#G$  then reconstructing  $C$  instead of  $G$  will require a smaller value of  $T$ . Maple's gcd algorithm does not do this and it is very evident in our Benchmarks.

Let  $T_{in} = \#A + \#B$  and  $T_0 = \min(\#G, \#C, \#D)$ . For sparse inputs  $T_{in} \gg T_0$ . This means the dominating cost of our algorithm will usually be evaluating the inputs at  $x_i = (\gamma_i z - \alpha_i) y^{s_i}$  at  $z = b_k$  in Step 13 of Algorithm 1. In Step 13, Algorithm 1 computes

$$\bar{g}_k = \gcd(A(x_i = (\gamma_i b_k - \alpha_i) y^{s_i}), B(x_i = (\gamma_i b_k - \alpha_i) y^{s_i}))$$

for each  $b_k$  in a loop. Because we evaluate  $z$  and not  $y$ , if we store the evaluations of the monomials of  $A$  and  $B$  at  $x_i = (\gamma_i b_k - \alpha_i)$ , for each  $b_k$ , we can reuse them for all choices of  $s$ . Similarly, if we also store the evaluations of the monomials of  $A$  and  $B$  at  $x_i = y^{s_i}$ , we can reuse them for each  $b_k$ .

**7 EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS**

Our benchmarks were run on an Intel Gold 6342 server using one core. Maple 2022 and Magma V2.26-12 were used.

Our first benchmark is for GCD problems with  $n = 9$  variables. We create  $t$  terms for  $G$  and  $s$  terms for  $C$  and  $D$  where each monomial is chosen randomly from the set of monomials of total degree at most 30 and each integer coefficient is chosen randomly from  $[-99, 99]$ . The values of  $s$  and  $t$  mean the input polynomials  $A = CG$  and  $B = GD$  have about  $10^6$  terms. The different choices of  $s$  and  $t$  include cases where  $\#G \ll \#C$ ,  $\#G = \#C$  and  $\#G \gg \#C$ .

The timings in Table 1 in column MGCD are for our new algorithm. It used two primes  $p_1 = 2^{62} - 57$  and  $p_2 = 2^{62} - 87$  to compute  $\gcd(A, B)$ . Column eval is the time spent evaluating the input polynomials  $A$  and  $B$ . Column  $T$  is the value of the  $T$  parameter in our algorithm. Notice  $T$  is much smaller than  $\min(s, t)$ .

The timings in columns Maple and Magma are for their main gcd algorithm. Maple and Magma both use Zippel's algorithm [20]. The Maple implementation is described in [5]. The timings in column MonHu are for the Monagan-Hu gcd algorithm from [7]. The implementation is described in [11].

$s$	$t$	MGCD	$T$	eval	Maple	Magma	MonHu
$10^5$	$10^1$	11.69	4	10.22	78.92	39.90	0.661
$10^4$	$10^2$	13.55	8	10.24	197.6	9.98	1.488
$10^3$	$10^3$	29.65	64	10.27	1054.9	37.49	6.868
$10^2$	$10^4$	13.43	16	10.24	14568.	27.68	1.087
$10^1$	$10^5$	10.67	4	9.47	NA	144.8	0.696

**Table 1: Benchmark 1: Timings in CPU seconds for  $n=9$** 

One reason why the Monagan-Hu algorithm is faster than ours on Benchmark 1 is that its evaluation points form a geometric sequence which reduces the number of multiplications needed by a factor of  $n$  for each evaluation. Monagan-Hu does a Kronecker substitution to map the coefficients of  $A$  and  $B$  from  $\mathbb{F}_p[x_2, \dots, x_n]$  into  $\mathbb{F}_p[y]$ . If the inputs have more variables or have higher degree, the prime  $p$  needed may overflow machine precision and then Monagan-Hu will use multi-precision integer arithmetic. This happens for Benchmark 1 when  $n \geq 12$ . Benchmark 2 below is the



same as Benchmark 1 but with  $n = 18$  variables instead of  $n = 9$ . For Benchmark 2 our new algorithm is the fastest.

$s$	$t$	MGCD	$T$	eval	Maple	Magma	MonHu
$10^5$	$10^1$	38.17	4	22.67	494.9	166.5	310.2
$10^4$	$10^2$	48.76	16	24.62	1473.2	79.50	450.8
$10^3$	$10^3$	92.60	128	24.68	14287.	447.8	4358.
$10^2$	$10^4$	50.54	16	24.64	NA	76.73	605.7
$10^1$	$10^5$	39.61	4	22.59	NA	188.1	150.6

**Table 2: Benchmark 2 timings in CPU seconds for  $n=18$**

Zippel’s algorithm and the Monagan-Hu algorithm choose a main variable, say  $x_1$ , and scale univariate images of  $G$  in  $x_1$  by the image of  $\Gamma = \gcd(\text{LC}(A, x_1), \text{LC}(B, x_1)) = \text{LC}(G, x_1)\Delta$  where  $\Delta = \gcd(\text{LC}(C, x_1), \text{LC}(D, x_1))$ . They interpolate  $H = \Delta G$ , a multiple of  $G$ , which can be much larger than  $G$ . Our new algorithm does not do this. An application where  $\#\Delta \gg 1$  is likely is multivariate polynomial factorization. Let  $h \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be irreducible and  $A = h^3$ . To factor  $A$  the first step is to compute the  $G = \gcd(A, \partial A / \partial x_1) = h^2$ . We have  $C = h$  and  $D = 3\partial h / \partial x_1$  and  $\Delta = \text{LC}(h, x_1)$ . Our new algorithm will recover  $C$  or  $D$ . Maple’s GCD algorithm interpolates  $G = h^2$  which is much larger than  $C$  and  $D$ . Magma and the Monagan-Hu algorithm interpolate  $\Delta^2 h$  or  $\Delta^2 \partial h / \partial x_1$ , which are also much larger than  $C$  and  $D$ .

For Benchmark 3 in Table 3 we constructed

$$h = c_t \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^d + \sum_{i=2}^{t-1} c_i \prod_{j=1}^n x_j^{e_{ij}} + c_0$$

where  $d = 10$ , the exponents  $e_{ij}$  are chosen at random from  $[0, d]$  and the coefficients  $c_i$  are chosen at random from  $[1, 100]$ . Here  $\Delta = \text{LC}(h, x_i)$  has about  $t/10$  terms for all  $i$ . The input  $A = h^3$  in expanded form and  $B = \partial A / \partial x_1$ . In Table 3,  $tmax$  is number of terms of the largest polynomial in  $x_2, \dots, x_n$  that Monagan-Hu interpolated. It is much bigger than  $t$ .

$t$	#A	MGCD	$T$	Maple	Magma	MonHu	tmax
50	22100	0.945	4	82.86	2.17	0.279	150
100	169096	6.359	8	2794.8	6.15	5.718	829
150	573732	21.36	16	25407.	148.2	37.10	1848
200	1352967	46.57	16	NA	1058.9	136.8	3349
300	4538198	143.5	32	NA	13752.	1079.1	7409
500	20849989	671.9	32	NA	NA	12400.	20656

**Table 3: Benchmark 3 timings in CPU seconds**

## 8 CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proposed a new method for computing the GCD of sparse multivariate polynomials over finite fields. GCD computation is an important operation of a Computer Algebra System. We gave the explicit bit complexity for the algorithm, which is polynomial in the sparse representation of the input and output and their degrees. Our initial experimental results are very good. The core of our algorithm, Steps 12 to 15 of Algorithm 1, is easily parallelized.

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## APPENDIX

### Proof of Lemma 3.3.

As  $G|A$  and  $G|B$ , we have  $\phi(G)|\phi(A)$  and  $\phi(G)|\phi(B)$ . So  $\phi(G)|\gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$ .

For the opposite direction suppose  $P(z, y, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \gcd(\phi(A), \phi(B))$ . Let  $x_i = (\gamma_i z - \alpha_i) y^{s_i}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $\alpha_i = \gamma_i z - x_i y^{-s_i}$ . Substitute them into  $P$ ,  $\phi(A)$  and  $\phi(B)$ . Let  $Q = P(z, y, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, \gamma_1 z - x_1 y^{-s_1}, \dots, \gamma_n z - x_n y^{-s_n})$ .  $Q$  may be a rational function as it may have negative degree in  $y$ . As  $P|\phi(A)$  and  $P|\phi(B)$ , there is a  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , such that  $Q \cdot y^k$  is a polynomial and  $Q \cdot y^k$  divides both  $A$  and  $B$ . Thus  $Q \cdot y^k | \gcd(A, B) = G$ . Substitute  $x_i = (\gamma_i z - \alpha_i) y^{s_i}$  back, we have

$$P(z, y, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \cdot y^k | \phi(G). \quad \square$$

In Steps 11 to 19 of Algorithm 1 we interpolate  $z$  in  $\phi(G)$  a bivariate polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}_q[y, z]$ . The following Lemma shows that  $D_{min} + 1$  values for  $z$  are sufficient. This result is likely known but it is not obvious; it is not in [1] or [6] or [18].

LEMMA 8.1. *Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[y, z]$  and  $G = \gcd(A, B)$ . Let  $b_0, b_1, \dots, b_N$  be distinct points in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Let  $h_k = \gcd(A(y, b_k), B(y, b_k))$  for  $0 \leq k \leq N$ . If*

(1)  $\text{Cont}(G, y) = 1$  and

(2)  $h_k \sim G(y, b_k)$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q[y]$  for  $0 \leq k \leq N$

then  $G$  can be interpolated from  $h_k$  for  $N = D_{min}$  where  $D_{min} = \min(\deg(A, z), \deg(B, z))$ .

PROOF. Let  $C = A/G$  and  $D = B/G$ . WLOG assume  $\deg(A, z) \leq \deg(B, z)$ . Let  $\Gamma(z) = \text{LC}(A, y)$ . Then  $\Gamma(z) = \text{LC}(G, y) \text{LC}(C, y)$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} g_k(y) &= \Gamma(b_k) \text{monic}(h_k(y)) \\ &= \text{LC}(C, y)(b_k) \text{LC}(G, y)(b_k) \text{monic}(h_k(y)) \\ &= \text{LC}(C, y)(b_k) G(y, b_k). \end{aligned}$$

Interpolating the  $g_k(y)$  gives us  $H = \text{LC}(C, y) G$  not  $G$ . To compute  $G$  we compute  $\text{Cont}(H, y) = \text{LC}(C, y)$  and remove it from  $H$ . So we need sufficient values for  $z$  to interpolate  $z$  in  $\text{LC}(C, y) \times G$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(\text{LC}(C, y) G, z) &= \deg(\text{LC}(C, y), z) + \deg(G, z) \\ &\leq \deg(C, z) + \deg(G, z) \\ &= \deg(A, z) = D_{min}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $D_{min} + 1$  values are sufficient.  $\square$