

# Faugère's F5 algorithm: variants and implementation issues

Christian Eder  
(joint work with John Perry)

Technische Universität Kaiserslautern

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## What is this talk all about?

- ① Efficient computations of Gröbner bases using Faugère's F5 Algorithm and variants of it
- ② Explanation of the F5 Algorithm, its criteria used to detect useless pairs, and its points of inefficiency
- ③ Presentation of the variants F5R & F5C which reduce the stated inefficiencies of F5
- ④ Learning about other improvements due to F5C
- ⑤ Comparison of F5, F5R & F5C under several aspects
- ⑥ Reducing F4-ish in F5

## The following section is about

- 1 Introducing Gröbner bases
  - Gröbner basics
  - Computation of Gröbner bases
  - Problem of zero reduction
- 2 The F5 Algorithm
- 3 Optimizations of F5
- 4 Further improvements in F5C
- 5 Comparison of the variants of F5
- 6 Symbolic preprocessing in F5

## Basic problem

- ① Given a ring  $R$  and an ideal  $I \triangleleft R$  we want to compute a **Gröbner basis  $G$  of  $I$** .
- ②  $G$  can be understood as a **nice representation for  $I$** .  
Gröbner bases were discovered by Bruno Buchberger in 1965 [Bu65]. Having computed  $G$  lots of **difficult questions** concerning  $I$  are **easier to answer using  $G$**  instead of  $I$ .
- ③ This is due to some nice properties of Gröbner bases. The following is very useful to understand how to compute a Gröbner basis.

## Main property of Gröbner bases

### Lemma

Let  $G$  be a Gröbner basis of an ideal  $I$ . It holds that for all  $p, q \in G$  it holds that

$$\text{Spol}(p, q) \xrightarrow{G} 0,$$

where

- $\text{Spol}(p, q) = \text{hc}(q)u_p p - \text{hc}(p)u_q q$  and
- $u_k = \frac{\text{lcm}(\text{hm}(p), \text{hm}(q))}{\text{hm}(k)}$ .

## Computation of Gröbner bases

The standard **Buchberger Algorithm** to compute  $G$  follows easily from the previous stated property of  $G$ :

**Input:** Ideal  $I = \langle f_1, \dots, f_m \rangle$

**Output:** Gröbner basis  $G$  of  $I$

- 1  $G = \emptyset$
- 2  $G := G \cup \{f_i\}$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$
- 3 Set  $P := \{\text{Spol}(g_i, g_j) \mid g_i, g_j \in G, i \neq j\}$

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Go on with the next element in  $P$ .



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  - (a) If  $p \xrightarrow{G} 0 \Rightarrow$  **no new information**  
Go on with the next element in  $P$ .
  - (b) If  $p \xrightarrow{G} h \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  **new information**  
Add  $h$  to  $G$ .  
Build new S-polynomials with  $h$  and add them to  $P$ .  
Go on with the next element in  $P$ .
- 5 When  $P = \emptyset$  we are done and  $G$  is a Gröbner basis of  $I$ .

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- ① Compute Gröbner basis  $G_1$  of  $\langle f_1 \rangle$ .
- ② Compute Gröbner basis  $G_2$  of  $\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle$  by
  - (a) adding  $f_2$  to  $G_1$ ,  $G_2 = G_1 \cup \{f_2\}$ ,
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  - (c) reducing all S-polynomials and possibly add new elements to  $G_2$
- ③ ...
- ④  $G := G_m$  is the Gröbner basis of  $I$

## Problem of zero reduction

### Lots of useless computations

It is very time-consuming to compute  $G$  such that  $\text{Spol}(p, q)$  **reduces to zero w.r.t.  $G$**  for all  $p, q \in G$ .

When such an S-polynomial reduces to an element  $h \neq 0$  w.r.t.  $G$  then we get **new information** for the structure of  $G$ , namely adding  $h$  to  $G$ .

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$\Rightarrow$  **No new information from zero reductions**

### Problem to be solved

Detect a zero reduction of  $\text{Spol}(p, q)$  **before** we even start to compute the S-polynomial.

Let's have a look at the following example:



## An example of zero reduction

### Example

Assume the ideal  $I = \langle g_1, g_2 \rangle \triangleleft \mathbb{Q}[x, y, z]$  where  $g_1 = xy - z^2$ ,  
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Computing

$$\text{Spol}(g_2, g_1) = \mathbf{xy}^2 - xz^2 - \mathbf{xy}^2 + yz^2 = -xz^2 + yz^2,$$

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Now we can reduce further with  $z^2g_2$ :

$$-y^2z^2 + z^4 + y^2z^2 - z^4 = 0.$$

## How to detect zero reductions in advance?

There are different attempts to detect zero reductions:

- 1 Buchberger's criteria and the well-known implementation of Gebauer & Möller [GM88].
- 2 In 2002 **Faugère** has published the **F5 Algorithm** [Fa02], a Gröbner basis algorithm which uses new criteria to detect such useless pairs.

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⇒ In the following we need to understand how Faugère's criteria work.

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- 1 Assuming a polynomial  $p$  its signature is defined to be  $\mathcal{S}(p) = (t, \ell)$  where  $t$  is its monomial and  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$  is its index.
- 2 A generating element  $f_i$  of  $I$  gets the signature  $\mathcal{S}(f_i) = (1, i)$ .
- 3 We have an **ordering**  $\prec$  on the signatures:

$$(t_1, \ell_1) \succ (t_2, \ell_2) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(a)} \ell_1 > \ell_2 \text{ or} \\ \text{(b)} \ell_1 = \ell_2 \text{ and } t_1 > t_2 \end{array}$$

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### Example

Assume  $\mathbb{Q}[x, y, z]$  with degree reverse lexicographical ordering.

Then

- 1  $(x^2y, 3) \succ (z^3, 3)$ ,
- 2  $(1, 5) \succ (x^{12}y^{234}z^{3456}, 4)$ .

# Signatures of polynomials

## Remark

Note that there are other ways to define the ordering  $\prec$  such that it prefers the degree of the monomial and not the index [MTM92]. Recently Ars and Hashemi have implemented F5 with different orderings [AH09].

## Signatures of polynomials

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Using the signatures in the F5 Algorithm we also need to define them for S-polynomials:

$\text{Spol}(p, q) = \text{hc}(q)u_p p - \text{hc}(p)u_q q$  where  $\mathcal{S}(\text{Spol}(p, q)) = u_p \mathcal{S}(p)$

where we assume that  $u_p \mathcal{S}(p) \succ u_q \mathcal{S}(q)$ .

## Example revisited - with signatures

In our example

$$g_3 = \text{Spol}(g_2, g_1) = xg_2 - yg_1$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}(g_3) = x\mathcal{S}(g_2) = x(1, 2) := (x, 2).$$

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It follows that  $\text{Spol}(g_3, g_1) = yg_3 - z^2g_1$  has

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 $\Rightarrow$  In F5 we **know** that  $\text{Spol}(g_3, g_1)$  will reduce to zero!

How does this work?

Remember that F5 computes a Gröbner basis incrementally.

## How does this work?

### Theorem (F5 Criterion)

*An S-polynomial  $S_{\text{pol}}(p, q) = \text{hc}(q)u_p p - \text{hc}(p)u_q q$  does not need to be computed, let alone reduced, if  $S(p) = (m, \ell)$  and there exists an element  $g$  in  $G_{\ell-1}$  such that*

$$\text{hm}(g) \mid u_p t.$$

*A similar statement holds for  $S(q)$ .*

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### Example

In our example  $g = g_1$  and  $u_p t = xy \Rightarrow \text{hm}(g_1) = xy \mid xy$ .

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### Remark

OK, and now forget about all this stuff.

Faugère's criteria are based on the signatures.

## Idea behind the signatures

The main idea is to have

- **small data** added to polynomials, and
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Remark

signature  $\leftrightarrow$  monomial plus an integer



# Implementation of signatures

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## Example

Assume the ring  $\mathbb{Q}[x, y, z]$  in the 3 variables  $x, y, z$ .

$$xy^3z^2 \Rightarrow (1, 3, 2)$$

Note that the length of the integer vector equals the number of variables of the ring.

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integer vector for the monomial of the signature  
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$\Rightarrow$  signature  $\leftrightarrow$  integer vector with length  $\#var+1$

## Difficulty of top-reduction in F5

**On the one hand** adding signatures to polynomials makes it possible to use these powerful criteria,  
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We will see in the following example that we do not only need to be careful **if we are allowed to reduce an element**, but also must be able to generate **new polynomials during reduction** when **reducing with elements generated in the current iteration step**.

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In Buchberger-like implementations the top-reduction would take place, i.e. we would compute  $p - xq$ .

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- 4 None of the first two cases holds and  $xS(q) \succ S(p) \Rightarrow$ , which leads to
  - (a) **No reduction** of  $p$ , but searching for another possible reducer of it.
  - (b) a new **S-polynomial**  $r := xq - p$  whereas  $S(r) = xS(q)$ .

## Difficulty of top-reduction

### Remark

Note the following important details:

- If we reduce with **elements** which signatures have **lower index** than the current index, we do not check for any criterion. Moreover due to the definition of  $\prec$  we do not need to compare the signatures.
- F5 only performs **top-reductions**, so no interreductions are done.
- Due to the last case of the previous example it is possible that the top-reduction procedure returns **two polynomials**, i.e. the number of elements to be reduced increases!



## Redundant polynomials

### Example

Assuming the first two cases of the previous example and moreover that there exists no other top-reducer of  $p$  we would end up with both,  $p$  and  $q$  being in  $G$  whereas clearly  $\text{hm}(q) \mid \text{hm}(p)$ .

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Thus  $p$  is **redundant** for  $G$ .

### But...

For the F5 Algorithm itself and the criteria based on the signatures  $p$  could be necessary **in this iteration step!**

⇒ Disrespecting the way F5 top-reduces polynomials would harm the correctness of F5 **in this iteration step!**

## Points of inefficiency

The difficulty of top-reduction in F5 leads to an **inefficiency**, namely we have way too many polynomials in the intermediate  $G_i$ s

- ① which are possible reducers, i.e. more checks for divisibility and the criteria have to be done, and
- ② with which we compute new S-polynomials, i.e. more (for the resulting Gröbner basis redundant) data is generated.

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### Question

How can these two points be avoided as far as possible?

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- 1 Introducing Gröbner bases
- 2 The F5 Algorithm
- 3 Optimizations of F5**
  - F5R: F5 Algorithm Reducing by reduced Gröbner bases
  - F5C: F5 Algorithm Computing with reduced Gröbner bases
- 4 Further improvements in F5C
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## F5R: reduced GB reduction

An idea how to fix the first inefficiency, was given by Till Stegers in 2005. His slight optimization of F5 **using reduced Gröbner bases for reduction** is called **F5R** in the following:

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- 1 Compute a Gröbner basis  $G_i$  of  $\langle f_1, \dots, f_i \rangle$ .
- 2 Compute the reduced Gröbner basis  $B_i$  of  $G_i$ .
- 3 Compute a Gröbner basis  $G_{i+1}$  of  $\langle f_1, \dots, f_{i+1} \rangle$  where
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  - (a)  $G_i$  is used to build the new pairs with  $f_{i+1}$ ,
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⇒ **Fewer reductions** in F5R but still the **same number of pairs considered and polynomials generated** as in F5.



$B_i$  only for reduction?

### Question

Why is  $B_i$  only used for reduction purposes, but not for new-pair computations?

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$\Rightarrow$  Reducing  $G_i$  to  $B_i$  renders the data saved in the **signatures** of the polynomials **useless!**

## F5C: Computations with reduced GB

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  - (a)  $B_i$  is used to build new pairs with  $f_{i+1}$ ,
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⇒ **Fewer reductions than F5 & F5R and fewer polynomials generated and considered during the algorithm**

## How to use $B_i$ for computations?

We have seen that **if we interreduce  $G_i$  then the current signatures are useless** in the following.



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Recomputation of signatures

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### Recomputation of signatures

- 1 Delete all signatures.
- 2 Interreduce  $G_i$  to  $B_i$ .
- 3 For each element  $g_k \in B_i$  set  $\mathcal{S}(g_k) = (1, k)$ .
- 4 For all elements  $g_j, g_k \in B_i$  **recompute signatures** for  $\text{Spol}(g_j, g_k)$ .
- 5 Start the next iteration step with  $f_{i+1}$  by computing all pairs with elements from  $B_i$ .

## Recomputation of signatures?

Why do we recompute the signatures of the S-polynomials in  $B_i$ ?

- ① Both criteria are based on signatures.
- ② More signatures  $\Rightarrow$  possibly more rejections of useless elements.
- ③ Also a **zero polynomial** should have a signature.

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### Question

Do we really need them?

### Answer

**Not in F5C :)**

## The following section is about

- 1 Introducing Gröbner bases
- 2 The F5 Algorithm
- 3 Optimizations of F5
- 4 Further improvements in F5C
  - Simplified signatures
  - Avoiding recomputations of signatures
  - Fewer criteria checks
  - Implementation of signature revisited
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## Simplified signatures

The implementation of F5C has some nice improvements for the usage of the criteria.

These are based on the following fact:

Each element  $g_k$  in  $B_i$  has the signature  $(1, k)$ .



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When generating  $\text{Spol}(g_j, g_k)$  during the computations of  $G_{i+1}$  we get

$$\text{Spol}(g_j, g_k) = \text{hc}(g_k)u_jg_j - \text{hc}(g_j)u_kg_k.$$

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Closer look at the signatures:

$$u_k\mathcal{S}(g_k) = u_k(1, k) = (u_k, k).$$

## Re-doing stuff is never nice

**Recomputing the signatures** of the S-polynomials in  $B_i$  is the only part of F5C which seems to be annoying.

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Recomputing the signatures of the  $S$ -polynomials in  $B_i$  is the only part of F5C which seems to be annoying.

## Further improvement

In 2009 Perry & Eder have shown that:

### Theorem

*In F5C there is no need to recompute the signatures of the  $S$ -polynomials of elements of the previous iteration step.*

## Re-doing stuff is never nice

Thus we have to do the following after each iteration of F5:

- 1 Delete all signatures.
- 2 Interreduce  $G_i$  to  $B_i$ .
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### Remark

Note that this also leads to **fewer criteria checks**.

## Differences using F5 Criterion

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Clearly Faugère's attempt performs **fewer checks** than Stegers'.  
But possibly Stegers' attempt **rejects more elements**.

Using **F5C** we have the following wonderful position:

Faugère's way  $\Rightarrow$  Stegers' way

## Which elements are even checked now?

- 1 Polynomials computed in the current iteration step are checked by both criteria.
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⇒ signature  $\leftrightarrow$  integer vector with length #var

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Implementations  
Comparison of the variants  
Comparison of F5, F5R & F5C
- 6 Symbolic preprocessing in F5

# Implementations

Three free available implementations:

- ① F5, F5R & F5C as a SINGULAR library (Perry & Eder)
- ② F5, F5R & F5C implemented in Python for Sage (Perry & Albrecht): **F4-ish** reduction possible.
- ③ F5, F5R & F5C implementation in the SINGULAR kernel:  
**under development**

## Preliminaries

We are comparing the three variants of F5 in the way that we use the **same implementation** of the **core algorithm** for all variants.

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We are comparing the three variants of F5 in the way that we use the **same implementation** of the **core algorithm** for all variants.

Moreover we do not only compare

- ① **timings**, but also
- ② the **number of reductions**, and
- ③ the **number of polynomials generated**.



## Timings

Instead of the timings themselves we present the ratios of the timings comparing the three variants.

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system	F5R / F5	F5C / F5R	F5C / F5
Katsura 7	1.13	0.94	1.06
Katsura 8	1.09	0.75	0.83
Katsura 9	1.14	0.54	0.62
Schrans-Troost	1.01	0.70	0.71
Cyclic 6	0.60	1.00	0.60
Cyclic 7	0.80	0.61	0.49
Cyclic 8	0.93	0.66	0.62

SINGULAR 3.1.0, kernel implementation; Linux-gentoo-r8 2009 x86\_64, Intel Xeon @ 3.16 GHz, 64 GB RAM

## Number of reductions

system	# red in F5	# red in F5R	# red in F5C
Katsura 4	774	289	222
Katsura 5	14,597	5,355	3,985
Katsura 6	1,029,614	77,756	58,082
Cyclic 5	512	506	446
Cyclic 6	41,333	23,780	14,167

Sage 3.2.1, Python implementation; Ubuntu Linux 8.10, Intel Core 2 Quad @ 2.66 GHz, 3 GB RAM

## Number of polynomials generated

In the following we present internal data from the computation of Katsura 9.

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$i$	# $G_i$ in F5	# $G_i$ in F5C	max # $P$ in F5	max # $P$ in F5C
2	2	2	none	none
3	4	4	1	1
4	8	8	2	2
5	16	15	4	4
6	32	29	8	6
7	60	51	17	12
8	132	109	29	29
9	524	472	89	71
10	1,165	778	276	89

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### Question

What is an **F5-complete reduction**?

## F5-complete reduction

Let's try some F4-ish **symbolic preprocessing**.

Assume the element  $p$  to be reduced in F5:

- 1 Set  $\mathcal{M} := \{\text{monomials of } p\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} := \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{B} := \emptyset$ .
- 2 Choose the greatest monomial  $m$  w.r.t.  $<$  from  $\mathcal{M}$  and set  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M} \setminus \{m\}$ .
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  - (a) If  $u\mathcal{S}(q) \succ \mathcal{S}(p) \Rightarrow \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B} \cup \{q\}$ .
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 $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M} \cup \{\text{monomials of } u(q - \text{hm}(q))\}$ .
- 5 When  $\mathcal{M} = \emptyset$ 
  - (a) Reduce  $p$  with all generated polynomials  $uq$  of  $\mathcal{G}$ .
  - (b) Check again if  $\text{hm}(q) \mid \text{hm}(p)$  for any  $q \in \mathcal{B}$ .  
If so: New S-polynomial  $r = vq - p$  with  $\mathcal{S}(r) = v\mathcal{S}(q)$  where  $v\text{hm}(q) = \text{hm}(p)$ .

## Some last remarks

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### Remark

Without these constraints signature corrupting reductions can happen: An element  $q \in G$  can be a “good” reducer **and** a “bad” reducer at the same time.

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