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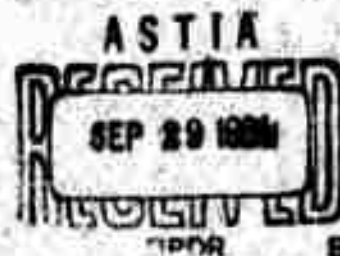
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QUATERNARY CYCLIC CODES

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QUATERNARY CYCLIC CODES

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G. Solomon

ABSTRACT

We consider cyclic codes for the quaternary alphabet, the field $K = GF(2^2)$. If A is a (k, n) (n odd) quaternary group codes - i.e., a k -dimensional subspace of ordered n -tuples of K elements - then A is isomorphic via the Solomon-Mattson polynomials, to a subgroup of the direct product of K with r copies of L . (L is the smallest field over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity and r is the number of irreducible factors of $x^n + 1/x + 1$ over K .)

Let $d(A, K)$ be the minimum weight of non-zero vectors of A . For p , a prime, and A , a (k, p) cyclic K code, $d(A, K) \geq d(A, F)$ where $d(A, F)$ is the Bose-Chaudhuri bound for the corresponding binary cyclic codes of the same order (if there is one). Number theoretic methods are introduced to improve the Zierler-Gorenstein lower bound for certain primes p . For p such that 2 has multiplicative order $p-1$, there exists $(p+1/2, p)$ cyclic codes with $d(p) \geq 3$ if 3 is not a quadratic residue of p , $d(p) \geq 4$ if 3 is a quadratic residue of p , and $d \geq 5$ if both 3 and 5 are quadratic residues of p .

GS:jj

I. Introduction

In this report we consider cyclic codes for the special alphabet of 2^2 symbols. Interest in coding for this particular alphabet arose from private discussions with Dr. Robert Price. The work of M. Golay⁽⁴⁾ in the penny-weighting problem gives general results for alphabet of p^m symbols. In addition, Zierler and Gorenstein⁽⁵⁾ have formulated decoding procedures for cyclic codes using p^m symbols. We apply the methods of (2) and (3) to treat the special case. We improve the previous error correcting estimates and indicate how number-theoretic properties of primes enter in the general problem. The results are easily analogized to p^2 symbol alphabets and from there generalizable to p^m symbols.

II. Preliminaries

The alphabet we wish to encode shall be elements of the field $K = GF(2^2)$ of degree 2 over F ; the field of two elements. K contains the elements $0, 1, \alpha, \alpha^2$ subject to addition modulo 2 and the rule $\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 = 0$. We are interested in linear mappings of $V_k(K)$ into $V_n(K)$ for n odd. These are the (k, n) group codes. We shall consider here a subclass of these codes which are generated by linear recursion. We derive the general error-correcting properties for these codes and give algorithms for particular (p) to improve the general estimates.

Let $a = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$ be a vector of $V_n(K)$. Following (2), (3) we associate a polynomial of degree less than or equal $(n-1)$ to the vector a , such that $g_a(\beta^i) = a_i$ where β is a fixed primitive generator of the n th roots of unity. Corresponding to $a = (0, \dots, 0)$

we put $g_a(x) = 0$. Putting $g_a(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_i x^i$ and using $g_a(\beta^i) \in K$

for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$, we obtain the condition that

$$g_a(x)^4 = g_a(x) \text{ for } x = \beta^i \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$$

which yields

$$(\sum c_i x^i)^4 = (\sum c_i x^i) .$$

Reducing the powers of x modulo n gives us conditions on the c_i

$$c_0^4 = c_0 ; c_{4i} = c_i^4 \quad 1 \leq i \leq n-1 .$$

The constants are now partitioned into mutually disjoint classes. Thus the polynomial $g_a(x)$ has in reality very few independent constants. Those are $c_0, c_1, c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_{r-1}}$ where c_1 is the coefficient of x ; c_{i_1} is the coefficient of x^{i_1} where i_1 is the smallest integer such that $i_1 \neq 4^s$ (modulo n) for any s ; i_2 is the smallest integer larger than i_1 such that $i_2 \neq 4^s$ or $i_2 \neq 4^{s i_1}$ modulo n and so on.

The polynomial $g_a(x)$ can therefore be written as

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) = & c_0 + c_1 x + c_1^4 x^4 + c_1^{4^2} x^{16} \dots \\ & c_{i_1} x^{i_1} + c_{i_1}^4 x^{4i_1} + \dots \\ & c_{i_2} x^{i_2} + c_{i_2}^4 x^{4i_2} + \dots \\ & c_{i_{r-1}} x^{i_{r-1}} + c_{i_{r-1}}^4 x^{4i_{r-1}} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

The coefficients c_i can also be given by the Reed formula

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i \\ c_1 &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i \beta^{-i} \end{aligned}$$

$$c_k = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i (\beta^i)^{-k}$$

Thus c_0 is in $K = GF(2^2)$ and the c_k are contained in the smallest field L over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity. This also follows from the conditions $c_{4i} = c_i^4$.

Thus to every code word $a \in V_n(K)$ is associated a unique* set of $(r(n) + 1)$ constants $(c_0, c_1, c_{i_1}, \dots, c_{i_{r-1}})$. This correspondence is linearly additive (3). In particular, to every subgroup $V_k(K)$ of $V_n(K)$ is associated a subgroup G of the direct product of K with r copies of L . Actually $V_n(K)$ is the direct product of fields $K \times L_1 \times L_2 \dots \times L_r$ where L_j is a subfield (proper or improper) of L and the degree $(L/L_j) = \text{order of } i_j \text{ modulo } n$. If n is a prime, the $L_j = L$ all j and G for $V_n(K) = K \times L^r$. For example, $n = 9$ $G_9(K) \cong G = K \times L \times L \times K \times K$, $\deg (L/K) = 3$. For $n = 5$ $G = K \times L^2$, $\deg (L/K) = 2$.***

We are concerned with the number $r(n) + 1$ of independent constants at our disposal. The alphabet $K = GF(2^2)$ is algebraically more fortunate than the alphabet F^{**} , $r(n)$ for F is sometimes 1. We have, however, for our case

Lemma 1: For n odd, $r(n) \geq 2$.

Proof: $r(n) = 1$ implies that $4^h \equiv 1$ modulo n has $h = n-1$ as its smallest positive integer solution. Since 2 is prime to odd n we must have that $2^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1$ (modulo n) where $\phi(n)$ is the (Euler) number of integers prime to n . For n odd, $\phi(n)$ is even ($2m$). We have therefore $4^m \equiv 1$ (modulo n) and $m < n-1$. Thus $r(n) \geq 2$ q.e.d.

There are thus non-trivial cyclic codes for every odd n . In particular, the map $(c_0, c, 0, 0, \dots) \rightarrow g(c_0, c, 0, 0; x = \beta^i)$ $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ gives us a cyclic code over K of dimension $(1 + s)$

*Note that this depends on the choice of β .

**See (3).

***A correction of an earlier oversight in(3) thanks to S. Shatz.

where $s = \text{degree of } L/K$ where L is the smallest field over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity. The codes we shall consider are obtained by setting any of the c_i , $i \neq 0$, equal to zero. The groups of code words corresponding to this set (via $g(\beta^i)$) are generated by linear recursive sequences associated with finite difference equations.

Let $V_k(K)$ be a subgroup of $V_n(K)$ which corresponds to the set $(c_0, c_1, c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_{r-1}})$ where at least one of the $c_i = 0$. Then for β a primitive n^{th} root of unity, we form the polynomial $f(x)$ over K in the following manner.

$$f(x) = \prod f_j(x) = \sum_{i=0}^k d_i x^i$$

where $f_j(x)$ is the irreducible polynomial over K with β^{i_j} as a root. If k is the degree of $f(x)$ then we associate to $f(x)$ the difference equation of order k

$$d_k y_{n+k} + d_{k-1} y_{n+k-1} + \dots + d_1 y_n = 0$$

The d_i are in K and for any k initial values in K we obtain a sequence of elements in K of period n . There is then the natural mapping of $V_k(K)$ into $V_n(K)$ arising by taking the sequence of length n generated by any initial sequence of length k . This is a standard cyclic code over the alphabet K .

III. Error Correction Properties

We define the weight $w(a)$ of a vector a in $V_n(K)$ as the number of non-zero coordinates of a . It is immediate that $w(a + b) \leq w(a) + w(b)$ and $w(a) = 0$ if and only if $a = 0$. We may define a metric on $V_n(K)$ by putting $d(a, b) = w(a + b)$. As in the binary symbol case, a (k, n) group code is said to be r error correcting if $d(0, a) \geq 2r + 1$ for a , any non-zero vector. Thus, the error correcting properties are given by the minimum weight d of any non-zero a , i.e., n minus the number of zero coordinates of the

$*i_j$ corresponds to $c_{i_j} \neq 0$.

vector a . Since to every vector of our imbedded space V_k is associated a polynomial $g_a(x)$, we need only look at the number of zeros of $g_a(x)$ on our multiplicative group of n^{th} roots of unity to ascertain its weight.

IV. General Results

Let n be odd and let $f(x) \in K[x]$ (the ring of polynomials over K) divide $x^n + 1$. Let ζ be a primitive n^{th} root of unity. We define

$$E(\zeta) = \{e; 0 \leq e < n, f(\zeta^e) = 0\}$$

Then if $f(x)$ defines the recursion which imbeds $V_k(K)$ into $V_n(K)$, the associated polynomials $g_a(x)$ have degree at most m , the largest integer in $E(\zeta)$. Then we have

Theorem 1:* Let β^{d_0} be the least positive power of β which is a root of $f(x)$ then $d \geq d_0$.

Proof: It suffices to prove that for some primitive n^{th} root of unity ζ , the set $E(\zeta)$ has $n-d_0$ as maximum. Then the number of zeros of $g_a(x)$ is at most $n-d_0$, so the weight of a is at least $n - (n-d_0) \geq d_0$.

We are given that $\beta, \beta^2, \dots, \beta^{d_0-1}$ are not roots of $f(x)$ and that β^{d_0} is a root of $f(x)$. It follows immediately that $E(\zeta)$ for $\zeta = \beta^{-1}$ does not contain $n-1, n-2, \dots, n - (d_0 - 1)$ but does contain $n - d_0$. This proof is from Mattson-Solomon(2).

We note that the set $E(\zeta)$ which are the powers of x in $g_a(x)$ contains $4e$ modulo n if it contains e . If $E(\zeta)$ contains $2e$ modulo n for every e , then the polynomial $g_a(x)$ has the same power of x as the g_a for $K = F$. This holds if $2 = 4^s$ modulo n or $2 = 2^{2s}$ or $2^{2s-1} = 1$ modulo n , i.e., 2 has odd order modulo n . For such p , the bound on d one obtains without investigating the coefficients is the Bose-Chaudhuri bound for the binary cyclic code of the same dimension.

Now where 2 does not have odd order, we get a very small general estimate of d_0 , which we will improve here. In particular

*This theorem for $K = F$ was proven in a different form first by Bose-Chaudhuri. For $K = GF(p^m)$, the Galois field of p^m elements, this was done by Zierler-Gorenstein.

for $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ where 2 has order $p-1$, we obtain $d \geq 3$. We can improve this for particular p of this type and indeed give a general algorithm.

We now present two lemmas on polynomials which we shall need for error correcting properties.

Lemma 2: Let $g(x) = b_{p-1} x^{p-1} + b_m x^m + \dots + b_0$ where $b_i \in F$, $i = 0, \dots, p-1$ and $b_m b_{p-1} \neq 0$. Then $g(x)$ can have at most $m+1$ zeros on Z , the group of p th roots of unity. Translated into coding terms, if $g(x) = g_a(x)$ of a vector a , then $\omega(a) \geq p - (m+1)$.

Proof: Let r be the number of roots of $g(x)$ $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_r\}$ in Z . Let $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{p-r-1})$ be the other roots of $g(x)$ contained in some suitable extension field. Let $\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_{p-r}$ denote the elements of Z which are not roots of $g(x)$. Denote by $s(\beta, i)$, $s(\beta', i)$, $s(\gamma, i)$ respectively the sums of products of (β, β', γ) taken i at a time, ($s(-, 0) = 1$). We have for the first $l \leq p-1 - (m+1)$ values

$$\sum_{i+j=l} s(\beta, i) s(\beta', j) = \sum_{i+j=l} s(\beta, i) s(\gamma, j) = 0$$

since the appropriate coefficients in $x^p + 1$ and $g(x)$ are both zero. It then follows that for $j \leq l$

$$s(\beta', j) = s(\gamma, j)$$

If $p-r \leq p-m-2$, $s(\beta', p-r) = 0$ since $s(\gamma, p-r) = 0$. $s(\beta', p-r) = \prod \beta'_1 \dots \beta'_{p-r} = 0$ gives us a contradiction. Therefore $p-r \geq p-m-1$ or $r \leq m+1$. q.e.d.

Lemma 3: Let $g(x) = b_{p-2} x^{p-2} + b_m x^m + \dots + b_0$ where $b_i \in F$ $i = 0, \dots, p-2$ and $b_m b_{p-2} \neq 0$ $m \geq 1$. Then for primes p where $x^p + 1/1 + x$ is irreducible over F , $g(x)$ can have at most $(m+1)$ zeros on Z . ($d \geq p - (m+1)$).

Proof: Let $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_r\}, \{\beta^1, \dots, \beta^1_{p-r}\}, \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{p-2-r}\}$ be as in Lemma 2.

For $l \leq (p-2) - (m+1)$, we have

$$\sum_{i+j=l} s(\beta, i) s(\beta^1, j) = \sum_{i+j=l} s(\beta, i) s(\gamma, j) = 0$$

and for $j \leq l$ it follows that $s(\beta^1, j) = s(\gamma, j)$.

If $p-r \leq p-m-2$ or $p-r-1 \leq p-m-3$, $s(\beta^1, p-r-1) = 0$ since $s(\gamma, p-r-1) = 0$ but $s(\beta^1, p-r-1)$ is the sum of $(p-r)$ things taken $(p-r-1)$ at a time.

$$\binom{p-r}{p-r-1} = (p-r) \text{ elements of } Z.$$

If $p-r \leq p-1$, i.e., $r > 1$, this is impossible since $x^p + 1/1 + x$ is irreducible so we get contradiction. So

$$p-r \geq p-m-1$$

$$r \leq m+1 \quad \text{q.e.d.}$$

Theorem 1: For p a prime where 2 has multiplicative order $p-1$, there exist $(\frac{p+1}{2}, p)$ cyclic quaternary codes which correct at least one error.

The desired codes shall be vectors of the form $g_a(\beta^i)$ where $g_a(x)$ is parametrized by a pair of constants (c_0, c) ($c_0 \in K$, $c \in GF(2^{p-1})$), β a primitive p^{th} root of unity. The choice of the g will depend upon the particular p and will exhibit the error correcting properties immediately. The g 's chosen will be either of the type in Lemma 2 or Lemma 3. The lower bound d_0 obtained will depend clearly on the integer m since for both Lemmas 2 and 3 $d \geq p-(m+1)$. For particular p , we would like a general algorithm for the value of m . It is in the nature of these particular p , that we may use the theory of quadratic residues to make simple decisions as to which set

of g to choose and what value of m occurs. We therefore make a necessary aside and include the appropriate data.

We introduce the Legendre* symbol $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ for $a \neq 0$. If $x^2 = a$ modulo p has solutions in the field of p elements, $GF(p)$, we say that a is a quadratic residue of p . Symbolically $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = +1$. If a is not a quadratic residue of p we write $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = -1$.

For primes p where 2 has multiplicative order $p-1$, i.e., 2 is a primitive generator of the multiplicative group of $GF(p)$, the statement that $a \in GF(p)$ is a power of 4 modulo p translates equivalently into $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = +1$ and vice versa. For $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = 1$ means $x^2 = a$ modulo p has solutions x_0 and $p-x_0 \in GF(p)$. But $x_0 = 2^l$ for some integer l , since 2 is primitive. Therefore $(2^l)^2 = (2^2)^l = 4^l = a$ modulo p -- i.e., a is a power of 4. Note that 2 primitive implies $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1$ since $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1 \Rightarrow 2 = 4^s = 2^{2s}$ or $2^{2s-1} = 1$. $2s-1$ odd divides $p-1$ and 2 not primitive. We also need** and use $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{ab}{p}\right)$ for a and b prime to p .

Theorem 1': For p a prime where 2 has multiplicative order $p-1$, there exist $\left(\frac{p+1}{2}, p\right)$ cyclic quaternary codes

$$a, a') \text{ if } \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = -1, \quad d \geq 3$$

$$b, b') \text{ if } \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = +1, \quad d \geq 4$$

$$c) \text{ if } \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = +1 \text{ and } \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) = +1 \quad d \geq 5$$

Proof:

$$a) \quad \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = -1$$

$$p = 8n + 3$$

Here $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = -1$. So by the multiplication formula $\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) = 1$

$$\left(\frac{-4}{p}\right) = -1, \quad \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = +1$$

*See Appendix for properties of $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$.

**Formula 1 in Appendix.

The polynomial $g_a(x) = c_0 + cx^2 + c^4x^{2 \cdot 4} + c^{4^2}x^{2 \cdot 4} + \dots$ has highest degree $(p-1)$ and next highest power $m = p-4$. Lemma 2 gives us that $d \geq p - (p-4+1) = 3$.

a') $p = 8n + 5$

Here $\binom{-1}{p} = 1$ so $\binom{+3}{p} = -1$, $\binom{-2}{p} = -1$, $\binom{-4}{p} = 1$. Choose

$$g_a(x) = c_0 + cx + c^4x^4 + \dots$$

This polynomial again satisfies Lemma 2.

b) $\binom{3}{p} = 1$

Case 1) $p = 8n + 3$, $\binom{-1}{p} = -1$, $\binom{-3}{p} = -1$, $\binom{-2}{p} = +1$, $\binom{-4}{p} = -1$

$$\text{Choose } h_a(x) = c_0 + cx + c^4x^4 + \dots$$

Highest degree have is $(p-2)$ and next highest is at most $(p-5)$. So Lemma 3 yields $d \geq 4$.

b') $p = 8n + 5$ $\binom{-1}{p} = 1$, $\binom{-2}{p} = -1$, $\binom{-3}{p} = 1$, $\binom{-4}{p} = 1$, $\binom{-5}{p} = ?$

$$\text{Choose } h_a(x) = c_0 + cx^2 + c^4x^{2 \cdot 4} + \dots$$

Lemma 3 again applies and $d \geq 4$.

c) If $\binom{5}{p} = +1$, Lemma 3 yields $d \geq 5$.

We note here that $\binom{6}{p} = -1$ for case b since we have $\binom{2}{p} = -1$.

We note that we need a detailed version of lemmas 2 and 3 plus new values of $\binom{a}{p}$ to get sharper estimates on the bound.

V. Encoding

Corresponding to the desired $g_a(x)$ or $h_a(x)$ we choose the polynomial $f(x)$ over k whose roots are the appropriate powers of β -- β a primitive p th root of unity. The powers chosen are of course the exponents of x in $g_a(x)$ or $h_a(x)$. We then generate the codes by

associating the appropriate difference equation with $f(x)$ subject to $(\frac{p+1}{2})$ initial conditions in K .

VI. Examples

Ex. 1 $p = 5$

Here we have a single error correcting (3-5) cyclic quaternary code. This (3, 5) code is also obtained by Golay⁴ in a different manner.

Here $p \equiv 5$ (modulo 8) and $(\frac{-3}{5}) = -1$, so we choose, as in case a', $g_a(x) = c_0 + cx + c^4 x^4$, $c_0 \in K$, $c \in L = GF(2^4)$. Choose γ a generator of the multiplicative group L^* of L -- i.e., $\gamma^{15} = 1$ -- say γ satisfies $\gamma^4 + \gamma + 1 = 0$. Let $\beta = \gamma^3$ then β is a primitive 5th root of unity. Let $f(x) = (x+1)(x+\beta)(x+\beta^4)$
 $= (x+1)(x^2 + (\beta + \beta^4)x + \beta^5) = (x+1)(x^2 + (\beta + \beta^4)x + 1)$. Now $\beta + \beta^4 \in K$, $\beta + \beta^4 = \gamma^{10}$ say and $\gamma^{10} + \gamma^5 + 1 = 0$. So
 $f(x) = x^3 + \gamma^5 x^2 + \gamma^5 x + 1$

Consider the associated difference equation

$$y_{n+3} + \gamma^5 y_{n+2} + \gamma^5 y_{n+1} + y_n = 0$$

Any three initial values in K will generate sequences of period 5. This (3, 5) code will correct one error by the general theorem. It is optimum as a computation will verify that it is closely packed.

Ex. 2 The (6-11) c.q. code:

1. Since $(\frac{-3}{11}) = -1$, we are in case b.

$$h_a(x) = c_0 + cx + c^4 x^4 + c^4 x^5 + c^4 x^9 + c^4 x^3$$

Here $m = 5$, so by Lemma 3, the number of roots of $h(x)$ in Z is at most 6, so $d \geq 11 - 6 = 5$.

Putting it in terms of quadratic residues

$$(\frac{-3}{11}) = -1, (\frac{-4}{11}) = -1, (\frac{-5}{11}) = (\frac{6}{11}) = -1$$

Generalization: Let $K = GF(p^m)$ be the Galois field of p^m elements. Consider the group codes of $V_n(K)$ where p and n are relatively prime for $(p, n) = 1$. Each (k, n) group code A corresponds to a set of polynomials indexed by a set of constants $(c_0, c_1, c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_{r-1}})$ where r is the number of irreducible factors over K of $(x^n + 1)/(1 + x)$; $c_0 \in K$ and $c_i \in L$, the smallest field over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity. * To any group code A is assigned a subgroup G of the direct product of K with r copies of L .

If $m = 2$, then $r(n) \geq 2$ for any p and we have a set of non-trivial cyclic codes obtainable by setting some of the $c_i = 0$. This is also the case if $m \mid (n - 1)$. Error correcting bounds are formulated then in number-theoretic terms analogous to the 2^2 case. If m and $n - 1$ are relatively prime, we obtain the cyclic codes corresponding to the p letter case and the general lower bound is the Zierler-Gorenstein one. Improvement on the bound may come from examination of the coefficients of the polynomials themselves.

For n and p^m for which $r(n) = 1$, we may use the procedure outlined in 3), and obtain pseudo-cyclic variations.

*As before, we choose β a primitive n^{th} root of unity. Then to each code word $c \in A$ we associate the polynomial $g(x, \beta, c_0, c_{i_0}, \dots, c_{i_{r-1}})$ such that $g(\beta^i) = a_i$.

Algebraic Appendix*

1. The Legendre symbol $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$

Def.: If p is a prime, we say that $a \neq 0$ is a quadratic residue of p (symbolically $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = +1$) if the equation $x^2 = a$ modulo p has solutions in the field of p elements. Clearly since $x_0^2 = (p-x_0)^2$ there are $\frac{p-1}{2}$ quadratic residues of p . We put $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = -1$ if a is not a quadratic residue.

The following properties of the Legendre symbol are well known.

$$1. \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \left(\frac{b}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) \text{ for } a \text{ and } b \text{ prime to } p$$

$$2. \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1 \text{ if } p \equiv \pm 1 \text{ Modulo } 8$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1 \text{ if } p \equiv \pm 3 \text{ Modulo } 8$$

$$3. \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$$

4. Law of Quadratic Reciprocity

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = - \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) \text{ if } p \text{ and } q \text{ are both of the form } 4k - 1$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) \text{ all other cases.}$$

*Le Veque, Topics in Number Theory, Vol. 1, Chapter 5, Addison-Wesley (1956).

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