# Complexity of Real Root Isolation Using Continued Fractions 

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Computer Algebra, Computational Geometry, Quantifier Elimination etc.

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Input: Polynomial $A(X) \in \mathbb{R}[X]$ and $(c, d) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.
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$\operatorname{RootIsol}(A,(c, d))$
1 If $E(A,(c, d))=0$ return.
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3 Partition $(c, d)$ into two intervals $I, J$.
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How to implement $E(A,(c, d))$ ?

## Two Varieties of Real Root Isolation Algorithm

## Sturm Sequences

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## The Descartes' Rule of Signs

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$2 E(A,(c, d)) \geq$ number of real roots of $A(X)$ in $(c, d)$ by a +ve even number. In practice, the second approach is more efficient than the first one.

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A(X) \rightarrow X^{n} A\left(a_{0}+\frac{1}{X}\right)
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a_{0} \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 0},
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Transform $A(X)$ as follows:

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A(X) \rightarrow X^{n} A\left(a_{0}+\frac{1}{X}\right) \rightarrow\left(a_{1} X+1\right)^{n} A\left(a_{0}+\frac{1}{a_{1}+\frac{1}{X}}\right)
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Let $\operatorname{Var}(A)$ be the number of sign variations in the coefficients of $A(X)$.


We want to isolate the positive roots of $A(X)$.


Construct $A_{R}(X):=A(X+1), M_{R}(X):=X+1$. Check if $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R}\right)$ is 0 or 1 .


Construct $A_{L}(X):=(X+1)^{n} A\left(\frac{1}{X+1}\right), M_{L}(X):=(X+1)^{-1}$.


## Check if $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{L}\right)$ is 0 or 1 .



Construct $A_{R R}(X):=A_{R}(X+1)=A(X+2), M_{R R}(X):=X+2$.


Check if $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R R}\right)$ is 0 or 1 .


Construct $A_{R L}(X):=A_{R}\left(\frac{1}{1+X}\right)=A\left(1+\frac{1}{1+X}\right)$ and $M_{R L}(X):=1+\frac{1}{X+1}$.


## Check $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R L}\right)$.



$$
A_{L R}(X)=A_{L}(X+1)=(X+2)^{n} A\left(1+\frac{1}{2+X}\right), M_{L R}(X):=(X+2)^{-1}
$$



$$
\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{L R}\right)=1, \text { return } M_{L R}(0)=\frac{1}{2}, M_{L R}(\infty)=0
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A_{R L}(X):=(X+1)^{n} A_{L}\left(\frac{1}{1+X}\right)=(X+2)^{n} A\left(\frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{1+X}}\right), M_{L R}(X):=\frac{X+1}{X+2}
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$\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R L}\right)=1$, return $M_{R L}(0)=\frac{1}{2}, M_{R L}(\infty)=1$


Continue recursively at each level


This was Uspensky's algorithm [Uspensky, 1948].

## Vincent's Algorithm for Isolating Positive Roots



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\text { Is } \operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R}\right)<\operatorname{Var}(A) ?
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If $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R}\right)=\operatorname{Var}(A)$ then don't construct $A_{L}(X)$.

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But proceed recursively from $A_{R}(X)$.

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## Budan-Fourier

$$
\#(\text { roots in }(0,1)) \leq \operatorname{Var}(A(X))-\operatorname{Var}(A(X+1))=\operatorname{Var}(A)-\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R}\right)
$$

## Drawback of Vincent's Algorithm

## Exponential running time

- Consider the polynomial $A(X)=\left(X-2^{L}\right)\left(X-2^{L}-1\right)$.


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## Two Solutions

- [Collins/Akritas,1976]: Bisect the interval at each recursion level.


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## Advantages of Akritas' approach

- Faster in practice.
- Utilises distribution of roots.
- Computes the continued fraction approximation of the roots.


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Two steps for getting the worst-case bounds
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Akritas' worst case bit-complexity
For $A(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$, degree $n$, coefficients of bit-length $L-\widetilde{O}\left(n^{4} L^{2}\right)$ :

- number of inversion transformations and Taylor shifts $-\widetilde{O}\left(n^{2} L\right)$.
- worst case bit-complexity of a node using fast integer arithmetic $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{2} L\right)$.


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## Drawbacks

- Assumes floor of the smallest positive root can be computed in $O(1)$.
- Assumes Taylor shifts don't increase the bit-size.


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Our worst case bit-complexity
Worst case bit-complexity is $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{7} L^{2}\right)$ :

- number of inversion transformations $\widetilde{O}(n L)$; no. of Taylor shifts $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{3} L\right)$.


## Akritas' Algorithm

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- RootIsol $\left(A_{R}, M_{R}\right)$ and $\operatorname{RootIsol}\left(A_{L}, M_{L}\right)$.
- What are the transformations $M_{R}, M_{L}$ ?
- What is the relation between $A_{R}, A_{L}$ and the input polynomial?


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What is the transformation in general?

## The transformation associated with a node in the tree

$$
q_{0}+\frac{1}{q_{1}+\frac{1}{q_{2}+\frac{1}{\ddots \cdot+\frac{1}{q_{m}+X}}}}
$$

where

- $m$ is the number of inversion transformations $\left(X \rightarrow \frac{1}{1+X}\right)$.
- $q_{0} \geq 0$ the total amount of Taylor shifts to the first inversion transformation.
- $q_{i} \geq 1$, for $i=1, \ldots, m-1$, the total amount of Taylor shifts between $i$-th and $i+1$-th inversion transformation; if there are no Taylor shifts $q_{i}=1$.


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Let $i$ th quotient $\frac{P_{i}}{Q_{i}}$ be the finite continued fraction $q_{0}+\frac{1}{q_{1}+\frac{1}{\ddots-+\frac{1}{q_{i}}}}$.
Then $P_{i}=q_{i} P_{i-1}+P_{i-2}$ and $Q_{i}=q_{i} Q_{i-1}+Q_{i-2}$.

## The transformation associated with a node in the tree

$$
q_{0}+\frac{1}{q_{1}+\frac{1}{q_{2}+\frac{1}{\ddots+\frac{1}{q_{m}+X}}}}=\frac{P_{m} X+P_{m-1}}{Q_{m} X+Q_{m-1}} .
$$

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When does the algorithm terminate? When is $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{m}\right) \leq 1$ ?

## Termination Criterion: Two-Circle Theorem



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If the two-circles figure w.r.t. $I_{m}$ contains a single root of $A(X)$ then $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{m}\right)=1$; if no roots of $A(X)$ then $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{m}\right)=0$.

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$$
\text { If } \operatorname{Var}\left(A_{m}\right) \geq 2 \text { then } \frac{1}{Q_{m} Q_{m-1}}>|\beta-\alpha| / \sqrt{3} \text {. }
$$

## Number of Inversion Transformations along a path to a leaf



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## Proposition

The total number of inversion transformations in the tree are bounded by

$$
\sum_{J}\left(2-\log _{\phi}\left|\beta_{J}-\alpha_{J}\right|\right)
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(\alpha_{J}, \beta_{J}\right) \text { ot } A(X) \text { such that } \\
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## Akritas' Algorithm

## RootIsol(A,M)

- If $\operatorname{Var}(A)=0$ return.
- If $\operatorname{Var}(A)=1$ output the interval with end points $M(0), M(\infty)$.
- Compute a lower bound $B$ on the positive roots of $A(X)$.
- If $B \geq 1$ then $A(X):=A(X+B), M(X):=M(X+B)$.
- Compute $A_{R}(X):=A(X+1)$ and $M_{R}(X):=M(X+1)$.
- If $\operatorname{Var}\left(A_{R}\right)<\operatorname{Var}(A)$ then $A_{L}(X):=(X+1)^{n} A\left(\frac{1}{X+1}\right), M_{L}(X):=M\left(\frac{1}{X+1}\right)$.
- RootIsol $\left(A_{R}, M_{R}\right)$ and RootIsol $\left(A_{L}, M_{L}\right)$.


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How do we compute a lower bound on positive roots of a polynomial?

## Lower Bound on the smallest positive root

## One Approach

- Roots of $X^{n} A(1 / X)$ are inverse of the roots of $A(X)$.
- Compute an upper bound $U$ on the largest positive root of $X^{n} A(1 / X)$.
- $1 / U$ is a lower bound on the smallest positive root of $A(X)$.


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Upper bound on positive roots, [Hong,98]

$$
B(X)=\sum_{i=0}^{n} b_{i} X^{i}, b_{n}>0 . U(B):=2 \max _{b_{i}<0} \min _{b_{j}>0 . j>i}\left\{\left|\frac{b_{i}}{b_{j}}\right|^{1 /(j-i)}\right\} .
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Tight lower bound

$$
\text { Define } \operatorname{PLB}(A):=\frac{1}{U\left(X^{n} A(1 / X)\right)} .
$$

Suppose $A(X)$ has only real roots in $\Re(z)>0$ and $\alpha$ is the smallest positive root of $A(X)$. Then

$$
\frac{\alpha}{2 n} \leq \operatorname{PLB}(A)<\alpha
$$

## Bound on the number of Taylor shifts along a path

Assume the polynomial $A(X)$ has only real roots.
\#(shifts needed to reach the floor of the smallest positive root $\alpha_{0}$ )?

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Since $\operatorname{PLB}(A)$ is a lower bound on $\alpha_{0}$ we have $\frac{\left|\alpha_{0}\right|}{2 n} \leq \operatorname{PLB}(A)$.

## Bound on the number of Taylor shifts along a path

Assume the polynomial $A(X)$ has only real roots.
\#(shifts needed to reach the floor of the smallest positive root $\alpha_{0}$ )?


Shift $A(X)$ by $\operatorname{PLB}(A)$ to obtain $A_{1}(X)$.

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Shift $A_{1}(X)$ by $a_{1}$ to get $A_{2}(X)$.

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This continues until $\alpha_{i}<1$, i.e., we compute the floor of $\alpha_{0}$.

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- $\alpha_{i}=\alpha_{i-1}-\operatorname{PLB}\left(A_{i-1}\right) \leq \alpha_{i-1}\left(1-\frac{1}{2 n}\right)$.


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- Thus $\alpha_{i} \leq \alpha_{0}\left(1-\frac{1}{2 n}\right)^{i}$.


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$\beta_{3}=\beta_{2}-a_{2}(X)=A_{2}\left(X+a_{2}\right) \xlongequal{\alpha_{3}=\alpha_{2}-a_{2}}$

This continues until $\alpha_{i}<1$, i.e., we compute the floor of $\alpha_{0}$.

- $\alpha_{i}=\alpha_{i-1}-\operatorname{PLB}\left(A_{i-1}\right) \leq \alpha_{i-1}\left(1-\frac{1}{2 n}\right)$.
- Thus $\alpha_{i} \leq \alpha_{0}\left(1-\frac{1}{2 n}\right)^{i}$.
- Need at most $2 n \log \alpha_{0}$ Taylor shifts to compute floor of $\alpha_{0}$.


## Number of Taylor shifts along a path in the tree

Assume the polynomial $A(X)$ has only real roots.


1 Consider a path in the recursion tree of RootIsol(A,M(X)), $M(X)=X$, from the root to a parent $J$ of two leaves.
2 Let $\alpha_{J}, \beta_{J}$ be the roots associated with the leaves.

3 m be the number of inversion transformations along the path.

## Number of Taylor shifts along a path in the tree

Assume the polynomial $A(X)$ has only real roots.


Consider the $i$-th and $i+1$-th inversion transformation.
$A_{i}(X)$ be the polynomial associated with the blue node. $a_{1}, \ldots, a_{\ell}$ be its positive real roots.
\#(Taylor shift) from $i$-th to $i+1$-th transformation is bounded by
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\begin{aligned}
& \text { We can show } \\
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## Proposition

The total number of Taylor shifts in the tree is bounded by

$$
n^{2} O\left(\sum_{J} \log \left|\alpha_{J}-\beta_{J}\right|^{-1}\right)
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Lower bound on $\prod_{J}\left|\alpha_{J}-\beta_{J}\right|$ ?

$\sum_{i=1}^{m} \log q_{i}=U\left(\log \left|\alpha_{J}-\left|\rho_{J}\right|^{1}\right)\right.$.

Total number of Taylor shifts on the path to $J$ is $n^{2} O\left(\log \left|\alpha_{J}-\beta_{J}\right|^{-1}\right)$.

## The Davenport-Mahler bound

Theorem (Davenport-Mahler [Dav., 1985] [Du/Sharma/Yap, 2005])
Consider a polynomial $A(X) \in \mathbb{C}[X]$ of degree $n$.
Let $G=(V, E)$ be a DAG whose vertices are the roots of $A(X)$. If
(i) $(\alpha, \beta) \in E \Longrightarrow|\alpha| \leq|\beta|$, and
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$$
\prod_{(\alpha, \beta) \in E}|\beta-\alpha| \geq \frac{\sqrt{|\operatorname{discr}(A)|}}{\mathrm{M}(A)^{n-1}} \cdot 2^{-O(n \log n)},
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where, if $\vartheta_{i}$ are roots of $A(X)$,

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\operatorname{discr}(A):=a_{n}^{2 n-2} \prod_{i>j}\left(\vartheta_{i}-\vartheta_{j}\right)^{2} \quad \text { and } \quad \mathrm{M}(A):=\left|a_{n}\right| \prod_{i} \max \left\{1,\left|\vartheta_{i}\right|\right\}
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## Corollary

If $A(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ is square-free, has degree $n$, and coefficient bit-length $L$ then

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\prod_{(\alpha, \beta) \in E}|\beta-\alpha|=2^{-O(n L)} .
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Assume $A(X)$ has degree $n$, coefficient bit-length $L$ and only real roots.

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- The result holds in genera!!


## Worst case bit-complexity of a node in the tree

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Combined with our worst-case bound $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{3} L\right)$ on tree-size.

## Main Result

## Theorem

For a square-free integer polynomial of degree $n$, and coefficients of bit-length $L$, the worst-case running time of Akritas' algorithm is bounded by $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{7} L^{2}\right)$.

## Expected Complexity, [Tsigaridas/Emiris, 2006]

The size of the tree

- Assumes floor of the smallest positive root can be computed in $O(1)$.
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## Expected complexity of a node

- From Khinchin's result we know $E\left[\sum_{j=0}^{i} \log q_{j}\right]=i+1=\widetilde{O}(n L)$.
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## Theorem

Expected running time of Akritas' algorithm:

- $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{5} L^{2}\right)$ using classical Taylor shifts with fast integer arithmetic,
- $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{4} L^{2}\right)$ using asymptotically fast Taylor shifts.


## Comparison with the Descartes method

Input: $A(X) \in \mathbb{R}[X]$ of degree $n$, and $(c, d)$.
Output: Isolating intervals for roots of $A(X)$ in $(c, d)$.

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- Width of the interval doesn't necessarily go down by half at each recursion step.
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## But...

- Degree 100 Mignotte's polynomials $\left(X^{n}-(a X-1)^{2}\right)$ : [Emiris/Tsigaridas, '06]: Descartes 7.83sec. and Akritas 0.02sec.
- Available in Mathematica.
- [Collins/Akritas, 1976]: $O\left(n^{6} L^{2}\right)$; [Johnson, 1998]: $O\left(n^{4} L^{2}\right)$.


## Possible ways to improve the complexity

1 Derive tight bounds on largest positive root of a polynomial in $O(n)$ operations. Bounds by [Kioustelidis, 1986; Ştefănescu, 2005] are known to be not tight. A recent bound by Akritas et al. might help.

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## Open question

For Mignotte's polynomial $X^{n}-2(a X-1)^{2}, a \in \mathbb{N}$, the size of the recursion tree is $O(\log a)$ using Zassenhaus' bound (the Descartes method has recursion tree size $\Omega(n \log a)$ ).

## Summary

## Main Result

For a square-free polynomial $A(X)$, degree $n$, and coefficient bit-length $L$ :
1 Worst case bit-complexity of Akritas' algorithm is $\widetilde{O}\left(n^{7} L^{2}\right)$.

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Paper is available from http://www.cs.nyu.edu/sharma/pap/.

Merci!

