Galois Theory and Wavelet Transforms

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Abstract — **Computing the Fast Wavelet Transform of rational input sequences using *algebraic* scaling coefficients affords only a *finite extension field* K over $\mathbb{Q}$ rather than the field of complex numbers. We use Galois theoretic methods to study this extension field.**

I. Introduction

Orthonormal wavelet bases are usually constructed by the tools of multiresolution analysis, cf. [2]. At the heart of a multiresolution analysis stands a so-called *scaling function* φ. This scaling function satisfies a dilation equation, which can be written in Fourier space as $\hat{\varphi}(\omega) = m_0(\omega/2)\,\hat{\varphi}(\omega/2)$, where $m_0(\omega) = \sum h_n\, e^{-in\omega}$. In what follows, we assume compactly supported scaling functions with algebraic coefficients h_n, i. e., every coefficient h_n is element of an algebraic number field. From the multiresolution analysis axioms one derives the simple relation $|\, m_0(\omega)\,|^2 + |\, m_0(\omega+\pi)\,|^2 = 1$. Therefore, it is convenient to construct the transfer function $m_0(\omega)$ from its squared modulus $|\, m_0(\omega)\,|^2$ with the help of the following:

Theorem 1 (Fejér-Riesz) *Let $A(\omega)$ be a real nonnegative even trigonometric polynomial*

$$A(\omega) = \textstyle\sum_{m=0}^{M} a_m \cos m\,\omega, \quad \textit{with} \quad a_m \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then it is possible to construct a real trigonometric polynomial $B(\omega) = \sum_{m=0}^{M} b_m\, e^{im\omega}$, with $b_m \in \mathbb{R}$, of the same order M, such that $A(\omega) = |\, B(\omega)\,|^2$.

II. Algebraic Scaling Coefficients

In the case of trigonometric polynomials $|\, m_0(\omega)\,|^2$ with algebraic coefficients, the following theorem ensures that $m_0(\omega)$ has algebraic coefficients, too.

Theorem 2 ([1]) *The coefficients a_m of the trigonometric polynomial $A(\omega)$ are algebraic if and only if the coefficients b_m of $B(\omega)$ are also algebraic.*

Theorem 2 can be proved by extending Daubechies' proof of Theorem 1 [2], but using minimal splitting fields instead of the algebraically closed field $\mathbb{C}$. The main steps in the proof can be sketched as follows:

1. Rewrite the trigonometric polynomial $A(\omega)$ as a polynomial p_A in $\cos\omega$. The polynomial p_A can be factorized over a minimal splitting field E as $\mathrm{lc}(p_A)\prod_{n=1}^{M}(c - c_j)$. Here, $\mathrm{lc}(\,\cdot\,)$ denotes the leading coefficient.
2. Build a self-reciprocal polynomial P_A by substituting $c := (z + z^{-1})/2$ in $p_A(c)$ and multiplying with z^M. Therefore, the resulting polynomial is of the following form $P_A(\omega) = \mathrm{lc}(p_A)\prod_{n=1}^{M}\left(1/2 - c_j z + 1/2z^2\right)$. Factorize $P_A(z)$ in a minimal splitting field D.
3. Choose a zero z_j from every factor $\left(1/2 - c_j z + 1/2z^2\right)$, $1 \le j \le M$, and build a new trigonometric polynomial $P_B(z) = \nu\prod_{j=1}^{M}(z - z_j)$, where $\nu \in K$ is just a normalization factor. The trigonometric polynomial $B(\omega)$ is obtained from P_B by $B(\omega) = P_B(e^{-i\omega})$. Thus, the field K is generated by elementary symmetric functions of the zeros z_j.

Hence, from a field theoretic point of view the situation can be summarized by the following diagram:

$$\begin{tikzcd} D \arrow[d, dash] \arrow[dr, dash] & \\ E \arrow[d, dash] & K \\ F \arrow[ur, dash] & \end{tikzcd}$$

III. Galois Theoretic Analysis

From the very construction, we see that the fields E and D are Galois extensions over F. We discuss some of their properties through a sequence of lemmas and corollaries.

Lemma 1 *The Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(D/E)$ is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^m$, with $m \le M$.*

From this observation we easily derive the following result about the structure of the Galois group.

Lemma 2 *The Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(D/F)$ is the extension of the elementary abelian normal 2-subgroup $\mathrm{Gal}(D/E)$ by the group $\mathrm{Gal}(E/F)$.*

As a consequence, we get an upper bound for the order of the Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(D/F)$, which is helpful in the estimation of this group.

Corollary 3 *We have the following upper bound for the field degree of D/F:*

$$[D:F] \le 2^M \cdot |\,\mathrm{Gal}(E/F)\,| \le M! \cdot 2^M.$$

By carefully studying the structure of K, we obtain

Lemma 4 *The field D is generated by the composition field EK.*

Corollary 5 *The field degree $[K\!:\!F]$ is at least $|\,\mathrm{Gal}(D/E)|$.*

The close connection between the fields D and K can be exemplified by the following

Lemma 6 *If the field degree D/E is maximal, i. e., $[D:E] = 2^M$, then the Galois closure of K is the field D.*

References

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[2] I. Daubechies. *Ten Lectures on Wavelets.* CBMS-NSF Reg. Conf. Series Appl. Math. SIAM, 1992.

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