

## A DNA Sticker Algorithm for Parallel Reduction over Finite Field $GF(2^n)$

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### Abstract

*This paper proposes a DNA sticker algorithm for parallel reduction over finite field  $GF(2^n)$ . This algorithm is suitable for some specific finite fields defined with trinomials or pentanomials. We use one binary finite field  $GF(2^{163})$  which is recommended by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to describe the details about our algorithm. The solution space of  $2^{325}$  cases could be figured out within 3059 DNA steps. This work also presents clear evidence of ability of DNA computing to perform complicated mathematic operations for elliptic curve cryptosystem over finite field  $GF(2^n)$ .*

**Keywords:** Parallel reduction, Sticker model, DNA computing, Finite field  $GF(2^n)$

### 1. Introduction

DNA computing is a new technique of simulating biomolecular structure of DNA instead of the traditional silicon-based computer technology and the concept of DNA computing was creatively developed by Leonard Adleman of the University of Southern California in [1]. Two major advantages of DNA computing are huge memory capacity and high parallelism which, in data processing, leads molecule computing procedures to solve mathematic hard problems by a brute force searching for the answer sequences.

In recent years, plenty of researches have been focused on attacking cryptosystem such as Diffie–Hellman cryptosystem, RSA, DES and so on. In [2], some DNA-based algorithms designed to solve the problem of discrete logarithms demonstrated that the Diffie–Hellman public-key cryptosystem were perhaps insecure. Work in [3] proved the RSA cryptosystem could be decoded with the linear steps by designing five DNA-based algorithms. A DNA sticker algorithm for bit-substitution was proposed in [4] to indicate that block cipher systems with a 64-bit key were perhaps insecure.

In this paper, we propose a novel DNA sticker algorithm for parallel reduction over finite field  $GF(2^n)$  which could compute the solution space of  $2^{325}$  possibilities in 3059 DNA operations. The reduction is one of the major mathematic operations for elliptic curve cryptosystem over finite field  $GF(2^n)$ . This algorithm provides evidence of the ability of DNA computing to perform intractable computation problems for elliptic curve cryptosystem. This cryptosystem could be proved insecure if it is possible to accomplish modular-multiplication (another time consuming operation) in linear DNA operations. The finite field  $GF(2^{163})$  is taken as an example to describe the details about our algorithm. Firstly, we simplify the

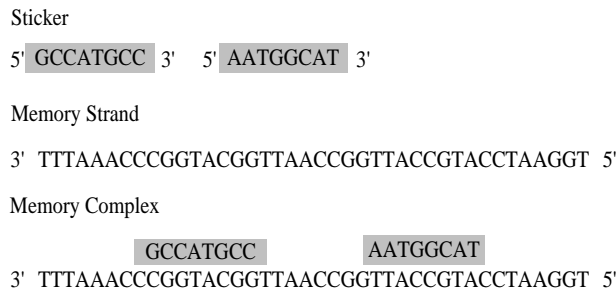
classical reduction over  $GF(2^{163})$  based on the characteristic of binary finite field. Then sticker model which was introduced firstly in [5] as an abstract non-autonomous model for DNA computing is adopted to design the algorithm by considering different cases about every bit of the input parameter.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Next section introduces background on sticker model and reduction over finite field  $GF(2^n)$ . Section 3 presents our DNA sticker algorithm for parallel reduction over  $GF(2^n)$ . The computation complexity is discussed in Section 4. Section 5 introduces some related works. Last section provides a conclusion and a brief discussion of potential future research ideas.

## 2. Background

### 2.1. Sticker model

The idea of our algorithm proposed in this paper is rooted in the sticker model, in which DNA strands are considered as strings over the binary alphabet  $\{0,1\}$ . As depicted in Figure 1, each subsection of memory complex is defined as 0 by annealing no sticker, while the sticker-annealed subsection is defined as 1. For more details about the encoding of memory complex, please refer to [6-9].



**Figure 1. An example of sticker system, which is encoded information 01010**

The basic operations of sticker model are listed as follows:

**Merge:**  $Merge(T; T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n)$ . This operation combines memory complexes of the tubes  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  into a test tube T.

**Separate:**  $Separate(T; i, T_1, T_2)$ . This operation separates all strands in test tube T into two different test tubes  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  based on their  $i^{th}$  substrands. The memory complexes in test tube T in which the  $i^{th}$  substrand is 1 are assigned to the first test tube  $T_1$  and the other ones in which the  $i^{th}$  substrand is 0 are assigned to the second test tube  $T_2$ .

**Set:**  $Set(T, i)$ . This operation sets the  $i^{th}$  substrand of every memory complex in test tube T as on.

**Clear:**  $Clear(T, i)$ . This operation sets the  $i^{th}$  substrand of every memory complex in test tube T as off.

The test tube containing the initial set of strands consists of memory complexes with same format and length.

## 2.2. Reduction algorithm

Binary finite field, in which carry bits do not need to be propagated, is one of the major mathematical set for constructing elliptic curve cryptosystem. Two specific fields defined with trinomials or pentanomials are the best selections for fast reduction. As demonstrated in Table 1, NIST recommended five reduction polynomials from  $GF(2^{163})$  to  $GF(2^{571})$  in [10].

**Table 1. Five reduction polynomials**

| Number | Modular                         |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1      | $f(z)=z^{163}+z^7+z^6+z^3+1$    |
| 2      | $f(z)=z^{233}+z^{74}+1$         |
| 3      | $f(z)=z^{283}+z^{12}+z^7+z^5+1$ |
| 4      | $f(z)=z^{409}+z^{87}+1$         |
| 5      | $f(z)=z^{571}+z^{10}+z^5+z^2+1$ |

The following algorithm designed for the 32-bit word length computer is the classical one for computing fast reduction over finite field  $GF(2^{163})$ [11]. The highest power exponent of dividend polynomial  $C(Z)$  is 324 and  $C[i]$  represents the  $i^{th}$  word of  $C(Z)$ , from  $(32i-1)$  bit to  $3li$  bit.

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Reduction over  $GF(2^{163})$  (word length=32)

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Input :  $C(Z) = C_{324}Z^{324} + \dots + C_1Z^1 + C_0$

$$f(Z) = Z^{163} + Z^7 + Z^6 + Z^3 + 1$$

Output :  $C(Z) \bmod f(Z)$

1. for  $i$  from 10 to 6, repeat:

1.1  $T \leftarrow C[i]$

1.2  $C[i-6] \leftarrow C[i-6] \oplus (T \ll 29)$

1.3  $C[i-5] \leftarrow C[i-5] \oplus (T \ll 4) \oplus (T \ll 3) \oplus T \oplus (T \gg 3)$

1.4  $C[i-4] \leftarrow C[i-4] \oplus (T \gg 28) \oplus (T \gg 29)$

2.  $T \leftarrow C[5] \gg 3$

3.  $C[0] \leftarrow C[0] \oplus (T \ll 7) \oplus (T \ll 6) \oplus (T \ll 3) \oplus T$

4.  $C[1] \leftarrow C[1] \oplus (T \gg 25) \oplus (T \gg 26)$

5.  $C[5] \leftarrow C[5] \& 0x7$

6. return  $(C[5], C[4], C[3], C[2], C[1], C[0])$

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## 3. Theoretical Model of Parallel Reduction

### 3.1. Simplification of Reduction over $GF(2^{163})$

In order to design the DNA sticker algorithm for parallel reduction over  $GF(2^{163})$ , we could firstly simplify the original algorithm according to the characteristic of this finite field. Every monomial, for instance, whose index is larger than 162, is equivalent to a corresponding polynomial over  $GF(2^{163})$ .

$$\begin{cases} Z^{163} \equiv Z^7 + Z^6 + Z^3 + 1 & (\text{mod } f(x)) \\ Z^{164} \equiv Z^8 + Z^7 + Z^4 + Z & (\text{mod } f(x)) \\ \vdots \\ Z^{324} \equiv Z^{168} + Z^{167} + Z^{164} + Z^{161} & (\text{mod } f(x)) \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Then coefficients of polynomial C(Z) are deduced as shown in the follow equations (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) and (7). To design the DNA sticker algorithm and differ from C[i], we use parameter X[i] to represent the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit in this subsection.

$$\begin{cases} X[168] = X[168] \oplus X[324] \\ X[167] = X[167] \oplus X[323] \oplus X[324] \\ X[166] = X[166] \oplus X[322] \oplus X[323] \\ X[165] = X[165] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[322] \\ X[164] = X[164] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[324] \\ X[163] = X[163] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[323] \\ X[162] = X[162] \oplus X[318] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[322] \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{cases} X[161] = X[161] \oplus X[317] \oplus X[318] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[324] \\ \vdots \\ X[7] = X[7] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[164] \oplus X[167] \oplus X[170] \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

$$X[6] = X[6] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[166] \oplus X[169] \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{cases} X[5] = X[5] \oplus X[165] \oplus X[168] \\ X[4] = X[4] \oplus X[164] \oplus X[167] \\ X[3] = X[3] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[166] \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{cases} X[2] = X[2] \oplus X[165] \\ X[1] = X[1] \oplus X[164] \\ X[0] = X[0] \oplus X[163] \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

In (3), all equations could be expressed as (7):

$$X[i] = X[i] \oplus X[i+156] \oplus X[i+157] \oplus X[i+160] \oplus X[i+163] \quad (7)$$

The index of final polynomial result must be lower than 163, so the monomials power exponent varying from 168 to 163 should be reduced again. Consequently, the final result is obtained by combining (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) as Table 2, in which Y[i] represents coefficient of result, shows.

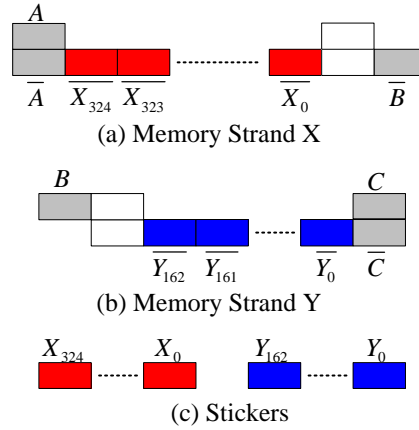
**Table 2. Parallel reduction over  $GF(2^{163})$**

| Result    | Input   |
|-----------|---|
| Y[162]    | $X[162] \oplus X[318] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[322]$  |
| Y[161:13] | $X[161:13] \oplus X[317:169] \oplus X[318:170] \oplus X[321:173] \oplus X[324:176]$         |
| Y[12]     | $X[12] \oplus X[168] \oplus X[324] \oplus X[169] \oplus X[172] \oplus X[175]$               |
| Y[11]     | $X[11] \oplus X[167] \oplus X[323] \oplus X[168] \oplus X[171] \oplus X[174]$               |
| Y[10]     | $X[10] \oplus X[166] \oplus X[322] \oplus X[167] \oplus X[324] \oplus X[170] \oplus X[173]$ |
| Y[9]      | $X[9] \oplus X[165] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[166] \oplus X[323] \oplus X[169] \oplus X[172]$  |
| Y[8]      | $X[8] \oplus X[164] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[165] \oplus X[322] \oplus X[168] \oplus X[171]$  |
| Y[7]      | $X[7] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[164] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[167] \oplus X[170]$  |
| Y[6]      | $X[6] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[322] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[166] \oplus X[169]$  |
| Y[5]      | $X[5] \oplus X[165] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[322] \oplus X[168] \oplus X[324]$                |
| Y[4]      | $X[4] \oplus X[164] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[167] \oplus X[323]$                |
| Y[3]      | $X[3] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[166] \oplus X[322]$                |
| Y[2]      | $X[2] \oplus X[165] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[322]$  |
| Y[1]      | $X[1] \oplus X[164] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[321] \oplus X[324]$                              |
| Y[0]      | $X[0] \oplus X[163] \oplus X[319] \oplus X[320] \oplus X[323]$                              |

### 3.2. Sticker Algorithm

As are so often interpreted in other molecular algorithms, we must first describe the DNA strands that will be used in our algorithm. A memory strand X representing the input data and a memory strand Y representing the result are shown in Figure 2(a) and Figure 2(b), and 488 stickers are complementary to subsections of the two memory strands as illustrated in Figure 2(c). To solve the solution space of reduction over finite field  $GF(2^{163})$ , we assume that test tube  $T_1$  contains enough memory complexes, covering all possible inputs and consisting of memory strands X and stickers  $X_i$ , and that test tube  $T_2$  contains sufficient memory strands Y in which all subsections are set as off.

In order to compute the multiple operations of XOR for every bit, we modify the DNA operation:  $Separate(T, i, T_1, T_2)$ . Take dividing  $X_0X_1$  as an example to show the concrete steps, two DNA operations with probe  $X_0$  and probe  $X_1$  are carried out to divide the memory complexes in test tube T into two parts:  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ . The two DNA operations are expressed as  $Separate(T, X_0X_1 = 01, T_1)$  and  $Separate(T, X_0X_1 = 10, T_1)$ . All memory complexes in which the two substrands are '01' or '10' are assigned to  $T_1$  and the other ones are assigned to another test tube  $T_2$  by default.



**Figure 2. 2 memory strands and 488 stickers used in the proposed algorithm**

The processing procedure of our algorithm is described as follows:

**Reduction ( $T, T_1, T_2, 163$ )**

```

Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
// computing the highest bit 162
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 0001, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 0010, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 0100, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 1000, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 0111, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 1011, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 1101, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_{162} X_{318} X_{319} X_{322} = 1110, T_1$ )
Set( $T_1, Y_{162}$ )
Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
// 155 loops
for i from 161 to 7
// 16 possible inputs that the total count of '1' bit is an odd integer
Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+156} X_{i+157} X_{i+160} X_{i+163} = 00001, T_1$ )
Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+156} X_{i+157} X_{i+160} X_{i+163} = 00010, T_1$ )
    ⋮
Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+156} X_{i+157} X_{i+160} X_{i+163} = 11111, T_1$ )
Set( $T, Y_i$ )
Merger( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
od
    
```

```

// 6 loops,  $Y_i$  is considered as input in Separate operation
for i from 12 to 7
    Separate( $T, Y_i X_{i+312} = 10, T_1$ )
    Separate( $T, Y_i X_{i+312} = 01, T_1$ )
    Set( $T_1, Y_i$ )
    Clear( $T_2, Y_i$ )
    Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
od
for i from 10 to 7
    Separate( $T, Y_i X_{i+314} = 10, T_1$ )
    Separate( $T, Y_i X_{i+314} = 01, T_1$ )
    Set( $T_1, Y_i$ )
    Clear( $T_2, Y_i$ )
    Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
od
// 64 possible inputs that the total count of '1' bit is an odd integer
Separate( $T, X_6 X_{163} X_{319} X_{322} X_{320} X_{166} X_{169} = 0000001, T_1$ )
    ⋮
Separate( $T, X_6 X_{163} X_{319} X_{322} X_{320} X_{166} X_{169} = 1111111, T_1$ )
Set( $T_1, Y_7$ )
Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
for i from 5 to 3
    // 32 possible inputs that the total count of '1' bit is an odd integer
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+160} X_{i+316} X_{i+317} X_{i+163} X_{i+319} = 000001, T_1$ )
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+160} X_{i+316} X_{i+317} X_{i+163} X_{i+319} = 000010, T_1$ )
        ⋮
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+160} X_{i+316} X_{i+317} X_{i+163} X_{i+319} = 111110, T_1$ )
    Set( $T_1, Y_i$ )
    Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
od
for i from 2 to 0
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 0001, T_1$ )
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 0010, T_1$ )
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 0100, T_1$ )
    Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 1000, T_1$ )

```

```

        Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 0111, T_1$ )
        Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 1011, T_1$ )
        Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 1101, T_1$ )
        Separate( $T, X_i X_{i+163} X_{i+319} X_{320} = 1110, T_1$ )
        Set( $T_1, Y_i$ )
        Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
    od
    // last procedure for computing  $Y_1$  and  $Y_0$ 
    for i from 1 to 0
        Separate( $T, Y_i X_{i+323} = 01, T_1$ )
        Separate( $T, Y_i X_{i+323} = 10, T_1$ )
        Set( $T_1, Y_i$ )
        Clear( $T_2, Y_i$ )
        Merge( $T, T_1, T_2$ )
    od
    return( $T$ )
    
```

Firstly, the highest bit of the result, the 162<sup>nd</sup> bit of memory strand ‘Y’, which is particularly concerned with four bits of the input parameter – the 162<sup>nd</sup> bit, the 168<sup>th</sup> bit, the 169<sup>th</sup> bit and the 322<sup>nd</sup> bit, is initialized by executing eight ‘**Separate**’ operations, one ‘**Set**’ operation and one ‘**Merge**’ operation. All of the 162<sup>nd</sup> bits of memory strand ‘Y’ in test tube  $T_1$ , where every case of the input data that leads the result of 162<sup>nd</sup> bit to value ‘1’ has been considered, are assigned into ‘1’.

Next, 155 bits of memory strand ‘Y’ – from the 161<sup>st</sup> bit to the 7<sup>th</sup> bit – could be calculated through a chain of similar procedures considering different inputs for every bit and computing the first five bits of the inputs firstly. And apparently there would be still 6 bits of memory strand ‘Y’, in which one or two input bits has not been regarded in the above procedures, where the first five input bits of the 155 bits are exhibiting like a series. It would be an assistance to compute the final result of the 6 lower bits, from the 12<sup>th</sup> bit to the 7<sup>th</sup> bit, since the later consideration of the remaining cases would simplify the execution. In fact, in the entire procedures of computing the 6 lower bits, these substrands of memory complex (from  $Y_{12}$  to  $Y_0$ ) acts as the temporary results while computing the first five inputs and then acts as the input to consider the final value.

And then, 64 possible cases of 7 inputs for the calculation of the 6<sup>th</sup> bit of memory strand ‘Y’ should be considered. So are the procedures of computing 3 bits (the 5<sup>th</sup> bit, the 4<sup>th</sup> bit and the 3<sup>rd</sup> bit), all of which consists of 32 possible inputs.

Lastly, the lowest 3 bits are figured out by computing 4 inputs firstly and then regarding the remaining one input for the 1<sup>st</sup> bit and the 0<sup>th</sup> bit, much the way we deal with the 155 bits of memory strand ‘Y’ in the second step.



#### 4. Complexity Discussion

This DNA sticker algorithm needs  $2^{325}$  memory strands X,  $2^{163}$  memory strands Y,  $2^{325}/2$  stickers  $X_{324}, X_{323}, \dots, X_0$ ,  $2^{163}/2$  stickers  $Y_{162}, Y_{161}, \dots, Y_0$  and 488 probes. Therefore, the space complexity of this algorithm is

$$\begin{cases} S_{memory\ strand} = 2^{325} + 2^{163} \\ S_{sticker} = (2^{325} + 2^{163}) / 2 \\ S_{probe} = 488 \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

According to the above algorithm, the total number of every DNA operation could be obtained by simple arithmetical calculations. The time complexity is

$$\begin{cases} S_{separate} = 2696 \\ S_{merge} = 176 \\ S_{set} = 175 \\ S_{clear} = 12 \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

The space complexity which means the materials used in this algorithm is acceptable because the high storage capacity is one of the major advantages of DNA computing. The time complexity analysis demonstrates the high parallelism in data processing of DNA computing. In other computing platform, we have to consider  $2^{325}$  different cases of all possible inputs and therefore  $2^{325}$  times of parallel reduction over  $GF(2^{163})$  needs to be executed to get the solution space of this operation. Obviously, the time complexity of parallel reduction is also very small while turning to other four types of finite field  $GF(2^n)$  with the proposed molecule algorithm.

#### 5. Related Works

Several parallel reductions as part of elliptic curve cryptosystem over this specific finite field  $GF(2^n)$  have been proposed recently. Differing from our algorithm designed for DNA computing, these researches impose their parallel implementation on other computing platforms. We introduce some researches in the last few years to contrast our work.

In [12], a fast reconfigurable method for elliptic curve cryptography acceleration in  $GF(2^n)$  was implemented on an Intel P4 2.8 Ghz processor. This paper determined that systematic reduction was the best choice for finite fields defined with trinomials or pentanomials. In [13], a scalable reduction unit was designed as part of a flexible-low resources elliptic curve cryptography processor over binary finite fields  $GF(2^n)$  on FPGA platforms. The implementation of the flexible ECC processor consumes only 1278 slices for 32-bit data path on Spartan III XC3S200. An elliptic curve cryptosystem (ECC) over  $GF(2^n)$  was implemented in [14] on sensor motes using small word size for low-powered microprocessors. After that, these authors implemented another elliptic curve cryptosystem with Koblitz curve on 16-bit word on 16-bit Tmote Sky mote in [15]. Research in [16] introduced a low resources scalable elliptic curve cryptography processor over binary finite fields  $GF(2^n)$  in which reduction over  $GF(2^n)$  was designed as scalable reduction unit. This scalable ECC processor implemented on FPGA platform consumes only 1127 slices for 32-bit data path on Spartan III XC3S200.

From above discussion, it can be seen that other studies imposed on reducing computing unit, accelerating computing speed or lowering power consumption. Our works are mainly focused on figuring out the solution space within as less steps as possible.

## 6. Conclusion

This paper aims to provide a DNA sticker algorithm to compute parallel reduction over binary finite field  $GF(2^n)$  and we introduced a concrete example over  $GF(2^{163})$  to describe the details of our algorithm. Only 3059 DNA operations are needed to obtain the  $2^{235}$  solution space. The algorithm could be applied to other binary finite fields introduced in section 2.

The described DNA algorithm is totally designed theoretically based on the condition that all DNA operations such as *Merge*, *Separate*, *Set* and *Clear* are ideal. There would be still a long way to go to overcome many complicate factors of DNA experiment such as purity of separation process and amplification of answer sequences. However, the experiments presented in [17] proved that the molecular computer is possible to perform parallel computation in the future.

The DNA algorithm proposed in this paper only provides a method of parallel reduction for some special types of binary finite field. We plan to design DNA algorithm of computing parallel modular-multiplication over binary finite field, by combining with the algorithm proposed in this paper the elliptic curves might be proved insecure. The future design will be introduced in later publication.

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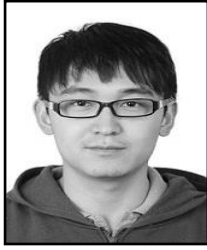
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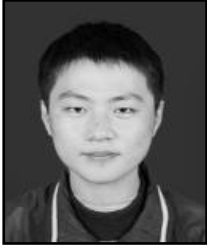
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