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# An Implementation of the Number Field Sieve

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**Abstract**

The Number Field Sieve (NFS) is the asymptotically fastest known factoring algorithm for large integers. This article describes an implementation of the NFS, including the choice of two quadratic polynomials, both classical and lattice sieving, the block Lanczos method and a new square root algorithm. Finally some data on factorizations obtained with this implementation are listed, including the record factorization of $12^{151}-1$.

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## 1. Introduction

The Number Field Sieve (NFS) — introduced in 1988 by John Pollard [19] — is the asymptotically fastest known algorithm for factoring integers. Two forms of the NFS have been considered: the Special NFS (SNFS), tailored especially for integers of the form $n = c_1 r^t + c_2 s^u$, and the General NFS (GNFS), which is applicable for arbitrary numbers. The NFS factors integers $n$ in heuristic time

$$\exp\left((c+o(1))(\log n)^{1/3}(\log\log n)^{2/3}\right)$$

as $n \to \infty$. Here $c = (\frac{32}{9})^{1/3} \approx 1.5$ for the SNFS and $c = (\frac{64}{9})^{1/3} \approx 1.9$ for the GNFS [3]. These compare with the time

$$\exp\left((1+o(1))(\log n)^{1/2}(\log\log n)^{1/2}\right)$$

taken by the Multiple Polynomial Quadratic Sieve (MPQS) [21], which still is the best general-purpose factoring algorithm for integers with less than approximately 110 digits.

This article describes several experiments carried out with an implementation of the NFS written by J. Buhler, R.M. Huizing, P. L. Montgomery, R. Robson and R. Ruby. Among others, it has been used for the record SNFS factorization of $(12^{151}-1)/11$, a number of 162 decimal digits, and a GNFS factorization of a 107-digit cofactor of $6^{223}+1$. First, a description of the NFS and an outline of the implementation will be given; secondly, several parts of the implementation will be described in more detail and finally the results of the factorization experiments will be stated. Detailed descriptions of the NFS can be found in [13] and [3].

## 2. Description of the NFS

Let $n$ be the odd number to be factored. It is easy to check whether $n$ is a prime number or a prime power [14, §2.5], and we assume that it is neither. Like MPQS, the NFS tries to find a solution of the equation $v^2 \equiv w^2 \bmod n$. For at least half of the pairs $(v \bmod n, w \bmod n)$ with $v^2 \equiv w^2 \bmod n$ and $v$ and $w$ relatively prime to $n$, the greatest common divisor of $n$ and $v - w$ gives a non-trivial factor of $n$.

To construct $v$ and $w$ we first choose two polynomials $f_i(x) = c_{i,d_i}x^{d_i} + c_{i,d_i-1}x^{d_i-1} + \cdots + c_{i,0} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ $(i = 1, 2)$, both irreducible over $\mathbb{Z}$, with $\mathrm{cont}(f_i) = \gcd(c_{i,d_i}, \ldots, c_{i,0}) = 1$, $f_1 \neq \pm f_2$, and an integer $m$ such that $m$ is a common root modulo $n$ of $f_1$ and $f_2$. In our implementation this is the only step in which the SNFS and the GNFS differ: in the SNFS we use the special form of the number $n$ to pick these polynomials by hand. One polynomial will have very small coefficients compared to the coefficients of the polynomials we will use with the GNFS, where we search for a pair of polynomials with help of the computer. This makes SNFS faster than GNFS [3, §1]. See Section 5 for a detailed description of the selection of the polynomials.

Let $\alpha_i$ be a root of $f_i(x)$ in $\mathbb{C}$ $(i = 1, 2)$ and let $\mathbb{Q}_n$ denote the ring of rational numbers with denominator coprime to $n$. We want to find a nonempty set $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid a \text{ and } b \text{ coprime}\}$ such that both $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_1)$ and $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_2)$ are squares — $\beta^2$ and $\gamma^2$, say — in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_1]$ and $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_2]$, respectively. Application of the two natural ring homomorphisms $\phi_i : \mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i] \to \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ determined by $\phi_i(\alpha_i) = m \bmod n$ $(i = 1, 2)$ to $\beta^2$ and $\gamma^2$ gives $\phi_1(\beta^2) \equiv \phi_2(\gamma^2) \bmod n$. This yields $(\phi_1(\beta))^2 \equiv (\phi_2(\gamma))^2 \bmod n$. When $\phi_1(\beta)$ and $\phi_2(\gamma)$ are relatively prime to $n$, calculating $\gcd(n, \phi_1(\beta) - \phi_2(\gamma))$ will yield a non-trivial factor of $n$ in at least half the cases.

For $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i)$ to be a square in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i]$, its norm $N(\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i))$ must be a square in $\mathbb{Q}$. Denote by $F_i(x, y) = y^{d_i} f_i(x/y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ the homogeneous form of $f_i(x)$. From $N(a - b\alpha_i) = F_i(a, b)/c_{i,d_i}$ we can deduce that if the cardinality of the set $\mathcal{S}$ is even and if $\prod_{\mathcal{S}} F_i(a, b)$ is a square in $\mathbb{Z}$, then $N(\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i))$ is a square in $\mathbb{Q}$.

The algorithm searches for $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, $a$ and $b$ coprime, such that both integers $F_i(a, b)$ factor completely over the prime numbers below some user-determined bounds $B_i$. We call such integers $F_i(a, b)$ *smooth* and such $(a, b)$-pairs *relations*. For a relation $(a_j, b_j)$ we can write

$$F_1(a_j, b_j) = \prod_{p \in \mathcal{K}_1} p^{s_{jp}^{(1)}} \qquad \text{and} \qquad F_2(a_j, b_j) = \prod_{p \in \mathcal{K}_2} p^{s_{jp}^{(2)}}$$

where $s_{jp}^{(i)} \in \mathbb{N}$ and where $\mathcal{K}_1$ and $\mathcal{K}_2$ contain $-1$ and the prime numbers below $B_1$ and $B_2$, respectively. Let $\boldsymbol{v}(a_j, b_j)$ be a vector of length $1 + |\mathcal{K}_1| + |\mathcal{K}_2|$. It is constructed as follows: its first entry is one and the rest of $\boldsymbol{v}(a_j, b_j)$ s filled with all exponents $s_{jp}^{(1)}$ and $s_{jp}^{(2)}$ modulo 2 in a fixed order. If $\mathcal{S}$ is a subset of the relations such that $\sum_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}} \boldsymbol{v}(a, b) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$, then both $N(\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i))$ are squares in $\mathbb{Q}$.

Unfortunately $N(\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i))$ being a square in $\mathbb{Q}$ is not sufficient for $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i)$ to be a square in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i]$. By looking at 'what kind of $p$' divides $F_i(a, b)$, we will almost overcome this problem. For each prime number $p$ we define the set

$$\mathcal{R}_i(p) = \{(r_1{:}r_2) \in \mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{F}_p) \mid F_i(r_1, r_2) \equiv 0 \bmod p\}, \tag{2.1}$$

where $\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{F}_p)$ denotes the projective line over $\mathbb{F}_p$. Furthermore we introduce for $C \in \mathbb{N}$ the

collection

$$\mathcal{F}_i(C) = \{(p, (r_1{:}r_2)) \mid p \text{ prime},\ p < C,\ (r_1{:}r_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)\}. \tag{2.2}$$

Heuristically $|\mathcal{F}_i(C)|$ is approximately the number of primes below $C$ [10, Chapter VIII,§4]. $\mathcal{F}_1(B_1)$ and $\mathcal{F}_2(B_2)$ are called the *factor bases*. For $a$ and $b$ coprime, the integer $F_i(a,b)$ is divisible by a prime number $p$ if and only if $(a \bmod p : b \bmod p) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$. Therefore we can write for a relation $(a_j, b_j)$

$$F_1(a_j, b_j) = \pm \prod_{(p,(r_1:r_2))\in\mathcal{F}_1(B_1)} p^{s^{(1)}_{jpr_1r_2}} \tag{2.3}$$

$$F_2(a_j, b_j) = \pm \prod_{(p,(r_1:r_2))\in\mathcal{F}_2(B_2)} p^{s^{(2)}_{jpr_1r_2}} \tag{2.4}$$

where $s^{(i)}_{jpr_1r_2} = s^{(i)}_{jp}$ if $(a_j \bmod p : b_j \bmod p) = (r_1{:}r_2)$ and 0 otherwise.

Let $\boldsymbol{v}(a_j, b_j)$ be a vector of length $1 + |\mathcal{F}_1(B_1)| + |\mathcal{F}_2(B_2)|$ containing 1 and all $s^{(1)}_{jpr_1r_2} \bmod 2$ and $s^{(2)}_{jpr_1r_2} \bmod 2$, in an order which is fixed for all relations $(a_j, b_j)$. A non-empty subset $\mathcal{S}$ of relations such that $\sum_{\mathcal{S}} \boldsymbol{v}(a,b) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$ is almost sufficient that $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i)$ be a square in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i]$ for $i = 1, 2$ [3, §12.7]. It is not totally sufficient as can be seen from the following example: In the field $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ generated by a root of the polynomial $f(x) = x^2 - 3$, the element $2 + \sqrt{3}$ has norm $F(2,-1) = 1$. So all exponents $s^{(1)}_{jpr_1r_2}$ and $s^{(2)}_{jpr_1r_2}$ will be zero. Furthermore $\boldsymbol{v}(2,-1) + \boldsymbol{v}(1,0) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$. But its square root is $(\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2})/2$, which is not an element of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$.

The small gap between being almost a square and being practically certain a square is overcome by using *quadratic characters*, following an idea of Adleman [1]. Let $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i)$ be a square in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i]$ with $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \{(a,b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid a \text{ and } b \text{ coprime}\}$ and let $q$ be an odd prime number not dividing $c_{1,d_1}c_{2,d_2}$. If $(s_1{:}s_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(q)$ such that $f_i'(s_1 s_2^{-1} \bmod q) \not\equiv 0 \bmod q$ and $(a \bmod q : b \bmod q) \neq (s_1{:}s_2)$ for all $(a,b) \in \mathcal{S}$, then

$$\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}} \left(\frac{a - b\ (s_1 s_2^{-1} \bmod q)}{q}\right) = 1 \tag{2.5}$$

where $\left(\frac{v}{w}\right)$ denotes the Legendre symbol [3, §8, §12.7]. We use this by taking for each polynomial several primes $q$ larger than $B_i$ and not dividing $c_{i,d_i}$, together with an element $(s_1{:}s_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(q)$ such that $f_i'(s_1 s_2^{-1} \bmod q) \not\equiv 0 \bmod q$. Since $q > B_i$ we have $(a \bmod q : b \bmod q) \neq (s_1{:}s_2)$ for all relations $(a,b)$. Append to the vector $\boldsymbol{v}(a,b)$ for all pairs $(q, (s_1{:}s_2))$ a zero if $\left(\frac{a - b\ (s_1 s_2^{-1} \bmod q)}{q}\right) = 1$ and a one otherwise. Now a non-empty subset $\mathcal{S}$ of all relations such that $\sum_{\mathcal{S}} \boldsymbol{v}(a,b) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$ guarantees that (2.5) holds for all chosen primes $q$ together with their elements $(s_1{:}s_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(q)$. Taking enough quadratic characters — we took 32 per polynomial — makes it practically certain that both $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_i)$ are squares in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i]$. Also the above counterexample could have been caught, using quadratic characters: take $q = 11$ and $(s_1{:}s_2) = (5,1) \in \mathcal{R}(11)$. The Legendre symbol becomes $\left(\frac{2+5}{11}\right)$, which is $-1$.

If $Q$ is the total number of quadratic characters used, then a non-empty subset $\mathcal{S}$ such that $\sum_{\mathcal{S}} \boldsymbol{v}(a,b) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$ can always be found if the number of relations exceeds $1 + |\mathcal{F}_1(B_1)| + |\mathcal{F}_2(B_2)| + Q$.

## 3. Outline of the implementation

The implementation can be divided into five stages. In the first stage we select both polynomials $f_1(x), f_2(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and the integer $m$ such that $m$ is a common root of $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$ modulo $n$. Furthermore the *sieving region* — this is the collection of $(a,b)$-pairs for which both $F_i(a,b)$ are checked for smoothness — and, for each polynomial, a *factor base bound* $B_i$ have to be chosen.

The second stage is the sieving in which the relations are found. This is the most time-consuming part. In this implementation a relation is a pair $(a,b)$ from the sieving region such that both $F_i(a,b)$ factor completely over the primes below $B_i$, except for at most two large prime numbers, which should be between $B_i$ and a *large prime bound* $L_i$. The products in (2.3) and (2.4) are taken over $\mathcal{F}(L_1)$ and $\mathcal{F}(L_2)$, respectively and the vectors $\boldsymbol{v}(a,b)$ have to be adapted accordingly.

This is followed by a filtering stage with the purpose of reducing the amount of data. Here some relations are eliminated and others are grouped into relation-sets.

In the fourth stage, we construct a matrix by taking the vectors $\boldsymbol{v}(a,b)$ and the vectors $\sum_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{V}} \boldsymbol{v}(a,b)$ for all remaining relations and relation-sets $\mathcal{V}$ as columns. Finding a non-empty set $\mathcal{S}$ such that $\sum_{\mathcal{S}} \boldsymbol{v}(a,b) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$ is the same as calculating a non-trivial vector from the null space of this matrix over $\mathbb{F}_2$. For huge sparse matrices the best known methods are iterative ones, such as the block Lanczos algorithm [17]. The output of this stage is a subset $\mathcal{S}$ of the relations such that both $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a-b\alpha_1)$ and $\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a-b\alpha_2)$ are squares $\beta^2$ and $\gamma^2$ in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_1]$ and $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_2]$, respectively.

The final stage consists of extracting the square root of both squares mentioned above. This is done by a new algorithm, developed by Montgomery [16]. In an iterative process the square root is approximated, thereby leaving a 'smaller' remainder of which we have to extract the square root. If the remainder is small enough we use a conventional method. Finally we apply the homomorphisms $\phi_1$ and $\phi_2$ to the square roots $\beta$ and $\gamma$, respectively and calculate the gcd of $n$ and $\phi_1(\beta) - \phi_2(\gamma)$, which will split $n$ into two non-trivial factors in at least half of the cases.

## 4. Free relations

Denote by $g$ the order of the Galois group of $f_1(x)f_2(x)$. For approximately $1/g$ of the primes $q < \min(L_1, L_2)$, both polynomials $F_i(x,y)$ split into $d_i$ linear factors modulo $q$ [8, §2, Theorem 1], [18, p. 566]:

$$F_i(x,y) = c_{i,d_i} \prod_{j=1}^{d_i} \left( r_2^{(j)} x - r_1^{(j)} y \right) \bmod q \tag{4.6}$$

If such a prime $q$ does not divide the discriminants of $f_1(x)$ or $f_2(x)$ (and therefore both polynomials $F_i(x,y)$ split into $d_i$ *different* linear factors modulo $q$) and if $q$ does not divide $c_{1,d_1} \cdot c_{2,d_2}$, we call $q$ a *free* prime. This terminology comes from the fact that we can select the ones which are smaller than $\min(B_1, B_2)$ without extra effort when calculating the factor bases $\mathcal{F}_i(B_i)$. They are said to give rise to free relations because we now require both $(\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}} p)(\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}}(a-b\alpha_i))$ to be a square in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_i]$, where $\mathcal{T}$ is a suitably chosen subset of the set of free primes. With $N(p) = p^{d_i}$, we have $N((\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}} p)\ (\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}}(a-b\alpha_i))) = (\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}} p^{d_i})$ $(\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}} F_i(a,b)/c_{i,d_i})$, which is a square in $\mathbb{Q}$ if $|\mathcal{S}|$ is even and $(\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}} p^{d_i})\ (\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}} F_i(a,b))$

is a square in $\mathbb{Z}$. Like we partitioned the primes $p$ dividing $\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}} F_i(a,b)$ according to the roots $(a \bmod p : b \bmod p) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$, we consider $p^{d_i}$ as the product of one factor $p$ for every root $(r_1{:}r_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$. We associate with every free prime $p < \min(L_1, L_2)$ a vector $\boldsymbol{v}(p)$ of length $1+|\mathcal{F}_1(L_1)|+|\mathcal{F}_2(L_2)|+Q$, which contains a one for every $(p, (r_1^{(j)}{:}r_2^{(j)}))$ occurring in (4.6) for both polynomials, and for every quadratic character $(q, (s_1{:}s_2))$ for which $(\frac{p}{q}) = -1$. The rest is filled with zeros. We will look for $\mathcal{T}$ and $\mathcal{S}$ such that $\sum_{p\in\mathcal{T}} \boldsymbol{v}(p)+\sum_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}} \boldsymbol{v}(a,b) \equiv \mathbf{0} \bmod 2$.

## 5. Choice of the polynomials

The conjectured running time for applying the SNFS to a number of the form $n = c_1 r^{t_1} + c_2 s^{u_1}$ depends on the size of $n$. If only small factors of $n$ are known, the SNFS algorithm is certainly the best algorithm to use. If already a substantial non-algebraic factor of $n$ is known, the GNFS or the MPQS might be faster.

Using the SNFS for a factor $n$ of an integer $c_1 r^t + c_2 s^u$ with $\gcd(c_1 r, c_2 s) = 1$, we pick the two possibly non-monic polynomials by hand. Select a small positive integer $d_1$ — usually 4 or 5 — which will be the degree of $f_1(x)$. Write $t = d_1 t' + t''$ and $u = d_1 u' + u''$ with $t'', u'' \in \{0, 1, \ldots, d_1 - 1\}$. In practice $f_1(x) := c_2 s^{u''} x^{d_1} + c_1 r^{t''}$ is irreducible over $\mathbb{Z}$ and $f_1(x), f_2(x) := r^{t'} x - s^{u'}$ and $m := s^{u'} r^{-t'} \bmod n$ satisfy the requirements mentioned in Section 2. If $f_1(x)$ is not irreducible, a non-trivial factor of $f_1$ is likely to give rise to a non-trivial factor of $n$ and otherwise $f_1$ can be replaced by a suitable factor. (This is also applicable in case of the GNFS.) An algorithm to test a polynomial for irreducibility and to factor it if it is not, can be found in [12]. If we encounter a polynomial $f_i(x)$ with cont $f_i(x) \neq 1$, we can divide all coefficients of $f_i(x)$ by its content, assuming that cont $f_i(x)$ and $n$ are relatively prime. Using the SNFS we sometimes find better pairs of polynomials together with a value for $m$, by trying to factor a multiple of $n$. Various examples can be found in the last Section of this article.

Using the GNFS one can find two polynomials by the *base m* method. Select a small positive integer $d_1$ — usually 4 or 5 — which will again be the degree of $f_1(x)$. Set $m = \lfloor n^{1/d_1} \rfloor$ and write $n$ in base $m$

$$n = c_{d_1} m^{d_1} + c_{d_1-1} m^{d_1-1} + \cdots + c_0$$

with $0 \leq c_i < m$. Now $f_1(x) = c_{d_1} x^{d_1} + c_{d_1-1} x^{d_1-1} + \cdots + c_0$ and $f_2(x) = x - m$ satisfy the requirements. This method implies $c_{d_1} = 1$ [3, §3]. In [3, §12.2] one can find slightly better variants of this method resulting in a linear and a higher degree polynomial with leading coefficients possibly larger than one and possibly negative coefficients. For these variants the polynomial coefficients are $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/(d_1+1)})$.

The task is to find suitable polynomials $f_1$ and $f_2$, factor base bounds $B_1$, $B_2$, large prime bounds $L_1$, $L_2$ and a sieving region. For a good choice four characteristics of the polynomials should be taken into account. First the maximal values of $|F_i(a,b)|$ should be small, making them more likely to be smooth over the primes below $B_i$. Secondly, when a polynomial has many real roots, more ratios $a/b$ will be near a root and more values $F_i(a,b)$ are expected to be small. As a refinement of this characteristic we can look at the absolute value of the real roots. A polynomial having a real root near $\frac{\max|a|}{\max|b|}$ is a good choice. The importance of this characteristic is clarified in Figure 1. Thirdly, polynomials which have many roots modulo (preferably different) small primes are preferred to ones which have not. This enlarges the

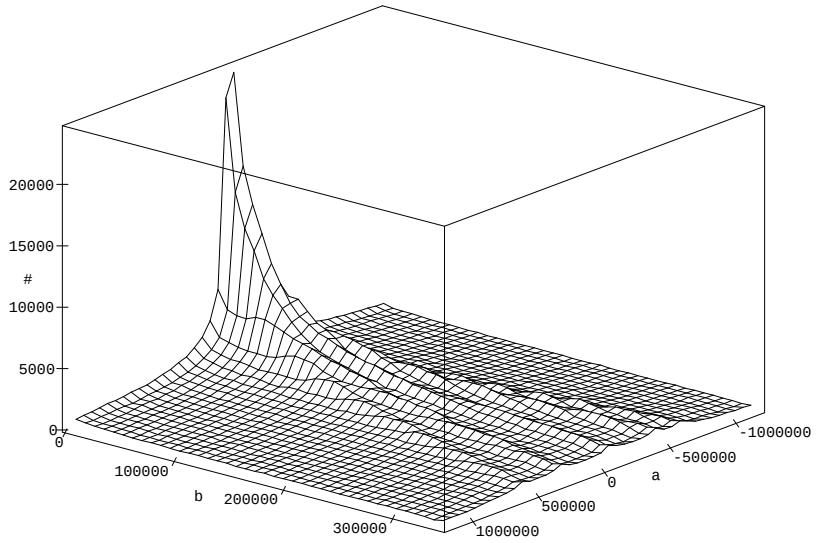


Figure 1: Number of relations found per 60000 $a$-values and 8625 $b$-values for the factorization of a C119 from $3^{319}-1$. One polynomial is $f_1(x) = x^5 + x^4 - 4x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x + 1$ with 5 real roots. The five ridges indicate a higher yield for pairs $(a, b)$ with $a/b$ near a root.

probability that $F_i(a, b)$ is small after dividing it by these small prime numbers, making it more likely to be smooth over the primes below $B_i$. Finally it is better to choose polynomials for which the order of the Galois group of $f_1(x)f_2(x)$ is small, since we saw in the previous Section that they provide more free relations. With these criteria in mind we select the pair of polynomials which is expected to be the best.

We experimented with a choice of two quadratic polynomials selected according to ideas of Montgomery [4]. He observed that $f_1(x) = c_{1,2}x^2+c_{1,1}x+c_{1,0}$ and $f_2(x) = c_{2,2}x^2+c_{2,1}x+c_{2,0} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ have a common root $m$ modulo $n$ if and only if the vectors $\boldsymbol{a} = (c_{1,0}, c_{1,1}, c_{1,2})^T$ and $\boldsymbol{b} = (c_{2,0}, c_{2,1}, c_{2,2})^T$ are orthogonal to $(1, m, m^2)^T$ over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ using the standard inner product. Suppose $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$ are irreducible over $\mathbb{Z}$, cont$(f_i)$=1 $(i = 1, 2)$ and that $f_1 \neq \pm f_2$. In practice the coefficients of $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ are smaller than $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$. Therefore the space orthogonal to $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ has rank 1 (both over $\mathbb{Z}$ and over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$). If $\boldsymbol{c} = \boldsymbol{a}\times\boldsymbol{b}$ (cross product), then $\boldsymbol{c}$ must be a multiple of $(1, m, m^2)^T$ over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$. The fact that $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$ are not multiples of each other ensures that $\boldsymbol{c}$ is not the zero vector. If $\boldsymbol{c} = (c_0, c_1, c_2)^T$, then $c_0, c_1, c_2$ is a geometric progression in $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$. It is not a geometric progression over $\mathbb{Z}$, since then $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$ would have a common factor $(x - m)$ over $\mathbb{Z}$.

Montgomery's algorithm for finding $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$ reverses this construction and starts with a vector $\boldsymbol{c} = (c_0, c_1, c_2)^T \in \mathbb{Z}^3$, where $c_0, c_1, c_2$ is a geometric progression with ratio $m$ over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, but not over $\mathbb{Z}$. The vector $\boldsymbol{c}$ can be constructed as follows: for $p$ prime such that $p < \sqrt{n}$ and $n$ a quadratic residue modulo $p$, choose $c_1$ such that $c_1^2 \equiv n \bmod p$ and $|c_1 - n^{1/2}| \leq p/2$. The elements of $\boldsymbol{c} = (p, c_1, (c_1^2 - n)/p)^T$ form a geometric progression with ratio $c_1/p$ over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, not over $\mathbb{Z}$. Furthermore $c_i = \mathcal{O}(n^{1/2})$ $(i$=0,1,2). Take $s \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ such that $c_1 s \equiv 1 \bmod p$. With $c_2 = (c_1^2 - n)/p$, the vectors

$$\boldsymbol{a}' = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ -p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \quad \boldsymbol{b}' = \begin{pmatrix} (c_1(c_2 s \bmod p) - c_2)/p \\ -(c_2 s \bmod p) \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are both orthogonal to $\boldsymbol{c}$. From $\boldsymbol{a}' \times \boldsymbol{b}' = -\boldsymbol{c}$ and $\gcd(c_0, c_1, c_2) = 1$ we deduce that $\boldsymbol{a}'$ and $\boldsymbol{b}'$ span the sublattice of $\mathbb{Z}^3$ orthogonal to $\boldsymbol{c}$. Denote by $(\boldsymbol{a}, \boldsymbol{b})$ the inner product of $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ and remember that $\frac{(\boldsymbol{a},\boldsymbol{b})}{(\boldsymbol{a},\boldsymbol{a})}\boldsymbol{a}$ is the projection of $\boldsymbol{b}$ on $\boldsymbol{a}$. By reducing the basis $\{\boldsymbol{a}', \boldsymbol{b}'\}$, one can find 'small' vectors $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ with $\{\boldsymbol{a}, \boldsymbol{b}\}$ a basis of the sublattice of $\mathbb{Z}^3$ orthogonal to $\boldsymbol{c}$, such that $\left|\frac{(\boldsymbol{a},\boldsymbol{b})}{(\boldsymbol{a},\boldsymbol{a})}\right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ and $\left|\frac{(\boldsymbol{a},\boldsymbol{b})}{(\boldsymbol{b},\boldsymbol{b})}\right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$. The angle $\theta$ between these vectors will be between 60 and 120 degrees. Since the surface of the parallelogram spanned by $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ is both equal to $\| \boldsymbol{a} \times \boldsymbol{b} \|$ and $\| \boldsymbol{a} \| \cdot \| \boldsymbol{b} \| \sin\theta$, we have

$$\| \boldsymbol{a} \| \cdot \| \boldsymbol{b} \| = \frac{\| \boldsymbol{c} \|}{\sin\theta} \leq \frac{2 \| \boldsymbol{c} \|}{\sqrt{3}} = \mathcal{O}(\| \boldsymbol{c} \|) = \mathcal{O}(n^{1/2}). \tag{5.7}$$

In practice both $\| \boldsymbol{a} \|$ and $\| \boldsymbol{b} \|$ are $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/4})$. For different values of $p$ we will get a different pair of polynomials. The program **findquad** tries to find two polynomials each having two real roots, many roots modulo small primes and with the integral of $\sum_{i=1,2} \log|F_i(x,y)|$, where $(x, y)$ runs through the sieving region for $(a, b)$, small.

When using lattice sieving (explained in Section 6) we like to use a large range of $a$-values, say $|a| < M$ and only $b = 1$. For stimulating $F_i(a, 1) = c_{i,2}a^2 + c_{i,1}a + c_{i,0}$ to be smooth over the prime numbers below $B_i$, we would prefer $c_{i,2} = \mathcal{O}(n^{1/4}/M)$, $c_{i,1} = \mathcal{O}(n^{1/4})$ and $c_{i,0} = \mathcal{O}(n^{1/4}M)$ rather than all of them being $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/4})$. We achieve this by first choosing $c_0 = p = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n}/M)$, whence $c_1 = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ and $c_2 = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n}M)$. The resulting coefficients of $\boldsymbol{a}'$ $= (a'_0, a'_1, a'_2)$ and $\boldsymbol{b}' = (b'_0, b'_1, b'_2)$ have approximately the right ratio. To keep this ratio while reducing the basis, we reduce the vectors $\boldsymbol{a}'' = (a'_0, a'_1 M, a'_2 M^2)$ and $\boldsymbol{b}'' = (b'_0, b'_1 M, b'_2 M^2)$ instead. Note that $\boldsymbol{a}'' \times \boldsymbol{b}'' = M\boldsymbol{c}''$ with $\boldsymbol{c}'' = (c_0 M^2, c_1 M, c_2)$, which still is a geometric progression with ratio $c_1/pM$ over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, not over $\mathbb{Z}$. Using (5.7) with $\boldsymbol{c} = M\boldsymbol{c}''$ we find that the resulting vectors $\boldsymbol{a} = (a_0, a_1 M, a_2 M^2)$ and $\boldsymbol{b} = (b_0, b_1 M, b_2 M^2)$ will be both $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/4}M)$. Using $f_1(x) = a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0$ and $f_2(x) = b_2x^2 + b_1x + b_0$ results in the desired orders of the coefficients of $f_1$ and $f_2$.

We also have to choose the factor base bounds $B_i$, the large prime bounds $L_i$ and the sieving region. In the experiments described in the last Section — where we factored numbers in the 98–162 digits range with the SNFS and numbers in the 87–107 digits range with the GNFS — we used factor base bounds between $5 \cdot 10^5$ and $2.9 \cdot 10^6$ and large prime bounds between $12 \cdot 10^6$ and $4 \cdot 10^7$. The sieving region was a rectangle for which we took $a$ in a subinterval of $[-2 \cdot 10^6,\ 2 \cdot 10^6]$ and $b$ between 1 and some upper bound, in our experiments between $16 \cdot 10^3$ and $48 \cdot 10^4$. First we chose the factor base bounds and generated the corresponding factor bases $\mathcal{F}_i(B_i)$ (as described in the next Section). Then we chose the large prime bounds $L_i$ and fixed a range of $a$-values. For all these $a$-values and a few $b$-values, preferably equidistributed over the expected range of the $b$-values, we checked whether the $(a, b)$-pair is a relation, in a way we will describe in the next Section. Allowing $F_i(a, b)$ to contain two large primes between $B_i$ and $L_i$, instead of demanding it to be smooth over the primes below $B_i$, we enlarge the probability that $(a, b)$ is a relation. On the other hand, $F_i(a, b)$ is now factored over $\mathcal{F}_i(L_i)$ instead of $\mathcal{F}_i(B_i)$, which enlarges the number of relations

needed too. In practice this adjustment has shown to be useful. In our experiments we needed approximately $0.8 \cdot \{\pi(L_1) + \pi(L_2) - \pi(\min(L_1, L_2))/g\}$ relations.

From the number of relations we got for these few $b$-values we could estimate the range of $b$-values needed and from the time the experiment took we could estimate the time needed for the whole sieving step. In this way we selected a good combination of pair of polynomials, factor base bounds, large prime bounds and sieving region.

## 6. The sieving

The sieving is the part of the algorithm during which we collect the relations. Before we start the sieving we have to generate the factor bases $\mathcal{F}_i(B_i)$ according to (2.2). If we identify $\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{F}_p)$ with $\mathbb{F}_p \cup \{\infty\}$ by identifying $(r_1{:}r_2)$ with $r_1/r_2$, then $\mathcal{R}_i(p)$ (defined in (2.1)) consists of those $r = r_1/r_2 \in \mathbb{F}_p$ for which $f_i(r) \equiv 0 \bmod p$, together with $\infty$ if $c_{i,d_i} \equiv 0 \bmod p$. The program **rootfinder** finds for both polynomials $f_i(x)$ and for all primes $p$ below $B_i$ all roots modulo $p$. Repeated roots appear only once in the list. When the prime $p$ divides the leading coefficient $c_{i,d_i}$ **rootfinder** includes the projective root $(1, 0)$, which it represents by $p$. We recall that for $a$ and $b$ coprime, $p|F_i(a, b)$ if and only if $(a \bmod p : b \bmod p) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$. In terms of the roots of $f_i(x)$ this means that for $a$ and $b$ coprime, $p|F_i(a, b)$ if and only if $(a \equiv br \bmod p$ and $f_i(r) \equiv 0 \bmod p)$ or $(p|c_{i,d_i}$ and $p|b)$.

Two ways of sieving have been implemented: the 'classical' sieve, described in [13, §4] and [3, §12] and the lattice sieve, described in [20].

In the classical way of sieving we first choose the $a$-interval and the $b$-interval. We start sieving with $b = 1$ and will augment $b$ until we reach its upper bound. The program **gnfs** estimates the maximum value of $F_i(a, b)$ over all values of $a$ and $b$ for both polynomials. The polynomial for which this estimate is larger is sieved first. Probably fewer pairs $(a, b)$ will have a smooth value of $F_i(a, b)$ for this polynomial, so fewer pairs have to be stored. Furthermore this largest value is used to decide upon the base of the logarithm, which we choose in such a way that the log of the maximum fits in one byte. Suppose we start sieving with polynomial $f_j$.

To sieve for the first polynomial $f_j$ we fix $b$ and initialize an array which contains one byte per $a$-value to zero. For every prime $p < B_j$ and every $r$ with $f_j(r) \equiv 0 \bmod p$ we add $[\log p]$ (where $[\ .\ ]$ is the nearest integer function) to all array elements corresponding with $a \equiv br \bmod p$. For every prime $p < B_j$ with $p|c_{j,d_j}$ and $p|b$ we add $[\log p]$ to every array element. Then we split the $a$-interval recursively in subintervals until the value of $c_j(a, b) = F_j(a, b)/L_j^2$ does not vary more than a prescribed amount on a subinterval. If the value of an array element is close enough to $\log c_j(a, b)$, then $F_j(a, b)$ is potentially smooth and we store the value of $a$. Now the same sieving process takes place for the other polynomial $f_{3-j}$. If for a pair $(a, b)$ both $F_1(a, b)$ and $F_2(a, b)$ are potentially smooth, we use trial division to extract all factors below $B_i$ from $F_i(a, b)$ $(i = 1, 2)$. This is necessary, since during the sieving we use rounded logarithms and other techniques, which not only make the sieving faster, but also make the final value in the array elements less accurate. If after the trial division there remains a composite part smaller than $L_i^2$, we try to factor it first using SQUFOF and if that fails using Pollard Rho [22, pp. 191–198, pp. 174–183]. A pair $(a, b)$ for which both $F_i(a, b)$ factor over the primes below $B_i$ except for at most two large primes between $B_i$ and $L_i$, is a relation. It is stored together with the primes dividing $F_1(a, b)$ and $F_2(a, b)$ which exceed some user-determined *printing bound* $W_i$ $(i = 1, 2)$. With these bounds

$W_i$ one can monitor the amount of output of the **gnfs** program. They should be chosen in such a way that it fits in the available disk space.

Using the lattice sieve, we only sieve over pairs $(a, b)$ of which we know that one $F_i(a, b)$, say $F_j(a, b)$, is divisible by a special large prime between $L^{(l)}$ and $L^{(u)}$, which are the user-chosen lower and upper bound for the large primes, respectively. The advantage is that the remaining part of $F_j(a, b)$ is more likely to be smooth. On the other hand we will miss the relations for which $F_j(a, b)$ is smooth over the primes below $L^{(l)}$. For the implementation of the lattice sieve we use an extra feature implemented in the classical way of sieving. There we have a possibility of sieving over a sublattice of the $(a, b)$-pairs. We can choose an integral, non-singular matrix $\boldsymbol{M}$ and sieve over pairs $(a, b)$ of the form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \boldsymbol{M} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix},$$

while the program sieves over $x$ and $y$. This is done by substituting the expressions of $a$ and $b$ in terms of $x$ and $y$ in both $F_i(a, b)$ resulting in new polynomials $G_i(x, y)$, which are now the polynomials the values of which should be smooth. Of course the roots of the polynomials $F_i$ have to be adapted to the roots of the polynomials $G_i$. When a pair $(x, y)$ is a relation, the corresponding pair $(a, b)$, together with the primes dividing $G_i(x, y)$ and exceeding $W_i$, are stored.

The lattice sieve sieves for every prime $L^{(l)} \leq q \leq L^{(u)}$, for a fixed value of $b$ over all roots $(r_1 : r_2) \in \{\mathcal{R}_1(q) \cup \mathcal{R}_2(q)\}$ with $r_2 \neq 0$. When sieving over a root $(r_1 : r_2)$ of $\mathcal{R}_j(q)$ we sieve only over the $a$-values with $a \equiv b r_1 r_2^{-1} \bmod q$, thus guaranteeing that $F_j(a, b)$ is divisible by $q$. This is the same as using a matrix

$$\boldsymbol{M} = \begin{pmatrix} q & r_1 r_2^{-1} \bmod q \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with $y$ fixed to b and $x$ in an interval such that $qx + b(r_1 r_2^{-1} \bmod q)$ just fits in the $a$-interval. $G_j(x, 1)/q$ should be smooth over the primes below $B_j$, except for one other large prime between $B_j$ and $q$. The other $G_{3-j}(x, 1)$ should be smooth over the primes below $B_{3-j}$, except for two large primes between $B_{3-j}$ and $q$. Not allowing primes equal to or bigger than $q$ to divide $G_{3-j}(x, 1)$ prevents getting duplicate relations. After we have sieved over all roots in $\mathcal{R}_1(q)$ and $\mathcal{R}_2(q)$ we take the next value of $b$ and after we have sieved over all values of $b$ we take the next prime in the interval $[L^{(u)}, L^{(l)}]$. We implemented lattice sieving only for the case of two quadratic polynomials.

Since the sieving is the most time-consuming step of the algorithm, the way of implementing it is critical. It is a lot of work to sieve over a small prime $p$ and just a small amount of $\log p$ is added to the array elements. Therefore we sieve only over the primes and prime powers larger than 30. Furthermore we split the $a$-interval into subintervals which fit in the secondary cache of the computer, making the sieving faster. For a group of special and small primes, which consists of the primes dividing the leading coefficient of one of the polynomials and the primes for which we sieve over a power rather than over the prime itself, we again split the subintervals into smaller subintervals which fit into the primary cache. The user can install several 'early abort' bounds: if the leftover part of $F_i(a, b)$ after trial division over all primes below a bound $B < B_i$ is bigger than a user-specified constant times the square of the large

prime bound, then the pair $(a, b)$ is not considered to be a candidate for a relation and is thrown away. In the case of lattice sieving, the values of $a$ with $a \equiv br_1r_2^{-1} \bmod q$ are far away from each other for a fixed value of $b$. One can save overhead by making the $a$-interval large and the $b$-interval small, e.g. we can take $b$ only equal to 1.

## 7. The filtering

The aim of filtering is just the reduction of the amount of data. We want to find a subset $\mathcal{S}$ of all relations $\{(a, b)\}$ which we found in the sieving step and a subset $\mathcal{T}$ of the set of free rational primes $p$, such that both $(\prod_{\mathcal{T}} p)(\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_1))$ and $(\prod_{\mathcal{T}} p)(\prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_2))$ are squares in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_1]$ and $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_2]$, respectively. Therefore every algebraic prime $p$ dividing one of the products $(\prod_{\mathcal{T}} p^{d_i})(\prod_{\mathcal{S}} F_i(a, b))$ ($i$=1,2) for a certain root $(r_1{:}r_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$ (from now on denoted by $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$) must occur to an even power with respect to this root. (Here we should see $p^{d_i}$ as the product of one factor $p$ for every root $(r_1{:}r_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$). A prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs in a relation $(a, b)$ for polynomial $i$ if $p$ divides $F_i(a, b)$ and $(a \bmod p : b \bmod p) = (r_1 : r_2)$. A prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs in a free relation for both polynomials if $p$ is a free prime. We say that a prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs in a relation for polynomial $i$ if it occurs in a relation $(a, b)$ for polynomial $i$ or if $p$ is a free prime. It is obvious that a relation in which some prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs to an odd power for one of the two polynomials is useless, if this prime is not occurring in some other relation to an odd power for the same polynomial. The filtering stage throws away such relations. If a prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs to an odd power in just two relations for the same polynomial and one of them belongs to the set $\mathcal{S}$, the other one should also be part of $\mathcal{S}$. In the filtering stage the two relations are grouped into a relation-set. If one relation from a relation set is chosen in the set $\mathcal{S}$, then all relations from that relation-set should be in $\mathcal{S}$. By creating the relation-set we have eliminated the need to take care of the prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ when looking for the set $\mathcal{S}$. In this way the amount of data and the size of the matrix for the next linear algebra step are reduced.

The relations found in the sieving step are read in sequentially. In order to regulate the used amount of memory the user first chooses a number of temporary files among which the data will be distributed. During the filtering process data from only one temporary file will be in the working memory of the computer. A hash function is implemented which distributes the primes equally over the number of temporary files. For all the primes in the input file with norm larger than some user-determined bound $U \geq \max(W_1, W_2)$ and occurring to an odd power in one of the $F_i(a, b)$, the **filter** program calculates the index of the corresponding temporary file by using the hash function on the prime. The relation is written to the file with the smallest number it gets from all these primes. We store $a$, $b$ and the primes which were written in the input file. Extra features in this program have been added, such as looking only at the primes below some user-determined bound and throwing away all the relations containing a prime which is bigger than some user-determined bound.

When all relations are read in and stored in the corresponding files, the combining and throwing out process starts. First all relations $(a, b)$ of the first file are read in and stored in a heap [23, §3.7.1] in a descending order according to the largest prime which led to the storage of the relation in this file. We start with considering the relations in which the largest prime $p$ corresponding to this file occur. We calculate the root $(r_1{:}r_2)$ for this prime for the relations $(a, b)$ by calculating $(a \bmod p : b \bmod p)$. If there appear $d_1 + d_2$ different roots for this prime in these relations, we append the free relation for this prime. If while looking at a prime

$p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ we see the same relation $(a, b)$ twice, we throw out one of the relations. If some prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs exactly once for one of the polynomials, then the corresponding relation is thrown out. If a prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurs twice for one of the polynomials, the two corresponding relations are grouped in a relation-set. If the user wishes, for primes $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ which occur just three times for one of the polynomials, the program replaces the three corresponding relations by two relation-sets of two relations each.

Next the resulting relation-sets and the relations which were not combined are stored at the next 'place' corresponding to the hash function. If the relation or relation-set contains smaller primes to an odd power which correspond to the same file, we keep the relation(-set) in the working memory. We store the relation(-set) in the heap according to the largest of those primes. Otherwise, if the relation(-set) contains primes to an odd power which correspond to other files, we store the relation(-set) in the file among those with the smallest number exceeding the number of the file which we currently have in memory, or, if there is not such a file, in the file among those with the smallest number. If the relation(-set) only contains larger primes to an odd power which correspond to the same file, we keep the relation(-set) in the same file, but write it to disk. If the relation(-set) does not contain any primes larger than $W_i$ to an odd power anymore, we write it to an output file. This circular queue is constructed such that, when trying to throw out relation(-set)s or combining relation(-set)s into (new) relation-sets for some prime $p$, all relation(-set)s containing that prime to an odd power will be considered. When we store a relation-set we store all relations it contains, together with their primes exceeding $W_i$ and the free primes of the relation-set.

After the first temporary file is treated in this way the same process takes place consecutively with the other files. Of course, relation-sets can also be combined with each other. Relation-sets which become too 'heavy', i.e., contain more relations than a user-determined bound, are thrown away, in an attempt to keep the matrix for the next linear algebra step sparse. The user can fix the maximum number of relation-sets which can be thrown away. When the last file has been processed the program starts again at the first file, until no changes have taken place in the last round or the number of passes has reached a user-chosen bound. Then all relation(-set)s which are still in the temporary files are written to the output file.

The **filter** program counts the number of relations and relation-sets which remain and the number of primes $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ occurring to an odd power in one of the relations or relation-sets with norm larger than $U$. From these data one can estimate whether there are enough relations.

In practice we used **filter** several times for one number. To save disk space we chose big printing bounds, $W_1 = W_2 = 10^6$, say. First we applied the **filter** program to the output of the sieving step with $U = W_1$. On the remaining relation(-set)s we applied the program **factorrelations** to compute the prime factors between a smaller bound $W'$ and $W_i$ of $F_1(a, b)$ and $F_2(a, b)$ for all relations $(a, b)$ and store the relation(-set)s, now with all primes exceeding $W'$. Then we again applied the **filter** program, now on all primes exceeding $U'$, with $W' \leq U' < U$. These steps were repeated until we reached a bound below which many primes occur at least four times, so no combining or throwing out could be done, or until we were content with the resulting matrix size.

## 8. The block Lanczos method

After enough relations have been collected and the **filter** program has reduced the amount of data, we try to find a subset $\mathcal{S}$ of the relations which are left after the filtering stage and

a subset $\mathcal{T}$ of the set of free primes, such that both $\prod_{\mathcal{T}} p \prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_1)$ and $\prod_{\mathcal{T}} p \prod_{\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_2)$ are squares in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_1]$ and $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_2]$, respectively. For simplicity, from now on we view a relation left after the filtering stage as a relation-set containing only one relation. To this collection of relation-sets we append a relation-set for every free prime below $\max(W_1, W_2)$ containing this prime.

A relation-set $\mathcal{V}$ consists of two (possibly empty) subsets $\mathcal{V}_f$ and $\mathcal{V}_r$ which contain the free primes and the relations of $\mathcal{V}$, respectively. For every relation-set $\mathcal{V}$ we construct a vector

$$\boldsymbol{v}(\mathcal{V}) = \sum_{\mathcal{V}_p} \boldsymbol{v}(p) + \sum_{\mathcal{V}_r} \boldsymbol{v}(a, b).$$

The vectors $\boldsymbol{v}(a, b)$ are as described in the second and third Sections of this article; the vectors $\boldsymbol{v}(p)$ are described in Section 4. We build a matrix $\boldsymbol{M}$ with column vectors being all vectors $\boldsymbol{v}(\mathcal{V})$. We remove the rows which contain only zeros. They correspond to primes $(q, (r_1 : r_2))$ occurring to an even power in every relation-set $\mathcal{V}$. We want to calculate some non-trivial vectors of the null space of this matrix.

Since Gaussian elimination [9, p. 425] requires too much memory for the large sparse matrices we have, we use a variation of the iterative Lanczos method. Proofs on both standard Lanczos and block Lanczos can be found in [17]. The standard Lanczos algorithm starts with a symmetric, positive definite $k \times k$ matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ over the field $K = \mathbb{R}$. If $\boldsymbol{b} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ we solve $\boldsymbol{Ax} = \boldsymbol{b}$ by iterating

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{w}_0 &= \boldsymbol{b} \\ \boldsymbol{w}_i &= \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{w}_{i-1} - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} c_{ij}\boldsymbol{w}_j \quad (i > 0), \text{ where } c_{ij} = \frac{\boldsymbol{w}_j^T \boldsymbol{A}^2 \boldsymbol{w}_{i-1}}{\boldsymbol{w}_j^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{w}_j}. \end{aligned} \tag{8.8}$$

It can be shown that after at most $k$ iterations we will find $\boldsymbol{w}_i = \boldsymbol{0}$. If $l$ is the first value of $i$ such that $\boldsymbol{w}_i = \boldsymbol{0}$, then the following equations hold:

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{w}_i^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{w}_i &\neq 0 \quad (0 \leq i < l), \\ \boldsymbol{w}_j^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{w}_i &= 0 \quad (i \neq j), \\ \boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{W} &\subseteq \mathcal{W} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{W} = \operatorname{span}(\boldsymbol{w}_0, \boldsymbol{w}_1, \ldots, \boldsymbol{w}_{l-1}). \end{aligned}$$

One can deduce that

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} \frac{\boldsymbol{w}_i^T \boldsymbol{b}}{\boldsymbol{w}_i^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{w}_i} \boldsymbol{w}_i$$

is a solution of $\boldsymbol{Ax} = \boldsymbol{b}$. Since $\boldsymbol{w}_j^T \boldsymbol{A}^2 \boldsymbol{w}_{i-1} = 0$ for $j < i - 2$ we can simplify the calculation of $\boldsymbol{w}_i$ to

$$\boldsymbol{w}_i = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{w}_{i-1} - c_{i,i-1}\boldsymbol{w}_{i-1} - c_{i,i-2}\boldsymbol{w}_{i-2} \quad (i \geq 2). \tag{8.9}$$

Standard Lanczos can also be applied over other fields, provided that $\boldsymbol{w}_i^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{w}_i \neq 0$ when $\boldsymbol{w}_i \neq \boldsymbol{0}$ during this process. Working over the field $\mathbb{F}_2$ instead of $\mathbb{R}$ has the advantage that one can apply a matrix to $N$ different vectors simultaneously, where $N$ is the computer word

size. Inspired by work of Coppersmith [6], Montgomery [17] implemented the block Lanczos method which exploits this advantage.

The block Lanczos algorithm generates a sequence of subspaces $\mathcal{W}_i$ instead of the vectors $\{\boldsymbol{w}_i\}$. Applying standard Lanczos over $\mathbb{F}_2$ gives the problem that in approximately half of the cases the requirement $\boldsymbol{w}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{w}_i \neq 0$ if $\boldsymbol{w}_i \neq \boldsymbol{0}$ is violated. In the block Lanczos algorithm the analogous requirement is that no nonzero vector in $\mathcal{W}_i$ is $\boldsymbol{A}$-orthogonal to $\mathcal{W}_i$. This will hold when $\boldsymbol{W}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i$ is invertible, where $\boldsymbol{W}_i$ is a matrix whose column vectors span $\mathcal{W}_i$.

With $\boldsymbol{A}$ a symmetric $k \times k$ matrix over a field $K$ and $\boldsymbol{V}_0$ an arbitrary $k \times N$ matrix, the block Lanczos algorithm iterates, for $i = 0, 1, \ldots$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{W}_i &= \boldsymbol{V}_i \boldsymbol{S}_i && (8.10)\\ \boldsymbol{C}_{i+1,j} &= (\boldsymbol{W}_j^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_j)^{-1} \boldsymbol{W}_j^T \boldsymbol{A}(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i \boldsymbol{S}_i^T + \boldsymbol{V}_i) \quad (0 \leq j \leq i), \\ \boldsymbol{V}_{i+1} &= \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i \boldsymbol{S}_i^T + \boldsymbol{V}_i - \sum_{j=o}^{i} \boldsymbol{W}_j \boldsymbol{C}_{i+1,j}. && (8.11) \end{aligned}$$

In (8.10) the $N \times N_i$ matrix $\boldsymbol{S}_i$ ($N_i \leq N$) consists of zeros except for exactly one 1 per column and at most one 1 per row, thus selecting columns from $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ for $\boldsymbol{W}_i$. We choose the columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ such that the corresponding columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i$ are a linearly independent spanning set of all columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i$. Thus $N_i = \operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{V}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i)$ and one can prove that the resulting $\boldsymbol{W}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i$ is invertible. The iteration process stops when $\boldsymbol{V}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i = \boldsymbol{O}$, for $i = l$ say.

If $\boldsymbol{V}_l = \boldsymbol{O}$ the following hold:

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{W}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i &\quad \text{is invertible} \quad (0 \leq i < l), \\ \boldsymbol{W}_j^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i &= \boldsymbol{O} \quad (i \neq j), && (8.12)\\ \boldsymbol{W}_j^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i &= \boldsymbol{O} \quad (0 \leq j < i \leq l), && (8.13)\\ \boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{W} &\subseteq \mathcal{W} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{W} = \operatorname{span}(\mathcal{W}_0, \mathcal{W}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{W}_{l-1}). \end{aligned}$$

and if $\boldsymbol{b} \in \mathcal{W}$ one can deduce that the vector

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \textstyle\sum_{i=0}^{l-1} \boldsymbol{W}_i (\boldsymbol{W}_i^T \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i)^{-1} \boldsymbol{W}_i^T \boldsymbol{b}$$

is a solution of $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b}$.

If we can choose $\boldsymbol{S}_i$ such that $\operatorname{span}(\boldsymbol{V}_i) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(\mathcal{W}_0, \mathcal{W}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{W}_{i+1})$, then it is possible to simplify the calculation of $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ in (8.11) in a similar way as the calculation of $\boldsymbol{w}_i$ in (8.8) was simplified to (8.9)

$$\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1} = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i \boldsymbol{S}_i^T + \boldsymbol{V}_i - \boldsymbol{W}_i \boldsymbol{C}_{i+1,i} - \boldsymbol{W}_{i-1} \boldsymbol{C}_{i+1,i-1} - \boldsymbol{W}_{i-2} \boldsymbol{C}_{i+1,i-2} \quad (i \geq 2). \quad (8.14)$$

The requirement is fulfilled when the columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ are in $\operatorname{span}(\mathcal{W}_i, \mathcal{W}_{i+1})$. From (8.14) we can deduce that

$$\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1} = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i \boldsymbol{S}_i^T + \boldsymbol{V}_i - \boldsymbol{W}$$

where $\boldsymbol{W}$ is a $k \times N$ matrix, whose columns are linear combinations of the columns of $\boldsymbol{W}_i$, $\boldsymbol{W}_{i-1}$ and $\boldsymbol{W}_{i-2}$. Notice that the columns which were not selected from $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ are zero in $\boldsymbol{S}_i^T$

and in $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i^T$ as well. Therefore a non-selected column of $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ is equal to the sum of the corresponding columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ and $\boldsymbol{W}$. Using (8.13) and (8.12) we can deduce that such a column of $\boldsymbol{W}$ must be a linear combination of the columns of $\boldsymbol{W}_i$ only. Choosing the columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ which were not selected in $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ guarantees that the non-selected columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ are in $\text{span}(\mathcal{W}_i, \mathcal{W}_{i+1})$. If these columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ are independent but the corresponding columns of $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ are dependent we cannot fulfill the requirement that $\boldsymbol{W}_{i+1}^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{W}_{i+1}$ is invertible, and the algorithm fails. In practice this never happened. Otherwise we choose a spanning set of columns for $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ including the columns which were not selected for $\boldsymbol{V}_i$, and choose $\boldsymbol{S}_{i+1}$ accordingly.

When we want to apply the block Lanczos method to our matrix $\boldsymbol{M}$, we have to deal with several obstructions. First $\boldsymbol{M}$ need not be symmetric and therefore we apply the algorithm to the symmetric matrix $\boldsymbol{A} = \boldsymbol{M}^T\boldsymbol{M}$. It is obvious that any solution of $\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{0}$ satisfies $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{0}$, but the converse need not be true. Secondly, if we want to find a vector from the null space of $\boldsymbol{A}$ and start with $\boldsymbol{b} = \boldsymbol{0}$, we will find the trivial solution $\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{0}$. We overcome this problem by starting with a random vector $\boldsymbol{y}$ and taking $\boldsymbol{b} = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{y}$. When $\boldsymbol{x}$ is a solution of $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b} = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{y}$, then $\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{y}$ will be a random vector from the null space of $\boldsymbol{A}$. Thirdly, several vectors from the null space of $\boldsymbol{M}$ have to be found, since not every dependency corresponding with such a vector will lead to a non-trivial factor of $n$. Note that during the iteration steps the vector $\boldsymbol{b}$ only is involved in the calculation of the solution vector $\boldsymbol{x}$. Therefore replacing $\boldsymbol{b}$ by a $k \times N$ matrix $\boldsymbol{B}$ in the calculation of $\boldsymbol{x}$ will give a solution of $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{B}$, with $\boldsymbol{X}$ also a $k \times N$ matrix. To find several vectors in the null space of $\boldsymbol{A}$ we start with a random $k \times N$ matrix $\boldsymbol{Y}$ and calculate solutions of $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{Y}$. The $N$ column vectors of $\boldsymbol{X} - \boldsymbol{Y}$ will be random vectors in the null space of $\boldsymbol{A}$ and we extract the ones which are also in the null space of $\boldsymbol{M}$.

Final obstructions are the two requirements for $\boldsymbol{x}$ to be a solution of $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b}$. First $\boldsymbol{b}$ has to be in $\mathcal{W} = \text{span}(\mathcal{W}_0, \mathcal{W}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{W}_{l-1})$. This can be arranged by initializing $\boldsymbol{V}_0$ as $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{Y}$ where $\boldsymbol{Y}$ is a random $k \times N$ matrix. Secondly, the algorithm often terminates with $\boldsymbol{V}_l^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_l = \boldsymbol{O}$ but $\boldsymbol{V}_l \neq \boldsymbol{O}$. Montgomery presumes that the column vectors of $\boldsymbol{A}(\boldsymbol{X} - \boldsymbol{Y})$ and $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_l$ are both in $\text{span}(\boldsymbol{V}_l)$, which has maximal rank $N$, but in practice the rank is much smaller. We may expect that some linear combinations of these vectors are in the null space of $\boldsymbol{A}$. Combined with the need to find vectors in the null space of $\boldsymbol{M}$ instead of $\boldsymbol{A}$, it suffices to construct a suitable matrix $\boldsymbol{U}$ such that $\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{Z}\boldsymbol{U} = \boldsymbol{O}$, where $\boldsymbol{Z}$ is a $k \times 2N$ matrix of the columns of $\boldsymbol{X} - \boldsymbol{Y}$ and $\boldsymbol{V}_l$. We first compute $\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{Z}$. Then we determine a matrix $\boldsymbol{U}$ whose columns span the null space of $\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{Z}$. The output is a basis for $\boldsymbol{Z}\boldsymbol{U}$.

For implementing the calculation of $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ in (8.14) one can bring further down the number of calculations by using the following steps: for $i = 0, 1, \ldots$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1} &= \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i^T + \boldsymbol{V}_i\boldsymbol{D}_{i+1} + \boldsymbol{V}_{i-1}\boldsymbol{E}_{i+1} + \boldsymbol{V}_{i-2}\boldsymbol{F}_{i+1}, \quad \text{where} \\
\boldsymbol{D}_{i+1} &= \boldsymbol{I}_N - \boldsymbol{W}_i^*(\boldsymbol{V}_i^T\boldsymbol{A}^2\boldsymbol{V}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i^T + \boldsymbol{V}_i^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i), \\
\boldsymbol{W}_i^* &= \boldsymbol{S}_i(\boldsymbol{S}_i^T\boldsymbol{V}_i^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i)^{-1}\boldsymbol{S}_i^T, \\
\boldsymbol{E}_{i+1} &= -\boldsymbol{W}_{i-1}^*\boldsymbol{V}_i^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i^T, \\
\boldsymbol{F}_{i+1} &= -\boldsymbol{W}_{i-2}^*(\boldsymbol{I}_N - \boldsymbol{V}_{i-1}^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_{i-1}\boldsymbol{W}_{i-1}^*) \\
&\quad (\boldsymbol{V}_{i-1}^T\boldsymbol{A}^2\boldsymbol{V}_{i-1}\boldsymbol{S}_{i-1}\boldsymbol{S}_{i-1}^T + \boldsymbol{V}_{i-1}^T\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{V}_{i-1})\boldsymbol{S}_i\boldsymbol{S}_i^T
\end{aligned}
$$

and where, for $i < 0$, $\boldsymbol{W}_i^*$ and $\boldsymbol{V}_i$ are $\boldsymbol{O}$ and $\boldsymbol{S}_i$ is $\boldsymbol{I}_N$. Note that when $\boldsymbol{S}_{i-1} = \boldsymbol{I}_N$ then

$\boldsymbol{F}_{i+1} = \boldsymbol{O}$ and the term $\boldsymbol{V}_{i-2}\boldsymbol{F}_{i+1}$ in the expression for $\boldsymbol{V}_{i+1}$ can be omitted.

For large, sparse matrices the storage requirement of Lanczos' algorithm is superior to that of Gaussian elimination. It only needs the original matrix and some extra vectors of length $k$ and some $N \times N$ matrices, while Gaussian elimination causes fill-in and therefore needs approximately $k^2$ bits. When $\boldsymbol{M}$ has $d$ nonzero entries per row on average, the time needed by block Lanczos is $\mathcal{O}(dk^2/N) + \mathcal{O}(k^2)$. When $d$ is much smaller than $k$ this is considerably better than $\mathcal{O}(k^3/N)$ for Gaussian elimination.

In practice we make $\boldsymbol{M}$ extra sparse by not appending any character rows. If $\boldsymbol{M}$ is a $k_1 \times k_2$ matrix, the output of the block Lanczos algorithm will consist of a $k_2 \times N$ matrix $\boldsymbol{P}$ with $N$ 'pseudo-dependencies' of which we still have to find linear combinations to get a set $\mathcal{S}$ we look for. We solve this problem here, although in our implementation it is a part of the square root program. For several quadratic characters $(q, (s_1{:}s_2))$ — chosen as described in Section 2 with $q$ larger than any prime dividing any $F_i(a,b)$ — we form a vector $\boldsymbol{q}_{(q,(s_1:s_2))}$ of length $k_2$ by inserting a zero for all of the $k_2$ relation-sets $\mathcal{V}$ with $\prod_{\mathcal{V}_p} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \prod_{\mathcal{V}_f} \left(\frac{a-b\ (s_1 s_2^{-1} \bmod q)}{q}\right) = 1$ and a one otherwise. A vector of length $N$ orthogonal to all vectors $\boldsymbol{q}_{(q,(s_1:s_2))}\boldsymbol{P}$ is indicating a linear combination of the $N$ pseudo-dependencies which is favourable to all chosen quadratic characters. We construct a basis for the space orthogonal to all vectors $\boldsymbol{q}_{(q,(s_1:s_2))}\boldsymbol{P}$. Each of these basis vectors indicates which pseudo-dependencies of $\boldsymbol{P}$ should be combined for a real dependency, thereby indicating a set $\mathcal{S}$.

## 9. Extracting the square root

In the final stage we have two squares $\beta^2 = (\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}} p)(\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_1))$ and $\gamma^2 = (\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}} p)$ $(\prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}}(a - b\alpha_2))$ in $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_1]$ and $\mathbb{Q}_n[\alpha_2]$, respectively. We have to calculate $\beta$ and $\gamma$. If we write both squares as polynomials of degree less than $d_i$ in $\alpha_i$, then the coefficients will be gigantic. Then a conventional method as described in [5, §3.6.2] cannot be used. Couveignes [7] calculates the square roots modulo several primes and applies the Chinese Remainder Theorem. His method presently works only for number fields of odd degree.

Montgomery [16] attacks the problem by an iterative process. He starts by partitioning the set $\mathcal{S}$ in two subsets $\mathcal{S}_1$ and $\mathcal{S}_2$ and the set $\mathcal{T}$ in two subsets $\mathcal{T}_1$ and $\mathcal{T}_2$ to advance the cancellation of primes $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ in both products $(i = 1, 2)$

$$\frac{\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}_1} p^{d_i} \prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}_1} F_i(a,b)}{\prod_{p\in\mathcal{T}_2} p^{d_i} \prod_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{S}_2} F_i(a,b)}. \tag{9.15}$$

Here, the expressions $p^{d_i}$ for the free primes $p \in \{\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2\}$ should be seen as the product of one factor $p$ for every root $(r_1{:}r_2) \in \mathcal{R}_i(p)$. We can for example choose $\mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{S}$, $\mathcal{S}_2$ empty, $\mathcal{T}_1 = \mathcal{T}$ and $\mathcal{T}_2$ empty or we can distribute $\mathcal{S}$ and $\mathcal{T}$ over the sets $\mathcal{S}_j$ and $\mathcal{T}_j$ randomly. At the end of this Section we will see how we tried to optimize this selection. Let

$$(\nu_1)^2 = \frac{\prod_{\mathcal{T}_1} p \prod_{\mathcal{S}_1}(a - b\alpha_1)}{\prod_{\mathcal{T}_2} p \prod_{\mathcal{S}_2}(a - b\alpha_1)} \quad \text{and} \quad (\nu_2)^2 = \frac{\prod_{\mathcal{T}_1} p \prod_{\mathcal{S}_1}(a - b\alpha_2)}{\prod_{\mathcal{T}_2} p \prod_{\mathcal{S}_2}(a - b\alpha_2)}$$

then we will calculate $\nu_1$ and $\nu_2$, for which the congruence $(\phi_1(\nu_1))^2 \equiv (\phi_2(\nu_2))^2 \bmod n$ holds. The following algorithm is applied twice, first to calculate $\nu = \nu_1$ and then to calculate $\nu = \nu_2$. In the rest of this Section we suppress the index $i$ when referring to $\nu_i$, $f_i$, $d_i$, $c_{i,k}$ and $\alpha_i$.

Starting with $\tau_1 = \nu^2$, where $\nu$ is unknown, we will approximate in iteration step $j$ ($j \geq 1$) the numerator (if $j$ is odd) or the denominator (if $j$ is even) of $\sqrt{\tau_j}$ by $\eta_j$ (to be explained below) and calculate $\tau_{j+1}$ by

$$\tau_{j+1} = \tau_j \cdot (\eta_j^2)^{(-1)^j} \quad (j \geq 1). \tag{9.16}$$

Hence

$$\nu^2 = \tau_{j+1} \frac{\prod_{l=1}^{\lfloor \frac{j+1}{2} \rfloor} \eta_{2l-1}^2}{\prod_{l=1}^{\lfloor \frac{j}{2} \rfloor} \eta_{2l}^2}. \tag{9.17}$$

The product of the norms of the numerator and the denominator of $\tau_{j+1}$ in (9.17) will decrease at every iteration step. Small norms of numerator and denominator, however, do not guarantee that the coefficients of $\tau_{j+1}$ as a polynomial of degree $\leq d-1$ in $\alpha$ are small. Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_d$ be the conjugates of $\alpha$. For any polynomial $h(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ of degree at most $d-1$ we can write (Lagrange interpolation formula)

$$h(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} x^k \sum_{l=1}^{d} h(\alpha_l) c_{kl},$$

where the $c_{kl}$ can be calculated from

$$\frac{f(x)}{(x-\alpha_l) f'(\alpha_l)} = \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} c_{kl} x^k.$$

Therefore we can bound the coefficients of $h(x)$ in terms of the $|h(\alpha_l)|$. We use this observation by choosing the approximation $\eta_j$ in such a way that not only the product of the numerator and the denominator norms of the successive $\tau_{j+1}$'s decreases, but also $|\tau_{j+1}(\alpha_l)|$ tends to decrease for all $l$. When the norms and the embeddings become small enough, we will express the final $\tau_{j+1}$ as a polynomial of degree $\leq d-1$ in $\alpha$ and find its square root by using the computer package PARI [2].

In order to find the $\eta_j$'s we work with ideals. Denote by $\mathcal{O}$ the ring of integers in $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ and for $x_j \in \mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ by $<x_1, \ldots, x_n>\mathcal{O}$ the fractional ideal generated by $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ in $\mathcal{O}$. Suppose

$$<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O} = \frac{\prod_{l \in \mathcal{L}_{j1}} \mathcal{P}_l^{c_l}}{\prod_{l \in \mathcal{L}_{j2}} \mathcal{P}_l^{c_l}}. \tag{9.18}$$

is the factorization of $<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O}$ into prime ideals $\mathcal{P}_l$ of $\mathcal{O}$, where $c_l \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ for all $l$. At each iteration step we select an ideal $\mathcal{I}$ dividing the numerator (if $j$ is odd) or the denominator (if $j$ is even) of (9.18). The approximation $\eta_j$ will be a 'small' element of $\mathcal{I}$. If $\mathcal{I}$ divides the numerator, we divide $<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O}$ by $<\eta_j>\mathcal{O}$ and this will result in the disappearance of $\mathcal{I}$ in the numerator of $<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O}$ and the appearance of a new integral ideal $\mathcal{Q}$ of $\mathcal{O}$ in the denominator of $<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O}$. If $\mathcal{I}$ divides the denominator the converse happens. If $N(\mathcal{I})$ is sufficiently large, than $N(\mathcal{Q})$ will be much smaller than $N(\mathcal{I})$. In this way the product of the numerator and the denominator norms will decrease every iteration step.

To factor $<\tau_j>\mathcal{O}$ into prime ideals, we use the ideal

$$\mathcal{J} = <c_d,\ c_d\alpha + c_{d-1},\ c_d\alpha^2 + c_{d-1}\alpha + c_{d-2},\ \ldots,\ c_d\alpha^{d-1} + c_{d-1}\alpha^{d-2} + \cdots + c_1>\mathcal{O}.$$

We have [16]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J} &\subseteq \mathcal{O} \\ <1, \alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J} &= \mathcal{O}. \end{aligned} \tag{9.19}$$

From (9.19) we deduce $<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{O}$. Therefore, if we multiply an ideal $<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}$ by $\mathcal{J}$ we can factor the result in prime ideals, all with a positive exponent. The ideals $<p>\mathcal{O}$ with $p \in \mathcal{T}$ are already integral, so multiplication with $\mathcal{J}$ is not necessary for these ideals. We start with

$$<\tau_1>\mathcal{O} = \frac{\mathcal{J}^{\#\mathcal{S}_2}\ \prod_{\mathcal{T}_1}<p>\mathcal{O}\ \prod_{\mathcal{S}_1}\{<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}\}}{\mathcal{J}^{\#\mathcal{S}_1}\ \prod_{\mathcal{T}_2}<p>\mathcal{O}\ \prod_{\mathcal{S}_2}\{<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}\}} \tag{9.20}$$

and factor the ideals $<p>\mathcal{O}$ and $<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}$ into prime ideals. Therefore we split the primes in two subsets: the set of 'special' primes which divide the index $[\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]]$ and the remaining primes which we call normal. To every prime $p$ and every root $(r_1 : r_2) \in \mathcal{R}(p)$ there correspond prime ideals dividing $<p>\mathcal{O}$ if $p$ is an element of $\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2$ or dividing $<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}$ if $p$ divides $F(a, b)$ ($(a, b) \in \mathcal{S}_1 \cup \mathcal{S}_2$). For a special prime there may exist more prime ideals corresponding to the same root, but for a normal prime $p$ the prime ideal $\mathcal{P}$ corresponding to a root $(r_1 : r_2) \in \mathcal{R}(p)$ is uniquely determined. Based on practical experience Montgomery suspects — which we cannot prove — that in the latter case the correspondence is given by

$$\mathcal{P} = \begin{cases} <p, c_d\alpha - c_d r_1 r_2^{-1} \bmod p>\mathcal{O} & \text{if } p \not| c_d \\ <p>\mathcal{O} + \mathcal{J} & \text{if } p | c_d \text{ and } r_2 = 0 \\ \mathcal{J} \cdot <p, \alpha - r_1 r_2^{-1} \bmod p>\mathcal{O} & \text{if } p | c_d \text{ and } r_2 \neq 0. \end{cases} \tag{9.21}$$

For the special primes $p$ and for all their roots $(r_1 : r_2) \in \mathcal{R}(p)$, we calculate the ideal $\mathcal{P}$ using (9.21) and factor it into prime ideals with help of the computer package PARI. While we read in the free primes and relations we accumulate a product of the factors of the right hand side of (9.20). We make a hash table containing an entry for each normal prime $p$ and $(r_1 : r_2) \in \mathcal{R}(p)$ we encounter. Each entry contains the exponent of the corresponding prime ideal in the accumulated product so far: if we meet a normal prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ dividing a free prime or $F(a, b)$ in the numerator (or denominator) of $<\tau_1>\mathcal{O}$ to the power $x$, we add (or subtract) $x$ to this exponent. If we encounter a special prime $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$, dividing a free prime $p$ or one of the $F(a, b)$, we use PARI to calculate the valuation of $<p>\mathcal{O}$ or $<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}$, respectively, at the ideals of $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ we computed earlier. Also for these special ideals we keep track of the exponent of the ideal in the accumulated product so far. We also have to keep track of the exponent of $\mathcal{J}$ in the accumulated product. For each ideal $<a - b\alpha>\mathcal{O}\mathcal{J}$ in the numerator or denominator we add or subtract 1, respectively. When we have read in all free primes and relations we have factored $<\tau_1>\mathcal{O}$ into prime ideals and a power of $\mathcal{J}$.

Now we start the iterative approximation process in which we use a lattice basis reduction algorithm (LLL) [12]. Assume we want to simplify the numerator. The algorithm selects an ideal $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{P}_1^{s_1} \ldots \mathcal{P}_k^{s_k}$ dividing the numerator of $<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O}$, with $s_r > 0$ for all $r$. $N(\mathcal{I})$ should be chosen as large as computationally convenient for this first lattice basis reduction. Let $\{a_1, \ldots, a_d\}$ be an integral bases of $\mathcal{O}$. With help of PARI we construct a basis in Hermite Normal Form (HNF) [5, §4.7.2] expressed in $\{a_1, \ldots, a_d\}$ for each prime ideal $\mathcal{P}_l$ occurring in

$\mathcal{I}$. PARI uses these bases to construct a basis of $\mathcal{I}$, also in HNF expressed in $\{a_1, \ldots, a_d\}$. Then we apply a lattice basis reduction to these $d$ basis vectors of $\mathcal{I}$. We find a basis of $\mathcal{I}$ consisting of 'small' vectors. In practice, when using one of these small vectors for our approximation $\eta_j$, the norm of the numerator of $<\tau_{j+1}>\mathcal{O}_i$ will decrease by a factor $N(\mathcal{I})$ in comparison with the norm of the numerator of $<\tau_j>\mathcal{O}$. In comparison with the norm of the denominator of $<\tau_j>\mathcal{O}$, the norm of the denominator of $<\tau_{j+1}>\mathcal{O}$ will increase by a factor much smaller than $N(\mathcal{I})$.

We apply a second lattice basis reduction to a slight modification of the basis which we find after the first lattice basis reduction, to search for an element $\eta_j$ in $\mathcal{I}$, which still has the same effect on the norm of $<\tau_{j+1}>\mathcal{O}$, but yields small $|\tau_{j+1}(\alpha_l)|$ for all $l$. Let $\boldsymbol{v}^{(1)}$, $\boldsymbol{v}^{(2)}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{v}^{(d)}$ be the reduced basis after the first lattice basis reduction, where $\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)} = \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} v_k^{(r)} \alpha^k$. While we read in the free primes and relations we calculate an approximation of $\tau_1(\alpha_l)$ for $1 \leq l \leq d$. We choose $c$ such that

$$c^d = \frac{L_{max}\ (N(\tau_j))^{1/2}}{N(\mathcal{I})\ (\mathrm{Disc}(f/c_d))^{1/2}},$$

where $\mathrm{Disc}(g)$ indicates the discriminant of the polynomial $g$ and $L_{max} = 10^{100}$. If all conjugates $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_d$ of $\alpha$ are real, we construct the vectors

$$T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)} = \left[ v_0^{(r)}, v_1^{(r)}, \ldots, v_{d-1}^{(r)}, c\frac{\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_1)}{|\tau_j(\alpha_1)|^{1/2}}, \ldots, c\frac{\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_d)}{|\tau_j(\alpha_d)|^{1/2}} \right]^T$$

for $1 \leq r \leq d$. If $\alpha_s$ and $\alpha_t$ are complex conjugates, we replace

$$c\frac{\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_s)}{|\tau_j(\alpha_s)|^{1/2}} \text{ by } c\sqrt{2}\frac{\Re(\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_s))}{|\tau_j(\alpha_s)|^{1/2}} \quad \text{and} \quad c\frac{\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_t)}{|\tau_j(\alpha_t)|^{1/2}} \text{ by } c\sqrt{2}\frac{\Im(\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_s))}{|\tau_j(\alpha_s)|^{1/2}}$$

in the construction of $T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}$. In this way all entries of the $T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}$ will be real and the absolute value of the determinant of the matrix formed by the last $d$ entries of these vectors remains the same. The determinant equals $\pm L_{max}$, which constant has been chosen in such a way that the second lattice basis reduction algorithm performs well. We apply the second lattice basis reduction to the vectors $\{T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}\}_{r=1}^{d}$ and take the first $d$ coordinates of one of the resulting vectors for $\eta_j$. When dividing $\tau_j$ by $\eta_j^2$ the ideal $\mathcal{I}$ in the numerator of $<\tau_j>\mathcal{O}$ will disappear. At the same time the denominator of $<\tau_j>\mathcal{O}$ will be multiplied by the square of a new ideal

$$<\eta_j>\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{I} =: \mathcal{Q}. \tag{9.22}$$

In practice also for this $\eta_j$ we have that $N(\mathcal{Q})$ is much smaller than $N(\mathcal{I})$.

If we simplify the denominator of $\tau_j$ we select an ideal $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{P}_1^{s_1} \ldots \mathcal{P}_k^{s_k}$ which divides the denominator of $<\sqrt{\tau_j}>\mathcal{O}$. For the first LLL reduction the algorithm proceeds as above. For the second LLL reduction the vectors $T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}$ become

$$T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)} = \left[ v_0^{(r)}, \ldots, v_{d-1}^{(r)}, c\,\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_1)|\tau_j(\alpha_1)|^{1/2}, \ldots, c\,\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_d)|\tau_j(\alpha_d)|^{1/2} \right]^T$$

for $1 \leq r \leq d$, and we replace

$$c\,\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_s)|\tau_j(\alpha_s)|^{1/2} \text{ by } c\sqrt{2}\Re(\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_s))|\tau_j(\alpha_s)|^{1/2} \text{ and}$$

$$c\,\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_t)|\tau_j(\alpha_t)|^{1/2} \text{ by } c\sqrt{2}\Im(\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}(\alpha_s))|\tau_j(\alpha_s)|^{1/2}$$

in the construction of $T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}$ if $\alpha_s = \overline{\alpha}_t$. The constant $c$ should be calculated from

$$c^d = \frac{L_{max}}{N(\mathcal{I})\ (\mathrm{Disc}(f/c_d))^{1/2}\ (N(\tau_j))^{1/2}}.$$

In the next iteration step we avoid factoring $\mathcal{Q}$ into prime ideals by including this ideal as a factor of the new $\mathcal{I}$. Its basis in HNF is found by using (9.22). Furthermore we need the embeddings of $\tau_j$ for the second LLL reduction. Using (9.16) we can calculate $|\tau_{j+1}(\alpha_l)|$ from $|\tau_j(\alpha_l)|$ and $|\eta_j(\alpha_l)|^2$. We stop with the iterative process when the norms of numerator and denominator and the embeddings of $\tau_{j+1}$ are small enough.

Next we calculate the square root $\sqrt{\tau_{j+1}}$ with help of PARI. We first write $\tau_{j+1}$ as a polynomial in $\alpha$. We construct an integer $t$, being the product of the index and the norms of all ideals which are still in the denominator of $\tau_{j+1}$. Hence $t\tau_{j+1}$ is a polynomial of degree $d$ in $\alpha$ with coefficients in $\mathbb{Z}$. During the algorithm we keep track of the coefficients of the numerator and the denominator of $\tau_j$ as a polynomial in $\alpha$ of degree $< d$ modulo several large primes. We use this to express the final $t\tau_{j+1}$ as a polynomial in $\alpha$ of degree $< d$ modulo these primes and we use the Chinese Remainder Theorem to find its coefficients in $\mathbb{Z}$. We divide this element of $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ by $t$ and find its square root by using the method mentioned in [5, §3.6.2]. This completes the computation of $\nu$.

We now apply the homomorphism $\phi_i$ to the found expressions for $\nu_i$ $(i = 1, 2)$:

$$\phi_i(\nu_i) = \sqrt{\tau_{j+1}}(m)\frac{\prod_{l=1}^{\lfloor\frac{j+1}{2}\rfloor}\eta_{2l-1}(m)}{\prod_{l=1}^{\lfloor\frac{j}{2}\rfloor}\eta_{2l}(m)} \bmod n.$$

Here the $\eta_i(m) \bmod n$ are calculated and multiplied with the other $\eta_j(m) \bmod n$ $(j<i)$ straight after $\eta_i$ has been calculated, so there is no need to store a history. We calculate $\gcd(\phi_1(\nu_1) - \phi_2(\nu_2), n)$ and hope to find a non-trivial factor of $n$.

In practice the second lattice basis reduction applied to the $T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}$ will yield linear combinations of the $\boldsymbol{v}^{(1)}(\alpha_i), \ldots, \boldsymbol{v}^{(d_i)}(\alpha_i)$ with small coefficients. Therefore we can round the entries of the $T\boldsymbol{v}^{(r)}$ without introducing a lot of round-off accumulation. This is the reason why we do not perform one single lattice basis reduction. Now both reductions use integer arithmetic.

Important for the speed of the algorithm is to select the sets $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{T}_1$ and $\mathcal{T}_2$ such that we get as much cancellation of primes $p_{(r_1:r_2)}$ as possible. We start with putting half the number of relations of $\mathcal{S}$ and half the number of free primes of $\mathcal{T}$ in $\mathcal{S}_1$ and $\mathcal{T}_1$, respectively, and the rest in $\mathcal{S}_2$ and $\mathcal{T}_2$. While we read in all relations and free primes for one of the polynomials, $f_i(x)$ say, and accumulate the prime ideal factorization of the numerator and the denominator of $\nu_i$, we decide whether it is profitable to put the current relation $(a, b)$ or free prime $p$ in the denominator while it was originally scheduled for the numerator (or vice-versa). If we decide to do so, then we put this relation for this $f_i$ in the denominator and compensate this by multiplying the final $\phi_i(\nu_i)$ with $a - bm \bmod n$ or $p \bmod n$ respectively.

When using PARI for calculations in number fields it is necessary to use the function **initalg**, which calculates amongst others an integral basis. This function needs to factor the discriminant of the polynomial, what can be too hard for PARI. We solve this problem by factoring the discriminant ourselves and giving the primes to PARI with the function **addprimes**.

## 10. The results

The Elliptic Curve Method (ECM) [15] is the fastest known factoring algorithm to find factors between 12 and 40 digits. Except for $72^{99}+1$ all numbers have first been exposed to trial division and ECM to find the factors below 40 digits. If we found only a few small factors we applied the SNFS, otherwise we applied the GNFS on the remaining part.

In the tables and figures we use the following notes:
1) Rough estimate on an SGI Indy workstation (100 MHz R4000SC processor).
2) On 1 processor of a Cray C98.
3) On 1 processor of an SGI Challenge (150 MHz R4400SC processors).
4) On 1 processor of an SGI Challenge (200 MHz R4400SC processors).
5) On 30 (SNFS) and 40 (GNFS) workstations at Oregon State University, Oregon, USA.

The square root timings are indicated for one dependency.

*Results obtained with the SNFS*:

**C98** from $7^{128}+6^{128}$ was factored into 2 primes of 49 and 50 digits: (see Figure 2)
10660 05182 57236 29640 65225 03966 77363 03849 50429 0049 and
57198 45548 36062 92671 60809 76987 21205 78590 71581 43489

**C106** from $2^{543}-1$ was factored into 2 primes of 42 and 64 digits:
53495 53853 19592 51122 74191 75872 57602 50633 51 and
23078 80312 51405 03174 34773 23375 33794 87634 08223 08108 08744 50183 6223

**C119** from $3^{319}-1$ was factored into 2 primes of 41 and 79 digits: (see Figure 1)
26425 38742 14904 71188 79373 47631 77943 61332 9 and
27428 52582 18630 29446 25818 32587 63622 21386 27169 38311 70052 36010 98185 10078 84358 4437
Note that $g_1(x)=x^{10}+x^9+\cdots+x+1$, $g_2(x)=x-3^{29}$ and $m=3^{29}$ satisfy the requirements. Now express $g_1(x)/x^5$ as a polynomial in $x+(1/x)$.

**C123** from $2^{511}-1$ was factored into 2 primes of 57 and 67 digits:
14478 09741 87086 26090 39350 34761 41374 56436 36578 29092 41504 17 and
25375 99745 02551 91341 56761 16426 75919 13521 83553 55292 24725 59253 86581 53
Note that $g_1(x)=x^6+x^5+\cdots+x+1$, $g_2(x)=x-2^{73}$ and $m_g=2^{73}$ satisfy the requirements. Expressing $g_1(x)/x^3$ as a polynomial in $x+(1/x)$ yields $h_1(x)=x^3+x^2-2x-1$ with $m_h=2^{73}+2^{-73}$. Use $m_h=2((2^{36}+2^{-37})^2-1)$ to rewrite $h_1(x)$ as a polynomial in $2^{36}+2^{-37}$. This yields $k_1(x)=8x^6-20x^4+12x^2-1$ and $m_k=2^{36}+2^{-37}$. Finally $f_1(x)=8k_1(x/2)$, so $m_f=2^{37}+2^{-36}$.

**C135** from $73^{73}+1$ was factored into 2 primes of 55 and 80 digits:
45963 69165 58529 11123 52829 63785 23391 57090 14470 88078 32677 and
30968 64234 93721 68556 02856 08720 92954 38228 95151 06526 40624 34659 21744 90064 58993 26733

The **C162** $(12^{151}-1)/11$ was factored into 2 primes of 44 and 119 digits:
16537 23785 15646 88924 26140 70416 48853 99065 7743 and
49717 86780 03233 78818 76339 90059 60016 48747 65983 49539 21156 97470 05759 15322 82419 11167 04320 09270 16884 28573 10302 48831 34912 6419

| | C98 | C106 | C119 |
|---|---|---|---|
| factor of | $7^{128}+6^{128}$ | $2^{543}-1$ | $3^{319}-1$ |
| $f_1(x)$ | $x^4+1$ | $4x^4+2x^2+1$ | $x^5+x^4-4x^3-3x^2+3x+1$ |
| $f_2(x)$ | $6^{32}x-7^{32}$ | $x-2^{90}$ | $3^{29}x-3^{58}-1$ |
| $m$ | $7^{32}6^{-32} \bmod n$ | $2^{90}$ | $3^{29}+3^{-29} \bmod n$ |
| sieving region | $\lvert a\rvert \le 2\cdot 10^6$, $1 \le b \le 16\cdot 10^3$ | $\lvert a\rvert \le 3.5\cdot 10^5$, $1 \le b \le 10^5$ | $\lvert a\rvert \le 16\cdot 10^5$, $1 \le b \le 103000$; $\lvert a\rvert \le 12\cdot 10^5$, $103001 \le b \le 345000$ |
| $B_1$ | $1.6\cdot 10^6$ | $5\cdot 10^5$ | $10^6$ |
| $B_2$ | $1.6\cdot 10^6$ | $8.1\cdot 10^5$ | $1.4\cdot 10^6$ |
| $L_1$ | $3\cdot 10^7$ | $12\cdot 10^6$ | $2\cdot 10^7$ |
| $L_2$ | $3\cdot 10^7$ | $12\cdot 10^6$ | $2.5\cdot 10^7$ |
| sieving time | 450 hours 1) | 250 hours 1) | 800 hours 1) |
| # sieving rel. | 2,337,618 | 1,106,949 | 2,221,686 |
| # filter rel./ sets | 982,672/587,076 | 264,583/126,254 | 774,265/349,961 |
| matrix size | $539,020 \times 620,650$ | $128,546 \times 133,738$ | $348,852 \times 367,182$ |
| bl. Lanczos time | 74 min. 2) | 6 min. 2) | 38 min. 2) |
| square root time | 69 min. 3) | 47 min. 3) | 62 min. 3) |
| # trials | 1 | 2 | 1 |

| | C123 | C135 | C162 |
|---|---|---|---|
| factor of | $2^{511}-1$ | $73^{73}+1$ | $(12^{151}-1)/11$ |
| $f_1(x)$ | $x^6-10x^4+24x^2-8$ | $x^5+73^2$ | $12x^5-1$ |
| $f_2(x)$ | $2^{36}x-2^{73}-1$ | $x-73^{15}$ | $x-12^{30}$ |
| $m$ | $2^{37}+2^{-36} \bmod n$ | $73^{15}$ | $12^{30}$ |
| sieving region | $\lvert a\rvert \le 6\cdot 10^5$, $1 \le b \le 37\cdot 10^4$ | $\lvert a\rvert \le 2\cdot 10^6$, $1 \le b \le 2.6\cdot 10^5$ | |
| $B_1$ | $15\cdot 10^5$ | $2\cdot 10^6$ | |
| $B_2$ | $11\cdot 10^5$ | $2\cdot 10^6$ | |
| $L_1$ | $3\cdot 10^7$ | $3\cdot 10^7$ | $10^8$ |
| $L_2$ | $2.5\cdot 10^7$ | $3\cdot 10^7$ | $10^8$ |
| sieving time | 700 hours 1) | 2150 hours 1) | during 8 weeks 5) |
| # sieving rel. | 1,901,187 | 2,746,848 | $8.98\cdot 10^6$ |
| # filter rel./sets | 420,896/222,014 | 1,154,111/583,631 | 1,807,808/822,361 |
| matrix size | $430,018 \times 439,058$ | $581,870 \times 590,573$ | $828,077 \times 833,017$ |
| bl. Lanczos time | 97 hours 3) | 92 min. 2) | 205 min. 2) |
| square root time | 13 hours 3) | 130 min. 3) | 10.5 hours 3) |
| # trials | 1 | 1 | 2 |

*Results obtained with the GNFS*:

**C87** from $72^{99}+1$ was factored into 2 primes of 28 and 59 digits:
80975 40789 16899 09106 86588 841 and
16798 25963 43052 65460 77643 18240 65479 28992 59252 26507 26238 4081
Used polynomials: $f_1(x) = 15112\ 89658\ 85928\ 67299\ 7\ x^2 - 14454\ 82064\ 03710\ 35730\ 30\ x - 82891\ 10711\ 41503\ 38627\ 28$ and $f_2(x) = 10193\ 02053\ 49942\ 54454\ 47\ x^2 + 69591\ 00565\ 51957\ 53864\ 28\ x - 73926\ 15678\ 48940\ 75263\ 915$
$m = 12971\ 49181\ 97797\ 46345\ 57652\ 15830\ 55986\ 93259\ 36651\ 20309\ 00057\ 23712\ 50151\ 97604\ 40714\ 27556\ 35889\ 06$

**C87** from $72^{99}+1$ was factored into 2 primes of 28 and 59 digits:
Used polynomials: $f_1(x) = 72987\ 9993\ x^2 + 19574\ 91701\ 87826\ 93290\ 2\ x - 77557\ 88285\ 64247\ 72330\ 65859\ 26647\ 4816$ and $f_2(x) = 21732\ 17947\ x^2 - 79076\ 05467\ 51140\ 42573\ 56\ x - 23092\ 86246\ 66134\ 62049\ 23942\ 78524\ 71175$
$m = 91584\ 63560\ 41789\ 38356\ 37052\ 93002\ 21754\ 09773\ 28747\ 97358\ 88020\ 12186\ 39497\ 14431\ 09944\ 13684\ 20046\ 6$

**C97** from $12^{441}-1$ was factored into 2 primes of 44 and 53 digits: (see Figure 4)
80563 59586 39915 46010 66111 58818 06884 96700 4027 and
34988 88222 91413 72324 91945 65798 20527 95623 42753 61821 641
Used polynomials: $f_1(x) = -\ 30177\ 43825\ 3\ x^2 + 43549\ 18245\ 10787\ 39544\ 8959\ x + 35629\ 87893\ 56423\ 22360\ 48460\ 61872\ 83613\ 50$ and $f_2(x) = -\ 53619\ 92778\ 05\ x^2 - 48039\ 40130\ 45794\ 97453\ 61008\ x + 63307\ 94281\ 94378\ 06775\ 38097\ 94819\ 80102\ 858$
$m = 28793\ 29914\ 27719\ 83147\ 13924\ 73244\ 89082\ 52443\ 26896\ 13883\ 68734\ 69449\ 40161\ 32035\ 13827\ 86658\ 32257\ 58151\ 28653\ 4$

**C105** from $3^{367}-1$ was factored into 2 primes of 52 and 54 digits:
15114 95257 84007 07169 98865 69402 29379 35039 92823 13504 93 and
50195 39973 89244 52840 42479 06279 09065 41054 68962 12425 1929
Used polynomials: $f_1(x) = 34291\ 05277\ 37\ x^2 + 86817\ 06933\ 35194\ 65483\ 64161\ 2\ x + 54075\ 90626\ 04782\ 97135\ 71395\ 36186\ 42487\ 4771$ and $f_2(x) = 12420\ 60255\ 079\ x^2 - 91304\ 92731\ 81768\ 81696\ 25532\ 18\ x + 12912\ 87673\ 00065\ 23363\ 11682\ 29536\ 26798\ 24208\ 00$
$m = 22914\ 35905\ 55869\ 46906\ 21150\ 13538\ 55768\ 19231\ 64235\ 75426\ 62177\ 65793\ 56350\ 02756\ 74926\ 89398\ 72232\ 45481\ 40116\ 05440\ 05942$

**C106** from $12^{157}+1$ was factored into 2 primes of 43 and 63 digits:
59076 48479 16668 26924 93875 79080 94200 49637 197 and
78003 47545 94869 44147 52419 18877 75473 24150 95147 75893 20240 91338 271
Used polynomials: $f_1(x) = 19003\ 04761\ 13\ x^2 - 10164\ 31637\ 34436\ 73606\ 69602\ 94\ x - 32430\ 28756\ 04959\ 76143\ 91031\ 71598\ 23376\ 25514\ 4$ and $f_2(x) = -\ 78508\ 32606\ 39\ x^2 - 40196\ 86460\ 51742\ 27034\ 42801\ 72\ x + 16408\ 60800\ 01456\ 03417\ 92387\ 66543\ 25668\ 77138\ 27$
$m = 17900\ 44128\ 75726\ 25768\ 48153\ 41213\ 37659\ 37899\ 09788\ 88143\ 77815\ 81676\ 91054\ 76827\ 69666\ 52099\ 45565\ 82560\ 64297\ 87588\ 58169\ 9$

**C107** from $6^{223}+1$ was factored into 2 primes of 48 and 59 digits:
83579 06552 59197 87058 63199 55878 76457 41368 53697 743 and
16660 35981 83855 55664 06860 19793 47465 06370 91184 73978 85209 6987
Used polynomials: $f_1(x) = -\ 54016\ 17762\ 83\ x^2 - 42570\ 42830\ 28714\ 25377\ 92693\ 15\ x -$

46786 96410 85791 79806 10186 34789 10720 07155 8 and $f_2(x) = -$ 24179 95148 05 $x^2 +$ 76311 97031 66287 85485 31988 89 $x -$ 31165 39943 59418 67031 97753 30136 43451 35069 86
$m =$ 12637 53059 94677 76761 85312 84126 24277 13734 77298 51839 92404 83922 87605 24925 32707 97264 40981 32306 53725 40515 54848 92

| | C87 (classical) | C87 (lattice) | C97 (lattice) |
|---|---|---|---|
| factor of | $72^{99}+1$ | $72^{99}+1$ | $12^{441}+1$ |
| sieving region | $\|a\| \le 2 \cdot 10^6$ | $\|a\| \le 5 \cdot 10^6$ | $\|a\| \le 2 \cdot 10^6$ |
| | $1 \le b \le 48 \cdot 10^4$ | $b = 1$ | $b = 1$ |
| $B_1 = B_2$ | $1.6 \cdot 10^6$ | $10^6$ | $2.2 \cdot 10^6$ |
| large pr. bounds | $L_1 = L_2 = 4 \cdot 10^7$ | $L^{(l)} = 10^6$ | $L^{(l)} = 10 \cdot 10^6$ |
| | | $L^{(u)} = 2.346 * 10^6$ | $L^{(u)} = 24 \cdot 10^6$ |
| sieving time | 2100 hours 1) | 1500 hours 1) | 3500 hours 1) |
| # sieving rel. | 3,480,325 | 521,901 | 3,599,014 |
| # filter rel./sets | 741,930/338,580 | 426,241/409,699 | 1,247,094/604,205 |
| matrix size | $364,215 \times 366,907$ | $273,475 \times 437,441$ | $637,711 \times 644,950$ |
| bl. Lanczos time | 41 min. 2) | 26 min. 2) | 123 min. 2) |
| square root time | 128 min. 3) | 36 min. 3) | 78 min. 3) |
| # trials | 1 | 2 | 2 |

| | C105 (lattice) | C106 (lattice) | C107 (lattice) |
|---|---|---|---|
| factor of | $3^{367}-1$ | $12^{157}+1$ | $6^{223}+1$ |
| sieving region | $\|a\| \le 33 \cdot 10^6$ | $\|a\| \le 35 \cdot 10^6$ | $\|a\| \le 35 \cdot 10^6$ |
| | $b = 1$ | $b = 1$ | $b = 1$ |
| $B_1 = B_2$ | $1.6 \cdot 10^6$ | $2.7 \cdot 10^6$ | $2.9 \cdot 10^6$ |
| $L^{(l)}$ | $23 \cdot 10^6$ | $2.7 \cdot 10^7$ | $2.72 \cdot 10^7$ |
| $L^{(u)}$ | $30 \cdot 10^6$ | $3 \cdot 10^7$ | $3 \cdot 10^7$ |
| sieving time | during 4 weeks 5) | 11900 hours 1) | 11200 hours 1) |
| # sieving rel. | $3.59 \cdot 10^6$ | 3,272,224 | 3,098,987 |
| # filter rel./sets | ?/1,218,633 | 2,151,431/1,191,636 | 2,152,685/1,155,270 |
| matrix size | $1,284,719\times$ | $1,266,098\times$ | $1,226,577\times$ |
| | $1,294,861$ | $1,295,043$ | $1,252,846$ |
| bl. Lanczos time | 439 min. 2) | 423 min. 2) | 421 min. 2) |
| square root time | 4.8 hours 3) | 2.0 hours 4) | 2.1 hours 3) |
| # trials | 1 | 1 | 5 |

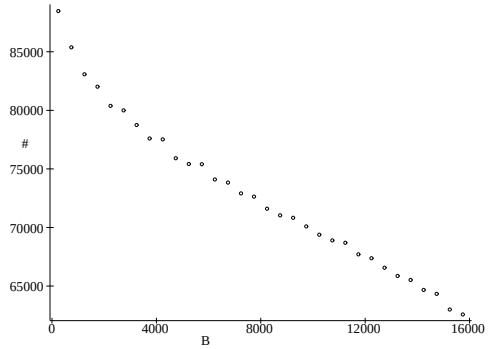


Figure 2a: Number of relations found per 500 $b$-values for the factorization of a C98 from $7^{128} + 6^{128}$.

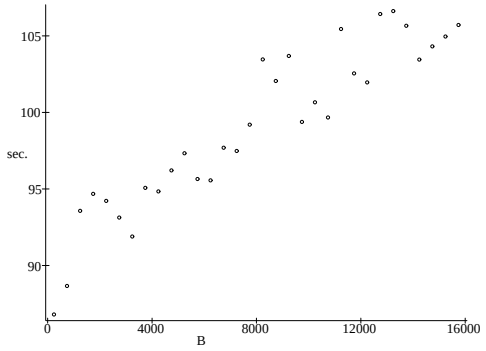


Figure 2b: Average time[1)] per 100 relations for the factorization of a C98 from $7^{128} + 6^{128}$.

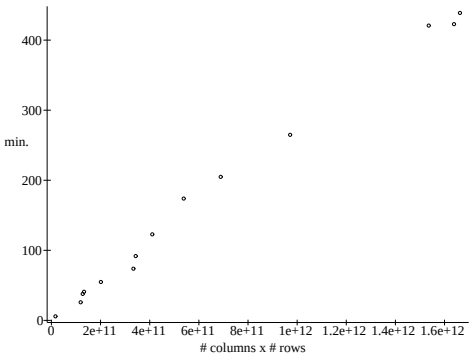


Figure 3: block Lanczos timings[2)] for matrices with on average 30.3 non-zero elements per row.

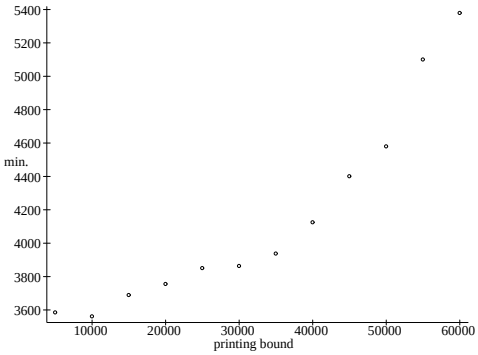


Figure 4: Square root timings[3)] for a C97 from $12^{441} + 1$ expressed in the printing bounds $W_1 = W_2$. This dependence is an explanation for the varying results for square root timings in the preceding tables.

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