

# On $\tau$ -adic Representations of Integers

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## Abstract

Elliptic curve cryptosystems have become increasingly popular due to their efficiency and the small size of the keys they use. Particularly, the anomalous curves introduced by Koblitz allow a complex representation of the keys, denoted  $\tau$ NAF, that make the computations over these curves more efficient. In this report, we propose an efficient method for randomizing a  $\tau$ NAF to produce different equivalent representations of the same key to the same complex base  $\tau$ . We prove that the average Hamming density of the resulting representations is 0.5. We identify the pattern of the  $\tau$ NAFs yielding the maximum number of representations and the formula governing this number. We also present deterministic methods to compute the average and the exact number of possible representations of a  $\tau$ NAF.

## 1 Introduction

Elliptic curve cryptosystems (ECCs) have become increasingly popular due to the efficiency of their computations and the small size of their keys compared to RSA and discrete logarithm-based systems. They rely on the hardness of solving the discrete logarithm problem (DLP) in the additive group of points on the elliptic curve  $E$  defined over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . The core and most costly operation in ECCs is the *scalar multiplication*, *i.e.*, computing the point  $kP$

where  $P$  is a point on the curve and  $k$  is an integer that is usually the secret. This operation is basically performed using the *binary algorithms* [10], which are also called *double-and-add* algorithms when used with additive groups. This operation can be performed more efficiently on Koblitz curves than on other curves.

Koblitz curves [11] are elliptic curves defined over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Their advantageous characteristic is the Frobenius mapping which can be exploited to replace the point doubling operation with a simple squaring of the underlying field elements, *i.e.*, the point coordinates [16]. Hence, the point multiplication algorithm can be executed in a much shorter time. This technique is generally not as efficient when using an arbitrary endomorphism. In order to use this mapping efficiently, Solinas [16] has shown how to represent the scalar  $k$  in a number system of base  $\tau$ , where  $\tau$  is a complex number representing the squaring map. His representation also is characterized by being a *non-adjacent form* where no two adjacent symbols are non-zeros, in order to minimize the number of point additions. A brief background on this representation is presented in Section 2. In Section 3, we present our experimental results on an open problem proposed by Solinas. This problem questions the uniform distribution of points resulting from multiplying a randomly chosen  $\tau$ -adic NAF by an input point.

In Section 4, we present an efficient algorithm that takes as input the  $\tau$ -adic NAF ( $\tau$ NAF) representation and produces a random  $\tau$ -adic representation for the same scalar value. The symbols of the randomized  $\tau$ -adic representation are output one at a time from right to left which allows the execution of the right-to-left scalar multiplication along with the randomization algorithm without the need to store the new representation. The model of our algorithm has enabled us to derive a number of interesting results with regard to  $\tau$ -adic representations that we present subsequently. The characteristics of  $\tau$ NAFs that have the maximum number of representations and formulas describing that number are presented in Section 5. The average Hamming density of the representations is derived in Section 6. Deterministic methods for determining both the average and the exact number of representations of  $\tau$ NAFs of a certain length are presented in Section 7. Finally, Section 8 contains the conclusion and future work.

## 2 Koblitz Curves and the $\tau$ -adic Representation

Koblitz curves [11]—originally named *anomalous binary curves*—are the curves  $E_a$ ,  $a \in \{0, 1\}$ , defined over  $\mathbb{F}_2$

$$E_a : y^2 + xy = x^3 + ax^2 + 1 \tag{1}$$

$E_a(\mathbb{F}_{2^m})$  is the group of  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m}$ -rational points on  $E_a$ . Let  $\mu = (-1)^{1-a}$ , that is  $\mu \in \{-1, 1\}$ .

The order of the group is computed as

$$\#E_a(\mathbb{F}_{2^m}) = 2^m + 1 - V_m, \quad (2)$$

where  $\{V_h\}$  is the Lucas sequence defined by

$$V_0 = 2, \quad V_1 = \mu \quad \text{and} \quad V_{h+1} = \mu V_h - 2V_{h-1} \quad \text{for } h \geq 1.$$

The value of  $m$  is chosen to be a prime number so that  $\#E_a(\mathbb{F}_{2^m}) = f \cdot r$  is very nearly prime, that is  $r > 2$  is prime and  $f = 3 - \mu$ .

The main advantage of Koblitz curves when used in public-key cryptography is that scalar multiplication of the points in the main subgroup, the group of order  $r$ , can be performed without the use of point doubling operations. This is due to the following property. Since these curves are defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m}$ , then if  $P = (x, y)$  is a point on  $E_a$ , then the point  $(x^2, y^2)$  is on the curve, as well. That is the Frobenius (squaring, in this case) endomorphism  $\tau : E_a(\mathbb{F}_{2^m}) \rightarrow E_a(\mathbb{F}_{2^m})$  defined by

$$(x, y) \mapsto (x^2, y^2), \quad \mathcal{O} \mapsto \mathcal{O}$$

is well defined. It can also be verified by point addition on  $E_a$  that

$$(x^4, y^4) + 2(x, y) = \mu \cdot (x^2, y^2).$$

Hence, the squaring map can be considered as a multiplication by the complex number  $\tau$  satisfying

$$\tau^2 + 2 = \mu\tau, \quad (3)$$

that is

$$\tau = \frac{1}{2} (\mu + \sqrt{-7}).$$

The norm of  $\tau$  is 2. Thus, it is beneficial to represent the key  $k$  as an element of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\tau]$ , *i.e.*,

$$k = \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} \kappa_i \tau^i \quad (4)$$

for some  $l$ . We can therefore carry the scalar multiplication  $kP$  of a point  $P$  on  $E_a$  more efficiently by replacing the doubling operation in the double-and-add algorithm by the squaring map.

In [16], Solinas has shown how to represent  $k$  as in (4) in its  $\tau$ -adic non adjacent form ( $\tau$ NAF) where  $\kappa_i \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$  and  $\kappa_i \kappa_{i+1} = 0$  for  $i \geq 0$ —abusing the notation, we will refer to  $\kappa_i$  as a signed bit or *sbit*. However, this results in  $l \approx 2m$ . Therefore, he proposed a *reduced*

$\tau$ -adic non adjacent form (RTNAF) for  $k$  where  $k$  is reduced modulo  $\delta = (\tau^m - 1)/(\tau - 1)$ , hence  $l = m + a$ . He has proven that in a  $\tau$ NAF representation the number of 0s is  $\frac{2}{3}$  on average. He also mentioned that 1 and -1 are equally likely on average.

### 3 $\tau$ NAFs of length $m + a$ and their Distribution

To obtain a key represented in a reduced  $\tau$ NAF, we can choose an integer  $n \in [1, r - 1]$ , and apply Solinas' method to produce its RTNAF. Alternatively, as Solinas suggests [16], we can directly choose a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $m + a$  as follows: the first sbit is generated according to the following probability distribution

$$\kappa_i = \begin{cases} 0 & Pr(0) = 1/2 \\ 1 & Pr(1) = 1/4 \\ \bar{1} & Pr(\bar{1}) = 1/4. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

We follow each 1 or  $\bar{1}$  with a 0, and after each 0 the subsequent sbit is generated according to the distribution in (5).

This method can be verified as follows. We can consider the sequence of sbits in a random  $\tau$ NAF as a Markov chain of three states, namely 0, 1 and  $\bar{1}$ . We have the limiting probabilities as follows [16]

$$\pi_0 = 2/3 \quad \text{and} \quad \pi_1 = \pi_{\bar{1}} = 1/6. \quad (6)$$

Also, from the properties of the NAF representation, we know that a 1 or a  $\bar{1}$  must be followed by a 0. Hence we have the following transition probabilities

$$P_{10} = P_{\bar{1}0} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad P_{11} = P_{1\bar{1}} = P_{\bar{1}1} = P_{\bar{1}\bar{1}} = 0. \quad (7)$$

It remains to determine  $P_{00}$ ,  $P_{01}$  and  $P_{0\bar{1}}$ , which we can calculate by solving the equation

$$\boldsymbol{\pi} \mathbf{P} = \boldsymbol{\pi}, \quad (8)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\pi} = (\pi_0 \ \pi_1 \ \pi_{\bar{1}})$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  is the transition matrix

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} P_{00} & P_{01} & P_{0\bar{1}} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

We obtain a unique solution to (8) which is

$$P_{00} = 1/2 \quad \text{and} \quad P_{01} = P_{0\bar{1}} = 1/4. \quad (10)$$

The sequence obtained by this method is selected from the set of all  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $m + a$ . As stated by Solinas [16], their number is the integer closest to  $2^{m+a+2}/3$ , whereas the order of the main subgroup is  $r \approx 2^{m-2+a}$ . That is the average number of sequences that, when multiplied by a given point  $P$ , would lead to the same point in the main subgroup is  $16/3$ . The deviation from this average is an open problem. We have calculated this deviation experimentally for  $E_1$  over small fields as follows.

We have generated all  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $m + a$  for small  $m$ . We have then reduced each of them modulo  $\delta$ , and stored how many times each of the  $r$  lattice point  $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1\tau$  ( $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) in  $\mathcal{V}$ , which is the region spanned by the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}[\tau]/\delta\mathbb{Z}[\tau]$ , is mapped. The mean and standard deviation of the distribution of the number of mappings for  $E_1(\mathbb{F}_{2^m})$  for small  $m$  are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: The mean and standard deviation of the number of times the lattice points of the region  $\mathcal{V}$  were mapped by all  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $m + 1$ .

$m$	7	11	17	19	23
$r$	71	991	65587	262543	4196903
mean	4.803	5.511	5.329	5.325	5.330
standard deviation	0.721	0.734	0.523	0.502	0.482

As we can see from Table 1, the deviation is small and is decreasing starting from  $m = 11$ . Also, in our experiments the number of times a lattice point was mapped was at most 8.

## 4 Randomizing the $\tau$ -adic Representation of an Integer

Now, having the key represented as a  $\tau$ NAF, we will present a randomization algorithm to obtain a different  $\tau$ -adic representation of the key. The technique used in this algorithm is similar to the one used by Ha and Moon [7] to randomize the binary representation of the key. The difference is in the state representation which is similar to the one used in [4].

The algorithm can be implemented as a look-up table as in Table 2 for the curve  $E_1$ . The sbit sequence of the key is scanned from the least significant end to the most significant end. The current state  $s_i$  is the combination of the current sbit  $\kappa_i$  and the carry sbits  $(c_2, c_1, c_0)_\tau$ . Based on the next sbit  $\kappa_{i+1}$  and the random decision bit  $r_i$ , the output sbit  $d_i$  and the next state  $s_{i+1}$  are determined. Depending on whether  $\kappa_0$  is  $\bar{1}$ , 0 or 1 the first state  $S_0$  will be  $s_4$ ,  $s_{12}$  or  $s_{20}$  respectively where the carry sbits are initialized to 0. Note that only the states in Table 2 are reachable, that is, not all combinations of the carry sbits occur in the algorithm.

We will illustrate the calculation of the carry sbits and the state transitions using the following example. Let  $k = (10010\bar{1})_\tau$ . Then,  $\kappa_0 = \bar{1}$  and  $c_{2_0} = c_{1_0} = c_{0_0} = 0$  ( $S_0 = s_4$ ). If  $r_0 = 0$ ,  $d_0 = \kappa_0 = \bar{1}$ , the carry sbits don't change and the next state  $S_1 = s_{12}$ . Otherwise,  $d_0 = 1$ . To change the value of  $\kappa_0$  from  $\bar{1}$  to 1, we should add  $(-2)_\tau$  to the remaining sbits of  $k$ . For the curve  $E_1$ ,  $-2 = \tau^2 - \tau = (1\bar{1}0)_\tau$ . This makes the carry sbits  $c_{2_1} = 0, c_{1_1} = 1, c_{0_1} = \bar{1}$ , and the next state  $S_1 = s_{14}$ .

The output sbit  $d_i$  is determined by  $\kappa_i + c_{0_i}$ . If the latter is 0, then  $d_i = 0$ , and the carry sbits are adjusted accordingly, *e.g.*, as in the states  $s_2$  and  $s_3$  in Table 2. Otherwise, if  $\kappa_i + c_{0_i} = \pm 1$ , then if  $r = 0$ , then  $d_i = \kappa_i + c_{0_i}$ , else  $d_i = -(\kappa_i + c_{0_i})$  and a  $\pm(\bar{1}1)_\tau$  is added to  $(c_{2_i} c_{1_i})_\tau$ . Note that the output  $d_i$  is determined along with the next state  $S_{i+1}$ . In other words, when the algorithm is in state  $S_i$ , the last sbit that was sent to the output is  $d_{i-1}$ .

Table 2: State transition table for the randomized  $\tau$ -audic representation for the curve  $E_1$ .

State					Input		Output				Next state
$S_i$	$\kappa_i$	$c_{2_i}$	$c_{1_i}$	$c_{0_i}$	$\kappa_{i+1}$	$r_i$	$d_i$	$c_{2_{i+1}}$	$c_{1_{i+1}}$	$c_{0_{i+1}}$	$S_{i+1}$
$s_1$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					0	1	1	1	0	$s_{16}$	
$s_2$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	1	0	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
$s_3$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	1	$\bar{1}$	$s_{14}$
$s_4$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	1	0	1	$\bar{1}$	$s_{14}$
$s_5$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	0	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
$s_6$	$\bar{1}$	0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_{15}$
$s_7$	$\bar{1}$	0	1	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					0	1	1	0	1	0	$s_{15}$
$s_8$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_1$
					0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_9$
					1	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{17}$
$s_9$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_3$
					0	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{19}$
$s_{10}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	1	$\bar{1}$	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_3$

$S_i$	$\kappa_i$	$c_{2_i}$	$c_{1_i}$	$c_{0_i}$	$\kappa_{i+1}$	$r_i$	$d_i$	$c_{2_{i+1}}$	$c_{1_{i+1}}$	$c_{0_{i+1}}$	$S_{i+1}$
					$\bar{1}$	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_1$
					0	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_9$
					1	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{19}$
					1	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{17}$
$s_{11}$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_4$
					$\bar{1}$	1	1	0	1	$\bar{1}$	$s_6$
					0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	1	0	1	$\bar{1}$	$s_{14}$
					1	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_{20}$
					1	1	1	0	1	$\bar{1}$	$s_{22}$
$s_{12}$	0	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_4$
					0	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{20}$
$s_{13}$	0	0	0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	1	0	0	0	$s_4$
					$\bar{1}$	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	1	$s_2$
					0	0	1	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	1	$s_{10}$
					1	0	1	0	0	0	$s_{20}$
					1	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	1	$s_{18}$
$s_{14}$	0	0	1	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	$s_5$
					$\bar{1}$	1	1	0	1	0	$s_7$
					0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					0	1	1	0	1	0	$s_{15}$
					1	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	$s_{21}$
					1	1	1	0	1	0	$s_{23}$
$s_{15}$	0	0	1	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_5$
					0	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_{21}$
$s_{16}$	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_7$
					0	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_{15}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_{23}$
$s_{17}$	1	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_9$
$s_{18}$	1	0	$\bar{1}$	1	0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_9$
$s_{19}$	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
$s_{20}$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	$s_{12}$

$S_i$	$\kappa_i$	$c_{2_i}$	$c_{1_i}$	$c_{0_i}$	$\kappa_{i+1}$	$r_i$	$d_i$	$c_{2_{i+1}}$	$c_{1_{i+1}}$	$c_{0_{i+1}}$	$S_{i+1}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	1	$s_{10}$
$s_{21}$	1	0	0	1	0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	1	$s_{10}$
$s_{22}$	1	0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
$s_{23}$	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$s_8$

The algorithm keeps scanning the  $l$  sbits of the input  $\tau$ -adic NAF, starting from the least significant end, moving from a state to another according to the look-up table. When the most significant sbit  $\kappa_{l-1}$  is reached, the algorithm is in state  $S_{l-1}$ , with the last output bit  $d_{l-2}$ .

To exit the algorithm from the state  $S_{l-1}$ , the value of the current sbit  $\kappa_{l-1}$  should be added to the carry  $(c_{2_{l-1}} c_{1_{l-1}} c_{0_{l-1}})_\tau$  and sent to the output. We can see from Table 2 that, for all states, the result of this addition cannot exceed three sbits. Hence, the output  $\tau$ -adic representation can be of length at most  $l + 2$ . This exit step is equivalent to prepending at most three 0s to the  $\tau$ NAF and continuing the algorithm as before with all subsequent random decisions  $r_i = 0$ . The algorithm then stops when the state  $s_{12}$  is reached, since in this state  $\kappa_i = c_{2_i} = c_{1_i} = c_{0_i} = 0$ . As with adding the carry to the current sbit, it can be verified from Table 2 that the paths from all states to  $s_{12}$  are at most three transitions long. We will refer to those paths as exit paths. However, from some states, there exist two exit paths that satisfy this length restriction. For example, if  $S_{l-1} = s_4$ , then  $S_l = s_{12}$  and  $d_{l-1} = \bar{1}$ . Alternatively,  $S_l = s_{14}$ ,  $S_{l+1} = s_{13}$ , and  $S_{l+2} = s_{12}$ , with the respective output  $d_{l-1} = 1$ ,  $d_l = \bar{1}$ ,  $d_{l+1} = 1$ . The alternate exit paths apply also to the states  $s_7, s_{10}, s_{11}, s_{13}, s_{14}, s_{17}$  and  $s_{20}$ .

The same randomization technique can be applied to the  $\tau$ -adic representation of integers when the points are on the curve  $E_0$ . In this case,  $2 = -\tau^2 - \tau = (\bar{1}10)_\tau$ , which will produce different carry sbits than for the curve  $E_1$ , and hence different states. Those states and the transitions between them are listed in Table 3. We have included the representations of the  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $1 \leq l \leq 6$  on the curve  $E_0$  in Appendix A.



Table 3: State transition table for the randomized  $\tau$ -audic representation for the curve  $E_0$ .

State					Input		Output				Next state
$S_i$	$\kappa_i$	$c_{2_i}$	$c_{1_i}$	$c_{0_i}$	$\kappa_{i+1}$	$r_i$	$d_i$	$c_{2_{i+1}}$	$c_{1_{i+1}}$	$c_{0_{i+1}}$	$S_{i+1}$
$s_1$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_{14}$
$s_2$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					0	1	1	0	1	0	$s_{14}$
$s_3$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	1	1	$s_{15}$
$s_4$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	1	0	1	1	$s_{15}$
$s_5$	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	0	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
$s_6$	$\bar{1}$	0	1	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					0	1	1	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$s_8$
$s_7$	$\bar{1}$	0	1	1	0	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
$s_8$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_2$
					0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{10}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{18}$
$s_9$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_3$
					$\bar{1}$	1	1	0	1	0	$s_6$
					0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					0	1	1	0	1	0	$s_{14}$
					1	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{19}$
					1	1	1	0	1	0	$s_{22}$
$s_{10}$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_3$
					0	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{19}$
$s_{11}$	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_4$
					$\bar{1}$	1	1	0	1	1	$s_7$
					0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	1	0	1	1	$s_{15}$
					1	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	$s_{20}$
					1	1	1	0	1	1	$s_{23}$
$s_{12}$	0	0	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_4$
					0	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{12}$

$S_i$	$\kappa_i$	$c_{2_i}$	$c_{1_i}$	$c_{0_i}$	$\kappa_{i+1}$	$r_i$	$d_i$	$c_{2_{i+1}}$	$c_{1_{i+1}}$	$c_{0_{i+1}}$	$S_{i+1}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{20}$
$s_{13}$	0	0	0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	1	0	0	0	$s_4$
					$\bar{1}$	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$s_1$
					0	0	1	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$s_9$
					1	0	1	0	0	0	$s_{20}$
				1	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$s_{17}$	
$s_{14}$	0	0	1	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_5$
					0	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	0	1	$s_{21}$
$s_{15}$	0	0	1	1	$\bar{1}$	0	1	0	0	1	$s_5$
					$\bar{1}$	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_2$
					0	0	1	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{10}$
					1	0	1	0	0	1	$s_{21}$
				1	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{18}$	
$s_{16}$	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_6$
					0	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_{14}$
					1	$\times$	0	0	1	0	$s_{22}$
$s_{17}$	1	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
$s_{18}$	1	0	$\bar{1}$	0	0	0	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$s_{11}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	1	0	0	$s_{16}$
$s_{19}$	1	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$\times$	0	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
$s_{20}$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	$s_{12}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$s_9$
$s_{21}$	1	0	0	1	0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	$s_9$
$s_{22}$	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	$s_{13}$
					0	1	$\bar{1}$	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{10}$
$s_{23}$	1	0	1	1	0	$\times$	0	0	$\bar{1}$	0	$s_{10}$

For this curve, the states that have two exit paths are  $s_2, s_4, s_9, s_{11}, s_{13}, s_{15}, s_{20}$  and  $s_{22}$ .

## 5 $\tau$ NAF with the maximum number of representations

Let  $k$  be a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $l$  sbits and  $\lambda(k, l)$  be the number of  $\tau$ -adic representations of that key. Note that those representations are of length at most  $l+2$  as in Section 4. In the following, we will focus our discussion on “positive” keys, *i.e.*, those having  $\kappa_{l-1} = \kappa_{l-2} = \dots = \kappa_i = 0$  and  $\kappa_{i-1} = 1$  for some  $0 < i \leq l$ . Since  $-k$  is obtained from  $k$  by interchanging the  $\bar{1}$ s with the 1s, in the same way the representations of  $-k$  can be obtained from those of  $k$ , hence,  $\lambda(k, l) = \lambda(-k, l)$ . Let  $k_{max,l}$  be the key of length  $l$  that has the maximum number of representations among other keys of the same length (cf. Table 10 in Appendix A). Also, let  $\alpha(k, l)$  be the number of representations of  $k$  that are of length at most  $l$  sbits. Then, we can prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1** *Let  $l \geq 1$  and  $w = \lfloor \frac{l-1}{2} \rfloor$ . For  $l$  odd,  $k_{max,l} = \tau^{2w} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i}$ . For  $l$  even,  $k_{max,l} = \sum_{i=0}^w (-1)^{w-i} \tau^{2i}$ . And for any  $\tau$ NAF  $k$  of length up to  $l+3$ ,  $\alpha(k, l+2) \leq \lambda(k_{max,l}, l)$ . Moreover, for  $l \geq 3$ ,  $\lambda(k_{max,l}, l) = \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1) + \lambda(k_{max,l-2}, l-2)$ .*

In order to prove the theorem, we will need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 1** *If  $k$  is divisible by  $\tau^e$  then  $\lambda(k, l) = \lambda(\frac{k}{\tau^e}, l - e)$ .*

**Proof.** Looking at Table 2 and Table 3, we find that random decisions are made at the states where  $\kappa_i + c_{0_i} = \pm 1$ . In this case, there are two possible transitions emerging from these states, that is there are two possible paths that can be followed, each yielding a family of representations where the sbit  $d_i$  is either 1 or  $\bar{1}$ .

When the least significant sbit(s) (LSSB(s)) is (are) 0, the algorithm enters state  $s_{12}$  and does not exit this state until the first 1 or  $\bar{1}$  is encountered. Until then, there are no new representations that are formed, and the least significant 0s are sent to the output as they are. Any other representation formed thereafter will have the same number of least significant 0s as  $k$ .

In other words, if  $k$  is divisible by  $\tau^e$ , so are its representations. That is, they will all have  $e$  least significant 0s. Therefore, the possible representations for  $k$  when represented in  $l$  sbits will be the same representations for  $\frac{k}{\tau^e}$  when represented in  $l - e$  sbits with  $e$  0s appended to each of the letters.  $\square$

**Lemma 2** *If  $k$  is a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $l$  and  $k \equiv (-1)^b \pmod{\tau}$  where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , then the  $\tau$ NAF of  $k + (-1)^b$  is of length at most  $l + 3$ .*

**Proof.** To convert a number in a  $\tau$ -adic form into a  $\tau$ NAF, we can use the transformations given by Gordon [6] for the curve  $E_1$ . The following transformations (and their negatives) are the equivalent for the curve  $E_0$ .

$$\tau + 1 \rightarrow -\tau^2 - 1 \quad (11 \rightarrow \bar{1}0\bar{1}), \quad (11)$$

$$\tau - 1 \rightarrow -\tau^3 + 1 \quad (1\bar{1} \rightarrow \bar{1}001), \quad (12)$$

$$2 \rightarrow \tau^3 + \tau \quad (2 \rightarrow 1010). \quad (13)$$

Now, consider the following cases for the least significant sbits of  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{\tau}$  when 1 is added, where the transformation (13) is used after the addition. Other cases are recursions of the following ones. The subscript  $\tau$  was removed since it applies to all of the following representations.

$$(\dots \bar{1}001) + 1 = (\dots 0010),$$

$$(\dots 1001) + 1 = (\dots 2010),$$

$$(\dots 0101) + 1 = (\dots 1110) = (\dots 00\bar{1}0), \quad \text{using (11)}$$

$$(\dots \bar{1}0\bar{1}01) + 1 = (\dots \bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{1}10) = (\dots 010\bar{1}0), \quad \text{using -(12) (i.e., the negative of (12))}$$

$$(\dots 10\bar{1}01) + 1 = (\dots 11\bar{1}10) = (\dots 210\bar{1}0), \quad \text{using -(12)}$$

$$(\dots 100\bar{1}01) + 1 = (\dots 101\bar{1}10) = (\dots 1110\bar{1}0) = (\dots 00\bar{1}0\bar{1}0), \quad \text{using -(12) and (11)}$$

$$(\dots \bar{1}00\bar{1}01) + 1 = \dots = (\bar{2}0\bar{1}0\bar{1}0), \quad \text{using -(12) and (11).}$$

When any of the transformations (11) to (13) is used, the resulting carry will either cancel an existing sbit, be added to a 0 or result in a 2 or -2. We can see from the above cases that the absolute result of adding a carry to an sbit will not exceed 2. Thus, the resulting  $\tau$ NAF of  $k + 1$  is at most 3 sbits longer than  $k$ . The same argument applies to  $k \equiv -1 \pmod{\tau}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3** For any  $\tau$ NAF  $k \equiv (-1)^b \pmod{\tau}$  of length  $l$ , where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , we have

$$\lambda(k, l) = \lambda\left(\frac{k - (-1)^b}{\tau^2}, l - 2\right) + \alpha\left(\frac{k + (-1)^b}{\tau}, l + 1\right).$$

**Proof.** We will consider here the case of  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{\tau}$  but the same arguments apply for  $k \equiv -1 \pmod{\tau}$ . Again, note that  $\lambda(k, l)$  is the number of representations of  $k$  that are of length at most  $l + 2$ . Since  $k \pmod{\tau} \neq 0$ , this is also true for the  $\tau$ -adic representations of  $k$ . That is, their least significant sbit (LSSB) will be either 1 or  $\bar{1}$ . For those representations that have 1 as the LSSB, if this 1 is replaced with 0, they will become representations of  $k - 1$ . Since  $k$  is a  $\tau$ NAF, then  $k - 1$  is a  $\tau$ NAF divisible by  $\tau^2$ . From Lemma 1, we know that the number of representations of  $k - 1$  is  $\lambda(k - 1, l) = \lambda\left(\frac{k-1}{\tau^2}, l - 2\right)$  and that those representations will have their 2 LSSBs equal to 00. Therefore, they can all be used as representations of  $k$  by replacing the least significant 0 with 1.

On the other hand, for those representations that have  $\bar{1}$  as their LSSB, if this  $\bar{1}$  is replaced with 0, they will become representations of  $k + 1$ . Since  $2 = (\bar{1}10)_\tau$  for the curve  $E_1$  and  $2 = (\bar{1}\bar{1}0)_\tau$  for the curve  $E_0$ , we can see that  $k + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{\tau}$ , hence all the representations of  $k + 1$  have 0 as their LSSB. Those representations that are of length  $l + 2$ , with their least significant 0 replaced with  $\bar{1}$ , are counted among the  $\lambda(k, l)$  representations of  $k$  and their number is  $\alpha(k + 1, l + 2) = \alpha\left(\frac{k+(-1)^b}{\tau}, l + 1\right)$ .  $\square$

The following lemmas are carried on  $E_0$  but they have corresponding lemmas on  $E_1$ .

**Lemma 4** For  $l$  odd and  $w = \frac{l-1}{2}$ , if  $k = \tau^{2w} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i}$ , then  $\sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-i} \tau^{2i+1} + (-1)^w$  is among the representations of  $k$ . In other words,  $\frac{k-(-1)^w}{\tau} = \frac{k+(-1)^{w-1}}{\tau} = \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-i} \tau^{2i}$ .

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, let  $w$  be odd, then  $k = (1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ \dots\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ 1)_\tau$ . When the least significant 1 is replaced by  $\bar{1}$ ,  $2 = (\bar{1}\bar{1}0)_\tau$  is added to  $k$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} k &= (1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ \dots\ 1\ 0\ \bar{2}\ \bar{1}\ \bar{1})_\tau \\ &= (1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ \dots\ 2\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \bar{1})_\tau \\ &= \dots \\ &= (1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{2}\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \bar{1})_\tau \\ &= (1\ 0\ 2\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \bar{1})_\tau \\ &= (0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \bar{1})_\tau. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Lemma 5** For  $l$  even and  $w = \lfloor \frac{l-1}{2} \rfloor = \frac{l}{2} - 1$ , if  $k = \sum_{i=0}^w (-1)^{w-i} \tau^{2i}$ , then  $\tau^{2w+3} + \tau^{2w+1} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i+1} + (-1)^{w-1}$  is among the representations of  $k$ . In other words,  $\frac{k-(-1)^{w-1}}{\tau} = \frac{k+(-1)^w}{\tau} = \tau^{2w+2} + \tau^{2w} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i}$

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, let  $w$  be odd. Then,  $k$  is of the form  $(0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ \dots\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1})_\tau$ . As before, the least significant  $\bar{1}$  can be replaced by 1 and  $-2 = (110)_\tau$  added to  $k$ . Hence, we obtain the following

$$\begin{aligned} k &= (0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ 0\ \dots\ 2\ 1\ 1)_\tau \\ &= \dots \\ &= (0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{2}\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 1)_\tau \\ &= (0\ 2\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 1)_\tau \\ &= (\bar{1}\ \bar{1}\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 1)_\tau \\ &= (1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \bar{1}\ \dots\ 0\ 1\ 1)_\tau. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Lemma 6** *Let  $k$  be  $\tau$ NAF of length  $l$  with  $\kappa_{l-1} = 1$  ( $\bar{1}$ ). Then, the representations of  $k$  that are of length  $l + 2$  will have  $d_{l+1} = \bar{1}$  (1), where  $d_i$  are the sbits output from the algorithm as in Table 3. Moreover, if  $d_{l-1} = \bar{1}$  in any of the representations of  $k$ , then the length of this representation is  $l + 2$ .*

Considering Table 3, when the most significant sbit  $\kappa_{l-1} = 1$  is read, the algorithm will be in one of the states  $s_{17}$  to  $s_{23}$ . Representations that are of length  $l + 2$  are resulting from those states that have exit paths consisting of three transitions as solemn paths ( $s_{21}$  and  $s_{23}$ ) or as alternate paths ( $s_{20}$  and  $s_{22}$ ). It can be easily checked from the table that the last output sbit in all such paths is  $\bar{1}$ . It can also be checked that  $d_{l-1} = \bar{1}$  only on the alternate exit paths from  $s_{20}$  and  $s_{22}$ , hence the second part of the lemma is proven. The same arguments applies for  $\kappa_{l-1} = \bar{1}$ .  $\square$

Now we employ the previous lemmas to prove Theorem 1 by induction.

**Proof.** From the algorithm using Table 3, we can verify the following (cf. Tables 4 to 6 in Appendix A):

- $\lambda((1)_\tau, 1) = 2$ , those two representations are  $(1)_\tau, (\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{1})_\tau$ .  $k_{max,1} = 1$ .
- $\lambda((1)_\tau, 2) = 3$ , those representations are  $(1)_\tau, (\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{1})_\tau, (10\bar{1}\bar{1})$ . From Lemma 1, we have  $\lambda((10)_\tau, 2) = \lambda((1)_\tau, 1) = 2$ . So,  $k_{max,2} = 1$ .
- $\lambda((101)_\tau, 3) = 5$ .  $k_{max,3} = 101$ . The 5 representations are  $(101)_\tau, (\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{0}1)_\tau, (\bar{1}\bar{1})_\tau, (111\bar{1})_\tau, (\bar{1}0\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{1})_\tau$ . The first 2 representations are the same representations of  $(100)_\tau$  for  $l = 3$ , with 1 as the least significant sbit instead of 0. From Lemma 1, we have  $\lambda((100)_\tau, 3) = \lambda((1)_\tau, 1) = 2$ . The remaining 3 representations are the same representations of  $(\bar{1})_\tau$  for  $l = 2$  shifted left by  $\tau$  with  $\bar{1}$  added. Note that the representations of  $\bar{1}$  are the negative of the representations of 1. Hence,  $\lambda((101)_\tau, 3) = \lambda((1)_\tau, 2) + \lambda((1)_\tau, 1)$ .
- For all  $\tau$ NAFs  $k$  of length up to  $l + 3 = 6$ ,  $\alpha(k, 5) \leq \lambda(k_{max,3}, 3)$ . It is also true that  $\alpha(k, 3) \leq \lambda(k_{max,1}, 1)$  and  $\alpha(k, 4) \leq \lambda(k_{max,2}, 2)$ , not only for  $\tau$ NAFs of lengths up to 4 and 5, respectively but also for those up to length 6.

We see that Theorem 1 is true for  $l = 1, 2$  and 3. Now assume that it is true up to some length  $l - 1$ .

From Lemma 1,  $k_{max,l} \equiv (-1)^b \pmod{\tau}$ , for  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . From Lemma 3, we know that

$$\lambda(k_{max,l}, l) = \lambda\left(\frac{k_{max,l} - (-1)^b}{\tau^2}, l - 2\right) + \alpha\left(\frac{k_{max,l} + (-1)^b}{\tau}, l + 1\right),$$

where at least one of the following conditions is true:

- $\frac{k_{max,l-}(-1)^b}{\tau^2} = k_{max,l-2}$ .
- $\alpha(\frac{k_{max,l+}(-1)^b}{\tau}, l+1) = \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1)$ , since, from Lemma 2,  $\frac{k_{max,l+}(-1)^b}{\tau}$  will be of length at most  $l+2$  and we assume that for any  $\tau$ NAF  $k$  of length up to  $l+2$ ,  $\alpha(k, l+1) \leq \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1)$  is true.

If there exists a  $\tau$ NAF  $k$  of length  $l$  for which both conditions are simultaneously true, then this  $k$  is  $k_{max,l}$ .

Let  $l$  be odd and  $k$  of length  $l$  be equal to  $\tau^{2w} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i}$  where  $w = \frac{l-1}{2}$ , that is  $k \equiv (-1)^{w-1} \pmod{\tau}$ . Then, we have  $\frac{k-(-1)^{w-1}}{\tau^2} = \tau^{2(w-1)} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-2} (-1)^{w-2-i} \tau^{2i} = k_{max,l-2}$ . Also, from Lemma 4, we have  $\frac{k+(-1)^{w-1}}{\tau} = \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i} = -k_{max,l-1}$ . Since  $\alpha(-k_{max,l-1}, l+1) = \lambda(-k_{max,l-1}, l-1) = \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1)$ , then  $k = k_{max,l}$ .

Now, let  $l$  be even and  $k$  of length  $l$  be equal to  $\sum_{i=0}^w (-1)^{w-i} \tau^{2i}$  where  $w = \lfloor \frac{l-1}{2} \rfloor = \frac{l}{2} - 1$ , that is  $k \equiv (-1)^w \pmod{\tau}$ . Then, we have  $\frac{k-(-1)^w}{\tau^2} = \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i} = k_{max,l-2}$ . Also, from Lemma 5,  $\frac{k+(-1)^w}{\tau} = \tau^{2w+2} + \tau^{2w} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} (-1)^{w-1-i} \tau^{2i} = \tau^{2w+2} + k_{max,l-1}$ . According to Lemma 6, the representations of  $k_{max,l-1}$  that are of length  $l+1$  have their most significant term equal to  $-\tau^{2w+2}$ . Therefore, all the representations of  $\tau^{2w+2} + k_{max,l-1}$  will be of length at most  $l+1$  and can be used as representations for  $k$  by shifting them to the left and adding  $(-1)^{w-1}$ . Hence  $\alpha(\tau^{2w+2} + k_{max,l-1}, l+1) = \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1)$ , and  $k = k_{max,l}$ .

Now, we want to prove that for all  $\tau$ NAFs  $k$  of length up to  $l+3$ ,  $\alpha(k, l+2) \leq \lambda(k_{max,l}, l)$ . We have already assumed that for any  $\tau$ NAF  $k$  of length up to  $l+2$ ,  $\alpha(k, l+1) \leq \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1) < \lambda(k_{max,l}, l)$  is true. Now, let  $k$  be a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $l+3$ . If  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{\tau}$ , from Lemma 1 we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(k, l+2) &= \alpha\left(\frac{k}{\tau}, l+1\right) \\ &\leq \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1), \text{ by assumption} \\ &< \lambda(k_{max,l}, l). \end{aligned}$$

Otherwise, if  $k \equiv (-1)^b \pmod{\tau}$ , then some of the representations of  $k$  will have 1 as their LSSB and the others will have  $\bar{1}$ . Without loss of generality, let  $b = 0$ . From Lemma 3, the representations that end with 1 and are of length  $l+2$ , are those of  $\frac{k-1}{\tau^2}$  that are of length  $l$  with an appended 01. Hence, their number is  $\alpha(\frac{k-1}{\tau^2}, l) \leq \lambda(k_{max,l-2}, l-2)$ . On the other hand, the representations of  $k$  that end with  $\bar{1}$  and are of length  $l+2$  are those of  $\frac{k+1}{\tau}$  that are of length  $l+1$  with an appended  $\bar{1}$ . Their number is  $\alpha(\frac{k+1}{\tau}, l+1) \leq \lambda(k_{max,l-1}, l-1)$ . Note that

$\frac{k-1}{\tau^2}$  and  $\frac{k+1}{\tau}$  are  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $l+1$  and  $l+2$ , respectively. Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(k, l+2) &= \alpha\left(\frac{k-1}{\tau^2}, l\right) + \alpha\left(\frac{k+1}{\tau}, l+1\right) \\ &\leq \lambda(k_{max, l-2}, l-2) + \lambda(k_{max, l-1}, l-1) \\ &= \lambda(k_{max, l}, l).\end{aligned}\quad \square$$

It is important to notice that the recurrence relation of  $\lambda(k_{max, l}, l)$  in Theorem 1 is identical to the recurrence we obtained for the maximum number of binary signed digit (BSD) representations of an integer [3, Lemma 6]. Since the values  $\lambda(k_{max, 1}, 1) = 2$  and  $\lambda(k_{max, 2}, 2) = 3$  agree with the values of  $\delta(k_{max, n}, n)$  for  $n = 1, 2$  in the BSD system, then the formula we obtained for  $\delta(k_{max, n}, n)$  is directly applicable to the  $\tau$ -adic representation system. That is, for  $l$  even, let  $m = \frac{l}{2}$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda(k_{max, l}, l) &= 3^m - (m-1)3^{m-2} + \left(\sum_{i_1=1}^{m-3} i_1\right) 3^{m-4} \\ &\quad - \left(\sum_{i_1=1}^{m-5} \sum_{i_2=1}^{i_1} i_2\right) 3^{m-6} + \left(\sum_{i_1=1}^{m-7} \sum_{i_2=1}^{i_1} \sum_{i_3=1}^{i_2} i_3\right) 3^{m-8} - \dots.\end{aligned}\quad (14)$$

And for  $l$  odd, with  $m = \frac{l-1}{2}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda(k_{max, l}, l) &= 2 \cdot 3^m - [3^{m-1} + 2(m-1)3^{m-2}] \\ &\quad + \left[(m-2)3^{m-3} + 2\left(\sum_{i_1=1}^{m-3} i_1\right) 3^{m-4}\right] \\ &\quad - \left[\left(\sum_{i_2=1}^{m-4} i_2\right) 3^{m-5} + 2\left(\sum_{i_1=1}^{m-5} \sum_{i_2=1}^{i_1} i_2\right) 3^{m-6}\right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{i_2=1}^{m-6} \sum_{i_3=1}^{i_2} i_3\right) 3^{m-7} + 2\left(\sum_{i_1=1}^{m-7} \sum_{i_2=1}^{i_1} \sum_{i_3=1}^{i_2} i_3\right) 3^{m-8}\right] \\ &\quad - \dots\end{aligned}\quad (15)$$

From (14) and (15), we conclude that  $\lambda(k_{max, l}, l)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(3^{\lfloor \frac{l}{2} \rfloor})$ .

## 6 Average Hamming Density of the Representations

We assume that the  $\tau$ NAF  $k$  has been randomly chosen among all  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $m+a$  as was suggested by Solinas [16]. Since the decision bit  $r_i$  is also randomly chosen, the transition from a state  $S_i$  to the next state  $S_{i+1}$  does not depend on the previous states  $S_{i-1}, S_{i-2}, \dots$ . Thus,





This yields the following

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = \left( \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{1}{144}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{107}{1152}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{1}{144}, \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{13}{2304}, \frac{9}{256}, \frac{91}{1152}, \frac{1}{18}, \frac{91}{288}, \frac{1}{18}, \frac{91}{1152}, \frac{9}{256}, \frac{13}{2304}, \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{1}{144}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{107}{1152}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{1}{144}, \frac{13}{1152} \right)$$

The average Hamming density of the randomized representation can be obtained by summing the limiting probabilities of the states that have as output  $d_i = 1$  or  $\bar{1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(d_i = 1 \text{ or } d_i = \bar{1}) &= \eta_0 + \eta_3 + \eta_6 + \eta_9 + \eta_{10} + \eta_{12} + \eta_{13} + \eta_{16} + \eta_{19} + \eta_{22} \\ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the transition matrix for the states of Table 3, which is for curve  $E_0$ , can be formed. By solving (16) for the matrix obtained, the vector of limiting probabilities is found to be

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = \left( \frac{1}{144}, \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{107}{1152}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{1}{144}, \frac{13}{2304}, \frac{91}{1152}, \frac{9}{256}, \frac{1}{18}, \frac{91}{288}, \frac{1}{18}, \frac{9}{256}, \frac{91}{1152}, \frac{13}{2304}, \frac{1}{144}, \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{107}{1152}, \frac{43}{2304}, \frac{13}{1152}, \frac{1}{144} \right)$$

Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(d_i = 1 \text{ or } d_i = \bar{1}) &= \eta_1 + \eta_3 + \eta_5 + \eta_8 + \eta_{10} + \eta_{12} + \eta_{14} + \eta_{17} + \eta_{19} + \eta_{21} \\ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

We can see that for both curves the average Hamming density for the randomized representation is 0.5.

## 7 Average and Exact Number of Representations

In this section, we first show how to obtain the average number of representations for a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $l$  by finding the total number of representations for all  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $l$  and dividing it by the number of those  $\tau$ NAFs. Then, we show how the exact number of representations for a  $\tau$ NAF can also be found.

### 7.1 Number of $\tau$ NAFs of length $l$

We first prove that the number of  $\tau$ NAFs of length  $l$  is the integer closest to  $2^{l+2}/3$  as was stated by Solinas [16]. That is

$$\frac{2^{l+2} - 1}{3} = \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{l}{2}} 2^{2i}, \quad \text{for } l \text{ even,} \quad (17)$$

and

$$\frac{2^{l+2} + 1}{3} = \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{l+1}{2}} 2^{2i+1} + 1, \quad \text{for } l \text{ odd.} \quad (18)$$

The number of non adjacent sequences of length  $l$  is the number of ways of placing  $i$  non-zero symbols in  $l + 1 - i$  possible positions, such that no two non-zero symbols are adjacent, where  $0 \leq i \leq \lceil \frac{l}{2} \rceil$ . Each of the  $i$  nonzero symbols can be 1 or -1, yielding  $2^i$  choices for their values. Hence, the number of sequences can be expressed as

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\lceil l/2 \rceil} \binom{l+1-i}{i} 2^i. \quad (19)$$

Now we will prove by induction that (19) is equivalent to (17) and (18). It can be easily verified that this is the case for  $l = 0$  and 1. Now assume that it is true up to some  $l = t - 1$  where  $t$  is even. We will use the following identity [9]

$$\binom{a+1}{e} = \binom{a}{e-1} + \binom{a}{e}, \quad (20)$$

for any real number  $a$  and integer  $e$ , where by definition

$$\binom{a}{e} = 0 \quad \text{for } e < 0. \quad (21)$$

If  $a$  is an integer,

$$\binom{a}{e} = 0 \quad \text{for } e > a. \quad (22)$$

We have

$$\sum_{i=0}^{t/2} \binom{t+1-i}{i} 2^i = \sum_{i=0}^{t/2} \binom{t-i}{i-1} 2^i + \sum_{i=0}^{t/2} \binom{t-i}{i} 2^i. \quad (23)$$

The second term of (23) evaluates to

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \frac{t-1}{2} \rceil} \binom{(t-1)+1-i}{i} 2^i = \frac{2^{t+1} + 1}{3} \quad (24)$$

by using (18).

As for the first term of (23), let  $j = i - 1$ . Note that the first term of the summation is 0

from (21). Hence, the summation becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{j=0}^{t/2} \binom{t-j-1}{j} 2^{j+1} &= 2 \sum_{j=0}^{\frac{t-2}{2}+1} \binom{(t-2)+1-j}{j} 2^j \\
&= 2 \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{\frac{t-2}{2}} \binom{(t-2)+1-j}{j} 2^j + \binom{\frac{t}{2}-1}{\frac{t}{2}} 2^{\frac{t}{2}} \right] \\
&= 2 \left[ \frac{2^t - 1}{3} + 0 \right] \\
&= \frac{2^{t+1} - 2}{3}, \tag{25}
\end{aligned}$$

using (17) and (22).

The sum of (25) and (24) yields

$$\sum_{i=0}^{t/2} \binom{t+1-i}{i} 2^i = \frac{2^{t+2} - 1}{3}. \tag{26}$$

The proof can be similarly carried for  $t$  odd. □

## 7.2 Number of Possible representations for All $\tau$ NAFs of length $l$

In the following we will consider the representations of  $\tau$ NAFs on the curve  $E_1$ , though the procedure we followed applies to those on the curve  $E_0$ . The states of the algorithm in Table 2, together with an initial state  $s_0$  form a nondeterministic finite automaton (NFA)  $\Gamma$  with alphabet  $\{\bar{1}, 0, 1\}$ . Three directed edges labeled  $\bar{1}$ , 0 and 1 begin at  $s_0$  and end at  $s_4$ ,  $s_{12}$  and  $s_{20}$ , respectively.  $\Gamma$  accepts the language described by the regular expression  $(\varepsilon|1|\bar{1})(0|01|0\bar{1})^*(000)$ . This regular expression represents non-adjacent forms when scanned from the least significant end. Three zeros are prepended in order to ensure that the final state  $s_{12}$  is reached for any input NAF string as was explained in Section 4.

Since an NFA is a directed graph, it can be described by an *adjacency matrix*  $M = (m_{ij})$  for  $0 \leq i, j \leq 23$ , such that  $m_{ij} = 1$  if there is a directed edge from vertex  $i$  to vertex  $j$  in  $\Gamma$  and 0 otherwise. The number of directed paths of length  $l$  from vertex  $i$  to vertex  $j$  is the  $ij$ -th entry of the matrix  $M^l$ .

We can also define an adjacency matrix for each input symbol. For example,  $M_0$  has a 1 in the  $ij$ -th entry if there is a directed edge labelled 0 from vertex  $i$  to vertex  $j$ . Note that since in the automaton considered, starting at some vertex  $i$ , there is only one edge labeled with just one of the input symbols that ends at state  $j$ , for  $0 \leq i, j \leq 23$ , and there are no edges labeled

with the empty string  $\varepsilon$ , we have

$$M = M_{\bar{1}} + M_0 + M_1.$$

Therefore, in order to find all possible paths in  $\Gamma$  for input NAF strings of length  $l$  with three prepended 0s, we compute

$$M^l M_0^3 \tag{27}$$

and retrieve its (0,12)th entry. By computing this entry for the different values of  $l$  recommended by NIST [12] (163, 233, 283, 409, 571) using MAPLE, we have deduced that it is the integer closest to

$$1.304812 \cdot 3^l. \tag{28}$$

Hence, from (17), (18) and (28), the average number of representations of a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $l$  in the range [163, 571] is the integer closest to

$$0.9786 \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^l. \tag{29}$$

The matrix multiplication in (27) can be performed by MAPLE in 0.41 seconds for  $l = 163$  and in 0.83 seconds for  $l = 571$ .

### 7.3 Exact number of representations for a $\tau$ NAF

The use of adjacency matrices can also be extended to find the number of paths corresponding to a specific input string. That is for a  $\tau$ NAF  $k = (\kappa_{l-1}, \dots, \kappa_1, \kappa_1)_\tau$ , the number of possible representations is

$$M_{\kappa_0} M_{\kappa_1} \cdots M_{\kappa_{l-1}} M_0^3 \tag{30}$$

We have included the adjacency matrices for the automaton corresponding to Table 2 in Appendix B.

## 8 Conclusion and Future Work

In this report we have introduced a new method of randomizing the  $\tau$ -adic representation of a key in ECCs using Koblitz curves. The input to the randomization algorithm is a  $\tau$ NAF of length  $m+a$ . The output of the algorithm is a random  $\tau$ -adic sequence of the same value as the input. The sbits of the resulting sequence are output one at a time from the least significant to the most significant which allows the simultaneous execution of the scalar multiplication

operations. The length of the random representation is at most  $m + a + 2$ . We have proved that the average Hamming density of all representations for all  $\tau$ NAFs of the same length is 0.5.

We have also presented the pattern of  $\tau$ NAFs with maximum number of representations and the formulas governing that number which show that is  $\mathcal{O}(3^{\lfloor \frac{l}{2} \rfloor})$ . By modeling our algorithm as a nondeterministic finite automaton and by using adjacency matrices, we presented a deterministic method to determine the average and the exact number of representations of a  $\tau$ NAF, where the average number is very close to  $(\frac{3}{2})^l$ . It is interesting to note the similarity of the results obtained here to those obtained for the BSD representation of integers [3].

Also of interest is to investigate how this randomization method and the associated properties of the representation can be carried to any complex radix with norm 2 or any arbitrary norm. Note that this complex number should satisfy an equation such as (3), in order to be able to recursively replace digits with larger absolute value than those in the digit set with the latter ones during the randomization procedure.

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# Appendix

## A Examples

### Examples of Representations

The following tables present the different representations of the “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs on the curve  $E_0$  and their number.

Table 4: Representations of “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs of length 1.

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 1)$
0	0	1
1	1, $\overline{111}$	2

Table 5: Representations of “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs of length 2.

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 2)$
0	0	1
1	1, $\overline{111}$ , $101\overline{1}$	3
10	10, $\overline{1110}$	2



Table 6: Representations of “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs of length 3.

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 3)$
0	0	1
1	1, $\overline{111}$ , $111\overline{11}$ , $101\overline{1}$	4
10	10, $\overline{1110}$ , $101\overline{10}$	3
$10\overline{1}$	$10\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1110\overline{1}}$ , $\overline{11011}$ , $\overline{11\overline{1}}$	4
100	100, $\overline{11100}$	2
101	101, $\overline{11101}$ , $\overline{11}$ , $111\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1011\overline{1}}$	5

Table 7: Representations of “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs of length 4.

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 4)$
0	0	1
1	1, $\overline{1111}$ , $1111\overline{11}$ , $\overline{101111}$ , $101\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11101\overline{1}}$	6
10	10, $\overline{11110}$ , $1111\overline{10}$ , $101\overline{10}$	4
$10\overline{1}$	$10\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11110\overline{1}}$ , $101\overline{10\overline{1}}$ , $\overline{110111}$ , $101011$ , $\overline{11\overline{1}}$ , $1111\overline{11}$ , $100\overline{111}$	8
100	100, $\overline{111100}$ , $101\overline{100}$	3
101	101, $\overline{111101}$ , $101\overline{101}$ , $\overline{11}$ , $111\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $\overline{1011\overline{1}}$	7
$10\overline{10}$	$10\overline{10}$ , $\overline{11110\overline{10}}$ , $\overline{110110}$ , $\overline{11\overline{10}}$	4
$100\overline{1}$	$100\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111100\overline{1}}$ , $1111$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $\overline{10111}$ , $\overline{11}$	6
1000	1000, $\overline{1111000}$	2
1001	1001, $\overline{1111001}$ , $1111$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $\overline{100111}$ , $\overline{11001\overline{1}}$	6
1010	1010, $\overline{1111010}$ , $\overline{110}$ , $111\overline{10}$ , $\overline{1011\overline{10}}$	5

Table 8: Representations of “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs of length 5.

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 5)$
0	0	1
1	1, $\overline{111}$ , $111\overline{11}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $\overline{101111}$ , $101\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111011}$ , $101\overline{1011}$	8
10	10, $\overline{1110}$ , $111\overline{110}$ , $\overline{1011110}$ , $101\overline{110}$ , $\overline{1110110}$	6
$10\overline{1}$	$10\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11101}$ , $111\overline{1101}$ , $101\overline{1101}$ , $\overline{11011}$ , $111\overline{1011}$ , $101011$ , $\overline{1111}$ , $1111\overline{11}$ , $\overline{1011111}$ , $100\overline{111}$	11
100	100, $\overline{11100}$ , $111\overline{1100}$ , $101\overline{100}$	4
101	101, $\overline{11101}$ , $111\overline{101}$ , $01\overline{1011}$ , $11\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $01\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{10111}$ , $110\overline{111}$	10
$10\overline{10}$	$10\overline{10}$ , $\overline{111010}$ , $101\overline{1010}$ , $\overline{110110}$ , $1010110$ , $\overline{11110}$ , $1111\overline{110}$ , $100\overline{1110}$	8
$100\overline{1}$	$100\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111001}$ , $101\overline{1001}$ , $1111$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $101\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{10111}$ , $1110\overline{111}$ , $\overline{11}$	9
1000	1000, $\overline{111000}$ , $101\overline{1000}$	3
1001	1001, $\overline{111001}$ , $101\overline{1001}$ , $1\overline{111}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $101\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{100111}$ , $\overline{110011}$ , $101001\overline{1}$	9
1010	1010, $\overline{111010}$ , $101\overline{1010}$ , $\overline{110}$ , $111\overline{10}$ , $\overline{1111110}$ , $\overline{101110}$	7
$10\overline{101}$	$10\overline{101}$ , $\overline{1110101}$ , $\overline{1101101}$ , $\overline{111101}$ , $10011$ , $\overline{1110011}$ , $1\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $\overline{1001111}$ , $\overline{1100111}$	10
$10\overline{100}$	$10\overline{100}$ , $\overline{1110100}$ , $\overline{1101100}$ , $\overline{111100}$	4
$10\overline{101}$	$10\overline{101}$ , $\overline{1110101}$ , $\overline{1101101}$ , $\overline{111101}$ , $\overline{1101011}$ , $\overline{111011}$ , $11\overline{111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $\overline{101111}$ , $\overline{110111}$	10
$100\overline{10}$	$100\overline{10}$ , $\overline{1110010}$ , $11110$ , $\overline{1111110}$ , $\overline{101110}$ , $\overline{110}$	6
$1000\overline{1}$	$1000\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1110001}$ , $10111$ , $\overline{1110111}$ , $\overline{1111}$ , $111\overline{111}$ , $\overline{1011111}$ , $1\overline{1011}$ , $\overline{1111011}$ , $\overline{1001011}$	10
10000	10000, $\overline{1110000}$	2
10001	10001, $\overline{1110001}$ , $10\overline{111}$ , $\overline{1110111}$ , $\overline{1101111}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $1101\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1111011}$ , $\overline{101011}$	9
10010	10010, $\overline{1110010}$ , $1\overline{1110}$ , $\overline{1111110}$ , $\overline{1001110}$ , $\overline{1100110}$	6
$1010\overline{1}$	$1010\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1110101}$ , $\overline{1101}$ , $111\overline{101}$ , $\overline{1011101}$ , $\overline{1011}$ , $111011$ , $\overline{1011011}$ , $1\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $\overline{1001111}$ , $110\overline{111}$ , $\overline{1010111}$	13
10100	10100, $\overline{1110100}$ , $\overline{1100}$ , $111\overline{100}$ , $\overline{1011100}$	5
10101	10101, $\overline{1110101}$ , $\overline{1101}$ , $111\overline{101}$ , $\overline{1011101}$ , $100\overline{11}$ , $\overline{1110011}$ , $1111\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $\overline{101111}$ , $\overline{111}$	11

Table 9: Representations of “positive”  $\tau$ NAFs of length 6.

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 6)$
0	0	1
1	1, $\overline{111}$ , $111\overline{11}$ , $\overline{111}11\overline{11}$ , $101\overline{1}11\overline{11}$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{11}$ , $1110\overline{1}1\overline{11}$ , $101\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}01\overline{1}$ , $111\overline{11}01\overline{1}$ , $101\overline{1}01\overline{1}$	11
10	10, $\overline{111}0$ , $111\overline{11}0$ , $\overline{111}11\overline{11}0$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{11}0$ , $101\overline{1}0$ , $\overline{111}01\overline{1}0$ , $101\overline{1}01\overline{1}0$	8
$10\overline{1}$	$10\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}0\overline{1}$ , $111\overline{11}0\overline{1}$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{1}0\overline{1}$ , $101\overline{1}0\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}01\overline{1}0\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11}011$ , $111\overline{1}011$ , $\overline{101}1\overline{1}011$ , $101011$ , $\overline{111}01011$ , $\overline{11}1\overline{1}$ , $1111\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{111}111\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{1}1$ , $100\overline{1}11$ , $\overline{111}00\overline{1}1$	17
100	100, $\overline{111}00$ , $111\overline{11}00$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{1}00$ , $101\overline{1}00$ , $\overline{111}01\overline{1}00$	6
101	101, $\overline{111}01$ , $111\overline{11}01$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{1}01$ , $101\overline{1}01$ , $\overline{111}01\overline{1}01$ , $\overline{11}$ , $111\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}11\overline{1}$ , $111\overline{11}11\overline{1}$ , $101\overline{1}11\overline{1}$ , $\overline{101}1\overline{1}$ , $1110\overline{1}1\overline{1}$ , $\overline{101}10\overline{1}1\overline{1}$	14
$10\overline{1}0$	$10\overline{1}0$ , $\overline{111}0\overline{1}0$ , $111\overline{11}0\overline{1}0$ , $101\overline{1}0\overline{1}0$ , $\overline{11}0110$ , $111\overline{1}0110$ , $1010110$ , $\overline{11}1\overline{1}0$ , $1111\overline{1}10$ , $\overline{101}11\overline{1}10$ , $100\overline{1}110$	11
$100\overline{1}$	$100\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}00\overline{1}$ , $111\overline{11}00\overline{1}$ , $101\overline{1}00\overline{1}$ , $1111$ , $\overline{111}111$ , $111\overline{11}111$ , $101\overline{1}111$ , $\overline{101}11$ , $1110\overline{1}11$ , $\overline{101}10\overline{1}11$ , $\overline{11}$	12
1000	1000, $\overline{111}000$ , $111\overline{11}000$ , $101\overline{1}000$	4
1001	1001, $\overline{111}001$ , $111\overline{11}001$ , $101\overline{1}001$ , $1\overline{111}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $111\overline{11111}$ , $101\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{1001}1\overline{1}$ , $111001\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11}001\overline{1}$ , $111\overline{1}001\overline{1}$ , $101001\overline{1}$	13
1010	1010, $\overline{111}010$ , $111\overline{11}010$ , $101\overline{1}010$ , $\overline{11}0$ , $111\overline{1}0$ , $\overline{111}11\overline{1}0$ , $101\overline{1}11\overline{1}0$ , $\overline{101}1\overline{1}0$ , $1110\overline{1}1\overline{1}0$	10
$10\overline{1}0\overline{1}$	$10\overline{1}0\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}0\overline{1}0\overline{1}$ , $101\overline{1}0\overline{1}0\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11}0110\overline{1}$ , $1010110\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11}110\overline{1}$ , $1111\overline{1}10\overline{1}$ , $100\overline{1}110\overline{1}$ , $10011$ , $\overline{111}0011$ , $101\overline{1}0011$ , $1\overline{111}$ , $\overline{111111}$ , $101\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{1001}1\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{11}001\overline{1}1$ , $101001\overline{1}1$	17
$10\overline{1}00$	$10\overline{1}00$ , $\overline{111}0\overline{1}00$ , $101\overline{1}0\overline{1}00$ , $\overline{11}01100$ , $10101100$ , $\overline{11}1100$ , $1111\overline{1}100$ , $100\overline{1}1100$	8
$10\overline{1}01$	$10\overline{1}01$ , $\overline{111}0\overline{1}01$ , $101\overline{1}0\overline{1}01$ , $\overline{11}01101$ , $10101101$ , $\overline{11}1101$ , $1111\overline{1}101$ , $100\overline{1}1101$ , $\overline{11}010\overline{1}1$ , $101010\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{11}10\overline{1}1$ , $1111\overline{1}0\overline{1}1$ , $100\overline{1}10\overline{1}1$ , $11\overline{1}1\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}11\overline{1}1$ , $101\overline{1}11\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{101}1\overline{1}1$ , $1110\overline{1}1\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{11}011\overline{1}$ , $1111011\overline{1}$ , $100\overline{1}011\overline{1}$	21
$100\overline{1}0$	$100\overline{1}0$ , $\overline{111}00\overline{1}0$ , $101\overline{1}00\overline{1}0$ , $11110$ , $\overline{111}1110$ , $101\overline{1}1110$ , $\overline{101}1110$ , $1110\overline{1}110$ , $\overline{11}0$	9
$1000\overline{1}$	$1000\overline{1}$ , $\overline{111}000\overline{1}$ , $101\overline{1}000\overline{1}$ , $10111$ , $\overline{111}0111$ , $101\overline{1}0111$ , $\overline{11}11$ , $111\overline{1}11$ , $\overline{111}11\overline{1}11$ , $\overline{101}1\overline{1}11$ , $1\overline{101}1$ , $\overline{111}10\overline{1}1$ , $101\overline{1}10\overline{1}1$ , $\overline{1001}0\overline{1}1$	14

$\tau$ NAF $k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 6)$
10000	10000, $\overline{1110000}$ , $101\overline{10000}$	3
10001	10001, $\overline{1110001}$ , $101\overline{10001}$ , $10\overline{111}$ , $\overline{1110111}$ , $101\overline{10111}$ , $\overline{1101111}$ , $101011\overline{111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $1111\overline{1111}$ , $100\overline{11111}$ , $1101\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1111011}$ , $101\overline{11011}$ , $\overline{1010111}$ , $1110\overline{1011}$	16
10010	10010, $\overline{1110010}$ , $101\overline{10010}$ , $1\overline{1110}$ , $\overline{1111110}$ , $101\overline{11110}$ , $\overline{1001110}$ , $\overline{1100110}$ , $101001\overline{10}$	9
10101	10101, $\overline{1110101}$ , $101\overline{10101}$ , $\overline{1101}$ , $111\overline{101}$ , $\overline{11111101}$ , $\overline{1011101}$ , $\overline{1011}$ , $111011$ , $\overline{11111011}$ , $\overline{1011011}$ , $111\overline{11}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $101\overline{11111}$ , $\overline{1001111}$ , $110\overline{111}$ , $\overline{11110111}$ , $\overline{1010111}$	18
10100	10100, $\overline{1110100}$ , $101\overline{10100}$ , $\overline{1100}$ , $111\overline{100}$ , $\overline{11111100}$ , $\overline{1011100}$	7
10101	10101, $\overline{1110101}$ , $101\overline{10101}$ , $\overline{1101}$ , $111\overline{101}$ , $\overline{11111101}$ , $\overline{1011101}$ , $100\overline{11}$ , $\overline{1110011}$ , $101\overline{10011}$ , $1111\overline{1}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $101\overline{11111}$ , $\overline{101111}$ , $1110\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{111}$	16
101010	101010, $\overline{11101010}$ , $\overline{11011010}$ , $\overline{1111010}$ , $100110$ , $\overline{11100110}$ , $1\overline{11110}$ , $\overline{11111110}$ , $\overline{10011110}$ , $\overline{11001110}$	10
101001	101001, $\overline{11101001}$ , $\overline{11011001}$ , $\overline{1111001}$ , $10\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11011111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $\overline{11000111}$ , $\overline{11010011}$ , $\overline{1110011}$	11
101000	101000, $\overline{11101000}$ , $\overline{11011000}$ , $\overline{1111000}$	4
101001	101001, $\overline{11101001}$ , $\overline{11011001}$ , $\overline{1111001}$ , $10\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11011111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $1101\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11110111}$ , $\overline{1010111}$ , $10001\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11100011}$	13
101010	101010, $\overline{11101010}$ , $\overline{11011010}$ , $\overline{1111010}$ , $\overline{11010110}$ , $\overline{1110110}$ , $11\overline{1110}$ , $\overline{11111110}$ , $\overline{1011110}$ , $\overline{1101110}$	10
100101	100101, $\overline{11100101}$ , $11110\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11111101}$ , $\overline{1011101}$ , $\overline{1101}$ , $100011$ , $\overline{11100011}$ , $10\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11011111}$ , $\overline{1111111}$ , $1101\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11110111}$ , $\overline{1010111}$	15
100100	100100, $\overline{11100100}$ , $111100$ , $\overline{11111100}$ , $\overline{1011100}$ , $\overline{1100}$	6
100101	100101, $\overline{11100101}$ , $111101$ , $\overline{11111101}$ , $\overline{1011101}$ , $\overline{1101}$ , $1110\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11111011}$ , $\overline{1011011}$ , $\overline{1011}$ , $101\overline{111}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11111}$ , $111\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{10111111}$ , $11\overline{1}$	16
100010	100010, $\overline{11100010}$ , $101110$ , $\overline{11101110}$ , $\overline{11110}$ , $111\overline{1110}$ , $\overline{10111110}$ , $1\overline{10110}$ , $\overline{11110110}$ , $\overline{10010110}$	10
100001	100001, $\overline{11100001}$ , $100111$ , $\overline{11100111}$ , $1\overline{11111}$ , $\overline{11111111}$ , $\overline{10011111}$ , $\overline{11001111}$ , $10\overline{1011}$ , $\overline{11101011}$ , $\overline{11011011}$ , $\overline{1111011}$	12

$\tau\text{NAF } k$	Representations	$\lambda(k, 6)$
100000	100000, $\overline{11100000}$	2
100001	100001, $\overline{11100001}$ , $100\overline{111}$ , $\overline{11100111}$ , $111\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11111111}$ , $\overline{1011111}$ , $\overline{1111}$ , $10101\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11101011}$ , $\overline{11011}$ , $111\overline{1011}$ , $\overline{10111011}$	13
100010	100010, $\overline{11100010}$ , $10\overline{1110}$ , $\overline{11101110}$ , $\overline{11011110}$ , $\overline{1111110}$ , $1101\overline{10}$ , $\overline{11110110}$ , $\overline{1010110}$	9
10010 $\overline{1}$	10010 $\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11100101}$ , $1\overline{11101}$ , $\overline{11111101}$ , $\overline{10011101}$ , $\overline{11001101}$ , $1\overline{11011}$ , $\overline{11111011}$ , $\overline{10011011}$ , $\overline{11001011}$ , $10\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11011111}$ , $\overline{11111111}$ , $\overline{11000111}$	15
100100	100100, $\overline{11100100}$ , $1\overline{11100}$ , $\overline{11111100}$ , $\overline{10011100}$ , $\overline{11001100}$	6
100101	100101, $\overline{11100101}$ , $1\overline{11101}$ , $\overline{11111101}$ , $\overline{10011101}$ , $\overline{11001101}$ , $1000\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11100011}$ , $10111\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11111}$ , $111\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{10111111}$ , $1\overline{10111}$ , $\overline{11110111}$ , $\overline{10010111}$	16
1010 $\overline{10}$	1010 $\overline{10}$ , $\overline{11101010}$ , $\overline{11010}$ , $111\overline{1010}$ , $\overline{10111010}$ , $\overline{10110}$ , $1110110$ , $\overline{10110110}$ , $1\overline{11110}$ , $\overline{11111110}$ , $\overline{10011110}$ , $110\overline{1110}$ , $\overline{10101110}$	13
10100 $\overline{1}$	10100 $\overline{1}$ , $\overline{11101001}$ , $\overline{11001}$ , $111\overline{1001}$ , $\overline{10111001}$ , $101111$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11111}$ , $111\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{10111111}$ , $1\overline{10111}$ , $\overline{11110111}$ , $\overline{10010111}$ , $1000\overline{11}$ , $\overline{11100011}$	15
101000	101000, $\overline{11101000}$ , $\overline{11000}$ , $111\overline{1000}$ , $\overline{10111000}$	5
101001	101001, $\overline{11101001}$ , $\overline{11001}$ , $111\overline{1001}$ , $\overline{10111001}$ , $101\overline{111}$ , $\overline{11101111}$ , $\overline{11111}$ , $111\overline{1111}$ , $\overline{10111111}$ , $1\overline{11}$ , $\overline{10011}$ , $111001\overline{1}$ , $\overline{10110011}$	14
101010	101010, $\overline{11101010}$ , $\overline{11010}$ , $111\overline{1010}$ , $\overline{10111010}$ , $100\overline{110}$ , $\overline{11100110}$ , $1111\overline{10}$ , $\overline{11111110}$ , $\overline{1011110}$ , $\overline{1110}$	11

## Examples of $k_{max,l}$

Table 10 presents  $k_{max,l}$  and  $\lambda(k_{max,l}, l)$  for  $1 \leq l \leq 13$ .

## B Nondeterministic Finite Automata, Directed Graphs and Adjacency Matrices

A *nondeterministic finite automaton* (NFA)  $\Gamma$  is a quintuple  $(Q, \Sigma, s_0, F, \delta)$  [8], where

- $Q$  is a set of *states*,
- $\Sigma$  is the alphabet (set) of *input symbols*,

Table 10: "Positive"  $\tau$ NAFs with maximum number of representations

$l$	$k_{max,l}$	$\lambda(k_{max,l}, l)$
1	1	2
2	1	3
3	101	5
4	10 $\bar{1}$	8
5	1010 $\bar{1}$	13
6	10 $\bar{1}$ 01	21
7	1010 $\bar{1}$ 01	34
8	10 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$	55
9	1010 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$	89
10	10 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$ 01	144
11	1010 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$ 01	233
12	10 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$	377
13	1010 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$ 010 $\bar{1}$	610

- $s_0 \in Q$  is the *initial state*,
- $F \subset Q$  is the set of *final* (or *accepting*) *states*,
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the *transition function*, where  $\mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the *powerset* of  $Q$ , that is, the set of all subsets of  $Q$  (including the empty set).

Let  $X$  be a string over the alphabet  $\Sigma$ , and  $\varepsilon$  be the empty string.  $\Gamma$  *accepts* the string  $X$  if there exist both a representation of  $X$  of the form  $x_1x_2 \dots x_l$ ,  $x_i \in (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\})$ , and a sequence of states  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_l$ ,  $s_i \in Q$ , meeting the following conditions:

- $s_0$  is the initial state,
- $s_i \in \delta(s_{i-1}, x_i)$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq l$  and
- $s_l \in F$ . [1]

An NFA can be represented by a directed graph where the vertices are the states of the set  $Q$ , and the directed edges are determined by the function  $\delta$ . That is, a directed edge exists starting at vertex  $s_i$  and ending at vertex  $s_j$  iff  $s_j \in \delta(s_i, x)$ , for any  $x \in \Sigma$ , and this edge will be labeled as  $x$ . The concatenation of directed edges encountered when  $\Gamma$  is reading an accepted string form a *directed path*.

To each directed graph, we can associate the *adjacency matrix*,  $M = (m_{ij})$  for  $0 \leq i, j \leq |Q|$ , such that  $m_{ij} = 1$  if there is a directed edge from vertex  $s_i$  to vertex  $s_j$  in  $\Gamma$  and 0 otherwise. From the definition of matrix multiplication and the concatenation of paths, the  $l^{th}$  power of

$M$ , *i.e.*,  $M^l$  has the number of paths of length  $l$  from vertex  $s_i$  to vertex  $s_j$  as its  $ij^{th}$  entry. This is obviously true for  $l = 1$ . Next observe that any path of length  $l$  from vertex  $s_i$  to vertex  $s_j$  decomposes into the initial path of length  $l - 1$  starting at  $s_i$  (to some intermediate vertex) followed by a path of length 1 ending at  $s_j$ , these paths are counted for all possible intermediate vertices by the sum of the vector product of the  $i^{th}$  row of  $M^{l-1}$  with the  $j^{th}$  column of  $M$  [13, 14, 17].

Moreover, to an NFA  $\Gamma$ , we can associate an adjacency matrix,  $M_{x_i}$ , for each input symbol  $x_i \in \Sigma$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq |\Sigma|$ . Hence the number of directed paths possibly traversed when  $\Gamma$  reads an accepted string  $X = x_1x_2 \dots x_l$  can be found as the  $0l^{th}$  entry of the product [2, 13]

$$M_{x_1}M_{x_2} \cdots M_{x_l}.$$

The following are the adjacency matrices corresponding to the automaton of Table 2.

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$





