

# Group of Square Roots of Unity Modulo n

Rochdi Omami, Mohamed Omami and Raouf Ouni

**Abstract**—Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer and  $G_2(n)$  be the subgroup of square roots of 1 in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$ . In this paper, we give an algorithm that computes a generating set of this subgroup.

**Keywords**—Group, modulo, square roots, unity.

## I. INTRODUCTION

LET  $n \geq 3$  be an integer, recall that  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  denotes the group of units of the ring  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ . Let  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  the primary decomposition of  $n$ , then

$$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* = \prod_{i=1}^m (\mathbb{Z}/p_i^{\alpha_i}\mathbb{Z})^*$$

for more details on the structure of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  see [1] and [2]. The group  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  has several applications, the most important is cryptography, that is RSA cryptosystem (see [5]). The security of the RSA cryptosystem is based on the problem of factoring large numbers and the task of finding  $e^{th}$  roots modulo a composite number  $n$  whose factors are not known.

In [8], D.Shanks gives a probabilistic algorithm that computes a square root of an integer modulo an odd prime  $p$ . There are other algorithms that compute a square root of an integer modulo an integer  $n$  (see [7]) and more generally in a finite fields (see [6]).

We denote by  $G_2(n)$  the subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  which is formed by the integers  $x$  that satisfies  $x^2 = 1$ , such integers are called square roots of unity modulo  $n$ . More precisely  $G_2(n)$  contains the unity and elements of order 2.

Recall that elements of order 2 exists always in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  (-1 has for order 2), therefore  $G_2(n)$  is not a trivial group. Finally remark that all elements of  $G_2(n)$  except the unity has for order 2, so  $G_2(n)$  has an order a power of 2, so we obtain the following result :

### Proposition

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer, then there exists an integer  $t \geq 1$  such that :

$$Ord(G_2(n)) = 2^t.$$

In this article, we will give an algorithm that computes a generating set of  $G_2(n)$  and gives its decomposition into product of cyclic subgroups. Finally this algorithm will be written in MAPLE language.

## II. SQUARE ROOTS OF UNITY MODULO N

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer and  $n = 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  its primary decomposition. In this study, we shall distinguish the

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cases  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\alpha \geq 3$ .

### Case 1 : $\alpha = 0$

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer and  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  its primary decomposition. Let  $x$  be an element of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  such that  $x^2 = 1$ , that is  $n$  divides  $x^2 - 1 = (x - 1)(x + 1)$ . We have  $(x + 1) - (x - 1) = 2$ , therefore  $GCD(x - 1, x + 1) \in \{1, 2\}$ , so if  $p_i$  divides  $x - 1$  then  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$  divides  $x - 1$ .

If we note, for example,  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s$  the primes among the  $p_i$  which divide  $x - 1$ , then  $x$  is a solution of this system :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_s^{\alpha_s} K \\ x + 1 = p_{s+1}^{\alpha_{s+1}} p_{s+2}^{\alpha_{s+2}} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K' \end{cases}$$

It's clear that  $x$  is the unique solution of this system modulo  $n$ . Conversely, any system of the previous form gives a square root of unity modulo  $n$ .

Note that a two different systems of this form give two different solutions, indeed let the systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \\ y - 1 = p_{\rho(1)}^{\alpha_{\rho(1)}} p_{\rho(2)}^{\alpha_{\rho(2)}} \dots p_{\rho(r)}^{\alpha_{\rho(r)}} K'_1 \\ y + 1 = p_{\rho(r+1)}^{\alpha_{\rho(r+1)}} p_{\rho(r+2)}^{\alpha_{\rho(r+2)}} \dots p_{\rho(m)}^{\alpha_{\rho(m)}} K'_2 \end{cases}$$

where  $\sigma$  and  $\rho$  are two permutations of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , if  $x = y$ , then the set of prime divisors of  $x - 1$  among the  $p_i$  is the same of  $y - 1$ . Therefore the set of prime divisors of  $x - 1$  among the  $p_i$  is  $\{p_{\sigma(1)}, p_{\sigma(2)}, \dots, p_{\sigma(s)}\}$  because  $p_{\sigma(s+1)}, p_{\sigma(s+2)}, \dots$  and  $p_{\sigma(m)}$  does not divide  $K_1$ , indeed :

$$p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 - p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 = 2.$$

Thus  $GCD(K_1, p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}}) \in \{1, 2\}$ , so  $\{p_{\sigma(1)}, p_{\sigma(2)}, \dots, p_{\sigma(s)}\} = \{p_{\rho(1)}, p_{\rho(2)}, \dots, p_{\rho(r)}\}$ , it follows that the two systems are identical.

We conclude that the number of square roots of unity modulo  $n$  is equal to the number of partitions of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , that is  $2^m$ . Note that the empty subset corresponds to  $-1$  and if all  $p_i$  divide  $x - 1$ , then  $x = 1$ . So we have proved :

**Proposition 2.1:** Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer, then

$$Ord(G_2(n)) = 2^{\omega(n)}$$

where  $\omega(n)$  denote the number of distinct prime factors of  $n$ .

Now we study the structure of the group  $G_2(n)$ . For simplicity throughout this section, we take  $n \geq 3$  to be an odd integer

and  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  its primary decomposition. we start with this definition :

*Definition 2.1:* Let  $x$  be a square root of unity modulo  $n$ .  $x$  is said to be initial if all prime factors of  $n$  divide  $x - 1$  except only one  $p_i$ , we said that  $x$  is associated with  $p_i$ . And we note :

$$x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K$$

where  $K$  is an integer not divisible by  $p_i$  and the symbol  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$  means that we remove the factor  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$ .

Note that for any  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$  there exist only one square root of unity associated with  $p_i$  which is the solution of this system:

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

We denote by  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$  the set that contains this solution and the unity, so  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$  of order 2. We have the following theorem :

*Theorem 2.1:* The map

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \mathbf{G}_2^{p_1}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^{p_2}(n) \dots \times \mathbf{G}_2^{p_m}(n) &\longrightarrow \mathbf{G}_2(n) \\ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) &\longmapsto x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism of groups.

*Proof :*

It's clear that  $\varphi$  is a morphism of groups, we will show first that  $\varphi$  is injective.

We have  $\varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) = 1 \iff x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m = 1$ . Suppose that there exists an integer  $i$  such that  $x_i \neq 1$ , therefore  $p_i$  does not divides  $x_i - 1$ . Also, for  $j \neq i$ ,  $p_i$  divides  $x_j - 1$ . Then we have:

$$x_i = 1 + K_i \quad \text{and} \quad x_j = 1 + p_i \cdot K_j$$

where  $p_i$  does not divides  $K_i$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m &= (1 + p_i \cdot K_1) \cdot (1 + K_i) \cdot (1 + p_i \cdot K_m) \\ &= (1 + p_i K') (1 + K_i) \\ &= 1 + (p_i K' + p_i K' K_i + K_i). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p_i$  does not divides  $K_i$ , then  $p_i$  does not divides  $x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m - 1$ , that is absurd. Thus  $x_i = 1$  for all  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . Hence  $\varphi$  is injective.

Finally, we remark that:

$$Ord(\mathbf{G}_2^{p_1}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^{p_2}(n) \dots \times \mathbf{G}_2^{p_m}(n)) = Ord(\mathbf{G}_2(n)) = 2^m$$

so  $\varphi$  is bijective, therefore it's an isomorphism. ■

*Remark :*

The fact that  $\varphi$  is injective is due to the choice of  $x_i$ , i.e. the initial square roots of the unity. The previous theorem shows that  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$  is exactly formed by the unity and finished

products without the repetition of the initial square roots of the unity. In other words, if  $x_i$  denote the initial square root of the unity associated with  $p_i$ , then :

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} x_i \quad , \text{avec } I \subset \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \right\}.$$

With the convention that the unity is the product over empty set.

Remark also that -1 is the product of all  $x_i$ , Indeed :

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=1}^m x_i &= \prod_{i=1}^m (1 + p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i) \\ &= 1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i + Kn \end{aligned}$$

since  $\sum_{i=1}^m p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i$  is not divisible by all  $p_i$

because  $K_i$  is not divisible by  $p_i$ , we conclude that  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i - 1$

is not divisible by all  $p_i$ . It follows  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i = -1$ . Finally, we have the following result :

*Corollary 2.1:* Let  $x_i$  be the initial square root of the unity associated with  $p_i$ , then :

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle .$$

Now, we give an algorithm written in *MAPLE* that computes the  $x_i$ , i.e. a generating set of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ .

Let us give some explanations. Resuming the system :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

This system gives the following equation :

$$p_i^{\alpha_i} K' - p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K = 2$$

and Bezout algorithm allows us to compute  $K$  and  $K'$  and all  $x_i$ .

```
Gene_2 := proc(n) local LB, i, LFact, GEN;
GEN := []; LB := [];
LFact := ifactors(n)[2];
for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
end;
eval(GEN);
end;
```

#### Algorithm 1.1

An application example :

To find the generators of the group of square root of the unity modulo  $11 \times 13 \times 17 \times 19$ , we can use the previous algorithm with the command

$$Gene\_2(11 * 13 * 17 * 19);$$

We have the following result [33593, 21319, 32605, 4863], that is the list of generators.

*Remark :*

The *Bezout* function which is used in the previous algorithm is not a *MAPLE* function, but it's a classical algorithm called **Extended Euclidean algorithm**.

Case 2 :  $\alpha = 1$

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer such that its primary decomposition is  $n = 2p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$ . Let  $x$  be an element of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  such that  $x^2 = 1$ , that is  $n$  divides  $x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1)$ . We have  $(x+1) - (x-1) = 2$ , therefore  $GCD(x-1, x+1) \in \{1, 2\}$ . So, if  $p_i$  divides  $x-1$ , then  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$  divides  $x-1$ . Also 2 divides  $(x-1)(x+1)$ , thus 2 divides  $(x-1)$  or  $(x+1)$ . Since  $(x+1) - (x-1) = 2$ , then 2 divides  $(x-1)$  and  $(x+1)$ , so  $x$  is a solution of a system of this form :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \end{cases}$$

where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . It's clear that  $x$  is the only solution modulo  $n$  of this system and every system of this form gives a square root of the unity modulo  $n$ . We show in the same way as the previous case, that two different systems gives two distinct solutions. Therefore, the number of square roots of the unity modulo  $n$  is the number of partitions of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , that is  $2^m$ . Hence, we have the following result:

*Proposition 2.2:* Let  $n \geq 3$  be an odd integer, then

$$Ord(\mathbf{G}_2(2n)) = 2^{\omega(n)}$$

where  $\omega(n)$  denote the number of distinct prime factors of  $n$ .

For simplicity throughout this section we take  $n \geq 3$  to be an integer and  $n = 2p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  its primary decomposition. We start the study of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$  with this definition :

*Definition 2.2:* Let  $x$  be a square root of unity modulo  $n$ .  $x$  is said to be initial if all the prime factors of  $n$  divide  $x-1$  except only one  $p_i$ , we said that  $x$  is associated with  $p_i$ . And we note :

$$x - 1 = 2p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K$$

where  $K$  is an integer that does not divisible by  $p_i$  and the symbol  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$  means that we remove the factor  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$ .

We remark that for each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , there exists only one square root of unity associated with  $p_i$  which is the solution of the following system :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

We denote by  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$  the set that contains this solution and the unity, so  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$  of order 2. We have the following theorem :

*Theorem 2.2:* The map

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \mathbf{G}_2^{p_1}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^{p_2}(n) \dots \times \mathbf{G}_2^{p_m}(n) &\longrightarrow \mathbf{G}_2(n) \\ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) &\longmapsto x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism of groups.

*Remark :*

the previous theorem shows that

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} x_i \quad , \text{ avec } I \subset \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \right\}$$

and we have also  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i = -1$ .

*Corollary 2.2:* Let  $x_i$  be the initial square root of the unity associated with  $p_i$ , then

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle .$$

We finish this section with the fact that the algorithm 1.1 remains valid with integers of the form  $n = 2p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$ , just replacing *LFact* := *ifactors*( $n$ )[2]; by *LFact* := *ifactors*( $n/2$ )[2];, it follows the algorithm 1.2.

Case 3 :  $\alpha = 2$

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer such that its primary decomposition is  $n = 4p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$ . If all  $\alpha_i$  are nuls, then  $n = 4$ . We know that  $(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^* = \{1, -1\} = \langle -1 \rangle$ , therefore, we suppose that at least one of the  $\alpha_i$  is not null.

Let  $x$  be an element of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  such that  $x^2 = 1$ , that is  $n$  divides  $x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1)$ . We have  $(x+1) - (x-1) = 2$ , therefore 2 divides  $(x-1)$  and  $(x+1)$ . But 2 is not an ordinary prime, indeed we have the following equivalence :

$$x \equiv 1[2] \iff x^2 \equiv 1[8].$$

It follows that 8 divide  $x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1)$ . Since  $GCD(x-1, x+1) = 2$ , therefore 4 divides  $(x-1)$  or  $(x+1)$ , so  $x$  is a solution of one of the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 4p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \end{cases} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{cases} x - 1 = p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 4p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K'_2 \end{cases}$$

where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . It's clear that each one of these systems has a unique solution modulo  $n$  and each system of this form gives a square root of the unity modulo  $n$ . We shows also that a two different systems gives two distinct solutions. Therefore, the number of square roots of the unity modulo  $n$  is twice the number of partitions of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , that is  $2^m$ . Hence, we have the following result:

*Proposition 2.3:* Let  $n \geq 3$  be an odd integer, then

$$\text{Ord}(\mathbf{G}_2(4n)) = 2^{\omega(n)+1}$$

where  $\omega(n)$  denote the number of distinct prime factors of  $n$ .

For simplicity throughout this section we take  $n \geq 3$  to be an integer and  $n = 4p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  its primary decomposition with at least one of the  $\alpha_i$  as being not null. Now we start studying of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ . Consider the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 4p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1 \\ x + 1 = K_2 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 4K'_2 \end{cases}$$

It's clear that 1 is the only solution of the first system. The second system has only solution which is  $x_0 = n/2 + 1$ . This solution is called second trivial square root of the unity, we denote by  $\mathbf{G}_2^0(n)$  the cyclic subgroup which is formed by 1 and  $x_0$ .

*Proposition 2.4:* Let the systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 4p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x - 1 = p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 4p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K'_2 \end{cases}$$

if we note by  $x$  the solution of the first system and  $y$  that of the second. then  $y = x_0 x$  (and also  $x = x_0 y$ ).

*Proof :*

It's clear that  $x_0 x$  is a square root of the unity. We have :

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 x &= (1 + p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K'_1) \\ &\quad (1 + 4p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1) \\ &= 1 + p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} (4K_1 + \\ &\quad p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K'_1) + Kn \end{aligned}$$

Since  $K'_1$  is not divisible by 4 and  $K_1$  is not divisible by  $p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots$  and  $p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}}$ , therefore  $x_0 x - 1$  is not divisible by 4,  $p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots$  and  $p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}}$ . So  $x_0 x$  is solution of the second system, i.e.  $x_0 x = y$ . ■

*Definition 2.3:* Let  $x$  be a square root of the unity modulo  $n$ . We said that  $x$  is of the first category if 4 divides  $x - 1$ , else we said that  $x$  is of the second category.

*Remark :*

From the definition, we see that a square root of the unity of the first category is a solution of a system of the form :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 4p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \end{cases}$$

also a square root of the unity of the second category is the product of a square root of the unity of the first category by  $x_0$ .

*Definition 2.4:* Let  $x$  be a square root of unity modulo  $n$ .  $x$  is said to be initial if all prime factors of  $n$  divide  $x - 1$  except only one  $p_i$ , we said that  $x$  is associated with  $p_i$ . And we note :

$$x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K$$

where  $K$  is an integer not divisible by  $p_i$ .

Note that there exist two initial square roots of the unity associated with  $p_i$ , which are the solutions of the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 4p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = 4p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

We remark that the solution of the first system is of the first category and that of second is of the second category. If we note by  $x_i$  the solution of the first system and  $y_i$  that of second, then  $y_i = x_i x_0$ . So the set  $\{1, x_0, x_i, y_i\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ , which we denote by  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$ .

The set formed by 1 and  $x_i$  ( the initial square root of the unity of the first category associated with  $p_i$ ) is a cyclic subgroup of order 2, which we denote by  $\mathbf{G}_2^{\pm p_i}(n)$  and we have the following isomorphism :

$$\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n) \simeq \mathbf{G}_2^{\pm p_i}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^0(n).$$

More generally, we have the following result :

*Theorem 2.3:* The map

$$\varphi : \mathbf{G}_2^{\pm p_1}(n) \times \dots \times \mathbf{G}_2^{\pm p_m}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^0(n) \longrightarrow \mathbf{G}_2(n)$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_m, y) \longmapsto x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m \cdot y$$

is an isomorphism of groups.

*Proof :*

It's clear that  $\varphi$  is an morphism of groups. For showing that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism, we should prove that  $\varphi$  is injective and

we conclude by cardinality.

We have  $\varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, y) = 1 \iff x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m \cdot y = 1$ , if we suppose that there exists an integer  $i$  such that  $x_i \neq 1$ , then  $p_i$  does not divide  $x_i - 1$ . Since if  $j \neq i$  then  $p_i$  divides  $x_j - 1$  and  $p_i$  divides  $y$ . Therefore  $x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_m \cdot y - 1$  is not divisible by  $p_i$ , that is absurd. Thus  $x_i = 1$  for all  $i$ . Finally we have  $y = 1$ , therefore  $\varphi$  is injective. ■

*Remark :*

From the previous theorem, we can see that :

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} x_i \mid \text{avec } I \subset \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \times \{1, x_0\} \right\}$$

and we can also show that  $x_0 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i = -1$ .

*Corollary 2.3:* With the previous notations, we have :

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \langle x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle .$$

Now we give an algorithm in *MAPLE* that computes the  $x_i$ . i.e. a generating set of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ .  $x_0$  is computed from the relation  $x_0 = n/2 + 1$ . The other  $x_i$  are computed in the same way as the previous case.

```
Gene_2 := proc(n) local LB, i, LFact, GEN;
GEN := [ ]; LB := [ ];
GEN := [op(GEN), n/2 + 1];
LFact := ifactors(n/4)[2];
for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
end;
eval(GEN);
end;
```

#### Algorithm 1.3

An application example :

To find the generators of the group of square root of the unity modulo  $4 \times 11 \times 13 \times 17$ , we can use the previous algorithm with the command

$$\text{Gene}_2(4 * 11 * 13 * 17);$$

We have the following result [4863, 4421, 6733, 3433], that is the list of generators. We note that the first value of the given list is the second trivial square root of the unity.

Case 4 :  $\alpha \geq 3$

Let  $n \geq 3$  be an integer such that its primary decomposition is  $n = 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  with  $\alpha \geq 3$ .

If all  $\alpha_i$  are null, then  $n = 2^\alpha$  with  $\alpha \geq 3$ . Recall that  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  is not cyclic and its cardinal is  $n/2$ . Let  $x$  be an element of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  such that  $x^2 = 1$ , that is  $2^\alpha$  divides  $x^2 - 1 = (x - 1)(x + 1)$ . We have  $\text{GCD}(x - 1, x + 1) = 2$ ,

therefore  $2^{\alpha-1}$  divides  $(x - 1)$  or  $(x + 1)$ . So  $x$  is the solution of one of the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} K_1 \\ x + 1 = K_2 \end{cases}; \begin{cases} x - 1 = K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} K'_2 \end{cases}$$

The first system has two solutions which are 1 and  $2^{\alpha-1} + 1$ , the second system has two solutions which are -1 and  $2^{\alpha-1} - 1$ . It's clear that all of the previous solutions are square roots of the unity. We have the following result :

*Proposition 2.5:* Let  $n = 2^\alpha$  with  $\alpha \geq 3$ , then

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \{1, n/2 - 1, n/2 + 1, -1\}$$

*Remark :*

We remark that  $(n/2 - 1)(n/2 + 1) = (2^{\alpha-1} - 1)(2^{\alpha-1} + 1) = -1$ , therefore

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \langle n/2 - 1, n/2 + 1 \rangle .$$

Now we suppose that  $n = 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  with  $\alpha \geq 3$  and at least one of the  $\alpha_i$  is not null. Let  $x$  be an element of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$  such that  $x^2 = 1$ . Since  $\text{GCD}(x - 1, x + 1) = 2$ , then  $x$  is the solution of one of the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K'_2 \end{cases}$$

where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . It's clear that each of these systems has two solutions modulo  $n$  and each system of this form gives a square root of the unity modulo  $n$ , because  $x$  is odd. We shows also that a two different systems give distinct solutions. Therefore, the number of square roots of the unity modulo  $n$  is four times the number of partitions of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , that is  $2^{m+2}$ . Hence, we have the following result:

*Proposition 2.6:* Let  $n \geq 3$  be an odd integer, then

$$\text{Ord}(\mathbf{G}_2(2^\alpha n)) = 2^{\omega(n)+2} \quad \text{with } \alpha \geq 3.$$

For simplicity throughout this section we take  $n \geq 3$  to be an integer and  $n = 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$  ( $\alpha \geq 3$ ) its primary decomposition with at least one of the  $\alpha_i$  is not null. Now we begin to study  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ . Consider the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1 \\ x + 1 = K_2 \end{cases};$$

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} K'_2 \end{cases}$$

It's clear that the first system has two solutions modulo  $n$  and 1 is one of these solutions, we note by  $y_0$  the other solution. Also the second system has two solutions modulo  $n$ , denoted

by  $y_1$  and  $y_2$ .  
 We have :

$$y_0 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} + 1 = n/2 + 1$$

and  $y_2 = y_1 + 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$ , therefore  $y_2 y_1 = 1 + 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} y_1$ . Since  $y_1$  is odd, then  $y_2 y_1 = y_0$  and  $y_2 = y_1 y_0$ .

So, the set  $\{1, y_0, y_1, y_2\}$  is a subgroup of  $G_2(n)$ , which is noted by  $G_2^0(n)$ . Finally remark that :

$$G_2^0(n) = \{1, y_0\} \times \{1, y_1\}.$$

**Definition 2.5:** Let  $x$  be a square root of the unity modulo  $n$ , We said that  $x$  is of the first category if  $2^\alpha$  divides  $x - 1$ , else we said that  $x$  is of the second category.

**Remark :**

Let  $x \in G_2^0(n)$ , then  $x$  is of the first category if and only if  $x = 1$ .

**Definition 2.6:** Let  $x$  be a square root of unity modulo  $n$ .  $x$  is said to be initial if all prime factors of  $n$  divide  $x - 1$  except only one  $p_i$ , we said that  $x$  is associated with  $p_i$ . And we note :

$$x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K.$$

where  $K$  is an integer not divisible by  $p_i$ .

Note that the initial square roots of the unity associated with  $p_i$  are the solutions of the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

Since each of these system has two solutions modulo  $n$ , therefore there exist 4 initial square roots of the unity associated with  $p_i$ .

**Proposition 2.7:** Let the system :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

If we denote by  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  the solutions of this system, then  $x_1 \cdot x_2 = y_0$ .

**Proof :**

We have  $x_1 = x_2 + 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m}$ , therefore  $x_1 \cdot x_2 = 1 + 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} x_2$ . Since  $x_2$  is odd, then  $x_1 \cdot x_2 = y_0$  it follows that  $x_1 = x_2 \cdot y_0$ . ■

**Remark :**

In the same way, we show that the product of the solutions of the following system:

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases}$$

is equal to  $y_0$ .

**Proposition 2.8:** there exists an only initial square root of the unity associated with  $p_i$  and of the first category.

**Proof :**

Indeed, this square root of the unity is the only solution of the system

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases} \quad \blacksquare$$

We denote by  $G_2^{p_i}(n)$ , the cyclic subgroup of order 2 which is formed by 1 and the initial square root of the unity associated with  $p_i$  and of the first category.

**Proposition 2.9:** Let us consider these systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1 \\ x + 1 = p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K_2 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K'_1 \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K'_2 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , then the product of each solution of (1) by  $y_1$  or  $y_2$  is a solution of (2).

**Proof :**

Let  $x$  be a solution of (1). suppose that  $x$  is of the first category, that is

$$x = 1 + 2^\alpha p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 \cdot x &= (1 + p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K) \cdot (1 + 2^\alpha p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} K_1) \\ &= 1 + p_{\sigma(1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(1)}} p_{\sigma(2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(s)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s)}} (2^\alpha K_1 + p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}} K) + nK'' \end{aligned}$$

Since  $2^{\alpha-1}$  does not divides  $K$  and  $p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}}$  does not divide  $K_1$ , then  $2^{\alpha-1} p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}}$  does not divide  $2^\alpha K_1 + p_{\sigma(s+1)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+1)}} p_{\sigma(s+2)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(s+2)}} \dots p_{\sigma(m)}^{\alpha_{\sigma(m)}}$ . Hence  $y_1 \cdot x$  is a solution of (2).

If  $z$  is the other solution of (1), then  $z = y_0 \cdot x$ . Thus,

$$z \cdot y_1 = y_0 \cdot (x \cdot y_1).$$

Since  $(x.y_1)$  is a solution of (2), therefore  $z.y_1$  is also a solution of (2).

Finally, remark that reasoning is also valid to  $y_2$ . ■

If we denote by  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$  the set which is formed by the initial square roots of the unity associated with  $p_i$  and with the elements of  $\mathbf{G}_2^0(n)$ , then we have the following result:

*Corollary 2.4:*  $\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)$  is a group and we have :

$$\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n) \simeq \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_i}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^0(n).$$

*Proof :*

The initial square roots of the unity associated with  $p_i$  are the solutions of the following systems :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots \overset{\vee}{p_i^{\alpha_i}} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots \overset{\vee}{p_i^{\alpha_i}} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_i^{\alpha_i} K' \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

We deduce that  $Ord(\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n)) = 8$ .

From the previous proposition, we know that the solutions of (2) are the product of the solutions of (1) by  $y_1$ . If we note by  $x$  a solution of (1), then the solutions of (1) are  $x$  and  $x.y_0$ . So, the initial square roots of the unity associated with  $p_i$  are  $\{x, x.y_0, x.y_1, x.y_0.y_1\}$ , it follows :

$$\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n) = \{1, y_0, y_1, y_1.y_0, x, x.y_0, x.y_1, x.y_0.y_1\}.$$

And obviously, we have

$$\mathbf{G}_2^{p_i}(n) \simeq \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_i}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^0(n). \blacksquare$$

More generally, we have the following result :

*Theorem 2.4:* The map

$$\varphi : \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_1}(n) \times \dots \times \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_m}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^0(n) \longrightarrow \mathbf{G}_2(n)$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_m, y) \longmapsto x_1 \dots x_m \cdot y$$

is an isomorphism of groups.

*Proof :*

In the same way as the previous theorem, we show that  $\varphi$  is an injective morphism of groups and we conclude by cardinality. ■

*Remark :*

The group  $\mathbf{G}_2^0(n)$  is not cyclic, but we have  $\mathbf{G}_2^0(n) = \{1, y_0\} \times \{1, y_1\}$ , thus :

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) \simeq \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_1}(n) \times \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_2}(n) \dots \times \mathbf{G}_2^{+p_m}(n) \times \{1, y_0\} \times \{1, y_1\}.$$

Finally we have the following result :

*Corollary 2.5:* As it is noted above, we have

$$\mathbf{G}_2(n) = \langle y_0, y_1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle.$$

Now we give an algorithm in *MAPLE* that computes  $x_i, y_0$  and  $y_1$ , i.e. a generating set of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ .

The solution  $y_0$  is computed by the formula  $y_0 = n/2 + 1$  and  $y_1$  is a solution of the system :

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1' \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} K_2' \end{cases}$$

we will choose that satisfied this system

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1 \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha} K_2 \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

Since  $(*)$  implies that  $2^{\alpha} K_2 - (n/2^{\alpha}) K_1 = 2$ , so we get  $K_2$  and  $K_1$  with the Bezout algorithm. Therefore  $y_1 = 2^{\alpha} K_2 - 1 + n/2$ .

The other  $x_i$  are computed in the same way as the previous case.

```
Gene_2 := proc(n) local a, LB, i, LFact, GEN;
GEN := []; LB := [];
a := ifactors(n)[2][1][2];
GEN := [op(GEN), n/2 + 1];
LB := Bezout(2^a, n/(2^a), 2);
GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] * 2^a - 1 +
n/2 mod n];
LFact := ifactors(n/(2^a))[2];
for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
end;
eval(GEN);
end;
```

#### Algorithm 1.4

An application example :

To find the generators of the group of square root of the unity modulo  $8 \times 11^2 \times 13$ , we can use the previous algorithm with this command :

$$Gene\_2(8 * 11^2 * 13);$$

We have the following result [4863, 4421, 6733, 3433], that is the list of generators. We note that the first value of the given list is  $y_0$ , and the second is  $y_1$ .

*Remark :*

The choice of  $y_1$  allows us to have :

$$y_0 \cdot y_1 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i = -1.$$

Indeed,  $y_0.y_1$  is the solution of  $(\star)$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} y_0.y_1 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i &= (1 + p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1) \prod_{i=1}^m (1 + \\ & 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i) \\ &= (1 + p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1) (1 + \\ & \sum_{i=1}^m 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i + Kn) \\ &= 1 + [p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_1 + \\ & \sum_{i=1}^m 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i] + Kn \end{aligned}$$

It's clear that the term between the brackets is not divisible by  $2^{\alpha-1}, p_1^{\alpha_1}, p_2^{\alpha_2}, \dots, p_m^{\alpha_m}$ . So,  $y_0.y_1 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i$  is a solution of this system

$$\begin{cases} x - 1 = K_1 \\ x + 1 = 2^{\alpha-1} p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_2 \end{cases}$$

Since the solutions of this system are -1 and  $(n/2 - 1)$ . To conclude, just shows that  $2^\alpha$  divides  $y_0.y_1 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i + 1$ .

We have

$$y_0.y_1 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i + 1 = (y_0.y_1 + 1) \prod_{i=1}^m x_i - \left( \prod_{i=1}^m x_i - 1 \right)$$

so it's clear that  $(y_0.y_1 + 1)$  is divisible by  $2^\alpha$  because  $y_0.y_1$  is solution of  $(\star)$ , and  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i - 1 = \sum_{i=1}^m 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_i} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} K_i + Kn$ , thus  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i - 1$  is divisible by  $2^\alpha$  it follow that  $2^\alpha$  divides  $y_0.y_1 \prod_{i=1}^m x_i + 1$ . ■

Now we give an explicit formula for  $y_1$  in special cases.

**Proposition 2.10:** Let  $n$  be an integer of the form  $8b$ , with  $b$  is an odd positive integer, then :

- $y_1 = n/4 + 1$  if  $b \equiv 1[4]$ .
- $y_1 = 3n/4 + 1$  if  $b \equiv 3[4]$ .

**Proof :**

- On the first hand, we have  $(n/4 + 1)^2 = (2p + 1)^2 = 1 + 4p(p + 1)$ , and since 2 divides  $p + 1$ , then  $n$  divides  $4p(p + 1)$ . Hence  $(n/4 + 1)^2 = 1$ .
- On the other hand,  $(n/4 + 1) - 1 = n/4$  is divisible by all the prime factors of  $n$ . Since  $(n/4 + 1) + 1 = 2(p + 1)$  and  $b \equiv 1[4]$ , then  $p + 1$  is divisible by 2 and not by 4. Thus  $(n/4 + 1) + 1$  is divisible by 4 and not by 8, hence the result.
- We will show this point in the same way. ■

**Proposition 2.11:** Let  $n$  be an integer of the form  $2^\alpha b$  with  $b$  is an odd positive integer and  $\alpha \geq 3$ . if  $b \equiv 1[2^{\alpha-1}]$ , the

solution of  $(\star)$  is :

$$y_2 = \frac{(2^{\alpha-1} - 1)n}{2^{\alpha-1}} + 1.$$

Therefore

$$y_1 = \frac{(2^{\alpha-2} - 1)n}{2^{\alpha-1}} + 1.$$

**Proof :**

We have

$$\begin{aligned} y_2^2 &= (2b(2^{\alpha-1} - 1) + 1)^2 \\ &= 1 + 4b^2(2^{\alpha-1} - 1)^2 + 4b(2^{\alpha-1} - 1) \\ &= 1 + 4b(2^\alpha b(2^{\alpha-2} - 1) + 2^{\alpha-1} + b - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $2^{\alpha-1}$  divides  $b - 1$ , then  $n$  divides  $4b(2^\alpha b(2^{\alpha-2} - 1) + 2^{\alpha-1} + b - 1)$ , therefore  $y_2^2 = 1$ .

It's clear that all the prime factors of  $n$  divide  $y_2 - 1$ . On the other hand,  $y_2 + 1 = 2b(2^{\alpha-1} - 1) + 2 = 2^\alpha b - 2(b - 1)$ , then  $2^\alpha$  divides  $y_2 + 1$ . So,  $y_2$  is solution of  $(\star)$ .

We know that  $y_1 = y_2 - n/2$ , it follows the expression of  $y_1$ . ■

### III. CONCLUSION

For the cardinal of  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ , we have the following theorem :

**Theorem 3.1:** Let  $n \geq 3$  be an odd integer, then :

- $Ord(\mathbf{G}_2(n)) = 2^{\omega(n)}$
- $Ord(\mathbf{G}_2(2n)) = 2^{\omega(n)}$
- $Ord(\mathbf{G}_2(4n)) = 2^{\omega(n)+1}$
- $Ord(\mathbf{G}_2(2^\alpha n)) = 2^{\omega(n)+2}$  with  $\alpha \geq 3$

where  $\omega(n)$  is the number of distinct prime factors of  $n$ . Now we give an algorithm that computes a generating set for  $\mathbf{G}_2(n)$ , where  $n$  is an integer.

```
Gene_2 := proc(n) local a, LB, i, LFact, GEN;
GEN := [ ]; LB := [ ];
if (n mod 2 = 1) then
LFact := ifactors(n)[2];
for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
end :
eval(GEN);
else
a := ifactors(n)[2][1][2];
if a = 1 then
LFact := ifactors(n)[2];
for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
end :
eval(GEN);
elif a = 2 then
GEN := [op(GEN), n/2 + 1];
```



```

LFact := ifactors(n/4)[2];
for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
  LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
  n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
  GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
  LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
end :
eval(GEN);
else
  GEN := [op(GEN), n/2 + 1];
  LB := Bezout(2^a, n/(2^a), 2);
  GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] * 2^a - 1
  + n/2 mod n];
  LFact := ifactors(n/(2^a))[2];
  for i from 1 to nops(LFact) do
    LB := Bezout(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2],
    n/(LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2]), 2);
    GEN := [op(GEN), LB[1] *
    LFact[i][1]^LFact[i][2] - 1 mod n];
  end :
  eval(GEN);
end :
end :
end :

```

#### Algorithm 1.5

#### Complexity of the algorithm :

It's clear that the complexity of the **Algorithm 1.5** is the same as the **Algorithm 1.1**. Recall that the number of distinct prime factors of a number  $n$  is denoted  $\omega(n)$ . We know that  $\omega(n) = O(\ln(\ln n))$  (see [9] and [10]), and the complexity of the **Extended Euclidean algorithm** is  $O(\ln^2 n)$  (see [3] and [4]). Therefore the complexity of **Algorithm 1.1** without the factorization is  $O(\ln(\ln n) \ln^2 n)$ .

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