

1106-VQ-2599      **Robert Erra\***, 14/16 Rue Voltaire, 94276 Kremlin Bicetre Cedex, France. *An algorithm to solve the Erdős-Strauss equation.* Preliminary report.

The Erdős-Strauss conjecture states: for all integers  $n > 1$ ,  $1/n$  have an Egyptian Fraction Development (EFD) of length at most 3, i.e. for all integers  $n > 1$  the Erdős-Strauss equation, has a solution:  $\frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2} + \frac{1}{x_3}$ . This conjecture isn't proven but a result by Mordell states that the conjecture is true for all  $n$  except possibly the Mordell primes. We propose here an algorithm that is a Las-Vegas algorithm, i.e. it can fail but when it finds a solution, the solution is correct. The algorithm we propose is very simple, we just need an algorithm that gives an EFD: compute the EFD of  $\frac{4i}{q}$  from  $i=1$  till a solution of length 3 is found and divide the solution by  $i$ . Despite its simplicity, this algorithm gives very interesting results with the Bezoutian algorithm:

- For all experiments it has always found a solution;
- It can be quite fast but with some rare pathological cases.
- All integers  $i$  that gives a solution verify  $(i/q) = -1$ .

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