

Code-Based Cryptography Workshop 2012

9 – 11 May 2012, Lyngby, Denmark

On the Design of Code-Based Signatures

Ayoub Otmani

ayoub.otmani@unicaen.fr



Outline

1. Fiat-Shamir paradigm
2. Hash-and-Sign paradigm
3. “Lossy Source Coding” Signatures (joint work with J.P. Tillich)

About this Lecture ...

▷ **Focus** on “classical” signatures

- Authentication
- Integrity
- Non-repudiation

▷ “Sophisticated” signatures are **not treated**:

Ring signature, threshold ring signature, blind signature, undeniable signature, ...

Signature Scheme

Definition. A *signature scheme* is given by **three** algorithms:

▷ $(\text{sk}, \text{pk}) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$ where λ is a security parameter

▷ $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}(\text{sk}, m)$ where $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$

▷ $b \leftarrow \text{Verify}(\text{pk}, m, \sigma)$ where $b \in \{\text{accept}, \text{reject}\}$ and such that:

$$\text{Verify}(\text{pk}, m, \text{Sign}(\text{sk}, m)) = \text{accept}$$

Security Model Terminology

- ▷ **Forger** = Attacker

- ▷ Forger's **goal**
 - *Universal* Forgery (key-recovery, ...)
 - *Existential* Forgery

- ▷ Forger's **means**
 - *No*-message
 - *Known* message
 - *Chosen* message

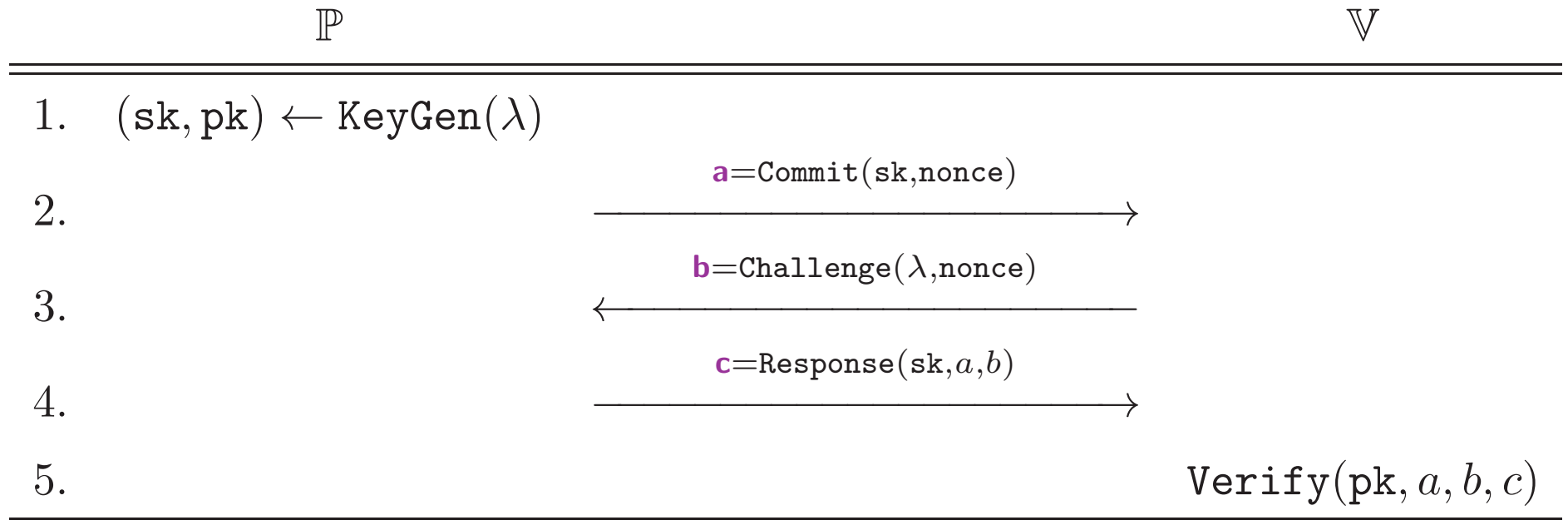
I. Fiat-Shamir Paradigm

Fiat-Shamir Paradigm ('86)

- ▷ **Generic** method for deriving a signature scheme from **any 3-pass identification** scheme
 - Replacing **Verifier's** action's by a **hash function** h
 - Secure if the identification scheme is secure against **impersonation** (Abdalla-An-Bellare-Namprempre '02)

- ▷ **Code-based** identification scheme (zero-knowledge protocol)
 - Stern ('93)
 - Veron ('96)

3-Pass Identification Scheme



$$\text{Verify}(\text{pk}, a, b, c) = \text{accept} \quad \text{if} \quad \begin{cases} a = \text{Commit}(\text{sk}, \text{nonce}) \\ b = \text{Challenge}(\lambda) \\ c = \text{Response}(\text{sk}, a, b) \end{cases}$$

Fiat-Shamir Paradigm

▷ **Signature** σ is computed by means of the steps:

1. $a = \text{Commit}(\text{sk}, \text{nonce})$

2. $b = h(a, \mathbf{m})$

3. $c = \text{Response}(\text{sk}, a, b)$

4. $\sigma = (a, c)$

▷ **Verification** is done by computing $b' = h(a, \mathbf{m})$ and checking:

$$\text{Verify}(\text{pk}, a, b', c) = \text{accept}$$

▷ Efficiency with Stern's protocol:

- **Fast** operations
- **Large** signatures $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ bits
- **Large** keys $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ (**fixed** rate)

II. Hash-and-Sign Paradigm

Introduction

▷ Deriving a signature scheme from a **public-key encryption** $(D_{\text{sk}}, E_{\text{pk}})$

▷ For **efficiency**, m should be a **fixed** length bit-string

\rightsquigarrow Signing a hash value $h(m)$

▷ Signature of m is $\sigma = D_{\text{sk}}(h(m))$

▷ Verification of (m, σ') checks if:

$$E_{\text{pk}}(\sigma') = h(m)$$

▷ Random Oracle Model (ROM) $\rightsquigarrow h$ is a **random** function

Niederreiter Cryptosystem

- ▷ **Public key:** Parity-check matrix \mathbf{H} of a binary Goppa code of length n and dimension k
- ▷ **Secret Key:** t -correcting algorithm ψ
- ▷ **Encryption:** $x \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}x^T$ with x of **weight** t
- ▷ **Decryption:** compute $\psi(\mathbf{y})$ and recover x

Assumption. $k = n - mt \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{H}$ is a $mt \times n$ matrix

Signing with Niederreiter Scheme

▷ ROM implies to perform **complete decoding**

▷ **But** probability that a randomly drawn vector in $\{0, 1\}^n$ is at distance t from a codeword

$$\frac{\binom{n}{t}}{2^{mt}} \geq \frac{\binom{n}{t}}{n^t} \simeq \frac{1}{t!} \rightsquigarrow t \text{ has to be } \mathbf{small}$$

▷ Courtois-Finiasz-Sendrier ('01) proposed a method for producing Niederreiter signatures for **any** hash value:

- **Modifying** m until it lies within distance t from a codeword
- **Efficiency** implies to take small t ($t \leq 12$)
- **Security** implies to take large n ($n \geq 16$)

CFS Scheme

$\text{Sign}(m, \psi)$

1. $s = h(m)$;
2. $i = 0$;
3. Repeat
4. $i = i + 1$;
5. $s_i = h(s, i)$;
6. $z = \psi(s_i)$;
7. until $z \neq \emptyset$;
8. Return $\sigma = (z, i)$;

CFS Scheme

Verify($\mathbf{m}, (\mathbf{z}, i), \mathbf{H}, t$)

1. $\mathbf{s} = h(\mathbf{m});$
2. $\mathbf{s}_i = h(\mathbf{s}, i)$
3. If $(\mathbf{s}_i = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{z}^T$ and $\text{wt}(\mathbf{z}) = t)$ then
4. Return accept;
5. else
6. Return reject;

Performances (80-bit)

Performances with $n = 2^m$ and $k = n - mt$

	Signature	Verification	Length	Key size (bits)
(m, t)	$t! t^2 m^3$	$t^2 m$	$tm + \log_2 t$	$tm2^m$
(21, 10)	$2^{41.6}$	$2^{11.0}$	213.3	$2^{28.7}$
(19, 11)	$2^{44.9}$	$2^{11.1}$	212.4	$2^{26.7}$
(15, 12)	$2^{47.7}$	$2^{11.0}$	183.5	$2^{22.4}$

CFS Scheme - Alternative Way

▷ Decoding **any** syndrome by **increasing** the number of errors $t \rightsquigarrow t + \delta$ where

$$\binom{n}{t + \delta} \geq 2^{mt}$$

▷ These extra δ errors found through an **exhaustive search**

\rightsquigarrow Signing time increased by $\binom{n}{\delta}$

▷ **Real gain** when $\binom{n}{\delta} < t!$ \rightsquigarrow generally $\delta \leq 2$

Security

▷ Key-Recovery Attack

- Recovering the support and the Goppa polynomial
- Best attack performs an exhaustive search on polynomials of degree t and applies Sendrier's SSA algorithm
- Time complexity $\mathcal{O}(2^{mt})$ for polynomials with coefficients in \mathbb{F}_{2^m}

▷ Existential Forgery under No-Message Attack

- Syndrome Decoding Problem

▷ Existential Forgery under Chosen Message Attack

- "One-out-of-many Syndrome" Decoding Problem

Existential Forgery - Algorithmic Problems

Definition. (Syndrome Decoding Problem)

- **Input.** H , a syndrome s and weight t
- **Output.** word e of weight $\leq t$ such that $He^T = s$

Definition. (“One-out-of-many Syndrome” Decoding Problem)

- **Input.** H , a list L of syndromes and weight t
- **Output.** word e of weight $\leq t$ and a syndrome s in L such that $He^T = s$

Existing Approaches

▷ Syndrome Decoding Problem

- Information Set Decoding (ISD) algorithm \rightsquigarrow Time complexity $\mathcal{O}(2^{mt/2})$

▷ “One-out-of-many Syndrome” Decoding Problem (Sendrier '11)

- Johansson and Jönsson's algorithm \rightsquigarrow Time complexity $\mathcal{O}(2^{mt/2})$
- Bleinchebacher's Attack \rightsquigarrow Time complexity $\mathcal{O}(2^{mt/3})$

Bleichenbacher's Attack - Preliminaries

▷ Based on the **Generalized Birthday Paradox** Problem

• **Input.** $f : E \longrightarrow \{0, 1\}^r$ and $\ell \geq 1$

• **Output.** Finding x_1, \dots, x_ℓ in E such that $\bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} f(x_i) = 0$

▷ Birthday Paradox $O(2^{\frac{r}{2}})$

▷ Wagner ('02) showed that when $\ell = 4$ then time/memory complexity $\mathcal{O}(2^{r/3})$

Bleichenbacher's Attack

▷ Searching for words e_1, e_2, e_3 of weight $t/3$ and $h(\mathbf{m})$ such that

$$\mathbf{H}e_1^T + \mathbf{H}e_2^T + \mathbf{H}e_3^T + h(\mathbf{m}) = 0$$

-
1. Build 3 lists L_0, L_1, L_2 of $\binom{n}{t/3}$ syndromes of words of weight $t/3$
 2. New list L'_0 from L_0 into L_1 by XORing and keeping the resulting syndromes whose first $mt/3$ positions are zero
 3. Build one (virtual) list L_3 of $2^{mt/3}$ target hash values
 4. Merge L_2 and L_3 into L'_1 by XORing and keeping the resulting syndromes whose first $mt/3$ positions are zero
 5. Search for a collision between L'_0 and L'_1 over the last $2mt/3$ bits
-

Remark.

- ▷ At least one solution if $\binom{n}{t/3} \geq 2^{mt/3}$
- ▷ Time/Memory is about $\mathcal{O}(2^{mt/3})$

Parallel CFS (Finiasz '10)

- ▷ Reparation of CFS
- ▷ Sign a message m twice (or i times) by means of two (or i) different hash functions h_1 and h_2 (or \dots, h_i)
- ▷ For avoiding (trivial) attacks, the two signatures has to be related \rightsquigarrow signing with second version of CFS

Finding e_1 and e_2 of weight at most $t + \delta$ such that

$$\mathbf{H}e_1^T = h_1(m) \text{ and } \mathbf{H}e_2^T = h_2(m)$$

- ▷ Time/memory complexity Bleinchebacher's attack becomes $\mathcal{O}(2^{2mt/3})$

m	t	i	Key size	Cost	Size
18	9	3	5.0 MB	$2^{20.0}$	288
19	9	2	10.7 MB	$2^{19.5}$	206
20	8	3	20.0 MB	$2^{16.9}$	294

80-bit security/ $\delta = 2$

Quasi-Dyadic CFS Signature

- ▷ CFS-like scheme by Barreto-Cayrel-Misoczki-Niebhur ('11)
- ▷ Based on binary **Quasi-dyadic** Goppa codes (Cauchy matrices)
- ▷ **Smaller** keys than CFS scheme (reduction by a factor t)

Cauchy Matrix

▷ $\mathbf{z} = (z_0, \dots, z_{t-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^t$

▷ $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ with $x_i \neq z_j$

Definition. $C(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})$ is **Cauchy** matrix if

$$C(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{z_0 - x_0} & \cdots & \frac{1}{z_0 - x_{n-1}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{z_{t-1} - x_0} & \cdots & \frac{1}{z_{t-1} - x_{n-1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Proposition. The code defined by the parity-check $C(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})$ is a Goppa code

whose polynomial is $\gamma(z) = \prod_{i=0}^{t-1} (z - z_i)$

Dyadic Matrix

Definition.

▷ $n = 2^\ell$ for some integer $\ell \geq 1$

▷ $\mathbf{h} = (h_0, \dots, h_{n-1})$ from \mathbb{F}_q^n

$$\Delta(\mathbf{h}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left(h_{i \oplus j} \right)_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq n-1 \\ 0 \leq j \leq n-1}}$$

▷ $\Delta(\mathbf{h})$ is called a **dyadic** matrix

Proposition. (Misoczki-Barreto '09)

▷ $\Delta(\mathbf{h})$ is a Cauchy matrix **if and only if** \mathbb{F}_q is of characteristic 2 and

$$\frac{1}{h_{i \oplus j}} = \frac{1}{h_j} + \frac{1}{h_i} + \frac{1}{h_0}$$

▷ Furthermore, for any $\theta \in \mathbb{F}_q$, let $z_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1/h_i + \theta$ and $x_j \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1/h_j + 1/h_0 + \theta$

$$\Delta(\mathbf{h}) = \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})$$

Quasi-Dyadic CFS - Key Generation

▷ Choose t and let λ be the **smallest** integer such that $t \leq 2^\lambda$

$$\rightsquigarrow (\text{sk}, \text{pk}) = (\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{G})$$

▷ \mathbf{G} is a binary $k \times n$ generator matrix with $n = n_0 2^\lambda$ and $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ such that:

$$\mathbf{G}\mathbf{f}^T = 0$$

▷ \mathbf{f} is “almost” the first row of a Dyadic Cauchy matrix

- “**Inside-Block**” equations: $0 \leq a \leq n_0 - 1$ and $0 \leq i, j \leq 2^\lambda - 1$

$$\frac{1}{f_{a2^\lambda+i \oplus j}} = \frac{1}{f_{a2^\lambda \oplus i}} + \frac{1}{f_{a2^\lambda \oplus j}} + \frac{1}{f_{a2^\lambda}}$$

- “**Between-Block**” equations: $0 \leq a \leq n_0 - 1$ and $0 \leq i \leq 2^\lambda - 1$

$$\frac{1}{f_{a2^\lambda+i}} + \frac{1}{f_{a2^\lambda}} = \frac{1}{f_i} + \frac{1}{f_0}$$

Algebraic Attack - Faugère - Najahi-O-Perret-Tillich ('12)

Fact.

▷ $\mathbf{G} = \left(\mathbf{I}_k \mid \mathbf{R} \right) \rightsquigarrow n - k = mt$ “free” variables

▷ “Inside-Block” relations **imply** that f_i with $0 \leq i \leq 2^\lambda - 1$ is **solely determined** by $f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{2^\lambda-1}$

▷ **One** f_i can be fixed to an **arbitrary** value $\rightsquigarrow f_0$

Assumption. $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{2^\lambda-1}$ are **known** $\rightsquigarrow mt - 2^\lambda$ “free” variables

$$0 \leq i \leq 2^\lambda - 1 : \quad K_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{f_i} + \frac{1}{f_0}$$

Algebraic Attack

- ▷ “Between-Block” equations become **quadratic** equations

$$K_i f_{a2^\lambda} f_{a2^\lambda+i} + f_{a2^\lambda+i} + f_{a2^\lambda} = 0$$

- ▷ **Number** of quadratic equations: $\left(\frac{n}{2^\lambda} - 1\right) (2^\lambda - 1)$

- ▷ Quasi-Dyadic CFS parameters are such that:

- $t \leq 12 \rightsquigarrow \lambda \leq 4$
- n is **large** with $n \leq 2^m - 2^\lambda$

\rightsquigarrow Number of equations \gg number of variables

Linearization Technique

▷ Each product $f_i f_j$ is replaced by a **new** variable $z_{i,j}$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{Total number of new variables } \binom{mt - 2^\lambda + 2}{2}$$

▷ At **least one solution** to the linearized system if:

$$\left(\frac{n}{2^\lambda} - 1\right) (2^\lambda - 1) \geq \binom{mt - 2^\lambda + 2}{2}$$

▷ **All** the proposed parameters **satisfy** this condition

Example.

- $t = 8 \rightsquigarrow m \geq 13$
- $t = 10 \rightsquigarrow m \geq 13$
- $t = 12 \rightsquigarrow m \geq 14$

Complexity of the Attack

- ▷ Exhaustive search for determining each $K_i \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{O}(2^{\lambda m})$
- ▷ Linear algebra $\mathcal{O}((mt)^{2\omega})$ where $2 \leq \omega \leq 3$

$(m, t)^1$	Exhaustive search ($\lambda = 4$)	Linear algebra ($\omega = 2.376$)
(21, 10)	2^{84}	2^{34}
(19, 11)	2^{76}	2^{34}
(15, 12)	2^{60}	2^{33}

¹ 80-bit security

- ▷ **Open issue.** Improving the exhaustive search part (still in progress)

Signing without Decoding (Kabatianskii-Krouk-Smeets '97)

▷ Possible if one is able to find:

- **Signing function** $\Sigma : m \mapsto \sigma$ of weight t
- **Verification function** χ such that $\chi(m) = H\sigma^T$

▷ It would allow to sign with random linear codes

▷ KKS proposed **linear maps** for Σ and χ

$$\Sigma : m \mapsto mG$$

$$\chi : m \mapsto Fm^T$$

Assumption. G generates a linear code whose codewords v are such that:

$$t_1 \leq \text{wt}(v) \leq t_2$$

KKS Scheme - Key Generation

- ▷ Security parameter $\rightsquigarrow \delta, k, n, r, N$ such that $k < n < r < N$ and $0 < \delta \ll \frac{n}{2}$
- ▷ Pick at random
 - $k \times n$ matrix \mathbf{G}
 - $J \subset \{1, \dots, N\}$ of cardinality n
 - $r \times N$ matrix \mathbf{H}
- ▷ Compute $r \times k$ matrix $\mathbf{F} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{H}(J)\mathbf{G}^T$
- ▷ Set $t_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{n}{2} - \delta$ and $t_2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{n}{2} + \delta$

$$\text{sk} = (J, \mathbf{G}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{pk} = (\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{F}, t_1, t_2)$$

KKS Scheme

▷ $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}(\mathbf{m})$: Compute σ of $\{1, 0\}^N$ such that:

$$\sigma_J = \mathbf{mG} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{[1\dots N]\setminus J} = 0$$

▷ $\text{Verify}(\mathbf{m}, \sigma)$

$$\mathbf{H}\sigma^T = \mathbf{Fm}^T \quad \text{and} \quad t_1 \leq \text{wt}(\sigma) \leq t_2$$

Preliminary Observations

Notation.

- $\mathcal{S} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ \text{Valid KKS message/signature } (m, \sigma) \right\}$
- $\mathcal{C}_{\text{public}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ \mathbf{c} \in \{0, 1\}^{k+N} : \left(\mathbf{F} \mid \mathbf{H} \right) \mathbf{c}^T = 0 \right\}$

Fact.

1. \mathcal{S} is a linear subspace of $\mathcal{C}_{\text{public}}$ because of $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{m}^T = \mathbf{H}\sigma^T$
2. \mathcal{S} is of dimension k

Security of KKS Scheme

1. Basis of $\mathcal{S} \rightsquigarrow$ universal forgery

KKS scheme is a ℓ -time signature scheme with $\ell < k$

2. If $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_\ell$ are ℓ signatures then $\bigcup_{i=0}^{\ell} \text{support}(\sigma_j) \subset J$

Proposition. $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_\ell$ are codewords of weight of t drawn uniformly and independently

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left| \bigcup_{i=0}^{\ell} \text{support}(\sigma_j) \right| \right] = n \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{t}{n} \right)^\ell \right)$$

Remark. $t \simeq \frac{n}{2} \rightsquigarrow n(1 - \frac{1}{2^\ell})$ positions of J are known

Corollary. KKS is one-time signature

“Noisy” KKS (Barreto-Misoczki-Simplicio '11)

Assumption. h is public hash function

▷ $(\sigma, \mathbf{v}) \leftarrow \text{Sign}(\mathbf{m})$

- Pick at random $\mathbf{e} \in \{0, 1\}^N$ such that $\text{wt}(\mathbf{e}) = n$
- Compute $\mathbf{v} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} h(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{H}\mathbf{e}^T)$
- Compute $\mathbf{y} \in \{0, 1\}^N$ such that:

$$\mathbf{y}_J = \mathbf{v}\mathbf{G} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{y}_{[1\dots N]\setminus J} = 0$$

- $\sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{e}$

▷ $\text{Verify}(\mathbf{v}, \sigma)$ checks whether

$$h(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{H}\sigma^T + \mathbf{F}\mathbf{v}^T) = \mathbf{v} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{wt}(\sigma) \leq 2n$$

Further Observations

Fact.

1. $\mathcal{S}_{[k+1\dots k+N]\setminus J} = \{0\}$
2. \mathcal{S}_J is a linear code of dimension k containing low-weight words $\simeq n/2$ with

$$n/2 \ll N + k$$

Corollary.

- ▷ Recovering \mathcal{S} by applying algorithms searching for low-weight codewords
- ▷ $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{H}(J)\mathbf{G}^T \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{public}}$ is **not a random** code

Universal Forgery under No-Message Attack (O-Tillich '11)

$$\left(F \mid H \right) \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{S} = \text{Secret}$$

- ▷ Dumer's ISD algorithm: ℓ, p with p very small
 - Random $I \subset \{1, \dots, N + k\}$ of cardinality $k + K + \ell$
 - Outputs x of weight $\simeq n/2$ such that x_I is of weight $2p$

 - ▷ Analysis shows that the attack performs **better** when
 - $I \subset \{k + 1, \dots, N + k\}$
 - Rates of \mathcal{S} and $\mathcal{C}_{\text{public}}$ are close
 - n is small

 - ▷ **Bootstrapping** Second codeword y is found **more easily** from x
 - Take at random $I \subset \{k + 1, \dots, N + k\} \setminus \text{support}(x)$
- Open issue.** Finding “good” parameters immune against this attack

Instead of Correcting?

▷ “Hash-and-Sign” Paradigm considers $h(m)$ as a “noisy” version of signature

$\rightsquigarrow h(m)$ should not be changed

▷ CFS scheme simulates complete decoding

$\rightsquigarrow h(m)$ has to be changed

▷ With J.P. Tillich we propose to rephrase the problem in the framework of **Rate-Distortion Theory** (also called **lossy source coding**)

III. “Lossy Source Coding” Signatures

Rate-Distorsion Theory

▷ Aiming at **representing/estimating/quantizing** a source (= random variable $X(\omega)$) taking **infinite** numbers of values by means of a **finite** number N of values

$$X(\omega) \in \mathcal{X} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{R}(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ \hat{X}(\omega_1), \dots, \hat{X}(\omega_N) \right\}$$

Example.

- Representation of real numbers with a fixed number of bits
- Lossy-data compression

▷ Representation **cannot be done exactly** \rightsquigarrow **maximum distorsion** D

$$\forall \omega : \quad \text{dist} \left(\hat{X}(\omega), X(\omega) \right) \leq D$$

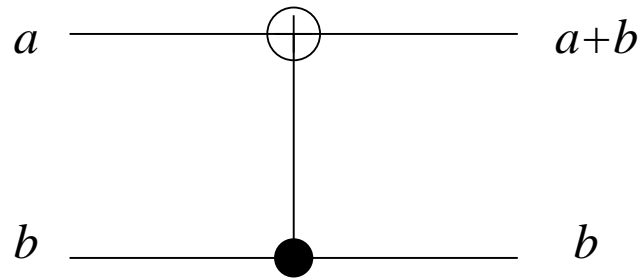
▷ Choosing N **optimal** values

$$X(\omega) \rightsquigarrow \text{Find the } \mathbf{closest} \text{ point in } \mathcal{R}(X)$$

Polar Codes (Arikan '07)

▷ Length $N = 2^n$

▷ Encoding based on Fast Fourier Transform architecture



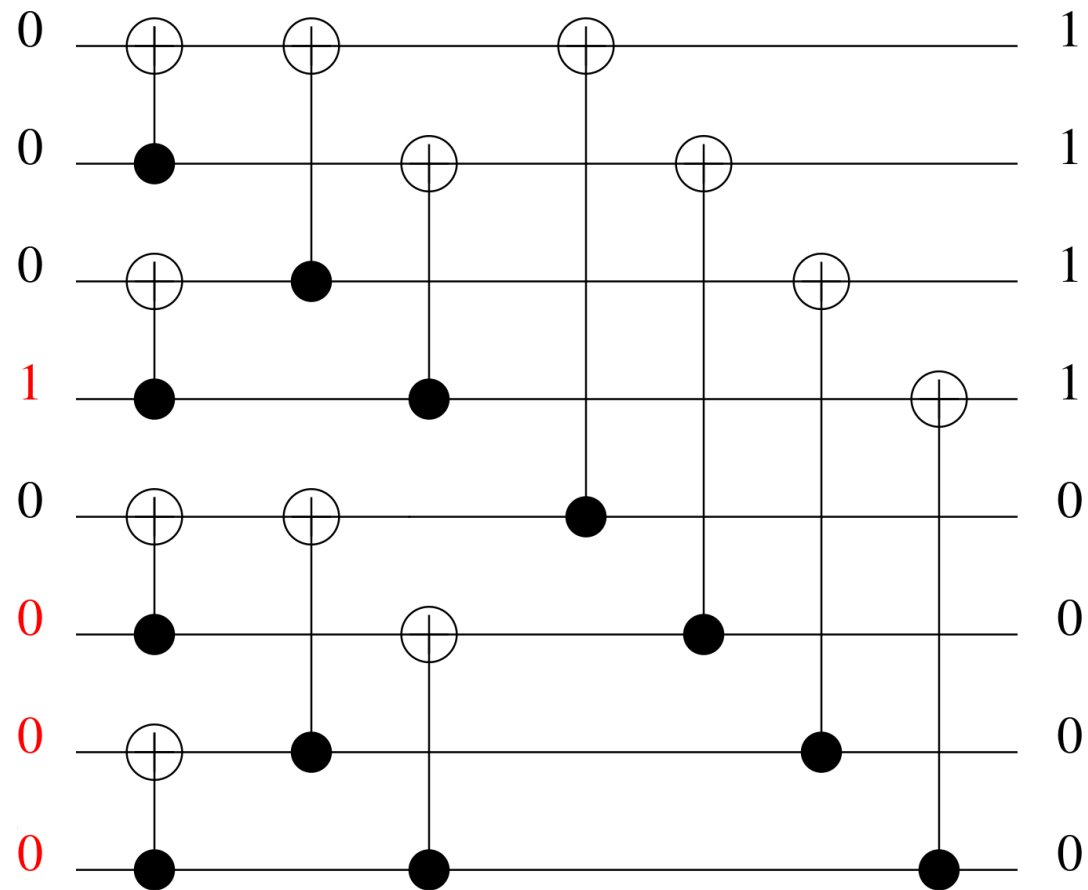
▷ **Encoding/Decoding** can be made in $\mathcal{O}(N \log N)$ operations

▷ **Capacity-achieving** codes for **any** binary memoryless channel

▷ **Optimal** for lossy source coding of a binary symmetric source (Korada '10)

Encoding with Polar Codes (I)

Example. $n = 3$



▷ Which code do we get?

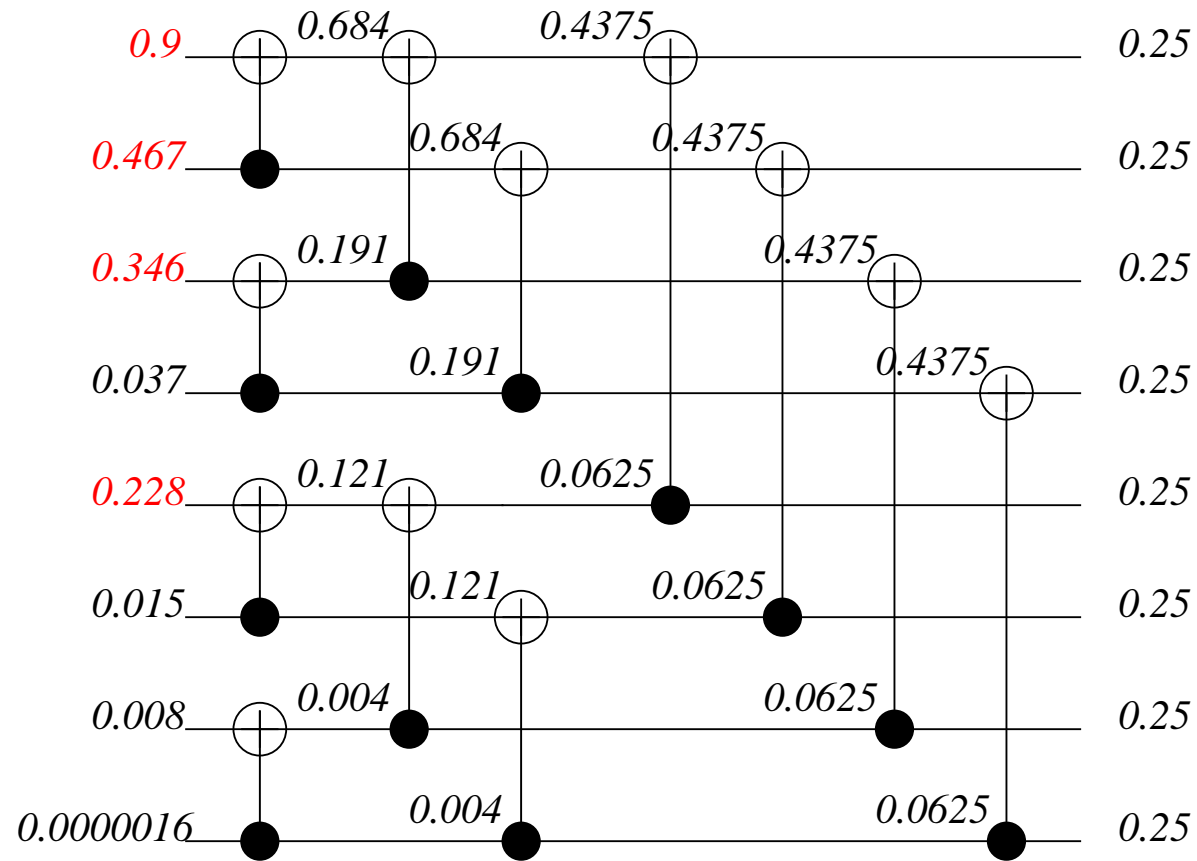
Encoding with Polar Codes (II)

Extended Hamming code $[8, 4, 4]$ defined by the generator matrix:

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

~> Which entries have to be kept zero?

“Polarization” Phenomenon



- ▷ **General rule** For a code of length N and dimension K then set to 0 the $N - K$ **worst** positions
- ▷ **Entries** set to zero are called “frozen” (**red**)

Using Polar Codes in Cryptography

▷ Adding **diversity**

- Changing the alphabet from binary to $GF(4) = \{0, 1, w, w^2\}$

- Not considering only one transform $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ but a set of transforms

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & w \\ w & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} w^2 & w \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} w^2 & 1 \\ w & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

- Randomly picking 2^{n-1} transforms at each level i of $\{1, \dots, n\}$

▷ **Expanding** from $GF(4)$ to $GF(2) \rightsquigarrow$ **binary** linear code of length and dimension **twice** as large

▷ **Masking** the structure like McEliece

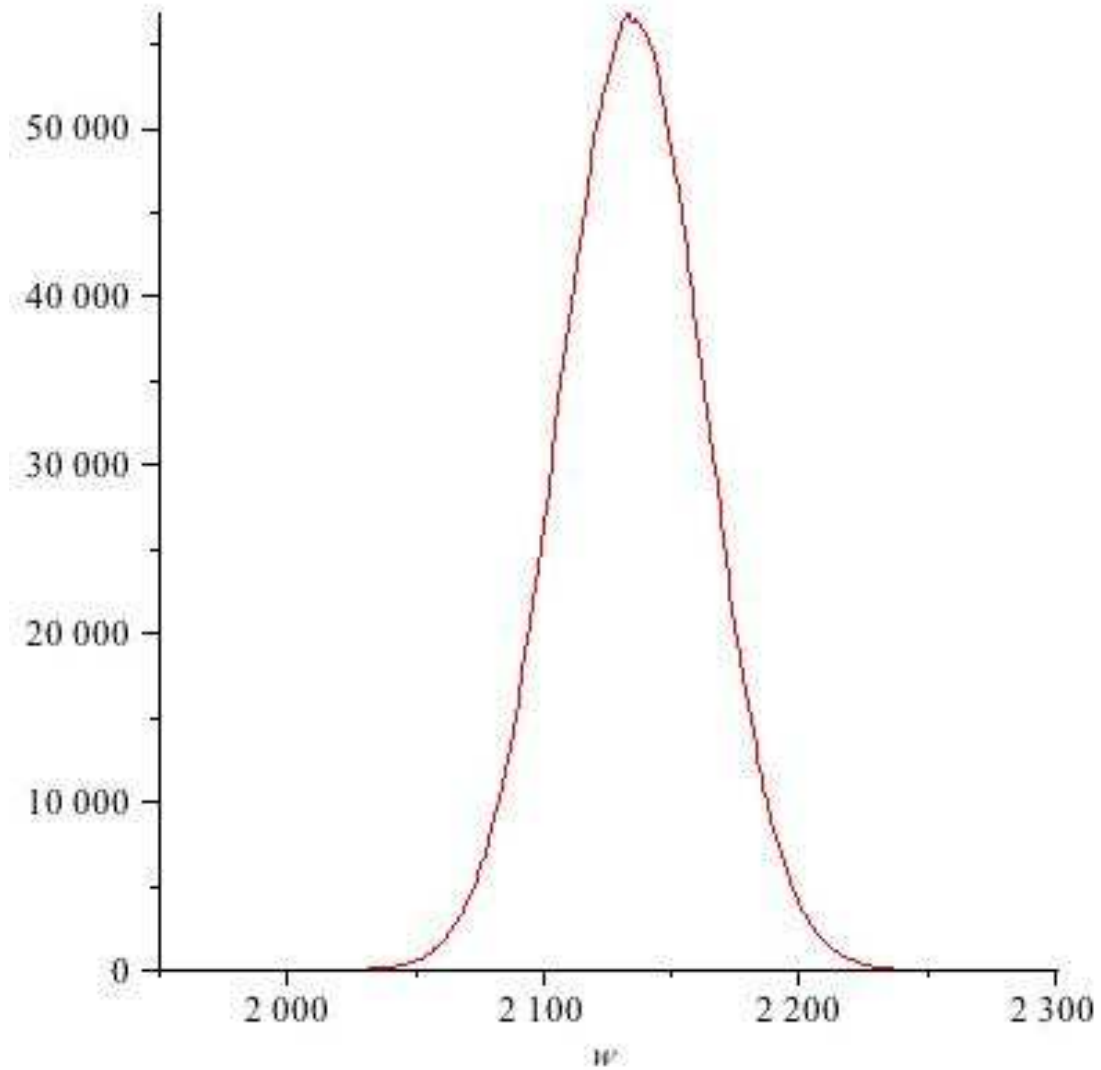
Estimating Minimum Distance

Proposition. Minimum distance of a polar code with information set containing only integers whose binary representation does not contains less than ℓ zeros is at least 2^ℓ .

▷ **Proposed parameters** (over $GF(4)$)

- $N = 4,096$, $K = 1,255$, $\ell = 7 \rightsquigarrow$ minimum distance ≥ 128
- 80-bit security (Peters' q -ary version of ISD)

Binary Distorsion Values (4,000,000 tests)



Maximum distorsion $\leq 2,268$

Performances

- ▷ Binary code of length 8,182 and dimension 2,510
- ▷ **Maximum** distortion $\leq 2,268 \rightsquigarrow$ 1400-bit security (ISD for binary codes)
- ▷ Average time for one signature: $\simeq 4\text{ms}$
- ▷ Key size: 6.5 Mbyte