

International Workshop on Code-Based Cryptography (CBCrypto) 2022

Information Set Decoding for Lee-Metric Codes using Restricted Spheres

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Knowledge for Tomorrow

Motivation

Code-based cryptography for quantum secure cryptosystems



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The original McEliece cryptosystem suffers from large key sizes (even though unbroken)

! Alternative metrics are considered



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The original McEliece cryptosystem suffers from large key sizes (even though unbroken)

- ! Alternative metrics are considered

The security relies on the hardness of the syndrome decoding problem

- ! Generic decoding in the Lee metric has a large cost

- ! NP-hard in the Lee metric



Outline

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Information Set Decoding using Restricted Spheres
 - Up to Minimum Distance Decoding
 - Decoding Beyond the Minimum Distance
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Ring-Linear Codes

Let p a prime number and s and n two positive integers.

Definition

A linear code $C \subseteq (Z = p^s Z)^n$ is a $Z = p^s Z$ -submodule of $(Z = p^s Z)^n$.



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Parameters:

n is called the *length* of C

$k := \log_{p^s} |C|$ is the $Z=p^sZ$ -*dimension* of C

$R := k/n$ denotes the *rate* of C .



The Lee Metric

Definition

For $a \in Z = p^s Z$ and $e = (e_1; \dots; e_n) \in (Z = p^s Z)^n$ we define their *Lee weight*, respectively, by

$$\text{wt}_L(a) := \min(a; p^s \cdot a);$$

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Example over $Z=5Z$

$$0 : wt_L(0) = 0$$

$$1 : wt_L(1) = 1$$

$$2 : wt_L(2) = 2$$

$$3 : wt_L(3) = 2$$

$$4 : wt_L(4) = 1$$



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Properties:

For every $a \in Z = p^s Z$ and $x \in (Z = p^s Z)^n$

$$\text{wt}_L(a) = \text{wt}_L(p^s \cdot a)$$

$$\text{wt}_H(a) = \text{wt}_L(a) \quad bp^s = 2c =: M$$

$$\text{wt}_H(e) = \text{wt}_L(e) \quad nM$$



The Expected Lee Weight

Let $a \in \mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z}$ be chosen uniformly at random.

Lemma

The expected Lee weight of a is then given by

$$p^s := \mathbb{E}(\text{wt}_L(a)) = \begin{cases} \frac{(p^s)^2 - 1}{4p^s} & \text{if } p^s \text{ is odd;} \\ \frac{p^s}{4} & \text{if } p^s \text{ is even;} \end{cases}$$



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How does the distribution for each entry e_i look like?

Let $T := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t(n)}{n}$ be the asymptotic relative Lee weight of e .



The Marginal Distribution

Let E be the random variable corresponding to the realization of a random entry of e .



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Assume that the asymptotic relative Lee weight is $T := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t(n)}{n}$. For every $i \in \mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z}$ the marginal distribution of E is given by

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where T is the solution to $T = \sum_{i=0}^{p^s-1} \text{wt}_L(i) p_i$.

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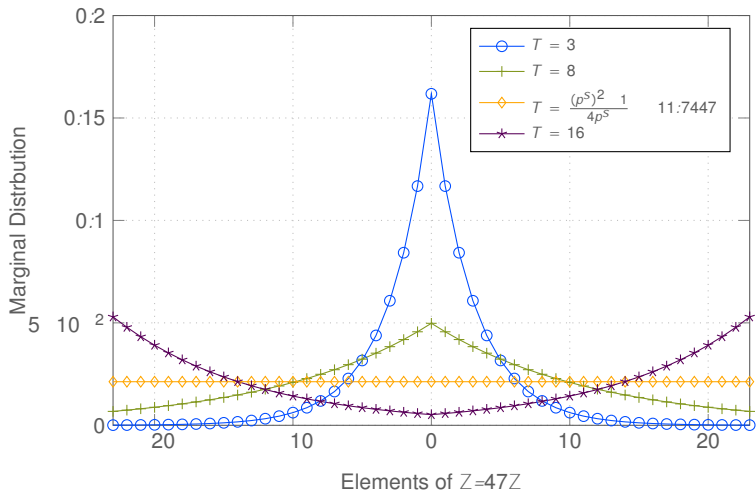
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Note: $T < p^s$ and $i > 0$



The Marginal Distribution - Example over $Z=47Z$



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Information Set Decoding Algorithms

Consider an instance of the Lee Syndrome Decoding Problem (LSDP):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Given } H \in (\mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z})^{(n-k) \times n}; s \in (\mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z})^{n-k} \text{ and } t \in \mathbb{N}; \\ \text{find } e \in (\mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z})^n \text{ s.t. } \text{wt}_L(e) = t \text{ and } s = eH^T: \end{aligned}$$



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! Recent improvements: using partial Gaussian elimination¹

¹Matthieu Finiasz and Nicolas Sendrier. "Security bounds for the design of code-based cryptosystems". In: *International Conference on the Theory and Application of Cryptology and Information Security*. Springer, 2009, pp. 88–105.



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- ::: Representation technique¹ or Wagner's approach²

¹Anja Becker et al. "Decoding random binary linear codes in 2^{n-20} : How $1+1=0$ improves information set decoding". In: *Annual international conference on the theory and applications of cryptographic techniques*. Springer. 2012, pp. 520–536.

²Alexander May, Alexander Meurer, and Enrico Thomae. "Decoding Random Linear Codes in $\mathcal{O}(2^{0.054n})$ ". In: *International Conference on the Theory and Application of Cryptology and Information Security*. Springer. 2011, pp. 107–124.



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- ::: Wagner's approach is fastest in the Lee metric (amortized)²

¹Violetta Weger et al. "On the hardness of the Lee syndrome decoding problem". In: *Advances in Mathematics of Communications* (2019). DOI: 10.3934/amc.2022029.

²André Chailloux, Thomas Debris-Alazard, and Simona Etinski. "Classical and Quantum algorithms for generic Syndrome Decoding problems and applications to the Lee metric". In: *International Conference on Post-Quantum Cryptography*. Springer. 2021, pp. 44–62.



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General Framework

We use the idea of partial Gaussian elimination to solve the problem:

1. Find $U \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{K})$ ($Z = p^S Z$) such that

$$UH^T = \begin{pmatrix} I_n & K \\ A^T & B^T \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ B^T \end{pmatrix}$$



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$$e_1 \quad e_2 \quad UH^> = s_1 \quad s_2 = sU$$



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3. Assume, $\text{wt}_L(e_1) = t$ and $\text{wt}_L(e_2) = v$. Hence, we need to solve

$$e_1 + e_2 A^> = s_1$$

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3. Assume, $\text{wt}_L(e_1) = t - v$ and $\text{wt}_L(e_2) = v$. Hence, we need to solve

$$e_1 + e_2 A^> = s_1$$

$$e_2 B^> = s_2$$

4. Solve the **smaller instance** of the LSDP. Immediately check whether $e_1 = s_1 - e_2 A^>$ has Lee weight $t - v$.



New Framework: using Restricted Spheres

Focus on the **small instance** of the Lee syndrome decoding problem

Given $B \in (\mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z})^{(k+1)}$; $s_2 \in (\mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z})^k$ and $v; t \in \mathbb{N}$
 find $e_2 \in (\mathbb{Z} = p^s \mathbb{Z})^{k+1}$ s.t. $\text{wt}_L(e_2) = v$ and $s_2 = e_2 B^>$:



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Main Idea and Difference

Use the marginal distribution, i.e.,



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for $t = n < M-2$, with high probability 0 is the most likely Lee weight in e , followed by the Lee weight 1 until the least likely Lee weight M .

for $t = n > M-2$ the contrary is true



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With high probability the least probable entries of e lie **outside** the information set, hence are not in e_2 .



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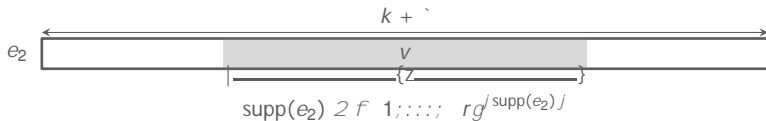
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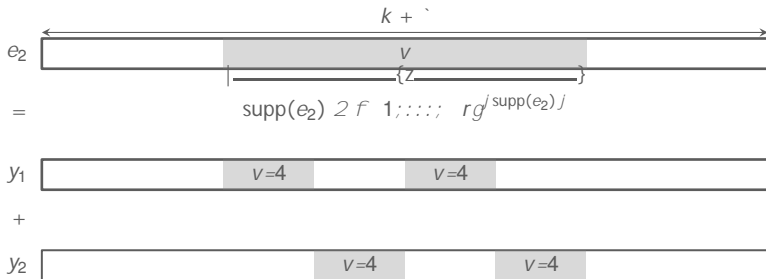
We will restrict e_2 to live either in $\{0; 1; \dots; r\}^{k+}$ or in $\{r; \dots; M\}^{k+}$, respectively.



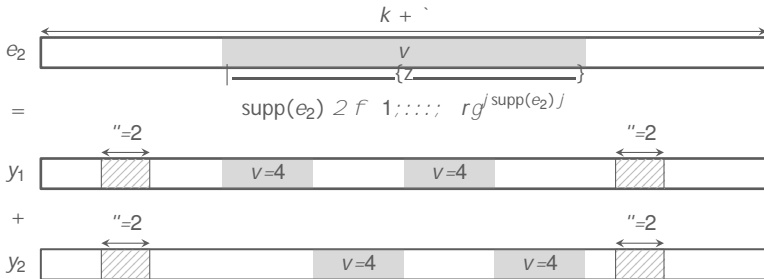
Up to Minimum Distance Decoding - The BJMM Approach



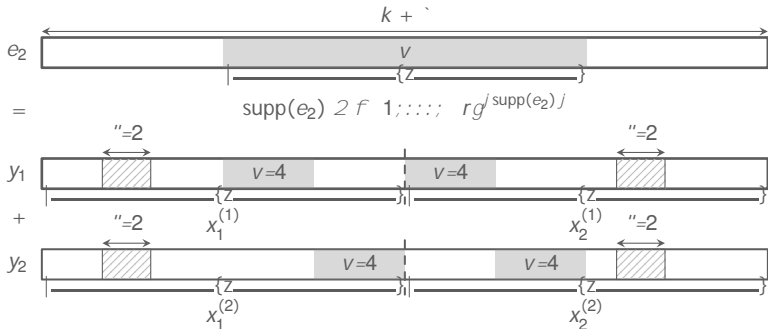
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$$B_i = \{x \mid x_{E_i^c} \subseteq \{0, \dots, r\}; \text{rg}^{(k+\cdot)}(x) = 2; \text{wt}_L(x_{E_i}) = v; x_{E_i} \subseteq Z = p^s Z; S_{(k+\cdot)} = 2\}$$



Minimum Distance Decoding - The BJMM Approach

Recall, $s_2 = e_2 B^>$, where $e_2 = y_1 + y_2 = (x_1^{(1)}; x_2^{(1)}) + (x_1^{(2)}; x_2^{(2)})$.



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1. Splitting $B = (B_1 \ B_2)$, for $i = 1; 2$ concatenate all $x_1^{(i)}; x_2^{(i)} \geq B_i$ satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} x_1^{(1)} B_1^> &= u \quad x_2^{(1)} B_2^>; \\ x_1^{(2)} B_1^> &= u \quad x_2^{(2)} B_2^>: \end{aligned}$$

They imply the syndrome equations for y_1 and y_2 , respectively.

$$y_1 B^> = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad y_2 B^> = s_2$$



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2. Store them in a list L_i .



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$$y_1 B^> = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad y_2 B^> = s_2$$

2. Store them in a list L_i .
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Minimum Distance Decoding - The BJMM Approach

Recall, $s_2 = e_2 B^>$, where $e_2 = y_1 + y_2 = (x_1^{(1)}; x_2^{(1)}) + (x_1^{(2)}; x_2^{(2)})$.

1. Splitting $B = (B_1 \ B_2)$, for $i = 1; 2$ concatenate all $x_1^{(i)}; x_2^{(i)} \in B_i$ satisfying

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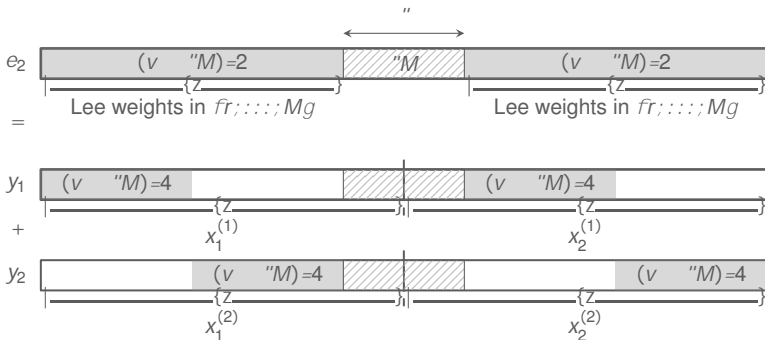
$$s_2 = (y_1 + y_2) B^> \quad \text{and} \quad \text{wt}_L(y_1 + y_2) = v;$$

- b) the original LSDP is fulfilled as well

$$\text{wt}_L(s_1 \ (y_1 + y_2) A^>) = t \quad v$$



Decoding Beyond the Minimum Distance



Outline

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Information Set Decoding using Restricted Spheres
 - Up to Minimum Distance Decoding
 - Decoding Beyond the Minimum Distance
- 3 Comparison



Up to Minimum Distance Decoding - $Z=47Z$

1

Algorithm	$e(R ; p^5)$	R
Lee-BJMM	0.1618	0.451
Restricted Lee-BJMM for $r = 5$	0.1539	0.408
Amortized Lee-BJMM	0.1205	0.396
Amortized Restricted Lee-BJMM	0.1189	0.406
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Up to Minimum Distance Decoding - $Z=47Z$

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Thank you for your attention!

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