

# Code Based Cryptography

Colloquium at Eastern Kentucky University

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## Acknowledgements

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Acknowledgements

Introduction

Error-correcting codes

Cryptography

- McEliece's PKC

- Niederreiter PKC

Our attack

Projective systems and codes

- GRS codes and NRC

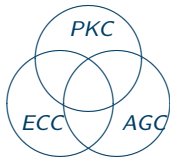
- AG codes

Sidelnikov-Shestakov I

AG, WAG and SAG codes

Retrieving the triple

Curves defined by quadrics



- ▶ ECC = Error-correcting codes
- ▶ AGC = Algebraic geometry curves
- ▶ PKC = Public-key cryptosystems

# Error-correcting codes

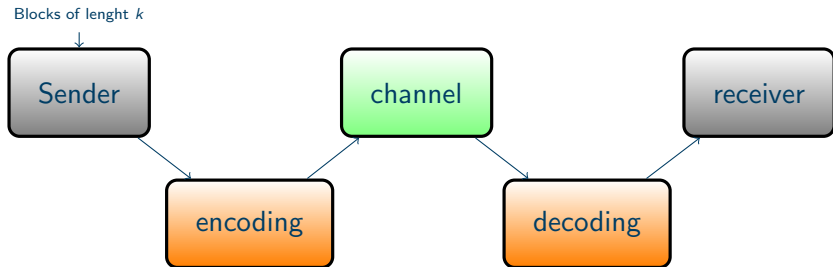
*A Mathematical Theory of Communication*  
(Claude Shannon, 1948)

Information Theory

Error correcting codes



# Error-correcting codes



$$c: \mathcal{A}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^n$$

# Well known examples



$$(8 \cdot 1) + (1 \cdot 2) + (7 \cdot 3) + (5 \cdot 4) + (2 \cdot 5) + (7 \cdot 7) + (6 \cdot 8) + (6 \cdot 9) + (0 \cdot 10) = 11 \cdot \lambda$$

# Well known examples



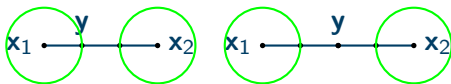
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
T	R	W	A	G	M	Y	F	P	D	X	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
B	N	J	Z	S	Q	V	H	L	C	K	E



# Hamming distance

- ▶ **Hamming distance:**  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{A}^n$ ,  $d_H(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = |\{i \mid x_i \neq y_i\}|$ .
- ▶ **Minimum distance of  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{A}^n$**

$$d = \min \{d_H(\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2) \mid \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2 \in \mathcal{C} \text{ and } \mathbf{c}_1 \neq \mathbf{c}_2\}.$$



$$d = 3, 4$$

# Linear codes

$\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{F}_q$ . A  $[n, k]$ -linear code is just a  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -linear subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  of dimension  $k$ . As usual, it can be given as a set of generators (the rows of a  $k \times n$  generator matrix) or as the solutions of a system of homogeneous equations (the rows of a  $(n - k) \times n$  parity check matrix).

It can be (easily) proven that  $k \leq n - d + 1$  (Singleton bound). If equality holds the code is called MDS (maximum distance separable code).

**Example : Reed-Solomon Codes.** Let  $a_1, \dots, a_q$  all the elements in  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $f(X) \in \mathbb{F}_q[X]$ . We can define a linear space as the image of a linear mapping  $f(x) \mapsto (f(a_1), \dots, f(a_q))$ .

$$\{ (f(a_1), \dots, f(a_q)) \mid f(X) \in \mathbb{F}_q[X], \deg(f(X)) < k \}$$

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# Decoding linear codes

## Decoding problem

**Input:**  $(G, \mathbf{y})$

where  $G$  is a  $k \times n$  matrix  $G$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of rank  $k$ , and  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$

**Output:** A closest codeword  $\mathbf{c}$

so  $d_H(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{y})$  is minimal for all  $\mathbf{c}$  in the code  $C$  with generator matrix  $G$

This problem is **NP-hard**

Berlekamp-McEliece-Van Tilborg

# Decoding up to $\frac{1}{2}d$

Decoding arbitrary linear codes  
Exponential complexity  $\approx q^{e(R)n}$

# Decoding special classes of codes

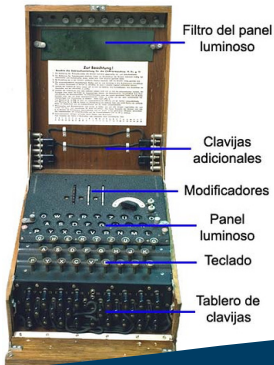
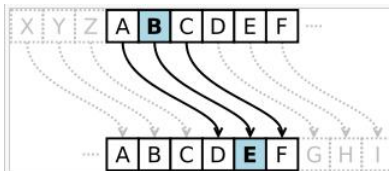
Efficient decoding algorithms up to half the minimum distance for:

- Generalized Reed-Solomon codes
- Goppa codes
- Algebraic geometry codes

Polynomial complexity  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$

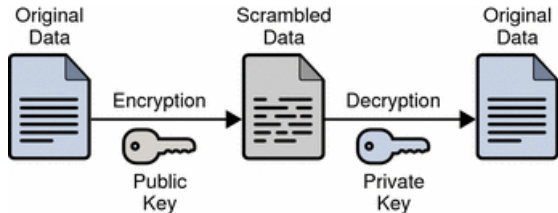
- Peterson, Arimoto 1960
- Berlekamp-Massey 1963
- Justesen-Larsen-Havemose-Jensen-Hoeholdt 1989
- Skorobogatov-Vladut 1990
- Sakata 1990
- Feng-Rao, Duursma 1993
- Sudan, Guruswami 1997

# Kriptos + Graphos





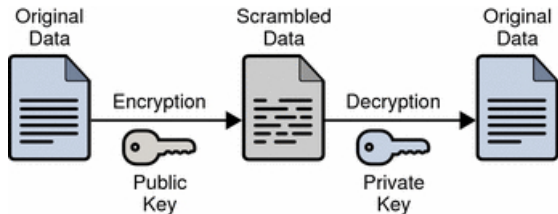
# Public Key Cryptography



Bad news!!! Quantum computers could break RSA, DSA, ECDSA, ECC, ... in polynomial time due to **Shor's Algorithm!**

Good news!!! P-Q PK Cryptography: Hash-based cryptography, Code-based cryptography, Lattice-based cryptography, Multivariate-quadratic-equation cryptography.

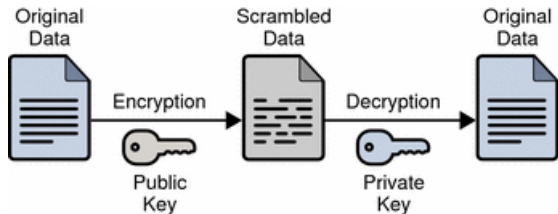
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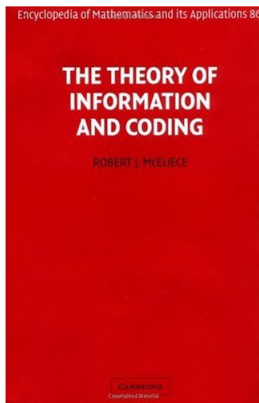
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# Robert J. McEliece



**Robert J. McEliece**, California Institute of Technology and NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena.

# McEliece's PKC



R. J. McEliece.

*A public-key cryptosystem based on algebraic coding theory.*  
DSN Progress Report, 42-44:114-116, 1978.

## Key generation

1. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $[n, k, d]$ -linear code  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .  
 $G \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times n}$  a generator matrix.  
 $S \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times k}$  a non-singular matrix.  
 $P \in \mathbb{F}_q^{n \times n}$  a permutation matrix.
2. Public key:  $(G' = SGP, t)$ .
3. Secret key:  $(G, S, P)$

## Encode

$\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{F}_q^k$   $\mathbf{y}' = \mathbf{m}G' + \mathbf{e}'$  where  $\mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{e}P$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  of weight  $t$ .

## Decode

1. Compute  
 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}'P^{-1} = \mathbf{m}G'P^{-1} + \mathbf{e}'P^{-1} = \mathbf{m}S\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}$ .
2. Decode in  $\mathcal{C}$  to recover  $\mathbf{m}S$ .  $\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{m}S\mathbf{S}^{-1}$ .

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## Mainly Information Set Decoding.



A. Canteaut and H. Chabanne.

*A further improvement of the work factor in an attempt at breaking McEliece's cryptosystem.*  
EUROCODE 94, 1994.



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*A new algorithm for finding minimum-weight words in a linear code: application to McEliece's cryptosystem and to narrow-sense BCH codes of length 511.*  
IEEE Transaction on Information Theory.



A. Canteaut and N. Sendrier.

*Cryptanalysis of the original McEliece cryptosystem.*  
Advances in cryptology - ASIACRYPT'98.



P. J. Lee and E. F. Brickell.

*An observation on the security of McEliece's public-key cryptosystem.*  
Advances in cryptology - EUROCRYPT'98.



J. van Tilburg.

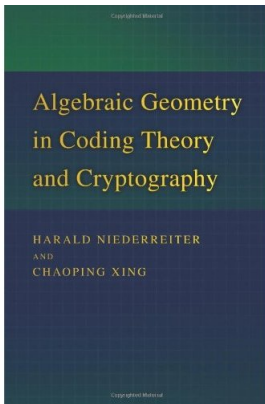
*On the McEliece public-key cryptosystem.*  
Advances in cryptology - CRYPTO'88.



D. J. Bernstein, T. Lange, C. Peters.

*Attacking and defending the McEliece cryptosystem.*  
Post-Quantum Cryptography





**Harald Niederreiter**, Johann Radon Institute for Computational and Applied Mathematics (RICAM)



H. Niederreiter.

Knapsack-type crypto system and algebraic coding theory.  
Problems of Control and Information Theory, 1986.

## Key generation

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Y. Xing Li, R. H. Deng and X. Mei Wang.

*On the equivalence of McEliece's and Niederreiter public-key cryptosystems.*  
IEEE Transaction on Information Theory, 1994.

## Encode

$m \in \mathbb{F}_q^k$  como  $y' = mH'^T$ .

## Decode

1. Compute the syndrome of  $y'$ :  $y = y' = (S^{-1})^T = mP^T H^T = m'H^T$ .
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V. M. Sidelnikov and S. O. Shestakov.

On insecurity of cryptosystems based on generalized Reed-Solomon codes.

Discrete mathematics and Applications.



C. Faure and L. Minder.

*Cryptanalysis of the McEliece cryptosystem over hyperelliptic codes.*

Proceedings 11th Int. Workshop on Algebraic and Combinatorial Coding Theory, 2008.

# Modifications



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*How to mask the structure of codes for a cryptographic use.*

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C. Wieschebrink.

*An attack on the modified Niederreiter encryption scheme.*

In PKC 2006, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, volume 3958, 14–26, Berlin, 2006. Springer.



C. Wieschebrink.

*Cryptoanalysis of the Niederreiter public key scheme based on GRS subcodes.*

In Post-Quantum Cryptography, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, volume 6061, 6–72, Berlin, 2010. Springer.



I. Márquez-Corbella, E. Martínez-Moro and R. Pellikaan.

*The non-gap sequence of a subcode of a generalized Reed-Solomon code.*

Designs, Codes and Cryptography Jan. 2013

# More modifications and attacks



H. Janwa and O. Moreno.

McEliece public crypto system using algebraic-geometric codes.  
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I. Márquez-Corbella, E. Martínez-Moro and R. Pellikaan.

On the unique representation of very strong algebraic geometry codes.  
Designs, Codes and Cryptography, Online first, to appear 2013.



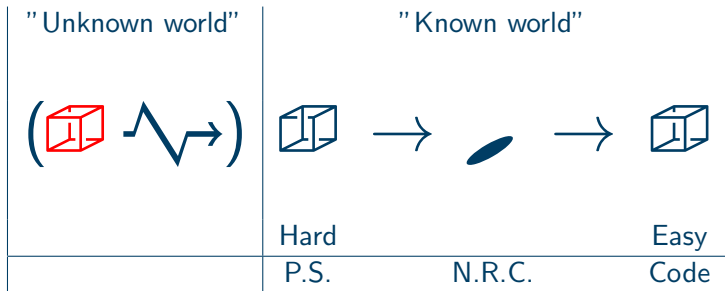
I. Márquez-Corbella, E. Martínez-Moro and R. Pellikaan, D. Ruano.

Computing the representation of VSAG codes.

Journal of Symbolic Computation, Submitted Dec. 2012.



## Main objective:



such that

$$\text{Red Cube} \equiv \text{Blue Cube}$$

# Projective systems and codes

Katsman-Tsfasman-Vladut:

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field.

A **projective system**  $\mathcal{P} = (P_1, \dots, P_n)$  in  $\mathbb{P}^r(\mathbb{F})$  is an  $n$ -tuple of points  $P_j$  in the projective space such that not all these points lie in a hyperplane.

Let  $P_j = (p_{0j} : p_{1j} : \dots : p_{rj})$  and let  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  be the  $(r+1) \times n$  matrix with  $(p_{0j}, p_{1j}, \dots, p_{rj})^T$  as  $j$ -th column. Then  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  has rank  $r+1$ , since not all points lie in a hyperplane.

## Code of a curve in projective space

If  $\mathbb{F}$  is a finite field, then  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  is the generator matrix of a nondegenerate  $[n, r + 1, d]$  code over  $\mathbb{F}$  where  $n - d$  is the maximal number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  that lie in a hyperplane of  $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}(\mathbb{F})$ .

### Example

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an irreducible projective curve over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of degree  $m$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}$ .  
Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be an enumeration of  $n$  points of  $\mathcal{X}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Then  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  is the generator matrix of a code with parameters  $[n, k, d]$

$$d \geq n - m.$$

# Codes and projective systems

## Conversely:

Let  $G$  be a generator matrix of a nondegenerate  $[n, k, d]$  code over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Then  $G$  has no zero columns, take the columns of  $G$  as homogeneous coordinates of points in  $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . This gives the projective system  $\mathcal{P}_G$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of  $G$ .

## One-to-one correspondence between:

generalized equivalence classes of nondegenerate  $[n, k]$  codes over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and equivalence classes of projective systems of  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

# Generalized Reed-Solomon codes

$\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  an  $n$ -tuple of **mutually distinct** elements of  $\mathbb{F}_q$

$\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  an  $n$ -tuple of **nonzero** elements of  $\mathbb{F}_q$

$GRS_k(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) =$

$$\{ (f(a_1)b_1, \dots, f(a_n)b_n) \mid f(X) \in \mathbb{F}_q[X], \deg(f(X)) < k \}$$

**Parameters:**  $[n, k, n - k + 1]$  if  $k \leq n$ .

**Generator matrix:**

$$G_k(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & \cdots & b_j & \cdots & b_n \\ a_1 b_1 & \cdots & a_j b_j & \cdots & a_n b_n \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ a_1^{k-1} b_1 & \cdots & a_j^{k-1} b_j & \cdots & a_n^{k-1} b_n \end{pmatrix}$$

## Normal rational curves and GRS codes

The projective system of the the code  $GRS_k(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$  with generator matrix  $G_k(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$  is

$$\mathcal{P}_k(\mathbf{a}) = ((1 : a_j : \cdots : a_j^i : \cdots : a_j^{k-1}) \mid j = 1, \dots, n)$$

Consider the **embedding**  $\mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^r$  by the degree  $r$  map given by

$$(y_0 : y_1) \mapsto (y_0^r : y_0^{r-1}y_1 : \cdots : y_0^{r-i}y_1^i : \cdots : y_0y_1^{r-1} : y_1^r)$$

The image of this map in  $\mathbb{P}^r$  is the **NRC (normal rational curve)**  $\mathcal{X}_r$ .  
Every hyperplane intersects  $\mathcal{X}_r$  in at most  $r$  points and

$$\mathcal{P}_k(\mathbf{a}) \subseteq \mathcal{X}_{k-1}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

# Vanishing ideal of rational normal curve

The **vanishing ideal**  $I(\mathcal{X}_r)$  of  $\mathcal{X}_r$  is generated by the **quadratic polynomials**:

$$X_i X_{r-i} - X_j X_{r-j}, \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i < j \leq r$$

that is the **determinantal ideal** of the  $2 \times 2$  minors of the  $2 \times r$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_0 & X_1 & \cdots & X_i & \cdots & X_{r-1} \\ X_1 & X_2 & \cdots & X_{i+1} & \cdots & X_r \end{pmatrix}$$

since the rows of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & y & \cdots & y^i & \cdots & y^{r-1} \\ y & y^2 & \cdots & y^{i+1} & \cdots & y^r \end{pmatrix}$$

are dependent for all  $y$ .

# Algebraic geometry codes

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an algebraic variety over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with a subset  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $\mathcal{X}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  enumerated by  $P_1, \dots, P_n$ .

Suppose that we have a vector space  $L$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of functions on  $\mathcal{X}$  with values in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . So  $f(P_i) \in \mathbb{F}_q$  for all  $i$  and  $f \in L$ . In this way we have an evaluation map

$$ev_{\mathcal{P}} : L \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

defined by  $ev_{\mathcal{P}}(f) = (f(P_1), \dots, f(P_n))$

This evaluation map is linear, so its image is a linear code.



# Codes on the affine line

The classical example: **Generalized Reed-Solomon codes**

The geometric object  $\mathcal{X}$  is the **affine line** over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the points are  $n$  distinct elements of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ,  $L$  is the vector space of polynomials of degree at most  $k - 1$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

This vector space has dimension  $k$ . Such polynomials have **at most  $k - 1$  zeros** so nonzero codewords have at least  $n - k + 1$  nonzeros. I.e. the code has parameters  $[n, k, n - k + 1]$  if  $k \leq n$ .

## Codes on curves-function fields

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an algebraic curve over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of genus  $g$  (that is to say the curve is nonsingular, absolutely irreducible and projective).  $\mathbb{F}_q(\mathcal{X})$  is the function field of the curve  $\mathcal{X}$  with field of constants  $\mathbb{F}_q$

Let  $f$  be a nonzero rational function on the curve. The divisor of zeros and poles of  $f$  is denoted by  $(f)$ .

Let  $E$  be a divisor of  $\mathcal{X}$  of degree  $m$ . Then

$$L(E) = \{ f \in \mathbb{F}_q(\mathcal{X}) \mid f = 0 \text{ or } (f) \geq -E \}.$$

The dimension of the space  $L(E)$  is denoted by  $l(E)$  and  $l(E) \geq m + 1 - g$  and equality holds if  $m > 2g - 2$  by the Theorem of Riemann-Roch.

## Codes on curves

Let  $\mathcal{P} = (P_1, \dots, P_n)$  an  $n$ -tuple of mutual distinct points of  $\mathcal{X}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with divisor  $D = P_1 + \dots + P_n$

If the support of  $E$  is disjoint from  $D$ , then the **evaluation map**

$$\text{ev}_{\mathcal{P}} : L(E) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

where  $\text{ev}_{\mathcal{P}}(f) = (f(P_1), \dots, f(P_n))$ , is well defined.

The **algebraic geometry code**  $C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  is the image of  $L(E)$  under the evaluation map  $\text{ev}_{\mathcal{P}}$ .

If  $m < n$ , then  $C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  is an  $[n, k, d]$  code with

$$k \geq m + 1 - g \quad \text{and} \quad d \geq n - m.$$

## Dual codes on curves

Let  $\omega$  be a differential form with a simple pole at  $P_j$  with residue 1 for all  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

Let  $K$  be the canonical divisor of  $\omega$  and let  $m$  be the degree of the divisor  $E$  on  $\mathcal{X}$  with disjoint support from  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Let  $E^\perp = D - E + K$  and  $m^\perp = \deg(E^\perp)$ . Then  $m^\perp = 2g - 2 - m + n$  and

$$C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)^\perp = C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E^\perp)$$

Embedding of  $\mathcal{X}$  in linear system of  $E$  of degree  $m$ . Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k$  be a basis of  $L(E)$

$$\varphi : \mathcal{X} \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{k-1}$$

$$P \mapsto (f_1(P), f_2(P), \dots, f_k(P))$$

$\mathcal{Y} = \varphi(\mathcal{X})$  is a curve of degree  $m$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{k-1}$  and  $\mathcal{Q} = (\varphi(P_1), \dots, \varphi(P_n))$  is a projective system.

$$G_{\mathcal{Q}} = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(P_1) & \cdots & f_1(P_j) & \cdots & f_1(P_n) \\ f_2(P_1) & \cdots & f_2(P_j) & \cdots & f_2(P_n) \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ f_k(P_1) & \cdots & f_k(P_j) & \cdots & f_k(P_n) \end{pmatrix} \text{generator matrix.}$$

minimum distance  $\geq n - m$ .

# Sidelnikov-Shestakov I

Suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  is the class of Generalized Reed-Solomon codes. A GRS code of length  $n$  and dimension  $k = r + 1$  gives a projective system of  $n$  points in general position on a NRC of degree  $r$  in projective space of dimension  $r$ .

Special case:  $k = 3$  and  $r = 2$ :

a NRC of degree 2 in the projective plane is a **conic**. 5 points in general position determine this conic

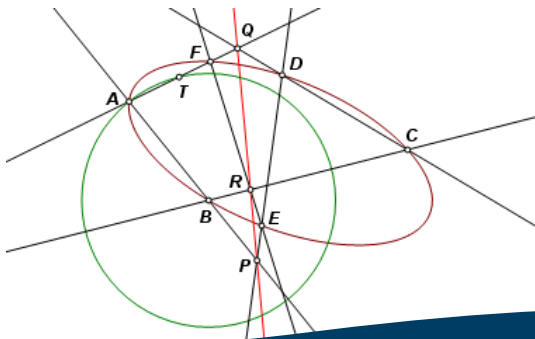
**Steiner**: parametrization of this conic in the plane given these 5 points.

Algorithm of **Sidelnikov-Shestakov** for arbitrary  $k$

Complexity: linear algebra  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$

## Conic determined by 5 points

**Pascal's theorem.** When a hexagon is inscribed in a conic, the three pairs of opposite sides define three points of intersection. These three points are collinear. In this case five of the hexagon vertices are given,  $A, B, C, D, E$ . The conic section is the locus of the sixth vertex  $F$ , which must satisfy the property of collinearity.

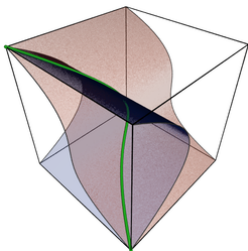


## NRC of degree $r$ ( $r + 2$ points)

Veronese 1882, Bordiga 1885, Castelnuovo 1885:

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a collection of  $r + 3$  points in general position in  $\mathbb{P}^r$ . Then there is a unique NRC of degree  $r$  passing through the points of  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Twisted cubic**,  $r=3$ : The zero locus of three smooth quadrics  $F_0 = XZ - Y^2$ ,  $F_1 = YW - Z^2$ ,  $F_2 = XW - YZ$ .





# AG, WAG and SAG codes

A code  $C$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  is called **weakly algebraic-geometric (WAG)** if  $C = C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  for some triple  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  where:

- $\mathcal{X}$  is an algebraic curve over  $\mathbb{F}_q$
- $\mathcal{P}$  is an  $n$ -tuple of mutually distinct points of  $\mathcal{X}(\mathbb{F}_q)$
- $E$  is divisor of degree  $m$  on  $\mathcal{X}$

Then  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  is called a **WAG representation** of  $C$ . If  $m < n$ , then it is called **AG**. If  $2g - 2 < m < n$ , then it is called **strongly algebraic-geometric (SAG)**.

**Theorem**[Pellikaan-Shen-van Wee]: Every code has a WAG representation

# Equivalent representations

Two representations  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  and  $(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}, F)$  are called **equivalent** or **isomorphic** if there is an isomorphism of curves  $\varphi: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  such that  $\varphi(\mathcal{P}) = \mathcal{Q}$  and  $\varphi(E) \equiv F$

They are called **strict equivalent** or **strict isomorphic** if moreover  $\varphi(E) \equiv_{\mathcal{Q}} F$

## Proposition

Let  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  and  $(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}, F)$  be WAG representations of  $C$  and  $D$ , resp.

Then:

- (1) If  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  and  $(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}, F)$  are equivalent, then  $C \equiv D$
- (2) If  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  and  $(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}, F)$  are strict equivalent, then  $C = D$

# Retrieving $E$ from $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P})$

**Theorem**[Munuera-Pellikaan]:

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a curve of genus  $g$  and  $D = P_1 + \cdots + P_n$  and let  $E$  and  $F$  be divisors of degree  $m$  with  $2g - 1 < m < n - 1$ .

Then

$$C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E) = C_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, F) \text{ if and only if } E \equiv_{\mathcal{P}} F.$$

# Strict equivalent representations

Let  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$  be a WAG representation of  $C$  such that  $m > 2g$  and let  $r = l(E) - 1$  and  $\{f_0, \dots, f_r\}$  be a basis of  $L(E)$ . Consider the map  $\varphi_E : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^r$  defined by  $\varphi_E(P) = (f_0(P), \dots, f_r(P))$ .

If  $m > 2g$ , then  $r = m - g$  and  $\varphi_E$  defines an **embedding** of the curve  $\mathcal{X}$  in  $\mathbb{P}^r$  of degree  $m$  with image  $\mathcal{Y} = \varphi_E(\mathcal{X})$ .

Let  $Q_j = \varphi_E(P_j)$  and  $Q = (Q_1, \dots, Q_n)$  then  $\varphi_E(E) = \mathcal{X} \cdot H = F$  for some hyperplane  $H$  of  $\mathbb{P}^r$  that is disjoint from  $Q$ .

Furthermore  $(\mathcal{Y}, Q, F)$  is also a WAG representation of the code  $C$  that is strict isomorphic with  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$ .



How to "decode"  $(\mathcal{Y}, Q, F)$  without knowing  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E)$ ?

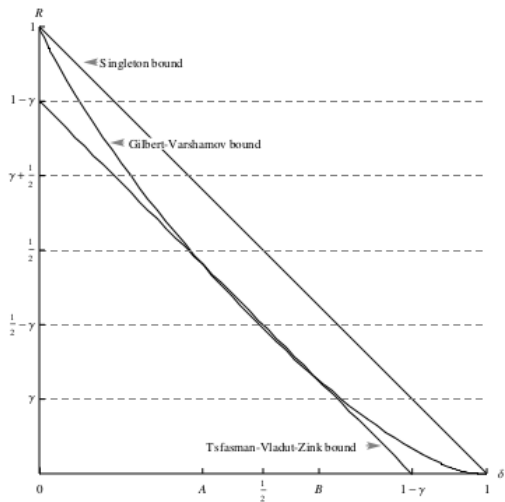
Theorem before implies,  **provided we have an efficient procedure for decoding the VSAG representation**, that one should not use VSAG codes for the McEliece PKC system in the range

$$\gamma \leq R \leq \frac{1}{2} - \gamma \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{2} + \gamma \leq R \leq 1 - \gamma,$$

By a shortening argument, we proved that also codes in the range

$$\frac{1}{2} - \gamma \leq R \leq 1 - 3\gamma \quad \text{or} \quad 3\gamma \leq R \leq \frac{1}{2} + \gamma,$$

should be excluded.  $[\gamma, \frac{1}{2} - \gamma]$ ,  $[\frac{1}{2} + \gamma, 1 - \gamma]$ ,  $[\frac{1}{2} - \gamma, 1 - 3\gamma]$  and  $[3\gamma, \frac{1}{2} + \gamma]$  are nonempty if and only if  $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{4}$ , and the union of these intervals cover the whole interval  $[\gamma, 1 - \gamma]$  if and only if  $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{6}$ .



# Curves defined by quadrics

Normal rational normal curve is defined by quadratic equations.

The canonical model of a non-hyperelliptic projective curve of genus at least three is the intersection of quadrics and cubics, and of quadrics only except in case of a trigonal curve and a plane quintic [Enriques 1919](#), [Petri 1923](#) and [Babbage 1939](#).

This result for the canonical divisor was generalized for arbitrary divisors  $E$  under certain constraints on the degree [Mumford 1970](#), [Saint-Donat 1972](#) and [Arbarello 1978](#).

## Curves defined by quadrics

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an absolutely irreducible and nonsingular curve of genus  $g$  over the perfect field  $\mathbb{F}$ . Let  $E$  be a divisor on  $\mathcal{X}$  of degree  $m$ .  
If  $m \geq 2g + 2$  then  $\mathcal{Y} = \varphi_E(\mathcal{X})$  is a normal curve in  $\mathbb{P}^{m-g}$  which is the intersection of quadrics.

More precisely:

$I(\mathcal{Y})$  is generated by  $I_2(\mathcal{Y})$  the ideal generated by the homogeneous elements of degree two in  $I(\mathcal{Y})$ .



## Retrieving $(\mathcal{X}, D, E)$ from the code

Let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a curve embedded in projective  $r$ -space of degree  $m$ , let  $I(\mathcal{Y})$  be the vanishing ideal of  $\mathcal{Y}$  and let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be a subset of  $\mathcal{Y}$  of  $n$  points. Then

$$I(\mathcal{Y}) \subseteq I(\mathcal{Q})$$

Let  $I_2(\mathcal{Y})$  be the ideal generated by the homogeneous elements of degree two in  $I(\mathcal{Y})$  and suppose  $I_2(\mathcal{Y}) = I(\mathcal{Y})$

$$\text{If } n > 2m, \text{ then } I(\mathcal{Y}) = I(\mathcal{Q})$$

by Bézout.

## Determination of $I_2(\mathcal{Q})$

Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be an  $n$ -tuple of mutually distinct  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -rational points of  $\mathcal{Y}$  in  $\mathbb{P}^r$  is given such that  $I(\mathcal{Y})$  is generated by  $I_2(\mathcal{Y})$ .

Consider the linear map

$$\sigma : S^2(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{(2)},$$

where the element  $x_i x_j$  is mapped to  $\mathbf{g}_i * \mathbf{g}_j$ . The kernel of this map will be denoted by  $K^2(\mathcal{C})$ .

**Proposition :** Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be an  $n$ -tuple of points in  $\mathbb{P}^r(\mathbb{F}_q)$  not in a hyperplane,  $k = r + 1$ ,  $G_{\mathcal{Q}}$  be the  $k \times n$  matrix associated to  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  be the subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  generated by the rows of  $G_{\mathcal{Q}}$ . Then

$$I_2(\mathcal{Q}) = \left\{ \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} a_{ij} X_i X_j \mid \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} a_{ij} x_i x_j \in K^2(\mathcal{C}) \right\}.$$

## Computing $I_d(\mathcal{Q})$

In the general case we define the spaces  $S^d(\mathcal{C})$ ,  $\mathcal{C}^{(d)}$  and  $K^d(\mathcal{C})$  for any positive integer  $d$ , then we have a similar result to the previous one relating  $I_d(\mathcal{Q})$  and  $K^d(\mathcal{C})$ . Furthermore we have that  $\mathcal{O}(n^2 \binom{k+d-1}{d})$  is an upper bound on the complexity of the computation of  $I_d(\mathcal{Q})$ .

The problem of the efficient computation of the vanishing ideal of a finite set of points was introduced by Buchberger and Möller in 1982. Then several generalization have been proposed, for instance, to the case of points with multiplicity, Lakshman in 1991 and to the projective case, Cioffi in 1998. Lately, Abbott et al. came with a variant of the classical BM Algorithm where they tame the problem of coefficient growth.

Let  $\mathbb{T}_2^{r+1}$  be the set of powers of degree two of the  $r$  variables  $\{x_0, \dots, x_r\}$ , let  $\sigma$  be a term ordering in  $\mathbb{T}_2^{r+1}$  and let  $\mathcal{Q} = \{Q_1, \dots, Q_n\}$  be an  $n$ -tuple of points in  $\mathbb{P}^r(\mathbb{F}_q)$  where  $Q_j$  is given by the homogeneous coordinates  $(q_{j0} : \dots : q_{jr})$ .

Initialization: Let:

- 11  $L$  be the ordered list of the elements of  $\mathbb{T}_2^{r+1}$   
w.r.t.  $\sigma$ ,
- 12  $G = []$  and  $S = []$  be empty lists
- 13 and  $M = (m_{ij})$  be an  $0 \times n$  matrix over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

## Algorithm (cont.)

- Main loop: L1 **IF**  $L$  is empty then go to the **End**  
**ELSE** choose the power product  $t = \min_{\prec}(L)$  and  
 remove it from  $L$ .
- L2 Compute the evaluation vector  
 $(t(Q_1), \dots, t(Q_n))$ , and reduce it against the rows  
 of the matrix  $M$ , to obtain  $\mathbf{v} = (t(Q_1), \dots, t(Q_n))$   
 $-\sum_j a_j(m_{j1}, \dots, m_{jn})$  with  $a_j \in \mathbb{F}_q$ .
- L3 **IF**  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$  then add the polynomial  $t - \sum_j a_j s_j$  to  
 the list  $G$ , where  $s_j$  is the  $i$ -th element of the list  
 $S$ . **Goto** L1.  
**ELSE** add  $\mathbf{v}$  as a new row of  $M$  and  $t - \sum_j a_j s_j$   
 as a new element to the list  $S$ . **Goto** L1.

End: **Returns**  $G$ , the reduced Gröbner b. of  $I_2(Q)$  w.r.t.  $\sigma$ .

## **i** Computing $E = \mathcal{Y} \cdot H$

Let  $H$  be the hyperplane given by the linear equation  $f(X) = 0$ . We may assume without loss of generality after possibly extending the field of constants that  $E = \mathcal{Y} \cdot H$  that there is a nonzero function  $f \in \mathcal{L}(E)$  such that  $(f)_\infty = E$ , that means that the divisor of poles of  $f$  is equal to  $E$ . Let  $\mathbf{g} = \text{ev}_{\mathcal{P}}(f) \in \mathcal{C}_L(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, E) = \mathcal{C}$ . Then  $\mathbf{g} * C$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}^{(2)}$  and the coset  $\mathcal{C}^{(2)}/\mathbf{g} * C$  has dimension  $(2m + 1 - g) - (m + 1 - g) = m$ . Therefore we have an explicitly given  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -linear map:

$$\mathbb{F}_q[X_1, \dots, X_k] \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{(2)}/\mathbf{g} * C$$

with kernel the ideal  $I_2(\mathcal{Y}) + (f)$ , that is the vanishing ideal of  $\mathcal{Y} \cap H$  with multiplicities counted. In this situation there is an efficient (polynomial) algorithm that computes a Gröbner basis of  $I_2(\mathcal{Y}) + (f)$

## ⊠ Toy Examples

⊠ 1.- Consider the smallest code that fulfills the conditions, i.e.  $[4, 3, 2]$  narrow sense RS code over  $\mathbb{F}_5$ .  $g = 0$ ,  $k = 3 > 2$ . Its

generator matrix in cyclic form is  $G = \begin{pmatrix} \xi^3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \xi^3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \xi^3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\xi$  is

a primitive root of  $\mathbb{F}_5$ . Let us consider the matrix  $S = \begin{pmatrix} \xi & 0 & 0 \\ \xi & \xi^2 & 0 \\ \xi & \xi^2 & \xi \end{pmatrix}$ .

Let us compute the matrix  $G_{Per} = SG = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & \xi^2 & \xi^2 & 0 \\ 1 & \xi^2 & 0 & \xi \end{pmatrix}$ .

## Toy Examples (cont.)

Note that it is possible to have a permutation involved, but it makes no difference with the computation of the following ideal.

The linear restrictions on the  $a_{ij}$ 's for computing  $\mathcal{I}_2(Q)$  where  $Q$  is given by the columns of  $G_{Per}$  imply that  $a_{22} = a_{33} = 0$  and reducing the two other linear equations relating the coefficients  $a_{ij}$

$$a_{11} + \xi^3 a_{23} = 0, \quad a_{21} + a_{13} + \xi^3 a_{23} = 0$$

and  $\mathcal{I}_2(Q) = \langle \xi^3 a_{23} x_1^2 + (a_{13} + \xi^2 a_{23}) x_1 x_2 - a_{13} x_1 x_3 + a_{23} x_2 x_3 \rangle$  where  $a_{13}, a_{23} \in \mathbb{F}_5$ .

Note that this case does not achieve the tight bound but if we take the extended code the bound is achieved since we will be in the case of 5 points in the projective plane determining a unique conic.



## ⊠ Toy Examples (cont.)

⊠ 2.- Let us take the extended case (i.e. 5 points)  $[5, 3, 3]$  extended RS code over  $\mathbb{F}_5$ . Its generator matrix is

$$G_e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \xi & \xi^2 & \xi^3 & 0 \\ 1 & \xi^2 & 1 & \xi^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

If we use the same  $S$  as in the previous example we have that

$$G_{Per_e} = SG_e = \begin{pmatrix} \xi & \xi & \xi & \xi & \xi \\ \xi & 1 & \xi^2 & 0 & \xi^3 \\ \xi & 1 & 1 & \xi^2 & \xi \end{pmatrix}.$$

## ⊠ Toy Examples (cont.)

The linear restrictions on the  $a_{ij}$ 's for computing  $\mathcal{I}_2(Q_e)$  where  $Q_e$  is given by the columns of  $G_{Per_e}$  imply that  $a_{12} = a_{33} = a_{23} = 0$  and reducing the two other linear equations relating the coefficients  $a_{ij}$

$$a_{13} - a_{22} = 0, \quad a_{11} + \xi a_{22} = 0,$$

thus  $\mathcal{I}_2(Q) = \langle a_{22}x_1^2 + \xi a_{22}x_1x_3 + \xi a_{22}x_2^2 \mid a_{22} \in \mathbb{F}_5 \setminus \{0\} \rangle$  i.e. the unique form  $x_1^2 + \xi x_1x_3 + \xi x_2^2$  which is indeed the same as we arrive computing from the columns of matrix  $G_e$  without “scrambling” with  $S$ .

**Indeed, 5 points determine a unique conic!!!!**

