

COVER-FREE FAMILIES, CONSTRUCTIONS AND CRYPTOGRAPHICAL APPLICATIONS

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- Cryptography problems with a “all or nothing” solution.



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- Cover-free families to provide fault-tolerance.

	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6
agg1:	1	1	1	0	0	0
agg2:	1	0	0	1	1	0
agg3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
agg4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

- Cryptography problems with a “all or nothing” solution.

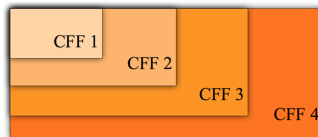


- Cover-free families to provide fault-tolerance.

	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6
agg1:	1	1	1	0	0	0
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agg3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
agg4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

- Explore different aspects of cover-free families.

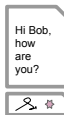
$$\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$$



DIGITAL SIGNATURES





DIGITAL SIGNATURES



DIGITAL SIGNATURES



Public key 
Private key 

Hi Bob,
how
are
you?





Hi Bob,
how
are
you?



DIGITAL SIGNATURES



Public key 
Private key 

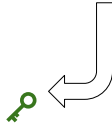
Hi Bob,
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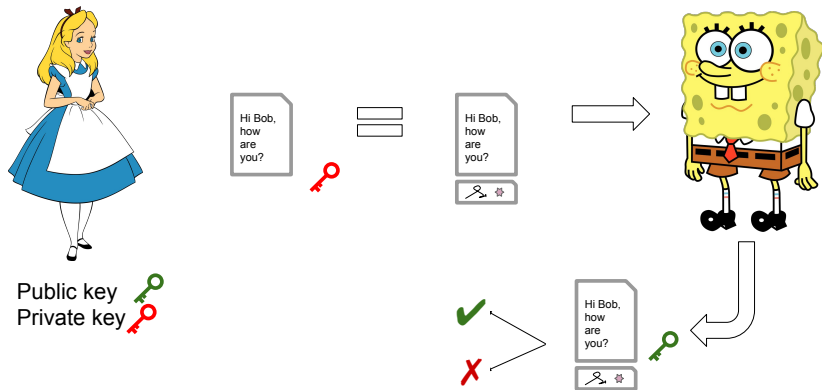
Hi Bob,
how
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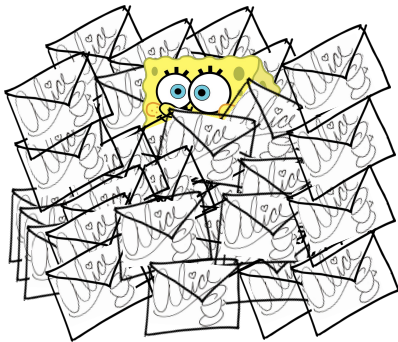


DIGITAL SIGNATURES



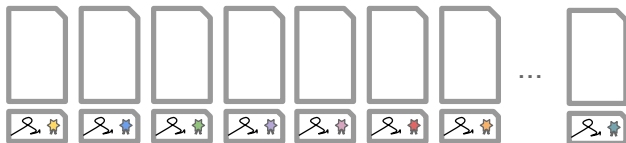
- Allows Bob to verify that the message was not modified during transmission (**integrity**), and that Alice in fact signed it (**authenticity**).

What happens when we have thousands of messages and signatures?



AGGREGATION OF SIGNATURES

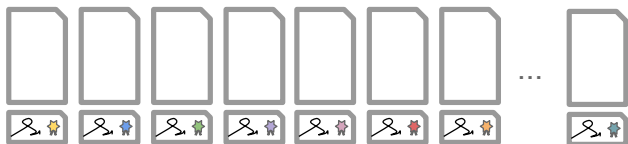
- What happens when we have thousands of msgs/signatures?



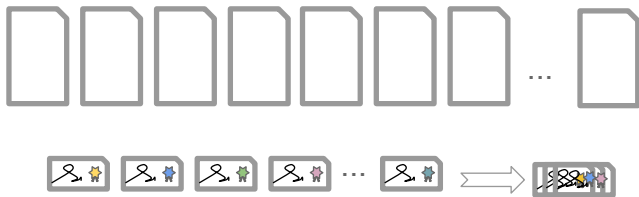
¹D. Boneh, C. Gentry, B. Lynn, H. Shacham, Eurocrypt 2003.

AGGREGATION OF SIGNATURES

- What happens when we have thousands of msgs/signatures?



- *Aggregation of signatures*, Boneh et al. (2003)¹.



¹D. Boneh, C. Gentry, B. Lynn, H. Shacham, Eurocrypt 2003.

AGGREGATION OF SIGNATURES

- Saves on storage, communication and verification time.



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- One invalid signature invalidates the entire aggregate.



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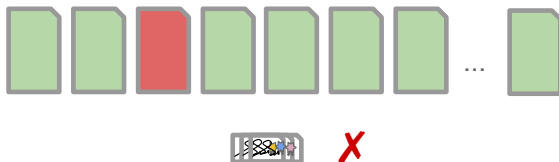


- One invalid signature invalidates the entire aggregate.



- Use d -cover-free families to provide fault-tolerance.

- One invalid signature invalidates the entire aggregate.



- Use d -cover-free families to provide fault-tolerance.
 - G. Zaverucha, D. Stinson, ICITS 2009.
 - T. B. Idalino. Using combinatorial group testing to solve integrity issues. Master's thesis, 2015.
 - G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

COVER-FREE FAMILIES

A $t \times n$ binary incidence matrix.

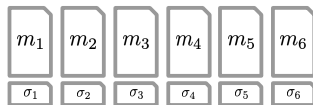
- n = number of elements to be tested
- d = max number of invalid elements.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Test result:
test 1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	X
test 2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	✓
test 3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	✓
test 4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	X

1-CFF($t = 4, n = 6$)

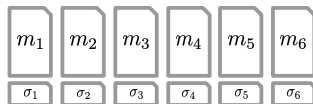
FAULT TOLERANCE WITH d -CFFS

- n = number of signatures
- d = max number of invalid signatures.



FAULT TOLERANCE WITH d -CFFS

- n = number of signatures
- d = max number of invalid signatures.



	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6	
agg 1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	$\sigma^*[1] = \mathbf{Agg}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3)$
agg 2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	$\sigma^*[2] = \mathbf{Agg}(\sigma_1, \sigma_4, \sigma_5)$
agg 3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	$\sigma^*[3] = \mathbf{Agg}(\sigma_2, \sigma_4, \sigma_6)$
agg 4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	$\sigma^*[4] = \mathbf{Agg}(\sigma_3, \sigma_5, \sigma_6)$



FAULT TOLERANCE WITH d -CFFs

AggVerify($\sigma^*[1], m_1, m_2, m_3$) \times

AggVerify($\sigma^*[2], m_1, m_4, m_5$) \checkmark

AggVerify($\sigma^*[3], m_2, m_4, m_6$) \checkmark

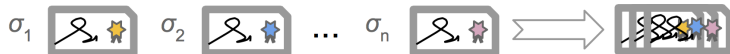
AggVerify($\sigma^*[4], m_3, m_5, m_6$) \times

	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6	result:
agg 1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	\times
agg 2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	\checkmark
agg 3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	\checkmark
agg 4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	\times

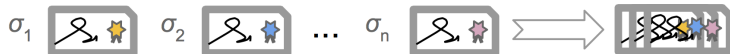
Invalid signature: σ_3



- **Before:** dynamically aggregate signatures as they arrive.



- **Before:** dynamically aggregate signatures as they arrive.



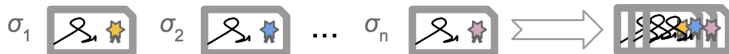
- **Now:** the number of signatures is bounded by n .

	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6
agg 1:	1	1	1	0	0	0
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agg 3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
agg 4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

FAULT-TOLERANCE WITH D-CFFS

PROBLEM

- **Before:** dynamically aggregate signatures as they arrive.



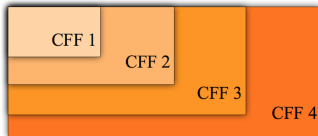
- **Now:** the number of signatures is bounded by n .

	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6
agg 1:	1	1	1	0	0	0
agg 2:	1	0	0	1	1	0
agg 3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
agg 4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

- Impractical for applications where signatures are dynamically arriving.

How to make the number of signatures dynamic and still guarantee a reasonable size for the aggregate signature?

$\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$



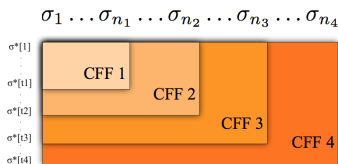
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- **Solution:** Increase the d -CFF to hold extra signatures.
- Create a special sequence of d -CFF matrices.

1-CFF(5,10) Matrix

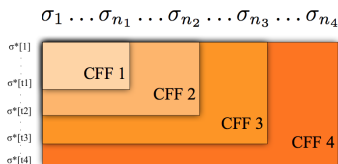
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
test ₁	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
test ₂	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
test ₃	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
test ₄	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
test ₅	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1



- **Problem:** Fault-tolerant aggregation of signatures with unknown n .
- **Solution:** Increase the d -CFF to hold extra signatures.
- Create a special sequence of d -CFF matrices.
 - Large matrices contain small matrices.

1-CFF(5,10) Matrix

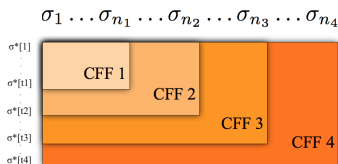
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
test ₁	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
test ₂	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
test ₃	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
test ₄	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
test ₅	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1



- **Problem:** Fault-tolerant aggregation of signatures with unknown n .
- **Solution:** Increase the d -CFF to hold extra signatures.
- Create a special sequence of d -CFF matrices.
 - Large matrices contain small matrices.
 - Avoid using unavailable signatures in the new aggregates.

1-CFF(5,10) Matrix

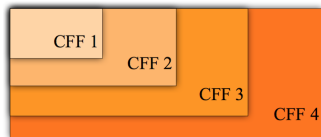
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
test ₁	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
test ₂	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
test ₃	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
test ₄	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
test ₅	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1



COMPRESSION RATIO

- **Compression ratio:** $\rho(n)$ iff $\frac{n}{t}$ is $\Theta(\rho(n))$

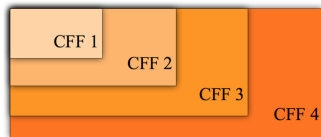
$\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$



COMPRESSION RATIO

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 - number of signatures/size of the aggregate signature.

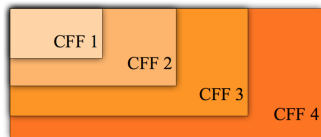
$\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$



COMPRESSION RATIO

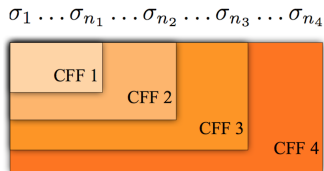
- **Compression ratio:** $\rho(n)$ iff $\frac{n}{t}$ is $\Theta(\rho(n))$
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- The larger $\rho(n)$ the better.

$\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$



COMPRESSION RATIO

- **Compression ratio:** $\rho(n)$ iff $\frac{n}{t}$ is $\Theta(\rho(n))$
 - number of signatures/size of the aggregate signature.
- The larger $\rho(n)$ the better.
- $\rho(n)$ depends on d .



- **Compression ratio:** $\rho(n)$ iff $\frac{n}{t}$ is $\Theta(\rho(n))$

- **Traditional aggregation:**

$$\rho(n) = n \implies t = 1, d = 0.$$

item	1	2	3	4	5	6
agg 1	1	1	1	1	1	1

- **No aggregation:**

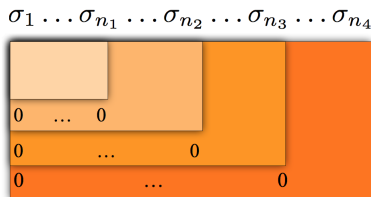
$$\rho = 1 \implies t = n, d = n$$

item	1	2	3	4	5	6
agg 1	1	0	0	0	0	0
agg 2	0	1	0	0	0	0
\vdots			\vdots			
agg 6	0	0	0	0	0	1

- **Fault-tolerant aggregation:** $\rho(n) \leq \frac{n}{\frac{d^2}{\log d} \log n}$.

- Solution with *Monotone families*²
- Avoid using unavailable signatures in new aggregates with 0 rows.

$$\mathcal{M}^{(l+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}^{(l)} & Y \\ 0 & W \end{pmatrix}$$

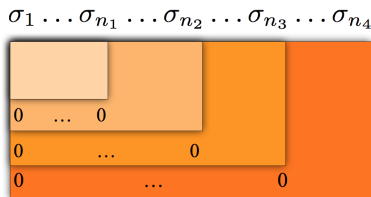


²G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

MONOTONE FAMILY

- Solution with *Monotone families*²
- Avoid using unavailable signatures in new aggregates with 0 rows.

$$\mathcal{M}^{(l+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}^{(l)} & Y \\ 0 & W \end{pmatrix}$$



- Compression ratio: $\rho(n) = 1$ (number of rows is linear in n).
- Solved unbounded problem but impractical (constant ratio).

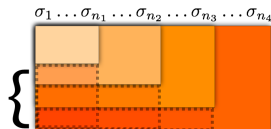
²G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

Our contribution:

- We define a more flexible family of matrices: *nested families*.³
- Z has rows of 0's, 1's, and repeated rows from $\mathcal{M}^{(l)}$.

$$\mathcal{M}^{(l+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}^{(l)} & Y \\ Z & W \end{pmatrix}$$

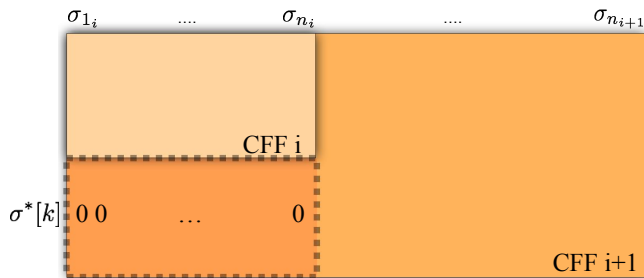
Rows of 0's
Rows of 1's
Repeated rows



³T. B. Idalino, L. Moura, TCS 2021.

NESTED FAMILY

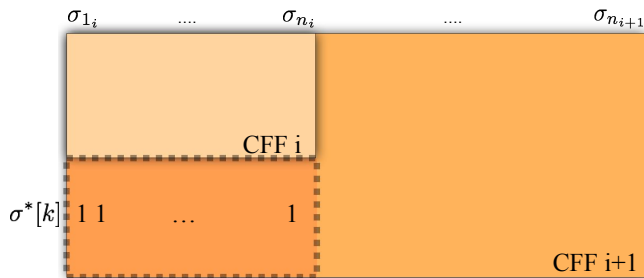
DEFINITION



Row of 0's: $\sigma^*[k]$ is a regular aggregation.

NESTED FAMILY

DEFINITION

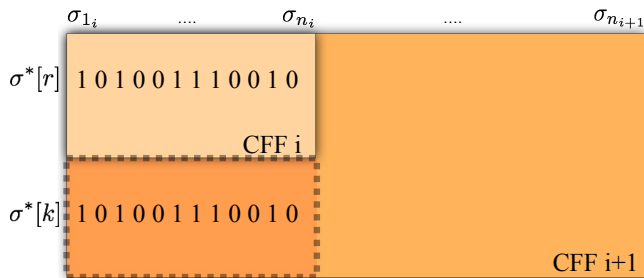


Row of 1's:

- Keep one extra aggregation $\sigma^*[0] = \text{Agg}(\sigma_i, \dots, \sigma_{n_i})$;
- then $\sigma^*[k] = \text{Agg}(\sigma^*[0], \text{new signatures})$.

NESTED FAMILY

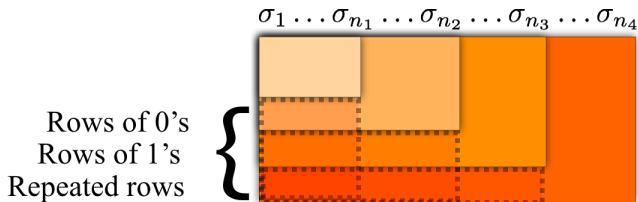
DEFINITION



Repeated row r : $\sigma^*[k] = \text{Agg}(\sigma^*[r], \text{new signatures})$.

NESTED FAMILY CONSTRUCTION

- We need constructions for nested families, with good increasing compression ratio
- Proposed 3 different constructions for $d = 1$ and general d



NESTED FAMILY CONSTRUCTION

Case $d = 1$:

- Based on Sperner set systems.

1-CFF(6,20) Matrix

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
test ₁	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
test ₂	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
test ₃	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
test ₄	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
test ₅	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1
test ₆	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NESTED FAMILY CONSTRUCTION

Case $d = 1$:

- Based on Sperner set systems.

1-CFF(6,20) Matrix

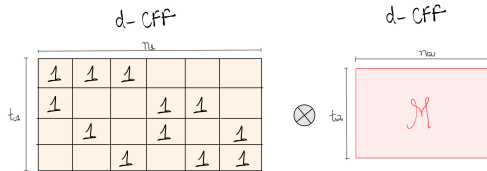
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
test ₁	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
test ₂	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
test ₃	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
test ₄	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
test ₅	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1
test ₆	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- We increase t as necessary and fill the matrix accordingly.
- $\rho(n) = \frac{n}{\log_2 n} \rightarrow$ **meets the upper bound.**

General d (Construction 1):

KRONECKER PRODUCT

$$d - CFF(t_1, n_1) \otimes d - CFF(t_2, n_2) = d - CFF(t_1 \times t_2, n_1 \times n_2)$$

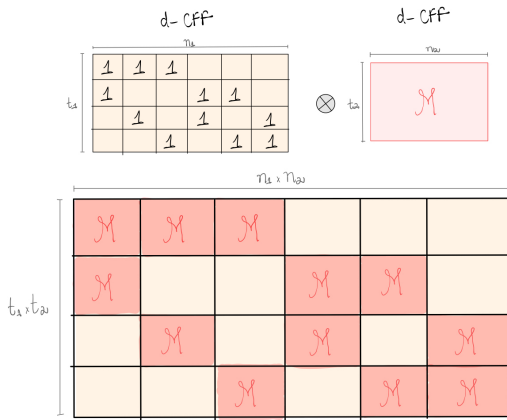


NESTED FAMILY - CONSTRUCTIONS

General d (Construction 1):

KRONECKER PRODUCT

$$d - CFF(t_1, n_1) \otimes d - CFF(t_2, n_2) = d - CFF(t_1 \times t_2, n_1 \times n_2)$$



General d (Construction 1):

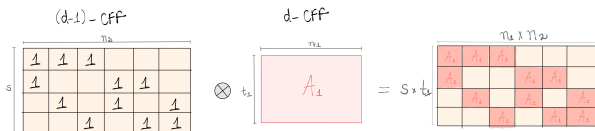
ITERATING THE STEP

Iterating the step we get a nested family with

$$\rho(n) = \frac{n}{n^{1/c}} = n^{1-1/c}.$$

General d (Construction 2):

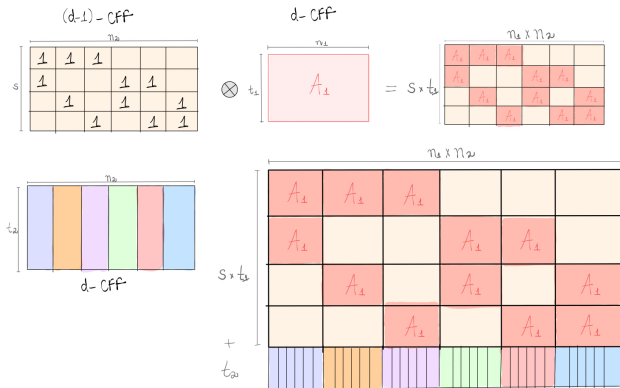
$$(d-1)\text{-CFF}(s, n_2) \otimes d\text{-CFF}(t_1, n_1) \text{ plus } d\text{-CFF}(t_2, n_2) \\ = d\text{-CFF}(s \times t_1 + t_2, n_2 \times n_1)$$



General d (Construction 2):

$$(d-1)\text{-CFF}(s, n_2) \otimes d\text{-CFF}(t_1, n_1) \text{ plus } d\text{-CFF}(t_2, n_2)$$

$$= d\text{-CFF}(s \times t_1 + t_2, n_2 \times n_1)$$



General d (Construction 2):

ITERATING THE STEP

Iterating the step (in a specific way) we get a nested family with

$$\rho(n) = \frac{n}{(b \log_2 n)^{\log_2 \log_2 n + D}}.$$

With Nested families:

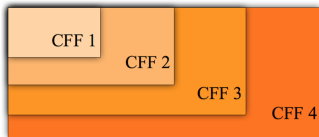
- Make fault-tolerant aggregation of signatures more practical.
 - Allow increase on the number n of signatures.
 - Reasonable aggregate signature size.

d	$\rho(n)$	Construction
0	n	Traditional
1	$\frac{n}{\log_2 n}$	Sperner
d	$\frac{n}{n^{1/c}}$	Construction 1
d	$\frac{n}{(b \log_2 n)^{\log_2 \log_2 n + D}}$	Construction 2
d	1	Hartung et al. ⁴

⁴G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

WHAT ELSE?

$\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$



- Increases in n may increase d too.
- Nested and monotone families do not allow increases on d .

EMBEDDING COVER-FREE FAMILIES

GENERAL IDEA

- Generalization of monotone and nested: *embedding families*.⁵
- No requirements for Z .

$$\mathcal{M}^{(l+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}^{(l)} & Y \\ Z & W \end{pmatrix}$$

- Application in broadcast encryption and authentication.
- Constructions based on polynomials over finite fields and extension fields.

⁵T. B. Idalino, L. Moura, to appear in *Advances in Mathematics of Communications*, nov 2019.

CONSTRUCTION (K&S 1964, E,F&F 1985)

Let q be a prime power and k be a positive integer. If $q \geq dk + 1$ then there exists a d -CFF((q^2, q^{k+1})).

Note $t = q^2 = n^{\frac{2}{k+1}}$

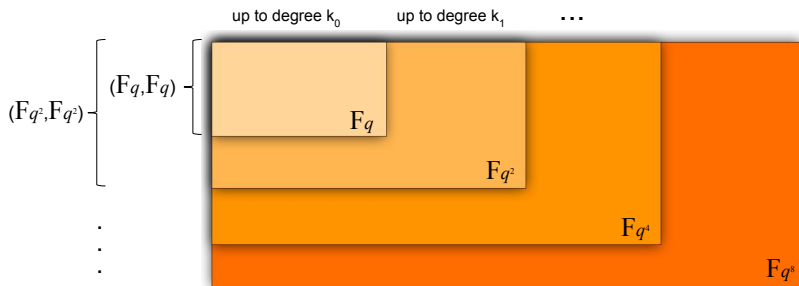
Example of for $q = 3$, $k = 1$: 1-CFF(6, 9) and a 2-CFF(9, 9):

	0	1	2	x	$x+1$	$x+2$	$2x$	$2x+1$	$2x+2$
(0, 0)	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
(0, 1)	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
(0, 2)	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
(1, 0)	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
(1, 1)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
(1, 2)	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
(2, 0)	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
(2, 1)	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
(2, 2)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0

EMBEDDING COVER-FREE FAMILIES

CONSTRUCTION

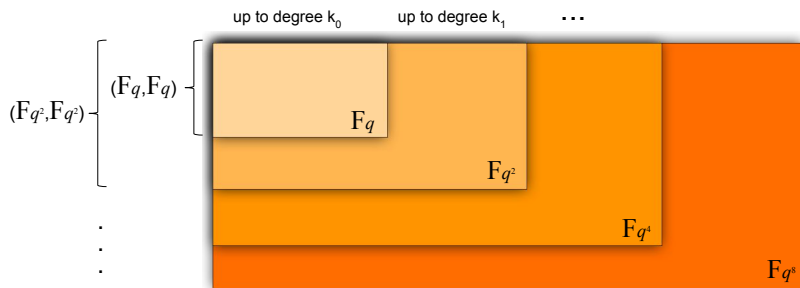
- Start with \mathbb{F}_q and grow the construction with extension fields.
 - Tower of finite fields.
- Order rows and columns to have an embedding family.



EMBEDDING COVER-FREE FAMILIES

CONSTRUCTION

- Play with k_i, d_i, q^{2^i} , for $q^{2^i} \geq d_i k_i + 1$:
 - Focus on d increases (fix k);
 - Focus on better compression ratio (fix d);
 - Build monotone families with increasing $\rho(n)$ (fix d and k).



PRIORITIZE d INCREASES

PRIORITIZING d INCREASE

- Fix k and increase d_i to its maximum.
- $q^{2^i} \geq d_i k + 1$
- $\rho(n) = n^{1 - \frac{2}{k+1}}$
- $d \sim \frac{n^{1/k+1}}{k}$

i	q	k	d	n	t	n/t
0	4	2	1	64	12	5.33
1	16	2	7	4096	240	17.06
2	256	2	127	16777216	65280	257.00
3	65536	2	32767	281474976710656	4294901760	65537.00

PRIORITIZE RATIO INCREASES

PRIORITIZING RATIO INCREASE

- Fix d and increase k_i to its maximum.
- $q^{2^i} \geq dk_i + 1$
- $\rho(n) = \frac{n}{\log n}$
 - Because $n = q^{k+1}, t = (dk + 1)q$.

i	q	k	d	n	t	n/t
0	4	1	2	16	12	1.33
1	16	7	2	4294967296	240	17895697.07
2	256	127	2	256^{128}	65280	2.75×10^{303}
3	65536	32767	2	65536^{32768}	4294901760	6.04×10^{157816}

MONOTONE FAMILIES

- Fix d and k .
- Select specific blocks of rows.
- We get monotone families with $\frac{n}{t} = \frac{n}{qn^{1/k+1}}$, which is $O(n^{1-\frac{1}{k+1}})$.

$$\mathcal{M}^{(l+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}^{(l)} & Y \\ 0 & W \end{pmatrix}$$

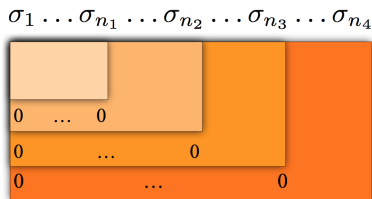


TABLE: Embedding families: Summary of results for $k \geq 2$.

k	d	$\rho(n)$	Feature
fixed	$d \sim \frac{n^{1/(k+1)}}{k}$	$n^{1-\frac{2}{k+1}}$	increasing d
increasing	fixed	$\frac{n}{\log n}$	optimal ratio
fixed	fixed	$n^{1-\frac{1}{k+1}}$	monotone

Different applications require different properties of CFFs.

- Explore dynamic applications with increasing n and d .
- Good compression ratios.

	d	n
d -CFFs	fixed	fixed
Monotone	fixed	increasing
Nested	fixed	increasing
Embedding	increasing	increasing

- Constructions with better compression ratio.
- Compression ratio bounds on monotone and nested families ($d \geq 2$).
 - $\rho(n) \leq \frac{n}{\frac{d^2}{\log d} \log n}$
- New constructions of embedding families with smoother compression ratio.
 - Gradual increases of n .
- Other aspects of CFFs to be explored.
 - Mixed properties and applications.

Thank You!

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