FAULT TOLERANCE IN CRYPTOGRAPHY USING COVER-FREE FAMILIES

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OUTLINE

• 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

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• 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
agg2:	1	0	0	1	1	0
agg3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
agg4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

• Explore different aspects of cover-free families.

 $\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4}$ $\boxed{\begin{array}{c} CFF 1 \\ CFF 2 \\ CFF 3 \end{array}} CFF 4$

The problem



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

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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.

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Aggregation of signatures

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



• Aggregation of signatures, Boneh et al. $(2003)^1$.



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

AGGREGATION OF SIGNATURES

• Saves on storage, communication and verification time.





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Aggregation of signatures

• Saves on storage, communication and verification time.







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

Cover-free families

	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

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COMBINATORIAL GROUP TESTING

Problem: Identify d defective elements from a set of n elements pooled into t groups. **Solution:** Test the t groups, instead of individual elements. **Objective:** Give n, d, minimize t.



COMBINATORIAL GROUP TESTING

Problem: Identify d defective elements from a set of n elements pooled into t groups. **Solution:** Test the t groups, instead of individual elements. **Objective:** Give n, d, minimize t.

• Use a d-CFF(t, n) with t rows and n columns.



Example d = 1 defectives

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	
input:	?	?	?	?	?	?	result:
test1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	?
test2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	?
test3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	?
test4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	?

Defective: item ?

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Example d = 1 defectives

item	1	2	3	4	5	6		
input:	?	?	?	?	?	?	result:	
test1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	Defective: item ?
test2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	Delective. Item :
test3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
test4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	

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Example d = 1 defectives

item	1	2	3	4	5	6		
input:	0	0	?	0	0	0	result:	
test1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	Defective: item ?
test2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	Delective. Item :
test3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
test4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	

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Example d = 1 defectives

item	1	2	3	4	5	6		
input:	0	0	1	0	0	0	result:	
test1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	Defective: item 3
test2:	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	Delective. Item J
test3:	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
test4:	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	

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item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	result:
t1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	?
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	?
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	?
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	?
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	?
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	?
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	?
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	?
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	?
					De	fecti	ive:	iten	ns ?				

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	result:
t1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
					De	fecti	ive:	iten	ns ?				

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	result:
t1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
					De	fecti	ive:	iten	ns ?				

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	result:
t1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
				Def	ecti	ve:	item	າs <mark>3</mark>	and	12			

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Ì
input	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	result:
t1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
				Def	ecti	ve:	item	ıs <mark>3</mark>	and	12			

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	result:
t1		0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Defective: items 3 and 12													

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	result:
t1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0		0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Defective: items 3 and 12													

item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	result:
t1	1	0	0		0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
t4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Defective: items 3 and 12													

item	1	2 <mark>3</mark>	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
input	0	0 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	result:
t1	1	0 0		0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
t2	1	0 0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
t3	1	0 0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0		1
t4	0	1 0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
t5	0	1 0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
t6	0	1 0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
t7	0	0 1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
t8	0	0 (1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
t9	0	0 1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Defective: items 3 and 12												

Example d = 2 defectives



A d-CFF(t, n) is a $t \times n$ binary matrix where every set of d+1 columns contains a permutation submatrix of order d+1.

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CFFs and group testing

Using a *d*-cover-free family, no matter where the defectives are...



we can identify all good items.

(as long as we have at most d defectives)

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Cover-free families with d = 1

When d = 1:

- no column is covered by any other
- no subset contains any other
- Sperner set systems

item	1	2	3	4	5	6
test1:	1	1	1	0	0	0
test2:	1	0	0	1	1	0
test3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
test4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

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Cover-free families with d = 1

When d = 1:

- Given *n*, choose $t = \min\{s : \binom{s}{|s/2|} \ge n\}$.
- List the collection of all the $\lfloor t/2 \rfloor$ -subsets of $\{1, \ldots, t\}$.

Example n = 6, t = 4, d = 12-subsets of $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$: $\{\{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 4\}\}$

item	1	2	3	4	5	6
test1:	1	1	1	0	0	0
test2:	1	0	0	1	1	0
test3:	0	1	0	1	0	1
test4:	0	0	1	0	1	1

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COVER-FREE FAMILIES

- Minimize t for given n and d.
 - Lower bound for $d \ge 2$: $t \ge c \frac{d^2}{\log d} \log n$.²
- For d = 1:
 - Sperner system.
 - $t \sim \log n$.
- For general d:
 - Direct construction from finite fields, codes, SHF, OAs, etc.

• Probabilistic construction with $t = \Theta((d+1)^2 \ln n)$.

²Z. Füredi. On *r*-Cover-free Families. Journal of Combinatorial Theory, 1996.

RECALL OUR PROBLEM

• Traditional aggregation of signatures

 3 T. B. Idalino. Using combinatorial group testing to solve integrity issues. Master's thesis, 2015.

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

RECALL OUR PROBLEM

• Traditional aggregation of signatures



• One invalid signature invalidates the entire aggregate.



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

 $^{{}^{3}}$ T. B. Idalino. Using combinatorial group testing to solve integrity issues. Master's thesis, 2015.

RECALL OUR PROBLEM

• Traditional aggregation of signatures



• One invalid signature invalidates the entire aggregate.



• Use *d*-CFFs to provide fault-tolerance. 3,4

 3 T. B. Idalino. Using combinatorial group testing to solve integrity issues. Master's thesis, 2015.

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

FAULT TOLERANCE WITH d-CFFs

- *n* = number of signatures
- $d = \max$ number of invalid signatures.



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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(
$$\sigma^{*}[1], m_{1}, m_{2}, m_{3}$$
) X
AggVerify($\sigma^{*}[2], m_{1}, m_{4}, m_{5}$) V
AggVerify($\sigma^{*}[3], m_{2}, m_{4}, m_{6}$) V
AggVerify($\sigma^{*}[4], m_{3}, m_{5}, m_{6}$) X

	σ_1	σ_2	σ_3	σ_4	σ_5	σ_6	result:
agg 1:	1	1	1	0	0	0	Х
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	Х

Invalid signature: σ_3

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FAULT-TOLERANCE WITH D-CFFS PROBLEM

• Before: dynamically aggregate signatures as they arrive.

$$\sigma_1 \swarrow \phi_2 \swarrow \phi_1 \cdots \sigma_n \checkmark \phi_1$$

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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

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• 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?





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• **Problem:** Fault-tolerant aggregation of signatures with unknown *n*.

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- Create a special sequence of *d*-CFF matrices.





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σ*[t4]

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- 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.



$$\overset{\sigma^{\dagger}[1]}{\underset{\sigma^{\bullet}[1]}{\overset{\sigma^$$

•*(2) •*(5) •*(4) •*(4) •*(4) •*(5) •*(6) •*(7) •*(7) •CFF 2 CFF 3 CFF 4

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COMPRESSION RATIO

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



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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.



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

Compression Ratio

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

• Traditional aggregation:

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

$$\frac{\text{item} | 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ 6}{| \text{agg 1} | 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1}$$

• No aggregation:

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

MONOTONE FAMILY

- Solution with Monotone families ⁵
- Avoid using unavailable signatures in new aggregates with 0 rows.

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

$$\begin{bmatrix}
0 & \dots & 0 \\
0 & \dots & 0 \\
0 & \dots & 0
\end{bmatrix}$$

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⁵G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

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

⁵G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

Our contribution:

- We define a more flexible family of matrices: nested families. ⁶
- Z has rows of 0's, 1's, and repeated rows from $\mathcal{M}^{(I)}$.

$$\mathcal{M}^{(l+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M}^{(l)} & Y \\ Z & W \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Rows of 0's}}_{\text{Repeated rows}} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n_1} \dots \sigma_{n_2} \dots \sigma_{n_3} \dots \sigma_{n_4} \\ \\ \end{array} \right.$$

⁶T. B. Idalino, L. Moura, TCS 2021.



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

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Row of 1's:

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



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

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



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Case d = 1:

• Based on Sperner set systems.



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Case d = 1:

• Based on Sperner set systems.



• We increase t as necessary and fill the matrix accordingly.

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• $\rho(n) = \frac{n}{\log_2 n} \rightarrow$ meets the upper bound.

General *d* (Construction 1):

KRONECKER PRODUCT

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



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General *d* (Construction 1):

ITERATING THE STEP

Iterating the step we get a nested family with

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

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General *d* (Construction 2):

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



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General d (Construction 2):

ITERATING THE STEP

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

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

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. ⁷

⁷G. Hartung, B. Kaidel, A. Koch, J. Koch, A. Rupp, PKC 2016.

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

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• Application in broadcast encryption and authentication.

Embedding Cover-Free Families

- Generalization of monotone and nested: embedding families.⁸
- Constructions based on polynomials over finite fields and extension fields.



⁸T. B. Idalino, L. Moura, Mathematics of Communications, 2019.

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CONCLUSION

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

FUTURE WORK

- Constructions with better compression ratio.
- Compression ratio bounds on monotone and nested families $(d \ge 2)$.

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$$\rho(n) \leq \frac{n}{\frac{d^2}{\log d} \log n}$$

- Other aspects of CFFs to be explored.
 - Mixed properties and applications.

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