

# Structural Cryptanalysis of McEliece-Like Schemes with Monoidic Keys

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## Code-based Cryptography : Syndrome decoding problem

- Solving a linear system over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with errors : given  $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ , find  $\mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathbf{e}$  with  $w_H(\mathbf{e}) \leq w$  such that

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{m}\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}.$$



E. Berlekamp, R. McEliece, H. van Tilborg.

On the inherent intractability of certain coding problems.

IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 1978



R.J. McEliece.

A public-key cryptosystem based-on algebraic coding theory.

DSN Progress Report 44, 1978



N. Courtois, M. Finiasz, N. Sendrier.

How to achieve a McEliece-based digital signature scheme.

ASIACRYPT 2001

## Code-based Cryptosystem (1978)

- **Public key** :  $\mathbf{G}_{pub}$  generating  $\mathcal{C}_{pub}$  code with parameters  $[n, k, t]_q$
- **Private key** : a fast decoder for  $\mathcal{C}_{pub}$  ( $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  for an alternant code)
- Message  $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{F}_q^k$ , ciphertext  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ , error  $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  with  $w_H(\mathbf{e}) \leq t$  :

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{m}\mathbf{G}_{pub} + \mathbf{e}$$

- Huge public key

## McEliece Schemes with Symmetric Keys

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \cdots & a_{t-1} \\ a_{t-1} & a_0 & \cdots & a_{t-2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \cdots & \vdots \\ a_1 & \cdots & a_{t-1} & a_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Cyclic block

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} a_0 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_1 & a_0 & a_3 & a_2 \\ \hline a_2 & a_3 & a_0 & a_1 \\ a_3 & a_2 & a_1 & a_0 \end{array} \right)$$

Dyadic block with  $t = 4$



T. Berger, P.-L. Cayrel, Ph. Gaborit, A. Otmani.

Reducing Key Length of the McEliece Cryptosystem.

AFRICACRYPT 2009



R. Misoczki, P. Barreto.

Compact McEliece Keys from Goppa Codes.

SAC 2009

$$\mathbf{G} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \cdots & M_i & \cdots \\ \hline & & \end{array} \right)$$

- $M_i$  matrices with symmetries of size  $t \times t$ .
- Compression factor  $t$  for  $\mathbf{G}$ .
- Find codes with known **permutation group**.

## Algebraic Key-Recovery Cryptanalysis (EC'10)



J.-C. Faugère, A. Otmani, L. Perret, J.-P. Tillich.

Algebraic Cryptanalysis of McEliece Variants with Compact Keys.  
EUROCRYPT 2010

- $x, y$  secret vectors are solutions of :

$$\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} g_{i,j} Y_j X_j^\ell = 0 \mid 0 \leq i < k, 0 \leq \ell \leq t-1 \right\}.$$

- $g_{i,j}$  entries of  $\mathbf{G}_{pub}$ ,

# Algebraic Cryptanalysis & McEliece compact variants (EC'10)

	McEliece	QC McEliece	QD McEliece
<b>X</b> variables	$n$	$n/t$	$n/t + \lambda$
<b>Y</b> variables	$n - k$	$(n - k)/t$	$(n - k)/t$

$t =$  compression factor,  $\lambda = \log_p(t)$ .

$q$	$n/t$	$t$	FGb(F5)
$2^8$	9	51	0.06 s
$2^8$	10	51	0.03 s
$2^8$	12	51	0.05 s
$2^8$	15	51	0.02 s
$2^{10}$	6	75	0.05s
$2^{10}$	6	93	0.05s
$2^{10}$	8	93	0.02s
$2^8$	15	255	0.08s

**Table:** Quasi-cyclic parameters  
 $[n, k, t]_q$ .

$q$	$n/t$	$t$	FGb(F5)
$2^8$	12	64	0.03 s
$2^4$	32	64	0.50 s
$2^2$	56	64	1776 s
2	158	128	NA
2	12	128	NA
2	511	16	NA
3	19682	9	NA
241	4	241	NA

**Table:** Quasi-dyadic/monoidic  
 parameters  $[n, k, t]_q$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Very efficient for some instances ... **not at all for binary dyadic codes!**

## Our Results

	McEliece	QD McEliece	Our work
<b>X</b> variables	$n$	$n/t + \lambda$	$n/t$
<b>Y</b> variables	$n - k$	$(n - k)/t$	$(n - k)/t$

$t =$  compression factor,  $\lambda = \log_p(t)$ .

$q$	$n/t$	$t$	FGb(F5)/EC'10	Our work with Magma(F4)
$2^8$	12	64	0.03 s	0.010 s
$2^4$	32	64	0.50 s	0.010 s
$2^2$	56	64	1776 s	0.040 s
2	158	128	NA	18 s
2	12	128	NA	$2^{83.5}$ op
2	511	16	NA	1.9 s
3	19682	9	NA	3.4 s
241	4	241	NA	0.020 s

**Table:** Quasi-dyadic/monoidic parameters  $[n, k, t]_q$ .

## the Folded Code

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} & & \\ \cdots & M_i & \cdots \\ \hline & \vdots & \\ & & \end{array} \right)$$

$M_i$  block  $t \times t$

Algebraic Modelling

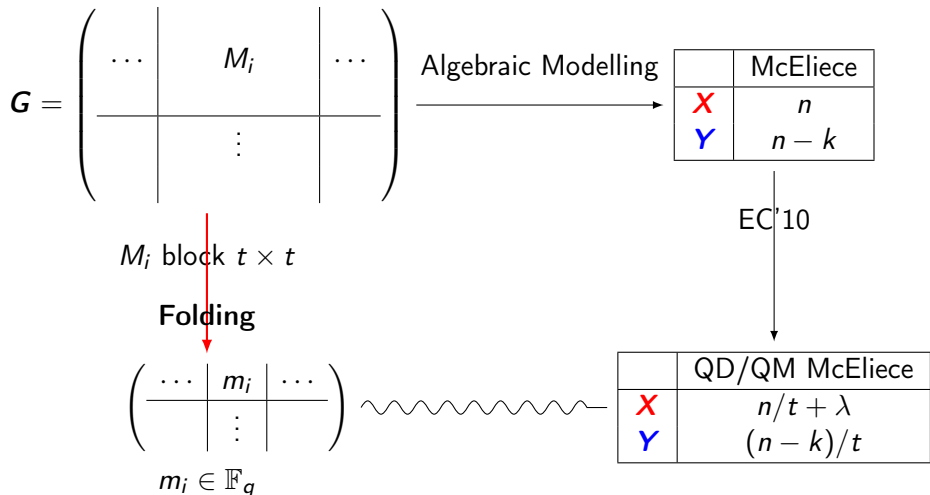
	McEliece
$X$	$n$
$Y$	$n - k$

EC'10

	QD/QM McEliece
$X$	$n/t + \lambda$
$Y$	$(n - k)/t$



# the Folded Code



## Definition (Alternant code)

- A support :  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ , with  $x_i \neq x_j$ ,
- A set of multipliers :  $\mathbf{y} = (y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ , s.t.  $y_i \neq 0$ ,

$$\mathbf{V}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \begin{pmatrix} y_0 & y_1 & \dots & y_{n-1} \\ y_0 x_0 & y_1 x_1 & \dots & y_{n-1} x_{n-1} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_0 x_0^{t-1} & & \dots & y_{n-1} x_{n-1}^{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \{ \mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \mid \mathbf{V}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \mathbf{m}^T = \mathbf{0} \}$$

- Knowing  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$ , we can decode  $\frac{t}{2}$  errors in **polynomial time**

## What's a code with symmetry?

### Definition (Permutation Group of a code)

Let  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathbb{F}_q^n$ .

$$\text{Perm}(\mathcal{C}) = \left\{ \sigma \in \mathcal{S}_n \mid \forall \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C}, \mathbf{m}^\sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (m_{\sigma(0)}, \dots, m_{\sigma(n-1)}) \in \mathcal{C} \right\}$$

- "with symmetries" = "with a non-trivial permutation group by construction"
- A code with symmetries admits **compact representations**

### Example

$$\mathbf{G} = \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc|cc|cc|cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

$\sigma \in \mathcal{S}_{14} : i \mapsto i \oplus 1$  is a permutation of the code spanned by  $\mathbf{G}$ .

## Quasi-Monoidic Codes

### Monoidic Codes ([T. Berger])

Let  $p = \text{char}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{A}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  and

$$\sigma_p = \left( \begin{array}{c|cc|c} \dots & ip & \dots & ip + p - 1 & \dots \\ \dots & ip + 1 & \dots & ip & \dots \end{array} \right) \in \mathcal{S}_n.$$

Suppose there exists  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}$  s.t.

$$\begin{cases} x_{\sigma(i)} = x_i + \alpha \\ y_{\sigma(i)} = y_i \end{cases} \quad (\star)$$

Then,  $\sigma_p \in \text{Perm}(\mathcal{C})$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  is quasi-monoidic.


- P. Barreto, R. Misoczki :
  - ▶ Build  $\mathbf{x}$  respecting  $(\star)$  for several  $\alpha_i$ 's and  $\sigma$ 's at the same time,
  - ▶ Alternant code with  $\text{Perm}(\mathcal{C}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\lambda$ .

## Weakness of symmetric alternant codes

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \dots & M_i & \dots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$M_i$  block  $t \times t$

**Folding**


$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \dots & m_i & \dots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$$m_i \in \mathbb{F}_q$$

## Weakness of symmetric alternant codes

### Definition (Folded code)

$\mathcal{C}$  a quasi-monoidic alternant code,

$$\sigma_p = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} \cdots & ip & \cdots & ip+p-1 & \cdots \\ \cdots & ip+1 & \cdots & ip & \cdots \end{array} \right) \in \text{Perm}(\mathcal{C}). \text{ Then,}$$

$$\overline{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma_p}} = \left\{ (m_{ip} + \cdots + m_{ip+p-1})_{0 \leq i \leq n/p} \mid \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C} \right\}.$$

### Example

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc|cc|cc|cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

Fold with to  $\sigma_2 \in \mathcal{S}_{14} : i \mapsto i \oplus 1 \iff$  Replace  $(m_{2i}, m_{2i+1})$  by

$$(m_{2i} + m_{2i+1}) \quad \left( \begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right).$$

## Structure of the folded code

### Theorem (Folded code of an alternant code, FOPPT)

$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{A}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  a quasi-monoidic alternant code,  $\sigma_p \in \text{Perm}(\mathcal{C})$ .

①  $\overline{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma_p}} = \mathcal{A}_{t/p}(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{y}')$ , with  $\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{y}' \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{n/p}$  defined by

$$x'_i = x_{ip}^p - \alpha^{p-1} x_{ip}$$

$$y'_i = y_{ip}$$

②  $\overline{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma_p}}$  is quasi-monoidic and  $\text{Perm}(\overline{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma_p}}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^{\lambda-1}$ .

### Consequence

**Key security of a symmetric scheme equivalent to the security of a non-symmetric scheme with same key size!**

- Key security of a  $[4096, 2048, 128]_2$  code reduced that of a  $[64, 32, 2]_2$  code

## Sketch of the proof for monoidic alternant codes

### Characterization of Alternant Codes

$$\mathcal{A}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \{(\tilde{y}_i P(x_i))_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} \mid P \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[X], \deg(P) < n - t\} \cap \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

with  $\tilde{y}_i = \frac{1}{y_i} \prod_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{(x_j - x_i)}$ .

Quasi-monoidic alternant code's  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= (\cdots \mid x_{ip}, x_{ip} + \alpha, \dots, x_{ip} + (p-1)\alpha \mid \cdots) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{y}} &= (\cdots \mid \tilde{y}_{ip}, \tilde{y}_{ip}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{ip} \mid \cdots) \end{aligned}$$



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$$\mathcal{A}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \{(\tilde{y}_i P(x_i))_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} \mid P \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[X], \deg(P) < n - t\} \cap \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

$$\text{with } \tilde{y}_i = \frac{1}{y_i \prod_{j \neq i} (x_j - x_i)}.$$

Quasi-monoidic alternant code's  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= (\cdots \mid x_{ip}, x_{ip} + \alpha, \dots, x_{ip} + (p-1)\alpha \mid \dots) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{y}} &= (\cdots \mid \tilde{y}_{ip}, \tilde{y}_{ip}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{ip} \mid \dots) \end{aligned}$$

- For a codeword  $\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C}$ , the folded codeword's coordinates are :

$$\begin{aligned} m'_i &= \tilde{y}_{ip} P(x_{ip}) + \tilde{y}_{ip+1} P(x_{ip+1}) + \cdots + \tilde{y}_{ip+p-1} P(x_{ip+p-1}) \\ &= \tilde{y}_{ip} (P(x_{ip}) + P(x_{ip+1}) + \cdots + P(x_{ip+p-1})) \\ &= \tilde{y}_{ip} \underbrace{(P(x_{ip}) + P(x_{ip} + \alpha) + \cdots + P(x_{ip} + (p-1)\alpha))}_{R(x_{ip})} \end{aligned}$$

## Sketch of the proof for monoidic alternant codes

$$R(X) = P(X) + P(X + \alpha) + \cdots + P(X + (p - 1)\alpha)$$

- **Symmetry** under  $X \mapsto X + \alpha$  :

$$R(X) = R(X + \alpha) = \cdots = R(X + (p - 1)\alpha)$$

- For some  $Q \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[X]$  in degree  $\deg(R)/p$ ,

$$R(X) = Q(X^p - \alpha^{p-1}X).$$

## Sketch of the proof for monoidic alternant codes

$$R(X) = P(X) + P(X + \alpha) + \cdots + P(X + (p - 1)\alpha)$$

- **Symmetry** under  $X \mapsto X + \alpha$  :

$$R(X) = R(X + \alpha) = \cdots = R(X + (p - 1)\alpha)$$

- For some  $Q \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[X]$  in degree  $\deg(R)/p$ ,

$$R(X) = Q(X^p - \alpha^{p-1}X).$$

- Back to  $m'$  :

$$m'_i = \tilde{y}_{ip} Q(x_{ip}^p - \alpha^{p-1}x_{ip}).$$

- Conclusion :

$$m' \in \{(\tilde{y}_{ip} Q(x'_i))_{0 \leq i \leq n/p-1} \mid Q \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[X]_{<(n-t)/p}\} \cap \mathbb{F}_q^{n/p}$$

and

$$\overline{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma_p}} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{t/p}(x', y')$$

## Algebraic Modellings

- EC'10 : for any alternant code of order  $t$ ,

$$\mathbf{G}_{pub} \mathbf{V}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})^T = (0)_{k \times t}.$$

- Our refined modelling :

### Theorem (Extended code of a Goppa code)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a Goppa code with polynomial  $g$  of degree  $t$ ,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{G}} \mathbf{V}_{t+1}((\mathbf{x}, \infty), (\mathbf{y}, \text{LC}(g)^{-1}))^T = (0)_{k \times t+1},$$

where  $\tilde{\mathbf{G}}$  generates the extended code of  $\mathcal{C}_{pub}$ ,

### Theorem (Double error correcting capacity of binary Goppa codes)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be Goppa code of degree  $t$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ,

$$\mathbf{G}_{pub} \mathbf{V}_{2t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^2)^T = (0)_{k \times 2t}.$$

## Algebraic Systems

- Systems to solve according to the structure of  $\mathcal{C}_{pub}$

	$\#X$	$\#Y'$	Bi-degree
Alternant code	$n - 2$	$n - k - 1$	$(u, 1)$ , with $1 \leq u \leq t - 1$
Goppa code	$n - 2$	$n - k$	$(t, 1)$
Binary Goppa code	$n - 2$	$n - k$	$(u, 2)$ with $1 \leq u \leq t - 1$

- Systems with structural elimination tools (raises degrees)

	$\#X'$	$\#Y'$	Bi-degree
Alternant code	$n - k - 2$	$n - k - 1$	$(p^u, p)$ , with $1 \leq u \leq \lambda - 1$
Goppa code	$n - k - 2$	$n - k$	$(t, 1)$
Binary Goppa code	$n - k - 2$	$n - k$	$(2^u, 2)$ , with $0 \leq u \leq 2\lambda - 1$

$t = p^\lambda.$

## Cryptanalysis Strategy for monoidic codes with $t = p^\lambda$

$$\mathbf{G} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \dots & M_i & \dots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$k \times n$  matrix,  $t = p^\lambda$

## Cryptanalysis Strategy for monoidic codes with $t = p^\lambda$

$$\mathbf{G} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \dots & M_i & \dots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$k \times n$  matrix,  $t = p^\lambda$

**Folding**

$$\overline{\mathbf{G}}^\sigma = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \dots & M'_i & \dots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$k/p \times n/p$  matrix,  $t = p^{\lambda-1}$

## Cryptanalysis Strategy for monoidic codes with $t = p^\lambda$

$$\mathbf{G} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \cdots & M_i & \cdots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$k \times n$  matrix,  $t = p^\lambda$

**Successive Folding**

$$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{G}^{\sigma \cdots \sigma}}} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \cdots & m_i & \cdots \\ \hline & \vdots & \end{array} \right)$$

$k/\tilde{t} \times n/\tilde{t}$  matrix,  $\tilde{t} = p^s, s < \lambda$



# Cryptanalysis Strategy for monoidic codes with $t = p^\lambda$

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} \cdots & M_i & \cdots \\ \hline & \vdots & \\ \cdots & & \cdots \end{pmatrix}$$

$k \times n$  matrix,  $t = p^\lambda$

**Successive Folding**

$$\overline{\overline{G^{\sigma \cdots \sigma}}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cdots & m_i & \cdots \\ \vdots & & \end{pmatrix}$$

$k/\tilde{t} \times n/\tilde{t}$  matrix,  $\tilde{t} = p^s, s < \lambda$

	McEliece	
<b>X</b>	$n$	$n - k$
<b>Y</b>	$n - k$	$n - k$

EC'10

	QD/QM McEliece	
<b>X</b>	$n/t + \lambda$	$(n - k)/t + \lambda$
<b>Y</b>	$(n - k)/t$	$(n - k)/t$

	Folded QM McE	
$\overline{\overline{X^\sigma}}$	$n/t + s$	$(n - k)/t + s$
<b>Y</b>	$(n - k)/t$	$(n - k)/t$

- Implementation for Encryption and Signature parameters from :



R. Misoczki, P. Barreto.

Compact McEliece Keys from Goppa Codes.

SAC 2009



P. Barreto, P.-L. Cayrel, R. Misoczki, R. Niebuhr.

Quasi-Dyadic CFS Signatures.

Inscrypt 2010



P. Barreto, R. Lindner, R. Misoczki.

Monoidic Codes in Cryptography.

PQCrypto 2011

## Practical Cryptanalysis : signature schemes

- Signature schemes : long codes, high dimension.
- Impossible to break with EC'10's attack.

$q$	$m$	$t$	$n/t$	unk.	equ.	Magma	ISD
2	13	16	511	26	996	1.9 s	$2^{84}$
2	14	13	1023	28	2018	3.0 s.	$2^{81}$
2	15	12	2047	30	4064	5.4 s.	$2^{82}$

$p > 2$	$m$	$t$	$n/t$	unk.	equ.	Magma	ISD
3	11	9	19682	22	19671	3.4 s	$2^{80}$
5	8	15	15624	16	15616	82 s.	$2^{128}$

**Table:** Practical attacks against signature schemes with parameters.

## Practical Cryptanalysis : encryption schemes

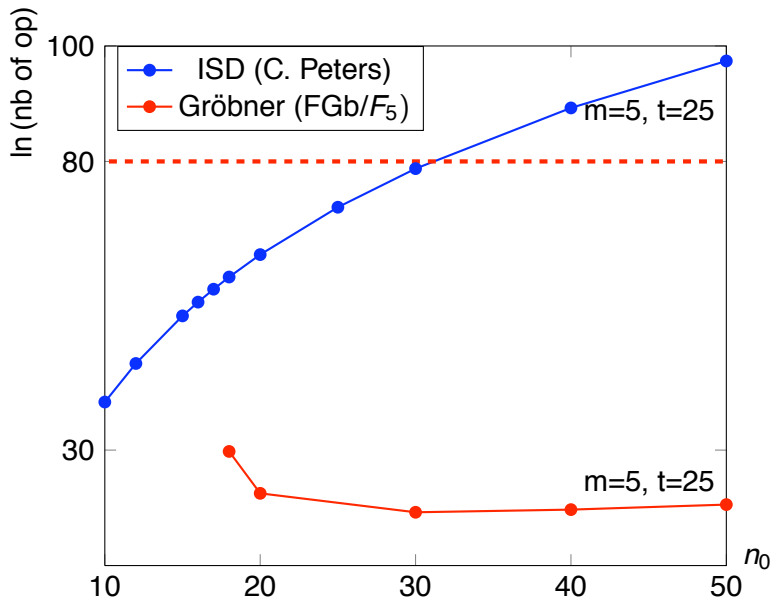
- Encryption schemes : smaller systems, smaller overdetermination ratio,

$q = 2^s$	$m$	$t$	$n/t$	unk.	equ.	Magma	EC'10	ISD
$2^4$	4	128	32	8	28	0.010 s	7.1 s	$2^{128}$
$2^2$	8	64	56	15	48	0.040 s	1,776 s	$2^{128}$

$q = 2$	$m$	$t$	$n/t$	unk.	equ.	Magma	EC'10	ISD
2	16	32	152	29	272	18 s	N.A.	$2^{128}$
2	12	128	25	23	22	$\leq 2^{83.5}$ op. (F5)	N.A.	$2^{128}$

$q$	$m$	$t$	$n/t$	unk.	equ.	Magma	EC'10	ISD
241	3	241	4	5	7	0.020 s	N.A.	$2^{112}$
7	5	49	15	18	60	900 s	N.A.	$2^{80}$

# Complexity of ISD and Gröbner $q = 5$



## Conclusion

### Folding method

- Questions the idea of QD/QM codes with symmetries for crypto!
- More general framework for QC/QD/QM codes.
- Complexity bounds?

Thank you for your attention, questions?