

Finite Geometry & Friends

A Brussels' Summer School on Finite Geometry

September 20, 2023

Decoding Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes

Felicitas Hörmann^{1,2} – felicitas.hoermann@dlr.de

joint work with Hannes Bartz¹ and Sven Puchinger³

¹Institute of Communications and Navigation – German Aerospace Center (DLR), Germany

²School of Computer Science – University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

³Hensoldt Sensors GmbH, Germany



1. Motivation from Code-Based Cryptography
2. Interleaving in the Sum-Rank Metric
3. Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes
4. Implications for Code-Based Cryptography

- quantum computers can solve today's cryptographic primitives efficiently

- quantum computers can solve today's cryptographic primitives efficiently
⇒ urgent need for quantum-safe cryptography

- quantum computers can solve today's cryptographic primitives efficiently
⇒ urgent need for quantum-safe cryptography
- current standardization project initiated by NIST in 2016

- quantum computers can solve today's cryptographic primitives efficiently
⇒ urgent need for quantum-safe cryptography
- current standardization project initiated by NIST in 2016
 - one standardized lattice-based key-encapsulation mechanism (KEM)
 - three remaining **code-based** KEM candidates

- quantum computers can solve today's cryptographic primitives efficiently
⇒ urgent need for quantum-safe cryptography
- current standardization project initiated by NIST in 2016
 - one standardized lattice-based key-encapsulation mechanism (KEM)
 - three remaining **code-based** KEM candidates
- code-based cryptography suffers from large key sizes

- quantum computers can solve today's cryptographic primitives efficiently
⇒ urgent need for quantum-safe cryptography
- current standardization project initiated by NIST in 2016
 - one standardized lattice-based key-encapsulation mechanism (KEM)
 - three remaining **code-based** KEM candidates
- code-based cryptography suffers from large key sizes
⇒ many approaches to mitigate this issue are studied,
e.g. alternative metrics or codes with high error-correction capability

McEliece Cryptosystem [McEliece, 1978]



Let $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ be a linear code of dimension k .

McEliece Cryptosystem [McEliece, 1978]



Let $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ be a linear code of dimension k .

🔓 public key

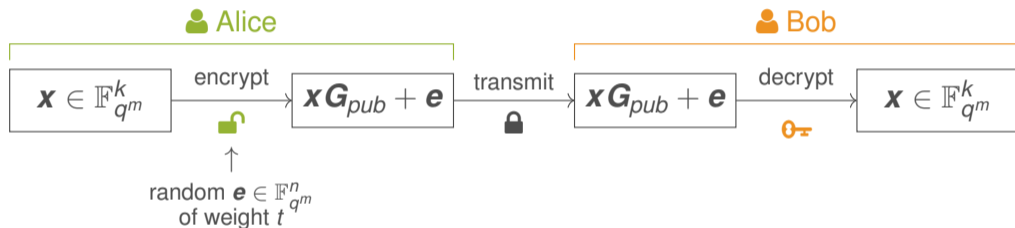
- generator matrix $\mathbf{G}_{pub} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{k \times n}$ of \mathcal{C} that does not reveal an efficient decoder
- error weight t

🔑 private key

- efficient decoder for \mathcal{C} with decoding radius at least t

McEliece Cryptosystem [McEliece, 1978]

Let $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ be a linear code of dimension k .



public key

- generator matrix $\mathbf{G}_{pub} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{k \times n}$ of \mathcal{C} that does not reveal an efficient decoder
- error weight t

private key

- efficient decoder for \mathcal{C} with decoding radius at least t

1. Motivation from Code-Based Cryptography
- 2. Interleaving in the Sum-Rank Metric**
3. Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes
4. Implications for Code-Based Cryptography

Some Weights



Consider $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ and define

- its **Hamming weight**

$$\text{wt}_H(\mathbf{x}) := |\{i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : x_i \neq 0\}|,$$

Some Weights



Consider $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ and define

- its **Hamming weight**

$$\text{wt}_H(\mathbf{x}) := |\{i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : x_i \neq 0\}|,$$

- its **rank weight**

$$\text{wt}_{rk}(\mathbf{x}) := \text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x}),$$

where $\text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x})$ is the maximum number of \mathbb{F}_q -linearly independent entries of \mathbf{x} ,

Some Weights



Consider $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^{(1)} \ \mathbf{x}^{(2)} \ \dots \ \mathbf{x}^{(\ell)}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ and define

- its **Hamming weight**

$$\text{wt}_H(\mathbf{x}) := |\{i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : x_i \neq 0\}|,$$

- its **rank weight**

$$\text{wt}_{rk}(\mathbf{x}) := \text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x}),$$

where $\text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x})$ is the maximum number of \mathbb{F}_q -linearly independent entries of \mathbf{x} ,

- and its **sum-rank weight** (with respect to a fixed length partition)

$$\text{wt}_{\Sigma R}(\mathbf{x}) := \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}) = \text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}) + \text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x}^{(2)}) + \dots + \text{rk}_q(\mathbf{x}^{(\ell)}).$$

Some Metrics

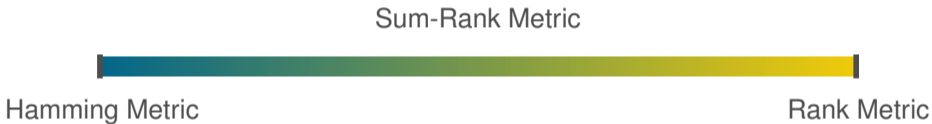


The **metrics** for $\star \in \{H, rk, \Sigma R\}$ are $d_\star(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \text{wt}_\star(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$.

Some Metrics



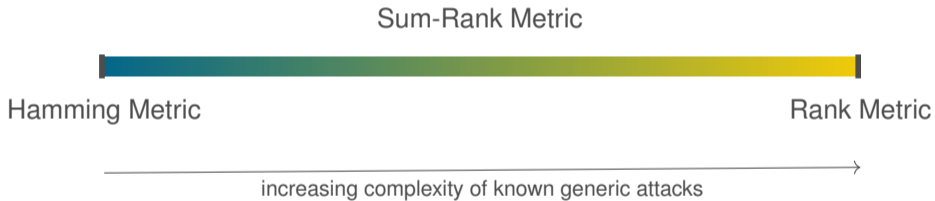
The **metrics** for $\star \in \{H, rk, \Sigma R\}$ are $d_\star(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \text{wt}_\star(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$.



Some Metrics



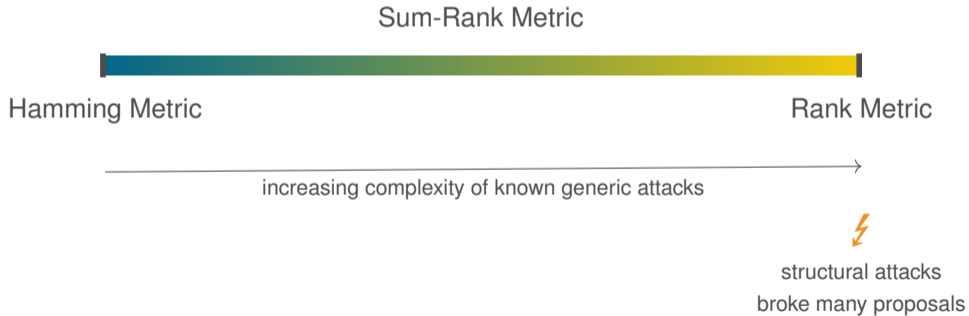
The **metrics** for $\star \in \{H, rk, \Sigma R\}$ are $d_\star(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \text{wt}_\star(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$.



Some Metrics



The **metrics** for $\star \in \{H, rk, \Sigma R\}$ are $d_\star(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \text{wt}_\star(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$.



For a linear code $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ and an interleaving order $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$, define

- the **vertically interleaved code**

$$\text{VInt}(\mathcal{C}, s) := \left\{ \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{c}_s \end{pmatrix} : \mathbf{c}_j \in \mathcal{C} \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, s \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{s \times n},$$

For a linear code $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ and an interleaving order $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$, define

- the **vertically interleaved code**

$$\text{VInt}(\mathcal{C}, s) := \left\{ \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{c}_\ell \end{pmatrix} : \mathbf{c}_j \in \mathcal{C} \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, s \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{s \times n},$$

- and the **horizontally interleaved code**

$$\text{HInt}(\mathcal{C}, s) := \{ \mathbf{c} = (\mathbf{c}_1 \mid \cdots \mid \mathbf{c}_\ell) : \mathbf{c}_j \in \mathcal{C} \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, s \} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{sn}.$$

Sum-Rank Weight of Vertically Interleaved Vectors

Choose an interleaving order $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$.

For $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_s \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$, consider the matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{s \times n}$ with

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(1)}} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(2)}} & \cdots & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(\ell)}} \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(1)}} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(2)}} & \cdots & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(\ell)}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(1)}} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(2)}} & \cdots & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(\ell)}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Sum-Rank Weight of Vertically Interleaved Vectors

Choose an interleaving order $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$. The sum-rank weight of \mathbf{X} is

For $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_s \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$, consider the matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{s \times n}$ with

$$\text{wt}_{\Sigma R}(\mathbf{X}) =$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(1)}} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(2)}} & \dots & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(\ell)}} \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(1)}} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(2)}} & \dots & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(\ell)}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(1)}} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(2)}} & \dots & \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(\ell)}} \end{pmatrix} = \text{rk}_q \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(1)}} \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(1)}} \\ \vdots \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(1)}} \end{pmatrix} + \text{rk}_q \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(2)}} \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(2)}} \\ \vdots \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(2)}} \end{pmatrix} + \dots + \text{rk}_q \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\mathbf{x}_1^{(\ell)}} \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_2^{(\ell)}} \\ \vdots \\ \boxed{\mathbf{x}_s^{(\ell)}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Sum-Rank Weight of Horizontally Interleaved Vectors



Choose an interleaving order $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$.

For $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_s \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$, consider the vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{sn}$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= (\mathbf{x}_1 \mid \mathbf{x}_2 \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{x}_s) \\ &= \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_1^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_1^{(2)} & \dots & \mathbf{x}_1^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_2^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_2^{(2)} & \dots & \mathbf{x}_2^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \dots \mid \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_s^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_s^{(2)} & \dots & \mathbf{x}_s^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Sum-Rank Weight of Horizontally Interleaved Vectors



Choose an interleaving order $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$.

For $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_s \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$, consider the vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^{sn}$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= (\mathbf{x}_1 \mid \mathbf{x}_2 \mid \cdots \mid \mathbf{x}_s) \\ &= \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_1^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_1^{(2)} & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_1^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_2^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_2^{(2)} & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_2^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \cdots \mid \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_s^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_s^{(2)} & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_s^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The sum-rank weight of \mathbf{x} is

$$\text{wt}_{\Sigma R}(\mathbf{x}) =$$

$$\text{rk}_q \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_1^{(1)} & \mathbf{x}_2^{(1)} & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_s^{(1)} \\ \hline \end{array} \right) + \text{rk}_q \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_1^{(2)} & \mathbf{x}_2^{(2)} & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_s^{(2)} \\ \hline \end{array} \right) + \cdots + \text{rk}_q \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{x}_1^{(\ell)} & \mathbf{x}_2^{(\ell)} & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_s^{(\ell)} \\ \hline \end{array} \right).$$

1. Motivation from Code-Based Cryptography
2. Interleaving in the Sum-Rank Metric
3. Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes
4. Implications for Code-Based Cryptography

Choose

- **code locators** $\beta = (\beta^{(1)} \mid \dots \mid \beta^{(\ell)}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ whose blocks $\beta^{(i)}$ contain \mathbb{F}_q -linearly independent elements
- and **evaluation parameters** $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^\ell$ belonging to pairwise distinct nontrivial θ -conjugacy classes of \mathbb{F}_{q^m} (i.e., $\forall i_1 \neq i_2 \nexists c \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^* : \theta(c)\xi_{i_1}c^{-1} = \xi_{i_2}$).

Choose

- **code locators** $\beta = (\beta^{(1)} \mid \dots \mid \beta^{(\ell)}) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$ whose blocks $\beta^{(i)}$ contain \mathbb{F}_q -linearly independent elements
- and **evaluation parameters** $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^\ell$ belonging to pairwise distinct nontrivial θ -conjugacy classes of \mathbb{F}_{q^m} (i.e., $\forall i_1 \neq i_2 \nexists c \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^* : \theta(c)\xi_{i_1}c^{-1} = \xi_{i_2}$).

We define the **linearized Reed–Solomon (LRS) code** with these parameters as

$$\text{LRS}[\beta, \xi; n, k] = \left\{ f(\beta)_\xi = (f(\beta^{(1)})_{\xi_1} \mid \dots \mid f(\beta^{(\ell)})_{\xi_\ell}) : f \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[x; \theta]_{<k} \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n.$$

Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes



For an LRS code $\mathcal{C} := \text{LRS}[\beta, \xi; \mathbf{n}, k]$ and $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we consider

- the **vertically interleaved LRS (VILRS) code** $\text{VInt}(\mathcal{C}, s)$

For an LRS code $\mathcal{C} := \text{LRS}[\beta, \xi; \mathbf{n}, k]$ and $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we consider

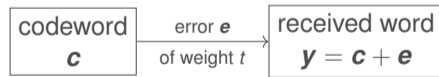
- the **vertically interleaved LRS (VILRS) code** $\text{VInt}(\mathcal{C}, s)$
- and the **horizontally interleaved LRS (HILRS) code** $\text{HInt}(\mathcal{C}, s)$.

For an LRS code $\mathcal{C} := \text{LRS}[\beta, \xi; \mathbf{n}, k]$ and $s \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we consider

- the **vertically interleaved LRS (VILRS) code** $\text{VInt}(\mathcal{C}, s)$
- and the **horizontally interleaved LRS (HILRS) code** $\text{HInt}(\mathcal{C}, s)$.

We consider probabilistic-unique decoding up to an error weight

$$t \leq \frac{s}{s+1}(n-k).$$



Decoders for VILRS Codes

- Loidreau–Overbeck-like
[Bartz and Puchinger, 2023]
- interpolation-based
[Bartz and Puchinger, 2023]
- syndrome-based (error-erasure)
[Hörmann et al., 2023]

Decoders for HILRS Codes

- syndrome-based (error-erasure)
[Hörmann et al., 2023]
- Gao-like
[Hörmann and Bartz, 2023]

Decoders for VILRS Codes

- Loidreau–Overbeck-like
 $\mathcal{O}(sn^\omega) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(sn^{2.373})$
- interpolation-based
 $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^\omega \mathcal{M}(n)) \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^{2.373} n^{1.635})$
- syndrome-based (error-erasure)
 $\mathcal{O}(sn^2)$

Decoders for HILRS Codes

- syndrome-based (error-erasure)
 $\mathcal{O}(sn^2)$
- Gao-like
 $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^\omega \mathcal{M}(n)) \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^{2.373} n^{1.635})$

$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}$ neglects logarithmic factors, $\omega < 2.373$ is the matrix-multiplication coefficient, and $\mathcal{M}(n) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(n^{1.635})$ denotes the cost of multiplication of two degree- n skew polynomials.

Decoders for VILRS Codes

- Loidreau–Overbeck-like
 $\mathcal{O}(sn^\omega) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(sn^{2.373})$
- **interpolation-based**
 $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^\omega \mathcal{M}(n)) \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^{2.373} n^{1.635})$
- syndrome-based (error-erasure)
 $\mathcal{O}(sn^2)$

Decoders for HILRS Codes

- syndrome-based (error-erasure)
 $\mathcal{O}(sn^2)$
- **Gao-like**
 $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^\omega \mathcal{M}(n)) \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(s^{2.373} n^{1.635})$

$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}$ neglects logarithmic factors, $\omega < 2.373$ is the matrix-multiplication coefficient, and $\mathcal{M}(n) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(n^{1.635})$ denotes the cost of multiplication of two degree- n skew polynomials.

1. Motivation from Code-Based Cryptography
2. Interleaving in the Sum-Rank Metric
3. Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes
4. Implications for Code-Based Cryptography

Conclusion



- VILRS and HILRS codes are interesting candidates for McEliece-like cryptosystems

- VILRS and HILRS codes are interesting candidates for McEliece-like cryptosystems
 - decoding with respect to the sum-rank metric
 - probabilistic-unique decoding for error weights up to $\frac{s}{s+1}(n - k)$
 - subquadratic decoding complexity

- VILRS and HILRS codes are interesting candidates for McEliece-like cryptosystems
 - decoding with respect to the sum-rank metric
 - probabilistic-unique decoding for error weights up to $\frac{s}{s+1}(n - k)$
 - subquadratic decoding complexity
- VILRS codes can only provide security for low interleaving order $s < t$ [Jerkovits et al., 2023]

- VILRS and HILRS codes are interesting candidates for McEliece-like cryptosystems
 - decoding with respect to the sum-rank metric
 - probabilistic-unique decoding for error weights up to $\frac{s}{s+1}(n - k)$
 - subquadratic decoding complexity
- VILRS codes can only provide security for low interleaving order $s < t$ [Jerkovits et al., 2023]
- (more) investigation of potential attacks needed

- [Bartz and Puchinger, 2023] Bartz, H. and Puchinger, S. (2023).
Fast Decoding of Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes and Variants.
submitted to: IEEE Transactions on Information Theory.
- [Hörmann and Bartz, 2023] Hörmann, F. and Bartz, H. (2023).
Fast Gao-like Decoding of Horizontally Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes.
accepted at: Code-Based Cryptography: CBCrypto 2023.
- [Hörmann et al., 2023] Hörmann, F., Bartz, H., and Puchinger, S. (2023).
Syndrome-Based Error-Erasure Decoding of Interleaved Linearized Reed–Solomon Codes.
to be submitted to: IEEE Transactions on Information Theory.
- [Jerkovits et al., 2023] Jerkovits, T., Hörmann, F., and Bartz, H. (2023).
On Decoding High-Order Interleaved Sum-Rank-Metric Codes.
In Code-Based Cryptography: CBCrypto 2022, pages 90–109.
- [McEliece, 1978] McEliece, R. J. (1978).
A Public-Key Cryptosystem based on Algebraic Coding Theory.
DSN Progress Report, 42–44:114–116.