

# Analyzing the Crossbred Algorithm for the MQ Problem

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## MQ problem

Given a quadratic polynomials system of  $m$  polynomials  $(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m)$  over  $\mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Find  $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$  such that :  $f_1(a) = f_2(a) = \dots = f_m(a) = 0$ .

Interesting case for cryptography : polynomials defined over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  and its extensions.

## Known methods

- Linearisation
- Gröbner basis
- Exhaustive search

In practice : a mix of all of the above.

# Crossbred algorithm

The algorithm has parameters  $D$ ,  $d$  and  $k$ .

## How it works

- 1 Generate new polynomials  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  s.t.  $\deg(p_i) \leq D$  and  $\deg_k(p_i) \leq d$ .
- 2 Specify the  $n - k$  last variables in  $\mathbb{F}_2^{n-k}$ .
- 3 Check if the system is consistent. If not, go back to step 2.

Parameters  $D$ ,  $d$  and  $k$  are chosen so the system obtained at step 3 is solvable by linearisation.

- Propose a **block Crossbread** algorithm.
- Study the **choice of parameters** of the **block Crossbread**.
- From that, deduce **admissible parameters** for the original Crossbred.

## Macaulay matrix and its sub-matrix

- $Mac_{\leq D, m}$  : Macaulay matrix of degree  $\leq D$ .
- $Mac_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$  : Sub-matrix of  $Mac_{\leq D, m}$  with rows  $u f_i$  s.t.  $u$  are monomials with  $deg_k(u) \geq d - 1$ .
- $M_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$  : Sub-matrix of  $Mac_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$  whose columns correspond to monomials  $M$  s.t.  $deg_k(M) \geq d + 1$ .

# Example

Parameters :  $D = 3, d = 1, k = 2$

$$\begin{array}{l} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ x_3 f_1 \\ x_2 f_1 \\ x_1 f_1 \\ x_3 f_2 \\ x_2 f_2 \\ x_1 f_2 \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 x_2 x_3 & x_1 x_2 & x_1 x_3 & x_2 x_3 & x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{matrix} & x_1x_2x_3 & x_1x_2 & x_1x_3 & x_2x_3 & x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & 1 \\ f_1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ f_2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ x_3f_1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ x_2f_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ x_1f_1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x_3f_2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x_2f_2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ x_1f_2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$$

$Mac_{\leq 3, \geq 1}^k$



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$$\begin{array}{l} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ x_3 f_1 \\ x_2 f_1 \\ x_1 f_1 \\ x_3 f_2 \\ x_2 f_2 \\ x_1 f_2 \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{cccccccc} x_1 x_2 x_3 & x_1 x_2 & x_1 x_3 & x_2 x_3 & x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$Mac_{\leq 3, \geq 1}^k \quad M_{\leq 3, \geq 1}^k$$

# Crossbred : in depth

The algorithm has parameters  $D$ ,  $d$  and  $k$

## How it works

- 1 Generate new polynomials of degree at most  $d$  over the first  $k$  variables.
- 2 Specify the  $n - k$  last variables in  $\mathbb{F}_2^{n-k}$ .
- 3 Check if the system is consistent. If not, go back to step 2.

The algorithm has parameters  $D$ ,  $d$  and  $k$

## How it works

- 1
  - Generate  $Mac_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$ .
  - Extract  $M_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$ .
  - Compute all  $v_i$  such that  $v_i M_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k = 0$
  - Compute all  $p_i = v_i Mac_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$
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$Mac_{3,1}^k$

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$M_{3,1}^k$

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## Modified general criterion

If the row labeled by  $t'f_m$  is a linear combination of previous rows in  $Mac_{d_1, d_2, m}^k$ , then  $t'$  is the leading term of a row labeled by  $tf_j$  in  $\tilde{Mac}_{d_1-2, d_2-2, m-1}^k$ .

## Modified Frobenius criterion

If the row labeled by  $t'f_m$  is a linear combination of previous rows in  $Mac_{d_1, d_2, m}^k$ , then  $t'$  is the leading term of a row labeled by  $tf_j$  in  $\tilde{Mac}_{d_1-2, d_2-2, m}^k$ .

## Definition

Given  $m$  and a set of parameters  $(D, d, k)$ , we note :

$$h_{D,d,m}^k = \#Rows(M_{D,d,m}^k) - \#Cols(M_{D,d,m}^k).$$

Under semi-regularity hypothesis, if  $h_{D,d,m}^k \geq 0$ , then  $h_{D,d,m}^k$  is equal to the co-rank of  $M_{D,d,m}^k$ .

A set of parameters  $(D, d, k)$  with  $D \leq D_{reg}$  is called block-admissible if  $h_{D,d,m}^k \geq 0$

We get the following recurrence :

$$h_{D,d,m}^k = h_{D,d,m-1}^k - h_{D-2,d-2,m}^k.$$

## Proposition

$$\sum_{D \geq 0, d \geq 0} h_{D,d,m}^k X^D Y^d = \frac{1}{Y} \left( (1+X)^{n-k} - \frac{(1+XY)^k (1+X)^{n-k}}{(1+X^2Y^2)^m} \right).$$

$$Mac_{\leq 4, \geq 2, m}^k = \left[ \begin{array}{l} uf_i : deg(u) = 2, deg_k(u) = 2 \\ uf_i : deg(u) = 2, deg_k(u) = 1 \\ uf_i : deg(u) = 1, deg_k(u) = 1 \end{array} \right]$$

# From block Crossbred to J.V. Crossbred

$(D, d)$  represent a sub-matrix corresponding to monomials of total degree  $D$  and of degree  $d$  over the first  $k$  variables.

(4, 4)	(4, 3)	(4, 2)	(0)	(3, 3)	(3, 2)	(0)	(2, 2)	(0)	
	(4, 3)	(4, 2)	(4, 1)	(0)	(3, 2)	(3, 1)	(0)	(2, 1)	
(0)				(3, 3)	(3, 2)	(3, 1)	(2, 2)	(2, 1)	(1, 1)

# From block Crossbred to J.V. Crossbred

(4, 4)	(4, 3)	(4, 2)	(0)	(3, 3)	(3, 2)	(0)	(2, 2)	(0)	
	(4, 3)	(4, 2)	(4, 1)	(0)	(3, 2)	(3, 1)	(0)	(2, 1)	
(0)				(3, 3)	(3, 2)	(3, 1)	(2, 2)	(2, 1)	(1, 1)



# From block Crossbred to J.V. Crossbred

$$M_{\leq 4, \geq 2, m}^k = \begin{bmatrix} (4, 4) & (4, 3) & (3, 3) \\ & (4, 3) & (0) \\ & & (3, 3) \\ (0) & & \end{bmatrix}$$

# From block Crossbred to J.V. Crossbred

$$M_{\leq 4, \geq 2, m}^k = \begin{bmatrix} M_{4,3,m}^k & (4, 3) & (3, 3) \\ & M_{4,2,m}^k & (0) \\ (0) & & M_{3,2,m}^k \end{bmatrix}$$

# From block Crossbred to J.V. Crossbred

If  $(4, 2, k)$  and  $(3, 2, k)$  are block-admissible

$$M_{\leq 4, \geq 2, m}^k = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{M_{4,3,m}^k} & \boxed{(4, 3)} & \boxed{(3, 3)} \\ & \boxed{M_{4,2,m}^k} & \boxed{(0)} \\ (0) & & \boxed{M_{3,2,m}^k} \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $(4, 2, k)$  and  $(3, 2, k)$  are block-admissible

$$\tilde{M}_{\leq 4, \geq 2, m}^k = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{M_{4,3,m}^k} & & (0) \\ & \boxed{M_{4,2,m}^k} & \\ (0) & & \boxed{M_{3,2,m}^k} \end{bmatrix}$$

# From block Crossbred to J.V. Crossbred

## Proposition

Let  $\mathbf{h}_{D,d,m}^k$  be :

$$\mathbf{h}_{D,d,m}^k = \#Rows(M_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k) - \#Cols(M_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k).$$

Under semi-regularity hypothesis, if  $\mathbf{h}_{D,d,m}^k \geq 0$ , then  $\mathbf{h}_{D,d,m}^k$  is the corank of the matrix  $M_{\leq D, \geq d, m}^k$ .

We have :

$$\mathbf{h}_{D,d,m}^k = \sum_{d_1 \leq D, d_2 \geq d} h_{d_1, d_2, m}^k.$$

A set of parameters  $(D, d, k)$  is affine admissible if  $\mathbf{h}_{D,d,m}^k \geq 0$ .

## Definition

We suppose  $(D, d, k)$  are admissible parameters. We note  $h'_{D,d,m}$  the number of “independent” polynomials obtained from  $h_{D,d,m}$  after specialisation. As such :

$$h_{D,d,m} \geq h'_{D,d,m}.$$

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## What about Joux-Vitse Crossbred ?

$$h'_{D,d,m} = \sum_{d < d_1 \leq D} h'_{d_1, d_1-1, m}.$$



- Theoretical complexity
- What happens in other characteristic ? (in  $\mathbb{F}_3$  or  $\mathbb{F}_5$ )