One Construction of Multireceiver Authentication Codes from Pseudo-Symplectic Geometry over Finite Fields

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Abstract: Multireceiver authentication codes allow one sender to construct an authenticated message for a group of receivers such that each receiver can verify the authenticity of the received message. In this paper, we construct one multireceiver authentication codes from pseudo-symplectic geometry over finite fields. The parameters and the probabilities of deceptions of the two codes are also computed.

Keywords: Pseudo-symplectic geometry, Multireceiver authentication codes, Finite fields.

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§1 Introduction

Multireceiver authentication codes (MRA-codes) were introduced by Desmedt, Frankel and Yung (DFY) [1] as an extension of Simmons' model of unconditionally secure authentication. In MRA-codes, a sender wants to authenticate a message for a group of receivers such that each receiver can verify authenticity of the received message. There are three phases in an MRA-codes:

- 1. Key distribution. The KDC (key distribution centre) privately transmits the key information to the sender and each receiver (the sender can also be the KDC).
- 2. *Broadcast*. For a source state, the sender generates the authenticated message using his/her key and broadcasts the authenticated message.
- 3. Verification. Each user can verify the authenticity of the broadcast message.

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Denote by $X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n$ the direct product of sets X_1, \cdots, X_n , and by p_i the projection mapping of $X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n$ on X_i . That is, $p_i : X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n \to X_i$ defined by $p_i(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) = x_i$. Let $g_1 : X_1 \to Y_1$ and $g_2 : X_2 \to Y_2$ be two mappings, we denote the direct product of g_1 and g_2 by $g_1 \times g_2$, where $g_1 \times g_2 : X_1 \times X_2 \to Y_1 \times Y_2$ is defined by $(g_1 \times g_2)(x_1, x_2) = (g_1(x_1), g_2(x_2))$. The identity mapping on a set X is denoted by 1_X .

Let C = (S, M, E, f) and $C_i = (S, M_i, E_i, f_i)$ (i = 1, 2, ..., n) be authentication codes. We call $(C; C_1, C_2, \cdots, C_n)$ a multireceiver authentication code (MRA-code) if there exist two mappings $\tau : E \to E_1 \times \cdots \times E_n$ and $\pi : M \to M_1 \times \cdots \times M_n$ such that for any $(s, e) \in S \times E$ and any $1 \le i \le n$, the following identity holds

$$p_i(\pi f(s,e)) = f_i((1_S \times p_i \tau(s,e)).$$

Let $\tau_i = p_i \tau$ and $\pi_i = p_i \pi$. For each $(s, e) \in S \times E$, then we have

$$\pi_i f(s,e) = f_i(1_S \times \tau_i)(s,e).$$

We adopt Kerckhoff's principle that everything in the system except the actual keys of the sender and receivers is public. This includes the probability distribution of the source states and the sender's keys.

Attackers could be outsiders who do not have access to any key information, or insiders who have some key information. We only need to consider the latter group as it is at least as powerful as the former. We consider the systems that protect against the coalition of groups of up to a maximum size of receivers, and we study impersonation and substitution attacks.

Assume there are *n* receivers R_1, \dots, R_n . Let $L = \{i_1, \dots, i_l\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}, R_L = \{R_{i_1}, \dots, R_{i_l}\}$ and $E_L = E_{R_{i_1}} \times \dots \times E_{R_{i_l}}$. We consider the attack from R_L on a receiver R_i , where $i \notin L$.

Impersonation attack: R_L , after receiving their secret keys, send a message m to R_i . R_L is successful if m is accepted by R_i as authentic. We denote by $P_I[i, L]$ the success probability of R_L in performing an impersonation attack on R_i . This can be expressed as:

 $P_I[i, L] = \max_{e_L \in E_L} \max_{m \in M} P(m \text{ is accepted by } R_i | e_L) \text{ where } i \notin L.$

Substitution attack: R_L , after observing a message m that is transmitted by the sender, replace m with another message m'. R_L is successful if m' is accepted by R_i as authentic. We denote by $P_S[i, L]$ the success probability of R_L in performing a substitution attack on R_i . We have

 $P_S[i, L] = \max_{e_L \in E_L} \max_{m \in M} \max_{m' \neq m \in M} P(R_i \text{ accepts } m' | m, e_L) \text{ where } i \notin L.$

§1 Pseudo-Symplectic Geometry

Let F_q be the finite field with q elements, where q is a power of 2, $n = 2\nu + \delta$ and $\delta = 1, 2$. Let

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(v)} \\ I^{(v)} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad S_1 = \begin{pmatrix} K & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}, S_2 = \begin{pmatrix} K & \\ & 0 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and S_{δ} is an $(2\nu + \delta) \times (2\nu + \delta)$ non-alternate symmetric matrix.

The pseudo-symplectic group of degree $(2\nu + \delta)$ over F_q is defined to be the set of matrices $Ps_{2\nu+\delta}(F_q) = \{T|TS_{\delta} \ 'T = S_{\delta}\}$ denoted by $Ps_{2\nu+\delta}(F_q)$.

Let $F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)}$ be the $(2\nu+\delta)$ -dimensional row vector space over F_q . $Ps_{2\nu+\delta}(F_q)$ has an action on $F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)}$ defined as follows:

$$F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)} \times Ps_{2\nu+\delta}(F_q) \to F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)} ((x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2\nu+\delta}), T) \to (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2\nu+\delta})T.$$

The vector space $F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)}$ together with this group action is called the pseudo-symplectic space over the finite field F_q of characteristic 2.

Let P be an m-dimensional subspace of $F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)}$, then PS_{δ} 'P is cogredient to one of the following three normal forms

$$M(m, 2s, s) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(s)} \\ I^{(s)} & 0 \\ & & 0^{(m-2s)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M(m, 2s+1, s) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(s)} & & & \\ I^{(s)} & 0 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & 0^{(m-2s-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M(m, 2s+2, s) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(s)} & & & & & & \\ I^{(s)} & 0 & & & & & \\ & & 0 & 1 & & & \\ & & & 1 & 1 & & \\ & & & & 0^{(m-2s-2)} \end{pmatrix}$$

for some s such that $0 \le s \le \lfloor m/2 \rfloor$. We say that P is a subspace of type $(m, 2s + \tau, s, \epsilon)$, where $\tau = 0, 1$ or 2 and $\epsilon = 0$ or 1, if

- (i) $PS_{\delta}^{t}P$ is cogredient to $M(m, 2s + \tau, s)$, and
- (ii) $e_{2\nu+1} \notin P$ or $e_{2\nu+1} \in P$ according to $\epsilon = 0$ or $\epsilon = 1$, respectively.

Let P be an m-dimensional subspace of $F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)}$. Denote by P^{\perp} the set of vectors which is orthogonal to every vector of P, i.e.,

$$P^{\perp}=\{y\in F_a^{(2\nu+\delta)}|yS_{\delta}^{\ t}x=0\ for\ all\ x\in P\}.$$

Obviously, P^{\perp} is a $(2\nu + \delta - m)$ -dimensional subspace of $F_q^{(2\nu+\delta)}$.

More properties of pseudo-symplectic geometry over finite fields can be found in [2].

In [1], Desmedt, Frankel and Yung gave two constructions for MRA-codes based on polynomials and finite geometries, respectively. There are other constructions of multireceiver authentication codes be given in [3-7]. The construction of authentication codes is a combinational design in its nature. We know that the geometry of classical groups over finite fields, including symplectic geometry, pseudo-symplectic geometry, unitary geometry and orthogonal geometry, can provide a better combination of structure and is easy to count. In this paper, we construct one multireceiver authentication codes from pseudo-symplectic geometry over finite fields. The parameters and the probabilities of deceptions of the codes are also computed.

§2 Construction

Let F_q be a finite field with q elements and $e_i(1 \le i \le 2v + 2)$ be the row vector in $F_q^{(2v+2)}$ whose i-th coordinate is 1 and all other coordinates are 0. Assume that 2 < n < n' < r < v. $U = \langle e_1, e_2, \cdots, e_n \rangle$, i.e., U is an n-dimensional subspace of $F_q^{(2v+2)}$ generated by e_1, e_2, \cdots, e_n , then $U^\perp = \langle e_1, \cdots, e_v, e_{v+n+1}, \cdots, e_{2v+2} \rangle$. The set of source states $S = \{s \mid s \text{ is a subspace of type } (2r-n+1, 2(r-n), r-n, 1) \text{ and } U \subset s \subset U^\perp \}$; the set of transmitter's encoding rules $E_T = \{e_T \mid e_T \text{ is a subspace of type } (2n', 2n', n', 0) \text{ and } U \subset e_T \}$; the set of ith receiver's decoding rules $E_{R_i} = \{e_{R_i} \mid e_{R_i} \text{ is a subspace of type } (n+1, 1, 0, 0) \text{ which is orthogonal to } \langle e_1, \cdots, e_{i-1}, e_{i+1}, \cdots, e_n \rangle \}$, $1 \le i \le n$; the set of messages $M = \{m \mid m \text{ is a subspace of type } (2(r+n'-n)+1, 2(r+n'-n), (r+n'-n), 1) \text{ and } U \subset m\}$.

- 1. Key Distribution. The KDC randomly chooses a subspace $e_T \in E_T$, then privately sends e_T to the sender T. Then KDC randomly chooses a subspace $e_{R_i} \in E_{R_i}$ and $e_{R_i} \subset e_T$, then privately sends e_{R_i} to the *i*th receiver, where $1 \le i \le n$.
- 2. Broadcast. For a source state $s \in S$, the sender calculates $m = s + e_T$ and broadcast m.
- 3. Verification. Since the receiver R_i holds the decoding rule e_{R_i} , R_i accepts m as authentic if $e_{R_i} \subset m$. R_i can get s from $s = m \cap U^{\perp}$.

Lemma 1 The above construction of multireceiver authentication codes is reasonable, that is

- (1) $s + e_T = m \in M$, for all $s \in S$ and $e_T \in E_T$;
- (2) for any $m \in M$, $s = m \cap U^{\perp}$ is the uniquely source state contained in m and there is $e_T \in E_T$, such that $m = s + e_T$.

Proof: (1) For any $s \in S$, $e_T \in E_T$, because s is a subspace of type (2r - n + 1, 2(r - n), r - n, 1) and $U \subset s \subset U^{\perp}$, we can assume that

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix}_{1}^{n}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} U \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix} S_{2}^{\prime} \begin{pmatrix} U \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0^{(n)} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I^{(r-n)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$e_T = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n \\ 2n'-n \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} S_2^{\ \ t} \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(n')} \\ I^{(n')} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
, obviously, for any

$$v \in V$$
 and $v \neq 0, v \notin s$, therefore, $m = s + e_T = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix}$, and

$$\begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix} S_2 \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I^{(r-n)} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

From above, m is a subspace of type (2(r-n+n')+1,2(r-n+n'),(r-n+n'),1) and $U \subset m$, i.e., $m \in M$.

(2) For any $m \in M$, m is a subspace of type (2(r+n'-n)+1, 2(r+n'-n), (r+n'-n), (r+n'-n), 1) and $U \subset m$, so there is a subspace $V \subset m$ and satisfies $\begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} S_2 \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(n')} \\ I^{(n')} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Then we can assume that $m = s + e_T = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ Q \end{pmatrix}$ and satisfying

$$\begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix} S_2 \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I^{(r-n)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I^{(r-n)} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, S = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ Q \\ e_{2\nu+1} \end{pmatrix},$$

then s is a subspace of type (2r-n+1,2(r-n),r-n,1) and $U \subset s \subset U^{\perp}$, i.e., $s \in S$ is a source state. For any $v \in V$ and $v \neq 0$, $v \notin s$ is obvious, i.e., $V \cap U^{\perp} = \{0\}$.

Therefore,
$$m \cap U^{\perp} = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ Q \\ e_{2y+1} \end{pmatrix} = s$$
. Let $e_T = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix}$, then e_T is a transmitter's

encoding rule and satisfies $m = s + e_T$.

If s' is another source state contained in m, then $U \subset s' \subset U^{\perp}$. Therefore, $s' \subset m \cap U^{\perp} = s$, while dims'=dims, so s'=s, i.e., s is the uniquely source state contained in m.

From Lemma 1, we know that such construction of multireceiver authentication codes is reasonable and there are n receivers in this system. Next we compute the parameters of this codes.

Lemma 2 The parameters of this construction are $|S| = N(2r - n, 2(r - n), r - n, 0; 2v + 2); |E_T| = q^{n'(v-n'+1)}; |E_R| = q^{v-n+1}.$

Proof: Since $U \subset s \subset U^{\perp}$, s has the form as follows:

$$s = \left(\begin{array}{ccccc} I^{(n)} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & B_2 & 0 & B_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array}\right),$$

where B_2 , B_4 are subspaces of type (2r-n, 2(r-n), r-n, 1) in the pseudo-symplectic space $F_q^{(2\nu+2)}$. So $|S| = N(2r-n, 2(r-n), r-n, 0; 2\nu + 2)$.

Since e_T is a subspace of type (2n', 2n', n', 0), e_T has the form as follows:

$$e_T = \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R_2 & I^{(n')} & R_4 & R_5 & R_6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For e_T is a subspace of type (2n', 2n', n', 0), so $R_4 = 0$ and $R_6 = 0$, where R_2, R_5 are arbitrary. Therefore $|E_T| = q^{n'(\nu - n' + 1)}$.

For any $e_{R_i} \in E_{R_i}$, e_{R_i} is a subspace of type (n+1,1,0,0) which is orthogonal to $(e_1, \dots, e_{i-1}, e_{i+1}, \dots, e_n)$, $1 \le i \le n$. So we can assume that

Since e_{R_i} is a subspace of type (n+1,1,0,0), so R'8=0, R'10=0 and R'3, R'9 are arbitrary. Therefore, $|E_{R_i}|=q^{\nu-n+1}$.

Lemma 3 (1) The number of e_T contained in m is $q^{n'(r-n+1)}$;

(2) The number of the messages is $|M| = q^{n'(\nu+n-r-n')}N(2(r-n), 2(r-n), r-n, 0; 2\nu+2)$.

Proof: (1) Let m be a message, since the transitivity properties of the same

type subspace under the pseudo-symplectic groups, we may take m as follows:

$$m = \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I^{(r-n)} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I^{(r-n)} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

if
$$e_T \subset m$$
, then we can assume that
$$e_T = \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R_2 & 0 & I^{(n')} & 0 & 0 & R_7 & 0 \\ n' & r-n & v+n-r-n' & n' & r-n & v+n-r-n' & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} ,$$

where R_2 , R_7 are arbitrary, therefore the number of e_T contained in m is $q^{n'(r-n+1)}$;

(2) We know that a message contains only one source state and the number of the transmitter's encoding rules contained in a message is $q^{n'(r-n+1)}$. Therefore we have $|M| = |S||E_T|/q^{n'(r-n+1)} = q^{n'(\nu+n-r-n')}N(2(r-n), 2(r-n), r-n, 0; 2\nu+2)$

Assume there are n receivers R_1, \dots, R_n . Let $L = \{i_1, \dots, i_l\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}, R_L = \{i_1, \dots, i_l\}$ $\{R_{i_1}, \dots, R_{i_l}\}\$ and $E_L = E_{R_{i_1}} \times \dots \times E_{R_{i_l}}$. We consider the impersonation attack and substitution attack from R_L on a receiver R_i , where $i \notin L$.

Without loss of generality, we can assume that $R_L = \{R_1, \dots, R_l\}, E_L = E_{R_1} \times$ $\cdots \times E_{R_l}$, where $1 \le l \le n-1$. First, we will proof the following results:

Lemma 4 For any $e_L = (e_{R_1}, \dots, e_{R_l}) \in E_L$, the number of e_T containing e_L is $a^{(n'-l)(\nu-n'+1)}$.

Proof: For any $e_L = (e_{R_1}, \dots, e_{R_l}) \in E_L$, we can assume that

therefore, e_T containing e_L has the form as follows:

where R'_4, R''_4, R'_9, R''_9 are arbitrary. Therefore, the number of e_T containing e_L is $q^{(n'-l)(\nu-n'+1)}$.

Lemma 5 For any $m \in M$ and $e_L, e_{R_i} \subset m$,

- (1) the number of e_T contained in m and containing e_L is $q^{(n'-l)(r-n+1)}$;
- (2) the number of e_T contained in m and containing e_L , e_{R_i} is $q^{(n'-l-1)(r-n+1)}$.

Proof: (1) From the definition of m, we may take m as follows:

ber of e_T contained in m and containing e_L is $q^{(n'-l)(r-n+1)}$

(2) Similarly, by computation, we can proof that the number of e_T contained in m and containing e_L , e_R , has the following form:

fore, the number of e_T contained in m and containing e_L , e_{R_i} is $q^{(n'-l-1)(r-n+1)}$.

Lemma 6 Assume that m_1 and m_2 are two distinct messages which commonly contain a transmitter's encoding rule e_T . s_1 and s_2 contained in m_1 and m_2 are two source states, respectively. Assume that $s_0 = s_1 \cap s_2$, dim $s_0 = k$, then $n \le k \le 2r - n$. For any e_L , $e_{R_1} \subset m_1 \cap m_2$, the number of e_T contained in $m_1 \cap m_2$ and containing e_L , e_{R_1} is $q^{(n'-l-1)(k-r)}$.

Proof: From the definition of the message, we may take m_i , i = 1, 2 as follows:

of Lemma 5, since $m_1 = s_1 + e_T$, $m_2 = s_2 + e_T$ and $m_1 \neq m_2$, then $s_1 \neq s_2$. Obviously, $n \leq k \leq 2r - n$. We assume that s_i' is the complementary subspace of s_0 in the s_i , then $s_i = s_0 + s_i'$ (i = 1, 2). From $m_i = s_i + e_T = s_0 + s_i' + e_T$, we have $m_1 \cap m_2 = s_0 + e_T$. then $dim(m_1 \cap m_2) = k + 2n' - n$, therefore, $dim\begin{pmatrix} P_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = (k + 2n' - n) - (2n' + r - n) = k - r$. For any e_I , $e_R \subset m_1 \cap m_2$, we can assume that

is the linear combination of the base of $\begin{pmatrix} P_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

So it is easy to know that the number of $e_T \subset m_1 \cap m_2$ and containing e_L, e_{R_i} is $a^{(n'-l-1)(k-r)}$.

Theorem 1 In the constructed multireceiver authentication codes, the largest probabilities of success for impersonation attack and substitution attack from R_L on a receiver R_i are

$$P_I[i,L] = \frac{1}{q^{\nu + n - r - n'}}, \ P_S[i,L] = \frac{1}{q}$$

respectively, where i \notin L.

Proof: Impersonation attack: R_L, after receiving their secret keys, send a

message m to R_i . R_L is successful if m is accepted by R_i as authentic. Therefore

$$P_{I}[i, L] = \max_{e_{L} \in E_{L}} \left\{ \frac{\max_{m \in M} |\{e_{T} \in E_{T} | e_{T} \subset m \text{ and } e_{T} \supset e_{L}, e_{R_{i}}\}|}{|\{e_{T} \in E_{T} | e_{T} \supset e_{L}\}|} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{q^{(n'-l)(r-n+1)}}{q^{(n'-l)(\nu-n'+1)}} = \frac{1}{q^{\nu+n-r-n'}}.$$

Substitution attack: R_L , after observing a message m that is transmitted by the sender, replace m with another message m'. R_L is successful if m' is accepted by R_i as authentic. Therefore,

$$P_{S}[i, L] = \max_{e_{L} \in E_{L}} \max_{m \in M} \left\{ \frac{\max_{m' \in M} |\{e_{T} \in E_{T} | e_{T} \subset m, m' \text{ and } e_{T} \supset e_{L}, e_{R_{i}}\}|}{|\{e_{T} \in E_{T} | e_{T} \subset m \text{ and } e_{T} \supset e_{L}\}|} \right\}$$

$$= \max_{n \le k \le 2r - n} \frac{q^{(n' - l - 1)(k - r)}}{q^{(n' - l - 1)(r - n + 1)}} = \frac{1}{q^{(n' - l - 1)(2r + 1 - n - k)}} = \frac{1}{q}.$$

We can find that $P_S[i, L]$ gets to the minimum value $\frac{1}{q}$, so this construction about multireceiver authentication codes is good.

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