

# Constructing $PC(l)$ of order $k$ Boolean Functions from Algebraic-Geometric Codes

Hao Chen

Department of Computing and  
Information Technology

Fudan University

Shanghai 200433

People's Republic of China

Liang Ma

Institute of Systems Science

University of Shanghai for Science and Technology

Shanghai 200093, P.R.China

and

Jianhua Li

Department of Electronic Engineering

Shanghai Jiaotong University

Shanghai 200030, P.R.China

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## Abstract

Propagation criterion of degree  $l$  and order  $k$  ( $PC(l)$  of order  $k$ ) for Boolean functions is important for the design of block ciphers. In [1-2] Kurosawa, Stoh and Carlet give several constructions of Boolean functions satisfying  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  from binary linear or nonlinear codes.

Matsumoto, Kurosawa and Itoh get some lower bounds and a non-constructive upper bound on the input length of the Boolean functions in Kurosawa-Satoh construction. In this paper, algebraic-geometric codes over  $GF(2^m)$  are inserted in Kurosawa-Satoh construction for giving explicit constructions of Boolean functions satisfying  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  by this AG-construction. This method gives some constructive upper bound on the minimum input length of Boolean functions satisfying  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  in Kurosawa-Satoh construction.

**Index Terms**—Cryptography, block cipher, Boolean functions, algebraic-geometric codes, Garcia-Stichtenoth curves

## I. Introduction and Preliminaries

In cryptography block ciphers are used in many applications. Propagation criterion of degree  $l$  and order  $k$  is one of the most general properties of Boolean functions which have to be satisfied for their use in block ciphers. It is introduced in Preneel et al [4], which extends the property strictly avalanche criterion SAC in [5]. For a Boolean function  $f(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of  $n$  inputs, set  $\frac{Df}{D\alpha} = f(x) + f(x + \alpha)$ ,  $f$  satisfies  $PC(l)$  of degree  $l$  if  $\frac{Df}{D\alpha}$  is a balanced Boolean function for any  $\alpha$  with  $1 \leq wt(\alpha) \leq l$ . When any function obtained from  $f$  by keeping any  $k$  inputs fixed satisfies  $PC(l)$ , we say  $f$  has the property  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$ . It is known that  $PC(n)$  Boolean functions of  $n$  inputs are just the perfect nonlinear functions introduced by W.Meier and O.Staffebach [6]. They exist only when  $n$  is even. Bent functions are examples of this kind of functions (see [2,6]). People only have few constructions of  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions. In [1-2]  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions are constructed from binary linear or nonlinear codes. For satisfying the conditions of these constructions the minimum distances of the binary codes and its dual have to be lower bounded. Some lower bounds on the minimum length of the binary linear codes with their minimum distance and dual distance specified are proved in [3]. They also give a non-constructive upper bound by Gilbert-Varshamov type argument in [3]. Algebraic-geometric codes are well-known for their dual distances are lower bounded by Goppa bound. Thus it is natural to use algebraic-geometric codes in Kurosawa-Satoh construction for giving  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions.

From [1] we know the following result.

**Kurosawa-Satoh Theorem (see [1])** *Let  $C_1$  be a linear binary code of length  $s$  and minimum distance  $d_1$  and dual distance  $d'_1$ ,  $C_2$  be a linear binary code of length  $t$  with minimum distance  $d_2$  and dual distance  $d'_2$ . Set  $l = \min\{d'_1, d'_2\} - 1$  and  $k = \min\{d_1, d_2\} - 1$ . Then the Boolean functions of  $s + t$  inputs satisfying  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  can be explicitly given.*

**Corollary 1 (see [1] and [3])** *Let  $C$  be a linear binary code with minimum distance at least  $k + 1$  and dual distance at least  $l + 1$ . Then Boolean functions of  $2n$  inputs satisfying  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  can be explicitly given.*

We also need recall some basic facts about algebraic-geometric codes ( see [7],[8] and [9]). Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be an absolutely irreducible, projective and smooth curve defined over  $GF(q)$  with genus  $g$ ,  $\mathbf{D} = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$  be a set of  $GF(q)$ -rational points of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{G}$  be a  $GF(q)$ -rational divisor satisfying  $\text{supp}(\mathbf{G}) \cap \mathbf{D} = \emptyset$ ,  $2g - 2 < \deg(\mathbf{G}) < n$ . Let  $L(G) = \{f : (f) + G \geq 0\}$  is the linear space (over  $GF(q)$ ) of all rational functions with its divisor not smaller than  $-G$  and  $\Omega(B) = \{\omega : (\omega) \geq B\}$  be the linear space of all differentials with their divisors not smaller than  $B$ . Then the functional AG(algebraic-geometric) code  $\mathbf{C}_L(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G}) \in GF(q)^n$  and residual AG(algebraic-geometric) code  $\mathbf{C}_\Omega(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G}) \in GF(q)^n$  are defined.  $\mathbf{C}_L(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G})$  is a  $[n, k = \deg(\mathbf{G}) - g + 1, d \geq n - \deg(\mathbf{G})]$  code over  $GF(q)$  and  $\mathbf{C}_\Omega(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G})$  is a  $[n, k = n - \deg(\mathbf{G}) + g - 1, d \geq \deg(\mathbf{G}) - 2g + 2]$  code over  $GF(q)$ . We know that the functional code is just the evaluations of functions in  $L(G)$  at the set  $\mathbf{D}$  and the residual code is just the residues of differentials in  $\Omega(G - D)$  at the set  $\mathbf{D}$  (see [7-9]).

We also know that  $\mathbf{C}_L(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G})$  and  $\mathbf{C}_\Omega(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G})$  are dual codes. It is known that for a differential  $\eta$  that has poles at  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  with residue 1 (there always exists such a  $\eta$ , see [18]) we have  $\mathbf{C}_\Omega(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G}) = \mathbf{C}_L(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{G} + (\eta))$ , the function  $f$  corresponds to the differential  $f\eta$ . This means that functional codes and residue code are essentially the same. It is clear that if there exist a differential  $\eta$  such that  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{G} + (\eta)$ , then  $\mathbf{C}_L(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{G}) = \mathbf{C}_\Omega(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{G}) = \mathbf{C}_L(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{G} + (\eta))$  is a self-dual code over  $GF(q)$ . For many examples of AG codes, including these self-dual AG-codes, we refer to [7],[8] and [9].

It is well-known in the theory of algebraic curves over finite fields that there exists algebraic curves  $\{X_t\}$  defined over  $GF(q^2)$  with the property  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(X_t)}{g(X_t)} = q - 1$  (Drinfeld-Vladut bound)(see [10-11]), where  $N(X_t)$  is the number of  $GF(q^2)$  rational points on the curve  $X_t$  and  $g(X_t)$  is genus of the curve  $X_t$ . Actually for this family of curve we have  $N(X_t) \leq (q - 1)q^t + 1$  and  $g(X_t) = q^t - 2q^{\frac{t}{2}} + 1$  for  $t$  even and  $g(X_t) = q^t - q^{\frac{t+1}{2}} - q^{\frac{t-1}{2}} + 1$  for  $t$  odd (see [10-11]).

For a AG-code over  $GF(2^m)$  its expansion to some base  $B$  of  $GF(2^m)$  over  $GF(2)$  will be used in our construction. Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  be a base of  $GF(2^m)$  as a linear space over  $GF(2)$ . For a code  $C \subseteq GF(2^m)^n$ , the binary code  $B(C) \subseteq GF(2)^{mn}$  consists of all codewords  $B(x) = (B(x_1), \dots, B(x_n))$ ,  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in C$ . Here  $B(x_i)$  is a length  $m$  binary vector  $(x_i^1, \dots, x_i^m)$ , where  $x_i = \sum_{j=1}^m x_i^j e_j \in GF(2^m)$ . It is well-known that there exists a self-dual base  $B$  for any finite field  $GF(2^m)$ . The following result is useful in our construction.

**Proposition 1** (see [11]). *Let  $B$  be a self-dual base of  $GF(2^m)$  over  $GF(2)$  and  $C$  be a linear code over  $GF(2^m)$ . Then the dual code  $B(C)^\perp$  is just  $B(C^\perp)$ .*

## II Main Result and Constructions

The following Theorem 1 and Corollary 2 are the main results of this paper.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathbf{X}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{X}'$ ) be a projective, absolutely irreducible smooth curve of genus  $g$  (resp.  $g'$ ) defined over  $GF(2^m)$  (resp.  $GF(2^{m'})$ ). We denote  $N(\mathbf{X})$  (resp.  $N(\mathbf{X}')$ ) the number of  $GF(2^m)$  (resp.  $GF(2^{m'})$ ) rational points on  $\mathbf{X}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{X}'$ ). Let  $\mathbf{P}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{P}'$ ) be a set of  $n$   $GF(2^m)$  (resp.  $n'$ ,  $GF(2^{m'})$ ) rational points on  $\mathbf{X}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{X}'$ ),  $G$  (resp.  $G'$ ) a  $GF(2^m)$  (resp.  $GF(2^{m'})$ ) divisor on  $\mathbf{X}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{X}'$ ) with degree satisfying  $2g - 2 < \deg(G) < n$  and  $\text{supp}(G) \cap \mathbf{P} = \emptyset$  (resp.  $2g' - 2 < \deg(G') < n'$ ,  $\text{supp}(G') \cap \mathbf{P}' = \emptyset$ ). Then we have  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions with  $mn + m'n'$  bits inputs, where*

$$\begin{aligned} l &= \min\{\deg(G) - 2g + 1, \deg(G') - 2g' + 1\} \\ k &= \min\{n - \deg(G) - 1, n' - \deg(G') - 1\} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

. If the curves and the bases of the linear space  $L(G), \Omega(G)$  (resp.  $L(G'), \Omega(G')$ ) are explicitly given, the  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions can be explicitly given.

Let  $N(d, d')$  be the minimum length of the linear binary codes with its minimum distance at least  $d$  and dual distance at least  $d'$  (see [3]), it is clear that the minimum input length  $W(l, k)$  of  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions, where  $l = d' - 1, k = d - 1$  in Kurosawa-Satoh construction can achieve  $W(l, k) \leq 2N(k + 1, t + 1)$ . We have the following constructive upper bound for  $N(d, d')$  by combining Kurosawa-Satoh construction and the curve family given in [10] attaining Drinfeld-Vladut bound.

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $m$  be an arbitrary positive integer greater than 2. Then for any positive integers  $i$  and  $k, t$  satisfying  $2^{mi+1} - 2^{\frac{mi}{2}+2} < k < t \leq (2^m - 1)2^{mi}$ , we have  $N(t - k, k - 2^{mi+1} + 2^{\frac{mi}{2}+2}) \leq 2mt$  and  $W(k - 2^{mi+1} + 2^{\frac{mi}{2}+2} - 1, t - k - 1) \leq 4mt$ .*

**Proof of Theorem 1.** We consider the  $C'_1 = C_L(P, G), C'_2 = C_L(P', G')$ , then  $C_1^\perp = C_\Omega(P, G), C_2^\perp = C_\Omega(P', G')$ . Let  $B$  and  $B'$  be self dual bases of  $GF(2^m)$  and  $GF(2^{m'})$  over  $GF(2)$ . Consider the linear binary codes  $C_1 = B(C'_1), C_2 = B'(C'_2)$ , from Proposition 1  $C_1^\perp = B(C_\Omega(P, G)), C_2^\perp = B'(C_\Omega(P', G'))$ . The code parameters of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are  $[mn, m(\deg(G) - g + 1), n - \deg(G)]$  and  $[m'n', m'(\deg(G') - g + 1), n' - \deg(G')]$ . The code parameters of  $C_1^\perp$  and  $C_2^\perp$  are  $[mn, m(n - \deg(G) + g - 1), \deg(G) - 2g + 2]$  and  $[m'n', m'(n' - \deg(G') + g' - 1), \deg(G') - 2g' + 2]$ . From Kurosawa-Satoh Theorem the conclusion is proved.

**Proof of Corollary 2.** By using the curve family of Garcia-Stichtenoth described in section 1, we take  $P = P'$  a set of  $t$  ( $t \leq (2^m - 1)2^{mi}$ )  $GF(2^{2m})$  rational points, and  $G = G'$  a  $GF(2^{2m})$  rational divisor of  $\deg(G) = \deg(G') = k$ . The conclusion is proved.

It is well-known in the theory of algebraic curves over finite fields, there

are many curves over  $GF(2^m)$  (see [13]) with various number of rational points and genus. Thus when we use Theorem 1 for constructing  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  functions, we have very flexible choices of parameters on  $l, k$  and the input length  $mn + m'n'$ . This is quite similar to the role of AG-codes in the theory of error-correcting codes, algebraic-geometric method offer us  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  functions of  $mn + m'n'$  inputs with very few restrictions on parameters.

In the following part we give some examples and compare our construction with the previously-known  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  functions in [1-2].

**Example 1.** We use the Reed-Solomon codes as AG-codes over genus 0 curve (over  $GF(2^m)$ ) in the construction Theorem 1. We take  $n = n' = 2^m$  a divisor of degree  $\deg(G) = \deg(G') = t - 1$ . Then  $l = t, k = 2^m - t$  and  $mn + m'n' = m \cdot 2^{m+1}$ ,  $PC(t)$  of order  $2^m - t$  of  $m \cdot 2^{m+1}$  inputs Boolean functions are constructed for each positive integer  $m \geq 2$  and  $t$  satisfying  $1 \leq t \leq 2^m - 1$ . We have  $PC(1)$  of order 3 with 16 inputs Boolean functions,  $PC(2)$  of order 2 with 16 inputs Boolean functions,  $PC(t)$  of order  $8 - t$  with 48 inputs Boolean functions for each  $1 \leq t \leq 7$ , etc. The cases of  $m = 4, 5, 6, 7$  of various code lengths  $n$  are listed in the following Table 1.

**Table 1**  $PC(t)$  of order  $n - t$  Boolean Functions of  $W$  Inputs

$n, d, d^\perp$	$m, t, n - t, W$
11,4,9	4,8,3,88
11,7,6	4,5,6,88
22,11,12	5,11,11,220
32,11,23	5,22,10,320
32,15,19	5,18,14,320
64,34,34	6,33,33,768
64,27,39	6,38,26,768
128,65,65	7,64,64,1792
128,50,80	7,79,49,1792
128,43,87	7,86,42,1792
128, 86,42,	7,41,85, 1792

**Example 2.** The AG-codes over a curve of genus 4 defined over  $GF(4)$  is used in this example. From [13] it is known this curve have 15  $GF(4)$  rational points. Thus we have  $n = n' = 14, \deg(G) = \deg(G') = 10, m = m' = 2$  in Theorem 1 and  $PC(3)$  of order 3 Boolean functions with 56 inputs are constructed.

**Example 3.** We use AG-codes over elliptic curves (that is the genus  $g$  is 1) defined over  $GF(8), GF(16), GF(32), GF(64), GF(128)$  in this example. From Table [13], we have such curves with  $N = 14, 25, 44, 81, 150$  rational points. Thus we have AG-codes over  $GF(2^m)$  with lengths  $N - 1$  and distance  $d = N - 1 - t$  and dual distance  $d^\perp = t$ ,  $PC(t)$  of order  $N - 1 - t$  Boolean functions with  $W = 2m(N - 1)$  inputs are constructed. The resulted functions are summarized in the following Table II.

**Table 2**  $PC(t)$  of order  $N - t - 3$  Boolean Functions of  $W$  Inputs

$n, d, d^\perp$	$m, t, N - t - 3, W$
13, 7, 6	3, 5, 6, 78
24, 18, 6	4, 5, 17, 112
24, 5, 19	4, 4, 18, 112
43, 20, 23	5, 22, 19, 430
80, 40, 40	6, 39, 39, 768
149, 89, 60	7, 59, 88, 1792

**Example 4.** The AG-codes over Klein quartic (defined over  $GF(8)$ ) of genus  $g = 3$  is used in this example. The Klein quartic have 24  $GF(8)$  rational points. We have  $m = m' = 3$ . The resulted  $PC(t)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions with  $W$  inputs are listed in the follow Table III.

**Table 3**  $PC(t)$  of order  $18 - l$  Boolean Functions of  $W$  Inputs

$n, d, d^\perp$	$m, l, 18 - l, W$
23, 9, 11	3, 10, 8, 138
23, 18, 2	3, 1, 17, 138
23, 5, 15	3, 14, 4, 138
23, 10, 10	3, 9, 9, 138
23, 2, 18	3, 17, 1, 138

**Example 5.** Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be the genus 0 curve defined over  $GF(8)$  and  $\mathbf{X}'$  be the elliptic curve defined over  $GF(8)$  of 14  $GF(8)$  rational points (see [13]),  $P$  be a set of 8 rational points on  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $P'$  be a set of 13 rational points on  $\mathbf{X}'$ ,  $\deg(G) = 4, \deg(G') = 5$ . From Theorem 1 we have  $PC(4)$  of order 4 Boolean functions of 63 inputs.

**Example 6.** Hermitian curves are  $C : y^q + y = x^{q+1}$  defined over  $GF(q^2)$  with genus  $g = \frac{q(q-2)}{2}$ . There are  $q^3 + 1$   $GF(q^2)$  rational points on  $C$ . Here we take  $q = 2^m$ . In Theorem 1, if we can find an algebraic curve such that  $n - 2g \geq k + l$  it is obvious the linear binary codes needed in Theorem 1 can be constructed by the expansions of AG-codes over this curve. Thus if  $q^3 - 2g = q^3 - q^2 + 2q > (q - 1)^3 \geq k + l$ , we have  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions from Hermitian codes. The input length of the constructed functions is at most  $4\lceil \log_2(k + l) \rceil ((k + l)^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1)^3$ . We have the following result.

**Corollary 3.** *For any positive integer  $l$  and  $k$ , we have  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions with  $4\lceil \log_2(k + l) \rceil ((k + l)^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1)^3$  inputs.*

In Table 4 we summarize some Boolean functions from Hermitian curves, it is noted when  $k$  and  $l$  becomes large, we have to use some curves with high genus as Hermitian curves.

**Table 4**  $PC(t)$  of order  $N - l - 48$  Boolean Functions of  $W$  Inputs

$n, d, d^\perp$	$m, l, 18 - l, W$
150,102,3	6,2,101,1800
150,17,134	6,86,16,1800
150,62,42	6,41,61,1800
200,53,101	6,100,52,2400
200,57,97	6,96,56,2400
250,102,102	6,101,101,3000
300,127,127	6,126,126,3600

From Corollary 2 we have the following constructive upper bound on the minimum input length of  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions.



**Corollary 3.** *For any positive integer  $l$  and  $k$ , we have  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions with  $42 \cdot 8^{\lceil \log_6(k+l) \rceil - 1}$  inputs.*

**Proof.** We use the  $i$ -th member in Garcia-Stichtenoth curve family over  $GF(q^2)$  for  $q = 8$ . We need  $N - 1 - 2g \geq k + l$  in Theorem 1. Thus if we have  $(q - 3)q^i > (q - 2)^i \geq k + l$ , the desired AG-codes can be constructed on this curve. The conclusion follows directly from a simple computation.

Comparing the constructions of  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions in this paper with the lower bounds and non-constructive upper bounds in the Table of [3], we can see some Boolean functions in our Tables are near the optimal possibility.

### III Conclusion

We give constructive method for giving  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  functions explicitly from algebraic-geometric codes over various algebraic curves. The constructive upper bounds on the existence of  $PC(l)$  of order  $k$  Boolean functions are proved and the method for giving the explicit form of these Boolean functions is suggested.

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e-mail: chen hao@fudan.edu.cn

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