

On Codes and Learning With Errors Over Function Fields

Maxime Bombar, Alain Couvreur, Thomas Debris-Alazard

LIX, École Polytechnique & Inria

IMATH-IAA Seminar

February 22, 2022

Outline

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Function Field Decoding Problem
- 3 Carlitz module
- 4 Instantiations & applications

A hard computational problem

Error correcting code

- $\mathcal{C} = \{m\mathbf{G} \mid m \in \mathbb{F}_q^k\} \subset \mathbb{F}_q^n$;
- (\mathbb{F}_q^n, d) metric space.

Decoding Problem - DP

Data. $(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{y} = m\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e})$ with $\mathbf{G} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times n}$, $m \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}_q^k$ and $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_q^n$ such that $|\mathbf{e}| = t$.

Goal. Find m .

Hamming weight $|\mathbf{x}| \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \#\{i \mid x_i \neq 0\}$.

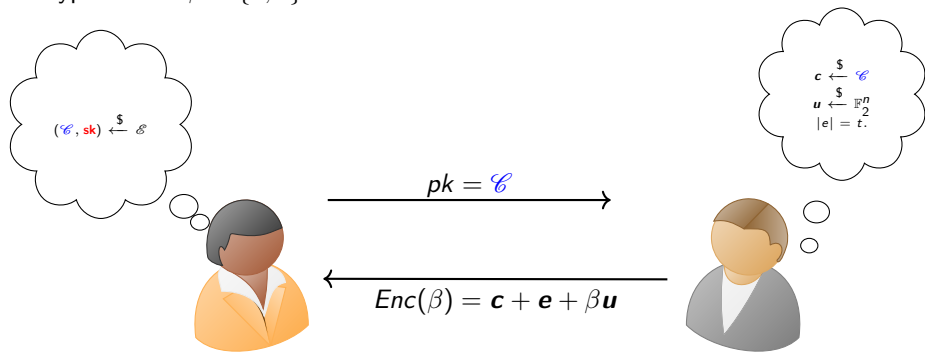
Hamming distance $d_H(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|$.

Alekhovich cryptosystem (2003)

$$t = o(\sqrt{n})$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \{(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{sk}) \mid \mathcal{C} \text{ is a code with } \mathbf{sk} \in \mathcal{C}^\perp \text{ of weight } t\}$$

Encrypt one bit $\beta \in \{0, 1\}$.



Alekhovich cryptosystem (2003)

Encrypt one bit $\beta \in \{0, 1\}$.

$$Enc(\beta) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{e} & \text{if } \beta = 0 \\ \text{random} & \text{if } \beta = 1 \end{cases}$$

Decryption

- $\langle \mathbf{sk}, Enc(0) \rangle = \langle \mathbf{sk}, \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{e} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{sk}, \mathbf{e} \rangle = 0$ w.h.p because $|\mathbf{sk}| = |\mathbf{e}| = o(\sqrt{n})$.
- $\langle \mathbf{sk}, Enc(1) \rangle = \langle \mathbf{sk}, \text{random} \rangle = 0$ with proba $\frac{1}{2}$.

Message Security

Hard to distinguish $\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{e}$ from random.

Decision Decoding Problem

- $(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{y}) \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_0$ if $\mathbf{G} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times n}$ and $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{m}\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}$ where $\mathbf{m} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}_q^k$ and $|\mathbf{e}| = t$.
- $(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{y}) \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_1$ if $\mathbf{G} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times n}$ and $\mathbf{y} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}_q^n$.

Decision Decoding Problem

Data. $(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{y}) \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_b$ where $b \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}$.

Question. Is $b = 0$ or $b = 1$?

Goal. Good answer with proba $\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$.

Fisher, Stern (1996), Alekhnovich (2003)

Decision Decoding Problem is harder than Search Decoding Problem.

Efficiency ?

Public-key = Random code = Random matrix \Rightarrow Huge public key: $\Theta(n^2)$

Reducing the size of the key ?

Quasi-Cyclic codes

Idea: Use codes with many automorphisms, e.g. *Quasi-Cyclic*.

Codes having a generator (or parity-check) matrix formed by multiple circulant blocks

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^{(1)} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}^{(r)} \\ \circlearrowleft & \cdots & \circlearrowleft \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ Public key is now only one row.

Polynomial representation

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^n - 1)$$

Isomorphism between circulant matrices and polynomial ring.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \dots & \dots & a_{n-1} \\ a_{n-1} & a_0 & \dots & \dots & a_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_{n-1} & a_0 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{a}(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i X^i \in \mathcal{R}$$

$$\mathbf{m} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^{(1)} & \mathbf{a}^{(2)} \\ \circlearrowleft & \circlearrowleft \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}^{(1)} & \mathbf{e}^{(2)} \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} \mathbf{m}(x)\mathbf{a}^{(1)}(X) + \mathbf{e}^{(1)}(X) \in \mathcal{R} \\ \mathbf{m}(x)\mathbf{a}^{(2)}(X) + \mathbf{e}^{(2)}(X) \in \mathcal{R} \end{cases}$$

Structured versions of Decoding Problems

\mathcal{R} Ring, e.g. $\mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^n - 1)$

Search version

Data. r samples $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{m}\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{e})$ with same $\mathbf{m} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{R}$, where $\mathbf{a} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{R}$, and $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \mathcal{R}$ such that $|\mathbf{e}| = t$.

Goal. Find \mathbf{m} .

Decision version

Data. r samples (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) where either all \mathbf{b} are **uniformly random**, or are of the form $\mathbf{m}\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{e}$.

Goal. Distinguish between these two cases.

Structured versions of Decoding Problems

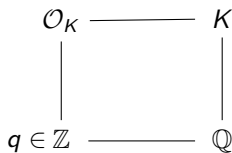
- Security of several code-based cryptosystems rely on the QC versions.
- **No** known search to decision reduction.
- *“During the third round, NIST encourages further research into the relationship between the **decision** and **search** versions of the QCSD with parity problems”* ~ Nist Second Round report.
- Ring-LPN is a special case when rate goes to zero, and error is Bernouilli.

Outline

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Function Field Decoding Problem
- 3 Carlitz module
- 4 Instantiations & applications

Ring-LWE (2010)

- $K = \mathbb{Q}[X]/(X^n + 1)$, $n = 2^\ell$
cyclotomic number field
- $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[X]/(X^n + 1)$,
ring of integers
- $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ prime.



Search-RLWE

Data. Independent $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a}s + \mathbf{e})$ with $\mathbf{a} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{O}_K/q\mathcal{O}_K$, $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow$ Gaussian.

Goal. Find s .

Decision-RLWE

Data. Independent (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) with $\mathbf{a} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{O}_K/q\mathcal{O}_K$ and \mathbf{b} either **random** or $\mathbf{a}s + \mathbf{e}$.

Goal. Distinguish between these two cases.

Taking height

Idea:

- Ring-LWE uses Number fields and ring of integers for proofs.
- $\mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^n - 1)$ is small, with not many ideals (Krull dimension 0).

What about dimension 1 ?

$$K \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{F}_q(T)[X]/(X^n + T - 1)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{F}_q[T][X]/(X^n + T - 1)$$

$$\mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^n - 1) = \mathbb{F}_q[T][X]/(T, X^n + T - 1) = \mathcal{O}_K / T\mathcal{O}_K.$$

This Work

This work

- A new generic problem: Function Field Decoding Problem FF-DP,
- A new framework to make proofs,
- A search to decision reduction for QC-codes based on $\mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^{q-1} - 1)$,
- Search to decision reductions for structured versions of LPN,
- Applications to MPC.

Wishful thinking

Number field - Function field analogy

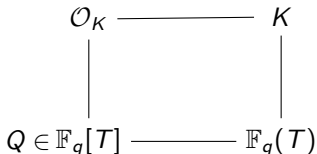
(Informal) Finite extensions of \mathbb{Q} and finite extensions of $\mathbb{F}_q(T)$ share many properties.

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{Q} \\ \mathbb{Z} \\ \text{Prime numbers } q \in \mathbb{Z} \\ \\ K = \mathbb{Q}[X]/(f(X)) \\ \\ \mathcal{O}_K \\ = \text{Integral closure of } \mathbb{Z} \\ \text{Dedekind domain} \\ \\ \text{characteristic 0} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{F}_q(T) \\ \mathbb{F}_q[T] \\ \text{Irreducible polynomials } Q \in \mathbb{F}_q[T] \\ \\ K = \mathbb{F}_q(T)[X]/(f(T, X)) \\ \\ \mathcal{O}_K \\ = \text{Integral closure of } \mathbb{F}_q[T] \\ \text{Dedekind domain} \\ \\ \text{characteristic } p \end{array}$$

Function Field Decoding Problem - FF-DP

- $K = \mathbb{F}_q(T)[X]/(f(T, X))$
- \mathcal{O}_K ring of integers
- $Q \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ irreducible.
- ψ some probability distribution over $\mathcal{O}_K/Q\mathcal{O}_K$.



Search FF-DP

Data. Samples $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e})$ with $\mathbf{a} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/Q\mathcal{O}_K$, $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \psi$.

Goal. Find $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{O}_K/Q\mathcal{O}_K$.

Decision FF-DP

Data. Samples (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) with $\mathbf{a} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/Q\mathcal{O}_K$ and \mathbf{b} either all **random** or $\mathbf{a}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e}$.

Goal. Distinguish between these two cases.

An example

- $K = \mathbb{F}_q(T)[X]/(X^n + T - 1)$
- $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{F}_q[T][X]/(X^n + T - 1)$
- $\mathcal{O}_K/T\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^n - 1)$
- ψ uniform over Hamming weight t

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_K & \text{-----} & K \\ | & & | \\ T \in \mathbb{F}_q[T] & \text{-----} & \mathbb{F}_q(T) \end{array}$$

- **Search** FF-DP = Quasi-Cyclic DP
- **Decision** FF-DP = Decision QC-DP

Goal: Search to decision reduction for FF-DP.

Main theorem

Let K be a function field with constant field \mathbb{F}_q , $Q \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ irreducible.

Assume that

- (1) K is a Galois extension of $\mathbb{F}_q(T)$ of not too large degree.
- (2) Ideal $\mathfrak{P} = Q\mathcal{O}_K$ does not ramify and has not too large inertia.
- (3) For all $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{F}_q(T))$, if $x \leftarrow \psi$ then $\sigma(x) \leftarrow \psi$.

Then solving **decision** FF-DP is as hard as solving **search** FF-DP.

(2) $\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{P} = \mathfrak{P}_1 \dots \mathfrak{P}_r$ with \mathfrak{P}_i prime ideals and $\mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i = \mathbb{F}_{q^\ell}$ with ℓ small.

Search to decision reduction

$$as + e \in \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P} \simeq \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_r$$

With CRT notations,

$$\mathcal{H}_i = \{(r_1, \dots, r_i, as + e, \dots, as + e) \mid r_i \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i\}$$

$\mathcal{H}_0 =$ Distribution of $as + e$

$\mathcal{H}_r =$ Uniform distribution

(Step 1) Hybrid Argument

If \mathcal{A} distinguishes \mathcal{H}_0 from \mathcal{H}_r then \mathcal{A} distinguishes \mathcal{H}_i from \mathcal{H}_{i-1} for some i .

Search to decision reduction

$$as + e \in \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P} \simeq \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_r$$

$$\mathcal{H}_i = \{(r_1, \dots, r_i, as + e, \dots, as + e) \mid r_i \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i\}$$

(Step 2) Guess and search

- $g \in \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i$ guess for $s \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_i}$.
- $v \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i$; $h = CRT^{-1}(r_1, \dots, r_{i-1}, 0, \dots, 0)$
- $(a, b = as + e) \mapsto (a', b') = (a + v, b + vg + h)$
- $a' = \text{random}$
- $b' = a's + (g - s)v + e + h$

$$b' = \begin{cases} a's + e \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_i} & \text{If guess is good} \\ \text{random} \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_i} & \text{If guess is wrong} \end{cases}$$

Search to decision reduction

$$as + e \in \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P} \simeq \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_r$$

$$\mathcal{H}_i = \{(r_1, \dots, r_i, as + e, \dots, as + e) \mid r_i \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i\}$$

(Step 2 cont'd) Guess and search

- $\mathbf{a}' =$ random

-

$$\mathbf{b}' \leftarrow \begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_{i-1} & \text{If guess is good} \\ \mathcal{H}_i & \text{If guess is wrong} \end{cases}$$

- $\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ can tell whether we guessed correctly !

We can recover $\mathbf{s} \bmod \mathfrak{P}_i$ with an exhaustive search in $\mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_i = \mathbb{F}_{q^\ell}$.

Search to decision reduction

$$as + e \in \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P} \simeq \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}_r$$

We can recover $\mathbf{s} \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_i}$.

Fact. For any j there exists $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{F}_q(T))$ such that $\sigma(\mathfrak{P}_j) = \mathfrak{P}_i$.

(Step 3) Permute the factors

$$(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) \mapsto (\sigma(\mathbf{a}), \sigma(\mathbf{b}))$$

- $\sigma(\mathbf{a}) \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}$;
- $\sigma(\mathbf{b}) = \sigma(\mathbf{a})\sigma(\mathbf{s}) + \sigma(\mathbf{e})$;
- If $\sigma(\mathbf{s}) \equiv s_i \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_i}$ then $\mathbf{s} \equiv \sigma^{-1}(s_i) \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_j}$;
- $\triangle \sigma$ needs to keep distribution of \mathbf{e} .

How to instantiate FF-DP ?

What do we need ?

- Galois function field $K/\mathbb{F}_q(T)$;
- Nice behaviour of places;
- Galois invariant distribution.

Ring-LWE instantiation with cyclotomic number fields.

Outline

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Function Field Decoding Problem
- 3 Carlitz module
- 4 Instantiations & applications

Cyclotomic function field

We want an analogue of cyclotomic number field.

$\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]$ is built by adding the n -th roots of 1.

What about $\mathbb{F}_q(T)$?

A false good idea

Adding roots of 1 to $\mathbb{F}_q(T)$ yields extension of constants

\Rightarrow We get $\mathbb{F}_{q^m}(T)$.

Intuition:

- $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}^x$ is endowed with a \mathbb{Z} -module structure by $n \cdot z \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} z^n$.
- $U_n = \{z \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \mid z^n = 1\} = n$ -torsion elements.

Idea: $\mathbb{Z} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q[T] \Rightarrow$ Consider a new $\mathbb{F}_q[T]$ -module structure on $\overline{\mathbb{F}_q(T)}$.

Carlitz Polynomials

For $M \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ define $[M] \in \mathbb{F}_q(T)[X]$ by:

- $[1](X) = X$
- $[T](X) = X^q + TX$
- \mathbb{F}_q -Linearity + $[M_1 M_2](X) = [M_1]([M_2](X))$

Fact. $[M]$ is a q -polynomial in X with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_q[T]$.

Examples:

- For $c \in \mathbb{F}_q$, $[c](X) = cX$
- $[T^2](X) = (X^q + TX)^q + T(X^q + TX) = X^{q^2} + (T^q + T)X^q + T^2X$

Carlitz Module

Fact. $\mathbb{F}_q[T]$ acts on $\overline{\mathbb{F}_q(T)}$ by $M \cdot z = [M](z)$.

$\overline{\mathbb{F}_q(T)}$ endowed with this action is called the \mathbb{F}_q -Carlitz module.

- $\Lambda_M \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{z \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_q(T)} \mid [M](z) = 0\}$ M -torsion elements $\simeq \mathbb{U}_n$.
- $\mathbb{F}_q(T)[\Lambda_M] = \underline{\text{cyclotomic function field}}$.
- $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{F}_q(T)) \simeq (\mathbb{F}_q[T]/(M))^\times$ with $A \cdot P(T, X) = P(T, [A](X))$.

Cyclotomic VS Carlitz

$$\mathbb{Q}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}$$

Prime numbers $q \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\mathbb{U}_n = \langle \zeta \rangle \simeq \mathbb{Z}/(n) \text{ (groups)}$$

$$d \mid n \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{U}_d \subset \mathbb{U}_n \text{ (subgroups)}$$

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n} \Rightarrow \zeta^a = \zeta^b$$

$$K = \mathbb{Q}[\zeta]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta]$$

$$\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(n))^{\times}$$

Cyclotomic

$$\mathbb{F}_q(T)$$

$$\mathbb{F}_q[T]$$

Irreducible polynomials $Q \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$

$$\Lambda_M = \langle \lambda \rangle \simeq \mathbb{F}_q[T]/(M) \text{ (modules)}$$

$$D \mid M \Leftrightarrow \Lambda_D \subset \Lambda_M \text{ (submodules)}$$

$$A \equiv B \pmod{M} \Rightarrow [A](\lambda) = [B](\lambda)$$

$$K = \mathbb{F}_q(T)[\lambda]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{F}_q[T][\lambda]$$

$$\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{F}_q(T)) \simeq (\mathbb{F}_q[T]/(M))^{\times}$$

Carlitz

Important example

$$[T](X) = X^q + TX$$

$$\Lambda_T = \{z \mid z^q + Tz = 0\} = \{0\} \cup \{z \mid z^{q-1} = -T\};$$

$$K = \mathbb{F}_q(T)(\Lambda_T) = \mathbb{F}_q(T)[X]/(X^{q-1} + T);$$

$$\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{F}_q[T][X]/(X^{q-1} + T);$$

$$\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{F}_q(T)) = (\mathbb{F}_q[T]/T)^\times = \mathbb{F}_q^\times;$$

$$\mathcal{O}_K/((T+1)\mathcal{O}_K) = \mathbb{F}_q[T][X]/(X^{q-1} + T, T+1) = \mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^{q-1} - 1).$$

Outline

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Function Field Decoding Problem
- 3 Carlitz module
- 4 Instantiations & applications

Quasi-Cyclic Decoding

- $K = \mathbb{F}_q(T)[\Lambda_T], \quad \mathcal{O}_K/(T+1)\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^{q-1} - 1).$
- $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{F}_q(T)) = \mathbb{F}_q^\times$ acts on $\mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^{q-1} - 1)$ via
 $\zeta \cdot P(X) = P(\zeta X) \Rightarrow \text{Support is } \underline{\text{Galois invariant}} !$

Search to decision reduction

The **decision** version of QC-decoding in $\mathbb{F}_q[X]/(X^{q-1} - 1)$ is as hard as the **search**.

This assumption has also been used for MPC.

Ring-LPN

$$p \in [0, 1/2)$$

- Ring $\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{F}_q[X]/(f(X))$ where $f(X) = f_1(X) \dots f_r(X)$ of degree r .
 $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_{r-1})$ \mathbb{F}_q -basis.
 - Samples $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{as} + \mathbf{e})$ where $\mathbf{e} = e_0\beta_0 + \dots + e_{r-1}\beta_{r-1}$ and $e_i \leftarrow \mathcal{B}_q(p)$.
- e.g. Canonical basis $(1, X, \dots, X^{r-1})$.

Normal Distribution Ring-LPN

- When $f_i(X)$ have the same degree d , $\mathcal{R} \simeq \mathcal{O}_K/T\mathcal{O}_K$ where K is some explicit Carlitz extension in which T has inertia d and does not ramify.
- $\mathcal{O}_K/T\mathcal{O}_K$ admits many \mathbb{F}_q -Galois invariant basis.
- **Decision** Ring-LPN with respect to such a basis is as hard as **Search**.

Conclusion

Ring-LWE VS FF-DP

2010:	Cyclotomic number fields Special modulus	Galois function fields Special modulus	✓
2014:	Any modulus	?	✗
2017-2018:	Any number field Completely different technique: OHCP	?	✗

Already useful for special QC codes used in MPC, or for particular Ring-LPN.

Extension to any function field would apply to codes like in BIKE or HQC.

Conclusion and perspectives

Open questions.

- Extensions to more general function fields, and modulus.
- Study this problem on its own
- Inspect what happens at infinity ?

Thank you for your attention.