

Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity

Hugo Delavenne, Louise Lallemand

CANS 2025, Osaka

Thursday 20th November 2025



- ▶ This is a follow up of [DMR25] with **Tanguy Medevielle** and **Élina Roussel**.
- ▶ There is an **error** in [DMR25, DL25]...
we can **fix** it...
but slightly **worsening complexity**.

[DMR25] Hugo Delavenne, Tanguy Medevielle, and Élina Roussel. Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity to Codes on Graphs.
In 2025 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT), 2025

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and LouiseALLEmand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

- 1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity
- 2 Codes on graphs
- 3 Folding graphs
- 4 Cayley graphs
- 5 Flowering protocol

1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity

2 Codes on graphs

3 Folding graphs

4 Cayley graphs

5 Flowering protocol

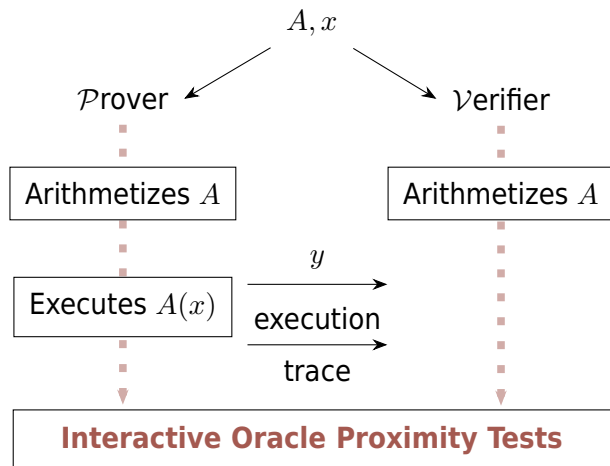
- ▷ Motivation: Code-based SNARKs
- ▷ Error correcting codes
- ▷ Folding Reed-Solomon codewords
- ▷ Successive foldings

SNARK means

- ▶ **S**uccinct
- ▶ **N**on-interactive
- ▶ **AR**gument of
- ▶ **K**nowledge

Goal: $\mathcal{P}$ convinces $\mathcal{V}$ that

$$y = A(x)$$



An **error correcting code** C is a linear subspace of $\mathbb{F}^N$ with a **distance**.

Consider a support $\mathcal{L}$, $|\mathcal{L}| = N$. View $C \subseteq \{f : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}\}$.

Definition Relative Hamming distance

Let $f, g : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$.

$$\Delta(f, g) := \frac{1}{N} |\{x \in \mathcal{L} \mid f(x) \neq g(x)\}|$$

Example Reed-Solomon code

Let $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathbb{F}$, $|\mathcal{L}| = N$, and $K < |\mathcal{L}|$.

$$\text{RS}[N, K] := \{f : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{F} \mid f \in \mathbb{F}[X]_{\leq K-1}\}$$

Idea: Reduce testing $C := \text{RS}[|\mathcal{L}_0|, K]$ to $C' := \text{RS}[|\mathcal{L}_1|, K/2]$ using

$$f(X) =: f_{\text{even}}(X^2) + X f_{\text{odd}}(X^2).$$

Definition Folding operator [BBHR18]

Let $f : \mathcal{L}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$. Let $\mathcal{L}_1 := \{x^2 \mid x, -x \in \mathcal{L}_0\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Fold}[f, \alpha](X^2) &:= f_{\text{even}}(X^2) + \alpha f_{\text{odd}}(X^2) \\ &= \frac{f(X) + f(-X)}{2} + \alpha \frac{f(X) - f(-X)}{2X} \end{aligned}$$

Locality: $\mathcal{V}$ computes $\text{Fold}[f, \alpha](x^2)$ with **2 queries** to f

Completeness: If $f \in C$ then $\text{Fold}[f, \alpha] \in C'$ for all α

Soundness: If $\Delta(f, C) > \delta$ then $\Delta(\text{Fold}[f, \alpha], C') > \delta$ w.h.p. over α

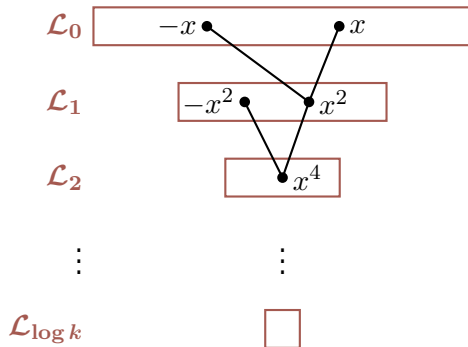
$\mathcal{P}$ performs **successive foldings** on

$$\mathcal{L}_{i+1} := \{x^2 \mid x, -x \in \mathcal{L}_i\}$$

Field restriction:

$\mathcal{L}_0$ must have k^{th} roots of unity

$\rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ extension of $\mathbb{F}_p$ with $p = 2^{64} - 2^{32} + 1$



1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity

2 Codes on graphs

3 Folding graphs

4 Cayley graphs

5 Flowering protocol

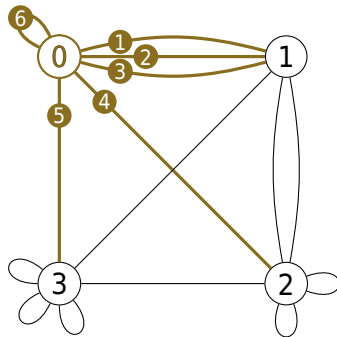
- ▷ Regular Indexed Multigraphs (RIM)
- ▷ Words and codes on graphs

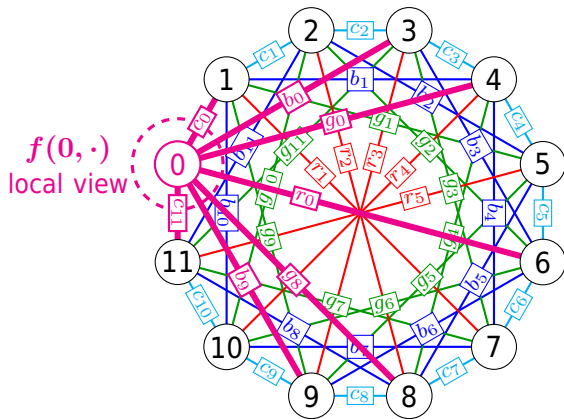
$\Gamma = (V, E)$ is a n -**RIM**:

- **Multigraph**: multiple edges and loops
- **Regular**: same number n of edges
- **Indexed**: edge is $(v, \ell) \in V \times [n]$
Write $E(v, \ell) \in V$ the neighbor of v by ℓ

Denote $\mathcal{L} = V \times [n] / \sim_\Gamma$ **set of edges**

where $(v, \ell) \sim_\Gamma (v', \ell')$ if $E(v, \ell) = v'$ and $E(v', \ell') = v$





Word $f : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ on a graph Γ

Definition Code $\mathcal{C}[\Gamma, k]$

Given Γ a n -RIM and $k \leq n$,

$$f \in \mathcal{C}[\Gamma, k] \iff \forall v, f(v, \cdot) \in \text{RS}[n, k]$$

Example

For $v = 0$, being a codeword requires $(c_0, b_0, g_0, r_0, g_8, b_9, c_{11}) \in \text{RS}[7, k]$.

1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity

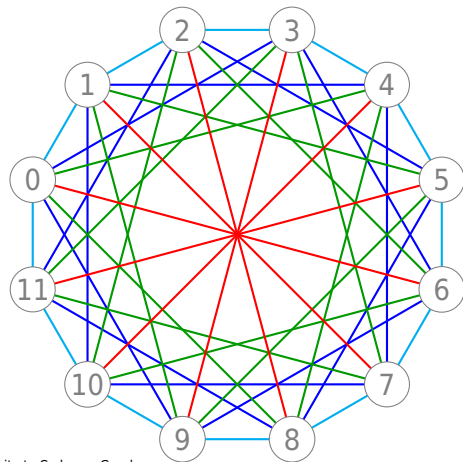
2 Codes on graphs

3 Folding graphs

4 Cayley graphs

5 Flowering protocol

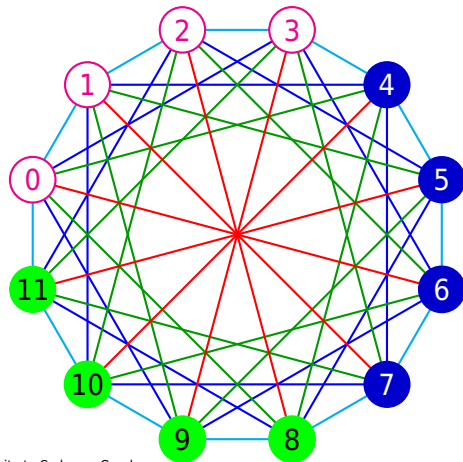
- ▷ Folding graphs
- ▷ Disjoint flowering example
- ▷ Non disjoint flowering example



[DMR25] Hugo Delavenne, Tanguy Medevielle, and Élina Roussel. Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity to Codes on Graphs.
In **2025 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT)**, 2025

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

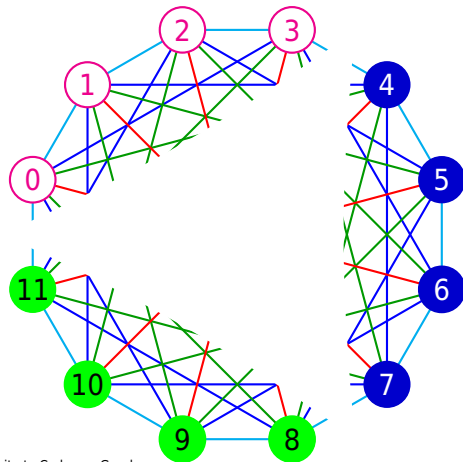
- Choose subsets of vertices $V_0, \dots, V_m \subseteq V$



[DMR25] Hugo Delavenne, Tanguy Medevielle, and Élina Roussel. Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity to Codes on Graphs. In *2025 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT)*, 2025

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

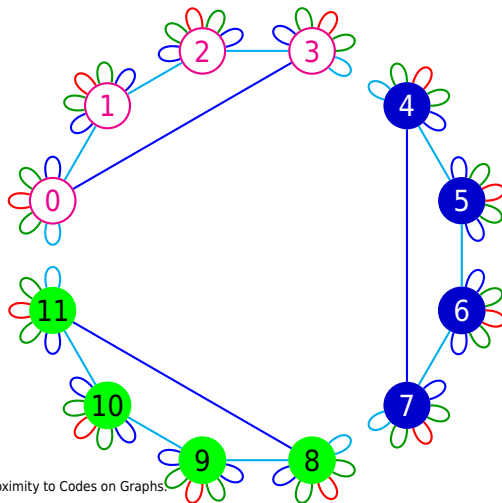
- ▷ Choose subsets of vertices $V_0, \dots, V_m \subseteq V$
- ▶ Cut outgoing edges



[DMR25] Hugo Delavenne, Tanguy Medevielle, and Élina Roussel. Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity to Codes on Graphs.
In **2025 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT), 2025**

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

- ▷ Choose subsets of vertices $V_0, \dots, V_m \subseteq V$
- ▷ Cut outgoing edges
- ▶ Turn floating edges into **petals**

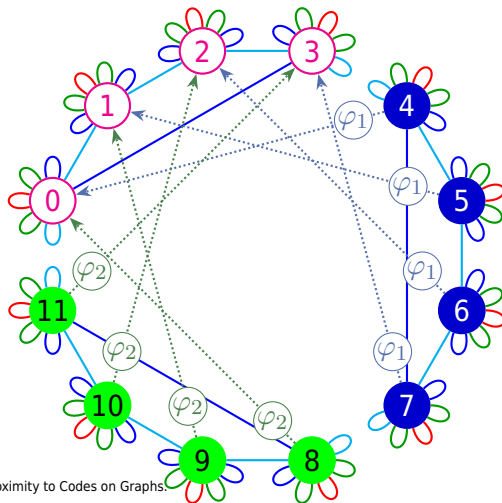


[DMR25] Hugo Delavenne, Tanguy Medevielle, and Élina Roussel. Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity to Codes on Graphs.
In **2025 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT), 2025**

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

- ▶ Choose subsets of vertices $V_0, \dots, V_m \subseteq V$
 - ▶ Cut outgoing edges
 - ▶ Turn floating edges into **petals**
 - ▶ Make sure cuts are **isomorphic**
- Define the **Fold** for $f : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}, \alpha \in \mathbb{F}$

$$\text{Fold}[f, \alpha](v, \ell) := \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \alpha^i f(\varphi_i^{-1}(v), \ell)$$



[DMR25] Hugo Delavenne, Tanguy Medevielle, and Élina Roussel. Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity to Codes on Graphs.
In *2025 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT)*, 2025

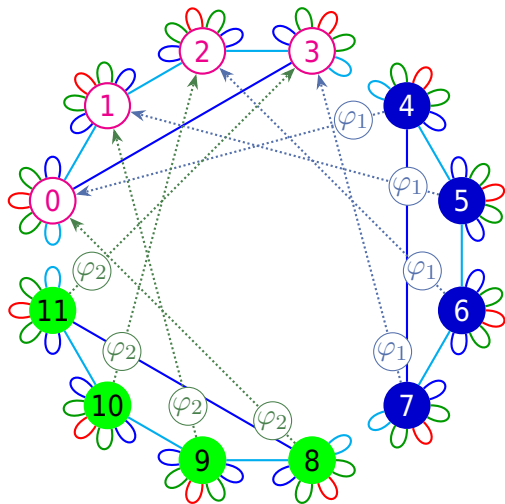
[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

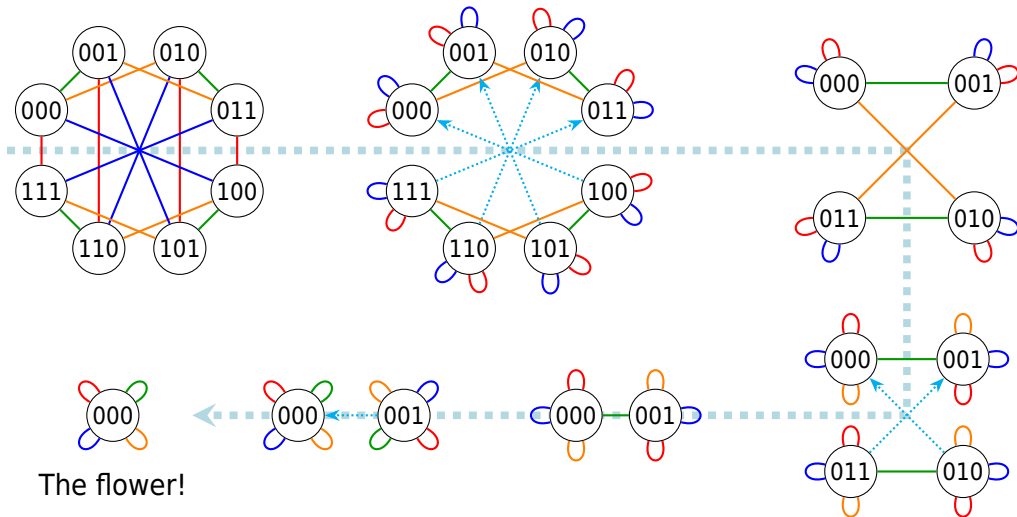
- ▶ Choose subsets of vertices $V_0, \dots, V_m \subseteq V$
- ▶ Cut outgoing edges
- ▶ Turn floating edges into **petals**
- ▶ Make sure cuts are **isomorphic**

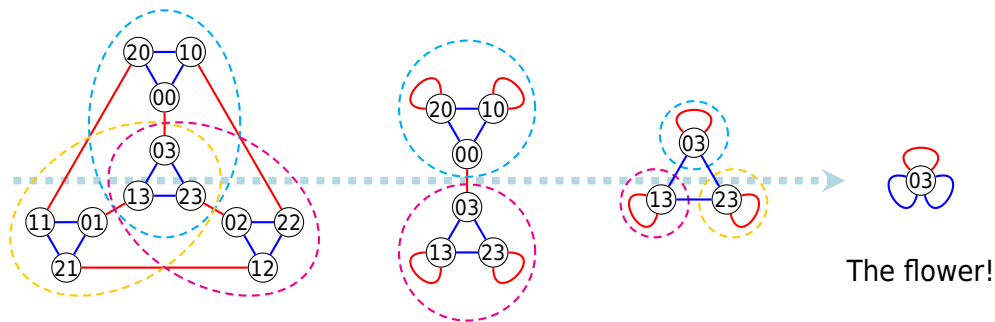
Define the **Fold** for $f : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}, \alpha \in \mathbb{F}$

$$\text{Fold}[f, \alpha] := \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \alpha^i f_i, \quad f_i := \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (-1)^{b_{ij}} f \circ \varphi_j$$

FIX







1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity

2 Codes on graphs

3 Folding graphs

4 Cayley graphs

5 Flowering protocol

- ▷ Cayley graphs
- ▷ Expander graphs
- ▷ Cutting Cayley graphs

Definition [Cay78]

Let $(G, \cdot)$ and $S \subseteq G$ such that

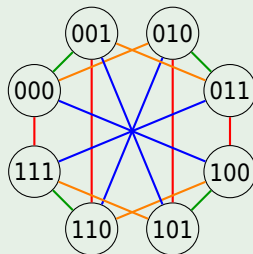
- ▶ $|S| = n$ (arity)
- ▶ $G = \langle S \rangle$ (connected)
- ▶ $S^{-1} \subseteq S$. (non-oriented)

Define $\text{Cay}(G, S) = (V, E)$ by

- ▶ $V := G$
- ▶ $E(g, s) = g \cdot s$.

Example

With $G = (\mathbb{F}_2^3, +)$ and $S = \{100, 010, 001, 111\}$,



[Cay78] Arthur Cayley. Desiderata and Suggestions: No. 2. The Theory of Groups: Graphical Representation.

American Journal of Mathematics, 1(2):174-176, 1878

Graph expansion $\varepsilon \in [0, 1]$ gives connectivity, random walk convergence, etc

Theorem LPS Ramanujan graphs [LPS88]

Let $n - 1 \neq q$ be primes such that $n - 1, q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. We can construct $G_{n,q}, S_{n,q}$

- ▶ $G_{n,q} = \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ or $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ and $|S_{n,q}| = n$
- ▶ $\text{Cay}(G_{n,q}, S_{n,q})$ is optimal expander, with $\varepsilon(q)$ constant

Lemma [AC88]

Let Γ be ε -expander and $\delta := 1 - \frac{k+1}{n}$
 $\mathcal{C}[\Gamma, k]$ has **minimum distance** $\geq \delta(\delta - \varepsilon)$

Conjecture [Sar19]

The diameter of LPS graphs is
 $\leq (4/3) \cdot \log_n(q) \leq \frac{1}{2} \log N$

[LPS88] Alexander Lubotzky, Ralph Phillips, and Peter Sarnak. Ramanujan graphs.
Combinatorica, 8(3):261-277, 1988

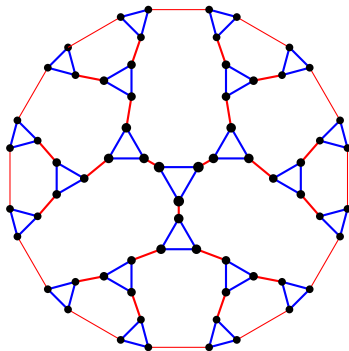
[AC88] Noga Alon and Fan Chung. Explicit construction of linear sized tolerant networks.
Discrete Mathematics, 72(1-3):15-19, 1988

[Sar19] Naser T Sardari. Diameter of Ramanujan graphs and random Cayley graphs.
Combinatorica, 39(2):427-446, 2019

If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ $(s^* = s^j \text{ for any } j \in \mathbb{Z})$

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.

This work

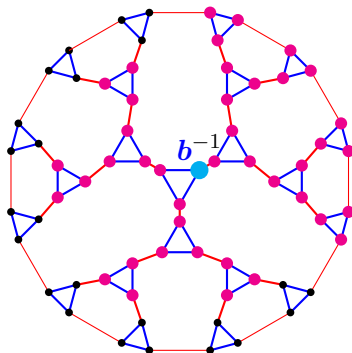
If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ $(s^* = s^j \text{ for any } j \in \mathbb{Z})$

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

► $V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$



[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.

This work

If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ $(s^* = s^j \text{ for any } j \in \mathbb{Z})$

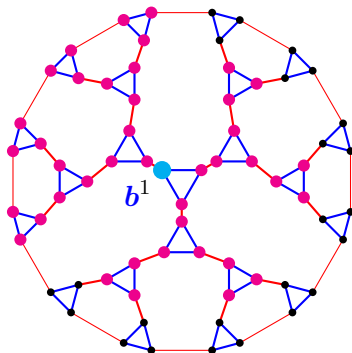
Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright V_{0,1} = \{b^1 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.

This work

If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ $(s^* = s^j \text{ for any } j \in \mathbb{Z})$

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

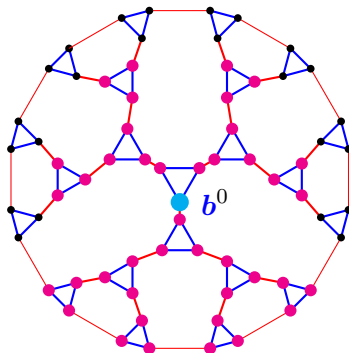
$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,1} = \{b^1 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright V_{0,0} = \{b^0 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.

This work

If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ $(s^* = s^j \text{ for any } j \in \mathbb{Z})$

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

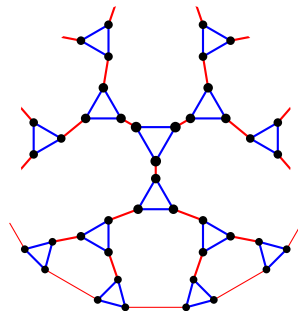
$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,1} = \{b^1 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,0} = \{b^0 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.

This work

If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ ($s^* = s^j$ for any $j \in \mathbb{Z}$)

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

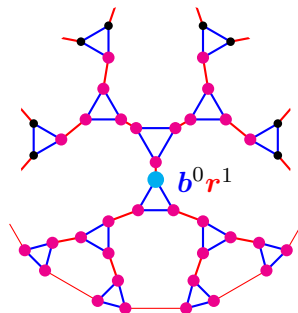
$$\triangleright V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,1} = \{b^1 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,0} = \{b^0 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

Second cuts are:

$$\blacktriangleright V_{1,1} = \{b^0 r^1 \cdot b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ ($s^* = s^j$ for any $j \in \mathbb{Z}$)

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

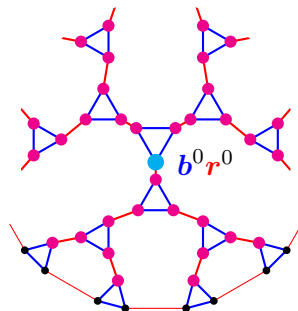
$$\triangleright V_{0,1} = \{b^1 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,0} = \{b^0 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

Second cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{1,1} = \{b^0 r^1 \cdot b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright V_{1,0} = \{b^0 r^0 \cdot b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



If $G = \langle \{s_1, \dots, s_n\} \rangle$ then $G = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{diam}(\Gamma) \\ \bullet \\ i=1 \end{matrix} s_1^* \cdots s_n^* \right\}$ ($s^* = s^j$ for any $j \in \mathbb{Z}$)

Assume $S = \{b, b^{-1}, r\}$ and $G = \langle S \rangle$ is

$$G = \{b^* r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

First cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{0,-1} = \{b^{-1} \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

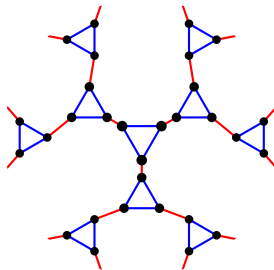
$$\triangleright V_{0,1} = \{b^1 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{0,0} = \{b^0 \cdot r^* b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

Second cuts are:

$$\triangleright V_{1,1} = \{b^0 r^1 \cdot b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$

$$\triangleright V_{1,0} = \{b^0 r^0 \cdot b^* r^* b^* r^* b^*\}$$



1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity

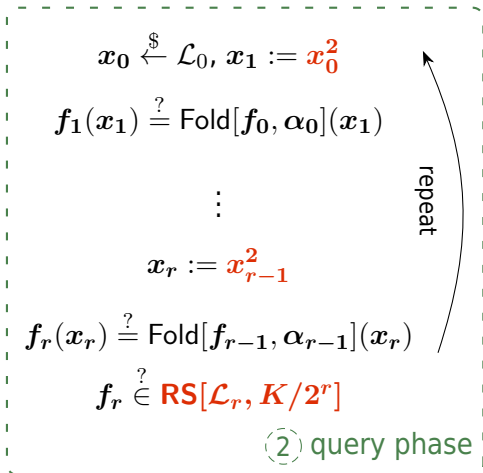
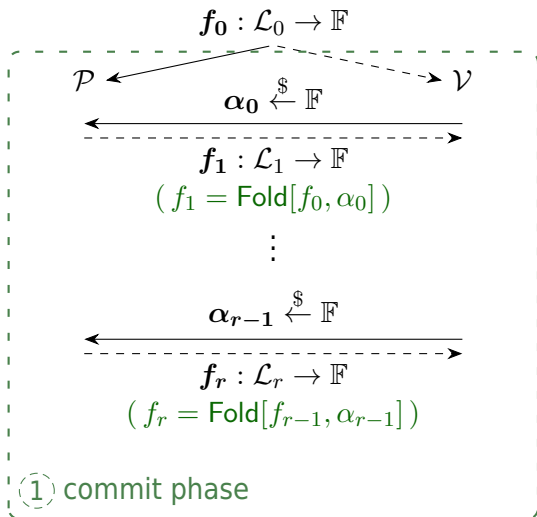
2 Codes on graphs

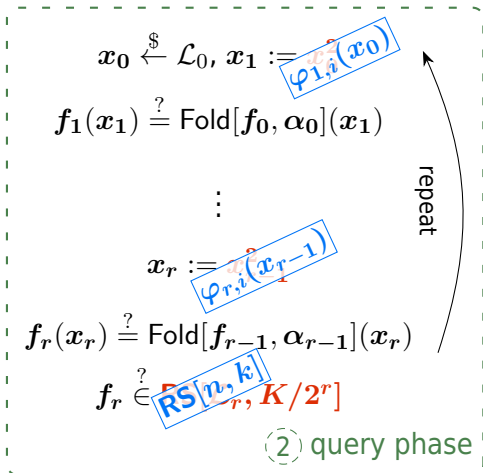
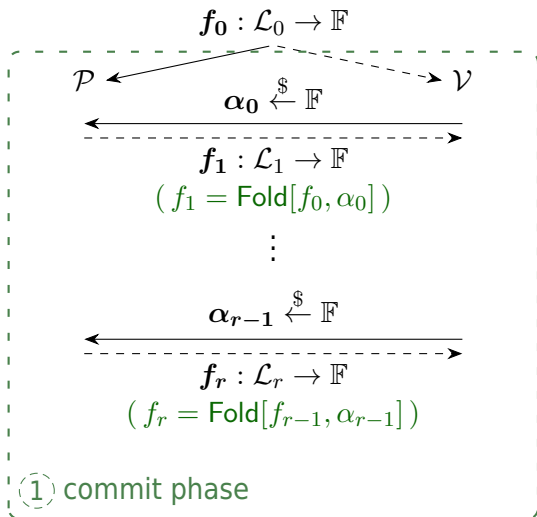
3 Folding graphs

4 Cayley graphs

5 Flowering protocol

- ▷ **FRI** and **Flowering** protocols
- ▷ **FRI** and **Flowering** complexity comparison





To test δ -proximity to a code $[N > 2^{20}, K > 2^{18}, D]$ with λ bits of security, with

$$\delta_1 := \min \left(\delta, 1 - \sqrt{1 - D/N} \right) \quad \delta_2 := \min \left(\delta, 1 - \sqrt[4]{1 - D/N} \right)$$

Protocol	Flowering	BaseFold	FRI	STIR
Encoding	$O(N)$ (hopefully)	$O(N \log N)$		
Prover	$O(\textcolor{blue}{n} N \log N)$	$O(N)$		
Verifier	$O(\textcolor{blue}{n} \frac{\lambda}{\delta} \log^2 N)$	$O(\frac{\lambda}{\delta_2} \log^2 N)$	$O(\frac{\lambda}{\delta_1} \log^2 N)$	$O_{\delta_1}((\lambda^2 + \lambda \log \log K) \log N)$
Field size	$\Omega(2^\lambda N^3)$		$\Omega(2^\lambda N^{3.5} / K^{1.5})$	$\Omega(\lambda 2^\lambda K^2 N^{3.5})$
Structure	Any field		$ \mathbb{F} - 1$ smooth	$2^{\lceil \log K \rceil} \mid \mathbb{F} - 1$

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

[ZCF24] Hadas Zeilberger, Binyi Chen, and Ben Fisch. BaseFold: Efficient Field-Agnostic Polynomial Commitment Schemes from Foldable Codes.
In *Annual International Cryptology Conference*, pages 138–169. Springer, 2024

[BCI⁺23] Eli Ben-Sasson, Dan Carmon, Yuval Ishai, Swastik Kopparty, and Shubhangi Saraf. Proximity Gaps for Reed-Solomon Codes.
J. ACM, 70(5), October 2023

[ACFY24] Gal Arnon, Alessandro Chiesa, Giacomo Fenzi, and Eylon Yogev. STIR: Reed-Solomon Proximity Testing with Fewer Queries.
In *Annual International Cryptology Conference*, pages 380–413. Springer, 2024

To test δ -proximity to a code $[N > 2^{20}, K > 2^{18}, D]$ with λ bits of security, with

$$\delta_1 := \min \left(\delta, 1 - \sqrt{1 - D/N} \right) \quad \delta_2 := \min \left(\delta, 1 - \sqrt[4]{1 - D/N} \right)$$

Protocol	Flowering	BaseFold	FRI	STIR
Encoding	$O(N)$ (hopefully)	$O(N \log N)$		
Prover	$O(nN \log N)$	$O(N)$		
Verifier	$O(n \frac{\lambda}{\delta_2} \log^2 N)$	$O(\frac{\lambda}{\delta_2} \log^2 N)$	$O(\frac{\lambda}{\delta_1} \log^2 N)$	$O_{\delta_1}((\lambda^2 + \lambda \log \log K) \log N)$
Field size	 $\Omega(2^\lambda N^3)$	$\Omega(2^\lambda N^{3.5} / K^{1.5})$		
Structure	Any field	$ \mathbb{F} - 1$ smooth		
		$2^{\lceil \log K \rceil} \mid \mathbb{F} - 1$		

[DL25] Hugo Delavenne and Louise Lallemand. Codes on any Cayley Graph have an Interactive Oracle Proof of Proximity, 2025.
This work

[ZCF24] Hadas Zeilberger, Binyi Chen, and Ben Fisch. BaseFold: Efficient Field-Agnostic Polynomial Commitment Schemes from Foldable Codes.
In *Annual International Cryptology Conference*, pages 138-169. Springer, 2024

[BCI+23] Eli Ben-Sasson, Dan Carmon, Yuval Ishai, Swastik Kopparty, and Shubhangi Saraf. Proximity Gaps for Reed-Solomon Codes.
J. ACM, 70(5), October 2023

[ACFY24] Gal Arnon, Alessandro Chiesa, Giacomo Fenzi, and Eylon Yogev. STIR: Reed-Solomon Proximity Testing with Fewer Queries.
In *Annual International Cryptology Conference*, pages 380-413. Springer, 2024

1 Interactive Oracle Proofs of Proximity

2 Codes on graphs

3 Folding graphs

4 Cayley graphs

5 Flowering protocol

▷ Conclusion

Not (yet?) competitive

- ▷ **STIR** has better complexity
- ▷ **BaseFold** has better complexity without field restriction
- ▷ Need to **improve cuts** and encoding!

Applications requiring graphs

- ▷ Verifiable Secret Sharing
- ▷ Other distributed protocols?

Thank you!