# DISTRIBUTION OF R-PATTERNS IN THE KERDOCK-CODE BINARY SEQUENCES AND THE HIGHEST LEVEL SEQUENCES OF PRIMITIVE SEQUENCES OVER $Z_{2^l}$

#### HONGGANG HU, DENGGUO FENG

ABSTRACT. The distribution of r-patterns is an important aspect of pseudorandomness for periodic sequences over finite field. The aim of this work is to study the distribution of r-patterns in the Kerdock-code binary sequences and the highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2l}$ . By combining the local Weil bound with spectral analysis, we derive the upper bound of the deviation to uniform distribution. As a consequence, the recent result on the quantity is improved.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Pseudorandom sequences with a variety of statistical properties are important in many areas of communications and cryptography. Hence the development of a good pseudorandom sequence generator is a hot topic. Many sequences with nice pseudorandom properties have been found, such as Bent sequences, No sequences and interleaved sequences (see [5] and the references therein). There are also some interesting binary sequences derived from the rings  $Z_{2^l}$ . And in this paper we will study such two kinds of binary sequences: the Kerdock-code binary sequences and the highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$ .

In [8] some families of binary sequences of period  $T = 2^m - 1$  were constructed. We call them the Kerdock-code binary sequences. The family size is larger than the known ones. And it is approximately  $T^{l-1}/2^{l-1}$ . The 0,1 distribution is asymptotically uniform. The crosscorrelations and nontrivial autocorrelations is upper bounded by  $0.19l^2(2^{l-1}-1)\sqrt{T+1}$ . When l = 3, the nonlinearity of these sequences is upper bounded by  $3\sqrt{2+\sqrt{2}}\sqrt{T+1}$ . Furthermore, the linear complexity is of order  $O(m^4)$  which is much larger than that of the so-called  $Z_4$ -linear sequences. Hence these sequences might be an attractive alternative in applications such as CDMA communication and cryptography. In this paper we will show that the distribution of r-patterns in the Kerdock-code binary sequences is asymptotically uniform.

The highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$  were introduced in the last century motivated by the potential cryptographic applications(see [1] and the references therein).In [1],it was proved that the period of the highest level sequence is  $T = 2^{l-1}(2^m - 1)$  and the lower bound on the linear complexity is large.In [4] the authors revised the highest level sequence.And they proved that the 0,1 distribution is asymptotically uniform and the absolute value of the autocorrelation function  $C_T(\tau)$  is bounded by  $2^{l-1}(2^{l-1}-1)\sqrt{3(2^{2l}-1)2^{n/2}}+2^{l-1}$  for  $\tau \neq 0$ .By combining the local Weil bound with spectral analysis(I think the origin

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idea comes from [7, 10]), the two results were improved in [11]. In [2, 3] the distribution of r-patterns in the highest level of p-adic sequences over Galois rings was investigated. By the similar method, we will give a new estimate on the deviation to uniform distribution in this paper. And the result improves the known ones in [2, 3].

The organization of this paper is as follows. In section 2 we will point out some basic knowledge of Galois ring  $GR(2^l, m)$  and Fourier transformation on  $Z_{2^l}$  needed in the following sections. In section 3 the distribution of r-patterns in the Kerdockcode binary sequences will be investigated. And in section 4 the distribution of r-patterns in the highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$  will be investigated. Finally, section 5 concludes the paper.

# 2. Preliminaries

2.1. Galois ring of characteristic  $2^l$ . The Galois ring  $GR(2^l, m)$  is the unique Galois extension of degree m over  $Z_{2^l}$ . It is a ring of characteristic  $2^l$  with  $2^{lm}$  elements. And it is also a local ring with unique maximal ideal  $2GR(2^l, m)$  and residue field  $F_{2^m}$ . Thus the set  $GR(2^l, m)^*$  of units is  $GR(2^l, m) \setminus 2GR(2^l, m).GR(2^l, m)^*$  is a multiplicative group with the following group structure:

$$GR(2^{l},m)^{*} \cong Z_{2^{m}-1} \times \underbrace{Z_{2^{l-1}} \times \dots \times Z_{2^{l-1}}}_{m \ copies}$$

if l = 2;

$$GR(2^{l},m)^{*} \cong Z_{2^{m}-1} \times Z_{2} \times Z_{2^{l-2}} \times \underbrace{Z_{2^{l-1}} \times \dots \times Z_{2^{l-1}}}_{m-1 \ copies}$$

if  $l \geq 3$ .

The Teichmüller set  $\Gamma$  of  $GR(2^l, m)$  is  $\{0, 1, \xi, \xi^2, ..., \xi^{2^m-2}\}$ , where  $\xi$  is a primitive  $(2^m - 1)$ th root of unity. Each element  $x \in GR(2^l, m)$  has a unique 2-adic representation

$$x = x_0 + 2x_1 + \dots + 2^{l-1}x_{l-1}$$

where  $x_0, x_1, ..., x_{l-1} \in \Gamma$ .

The Frobenius automorphism from  $GR(2^l, m)$  to  $GR(2^l, m)$  acts as follows:

$$F(x) = x_0^2 + 2x_1^2 + \dots + 2^{l-1}x_{l-1}^2.$$

F fixes only elements of  $Z_{2^l}$ , and generates the Galois group of  $GR(2^l, m)/Z_{2^l}$ , which is a cyclic group of order m. The trace map Tr from  $GR(2^l, m)$  to  $Z_{2^l}$  is defined by

$$Tr(x) = x + F(x) + \dots + F^{m-1}(x).$$

Borrowing the notation in [11], let MSB denotes the most significant bit map, i.e.,

$$MSB(x_0 + 2x_1 + \dots + 2^{l-1}x_{l-1}) = x_{l-1}.$$

2.2. Exponential sum over Galois ring. The canonical additive character  $\psi$  over  $Z_{2^l}$  is defined by  $\psi(x) = e^{2\pi i x/2^l}, \forall x \in Z_{2^l}$ . For any  $\beta \in GR(2^l, m)$ , the additive character  $\Psi_\beta$  over  $GR(2^l, m)$  is defined by  $\Psi_\beta(x) = (\psi \circ Tr)(\beta x) = e^{2\pi i Tr(\beta x)/2^l}$ . When  $\beta = 1, \Psi_\beta$  is the canonical additive character  $\psi$  over  $GR(2^l, m)$ .

The following lemma is contained in [11]. And it follows easily from the Weil exponential sum over Galois ring(see [6, 9]).

**Lemma 2.1.** For any  $\lambda \in GR(2^l, m), \lambda \neq 0$ , we have

$$\left|\sum_{x\in\Gamma}\Psi_{\lambda}(x)\right| \le (2^{l-1}-1)\sqrt{2^m}.$$

2.3. Fourier transformation on  $Z_{2^l}$ . For any  $k \in Z_{2^l}$ , we denote by  $\psi_k$  the additive character over  $Z_{2^l}$ 

$$\psi_k(x) = e^{2\pi i k x/2^l}, \forall x \in Z_{2^l}.$$

Let  $\mu$  be the map from  $Z_{2^l}$  to  $\{\pm 1\}$  such that  $\mu(x) = (-1)^c$  where c is the most significant bit of  $t \in Z_{2^l}$ , i.e., it maps  $0, 1, \dots, 2^{l-1}-1$  to +1 and  $2^{l-1}, 2^{l-1}+1, \dots, 2^l-1$  to -1. We can express the map  $\mu$  as a linear combination of characters:

$$\mu = \sum_{j=0}^{2^l - 1} \mu_j \psi_j,$$

where  $\mu_j = \frac{1}{2^l} \sum_{x=0}^{2^l-1} \mu(x) \psi_j(-x)$ . The next lemma is the corollary 14 of [8].

holds:

**Lemma 2.2.** With the notations as above, for any  $l \geq 4$ , the following estimate

$$\sum_{j=0}^{2^{l}-1} |\mu_{j}| < \frac{2l \ln(2)}{\pi} + 1.$$

Finally, we will give the definition of r-pattern.

**Definition 2.3.** Suppose that  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  is a binary sequence with period  $T.\forall(\overline{z},\overline{s}) \in F_2^r \times [0,T)^r$  is called a r-pattern of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ , where  $\overline{s} = (s_1, s_2, ..., s_r), 0 \leq s_1 < s_2 < ... < s_r < T$ .

Throughout the following sections, let  $\xi$  be the generator of the multiplicative group  $\Gamma^* = \Gamma \setminus \{0\}.$ 

### 3. R-PATTERNS IN THE KERDOCK-CODE BINARY SEQUENCES

First, we define a cyclic code as:

$$S_m = \{ (Tr(\lambda\xi^t))_{t=0}^{2^m - 2} | \lambda \in GR(2^l, m) \}.$$

From which we can get a binary code  $s_m$  as  $s_m = MSB(S_m)$ .

Any Kerdock-code binary sequence  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  with period  $T = 2^m - 1$  can be defined as  $c_t = MSB(Tr(\lambda\xi^t))$ , where  $\lambda \in GR(2^l, m)^*$ .

The following theorem is the main result on the distribution of r-patterns in the Kerdock-code binary sequences.

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose that  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  is a Kerdock-code binary sequence with period  $T = 2^m - 1$ . And it is defined as above. $(\overline{z}, \overline{s})$  is a r-pattern of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ , where  $\overline{z} = (z_1, z_2, ..., z_r) \in F_2^r$ ,  $\overline{s} = (s_1, s_2, ..., s_r)$ ,  $0 \le s_1 < s_2 < ... < s_r < T$ . Let  $N_{(\overline{z}, \overline{s})}$  denotes the number of  $(\overline{z}, \overline{s})$  in one cycle of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ . If  $\xi^{s_1}, \xi^{s_2}, ..., \xi^{s_r}$  is linear independent, we have

$$|N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{2^m - 1}{2^r}| < [(\frac{l\ln(2)}{\pi} + 1)^r - \frac{1}{2^r}][(2^{l-1} - 1)\sqrt{2^m} + 1].$$

*Proof.* By the similar method in the proof of theorem 2 in [4], we know

$$N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} = \sum_{t=0}^{2^{m}-2} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d_1=0,1} (-1)^{d_1(c_{t+s_1}+z_1)} \dots \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d_r=0,1} (-1)^{d_r(c_{t+s_r}+z_r)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2^r} \sum_{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r = 0, 1} (-1)^{d_1 z_1 + \dots + d_r z_r} \sum_{t=0}^{2^m - 2} (-1)^{d_1 c_{t+s_1} + \dots + d_r c_{t+s_r}}.$$

Thus

$$N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{2^m - 1}{2^r} = \frac{1}{2^r} \sum_{(d_1,\dots,d_r)\neq(0,\dots,0)} (-1)^{d_1 z_1 + \dots + d_r z_r} \sum_{t=0}^{2^m - 2} (-1)^{d_1 c_{t+s_1} + \dots + d_r c_{t+s_r}}.$$
$$|N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{2^m - 1}{2^r}| \le \frac{1}{2^r} \sum_{(d_1,\dots,d_r)\neq(0,\dots,0)} |\sum_{t=0}^{2^m - 2} (-1)^{d_1 c_{t+s_1} + \dots + d_r c_{t+s_r}}|.$$

Now we will give a estimate on  $|\sum_{t=0}^{2^m-2} (-1)^{d_1 c_{t+s_1}+\ldots+d_r c_{t+s_r}}|$ . Suppose there are exactly k elements among  $d_1, \ldots, d_r$  are 1, and the others are  $0, 1 \le k \le r$ . Without loss of generality, let  $d_1 = 1, \ldots, d_k = 1, d_{k+1} = 0, \ldots, d_r = 0$ . Since  $\mu = \sum_{j=0}^{2^l-1} \mu_j \psi_j$ , we have

$$\sum_{t=0}^{2^{m}-2} (-1)^{d_{1}c_{t+s_{1}}+\ldots+d_{r}c_{t+s_{r}}} | = |\sum_{t=0}^{2^{m}-2} (-1)^{c_{t+s_{1}}+\ldots+c_{t+s_{k}}} |$$
$$= |\sum_{j_{1}=0}^{2^{l}-1} \ldots \sum_{j_{k}=0}^{2^{l}-1} \mu_{j_{1}} \ldots \mu_{j_{k}} \sum_{t=0}^{2^{m}-2} \Psi_{\beta}(\xi^{t})|.$$

Here  $\beta = \lambda(j_1\xi^{s_1} + ... + j_k\xi^{s_k})$ . $\beta \neq 0$  as  $\lambda \in GR(2^l, m)^*$ , and  $\xi^{s_1}, \xi^{s_2}, ..., \xi^{s_r}$  is linear independent. Thus

$$|\sum_{t=0}^{2^{m}-2} (-1)^{d_{1}c_{t+s_{1}}+\ldots+d_{r}c_{t+sr}}| \leq (\sum_{j=0}^{2^{l}-1} |\mu_{j}|)^{k} |\sum_{t=0}^{2^{m}-2} \Psi_{\beta}(\xi^{t})|$$
$$< (\frac{2l\ln(2)}{\pi}+1)^{k} [(2^{l-1}-1)\sqrt{2^{m}}+1].$$

Finally,we have

$$|N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{2^m - 1}{2^r}| < \frac{1}{2^r} \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r}{k} (\frac{2l\ln(2)}{\pi} + 1)^k [(2^{l-1} - 1)\sqrt{2^m} + 1]$$
$$= [(\frac{l\ln(2)}{\pi} + 1)^r - \frac{1}{2^r}][(2^{l-1} - 1)\sqrt{2^m} + 1].$$

This completes the proof.

Remark 3.2. When r=1, this theorem is almost the same as Theorem 5 in [8].

Let  $f_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})}$  denotes the proportion of  $(\overline{z},\overline{s})$  in one cycle of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ , we have the following corollary.

Corollary 3.3. With the notations as above, we have

$$|f_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{1}{2^r}| < [(\frac{l\ln(2)}{\pi} + 1)^r - \frac{1}{2^r}][(2^{l-1} - 1)\sqrt{2^m} + 1]/(2^m - 1)$$
$$\approx C_l/\sqrt{2^m},$$

where  $C_l$  is a constant in l of order  $l^r 2^l$ .

Hence when  $m \to +\infty, f_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} \to \frac{1}{2^r}$ , for any r-pattern  $(\overline{z},\overline{s})$  which satisfies the condition in Theorem 3.1. 4. R-patterns in the highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$ 

Let  $T = 2^{l-1}(2^m - 1)$ . Any primitive sequences  $(a_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  over  $Z_{2^l}$  has the well known trace description:

$$a_t = Tr(\alpha \gamma^t),$$

where  $\alpha \in GR(2^l, m)^*, \gamma = \xi(1+2\xi_1), \xi_1 \in GR(2^l, m)^*$ . Therefore the highest level sequences  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$  has the following description:

$$c_t = MSB(Tr(\alpha\gamma^t)).$$

The following theorem is the main result on the distribution of r-patterns in highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** Suppose that  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  is a highest level sequence of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$  with period  $T = 2^{l-1}(2^m - 1).(\overline{z}, \overline{s})$  is a r-pattern of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ , where  $\overline{z} = (z_1, z_2, ..., z_r) \in F_2^r$ ,  $\overline{s} = (s_1, s_2, ..., s_r)$ ,  $0 \leq s_1 < s_2 < ... < s_r < T$ . Let  $N_{(\overline{z}, \overline{s})}$  denotes the number of  $(\overline{z}, \overline{s})$  in one cycle of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ . If  $\gamma^{s_1}, \gamma^{s_2}, ..., \gamma^{s_r}$  is linear independent, we have

$$|N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{2^{l-1}(2^m - 1)}{2^r}| < 2^{l-1}[(\frac{l\ln(2)}{\pi} + 1)^r - \frac{1}{2^r}][(2^{l-1} - 1)\sqrt{2^m} + 1].$$

*Proof.* (sketch)Note that for any  $\beta \neq 0$ 

$$\begin{aligned} |\Sigma_{t=0}^{T-1}\Psi_{\beta}(\gamma^{j})| &= |\Sigma_{t=0}^{2^{l-1}-1}\Sigma_{x\in\Gamma^{*}}\Psi_{\beta(1+2\lambda)^{t}}(x)| \\ &\leq 2^{l-1}[(2^{l-1}-1)\sqrt{2^{m}}+1]. \end{aligned}$$

Then by the same method in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we will get the upper bound on  $|N_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{2^{l-1}(2^m-1)}{2^r}|$ .

Remark 4.2. When r=1, this theorem is the same as Theorem 3.3 in [11].

Let  $f_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})}$  denotes the proportion of  $(\overline{z},\overline{s})$  in one cycle of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$ . It is interesting that the following corollary is the same as corollary 3.3.

Corollary 4.3. With the notations as above, we have

$$|f_{(\overline{z},\overline{s})} - \frac{1}{2^r}| < [(\frac{l\ln(2)}{\pi} + 1)^r - \frac{1}{2^r}][(2^{l-1} - 1)\sqrt{2^m} + 1]/(2^m - 1)$$
$$\approx C_l/\sqrt{2^m},$$

where  $C_l$  is a constant in l of order  $l^r 2^l$ .

The estimate in [2, 3] is of the same shape with respect to m.But the constant  $C_l$  is of order  $2^{(r+1)l}$ . So our estimate is more sharp with respect to l.

### 5. Concluding Remarks

The distribution of r-patterns in the Kerdock-code binary sequences and the highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$  is studied in this paper.By combining the local Weil bound with spectral analysis, we derive the upper bound of the deviation to uniform distribution. And the results show that they are asymptotically uniform. As a consequence, the recent result on the highest level sequences of primitive sequences over  $Z_{2^l}$  is improved.

Moreover, suppose a binary sequence  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  is defined by

$$c_t = MSB(Tr(\alpha\gamma^t))$$

where  $\alpha \in GR(2^l, m)^*, \gamma = \xi(1 + 2^i\xi_1), \xi_1 \in GR(2^l, m)^*, 1 < i < l$ . Then the period of  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  is  $2^{l-i}(2^m - 1)$ . And it is easy to check that the distribution of r-patterns in  $(c_t)_{t=0}^{\infty}$  is also asymptotically uniform.

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STATE KEY LABORATORY OF INFORMATION SECURITY (GRADUATE SCHOOL OF CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES), BEIJING, 100039

INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS, CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, BEIJING, 100080 *E-mail address*: hghu@ustc.edu