

On derivatives of Balanced Boolean functions and quadratic APN functions

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4 Quadratic APN functions

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Definitions and notations

- A function from \mathbb{F}^n to \mathbb{F} ($= \mathbb{F}_2 = \{0, 1\}$) is a **Boolean function (Bf)**. A set of all functions is denoted by B_n
- ANF for Bf: $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{u \in \mathbb{F}^n} a_u \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{u_i}$ where $a_u \in \mathbb{F}$
- A function from \mathbb{F}^n to \mathbb{F}^n is a **vectorial Boolean function (vBf)**
- vBf: $F := (f_1, \dots, f_n)$ where f_i (in B_n) are called **coordinate functions**
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- $\deg(f) = \max_{a_u \neq 0} w(u)$ and $\deg(F) = \max_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}^n} \deg(F_\lambda)$
- **Weight of f :** $w(f) = |\{x \in \mathbb{F}^n | f(x) = 1\}|$
- **Balanced:** $w(f) = 2^{n-1}$
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Affine Equivalence

- f and g are **affine equivalent** if there is an affinity $\varphi : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^n$ such that $f = g \circ \varphi$. Write $f \sim_A g$.

Proposition

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Theorem

Let $f \in B_n$ be a quadratic Boolean function. Then

- (i) $f \sim_A x_1x_2 + \cdots + x_{2i-1}x_{2i} + x_{2i+1}$ with $i \leq \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor$, if f is balanced,
- (ii) $f \sim_A x_1x_2 + \cdots + x_{2i-1}x_{2i} + c$, with $c \in \mathbb{F}$ and $i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$, if f is unbalanced.

Lemma

Two (unbalanced) quadratic Bf's g and h on \mathbb{F}^n are affine equivalent if and only if $w(g) = w(h)$.

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If $g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ is an arbitrary Bf then $f = g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) + x_n$ is balanced.

(First order) derivative of f at a in \mathbb{F}^n : $D_a f = f(x + a) + f(x)$

Theorem

$f \in B_n$ is bent if and only if $D_a f$ is balanced for any nonzero $a \in \mathbb{F}^n$.

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Definitions

- $a \in \mathbb{F}^n$ is a **linear structure** of f if $D_a f$ is a constant.
- We call the set of all linear structures of f the **linear space** of f and its denoted by $V(f)$.
- If the only linear structure of f is $a = 0$, we say the linear space is **trivial**.
- Let $\Gamma(f) = \{a \in \mathbb{F}^n \mid D_a f \text{ is balanced}\}$.
- **Almost Perfect Nonlinear (APN)**: a vBf F with $\delta(F) = 2$ where

$$\delta(F) = \max_{a \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{F}^n} |\{x \in \mathbb{F}^n \mid D_a F(x) = b\}|.$$

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Another vBf representation

Univariate polynomial over \mathbb{F}_{2^n} :

$$F(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{2^n-1} \delta_i x^i, \quad (1)$$

where $\delta_i \in \mathbb{F}_{2^n}$ and the degree of F is at most $2^n - 1$.

Power function: $F(x) = x^d$, for some positive integer d .

Quadratic power function: is a power function with $d = 2^i + 2^j$ with $i, j \geq 0, i \neq j$.

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Linear space of Balanced functions

Observation

- Any Bf can be expressed as:

$$f = x_{n+1}g(x_1, \dots, x_n) + h(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

- If f in B_n only depends on m variables ($m < n$), then $f|_{\mathbb{F}^m}$ denotes its restriction to these m variables.

Theorem

If $f = x_{n+1}g(x_1, \dots, x_n) + h(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, then

- $w(f) = w((g + h)|_{\mathbb{F}^n}) + w(g|_{\mathbb{F}^n})$,
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Lemma

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1. $D_\alpha f \sim_A x_{n+1}D_a g + a_{n+1}g + D_a h$,
2. $D_\alpha f$ is constant if and only if $D_a g = 0$ and $D_a h = a_{n+1}g + c$, for some $c \in \mathbb{F}$.

Proposition

If $f = x_{n+1}g(x_1, \dots, x_n) + h(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, with n even, $f \in B_{n+1}$, $g, h \in B_n$ and g bent, then the linear space of f is trivial.

Linear space of Balanced functions

Lemma

Let $f = x_{n+1}g(x_1, \dots, x_n) + h(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, with $g, h \in B_n$ and let $\alpha \in (a_{n+1}, a) \in \mathbb{F} \times \mathbb{F}^n$. Then

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Let $f = x_{n+1}g + h$ with $g = \tilde{g}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) + x_n$ and $h = \tilde{h}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-2}) + x_{n-1}$. Then

- f is balanced and its linear space is trivial if n is odd and $\tilde{g}|_{\mathbb{F}^{n-1}}$ is bent.

Corollary

Let $f = x_1g_1 + \dots + x_{i-1}g_{i-1} + g_i$, with $g_i = \tilde{g}_i(x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-i}) + x_{n-i+1}$, $g_i \in B_{n-2i+1}$ and $i \leq \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$. Then

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Observation

Any Bf can be represented in the form:

$$f = x_{n+1}g(x_1, \dots, x_n) + (1 + x_{n+1})h(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}),$$

with $g, h \in B_n$. We call this **convolutional product** of g and h .

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Theorem [Well-known]

Let F be vBf from \mathbb{F}^n into \mathbb{F}^n . Then

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}^n \setminus \{0\}} \sum_{a \in \mathbb{F}^n} \mathcal{F}^2(D_a F_\lambda) \geq 2^{2n+1}(2^n - 1).$$

Moreover, F is APN if and only if equality holds.

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Let $Q : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^n$, with n even, be such that Q_λ , with $\lambda \neq 0$, is bent or semi-bent. Then Q is APN if and only if there are exactly $\frac{2}{3}(2^n - 1)$ bent components.

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Quadratic APN functions in even dimension

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Let $Q : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^n$, with n even, be APN. Then

$$2(2^n - 1)/3 \leq B \leq 2^n - 2^{n/2} - 2$$

where $B = 2(2^n - 1)/3 + 4t$, for some integer $t \geq 0$.

Remark

If $t > 0$, then there is a component which is not bent or semi-bent.

One known such quadratic APN with $t > 0$ is [Dillon, 2006]

$F(x) = x^3 + z^{11}x^5 + z^{13}x^9 + x^{17} + z^{11}x^{33} + x^{48}$ defined over \mathbb{F}_{2^6} and z is primitive. It has 46 bent components.

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Quadratic power functions

Theorem

Let $F(x) = x^d$ be a function in $\mathbb{F}_{2^n}[x]$ where n is even and $d = 2^j(2^k + 1)$ with integer $j \geq 0$, $k \geq 1$. Let $s = (n, 2k)$, $e = (2^n - 1, 2^k + 1)$. Then the

- (i) number of bent components for $F(x)$ is $2^n - \frac{2^n - 1}{e} - 1$,
- (ii) Walsh spectrum of $F(x)$ is $\{0, \pm 2^{(n+s)/2}\}$ if $e = 1$ and $\{0, \pm 2^{(n+s)/2}, \pm 2^{n/2}\}$ if $e \geq 3$.

Remark

$F(x) = x^d$, with $d = 2^j(2^k + 1)$, has the maximum number of bent components if and only if $n = 2k$ (i.e. $e = 2^k + 1$). In this case F has only bent and affine components.

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Corollary

Let $F(x) = x^d$ be a power polynomial in $\mathbb{F}_{2^n}[x]$ where n is even and $d = 2^j(2^k + 1)$ with integer $j \geq 0$, $k \geq 1$. Let $s = (n, 2k)$, $e = (2^n - 1, 2^k + 1)$. Then $F(x)$ is APN if and only if $e = 3$ and $s = 2$. Equivalently, $F(x)$ is APN if and only if there are exactly $2(2^n - 1)/3$ bent components and the rest semi-bent.

Corollary

If a quadratic power function, in even dimension, has some bent components, then they are at least $2(2^n - 1)/3$.



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!