

Some More Functions That Are Not APN Infinitely Often

Yves Aubry¹ Gary McGuire² François Rodier³

¹Imath – Toulon

²Claude Shannon Institute for Discrete Mathematics, Coding and Cryptography

³IML – Marseille

Outline

- 1 APN functions
- 2 A bound on APN polynomials
- 3 The conjecture on classification of APN functions
- 4 Conclusion

Outline

- 1 APN functions
- 2 A bound on APN polynomials
- 3 The conjecture on classification of APN functions
- 4 Conclusion

Boolean functions.

- **Vectorial Boolean functions** are useful in private key cryptography for designing **block ciphers**.

Boolean functions.

- **Vectorial Boolean functions** are useful in private key cryptography for designing **block ciphers**.
- Two main attacks on these ciphers are **differential attacks** and **linear attacks**.

An important criterion on boolean functions is a high resistance to the **differential cryptanalysis**.

Boolean functions.

- **Vectorial Boolean functions** are useful in private key cryptography for designing **block ciphers**.
- Two main attacks on these ciphers are **differential attacks** and **linear attacks**.
An important criterion on boolean functions is a high resistance to the **differential cryptanalysis**.
- Kaisa Nyberg has introduced in 1993 the notion of **almost perfect nonlinearity (APN)** to characterize those functions which have the best resistance to differential attacks.

APN functions

Let us consider a (vectorial) Boolean function $f : \mathbb{F}_2^m \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^m$.

APN functions

Let us consider a (vectorial) Boolean function $f : \mathbb{F}_2^m \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^m$.

Definition

The function f is said to be APN (almost perfect nonlinear) if for every $a \neq 0$ in \mathbb{F}_2^m and $b \in \mathbb{F}_2^m$, there exists at most 2 elements x of \mathbb{F}_2^m such that

$$f(x + a) + f(x) = b.$$

APN power functions

Up to now, the study of APN functions was especially devoted to the power functions.

The following functions $f(x) = x^d$ are APN on \mathbb{F}_{2^m} , where d is given by:

- $d = 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Gold functions).

APN power functions

Up to now, the study of APN functions was especially devoted to the power functions.

The following functions $f(x) = x^d$ are APN on \mathbb{F}_{2^m} , where d is given by:

- $d = 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Gold functions).
- $d = 2^{2h} - 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Kasami functions).

APN power functions

Up to now, the study of APN functions was especially devoted to the power functions.

The following functions $f(x) = x^d$ are APN on \mathbb{F}_{2^m} , where d is given by:

- $d = 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Gold functions).
- $d = 2^{2h} - 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Kasami functions).
- and other functions with exponent d depending on m

APN power functions

Up to now, the study of APN functions was especially devoted to the power functions.

The following functions $f(x) = x^d$ are APN on \mathbb{F}_{2^m} , where d is given by:

- $d = 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Gold functions).
- $d = 2^{2h} - 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (Kasami functions).
- and other functions with exponent d depending on m

APN power functions

Up to now, the study of APN functions was especially devoted to the power functions.

The following functions $f(x) = x^d$ are APN on \mathbb{F}_{2^m} , where d is given by:

- $d = 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (**Gold** functions).
- $d = 2^{2h} - 2^h + 1$ where $\gcd(h, m) = 1$ (**Kasami** functions).
- and other functions with **exponent d depending on m**

F. Hernando and G. McGuire proved recently the following :

Theorem

*The Gold and Kasami functions are the only **monomials** where d is odd and which give APN functions for **an infinity of values of m .***

APN function not equivalent to a power function

First example:

APN function not equivalent to a power function

First example:

In 2005, Edel, Kyureghyan and Pott proved that the function

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} \\ x & \longmapsto & x^3 + \omega x^{36} \end{array}$$

where ω is a primitive cube root of unity in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{10}}^*$ was APN and **not CCZ equivalent to a power function**.

APN function not equivalent to a power function

First example:

In 2005, Edel, Kyureghyan and Pott proved that the function

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} \\ x & \longmapsto & x^3 + \omega x^{36} \end{array}$$

where ω is a primitive cube root of unity in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{10}}^*$ was APN and **not CCZ equivalent to a power function**.

A number of people (Budaghyan, Carlet, Felke, Leander, Bracken, Byrne, Markin, McGuire, Dillon. . .) showed that **some polynomials** were APN and not CCZ equivalent to known power functions.

APN function not equivalent to a power function

First example:

In 2005, Edel, Kyureghyan and Pott proved that the function

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_{2^{10}} \\ x &\longmapsto x^3 + \omega x^{36}\end{aligned}$$

where ω is a primitive cube root of unity in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{10}}^*$ was APN and **not CCZ equivalent to a power function**.

A number of people (Budaghyan, Carlet, Felke, Leander, Bracken, Byrne, Markin, McGuire, Dillon. . .) showed that **some polynomials** were APN and not CCZ equivalent to known power functions.

Dillon found an APN polynomial on \mathbb{F}_{2^6} which was a **permutation**.
First APN permutation on an **even** number of variables.
Not CCZ equivalent to a power function.

New Conjecture

G. McGuire proposed the following conjecture.

Conjecture

*The Gold and Kasami functions (up to equivalence) are the only **APN functions** which are APN on infinitely many extensions of their field of definition.*

New Conjecture

G. McGuire proposed the following conjecture.

Conjecture

*The Gold and Kasami functions (up to equivalence) are the only **APN functions** which are APN on infinitely many extensions of their field of definition.*

We will give some results toward this conjecture.

Outline

- 1 APN functions
- 2 A bound on APN polynomials**
- 3 The conjecture on classification of APN functions
- 4 Conclusion

A bound for the degree of an APN polynomial

Let $q = 2^m$ and let f be a polynomial mapping of \mathbb{F}_q in itself.

- which has no term of degree a power of 2
- and with no constant term.

A bound for the degree of an APN polynomial

Let $q = 2^m$ and let f be a polynomial mapping of \mathbb{F}_q in itself.

- which has no term of degree a power of 2
- and with no constant term.

We have the following result:

Theorem (FR)

Let f be a polynomial mapping from \mathbb{F}_q to \mathbb{F}_q , d its degree.

Suppose that the surface X with affine equation

$$\frac{f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x + y + z)}{(x + y)(z + y)(x + z)} = 0$$

*is **absolutely irreducible**.*

Then f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for all n sufficiently large.

Skech of proof

- We can rephrase the definition of an APN function.

Skech of proof

- We can rephrase the definition of an APN function.

The function $f : \mathbb{F}_q \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ is APN if and only if the **surface**

$$f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x + y + z) = 0$$

has all of **its rational points** contained in the surface

$$(x + y)(z + y)(x + z) = 0.$$

Skech of proof

- We can rephrase the definition of an APN function.

The function $f : \mathbb{F}_q \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ is APN if and only if the **surface**

$$f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x + y + z) = 0$$

has all of **its rational points** contained in the surface

$$(x + y)(z + y)(x + z) = 0.$$

- The surface X has **a number of rational points bounded**

Skech of proof

- We can rephrase the definition of an APN function.

The function $f : \mathbb{F}_q \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ is APN if and only if the **surface**

$$f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x + y + z) = 0$$

has all of **its rational points** contained in the surface

$$(x + y)(z + y)(x + z) = 0.$$

- The surface X has **a number of rational points bounded** by Lang-Weil bound.

Skech of proof

- We can rephrase the definition of an APN function.

The function $f : \mathbb{F}_q \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ is APN if and only if the **surface**

$$f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x + y + z) = 0$$

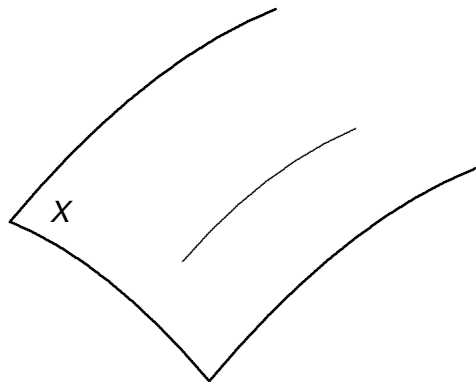
has all of **its rational points** contained in the surface

$$(x + y)(z + y)(x + z) = 0.$$

- The surface X has **a number of rational points bounded** by Lang-Weil bound.
- If f is **APN** and q **too big**, then the surface X has **too many rational points** to be contained in the surface $(x + y)(z + y)(x + z) = 0$.

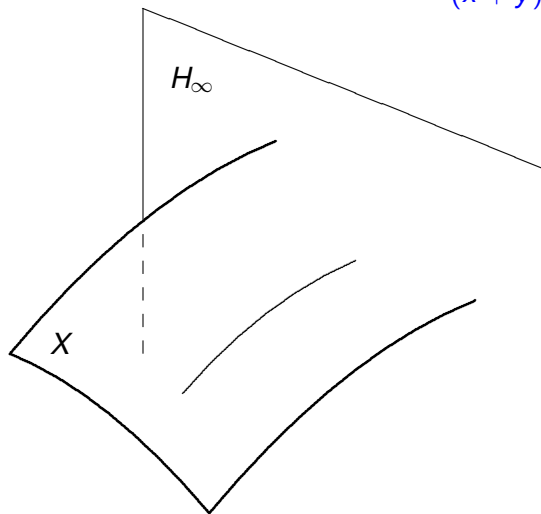
Irreducibility of X

$$X : \frac{f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x+y+z)}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$



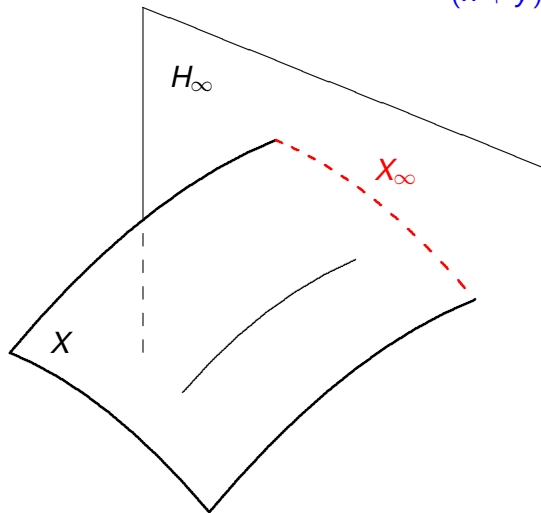
Irreducibility of X

$$X: \frac{f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x+y+z)}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$



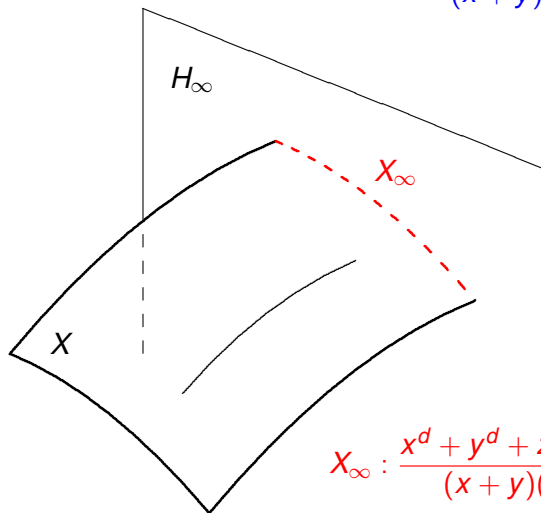
Irreducibility of X

$$X: \frac{f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x+y+z)}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$



Irreducibility of X

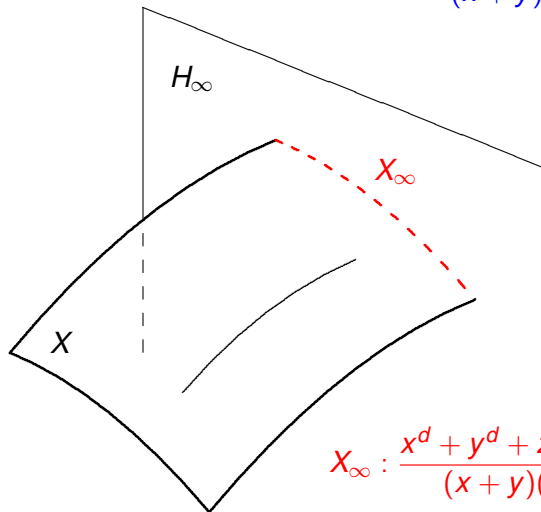
$$X : \frac{f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x+y+z)}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$



$$X_\infty : \frac{x^d + y^d + z^d + (x+y+z)^d}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$

Irreducibility of X

$$X: \frac{f(x) + f(y) + f(z) + f(x+y+z)}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$



$$X_\infty: \frac{x^d + y^d + z^d + (x+y+z)^d}{(x+y)(z+y)(x+z)} = 0$$

Proposition

X_∞ absolutely irreducible $\Rightarrow X$ absolutely irreducible

Irreducibility of X_∞

Janwa, McGuire and Wilson have studied the curve X_∞ and have deduced a certain number of cases where it is absolutely irreducible.

Proposition

The curve X_∞ is *absolutely irreducible* for

$$d \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$$

or

$$d \equiv 5 \pmod{8} \quad \text{and} \quad d > 13.$$

Outline

- 1 APN functions
- 2 A bound on APN polynomials
- 3 The conjecture on classification of APN functions**
- 4 Conclusion

The conjecture on APN functions

Irreducibility of X_∞

Let \mathbb{F}_q the field of definition of f .

If the surface X is absolutely irreducible,

then the polynomial function f can be APN only for a finite number of extensions.

The conjecture on APN functions

Irreducibility of X_∞

Let \mathbb{F}_q the field of definition of f .

If the surface X has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_q then the polynomial function f can be APN only for a finite number of extensions.

The conjecture on APN functions

Irreducibility of X_∞

Let \mathbb{F}_q the field of definition of f .

If the surface X has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_q then the polynomial function f can be APN only for a finite number of extensions.

Proposition

If X_∞ has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_2 then X has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_q

The conjecture on APN functions

Irreducibility of X_∞

Let \mathbb{F}_q the field of definition of f .

If the surface X **has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_q** then the polynomial function f can be APN only for a finite number of extensions.

Proposition

If X_∞ has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_2 then X has an irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_q

Proposition (Hernando, McGuire)

*The curve X_∞ of degree d has an **irreducible component defined over \mathbb{F}_2** for d **odd**, not equal to Gold or Kasami exponent.*

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of odd degree d

Theorem (Aubry, McGuire, Rodier)

*If the degree of the polynomial function f is d with d **odd**, not equal to Gold or Kasami exponent, then f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for all n sufficiently large.*

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of degree $d = 2e$

Theorem (Aubry, McGuire, Rodier)

If the degree of the polynomial function f is $2e$ with e odd, and if f contains a term of odd degree, then f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for all n sufficiently large.

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of degree $d = 2e$

Theorem (Aubry, McGuire, Rodier)

If the degree of the polynomial function f is $2e$ with e odd, and if f contains a term of odd degree, then f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for all n sufficiently large.

Let

$$\phi_r = \frac{x^r + y^r + z^r + (x + y + z)^r}{(x + y)(z + y)(x + z)}.$$

The equation of X_∞ is

$$\phi_{2e}(x, y, z) = \phi_e^2(x, y, z)(x + y)(z + y)(x + z) = 0$$

The component of X_∞ which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in the plane at infinity is defined over \mathbb{F}_2 .

It corresponds to a component of X defined over \mathbb{F}_q .

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of degree $d = 4e$

Theorem (FR)

If the degree of the polynomial function f is even such that $\deg(f) = 4e$ with

- $e \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$,
- $e \not\equiv 1 \pmod{7}$,
- and $e \geq 7$.

then f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for n large.

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of degree $d = 4e$

Theorem (FR)

If the degree of the polynomial function f is even such that $\deg(f) = 4e$ with

- $e \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$,
- $e \not\equiv 1 \pmod{7}$,
- and $e \geq 7$.

then f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for n large.

This case is far more intricate than the previous cases, because there are some polynomials which are CCZ equivalent to monomials for $e = 3$.

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,
- and the action of the Galois group of the field of definition of X_0 over \mathbb{F}_q

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,
- and the action of the Galois group of the field of definition of X_0 over \mathbb{F}_q

one is reduced to the case where

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,
- and the action of the Galois group of the field of definition of X_0 over \mathbb{F}_q

one is reduced to the case where

- there are **three components** X_0 , X_1 and X_2 of ϕ , of the form $(x + y)(x + z)(y + z) + P$

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,
- and the action of the Galois group of the field of definition of X_0 over \mathbb{F}_q

one is reduced to the case where

- there are **three components** X_0 , X_1 and X_2 of ϕ , of the form $(x + y)(x + z)(y + z) + P$ where P is a polynomial of the form

$$P(x, y, z) = c_1(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) + c_2(xy + xz + zy) + b(x + y + z) + d$$

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,
- and the action of the Galois group of the field of definition of X_0 over \mathbb{F}_q

one is reduced to the case where

- there are **three components** X_0 , X_1 and X_2 of ϕ , of the form $(x + y)(x + z)(y + z) + P$ where P is a polynomial of the form

$$P(x, y, z) = c_1(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) + c_2(xy + xz + zy) + b(x + y + z) + d$$

Investigating these polynomials, one proves that

- they may divide ϕ only if $c_1 = c_2$, $b = 0$, $d = c_1^3$
- in this case there is an **irreducible subcomponent defined over \mathbb{F}_q**

Sketch of proof. We have in this case:

$$\phi_d(x, y, z) = \phi_e(x, y, z)^4((x + y)(x + z)(y + z))^3$$

Let X_0 a **reduced absolutely irreducible component** of X which contains the line $x + y = 0$ in H_∞ .

- By the symmetry of the 3 variables x , y and z ,
- and the action of the Galois group of the field of definition of X_0 over \mathbb{F}_q

one is reduced to the case where

- there are **three components** X_0 , X_1 and X_2 of ϕ , of the form $(x + y)(x + z)(y + z) + P$ where P is a polynomial of the form

$$P(x, y, z) = c_1(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) + c_2(xy + xz + zy) + b(x + y + z) + d$$

Investigating these polynomials, one proves that

- they may divide ϕ only if $c_1 = c_2$, $b = 0$, $d = c_1^3$
- in this case there is an **irreducible subcomponent defined over \mathbb{F}_q** among the components which contain the curves $\phi_e(x, y, z)^4$.

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of degree $d = 4 \times 3$

Theorem (FR)

If the degree of the polynomial f is 12, then

- *either f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for n large*
- *or f is CCZ equivalent to the Gold function x^3 .*

The conjecture on APN functions

Polynomials of degree $d = 4 \times 3$

Theorem (FR)

If the degree of the polynomial f is 12, then

- *either f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for n large*
- *or f is CCZ equivalent to the Gold function x^3 .*

Let $d \in \mathbb{F}_{q^3}$ such that $d + d^q + d^{q^2} = 0$. The polynomials CCZ equivalent to the Gold function x^3 are the polynomial functions

$$f(x) = L(x^3) \quad \text{or} \quad f(x) = L(x)^3$$

with

$$L(x) = x^4 + (d^{1+q} + d^{1+q^2} + d^{q+q^2})x^2 + d^{1+q+q^2}x$$

and the polynomials composed with f and an affine permutation.

The conjecture on APN functions

Gold degree

Theorem (Aubry, McGuire, Rodier)

Suppose $f(x) = x^d + g(x)$ where

the degree of f is $d = 2^k + 1$ and $\deg(g) \leq 2^{k-1} + 1$.

Suppose moreover that there exists a nonzero coefficient of x^r in g such that

$$\frac{x^r + y^r + z^r + (x + y + z)^r}{(x + y)(z + y)(x + z)}$$

is irreducible.

Then X is *absolutely irreducible*.

So f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for n large.

The conjecture on APN functions

Kasami degree

Theorem

Suppose $f(x) = x^d + g(x)$ where the degree of f is $d = 2^{2k} - 2^k + 1$ and $\deg(g) \leq 2^{2k-1} - 2^{k-1} + 1$. Suppose moreover that there exists a nonzero coefficient of x^r in g such that

$$\frac{x^r + y^r + z^r + (x + y + z)^r}{(x + y)(z + y)(x + z)}$$

is irreducible.

Then X is *absolutely irreducible*.

So f is not APN over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} for n large.

Outline

- 1 APN functions
- 2 A bound on APN polynomials
- 3 The conjecture on classification of APN functions
- 4 Conclusion

Conclusion

Criteria for Boolean functions

We have shown that many polynomials cannot be APN
if their **degrees are too large** with respect to the number of variables.
It is a consequence of Lang-Weil bound on some surfaces on finite fields.

Conclusion

The conjecture on APN functions

To prove the conjecture on APN functions we have

- to prove the bound for several classes of degrees not Gold or Kasami;

I mean $d = 2^i(2^i\ell + 1)$ with $\ell \neq 1$ and $\ell \neq 2^i - 1$ and $i \geq 2$.

Conclusion

The conjecture on APN functions

To prove the conjecture on APN functions we have

- to prove the bound for several classes of degrees not Gold or Kasami;

I mean $d = 2^i(2^i\ell + 1)$ with $\ell \neq 1$ and $\ell \neq 2^i - 1$ and $i \geq 2$.

- to study polynomials of Gold or Kasami degree.

THANK YOU