

# On the Cross-Correlation Distribution of $p$ -ary $m$ -Sequences <sup>1</sup>

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## Abstract

For an odd prime  $p$ , an even integer  $n$ , and  $d = p^k + 1$  with  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ , there are  $p + 1$  distinct decimated sequences  $s(dt + l)$ ,  $0 \leq l < p + 1$ , for a  $p$ -ary  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  of period  $p^n - 1$  since  $\gcd(d, p^n - 1) = p + 1$ . In this paper, the cross-correlation distribution between a  $p$ -ary  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  and its  $p + 1$  distinct decimated sequences  $s(dt + l)$  is derived. The maximum magnitude  $C_{\max}$  of their cross-correlation values is  $1 + p\sqrt{p^n}$  when  $l = 0 \pmod{p+1}$  for  $n = 0 \pmod{4}$  or when  $l = (p+1)/2 \pmod{p+1}$  for  $n = 2 \pmod{4}$ . For the remaining cases,  $C_{\max}$  is  $1 + \sqrt{p^n}$ . Also by using  $s(t)$  and  $s(dt + l)$ , a new family of  $p$ -ary sequences of period  $p^n - 1$  is constructed, whose family size is  $p^n$  and  $C_{\max}$  is  $1 + p\sqrt{p^n}$ .

## 1. Introduction

To construct a family of  $p$ -ary sequences of period  $p^n - 1$  with good correlation property, the cross-correlation distribution between a  $p$ -ary  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  of period  $p^n - 1$  and its decimated sequence  $s(dt)$  with  $\gcd(d, p^n - 1) = 1$  has been studied for many years [1]–[3].

There are some research results dealing with a decimation factor  $d$  which is not relatively prime to the period  $p^n - 1$  [4]–[6]. Kumar and Moreno [5] derived the cross-correlation values of  $s(t)$  and  $s(dt)$  with  $d = p^k + 1$ , where  $n/\gcd(n, k) = \text{odd}$ . In this case,  $\gcd(d, p^n - 1)$  is 2 and the maximum magnitude  $C_{\max}$  of the cross-correlation values of the sequence family is  $1 + \sqrt{p^n}$ , which is optimal with respect to the Welch bound. Furthermore, in Theorem 4 of [6], Müller found the upper bound on the cross-correlation values of the sequences  $s(t)$  and only one decimated sequence  $s(dt)$  when  $n$  is even,  $n/\gcd(n, k)$  is not divisible by 4, and  $d$  is  $p^k + 1$ .

For an odd prime  $p$ , an even integer  $n$ , and  $d = p^k + 1$  with  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ , there are  $p + 1$  distinct decimated sequences  $s(dt + l)$ ,  $0 \leq l < p + 1$ , of a  $p$ -ary  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  of period  $p^n - 1$  since  $\gcd(d, p^n - 1) = p + 1$ . In this paper, the cross-correlation distribution between a  $p$ -ary  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  and its decimated sequences  $s(dt + l)$ ,  $0 \leq l < p + 1$ , is derived. It is also shown that  $C_{\max}$  is  $1 + p\sqrt{p^n}$  when  $l = 0 \pmod{p+1}$  for  $n = 0 \pmod{4}$  or when  $l = (p+1)/2 \pmod{p+1}$  for  $n = 2 \pmod{4}$ , and for the remaining cases,  $C_{\max}$  is  $1 + \sqrt{p^n}$ . By using  $s(t)$  and  $s(dt + l)$ , a new family of

$p$ -ary sequences of period  $p^n - 1$  is constructed, whose family size is  $p^n$  and  $C_{\max}$  is  $1 + p\sqrt{p^n}$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $p$  be an odd prime,  $F_{p^n}$  the finite field with  $p^n$  elements, and  $F_{p^n}^* = F_{p^n} \setminus \{0\}$ . Then the trace function from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_p$  is defined as  $\text{tr}_m^n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n/m-1} x^{p^{mi}}$  where  $x \in F_{p^n}$  and  $m|n$ .

Let  $\alpha$  be a primitive element of  $F_{p^n}$ . Then a  $p$ -ary  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  of period  $p^n - 1$  can be written in terms of the trace function as  $s(t) = \text{tr}_1^n(\alpha^t)$ .

Let  $n$  be an even integer and  $d = p^k + 1$  with  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ . Since  $\gcd(p^n - 1, d) = p + 1$ , we have  $p + 1$  distinct decimated sequences  $s_l(dt)$  of period  $(p^n - 1)/(p + 1)$  using shift value  $l$ ,  $0 \leq l < p + 1$ , which are defined as

$$s_l(dt) = \text{tr}_1^n(\alpha^{dt+l}). \quad (1)$$

Then the cross-correlation function of  $m$ -sequence  $s(t)$  and its decimated sequence  $s_l(dt)$  at shift  $\tau$  is defined as

$$C_l(\tau) = \sum_{t=0}^{p^n-2} \omega^{s_l(dt) - s(t+\tau)} = \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega^{\text{tr}_1^n(ax^d - bx)} \quad (2)$$

where  $\omega$  is a primitive complex  $p$ -th root of unity,  $a = \alpha^l$ , and  $b = \alpha^\tau$ . From now on, we will use the notations  $C_l(\tau)$  and  $C_l(b)$  interchangeably.

Let  $\psi$  denote the canonical additive character of the additive group  $F_{p^n}$ , which is defined as  $\psi(c) = e^{j2\pi \text{tr}_1^n(c)/p}$ , for all  $c \in F_{p^n}$ . All additive characters of  $F_{p^n}$  can be expressed in terms of  $\psi$ .

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