

TESTING OF COMPUTER MEMORIES (OFF-LINE)

Consider $(w \times N)$ MEMORY

N -words w -bits/per word.

(Ex. $N = 10^6$, $w = 4$)

General Fault Model: $PS(N, K)$

- For any K -tuple of words data in one word may be distorted for a specific combination of data in the remaining

$K-1$ words (STATIC PS FAULTS)

$PS(N, K) =$
PATTERN SENSITIVE FAULTS =

K -couplings

2. Errors in transition from one content of a cell to another for a specific combination of data in remaining $k-1$ cells
(dynamic PS FAULTS)

FROM THE PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW CASES $k=1, 2, 3$ are important

Background:

$$B = (B^{(0)}, \dots, B^{(N-1)}) , B^{(i)} \in \mathbb{Z}_2^w$$

BACKGROUND MATRIX:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} B_0^{(0)} & \dots & B_0^{(N-1)} \\ B_1^{(0)} & \dots & B_1^{(N-1)} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ B_{T-1}^{(0)} & \dots & B_{T-1}^{(N-1)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_i^{(j)} \in \mathbb{Z}_2^w$$

T is a number of backgrounds
For detection of any number

of PS(N, K) faults we need that

in any K-tuple of columns of

B all $q^K = 2^{wK}$ ($q = 2^w$)

K-digit q-ary vectors appear at

least once as rows

If B satisfies this condition we

call $\{B_0, \dots, B_{T-1}\}$ - K-pseudoexhaustive test

Problem: Given $w, N,$ and k
construct an optimal k -pseudo-
exhaustive test with $\min T$

(Problem is still open. Solutions
will be presented for
optimal and near optimal
tests for $k=1,2,3$)

Example $w=1$ ($q=2$), $k=2$

$N=10$

$T=6$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

All 4 combinations 00, 01, 10, 11
appear in any 2 columns

Let H be a check-matrix for

$(N, N-k, k+1)$ q -ary Reed Solomon

(RS) code $(N \equiv q-1)$ $q=2^w$

Then

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & \alpha & \alpha^2 & \dots & \alpha^{N-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \alpha^{k+1} & \alpha^{2(k+1)} & \dots & \alpha^{(k+1)(N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

where α primitive in $\mathbb{Z}_2^w = \mathbb{Z}_q$.

Since this code detects k errors, any k columns of H are linearly independent over \mathbb{Z}_q

Thus, the linear span (a set of all linear combinations with coefficients from \mathbb{Z}_q) can be taken as B .

Thus for $N \leq q-1 = 2^w - 1$

the linear span of rows of the check matrix of $(n, n-k, k+1)$ RS code is optimal k -pseudo-exhaustive test with

$$T = T_k = q^k = 2^{wk}$$

Example $w=2$ ($q=4$), ~~$N=4$~~ $k=2$, $N=3$

\mathbb{Z}_2^2

00	0
01	α
10	1
11	α^2
1α	

$\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 = 0$
 α - primitive in \mathbb{Z}_2^2 , $\alpha^3 = 1$

$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \alpha & \alpha^2 \end{bmatrix}$ ~~$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \alpha & \alpha^2 & 1 & \alpha & \alpha^2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$~~

BACKGROUNDS are generated as

$[v_0, v_1] \in H$ where $v_0, v_1 \in \mathbb{F}_2^2$

$B =$

$B^{(0)}$	$B^{(1)}$	$B^{(2)}$	v_0	v_1
0	0	0	0	0
1	α	α^2	0	1
α	α^2	1	0	α
α^2	1	α	0	α^2
1	1	1	1	0
0	α^2	α	1	α
α^2	α	0	1	α^2
α	0	α^2	1	α^2
α	α	α	α	0
α^2	0	1	α	1
0	1	α^2	α	α
1	α^2	0	α	α^2
α^2	α^2	α^2	α^2	0
α	1	0	α^2	1
1	0	α	α^2	α
0	α	1	α^2	α^2

In any $k=2$ columns

$$\text{of } B = [B^{(0)} \ B^{(1)} \ B^{(2)}]$$

all 9 combinations

$00, 01, 0\alpha, 0\alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^2\alpha^2$

appear at least once. \square

For this test dynamic faults are not detected even for $k=1$

For example in $B^{(0)}$ there is no transition $0 \rightarrow \alpha$.

We will modify now the order for generation of $v = (v_0, v_1)$ for detection of all dynamic faults for $k=1$.

FOR $K=2$

Let $x^2 + c_1 x + c_2$ is primitive
over \mathbb{Z}_2^w ($c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_2^w$)

and $\beta^2 + c_1 \beta + c_2 = 0$.

Then $\beta^i \neq \beta^j$ ($i, j = 0, 1, \dots, q^2 - 2$)
 $q = 2^w$

We generate vectors $v = (v_0, v_1)$
($v \in \mathbb{Z}_q^2$) as $q, \beta^0, \beta^1, \dots, \beta^{q^2-2}$

then all transitions within
one word will be generated
(all dynamic faults with
 $K=1$ will be detected)

Example (cont'd) , $w=2$ ($q=4$), $k=2$
 $\beta^2 + \beta + \alpha = 0$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, $N=3$

$B =$

$B^{(0)}$	$B^{(1)}$	$B^{(2)}$	β^i	ψ_0	ψ_1
0	0	0	-	0	0
1	1	1	β^0	1	0
1	α	α^2	β^1	0	1
α^2	0	1	β^2	α	1
1	α^2	0	β^3	α	α^2
0	α^2	α	β^4	1	1
α	α	α	β^5	α	0
α	α^2	1	β^6	0	α
1	0	α	β^7	α^2	α
α	1	0	β^8	α^2	1
0	1	α^2	β^9	α	α
α^2	α^2	α^2	β^{10}	α^2	0
α^2	1	α	β^{11}	0	α^2
α	0	α^2	β^{12}	1	α^2
α^2	α	0	β^{13}	1	α
0	α	1	β^{14}	α^2	α^2

$$\beta^2 = \beta + \alpha, \quad \beta^3 = \beta^2 + \alpha\beta = \beta + \alpha + \alpha\beta = \alpha + \alpha^2\beta,$$

$$\beta^4 = \beta^2 + \alpha^2 = \beta + \alpha + \alpha^2 = 1 + \beta,$$

$$\beta^5 = \beta + \beta^2 = \beta + \beta + \alpha = \alpha,$$

$$\beta^6 = \alpha\beta, \quad \beta^7 = \alpha\beta^2 = \alpha(\alpha + \beta) = \alpha^2 + \alpha\beta,$$

$$\beta^8 = \alpha^2\beta + \alpha\beta^2 = \alpha^2\beta + \alpha(\alpha + \beta) = \alpha^2 + \beta$$

$$\beta^9 = \alpha^2\beta + \beta^2 = \alpha^2\beta + \alpha + \beta = \alpha + \alpha\beta$$

$$\beta^{10} = \alpha\beta + \alpha\beta^2 = \alpha\beta + \alpha(\alpha + \beta) = \alpha^2$$

$$\beta^{11} = \alpha^2\beta, \quad \beta^{12} = \alpha^2\beta^2 = \alpha^2(\alpha + \beta) = 1 + \alpha^2\beta$$

$$\beta^{13} = \beta + \alpha^2\beta^2 = \beta + \alpha^2(\alpha + \beta) = 1 + \alpha\beta$$

$$\beta^{14} = \beta + \alpha\beta^2 = \beta + \alpha(\alpha + \beta) = \alpha^2 + \alpha^2\beta$$

$$\beta^{15} = \alpha^2\beta + \alpha^2\beta^2 = \alpha^2\beta + \alpha^2(\alpha + \beta) = 1.$$

FOR THIS TEST all TRANSITIONS
 $a \rightarrow b$ ($a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_2^2$)
 except for $(a, b) = (0, 0)$
 within one word will be gene-
 rated and all dynamic PS
 faults with $k=1$ are detected.

Proof: FOR THE COLUMN j

$j = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$ we have

$$B^{(j)} = v_0 + v_1 \alpha^j$$

If $v_0 + v_1 \beta = \beta^i$, then

$$\beta^{i+1} = v_0 \beta + v_1 \beta^2$$

Let $f(x) = x^2 + c_1 x + c_0$ $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}_2^W$

primitive and

$$f(\beta) = \beta^2 + c_1 \beta + c_0 = 0$$

$$\beta^2 = c_1 \beta + c_0$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^{i+1} &= v_0 \beta + v_1 (c_1 \beta + c_0) = \\ &= v_1 c_0 + \beta (v_0 + v_1 c_1) \end{aligned}$$

Then to provide for the transition $a \rightarrow b$ ($a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_2^N$) in column j (or word j)

we have two equations with 2 unknowns v_0, v_1

$$\begin{cases} v_0 + v_1 \alpha^j = a \\ v_1 c_0 + (v_0 + v_1 c_1) \alpha^j = b \end{cases}$$

Solving this system we have

$$v_0 = a + \alpha^j (a \alpha^j + b) (\alpha^{2j} + c_1 \alpha^j + c_0)^{-1}$$

$$v_1 = (a \alpha^j + b) (\alpha^{2j} + c_1 \alpha^j + c_0)^{-1}$$

We note that

$$\alpha^{2j} + c_1 \alpha^j + c_0 \neq 0$$

since otherwise

$$y(x) = x^2 + c_1 x + c_0 \text{ is}$$

divisible by $(x + \alpha^j)$ and

$y(x)$ is not primitive

Example (Cont'd) $w=2, q=4$

$$N=3 \quad \text{Let } j=1, a=\alpha^2, b=0$$

Then we have the following

system

$$\begin{cases} v_0 + v_1 \alpha = \alpha^2 \\ v_1 \alpha + (v_0 + v_1) \alpha = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$y(x) = x^2 + x + \alpha$$

This system has a
unique solution:

$$v_0 = 0 \quad v_1 = \alpha$$

(SEE TABLE ON PAGE 10)

Solution for the problem of
Construction of k -pseudoexhaustive
tests for $N < q = 2^w$

1. Select a primitive polynomial
of degree k over \mathbb{Z}_2^w

$$Y(x) = x^k + c_{k-1}x^{k-1} + \dots + c_1x + c_0$$

$$c_i \in \mathbb{Z}_2^w = \mathbb{Z}_q$$

2. Represent all $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^k$

$$v_i \in \mathbb{Z}_q \text{ as } 0, 1, \beta, \beta^2, \dots, \beta^{q^k-2}$$

$$\text{where } Y(\beta) = 0.$$

3. Backgrounds (rows of test matrix B) are obtained by multiplication of $0, 1, \beta, \beta^2, \dots, \beta^{q^k-2}$ by β^i $N \leq q-1$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & \alpha & \alpha^2 & \dots & \alpha^{N-1} \\ 1 & \alpha^2 & \alpha^4 & \dots & \alpha^{2(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \alpha^{k-1} & \alpha^{2(k-1)} & \dots & \alpha^{(k-1)(N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

- This test is optimal with a min number of backgrounds

$$T = T_k = q^k$$

- This test detects all static

$$\underline{PS(N, k)}$$

- This test detects all dynamic

$$PS(N, k-1)$$

EXTENSION OF K-PSEUDO EXHAUSTIVE TESTS FOR $N \geq 9$ ($K=1,2,3$)

1. FOR $K=1$ AND ANY N .

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \alpha & \alpha & \alpha & \dots & \alpha \\ \alpha^2 & \alpha^2 & \alpha^2 & \dots & \alpha^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \alpha^{q-2} & \alpha^{q-2} & \alpha^{q-2} & \dots & \alpha^{q-2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_N$

2. FOR $K=2$

$$\text{Let } B = B(0) = [B^{(0)} B^{(1)} \dots B^{(N-1)}]$$

is optimal test for $N \leq q-1$

with $T_2 = q^2$ backgrounds

Denote

$$B(1) = [B^{(1)} B^{(2)} \dots B^{(N-1)} B^{(0)}],$$

$$B(2) = [B^{(2)} B^{(3)} \dots B^{(0)} B^{(1)}],$$

...

$$B(N-1) = [B^{(N-1)} B^{(0)} \dots B^{(N-3)} B^{(N-2)}],$$

$$B(i) = (\text{Shift})^i B(0).$$

$$C(i) = \underbrace{[B^{(i)} B^{(i)} \dots B^{(i)}]}_N.$$

We will construct K -pseudo-exhaustive test for N^2 using the K -pseudoexhaustive test for

N ($N \leq q-1$, $K=2$):

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} C(0) & C(1) & C(2) & \dots & C(N-1) \\ B(0) & B(0) & B(0) & \dots & B(0) \end{bmatrix}}_{N^2}$$

For this test $T = T_2 = 2q^2 = 2^{2w+1}$

Example (Cont'd) $w=2$ ($q=4$), $k=2$
 $N=9$

$$B(0) = [B^{(0)} \ B^{(1)} \ B^{(2)}] \quad (\text{see page 10})$$

For $N=9$ we have

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc} B^{(0)} & B^{(0)} & B^{(0)} & B^{(1)} & B^{(1)} & B^{(1)} & B^{(2)} & B^{(2)} & B^{(2)} \\ B^{(0)} & B^{(1)} & B^{(2)} & B^{(0)} & B^{(1)} & B^{(2)} & B^{(0)} & B^{(1)} & B^{(2)} \end{array} \right]$$

$$T_2 = 32. \quad \square$$

Thus transition from a 2-pseudo-exhaustive test for N ($N \leq q-1$)

to a 2-pseudoexhaustive test for N^2 results in ~~an~~ multiplication of the number of backgrounds by 2

This construction may be repeated many times

we can start with $N = q - 1$ and $T_2 = q^2$

Then for test with $N = (q - 1)^2$ we

have $T_2 = 2 \cdot q^2$

for test with $N = (q - 1)^4$ we

have $T_2 = 4 \cdot q^2$

and for $N = (q - 1)^{2^i}$ $T_2 = 2^i q^2$

3) $K = 3$ $B(0)$ is the 3-pseudo-exhaustive test for N ($N \leq q - 1$).
3-pseudoexhaustive test for N^2
can be constructed as:

~~$(a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7, a_8, a_9, a_{10}, a_{11}, a_{12}, a_{13}, a_{14}, a_{15}, a_{16}, a_{17}, a_{18}, a_{19}, a_{20}, a_{21}, a_{22}, a_{23}, a_{24}, a_{25}, a_{26}, a_{27}, a_{28}, a_{29}, a_{30}, a_{31}, a_{32}, a_{33}, a_{34}, a_{35}, a_{36}, a_{37}, a_{38}, a_{39}, a_{40}, a_{41}, a_{42}, a_{43}, a_{44}, a_{45}, a_{46}, a_{47}, a_{48}, a_{49}, a_{50}, a_{51}, a_{52}, a_{53}, a_{54}, a_{55}, a_{56}, a_{57}, a_{58}, a_{59}, a_{60}, a_{61}, a_{62}, a_{63}, a_{64}, a_{65}, a_{66}, a_{67}, a_{68}, a_{69}, a_{70}, a_{71}, a_{72}, a_{73}, a_{74}, a_{75}, a_{76}, a_{77}, a_{78}, a_{79}, a_{80}, a_{81}, a_{82}, a_{83}, a_{84}, a_{85}, a_{86}, a_{87}, a_{88}, a_{89}, a_{90}, a_{91}, a_{92}, a_{93}, a_{94}, a_{95}, a_{96}, a_{97}, a_{98}, a_{99})$~~

$$\begin{bmatrix} C(0) & C(1) & \dots & C(N-1) \\ B(0) & B(0) & \dots & B(0) \\ B(0) & B(1) & \dots & B(N-1) \\ B(N-1) & B(N-2) & \dots & B(0) \end{bmatrix}$$

for $N \geq 4$. ($B(i)$ and $C(i)$ defined

on page 19)

Thus for $N = q - 1$ we have ($q = 2^w$)

for 3-pseudexhaustive test $T = T_3 = q^3$

for $N = (q-1)^2$ $T_3 = 4 \cdot q^3 = 2^{3w+2}$

for $N = (q-1)^4$ $T_3 = 16q^3 = 2^{3w+4}$

for $N = (q-1)^{2^i}$ $T_3 = 2^{3w+2i}$