

# Optimal $p^2$ -ary Low Correlation Zone Sequences Using Unified Sequences

Ji-Woong Jang  
Channel Development Team  
System LSI Division  
Samsung Electronics Co.  
Suwon 443-742, Korea.  
Email: roy.jang@samsung.com

Young-Sik Kim, Jong-Seon No  
School of EE and CS  
Seoul National University  
Seoul 151-742, Korea.  
Email: jsno@snu.ac.kr

Habong Chung  
School of Electronics and Electrical Engineering  
Hongik University  
Seoul 121-791, Korea  
Email: habchung@hongik.ac.kr

**Abstract**—In this paper, given an integer  $e$  and  $n$  such that  $e|n$ , and a prime  $p$ , we propose a method of constructing optimal  $p^2$ -ary low correlation zone(LCZ) sequence set with parameters  $(p^n - 1, p^e - 1, (p^n - 1)/(p^e - 1), 1)$  from a  $p$ -ary sequence of the same length with ideal autocorrelation. The resulting  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set can be viewed as the generalization of the optimal quaternary LCZ sequence set by Kim, Jang, No, and Chung in respect of the alphabet size. But the method used in the proof is quite different from that used in the quaternary LCZ sequence. The proof used in this paper can be used for the proof of quaternary LCZ sequence.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the reverse link of the mobile radio communication systems, each user has different time delay and thus the synchronous code division multiple access(CDMA) cannot be adopted as a multiple access scheme in such systems. But in the microcellular system such as the wireless local area network(LAN), where the cell size is very small and the time delay can be maintained within a few chips, the quasi-synchronous code division multiple access(QS-CDMA) system can be used. In the QS-CDMA system, the spreading sequences having low correlation values for the time shift of a few chips around origin are needed, which are called *low correlation zone(LCZ) sequences*.

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of  $M$  sequences of period  $N$ . If the magnitude of correlation function between any two sequences in  $\mathcal{S}$  takes the values less than or equal to  $\epsilon$  within the range  $-L < \tau < L$ , of the offset  $\tau$ , then  $\mathcal{S}$  is called an  $(N, M, L, \epsilon)$  LCZ sequence set. Long, Zhang, and Hu[1] proposed a binary LCZ sequence set by using a GMW sequence[2]. For a prime  $p$ , Tang and Fan[3] proposed  $p$ -ary LCZ sequences by extending the alphabet size of each sequence in Long's work[1]. And they also constructed  $p$ -ary LCZ sequences by using interleaved sequences[4]. Recently, Kim, Jang, No, and Chung proposed quaternary LCZ sequence sets constructed from a binary sequence with ideal autocorrelation[5]. The set of these sequences is optimal with respect to the bound by Tang, Fan, and Matsufuji[6].

In this paper, given an integer  $e$  and  $n$  such that  $e|n$ , and a prime  $p$ , we propose a method of constructing optimal  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set with parameters  $(p^n - 1, p^e - 1, (p^n -$

$1)/(p^e - 1), 1)$  from a  $p$ -ary sequence of the same length with ideal autocorrelation. The resulting  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set can be viewed as the generalization of the optimal quaternary LCZ sequence set by Kim, Jang, No, and Chung[5] in respect of the alphabet size. But the method used in the proof is quite different from that used in the quaternary LCZ sequence. The proof used in this paper can be used for the proof of quaternary LCZ sequence.

## II. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we introduce some definitions and notations.

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of  $D$  sequences of period  $N$ . If the magnitude of correlation function between any two sequences in  $\mathcal{S}$  takes the values less than or equal to  $\epsilon$  for the offset  $\tau$  in the range  $-Z < \tau < Z$ , then  $\mathcal{S}$  is called an  $(N, D, Z, \epsilon)$  LCZ sequence set.

Let  $p$  be a prime and  $F_{p^n}$  be the finite field with  $p^n$  elements. Let  $v_i(x)$  and  $v_j(x)$  be two  $p$ -ary sequences of period  $p^n - 1$ , defined in  $F_{p^n}^* = F_{p^n} \setminus \{0\}$ . Then for  $\delta \in F_{p^n}^*$ , the correlation function between two  $p$ -ary sequences  $v_i(x)$  and  $v_j(x)$  is defined as

$$R_{v_i, v_j}(\delta) = \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega_p^{v_i(x\delta) - v_j(x)}$$

where  $\omega_p$  is a complex primitive  $p$ -th root of unity. We will abuse the notation of the correlation function as  $R_{i,j}(\tau) = R_{v_i, v_j}(\alpha^\tau)$  for  $\delta = \alpha^\tau$ , where  $\alpha$  is a primitive element in  $F_{p^n}$ .

Let  $p$  be a prime and  $F_{p^n}$  the finite field with  $p^n$  elements. The trace function  $\text{tr}_m^n(\cdot)$  from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_{p^m}$  is defined by

$$\text{tr}_m^n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n}{m}-1} x^{p^{mi}}$$

where  $x \in F_{p^n}$  and  $m|n$ . The trace function has the following properties.

- (i)  $\text{tr}_m^n(ax + by) = a \text{tr}_m^n(x) + b \text{tr}_m^n(y)$ , for all  $a, b \in F_{p^m}$ ,  $x, y \in F_{p^n}$ .
- (ii)  $\text{tr}_m^n(x^{p^m}) = \text{tr}_m^n(x)$ , for all  $x \in F_{p^n}$ .

It is well known that  $\text{tr}_m^n(\alpha^t)$  is a  $p^m$ -ary m-sequence of period  $p^n - 1$ , where  $\alpha$  is a primitive element in  $F_{p^n}$ .

In this paper, we are dealing with  $p$ -ary and  $p^2$ -ary sequences of period  $p^n - 1$ , which can be regarded as mappings from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_p$  and to an integer ring  $Z_{p^2} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, p^2 - 1\}$ , respectively. We use the notations  $\oplus$  and  $\ominus$  for the addition and the subtraction in  $Z_{p^2}$ , when we think it is necessary.

Let  $F_{p^n}^* = F_{p^n} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $s(x)$  be a mapping from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_p$  or  $Z_{p^2}$ . If we restrict the domain of  $s(x)$  to  $F_{p^n}^*$  and replace  $x$  by  $\alpha^t$ , then we can obtain a sequence  $s(\alpha^t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq p^n - 2$ , of period  $p^n - 1$ . Hence, for convenience, we will use the expression 'a  $p$ -ary or  $p^2$ -ary sequence  $s(\alpha^t)$  of period  $p^n - 1$ ' interchangeably with 'a mapping  $s(x)$  from  $F_{p^n}^*$  to  $F_p$  or  $Z_{p^2}$ '.

For  $\delta \in F_{p^n}^*$ , the correlation function between two  $p^2$ -ary sequences  $s_i(x)$  and  $s_j(x)$  is defined as

$$R_{i,j}(\delta) = \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{s_i(\delta x) - s_j(x)}$$

where  $\omega_{p^2}$  is a complex  $p^2$ -th root of unity.

Let  $e$  and  $n$  be integers such that  $e|n$  and let  $v(x)$  be a mapping from  $F_{p^n}$  onto  $F_{p^e}$ . The function  $v(x)$  is said to be *balanced* if each nonzero element of  $F_{p^e}$  appears  $p^{n-e}$  times and zero element  $p^{n-e} - 1$  times in the list  $\{v(x) | x \in F_{p^n}^*\}$ . A function  $v(x)$  is said to be *difference-balanced* if  $v(\delta x) - v(x)$  is balanced for any  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . Let  $f(x)$  be a function from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_p$ . We can build a  $p^2$ -ary sequence  $s_a(x)$  using  $f(x)$  as the constituent sequence of  $s_a(x)$  as shown below:

$$s_a(x) = f(x) \oplus pf(ax)$$

where  $a \in F_{p^e}^*$ . Most of LCZ sequences in this paper are constructed in this manner.

### III. $p^2$ -ARY LCZ SEQUENCES CONSTRUCTED FROM UNIFIED SEQUENCES

In this section, for a prime  $p$ , we construct a set of  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequences using a  $p$ -ary unified sequence [7] as their constituent sequence.

A  $d$ -form function  $h(x)$  on  $F_{p^n}$  over  $F_{p^m}$  [8] is defined as a function satisfying for any  $y \in F_{p^m}$  and  $x \in F_{p^n}$  such that  $m|n$

$$h(yx) = y^d h(x). \quad (1)$$

As pointed out in [8], a  $d$ -form function with difference-balance property plays an important role in designing sequences with ideal autocorrelation. The following lemma is derived in [9].

*Lemma 1 (Kim, Chung, and No[9]):* : Any  $d$ -form function  $h(x)$  from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_{p^m}$  with difference-balance property is 2-tuple balanced, i.e., for  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^m}$ ,  $(h(x), h(\delta x)) = (0, 0)$  appears  $p^{n-2m} - 1$  times and  $(h(x), h(\delta x)) = (a, b)$  appears  $p^{n-2m}$  times for each nonzero  $(a, b)$  as  $x$  varies over  $F_{p^n}$ .  $\square$

It is clear that any  $d$ -form function  $h(x)$  from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_{p^m}$  with difference-balance property is balanced and  $h(0) = 0$ .

Using a  $d$ -form function, No [7] constructed unified sequences with ideal autocorrelation from sequences of shorter period with ideal autocorrelation as in the following theorem.

*Theorem 2 (No[7]):* : Let  $e$  and  $n$  be positive integers such that  $e|n$ . Let  $f(\cdot)$  be a 1-form function from  $F_{p^e}$  to  $F_p$  with difference-balance property. Let  $v(\cdot)$  be a 1-form function from  $F_{p^n}$  to  $F_{p^e}$  with difference-balance property. For an integer  $r$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq p^e - 2$ , relatively prime to  $p^e - 1$ , the  $p$ -ary unified sequence  $u(x)$  of period  $p^n - 1$  defined by

$$u(x) = f([v(x)]^r) \quad (2)$$

has the ideal autocorrelation property.  $\square$

In general, Theorem 2 holds for any  $d$ -form function  $v(x)$  satisfying  $(d, p^e - 1) = 1$  and for any  $d$ -form function  $f(x)$  such that  $(d, p - 1) = 1$ .

For some index set  $I$ , the most typical example of the 1-form function has the following expression

$$\sum_{k \in I} b_k \text{tr}_1^e(y^k), \quad \text{for } y \in F_{p^e}^*, b_k \in F_p^*, k \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}. \quad (3)$$

Thus if the  $p$ -ary sequence of period  $p^e - 1$  in (3) has the ideal autocorrelation, then it can serve as  $f(y)$  in Theorem 2. Let  $e|n$  and  $l \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e - 1}$  for all  $l$  in some index set  $J$ . Similarly, the most typical example of  $v(x)$  in Theorem 2 can be expressed as

$$v(x) = \sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_e^n(x^l), \quad \text{for } x \in F_{p^n}^*, c_l \in F_p^*, l \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e - 1}, \quad (4)$$

provided that the  $p$ -ary sequence of period  $p^n - 1$  given by

$$\sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_1^n(x^l), \quad \text{for } x \in F_{p^n}^*, c_l \in F_p^*$$

has the ideal autocorrelation property. Then the unified sequence  $u(x)$  in Theorem 2 can be written as

$$u(x) = \sum_{k \in I} b_k \text{tr}_1^e \left( \left[ \sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_e^n(x^l) \right]^{kr} \right). \quad (5)$$

The  $p$ -ary unified sequences include  $p$ -ary m-sequences,  $p$ -ary GMW sequences,  $p$ -ary  $d$ -form sequences, and  $p$ -ary extended sequences as their special cases. When  $J = \{1\}$  in (4),  $u(x)$  in (5) is called the  $p$ -ary extended sequence. Additionally, if  $I = \{1\}$  in (3), then  $u(x)$  becomes the  $p$ -ary GMW sequence.

Using the unified sequences in the above theorem, we can construct LCZ sequences as in the following theorem. The next lemma is needed for the proof of the theorem.

*Lemma 3 (Kim, Jang, No, and Chung[5]):* : Let  $p$  be a prime and  $e$  and  $n$  be positive integers such that  $e|n$ . Let  $A = \{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{T-1}\}$ , where  $\alpha$  is a primitive element in  $F_{p^n}$  and  $T = (p^n - 1)/(p^e - 1)$ . Let  $v(x)$  be a 1-form function from  $F_{p^n}$  onto  $F_{p^e}$  with difference-balance property. For a

given  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^e}$ , let  $M_\delta(a, b)$  be the number of  $x_2 \in A$  satisfying

$$v(\delta x_2) = a \text{ and } v(x_2) = b, \quad a, b \in F_{p^e}. \quad (6)$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_\delta(0, 0) &= \frac{p^{n-2e} - 1}{p^e - 1} \\ \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(c, 0) &= \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(0, c) = p^{n-2e} \\ \sum_{d \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(cd, d) &= p^{n-2e} \quad \text{for any } c \in F_{p^e}^*. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 4:** Let  $e$  and  $n$  be positive integers such that  $e|n$  and  $r$  be an integer such that  $(p^e - 1, r) = 1$  and  $1 \leq r \leq p^e - 2$ . Let  $T = (p^n - 1)/(p^e - 1)$ . Let  $f(\cdot)$  and  $v(\cdot)$  be the functions defined in Theorem 2. Define the  $p^e - 1$   $p^2$ -ary sequences  $s_a(x)$  of period  $p^n - 1$  as

$$s_a(x) = \begin{cases} pf([av(x)]^r), & \text{for } a \in F_p^* \\ f([v(x)]^r) \oplus pf([av(x)]^r), & \text{for } a \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p. \end{cases}$$

Then the set  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $p^2$ -ary sequences given by

$$\mathcal{S} = \{s_a(x) \mid a \in F_{p^e}^*, x \in F_{p^n}^*\}$$

is a  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set with parameters  $(p^n - 1, p^e - 1, T, 1)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $\alpha$  be a primitive element in  $F_{p^n}$  and  $A = \{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{T-1}\}$ . Although the low correlation zone of the above sequence set is  $[-T + 1, T - 1]$ , what we are going to prove is that the correlation function  $R_{a,b}(\delta)$  of  $s_a(x)$  and  $s_b(x)$  takes the value  $-1$  for all  $\delta \in \{1\} \cup F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^e}$  and for all  $a, b \in F_{p^e}^*$ . The following five separate cases are considered.

**Case 1)**  $a, b \in F_p^*$ :

The correlation function  $R_{a,b}(\delta)$  can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(\delta) &= \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega_p^{\{pf([av(\delta x)]^r) \ominus pf([bv(x)]^r)\}} \\ &= \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega_p^{\{f([av(\delta x)]^r) - f([bv(x)]^r)\}} \\ &= \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega_p^{\{f([av(\delta x)]^r) - f([bv(x)]^r)\}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the unified sequence  $f([v(x)]^r)$  is difference-balanced,  $f([av(\delta x)]^r) - f([bv(x)]^r) \pmod p$  is balanced except for  $\delta = b/a$ . Thus we have  $R_{a,b}(\delta) = -1$  for all  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus \{b/a\}$ .

**Case 2)**  $a, b \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$  and  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^e}$ :

Let  $x = x_1 x_2$ , where  $x \in F_{p^n}$ ,  $x_1 \in F_{p^e}$ , and  $x_2 \in A$ . Then the correlation function  $R_{a,b}(\delta)$  of  $s_a(x)$  and  $s_b(x)$  is given as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(\delta) &= \sum_{x \in F_{p^n}^*} \omega_p^{s_a(\delta x) \ominus s_b(x)} \\ &= \sum_{x_2 \in A} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{\{f(x_1^r [v(\delta x_2)]^r) \ominus f(x_1^r [v(x_2)]^r)\}} \\ &\quad \times \omega_p^{\{pf(x_1^r a^r [v(\delta x_2)]^r) \ominus pf(x_1^r b^r [v(x_2)]^r)\}}. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Let  $v(\delta x_2) = cd$  and  $v(x_2) = c$  for  $v(\delta x_2) \neq 0$  and  $v(x_2) \neq 0$ . From Lemma 3,  $R_{a,b}(\delta)$  is rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(\delta) &= \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} \sum_{d \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(cd, d) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{\{f([x_1 cd]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 acd]^r) \ominus \{f([x_1 d]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 bd]^r)\}\}} \\ &\quad + M_\delta(0, 0) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(c, 0) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([x_1 c]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 ac]^r)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(0, c) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-\{f([x_1 c]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 bc]^r)\}} \\ &= \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{\{f([x_1 c]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 ac]^r) \ominus \{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 b]^r)\}\}} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{d \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(cd, d) + M_\delta(0, 0) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 a]^r)} \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(c, 0) \\ &\quad + \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-\{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 b]^r)\}} \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(0, c) \\ &= p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{\{f(x_1^r [v(\delta x_2)]^r) \ominus f(x_1^r [v(x_2)]^r)\}} \\ &\quad \times \omega_p^{\{pf(x_1^r a^r [v(\delta x_2)]^r) \ominus pf(x_1^r b^r [v(x_2)]^r)\}} \\ &\quad + p^{n-2e} - 1 + p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 a]^r)} \\ &\quad + p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-\{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 b]^r)\}} \\ &= p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-\{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 b]^r)\}} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([c]^r) \oplus pf([ac]^r)} + p^{n-2e} - 1 \\ &\quad + p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 a]^r)} \\ &\quad + p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-\{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 b]^r)\}}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $I_f(a) = \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([ax_1]^r)}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(\delta) &= p^{n-2e} (I_f(a) \overline{I_f(b)} + 1 + I_f(a) + \overline{I_f(b)}) - 1 \\ &= p^{n-2e} (1 + I_f(a))(1 + \overline{I_f(b)}) - 1 \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where  $\overline{I_f(b)}$  denotes complex conjugate of  $I_f(b)$ . From Lemma 1, for  $a \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ , 2-tuples  $(f(x_1), f(ax_1))$  are balanced, which means that  $f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([ax_1]^r) \pmod p^2$  is balanced as  $x_1$  varies over  $F_{p^e}^*$ . Thus we have  $I_f(a) = \overline{I_f(b)} = -1$  for all  $a, b \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ . Therefore,  $R_{a,b}(\delta) = -1$  for all  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^e}$ .

**Case 3)**  $a, b \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ ,  $a \neq b$  and  $\delta = 1$ :

Let  $N(y)$  be the number of  $x \in F_{p^n}^*$  such that  $v(x) = y$ . Since any  $d$ -form function with difference-balance property is balanced, we have

$$N(y) = \begin{cases} p^{n-e} - 1, & \text{if } y = 0 \\ p^{n-e}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

Then  $R_{a,b}(1)$  can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(1) &= \sum_{y \in F_{p^e}} N(y) \omega_{p^2}^{\{f(y) \oplus pf(a^r y^r)\} \ominus \{f(y) \oplus pf(b^r y^r)\}} \\ &= p^{n-e} \sum_{y \in F_{p^e}} \omega_{p^2}^{p\{f(a^r y^r) - f(b^r y^r)\}} - 1 \\ &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

**Case 4)**  $a \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ ,  $b \in F_p^*$  (or  $a \in F_p^*$ ,  $b \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ ), and  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^e}$ :

Similar to Case 2), the correlation function  $R_{a,b}(\delta)$  in (7) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(\delta) &= \sum_{x_2 \in A} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{\{f(x_1^r [v(\delta x_2)]^r)\}} \\ &\quad \times \omega_{p^2}^{\{f(x_1^r a^r [v(\delta x_2)]^r) \oplus pf(x_1^r [bv(x_2)]^r)\}} \\ &= \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} \sum_{d \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(cd, d) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{\{f([x_1 cd]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 acd]^r)\} \ominus \{pf([x_1 bd]^r)\}} \\ &\quad + M_\delta(0, 0) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(c, 0) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{f([x_1 c]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 ac]^r)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} M_\delta(0, c) \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{-pf([x_1 bc]^r)} \\ &= p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-f([bx_1]^r)} \sum_{c \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{f([c]^r) \oplus pf([ac]^r)} \\ &\quad + p^{n-2e} - 1 + p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_{p^2}^{f([x_1]^r) \oplus pf([x_1 a]^r)} \\ &\quad + p^{n-2e} \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{-f([x_1 b]^r)}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $J_f(b) = \sum_{x_1 \in F_{p^e}^*} \omega_p^{f([bx_1]^r)}$ . Then we have

$$R_{a,b}(\delta) = p^{n-2e} (1 + I_f(a)) (1 + \overline{J_f(b)}) - 1.$$

Clearly,  $I_f(a) = \overline{J_f(b)} = -1$  and thus we have  $R_{a,b}(\delta) = -1$  for all  $\delta \in F_{p^n} \setminus F_{p^e}$ .

**Case 5)**  $a \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ ,  $b \in F_p^*$  (or  $a \in F_p^*$ ,  $b \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ ), and  $\delta = 1$ :

Using  $N(y)$  in (9),  $R_{a,b}(1)$  can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{a,b}(1) &= \sum_{y \in F_{p^e}} N(y) \omega_{p^2}^{\{f(y) \oplus pf(a^r y)\} \ominus \{pf(b^r y)\}} \\ &= p^{n-e} \sum_{y \in F_{p^e}} \omega_{p^2}^{\{(1 \oplus p(p-b^r))f(y) \oplus pf(a^r y)\}} - 1 \quad (10) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $f(y) = u$  and  $f(ay) = v$ . Again, since 2-tuples  $(f(y), f(a^r y))$  are balanced as  $y$  varies over  $F_{p^e}$ , (10) can be rewritten as

$$R_{a,b}(1) = p^{n-2e} \sum_{u \in F_p} \omega_{p^2}^{(p(p-b^r)+1)u} \sum_{v \in F_p} \omega_{p^2}^{pv} - 1.$$

Thus we have  $R_{a,b}(1) = -1$ .  $\square$

Using the specific examples of  $f(y)$  and  $v(x)$  given in (3) and (4), Theorem 4 can be restated as follows.

*Corollary 5:* Let  $e$  and  $n$  be positive integers such that  $e|n$  and  $r$  be an integer such that  $\gcd(r, p^e - 1) = 1$  and  $1 \leq r \leq p^e - 2$ . Let  $T = (p^n - 1)/(p^e - 1)$ . Assume that for some index set  $I$ , the  $p$ -ary sequence of period  $p^e - 1$  given by

$$\sum_{k \in I} b_k \text{tr}_1^e(y^k), \quad \text{for } y \in F_{p^e}^*, b_k \in F_p^*, k \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$$

has the ideal autocorrelation property. Let  $l \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e - 1}$  for all  $l$  in some index set  $J$ . Assume that the  $p$ -ary sequence of period  $p^n - 1$  given by

$$\sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_1^n(x^l), \quad \text{for } x \in F_{p^n}^*, c_l \in F_p^*$$

also has the ideal autocorrelation property. Then the set of  $p^e - 1$   $p^2$ -ary sequences of period  $p^n - 1$  defined by

$$\mathcal{S} = \{s_a(x) \mid a \in F_{p^e}^*, x \in F_{p^n}^*\}$$

is a  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set with parameters  $(p^n - 1, p^e - 1, T, 1)$ , where

$$s_a(x) = p \sum_{k \in I} b_k \text{tr}_1^e \left( \left[ a \sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_e^n(x^l) \right]^r \right),$$

for  $a \in F_p^*$

$$\begin{aligned} s_a(x) &= \sum_{k \in I} b_k \text{tr}_1^e \left( \left[ \sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_e^n(x^l) \right]^r \right) \\ &\quad \oplus p \sum_{k \in I} b_k \text{tr}_1^e \left( \left[ a \sum_{l \in J} c_l \text{tr}_e^n(x^l) \right]^r \right), \end{aligned}$$

for  $a \in F_{p^e} \setminus F_p$ .

$\square$

Tang, Fan, and Matsufuji[6] derived the upper bound on the low correlation zone and the size of an LCZ sequence set using the Welch bound[10].

*Theorem 6 (Tang, Fan, and Matsufuji[6]):* For an LCZ sequence set with parameters  $(N, M, L, \epsilon)$ ,

$$ML - 1 \leq \frac{N - 1}{1 - \epsilon^2/N}. \quad (11)$$

□

□

Now, we can check the optimality of  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set  $S$  in Theorem 4.

*Corollary 7:* : The  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set  $S$  in Theorem 4 is optimal with respect to the Tang-Fan-Matsufuji bound.

*Proof:* The proof is straightforward. By substituting  $N = p^n - 1$ ,  $M = p^e - 1$ , and  $\epsilon = 1$  in (11), we have

$$(p^e - 1)L - 1 \leq \frac{p^n - 2}{1 - 1/(p^n - 1)}$$

and thus

$$L \leq \frac{p^n}{p^e - 1}.$$

Since  $L$  is an integer, we have

$$L \leq \left\lfloor \frac{p^n}{p^e - 1} \right\rfloor = \frac{p^n - 1}{p^e - 1}.$$

Thus,  $S$  is optimal with respect to the Tang-Fan-Matsufuji bound. □

*Example 8:* : Let  $p = 3$ ,  $e = 2$ ,  $n = 4$ , and  $T = (3^n - 1)/(3^e - 1) = 10$ . Let  $f(y) = \text{tr}_1^2(y)$  for  $y \in F_{3^2}$  and  $v(x) = \text{tr}_2^4(x)$  for  $x \in F_{3^4}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a primitive element in  $F_{3^4}$  and  $\beta = \alpha^T$ . Then the set  $S$  is the 9-ary LCZ sequence set with parameters  $(80, 7, 10, 1)$  as follows:

$$S = \{m_a(x) \mid a \in F_{3^2}^*\}$$

where  $m_a(x) = m_a(\alpha^t)$  is given as

$$\begin{aligned} m_{\beta^0}(\alpha^t) &= p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \\ &= 6000600660636600360306336060666633306636 \\ &\quad 300030033036330063060366303033366603363 \\ m_{\beta}(\alpha^t) &= \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \oplus p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^T \alpha^t) \\ &= 8366203823275560726768445086585211402542 \\ &\quad 4633106416157730513534887043747122801781 \\ m_{\beta^2}(\alpha^t) &= \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \oplus p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^{2T} \alpha^t) \\ &= 2633806286875530783732115023525844108518 \\ &\quad 1366403143457760546561227016717488204724 \\ m_{\beta^3}(\alpha^t) &= \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \oplus p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^{3T} \alpha^t) \\ &= 8633506856512230153138442083282577405245 \\ &\quad 4366703473721160276264881046141755807187 \\ m_{\beta^4}(\alpha^t) &= 2p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \\ &= 300030033036330063060366303033366603363 \\ &\quad 6000600660636600360306336060666633306636 \\ m_{\beta^5}(\alpha^t) &= \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \oplus p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^{5T} \alpha^t) \\ &= 5633206526248830423435778053858211702872 \\ &\quad 7366103713184460816867554076474122501451 \\ m_{\beta^6}(\alpha^t) &= \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \oplus p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^{6T} \alpha^t) \\ &= 2366503253548860456462118026828577105815 \\ &\quad 1633706176784430873831224013414755207427 \\ m_{\beta^7}(\alpha^t) &= \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^t) \oplus p \text{tr}_1^4(\alpha^{7T} \alpha^t) \\ &= 5366803583812260186165772056252844708278 \\ &\quad 7633406746421130243237551073171488504154. \end{aligned}$$

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, from a  $p$ -ary sequence of period  $p^n - 1$  with ideal autocorrelation property, we can build an optimal  $p^2$ -ary LCZ sequence set with parameters  $(p^n - 1, p^e - 1, p^n - 1/p^e - 1, 1)$ . This LCZ sequence set can serve as a set of signature sequences with the symbols chosen in the set of  $p^2$ -th roots of unity for a QS-CDMA systems. This set is optimal in the sense that the set size is maximal given the period of the sequence and the low correlation zone length. Also the set can be viewed as the generalization in terms of alphabet size of the quaternary LCZ sequences set by Kim, Jang, No, and Chung[5].

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