

Data Communications and Networking Fourth Edition

Forouzan

Chapter 10 Error Detection and Correction



Note

Data can be corrupted during transmission.

Some applications require that errors be detected and corrected.

10-1 INTRODUCTION

Let us first discuss some issues related, directly or indirectly, to error detection and correction.

Topics discussed in this section:

Types of Errors

Redundancy

Detection Versus Correction

Forward Error Correction Versus Retransmission

Coding

Modular Arithmetic



Note

In a single-bit error, only 1 bit in the data unit has changed.

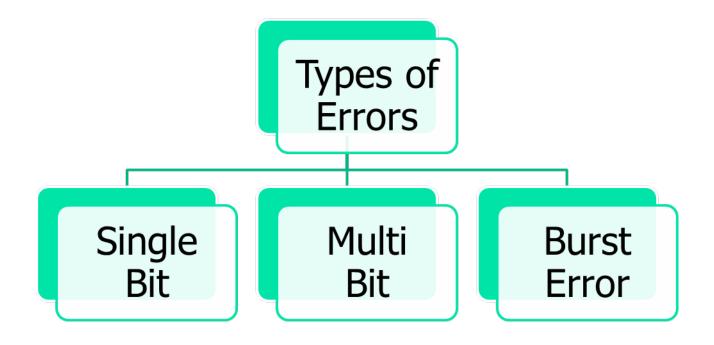
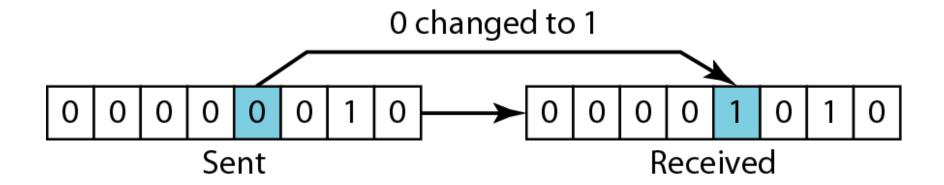


Figure 10.1 Single-bit error

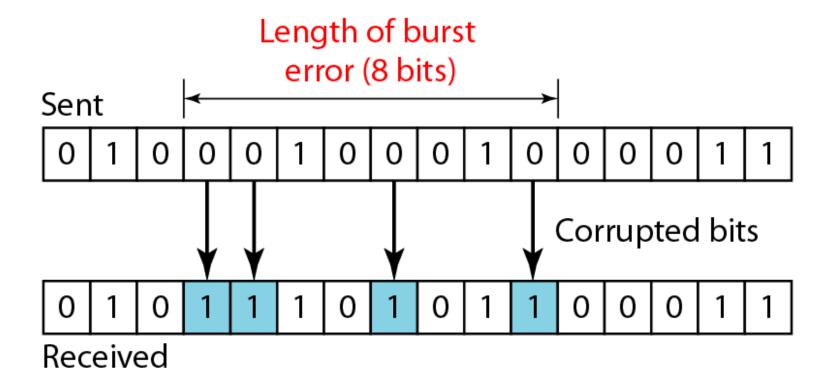




Note

A burst error means that 2 or more bits in the data unit have changed.

Figure 10.2 Burst error of length 8



Note

To detect or correct errors, we need to send extra (redundant) bits with data.
This is called Redundant Bit.

Detection versus Correction

- The correction of errors is more difficult than the detection.
- In detection, only check is made if error is present? Answer is simple, yes or no.
- In correction, once the check is made and error is detected, it also locates the error. Answer is additional information of location of error to perform correction.

Coding

- Redundancy is achieved through various coding schemes.
- We can divide coding schemes into two broad categories: block coding and convolution coding.
- Our concentration will be on block coding only.
- To perform coding, we need encoding and decoding which is shown in next figure.
- The receiver can detect error/ a change in the original codeword, if it follows these two conditions:
 - 1. The receiver has (or can find) a list of valid codewords.
 - 2. The original codeword has changed to an invalid one

Figure 10.3 The structure of encoder and decoder

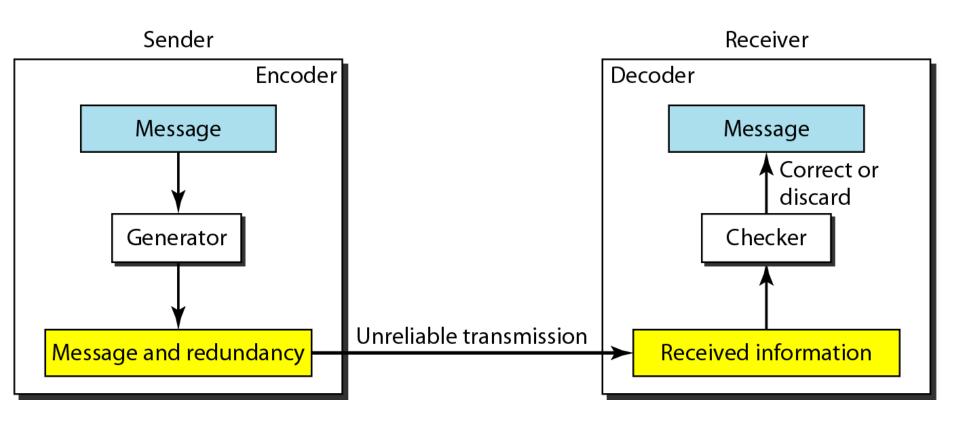


Figure 10.4 XORing of two single bits or two words

$$0 + 0 = 0$$

$$1 + 1 = 0$$

a. Two bits are the same, the result is 0.

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

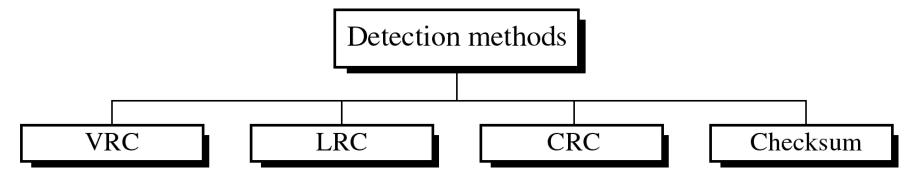
$$1 \oplus 0 = 1$$

b. Two bits are different, the result is 1.

c. Result of XORing two patterns

Detection Methods:

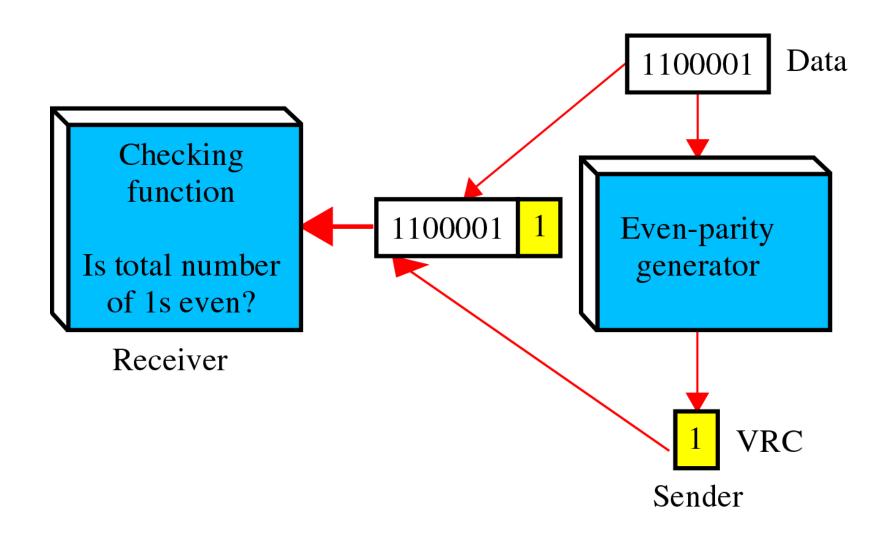
- Detection methods
 - VRC(Vertical Redundancy Check)
 - LRC(Longitudinal Redundancy Check)
 - CRC(Cyclical redundancy Check)
 - Checksum



VRC

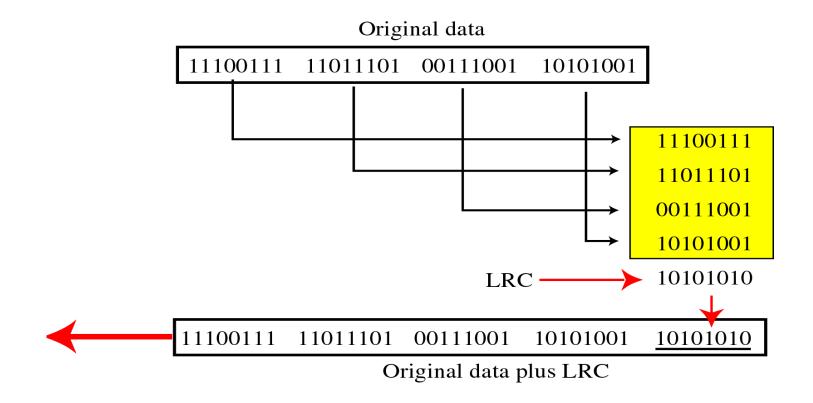
- VRC(Vertical Redundancy Check)
 - A parity bit is added to every data unit so that the total number of 1s(including the parity bit) becomes even for even-parity check or odd for odd-parity check
 - VRC can detect all single-bit errors.
 - It can detect multiple-bit or burst errors only the total number of errors is odd.
- Even parity VRC concept is given in next fig

VRC

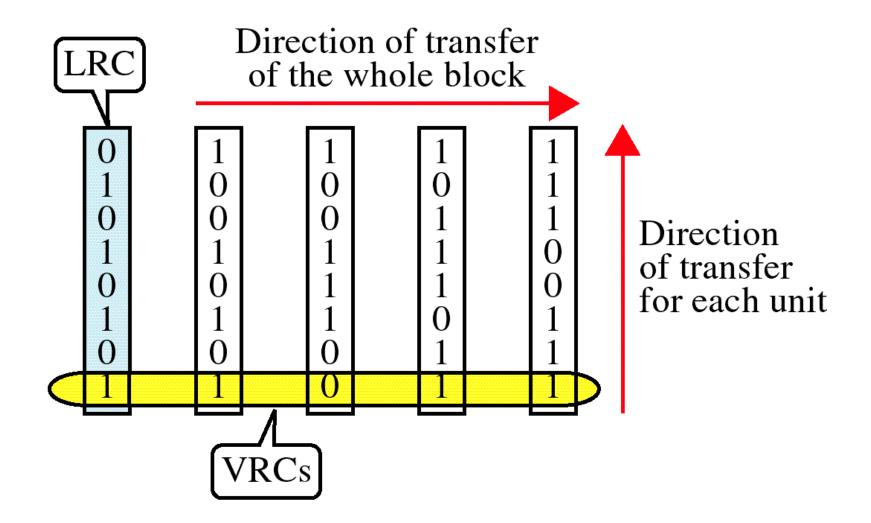


LRC

- LRC(Longitudinal Redundancy Check)
 - Parity bits of all the positions are assembled into a new data unit, which is added to the end of the data block



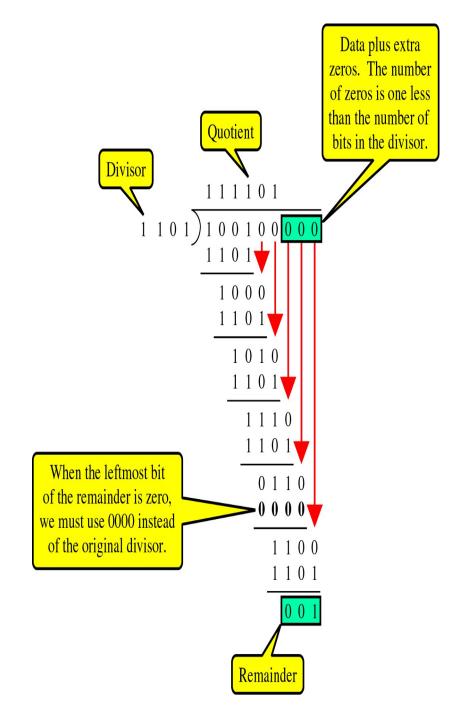
VRC & LRC



CRC Generator

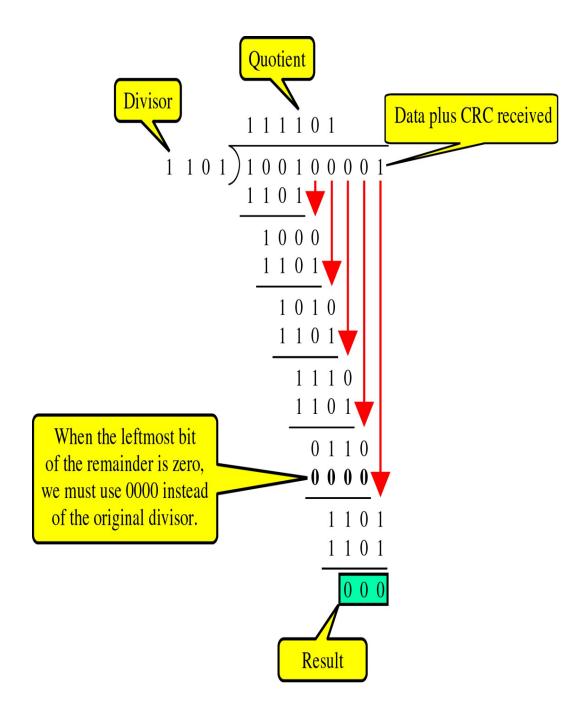
- CRC generator
- uses modular-2 division.

Binary Division in a CRC Generator



CRC Checker

Binary Division in a CRC Checker



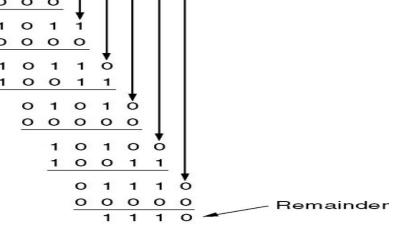
One more example

Frame : 1101011011

Generator: 10011

Message after 4 zero bits are appended: 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 0

Calculation of the polynomial code checksum.

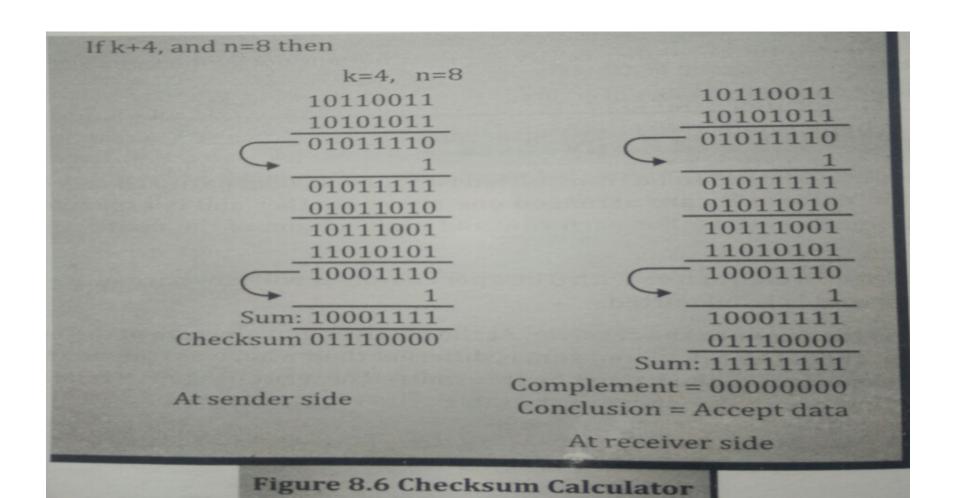


Transmitted frame: 110101111110

Checksum:

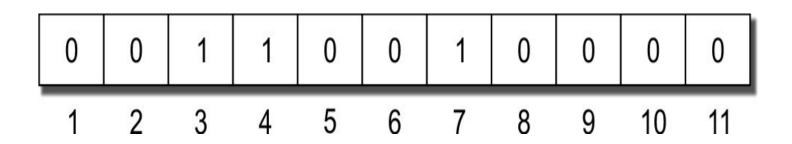
- Checksum is used by the higher layer protocols
- And is based on the concept of redundancy(VRC, LRC, CRC Hamming code)
- To create the checksum the sender does the following:
 - The unit is divided into K sections, each of n bits.
 - Section 1 and 2 are added together using one's complement.
 - Section 3 is added to the result of the previous step.
 - Section 4 is added to the result of the previous step.
 - The process repeats until section k is added to the result of the previous step.
 - The final result is complemented to make the checksum.

Checksum Example

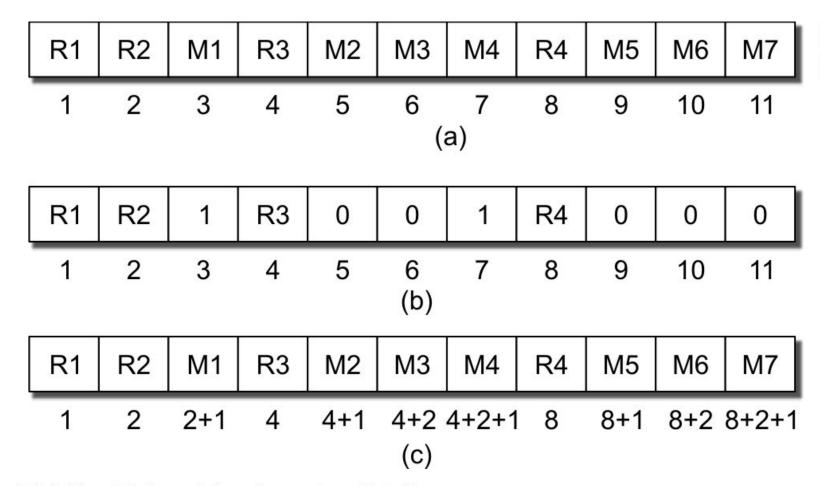


Hamming code and Error

- Redundancy for error handling
- m data bits and r redundant bits
- for m + r bits only one correct value of r for a given m
- one correct bit pattern requires m + r incorrect patterns
- $m + r + 1 < 2^r$



Hamming code calculations



R1 to R4 = Redundant bits M1 to M7 = Data bits

R1,R2,R3 and R4 calculations

- R1 represents the parity of M1, M2, M4, M5, and M7 = M1 + M2 + M4 + M5 + M7 = 1 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 = 0
- R2 represents the parity of M1, M3, M4, M6, and M7 = 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 = 0
- R3 represents the parity of M2, M3, and M4=1
- R4 represents the parity of M5, M6, and M7=0

Error Correction Using Hamming Code

Can be handled in two ways:

- when an error is discovered, the receiver can have the sender retransmit the entire data unit.
- a receiver can use an error-correcting code, which automatically corrects certain errors.
- Hamming Code
 - ~ developed by R.W. Hamming
- positions of redundancy bits in Hamming code, lets see how.
- each r bit is the VRC bit for one combination of data bits

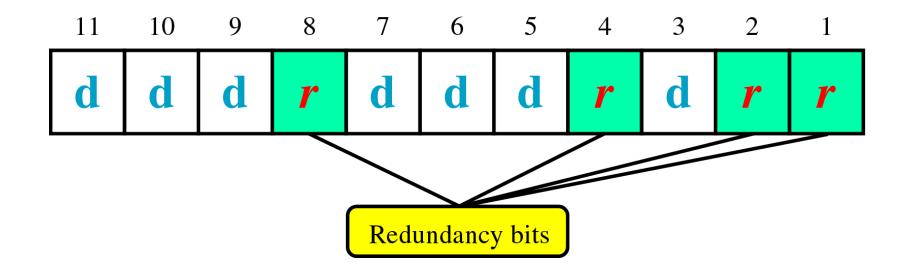
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r_1 = bits 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11

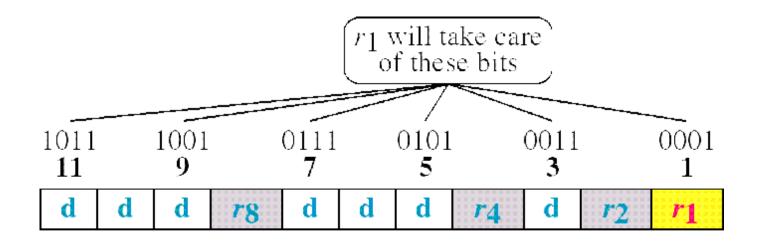
r_2 = bits 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11

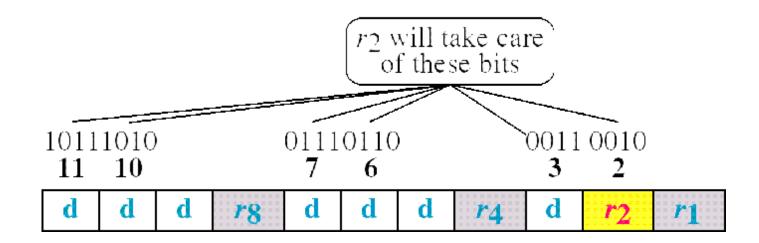
r_4 = bits 4, 5, 6, 7

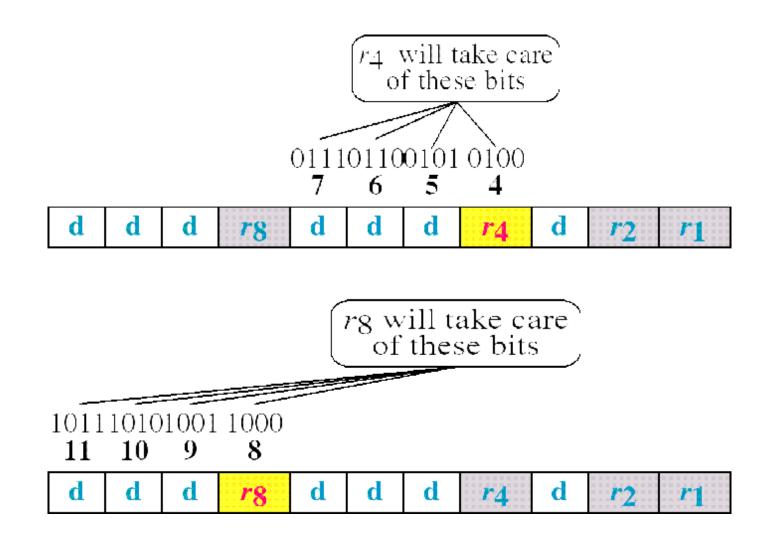
r_8 = bits 8, 9, 10, 11
```

Redundant Bit Position

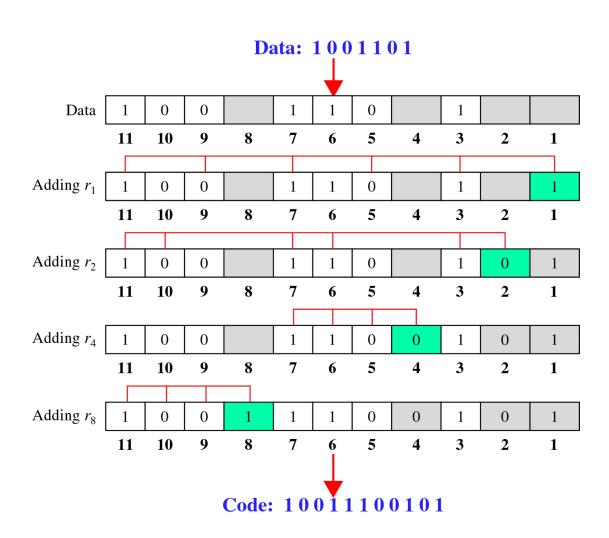




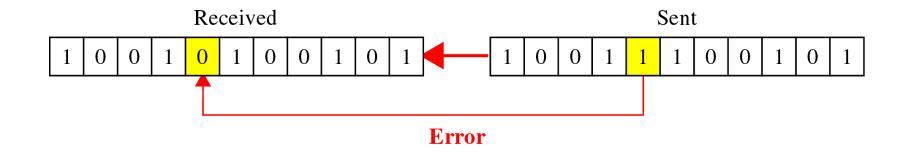




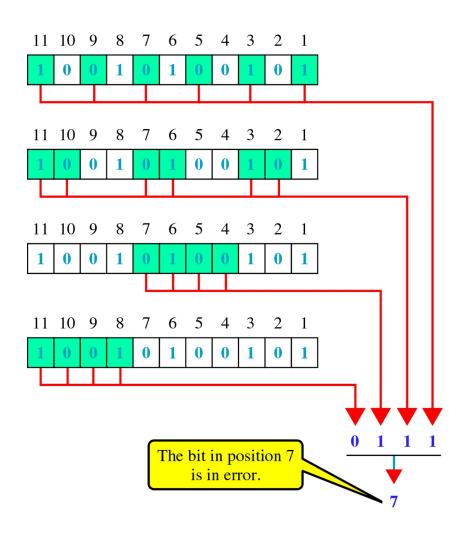
Ilculating the r values Calculating Even Parity



Example:



Error Detection Using Hamming Code:



10-2 BLOCK CODING

In block coding, we divide our message into blocks, each of k bits, called datawords. We add r redundant bits to each block to make the length n = k + r. The resulting n-bit blocks are called codewords.

Topics discussed in this section:

Error Detection
Error Correction
Hamming Distance
Minimum Hamming Distance

Figure 10.5 Datawords and codewords in block coding

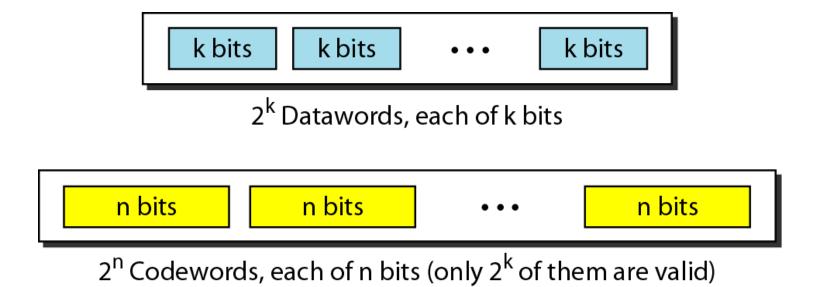
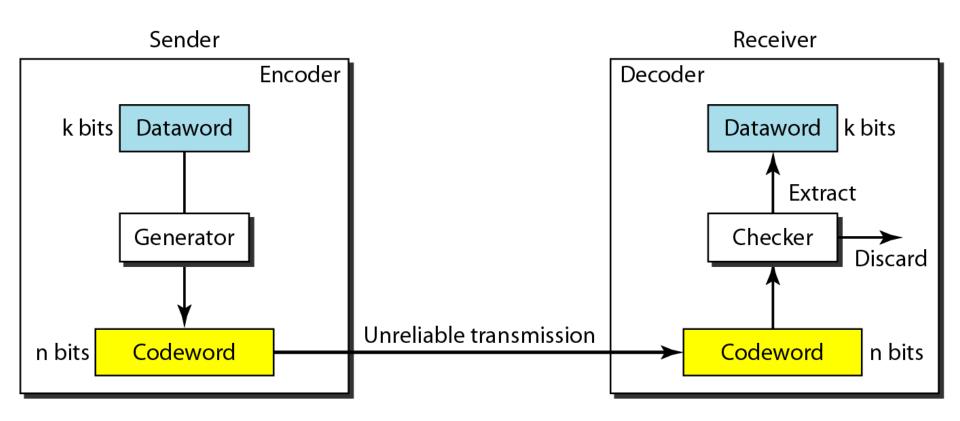


Figure 10.6 Process of error detection in block coding



Let us assume that k = 2 and n = 3. Table 10.1 shows the list of datawords and codewords. Later, we will see how to derive a codeword from a dataword.

Assume the sender encodes the dataword 01 as 011 and sends it to the receiver. Consider the following cases:

1. The receiver receives 011. It is a valid codeword. The receiver extracts the dataword 01 from it.

Example 10.2 (continued)

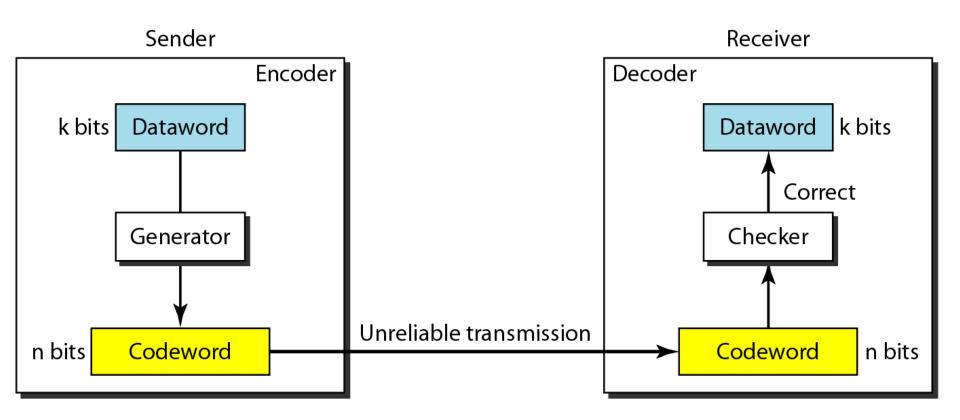
- 2. The codeword is corrupted during transmission, and 111 is received. This is not a valid codeword and is discarded.
- 3. The codeword is corrupted during transmission, and 000 is received. This is a valid codeword. The receiver incorrectly extracts the dataword 00. Two corrupted bits have made the error undetectable.

Table 10.1 A code for error detection (Example 10.2)

Datawords	Codewords
00	000
01	011
10	101
11	110

An error-detecting code can detect only the types of errors for which it is designed; other types of errors may remain undetected.

Figure 10.7 Structure of encoder and decoder in error correction



Let us add more redundant bits to Example 10.2 to see if the receiver can correct an error without knowing what was actually sent. We add 3 redundant bits to the 2-bit dataword to make 5-bit codewords. Table 10.2 shows the datawords and codewords. Assume the dataword is 01. The sender creates the codeword 01011. The codeword is corrupted during transmission, and 01001 is received. First, the receiver finds that the received codeword is not in the table. This means an error has occurred. The receiver, assuming that there is only 1 bit corrupted, uses the following strategy to guess the correct dataword.

Example 10.3 (continued)

- 1. Comparing the received codeword with the first codeword in the table (01001 versus 00000), the receiver decides that the first codeword is not the one that was sent because there are two different bits.
- 2. By the same reasoning, the original codeword cannot be the third or fourth one in the table.
- 3. The original codeword must be the second one in the table because this is the only one that differs from the received codeword by 1 bit. The receiver replaces 01001 with 01011 and consults the table to find the dataword 01.

Table 10.2 A code for error correction (Example 10.3)

Dataword	Codeword		
00	00000		
01	01011		
10	10101		
11	11110		



The Hamming distance between two words is the number of differences between corresponding bits.

Let us find the Hamming distance between two pairs of words.

1. The Hamming distance d(000, 011) is 2 because

000 ⊕ 011 is 011 (two 1s)

2. The Hamming distance d(10101, 11110) is 3 because

 $10101 \oplus 11110$ is 01011 (three 1s)



The minimum Hamming distance is the smallest Hamming distance between all possible pairs in a set of words.

Find the minimum Hamming distance of the coding scheme in Table 10.1.

Solution

We first find all Hamming distances.

$$d(000, 011) = 2$$
 $d(000, 101) = 2$ $d(000, 110) = 2$ $d(011, 101) = 2$ $d(011, 110) = 2$

The d_{min} in this case is 2.

Find the minimum Hamming distance of the coding scheme in Table 10.2. How many errors it can detect?

Solution

We first find all the Hamming distances.

```
d(00000, 01011) = 3 d(00000, 10101) = 3 d(00000, 11110) = 4 d(01011, 10101) = 4 d(01011, 11110) = 3 d(10101, 11110) = 3
```

The d_{min} in this case is 3. So, it can detect up to 2 errors.

To guarantee the detection of up to serrors in all cases, the minimum Hamming distance in a block code must be $d_{min} = s + 1$.

The minimum Hamming distance for our first code scheme (Table 10.1) is 2. This code guarantees detection of only a single error. For example, if the third codeword (101) is sent and one error occurs, the received codeword does not match any valid codeword. If two errors occur, however, the received codeword may match a valid codeword and the errors are not detected.

Our second block code scheme (Table 10.2) has $d_{min} = 3$. This code can detect up to two errors. Again, we see that when any of the valid codewords is sent, two errors create a codeword which is not in the table of valid codewords. The receiver cannot be fooled.

However, some combinations of three errors change a valid codeword to another valid codeword. The receiver accepts the received codeword and the errors are undetected.

Figure 10.8 Geometric concept for finding d_{min} in error detection

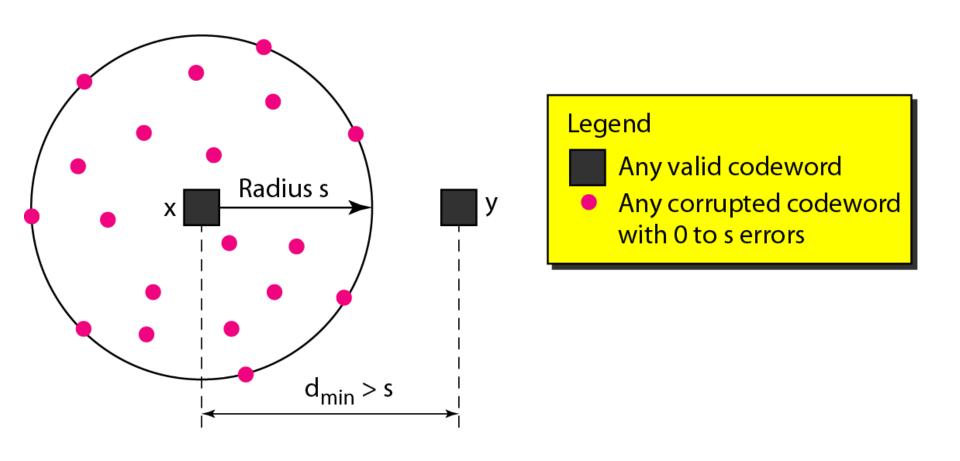
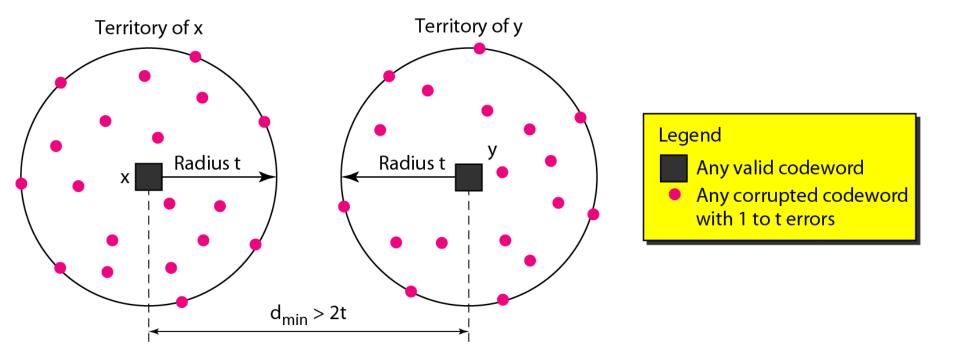


Figure 10.9 Geometric concept for finding d_{min} in error correction



To guarantee correction of up to t errors in all cases, the minimum Hamming distance in a block code must be $d_{min} = 2t + 1$.

A code scheme has a Hamming distance $d_{min} = 4$. What is the error detection and correction capability of this scheme?

Solution

This code guarantees the detection of up to three errors (s = 3), but it can correct up to one error. In other words, if this code is used for error correction, part of its capability is wasted. Error correction codes need to have an odd minimum distance $(3, 5, 7, \ldots)$.

10-3 LINEAR BLOCK CODES

Almost all block codes used today belong to a subset called linear block codes. A linear block code is a code in which the exclusive OR (addition modulo-2) of two valid codewords creates another valid codeword.

Topics discussed in this section:

Minimum Distance for Linear Block Codes Some Linear Block Codes

In a linear block code, the exclusive OR (XOR) of any two valid codewords creates another valid codeword.

Let us see if the two codes we defined in Table 10.1 and Table 10.2 belong to the class of linear block codes.

- 1. The scheme in Table 10.1 is a linear block code because the result of XORing any codeword with any other codeword is a valid codeword. For example, the XORing of the second and third codewords creates the fourth one.
- 2. The scheme in Table 10.2 is also a linear block code. We can create all four codewords by XORing two other codewords.

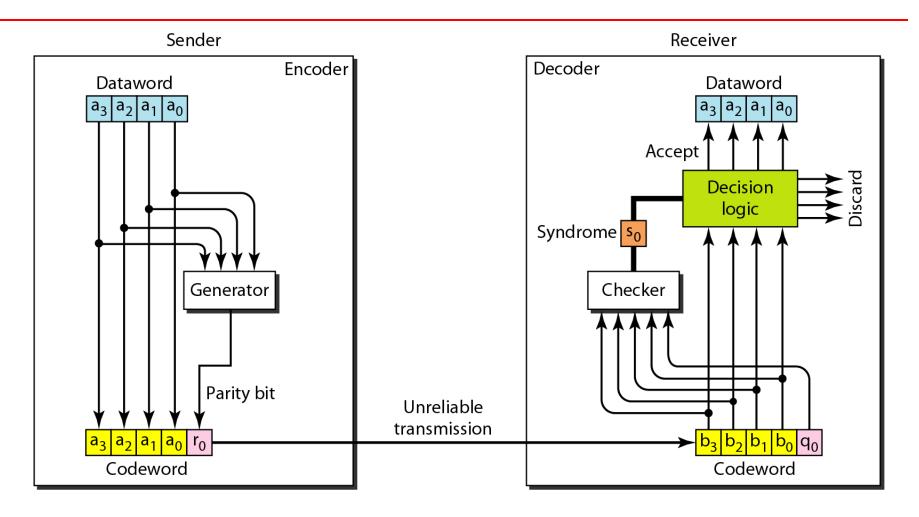
In our first code (Table 10.1), the numbers of 1s in the nonzero codewords are 2, 2, and 2. So the minimum Hamming distance is $d_{min} = 2$. In our second code (Table 10.2), the numbers of 1s in the nonzero codewords are 3, 3, and 4. So in this code we have $d_{min} = 3$.

A simple parity-check code is a single-bit error-detecting code in which n = k + 1 with $d_{min} = 2$.

Table 10.3 Simple parity-check code C(5, 4)

Datawords	Codewords	Datawords	Codewords
0000	00000	1000	10001
0001	00011	1001	10010
0010	00101	1010	10100
0011	00110	1011	10111
0100	01001	1100	11000
0101	01010	1101	11011
0110	01100	1110	11101
0111	01111	1111	11110

Figure 10.10 Encoder and decoder for simple parity-check code



Let us look at some transmission scenarios. Assume the sender sends the dataword 1011. The codeword created from this dataword is 10111, which is sent to the receiver. We examine five cases:

- 1. No error occurs; the received codeword is 10111. The syndrome is 0. The dataword 1011 is created.
- 2. One single-bit error changes a₁. The received codeword is 10011. The syndrome is 1. No dataword is created.
- 3. One single-bit error changes r_0 . The received codeword is 10110. The syndrome is 1. No dataword is created.

Example 10.12 (continued)

- **4.** An error changes r_0 and a second error changes a_3 . The received codeword is 00110. The syndrome is 0. The dataword 0011 is created at the receiver. Note that here the dataword is wrongly created due to the syndrome value.
- 5. Three bits—a₃, a₂, and a₁—are changed by errors.

 The received codeword is 01011. The syndrome is 1.

 The dataword is not created. This shows that the simple parity check, guaranteed to detect one single error, can also find any odd number of errors.



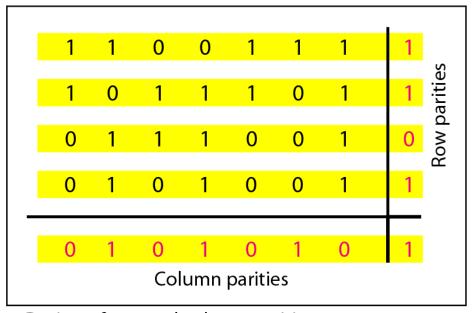
A simple parity-check code can detect an odd number of errors.



All Hamming codes discussed in this book have $d_{min} = 3$.

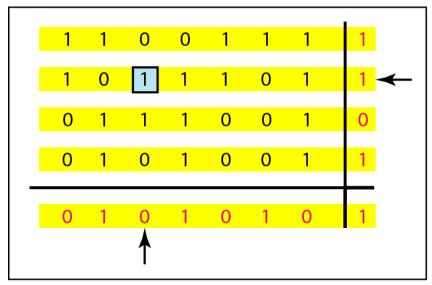
The relationship between m and n in these codes is n = 2m - 1.

Figure 10.11 Two-dimensional parity-check code

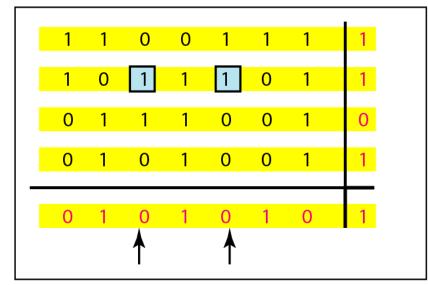


a. Design of row and column parities

Figure 10.11 Two-dimensional parity-check code

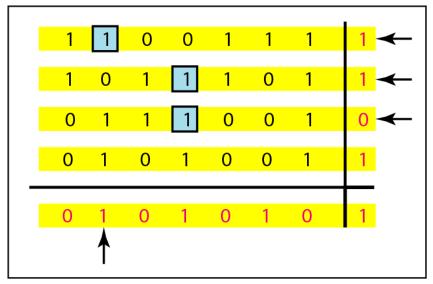


b. One error affects two parities

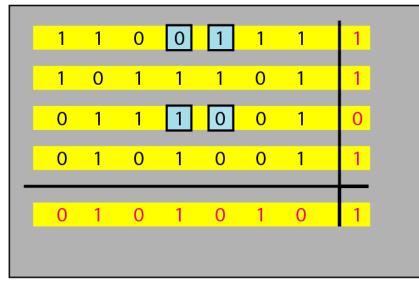


c. Two errors affect two parities

Figure 10.11 Two-dimensional parity-check code



d. Three errors affect four parities



e. Four errors cannot be detected

Table 10.4 Hamming code C(7, 4)

Datawords	Codewords	Datawords	Codewords
0000	0000000	1000	1000110
0001	0001101	1001	1001 <mark>011</mark>
0010	0010 <mark>111</mark>	1010	1010 <mark>001</mark>
0011	0011 <mark>010</mark>	1011	1011 <mark>100</mark>
0100	0100 <mark>011</mark>	1100	1100 <mark>101</mark>
0101	0101 <mark>110</mark>	1101	1101000
0110	0110 <mark>100</mark>	1110	1110 <mark>010</mark>
0111	0111001	1111	1111111

Figure 10.12 The structure of the encoder and decoder for a Hamming code

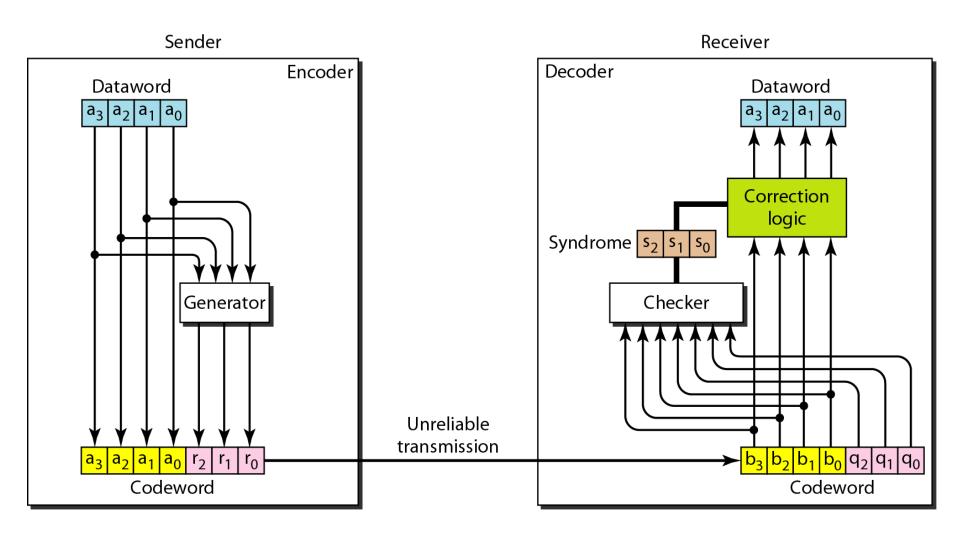


Table 10.5 Logical decision made by the correction logic analyzer

Syndrome	000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
Error	None	q_0	q_1	b_2	q_2	b_0	b_3	b_1

Let us trace the path of three datawords from the sender to the destination:

- 1. The dataword 0100 becomes the codeword 0100011. The codeword 0100011 is received. The syndrome is 000, the final dataword is 0100.
- 2. The dataword 0111 becomes the codeword 0111001. The syndrome is 011. After flipping b₂ (changing the 1 to 0), the final dataword is 0111.
- 3. The dataword 1101 becomes the codeword 1101000. The syndrome is 101. After flipping b_0 , we get 0000, the wrong dataword. This shows that our code cannot correct two errors.

We need a dataword of at least 7 bits. Calculate values of k and n that satisfy this requirement.

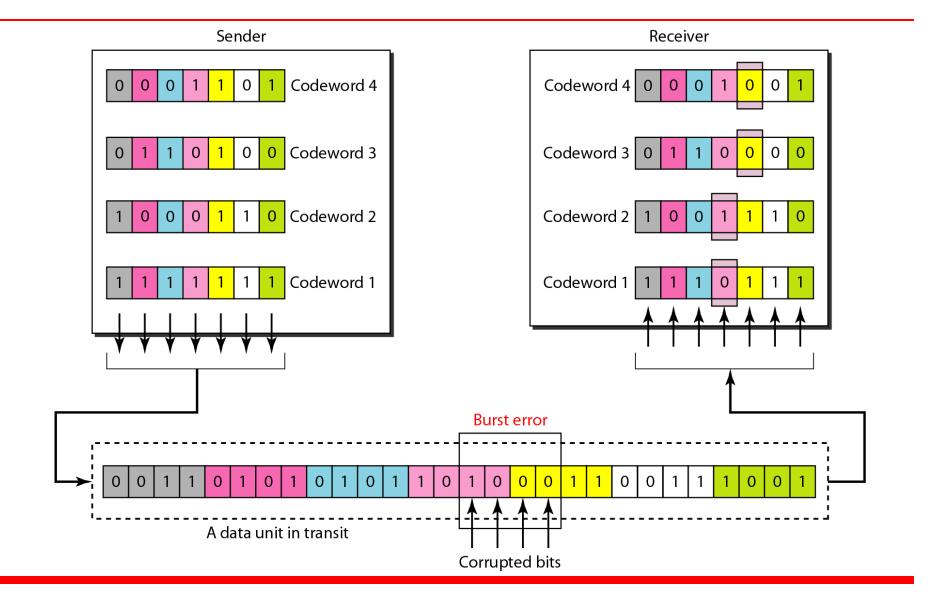
Solution

We need to make k = n - m greater than or equal to 7, or $2m - 1 - m \ge 7$.

- 1. If we set m = 3, the result is n = 23 1 and k = 7 3, or 4, which is not acceptable.
- 2. If we set m = 4, then n = 24 1 = 15 and k = 15 4 = 11, which satisfies the condition. So the code is

C(15, 11)

Figure 10.13 Burst error correction using Hamming code



10-4 CYCLIC CODES

Cyclic codes are special linear block codes with one extra property. In a cyclic code, if a codeword is cyclically shifted (rotated), the result is another codeword.

Topics discussed in this section:

Cyclic Redundancy Check
Hardware Implementation
Polynomials
Cyclic Code Analysis
Advantages of Cyclic Codes
Other Cyclic Codes

Table 10.6 *A CRC code with C(7, 4)*

Dataword	Codeword	Dataword	Codeword
0000	0000000	1000	1000101
0001	0001 <mark>011</mark>	1001	1001 <mark>110</mark>
0010	0010110	1010	1010 <mark>011</mark>
0011	0011 <mark>101</mark>	1011	1011 <mark>000</mark>
0100	0100 <mark>111</mark>	1100	1100 <mark>010</mark>
0101	0101 <mark>100</mark>	1101	1101 <mark>001</mark>
0110	0110 <mark>001</mark>	1110	1110100
0111	0111 <mark>010</mark>	1111	1111111

Figure 10.14 CRC encoder and decoder

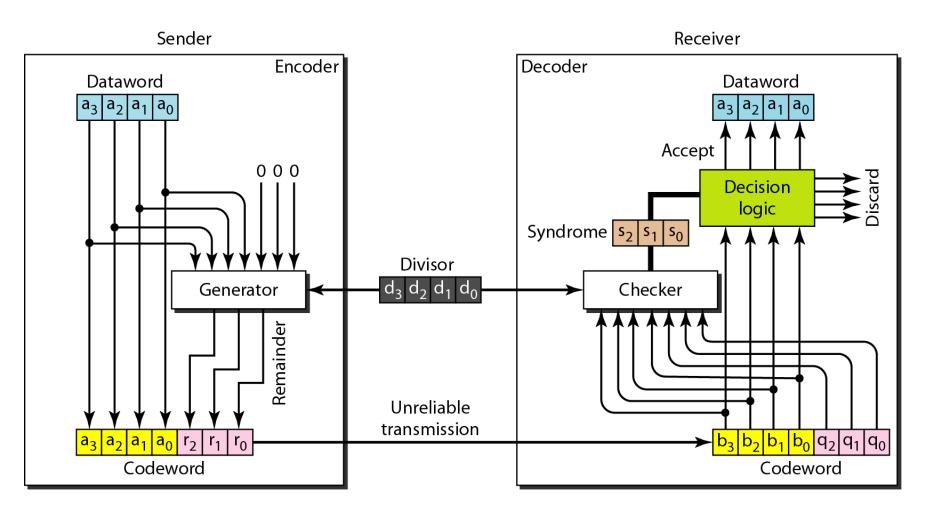


Figure 10.15 Division in CRC encoder

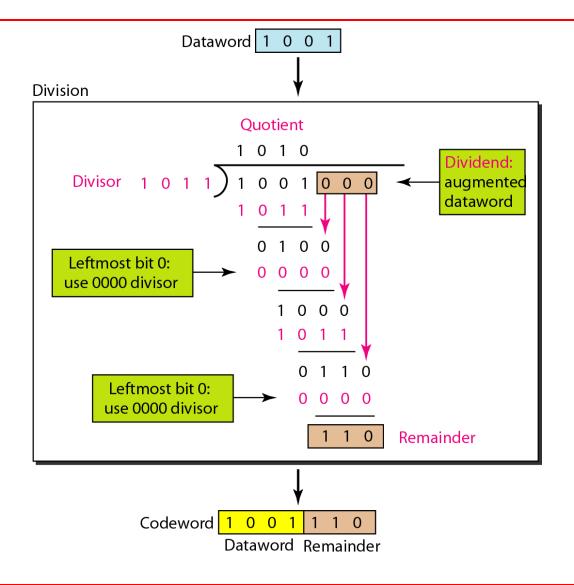


Figure 10.16 Division in the CRC decoder for two cases

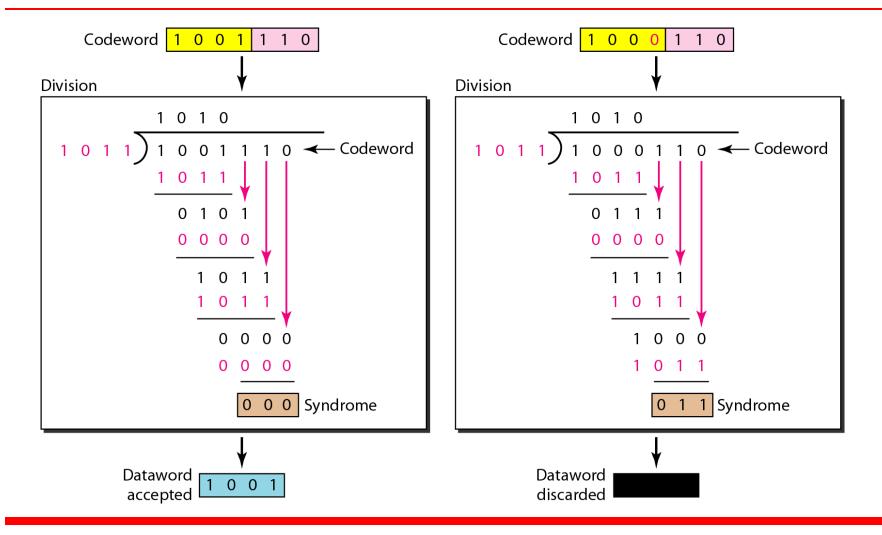


Figure 10.17 Hardwired design of the divisor in CRC

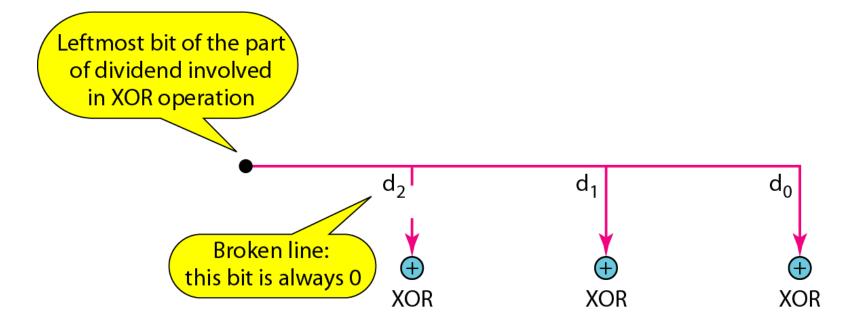


Figure 10.18 Simulation of division in CRC encoder

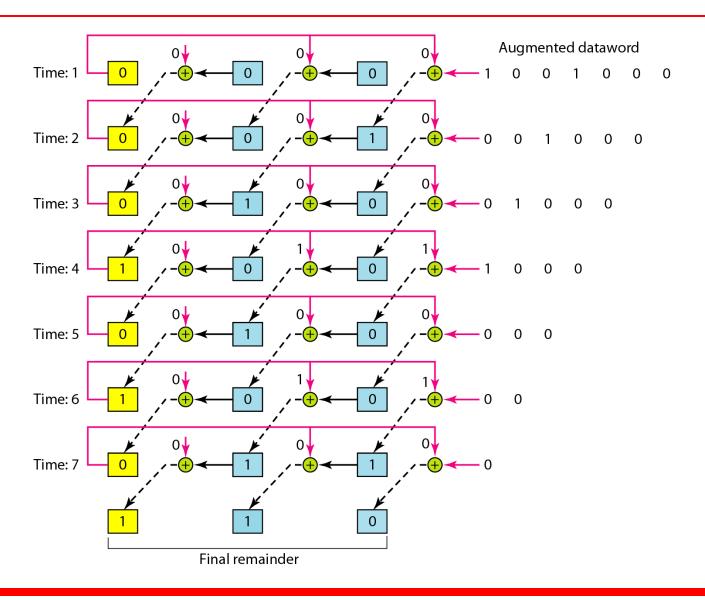


Figure 10.19 The CRC encoder design using shift registers

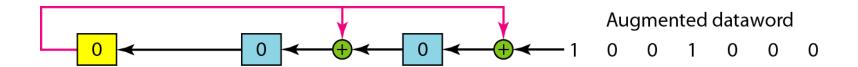
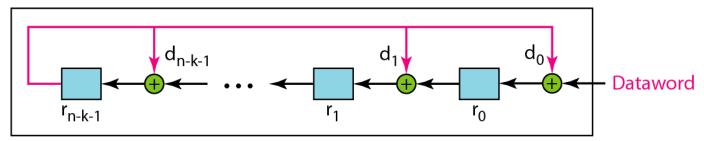


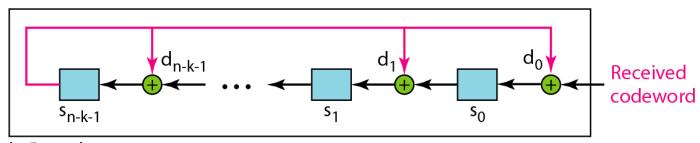
Figure 10.20 General design of encoder and decoder of a CRC code

Note:

The divisor line and XOR are missing if the corresponding bit in the divisor is 0.

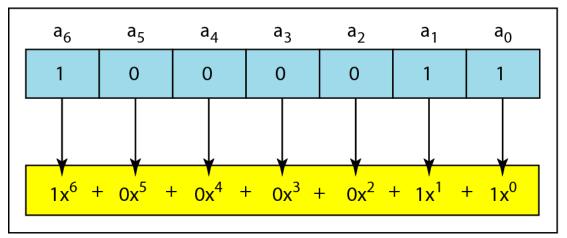


a. Encoder

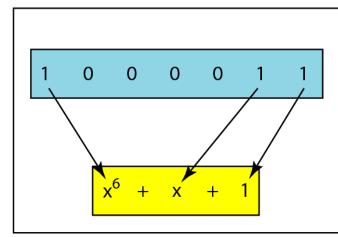


b. Decoder

Figure 10.21 A polynomial to represent a binary word

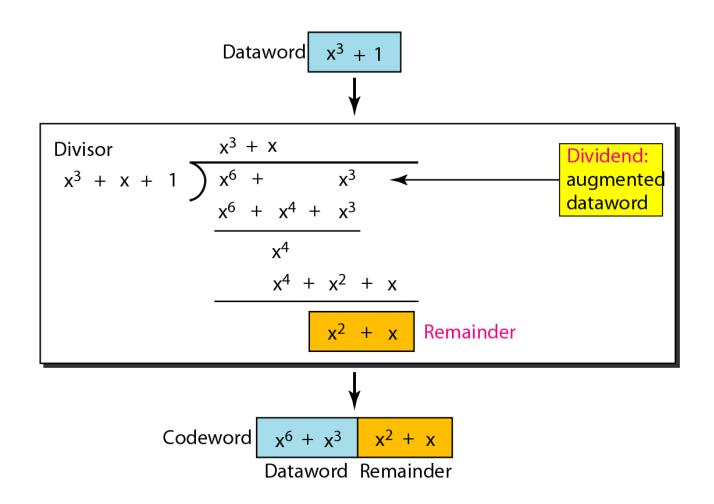


a. Binary pattern and polynomial



b. Short form

Figure 10.22 CRC division using polynomials



The divisor in a cyclic code is normally called the generator polynomial or simply the generator.



In a cyclic code, If $s(x) \neq 0$, one or more bits is corrupted. If s(x) = 0, either

- a. No bit is corrupted. or
- b. Some bits are corrupted, but the decoder failed to detect them.



In a cyclic code, those e(x) errors that are divisible by g(x) are not caught.

If the generator has more than one term and the coefficient of x⁰ is 1, all single errors can be caught.

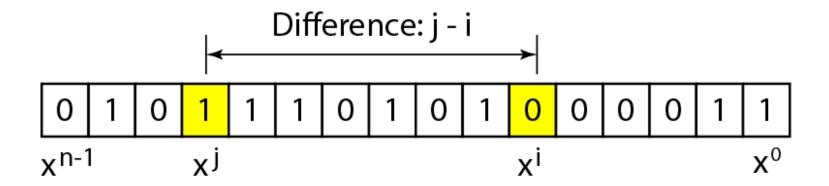
Which of the following g(x) values guarantees that a single-bit error is caught? For each case, what is the error that cannot be caught?

a. x + 1 b. x^3 c. 1

Solution

- **a.** No x^i can be divisible by x + 1. Any single-bit error can be caught.
- **b.** If i is equal to or greater than 3, x^i is divisible by g(x). All single-bit errors in positions 1 to 3 are caught.
- c. All values of i make x^i divisible by g(x). No single-bit error can be caught. This g(x) is useless.

Figure 10.23 Representation of two isolated single-bit errors using polynomials



If a generator cannot divide x^t + 1 (t between 0 and n – 1), then all isolated double errors can be detected.

Find the status of the following generators related to two isolated, single-bit errors.

a.
$$x + 1$$
 b. $x^4 + 1$ c. $x^7 + x^6 + 1$ d. $x^{15} + x^{14} + 1$

Solution

- a. This is a very poor choice for a generator. Any two errors next to each other cannot be detected.
- b. This generator cannot detect two errors that are four positions apart.
- c. This is a good choice for this purpose.
- d. This polynomial cannot divide x^t + 1 if t is less than 32,768. A codeword with two isolated errors up to 32,768 bits apart can be detected by this generator.

A generator that contains a factor of x + 1 can detect all odd-numbered errors.

- \square All burst errors with $L \le r$ will be detected.
- □ All burst errors with L = r + 1 will be detected with probability $1 (1/2)^{r-1}$.
- □ All burst errors with L > r + 1 will be detected with probability $1 (1/2)^r$.

Find the suitability of the following generators in relation to burst errors of different lengths.

a.
$$x^6 + 1$$

b.
$$x^{18} + x^7 + x + 1$$

a.
$$x^6 + 1$$
 b. $x^{18} + x^7 + x + 1$ c. $x^{32} + x^{23} + x^7 + 1$

Solution

a. This generator can detect all burst errors with a length less than or equal to 6 bits; 3 out of 100 burst errors with length 7 will slip by; 16 out of 1000 burst errors of length 8 or more will slip by.

Example 10.17 (continued)

- b. This generator can detect all burst errors with a length less than or equal to 18 bits; 8 out of 1 million burst errors with length 19 will slip by; 4 out of 1 million burst errors of length 20 or more will slip by.
- c. This generator can detect all burst errors with a length less than or equal to 32 bits; 5 out of 10 billion burst errors with length 33 will slip by; 3 out of 10 billion burst errors of length 34 or more will slip by.

A good polynomial generator needs to have the following characteristics:

- 1. It should have at least two terms.
- 2. The coefficient of the term x⁰ should be 1.
- 3. It should not divide $x^t + 1$, for t between 2 and n 1.
- 4. It should have the factor x + 1.

Table 10.7 Standard polynomials

Name	Polynomial	Application
CRC-8	$x^8 + x^2 + x + 1$	ATM header
CRC-10	$x^{10} + x^9 + x^5 + x^4 + x^2 + 1$	ATM AAL
CRC-16	$x^{16} + x^{12} + x^5 + 1$	HDLC
CRC-32	$x^{32} + x^{26} + x^{23} + x^{22} + x^{16} + x^{12} + x^{11} + x^{10} + x^{8} + x^{7} + x^{5} + x^{4} + x^{2} + x + 1$	LANs

10-5 CHECKSUM

The last error detection method we discuss here is called the checksum. The checksum is used in the Internet by several protocols although not at the data link layer. However, we briefly discuss it here to complete our discussion on error checking

Topics discussed in this section:

Idea
One's Complement
Internet Checksum

Suppose our data is a list of five 4-bit numbers that we want to send to a destination. In addition to sending these numbers, we send the sum of the numbers. For example, if the set of numbers is (7, 11, 12, 0, 6), we send (7, 11, 12, 0, 6, 36), where 36 is the sum of the original numbers. The receiver adds the five numbers and compares the result with the sum. If the two are the same, the receiver assumes no error, accepts the five numbers, and discards the sum. Otherwise, there is an error somewhere and the data are not accepted.

We can make the job of the receiver easier if we send the negative (complement) of the sum, called the checksum. In this case, we send (7, 11, 12, 0, 6, -36). The receiver can add all the numbers received (including the checksum). If the result is 0, it assumes no error; otherwise, there is an error.

How can we represent the number 21 in one's complement arithmetic using only four bits?

Solution

The number 21 in binary is 10101 (it needs five bits). We can wrap the leftmost bit and add it to the four rightmost bits. We have (0101 + 1) = 0110 or 6.

How can we represent the number -6 in one's complement arithmetic using only four bits?

Solution

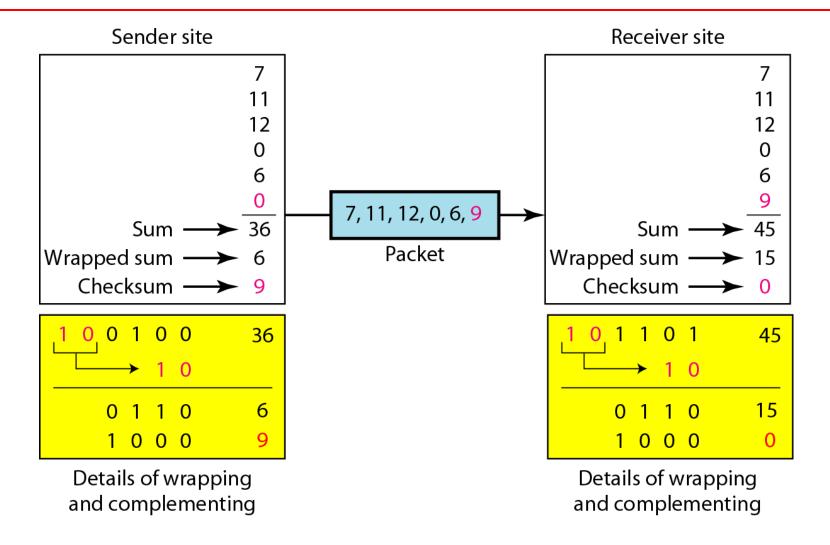
In one's complement arithmetic, the negative or complement of a number is found by inverting all bits. Positive 6 is 0110; negative 6 is 1001. If we consider only unsigned numbers, this is 9. In other words, the complement of 6 is 9. Another way to find the complement of a number in one's complement arithmetic is to subtract the number from $2^n - 1$ (16 – 1 in this case).

Let us redo Exercise 10.19 using one's complement arithmetic. Figure 10.24 shows the process at the sender and at the receiver. The sender initializes the checksum to 0 and adds all data items and the checksum (the checksum is considered as one data item and is shown in color). The result is 36. However, 36 cannot be expressed in 4 bits. The extra two bits are wrapped and added with the sum to create the wrapped sum value 6. In the figure, we have shown the details in binary. The sum is then complemented, resulting in the checksum value 9 (15 - 6 = 9). The sender now sends six data items to the receiver including the checksum 9.

Example 10.22 (continued)

The receiver follows the same procedure as the sender. It adds all data items (including the checksum); the result is 45. The sum is wrapped and becomes 15. The wrapped sum is complemented and becomes 0. Since the value of the checksum is 0, this means that the data is not corrupted. The receiver drops the checksum and keeps the other data items. If the checksum is not zero, the entire packet is dropped.

Figure 10.24 *Example 10.22*





Sender site:

- 1. The message is divided into 16-bit words.
- 2. The value of the checksum word is set to 0.
- 3. All words including the checksum are added using one's complement addition.
- 4. The sum is complemented and becomes the checksum.
- 5. The checksum is sent with the data.

Receiver site:

- 1. The message (including checksum) is divided into 16-bit words.
- 2. All words are added using one's complement addition.
- 3. The sum is complemented and becomes the new checksum.
- 4. If the value of checksum is 0, the message is accepted; otherwise, it is rejected.