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Lecture 7 (Standard array decoding, Syndrome decoding)

Standard Array

A standard array for a linear code is a listing of the code & all its cosets in the form of an array.

Decoding using the standard array (Minimum Distance decoding)

→ Find the coset to which the received vector belongs to

→ Find the coset leader & call it \underline{e}

→ $\hat{\underline{c}} = \underline{y} - \underline{e}$.

Unique Coset Leader

Any nonzero vector of Hamming weight $\leq \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min}-1}{2} \right\rfloor$ is always a unique coset leader in that coset

Proof by Contradiction:- If there are two nonzero vectors of Hamming wt $\leq \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min}-1}{2} \right\rfloor$ in the same coset.

$$w_H(\underline{e}_1) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min} - 1}{2} \right\rfloor \quad \underline{e}_1 \text{ and } \underline{e}_2 \text{ belong to the same coset}$$

$$w_H(\underline{e}_2) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min} - 1}{2} \right\rfloor$$

$$w_H(\underline{e}_1 - \underline{e}_2) \leq w_H(\underline{e}_1) + w_H(-\underline{e}_2) \quad (\text{Triangle Inequality})$$

$$= \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min} - 1}{2} \right\rfloor \cdot 2$$

$$< d_{\min}. \quad (\text{Contradicts the definition of } d_{\min}).$$

$$\underline{e}_1 - \underline{e}_2 \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Correctable Error Patterns

Coset Leaders are the only error patterns which can be corrected.

Probability of error if \underline{c} is transmitted-

$$P_e(\underline{c}) = \sum_{\underline{y}: \underline{y} - \underline{c} \text{ is not a Coset leader.}} P(\underline{y} | \underline{c}).$$

$$= \sum_{\underline{e}: \underline{e} \text{ is not a Coset leader.}} P(\underline{e} + \underline{c} | \underline{c}).$$

$$= \sum_{\underline{e}: \underline{e} \text{ is not a Coset leader}} P(\underline{e}) \quad \left(\text{Because } \underline{e} \text{ is independent of } \underline{c} \right).$$

Number of \underline{e} which are not coset leaders
(non zero \underline{e}).

$$q^n - q^{n-k}.$$

Storage Complexity $\sim q^n$.

If there is a better way of identifying a coset to which the received vector \underline{y} belongs, then storage complexity will be better.

Syndrome Decoding

Let H be a $(n-k) \times n$ matrix of \mathbb{C} .

Defn:- The syndrome of received vector \underline{y} is defined as $\underline{s} = H\underline{y}$.

$$\begin{matrix} \underline{s} & = & H_{(n-k) \times n} & \underline{y}_{n \times 1} \\ (n-k) \times 1 & & & \end{matrix}$$

No. of possible distinct syndromes are q^{n-k} .

Syndrome vector \Leftrightarrow Coset
 \rightarrow uniquely maps \nearrow

Two vectors \underline{y}_1 and $\underline{y}_2 \in \mathbb{F}^n$ are in the same coset of \mathbb{C} iff they have the same syndrome.

$$H\underline{y}_2 - H\underline{y}_1 = H(\underline{y}_2 - \underline{y}_1) \rightarrow$$

$$= H\underline{s} = \underline{0}.$$

\underline{y}_2 & \underline{y}_1
are in the
same coset
iff $\underline{y}_2 - \underline{y}_1 \in \mathbb{C}.$

↑
Property of
parity check matrix.

Syndrome Decoding steps

- ① Compute $\underline{s} = H\underline{y}$.
- ② Find out coset leader \underline{e} corresponding to the syndrome vector \underline{s} (Look Up Table).
↓
Size of the look up table is $2q^{n-k}$.
- ③ decode $\hat{\underline{c}} = \underline{y} - \underline{e}$.

Lemma 1 A linear code with minimum distance d is t -error correcting.

for any $t \leq \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min} - 1}{2} \right\rfloor$ (It can correct upto t errors).

Hamming Bound for Linear Codes

Theorem-

Consider an (n, k) ^{linear} code over \mathbb{F}_q .

It is t -error correcting. Then,

$$\left(t \leq \left\lfloor \frac{d_{\min} - 1}{2} \right\rfloor \right) \left[\sum_{i=0}^t \binom{n}{i} (q-1)^i \leq q^{n-k} \right]$$

Proof - Standard Array Table

We said that correctable error patterns are exactly the coset leaders.

LHS is a number corresponding to subset of correctable error patterns.

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{1} (q-1) + \binom{n}{2} (q-1)^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{t} (q-1)^t \\ \leq \underline{\underline{q^{n-k}}} \end{aligned}$$

Perfect Code

A t -error correcting code is said to be a perfect code if it satisfies Hamming bound with equality.

→ To understand when there can be inequality in Hamming bound. - When the code can correct some error patterns of weight $t+1$.

→ For perfect code, the code can correct all error patterns up to weight t and it cannot correct any error pattern of weight $t+1$.

Examples of Perfect Codes

① $(n, 1, n)$ binary repetition code - (n odd)

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \binom{n}{i} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} = 2^{n-1} = 2^{n-k}.$$

② $(7, 4, 3)$ Hamming code.

$$\binom{7}{0} + \binom{7}{1} = 8 = 2^{7-4}.$$

Binary Hamming Codes (Family of codes).

Binary Hamming code parameterized by $m \geq 1$, is specified by a parity check matrix whose columns are all nonzero m tuples.

Question - What is the size of this parity check matrix?

$$(m \times (2^m - 1))$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} \underline{h}_1 & \underline{h}_2 & \dots & \underline{h}_{2^m-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{h}_i \neq \underline{h}_j; i \neq j$$

What is the minimum distance of this code?

Minimum distance = 3.

Any two columns are distinct

\exists a set of 3 columns of H which are linearly independent.

Hamming Code $(2^m - 1, 2^m - 1 - m, 3)$.

Hamming codes are perfect codes

$$\left[2^m - 1, 2^m - 1 - m, 3 \right].$$

$$\binom{2^m - 1}{0} + \binom{2^m - 1}{1} = 2^m$$

$$\underline{1 + 2^m - 1 = 2^m}$$

Hamming codes,
Golay codes

$(23, 12, 7)$ and $(11, 6, 5)$
are perfect

→ No other codes are perfect