

## Concept of field

**Group** Let  $G$  be a set of elements with following properties:

- Closure: For binary operation  $\star$ ,  $c = a \star b$  with  $c$  uniquely defined and  $a, b, c \in G$ .
- Associative:  $a \star (b \star c) = (a \star b) \star c$
- Identity element: For  $a, e \in G$ ,  $a \star e = e \star a = a$
- Inverse:  $a \star a' = a' \star a = e$
- Commutative group: When  $a \star b = b \star a$

Proof for uniqueness of  $e$ :  $e' = e' * e = e$

Proof for uniqueness of  $a'$ :

$$a' = a' * e = a' * (a * a'') = (a' * a) * a'' = a''$$

$\mathbb{G} = \{0, 1\}$  with modulo-2 addition  $\oplus$

Other examples: modulo- $m$  addition, modulo- $p$  multiplication with prime  $p$   $1, 2, \dots, p - 1$

**FIELD:** A set of elements  $F, +, \cdot$  is called field if:

- $F$  is commutative group under addition where identity element is Zero.
- Non-Zero elements of  $F$  is commutative group under multiplication where identity element is 1.

- Distributive  $\cdot$  over  $+$

$$a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$$

**Finite fields are known as Galois field.** For prime  $p$ ,  $GF(p^m)$  is extended field. Characteristic of finite field  $\lambda$  is obtained from  $\sum_{i=1}^{\lambda} 1 = 0$

Example: Binary field  $0,1$  with  $\lambda = 2$

**Cyclic group:** Smallest  $n$  such that  $a^n = 1$   
If powers of an element constitute the whole group.

Example: The element is called primitive. 3 is primitive element of  $GF(7)$

## Binary field arithmetic

Polynomial  $f(x) = f_0 + f_1x + f_2x^2 + \dots + f_nx^n$   
with  $f_i = 0$  or  $1$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n$

Largest power of  $x$  with non-zero coefficient gives the degree.

Add or Subtract polynomials over  $GF(2)$  satisfy commutative, associative, distributive properties.

Division  $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  gives quotient  $q(x)$  and remainder  $r(x)$  Degree of  $r(x) < g(x)$

If  $r(x) = 0$ ,  $g(x)$  is a factor of  $f(x)$

If  $a$  is a root,  $(x + a)$  divides  $f(x)$ .

If  $f(x)$  has even no of terms,  $f(x)$  is divisible by  $(x + 1)$

$p(x)$  is irreducible, if it is not divisible by any polynomial of lesser degree.  $x^2 + x + 1$ ,  $x^3 + x + 1$ ,  $x^4 + x + 1$  are irreducible.

## Binary field arithmetic

Any irreducible polynomial of degree  $m$  divides  $x^{2^m-1} + 1$ .

Ex.  $x^3 + x + 1$  divides  $x^7 + 1$ .

$p(x)$  is primitive if smallest  $n$  for  $p(x)$  that divides  $x^n + 1$  is  $n = 2^m - 1$ .

Ex.  $x^4 + x + 1$  is primitive.  $x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  is irreducible but divides  $x^5 + 1$ .

Squaring of  $f(x)$  gives

$$f^2(x) = (f_0 + f_1x + \dots + f_nx^n)^2$$

$$= f_0^2 + f_0(f_1x + \dots) + f_0(f_1x + \dots) + (f_1x + \dots)^2$$

$$= f_0^2 + (f_1x + \dots)^2$$

$$= f_0^2 + (f_1 x)^2 + \dots + (f_n x^n)^2$$

$$= f_0 + f_1 x^2 + f_2 (x^2)^2 + \dots$$

Therefore, we have  $f^2(x) = f(x^2)$  and in general,,  $[f(x)]^{2^l} = f(x^{2^l})$

**Roots and conjugates:** If  $\beta$ , an element from extension field of  $GF(2)$ , is a root of  $f(x)$ , then  $\beta^{2^l}$  is also a root.

Since  $[f(x)]^{2^l} = f(x^{2^l})$  putting  $x = \beta$   $[f(\beta)]^{2^l} = f(\beta^{2^l})$  and  $\beta$  is a root implies  $f(\beta) = 0$  and  $f(\beta^{2^l}) = 0$  so that  $\beta^{2^l}$  is also a root, called conjugates of  $\beta$ .

Ex.  $f(x) = 1+x^3+x^4+x^5+x^6$  Then  $\alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^4, \alpha^8 \in GF(2^4)$  are all roots of  $f(x)$

Now,  $\beta^{2^m-1} = 1$  gives roots of  $x^{2^m-1} + 1$  The  $2^m - 1$  non-zero elements of  $GF(2^m)$  form all roots of  $x^{2^m-1} + 1$ .

**Minimal polynomial:**  $\phi(x)$  of smallest degree over  $GF(2)$  such that  $\phi(\beta) = 0$

It is irreducible: If  $\phi(x) = \phi_1(x)\phi_2(x)$ , say, then if  $\phi(\beta) = 0$   $\phi_1(\beta) = 0$  or  $\phi_2(\beta) = 0$  implying there exists polynomial for smaller degree that meets the condition. i.e  $\phi(x)$  is not minimal.

Divisibility: Consider  $f(x)$  over  $GF(2)$ ,  $\phi(x)$  is minimal for some  $\beta$  and  $\beta$  is root of  $f(x)$  then  $\phi(x)$  divides  $f(x)$ .

Let  $f(x) = q(x)\phi(x) + r(x)$ . For the root  $x = \beta$ ,  $f(\beta) = \phi(\beta) = 0$  so that  $r(x) = 0$  which proves the divisibility. When  $f(x)$  is irreducible,  $f(x)$  and  $\phi(x)$  are same. Then,  $\phi(x)$  divides  $x^{2^m} + x$  from conjugates concept.

Consider  $f(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{e-1} (x + \beta^{2^i})$  where  $\beta \in GF(2^m)$  such that  $\beta^{2^e} = \beta$  with  $e$  as smallest non negative integer.  $f(x)$  so constructed is irreducible

polynomial over  $GF(2)$ . This can be shown considering that its coefficients can be only 0 or 1 and there are no factors.

$[f(x)]^2$  would have terms  $(x + \beta^{2^i})^2$  i.e.

$$[f(x)]^2 = \prod_{i=0}^{e-1} (x^2 + \beta^{2^{i+1}})$$

$$[f(x)]^2 = \prod_{i=1}^e (x^2 + \beta^{2^i})$$

$$[f(x)]^2 = \prod_{i=1}^{e-1} (x^2 + \beta^{2^i})(x^2 + \beta^{2^e})$$

Since  $\beta^{2^e} = \beta$  ;

$$[f(x)]^2 = \prod_{i=0}^{e-1} (x^2 + \beta^{2^i})$$

Therefore,  $[f(x)]^2 = f(x^2)$

Let  $f(x) = f_0 + f_1x + f_2x^2 + \dots + f_ex^e$

Then  $[f(x)]^2 = \sum f_i^2 x^{2i}$

and from  $f(x^2) = \sum f_i x^{2i}$

we conclude  $f_i^2 = f_i$

This can only happen when  $f_i = 0/1$

So,  $f(x)$  has coefficients from  $GF(2)$  only.

Suppose it is not irreducible so that  $f(x) = a(x)b(x)$

Since  $f(\beta) = 0$  either  $a(\beta) = 0$  or  $b(\beta) = 0$

Then conjugates of  $\beta$  are also roots and  $a(x)$  or  $b(x)$  would be of degree  $e$  and would match with  $f(x)$ .

Therefore,  $f(x)$  must be irreducible.

## Constructing $GF(2^m)$ and its arithmetic

In a finite field  $GF(q)$ , a nonzero element  $a$  is said to be Primitive if the order of  $a$  is  $q - 1$ .

Therefore the power of the primitive element generate all the nonzero element of  $GF(q)$ .

To construct elements of  $GF(2^m)$  start from primitive polynomial of degree  $m$ ; with  $\alpha$  as root of  $p(x)$ . Powers of  $\alpha$  generate all non-zero elements of  $GF(2^m)$ . Order of  $\alpha$  is  $2^m - 1$

Ex. Consider  $\beta = \alpha^7$  in  $GF(2^4)$  Powers of  $\beta^{0\dots 15}$  generate all non-zero elements,  $\alpha^{15} = 1$   
Conjugates of  $\beta$  are  $(\alpha^7)^2 = \alpha^{14}$ ,  $\beta^{2^2} = \alpha^{13}$ ,  $\beta^{2^3} = \alpha^{11}$ .  $\alpha^7$  is primitive of  $GF(2^7)$

If  $\beta$  is an element of order  $n$  in  $GF(2^m)$  [i.e.  $\beta^n = 1$ ], all conjugates of  $\beta$  are of order  $n$ .

Ex. Consider  $\alpha^5$  in  $GF(2^4)$ . Its conjugate is  $\alpha^{10}$ . Order of them is  $n = 3$ . Their minimal polynomial is  $x^2+x+1$  whose degree is a factor of  $m = 4$ .

$Conj(\alpha^3) = \alpha^6; \alpha^9; \alpha^{12}$  all have order  $n = 5$

To construct elements of  $GF(2^4)$  start from primitive polynomial of degree 4;  $p(x) = x^4 + x + 1$ .

Set  $p(\alpha) = 0$  so that  $\alpha^4 = 1 + \alpha$  is the identity used to represent polynomials

Power representation  $0, 1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{14}$ . It is good for  $\cdot$  operation.

Tuple representation  $f_0 + f_1\alpha + f_2\alpha^2 + f_3\alpha^3$ . It is good for  $+$  operation.

$\langle f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3 \rangle$  representation is used for coding.

Power	Po ly nom ial	4-tuple
0	0	0000
1	1	1000
$\alpha$	$\alpha$	0100
$\alpha^2$	$\alpha^2$	0010
$\alpha^3$	$\alpha^3$	0001
$\alpha^4$	$1 + \alpha$	1100
$\alpha^5$	$\alpha + \alpha^2$	0110
$\alpha^6$	$\alpha^2 + \alpha^3$	0011
$\alpha^7$	$1 + \alpha + \alpha^3$	1101
$\alpha^8$	$1 + \alpha^2$	1010
$\alpha^9$	$\alpha + \alpha^3$	0101
$\alpha^{10}$	$1 + \alpha + \alpha^2$	1110
$\alpha^{11}$	$\alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3$	0111
$\alpha^{12}$	$1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3$	1111
$\alpha^{13}$	$1 + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3$	1011
$\alpha^{14}$	$1 + \alpha^3$	1001

Conjugate roots	Minimal Polynomial
0	$x$
1	$x + 1$
$\alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^4, \alpha^8$	$x^4 + x + 1$
$\alpha^3, \alpha^6, \alpha^9, \alpha^{12}$	$x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$
$\alpha^5, \alpha^{10}$	$x^2 + x + 1$
$\alpha^7, \alpha^{11}, \alpha^{13}, \alpha^{14}$	$x^4 + x^3 + 1$

## **Computations involving $GF(2^m)$ arithmetic**

For  $m = 4$ ; solve the system  $X + \alpha^7Y = \alpha^2$  and  $\alpha^{12}X + \alpha^8Y = \alpha^4$

Applying Cramer's rule,  $X = \frac{\alpha^{10} + \alpha^{11}}{\alpha^8 + \alpha^{19}}$  and  $Y = \frac{\alpha^{14} + \alpha^4}{\alpha^8 + \alpha^{19}}$

Simplifying,  $X = \alpha^9$  and  $Y = \alpha^4$ .

**Polynomial with coefficients in  $GF(2^m)$ :** Consider  $f(X) = X^2 + \alpha^7X + \alpha = 0$ . Substituting,  $f(\alpha^6) = 0$  and  $f(\alpha^{10}) = 0$  are roots.

Then, we can write  $f(X) = (X + \alpha^6)(X + \alpha^{10})$ .

## Vector Space

$V$  is a set of elements on which  $+$  is defined,  
 $F$  is a field.  $\cdot$  is defined between elements of  
 $F$  and  $V$ .

$V$  is a vector space over field  $F$  if

- $V$  is a commutative group under  $+$
- Closure: For any  $a \in F$  and  $v \in V$ ,  $a \cdot v \in V$
- Distributive:  $a \cdot (u + v) = a \cdot u + a \cdot v$  and  $(a + b) \cdot v = a \cdot v + b \cdot v$
- Associative:  $(a \cdot b) \cdot v = a \cdot (b \cdot v)$
- Identity element:  $1 \cdot v = v$  and  $v + 0 = v$

Elements of  $V$  are called vectors and elements of  $F$  are called scalars. The  $+$  is vector addition and the  $\cdot$  is scalar multiplication.

**Properties of Additive inverse:**  $(-c) \cdot v = c \cdot (-v) = -(c \cdot v)$

Ex. Ordered sequence of  $n$  components

$(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$  with  $a_i = 0/1$

$V_n$  denotes all  $2^n$  distinct n-tuples.

Define  $u + v = (< u_i + v_i >)$  This is an n-tuple over  $GF(2)$ ; implies closure.

Then,  $v + v = (0, 0, \dots, 0) = 0$  gives the additive identity element.

Therefore,  $V_n$  is commutative group under  $+$

Next,  $a \cdot v_i$  with scalar gives closure.  $a = 1$  gives identity element. Other laws are also satisfied.

Thus,  $V_n$  of all n-tuples form vector space over  $GF(2)$ .

When a subset  $S$  of  $V$  is vector space over  $F$ ,  $S$  is called **subspace** of  $V$ .

For  $u, v \in S$ ;  $u + v \in S$  and for  $a \in F$ ,  $u \in S$ ;  $a \cdot u \in S$  (closure under  $\cdot$ )

Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  be  $k$  vectors in  $V$  and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$  be  $k$  scalars from  $F$ .

Then  $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_kv_k$  is a linear combination of  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$

Now, sum of two such linear combinations is also a linear combination. Product of a scalar

and a linear combination is again one of the linear combinations.

Hence, the set of all linear combinations of  $k$  such vectors would form a subspace of  $V$ .

A set of vectors **spans**  $V$  if every vector in  $V$  is a linear combination of the vectors in that set.

At least one such set  $B$  exists and is called the **basis** of  $V$ .

Cardinality of  $B$  gives the **dimension** of the vector space  $V$ .

Ex. Consider n-tuple  $\langle e_i \rangle$  with one non-zero element in the  $i^{th}$  position.  $\langle e_i \rangle$  spans  $V_n$  since all its  $2^n$  n-tuples can be generated as all possible linear combinations of  $\langle e_i \rangle$ . These are linearly independent, forms the basis of  $V_n$  and its dimension is  $n$ .

**Dual of subspace** Let  $u = c_1v_1 + \dots + c_kv_k$  form a  $k$ -dimensional subspace  $S$  of  $V_n$  with  $2^k$  vectors.

Define **inner product** as  $u.v = u_0v_0 + u_1v_1 + \dots + u_{n-1}v_{n-1}$ . Now,  $u.v = 0$  implies  $u$  and  $v$  are orthogonal.

For the inner product,  $u.v = v.u$ ;  $u.(v+w) = (u.v) + (u.w)$ ;  $(au).v = a(u.v)$

$S$  is subspace of  $V_n$  and  $S_d$  a subset of  $V_n$  such that for  $u \in S$  and  $v \in S_d$ ;  $u.v = 0$

$S_d$  is non-empty since  $(0, 0, \dots, 0) \in S_d$ . For  $v, w \in S_d$ ;  $u.(v+w) = 0+0=0$  implies  $v+w \in S_d$ . Then  $a.v = 0/v \in S_d$

These closure properties are enough to show that  $S_d$  is a subspace of  $V_n$  and  $S_d$  and  $S$  are called duals to each other.

Now  $\dim(S) = k$ ;  $\dim(S_d) = n - k$  so that  
 $\dim(S) + \dim(S_d) = n$

Ex. 3 –  $d$  subspace of  $V_5$ :

(00000), (11100), (01010), ((10001),

(10110), (01101), (11011), (00111)

$S_d$  has vectors (00000), (101010),

(01110), (11011).

Spanned by (10101), (01110)

so that  $\dim(S_d) = 2$

## Matrices

The  $k \times n$  matrix  $G$  over  $GF(2)$  is rectangular array with  $k$  rows and  $n$  columns.  $g_{ij}$  is element from  $GF(2)$  with  $0 \leq i < k$  and  $0 \leq j < n$ .

If  $k$  rows of  $G$  are linearly independent, then  $2^k$  linear combinations of the rows form a  $k - \dim$  subspace of  $V_n$  - called the row space of  $G$ .

Elementary row operations include interchange, addition and we get another matrix  $G'$  over  $GF(2)$ : both give same row space.

For any  $k \times n$  matrix  $G$  with  $k$  linearly independent rows, there exists an  $(n - k) \times n$  matrix  $H$  over  $GF(2)$  with  $n - k$  linearly independent rows such that for any row  $g_i \cdot h_j = 0$  Row space of  $G$  is null space of  $H$ .

Ex.

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

$$\text{and } G' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

by adding third row to first and interchanging second and third.

Row space of both:

$(000000), (100101), (010011), (001110),$

$(110110), (101011), (011101), (111000)$

which is a 3-d subspace of  $V_6$ .

Row space of this  $G$  is Null space of

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

Matrices can be added:  $[a_{ij}] + [b_{ij}] = [a_{ij} + b_{ij}]$

Multiplication requires  $c_{ij} = a_i.b_j = \sum_{t=0}^{n-1} a_{it}.b_{tj}$   
 Dimensionwise:  $(k \times n).(n \times l) = (k \times l)$

Transpose of  $G = G^T$  is  $n \times k$  matrix.

Identity matrix  $I_k$  is of dimension  $k \times k$ .

Submatrix can be a matrix where rows/columns of  $G$  is omitted.

Generalize to entries from  $\text{GF}(q)$  where  $q$  is some power of a prime.

## Linear block code

Definition: An  $(n, k)$  code with length  $n$  and  $2^k$  code words is linear iff its  $2^k$  code words form a  $k$ -dimensional subspace of the vector space of all  $n$ -tuples over the field  $GF(2)$ .

This implies that a binary block code is linear iff modulo-2 sum of two code words is also a code word (closure property).

This linear block code  $\mathcal{C}$  being  $k$ -d subspace of  $V_n$ , we can find  $k$  linearly independent code words  $g_0, g_1, \dots, g_{k-1}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that every code word  $v \in \mathcal{C}$  is a linear combination of these  $k$  code words.

$v = u_0g_0 + u_1g_1 + \dots + u_{k-1}g_{k-1}$  where  $u_i = 0/1$  for  $0 \leq i < k$ .

These linearly independent code words can be the rows of a  $k \times n$  matrix  $G$  so that  $v = u.G$ . Rows of  $G$  generate / span the linear code  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Systematic structure of code:  $n - k$  redundant part followed by  $k$  bit message part.

**Generator matrix:**  $G$  then takes the form  $[P(k \times n - k) I(k \times k)]$  with  $P$  the parity-checking part and  $I$  the identity matrix.

So,  $v_{n-k+i} = u_i$  for  $0 \leq i < k$  and  $v_j = u_0 p_{0,j} + \dots + u_{k-1} p_{k-1,j}$  for  $0 \leq j < n - k$ .

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} p_{00} & p_{01} & \dots & p_{0,n-k-1} & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ p_{10} & p_{11} & \dots & p_{1,n-k-1} & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & & & \\ p_{k-1,0} & p_{k-1,1} & \dots & p_{k-1,n-k-1} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Parity check matrix**  $H = [I_{n-k} P^T]$  its row space is orthogonal to  $G$ .

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & p_{00} & p_{10} & \dots & p_{k-1,0} \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & p_{01} & p_{11} & \dots & p_{k-1,1} \\ \vdots & & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & p_{0,n-k-1} & p_{1,n-k-1} & \dots & p_{k-1,n-k-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$(n-k) \times n$  matrix with  $(n-k)$  linearly independent rows.  
 $v.H^T = 0$  The  $2^{n-k}$  linear combinations of  $H$  form  $(n, n-k)$  linear code  $\mathcal{C}_d$  which is the dual of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$\mathcal{C}_d$  is the null space of  $\mathcal{C}$  i.e. for any  $v \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $w \in \mathcal{C}_d$ ,  $v.w = 0$ .

Parity check of  $\mathcal{C}$  = Generator of  $\mathcal{C}_d$ .  $g_i.h_j = p_{ij} + p_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j$  so that inner product  $G.H^T = 0$ .

$v.H^T = 0$  leads to same parity check equations  $v_j + u_0 p_{0j} + \dots + u_{k-1} p_{k-1,j} = 0$ .

Ex: Consider (7,4) linear code.

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

Then, we can write:

$$v_6 = u_3$$

$$v_5 = u_2$$

$$v_4 = u_1$$

$$v_3 = u_0$$

$$v_2 = u_1 + u_2 + u_3$$

$$v_1 = u_0 + u_1 + u_2$$

$$v_0 = u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3$$

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

## Syndrome and error detection

Received sequence  $r = v + e$  where  $v$  is the transmitted sequence and  $e$  is the error vector.

or,  $e = r + v$  with  $e_i = 1$  for  $r_i \neq v_i$  and  $e_i = 0$  for  $r_i = v_i$ .

Now,  $s = r \cdot H^T = (s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{n-k-1})$  is the syndrome of  $r$ .

Then  $s = 0$  iff  $r$  is codeword and else  $s \neq 0$ .

$$s_{n-k-1} = r_{n-k-1} + r_{n-k} p_{0,n-k-1} + \dots + r_{n-1} p_{k-1,n-k-1}$$

For the  $(7, 4)$  linear block code,

$$s_0 = r_0 + r_3 + r_5 + r_6$$

$$s_1 = r_1 + r_3 + r_4 + r_5$$

$$s_2 = r_2 + r_4 + r_5 + r_6$$

and now consider  $s = e \cdot H^T$

Find the error pattern from simultaneous equations involving  $e$ , not  $r$ .

Consider one with single error bit = 1, others zero. Then generate  $v^* = r + e^*$  selected error pattern, and correct error. Else ask for retransmission.

We have  $n - k$  linear equations involving  $e$  so that the n-tuple  $e$  has  $2^k$  solutions i.e.  $2^k$  error patterns are involved.

Ex.  $s = (111)$  16 error patterns generate  $s$ . Choose  $e = (0000010)$  Let  $v = (1001011)$  and  $r = (1001001)$  so that  $s = (111)$  and  $v^* = r + e^* = (1001011)$

## Minimum distance

Distance  $d(v, w)$  is no of places where  $w$  and  $v$  differ. The triangle inequality is  $d(v, w) + d(w, x) \geq d(v, x)$

Hamming weight  $\mathcal{W}(v)$  of  $v$  is no of 1's so that  $d(v, w) = \mathcal{W}(v + w)$

Minimum distance  $d_{min} = \min[d(v, w) : v, w \in \mathcal{C}, v \neq w]$

Since  $v + w \in \mathcal{C}$  we write

$$d_{min} = \min[\mathcal{W}(x) : x = v + w \in \mathcal{C}, x \neq 0]$$

This gives the concept of minimum weight

$$\mathcal{W}_{min} \doteq d_{min}$$

The  $(7, 4)$  linear block code has minimum weight or minimum distance = 3. This relates to its parity check matrix.

For each codeword of Hamming weight  $l$ ,  $\exists l$  columns of  $H$  such that their vector sum is zero and converse.

$H = [h_0, h_1, \dots, h_{n-1}]$  with  $i$ -th column being  $h_i$ . Let  $v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}$  be the non-zero columns of  $V$ .

Then,  $V.H^T = 0$  implies  $v_{i_1}h_{i_1} + v_{i_2}h_{i_2} + \dots + v_{i_l}h_{i_l} = 0$  i.e.  $h_{i_1} + h_{i_2} + \dots + h_{i_l} = 0$

Conversely, suppose  $h_{i_1} + h_{i_2} + \dots + h_{i_l} = 0$ . Then,  $x.H^T = x_{i_1}h_{i_1} + x_{i_2}h_{i_2} + \dots + x_{i_l}h_{i_l} = 0$

Then,  $x.H^T = 0$  where  $x$  has  $l$  non-zero components. This implies  $x \in \mathcal{C}$

In other words, For each code of Hamming weight  $l$ , there exist  $l$  columns of  $H$  such that, the vector sum of these columns is equal to the zero.

Conversely , if there exist  $l$  column of  $H$  whose vector sum is the zero vector, there exist a code vector of Hamming weight of  $l$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**The minimum distance of a linear block code is equal to the minimum weight of its nonzero code words.**

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $(n, k)$  linear code with parity check matrix  $H$ . If no  $(d - 1)$  or fewer columns add to zero,  $\mathcal{W}_{min} = d$

and minimum weight or distance of  $\mathcal{C}$  is equal to the smallest no of columns of  $H$  adding to zero.

In the  $(7, 4)$  linear block code, the 0, 2, 6 -th columns add to zero. Hence,  $d_{min} = 3$

Given  $d_{min}$ , no error pattern of  $d_{min} - 1$  or fewer errors can change one code vector into another. The received vector is not a code-word, hence the error is detectable. So, error detecting capability is  $d_{min} - 1$ .

There are  $2^n - 1$  error patterns, out of which  $2^k - 1$  correspond to the valid code words. Hence, there are  $2^n - 2^k$  detectable error patterns.

Let there be  $A_i$  codewords of weight  $i$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , this is called weight distribution of the code. Then, probability of undetected error is

$$P_{uE} = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i p^i (1-p)^{n-i} \text{ where } p \text{ is the transition probability in a BSC.}$$

$A_1 = A_2 = \dots = A_{d_{min}-1} = 0$  For the  $(7, 4)$  code,  $A_0 = A_7 = 1$  and  $A_3 = A_4 = 7$  so that  $P_{uE} = 7p^3(1-p)^4 + 7p^4(1-p)^3 + p^7$

When  $p = 10^{-2}$ , the error prob is about  $7 \times 10^{-6}$ .

Let  $t$  be a positive integer such that  $2t+1 \leq d_{min} \leq 2t+2$  to cover both odd and even. Let  $v, r$  be the transmitted and received pair and  $w$  be another valid codeword. Then,  $d(v, r) + d(w, r) \geq d(v, w)$  from triangle inequality over HD. Suppose  $t'$  errors occur in  $v$ , so that  $d(v, r) = t'$

$d(v, w) \geq d_{min} \geq 2t+1$  being valid codewords. Hence,  $d(w, r) \geq 2t+1 - t'$ .

When  $t' \leq t$ ;  $d(w, r) > t$ . So,  $r$  is closer to  $v$  in HD than top any other code vector  $w$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

For BSC,  $P(r|v) > P(r|w)$  for  $w \neq v$ . Based on maximum likelihood decoding,  $r$  decodes into  $v$  and therefore errors are corrected.

For  $l > t$  errors, consider  $d(v, w) = d_{min}$  and consider two error patterns  $e_1, e_2$  such that  $e_1 + e_2 = v + w$  and  $e_1, e_2$  have no common 1's.

Now, suppose  $r = v + e_1$ . Then,  $d(v, r) = \mathcal{W}(v + r) = \mathcal{W}(e_1)$ . Now,  $v, w$  are codewords.

Then,  $d(w, r) = \mathcal{W}(w + r) = \mathcal{W}(w + v + e_1) = \mathcal{W}(e_2)$ .

Now, let  $\mathcal{W}(e_1) > t$ . Then, it follows that  $\mathcal{W}(e_2) \leq t + 1$

Then,  $d(v, r) \geq d(w, r)$  and incorrect decoding occurs using maximum likelihood.

Hence,  $t = \frac{\lfloor(d_{min}-1)\rfloor}{2}$  is the  $t$ -error correcting code. This is random error correcting capability.

## Hamming codes

$$n = 2^m - 1; k = 2^m - m - 1; n - k = m; t = 1; d_{min} = 3$$

$H = [I_m | Q]$  i.e all non-zero  $m$ -tuples are taken as columns.  $Q$  has columns with HW = 2 or above.

Order of columns does not affect weight distribution or distance property.

$$G = [Q^T | I_{2^m-m-1}]$$

No two columns of  $H$  add to zero. Presence of all tuples ensure that  $h_i + h_j = h_l$  are found as columns. Hence,  $h_i + h_j + h_l = 0$  which implies  $d_{min} = 3$ .

These are single error correcting perfect codes.

Delete any  $l$  columns of  $H$  to get  $H'$  dimension  $(m \times 2^m - m - l - 1)$

Deleting even weight columns gives  $H' = [I_m|Q'$  which is  $m \times 2^{m-1}$  matrix.

For odd weights, no 3 columns will add to zero. Hence,  $d_{min} = 4$ . From  $I_m$  3 columns can be found such that  $h_i + (h_j + h_l + h_s) = 0$ . This is called the shortened Hamming code.