

Coding Theory: Reed-Muller Codes

Good Codes

■ Codes seen so far

$(n, k, d_H)_q$	k/n	name	perfect
$(n, 1, n)_q$	$\frac{1}{n}$	repetition	
$(n, n-1, 2)_q$	$\frac{n-1}{n}$	parity check	
$(\frac{q^r-1}{q-1}, n-r, 3)_q$	$\frac{n-r}{n}$	Hamming	yes
$(24, 12, 8)_2$	$\frac{1}{2}$	\mathcal{G}_{24}	no
$(23, 12, 7)_2$	$\frac{12}{23}$	\mathcal{G}_{23}	yes
$(12, 6, 6)_3$	$\frac{1}{2}$	\mathcal{G}_{12}	no
$(11, 6, 5)_3$	$\frac{6}{11}$	\mathcal{G}_{11}	yes

Reed-Muller Codes

They are named after their inventors, David E. Muller (he discovered the codes in 1954), and Irving S. Reed (he proposed the first efficient decoding algorithm).

We will discuss binary Reed-Muller codes.

$(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$

For a linear $(n, k_1, d_1)_q$ code \mathcal{C}_1 and a linear $(n, k_2, d_2)_q$ code \mathcal{C}_2 , the $(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$ construction produces the code $\mathcal{C} = \{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}), \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{C}_1, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{C}_2\}$.

A generator matrix is

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} G_1 & G_1 \\ \mathbf{0} & G_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

for G_1, G_2 generator matrices of $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$.

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A generator matrix is

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} G_1 & G_1 \\ \mathbf{0} & G_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

for G_1, G_2 generator matrices of $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$. Indeed, we have

$$(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) \begin{bmatrix} G_1 & G_1 \\ \mathbf{0} & G_2 \end{bmatrix} = (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}).$$

$(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$

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- (1) \mathcal{C} is a linear code.
- (2) \mathcal{C} has length $2n$.
- (3) \mathcal{C} has dimension $k_1 + k_2$
- (4) A parity check matrix is

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since

$$\begin{bmatrix} H_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ -H_2 & H_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} G_1^T & \mathbf{0} \\ G_1^T & G_2^T \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$

$(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$

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

Is it obtained by construction $(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$?

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

Is it obtained by construction $(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$? Yes, take

$$G_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad G_2 = [1, 1].$$

Reed-Muller codes $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$.

$\mathcal{R}(0, m)$ = repetition code of length 2^m (over \mathbb{F}_2).

For $1 \leq r < m$,
 $\mathcal{R}(r, m) = \{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}), \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{R}(r, m-1), \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r-1, m-1)\}$ is the r th order Reed-Muller code of length 2^m .

The m th order Reed-Muller code $\mathcal{R}(m, m)$ of length 2^m is $\mathbb{F}_2^{2^m}$.

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Given m , Reed-Muller codes $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ exist for $0 \leq r \leq m$, only the recursive construction restricts $0 < r < m$.

Reed-Muller codes
 $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$.

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The m th order
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 $\mathcal{R}(m, m)$ is $\mathbb{F}_2^{2^m}$.

Generator matrices:

$$G(0, m) = [1, \dots, 1],$$

$$G(m, m) = \mathbf{I}_{2^m}.$$

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Generator matrix $G(r, m)$:

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For $m = 3$, codes of length
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$$G(1, 3) = \begin{bmatrix} G(1, 2) & G(1, 2) \\ \mathbf{0} & G(0, 2) \end{bmatrix}$$

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so we need $m = 2$:

$$G(1, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} G(1, 1) & G(1, 1) \\ \mathbf{0} & G(0, 1) \end{bmatrix} =$$
$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

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Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dimension

What is the dimension of $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$?

For $r = m$, that is $\mathcal{R}(m, m)$, the whole space, we have 2^m .

For $r = 0$, that is $\mathcal{R}(0, m)$, a repetition code, we have 1.

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We will prove that the dimension is actually

$$\binom{m}{0} + \binom{m}{1} + \dots + \binom{m}{r}.$$

Reed-Muller Codes

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The case $m = 1$.

For $m = 1$ and $r = 0$:

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$\mathcal{R}(0, 1)$ is the repetition code of length 2, of dimension 1.

For $m = 1$ and $r = 1$:

$$\binom{m}{0} + \binom{m}{1} + \dots + \binom{m}{r} = \binom{1}{0} + \binom{1}{1} = 2.$$

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$\mathcal{R}(1, 1)$ is the whole space \mathbb{F}_2^2 , it has dimension 2.

Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dimension

What is the dimension of $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$?

By induction on m . We know true for $m = 1$ and $r \leq 1$, suppose true for $m - 1$, that is

$$\binom{m-1}{0} + \binom{m-1}{1} + \dots + \binom{m-1}{r}, \quad r \leq m-1.$$

Recall:

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m) = \{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}), \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{R}(r, m-1), \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r-1, m-1)\}.$$

Thus $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ has dimension the sum of the dimensions of $\mathcal{R}(r, m-1)$ and $\mathcal{R}(r-1, m-1)$.

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We then have

$$\binom{m-1}{0} + \dots + \binom{m-1}{r} + \binom{m-1}{0} + \dots + \binom{m-1}{r-1}.$$

Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dimension

What is the dimension of $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$?

We then have

$$\underbrace{\binom{m-1}{0}}_{\binom{m}{0}} + \dots + \underbrace{\binom{m-1}{r}}_{\binom{m}{r}} + \dots + \underbrace{\binom{m-1}{r-1}}_{\binom{m}{r-1}}.$$

Use $\binom{m-1}{i-1} + \binom{m-1}{i} = \binom{m}{i}$ to conclude.

Minimum Hamming distance

$$d_H(\mathcal{R}(r, m)) = 2^{m-r}.$$

By induction on m .

For $m = 1$: $d_H(\mathcal{R}(r, 1)) = 2^{1-r}$, for $r = 0$, $d_H(\mathcal{R}(0, 1)) = 2$, the minimum distance of the repetition code of length 2, for $r = 1$, $d_H(\mathcal{R}(1, 1)) = 1$, the minimum distance \mathbb{F}_2^2 .

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For $m = 1$: $d_H(\mathcal{R}(r, 1)) = 2^{1-r}$, for $r = 0$, $d_H(\mathcal{R}(0, 1)) = 2$, the minimum distance of the repetition code of length 2, for $r = 1$, $d_H(\mathcal{R}(1, 1)) = 1$, the minimum distance \mathbb{F}_2^2 . Assume $\mathcal{R}(r, m - 1)$ has minimum distance 2^{m-1-r} for all $0 \leq r \leq m - 1$. Then $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ has minimum distance $\min\{2 \cdot 2^{m-1-r}, 2^{m-1-(r-1)}\} = 2^{m-r}$.

Dual code

$$\mathcal{R}(m, m)^\perp = \{\mathbf{0}\},$$

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m)$$

for $0 \leq r < m$.

We have $\mathcal{R}(m, m)^\perp = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ since $\mathcal{R}(m, m) = \mathbb{F}_2^{2^m}$.

Set $\mathcal{R}(-1, m) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$, then we can write

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m)$$

for $0 \leq r \leq m$.

Dual code

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m)$$

for $0 \leq r \leq m$.

By induction on m . For $m = 1$ and $r = 0$, $\mathcal{R}(0, 1)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(0, 1)$, that is, the binary repetition code of length 2 is self-dual, which is true.

For $m = 1$ and $r = 1$, $\mathcal{R}(1, 1)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(-1, 1)$, that is, the dual of the whole space is the empty space, which is true.

Dual code

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m)$$

for $0 \leq r < m$.

Assume the statement true for $m-1$, namely $\mathcal{R}(r, m-1)^\perp = \mathcal{R}(m-r-2, m-1)$ for $0 \leq r \leq m-1$.

We first prove

$$\mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp.$$

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We first prove

$$\mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp.$$

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m) = \{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}), \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{R}(r, m-1), \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{R}(r-1, m-1)\}.$$

Take $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \in \mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m)$,

$$\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{R}(m-r-1, m-1),$$

$$\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{R}(m-r-2, m-1).$$

Take $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) \in \mathcal{R}(r, m)$,

$$\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{R}(r, m-1),$$

$$\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r-1, m-1).$$

Left to show:

$$(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = 0.$$

Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dual

We compute $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Reed-Muller Codes

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$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{R}(m - r - 1, m - 1) = \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1)^\perp,$$

$$\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1).$$

Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dual

We compute $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{R}(m - r - 1, m - 1) = \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1)^\perp, \\ \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1).$$

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{R}(m - r - 2, m - 1) = \mathcal{R}(r, m - 1)^\perp, \\ \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{R}(r, m - 1).$$

Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dual

We compute $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})$:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{R}(m - r - 1, m - 1) = \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1)^\perp, \\ \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1).$$

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{R}(m - r - 2, m - 1) = \mathcal{R}(r, m - 1)^\perp, \\ \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{R}(r, m - 1).$$

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{R}(m - r - 2, m - 1) = \mathcal{R}(r, m - 1)^\perp, \\ \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{R}(r - 1, m - 1) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(r, m - 1).$$

Reed-Muller Codes

■ Dual

We saw $\mathcal{R}(m - r - 1, m) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp$.

$$\begin{aligned}\dim(\mathcal{R}(r, m)^\perp) &= 2^m - \left(1 + \binom{m}{1} + \dots + \binom{m}{r}\right) \\&= \binom{m}{r+1} + \binom{m}{r+2} + \dots + \binom{m}{m} \\&= \binom{m}{m-r-1} + \binom{m}{m-r-2} + \dots + 1 \\&= \dim(\mathcal{R}(m - r - 1, m))\end{aligned}$$



Definition of Reed-Mueller Codes

Length, dimension, generator matrix

Hamming distance and dual