

# BCH Codes

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**Abstract**—This manual provides an introduction to BCH codes.

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## 1 GENERATOR POLYNOMIAL

1.1 For a BCH code, the minimal polynomials are given by

$$g_1(x) = 1 + x + x^3 + x^5 + x^{14} \quad (1.1)$$

$$g_2(x) = 1 + x^6 + x^8 + x^{11} + x^{14} \quad (1.2)$$

$$g_3(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^6 + x^9 + x^{10} + x^{14} \quad (1.3)$$

$$g_4(x) = 1 + x^4 + x^7 + x^8 + x^{10} + x^{12} + x^{14} \quad (1.4)$$

$$g_5(x) = 1 + x^2 + x^4 + x^6 + x^8 + x^9 + x^{11} + x^{13} + x^{14} \quad (1.5)$$

$$g_6(x) = 1 + x^3 + x^7 + x^8 + x^9 + x^{13} + x^{14} \quad (1.6)$$

$$g_7(x) = 1 + x^2 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^{10} + x^{11} + x^{13} + x^{14} \quad (1.7)$$

$$g_8(x) = 1 + x^5 + x^8 + x^9 + x^{10} + x^{11} + x^{14} \quad (1.8)$$

$$g_9(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^9 + x^{10} + x^{14} \quad (1.9)$$

$$g_{10}(x) = 1 + x^3 + x^6 + x^9 + x^{11} + x^{12} + x^{14} \quad (1.10)$$

$$g_{11}(x) = 1 + x^4 + x^{11} + x^{12} + x^{14} \quad (1.11)$$

$$g_{12}(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8 + x^{10} + x^{13} + x^{14} \quad (1.12)$$

Obtain the minimal polynomial matrix.

**Solution:**

[https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/EE6317/master/BCH/codes/min\\_poly\\_mat.py](https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/EE6317/master/BCH/codes/min_poly_mat.py)

1.2 Obtain the generator polynomial vector.

**Solution:** The generator polynomial is obtained as

$$g(x) = \prod_{i=1}^m g_i(x) \quad (1.13)$$

where  $m = 12$ . The following code computes  $\mathbf{g}$ . What is the length of  $\mathbf{g}$ ?

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/EE6317/master/BCH/codes/gen_poly.py
```

- 1.3 What is the maximum number of errors that can be corrected by  $\mathbf{g}$ ?

**Solution:**  $m = 12$ .

## 2 ENCODING

- 2.1 Let  $\mathbf{m}$  be a  $k \times 1$  message vector and

$$m(x) = m_{k-1}x^{k-1} + m_{k-2}x^{k-2} + \cdots + m_1x + m_0 \quad (2.1)$$

be the corresponding Message polynomial.

- 2.2 Let

$$m(x)x^{n-k} = q(x)g(x) + d(x) \quad (2.2)$$

and

$$c(x) = m(x)x^{n-k} + d(x) \quad (2.3)$$

- 2.3 If  $k = 3072$  find the length of  $\mathbf{c}$ .  
2.4 Write a program to compute the corresponding coefficient vector  $\mathbf{c}$ . This is the output of the BCH encoder.

**Solution:**

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/EE6317/master/BCH/codes/encoder.py
```

## 3 BERLEKAMP'S DECODING ALGORITHM

- 3.1 Find the number of minimal polynomials for  $g(x)$ . **Solution:** This is given by  $2m = 24$ .  
3.2 Find  $t$  such that

$$n - k \leq mt \quad (3.1)$$

**Solution:** Since  $m = 12, n = 3240, k = 3072$ ,

$$t \geq \frac{n - k}{m} = 14 \quad (3.2)$$

- 3.3 Generate the elements table for  $t = 14$ .

**Solution:**

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/EE6317/master/BCH/codes/alpha_tables.py
```

- 3.4 Find the size of the elements table  $\mathbf{A}$  for  $t = 14$ .

**Solution:** The size is given by

$$2^t - 1 \times t = 16383 \times 14 \quad (3.3)$$

- 3.5 Let  $\alpha_i, 2 \leq i \leq 2m + 1$  be the  $i$ th row of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\alpha_i(x)$  be the corresponding polynomial. Let  $\mathbf{r}$  be the received codeword (noisy).  $r(x)$  is then defined to be the received polynomial. Find the corresponding syndromes.

**Solution:**

$$S_i(x) = r(\alpha_i(x)) \quad (3.4)$$

- 3.6 Write a program to computer  $\mathbf{S}$  given  $\mathbf{r}$ .

- 3.7 Find the number of errors in  $\mathbf{r}$ .

**Solution:** The number of nonzero  $S_i(x)$  is equal to the number of errors in  $\mathbf{r}$ .

- 3.8 Write a program to compute the number of errors in  $\mathbf{r}$ .

- 3.9 Define the syndrome polynomial  $S(x)$

- 3.10 Initialization :  $k = 0, \Lambda^{(0)}(x) = 1, T^{(0)} = 1$

- 3.11 Let  $\Delta^{(2k)}$  be the coefficient of  $x^{2k+1}$  in  $\Lambda^{(2k)}[1 + S(x)]$

- 3.12 Compute

$$\Delta^{(2k+2)}(x) = \Lambda^{(2k)}(x) + \Delta^{(2k)}[x.T^{(2k)}(x)] \quad (3.5)$$

- 3.13 Compute

$$T^{(2k+2)}(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 T^{(2k)}(x) & \text{if } \Delta^{(2k)} = 0 \text{ or } \deg[\Lambda^{(2k)}(x)] > k \\ \frac{x\Lambda^{(2k)}(x)}{\Delta^{(2k)}} & \text{if } \Delta^{(2k)} \neq 0 \text{ or } \deg[\Lambda^{(2k)}(x)] \leq k \end{cases} \quad (3.6)$$

- 3.14 Set  $k = k + 1$ . If  $k < t$  then go to step 3.

- 3.15 Return the Error Locator polynomial  $\Lambda(x) = \Lambda^{(2k)}(x)$

## 4 THE CHIEN'S SEARCH ALGORITHM

- 4.1 Take  $\alpha^j$  as test root .  $0 \leq j \leq n - 1$ .

- 4.2 if  $\Lambda_i$  test every root and if its equals to zero. Then that is root.

- 4.3 Flip the bit values at root positions.

- 4.4 Let the Received polynomial be  $r(x)$  i.e which contains both transmitted codeword polynomial  $c(x)$  and the error polynomial  $e(x)$

$$e(x) = e_0 + e_1x^1 + \dots + e_{n-1}x^{n-1} \quad (4.1)$$

Where  $e_i$  represents the value of the error at the location. For binary BCH codes  $e_i$  is either 0 or 1.

$$r(x) = c(x) + e(x) = r_{n-1}x^{n-1} + r_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \dots + r_1x + r_0 \quad (4.2)$$

Definie, Syndrome

$$S_i = r(\alpha^i) = c(\alpha^i) + e(\alpha^i) = e(\alpha^i) \quad (4.3)$$

Where  $\alpha^i$  is a root of the codeword.

Suppose that  $v$  errors occurred, and  $0 \leq v \leq t$ .

Let the error occurs at  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_v$ .

The Decoding Process, for a  $t$ -error correcting code will follow the basic steps,

- 4.5 Compute the Syndrome  $S = (S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{2t})$  from the received polynomial  $r(x)$
- 4.6 Determine the error-location polynomial  $\sigma(x)$  from the syndrome components  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{2t}$  using the Berlekamp's Algorithm.
- 4.7 Using the Chain searching algorithm, determine the error-locations by finding the roots of  $\sigma(x)$ , then flip the positions in  $r(x)$ . Which is the estimated message vector polynomial  $\hat{c}(x)$

- 4.8 where  $\mathbf{w}$  is  $p \times 1$  and  $\mathbf{X}$  is  $N \times p$ . Show that

$$E(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) = \mathbf{w} \quad (4.4)$$

- 4.9 If the covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{y}$  is

$$\mathbf{C}_y = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I} \quad (4.5)$$

show that

$$\mathbf{C}_w = \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \quad (4.6)$$

- 4.10 Let

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X} \hat{\mathbf{w}} \quad (4.7)$$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{N-p} \|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|^2 \quad (4.8)$$

$$\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) \quad (4.9)$$

Show that

$$(N-p) \hat{\sigma}^2 \sim \sigma^2 \chi_{N-p}^2 \quad (4.10)$$

- 4.11 Let

$$\hat{z} = \frac{w_j}{\hat{\sigma} \sqrt{v_j}} \quad (4.11)$$

where  $v_j$  is the diagonal element of  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$ .

If  $w_j = 0$ , show that  $z_j$  has a  $t_{N-p}$  distribution.

- 4.12 Plot  $\Pr(|Z| > z)$  for  $t_{30}, t_{100}$  and the standard normal distribution.

## 5 APPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Explain how (??) can be used to obtain the Nearest Neighbour approximation.
- 5.2 Repeat the exercise for the least squares method.