

# Reed-Muller Error-Correcting Codes

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
# Reed-Muller codes

The Reed-Muller codes are the second oldest codes after Hamming and the Golay codes.

In this talk: Code properties: Distance, dimension, orthogonal code  
Decoding Algorithms Applications of Reed-Muller codes

Most famously used in the Mariner-9 spacecraft in 1972 to transmit clear images of the Martian surface.

They were chosen over the other codes because of the fast decoding algorithm (the Green machine).

-  mariner9.jpg

# Construction

$$\mathbf{x} \equiv (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \in \mathbb{F}^m$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \quad f : \mathbb{F}_2^m \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

Truth-Table

$x_1$	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
$x_2$	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
$x_3$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
$f$	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0

$\mathbf{f}$  is a  $n = 2^m$  length vector over  $F_2$

Disjunctive Normal Form :  $f = x_3 + x_1x_2$  (  $+$  is xor )

A collection of  $2^{2^m}$  vectors, each of length  $2^m$ .

# Boolean Monomials

$$M = \{1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, x_1x_2, \dots, x_{m-1}x_m, x_1x_2x_3, \dots, x_1x_2 \dots x_m\}$$

$$f = 1 + a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_mx_m + a_{12}x_1x_2 + \dots + a_{12\dots r}x_1x_2 \dots x_r + \dots$$

Since  $\mathbf{f}$  is a linear combination, it follows that the length of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  is  $2^m$ .

# Reed-Muller Codes

## Reed-Muller codes

The **Reed-Muller codes** of order  $r$  and length  $n = 2^m$ ,  $0 \leq r \leq m$  is the set of all vectors  $\mathbf{f}$ , where  $f(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  is a Boolean function which is a polynomial of degree at most  $r$ .

## First-order codes

$$1 + a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_mx_m$$

# Linearity

## Lemma

$\mathcal{R}(r, m)$  is a linear code.

## Basis

The monomials of degree  $\leq r$  form a basis for  $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ .

Generator matrix

$$G(r, m) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \\ x_1 x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_1 x_2 \dots x_r \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

## Dimension

The dimension ( $k$ ) of  $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$  is equal to the number of monomials of degree  $\leq r$   $k = 1 + \binom{m}{1} + \binom{m}{2} + \dots + \binom{m}{r}$

$\mathcal{R}(0, m)$  is the repetition code ( $2^m$  repetition).

$\mathcal{R}(m, m)$  consists of all possible binary sequences of length  $2^m$ .

Length	$n = 2^m$
Minimum Distance	$d = 2^{m-r}$
Dimension	$k = 1 + \binom{m}{1} + \binom{m}{2} + \dots + \binom{m}{r}$



$\mathcal{R}(1,3) =$ 

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$x_1$	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
$x_2$	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
$x_3$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
$x_1 + x_2$	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
$x_1 + x_3$	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
$x_2 + x_3$	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
$x_1 + x_2 + x_3$	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
$1 + x_1$	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
$1 + x_2$	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
$1 + x_3$	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
$1 + x_1 + x_2$	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
$1 + x_1 + x_3$	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
$1 + x_2 + x_3$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
$1 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3$	1	0	0	1	0	1	1

$$G(2,3) =$$

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$x_1$	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
$x_2$	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
$x_3$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
$x_1 \cdot x_2$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
$x_1 \cdot x_3$	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
$x_2 \cdot x_3$	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

# Recursive Definition

## Theorem

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

$$G(r+1, m+1) = \begin{pmatrix} G(r+1, m) & G(r+1, m) \\ 0 & G(r, m) \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$G(1, m+1) = \begin{pmatrix} G(1, m) & G(1, m) \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

where

$$G(0, m) = \overbrace{(\mathbf{1111})}^{2^m}$$

This way, the columns of  $G(1, m)$  are binary representations of numbers from 1 to  $2^m$  in descending order.

## Nested Structure

$$\mathcal{R}(r, m) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(t, m) \quad \text{if } 0 \leq r \leq t \leq m$$

## Theorem

*Let  $C_i$  be an  $[n, k_i, d_i]$  code. Then the concatenated code defined by*

$$C = \{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) | \mathbf{u} \in C_1, \mathbf{v} \in C_2\}$$

*has the parameters  $[2n, k_1 + k_2, \min\{2d_1, d_2\}]$  .*

# Properties

## Distance

Minimum distance,  $d = 2^{m-r}$

## First-Order

Every codeword in  $\mathcal{R}(1, m)$  (except  $\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{0}$ ) has weight  $2^{m-1}$

## Dimension

$$\dim(\mathcal{R}(r, m)) = \dim(\mathcal{R}(r, m-1)) + \dim(\mathcal{R}(r-1, m-1))$$

# Dual and Orthogonal of RM codes

## Dual

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

The dual code  $\mathcal{R}(1, m)^\perp$  is the extended binary Hamming code  $H(m)$

The *Orthogonal code*  $\mathcal{O}_m$  is a  $[2^m, m, 2^{m-1}]$  code consisting of the vectors  $\sum_{i=1}^m u_i \mathbf{v}_i$

## Orthogonal Code

$$\mathcal{R}(1, m) = \mathcal{O}_m \cup (\mathbf{1} + \mathcal{O}_m)$$

## Theorem

*Any linear code with parameters  $[2^m, m+1, 2^{m-1}]$  is equivalent to the first order Reed-Muller code.*

Proof in [?].



# Plotkin Bound

## Theorem (Plotkin Bound)

If  $C = [n, k, d]$  code,

$$d \leq \frac{n2^{k-1}}{2^k - 1}$$

Proof.

*Counting in two ways:*





# Step Decoding

## Theorem

*One-step majority logic decoding can correct upto  $\frac{n-1}{2(d'-1)}$  errors.  
( $d'$  is the minimum distance of the dual code.)*

## Proof.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} & \geq d'-1 & \\ 1 & \underbrace{111} & 00000 \\ 1 & 000 & \underbrace{11111} \\ & & \geq d'-1 \end{array}$$



## L-Step Decoding

$$E_L \leq \frac{n}{d'} - \frac{1}{2}$$

L-step decoding can correct only 2 errors in Golay codes.

# Geometry

# Reed Decoding Algorithm

## Algorithm

- 1 For each row, find the  $2^{m-r}$  **characteristic vectors**, and take the dot product with  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- 2 The majority of the values of the dot products is the coefficient of the row (0/1) .
- 3 Coefficient vector is the original message.

## Example

Let  $\mathbf{m} = 0110$  in  $\mathcal{R}(1, 3)$ .  $\mathbf{c} = 00111100$ .  $\mathbf{x} = 10111100$ .

# Hadamard Transform

$F(\mathbf{v})$  of a binary vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is a vector with 0 replaced by 1 and 1 by  $-1$ . The Orthogonal code  $\mathcal{O}_m$  with real vectors is equivalent to the Hadamard matrix  $H_m$ .

Proof.

$$v_i, v_j \in \mathcal{R}(1, m) \implies v_i \cdot v_j = 0$$

$\mathcal{O}_m$  is a  $2^m \times 2^m$  matrix with elements  $+1, -1$  such that dot product of any two rows is 0. □

$$\mathcal{R}(1, m) = \begin{pmatrix} H_m \\ -H_m \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

# Fast Hadamard Transform

Maximize the correlation between received vector  $u$  and the rows:

$$\text{corr}(F(u), F(v)) = n - d(u, v)$$

$$H_{2^m} = M_{2^m}^{(1)} M_{2^m}^{(2)} \dots M_{2^m}^{(m)} \text{ where } M_{2^m}^{(i)} = I_{2^{m-i}} \otimes H_2 \otimes I_{2^{i-1}}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m$$

Easy to implement in hardware — used in Mariner-9. (Green Machine)

# List Decoding Algorithm

Algorithm for  $\mathcal{R}(1, m)$  capable of correcting  $n(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon)$  errors in  $O(n\epsilon^3)$ .

Hadamard Transform:  $\frac{n}{4}$  errors in  $O(n \log n)$  time.

## Algorithm

List:  $L_\epsilon(y) = \{f \in \mathcal{R}(1, m) : d(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}) \leq n(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon)\}$

Candidate (ith prefix):  $c^{(i)}(x_1, \dots, x_m) = c_1x_1 + \dots + c_ix_i$

$L_\epsilon^{(i)}(y) = \{c^{(i)}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) = c^{(i-1)} + c_ix_i\}$

## distance

$$\Delta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{c}^{(i)}) = \sum_{\alpha} |\mathbf{y}_{\alpha} \mathbf{c}^{(i)}| = \sum_{\alpha} |\mathbf{v}_{\alpha}^{(i)}|$$

$$S_{0,\alpha} = \{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 0, \alpha_{i+1} \dots \alpha_m)\}$$

$$S_{1,\alpha} = \{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1, \alpha_{i+1} \dots \alpha_m)\}$$

Since  $c^{(i)} = c^{(i-1)} + c_ix_i$ , we can write :

$$\mathbf{v}_{\alpha}^{(i)} = \mathbf{v}_{0,\alpha}^{(i)} + (-1)^{c_i} \mathbf{v}_{1,\alpha}^{(i-1)}$$

# List Decoding

## Example

# Applications

**Communication** Used in Mariner and Viking space-probes in the 1970's. More recently, used is in the IEEE 802.11b standard for Wireless Local Area Networks (WLANs).

**Testing Low-degree polynomials** Using  $\mathcal{R}(1, m)$  codes to test whether a binary function is a low-degree polynomial is a central theme in a lot of research in complexity theory [?] , [?]. In a typical scenario, the Boolean functions are mapped to the Reed-Muller codes, and the properties are used to prove the bounds on the number of queries needed to determine the original function.

**Sidelnikov cryptanalysis** The cryptanalysis attack uses the properties of Reed-Muller codes to break the cryptographic code [?]. The uniqueness result stated earlier is a central feature in the cryptographic attack. [?]

**Side Channel attacks** The list decoding of the  $\mathcal{R}(1, m)$  codes is used in the side-channel attack described in [?].



# References