



## A NOTE ON EXTENDED AND PUNCTURED CODES

### KEYWORDS

Extended codes, Punctured Codes, Encoding, Decoding, generator Matrix

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### ABSTRACT

The transmission of a message through a 'noisy' channel is done by choosing efficient encoding and decoding function. This note studies the role of linear transformations  $L: F_q^k \rightarrow F_q^n$  where  $k < n$  and  $F_q^k$  &  $F_q^n$  are vector spaces of dimension  $k$  and  $n$  respectively over a finite field  $F_q$  ( $q = p^m$ ,  $p$  is a prime,  $m \geq 1$ ) the mathematical background of extended and punctured linear codes is highlighted in the following theorems:

Let  $L: F_q^k \rightarrow F_2^n$  ( $k < n$ ) be an encoding function giving a linear code  $\text{Im } L = C$ . If  $E: F_2^n \rightarrow F_2^{n+1}$  is the  $[n+1, n]$  parity check code, the composite  $E \circ L$  gives a linear code. Further, if the minimum distance for  $C$  is  $2l+1$ , then  $E \circ L$  gives a linear code with minimum distance  $2l+2$ .

If  $L: F_2^k \rightarrow F_2^h$ ,  $E^1: F_2^n \rightarrow F_2^r$  give linear codes and if the generator matrices associated with them are  $G$  &  $G'$  repetitively, then the generator matrix associated with  $E' \circ L$  is  $GG'$ .

The extended Hamming codes and Reed-Muller codes are shown as illustrations.

### INTRODUCTION

Let  $F_q$  denotes a field of  $q$  elements where  $q = p^m$  ( $p$  a prime  $m \geq 1$ ),  $F_q^n$  stands for vector space of  $n$ -tuples  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$ , where  $a_i \in F_q$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ ) over  $F_q$ . Let  $V(k, q)$  be a vector space of dimension  $k$  over  $F_q$ . A function  $E: V(k, q) \rightarrow F_q^n$  is called an encoding function. We take  $k < n$  Image of  $V(k, q)$  under  $E$  written  $\text{Im } E = C$  is a sub space  $F_q^n$ .  $C = \text{Im } E$  is called a linear code. An  $[n, k]$ -linear code consists of the encoding function  $E: V(k, q) \rightarrow F_q^n$  and a decoding function  $D: F_q^n \rightarrow V(k, q)$ ,  $k < n$  indicates that the function  $E$  will be adding "Check digits" to the original message. Given a long message, we treat it into blocks of length  $n$ . We assume that  $E$  is 1-1 so that no two message blocks have the same code word. A channel  $T$  transmits each digit with probability of error  $p$  and  $D$  decodes received blocks into blocks of length  $k$ . We seek to choose

$E$  &  $D$  in such a way that the probability that a decoded block will equal the original message block will be high. There are two additional requirements.

First, we seek an efficient code that does not transmit  $\Gamma_{00}$  many extra digits. (which are elements of  $F_q$  possibly repeated).  $R = \frac{k}{n}$  is called the rate of the code. If  $R$  is close to 1 the code will be efficient.

Secondly, the code is useless the functions  $E$  &  $D$  can be implemented in practice say by digital electronic is unity.

Next usually  $p$  is small so that a code word will be transmitted without error and most received words containing an error will contain only one error. They are called single error - correcting codes which decode all received words containing at most one error multiple error - correcting codes are to be considered when  $p$  is not small is called a binary linear code when  $q = 2$ .  $F_2 = \{0, 1\}$ . If we define  $E: F_2^n \rightarrow F_2^{n+1}$  by

$$E(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) = a_0 a_1 \dots a_{n-1} a_n \longrightarrow (0.1)$$

where  $a_n = a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_{n-1}$  ( $a_i = 0$  or  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ )  $\longrightarrow$  (0.2)

We notice that  $a_n = 0$  or  $1$  according as the number of 1's in  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$  is even or odd.

**Definition 0.1** The weight of a code word  $\vec{c} = c_0c_1\dots c_{n-1}$  is the number of non zero digits occurring among  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{n-1}$ . It is denoted by  $wt(\vec{c})$ .

**Definition 0.2** Let C be an  $[n, k]$  binary linear code. For  $\vec{a} = a_0a_1\dots a_{n-1}$ ,  $\vec{b} = b_0b_1\dots b_{n-1}$  (elements of C) the distance  $d(\vec{a}, \vec{b})$  is  $wt(\vec{a} + \vec{b})$ , the number of locations  $i$  with  $a_i \neq b_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ )

For  $\vec{a} \in C$ , if  $\vec{r}$  is the received word  $\vec{r} = r_0r_1\dots r_{n-1}$  the error-pattern  $\vec{e} = e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}$  is such that

$$e_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } a_i = r_i \\ 1 & \text{if } a_i \neq r_i \end{cases} \quad (i = 0, \dots, n-1) \longrightarrow (0.3)$$

We note that  $\vec{a} = \vec{r} + \vec{e} \longrightarrow (0.4)$

Next, we state two theorems without proof, They have been drawn from Dornhoff and Hohn [2].

**Theorem I** A code C can detect all error pattern of weight  $\leq t$ , if and only if, the minimum distance between code words is at least  $t+1$ .

**Theorem II** If the minimum distance between code words is at least  $2t+1$ , we can choose a decoding function D that will correct all error -patterns of weight  $\leq t$ .

**Definition 0.3** Let  $k < n$ , A  $k \times n$  matrix with entries from  $F_2 = \{0, 1\}$  is called a generator matrix G if its first k columns form  $I_k$  (the  $k \times k$  unit matrix) given such a matrix G we can define an encoding function

$$E: F_2^k \rightarrow F_2^n \text{ by } E(\vec{X}) = \vec{X}G \longrightarrow (0.5)$$

Where  $\vec{X}$  a vector is expressed as a row vector  $F_2^k$  Im (0.5)  $\vec{X}G$  means  $[X_0X_1\dots X_k][I_k/A]$  where A is a  $k \times n-k$  matrix. So that G is a  $k \times n$  matrix. Clearly  $\vec{X}G$  is a  $1 \times n$  matrix representing a row vector  $\in F_2^n$ .

**Definition 0.4** Let  $k < n$ , An  $(n-k) \times n$  matrix H whose last  $(n-k)$  columns are  $I_{n-k}$  [the  $(n-k) \times (n-k)$  unit matrix] is called a Parity check matrix.

The parity check matrix provided an encoding function  $E: F_2^k \rightarrow F_2^n$ . For any message word  $\vec{w} \in F_2^k$ . The codeword in the unique word  $E(\vec{w}) \in F_2^n$  whose 1<sup>st</sup> k digits are the digits of  $\vec{w}$  and whose remaining digits are determined by the equation.

**Proof:** Suppose that some column (say  $i^{\text{th}}$ ) of H is  $\vec{0}$ . Then if  $\vec{e} = 000\dots 10\dots 0$  ( $i^{\text{th}}$  digits) and  $\vec{C}$  is any code word. Then  $H(\vec{C} + \vec{e})^T = \vec{0}$  so  $\vec{C} + \vec{e}$  appears to be a code word and any error in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  digits will not be detected at all. Let  $\vec{C}$  be a code word, then  $H\vec{C}^T = \vec{0}$

Since the received word  $\vec{r} = \vec{c} + \vec{e}$

$$\begin{aligned} H\vec{r}^T &= H(\vec{c} + \vec{e})^T = H\vec{c}^T + H\vec{e}^T \\ &= \vec{0} + H\vec{e}^T \\ &= H\vec{e}^T \\ &= \text{the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ column of H.} \end{aligned}$$

So, any error pattern of weight 1 will be decoded correctly. We write  $H\vec{r} = \vec{A}$  and call  $\vec{A}$ , the syndrome.

If  $\vec{A} = \vec{0}$  transmission was probably correct.

If  $\vec{A}$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of H, these was probably a single error in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  digits

If  $\vec{A}$  is neither  $\vec{0}$  nor the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column at least two errors must have occurred with transmission.

Also, if  $i^{\text{th}}$  column =  $j^{\text{th}}$  column =  $\vec{A}$  we cannot tell if the error is in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  or  $j^{\text{th}}$  digit. So H will decode all single errors correctly if the columns of H are non zero and distinct.

conversely, if the columns of H are non zero and distinct, then H will decode all single errors correctly, by the property of the syndrome  $\vec{A}$ .

Next, we denote the minimum distance between code words of a code C by d. we specify C as an [n, k, d] Code. We emphasize the role of the parity check matrix in the following manner:

An encoding function  $E: \mathbb{F}_2^k \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n$  defined by a parity check matrix H can correct all single errors if and only if the columns of H are non-zero and distinct.

The  $(n-k) \times n$  matrix H produces  $(n-k)$  parity check equations via  $H(E(\vec{w}))^T = \vec{0}$ . These equations determined an [n, k, d] code. The number of information digits is k. For a fixed number  $(n-k)$  of parity check equations we want to send as much information as possible. So we make the number of columns n of H as large as possible. So we take  $n = 2^k - 1$  the number of non-zero  $(n-k)$  digits columns which are the binary representation of the numbers 1, 2, 3, ...,  $2^{n-k} - 1$ . Then we obtain an  $[2^{n-k} - 1, k]$  code. As no two columns of H are multiples of are another, the code, so obtained will have minimum weight at least 3. It can be shown that the minimum weight of such a code is 3.

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$$\text{Further, } A[I + T_{13} + T_{23}] \text{ gives } \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{21} + a_{22} + a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{31} + a_{32} + a_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

Next, we consider binary linear codes defined by  $L: \mathbb{F}_2^k \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n$  where  $k < n$ . The  $[n+1, n]$  parity check code  $E: \mathbb{F}_2^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^{n+1}$  considered in (0, 1) can be obtained via its generator matrix, say  $G_1$  for  $\bar{X} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ ,  $E(\bar{X}) = \bar{X}G_1$ .

$$\text{If } A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \text{ is the matrix obtained from } n \text{ basis vectors of the vector space } \mathbb{F}_2^n$$

(1.2)  $A(I' + T_{1n+1} + T_{2n+1} + \dots + T_{nn+1}) = G_1$  where  $I'$  = The  $n \times (n+1)$  matrix in which  $[I_n/0]^{(n+1)th}$  column has Zero)  $T_{i,n+1}$  is the  $n \times n+1$  matrix in which the elements of  $(i, n+1)^{th}$  place is 1 and zero at other entries. For  $n=3$ , we see that,

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{21} + a_{22} + a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{31} + a_{32} + a_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

So  $G_1$  is determinable.

**Theorem 1** Let  $L: \mathbb{F}_2^k \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n$  ( $k < n$ ) be an encoding function giving a linear code  $\text{Im } L = C$ . If  $E: \mathbb{F}_2^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^{n+1}$  is the  $(n+1, n)$  parity check code, the composite  $E \circ L$  is a linear code. Further, if the minimum distance for  $C$  is  $2l+1$ , then  $E \circ L$  gives a linear code with minimum distance  $2l+2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G_1$  be the generator matrix for  $G_1$ .  $G_1$  is an  $n \times n+1$  matrix as shown in (1.2). We know that for  $\bar{X} \in \mathbb{F}_2^k$ ,  $L(\bar{X}) = \bar{X}G$  where  $G$  is the generator matrix for  $L$ . For  $\bar{y} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ ,  $F(\bar{y}) = \bar{y}G_1$ .

$$\text{As } \bar{y} = L(\bar{X}), \bar{X} \in \mathbb{F}_2^k$$

$$E(\bar{y}) = E(\bar{X}G) = (\bar{X}G)G_1 = (\bar{X})GG_1$$

$E \circ L$  is a linear code having the generator matrix  $GG_1$

Next, Let  $2l + 1$  be the minimum distance for  $L$ . For  $\vec{A} = (A_0 A_1 \dots A_{k-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_2^k$

$E \circ L(\vec{A}) = E \circ L(A_0 A_1 \dots A_{k-1}) = A_0 A_1 \dots A_{k-1} A_n$  where  $A_n = A_0 + A_1 + \dots + A_{k-1}$  by vertex of the property of  $G_1$ .  $A_n = 0$  or  $1$ , So if minimum distance of  $C$  is  $2l + 1$ ,  $E \circ L$  gives a code whose minimum distance is  $2l + 2$ .

**Corollary** For the Hamming code  $H_{2,r} [2^r - 1, 2^r - 1 - r, 3]$  the extended Hamming code is  $[2^r, 2^r - 1 - r, 4]$  which is the Reed-Muller code of length  $2^r$ .

**2. PUNCTURING OF CODES**

We consider binary linear codes defined by  $L: \mathbb{F}_2^k \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n$  and  $E_1: \mathbb{F}_2^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^r$  where  $r < n$ , As in section 1, the composite  $E_1 \circ L$  is also a linear code. If  $C^1 = \text{Im } L$  has the generator matrix  $G$  ( $k \times n$  matrix) and  $C^1 = \text{Im } E_1$  has the generator matrix  $G^1$  ( $n \times r$  matrix), the generator matrix for  $E_1 \circ L$  is  $G G^1$  which is a  $k \times r$  matrix.

The effect of  $E_1 \circ L$  is to transform a code word  $\vec{c}$  of length  $n$  to a code word,  $\vec{c}^1$  of length  $r$ , The number of columns of  $G G^1$  will be less than the number of columns of  $G$ . When  $r = n - 1$ , it amounts to puncturing the code  $\vec{C}$  represented by  $G$ , by deleting the same coordinate  $i$  from each code word. The resulting code  $c^1$  is still linear and has length  $(n - 1)$  (we denote the punctured code by  $C^*$ )

**Theorem 2** If  $L: \mathbb{F}_2^k \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n, E^1: \mathbb{F}_2^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^r$  give linear codes and if the generator matrices associated with them as  $G$  &  $G^1$  repetitively, the generator matrix associated with  $E^1 \circ L$  is given by  $G G^1$ .

Proof is similar to that of theorem 1.

**Corollary** The Reed-Muller code  $R(r, m)$  is a  $[2^m, k, 2^{m-r}]$  code where  $k$  is its dimension

$$1 + \binom{m}{1} + \binom{m}{2} + \dots + \binom{m}{r} \text{ and } r < m. \text{ The puncturing of } R(r, m) \text{ yields a binary code}$$

$[2^m - 1, k, 2^{m-r} - 1]$ , when  $m=3$ , puncturing of  $[8, 4, 4]$  code gives the binary Hamming code  $[7, 4, 3]$ .

**Remark**  $C[n, k, d]$  denotes a binary linear code. To puncture  $C$  is to delete the same coordinate  $i$  from each code word. The punctured code is denoted by  $C^*[n+1, k, d^*]$ . If  $G$  denotes the generator matrix of  $C$  the

generator  $G^*$  of  $C^*$  is obtained from  $G G'$ .  $G'$  is the  $n \times (n-1)$  matrix which is got from the  $(n \times n)$  unit matrix by deleting the  $i^{th}$  column. In the case where  $C$  is a  $[24, 12, 8]$  (Golay) code, by puncturing in any of the coordinates, we obtain  $C^* = [23, 12, 7]$  binary code.

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