



Fault Tolerant Computing
CS 530
Information redundancy: Coding theory

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Information redundancy: Outline

- Codes & code words
- Hamming distance
 - Error detection capability
 - Error correction capability
- Parity check codes and ECC systems
- Cyclic codes
 - Polynomial division and LFSRs

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Information Redundancy: Coding

- **Often applied to**
 - Info transfer: often serial communication thru a channel
 - Info storage
- Hamming distance: error detection & correction capability
- Linear separable codes, hamming codes
- Cyclic codes



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Error Detecting/Correcting Codes (EDC/ECC)

- **Code:** subset of all possible vectors
- **Block codes:** all vectors are of the same length
- **Separable (systematic) codes:** check-bits can be separately identified.
 - (n,k) code: k info bits, r = n-k check bits
- **Code words:** are legal part of the code.
- **Linear Codes:** Check-bits are linear combinations of info bits. Linear combination of code words is a code word.



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Hamming Distance

- **Hamming distance** between 2 code words X, Y

$$D(x,y)=\sum(x_k \oplus y_k)$$

- $D(001,010)=2$
- $D(000,111)=3$

- **Minimum distance:** min of all hamming distance between all possible pairs of code words.

Ex 1: consider code:

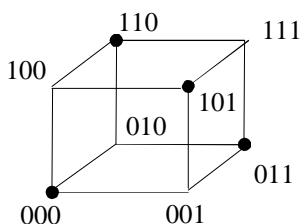
```

000
011
101
110

```

Min distance=2

Detection Capability



Ex 1: consider code:

```

000
011
101
110

```

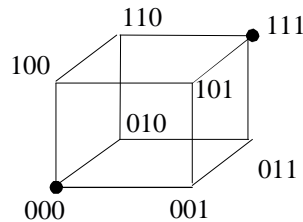
- All single bit errors result in non-code words. Thus all single-bit errors are detectable.
- Error detection capability: min Hamming dist d_{\min} , p : number of errors that can be detected

$$p+1 \leq d_{\min} \quad \text{or} \quad p_{\max} = d_{\min} - 1$$

Errors Correction Capability

Ex 2: Consider a code

000
111



- Assume single-bit errors are more likely than 2-bit errors.
- In Ex 2 all single bit errors can be corrected. All 2 bit errors can be detected.
- Error correction capability: t : number of errors that can be corrected:

$$2t+1 \leq d_{\min} \quad \text{or} \quad T_{\max} = \lfloor (d_{\min}-1)/2 \rfloor$$



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Proof?

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Parity Check Codes

- Are linear block codes
- d_{\min} = weight of lightest non-zero code word
- Linear: *addition*: \oplus , *multiplication*: AND
- $G_{k \times n}$: **Generator matrix** of a (n,k) code: rows are a set of basis vectors for the code space.

$$i.G = v \quad \text{where } i: 1 \times k \text{ info, } v: 1 \times n \text{ code word}$$

- For systematic code: $G = [I_k \ P]$ $I_k: k \times k$, $P: k \times (n-k)$

Ex: $k=3, r=n-k=2$

$$G = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$



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Parity Check Codes: Code Word Generation

- Ex: info $i = (1\ 0\ 1)$

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

then

$$v = (1\ 0\ 1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v = \underbrace{(1\ 0\ 1)}_{\text{info}} \underbrace{(0\ 1)}_{\text{check}}$$

Note: Matrix multiplication:
(dimensions)
 $a \times b. b \times c = a \times c$



Parity Check Codes: Parity Check Matrix H

- If v is a code word: $v.H^t = 0$ $H^t: n \times r, 0: 1 \times r$

- Corrupted information: $w = v + e$ all $1 \times n$

$$w.H^t = (v + e).H^t = 0 + e.H^t$$

$= s$ *syndrome of error*

- For t -error correcting code, syndrome is unique for up to t errors & can be used for correction.

- For systematic codes $G. H^t = 0,$

$$H = [- P^t I_r]$$



Parity Check Matrix: Ex

$$v = (1 \ 0 \ 1) \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad v = (1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1)$$

$$H = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$v \cdot H^t \text{ is } (1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1) \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ 0 \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = (0 \ 0) \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ 1 \end{matrix}$$



Hamming Codes

- Single error correcting $d_{\min} = 3$
- Syndrome : $s = v \cdot H^T$, $1 \times r = 1 \times n, n \times r$
 - $s=0$ normal, rest 2^r-1 syndromes indicate error. Can correct one error if syndrome is unique.
 - Hamming codes: $n \leq 2^r - 1$

Info Word Size	Min Check bits	Total bits	Overhead
4	3	7	75%
8	4	12	50
16	5	21	31
32	6	38	19



Hamming codes: Ex: Non-positioned

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{array}{c|cc}
 & \begin{array}{ccc} d0 & d3 & c1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} c3 & & \end{array} \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{array}{c|cc}
 & \begin{array}{ccc} d0 & d3 & c1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} c3 & & \end{array} \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{H}^T = \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 1 & 1 & 1 \\
 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$(1110) \rightarrow (1110 \ 000)$
data check

$(1110 \ 000) \ H^T = (000)$
 $(0110 \ 000) \ H^T = (110)$
 $(1111 \ 000) \ H^T = (111)$

Positioned Hamming Code

Error in	d3	d0	d1	c1	d2	c2	c3
syndrome	111	110	101	100	011	010	001

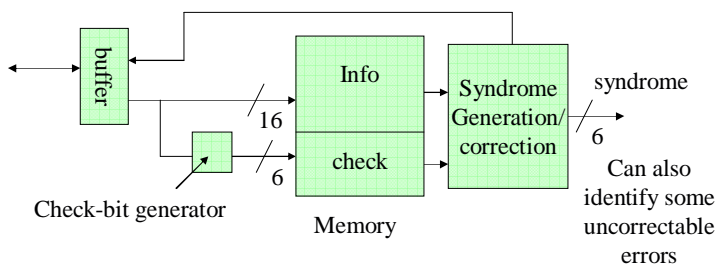


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ECC System



- Ex: Intel, AMD ECC chips. Cascadable 16-64 bits.
- All 1-bit errors corrected.
- Automatic *error scrubbing* using read-modify-write cycle.



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Prof Bose,
CSU

BCH Cyclic Codes

- **Cyclic Codes:** parity check codes such that cyclic shift of a code word is also a code word.
- **Polynomial:** to represent bit positions
 (n,k) cyclic code \Rightarrow generator polynomial of degree n-k
 $v(x) = M(x) \cdot G(x)$ degrees $(n-1) = (k-1)(n-k)$
- **Ex:** $G(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + 1 \Rightarrow (11101)$ (7,3) cyclic code

Message	Corres. v(x)	codeword
000 (0)	0	0000 000
110 (x^2+x)	$x^6+x^3+x^2+x$	1001 110
111 (x^2+x+1)	x^6+x^4+x+1	1010 001



Systematic Cyclic Codes

- Consider $x^{n-k}M(x) = Q(x)G(x) + C(x)$
 Quotient $Q(x)$: degree k-1, remainder $C(x)$: degree n-k-1
- Then $x^{n-k}M(x) - C(x) = Q(x)G(x)$,
 thus $x^{n-k}M(x) - C(x)$ is a code word.
 - Shift message (n-k) positions
 - Fill vacated bits by remainder
- Polynomial division to get remainder
 - Note computation is linear



Systematic Cyclic Codes

- Ex: $G(x)=x^4+x^3+x^2+1$ $n-k=4, n=7$

message	$x^4M(x)$	$C(x)$	codeword
000	0(00 000)	0(0000)	000 0000
110	x^6+x^5 (1100000)	X^2+1 (1001)	110 1001
111	$x^6+x^5+x^4$ (1110000)	x^2 (0100)	111 0100

- An error-free codeword divided by generator polynomial will give remainder 0.



Polynomial division

- Ex: $G(x)=x^4+x^3+x^2+1$ $n-k=4, n=7$,
 $M=(110)$, $x^4M(x)$ is x^6+x^5 , remainder is x^3+1 .

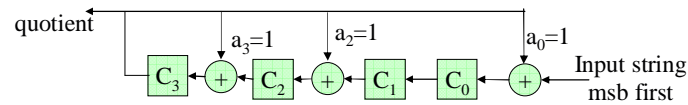
$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + 1 \overline{) x^6 + x^5} \\
 \underline{x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^2} \\
 x^4 + x^2 \\
 \underline{x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + 1} \\
 x^3 + 1
 \end{array}$$

- Code word then is
 (110 1001)
 remainder



LFSR: Poly. Div. Circuit

- Ex: $G(x)=x^4+x^3+x^2+1$ $n-k=4$, $C(x)$ of degree $n-k-1=3$



1. Clear shift register.
 2. Shift $(n-k)$ message bits in.
 3. K shift lefts (hence shift out k bits of quotient)
 4. Disable feedback, shift out $(n-k)$ bit remainder.
- *Linear feedback shift Register* used for both encoding and checking.

LFSRs

- Remainder is a *signature*. If good and faulty message have same signature, there is an *aliasing error*.
- Error detection properties: Smith
 - For $k \rightarrow \infty$, $P\{\text{an aliasing error}\}$ is $2^{-(n-k)}$, provided all error patterns are equally likely.
 - All single errors are detectable, if poly has 2 or more non-zero coefficients.
 - All $(n-k)$ bit burst errors are detected, if coefficient of x^0 is 1.
- Other LFSR implementations: parallel inputs, exors only in the feedback paths.

Not impressive

Autonomous LFSRs (ALFSR)

- ALFSR: LFSR with input=0.
- If polynomial is *primitive*, its state will cycle through all $(2^{n-k}-1)$ combinations, except $(0,0,\dots,0)$.
- A list of polynomials of various degrees is available.
- Alternatives to ALFSR:
 - GLFSR
 - Antirandom



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Some resources

- <http://www-math.cudenver.edu/~wcherowi/courses/m5410/m5410fsr.html>
Linear Feedback Shift Registers, Golomb's Principles
- <http://theory.lcs.mit.edu/~madhu/FT01/>
Algorithmic Introduction to Coding Theory

An interesting property:

- **Theorem 1** : Let H be a parity-check matrix for a linear (n,k) -code C defined over F . Then every set of $s-1$ columns of H are linearly independent if and only if C has minimum distance at least s .



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