# Derandomization (V)

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# ERROR CORRECTING CODES

# Definition For $x, y \in \{0, 1\}^m$ , the fractional Hamming distance of x and y is

$$\Delta(x,y) := \frac{\left|\{i \in [m] \mid x_i \neq y_i\right|}{m}.$$

Let  $0 \le \delta \le 1$ . A function  $E : \{0,1\}^n \to \{0,1\}^m$  is an *error-correcting code* with distance  $\delta$ , if for every  $x \ne y \in \{0,1\}^n$  we have

$$\Delta(E(x), E(y)) \geq \delta.$$

The set

$$\operatorname{Im}(E) := \{ E(x) \mid x \in \{0,1\}^n \}$$

is the set of *codewords* of *E*.

# Lemma Let $\delta < 1/2$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then there exists a function

 $E: \{0,1\}^n \to \{0,1\}^{n/(1-H(\delta))}$ 

that is an error-correcting code with distance  $\delta$ , where

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(\delta) &:= \delta \cdot \log rac{1}{\delta} + (1-\delta) \cdot \log rac{1}{1-\delta} \ &= -\delta \cdot \log \delta - (1-\delta) \cdot \log (1-\delta) \end{aligned}$$

is Shannon's binary entropy function.

Lemma Let  $\delta < 1/2$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \delta \cdot n \rfloor} \binom{n}{i} \leq 2^{H(\delta) \cdot n}.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{split} 1 &= \left(\delta + (1-\delta)\right)^n \geq \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \delta \cdot n \rfloor} \binom{n}{i} \delta^i \cdot (1-\delta)^{n-i} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \delta \cdot n \rfloor} \binom{n}{i} 2^{i \cdot \log \delta + (n-i) \cdot \log(1-\delta)} \\ &\geq \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \delta \cdot n \rfloor} \binom{n}{i} 2^{-H(\delta) \cdot n} \end{split}$$

Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a string  $x \in \{0, 1\}^m$ . Then

$$\left|\left\{y \in \{0,1\}^m \mid \Delta(y,x) < \delta\right\}\right| \le \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \delta \cdot m \rfloor} \binom{m}{i} \le 2^{H(\delta) \cdot m}$$

Therefore, by a simple greedy algorithm, we can choose a set of codewords with pairwise distance  $\delta$  of size

 $2^{(1-H(\delta))\cdot m}$ .

We need to show an explicit function  $E : \{0,1\}^n \to \{0,1\}^m$  with the following properties:

Efficient encoding: There is an  $m^{O(1)}$ -time algorithm to compute E(x) from x.

Efficient decoding: Let  $\rho < \delta/2$ . Then there is a polynomial time algorithm to compute the unique x from every y with  $\Delta(y, E(x)) < \rho$ .

Let  $x, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . We define

$$x \odot y := \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot y_i \pmod{2}.$$

#### Definition

The Walsh-Hadamard code is the function WH :  $\{0,1\}^n \to \{0,1\}^{2^n}$  that maps every string  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$  into the string  $z \in \{0,1\}^{2^n}$  satisfying

$$z_y = x \odot y$$

for every  $y \in \{0,1\}^n$ , where  $z_y$  denotes the *y*th coordinate of *z*, identifying  $\{0,1\}^n$  with  $[2^n]$  in some canonical way.

# Walsh-Hadamard code (cont'd)

#### Lemma

The function WH is an error-correcting code of distance 1/2.

#### Proof.

Let  $x \neq y \in \{0,1\}^n$ . We can show that

$$|\{w \in \{0,1\}^n \mid x \odot w \neq y \odot w\}| = 2^{n-1}.$$

Assume  $x \odot w \neq y \odot w$ , i.e.,  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \cdot w_i \neq \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i \cdot w_i \pmod{2}$ , which is equivalent to

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - y_i) \cdot w_i = 1 \pmod{2}.$$

As  $x \neq y$ , there exists a  $j \in [m]$  with  $x_j - y_j = 1 \pmod{2}$ . Therefore, for every  $w \in \{0,1\}^m$ , let w' be the string which only differs from w on the *j*th bit, then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - y_i) \cdot w_i \neq \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - y_i) \cdot w'_i \pmod{2}.$$

#### Definition

Let  $\Sigma$  be a finite alphabet and  $x, y \in \Sigma^m$ . Again we define  $\Delta(x, y) := |\{i \in [m] \mid x_i \neq y_i\}|/m$ .

We say that  $E : \Sigma^n \to \Sigma^m$  is an error-correcting code with distance  $\delta$  over the alphabet  $\Sigma$  if for every  $x \neq y \in \Sigma^n$  we have  $\Delta(x, y) \ge \delta$ .

#### Definition

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a (finite) field. And let  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n \leq m \leq |\mathbb{F}|$ . Then the *Reed-Solomon code* from  $\mathbb{F}^n \to \mathbb{F}^m$  is the function  $RS : \mathbb{F}^n \to \mathbb{F}^m$  that on input  $a_0, \ldots, a_{n-1} \in \mathbb{F}$  outputs the string  $z_0, \ldots, z_{m-1}$  where

$$\mathsf{z}_j = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \mathsf{a}_i \cdot \mathsf{f}_j^i.$$

One natural way to understand the Reed-Solomon code, is to view the input as a polynomial of degree n-1 over the field  $\mathbb{F}$ :

$$F(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i x_i^i,$$

while the output is the evaluation of F(x) on the points  $f_0, \ldots, f_{m-1} \in \mathbb{F}$ .

## Lemma The Reed-Solomon code $RS : \mathbb{F}^n \to \mathbb{F}^m$ has distance 1 - (n-1)/m.

#### Definition

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a (finite) field. And let  $\ell, d \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $d < |\mathbb{F}|$ . Then the *Reed-Muller* code with parameter  $\mathbb{F}, \ell, d$  is the function

$$\mathsf{RM}: \mathbb{F}^{\binom{\ell+d}{d}} o \mathbb{F}^{|\mathbb{F}|^{\ell}}$$

that maps every  $\ell$ -variable polynomial P over  $\mathbb{F}$  of total degree d to the values of P on all the inputs in  $\mathbb{F}^{\ell}$ .

That is, the input is a multivariate polynomial of the form

$$P(x_1,\ldots,x_\ell)=\sum_{i_1+\cdots+i_\ell\leq d}c_{i_1,\ldots,i_\ell}x_1^{i_1}\cdots x_\ell^{i_\ell},$$

and the output is the evaluation of P on the every  $e_1, \ldots, e_\ell \in \mathbb{F}$ .

## Lemma The Reed-Muller code $RM : \mathbb{F}^n \to \mathbb{F}^m$ has distance $1 - d/|\mathbb{F}|$ .

Assume that  $|\mathbb{F}|$  is a power of 2.

## Definition

If RS is the Reed-Solomon code mapping  $\mathbb{F}^n$  to  $\mathbb{F}^m$  and WH is the Walsh-Hadamard code mapping  $\{0,1\}^{\log |\mathbb{F}|}$  to  $\{0,1\}^{2^{\log |\mathbb{F}|}} = \{0,1\}^{|\mathbb{F}|}$ , then the code WH  $\circ$  RS maps  $\{0,1\}^{n \log |\mathbb{F}|}$  to  $\{0,1\}^{m |\mathbb{F}|}$  in the following way:

- 1. View RS as a code from  $\{0,1\}^{n \log |\mathbb{F}|}$  to  $\mathbb{F}^m$  and WH as a code from  $\mathbb{F}$  to  $\{0,1\}^{|\mathbb{F}|}$  using the canonical representation of elements in  $\mathbb{F}$  as strings in  $\{0,1\}^{\log |\mathbb{F}|}$ .
- 2. For every input  $x \in \{0,1\}^{n \log |\mathbb{F}|}$

 $WH \cdot RS(x) := WH(RS(x)_1), \ldots, WH(RS(x)_m),$ 

where  $RS(x)_i$  denotes the *i*-th symbol of RS(x) (which is an element of  $\mathbb{F}$  identified by a string in  $\{0,1\}^{\log |\mathbb{F}|}$ .

## Theorem Let $\delta_1 := 1 - (n-1)/m$ be the distance of RS and $\delta_2 = 1/2$ the distance of WH. Then WH $\circ$ RS is an error correcting code of distance $\delta_1 \cdot \delta_2$ .

#### Theorem

Let  $E_1 : \{0,1\}^n \to \Sigma^m$  and  $E_2 : \Sigma \to \{0,1\}^k$  be two error correcting codes with distance  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$ , respectively. Then  $E_2 \circ E_1 : \{0,1\}^n \to \{0,1\}^{m \cdot k}$  is an error correcting code of distance  $\delta_1 \cdot \delta_2$ .

# THANK YOU