Code Generation

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 $(110\ 011) = (100\ 101) + (010\ 110)$ and $(111\ 000) = (100\ 101) + (010\ 110) + (001\ 011).$

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[To be able to discuss general cases we need a notation for the strings with a single 1 in them. So we let e_j stand for the string of all 0s except for a 1 in position j.]

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Its rows are exactly the elements e_1, e_2, e_3 from \mathbb{Z}_2^3 , each with the bits from before appended. To get all possible sums of these rows (plus the zero string) we can do matrix multiplication. That is, to get the sum of the first two rows, multiply by (110):

$$(110)G = (100101) + (010110) = (110011)$$

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$$(w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

= $(w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4 (w_1 + w_2 + w_4) (w_2 + w_3 + w_4) (w_1 + w_3 + w_4))$

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The extra bits, for example $w_1 + w_2 + w_4$ in the 5th position, are called parity bits because the effect they have is that the bits of wG in certain positions must have an even number of 1s.

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This is easier to coordinate if we rearrange it, using the fact that in \mathbb{Z}_2 , x + x is always zero.

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Each of these sums says that an even number of the variables have to be 1s These equations can be written in matrix form as

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \\ r_4 \\ r_5 \\ r_6 \\ r_7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The equation on the previous slide could also be rewritten by taking the transpose:

$$(r_1 \ r_2 \ r_3 \ r_4 \ r_5 \ r_6 \ r_7) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

But our book has chosen to use the other way.

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$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{pmatrix}^{\mathrm{tr}} = \begin{pmatrix} a & d \\ b & e \\ c & f \end{pmatrix}$$

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To save space, we often write a single column matrix, like the one containing r_1 through r_7 on the previous slide, as the transpose of a row: $(r_1r_2r_3r_4r_5r_6r_7)^{\text{tr}}$.

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$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{then} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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And so,

$$A^{\rm tr} = \left(\begin{array}{rrrr} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad H = \left(\begin{array}{rrrr} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right)$$

Now suppose we and a remote site have arranged to use this code to send 3-bit messages, and I want to send w = (101).

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Since the result is not $(000)^{tr}$ they know there is an error.

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They are saved from having to do those comparisons by the following fact: if r differs from c in a single bit then r = c + e where e has only a single 1. In this example $r = c + e_3$ where recall e_3 means (001000). Our colleagues don't know what c is, nor that the error is e_3 , but they do know that if r = c + e then $Hr^{\rm tr} = Hc^{\rm tr} + He^{\rm tr} = He^{\rm tr}$, because $Hc^{\rm tr}$ is a column of zeros for code words.
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But if they know (or assume) that e has only a single 1, then by our rules for matrix multiplication He^{tr} will be the column of H corresponding to the position of the 1 in e. In our actual example $Hr^{tr} = He^{tr} = (101)^{tr}$ is the 3rd column of H. So that pinpoints the error.

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- 2. If the result is one of the columns of H, correct r by changing the bit in the corresponding position of r.
- 3. If the result is anything else, then r cannot be corrected (and maybe ask the senders to try again).
- 4. In case 1 or 2, they have the correct code word; the original message is found by removing the parity bits that were added by the encoding.

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If we need only one-bit error correction it can be shown that the number of bits to add to *m*-bit messages is a little more than $\log_2 m$. For example, 64-bit messages need add only 7 bits. Then $G = (I \mid A)$ has 64 rows and 71 columns where I has 64 rows and columns and A has 64 rows and 7 columns. Then $H = (A^{\text{tr}} \mid I)$ is 7-by-71 with a 7-row by 64-column A^{tr} and 7 by 7 identity I. [Note that the two identity matrices are rarely the same size.]

The book talks about "decoding with coset leaders".

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Of course, this scheme corrects only one-bit errors, probably not enough for reliable transmission of 64 bits at a time. Setting up one that corrects more errors is beyond the scope of this course.