



Norwegian University of
Science and Technology

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Examination paper for **TMA4185 Coding theory**

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Date

Signature

Problem 1 Consider the linear code over \mathbb{F}_3 defined by the parity check matrix

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Find a generator matrix for the code. What is the code's dimension? How many code words are there in the code?
- What is the code's minimum distance d ? How many errors can the code correct? How many errors can the code detect?
- You have received $\vec{y} = (1, 2, 0, 0, 2, 1)$. If there are at most $(d-1)/2$ errors, what is the error vector?
- Let $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$ be the code \mathcal{C} extended by adding a parity check symbol ensuring that for every code word the sum of its coordinates is zero (it is *even-like*):

$$\hat{\mathcal{C}} = \left\{ (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_7) \in \mathbb{F}_3^7 \mid (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_6) \in \mathcal{C} \wedge \sum_{i=1}^7 c_i = 0 \right\}.$$

Give a generator matrix and a parity check matrix for $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$. What is the dimension of $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$?

What is the minimum distance of $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$.

Problem 2 Let \mathcal{C} be a linear code over the field \mathbb{F}_q , and consider the first coordinate of the code words. Prove that either every code word has 0 in its first coordinate, or exactly $1/q$ of all code words have 0 in their first coordinate.

Problem 3 Let $\omega \in \mathbb{F}_4$ have the property that $\omega^2 = \omega + 1$. Consider the convolutional code over \mathbb{F}_4 given by $G = (x+1 \quad x^2+x+\omega)$.

Encode the message $0, 1, \omega, \omega + 1, 0, 1, \omega, \omega + 1, 0, 0, 0, 0$.

Problem 4 Let $\beta \in \mathbb{F}_{16}$ satisfy $\beta^4 = \beta + 1$. Let C be the Reed-Solomon code of length 15 with the twelve zeros $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, 12\}$ and generator polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) = & \beta^3 + (\beta^3 + \beta^2 + 1)x + (\beta^3 + \beta^2)x^2 + \beta^2x^3 + (\beta^3 + 1)x^4 \\ & + (\beta^3 + \beta^2 + 1)x^5 + \beta^2x^6 + x^7 + \beta^3x^8 + (\beta^2 + 1)x^9 \\ & + (\beta^3 + 1)x^{10} + (\beta^2 + 1)x^{11} + x^{12}. \end{aligned}$$

- a) How many errors can the code correct? How many erasures can the code correct? What is the dimension of the code?

Can you find a linear code of the same length with the same minimum distance over the same field, but with higher dimension?

- b) A message has been encoded as $m(x)g(x)$. You receive

$$y(x) = \beta^3 + (\beta^3 + \beta^2 + \beta)x + (\beta^3 + \beta^2 + 1)x^2$$

where all the other coefficients have been erased. Recover the encoded message $m(x)$.

Problem 5 In this problem we will consider cyclic codes of length 9 over \mathbb{F}_2 .

It may be useful to know that 9 divides $2^6 - 1$, that $x^6 + x^3 + 1$ is irreducible over \mathbb{F}_2 and that there is an element α in \mathbb{F}_{64} with order 9 satisfying $\alpha^6 = \alpha^3 + 1$.

- a) Describe all such cyclic codes. For each code, give a generating polynomial and determine the minimum distance.

- b) Consider the code with generating polynomial $g(x) = x^6 + x^3 + 1$. Suppose you received

$$y(x) = x^8 + x^6 + x^5 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$$

and there is exactly one error. Find the location of the error and the correct code word.