

# V4a THE BINARY GOLAY CODE (1949)

• Let  $\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & & \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & & \end{bmatrix}_{12 \times 11}$ .

} each row is the left cyclic shift of the previous row.

• Let  $\hat{G} = [I_{12} | \hat{B}]_{12 \times 23}$ .  $\hat{G}$  is a G<sub>M</sub> for a (23,12)-binary code called the (binary) Golay code  $C_{23}$ . In fact,  $d(C_{23}) = 7$ . [proof later]

**CLAIM**  $C_{23}$  is a perfect code.

**PROOF** We have  $e = \lfloor (d-1)/2 \rfloor = 3$ , and

$$M \cdot \sum_{i=0}^e \binom{n}{i} (q-1)^i = 2^{12} \left[ \binom{23}{0} + \binom{23}{1} + \binom{23}{2} + \binom{23}{3} \right] = 2^{23}. \quad \square$$

## THE EXTENDED GOLAY CODE $C_{24}$

- $C_{24}$  is the binary code with GM  $G = [I_{12} | B]_{12 \times 24}$ , where

$$B = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & \hat{B} \\ \vdots & \\ 1 & \end{array} \right]_{12 \times 12} \quad \left( \text{so } B = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 111111111111 \\ 1 & 11011100010 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 01101110001 \end{array} \right]_{12 \times 12} \right).$$

### PROPERTIES OF $C_{24}$

- $C_{24}$  is a  $(24, 12)$ -binary code.
- $GG^T = 0$  [check this]. Hence  $C_{24} \subseteq C_{24}^\perp$ , so  $C_{24}$  is self-orthogonal. ↗  $C \subseteq C^\perp$
- Since  $\dim(C_{24}) = \dim(C_{24}^\perp) = 12$ , we have  $C_{24} = C_{24}^\perp$ . So,  $C_{24}$  is self-dual. ↘  $C = C^\perp$
- $B = B^T$  (so  $B$  is symmetric).
- A PCM for  $C_{24}$  is  $H = [-B^T | I_{12}] = [B | I_{12}]$ .
- Since  $C_{24} = C_{24}^\perp$ ,  $H$  is also a GM for  $C_{24}$ .

**THEOREM**  $d(C_{24}) = 8$ .

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} I_{12} & \begin{matrix} 0111111111 \\ 111011100010 \\ 110111000101 \\ \vdots \\ 101101110001 \end{matrix} \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \\ \vdots \\ r_{12} \end{matrix}$$

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PROOF Let the rows of  $G$  be  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{12}$ .

i) Note that  $w(r_1) = 12$  and  $w(r_i) = 8$  for  $2 \leq i \leq 12$ .

Hence  $4 \mid w(r_i)$  for all  $i$ . Now,  $r_i \cdot r_j = 0$  since  $GG^T = 0$ , and so the number of coordinates of  $r_i$  and  $r_j$  that are both 1 is even. Hence,  $4 \mid w(r_i + r_j)$ , and so every codeword has weight divisible by 4.

Thus,  $d(C_{24}) = 4$  or  $8$ .

ii) Next, we'll show that no codeword has weight 4 (so  $d(C_{24}) = 8$ ).

- Each row of  $G$  has weight  $\geq 8$ .

- Adding two rows of  $G$ :  $w(r_1 + r_j) = 8$  for  $2 \leq j \leq 12$ . [Check this]

$w(r_i + r_j) = 8$  for  $2 \leq i < j \leq 12$ . [Check this]



- Adding 3 rows of  $G_1$ : Let  $c = r_i + r_j + r_k$ , where  $1 \leq i < j < k \leq 12$ .  
Let  $c = (x, y)$ , where  $x, y$  have length 12. Suppose  $w(c) = 4$ .  
Since  $w(x) = 3$ , we have  $w(y) = 1$ . Since  $H = [B \mid I_{12}]$  is also a GM for  $C_{24}$ ,  $c$  must be a single row of  $H$ . This is impossible since each row of  $H$  has weight 8 or 12. Hence,  $w(c) \neq 4$ .
- Adding 4 rows of  $G_1$ : Let  $c = r_i + r_j + r_k + r_l$ , where  $1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq 12$ .  
Let  $c = (x, y)$ , and suppose  $w(c) = 4$ . Then  $w(x) = 4$  and  $w(y) = 0$ .  
But  $H$  does not have any such vector in its row space. Thus,  $w(c) \neq 4$ .
- Adding  $\geq 5$  rows of  $G_1$ : If  $c = (x, y)$  is the sum of 5 or more rows of  $G_1$ , then  $w(x) \geq 5$ , so  $w(c) \neq 4$ .  $\square$

**COROLLARY**  $d(C_{23}) = 7$ .

## V4b A DECODING ALGORITHM FOR $C_{24}$

RECALL  $n=24$ ,  $k=12$ ,  $d=8$ ,  $e=3$ .

$G = [I_{12} | B]$  and  $H = [B | I_{12}]$  are both GIMs and PCMs for  $C_{24}$ .

DECODING STRATEGY (IMLD) Compute a syndrome  $S$  of the received word  $r$ . Find a vector  $e$  of weight  $\leq 3$  that has syndrome  $S$ . If such a vector  $e$  exists, then decode  $r$  to  $c = r - e$ ; else reject  $r$ .

CORRECTNESS If the error vector has weight  $\leq 3$ , then the decoder always make the correct decision. If the error vector has weight  $\geq 4$ , the decoder will either reject  $r$ , or will decode  $r$  to a codeword different from the transmitted one.

## DECODING ALGORITHM FOR C24 (WITH JUSTIFICATION)

- Let  $r = (x, y)$  and  $e = (e_1, e_2)$ , where  $x, y, e_1, e_2$  have length 12.
- There are 5 cases (not mutually exclusive) in the event  $w(e) \leq 3$ :

(A)  $w(e_1) = 0$  and  $w(e_2) = 0$ .

(B)  $1 \leq w(e_1) \leq 3$  and  $w(e_2) = 0$ .

(C)  $w(e_1) = 1$  or  $2$ , and  $w(e_2) = 1$ .

(D)  $w(e_1) = 0$  and  $1 \leq w(e_2) \leq 3$ .

(E)  $w(e_1) = 1$  and  $w(e_2) = 1$  or  $2$ .

1) Compute the syndrome  $s_1 = [I_{12} | B] r^T$ .

If  $s_1 = 0$ , then accept  $r$  and STOP. [case A]

2) [Note:  $s_1 = [I_{12} | B] r^T = [I_{12} | B] e^T = e_1^T + B e_2^T = e_1^T$ . So, if we are in case B, then  $1 \leq w(s_1) \leq 3$ .] If  $w(s_1) \leq 3$ , then set  $e = (s_1^T, 0)$ . [case B]

Correct  $x$  in the positions corresponding to the 1's in  $s_1$  and STOP.



3) [Recall:  $s_i = e_i^T + Be_i^T$ . If we are in case (C), then  $s_i$  is equal to a column of  $B$  with one or two bits flipped (depending on which bits of  $e_i$  are 1)]. Compare  $s_i$  with the columns (or rows) of  $B$ . [Case C]

If any column of  $B$ , say column  $i$ , differs in exactly one (say  $j$ ) or two (say  $j$  and  $k$ ) positions from  $s_i$ , then decode  $r = (x, y)$  as follows:

Correct  $x$  in position  $j$ , or in positions  $j, k$ .

Correct  $y$  in position  $i$ , and STOP.

4) Compute the syndrome  $s_2 = [B | I_{12}] r^T = [B | I_{12}] e^T = Be_1^T + e_2^T = e_2^T$ .

If  $w(s_2) \leq 3$ , then correct  $y$  in the positions corresponding to the 1's in  $s_2$  and STOP. [Case D]

5) Analogous to step 3. [Case E]

6) Reject  $r$  (since  $w(e) \geq 4$ ).

## DECODING ALGORITHM FOR C24

Suppose  $t = (x, y)$  is received.

- 1) Compute  $s_1 = [I_{12} | B]t^T$ . If  $s_1 = 0$ , then accept  $t$  and STOP. (A)
- 2) If  $w(s_1) \leq 3$ , then set  $e = (s_1^T, 0)$  and decode  $t$  to  $c = t - e$  and STOP. (B)
- 3) Compare  $s_1$  to the rows of  $B$ . If row  $i$  of  $B$  differs in exactly one position (say  $j$ ) or two positions (say  $j$  and  $k$ ), then:  
Correct  $x$  in position  $j$ , or positions  $j$  and  $k$ ; Correct  $y$  in position  $i$ ; STOP. (C)
- 4) Compute  $s_2 = [B | I_{12}]t^T$ .  
If  $w(s_2) \leq 3$ , then set  $e = (0, s_2^T)$  and decode  $t$  to  $c = t - e$  and STOP. (D)
- 5) Compare  $s_2$  to the rows of  $B$ . If row  $i$  of  $B$  differs in exactly one position (say  $j$ ) or two positions (say  $j$  and  $k$ ), then:  
Correct  $y$  in position  $j$ , or positions  $j$  and  $k$ ; Correct  $x$  in position  $i$ ; STOP. (E)
- 6) Reject  $t$ .



- EXAMPLE Decode  $\mathbf{r} = (1006 \ 1000 \ 0000 \ 1001 \ 0001 \ 1101)$ .

SOLUTION Compute  $\mathbf{s}_i = [\mathbf{I}_{12} | \mathbf{B}] \mathbf{r}^T = (0100 \ 1000 \ 0000)^T$ .

Since  $w(\mathbf{s}_i) = 2$ , we set  $\mathbf{e} = (\mathbf{s}_i^T, 0)$  and decode  $\mathbf{r}$  to

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{e} = (\underline{1100} \ \underline{0000} \ 0000 \ 1001 \ 0001 \ 1101). \quad [\text{Check: } \mathbf{H}\mathbf{c}^T = \mathbf{0}]$$

- EXAMPLE Decode  $\mathbf{r} = (1000 \ 0010 \ 0000 \ 1000 \ 1101 \ 0010)$ .

SOLUTION Compute  $\mathbf{s}_i = [\mathbf{I}_{12} | \mathbf{B}] \mathbf{r}^T = (1011 \ 1110 \ 1011)^T$ .

Then  $w(\mathbf{s}_i) > 3$ . We see that  $\mathbf{s}_i$  differs in positions 6 and 7

from row 4 of  $\mathbf{B}$ . So, we set  $\mathbf{e} = (0000 \ 0\underline{11}0 \ 0000 \ 00\underline{01} \ 0000 \ 0000)$

and decode  $\mathbf{r}$  to  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{e} = (1000 \ 0\underline{1}00 \ 0000 \ 100\underline{1} \ 1101 \ 0010)$ .

[Check:  $\mathbf{H}\mathbf{c}^T = \mathbf{0}$ ]

B =

0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	
1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	
1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	
1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	.
1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	
1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	
1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	
1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	12x12

## NOTES (decoding algorithm for $C_{24}$ )

1) The decoding algorithm only needs to store  $B$  (144 bits).

In contrast, a syndrome table has size  $2^{12} \times 24 = 98,304$  bits.

2) Decoding is efficient and simple  $\Rightarrow$  good for hardware implementation.

3)  $C_{24}$  was used in the Voyager space mission to transmit photos of Jupiter and Saturn to earth.

# V4C RELIABILITY OF C<sub>24</sub>

- QUESTION Is C<sub>24</sub> better than simpler codes such as the binary replication codes and the Hamming codes?

- Let  $p$  = symbol error probability, and  $C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_M\}$ .
- Let  $w_i$  = prob. that the decoding algorithm makes an incorrect decision or rejects if  $c_i$  is sent.
- $P_C = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M w_i = w_1 = \text{error probability of } C$ .
- $1 - P_C = \text{reliability of } C = \text{prob. that } r \text{ is decoded correctly.}$

(1) For C<sub>24</sub>,  $1 - P_{C_{24}} = (1-p)^{24} + \binom{24}{1} p(1-p)^{23} + \binom{24}{2} p^2(1-p)^{22} + \binom{24}{3} p^3(1-p)^{21}$ .

- (2) If no channel encoding is used, the prob. that a 12-bit message is transmitted with no errors is  $(1-p)^{12}$ .

(3) Suppose the binary triplication code  $T$  is used to encode 12-bit messages. Then  $1 - P_T = [(1-p)^3 + 3p(1-p)^2]^{12}$ .

(4) Suppose that a (15,11)-binary Hamming code  $H$  is used to encode 11-bit messages. Then  $1 - P_H = (1-p)^{15} + 15p(1-p)^{14}$ .

$p$	$(1-p)^{12}$	$1 - P_T$	$1 - P_H$	$1 - P_{C24}$
0.1	0.282429	0.711206	0.549043	0.785738
0.01	0.886385	0.996480	0.990378	0.999909
0.001	0.988066	0.999964	0.999896	0.999999895
Rate	1	$\frac{1}{3} \approx 0.33$	$\frac{11}{15} \approx 0.73$	$\frac{1}{2} = 0.5$