# Single orbit affine generators for extended BCH codes with designed distance three

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We show that for any prime p,  $p \neq 2$ , 3 and any m,  $m \geq 3$  the narrow-sense BCH codes over GF(p) of length  $p^m - 1$  with designed distance three are not spanned by theirs minimum nonzero weight codewords.

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A basis of a linear code is called a *minimum weight basis* if it consists of codewords of minimum nonzero weight.

The study of an explicit minimum weight basis property for linear codes is motivated in coding theory by the classical problem of a short representation of linear (cyclic) codes and is related to the question of reconstructing codes from their minimum distance graphs or their designs. It is important in cryptography.

The study of explicit minimum weight basis property for linear codes is also important in testing theory for fast isomorphism testing of strongly regular graphs.

- [T. Kaufman and M. Sudan, "Algebraic property testing: the role of invariance," Proceedings of 40th ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing STOC, pp. 403–412, 2008.]
- [ T. Kaufman and S. Litsyn, "Almost orthogonal linear codes are locally testable," Proceedings of 46th Annual IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS), pp. 317–326, 2005.]

Glagolev, 1971, proved that each binary linear code C can be transformed into a binary linear code D with the same parameters and a minimum weight basis.

In 1992 Simonis proved an analogous result over GF(q) for any q.

Note that here D is not necessary equivalent to C.

[See Glagolev lemma in the paper of Ya. M. Kurlyandchik, "On logarithmical asymptotic of maximal cyclic spread r>2 length," Discretnyj Analiz, vol. 19, pp. 48–55, 1971 (in Russian)]

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For the class of binary narrow-sense BCH codes of length  $2^m-1$  it is known that codes with designed distance  $2^{m-2}+1$  do not possess a minimum weight basis, while codes with designed distance 7 of small length do, see the work of Augot, Charpin and Sendrier.

[D. Augot, P. Charpin and N. Sendrier, "Studying the locator polynomials of minimum weight codewords of BCH codes," IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, vol. 30, no. 3, pp. 960–973, 1992.]



In 2011 Grigorescu and Kaufman presented an asymptotical result on existence of a single orbit affine generator of minimum weight for extended primitive double-error correcting BCH  $\overline{C}_{1,3}$  codes of length  $n=2^m$  for  $m\geq 20$ .

[E. Grigorescu and T. Kaufman, "Explicit Low-Weight Bases for BCH Codes," IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, vol. 58, no. 2, pp. 78–81, 2011.]



Mogilnykh and S. showed that the minimum weight bases of the following classes codes could be chosen from affine orbits of certain explicitly represented minimum weight codewords:

extended primitive double-error correcting BCH code of length  $n=2^m$  for  $4 \le m \le 19$  (for  $m \ge 20$  it was proven by Grigorescu et al.),

extended cyclic code  $C_{1,5}$  of length  $n=2^m$ ,  $m\geq 5$  and extended cyclic codes  $\overline{C_{1,2^i+1}}$  of lengths  $n=2^m$ , (i,m)=1 for  $3\leq i\leq \frac{m-5}{4}-o(m)$ .

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The Galois field of the characteristic p is denoted by  $GF(p^m)$ .

We denote a *primitive element* of the Galois field  $GF(p^m)$  by  $\alpha$ . The vector space of all vectors over F = GF(p) of length  $n = p^m$  we denote by  $F^n$ .

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A code is called *cyclic* if it is linear and cyclic shift of every its codeword belongs to the code.

An element of  $GF(p^m)$  is called *a zero* of a cyclic code if it is a zero of its generator polynomial.

The code  $C_{1,...,\delta-1}$  with zeroes  $\alpha, \alpha^2, ..., \alpha^{\delta-1}$  is called the narrow-sense BCH code with the designed distance  $\delta$  and its minimum distance is at least  $\delta$  by BCH bound.

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For a vector  $c=(c_0,\ldots,c_{p^m-2})$  of length  $p^m-1$  we denote its extension by  $\overline{c}$ , i.e.

$$\overline{c} = (c_0, \ldots, c_{p^m-2}, -\sum_{i=0}^{p^m-2} c_i).$$

The extended code  $\overline{C}$  of C is  $\{\overline{c}: c \in C\}$ . The last position of the extended code is indexed by the zero of  $GF(p^m)$ , thus the code positions are indexed by the elements of  $GF(p^m)$ .

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## Affine invariance

The affine group of  $GF(p^m)$  is the group of the mappings represented by pairs  $(\gamma, \sigma)$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\sigma \in GF(p^m)$ ,  $\gamma \neq 0$  that send  $\beta$  to  $\beta \gamma + \sigma, \beta \in GF(p^m)$ .

The affine group of  $GF(p^m)$  naturally acts on the coordinate positions of  $F^{p^m}$  and a code C of length  $p^m$  is called *affine-invariant* if the affine group preserves the set of its codewords.

The extended BCH codes are affine-invariant.

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# Single orbit affine generator

A codeword of an affine-invariant code *C* whose affine transformations span *C* is called a *single orbit affine generator*.



#### Theorem 1. Mogilnykh and S.

For any prime p,  $p \neq 2,3$  the codes  $C_{1,2}$  and  $\overline{C_{1,2}}$  are not spanned by their codewords of the minimum nonzero weight.

As an example let us show an explicit codeword of weight 3 in the binary cyclic code  $C_{1,2}$ :  $c(x) = 1 + x + x^i$ , where  $\alpha^i = \alpha + 1$ . Its extension is a single orbit affine generator for  $\overline{C_{1,2}}$  (see E. Grigorescu and T. Kaufman, 2011).

#### Lemma. Mogilnykh and S.

Let  $\alpha$  be a primitive element of  $GF(p^m)$ ,  $p, m \geq 3$ ,

$$c(x) = 2 + x^{i} + x^{j} - 2x^{k},$$

where i, j, k are such that

$$\alpha^{i} = \alpha + 2^{-1}\alpha^{2}, \ \alpha^{j} = -\alpha + 2^{-1}\alpha^{2}, \alpha^{k} = 1 + 2^{-1}\alpha^{2}.$$

Then c(x) belongs to  $C_{1,2}$ 



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#### Theorem 2. Mogilnykh and S.

For any prime  $p \neq 2$  and for any  $m \geq 3$  there is a primitive element  $\alpha$  of  $GF(p^m)$  such that the extended codeword  $\overline{c}$ , where

$$c(x) = 2 + x^{i} + x^{j} - 2x^{k}$$

and i, j, k fulfill Lemma is a single orbit affine generator of the code  $\overline{C_{1,2}}$  of length  $n = p^m$ .

- 1. We showed that for any prime p,  $p \neq 2$ , 3 and any m,  $m \geq 3$  the narrow-sense BCH codes over GF(p) of length  $p^m-1$  with designed distance three and their extensions are not spanned by theirs minimum nonzero weight codewords.
- 2. We proved that the extensions of these codes are spanned by their codewords of weight 5.
- 3. The basis of the BCH code  $\overline{C_{1,2}}$  could be chosen in the affine orbits of explicit codewords of weight 5.
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