

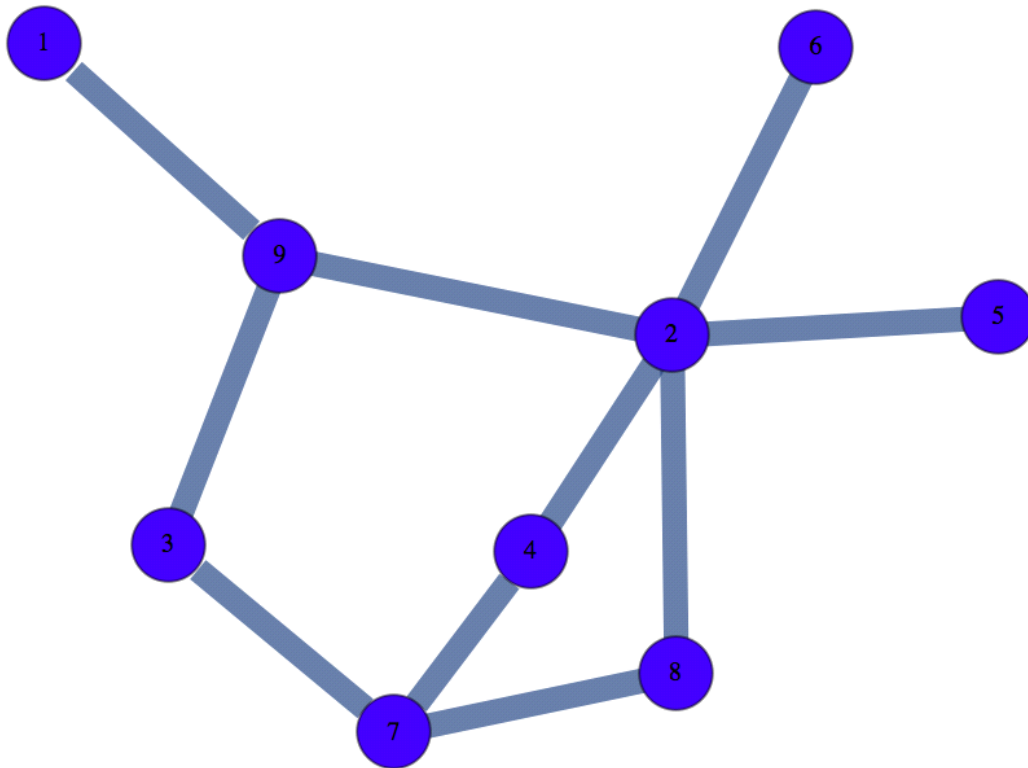
## Lecture 28: Vector spaces over finite fields

Thursday, December 3, 2015 9:30 AM

### LET'S PLAY A GAME!

Tell me which vertices to click.

Goal: Color the graph red.

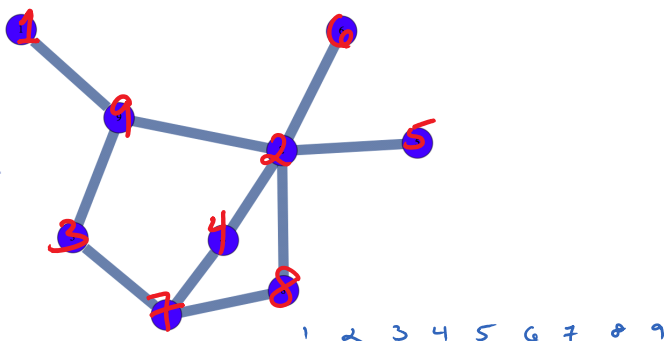


### Formalizing the game:

- Observe:
1. Clicking a vertex twice cancels it out.
  2. The order in which you click the vertices doesn't matter.

⇒ All that matters is the subset of vertices you click.

⇒ Problem: Is there a subset of vertices to click that will make everything red?





$$\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2}$$

for  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{add} \\ \text{row}_1 \\ \text{to row}_9 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{cccccccc} 1 & - & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

add row 4 to rows 2 & 7

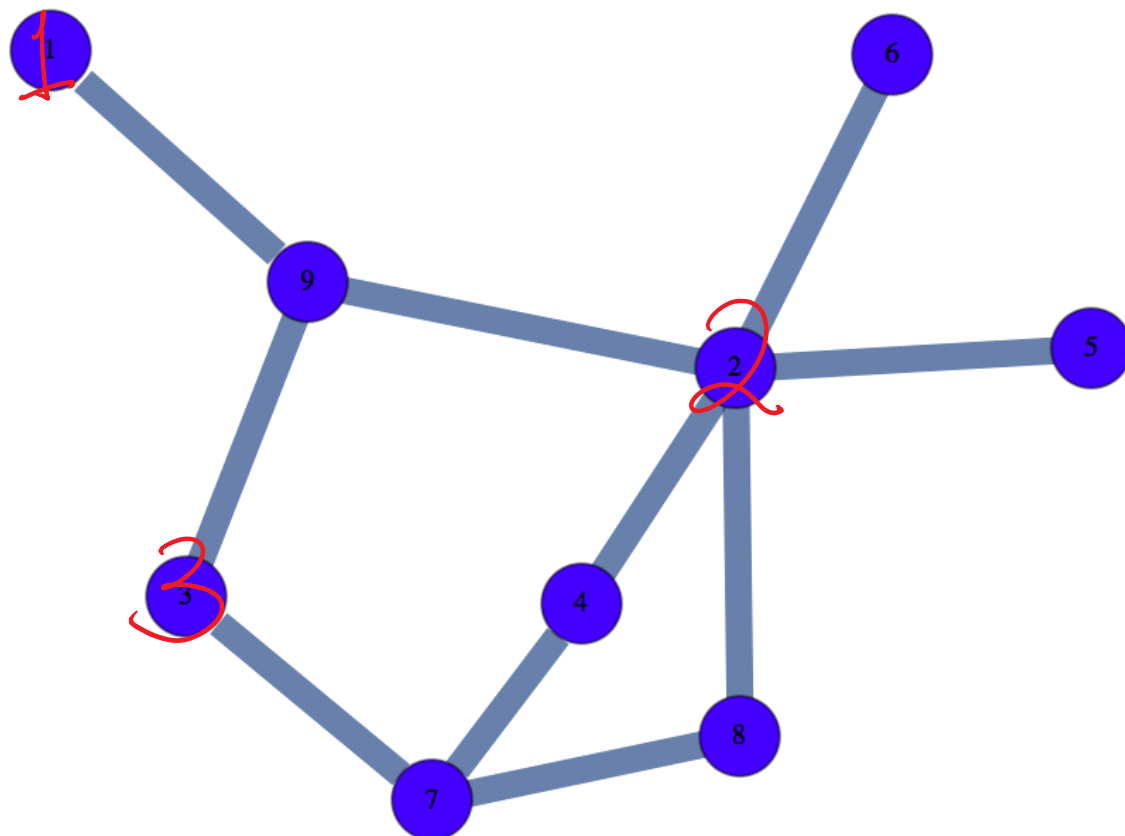
$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{cccccccc} 1 & - & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

add row 5 to rows 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

[illegible]

add row 2 to rows 2,4  
then row 2 to row 1

Done!  $\vec{x} = (1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$  works!



Conclusion: As well as real and complex numbers,  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$ , linear algebra works over the integers mod 2.

Concept:

Works over finite fields?

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Vector space                          | ✓ |
| Subspace                              | ✓ |
| Linear independence, bases, dimension | ✓ |
| Gaussian elimination                  | ✓ |
| LU decomposition                      | ✓ |
| Orthogonality                         | ✓ |
| Rank-Nullity Theorem                  | ✓ |
| Angles                                | ✗ |
| Norms                                 | ✗ |
| Isometries, unitaries, ...            | ✗ |
| Singular-value decomposition          | ✗ |

sometimes, unitaries, ...

Singular-value decomposition

Spectral decomposition



In general, a **field** supports addition and subtraction,  
multiplication and division (except by 0)

↑  
multiplication's inverse operation

Examples:

$\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 1, 2\}$

↑  
how to divide by 2?

it should be the inverse of  
multiplying by 2

Observe:  $x \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = x \cdot 4$   
 $= x \text{ mod } 3$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{-1} = 2$$

$\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  No! For no  $x$  is  $2x = 1 \text{ mod } 4$   
 $\Rightarrow 2^{-1}$  does not exist mod 4

(Alternatively,  $1 \cdot 2 = 2 \text{ mod } 4$   
 $3 \cdot 2 = 2 \text{ mod } 4$   
so multiplication by 2 cannot be undone/inverted.)

Fact: • For any prime  $p$ , the integers mod  $p$  form a field.

- For any prime  $p$  and  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , there is a field of size  $p^k$ .

(But for  $k \geq 2$ , the field is not the integers mod  $p^k$ .)

- These are the only finite fields.

For today: Let's focus on the field  $\{0, 1\}$ .

## SUBSPACES OF $\{0, 1\}^n$

Examples:

①  $\{(0,0,\dots,0), (1,1,\dots,1)\}$

closed under addition?

closed under multiplication by 0 and 1? ✓

②  $\text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

Claim: This is a four-dimensional subspace,  
ie., the four vectors in the spanning set  
are linearly independent.

Proof:  $\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \textcircled{1} & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix}$

are linearly indep. because  
each has a  $\textcircled{1}$  in a position  
that the other two can't  
cancel out

The last vector,  $\underline{1} \underline{1} \underline{1} \underline{1} 1 1 1$ , is linearly indep.  
of the first three, because it has a 1 in all 3 of the  
positions marked above, so it could only equal the sum of  
the first 3, and it isn't.

Alternatively, it has odd weight, while any combination  
of the first 3 vectors has an even number of 1s.

Alternatively, we want to show that this matrix has a  
trivial nullspace: (so there are no linear dependencies between  
its columns, and its rank is 4)

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solving  $G \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = 0$

$\Rightarrow x_3 + x_4 = 0 \Rightarrow x_3 = x_4$

$x_2 + x_4 = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 = x_4$

$x_1 + x_4 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = x_4$

and  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  doesn't work. ✓

Problem: How big is a  $k$ -dimensional subspace of  $\{0,1\}^n$ ?

Answer:

Problem: How big is a  $k$ -dimensional subspace of  $\{0,1\}^n$  :

Answer:

The answer "has to" be  $2^k$ , since  $|\{0,1\}^k| = 2^k$ .  
To prove it, let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  be a basis for the subspace, and start listing elements:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 0 = 0^n & v_2 & v_3 & v_2 + v_3 \\ v_1 & v_1 + v_2 & v_1 + v_3 & v_1 + v_2 + v_3 \end{array}$$

↑  
component-wise  
addition mod 2

these are all  
different!

again, all different, or there  
would be a linear dependency  
... ✓

Problem: How many  $k$ -dimensional subspaces of  $\{0,1\}^n$   
are there?

Answer:

$$\# k\text{-dim subspaces of } \{0,1\}^n = \frac{\# \text{ ways to pick } k \text{ linearly independent vectors from } \{0,1\}^n}{\# \text{ ways to pick } k \text{ linearly independent vectors from } \{0,1\}^k}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ ways to pick } k \text{ basis vectors from } \{0,1\}^n &= (2^n - 1) \times (2^n - 2) \times (2^n - 4) \times \dots \\ &\quad \begin{array}{ccc} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ v_1 \neq 0^n & v_2 \notin \{0, v_1\} & v_3 \notin \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\} \end{array} \\ &\quad \times \dots \times (2^n - 2^{k-1}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \# k\text{-dim subspaces of } \{0,1\}^n = \boxed{\frac{\prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (2^n - 2^j)}{\prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (2^k - 2^j)}} \quad \checkmark$$

## Linear, error correcting codes

Definition: The **Hamming distance** between  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\{0,1\}^n$  is the number of coordinates in which they differ.

The **Hamming weight** of  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$  is  
 $|x|$  = the number of nonzero coordinates

Thus

$$d_H(x,y) = |x+y|$$

since  $x+y = (x_1+y_1, x_2+y_2, \dots, x_n+y_n)$

$$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_i = y_i \\ 1 & \text{if } x_i \neq y_i \end{cases}$$

Definition: A "binary, error-correcting code" is a **subset** of  $\{0,1\}^n$ .

The code's **distance** is the minimum Hamming distance between any two distinct elements.

Example:  $C = \{(0,0,\dots,0), (1,1,\dots,1)\} \subset \{0,1\}^n$   
 has distance  $n$ .

Definition: A binary, error-correcting, **linear code** is a **subspace** of  $\{0,1\}^n$ .

Notation:  $[n, k, d]$  code

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 $n$  bits  $\dim=k$  distance  $d$   
 subspace  
 $\rightarrow 2^k$  codewords  
 $\rightarrow k$  encoded bits

Example: 7-bit Hamming code

To encode 4 bits into 7, multiply by

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\parallel$   $\parallel$   $\parallel$   $\parallel$   
 $x_1$   $x_2$   $x_3$   $x_4$

$$G \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = x_1 \vec{v}_1 + x_2 \vec{v}_2 + x_3 \vec{v}_3 + x_4 \vec{v}_4$$

$\in \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4\}$

Claim: For a linear code,

the code's distance =  $\min_{x \in \text{code}} |x|$

Proof: code distance =  $\min_{x,y \in \text{code}} d_H(x,y)$   
 $\quad \quad \quad |x+y|$

But the code is linear, so  $x+y$  is in the code, too ✓ □

## Code duality

For any subspace  $V$ ,

$$V^\perp = \{ \vec{w} \mid \vec{w} \perp \vec{v} \text{ for all } \vec{v} \in V \}$$

is another subspace.

(and  $(V^\perp)^\perp = V$ )

For a code  $C$  with generator matrix  $G_{n \times k}$

ie.,  $C = R(G)$ ,  $N(G) = \{0\}$

so columns are linearly independent

$C^\perp = N(G^T)$  has dimension  $n-k$  (by rank-nullity).

Example:  $n$ -bit repetition code

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{n \times 1}$$

$N(G^T)$  has dimension  $n-1$ ,  
generated by

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

rows of  $P \perp$  columns of  $G$   
 $(PG = 0)$

Example: 7-bit Hamming code

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{3 \times 7}$$

Claim: This code has distance 3 (it is a  $[7, 1, 3]$  code)



Proof:

① The distance is  $\geq 3$ :

Why?

Let  $x \in R(G)$  be a codeword.

$$P\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = P\vec{y} \text{ for any error } \vec{y} \in \{0,1\}^7$$

Observe: If  $|\vec{y}| \leq 1$ , then it is uniquely identified by  $P\vec{y}$ .

$$\text{Since } P\vec{0} = \vec{0}$$

and  $P\vec{e}_i = i$  in binary!

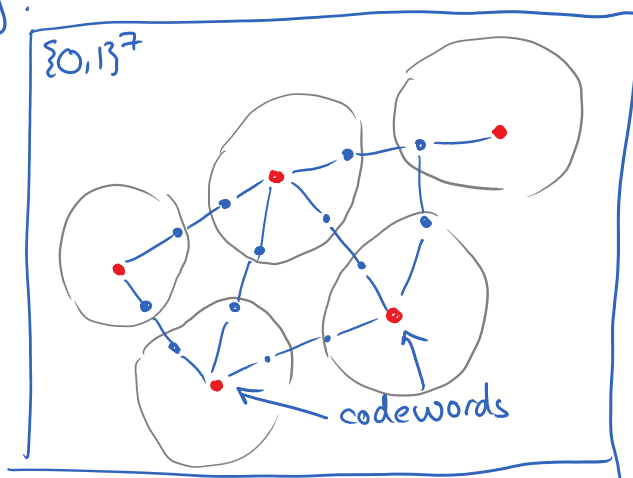
$\Rightarrow$  Given  $\vec{z}$ , promised to be within distance 1 of some codeword, you can recover the codeword by flipping the  $(P\vec{z})$ 'th bit.

$\Rightarrow$  Any pair of codewords must be  $\geq 3$  apart  $\checkmark$



② The distance is  $\leq 3$ :

Why?



If the distance is  $\geq 3$ , then the balls of Hamming radius 1 around the codewords must all be disjoint.

$$\text{This accounts for } \underbrace{2^k}_{\text{\# codewords}} \cdot \underbrace{(1 + \binom{n}{1})}_{\text{size of ball}} = 16 \cdot 8 = 2^7$$

points in  $\{0,1\}^7 \Rightarrow$  no room for any more!  $\checkmark \square$

Remark: This argument holds for any linear code,

and is known as the 'Hamming Bound.'  
The  $[7,1,3]$  Hamming code is called "perfect"  
because the Hamming balls fill  $\mathbb{F}_2^7$  completely,  
with no gaps between them.

Subspaces

- counting

- codes

  - distance

  - Hamming bound

  - rank-nullity

use repetition & Hamming codes  
(presented first as subspaces)  
as running examples