# EFFICIENTLY DECODING REED MULLER CODES FROM RANDOM ERRORS 

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Joint work with
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## A GAME!

Given the truth-table of a polynomial $f \in \mathbb{F}\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{m}\right]$ of degree $\leq r$, with $1 / 2-o(1)$ of the entries flipped, recover $f$ efficiently.

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This talk is about decoding Reed-Muller codes from random errors.

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- Messages: (coefficient vectors of) degree $\leq r$ polynomials $f \in \mathbb{F}_{2}\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{m}\right]$


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$\Longrightarrow$ parity check matrix of $R M(m, r)$ is $E(m, m-r-1)$.

## DECODING REED-MULLER CODES

Worst Case Errors: Up to $d / 2$ ( $d$ is minimal distance).

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Gopalan-Klivans-Zuckerman08, Bhowmick-Lovett15:
List decoding radius $=d$.

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- Standard model in coding theory with recent breakthroughs in the last few years (e.g. Arıkan's polar codes)
- An ongoing research endeavor: how do Reed-Muller perform in Shannon's random error model?


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Shannon48: max rate that enables decoding (w.h.p.) is $1-p$ (for BEC) and $1-H(p)$ (for BSC). Codes achieving bound called capacity achieving.

# Category:Capacity-achieving codes 

? Help

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## Pages in category "Capacity-achieving codes"

This category contains only the following page. This list may not reflect recent changes (learn more).

P

- Polar code (coding theory)

Categories: Error detection and correction

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- if yes, $R M(m, m-r-1)$ achieves capacity for the BEC


## REED-MULLER CODES AND THE BEC

For $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{F}_{2}^{m}$, let $\mathbf{v}^{r}=$ the column indexed by $\mathbf{v}$ in $E(m, r)$ (all evals of monoms of $\operatorname{deg} \leq r$ on $\mathbf{v}$ )

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Open Problem: Prove for every degree $r$.

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(+ extensions to larger alphabets and other codes)

## DECODING ERASURES TO DECODING ERRORS

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## DECODING ERRORS IN RM CODES

Corollary \#1: (low-rate) efficient decoding algo for $\left(\frac{1}{2}-o(1)\right) n$ random errors in $R M\left(m, o(\sqrt{m})\right.$ ) (min distance is $\left.2^{m-\sqrt{m}}\right)$.

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## PROOF IDEA

Goal: decode in $R M(m, m-2 r-2)$ every pattern which is correctable from erasures in $R M(m, m-r-1)$.

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recall: $\left\{\mathbf{u}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{t}\right\}$ correctable from erasures iff $\left\{\mathbf{u}_{1}^{r}, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{t}^{r}\right\}$ are linearly independent.


## DUAL POLYNOMIALS

Fact: If $\left\{\mathbf{u}_{1}^{r}, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{t}^{r}\right\}$ lin. indep., $\exists$ polys $\left\{f_{1}, \ldots, f_{t}\right\}$ of $\operatorname{deg} \leq r$ such that

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Solve this system for $f_{i}$.
Our approach would be to find those polynomials.

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( f non-trivial)

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& \text { If } U \text { lin. indep. and } \mathbf{v}=\mathbf{u}_{i} \in U, f_{i} \text { is a solution. Conversely, if } \\
& \text { solvable and } U \text { lin. indep., can show } \mathbf{v} \in U \text {. }
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Every coefficient in the system is of the form $\sum_{i=1}^{t} g\left(\mathbf{u}_{i}\right)$ for poly $g$ of degree $\leq 2 r+1$.

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Syndrome of $\mathbf{y}: E(m, 2 r+1) \cdot \mathbf{y}=E(m, 2 r+1) \cdot \mathbf{e}$.
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Corollary: The syndrome of $\mathbf{y}$ is a $\binom{m}{\leq 2 r+1}$ long vector $\alpha$, where $\alpha_{M}=\sum_{i=1}^{t} M\left(\mathbf{u}_{i}\right)$, for every monom $M, \operatorname{deg} M \leq 2 r+1$.

## BACK TO BEC

The algorithm works whenever $\mathbf{u}_{1}^{r}, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{t}^{r}$ lin. indep., which happens (w.h.p.) whenever $R M(m, m-r-1)$ achieves capacity.

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Restating the main question: for which values of $r, \mathbf{u}_{1}^{r}, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{t}^{r}$ are linearly independent with high probability for $t=(1-o(1))\binom{m}{\leq r}$ ?

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m / 2
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THANK YOU

