

Weight Distribution of the Binary Reed-Muller Code $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$

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- **weight distribution**

Definition 1.

The weight distribution of a code \mathbf{C} of length n is the vector $W(\mathbf{C}) = (W_0, \dots, W_n)$, where W_i denotes the number of codewords of Hamming weight i .

- **weight spectrum**

Definition 2.

The weight spectrum of a code \mathbf{C} with weight distribution $W(\mathbf{C}) = (W_0, \dots, W_n)$ is the set $\{i : 0 \leq i \leq n, W_i > 0\}$.

- the simplest form of **weight enumerator**

Definition 3.

The following polynomial in the indeterminate z : $\mathcal{W}[z; \mathbf{C}] = \sum_{i=0}^n W_i z^i$ is called a weight enumerator of the code \mathbf{C} with weight distribution $W(\mathbf{C}) = (W_0, \dots, W_n)$.

We assume familiarity with notions of:

- **Boolean function, Algebraic Normal Form,** the **General Affine group** $GA(m)$ and its subgroup the **General Linear group** $GL(m, 2)$ acting on \mathbb{F}_2^m ;
- The set of all Boolean functions in m variables, will be denoted by \mathcal{B}_m .

- **binary Reed-Muller code**

Definition 4.

For $0 \leq r \leq m$, the r -th order binary Reed-Muller (or RM) code $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ is the set of all vectors \mathbf{f} of length $n = 2^m$ whose corresponding $f \in \mathcal{B}_m$ are of algebraic degree at most r .

- Recall:

Statement 5.

For any m and any $r, 0 \leq r \leq m$, the binary RM code $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ is a linear $[n, k, d]$ code with:

- *length $n = 2^m$, dimension $k = \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{m}{i}$ and minimum distance $d = 2^{m-r}$;*
- *the dual of $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ is $\mathcal{R}(m - r - 1, m)$;
in particular, for any $s \geq 1$ the code $\mathcal{R}(s, 2s + 1)$ is a self-dual code.*

- The action of $A \in GA(m)$ on a Boolean function $f(\mathbf{x})$ is denoted by $f \circ A$, i.e:

$$f \circ A(\mathbf{x}) = f(A(\mathbf{x})).$$

- Recall:

Definition 6.

The cosets $C_1 = f_1 + \mathcal{R}(r, m)$ and $C_2 = f_2 + \mathcal{R}(r, m)$ of $\mathcal{R}(r, m)$ with $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{B}_m$ are called affine equivalent if there exists a transformation $A \in GA(m)$: $f_2 = f_1 \circ A$.

- The following well-known fact is extensively used in our work (see, e.g., [4]):

Statement 7.

The weight enumerators of two affine equivalent cosets of a Reed-Muller code are identical.

- By [13] one concludes that for $m \leq 9$ the **only so far unknown** is the (exact) weight distribution of $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$:
 - $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$ was listed among the smallest Reed-Muller codes whose weight distributions were unknown (in 1977) [11, p. 447];
 - The weight spectrum of that code has been found in [1];
 - To our knowledge there have been very few attempts to find (exact) weight distribution of $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$, namely:
 - Since $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$ is a doubly even binary self-dual code, the general form of weight enumerators of such codes is known from A. M. Gleason's work (see, e.g., [11, Ch.19]) might be of help. But, although this approach has been successful for shorter RM codes requiring modest efforts for computing, its application to the code of interest needs more intrinsic knowledge than presented in [6, 7] (see, [2, Ch. 11] for details).
 - D. V. Sarwate has evaluated that the methods from [12] are not applicable to $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$ since there are too many equivalence classes of cosets of the desired kind to be useful;

The necessary ingredients (1)

For $0 \leq r \leq m$, denote by $\mathcal{H}^{(r)}(m)$ the set of all homogeneous polynomials on m binary variables of algebraic degree r adjoined with the 0.

Theorem 8.

([12], Sarwate 5.12) For $0 \leq r \leq m$, it holds:

$$\mathcal{W}[z; \mathcal{R}(r+2, m+2)] = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+2)}(m+1)} \mathcal{W}^2[z; p + \mathcal{R}(r+1, m+1)].$$

Theorem 9.

([12], Sarwate 5.13)

Let $p = e + f x_{m+1}$, with given $e \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+2)}(m)$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+1)}(m)$. Then the weight enumerator of the coset $\mathcal{C}(p) = p + \mathcal{R}(r+1, m+1)$ equals to:

$$\sum_{g \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+1)}(m)} \mathcal{W}[z; e + g + \mathcal{R}(r, m)] \cdot \mathcal{W}[z; e + f + g + \mathcal{R}(r, m)].$$

- The affine equivalence classification of the cosets of RM codes is useful in studying important coding theoretical and cryptographic properties of Boolean functions, e.g., the covering radii. Recently, the interest in that topic has been renewed by [3] which provides (among other things) a method to classify \mathcal{B}_7 ;
- In our work, we make use of:
 - Langevin & Leander's classification [10] of the quotient space $\mathcal{R}(4, 8)/\mathcal{R}(3, 8)$ under the action of $GL(8, 2)$, i.e., the classification of the Boolean quartic forms in eight variables;
 - Gillot & Langevin's classification [3] of the cosets of $\mathcal{R}(2, 7)$ in $\mathcal{R}(4, 7)$.

The refined approach: rationale (1)

Let $n(k, m)$ be the number of linear equivalence classes of the quotient space $\mathcal{R}^*(k, m) = \mathcal{R}(k, m)/\mathcal{R}(k-1, m)$, i.e. the number of orbits to which $\mathcal{R}^*(k, m)$ is partitioned under the action of $GL(m, 2)$. Assume that some numbering of these classes is fixed.

Corollary 10.

Let $p_i \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+2)}(m+1)$ and L_i be a representative and size, respectively, of the i -th linear equivalence class in $\mathcal{R}^*(r+2, m+1)$. Then, it holds:

$$\mathcal{W}[z; \mathcal{R}(r+2, m+2)] = \sum_{i=1}^{n(r+2, m+1)} L_i \mathcal{W}^2[z; p_i + \mathcal{R}(r+1, m+1)]. \quad (1)$$

Proof.

The claim is an immediate consequence of Theorem 8 and Statement 7. □

Corollary 11.

For given $e \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+2)}(m)$, let $\mathcal{H}^{(r+1)}(m)$ is partitioned into blocks $G_i, 1 \leq i \leq s$, such that if $g \in G_i$ the enumerator $\mathcal{W}[z; e + g + \mathcal{R}(r, m)]$ is a (distinct) constant polynomial $w_i(z)$. Then the weight enumerator of the coset $\mathcal{C}(p) = p + \mathcal{R}(r + 1, m + 1)$ where $p = e + fx_{m+1}$ with $f \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+1)}(m)$, can be expressed by

$$\sum_{i=1}^s w_i(z) \left(\sum_{g \in G_i} \mathcal{W}[z; e + f + g + \mathcal{R}(r, m)] \right). \quad (2)$$

Proof.

Follows by Theorem 9 rearranging the summands and putting outside brackets the common multipliers $w_i(z), 1 \leq i \leq s$. □

Corollaries 10-11 make feasible the computation of $\mathcal{W}[z; \mathcal{R}(4, 9)]$, namely:

- Corollary 10 reduces the number of needed weight enumerator computations from the straightforward $|\mathcal{H}^{(4)}(8)| = 2^{\binom{8}{4}} = 2^{70}$ to the **reasonable** $n(4, 8) = 999$.
- The affine equivalence classification of $\mathcal{R}(4, 7)/\mathcal{R}(2, 7)$ allows to substantiate the usage of Corollary 11 (thoroughly explained in general settings on the next slide).

- Recall:

Definition 12.

The subgroup $St(e)$ of $GA(m)$ that fixes given $e \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+2)}(m)$ is called stabilizer of e in $GA(m)$, i.e., for each $A \in St(e)$ it holds $e \circ A \in e + \mathcal{R}(r+1, m)$.

- For given $e \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+2)}(m)$, consider the partition $\Delta(e)$ of the cosets of form $e + g + \mathcal{R}(r, m)$, $g \in \mathcal{H}^{(r+1)}(m)$ under the action of the stabilizer $St(e)$. By Statement 7, we can talk for "orbit weight" enumerator: the common weight enumerator of all orbit members. Moreover, we can constitute efficiently the coarse partition $\Delta'(e) = \{G_i, 1 \leq i \leq s\}$ from Corollary 11, by merging the orbits with identical weight enumerators (computed in advance on chosen orbit representatives of $\Delta(e)$).
- So, the number of needed polynomial multiplications to compute expr. (2) is reduced to the number of distinct orbit enumerators while that of polynomial additions is, of course, retained to (almost) $2^{\binom{m}{r+1}}$.

- Let $\mathcal{E}(4, 7)$ be the set of representatives of the 12 linear equivalence classes of $\mathcal{R}^*(4, 7)$ given in [9].

For each $e \in \mathcal{E}(4, 7)$, we perform in advance the following three tasks:

- $\mathcal{T}1$: Constitute and store the orbits of the partition $\Delta(e)$ ("orbit algorithm" [5]);
 - $\mathcal{T}2$: Compute the weight enumerators of the cosets $e + g + \mathcal{R}(2, 7)$ when g runs over a set of representatives of $\Delta(e)$'s orbits (by exhaustive generation of $\mathcal{R}(2, 7)$ based on some Gray code);
 - $\mathcal{T}3$: Merge the orbits with identical weight enumerators to get the coarse $\Delta'(e)$.
- **Note:** Data arrangement enables for given $f \in \mathcal{H}^{(3)}(7)$ to look up the identifier of the orbit (block) in $\Delta(e)$ ($\Delta'(e)$) containing f .

Table: Sizes of partitions $\Delta(e)$ and $\Delta'(e)$

$e \in \mathcal{E}(4, 7)$: ANF's according to ([9])	$ \Delta(e) $	$ \Delta'(e) $
0	12	12
4567	63	52
1235+1345+1356+1456+2346+2356+2456	130	112
2367+4567	289	182
1237+4567	480	306
1257+1367+4567	730	395
1237+1247+1357+2367+4567	204	157
1236+1257+1345+1467+2347+2456+3567	1098	675
1236+1356+1567+2357+2467+2567+3456	1340	811
1367+2345+2356+3456+4567	6449	2170
1234+1237+1267+1567+2345+3456+4567	23988	3377
1236+1367+1567+2345+3456+3457+3467	33660	4636

- We have developed and implemented two algorithms (see, the *Proceedings*):
 - **Algorithm 1** which returns $\mathcal{W}[z; p + \mathcal{R}(3, 8)]$ where $p = e + fx_8$ for given inputs $e \in \mathcal{E}(4, 7)$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}^{(3)}(7)$ (using expr. (2) in Corollary 11);
 - **Algorithm 2** which computes the sum in Corollary 10, and thus $\mathcal{W}[z; \mathcal{R}(4, 9)]$.
- **Note:**

The second algorithm requires a list \mathcal{S} of pairs: (representative p_i , class size L_i) for the i -th class of the classification of $\mathcal{R}^*(4, 8)$ where $p_i = e + f_i x_8$ for some $e \in \mathcal{E}(4, 7)$ and $f_i \in \mathcal{H}^{(3)}(7)$, $1 \leq i \leq 999$.

The refined approach: pre-computing (3)

- To provide a list \mathcal{S} , we make use of data present in [8]. However, there p'_i are of the form $e' + f'_i x_8$ where e' 's constitute different set $\mathcal{E}'(4, 7)$ of representatives of the 12 classes of $\mathcal{R}^*(4, 7)$;
- To adjust, we follow a procedure (derived by [4]) consisting of 3 steps:
 - Form the sets $\mathcal{E}'(3, 7)$, $\mathcal{E}(3, 7)$ of duals of the forms in $\mathcal{E}'(4, 7)$, $\mathcal{E}(4, 7)$, respectively;
 - Match the linearly equivalent pairs $(\bar{e}', \bar{e}) \in \mathcal{E}'(3, 7) \times \mathcal{E}(3, 7)$ using the invariants given in [4, pp. 115-117]), so the pairs in the original sets are matched, too;
 - For each matched pair $(e', e) \in \mathcal{E}'(4, 7) \times \mathcal{E}(4, 7)$, generate at random a nonsingular (7×7) matrix \mathbf{A} and check the condition $e' \circ \mathbf{A} \in e + \mathcal{R}(3, 7)$ until such matrix is obtained.
- The last step is carried out efficiently due to relatively large stabilizers sizes, e.g., the smallest is of size $9216 \approx 2^{13.17}$ while $|GL(7, 2)| \approx 2^{47.21}$;
- Finally, acting on f'_i , $1 \leq i \leq 999$, by the obtained linear transitions, we get a needed list \mathcal{S} .

Table: The matching between $\mathcal{E}'(3, 7)$ and $\mathcal{E}(3, 7)$

$\mathcal{E}'(3, 7)$	$\mathcal{E}(3, 7)$
0	0
123	123
127+136+145	137+147+157+237+247+267+467
125+134	123+145
126+345	123+456
126+135+234	123+245+346
135+146+235+236+245	123+145+246+356+456
127+136+145+234	124+137+156+235+267+346+457
125+134+135+167+247+357	127+134+135+146+234+247+457
123+247+356	123+127+147+167+245
147+156+237+246+345	123+127+167+234+345+456+567
127+146+236+345	125+126+127+167+234+245+457

Briefly:

- the computational cost of task $\mathcal{T}1$ is $|\mathcal{H}^{(3)}(7)| \times \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}(4,7)} |Sg(e)| = 2^{35} \times 26 \approx 2^{40}$ affine transformations where $Sg(e)$ denotes the set of generators of the stabilizer $St(e)$;
- the computational cost of task $\mathcal{T}2$ is in total proportional to the product $68443 \times 2^{29} \approx 2^{45}$ with the first factor being the number of classes of $\mathcal{R}(4,7)/\mathcal{R}(2,7)$ and the second being the size of $\mathcal{R}(2,7)$;
- the compressed storing of orbits and data arrangement into RAM needs at most 124 GB of memory.

The set of linear equivalence classes of $\mathcal{R}^*(4, 8)$ is naturally partitioned into subsets of cardinalities $\mu(e)$ for fixed $e \in \mathcal{E}(4, 7)$ and distinct $f \in \mathcal{H}^{(3)}(7)$ (see, [8]):

$$\bar{\mu} = (3, 2, 21, 15, 89, 56, 10, 7, 502, 1, 1, 292)$$

- By Corollaries 10-11, one can easily deduce the following estimates, i.e.:
 - necessary multiplications of degree 128 polynomials:

$$\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}(4,7)} \mu(e) \times |\Delta'(e)| = 1827252 \approx 2^{21};$$

- necessary additions of degree 128 polynomials:

$$n(4, 8) \times 2^{\binom{7}{3}} = 999 \times 2^{35} \approx 2^{45};$$

- 999 squarings of degree 256 polynomials; and some additional operations of negligible cost, of course.

- Recent advances in the classification of Boolean functions [3],[10] and the utilization of modern high performance computers make feasible the application of Sarwate's approach [12] to determining **exact** weight distribution of $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$;
- However, we should admit that it may not be doable to push this line of research much further due to the enormous increase in computational burden with code length.

Weight Distribution of $\mathcal{R}(4, 9)$

	0	512	1
32	480		52955952
48	464		919315326720
56	456		271767121346560
60	452		860689275027456
64	448		89163020044002040
68	444		1777323352931696640
72	440		64959328938397057024
76	436		2094952122987829002240
80	432		86129855718211879936768
84	428		3718387228743293604986880
88	424		216407674400647746861465600
92	420		159589453950350222932054114304
96	416		1570964763114053055495174389136
100	412		207755244457303752035637154283520
104	408		34164336816436357675455725024378880
108	404		5992987676360073735151889707696128000
112	400		983217921810034263357552475089021004288
116	396		140881159168600922710983130625456163782656
120	392		17178463264607761296016540993629780705771520
124	388		1770270551281316280504947079180771901717872640
128	384		154198773988541804525321284585063483246993999900
132	380		11380437366712812474455950864177326068447989202944
136	376		713793445298874211607839796879716106185715280216064
140	372		38161660034401312989486264769054124765959796671119360
144	368		1744077996406613042017016863461234839306732612077058560
148	364		68320936493023612641136928149296775084064365913214812160
152	360		2299744204800465802453316637595783829108912802028206751744
156	356		66674424868716978552789375387240003239187186349775851094016
160	352		1668559700964160587350805664583122924498928358151715733007408
164	348		36117082274027891545154187373048131661136552390031364702863360
168	344		677483598989547107793615101247739514269621184741356041461104640
172	340		11032441933713096201663286389373184730113421621201515757397082112
176	336		156225095497619813307679231937780861426835567156776476525084177664
180	332		1926667532217097161576702991776654344250440175688196887457279508480
184	328		20723534026876536792281002394151796205045793736436788802938336133120
188	324		1946714427418378529399755533637718562348412592384043655562870652928200
192	320		1599044990181340998819270766161596605692512085057170791477694075282632
196	316		11498415685246302189888474222781442491860129957714864173250891967627264
200	312		7245946757074360381937881271877249754087074084626494838959726267809792
204	308		400549932263936554220342987258224499780564121712827465674395223861493760
208	304		1944071611978423909059426198144849863064608675044397429548995177751732480
212	300		8291211853278378544436157221213736835450108801042695204524353086973542400
216	296		3109550260070113076368271342789939024095055084640910550583369693522427904
220	292		102622652435510219354959437959897900434480615845926142166854426192158654464
224	288		298206281302110726623000750445450132512881810629607123478473554095237810960
228	284		763396919631669686767551089968038830038818474387281189110838463079589720
232	280		1722452776176219896357452486934573175804665343735169479919087899582551687168
236	276		3426750460257305904407547641506642175867699465315478403354123631366508642304
240	272		6013163599489683999312799935491777179772724247998879533784429205011417933824
244	268		9309551320248854051332692772889245412495562988894547412532818045057116405760
248	264		12718986044129514620716674156341900030463015021774940408815989741288144568320
252	260		1533699749994505387056357527918950456934399969250231086077675815418680311808
256			16324199909251682000435577287934368523097397692548071777837483832108326674502

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