

# Construction of Additive Reed-Muller Codes<sup>\*</sup>

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**Abstract.** The well known Plotkin construction is, in the current paper, generalized and used to yield new families of  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes, whose length, dimension as well as minimum distance are studied. These new constructions enable us to obtain families of  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes such that, under the Gray map, the corresponding binary codes have the same parameters and properties as the usual binary linear Reed-Muller codes. Moreover, the first family is the usual binary linear Reed-Muller family.

**Key Words:**  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -Additive codes, Plotkin construction, Reed-Muller codes,  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear codes.

## 1 Introduction

The aim of our paper is to obtain a generalization of the Plotkin construction which gave rise to families of  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes such that, after the Gray map, the corresponding  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear codes had the same parameters and properties as the family of binary linear *RM* codes. Even more, we want the corresponding codes with parameters  $(r, m) = (1, m)$  and  $(r, m) = (m-2, m)$  to be, respectively, any one of the non-equivalent  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear Hadamard and  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear 1-perfect codes.

## 2 Constructions of $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes

In general, any non-empty subgroup  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^\alpha \times \mathbb{Z}_4^\beta$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code, where  $\mathbb{Z}_2^\alpha$  denotes the set of all binary vectors of length  $\alpha$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_4^\beta$  is the set of all  $\beta$ -tuples in  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code, and let  $C = \Phi(\mathcal{C})$ , where  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}_2^\alpha \times \mathbb{Z}_4^\beta \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  is given by the map  $\Phi(u_1, \dots, u_\alpha | v_1, \dots, v_\beta) = (u_1, \dots, u_\alpha | \phi(v_1), \dots, \phi(v_\beta))$  where  $\phi(0) = (0, 0)$ ,  $\phi(1) = (0, 1)$ ,  $\phi(2) = (1, 1)$ , and  $\phi(3) = (1, 0)$  is the usual Gray map from  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  onto  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ .

Since the Gray map is distance preserving, the Hamming distance of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear code  $C$  coincides with the Lee distance computed on the  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code  $\mathcal{C} = \phi^{-1}(C)$ .

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A  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code  $\mathcal{C}$  is also isomorphic to an abelian structure like  $\mathbb{Z}_2^\gamma \times \mathbb{Z}_4^\delta$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{C}$  has  $|\mathcal{C}| = 2^\gamma 4^\delta$  codewords and, moreover,  $2^{\gamma+\delta}$  of them are of order two. We call such code  $\mathcal{C}$  a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code of type  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma, \delta)$  and its binary image  $C = \Phi(\mathcal{C})$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear code of type  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma, \delta)$ .

Although  $\mathcal{C}$  may not have a basis, it is important and appropriate to define a generator matrix for  $\mathcal{C}$  as:

$$\mathcal{G} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} B_2 & Q_2 \\ \hline B_4 & Q_4 \end{array} \right), \quad (1)$$

where  $B_2$  and  $B_4$  are binary matrices of size  $\gamma \times \alpha$  and  $\delta \times \alpha$ , respectively;  $Q_2$  is a  $\gamma \times \beta$ -quaternary matrix which contains order two row vectors; and  $Q_4$  is a  $\delta \times \beta$ -quaternary matrix with order four row vectors.

## 2.1 Plotkin construction

In this section we show that the well known Plotkin construction can be generalized to  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes.

**Definition 1 (Plotkin Construction)** *Let  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  be any two  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes of types  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma_{\mathcal{X}}, \delta_{\mathcal{X}})$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma_{\mathcal{Y}}, \delta_{\mathcal{Y}})$  and minimum distances  $d_{\mathcal{X}}$ ,  $d_{\mathcal{Y}}$ , respectively. If  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}$  are the generator matrices of  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ , then the matrix*

$$\mathcal{G}_P = \left( \begin{array}{cc} \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}} & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}} \\ 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}} \end{array} \right)$$

*is the generator matrix of a new  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code  $\mathcal{C}$ .*

**Proposition 2** *Code  $\mathcal{C}$  defined above is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code of type  $(2\alpha, 2\beta; \gamma, \delta)$ , where  $\gamma = \gamma_{\mathcal{X}} + \gamma_{\mathcal{Y}}$ ,  $\delta = \delta_{\mathcal{X}} + \delta_{\mathcal{Y}}$ , binary length  $n = 2\alpha + 4\beta$ , size  $2^{\gamma+2\delta}$  and minimum distance  $d = \min\{2d_{\mathcal{X}}, d_{\mathcal{Y}}\}$ .*

## 2.2 BA-Plotkin construction

Applying two Plotkin constructions, one after another, but slightly changing the submatrices in the generator matrix, we obtain a new construction with interesting properties with regard to the minimum distance of the generated code. We call this new construction *BA-Plotkin construction*.

Given a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code  $\mathcal{C}$  with generator matrix  $\mathcal{G}$  we denote, respectively, by  $\mathcal{G}[b_2]$ ,  $\mathcal{G}[q_2]$ ,  $\mathcal{G}[b_4]$  and  $\mathcal{G}[q_4]$  the four submatrices  $B_2$ ,  $Q_2$ ,  $B_4$ ,  $Q_4$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  defined in (1); and by  $\mathcal{G}[b]$  and  $\mathcal{G}[q]$  the submatrices of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\left( \begin{array}{c} B_2 \\ B_4 \end{array} \right)$ ,  $\left( \begin{array}{c} Q_2 \\ Q_4 \end{array} \right)$ , respectively.

**Definition 3 (BA-Plotkin Construction)** *Let  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  be any three  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes of types  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma_{\mathcal{X}}, \delta_{\mathcal{X}})$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma_{\mathcal{Y}}, \delta_{\mathcal{Y}})$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}, \delta_{\mathcal{Z}})$  and minimum distances  $d_{\mathcal{X}}$ ,  $d_{\mathcal{Y}}$ ,  $d_{\mathcal{Z}}$ , respectively. Let  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Z}}$  be the generator matrices*

of the  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive codes  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$ , respectively. We define a new code  $\mathcal{C}$  as the  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code generated by

$$\mathcal{G}_{BA} = \left( \begin{array}{cc|cccc} \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[b] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[b] & 2\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[b] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[q] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[q] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[q] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}[q] \\ 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[b_2] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[b_2] & 0 & 2\mathcal{G}'_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_2] & \mathcal{G}'_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_2] & 3\mathcal{G}'_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_2] \\ 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[b_4] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[b_4] & 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_4] & 2\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_4] & 3\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_4] \\ \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[b_4] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[b_4] & 0 & 0 & 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_4] & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_4] \\ 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Z}}[b] & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Z}}[q] \end{array} \right),$$

where  $\mathcal{G}'_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_2]$  is the matrix obtained from  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{Y}}[q_2]$  after switching twos by ones in its  $\gamma_{\mathcal{Y}}$  rows of order two, and considering the ones from the third column of the construction as ones in the quaternary ring  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ .

**Proposition 4** Code  $\mathcal{C}$  defined above is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code of type  $(2\alpha, \alpha + 4\beta; \gamma, \delta)$  where  $\gamma = \gamma_{\mathcal{X}} + \gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}$ ,  $\delta = \delta_{\mathcal{X}} + \gamma_{\mathcal{Y}} + 2\delta_{\mathcal{Y}} + \delta_{\mathcal{Z}}$ , binary length  $n = 4\alpha + 8\beta$ , size  $2^{\gamma+2\delta}$  and minimum distance  $d = \min\{4d_{\mathcal{X}}, 2d_{\mathcal{Y}}, d_{\mathcal{Z}}\}$ .

### 3 Additive Reed-Muller codes

We will refer to  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive Reed-Muller codes as  $\mathcal{ARM}$ . Just as there is only one  $RM$  family in the binary case, in the  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive case there are  $\lfloor \frac{m+2}{2} \rfloor$  families for each value of  $m$ . Each one of these families will contain any of the  $\lfloor \frac{m+2}{2} \rfloor$  non-isomorphic  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -linear extended perfect codes which are known to exist for any  $m$  [3].

We will identify each family  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r, m)$  by a subindex  $s \in \{0, \dots, \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor\}$ .

#### 3.1 The families of $\mathcal{ARM}(r, 1)$ and $\mathcal{ARM}(r, 2)$ codes

We start by considering the case  $m = 1$ , that is the case of codes of binary length  $n = 2^1$ . The  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive Reed-Muller code  $\mathcal{ARM}(0, 1)$  is the repetition code, of type  $(2, 0; 1, 0)$  and which only has one nonzero codeword (the vector with only two binary coordinates of value 1). The code  $\mathcal{ARM}(1, 1)$  is the whole space  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ , thus a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code of type  $(2, 0; 2, 0)$ . Both codes  $\mathcal{ARM}(0, 1)$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}(1, 1)$  are binary codes with the same parameters and properties as the corresponding binary  $RM(r, 1)$  codes (see [8]). We will refer to them as  $\mathcal{ARM}_0(0, 1)$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}_0(1, 1)$ , respectively.

The generator matrix of  $\mathcal{ARM}_0(0, 1)$  is  $\mathcal{G}_0(0, 1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and the generator matrix of  $\mathcal{ARM}_0(1, 1)$  is  $\mathcal{G}_0(1, 1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

For  $m = 2$  we have two families,  $s = 0$  and  $s = 1$ , of additive Reed-Muller codes of binary length  $n = 2^2$ . The family  $\mathcal{ARM}_0(r, 2)$  consists of binary codes obtained from applying the Plotkin construction defined in Proposition 2 to the family  $\mathcal{ARM}_0(r, 1)$ . For  $s = 1$ , we define  $\mathcal{ARM}_1(0, 2)$ ,  $\mathcal{ARM}_1(1, 2)$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}_1(2, 2)$  as the codes with generator matrices  $\mathcal{G}_1(0, 2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1|2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_1(1, 2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1|2 \\ 0 & 1|0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_1(2, 2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1|2 \\ 0 & 1|1 \end{pmatrix}$ , respectively.

### 3.2 Plotkin and BA-Plotkin constructions

Take the family  $\mathcal{ARM}_s$  and let  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r, m-1)$ ,  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r-1, m-1)$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r-2, m-1)$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq \lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor$ , be three consecutive codes with parameters  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma', \delta')$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma'', \delta'')$  and  $(\alpha, \beta; \gamma''', \delta''')$ ; binary length  $n = 2^{m-1}$ ; minimum distances  $2^{m-r-1}$ ,  $2^{m-r}$  and  $2^{m-r+1}$ ; and generator matrices  $\mathcal{G}_s(r, m-1)$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_s(r-1, m-1)$  and  $\mathcal{G}_s(r-2, m-1)$ , respectively. By using Proposition 2 and Proposition 4 we can prove the following results:

**Theorem 5** *For any  $r$  and  $m \geq 2$ ,  $0 < r < m$ , code  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r, m)$  obtained by applying the Plotkin construction from Definition 1 on codes  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r, m-1)$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r-1, m-1)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive code of type  $(2\alpha, 2\beta; \gamma, \delta)$ , where  $\gamma = \gamma' + \gamma''$  and  $\delta = \delta' + \delta''$ ; binary length  $n = 2^m$ ; size  $2^k$  codewords, where  $k = \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{m}{i}$ ; minimum distance  $2^{m-r}$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r-1, m) \subset \mathcal{ARM}_s(r, m)$ .*

We consider  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(0, m)$  to be the repetition code with only one nonzero codeword (the vector with  $2\alpha$  ones and  $2\beta$  twos) and  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(m, m)$  be the whole space  $\mathbb{Z}_2^{2\alpha} \times \mathbb{Z}_4^{2\beta}$ .

**Theorem 6** *For any  $r$  and  $m \geq 3$ ,  $0 < r < m$ ,  $s > 0$ , use the BA-Plotkin construction from Definition 3, where generator matrices  $\mathcal{G}_X, \mathcal{G}_Y, \mathcal{G}_Z$  stand for  $\mathcal{G}_s(r, m-1)$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_s(r-1, m-1)$  and  $\mathcal{G}_s(r-2, m-1)$ , respectively, to obtain a new  $\mathbb{Z}_2\mathbb{Z}_4$ -additive  $\mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(r, m+1)$  code of type  $(2\alpha, \alpha+4\beta; \gamma, \delta)$ , where  $\gamma = \gamma' + \gamma'''$ ,  $\delta = \delta' + \gamma'' + 2\delta'' + \delta'''$ ; binary length  $n = 2^{m+1}$ ;  $2^k$  codewords, where  $k = \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{m+1}{i}$ , minimum distance  $2^{m-r+1}$  and, moreover,  $\mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(r-1, m+1) \subset \mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(r, m+1)$ .*

To be coherent with all notations, code  $\mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(-1, m+1)$  is defined as the all zero codeword code, code  $\mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(0, m+1)$  is defined as the repetition code with only one nonzero codeword (the vector with  $2\alpha$  ones and  $\alpha+4\beta$  twos), whereas codes  $\mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(m, m+1)$  and  $\mathcal{ARM}_{s+1}(m+1, m+1)$  are defined as the even Lee weight code and the whole space  $\mathbb{Z}_2^{2\alpha} \times \mathbb{Z}_4^{\alpha+4\beta}$ , respectively.

Using both Theorem 5 and Theorem 6 we can now construct all  $\mathcal{ARM}_s(r, m)$  codes for  $m > 2$ . Once applied the Gray map, all these codes give rise to binary codes with the same parameters and properties as the RM codes. Moreover, when  $m = 2$  or  $m = 3$ , they also have the same codewords.

## References

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