6. Decoding Generalized Reed-Solomon Codes

#### Decoding Generalized Reed-Solomon Codes

• We consider  $\mathcal{C}_{GRS}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with PCM

$$H_{\text{GRS}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \dots & \alpha_n \\ \alpha_1^2 & \alpha_2^2 & \dots & \alpha_n^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \alpha_1^{\ell} & \alpha_2^{\ell} & \dots & \alpha_n^{\ell} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \alpha_1^{r-1} & \alpha_2^{r-1} & \dots & \alpha_n^{r-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & & & \\ & v_2 & & 0 \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & v_n \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$  distinct, and  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$  (recall that r = n - k = d - 1).

Codeword c transmitted, word y received, with error vector

$$\mathbf{e} = (e_1 \ e_2 \ \dots \ e_n) = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{c} \ .$$

- $J = {\kappa : e_{\kappa} \neq 0}$  set of *error locations*.
- We describe an algorithm that correctly decodes y to c, under the assumption  $|J| \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-1)$ .

### Syndrome Computation

• First step of the decoding algorithm: syndrome computation

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{S} &= \begin{pmatrix} S_0 \\ S_1 \\ \vdots \\ S_{r-1} \end{pmatrix} = H_{\mathrm{GRS}} \mathbf{y}^T = H_{\mathrm{GRS}} \mathbf{e}^T & \begin{bmatrix} \ell \operatorname{th row of } H_{\mathrm{GRS}} \colon \\ \left[ v_1 \alpha_1^\ell, \ v_2 \alpha_2^\ell, \ \dots, \ v_n \alpha_n^\ell \right] \end{bmatrix} \\ S_\ell &= \sum_{j=1}^n y_j v_j \alpha_j^\ell = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j v_j \alpha_j^\ell = \sum_{j \in J} e_j v_j \alpha_j^\ell \ , \quad \ell = 0, 1, \dots, r-1 \ . \end{split}$$

**Example:** For conventional RS codes, we have  $\alpha_j = \alpha^{j-1}$  and  $v_j = \alpha^{b(j-1)}$ , so

$$\begin{split} S_{\ell} &= \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \alpha^{(j-1)(b+\ell)} \ = \ y(\alpha^{b+\ell}) \,, \quad \ell = 0, 1, \dots, r-1 \\ & \text{(recall } \mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathrm{RS}} \Leftrightarrow c(\alpha^{b+\ell}) = 0, \ \ell = 0, 1, \dots r-1 \text{)}. \end{split}$$

• Syndrome polynomial:

$$S(x) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} S_{\ell} x^{\ell} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} x^{\ell} \sum_{j \in J} e_{j} v_{j} \alpha_{j}^{\ell} = \sum_{j \in J} e_{j} v_{j} \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} (\alpha_{j} x)^{\ell} .$$

# A Congruence for the Syndrome Polynomial

$$S(x) = \sum_{j \in J} e_j v_j \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} (\alpha_j x)^{\ell}$$
.

We have

$$(1 - \alpha_j x) \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} (\alpha_j x)^{\ell} = 1 - (\alpha_j x)^r \equiv 1 \pmod{x^r}.$$

Therefore, we can write

$$\sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} (\alpha_j x)^{\ell} \equiv \frac{1}{1 - \alpha_j x} \pmod{x^r}$$

$$\Longrightarrow \qquad S(x) \equiv \sum_{j \in J} \frac{e_j v_j}{1 - \alpha_j x} \pmod{x^r}$$

$$\left(\sum_{\mathsf{empty}} \Box \stackrel{\Delta}{=} 0\right)$$

### More Auxiliary Polynomials

Error locator polynomial (ELP)

$$\Lambda(x) = \prod_{j \in J} (1 - \alpha_j x)$$
  $\left(\prod_{\text{empty}} \Box \stackrel{\Delta}{=} 1\right)$ 

Error evaluator polynomial (EEP)

$$\Gamma(x) = \sum_{j \in J} e_j v_j \prod_{m \in J \setminus \{j\}} (1 - \alpha_m x)$$

 $\bullet \ \ \Lambda(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1}) = 0 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \kappa \in J \quad \ \ \textit{roots of EEP point to error locations}$ 

• 
$$\Gamma(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1}) = e_{\kappa} v_{\kappa} \prod_{m \in J \setminus {\kappa}} (1 - \alpha_{m} \alpha_{\kappa}^{-1}) \neq 0$$

$$\implies \gcd(\Lambda(x), \Gamma(x)) = 1$$

The degrees of ELP and EEP satisfy

$$\deg \Lambda = |J|$$
 and  $\deg \Gamma < |J|$ 

Of course, we don't know  $\Lambda(x)$ ,  $\Gamma(x)$ : our goal is to find them

# Key Equation of GRS Decoding

Since  $|J| \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-1)$ , from  $\deg \Lambda = |J|, \deg \Gamma < |J|$  we get

(1) 
$$\operatorname{deg} \Lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-1)$$
 and (2)  $\operatorname{deg} \Gamma < \frac{1}{2}(d-1)$ 

The ELP and the EEP are related by

$$\Gamma(x) = \sum_{j \in J} e_j v_j \prod_{m \in J \setminus \{j\}} (1 - \alpha_m x) = \sum_{j \in J} e_j v_j \frac{\Lambda(x)}{1 - \alpha_j x} = \Lambda(x) \sum_{j \in J} \frac{e_j v_j}{1 - \alpha_j x}$$

 $S(x) \mod x^{d-1}$  (recall d-1=r)

$$\Longrightarrow$$
 (3)  $\Lambda(x)S(x) \equiv \Gamma(x) \pmod{x^{d-1}}$ 

(1)+(2)+(3): key equation of GRS decoding

We have S(x), and we know d. We want to solve for  $\Lambda(x)$  and  $\Gamma(x)$  satisfying (1)+(2)+(3).

# Key Equation of GRS Decoding (cont.)

(1) 
$$\frac{\deg \Lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-1)}{\text{(3)}} \quad \frac{\deg \Gamma < \frac{1}{2}(d-1)}{\operatorname{(mod } x^{d-1})}$$

The coefficients of  $\Lambda(x)$  and  $\Gamma(x)$  solve the system of linear equations

$$d-1 \begin{pmatrix} S_{0} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ S_{1} & S_{0} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{S_{\tau-1}}{S_{\tau}} & \frac{S_{\tau-2}}{S_{\tau-1}} & \cdots & S_{0} & 0 \\ \frac{S_{\tau+1}}{S_{\tau}} & \frac{S_{\tau-1}}{S_{\tau}} & \cdots & S_{2} & S_{1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{S_{d-2}}{S_{d-3}} & \frac{S_{d-1-\tau}}{S_{d-1-\tau}} & \frac{S_{d-2-\tau}}{S_{d-2-\tau}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{0} \\ \lambda_{1} \\ \lambda_{2} \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_{\tau} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{0} \\ \gamma_{1} \\ \vdots \\ \gamma_{\tau-1} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \left(\tau \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor\right)$$

- a set of r=d-1 linear equations in the coefficients of  $\Lambda$  and  $\Gamma$
- the last  $\lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d-1) \rfloor$  equations depend only on  $\Lambda$
- ullet we can solve for  $\Lambda$ , find its root set J, then solve *linear* equations for  $e_j$
- straightforward solution leads to  $O(d^3)$  algorithm we'll present an  $O(d^2)$  one

### The Extended Euclidean Algorithm for polynomials

Given a(x), b(x) over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , with  $a(x) \neq 0$  and  $\deg a > \deg b$ , the algorithm computes sequences of remainders  $r_i(x)$ , quotients  $q_i(x)$ , and auxiliary polynomials  $s_i(x)$ ,  $t_i(x)$ 

```
\begin{array}{l} r_{-1}(x) \leftarrow a(x); \ r_0(x) \leftarrow b(x); \\ s_{-1}(x) \leftarrow 1; \ s_0(x) \leftarrow 0; \\ t_{-1}(x) \leftarrow 0; \ t_0(x) \leftarrow 1; \\ \text{for } (i \leftarrow 1; \ r_{i-1}(x) \neq 0; \ i++) \ \{ \\ q_i(x) \leftarrow r_{i-2}(x) \ \text{div } r_{i-1}(x); \\ r_i(x) \leftarrow r_{i-2}(x) - q_i(x) \, r_{i-1}(x); \\ s_i(x) \leftarrow s_{i-2}(x) - q_i(x) \, s_{i-1}(x); \\ t_i(x) \leftarrow t_{i-2}(x) - q_i(x) \, t_{i-1}(x); \\ \} \end{array}
```

- Let  $\nu = \text{largest } i \text{ such that } r_i \neq 0$ . Then,  $r_{\nu}(x) = \gcd(a(x), b(x))$ .
- We also know that  $s_{\nu}(x)a(x)+t_{\nu}(x)b(x)=\gcd(a(x),b(x))$  (often used to compute modular inverses).

### Properties of the Euclidean Algorithm Sequences

#### Proposition (E1)

The following relations hold:

(i) For 
$$i = -1, 0, ..., \nu + 1$$
:  $s_i(x)a(x) + t_i(x)b(x) = r_i(x)$ 

(ii) For 
$$i = 0, 1, ..., \nu + 1$$
:  $\deg t_i + \deg r_{i-1} = \deg a$ 

**Proof.** By induction on  $i.\Box$ 

#### Proposition (E2)

Suppose that  $t(x), r(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x] \setminus \{0\}$  satisfy the following conditions:

(C1) 
$$gcd(t(x), r(x)) = 1$$

(C2) 
$$\deg t + \deg r < \deg a$$

(C3) 
$$t(x)b(x) \equiv r(x) \pmod{a(x)}$$

Then, for some  $h\in\{0,1,\ldots,\nu+1\}$  and a constant  $c\in\mathbb{F}$ , we have  $t(x)=c\cdot t_h(x)\quad\text{and}\quad r(x)=c\cdot r_h(x)\;.$ 

**Proof.** Standard polynomial manipulations, Proposition (E1), and recalling that the sequence  $\deg r_i$  is strictly decreasing.  $\square$ 

#### Solving the Key Equation

- Apply the Euclidean algorithm with  $a(x) = x^{d-1}$  and b(x) = S(x).
  - Let  $\Lambda(x)$  and  $\Gamma(x)$  play the roles of t(x) and r(x), respectively, in Proposition (E2). The definitions of  $\Lambda$  and  $\Gamma$ , and the key equation, guarantee that conditions (C1)–(C3) are satisfied.
    - (C1)  $gcd(t(x), r(x)) = gcd(\Lambda(x), \Gamma(x)) = 1$
    - (C2)  $\deg t + \deg r = \deg \Lambda + \deg \Gamma < \deg a = d 1$
    - (C3)  $t(x)b(x) \equiv r(x) \mod a(x) \Leftrightarrow \Lambda(x)S(x) \equiv \Gamma(x) \mod x^{d-1}$
  - By Proposition (E2), we have  $\Lambda(x) = c \cdot t_h(x)$  and  $\Gamma(x) = c \cdot r_h(x)$  for some index h and scalar constant c.

How do we find index h?

#### Theorem

The solution to the key equation is unique up to a scalar constant, and it is obtained with the Euclidean algorithm by stopping at the unique index h such that

$$\deg r_h < \frac{1}{2}(d-1) \le \deg r_{h-1}$$

**Proof.** Such an h exists because  $r_i$  is strictly decreasing. The degree properties follow from the propositions.  $\square$ 

### Finding the Error Values

- $\left[\sum_{i=0}^{s} a_i x^i\right]' = \sum_{i=1}^{s} i a_i x^{i-1}$ • Formal derivatives in finite fields: (a(x)b(x))' = a'(x)b(x) + a(x)b'(x) (not surprising)
- For the ELP, we have

$$\begin{split} \Lambda(x) &= \prod_{j \in J} (1 - \alpha_j x) &\implies \quad \Lambda'(x) = \sum_{j \in J} (-\alpha_j) \prod_{m \in J \setminus \{j\}} (1 - \alpha_m x) \,, \\ \text{and, for } \kappa \in J, & \\ \Lambda'(\alpha_\kappa^{-1}) &= -\alpha_\kappa \prod_{m \in J \setminus \{\kappa\}} (1 - \alpha_m \alpha_\kappa^{-1}) \,, \end{split}$$

$$\Gamma(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1}) = e_{\kappa} v_{\kappa} \prod_{m \in J \setminus {\kappa}} (1 - \alpha_{m} \alpha_{\kappa}^{-1})$$

• Therefore, for all error locations  $\kappa \in J$ , we obtain

$$e_{\kappa} = -\frac{\alpha_{\kappa}}{v_{\kappa}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1})}{\Lambda'(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1})}$$

 $e_{\kappa} = -\frac{\alpha_{\kappa}}{v_{\kappa}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1})}{\Lambda'(\alpha_{\kappa}^{-1})} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \textit{Forney's algorithm for error} \\ \textit{values} \end{array}$ values

# Summary of GRS Decoding

Input: received word  $(y_1 \ y_2 \ \dots \ y_n) \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ . Output: error vector  $(e_1 \ e_2 \ \dots \ e_n) \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ .

**1** Syndrome computation: Compute the polynomial  $S(x) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{d-2} S_{\ell} x^{\ell}$  by

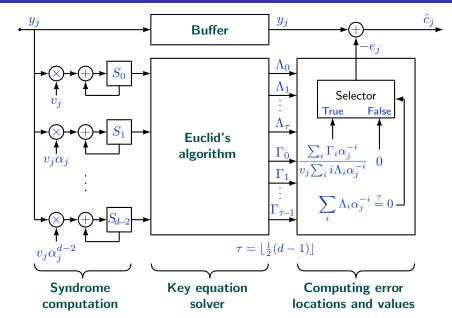
$$S_{\ell} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} y_j v_j \alpha_j^{\ell} , \quad \ell = 0, 1, \dots, d-2 .$$

- **2** Solving the key equation: Apply Euclid's algorithm to  $a(x) \leftarrow x^{d-1}$  and  $b(x) \leftarrow S(x)$  to produce  $\Lambda(x) \leftarrow t_h(x)$  and  $\Gamma(x) \leftarrow r_h(x)$ , where h is the smallest index i for which  $\deg r_i < \frac{1}{2}(d-1)$ .
- 3 Forney's algorithm: Compute the error locations and values by

$$e_j = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\frac{\alpha_j}{v_j} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_j^{-1})}{\Lambda'(\alpha_j^{-1})} & \quad \text{if } \Lambda(\alpha_j^{-1}) = 0 \\ 0 & \quad \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right., \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \ .$$

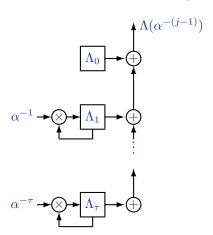
Complexity: 1. O(dn) 2. O((|J|+1)d) 3. O((|J|+1)n)

#### Schematic for GRS Decoder



## Finding Roots of the ELP (RS Codes)

Chien search for RS codes  $(\alpha_j = \alpha^{j-1}, 1 \le j \le n)$ 



.  $\Lambda(\alpha^{-(\jmath-1)})$  At clock cycle #j, the cell labeled  $\Lambda_i$  contains

$$\Lambda_i \alpha^{-i(j-1)}, \ 0 \le i \le \tau,$$

and the output of the circuit is

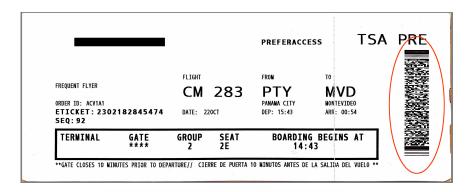
$$\begin{split} &\sum_{i=0}^{\tau} \Lambda_i \alpha^{-i(j-1)} \\ &= \Lambda(\alpha^{-(j-1)}) = \Lambda(\alpha_j^{-1}), \ 1 \leq j \leq n. \end{split}$$

### Other Decoding Algorithms

Many decoding algorithms and variants have been developed over the years. We mention a few of the most important ones.

- Berlekamp algorithm [1967] (also referred to as Berlekamp-Massey due to
  a clearer description and improvements by Massey [1969]): first efficient
  solution of the key equation, using Newton's identities and solving for
  shortest recurrence that generates the syndrome sequence. Complexity
  comparable to the Euclidean algorithm.
- Welch-Berlekamp [1986]: Solves key equation starting from remainder syndrome  $y(x) \pmod{g(x)}$ , without computing power sums. Akin to continued fractions and Padé approximations.
- List decoding: Decodes beyond  $\tau = \lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d-1) \rfloor$  errors, producing a list of candidate decoded codewords. Very often, the coset leader is unique even beyond  $\tau$ . Dates back to the '50s, but has gotten recent focus due to elegant and efficient algorithms by Sudan ['97], Guruswami-Sudan ['99] and others.
- Soft decoding: Information on the *reliability* of the symbols is available. Can lead to significant gains in decoding performance.

## Applications: PDF417 bar code



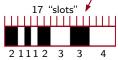


PDF417: A multi-row, 1D bar code (PDF: Portable Data File).

#### PDF417 bar code structure



In bar-code jargon, the whole array is referred to as a *symbol* 



3-90

rows

*Codeword:* an alternating pattern of 4 *bars* and 4 *spaces*, of varying widths, satisfying some constraints (e.g. width  $\leq 6$ ). Total width: 17; 417 comes from 4+17.

- Basic global parameters (height, width, ECC level, etc.) are encoded in the left and right row indicators. A form of repetition coding (one copy per row).
- Consecutive rows use different sets of bar/space patterns (codewords). Each set has 929 codewords; 3 disjoint sets are used cyclically.
- Number of rows:  $3 \le h \le 90$ . Number of codewords per row:  $1 \le w \le 30$  (all rows have the same number of codewords).
- Total number of codewords (all rows):  $n \leq 928$ .
- Using fixed tables, each codeword is mapped to a number in  $\{0,1,\ldots,928\}$ , and interpreted as an element of  $\mathrm{GF}(929)$  (929 is prime).

# PDF417: Codeword mapping

Table H1. The Bar-Space Sequence Table. Cluster 0											
osbsbsbs	<u>val</u>	bsbsbsbs	val	bsbsbsbs	<u>val</u>	bsbsbsbs	val	bsbsbsbs	<u>val</u>	bsbsbsbs	va
31111136	0	41111144	1	51111152	2	31111235	3	41111243	4	51111251	5
21111326	6	31111334	7	21111425	8	11111516	9	21111524	10	11111615	11
21112136	12	31112144	13	41112152	14	21112235	15	31112243	16	41112251	17
11112326	18	21112334	19	11112425	20	11113136	21	21113144	22	31113152	23
11113235	24	21113243	25	31113251	26	11113334	27	21113342	28	11114144	29
21114152	30	11114243	31	21114251	32	11115152	33	51116111	34	31121135	35
41121143	36	51121151	37	21121226	38	31121234	39	41121242	40	21121325	41
31121333	42	11121416	43	21121424	44	31121432	45	11121515	46	21121523	47
11121614	48	21122135	49	31122143	50	41122151	51	11122226	52	21122234	53
31122242	54	11122325	55	21122333	56	31122341	57	11122424	58	21122432	59
11123135	60	21123143	61	31123151	62	11123234	63	21123242	64	11123333	65
21123341	66	11124143	67	21124151	68	11124242	69	11124341	70	21131126	71
31131134	72	41131142	73	21131225	74	31131233	75	41131241	76	11131316	77
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
		;								:	

#### PDF417: Error correction

- An *error correction level*, s,  $0 \le s \le 8$ , is defined.
- The sequence of codewords (all rows) is interpreted as a *code block* in a  $[k+r,\,k,\,r+1]$  shortened Reed Solomon code over  $\mathrm{GF}(929)$ , where
  - k is the number of codewords used for actual data.
    - Raw data is mapped to codewords using various efficient modes depending on whether the data is numeric, text, binary, or mixed.
    - One bar code can encode more than 1100 raw bytes, 1800 ASCII characters, or 2700 decimal digits, depending on the mode.
  - $r = 2^{s+1}$ , so  $r \in \{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512\}$ .
  - $k + r \le 928$ .
- 2 check digits are reserved for detection; the rest (if any) are used for erasure and full error correction.
- The generator polynomial of the RS code is

$$g(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{r} (x - 3^{i}),$$

3 is primitive in GF(929).

### Application: QR codes



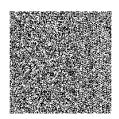
Version 1:  $21 \times 21$ 



Version 3:  $29 \times 29$ 



Version 10:  $57 \times 57$ 



Version 40:  $177 \times 177$ 

A truly 2D, highly versatile bar code (array referred to as a symbol)

# Application: QR codes

#### Widespread use

- Product or part tracking (original motivation)
- Web links
- Restaurant menus
- Tickets
- Document verification
- ... etc.

Robust ECC allows for data recovery under significant damage, and also for graphic art customization.







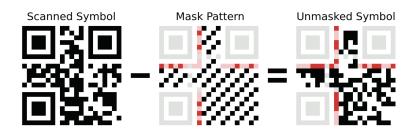
Fully recoverable symbols

# QR codes: Versions ( = Sizes)

Version	Size	Capacity									
<u>M1</u>	11	4½	<u>8</u>	49	242	<u>19</u>	93	991	30	137	2185
<u>M2</u>	13	10	9	53	292	<u>20</u>	97	1085	<u>31</u>	141	2323
<u>M3</u>	15	16½	<u>10</u>	57	346	21	101	1156	32	145	2465
<u>M4</u>	17	24	<u>11</u>	61	404	22	105	1258	33	149	2611
1	21	26	12	65	466	23	109	1364	34	153	2761
2	25	44	<u>13</u>	69	532	24	113	1474	35	157	2876
3	29	70	14	73	581	25	117	1588	36	161	3034
4	33	100	<u>15</u>	77	655	<u>26</u>	121	1706	37	165	3196
5	37	134	<u>16</u>	81	733	27	125	1828	38	169	3362
<u>6</u>	41	172	<u>17</u>	85	815	28	129	1921	39	173	3532
7	45	196	<u>18</u>	89	901	<u>29</u>	133	2051	<u>40</u>	177	3706

Capacity = number of main data bytes (including ECC)

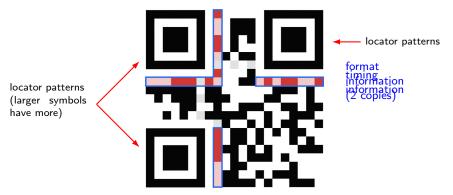
# QR codes: masking



- An XOR mask is applied by the encoder to the raw data to minimize undesirable features (large areas of the same color, etc.).
- Several masks are tried, and the resulting array is scored for bad features.
   Mask with the best score is chosen.
- The choice is encoded in the symbol.

#### QR codes: structure

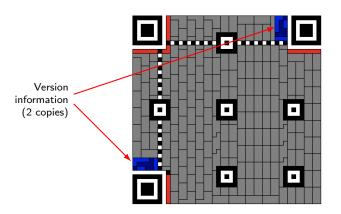
#### Version 1 symbol: $21 \times 21$



Format areas (2 copies): 5 bits of information, encoded with a [15, 5, 7] binary BCH code (small code, exhaustive decoding possible). Format info (5 bits):

- 2 bits: error correction level (4 levels: L, M, Q, H).
- 3 bits: masking pattern.

### QR codes: structure

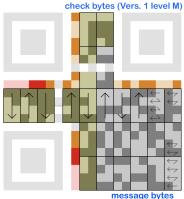


Larger symbols (Version 7:  $45 \times 45$  and higher) also carry *version information*: 6 bits, encoded with a binary [18, 6, 8] code.

The code is derived from the [23,12,7] (perfect) Golay code by taking the even codewords ([23,11,8]) and shortening.

As with format information, two copies are written.

#### QR codes: main data with error correction



message bytes

Data is encoded using *shortened RS* codes over GF(256).

n, n-k for	redundancy in
$21 \times 21$ symbol	general case
26, 7	$\approx 14\%$
26, 10	$\approx 30\%$
26, 13	pprox 50%
26, 17	$\approx 60\%$
	$\begin{array}{c} 21 \times 21 \text{ symbol} \\ 26, \ 7 \\ 26, 10 \\ 26, 13 \end{array}$

#### For larger symbols:

- Data is broken up into multiple RS blocks ( $41 \times 41$  and larger)
- RS block length is limited so that  $n-k \leq 30$  (complexity)
- RS blocks are interleaved.

#### Examples:

	array	ECC	message	num. blocks	ECC	message	num. blocks
vers.	size	level	bytes	$\times (n, n-k)$	level	bytes	$\times (n, n-k)$
10	$57 \times 57$	L	274	$2 \times (86, 18)$	Q	154	$6 \times (43, 24)$
				$2 \times (87, 18)$			$2 \times (44, 24)$
40	$177 \times 177$	L	2956	$19 \times (148, 30)$	Q	1666	$34 \times (54, 30)$
				$6 \times (149, 30)$			$34 \times (55, 30)$