

# CYCLIC CODES OF LENGTH $n$ OVER $GF(q)$ $q$ -CYCLOTOMIC COSETS MODULO $n$ AND APPLICATION OF BURNSIDE'S LEMMA

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**Abstract:** The idea of  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  due to Huffman and Vera pless is considered in the context of linear codes of length  $n$  over  $GF(q)$  where  $q = p^m$ ,  $p$  is a prime,  $m \geq 1$ . An explicit formula for the number of  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  is obtained as an application of the classical Burnside's lemma. The formula for the number of cyclic codes in  $R_n = F_q[x]/(x^n - 1)$  is deduced. Illustration is shown for special value of  $q$  and  $n$ .

**Index terms:** Field extensions, splitting fields, cyclic codes, minimal polynomial, primitive roots, Orbit of group action,  $q$ -Cyclotomic cosets.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $F_q$  denotes a finite field having  $q$ - elements  $q = p^l$  where  $p$  is a prime and  $l \geq 1$ . The set of nonzero elements of  $F_q$  is denoted  $F_q^*$  is a cyclic group of order  $q-1$  under multiplication. It implies that  $F_q^* = \{ \alpha^i / 0 \leq i \leq q-2 \}$  Where  $\alpha$  is a generator of the cyclic group  $F_q^*$ . Infact  $\alpha$  may be taken as an imaginary  $(q-1)$ th root of unity  $\alpha$  is a complex number such that  $|\alpha| = 1$ .

**Definition 1** A linear code  $C$  is called cyclic code if whenever  $a = a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{n-1}$  is a code word, then  $a'$  obtained from  $a$  by a cyclic shift of the coordinates is such that  $a' = a_{n-1}, a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-2}$  is also a codeword. By a cyclic shift of the coordinates we mean a permutation  $\pi$  of the set  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  defined by  $\pi(i) = i + 1 \pmod{n}$  of  $i \rightarrow i + 1 \pmod{n}$ .

**Definition 2** The  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets of  $s$  modulo  $n$  is the set  $C_s = \{s, sq, sq^2, \dots, sq^{r-1}\}$  modulo  $n$  where  $r$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $sq^r \equiv s \pmod{n}$ .  $C_s$  is the orbite of the permutation  $\tau : i \rightarrow iq \pmod{n}$  that contains  $s$ . It is shown in [3] that the number of cyclic codes in  $R_n$  is  $2^m$  where  $m$  is the number of  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$ .

The purpose of this note is to give an evaluation of  $m$  using a counting principle called Burnside's Lemma [7] while highlighting a few related results we revisit cyclic codes of length  $2^m$  considered by Manju Pruthi in [5].

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $s$  be an integer satisfies  $0 \leq s \leq n - 1$ . The  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets of  $s$  modulo  $n$  is given by  $C_s = \{s, sq, sq^2, \dots, sq^{r-1}\}$  where

$r = \exp_n q$ . That implies  $r$  is the least positive integer such that

$$sq^r \equiv s \pmod{n} \quad \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

**Definition 3** Let  $\sigma = \pi_{q^i}$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, r-1$  be a permutation belonging to  $G_q$ . Let  $s \in T, 0 \leq s \leq n-1$ . The orbit of  $s$  under  $\sigma$  written  $O_{\sigma} = \sigma^t(s) \mid t \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .

**Example 4** Let  $T = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$   $n = 5$   $q = 3$   $G_3 = \{I_5, \pi_3, \pi_{3^2}, \pi_{3^3}\}$ . We note that  $O_{\pi_3}(2)$  the orbit of  $2 \in T$  under  $\pi_3$  is  $O_{\pi_3}(2) = \{\pi_3^t(2) \mid t \in \mathbb{N}\} = \{2, \pi_3(2), \pi_{3^2}(2), \pi_{3^3}(2), \pi_{3^4}(2)\}$

Next, when  $C$  is a cyclic code of length  $n$ , a codeword  $c(x) = c_0c_1c_2 \dots c_{n-1}$  where  $c_i \in \mathbb{F}_q$  is identified with the polynomial  $c(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + \dots + c_{n-1}x^{n-1}$  which is an element of  $\mathbb{R}_n$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}_n$  is the ring the set  $V_{n,q}[x] = \{c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + \dots + c_{n-1}x^{n-1} \mid c_i \in \mathbb{F}_q, i = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$  is a vector space of dimension  $n$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Therefore  $V_{n,q}[x]$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}_n$  when multiplication of polynomial in  $V_{n,q}[x]$  is reduced modulo  $x^n - 1$ , while considering  $\mathbb{R}_n$  since  $\langle x^n - 1 \rangle$  is principle ideal of  $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ ,  $I[x] = \langle x^n - 1 \rangle = \{g(x)(x^n - 1) \mid g(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]\}$  an element of  $\mathbb{R}_n$  is of the form  $c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + \dots + c_{n-1}x^{n-1} + I[x]$   $c_i \in \mathbb{F}_q$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}_n$  is also a principle ideal domain, the principle ideal generated by  $h(x) \in \mathbb{R}_n$  is denoted by  $\langle h(x) \rangle$ . If  $\alpha$  is a primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity  $\alpha^n = 1$  and  $\alpha^m \neq 1$  occurring in some extension  $\mathbb{F}_{q^t}$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ,  $t \geq 1$ , then  $h(x) = \prod_{s \in C_s} M_{\alpha^s}(x)$  where  $s$  runs through a subset of representatives of the  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  and  $M_{\alpha^s}(x) = \prod_{i \in C_s} (x - \alpha^i)$  where  $C_s$  is the  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  in [3]. If

$\mathbb{F}_{q^t}^* = \mathbb{F}_q^* \setminus \{0\}$  is a cyclic group of order  $q^t - 1$ . If  $\alpha$  is a primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity occurring in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^t}^*$ ,  $\alpha^n = 1$  implies that  $\mathbb{F}_{q^t}^*$  contains a cyclic subgroup of order  $n$  and by Lagrange's theorem  $n$  divides  $O(\mathbb{F}_{q^t}^*) = q^t - 1$ . Suppose that  $r$  is a primitive element in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^t}$  where  $t = \text{exp}_n q$ . If  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{q^t}$  is such that  $\alpha = r^d$  is a primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity where  $d = \frac{q^t - 1}{n}$  the zeros of  $M_{\alpha^s}(x)$ 's are  $\alpha^{ds}, \alpha^{dsq}, \alpha^{dsq^2}, \dots, \alpha^{dsq^{r-1}}$ .

There are actually  $\alpha^s, \alpha^{sq}, \alpha^{sq^2}, \dots, \alpha^{sq^{r-1}}$  where  $r$  is the least positive integer such that  $dsq^r \equiv ds(q^t - 1)$  if and only if  $sq^r \equiv s \pmod{n}$ . This leads to the definition of the  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets given in (1).

**3. q-ARY CYCLIC CODES OF LENGTH  $2^m$  ( $m \geq 3$ )**

We consider cyclic codes of length  $2^m$  ( $m \geq 3$ ) over  $\text{GF}(q) = \mathbb{F}_q$  where  $q = p^l$ ,  $p$  an odd prime and  $l \geq 1$ . Manju pruthi [5] obtains  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $2^m$  using purely number theoretic ideas and the structure of a cyclic code given as a  $[2^m, 2^{i-1}, 2^{m-i+1}]$  code over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ,

$1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $m \geq 3$ . The restriction  $m \geq 3$  arises from the fact that when  $q$  is odd  $\frac{\varphi(2^m)}{2} \equiv 1 \pmod{2^m}$ . In other words,  $2^m$  ( $m \geq 3$ ) has no primitive roots modulo  $2^m$ . It follows that  $\text{exp}_q 2^m = 2^{m-2}$ ,  $\varphi(2^m) = 2^{m-1}$  Manju pruthi articles [5] appeared before the publication of the book [3] authored by Huffman and Pless.

**4. AN APPLICATION OF BURNSIDES LEMMA**

**Definition 5** In [7] For  $x, y \in X$  we define a congruence  $x \equiv y \pmod{G}$  to mean that there exists an element  $g \in G$  such that  $g(x) = y$  congruence mod  $G$  is an equivalence relation on  $x$ . The equivalence classes under  $\equiv$  are called the orbit of  $G$  in  $x$ .

**Definition 6** In [7] For  $x \in X$  we define  $G_x$  as the set given by  $G_x = \{ g \in G / g(x) = x \}$  is called the stabilizer of  $x$  in  $G$ . If  $O_x$  denotes the orbit of  $G$  containing  $x$ , then  $|G| = |G_x| |O_x|$  where  $|O_x|$  is the number of cosets of  $G_x$  in  $G$ .

**Theorem 1** Let  $T = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, (n-1)\}$  be the least non negative complete residue system

$\pmod{n}$ . If  $G_q$  denotes the group of permutations  $\pi_q : i \rightarrow i_q$  for  $i \in T$ . The number of  $q$ -cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  is given by  $N_n(q) = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{g \in G} \psi(g)$  Where  $\psi(g)$  is the number of elements of  $T$  which are left fixed by  $g \in G_q$

**Proof :** We suppose that  $S(G)$  denotes the set of orbits of  $G_q$  in  $X$ . let  $d$  denote the number of elements of the form  $g(x)$  where  $x \in X$ ,  $g \in G_q$  and  $g(x) = x$  for fixed  $g \in G_q$ . The number of such elements is  $\psi(g)$ . Then  $d = \sum_{g \in G} \psi(g)$

Now, for fixed  $x \in X$  the number of elements  $g(x)$  for which  $g(x) = x$ ,  $g \in G_q$  is by definition of  $G_q$  is  $|G_q|$ . If  $J$  denotes the union of orbits of  $G_q$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d &= \sum_{y \in J} |G_y| \\ &= \sum_{O \in S(G)} \sum_{x \in G_q} |G_q| \\ \sum_{O \in S(G)} \sum_{x \in X} |G_q| &= \\ &= \sum_{O \in S(G)} \sum_{x \in X} \frac{|G_q|}{|O_x|} \\ &= \sum_{O \in S(G)} |O_x| \frac{|G_q|}{|O_x|} \\ &= |G_q| \sum_{O \in S(G)} 1 \\ &= |G_q| N_n(q) \\ &= r N_n(q) \text{ since } |G_q| = r, \text{exp}_n q = r. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} r N_n(q) &= \sum_{y \in J} |G_y| \\ N_n(q) &= \frac{1}{r} \sum_{y \in J} |G_y| \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \sum_{y \in G_q} \psi(g) \end{aligned}$$

**Example 8** We consider 2-cyclotomic sets modulo 9. Here as  $\text{exp}_9(2) = 6 = \phi(9)$ , 2 is a primitive root modulo 9.

We have  $C_0 = \{0\}$ ,  $C_1 = \{1, 2, 4, 8, 7, 5\}$ ,  $C_3 = \{3, 6\}$

The primitive 9<sup>th</sup> roots of unity lie in  $F_{26}$ , but in no smaller extension of  $GF(2)$ . The irreducible factors of  $x^9 - 1$  over  $GF(2)$

have degree 1, 6 & 2. The polynomials are  $M_1(X) = x + 1$ ,  $M_\alpha(x) = x^6 + x^3 + 1$ . Where  $\alpha$  is a primitive 9<sup>th</sup> root of unity in  $F_2^6$   $\alpha^3$  is a primitive 3<sup>rd</sup> root of unity as  $(\alpha^3)^3 = 1$ . The extension  $F_2^6$  of  $F_2^3$  is of degree 2. So, irreducible polynomial  $\alpha^3$  over  $GF(2)$  is of degree 2. The only quadratic irreducible polynomial over  $GF(2)$  is  $X^2 + X + 1$ . Therefore

$X^9 - 1 = (X + 1)(X^6 + X^3 + 1)(X^2 + X + 1)$  Here  $q = 2$ ,  $|G_2| = 6$  The elements of  $G_2$  are  $\{I, \Pi_2, \Pi_4, \Pi_8, \Pi_{16}, \Pi_{32}\}$

$T = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$   $\psi(1) = 8$  elements of  $T$  which are kept fixed on multiplication by 2. The  $q$  – cyclotomic cosets modulo 9 are already shown So, by Burnside’s lemma, number of 2 cyclotomic cosets (mod 9) =  $18/6 = 3$

*Example 9* We consider 3-cyclotomic cosets modulo 13.  $\alpha$  be a primitive  $13^{\text{th}}$  root of unity. The 3 – cyclotomic cosets are

$C_0 = \{0\}$   $C_1 = \{1, 3, 9\}$   $C_2 = \{2, 6, 5\}$   $C_4 = \{4, 12, 10\}$   $C_7 = \{7, 8, 11\}$  As  $\exp_{13}(3) = 3$  the primitive 13<sup>th</sup> roots of unity lie on  $\mathbb{F}_3$  but in no smaller extension of  $\text{GF}(3)$ . The irreducible factors of  $X^{13}-1$  are

$$M_1(X) = X - 1 = X + 2$$

$$M_\alpha(X) = X^3 + 2X + 1$$

$M_{\alpha^2}(X), M_{\alpha^4}(X)$  and  $M_{\alpha^7}(X)$  are also of degree 3. The number of 3 – cyclotomic cosets modulo 13 is 5. In the notation of burnside’s lemma.  $|G_q| = 3$   $\psi(1) = 13, \psi(\pi_3) = 1, \psi(\pi_9) = 1$  So, the number of 3 – cyclotomic cosets modulo 13 is  $\frac{1}{3}(13+1+1) = 5$

*Theorem 10* The number of cyclic codes in  $R_n = \frac{F_q[x]}{(x^n - 1)}$  is equal to  $2^N$  where  $N$  is the number of  $q$  – cyclotomic cosets modulon  $n$ .

*Proof* Let  $\alpha$  be a primitive  $n$ th root of unity occurring in  $F_{q^t}$  where  $t = \exp_n(q)$ . A cyclic code  $C$  in  $R_n$  is generated by a manic polynomial  $h(x)$  of minimum degree. From (2) we see that  $h(x)$  contains  $M_{\alpha^S}(X)$  determined by  $q$  – cyclotomic cosets modulon  $n$ , as a factor  $M_{\alpha^S}(X)$  is manic and in irreducible over  $F_q$ . Since  $M_{\alpha^S}(X)$  splits only in an extension  $\mathbb{F}_{q^t}$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . So, each non zero cyclic code  $C$  is associated with one or more  $q$ - cyclotomic cosets chosen one at a line , two at a line and so an out of the  $N - q$  – cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  we observe that (o) The zero cyclic code corresponds to  $x^n-1$  the counting of a non zero cyclic code  $C$  happens with counting 1.

1)  $\binom{N}{1}$  times, when each  $q$  – cyclotomic coset modulo  $n$  is chosen one at a time.

2)  $\binom{N}{2}$  Times, when two  $q$  – cyclotomic cosets modulo  $n$  are chosen at a time.

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3)  $\binom{N}{i}$  times, when  $i$   $q$  – cyclotomic coset modulo  $n$  are chosen at a time.

4)  $\binom{N}{N}$  times, when all the  $N$   $q$  – cyclotomic coset modulo  $n$  are chosen at a time.

Thus the total member of cyclic codes in  $R_n$  is given by  $1 + \binom{N}{1} + \binom{N}{2} + \dots + \binom{N}{i} + \dots + 1 = 2^N$  .

*Example 12* We consider 2 – cyclotomic cosets modulo 15. If  $\alpha$  is a primitive 15<sup>th</sup> root of unity  $\alpha$  belongs to  $F_2^4 = F_{16}$ . The 2 – cyclotomic cosets modulo 15 are

$C_0 = \{0\}, C_1 = \{1, 2, 4, 8\}, C_3 = \{3, 6, 9, 12\}, C_5 = \{5, 10\}, C_7 = \{7, 11, 13, 14\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (X - \alpha)(X - \alpha^2)(X - \alpha^4)(X - \alpha^8) &= M_\alpha(X) = X^4 + X + 1 \\ (X - \alpha^3)(X - \alpha^6)(X - \alpha^9)(X - \alpha^{12}) &= M_{\alpha^3}(X) = X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1 \\ (X - \alpha^5)(X - \alpha^{10}) &= M_{\alpha^5}(X) = X^2 + X + 1 \\ (X - \alpha^7)(X - \alpha^{11})(X - \alpha^{13})(X - \alpha^{14}) &= M_{\alpha^7}(X) = X^4 + X^3 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

The factorization of  $X^{15}-1$  into irreducible polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  is the number of cyclic codes in  $\mathbb{F}_2[X]/(X^{15}-1)$  is

$$X^{15} - 1 = (X + 1)(X^4 + X + 1)(X^4 + X^3 + X + 1)(X^4 + X^3 + 1)$$

*Example 13* We consider 3 – cyclotomic cosets modulo 13.  $\exp_{13}(3) = 3$  Let  $\alpha$  be primitive 13<sup>th</sup> root of unity. The splitting field of  $\alpha$  is  $F_{3^3} = F_{27}$   $(X^{13} - 1) = (X - 1)(X^3 + 2X + 1)$ . The 3– cyclotomic cosets modulo 13 are

$$\begin{aligned} C_0 &= \{0\} \quad C_1 = \{1, 3, 9\} \quad C_2 = \{2, 6, 5\} \quad C_4 = \{4, 12, 10\} \quad C_7 = \{7, 8, 11\} \\ M_\alpha(X) &= (X - \alpha)(X - \alpha^3)(X - \alpha^9) = X^3 + 2X + 1 \quad M_{\alpha^2}(X) = (X - \alpha^2)(X - \alpha^6)(X - \alpha^5) \\ M_{\alpha^4}(X) &= (X - \alpha^4)(X - \alpha^{12})(X - \alpha^{10}) \\ M_{\alpha^7}(X) &= (X - \alpha^7)(X - \alpha^8)(X - \alpha^{11}) \end{aligned}$$

The number of cyclic codes in  $R_{13} = \frac{F_3[X]}{X^{13} - 1}$  is  $2^5 = 32$ .

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