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Cyclic Codes for MDS and MHDR on Finite Chain Rings

Dr N Prabhudeva¹, Jayashree D N², K R Girish³

Professor & HOD¹, Associate. Professor², **Asst. Professor**³

drnprabhudeva@gmail.com¹, jayashreedn12@gmail.com², girishhspt@gmail.com³

Department of Mathematics, Proudhadvaraya Institute of Technology, Abheraj Baldota Rd, Indiranagar, Hosapete, Karnataka-583225

1. Introduction

Coding theory aims to provide optimal codes for detecting and correcting a maximum number of errors during data transmission through noisy channels. Cyclic codes have been in focus due to their rich algebraic structure which enables easy encoding and decoding of data through the process of channel coding. Cyclic codes over rings have gained a lot of importance after the remarkable break-through given by Hammons et al. in reference [1]. A vast literature is available on the structure of cyclic codes over fields, integer residue rings, Galois rings, finite chain rings, and some finite nonchain rings [2–29]. Cyclic codes over finite chain rings with length coprime to the characteristic of residue field have been investigated in references [2, 16, 22]. Islam and Prakash have established a unique set of generators for cyclic codes over Z_{p^k} in reference [4] and for cyclic codes over $F_q[u^2]$ in reference [5]. A. Sharma and T. Sidana have studied cyclic codes of p^s length over finite

chain rings in reference [15], thereby extending the results of Kiah et al. on cyclic codes over Galois rings [14]. Dinh explored the structure and properties of cyclic codes of length p^s over finite chain rings with nilpotency index 2 [13]. However, in most of the studies, there have been some limitations on either the length of code or the nilpotency index of the ring. We do not impose any such restriction in this paper. Salagean made use of the existence of a Grobner basis for an ideal of a polynomial ring to establish a unique set of generators for a cyclic code over a finite chain ring with arbitrary parameters [18]. Al-Ashker et al. have also worked in the same direction in the paper [28] by extending the novel approach given by Siap and Abualrub [12] which pulls back the generators of a cyclic code over Z_2 to establish the structure of cyclic codes over the ring $Z_2[u]$.

They have also extended this approach over the finite chain ring $F_q[u^k]$ [24]. Monika and Sehmi have given a constructive approach to establish a generating set for a cyclic code over a finite chain ring by making use of minimal degree polynomials of certain subsets of the code [20]. We make some advancements to this study by establishing a unique set of generators for a cyclic code over a finite chain ring with arbitrary parameters. It is noted that this unique set of generators retains all the properties of generators obtained in reference [20].

The paper is organised as follows: In Section 2, we state some preliminary results. In Section 3, we establish a unique set of generators for a cyclic code over a finite chain ring. In Section 4, we establish a minimal spanning set and rank of the cyclic code. We give sufficient as well as necessary conditions for a cyclic code to be an MDS code. We establish sufficient as well as necessary conditions for a cyclic code of length which is not coprime to the characteristic of residue field of the ring to be an MHDR code. Finally, we provide a few examples of MDS and MHDR cyclic codes over some finite chain rings.

2. Preliminaries

Let R be a finite commutative chain ring. Let \mathfrak{c} be the unique maximal ideal of R and e be the nilpotency index of \mathfrak{c} . Let $F_q = R/\mathfrak{c}$ be the residue field of R , where $q = p^s$ for a prime p and a positive integer s .

The following is a well-known result (for reference, see [15]).

Proposition 1. *Let R be a finite commutative chain ring. Then, we have the following:*

3. Unique Set of Generators

In this section, a unique set of generators for a cyclic code C of arbitrary length n over R has been established. For this, let us first recall the construction given by Monika et al. to obtain a generating set for a cyclic code C over a finite chain ring R [20]. Let $f_0(z), f_1(z), \dots, f_m(z)$ be minimal degree polynomials of certain subsets of C such that $\deg(f_j(z)) = t_j < n$ and the leading coefficient of $f_j(z)$ is equal to $c^{i_j} u_j$, where u_j is some unit in R , $t_j < t_{j+1}$, $i_j > i_{j+1}$, and i_j is the smallest of such power. If $i_0 \neq 0$, then $f_0(z)$ is a monic

(i) $\text{char} R = p^a$, where $1 \leq a \leq e$ and $|R| = |F_q|^e$

$f_j(z)$ polynomial and we have $m \leq n$.

(ii) There exists an element $\zeta \in R$ with multiplicative order $p^s - 1$. The set $T = \{0, 1, \zeta, \zeta^2, \dots, \zeta^{p^s - 2}\}$ is called the Teichmüller set of R

(iii) Every $r \in R$ can be uniquely expressed as

$$r = r_0 + r_1 \mathfrak{c} + \dots + r_{e-1} \mathfrak{c}^{e-1}, \text{ where } r_i \in T \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq e-1. \text{ Also, } r \text{ is a unit in } R \text{ if and only if } r_0 \neq 0$$

Lemma 3 (see [20]). *Let C be a cyclic code having a length n over R and $f_j(z)$ ($0 \leq j \leq m$), be polynomials as defined above. Then, we have the following:*

(i) C is generated by the set $\{f_j(z); j = 0, 1, \dots, m\}$

(ii) For $0 \leq j \leq m$, $f_j(z) = c^{i_j} h_j(z)$, where $h_j(z)$ is

$$+ a_{1,0} u_1(z) + a_{1,1} z u_1(z) + \dots + a_{1,t_1-1} z^{t_1-1} u_1(z) + \dots + a_{0,0} u_0(z) + a_{0,1} z u_0(z) + \dots + a_{0,t_0-1} z^{t_0-1} u_0(z).$$

This implies that $z^{n-t_m-1} u_m(z) = \alpha_m(z) u_m(z) + \alpha_{m-1}(z) u_{m-1}(z) + \dots + \alpha_0(z) u_0(z)$, where $\alpha_m(z) = \alpha_{m,0} + \alpha_{m,1} z + \dots + \alpha_{m,n-t_m-2} z^{n-t_m-2}$ and $\alpha_i(z) = \alpha_{i,0} + \alpha_{i,1} z + \dots + \alpha_{i,n-t_i-2} z^{n-t_i-2}$ and $\alpha_i(z)$ are independent, and hence, it is a minimal spanning set for C . It follows that $\text{rank}(C) = n - t_0$.

The following theorem determines all the MDS cyclic

$\alpha_{i,t}$

$z^{n-t_{i+1}-t_i-1}$ for $0 \leq i \leq m-1$. Clearly, $\deg(\alpha_m(z)) \leq n - t_0$ and $\deg(\alpha_i(z)) \leq n - t_i - 1$ for all i , $0 \leq i \leq m-1$. Then, by multiplying equation (18) by c^{i-m-1} , we get

2 and $\deg(\alpha_i(z)) \leq n - t_i - 1$ for all i , $0 \leq i \leq m-1$. Then, by multiplying equation (18) by c^{i-m-1} , we get

4. MDS and MHDR Cyclic Codes over a Finite Chain Ring

In this section, the minimal spanning set and rank of a cyclic code C over a finite chain ring R have been established. Sufficient as well as necessary conditions for a cyclic code to be an MDS code and for a cyclic code to be an MHDR code have been obtained. Finally, to support our results, some examples of optimal cyclic codes have been presented.

Theorem 1. *Let C be a cyclic code having an arbitrary length n over a finite chain ring R . Then, $\text{rank}(C) = n - t_0$,*

this by induction on j . First, we prove that $z^{n-t_0} u_0(z) \in \text{span } S'$. Clearly, $z^{n-t_0} u_0(z)$ is a polynomial of degree t_1 in C . Then, we have $z^{n-t_0} u_0(z) = c^{i_1} u_1(z)$

$q_0(z)u_0(z)$ for some $q_0(z) \in R[z]$ with a degree less than $t_1 - t_0$ which implies that $z^{t_1 - t_0}u_0(z) - c^{j_0 - i_1}u_1(z) \in \text{span } S'$. Therefore, we have $z^{t_1 - t_0}u_0(z) \in \text{span } S'$. We suppose that $z^{t_2 - t_1}u_1(z), z^{t_3 - t_2}u_2(z), \dots, z^{t_j - t_{j-1}}u_{j-1}(z) \in \text{span } S'$ for $1 \leq j \leq m - 1$. Now, we will show that $z^{t_{j+1} - t_j}u_j(z) \in \text{span } S'$. Clearly, $z^{t_{j+1} - t_j}u_j(z)$ is a polynomial of degree t_{j+1} in C . Then, we have $z^{t_{j+1} - t_j}u_j(z) - c^{j - i_{j+1}}u_{j+1}(z) \in \langle u_0(z), u_1(z), \dots, u_j(z) \rangle$; and $z^{t_{j+1} - t_j}u_j(z) \diamond c^{j - i_{j+1}}u_{j+1}(z) + m_0(z)u_0(z) + m_1u_1(z) + \dots + m_ju_j(z)$, where $m_i(z) \in R[z]$ and $\deg(m_i(z)) < t_{i+1} - t_i$ for all $i, 0 \leq i \leq j$. This implies that where t_0 is the degree of minimal degree polynomial in C . $m_iu_j(z) \in \text{span } S'$ for $0 \leq i \leq j$, which further implies that $z^{t_{j+1} - t_j}u_j(z) \in \text{span } S'$. Therefore, we have $z^{t_{j+1} - t_j}u_j(z)$

Proof. Let C be a cyclic code having an arbitrary length n

$$\begin{aligned} & z^{n-t_{m-1}}u_m(z) \diamond \alpha_{m,0}u_m(z) + \alpha_{m,1}zu_m(z) + \dots + \alpha_{m,n-t-2}z^{n-t_{m-2}}u_m(z) \\ & + \alpha_{m-1,0}u_{m-1}(z) + \alpha_{m-1,1}zu_{m-1}(z) + \dots \\ & \dots + \alpha_{m-1,t_{m-1}-1}u_{m-1}(z) + \dots \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & + \alpha_{1,0}u_1(z) + \alpha_{1,1}zu_1(z) + \dots + \alpha_{1,t_2-t_1-1}z^{t_2-t_1-1}u_1(z) \\ & + \alpha_{0,0}u_0(z) + \alpha_{0,1}zu_0(z) + \dots + \alpha_{0,t_1-t_0-1}z^{t_1-t_0-1}u_0(z). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that $z^{n-t_{m-1}}u_m(z) \diamond \alpha_m(z)u_m(z) + \alpha_{m-1}(z)u_{m-1}(z) + \dots + \alpha_0(z)u_0(z)$, where $\alpha_m(z) \diamond \alpha_{m,0} + \alpha_{m,1}z + \dots + \alpha_{m,n-t-2}z^{n-t_{m-2}}$ and $\alpha_i(z) \diamond \alpha_{i,0} + \alpha_{i,1}z + \dots + \alpha_{i,t_i-t_{i-1}-1}z^{t_i-t_{i-1}-1}$ independent, and hence, it is a minimal spanning set for C . It follows that $\text{rank } C \diamond n - t_0$.

The following theorem determines all the MDS cyclic

2 and $\deg \left(\sum_{i=0}^m \alpha_{i,t} z^{t_i} \right) \leq t_{i-1} - 1$ for all $i, 0 \leq i \leq m - 1$. Then, by multiplying equation (18) by $c^{j-i_{m-1}}$, we get

Theorem 13. A cyclic code C having a length n over R is an

$$\begin{aligned} & z^{n-t_{m-1}}c^{j-i_{m-1}}u_m \\ & (z) \diamond \alpha_m \\ & (z)c^{j-i_{m-1}}u_m \\ & (z). \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

MDS if and only if it is principally generated by a monic polynomial and $\text{Tor}_0 C$ is an MDS cyclic code having a length n over T with respect to Hamming metric.

Then, the degree of LHS of equation (19) is $n - 1$ but that of RHS is at most $n - 2$ which is a contradiction. Therefore, $z^{n-t_{m-1}}u_m(z)$ cannot be expressed as a linear combination

Proof. Let $C \diamond \langle u_0(z), u_1(z), \dots, u_m(z) \rangle$ be an MDS cyclic code having a length n over R such that $u_j(z), 0 \leq j \leq m$ are of elements of S' . We can apply similar arguments to prove polynomials as in Theorem 10. Since C is an MDS, therefore, that none of $z^{t_m - t_{m-1} - 1}u_{m-1}(z), z^{t_{m-1} - t_{m-2} - 1}u_{m-2}(z), \dots, z^{t_1 - t_0 - 1}u_0(z)$ can be expressed as a linear combination of elements of S' . Therefore, we get that S' is linearly

$|C| \diamond |R|^{n-d_H(C)+1}$. By using Theorem 7, we have $p^{s(n-n_{i_m-t_0k_0-t_1k_1-\dots-t_mk_m})} \diamond p^s \diamond |R|^{(n-d_H(C)+1)}$ which implies that $n_{i_m} + t_0k_0 + t_1k_1 + \dots + t_mk_m \diamond (d_H(C) - 1)$. Thus, we can

conclude that $t_j \diamond 0$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$ and $i_m \diamond 0$ because $i_m + k_0 + k_1 + \dots + k_m \diamond]$ and $t_m > t_{m-1} > \dots > t_0 \geq d_H(C) - 1$. and $n - d_H(\text{Tor}_0(C)) \diamond]$ and $n - d_H(C) \diamond]$ conclude that $|R|^{n-d_H(C)+1} \diamond |C|$, i.e., C is an MDS cyclic code. This implies that C is principally generated by a monic polynomial and $t_0 \diamond d_H(C) - 1$. By using Theorems 7 and 8, we have $p^{(n-d_H(C)+1)} \diamond |T|^{(n-d_H(\text{Tor}_0(C))+1)} \diamond p^{s(n-d_H(\text{Tor}_0(C))+1)} \diamond |T|^{(n-d_H(\text{Tor}_0(C))+1)}$. Thus, $\text{Tor}(C)$ is an

code over R .

The following lemma by Sharma and Sidana determines the Hamming distance of a cyclic code C of length $n'p^r$, MDS cyclic code over the residue field T .

Conversely, suppose a cyclic code C having a length n over k is principally generated by a monic polynomial, say $u_0(z)$ as obtained in Theorem 10 and $Tor_0(C)$ is an MDS code over T . Then, this means that $i_0 \neq 0$ and

$$n', p \neq 1, \text{ and } r \geq 1 \text{ over a finite chain ring } R \text{ as given in reference [27].} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1, \\ \text{if } t_0 \neq 0, \end{array} \right. \quad \square$$

Lemma 2 (see [27]). *Let C be a cyclic code having a length $n \neq n'p^r$ for $(n', p) \neq 1$ and $r \geq 1$ over R . Then, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & l + 2, \quad \text{if } lp^{r-1} + 1 \leq t_0 \leq (l + 1)p^{r-1}, \\ & \text{with } 0 \leq l \leq p - 2, \\ & (i + 1)p^k, \quad \text{if } p^r - p^{r-k} + (i - 1)p^{r-k-1} + 1 \leq t_0 \leq p^r - p^{r-k} + ip^{r-k-1}, \\ & \text{with } 1 \leq i \leq p - 1 \text{ and } 1 \leq k \leq r - 1. \end{aligned}$$

We use Lemma 14 mentioned above to determine all MHDR cyclic codes of length $n'p^r$, $n', p \neq 1$ and $r \geq 1$ over R in Theorems 15 and 16.

Theorem 3. *A cyclic code C of length $n'p$, $(n', p) \neq 1$ over*

- (i) for $k \neq r - 1, t_0 \neq p^r - p + i, 1 \leq i \leq p - 1$, the Hamming distance of C is $(i + 1)p^{r-1}$. C is an MHDR code if and only if $(i + 1)p^{r-1} \neq n - \text{rank}(C) + 1 \neq t_0 + 1$ by using Theorem 12.

Then, we have $p - p + i \neq t_0 \neq (i + 1)p^{r-1} - 1$. It
a finite chain ring R is an MHDR code. $(-) \neq (+)(-)$

Proof. Let C be a cyclic code of length $n'p$, $(n', p) \neq 1$ over R . By Lemma 14, we have follows that $p - p^{r-1} - 1 \neq i - 1 - p^{r-1} - 1$, which implies that $i \neq p - 1$, since $p^{r-1} \neq 1$. Then, C is an MHDR for $t_0 \neq p^r - 1$. It can be easily seen that for other values of t_0 , C is not an MHDR code. \square

Theorem 4. *Let C be an MDS cyclic code having an arbitrary length over R . Then, C is also an MHDR code over R .*

which implies that $d_H(C) \neq t_0 + 1 \neq n - \text{rank}(C) + 1$ for $0 \leq t_0 \leq p - 1$ by using Theorem 12. Hence, a cyclic code of

Proof. Let C be an MDS cyclic code having an arbitrary length length $n'p$, $(n', p) \neq 1$ over R is always an MHDR code. \square

Theorem 5. *Let C be a cyclic code having a length $n'p^r, r > 1$ over R . Then, C is an MHDR if and only if $t_0 \in 0, 1, p^r - 1$.*

Proof. By Lemma 14, we have the following:

- (i) for $t_0 \neq 1$, the Hamming distance of C is 1, which is the same as $n - \text{rank}(C) - 1$ by using Theorem 12. So, C is an MHDR code. $- (-) +$
- (ii) for $lp^{r-1} + 1 \leq t_0 \leq (l + 1)p^{r-1}$ with $0 \leq l \leq p - 2$, the Hamming distance of C is $l + 2$. Here, C is an MHDR if and only if $d_H(C) \neq n - \text{rank}(C) - 1$, i.e., $l + 2 \neq t_0$ by using Theorem 12. Then, $lp^{r-1} + 1 \leq t_0$ would imply $lp^{r-1} + 1 \leq l + 2$, i.e., $l - lp^{r-1} + 1 \leq 0$. It follows that $l - lp^{r-1} + 1 < 0$, which implies $l < 0$, since $p^{r-1} \neq 1$. Then, C is an MHDR if and only if $t_0 \neq 1$. $+$

n over R . By Theorem 13, C is principally generated by a monic polynomial over R say $u_0(z)$ with degrees t_0 and $i_0 \neq 0$ and $Tor_0(C)$ is also an MDS code over T . Then, we have \square

$$Tor_0(C) \neq p^s(n - d_H(C) + 1). \tag{22}$$

Also, from Theorem 7, we have

$$Tor_0(C) \neq p^s(n - t_0). \tag{23}$$

Equations (22) and (23) together with Theorem 12 imply that $d_H(C) = t_0 - 1 - n + \text{rank}(C) - 1$. Therefore, C is an MHDR cyclic code over R . \square

However, Example 1 shows that the converse of the abovementioned statement is not true.

Example 1. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}_5 + 5\mathbb{Z}_5$. Let $C = \langle (z - 1)^{24} \rangle$ be a cyclic code having a length $n = 25$ over R . Here, $i_0 = 1, i_1 = 0, t_0 = 0, t_1 = 24, \text{rank}(C) = 25$, and $d_H(C) = 1$.

By using Theorem 16, we see that C is an MHDR cyclic code over R . However, C is not an MDS code, since it is not principally generated (using Theorem 17).

Example 2. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}_5 + 5\mathbb{Z}_5$. Let $C = \langle (z - 1)^{24} \rangle$ be a cyclic code having a length $n = 25$ over R . Here, $i_0 = 0, t_0 = 24, \text{rank}(C) = 1$, and $d_H(C) = 24$. By using Theorem 16, we see that C is an MHDR cyclic code over R . Also, C is an MDS code, since it is principally generated by a monic polynomial and $|Tor_0(C)| = 5 = |Z_5|^{n - d_H(Tor_0(C)) + 1}$ (using Theorem 13).

Example 3. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}_2 + c\mathbb{Z}_2 + c^2\mathbb{Z}_2 + c^3\mathbb{Z}_2$. Let $C = \langle (z^2 - 1) + c(z - 1) + c^2(z - 1) + c^3 \rangle$ be a cyclic code having a length $n = 6$ over R . Here, $i_0 = 0, t_0 = 2, \text{rank}(C) = 4$, and $d_H(C) = 3$. It is principally generated by a monic polynomial and $Tor_0(C) = \langle z^2 - 1 \rangle$, so we see that C is an MDS code over R by using Theorem 13. Also, from Theorem 15, we see that C is also an MHDR code.

Example 4. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}_2 + c\mathbb{Z}_2 + c^2\mathbb{Z}_2 + c^3\mathbb{Z}_2$. Let $C = \langle z^3 - 1 + c^3z^2 - 1 \rangle$ be a cyclic code having a length $n = 6$ over R . Here, $i_0 = 2, t_0 = 3, \text{rank}(C) = 3$, and $d_H(C) = 2$. It is not generated by a monic polynomial, so by Theorem 13, C is not an MDS code. Also, from Theorem 15, we see that C is not an MHDR code.

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Example 5. Let $R = \mathbb{Z} + c\mathbb{Z} + c^2\mathbb{Z}$. Let $C = \langle c^2(z^2 - 1), 3c(z^2 - 1)^3 + c^2(z - 1) \rangle$ be a cyclic code having a length $n = 18$ over R . Here, $i_0 = 2, i_1 = 1, t_0 = 2, t_1 = 6, \text{rank}(C) = 16$, and $d_H(C) = 3$. Since C is not generated by a monic polynomial, so by Theorem 13, it is not an MDS code. Also, from Theorem 16, we see that C is not an MHDR code.

5. Conclusion

In this work, a unique set of generators for a cyclic code having an arbitrary length over a finite chain ring with an arbitrary nilpotency index has been established. The minimal spanning set and rank of the code have also been determined. Furthermore, sufficient as well as necessary conditions for a cyclic code having an arbitrary length to be an MDS code and for a cyclic code having a length which is not coprime to the characteristic of the residue field of the ring to be an MHDR code have been obtained. Some examples of optimal cyclic codes have also been presented.

Data Availability

Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

Disclosure

A preprint has previously been published [30].

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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