

# The Generation of Finite Alphabet Codewords With No Mutual Cyclic Shift Equivalence <sup>1</sup>

M.G.Parker, S.J.Shepherd,  
 Telecommunications Research Group,  
 Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering,  
 University of Bradford,  
 Bradford, BD7 1DP, UK.  
 e-mail: mgparker@bradford.ac.uk

## Abstract

*This paper shows how to directly compute a largest set,  $\mathbf{C}$ , of length  $N$  codewords over a given finite alphabet, such that no codeword in  $\mathbf{C}$  is a cyclic shift of another codeword in  $\mathbf{C}$ . The method uses finite integer rings and can be used to generate irreducible polynomials.*

**Definitions:**  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  is the largest integer value  $\leq x$ .  $\langle a \rangle_m$  means the residue of  $a$ , mod  $m$ .  $\text{ord}_m(a)$  is the order of  $a$ , mod  $m$ , i.e.  $\langle a^i \rangle_m \neq 1$ ,  $0 < i < n$ ,  $\langle a^n \rangle_m = 1$ .  $\text{Rt}(n, m)$  is an  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of 1, mod  $m$ . Thus  $\text{ord}_m(\text{Rt}(n, m)) = n$ .

## 1 Introduction

Consider the finite alphabet,  $\mathbf{A}$ , and consider the set,  $\mathbf{V}$ , of all messages,  $\mathbf{v}$ , of length  $N$  over  $\mathbf{A}$ . Thus,

$$\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}, \quad \mathbf{v} = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{N-1}), \quad v_k \in \mathbf{A}, \quad \forall k$$

Let the  $f^{\text{th}}$  right cyclic shift operation,  $s(\mathbf{v}, f)$ , be defined as follows,

$$s(\mathbf{v}, f) = (v_{\langle -f \rangle_N}, v_{\langle 1-f \rangle_N}, \dots, v_{\langle N-1-f \rangle_N})$$

Consider the codeset  $\mathbf{C} \subset \mathbf{V}$ , such that,

$$\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{C} \text{ iff } \mathbf{v}' = s(\mathbf{v}, f) \notin \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{v}' \neq \mathbf{v}, \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}, 0 < f < N \quad (1)$$

In other words,  $\mathbf{C}$  comprises representative members of  $\mathbf{V}$ , such that  $\mathbf{V}$  is generated by the repeated operation of  $s$  on  $\mathbf{C}$ . Moreover, the repeated operation of  $s$  on  $\mathbf{C}$  never maps a member of  $\mathbf{C}$  back into another member of  $\mathbf{C}$ . The codeset,  $\mathbf{C}$ , is not uniquely defined by (1) as there are many possible representatives.  $\mathbf{C}$  is of interest because there are important functions,  $H$ , acting on members of  $\mathbf{V}$ , which remain invariant under  $s$  (shift-invariant), and  $\mathbf{C}$  is a smallest subset of  $\mathbf{V}$  such that,

$$H(\mathbf{C}) = H(\mathbf{V})$$

where,

$$H(\mathbf{v}) = H(s(\mathbf{v}, f)), \quad \forall f \quad (2)$$

Moreover,

$$H(\mathbf{c}) \neq H(\mathbf{c}'), \quad \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{c}' \in \mathbf{C}, \quad \mathbf{c} \neq \mathbf{c}'$$

---

<sup>1</sup>The work described in this paper was supported by EPSRC grant ref: GR/K48914

For instance, if one enumerates members of  $\mathbf{A}$  arbitrarily, and then performs the  $N$ -point Discrete Fourier Transform of  $\mathbf{v}$ , given by,

$$u_n = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} v_k e^{\frac{2\pi jnk}{N}} = \text{DFT}_n(\mathbf{v})$$

then  $H$  could be chosen to satisfy (2) if  $H(\mathbf{v}) = \max(|\text{DFT}_n(\mathbf{v})|)$ .  $\mathbf{C}$  would be a useful 'smaller search space' over which to look for 'ideal' channel estimation training sequences [3]. This paper describes a method for computing  $\mathbf{C}$  by first mapping  $\mathbf{A}$  to the integers, and then using finite integer arithmetic to compute  $\mathbf{C}$  [1, 2]. Such a scheme is suitable for software and hardware applications, and also highlights the underlying structure of the message space,  $\mathbf{V}$ , under cyclic shifts, this being dependent on the factorisation of integers of the form  $P^N - 1$ .

## 2 Theory

If  $|\mathbf{A}| = P$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$  can be mapped to an integer alphabet,  $\mathbf{I_P}$ , where  $\mathbf{I_P} = \{0, 1, \dots, P-1\}$ . Without loss of generalisation, members  $\mathbf{v}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$ , will forthwith be considered to be messages from the alphabet,  $\mathbf{I_P}$ . Consider the following bijective mapping,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v} \Leftrightarrow w, \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}, \text{ and } w \in \mathbf{Z_M}, \text{ except } \mathbf{v_e} = (P-1, P-1, \dots, P-1), \\ \text{where } w = \left\langle \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} v_i P^i \right\rangle_M, \quad v_i = \left\langle \left\lfloor \frac{w}{P^i} \right\rfloor \right\rangle_P \in \mathbf{I_P} \quad \text{and } M = P^N - 1 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Both  $\mathbf{v} = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$  and  $\mathbf{v_e} = (P-1, P-1, \dots, P-1)$  map to  $w = 0$  under (3) hence the exclusion of  $\mathbf{v_e}$ . Using the Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT) [1], each member of  $\mathbf{Z_M}$  can be constructed from its  $R$  residues over the mutually prime factors of  $M$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \forall w \in \mathbf{Z_M}, \quad w = r_0 \otimes r_1 \otimes \dots \otimes r_{R-2} \otimes r_{R-1}, \quad r_j = \langle w \rangle_{m_j^{t_j}} \\ \Rightarrow w = \left\langle \sum_{j=0}^{R-1} r_j \frac{M}{m_j^{t_j}} \left\langle \left( \frac{M}{m_j^{t_j}} \right)^{-1} \right\rangle_{m_j^{t_j}} \right\rangle_M \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $M = \prod_{j=0}^{R-1} m_j^{t_j}$ , and " $\otimes$ " means the direct product. Let  $n_{e_j,0,j} = \text{ord}_{m_j^{e_j}}(P)$ , and  $n_{e_j,1,j} = \frac{\phi'(m_j^{e_j})}{n_{e_j,0,j}}$ , where,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi'(m_j^{e_j}) &= \phi(m_j^{e_j}) & m_j \neq 2 \text{ and/or } e_j \leq 2 \\ \phi'(m_j^{e_j}) &= \frac{\phi(m_j^{e_j})}{2} & m_j = 2 \text{ and } e_j > 2 \end{aligned}$$

and  $\phi$  is Euler's Totient Function [1]. If  $\text{gcd}(n_{e_j,0,j}, n_{e_j,1,j}) = 1$ , let  $\beta_{e_j,j} = \text{Rt}(n_{e_j,1,j}, m_j^{e_j})$ , (a prime factor combination of the exponents,  $n$ ). Alternatively, or if  $\text{gcd}(n_{e_j,0,j}, n_{e_j,1,j}) > 1$ , let  $\beta_{e_j,j} = \text{Rt}(\phi'(m_j^{e_j}), m_j^{e_j})$ , (a mixed-radix combination of the exponents,  $n$ ). For all cases except  $m_j = 2$ ,  $e_j > 2$ , each residue,  $r_j$ , can be generated using the following construction,

$$r_j \in \left\{ \left\langle m_j^{t_j - e_j} P^{s_{e_j,0,j}} \beta_{e_j,j}^{s_{e_j,1,j}} \right\rangle_{m_j^{t_j}}, \quad 0 \quad : \quad 1 \leq e_j \leq t_j, 0 \leq s_{e_j,i,j} < n_{e_j,i,j}, i \in \{0, 1\} \right\} \quad (5)$$

When  $m_j = 2$  and  $e_j > 2$ ,  $r_j$  is generated by,

$$r_j \in \left\{ \left\langle 2^{t_j - e_j} P^{s_{e_j,0,j}} \beta_{e_j,j}^{s_{e_j,1,j}} \right\rangle_{2^{t_j}}, \quad \left\langle \mu 2^{t_j - e_j} P^{s_{e_j,0,j}} \beta_{e_j,j}^{s_{e_j,1,j}} \right\rangle_{2^{t_j}}, \quad 0 \quad : \quad 2 \leq e_j \leq t_j, 0 \leq s_{e_j,i,j} < n_{e_j,i,j}, i \in \{0, 1, \} \right\} \quad (6)$$

where  $\mu$  is given by,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= -1 && \text{if } \langle P+1 \rangle_{2^{e_j}} \neq 0 \\ \mu &= 2^{e_j-1} + 1 && \text{if } \langle P+1 \rangle_{2^{e_j}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

By ranging through all possible values of  $e_j$  and  $s_{e_j,i,j}$  for a given  $j$ , (5) and (6) generate the  $m_j^{t_j}$  integers,  $\{1, \dots, m_j^{t_j} - 1\} + \{0\}$ . The generation of all  $w \in \mathbf{Z}_M$ , (and therefore all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{v}_e$ ), is achieved by constructing the  $r_j$  with (5) and/or (6), and then using (4) to form each  $w$ . To generate only codewords,  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{C}$ , the criteria of (5), (6), are modified. Consider the operation  $s(\mathbf{v}, 1)$ . This is equivalent to the operation  $\langle wP \rangle_M$  which, in turn, is equivalent to,  $\left( \langle r_0 P \rangle_{m_0^{t_0}} \otimes \langle r_1 P \rangle_{m_1^{t_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \langle r_{R-1} P \rangle_{m_{R-1}^{t_{R-1}}} \right)$ . From (5) and (6), the operation  $\langle r_j P \rangle_{m_j^{t_j}}$  is achieved by replacing  $s_{e_j,0,j}$  with  $\langle s_{e_j,0,j} + 1 \rangle_{n_{e_j,0,j}}$ ,  $\forall e_j, j$ , with  $s_{e_j,1,j}$  unchanged. Thus, to generate  $w_c$  corresponding to all codewords,  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{C}$ , the  $n_{e_j,1,j}$  in (5) and (6) are left unchanged, whereas the  $n_{e_j,0,j}$  are replaced by  $n'_{e_j,0,j,q}$ ,  $\forall q, 0 \leq q < Q$ , where  $q$  is constructed using the following mixed-radix formulation,

$$q = \sum_{j=0}^{R-1} e_j \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} (t_i + 1) \quad 0 \leq e_j \leq t_j, \quad Q = \prod_{j=0}^{R-1} (t_j + 1)$$

The  $n'_{e_j,0,j,q}$  are evaluated as follows,

$$n'_{e_j,0,j,q} = \text{gcd}(\text{lcm}(\gamma(n_{e_{j+1},0,j+1}), \gamma(n_{e_{j+2},0,j+2}), \dots, \gamma(n_{e_{R-1},0,R-1}), 1), n_{e_j,0,j}) \quad (7)$$

where  $n_{0,0,j} = 0, \forall j$ , and  $\gamma(n) = n, n > 0, \gamma(0) = 1$ . The  $n_{0,0,j}$  are not required in (5) or (6) (as  $e_j$  is never zero), so their replacements,  $n'_{0,0,j,q}$ , need not be computed in (7). The values,  $n_{0,0,j} = 0$  are only included in (7) for  $r_j = 0$ . For each  $q$ , the  $n'_{e_j,0,j,q}$  can be computed using (7), to replace the respective  $n_{e_j,0,j}$  in (5) or (6), and a subset of  $\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}_q$ , can be generated, using (5) and/or (6), (4), and (3). Thus,

$$\mathbf{C} = \left( \bigcup_{q=0}^{Q-1} \mathbf{C}_q \right) \cup \mathbf{v}_e$$

### 3 Examples

**Example 1:** Let  $P = 2, N = 5$ . Then  $M = 2^5 - 1 = 31$ , and 31 is prime. Thus  $R = 1, m_0 = 31, t_0 = 1$ , and  $r_0 = \{ \langle 2^{s_{e_0,0,0}} 6^{s_{e_0,1,0}} \rangle_{31}, \quad 0 : \quad 1 \leq e_0 \leq 1, 0 \leq s_{e_0,i,0} < n_{e_0,i,0} \}$ , where  $n_{e_0,0,0} = 5, n_{e_0,1,0} = 6$ . To generate  $w_c$  corresponding to all codewords,  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{C}$ ,  $n_{e_0,0,0}$  is limited to  $n'_{e_0,0,0,q}, \forall q, 0 \leq q < 2$ , as follows,

$$\begin{aligned} n'_{0,0,0,0} & \text{ is not required.} \\ n'_{1,0,0,1} &= \text{gcd}(\text{lcm}(1), n_{1,0,0}) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

With  $n'_{1,0,0,1} = 1, r_0 \in \{2^0 6^0, 2^0 6^1, 2^0 6^2, 2^0 6^3, 2^0 6^4, 2^0 6^5, 0\} = \{1, 6, 5, 30, 25, 26, 0\}$ . The CRT construction is trivial, i.e.  $w_c = r_0, \forall r_0$ . The 8 codewords,  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{C}$ , are,

$$\begin{array}{lll} 0, 0, 0, 0, 1 & (w_c = 1), & 0, 0, 1, 1, 0 & (w_c = 6), & 0, 0, 1, 0, 1 & (w_c = 5), \\ 1, 1, 1, 1, 0 & (w_c = 30), & 1, 1, 0, 0, 1 & (w_c = 25), & 1, 1, 0, 1, 0 & (w_c = 26), \\ & & 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 & (w_c = 0), & 1, 1, 1, 1, 1 & (\text{Exception} = 31) \end{array}$$

**Example 2:** Let  $P = 15$ ,  $N = 2$ . Then  $M = 15^2 - 1 = 224 = 2^5 \cdot 7$ . Thus  $R = 2$ ,  $m_0 = 2$ ,  $m_1 = 7$ ,  $t_0 = 5$ , and  $t_1 = 1$ .

$$r_0 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle 16.15^{s_{1,0,0}} 1^{s_{1,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ \langle 8.15^{s_{2,0,0}} 1^{s_{2,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ \langle 4.15^{s_{3,0,0}} 7^{s_{3,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ \langle 2.15^{s_{4,0,0}} 3^{s_{4,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ \langle 15^{s_{5,0,0}} 3^{s_{5,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ 0 \end{array} \right. : \left. \begin{array}{l} \langle 5.4.15^{s_{3,0,0}} 7^{s_{3,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ \langle 9.2.15^{s_{4,0,0}} 3^{s_{4,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ \langle -15^{s_{5,0,0}} 3^{s_{5,1,0}} \rangle_{32} \\ 0 \leq s_{e_0,i,0} < n_{e_0,i,0} \end{array} \right\}$$

where  $n_{1,0,0} = 1, n_{2,0,0} = 2, n_{3,0,0} = 2, n_{4,0,0} = 2, n_{5,0,0} = 2$ , and  $n_{1,1,0} = 1, n_{2,1,0} = 1, n_{3,1,0} = 1, n_{4,1,0} = 2, n_{5,1,0} = 4$ . For  $e_j > 2$ , (6) is used instead of (5). For  $e_j = 3$  and 4,  $\mu = 5$  and 9, respectively. For  $e_j = 5$ ,  $\mu = -1$ .

$$r_1 = \left\{ \langle 15^{s_{1,0,1}} 3^{s_{1,1,1}} \rangle_7 \right. , \quad \left. 0 : 0 \leq s_{1,i,1} < n_{1,i,1} \right\}$$

where  $n_{1,0,1} = 1$  and  $n_{1,1,1} = 6$ . To generate  $w_c$ , corresponding to all codewords,  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{C}$ , the  $n_{e_j,0,j}$  are limited to  $n'_{e_j,0,j,q}$ ,  $\forall q, 0 \leq q < Q$ , where  $Q = 6.2 = 12$ , as follows,

$$\begin{array}{ll} n'_{0,0,0,0} \text{ not required,} & n'_{0,0,1,0} \text{ not required} \\ n'_{1,0,0,1} = 1, & n'_{0,0,0,1} \text{ not required} \\ n'_{2,0,0,2} = 1, & n'_{0,0,0,2} \text{ not required} \\ n'_{3,0,0,3} = 1, & n'_{0,0,0,3} \text{ not required} \\ n'_{4,0,0,4} = 1, & n'_{0,0,0,4} \text{ not required} \\ n'_{5,0,0,5} = 1, & n'_{0,0,0,5} \text{ not required} \\ n'_{0,0,0,6} \text{ not required,} & n'_{1,0,0,6} = 1 \\ n'_{1,0,0,7} = 1, & n'_{1,0,0,7} = 1 \\ n'_{2,0,0,8} = 1, & n'_{1,0,0,8} = 1 \\ n'_{3,0,0,9} = 1, & n'_{1,0,0,9} = 1 \\ n'_{4,0,0,10} = 1, & n'_{1,0,0,10} = 1 \\ n'_{5,0,0,11} = 1, & n'_{1,0,0,11} = 1 \end{array}$$

For each  $q, 0 \leq q < 12$ , 119 different  $(r_0, r_1)$  residue pairs are generated:

$$\begin{array}{l} q = 0 : (0, 0); \\ q = 1 : (16, 0); \\ q = 2 : (8, 0); \\ q = 3 : (4, 0), (20, 0); \\ q = 4 : (2, 0), (2.3, 0), (9.2, 0), (9.2.3, 0); \\ q = 5 : (1, 0), (1.3, 0), (1.3^2, 0), (1.3^3, 0), (-1, 0), (-1.3, 0), (-1.3^2, 0), (-1.3^3, 0); \\ q = 6 : (0, 1), (0, 1.3), (0, 1.3^2), (0, 1.3^3), (0, 1.3^4), (0, 1.3^5); \\ q = 7 : (16, 1), (16, 1.3), (16, 1.3^2), (16, 1.3^3), (16, 1.3^4), (16, 1.3^5); \\ q = 8 : (8, 1), (8, 1.3), (8, 1.3^2), (8, 1.3^3), (8, 1.3^4), (8, 1.3^5); \\ q = 9 : (4, 1), (4, 1.3), (4, 1.3^2), (4, 1.3^3), (4, 1.3^4), (4, 1.3^5), (20, 1), (20, 1.3), (20, 1.3^2), (20, 1.3^3), (20, 1.3^4), (20, 1.3^5); \\ q = 10 : (2, 1), (2, 1.3), (2, 1.3^2), (2, 1.3^3), (2, 1.3^4), (2, 1.3^5), (2.3, 1), (2.3, 1.3), (2.3, 1.3^2), (2.3, 1.3^3), (2.3, 1.3^4), (2.3, 1.3^5), \\ (9.2, 1), (9.2, 1.3), (9.2, 1.3^2), (9.2, 1.3^3), (9.2, 1.3^4), (9.2, 1.3^5), (9.2.3, 1), (9.2.3, 1.3), (9.2.3, 1.3^2), (9.2.3, 1.3^3), \\ (9.2.3, 1.3^4), (9.2.3, 1.3^5); \\ q = 11 : (1, 1), (1, 1.3), (1, 1.3^2), (1, 1.3^3), (1, 1.3^4), (1, 1.3^5), (1.3, 1), (1.3, 1.3), (1.3, 1.3^2), (1.3, 1.3^3), (1.3, 1.3^4), (1.3, 1.3^5), \\ (1.3^2, 1), (1.3^2, 1.3), (1.3^2, 1.3^2), (1.3^2, 1.3^3), (1.3^2, 1.3^4), (1.3^2, 1.3^5), (1.3^3, 1), (1.3^3, 1.3), (1.3^3, 1.3^2), (1.3^3, 1.3^3), \\ (1.3^3, 1.3^4), (1.3^3, 1.3^5), (-1, 1), (-1, 1.3), (-1, 1.3^2), (-1, 1.3^3), (-1, 1.3^4), (-1, 1.3^5), (-1.3, 1), (-1.3, 1.3), \\ (-1.3, 1.3^2), (-1.3, 1.3^3), (-1.3, 1.3^4), (-1.3, 1.3^5), (-1.3^2, 1), (-1.3^2, 1.3), (-1.3^2, 1.3^2), (-1.3^2, 1.3^3), (-1.3^2, 1.3^4), \\ (-1.3^2, 1.3^5), (-1.3^3, 1), (-1.3^3, 1.3), (-1.3^3, 1.3^2), (-1.3^3, 1.3^3), (-1.3^3, 1.3^4), (-1.3^3, 1.3^5); \end{array}$$

Using the CRT,  $w_c = \langle 161r_0 + 64r_1 \rangle_{224}$ . The 119 integers,  $w_c$ , each corresponding to a codeword,  $c \in \mathbf{C}$ , can be computed from the above.

## 4 The Generation of Irreducible Polynomials

This section describes how to use the above method to generate irreducible polynomials. If  $\beta \in \text{GF}(p^N)$ ,  $\beta \notin \text{GF}(p^n)$ ,  $n|N$ ,  $n \neq N$ , then  $\beta^{p^0}, \beta^{p^1}, \dots, \beta^{p^{N-1}}$  is a normal basis for  $\text{GF}(p^N)$ . Moreover, the  $N$  conjugates of  $\beta$  are roots of a degree  $N$  irreducible polynomial,  $I(x)$ , over  $\text{GF}(p)$ ,

$$I(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} (x - \beta^{p^i})$$

Let us represent  $\beta^k$  using the normal basis in  $\beta$ . Then successive cyclic shifts,  $s$ , of the basis coefficients generate all conjugates of  $\beta^k$ . If  $s^n(\beta^k) = \beta^k$ ,  $s^{n'}(\beta^k) \neq \beta^k$ ,  $0 < n' < n$ , then  $\beta^k$  has  $n$  conjugates, where  $n|N$ , and the  $n$  conjugates of  $\beta$  are roots of a degree  $n$  irreducible polynomial,  $I_k(x)$ , over  $\text{GF}(p)$ ,

$$I_k(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} (x - \beta^{kp^i})$$

Therefore each irreducible polynomial,  $I_k(x)$ , of degree  $n$ ,  $n|N$ , can be uniquely associated with one of its roots,  $\beta^{kp^i}$ , and the generation of a maximum subset,  $\mathbf{C}$ , of length  $N$  words over an integer alphabet,  $\mathbf{I}_p$ , such that no word is a cyclic shift of another, is equivalent to the generation of a representative root of all possible  $I_k(x)$  of degree  $n$ ,  $n|N$ .  $|\mathbf{C}|$  is equal to the number of irreducible polynomials over  $\text{GF}(p)$  of degree  $n$ ,  $n|N$ . This paper has shown how to directly compute  $\mathbf{C}$  and this section has shown that, when  $P = p$  is a power of a prime, each member of  $\mathbf{C}$  is a root of a different irreducible polynomial,  $I_k(x)$ , when interpreted over a normal basis. Thus the method of this paper can be used to generate all possible irreducible polynomials over a given field. It is straightforward to extend the technique to all integer values of  $P$  by use of Residue Number Systems [2]. From [1] it is known that the number of irreducible polynomials over  $\text{GF}(p)$  of degree  $n$ ,  $n|N$ , satisfies,

$$\sum_{n|N} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) p^{\frac{n}{d}} \quad (8)$$

where  $\mu$  is the Mobius Function. This can be used to verify the method of this paper for the cases where  $P = p$  is a power of a prime. For instance, when  $p = 2$ ,  $N = 5$ , then (8) gives 8 irreducible polynomials, and this is verified by Example 1.

## 5 Conclusion

This paper has described a method for the generation of a largest subset of length  $N$  messages over a finite alphabet so that no two messages in the subset are equivalent under cyclic shift. The method requires finite integer arithmetic. A similar method would use finite polynomial arithmetic to achieve the same ends. It has also been shown how the method can be used to generate all irreducible polynomials over a given field.

## References

- [1] R.Lidl,H.Niederreiter, **Introduction to Finite Fields and their Applications**, Cambridge Univ Press, '86
- [2] M.G.Parker, "VLSI Algorithms and Architectures for the Implementation of Number-Theoretic Transforms, Residue and Polynomial Residue Number Systems," *PhD thesis, School of Eng, University of Huddersfield, March '95*
- [3] C.Tellambura,M.G.Parker,Y.J.Guo,S.J.Shepherd,S.K.Barton, "Optimal Sequences for Channel Estimation Using Discrete Fourier Transform Techniques," *Accepted for Publication in IEEE Trans on Communications, '96*