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Identifying codes were introduced by Karpovsky, Chakrabarty, and Levitin (1998) in order to find fault processors in a multiprocessor system. We assume that some processors can check themselves and their neighbors at distance one, and report if there is a default. The problem is to choose as few checking processors as possible so that if we see the reports, we know which processor is malfunctioning.

Let \mathcal{C} be a subset of the vertex set of a graph G . If $N_G[u] \cap \mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$ for each vertex u in G and $N_G[u] \cap \mathcal{C} \neq N_G[v] \cap \mathcal{C}$ for all distinct vertices u and v in G , then \mathcal{C} is called an identifying code for the graph G .

Let q be any integer ≥ 2 . We consider the q -ary hypercube whose vertex set is \mathbb{Z}_q^n and two vertices (x_1, \dots, x_n) and (y_1, \dots, y_n) are adjacent if $x_i = y_i$ for all i except one index, say j , and $x_j - y_j = \pm 1 \pmod{q}$. As a natural extension of identifying codes in binary Hamming spaces, we study identifying codes in the above q -ary Lee spaces. (Received August 05, 2007)