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Stefan O. Tohaneanu* (stefan.tohaneanu@uc.edu), Department of Mathematical Sciences,
University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221. *The minimal distance of evaluation codes.*

Evaluation codes are the projective version of the Reed-Muller codes: consider Γ a set of n points in \mathbb{P}^m and "evaluate" the homogeneous polynomials of degree a at the points of Γ . The geometry of Γ determine the behavior of the minimal distance of these codes. Using the Cayley-Bacharach Theorem Gold-Little-Schenck find a lower bound for the minimal distance, when Γ is a complete intersection. They generalized to \mathbb{P}^m the result of Hansen for complete intersections in \mathbb{P}^2 . We extended their result to the case when Γ is Gorenstein. In addition, from the shifts in the graded minimal free resolution of the ideal of Γ , we found a similar lower bound for the minimal distance of the evaluation code, for any set of points in \mathbb{P}^3 . We present all of these results, as well as other interesting lower bounds for the minimal distance (e.g., Ballico-Fontanari lower bound). (Received August 22, 2009)