

On the structure of non-full-rank perfect codes

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joint work with

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- If a q -ary 1-perfect code has non-full rank (the dual space is not empty) then the code is the union of "components" which can be studied (constructed, characterized, enumerated, ...) independently.
- To improve the lower bound on the number of 1-perfect codes for odd q , we use switching starting from specially constructed nonlinear code. The linear Hamming code is not the best starting point to obtain a large number of 1-perfect codes by switching. This is illustrated using n -ary quasigroups (latin hypercubes).

1-Perfect codes

- A set of vertices of a discrete metric space is called a **1-perfect code** if the radius-1 balls centered in the code vertices partition the space.
- Space: the Hamming space F_q^n (n -dimensional vector space over $GF(q)$ with a Hamming metric)
- 1-Perfect codes in F_q^n exist $\Leftrightarrow n = \frac{q^m - 1}{q - 1}$ for some natural m .
- A linear 1-perfect code (Hamming code) is unique up to monomial transformations of the space. A check $m \times n$ matrix consists of complete set of mutually independent columns of height m .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- The **rank** of a code $C \subset F_q^n$ is the dimension of the linear span of C .
- We say that C has **rank $+\Delta$** if $\text{rank}C = \log_q |C| + \Delta$.
- A code C is called a **full-rank** code if $\text{rank}(C) = n$.
- If a code is not full rank then it has a nontrivial orthogonal space.

The weight of a dual vector, $q = 2$

- Known: The weight-3 codewords of a binary 1-perfect code $C \ni \bar{0}$ form a Steiner triple system. Any dual vector of a STS(v) has weight $(v - 1)/2$.
- [Doyen, Hubaut, Vandensavel, 1978] Any dual vector of a STS(v) has weight $(v - 1)/2$.
- Proof: if $\bar{x} = (111111\dots 10000\dots 0)$ is a dual vector then the set of all blocks containing the first coordinate defines a bijection between the 0-s and 1-s of \bar{x} excluding the first 1.

1		1	1	1		0	0	0
•		•					•	
•			•			•		
•				•				•

- Corollary: Any dual vector of a binary 1-perfect code of length n has weight $(n - 1)/2$.

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The weight of a dual vector, general case

- The binary case can be easily generalized if we consider the generalized STS that formed by the weight-3 words of a q -ary 1-perfect code.
- Given a dual vector $\bar{x} = (\underbrace{111111\dots 1}_{\text{left}} \underbrace{0000\dots 0}_{\text{right}})$ and considering the weight-3 codewords with 1 in the first position and -1 in another left position we see that $(q - 1)$ left positions correspond to one right position.

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- So we get that $wt(\bar{x}) - 1 = (q - 1)(n - wt(\bar{x}))$, i.e.,

$$wt(\bar{x}) = \frac{(q - 1)n - 1}{q}$$

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The structure of the orthogonal space

Lemma

Let D be any r -dimensional subspace orthogonal to a perfect code C of length $n = \frac{q^m-1}{q-1}$. Then, for some monomial transformation ψ , the space $\psi(D)$ has a generating matrix of the form

$$H = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c} \begin{array}{ccc} | & & | \\ \bar{\alpha}_1 & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_1 \\ | & & | \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} | & & | \\ \bar{\alpha}_2 & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_2 \\ | & & | \end{array} & \cdots & \begin{array}{ccc} | & & | \\ \bar{\alpha}_t & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_t \\ | & & | \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} | & & | \\ \bar{0} & \cdots & \bar{0} \\ | & & | \end{array} \\ \hline & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{q^{m-r}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{q^{m-r}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{q^{m-r}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{(q^{m-r}-1)/(q-1)} \end{array} \right]$$

where

$$H^* = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} | & | & & | \\ \bar{\alpha}_1 & \bar{\alpha}_2 & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_t \\ | & | & & | \end{array} \right]$$

is a check matrix of some Hamming code C^* of length $t = \frac{q^r-1}{q-1}$.

Assume w.l.o.g. $\psi = \text{Id}$.

Define the generalized parity-check function $\bar{\sigma} : F_q^n \rightarrow F_q^t$ as

$$\bar{\sigma}(\bar{x}) = (\sigma_1(\bar{x}), \dots, \sigma_t(\bar{x}))$$

where

$$\sigma_i = x_{(i-1)q^t+1} + \dots + x_{iq^t}.$$

Then $\bar{\sigma}(\bar{c}) \in C^*$ for every $\bar{c} \in C$, i.e.,

$$C = \bigcup_{\bar{\mu} \in C^*} K_{\bar{\mu}} \quad (1)$$

where $\bar{\sigma}(K_{\bar{\mu}}) = \bar{\mu}$.

Lemma (combining construction)

Let C^ be a Hamming code. If for every $\bar{\mu} \in C^*$ we have a distance-3 code $K_{\bar{\mu}}$ of "appropriate" cardinality that satisfies the parity-check law $\bar{\sigma}(K_{\bar{\mu}}) = \bar{\mu}$, then the code C defined by (1) is 1-perfect.*

Components

- The sets $K_{\bar{\mu}}$ will be referred to as $\bar{\mu}$ -components.
- Clearly, any $\bar{\mu}$ -component is a translation of some $\bar{0}$ -component.
- $\bar{0}$ -components can be considered as 1-perfect codes in the metric subspace

$$\{\bar{x} \in F_q^n \mid \text{wt}(\bar{\sigma}(\bar{x})) \leq 1\}$$

- $\bar{\mu}$ -components ($\bar{0}$ -components) can be considered for *any* length of $\bar{\mu}$, no need to restrict by only lengths of 1-perfect codes
- This approach is especially convenient for studying 1-perfect codes of rank not more than $+\Delta$ for fixed Δ . For example, for binary 1-perfect codes of rank $+3$ the size of group of coordinates for $\bar{\sigma}$ is 8 and $\bar{\mu}$ -components exist in lengths **15**, **23**, **31**, 39, 47, 55, **63**, 71, ...

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[Avgustinovich, Heden, Solov'eva, 2004] One-to-one correspondence between $\bar{0}$ -components and $(n - 3)/4$ -ary quasigroups of order 4.
[K, Potapov, 2009] Characterization of multary quasigroups of order 4.
- Case $q = 4$ rank $\leq +1$: generalized concatenated construction [V.Zinoviev] results in binary 1-perfect codes of rank $\leq +2$, so this case probably can be solved.
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Unsolved cases

- Case $q = 5$ rank $\leq +1$: open problem (even characterization in terms of multary quasigroups of order 5).
- Case $q = 2$ rank $\leq +3$: open problem. But the case $n = 15$ is solved using computer [Zinoviev, Zinoviev, 2006], [Östergård, Pottönen, 2009] (there are 1990 non-isomorphic extended 1-perfect codes). This gives some basic knowledge on the structure of "rank +3" components of larger lengths, similarly as knowledge of all latin squares when studying latin hypercubes.

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Number of 1-perfect codes

- The number of 1-perfect codes is known to be doubly-exponential in n :

$$2^{2^{\alpha n + o(n)}}$$

- All lower bounds are obtained by switching approach.
- For binary case, $\alpha \geq \frac{1}{2}$ [Vasil'ev 1962], and $\alpha \leq 1$ (trivial).
- A generalization to nonbinary case: [Schönheim 1968] — possibility to switch linear switching components.
- [Los' 2006]: in the case of nonprime q a linear component of the Hamming code is partitioned into exponential number of nonlinear switching components. This improves the lower bound on α .

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For odd q , the Hamming code is not the best choice to start switching!

To show this, we use the [Phelps 1984] construction, which can be treated as a way to construct a $\bar{\mu}$ -component from a multary quasigroup.

Def: multary quasigroup

$\Sigma = \{0, 1, \dots, q - 1\}$. Σ^n – the set of n -words over Σ . The set of q words in Σ^n that coincide in $n - 1$ positions is called a **line**.

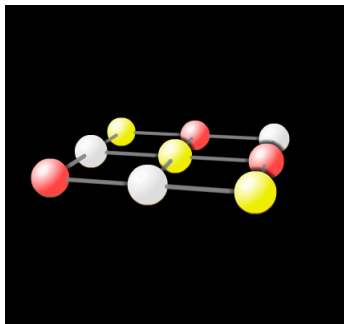
Definition

A function $f : \Sigma^n \rightarrow \Sigma$ is called an **n -ary (multary) quasigroup**, or a **latin n -cube** of order q if $f(L) = \Sigma$ for every line L .

$$n = 2 : \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$n = 3 :$$

n -Ary quasigroups $\leftrightarrow (n + 1, 2)$ MDS codes



Well known

$f : \Sigma^n \rightarrow \Sigma$ is an n -ary quasigroup if and only if $M = \{(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_0 = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$ is a distance-2 MDS code.

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n -Ary quasigroups of order 4

Theorem ([K, Potapov, 2009])

Every n -ary quasigroup is a repetition-free composition of (one or more) multary quasigroups equivalent (isotopic) to multary quasigroups (latin hypercubes) of anti-sudoku type.

$n = 3 : g :$

$n = 2 : h :$

0	1	2	3
1	0	3	2
2	3	1	0
3	2	0	1

Example:

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = h(x_2, g(x_1, x_3, x_4))$$

The number of n -ary quasigroups. LOWER bound

- How to obtain large number of multary quasigroups of fixed order q ?
- !!! Switching
- Starting to switch from the linear multary quasigroups is not a good idea sometimes. For example,
 $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n \pmod 7$

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6	0
2	3	4	5	6	0	1
3	4	5	6	0	1	2
4	5	6	0	1	2	3
5	6	0	1	2	3	4
6	0	1	2	3	4	5

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The number of n -ary quasigroups. LOWER bound

Lower bound on the number of n -ary quasigroups of order q : 2^T where T is the maximal number of independent switching components (trades) in an n -ary quasigroup. Since the minimal trade size is 2^n , $T \leq (q/2)^n$ which is tight for even q , but for odd q we have only $T \geq \left(\frac{q-3}{2}\right)^n$ in the iterated n -ary quasigroup $\psi(x_1, \psi(x_2, \psi(x_3, \dots \psi(x_{n-1}, x_n) \dots)))$ [Potapov, K, subm.].

$\psi :$

1	8	4	5	6	7	2	3	0
8	0	5	4	7	6	3	2	1
6	7	3	8	0	1	4	5	2
7	6	8	2	1	0	5	4	3
2	3	6	7	5	8	0	1	4
3	2	7	6	8	4	1	0	5
4	5	0	1	2	3	7	8	6
5	4	1	0	3	2	8	6	7
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Returning to the codes, the q -ary Hamming code can be treated as obtained by the Phelps construction from the linear multary quasigroup of order q . Switching components in this code correspond to switching components in the multary quasigroup, which are not minimal possible. Replacing the linear multary quasigroup by a specially constructed nonlinear one, we can improve the constant α in the second floor of the lower bound for odd $q \geq 5$.

Thank you for your attention!

Thank organizers for the
wonderful conference!