

Goal: read 2024 paper - Improved PIR Schemes using Matching Vectors and Derivatives

Papers

2008

- well-known improvements to PIR
- locally-decodable codes
- Based on 1996 and 1994

Timeline

plan / theorem list by week 4/5
general understanding by week 7
presentation week 9
paper end of quarter.

Babai textbook (Frankl-Wilson theorem)

What is an LDC?

$n = \text{message length}$
 $N = \text{codeword length}$

3-query LDC of sub-exponential length of size $\exp(\exp(O(\frac{\ln n}{\ln \ln n})))$
 ↓
 we can recover a bit by
 sampling 3 spots (3 queries)
 multiple times

e.x. Hadamard 2-query LDC

not always

$x \in \{0, 1\}^k$ and codeword is $C_x(y) = x \cdot y \pmod{2} \quad \forall y \in \{0, 1\}^k$

$x = (1, 0)$	y	$x \cdot y$	$C_x(y)$
(0, 0)	0	0	0
(0, 1)	0	0	0
(1, 0)	1	1	1
(1, 1)	1	1	1

Depends on
constant order of y

Codeword is [0, 0, 1, 1]

Suppose codeword gets slightly corrupted $[0, 0, 1, 1] \rightarrow [0, 0, 1, 0]$

we want only 1 bit of message (say x_i) without decoding entire message

Process:

$$y \in \{0, 1\}^2 \text{ and query: } C_x(y), C_x(y + e_i)$$

$\begin{matrix} \text{mod 2 or } \mathbb{F}_2 \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} (0,0) & (0,1) & (1,0) & (1,1) \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ [0, 0, 1, 1] \end{matrix}$

$$C_x(y) \oplus C_x(y + e_i) = x_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} y = (0, 0), \quad C_x(y) = 0 &> 1 \\ y + e_i = (1, 0), \quad C_x(y + e_i) = 1 & \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y = (1, 1), \quad C_x(y) = 0 &> 0 \quad \text{wrong but after all 2-bit queries,} \\ y + e_i = (0, 1), \quad C_x(y + e_i) = 0 & \quad \text{this will be in the minority.} \end{aligned}$$

Ray-Chaudhuri - Wilson Theorem: let L be a set of s integers and F an L -intersecting k -uniform family of subsets of a set of n elements where $s \leq k$. Then $|F| \leq \binom{n}{s}$

e.x. $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

$$|F| \leq \frac{6!}{2 \cdot 4!} = \frac{6 \cdot 5}{2} = 15$$

$$L = \{2, 3\}, \quad k = 3, \quad n = 6, \quad s = 2$$

Frankl-Wilson Theorem: let p be a prime # and L a set of s distinct residues mod p , let k be an integer, $k \pmod{p} \notin L$

Assume $s+k \leq n$. let F be a family of subsets of a set of n elements s.t.

$$1) |E| \equiv k \pmod{p} \text{ for } E \in F$$

$$2) |E \cap F| \in L \pmod{p} \text{ for } E, F \in F, E \neq F$$

of uniform (\pmod{p}) sets that intersect within the rules are less than or equal to $\binom{n}{s}$

Then $|F| \leq \binom{n}{s}$

$$\binom{s}{2} = \frac{s \cdot s-1}{2} = 10$$

e.x. $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \quad n=5, \quad p=3$

$$L = \{1, 0\} \quad k=2, \quad s=2$$

$$F = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \{2\} \\ \{2, 3\} \\ \{2, 3, 4\} \\ \{2, 3, 4, 5\} \\ \{3, 4, 5\} \end{matrix} \right\} \quad |F| \leq \binom{5}{2} \quad \checkmark$$

1) Built off Yekhanin who created 2-query LDC, assuming \exists an infinite number of mersenne primes

2) Efremenko created a 3-query that worked no matter what and was shorter: $\exp(\exp(\sqrt{\log n \cdot \log \log n}))$

3) Uses existance of super-polynomial size set-systems with restricted intersections by Grothendieck

1996 - Superpolynomial size set-systems with restricted intersections mod 6 and Ramsey graphs

constructed System \mathcal{H} $|\mathcal{H}| = \exp(c \cdot \log^2(n) / \log(\log(n)))$ and $\mathcal{H} \subseteq P(A)$ where $|A| = n$
 and $\forall h_i, h_j \in \mathcal{H}, |h_i| \equiv_6 0$ but $|h_i \cap h_j| \neq_6 0$

\Rightarrow results generalize this to all non-prime-power m ($6, 10, 15$)

and negatively answers Frankl-Wilson (1981)

1994 - Represented Boolean functions as polynomials modulo composite numbers by BBR

(over \mathbb{Z}_m)

MOD_m-degree of boolean function F is the smallest degree of any polynomial s.t. $F(x) = 0$ iff $P(x) = 0$

1) MOD-degree of Strong OR of N variables is always N

Weak representation

$r = \text{prime factors of } m$

2) MOD_m-degree of OR of N variables $\leq O(\sqrt{N})$

\hookrightarrow lower bound of $\Omega(\log N^{\frac{1}{r-1}})$

3) MOD_{p^e}-degree of OR_N $\geq \frac{N}{p^e - 1}$

weak rep in \mathbb{Z}_{p^e} of degree $d \Rightarrow$ strong rep in \mathbb{Z}_p of degree $= n \leq d(p^e - 1)$

Strong Representation: $f(x) = P(x) \forall x, P(x) \in \{0, 1\}$

One-sided representation: $f(x) = 0 \text{ iff } P(x) = 0$

$\hookrightarrow f(x) = 1 \text{ if } P(x) = \text{anything}$

Weak representation: $\forall x, y, P(x) \neq P(y) \text{ whenever } f(x) \neq f(y)$

$\hookrightarrow \exists S \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_m^n \text{ s.t. } f(m) = 0 \text{ iff } P(m) \in S$

Lemma 1: Let $q = p^e$ be a prime power and let P be a polynomial of degree d in n boolean variables over \mathbb{Z}_2 . If P weakly represents a boolean f , then \exists a polynomial P^* over \mathbb{Z}_p of degree at most $d(q-1)$ strongly representing f .

Going from weak \Rightarrow one-sided without effect on degree (d)

One-sided in \mathbb{Z}_{p^e} \Rightarrow strong in \mathbb{Z}_p ($n \leq d \cdot (p^e - 1)$)

$$\Rightarrow \text{degree of weak/one-sided in } \mathbb{Z}_{p^e} \left(d \geq \frac{n}{p^e - 1}, \text{ b/c } \frac{n}{p^e - 1} \cdot p^e - 1 = n \right)$$

Corollary 2: If q is prime power p^e and $d(q-1) \leq n$, no polynomial of d can weakly represent OR over \mathbb{Z}_p

If we can, then $\exists d(q-1)$ rep over \mathbb{Z}_p which is less than n (contradiction), Strong OR_n is always degree n .

$$d(p^e - 1) \geq n, \text{ for } d = \text{degree over } \mathbb{Z}_{p^e}$$

$$\text{degree } (\mathbb{Z}_{p^e}) \geq \frac{n}{p^e - 1}$$

Coro: Let $e=1$ then $d(p-1) \geq n$ for $d = \text{degree over } \mathbb{Z}_p$

$$\text{at minimum } p=2 \Rightarrow d \geq \frac{n}{(1)}$$

SUPERPOLYNOMIAL SIZE SET-SYSTEMS WITH RESTRICTED
INTERSECTIONS MOD 6 AND EXPLICIT RAMSEY GRAPHS

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Dedicated to the memory of Paul Erdős

We construct a system \mathcal{H} of $\exp(c \log^2 n / \log \log n)$ subsets of a set of n elements such that the size of each set is divisible by 6 but their pairwise intersections are not divisible by 6. The result generalizes to all non-prime-power moduli m in place of $m=6$. This result is in sharp contrast with results of Frankl and Wilson (1981) for prime power moduli and gives strong negative answers to questions by Frankl and Wilson (1981) and Babai and Frankl (1992). We use our set-system \mathcal{H} to give an explicit Ramsey-graph construction, reproducing the logarithmic order of magnitude of the best previously known construction due to Frankl and Wilson (1981). Our construction uses certain mod m polynomials, discovered by Barrington, Beigel and Rudich (1994).

1. Introduction

Generalizing the *Ray-Chaudhuri–Wilson* theorem [11], Frankl and Wilson [9] proved the following intersection theorem, one of the most important results in extremal set theory:

Theorem 1.1 (**Frankl–Wilson**). *Let \mathcal{F} be a set-system over a universe of n elements. Suppose $\mu_0, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_s$ are distinct residues modulo a prime p ,*

* Part of this research was done while the author was visiting the Department of Computer Science at The University of Chicago.

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such that for all $F \in \mathcal{F}$,

$$|F| = k \equiv \mu_0 \pmod{p},$$

where $k+s \leq n$, and for any two distinct $F, G \in \mathcal{F}$:

$$|F \cap G| \equiv \mu_i \pmod{p} \text{ for some } i, 1 \leq i \leq s.$$

Then

$$(\textcolor{blue}{\blacksquare}) \qquad |\mathcal{F}| \leq \binom{n}{s}.$$

This theorem has numerous applications in combinatorics and in geometry (e.g., the disproof of *Borsuk's conjecture* by Kahn and Kalai [10] (cf. [2], Sec. 5.6.), an explicit construction of Ramsey graphs, and geometric applications related to the Hadwiger-problem [9].)

Frankl and Wilson [9] asked whether inequality (4) remains true when the modulus p is replaced by a composite number m , or at least in the subcase $s = m - 1$. ✓ If $f \neq f_0$ when m composite ($m=6$)

Frankl [8] answered the first of these questions (arbitrary $s \leq m$) in the negative: he constructed faster growing set-systems for $m=6$, as well as for $m=p^2$, p prime. For $m=6$, Frankl's set-systems satisfy $s=3$ and $|\mathcal{F}| \approx cn^4$.

On the other hand, Frankl and Wilson [9] proved that inequality (1) remains in force when $s = m - 1$ and m is a prime power.

In this paper we consider non-prime-power moduli m . For any such modulus, we give a very strong negative answer to both versions of the Frankl–Wilson question: we prove that for $s = m - 1$, no upper bound of the form $n^{f(m)}$ exists. More precisely, we prove the following.

Theorem 1.2. Let m be a positive integer, and suppose that m has $r > 1$ different prime divisors: $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$. Then there exists $c = c(m) > 0$, such that for every integer $h > 0$, there exists an explicitly constructible uniform set-system \mathcal{H} over a universe of h elements, such that

- (a) $|\mathcal{H}| \geq \exp\left(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{(\log \log h)^{r-1}}\right)$, $\forall h > 0$, \exists system of elements $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_h\}$ s.t.
 $\forall H \in \mathcal{H}$, $|H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$
 $\forall G, H \in \mathcal{H}$, $G \neq H$, $|G \cap H| \neq 0$

(b) $\forall H \in \mathcal{H}$: $|H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$,
 $\forall G, H \in \mathcal{H}, G \neq H$: $|G \cap H| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$. $\Rightarrow |\mathcal{H}| \geq e^{c \frac{(\log h)^r}{(\log \log h)^{r-1}}}$

* m has r prime divisors

Remark 1.1. The value of c is roughly p_r^{-r} , where p_r is the largest prime divisor of m . The size of the sets in the set-system we construct is

- (2) from BBR-1994: $\text{AHEH}, \lvert H \rvert = h^{\frac{r-1}{2r-1} + o(1)}$.
 polynomial rep in mod m
 $\Theta(O(h^{1/r}))$ r = prime factors of m
 $h = \text{variables allowed}$

↳ low degree allows for super-polynomial growth

We note that for fixed m (m is not a prime power), the size of \mathcal{H} grows faster than any polynomial of n . This is quite surprising, since previously it was believed that the failure of the attempts to prove a polynomial upper bound was due to the lack of techniques to handle non-prime-power composite moduli.

Our result gives a strong negative answer to a conjecture of *Babai* and *Frankl* ([2], Section 7.3, Conjecture C(r)). *Babai* and *Frankl* conjectured that conditions (b) and (c) of [Theorem 1.2](#) imply

$$|\mathcal{H}| \leq \binom{h}{m-1};$$

whereas our result shows that no bound of the form $h^{f(m)}$ exists for composite, non-prime power moduli m .

We can even strengthen statement (c) of [Theorem 1.2](#) as follows:

Theorem 1.3. [Theorem 1.2](#) remains valid if we add the following condition:

- (d) $\forall G, H \in \mathcal{H}, G \neq H$ and $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, r\}$, we have $|G \cap H| \equiv 0 \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}}$ or $|G \cap H| \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}}$.

Remark 1.2. [Theorem 1.3](#) implies that there exist super-polynomial size set-systems \mathcal{H} such that the size of each set in \mathcal{H} is divisible by m and the sizes of the pairwise intersections of the sets in \mathcal{H} occupy at most $2^r - 1$ residue classes mod m out of the possible $m - 1$ nonzero residue classes. L in Frankl-Wilson?

In fact, this result can be further strengthened: 3 residue classes of intersection size suffice! This answers a question of Peter Frankl (private communication).

Corollary 1.1. Let m be a positive integer, and suppose that m has $r > 1$ different prime divisors: $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$. Then there exists $c = c(m) > 0$, such that for every integer $h > 0$, there exists an explicitly constructible uniform set-system \mathcal{H} over a universe of h elements such that

- (a) $|\mathcal{H}| \geq \exp\left(c \frac{(\log h)^2}{\log \log h}\right)$, $r=2?$
 (b) $\forall H \in \mathcal{H}: |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$,
 (c) the sizes of the pairwise intersections $|G \cap H|$ ($G, H \in \mathcal{H}, G \neq H$) occupy only 3 residue classes mod m , none of which is 0.

One of the striking applications of the Frankl–Wilson theorem for prime moduli was an explicit construction of graphs of size $\exp(c \log^2 n / \log \log n)$ without homogeneous subsets (cliques or anti-cliques) of size n . These are the

largest explicit Ramsey-graphs known to-date. As an application of our [Theorem 1.2](#), we give an alternative construction of explicit Ramsey graphs of the same logarithmic order of magnitude, *i.e.*, of size $\exp(c' \log^2 n / \log \log n)$. (But our c' is less than their c).

A key ingredient of our construction is a low-degree polynomial constructed by *Barrington, Beigel and Rudich* [\[B\]](#), to represent the Boolean “OR” function mod m . Any reduction of the degree of such polynomials would yield improved explicit Ramsey graphs.

2. Preliminaries

Let $f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ be a Boolean function and let m be a positive integer. *Barrington, Beigel and Rudich* [\[B\]](#) gave the following definition:

Definition 2.1. The polynomial P with integer coefficients *weakly represents* the Boolean function f modulo m if there exists an $S \subset \{0,1,2,\dots,m-1\}$ such that for all $x \in \{0,1\}^n$,

$$f(x) = 0 \iff (P(x) \bmod m) \in S.$$

Here $(a \bmod m)$ denotes the smallest non-negative $b \equiv a \bmod m$.

We are interested in the smallest degree of polynomials representing f modulo m . Without loss of generality we may assume P is multilinear (since $x_i^2 = x_i$ over $\{0,1\}^n$).

Let $\text{OR}_n: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ denote the n -variable OR-function:

$$\text{OR}_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 0 \\ 1 \text{ otherwise.} & \end{cases}$$

wouldn't P strongly rep OR_n ?

Suppose that the polynomial P weakly represents OR_n modulo a prime p . Without loss of the generality we may assume that for $x \in \{0,1\}^n$,

$$P(x) \equiv 0 \bmod p \iff x = (0, 0, \dots, 0).$$

Then

$$f(x) = 1 - P^{p-1}(1 - x_1, 1 - x_2, \dots, 1 - x_n) \Rightarrow f(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{AND}$$

is exactly the n -variable AND function, which can uniquely be written as a multilinear monomial

$$x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_n.$$

Consequently, if the polynomial P weakly represents OR_n over $GF(p)$, then its degree is at least

$$? \quad \left[\frac{n}{p-1} \right].$$

$$\deg(f) = n \leq (p-1) \cdot \deg(P)$$

$$\deg(P) \geq \frac{n}{p-1}$$

$$\deg(f) = \deg(1 - P(1-x)^{p-1}) \leq (p-1) \deg(P)$$

Tardos and *Barrington* [12] proved that the same conclusion holds if p is a prime power.

On the other hand, *Barrington*, *Beigel* and *Rudich* [5] proved that the conclusion fails for composite moduli with at least two distinct prime divisors:

Theorem 2.4 (Barrington, Beigel, Rudich). Given $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$ where the p_i are distinct primes, there exists an explicitly constructible polynomial P of degree $O(n^{1/r})$ which weakly represents OR_n modulo m .

m=composite, $C \log^2 n$, Mod per deg of $OR_n \geq \frac{n}{p-1}$

For completeness, we reproduce here a short proof of this theorem.

Proof. Let $S_k(x)$ denote the k^{th} elementary symmetric polynomial, i.e. the sum of all multilinear monomials of degree k , formed from variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n . For $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$, the weight of x is defined as $\text{wt}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$. If $\text{wt}(x) = \ell$, then

$$s_k(x) = \binom{\ell}{k}.$$

Since the value of $s_k(x)$ depends only on $\text{wt}(x)$, with some abuse of the notation we shall write $s_k(x)$ as $s_k(j)$ where $j = \text{wt}(x)$. Using this notation, one can formulate the following observation made in [5]:

Lemma 2.1. [5] Let k be a positive integer, p be a prime and let e be the smallest integer satisfying $k < p^e$. Then $s_k(j) \equiv s_k(j + p^e) \pmod{p}$.

Proof. We need to prove

$$\binom{j + p^e}{k} \equiv \binom{j}{k} \pmod{p}.$$

This is immediate from the identity

$$\binom{u+v}{t} = \sum_{w=0}^t \binom{u}{w} \binom{v}{t-w},$$

and the elementary fact that for any $1 \leq \ell < p^e$, p is a divisor of $\binom{p^e}{\ell}$. ■

Now, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$, let e_i be the smallest integer that satisfies

$$p_i^{e_i} > \lceil n^{1/r} \rceil.$$

We define, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$, the symmetric polynomial $G_i(x)$ by

$$G_i(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{p_i^{e_i}-1} (-1)^{j+1} s_j(x).$$

One can easily prove (using the binomial expansion of $(1-1)^{p_i^{e_i}-1}$), that G_i correctly computes over the integers the OR function for inputs of weight at most $p_i^{e_i}-1$. Consequently, G_i correctly computes modulo p_i the OR function for inputs of weight at most $n^{1/r}$, and, additionally, $G_i \bmod p_i$ is periodic with period $p_i^{e_i}$.

And now, by the Chinese Remainder Theorem, there exists a polynomial P which satisfies

$$P \equiv G_i \pmod{p_i}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$, and the degree of P is the maximum of the degrees of polynomials G_i , $O(n^{1/r})$.

It is obvious that for $x \in \{0,1\}^n$, if $\text{wt}(x) \neq 0$ then there exists an i , $1 \leq i \leq r$, such that $\text{wt}(x) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p_i^{e_i}}$, so $P(x) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p_1 p_2 \dots p_r}$. In addition, $P(0, 0, \dots, 0) = 0$. Consequently, P weakly represents the OR function for all inputs in $\{0,1\}^n$ modulo $p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$. Since $p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$ is a divisor of m , if $P(x)$ is not 0 modulo $p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$ then it is not 0 modulo m . Consequently, P weakly represents the OR function for all inputs in $\{0,1\}^n$ modulo m . ■

Example. Let $m=6$, and let

$$G_1(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{2^3-1} (-1)^{j+1} s_j(x),$$

and

$$G_2(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{3^2-1} (-1)^{j+1} s_j(x).$$

Then

$$P(x) = 3G_1(x) + 4G_2(x)$$

weakly represents OR_{71} modulo 6 (or modulo 6ℓ for any integer ℓ), and its degree is only 8.

Corollary 2.2. Let $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$. Then there exists an explicitly constructible polynomial P' with n variables and of degree $O(n^{1/r})$ which is equal to 0 on $x = (0, 0, \dots, 0) \in \{0,1\}^n$, it is nonzero mod m for all other $x \in \{0,1\}^n$, and for all $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ and for all $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$, $P(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}}$ or $P(x) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}}$.

Proof. Let us consider first the easy case, when $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_r = 1$. Then the statement is immediate from [Lemma 2.1](#) and from the fact that polynomials G_i not only represent, but compute the OR function for inputs of weight less than $p_i^{e_i}$.

let prime make-up of $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r}$

P' over n variables of degree $O(n^{1/r})$ one-sided

$P(x) \equiv \{0, 1\} \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}} \forall r$

In the general case, let us observe that G_i is either 0 or 1 modulo p_i on $\{0,1\}^n$. Then we need the modulus-amplifying polynomials R_i of degree $2\alpha_i$ of *Beigel* and *Tarui* [6], with the following properties:

$$N \equiv 0 \pmod{p_i} \implies R_i(N) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}}$$

and

$$N \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i} \implies R_i(N) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i^{\alpha_i}}.$$

Now, set $G'_i = R_i \circ G_i$ and construct P' by applying the Chinese Remainder Theorem to the G'_i . ■

3. The Lower Bound

proof that size of \mathcal{H} is sublinear in terms of $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof of Theorem 1.2

Let $P(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$ be a polynomial of degree d which satisfies that $P(0, 0, 0, \dots, 0) = 0$, and for every $(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n$

$$P(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff z_1 = z_2 = \dots = z_n = 0.$$

An explicit construction of such P of degree $d = O(n^{1/r})$ was given in [Theorem 2.4](#).

Let $Q(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = P(1 - z_1, 1 - z_2, \dots, 1 - z_n)$. Then $Q(1, 1, 1, \dots, 1) = 0$, and for all $z \in \{0, 1\}^n$ we have

$$(B) \quad Q(z) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff z_1 = z_2 = \dots = z_n = 1.$$

Using the polynomial Q we state our main Lemma:

*using properties
we construct AND
function $Q(z)$*

Lemma 3.2. For every integer $n > 0$, there exists a uniform set-system \mathcal{H} over a universe of $2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$ elements which is explicitly constructible from the polynomial Q and satisfies

- (a) $|\mathcal{H}| = n^n$,
- (b) $\forall H \in \mathcal{H}: |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$,
- (c) $\forall G, H \in \mathcal{H}, G \neq H: |G \cap H| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$.

[Lemma 3.2](#) easily yields [Theorem 1.2](#) setting $d = \Theta(n^{1/r})$ and using elementary estimations for the binomial coefficients.

Proof of Lemma 3.2. Q can be written as

$$Q(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} a_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_\ell},$$

where $0 \leq \ell \leq d$, and $a_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$ is integer, $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_\ell \leq n$. Let us define

$$(4) \quad \tilde{Q}(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} \tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_\ell},$$

where $\tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} = (a_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} \bmod m)$ is the smallest, positive integer, congruent to $a_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$ modulo m , for $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_\ell \leq n$.

We note, that (3) is satisfied for \tilde{Q} , but $\tilde{Q}(1, 1, 1, \dots, 1)$ is not necessarily 0.

Let the function $\delta: \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\} \times \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ be defined as

$$\delta(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } u = v, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let $A = (a_{xy})$ be an $n^n \times n^n$ matrix ($x, y \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}^n$).

We define the entry a_{xy} as follows:

$$(5) \quad a_{xy} = \tilde{Q}(\delta(x_1, y_1), \delta(x_2, y_2), \dots, \delta(x_n, y_n)) \bmod m.$$

We note that $a_{xx} = \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$. Conversely, if $a_{xy} \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ then $x = y$.

By equation (4), the polynomial $\tilde{Q}(z)$ is a sum of the monomials of the form $z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_\ell}$ ($\ell \leq d$). We wish to keep all coefficients equal to 1; therefore we shall say that the monomial $z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_\ell}$ ($\ell \leq d$) occurs with *multiplicity* $\tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$ in this sum. Note that each multiplicity is a nonnegative integer $\leq m-1$.

Consequently, the matrix A is a sum of the matrices $B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} = (b_{x,y}^{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell})$, corresponding to the monomial $z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_\ell}$ in the following way:

$$b_{x,y}^{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} = \delta(x_{i_1}, y_{i_1}) \delta(x_{i_2}, y_{i_2}) \dots \delta(x_{i_\ell}, y_{i_\ell}).$$

This matrix occurs in the sum with multiplicity $\tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$.

It is easy to verify that $B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$ is permutationally equivalent to the matrix

$$(6) \quad \begin{pmatrix} J_1 & & & & 0 & & \\ & \ddots & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & \\ 0 & & & \ddots & & & \\ & & & & & & J_{n^\ell} \end{pmatrix}$$

where the diagonal blocks J_i are all-ones matrices of size $n^{n-\ell} \times n^{n-\ell}$, and there are exactly n^ℓ pairwise disjoint all-ones blocks in $B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$. “Permutationally equivalent” means that there exists a permutation such that if it

is applied both to the rows and to the columns of the matrix, the result is equal to (6). Let us refer to these all-ones blocks of $B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$ as *B-blocks*. We shall say that each *B-block* of $B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$ occurs with multiplicity $\tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}$.

By equation (4), A can be written in the following form:

$$(7) \quad A = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} \tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell}.$$

Lemma 3.3. *Taking multiplicities into account,*

- (a) *every cell of the main diagonal of A is covered by the same number of *B-blocks*, and this number is divisible by m ;*
- (b) *for any pair of cells of the main diagonal of A , the number of those *B-blocks* which cover both members of the pair, is not divisible by m .*

Proof. We note that the number of *B-blocks* covering cell (x, y) is a_{xy} . Now statement (a) follows by equation (3), observing that for all x ,

$$a_{xx} = \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}.$$

For part (b), we note that the *B-blocks* are square submatrices, symmetric to the diagonal; therefore a *B-block* covers the cells (x, x) and (y, y) exactly if it covers the cell (x, y) . The number of *B-blocks* covering both (x, x) and (y, y) is therefore $a_{xy} \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$, again by equation (3). ■

Corollary 3.3. *There exists an explicitly constructible hypergraph \mathcal{G} with n^n vertices and fewer than $2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$ edges, such that every vertex is contained in the same number of edges, and this number is divisible by m ; while for any two vertices, the number of edges, containing both of the vertices, is not divisible by m . (We allow multiple edges and take multiplicities into account.)*

Proof. From Lemma 3.3, choose the cells of the diagonal of A for the vertices and the intersections of the *B-blocks* with the diagonal for edges (with the corresponding multiplicity).

The number of edges is

$$\begin{aligned} h := \tilde{Q}(n, n, \dots, n) &= \sum_{\ell \leq d} \sum \tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell} n^\ell \leq (m-1) \sum_{\ell \leq d} \binom{n}{\ell} n^\ell \\ &< (m-1) \sum_{\ell \leq d} n^{2\ell}/\ell! < 2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!, \end{aligned}$$

assuming, as we may, that $n \geq 2d$. ■

We note that the number of edges containing each vertex is

$$\tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \leq (m-1) \left(\binom{n}{d} + \binom{n}{d-1} + \dots + \binom{n}{0} \right) < 2(m-1) \binom{n}{d}.$$

Now we are ready to complete the proof of Lemma 3.2.

Let us consider the dual of the hypergraph of Corollary 3.3, i.e., let the universe be the set of B -blocks, and if a B -block was present a times in the hypergraph \mathcal{G} , then it will correspond to a different points (or elements) in the universe. Consequently, our universe is a set (rather than a multiset). The size of the universe is $h < 2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$.

The diagonal cells of A correspond to the members of the set-system \mathcal{H} : the set corresponding to cell (x, x) consists of exactly those B -blocks which cover (x, x) . Therefore $|\mathcal{H}| = n^n$.

Since every diagonal cell of A is covered by the same number of B -blocks, the resulting \mathcal{H} is a uniform set system. As discussed previously, this number (the size of the members of \mathcal{H}) is $\tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \leq (m-1) \sum_{\ell=0}^d \binom{n}{d} < 2(m-1) \binom{n}{d}$.

From Corollary 3.3, statements (a), (b), (c) of Lemma 3.2 follow. ■

Remark 3.3. We note from the foregoing that the number of vertices of \mathcal{H} is $h := \tilde{Q}(n, n, \dots, n)$, and the number of vertices of each member of \mathcal{H} is $\tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1)$. We note that $\tilde{Q}(n, n, \dots, n) \leq n^d \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1)$.

To prove the estimate on the size of the members of \mathcal{H} in terms of h (the number of vertices of \mathcal{H}) given in Remark 1.1, we first add dummy vertices to increase h to its upper bound $h' := n^d \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1)$ stated above. Now, since this quantity is still $\leq 2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$, we see, using the bound $d = O(n^{1/r})$ guaranteed by Theorem 2.4, that

$$n^d \geq (h')^{\frac{r}{2r-1} + o(1)}$$

and therefore the size of the members of \mathcal{H} is

$$\tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \leq (h')^{\frac{r-1}{2r-1} + o(1)},$$

as claimed in equation (2). ■

Proof of Theorem 1.3. The statement is immediate if the polynomial P' of Corollary 2.2 is used for the construction of the set-system \mathcal{H} in the proof of Theorem 1.2 in the place of the polynomial P . ■

Proof of Corollary 1.1. Let $m' = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2}$, and apply Theorem 1.3 for constructing a set-system \mathcal{H} for h and this m' . The intersections occupy only 3 residue classes modulo m' . Now replace every point of the universe by m/m' new points; the new points will be the members of exactly the same sets of the set-system as the old point. The statement follows. \blacksquare

4. An Application: Ramsey Graphs

The set-system \mathcal{H} of Theorem 1.2 yields new families of explicit Ramsey-graphs.

Theorem 4.5 (Frankl–Wilson, 1981). For $t \geq 3$, there exists an explicitly constructible graph on $\exp\left(c \frac{(\log t)^2}{(\log \log t)}\right)$ vertices which does not contain either a complete graph or an independent set of size t .

The constant c given in [9] is $c = \frac{1}{4}$. Our construction yields $c = \frac{2}{81}$ only.

In addition to giving a novel proof of Theorem 4.5, we extend it to the case of several colors:

Theorem 4.6. For $r \geq 2$, $t \geq 3$, there exists an explicitly constructible r -coloring of the edges of the complete graph on $\exp\left(c_r \frac{(\log t)^r}{(\log \log t)^{r-1}}\right)$ vertices such that no color contains a complete graph on t vertices. Here $c_r = c/p_r^{2r} \sim c(r \ln r)^{-2r}$, where p_r is the r^{th} prime, and $c > 0$ is an absolute constant.

The existence of graphs with $ct2^{t/2}$ vertices without a complete subgraph or an independent set of size t was proved in Erdős's celebrated 1947 paper [1]. Erdős's probabilistic proof can be easily adapted to yield the existence of an r -coloring of the edges of the complete graph on $c(r)tr^{t/2}$ vertices, without a monochromatic complete subgraph on t vertices. (The exact formula is $\lfloor (t/e)r^{(t-1)/2-1/t} \rfloor$ so we can take $c(r) = 1/(er)$.)

Proof of Theorem 4.6. Let $m = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$, where p_i is the i^{th} prime. Let K be a complete graph on vertex-set \mathcal{H} , where \mathcal{H} is a set-system with the properties stated in Theorem 1.2, with $h = \lfloor t^{1/p_r} \rfloor$. We define an r -coloring of the edges of K by colors $1, 2, \dots, r$ as follows: edge UV , where $U, V \in \mathcal{H}$, has color i if

$$i = \min_{j \in \{1, 2, \dots, r\}} \{j : p_j \text{ does not divide } |U \cap V|\}.$$

Descriptions of a function $f(x)$

$O(g(x))$ = bounded above by some $M \cdot g(x) \Leftrightarrow \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} < \infty$ as $M \rightarrow \infty$

$\Omega(g(x))$ = bounded above by some $m \cdot g(x)$ as $m \rightarrow 0$

$\hookrightarrow O(1)$ = less than any m

$\Omega(g(x))$ = bounded below by some $c \cdot g(x)$ as $c \rightarrow \infty$ (at least as fast as $g(x)$)

$\omega(g(x))$ = bounded below by some $c \cdot g(x)$ as $c \rightarrow \infty$ (faster than $g(x)$)

Overview of Grothendieck

Frankl-Wilson says we can build a set-system \mathcal{F} over universe of n elements

s.t. given $\underbrace{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_s}_{S}$, distinct residues mod p :

- 1) $\forall F \in \mathcal{F}, |F| = k \equiv_p v_0 \quad (s+k \leq n)$ // uniform sets s.t. size of $|S| + |\mathcal{F}| \leq n$
- 2) $\forall F, G \in \mathcal{F}, |F \cap G| \leq S \text{ mod } p$

Then $|\mathcal{F}| \leq \binom{n}{s}$

What happens when we go to a composite mod?

*not insanely fast, but
faster than C^n

Case 1: mod 6 w/ arbitrary $s \leq 6 \longrightarrow$ faster growing system sets

Case 2: mod p^2 w/ arbitrary $s \leq p^2 \longrightarrow$ faster growing system sets

Case 3: mod p^e w/ $s = m-1 \longrightarrow |\mathcal{F}| \leq \binom{n}{s}$

negative answer
↓

Grothendieck case: non-prime-power composite m and $s = m-1 \longrightarrow |\mathcal{F}| > \binom{n}{s}$

↳ Theorem 1.2

Cannot be 1 b/c
then it's a prime power

let m be a positive integer w/ $r > 1$ prime divisors

\exists function $c(m) = c > 0$ s.t. \forall int $h > 0$, we can construct a set system \mathcal{H} over h elements s.t.



1) $\forall H \in \mathcal{H}, |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ somewhere in S

2) $\forall H, G \in \mathcal{H}, |H \cap G| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

3) $|\mathcal{H}| \geq \exp(c \cdot \frac{(\log h)^r}{(\log \log h)^{r-1}})$ $|\mathcal{H}|$ is bounded below by huge number as $h \rightarrow \infty$

* $c = \frac{1}{p_r^{r-1}}$ where p_r is largest prime divisor

* $|H| = h^{\frac{r-1}{2(r-1)}} + o(n)$, $|H|$ is bounded as $h \rightarrow \infty$

Pre-Lims

Definition 2.1: The polynomial P weakly represents boolean function f mod m if $\exists S \subseteq \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1\}^n$ s.t. $\forall x \in \{0, 1\}^n, f(x) = 0 \iff (P(x) \bmod m) \in S$

WLOG: P is multilinear b/c $x_i^2 = x_i$ over $\{0, 1\}^n$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ex. } P &= x_i^3 \cdot x_j + x_i^2 \cdot x_j + x_i \\ &= x_i \cdot x_i \cdot x_j + x_j \cdot x_i + x_i \\ &= x_i \cdot x_j + \end{aligned}$$

Summary: for prime / prime power modulo p . Min degree for a OR_n representation is $\frac{n}{p-1}$

* fails for composite non-prime power modulo m .

Let $OR_n: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ denote n -variable OR function

$$OR_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \vec{x} = \vec{0} \\ 1, & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

Suppose $\exists P$ s.t. P weakly represents OR_n modulo prime p

$$OR_n(\vec{x}) = 0 \iff P(\vec{x}) \bmod p \equiv 0 \quad (S = \{0\}) \quad \text{by def of weak rep}$$

$$\text{aka } P(\vec{x}) \equiv 0 \bmod p \iff \vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

Then define $f(x) = 1 - p^{p-1}(1 - \vec{x})$ is n -variable AND function

$$\text{if } \vec{x} = \vec{1}, \quad P(\vec{1} - \vec{x}) \equiv 0 \bmod p \Rightarrow f(x) = 1 - 0^{p-1}$$

$$\text{if } \vec{x} \neq \vec{1}, \quad P(\vec{1} - \vec{x}) \not\equiv 0 \bmod p \Rightarrow f(x) = 1 - (\text{something})^{p-1} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n \quad P_{AND} \text{ is of degree } n$$

Therefore if P_{OR} weakly represents OR_n mod p , denote degree to be some k , then

P_{AND} representing $1 - (P_{OR})^{p-1}$ is of degree n .

$1 - (\text{degree } k)^{p-1}$ is degree n

$\Rightarrow n \leq k \cdot p - 1$ b/c of potential cancellations

$$k \geq \frac{n}{p-1}$$

Theorem 2.4

Given $m = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_r^{e_r}$ where p_i are distinct primes, \exists polynomial P of degree $O(n^r)$ which weakly represents $OR_n \bmod m$.

Proof: $S_k(x)$ denotes k^{th} elementary symmetric polynomial

$$\hookrightarrow S_1(x) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

$$S_2(x) = x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3 + x_2 x_3$$

how many
is $x_1 x_2$

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \text{ weight of } x (\underline{\text{wt}(x)}) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$\Rightarrow S_m(x) = \binom{\underline{\text{wt}(x)}}{m}, \quad S_m(x) = \sum x_1 x_2 \dots x_m \quad (\text{order matters etc})$$

$$S_p(x) \Rightarrow S_k(\underline{\text{wt}(x)}) \Rightarrow S_k(q)$$

since $S_k(x)$ depends on $\underline{\text{wt}(x)}$ \Rightarrow we can rewrite $S_k(\underline{\text{wt}(x)})$

Lemma 2.1: $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, p is prime, e is smallest integer s.t. $k < p^e$.

$$\Rightarrow S_k(j) \equiv S_k(j+p^e) \bmod p$$

Proof: LHS: $\binom{j+p^e}{k} \equiv \binom{j}{k} \bmod p$

$$\binom{j+p^e}{k} = \sum_{w=0}^k \binom{j}{w} \binom{p^e}{k-w} \quad \text{identity}$$

$$p \mid \binom{p^e}{e}, \quad 1 \leq e < p^e \quad \text{fact}$$

$$\sum_{w=0}^k \binom{j}{w} \binom{p^e}{k-w} - \binom{j}{k} = \underbrace{\sum_{w=0}^{k-1} \binom{j}{w} \binom{p^e}{k-w}}_{\text{divisible by } p} + \binom{j}{k} \binom{p^e}{0} - \binom{j}{k} \equiv 0 \bmod p \quad (2)$$

Construction: $\forall i, e_i$ is smallest integer s.t. $\lceil n^{e_i} \rceil \leq p_i^{e_i}$

p_i is some prime (p)
 $\lceil n^{e_i} \rceil$ is a pos integer $[k]$

$$G_i(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{p_i^{e_i}-1} (-1)^{j+1} S_j(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{p_i^{e_i}-1} (-1)^{j+1} \binom{\underline{\text{wt}(x)}}{j}$$

$$\text{fact: } (-1)^w = \sum_{j=0}^w \binom{w}{j} (-1)^j \Rightarrow$$

Case 1: $\underline{\text{wt}(x)} = 0, (x = (0, 0, \dots, 0)) \Rightarrow G_i(x) = 0$

Case 2: $0 < \underline{\text{wt}(x)} < p_i^{e_i-1} \Rightarrow G_i(x) = 1$ (use fact)

G_i correctly computes $OR \bmod p_i$ for inputs of weight $\leq p_i^{e_i-1}$

\Rightarrow guaranteed to work for inputs of weight $\leq n^r$

G_i is of degree n^r given inputs are of weight

$O(n^r)$

Chinese Remainder Theorem says $\exists P \equiv G_i \bmod p_i \Rightarrow P$ is of degree $M \cdot O(n^r)$ some M

Corollary 2.2: $m = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_r^{a_r}$. $\exists P$ with n variables and of degree $O(n^r)$ s.t.

$$1) P(\vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff \vec{z} = \vec{0} \quad \text{Theorem 2.4 states this}$$

$$2) \forall \vec{z} \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \forall p_i^{a_i}, \quad P(\vec{z}) \equiv \vec{z}^0, \vec{z}^1 \pmod{p_i^{a_i}}$$

Lower Bounds

Proof of Theorem 2.1

let $P(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$ be a polynomial of degree d which satisfies

$$P(0, 0, \dots, 0) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff \vec{z} = \vec{0}$$

Explicit construction given in Theorem 2.4. (degree $O(n^r)$)

$$\text{let } Q(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = P(1-z_1, 1-z_2, \dots, 1-z_n)$$

$$Q(1, 1, \dots, 1) = 0$$

Lemma 3.2: \forall integer $n > 0$, \exists uniform set system \mathcal{U} over $2^{(m-1)n^2d}/d!$ elements

$$1) |\mathcal{U}| = n^n$$

$$2) \forall H \in \mathcal{U}, |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$3) \forall G, H \in \mathcal{U}, |G \cap H| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$\text{if } d = O(n^r), \quad 3.2 \Rightarrow 1.2$$

$$\text{Proof: } Q(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} a_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} \cdot z_{i_1} \cdot z_{i_2} \cdots z_{i_d}$$

$$\tilde{Q}(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} \tilde{a}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} \cdot z_{i_1} \cdot z_{i_2} \cdots z_{i_d}$$

smallest positive int congruent to $a_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} \pmod{m}$

$$\tilde{Q}(\vec{1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \text{ but } \tilde{Q}(\vec{0}) \text{ is not necessarily } 0$$

$$b: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad u, v \in \mathbb{Z}_0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1$$

$$\delta: \mathbb{Z}_0, 1, \dots, m-1 \times \mathbb{Z}_0, 1, \dots, m-1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_0, 1, \dots, m-1 \quad \text{defined by} \quad \delta(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1, & u=v \\ 0, & u \neq v \end{cases}$$

every available vector of size n
so n^n many

let $A \in M_{n \times n}$ s.t. rows are $x \in \mathbb{Z}_0, 1, \dots, n-1$ and columns $y \in \mathbb{Z}_0, 1, \dots, n-1$

entry

$$a_{xy} = \tilde{Q}(\delta(x_1, y_1), \dots, \delta(x_n, y_n)) \quad 1 \text{ if } x=y \& 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

$\tilde{Q}(\vec{z})$ is a sum of monomials $z_1 z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_d}$ ($i_l \leq d$)

↓

m copies = 0 copies $b \equiv c \pmod{m}$

break it into multiplicities (less than $m-1$) so coefficient is always 1

Matrix A

Define B_{i_1, \dots, i_d} as $b_{x,y}^{i_1 \dots i_d} = \delta(x_{i_1}, y_{i_1}) \dots \delta(x_{i_d}, y_{i_d})$

$$A = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} \tilde{\alpha}_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d} \cdot B_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d}$$

Let $n=2$. $x, y \in \{0, 1\}^2 = \{0, 1, 0, 1\}$ or $\{1, 0, 1, 0\}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\alpha}(1,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,0) \\ \tilde{\alpha}(0,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,0) \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \tilde{Q} = \text{some polynomial (sum of monomials)} \\ \text{say like } \tilde{Q} = \underbrace{v_1 v_2 + v_1 v_2 + v_1 + v_2}_{\text{multiplicity of 2}}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} B^2(1,1) + B^1(1,1) + B^1(1,1) + B^2(1,1) & B^1(0,0) + B^2(0,0) + B^2(0,0) + B^2(0,0) \\ B^1(0,0) + B^2(0,0) + B^1(0,0) + B^2(0,0) & B^1(1,1) + B^2(1,1) + B^1(1,1) + B^2(1,1) \end{bmatrix} = B^2 + B^1 + B^1 + B^2 \\ = 2B^2 + B^1 + B^2$$

Technically

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \{1,0\} & \{0,1\} & \{1,1\} & \{0,0\} \\ \{1,0\} & \tilde{\alpha}(1,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,1) \\ \{0,1\} & \tilde{\alpha}(0,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,0) \\ \{1,1\} & \tilde{\alpha}(1,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,0) \\ \{0,0\} & \tilde{\alpha}(0,1) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(0,0) & \tilde{\alpha}(1,1) \end{array}$$

Lemma 3.3 : B-Blocks covering each cell = a_{xy}

1) Diagonal of A is when $x=y \Rightarrow a_{xy} \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

2) $\forall x, y \quad a_{xy} \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

\tilde{Q} = a shift ton of monomials w/ some coefficient represented as $\tilde{\alpha}_{i_1, \dots, i_d} \cdot z_1 \dots z_d$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\alpha}$ blocks of B_{i_1, \dots, i_d}

if all B-blocks output 1, $\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$
 $\not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ otherwise

only looks at certain inputs

dots 2 where those inputs agree and 0 otherwise.

Corollary 3.3: \exists hyper graph G with n^n vertices and fewer than $2(m-1)n^{2d/d!}$ edges s.t.
every vertex is contained in equal number of edges ($\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$) and any two vertices
share number of vertices ($\not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$)

Chooses cells of A 's diagonal (n^n) as vertices as intersections of the B -blocks for edges

\hookrightarrow Edge $B_{1,\dots,l}$ connects all vertices that have inputs $1,\dots,l$ in common.

$$\text{Edges} = h = \tilde{Q}(n, n, \dots, n) = \sum_{l \leq d} \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_l} \cdot n^l$$

multiplicating
↑
all monomials (degree of Q)

$$\leq (m-1) \sum_{l \leq d} \binom{n}{l} n^l$$

less than $m-1$ multiples of each

$$\leq (m-1) \sum_{l \leq d} n^{2l}/l!$$

end term dominates
↑
 $> n^{2d}/d!$

$$\text{Assembly } n \geq 2d$$

{ give agreement at only d places,
what vector can be picked?

Assume $d=0, 2$

\forall edge connects $\{a, -b, -c, \dots\}$

but what are values of a, b ? \exists n options for
either $\Rightarrow n^2$ options (n^2)

we care about end behavior

same as before, rest contributes less
than half of sum so $2(2) > (2)$

max multiplicity

$$\# \text{ of edges per vertex} = \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \leq (m-1) [\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{d-1} + \dots + \binom{n}{d}] \leq 2(m-1) (2)$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$
how many others match in $d \leq d$ places?

\forall vertex has $\tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1)$ edges $\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

\forall two vertices has $\tilde{Q}(1, \dots, 0, \dots, 1) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

\hookrightarrow at least one zero somewhere

Set Construction (Dual Hyper Graph of $G = \mathcal{B}$)

Elements: Edges of G \leftarrow all variations
 Sets: Vertices of G \leftarrow different vectors

$$\# \text{ elements} = h := \tilde{Q}(n, n, \dots, n)$$

$$h \leq 2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$$

types of B -Blocks (i.e. z_1, z_2 2st and 8th input)

times how much "variety"

$$\text{e.g. } \tilde{Q}(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \underbrace{z_1 z_2}_{B\text{-blocks}} + z_3 z_4 z_5 z_6 z_7 z_8$$

so $\tilde{Q}(1, \dots, 1) = 2^r$, all "types of B -Blocks"

$$\# \text{ sets} = n^r \quad \text{the dif vectors}$$

$$\tilde{Q}(n, \dots, n) = n^2 + n^3, \text{ all "variations"}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ is a collection of n^r sets over $\tilde{Q}(n, n, \dots, n)$ elements

Rmk 3.3

Universe of $\tilde{Q}(n, \dots, n)$ elements w/ size of $H \in \mathcal{H} = \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1)$

maximizes all types of B -Blocks

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{Q}(n, \dots, n) \leq n^d \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1)^d$$

$$h \xrightarrow{\text{add dummies}} h^* = n^d \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \leq 2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$$

$$n^d \geq h^* \frac{r}{2r-1} + o(1) \quad \text{not sure how } \underline{h^*} \quad \text{but } \tilde{Q}(1, \dots, 1) \leq (h^*)^{\frac{2r-1}{2r-1} + o(1)}$$

Conclusion of Lemma 3.2

$$|\mathcal{H}| = n^r$$

diagonal
↓

$$\forall H \in \mathcal{H}, |H| = \tilde{Q}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \quad (\alpha_{xx})$$

$$\forall H, G \in \mathcal{H}, |H \cap G| \neq 0 \pmod{m} \quad (\alpha_{xy})$$

↑
off diagonal

Conclusion of Grobnerz

From GR_n reps mod m , we get degree n^r polynomials.

This allows us to form $P(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ s.t. $P(\vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff \vec{z} = \vec{0}$
and therefore $Q(\vec{z}) = P(1 - \vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ iff $\vec{z} = \vec{1}$.

Lemma 3.2

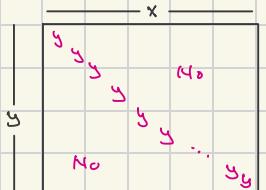
$\forall n > 0$, \exists uniform set system H over $2(m-1)^{nd}/d!$ elements s.t.

- 1) $|H| = n^n$
- 2) $\forall h \in H$, $|h| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$
- 3) $\forall G, H \in H$, $|H \cap G| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

a bunch
of monomials of some multiplicity

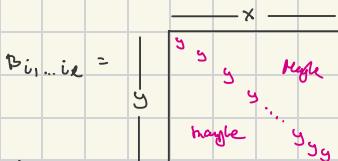
$$\tilde{Q}(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \tilde{a}_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \cdot (z_{i_1}, \dots, z_{i_n})$$

$$x, y \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}^r$$



$$a_{xy} = \tilde{Q}(\delta(x_1, y_1), \delta(x_2, y_2), \dots)$$

$\equiv 0$ if all $x_i = y_i \Rightarrow x = y$
 $\neq 0$ o/w



do tree indices
(agree v. combos?)

$$b_{i_1, \dots, i_r} = \delta(x_{i_1}, y_{i_1}) \delta(x_{i_2}, y_{i_2}) \dots \delta(x_{i_r}, y_{i_r})$$

Build Hyper Graph \implies Dual (gives set system of 3.2)

\implies 1.2

start with an H , we "find" an n via 3.2 to give a close enough unique x_H .

$|H| = n^n$, to prove $n^n \geq \exp\left(\frac{c}{2} \frac{\log n}{\log \log n}\right)$ we use stirling approx

Verification

r=2

lets say we want $h = \frac{n^{2\sqrt{n}}}{(\sqrt{n})!}$

Via 3.2, for n , \exists $2l$ over $2(m-1)n^{2l}/(d!)$ elements ($d = O(n^r)$ $\Rightarrow O(n^{r/2})$ due to degree of OR_n representation of a m w/ r prime factors)

$\Rightarrow n$ gives us $2l$ over $\underbrace{2(m-1)}_{\text{ignore b/c constant}} \cdot \frac{n^{2(\sqrt{n})}}{(\sqrt{n})!}$

3.2 says $|2l| = n^n$.

By stirling's approximation: $\ln(n!) = n \ln(n) - n + O(\ln n)$

$$\text{Prove } n^n \geq \exp\left(\frac{c \log^2 h}{\log \log h}\right) \Rightarrow \underbrace{n \log(n)}_{\text{wrt s}} \geq \frac{c \log^2 h}{\log \log h}$$

$$\log h = 2\sqrt{n} \log(n) - \log(\sqrt{n}!)$$

$$= 2\sqrt{n} \log(n) - (\sqrt{n} \log(\sqrt{n}) - \sqrt{n})$$

$$= 2\sqrt{n} \log(n) - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{n} \log(n) - \sqrt{n}$$

$$= 1.5\sqrt{n} \log(n)$$

$$\frac{c \cdot [1.5\sqrt{n} \log(n)]^2}{(\log(1.5) + \frac{1}{2}\log(n) + \log \log(n))}$$

$\log(n) > \log \log(n)$

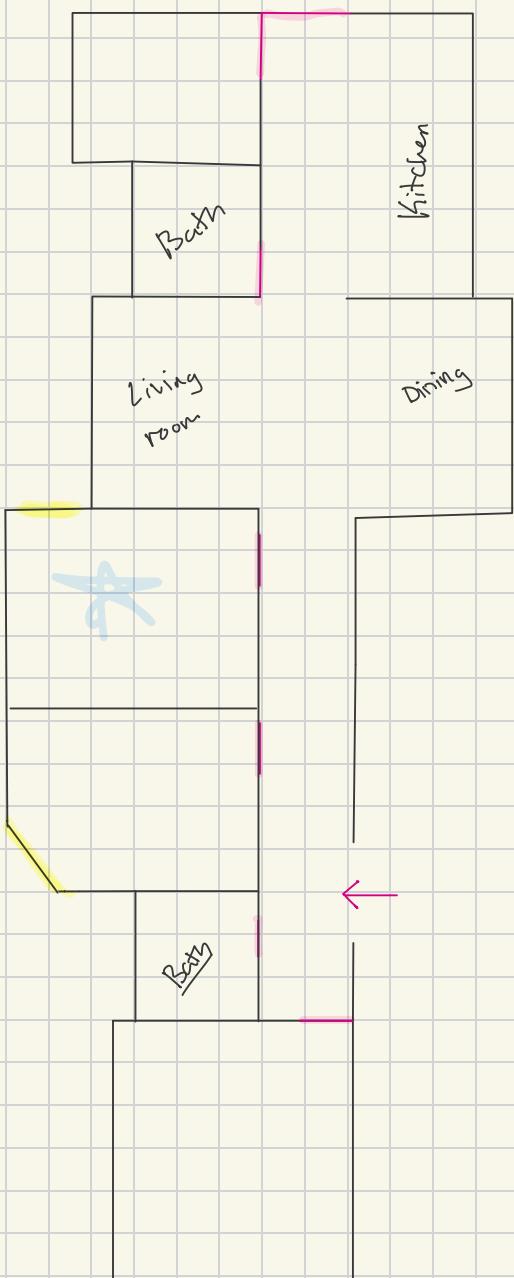
$$\geq \frac{c \cdot 1.5^2 \cdot n \cdot \log^2(n)}{1.5 \log(n)}$$

$$= c \cdot n \log(n)$$

c is ≈ 2

$$\log \log h = \log(1.5\sqrt{n}) + \log \log(n)$$

$$= \underbrace{\log(1.5)}_{\text{constant}} + \frac{1}{2}\log(n) + \log \log(n)$$



3-Query Locally Decodable Codes of Subexponential Length

Klim Efremenko ^{*}

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Abstract

Locally Decodable Codes (LDC) allow one to decode any particular symbol of the input message by making a constant number of queries to a codeword, even if a constant fraction of the codeword is damaged. In a recent work [Yek08] Yekhanin constructs a 3-query LDC with sub-exponential length of size $\exp(\exp(O(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n})))$. However, this construction requires a conjecture that there are infinitely many Mersenne primes. In this paper we give an unconditional 3-query LDC construction with a shorter codeword length of $\exp(\exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log n})))$. We also give a 2^r -query LDC with length of $\exp(\exp(O(\sqrt[r]{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})))$. The main ingredient in our construction is the existence of super-polynomial size set-systems with restricted intersections by [Gro00] which hold only over composite numbers.

1 Introduction

Locally decodable codes (LDCs) are codes that allow to retrieve any symbol of the original message by reading only a constant number of symbols from the codeword. Formally a code C is said to be locally decodable with parameters (q, δ, ε) if it is possible to recover any bit x_i of message x by making at most q queries to $C(x)$. Such that if up to a δ fraction of $C(x)$ is corrupted then the decoding algorithm will return the correct answer with probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$.

Locally decodable codes have many applications in cryptography and complexity theory, see surveys in [Tre04] and [Gas04]. The first formal definition of locally decodable codes was given by Katz and Trevisan in [KT00]. The Hadamard code is the most famous 2-query locally decodable code of length 2^n . For a two-query LDC tight lower bounds of $2^{\theta(n)}$ were given for linear codes in [GKST02] and [KdW03] proved tight lower bounds for two queries for arbitrary codes. For an arbitrary number of queries Katz and Trevisan [KT00] established super-linear lower bounds of $\Omega(n^{q/(q-1)})$ for LDCs with q queries. This lower bound was later improved in [KdW03] to $\Omega\left((\frac{n}{\log n})^{1+1/(\lceil q/2 \rceil - 1)}\right)$ and in [Woo07] to $\Omega\left(\frac{n^{1+1/(\lceil q/2 \rceil - 1)}}{\log n}\right)$.

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For many years it was conjectured that LDCs should have an exponential dependence on n for any constant number of queries, until Yekhanin's recent breakthrough [Yek08]. Yekhanin obtained 3-query LDCs with sub-exponential length of $\exp(\exp(O(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n})))$ under a highly believable conjecture that there are infinitely many Mersenne primes. Using the known Mersenne primes, Yekhanin also obtained unconditional results which significantly improved the previous results on LDCs(i.e. length of $\exp(n^{10^{-7}})$). In [KY08] Kedlaya and Yekhanin proved that infinitely many Mersenne numbers with large prime factors are essential for Yekhanin's construction.

Our Results In this paper we give an unconditional construction of 3-query LDC with sub-exponential codeword length. The length that we achieve for 3 queries is:

$$\text{side quest} \quad \exp \exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log n})).$$

We also give a 2^r -query LDC with a codeword length $\exp \exp(O(\sqrt[r]{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n}))$.

Our construction is a kind of a generalization and simplification of [Yek08]. We extend Yekhanin's construction to work not only with primes but also with composite numbers. Raghavendra in [Rag07] gives a nice presentation of Yekhanin's construction using homomorphisms, and we will follow this approach. The main ingredient in our construction is the existence of super-polynomial size set-systems with restricted intersections [Gro00], which hold only over composite numbers.

Private Information Retrieval schemes: The notion of locally decodable codes is closely related to the notion of private information retrieval(PIR) schemes. PIR schemes with k servers is a protocol which allows for a user to access a database distributed between k servers without yielding any information on the identity of the accessed place to any individual server (we assume that there is no communication between servers). The main parameter of interest in PIR schemes is the total communication complexity between the user and the servers. PIR schemes were first introduced by [CGKS95]. After that there were many works written on this topic, see [CGKS95, Amb97, Man98, Ito99, BIK05, GKST06, KdW03, RY07, WdW05, Yek08]. The best upper bound for 2-server PIR is $O(n^{1/3})$ due to [CGKS95]. The best upper bound of 3 and more server PIR schemes is $\exp\left(O\left(\frac{\log n}{\log^{1-\varepsilon} \log n}\right)\right)$ due to [Yek08] which is based on the construction of LDCs.

Let us define formally perfect PIR schemes:

Definition 1.1. A one-round perfect *private information retrieval* scheme is a randomized algorithm \mathcal{U} (for the user), and k deterministic algorithms $\mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_k$ (for the servers), s.t.

1. (a) On input $i \in [n]$ the user \mathcal{U} produces k random queries $q_1 \dots q_k$ and sends them to respective servers.
 (b) Each server based on his query q_j and database \mathcal{D} produces a response $r_j = \mathcal{S}_j(\mathcal{D}, q_j)$ and sends it back to the user.
 (c) The user based on i, r_1, \dots, r_k and his randomness calculates $\mathcal{D}[i]$.
2. The distribution of each query q_j is independent of the input i .

$$\text{exp}(\frac{\log n \log \log n}{\log \log \log n}) \quad \text{vs} \quad (\frac{\log n}{\log^{1-\varepsilon} \log n})$$

this paper *other*
much better

The communication complexity of this protocol is a total number of bits exchanged between user and servers.

It is well known that LDCs with perfectly smooth decoder imply PIR schemes. In particular, as in [Yek08], our LDC yields a PIR schemes with communication complexity $\exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log n}))$ for 3-servers and $\exp(O(\sqrt[r]{\log n \log^{r-1} \log n}))$ for 2^r -servers.

2 Definitions and Basic Facts

We will use the following standard mathematical notation:

$O(g(n))$	means	$\leq n g(n)$	$n \rightarrow \infty$
$o(g(n))$	means	$\leq n g(n)$	$n \rightarrow \infty$
$\Omega(g(n))$	means	$\geq n g(n)$	$n \rightarrow \infty$
$\omega(g(n))$	means	$> n g(n)$	$n \rightarrow \infty$

- $[s] = \{1, \dots, s\}$;
- $\mathbb{F}_q = GF(q)$ is a finite field of q elements;
- \mathbb{F}^* is a multiplicative group of the field;
- $\mathbb{Z}_m = \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$, the integers modulo m ;
- $d_H(x, y)$ denotes the Hamming distance between vectors $x, y \in \Sigma^n$, i.e. number of indices where $x_i \neq y_i$.

Definition 2.1. A code C over a field \mathbb{F} , $C : \mathbb{F}^n \mapsto \mathbb{F}^N$ is said to be (q, δ, ε) locally decodable if there exist randomized decoding algorithms d_i for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ such that for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ the following holds:

1. For every message $\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}^n$ and for every $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{F}^N$ such that $d_H(C(\vec{x}), \vec{y}) \leq \delta N$ it holds that $\Pr(d_i(\vec{y}) = x_i) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$; i.e. the decoding algorithm succeeds to recover the relevant symbol even if up to δ fraction of the codeword is damaged.
2. The algorithm d_i makes at most q queries to y .

Code word of $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{F}^n$ differs from \vec{y} by δN (fraction of total length)

$C(\vec{x})$ is “red”, \vec{y} is a sub

A code C is called linear if C is a linear transformation over \mathbb{F} . A locally decodable code is called nonadaptive if d_i makes all its queries simultaneously. Our constructions of locally decodable codes are linear and nonadaptive.

Definition 2.2. A code C is said to have a *perfectly smooth decoder* if $d_i(C(\vec{x})) = x_i$ for every \vec{x} and each query of d_i is uniformly distributed over $[N]$.

Fact 2.3 (from [Tre04]). *Any code with a perfectly smooth decoder which makes q queries is also $(q, \delta, q\delta)$ locally decodable.*

We will use the following fact:

Fact 2.4. *For every odd m there exists a finite field $\mathbb{F} = GF(2^t)$, where $t \leq m$, and an element $\gamma \in \mathbb{F}$ that is a generator of a multiplicative group of size m , i.e. $\gamma^m = 1$ and $\gamma^i \neq 1$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$.*

Proof. Since m is odd $2 \in \mathbb{Z}_m^*$. Therefore, there exists $t < m$ such that $2^t \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. Let us set $\mathbb{F} = GF(2^t)$. The size of the multiplicative group \mathbb{F}^* is $2^t - 1$ and therefore it is divisible by m . Let g be a generator of \mathbb{F}^* . Then $\gamma = g^{\frac{2^t-1}{m}}$ is a generator of a multiplicative group of size m . \square

In Appendix A for simple construction of S -matching vectors we will need the following definition and fact about tensor product:

Definition 2.5 (Tensor Product). Let R be a ring and let $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in R^n$. The *tensor product* of \vec{x}, \vec{y} denoted by $\vec{x} \otimes \vec{y} \in R^{n^2}$, is defined by $\vec{x} \otimes \vec{y}(i, j) \triangleq x_i \cdot y_j$, (where we identify $[n^2]$ with $[n] \oplus [n]$.) In the same way we define the ℓ 'th tensor power $\vec{x}^{\otimes \ell} \in R^{n^\ell}$ by

$$\vec{x}^{\otimes \ell}(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell) \triangleq \prod_{j=1}^{\ell} x_{i_j}. \quad (1)$$

We will use only the following fact about tensor products:

Fact 2.6.

$$\langle u^{\otimes \ell}, v^{\otimes \ell} \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle^\ell$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u^{\otimes \ell}, v^{\otimes \ell} \rangle &= \sum_{1 \leq i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell \leq m} \left(\prod_{j=1}^{\ell} u_{i_j} \prod_{j=1}^{\ell} v_{i_j} \right) = \\ &\left(\sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq m} u_{i_1} v_{i_1} \right) \dots \left(\sum_{1 \leq i_\ell \leq m} u_{i_\ell} v_{i_\ell} \right) = \langle u, v \rangle^\ell. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

\square

3 Locally Decodable Codes

In this construction we follow Yekhanin's general framework. Our construction consists of two parts. The first part is a construction of matching sets of vectors that correspond to "combinatorially nice" sets used in [Yek08]. The second part is a construction of an S -decoding polynomial with a small number of monomials, which correspond to "algebraically nice" sets used in [Yek08]. Let us fix some composite number m for our construction. We will give a general scheme for construction of LDCs followed by a concrete example of a 3-query LDC.

3.1 Matching sets of vectors

All inner products $\langle x, y \rangle$ in this section are done \pmod{m} .

Definition 3.1. The family of vectors $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n, u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ is said to be *S-matching* if the following conditions hold:

1. $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = 0$ for every $i \in [n]$. holds via Grothendieck's super polynomial
2. $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in S$ for every $i \neq j$. sets $(\text{mod } m)$

The goal of this subsection is to construct large *S*-matching family over a small domain. The main advantage of working with composite numbers comes from the following lemma from [Gro00], which holds only for composite numbers.

Lemma 3.2 (Theorems 1.2 and 1.4 from [Gro00]). *Let $m = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$ be a product of r distinct primes p_i . Then there exists $c = c(m) > 0$, such that for every integer $h > 0$, there exists an explicitly constructible set-system \mathcal{H} over a universe of h elements (i.e. \mathcal{H} is a set of subsets of $[h]$) and there is a set $S \subset \mathbb{Z}_m$ such that:*

Theorem 1.3

$$1. |\mathcal{H}| \geq \exp(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} h}),$$

2. Size of every set H in set-system \mathcal{H} is divisible by m i.e.

3. Let G, H be any two different sets in set system \mathcal{H} . Then G, H modulo m is restricted to be in S . i.e. $\forall G, H \in \mathcal{H}$ that $|G \cap H| \in S \pmod{m}$

By CRT:
 $v \in \mathbb{Z}_m \exists \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 4. S \text{ is a set of size } 2^r - 1 \text{ and } 0 \notin S. \\ 5. \forall s \in S \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, r \text{ it holds that } s \pmod{p_i} \text{ is } 0 \text{ or } 1. \end{array} \right.$

a unique $x \in \mathbb{Z}_m$
 s.t. $x \equiv v_i \pmod{p_i}$

Corollary 3.3

Using set-systems (verified by Grothendieck)
 over h elements denote by v_1, \dots, v_h

$|\mathcal{H}| = n$ (new notation)

$\forall H \in \mathcal{H}, \exists$ an indicator vector, v_H , of length h . (0 if $v_i \notin H$, 1 if $v_i \in H$)

$\Rightarrow \langle H, G \rangle = \text{how many overlaps in elements}$

$\langle H, H \rangle \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

$\langle H, G \rangle \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}, H \neq G$

Me

For our construction we will only need the following simple corollary:

Corollary 3.3. *For every h, r and integer $m = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$ there exists a set S of size $2^r - 1$ and a family of *S*-matching vectors $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n, u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ such that $n \geq \exp(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} h})$.*

$u_i = \text{sets in } \mathcal{H}. \exists n \text{ such sets}$

Proof. Let us take set-system \mathcal{H} as in Lemma 3.2. For each set $H \in \mathcal{H}$ we will have one vector $u_H \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ which is the indicator vector of H . Then it holds that $\langle u_H, u_H \rangle = |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ and $\langle u_H, u_G \rangle = |H \cap G| \in S \pmod{m}$. \square

The construction of [Gro00] is complicated; therefore, we will not give it here. We will give a simple construction of *S*-matching set in Appendix A which is less strong but it is more simple.

3.2 S-decoding polynomials

Let us fix any odd number m . Recall from Fact 2.4 that there exists $t, \mathbb{F} = GF(2^t)$ and an element $\gamma \in \mathbb{F}$ such that γ is a generator of a multiplicative group of size m . We will first construct a linear code over the field \mathbb{F} . In the next section we will show how to reduce the alphabet size to 2.

We will need the following definition:

$C: \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^{m^h}$ maps inputs of length n to codewords of length m^h , one for each indicator vector in $(\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$

Each codeword is a function: $(\mathbb{Z}_m)^h \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$

Let $x \in \mathbb{F}^{3^h}$, $C(x) = \text{Codeword}_x$
 Let $v \in \mathbb{F}^{3^h}$, an indicator vector
 $\{i, v_i \neq 0\}$
 $C(x)(v) = v^{\text{th}} \text{ coordinate of Codeword}_x$

$x = (1, 0)$ $C(x) = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$
 $h=3$ $a = (1, 1, 1) \leftarrow \mathbb{F}, 6, 3$
 $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Z}_2, 3, 6, 3$ $b = (1, 1, 0) \leftarrow \mathbb{F}, 2, 3, 3$
 $c = (1, 0, 1) \leftarrow \mathbb{F}, 2, 6, 3$

*Incorrect technically
but general idea*

Me

3.4. A polynomial $P \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ is called an S -decoding polynomial if the following hold:

$$P(\gamma^s) = 0, \quad P(1) = 1.$$

$$\frac{(x - \gamma^{s_1})(x - \gamma^{s_2}) \dots (x - \gamma^{s_{|S|}})}{(1 - \gamma^{s_1})(1 - \gamma^{s_2}) \dots (1 - \gamma^{s_{|S|}})}$$

For any S such that $0 \notin S$ there exists an S -decoding polynomial P with at most $|S| + 1$ monomials.

$P(\gamma^s) = 0$
 $\forall s \in S$

ensures that
 $P(1) = 1$

Take $\tilde{P} = \prod_{s \in S} (x - \gamma^s)$. Then $P(x) = \tilde{P}(x)/\tilde{P}(1)$ is an S -decoding polynomial. The degree of P is $|S|$. Thus P has at most $|S| + 1$ monomials. \square

*expand it and you get $|S|+1$ monomials
 $\tilde{P}(1) = 1$ exists and is a polynomial b/c \mathbb{F} is a field.*

3.3 The code and its decoding algorithms

Now we are ready to present the construction of our locally decodable codes.

In order to construct our code we will fix some set S and construct S -matching vectors $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$, $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ and an S -decoding polynomial P . We define a code $C : \mathbb{F}^n \mapsto \mathbb{F}^{m^h}$ where we think of a codeword as a function from $(\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ to \mathbb{F} . Let $e_i \in \mathbb{F}^n$ be the i 'th unit vector. We define C by defining $C(e_i)$ for all i . The general definition will follow by the linearity of C , i.e. $C(\sum c_i e_i) \triangleq \sum c_i C(e_i)$. The encoding of e_i is

$$C(e_i) \triangleq (\gamma^{<u_i, x>})_{x \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h}. \quad (3)$$

One can think of $C(e_i)$ as a homomorphism from the additive group $(\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ to the multiplicative group \mathbb{F}^* . Equivalently, we can write

$$C((c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)) \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^n c_i f_i, \quad (4)$$

where $f_i(x) \triangleq \gamma^{<u_i, x>}$.

We will now describe how to retrieve the i 'th coordinate of the message.

Since P is an S -decoding polynomial and $\{u_i\}$ are S -matching vectors, $\langle u_j, u_i \rangle \in S$ for $i \neq j$, and therefore it follows that $P(\gamma^{<u_i, u_i>}) = 1$ and $P(\gamma^{<u_j, u_i>}) = 0$ for all $i, j \in [n], i \neq j$. Write $P(x) = a_0 + a_1 x^{b_1} + a_2 x^{b_2} \dots a_{q-1} x^{b_{q-1}}$.

Let us now define the decoding algorithm $d_i(w)$, where w is a codeword with up to δ fraction damaged coordinates.

- Choose $v \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ at random.
- Query $w(v), w(v + b_1 u_i), \dots, w(v + b_{q-1} u_i)$.
- Output

$$c_i = \gamma^{-<u_i, v>} (a_0 w(v) + a_1 w(v + b_1 u_i) \dots a_{q-1} w(v + b_{q-1} u_i)). \quad (5)$$

Algorithm 1: The Decoding Algorithm

Lemma 3.5. *The decoding algorithm d_i is a Perfectly Smooth Decoder.*

Proof. The algorithm d_i chooses v uniformly at random. Each of the queries $v, v+b_1u_i, \dots, v+b_{q-1}u_i$ is uniformly distributed. Therefore, in order to prove that d_i is a Perfectly Smooth Decoder it is enough to prove that $d_i(C(x)) = x_i$. Note that d_i is a linear mapping so it is enough to prove that $d_i(C(e_i)) = 1$ and $d_i(C(e_j)) = 0$ for $j \neq i$.

$$d_i(C(e_i)) = (\gamma^{-\langle u_i, v \rangle})(a_0\gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle} + a_1\gamma^{\langle u_i, v+b_1u_i \rangle} + \dots + a_{q-1}\gamma^{\langle u_i, v+b_{q-1}u_i \rangle}).$$

But $\langle u_i, v + cu_i \rangle = \langle u_i, v \rangle + c\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = \langle u_i, v \rangle$. So we have,

$$\begin{aligned} d_i(C(e_i)) &= \gamma^{-\langle u_i, v \rangle}(a_0\gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle} + a_1\gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle} + \dots + a_{q-1}\gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle}) = \\ &= a_0 + a_1 \dots + a_{q-1} = P(1) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Now let us prove that

$$\forall i \neq j \quad d_i(C(e_j)) = 0.$$

Math of decoder

We need to show that

$$a_0\gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle} + a_1\gamma^{\langle u_i, v+b_1u_j \rangle} + \dots + a_{q-1}\gamma^{\langle u_i, v+b_{q-1}u_j \rangle} = 0.$$

Recall that $P(\gamma^{\langle u_i, u_j \rangle}) = 0$. Therefore,

$$\gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle}(a_0 + a_1\gamma^{b_1\langle u_i, u_j \rangle} + \dots + a_{q-1}\gamma^{b_{q-1}\langle u_i, u_j \rangle}) = \gamma^{\langle u_i, v \rangle}P(\gamma^{\langle u_i, u_j \rangle}) = 0.$$

□

$$\begin{aligned} h &= \exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})) \\ \exists |S| &= 2^{r-1} \\ |H| &= \exp\left(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} n}\right) \\ &\text{Matching vectors} \\ C : \mathbb{F}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{F}^{m^h} \\ |C(n)| &= \exp(\exp(\sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})) \\ &\text{codeword length} \\ \text{Decoding } &\text{Polynomial w/ } \underbrace{|S|+1}_{\text{(at most)}} \text{ terms} \\ \Rightarrow q &\leq |S|+1 = 2^r \end{aligned}$$

If the code is n -the number of S -matching vectors. The codeword length h and the number of queries is equal to the number of monomials of size corollary from Corollary 3.3 and Claim 3.1 is that we can choose $\frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} n}$ and an S -decoding polynomial with less than 2^r monomials. Thus wing theorem. *We never talk about S*

For any r there exists a $(q, \delta, q\delta)$ locally decodable code $C : F^n \mapsto F^N$, with $N = \exp(\exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})))$ and $q \leq 2^r$. Furthermore, q is the of monomials of S -decoding polynomial.

$p_1 \dots p_r$ be the product of r primes. Fix $h = \exp\left(\left(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})\right)\right)$. Fact 3.3 there exists a set S of size $2^r - 1$ and $n = \exp(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} h})$ S -matching the construction above we get a code C with codeword length m^h and $q \leq 2^r$. Fix m to be a constant. Then $m^h = \exp(O(h))$. Therefore,

$$m^h = \exp(O(h)) = \exp\left(\exp\left(O\left(\sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n}\right)\right)\right).$$

From Claim 3.1 there exists an S -decoding polynomial with $q \leq 2^r$ monomials. Using this polynomial for our decoding algorithm we get from Lemma 3.5 that C has a Perfectly Smooth Decoder which makes q queries. Thus from Fact 2.3 we have that the code C is a $(q, \delta, q\delta)$ -LDC. □

The Claim 3.1 gives a trivial polynomial with 2^r monomials. The natural question is: "Do polynomials exist with less monomials?" The answer is **Yes**. Let us give a concrete example of an S -decoding polynomial with 3 monomials. We found this example by an exhaustive search.

Example 3.7. Let $m = 511 = 7 \cdot 73$ and let $S = \{1, 365, 147\}$. By Corollary 3.3 there exists S -matching vectors $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$, $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$, where $n \geq \exp(c \frac{(\log h)^2}{\log \log h})$. Set

$$\mathbb{F} = GF(2^9) = \mathbb{F}_2[\gamma]/(\gamma^9 + \gamma^4 + 1).$$

It can be verified that γ is a generator of \mathbb{F}^* and that the polynomial $P(x) := \gamma^{423} \cdot x^{65} + \gamma^{257} \cdot x^{12} + \gamma^{342}$ is an S decoding polynomial with 3 monomials.

An interesting question is what is the best S -decoding polynomial we can choose for $r > 2$? An immediate corollary from this example and Theorem 3.6 is 3-query LDC.

Theorem 3.8. There exists a $(3, \delta, 3\delta)$ locally decodable code of length $\exp(\exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log n})))$.

Proof?

4 Binary Locally Decodable Codes

In this section we will think of \mathbb{F}_{2^t} as a vector space \mathbb{F}_2^t over \mathbb{F}_2 . We will assume we have message

$$c = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$$

ex. $(c_1, 0, \dots, 0, 0, 1) \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$

$\xrightarrow{\text{def}} \text{but technically elements of } 2^t$

$\Rightarrow c \in (\mathbb{F}_2^t)^n$

$c(c_i) = w$ $\xrightarrow{\text{length of msg}}$

$$\text{let } P(x) = a_0 + a_1 x^{b_1} + a_2 x^{b_2} + \dots + a_{q-1} x^{b_q},$$

$$\text{Codeword}_w = a_0 w \circ a_1 w \circ \dots \circ a_{q-1} w$$

$$c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>} = w_0(v) + w_1(v + b_1 u_i) + \dots + w_{q-1}(v + b_{q-1} u_i)$$

$$L: \mathbb{F}_{2^t} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2$$

$$L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = L(w_0(v)) + \dots + L(w_{q-1}(v + b_{q-1} u_i))$$

$$\text{if } c_i = 0, \text{ then } L(c_i) = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{if } c_i = 1, \text{ then } L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) \text{ could equal } 0 \text{ or } 1 \quad \times$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{we need } L \text{ s.t. } \Pr_v(L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = 1) \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

Me

$$c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>} = \tilde{w}_0(v) + \tilde{w}_1(v + b_1 u_i) + \dots + \tilde{w}_{q-1}(v + b_{q-1} u_i).$$

Now let us take some linear functional $L: \mathbb{F}_{2^t} \mapsto \mathbb{F}_2$ and apply it on every coordinate of our codeword. Then

$$\vee L(\mathbb{F}_{2^t})^{m^h} = \{0, 1\}$$

$$L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = L(\tilde{w}_0(v)) + L(\tilde{w}_1(v + b_1 u_i)) + \dots + L(\tilde{w}_{q-1}(v + b_{q-1} u_i)).$$

We want that $L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = c_i$. If $c_i = 0$ then always $L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = L(0) = 0$ but the problem is that if $c_i = 1$ then it may happen that $L(c_i \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = L(\gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = 0$. In order

$$\omega = \begin{bmatrix} & \\ & \\ & \\ & \end{bmatrix} \xleftarrow{\text{def}} \mathbb{F}_{2^t} \text{ as } (\mathbb{F}_2)^t$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{2^t} = \{a_1, \dots, a_{2^t}\} \text{ } 2^t \text{ elements}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{bijection}} \mathbb{F}_2^t = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{def}} \mathbb{F}_2$

$$\text{e.g. } \mathbb{F}_{2^3} = \{a_1, a_2, a_3\} \quad a_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{same as } 0 \text{ through } 7(\mathbb{F}_8)$$

$$3 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x \\ 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{let } L: \mathbb{F}_{2^t} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2$$

Me

to solve this problem we will not choose v completely at random; we will choose v at random conditioned on $L(\gamma^{<u_i,v>}) = 1$, but this will hurt the smoothness of the code which in turn affects the probability of correct decoding. In order that it will not hurt this probability too much we need to choose L such that for every $i = 1 \dots n$ $\Pr_v(L(\gamma^{<u_i,v>}) = 1) \geq 1/2$.

Lemma 4.1. *There exists a linear functional $L : \mathbb{F}_{2^t} \mapsto \mathbb{F}_2$ such that*

$$\forall i \in [n] \quad \Pr_{v \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h} (L(\gamma^{<u_i,v>}) = 1) \geq 1/2.$$

$L(\gamma^j) = 20, 13$ with equal probability based on L

$$E(L(\gamma^j)) = 1/2$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$ some L s.t. $L(\gamma^j) \geq 1/2$

serve that for random v , $\langle u_i, v \rangle$ is a random number in \mathbb{Z}_m , since the gcd of u_i 's is 1. Thus it is enough to find L such that

$$\Pr_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_m} (L(\gamma^j) = 1) \geq 1/2.$$

ant j and a random L , $\Pr(L(\gamma^j) = 1) = 1/2$ thus, the expectation of $\Pr_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_m} (L(\gamma^j) = 1)$ is

$$E_L(\Pr_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_m} (L(\gamma^j) = 1)) = 1/2.$$

there exists an L such that

$$\Pr_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_m} (L(\gamma^j) = 1) \geq 1/2.$$

□

Me

Let us describe the reduction formally.

Choose L such that $\Pr_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_m} (L(\gamma^j) = 1) \geq 1/2$. Since m is constant we can find it by exhaustive search in constant time.

1. Given a message (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) encode it , by code from previous section $w = C(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$.

2. Extend it to

$$\tilde{w} \triangleq \tilde{w}_0 \circ \tilde{w}_1 \circ \dots \circ \tilde{w}_{q-1} \triangleq a_0 w \circ a_1 w \dots \circ a_{q-1} w.$$

3. Reduce the alphabet by applying L on every symbol of \tilde{w} and return

$$w_0 \circ w_1 \circ \dots \circ w_{q-1} \triangleq L(\tilde{w}_0) \circ L(\tilde{w}_1) \circ \dots \circ L(\tilde{w}_{q-1}).$$

Let us define the decoding algorithm $d_i(w)$:

- Choose $v \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ at random conditioned on $L(\gamma^{<u_i,v>}) = 1$.
- Query $w_0(v), w_1(v + b_1 u_i), \dots, w_{q-1}(v + b_{q-1} u_i)$.
- Output $c_i = w_0(v) \oplus w_1(v + b_1 u_i) \dots \oplus w_{q-1}(v + b_{q-1} u_i)$.

Algorithm 2: Decoding Algorithm

Theorem 4.2. *The binary code C defined above is $(q, \delta, 2q\delta)$ locally decodable.*

δ is a fraction

we probe q times, so querying a damaged place with probability $2q\delta$.

Proof. We will prove it in two steps.

First let us prove that if at most δ fraction of the codeword $w = w_0 \circ w_1 \dots \circ w_{q-1}$ is damaged then we query a damaged place with probability at most $2q\delta$. Let δ_i be a fraction of damaged bits in w_i so $\frac{1}{q} \sum \delta_i = \delta$. We chose L such that v is distributed uniformly among half of all possible values. Therefore, the probability that query i will be damaged is at most $2\delta_i$. So the probability that one of the queries will be damaged is at most $\sum 2\delta_i = 2q\delta$.

Next let us prove that if we query only non-damaged places then we will return a correct answer. As before, by linearity it is enough to prove that $d_i(C(e_i)) = 1$ and $d_i(C(e_j)) = 0$ for $i \neq j$.

$$\begin{aligned} d_i(C(e_i)) &= L(a_0 \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) \oplus L(a_1 \gamma^{<u_i, v+b_1 u_i>}) \dots \oplus L(a_{q-1} \gamma^{<u_i, v+b_{q-1} u_i>}) = \\ &= L\left(\sum_{j=0}^{q-1} a_j \gamma^{<u_i, v+b_j u_i>}\right) = L\left(\sum_{j=0}^{q-1} a_j \gamma^{<u_i, v>}\right) = \\ &= L(P(1) \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = L(\gamma^{<u_i, v>}) \end{aligned}$$

But we choose v such that $L(\gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = 1$. In the same way we can prove that if $C = C(e_j)$ then $c_i = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} c_i &= L(a_0 \gamma^{<u_j, v>}) \oplus L(a_1 \gamma^{<u_j, v+b_1 u_i>}) \dots \oplus L(a_{q-1} \gamma^{<u_j, v+b_{q-1} u_i>}) = \\ &= L\left(\gamma^{<u_j, v>} \sum_{t=0}^{q-1} a_t \gamma^{b_t <u_j, u_i>}\right) = L(P(\gamma^{<u_i, u_j>}) \gamma^{<u_i, v>}) = \\ &= L(0) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

We want to mention here that using techniques from [Woo08] Section 5 we can reduce the probability of error to $(q, \delta, q\delta + \varepsilon)$ for any constant $\varepsilon > 0$.

5 Future work

In this paper we give a general construction of LDCs for any S -matching sets and S -decoding polynomials. Any improvement in size of a set-system with restricted intersections will immediately yield improvement in the rate of LDCs. We hope that this paper will give a motivation for future work on set-systems with restricted intersections. We also believe that it is possible to choose an S -decoding polynomial with less monomials as in Example 3.7.

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A A simple construction of S -matching vectors

Lemma A.1. *Let $p_1 < p_2 \dots < p_r$ be any r primes and $m = p_1 \cdot p_2 \dots p_r$. Then for every t , there exists a set S of size $2^r - 1$ and a family of S -matching vectors $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n, u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ such that $n = \binom{t}{m-1}$ and $h = O(t^{p_r-1})$.*

Proof. Let us first construct a family of vectors $\{u'_i\}_{i=1}^n, u'_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^{t+1}$ such that:

1. $\langle u'_i, u'_i \rangle = 0$ for $i \in [n]$.
2. $\langle u'_i, u'_j \rangle \neq 0$ for $i \neq j$.

Identify the subsets of $[t] = \{1, 2, \dots, t\}$ of size $m - 1$ with $\{1, \dots, \binom{t}{m-1}\}$. For every subset $A \subseteq [t]$ of size $m - 1$, let $u'_i \in \mathbb{Z}_m^t$ be the indicator vector of the set, i.e., $u'_i = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_t)$, where $a_i = 1$ if $i \in A$ and $a_i = 0$ otherwise. In order to simplify the construction let us add an additional coordinate which is always one i.e., $u'_i = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_t, 1)$. Clearly $\langle u'_i, u'_i \rangle = 0$ since u'_i has exactly m ones and $\langle u'_i, u'_j \rangle = 1 + |A_i \cap A_j| \neq 0$. Since intersection of two different subsets of size $m - 1$ is always less than $m - 1$.

Now we want to change these vectors such that the inner product of two such vectors will be in some small set S . By the chinese remainder theorem $\mathbb{Z}_m \approx \mathbb{Z}_{p_1} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{p_2} \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{p_r}$. Thus any number x in \mathbb{Z}_m we can view as $(x \pmod{p_1}, x \pmod{p_2}, \dots, x \pmod{p_r})$. The set S is the set $\{0, 1\}^r \setminus (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ i.e. $a \in S$ iff $a \neq 0$ and for every $k = 1, \dots, r$ holds $(a \pmod{p_k}) \in \{0, 1\}$.

By the chinese remainder theorem there exist constants $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ such that:

1. $c_i \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i}$
2. $c_i \equiv 0 \pmod{p_j}$ for $i \neq j$

Let us define u_i by:

$$u_i = (c_1 u_i'^{\otimes p_1 - 1}, c_2 u_i'^{\otimes p_2 - 1}, \dots, c_r u_i'^{\otimes p_r - 1}).$$

Now we need to prove that: $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle \equiv 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_i, u_i \rangle &= \langle (c_1 u_i'^{\otimes p_1 - 1}, c_2 u_i'^{\otimes p_2 - 1}, \dots, c_r u_i'^{\otimes p_r - 1}), (c_1 u_i'^{\otimes p_1 - 1}, c_2 u_i'^{\otimes p_2 - 1}, \dots, c_r u_i'^{\otimes p_r - 1}) \rangle = \\ &\sum_{j=1}^r c_j^2 \langle u_i'^{\otimes p_j - 1}, u_i'^{\otimes p_j - 1} \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^r c_j^2 \langle u_i', u_i' \rangle^{p_j - 1}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equation follows from Fact 2.6. Since $\langle u_i', u_i' \rangle = 0$ it follows that $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = 0$. Now let us prove that $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in S$ for any $i \neq j$. In order to prove that $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in S$ we will prove that $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \pmod{p_k} \in \{0, 1\}$ and $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \neq 0$. Observe that

$$u_i \pmod{p_k} \equiv (0, 0, \dots, u_i'^{\otimes(p_k-1)}, 0, \dots, 0).$$

Thus it follows that:

$$\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \pmod{p_k} \equiv \langle u_i'^{\otimes p_k - 1}, u_j'^{\otimes p_k - 1} \rangle \equiv \langle u_i', u_j' \rangle^{p_k - 1}$$

By Fermat's Little Theorem $x^{p_k - 1} \equiv 0$ or $1 \pmod{p_k}$ for every k . Since $\langle u_i', u_j' \rangle \neq 0 \pmod{m}$ for some k $\langle u_i', u_j' \rangle \neq 0 \pmod{p_k}$. Therefore $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle = \langle u_i', u_j' \rangle^{p_k - 1} \neq 0 \pmod{p_k}$. Therefore $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \neq 0 \pmod{m}$. \square

As a corollary we get:

Corollary A.2. *For every h, r there exists integer $m = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$ and a set $S \subset \mathbb{Z}_m$ of size $2^r - 1$ and a family of S -matching vectors $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$, $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ such that $n \geq \exp(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} h})$.*

Note that the only difference between Corollary A.2 and Corollary 3.3 is in order of quantifiers i.e. Corollary 3.3 holds for every m while Corollary A.2 holds for some specific m .

Proof of Corollary A.2. Let us take all primes of the same size (i.e. $p_i = p_j + o(p_i)$) and $t = m^2$ then in Lemma A.1 we will get that $n \geq \binom{m^2}{m-1} \geq m^m = O(m^{p^r})$ and $h = O(m^{2p_r})$. Thus it follows that:

$$n \geq \exp(c \frac{(\log h)^r}{\log \log^{r-1} h}).$$

\square

Summary (assume $m = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_r^{e_r}$)

$S = \{s \in \mathbb{Z}_m \mid s \% p_i = 0, \forall i \leq r\}$, by CRT, $\exists 2^r - 1$ non-zero such integers $s \in S$.

S-matching Vectors

set of vectors such that $\langle v_i, v_i \rangle = 0 \quad \forall i \in [n]$ and $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = 1 \quad \forall i \neq j, i, j \in [n]$

$$\{v_i\}_{i=1}^n, v_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^k$$

S-decoding Polynomial (P)

$$P(z^s) = 0 \quad \forall s \in S \quad \text{we don't care abt anything else}$$

$$P(z^0) = 1$$

rmks: for any such S , \exists a S -decoding Polynomial w at most $|S| + 1$ terms

Codeword

$$C: \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^{m^k} \quad (\text{generates code words})$$

let $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be a sample input

$$C(a) = C(a_1 e_1 + a_2 e_2 + \dots + a_n e_n)$$

$$= a_1 C(e_1) + \dots + a_n C(e_n)$$

$$C(e_i) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \langle v_i, x_1 \rangle \\ 1 & \langle v_i, x_2 \rangle \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \langle v_i, x_m \rangle \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{fix } v_i \text{ and iterate} \\ \text{over all possible indicator} \\ \text{vectors} \end{array}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \cdot C(e_i)$$

$$= w_a$$

Decoder $d_i(C(x)) \Rightarrow x_i$

Start at a random vector $(v \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^k)$

$$w(v), w(v+b_1, v_i), \dots, w(v+b_{2^r}, v_i) \quad \text{we query uniformly starting at a random spot.}$$

we perform 2^r queries ($2^r \leq 2^r$ b/c P has $2^r - 1 + 1$ terms)

Output:

$$c_i = \sum_{j=0}^{2^r-1} (a_0 w(v) + a_1 w(v+b_1, v_i) + \dots + a_{2^r-1} w(v+b_{2^r-1}, v_i))$$

$$d_i(C(x_i)) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad d_i(C(x_j)) = 0 \quad (\text{verified})$$

$$\text{Therefore } d_i(C(x_i)) = x_i \cdot d_i(C(e_i)) + \dots + x_n \cdot d_i(C(e_n))$$

$$= x_i \cdot 0 + \dots + x_i \cdot 1 + \dots + x_n \cdot 0$$

$$= x_i$$

2^r queries
↓ of them we corrupt
↑ probability of hitting
a corrupt spot

\Rightarrow perfectly smooth decoder which makes 2^r queries is also (z, δ, ϵ) locally decodable

Binary locally decodable codes

Before, we had outputs in \mathbb{F}^{m^n} . They could be anything over a huge field.

Assume $c = \{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{m^n}\}$, pretend $c \in \mathbb{F}_{2^t}^{m^n}$

let $\omega = c(c)$, $\omega \in (\mathbb{F}_{2^t})^{m^n}$ (from previous construction)

$$\omega = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma^{c(u_0, v_0)} \\ \gamma^{c(u_1, v_1)} \\ \vdots \\ \gamma^{c(u_{m^n}, v_{m^n})} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_i \cdot \gamma^{c(u_i, v)} = \omega_0 c_0 + \omega_1 (c_0 + b_1 u_i) + \dots + \omega_{m^n} (c_0 + b_{m^n} u_i)$$

$$L(c_i \cdot \gamma^{c(u_i, v)}) = L(\omega_0 c_0) + \dots + L(\omega_{m^n} (c_0 + b_{m^n} u_i))$$

if $c_i = 0$, $L(c) = 0$ b/c linearity

if $c_i = 1$, $L(\gamma^{c(u_i, v)})$ could be 0 or 1 depending on v . We limit v to the part in which $L(\gamma^{c(u_i, v)}) = 1$ for any u_i . (larger error)

Presentation

1) Quick introduction to Grothendieck (statement of main theorem)

2) Odd-town Explanation (aka: why Grothendieck is cool)

3) Start building Grothendieck

- i) background of ORn polynomials
- ii) construction of Lemma 3.2
- iii) proof/connection to theorem 1.2 (main)

Odd-town Explanation (Set with prime 2)

Odd-town has 32 inhabitants who want to form clubs. The city passed 2 laws

- 1) each club needs an odd number of members.
- 2) each club shares an even number of members

We can form 32 clubs b/c each person can form their own club. But isn't a way to form 33

Suppose C_1, \dots, C_m are clubs with associated indicator vectors v_1, \dots, v_m s.t. $v_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0, 1}^{32}$ (does citizen # j belong to club i ?)

$$v_i \cdot v_j = |C_i \cap C_j| \Rightarrow v_i \cdot v_j = \begin{cases} \text{odd, if } i=j \\ \text{even, if } i \neq j \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{mod 2}} v_i \cdot v_j = \begin{cases} 1, & i=j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

(in compliance w/ rules)

WTS: $v_i \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 32\}$ must be linearly independent over \mathbb{F}_2 under these conditions.

$$\begin{aligned} & \lambda_1 v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2 + \dots + \lambda_{32} v_{32} = 0 \quad (\lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}_2) \\ &= \lambda_1 v_1 \cdot v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2 \cdot v_1 + \dots + \lambda_{32} v_{32} \cdot v_1 = 0 \cdot v_1 \\ &= \underline{\lambda_1 = 0} \quad (v_i \cdot v_j = 0 \text{ if } i \neq j) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow 32$ is an arbitrary number, therefore assuming laws are followed, the indicator vectors of all the clubs are linearly independent over \mathbb{F}_2 \square

WTS: In a town of n citizens, no more than n clubs may be formed under laws

fact: $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \min \{\text{rank } A, \text{rank } B\}$

Let v_i be the rows of M , a $m \times n$ matrix (Incidence Matrix)

$$\text{let } A = M \cdot M^T, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ v_m & v_2 & \cdots & v_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \cdot v_1 & v_1 \cdot v_2 & \cdots & v_1 \cdot v_m \\ v_2 \cdot v_1 & v_2 \cdot v_2 & \cdots & v_2 \cdot v_m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ v_m \cdot v_1 & v_m \cdot v_2 & \cdots & v_m \cdot v_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(M \cdot M^T) \leq \min \{\text{rank } M, \text{rank } M^T\}$

$$\Rightarrow M \leq \text{rank } M = \text{rank } M^T \leq n. \quad \square$$

OR-Polynomials

A polynomial $p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ represents $OR_n \bmod m$ if

$$1) p(0, 0, \dots, 0) = 0 \bmod m$$

$$2) p(x_1, \dots, x_n) \neq 0 \bmod m \quad \forall x \neq \vec{0}$$

$$OR_n(x) = p(x) \quad \forall x, \quad p(x) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0, 1}^n$$

Strong vs Weak vs One-sided \rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned} OR_n(x) = 0 &\text{ iff } p(x) = 0 \bmod m \\ OR_n(x) = 1 &\text{ iff } p(x) \neq 0 \bmod m \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall x \neq \vec{0}, \quad p(x) \neq p(\vec{0})$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists 5 \leq 2m \text{ s.t. } OR_n(x) = 0 \text{ iff } p(x) \in S$$

Remark: we can switch between strong and weak representations without loss/gain of degrees

big O with constant depending on parameter m

let $m = p_1^{d_1} p_2^{d_2} \dots p_r^{d_r}$, then \exists a polynomial representation of degree $O_m(n^{k+1})$

Reason why composite numbers have lower degrees:

we can use CRT to design polynomial reps mod p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r and configure them together

Grolmusz overview

From GR_n reps mod m , we get degree n^r polynomials.

This allows us to form $P(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ s.t. $P(\vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff \vec{z} = \vec{0}$
and therefore $Q(\vec{z}) = P(1 - \vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ iff $\vec{z} = \vec{1}$.

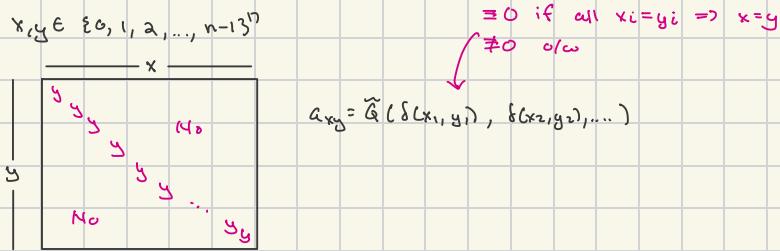
Lemma 3.2

$\forall n > 0$, \exists uniform set system H over $2(m-1)^{nd}/d!$ elements s.t.

- 1) $|H| = n^n$
- 2) $\forall h \in H$, $|h| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$
- 3) $\forall G, H \in H$, $|H \cap G| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$

a bunch
of monomials of some multiplicity

$$\tilde{Q}(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \tilde{a}_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \cdot (z_{i_1}, \dots, z_{i_n})$$



$$B_{i_1, \dots, i_d} = \sum_{y_1, \dots, y_d} \delta_{x_1, y_1} \delta_{x_2, y_2} \dots \delta_{x_d, y_d}$$

$$B_{i_1, \dots, i_d} = \delta(x_{i_1}, y_{i_1}) \delta(x_{i_2}, y_{i_2}) \dots \delta(x_{i_d}, y_{i_d})$$

Build Hyper Graph \implies Dual (gives set system of 3.2)

\implies 1.2

start with an H , we "find" an n via 3.2 to give a close enough uniform x_H .

$|H| = n^n$, to prove $n^n \geq \exp\left(\frac{c}{\log n}\right)$ we use stirling approx

Verification ($r=2$)

lets say we want $h = \frac{n^{2\sqrt{n}}}{(\sqrt{n})!}$

Via 3.2, for n , \exists $2l$ over $2(m-1)n^{2d}/d!$ elements ($d = O(n^r)$ $\Rightarrow O(n^{r/2})$ due to degree of OR_n representation of a m w/ r prime factors)

$$\Rightarrow n \text{ gives us } 2l \text{ over } \underbrace{2(m-1)}_{\substack{\text{ignore b/c} \\ \text{constant}}} \cdot \frac{n^{2\sqrt{n}}}{(\sqrt{n})!}$$

3.2 says $|2l| = n^n$.

By stirling's approximation: $\ln(n!) = n \ln(n) - n + O(\ln n)$

$$\text{Prove } n^n \geq \exp\left(\frac{c \log^2 h}{\log \log h}\right) \Rightarrow \underbrace{n \log(n)}_{\text{wrt s}} \geq \frac{c \log^2 h}{\log \log h}$$

$$\log h = 2\sqrt{n} \log(n) - \log(\sqrt{n}!)$$

$$= 2\sqrt{n} \log(n) - (\sqrt{n} \log(\sqrt{n}) - \sqrt{n})$$

$$= 2\sqrt{n} \log(n) - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{n} \log(n) - \sqrt{n}$$

$$= 1.5\sqrt{n} \log(n)$$

$$\frac{c \cdot [1.5\sqrt{n} \log(n)]^2}{(\log(1.5) + \frac{1}{2}\log(n) + \log \log(n))}$$

$\log(n) > \log \log(n)$

$$\geq \frac{c \cdot 1.5^2 \cdot n \cdot \log^2(n)}{1.5 \log(n)}$$

$$\log \log h = \log(1.5\sqrt{n}) + \log \log(n)$$

$$= \underbrace{\log(1.5)}_{\text{constant}} + \frac{1}{2}\log(n) + \log \log(n)$$

$$= c \cdot n \log(n) \quad \square$$

c is ≈ 2

Set families (odd-town)

1) how many sets over n of size k s.t. they all intersect?

$$\leq \binom{n-1}{k-1}, \text{ we fix one element and forcefully add it to all sets.}$$

2) what if we require even sized sets with even intersections? (even-town)

Assume 32 residents of even-town. We can put them into pairs giving us 16 pairs

Each club can be represented by an indicator vector $v \in \{0, 1\}^n$

$\Rightarrow \exists 16^2$ indicator vectors, all representing a unique club, very large number

3) what if we require odd sized sets w/ even intersections? (odd-town)

The number decreases dramatically to $n \binom{32}{3}$

$$m \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{bmatrix} \circ \begin{bmatrix} T & m \\ v_1 & \dots & v_m \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & & 1 \end{bmatrix} n = m \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \cdot v_1 & \dots \\ v_1 \cdot v_2 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 \cdot v_1 & \dots & 1 \cdot v_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots \\ \vdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

rank A rank B rank AB

$$\Rightarrow m \leq n \quad \text{bc} \quad \text{rank}(AB) \leq \min \{\text{rank } A, \text{rank } B\}$$

$$\Rightarrow v_i \cdot v_j = 0 \quad i \neq j. \quad \text{non-zero orthogonal} \stackrel{(m)}{\Rightarrow} \text{linearly independent} \Rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n \text{ has max } n \text{ linearly independent vectors}$$

3b) even sized sets with odd intersections (similar proof)

$$\vec{v}_i \in \{0, 1\}^n, \quad i \in \{1, \dots, m\} \Rightarrow v_i \cdot v_j = 1 \quad \text{if } i \neq j$$

what we want \rightarrow

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & m \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid m = m \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T & m \\ v_1 & \dots & v_m \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & & 1 \end{bmatrix} n$$

A M M^T

$$\text{Rank } (A) \leq \min \{\text{rank } M, \text{rank } M^T\} \leq n$$

$$\text{Rank } A = m \leq n$$

4) we see the same thing with any prime.

This argument breaks down for mod m bc \mathbb{Z}_m is not a field

you can have non-zero vectors who's dot = 0 mod m without linear independence.

\Rightarrow we can find even more sets that satisfy mod m w/o needing to limit ourselves to linear independence

5) Grobnerz (using GR_n rep mod m we get n^{th} polynomial)

Theorem 1.2. Let m be a positive integer, and suppose that m has $r > 0$ different prime divisors: $m = p_1^{d_1} p_2^{d_2} \dots p_r^{d_r}$. Then $\exists c = c(m) > 0$ s.t. $\forall n > 0, \exists$ uniform set-system \mathcal{H} over h elements s.t.

$$1) |\mathcal{H}| \geq \exp\left(c \frac{(\log n)^r}{(\log \log n)^{r-1}}\right)$$

$$2) \forall H \in \mathcal{H}, |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$3) \forall H \neq G \in \mathcal{H}, |H \cap G| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$\star c \sim p_r^{-r} \sim 1$$

Lemma 3.2

$\forall n > 0, \exists$ uniform set system \mathcal{H} over $2^{(m-1)}n^{2d}/d!$ elements s.t.

$$1) |\mathcal{H}| = n^n$$

$$2) \forall H \in \mathcal{H}, |H| \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$3) \forall H \neq G \in \mathcal{H}, |H \cap G| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

From GR_n reps mod m, we get degree n^{th} polynomials.

This allows us to form $P(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ s.t. $P(\vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff \vec{z} = \vec{0}$

and therefore $Q(\vec{z}) = P(1 - \vec{z}) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \iff \vec{z} = \vec{1}$.

all coefficients mod m

$$Q(\vec{z}) = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_d} \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_d} \cdot z_{i_1} z_{i_2} \dots z_{i_d}$$

AND bunch of arbitrary monomials

$$\text{Let } \delta(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} 1, & x_1 = x_2 \\ 0, & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

Let $x, y \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}^n$, n such vectors

$$A \in M_{n \times n^n}(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}_y \quad \text{entry } A_{xy} = Q(\delta(x_1, y_1), \delta(x_2, y_2), \dots, \delta(x_n, y_n))$$

$\hookrightarrow 0$ if $x = y$, $\neq 0$ o/w ($Q(\vec{z}) = 0 \pmod{m}$)

break up

$$B_{i_1, \dots, i_d} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}_y \quad B_{i_1, \dots, i_d} = \delta(x_{i_1}, y_{i_1}), \dots, \delta(x_{i_d}, y_{i_d})$$

$\hookrightarrow 1$ if those components of x any y match

All B blocks output 1 for coordinate $A_{xy} \Rightarrow Q(\vec{z}) = 0 \pmod{m} \Rightarrow \underline{x = y}$

We build Hypergraph

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x \\ 0 & 0 & \neq 0 \\ \neq 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix} y$$

choose all possible vectors of $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}^n$ as vertices

choose all B-blocks intersections as edges

* This is the absolute max # of edges/

How many edges/B-blocks exist?

$$\tilde{e}(n, n, \dots, n) = \sum_{\text{degrees}} \alpha_{d_1, \dots, d_m} \cdot n^{\sum d_i}$$

Coefficient of term

Universe

$$\leq (m-1) \sum_{l \leq d} \binom{n}{l} n^l$$

max coefficient

$$< (m-1) \sum_{l \leq d} n^l / l!$$

= $\frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-l+1)}{l(l-1)\dots(1)} \cdot n^l$

$\leq (m-1) \frac{n^{2d}}{d!}$

$$\frac{n! \cdot n^l}{l! \cdot (n-l)!} < \frac{n^l \cdot n^l}{l!}$$

increase num denominator

max multiplicity of all possible combinations of all degrees

How many edges per vertex?

$$\tilde{e}(1, 1, \dots, 1) \leq (m-1) \sum_{l \leq d} \binom{n}{l} \leq 2(m-1) \binom{n}{d}$$

Now we build dual of the hypergraph

Universe: All the B-blocks $\leq 2(m-1) n^{2d} / d!$

Sets: diagonals of A: $(x, x) \Rightarrow |x| = n$

↳ each set contains all the B-blocks which cover it

e.x. $x = (0, 1, 1, 2)$, $y = (2, 3, 1, 2)$

B-block that dictates $e_2=1 \wedge e_4=2$ covers both so it's part of both sets

B-block that dictates $e_1=0 \wedge e_3=1$ covers only x so it's not part of y-set

Size: Each diagonal cell is covered by the same # of B-blocks (may not be the same ones)

e.x. $G = x_2 x_3 + x_1$

$x = (0, 1, 2)$, $y = (2, 1, 0)$

both covered by 2 B-blocks \square

