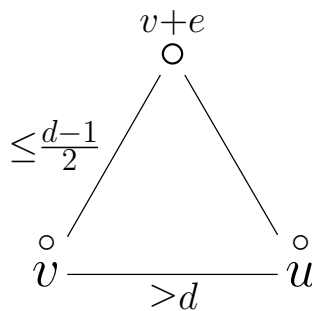


Slide #1.

Assume that d is odd so that $\lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor = \frac{d-1}{2}$.



In order to prove that the code corrects all error patterns of weight $\leq \frac{d-1}{2}$, we must show that

$$d(v, v+e) < d(v+e, u) \quad \text{for any } e \text{ such that } \text{wt}(e) \leq \frac{d-1}{2}.$$

Key idea. Apply the triangle inequality to estimate $d(v+e, u)$:

$$\begin{aligned} d(v+e, u) &\geq d(v, u) - d(v, v+e) \\ &\geq d - \frac{d-1}{2} \\ &= \frac{d+1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

- Now we show that there exists at least one error pattern of weight equal to $\frac{d-1}{2} + 1 = \frac{d+1}{2}$ which the code does not correct.
- Let v and u be codewords such that $d(v, u) = d$. Let $e' = v + u$, so $\text{wt}(e') = \text{wt}(v + u) = d$.
- If d is odd, change $\frac{d-1}{2}$ of the 1s in e into 0s. Denote the obtained word by e . Note that $\text{wt}(e) = d - \frac{d-1}{2} = \frac{d+1}{2}$.
- **Remark:** If d is even, we change $\frac{d}{2}$ of the 1s in e into 0s.
- **Claim:** The code does not correct e . Indeed,

$$d(v, v + e) = \text{wt}(v + v + e) = \text{wt}(e) = \frac{d+1}{2}.$$

On the other hand,

$$d(v + e, u) = \text{wt}(u + v + e) = \text{wt}(e' + e) = \frac{d-1}{2}.$$

Thus, $d(v, v + e) > d(v + e, u)$.