



## Plotkin bound & Hadamard design

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### Introduction

**Example 10** In a botanical classifier, a plant is identified by  $n$  features. Each feature can either be present or absent. A classifier is considered to be good if any two plants have **less than half** of their features in common. Prove that a good classifier cannot describe **more than**  $n + 1$  plants for odd  $n$ , or  $\frac{n}{2} + 1$  plants for even  $n$ .



Here we may rephrase the question in the language of coding theory,

| What is the largest binary code with length  $n$  and distance  $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1$ ?

#### ▼ Proof

We denote  $S$  as the set of binary code. For any possible  $S$ ,  $m := |S|$ .

Let  $X$  be a random variable such that  $X_i = 1$  whenever the chosen pair differs in the  $i$ -th entry,  $X_i = 0$  otherwise. It is clear that  $X \sim B(0, 1)$ . The expectation of pairs in  $S$  distinct in the  $i$ -th entry is

$$\mathbb{E}X_i = \frac{m_i(m - m_i)}{\binom{m}{2}} \leq \frac{m^2}{4 \cdot m(m - 1)/2} = \frac{m}{2(m - 1)}.$$

Here  $m_i$  is the number of  $v \in S$  taking value 1 in the  $i$ -th entry. Since  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is the total number of entries where pairs taking different values, we shall exclude those  $m$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i &\leq \frac{mn}{2(m - 1)} < \frac{n + 1}{2} \quad \text{when } n \text{ is odd,} \\ \mathbb{E} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i &\leq \frac{mn}{2(m - 1)} < \frac{n}{2} + 1 \quad \text{when } n \text{ is even.} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\sup |S| \leq n + 1$  for odd  $n$ ,  $\sup |S| \leq n/2$  for even  $n$ .

**Question: When the equality holds? IT IS ALREADY ANSWERED in Plotkin bound & Hadamard design.**

## Basic definitions

See [this page](#) to know basic definitions to coding theory.

## The main theorem

**Theorem** The theorem says that

*The maximum number of a length  $n$  binary code with minimum distance  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  is*

1.  $4k + 4$ , if  $n = 4k + 3$ ;
2.  $2k + 2$ , if  $n = 4k + 2$ ;
3.  $2k + 2$ , if  $n = 4k + 1$ ;
4.  $4k + 4$ , if  $n = 12k + 8$ ;
5.  $4k + 2$ , if  $n = 12k + 4$ ;

6.  $4k$ , if  $n = 12k$ .

We denote them by **Case I** to **VI**.

**Theorem\*** (in equivalent statement) Let  $\Sigma^n = \{\pm 1\}^n$ . Then for each set  $S \subset \Sigma^n$  such that

$$\forall x, y \in S, \langle x, y \rangle < 0,$$

we have

1.  $|S| \leq 4k + 4$ , if  $n = 4k + 3$ ,
2. ....

## Construction

**Definition** We call  $H_m \in \{\pm 1\}^{m \times m}$  an **Hadamard matrix** whenever  $H_m \cdot H_m^T = m \cdot I$ .

**Theorem** The Hadamard matrix  $H_m$  does not exist if  $m \notin (4\mathbb{N} \cup \{1, 2\})$ .

### ▼ Proof of the theorem

Consider the first 3 rows, i.e.,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_{n-1} & a_n \\ b_1 & b_2 & \cdots & b_{n-1} & b_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $N_{\delta, \varepsilon}$  denotes the the number of pairs  $(a_j, b_j) = (\delta, \varepsilon)$ . Here  $\delta, \varepsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$ . Then

- $N_{1, \varepsilon} = N_{-1, \varepsilon}$  since  $r_1 \perp r_2$ ,
- $N_{\delta, 1} = N_{\delta, -1}$  since  $r_1 \perp r_3$ ,
- $N_{1, 1} + N_{-1, -1} = N_{1, -1} + N_{-1, 1}$  since  $r_2 \perp r_3$ .

As a result,  $N_{\varepsilon, \delta} = \frac{n}{4}$ . Thus  $n$  is a mutiple of 4.

**Conjecture** There is a Hadamard matrix of order  $n = 4k$  for every integer  $k \geq 1$ .



**Fact 1** The undecided cases for  $n < 2000$  are 668, 716, 892, 1004, 1132, 1244, 1388, 1436, 1676, 1772, 1916, 1948, 1964.

**Fact 2** The Kronecker product of Hadamard matrices is also an Hadamard matrix. Especially, if the Hadamard matrix of  $q$  exists, then  $H_{2^\ell \cdot q}$  exists for each  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ . One feasible construction is by iterating  $\otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Notation** Let  $H_m = (h_{ij})_{m \times m}$  be an Hadamard matrix.

**Example** For instance,



Without the loss of generality, take  $h_{i,j} = 1$  if  $\min(i, j) = 1$ .

- Let  $H'_m$  be an  $m \times (m - 1)$  matrix given by deleting the first column of  $H_m$ .
- Let  $H''_m$  be an  $\frac{m}{2} \times (m - 2)$  matrix given by deleting all rows from  $H'_m$  whose first entry is  $-1$ . Then deleting the first column of the remainder.

$$H_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$H'_4 = \begin{pmatrix} \times & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \times & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ \times & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ \times & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$H''_4 = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & 1 & 1 \\ \times & \times & -1 & -1 \\ \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Construction

▼ The **theorem** says that

The maximum number of a length  $n$  binary code with minimum distance  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  is

1.  $4k + 4$ , if  $n = 4k + 3$ ;
2.  $2k + 2$ , if  $n = 4k + 2$ ;
3.  $2k + 2$ , if  $n = 4k + 1$ ;
4.  $4k + 4$ , if  $n = 12k + 8$ ;
5.  $4k + 2$ , if  $n = 12k + 4$ ;
6.  $4k$ , if  $n = 12k$ .

We denote them by **Case I** to **VI**.

### ▼ Construction of Case I

Consider the set of rows in  $H'_{n+1}$ .

▼ **Example of  $n = 7$**

Here the **black**-coloured part is  $H'_8$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{matrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

### ▼ Construction of Case II

Consider the set of rows in  $H''_{n+2}$ .

▼ **Example of  $n = 6$**

Here the **black**-coloured part is  $H''_8$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \times \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \times \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ \times \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ \times \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

### ▼ Construction of Case III

1 Take the set of rows in of  $H''_{n+3}$ .

2 Delete any column in what is obtained in 1.

▼ **Example of  $n = 5$**

1 Here the **black**-coloured part is  $H''_8$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

2 The remainder is our desired result.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

#### ▼ Construction of Case IV

- 1 Let  $m = \frac{n+4}{3}$ .
- 2 Concatenate 3 copies of  $H'_m$  horizontally.
- 3 Delete any column in what is obtained in 2.

##### ▼ Example of $n = 8$

- 1 As  $n = 8$ ,  $m = 4$ .
- 2 Concatenate 3 copies of  $H'_4$  horizontally, i.e.,

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right).$$

- 3 Delete any column, e.g.,

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc} \times & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \times & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ \times & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ \times & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right).$$

#### ▼ Construction of Case V

- 1 Let  $a = \frac{n+8}{3}$ ,  $b = \frac{2(n+2)}{3}$ .
- 2 Concatenate first  $\frac{b}{2}$  rows of  $H'_a$  horizontally with  $H'_b$ .
- 3 Delete any column of the outcome in 2.

##### ▼ Example of $n = 4$

- 1 As  $n = 4$ ,  $a = b = 4$ .
- 2 Concatenate first 2 rows of  $H'_4$  horizontally with  $H'_4$ . i.e.,

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} \times & 1 & 1 & 1 & \times & \times & 1 & 1 \\ \times & 1 & -1 & -1 & \times & \times & -1 & -1 \\ \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \end{array} \right).$$

- 3 Delete any column, e.g.,

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} \times & \times & 1 & 1 & \times & \times & 1 & 1 \\ \times & \times & -1 & -1 & \times & \times & -1 & -1 \\ \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \end{array} \right).$$

#### ▼ Construction of Case VI

- 1 Let  $a = \frac{n}{3}$ ,  $b = \frac{2n}{3} + 4$ .
- 2 Concatenate first  $a$  rows of  $H_b''$  horizontally with  $H_a'$ .
- 3 Delete any column of the outcome in 2.

#### ▼ Example of $n = 12$

- 1 As  $n = 12$ ,  $a = 4$  and  $b = 12$ .

#### ▼ Hadamard matrix $H_{12}$

The first 4 column of  $H_{12}''$  is *marked*.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	1
1	1	-1	-1	-1	1	-1
1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	1
1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1
1	1	-1	1	1	1	-1
1	-1	1	-1	1	1	1
1	-1	-1	1	-1	1	1
1	-1	1	-1	-1	1	-1
1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	1
1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	-1
1	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1

- 2 Concatenate first 4 rows of  $H_{12}''$  horizontally with  $H_4'$  i.e.,

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccccccccccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

- 3 Delete any column, e.g.,

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccccccccccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \times & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & \times & \times & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & \times & \times & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & \times & \times & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

#### ▼ Hadamard 矩阵拷贝懒人包

See [here](#) for data basis of Hadamard matrices.

以下给出一种处理 Hadamard 矩阵的捷径. 以构造  $H_{12}''$  的前四行与  $H_4'$  之并列复合为例:

- 1 在数据库中搜寻  $H_{12}$ , 例如[此处](#).
- 2 将 1 中结果复制至 spreadsheet 文件中, 例如 [Microsoft excel](#).
- 3 使用 [数据->分列->分隔符号\(D\)->空格](#) 指令进行分列.

- 4 采用 `筛选`, `排序` 等指令调整矩阵. 若需调换 `1<->(-1)`, 可考虑 `(-1)->2, 1->(-1), 2->1` 三步.
- 5 如需要复制为  $\text{L}^{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  矩阵, 替换 `1->1&`, 最末一行进行替换 `&->/`.
- 6 将所得者拷贝至 `记事本`, 依个人喜好替换空格与 `tab` 缩进.