

ASYMPTOTICALLY BENT FUNCTIONS AND OPTIMAL QUADRATIC CODES

FOR MINIMAX CRITERION ON ERROR DETECTION¹

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Abstract

We present optimal error-detecting codes for channels which distributions of errors are not known. The characteristic functions of these code are asymptotically bent. That is, for a given block size n and the number of codewords $|C|$, these codes minimize $\text{Max}_{e \neq 0} Q(e)$ where $Q(e)$ is the

conditional error-masking probability given the error pattern e . The codewords are blocks of n symbols from $GF(q)$, where $q = p^s$. We have the following parameters associated with the quadratic codes; $n = 2m$, $|C| = q^{2m-1} - q^{m-1}$, $Q(e) = (q^{2m-2} + q^{m-1})|C|^{-1}$, $e \neq 0$. Since $Q(e) \sim q^{-1}$ for all $e \neq 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the quadratic codes are asymptotically optimal with respect to the minimax criterion on $Q(e)$. In otherwords, the total error-masking

probability, $Q_{\text{total}} = \sum_{e \neq 0} Q(e) \text{Pr}[e|e \neq 0] = q^{-1}$, is independent on an error

distribution $\text{Pr}[e|e \neq 0]$.

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Summary

We present a construction of error-detecting codes asymptotically satisfying the lower bound on maxima of the conditional error-masking probability. The conditional error-masking probabilities for the code C given errors e , ($e \neq 0$), is defined as

$$Q(e) \triangleq \frac{|\{(x, \tilde{x}) \mid \tilde{x} - x = e, x, \tilde{x} \in C\}|}{|C|^2} = B(e) |C|^{-1},$$

where $B(e)$ is the autocorrelation function for the characteristic function $f(x)$ for the code C , $f(x) \in \{0, 1\}$, $f(x) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x \in C$, moreover, $B(0) = |C|^{-1}$.

Our problem can be formulated in the following way: For a given code rate $R = n^{-1} \log_q |C|$ [2] (codewords are blocks of q -ary symbols of length n), construct codes based on $\text{Min Max}_{C \in S_R} Q(e)$ where S_R denotes the set of all codes $C \in S_R$ $e \neq 0$

with the rate R .

Consider codes C defined in V_n over $GF(q)$, $q = p^s$. The maxima of the conditional error-masking probabilities given errors e , ($e \neq 0$), $Q(e)$ is lowerbounded by:

$$\text{Max}_{e \neq 0} Q(e) \geq \begin{cases} \frac{2}{|C|} \left[\frac{|C| (|C| - 1)}{2 (q^n - 1)} \right] & , p = 2; \\ \frac{1}{|C|} \left[\frac{|C| (|C| - 1)}{(q^n - 1)} \right] & , p > 2. \end{cases}$$

For the codes C based on bent [1-11] functions, $(u, v) \in C \Leftrightarrow \langle u, v \rangle = \sigma$, $u, v \in V_n$ over $GF(2)$, $\sigma \in GF(2)$, ($\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes inner product), the conditional error-masking probabilities satisfy the lower bound. Unfortunately, in this case $Q(e)$ is asymptotically equal to one half as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

We will describe below the asymptotically optimal quadratic codes for wide range of $|C|$, n and $\text{Max}_{e \neq 0} Q(e)$.

Let $n = 2m$, $u, v \in V_m$ over $GF(q)$, $q = p^s$, that is, $u = (u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{m-1})$, and $v = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{m-1})$, where $u_i, v_i \in GF(q)$. The quadratic code C is defined as; for a given $\sigma \in GF(q)$, $(u, v) \in C \Leftrightarrow \langle u, v \rangle = \sigma$.

For these codes with $m > 1$ and $\sigma \neq 0$, we have for the autocorrelation functions $B(t, \tau)$ for the characteristic function for the codes $f(u, v)$,

$$B(t, \tau) = \begin{cases} q^{2m-1} - q^{m-1}, & t = \tau = 0; \\ q^{2m-2} + \mu(\sigma, T)q^{m-1}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $T = \langle t, \tau \rangle$ and $\mu(\sigma, T) \in \{1, -1\}$. For $p=2$, $\mu(\sigma, T) = 1$ iff $\text{Trace}(\sigma T^{-1}) = 0$, $T \neq 0$.

For $m > 1$ and $\sigma = 0$, we have

$$B(t, \tau) = \begin{cases} q^{2m-1} - q^{m-1} + q^m, & t = \tau = 0; \\ q^{2m-2} + q^{m-1} + \delta_T \cdot (q-2)q^{m-1}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $\delta_T \in \{0, 1\}$, $\delta_T = 0$ iff $T = 0$.

For $m=1$ and $\sigma \neq 0$, C is defined as; $(u, v) \in C \Leftrightarrow uv = \sigma$, $u, v, \sigma \in GF(q)$. In this case we have, $\text{Max}_{(t, \tau) \neq 0} Q(t, \tau) = \frac{2}{q-1}$. Moreover, for $p=2$

$$B(t, \tau) = \begin{cases} 2^s - 1, & t = \tau = 0; \\ 2, & \text{trace}(\sigma(t\tau)^{-1}) = 0, t\tau \neq 0; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The above quadratic codes are nonlinear and nonsystematic. The block size is given by $n = 2ms$ symbols over $GF(p)$. The transmission rate $n^{-1} \log_p |C| - 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. For $m > 1$, the codes are asymptotically optimal as $n \rightarrow \infty$, and we have, $Q(t, \tau) \sim p^{-s}$ for all $(t, \tau) \neq 0$. For $m=1$, $\sigma \neq 0$ and $p=2$, the codes are optimal since the minimum value of maxima of $Q(e)$ ($e \neq 0$) is two.

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Let C^* denote modified quadratic-codes defined as a union of p^{s-r} equivalent classes in V_{2ms} over $GF(p)$ induced by $\langle u, v \rangle = \sigma$, $\sigma \in GF(p^s)$. Furthermore, for a given $\sigma^* \in V_r$ over $GF(p)$, $(u, v) \in C^* \Leftrightarrow \langle u, v \rangle \in \Sigma$, where $\Sigma \triangleq \{\sigma \mid \sigma = (v, \sigma^*), v \in V_{s-r}\}$, (Σ is a coordinate subspace in $GF(p^s)$ where last r components are assigned to be σ^*).

Then, for $m > 1$ and $\sigma^* \neq 0$, we have, $|C^*| = p^{2ms-r} - p^{ms-r}$ and the conditional error-masking probability $Q^*(t, \tau) \sim p^{-r}$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for all $(t, \tau) \neq 0$, thus, modified codes are asymptotically optimal.

The codes C and C^* offer a viable alternative for error detection for channels with unknown probability distribution of errors. As one see from the fact that, the total error-masking probability $Q_{total} = \sum_{e \neq 0} Q(e) \Pr[e \neq 0]$ is independent on a distribution $\Pr[e \neq 0]$.

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