

# Matching Vectors, Locally Decodable Codes and PIR

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# Definition of LDC

## Motivation

A an **error correcting code**  $C$  is a mapping  $C : F^n \mapsto F^N$ ,  
 $C(x_1, x_2, \dots x_n) \mapsto (w_1, w_2, \dots w_N) :$

- Decoding:  $D(w_1, w_2, \dots w_N) = (x_1, \dots x_n)$
- Error-Correction:  $D$  can handle up to  $d$  errors

What happens if we want just one symbol  $x_i$  and not the entire message?

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# Definition of LDC

## Definition: Locally Decodable Codes

$C(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N)$

is  $(q, \delta, \varepsilon)$ -LDC if  $x_i$  can be recovered from  $q$  entries of  $C(\vec{x})$

Even if  $C(x)$  is corrupted in up-to  $\delta N$  coordinates

With high probability (w.p  $1 - \varepsilon$ )

There exists a decoding algorithm  $d_i$  s.t.  $d_i(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N) = x_i$   
 $d_i$  reads only  $q$  symbols of  $\vec{w}$

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# Definition of LDC

## Definition: Smooth LDC

A code is  $q$ -smooth LDC iff

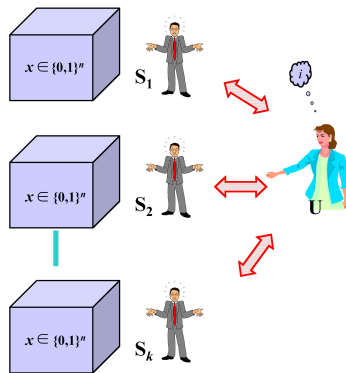
- $d_i$  makes  $q$  queries
- **Smoothness**: each query of  $d_i$  is uniformly distributed
- **Completeness**:  $d_i(C(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)) = x_i$

## Theorem

$q$ -smooth-LDC is  $(q, \delta, q\delta)$ -LDC

# LDC vs PIR

- $\text{LDC} \Rightarrow \text{PIR}$
- Two round PIR when reply of servers small  $\Rightarrow \text{LDC}$
- PIR stronger: Large reply, many rounds.



# Applications

- PIR, MPC.
- Worst Case average case reductions.
- Pseudo-randomness
- PCP.

## Lower Bounds

- [KT00]: Lower bound  $N = \Omega(n^{q/(q-1)})$
- [GKST01]:  $q=2$  for linear codes  $N = 2^{\Omega(n)}$
- [KdW03]:  $q=2$  any codes  $N = 2^{\Omega(n)}$   
for  $q > 2$ ,  $N = \Omega\left(\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right)^{1+1/(\lceil q/2 \rceil - 1)}\right)$

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# Upper Bounds

## Upper Bounds

- Hadamard code is a two-query LDC  $N = 2^n$
- [KSY11, KMZS16] RM and multiplicity codes LDC approaching the optimal rate. Query complexity:  $2^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ , Rate  $1 - \varepsilon$

## This Talk

- 4-query LDC's  $N = \exp \exp(O(\sqrt{\log n \log \log n}))$
- reduce to 3 query.
- 2-server PIR.

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# Upper and Lower Bounds(LDC)

# queries	Lower Bounds	Upper Bounds
1	Do not exist	
2	$2^k$	$2^k$
$> 2$	$k^{1+\varepsilon(q)}$	$\approx \exp(\exp O(\sqrt{\log q / \log k}))$ MVC
$\text{polylog}(k)$	-	$\text{Poly}(k)$ , RM
$2^{\sqrt{\log k}}$	-	$1 + \delta(\varepsilon)k$ , [KSY11, KMZS16]

# Hadamard Code

## Definition

- $C_{HAD} : \mathbb{F}_2^n \mapsto \mathbb{F}_2^{2^n}$
- Let  $\vec{m} \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$
- $C_{HAD}(\vec{m}) = (\langle \vec{x}, \vec{m} \rangle)_{x \in \mathbb{F}_2^n}$  is a linear code
- $C_{HAD}$  calculates all linear functionals on  $\vec{m}$
- $C_{HAD}$  is a  $\left[ \underbrace{2^n}_{\text{codeword}}, \underbrace{n}_{\text{message}}, \underbrace{2^{n-1}}_{\text{minimal distance}} \right]_2$

# Hadamard Code

$C_{HAD}$  is 2-query locally decodable

## Decoding procedure

Let  $\vec{w} \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2^n}$  be an encoding of  $\vec{m}$  with  $\delta 2^n$  errors

Choose random  $x_1 \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$

Let  $x_2 = x_1 + \hat{e}_i$ , where  $\hat{e}_i$   $i^{th}$  unit vector

Output  $w(x_2) - w(x_1)$  as a value of  $m_i$

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# Hadamard Code

## Theorem

Hadamard code is  $(2, \delta, 2\delta) - LDC$

## Proof

- Queries are uniformly distributed
- $C(\vec{m})_{x_2} - C(\vec{m})_{x_1} = \langle \vec{m}, x_2 \rangle - \langle \vec{m}, x_1 \rangle = \langle \vec{m}, x_2 - x_1 \rangle = \langle \vec{m}, \hat{e}_i \rangle = m_i$
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# Overview of the construction

## Plan

- The definition of  $S$ -matching vectors
- The construction of  $S$ -matching vectors
- The construction of LDCs based on  $S$ -matching vectors
- The construction of  $S$ -decoding polynomials
- The decoding algorithm
- Alphabet reduction
- 2 server PIR.
- Representation Theory and LDCs.



# S-matching vectors

Fix odd number  $m = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$

## Definition

$\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n, u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$  is  $S$ -matching :

- $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = 0$  for every  $i \in [n]$ .
- $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in S$  for every  $i \neq j$ .
- $0 \notin S$

We want  $n \gg h, |S|$  to be small

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# Construction of $S$ -matching vectors

## Lemma (Grolmusz 2000)

For every integer  $m = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r$  there exists a set  $S_m$  of size  $2^r - 1$  s. t. for every  $n$  there exists a family of  $S$ -matching vectors  $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$  s.t.  $h \leq \exp(c \sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})$ .

We will now prove a weaker theorem.

# Construction of $S$ -matching vectors

## Lemma(Grolmusz 2000)

For set  $S_6 = \{1, 3, 4\}$  there exists a family of  $S$ -matching vectors  $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_6)^h$  s.t.  $h \leq \exp(c\sqrt[2]{\log n \log \log n})$ .

We will do it in two steps:

- Simple construction of Matching vectors for large set  $S$ .
- Reduction of the set  $S$  to size 3.

# Simple $S$ -matching vectors

Fix some  $m = p_1 p_2$  and  $\tilde{h} > m$ .  
Let  $[\tilde{h}] = [1, 2, \dots, \tilde{h}]$  set of size  $\tilde{h}$

Let  $\{A_i\}_{i=1}^n$  be all subsets of size  $m - 1$  of  $[\tilde{h}]$   
i.e.  $n = \binom{\tilde{h}}{m-1}$

Let  $\tilde{u}_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^{\tilde{h}}$  be an indicator vector of  $A_i$   
Add an additional coordinate to  $\tilde{u}_i$  which is 1 for all  $\tilde{u}_i$

# Simple $S$ -matching vectors

## Claim

- $\langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_i \rangle = 0 \bmod m$
- $\langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_j \rangle \neq 0 \bmod m$

## Proof

- $\langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_i \rangle = 0 \bmod m$  since  $\tilde{u}_i$  have exactly  $m$  ones
- $\langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_j \rangle = 1 + |A_i \cap A_j|$ . Since  $A_i, A_j$  are two different sets of size  $m - 1 \Rightarrow |A_i \cap A_j| < m - 1$ .  
Therefore,  $\langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_j \rangle \neq 0 \bmod m$ .

# S-matching sets

## Tensor product

### Definition

Let  $\vec{u} \in R^n$ ,  $\vec{v} \in R^m$  be two vectors then  $u \otimes v \in R^{nm}$  such that  $(u \otimes v)(i, j) = u(i) \cdot v(j)$

	$u_0$	$u_1$	$u_2$	$u_3$	$u_4$
$v_0$	$v_0 \cdot u_0$	$v_0 \cdot u_1$	$v_0 \cdot u_2$	$v_0 \cdot u_3$	$v_0 \cdot u_4$
$v_1$	$v_1 \cdot u_0$	$v_1 \cdot u_1$	$v_1 \cdot u_2$	$v_1 \cdot u_3$	$v_1 \cdot u_4$
$v_2$	$v_2 \cdot u_0$	$v_2 \cdot u_1$	$v_2 \cdot u_2$	$v_2 \cdot u_3$	$v_2 \cdot u_4$



# Tensor Product

## Fact

$$\begin{aligned}\langle u_1 \otimes v_1, u_2 \otimes v_2 \rangle &= \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle \cdot \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \\ \langle u^{\otimes \ell}, v^{\otimes \ell} \rangle &= \langle u, v \rangle^\ell\end{aligned}$$

## Proof

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

# Reducing $S$

The set  $\{\tilde{u}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is an  $S$ -matching set with  $S = \mathbb{Z}_m \setminus 0$

Problem is that set  $S$  is too large.

## Little Fermat Theorem

If  $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  then  $x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

## Solution

Let us look at  $\{\tilde{u}_i^{\otimes(p_1-1)}\}$  then:

$$\langle \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes(p_1-1)}, \tilde{u}_j^{\otimes(p_1-1)} \rangle = \langle u_i, u_j \rangle^{p_1-1} \equiv 0 \text{ or } 1 \pmod{p_1}$$

It is 0 only iff  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \equiv 0 \pmod{p_1}$

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It is 0 only iff  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \equiv 0 \pmod{p_1}$

# Reducing $S$

## Definition

Set  $u_i \triangleq (p_2 \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes(p_1-1)}, p_1 \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes(p_2-1)})$   $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$ , where  
 $h = \tilde{h}^{p_1-1} + \tilde{h}^{p_2-1}$

## Claim

Set  $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is an  $S$ -matching set with  $|S| = 3$ .

# Reducing $S$

## Proof

Let us prove that  $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle u_i, u_i \rangle &= \\ \langle (p_2 \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes p_1 - 1}, p_1 \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes p_2 - 1}), (p_2 \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes p_1 - 1}, p_1 \tilde{u}_i^{\otimes p_2 - 1}) \rangle &= \\ p_2 \langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_i \rangle^{p_1 - 1} + p_1 \langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_i \rangle^{p_2 - 1} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

# Reducing $S$

## Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)

For every  $a, b$  there exists a unique  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_m$  s.t.  
 $x \equiv a \pmod{p_1}$  and  $x \equiv b \pmod{p_2}$ .

## Proof cont.

Let us now prove that  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle$  may take only 3 values.

$$\langle u_i, u_j \rangle = p_2 \langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_j \rangle^{p_1-1} + p_1 \langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_j \rangle^{p_2-1} \pmod{p_1 p_2}$$

Modulo  $p_1$  it is either  $p_2$  or 0. The same for  $p_2$ . We have 4 possibilities for  $(\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \pmod{p_1}, \langle u_i, u_j \rangle \pmod{p_2})$   
(0, 0) happens only if  $\langle \tilde{u}_i, \tilde{u}_j \rangle = 0 \pmod{p_1 p_2}$ .

# Reducing $S$

## Proof: the size of MV

We will prove only for  $r = 2$ .

Take  $p_1 \approx p_2$ . We have constructed  $n = \binom{\tilde{h}}{p_1 p_2 - 1} (\sim \sim \tilde{h}^m)$

$S$ -matching vectors  $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$  where  
 $h = \tilde{h}^{p_1-1} + \tilde{h}^{p_2-1} (\sim \tilde{h}^{p_2} = \tilde{h}^{\sqrt{m}})$ .

We will get the desired result.



# Construction of the code

Fix  $\gamma \in \mathbb{F}_{2^t}$  generator of the mult. group of size  $m$

i.e.  $\gamma^m = 1$ ,  $\gamma^i \neq 1$  for  $i < m$

Fix  $S$ -matching vectors  $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h$

## Definition

A code  $C : \mathbb{F}^n \mapsto \mathbb{F}^{m^h}$  is a linear code

$C(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n) = \sum m_i C(\hat{e}_i)$  by linearity

$C(\hat{e}_i) = (\gamma^{\langle u_i, x \rangle})_{x \in (\mathbb{Z}_m)^h}$

## Rate

$$N = m^h \leq \exp \exp(c \sqrt{\log n \log \log^{r-1} n})$$

# S-decoding polynomials

## Definition

A polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{F}[x]$  is called an  $S$ -decoding iff:

- $\forall s \in S \ P(\gamma^s) = 0,$
- $P(\gamma^0) = P(1) = 1.$

## Key Observation

Given  $S$ -matching vectors:

- $P(\gamma^{\langle u_i, u_i \rangle}) = 1$  for all  $i$ , since  $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = 0$
- $P(\gamma^{\langle u_i, u_j \rangle}) = 0$  for all  $i \neq j$ , since  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in S$

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# S-decoding polynomials

## Lemma

For every set  $S$  there exists an  $S$ -decoding polynomial with at most  $|S| + 1$  monomials

## Proof

Set  $\tilde{P}(x) = \prod_{s \in S} (x - \gamma^s)$  then:

$$\forall s \in S \quad \tilde{P}(\gamma^s) = 0$$

$$\tilde{P}(1) = \tilde{P}(\gamma^0) \neq 0, \text{ since } 0 \notin S$$

$$\text{Set } P(x) = \tilde{P}(x) / \tilde{P}(1)$$

degree  $P(x) = |S|$ , so  $P(x)$  has  $|S| + 1$  monomials

# Decoding Algorithm

Set  $S$ -decoding polynomial

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

## Decoding algorithm

Given  $i$  and a codeword  $w$ :

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

$$c_i = a_0 w(v) + a_1 w(v + b_1 u_i) \dots + a_{q-1} w(v + b_{q-1} u_i).$$

- Output  $\gamma^{-\langle u_i, v \rangle} c_i$

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- Query  $w(v), w(v + b_1 u_i), \dots, w(v + b_{q-1} u_i)$   
Note  $v + b_j u_i$  are uniformly distributed

$$c_i = a_0 w(v) + a_1 w(v + b_1 u_i) \dots + a_{q-1} w(v + b_{q-1} u_i).$$

- Output  $\gamma^{-\langle u_i, v \rangle} c_i$

# Decoding Algorithm

Set  $S$ -decoding polynomial

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

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# Decoding Algorithm

## Lemma

The algorithm decodes the  $i^{th}$  symbol of the code

## Proof

The decoding algorithm is a linear mapping  $d_i : \mathbb{F}^N \mapsto \mathbb{F}$

Therefore,  $d_i(C(\sum_j m_j \hat{e}_j)) = \sum_j m_j d_i(C(\hat{e}_j))$

It is enough to prove that  $d_i(C(\hat{e}_j)) = \delta_{ij}$

# Decoding Algorithm

## Recall

$$C(\hat{e}_j) = \gamma^{\langle u_j, x \rangle}, P(\gamma^{\langle u_i, u_j \rangle}) = \delta_{ij}$$

## Proof.(Continue)

$$\begin{aligned} d_i(C(\hat{e}_j)) &= \\ \gamma^{-\langle u_i, v \rangle} (a_0 \gamma^{\langle u_j, v \rangle} + a_1 \gamma^{\langle u_j, v + b_1 u_i \rangle} + a_2 \gamma^{\langle u_j, v + b_2 u_i \rangle} \dots) &= \\ \gamma^{\langle u_j - u_i, v \rangle} (a_0 + a_1 \gamma^{\langle u_j, u_i \rangle} b_1 + a_2 \gamma^{\langle u_j, u_i \rangle} b_2 \dots) &= \\ \gamma^{\langle u_j - u_i, v \rangle} P(\gamma^{\langle u_j, u_i \rangle}) &= \delta_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

The code defined above is  $(q, \delta.q\delta)$ -LDC where  $q$  is the number of monomials of the  $S$ -decoding polynomial

## Proof

- The decoding algorithm makes  $q$  queries
- Each query is uniformly distributed
- Decoding alg. returns the correct answer if all queries are not damaged
- The code is  $q$ -smooth LDC

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# 3-Query LDC

## 3-Query LDC

We can set  $m = 511 = 7 * 73$  and construct an  $S$ -decoding polynomial with 3-monomials.



## Private Information Retrieval

- Note that LDCs imply 3 server PIR.
- No sub-exponential 2-query LDC exist.
- 2 server PIR exist with sub-linear CC.
- Before [Dvir-Gopi] believed not to exist.

## 2- server PIR

### Private Information Retrieval: The scheme

- Servers has database  $D_1, \dots D_n$  of bits.
- Let  $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^n, u_i \in (\mathbb{Z}_6)^h$  is  $S$ -matching vectors.
- $\langle u_i, u_i \rangle = 0, \langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in \{1, 3, 4\}$ .
- User pick  $r \in (\mathbb{Z}_2)^h$  and send to one server  $r$  and to the second one  $r + u_i$
- Each server on query  $r$  replies:  
$$C(r) = \sum_{j=1}^n D_j (-1)^{\langle u_j, r \rangle}$$
$$V(r) = \sum_{j=1}^n D_j u_j (-1)^{\langle u_j, r \rangle}$$
- Compute  
$$2(-1)^{\langle u_i, r \rangle} D_i = C(r) + C(r + u_i) - \langle V(r), u_i \rangle - \langle V(r + u_i), u_i \rangle.$$

### Private Information Retrieval: Proof

- $$\begin{aligned} C(r) + C(r + u_i) - \langle V(r), u_i \rangle - \langle V(r + u_i), u_i \rangle = \\ \sum_{j=1}^n D_j(-1)^{\langle u_j, r \rangle} + \sum_{j=1}^n D_j(-1)^{\langle u_j, r+u_i \rangle} - \\ \sum_{j=1}^n \langle u_j, u_i \rangle D_j(-1)^{\langle u_j, r \rangle} - \sum_{j=1}^n \langle u_j, u_i \rangle D_j(-1)^{\langle u_j, r+u_i \rangle} = \\ \sum_{j=1}^n D_j(-1)^{\langle u_j, r \rangle} \{ \mathbf{1} + (-1)^{\langle u_j, u_i \rangle} - \langle u_i, u_j \rangle - \langle u_i, u_j \rangle (-1)^{\langle u_j, u_i \rangle} \} \end{aligned}$$
- Check that if  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle = 0$  red part is 2. Else if  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \in \{1, 3, 4\}$  red part is zero modulo 3.

# Alphabet Reduction

- The code we have defined is over some field  $\mathbb{F}_{2^n}$ . We can reduce the alphabet size to 2.