## Some remarks on optimal codes

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## Abstract

## Abstract:

Let $A(n, d)$ (resp. $A(n, d, w))$ be the maximal cardinality of codes (resp. constant-weight codes of weight $w$ ) of length $n$ and minimum distance $d$. We introduce our recent results on $A(n, d)$ and $A(n, d, w)$. We improve two values of $A(n, d)$ and twenty one values of $A(n, d, w)$.

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## I. Coding Theory

## Coding Theory

Let $B=\{0,1\}$ be the set of binary alphabets. In coding theory, one would like to study the set $X=B^{n}$ of n-tuples of alphabets. We can view $X$ from various point of views:
(a) $X$ is a set.
(b) $X$ is an abelian group when we give an abelian group structure on $B$.
(c) $X$ is a vector space when we give a field structure on $B$.

Sometimes we denoted this field by $\mathbb{F}_{2}$ and the $n$-dimensional vector space over $\mathbb{F}_{2}$ by $\mathbb{F}_{2}^{n}$.

## Coding Theory-Cont.

(d) $\mathbb{F}_{2}^{n}$ is a metric space when it is equipped with the Hamming metric:

- For $x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ and $y=\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n}\right)$ in $\mathbb{F}_{2}^{n}$, we define

$$
d(x, y)=\left|\left\{i \mid x_{i} \neq y_{i}\right\}\right| .
$$

Sometimes this metric space is denoted by $\left(\mathbb{F}_{2}^{n}, d_{H}\right)$.
(e) $X$ is a graph where two vectors $x, y \in X, x$ and $y$ are adjacent iff $d_{H}(x, y)=1$. This graph is called the Hamming graph, and it is a distance regular graph.
(f) $X$ is an association scheme which is called the Hamming scheme.
(g) $X$ form an affine geometry $A G(n, 2)$ of dimension $n$ over $\mathbb{F}_{2}$.

## What is a code?

Binary code:

- A subset $\mathcal{C}$ of $B^{n}$ is called a (binary) code of length $n$.
- An element of a code $\mathcal{C}$ is called a codeword.

Minimum distance of a code:

- For $X=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ and $Y=\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n}\right)$ in $B^{n}$, define

$$
d(X, Y)=\left|\left\{i \mid x_{i} \neq y_{i}\right\}\right| .
$$

- Minimum distance of a code $\mathcal{C}$ is defined by

$$
\min \{d(X, Y) \mid X, Y \in \mathcal{C}, X \neq Y\}
$$

## Codes can correct errors

Three basic parameters of a code: length $n$, cardinality $|\mathcal{C}|$, minimum distance $d$. The minimum distance determine the error capability:

Theorem: A code with minimum distance $d$ can correct up to $\left\lfloor\frac{d-1}{2}\right\rfloor$ errors.

## A fundamental problem on coding theory

A natural problem:
Given $n$, find a code of length $n$ having:

- large minimum distance,
- large number of codewords.

Remark: We can't get both.

## A fundamental problem on coding theory-Cont.

Definition: Given $n$ and $d$, define

$$
\begin{aligned}
A(n, d)= & \text { maximum number of codewords } \\
& \text { in any code of length } n \text { and } \\
& \text { minimum distance } \geq d .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Elementary properties of $A(n, d)$

Elementary properties of $A(n, d)$ :
(1) $A(n, 2 d)=A(n-1,2 d-1)$,
(2) $A(n, d) \leq 2 A(n-1, d)$.

These properties are useful when $n$ or $d$ is small.

## Some upper bounds for $A(n, d)$

To investigate $A(n, d)$ for larger values of $n$ and $d$, we need some theory for upper bounds on $A(n, d)$. The upper bounds which will be useful in our investigation are:

- Hamming bound
- Johnson bound
- Delsarte's linear programming bounds
- Schrijver's semi-definite programming bounds


## Hamming bounds

Theorem (Hamming):

$$
A(n, 2 d+1) \leq \frac{2^{n}}{1+\binom{n}{1}+\binom{n}{2}+\cdots+\binom{n}{d}}
$$

Quick reason: The balls of radius $d$ centered at codewords are mutually disjoint!

## Johnson bound

We need the concept of 'optimal constant-weight codes' in introducing Johnson bound:

Definition: Given $n, d$, and $w$, define

$$
\begin{aligned}
A(n, d, w)= & \text { maximum number of codewords } \\
& \text { in any code of length } \mathrm{n} \text { and } \\
& \text { minimum distance } \geq d \text { such that } \\
& \text { each codeword has exactly } \mathrm{w} \text { ones. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Remark: Codes in the above definition are called constant-weight codes of length $n$ and weight $w$.

## Johnson bound-Cont.

Theorem (Johnson):

$$
A(n, 2 d+1) \leq \frac{2^{n}}{1+\binom{n}{1}+\cdots+\binom{n}{d}+\frac{\binom{n}{d+1}-\binom{2 d+1}{d} A(n, 2 d+2,2 d+1)}{\left[\frac{n}{d+1}\right]}}
$$

Quick reason: Hamming bound + careful consideration on spheres of radius $d+1$ centered at codewords.
Why $A(n, 2 d+2,2 d+1)$ appears in this consideration?

## Elementary properties of $A(n, d, w)$

Elementary properties of $A(n, d, w)$ :
(1) $A(n, d, w)=A(n, d+1, w)$, if $d$ is odd,
(2) $A(n, d, w)=A(n, d, n-w)$,
(3) $A(n, 2, w)=\binom{n}{w}$,
(4) $A(n, 2 w, w)=\left\lfloor\frac{n}{w}\right\rfloor$,
(5) $A(n, d, w)=1$, if $2 w<d$,
(6) $A(n, d, w) \leq\left\lfloor\frac{n}{w} A(n-1, d, w-1)\right\rfloor$,
(7) $A(n, d, w) \leq\left\lfloor\frac{n}{n-w} A(n-1, d, w)\right\rfloor$.

## Philosophy involved in Johnson's result

If we have a 'good' upper bound for $A(n, d, w)$, then it would induce a 'good' upper bound for $A(n, d)$. In this point of view, we need to develop 'coding theory' on $Y=B^{n, w}$ where $B^{n, w}$ denotes the set of binary $n$-vectors of weight $w$. We first trying to understand $Y$ from various point of views:
(1) $Y$ is a set.
(2) $Y$ is equipped with a metric, since it is a subset of a metric space.
(3) $Y$ is a graph which is called the Johnson graph.
(4) $Y$ is an association scheme which is called the Johnson scheme.

## Philosophy involved in Johnson's result-Cont.

(1) Since $Y$ is a set equipped with a metric, Hamming type theorem can be developed for $A(n, d, w)$. In this case, the size of a ball of radius $2 r$ is: $1+\binom{w}{1}\binom{n-w}{1}+\cdots+\binom{w}{r}\binom{n-w}{r}$.
(2) We can also develop Johnson type theorem for $A(n, d, w)$ by considering Hamming type theorem + careful consideration on spheres of radius $t$ in $Y$.
(3) This means that we need to consider a subset of vectors in $X$ which is at distance $r$ from one point, and at distance $t$ from another point.

## A general definition for $A(n, d), A(n, d, w)$

Definition: For a finite (possibly empty) set $\Lambda=\left\{\left(X_{i}, d_{i}\right)\right\}_{i \in I}$, where each $X_{i}$ is a vector in $X$ and each $d_{i}$ is a nonnegative integer, we define

$$
A(n, \Lambda, d)=\text { maximum number of codewords }
$$

in any binary code of length $n$ and minimum distance $d$ such that each codeword is at distance $d_{i}$ from $X_{i}$ for all $i \in I$.

## A general definition-Cont.

Special case 1: $|\Lambda|=0$ We get the usual definition of $A(n, d)$.

Special case 2: $|\Lambda|=1$ Suppose $\Lambda=\left\{\left(X_{1}, d_{1}\right)\right\}$. By translation, we may assume that $X_{1}$ is the zero vector. Hence,

$$
A(n, \Lambda, d)=A(n, d, w)
$$

where $w=d_{1}$.
What will happen if $|\Lambda|=2$ ?

## Doubly-constant-weight codes

## Definition:

$$
T\left(w_{1}, n_{1}, w_{2}, n_{2}, d\right)=\text { maximum number of codewords }
$$ in any code of length $n$ and minimum distance $\geq d$ such that each codeword has exactly $w_{1}$ ones on the first $n_{1}$ coordinates and exactly $w_{2}$ ones on the last $n_{2}$ coordinates.

Remark: Codes in the above definition of $T\left(w_{1}, n_{1}, w_{2}, n_{2}, d\right)$ are called doubly-constant-weight codes.

## A general definition-Cont.

Special case 3: $|\Lambda|=2$ Let $\Lambda=\left\{\left(X_{1}, d_{1}\right),\left(X_{2}, d_{2}\right)\right\}$. We have the following proposition.

Proposition: If $\Lambda=\left\{\left(X_{1}, d_{1}\right),\left(X_{2}, d_{2}\right)\right\}$, then

$$
A(n, \Lambda, d)=T\left(w_{1}, n_{1}, w_{2}, n_{2}, d\right)
$$

where $n_{1}=d\left(X_{1}, X_{2}\right), n_{2}=n-n_{1}, w_{1}=\frac{1}{2}\left(d_{1}-d_{2}+n_{1}\right)$, and $w_{2}=\frac{1}{2}\left(d_{1}+d_{2}-n_{1}\right)$.

## Delsarte's Linear Programming bounds

## Distance distribution:

- Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a code (of length $n$ ).
- For each $i=0,1, \ldots, n$, define

$$
B_{i}=\frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|} \cdot\left|\left\{(X, Y) \in \mathcal{C}^{2} \mid d(X, Y)=i\right\}\right|
$$

- The set $\left\{B_{i}\right\}_{i=0}^{n}$ is called the distance distribution of $\mathcal{C}$.

Important equality:

$$
B_{0}+B_{1}+\cdots+B_{n}=|\mathcal{C}|
$$

## Delsarte's Theorem

Theorem (Delsarte, 1973): Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a code with distance distribution $\left\{B_{i}\right\}_{i=0}^{n}$. Then

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{n} P_{k}(n ; i) B_{i} \geq 0
$$

for each $k=1,2, \ldots, n$, where $P_{k}(n ; x)$ is the Krawtchouk polynomial given by

$$
P_{k}(n ; x)=\sum_{j=0}^{n}(-1)^{j}\binom{x}{j}\binom{n-x}{k-j} .
$$

Delsarte linear programming (LP) bound

Delsarte LP bound Consider $B_{i}$ 's as variables. Then

$$
A(n, d) \leq 1+\max \left\lfloor B_{1}+\cdots+B_{n}\right\rfloor
$$

where the maximization is taken over all $\left(B_{1}, \ldots, B_{n}\right)$ satisfying the linear constraints of Delsarte's theorem and satisfying $B_{i} \geq 0$ for $i=1, \ldots, n$.

## Schrijver SDP bound

Definition (Triple distance distribution):

- Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a code.
- For each $i, j, t \in\{0,1, \ldots, n\}$, define

$$
\lambda_{i, j}^{t}=\left|\left\{\begin{array}{l|l}
(X, Y, Z) \in \mathcal{C}^{3} & \begin{array}{l}
d(X, Y)=i, d(X, Z)=j, \\
d(Y, Z)=i+j-2 t .
\end{array}
\end{array}\right\}\right|
$$

- Define $\binom{n}{a, b, c}=\frac{n!}{a!b!c!(n-a-b-c)!}$.
- If $\binom{n}{i-t, j-t, t} \neq 0$, let

$$
x_{i, j}^{t}=\frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|\binom{n}{i-t, j-t, t}} \lambda_{i, j}^{t} .
$$

- If $\binom{n}{i-t, j-t, t}=0$, let $x_{i, j}^{t}=0$.


## Schrijver SDP bound-Cont.

## Remark:

- For each $i=0,1, \ldots, n$,

$$
B_{i}=\binom{n}{i} x_{i, 0}^{0}
$$

- Hence,

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{n}\binom{n}{i} x_{i, 0}^{0}=|\mathcal{C}| .
$$

## Schrijver's result

Theorem (Schrijver, 2005) For $k=0,1, \ldots,\left\lfloor\frac{n}{2}\right\rfloor$, the matrices

$$
\left(\sum_{t=0}^{n} \beta_{i, j, k}^{t} x_{i, j}^{t}\right)_{i, j=k}^{n-k}
$$

and

$$
\left(\sum_{t=0}^{n} \beta_{i, j, k}^{t}\left(x_{i+j-2 t, 0}^{0}-x_{i, j}^{t}\right)\right)_{i, j=k}^{n-k}
$$

are positive semidefinite, where

$$
\beta_{i, j, k}^{t}:=\sum_{u=0}^{n}(-1)^{u-t}\binom{u}{t}\binom{n-2 k}{u-k}\binom{n-k-u}{i-u}\binom{n-k-u}{j-u} .
$$

## Schrijver's result-Cont.

Idea of the proof (1):

- Let $\mathcal{P}$ be the collection of all subsets of $\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$ (which can be identified with $\mathcal{F}^{n}$ ).
- For $i, j, t$, let $M_{i, j}^{t}$ be the $\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}$ matrix with

$$
\left(M_{i, j}^{t}\right)_{X, Y}= \begin{cases}1 & \text { if }|X|=i,|Y|=j,|X \cap Y|=t \\ 0 & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

- Let

$$
\mathcal{A}_{n}=\left\{\sum_{i, j, t=0}^{n} c_{i, j}^{t} M_{i, j}^{t} \mid c_{i, j}^{t} \in \mathbb{C}\right\} .
$$

## Schrijver's result

Idea of the proof (2):

- $\mathcal{A}_{n}$ is called the Terwilliger algebra of the Hamming cube $\mathcal{P} \equiv \mathcal{F}^{n}$.
- There exists a unitary matrix $U$ such that

$$
U^{*} \mathcal{A}_{n} U=\left\{\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
C_{0} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
0 & C_{1} & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \cdots & C_{m}
\end{array}\right)\right\}
$$

where each $C_{k}$ runs over all matrices of the form

$$
\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
B_{k} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
0 & B_{k} & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \cdots & B_{k}
\end{array}\right)
$$

- Choosing 2 (suitable) positive semidefinite elements $R, R^{\prime}$ of $\mathcal{A}_{n}$, Schrijver get the desired result.


## Schrijver semidefinite programming (SDP) bound

## Schrijver SDP bound:

$$
A(n, d) \leq \max \sum_{i=0}^{n}\binom{n}{i} x_{i, 0}^{0}
$$

subject to the matrices in the above Schrijver's Theorem are positive semidefinite for each $k=0,1, \ldots,\left\lfloor\frac{n}{2}\right\rfloor$ and subject to the following conditions on $x_{i, j}^{t}$.

- $x_{0,0}^{0}=1$.
- $0 \leq x_{i, j}^{t} \leq x_{i, 0}^{0}$ and $x_{i, 0}^{0}+x_{j, 0}^{0} \leq 1+x_{i, j}^{t}$ for all $i, j, t \in\{0, \ldots, n\}$.
- $x_{i, j}^{t}=x_{i^{\prime}, j^{\prime}}^{t^{\prime}}$ if $\left(i^{\prime}, j^{\prime}, i^{\prime}+j^{\prime}-2 t^{\prime}\right)$ is a permutation of $(i, j, i+j-2 t)$.
- $x_{i, j}^{t}=0$ if $\{i, j, i+j-2 t\} \cap\{1, \ldots, d-1\} \neq \emptyset$.


## II. Improvements on optimal codes

## Some improvements on LP bound

Theorem (Mounits, Etzion, and Litsyn, 2002) Suppose $\mathcal{C}$ is a code of length $n$ and minimum distance $d$. Let $\delta=d / 2$. Then

- $B_{i} \leq A(n, d, i) \quad$ for $i=1, \ldots, n$,
- $B_{n-\delta}+\left\lfloor\frac{n}{\delta}\right\rfloor \sum_{i<\delta} B_{n-i} \leq\left\lfloor\frac{n}{\delta}\right\rfloor$,
- $B_{n-\delta-i}+[A(n, d, \delta+i)-A(n-\delta+i, d, \delta+i)] B_{n-\delta+i}$
$+A(n, d, \delta+i) \sum_{j>i} B_{n-\delta+j} \leq A(n, d, \delta+i)$
for each $i, 0<i<\delta$.


## Key point of improvements of LP bound

## In Delsarte LP bound

- We deal with the distance distribution $\left\{B_{i}\right\}_{i=0}^{n}$.
- When counting pairs $(X, Y) \in \mathcal{C}^{2}$ such that $d(X, Y)=i$, we can first fix $X$ and count $Y$ (and then take sum over all $X$ ).
- This means we count the number of codewords $Y$ at distance $i$ from a fixed codeword $X$.
- This explains the appearance of $A(n, d, w)$ 's in the improvements of LP bound.


## Main result: Improved Schrijver SDP bound

## In Schrijver SDP bound

- We deal with the "triple distance distribution" $\left\{x_{i, j}^{t}\right\}$.
- When counting triples $(X, Y, Z) \in \mathcal{C}^{3}$, we can first fix two codewords $X, Y$ and then count $Z$.
- This means we count the number of codewords $Z$ at fixed distances from $X$ and $Y$.
- Hence, $A(n, \Lambda, w)$ would be involved, where $\Lambda$ has two elements.
- Therefore, $T\left(w_{1}, n_{1}, w_{2}, n_{2}, d\right)$ would appear.


## Main result: Improved Schrijver SDP bound-Cont.

Main Theorem: For each $i, j, t \in\{0, \ldots, n\}$ with $\binom{n}{i-t, j-t, t} \neq 0$,

$$
x_{i, j}^{t} \leq \frac{T(t, i, j-t, n-i, d)}{\binom{i}{t}\binom{n-i}{j-t}} x_{i, 0}^{0} .
$$

Quick reason:

- We wish to count

$$
\lambda_{i, j}^{t}=\left\lvert\,\left\{\begin{array}{l|l}
(X, Y, Z) \in \mathcal{C}^{3} & \begin{array}{l}
d(X, Y)=i, d(X, Z)=j \\
d(Y, Z)=i+j-2 t
\end{array}
\end{array}\right\}\right.
$$

- Double counting!! We first pick $(X, Y) \in \mathcal{C}^{2}$ such that $d(X, Y)=i$. Then the number of $Z$ such that

$$
(X, Y, Z) \in\left\{\begin{array}{l|l}
(X, Y, Z) \in \mathcal{C}^{3} & \begin{array}{l}
d(X, Y)=i, d(X, Z)=j \\
d(Y, Z)=i+j-2 t
\end{array}
\end{array}\right\} \text { is }
$$

less that or equal to $A(n, \Lambda, d)$ where $\Lambda=\{X, j),(Y, i+j-2 t)\}$. And this value is $T(t, i, j-t, n-i, d)$.

- Now summing over all pairs $(X, Y) \in \mathcal{C}^{2}$ such that $d(X, Y)=i$.

Corollary: For each $j=0, \ldots, n$,

$$
x_{0, j}^{0} \leq \frac{A(n, d, j)}{\binom{n}{j}}
$$

## Main result: Improved Schrijver SDP bound-Cont.

Recall the conditions of Schrijver SDP bound

- $x_{0,0}^{0}=1$.
- $0 \leq x_{i, j}^{t} \leq x_{i, 0}^{0}$ and $x_{i, 0}^{0}+x_{j, 0}^{0} \leq 1+x_{i, j}^{t}$ for all $i, j, t \in\{0, \ldots, n\}$.
- $x_{i, j}^{t}=x_{i^{\prime}, j^{\prime}}^{t^{\prime}}$ if $\left(i^{\prime}, j^{\prime}, i^{\prime}+j^{\prime}-2 t^{\prime}\right)$ is a permutation of $(i, j, i+j-2 t)$.
- $x_{i, j}^{t}=0$ if $\{i, j, i+j-2 t\} \cap\{1, \ldots, d-1\} \neq \emptyset$.


## Remark:

- The Theorem improves the condition $x_{i, j}^{t} \leq x_{i, 0}^{0}$ since $\frac{T(t, i, j-t, n-i, d)}{\binom{i}{t}\binom{n-i}{j-t}}$ is much less than 1 in general.
- The Corollary says that $x_{i, 0}^{0}+x_{j, 0}^{0} \leq 1+x_{i, j}^{t}$ for all $i, j$.


## Main result: Improved Schrijver SDP bound-Cont.

More linear constraints

- Since $B_{i}=\binom{n}{i} x_{i, 0}^{0}$ for all $i$, all linear constraints on $B_{i}$ 's (improvements of LP bound) can be used in SDP bound.
- More linear constraints on $x_{i, j}^{t}$ 's have been (and are being) studied (but less hope to make more improvements).


## New upper bounds on $A(n, d)$

## Result

Improved upper bounds on $A(n, d)$

|  |  | known <br> lower <br> bound | known <br> upper <br> bound | new <br> upper <br> bound | improved <br> Schijver <br> bound | Schrijver <br> bound |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 18 | 8 | 64 | 72 | 71 | 71 | 80 |
| 19 | 8 | 128 | 135 | 131 | 131 | 142 |
| 20 | 8 | 256 | 256 |  | 262 | 274 |
| 25 | 8 | 4096 | 5421 |  | 5470 | 5477 |
| 26 | 8 | 4096 | 9275 |  | 9649 | 9697 |
| 27 | 8 | 8192 | 17099 |  | 17622 | 17768 |
| 27 | 10 | 512 | 1585 |  | 1764 | 1765 |
| 25 | 12 | 52 | 55 |  | 57 | 58 |
| 26 | 12 | 64 | 96 |  | 97 | 98 |

## Remark

Final remark:

- We in fact get seven new upper bounds on $A(n, d)$ (for $n \leq 28$ ).
- However, five of them have been improved by D.C. Gijswijt, H.D. Mittelmann, A. Schrijver, "Semidefinite code bounds based on quadruple distances".
- Two new upper bounds are:

$$
A(18,8) \leq 71 \quad \text { and } \quad A(19,8) \leq 131
$$

III. Improvements on optimal constant-weight codes

## Progress on upper bounds on $A(n, d, w)$

In 1977: first tables for $n \leq 24$

- MacWilliams and Sloane: book "The Theory of Error-Correcting codes."

In 1978: updated tables

- Best, Brouwer, MacWilliams, Odlyzko, and Sloane: paper "Bounds for binary codes of length less than 25. ."

In 1987: more updated tables $(n \leq 27)$

- Honkala: his Licentiate thesis "Bounds for binary constant weight and covering codes."


## Progress on bounds on $A(n, d, w)$

In 1990: update tables for $n \leq 28$

- Brouwer, Shearer, Sloane, and Smith: paper "A new table of constant weight codes."

In 2000: Improved upper bounds

- Agrell, Vardy, and Zeger: paper "Upper bounds for constant-weight codes."

In 2005: Using semidefinite programming

- Schrijver: paper "New code upper bounds from the Terwilliger algebra and semidefinite programming."


## Our improvements

Main results We give two kind of improvements:

- One intersects the improvement of the Delsarte's linear programming bound in the paper "Upper bounds for constant-weight codes" (in 2000.)
- The other is an improvement of the Schrijver's semidefinite programming bound in the paper "New code upper bounds from the Terwilliger algebra and semidefinite programming" (in 2005.)


## The first improvement

## The key point

- In 2000, Agrell, Vardy, and Zeger showed that $B_{i}$ and $B_{j}$ (for suitable $i$ and $j$ ) have a linear "relation". This gives a linear constraint on $B_{i}$ and $B_{j}$ which improves the Delsarte's LP bound.
- We show that $B_{i}$ 's for $i \in H$ (with $|H| \geq 2$ ) also have a linear "relation". For $n \leq 28$, with $|H|=3$, new upper bounds on $A(n, d, w)$ are obtained.
- The improvement comes from the observation that: the existence of a codeword at distance $i$ from a fixed codeword $X$ will "effect" not only the number of codewords at distance $j$ from $X$ (showed by Agrell, Vardy, and Zeger) but also the number of codewords at distance $k$ from $X$, etc..


## The first improvement-Cont.

## Example

- Consider $A(27,8,13)$.
- By the result of Agrell, Vardy, and Zeger,

$$
B_{22}+6 B_{24} \leq 26, \quad B_{22}+26 B_{26} \leq 26, \quad B_{24}+B_{26} \leq 1
$$

- Our result gives

$$
B_{22}+6 B_{24}+26 B_{26} \leq 26, \quad B_{24}+B_{26} \leq 1
$$

- We get $A(27,8,13) \leq 11904$. This improves the upper bound of Agrell, Vardy, and Zeger: $A(27,8,13) \leq 11991$, and the best upper bound of Schrijver: $A(27,8,13) \leq 11981$.


## The second improvement

Schrijver's semidefinite programming (SDP) bound

- Schrijver's (SDP) bound is based on the "triple distance distribution" of constant-weight codes.


## The second improvement

"Triple distance distribution" of constant-weight codes

- Let $\mathcal{C}$ be an $(n, d, w)$ constant-weight code. Let $v=n-w$. For each $t, s, i, j$, define

$$
y_{i, j}^{t, s}=\frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}|\binom{w}{i-t, j-t, t}\binom{v}{i-s, j-s, s}} \mu_{i, j}^{t, s},
$$

where $\mu_{i, j}^{t, s}$ is the number of triples $(X, Y, Z) \in \mathcal{C}^{3}$ with $d(X, Y)=2 i, d(X, Z)=2 j, d(Y, Z)=2(i+j-t-s)$, and $d(X+Y, Z)=w+2 t-2 s$.

- Set $y_{i, j}^{t, s}=0$ if either $\binom{w}{i-t, j-t, t}=0$ or $\binom{v}{i-s, j-s, s}=0$.


## The second improvement-Cont.

## Our improvement

- Schrijver showed that $y_{i, j}^{t, s} \leq y_{i, 0}^{0,0}$ and $y_{i, 0}^{0,0}+y_{j, 0}^{0,0} \leq 1+y_{i, j}^{t, s}$ for every $t, s, i, j$.
- We improve these by showing that

$$
y_{i, j}^{t, s} \leq \frac{T(t, i, j-t, w-i s, i, j-s, v-i, d)}{\binom{i}{t}\binom{w-i}{j-t}\binom{i}{s}\binom{v-i}{j-s}} y_{i, 0}^{0,0}
$$

for every $t, s, i, j$, where $T\left(w_{1}, n_{1}, w_{2}, n_{2}, w_{3}, n_{3}, w_{4}, n_{4}, d\right)$ can be defined similarly as $A(n, d)$ (the difference is that each codeword must have the form

$$
X=\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, X_{4}\right) \in \mathcal{F}^{n_{1}} \times \mathcal{F}^{n_{2}} \times \mathcal{F}^{n_{3}} \times \mathcal{F}^{n_{4}}
$$

with $w t\left(X_{i}\right)=w_{i}$ for $i=1, \ldots, 4$.

## The second improvement-Cont.

The key point

- When counting $(X, Y, Z) \in \mathcal{C}^{3}$, we fix $(X, Y)$ first and then count $Z$. Then we can see that the improvement (naturally) comes from the definition of $A(n, \Lambda, d)$ for a "special" case of $|\Lambda|=4$.


## New upper bounds on $A(n, d, w), d=6$

Tables of new upper bounds on $A(n, d, w)$ For $n \leq 28$, there are 21 new upper bounds on $A(n, d, w)$ which are listed below.

Table 1: New upper bounds for $A(n, d, w)$

| n | d | w | lower <br> bound | upper <br> bound | new upper bound | Schrijver bound |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20 | 6 | 8 | 588 | 1107 | 1106 | 1136 |

New upper bounds on $A(n, d, w), d=8$

| n | d | w | bound | bound | bound | bound |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 22 | 8 | 10 | 616 | 634 | 630 | 634 |
| 23 | 8 | 9 | 400 | 707 | 703 | 707 |
| 26 | 8 | 11 | 1988 | 5225 | 5208 | 5225 |
| 27 | 8 | 9 | 1023 | 2914 | 2911 | 2918 |
| 27 | 8 | 11 | 2404 | 7833 | 7754 | 7833 |
| 27 | 8 | 12 | 3335 | 10547 | 10472 | 10697 |
| 27 | 8 | 13 | 4094 | 11981 | 11904 | 11981 |
| 28 | 8 | 11 | 3773 | 11939 | 11896 | 12025 |
| 28 | 8 | 12 | 4927 | 17011 | 17010 | 17011 |
| 28 | 8 | 13 | 6848 | 21152 | 21148 | 21152 |

New upper bounds on $A(n, d, w), d=10$

| n | d | w | lower <br> bound | upper <br> bound | new upper <br> bound | Schrijver <br> bound |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 23 | 10 | 9 | 45 | 81 | 79 | 82 |
| 25 | 10 | 11 | 125 | 380 | 379 | 380 |
| 25 | 10 | 12 | 137 | 434 | 433 | 434 |
| 26 | 10 | 11 | 168 | 566 | 565 | 566 |
| 26 | 10 | 12 | 208 | 702 | 691 | 702 |
| 27 | 10 | 11 | 243 | 882 | 871 | 882 |
| 27 | 10 | 12 | 351 | 1201 | 1191 | 1201 |
| 27 | 10 | 13 | 405 | 1419 | 1406 | 1419 |
| 28 | 10 | 11 | 308 | 1356 | 1351 | 1356 |

Table 2: New upper bounds for $A(n, d, w), d=12$

| n | d | w | lower <br> bound | upper <br> bound | new upper <br> bound | Schrijver <br> bound |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 25 | 12 | 10 | 28 | 37 | 36 | 37 |

Thank you!

