Efficient Recovery from Multiple Erasures by Accessing Small Number of Disks in Distributed Data Storage

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1. Codes with Sequential Local Recovery

Introduction

An Example: 2D Product Code

Upper Bound on Code Rate

A Rate-Optimal Binary Code Construction

2. Codes with Availability

A Greedy Algorithm for Rate-Bound

Codes with Sequential Local Recovery

Outline

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Distributed Storage







- Data is stored by distributing across disks (nodes).
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 - Low storage overhead i.e. want high-rate codes
 - Efficient repair of a disk when it fails want to contact very few surviving nodes



Sequential Recovery

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Property:

 $c_1 = f_1(c_4, c_5), c_2 = f_2(c_1, c_4),$ $c_3 = f_3(c_1, c_2)$ So that, can recover the lost symbols in the sequence

 $c_1 - -c_2 - -c_3$.



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Questions: What is the highest "rate" achievable by such codes? How to design such rate-optimal codes with low blocklength, low field-size?

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- (n = 16, k = 9, r = 3, t = 3)_{seq} code
- Rate of the code for general *r* is $\frac{k}{n} = \frac{r^2}{(r+1)^2}$
- Every row is a codeword of SPC code, every column is a codeword of SPC code
- Parity is the sum of *r* symbols



Can correct this erasure-pattern in any sequence



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Can correct this erasure-pattern in any sequence



Can it correct all 3-erasure patterns? In any sequence?











- Hence can correct any 3-erasure-pattern
- But some 4-erasure-patterns are uncorrectable

Definition of Code with Sequential Local Recovery(Sequential LRC)

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Code with Sequential Local Recovery

An [n, k] code is said to be a locally recoverable code with sequential recovery from t erasures, if for any set of $s \le t$ erasures, there is an s-step sequential recovery process, in which at each step, a single erased symbol is recovered by accessing at most r other code symbols.

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We will formally refer to this class of codes as $(n, k, r, t)_{seq}$ codes.

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Theorem

Rate Bound¹: Let C be an $(n, k, r, t)_{seq}$ code over a field \mathbb{F}_q . Let $r \ge 3$. Then

$$\frac{k}{n} \le \frac{r^{\frac{t}{2}}}{r^{\frac{t}{2}} + 2\sum_{i=0}^{\frac{t}{2}-1} r^{i}} \qquad \text{for even } t, \qquad (1)$$
$$\frac{k}{n} \le \frac{r^{s}}{r^{s} + 2\sum_{i=1}^{s-1} r^{i} + 1} \qquad \text{for odd } t, \qquad (2)$$

where $s = \frac{t+1}{2}$.

¹S. B. Balaji, G. R. Kini, and P. V. Kumar, "A tight rate bound and a matching construction for locally recoverable codes with sequential recovery from any number of multiple erasures, 2017. [Online]. Available: http://arxiv.org/abs/1611.08561

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Proof.

We investigate the structure of the parity check matrix

• Let $S = \operatorname{span}(\underline{c} \in C^{\perp} : w_H(\underline{c}) \le r+1)$, where \underline{c} is a row-vector

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$$H_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{C_1}{C_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{C_m}{C_m} \end{bmatrix}$$

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• H_1 is a parity-check matrix of an $(n, n - m, r, t)_{seq}$ code

Suppose an *n*-length code has code-symbols $c_1, ..., c_n$. The rows of a parity check matrix of the code are nothing but the linear equations that the code-symbols satisfy.

Suppose $[a_1, ..., a_n]$ is one row, then $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i c_i = 0$

If the dimension of the code is k, then the parity check matrices have rank n - k.

We'll now see the case of even *t*
Start with any (n, k, r, t) code, consider the matrix H_1 for it, with row and column permutations it looks like this:

	D_0	A_1	0	0	 0	0	0]
$H_1 = 1$	0	D_1	A_2	0	 0	0	0	
	0	0	<i>D</i> ₂	A_3	 0	0	0	
	0	0	0	D_3	 0	0	0	
	:	:	:	÷	 :	:	:	E
	0	0	0	0	 $A_{\frac{t}{2}-2}$	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	 $D_{\frac{t}{2}-2}$	$A_{\frac{t}{2}-1}$	0	
	0	0	0	0	 0	$D_{\frac{t}{2}-1}$		
	0	0	0	0	 0	0	С	

Take H_1 matrix of any $(n, k, r, t)_{seq}$ code. Permute rows and columns to get the staircase form:





• A_i 's are $\rho_{i-1} \times a_i$ and D_i 's are $\rho_i \times a_i$ for some ρ_i 's and a_i 's



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- *D_i*: rows have weight at least 1 and columns have weight at most
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- C: columns have weight exactly 2
- E: columns have weight at least 3

Claim

 A_i 's are matrices with each column having weight 1 and D_i 's are matrices with each row and each column having weight 1.

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Therefore, with column permutation, D_0 is diagonal.

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Upto 6 columns linearly dependent.

For some $0 \le i \le \frac{t}{2} - 1$, upto $2(i + 1) \le t$ columns become linearly dependent, which is a contradiction to $d_{min}(\mathcal{C}) \ge t + 1$.

Thus, the Claim is true. i.e.

 A_i 's are matrices with each column having weight 1 and D_i 's are matrices with each row and each column having weight 1.

Therefore, D_i 's are diagonal (identity, after scaling) matrices with number of rows ρ_i and number of columns a_i equal.

$$\rho_i = a_i$$

Let's recall...



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Now we count...

Equating sum of row-weights and sum of column-weights of A_i:



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Equating sum of row-weights and sum of column-weights of C:



$$2a_{\frac{t}{2}} \leq (a_{\frac{t}{2}-1}+p)(r+1) - a_{\frac{t}{2}-1}$$

Equating sum of row-weights and sum of column-weights of H_1 :

$$m(r+1) \ge a_0 + 2(\sum_{i=1}^{\frac{l}{2}} a_i) + 3(n - \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{l}{2}} a_i)$$

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We now have the following set of inequalities:

$$a_{i-1}r \ge a_i$$
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$$2a_{\frac{t}{2}} \leq (a_{\frac{t}{2}-1} + p)(r+1) - a_{\frac{t}{2}-1} \tag{4}$$

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Now we obtain a lower bound on m

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$$\frac{k}{n} \le 1 - \frac{m}{n} \le \frac{r^{\frac{t}{2}}}{r^{\frac{t}{2}} + 2\sum_{i=0}^{\frac{t}{2}-1} r^{i}}$$
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Proof for odd t proceeds along similar lines

Conditions for Equality

•
$$a_i = \frac{2nr^i}{r^{\frac{t}{2}} + 2\sum_{j=0}^{\frac{t}{2}-1} r^j}$$
, for $0 \le i \le \frac{t}{2} - 1$,
• $a_{\frac{t}{2}} = \frac{nr^{\frac{t}{2}}}{r^{\frac{t}{2}} + 2\sum_{j=0}^{\frac{t}{2}-1} r^j}$,
• $p = 0$

• Note that $\sum_{i=0}^{\frac{t}{2}} a_i = n$, therefore *E* is an empty matrix.

The parity-check matrix then is

$$H_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{D_{0} & A_{1} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_{1} & A_{2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & D_{2} & A_{3} & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & D_{3} & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & A_{\frac{t}{2}-2} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & D_{\frac{t}{2}-1} & C \end{bmatrix}$$

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- An iterative procedure for constructing a graph G_t/2-1 starting from a regular graph G₀
- Add nodes to the graph in every step in a layer-by-layer fashion, each time maintaining the girth of graph to be at least *t* + 1

 $\begin{array}{rcl} \mbox{Pick } G_0, \ r\mbox{-regular, girth} \geq & (t \ + \ 1), \\ U_0 & = & V(G_0), \ |U_0| & = & u_0, \end{array}$

∼ → ⁻3 – regular graph

t = 4, r = 3 construction



3 - regular graph with $u_0 = 10$ nodes and girth = 5











 G_0

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Pick G_0 , r-regular, girth $\geq (t + 1)$, $U_0 = V(G_0), |U_0| = u_0,$ i = 1Pick bipartite graph B_i : (r, u_{i-1}) -biregular, $V(B_i) = U_i \cup L_i$, girth $\geq [(t+1)/(i+1/2)]$ Replicate the graph G_{i-1} I_i times (thus each upper node in U_{i-1} is also replicated I_i times) Split each of the ℓ_i lower nodes in B_i , each of degree u_{i-1} , into u_{i-1} degree-1 nodes Merge the u_{i-1} , degree-1 nodes obtained from splitting a single node of L_i with the u_{i-1} nodes lying in U_{i-1} and corresponding to a single copy of G_{i-1} The resulting graph is G_i ; can be verified that G_i has girth > t + 1, the nodes $U_i \subset V(G_i)$ now form the upper layer of the graph G_i and these are the nodes in G_i that participate in the next iterative step











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Length of any cycle $\geq 2q + q(2(i-1)+1)$ (9) $\geq g_{B_i} + \frac{g_{B_i}}{2}(2(i-1)+1)$ $\geq g_{B_i}(i+\frac{1}{2}) \geq \frac{t+1}{i+\frac{1}{2}}(i+\frac{1}{2}) = t+1$

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Hence for every *i*, girth of G_i is at least t + 1



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- Every node (except the dummy nodes) represents a parity check of symbols represented by the *r* + 1 edges incident on it
- The graph has girth at least t + 1
- Any two dummy nodes are separated by a path of length at least t + 1

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Hence, for correcting multiple erasures, at every step there should exist at least one parity check, with exactly one erased symbol. When do we run into trouble?

t Erasure Correctability

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Two types of erasure-patterns can cause the decoder to stop:



- The graph does not have cycles of length less than *t* + 1. Therefore the first case does not arise
- Any two dummy nodes are separated by a path of length at least *t* + 1. Hence the second case is also avoided

Upon counting the number of code symbols and number of parity checks, one can see that this construction yields rate-optimal codes for any even *t* and any $r \ge 3$.

Codes with Availability

1. Codes with Sequential Local Recovery

Introduction

An Example: 2D Product Code

Upper Bound on Code Rate

A Rate-Optimal Binary Code Construction

2. Codes with Availability

A Greedy Algorithm for Rate-Bound

Availability

Same setting as earlier

Desirable:

 $c_1 = f_1(c_4, c_5), c_2 = f_2(c_4, c_6),$ $c_3 = f_3(c_5, c_7)$ So that, can recover the lost symbols in any order.



An additional property called "majority-logic decodability".

Questions:

What is the highest "rate" achievable by such codes? Highest "minimum-distance"? How to design such rate-optimal codes with low blocklength, low field-size?

Definition: Strict Availability via Orthogonal Parity Checks



$$\Leftrightarrow$$
 *w*_H(each row) = (*r* + 1)

- Let $S_i^{(i)}$ be the support of the *j*th row having a 1 in column *i*
- Then

$$S_{j}^{(i)} \cap S_{l}^{(i)} = \{i\}, j = 1, 2, \cdots, t, j \neq l.$$

- t orthogonal parity checks per code symbol
- Terminology: (*n*, *k*, *r*, *t*)_{sa} codes.

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Theorem

Rate-Bound¹ Let C be an $(n, k, r, 3)_{sa}$ code over the field \mathbb{F}_q having connected Tanner graph, then its rate is upper bounded by the following expression:

$$\frac{k}{n} \leq 1 - \frac{3(1+L_1+L_2)}{(r+1)(3+L_1+2L_2)},$$
(10)

where:
$$m = \frac{3n}{r+1}$$
, $L_1 = \left\lceil \frac{(2r-1)m}{3(r+2)} - \frac{1}{r+2} - 1 \right\rceil$,
 $L_2 = \left\lfloor \frac{m-3-L_1}{2} \right\rfloor$,

¹S. B. Balaji and P. Vijay Kumar, "Bounds on Codes with Locality and Availability",2017. [Online] . Available: https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.00159

Greedy Algorithm : Step 1



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Greedy Algorithm: Step 2



Greedy Algorithm: Step 3



1 1

1 1

P =

Greedy Algorithm: Step 4



Greedy Algorithm

- 1. Let $S = \emptyset$, $P = \emptyset$.
- 2. Step 1: Pick an arbitrary number σ_1 from [*n*] and set $S = {\sigma_1}$ and $P = {\underline{c} \in \text{Rows}(H) : \sigma_1 \in \text{Support}(\underline{c})}.$
- 3. Step *i*, $i \ge 2$: Choose a number $\sigma_i \in [n] S$ such that $\sigma_i = \operatorname{argmax}_{\{j \in [n] - S\}} |D_j| \times I(|D_j| \le 2)$ where $D_j = \{\underline{c} \in P : j \in \operatorname{Support}(\underline{c})\}$. Now $S = S \cup \{\sigma_i\}$ and $P = P \cup \{\underline{c} \in \operatorname{Rows}(H) - P : \sigma_i \in \operatorname{Support}(\underline{c})\}$.
- 4. Pseudocode for the Greedy Algorithm: $P = \emptyset$, $S = \emptyset$, i = 1.

while |P| < mdo Step *i* i = i + 1

end while.

5. It is clear that, $k \le n - |S|$ at the end of the algorithm.

Backup Slides

Any (r + 1)-regular (bipartite) graph, with girth at least t + 1 gives the Tanner graph of an $(n, k, r, t)_{seq}$ code.

Any (r + 1)-regular (bipartite) graph, with girth at least t + 1 gives the Tanner graph of an $(n, k, r, t)_{seq}$ code. Can show that rate is $\frac{r-1}{r+1} + \frac{1}{n}$. Any (r + 1)-regular (bipartite) graph, with girth at least t + 1 gives the Tanner graph of an $(n, k, r, t)_{seq}$ code. Can show that rate is $\frac{r-1}{r+1} + \frac{1}{n}$.

Can show that it meets our bound only when the graph is a Moore graph, which are very rare. Hence sub-optimal for most parameters.

Let $g_i \in \{1, 2\}$ be the number of new codewords added to *P* at step *i*. Let s_1^i, s_2^i, s_3^i be the number of weight 1, 2, 3 columns in the matrix formed by codewords in *P* respectively.

if
$$g_{i+1} = 2, g_{i+2} = 2$$
 then
 $s_1^{i+1} = s_1^i + 2r - 1, \ s_2^{i+1} = s_2^i + 0, \ s_3^{i+1} = s_3^i + 1.$

if
$$g_{i+1} = 1, g_{i+2} = 2$$
 then
 $s_1^{i+1} = s_1^i - \phi_i + r + 1, \quad s_2^{i+1} = s_2^i - \phi_i, \quad s_3^{i+1} = s_3^i + \phi_i,$
for some $1 \le \phi_i \le r + 1.$

if $g_{i+1} = 2, g_{i+2} = 1$ then $s_1^{i+1} = s_1^i + 2r - 1 - 2I_i, \quad s_2^{i+1} = s_2^i + I_i, \quad s_3^{i+1} = s_3^i + 1,$ for some $0 < I_i \le 2r.$ Let $S_{uj} = \{i : g_{i+1} = u, g_{i+2} = j, |S| - 1 \ge i \ge 2\}$ and $I_{uj} = |S_{uj}|$ at the end of the algorithm. Now using the global constraints $(s_1 = s_1^{|S|} = 0, s_2 = s_2^{|S|} = 0, s_3 = s_3^{|S|} = n$ at the end of the algorithm.):

$$\begin{split} s_2^{|S|} &= \gamma_1 - \sum_{i \in S_{12}} \phi_i + \sum_{i \in S_{21}} l_i - \sum_{i \in S_{11}} J_i + \sum_{i \in S_{11}} \psi_i - (r+1) = 0, \\ m &= \frac{3n}{r+1} = 5 + g_3 + 2(l_{22} + l_{12}) + l_{21} + l_{11}. \end{split}$$

$$l_{11} + l_{21} \geq \frac{(2r-1)m}{3(r+2)} - \frac{1}{r+2} - 1.$$

- 1. For j = 1, 2, let $L_j = |\{i : g_i = j, |S| \ge i \ge 1\}|$ at the end of the algorithm.
- 2. $|S| = L_1 + L_2 + 1$ and $m = L_1 + 2L_2 + 3$. Hence $L_1 \ge l_{11} + l_{21}$.

S. B. Balaji, G. R. Kini, and P. V. Kumar, "A tight rate bound and a matching construction for locally recoverable codes with sequential recovery from any number of multiple erasures, 2017. [Online]. Available: http://arxiv.org/abs/1611.08561

S. B. Balaji and P. Vijay Kumar, "Bounds on Codes with Locality and Availability",2017. [Online] .

Available: https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.00159

Thank you!

Questions?