

# Improvement on minimum distance of symbol-pair codes

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## Section 1: Basic notations and some previous results

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- symbol-pair read vector of  $\mathbf{x}$ ,

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}) = [(x_0, x_1), (x_1, x_2), \dots, (x_{n-2}, x_{n-1}), (x_{n-1}, x_0)].$$

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- $(a, b) \neq (c, d)$ , if  $a \neq c$  or  $b \neq d$ , or both.
- pair-distance between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ ,

$$d_p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = d_H(\pi(\mathbf{x}), \pi(\mathbf{y})).$$

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- The minimum pair-distance of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,

$$d_p(\mathcal{C}) = \min\{d_p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{C}, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{y}\}.$$

A code of length  $n$  over  $\Sigma$  is called an  $(n, M, d_p)$ -symbol-pair code if its size is  $M$  and minimum pair distance is  $d_p$ .

## Proposition 1. (*Singleton Bound*)(Chee *et al.*)

Let  $q \geq 2$  and  $2 \leq d_H \leq n$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is an  $(n, M, d_H)_q$ -symbol-pair code, then  $M \leq q^{n-d_H+2}$ .

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An  $(n, M, d_H)_q$ -symbol-pair code attains the Singleton-type bound, i.e.,  $M = q^{n-d_H+2}$ , is said to be an maximum distance separable (MDS) symbol-pair code.

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- For a nonzero element  $\eta$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the  $\eta$ -constacyclic shift  $\tau_\eta$  on  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  is the shift

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A linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be  $\eta$ -constacyclic if  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\tau_\eta$ -invariant subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$ , i.e.,  $\tau_\eta(\mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{C}$ .

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If  $\eta = 1$ , then  $\mathcal{C}$  is just the usual *cyclic code*.

- For  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ , we define

$$\mathbf{x}' = (x_0 + x_1, x_1 + x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} + x_0).$$

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## Lemma 1.

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## Lemma 2. (E. Yaakobi *et al.*)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a linear cyclic code of dimension greater than one. Then,

$$d_p(\mathcal{C}) \geq d_H(\mathcal{C}) + \lceil \frac{d_H(\mathcal{C})}{2} \rceil.$$



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Below are our main results.

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Below are our main results.

### Theorem 1.

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $q$ -ary linear cyclic code of dimension greater than one. Then,

$$d_p(\mathcal{C}) \geq d_H(\mathcal{C}) + \left\lceil \frac{d_H(\mathcal{C})}{2(q-1)} \right\rceil.$$

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### Theorem 2.

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $q$ -ary  $\eta$ -constacyclic code of dimension greater than one. Then,

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### Proof of Theorem 1.

For any  $\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma^n$ , let  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  be a codeword in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Assume that  $\mathbf{x} \neq \alpha, \alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$ . Thus for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$ ,

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$$S_\alpha = \{i | (x_i, x_{i+1}) \neq (0, 0), x_i = \alpha\}, \alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q.$$

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For any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_q, \alpha \neq \beta$ , one has  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta = \emptyset$  and  $w_p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} |S_\alpha| = w_H(\mathbf{x}) + |S_0|$ . Thus, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^*} w_H(\mathbf{x}'_\lambda) &= 2(q-1)|S_0| + (q-2) \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q^*} |S_\alpha| \\ &= 2(q-1)|S_0| + (q-2)w_H(\mathbf{x}). \end{aligned}$$

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Then we can deduce that

$$|S_0| = \frac{1}{2(q-1)} \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^*} w_H(\mathbf{x}'_\lambda) - \frac{q-2}{2(q-1)} w_H(\mathbf{x}).$$

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$$\begin{aligned}w_p(\mathbf{x}) &= w_H(x) + |S_0| \\&= \frac{1}{2(q-1)} \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^*} w_H(\mathbf{x}'_\lambda) - \frac{q-2}{2(q-1)} w_H(\mathbf{x}) + w_H(\mathbf{x}) \\&\geq \frac{d_H}{2} - \frac{q-2}{2(q-1)} d_H + d_H \\&= \frac{d_H}{2(q-1)} + d_H.\end{aligned}$$

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Hence,

$$w_p(\mathbf{x}) \geq \left\lceil \frac{d_H}{2(q-1)} \right\rceil + d_H.$$

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Proof of Theorem 2.

The proof of Theorem 2 implied by Theorem 1.

## Section 2: Lower bounds on the minimum pair distance of $q$ -ary linear cyclic codes and constacyclic codes

Lemma 2. (E. Yaakobi *et al.*)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a linear cyclic code of dimension greater than one. Then,

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For all  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ,  $i \in S_1$ , we get

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and the sum of the cardinality of the two sets is  $\omega_H(\mathbf{x}')$ . Hence,

$$|S_1| = \frac{\omega_H(\mathbf{x}')}{2} \text{ and}$$

$$\omega_p(\mathbf{x}) = |S_0| + |S_1| = \omega_H(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\omega_H(\mathbf{x}')}{2}.$$

## Section 3: Some specific MDS symbol-pair codes constructed by constacyclic codes

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### Example

(1) Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $[23, 3, 19]_5$   $\eta$ -constacyclic code, there exists an MDS  $[23, 22]_5$ -symbol-pair code. (2) Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $[11, 5, 6]$   $\eta$ -constacyclic code over  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , there exists an MDS  $(11, 8)_3$ -symbol-pair code.

## Section 4: Open Problems



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- Is the lower bound on the minimum pair-distance of a constacyclic code can be improved?
- Is there any optimal code constructions by using constacyclic codes?

**Thanks for your attention!**