

Article

Not peer-reviewed version

p-adic Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender Bound

[K. Mahesh Krishna](#) *

Posted Date: 6 February 2025

doi: 10.20944/preprints202502.0415.v1

Keywords: spherical code; kissing number; linear programming; p-adic Hilbert space



Preprints.org is a free multidisciplinary platform providing preprint service that is dedicated to making early versions of research outputs permanently available and citable. Preprints posted at Preprints.org appear in Web of Science, Crossref, Google Scholar, Scilit, Europe PMC.

Copyright: This open access article is published under a Creative Commons CC BY 4.0 license, which permit the free download, distribution, and reuse, provided that the author and preprint are cited in any reuse.

Article

p-adic Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender Bound

K. Mahesh Krishna

School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Chanakya University Global Campus, NH-648, Haraluru Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka State, 562 110, India; kmaheshak@gmail.com

Abstract: We introduce the notion of p-adic spherical codes (in particular, p-adic kissing number problem). We show that the one-line proof for a variant of the Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein upper bound for spherical codes, obtained by Pfender, extends to p-adic Hilbert spaces.

Keywords: spherical code; kissing number; linear programming; p-adic Hilbert space

1. Introduction

Let $d \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$. A set $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ of unit vectors in $\mathbb{R}^d$ is said to be (d, n, θ) -spherical code [1] in $\mathbb{R}^d$ if

$$\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle \leq \cos \theta, \quad \forall 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k. \quad (1)$$

Since

$$\langle \tau, \omega \rangle = \frac{2 - \|\tau - \omega\|^2}{2}, \quad \forall \tau, \omega \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

we can rewrite Inequality (1) as

$$\|\tau_j - \tau_k\| \geq \sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)}, \quad \forall 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k.$$

Fundamental problem associated with spherical codes is the following.

Problem 1.1. Given d and θ , what is the maximum n such that there exists a (d, n, θ) -spherical code $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ in $\mathbb{R}^d$?

The case $\theta = \pi/3$ is known as the famous **(Newton-Gregory) kissing number problem**. With extensive efforts from many mathematicians, it is still not completely resolved in every dimension (but resolved in dimensions $d = 1$ ($n = 2$), $d = 2$ ($n = 6$), $d = 3$ ($n = 12$), $d = 4$ ($n = 24$), $d = 8$ ($n = 240$), $d = 24$ ($n = 196560$)) [2–21]. We refer [22–38] for more on spherical codes. Problem 1.1 has connection even with sphere packing [39]. Most used method for obtaining upper bounds on spherical codes is the Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein bound which we recall. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be fixed. The Gegenbauer polynomials are defined inductively as

$$\begin{aligned} G_0^{(n)}(r) &:= 1, \quad \forall r \in [-1, 1], \\ G_1^{(n)}(r) &:= r, \quad \forall r \in [-1, 1], \\ &\vdots \\ G_k^{(n)}(r) &:= \frac{(2k + n - 4)rG_{k-1}^{(n)}(r) - (k - 1)G_{k-2}^{(n)}(r)}{k + n - 3}, \quad \forall r \in [-1, 1], \quad \forall k \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

Then the family $\{G_k^{(n)}\}_{k=0}^\infty$ is orthogonal on the interval $[-1, 1]$ with respect to the weight

$$\rho(r) := (1 - r^2)^{\frac{n-3}{2}}, \quad \forall r \in [-1, 1].$$

Theorem 1.2. [22,26] (*Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein Linear Programming Bound*) Let $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be a (d, n, θ) -spherical code in $\mathbb{R}^d$. Let P be a real polynomial satisfying following conditions.

- i $P(r) \leq 0$ for all $-1 \leq r \leq \cos \theta$.
- ii Coefficients in the Gegenbauer expansion

$$P = \sum_{k=0}^m a_k G_k^{(n)}$$

satisfy

$$a_0 > 0, \quad a_k \geq 0, \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq m.$$

Then

$$n \leq \frac{P(1)}{a_0}.$$

In 2007, Pfender gave a one-line proof for a variant of Theorem 1.2.

Theorem 1.3. [3] (*Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender Bound*) Let $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be a (d, n, θ) -spherical code in $\mathbb{R}^d$. Let $c > 0$ and $\phi : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function satisfying following.

i

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \phi(\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle) \geq 0.$$

- ii $\phi(r) + c \leq 0$ for all $-1 \leq r \leq \cos \theta$.

Then

$$n \leq \frac{\phi(1) + c}{c}.$$

In particular, if $\phi(1) + c \leq 1$, then $n \leq 1/c$.

In this paper, we introduce the notion of p-adic spherical codes. We show that Theorem 1.3, can be easily extended for p-adic Hilbert spaces.

2. p-adic Spherical Codes

We begin from the definition of p-adic Hilbert space.

Definition 2.1. [40–42] Let $\mathbb{K}$ be a non-Archimedean complete valued field (with valuation $|\cdot|$) and $\mathcal{X}$ be a non-Archimedean Banach space (with norm $\|\cdot\|$) over $\mathbb{K}$. We say that $\mathcal{X}$ is a **p-adic Hilbert space** if there is a map (called as p-adic inner product) $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$ satisfying following.

- i If $x \in \mathcal{X}$ is such that $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ for all $y \in \mathcal{X}$, then $x = 0$.
- ii $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle$ for all $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$.
- iii $\langle \alpha x + y, z \rangle = \alpha \langle x, z \rangle + \langle y, z \rangle$ for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$, for all $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$.
- iv $|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$ for all $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$.

Following is the standard example which we consider in the paper.

Example 2.2. [41] Let p be a prime. For $d \in \mathbb{N}$, let $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$ be the standard p -adic Hilbert space equipped with the inner product

$$\langle (a_j)_{j=1}^d, (b_j)_{j=1}^d \rangle := \sum_{j=1}^d a_j b_j, \quad \forall (a_j)_{j=1}^d, (b_j)_{j=1}^d \in \mathbb{Q}_p^d$$

and norm

$$\|(x_j)_{j=1}^d\| := \max_{1 \leq j \leq d} |x_j|, \quad \forall (x_j)_{j=1}^d \in \mathbb{Q}_p^d.$$

We introduce p -adic spherical codes as follows.

Definition 2.3. Let $d \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$. A set $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ of vectors in $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$ is said to be **p -adic (d, n, θ) -spherical code** in $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$ if following conditions hold.

- i $\|\tau_j\| = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- ii $\langle \tau_j, \tau_j \rangle = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- iii

$$|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle| \geq 2(1 - \cos \theta), \quad \forall 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k. \quad (2)$$

We call the case $\theta = \pi/3$ as the **p -adic kissing number problem**.

Let $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be a p -adic (d, n, θ) -spherical code in $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$. Since

$$\|\tau_j - \tau_k\|^2 \geq |\langle \tau_j - \tau_k, \tau_j - \tau_k \rangle| = |2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|, \quad \forall 1 \leq j, k \leq n,$$

Inequality (2) gives

$$\|\tau_j - \tau_k\| \geq \sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)}, \quad \forall 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k. \quad (3)$$

However, note that Inequality (3) may not give Inequality (2). Note that we can formulate the definition of general p -adic (d, n, θ) -spherical code by replacing Inequality (2) with Inequality (3) in Definition 2.3. It is also possible to consider Definition 2.3 by removing conditions (i) or (ii). Following is the p -adic version of Theorem 1.3.

Theorem 2.4. (p -adic Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender Spherical Codes Bound) Let $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be a p -adic (d, n, θ) -spherical code in $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$. Let $c > 0$ and $\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function satisfying following.

- i $\sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) \geq 0$.
- ii $\phi(r) + c \leq 0$ for all $r \in [2(1 - \cos \theta), \infty)$.

Then

$$n \leq \frac{\phi(0) + c}{c}.$$

In particular, if $\phi(0) + c \leq 1$, then $n \leq 1/c$.

Proof. Define $\psi : [0, \infty) \ni r \mapsto \psi(r) := \phi(r) + c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \psi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) &= \sum_{j=1}^n \psi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_j \rangle|) + \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k} \psi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \psi(0) + \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k} \psi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) \\ &= n(\phi(0) + c) + \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k} (\phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) + c) \\ &\leq n(\phi(0) + c) + 0 = n(\phi(0) + c). \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \psi(\phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|)) = \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} (\phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) + c) = \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) + cn^2.$$

Therefore

$$cn^2 \leq \sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) + cn^2 \leq n(\phi(0) + c).$$

□

Corollary 2.5. (*p*-adic Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender Kissing Number Bound) Let $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be a *p*-adic $(d, n, \pi/3)$ -spherical code in $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$. Let $c > 0$ and $\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function satisfying following.

- i $\sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) \geq 0$.
- ii $\phi(r) + c \leq 0$ for all $r \in [1, \infty)$.

Then

$$n \leq \frac{\phi(0) + c}{c}.$$

In particular, if $\phi(0) + c \leq 1$, then $n \leq 1/c$.

Following generalization of Theorem 2.4 is easy.

Theorem 2.6. Let $\{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be a *p*-adic (d, n, θ) -spherical code in $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$. Let $c > 0$ and

$$\phi : \{|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle| : 1 \leq j, k \leq n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

be a function satisfying following.

- i $\sum_{1 \leq j, k \leq n} \phi(|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle|) \geq 0$.
- ii $\phi(r) + c \leq 0$ for all $r \in \{|2 - 2\langle \tau_j, \tau_k \rangle| : 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k\}$.

Then

$$n \leq \frac{\phi(0) + c}{c}.$$

In particular, if $\phi(0) + c \leq 1$, then $n \leq 1/c$.

Note that, in the paper, we can replace $\mathbb{Q}_p^d$ by any *p*-adic Hilbert space.

References

1. Zong, C. *Sphere packings*; Universitext, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1999; pp. xiv+241.

2. Anstreicher, K.M. The thirteen spheres: a new proof. *Discrete Comput. Geom.* **2004**, *31*, 613–625. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00454-003-0819-2>.
3. Pfender, F. Improved Delsarte bounds for spherical codes in small dimensions. *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A* **2007**, *114*, 1133–1147. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcta.2006.12.001>.
4. Casselman, B. The difficulties of kissing in three dimensions. *Notices Amer. Math. Soc.* **2004**, *51*, 884–885.
5. Musin, O.R. The kissing problem in three dimensions. *Discrete Comput. Geom.* **2006**, *35*, 375–384. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00454-005-1201-3>.
6. Musin, O.R. The kissing number in four dimensions. *Ann. of Math. (2)* **2008**, *168*, 1–32. <https://doi.org/10.4007/annals.2008.168.1>.
7. Odlyzko, A.M.; Sloane, N.J.A. New bounds on the number of unit spheres that can touch a unit sphere in n dimensions. *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A* **1979**, *26*, 210–214. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0097-3165\(79\)90074-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/0097-3165(79)90074-8).
8. Schütte, K.; van der Waerden, B.L. Das Problem der dreizehn Kugeln. *Math. Ann.* **1953**, *125*, 325–334. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01343127>.
9. Pfender, F.; Ziegler, G.M. Kissing numbers, sphere packings, and some unexpected proofs. *Notices Amer. Math. Soc.* **2004**, *51*, 873–883.
10. Bachoc, C.; Vallentin, F. New upper bounds for kissing numbers from semidefinite programming. *J. Amer. Math. Soc.* **2008**, *21*, 909–924. <https://doi.org/10.1090/S0894-0347-07-00589-9>.
11. Mittelman, H.D.; Vallentin, F. High-accuracy semidefinite programming bounds for kissing numbers. *Experiment. Math.* **2010**, *19*, 175–179. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10586458.2010.10129070>.
12. Boyvalenkov, P.; Dodunekov, S.; Musin, O. A survey on the kissing numbers. *Serdica Math. J.* **2012**, *38*, 507–522.
13. Böröczky, K. The Newton-Gregory problem revisited. In *Discrete geometry*; Dekker, New York, 2003; Vol. 253, pp. 103–110. <https://doi.org/10.1201/9780203911211.ch10>.
14. Maehara, H. The problem of thirteen spheres—a proof for undergraduates. *European J. Combin.* **2007**, *28*, 1770–1778. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejc.2006.06.019>.
15. Glazyrin, A. A short solution of the kissing number problem in dimension three. *Discrete Comput. Geom.* **2023**, *69*, 931–935. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00454-021-00311-6>.
16. Liberti, L. Mathematical programming bounds for kissing numbers. In *Optimization and decision science: methodologies and applications*; Springer, Cham, 2017; Vol. 217, *Springer Proc. Math. Stat.*, pp. 213–222. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-67308-0_2.
17. Leech, J. The problem of the thirteen spheres. *Math. Gaz.* **1956**, *40*, 22–23. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3610264>.
18. Kallal, K.; Kan, T.; Wang, E. Improved lower bounds for kissing numbers in dimensions 25 through 31. *SIAM J. Discrete Math.* **2017**, *31*, 1895–1908. <https://doi.org/10.1137/16M1095810>.
19. Jenssen, M.; Joos, F.; Perkins, W. On kissing numbers and spherical codes in high dimensions. *Adv. Math.* **2018**, *335*, 307–321. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aim.2018.07.001>.
20. Machado, F.C.; de Oliveira Filho, F.M. Improving the semidefinite programming bound for the kissing number by exploiting polynomial symmetry. *Exp. Math.* **2018**, *27*, 362–369. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10586458.2017.1286273>.
21. Kuklin, N.A. Delsarte method in the problem on kissing numbers in high-dimensional spaces. *Proc. Steklov Inst. Math.* **2014**, *284*, S108–S123. <https://doi.org/10.1134/S0081543814020102>.
22. Delsarte, P.; Goethals, J.M.; Seidel, J.J. Spherical codes and designs. *Geometriae Dedicata* **1977**, *6*, 363–388. <https://doi.org/10.1007/bf03187604>.
23. Boyvalenkov, P.G.; Dragnev, P.D.; Hardin, D.P.; Saff, E.B.; Stoyanova, M.M. Bounds for spherical codes: the Levenshtein framework lifted. *Math. Comp.* **2021**, *90*, 1323–1356. <https://doi.org/10.1090/mcom/3621>.
24. Barg, A.; Musin, O.R. Codes in spherical caps. *Adv. Math. Commun.* **2007**, *1*, 131–149. <https://doi.org/10.3934/amc.2007.1.131>.
25. Boyvalenkov, P.G.; Dragnev, P.D.; Hardin, D.P.; Saff, E.B.; Stoyanova, M.M. Universal lower bounds for potential energy of spherical codes. *Constr. Approx.* **2016**, *44*, 385–415. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00365-016-9327-5>.
26. Ericson, T.; Zinoviev, V. *Codes on Euclidean spheres*; Vol. 63, *North-Holland Mathematical Library*, North-Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam, 2001; pp. xiv+549.
27. Sardari, N.T.; Zargar, M. New upper bounds for spherical codes and packings. *Math. Ann.* **2024**, *389*, 3653–3703. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00208-023-02738-z>.
28. Musin, O.R. Bounds for codes by semidefinite programming. *Tr. Mat. Inst. Steklova* **2008**, *263*, 143–158. <https://doi.org/10.1134/S0081543808040111>.

29. Bannai, E.; Sloane, N.J.A. Uniqueness of certain spherical codes. *Canadian J. Math.* **1981**, *33*, 437–449. <https://doi.org/10.4153/CJM-1981-038-7>.
30. Bachoc, C.; Vallentin, F. Semidefinite programming, multivariate orthogonal polynomials, and codes in spherical caps. *European J. Combin.* **2009**, *30*, 625–637. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejc.2008.07.017>.
31. Conway, J.H.; Sloane, N.J.A. *Sphere packings, lattices and groups*; Springer-Verlag, New York, 1999; pp. lxxiv+703. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4757-6568-7>.
32. Cohn, H.; Jiao, Y.; Kumar, A.; Torquato, S. Rigidity of spherical codes. *Geom. Topol.* **2011**, *15*, 2235–2273. <https://doi.org/10.2140/gt.2011.15.2235>.
33. Samorodnitsky, A. On linear programming bounds for spherical codes and designs. *Discrete Comput. Geom.* **2004**, *31*, 385–394. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00454-003-2858-0>.
34. Boyvalenkov, P.; Danev, D. On maximal codes in polynomial metric spaces. In *Applied algebra, algebraic algorithms and error-correcting codes*; Springer, Berlin, 1997; Vol. 1255, *Lecture Notes in Comput. Sci.*, pp. 29–38. https://doi.org/10.1007/3-540-63163-1_3.
35. Boyvalenkov, P.; Danev, D.; Landgev, I. On maximal spherical codes. II. *J. Combin. Des.* **1999**, *7*, 316–326.
36. Sloane, N.J.A. Tables of sphere packings and spherical codes. *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory* **1981**, *27*, 327–338. <https://doi.org/10.1109/TIT.1981.1056351>.
37. Bannai, E.; Bannai, E. A survey on spherical designs and algebraic combinatorics on spheres. *European J. Combin.* **2009**, *30*, 1392–1425. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejc.2008.11.007>.
38. Böröczky, K.J.; Glazyrin, A. Stability of optimal spherical codes. *Monatsh. Math.* **2024**, *205*, 455–475. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00605-024-02021-6>.
39. Cohn, H.; Zhao, Y. Sphere packing bounds via spherical codes. *Duke Math. J.* **2014**, *163*, 1965–2002. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00127094-2738857>.
40. Diagana, T. *Non-Archimedean linear operators and applications*; Nova Science Publishers, Inc., Huntington, NY, 2007; pp. xiv+92.
41. Kalisch, G.K. On p -adic Hilbert spaces. *Ann. of Math. (2)* **1947**, *48*, 180–192. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1969224>.
42. Diagana, T.; Ramaroson, F. *Non-Archimedean operator theory*; SpringerBriefs in Mathematics, Springer, Cham, 2016; pp. xiii+156. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-27323-5>.

Disclaimer/Publisher’s Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.