

Article

Not peer-reviewed version

Functional Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender Bound

[K. Manesh Krishna](#) *

Posted Date: 18 November 2024

doi: 10.20944/preprints202411.1231.v1

Keywords: Spherical code; Kissing number; Linear programming



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

Functional 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: Pfender [J. Combin. Theory Ser. A, 2007] provided a one-line proof for a variant of the Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein upper bound for spherical codes, which offers an upper bound for the celebrated (Newton-Gregory) kissing number problem. Motivated by this proof, we introduce the notion of codes in pointed metric spaces (in particular on Banach spaces) and derive a nonlinear (functional) Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender upper bound for spherical codes. We also introduce nonlinear (functional) Kissing Number Problem.

Keywords: spherical code; kissing number; linear programming

Mathematics Subject Classification (2020): 94B65; 54E35

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

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

Fundamental problem associated with spherical codes is the following.

Problem 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, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 24) [2–21]. We refer [22–37] for more on spherical codes. Problem 1 has connection even with sphere packing [38]. 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. [32,33] (*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.

Theorem 2. [19] (*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 $n \leq 1/c$.

Motivated from Theorem 2, we formulate the notion of codes in pointed metric spaces. We show that bound of Delsarte-Goethals-Seidel-Kabatianskii-Levenshtein-Pfender can be extended for pointed metric spaces (in particular, for Banach spaces).

2. Metric Codes

Let $(\mathcal{M}, 0)$ be a pointed metric space. The collection $\text{Lip}_0(\mathcal{M}, \mathbb{R})$ is defined as $\text{Lip}_0(\mathcal{M}, \mathbb{R}) := \{f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ is Lipschitz and } f(0) = 0\}$. For $f \in \text{Lip}_0(\mathcal{M}, \mathbb{R})$, the Lipschitz norm is defined as

$$\|f\|_{\text{Lip}_0} := \sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{M}, x \neq y} \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{d(x, y)}.$$

We introduce metric codes as follows.

Definition 1. Let $(\mathcal{M}, 0)$ be a pointed metric space with metric m . For $1 \leq j \leq n$, let $f_j \in \text{Lip}_0(\mathcal{M}, \mathbb{R})$ and $\tau_j \in \mathcal{M}$. The pair $(\{f_j\}_{j=1}^n, \{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n)$ is said to be a (n, θ) -metric code or (n, θ) -nonlinear code or (n, θ) -Lipschitz code in $\mathcal{M}$ if following conditions hold.

- (i) $\|f_j\|_{\text{Lip}_0} = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- (ii) $m(\tau_j, 0) = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.

- (iii) $f_j(\tau_j) = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- (iv) $f_j(\tau_k) \leq \cos \theta$ for all $1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k$.

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

For Banach spaces, we define (linear) functional codes as follows.

Definition 2. Let $\mathcal{X}$ be a real Banach space. For $1 \leq j \leq n$, let $f_j \in \mathcal{X}^*$ and $\tau_j \in \mathcal{X}$. The pair $(\{f_j\}_{j=1}^n, \{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n)$ is said to be a (n, θ) -**functional code** in $\mathcal{X}$ if following conditions hold.

- (i) $\|f_j\| = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- (ii) $\|\tau_j\| = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- (iii) $f_j(\tau_j) = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$.
- (iv) $f_j(\tau_k) \leq \cos \theta$ for all $1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k$.

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

Proposition 1. For the space $\mathbb{R}^d$, Definition 2 matches with the spherical codes (in particular with the kissing-number problem).

Proof. Let $(\{f_j\}_{j=1}^n, \{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n)$ be a (n, θ) -functional code in $\mathbb{R}^d$. We need to show that $f_j(x) = \tau_j$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and for all $1 \leq j \leq n$. Let $1 \leq j \leq n$. From Riesz representation theorem, there exists a unique $\omega_j \in \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $f_j(x) = \langle x, \omega_j \rangle$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $\|f_j\| = \|\omega_j\|$. Now we need to show that $\omega_j = \tau_j$. Since $\|f_j\| = 1$, we must have $\|\omega_j\| = 1$. But then

$$1 = f_j(\tau_j) = \langle \tau_j, \omega_j \rangle \leq \|\tau_j\| \|\omega_j\| = 1.$$

Therefore $\omega_j = \alpha \tau_j$ for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. The conditions $\|\omega_j\| = \|\tau_j\| = 1$ and $\langle \tau_j, \omega_j \rangle = 1$ then force $\omega_j = \tau_j$. $\square$

Following is a nonlinear generalization of Theorem 2.

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

(i)

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \phi(f_j(\tau_k)) \geq 0.$$

(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 $n \leq 1/c$.

Proof. Define $\psi : [-1, 1] \ni r \mapsto \psi(r) := \phi(r) + c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

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

We also have

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \psi(f_j(\tau_k)) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n (\phi(f_j(\tau_k)) + c) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \phi(f_j(\tau_k)) + cn^2.$$

Therefore

$$cn^2 \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \phi(f_j(\tau_k)) + cn^2 \leq n(\phi(1) + c).$$

□

Following generalization of Theorem 3 is easy.

Theorem 4. Let $(\{f_j\}_{j=1}^n, \{\tau_j\}_{j=1}^n)$ be a (n, θ) -metric code in a pointed metric space $\mathcal{M}$. Let $c > 0$ and

$$\phi : \{f_j(\tau_k) : 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

be a function satisfying following.

(i)

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \phi(f_j(\tau_k)) \geq 0.$$

(ii) $\phi(r) + c \leq 0$ for all $r \in \{f_j(\tau_k) : 1 \leq j, k \leq n, j \neq k\}$.

Then

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

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

References

1. Chuanming Zong. *Sphere packings*. Universitext. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1999.
2. Kurt M. Anstreicher. The thirteen spheres: a new proof. *Discrete Comput. Geom.*, 31(4):613–625, 2004.
3. Christine Bachoc and Frank Vallentin. New upper bounds for kissing numbers from semidefinite programming. *J. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 21(3):909–924, 2008.
4. Károly Böröczky. The Newton-Gregory problem revisited. In *Discrete geometry*, volume 253 of *Monogr. Textbooks Pure Appl. Math.*, pages 103–110. Dekker, New York, 2003.
5. Peter Boyvalenkov, Stefan Dodunekov, and Oleg Musin. A survey on the kissing numbers. *Serdica Math. J.*, 38(4):507–522, 2012.
6. Bill Casselman. The difficulties of kissing in three dimensions. *Notices Amer. Math. Soc.*, 51(8):884–885, 2004.

7. Alexey Glazyrin. A short solution of the kissing number problem in dimension three. *Discrete Comput. Geom.*, 69(3):931–935, 2023.
8. Matthew Jenssen, Felix Joos, and Will Perkins. On kissing numbers and spherical codes in high dimensions. *Adv. Math.*, 335:307–321, 2018.
9. Kenz Kallal, Tomoka Kan, and Eric Wang. Improved lower bounds for kissing numbers in dimensions 25 through 31. *SIAM J. Discrete Math.*, 31(3):1895–1908, 2017.
10. N. A. Kuklin. Delsarte method in the problem on kissing numbers in high-dimensional spaces. *Proc. Steklov Inst. Math.*, 284(1):S108–S123, 2014.
11. John Leech. The problem of the thirteen spheres. *Math. Gaz.*, 40:22–23, 1956.
12. Leo Liberti. Mathematical programming bounds for kissing numbers. In *Optimization and decision science: methodologies and applications*, volume 217 of *Springer Proc. Math. Stat.*, pages 213–222. Springer, Cham, 2017.
13. Fabrício Caluza Machado and Fernando Mário de Oliveira Filho. Improving the semidefinite programming bound for the kissing number by exploiting polynomial symmetry. *Exp. Math.*, 27(3):362–369, 2018.
14. H. Maehara. The problem of thirteen spheres—a proof for undergraduates. *European J. Combin.*, 28(6):1770–1778, 2007.
15. Hans D. Mittelmann and Frank Vallentin. High-accuracy semidefinite programming bounds for kissing numbers. *Experiment. Math.*, 19(2):175–179, 2010.
16. Oleg R. Musin. The kissing problem in three dimensions. *Discrete Comput. Geom.*, 35(3):375–384, 2006.
17. Oleg R. Musin. The kissing number in four dimensions. *Ann. of Math. (2)*, 168(1):1–32, 2008.
18. A. M. Odlyzko and N. J. A. Sloane. New bounds on the number of unit spheres that can touch a unit sphere in n dimensions. *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, 26(2):210–214, 1979.
19. Florian Pfender. Improved Delsarte bounds for spherical codes in small dimensions. *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, 114(6):1133–1147, 2007.
20. Florian Pfender and Günter M. Ziegler. Kissing numbers, sphere packings, and some unexpected proofs. *Notices Amer. Math. Soc.*, 51(8):873–883, 2004.
21. K. Schütte and B. L. van der Waerden. Das Problem der dreizehn Kugeln. *Math. Ann.*, 125:325–334, 1953.
22. Christine Bachoc and Frank Vallentin. Semidefinite programming, multivariate orthogonal polynomials, and codes in spherical caps. *European J. Combin.*, 30(3):625–637, 2009.
23. Eiichi Bannai and Etsuko Bannai. A survey on spherical designs and algebraic combinatorics on spheres. *European J. Combin.*, 30(6):1392–1425, 2009.
24. Eiichi Bannai and N. J. A. Sloane. Uniqueness of certain spherical codes. *Canadian J. Math.*, 33(2):437–449, 1981.
25. Alexander Barg and Oleg R. Musin. Codes in spherical caps. *Adv. Math. Commun.*, 1(1):131–149, 2007.
26. P. G. Boyvalenkov, P. D. Dragnev, D. P. Hardin, E. B. Saff, and M. M. Stoyanova. Universal lower bounds for potential energy of spherical codes. *Constr. Approx.*, 44(3):385–415, 2016.
27. P. G. Boyvalenkov, P. D. Dragnev, D. P. Hardin, E. B. Saff, and M. M. Stoyanova. Bounds for spherical codes: the Levenshtein framework lifted. *Math. Comp.*, 90(329):1323–1356, 2021.
28. Peter Boyvalenkov and Danyo Danev. On maximal codes in polynomial metric spaces. In *Applied algebra, algebraic algorithms and error-correcting codes*, volume 1255 of *Lecture Notes in Comput. Sci.*, pages 29–38. Springer, Berlin, 1997.
29. Peter Boyvalenkov, Danyo Danev, and Ivan Landgev. On maximal spherical codes. II. *J. Combin. Des.*, 7(5):316–326, 1999.
30. Henry Cohn, Yang Jiao, Abhinav Kumar, and Salvatore Torquato. Rigidity of spherical codes. *Geom. Topol.*, 15(4):2235–2273, 2011.
31. J. H. Conway and N. J. A. Sloane. *Sphere packings, lattices and groups*. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1999.
32. P. Delsarte, J. M. Goethals, and J. J. Seidel. Spherical codes and designs. *Geometriae Dedicata*, 6(3):363–388, 1977.
33. Thomas Ericson and Victor Zinoviev. *Codes on Euclidean spheres*, volume 63 of *North-Holland Mathematical Library*. North-Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam, 2001.
34. O. R. Musin. Bounds for codes by semidefinite programming. *Tr. Mat. Inst. Steklova*, 263:143–158, 2008.
35. Alex Samorodnitsky. On linear programming bounds for spherical codes and designs. *Discrete Comput. Geom.*, 31(3):385–394, 2004.

36. Naser Talebizadeh Sardari and Masoud Zargar. New upper bounds for spherical codes and packings. *Math. Ann.*, 389(4):3653–3703, 2024.
37. N. J. A. Sloane. Tables of sphere packings and spherical codes. *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory*, 27(3):327–338, 1981.
38. Henry Cohn and Yufei Zhao. Sphere packing bounds via spherical codes. *Duke Math. J.*, 163(10):1965–2002, 2014.