

Phase Transitions of Random Codes and GV-Bounds

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A joint work with Ling, Liu, Xing

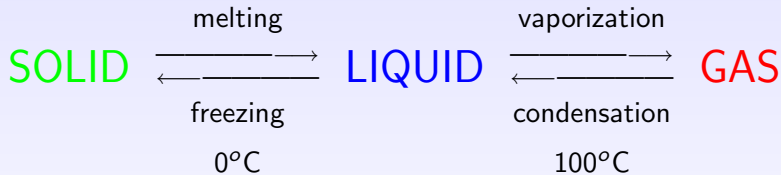
Oct 2011

Phase Transitions of Random Codes and GV-Bounds

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Phase Transitions: in Physics

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Phase Transitions in Mathematics: Pioneer

Random graph: $G(n, p)$

n vertices



to each pair of two vertices an edge is settled at probability p

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$n = 2$		
probability	$1 - p$	p





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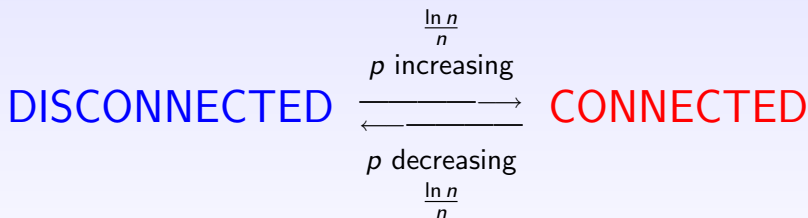
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$n = 2$		
probability	$1 - p$	p

$n = 3$				
probability	$(1 - p)^3$	$3(1 - p)^2 p$	$3(1 - p)p^2$	p^3

Is $G(n, p)$ connected ?

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(G(n, p) \text{ connected}) = \begin{cases} 0, & p < \frac{\ln n}{n}; \\ 1, & p > \frac{\ln n}{n}. \end{cases}$$

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usage “phase transition” in Mathematics appeared first time in:

S.Janson, T.Luczak, and A.Rucinski, “The Phase Transition” Ch.5 in *Random Graphs*, New York: Wiley, pp. 103-138, 2000.

Phase Transitions in Mathematics: Linear system

Random linear system S over a finite field F :

$$S : \begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ \cdots \quad \quad \quad \cdots \quad \quad \quad \cdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{cases}$$

Phase Transitions in Mathematics: Linear system

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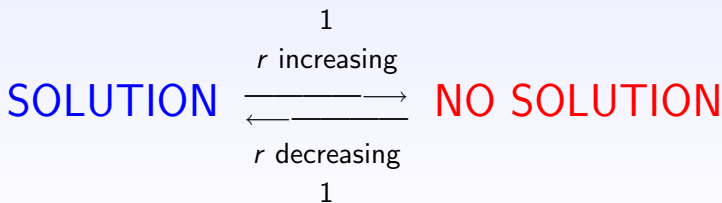
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Phase Transitions in Mathematics: Linear system

A proof

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$r > 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(\text{solution}) &= \Pr(\mathbf{b} \in \text{Span}(A_1, \dots, A_n)) \\ &\leq q^n / q^m = q^{(1-r)n} \longrightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Shannon's World

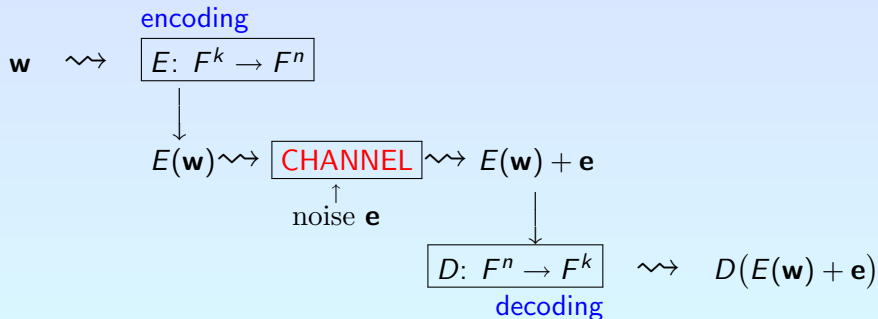
F : alphabet, cardinality $|F| = q$.

Message \rightsquigarrow word $\mathbf{w} \in F^k$

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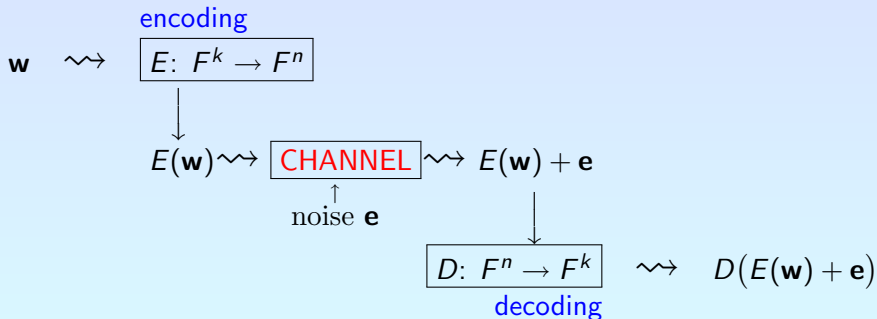
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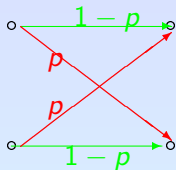
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Does $D(E(\mathbf{w}) + \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{w}$?

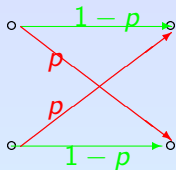
Shannon's World: Binary symmetric channels



p =false probability

$1-p$ =true probability

Shannon's World: Binary symmetric channels

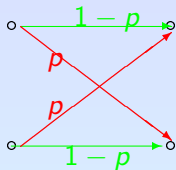


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Transition probability matrix:
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-p & p \\ p & 1-p \end{pmatrix}$$

Shannon's World: Binary symmetric channels



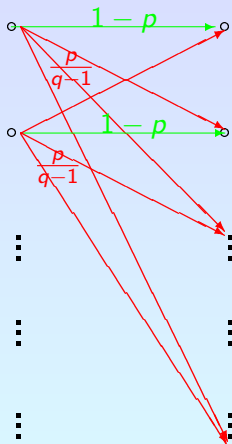
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Entropy: $H(p) = -p \log_2 p - (1-p) \log_2 (1-p)$

Shannon's World: q -ary symmetric channels



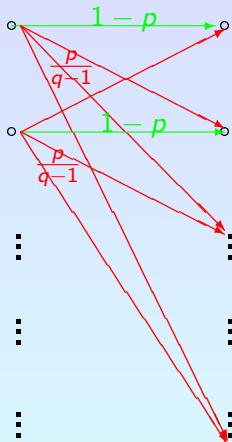
p = false probability

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - p & \frac{p}{q-1} & \cdots & \frac{p}{q-1} \\ \frac{p}{q-1} & 1 - p & \cdots & \frac{p}{q-1} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \frac{p}{q-1} & \frac{p}{q-1} & \cdots & 1 - p \end{pmatrix}$$

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q -ary Entropy: $H_q(p) = \log_q(q-1) - p \log_q p - (1-p) \log_q(1-p)$

Shannon's World: Shannon's Theorem

Coding device = $E : F^k \rightarrow F^n + D : F^n \rightarrow F^k$

Rate $r = k/n$

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Rate $r = k/n$

Shannon's Theorem

If $r < 1 - H_q(p)$ then there exists a coding device of rate r such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(D(E(\mathbf{w}) + \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{w}) = 1.$$

If $r > 1 - H_q(p)$ then, for any coding device of rate r ,

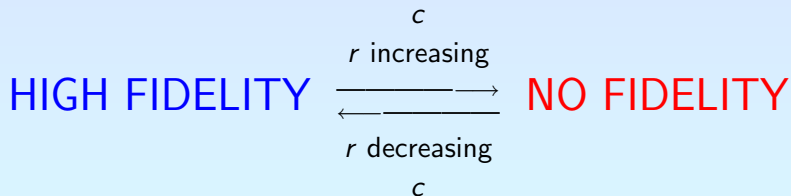
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Shannon's World: Shannon's Theorem

$c = 1 - H_q(p)$: the *capacity* of the q -ary symmetric channel.

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Shannon's World: Shannon's Theorem

C. E. Shannon, "A mathematical theory of communication", *Bell Sys. Tech. Journal*, vol.27, pp379-423, 623C655, 1948.

If $r < c$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(D(E(\mathbf{w}) + \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{w}) = 1$.

If $r > c$, there is a $b < 1$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(D(E(\mathbf{w}) + \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{w}) < b$.

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Jacob Wolfowitz, "The coding of messages subject to chance errors", *Illinois J. Math.*, vol.1, pp591-606, 1957.

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Hamming's World

Hamming distance: $d_H(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = |\{1 \leq i \leq n \mid x_i \neq x'_i\}|$, $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in F^n$

Codes: $C \subseteq F^n$

rate: $R(C) = \log_q(|C|)/n$, i.e. $|C| = F^{R(C)n}$

minimal distance: $d_H(C) = \min_{\mathbf{c} \neq \mathbf{c}' \in C} d_H(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{c}')$

relative distance: $\delta_H(C) = d_H(C)/n$

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Linear codes: if F is a finite field, and C is a subspace of F^n

weight: $w_H(\mathbf{x}) = |\{1 \leq i \leq n \mid x_i \neq 0\}|$

minimal weight: $w_H(C) = \min_{\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{c} \in C} w_H(\mathbf{c})$

$$d_H(C) = w_H(C)$$

Hamming's World: Good codes

Good C : $R(C)$ is large, and $\delta_H(C)$ is large

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Trade off between rate and relative distance ?

Hamming's World: Upper bounds

Let $\delta_0 = 1 - q^{-1}$

Given $\delta_H(C) = \delta$, $0 < \delta < \delta_0$

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Many functions bound up $r = R(C)$:

Singleton bound: $r \leq 1 - \delta$

Plotkin bound: $r \leq 1 - \frac{\delta}{\delta_0}$

Hamming bound: $r \leq 1 - H_q\left(\frac{\delta}{2}\right)$

Elias bound: $r \leq 1 - H_q\left(\delta_0 - \sqrt{\delta_0(\delta_0 - \delta)}\right)$

...

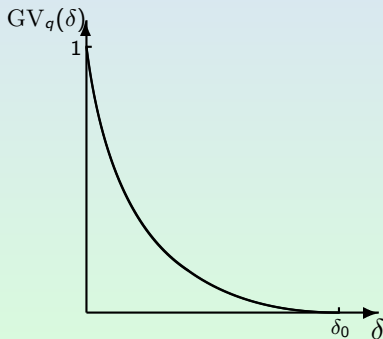
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Hamming's World: Lower bounds

When we are given $\delta_H(C) = \delta$, to explore good codes, we are in fact concerned with how large $r = R(C)$ could reach.

Gilbert-Varshamov Bound: Function $GV_q(\delta)$

$$GV_q(\delta) = 1 - H_q(\delta), \quad \delta \in (0, \delta_0)$$



Asymptotic Gilbert-Varshamov Bound

For any $r < GV_q(\delta)$, there exist codes C over F (of large enough length) with rate r and relative distance $> \delta$.

GV-bound: Gilbert's argument, greedy algorithm

$$d = \delta n, \quad k = rn; \quad M = q^k$$

$$B(\mathbf{x}, d) = \text{the Hamming ball}, \quad V_q(n, d) = |B(\mathbf{x}, d)|$$

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- once $F^n - \bigcup_{i=1}^m B(\mathbf{c}_i, d) \neq \emptyset$, take $\mathbf{c}_{m+1} \in F^n - \bigcup_{i=1}^m B(\mathbf{c}_i, d)$; ...

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- ▶ $r = \log_q M/n \geq 1 - \log_q V_q(n, d)/n \approx 1 - H_q(\delta) = \text{GV}_q(\delta)$

Varshamov's argument, probabilistic method

Varshamov

Select a linear code L of rate $r < GV_q(\delta)$ uniformly at random from F^n where F is a finite field, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(\delta_H(L) > \delta) = 1$$

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- For any $\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{b} \in F^k$,
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- $$\Pr(\delta_H(C) \leq \delta) = \Pr\left(\bigcup_{\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{b} \in F^k} (w_H(g(\mathbf{b})) \leq d)\right)$$

- $$\Pr(\delta_H(C) \leq \delta) \leq q^k \cdot V_q(n, d)/q^n \leq q^{rn - GV_q(\delta)n} \rightarrow 0$$

GV-Bound: Comparison with Shannon's world

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- q -ary GV-bound coincides exactly with the Shannon's capacity of q -ary symmetric channels
- Varshamov's argument deals with random objects by means of probabilistic methods
- What happen if r is beyond GV-bound ?

GV-Bound: Beyond GV-bound

- Codes of relative distance $> \delta$ and rate r beyond GV-bound ?

GV-Bound: Beyond GV-bound

- Codes of relative distance $> \delta$ and rate r beyond GV-bound ?

Famous work: Yes if $q \geq 49$, algebraic geometry codes

M. A. Tsfasman, S.G. Vladuts, T. Zink, “Modular curves, Shimura curves and Goppa codes, better than Varshamov-Gilbert bound”, *Math. Nachrichten*, vol.104, pp.13-28, 1982.

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- For $q = 2$, no code C with $\delta_H(C) > \delta$ and rate $R(C) > GV_q(\delta)$ is reported
- A guess: no code of rel. dist. $> \delta$ and rate $> GV_q(\delta)$ for $q = 2$

GV-Bound: Arbitrary random codes

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C : random code of rate r of F^n (selected uniformly at random from F^n)

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GV-Bound: Arbitrary random codes

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It follows from:

Alexander Barg, G. David Forney, "Random codes: Minimum distances and error exponents", *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory*, vol.48, pp.2568-2573, 2002.

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Phase Transitions of Random Codes: Linear case

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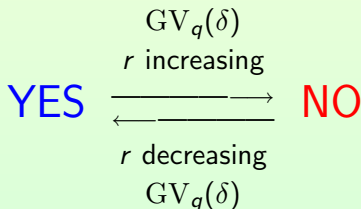
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- Expectation $E(X) = (q^k - 1)E(X_{\mathbf{b}}) \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0, & r < GV_q(\delta); \\ \infty, & r > GV_q(\delta). \end{cases}$

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Second moment method:

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Phase transitions of Random Codes: Arbitrary case

F : an alphabet

C : random code of rate r of F^n

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(\delta_H(C) > \delta) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } r < \frac{1}{2}GV_q(\delta); \\ \mathbf{0}, & \text{if } r > \frac{1}{2}GV_q(\delta). \end{cases}$$

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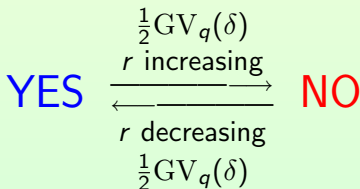
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Pictures for Phase Transitions: Linear case

Linear case: random linear code L

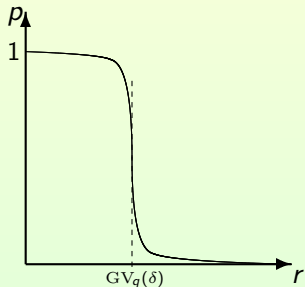


Figure: $p = \Pr(\delta_H(L) > \delta)$; $0 < \delta < \delta_0$.

Pictures for Phase Transitions: Linear case

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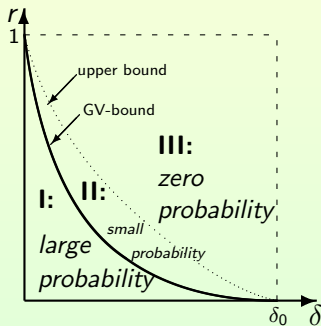
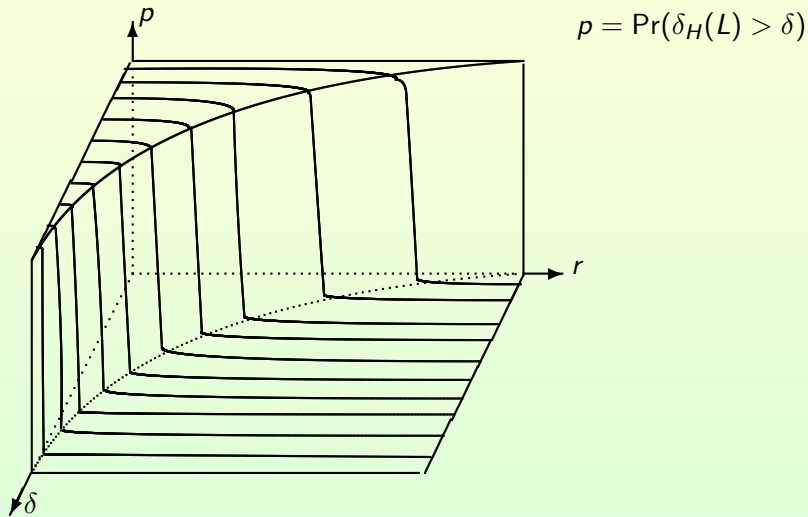


Figure: Three areas for the probability of the event " $\delta_H(L) > \delta$ "

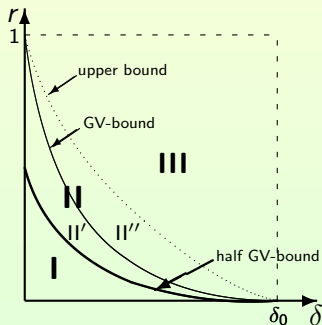
Pictures for Phase Transitions: Linear case



$r = GV_q(\delta)$ is a phase transition curve

Pictures for Phase Transitions: Arbitrary case

Arbitrary case: arbitrary random code C



I: probability ~ 1

II: probability ~ 0

II': greedy algorithm works

II'': greedy algorithm doesn't work

III: probability = 0

Figure: Three (four) areas for the probability of the event " $\delta_H(C) > \delta$ "

THANK YOU