Asymptotic bounds for the rate of coloring superimposed codes

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We introduce q-ary $(r_0, r_1, \ldots, r_{q-1})$ superimposed codes and give upper and lower asymptotic bounds for the rate of these codes.

Definition 1. A q-ary matrix $C = ||c_{ij}||$ of size $N \times T$ is a $(r_0, r_1, \ldots, r_{q-1})$ superimposed code if for any subsets $R_0, R_1 \ldots R_{q-1} \subset [T]$ with $|R_s| = r_s$ there exists a coordinate $i \in [N]$ such that $c_{ij} = s$ for all $j \in R_s$, where $s = 0, 1, \ldots, q-1$.

Denote by $N(T, r_0, r_1, \ldots, r_{q-1})$ the minimum possible length of a $(r_0, r_1, \ldots, r_{q-1})$ superimposed code of a given cardinality T. The rate of a code of length N and cardinality T is, as usual, $R = (\log T)/N$. We are interested in the asymptotic behavior of the rate

$$R(r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{q-1}) = \limsup_{T \to \infty} \frac{\log_q T}{N(T, r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{q-1})}.$$

Theorem 1. For coloring superimposed codes we have

$$R(r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{q-1}) \ge 1/(S-1)\log_q \frac{S^S}{S^S - r_0^{r_0} r_1^{r_1} \dots r_{q-1}^{r_{q-1}}},$$

where $S = (r_0 + r_1 + \ldots + r_{q-1}).$

Theorem 2. We have

$$R(r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{q-1}) \le \frac{R(r_0 - x_0, r_1 - x_1, \dots, r_{q-1} - x_{q-1})}{R(r_0 - x_0, \dots, r_{q-1} - x_{q-1})/(1 - \log_q(q-1)) + X^X/(x_0^{x_0} \dots x_{q-1}^{x_{q-1}})}.$$
where $X = x_0 + x_1 + \dots + x_{q-1}$.

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