

LDPC Codes for Compressed Sensing

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Abstract—We present a mathematical connection between channel coding and compressed sensing. In particular, we link, on the one hand, *channel coding linear programming decoding (CC-LPD)*, which is a well-known relaxation of maximum-likelihood channel decoding for binary linear codes, and, on the other hand, *compressed sensing linear programming decoding (CS-LPD)*, also known as basis pursuit, which is a widely used linear programming relaxation for the problem of finding the sparsest solution of an under-determined system of linear equations. More specifically, we establish a tight connection between CS-LPD based on a zero-one measurement matrix over the reals and CC-LPD of the binary linear channel code that is obtained by viewing this measurement matrix as a binary parity-check matrix. This connection allows the translation of performance guarantees from one setup to the other. The main message of this paper is that parity-check matrices of “good” channel codes can be used as provably “good” measurement matrices under basis pursuit. In particular, we provide the first deterministic construction of compressed sensing measurement matrices with an order-optimal number of rows using high-girth low-density parity-check (LDPC) codes constructed by Gallager.

Index Terms—Approximation guarantee, basis pursuit, channel coding, compressed sensing, graph cover, linear programming decoding, pseudo-codeword, pseudo-weight, sparse approximation, zero-infinity operator.

I. INTRODUCTION

RECENTLY, there has been substantial interest in the theory of recovering sparse approximations of signals that satisfy linear measurements. Compressed sensing research (see, for example [3], [4]) has developed conditions for measurement matrices under which (approximately) sparse signals can be recovered by solving a linear programming relaxation of the original NP-hard combinatorial problem. This linear programming relaxation is usually known as “basis pursuit.”

In particular, in one of the first papers in this area, *cf.* [3], Candès and Tao presented a setup they called “decoding by linear programming,” henceforth called compressed sensing linear programming decoding (**CS-LPD**), where the sparse signal corresponds to real-valued noise that is added to a

real-valued signal that is to be recovered in a hypothetical communication problem.

At about the same time, in an independent line of research, Feldman, Wainwright, and Karger considered the problem of decoding a binary linear code that is used for data communication over a binary-input memoryless channel, a problem that is also NP-hard in general. In [5], [6], they formulated this channel coding problem as an integer linear program, along with presenting a linear programming relaxation for it, henceforth called channel coding linear programming decoding (**CC-LPD**). Several theoretical results were subsequently proven about the efficiency of **CC-LPD**, in particular for low-density parity-check (LDPC) codes (see, *e.g.*, [7]–[10]).

As we will see in the subsequent sections, **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** (and the setups they are derived from) look like similar linear programming relaxations, however, a priori it is rather unclear if there is a connection beyond this initial superficial similarity. The main technical difference is that **CS-LPD** is a relaxation of the objective function of a problem that is naturally over the reals while **CC-LPD** involves a polytope relaxation of a problem defined over a finite field. Indeed, Candès and Tao in their original paper asked the question [3, Section VI.A]: “... *In summary, there does not seem to be any explicit known connection with this line of work [5], [6]] but it would perhaps be of future interest to explore if there is one.*”

In this paper we present such a connection between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD**. The general form of our results is that if a given binary parity-check matrix is “good” for **CC-LPD** then the same matrix (considered over the reals) is a “good” measurement matrix for **CS-LPD**. The notion of a “good” parity-check matrix depends on which channel we use (and a corresponding channel-dependent quantity called pseudo-weight).

- Based on results for the binary symmetric channel (BSC), we show that if a parity-check matrix can correct any k bit-flipping errors under **CC-LPD**, then the same matrix taken as a measurement matrix over the reals can be used to recover all k -sparse error signals under **CS-LPD**.
- Based on results for binary-input output-symmetric channels with bounded log-likelihood ratios, we can extend the previous result to show that performance guarantees for **CC-LPD** for such channels can be translated into robust sparse-recovery guarantees in the ℓ_1/ℓ_1 sense (see, *e.g.*, [11]) for **CS-LPD**.
- Performance guarantees for **CC-LPD** for the binary-input additive white Gaussian noise channel (AWGNC) can be translated into robust sparse-recovery guarantees in the ℓ_2/ℓ_1 sense for **CS-LPD**.
- Max-fractional weight performance guarantees for **CC-**

To appear in IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 2012. Submitted, December 1, 2010. Revised, November 23, 2011, and December 11, 2011. The second author was partially supported by NSF Grants DMS-0708033 and CCF-0830608. Parts of this work were presented at the 47th Allerton Conference on Communications, Control, and Computing, Allerton House, Monticello, Illinois, USA, Sep. 30–Oct. 2, 2009 [1], and at the 2010 International Zurich Seminar on Communications, Zurich, Switzerland, Mar. 3–5, 2010 [2].

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LPD can be translated into robust sparse-recovery guarantees in the ℓ_∞/ℓ_1 sense for **CS-LPD**.

- Performance guarantees for **CC-LPD** for the binary erasure channel (BEC) can be translated into performance guarantees for the compressed sensing setup where the support of the error signal is known and the decoder tries to recover the sparse signal (*i.e.*, tries to solve the linear equations) by back-substitution only.

All our results are also valid in a stronger, point-wise sense. For example, for the BSC, if a parity-check matrix can recover a *given set* of k bit flips under **CC-LPD**, the same matrix will recover any sparse signal supported on those k coordinates under **CS-LPD**. In general, “good” performance of **CC-LPD** on a given error support set will yield “good” **CS-LPD** recovery for sparse signals supported by the same set.

It should be noted that all our results are only one-way: we do not prove that a “good” zero-one measurement matrix will always be a “good” parity-check matrix for a binary code. This remains an interesting open problem.

Besides these main results we also present reformulations of **CC-LPD** and **CS-LPD** in terms of so-called graph covers: these reformulations will help in seeing further similarities and differences between these two linear programming relaxations. Moreover, based on an operator that we will call the zero-infinity operator, we will define an optimization problem called **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, along with a relaxation of it called **CS-REL**_{0,∞}. Let **CS-OPT** be the NP-hard combinatorial problem mentioned at the beginning of the introduction whose relaxation is **CS-LPD**. First, we will show that **CS-REL**_{0,∞} is equivalent to **CS-LPD**. Secondly, we will argue that the solution of **CS-LPD** is “closer” to the solution of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} than the solution of **CS-LPD** is to the solution of **CS-OPT**. This is interesting because **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} is, like **CS-OPT**, in general an intractable optimization problem, and so **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} is at least as justifiably as **CS-OPT** a difficult optimization problem whose solution is approximated by **CS-LPD**.

The organization of this paper is as follows. In Section II we set up the notation that will be used. Then, in Sections III and IV we review the compressed sensing and channel coding problems, along with their respective linear programming relaxations.

Section V is the heart of this paper: it establishes the lemma that will bridge **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** for zero-one matrices. Technically speaking, this lemma shows that non-zero vectors in the real nullspace of a measurement matrix (*i.e.*, vectors that are problematic for **CS-LPD**) can be mapped to non-zero vectors in the fundamental cone defined by that same matrix (*i.e.*, to vectors that are problematic for **CC-LPD**).

Afterwards, in Section VI we use the previously developed machinery to establish the main results of this paper, namely the translation of performance guarantees from channel coding to compressed sensing. By relying on prior channel coding results [10], [12], [13] and the above-mentioned lemma, we present novel results on sparse compressed sensing matrices. Perhaps the most interesting corollary involves the sparse deterministic matrices constructed in Gallager’s thesis [14, Appendix C]. In particular, by combining our translation results with a recent breakthrough by Arora *et al.* [13] we

show that high-girth deterministic matrices can be used for compressed sensing to recover sparse signals. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first deterministic construction of measurement matrices with an order-optimal number of rows.

Subsequently, Section VII tightens the connection between **CC-LPD** and **CS-LPD** with the help of graph covers, and Section VIII presents the above-mentioned results involving the zero-infinity operator. Finally, some conclusions are presented in Section IX.

The appendices contain the longer proofs. Moreover, Appendix D presents three generalizations of the bridge lemma (*cf.* Lemma 11 in Section V) to certain types of integer and complex valued matrices.

II. BASIC NOTATION

Let \mathbb{Z} , $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, $\mathbb{Z}_{> 0}$, \mathbb{R} , $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $\mathbb{R}_{> 0}$, \mathbb{C} , and \mathbb{F}_2 be the ring of integers, the set of non-negative integers, the set of positive integers, the field of real numbers, the set of non-negative real numbers, the set of positive real numbers, the field of complex numbers, and the finite field of size 2, respectively. Unless noted otherwise, expressions, equalities, and inequalities will be over the field \mathbb{R} . The absolute value of a real number a will be denoted by $|a|$.

The size of a set S will be denoted by $|S|$. For any $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{> 0}$, we define the set $[M] \triangleq \{1, \dots, M\}$.

All vectors will be *column* vectors. If \mathbf{a} is some vector with integer entries, then $\mathbf{a} \pmod{2}$ will denote an equally long vector whose entries are reduced modulo 2. If S is a subset of the set of coordinate indices of a vector \mathbf{a} then \mathbf{a}_S is the vector with $|S|$ entries that contains only the coordinates of \mathbf{a} whose coordinate index appears in S . Moreover, if \mathbf{a} is a real vector then we define $|\mathbf{a}|$ to be the real vector \mathbf{a}' with the same number of components as \mathbf{a} and with entries $a'_i = |a_i|$ for all i . Finally, the inner product $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \rangle$ of two equally long vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} is written $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \rangle \triangleq \sum_i a_i b_i$.

We define $\text{supp}(\mathbf{a}) \triangleq \{i \mid a_i \neq 0\}$ to be the support set of some vector \mathbf{a} . Moreover, we let $\Sigma_{\mathbb{R}^n}^{(k)} \triangleq \{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |\text{supp}(\mathbf{a})| \leq k\}$ and $\Sigma_{\mathbb{F}_2^n}^{(k)} \triangleq \{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n \mid |\text{supp}(\mathbf{a})| \leq k\}$ be the set of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n and \mathbb{F}_2^n , respectively, which have at most k non-zero components. We refer to vectors in these sets as k -sparse vectors.

For any real vector \mathbf{a} , we define $\|\mathbf{a}\|_0$ to be the ℓ_0 norm of \mathbf{a} , *i.e.*, the number of non-zero components of \mathbf{a} . Note that $\|\mathbf{a}\|_0 = w_H(\mathbf{a}) = |\text{supp}(\mathbf{a})|$, where $w_H(\mathbf{a})$ is the Hamming weight of \mathbf{a} . Furthermore, $\|\mathbf{a}\|_1 \triangleq \sum_i |a_i|$, $\|\mathbf{a}\|_2 \triangleq \sqrt{\sum_i |a_i|^2}$, and $\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty \triangleq \max_i |a_i|$ will denote, respectively, the ℓ_1 , ℓ_2 , and ℓ_∞ norms of \mathbf{a} .

For a matrix \mathbf{M} over \mathbb{R} with n columns we denote its \mathbb{R} -nullspace by $\text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}) \triangleq \{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}\}$ and for a matrix \mathbf{M} over \mathbb{F}_2 with n columns we denote its \mathbb{F}_2 -nullspace by $\text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\mathbf{H}) \triangleq \{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n \mid \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0} \pmod{2}\}$.

Let $\mathbf{H} = (h_{j,i})_{j,i}$ be some matrix. We denote the set of row and column indices of \mathbf{H} by $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H})$ and $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H})$, respectively. We will also use the sets $\mathcal{J}_i(\mathbf{H}) \triangleq \{j \in \mathcal{J} \mid h_{j,i} \neq 0\}$, $i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H})$, and $\mathcal{I}_j(\mathbf{H}) \triangleq \{i \in \mathcal{I} \mid h_{j,i} \neq 0\}$, $j \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H})$. Moreover, for any set $S \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H})$, we will denote its complement with respect to $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H})$ by \overline{S} , *i.e.*, $\overline{S} \triangleq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}) \setminus S$. In the

following, when no confusion can arise, we will sometimes omit the argument \mathbf{H} in the preceding expressions.

Finally, for any $n, M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and any vector $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{C}^n$, we define the M -fold lifting of \mathbf{a} to be the vector $\mathbf{a}^{\uparrow M} = (a_{(i,m)}^{\uparrow M})_{(i,m)} \in \mathbb{C}^{Mn}$ with components given by

$$a_{(i,m)}^{\uparrow M} \triangleq a_i, \quad (i, m) \in [n] \times [M].$$

(One can think of $\mathbf{a}^{\uparrow M}$ as the Kronecker product of the vector \mathbf{a} with the all-one vector with M components.) Moreover, for any vector $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = (\tilde{a}_{(i,m)})_{(i,m)} \in \mathbb{C}^{Mn}$ or $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = (\tilde{a}_{(i,m)})_{(i,m)} \in \mathbb{F}_2^{Mn}$ we define the projection of $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}$ to the space \mathbb{C}^n to be the vector $\mathbf{a} \triangleq \varphi_M(\tilde{\mathbf{a}})$ with components given by

$$a_i \triangleq \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m \in [M]} \tilde{a}_{(i,m)}, \quad i \in [n].$$

(In the case where $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}$ is over \mathbb{F}_2 , the summation is over \mathbb{C} and we use the standard embedding of $\{0, 1\}$ into \mathbb{C} .)

III. COMPRESSED SENSING LINEAR PROGRAMMING DECODING

A. The Setup

Let \mathbf{H}_{CS} be a real matrix of size $m \times n$, called the *measurement matrix*, and let \mathbf{s} be a real-valued vector containing m measurements. In its simplest form, the compressed sensing problem consists of finding the sparsest real vector \mathbf{e}' with n components that satisfies $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}$, namely

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-OPT : } & \text{minimize} \quad \|\mathbf{e}'\|_0 \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}. \end{aligned}$$

Assuming that there exists a sparse signal \mathbf{e} that satisfies the measurement $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{s}$, CS-OPT yields, for suitable matrices \mathbf{H}_{CS} , an estimate $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$ that equals \mathbf{e} .

This problem can also be interpreted [3] as part of the decoding problem that appears in a coded data communicating setup where the channel input alphabet is $\mathcal{X}_{\text{CS}} \triangleq \mathbb{R}$, the channel output alphabet is $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{CS}} \triangleq \mathbb{R}$, and the information symbols are encoded with the help of a real-valued code \mathcal{C}_{CS} of block length n and dimension $\kappa \triangleq n - \text{rank}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ as follows.

- The code is $\mathcal{C}_{\text{CS}} \triangleq \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}\}$. Because of this, the measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} is sometimes also called an *annihilator matrix*.
- A matrix $\mathbf{G}_{\text{CS}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times \kappa}$ for which $\mathcal{C}_{\text{CS}} = \{\mathbf{G}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{u} \mid \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{\kappa}\}$ is called a *generator matrix* for the code \mathcal{C}_{CS} . With the help of such a matrix, information vectors $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{\kappa}$ are encoded into codewords $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ according to $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{G}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{u}$.
- Let $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}_{\text{CS}}$ be the *received vector*. We can write $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}$ for a suitably defined vector $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, which will be called the *error vector*. We initially assume that the channel is such that \mathbf{e} is *sparse*, i.e., that the number of non-zero entries is bounded by some positive integer k . This will be generalized later to channels where the

vector \mathbf{e} is *approximately sparse*, i.e., where the number of large entries is bounded by some positive integer k .

- The receiver first computes the syndrome vector \mathbf{s} according to $\mathbf{s} \triangleq \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{y}$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{s} &= \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e} \\ &= \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}. \end{aligned}$$

In a second step, the receiver solves CS-OPT to obtain an estimate $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$ for \mathbf{e} , which can be used to obtain the codeword estimate $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}$, which in turn can be used to obtain the information word estimate $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$.

Because the complexity of solving CS-OPT is usually exponential in the relevant parameters, one can try to formulate and solve a related optimization problem with the aim that the related optimization problem yields very often the same solution as CS-OPT, or at least very often a very good approximation to the solution given by CS-OPT. In the context of CS-OPT, a popular approach is to formulate and solve the following related optimization problem (which, with the suitable introduction of auxiliary variables, can be turned into a linear program):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-LPD : } & \text{minimize} \quad \|\mathbf{e}'\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}. \end{aligned}$$

This relaxation is also known as *basis pursuit*.

B. Conditions for the Equivalence of CS-LPD and CS-OPT

A central question of compressed sensing theory is under what conditions the solution given by CS-LPD equals (or is very close to) the solution given by CS-OPT.¹

Clearly, if $m \geq n$ and the matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} has rank n , there is only one feasible \mathbf{e}' and the two problems have the same solution.

In this paper we typically focus on the linear sparsity regime, i.e., $k = \Theta(n)$ and $m = \Theta(n)$, but our techniques are more generally applicable. The question is for which measurement matrices (hopefully with a small number of measurements m) the LP relaxation is tight, i.e., the estimate given by CS-LPD equals the estimate given by CS-OPT.

Celebrated compressed sensing results (e.g. [4], [15]) established that “good” measurement matrices exist. Here, by “good” measurement matrices we mean measurement matrices that have only $m = \Theta(k \log(n/k))$ rows and can recover all (or almost all) k -sparse signals under CS-LPD. Note that for the linear sparsity regime, $k = \Theta(n)$, the optimal scaling requires to construct matrices with a number of measurements that scales linearly in the signal dimension n .

One *sufficient* way to certify that a given measurement matrix is “good” is the well-known restricted isometry property (RIP), indicating that the matrix does not distort the ℓ_2 -norm

¹It is important to note that we worry only about the solution given by CS-LPD being equal (or very close) to the solution given by CS-OPT, because even CS-OPT might fail to correctly estimate the error vector in the above communication setup when the error vector has too many large components.

of any k -sparse vector by too much. If this is the case, the LP relaxation will be tight for all k -sparse vectors e and further the recovery will be robust to approximate sparsity [3], [4], [15]. As is well known, however, the RIP is not a complete characterization of the LP relaxation of “good” measurement matrices (see, e.g., [16]). In this paper we use the nullspace characterization instead (see, e.g., [17], [18]), that gives a necessary and sufficient condition for a matrix to be “good.”

Definition 1: Let $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ and let $C \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$. We say that \mathbf{H}_{CS} has the nullspace property $\text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(\mathcal{S}, C)$, and write $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(\mathcal{S}, C)$, if

$$C \cdot \|\nu_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \leq \|\nu_{\mathcal{S}^c}\|_1, \quad \text{for all } \nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}).$$

We say that \mathbf{H}_{CS} has the strict nullspace property $\text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{<}(\mathcal{S}, C)$, and write $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{<}(\mathcal{S}, C)$, if

$$C \cdot \|\nu_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 < \|\nu_{\mathcal{S}^c}\|_1, \quad \text{for all } \nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \setminus \{0\}.$$

Definition 2: Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and let $C \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$. We say that \mathbf{H}_{CS} has the nullspace property $\text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C)$, and write $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C)$, if

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(\mathcal{S}, C), \quad \text{for all } \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \text{ with } |\mathcal{S}| \leq k.$$

We say that \mathbf{H}_{CS} has the strict nullspace property $\text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{<}(k, C)$, and write $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{<}(k, C)$, if

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{<}(\mathcal{S}, C), \quad \text{for all } \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \text{ with } |\mathcal{S}| \leq k.$$

Note that in the above two definitions, C is usually chosen to be greater than or equal to 1.

As was shown independently by several authors (see [18]–[21] and references therein) the nullspace condition in Definition 2 is a necessary and sufficient condition for a measurement matrix to be “good” for k -sparse signals, i.e., that the estimate given by **CS-LPD** equals the estimate given by **CS-OPT** for these matrices. In particular, the nullspace characterization of “good” measurement matrices will be one of the keys to linking **CS-LPD** with **CC-LPD**. Observe that the requirement is that vectors in the nullspace of \mathbf{H}_{CS} have their ℓ_1 mass spread in substantially more than k coordinates. (In fact, for $C \geq 1$, at least $2k$ coordinates must be non-zero).

The following theorem is adapted from [21, Proposition 2].

Theorem 3: Let \mathbf{H}_{CS} be a measurement matrix. Further, assume that $s = \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot e$ and that e has at most k nonzero elements, i.e., $\|e\|_0 \leq k$. Then the estimate \hat{e} produced by **CS-LPD** will equal the estimate \hat{e} produced by **CS-OPT** if $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C=1)$.

Remark: Actually, as discussed in [21], the condition $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C=1)$ is also necessary, but we will not use this here.

The next performance metric (see, e.g., [11], [22]) for CS involves recovering approximations to signals that are not exactly k -sparse.

Definition 4: An ℓ_p/ℓ_q approximation guarantee for **CS-LPD** means that **CS-LPD** outputs an estimate \hat{e} that is within a factor $C_{p,q}(k)$ from the best k -sparse approximation for e , i.e.,

$$\|e - \hat{e}\|_p \leq C_{p,q}(k) \cdot \min_{e' \in \Sigma_{\mathbb{R}^n}^{(k)}} \|e - e'\|_q, \quad (1)$$

where the left-hand side is measured in the ℓ_p -norm and the right-hand side is measured in the ℓ_q -norm. \square

Note that the minimizer of the right-hand side of (1) (for any norm) is the vector $e' \in \Sigma_{\mathbb{R}^n}^{(k)}$ that has the k largest (in magnitude) coordinates of e , also called the best k -term approximation of e [22]. Therefore the right-hand side of (1) equals $C_{p,q}(k) \cdot \|e_{\mathcal{S}^*}\|_q$ where \mathcal{S}^* is the support set of the k largest (in magnitude) components of e . Also note that if e is k -sparse then the above condition suggests that $\hat{e} = e$ since the right hand-side of (1) vanishes, therefore it is a strictly stronger statement than recovery of sparse signals. (Of course, such a stronger approximation guarantee for \hat{e} is usually only obtained under stronger assumptions on the measurement matrix.)

The nullspace condition is a necessary and sufficient condition on a measurement matrix to obtain ℓ_1/ℓ_1 approximation guarantees. This is stated and proven in the next theorem which is adapted from [17, Theorem 1]. (Actually, we omit the necessity part in the next theorem since it will not be needed in this paper.)

Theorem 5: Let \mathbf{H}_{CS} be a measurement matrix, and let $C > 1$ be a real constant. Further, assume that $s = \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot e$. Then for any set $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ with $|\mathcal{S}| \leq k$ the solution \hat{e} produced by **CS-LPD** will satisfy

$$\|e - \hat{e}\|_1 \leq 2 \cdot \frac{C+1}{C-1} \cdot \|e_{\mathcal{S}^c}\|_1$$

if $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C)$.

Proof: See Appendix A. \blacksquare

IV. CHANNEL CODING LINEAR PROGRAMMING DECODING

A. The Setup

We consider coded data transmission over a memoryless channel with input alphabet $\mathcal{X}_{\text{CC}} \triangleq \{0, 1\}$, output alphabet \mathcal{Y}_{CC} , and channel law $P_{Y|X}(y|x)$. The coding scheme will be based on a binary linear code \mathcal{C}_{CC} of block length n and dimension κ , $\kappa \leq n$. In the following, we will identify \mathcal{X}_{CC} with \mathbb{F}_2 .

- Let $\mathbf{G}_{\text{CC}} \in \mathbb{F}_2^{n \times \kappa}$ be a *generator matrix* for \mathcal{C}_{CC} . Consequently, \mathbf{G}_{CC} has rank κ over \mathbb{F}_2 , and information vectors $u \in \mathbb{F}_2^{\kappa}$ are encoded into codewords $x \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ according to $x = \mathbf{G}_{\text{CC}} \cdot u \pmod{2}$, i.e., $\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}} = \{\mathbf{G}_{\text{CC}} \cdot u \pmod{2} \mid u \in \mathbb{F}_2^{\kappa}\}$.²
- Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \in \mathbb{F}_2^{m \times n}$ be a *parity-check matrix* for \mathcal{C}_{CC} . Consequently, \mathbf{H}_{CC} has rank $n - \kappa \leq m$ over \mathbb{F}_2 , and any $x \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ satisfies $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot x = 0 \pmod{2}$ if and only if $x \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}$, i.e., $\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}} = \{x \in \mathbb{F}_2^n \mid \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot x = 0 \pmod{2}\}$.
- In the following we will mainly consider the three following channels (see, for example, [23]): the binary-input additive white Gaussian noise channel (AWGNC, parameterized by its signal-to-noise ratio), the binary symmetric channel (BSC, parameterized by its cross-over probability), and the binary erasure channel (BEC, parameterized by its erasure probability).

²We remind the reader that throughout this paper we are using *column* vectors, which is in contrast to the coding theory standard to use *row* vectors.

- Let $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}_{\text{CC}}^n$ be the *received vector* and define for each $i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}})$ the *log-likelihood ratio* $\lambda_i \triangleq \lambda_i(\mathbf{y}_i) \triangleq \log\left(\frac{P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}_i|0)}{P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}_i|1)}\right)$.³

Upon observing $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}$, the (*blockwise*) *maximum-likelihood decoding* (MLD) rule decides for

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}} P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}'),$$

where $P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}') = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}_i|\mathbf{x}'_i)$. Formally:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD : } & \text{maximize} && P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}') \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that instead of $P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}')$ we can also maximize $\log P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}') = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \log P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}_i|\mathbf{x}'_i)$. Noting that $\log P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}_i|\mathbf{x}'_i) = -\lambda_i \mathbf{x}'_i + \log P_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y}_i|0)$ for $\mathbf{x}'_i \in \{0, 1\}$, **CC-MLD1** can then be rewritten to read

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD1 : } & \text{minimize} && \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}. \end{aligned}$$

Because the cost function is linear, and a linear function attains its minimum at the extremal points of a convex set, this is essentially equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD2 : } & \text{minimize} && \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}). \end{aligned}$$

(Here, $\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}})$ denotes the convex hull of \mathcal{C}_{CC} after it has been embedded in \mathbb{R}^n . Note that we wrote “essentially equivalent” because if more than one codeword in \mathcal{C}_{CC} is optimal for **CC-MLD1** then all points in the convex hull of these codewords are optimal for **CC-MLD2**.) Although **CC-MLD2** is a linear program, it usually cannot be solved efficiently because its description complexity is typically exponential in the block length of the code.⁴

However, one might try to solve a relaxation of **CC-MLD2**. Namely, as proposed by Feldman, Wainwright, and Karger [5], [6], we can try to solve the optimization problem

³On the side, let us remark that if \mathcal{Y}_{CC} is binary then \mathcal{Y}_{CC} can be identified with \mathbb{F}_2 and we can write $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e} \pmod{2}$ for a suitably defined vector $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$, which will be called the error vector. Moreover, we can define the *syndrome vector* $\mathbf{s} \triangleq \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{y} \pmod{2}$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{s} &= \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{e} \\ &= \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{e} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

However, in the following, with the exception of Section VII, we will only use the log-likelihood ratio vector $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$, and not the binary syndrome vector \mathbf{s} . (See Definition 20 for a way to define a syndrome vector also for non-binary channel output alphabets \mathcal{Y}_{CC} .)

⁴Examples of code families that have sub-exponential description complexities in the block length are convolutional codes (with fixed state-space size), cycle codes (*i.e.*, codes whose Tanner graph has only degree-2 vertices), and tree codes (*i.e.*, codes whose Tanner graph is a tree). (For more on this topic, see for example [24].) However, these classes of codes are not good enough for achieving performance close to channel capacity even under ML decoding (see, for example, [25].)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD : } & \text{minimize} && \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}}), \end{aligned}$$

where the relaxed set $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}}) \supseteq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}})$ is given in the next definition.

Definition 6: For every $j \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}})$, let \mathbf{h}_j^\top be the j -th row of \mathbf{H}_{CC} and let

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},j} \triangleq \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n \mid \langle \mathbf{h}_j, \mathbf{x} \rangle = 0 \pmod{2}\}.$$

Then, the *fundamental polytope* $\mathcal{P} \triangleq \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}})$ of \mathbf{H}_{CC} is defined to be the set

$$\mathcal{P} \triangleq \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}}) = \bigcap_{j \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}})} \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},j}).$$

Vectors in $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}})$ will be called *pseudo-codewords*. \square

In order to motivate this choice of relaxation, note that the code \mathcal{C}_{CC} can be written as

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}} = \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},1} \cap \cdots \cap \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},m},$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}) &= \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},1} \cap \cdots \cap \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},m}) \\ &\subseteq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},1}) \cap \cdots \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC},m}) \\ &= \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}}). \end{aligned}$$

It can be verified [5], [6] that this relaxation possesses the important property that all the vertices of $\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}})$ are also vertices of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}})$. Let us emphasize that different parity-check matrices for the same code usually lead to different fundamental polytopes and therefore to different **CC-LPDs**.

Similarly to the compressed sensing setup, we want to understand when we can guarantee that the codeword estimate given by **CC-LPD** equals the codeword estimate given by **CC-MLD**.⁵ Clearly, the performance of **CC-MLD** is a natural upper bound on the performance of **CC-LPD**, and a way to assess **CC-LPD** is to study the gap to **CC-MLD**, *e.g.*, by comparing the here-discussed performance guarantees for **CC-LPD** with known performance guarantees for **CC-MLD**.

When characterizing the **CC-LPD** performance of binary linear codes over binary-input output-symmetric memoryless channels we can, without loss of generality, assume that the all-zero codeword was transmitted [5], [6]. With this, the success probability of **CC-LPD** is the probability that the all-zero codeword yields the lowest cost function value when compared to all non-zero vectors in the fundamental polytope. Because the cost function is linear, this is equivalent to the statement that the success probability of **CC-LPD** equals the probability that the all-zero codeword yields the lowest cost function value compared to all non-zero vectors in the conic

⁵It is important to note, as we did in the compressed sensing setup, that we worry mostly about the solution given by **CC-LPD** being equal to the solution given by **CC-MLD**, because even **CC-MLD** might fail to correctly identify the codeword that was sent when the error vector is beyond the error correction capability of the code.

hull of the fundamental polytope. This conic hull is called the *fundamental cone* $\mathcal{K} \triangleq \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$ and it can be written as

$$\mathcal{K} \triangleq \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CC}) = \text{conic}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})) = \bigcap_{j \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})} \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_{CC,j}).$$

The fundamental cone can be characterized by the inequalities listed in the following lemma [5]–[8], [26]. (Similar inequalities can be given for the fundamental polytope but we will not list them here since they are not needed in this paper.)

Lemma 7: The fundamental cone $\mathcal{K} \triangleq \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$ of \mathbf{H}_{CC} is the set of all vectors $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that satisfy

$$\omega_i \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } i \in \mathcal{I}, \quad (2)$$

$$\omega_i \leq \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} \omega_{i'}, \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathcal{J} \text{ and all } i \in \mathcal{I}_j. \quad (3)$$

□

Note that in the following, not only vectors in the fundamental polytope, but also vectors in the fundamental cone will be called pseudo-codewords. Moreover, if \mathbf{H}_{CS} is a *zero-one measurement matrix*, i.e., a measurement matrix where all entries are in $\{0, 1\}$, then we will consider \mathbf{H}_{CS} to represent also the parity-check matrix of some linear code over \mathbb{F}_2 . Consequently, its fundamental polytope will be denoted by $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{CS})$ and its fundamental cone by $\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CS})$.

B. Conditions for the Equivalence of CC-LPD and CC-MLD

The following lemma gives a sufficient condition on \mathbf{H}_{CC} for **CC-LPD** to succeed over a BSC.

Lemma 8: Let \mathbf{H}_{CC} be a parity-check matrix of a code \mathcal{C}_{CC} and let $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$ be the set of coordinate indices that are flipped by a BSC with non-zero cross-over probability. If \mathbf{H}_{CC} is such that

$$\|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 < \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}^c}\|_1 \quad (4)$$

for all $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CC}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$, then the **CC-LPD** decision equals the codeword that was sent.

Remark: The above condition is also necessary; however, we will not use this fact in the following.

Proof: See Appendix B. ■

Note that the inequality in (4) is *identical* to the inequality that appears in the definition of the strict nullspace property for $C = 1$ (!). This observation makes one wonder if there is a deeper connection between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** beyond this apparent one, in particular for measurement matrices that contain only zeros and ones. Of course, in order to formalize a connection we first need to understand how points in the nullspace of a zero-one measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} can be associated with points in the fundamental polytope of the parity-check matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} (now seen as a parity-check matrix for a code over \mathbb{F}_2). Such a mapping will be exhibited in the upcoming Section V. Before turning to that section, though, we need to discuss pseudo-weights, which are a popular way of measuring the importance of the different pseudo-codewords in the fundamental cone and which will be used for establishing performance guarantees for **CC-LPD**.

C. Definition of Pseudo-Weights

Note that the fundamental polytope and cone are functions only of the parity-check matrix of the code and *not* of the channel. The influence of the channel is reflected in the pseudo-weight of the pseudo-codewords, so it is only natural that every channel has its own pseudo-weight definition. Therefore, every communication channel model comes with the right measure of “distance” that determines how often a (fractional) vertex is incorrectly chosen in **CC-LPD**.

Definition 9 ([5]–[8], [27], [28]): Let $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ be a nonzero vector in $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ with $\boldsymbol{\omega} = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$.

- The AWGNC pseudo-weight of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is defined to be

$$w_p^{\text{AWGNC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \triangleq \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_1^2}{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_2^2}.$$

- In order to define the BSC pseudo-weight $w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$, we let $\boldsymbol{\omega}'$ be the vector with the same components as $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ but in non-increasing order, i.e., $\boldsymbol{\omega}'$ is a “sorted version” of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$. Now let

$$\begin{aligned} f(\xi) &\triangleq \omega'_i \quad (i-1 < \xi \leq i, \quad 0 < \xi \leq n), \\ F(\xi) &\triangleq \int_0^\xi f(\xi') d\xi', \\ e &\triangleq F^{-1}\left(\frac{F(n)}{2}\right) = F^{-1}\left(\frac{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_1}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

With this, the BSC pseudo-weight $w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$ of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is defined to be $w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \triangleq 2e$.

- The BEC pseudo-weight of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is defined to be

$$w_p^{\text{BEC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = |\text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\omega})|.$$

- The max-fractional weight of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is defined to be

$$w_{\text{max-frac}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \triangleq \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_1}{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_\infty}.$$

For $\boldsymbol{\omega} = \mathbf{0}$ we define all of the above pseudo-weights and the max-fractional weight to be zero.⁶ □

For a parity-check matrix \mathbf{H}_{CC} , the minimum AWGNC pseudo-weight is defined to be

$$\begin{aligned} w_p^{\text{AWGNC}, \min}(\mathbf{H}_{CC}) &\triangleq \min_{\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{CC}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}} w_p^{\text{AWGNC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \\ &= \min_{\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CC}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}} w_p^{\text{AWGNC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}). \end{aligned}$$

The minimum BSC pseudo-weight $w_p^{\text{BSC}, \min}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$, the minimum BEC pseudo-weight $w_p^{\text{BEC}, \min}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$, and the minimum max-fractional weight $w_{\text{max-frac}}^{\min}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$ of \mathbf{H}_{CC} are defined analogously. Note that although $w_{\text{max-frac}}^{\min}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$ yields weaker performance guarantees than the other quantities [8], it has the advantage of being efficiently computable [5], [6].

There are other possible definitions of a BSC pseudo-weight. For example, the BSC pseudo-weight of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ can also be taken to be

$$w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \triangleq \begin{cases} 2e & \text{if } \|\boldsymbol{\omega}'_{\{1, \dots, e\}}\|_1 = \|\boldsymbol{\omega}'_{\{e+1, \dots, n\}}\|_1, \\ 2e-1 & \text{if } \|\boldsymbol{\omega}'_{\{1, \dots, e\}}\|_1 > \|\boldsymbol{\omega}'_{\{e+1, \dots, n\}}\|_1, \end{cases}$$

⁶A detailed discussion of the motivation and significance of these definitions can be found in [8].

where ω' is defined as in Definition 9 and where e is the smallest integer such that $\|\omega'_{\{1,\dots,e\}}\|_1 \geq \|\omega'_{\{e+1,\dots,n\}}\|_1$. This definition of the BSC pseudo-weight was for example used in [29]. (Note that in [28] the quantity $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega)$ was introduced as “BSC effective weight.”)

Of course, the values $w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\omega)$ and $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega)$ are tightly connected. Namely, if $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega)$ is an even integer then $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega) = w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\omega)$, and if $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega)$ is an odd integer then $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega) - 1 < w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\omega) < w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega) + 1$.

The following lemma establishes a connection between BSC pseudo-weights and the condition that appears in Lemma 8.

Lemma 10: Let H_{CC} be a parity-check matrix of a code C_{CC} and let ω be an arbitrary non-zero pseudo-codeword of H_{CC} , i.e., $\omega \in \mathcal{K}(H_{\text{CC}}) \setminus \{0\}$. Then, for all sets $S \subseteq \mathcal{I}(H_{\text{CC}})$ with

$$|S| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\omega) \quad \text{or with} \quad |S| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\omega),$$

it holds that

$$\|\omega_S\|_1 < \|\omega_{\bar{S}}\|_1.$$

Proof: See Appendix C. ■

V. ESTABLISHING A BRIDGE BETWEEN CS-LPD AND CC-LPD

We are now ready to establish the promised bridge between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** to be used in Section VI to translate performance guarantees from one setup to the other. Our main tool is a simple lemma that was already established in [30], but for a different purpose.

We remind the reader that we have extended the use of the absolute value operator $|\cdot|$ from scalars to vectors. So, if $\alpha = (\alpha_i)_i$ is a real (complex) vector then we define $|\alpha|$ to be the real (complex) vector $\alpha' = (\alpha'_i)_i$ with the same number of components as α and with entries $\alpha'_i = |\alpha_i|$ for all i .

Lemma 11 (Lemma 6 in [30]): Let H_{CS} be a zero-one measurement matrix. Then

$$\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(H_{\text{CS}}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\nu| \in \mathcal{K}(H_{\text{CS}}).$$

Remark: Note that $\text{supp}(\nu) = \text{supp}(|\nu|)$.

Proof: Let $\omega \triangleq |\nu|$. In order to show that such a vector ω is indeed in the fundamental cone of H_{CS} , we need to verify (2) and (3). The way ω is defined, it is clear that it satisfies (2). Therefore, let us focus on the proof that ω satisfies (3). Namely, from $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(H_{\text{CS}})$ it follows that for all $j \in \mathcal{J}$, $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} h_{j,i} \nu_i = 0$, i.e., for all $j \in \mathcal{J}$, $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_j} \nu_i = 0$. This implies

$$\omega_i = |\nu_i| = \left| - \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} \nu_{i'} \right| \leq \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} |\nu_{i'}| = \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} \omega_{i'}$$

for all $j \in \mathcal{J}$ and all $i \in \mathcal{I}_j$, showing that ω indeed satisfies (3). ■

This lemma gives a one-way result: with every point in the \mathbb{R} -nullspace of the measurement matrix H_{CS} we can associate a point in the fundamental cone of H_{CS} , but not necessarily

vice-versa. Therefore, a problematic point for the \mathbb{R} -nullspace of H_{CS} will translate to a problematic point in the fundamental cone of H_{CS} and hence to bad performance of **CC-LPD**. Similarly, a “good” parity-check matrix H_{CS} must have no low pseudo-weight points in the fundamental cone, which means that there are no problematic points in the \mathbb{R} -nullspace of H_{CS} . Therefore, “positive” results for channel coding will translate into “positive” results for compressed sensing, and “negative” results for compressed sensing will translate into “negative” results for channel coding.

Further, Lemma 11 preserves the support of a given point ν . This means that if there are no low pseudo-weight points in the fundamental cone of H_{CS} with a given support, there are no problematic points in the \mathbb{R} -nullspace of H_{CS} with the same support, which allows point-wise versions of all our results in Section VI.

Note that Lemma 11 assumes that H_{CS} is a zero-one measurement matrix, i.e., that it contains only zeros and ones. As we show in Appendix D, there are suitable extensions of this lemma that put less restrictions on the measurement matrix. However, apart from Remark 19, we will not use these extensions in the following. (We leave it as an exercise to extend the results in the upcoming sections to this more general class of measurement matrices.)

VI. TRANSLATION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES

In this section we use the above-established bridge between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** to translate “positive” results about **CC-LPD** to “positive” results about **CS-LPD**. Whereas Sections VI-A to VI-E focus on the translation of abstract performance bounds, Section VI-F presents the translation of numerical performance bounds. Finally, in Section VI-G, we briefly discuss some limitations of our approach when dense measurement matrices are considered.

A. The Role of the BSC Pseudo-Weight for CS-LPD

Lemma 12: Let $H_{\text{CS}} \in \{0,1\}^{m \times n}$ be a CS measurement matrix and let k be a non-negative integer. Then

$$w_p^{\text{BSC}, \min}(H_{\text{CS}}) > 2k \quad \Rightarrow \quad H_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C=1).$$

Proof: Fix some $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(H_{\text{CS}}) \setminus \{0\}$. By Lemma 11 we know that $|\nu|$ is a pseudo-codeword of H_{CS} , and by the assumption $w_p^{\text{BSC}, \min}(H_{\text{CS}}) > 2k$ we know that $w_p^{\text{BSC}}(|\nu|) > 2k$. Then, using Lemma 10, we conclude that for all sets $S \subseteq \mathcal{I}$ with $|S| \leq k$, we must have $\|\nu_S\|_1 = \||\nu|_S\|_1 < \||\nu|_{\bar{S}}\|_1 = \|\nu_{\bar{S}}\|_1$. Because ν was arbitrary, the claim $H_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C=1)$ clearly follows. ■

This result, along with Theorem 3 can be used to establish sparse signal recovery guarantees for a compressed sensing matrix H_{CS} .

Note that compressed sensing theory distinguishes between the so-called **strong bounds** and the so-called **weak bounds**. The former bounds correspond to a worst-case setup and guarantee the recovery of all k -sparse signals, whereas the latter bounds correspond to an average-case setup and guarantee the recovery of a signal on a randomly selected support with high

probability regardless of the values of the non-zero entries. Note that a further notion of a weak bound can be defined if we randomize over the non-zero entries also, but this is not considered in this paper.

Similarly, for channel coding over the BSC, there is a distinction between being able to recover from k worst-case bit-flipping errors and being able to recover from randomly positioned bit-flipping errors.

In particular, recent results on the performance analysis of **CC-LPD** have shown that parity-check matrices constructed from expander graphs can correct a constant fraction (of the block length n) of worst-case errors (cf. [12]) and random errors (cf. [10], [13]). These worst-case error performance guarantees implicitly show that the minimum BSC pseudo-weight of a binary linear code defined by a Tanner graph with sufficient expansion (expansion strictly larger than $3/4$) must grow linearly in n . (A conclusion in a similar direction can be drawn for the random error setup.) Now, with the help of Lemma 12, we can obtain new performance guarantees for **CS-LPD**.

Let us mention that in [11], [31], [32], expansion arguments were used to directly obtain similar types of performance guarantees for compressed sensing; in Section VI-F we compare these results to the guarantees we can obtain through our translation techniques.

In contrast to the present subsection, which deals with the recovery of (exactly) sparse signals, the next three subsections (Sections VI-B, VI-C, and VI-D) deal with the recovery of approximately sparse signals. Note that the type of guarantees presented in these subsections are known as **instance optimality** guarantees [22].

B. The Role of Binary-Input Channels Beyond the BSC for CS-LPD

In Lemma 12 we established a connection between, on the one hand, performance guarantees for the BSC under **CC-LPD**, and, on the other hand, the strict nullspace property $\text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C)$ for $C = 1$. It is worthwhile to mention that one can also establish a connection between performance guarantees for a certain class of binary-input channels under **CS-LPD** and the strict nullspace property $\text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C)$ for $C > 1$. Without going into details, this connection is established with the help of results from [33], that generalize results from [12], and which deal with a class of binary-input memoryless channels where all output symbols are such that the magnitude of the corresponding log-likelihood ratio is bounded by some constant $W \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$.⁷ This observation, along with Theorem 5, can be used to establish instance optimality ℓ_1/ℓ_1 guarantees for a compressed sensing matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} . Let us point out that in some recent follow-up work [34] this has been accomplished.

⁷Note that in [33], “This suggests that the asymptotic advantage over [...] is gained not by quantization, but rather by restricting the LLRs to have finite support.” should read “This suggests that the asymptotic advantage over [...] is gained not by quantization, but rather by restricting the LLRs to have bounded support.”

C. Connection between AWGNC Pseudo-Weight and ℓ_2/ℓ_1 Guarantees

Theorem 13: Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times n}$ be a measurement matrix and let \mathbf{s} and \mathbf{e} be such that $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}$. Let $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ with $|\mathcal{S}| = k$, and let C' be an arbitrary positive real number with $C' > 4k$. Then the estimate $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$ produced by **CS-LPD** will satisfy

$$\|\mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_2 \leq \frac{C''}{\sqrt{k}} \cdot \|\mathbf{e}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \quad \text{with} \quad C'' \triangleq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{C'}{4k}} - 1},$$

if $w_{\text{p}}^{\text{AWGNC}}(|\nu|) \geq C'$ holds for all $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$. (In particular, this latter condition is satisfied for a measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} with $w_{\text{p}}^{\text{AWGNC}, \min}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \geq C'$.)

Proof: See Appendix E. ■

D. Connection between Max-Fractional Weight and ℓ_{∞}/ℓ_1 Guarantees

Theorem 14: Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times n}$ be a measurement matrix and let \mathbf{s} and \mathbf{e} be such that $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}$. Let $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ with $|\mathcal{S}| = k$, and let C' be an arbitrary positive real number with $C' > 2k$. Then the estimate $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$ produced by **CS-LPD** will satisfy

$$\|\mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{C''}{k} \cdot \|\mathbf{e}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \quad \text{with} \quad C'' \triangleq \frac{1}{\frac{C'}{2k} - 1},$$

if $w_{\text{max-fractional}}(|\nu|) \geq C'$ holds for all $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$. (In particular, this latter condition is satisfied for a measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} with $w_{\text{max-fractional}}^{\min}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \geq C'$.)

Proof: See Appendix F. ■

E. Connection between BEC Pseudo-Weight and CS-LPD

For the binary erasure channel, **CC-LPD** is identical to the peeling decoder (see, e.g., [23, Chapter 3.19]) that solves a system of linear equations by only using back-substitution.

We can define an analogous compressed sensing problem by assuming that the *support* of the sparse signal \mathbf{e} is known to the decoder, and that the recovering of the values is performed only by back-substitution. This simple procedure is related to iterative algorithms that recover sparse approximations more efficiently than by solving an optimization problem (see, e.g., [35]–[38] and references therein).

For this special case, it is clear that **CC-LPD** for the BEC and the described compressed sensing decoder have identical performance since back-substitution behaves exactly the same way over any field, be it the field of real numbers or any finite field. (Note that whereas the result of **CC-LPD** for the BEC equals the result of the back-substitution-based decoder for the BEC, the same is not true for compressed sensing, i.e., **CS-LPD** with given support of the sparse signal can be strictly better than the back-substitution-based decoder with given support of the sparse signal.)

F. Explicit Performance Results

In this section we use the bridge lemma, Lemma 11, along with previous positive performance results for **CC-LPD**, to establish performance results for the **CS-LPD** / basis pursuit setup. In particular, three positive threshold results for **CC-LPD** of low-density parity-check (LDPC) codes are used to obtain three results that are, to the best of our knowledge, novel for compressed sensing:

- **Corollary 16** (which relies on work by Feldman, Malkin, Servidio, Stein, and Wainwright [12]) is very similar to [11], [31], [32], although our proof is obtained through the connection to channel coding. We obtain a strong bound with similar expansion requirements.
- **Corollary 17** (which relies on work by Daskalakis, Dimakis, Karp, and Wainwright [10]) is a result that yields better constants (*i.e.*, larger recoverable signals) but only with high probability over supports (*i.e.*, it is a so-called weak bound).
- **Corollary 18** (which relies on work by Arora, Daskalakis, and Steurer [13]) is, in our opinion the most important contribution. We show the first deterministic construction of compressed sensing measurement matrices with an order-optimal number of measurements. Further we show that a property that is easy to check in polynomial time (*i.e.*, girth), can be used to certify measurement matrices. Further, in the follow-up paper [34] it is shown that similar techniques can be used to construct the first optimal measurement matrices with ℓ_1/ℓ_1 sparse approximation properties.

At the end of the section we also use Lemma 25 (*cf.* Appendix D) with $|\cdot|_* = |\cdot|$ to study dense measurement matrices with entries in $\{-1, 0, +1\}$.

Before we can state our first translation result, we need to introduce some notation.

Definition 15: Let G be a bipartite graph where the nodes in the two node classes are called left-nodes and right-nodes, respectively. If \mathcal{S} is some subset of left-nodes, we let $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{S})$ be the subset of the right-nodes that are adjacent to \mathcal{S} . Then, given parameters $d_v \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, $\gamma \in (0, 1)$, $\delta \in (0, 1)$, we say that G is a (d_v, γ, δ) -expander if all left-nodes of G have degree d_v and if for all left-node subsets \mathcal{S} with $|\mathcal{S}| \leq \gamma \cdot |\{\text{left-nodes}\}|$ it holds that $|\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{S})| \geq \delta d_v \cdot |\mathcal{S}|$. \square

Expander graphs have been studied extensively in past work on channel coding (see, *e.g.*, [39]) and compressed sensing (see, *e.g.*, [31], [32]). It is well known that randomly constructed left-regular bipartite graphs are expanders with high probability (see, *e.g.*, [12]).

In the following, similar to the way a Tanner graph is associated with a parity-check matrix [40], we will associate a Tanner graph with a measurement matrix. Note that the variable and constraint nodes of a Tanner graph will be called left-nodes and right-nodes, respectively.

With this, we are ready to present the first translation result, which is a so-called strong bound (*cf.* the discussion in Section VI-A). It is based on a theorem from [12].

Corollary 16: Let $d_v \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $\gamma \in (0, 1)$. Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times n}$ be a measurement matrix such that the Tanner

graph of \mathbf{H}_{CS} is a (d_v, γ, δ) -expander with sufficient expansion, more precisely, with

$$\delta > \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3d_v}$$

(along with the technical condition $\delta d_v \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$). Then **CS-LPD** based on the measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} can recover all k -sparse vectors, *i.e.*, all vectors whose support size is at most k , for

$$k < \frac{3\delta - 2}{2\delta - 1} \cdot (\gamma n - 1).$$

Proof: This result is easily obtained by combining Lemma 11 with [12, Theorem 1]. \blacksquare

Interestingly, for $\delta = 3/4$ the recoverable sparsity k matches exactly the performance of the fast compressed sensing algorithm in [31], [32] and the performance of the simple bit-flipping channel decoder of Sipser and Spielman [39], however, our result holds for the **CS-LPD** / basis pursuit setup. Moreover, using results about expander graphs from [12], the above corollary implies, for example, that, for $m/n = 1/2$ and $d_v = 32$, sparse expander-based zero-one measurement matrices will recover all $k = \alpha n$ sparse vectors for $\alpha \leq 0.000175$. To the best of our knowledge, the only previously known result for sparse measurement matrices under basis pursuit is the work of Berinde *et al.* [11]. As shown by the authors of that paper, the adjacency matrices of expander graphs (for expansion $\delta > 5/6$) will recover all k -sparse signals. Further, these authors also state results giving ℓ_1/ℓ_1 instance optimality sparse approximation guarantees. Their proof is directly done for the compressed sensing problem and is therefore fundamentally different from our approach which uses the connection to channel coding. The result of Corollary 16 implies a strong bound for all k -sparse signals under basis pursuit and zero-one measurement matrices based on expander graphs. Since we only require expansion $\delta > 3/4$, however, we can obtain slightly better constants than [11]. Even though we present the result of recovering exactly k -sparse signals, the results of [33] can be used to establish ℓ_1/ℓ_1 sparse recovery for the same constants. We note that in the linear sparsity regime $k = \alpha n$, the scaling of $m = cn$ is order optimal and also the obtained constants are the best known for strong bounds of basis pursuit. Still, these theoretical bounds are quite far from the observed experimental performance. Also note that the work by Zhang and Pfister [37] and by Lu *et al.* [38] use density evolution arguments to determine the precise threshold constant for sparse measurement matrices, but these are for message-passing decoding algorithms which are often not robust to noise and approximate sparsity.

In contrast to Corollary 16 that presented a strong bound, the following corollary presents a so-called weak bound (*cf.* the discussion in Section VI-A), but with a better threshold.

Corollary 17: Let $d_v \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. Consider a random measurement matrix $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times n}$ formed by placing d_v random ones in each column, and zeros elsewhere. This measurement matrix succeeds in recovering a randomly supported $k = \alpha n$

sparse vector with probability $1 - o(1)$ if α is below some threshold value $\alpha_m(d_v, m/n)$.

Proof: The result is obtained by combining Lemma 11 with [10, Theorem 1]. The latter paper also contains a way to compute the achievable threshold values $\alpha_m(d_v, m/n)$. ■

Using results about expander graphs from [10], the above corollary implies, for example, that for $m/n = 1/2$ and $d_v = 8$, a random measurement matrix will recover with high probability a $k = \alpha n$ sparse vector with random support if $\alpha \leq 0.002$. This is, of course, a much higher threshold compared to the one presented above, but it only holds with high probability over the vector support (therefore it is a so-called weak bound). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first weak bound obtained for random sparse measurement matrices under basis pursuit.

The best thresholds known for LP decoding were recently obtained by Arora, Daskalakis, and Steurer [13] but require matrices that are both left and right regular and also have logarithmically growing girth.⁸ A random bipartite matrix will not have logarithmically growing girth but there are explicit deterministic constructions that achieve this (for example the construction presented in Gallager's thesis [14, Appendix C]).

Corollary 18: Let $d_v, d_c \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. Consider a measurement matrix $\mathbf{H}_{CS} \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times n}$ whose Tanner graph is a (d_v, d_c) -regular bipartite graph with $\Omega(\log n)$ girth. This measurement matrix succeeds in recovering a randomly supported $k = \alpha n$ sparse vector with probability $1 - o(1)$ if α is below some threshold function $\alpha'_m(d_v, d_c, m/n)$.

Proof: The result is obtained by combining Lemma 11 with [13, Theorem 1]. The latter paper also contains a way to compute the achievable threshold values $\alpha'_m(d_v, d_c, m/n)$. ■

Using results from [13], the above corollary yields for $m/n = 1/2$ and a $(3, 6)$ -regular Tanner graph with logarithmic girth (obtained from Gallager's construction) the fact that sparse vectors with sparsity $k = \alpha n$ are recoverable with high probability for $\alpha \leq 0.05$. Therefore, zero-one measurement matrices based on Gallager's deterministic LDPC construction form sparse measurement matrices with an order-optimal number of measurements (and the best known constants) for the **CS-LPD** / basis pursuit setup.

A note on deterministic constructions: We say that a method to construct a measurement matrix is deterministic if it can be created deterministically in polynomial time, or it has a property that can be verified in polynomial time. Unfortunately, all known bipartite expansion-based constructions are non-deterministic because even though random constructions will have the required expansion with high probability, there is, to the best of our knowledge, no known efficient way to check expansion above $\delta > 1/2$. Similarly, there are no known ways to verify the nullspace property or the restricted isometry property of a given candidate measurement matrix in polynomial time.

⁸However, as shown in [41], these requirements on the left and right degrees can be significantly relaxed.

There are several deterministic constructions of sparse measurement matrices [42], [43] which, however, would require a slightly sub-optimal number of measurements (*i.e.*, m growing super-linearly as a function of n for $k = \alpha n$). The benefit of such constructions is that reconstruction can be performed via algorithms that are more efficient than generic convex optimization. To the best of our knowledge, there are no previously known constructions of deterministic measurement matrices with an optimal number of rows [44]. The best known constructions rely on explicit expander constructions [45], [46], but have slightly sub-optimal parameters [11], [44]. Our construction of Corollary 18 seems to be the first optimal deterministic construction.

One important technical innovation that arises from the machinery we develop is that *girth* can be used to certify good measurement matrices. Since checking and constructing high-girth graphs is much easier than constructing graphs with high expansion, we can obtain very good deterministic measurement matrices. For example, we can use Gallager's construction of LDPC matrices with logarithmic girth to obtain sparse zero-one measurement matrices with an order-optimal number of measurements under basis pursuit. The transition from expansion-based arguments to girth-based arguments was achieved for the channel coding problem in [47], then simplified and brought to a new analytical level by Arora *et al.* in [13], and afterwards generalized in [41]. Our connection results extend the applicability of these results to compressed sensing.

We note that Corollary 18 yields a weak bound, *i.e.*, the recovery of almost all k -sparse signals and therefore does not guarantee recovering all k -sparse signals as the Capalbo *et al.* [45] construction (in conjunction with Corollary 16) would ensure. On the other hand, girth-based constructions have constants that are orders of magnitude higher than the ones obtained by random expanders. Since the construction of [45] gives constants that are worse than the ones for random expanders, it seems that girth-based measurement matrices have significantly higher provable thresholds of recovery. Finally, we note that following [13], logarithmic girth $\Omega(\log n)$ will yield a probability of failure decaying exponentially in the matrix size n . However, even the much smaller girth requirement $\Omega(\log \log n)$ is sufficient to make the probability of error decay as an inverse polynomial of n .

A final remark: Chandar [48] showed that zero-one measurement matrices cannot have an optimal number of measurements if they must satisfy the restricted isometry property for the ℓ_2 norm. Note that this does not contradict our work, since, as mentioned earlier on, RIP is just a sufficient condition for signal recovery.

G. Comments on Dense Measurement Matrices

We conclude this section with some considerations about dense measurement matrices, highlighting our current understanding that the translation of positive performance guarantees from **CC-LPD** to **CS-LPD** displays the following behavior: the denser a measurement matrix is, the weaker the translated performance guarantees are.

Remark 19: Consider a randomly generated $m \times n$ measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} where every entry is generated i.i.d. according to the distribution

$$\begin{cases} +1 & \text{with probability } 1/6 \\ 0 & \text{with probability } 2/3. \\ -1 & \text{with probability } 1/6 \end{cases}$$

This matrix, after multiplying it by the scalar $\sqrt{3/n}$, has the restricted isometry property (RIP) with high probability. (See [49], which proves this property based on results in [50], which in turn proves that this family of matrices has a non-zero threshold.) On the other hand, one can show that the family of parity-check matrices where every entry is generated i.i.d. according to the distribution

$$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{with probability } 1/3 \\ 0 & \text{with probability } 2/3 \end{cases}$$

does *not* have a non-zero threshold under **CC-LPD** for the BSC [51]. \square

Therefore, we conclude that the connection between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** given by Lemma 25 (an extension of Lemma 11 that is discussed in Appendix D) is not tight for dense matrices, in the sense that the performance of **CS-LPD** for dense measurement matrices can be much better than predicted by the translation of performance results for **CC-LPD** of the corresponding parity-check matrix.

VII. REFORMULATIONS BASED ON GRAPH COVERS

The aim of this section is to tighten the already close formal relationship between **CC-LPD** and **CS-LPD** with the help of (topological) graph covers [52], [53]. We will see that the so-called (blockwise) graph-cover decoder [8] (see also [54]), which is equivalent to **CC-LPD** and which can be used to explain the close relationship between **CC-LPD** and message-passing iterative decoding algorithms like the min-sum algorithm, can be translated to the **CS-LPD** setup.

For an introduction to graph covers in general, and the graph-cover decoder in particular, see [8]. Figures 1 and 2 (taken from [8]) show the main idea behind graph covers. Namely, Figure 1 shows possible graph covers of some (general) graph and Figure 2 shows possible graph covers of some Tanner graph.

Note that in this section the compressed sensing setup will be over the complex numbers. Also, the entries of the size- $m \times n$ measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} will be allowed to take on any value in \mathbb{C} , i.e., the entries of \mathbf{H}_{CS} are not restricted to have absolute value equal to zero or one. Moreover, as in Section IV, the channel coding problem assumes an arbitrary binary-input output-symmetric memoryless channel, of which the binary-input additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) channel and the binary symmetric channel (BSC) are prominent examples. As before, $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ will be the sent vector, $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}^n$ will be the received vector, and $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ will contain the log-likelihood ratios $\lambda_i \triangleq \lambda_i(y_i) \triangleq \log\left(\frac{P_{Y|X}(y_i|0)}{P_{Y|X}(y_i|1)}\right)$, $i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$.

The rest of this section is organized as follows. In Sections VII-A and VII-B we show a variety of reformulations of

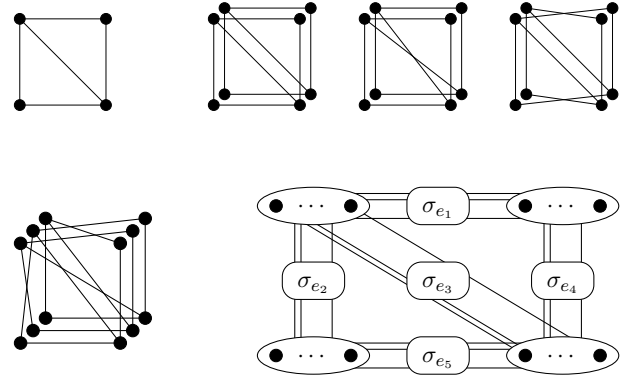


Fig. 1. Top left: base graph G . Top right: a sample of possible 2-covers of G . Bottom left: a possible 3-cover of G . Bottom right: a possible M -cover of G . Here, $\sigma_{e_1}, \dots, \sigma_{e_5}$ are arbitrary edge permutations.

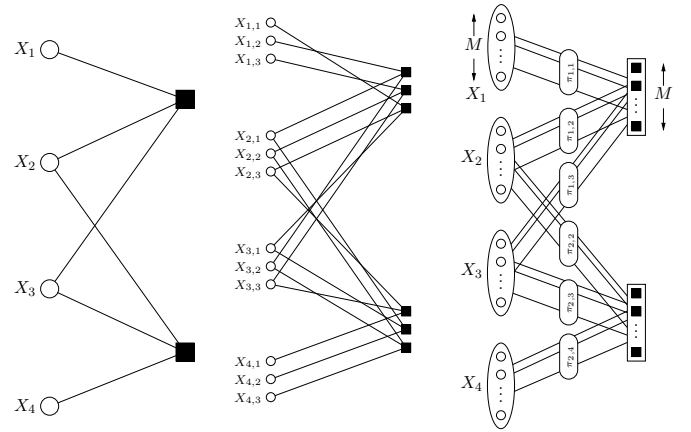


Fig. 2. Left: Tanner graph $T(\mathbf{H})$. Middle: a possible 3-cover of $T(\mathbf{H})$. Right: a possible M -cover of $T(\mathbf{H})$. Here, $\{\pi_{j,i}\}_{j,i}$ are arbitrary edge permutations.

CC-MLD and **CC-LPD**, respectively. In particular, the latter subsection shows reformulations of **CS-LPD** in terms of graph covers. Switching to compressed sensing, in Section VII-C we discuss reformulations of **CS-OPT** that allow to see the close relationship of **CC-MLD** and **CS-OPT**. Afterwards, in Section VII-D, we present reformulations of **CS-LPD** which highlight the close connections, and also the differences, between **CC-LPD** and **CS-LPD**.

A. Reformulations of **CC-MLD**

This subsection discusses several reformulations of **CC-MLD**, first for general binary-input output-symmetric memoryless channels, then for the BSC. We start by repeating two reformulations of **CC-MLD** from Section IV.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD1 : } & \text{minimize} && \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD2 : } & \text{minimize} && \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{CC}}). \end{aligned}$$

Towards yet another reformulation of **CC-MLD** that we would like to present in this subsection, it is useful to introduce the hard-decision vector $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$, along with the syndrome vector \mathbf{s} induced by $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$.

Definition 20: Let $\bar{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ be the hard-decision vector based on the log-likelihood ratio vector $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$, namely let

$$\bar{y}_i \triangleq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \lambda_i > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \lambda_i < 0 \end{cases} \quad (\text{for all } i \in \mathcal{I}).$$

(If $\lambda_i = 0$, we set $\bar{y}_i \triangleq 0$ or $\bar{y}_i \triangleq 1$ according to some deterministic or random rule.) Moreover, let

$$\mathbf{s} \triangleq \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{y}} \pmod{2}$$

be the syndrome induced by $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$. \square

Clearly, if the channel under consideration is a BSC with cross-over probability smaller than $1/2$ then $\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{y}$.

With this, we have for any binary-input output-symmetric memoryless channel the following reformulation of **CC-MLD** in terms of $\mathbf{e}' \triangleq \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}' \pmod{2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD3 : } & \text{minimize} && \|\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\text{supp}(\mathbf{e}')} \|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, once the error vector estimate \mathbf{e}' is found, the codeword estimate \mathbf{x}' is obtained with the help of the expression $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{e}' \pmod{2}$.

Note that for the special case of a binary-input AWGNC, this reformulation can be found, for example, in [55] or [56, Chapter 10].

Theorem 21: **CC-MLD3** is a reformulation of **CC-MLD1**.

Proof: See Appendix G. \blacksquare

For a BSC we can specialize the above reformulations. Namely, for a BSC with cross-over probability ε , $0 \leq \varepsilon < 1/2$, we have $|\lambda_i| = L$, $i \in \mathcal{I}$, where $L \triangleq \log(\frac{1-\varepsilon}{\varepsilon}) > 0$. Then, with a slight abuse of notation by employing $\|\cdot\|_1$ also for vectors over \mathbb{F}_2 , we obtain the following reformulation.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD4 (BSC) : } & \text{minimize} && \|\mathbf{e}'\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, with a slight abuse of notation by employing $\|\cdot\|_0$ also for vectors over \mathbb{F}_2 , **CC-MLD4** (BSC) can be written as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD5 (BSC) : } & \text{minimize} && \|\mathbf{e}'\|_0 \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

B. Reformulations of CC-LPD

We start by repeating the definition of **CC-LPD** from Section IV.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD : } & \text{minimize} && \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CC}}). \end{aligned}$$

The aim of this subsection is to discuss various reformulations of **CC-LPD** in terms of graph covers. In particular, the following reformulation of **CC-LPD** was presented in [8] and was called (blockwise) graph-cover decoding.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD1 : } & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{M} \cdot \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{\uparrow M}, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}' \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{x}}' = \mathbf{0}^{\uparrow M} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Here the minimization is over all $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and over all parity-check matrices $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}}$ induced by all possible M -covers of the Tanner graph of \mathbf{H}_{CC} .⁹

Using the same line of reasoning as in Section VII-A, **CC-LPD** can be rewritten as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD2 : } & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\text{supp}(\tilde{\mathbf{e}}')}^{\uparrow M}\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{e}}' = \mathbf{s}^{\uparrow M} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Again, the minimization is over all $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and over all parity-check matrices $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}}$ induced by all possible M -covers of the Tanner graph of \mathbf{H}_{CC} .

For the BSC with cross-over probability ε , $0 \leq \varepsilon < 1/2$, we get, with a slight abuse of notation as in Section VII-A, the following specialized results.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD3 (BSC) : } & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\tilde{\mathbf{e}}'\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{e}}' = \mathbf{s}^{\uparrow M} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD4 (BSC) : } & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\tilde{\mathbf{e}}'\|_0 \\ & \text{subject to} && \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{e}}' = \mathbf{s}^{\uparrow M} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

C. Reformulations of CS-OPT

We start by repeating the definition of **CS-OPT** from Section III.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-OPT : } & \text{minimize} && \|\mathbf{e}'\|_0 \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, this is formally very similar to **CC-MLD5** (BSC).

In order to show the tight formal relationship of **CS-OPT** with **CC-MLD** for general binary-input output-symmetric

⁹Note that here $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CC}}$ is obtained by the standard procedure to construct a graph cover [8], and not by the procedure in Definition 27 (cf. Appendix D).

memoryless channels, in particular with respect to the reformulation **CC-MLD3**, we rewrite **CS-OPT** as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-OPT1 : } & \text{minimize} && \| \mathbf{1}_{\text{supp}(\mathbf{e}')} \|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}. \end{aligned}$$

D. Reformulations of **CS-LPD**

We now come to the main part of this section, namely the reformulation of **CS-LPD** in terms of graph covers. We start by repeating the definition of **CS-LPD** from Section III.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-LPD : } & \text{minimize} && \| \mathbf{e}' \|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}. \end{aligned}$$

As shown in the upcoming Theorem 22, **CS-LPD** can be rewritten as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-LPD1 : } & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{M} \cdot \| \tilde{\mathbf{e}}' \|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{e}}' = \mathbf{s}^{\uparrow M}. \end{aligned}$$

Here the minimization is over all $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and over all measurement matrices $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}$ induced by all possible M -covers of the Tanner graph of \mathbf{H}_{CS} .

Theorem 22: **CS-LPD1** is a reformulation of **CS-LPD**.

Proof: See Appendix H. ■

Clearly, **CS-LPD1** is formally very close to **CC-LPD3** (BSC), thereby showing that graph covers can be used to exhibit yet another tight formal relationship between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD**.

Nevertheless, these graph-cover based reformulations also highlight differences between the relaxation used in the context of channel coding and the relaxation used in the context of compressed sensing.

- When relaxing **CC-MLD** to obtain **CC-LPD**, the cost function remains the same (call this property P1) but the domain is relaxed (call this property P2). In the graph-cover reformulations of **CC-LPD**, property P1 is reflected by the fact that the cost function is a straightforward generalization of the cost function for **CC-MLD**. Property P2 is reflected by the fact that in general there are feasible vectors in graph covers that cannot be explained as liftings of (convex combinations of) feasible vectors in the base graph and that, for suitable λ -vectors, have strictly lower cost function values than any feasible vector in the base graph.
- When relaxing **CS-OPT** to obtain **CS-LPD**, the cost function is changed (call this property P1'), but the domain remains the same (call this property P2'). In the graph-cover reformulations of **CS-LPD**, property P1' is reflected by the fact that the cost function is *not* a

straightforward generalization of the cost function of **CS-OPT**. Property P2' is reflected by the fact that feasible vectors in graph covers are such that they *do not* yield cost function values that are smaller than the cost function value of the best feasible vector in the base graph.

VIII. MINIMIZING THE ZERO-INFINITY OPERATOR

For any real vector \mathbf{a} we define the zero-infinity operator to be

$$\| \mathbf{a} \|_{0,\infty} \triangleq \| \mathbf{a} \|_0 \cdot \| \mathbf{a} \|_\infty,$$

i.e., the product of the zero norm $\| \mathbf{a} \|_0 = |\text{supp}(\mathbf{a})|$ of \mathbf{a} and of the infinity norm $\| \mathbf{a} \|_\infty = \max_i |a_i|$ of \mathbf{a} . Note that for any $c \in \mathbb{C}$ and any real vector \mathbf{a} it holds that $\| c \cdot \mathbf{a} \|_{0,\infty} = |c| \cdot \| \mathbf{a} \|_{0,\infty}$.

Based on this operator, in the present section we introduce **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, and we show, with the help of graph covers, that **CS-LPD** can not only be seen as a relaxation of **CS-OPT** but also as a relaxation of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}. We do this by proposing a relaxation of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, called **CS-REL**_{0,∞}, and by then showing that **CS-REL**_{0,∞} is equivalent to **CS-LPD**.

Moreover, we argue that the solution of **CS-LPD** is “closer” to the solution of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} than the solution of **CS-LPD** is to the solution of **CS-OPT**. Note that similar to **CS-OPT**, the problem **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} is in general an intractable optimization problem.

One motivation for looking for different problems whose relaxations equals **CS-LPD** is to better understand the “strengths” and “weaknesses” of **CS-LPD**. In particular, if **CS-LPD** is the relaxation of two different problems (like **CS-OPT** and **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}), but these two problems yield different solutions, then the solution of the relaxed problem will disagree with the solution of at least one of the two problems.

This section is structured as follows. We start by defining **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} in Section VIII-A. Then, in Section VIII-B, we discuss some geometrical aspects of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, in particular with respect to the geometry behind **CS-OPT** and **CS-LPD**. Finally, in Section VIII-C, we introduce **CS-REL**_{0,∞} and show its equivalence to **CS-LPD**.

A. Definition of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}

The optimization problem **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} is defined as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-OPT}_{0,\infty} : & \text{minimize} && \| \mathbf{e}' \|_{0,\infty} \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{s}. \end{aligned}$$

Whereas the cost function of **CS-OPT**, *i.e.*, $\| \mathbf{e}' \|_0$, measures the sparsity of \mathbf{e}' but not the magnitude of the elements of \mathbf{e}' , the cost function of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, *i.e.*, $\| \mathbf{e}' \|_{0,\infty}$, represents a trade-off between measuring the sparsity of \mathbf{e}' and measuring the largest magnitude of the components of \mathbf{e}' . Clearly, in the same way that there are many good reasons to look for the vector \mathbf{e}' that minimizes the zero-norm (among all \mathbf{e}' that

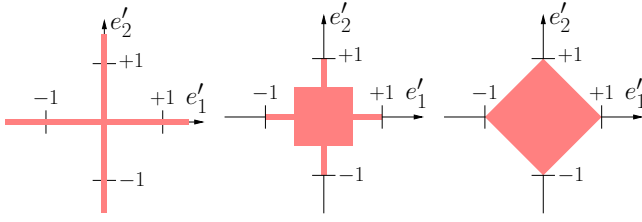


Fig. 3. Unit balls for some operators. Left: $\{e' \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|e'\|_0 \leq 1\}$. Middle: $\{e' \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|e'\|_{0,\infty} \leq 1\}$. Right: $\{e' \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|e'\|_1 \leq 1\}$.

satisfy $H_{CS} \cdot e' = s$, there are also many good reasons to look for the vector e' that minimizes the zero-infinity operator (among all e' that satisfy $H_{CS} \cdot e' = s$). In particular, the latter is attractive when we are looking for a sparse vector e' that does not have an imbalance in magnitudes between the largest component and the set of most important components.

With a slight abuse of notation, we can apply the zero-infinity operator $\|\cdot\|_{0,\infty}$ also to vectors over \mathbb{F}_2 and obtain the following reformulation of **CC-MLD** (BSC). (Note that for any vector a over \mathbb{F}_2 it holds that $\|a\|_{0,\infty} = \|a\|_1 = w_H(a)$.)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-MLD6 (BSC)} : \quad & \text{minimize} \quad \|e'\|_{0,\infty} \\ & \text{subject to} \quad H_{CC} \cdot e' = s. \end{aligned}$$

This clearly shows that there is a close formal relationship not only between **CC-MLD** (BSC) and **CS-OPT**, but also between **CC-MLD** (BSC) and **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}.

B. Geometrical Aspects of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}

We want to discuss some geometrical aspects of **CS-OPT**, **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, and **CS-LPD**. Namely, as is well known, **CS-OPT** can be formulated as finding the smallest ℓ_0 -norm ball of radius r (cf. Figure 3 (left)) that intersects the set $\{e' \mid H_{CS} \cdot e' = s\}$, and in the same spirit, **CS-LPD** can be formulated as finding the smallest ℓ_1 -norm ball of radius r (cf. Figure 3 (right)) that intersects with the set $\{e' \mid H_{CS} \cdot e' = s\}$. Clearly, the fact that **CS-OPT** and **CS-LPD** can yield different solutions stems from the fact that these balls have different shapes. Of course, the success of **CS-LPD** is a consequence of the fact that, nevertheless, under suitable conditions, the solution given by the ℓ_1 -norm ball is (nearly) the same as the solution given by the ℓ_0 -norm ball.

In the same vein, **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} can be formulated as finding the smallest zero-infinity-operator ball of radius r (cf. Figure 3 (middle)) that intersects the set $\{e' \mid H_{CS} \cdot e' = s\}$. As it can be seen from Figure 3, the zero-infinity-operator unit ball is closer in shape to the ℓ_1 -norm unit ball than the ℓ_0 -norm unit ball is to the ℓ_1 -norm unit ball. Therefore, we expect that the solution given by **CS-LPD** is “closer” to the solution given by **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} than the solution of **CS-LPD** is to the solution given by **CS-OPT**. In that sense, **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} is at least as justifiably as **CS-OPT** a difficult optimization problem whose solution is approximated by **CS-LPD**.

C. Relaxation of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}

In this subsection we introduce **CS-REL**_{0,∞} as a relaxation of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}; the main result will be that **CS-REL**_{0,∞} equals **CS-LPD**. Our results will be formulated in terms of graph covers, we therefore use the graph-cover related notation that was introduced in Section VII, along with the mapping φ_M that was defined in Section II.

In order to motivate the formulation of **CS-REL**_{0,∞}, we first present a reformulation of **CC-LPD** (BSC). Namely, **CC-LPD3** (BSC) or **CC-LPD4** (BSC) from Section VII-B can be rewritten as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD5 (BSC)} : \quad & \text{minimize} \quad \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\tilde{e}'\|_{0,\infty} \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \tilde{H}_{CC} \cdot \tilde{e}' = s^{\uparrow M} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, because for any vector $\tilde{s} \in \mathbb{F}_2^{|\mathcal{J}|\cdot M}$ it holds that $\varphi_M(\tilde{s}) = s$ if and only if $\tilde{s} = s^{\uparrow M}$, **CC-LPD5** (BSC) can also be written as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CC-LPD6 (BSC)} : \quad & \text{minimize} \quad \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\tilde{e}'\|_{0,\infty} \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \tilde{H}_{CC} \cdot \tilde{e}' = \tilde{s} \pmod{2} \\ & \quad \varphi_M(\tilde{s}) = s. \end{aligned}$$

The transition that leads from **CC-MLD** to its relaxation **CC-LPD6** (BSC) inspires a relaxation of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CS-REL}_{0,\infty} : \quad & \text{minimize} \quad \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\tilde{e}'\|_{0,\infty} \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \tilde{H}_{CS} \cdot \tilde{e}' = \tilde{s} \\ & \quad \varphi_M(\tilde{s}) = s. \end{aligned}$$

Here the minimization is over all $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and over all measurement matrices \tilde{H}_{CS} induced by all possible M -covers of the Tanner graph of H_{CS} . Note that, in contrast to **CC-LPD6** (BSC), in general the optimal solution (\tilde{e}, \tilde{s}) of **CS-REL**_{0,∞} does *not* satisfy $\tilde{s} = s^{\uparrow M}$.

Towards establishing the equivalence of **CS-REL**_{0,∞} and **CS-LPD**, the following simple lemma will prove to be useful.

Lemma 23: For any real vector a it holds that

$$\|a\|_1 \leq \|a\|_{0,\infty},$$

with equality if and only if all non-zero components of a have the same absolute value.

Proof: The proof of this lemma is straightforward. ■

Theorem 24: Let H_{CS} be a measurement matrix over the reals with entries equal to zero, one, and minus one. For syndrome vectors s that have only rational components, **CS-LPD** and **CS-REL**_{0,∞} are equivalent in the sense that there is an optimal e' in **CS-LPD** and an optimal \tilde{e}' in **CS-REL**_{0,∞} such that $e' = \varphi_M(\tilde{e}')$.

Proof: See Appendix I. ■

IX. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

In this paper we have established a mathematical connection between channel coding and compressed sensing LP relaxations. The key observation, in its simplest version, was that points in the nullspace of a zero-one matrix (considered over the reals) can be mapped to points in the fundamental cone of the same matrix (considered as the parity-check matrix of a code over \mathbb{F}_2). This allowed us to show, among other results, that parity-check matrices of “good” channel codes can be used as provably “good” measurement matrices under basis pursuit.

Let us comment on a variety of topics.

- In addition to **CS-LPD**, a number of combinatorial algorithms (*e.g.* [11], [31], [32], [35], [57], [58]) have been proposed for compressed sensing problems, with the benefit of faster decoding complexity and comparable performance to **CS-LPD**. It would be interesting to investigate if the connection of sparse recovery problems to channel coding extends in a similar manner for these decoders. One example of such a clear connection is the bit-flipping algorithm of Sipser and Spielman [39] and the corresponding algorithm for compressed sensing by Xu and Hassibi [31]. Channel-coding-inspired message-passing decoders for compressed sensing problems were also recently discussed in [37], [38], [59]–[61].
 - An interesting research direction is to use optimized LDPC matrices (see, *e.g.* [23]) to create measurement matrices. There is a large body of channel coding work that could be transferable to the measurement matrix design problem.
- In this context, an important theoretical question is related to being able to certify in polynomial time that a given measurement matrix has “good” performance. To the best of our knowledge, our results form the first known case where girth, an efficiently checkable property, can be used as a certificate of goodness of a measurement matrix. It is possible that girth can be used to establish a success witness for **CS-LPD** directly, and this would be an interesting direction for future research.
- One important research direction in compressed sensing involves dealing with noisy measurements. This problem can still be addressed with ℓ_1 minimization (see, *e.g.*, [62]) and also with less complex signal reconstruction algorithms (see, *e.g.*, [63]). It would be very interesting to investigate if our nullspace connections can be extended to a coding theory result equivalent to noisy compressed sensing.
 - Beyond channel coding problems, the LP relaxation of [6] is a special case of a relaxation of the marginal polytope for general graphical models. One very interesting research direction is to explore if the connection we have established between **CS-LPD** and **CC-LPD** is also just a special case of a more general theory.
 - We have also discussed various reformulations of the optimization problems under investigation. This leads to a strengthening of the ties between some of the optimization problems. Moreover, we have introduced the zero-

infinity operator optimization problem **CS-OPT**_{0,∞}, an optimization problem with the property that the solution of **CS-LPD** can be considered to be at least as good an approximation of the solution of **CS-OPT**_{0,∞} as the solution of **CS-LPD** is an approximation of the solution of **CS-OPT**. We leave it as an open question if the results and observations of Section VIII can be generalized for more general matrices or specific families of signals (like non-negative sparse signals as in [64], [65]).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank Babak Hassibi and Waheed Bajwa for stimulating discussions with respect to the topic of this paper. Moreover, we greatly appreciate the reviewers’ comments that lead to an improved presentation of the results.

APPENDIX A PROOF OF THEOREM 5

Suppose that \mathbf{H}_{CS} has the claimed nullspace property. Since $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{s}$ and $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{s}$, it easily follows that $\boldsymbol{\nu} \triangleq \mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}$ is in the nullspace of \mathbf{H}_{CS} . So,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1 + \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 &= \|\mathbf{e}\|_1 \\
 &\stackrel{(a)}{\geq} \|\hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_1 \\
 &= \|\mathbf{e} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1 \\
 &= \|\mathbf{e}_S - \boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \\
 &\stackrel{(b)}{\geq} \|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1 - \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 - \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \\
 &\stackrel{(c)}{\geq} \|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1 + \frac{C-1}{C+1} \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1 - \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}}\|_1, \quad (5)
 \end{aligned}$$

where step (a) follows from the fact that the solution of **CS-LPD** satisfies $\|\hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_1 \leq \|\mathbf{e}\|_1$, where step (b) follows from applying the triangle inequality property of the ℓ_1 -norm twice, and where step (c) follows from

$$-\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \stackrel{(d)}{\geq} \frac{C-1}{C+1} \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1.$$

Here, step (d) is a consequence of

$$\begin{aligned}
 (C+1) \cdot (-\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1) \\
 &= -C \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 - \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + C \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \\
 &\stackrel{(e)}{\geq} -\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 - \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + C \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 + C \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 \\
 &= (C-1) \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + (C-1) \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \\
 &= (C-1) \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where step (e) follows from applying twice the fact that $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ and the assumption that $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \in \text{NSP}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\leq}(k, C)$. Subtracting the term $\|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1$ on both sides of (5), and solving for $\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1 = \|\mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_1$ yields the promised result.

APPENDIX B PROOF OF LEMMA 8

Without loss of generality, we can assume that the all-zero codeword was transmitted. Let $+L > 0$ be the log-likelihood ratio associated with a received 0, and let $-L < 0$ be the

log-likelihood ratio associated with a received 1. Therefore, $\lambda_i = +L$ if $i \in \overline{\mathcal{S}}$ and $\lambda_i = -L$ if $i \in \mathcal{S}$. Then it follows from the assumptions in the lemma statement that for any $\omega \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}_{CC}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$ it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\omega} \rangle &= \sum_{i \in \overline{\mathcal{S}}} (+L) \cdot \omega_i + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} (-L) \cdot \omega_i \\ &\stackrel{(a)}{=} L \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\overline{\mathcal{S}}}\|_1 - L \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \stackrel{(b)}{>} 0 = \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{0} \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where step (a) follows from the fact that $|\omega_i| = \omega_i$ for all $i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{CC})$, and where step (b) follows from (4). Therefore, under **CC-LPD** the all-zero codeword has the lowest cost function value when compared to all non-zero pseudo-codewords in the fundamental cone, and therefore also compared to all non-zero pseudo-codewords in the fundamental polytope.

APPENDIX C PROOF OF LEMMA 10

Case 1: Let $|\mathcal{S}| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$. The proof is by contradiction: assume that $\|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\overline{\mathcal{S}}}\|_1$. This statement is clearly equivalent to the statement that $2 \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\overline{\mathcal{S}}}\|_1 = \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_1$, which is equivalent to the statement that $\|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_1$. In terms of the notation in Definition 9, this means that

$$\begin{aligned} w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) &= 2 \cdot F^{-1} \left(\frac{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_1}{2} \right) \stackrel{(a)}{\leq} 2 \cdot F^{-1}(\|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1) \\ &\stackrel{(b)}{\leq} 2 \cdot \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1}{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_{\infty}} \leq 2 \cdot \frac{|\mathcal{S}| \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_{\infty}}{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_{\infty}} = 2 \cdot |\mathcal{S}|, \end{aligned}$$

where at step (a) we have used the fact that F^{-1} is a (strictly) non-decreasing function and where at step (b) we have used the fact that the slope of F^{-1} (over the domain where F^{-1} is defined) is at least $1/\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_{\infty}$. The obtained inequality, however, is a contradiction to the assumption that $|\mathcal{S}| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$.

Case 2: Let $|\mathcal{S}| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$. The proof is by contradiction: assume that $\|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\overline{\mathcal{S}}}\|_1$. Then, using the definition of $\boldsymbol{\omega}'$ based on $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ (cf. Section IV-C), we obtain

$$\|\boldsymbol{\omega}'_{\{1, \dots, |\mathcal{S}|\}}\|_1 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\omega}_{\overline{\mathcal{S}}}\|_1 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\omega}'_{\{|\mathcal{S}|+1, \dots, n\}}\|_1.$$

If $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$ is an even integer, then the above line of inequalities shows that $|\mathcal{S}| \geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$, which is a contradiction to the assumption that $|\mathcal{S}| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$. If $w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$ is an odd integer, then the above line of inequalities shows that $|\mathcal{S}| \geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot (w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) + 1) > \frac{1}{2} w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$, which again is a contradiction to the assumption that $|\mathcal{S}| < \frac{1}{2} \cdot w_p^{\text{BSC}'}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$.

APPENDIX D EXTENSIONS OF THE BRIDGE LEMMA

The aim of this appendix is to extend Lemma 11 (cf. Section V) to measurement matrices beyond zero-one matrices. In that vein we will present three generalizations in Lemmas 25, 29, and 31. Note that the setup in this appendix will be slightly more general than the compressed sensing setup in Section III (and in most of the rest of this paper). In particular, we allow matrices and vectors to be over \mathbb{C} , and not just over \mathbb{R} .

We will need some additional notation. Namely, similarly to the way that we have extended the absolute value operator

$|\cdot|$ from scalars to vectors at the beginning of Section V, we will now extend its use from scalars to matrices.

Moreover, we let $|\cdot|_*$ be an arbitrary norm for the complex numbers. As such, $|\cdot|_*$ satisfies for any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$ the triangle inequality $|a+b|_* \leq |a|_* + |b|_*$ and the equality $|c \cdot a|_* = |c| \cdot |a|_*$. In the same way the absolute value operator $|\cdot|$ was extended from scalars to vectors and matrices, we extend the norm operator $|\cdot|_*$ from scalars to vectors and matrices.

We let $\|\cdot\|_*$ be an arbitrary vector norm for complex vectors that reduces to $|\cdot|_*$ for vectors with one component. As such, $\|\cdot\|_*$ satisfies for any $c \in \mathbb{C}$ and any complex vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} with the same number of components the triangle inequality $\|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\|_* \leq \|\mathbf{a}\|_* + \|\mathbf{b}\|_*$ and the equality $\|c \cdot \mathbf{a}\|_* = |c| \cdot \|\mathbf{a}\|_*$.

We are now ready to discuss our first extension of Lemma 11, which generalizes the setup of that lemma from real measurement matrices where every entry is equal to either zero or one to complex measurement matrices where the absolute value of every entry is equal to either zero or one. Note that the upcoming lemma also generalizes the mapping that is applied to the vectors in the nullspace of the measurement matrix.

Lemma 25: Let $\mathbf{H}_{CS} = (h_{j,i})_{j,i}$ be a measurement matrix over \mathbb{C} such that $|h_{j,i}| \in \{0, 1\}$ for all $(j, i) \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{CS}) \times \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{CS})$, and let $|\cdot|_*$ be an arbitrary norm on \mathbb{C} . Then

$$\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{CS}) \Rightarrow |\boldsymbol{\nu}|_* \in \mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{CS}|).$$

Remark: Note that $\text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\nu}) = \text{supp}(|\boldsymbol{\nu}|_*)$.

Proof: Let $\boldsymbol{\omega} \triangleq |\boldsymbol{\nu}|_*$. In order to show that such a vector $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is indeed in the fundamental cone of $|\mathbf{H}_{CS}|$, we need to verify (2) and (3). The way $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is defined, it is clear that it satisfies (2). Therefore, let us focus on the proof that $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ satisfies (3). Namely, from $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{CS})$ it follows that for all $j \in \mathcal{J}$, $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} h_{j,i} \nu_i = 0$. For all $j \in \mathcal{J}$ and all $i \in \mathcal{I}_j$ this implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_i &= |\nu_i|_* = |h_{j,i}| \cdot |\nu_i|_* = |h_{j,i} \nu_i|_* = \left| - \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} h_{j,i'} \nu_{i'} \right|_* \\ &\leq \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} |h_{j,i'} \nu_{i'}|_* = \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} |h_{j,i'}| \cdot |\nu_{i'}|_* = \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} |\nu_{i'}|_* \\ &= \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} \omega_{i'}, \end{aligned}$$

showing that $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ indeed satisfies (3). ■

Example 26: The measurement matrix

$$\mathbf{H}_{CS} \triangleq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1+i) \\ -1 & i & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfies

$$|\mathbf{H}_{CS}| = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

and so Lemma 25 is applicable. An example of a vector in $\text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{CS})$ is

$$\boldsymbol{\nu} \triangleq \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1+i), \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right), -1 \right).$$

Choosing $|\cdot|_* \triangleq |\cdot|$, we obtain

$$|\nu|_* = \left(1, \sqrt{2+\sqrt{2}}, 1\right) = (1, 1.848\dots, 1) \in \mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|).$$

□

The second extension of Lemma 11 generalizes that lemma to hold also for complex measurement matrices where the absolute value of every entry is an integer. In order to present this lemma, we need the following definition, which is subsequently illustrated by Example 28.

Definition 27: Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} = (h_{j,i})_{j,i}$ be a measurement matrix over \mathbb{C} such that $|h_{j,i}| \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ for all $(j,i) \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \times \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$, and let $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ be such that $M \geq \max_{(j,i)} |h_{j,i}|$. We define an M -fold cover $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}$ of \mathbf{H}_{CS} as follows: for $(j,i) \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \times \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$, if the scalar $h_{j,i}$ is non-zero then it is replaced by a matrix, namely $h_{j,i}/|h_{j,i}|$ times the sum of $|h_{j,i}|$ arbitrary $M \times M$ permutation matrices with non-overlapping support. However, if $h_{j,i} = 0$ then the scalar $h_{j,i}$ is replaced by an all-zero matrix of size $M \times M$. □

Note that all entries of the matrix $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}$ in Definition 27 have absolute value equal to either zero or one.

Example 28: Let

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \triangleq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \sqrt{2}(1+i) \\ -2 & i & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Clearly

$$|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}| = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix},$$

and so, choosing $M \triangleq 3$ and

$$\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}} \triangleq \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \hline 0 & -1 & -1 & i & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & i & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & i & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right),$$

we obtain a matrix described by the procedure of Definition 27. □

Lemma 29: Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} = (h_{j,i})_{j,i}$ be a measurement matrix over \mathbb{C} such that $|h_{j,i}| \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ for all $(j,i) \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \times \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$. Let $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ be such that $M \geq \max_{(j,i)} |h_{j,i}|$, and let $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}$ be a matrix obtained by the procedure in Definition 27. Moreover, let $|\cdot|_*$ be an arbitrary norm on \mathbb{C} . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) &\Rightarrow \nu^{\uparrow M} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}) \\ &\Rightarrow |\nu^{\uparrow M}|_* \in \mathcal{K}(|\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}|). \end{aligned}$$

Additionally, with respect to the first implication sign we have the following converse: for any $\tilde{\nu} \in \mathbb{C}^{Mn}$ we have

$$\varphi_M(\tilde{\nu}) \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \iff \tilde{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}).$$

Proof: Let $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}} = (\tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)})_{(j,m'),(i,m)}$. Note that by the construction in Definition 27, it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m' \in [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} &= h_{j,i} \quad \text{for any } (j,i) \in \mathcal{J} \times \mathcal{I} \times [M], \\ \sum_{m \in [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} &= h_{j,i} \quad \text{for any } (j,m',i) \in \mathcal{J} \times [M] \times \mathcal{I}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$. Then, for every $(j,m') \in \mathcal{J} \times [M]$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{(i,m) \in \mathcal{I} \times [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} \nu_{(i,m)}^{\uparrow M} &= \sum_{(i,m) \in \mathcal{I} \times [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} \nu_i \\ &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \nu_i \sum_{m \in [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \nu_i h_{j,i} = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the assumption that $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$. Therefore $\nu^{\uparrow M} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}})$. Because $|\tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)}| \in \{0,1\}$ for all $(j,m',i,m) \in \mathcal{J} \times [M] \times \mathcal{I} \times [M]$, we can then apply Lemma 25 to conclude that $|\nu^{\uparrow M}|_* \in \mathcal{K}(|\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}|)$.

Now, in order to prove the last part of the lemma, assume that $\tilde{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}})$ and define $\nu \triangleq \varphi_M(\tilde{\nu})$. Then for every $j \in \mathcal{J}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} h_{j,i} \nu_i &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} h_{j,i} \cdot \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m \in [M]} \tilde{\nu}_{(i,m)} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{m \in [M]} h_{j,i} \cdot \tilde{\nu}_{(i,m)} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{m \in [M]} \sum_{m' \in [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} \cdot \tilde{\nu}_{(i,m)} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m' \in [M]} \left(\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{m \in [M]} \tilde{h}_{(j,m'),(i,m)} \cdot \tilde{\nu}_{(i,m)} \right) \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the assumption that $\tilde{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}})$, i.e., for every $(j,m') \in \mathcal{J} \times [M]$ the expression in parentheses equals zero. Therefore, $\nu = \varphi_M(\tilde{\nu}) \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$. ■

Example 30: Consider the measurement matrix \mathbf{H}_{CS} of Example 28. A possible vector in $\text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$ is given by

$$\nu \triangleq \left(\sqrt{2}(1+i), 2\sqrt{2}-i(3+2\sqrt{2}), -1 \right).$$

Applying Lemma 29 with $M \triangleq 3$ and $|\cdot|_* \triangleq |\cdot|$, we obtain

$$|\nu^{\uparrow 3}|_* = (2, 2, 2, \alpha, \alpha, \alpha, 1, 1, 1) \in \mathcal{K}(|\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}|),$$

where $\alpha = \sqrt{25+12\sqrt{2}} = 6.478\dots$, and where $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{CS}}$ can be chosen as in Example 28. □

Our third extension of Lemma 11 generalizes the mapping that is applied to the vectors in the nullspace of the measurement matrix.

Lemma 31: Let $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} = (h_{j,i})_{j,i}$ be a measurement matrix over \mathbb{C} such that $|h_{j,i}| \in \{0,1\}$ for all $(j,i) \in \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \times \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$. Let $L \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, let $\|\cdot\|_*$ be an arbitrary norm for

complex vectors, and let $\{\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)}\}_{\ell \in [L]}$ be a collection of vectors with n components. Then

$$\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(1)}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\nu}^{(L)} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|),$$

where $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined such that for all $i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$,

$$\omega_i = \left\| \left(\nu_i^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_i^{(L)} \right) \right\|_*.$$

Proof: The proof is very similar to the proof of Lemma 25. Namely, in order to show that $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is indeed in the fundamental cone of $|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|$, we need to verify (2) and (3). The way $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is defined, it is clear that it satisfies (2). Therefore, let us focus on the proof that $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ satisfies (3). Namely, from $\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$, $\ell \in [L]$, it follows that $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} h_{j,i} \nu_i^{(\ell)} = 0$, $j \in \mathcal{J}$, $\ell \in [L]$. For all $j \in \mathcal{J}$ and all $i \in \mathcal{I}_j$ this implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_i &= \left\| \left(\nu_i^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_i^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= |h_{j,i}| \cdot \left\| \left(\nu_i^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_i^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= \left\| \left(h_{j,i} \nu_i^{(1)}, \dots, h_{j,i} \nu_i^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= \left\| \left(-\sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} h_{j,i'} \nu_{i'}^{(1)}, \dots, -\sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} h_{j,i'} \nu_{i'}^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= \left\| -\sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} h_{j,i'} \cdot \left(\nu_{i'}^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_{i'}^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &\leq \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} \left\| h_{j,i'} \cdot \left(\nu_{i'}^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_{i'}^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I} \setminus i} |h_{j,i'}| \cdot \left\| \left(\nu_{i'}^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_{i'}^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} \left\| \left(\nu_{i'}^{(1)}, \dots, \nu_{i'}^{(L)} \right) \right\|_* \\ &= \sum_{i' \in \mathcal{I}_j \setminus i} \omega_{i'}, \end{aligned}$$

showing that $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ indeed satisfies (3). \blacksquare

Corollary 32: Consider the setup of Lemma 31. Let $L \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, and select L arbitrary scalars $\alpha^{(\ell)} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $\ell \in [L]$, and L arbitrary vectors $\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$, $\ell \in [L]$.

- For $\|\cdot\|_* \triangleq \|\cdot\|_1$ we have

$$\sum_{\ell \in [L]} \alpha^{(\ell)} |\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)}| \in \mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|).$$

- For $\|\cdot\|_* \triangleq \|\cdot\|_2$ we have

$$\sqrt{\sum_{\ell \in [L]} (\alpha^{(\ell)})^2 \|\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)}\|^2} \in \mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|),$$

where the square root and the square of a vector are understood component-wise.

Proof: These are straightforward consequences of applying Lemma 31 to $\{\alpha^{(\ell)} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)}\}_{\ell \in [L]}$. \blacksquare

Because $\mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$ is a convex cone, the first statement in Corollary 32 can also be proven by combining $|\boldsymbol{\nu}^{(\ell)}| \in \mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$, $\ell \in [L]$, with the fact that any conic combination of vectors in $\mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$ is a vector in $\mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$. In that respect, the second statement of Corollary 32 is noteworthy in the sense that although L vectors in $\mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$ are combined in a “non-conic” way, we nevertheless obtain a vector in $\mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$. (Of course, for the latter to work it is important that these L vectors are not arbitrary vectors in $\mathcal{K}(|\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}|)$ but that they are derived from vectors in the \mathbb{C} -nullspace of \mathbf{H}_{CS} .)

We conclude this appendix with two remarks. First, it is clear that Lemma 31 can be extended in the same way as Lemma 29 extends Lemma 25. Second, although most of Section VI is devoted to using Lemma 11 for translating “positive results” about **CC-LPD** to “positive results” about **CS-LPD**, it is clear that Lemmas 25, 29, and 31 can equally well be the basis for translating results from **CC-LPD** to **CS-LPD**.

APPENDIX E PROOF OF THEOREM 13

By definition, \mathbf{e} is the original signal. Since $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{s}$ and $\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{s}$, it easily follows that $\boldsymbol{\nu} \triangleq \mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}$ is in the nullspace of \mathbf{H}_{CS} . So,

$$\|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1 + \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 = \|\mathbf{e}\|_1 \quad (6)$$

$$\stackrel{(a)}{\geq} \|\hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_1$$

$$= \|\mathbf{e} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1$$

$$= \|\mathbf{e}_S - \boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1$$

$$\stackrel{(b)}{\geq} \|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1 - \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 - \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \quad (7)$$

$$\stackrel{(c)}{\geq} \|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1 + (\sqrt{C'} - 2\sqrt{k}) \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2 - \|\mathbf{e}_{\bar{S}}\|_1, \quad (8)$$

where step (a) follows from the fact that the solution of **CS-LPD** satisfies $\|\hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_1 \leq \|\mathbf{e}\|_1$ and where step (b) follows from applying the triangle inequality property of the ℓ_1 -norm twice. Moreover, step (c) follows from

$$-\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1 + \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\bar{S}}\|_1 = \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1 - 2\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1$$

$$\stackrel{(d)}{\geq} \sqrt{C'} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2 - 2\|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_1$$

$$\stackrel{(e)}{\geq} \sqrt{C'} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2 - 2\sqrt{k} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}_S\|_2$$

$$\stackrel{(f)}{\geq} \sqrt{C'} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2 - 2\sqrt{k} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2$$

$$= (\sqrt{C'} - 2\sqrt{k}) \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2,$$

where step (d) follows from the assumption that $w_p^{\text{AWGNC}}(|\boldsymbol{\nu}|) \geq C'$ holds for all $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}}) \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$, i.e., that $\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_1 \geq \sqrt{C'} \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2$ holds for all $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{H}_{\text{CS}})$, where step (e) follows from the inequality $\|\mathbf{a}\|_1 \leq \sqrt{k} \cdot \|\mathbf{a}\|_2$ that holds for any real vector \mathbf{a} with k components, and where step (f) follows from the inequality $\|\mathbf{a}_S\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{a}\|_2$ that holds for any real vector \mathbf{a} whose set of coordinate indices includes S . Subtracting the term $\|\mathbf{e}_S\|_1$ on both sides of (6)–(8), and solving for $\|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}\|_2$, we obtain the claim.

APPENDIX F
PROOF OF THEOREM 14

By definition, e is the original signal. Since $H_{CS} \cdot e = s$ and $H_{CS} \cdot \hat{e} = s$, it easily follows that $\nu \triangleq e - \hat{e}$ is in the nullspace of H_{CS} . So,

$$\begin{aligned} \|e_S\|_1 + \|e_{\bar{S}}\|_1 &= \|e\|_1 \\ &\stackrel{(a)}{\geq} \|e_S\|_1 - \|\nu_S\|_1 + \|\nu_{\bar{S}}\|_1 - \|e_{\bar{S}}\|_1 \\ &\stackrel{(b)}{\geq} \|e_S\|_1 + (C' - 2k) \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty - \|e_{\bar{S}}\|_1, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where step (a) follows from the same line of reasoning as in going from (6) to (7), and where step (b) follows from

$$\begin{aligned} -\|\nu_S\|_1 + \|\nu_{\bar{S}}\|_1 &= \|\nu\|_1 - 2 \cdot \|\nu_S\|_1 \\ &\stackrel{(c)}{\geq} C' \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty - 2 \cdot \|\nu_S\|_1 \\ &\stackrel{(d)}{\geq} C' \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty - 2k \cdot \|\nu_S\|_\infty \\ &\stackrel{(e)}{\geq} C' \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty - 2k \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty \\ &= (C' - 2k) \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty, \end{aligned}$$

where step (c) follows from the assumption that $w_{\max-\text{frac}}(|\nu|) \geq C'$ holds for all $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(H_{CS}) \setminus \{0\}$, i.e., $\|\nu\|_1 \geq C' \cdot \|\nu\|_\infty$ holds for all $\nu \in \text{Nullsp}_{\mathbb{R}}(H_{CS})$, where step (d) follows from the inequality $\|a\|_1 \leq k \cdot \|a\|_\infty$ that holds for any real vector a with k components, and where step (e) follows the inequality $\|a_S\|_\infty \leq \|a\|_\infty$ that holds for any real vector a whose set of coordinate indices includes S . Subtracting the term $\|e_S\|_1$ on both sides of (9)–(10), and solving for $\|\nu\|_\infty = \|e - \hat{e}\|_\infty$ we obtain the claim.

APPENDIX G
PROOF OF THEOREM 21

In a first step, we discuss the reformulation of the cost function. Namely, for arbitrary $x' \in \mathcal{C}_{CC}$, let $e' \triangleq \bar{y} - x' \pmod{2}$, i.e., $x'_i = \bar{y}_i - e'_i = \bar{y}_i + e'_i \pmod{2}$ for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i x'_i &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i (\bar{y}_i + e'_i - 2\bar{y}_i e'_i) \\ &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i \bar{y}_i + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i \cdot (1 - 2\bar{y}_i) \cdot e'_i \\ &\stackrel{(b)}{=} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i \bar{y}_i + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} |\lambda_i| \cdot e'_i, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where at step (a) we used the fact that for $a, b \in \{0, 1\}$, the result of $a + b \pmod{2}$ can be written over the reals as $a + b - 2ab$, and at step (b) we used the fact that for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$, $\lambda_i \cdot (1 - 2\bar{y}_i) = |\lambda_i|$. Notice that the first sum in the last line of (11) is only a function of y , hence minimizing $\langle \lambda, x' \rangle = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i x'_i$ over x' is equivalent to minimizing $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} |\lambda_i| \cdot e'_i = \langle |\lambda|, e' \rangle = \|\lambda_{\text{supp}(e')}\|_1$ over e' .

In a second step, we discuss the reformulation of the constraint. Namely, for arbitrary $x' \in \mathcal{C}_{CC}$, and corresponding $e' \triangleq \bar{y} - x' \pmod{2}$, we have $H_{CC} \cdot e' = H_{CC} \cdot (\bar{y} - x') = H_{CC} \cdot \bar{y} - H_{CC} \cdot x' = H_{CC} \cdot \bar{y} - 0 = s \pmod{2}$.

APPENDIX H
PROOF OF THEOREM 22

Because for $M = 1$ the measurement matrix \tilde{H}_{CS} equals the measurement matrix H_{CS} , it is clear that any feasible vector of **CS-LPD** yields a feasible vector of **CS-LPD1**.

Therefore, let us show that for $M > 1$ no feasible vector of **CS-LPD1** yields a smaller cost function value than the cost function value of the best feasible vector in the base Tanner graph. To that end, we demonstrate that for any $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, any M -cover based \tilde{H}_{CS} , and any \tilde{e}' with $\tilde{H}_{CS} \cdot \tilde{e}' = s^{\uparrow M}$, the cost function value of \tilde{e}' is never smaller than the cost function value of the feasible vector in the base Tanner graph given by the projection $\varphi_M(\tilde{e}')$. Indeed, the cost function value of $\varphi_M(\tilde{e}')$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi_M(\tilde{e}')\|_1 &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \left| \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m \in [M]} \tilde{e}'_{i,m} \right| \leq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m \in [M]} |\tilde{e}'_{i,m}| \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{m \in [M]} |\tilde{e}'_{i,m}| = \frac{1}{M} \cdot \|\tilde{e}'\|_1, \end{aligned}$$

i.e., it is never larger than the cost function value of \tilde{e}' . Moreover, since $\tilde{H}_{CS} \cdot \tilde{e}' = s^{\uparrow M}$ implies that $H_{CS} \cdot \varphi_M(\tilde{e}') = s$, we have proven the claim that $\varphi_M(\tilde{e}') = s$ is a feasible vector in the base Tanner graph.

APPENDIX I
PROOF OF THEOREM 24

The proof has two parts. First we show that the minimal cost function value of **CS-REL**_{0,∞} is never smaller than the minimal cost function value of **CS-LPD**. Second, we show that for any vector that minimizes the cost function of **CS-LPD** there is a graph cover and a configuration therein whose zero-infinity operator equals the minimal cost function value of **CS-LPD**.

We prove the first part. Let e' minimize $\|e'\|_1$ over all e' such that $H_{CS} \cdot e' = s$. For any $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, any \tilde{H}_{CS} whose Tanner graph is an M -cover of the Tanner graph of H_{CS} , and any (\tilde{e}', \tilde{s}) with $\tilde{H}_{CS} \cdot \tilde{e}' = \tilde{s}$ and $\varphi_M(\tilde{s}) = s$, it holds that

$$\frac{1}{M} \|\tilde{e}'\|_{0,\infty} \stackrel{(a)}{\geq} \frac{1}{M} \|\tilde{e}'\|_1 \stackrel{(b)}{\geq} \|\varphi_M(\tilde{e}')\|_1 \stackrel{(c)}{\geq} \|e'\|_1,$$

where step (a) follows from Lemma 23, where step (b) uses the same line of reasoning as the proof of Theorem 22, and where step (c) follows from the easily verified fact that $H_{CS} \cdot \varphi_M(\tilde{e}') = s$, along with the definition of e' . Because (\tilde{e}', \tilde{s}) was arbitrary (subject to $\tilde{H}_{CS} \cdot \tilde{e}' = \tilde{s}$ and $\varphi_M(\tilde{s}) = s$), this observation concludes the first part of the proof.

We now prove the second part. Again, let e' minimize $\|e'\|_1$ over all e' such that $H_{CS} \cdot e' = s$. Once **CS-LPD** is rewritten as a linear program (with the help of suitable auxiliary variables), we see that the coefficients that appear in this linear program are all rationals. Using Cramér's rule for determinants, it follows that the set of feasible points of this linear program is a polyhedral set whose vertices are all vectors with rational entries. Therefore, if e' is unique then e' is a vector with rational entries. If e' is not unique then there

is at least one vector e' with rational entries that minimizes the cost function of **CS-LPD**. Let e' be such a vector.

Before continuing, let us simplify the notation slightly. Namely, we rearrange the constraint $H_{\text{CS}} \cdot e' = s$ in **CS-LPD** so that it reads

$$(H_{\text{CS}} - I) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e' \\ s \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad (12)$$

and then we replace (12) by

$$H_{\text{CS}} \cdot e' = 0.$$

This is done by redefining H_{CS} to stand for $(H_{\text{CS}}, -I)$, and redefining e' to stand for $((e')^T, (s)^T)^T$. Note that the redefined H_{CS} contains zeros, ones, or minus ones. Similarly, we rearrange the constraint $\tilde{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \tilde{e}' = \tilde{s}$ in **CS-REL**_{0,∞} so that it reads

$$(\tilde{H}_{\text{CS}} - I) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{e}' \\ \tilde{s} \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad (13)$$

and then we replace (13) by

$$\tilde{H}_{\text{CS}} \cdot \tilde{e}' = 0.$$

This is done by redefining \tilde{H}_{CS} to stand for $(\tilde{H}_{\text{CS}}, -I)$, and redefining \tilde{e}' to stand for $((\tilde{e}')^T, (\tilde{s})^T)^T$. Note that the redefined \tilde{H}_{CS} contains only zeros, ones, or minus ones, and that the Tanner graph representing the redefined \tilde{H}_{CS} is a valid M -fold cover of the Tanner graph representing the redefined H_{CS} .

We will now exhibit a suitable M -fold cover and a configuration \tilde{e}' therein such that $\varphi_M(\tilde{e}') = e'$ and such that for some $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ the vector \tilde{e}' will satisfy

$$\tilde{e}'_{(i,m)} \in \begin{cases} \{0, +\gamma\} & \text{if } e'_i > 0 \\ \{0\} & \text{if } e'_i = 0 \\ \{0, -\gamma\} & \text{if } e'_i < 0 \end{cases}, \quad (i, m) \in \mathcal{I} \times [M]. \quad (14)$$

Then for such a vector the following holds

$$\frac{1}{M} \|\tilde{e}'\|_{0,\infty} \stackrel{(a)}{=} \frac{1}{M} \|\tilde{e}'\|_1 \stackrel{(b)}{=} \|\varphi_M(\tilde{e}')\|_1 \stackrel{(c)}{=} \|e'\|_1,$$

where step (a) follows from the fact that the equality condition in Lemma 23 is satisfied, step (b) follows from the fact that for every $i \in \mathcal{I}$, all $\{\tilde{e}'_{(i,m)}\}_{m \in [M], \tilde{e}'_{(i,m)} \neq 0}$ have the same sign, and step (c) follows from $\varphi_M(\tilde{e}') = e'$.

Towards constructing such a graph cover and a vector \tilde{e}' , we make the following observations. Namely, fix some $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and some $h_i \in \{-1, +1\}$, $i \in [d]$, and consider the hyperplane

$$\mathcal{A} \triangleq \left\{ a \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \sum_{i \in [d]} h_i a_i = 0 \right\}.$$

Let $a^* \in \mathcal{A}$ be a vector with all its coordinates satisfying $-1 \leq a_i^* \leq +1$, $i \in [d]$. Let \mathcal{A}^\square be the set

$$\mathcal{A}^\square \triangleq \left\{ a \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \begin{array}{ll} a_i \in [0, +1] & \text{if } a_i^* > 0 \\ a_i = 0 & \text{if } a_i^* = 0 \\ a_i \in [-1, 0] & \text{if } a_i^* < 0 \end{array} \right\},$$

which is a box around a^* whose vertices have only integer coordinates.

Consider now the set $\mathcal{A}^* \triangleq \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{A}^\square$, and let \mathcal{A}' be the set of vertices of \mathcal{A}^* . The set \mathcal{A}^* is a polytope and, interestingly, it can be verified that the set of vertices of \mathcal{A}^* is a subset of the set of vertices of \mathcal{A}^\square , i.e., all the points in \mathcal{A}' have integer coordinates. Because $a^* \in \mathcal{A}^*$, this vector can be written as a convex combination of the vertices of \mathcal{A}^* , i.e., there are non-negative real numbers $\{\beta_{a'}\}_{a' \in \mathcal{A}'}$ with $\sum_{a' \in \mathcal{A}'} \beta_{a'} = 1$ such that $a^* = \sum_{a' \in \mathcal{A}'} \beta_{a'} a'$. Note that for all $i \in [d]$ the following holds: if $a_i^* > 0$ then $a'_i \geq 0$ for all $a' \in \mathcal{A}'$, if $a_i^* < 0$ then $a'_i \leq 0$ for all $a' \in \mathcal{A}'$, and if $a_i^* = 0$ then $a'_i = 0$ for all $a' \in \mathcal{A}'$.

We now define $\mu \triangleq \max_{i \in \mathcal{I}} |e'_i|$ and apply the above observations to our setup, in particular to the vector e'/μ , whose coordinates are rational numbers lying between -1 and $+1$ inclusive. Namely, for every $j \in \mathcal{J}$, we have $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}_j} h_{j,i} \cdot (e'_i/\mu) = 0$ with $h_{j,i} \in \{-1, +1\}$, $i \in \mathcal{I}_j$, and so there is a set \mathcal{A}'_j and non-negative rational numbers $\{\beta_{j,a'}\}_{a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j}$ with $\sum_{a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j} \beta_{j,a'} = 1$, such that $e'_{\mathcal{I}_j}/\mu = \sum_{a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j} \beta_{j,a'} a'$ holds, where $e'_{\mathcal{I}_j}$ is the vector e' restricted to the coordinates indexed by the set \mathcal{I}_j . Note that the set \mathcal{A}'_j is such that for all $i \in \mathcal{I}_j$ the following holds: if $e'_i > 0$ then $a'_i \in \{0, +1\}$ for all $a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j$, if $e'_i < 0$ then $a'_i \in \{-1, 0\}$ for all $a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j$, and if $e'_i = 0$ then $a'_i = 0$ for all $a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j$.

Let μ' be the largest positive real number such that $e'_i/\mu' \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$ and such that $\beta_{j,a'}/\mu' \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $j \in \mathcal{J}$, $a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j$.

We are now ready to construct the promised M -fold cover of the base Tanner graph and the valid configuration \tilde{e}' . We choose $M \triangleq \mu/\mu'$ (clearly, $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$), and so the constructed \tilde{e}' will need to have the properties shown in (14) with $\gamma \triangleq \mu/M = \mu'$. Without going into the details, the M -fold cover with valid configuration \tilde{e}' can be obtained with the help of the above $\{\beta_{j,a'}\}_{j \in \mathcal{J}, a' \in \mathcal{A}'_j}$ values by using a construction that is very similar to the explicit graph cover construction in [8, Appendix A.1]. For example, for every $i \in \mathcal{I}$ with $e'_i > 0$ we set $M \cdot (e'_i/\mu) = e'_i/\mu'$ of the values in $\{\tilde{e}'_{(i,m)}\}_{m \in [M]}$ equal to γ , and we set $M \cdot (1 - e'_i/\mu) = M - e'_i/\mu'$ of the values in $\{\tilde{e}'_{(i,m)}\}_{m \in [M]}$ equal to 0, etc.. Similarly, for every $j \in \mathcal{J}$ and $a'_j \in \mathcal{A}'_j$ we set the local configuration of $M \cdot (\beta_{j,a'}/\mu) = \beta_{j,a'}/\mu'$ out of the M copies of the j -th check node equal to a'_j . Finally, the edges between the variable and the constraint nodes of the M -fold cover of the base Tanner graph are suitably defined. (Note that the definition of the matrix in (13) implies that the edge connections in the part of the graph cover corresponding to the right-hand side of the matrix have already been pre-selected. However, this is not a problem because the variable nodes associated with this part of the matrix have degree one and because the above-mentioned constraint node assignments can always be chosen suitably.)

This concludes the second part of the proof.

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