Abstract—Compressive sensing aims to recover a high-dimensional sparse signal from a relatively small number of measurements. In this paper, a novel design of the measurement matrix is proposed. The design is inspired by the construction of generalized low-density parity-check codes, where the capacity-achieving point-to-point codes serve as subcodes to robustly estimate the signal support. In the case that each entry of the $n$-dimensional $k$-sparse signal lies in a known discrete alphabet, the proposed scheme requires only $O(k \log n)$ measurements and arithmetic operations. In the case of arbitrary, possibly continuous alphabet, an error propagation graph is proposed to characterize the residual estimation error. With $O(k \log^2 n)$ measurements and computational complexity, the reconstruction error can be made arbitrarily small with high probability.

I. INTRODUCTION

Compressive sensing aims to recover a high-dimensional sparse signal from a relatively small number of measurements [1], [2]. There are two different designs of the measurement matrices: random construction and deterministic construction. Convex optimization approaches have been first proposed to recover the noiseless signal with $O(k \log(n/k))$ random measurements [3]. Greedy algorithms that involve lower complexity have been proposed [4]–[6]. However, most of the algorithms that are based on random measurement matrix operations. In the case of arbitrary, possibly continuous alphabet, structured measurement matrices have been proposed to reduce the computational complexity to (near) linear time

$\log(n)$ measurements and complexity the case of known discrete alphabet. Second, the previous design based on DFT matrix is susceptible to quantization errors, while the proposed measurement matrix consists of only $\{0, \pm 1\}$ entries, which are easier and more robust in practice. Third, we propose an error propagation graph with error message passing rules to capture the error propagation for the case of arbitrary signals with unknown alphabet. Analysis shows that with $O(k \log^2 n)$ measurements and complexity the signal estimation error can be made arbitrarily small as $k$ increase. The proposed design and error propagation graph have potential applications in sparse Fourier transform [13] and Walsh-Hadamard transform with arbitrary signal alphabet [14].

II. SYSTEM MODEL

Suppose $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a $k$-sparse vector. The problem is to recover $x$ from the $m$-dimensional ($m \ll n$) measurement vector

$$y = Ax + z$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is the measurement matrix and $z$ is the noise vector with each entry being independently and identically distributed (i.i.d.) Gaussian variables with zero mean and variance $\sigma^2$.

Throughout the paper, we use bold capital letter and bold normal letter to denote a matrix and a vector, respectively. Given a matrix $A$, $A_{ij}$ denotes the entry located at the $i$-th row and $j$-th column, and $a_i$ denotes the $i$-th column. Given $i \in \{0, \cdots, n-1\}$, $(i)_2$ is the log-$n$-bit binary representation of $i$ with 0 and 1 mapped to 1 and $-1$, respectively. For example, $n = 3$, $(2)_2 = [1, -1, 1]$. Let $\text{sgn}(x) = 1$ if $x \geq 0$ and $\text{sgn}(x) = -1$ otherwise.

III. MEASUREMENT MATRIX DESIGN

The LDPC inspired design of the measurement matrix is proposed in [11], [12]. In particular, the measurement matrix is constructed as

$$A = H \odot G$$

where $H \in \{0,1\}^{k \times n}$, $G \in \mathbb{R}^{\times n}$ and the $\odot$ operator is defined as

$$H \odot G = \begin{bmatrix}
H_{0,0}g_0 & \cdots & H_{0,(n-1)}g_{n-1} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
H_{b-1,0}g_0 & \cdots & H_{b-1,(n-1)}g_{n-1}
\end{bmatrix}.$$  

(3)

The number of measurements is thus $m = b \times c$. For example,
difference between the entries of error-control code \([16]\). Third, we let design of and its value? Let estimated. Second, we let nodes marked in red are nonzero signal components.

In the bipartite graph, there are \(n\) left nodes with \(x_i\) corresponding to the \(i\)-th left nodes, and \(b\) right nodes, which are also referred to as bins. The \(i\)-th left node is connected with the \(j\)-th bin if \(H_{ij} = 1\). The measurement vector is thus grouped into \(b\) sub-vectors as \(y = [y_0, \cdots, y_{b-1}]^\top\), where \(y_j \in \mathbb{R}^c\) is the \(j\)-th bin value given by

\[
y_j = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} H_{ij} x_i g_i + z_j. \quad (5)
\]

Fig. 1 illustrates the bipartite representation between signals and measurements. In this paper, we construct \(H\) from the ensemble of left-\(d\)-regular bipartite graph \(G_d(k, b)\), where every signal is connected to \(d\) measurement bins uniformly at random.

The recovery algorithms adopt the framework proposed in \([15]\). The recovery algorithm calls for a robust bin detection, which can identify if a measurement bin is connected to no nonzero signal component (zeroon), to a single nonzero component (singleton) or to multiple nonzero components (multiton); 2) robustly estimate the signal index and value from singleton bins. It can be proved that by some proper \(b = O(k)\), the recovery algorithm can correctly estimate \(x\) with high probability if we have a robust bin detection. The key challenge is how to design \(G\) to achieve robust bin detection.

In previous works \([11], [12], [15]\), \(G\) is constructed based on the DFT matrix. The signal index information \(i\) is embedded in the phase difference between the entries of \(g_i\). In this paper, we propose a new design of \(G\), which only consists of \(\{\pm 1\}\) entries and is more robust to noise and quantization errors.

We motivate the design using a simplified setting. Assume 1) a measurement bin \(j\) is known to be a singleton, 2) there is no noise, and 3) the sign of the signal \(x_i\) is known. The question is how can we design \(G\) to detect the signal index \(i\) and its value? Let \((i)_2\) be the log-\(n\)-bit binary representation of \(i\). If \(g_i = (i)_2\), then the signal index can be easily recovered based on the signs of each entry in \(sgn(x)\).

A robust design of \(G\) is to overcome the challenges posed by the three assumptions. First, we let \(\tilde{g}_i\) be an all-one vector such that the signs of \(x_i\) can be estimated. Second, \(\tilde{g}_i\) is designed to be coded bits of \((i)_2\) for robust estimation of \((i)_2\) under the noisy setting. The sub-vector length is \([\log n]/R\), where \(R\) is the code rate of the applied low-complexity error-control code \([16]\). Third, we let \(\tilde{g}_i\) be a binary vector with each entry generated according to i.i.d. Rademacher distribution for singleton verification.

In all, the \(i\)-th column of \(G\) consists of three sub-vectors:

\[
g_i = [\tilde{g}_i, \tilde{g}_i, \tilde{g}_i]^	op \quad (6)
\]

where \(\tilde{g}_i \in \{\pm 1\}^{c_0}, \tilde{g}_i \in \{\pm 1\}^{c_1}\), and \(\tilde{g}_i \in \{\pm 1\}^{c_2}\). Accordingly, the measurement vector for bin \(j\) can be split into three sub-vectors:

\[
y_j = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{y}_j \\ \bar{y}_j \\ \hat{y}_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} H_{ij} \tilde{g}_i \\ \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} H_{ij} \bar{g}_i \\ \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} H_{ij} \hat{g}_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{z}_j \\ \bar{z}_j \\ \hat{z}_j \end{bmatrix}. \quad (7)
\]

In our design, we choose \(b = O(k), c = O(\log n)\) and \(c = O(\log^2 n)\) for signals with known discrete alphabet and arbitrary alphabet, respectively.

In the bipartite graph, each measurement bin can be regarded as a super check node where a subcode is further used to encode the index information of the signals. The structure is similar to that of generalized LDPC codes \([17]\). The well-established low-complexity capacity-approaching point-to-point codes can serve as subcodes to enhance the robust design.

IV. RECOVERY ALGORITHM DESIGN

We adopt the recovery algorithm framework proposed in \([11]\). The algorithm is implemented in an iterative “peeling” process. In every iteration, a singleton bin is identified. The index and value of the signal that is hashed to the singleton bin are estimated. The contribution of the estimated signal to the other connected bins are cancelled out (peeled off).

The main difference of our work lies in the signal support estimation from a singleton bin, referred to as the singleton test, which is described in Algorithm 1. In particular, for some \(x_i\) that is hashed to a singleton bin \(j\), \(\tilde{g}_i \in \{\pm 1\}^{c_0}\) encodes the support information \((i)_2\). Suppose the signal sign estimation is correct, i.e., \(s = sgn(x_i)\). Without noise, \(s y_j = |x_i| \tilde{g}_i\) and thus \(sgn(s y_j)\) is exactly \(\tilde{g}_i\). Under the noisy setting, some of the signs are flipped due to noise, which can be regarded as transmission over the binary symmetric channel (BSC). With low-complexity codes used as subcodes, \((i)_2\) can be recovered by inputting \(sgn(s y_j)\) to the corresponding decoder with complexity \(O(c_0)\) \([16]\).

The overall recovery algorithm is described as follows.

First, run the singleton test on every bin using Algorithm 1. Let \(L\) denote the set of estimated signal indices. Remove the declared singleton bins.

Then, repeat the following until \(L = \emptyset\):

- Select arbitrary \(i \in L\) and remove \(i\) from set \(L\).
- For every remaining bin \(j\) with \(H_{ij} = 1\), perform the following:
  1) Subtract the signal node \(i\) value from bin \(j\): \(y_j \leftarrow y_j - x_i \tilde{g}_i\).
  2) Run the singleton test on the bin using Algorithm 1. If it is a singleton, add the output index to \(L\) and remove bin \(j\).

Algorithm 1 has a computational complexity of \(O(c)\), where \(c = c_0 + c_1 + c_2\). Performing the singleton test on all \(b\) bin takes complexity \(O(bc)\). In each subsequent iteration, we perform Algorithm 1 only on every (remaining) connected bin of a recovered signal component. Since the left-node degree is constant, each iteration involves computational complexity of \(O(c)\). It will be proved that the algorithm terminates after \(O(k)\) iterations with high probability. The computational complexity of all the iterations involved is thus \(O(kc)\). With the choice of \(b\) and \(c\), the total complexity is \(O(k \log n)\) and \(O(k \log^2 n)\) for signals with discrete alphabet and arbitrary alphabet, respectively.
Algorithm 1 Singleton test

**Input:** Bin measurements, $y = [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3]^T$.
**Output:** index and estimate, $(i, \hat{x}_i)$.

if $\|y\|^2 < c_2(1 + \tau)^2\sigma^2$ then
  Claim bin is a zeroton and return $(i, z_i) \leftarrow (0,0)$. 
end if

**Signal sign estimation:** $s \leftarrow \text{sgn}(y)$. 
**Signal index estimation:** $i \leftarrow \text{BSC-Decoder}(s \cdot y)$. 
**Singleton verification:** 

$z' \leftarrow \frac{2}{y^T y} y$.

if $\|y - z' g_i\|^2 \leq (c_2 - 1)(1 + \tau)^2 \sigma^2$ then
  $z_i \leftarrow \begin{cases} 
  \frac{1}{2} g_i y & \text{arbitrary alphabet} \\
  \arg \min_{z' \in \mathcal{X}} \|y - z' g_i\|^2 & \text{discrete alphabet}
  \end{cases}$
else
  Claim bin is multiton and return $(i, z_i) \leftarrow (\emptyset, 0)$. 
end if

**Algorithm 1:** Singleton test

$e_2 + e_1 + \left( -\frac{g_i g_i}{c} \right) + e_0 \left( \frac{g_i g_i}{c} \right) + \left( -\frac{g_i g_i}{c} \right) + \left( -\frac{g_i g_i}{c} \right) \rightarrow x_0$ 
$t=3$

$e_0 + e_0 \rightarrow 0$ 
$t=2$

$e_0 \rightarrow 0$ 
$t=1$

Fig. 2: Error propagation graph for signal $x_2$.

V. MAIN RESULTS AND PROOF

**Theorem 1:** Given any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $k_0 > 0$ such that for every $k > k_0$ and every $n$-dimensional $k$-sparse signal $x$ whose entries take their values in a known discrete alphabet, the proposed scheme achieves $P(\hat{x} \neq x) < \epsilon$. The number of measurements required is $O( \log n )$. The computational complexity is $O( \log n )$ arithmetic operations.

**Theorem 2:** Given any $\delta, \epsilon > 0$, there exists $k_0 > 0$ such that for every $k > k_0$ and every $n$-dimensional $k$-sparse signal $x$ with $|x_i| \geq \delta$ for every $i \in \text{supp}(x)$, the proposed scheme achieves $P(\hat{x} \neq x) < \epsilon$ and $P(|\hat{x}_i - x_i|^2 \geq \epsilon) < \epsilon$ for every $i \in \text{supp}(x)$. The number of measurements required is $O(k \log^2 n)$. The computational complexity is $O(k \log^2 n)$ arithmetic operations.

We focus on the proof of Theorem 2 due to space limitations. Theorem 1 follows as a special case. Unlike signals from discrete alphabet, the signal estimates have residual errors, which propagate to later iterations due to the peeling process. In this paper, we propose an error propagation graph to keep track of the accumulated errors.

An error propagation graph for $x_1$ is a subgraph induced by the recovery algorithm, which contains the signal nodes that are estimated in the previous iterations and have paths to $x_1$. Fig. 2 illustrates the error propagation graph for $x_2$.

Define the estimation error of $x_i$ as

$$p_i = x_i - \hat{x}_i.$$  

Let $m(i)$ be the measurement bin used to recover the signal index $i$. Define the point error of $x_i$ as

$$e_i = -c_1^{-1} g_i^T z_{m(i)}.$$  

Then $e_i$ is a Gaussian variable with zero mean and variance $\sigma^2/c$. We will keep track of $p_i$ using the error propagation graph.

Let $S(t)$ denote the signal indices that are recovered in the $t$-th iteration. Consider the estimation of $x_i$, $i \in S(1)$. The measurement vector of bin $m(i)$ and the residual estimation error are given by

$$y_{m(i)} = x_i g_i + z_{m(i)},$$  

$$p_i = e_i.$$  

Consider the estimation for $x_i$, $i \in S(2)$. With the peeling of $\hat{x}_\ell$, $\ell \in S(1)$, the updated measurement vector of $m(i)$ and the estimation error become

$$y_{m(i)} = x_i g_i + z_{m(i)} + \sum_{\ell \in S(1); H_{\ell,m(i)}=1} e_\ell g_\ell,$$

$$p_i = e_i + \sum_{\ell \in S(1); H_{\ell,m(i)}=1} e_\ell \left( -c_1^{-1} g_\ell^T g_i \right),$$

where $|g_\ell^T g_i/c| \leq 1$ for every realization of $G$.

The estimation error can be calculated recursively according to some message passing rules over the graph. In particular, let $p_i$ be the estimation error propagated from signal node $i$ and $q_j \in \mathbb{R}^c$ be the error vector propagated from the measurement bin $j$. The errors can be calculated according to the following rules:

$$p_i = e_i + \sum_{j \in \text{in}(i)} \left( -c_1^{-1} g_j^T q_j \right)$$

$$q_j = \sum_{i \in \text{in}(j)} p_i g_i,$$

where $\text{in}(i)$ denotes the indices of the measurement bins (signal nodes) incoming to signal node (measurement bin) $i$.

By induction and the error message passing rules (14) and (15), the error propagation effect is characterized by the following lemma.

**Lemma 1:** The estimation error of $x_i$, $i \in S(t)$, is calculated as

$$p_i = e_i + \sum_{\ell \in \text{in}(i); H_{\ell,t} \neq 1} \sum_{\ell' \neq i} p_{\ell'} g_{\ell' \ell}.$$

where $D(i)$ be the connected subgraph of the bipartite graph containing $i$, $P(\ell, i)$ is the number of paths from $\ell$ to $i$ in $D(i)$, and $d_{\ell, p}$ is some coefficient depending on both $\mathcal{G}$ and the path satisfying $|d_{\ell, p}| \leq 1$.

Fig. 2 illustrates an example. The number of paths from $x_0$ to $x_2$ is $P(0, 2) = 2$, with the corresponding coefficients being $d_{0,1} = -c_1^{-1} g_1^T g_0$ and $d_{0,2} = c_1^{-1} g_2^T g_0 g_1 g_1$. The number of paths from $x_1$ to $x_2$ is $P(1, 2) = 1$, with the coefficients being $d_{1,1} = -c_1^{-1} g_1^T g_1$.

We further bound the errors by leveraging results on random hypergraph. The bipartite graph induced by $\mathcal{H}$ corresponds to a hypergraph where the left nodes and right nodes represent hyperedges and vertices. The hyperedge $i$ is incident on vertex $j$ if $H_{ij} = 1$. Then the random bipartite graph $\mathcal{G}_d(k, b)$ induces a $d$-uniform random hypergraph.

**Lemma 2:** Suppose $b/k$ is some constant large enough, then with probability $1 - O(1/k)$, $\mathcal{G}_d(k, b)$ contains only trees or unicyclic components, and the largest component contains $O(\log k)$ signal nodes.
Let \( \mathcal{E}_H \) denote the event that the bipartite graph satisfies the condition as described in Lemma 3 with \( P(\mathcal{E}_H) = 1 - O(1/k) \). We first bound the detection error probability conditioned on \( \mathcal{E}_H \). Suppose \( \mathcal{E}_H \) holds, then \( P(i, j) \leq 2 \), otherwise the component is not unicyclic. Moreover the largest component \( D(j) \) contains \( O(\log k) \) signal nodes. Therefore, conditioned on \( G \), \( p_i \) is Gaussian distributed with zero mean and the variance of can be upper bounded as \[
abla p_l \leq \left( 1 + \sum_{(i, j) \in D(i)} P^2(\ell, j) \right) \frac{\sigma^2}{c} = O\left( \frac{\log k \sigma^2}{c} \right). \tag{17} \]

**Lemma 3:** Conditioned on that \( \mathcal{E}_H \) holds, given any \( \delta > 0 \) and \( |x_i| \geq \delta \), \( \forall i \in \text{supp}(x) \), the recovery algorithm can correctly identify the signal support with probability \( 1 - O(1/n) \) with some \( c = O(\log^2 n) \).

**Proof:** The support detection may be subject to zeroton, multiton and singleton detection errors. The error probability of detecting zerotons and multitons can be upper bounded by \( O(1/n) \) following similar steps in [15] and is omitted due to space limitation. We focus on the singleton detection.

Suppose the measurement vector of a singleton is given by \[
y_j = x_i g_i + w_j, \tag{18}\]
where the entries in \( w_j \) are i.i.d. Gaussian variable with zero mean and variance \( \sigma^2 \). Then the error probability of sign estimation is calculated as \[
P\{\text{sgn}(1^T y) \neq \text{sgn}(x_i)\} = P\{1^T \hat{w}/c_1 \geq |x_i|\} \tag{19} \]
where \( Q(x) \) is the \( Q \)-function for standard normal distribution.

Suppose the signs of \( x_i \) are correctly detected and we want to detect \((i, j)\) by recovering the signs of \( \hat{g}_i \). By compensating the signs of \( x_i \) as \( \text{sgn}(x_i) y_j \), the random transformation \[
\text{sgn}(x_i) \hat{g}_i \rightarrow \text{sgn}(x_i) \hat{g}_i + \hat{w}_j \tag{21}\]
is equivalent to transmission over a BSC with crossover probability less than \( Q(|x_i|/\hat{\sigma}) \) [14].

From the recovery process, \( w_j \) is the noise plus residual estimate errors given by \( w_j = z_j + \sum_{i \in \text{supp}(w)} p_i g_i \). According to (17), for some \( c = O(\log^2 n) \) and a large enough \( n \), the variance of \( w_j \) is dominated by that of \( z_j \). The entries of \( w_j \) have a variance \( \hat{\sigma}^2 \) bounded by some constant. Therefore, given that \( |x_i| \geq \delta \) for some \( \delta \), the worst-case SNR for every singleton estimation is lower bounded by some constant. The error probability of sign estimation (19) is \( O(1/n^2) \) with some \( c_1 = O(\log n) \). Applying an error control code of length \( c_0 = \log n/R \) with a low enough code rate \( R \), (i) can be decoded correctly with probability \( 1 - O(1/n^2) \).

Note that if \( \mathcal{E}_H \) holds and the singleton, multiton and zero ton bins are correctly estimated, the peeling decoder terminates by recovering every nonzero signal entry [19]. Since there are at most \( O(k) \) iterations and every iteration involves at most \( O(k) \) singletons, the error probability can be upper bounded by \( O(k^2/n^2) = O(1/n) \) using the union bound. Moreover, conditioned on that \( i \) is correctly estimated, the probability that the singleton verification is not passed is equivalent to a zeroton detection error, which can be upper bounded by \( O(1/n) \). The lemma is hence established.

Support recovery fails only if either \( \mathcal{E}_H \) does not hold or that a bin detection error occurs conditioned on \( \mathcal{E}_H \) holds. By Lemma 2 and Lemma 3 the overall error probability of support recovery is \( O\left( \frac{1}{n^2} + \frac{1}{k^2} \right) \), vanishing as \( k \) increases.
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