



Sumsets of semiconvex sets

Imre Ruzsa and Jozsef Solymosi

Abstract. We investigate additive properties of sets A , where $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ is a monotone increasing set of real numbers, and the differences of consecutive elements are all distinct. It is known that $|A + B| \geq c|A||B|^{1/2}$ for any finite set of numbers B . The bound is tight up to the constant multiplier. We give a new proof to this result using bounds on crossing numbers of geometric graphs. We construct examples showing the limits of possible improvements. In particular, we show that there are arbitrarily large sets with different consecutive differences and sub-quadratic sumset size.

1 Introduction

Given two sets of numbers, A and B , the *sumset* of A and B , denoted by $A + B$, is

$$A + B = \{a + b : a, b \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}.$$

Let $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ be a finite set of real numbers with the property that

$$(1.1) \quad a_i - a_{i-1} < a_{i+1} - a_i$$

for any $1 < i < k$. Sets with this property are said to be convex sets.

Improving on a result of Hegyvári [4], Elekes et al. [2] proved that if A is convex, then $|A + B| \geq ck^{3/2}$ for any set B with $|B| = k$. A set, A , has distinct consecutive differences if for any $1 \leq i, j \leq k$, $a_{i+1} - a_i = a_{j+1} - a_j$ implies $i = j$.

The following theorem, which was proved in [8], generalizes the result of Elekes et al.

Theorem 1.1 [8] *Let A and B be finite sets of real numbers with $|A| = k$ and $|B| = \ell$. If A has distinct consecutive differences, then*

$$|A + B| \geq ck\sqrt{\ell}.$$

In particular, if $k = \ell$, then

$$|A + B| \geq ck^{3/2},$$

where $c > 0$ is an absolute constant.

Although the above theorem is tight, i.e. there are sets A and B such that the above bound is sharp up to the multiplicative constant (see in [8]), several questions

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remain open. Below, we list six questions. In all of them, A denotes a set with distinct consecutive differences. Here, and later in the paper, we are using the asymptotic notation $f(x) \gg g(x)$ when there is a constant c such that $f(x) \geq g(x)/\log^c f(x)$ holds as x goes to infinity.

- (1) What can we say about the structure of A when there is a set B , $|B| = |A| = k$ so that $|A + B| = O(k^{3/2})$?
- (2) There is no restriction on B in Theorem 1.1. What happens if B also has distinct consecutive differences?
- (3) What is the minimum size of $A + A$?
- (4) What is the best bound on $|A + B|$ if A is convex?
- (5) What is the best bound on $|A + A|$ if A is convex?
- (6) What is the minimum size of $A + B$ if A and B are convex?

All questions above are open. In this paper, we will consider the first three questions. The following list summarises the best known estimates.

- (1) If there is a set B , $|B| = |A| = k$ so that $|A + B| = O(k^{3/2})$ then the sumset is evenly distributed, $E_{1.5}(A, B) \ll k^{9/4}$ (in this paper).
- (2) Even if both A and B have distinct consecutive differences, there are examples when $|B| = |A| = k$ and $|A + B| = ck^{3/2}$ (in this paper).
- (3) There are constructions for sets A such that $|A + A| \leq |A|^{2-c}$ with some $c > 0.1$ (in this paper). No better lower bound is known than what follows from Theorem 1.1.
- (4) What is the best bound on $|A + B|$ if A is convex? No better lower bound is known than what follows from Theorem 1.1, and no construction is known showing $|A + B| \leq (|A||B|)^{1-c}$ with some $c > 0$.
- (5) If A is convex then $|A + A| \gg |A|^{30/19}$ according to a recent result of Rudnev and Stevens in [7], building on earlier results in [5, 10, 12].
- (6) If A and B are convex and $|A| = |B|$ then $|A + B| \gg |A|^{30/19}$ [13]. No construction is known showing $|A + B| \leq (|A||B|)^{1-c}$ with some $c > 0$.

There are interesting works relaxing and strengthening the notation of convex sequences, like in [9], [3], and [14].

2 Lower bounds using crossing numbers

2.1 Proof of Theorem 1.1

In this section, we offer a new proof for Theorem 1.1 by giving a bound in terms of additive energy. As the original proof in [8], this is also a simple proof, but here, we are using graph theory, the crossing number bound, which gives more information about the structure of A . The variants of the crossing bounds we are going to use are all originate from the classical crossing bound by Ajtai et al. in [1].

Proof of Theorem 1.1 For the given sets, $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ in which the consecutive differences are all distinct and an arbitrary set $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_\ell\}$ we define a geometric graph, G . The vertices of the graph are points on the x axis, the values of the sumset $A + B$. Two vertices, $u, v \in \{A + B\}$ are connected by an edge, an

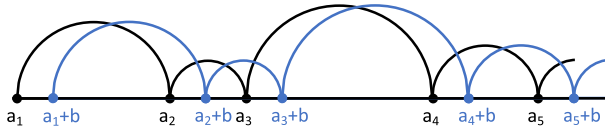


Figure 1: The number of crossings between two translates of A is at most $2k - 1$.

upper semicircular arc, iff there is an $a_i \in A$ and $b_j \in B$ such that $u = a_i + b_j$ and $v = a_{i+1} + b_j$. So G consists of translates of the path, P , with vertex set A where the consecutive vertices are connected by a semicircular arc (Figure 1). Since the consecutive differences are all different in A , the graph has no multiple edges. We are going to bound the crossing number of this graph from below and from above to get a bound on $|A + B|$. For the upper bound, note that any two translates of P have at most $2k - 1$ crossings, so the number of crossings in G is at most

$$(2.1) \quad cr(G) \leq \binom{|B|}{2}(2k - 1) \leq |B|^2 k.$$

There are various bounds on the crossing number of graphs. In our case, this is the convex crossing number (which is the same as the one-page crossing number) applies. The lower bound is a bit better than for general crossing numbers. It was proved in [11] that for $|B|(k - 1)$ edges and $|A + B|$ vertices the number of crossings is at least

$$(2.2) \quad cr(G) \geq \frac{(|B|(k - 1))^3}{27|A + B|^2},$$

which proves Theorem 1.1, with the constant $c = 1/\sqrt{27} \approx 0.19$, since

$$(2.3) \quad |B|^2 k \geq \frac{(|B|(k - 1))^3}{27|A + B|^2},$$

implies that

$$|A + B| \geq \frac{|A||B|^{1/2}}{\sqrt{27}}. \quad \blacksquare$$

Our goal is not only to give another simple proof to this result, but also to understand the structure of A a bit better when the above bound is close to being tight. One would expect that uneven degree distributions might improve the bound. If in our graph, G , a vertex $v \in \{A + B\}$ has degree d that means that there are at least $d/2$ ways to write v as $v = a + b$, where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. Using the usual notation in additive combinatorics, $r_{A+B}(x)$ denotes the number of ways to write x as $x = a + b$, where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. The additive energy of the two sets is defined as

$$E(A, B) = E_2(A, B) = \sum_{x \in \{A+B\}} r_{A+B}^2(x).$$

In a similar way, for any $\alpha > 1$ one can define

$$E_\alpha(A, B) = \sum_{x \in \{A+B\}} r_{A+B}^\alpha(x).$$

We are going to use a crossing number bound from [6] to get an estimate on $E_{1.5}(A, B)$ when A has distinct consecutive differences.

Theorem 2.1 (Theorem 1 in [6]) *For any simple graph G on n vertices with vertex degrees $d_1 \geq d_2 \geq \dots \geq d_n$ we have*

$$cr(G) \geq \frac{1}{36000n} \sum_{i=1}^n id_i^3 - 4.01n^2.$$

Note that for any sequence of positive real numbers $d_1 \geq d_2 \geq \dots \geq d_n$, we have the inequality

$$\sum_{i=1}^n id_i^3 \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n d_i^{3/2} \right)^2 \leq (\ln n + 1) \sum_{i=1}^n id_i^3,$$

which leads us to

$$|B|^2 k + 4.01|A + B|^2 \geq \frac{c_1}{|A + B| \ln |A + B|} \left(\sum_{x \in \{A+B\}} r_{A+B}^{3/2}(x) \right)^2.$$

We use this bound in the case when $|B| = |A| = k$. By Theorem 1.1 and the inequality above, we get the following result.

Theorem 2.2 *If A is a set where the consecutive differences are distinct, and B is an arbitrary set such that $|A| = |B|$, then¹*

$$|A + B| \gg \left(\sum_{x \in \{A+B\}} r_{A+B}^{3/2}(x) \right)^{2/3} = E_{1.5}(A, B)^{2/3}.$$

This bound—up to the log factor—is an improved version of Theorem 1.1. By Jensen’s inequality, the right hand side is minimal if $r_{A+B}(x)$ is the average, $k^2/|A + B|$, for all $x \in \{A + B\}$, and then $|A + B| \approx k^{3/2}$.

There is another, more direct way to measure the smoothness of the degree sequence, to count the number of $x \in \{A + B\}$ which have high multiplicity, i.e., there are many ways to express x as a sum. For this, let us choose a set $S \subset \{A + B\}$ which is a collection of such elements.

Theorem 2.3 *Suppose that A is a set with consecutive differences being all distinct, and B is an arbitrary set. Let $S \subset \{A + B\}$ a set such that*

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{x \in S} r_{A+B}(x) \geq \frac{|A||B|}{\Delta}.$$

¹We remind the reader that the \gg notation hides a possible \log^c multiplier as we defined it in Section 1.

Then there is a constant, $c_\Delta > 1/(2\Delta)^3$, so the following inequality holds

$$(2.5) \quad |A + B| \geq \frac{c_\Delta |B||A|^2}{|S|}.$$

As in the previous theorem, this result implies Theorem 1.1. Setting $S = \{A + B\}$ gives $|A + B| = \Omega(|B|^{1/2}|A|)$, as in Theorem 1.1. At the other end, if $|S| \approx |A|$, then the sumset is as large as possible, it is $\Omega(|A||B|)$.

Proof We will work with G as defined in the proof of Theorem 1.1 and we are going to use a simple crossing bound from [6].

Lemma 2.4 (Lemma 2.1 in [6]) *Let $G(U, V)$ be a bipartite graph with vertex classes U and V , and suppose that its number of edges satisfies $e \geq 6 \max(|U|, |V|)$. Then we have*

$$cr(G(U, V)) \geq \frac{e^3}{108|U||V|}. \quad \blacksquare$$

From the proof of Theorem 1.1, we know that $cr(G) \leq |A||B|^2$. There are two simple cases to consider; when a δ -fraction of the edges with an endpoint in S are inside of S , or the $(1 - \delta)$ -fraction of them connect S with the outside of S (we are going to optimize for $0 < \delta < 1$ at the end of our calculation). For the first case, we apply a classical crossing bound for the induced subgraph of G on S , denoted by H_S . By inequality (2.2), we have

$$|A||B|^2 \geq cr(H_S) \geq \frac{(\delta|A||B|/\Delta)^3}{27|S|^2} \geq \frac{(\delta|A||B|/\Delta)^3}{27|A + B||S|},$$

which gives the required inequality

$$|A + B| \geq \left(\frac{\delta}{3\Delta}\right)^3 \frac{|B||A|^2}{|S|}.$$

In the second case, we can assume that $|A||B|^2 \geq 6|A + B|$, so Lemma 2 is applicable with $V = S$ and $U = \{A + B\} \setminus S$.

$$|A||B|^2 \geq \frac{e^3}{108|U||V|} > \frac{((1 - \delta)|A||B|/\Delta)^3}{125|S||A + B|},$$

which gives

$$|A + B| > \left(\frac{1 - \delta}{5\Delta}\right)^3 \frac{|B||A|^2}{|S|}.$$

Choosing δ to make the constant multipliers in the two cases equal, we see that one can set $c_\Delta > 1/(2\Delta)^3$ in Theorem 2.3. \blacksquare

One can be more specific in defining S , we can bound the number of $x \in A + B$ such that $r_{A+B}(x) \geq t$.

Corollary 2.5 *Suppose that A is a set with consecutive differences being all distinct, and B is an arbitrary set. Let $t > 1$ an arbitrary integer and $S_t \subset \{A + B\}$ a set such that*

$$(2.6) \quad \min_{x \in S_t} \{r_{A+B}(x)\} \geq t.$$

Then

$$|S_t| < \frac{3|A + B|^{1/2}|A|^{1/2}|B|}{t^{3/2}}.$$

Proof Set

$$\Delta = \frac{|A||B|}{t|S_t|}$$

so the following inequality holds

$$\sum_{x \in S_t} r_{A+B}(x) \geq |S_t|t = \frac{|A||B|}{\Delta},$$

and we can apply Theorem 2.3. Solving inequality (2.5) for $|S_t|$ we get the desired result. ■

Another advantage of using crossing numbers in this context is that there are effective bounds for multigraphs, so we get the following result.

Claim 2.6 *Let A and B be finite sets of real numbers with $|A| = k$ and $|B| = \ell$. If in A any consecutive difference, $a_i - a_{i-1}$, has multiplicity at most m then*

$$|A + B| \geq \frac{ck\sqrt{\ell}}{\sqrt{m}},$$

where $c > 0$ is a universal constant.

Proof The claim follows directly from the crossing bound for multigraphs (see e.g., in [15]) and from our upper bound in equation (2.1).

$$k\ell^2 \geq cr(G) \geq \frac{c(k\ell)^3}{m|A + B|^2}. \quad \blacksquare$$

2.2 A small improvement on the crossing number bound

In the above results, we used crossing number bounds, however, we could have used a slightly better graph parameter for our purposes. It might be interesting if one would like to improve the constant multiplier in the lower bounds. For any graph, G_n , an interval drawing is given by a one-to-one map, $\Phi : V(G_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where an edge $(v_i, v_j) \in E(V(G_n))$ maps to the interval $[\Phi(v_i), \Phi(v_j)]$. Two vertex-disjoint edges, (v_j, v_i) and (v_k, v_ℓ) , are intersecting (under the map Φ) if they share an interior point,

$$[\Phi(v_i), \Phi(v_j)] \cap [\Phi(v_k), \Phi(v_\ell)] \neq \emptyset.$$

Definition 2.1 For a given graph G_n , the intersecting number, $int(G_n)$, is the lowest number of edge intersections of an interval drawing of G_n .

Our upper bound in (2.1) holds for the intersection number of G_n and it is clear that

$$int(G_n) \geq cr(G_n).$$

The inequality is strict if one edge (interval) contains another inside. The maximum number of crossing-free edges in G_n is about $2n$, while for intersection-free G_n it is at most $1.5n$. Using the probabilistic approach of Székely (as we will see in the proof of Claim 2.7), one can show that if the number of edges, e , is at least $2.25n$, then

$$int(G_n) \geq \frac{0.0658e^3}{n^2},$$

which is better than the inequality used in equation (2.3) since $1/27 \approx 0.037 < 0.0658$. As an example we show the following bound:

Claim 2.7 Let $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ be a finite set of real numbers with distinct consecutive differences which are not too far from each other, i.e.,

$$(2.7) \quad a_i - a_{i-1} \leq 2(a_j - a_{j-1})$$

for any $1 < i, j \leq k$, and let $B \subset \mathbb{R}$ an arbitrary finite set. Then

$$|A + B| \geq \frac{2}{3\sqrt{3}}|A||B|^{1/2}.$$

Proof To see this, note that by condition (2.7) if a subgraph of $G_{|A+B|}$ on n vertices is intersection free, then it has at most $n - 1$ edges. If the number of edges is at least $1.5n$ then there are at least $0.5n$ intersections. The number of edges in $G_{|A+B|}$ is $(k - 1)|B| \approx |A||B|$, so let's select a random subgraph of $G_{|A+B|}$ choosing the vertices independently at random with probability $p = \frac{1.5|A+B|}{|A||B|}$. Then the expected number of vertices is $\frac{1.5|A+B|^2}{|A||B|}$, the number of edges is $\frac{(1.5|A+B|)^2}{|A||B|}$, and the expected number of intersections is at least $p^4 \cdot int(G_{|A+B|})$. From here, we have

$$\left(\frac{1.5|A+B|}{|A||B|}\right)^4 \cdot int(G_{|A+B|}) \geq 0.5 \cdot \frac{1.5|A+B|^2}{|A||B|},$$

and

$$|A||B|^2 \geq int(G_{|A+B|}) \geq 0.5 \cdot \frac{(|A||B|)^3}{1.5^3|A+B|^2}. \quad \blacksquare$$

Note that in the proof we only used the weaker condition that $a_{i+2} - a_i \neq a_j$ for any $1 \leq i, j \leq k$.

3 Constructions

3.1 Both A and B have distinct consecutive differences.

In this section, we are going to show constructions which indicate the limitations of possible lower bounds on the size of sumsets forced by local conditions, like distinct consecutive differences in a set.

Theorem 3.1 *For arbitrary large integer k , there are sets, A and B , such that in both sets the consecutive differences are distinct, $|A| \approx |B| \geq k$ and $|A + B| \leq c|A||B|^{1/2}$, where $c > 0$ is a universal constant.*

Proof Let n and k be relative prime numbers, $1 < n < k$, such that $k - n$ is small (we will assign their exact values later). Set A is defined as

$$A = \{jk \mid 0 \leq j < n/2\}.$$

Between two consecutive numbers of A there is at least one multiple of n . Let us choose one of them and add it to A . In this way, we have $n - 1$ numbers, all below $kn/2$. All consecutive differences are distinct since the difference is either of the form $jk - in$ or $in - jk$. If $jk - in = j'k - i'n$, then $(j - j')k = (i - i')n$, so $n \mid j - j'$, $j = j'$ and then $i = i'$. The same holds for the $in - jk = i'n - j'k$ case. If $jk - in = i'n - j'k$, then $(j + j')k = (i + i')n$, so $n \mid j + j'$, $j + j' < n$, so $j = j' = 0$, which is not possible.

The construction of B follows the same algorithm, using numbers m, r .

$$B = \{jr \mid 0 \leq j < m/2\}.$$

We choose m, r in a way that $A + B$ is small. To achieve this let $1 < a < b < c < d$ be four pairwise relative prime numbers close to each other, e.g., $a = 6t + 1, b = 6t + 2, c = 6t + 3, d = 6t + 5$. Let $n = ab, k = cd, m = ac, r = bd$. The elements in both sets are less than $abcd/2$, so the sumset is subset of $[0, abcd)$. All elements of the sumset are divisible by one of the numbers a, b, c, d , so its cardinality is less than $4bcd$. The cardinality of the sets is at least a^2 and

$$4bcd < (4 + \epsilon)(a^2)^{3/2}. \quad \blacksquare$$

3.2 Bounding the size of A+A.

The best known lower bound on $|A + A|$, where A has distinct consecutive differences follows from Theorem 1.1. One can use the structure of the graph G defined by $A + A$ to improve the constant multiplier in Theorem 1.1, but it is still $|A + A| = \Omega(|A|^{3/2})$. In this direction, the best result is due to Schoen [9] who proved a better bound if A is a $tdcd$ set. Schoen calls a set a $tdcd$ -set (totally distinct consecutive differences) if for every fixed $1 \leq d < |A|$, all differences $a_i - a_{i-d}$, where $d < i < n$, are distinct. For $tdcd$ sets Schoen proved that there is a constant $c > 0$ such that $|A + A| \geq c|A|^{3/2+c}$.

The next construction shows that there are sets A with distinct consecutive differences such that $|A + A| \leq c|A|^{2-c}$.

Theorem 3.2 *There is a constant, $c > 0.1$, such that for arbitrarily large n there is a set A with distinct consecutive differences, $|A| \geq n$, such that $|A + A| = O(|A|^{2-c})$.*

Proof For the construction of A , we are going to use a set of integers with larger difference set than sumset. Searching for sets with many more differences than sums, we selected the set $S = \{0, 1, 3, 7, 12, 22, 30\}$. S has 43 distinct pairwise differences and 28 sums.

If the reader would like to follow the construction with a smaller set then one can perform all steps using the $S = \{0, 1, 3\}$ set, and then $c > 0$ is a bit below 0.1 ($c \approx 0.92$), but the steps are easier to check. The selected seven element set is a result of a simple optimization to maximize c . We are going to revisit the selection of S at the end of the proof.

First, we construct a set of k -dimensional vectors, Q_k , in a sequence that consecutive vectors have distinct (vector) differences. Let us consider S as the vertex set of a complete digraph on seven vertices, and assign a value to every edge as follows: If the edge is $v_i \rightarrow v_j$ then its value is defined as $w(i, j) = v_i - v_j$. For example, $w(2, 4) = -6$, and $w(3, 3) = 0$. We will consider walks in this digraph. The first walk is an Euler tour starting and ending in v_1 . Listing the indices of the vertices in sequence as the tour goes we have e.g.,

$$E = \{1, 3, 5, 2, 6, 4, 7, 2, 4, 1, 5, 7, 3, 6, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 1, 7, 5, 3, 7, 4, 6, 5, 1, 6, 2, 5, 4, 3, 1, 4, 2, 7, 6, 3, 2, 1\}.$$

Using the values assigned to the vertices, we have our first multiset of (one dimensional) vectors,

$$Q_1 = \{0, 3, 12, 1, 22, 7, 30, 1, 7, 0, 12, 30, 3, 22, 0, 1, 3, 7, 12, 22, 30, 0, 30, 12, 3, 30, 7, 22, 12, 0, 22, 1, 12, 7, 3, 0, 7, 1, 30, 22, 3, 1, 0\}.$$

By the construction, all consecutive differences are distinct, we used all differences but 0. We define Q_{k+1} recursively, using Q_k . There will be $43|Q_k| = 43^{k+1}$, not necessarily distinct $k + 1$ dimensional vectors in Q_{k+1} , such that all consecutive differences are distinct. The first k coordinates are periodically repeating vectors, lets take k copies, blocks, of Q_k , one after the other. We choose the last, $(k + 1)$ th coordinate for every vector in blocks using Q_1 as follows. In the first block all $(k + 1)$ th coordinates are 0. In the second block, we alternate 3 and 0, as 3, 0, 3, 0, . . . , 0, 3. The third is 12, 3, 12, 3, . . . , 3, 12. For the i th block, ($i > 1$), we use the i th and $i - 1$ th entries of Q_1 and alternate them starting (and ending) with the i th. Note that the first and last vectors are identical.

In this way, all consecutive vectors have distinct differences. If the differences in the last coordinate are the same in two pairs of consecutive vectors, then there are three cases.

- First, the two pairs are selected from the same Q_k block. In this case, the differences of the first k coordinates are distinct by induction.
- The second case when one of the pairs is between two blocks. There is only one pair of blocks where the last and the first vectors have a given difference in the last coordinate, so the other pair is inside one block. But in the difference vector of pairs

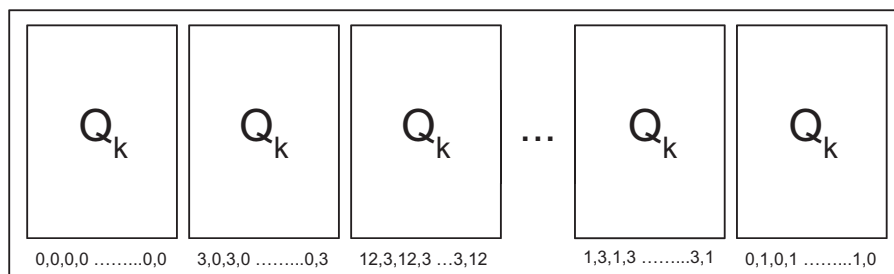


Figure 2: The recursion getting Q_{k+1} from Q_k .

between blocks the first k coordinates are zero, while differences of consecutive vectors in the same block have some nonzero coordinates among the first k .

- The third case is when one pair is in one block and the other is in another block. It is only possible if one pair is in a block with last coordinates a, b, a, \dots, b, a and the other is in the block with b, a, \dots, a, b , but in this case the positions of the two pairs relative to their blocks are different due to parity, so by induction the differences are distinct in the first k coordinates.

Our next step is to construct an increasing sequence of numbers using the vectors in Q_k keeping the same order and keeping the property that consecutive elements have distinct differences. If $\vec{v}_i \in Q_k$ has coordinates $\vec{v}_i^T = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k]$, then let us define $b_i = v_1 + 100v_2 + 100^2v_3 + \dots + 100^{k-1}v_k$. With this definition $b_i \leq 100^k$, and the consecutive differences (in the order of the vectors in Q_k) are all distinct. To make the sequence monotone increasing, we define

$$A = \{a_i \mid a_i = b_i + i100^k, 1 \leq i \leq 43^k\}.$$

The sumset, $A + A$, consists of sums $a_i + a_j = b_i + b_j + (i + j)100^k$. From the selection of the initial set, S , we see that $|\{b_i + b_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq 43^k\}| \leq 28^k$, so we have the bound $|A + A| \leq 28^k \cdot 2 \cdot 43^k$ while $|A| = 43^k$. By this construction we get a set A , with distinct consecutive differences and $|A + A| \leq 2|A|^{2-c}$ where

$$c = \frac{\log \frac{43}{28}}{\log 43} \approx 0.11406.$$

From the construction, we see that we needed a set S with small sumset and large difference set. We were searching among Sidon sets, i.e., sets where all pairwise sums are distinct. In such sets, if the size of S is x then $|S + S| = \binom{x}{2} + x$ and $|S - S| = x(x - 1) + 1$. As we are looking for a large c above, we want to find the maximum of the function

$$\frac{\log \frac{x(x-1)+1}{\binom{x}{2}+x}}{\log x(x-1)+1},$$

for positive x . The maximum is 0.114058... when $x \approx 6.99618$, so we selected S to be a seven-element Sidon set, $\{0, 1, 3, 7, 12, 22, 30\}$. ■

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Alfréd Rényi Institute of Mathematics, Budapest, Hungary

e-mail: ruzsa@renyi.hu

University of British Columbia, Department of Mathematics, Vancouver, Canada

e-mail: solymosi@math.ubc.ca