

# Upper bounds for partial spreads from divisible codes

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joint work with

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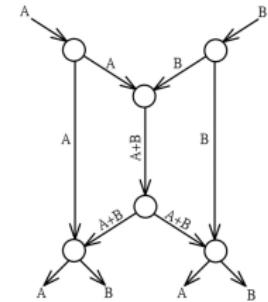


Table for  $A_2(11, d; k)$

d\k	2	3	4	5
4	681	97526 - 99718	2383041 - 3370453	18728043 - 27943597
6		290	16669 - 19787	262996 - 328708
8			129 - 132	4097 - 4292
10				65

# Partial spreads

## Definition

A *partial  $(k - 1)$ -spread* in  $\text{PG}(n - 1, q)$  is a collection of  $(k - 1)$ -dimensional subspaces with trivial intersection such that each *point* is covered exactly once.

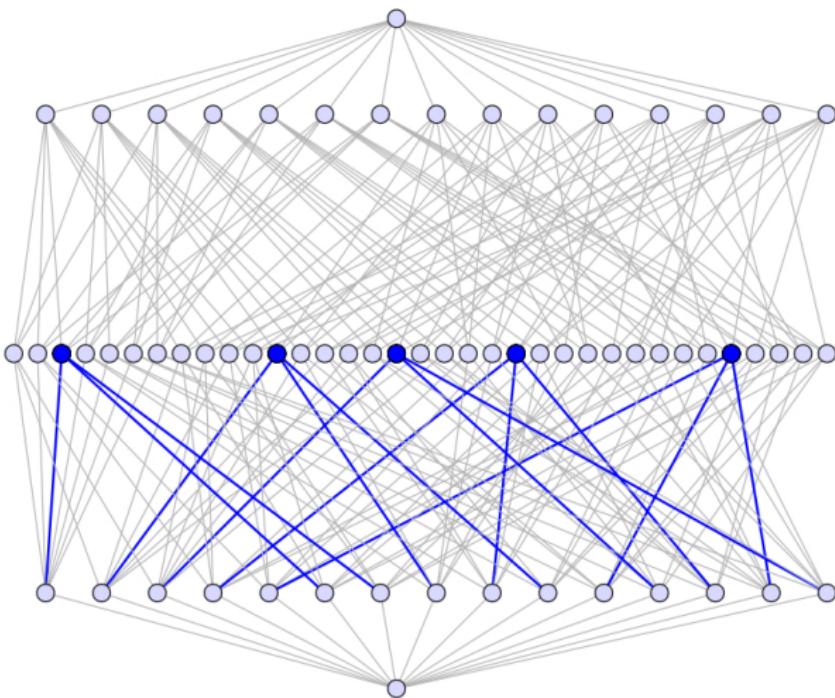
## Problem

Determine the maximum size  $A_q(n, 2k; k)$  of a partial  $(k - 1)$ -spread in  $\text{PG}(n - 1, q)$ .

## Remark

A *partial  $(k - 1)$ -spread* in  $\text{PG}(n - 1, q)$  corresponds to a constant dimension code with codewords of dimension  $k$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  and subspace distance  $2k$ .

# A 1-spread or line spread in PG(3, 2)



# Beutelspacher 1975: study the holes!

$r = 0$ : Theorem Segre 1964

$$A_q(tk + r, 2k; k) = q^r \cdot \frac{q^{tk} - 1}{q^k - 1} \text{ if and only if } r = 0 \text{ (spreads)}$$

$r \geq 1$ : Theorem Beutelspacher 1975

$$A_q(tk + r, 2k; k) \geq 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} q^{v-ik} = q^r \cdot \frac{q^{tk} - 1}{q^k - 1} - q^r + 1 \text{ for all } t \geq 2, k \geq 2, \text{ where } 0 < r < k \text{ (equality for } r = 1\text{)}$$

- ▶ point not covered by a partial spread: hole

Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be the set of holes of a partial  $(k-1)$ -spread (or vector space partitions of type  $[t^{m_t} \dots k^{m_k} 1^{m_1}]$ ) in  $\mathcal{V}$ . For every hyperplane  $H \subset \mathcal{V}$  we have  $\#\mathcal{N} \cap H \equiv \#\mathcal{N} \pmod{q^{k-1}}$ .

# Holes and linear codes

- ▶ take points of  $\mathcal{N}$  as columns of a  $v \times n$  matrix  $G$ , where  $v = \dim(\mathcal{V})$  and  $n = \#\mathcal{N}$
- ▶  $G$  is the generator matrix of a  $[n, v]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}$
- ▶ codewords of  $\mathcal{C}$ :  $c = H^T G$  for all hyperplanes  $H \subset \mathcal{V}$
- ▶  $c_i = 0$ : point  $G_i \in H$ ;  $c_i \neq 0$ : point  $G_i \notin H$ ;  
 $\#(\mathcal{N} \cap H) = n - \text{wt}(c)$ , where  $\text{wt}(c)$  counts non-zeroes in  $c$
- ▶  $\text{wt}(c) \equiv 0 \pmod{q^{k-1}}$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $q^{k-1}$ -divisible code
- ▶  $\mathcal{N} \cap H$  corresponds to a  $q^{k-2}$ -divisible code; recursive

# MacWilliams Identities

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-i} \binom{n-j}{i} A_j = q^{\dim(\mathcal{C})-i} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^i \binom{n-j}{n-i} A_j^\perp \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq n$$

- ▶  $A_i$ : # codewords of weight  $i$  of  $\mathcal{C}$
- ▶  $A_i^\perp$ : # codewords of weight  $i$  of the dual code  $\mathcal{C}^\perp$

In our application we have

- ▶  $A_0 = A_0^\perp = 1$
- ▶  $\mathcal{C}$  is projective:  $A_1^\perp = 0, A_2^\perp = 0$
- ▶  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $q^{k-1}$ -divisible:  $A_i = 0$  if  $i$  is not divisible by  $q^{k-1}$

# First 2 MacWilliams identities

$\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\Delta$ -divisible  $[n, v]_q$  code

$$A_0 + A_1 + \cdots + A_n = q^v A_0^\perp$$

$$n \cdot A_0 + (n - 1) \cdot A_1 + \cdots + 1 \cdot A_{n-1} = q^{v-1} \cdot (n A_0^\perp + A_1^\perp)$$

# First 2 MacWilliams identities

$\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\Delta$ -divisible  $[n, v]_q$  code, where  $n = u + m\Delta$ ,  $m \geq 0$ , and  $A_i = 0$  for  $i > n - u$

$$A_\Delta + A_{2\Delta} + \cdots + A_{m\Delta} = q^v - 1$$

$$(n - 1\Delta) \cdot A_\Delta + \cdots + (n - m\Delta) \cdot A_{m\Delta} = n(q^{v-1} - 1)$$

# First 2 MacWilliams identities

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$$A_\Delta + A_{2\Delta} + \cdots + A_{m\Delta} = q^v - 1$$

$$(n - 1\Delta) \cdot A_\Delta + \cdots + (n - m\Delta) \cdot A_{m\Delta} = n(q^{v-1} - 1)$$

The second equation minus  $u$  times the first equation gives

$$0 \leq \sum_{i=1}^m (m-i)\Delta \cdot A_{i\Delta} = (n - uq) \cdot q^{v-1} - m\Delta$$

so that  $u < \frac{n}{q}$  or  $n = u = m = 0$ , i.e.,  $q$ -divisible implies  $n = 0$  or  $n \geq q$ .

# First 2 MacWilliams identities

Applied recursively, we obtain:

Theorem Năstase and Sissokho 2016

Suppose  $v = tk + r$  with  $t \geq 1$  and  $0 < r < k$ . If  $k > \frac{q^r - 1}{q - 1}$  then  
 $A_q(v, 2k; k) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} q^{ik+r} = \frac{q^v - q^{k+r} + q^k - 1}{q^k - 1}$ .

Remark

If  $k$  is *large*, then the construction of Beutelspacher is optimal.

Remark

We have utilized the non-negativity of a certain **linear polynomial** (in a given range).

# First 3 MacWilliams identities

## Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $\Delta$ -divisible  $[n, v]_q$  code and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then

$$0 \leq \sum_{h=0}^{\lfloor n/\Delta \rfloor} (m-h)(m-h-1)A_{h\Delta} = \tau_q(n, \Delta, m) \cdot \frac{q^{v-2}}{\Delta^2} - m(m-1),$$

where  $\tau_q(n, \Delta, m) =$

$$m(m-1)\Delta^2 q^2 - n(2m-1)(q-1)\Delta q + n(q-1)(n(q-1)+1).$$

## Remark

We have utilized the non-negativity of a certain quadratic polynomial.

# First 3 MacWilliams identities

Theorem K. 2016 implies Năstase, Sissokho 2016

For integers  $r \geq 1$ ,  $t \geq 2$ ,  $u \geq 0$ , and  $0 \leq z \leq \frac{q^r - 1}{q - 1}/2$  with

$k = \frac{q^r - 1}{q - 1} + 1 - z + u > r$  we have

$A_q(v, 2k; k) \leq Iq^k + 1 + z(q - 1)$ , where  $I = \frac{q^{v-k} - q^r}{q^k - 1}$  and  $v = kt + r$ .

Theorem K. 2016  $y = k$  is Drake, Freeman 1979

For integers  $r \geq 1$ ,  $t \geq 2$ ,  $y \geq \max\{r, 2\}$ ,  $z \geq 0$  with  $\lambda = q^y$ ,  $y \leq k$ ,  $k = \frac{q^r - 1}{q - 1} + 1 - z > r$ ,  $v = kt + r$ , and  $I = \frac{q^{v-k} - q^r}{q^k - 1}$ , we have  $A_q(v, 2k; k) \leq$

$$Iq^k + \left[ \lambda - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1 + 4\lambda(\lambda - (z + y - 1)(q - 1) - 1)} \right].$$

# Linear programming method

If the equation system has no solutions for  $A_i, A_i^\perp \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ , then no such code exists.

Example  $A_2(11, 8; 4) \neq 133$  since

$$2^{11} - 1 = (2^4 - 1) \cdot 133 + 52$$

There is no  $2^3$ -divisible linear code of length  $n = 52$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2^V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &+ A_8 &+ A_{16} &+ A_{24} &+ A_{32} &= 8y, \\ 52 &+ 44A_8 &+ 36A_{16} &+ 28A_{24} &+ 20A_{32} &= 4y \cdot 52, \\ \binom{52}{2} &+ \binom{44}{2}A_8 &+ \binom{36}{2}A_{16} &+ \binom{28}{2}A_{24} &+ \binom{20}{2}A_{32} &= 2y \cdot \binom{52}{2}, \\ \binom{52}{3} &+ \binom{44}{3}A_8 &+ \binom{36}{3}A_{16} &+ \binom{28}{3}A_{24} &+ \binom{20}{3}A_{32} &= y \left( \binom{52}{3} + A_3^\perp \right) \end{aligned}$$

are the first 4 MacWilliams Identities using  $A_{40} = A_{48} = 0$  from a recursive application of the linear programming method, where  $y = 2^{v-3}$ .

# Linear programming method

Example (cont.)  $A_2(11, 8; 4) \neq 133$  since

$$2^{11} - 1 = (2^4 - 1) \cdot 133 + 52$$

Substituting  $x = yA_3^\perp$  and solving for  $A_8, A_{16}, A_{24}, A_{32}$  yields

$$A_8 = -4 + \frac{1}{512}x + \frac{7}{64}y, \quad A_{16} = 6 - \frac{3}{512}x - \frac{17}{64}y,$$

$$A_{24} = -4 + \frac{3}{512}x + \frac{397}{64}y, \text{ and } A_{32} = 1 - \frac{1}{512}x + \frac{125}{64}y.$$

Since  $A_{16}, x \geq 0$ , we have  $y \leq \frac{384}{17} < 23$ . On the other hand, since  $3A_8 + A_{16} \geq 0$ , we also have  $-6 + \frac{y}{16} \geq 0$ , i.e.,  $y \geq 96$  – a contradiction.

- ▶  $129 \leq A_2(11, 8; 4) \leq 132$
- ▶ There is a  $2^3$ -divisible linear code of length  $n = (2^{11} - 1) - (2^4 - 1) \cdot 132 = 67$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2^{10}$ .

# First 4 MacWilliams identities

## Lemma K. 2016

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be  $\Delta$ -divisible over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of cardinality  $n > 0$  and  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\sum_{i \geq 1} \Delta^2(i-t)(i-t-1) \cdot (g_1 \cdot i + g_0) \cdot A_{i\Delta} + qhx = n(q-1)(n-t\Delta)(n-(t+1)\Delta)g_2, \text{ where } g_1 = \Delta qh,$$
$$g_0 = -n(q-1)g_2, \quad g_2 = h - (2\Delta qt + \Delta q - 2nq + 2n + q - 2)$$

and  $h = \Delta^2 q^2 t^2 + \Delta^2 q^2 t - 2\Delta n q^2 t - \Delta n q^2 + 2\Delta n q t + n^2 q^2 + \Delta n q - 2n^2 q + n^2 + nq - n$ .

## Corollary

If there exists  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ , using the above notation, with  $n/\Delta \notin [t, t+1]$ ,  $h \geq 0$ , and  $g_2 < 0$ , then there is no  $\Delta$ -divisible set over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of cardinality  $n$ .

# First 4 MacWilliams identities

## Remark

We have utilized the non-negativity of a certain **cubic polynomial** in the stated Lemma.

- ▶  $2^4I + 1 \leq A_2(4k + 3, 8; 4) \leq 2^4I + 4$ , where  $I = \frac{2^{4k-1} - 2^3}{2^4 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $2^6I + 1 \leq A_2(6k + 4, 12; 6) \leq 2^6I + 8$ , where  $I = \frac{2^{6k-2} - 2^4}{2^6 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $2^6I + 1 \leq A_2(6k + 5, 12; 6) \leq 2^6I + 18$ , where  $I = \frac{2^{6k-1} - 2^5}{2^6 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $3^4I + 1 \leq A_3(4k + 3, 8; 4) \leq 3^4I + 14$ , where  $I = \frac{3^{4k-1} - 3^3}{3^4 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $3^5I + 1 \leq A_3(5k + 3, 10; 5) \leq 3^5I + 13$ , where  $I = \frac{3^{5k-2} - 3^5}{3^3 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $3^5I + 1 \leq A_3(5k + 4, 10; 5) \leq 3^5I + 44$ , where  $I = \frac{3^{5k-1} - 3^4}{3^5 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $3^6I + 1 \leq A_3(6k + 4, 12; 6) \leq 3^6I + 41$ , where  $I = \frac{3^{6k-2} - 3^4}{3^6 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $3^6I + 1 \leq A_3(6k + 5, 12; 6) \leq 3^6I + 133$ , where  $I = \frac{3^{6k-1} - 3^5}{3^6 - 1}$ ;
- ▶  $3^7I + 1 \leq A_3(7k + 4, 14; 7) \leq 3^7I + 40$ , where  $I = \frac{3^{7k-3} - 3^4}{3^7 - 1}$ ;

# First 4 MacWilliams identities

- $4^5 I + 1 \leq A_4(5k + 3, 10; 5) \leq 4^5 I + 32$ , where  $I = \frac{4^{5k-2} - 4^3}{4^5 - 1}$ ;
- $4^6 I + 1 \leq A_4(6k + 3, 12; 6) \leq 4^6 I + 30$ , where  $I = \frac{4^{6k-3} - 4^3}{4^6 - 1}$ ;
- $4^6 I + 1 \leq A_4(6k + 5, 12; 6) \leq 4^6 I + 548$ , where  $I = \frac{4^{6k-1} - 4^5}{4^6 - 1}$ ;
- $4^7 I + 1 \leq A_4(7k + 4, 14; 7) \leq 4^7 I + 128$ , where  $I = \frac{4^{7k-3} - 4^4}{4^7 - 1}$ ;
- $5^5 I + 1 \leq A_5(5k + 2, 10; 5) \leq 5^5 I + 7$ , where  $I = \frac{5^{5k-3} - 5^2}{5^5 - 1}$ ;
- $5^5 I + 1 \leq A_5(5k + 4, 10; 5) \leq 5^5 I + 329$ , where  $I = \frac{5^{5k-1} - 5^4}{5^5 - 1}$ ;
- $7^5 I + 1 \leq A_7(5k + 4, 10; 5) \leq 7^5 I + 1246$ , where  $I = \frac{7^{5k-1} - 7^2}{7^5 - 1}$ ;
- $8^4 I + 1 \leq A_8(4k + 3, 8; 4) \leq 8^4 I + 264$ , where  $I = \frac{8^{4k-1} - 8^3}{8^4 - 1}$ ;
- $8^5 I + 1 \leq A_8(5k + 2, 10; 5) \leq 8^5 I + 25$ , where  $I = \frac{8^{5k-3} - 8^2}{8^5 - 1}$ ;
- $8^6 I + 1 \leq A_8(6k + 2, 12; 6) \leq 8^6 I + 21$ , where  $I = \frac{8^{6k-4} - 8^2}{8^6 - 1}$ ;
- $9^3 I + 1 \leq A_9(3k + 2, 6; 3) \leq 9^3 I + 41$ , where  $I = \frac{9^{3k-1} - 9^2}{9^3 - 1}$ ;
- $9^5 I + 1 \leq A_9(5k + 3, 10; 5) \leq 9^5 I + 365$ , where  $I = \frac{9^{5k-2} - 9^3}{9^5 - 1}$ .

# Visit us – join the hunt

All known upper bounds for partial spreads follow from the linear programming method applied to the first 4 MacWilliams identities. There remain 3 theorems (Segre, K.) and 21 sporadic series.

Table for  $A_2(13, d; k)$

d\k	2	3	4	5	6
4	2729	1597245	157319501 - 217544769	4794061075 - 7193022828	38325127529 - 57886442918
6		1169	266891 - 319449	16835124 - 20918757	269057345 - 339835228
8			545	65793 - 72133	2097225 - 2284118
10				257 - 260	16385 - 16772
12					129

<http://subspacecodes.uni-bayreuth.de/>

Thank you very much for your attention!

$$257 \leq A_2(13, 10; 5) \leq 259$$

## Lemma

Weight enumerator of a proj.  $2^3$ -divisible binary code of length 51 is  $1 + 204X^{24} + 51X^{32}$ . (concatenation of an ovoid in  $PG(3, 4)$  with the binary [3, 2] simplex code)

## Proof

There are 2 **integral** solutions of the first 4 MacWilliams identities.  $1 + 2X^8 + 406X^{24} + 103X^{32}$  is impossible.

## Proposition

No  $2^4$  -divisible set of cardinality 131 exists.

## Proof

Otherwise a hyperplane with 51 points, i.e., a codeword  $c$  of weight 80 exists. Consider the split-weight enumerator of  $\text{supp}(c)$ .

# $q^r$ -divisible sets with cardinality $n \leq rq^{r+1}$

## Theorem Heden 2009

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a vector space partition of type  $k^z \cdots d_2^b d_1^a$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q^v$ , where  $a, b > 0$ .

- (i) If  $q^{d_2-d_1}$  does not divide  $a$  and if  $d_2 < 2d_1$ , then  $a \geq q^{d_1} + 1$ ;
- (ii) if  $q^{d_2-d_1}$  does not divide  $a$  and if  $d_2 \geq 2d_1$ , then  $a > 2q^{d_2-d_1}$  or  $d_1$  divides  $d_2$  and  $a = (q^{d_2} - 1) / (q^{d_1} - 1)$ ;
- (iii) if  $q^{d_2-d_1}$  divides  $a$  and  $d_2 < 2d_1$ , then  $a \geq q^{d_2} - q^{d_1} + q^{d_2-d_1}$ ;
- (iv) if  $q^{d_2-d_1}$  divides  $a$  and  $d_2 \geq 2d_1$ , then  $a \geq q^{d_2}$ .

## Theorem K. 2016

For the cardinality  $n$  of a  $q^r$ -divisible set  $\mathcal{C}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  we have

$$n \notin \left[ (a(q-1) + b) \begin{bmatrix} r+1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q + a + 1, (a(q-1) + b + 1) \begin{bmatrix} r+1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q - 1 \right],$$

where  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}_0$  with  $b \leq q-2$ ,  $a \leq r-1$ , and  $r \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ .

In other words, if  $n \leq rq^{r+1}$ , then  $n$  can be written as  $a \begin{bmatrix} r+1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q + bq^{r+1}$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

# Upper bounds for constant dimension codes

All known upper bounds for the maximal size  $A_q(n, d; k)$  of a constant dimension code refer back to bounds for partial spreads via recursive application of the Johnson bound

$$A_q(v, d; k) \leq \frac{q^v - 1}{q^k - 1} A_q(v - 1, d; k - 1)$$

except

$$A_2(6, 4; 3) = 77 < 81 \quad (\text{Honold, Kiermaier, K., 2015})$$

and

$$257 \leq A_2(8, 6; 4) \leq 272 < 289 \quad (\text{Heinlein, K., 2017 – WCC}).$$