

New 4-dimensional linear codes over  $\mathbb{F}_9$

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# 1. Optimal linear codes problem

$\mathbb{F}_q$ : the field of  $q$  elements

$$\mathbb{F}_q^n = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$$

The **weight** of  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  is

$$wt(a) = |\{i \mid a_i \neq 0\}|$$

An  $[n, k, d]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}$  means a  $k$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  with minimum weight  $d$ ,

$$d = \min\{wt(a) \mid a \in \mathcal{C}, a \neq 0\}.$$

A vector  $a \in \mathcal{C}$  is called a **codeword**.

For an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}$ , a  $k \times n$  matrix  $G$  whose rows form a basis of  $\mathcal{C}$  is a **generator matrix**.

The **weight distribution (w.d.)** of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the list of numbers  $A_i > 0$ , where

$$A_i = |\{c \in \mathcal{C} \mid wt(c) = i\}| > 0.$$

The weight distribution

$$(A_0, A_d, \dots) = (1, \alpha, \dots)$$

is also expressed as

$$0^1 d^\alpha \dots .$$

A **good**  $[n, k, d]_q$  code will have  
**small**  $n$  for fast transmission of messages,  
**large**  $k$  to enable transmission of a wide  
variety of messages, and  
**large**  $d$  to correct many errors.

The problem to optimize one of the parameters  $n, k, d$  for given the other two is called  
" **optimal linear codes problem**" (Hill 1992).

**Problem 1.** Find  $n_q(k, d)$ , the smallest value of  $n$  for which an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code exists.

**Problem 2.** Find  $d_q(n, k)$ , the largest value of  $d$  for which an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code exists.

An  $[n, k, d]_q$  code is called **optimal** if

$$n = n_q(k, d) \text{ or } d = d_q(n, k).$$

We deal with Problem 1 for  $q = 9$ ,  $k = 4$ .

# The Griesmer bound

$$n \geq g_q(k, d) := \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left\lceil \frac{d}{q^i} \right\rceil$$

where  $\lceil x \rceil$  is a smallest integer  $\geq x$ .

An  $[n, k, d]_q$  code attaining the Griesmer bound is called a **Griesmer code**.

Griesmer codes are optimal.

## Known results for $q = 9, k = 4$

The exact values of  $n_9(4, d)$  are determined for all  $d$  for  $d \geq 1216$ .

For  $1 \leq d \leq 1215$ ,  $n_9(4, d)$  is determined for 276 values of  $d$  but not for 939 values of  $d$ .

## 2. The geometric method

$\text{PG}(r, q)$ : projective space of dim.  $r$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$

$j$ -flat:  $j$ -dim. projective subspace of  $\text{PG}(r, q)$

0-flat: **point**      1-flat: **line**

2-flat: **plane**       $(r-1)$ -flat: **hyperplane**

$$\theta_j := (q^{j+1} - 1)/(q - 1) = q^j + q^{j-1} + \cdots + q + 1$$

$\mathcal{C}$  : an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code generated by  $G$ .

Since we would like to find  $n_q(k, d)$ ,  
we assume that  $G$  contains **no all-zero-columns**.

Then the columns of  $G$  can be considered  
**as a multiset of  $n$  points** in  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(k - 1, q)$   
denoted also by  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$\mathcal{F}_j$  := the set of  $j$ -flats of  $\Sigma$

$i$ -point: a point of  $\Sigma$  with multiplicity  $i$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$\gamma_0$ : the maximum multiplicity of a point from  $\Sigma$  in  $\mathcal{C}$

$C_i$ : the set of  $i$ -points in  $\Sigma$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq \gamma_0$ .

$\lambda_i := |C_i|$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq \gamma_0$ .

For  $\forall S \subset \Sigma$ , the multiplicity of  $S$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{C}$ , denoted by  $m_{\mathcal{C}}(S)$ , is defined by

$$m_{\mathcal{C}}(S) = \sum_{i=1}^{\gamma_0} i \cdot |S \cap C_i|.$$

Then we obtain the partition

$$\Sigma = C_0 \cup C_1 \cup \cdots \cup C_{\gamma_0} \text{ such that}$$

$$n = m_{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma),$$

$$n - d = \max\{m_{\mathcal{C}}(\pi) \mid \pi \in \mathcal{F}_{k-2}\}.$$

Conversely such a partition of  $\Sigma$  as above gives an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code in the natural manner.

*i*-hyperplane: a hyperplane  $\pi$  with  $i = m_{\mathcal{C}}(\pi)$ .

$$a_i := |\{\pi \in \mathcal{F}_{k-2} \mid m_{\mathcal{C}}(\pi) = i\}|.$$

The list of  $a_i$ 's is the **spectrum** of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$$a_i = A_{n-i}/(q-1) \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n-d.$$

### 3. Projective dual

An  $[n, k, d]_q$  code is *m-divisible* (or *m-div*) if

$$\exists m > 1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad A_i > 0 \Rightarrow m|i.$$

**Ex. 1.** There exists a 3-div  $[41, 4, 33]_9$  code with w.d.  $0^1 33^9 84^3 6^3 608^3 9^1 968$ .

The spectrum is  $(a_2, a_5, a_8) = (246, 451, 123)$ .

**Lemma 1.** (Projective dual)

$\mathcal{C}$ :  $m$ -div  $[n, k, d]_q$  code,  $q = p^h$ ,  $p$  prime.

$m = p^r$  for some  $1 \leq r < h(k - 2)$ ,  $\lambda_0 > 0$ .

$\Rightarrow \exists \mathcal{C}^*$ :  $t$ -div  $[n^*, k, d^*]_q$  code with

$$t = q^{k-2}/m,$$

$$n^* = ntq - \frac{d}{m}\theta_{k-1},$$

$$d^* = ((n - d)q - n)t.$$

A generator matrix for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  is given by considering  $(n - d - jm)$ -hyperplanes as  $j$ -points in the dual space  $\Sigma^*$  of  $\Sigma$  for  $0 \leq j \leq w - 1$ .

**Ex. 2.**

$\mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[41, 4, 33]_9$

with spec.  $(a_2, a_5, a_8) = (246, 451, 123)$

↓ projective dual

$\mathcal{C}^*$ : 27-div  $[943, 4, 837]_9$  ( $n^* = 2a_2 + a_5$ )

with spec.  $(a_{79}^*, a_{106}^*) = (41, 779)$

## 4. Geometric puncturing

The puncturing from a given  $[n, k, d]_q$  code by deleting the coordinates corresponding to some geometric object in  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(k-1, q)$  is [geometric puncturing](#).

**Lemma 2.**  $\mathcal{C}: [n, k, d]_q$  code

$\bigcup_{i=0}^{\gamma_0} C_i$ : the partition of  $\Sigma$  obtained from  $\mathcal{C}$ .

If  $\bigcup_{i \geq 1} C_i$  contains a  $t$ -flat  $\Pi$  and if  $d > q^t$

$\Rightarrow \exists \mathcal{C}': [n - \theta_t, k, d']_q$  code, for  $d' \geq d - q^t$ .

## 5. Quasi-cyclic codes

$R = \mathbb{F}_q[x]/(x^N - 1)$ : ring of polynomials  
over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  modulo  $x^N - 1$ .

We associate  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{N-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_q^N$   
with  $a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{N-1}x^{N-1} \in R$ .

For  $g = (g_1(x), \dots, g_m(x)) \in R^m$ , an ideal  $C_g$  of  $R^m$  defined by

$$C_g = \{(r(x)g_1(x), \dots, r(x)g_m(x)) \mid r(x) \in R\}$$

is called the **1-generator quasi-cyclic (QC) code** with **generator  $g$** .

When  $m = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{C} = C_g$  is called **cyclic** satisfying that  $c(x) \in \mathcal{C}$  implies  $x \cdot c(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ ,

i.e.,  $(c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{N-1}) \in \mathcal{C}$

$\Rightarrow (c_{N-1}, c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{N-2}) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Let  $g(x) = x^k - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} g_i x^i \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$  dividing  $x^N - 1$ .

We denote by  $[g^N]$  or by  $[g_0 g_1 \cdots g_{k-1}^N]$  the  $k \times N$  matrix

$$[P, TP, T^2P, \dots, T^{N-1}P],$$

where

$$T = \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & g_0 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & g_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & g_2 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & g_{k-2} \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 & g_{k-1} \end{array} \right], P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

i.e.,  $T$  is the **companion matrix** of  $g(x)$ .

$$\tau : \text{PG}(k-1, q) \longrightarrow \text{PG}(k-1, q)$$

defined by

$$\tau(\mathbf{P}(x_0, \dots, x_{k-1})) = \mathbf{P}(T(x_0, \dots, x_{k-1})^\top).$$

Then the columns of  $[g^N]$  can be considered as an orbit of  $\tau$ .

Now, take  $m$  orbits  $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2, \dots, \mathcal{O}_m$  of  $\tau$  with length  $N$ , and select a point  $P_i$  from each  $\mathcal{O}_i$ .

We take  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_m$  as non-zero column vectors in  $\mathbb{F}_q^k$ .

We always take  $P_1$  as  $P = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ .

We denote the matrix

$$[P_1, TP_1, T^2P_1, \dots, T^{n_1-1}P_1; P_2, TP_2, \dots \\ \dots; P_m, TP_m, T^2P_m, \dots, T^{n_m-1}P_m]$$

by  $[g^{n_1}] + P_2^{n_2} + \dots + P_m^{n_m}$ .

Then, the matrix  $[g^N] + P_2^N + \dots + P_m^N$  defined from  $m$  orbits  $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2, \dots, \mathcal{O}_m$  of  $\tau$  generates a QC code.

$\mathbb{F}_9 = \{0, 1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^7\}$  ,with  $\alpha^2 = \alpha + 1$ .

we denote  $\alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^7$  by  $2, 3, \dots, 8$  so that

$\mathbb{F}_9 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 8\}$ .

addition table

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1	5	3	8	7	0	4	6	2
2	2	3	6	4	1	8	0	5	7
3	3	8	4	7	5	2	1	0	6
4	4	7	1	5	8	6	3	2	0
5	5	0	8	2	6	1	7	4	3
6	6	4	0	1	3	7	2	8	5
7	7	6	5	0	2	4	8	3	1
8	8	2	7	6	0	3	5	1	4

multiplication table

×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	0	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1
3	0	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2
4	0	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3
5	0	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4
6	0	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5
7	0	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	0	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Ex. 3.**

$$P_1 = (1, 0, 0, 0)^\top, \quad P_2 = (1, 0, 1, 7)^\top \in \mathbb{F}_9^4$$

$$g(x) = x^4 - 5x^3 - 5x^2 - 5x - 5 \in \mathbb{F}_9[x]$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P_1 &= (1, 0, 0, 0)^\top & , & & TP_1 &= (0, 1, 0, 0)^\top & , \\
T^2P_1 &= (0, 0, 1, 0)^\top & , & & T^3P_1 &= (0, 0, 0, 1)^\top & , \\
T^4P_1 &= (5, 5, 5, 5)^\top & , & & T^5P_1 &= (1, 0, 0, 0)^\top &
\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = \{P_1, TP_1, T^2P_1, T^3P_1, T^4P_1\}$$

$$\Rightarrow [1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4^5] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow [5, 4, 2]_9 \text{ code}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P_2 &= (1, 0, 1, 7)^\top & , & & TP_2 &= (3, 8, 3, 8)^\top & , \\
T^2P_2 &= (4, 5, 0, 5)^\top & , & & T^3P_2 &= (1, 7, 0, 1)^\top & , \\
T^4P_2 &= (5, 0, 4, 5)^\top & , & & T^5P_2 &= (1, 0, 1, 7)^\top
\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_2 = \{P_2, TP_2, T^2P_2, T^3P_2, T^4P_2\}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 7^5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 8 & 5 & 7 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 7 & 8 & 5 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow [5, 4, 2]_9 \text{ code}$$

$$[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4^5] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 7^5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 8 & 5 & 7 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 7 & 8 & 5 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow [1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4^5] + 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 7^5 = \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|ccccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 8 & 5 & 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 8 & 5 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

$\Rightarrow$  QC  $[10, 4, 5]_9$  code

## 6. Construction of new codes

**Lemma 3.** There exists  $[1227, 4, 1089]_9$ ,  
 $[1237, 4, 1098]_9$ ,  $[1247, 4, 1107]_9$  codes.

**Proof.**

$\mathcal{C}$ : QC code with generator matrix

$$[5214^7] + 1402^7 + 1371^7 + 1706^7 + 1243^7 + 1377^7 \\ + 1718^7.$$

Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is a 3-div  $[49, 4, 39]_9$  code with spectrum  $(a_1, a_4, a_7, a_{10}) = (28, 448, 267, 77)$ .

As projective dual, we get a  $[1247, 4, 1107]_9$  code  $\mathcal{C}^*$  with w.d.  $0^1 1107^6 168^1 1134^3 92$ .

The multiset for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  has two skew lines

$$l_1 = \langle 1000, 1111 \rangle, \quad l_2 = \langle 1002, 1121 \rangle.$$

Hence, we get

$[1227, 4, 1089]_9$ ,  $[1237, 4, 1098]_9$  codes by  
geometric puncturing. □

**Lemma 4.** There exist

$[913, 4, 810]_9$ ,  $[923, 4, 819]_9$ ,  $[933, 4, 828]_9$

and  $[943, 4, 837]_9$  codes.

**Proof.**

$\mathcal{C}$ : extended QC code with generator matrix

$[1000^4] + 7211^4 + 1116^4 + 1574^4 + 1376^4 + 1507^4$   
 $+ 1247^4 + 1426^4 + 1237^4 + 1860^4 + 1515^1$ .

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[41, 4, 33]_9$  code with spectrum

$$(a_2, a_5, a_8) = (246, 451, 123).$$

$\mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[41, 4, 33]_9$

↓ projective dual

$\mathcal{C}^*$ : 27-div  $[943, 4, 837]_9$

The multiset for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  contains three skew lines

$l_1 = \langle 1000, 1018 \rangle$ ,  $l_2 = \langle 1002, 1102 \rangle$ ,  $l_3 = \langle 1003, 1114 \rangle$ .

Hence, we get

$[913, 4, 810]_9$ ,  $[923, 4, 819]_9$  and  $[933, 4, 828]_9$

codes by geometric puncturing. □

There are 200 orbits of length 4,  
8 orbits of length 2 and 4 fixed points  
under the projectivity defined by the companion matrix of  $x^4 - 1$ .

We give three other 3-divisible codes constructed from these orbits.

**Lemma 5.** There exist

$[1034 - 10t, 4, 918 - 9t]_9$  codes

for  $t = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8$ .

**Proof.**

$\mathcal{C}$ :  $[38, 4, 30]_9$  code with generator matrix

$$G = [1000^4] + 1721^4 + 1215^4 + 1056^4 + 1574^4 \\ + 1542^4 + 1761^4 + 1065^4 + 1168^4 + 1515^1 + 1357^1,$$

where the columns of  $G$  consist of nine orbits of length 4 and **two fixed points** under the projectivity defined by the companion matrix of  $x^4 - 1$ .

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[38, 4, 30]_9$  code with spectrum  $(a_2, a_5, a_8) = (298, 438, 84)$ .

$\mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[38, 4, 30]_9$

↓ projective dual

$\mathcal{C}^*$ : 27-div  $[1034, 4, 918]_9$

The multiset for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  contains eight skew lines  
 $\langle 1000, 1103 \rangle, \langle 1002, 1111 \rangle, \langle 1003, 1017 \rangle, \langle 1005, 1121 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 1006, 1132 \rangle, \langle 1007, 1140 \rangle, \langle 1008, 1150 \rangle, \langle 1010, 1105 \rangle.$

Hence, we get

$[1034 - 10t, 4, 918 - 9t]_9$  codes for  $1 \leq t \leq 8$   
by geometric puncturing. □

**Lemma 6.** There exist

$[1125 - 10t, 4, 999 - 9t]_9$  codes

for  $t = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8$ .

**Proof.**

$\mathcal{C}$ :  $[35, 4, 27]_9$  code with generator matrix

$$G = 1018^4 + 1077^4 + 1220^4 + 1550^4 + 1034^4 + 1566^4 \\ + 1356^4 + 1313^2 + 1652^2 + 1357^1 + 1111^1 + 1753^1,$$

where the columns of  $G$  consist of seven orbits of length 4, two orbits of length 2 and three fixed points under the projectivity defined by the companion matrix of  $x^4 - 1$ .

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[35, 4, 27]_9$  code with spectrum  $(a_2, a_5, a_8) = (360, 405, 55)$ .

$\mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[35, 4, 27]_9$

↓ projective dual

$\mathcal{C}^*$ : 27-div  $[1125, 4, 999]_9$

The multiset for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  contains eight skew lines  
 $\langle 1000, 1001 \rangle, \langle 1011, 1100 \rangle, \langle 1012, 1114 \rangle, \langle 1013, 1120 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 1014, 1130 \rangle, \langle 1015, 1140 \rangle, \langle 1016, 1150 \rangle, \langle 1017, 1161 \rangle.$

Hence, we get

$[1125 - 10t, 4, 999 - 9t]_9$  codes for  $1 \leq t \leq 8$   
by geometric puncturing. □

**Lemma 7.** There exist

$[1186-10t, 4, 1053-9t]_9$  for  $t = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$   
and  $[1277, 4, 1134]_9$  codes.

**Proof.**

$\mathcal{C}$ :  $[39, 4, 30]_9$  code with generator matrix

$$G = [1000^4] + 1721^4 + 1846^4 + 1473^4 + 1300^4 + \\ 1851^4 + 1574^4 + 1281^4 + 1405^4 + 1256^2 + 1515^1,$$

where the columns of  $G$  consist of  
nine orbits of length 4,  
**one orbit of length 2 and one fixed point**  
under the projectivity defined by the companion  
matrix of  $x^4 - 1$ .

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[39, 4, 30]_9$  code with spectrum  
 $(a_0, a_3, a_6, a_9) = (32, 427, 327, 34)$ .

$\mathcal{C}$ : 3-div  $[39, 4, 30]_9$

↓ projective dual

$\mathcal{C}^*$ : 27-div  $[1277, 4, 1134]_9$

The multiset for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  contains one plane

$\langle 1004, 1018, 1118 \rangle$

and five skew lines

$\langle 1000, 1015 \rangle, \langle 1002, 1103 \rangle, \langle 1003, 1110 \rangle, \langle 1005, 1120 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 1006, 1140 \rangle.$

Hence, we get

$[1186 - 10t, 4, 1053 - 9t]_9$  codes for  $0 \leq t \leq 5$   
by geometric puncturing.  $\square$

## 7. New results on $n_g(4, d)$

We determined  $n_g(4, d)$  for **115 values** of  $d$ .

(1)  $n_g(4, d) = g_g(4, d)$  for  $d \in \{811-837, 892-918, 973-999\}$

(2)  $n_g(4, d) = g_g(4, d) + 1$  for  $d \in \{964-972, 1045-1053, 1114-1116, 1122-1134\}$

(3)  $n_g(4, d) \leq g_g(4, d) + 1$  for  $d \in \{802-810, 838-891, 919-963, 1000-1044, 1081-1113, 1117-1121\}$

Still  $n_g(4, d)$  is not determined for **824 values** of  $d$ .

Thank you for your attention!

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