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# New upper bounds on the smallest size of a complete cap in the space PG(3, q)

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Seventh International Workshop on Optimal Codes and Related Topics, OC 2013, Albena, Bulgaria, September 6-12, 2013

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 $PG(3, q) \Rightarrow$  projective space of dimension 3 over Galois field  $F_q$ 

n-cap  $\Rightarrow$ a set of n points no three of which are collinear a line meeting a cap  $\Rightarrow$  tangent or bisecant

bisecant  $\Rightarrow$  a line intersecting a cap in two points

a **point** A of PG(3, q) is **covered** by a cap  $\Rightarrow$ A lies on a **bisecant** of the cap

**complete cap**  $\Rightarrow$  all points of PG(3, q) are covered by bisecants of the cap  $\Rightarrow$  one may not add a new point to a complete cap

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## INTRODUCTION NOTATION

 $t_2(3, q) \Rightarrow$  the smallest size of a complete cap in PG(3, q)

# HARD OPEN CLASSICAL PROBLEM: 1950 $\rightarrow$ exact value or upper bound on $t_2(3, q)$

 $t_2(3, q) \Rightarrow$  the smallest known size of a complete cap in PG(3, q)including computer search

 $t_2(3,q) \leq \overline{t}_2(3,q)$ 

exact values of  $t_2(3, q)$  for  $q \leq 7$ 

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Introduction

# KNOWN BOUNDS on $t_2(3, q)$

trivial lower bound  $t_2(3,q) > \sqrt{2}q \quad \forall q$ 

 $t_2(3,q) \leq \begin{cases} 2q+t_2(2,q) & q \text{ even} \\ 3q & q \leq 17 \\ 4q & q \leq 80 \\ 11q \end{cases}$ 

\* F. Pambianco, L. Storme, A.A. Davydov, S. Marcugini 1995–2009
\*\* A.A. Davydov, G. Faina, S. Marcugini, F. Pambianco 2009
\*\*\* D. Bartoli, G. Faina, M. Giulietti, Finite Fields & Applications, to appear

Introduction

# KNOWN BOUNDS on $t_2(3, q)$

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#### upper bounds

$$t_2(3,q) \leq \begin{cases} 2q + t_2(2,q) & q \text{ even } * \\ 3q & q \leq 17 & ** \\ 4q & q \leq 89 & ** \\ 11q & q < 30000 & *** \end{cases}$$

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# Algorithm FOP

FOP  $\Rightarrow$  Fixed Order of Points Points of PG(3, q) are ordered:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{q^3+q^2+q+1}$ ALGORITHM  $K^{(1)} = \{A_1\}$   $K^{(2)} = \{A_1, A_2\}$ 

ALGORITHM 
$$\mathcal{K}^{(1)} = \{A_1\}, \quad \mathcal{K}^{(2)} = \{A_1, A_2\},$$
  
 $\mathcal{K}^{(j+1)} = \mathcal{K}^{(j)} \cup \{A_{m(j)}\},$ 

m(j) is the minimum index such that the corresponding point is not covered by  $K^{(j)}$ .

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# NEW UPPER BOUNDS on $t_2(3, q)$ Notation

Algorithm FOP with lexicographical order of points represented in homogenous coordinates

 $R \Rightarrow$  a set of 400 prime in the interval [3,3109]

$$\phi_{up}(q) = \frac{1}{\ln(0.2 \cdot q)} + 0.7$$
$$\theta_{up}(q) = \frac{1}{2\ln(0.01 \cdot q)} + 0.6$$

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# NEW UPPER BOUNDS on $t_2(3, q)$

Theorem			
$t_2(3,q) \leq \left\{$	5 <i>q</i>	if	$q \leq 223$
	6 <i>q</i>	if	$q \leq 3109$
	q ln q	if	$127 \le q \le 3109$
	<b>q</b> ln <sup>0.9</sup> <b>q</b>	if	$787 \le q \le 3109$
	$ heta_{\it up}(q)q\ln q$	if	$101 \leq q \leq 3109$
	$q \ln^{\phi_{up}(q)} q$	if	$q \leq 3109$
$q \in R$			

#### NEW bounds based on a DEGREE OF LOGARITHM of q



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# on DECREASING DEGREE OF LOGARITHM of q

# $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{CDL}\text{-bound} \Rightarrow \text{upper bound with a constant degree} \\ \text{of } \log q \end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{DDL-bound} \Rightarrow \mathsf{upper} \text{ bound with a decreasing degree} \\ \mathsf{of} \log q \end{array}$ 

DDL-bounds are more convenient

DDL-bound and computer results  $\bar{t}_2(3, q)$  almost coalesce but always DDL-bound >  $\bar{t}_2(3, q)$ 

#### NEW bound based on a DECREASING DEGREE OF $\ln q$



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Thank you Spasibo Mille grazie Premnogo blagodarya !'Muchas gracias Toda raba Merci beaucoup Dankeschön Dank u wel Domo arigato