

# Linear Codes from $q$ -analogues in Design Theory

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## Introduction

Majority logic  
decoding using  
combinatorial  
designs

Designs

Majority logic  
decoding

Classical /  
geometric designs

Subspace designs

More  $q$ -analogues

$q$ -analogues of group  
divisible designs

Lifted MRD codes

Designs in polar  
spaces

Open questions

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Majority logic decoding using combinatorial designs  
Designs  
Majority logic decoding
- 3 Classical / geometric designs
- 4 Subspace designs
- 5 More  $q$ -analogues  
 $q$ -analogues of group divisible designs  
Lifted MRD codes  
Designs in polar spaces
- 6 Open questions

- $0 \leq t \leq k \leq v$ : integers
- $\lambda$ : non-negative integer
- $V$ : set of  $v$  points
- $\mathcal{B}$ : collection of  $k$ -subsets (blocks) of  $V$
- $\mathcal{D} = (V, \mathcal{B})$  is called a  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design on  $V$  if  
*each  $t$ -subset of  $V$  is contained in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks.*

$t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design  $\mathcal{D} = (V, \mathcal{B})$ :

- $\#\mathcal{B} = \lambda \binom{v}{t} / \binom{k}{t}$
- every point  $P \in V$  appears in  $r = \lambda \binom{v-1}{t-1} / \binom{k-1}{t-1}$  blocks
- $r$  is called replication number
- we will just consider simple designs

## Rudolph (1967), Ng (1970)

- Based on Reed (1954): First non-trivial majority logic decoding scheme
- Given:  $2$ -( $v, k, \lambda$ ) design  $\mathcal{D} = (V, \mathcal{B})$  with  $V = \{0, 1, \dots, v - 1\}$
- Characteristic vectors of  $\mathcal{B}$  are the rows of a  $\#\mathcal{B} \times v$  incidence matrix  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$  between blocks and points of  $\mathcal{D}$
- Code  $C_{\mathcal{D}} \leq \mathbb{F}_p^v$ :  $p$ -ary linear code of length  $v$  having parity-check matrix  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$

# Majority logic decoding and designs

## Task

- Sent:  $c = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{v-1}) \in C_{\mathcal{D}}$
- $H_{\mathcal{D}} \cdot (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{v-1})^{\top} = 0$
- Error:  $e = (e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{v-1})$
- Received:

$$y = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{v-1}) = c + e \pmod{p}$$

- Decode  $y$ , i.e. find  $c$

## Decode $y_0$ :

- Assume point 0 to be in design blocks  $B_0, \dots, B_{r-1}$ ,
- corresponding to rows  $h_0, \dots, h_{r-1}$  of  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$
- $0 = \sum_{j=0}^{v-1} h_{ij} c_j$  for  $0 \leq i < r$
- $c_0 = -h_{i0}^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{v-1} h_{ij} c_j$  for  $0 \leq i < r$

- $r + 1$  equations give  $r + 1$  estimates for  $c_0$ :

$$c_0^{(0)} = -h_{00}^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{v-1} h_{0j} \cdot y_j \quad (\text{mod } p)$$

$$c_0^{(1)} = -h_{10}^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{v-1} h_{1j} \cdot y_j \quad (\text{mod } p)$$

$\vdots$

$$c_0^{(r-1)} = -h_{(r-1)0}^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{v-1} h_{(r-1)j} \cdot y_j \quad (\text{mod } p)$$

$$c_0^{(r)} = y_0 \quad (\text{counted } \lambda \text{ times})$$

- Majority decision:  $c_0^{(0)}, \dots, c_0^{(r)} \rightarrow c_0$
- Each error spoils at most  $\lambda$  equations (for  $c_0$ )
- Requirement:  $\# \text{errors} \cdot \lambda < (r + \lambda)/2$

## Remarks

- To be precise: **One-step majority logic decoding**
- In most cases, more than  $\lfloor \frac{r+\lambda-1}{2\lambda} \rfloor$  errors can be corrected
- $t$ -designs for  $t > 2$ : error analysis by Rahman, Blake (1975)
- $\lambda = 1$ : **orthogonal check equations**

## Applications

- Circuit is very easy to realize
- Still interesting: e.g. for nano-structure storage
- Hardware implementation: only **cyclic** designs are interesting

A. Wassermann

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decoding

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Majority logic decodable codes with **orthogonal check equations** are closely connected to

- **Linear locally repairable codes**, Huang et. al. (2015)
- **Private information retrieval (PIR) codes**, Fazeli, Vardy, Yaakobi (2015)



## Linear code $C_{\mathcal{D}}$ :

- Length:  $v$
- Dimension:  $\dim C_{\mathcal{D}} = v - \text{rank}_p H_{\mathcal{D}}$
- Majority logic decodes at least  $\lfloor \frac{r+\lambda-1}{2\lambda} \rfloor$  errors
- #equations:  $r + 1$

## Drawback:

In most cases,  $C_{\mathcal{D}}$  will have dimension 0 or 1.

## Theorem (Hamada)

Let  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$  be the incidence matrix of a  $2$ -( $v, k, \lambda$ ) design  $\mathcal{D}$  with replication number  $r$ , and let  $p$  be a prime.

- If  $\text{rank}_p H_{\mathcal{D}} < v - 1$ , then  $p$  divides  $r - \lambda$ .

# Classical / geometric designs

- prime power  $q$
- $\mathcal{V} = \mathbb{F}_q^v$
- $\left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ m \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ : set of all  $m$ -dimensional subspaces of  $\mathcal{V}$  ( $m$ -subspaces)
- Gaussian coefficient:

$$\# \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ m \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q = \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} v \\ m \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q = \frac{(q^v - 1)(q^{v-1} - 1) \cdots (q^{v-m+1} - 1)}{(q^m - 1)(q^{m-1} - 1) \cdots (q - 1)}$$

# Designs from projective geometry

- Let  $q = p^f$  and  $2 \leq k < v$
- $\mathcal{V} = \mathbb{F}_q^v$
- Classical / geometric design  $\mathcal{G} = (V, \mathcal{B})$  [Bose (1939)]:
  - $V = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$
  - $\mathcal{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q$ , i.e. all  $k$ -subspaces in  $\mathcal{V}$
  - $\mathcal{G}$ : combinatorial design with parameters

$$2-\left( \begin{bmatrix} v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, \begin{bmatrix} v-2 \\ k-2 \end{bmatrix}_q \right)$$

- $\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} v-2 \\ k-2 \end{bmatrix}_q, \quad r = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} v-1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix}_q$
- Most interesting for majority logic decoding:

$$t = k = 2 \quad (\Rightarrow \lambda = 1, \text{ i.e. orthogonal checks})$$

- Suggested by Rudolph (1967)

## Theorem (Hamada (1973))

- The  $p$ -rank of  $\mathcal{G}$  is

$$\sum_{s_0} \cdots \sum_{s_{f-1}} \prod_{j=0}^{f-1} \sum_{i=0}^{L(s_{j+1}, s_j)} (-1)^i \binom{v}{i} \binom{v-1 + s_{j+1}p - s_j - ip}{v-1}$$

- $s_f = s_0$
- $k \leq s_j \leq v$  and  $0 \leq s_{j+1}p - s_j \leq v(p-1)$
- $L(s_{j+1}, s_j) = \lfloor (s_{j+1}p - s_j)/p \rfloor$

## Conjecture: Hamada (1973)

Among the designs with the same parameters as the classical designs, the classical designs have minimal  $p$ -rank.

## Tonchev (1986)

There are other designs having the same  $p$ -rank as the classical designs.

## Codes from classical designs

### affine case:

- Euclidean Geometry codes
- $p = 2$ : Reed-Muller codes

### projective case:

- Projective Geometry codes
- $p = 2$ : subcodes of punctured Reed-Muller codes

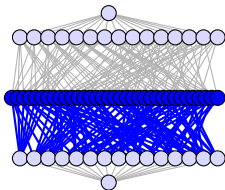
- Incidence matrices in affine spaces give closely related codes
- Since Rudolph (1967), codes from incidence matrices of various structures in finite geometry have been studied.
- Assmus / Key: [Designs and their codes](#) (1992)
- See e.g. [Lavrauw, Storme, Van de Voorde](#) (2008)

# Subspace designs

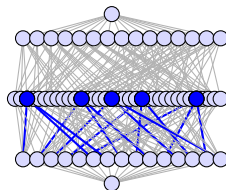


A pair  $\mathcal{D} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{B})$  is called  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)_q$  **subspace design** if

- $\mathcal{V} = \mathbb{F}_q^v$
- $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ : **blocks**,  $\left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ : **points**
- every  $t$ -dimensional subspace  $T \in \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ t \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$  is contained in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks of  $\mathcal{B}$
- $\mathcal{B} = \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ : **complete design**



$1-(4, 2, 7)_2$  design  
 $2-(4, 2, 1)_2$  design



$1-(4, 2, 1)_2$  design

- Introduced by Ray-Chaudhuri, Cameron, Delsarte in the early 1970s
- First nontrivial subspace design for  $t \geq 2$ :  
Thomas (1987)
- Many computer constructions:  
Braun, Kerber, Laue (2005)
- Nontrivial  $q$ -Steiner systems (i.e.  $\lambda = 1$ ):  
Braun, Etzion, Östergård, Vardy, W. (2013)
- Recent survey:  
Greferath, Pavčević, Silberstein, Vázquez-Castro:  
Network Coding and Subspace Designs (2018)

- Necessary conditions for  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)_q$ :

$$\lambda_i = \lambda \frac{\begin{bmatrix} v-i \\ t-i \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} k-i \\ t-i \end{bmatrix}_q} \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for } i = 0, \dots, t$$

- $\#\mathcal{B} = \lambda_0 = \lambda \frac{\begin{bmatrix} v \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} k \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q}$
- $r = \lambda_1 = \lambda \frac{\begin{bmatrix} v-1 \\ 1 \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ 1 \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q}$
- Complete design:  $\lambda_{\max} = \begin{bmatrix} v-t \\ k-t \end{bmatrix}_q$

- $1-(v, k, 1)_q$  with  $k \mid v$ : **spreads**
- **Thomas (1987):**  
 $2-(v, 3, 7)_2$  for  $v \geq 7$  and  $\pm 1 \equiv v \pmod{6}$
- **Suzuki (1989):**  
 $2-(v, 3, q^2 + q + 1)_q$  for  $v \geq 7$  and  $\pm 1 \equiv v \pmod{6}$

## Braun, Kerber, Laue (2005), S. Braun (2010)

$t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)_q$	$G$	$\lambda_{\max}$	$\lambda$
$3$ - $(8, 4, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma, \phi^2 \rangle$	31	11, 15
$2$ - $(10, 3, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma, \phi \rangle$	255	15, 30, 45, 60, 75, 90, 105, 120
$2$ - $(9, 4, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma, \phi \rangle$	2667	21, 63, 84, 126, 147, 189, 210, 252, 273, 315, 336, 378, 399, 441, 462, 504, 525, 567, 576, 588, 630, 651, 693, 714, 756, 777, 819, 840, 882, 903, 945, 966, 1008, 1029, 1071, 1092, 1134, 1155, 1197, 1218, 1260, 1281, 1323
$2$ - $(9, 3, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma, \phi^3 \rangle$	127	21, 22, 42, 43, 63
$2$ - $(8, 4, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma, \phi^2 \rangle$	651	21, 35, 56, 70, 91, 105, 126, 140, 161, 175, 196, 210, 231, 245, 266, 280, 301, 315
$2$ - $(8, 3, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma \rangle$	63	21
$2$ - $(7, 3, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma \rangle$	31	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
$2$ - $(6, 3, \lambda)_2$	$\langle \sigma^7 \rangle$	15	3, 6

$\sigma$ : Singer cycle,  $\phi$ : Frobenius automorphism

# Subspace designs $\rightarrow$ combinatorial designs

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Introduction

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decoding using  
combinatorial  
designs

Designs

Majority logic  
decoding

Classical /  
geometric designs

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$q$ -analogues of group  
divisible designs

Lifted MRD codes

Designs in polar  
spaces

Open questions

## Three types:

$$2-(v, k, \lambda)_q \rightarrow \begin{cases} 2-([\![_v]_q, [\![_k]_q, \lambda) & \text{projective case} \\ 2-(q^{v-1}, q^{k-1}, \lambda) & \text{affine case} \\ 3-(q^v, q^k, \lambda), & q = 2 \quad (*) \end{cases}$$

(\*): Etzion, Vardy (2011), Dela Cruz, W. (2021)

## Resulting codes

- All three types of combinatorial designs give majority logic decodable codes
- Here, we'll focus on the **projective case**

- A  $2-(v, k, \lambda)_q$  **subspace design** is a

$$2-\left(\begin{bmatrix} v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, \lambda\right)$$

**combinatorial design**

- The classical / geometric designs are the **complete** subspace designs, i.e. have maximum possible  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda_{\max}$

## classical design $\mathcal{G}$

- $2-(v, k, \lambda_{\max})_q$
- incidence matrix  $H_{\mathcal{G}}$

## subspace design $\mathcal{D}$

- $2-(v, k, \lambda)_q$
- incidence matrix  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$

## Observation:

The rows of  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$  are a subset of the rows of  $H_{\mathcal{G}}$

$\implies$

$$\text{rank}_p H_{\mathcal{D}} \leq \text{rank}_p H_{\mathcal{G}} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\mathcal{D}} \geq C_{\mathcal{G}}$$

So far:  $C_{\mathcal{D}} = C_{\mathcal{G}}$  for all tested examples (which are few)



$$\bullet \quad r_{\mathcal{D}} = \lambda \frac{\begin{bmatrix} v-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q} \qquad r_{\mathcal{G}} = \lambda_{\max} \frac{\begin{bmatrix} v-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q}$$

Dela Cruz, W. (2021):

- Length of  $C_{\mathcal{D}}, C_{\mathcal{G}}$ :  $\begin{bmatrix} v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$
- Dimension:  $\dim C_{\mathcal{D}} \geq \dim C_{\mathcal{G}}$
- Majority logic decodes at least

$$\left\lfloor \frac{r_{\mathcal{D}} + \lambda - 1}{2\lambda} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{r_{\mathcal{G}} + \lambda_{\max} - 1}{2\lambda_{\max}} \right\rfloor$$

errors

- # equations:  $r_{\mathcal{D}} + 1 \leq r_{\mathcal{G}} + 1$
- Suzuki family  $2$ - $(v, 3, q^2 + q + 1)_q$  gives an exponential improvement in the # equations compared to the geometric designs

Introduction

Majority logic  
decoding using  
combinatorial  
designs

Designs

Majority logic  
decoding

Classical /  
geometric designs

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divisible designs

Lifted MRD codes

Designs in polar  
spaces

Open questions

$v$	$k$	$\lambda_{\text{known}}$	$\lambda_{\text{min}}$	$\lambda_{\text{max}}$	$r$	$(n, \text{dim}, l)_2$	$r_{\text{max}}/r$
3	2	1	1	1	3	(7, 3, 1)	
4	2	1	1	1	7	(15, 4, 3)	
4	3	3	3	3	7	(15, 10, 1)	
5	2	1	1	1	15	(31, 5, 7)	
5	3	7	7	7	35	(31, 15, 2)	
5	4	7	7	7	15	(31, 25, 1)	
6	2	1	1	1	31	(63, 6, 15)	
6	3	3	3	15	31	(63, 21, 5)	5.0
7	2	1	1	1	63	(127, 7, 31)	
7	3	3	1	31	63	(127, 28, 10)	10.3
7	4	15	5	155	135	(127, 63, 4)	10.3
7	5	155	155	155	651	(127, 98, 2)	
7	6	31	31	31	63	(127, 119, 1)	
8	2	1	1	1	127	(255, 8, 63)	
8	3	21	21	63	889	(255, 36, 21)	3.0
8	4	7	7	651	127	(255, 92, 9)	93.0
8	5	465	465	1395	3937	(255, 162, 4)	3.0

## Introduction

 Majority logic  
 decoding using  
 combinatorial  
 designs

 Majority logic  
 decoding

 Classical /  
 geometric designs

## Subspace designs

 More  $q$ -analogues

 $q$ -analogues of group  
 divisible designs

## Lifted MRD codes

 Designs in polar  
 spaces

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	$v$	$k$	$\lambda_{\text{known}}$	$\lambda_{\text{min}}$	$\lambda_{\text{max}}$	$r$	$(n, \text{dim}, l)_2$	$r_{\text{max}}/r$
Designs	9	2	1	1	1	255	(511, 9, 127)	
Majority logic decoding	9	3	7	1	127	595	(511, 45, 42)	18.1
	9	4	21	7	2667	765	(511, 129, 18)	127.0
Classical / geometric designs	9	5	93	31	11811	1581	(511, 255, 8)	127.0
Subspace designs	9	6	651	93	11811	5355	(511, 381, 4)	18.1
More $q$ -analogues	10	2	1	1	1	511	(1023, 10, 255)	
$q$ -analogues of group divisible designs	10	3	15	3	255	2555	(1023, 55, 85)	17.0
	10	4	595	5	10795	43435	(1023, 175, 36)	18.1
Lifted MRD codes	10	5	765	15	97155	26061	(1023, 385, 17)	127.0
Designs in polar spaces	10	6	11067	93	200787	182427	(1023, 637, 8)	18.1
Open questions	10	7	5715	1143	97155	46355	(1023, 847, 4)	17.0
	11	2	1	1	1	1023	(2047, 11, 511)	
	11	3	7	7	511	2387	(2047, 66, 170)	73.0
	11	8	10795	10795	788035	86955	(2047, 1815, 4)	73.0
	12	2	1	1	1	2047	(4095, 12, 1023)	
	13	2	1	1	1	4095	(8191, 13, 2047)	
	13	3	1	1	2047	1365	(8191, 91, 682)	2047.0
	13	10	24893	24893	50955971	199485	(8191, 7813, 4)	2047.0

## Summary

Subspace designs with small  $\lambda$  have small decoders (i.e. few equations) without losing error correction capability compared to codes from classical designs

$$\#\text{errors} \cdot \lambda < (r + \lambda)/2 = \#\text{equations}/2$$

## Sufficient for majority logic decoding:

Incidence matrix between blocks / points of combinatorial structure with

- constant replication number of the points
- every pair of points appears in **at most**  $\lambda$  blocks

## Desirable:

- Blocks are subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}_q^v \rightarrow$  submatrix of  $H_G \rightarrow$  Hamada formula is involved
- Cyclic structure

# More $q$ -analogues

A. Wassermann

Introduction

Majority logic  
decoding using  
combinatorial  
designs

Designs

Majority logic  
decoding

Classical /  
geometric designs

Subspace designs

More  $q$ -analogues

$q$ -analogues of group  
divisible designs

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spaces

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- 1  $q$ -analogues of group divisible designs
- 2 lifted MRD codes
- 3 designs in classical polar spaces

# $q$ -analogues of group divisible designs

A  $q$ -analog of a group divisible design ( $q$ -GDD) with parameters  $(v, g, k, \lambda)_q$  is a triple  $(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{B})$ , where

- $\mathcal{G}$  is a partition of  $\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$  into  $g$ -subspaces ( $g$ -spread, the groups,  $\#\mathcal{G} > 1$ )
- $\mathcal{B}$  is a family of  $k$ -subspaces (blocks) of  $\mathcal{V}$  such that every 2-dimensional subspace  $L \in \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{V} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}_q$  occurs in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks or one spread element, but not both.

## Remarks

- Introduced in Buratti, Kiermaier, Kurz, Nakić, W. (2019)
- Blocks  $B$  are scattered subspaces with respect to spread  $\mathcal{G}$

## Replication number

- $$r = \lambda \frac{\begin{bmatrix} v-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q - \begin{bmatrix} g-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q}$$



## Improved decoders

Using constructions from Buratti, Kiermaier, Kurz, Nakić, W. (2019):

$\mathcal{D}$	$r$	$q$ -GDD	$r$	$[n, \dim, \ell]_2$
$2-(6, 3, 3)_2$	31	$(6, 2, 3, 2)_2$	20	$[63, 21, 5]_2$
$2-(8, 3, 21)_2$	889	$(8, 2, 3, 2)_2$	84	$[255, 36, 21]_2$
$2-(9, 3, 7)_2$	595	$(9, 3, 3, 2)_2$	168	$[511, 45, 42]_2$
$2-(10, 3, 15)_2$	2555	$(10, 2, 3, 14)_2$	2380	$[1023, 55, 85]_2$

## Burst error correction?

Errors in the same spread elements are treated independently

- $\mathbb{F}_q^{k \times m}$ ,  $k \leq m$
- Rank distance: for  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k \times m}$ :  $d_r(A, B) = \text{rank}(A - B)$
- Rank metric code:  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq (\mathbb{F}_q^{k \times m}, d_r)$
- $d_r(\mathcal{C}) = \min\{d_r(A, B) \mid A \neq B \in \mathcal{C}\}$
  
- Singleton bound:  $\#\mathcal{C} \leq q^{m(k-d_r+1)}$
- Equality can always be attained (Gabidulin codes): Maximum rank distance codes – MRD codes
- Delsarte (1978), Gabidulin (1985)

## Kötter, Kschischang (2008):

- $\mathcal{C}_r \subseteq (\mathbb{F}_q^{k \times m}, d_r)$  MRD code
- $v = k + m, \mathcal{V} = \mathbb{F}_q^v$
- $A \in \mathcal{C}_r: \langle (I \mid A) \rangle$ , row space
- Subspace code  $\mathcal{C} = \{ \langle (I \mid A) \rangle \leq \mathcal{V} \mid A \in \mathcal{C}_r \}$
- $\#\mathcal{C} = q^{m(k-d_r+1)}$
- Subspace distance:  $d_s(\mathcal{C}) = 2d_r(\mathcal{C}_r)$

## Etzion, Silberstein (2013):

- Define  $S := \langle (0 \mid I) \rangle$
- Each  $(k - d_r + 1)$ -subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ , disjoint from  $S$ , is contained in **exactly one** codeword of  $\mathcal{C}$
- Let  $0 \leq i \leq k - d_r - 1$ . Each  $(k - d_r - i)$ -subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ , disjoint from  $S$ , is contained in exactly  $q^{m(i+1)}$  codewords of  $\mathcal{C}$
- The codewords of  $\mathcal{C}$  form the blocks of a **transversal design**  $\text{TD}_\lambda\left(\begin{bmatrix} k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, q^m\right)$  with  $\lambda = q^{m(k-d_r-1)}$
- $r = q^{m(k-d_r)}$
- $\rightarrow$  take incidence matrix of TD as parity-check matrix
- See also Lavauzelle (2018): TDs as PIR codes

- Etzion, Silberstein (2013):  
 $q^m \leq \text{rank}_2 H_C \leq \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (q^m - 1) + 1$  if  $q$  even.

- Kiermaier, Kurz, W. (2021+):  
$$\text{rank}_p H_C \leq \underbrace{\text{rank } H_G}_\text{Hamada formula} - \begin{bmatrix} m \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$$

## Example:

- $\mathbb{F}_2^{3 \times 4}$ :  $k = 3, m = 4$  with  $d_r = 2$ .
- $\text{TD}_1(7, 16)$ ,  $n = 112 \rightarrow$  orthogonal checks
- Etzion, Silberstein (2013):  $16 \leq \text{rank}_2 H_C \leq 106$
- Kiermaier, Kurz, W. (2021+):
  - Bound:  $\text{rank}_2 H_C \leq 84$
  - Computer enumeration: there are 33 MRD codes
  - Rank spectrum:  $68 \leq \text{rank}_2 H_C \leq 83$
  - Rank 68:  $[112, 44, 24]_2$  code
    - Meets known lower bound
    - One-step majority logic decoding corrects 8 errors

## Finite classical polar spaces

type	$v$	rank
$Q^-(2n+1, q)$	$2n+2$	$n$
$Q(2n, q)$	$2n+1$	$n$
$Q^+(2n+1, q)$	$2n+2$	$n+1$
$W(2n+1, q)$	$2n+2$	$n+1$
$H(2n, q^2)$	$n+1$	$n$
$H(2n+1, q^2)$	$n+2$	$n+1$

### Definition

A family of generators (subspaces of maximal rank  $k$ ) in a finite polar space  $\mathcal{Q}$  is called  $t$ -design if there exists a positive integer  $\lambda$  such that every  $t$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathcal{Q}$  is contained in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks.  
(Dimensions are vector space dimensions)

## Known results

- Segre (1967):  $\lambda$ -regular system with regard to  $t - 1$ -spaces
- Trivial designs in  $Q^+$  for all  $t$ : latins and greeks
- First nontrivial 2-design:  
 $Q(6, 3)$ ,  $\lambda = 2$  [De Bruyn and Vanhove (2013)]
- Lansdown (2020): more examples for  $q = 3, 5$
- See also Cossidente, Marino, Pavese, Smaldore (2021)

## Kiermaier, Schmidt, W. (2021+)

- $\lambda_i = \lambda \frac{\begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix}_Q \begin{bmatrix} k \\ i \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} n \\ i \end{bmatrix}_Q \begin{bmatrix} k \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q}$
- $r = \lambda_1$
- $\geq 100$  computer constructions for  $q = 2, 3$  and  $t = 2$

### First observations

- Design blocks are subspaces in an ambient vector space  $\mathcal{V}$
- Hamada formula **somehow** involved in  $\text{rank } H_{\mathcal{D}}$

### Examples

$\mathcal{D}: (v, k, \lambda)_{\mathcal{Q}}$	$\text{rank}_{H_{\mathcal{D}}}$	$[n, k, d]_2$	$r$	$\ell$
$(6, 3, 1)_{\mathcal{Q}^+}$	11	$[35, 24, 4]_2$	3	1
$(8, 4, 3)_{\mathcal{Q}^+}$	43	$[135, 92]_2$	15	2
$(10, 5, 6)_{\mathcal{Q}^+}$	187	$[527, 340]_2$	54	4
$(11, 5, 21)_{\mathcal{Q}}$	517	$[1023, 506]_2$	357	8
$(8, 4, 5)_{\mathcal{W}}$	135	$[255, 120]_2$	45	4
$(8, 3, 2)_{\mathcal{Q}^-}$	84	$[119, 35, 24]_2$	18	4
$(10, 4, 9)_{\mathcal{Q}^-}$	330	$[495, 165]_2$	153	8



## Subspace designs, $q$ -GDDs

- Does  $\dim C_{\mathcal{D}} = \dim C_{\mathcal{G}}$  always hold?

## Lifted MRD codes

- Role of  $d_r$  for rank  $H_C$ ? (e.g. 83 vs. 84)

## Designs in polar spaces

- Bounds for rank  $H_{\mathcal{D}}$ ?

## Applications

- Efficient **error detection**? (resolvable configurations?)
- Only information bits need to be decoded. Can this be exploited?

A. Wassermann

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decoding using  
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Designs

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Classical /  
geometric designs

Subspace designs

More  $q$ -analogues

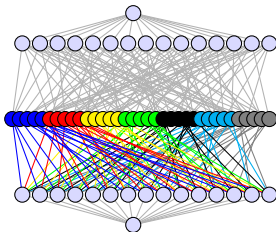
$q$ -analogues of group  
divisible designs

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Designs in polar  
spaces

Open questions

$q$ -analogues of design configurations enable the use of the Hamada formula and lead to interesting linear codes



Thank you for listening !

A. Wassermann

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$\mathbb{F}_2^{2 \times 2}$ :  $k = m = 2$  with  $d_r = 2$ .

$\mathcal{C} = \{ \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1000 \\ 0100 \end{pmatrix} \rangle, \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1010 \\ 0101 \end{pmatrix} \rangle, \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1011 \\ 0110 \end{pmatrix} \rangle, \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1001 \\ 0111 \end{pmatrix} \rangle \}$  lifted MRD code

$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1000 \\ 0100 \end{pmatrix} \rangle = \{ (10|00), (01|00), (11|00) \}$

	$10$				$01$				$11$			
	00	10	01	11	00	10	01	11	00	10	01	11
$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1000 \\ 0100 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$	1				1				1			
$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1010 \\ 0101 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$		1					1					1
$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1011 \\ 0110 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$				1		1					1	
$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1001 \\ 0111 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$			1					1		1		