

# QUADRICS AND HIGHLY DIVISIBLE ARCS IN FINITE PROJECTIVE GEOMETRIES

Ivan Landjev

Institute of Mathematics and Informatics  
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

(joint work with Sascha Kurz, Assia Rousseva, and Francesco Pavese)

# 1. The extension problem for linear codes and arcs

◇ **Linear  $[n, k]_q$  code**:  $C < \mathbb{F}_q^n$ ,  $\dim C = k$ , ( $\mathbb{F}_q = \text{GF}(q)$ )

◇  **$[n, k, d]_q$ -code**:  $d = \min\{d(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \mid \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in C, \mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{v}\}$ .

-  $n$  - the **length** of  $C$ ;

-  $k$  - the **dimension** of  $C$ ;

-  $d$  - the **minimum distance** of  $C$ .

◇  $A_i$  – number of codewords of (Hamming) weight  $i$

◇  $(A_i)_{i \geq 0}$  – the **spectrum** of  $C$

Given the positive integers  $k$  and  $d$  and the prime power  $q$ , find the smallest value of  $n$  for which there exists a linear  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code. This value is denoted by  $n_q(k, d)$ .

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

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

the Hamming code  $[7, 4, 3]$   $\rightarrow$  the extended Hamming code  $[8, 4, 4]$

**Definition.** A linear  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code  $C$  is said to be **extendable** if there exists a  $[n + 1, k, d + 1]_q$ -code  $C'$  such that  $C$  is obtained from  $C'$  by puncturing.

**Definition.** A linear code over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is said to be **divisible** with divisor  $\Delta > 1$  if the weight of every codeword is a multiple of  $\Delta$ .

**Theorem.** (H. N. Ward) Let  $C$  be a Griesmer code over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ,  $p$  a prime. If  $p^e$  divides the minimum weight of  $C$ , then  $p^e$  is a divisor of the code.

**Definition.** A linear  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code is said to be  **$t$ -quasidivisible** modulo  $\Delta$  if  $d \equiv -t \pmod{\Delta}$  and all weights in the code are congruent to  $-t, \dots, -1, 0$  modulo  $\Delta$ .

**Theorem.** (R. Hill, P. Lizak, 1995) Every linear  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code with weights 0 and  $d$  modulo  $q$ , where  $(d, q) = 1$ , is extendable to a  $[n + 1, k, d + 1]_q$ -code.

The most common case is  $d \equiv -1 \pmod{q}$ .

Equivalently: every 1-quasidivisible code is extendable.

**Theorem.** (T. Maruta, 2004) Let  $q \geq 5$  be an odd prime power. If an  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code with  $d \equiv -2 \pmod{q}$  has only weights  $-2, -1, 0 \pmod{q}$  then it is extendable.

Equivalently: every 2-quasidivisible code over a field of order  $q \geq 5$ ,  $q$  odd, is extendable.

**Theorem.** (H. Kanda, 2020) Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $[n, k, d]_3$  code with  $(d, 3) = 1$  whose possible weights of codewords satisfy  $A_i = 0$  for all  $i \not\equiv 0, -1, -2 \pmod{9}$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is doubly extendable.

**Definition.** A **multiset** in  $PG(k-1, q)$  is a mapping

$$\mathcal{K} : \begin{cases} \mathcal{P} & \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0, \\ P & \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(P). \end{cases}$$

$\mathcal{K}(P)$  – the **multiplicity** of the point  $P$ .

$\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{P}$ :  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{Q}) = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{K}(P)$ ;  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{P})$  – the **cardinality** of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

$a_i$  – the number of hyperplanes of multiplicity  $i$

$(a_i)_{i \geq 0}$  – the **spectrum** of  $\mathcal{K}$

**Definition.**  $(n, w)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(k - 1, q)$ : a multiset  $\mathcal{K}$  with

- 1)  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{P}) = n$ ;
- 2) for every hyperplane  $H$ :  $\mathcal{K}(H) \leq w$ ;
- 3) there exists a hyperplane  $H_0$ :  $\mathcal{K}(H_0) = w$ .

**Definition.**  $(n, w)$ -blocking set with respect to hyperplanes in  $\text{PG}(k - 1, q)$ : a multiset  $\mathcal{K}$  with

- 1)  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{P}) = n$ ;
- 2) for every hyperplane  $H$ :  $\mathcal{K}(H) \geq w$ ;
- 3) there exists a hyperplane  $H_0$ :  $\mathcal{K}(H_0) = w$ .

**Definition.** An  $(n, w)$ -arc  $\mathcal{K}$  in  $\text{PG}(k - 1, q)$  is called  $t$ -extendable, if there exists an  $(n + t, w)$ -arc  $\mathcal{K}'$  in  $\text{PG}(k - 1, q)$  with  $\mathcal{K}'(P) \geq \mathcal{K}(P)$  for every point  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ .

**Definition.** An arc  $\mathcal{K}$  in  $\text{PG}(k - 1, q)$  with  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{P}) = n$  and spectrum  $(a_i)$  is said to be divisible with divisor  $\Delta$  if  $a_i = 0$  for all  $i \not\equiv n \pmod{\Delta}$ .

**Definition.** An arc  $\mathcal{K}$  with  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{P}) = n$  and spectrum  $(a_i)$  is said to be  $t$ -quasidivisible with divisor  $\Delta$  (or  $t$ -quasidivisible modulo  $\Delta$ ) if  $a_i = 0$  for all  $i \not\equiv n, n + 1, \dots, n + t \pmod{\Delta}$ .



## Equivalence of linear codes and arcs

$$[n, k, d]_q\text{-code } C \text{ of full length} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (n, w = n - d)\text{-arc } \mathcal{K} \text{ in } \text{PG}(k - 1, q)$$

$$\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{u} \in C, \text{ wt}(\mathbf{u}) = u \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{a hyperplane } H \text{ with } \mathcal{K}(H) = n - u,$$

$$\text{extendable } [n, k, d]_q\text{-code } C \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{extendable } (n, n - d)\text{-arc } \mathcal{K}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{divisible } [n, k, d]_q\text{-code} \\ A_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\Delta} \end{array} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{divisible } (n, n - d)\text{-arc in } \text{PG}(k - 1, q) \\ a_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \not\equiv n \pmod{\Delta} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} t\text{-quasidivisible } [n, k, d]_q\text{-code} \\ A_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \not\equiv -j \pmod{q} \\ j \in \{0, 1, \dots, t\} \end{array} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} t\text{-quasidivisible } (n, n - d)\text{-arc} \\ \text{in } \text{PG}(k - 1, q) \ a_i = 0 \text{ for all} \\ i \not\equiv n + j \pmod{q} \end{array}$$

◇ Griesmer arcs: arcs associated with codes meeting the Griesmer bound

## 2. $(t \pmod q)$ -Arcs

**Definition.** Let  $t < q$  be a non-negative integer.

An arc  $\mathcal{K}$  in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  is called a  $(t \pmod q)$ -**arc** if every subspace  $S$  of positive dimension has multiplicity  $\mathcal{K}(S) \equiv t \pmod q$ .

If in addition, every point  $P$  has multiplicity at most  $t$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{K}(P) \leq t$ ; the  $\mathcal{K}$  is called a **strong  $(t \pmod q)$ -arc**.

**Remark.** It is enough to require the congruence in the definition only for the the subspaces of dimension 1 (i.e. for the lines).

◇  $\mathcal{K}$  -  $(n, w)$ -arc in  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(r, q)$

◇ for every hyperplane  $H$ , we have  $\mathcal{K}(H) \equiv n, n+1, \dots, n+t \pmod{q}$  where  $0 < t < q$  is an integer constant, i.e.  $\mathcal{K}$  is  $t$ -quasidivisible modulo  $q$ .

◇ Define an arc  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}$  in the dual space  $\tilde{\Sigma}$

$$(\star) \quad \tilde{\mathcal{K}} : \begin{cases} \mathcal{H} & \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0, \\ H & \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{K}}(H) := n + t - \mathcal{K}(H) \pmod{q}. \end{cases}$$

where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the set of all hyperplanes of  $\Sigma$ .

E.g. maximal hyperplanes become 0-points.

**Theorem A.** (Landjev, Rousseva, 2016) Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $(n, w)$ -arc in  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(r, q)$  which is  $t$ -quasidivisible modulo  $q$ . Then the arc  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}$  is a strong  $(t \pmod q)$ -arc.

**Theorem B.** (Landjev, Rousseva, 2016) Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $(n, w)$ -arc in  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(r, q)$  which is  $t$ -quasidivisible modulo  $q$ ,  $t < q$ . Assume

$$\tilde{\mathcal{K}} = \sum_{i=1}^c \chi_{\tilde{H}_i} + \tilde{\mathcal{K}}'$$

for some arc  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}'$  and  $c$  not necessarily different hyperplanes  $\tilde{H}_1, \dots, \tilde{H}_c$ . Then  $\mathcal{K}$  is  $c$ -extendable. In particular, if  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}$  contains a hyperplane in its support then  $\mathcal{K}$  is extendable.

**Theorem C.** (Landjev,Rousseva,2016) Let  $t_1 < q$  and  $t_2 < q$  be positive integers. The sum of a  $(t_1 \bmod q)$ -arc and a  $(t_2 \bmod q)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  is a  $(t \bmod q)$ -arc with  $t = t_1 + t_2 \pmod{q}$ .

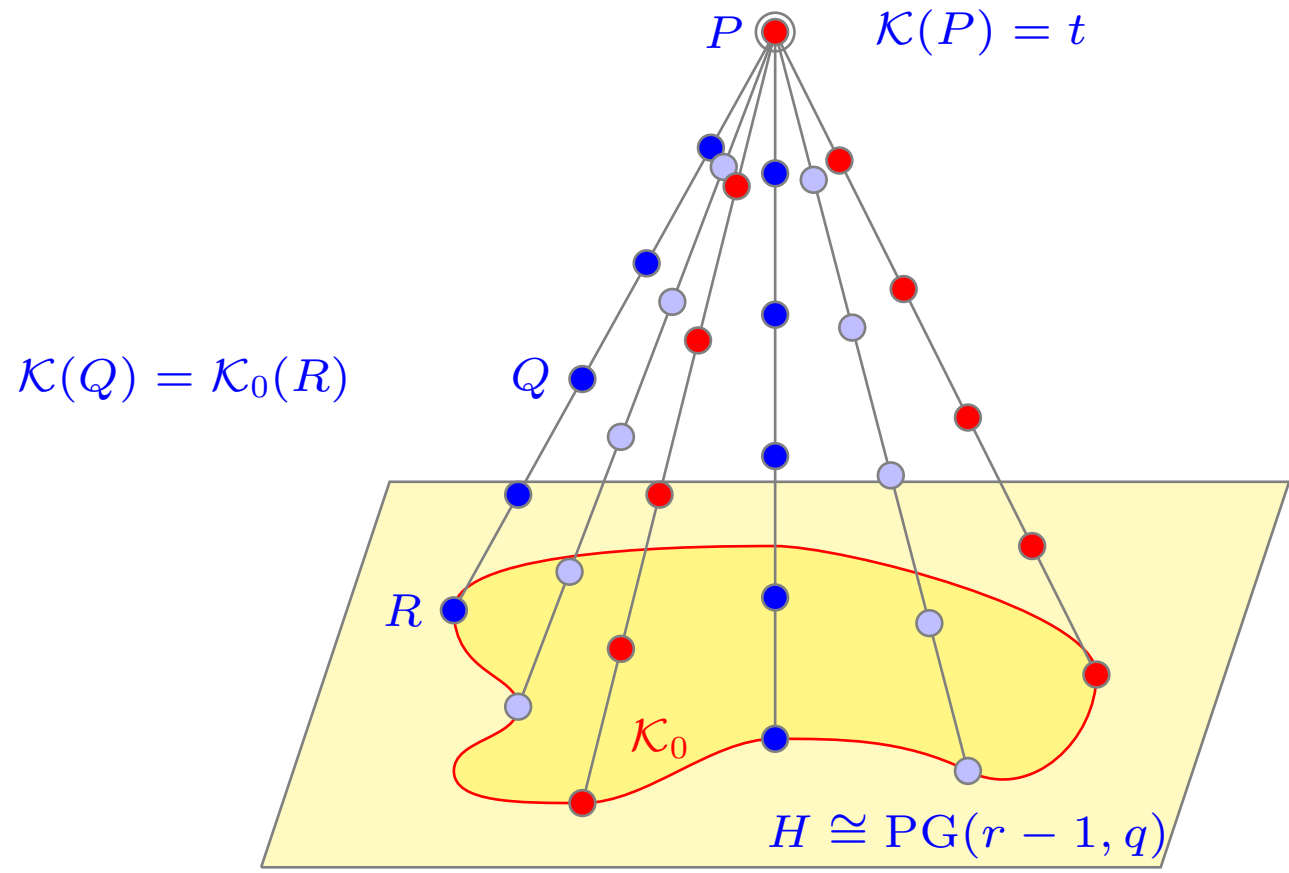
In particular, the sum of  $t$  hyperplanes in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  is a strong  $(t \bmod q)$ -arc.

**Theorem D.** (Landjev, Rouseva, 2016) Let  $\mathcal{K}_0$  be a  $(t \bmod q)$ -arc in a hyperplane  $H \cong \text{PG}(r-1, q)$  of  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(r, q)$ . For a fixed point  $P \in \Sigma \setminus H$ , define an arc  $\mathcal{K}$  in  $\Sigma$  as follows:

- $\mathcal{K}(P) = t$ ;
- for each point  $Q \neq P$ :  $\mathcal{K}(Q) = \mathcal{K}_0(R)$  where  $R = \langle P, Q \rangle \cap H$ .

Then the arc  $\mathcal{K}$  is a  $(t \bmod q)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  of size  $q|\mathcal{K}_0| + t$ .

**Definition.**  $(t \bmod q)$ -arcs obtained by Theorem D are called **lifted arcs**.



**Theorem E.** (Landjev,Rousseva,2016) A strong  $(t \pmod q)$ -arc  $\mathcal{K}$  in  $\text{PG}(2, q)$  of cardinality  $mq + t$  exists if and only if there exists an  $((m - t)q + m, m - t)$ -blocking set  $\mathcal{B}$  with line multiplicities contained in  $\{m - t, m - t + 1, \dots, m\}$ .



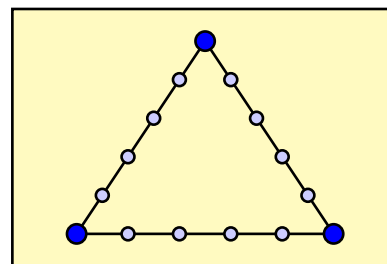
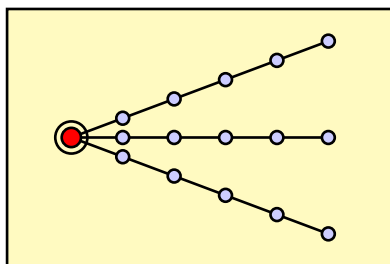
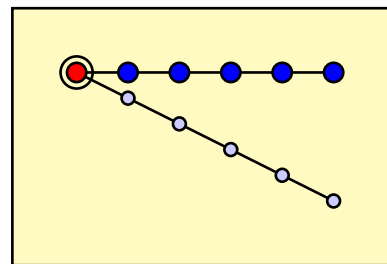
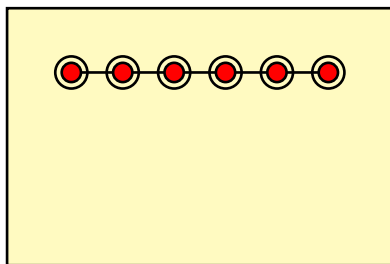
$(1 \pmod q)$	$\text{PG}(r, q)$	a hyperplane
$(2 \pmod q)$	$\text{PG}(2, q)$	lifted from a $2, q + 2$ , or $2q + 2$ -line, or an oval + a tangent + $2 \times$ the internal points (T. Maruta, 2004, S.Kurz, 2021)
	$\text{PG}(r, q), r \geq 3$	lifted from a $(2 \pmod q)$ -arc in $\text{PG}(r, q)$ (I. Landjev, A. Rousseva, 2019)
$(3 \pmod 5)$	$\text{PG}(2, 5)$	185 arcs
	$\text{PG}(3, 5)$	lifted and three sporadic $(3 \pmod 5)$ -arcs of sizes 128, 143, and 168 (S. Kurz, I. Landjev, A. Rousseva, 2023)
	$\text{PG}(r, 5), r \geq 4$	lifted and ???

### 3. Strong $(3 \pmod 5)$ -Arcs in $PG(2, 5)$

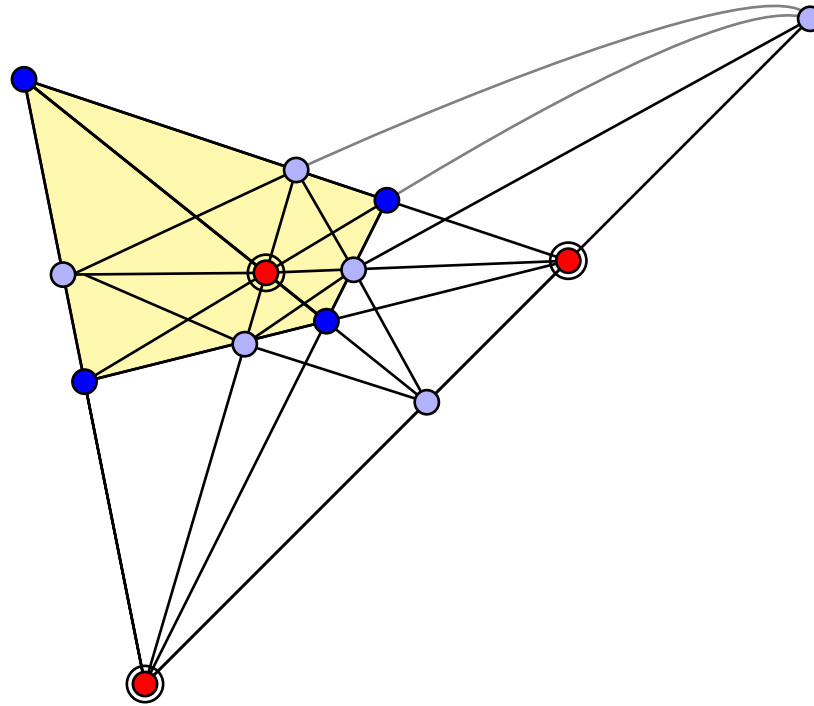
$ \mathcal{K} $	BS	# arcs	$ \mathcal{K} $	BS	# arcs
18	(3, 0)	4	48	(39, 6)	49
23	(9, 1)	1	53	(45, 7)	17
28	(15, 2)	1	58	(51, 8)	11
33	(21, 3)	10	63	(57, 9)	9
38	(27, 4)	23	68	(63, 10)	6
43	(33, 5)	53	93	(93, 15)	1

- Ivan Landjev & Assia Rousseva (computerfree)
- Sascha Kurz (computer search)

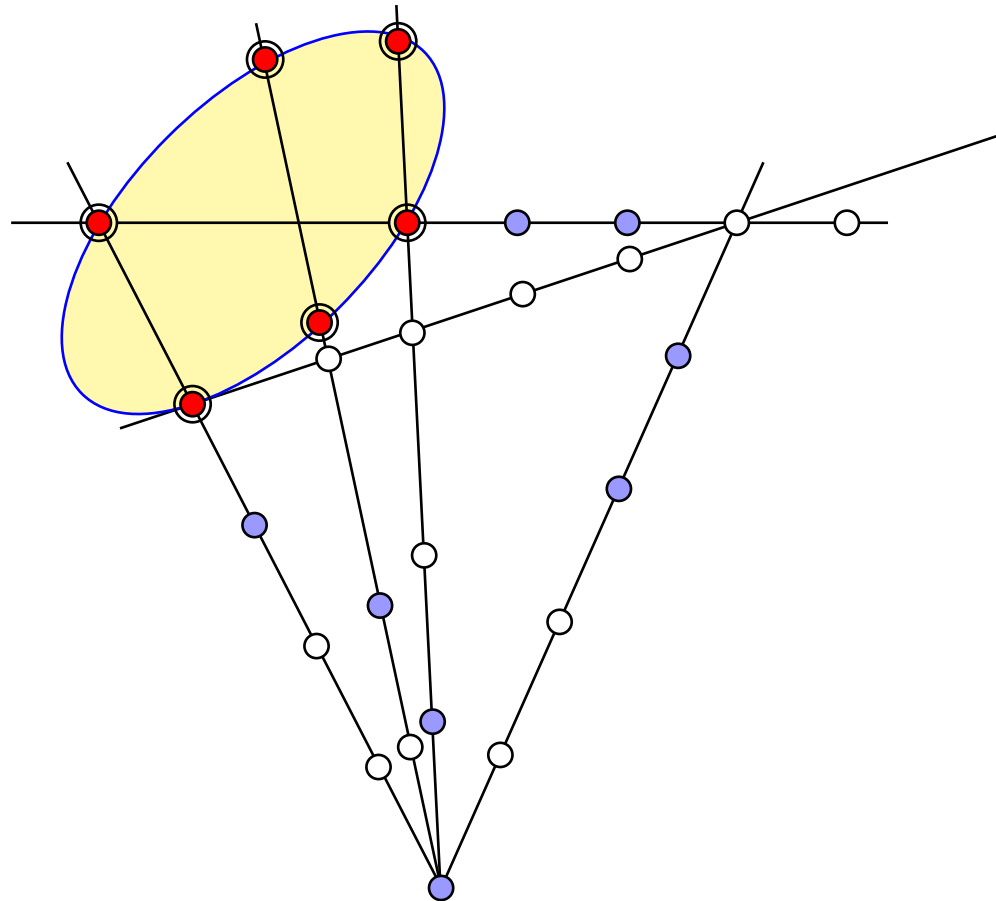
$(18, \{3, 8, 13, 18\})$ -arcs



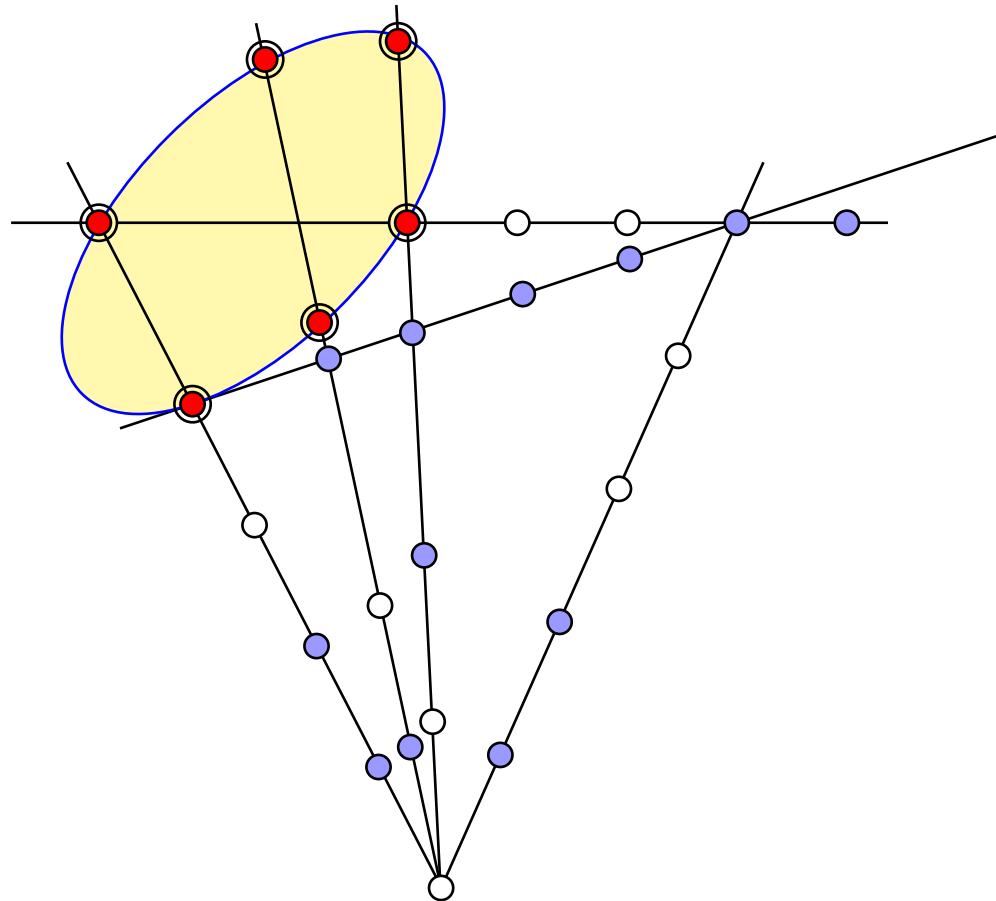
$(23, \{3, 8\})$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(2, 5)$



$(28, \{3, 8\})$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(2, 5)$



$(33, \{3, 8\})$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(2, 5)$



## 4. Strong $(3 \pmod 5)$ -Arcs in $\text{PG}(3, 5)$

**Theorem F.** (S. Kurz, I. Landjev, A. Rousseva, 2023) Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a strong  $(3 \pmod 5)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$  that is neither lifted nor contains a full hyperplane in its support. Then  $|\mathcal{K}| \in \{128, 143, 168\}$  and in each case the corresponding arc is unique up to isomorphism.

## Remark.

The nonexistence of  $(104, 22)$ -arcs in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$ , or, equivalently, the nonexistence of  $[104, 4, 82]_5$ -codes

$d$	$g_q(k, d)$	$n_q(k, d)$	$d$	$g_q(k, d)$	$n_q(k, d)$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
81	103	103–104	161	203	203–204
82	104	104–105	162	204	204–205
83	105	106	163	205	206
84	106	107	164	206	207
85	107	108	165	207	208
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$



$(104, 22)$ -arc:

Cardinality of a plane:	18	13	8	3		
<b>22</b>	17	12	7	2	→	<b>0</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	→	<b>1</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	→	<b>2</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>		→	<b>3</b>
Maximal number of points on a line: in such plane:	5	4	3	2	1	

## The 128-Arc in $\text{PG}(3, 5)$

V. Abatangelo, G. Korchmáros, B Larato, 1996

There exist two 20-caps in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$  that do not extend to the elliptic quadric.

We denote these two caps by  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ .

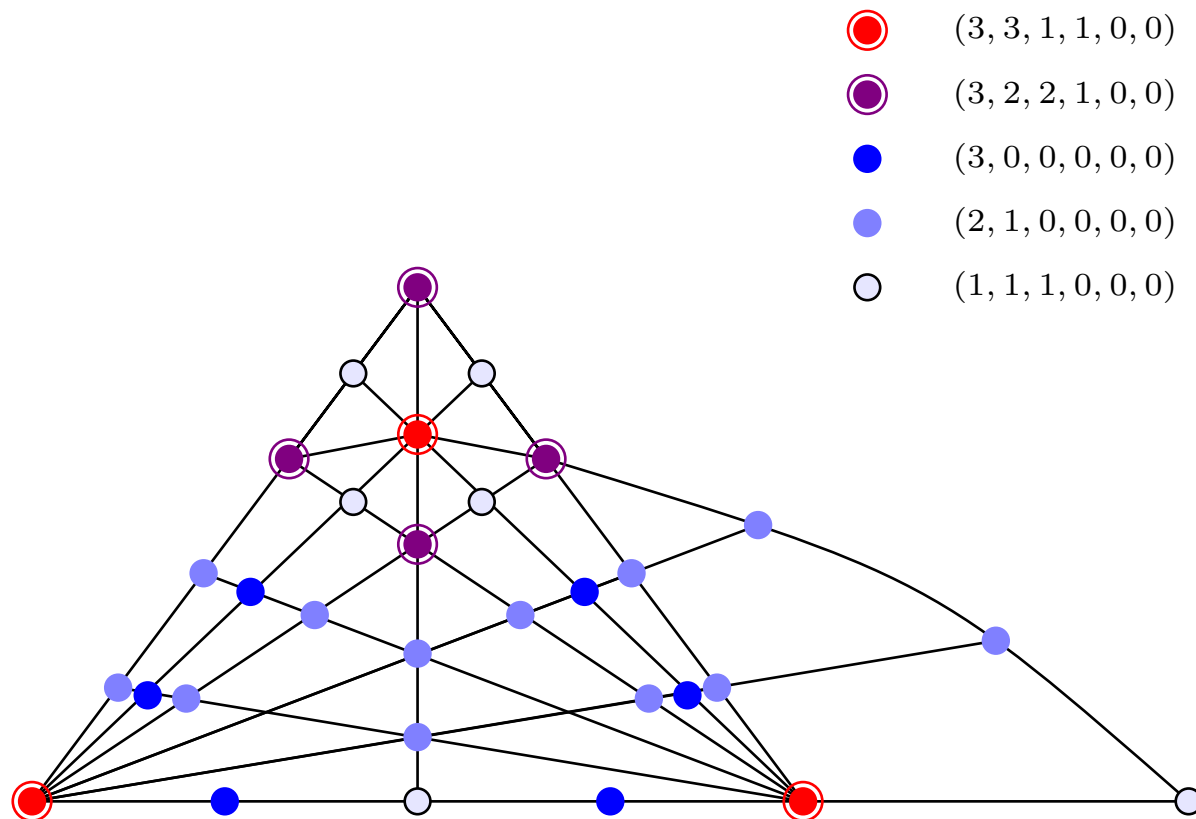
The collineation group  $G$  of  $K_1$  is a semidirect product of an elementary abelian group of order 16 and a group isomorphic to  $S_5$ . Hence  $|G| = 16 \cdot 120 = 1920$ .

The collineation group  $G$  of  $K_2$  is isomorphic to  $S_5$ .

**Lemma.** Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a strong  $(3 \bmod 5)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$  of cardinality 128. Let  $\varphi$  be the projection from an arbitrary 0-point in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$ . Then the arc  $\mathcal{K}^\varphi$  is unique up to isomorphism and has the structure described below.

- A 0-point is incident only with 3- and 8-lines.
- An 8-line with a 0-point is of type  $(3, 3, 1, 1, 0, 0)$  or  $(3, 2, 2, 1, 0, 0)$ .

## Projection of a 128-arc from a 0-point



Each 0-point is incident with:

three 8-lines of type  $(3, 3, 1, 1, 0, 0)$ ,

four 8-lines of type  $(3, 2, 2, 1, 0, 0)$ ,

six 3-lines of type  $(3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,

twelve 3-lines of type  $(2, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,

six 3-lines of type  $(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0)$

This implies that

$$\lambda_3 = 16, \lambda_2 = 20, \lambda_1 = 40, \lambda_0 = 80.$$

$$a_{33} = 40, a_{28} = 16, a_{23} = 80, a_{18} = 20.$$

Here  $\lambda_i$  denotes the number of  $i$ -points.

The 2-points form a 20-cap  $C$  with spectrum:

$$a_6(C) = 40, a_4(C) = 80, a_3(C) = 20, a_0(C) = 16.$$

This cap is **not** extendable to the elliptic quadric. In such case it would have (at least 20) tangent planes, but  $a_1(C) = 0$ , a contradiction.

Hence the 20-cap on the 2-points in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$  is isomorphic to one of the two maximal 20-caps found by [Abatangelo](#), [Korchmaros](#) and [Larato](#).

This turns out that this is the cap  $K_1$ , since  $K_2$  has a different spectrum.

The action of  $G$  on  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$  gives four orbits on points, denoted  $O_1^P, \dots, O_4^P$  and six orbit on lines, denoted  $O_1^L, \dots, O_6^L$ .

The respective sizes of these orbits are

$$|O_1^P| = 40, |O_2^P| = 80, |O_3^P| = 20, |O_4^P| = 16;$$

$$|O_1^L| = 160, |O_2^L| = 240, |O_3^L| = 30, |O_4^L| = 160, |O_5^L| = 120, |O_6^L| = 96.$$

The point-by-line orbit matrix  $A = (a_{ij})_{4 \times 6}$ , where  $a_{ij}$  is the number of the points from the  $i$ -th point orbit incident with any line from the  $j$ -th line orbit is the following

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $w_i$  be the multiplicity of any point from  $O_i^P$  and let  $w = (w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)$ . In order to get a  $(3 \pmod 5)$ -arc we should have

$$wA \equiv 3j \pmod 5,$$

where  $j$  is the all-one vector, and  $w_i \leq 3$  for all  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .



The set of all solutions is given by

$$w = \{(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4) \mid w_i \in \{0, \dots, 4\}, \\ w_2 \equiv 1 - w_1 \pmod{5}, w_3 \equiv 4 - 2w_1 \pmod{5}, w_4 = 3\}. \quad (1)$$

Solutions:  $w = (3, 3, 3, 3)$  and  $w = (1, 0, 2, 3)$ .

The second solution gives the desired 128-arc.

## The 143- and 168-Arc

Two strong non-lifted (3 mod 5)-arcs in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$  were constructed by computer search. The respective spectra are:

$$|\mathcal{F}_1| = 143, a_{18}(\mathcal{F}_1) = 26, a_{28}(\mathcal{F}_1) = 65, a_{33}(\mathcal{F}_1) = 65;$$

$$\lambda_0(\mathcal{F}_1) = 65, \lambda_1(\mathcal{F}_1) = 65, \lambda_2(\mathcal{F}_1) = 0, \lambda_3(\mathcal{F}_1) = 26,$$

$$|\text{Aut}(\mathcal{F}_1)| = 62400.$$

$$|\mathcal{F}_2| = 168, a_{28}(\mathcal{F}_2) = 60, a_{33}(\mathcal{F}_2) = 60, a_{43}(\mathcal{F}_2) = 36;$$

$$\lambda_0(\mathcal{F}_2) = 60, \lambda_1(\mathcal{F}_2) = 60, \lambda_2(\mathcal{F}_2) = 0, \lambda_3(\mathcal{F}_2) = 36.$$

$$|\text{Aut}(\mathcal{F}_2)| = 57600.$$

There exist two quadrics in  $\text{PG}(3, 5)$ .

$$\mathcal{E}_3 = \{P(X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3) \mid X_0^2 + 2X_1^2 + X_2X_3 = 0, \} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_3 = \{P(X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3) \mid X_0X_1 + X_2X_3 = 0, \} \quad (3)$$

- $\mathcal{F}_1$ : for a point  $P(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$  set

$$\mathcal{F}_1(P) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{E}_3, \\ 1 & \text{if } x_0^2 + 2x_1^2 + x_2x_3 \text{ is a square in } \mathbb{F}_5, \\ 0 & \text{if } x_0^2 + 2x_1^2 + x_2x_3 \text{ is a non-square in } \mathbb{F}_5. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

- $\mathcal{F}_2$ : for a point  $P(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$  set

$$\mathcal{F}_2(P) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{H}_3, \\ 1 & \text{if } x_0x_1 + x_2x_3 \text{ is a square in } \mathbb{F}_5, \\ 0 & \text{if } x_0x_1 + x_2x_3 \text{ is a non-square in } \mathbb{F}_5. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

More generally:

$\mathcal{Q}$  – quadric in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$ ,  $q$  – odd prime power

$F(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r)$  – the quadratic form defining  $\mathcal{Q}$

- $r$  – even

$\mathcal{P}_r = V(x_0^2 + x_1x_2 + \dots + x_{r-1}x_r)$  – parabolic

- $r$  – odd

$\mathcal{H}_r = V(x_0x_1 + x_2x_3 + \dots + x_{r-1}x_r)$  – hyperbolic

$\mathcal{P}_r = V(f(x_0, x_1) + x_2x_3 + \dots + x_{r-1}x_r)$  – elliptic  
( $f$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .)

For  $r = 2s$ :

$$|\mathcal{P}_{2s}| = \frac{q^{2s} - 1}{q - 1}.$$

For  $r = 2s - 1$ :

$$|\mathcal{H}_{2s-1}| = \frac{(q^{s-1} + 1)(q^s + 1)}{q - 1}.$$

$$|\mathcal{E}_{2s-1}| = \frac{(q^s + 1)(q^{s-1} - 1)}{q - 1}.$$

The points outside  $\mathcal{Q}$  split into two classes:

$$\mathcal{Q}_1 = \{P(x_0, \dots, x_r) \mid F(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r) \text{ is a square} \},$$

$$\mathcal{Q}_2 = \{P(x_0, \dots, x_r) \mid F(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r) \text{ is a non-square} \}.$$

For a point  $P$  of  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  set  $\mathcal{F}_1(P) = \begin{cases} \frac{q+1}{2} & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{Q}, \\ 1 & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{Q}_1, \\ 0 & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{Q}_2. \end{cases}$

For a point  $P$  of  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  set  $\mathcal{F}_2(P) = \begin{cases} \frac{q+1}{2} & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{Q}, \\ 0 & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{Q}_1, \\ 1 & \text{if } P \in \mathcal{Q}_2. \end{cases}$

**Theorem H.** (S. Kurz, I. Landjev, F. Pavese, A. Rousseva, 2023)

Let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be defined as above. Then  $\mathcal{F}_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , is a  $\left(\frac{q+1}{2} \bmod q\right)$  arc in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$ . Moreover if  $\mathcal{Q}$  is non-degenerate, then both arcs are not lifted.

**Definition.** An arc obtained by this construction is called a **quadratic  $(t \bmod q)$ -arc**.



**Theorem I.** (L&R, 2023, unpublished) Assume that every strong  $(3 \bmod 5)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(r, 5)$ , which does not contain a hyperplane in its support is lifted or obtained from a quadric. Then every strong  $(3 \bmod 5)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(r + 1, 5)$ , is also lifted or a quadratic arc.

**Theorem J.** (L&R, 2023, unpublished) Every strong  $(3 \bmod 5)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(4, 5)$ , which does not contain a hyperplane in its support is lifted or a quadratic arc.

**Corollary.** (L&R, 2023, unpublished) Every strong  $(3 \bmod 5)$ -arc in  $\text{PG}(r, 5)$ ,  $r \geq 4$ , which does not contain a hyperplane in its support is lifted or a quadratic arc.