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# Geometric extending of divisible codes and construction of new linear codes

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## Abstract

We introduce a new concept “geometric extending” for linear codes over finite fields and consider the extendability of divisible codes. As an application, we construct new Griesmer  $[n, 5, d]_q$  codes for  $3q^4 - 5q^3 + 1 \leq d \leq 3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2$  with  $q \geq 3$ , combining the known geometric methods such as projective dual, geometric extending and geometric puncturing.

MSC: 94B27; 51E20

*Keywords:* linear codes, divisible codes, projective dual, geometric method

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## 1. Introduction

An  $[n, k, d]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $k$  dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  with minimum Hamming weight  $d = \min\{wt(\mathbf{c}) > 0 \mid \mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}\}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the field of  $q$  elements. The weight distribution of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the list of numbers  $A_i$  which is the number of codewords of  $\mathcal{C}$  with weight  $i$ . A fundamental problem in coding theory is to find  $n_q(k, d)$ , the minimum length  $n$  for which an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code exists for given  $q, k, d$  [5, 6]. The Griesmer bound is a best known lower bound on the length  $n$ :

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

where  $\lceil x \rceil$  denotes the smallest integer greater than or equal to  $x$ . Linear codes of length  $n = g_q(k, d)$  are called *Griesmer codes*. The values of  $n_q(k, d)$  are determined for all  $d$  only for some small values of  $q$  and  $k$  [4, 13]. For the case  $k = 5$ , it is well-known that  $[g_q(5, d), 5, d]_q$  codes exist for  $q^4 - 2q^2 + 1 \leq d \leq q^4$ ,  $2q^4 - 2q^3 - q^2 + 1 \leq d \leq 2q^4 + q^2 - q$  and  $d \geq 3q^4 - 4q^3 + 1$  for all  $q$  [10, 11], see also [3]. Recently, we have proved the following.

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**Theorem 1.1** ([9]). *There exist  $[g_q(5, d), 5, d]_q$  codes for  $2q^4 - 3q^3 + 1 \leq d \leq 2q^4 - 3q^3 + q^2$ ,  $3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2 + 1 \leq d \leq 3q^4 - 5q^3 + 2q^2$  for all  $q$ .*

The Griesmer codes of dimension 5 in Theorem 1.1 whose minimum weights are divisible by  $q$  are constructed by the following algorithm:

- Step 1. Construct a  $q$ -divisible code  $\mathcal{C}$  with smaller length.
- Step 2. Construct a  $q^2$ -divisible Griesmer code  $\mathcal{C}^*$  as a projective dual of  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- Step 3. Find skew lines in the multiset consisting of the columns of a generator matrix of  $\mathcal{C}^*$  and apply geometric puncturing.

Our aim of this paper is to construct new Griesmer codes of dimension 5, by adding the following new step between Steps 1 and 2.

- ◊ Construct a  $q$ -divisible code  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  by geometric extending.

Our main theorem is the following:

**Theorem 1.2.** *There exist  $[g_q(5, d), 5, d]_q$  codes for  $3q^4 - 5q^3 + 1 \leq d \leq 3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2$  for all  $q$ .*

**Corollary 1.3.**  *$n_q(5, d) = g_q(5, d)$  for  $3q^4 - 5q^3 + 1 \leq d \leq 3q^4 - 5q^3 + 2q^2$  for all  $q$ .*

We give the geometric methods such as projective dual, geometric puncturing and geometric extending in Section 2. We prove Theorem 1.2 in Section 3.

**Remark 1.** We apologize that there are some typos in [9]:

- in Abstract, “ $3q^4 + 5q^3 + 1 \leq d \leq 3q^4 + 5q^3 + q^2$ ” must be “ $3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2 + 1 \leq d \leq 3q^4 - 5q^3 + 2q^2$ ”,
- in Theorem 1.2 and Corollary 1.4, the same as in Abstract,
- in Lemma 3.10, “ $3q^4 + 5q^3 + 2q^2 - sq$ ” must be “ $3q^4 - 5q^3 + 2q^2 - sq$ ”.

## 2. Geometric methods to construct optimal linear codes

We denote by  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  the projective geometry of dimension  $r$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . A  $t$ -flat is a  $t$  dimensional projective subspace of  $\text{PG}(r, q)$ . The 0-flats, 1-flats, 2-flats, 3-flats and  $(r - 1)$ -flats are called *points*, *lines*, *planes*, *solids* and *hyperplanes*, respectively. We denote by  $\mathcal{F}_j$  the set of  $j$ -flats of  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  and by  $\theta_j$  the number of points in a  $j$ -flat, i.e.,  $\theta_j = (q^{j+1} - 1)/(q - 1)$ . A hyperplane of  $\text{PG}(r, q)$  is defined as the set of points with homogeneous coordinates  $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r)$  satisfying a linear equation  $a_0x_0 + a_1x_1 + \dots + a_rx_r = 0$  with non-zero vector  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_r)$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . We denote such a hyperplane by  $[a_0, a_1, \dots, a_r]$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code having no coordinate which is identically zero. Then, the columns of a generator matrix  $G$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  can be considered as a multiset

of  $n$  points in  $\Sigma = \text{PG}(k-1, q)$  denoted by  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . An  $s$ -point is a point of  $\Sigma$  which has multiplicity  $s$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . Denote by  $\gamma_0$  the maximum multiplicity of a point from  $\Sigma$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . Let  $\Lambda_s$  be the set of  $s$ -points in  $\Sigma$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq \gamma_0$ , and let  $\lambda_s = |\Lambda_s|$ , where  $|\Lambda_s|$  denotes the number of elements in a set  $\Lambda_s$ . For any subset  $S$  of  $\Sigma$ , the multiplicity of  $S$ , denoted by  $m_{\mathcal{C}}(S)$ , is defined as  $m_{\mathcal{C}}(S) = \sum_{i=1}^{\gamma_0} i \cdot |S \cap \Lambda_i|$ . For  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k) \in \mathbb{F}_q^k \setminus \{(0, 0, \dots, 0)\}$ , take the hyperplane  $H = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k]$  in  $\Sigma$  and let  $\mathbf{c} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{g}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{g}_2 + \dots + \lambda_k \mathbf{g}_k \in \mathcal{C}$ , where  $\mathbf{g}_j$  is the  $j$ -th row of  $G$ . Then, it is well known (see [1, 6]) that

$$n - wt(\mathbf{c}) = m_{\mathcal{C}}(H). \quad (2.1)$$

Hence, we obtain the partition  $\Sigma = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\gamma_0} \Lambda_i$  such that  $n = m_{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma)$  and the maximum multiplicity of hyperplanes is exactly  $n - d$ , i.e.,

$$n - d = \max\{m_{\mathcal{C}}(H) \mid H \in \mathcal{F}_{k-2}\}, \quad (2.2)$$

see Theorem 2.3 in [6]. Conversely such a partition  $\Sigma = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\gamma_0} \Lambda_i$  as above gives an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code in the natural manner. A hyperplane  $H$  with  $t = m_{\mathcal{C}}(H)$  is called a  $t$ -hyperplane. A  $t$ -line, a  $t$ -plane and  $t$ -solid are defined similarly. Denote by  $a_i$  the number of  $i$ -hyperplanes in  $\Sigma$ . The list of the values  $a_i$  is called the spectrum of  $\mathcal{C}$ . It follows from (2.1) that the spectrum of  $\mathcal{C}$  can be calculated from the weight distribution by  $a_i = A_{n-i}/(q-1)$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n-d$ .

The method for constructing new codes from a given  $[n, k, d]_q$  code by deleting the coordinates corresponding to some geometric object in  $\text{PG}(k-1, q)$  is called *geometric puncturing* [12]. An instant geometric puncturing is to remove some flat from the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}}$  if possible.

**Lemma 2.1** ([12, 14]). *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code. If the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}}$  contains a  $t$ -flat  $\Delta$  and if  $d > q^t$ , then the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}} - \Delta$  gives an  $[n - \theta_t, k, d']_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}'$  with  $d' \geq d - q^t$ .*

We note that the equality  $d' = d - q^t$  in Lemma 2.1 holds if an  $(n-d)$ -hyperplane not containing  $\Delta$  exists. We consider the converse of the above lemma, namely *geometric extending*. We get the following from (2.2).

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $[n, k, d]_q$  code. If there exists a  $t$ -flat  $\Delta$  such that every hyperplane of  $\Sigma$  through  $\Delta$  has multiplicity at most  $n - d - q^t$ , then the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}} + \Delta$  gives an  $[n + \theta_t, k, \bar{d}]_q$  code with  $\bar{d} \geq d + q^t$ .*

When can we find a  $t$ -flat  $\Delta$  to construct an  $[n + \theta_t, k, d + q^t]_q$  code  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  with multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}} + \Delta$  for a given  $[n, k, d]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}$ ? In general, it is not easy to find a  $t$ -flat  $\Delta$  satisfying the condition in Lemma 2.2 even when  $t = 1$ . We consider the possibility of geometric extending for divisible codes. An  $[n, k, d]_q$  code is called  $m$ -divisible if all codewords have weights divisible by an integer  $m > 1$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $q^s$ -divisible  $[n, k, d]_q$  code with positive integer  $s$ . If there exists a  $t$ -flat  $\Delta$  which is not contained in an  $(n-d)$ -hyperplane of  $\Sigma$  with  $t \leq s$ , then the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}} + \Delta$  gives a  $q^t$ -divisible  $[n + \theta_t, k, d + q^t]_q$  code.*

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  be an  $[n + \theta_t, k, \bar{d}]_q$  code given by the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}} + \Delta$ . For a hyperplane  $H$  in  $\Sigma$ , it follows from (2.1) that  $m_{\mathcal{C}}(H) = n - d - jq^s$  with some non-negative integer  $j$  since  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $q^s$ -divisible. For  $j = 0$ ,  $m_{\bar{\mathcal{C}}}(H) = n - d + \theta_{t-1}$  since  $H$  meets  $\Delta$  in a  $(t - 1)$ -flat. For  $j \geq 1$ , we have

$$m_{\bar{\mathcal{C}}}(H) = n - d - jq^s + \theta_t \leq n - d + \theta_{t-1}$$

if  $H$  contains  $\Delta$  and  $m_{\bar{\mathcal{C}}}(H) = n - d - jq^s + \theta_{t-1} < n - d + \theta_{t-1}$  otherwise. From the condition  $t \leq s$ ,  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  is  $q^t$ -divisible from (2.1) and the maximum multiplicity of hyperplanes for  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  is  $n - d + \theta_{t-1}$ . Hence, from (2.2), we obtain

$$\bar{d} = n + \theta_t - (n - d + \theta_{t-1}) = d + q^t.$$

□

Finally, we recall the projective dual for divisible codes.

**Lemma 2.4** ([15]). *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $m$ -divisible  $[n, k, d]_q$  code with  $q = p^h$ ,  $p$  prime, whose spectrum is*

$$(a_{n-d-(w-1)m}, a_{n-d-(w-2)m}, \dots, a_{n-d-m}, a_{n-d}) = (\alpha_{w-1}, \alpha_{w-2}, \dots, \alpha_1, \alpha_0),$$

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

$$\bigcap_{H \in \mathcal{F}_{k-2}, m_{\mathcal{C}}(H) < n-d} H = \emptyset.$$

Then there exists a  $t$ -divisible  $[n^*, k, d^*]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}^*$  with  $t = q^{k-2}/m$ ,  $n^* = \sum_{j=0}^{w-1} j\alpha_j = ntq - \frac{d}{m}\theta_{k-1}$ ,  $d^* = ((n - d)q - n)t$  whose spectrum is

$$(a_{n^*-d^*-\gamma_0 t}, a_{n^*-d^*-(\gamma_0-1)t}, \dots, a_{n^*-d^*-t}, a_{n^*-d^*}) = (\lambda_{\gamma_0}, \lambda_{\gamma_0-1}, \dots, \lambda_1, \lambda_0).$$

Note that 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  $0 \leq j \leq w - 1$  [15].  $\mathcal{C}^*$  is called a *projective dual* of  $\mathcal{C}$ , see also [2] and [6].

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1.2

In this section, we prove Theorem 1.2 for  $q \geq 5$  using projective dual, geometric extending and geometric puncturing. Note that Theorem 1.2 is known for  $q \leq 5$ , see [13]. A set  $S$  of  $s$  points in  $\text{PG}(r, q)$ ,  $r \geq 2$ , is called an  $s$ -arc if no  $r + 1$  points are on the same hyperplane, see [7] and [8] for arcs. When  $q \geq r$ , one can take a normal rational curve as a  $(q + 1)$ -arc, see Theorem 27.5.1 in [8].

In  $\text{PG}(4, q)$ ,  $q \geq 5$ , take a normal rational curve  $K = \{P_0, P_1, \dots, P_q\}$  in the hyperplane  $H = [0, 0, 0, 0, 1]$  as

$$P_0(1, 0, 0, 0, 0), P_i(1, \alpha^i, \alpha^{2i}, \alpha^{3i}, 0), P_q(0, 0, 0, 1, 0),$$

Table 1:  $(4q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$ .

type	number
A1	$\binom{q}{2}$
A2	$q$
A3	$q - 1$
A4	$q$
A5	$q$

where  $\alpha$  is a primitive element of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Take a line  $l_0 = \{P_0, Q_1, \dots, Q_q\}$  as

$$Q_i(1, 0, 0, 0, \alpha^i) \text{ with } 1 \leq i \leq q - 1, \quad Q_q(0, 0, 0, 0, 1),$$

and a point  $Q$ , lines  $l_1, \dots, l_q$  and a plane  $\delta$  as

$$Q(0, 1, 0, 0, 1), \quad l_i = \langle P_i, Q_i \rangle \text{ with } 1 \leq i \leq q, \quad \delta = \langle l_0, Q \rangle,$$

where  $\langle \chi_1, \chi_2, \dots \rangle$  denotes the smallest flat containing  $\chi_1, \chi_2, \dots$ . Setting the set of  $s$ -points  $\Lambda_s$  as

$$\Lambda_1 = \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^{q-1} l_i \right) \setminus l_0, \quad \Lambda_{q-1} = \{P_0, Q_q\}, \quad \Lambda_q = \{P_q, Q\}, \quad \Lambda_0 = \Sigma \setminus (\Lambda_1 \cup \Lambda_{q-1} \cup \Lambda_q),$$

we get the following  $q$ -divisible code, which was called  $\mathcal{C}_2$  in [9].

**Lemma 3.1** ([9]). *There exists a  $q$ -divisible  $[q^2 + 3q - 2, 5, q^2 - q]_q$  code  $\mathcal{C}$  with spectrum*

$$(a_{q-2}, a_{2q-2}, a_{3q-2}, a_{4q-2}) = (q^4 - 4q^3 + 6q^2 - 4q + 1, \\ 5q^3 - 12q^2 + 10q - 3 - \binom{q}{2}, 7q^2 - 9q + 4, \binom{q}{2} + 4q - 1)$$

which has five types of  $(4q - 2)$ -solids:

- (A1)  $H_{ij} = \langle l_i, l_j \rangle$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq q$ ;
- (A2)  $\langle \delta, l_i \rangle$  for  $1 \leq i \leq q$ ;
- (A3)  $\langle Q, P_q, l_i \rangle$  for  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$ ;
- (A4) the solids through the plane  $\langle Q, l_q \rangle$  not containing  $l_0$ ;
- (A5) the solids through the plane  $\langle Q, P_0, P_q \rangle$  not containing  $l_0$

and nine types of  $(3q - 2)$ -solids:

- (B1) the solids containing  $l_0$  and only one of  $l_1, \dots, l_q$  and not containing  $Q$ ;
- (B2) the solid through  $\delta$  containing none of  $l_1, \dots, l_q$ ;
- (B3) the solids through the line  $\langle P_0, P_q \rangle$  not containing  $Q, l_0$ ;
- (B4) the solids through the line  $\langle P_0, Q \rangle$  not containing  $P_q, l_0$ ;

Table 2:  $(3q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$ .

type	number
B1	$q$
B2	1
B3	$q^2 - q$
B4	$q^2 - q$
B5	$q^2 - q$
B6	$q^2 - q$
B7	$q^2 - 2q + 1$
B8	$q^2 - 2q + 1$
B9	$q^2 - 2q + 1$

- (B5) the solids through  $l_q$  not containing  $Q, l_0$ ;  
(B6) the solids through the line  $\langle Q, Q_q \rangle$  not containing  $P_q, l_0$ ;  
(B7) the solids through the plane  $\langle l_i, P_q \rangle$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$  not containing  $Q, l_0$ ;  
(B8) the solids through the plane  $\langle l_i, Q \rangle$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$  not containing  $P_q, l_0$ ;  
(B9) the solids through the plane  $\langle Q, P_q, Q_i \rangle$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$  not containing  $l_i, l_0$ ,

see Tables 1 and 2 for the number of solids of each type.

Now, we shall construct a  $q$ -divisible  $[q^2 + 4q - 1, 5, q^2]_q$  code  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  by geometric extending. Take two points  $R_1, R_2$  and the line  $L$  as follows:

$$R_1(1, 1, 0, 0, 0), R_2(0, 0, 1, 0, 1), L = \langle R_1, R_2 \rangle.$$

Let  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  be the code with  $\mathcal{M}_{\bar{\mathcal{C}}} = \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C}} + L$ .

**Lemma 3.2.**  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  is a  $q$ -divisible  $[q^2 + 4q - 1, 5, q^2]_q$  code.

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.3, it suffices to prove that  $L$  is not contained in a  $(4q - 2)$ -solid for  $\mathcal{C}$ . There are five types of  $(4q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$  as in Lemma 3.1. The solid  $H_{ij} = \langle l_i, l_j \rangle$  of type A1 does not contain  $L$  since  $H_{ij} = [0, \alpha^i \alpha^j, -\alpha^i - \alpha^j, 1, 0]$  with  $1 \leq i < j \leq q - 1$  and  $H_{iq} = [0, -\alpha^i, 1, 0, 0]$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$  do not contain the point  $R_1$ . The solid  $\langle \delta, l_i \rangle$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q$  of type A2 does not contain  $L$  since  $\langle \delta, l_i \rangle = [0, 0, -\alpha^i, 1, 0]$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$  and  $\langle \delta, l_q \rangle = [0, 0, 1, 0, 0]$  do not contain the point  $R_2$ . Assume that the solid  $H_1^{(i)} = \langle Q, P_q, l_i \rangle$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q - 1$  of type A3 contains  $R_1$ . Then  $\alpha^i = -1$ , and  $H_1^{(i)} = [1, -1, -2, 0, 1]$  does not contain  $R_2$ . Hence  $H_1^{(i)}$  does not contain  $L$ . Suppose that a solid  $H_2$  of type A4 containing  $Q, l_q = \langle P_q, Q_q \rangle$  and not containing  $l_0$  contains the point  $R_1$ . Then the solid  $\langle Q, l_q, R_1 \rangle = [0, 0, 1, 0, 0]$  contains  $P_0$ , and  $H_2$  contains  $l_0$ , giving a contradiction. Hence  $H_2$  does not contain  $L$ . Finally, suppose a solid  $H_3$  of

type A5 containing  $Q, P_0, P_q$  and not containing  $l_0$  contains  $R_1$ . Then the solid  $\langle Q, P_0, P_q, R_1 \rangle = [0, 0, 1, 0, 0]$  contains  $l_0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $H_3$  does not contain  $L$ . Thus, no  $(4q - 2)$ -solid for  $\mathcal{C}$  contains the line  $L$ , and our assertion follows from Lemma 2.3.  $\square$

As a projective dual of  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$ , we get the following.

**Lemma 3.3.** *There exists a  $q^2$ -divisible  $[3q^4 - 2q^3 - q^2 - q, 5, 3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2]_q$  code  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}^*$ .*

**Lemma 3.4.** *The multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\bar{\mathcal{C}}^*}$  contains  $q - 1$  skew lines.*

*Proof.* Note that the 0-points for  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}^*$  are the  $(4q - 1)$ -solids for  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$ . There are nine types of  $(3q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$  as in Lemma 3.1. Note that the solids of type B1 or B2 contain the line  $l_0$  and the others do not.

Suppose the solid  $H'_1$  of type B1 containing  $l_0$  and  $l_i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq q$  and not containing  $Q$  contains  $L$ . Then,  $H'_1$  contains the plane  $\langle l_0, R_1 \rangle$  containing  $Q$ , a contradiction. Hence  $H'_1$  does not contain  $L$ . The solid  $H'_2$  of type B2 through  $\delta$  containing none of  $l_1, \dots, l_q$  contains  $L$  since the solid  $\langle \delta, L \rangle = [0, 0, 0, 1, 0]$  does not contain  $l_1, \dots, l_q$ . There is only one solid of type B3 containing the lines  $L$  and  $\langle P_0, P_q \rangle$  and not containing  $Q$  since the solid  $\langle P_0, P_q, L \rangle = [0, 0, 1, 0, -1]$  does not contain  $Q$ . Suppose a solid  $H'_4$  of type B4 containing the line  $\langle P_0, Q \rangle$  and not containing  $P_q$  contains  $L$ . Then,  $H'_4$  contains  $\delta$ , and  $H'_4$  contains  $l_0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $H'_4$  does not contain  $L$ . Since the solid  $\langle l_q, L \rangle = [1, -1, 0, 0, 0]$  does not contain  $Q$ , there is only one solid of type B5 containing the lines  $L, l_q$  and not containing  $Q$ .

Suppose a solid  $H'_6$  of type B6 containing the line  $\langle Q, Q_q \rangle$  and not containing  $P_q$  contains  $L$ . Then,  $H'_6$  contains  $\delta$ , and  $H'_6$  contains  $l_0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $H'_6$  does not contain  $L$ . A solid of type B7 containing the plane  $\langle l_i, P_q \rangle$  and not containing  $Q$  does not contain  $L$  since the solid  $\langle L, l_i \rangle = [-\alpha^{3i}, \alpha^{3i}, -\alpha^{2i}, 1, \alpha^{2i}]$  does not contain  $P_q$ . Let  $H'_8$  be a solid of type B8 containing the plane  $\langle l_i, Q \rangle$  and not containing  $P_q$ . Note that  $\langle L, l_i \rangle$  contains  $Q$  if and only if  $\alpha^i = -1$ . Hence  $\langle L, l_i \rangle = [1, -1, -1, 1, 1]$  does not contain  $P_q$ , and there is only one solid of type B8 containing  $L$ . Finally, let  $H'_9$  be a solid of type B9 containing the plane  $\langle Q, P_q, Q_i \rangle$  and not containing  $l_i$ . Since the solid  $\langle Q, P_q, L \rangle = [1, -1, -1, 0, 1]$  contains  $Q_i$  if and only if  $\alpha^i = -1$ ,  $\langle Q, P_q, L \rangle$  does not contain  $P_i$ , and there is only one solid of this type containing  $L$ .

Thus there are five  $(3q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$  containing  $L$ . Then the  $(4q - 1)$ -solids for  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  consist of the  $(4q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$  and the above five  $(3q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$  containing  $L$ . Recall that the 0-points for  $\mathcal{C}^*$  are the  $(4q - 2)$ -solids for  $\mathcal{C}$ . Since  $l_0$  is contained in  $H_{ij}$  and  $\delta$  in  $\Sigma$ , the plane  $l_0^*$  contains exactly  $\binom{q}{2} + q + 1$  0-points in  $\Sigma^*$  corresponding to the solids  $H_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq q$ ),  $\langle \delta, l_i \rangle$  ( $1 \leq i \leq q$ ) and  $\langle \delta, L \rangle$ . The number of  $s$ -points with  $s \geq 1$  on  $l_0^*$  is  $\theta_2 - \binom{q}{2} - q - 1 \geq q - 1$ . Recall that the plane  $l_0^*$  is contained in the solids  $Q_1^*, \dots, Q_q^*$  in  $\Sigma^*$ . We set  $\alpha^\rho = -1$ , i.e.,  $\rho = (q - 1)/2$  if  $q$  is odd and  $\rho = q - 1$  if  $q$  is even. Then the solid  $Q_\rho^*$  contains the plane  $l_0^*$ , the points  $\langle Q, P_q, l_\rho \rangle^*$ ,  $\langle L, l_\rho, Q \rangle^*$  and  $\langle Q, P_q, L \rangle^*$ . The 0-points contained in  $Q_\rho^*$  out of the plane  $l_0^*$  are



only these three points. Hence, the number of  $s$ -points in  $Q_\rho^*$  out of the plane  $l_0^*$  with  $s \geq 1$  is  $\theta_3 - (\theta_2 + 1 + 1 + 1) = q^2 - 3$ , and we can take  $q - 1$  lines in the solid  $Q_\rho^*$  containing no 0-point in  $\Sigma^*$ , meeting  $l_0$  in a point.  $\square$

Applying Lemma 2.1 (geometric puncturing) by deleting  $j$  skew lines contained in the multiset  $\mathcal{M}_{\bar{c}^*}$ , we get an  $[n_j = 3q^4 - 2q^3 - q^2 - q - j(q+1), 5, d_j]_q$  code with  $d_j \geq 3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2 - jq$  for  $1 \leq j \leq q-1$ . Since  $g_q(5, 3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2 - jq) = n_j$  for  $q \geq 5$ , we obtain the following.

**Lemma 3.5.** *There exist  $[3q^4 - 2q^3 - q^2 - q - j(q+1), 5, 3q^4 - 5q^3 + q^2 - jq]_q$  codes for  $1 \leq j \leq q-1$ .*

**Proof of Theorem 1.2.** Lemma 3.5 provides the codes needed in Theorem 1.2, when  $d$  is divisible by  $q$ . The rest of the codes required for the theorem can be obtained by the normal puncturing of these divisible codes.  $\square$

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