

# The Neighbor Graph of Linear Complementary Dual Codes

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5th Pythagorean Conference  
Kalamata, 5th June



Joint work with Javier de la Cruz, Anna-Lena Horlemann

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supported by the Leading House Latin America Research Partnership Grant no. RPG2352.

Introduction to LCD Codes

Neighbors of Linear Codes

Neighbors of LCD Codes

Neighbor Graphs

Summary and Conclusions

# Linear codes

## Definition

- A  $q$ -ary linear code  $C$  is a  $k$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$ .
- The dual code  $C^\perp$  is defined as:

$$C^\perp = \{y \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \mid \langle x, y \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } x \in C\}.$$

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- The Hamming distance between two codewords  $c, c' \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  is the number of positions where they differ:

$$d_H(c, c') = |\{i : c_i \neq c'_i\}|.$$

- The minimum Hamming distance of a code  $C$  is:

$$d = \min_{c \neq c' \in C} d_H(c, c').$$

# Linear Complementary Dual (LCD) Codes

## Definition

A linear code  $C \subset \mathbb{F}_q^n$  is an LCD code if its dual code  $C^\perp$  satisfies:

$$C \cap C^\perp = \{0\}.$$

Equivalently, there exists a generator matrix  $G$  such that  $GG^\top$  is nonsingular.

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## Lemma

$C$  is LCD  $\iff C^\perp$  is LCD

## Some cool application for LCD codes.

- Entanglement Assisted Quantum Error Correcting Codes (EAQECC) from LCD Codes.
- Decoding with LCD codes.
- LCD codes against Side channel and Fault injection attacks

# Known Results and Open Questions on LCD Codes

- Every  $[n, k]_q$  code has an equivalent LCD code (reached through monomial operations on the columns of  $G$ ), as long as  $q \geq 4$ .



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- Also open: the number of equivalence classes, the maximal achievable distance, subcode behavior etc.

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Two  $[n, k]_q$  codes are *neighbors* if they intersect in dimension  $k - 1$ .

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Notation:

$$C_0(v) := \{c \in C \mid \langle c, v \rangle = 0\}.$$

## Definition

Let  $C \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$  be a linear code and let  $v \notin C \cup C^\perp$ . The *associated neighbor* of  $C$  with respect to  $v$  is defined as:

$$N(C, v) := \langle C_0(v), v \rangle.$$

# Associated Neighbors are Neighbors

## Lemma

*If  $C'$  is an associated neighbor of  $C$  w.r.t.  $v$ , then*

$$C \cap N(C, v) = C_0(v)$$

*and hence*

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... but not the other way around ...

## Associated Neighborhood is not Symmetric

- Consider the neighboring  $[4, 2]_2$  codes  $C$  and  $C'$  generated by:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad G' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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- However: for all  $v' \notin C' \cup C^\perp$ ,  $C'_0(v') \neq C \cap C'$ .

$$\implies N(C', v') \neq C$$

# Number of Neighbors

## Proposition

Let  $C \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$  be a  $k$ -dimensional code. Then:

- $C$  has  $\frac{(q^k-1)(q^{n-k+1}-q)}{(q-1)^2}$  neighbors.
- $C$  has at most

$$\frac{q^n - |C \cup C^\perp|}{q-1} \leq \frac{q^n - q^{\max(k, n-k)}}{q-1}$$

associated neighbors with respect to some  $v \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \setminus (C \cup C^\perp)$ .

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# Duality of Neighbors

## Proposition

- 1  $C$  and  $C'$  are neighbors  $\iff C^\perp$  and  $C'^\perp$  are neighbors.
- 2  $C'$  is an associated neighbor of  $C$   $\iff C^\perp$  is an associated neighbor of  $C'^\perp$ .

If

$$C' = N(C, v)$$

then

$$C^\perp = N(C'^\perp, u - v)$$

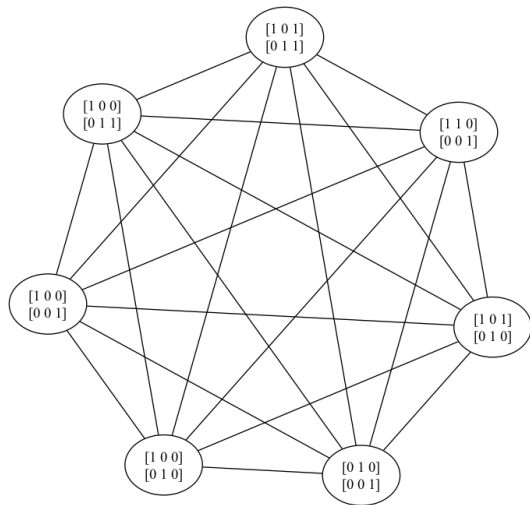
for some  $u \in C \setminus C_0(v)$  with  $u - v \in C^\perp \setminus C'^\perp$ .

# Neighborhood as a Graph

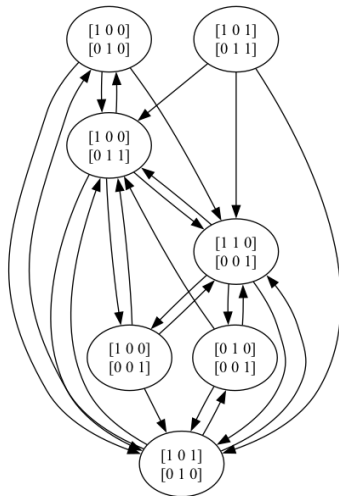
- Neighborhood relations between codes can be modeled as a graph.
- Each node in the graph represents a code (e.g.,  $C$ ,  $C'$ ).
- An edge between two nodes indicates that the corresponding codes are neighbors.
- Since general neighborhood is symmetric, the corresponding graph is undirected. For associated neighborhood we need a directed graph.
- This representation helps visualize relationships between codes, allowing for easier analysis and exploration of code properties.



# Example in $\mathbb{F}_2^3$

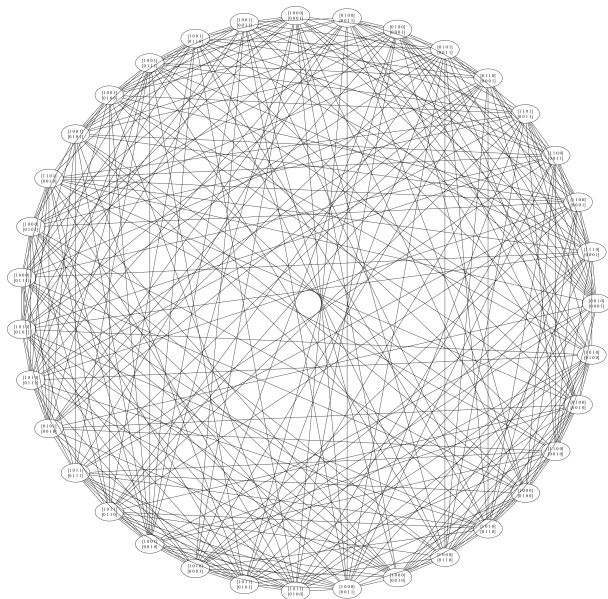


neighbors

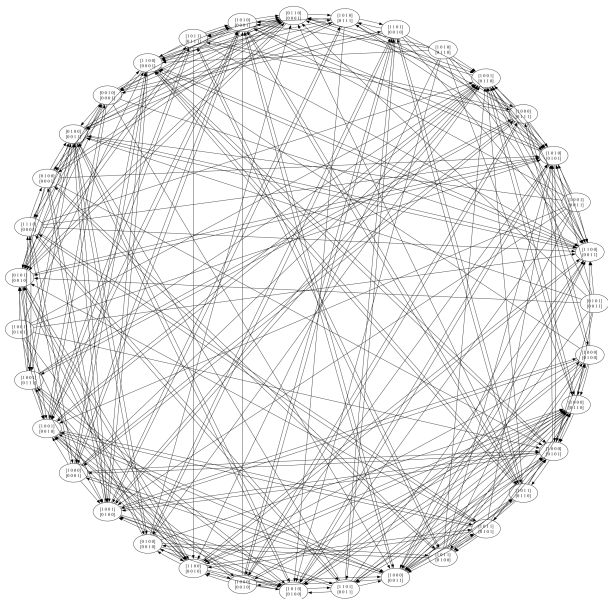


associated neighbors

# Example: Neighbors in $\mathbb{F}_2^4$



# Example: Associated Neighbors in $\mathbb{F}_2^4$



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# LCD Neighbors of LCD Codes

## Theorem

Let  $C \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$  be a  $k$ -dimensional LCD code. Then  $C$  has

$$\begin{cases} \frac{q-1}{q}N - \left(\frac{-1}{q}\right)^{n/2} q^{n/2-1} & \text{if } q \text{ is odd, } n \text{ is even, and } k \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{q-1}{q}N & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

neighbors that are LCD, where  $N := \frac{(q^k-1)(q^{n-k+1}-q)}{(q-1)^2}$  is the overall number of neighbors.

## Corollary

- For  $q = 2$ , exactly half of the neighbors of any LCD code are LCD themselves.
- As  $q$  grows, the fraction of LCD neighbors approaches 1.

# Symmetry of Associated Neighborhood for LCD Codes

## Theorem

*If  $C$  and  $C'$  are neighbors and LCD, then  $C$  is an associated neighbor to  $C'$  if and only if  $C'$  is associated to  $C$ .*

— — —Or — — —

*Let  $C$  be an  $[n, k]_q$  LCD code, let  $v \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \setminus (C \cup C^\perp)$ , and let  $C' = N(C, v)$  also be an LCD code. Then  $\exists v' \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \setminus (C' \cup C'^\perp)$  such that  $C = N(C', v')$ .*

The number of associated neighbors is not constant, it depends on the code.

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## Theorem

*The undirected graph of LCD neighbors of dimension  $k$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$ :*

- $|V| \approx q^{\lfloor \frac{k(n-k)}{2} \rfloor} \begin{bmatrix} \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor \\ \lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor \end{bmatrix}_{q^2}$  1
- $|E| = \frac{1}{2}|V| \cdot \delta$
- *The graph is regular of degree*  
$$\delta := \begin{cases} \frac{q-1}{q}N - \left(\frac{-1}{q}\right)^{n/2} q^{n/2-1} & \text{if } q \text{ is odd, } n \text{ is even, and } k \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{q-1}{q}N & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
- *It is generally (for non-trivial  $1 < k < n-1$ )*
  - *not strongly nor distance-regular*
  - *not edge-transitive,*
  - *hence not symmetric.*

---

<sup>1</sup>The exact formula depends on the parities of  $q, k$  and  $n$ .



# Vertex-Transitivity

## Theorem

*If  $q = 2$ , the LCD neighbor graph is vertex-transitive if and only if  $n$  is even and  $k$  is odd. If  $q$  is odd, the LCD neighbor graph is vertex-transitive only if  $n$  is even and  $k$  is odd.*

## Proof idea:

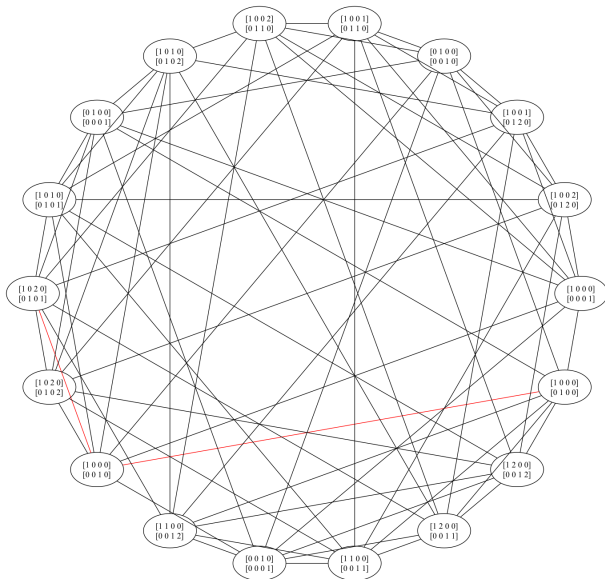
- For  $q = 2$ ,  $n$  is even and  $k$  is odd,  $O(n, q)$  is transitive.
- In other cases, the orthogonal group splits  $LCD[n, k]_q$  into several orbits of different cardinalities.

# Connectedness and Diameter

## Theorem

*The  $[n, k]_q$  LCD neighbor graph is connected and for odd  $q$  has diameter  $\min(k, n - k)$ .*

# Example: Connectedness and Diameter



## Example: Connectedness and Diameter

$$C_0: \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad C_1: \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad C_2: \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# The Associated Neighbor Graph of LCD Codes

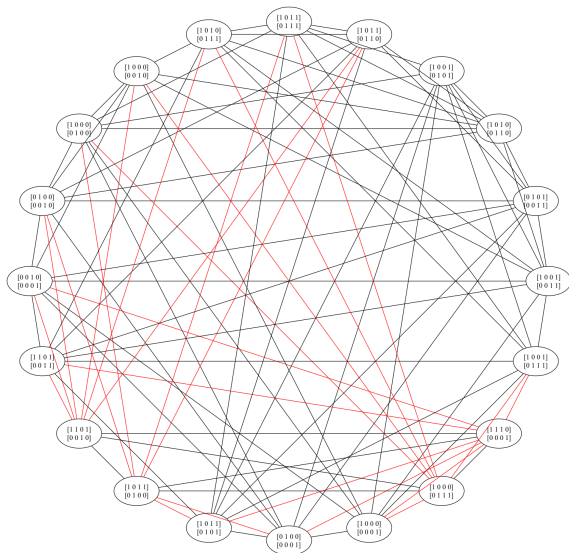
**Remember:** The graph can be represented as an undirected graph, by collapsing all pairs of directed edges with the same two vertices.

## Theorem

*The graph of LCD associated neighbors of dimension  $k$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$ :*

- $|V|$  as before
- *It is generally (for non-trivial  $1 < k < n - 1$ )*
  - *not regular,*
  - *not vertex-transitive,*
  - *not edge-transitive,*

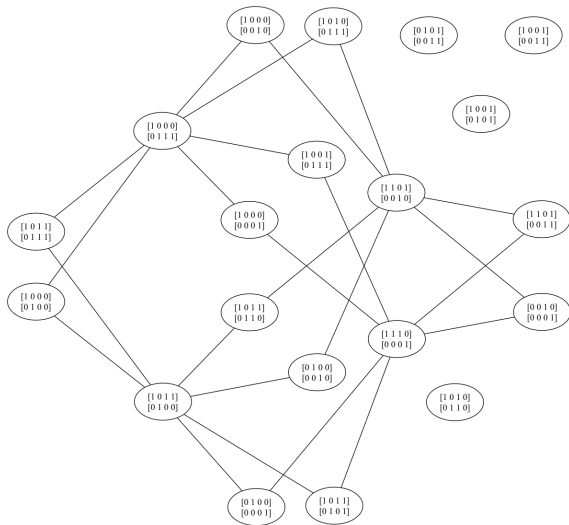
# LCD Neighbor Graph in $\mathbb{F}_2^4$



— non-associated neighbors

— associated neighbors

# LCD Associated Neighbor Graph in $\mathbb{F}_2^4$



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- LCD codes have many applications in coding theory and cryptography.
- Open problems include finding good codes for  $q = 2, 3$  and classifying them.  $\implies$  tackle with LCD neighbor graphs!

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- Open problems include finding good codes for  $q = 2, 3$  and classifying them.  $\implies$  tackle with LCD neighbor graphs!
- Associated neighbors are easy to compute and define a subgraph of the neighbor graph.
- **Main results:** The  $[n, k]_q$  LCD neighbor graph
  - is regular and connected
  - has diameter  $\min\{k, n - k\}$  for odd  $q$  and girth 3.

The associated neighbor graph is undirected (in the general case) and otherwise not very structured.

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Thank you for your attention!

Questions? – Comments?