



# Constructions of Small Complete Caps in Binary Projective Spaces

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**Abstract.** In the binary projective spaces  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$   $k$ -caps are called *large* if  $k > 2^{n-1}$  and *small* if  $k \leq 2^{n-1}$ . In this paper we propose new constructions producing infinite families of small binary complete caps.

**Keywords:** binary caps, complete caps, projective space, small complete caps

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## 1. Introduction

In the binary projective space  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$   $k$ -caps are called *large* if  $k > 2^{n-1}$  and *small* if  $k \leq 2^{n-1}$  [2, 3]. In this paper we consider new constructions of small complete caps.

A  $k$ -cap in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  is a set of  $k$  points, no three of which are collinear. A  $k$ -cap in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  is called complete if it is not contained in a  $(k+1)$ -cap of  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ . For an introduction to these geometric objects, see [10, 11]. In a space  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  a complete cap, points of which are treated as  $(n+1)$ -dimensional binary columns, defines a parity check matrix of a binary linear code with codimension  $n+1$ , Hamming distance  $d \geq 4$ , and covering radius 2 [2, 5, 11]. The only case with  $d > 4$  is given by the complete 5-cap in  $\text{PG}(3, 2)$  when  $d = 5$ . The codes mentioned are called quasi-perfect if  $d = 4$  or perfect if  $d = 5$  [12].

Relatively many facts on large complete caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  are known. For example, in [5] all exact possible sizes and structure of complete  $k$ -caps with  $k > 2^{n-1} + 1$  are obtained. Every such complete cap can be formed by repeated applying of the

doubling construction to a “critical” complete  $(2^{m-1} + 1)$ -cap of  $\text{PG}(m, 2)$ ,  $m < n$ . The structure and properties of critical caps are considered briefly in [1, 3, 5], and deeply in [2] where problems of critical caps structure are solved in main.

But our knowledge on small complete caps seems to be insufficient, see, e.g., [3, 4, 6–9, 11, 14]. In  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ ,  $n \geq 6$ , the smallest size and, in general, the spectrum of possible sizes of small caps are unknown. Relatively a few constructions of small complete caps are described in literature [3, 4, 9, 14].

In this work we give some known results on small complete caps (Section 2) and propose new constructions of those (Sections 3 and 4).

## 2. Some Known Results on Small Complete Caps

The doubling construction (DC) or Plotkin construction is described and used in many works, see [1, 4, 5], and the references therein. From a complete  $k$ -cap in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  DC forms a complete  $2k$ -cap in  $\text{PG}(n+1, 2)$ .

The black/white lift (BWL) construction proposed in [3] obtains, in the general case, a number of new complete  $(2k - \delta_i)$ -caps in  $\text{PG}(n+1, 2)$  from an “old” complete  $k$ -cap  $S$  in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  under condition that  $S$  has certain properties connected with points of  $\text{PG}(n, 2) \setminus S$ . The values of  $\delta_i$  are positive, they can be distinct for distinct new caps and depend on the structure of the cap  $S$ .

The papers [4] and [9] give two distinct constructions that obtain complete  $k$ -caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  with

$$k = 2^{n+1-s} + 2^s - 3, \quad n \geq 3, \quad s = 2, 3, \dots, \lfloor (n+1)/2 \rfloor. \quad (1)$$

The construction of [9] uses methods from [13].

The smallest known complete  $k$ -caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ ,  $n \geq 6$ , with  $k = f(n)$  are constructed in [9]. Here

$$\begin{aligned} f(6) &= 21, & f(7) &= 28, \\ f(2m) &= 23 \times 2^{m-3} - 3, & m &\geq 4, \\ f(2m-1) &= 15 \times 2^{m-3} - 3, & m &\geq 5. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

For example,  $f(8) = 43$ ,  $f(9) = 57$ ,  $f(10) = 89$ ,  $f(11) = 117$ ,  $f(12) = 181$ .

It is proved, see [7, 8] and the references therein, that in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  for  $n = 2, 3, 4$  complete small caps do not exist and for  $n = 5$  there are only small complete 13-caps.

In the paper [14, Corrected version, Section 5, Propositions 7.1, 8.1] the following sizes  $k$  of complete  $k$ -caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  are obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^{n-v} + t(2^v - 2) + 1, & t &= 2, 4, 5, \dots, 2^{n-v-1}, \quad 2 \leq v \leq n-2, \quad n \geq 4; \\ k &= 2^{n-v} + 3 \cdot 2^v - 5, & n &\geq 2v + 3; \\ k &= 2^{n-2} + t, & t &= 5, 9, 11, \dots, 2^{n-2} + 1 \text{ if } n \geq 6, \text{ besides } t = 3, 7 \text{ if } n \geq 7; \\ 2^{n-2} + 8 &\leq k \leq 2^{n-1} - 2, & n &\geq 6, \quad k \neq 30 \text{ if } n = 6. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Table 1. The sizes of the known small complete caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ .

$n$	Sizes $k$ of the known complete caps with $k \leq 2^{n-1}$	References
5	$k = 13$	[4, 7–9, 14]
6	$21 \leq k \leq 31, k \neq 23, 30$	[4, 6, 9, 14]
7	$28 \leq k \leq 63$	[4, 6, 9, 14]
8	$43 \leq k \leq 127$	[4, 6, 9, 14]
9	$60 \leq k \leq 255, k = 57$	[4, 6, 9, 14]
10	$92 \leq k \leq 511, k = 89$	[6, 9, 14]
11	$133 \leq k \leq 1023, k = 117, 125, 126, 129, 130$	[6, 9, 14]
12	$196 \leq k \leq 2047, k = 181, 189, 190, 193, 194$	[6, 9, 14]

In Table 1 known sizes of small complete caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ ,  $5 \leq n \leq 12$ , are written. Table 1 uses relations (1–3), Construction DC, works [4, 6–9, 14, Corrected version], in particular, computer results of [4, 6].

In [5, Remark 4, 6] and [9, p. 222], the following conjectures are proposed:

*Conjecture 1.* [5]. In the space  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  a complete  $2^{n-1}$ -cap does not exist.

*Conjecture 2.* [6]. For  $n \geq 7$  in the space  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  there exist complete caps of all sizes  $k$  with  $f(n) \leq k \leq 2^{n-1} - 1$ , where  $f(n)$  is defined in equation (2).

*Conjecture 3.* [9]. In  $\text{PG}(6, 2)$  the smallest size of a complete cap is 21.

By equation (2) and Table 1, Conjecture 2 holds for  $n = 7, 8$ .

### 3. A Construction of Small Complete Caps

#### 3.1. Spaces and Vectors

Let  $E_{n+1}, G_r, G_s, D_l$ , and  $D_m$  be spaces of binary  $(n+1)$ -positional vectors with dimensions  $n+1, r, s, l$ , and  $m$ , respectively, and let

$$E_{n+1} \supset G_r \supset G_s, \quad E_{n+1} \supset D_l \supset D_m, \quad G_r \cap D_l = \{0\}, \quad r > s, \quad l > m, \quad r + l = n + 1, \quad (4)$$

where  $0$  is the zero  $(n+1)$ -positional vector. The “main” space  $E_{n+1}$  and all its subspaces contain it. The asterisk denotes a space without the zero vector. We have  $G_r^* \cap D_l^* = \emptyset$ . A sum of two subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $E_{n+1}$  is, as usually,  $A + B = \{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\}$ . Then  $G_r + D_l = E_{n+1}$ .

We put  $E_{n+1}^* = \text{PG}(n, 2)$ . Points of  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  are vectors of  $E_{n+1}^*$ .

We denote  $G_s = \{g_0, g_1, \dots, g_{2^s-1}\}$ ,  $D_m = \{d_0, d_1, \dots, d_{2^m-1}\}$ .

Let  $b_{i,j}$  be a binary vector of length  $i$  that is the binary representation of a number  $j$ . If we are not interested in  $j$  we may write  $b_i$ . Denote by  $\mathbf{0}^t$  the zero matrix (vector) with  $t$  rows ( $t$  positions) where “matrix” or “vector” are defined by context. Moreover, by  $\mathbf{0}^t$  we will write only zeroes “necessary” for points representation that we put in this paper. We represent points of  $G_r, G_s, D_l, D_m$ , in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} (b_r \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \mathbf{0}^m) \in G_r, \quad g_u = (\mathbf{0}^{r-s} b_{s,u} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \mathbf{0}^m) \in G_s, \quad u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1, \\ (\mathbf{0}^{r-s} \mathbf{0}^s b_l) \in D_l, \quad d_v = (\mathbf{0}^{r-s} \mathbf{0}^s \mathbf{0}^{l-m} b_{m,v}) \in D_m, \quad v = 0, 1, \dots, 2^m - 1. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

It should be emphasized that the formulas of equation (5) have been taken only for definiteness of a matrix representation of our geometrical objects and for finding a matrix form of needed caps  $\mathbf{Z}$ , see below. In general, a representation of points as elements of vector spaces can be arbitrary for constructions considered in this paper.

Let  $g \in G_s^*$ ,  $d \in D_m^*$ . Hence,  $g = g_a$ ,  $a \neq 0$ ,  $d = d_c$ ,  $c \neq 0$ .

We can treat a point of  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  as a column of a matrix, a subset of  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  as a matrix, and vice versa, we can consider a matrix as a set of points. We do not change notation for such treatment.

We denote by  $\widehat{G}_r, \widehat{G}_s, \widehat{D}_l, \widehat{D}_m$ , the corresponding spaces without ‘‘necessary’’ zeroes of the form  $\mathbf{0}^{l-m}, \mathbf{0}^m, \mathbf{0}^{r-s}, \mathbf{0}^s$ , see equation (5). So,  $\widehat{G}_f$  (resp.,  $\widehat{D}_f$ ) is the  $f$ -dimensional space of binary  $f$ -positional vectors. We have  $b_r \in \widehat{G}_r$ ,  $b_s \in \widehat{G}_s$ ,  $b_l \in \widehat{D}_l$ ,  $b_m \in \widehat{D}_m$ .

The spaces and points considered above can be represented in the matrix form, for example, as follows, see equation (5),

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c} G_r & D_l & G_s & g = g_a & D_m & d = d_c \\ \hline \widehat{G}_r & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ \mathbf{0}^s \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ \widehat{G}_s \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ b_{s,a} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ \mathbf{0}^s \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ \mathbf{0}^s \end{array} \\ \hline \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \\ \mathbf{0}^m \end{array} & \widehat{D}_l & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \\ \mathbf{0}^m \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \\ \mathbf{0}^m \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \\ \widehat{D}_m \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \\ b_{m,c} \end{array} \end{array} \right]. \quad (6)$$

### 3.2. Construction $S$

A point set  $\mathbf{H}$  in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  is defined as

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{G} \cup \mathbf{D} \cup \mathbf{Z} \quad (7)$$

where  $\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{Z}$ , are point sets of  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  formed as follows

$$\mathbf{G} = G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\}, \quad \mathbf{D} = D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\}, \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{Z} = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_w\}, \quad z_i = g_{j_i} + d_{k_i}, \quad g_{j_i} \in G_s^*, \quad d_{k_i} \in D_m^*, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, w, \quad w \geq 1. \quad (9)$$

By equations (4),(8),(9),

$$\mathbf{H} \subset E_{n+1}^*, \quad \mathbf{G} \cap \mathbf{D} = \emptyset, \quad \mathbf{G} \cap \mathbf{Z} = \emptyset, \quad \mathbf{D} \cap \mathbf{Z} = \emptyset. \quad (10)$$

Obviously, the size  $k$  of the set  $\mathbf{H}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= (2^r - 2^s) + (2^l - 2^m) + w = 2^r + 2^l - (2^s + 2^m - w) \\ &= 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} - (2^s + 2^m - w). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

We introduce the set

$$M = G_s^* + D_m^*. \quad (12)$$

By equation (9),  $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq M$ . The points of the set  $\mathbf{Z}$  can be represented in the form, see equations (5),(6),(9),

$$z_i = g_{j_i} + d_{k_i} = (\mathbf{0}^{r-s} b_{s,j_i} \mathbf{0}^{l-m} b_{m,k_i}), \quad j_i \neq 0, \quad k_i \neq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, w. \quad (13)$$

Now we represent the set  $\mathbf{H}$  in the matrix form, see equations (5),(6),(13),

$$\mathbf{H} = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{G} = G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\} & \mathbf{D} = D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\} & \mathbf{Z} = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_w\} \\ \hline \widehat{G}_r \setminus \widehat{G}_s & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ \text{---} \\ b_{s,a} \quad b_{s,a} \dots b_{s,a} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{0}^{r-s} \\ \text{---} \\ b_{s,j_1} \quad b_{s,j_2} \dots b_{s,j_w} \end{array} \\ \hline \text{---} & \mathbf{0}^{l-m} & \mathbf{0}^{l-m} \\ \hline \text{---} & \widehat{D}_l \setminus \widehat{D}_m & \text{---} \\ \hline b_{m,c} \quad b_{m,c} \dots b_{m,c} & & b_{m,k_1} \quad b_{m,k_2} \dots b_{m,k_w} \end{array} \right]. \quad (14)$$

We introduce sets  $G(\mathbf{Z})$  and  $D(\mathbf{Z})$  and values  $g(\mathbf{Z})$  and  $d(\mathbf{Z})$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} G(\mathbf{Z}) &= \{g_{j_i} : z_i = g_{j_i} + d_{k_i}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, w\}, \\ D(\mathbf{Z}) &= \{d_{k_i} : z_i = g_{j_i} + d_{k_i}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, w\}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

$$g(\mathbf{Z}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g \in G(\mathbf{Z}) \\ 0 & \text{if } g \notin G(\mathbf{Z}) \end{cases}, \quad d(\mathbf{Z}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d \in D(\mathbf{Z}) \\ 0 & \text{if } d \notin D(\mathbf{Z}) \end{cases}. \quad (16)$$

Conditions on  $\mathbf{Z}$  sufficient for  $\mathbf{H}$  to be a complete cap.

- $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathbf{Z} \cap (\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}) = \emptyset$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{Z}$  is a cap.
- $\mathcal{B}$ .  $M \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \cup (\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z})$ , i.e.,  $G_s^* + D_m^* \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \cup (\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z})$ .
- $\mathcal{C}$ .  $G(\mathbf{Z}) \cup \{g\} = G_s^*$ ,  $D(\mathbf{Z}) \cup \{d\} = D_m^*$ .
- $\mathcal{D}$ .  $r \geq s + 2 - d(\mathbf{Z})$ ,  $l \geq m + 2 - g(\mathbf{Z})$ .

In examples below boldface  $\mathbf{0}$  denotes the zero from a region of “necessary” zeroes connected with the representation of spaces and points taken in this paper, see equations (5),(6),(13),(14).

EXAMPLE 1. Let  $r = 3$ ,  $s = 2$ ,  $l = 4$ ,  $m = 2$ ,  $w = 6$ ,  $g = g_1 = (\mathbf{0}^1 b_{2,1} \mathbf{0}^2 \mathbf{0}^2) = (\mathbf{0} \ 01 \ \mathbf{00} \ \mathbf{00})$ ,  $d = d_3 = (\mathbf{0}^1 \mathbf{0}^2 \mathbf{0}^2 b_{2,3}) = (\mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{00} \ \mathbf{00} \ 11)$ , and let  $\mathbf{Z} = \{(g_2 + d_1), (g_2 + d_2),$

$(g_2 + d_3), (g_3 + d_1), (g_3 + d_2), (g_3 + d_3)$ . Then, see equation (14),

$$\mathbf{H} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|cc} 1111 & 0000 & 0000 & 0000 & 000 & 000 \\ 0011 & 0000 & 0000 & 0000 & 111 & 111 \\ 0101 & 1111 & 1111 & 1111 & 000 & 111 \\ \hline 0000 & 0000 & 1111 & 1111 & 000 & 000 \\ 0000 & 1111 & 0000 & 1111 & 000 & 000 \\ 1111 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 011 & 011 \\ 1111 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 101 & 101 \end{array} \right]. \quad (17)$$

The first 4 columns are points of  $G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\}$ , the next 12 columns are  $D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\}$ , and the last 6 columns are  $\mathbf{Z}$ . The form of  $\mathbf{Z}$  will be explained later in Construction  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ . By above,  $G(\mathbf{Z}) = \{g_2, g_3\}$ ,  $G(\mathbf{Z}) \cup \{g\} = G_s^*$ ,  $g(\mathbf{Z}) = 0$  as  $g \notin G(\mathbf{Z})$ ,  $D(\mathbf{Z}) = \{d_1, d_2, d_3\} = D_m^*$ ,  $d(\mathbf{Z}) = 1$  as  $d \in D(\mathbf{Z})$ . So, the conditions  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  hold. One can check directly that the conditions  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  hold too.

**THEOREM 1.** *Under conditions  $\mathcal{A} - D$  the point set  $\mathbf{H}$  in equation (7) is a complete cap.*

*Proof.* We show that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a cap, i.e.,  $\mathbf{H} \cap (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) = \emptyset$  and that the cap  $\mathbf{H}$  is complete, i.e.,  $\mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) \supseteq E_{n+1}^* = \text{PG}(n, 2)$ . By equation (7),

$$\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H} = (\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G}) \cup (\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D}) \cup (\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}) \cup (\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{D}) \cup (\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{Z}) \cup (\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{Z}). \quad (18)$$

By equations (4),(8),(9), and the condition  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\mathbf{H} \cap (\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}) = \emptyset. \quad (19)$$

(a) Let

$$g(\mathbf{Z}) = d(\mathbf{Z}) = 0, \text{ i.e., } g \notin G(\mathbf{Z}), \quad d \notin D(\mathbf{Z}). \quad (20)$$

By equation (20) and the condition  $\mathcal{D}$ , we have  $r \geq s + 2$ ,  $l \geq m + 2$ . Hence,

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G} = G_r, \quad \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D} = D_l. \quad (21)$$

One can see in Example 1 the relation  $\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D} = D_l$  where  $l = m + 2$ . But in Example 1  $r = s + 1$  and the relation  $\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G} = G_r$  does not hold. So, for equation (21) the conditions  $r \geq s + 2$ ,  $l \geq m + 2$  are necessary.

Since  $G_r \setminus G_s + \{g\} = G_r \setminus G_s$  and  $D_l \setminus D_m + \{d\} = D_l \setminus D_m$ , again see Example 1, we have

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{D} = G_r \setminus G_s + D_l \setminus D_m. \quad (22)$$

By equation (20) and the condition  $\mathcal{C}$ , we have  $G(\mathbf{Z}) = G_s^* \setminus \{g\}$  and  $D(\mathbf{Z}) = D_m^* \setminus \{d\}$ . Hence

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{Z} = G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^* \setminus \{d\}, \quad \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{Z} = D_l \setminus D_m + G_s^* \setminus \{g\}. \quad (23)$$

From equations (6),(7),(10),(18),(19),(21)–(23), it follows that  $\mathbf{H} \cap (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) = \emptyset$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{H}$  is a cap.

Taking into account the condition  $\mathcal{B}$  one can see that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a complete cap. In fact,

$$\mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) \supseteq (G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\}) \cup G_r \cup D_l \cup (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l \setminus D_m) \cup (G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^* \setminus \{d\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_s^* \setminus \{g\}) \cup (G_s^* + D_m^*).$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} (G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\}) \cup (G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^* \setminus \{d\}) &= G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^*, \\ (D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_s^* \setminus \{g\}) &= D_l \setminus D_m + G_s^*, \\ (G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^*) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_s^*) \cup (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l \setminus D_m) &= (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l^*) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_r^*), \\ (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l^*) \cup D_l &= (G_r \setminus G_s^* + D_l^*) \cup \{0_{n+1}\}, \\ (D_l \setminus D_m + G_r^*) \cup G_r &= (D_l \setminus D_m^* + G_r^*) \cup \{0_{n+1}\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $0_{n+1}$  is the zero  $(n+1)$ -positional vector. Now we can write

$$\mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) \supseteq (G_r \setminus G_s^* + D_l^*) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m^* + G_r^*) \cup (G_s^* + D_m^*) = E_{n+1}^* = \text{PG}(n, 2).$$

(b) Let

$$g(\mathbf{Z}) = d(\mathbf{Z}) = 1, \text{ i.e., } g \in G(\mathbf{Z}), d \in D(\mathbf{Z}). \quad (24)$$

Hence  $r \geq s+1$ ,  $l \geq m+1$ , see the condition  $\mathcal{D}$ .

The relation (22) holds in the case (b).

By equation (24) and the condition  $\mathcal{C}$ , we have  $G(\mathbf{Z}) = G_s^*$  and  $D(\mathbf{Z}) = D_m^*$ . Hence

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{Z} = G_r \setminus G_s + D_m \setminus \{d\}, \quad \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{Z} = D_l \setminus D_m + G_s \setminus \{g\}, \quad (25)$$

cf. with equation (23). Note that  $0_{n+1} \in D_m \setminus \{d\}$  and  $0_{n+1} \in G_s \setminus \{g\}$ .

Now we consider situations connected with correlation between  $r$  and  $s$ ,  $l$  and  $m$ .

In the beginning let  $r = s+1$ ,  $l = m+1$ . Then

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G} = G_s, \quad \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D} = D_m. \quad (26)$$

One can see in Example 1, where  $r = s+1$ , the relation  $\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G} = G_s$ . Again for equation (26) the conditions  $r = s+1$ ,  $l = m+1$ , are necessary.

Using equations (25),(26), similarly to the case (a) we see that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a cap.

From equations (7),(12),(18),(22),(25),(26) and the conditions  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  it follows that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a complete cap. We have

$$\begin{aligned} (G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\}) \cup (G_r \setminus G_s + D_m \setminus \{d\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_s \setminus \{g\}) \cup \\ (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l \setminus D_m) &= (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_r), \\ G_s \cup D_m \cup (G_s^* + D_m^*) &= G_s + D_m. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) \supseteq (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_r) \cup (G_s + D_m) \supseteq E_{n+1}^* = \text{PG}(n, 2).$$

Now let  $r \geq s+2$ ,  $l = m+1$ . Then

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G} = G_r, \quad \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D} = D_m, \quad (27)$$

cf. with equations (21) and (26). We change equation (26) by (27) and again similarly to the case (a) we see that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a cap. Since  $G_s \subset G_r$  the change mentioned retains  $\mathbf{H}$  as a complete cap.

Finally, for the situation  $r \geq s+2$ ,  $l \geq m+2$ , we obtain the relation (21) instead of equations (26) or (27), and, as  $G_s \subset G_r$ ,  $D_m \subset D_l$ , we see, by above, that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a complete cap.

(c) Let

$$g(\mathbf{Z}) = 1, \quad d(\mathbf{Z}) = 0, \quad \text{i.e., } g \in G(\mathbf{Z}), \quad d \notin D(\mathbf{Z}). \quad (28)$$

Hence  $r \geq s+2$ ,  $l \geq m+1$ , see the condition  $\mathcal{D}$ .

The relation (22) holds in the case (c).

By equation (28) and the condition  $\mathcal{C}$ , we have  $G(\mathbf{Z}) = G_s^*$  and  $D(\mathbf{Z}) = D_m^* \setminus \{d\}$ . Hence

$$\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{Z} = G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^* \setminus \{d\}, \quad \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{Z} = D_l \setminus D_m + G_s \setminus \{g\}, \quad (29)$$

cf. with equations (23) and (25). Note that  $0_{n+1} \in G_s \setminus \{g\}$ .

In the beginning we put  $r \geq s+2$ ,  $l = m+1$ . Then the relation (27) holds.

Similarly to the case (a) one can see that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a cap.

From equations (7),(12),(18),(22),(27),(29) and the conditions  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  it follows that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a complete cap. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} & (G_r \setminus G_s + \{d\}) \cup (G_r \setminus G_s + D_m^* \setminus \{d\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + \{g\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_s \setminus \{g\}) \cup \\ & (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l \setminus D_m) = (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l^*) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_r), \\ & D_m \cup (G_s^* + D_m^*) = (G_s + D_m^*) \cup \{0_{n+1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) & \supseteq (G_r \setminus G_s + D_l^*) \cup (D_l \setminus D_m + G_r) \cup G_r \cup \\ & (G_s + D_m^*) \supseteq E_{n+1}^* = \text{PG}(n, 2). \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $r \geq s+2$ ,  $l \geq m+2$ . We obtain the relation (21) instead of (27), and, as  $D_m \subset D_l$ , we see, by above, that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a complete cap.

(d) The case  $g(\mathbf{Z}) = 0$ ,  $d(\mathbf{Z}) = 1$ , can be considered similarly to the previous cases. ■

Note that the condition  $\mathcal{A}$  is necessary for a set  $\mathbf{H}$  to be a cap. Without the condition  $\mathcal{A}$  the relation (19) does not hold. The conditions  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$  are needed



for  $\mathbf{H}$  to be a complete cap. In the proof without the term  $G_s^* + D_m^*$  connected with the condition  $\mathcal{B}$  the requirement  $\mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) \supseteq E_{n+1}^*$  does not hold. Similarly, without the condition  $\mathcal{C}$  the sets  $\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{Z}$  and  $\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{Z}$  do not have the form of equations (23),(25), or (29), without the condition  $\mathcal{D}$  the sets  $\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{G}$  and  $\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D}$  do not have the form of equations (21),(26), or (27), and again the condition  $\mathbf{H} \cup (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{H}) \supseteq E_{n+1}^*$  will not be true. Of course, we can put  $r \geq s + 2$ ,  $l \geq m + 2$ , independently of  $d(\mathbf{Z})$  and  $g(\mathbf{Z})$ , but this does not allow us to get some sizes of caps.

#### 4. Constructions of Caps $\mathbf{Z}$

##### 4.1. On Infinite Families of Small Complete Caps

We consider examples of distinct constructions of the cap  $\mathbf{Z}$ . Every construction generates infinite families of complete caps with distinct sizes since parameters  $r$  and  $l$  (and therefore  $n = r + l - 1$ ) are bounded only from below. For the given construction of  $\mathbf{Z}$  the dimension  $n$  of the space  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ , where the obtained cap  $\mathbf{H}$  lies, can tend to infinity. Moreover, for a fixed  $n$  every construction of  $\mathbf{Z}$  generates many distinct sizes of complete caps since  $n$  is a sum of  $r$  and  $l$  and, besides, there exist parameters  $s$  and  $m$  which can change and which are bounded only from below too. Finally, an iterative process, when complete caps obtained by Construction S are used to create new caps  $\mathbf{Z}$ , also gives new families of sizes.

Of course, the set of constructions of  $\mathbf{Z}$  described here is not complete. One can form other constructions of  $\mathbf{Z}$  and get new sizes of caps by Construction S.

Construction  $\mathbf{Z}_1$

We put  $s = m = 1$ . Then  $G_s^* = G_1^* = \{g_1\}$ ,  $g_1 = (\mathbf{0}^{r-1}b_{1,1}\mathbf{0}^{l-1}\mathbf{0}^1)$ ,  $D_m^* = D_1^* = \{d_1\}$ ,  $d_1 = (\mathbf{0}^{r-1}\mathbf{0}^1\mathbf{0}^{l-1}b_{1,1})$ , see equations (5),(6). Obviously,  $g = g_1$ ,  $d = d_1$ ,  $w = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{Z} = \{z_1\}$ ,  $z_1 = g + d$ ,  $M = \{g\} + \{d\}$ ,  $\mathbf{Z} = M$ ,  $G(\mathbf{Z}) = G_1^*$ ,  $D(\mathbf{Z}) = D_1^*$ ,  $g(\mathbf{Z}) = d(\mathbf{Z}) = 1$ , see equation (16),  $r \geq s + 1$ ,  $l \geq m + 1$ . Since  $\mathbf{Z} = M$ , the condition  $\mathcal{B}$  holds. We have, see equation (7),

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{G} \cup \mathbf{D} \cup \mathbf{Z} = (G_r \setminus G_1 + \{d_1\}) \cup (D_l \setminus D_1 + \{g_1\}) \cup \{z_1\}.$$

If  $r = l = 3$ , we obtain  $n = 5$ ,  $k = 13$ ,

$$\mathbf{H} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|c} 001111 & \mathbf{000000} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{000000} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \\ 110011 & \mathbf{000000} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{000000} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \\ 010101 & 111111 & 1 & \mathbf{001111} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \\ \hline \mathbf{000000} & \mathbf{001111} & \mathbf{0} & 110011 & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \\ \mathbf{000000} & 110011 & \mathbf{0} & 010101 & 1 & \mathbf{0} & \\ 111111 & 010101 & 1 & & & & \end{array} \right]. \quad (30)$$

By equation (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  containing the cap  $\mathbf{Z}$  of Construction  $\mathbf{Z}_1$  is  $k = 2^r + 2^l - 3 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} - 3$ ,  $r \geq 2$ ,  $l \geq 2$ ,  $n \geq r + 1$ . It is easy to see that Construction S in the particular case with the cap  $\mathbf{Z}$  of Construction  $\mathbf{Z}_1$  gives the same complete cap as in [9, Theorem 3], cf. equation (1) and the last formula for  $k$ .

#### 4.2. Modified Notation. Caps $\mathbf{Z}'_0$ and $\mathbf{Z}'$

Now we will construct the caps  $\mathbf{Z}$  not considering “necessary” zeroes of the form  $\mathbf{0}^{r-s}$  and  $\mathbf{0}^{l-m}$ , see equations (5),(6),(13),(14).

We denote  $t = s + m - 1$ . Let  $E_{t+1}$  be the  $(t + 1)$ -dimensional space of binary  $(t + 1)$ -positional vectors. We put  $E_{t+1}^* = \text{PG}(t, 2)$ .

In  $E_{t+1}$  we introduce vector subspaces  $G'_s, D'_m$ , a subset  $M' = G_s'^* + D_m'^*$ , and a point set  $\mathbf{Z}'$ , that are obtained from  $G_s, D_m, M$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}$  by removing “necessary” zeroes of the form  $\mathbf{0}^{r-s}$  and  $\mathbf{0}^{l-m}$ . Respectively we introduce points  $g'_u, d'_v, g', d', z'$ . Now, cf. equations (5),(9),(13),

$$\begin{aligned} G'_s &= \{g'_0, g'_1, \dots, g'_{2^s-1}\}, \quad g'_u = (b_{s,u} \mathbf{0}^m), \quad u = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1, \\ D'_m &= \{d'_0, d'_1, \dots, d'_{2^m-1}\}, \quad d'_v = (\mathbf{0}^s b_{m,v}), \quad v = 0, 1, \dots, 2^m - 1. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Z}' &= \{z'_1, z'_2, \dots, z'_w\} \subset E_{t+1}^*, \\ z' &= g'_{j_i} + d'_{k_i} = (b_{s,j_i} b_{m,k_i}), \quad g'_{j_i} \in G_s'^*, \quad d'_{k_i} \in D_m'^*, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, w. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

The functions  $G'(\mathbf{Z}')$ ,  $D'(\mathbf{Z}')$ ,  $g'(\mathbf{Z}')$ , and  $d'(\mathbf{Z}')$ , are introduced similarly to equations (15),(16), with change  $z_i$  by  $z'_i$  and so on, again cf. equations (5),(9),(13) with equations (31),(32). Clearly,  $g'(\mathbf{Z}') = g(\mathbf{Z})$  and  $d'(\mathbf{Z}') = d(\mathbf{Z})$ . Finally, the conditions  $\mathcal{A}', \mathcal{B}', \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{D}'$  are perfectly analogous to those  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$  after an addition of upper primes.

Clearly,  $\mathbf{Z}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}'$  are in one-to-one correspondence and directly determine one another.

By the condition  $\mathcal{A}'$ , the point set  $\mathbf{Z}'$  is a cap in  $\text{PG}(t, 2)$ .

We will find a needed caps  $\mathbf{Z}'$  in a matrix form using a matrix form of a *starting* complete cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  in  $\text{PG}(t, 2)$ . We call an  $s$ -region (resp., an  $m$ -region) the first  $s$  (resp., the last  $m$ ) rows of matrices corresponding to  $\mathbf{Z}'$  and  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$ .

If for  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  the conditions  $\mathcal{A}', \mathcal{B}', \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{D}'$  hold we can put  $\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z}'_0$ . To change parameters or to provide the conditions  $\mathcal{A}', \mathcal{B}', \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{D}'$ , we can form sums of rows in  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  (to support the condition  $\mathcal{C}'$ ) and remove columns from  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  with  $s$  zeroes in the  $s$ -region, of the form  $(b_{s,0} b_m)$ , or with  $m$  zeroes in the  $m$ -region, of the form  $(b_s b_{m,0})$ , because  $g'_{j_i} \in G_s'^*, d'_{k_i} \in D_m'^*$ . Such columns can present in the beginning of the process and can appear after summing rows in  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$ . The removed columns (points) do not belong to  $M' = G_s'^* + D_m'^*$  and therefore they are not required to be saturated with respect to  $\mathbf{Z}'$ . The operations mentioned preserve the property of  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  to be a cap. Hence the condition  $\mathcal{A}'$  always holds.

#### 4.3. Using the Greatest Binary Complete Cap

In Constructions  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_3$  as the starting complete cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  we use the greatest complete  $2^t$ -cap  $A_t$  in the space  $\text{PG}(t, 2)$  that is the complement to some hyperplane  $L$  of  $\text{PG}(t, 2)$ , i.e.,  $A_t$  consists of the affine space  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus L$ , see [1, 11]. In the matrix form we can represent the cap  $A_t$  by a  $(t + 1) \times 2^t = (s + m) \times 2^{s+m-1}$ -matrix such that the first row consists of  $2^{s+m-1}$  ones, the other  $t = s + m - 1$  rows

contain numbers  $0, 1, \dots, 2^{s+m-1} - 1$  written as columns in the lexicographical order. In Construction  $Z_4$  we modify the greatest complete  $2^{t-1}$ -cap  $A_{t-1} \subset \text{PG}(t-1, 2)$  to get the starting complete  $(2^{t-1} + 1)$ -cap  $Z'_0 \subset \text{PG}(t, 2)$ .

*Remark 1.* Every point of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus A_t$  lies on  $2^{t-1}$  bisecants of the cap  $A_t$ . If we remove  $j < 2^{t-1}$  points from  $A_t$  to get a cap  $A_{t,j}$  then every point of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus A_t$  lies at least on one bisecant of  $A_{t,j}$ , i.e., all points of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus A_t$  are saturated.

Let  $W$  be a matrix form of a point set in  $\text{PG}(f+p-1, 2)$  where  $f$  and  $p$  are nonnegative integers,  $f+p \geq 3$ . Every  $(f+p)$ -positional column of  $W$  represents a point of  $\text{PG}(f+p-1, 2)$ . We say that the matrix  $W$  has a property  $U_{f,h}$  if  $f \geq 1$  and the first  $f$  rows of  $W$  contain all distinct nonzero  $f$ -positional columns except some  $h$  nonzero columns and furthermore the zero  $f$ -positional column is present in these rows. If the zero  $f$ -positional column is absent the property is denoted by  $U_{f,h}^*$ . Respectively we introduce properties  $L_{p,h}$  and  $L_{p,h}^*$  for the last  $p$  rows of the matrix  $W$ .

*Remark 2.* Let parameters  $s$  and  $m$  are given. If a matrix form of a cap  $Z'$  has the property  $U_{s,0}^*$  then  $G'(Z') = G_s^*$ , the 1st part of the condition  $\mathcal{C}'$  holds,  $g'(Z') = 1$ . To satisfy the 2nd part of the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we must put  $l \geq m+1$ . If  $Z'$  has the property  $U_{s,1}^*$  then  $G'(Z') = G_s^* \setminus \{g'_i\}$  with  $i \neq 0$ . To satisfy the 1st part of the condition  $\mathcal{C}'$  one must take  $g' = g'_i$ . For such  $g'$  we have  $g'(Z') = 0$ . To satisfy the 2nd part of the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we must put  $l \geq m+2$ . Respectively, for the property  $L_{m,0}^*$  we have that  $D'(Z') = D_m^*$ , the 2nd part of the condition  $\mathcal{C}'$  holds,  $d'(Z') = 1$ . To satisfy the 1st part of the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  one must put  $r \geq s+1$ . For the property  $L_{m,1}^*$  it holds that  $D'(Z') = D_m^* \setminus \{d'_j\}$ ,  $j \neq 0$ . To satisfy the 2nd part of the condition  $\mathcal{C}'$  one must take  $d' = d'_j$ . For such  $d'$  we have  $d'(Z') = 0$ . To satisfy the 1st part of the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we must put  $r \geq s+2$ .

### Construction $Z_2$

We put  $s=2$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $t \geq 3$ ,  $w=2^{m+1}-2$ . Obviously, the matrix  $A_t$  has the properties  $U_{2,1}^*$  and  $L_{m,0}$ . From the matrix  $A_t$  we remove  $j=2$  columns  $(b_{2,2}b_{m,0})$  and  $(b_{2,3}b_{m,0})$  with  $m$  zeroes in the  $m$ -region. We put that the matrix obtained is  $Z'$ . Clearly,  $G'(Z') = \{g'_2, g'_3\}$ ,  $D'(Z') = D_m^*$ . We take  $g' = g'_1 = (b_{2,1}\mathbf{0}^m)$ . Then  $G'(Z') \cup \{g'\} = G_s^*$  and  $g'(Z') = 0$ . Let  $d' = (\mathbf{0}^2 b_{m,v})$ ,  $v \neq 0$ . Then  $d'(Z') = 1$  as  $D'(Z') = D_m^*$ . We put  $r \geq s+1=3$ ,  $l \geq m+2 \geq 4$ . Now the conditions  $\mathcal{C}'$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  hold. Since  $2^{t-1} \geq 4 > j$  all points of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus A_t$  are saturated, see Remark 1. The removed two columns (points) are not saturated but they do not belong to  $M'$ . So,  $M' \subset Z' \cup (Z' + Z')$ . The condition  $\mathcal{B}'$  holds. As an example with  $m=2$ ,  $t=3$ , see the 3rd section of the matrix in (17) without “necessary” boldface  $\mathbf{0}$ . By (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $Z'$  of Construction  $Z_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^m - 6 \\ &= 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^m - 6, \quad r \geq 3, \quad m \geq 2, \quad l \geq m+2, \quad n \geq r+m+1. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Construction  $Z_3$ 

We put  $s \geq 3$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $t \geq 4$ ,  $w = 2^{s+m-1} - 2^{s-1} - 2^{m-1}$ . In the matrix  $A_t$  we add the  $(s+1)$ -th row to the 1st row. Now the matrix  $A_t$  has the properties  $U_{s,0}$  and  $L_{m,0}$ . If  $s=m=3$  we obtain the matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1111 & 0000 & 1111 & 0000 & 1111 & 0000 & 1111 & 0000 \\ 0000 & 0000 & 0000 & 0000 & 1111 & 1111 & 1111 & 1111 \\ 0000 & 0000 & 1111 & 1111 & 0000 & 0000 & 1111 & 1111 \\ \hline 0000 & 1111 & 0000 & 1111 & 0000 & 1111 & 0000 & 1111 \\ 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 \\ 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 \end{array} \right].$$

Then we remove  $2^{m-1}$  columns with  $s$  zeroes in the  $s$ -region and  $2^{s-1}$  columns with  $m$  zeroes in the  $m$ -region. The removed columns have the form  $(b_{s,0}b_{m,v})$ ,  $v = 2^{m-1}, 2^{m-1} + 1, \dots, 2^m - 1$ , and  $(b_{s,u}b_{m,0})$ ,  $u = 2^{s-1}, 2^{s-1} + 1, \dots, 2^s - 1$ . As result we obtain the matrix  $A_{t,j}$  with  $j = 2^{m-1} + 2^{s-1}$  and put  $\mathbf{Z}' = A_{t,j}$ . For  $s \geq 3$ ,  $m \geq 2$ , we have  $2^{t-1} = 2^{s+m-2} > j = 2^{m-1} + 2^{s-1}$ . Hence all points of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus A_t$  are saturated, see Remark 1. Again, as in Construction  $Z_2$ , the removed columns (points) are not saturated but they do not belong to  $M'$  and the condition  $\mathcal{B}'$  holds. It is easy to see that  $G'(\mathbf{Z}') = G'_s$ ,  $D'(\mathbf{Z}') = D'_m$ . Therefore we need to assume  $r \geq s+1$ ,  $l \geq m+1$ . By (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'$  of Construction  $Z_3$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^{s+m-1} - 3(2^{s-1} + 2^{m-1}) = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{s+m-1} - 3(2^{s-1} + 2^{m-1}), \\ s &\geq 3, \quad m \geq 2, \quad r \geq s+1, \quad l \geq m+1, \quad n \geq r+m. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Construction  $Z_4$ 

We put  $s \geq 3$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $w = 2^{s+m-2} + 1$ ,  $t = s + m - 1$ , take the complete  $2^{t-1}$ -cap  $A_{t-1} \subset \text{PG}(t-1, 2)$  and insert at the top a new row of  $2^{s+m-2}$  zeroes. Then we remove  $2^{m-2}$  columns  $t_i = (01b_{s-2,0}01b_{m-2,i})$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{m-2} - 1$ , and  $2^{s-2}$  columns  $u_j = (01b_{s-2,j}b_{m,0})$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{s-2} - 1$ . We put  $e = (11b_{s-2,0}b_{m-1,0}1)$  and insert the following  $2^{m-2} + 2^{s-2} + 1$  columns into the matrix:  $t'_i = e + t_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{m-2} - 1$ ,  $u'_j = e + u_j$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{s-2} - 1$ , and  $e$ . We take the obtained matrix as  $\mathbf{Z}'_0 \subset \text{PG}(t, 2)$ . If  $s=4$ ,  $m=3$ , we have

$$\mathbf{Z}'_0 = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 00000 & 0000000 & 0000000 & 0000000 & 11 & 1111 & 1 \\ 11111 & 1111111 & 1111111 & 1111111 & 00 & 0000 & 1 \\ 00000 & 0000000 & 1111111 & 1111111 & 00 & 0011 & 0 \\ 00000 & 1111111 & 0000000 & 1111111 & 00 & 0101 & 0 \\ \hline 01111 & 0001111 & 0001111 & 0001111 & 00 & 0000 & 0 \\ 00011 & 0110011 & 0110011 & 0110011 & 11 & 0000 & 0 \\ 10101 & 1010101 & 1010101 & 1010101 & 10 & 1111 & 1 \end{array} \right].$$

By construction,  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  is a cap, e.g.,  $e = t_i + t'_i$ , but columns  $t_i$  are removed. Moreover,  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  is a complete cap. Columns of the form  $(00b_{s+m-2})$  are saturated since for  $s \geq 3$ ,  $m \geq 2$ , we have  $2^{s-2} + 2^{m-2} < 2^{s+m-3}$ , see Remark 1. Columns  $(01b_{s+m-2})$  either belong to  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  or can be obtained as  $t_i = e + t'_i$ ,  $u_j = e + u'_j$ . Columns  $(10b_{s+m-2})$  either belong to  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$ , see  $t'_i$  and  $u'_j$ , or can be obtained as  $f + e$  where

$f$  is a column from the left submatrix of  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$ . Finally, columns  $(11b_{s+m-2}) \neq e$  can be obtained as  $f + t'_i$  or  $f + u'_j$ .

Note that complete  $(2^v + 1)$ -caps of considered structure are described in [5, formula (18)] and researched in [2, Section 4].

Now we add the  $(s + 1)$ -th and the  $(s + 2)$ -th rows of  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  to the 1st and the 2nd rows respectively and obtain the cap  $\mathbf{Z}'$  with the properties  $U_{s,0}^*$  and  $L_{m,0}^*$ . If  $s = 4$ ,  $m = 3$ , then

$$\mathbf{Z}' = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cc|c} 01111 & 0001111 & 0001111 & 0001111 & 11 & 1111 & 1 \\ 11100 & 1001100 & 1001100 & 1001100 & 11 & 0000 & 1 \\ 00000 & 0000000 & 1111111 & 1111111 & 00 & 0011 & 0 \\ 00000 & 1111111 & 0000000 & 1111111 & 00 & 0101 & 0 \\ \hline 01111 & 0001111 & 0001111 & 0001111 & 00 & 0000 & 0 \\ 00011 & 0110011 & 0110011 & 0110011 & 11 & 0000 & 0 \\ 10101 & 1010101 & 1010101 & 1010101 & 10 & 1111 & 1 \end{array} \right].$$

We put  $r \geq s + 1$ ,  $l \geq m + 1$ , see Remark 2. All conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'$  hold. By (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'$  of Construction  $\mathbf{Z}_4$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^{s+m-2} + 1 - 2^s - 2^m = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{s+m-2} + 1 - 2^s - 2^m, \\ s &\geq 3, \quad m \geq 2, \quad r \geq s + 1, \quad l \geq m + 1, \quad n \geq r + m. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

#### 4.4. Iterative Constructing of $\mathbf{Z}'$

In Constructions  $\mathbf{Z}_5$ – $\mathbf{Z}_9$  we consider an iterative process when a complete cap  $\mathbf{H}$  obtained by Construction S is used to create the complete starting cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$ . Suppose by Construction S we got a family of complete  $k_0$ -caps  $\mathbf{H}_0$  with fixed parameters  $s_0$ ,  $m_0$ ,  $\Delta_0$ ,  $c_r$ ,  $c_l$ , so that

$$\mathbf{H}_0 \subset \text{PG}(n_0, 2), \quad n_0 = r_0 + l_0 - 1, \quad k_0 = 2^{r_0} + 2^{l_0} + \Delta_0, \quad r_0 \geq s_0 + c_r, \quad l_0 \geq m_0 + c_l, \quad (36)$$

where  $c_r, c_l \in \{1, 2\}$ . By above, every complete cap obtained by Construction S belongs to a family of such form. Changing parameters mentioned we obtain another family. Distinct values of  $r_0$ ,  $l_0$  give distinct caps  $\mathbf{H}_0$  of the same family.

By equations (7–9), (14), and the condition  $\mathcal{C}$ , the complete cap  $\mathbf{H}_0$  has the properties  $U_{r_0,0}^*$  and  $L_{l_0,0}^*$ . Hence we can put  $\mathbf{H}_0 = \mathbf{Z}'$  with  $s = r_0$ ,  $m = l_0$ ,  $G'(\mathbf{Z}') = G_s^*$ ,  $D'(\mathbf{Z}') = D_m^*$ ,  $w = k_0$ . Taking into account that  $\mathbf{H}_0$  is a complete cap, all conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$  hold. In order to satisfy the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we put  $r \geq s + 1 = r_0 + 1$ ,  $l \geq m + 1 = l_0 + 1$ , and by Construction S we obtain a new complete cap  $\mathbf{H}$  of the size  $k = 2^r + 2^l - (2^{r_0} + 2^{l_0} - k_0) = 2^r + 2^l + \Delta_0$ . Comparing this  $k$  with  $k_0$  of equation (36) we see that such a direct method does not yield new sizes. But applying the doubling construction (DC) to  $\mathbf{H}_0$  we can obtain a cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  providing a new family of sizes. It should be noted that we use DC only for obtaining  $\mathbf{Z}'$  and then we obtain a new complete cap  $\mathbf{H}$  by Construction S.

Construction  $Z_5$ 

We apply DC to the complete cap  $\mathbf{H}_0$  with parameters (36). To do this we repeat the matrix  $\mathbf{H}_0$  two times and insert at the top a new row consisting of sequences of  $k_0$  zeroes and  $k_0$  ones [5]. We obtain a complete  $2k_0$ -cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  in  $\text{PG}(n_0+1, 2) = \text{PG}(t, 2)$  and put  $\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z}'_0$  with  $s = r_0 + 1$ ,  $m = l_0$ ,  $w = 2k_0 = 2^{r_0+1} + 2^{l_0+1} + 2\Delta_0$ ,  $t = r_0 + l_0$ . So,

$$\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z}'_0 = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} 00\dots 0 & 11\dots 1 \\ \hline \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{H}_0 \end{array} \right]. \quad (37)$$

Since the cap  $\mathbf{H}_0$  has the properties  $U_{r_0,0}^*$  and  $L_{l_0,0}^*$ , the cap  $\mathbf{Z}'$  has the properties  $U_{s,1}^* = U_{r_0+1,1}^*$  and  $L_{m,0}^* = L_{l_0,0}^*$ . The  $(r_0+1)$ -positional column  $(10\dots 0)$  is absent in the first  $s = r_0 + 1$  rows of  $\mathbf{Z}'$ . This means one must take  $g' = g'_{2r_0} = (b_{s,2^{r_0}} \mathbf{0}^m) \notin G'(\mathbf{Z}')$ . So,  $g'(\mathbf{Z}') = 0$ . To satisfy the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we should put  $r \geq s + 2 = r_0 + 3$ ,  $l \geq m + 1 = l_0 + 1$ , see Remark 2. Taking into account that  $\mathbf{Z}'$  is a *complete* cap, all conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'$  hold. By equations (11),(36), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'$  of Construction  $Z_5$  is

$$k = 2^r + 2^l + 2^{l_0} + 2\Delta_0 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{l_0} + 2\Delta_0, \quad r \geq r_0 + 3, \quad l \geq l_0 + 1, \quad n \geq r + l_0. \quad (38)$$

Construction  $Z_6$ 

We proceed similarly to Construction  $Z_5$  but insert the new row at the bottom. Then

$$\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z}'_0 = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{H}_0 \\ \hline 00\dots 0 & 11\dots 1 \end{array} \right], \quad (39)$$

$s = r_0$ ,  $m = l_0 + 1$ ,  $w = 2k_0$ ,  $t = r_0 + l_0$ ,  $r \geq s + 1 = r_0 + 1$ ,  $l \geq m + 2 = l_0 + 3$ . The size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'$  of Construction  $Z_6$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^{r_0} + 2\Delta_0 \\ &= 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{r_0} + 2\Delta_0, \quad r \geq r_0 + 1, \quad l \geq l_0 + 3, \quad n \geq r + l_0 + 2. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Construction  $Z_7$ 

Applying DC of equation (39) to the cap of equation (37) we obtain the complete cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_0$  in  $\text{PG}(n_0+2, 2) = \text{PG}(t, 2)$ , and again we put  $\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z}'_0$ . We have

$$\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z}'_0 = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} 00\dots 0 & 11\dots 1 & 00\dots 0 & 11\dots 1 \\ \hline \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{H}_0 \\ \hline 00\dots 0 & 00\dots 0 & 11\dots 1 & 11\dots 1 \end{array} \right], \quad (41)$$

$s = r_0 + 1$ ,  $m = l_0 + 1$ ,  $w = 4k_0 = 2^{r_0+2} + 2^{l_0+2} + 4\Delta_0$ . Since the cap  $\mathbf{H}_0$  has the properties  $U_{r_0,0}^*$  and  $L_{l_0,0}^*$ , the cap  $\mathbf{Z}'$  has the properties  $U_{s,1}^* = U_{r_0+1,1}^*$  and  $L_{m,1}^* = L_{l_0+1,1}^*$ . The  $(r_0+1)$ -positional column  $(10\dots 0)$  is absent in the first  $s$  rows of  $\mathbf{Z}'$  and the  $(l_0+1)$ -positional column  $(0\dots 01)$  is absent in the last  $m$  rows. Hence one must take  $g' = (b_{s,2^{r_0}} \mathbf{0}^m) \notin G'(\mathbf{Z}')$ ,  $d' = (\mathbf{0}^s b_{m,1}) \notin D'(\mathbf{Z}')$ , and put  $r \geq s + 2 = r_0 + 3$ ,

$l \geq m + 2 = l_0 + 3$ , cf. Construction  $Z_5$  and Remark 2. All conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'$  hold. By equations (11), (36), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $Z'$  of Construction  $Z_7$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^{r_0+1} + 2^{l_0+1} + 4\Delta_0 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{r_0+1} + 2^{l_0+1} + 4\Delta_0, \\ r &\geq r_0 + 3, \quad l \geq l_0 + 3, \quad n \geq r + l_0 + 2. \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

Construction  $Z_8$

We consider the complete cap  $Z'_0 \subset \text{PG}(n_0 + 1, 2) = \text{PG}(t, 2)$  of equation (37). Since  $\mathbf{H}_0$  is a complete cap, every point of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus Z'_0$  lies on at least two bisecants of  $Z'_0$ . Therefore if we remove one point from  $Z'_0$  all points of  $\text{PG}(t, 2) \setminus Z'_0$  are saturated.

We add the first row of equation (37) to the  $(m_0 + 1)$ -th row from the bottom and obtain another matrix form of  $Z'_0$ , say  $Z'_{0,a}$ . The left part of equation (37) does not change but in the region  $\mathbf{D}$  of the right part exactly one column with  $l_0$  zeroes in the last  $l_0$  rows appears. Before it was the column  $(b_{1,1}b_{r_0}b_{l_0,2^{m_0}})$ . If  $\mathbf{H}_0$  is taken from equation (30), where  $m_0 = 1$ ,  $l_0 = 3$ , then

$$Z'_{0,a} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|c} 000000 & 000000 & 0 & 111111 & 111111 & 1 \\ \hline 001111 & 000000 & 0 & 001111 & 000000 & 0 \\ 110011 & 000000 & 0 & 110011 & 000000 & 0 \\ 010101 & 111111 & 1 & 010101 & 111111 & 1 \\ \hline 000000 & 001111 & 0 & 000000 & 001111 & 0 \\ 000000 & 110011 & 0 & \mathbf{111111} & \mathbf{001100} & \mathbf{1} \\ 111111 & 010101 & 1 & 111111 & 010101 & 1 \end{array} \right], \quad (43)$$

where boldface shows the values changed. If  $\mathbf{H}_0$  is taken from equation (17), where  $m_0 = 2$ ,  $l_0 = 4$ , then the right (changed) part of  $Z'_{0,a}$  has the form

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|c} 1111 & 1111 & 1111 & 1111 & 111 & 111 \\ \hline 1111 & 0000 & 0000 & 0000 & 000 & 000 \\ 0011 & 0000 & 0000 & 0000 & 111 & 111 \\ 0101 & 1111 & 1111 & 1111 & 000 & 111 \\ \hline 0000 & 0000 & 1111 & 1111 & 000 & 000 \\ \mathbf{1111} & \mathbf{0000} & \mathbf{1111} & \mathbf{0000} & \mathbf{111} & \mathbf{111} \\ 1111 & 0011 & 0011 & 0011 & 011 & 011 \\ 1111 & 0101 & 0101 & 0101 & 101 & 101 \end{array} \right]. \quad (44)$$

We remove the column with  $l_0$  zeroes in the last  $l_0$  rows and take the obtained matrix as  $Z'$ . We put  $s = r_0 + 1$ ,  $m = l_0$ ,  $w = 2k_0 - 1$ , cf. Construction  $Z_5$ . The cap  $Z'$  has the properties  $U_{s,1}^*$  and  $L_{m,0}^*$ , as in Construction  $Z_5$ . Therefore  $r \geq s + 2 = r_0 + 3$ ,  $l \geq m + 1 = l_0 + 1$ . The removed column does not belong to  $M'$  and it may fail to be saturated. All conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'$  hold. By equations (11),(36), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $Z'$  of Construction  $Z_8$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^{l_0} + 2\Delta_0 - 1 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{l_0} + 2\Delta_0 - 1, \\ r &\geq r_0 + 3, \quad l \geq l_0 + 1, \quad n \geq r + l_0. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

### Construction $Z_9$

We use  $Z'_0$  of equation (39) and add the last row to the  $(1+l_0+s_0+1)$ -th row from the bottom. Similarly to Construction  $Z_8$  we remove one column and obtain  $Z'$ . By equations (11),(36), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $Z'$  of Construction  $Z_9$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l + 2^{r_0} + 2\Delta_0 - 1 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + 2^{r_0} + 2\Delta_0 - 1, \\ r &\geq r_0 + 1, \quad l \geq l_0 + 3, \quad n \geq r + l_0 + 2. \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

### 4.5. Using the Smallest Known Complete Caps

In Constructions  $Z_{10}$ – $Z_{12}$  as the starting complete caps  $Z'_0$  we use the smallest known complete  $f(n)$ -caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ ,  $n \geq 7$ , with  $f(n)$  of equation (2), see [9]. In formulas of [9] we choose convenient parameters  $e_i$ ,  $e_u$ , and so on, see below.

#### Construction $Z_{10}$

As the starting complete cap  $Z'_0$  with  $s=m=4$  we take the complete 28-cap in  $\text{PG}(7, 2)$  of [9, formula (51)]. The 28-th column of  $Z'_0$  contains  $s$  zeroes in the  $s$ -region. We add the sum of two last rows of  $Z'_0$  to the 4-th row and obtain a complete 28-cap  $Z'$  for which all conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$  and the properties  $U_{4,0}^*$ ,  $L_{4,0}^*$  hold. The reader can easily check this. To satisfy the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we must take  $r \geq s+1=5$ ,  $l \geq m+1=5$ . By equation (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $Z'$  of Construction  $Z_{10}$  is

$$k = 2^r + 2^l - 4 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} - 4, \quad r \geq 5, \quad l \geq 5, \quad n \geq r + 4. \quad (47)$$

#### Construction $Z_{11}$

Here  $s=m=v \geq 5$ ,  $Z' = Z'_0 = U^{2v}$ , where  $U^{2v}$  is the matrix of [9, formulas (31),(39)–(42)] with  $e_i \neq 0$  in [9, formula (31)]. By formulas mentioned one can see that  $U^{2v}$  gives a complete  $(15 \cdot 2^{v-3} - 3)$ -cap in  $\text{PG}(t, 2) = \text{PG}(2v-1, 2)$  for which all conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$  and the properties  $U_{v,0}^*$ ,  $L_{v,0}^*$  hold. To satisfy the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  we must take  $r \geq s+1=v+1 \geq 6$ ,  $l \geq m+1=v+1 \geq 6$ . By equation (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $Z'$  of Construction  $Z_{11}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 2^r + 2^l - 2^{v-3} - 3 \\ &= 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} - 2^{v-3} - 3, \quad v \geq 5, \quad r \geq v+1, \quad l \geq v+1, \quad n \geq r+v. \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

#### Construction $Z_{12}$

We put  $s=4, m=5$ . As starting complete cap  $Z'_0$  we take the complete 43-cap in  $\text{PG}(8, 2)$  of [9, Theorem 5, Remark 2]. For  $Z'_0$  in [9, formulas(31),(39)–(42),(50)] we take  $\beta = (001)$ ,  $\gamma = (010)$ ,  $\delta = (011)$ ,  $w_1 = w_2 = w_3 = 1$ ,  $e_i = (0001)$ ,  $e_u = (0001)$ . To get  $Z'$  we change  $Z'_0$  writing the 1st row as the last one in [9, formula (50)]. We obtain

$$Z' = \begin{bmatrix} 14567 & 3232322 & 3232322 & 89\text{ABCDEF} & 1111111111111111 \\ 35566 & 82A4C6E & B197F5D & 111111111 & 0123456789\text{ABCDEF} \\ 00000 & 0000000 & 0000000 & 00000000 & 1111111111111111 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (49)$$



where hexadecimal notation is used. As it is said in [9, Remark 2], we examined by computer that  $\mathbf{Z}'$  is a complete cap. By equation (49), the matrix has the properties  $U_{4,0}^*$  and  $L_{5,0}^*$ . So, the conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$  hold. To satisfy the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  one must take  $r \geq s + 1 = 5$ ,  $l \geq m + 1 = 6$ , see Remark 2 of this work. By equation (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'$  of Construction  $Z_{12}$  is

$$k = 2^r + 2^l - 5 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} - 5, \quad r \geq 5, \quad l \geq 6, \quad n \geq r + 5. \quad (50)$$

#### 4.6. Computer Search for Caps $\mathbf{Z}'$

We consider the situation when an infinity family of complete caps  $\mathbf{H}$  is produced by Construction S, see Section 4.1, and the only “starting” cap  $\mathbf{Z}'$  is found by computer. We use the term “Construction  $Z_{13,i}$ ” when for given parameters  $s, m$  we have found by computer a cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,i}$  for which all conditions  $\mathcal{A}'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}'$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$  and the properties  $U_{s,0}^*$ ,  $L_{m,0}^*$  hold. Here  $i$  is the ordinal number. For all Constructions  $Z_{13,i}$  we put  $r \geq s + 1$  and  $l \geq m + 1$ , see Remark 2. Therefore the condition  $\mathcal{D}'$  holds. We give caps  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,i}$  in hexadecimal notation.

Constructions  $Z_{13,1}$  and  $Z_{13,2}$

We put  $s = m = 3$ . We found by computer a 15-cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,1}$  and a 16-cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,2}$ .

$$\mathbf{Z}'_{13,1} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 & 22 & 3 & 444 & 55 & 6 & 7777 \\ 15 & 26 & 1 & 134 & 37 & 4 & 3467 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Z}'_{13,2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1111 & 22 & 33 & 44 & 55 & 66 & 77 \\ 1567 & 25 & 16 & 35 & 17 & 45 & 67 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,j}$  is

$$k = 2^r + 2^l + j - 2 = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + j - 2, \quad r \geq 4, \quad l \geq 4, \quad n \geq r + 3, \quad j = 1, 2. \quad (51)$$

Constructions  $Z_{13,3}$ ,  $Z_{13,4}$ , and  $Z_{13,5}$

Let  $s = 4$ ,  $m = 3$ . We found by computer a 27-cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,3}$ , a 28-cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,4}$ , and a 29-cap  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,5}$ .

$$\mathbf{Z}'_{13,3} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 & 2 & 33 & 4 & 555 & 66 & 77 & 8888 & 99 & A & B & C & D & EE & FF \\ 24 & 6 & 13 & 4 & 123 & 67 & 16 & 1467 & 17 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 45 & 34 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{Z}'_{13,4} = \begin{bmatrix} 111 & 2 & 33 & 44 & 5 & 66 & 77 & 88 & 99 & AAA & B & C & DD & EE & FF \\ 126 & 3 & 46 & 24 & 7 & 25 & 15 & 16 & 26 & 1 & 3 & 7 & 4 & 7 & 3 & 7 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{Z}'_{13,5} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 & 2 & 33 & 44 & 555 & 6 & 77 & 8 & 9 & AA & BBB & CC & DD & EE & FFF \\ 45 & 7 & 16 & 45 & 457 & 7 & 16 & 1 & 7 & 2 & 3 & 123 & 1 & 6 & 1 & 7 & 2 & 3 & 123 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By equation (11), the size  $k$  of the complete cap  $\mathbf{H} \subset \text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained with the help of  $\mathbf{Z}'_{13,t}$  is

$$k = 2^r + 2^l + t = 2^r + 2^{n+1-r} + t, \quad r \geq 5, \quad l \geq 4, \quad n \geq r + 4, \quad t = 3, 4, 5. \quad (52)$$

Table 2. The sizes  $k < 2^{n-1}$  of the small complete caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$  obtained by distinct constructions.

$n$	$k$
5	13 <sub>1</sub>
6	21 <sub>1</sub> <b>22</b> <sub>2</sub> 24 <sub>W</sub> ... 29 <sub>W</sub> 31 <sub>W</sub>
7	28 <sub>0</sub> 29 <sub>1</sub> <b>30</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>31</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>32</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>33</b> <sub>4</sub> 35 <sub>W</sub> 37 <sub>1</sub> <b>38</b> <sub>2</sub> 39 <sub>W</sub> ... 63 <sub>W</sub>
8	43 <sub>0</sub> 45 <sub>10</sub> <b>46</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>47</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>48</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>49</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>50</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>51</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <b>52</b> <sub>13,4</sub> <b>53</b> <sub>13,5</sub> 56 <sub>0</sub> <sup>D</sup> 57 <sub>W</sub> 58 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>60</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>62</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 63 <sub>W</sub> <b>64</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>66</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> 67 <sub>W</sub> 69 <sub>1</sub> 70 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 71 <sub>W</sub> ... 127 <sub>W</sub>
9	57 <sub>0</sub> <b>60</b> <sub>10</sub> 61 <sub>1</sub> <b>62</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>63</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>64</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>65</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>66</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>67</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <b>68</b> <sub>7+1</sub> <b>69</b> <sub>13,5</sub> <b>72</b> <sub>3</sub> <b>73</b> <sub>4</sub> 74 <sub>5+1</sub> 77 <sub>1</sub> <b>78</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>79</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>80</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>81</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>82</b> <sub>2</sub> 83 <sub>W</sub> <b>84</b> <sub>13,4</sub> <b>85</b> <sub>13,5</sub> 86 <sub>0</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>88</b> <sub>3</sub> 89 <sub>W</sub> 90 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>92</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>94</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 95 <sub>W</sub> <b>96</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>97</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>98</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>100</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> 101 <sub>W</sub> <b>102</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <sup>D</sup> 103 <sub>W</sub> <b>104</b> <sub>13,4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>105</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>106</b> <sub>13,5</sub> <sup>D</sup> 107 <sub>W</sub> <b>108</b> <sub>3</sub> 112 <sub>0</sub> <sup>D</sup> 113 <sub>W</sub> 114 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 116 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 117 <sub>W</sub> 119 <sub>W</sub> <b>120</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>124</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 125 <sub>W</sub> 126 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>128</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> 131 <sub>W</sub> <b>132</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> 133 <sub>1</sub> 134 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 135 <sub>W</sub> ... 255 <sub>W</sub>
10	89 <sub>0</sub> <b>91</b> <sub>12</sub> <b>92</b> <sub>10</sub> 93 <sub>1</sub> <b>94</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>95</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>96</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>97</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>98</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>99</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <b>100</b> <sub>7+1</sub> <b>101</b> <sub>13,5</sub> <b>104</b> <sub>3</sub> <b>105</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>106</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>107</b> <sub>8+2</sub> <b>108</b> <sub>7+1</sub> 114 <sub>0</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>120</b> <sub>10</sub> <sup>D</sup> 121 <sub>W</sub> 122 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>124</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>126</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>128</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>129</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>130</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>132</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>134</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <sup>D</sup> 135 <sub>W</sub> <b>136</b> <sub>7+1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>138</b> <sub>13,5</sub> <sup>D</sup> 141 <sub>1</sub> <b>142</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>143</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>144</b> <sub>3</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>145</b> <sub>8+4</sub> <b>146</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> 147 <sub>W</sub> <b>148</b> <sub>5+1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 149 <sub>W</sub> <b>152</b> <sub>3</sub> 153 <sub>W</sub> 154 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>156</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>158</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 159 <sub>W</sub> <b>160</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>162</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> 163 <sub>W</sub> <b>164</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> 165 <sub>W</sub> 166 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>168</b> <sub>13,4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>169</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>170</b> <sub>2</sub> 171 <sub>W</sub> 172 <sub>0</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>176</b> <sub>5</sub> <sup>D</sup> 177 <sub>W</sub> 178 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 180 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 183 <sub>W</sub> <b>184</b> <sub>5</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>188</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 189 <sub>W</sub> 190 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 191 <sub>W</sub> <b>192</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>194</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> 195 <sub>W</sub> <b>196</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>200</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> 201 <sub>W</sub> 202 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>204</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <sup>D</sup> 205 <sub>W</sub> 206 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 207 <sub>W</sub> <b>208</b> <sub>13,4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>210</b> <sub>4</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>212</b> <sub>3</sub> 213 <sub>W</sub> 214 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>216</b> <sub>3</sub> <sup>D</sup> 219 <sub>W</sub> 224 <sub>0</sub> <sup>D</sup> 225 <sub>W</sub> 226 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 228 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 231 <sub>W</sub> 232 <sub>1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 233 <sub>W</sub> 234 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 237 <sub>W</sub> 238 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> <b>240</b> <sub>2</sub> <sup>D</sup> 243 <sub>W</sub> 247 <sub>W</sub> <b>248</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <sup>D</sup> 249 <sub>W</sub> 250 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 252 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 255 <sub>W</sub> <b>256</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <sup>D</sup> 259 <sub>W</sub> 261 <sub>1</sub> 262 <sub>W</sub> <sup>D</sup> 263 <sub>W</sub> ... 511 <sub>W</sub>
11	117 <sub>0</sub> <b>121</b> <sub>11</sub> <b>123</b> <sub>12</sub> <b>124</b> <sub>10</sub> 125 <sub>1</sub> <b>126</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>127</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>128</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>129</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>130</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>131</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <b>132</b> <sub>7+1</sub> <b>133</b> <sub>13,5</sub> <b>136</b> <sub>3</sub> <b>137</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>138</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>139</b> <sub>8+2</sub> <b>140</b> <sub>5+2</sub>
12	181 <sub>0</sub> <b>185</b> <sub>11</sub> <b>187</b> <sub>12</sub> <b>188</b> <sub>10</sub> 189 <sub>1</sub> <b>190</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>191</b> <sub>13,1</sub> <b>192</b> <sub>13,2</sub> <b>193</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>194</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>195</b> <sub>13,3</sub> <b>196</b> <sub>7+1</sub> <b>197</b> <sub>13,5</sub> <b>200</b> <sub>3</sub> <b>201</b> <sub>4</sub> <b>202</b> <sub>2</sub> <b>203</b> <sub>8+2</sub> <b>204</b> <sub>5+2</sub>

#### 4.7. Tables of Sizes of Small Complete Caps

We give Table 2 with examples of sizes of caps obtained by known and new constructions. The subscripts  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12\}$  and  $13, j \in \{13, 1 \dots 13, 5\}$  indicate Construction  $Z_i$  and  $Z_{13,j}$ , respectively. Sizes of equation (1) have the subscript “1” as they can be generated by Construction  $Z_1$ . The subscripts “0” and “W” indicate, respectively, the known constructions of [9], see equation (2), and [14], see equation (3). Finally, the subscript of the form  $u + i$ ,  $u \in \{5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12\}$ , denotes Construction  $Z_u$  using a complete cap  $\mathbf{H}_0$  obtained with the help of Construction  $Z_i$ . The superscript “D” indicates the doubling construction used for the results defined by the subscript. Boldface notes sizes obtained by new constructions and doubling of these new sizes.

For  $n \leq 10$  Table 2 is filled in the following order. First, all sizes of equations (1)–(3) and applying DC to them are written. We denote  $A_W \dots B_W$  a region of sizes described in [14], see equation (3). Some sizes into such regions can be obtained also by DC. Then we consider the dimensions  $n$  in increasing order and

Table 3. The updated table of sizes of the known small complete caps in  $\text{PG}(n, 2)$ .

n	Sizes $k$ of the known complete caps with $k \leq 2^{n-1}$	References
10	$91 \leq k \leq 511$ , $k = 89$	[6, 9, 14],*
11	$123 \leq k \leq 1023$ , $k = 117, 121$	[6, 9, 14],*
12	$187 \leq k \leq 2047$ , $k = 181, 185$	[6, 9, 14],*

\* - results of this work

for fixed  $n$  we list sizes generated by Constructions  $Z_2$ – $Z_{12}$  and  $Z_{13,i}$ . Every new size obtained is written in Table 2 together with applying DC to it. If the same new size can be obtained by several Constructions  $Z_i$  we note only one construction. For  $n = 11, 12$  we give in Table 2 only relatively small sizes.

Using results written in Table 2 we can update Table 1 for  $n = 10, 11, 12$ , see Table 3.

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