

UPPER BOUNDS FOR PARTIAL SPREADS

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ABSTRACT. A *partial t -spread* in \mathbb{F}_q^n is a collection of t -dimensional subspaces with trivial intersection such that each non-zero vector is covered at most once. We present some improved upper bounds on the maximum sizes.

Keywords: Galois geometry, partial spreads, constant dimension codes, and vector space partitions

MSC: 51E23; 05B15, 05B40, 11T71, 94B25

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $q > 1$ be a prime power and n a positive integer. A *vector space partition* \mathcal{P} of \mathbb{F}_q^n is a collection of subspaces with the property that every non-zero vector is contained in a unique member of \mathcal{P} . If \mathcal{P} contains m_d subspaces of dimension d , then \mathcal{P} is of type $k^{m_k} \dots 1^{m_1}$. We may leave out some of the cases with $m_d = 0$. Subspaces of dimension 1 are called *holes*. If there is at least one non-hole, then \mathcal{P} is called non-trivial.

A *partial t -spread* in \mathbb{F}_q^n is a collection of t -dimensional subspaces such that the non-zero vectors are covered at most once, i.e., a vector space partition of type $t^{m_t} 1^{m_1}$. By $A_q(n, 2t; t)$ we denote the maximum value of m_t ¹. Writing $n = kt + r$, with $k, r \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $r \leq t - 1$, we can state that for $r \leq 1$ or $n \leq 2t$ the exact value of $A_q(n, 2t; t)$ was known for more than forty years [1]. Via a computer search the cases $A_2(3k + 2, 6; 3)$ were settled in 2010 by El-Zanati et al. [5]. In 2015 the case $q = r = 2$ was resolved by continuing the original approach of Beutelspacher [13], i.e., by *considering* the set of holes in $(n - 2)$ -dimensional subspaces and some averaging arguments. Very recently, Năstase and Sissokho found a very clear generalized averaging method for the number of holes in $(n - j)$ -dimensional subspaces, where $j \leq t - 2$, and general q , see [14]. Their Theorem 5 determines the exact values of $A_q(kt + r, 2t; t)$ in all cases where $t > \begin{bmatrix} r \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q := \frac{q^r - 1}{q - 1}$. Here, we streamline and generalize their approach leading to improved upper bounds on $A_q(n, 2t; t)$, c.f. [15].

2. SUBSPACES WITH THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOLES

Definition 2.1. A vector space partition \mathcal{P} of \mathbb{F}_q^n has *hole-type* (t, s, m_1) , if it is of type $t^{m_t} \dots s^{m_s} 1^{m_1}$, for some integers $n > t \geq s \geq 2$, $m_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$ for $i \in \{1, s, \dots, t\}$, and \mathcal{P} is non-trivial.

Lemma 2.2. (C.f. [14, Proof of Lemma 9].) *Let \mathcal{P} be a non-trivial vector space partition of \mathbb{F}_q^n of hole-type (t, s, m_1) and $l, x \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with $\sum_{i=s}^t m_i = lq^s + x$. $\mathcal{P}_H = \{U \cap H : U \in \mathcal{P}\}$ is a vector space partition of type $t^{m_t} \dots (s - 1)^{m'_{s-1}} 1^{m'_1}$, for a hyperplane H with \widehat{m}_1 holes (of \mathcal{P}). We have $\widehat{m}_1 \equiv \frac{m_1 + x - 1}{q} \pmod{q^{s-1}}$. If $s > 2$, then \mathcal{P}_H is non-trivial and $m'_1 = \widehat{m}_1$.*

PROOF. If $U \in \mathcal{P}$, then $\dim(U) - \dim(U \cap H) \in \{0, 1\}$ for an arbitrary hyperplane H . Since \mathcal{P} is non-trivial, we have $n \geq s$. For $s > 2$, counting the 1-dimensional subspaces of \mathbb{F}_q^n and H , via \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{P}_H , yields

$$(lq^s + x) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} s \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q + aq^s + m_1 = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q \quad \text{and} \quad (lq^s + x) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} s - 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q + a'q^{s-1} + \widehat{m}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} n - 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$$

for some $a, a' \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Since $1 + q \cdot \begin{bmatrix} n - 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q - \begin{bmatrix} n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q = 0$ we conclude $1 + q\widehat{m}_1 - m_1 - x \equiv 0 \pmod{q^s}$. Thus, $\mathbb{Z} \ni \widehat{m}_1 \equiv \frac{m_1 + x - 1}{q} \pmod{q^{s-1}}$. For $s = 2$ we have

$$(lq^2 + x) \cdot (q + 1) + aq^2 + m_1 = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q \quad \text{and} \quad (lq^2 + x) \cdot 1 + a'q + \widehat{m}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} n - 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$$

* The work of the author was supported by the ICT COST Action IC1104 and grant KU 2430/3-1 – Integer Linear Programming Models for Subspace Codes and Finite Geometry from the German Research Foundation.

¹The more general notation $A_q(n, 2t - 2w; t)$ denotes the maximum cardinality of a collection of t -dimensional subspaces, whose pairwise intersections have a dimension of at most w . Those objects are called *constant dimension codes*, see e.g. [6]. For known bounds, we refer to <http://subspacecodes.uni-bayreuth.de> [10] containing also the generalization to *subspace codes* of mixed dimension.

leading to the same conclusion $\widehat{m}_1 \equiv \frac{m_1+x-1}{q} \pmod{q^{s-1}}$. \square

Lemma 2.3. (Cf. [14, Proof of Lemma 9].) *Let \mathcal{P} be a vector space partition of \mathbb{F}_q^n of hole-type (t, s, m_1) , $l, x \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with $\sum_{i=s}^t m_i = lq^s + x$, and $b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $m_1 = bq^s + c \geq 1$. If $x \geq 1$, then there exists a hyperplane \widehat{H} with $\widehat{m}_1 = \widehat{b}q^{s-1} + \widehat{c}$ holes, where $\widehat{c} := \frac{c+x-1}{q} \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $b > \widehat{b} \in \mathbb{Z}$.*

PROOF. Apply Lemma 2.2 and observe $m_1 \equiv c \pmod{q^s}$. Let the number of holes in \widehat{H} be minimal. Then,

$$\widehat{m}_1 \leq \text{average number of holes per hyperplane} = m_1 \cdot \frac{\begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q}{\begin{bmatrix} n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q} < \frac{m_1}{q}. \quad (1)$$

Assuming $\widehat{b} \geq b$ yields $q\widehat{m}_1 \geq q \cdot (bq^{s-1} + \widehat{c}) = bq^s + c + x - 1 \geq m_1$, which contradicts Inequality (1). \square

Corollary 2.4. *Using the notation from Lemma 2.3, let \mathcal{P} be a non-trivial vector space partition with $x \geq 1$ and f be the largest integer such that q^f divides c . For each $0 \leq j \leq s - \max\{1, f\}$ there exists an $(n-j)$ -dimensional subspace U containing \widehat{m}_1 holes with $\widehat{m}_1 \equiv \widehat{c} \pmod{q^{s-j}}$ and $\widehat{m}_1 \leq (b-j) \cdot q^{s-j} + \widehat{c}$, where $\widehat{c} = \frac{c + \begin{bmatrix} j \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (x-1)}{q^j}$.*

Proof. Observe $\widehat{m}_1 \equiv c \not\equiv 0 \pmod{q^{s-j}}$, i.e., $\widehat{m}_1 \geq 1$, for all $j < s - f$. \square

Lemma 2.5. *Let \mathcal{P} be a non-trivial vector space partition of type $t^{m_t}1^{m_1}$ of \mathbb{F}_q^n with $m_t = lq^t + x$, where $l = \frac{q^{n-t}-q^r}{q^t-1}$, $x \geq 2$, $t = \begin{bmatrix} r \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q + 1 - z + u > r$, $q^f | x - 1$, $q^{f+1} \nmid x - 1$, and $f, u, z, r, x \in \mathbb{N}_0$. For $\max\{1, f\} \leq y \leq t$ there exists a $(n-t+y)$ -dimensional subspace U with $L \leq (z+y-1)q^y + w$ holes, where $w = -(x-1)\begin{bmatrix} y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$ and $L \equiv w \pmod{q^y}$.*

PROOF. Apply Corollary 2.4 with $s = t$, $j = t - y$, $b = \begin{bmatrix} r \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$, and $m_1 = \begin{bmatrix} r \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q q^t - \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (x-1)$. \square

Lemma 2.6. *Let \mathcal{P} be a vector space partition of \mathbb{F}_q^n with $c \geq 1$ holes and a_i denote the number of hyperplanes containing i holes. Then, $\sum_{i=0}^c a_i = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$, $\sum_{i=0}^c i a_i = c \cdot \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$ and $\sum_{i=0}^c i(i-1) a_i = c(c-1) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$.*

PROOF. Double-count the incidences of the tuples (H) , (B_1, H) , and (B_1, B_2, H) , where H is a hyperplane and $B_1 \neq B_2$ are points contained in H . \square

Lemma 2.7. *Let $\Delta = q^{s-1}$, $m \in \mathbb{Z}$, and \mathcal{P} be a vector space partition of \mathbb{F}_q^n of hole-type (t, s, c) . Then, $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \cdot \frac{q^{n-2}}{\Delta^2} - m(m-1) \geq 0$, where*

$$\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) = m(m-1)\Delta^2 q^2 - c(2m-1)(q-1)\Delta q + c(q-1)(c(q-1) + 1).$$

PROOF. Consider the three equations from Lemma 2.6. $(c - m\Delta)(c - (m-1)\Delta)$ times the first minus $(2c - (2m-1)\Delta - 1)$ times the second plus the third equation, and then divided by $\Delta^2/(q-1)$, gives

$$(q-1) \cdot \sum_{h=0}^{\lfloor c/\Delta \rfloor} (m-h)(m-h-1)a_{c-h\Delta} = \tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \cdot \frac{q^{n-2}}{\Delta^2} - m(m-1)$$

due to Lemma 2.2. Finally, we observe $a_i \geq 0$ and $(m-h)(m-h-1) \geq 0$ for all $m, h \in \mathbb{Z}$. \square

Lemma 2.8. *For integers $n > t \geq s \geq 2$ and $1 \leq i \leq s-1$, there exists no vector space partition \mathcal{P} of \mathbb{F}_q^n of hole-type (t, s, c) , where $c = i \cdot q^s - \begin{bmatrix} s \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q + s - 1$.²*

PROOF. Assume the contrary and apply Lemma 2.7 with $m = i(q-1)$. Setting $y = s-1-i$ and $\Delta = q^{s-1}$ we compute

$$\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) = -q\Delta(y(q-1) + 2) + (s-1)^2 q^2 - q(s-1)(2s-5) + (s-2)(s-3).$$

Using $y \geq 0$ we obtain $\tau_2(c, \Delta, m) \leq s^2 + s - 2^{s+1} < 0$. For $s = 2$, we have $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) = -q^2 + q < 0$ and for $q, s > 2$ we have $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \leq -2q^s + (s-1)^2 q^2 < 0$. Thus, Lemma 2.7 yields a contradiction. \square

²For more general non-existence results of vector space partitions see e.g. [9, Theorem 1] and the related literature.

Theorem 2.9. (C.f. [14, Lemma 10].) For integers $r \geq 1$, $k \geq 2$, $u \geq 0$, and $0 \leq z \leq \binom{r}{1}_q/2$ with $t = \binom{r}{1}_q + 1 - z + u > r$ we have $A_q(n, 2t; t) \leq lq^t + 1 + z(q-1)$, where $l = \frac{q^{n-t} - q^r}{q^t - 1}$ and $n = kt + r$.

PROOF. Apply Lemma 2.5 with $x = 2 + z(q-1)$ and $y = z + 1$. If $z = 0$, then $L < 0$. For $z \geq 1$, apply Lemma 2.8. Thus, $A_q(n, 2t; t) \leq lq^t + x - 1$. \square

The known constructions for partial t -spreads give $A_q(kt + r, 2t; t) \geq lq^t + 1$, see e.g. [1] (or [13] for an interpretation using the more general multilevel construction for subspace codes). Thus, Theorem 2.9 is tight for $t \geq \binom{r}{1}_q + 1$, c.f. [14, Theorem 5].

Theorem 2.10. (C.f. [15, Theorem 6,7].) For integers $r \geq 1$, $k \geq 2$, $y \geq \max\{r, 2\}$, $z \geq 0$ with $\lambda = q^y$, $y \leq t$, $t = \binom{r}{1}_q + 1 - z > r$, $n = kt + r$, and $l = \frac{q^{n-t} - q^r}{q^t - 1}$, we have

$$A_q(n, 2t; t) \leq lq^t + \left\lceil \lambda - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 + 4\lambda(\lambda - (z + y - 1)(q - 1) - 1)} \right\rceil.$$

PROOF. From Lemma 2.5 we conclude $L \leq (z + y - 1)q^y - (x - 1)\binom{y}{1}_q$ and $L \equiv -(x - 1)\binom{y}{1}_q \pmod{q^y}$ for the number of holes of a certain $(n - t + y)$ -dimensional subspace U of \mathbb{F}_q^n . $\mathcal{P}_U := \{P \cap U \mid P \in \mathcal{P}\}$ is of hole-type (t, y, L) if $y \geq 2$. Next, we will show that $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \leq 0$, where $\Delta = q^{y-1}$ and $c = iq^y - (x - 1)\binom{y}{1}_q$ with $1 \leq i \leq z + y - 1$, for suitable integers x and m . Note that, in order to apply Lemma 2.5, we have to satisfy $x \geq 2$ and $y \geq f$ for all integers f with $q^f \mid x - 1$. Applying Lemma 2.7 then gives the desired contradiction, so that $A_q(n, 2t; t) \leq lq^t + x - 1$.

We choose³ $m = i(q - 1) - (x - 1) + 1$, so that $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) = x^2 - (2\lambda + 1)x + \lambda(i(q - 1) + 2)$. Solving $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) = 0$ for x gives $x_0 = \lambda + \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}\theta(i)$, where $\theta(i) = \sqrt{1 - 4i\lambda(q - 1) + 4\lambda(\lambda - 1)}$. We have $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \leq 0$ for $|2x - 2\lambda - 1| \leq \theta(i)$. We need to find an integer $x \geq 2$ such that this inequality is satisfied for all $1 \leq i \leq z + y - 1$. The strongest restriction is attained for $i = z + y - 1$. Since $z + y - 1 \leq \binom{r}{1}_q$ and $u = q^y \geq q^r$, we have $\theta(i) \geq \theta(z + y - 1) \geq 1$, so that $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \leq 0$ for $x = \lceil u + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\theta(z + y - 1) \rceil$. (Observe $x \leq \lambda + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\theta(z + y - 1)$ due to $\theta(z + y - 1) \geq 1$.) Since $x \leq \lambda + 1$, we have $x - 1 \leq \lambda = q^y$, so that $q^f \mid x - 1$ implies $f \leq y$ provided $x \geq 2$. The latter is true due to $\theta(z + y - 1) \leq \sqrt{1 - 4\lambda(q - 1) + 4\lambda(\lambda - 1)} \leq \sqrt{1 + 4\lambda(\lambda - 2)} < 2(\lambda - 1)$, which implies $x \geq \lceil \frac{3}{2} \rceil = 2$.

So far we have constructed a suitable $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) \leq 0$ for $x = \lceil \lambda + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\theta(z + y - 1) \rceil$. If $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) < 0$, then Lemma 2.7 gives a contradiction, so that we assume $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) = 0$ in the following. If $i < z + y - 1$ we have $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m) < 0$ due to $\theta(i) > \theta(z + y - 1)$, so that we assume $i = z + y - 1$. Thus, $\theta(z + y - 1) \in \mathbb{N}_0$. However, we can write $\theta(z + y - 1)^2 = 1 + 4\lambda(\lambda - (z + y - 1)(q - 1) - 1) = (2w - 1)^2 = 1 + 4w(w - 1)$ for some integer w . If $w \notin \{0, 1\}$, then $\gcd(w, w - 1) = 1$, so that either $\lambda = q^y \mid w$ or $\lambda = q^y \mid w - 1$. Thus, in any case, $w \geq q^y$, which is impossible since $(z + y - 1)(q - 1) \geq 1$. Finally, $w \in \{0, 1\}$ implies $w(w - 1) = 0$, so that $\lambda - (z + y - 1)(q - 1) - 1 = 0$. Thus, $z + y - 1 = \binom{y}{1}_q \geq \binom{r}{1}_q$ since $y \geq r$. The assumptions $y \leq t$ and $t = \binom{r}{1}_q + 1 - z$ imply $z + y - 1 = \binom{r}{1}_q$ and $y = r$. This gives $t = r$, which is excluded. \square

Setting $y = t$ in Theorem 2.10 yields [4, Corollary 8], which is based on [3, Theorem 1B]. And indeed, our analysis is very similar to the technique⁴ used in [3]. Compared to [3, 4], the new ingredients essentially are lemmas 2.2 and 2.3, see also [14, Proof of Lemma 9]. [4, Corollary 8], e.g., gives $A_2(15, 12; 6) \leq 516$, $A_2(17, 14; 7) \leq 1028$, and $A_9(18, 16; 8) \leq 3486784442$, while Theorem 2.10 gives $A_2(15, 12; 6) \leq 515$, $A_2(17, 14; 7) \leq 1026$, and $A_9(18, 16; 8) \leq 3486784420$. Postponing the details and proofs to a more extensive and technical paper [12], we state:

- $2^4l + 1 \leq A_2(4k + 3, 8; 4) \leq 2^4l + 4$, where $l = \frac{2^{4k-1} - 2^3}{2^4 - 1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_2(11, 8; 4) \leq 132$;
- $2^6l + 1 \leq A_2(6k + 4, 12; 6) \leq 2^6l + 8$, where $l = \frac{2^{6k-2} - 2^4}{2^6 - 1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_2(16, 12; 6) \leq 1032$;
- $2^6l + 1 \leq A_2(6k + 5, 12; 6) \leq 2^6l + 18$, where $l = \frac{2^{6k-1} - 2^5}{2^6 - 1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_2(17, 12; 6) \leq 2066$;
- $3^4l + 1 \leq A_3(4k + 3, 8; 4) \leq 3^4l + 14$, where $l = \frac{3^{4k-1} - 3^3}{3^4 - 1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_3(11, 8; 4) \leq 2201$;

³ Solving $\frac{\partial \tau_q(c, \Delta, m)}{\partial m} = 0$, i.e., minimizing $\tau_q(c, \Delta, m)$, yields $m = i(q - 1) - (x - 1) + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{x-1}{q^y}$. For $y \geq r$ we can assume $x - 1 < q^y$ due the known constructions for partial spreads, so that up-rounding yields the optimum integer choice. For $y < r$ the interval $[u + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\theta(i), u + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\theta(i)]$ may contain no integer.

⁴ Actually, their analysis grounds on [16] and is strongly related to the classical second-order Bonferroni Inequality [2, 7, 8] in Probability Theory, see e.g. [11, Section 2.5] for another application for bounds on subspace codes.

- $3^5l + 1 \leq A_3(5k + 3, 10; 5) \leq 3^5l + 13$, where $l = \frac{3^{5k-2}-3^5}{3^3-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_3(13, 10; 5) \leq 6574$;
- $3^5l + 1 \leq A_3(5k + 4, 10; 5) \leq 3^5l + 44$, where $l = \frac{3^{5k-1}-3^4}{3^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_3(14, 10; 5) \leq 19727$;
- $3^6l + 1 \leq A_3(6k + 4, 12; 6) \leq 3^6l + 41$, where $l = \frac{3^{6k-2}-3^4}{3^6-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_3(16, 12; 6) \leq 59090$;
- $3^6l + 1 \leq A_3(6k + 5, 12; 6) \leq 3^6l + 133$, where $l = \frac{3^{6k-1}-3^5}{3^6-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_3(17, 12; 6) \leq 177280$;
- $3^7l + 1 \leq A_3(7k + 4, 14; 7) \leq 3^7l + 40$, where $l = \frac{3^{7k-3}-3^4}{3^7-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_3(18, 14; 7) \leq 177187$;
- $4^5l + 1 \leq A_4(5k + 3, 10; 5) \leq 4^5l + 32$, where $l = \frac{4^{5k-2}-4^3}{4^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_4(13, 10; 5) \leq 65568$;
- $4^6l + 1 \leq A_4(6k + 3, 12; 6) \leq 4^6l + 30$, where $l = \frac{4^{6k-3}-4^3}{4^6-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_4(15, 12; 6) \leq 262174$;
- $4^6l + 1 \leq A_4(6k + 5, 12; 6) \leq 4^6l + 548$, where $l = \frac{4^{6k-1}-4^5}{4^6-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_4(17, 12; 6) \leq 4194852$;
- $4^7l + 1 \leq A_4(7k + 4, 14; 7) \leq 4^7l + 128$, where $l = \frac{4^{7k-3}-4^4}{4^7-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_4(18, 14; 7) \leq 4194432$;
- $5^5l + 1 \leq A_5(5k + 2, 10; 5) \leq 5^5l + 7$, where $l = \frac{5^{5k-3}-5^2}{5^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_5(12, 10; 5) \leq 78132$;
- $5^5l + 1 \leq A_5(5k + 4, 10; 5) \leq 5^5l + 329$, where $l = \frac{5^{5k-1}-5^4}{5^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_5(14, 10; 5) \leq 1953454$;
- $7^5l + 1 \leq A_7(5k + 4, 10; 5) \leq 7^5l + 1246$, where $l = \frac{7^{5k-1}-7^2}{7^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_7(14, 10; 5) \leq 40354853$;
- $8^4l + 1 \leq A_8(4k + 3, 8; 4) \leq 8^4l + 264$, where $l = \frac{8^{4k-1}-8^3}{8^4-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_8(11, 8; 4) \leq 2097416$;
- $8^5l + 1 \leq A_8(5k + 2, 10; 5) \leq 8^5l + 25$, where $l = \frac{8^{5k-3}-8^2}{8^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_8(12, 10; 5) \leq 2097177$;
- $8^6l + 1 \leq A_8(6k + 2, 12; 6) \leq 8^6l + 21$, where $l = \frac{8^{6k-4}-8^2}{8^6-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_8(14, 12; 6) \leq 16777237$;
- $9^3l + 1 \leq A_9(3k + 2, 6; 3) \leq 9^3l + 41$, where $l = \frac{9^{3k-1}-9^2}{9^3-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_9(8, 6; 3) \leq 59090$;
- $9^5l + 1 \leq A_9(5k + 3, 10; 5) \leq 9^5l + 365$, where $l = \frac{9^{5k-2}-9^3}{9^5-1}$ and $k \geq 2$, e.g., $A_9(13, 10; 5) \leq 43047086$;

c.f. the web-page mentioned in footnote 1 for more numerical values and comparisons of the different upper bounds.

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