Self-dual codes of length 56 with an automorphism of order 5 and self-orthogonal 3-(56, 12, 65) designs

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Abstract. We apply a method for constructing binary self-dual codes possessing an automorphism of odd prime order p from [1] and [2]. Using this method we give full classification of optimal binary self-dual [56, 28, 12] codes having an automorphism of order 5 with 10 cycles and 6 fixed points.

The main idea of the method is to decompose the binary self-dual code Cinto a direct sum of two subcodes. The first subcode $F_{\sigma}(C)$ is the so called "fixed subcode" consisting of all codewords invariant under the action of the automorphism. The second $E_{\sigma}(C)$ (the "even subcode") contains all vectors from the code that have even weight on all cycles and zeroes on the fixed points.

In order to construct binary self-dual codes with an automorphism of order 5 having 10 cycles we construct all possible generator matrices for E_{σ} . It turns out that there are exactly 56 generator matrices, named H_i , i = 1..., 56. Using H_i we prove that there does not exist singly-even self-dual [56, 28, 12] code possessing an automorphism of order 5. Thus by [3, Corollary 1] and [4, Table 3] we prove that there does not exist a singly-even self-dual [56, 28, 12] code with an automorphism of odd prime order p > 3.

Next we examine the case of the doubly-even self-dual [56, 28, 12] codes. After finding all possibilities for the subcode F_{σ} we need to attach the two subcodes. To easily do that assume that E_{σ} is fixed and we use the right transversal of the symmetric group S_{10} with respect to the automorphism group of F_{σ} . Also since we looking for optimal codes we need to find only codes with minimum distance d = 12. Finally, we need to sort the codes for equivalence. It turns out that there are exactly 3763 inequivalent doubly-even self-dual [56, 28, 12] codes having an automorphism of order 5. In [5] exactly 1151 inequivalent such codes are described. One of these codes have an automorphism of order 7 and none of order 5. Thus all 1151 constructed codes are new. Since every code have an automorphism of order 5 it is easy to describe such a code using just a permutation for F_{σ} and H_i , $i = 1, \ldots, 56$ for the generators of E_{σ} .

There are also 4202 inequivalent binary doubly-even [56, 28, 12] self-dual

codes having an automorphism of type 7 - (8, 0) (see [3]). None of these codes have an automorphism of order 5 and thus we have that there exist at least 9115 inequivalent doubly-even self-dual [56, 28, 12] codes.

In [5] it was proved that any binary doubly-even [56, 28, 12] self-dual codes generates a self-orthogonal 3 - (56, 12, 65) design with block intersection numbers 0, 2, 4, 6. Two inequivalent extremal doubly-even self-dual codes of length 56 give two non-isomorphic self-orthogonal 3 - (56, 12, 65) designs. So we prove that there are at least 9115 inequivalent self-orthogonal 3 - (56, 12, 65) designs with block intersection numbers 0, 2, 4, 6.

For computing the automorphism groups of the codes and for checking code isomorphism we use the computer algebra system Q-extension by Iliya Bouyukliev [6]. For finding right cosets and right transversals we use the system for computational discrete algebra GAP v.4.4 [7]. All assembling of the codes F_{σ} and E_{σ} as well as the optimality check was done by the author using the programming language Delphi.

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