

## Some new quasi-cyclic self dual codes

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we study the construction of quasi-cyclic self-dual codes, especially of binary cubic ones. We consider binary quasi-cyclic codes of length  $3\ell$  with the algebraic approach of [7]. In particular, we improve the previous results, by constructing 7 new binary cubic self-dual codes. We also complete the classification of [54, 27, 10] binary cubic self-dual codes up to a conjecture.

### 1 Introduction

A  $q$ -ary linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  is a linear subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  has dimension  $k$ , then  $\mathcal{C}$  is called an  $[n, k]$  linear code. The minimum (Hamming) distance  $d(\mathcal{C})$  is the minimum number of distinct coordinates between any pair of distinct codewords in  $\mathcal{C}$ . The (Hamming) weight  $w(c)$  of a codeword  $c$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is defined to be the number of non-zero entries of  $c$ . For a linear code, we have that  $d(\mathcal{C}) = w(\mathcal{C})$ . Two codes are said to be equivalent up to permutation if they differ only in the order of their coordinates. The (Hamming) weight enumerator of the code  $\mathcal{C}$  is defined to be  $W_{\mathcal{C}}(y) = \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} y^{wt(c)} = \sum_{i=0}^n A_i y^i$ , where  $A_i$  is the number of vectors of the code  $\mathcal{C}$  having Hamming weight  $i$ .

We can define the **dual** of a code  $\mathcal{C}$  to be  $\mathcal{C}^{\perp} = \{u \in \mathbb{F}_q^n : (u, v) = 0 \text{ for all } v \in \mathcal{C}\}$ . Here the inner product is the standard (Euclidean) inner product.  $\mathcal{C}$  is **self-dual** if  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{\perp}$ . If a code  $\mathcal{C}$  of length  $n$  is self-dual, then  $n$  must be even; and  $\mathcal{C}$  is a subspace of dimension  $n/2$ .

If  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathbb{F}_2^n$  is a binary self-dual code, then the weight of all codewords must be even. The binary self-dual codes in which there is at least one codeword with weight not divisible by 4 are called **Type I** or **singly-even** self-dual binary codes. Otherwise, the binary self-dual codes are called **Type II** or **doubly-**

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even self-dual binary codes.

In this paper, we consider the algebraic approach of [7] for constructing cubic self-dual binary codes. In the literature, there are only seven cubic binary self-dual [54, 27, 10] inequivalent codes up to permutation (see [5]). The method they used was their building-up construction [5, Theorem 2.2]. We construct seven new cubic binary self-dual [54, 27, 10] inequivalent codes up to permutation. In Remark 4.2, we conjecture that these 14 codes are all cubic binary self-dual [54, 27, 10] inequivalent codes up to permutation.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: In Sections 2 and 3 we give some background. We present our results in Section 4.

## 2 Quasi-Cyclic Codes

Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field and  $m$  be a positive integer coprime with the characteristic of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . A linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  of length  $\ell m$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is called **quasi-cyclic code** if the codeword  $(c_{0,0}, \dots, c_{0,\ell-1}, c_{1,0}, \dots, c_{1,\ell-1}, \dots, c_{m-1,0}, \dots, c_{m-1,\ell-1}) \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $(c_{m-1,0}, \dots, c_{m-1,\ell-1}, c_{0,0}, \dots, c_{0,\ell-1}, \dots, c_{m-2,0}, \dots, c_{m-2,\ell-1}) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

This code is invariant under  $\ell$ -shift and such codes are called as  **$\ell$ -quasi-cyclic codes** or **quasi-cyclic codes of index  $\ell$** . The quasi-cyclic codes are the generalization of cyclic codes. Cyclic codes correspond to the case  $\ell = 1$ .

### 2.1 1-1 correspondence:

Let  $\mathbb{F}_q[Y]$  denote the polynomial ring over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Consider the ring  $\mathcal{R} := \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{F}_q, m) = \mathbb{F}_q[Y]/(Y^m - 1)$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $\ell$ -quasi-cyclic code over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of length  $\ell m$  and let  $c = (c_{0,0}, \dots, c_{0,\ell-1}, c_{1,0}, \dots, c_{1,\ell-1}, \dots, c_{m-1,0}, \dots, c_{m-1,\ell-1})$  denote a codeword in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Define a map  $\phi : \mathbb{F}_q^{\ell m} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^\ell$  by

$$\phi(c) = (c_0(Y), c_1(Y), \dots, c_{\ell-1}(Y)) \in \mathcal{R}^\ell$$

where  $c_j(Y) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} c_{ij} Y^i \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $j = 0, \dots, \ell - 1$ .

A linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  of length  $n$  over  $\mathcal{R}$  is defined to be a  $\mathcal{R}$ -submodule of  $\mathcal{R}^n$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** (see [7]) *The map  $\phi$  gives a one-to-one correspondence between  $\ell$ -quasi-cyclic codes over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of length  $\ell m$  and linear codes over  $\mathcal{R}$  of length  $\ell$ .*

### 2.2 Existence of Self-Dual Codes

In [5], it is proved that there exist self-dual binary codes of length  $\ell$  over  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{F}_2, m) = \mathbb{F}_2[Y]/(Y^m - 1)$  if and only if  $2 \mid \ell$ . For binary  $\ell$ -quasi-cyclic self-dual codes of length  $\ell m$ , if  $m$  is a prime not dividing  $i$ , then  $m$  must divide

$A_i$ , the number of codeword with Hamming weight  $i$ . This gives the possible weight enumerators of self-dual codes of a given length.

### 3 Ring Decomposition

Let  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{F}_q, m) = \mathbb{F}_q[Y]/(Y^m - 1)$ . If  $\gcd(m, q) = 1$ , then the ring can be decomposed into a direct sum of fields by Chinese remainder theorem (CRT) or discrete Fourier transform (DFT) [7]. By this approach, the quasi-cyclic codes can be decomposed into codes of lower lengths. The polynomial  $Y^m - 1$  factors completely into distinct irreducible factors in  $\mathbb{F}_q[Y]$  as

$$Y^m - 1 = \delta g_1 \dots g_s h_1 h_1^* \dots h_t h_t^* \quad (1)$$

where  $\delta$  is nonzero in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ,  $g_1 \dots g_s$  are the polynomials which are self-reciprocal, and  $h_i^*$ 's are reciprocals of  $h_i$ 's, for all  $1 \leq i \leq t$ . Then the ring  $\mathcal{R}$  can be written by CRT [7] as

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\mathbb{F}_q[Y]}{(Y^m - 1)} = \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \frac{\mathbb{F}_q[Y]}{(g_i)} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{j=1}^t \left( \frac{\mathbb{F}_q[Y]}{(h_j)} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{F}_q[Y]}{(h_j^*)} \right) \right). \quad (2)$$

Let  $\mathbb{F}_q[Y]/(g_i)$  be denoted by  $G_i$ , and in the same way  $\mathbb{F}_q[Y]/(h_j)$  by  $H_j'$  and  $\mathbb{F}_q[Y]/(h_j^*)$  by  $H_j''$  for simplicity of notation. Every  $\mathcal{R}$ -linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  of length  $\ell$  can be decomposed as the direct sum

$$\mathcal{C} = \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathcal{C}_i \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{j=1}^t (\mathcal{C}_j' \oplus \mathcal{C}_j'') \right)$$

where  $\mathcal{C}_i$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_j'$  and  $\mathcal{C}_j''$  are linear codes over  $G_i$ ,  $H_j'$  and  $H_j''$ , respectively, all of length  $\ell$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , and for each  $1 \leq j \leq t$ .

Let  $x = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{\ell-1})$  and  $y = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{\ell-1})$ . Here, for  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , the Hermitian inner product of  $x$  and  $y$  with  $x_i$ 's,  $y_i$ 's  $\in G_i$  is defined in the sense used in [7, Section IV], which corresponds to the classical meaning of Hermitian product for  $m = 3$  and  $q = 2$ , as  $\langle x, y \rangle = x_0 y_0^{m-1} + \dots + x_{\ell-1} y_{\ell-1}^{m-1}$ . Moreover, for  $1 \leq i \leq t$ , the Euclidean inner product of  $x$  and  $y$  with  $x_i$ 's,  $y_i$ 's  $\in H_j'$  is defined as  $x \cdot y = x_0 y_0 + \dots + x_{\ell-1} y_{\ell-1}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** (see [7]) *An  $\ell$ -quasi-cyclic code  $\mathcal{C}$  of length  $\ell m$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is self-dual if and only if*

$$\mathcal{C} = \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathcal{C}_i \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{j=1}^t (\mathcal{C}_j' \oplus (\mathcal{C}_j')^\perp) \right)$$

where, for  $1 \leq i \leq s$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_i$  is a self-dual code over  $G_i$  of length  $\ell$  with respect to the Hermitian inner product and for  $1 \leq j \leq t$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_j'$  is a linear code of length

$\ell$  over  $H'_j$  and  $(\mathcal{C}')^\perp$  is its dual with respect to the Euclidean inner product as defined above.

## 4 Cubic Self-Dual Binary Codes

There are some construction methods for combining codes to get new codes with greater length for different values of  $q$ ,  $m$  and  $\ell$  (see for example [1]).

In this work, we focus on the case  $q = 2$  and  $m = 3$ , so called **binary cubic codes**. We use a cubic construction in [1] and [7] to find new codes.

Since  $Y^2 + Y + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{F}_2[Y]$ , we can write  $Y^3 - 1 = (Y - 1)(Y^2 + Y + 1)$  as a product of irreducible factors. By (2),  $\mathcal{R}$  can be decomposed as

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[Y]}{(Y^3 - 1)} = \mathbb{F}_2 \oplus \mathbb{F}_{2^2}.$$

This gives a correspondence between the  $\ell$ -quasi-cyclic codes  $\mathcal{C}$  of length  $3\ell$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  and a pair  $(\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2)$ , where  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is a linear code over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  of length  $\ell$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$  is a linear code over  $F_4$  of length  $\ell$ . Using the discrete Fourier transform [7], we have

$$\mathcal{C} = \{ (x + b \mid x + a \mid x + a + b) \mid x \in \mathcal{C}_1, a + \omega b \in \mathcal{C}_2 \} \quad (3)$$

where  $\omega^2 + \omega + 1 = 0$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{C}$  is self-dual if and only if  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is self-dual with respect to the Euclidean inner product and  $\mathcal{C}_2$  is self-dual with respect to the Hermitian inner product.

**In [7], it is shown that all such codes can be obtained by this method, from a binary code over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  and a quaternary code over  $\mathbb{F}_4$  both of length  $\ell$ .** Cubic binary codes of length  $3\ell$  are viewed as codes of length  $\ell$  over the ring  $\mathbb{F}_2 \times \mathbb{F}_{2^2}$  [1].

The authors of [3] and [5] completed the classification of binary cubic self-dual codes of lengths up to 48 (up to permutation equivalence) by their building-up construction (see [5, Theorem 2.2]). The numbers of cubic self-dual codes are given in [5] as follows:

- (i) for  $\ell = 2$ , unique binary cubic self-dual code of length 6,
- (ii) for  $\ell = 4$ , 2 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 12,
- (iii) for  $\ell = 6$ , 3 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 18,
- (iv) for  $\ell = 8$ , 16 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 24,

- (v) for  $\ell = 10$ , 8 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 30,
- (vi) for  $\ell = 12$ , 13 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 36,
- (vii) for  $\ell = 14$ , 1569 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 42,
- (viii) for  $\ell = 16$ , 264 binary cubic self-dual codes of length 48.

**The shortest length of binary cubic self-dual codes for which the classification is not completed, and the focus of this study, is  $\ell = 18$ . The number of inequivalent codes that were found in [5] is 7. In this paper, we find 7 more such codes by the cubic construction (3).**

For self-dual  $[54, 27, 10]$  codes, there are two weight enumerators [4]:

$$\begin{aligned} W_1 &= 1 + (351 - 8\beta)y^{10} + (5031 + 24\beta)y^{12} + (48492 + 32\beta)y^{14} + \dots & 0 \leq \beta \leq 43 \\ W_2 &= 1 + (351 - 8\beta)y^{10} + (5543 + 24\beta)y^{12} + (43884 + 32\beta)y^{14} + \dots & 12 \leq \beta \leq 43. \end{aligned}$$

In [5], by building-up construction, four inequivalent codes with  $W_1$  for  $\beta = 0, 3, 6, 9$  and three inequivalent codes with  $W_2$  for  $\beta = 12, 15, 18$  are found.

By the construction (3), binary codes  $\mathcal{C}$  of length 54 are formed from a binary code  $\mathcal{C}_1$  of length 18 and a quaternary code  $\mathcal{C}_2$  of length 18. Let  $A, B$  and  $X$  be binary vectors of length 18 and write  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \mathbb{F}_2(\omega)$ , where  $\omega^2 + \omega + 1 = 0$ . We can define a Gray map from  $\mathbb{F}_2^{18} \times \mathbb{F}_4^{18} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^{54}$  as

$$\phi(X, A + \omega B) = (X + A \mid X + B \mid X + A + B) = \mathcal{C} = \phi(\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2). \quad (4)$$

For  $\ell = 18$ , by this construction, we found four  $[54, 27, 10]$  codes with weight enumerator  $W_1$  for  $\beta = 12, 15, 18, 21$  and three  $[54, 27, 10]$  codes with weight enumerator  $W_2$  for  $\beta = 21, 24, 27$  by taking  $\mathcal{C}_1 = H_{18}, I_{18}$  (the only  $[18, 9, 4]$  self-dual binary codes listed in [8]) and  $\mathcal{C}_2 = A_{18}, B_{18}$  ( $18^{th}$  and  $38^{th}$   $[18, 9, 6]$  self-dual quaternary codes taken from [6]).

Throughout this work, we extensively used the Computational Algebra System MAGMA [2].

**Remark 4.1.** These  $[54, 27, 10]$  codes are of Type II 18 quasi-cyclic self-dual codes of length 54 since their binary components  $H_{18}$  and  $I_{18}$  are of Type II and self-dual with respect to the Euclidean inner product.

**Remark 4.2.** It is known that there are 9 binary  $[18, 9]$  self-dual (with  $d = 2, 4$ ) and 245 quaternary codes (with  $d = 6, 8$ ) listed in [6]. We tried all possible binary and quaternary self-dual codes with a huge number of permutation in our construction method to find more codes. Based on computational evidence, we conjecture that there is no other  $[54, 27, 10]$  self-dual cubic code over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

Our computational results, with  $\beta$  a multiple of 3, are listed above:

	Possible values	Known values [5]	New values, Thm.3	Conjecture, Rk.4.2
$W_1$	$0 \leq \beta \leq 43$	$\beta \in \{0, 3, 6, 9\}$	$\beta \in \{12, 15, 18, 21\}$	$\beta \notin \{24, \dots, 42\}$
$W_2$	$12 \leq \beta \leq 43$	$\beta \in \{12, 15, 18\}$	$\beta \in \{21, 24, 27\}$	$\beta \notin \{30, \dots, 42\}$

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