

# The [72,36] Type II Self Dual Codes from Hadamard Matrices

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## Abstract

Consider a code  $[n,k,d]$  of length  $n$ , dimension  $k$  and of minimum distance  $d$ . Let  $R$  be a rate defined by the equation  $R = k/n$ . Mathematically, the main problem of coding theory is to find codes with large  $R$  (for efficiency) and large  $d$  (to correct many errors). This paper discusses the binary  $[72,36]$  code constructed from Hadamard matrices.

**Keywords:** code, self-dual, Hadamard matrices, doubly even, weight enumerator, minimum distance

## Introduction

Coding theory began in the late 1940's with the works of Golay (1949), Hamming (1950) and Shannon (1948). Codes were invented to correct errors on noisy communication channels. Suppose there is a telegraph wire from Manila to Davao down which 0's and 1's can be sent. Usually, when a 0 is sent the same number is received. But there are cases that a 0 will be received 1 or vice versa. When the message sent does not coincide with the message received, we say that an error has occurred during the transmission. Thus, the main problem of coding theory is to correct such errors.

We now define some basic concepts about codes. A *binary linear code* is defined as a subspace of the vector space  $F_2^n$  over  $GF(2)$ , the Galois field whose elements are 0 and 1. Let  $v = v_1, v_2, \dots$ , where  $v_i$  are either 0 or 1 for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . An element  $v$  of  $[n, k]$  is called a *codeword*. Denote  $[n, k]$  as a code of length  $n$  and dimension  $k$ . The *hamming weight* of a codeword  $v$  denoted by  $wt(v)$  is the number of nonzero coordinates of  $v$ . Consider  $v = v_1, v_2, \dots$ , and  $w = w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ . The hamming distance  $d(v, w)$  between 2 codewords  $v$  and  $w$  is the number of  $i$ 's where  $w_i$  is not equal to  $v_i$ . The *minimum distance*  $d$  of a linear code  $[n, k]$  is the minimum weight of a nonzero codeword. This time, we denote our linear code as the inner product between  $v$  and  $w$  is defined as

$$(v, w) = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i w_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (v, w) \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 1 & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $(v, w) = 0$ , we say that our codewords are *orthogonal*. For all  $v$  in  $[n, k, d]$ , the set of all vectors  $w$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$  which are orthogonal to  $v$  forms the *dual* of the code  $[n, k, d]$  and is denoted by  $[n, k, d]'$ . If  $[n, k, d]$  is a subset of  $[n, k, d]'$ , we say that our linear code is *self-orthogonal*. In particular, if  $[n, k, d] = [n, k, d]'$ , then our linear code is said to be *self-dual*. We focus our study on self-dual codes as such codes have interesting properties. There are two types of self-dual codes namely: *singly-even* or type I if and only if the weight of all its codewords are divisible by two and; *doubly-even* or type II if and only if the weight of all its codewords is divisible by four.

A famous theorem by Mallows and Sloane (1973) gives us the bound for the minimum distance  $d$  of a code.

**Theorem 1:** Let  $[n, k, d]$  be type II binary linear code. Then

$$d \leq 4 \lfloor n/24 \rfloor + 4.$$

Note: We read  $\lfloor n/24 \rfloor$  as the greatest integer of  $(n \text{ divided by } 24)$ .

If equality is attained in the above theorem, such code is said to be *extremal*. Another important invariant of a code is the weight *enumerator*. The weight enumerator of a code  $C$  is a polynomial in  $x$  and  $y$  defined as follows:

$$W_C(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^n A_i x^{n-i} y^i,$$

where  $A_i$  denotes the number of codewords of weight  $i$ .

The following is a famous theorem by MacWilliams (1963) relating the weight enumerator of code  $C$  with its dual  $C'$ .

**Theorem 2:**  $W_{C'}(x, y) = (1/1c1) W_C(x+y, x-y)$

We also define the generator matrix  $G$  as a matrix whose rows are base vectors of  $C$ , (i.e.,  $G$  generates the code  $C$ ).

### Methodology

In this section, we will discuss some concepts of Hadamard matrices and a method of constructing  $[72,36]$  codes.

### Hadamard Matrix

A *hadamard matrix*  $H_n$  of order  $n$  is defined to be a square matrix of order  $n$ , whose entries consist of 1 's and -1 's, satisfying

$$H_n H_n^t = I_n$$

where  $H_n^t$  is the transpose of  $H_n$  and  $I_n$  is the *identity matrix* of order  $n$ . We will use Ozeki's (1987) definition of a normalized hadamard matrix,  $NH_n$ . A hadamard matrix of the form,

is said to be normalized *hadamard matrix* and will be denoted as  $NH_n$ . In other words,  $NH_n$  is a hadamard matrix whose first row and first column entries are all 1, except for the first entry which is -1. here are some known facts about hadamard matrices.

1. Hadamard matrices  $H_n$  exists only when  $n = 2$  or  $n$  is a multiple of 4.
2. Two hadamard matrices  $H_n^{(1)}$  and  $H_n^{(2)}$  of the same order  $n$  are said to be Hadamard equivalent (or *H-equivalent*) if  $H_n^{(2)}$  is obtained from  $H_n^{(1)}$  by a sequence of operations of
  - (i) exchanging two rows (columns) of  $H_n$  or
  - (ii) multiplying some rows (or columns) of  $H_n^{(1)}$  by -1.

3. Every hadamard matrix  $H_n$  is equivalent to a normalized hadamard matrix  $NH_n$ .

**The Construction**

We now discuss our method of constructing codes from the normalized hadamard matrices. Note that this construction was introduced by Ozeki (1987).

Consider  $H_n$ ,  $n \equiv 4 \pmod 8$ . Transform such matrix to its normalized form (being assured that this is possible in no. 3 property),  $NH_n$ . Let  $J_n$  be a square matrix of order  $n$  whose entries are all 1. We put

$$K_n = 1/2(NH_n + J_n)$$

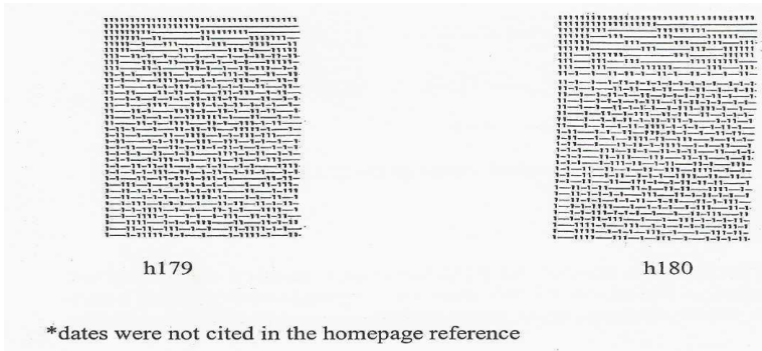
Obviously, the new matrix  $K_n$  is a (0,1) matrix. Let  $C_n (I_n, K_n)$  be the  $n \times 2n$  matrix formed by the juxtaposition of  $I_n$  and  $K_n$ . The following theorems by Ozeki (1987) assure us that  $C_n$  is a generator matrix of a code  $C_{2n} = C(NH_n)$  with parameters  $[2n, n]$ .

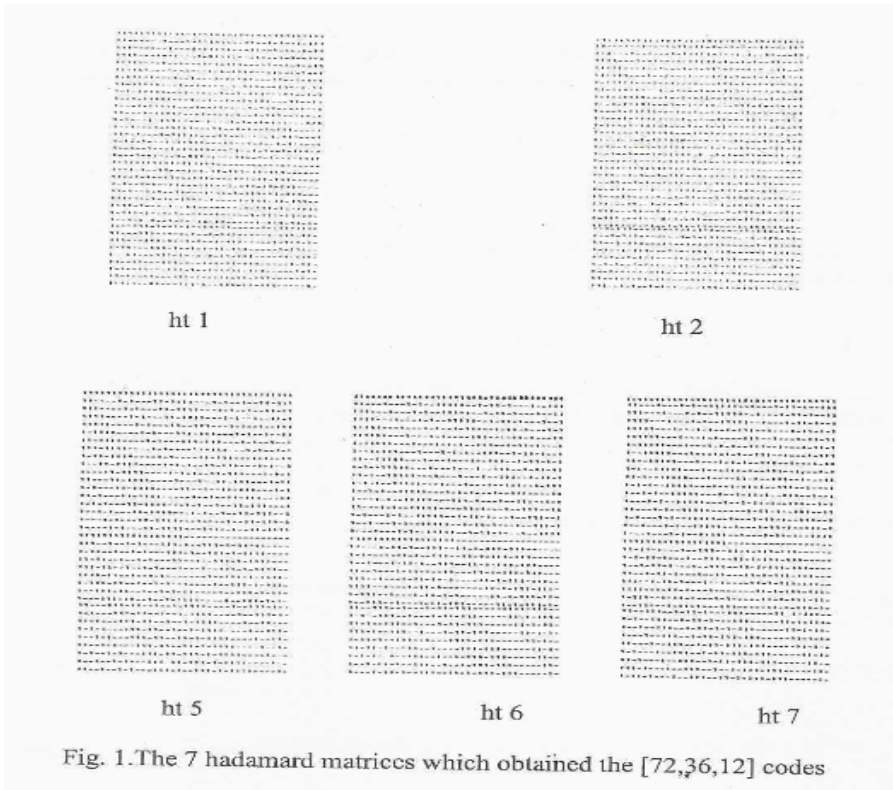
Theorem 4: Assume  $n \equiv 4 \pmod 8$ . Suppose  $NH_n^{(1)}$  and  $NH_n^{(2)}$  are two normalized and H-equivalent hadamard matrices of order  $n$ . Then the codes  $C(NH_n^{(1)})$  and  $C(NH_n^{(2)})$  are equivalent.

For a particular  $n$ , we worked on the hadamard matrices of order 36 and obtain the (72, 36) code. Hadamard matrices of order 36 are not yet completely classified thus the existing ones found in Seberry’s homepage (<http://www.uow.edu.au/~jennie/hadamard.html>). There are 191 existing H36 in which 11 of them were enumerated by Tonchev (1986), 1 by Janko\* and the rest were from Spence\*.

**Results and Discussion**

Constructions and computations of the 191 codes from hadamard matrices were done with the help of the computer software, MAGMA. We also obtained 191 type II self-dual linear codes and computed their respective minimum distance  $d$ . Out of the 191 codes, 7 of them are [72,36,12] type II codes and the rest are [72,36,8] type II codes. Figure 1 shows the 7 hadamard matrices which obtained the [72,36, 12] codes.





### The Weight Enumerator

If extremality is attained for a  $[72,36]$  code,  $d$  must be 16. No one has ever succeeded in Ending such a code thus, we are yet uncertain whether such a code exists. In our obtained results, since the value nearest to 16 is 12, we try to

$$W_{[72,36,12]}(1,y) = 1 + (4398 + \alpha)y^{12} + (197073 - 12\alpha)y^{16} + (18396972 + 66\alpha)y^{20} + (-220\alpha + 461995395)y^{24} + (4399519410 + 495\alpha)y^{28} + (16599232683 - 792\alpha)y^{32} + (25760784872 + 924\alpha)y^{36} + \dots$$

This polynomial was given by Dougherty, et al., (1997). We obtained the bound for  $\alpha$  as  $-4398 \leq \alpha \leq 16422$ .

Dougherty et al., (1997) obtained 32 different values of  $\alpha$  from at least 32 inequivalent codes and is tabulated below.

Table 1. Different [72,36] codes by Dougherty *et al.*, (1997) with their respective  $\alpha$ 

Code	$\alpha$	Code	$\alpha$
$C_1$	-3744	$C_{17}$	-3798
$C_2$	-3774	$C_{18}$	-3828
$C_3$	-3768	$C_{19}$	-3678
$C_4$	-3714	$C_{20}$	-3816
$C_5$	-3762	$C_{21}$	-3846
$C_6$	-3792	$C_{22}$	-3654
$C_7$	-3732	$C_{23}$	-3648
$C_8$	-3702	$C_{24}$	-3690
$C_9$	3756	$C_{25}$	-3822
$C_{10}$	3750	$C_{26}$	-3696
$C_{11}$	3738	$C_{28}$	-3660
$C_{12}$	3726	$C_{29}$	-3684
$C_{13}$	3708	$C_{30}$	-3642
$C_{14}$	3720	$C_{30}$	-3672
$C_{15}$	3786	$C_{qr}$	-1416
$C_{16}$	3810	$C_{dc}$	-3936

Table 2. New [72,36] codes with their respective  $\alpha$ 

Code	$\alpha$
h180	-3000
h179	-3432
ht1	-3684 (same as $C_{29}$ )
ht2	-3684
ht5	-3378
ht6	-3378
ht7	-3888

Even though the codes  $ht_1$  and  $ht_2$  as well as  $ht_5$  and  $ht_6$  have the same  $\alpha$  value, equivalence of such codes is still unknown.

### Conclusions and Recommendations

The problem of finding the extremal  $[72,36, 16]$  codes has been a problem in coding theory since early 1970's. Until now, no one has successfully found such a code. The method introduced by Tonchev (1989), and Tonchev and Bussemaker (1990), such as negation of rows and Columns of the normalized hadamard matrix, obtained a number of external codes of lengths 40 and 56. Using the same method and applying  $H_{36}$ , may lead to a possibility of finding one. To work on such a method requires a lot of patience. In the paper of Sloane (1972) the weight enumerator of a  $[72, 36,16]$  code if such code exists is given. Lastly, a necessary and sufficient condition for a type II self-dual code to exist is that  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  (MacWilliams et al., 1972).

Compared to some other value of  $n$ , 72 has some unique properties. Studying and discovering the uniqueness of 72 is a good mathematical exercise or the readers to start with.

### Acknowledgment

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