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Abstract. It is known that the weight enumerator of a self-dual doubly-even code in genus $g = 1$ can be uniquely written as an isobaric polynomial in certain homogeneous polynomials with integral coefficients. We settle the case where $g = 2$ and prove the non-existence of such polynomials under some conditions.

1. Introduction. In this paper we deal with binary self-dual doubly-even codes only. We refer to [3] for the general facts on coding theory. We shall first recall our problem in the case where $g = 1$, which explains what this paper concerns about. It is known that the weight enumerator of any self-dual doubly-even code can be uniquely written as an isobaric polynomial in $\varphi_8 = x^8 + 14x^4y^4 + y^8$ and $\varphi_{24} = x^4y^4(x^4 - y^4)^4$ with integral coefficients ([5]). We note that $\varphi_{24}$ itself is not the weight enumerator of a code but a linear combination of the weight enumerators with rational coefficients.

We shall add a few words on this basis. We consider the elements in $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ for simplicity. The choice of $\varphi_8$ is unique (up to $\pm 1$) since there exists a unique self-dual doubly-even code $e_8$ of length 8. Next we assume that another homogeneous polynomial $\xi$ of degree 24 has the property in question, i.e., the weight enumerator of any self-dual doubly-even code can be written as an isobaric polynomial in $\varphi_8$ and $\xi$ with integral coefficients. We put $\xi = ax^{24} + bx^{20}y^4 + \cdots$, $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, in which the unwritten part consists of terms of degree less than 20 in $x$. There are 85 classes self-dual doubly-even codes of length 32 ([1], [2]) and the weight enumerator of these classes should be written as $m\varphi_8 + n\varphi_{24}$, in which $m, n$ are integers. Examining these conditions for all classes, we know that $-42a + b$ must be a divisor of 1. We have that $\xi = a\varphi_8 \pm \varphi_{24}$ and conversely, such $\xi$ has the said property.

In the rest of this paper we restrict ourselves to the case where $g = 2$ when considering the weight enumerators. Let $C$ be a binary self-dual doubly-even code and $W_C = W_C(x, y, z, w)$ the weight enumerator of $C$ in genus 2 (cf. [6], [4], [7]). We remark that $W_C$ is symmetric in $x, y, z, w$. We shall denote by $\mathcal{W}$ the graded ring over the field $\mathbb{C}$ of complex numbers generated by $W_C$ of all self-dual doubly-even codes. The degree $d$-part $\mathcal{W}_d$ of $\mathcal{W}$ is a finite dimensional vector space over $\mathbb{C}$. The four elements
$W_{e_8}, W_{d_{24}}, W_{g_{24}}, W_{d_{40}}$ are algebraically independent over $\mathbb{C}$ and the graded ring $\mathfrak{W}$ is a free $\mathbb{C}[W_{d_{24}}, W_{g_{24}}, W_{d_{40}}]$-module with a basis $1, W_{d_{24}}, W_{g_{24}}, W_{d_{40}}$, where $g_{24}$ is the extended Golay code of length 24. The dimension formula of this ring is

$$\sum_{d \geq 0} (\dim \mathfrak{W}_d) t^d = \frac{1 + t^{32}}{(1 - t^8)(1 - t^{24})^2(1 - t^{40})} = 1 + t^8 + t^{16} + 3t^{24} + 4t^{32} + 5t^{40} + 8t^{48} + 10t^{56} + \cdots.$$  

We always keep this formula in mind through the next section.

2. Result. For the proof of our Theorem, we shall construct homogeneous polynomials $X_{e_8}, X_{d_{24}}, Y_{d_{24}}, X_{d_{32}}, X_{d_{40}}$ of degrees 8, 24, 24, 32, 40, respectively. This is done by analyzing the vector spaces $\mathfrak{W}_d, d = 8, 24, 32, 40$.

(degree 8) The extended Hamming code $e_8$ of length 8 is a unique self-dual doubly-even code of this length. We put $X_{e_8} = W_{e_8}$. $X_{e_8}$ is also characterized by $x^8 + \cdots$.

(degree 24) Two polynomials $X_{d_{24}}, Y_{d_{24}}$ are characterized by

$$0x^{24} + x^{20}(y^4 + \cdots) + 0x^{18}(y^2 z^2 w^2) + \cdots,$$

$$0x^{24} + 0x^{20}(y^4 + \cdots) + x^{18}(y^2 z^2 w^2) + \cdots.$$  

As we remarked, the weight enumerator in this paper is symmetric and $x^{20}(y^4 + \cdots)$ stands for $x^{20}(y^4 + z^4 + w^4)$. We note that 0 as a coefficient of $x^{18}(y^2 z^2 w^2)$ in the first formula is not much of importance. The general form of the elements in $\mathfrak{W}_{d_{24}}$ is

$$a_0x^{24} + a_1x^{20}(y^4 + \cdots) + a_2x^{18}(y^2 z^2 w^2) + \cdots$$

and is uniquely written as

$$a_0 X_{e_8}^3 + (-42a_0 + a_1)X_{d_{24}} + (-504a_0 + a_2)Y_{d_{24}}.$$  

(degree 32) The polynomial $X_{d_{32}}$ is characterized by

$$0x^{32} + 0x^{28}(y^4 + \cdots) + 0x^{26}y^2 z^2 w^2 + x^{24}(y^4 z^4 + \cdots) + \cdots.$$  

We remark that $0x^{32} + 0x^{28}(y^4 + \cdots) + \cdots$ implies that the coefficient of $x^{24}(y^8 + \cdots)$ is 0. The similar remark also holds in the following (degree 40). The general form of the elements in $\mathfrak{W}_{d_{32}}$ is

$$a_0x^{32} + a_1x^{28}(y^4 + \cdots) + a_2x^{26}(y^2 z^2 w^2) + x^{24}(a_3(y^8 + \cdots) + a_4(y^4 z^4 + \cdots)) + \cdots$$

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and is uniquely written as
\[ a_0 X_8^4 + (-56a_0 + a_1)X_8 X_{24} + (-672a_0 + a_2)X_8 Y_{24} + (784a_0 - 33a_1 - 2a_2 + a_4)X_{32}, \]
where \( a_3 = 620a_0 + 10a_1. \)

(degree 40) The polynomial \( X_{40} \) is characterized by
\[ 0x^{40} + 0x^{36}(y^4 + \cdots) + 0x^{34}(y^2z^2w^2) + 0x^{32}(y^4z^4 + \cdots) + x^{28}(y^4z^4w^4) + \cdots. \]

The general form of the elements in \( \mathfrak{W}_{40} \) is
\[ a_0 x^{40} + a_1 x^{36}(y^4 + \cdots) + a_2 x^{34}(y^2z^2w^2) + x^{32}(a_3(y^8 + \cdots) + a_4(y^4z^4 + \cdots)) \]
\[ + a_5 x^{30}(y^6z^2w^2 + \cdots) + x^{28}(a_6(y^{12} + \cdots) + a_7(y^8z^4 + \cdots) + a_8(y^2z^4w^4)) + \cdots \]
and is uniquely written as
\[ a_0 X_8^5 + (-70a_0 + a_1)X_8^2 X_{24} + (-840a_0 + a_2)X_8^3 Y_{24} + (1960a_0 - 61a_1 - 2a_2 + a_4)X_8 X_{32} \]
\[ + (196560a_0 - 7350a_1 - 880a_2 + 150a_4 + a_8)X_{40}, \]
where we have the relations \( a_3 = 285a_0 + 24a_1, a_5 = 84a_1 - 8a_2 + 12a_4, a_6 = 21280a_0 + 92a_1, a_7 = 225a_1 + 32a_2 + 11a_4. \)

The homogeneous polynomials we have obtained can be written as
\[ X_8 = W_{e_8}, \]
\[ X_{24} = 5 \cdot 2^{-2}3^{-1}17^{-1}W_{e_8}^3 - 2^{-2}11^{-1}W_{d_4}, \]
\[ Y_{24} = -2^{-4}3^{-1}17^{-1}W_{e_8}^3 + 2^{-4}3^{-1}11^{-1}W_{d_4} + 2^{-2}3^{-1}17^{-1}11^{-1}W_{e_2}, \]
\[ X_{32} = 67 \cdot 2^{-10}3^{-3}17^{-1}11^{-1}W_{e_8}^4 - 5 \cdot 2^{-7}11^{-1}W_{e_8} W_{d_4} - 2^{-3}3^{-1}17^{-1}11^{-1}W_{e_8} W_{e_2} + 2^{-10}W_{d_2} W_{e_2}, \]
\[ X_{40} = -461 \cdot 2^{-13}3^{-5}1^{-1}7^{-1}41^{-1}W_{e_8}^5 + 13 \cdot 2^{-9}3^{-1}11^{-1}41^{-1}W_{e_8}^2 W_{d_4} \]
\[ + 2^{-6}3^{-1}17^{-1}11^{-1}41^{-1}W_{e_8}^2 W_{e_2} - 3 \cdot 2^{-13}41^{-1}W_{e_8} W_{d_4} + 2^{-10}3^{-1}5^{-1}41^{-1}W_{d_6}. \]

We note that \( X_8, X_{24}, Y_{24}, X_{32}, X_{40} \) are in \( \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z, w] \) and that they generate the ring \( \mathfrak{W}. \)

These being prepared, we prove

**Theorem.** There exist no five homogeneous polynomials of degrees 8, 24, 24, 32, 40 in \( \mathfrak{W} \cap \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z, w] \) such that the weight enumerator of any self-dual doubly-even code can be written as an isobaric polynomial in these five elements with integral coefficients.

**Proof.** Suppose that there exist such homogeneous polynomials of degrees 8, 24, 24, 32, 40 satisfying the property in Theorem. As we discussed in this
section, any element in $\mathfrak{M} \cap \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z, w]$ of degree at most equal to 40 can be uniquely written as an isobaric polynomial in $X_8, X_{24}, Y_{24}, X_{32}, X_{40}$ with integral coefficients and the five assumed polynomials are hence integral polynomials in $X_8, \ldots, X_{40}$. Therefore $X_8, \ldots, X_{40}$ also enjoy the property in Theorem, i.e., the weight enumerator of any self-dual doubly-even code can be written as

$$\sum_{i,j,k,l,m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} a_{ijklm} X_i^8 X_j^{24} Y_k^{24} X_l^{32} X_m^{40},$$

in which all $a_{ijklm}$ are integers. The weight enumerator of the code $d_{56}^+$ is, however, written as

$$X_8^7 + 2^{45} \cdot 7 X_8^4 X_{24} + 2^{4} 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 X_8^4 Y_{24} + 2^{8} 7 \cdot 23 X_8^3 X_{32} + 2^{10} 7 \cdot 139 X_8^2 X_{40}$$

$$+ 2^{11} 7 \cdot 6521 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 X_8 Y_{24}^2 + 2^{11} 5 \cdot 7 X_{24} X_{32} + 2^{12} 7 \cdot 227 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 Y_{24} X_{32}.$$

This expression is unique and we get a contradiction. This completes the proof of Theorem.

If we take a self-dual doubly-even code $C$ of length 48, and write $W_C$ as an isobaric polynomial in $X_8, X_{24}, Y_{24}, X_{32}, X_{40}$, then we can show that the coefficients in this expression are in $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{3}]$. It was, therefore, expected to find a counter example to our assumption in the proof of Theorem at this length, but it did not work out that way.

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