Abstract

Codes from designs from Hamming graphs

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The Hamming graph $H^k(n, m)$, for n, k, m integers, $1 \le k < n$, is the graph with vertices the m^n *n*-tuples of R^n , where R is a set of size m, and adjacency defined by two *n*-tuples being adjacent if they differ in k coordinate positions. They are the graphs from the Hamming association scheme. In particular, the *n*-cube (Q_n or H(n, 2)) is $H^1(n, 2)$ where $R = \mathbb{F}_2$.

We examine the *p*-ary codes, for *p* any prime, that can be obtained from incidence and neighbourhood designs from $H^k(n,m)$ and its line graphs. For the incidence designs we obtain the main parameters, including the minimum weight and nature of the minimum words, for all *m* when k = 1, and for m = 2 when $k \ge 2$. The automorphism groups of the graphs, designs and codes are also established for these parameters, and permutation decoding shown to be applicable.

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