Boolean-Cayley-graphs: Using Sage and Python software to explore Boolean functions, their Cayley graphs and associated structures

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## Motivation

Question:

Which strongly regular graphs arise as Cayley graphs of bent Boolean functions?

## Bent functions

#### Definition 1

The Walsh Hadamard transform of a Boolean function  $f: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$  is

$$W_f(x) := \sum_{y \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}} (-1)^{f(y) + \langle x, y \rangle}$$

#### Definition 2

A Boolean function  $f : \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$  is bent if and only if its Walsh Hadamard transform has constant absolute value  $2^m$ .

(Dillon 1974; Rothaus 1976)

## The Cayley graph of a Boolean function

#### **Definition 3**

The Cayley graph Cay(f) of a Boolean function

$$f: \mathbb{F}_2^n \to \mathbb{F}_2$$
 where  $f(0) = 0$ 

is an undirected graph with

$$V(\operatorname{Cay}\,(f)):=\mathbb{F}_2^n,\quad (x,y)\in E(\operatorname{Cay}\,(f))\Leftrightarrow f(x+y)=1.$$

(Bernasconi and Codenotti 1999)

-Preliminaries

## Strongly regular graphs

## Definition 4

A simple graph  $\Gamma$  of order v is strongly regular with parameters  $(v,k,\lambda,\mu)$  if

► each vertex has degree k,

• each adjacent pair of vertices has  $\lambda$  common neighbours, and

• each nonadjacent pair of vertices has  $\mu$  common neighbours.

(Brouwer, Cohen and Neumaier 1989)

-Preliminaries

## Cayley graphs of bent functions

### Proposition 1

(Bernasconi and Codenotti 1999) The Cayley graph  $\operatorname{Cay}(f)$  of a bent function f on  $\mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ with f(0) = 0 is a strongly regular graph with  $\lambda = \mu$ .

The parameters of  $\operatorname{Cay}\left(f\right)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} (v,k,\lambda) = & (4^m,2^{2m-1}-2^{m-1},2^{2m-2}-2^{m-1}) \\ \text{or} \quad (4^m,2^{2m-1}+2^{m-1},2^{2m-2}+2^{m-1}). \end{aligned}$$

(Bernasconi and Codenotti 1999)

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## Extended affine equivalence

#### Definition 5

For bent functions  $f, g: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$ , f is extended affine equivalent to g if and only if

$$g(x) = f(Ax + b) + \langle c, x \rangle + \delta$$

for some  $A \in GL(2m, 2)$ ,  $b, c \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ ,  $\delta \in \mathbb{F}_2$ .

(Budaghyan, Carlet and Pott 2006)

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# General linear equivalence

## **Definition 6**

For bent functions  $f, g: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$ , f is general linear equivalent to g if and only if

$$g(x) = f(Ax)$$

for some  $A \in GL(2m, 2)$ .

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## Extended translation equivalence

## **Definition** 7

For bent functions  $f, g : \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$ , f is extended translation equivalent to g if and only if

$$g(x) = f(x+b) + \langle c, x \rangle + \delta$$

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for  $b, c \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ ,  $\delta \in \mathbb{F}_2$ .

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## Cayley equivalence

#### **Definition 8**

For  $f, g: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$ , with both f and g bent, we call f and g Cayley equivalent, and write  $f \equiv g$ , if and only if f(0) = g(0) = 0 and  $\operatorname{Cay}(f) \equiv \operatorname{Cay}(g)$  as graphs.

Equivalently,  $f \equiv g$  if and only if f(0) = g(0) = 0 and there exists a bijection  $\pi : \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$  such that

$$g(x+y) = f(\pi(x) + \pi(y))$$
 for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ .

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# Extended Cayley equivalence

#### **Definition 9**

For  $f, g: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$ , with both f and g bent, if there exist  $\delta, \epsilon \in \{0, 1\}$  such that  $f + \delta \equiv g + \epsilon$ , we call f and g extended Cayley (EC) equivalent and write  $f \cong g$ .

Extended Cayley equivalence is an equivalence relation on the set of all bent functions on  $\mathbb{F}_2^{2m}.$ 

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# General linear equivalence implies Cayley equivalence

#### Theorem 1

If f is bent with f(0) = 0 and g(x) := f(Ax) where  $A \in GL(2m, 2)$ , then g is bent with g(0) = 0 and  $f \equiv g$ .

#### Proof.

$$g(x+y) = f\big(A(x+y)\big) = f(Ax+Ay) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}.$$

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# Extended affine, extended translation, and extended Cayley equivalence (1)

#### Theorem 2

For  $A \in GL(2m, 2)$ ,  $b, c \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ ,  $\delta \in \mathbb{F}_2$ ,  $f : \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$ , the function

$$h(x):=f(Ax+b)+\langle c,x\rangle+\delta$$

can be expressed as h(x) = g(Ax) where

$$g(x) := f(x+b) + \langle (A^{-1})^T c, x \rangle + \delta,$$

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and therefore if f is bent then  $h \cong g$ .

# Extended affine, extended translation, and extended Cayley equivalence (2)

Therefore, to determine which extended Cayley equivalence classes have members within the extended affine equivalence class of a bent function  $f: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$  (for which f(0) = 0) we need only examine the extended translation equivalent functions of the form

$$f(x+b) + \langle c, x \rangle + f(b),$$

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for each  $b, c \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ .

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## Weights and weight classes

#### Definition 10

The weight of a binary function is the cardinality of its support. For f on  $\mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$ 

$$supp(f) := \{ x \in \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \mid f(x) = 1 \}.$$

A bent function f on  $\mathbb{F}_2^{2m}$  has weight

wt 
$$(f) = 2^{2m-1} - 2^{m-1}$$
 (weight class wc  $(f) = 0$ ), or  
wt  $(f) = 2^{2m-1} + 2^{m-1}$  (weight class wc  $(f) = 1$ ).

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## Quadratic bent functions have two General Linear classes

#### Theorem 3

For each m > 0, the extended affine equivalence class of quadratic bent functions  $q: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$  contains members of exactly two General linear equivalence classes, corresponding to the two possible weight classes of  $x \mapsto q(x+b) + \langle c, x \rangle + q(b)$ .

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# Quadratic bent functions have two extended Cayley classes

#### Corollary 4

For each m > 0, the extended affine equivalence class of quadratic bent functions  $q: \mathbb{F}_2^{2m} \to \mathbb{F}_2$  contains exactly two extended Cayley equivalence classes, corresponding to the two possible weight classes of  $x \mapsto q(x+b) + \langle c, x \rangle + q(b)$ .

## Demo of Boolean-Cayley-graphs

CoCalc: Public worksheets, Sage and Python source code http://tinyurl.com/Boolean-Cayley-graphs

GitHub: Sage and Python source code

https://github.com/penguian/Boolean-Cayley-graphs

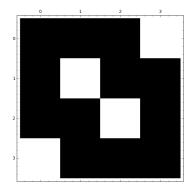
SourceForge: Documentation

https://boolean-cayley-graphs.sourceforge.io/

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## For 2 dimensions: ET class $[f_{2,1}]$

One extended affine class, containing the extended translation class  $[f_{2,1}]$ , where  $f_{2,1}(x) := x_0 x_1$ .

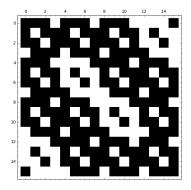


 $[f_{2,1}]$ : 2 extended Cayley classes, 2 General Linear classes

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## For 4 dimensions: ET class $[f_{4,1}]$

One extended affine class, containing the extended translation class  $[f_{4,1}]$ , where  $f_{4,1}(x) := x_0x_1 + x_2x_3$ .



 $[f_{4,1}]$ : 2 extended Cayley classes, 2 General Linear classes

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## For 6 dimensions: ET classes

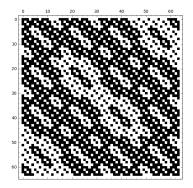
Four extended affine classes, containing the following extended translation classes:

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(Rothaus 1976; Tokareva 2015)

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# ET class $[f_{6,1}]$

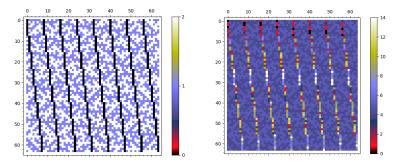


[*f*<sub>6,1</sub>]: 2 extended Cayley classes, 2 General Linear classes

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ET class  $[f_{6,2}]$ 

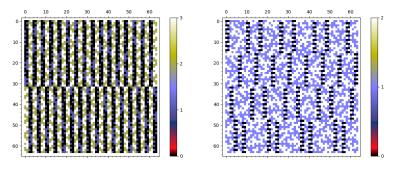


 $[f_{6,2}]$ : 3 extended Cayley classes  $[f_{6,2}]$ : 15 General Linear classes

Since  $f_{6,1} \equiv f_{6,2}$ , the Cayley graph for extended Cayley class 0 is isomorphic to the Cayley graph for class 0 of  $[f_{6,1}]$ .

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**ET** classes  $[f_{6,3}]$  and  $[f_{6,4}]$ 



[f<sub>6,3</sub>]: 4 extended Cayley classes, 4 General Linear classes

 $[f_{6,4}]$ : 3 extended Cayley classes, 3 General Linear classes

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## Preprint, source code and documentation

Preprint: Paul Leopardi, Classifying bent functions by their Cayley graphs, arXiv:1705.04507 [math.CO]. Revised, December, 2023.

CoCalc: Public worksheets, Sage and Python source code

http://tinyurl.com/Boolean-Cayley-graphs

GitHub: Sage and Python source code

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SourceForge: Documentation

https://boolean-cayley-graphs.sourceforge.io/

Boolean-Cayley-graphs: exploring Bent functions and their Cayley graphs -Source code, references, acknowledgements

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SageMath, CoCalc, Bliss, Nauty, MPI4py, SQLite3, DB Browser for SQLite, PostgreSQL, Psycopg2.