Codes from the line graphs of complete multipartite graphs and PD-sets

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Abstract

The binary codes of the line graphs $L_m(n)$ of the complete multipartite graphs $K_{n_1,...,n_m}$ ($n_i = n$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$) $n \geq 2$, $m \geq 3$ are examined, and PD-sets and $s$-PD-sets are found.

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1 Introduction

We consider the binary codes of the line graphs $L_m(n)$ of the complete multipartite graphs $K_{n_1,...,n_m}$ as candidates to which permutation decoding can be applied, i.e. PD-sets (for full error-correction) or $s$-PD-sets (for correcting $s$ errors, see Definition 1, Section 2) can be found. Since the automorphism group of $L_m(n)$ and of its binary code is the wreath product $S_n \wr S_m$ (where $S_r$ denotes the symmetric group of degree $r$) it can be expected that information sets can be found for permutation decoding, as was done for some other classes of codes from graphs with a great deal of symmetry: see [8,9,11,10]. We have found PD-sets for some classes and $s$-PD-sets for all the classes. Our main results are summarized in the following theorem, where the notation for the points of the information set is defined in Equation 1, Section 2, and where we take $m \geq 3$, since $m = 2$ has been considered earlier in [11,10]:

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Theorem 1 If $C$ is the binary code of the line graph $L_m(n)$ of the complete multipartite graph $K_{n,\ldots,n}$ of $nm$ vertices, where $n \geq 2$, $m \geq 3$, then

- $C$ is a $\left[\frac{1}{2}m(m-1)n^2, mn - 2, 2n(m-1) - 2\right]_2$ code for $mn$ even;
- $C$ is a $\left[\frac{1}{2}m(m-1)n^2, mn-1, n(m-1)\right]_2$ code for $mn$ odd.

Let $\mathcal{I}$ be the set

$$\{(1, 1: i, j) \mid 2 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\} \cup \{(1, i: 2, 1) \mid 2 \leq i \leq n\} \setminus \{(1, 1: m, n)\}$$

and $\mathcal{I}^* = \mathcal{I} \cup \{(1, 2: m, n)\}$. Then $\mathcal{I}$ is an information set for $C$ if $mn$ is even, and $\mathcal{I}^*$ is an information set for $mn$ odd. Using these information sets

1. if $n = 2$ and $m \geq 3$, $C$ has a PD-set of size $16m^2 - 8m$;
2. if $n = 3$ and $m \geq 3$ is odd, $C$ has a PD-set of size $27m$;
3. if $m = 3$ and $n \geq 3$ is odd, $C$ has a PD-set of size $2n^3$.

Furthermore, $s$-PD-sets of size $N$ exist as follows: $s < m/2$, $N = m$; $s < m$, $N = mn^2$; $s < 3m/2$, $N = mn^3$; $s < 2m$, $mn$ even, $N = 4m^2n^2 - 2mn^2$; $s < n/2$, $N = n$ for $mn$ even, $N = 2n$ for $mn$ odd; $s < n$, $N = n^3$ for $mn$ even, $N = 2n^3$ for $mn$ odd.

The parts of this theorem are proved, and the explicit PD-sets or $s$-PD-sets are given, in the following sections as Propositions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and Corollaries 2 and 3. Also note that these sizes are not necessarily the best, and in most explicit cases, smaller ones can be found with Magma [2]. It is also assumed that one only considers using $s$-PD-sets if $s \leq t$, where $t$ is the full error-correction capability of the code.

In [6,7,5] it is shown that as the parameters for the designs and codes increase, PD-sets for full error correction cannot be found for some classes if the automorphism group does not grow fast enough with the parameters. This was shown using the bound for the smallest size of a PD-set from Result 2. In those papers designs from geometries and Paley graphs were examined and small $s$-PD-sets were found for partial permutation decoding.

The paper is arranged as follows: in Section 2 the basic notation and definitions, including those for permutation decoding, are given; in Section 3 the main parameters of the codes are established; in Section 4 the PD-sets are found.
2 Background and terminology

The notation for designs and codes is as in [1]. An incidence structure $D = (P, B, J)$, with point set $P$, block set $B$ and incidence $J$ is a $t$-$(v, k, \lambda)$ design, if $|P| = v$, every block $B \in B$ is incident with precisely $k$ points, and every $t$ distinct points are together incident with precisely $\lambda$ blocks. The design is symmetric if it has the same number of points and blocks. The code $C_F$ of the design $D$ over the finite field $F$ is the space spanned by the incidence vectors of the blocks over $F$. If $Q$ is any subset of $P$, then we will denote the incidence vector of $Q$ by $v_Q$. If $Q = \{P\}$ where $P \in P$, then we will write $v_P$ instead of the more cumbersome $v(\{P\})$. Thus $C_F = \langle v_B \mid B \in B \rangle$, and is a subspace of $F^P$, the full vector space of functions from $P$ to $F$.

All the codes here are linear codes, and the notation $[n, k, d]_q$ will be used for a $q$-ary code $C$ of length $n$, dimension $k$, and minimum weight $d$, where the weight of a vector is the number of non-zero coordinate entries. A generator matrix for $C$ is a $k \times n$ matrix made up of a basis for $C$, and the dual code $C^\perp$ is the orthogonal under the standard inner product $(,)$, i.e. $C^\perp = \{v \in F^n \mid (v, c) = 0 \text{ for all } c \in C\}$. A check matrix for $C$ is a generator matrix for $C^\perp$. The all-one vector will be denoted by $\mathbf{j}$, and is the vector with all entries equal to 1. Two linear codes of the same length and over the same field are isomorphic if they can be obtained from one another by permuting the coordinate positions. An automorphism of a code $C$ is an isomorphism from $C$ to $C$. The automorphism group will be denoted by $\text{Aut}(C)$. Any code is isomorphic to a code with generator matrix in so-called standard form, i.e. the form $[I_k \mid A]$; a check matrix then is given by $[-A^T \mid I_{n-k}]$. The first $k$ coordinates are the information symbols and the last $n - k$ coordinates are the check symbols.

The graphs, $\Gamma = (V, E)$ with vertex set $V$ and edge set $E$, discussed here are undirected with no loops. A graph is regular if all the vertices have the same valency. The adjacency matrix $A$ of a graph of order $n$ is an $n \times n$ matrix with entries $a_{ij}$ such that $a_{ij} = 1$ if vertices $v_i$ and $v_j$ are adjacent, and $a_{ij} = 0$ otherwise. The $p$-rank of the matrix $A$, denoted by $\text{rank}_p(A)$, is the dimension of the row space of $A$ over $\mathbb{F}_p$, the finite field of $p$ elements.

Let $K_{n_1, \ldots, n_m}$ denote the complete multipartite graph on $m$ components. If $n_i = n \geq 2$, for $1 \leq i \leq m$, where $m \geq 3$, then denote the graph by $K^m_n$. The vertices of $K^m_n$ correspond to the ordered pairs $(i, j)$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$, which is the $j^{th}$ point on the $i^{th}$ component, $\Lambda_i$. The line graph $L_m(n)$ of $K^m_n$ has for vertices the edges of $K^m_n$ and two vertices $L_m(n)$ are adjacent if as edges of $K^m_n$ they had a vertex in common. We will use the
following compact notation for the vertices (points) of $L_m(n)$:

$$\{(i,j), (k,r)\} = (i,j: k,r) = (k,r: i,j).$$

Let $\mathcal{P}$ denote the set of all vertices of $L_m(n)$. The symmetric 1-design $\mathcal{D} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B})$ defined from $L_m(n)$ by taking the vertices as point set $\mathcal{P}$ and defining a block $B = \mathcal{P}$ for each point $P$ as consisting of the vertices adjacent to that point, i.e.

$$(a, b: c,d) = \{(a, b: e,f) \mid (e,f) \neq (c,d)\} \cup \{(c, d: e,f) \mid (e,f) \neq (a,b)\},$$

is a

$$1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}m(m-1)n^2, 2n(m-1) - 2, 2n(m-1) - 2\right)$$

design. The binary code of $\mathcal{D}$ is $C_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\mathcal{D}) = \langle v^B \mid B \in \mathcal{B} \rangle$ where the incidence vector of $B = (a, b: c,d)$ is given by

$$v^{(a,b;c,d)} = \sum_{(e,f), e \neq a} v^{(a,b;e,f)} + \sum_{(e,f), e \neq c} v^{(c,d;e,f)}$$

of weight $2n(m-1) - 2$.

**Permutation decoding** was first developed by MacWilliams [12] and involves finding a set of automorphisms of a code called a PD-set. The method is described fully in MacWilliams and Sloane [13, Chapter 16, p. 513] and Huffman [4, Section 8]. In [6] the definition of PD-sets was extended to that of $s$-PD-sets for $s$-error-correction:

**Definition 1** If $C$ is a $t$-error-correcting code with information set $\mathcal{I}$ and check set $\mathcal{C}$, then a **PD-set** for $C$ is a set $\mathcal{S}$ of automorphisms of $C$ which is such that every $t$-set of coordinate positions is moved by at least one member of $\mathcal{S}$ into the check positions $\mathcal{C}$.

For $s \leq t$ an **$s$-PD-set** is a set $\mathcal{S}$ of automorphisms of $C$ which is such that every $s$-set of coordinate positions is moved by at least one member of $\mathcal{S}$ into $\mathcal{C}$.

That a PD-set will fully use the error-correction potential of the code follows easily and is proved in Huffman [4, Theorem 8.1]. That an $s$-PD-set will correct $s$ errors follows in the same way (see [6, Result 2.3]):

**Result 1** Let $C$ be an $[n, k, d]_q$ $t$-error-correcting code. Suppose $H$ is a check matrix for $C$ in standard form, i.e. such that $I_{n-k}$ is in the redundancy positions. Let $y = c + e$ be a vector, where $c \in C$ and $e$ has weight $s \leq t$. Then the information symbols in $y$ are correct if and only if the weight of the syndrome $Hy^T$ of $y$ is $\leq s$. 
The algorithm for permutation decoding is as follows: we have a $t$-error-correcting $[n, k, d]_q$ code $C$ with check matrix $H$ in standard form. Thus the generator matrix $G = [I_k | A]$ and $H = [-A^T | I_{n-k}]$, for some $A$, and the first $k$ coordinate positions correspond to the information symbols. Any vector $v$ of length $k$ is encoded as $vG$. Suppose $x$ is sent and $y$ is received and at most $s$ errors occur, where $s \leq t$. Let $S = \{g_1, \ldots, g_m\}$ be an $s$-PD-set. Compute the syndromes $H(yg_i)^T$ for $i = 1, \ldots, m$ until an $i$ is found such that the weight of this vector is $s$ or less. Compute the codeword $c$ that has the same information symbols as $yg_i$ and decode $y$ as $cg_i^{-1}$.

Such sets might not exist at all, and the property of having a PD-set need not be invariant under isomorphism of codes, i.e. it depends on the choice of $I$ and $C$. Furthermore, there is a bound on the minimum size that the set $S$ may have, due to Gordon [3], from a formula due to Schönheim [14], and quoted and proved in [4]:

**Result 2** If $S$ is a PD-set for a $t$-error-correcting $[n, k, d]_q$ code $C$, and $r = n - k$, then

$$|S| \geq \left\lceil \frac{n}{r} \left[ \frac{n - 1}{r - 1} \left[ \cdots \left[ \frac{n - t + 1}{r - t + 1} \right] \cdots \right] \right] \right\rceil.$$ 

This result can be adapted to $s$-PD-sets for $s \leq t$ by replacing $t$ by $s$ in the formula.

A simple argument yields that the worst-case time complexity for the decoding algorithm using an $s$-PD-set of size $z$ on a code of length $n$ and dimension $k$ is $\mathcal{O}(nkz)$.

## 3 The binary codes

In this section we obtain the basic results about the binary codes of the graphs $L_m(n)$, starting with the dimension of the codes:

**Proposition 1** Let $C$ be the binary code of $L_m(n)$ where $n \geq 2$ and $m \geq 3$. Then $C$ has dimension $mn - 1$ if $mn$ is odd, and dimension $mn - 2$ if $mn$ is even.

**PROOF.** Let $M$ be a vertex-edge incidence matrix for $K_n^m$. Then $M^T M = A$ is an adjacency matrix for $L_m(n)$. Thus $C$ is the row span of $A$ over $\mathbb{F}_2$, and clearly $C$ is a subcode of $C_M$, the row span of $M$. $M$ has $mn$ rows and each column has two entries. Thus the sum of all the rows is the zero vector, and the rank of $C_M$ is at most $mn - 1$. 

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Order the vertices (rows) and edges (columns) of $K^m_n$ as follows: for the vertices, take the $m$ components in turn, that is, calling these $\Lambda_i$ for $i = 1$ to $m$, take $\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2, \ldots, \Lambda_m$. For the edges, take all the edges through the first point in $\Lambda_1$, then all the edges through the second point on $\Lambda_1$, and so on. Then take the remaining edges through the first point on $\Lambda_2$, then the second point on $\Lambda_2$, and so on. (See the illustration of this for $m = n = 3$ at the end of the proof.) From this form of $M$, it is evident that it has rank $mn - 1$ over $\mathbb{F}_2$. (This also follows from Proposition 2.) Thus $\dim C \leq mn - 1$.

Let $V$ be the row span of $M^T$ over $\mathbb{F}_2$. Then $\dim V = mn - 1$. The map $\tau : V \to C$ is defined by $\tau : v = (v_1, \ldots, v_{mn}) \mapsto (v_1, \ldots, v_{mn})M$, so that $V\tau = C$ and $\dim C + \dim \ker(\tau) = \dim V = mn - 1$. A vector $v$ is in the kernel if and only if $v \in V$ and $vM = 0$. Since $jM = 0$, and the null space of $M$ is thus $\langle j \rangle$, we need determine when $j \in V$.

Clearly $V$ is spanned by vectors of weight 2, so $V$ is an even weight code. Thus if $mn$ is odd then $j \notin V$, and $\dim C = mn - 1$. From the form of $M^T$ as described above, and since each vertex of $K^m_n$ is adjacent to $n(m - 1)$ vertices, the number of entries in each column is $n(m - 1)$. Adding all the rows will give $j$ if $n(m - 1)$ is odd, i.e. if $n$ is odd and $m$ is even. Thus in this case $\dim C = mn - 2$. If $n$ is even then if $P$ is a point in the $i^{th}$ component $\Lambda_i$, adding all the rows (edges) corresponding to edges through $P$ and the points of $\Lambda_j$ will give the incidence vector $v^{\Lambda_j}$ of weight $n$. Thus $j = \sum_{i=1}^m v^{\Lambda_i} \in V$, and $\dim C = mn - 2$. ■

We give an illustration for $M$ for $m = n = 3$, where $\Lambda_i = \{(i, 1), (i, 2), (i, 3)\}$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$:

![Illustration](image-url)

We need the following lemma in order to find information sets for the codes:

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Lemma 1 Let $A_\ell = I_\ell + J_\ell$ with entries in $\mathbb{F}_2$, where $\ell \geq 1$, $I_\ell$ and $J_\ell$ are the $\ell \times \ell$ identity and all-one matrices, respectively. For any positive integers $j$ and $k$ let

$$M_{\ell,k} = \begin{bmatrix} A_\ell & 1 \ldots 1 \\ \\ 1 0 \ldots 0 \\ 1 0 \ldots 0 & A_k \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 0 \ldots 0 & \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad M_{\ell,k}^* = \begin{bmatrix} A_\ell & 1 \ldots 1 \\ \\ 1 0 \ldots 0 & A_k \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 0 \ldots 0 & \ \end{bmatrix}.$$ 

If $\ell$ and $k$ are both even or both odd then $\det M_{\ell,k} = 1$. Furthermore, $\det M_{\ell,k}^* = \det M_{\ell,k} - 1$.

**Proof.** Notice that $\det A_\ell = 1$ for $\ell$ even and that for $\ell$ and $k$ both even $\det M_{\ell,k} = \det A_\ell \det A_k = 1$. Simple row and column manipulation lead to the remaining results. ■

We use this lemma to establish the information sets for the codes:

**Proposition 2** Let $C$ be the binary code of the graph $L_m(n)$ where $n \geq 2$ and $m \geq 3$. Let $\mathcal{I}$ be the set

$$\{(1, 1 : i, j) \mid 2 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\} \cup \{(1, i : 2, 1) \mid 2 \leq i \leq n\} \setminus \{(1, 1 : m, n)\}$$

and $\mathcal{I}^* = \mathcal{I} \cup \{(1, 2 : m, n)\}$. Then $\mathcal{I}$ is an information set for $C$ if $mn$ is even, and $\mathcal{I}^*$ is an information set for $mn$ odd.

**Proof.** Arrange the vertices (points) of an adjacency matrix for $L_m(n)$ in the following order:

$$(1, 1 : 2, 1), (1, 1 : 2, 2), \ldots, (1, 1 : 2, n), (1, 1 : 3, 1), \ldots, (1, 1 : m, n - 1)$$

followed by

$$(1, 2 : 2, 1), (1, 3 : 2, 1), \ldots, (1, n : 2, 1), (1, 2 : m, n),$$
and any ordering for the remaining points. Writing \( \ell = mn - n - 1 \) and \( k = n - 1 \), so that \( \ell + k + 1 = mn - 1 \), the upper left square \( mn - 1 \times mn - 1 \) part of the adjacency matrix has the form \( M^*_{\ell,k} \) of the lemma. We need to show that if \( mn \) is even, then \( \det M_{\ell,k} = 1 \) and if \( mn \) is odd then \( \det M^*_{\ell,k} = 1 \).

If \( mn \) is even, then if \( n \) is even, \( \ell = mn - n - 1 \) is odd, and \( k = n - 1 \) is odd, so by the lemma, \( \det M_{\ell,k} = 1 \). If \( mn \) is even and \( n \) is odd, then \( \ell = mn - n - 1 \) is even and \( k = n - 1 \) is even and again we have \( \det M_{\ell,k} = 1 \).

If \( mn \) is odd then both \( n \) and \( m \) are odd, and \( \ell \) is odd. Then \( \det M^*_{\ell,k} = \det M_{\ell,k-1} = 1 \) since \( \ell \) and \( k - 1 \) are odd. This proves that \( I \) or \( I^* \) are information sets.

As an example, if \( m = n = 3 \) then \( \ell = 5 \) and \( k = 2 \) and ordering the vertices \((1,1:2,1), (1,1:2,2), (1,1:2,3), (1,2:3,1), (1,1:3,2), (1,2:2,1), (1,3:2,1), (1,2:3,3)\), the top \( 8 \times 8 \) part of the adjacency matrix is

\[
M^*_{5,2} = \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
\end{bmatrix}
\]

We now find the minimum weight of the codes, and look first at the dual code.

**Proposition 3** Let \( C \) be the binary code of \( L_m(n) \) for \( n \geq 2, m \geq 3 \). Then \( C^\perp \) contains all vectors of the form \( v^{(P,Q,R)} \) where \( P = (a,b:c,d) \), \( Q = (c,d:e,f) \) and \( R = (a,b:e,f) \) and has minimum weight 3.

**PROOF.** Let \( w = v^{((a,b,c,d),(c,d:e,f),(a,b:e,f))} = w(a,b;c,d;e,f) \). We need to show that \( \langle w, v^B \rangle = 0 \) for all blocks \( B \). Suppose \( B = (a,b:c,d) \). Then it is clear that \( v^B \) meets \( w \) twice. Similarly for the other points of \( w \). If \( B = (a,b:x,y) \) where \( (x,y) \neq (c,d), (e,f) \), then again it meets twice. Any block \( (x,y:r,t) \) where \( (x,y) \) and \( (r,t) \) are none of \( (a,b), (c,d), (e,f) \), will not meet \( w \) at all. This completes all the cases. That there can be no vectors of smaller weight follows from an easy argument. \( \blacksquare \)
Note: The words of weight 3 in the dual code of C are precisely as described in the proposition, except for the case $n = 2$ and $m = 3$, when extra words of weight 3 are present, e.g. $v^{((1,1:2,2),(1,2:3,2),(2,1:3,1))}$.

We will use the notation

$$w(a, b; c, d; e, f) = v^{((a,b,c,d),(c,d,e,f),(a,b,c,f))} = v^{(a,b,c,d)} + v^{(c,d,e,f)} + v^{(a,b,c,f)}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

**Lemma 2** Any vector of $F^v_2$, where $v = \frac{1}{2}m(m-1)n^2$, that is orthogonal to every vector $w(a, b; c, d; e, f)$ has weight at least $n(m-1)$.

**PROOF.** Let $w$ be a non-zero word of $F^v_2$ and, without loss of generality, let $P = (1, 1 : 2, 1)$ be in the support of $w$. Every $w(1, 1; 2, 1; x, y)$ for $x \geq 3$ must meet $w$ again, and thus $w$ has at least another $n(m-2)$ points in its support. Either $(1, 1 : 3, 1)$ or $(2, 1 : 3, 1)$ must be in the support, and thus by the same argument $w(1, 1; 3, 1; 2, a)$ or $w(2, 1; 3, 1; 1, a)$, $a \neq 1$, must meet $w$ again, yielding a further $n-1$ points of the form $(1, a : 3, 1)$ or $(2, a : 3, 1)$, $a \neq 1$, that are not already counted. Thus we get at least $1 + n(m-2) + n-1 = n(m-1)$ for the weight of $w$. ■

**Proposition 4** If $C$ is the binary code of $L_m(n)$, $n \geq 2$, $m \geq 3$, then $C$ has minimum weight $n(m-1)$ if $mn$ is odd, and $2n(m-1) - 2$ if $mn$ is even.

**PROOF.** If $mn$ is odd then $C = C_M$, where $M$ is the vertex/edge matrix of the graph $K^m_n$ as described in Proposition 1. Every row of $M$ has weight $n(m-1)$, the valency of $K^m_n$, yielding thus minimum words of $C$.

For $mn$ even, $C$ has codimension 2 in $C_M$ and is spanned by the the sums of rows of $M$ corresponding to adjacent vertices. The vector $w$ described in Lemma 2 has support at positions $(1, 1 : x, y)$ or $(2, 1 : r, s)$, where $x \neq 1, r \neq 2$, and since $w + v^{((1,1:2,1)} \in C_M$, $w = \sum_{(x,y),x\neq 1} v^{(2,1:x,y)} + \sum_{(x,y),x\neq 2} v^{(2,1:x,y)}$, and thus be the row of $M$ corresponding to the vertex $(1, 1)$ or $(2, 1)$ of $K^m_n$. This shows that in the even case, since $C \subset C_M$, the minimum weight is the block size, i.e. the valency of $L_m(n)$, viz. $2n(m-1) - 2$. ■

Note: In the $mn$ even case the code is spanned by minimum weight vectors that are incidence vectors, $v^B$, of blocks of the design.
The automorphism group of $L_m(n)$ is the wreath product, $G = S_n \wr S_m$, where $S_r$ denotes the symmetric group of degree $r$. Thus $G = H \times K$ where $L = S_n \times \ldots \times S_n$, with $m$ terms in the product, and $K = S_m$. Thus $G$ is also an automorphism group of the binary code of $L_m(n)$. We denote the identity element of $G$ by $\iota$, and that of $S_n$ by $\iota_n$, and also, for convenience, use $(k, k)$ (for any integer $k$) to mean the identity permutation. The action of $G$ on $L_m(n)$ is as follows: for $\tau \in S_m$ and $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_m) \in H$, for $P = (h, i : j, k) \in \mathcal{P}$,

$$P^\tau = (h^\tau^{-1}, i : j^\tau^{-1}, k),$$

$$P^\sigma = (h, i^{\sigma_h} : j, k^{\sigma_j}),$$

so that $\tau^{-1} \sigma \tau = \sigma^*$, where

$$P^{\sigma^*} = (h, i^{\sigma_h \tau} : j, k^{\sigma_j \tau}).$$

Now we define some special elements of $G$ for our PD-sets:

**Definition 2** Let $G = \text{Aut}(L_m(n)) = H \times K$ where $K = S_m$ and $H = S_n \times \ldots \times S_n$, and $m \geq 3$, $n \geq 2$. The following denote elements of $G$:

- $\tau_a^i = (a, i) \in K$ where $i, a \in \{1 \ldots m\};$
- $K^i = \{\tau_a^i \mid 1 \leq a \leq m\} \subseteq K$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$;
- $\sigma_b^j \in H$, where $\sigma_b^j[i] = (1, b) \in S_n$ and $\sigma_b^j[i] = \iota_n$ for $i \neq j$, where $1 \leq j \leq m$ and $1 \leq b \leq n$;
- $H^j = \{\sigma_b^j \mid 1 \leq b \leq n\} \subseteq H$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$;
- $\delta_b^j \in H$, where $\delta_b^j[j] = (b, n) \in S_n$ and $\delta_b^j[i] = \iota_n$ for $i \neq j$, where $1 \leq j \leq m$ and $1 \leq b \leq n$;
- $D^j = \{\delta_b^j \mid 1 \leq b \leq n\} \subseteq H$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$;
- $\sigma_a = \prod_{i=1}^m \sigma_a^i = ((1, a), \ldots, (1, a)) \in H$, for $1 \leq a \leq n$;
- $H_n = \{\sigma_a \mid 1 \leq a \leq n\} \subseteq H$.

Each of the sets $K^i, H^j, D^j, H_n$ contain the identity $\iota$ of $G$, since we use the notation $(a, a)$, for any $a$, to denote $\iota$.

For all the following propositions and lemmas we will use the information sets $\mathcal{I}$ and $\mathcal{I}^*$, for $mn$ even or odd, respectively, as found in Proposition 2.

**Definition 3** Let $\mathcal{I} = \{P_i = (a_i, b_i : c_i, d_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq s\}$ be a set of $s$ points in $\mathcal{P}$, where $a_i \neq c_i$. Let $A = \{a_i, c_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq s\}$ and $B = \{b_i, d_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq s\}$. For $a \in \{1 \ldots m\}$, let $\alpha(a) = |\{P_j \mid a = a_j \text{ or } a = c_j\}|$. Similarly, for $1 \leq j \leq n$, let $\beta(j)$ be the number of times $j$ appears in the $b_i$ and $d_i$ positions in $\mathcal{I}$. 


Lemma 3 With notation as in Definition 3 and \( \mathcal{T} \) a set of \( s \) points of \( \mathcal{P} \), if 
\[ 2s \leq km - 1, \text{ (for some integer } k \text{), then there is an } i \text{ such that } \alpha(i) \leq k - 1. \] 
If 
\[ 2s \leq kn - 1, \text{ (for some integer } k \text{), then there is a point } j \text{ such that } \beta(j) \leq k - 1. \]

PROOF. Note that \( \sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha(i) = 2s \) and if \( \alpha(i) \geq k \) (for some \( k \)) for all 
\( i \in \{1 \ldots m\} \), then \( 2s \geq km \). Thus if \( 2s \leq km - 1 \), then there is an \( i \) such 
that \( \alpha(i) \leq k - 1 \). Similarly \( \sum_{j=1}^{n} \beta(j) = 2s \). If \( \beta(j) \geq k \), where \( k \geq 1 \), for 
all \( j \), then \( 2s \geq kn \). Thus if \( 2s \leq kn - 1 \), then there is a point \( j \) such that 
\( \beta(j) \leq k - 1. \) ■

We use this argument in the following propositions.

Proposition 5 Let \( C \) be the \([2m(m - 1), 2m - 2, 4m - 6]_2 \) code of \( L_m(2) \) for 
\( m \geq 3 \), correcting \( t = 2m - 4 \) errors. Taking \( \mathcal{I} \) as information set, a \( PD \)-set 
for \( C \) is the set of group elements

\[ S = K^1 H^1 (K^2 \cup K^m) H^m \{1, \tau_3^2\} \]

of size at most \( 16m^2 - 8m \).

PROOF. Notice first that the points of the information set in this case are
\[ \{(1,1:a,1), (1,1:a,2) \mid 2 \leq a \leq m\} \cup \{(1,2:2,1)\} \setminus \{(1,1:m,2)\}. \]

We denote the check set by \( \mathcal{C} \). From Lemma 3 we see that for \( t = 2m - 4 \) 
errors, i.e. \( \mathcal{T} \) having \( t \) points, there is an \( i \) for which \( \alpha(i) \leq 3 \).

Note that if \( \mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{C} \) then \( i \) will take \( \mathcal{T} \) to \( \mathcal{C} \), and \( i \in S \) since it is in each of the 
sets of elements in the definition of \( S \). Every point \( P = (a, b : c, d) \in \mathcal{I} \) has 
\( a = 1 \) or \( c = 1 \).

Suppose first there is an \( i \) with \( \alpha(i) = 0 \). If \( i = 1 \) then \( \mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{C} \); if \( i \neq 1 \) then 
\( \tau_1^i \in K^1 \) will map \( \mathcal{T} \) into \( \mathcal{C} \), so \( K^1 \) will suffice for these \( t \)-sets.

Suppose that \( \alpha(i) \geq 1 \) for all \( i \) and that there is an \( i \) for which \( \alpha(i) = 1 \), and 
thus we take \( \alpha(1) = 1 \) by using \( K^1 \). Then let \( P = (1, b : c, d) \) be the only point 
in \( \mathcal{I} \cap \mathcal{T} \). We need to map \( \mathcal{T} \) into \( \mathcal{C} \). Looking at the cases, if \( P = (1, 1 : c, d) \) 
then \( \sigma_1^2 \) will map \( P \) to \( P' = (1, 2 : c, d) \) and fix all the other points of \( \mathcal{T} \). If 
\( P' = (1, 2 : 2, 1) \) then \( \tau_3^2 \) will map \( P' \) into \( \mathcal{C} \) and not move the other points 
out of \( \mathcal{C} \). Similarly if \( P = (1, 2 : 2, 1) \) then \( \tau_3^2 \) will suffice.

Next suppose that \( \alpha(i) \geq 2 \) for all \( i \) and there exists an \( i \) with \( \alpha(i) = 2 \). 
Then \( 2s = 4m - 8 \geq 2m \) gives that \( m \geq 4 \). Again we suppose \( \alpha(1) = 2 \), 
using \( K^1 \), if necessary. Let the two points containing \( 1 \) be \( P = (1, a : b, c) \) and
Suppose \( P = (1, 2 : a, b) \) and \( Q = (1, 2 : u, v) \), then we need to map \( P \) to \( (1, 2 : a, 1) \) and \( Q \) to \( (1, 2 : a, w) \).

If \( P = (1, 2 : a, b) \) and \( Q = (1, 2 : u, v) \), then we need to map \( P \) to \( (1, 2 : m, 2) \). Either \( \tau_a^m \in K^m \) or \( \sigma_b^m \in H^m \), or \( \tau_a^m \sigma_b^m \), or \( \iota \) will achieve this; \( Q \) can only be a PD-set for the code \( \mathcal{C} \). Thus in all cases \( S \) will map these to \( (1, 2 : a, w) \).

Finally suppose \( \alpha(i) \geq 3 \) for all \( i \) and there exists an \( i \) with \( \alpha(i) = 3 \). Then \( 2t = 4m - 8 \geq 3m \) gives that \( m \geq 8 \). Again with \( K^1 \) we can ensure that \( \alpha(1) = 3 \), and using the same argument as in the case of two points, we see that \( K^1 H^1 \) will reduce the problem to the two cases:

(i) \( P = (1, 2 : a, b) \), \( Q = (1, 2 : c, d) \), \( R = (1, 2 : e, f) \)

(ii) \( P = (1, 2 : a, b) \), \( Q = (1, 2 : c, d) \), \( R = (1, 1 : e, f) \)

Suppose (i), and suppose \( P = (1, 2 : 2, 1) \). Then if \( k \neq 1, 2, c, e \) and \( k \in \{1 \ldots m\} \) (possible because \( m \geq 8 \)), then \( \tau_k^2 \in K^2 \) will map \( P \) to \( (1, 2 : k, 1) \) and \( Q \) and \( R \) will remain in \( \mathcal{C} \).

Suppose (ii). Then we need to map \( R \) to \( (1, 1 : m, 2) \) and this can be achieved as in the case of \( \alpha(1) = 2 \), with \( \tau_k^m \) and \( \sigma_f^m \). This will map \( P \) and \( Q \) into points of the form \( (1, 2 : x, y) \). If one should result in \( (1, 2 : 2, 1) \), then \( \tau_3^2 \) will move this point to \( \mathcal{C} \) and not take the other two points out of \( \mathcal{C} \).

Thus in all cases \( S = K^1 H^1 (K^2 \cup K^m) H^m \{i, \tau_3^2\} \) will be a PD-set for the code to correct all \( t = 2m - 4 \) errors. The size of this set is at most \( 8m(2m - 1) = 16m^2 - 8m \), since \( |(K^2 \cup K^m)| = 2m - 1 \), due to \( i \) being in both of the sets.

**Corollary 2** For \( m, n \geq 3 \) and \( mn \) even, if \( C \) is the binary code of \( L_m(n) \), then \( K^1 H^1 (K^2 \cup K^m) H^m \{i, \tau_3^2\} \) is an \( s \)-PD-set for \( C \) of size \( 4m^2n^2 - 2mn^2 \) for \( s \leq 2m - 1 \) using the information set \( \mathcal{I} \).

**PROOF.** This follows from the proposition and is restricted to the even case since our arguments excluded \( (1, 2 : m, n) \) being an information point. The rest goes through, since \( \alpha(i) \leq 3 \) for some \( i \).

**Proposition 6** Let \( C \) be the binary code of the graph \( L_m(n) \) for \( m, n \geq 3 \). Then taking for information set \( \mathcal{I} \) for \( mn \) even, or \( \mathcal{I}^* \) for \( mn \) odd, the set
\[ S = K^1H^1H^2D^m \text{ is an s-PD-set for } C, \text{ for } s < 3m/2, \text{ of size } mn^3. \]

In particular, if \( n = 3 \) and \( m \) is odd, then \( S \) is a PD-set of size \( 27m \) for \( C \), a \( [\frac{9}{2}m(m-1), 3m-1, 3m-3]_2 \) code.

**PROOF.** From Lemma 3 we see that for \( s < 3m/2 \) errors, i.e. \( T \) having \( s \) points, there is an \( i \) for which \( \alpha(i) \leq 2 \). Again we use \( K^1 \) to ensure that \( \alpha(1) \leq 2 \), and as in Proposition 5, consider the possibilities for \( \alpha(1) = 0, 1, 2 \).

If \( \alpha(1) = 0 \) then \( i \) will suffice. Suppose \( \alpha(1) = 1 \) and let \( P = (1, i : a, b) \in T \cap T^* \). Then if \( i = 1, (a, b) \neq (2, 1) \), use \( \sigma^1_n \in H^1 \); if \( i \neq 1, (a, b) = (2, 1) \), use \( \sigma^2_n \in H^2 \); if \( P = (1, 1 : 2, 1) \), use \( \sigma^1_n \sigma^2_n \in H^1H^2 \); if \( P = (1, 2 : m, n) \), use \( \sigma^2_1 \in H^1 \). Thus maps in \( K^1H^1H^2 \) will suffice to map \( T \) into \( C \).

Suppose \( \alpha(1) = 2 \) and let \( P = (1, i : a, b) \) and \( Q = (1, j : c, d) \) be in \( T \). First suppose \( i = j \); if \( i = j = 1 \) then \( \sigma^1_n \in H^1 \) will map \( P \) and \( Q \) to points \((1, n : a, b) \) and \((1, n : c, d) \) which are either both in \( C \), or \((a, b) = (2, 1) \), in which case the map \( \sigma^2_e \in H^2 \), where \( e \neq 1, d \), will map them both into \( C \). Thus \( K^1H^1H^2 \) suffices so far.

If \( i = j \neq 1, 2 \), then \( H^2 \) will work, as above. If \( i = j = 2 \), then \( P = (1, 2 : a, b) \) and \( Q = (1, 2 : c, d) \) and at least one is assumed to be in \( T \). If \( P = (1, 2 : 2, 1) \) and \( Q \in C \), then \( \sigma^2_e \in H^2 \), where \( e \neq 1, d \) will map all the points to \( C \). If \( P = (1, 2 : 2, 1) \) and \( Q = (1, 2 : m, n) \) (in the \( mn \) odd case), then \( \sigma^2_e \delta_m^n \in H^2D^m \) will map all into \( C \). If \( P = (1, 2 : m, n) \) and \( Q = (1, 2 : m, d) \), then use \( \delta^m_e \in D^m \), where \( e \neq n, d \). Thus \( K^1H^1H^2D^m \) suffices.

If \( i \neq j \), then if \( i = 1, \sigma^1_k \in H^1 \), where \( k \neq j \), will map the points to \( P = (1, k : a, b) \) and \( Q = (1, j : c, d) \), where \( 1 < k < j \leq n \), say. If \( (a, b) = (2, 1) \) then \( \sigma^2_e \), where \( e \neq 1, d \), will map the points to \( C \) provided that \( Q \neq (1, 2 : m, n) \). If \( Q = (1, 2 : m, n) \) then the map \( \delta^m_e \), where \( e \neq n, b \) can be used.

This covers all cases, i.e. \( K^1H^1H^2D^m \) acts as an s-PD-set.

Note that when \( n = 3 \) and \( m \) is odd, we have a \( [9m(m-1)/2, 3m-1, 3m-3]_2 \) code that can correct up to \( t = (3m-5)/2 \) errors. Thus \( 2t < 3m \) so that the s-PD-set is a PD-set. ■

Following from the proof of this proposition, we get

**Corollary 3** For \( m, n \geq 3 \) and \( C \) the binary code of \( L_m(n) \), then using the information set \( I \) or \( I^* \),

- \( K^1 \) is an s-PD-set of size \( m \) for \( C \) for \( s \leq \lfloor m/2 \rfloor - 1 \);
- \( K^1H^1H^2 \) is an s-PD-set of size \( mn^2 \) for \( C \) for \( s \leq m - 1 \).
PROOF. The proof is immediate from the proof of the previous proposition, noting that from the earlier discussion, if \(2s \leq m - 1\) then \(\alpha(i) = 0\) for some \(i\) for any set of \(s\) points, and if \(s \leq m - 1\) then \(\alpha(i) \leq 1\) for some \(i\). ■

Finally we obtain a condition involving the size of \(n\).

**Proposition 7** Let \(C\) be the binary code of \(L_m(n)\) where \(m, n \geq 3\). Using the information set \(I\) or \(I^*\),

1. if \(s \leq \lceil n/2 \rceil - 1\), then \(H_n\) is an \(s\)-PD-set of size \(n\) for \(mn\) even, and \(H_n\{i, \delta_i^m\}\) is an \(s\)-PD-set of size \(2n\) for \(mn\) odd;
2. if \(s \leq n - 1\) then \(H_nH^1H^2\) is an \(s\)-PD-set of size \(n^3\) for \(mn\) even, and \(H_nH^1H^2\{i, \delta_i^m\}\) is an \(s\)-PD-set of size \(2n^3\) for \(mn\) odd;
3. if \(m = 3\) and \(n \geq 3\) is odd, then \(H_nH^1H^2\{i, \delta_i^m\}\) is a PD-set of size \(2n^3\) for \(C\), a \([3n^2, 3n - 1, 2n]_2\) code.

**PROOF.** Considering now \(\beta(j)\) and Lemma 3, for the first condition, \(k = 1\), i.e. \(s \leq (n - 1)/2\). There is a \(j\) such that \(\beta(j) = 0\) and we can use \(H_n\) to map \(T\) to a set of \(s\) points for which \(\beta(1) = 0\). First take \(mn\) even. In this case, since \(1 \not\in B\), it follows that the set in now in \(C\). Thus \(H_n\) will suffice as an \(s\)-PD-set.

Now take \(mn\) odd, so that \(P = (1, 2 : m, n) \in I\). Using \(H_n\) to ensure that \(\beta(1) = 0\), if \(P\) is in the new \(s\)-set, then the map \(\delta_i^m\) will move all the points into \(C\). This proves the first part of the proposition.

Taking now \(k = 2\), if \(s \leq n - 1\) then we can assume \(\beta(1) \leq 1\) using \(H_n\) again. If \(\beta(1) = 0\), use the same argument as above. Thus now suppose \(\beta(1) = 1\). Assuming the set \(T\) is not in \(C\), there is one point of the form \((1, 1 : j, k)\), where \(k \neq 1\), or \((1, k : 2, 1)\), where \(k \neq 1\), and possibly the point \((1, 2 : m, n)\).

If \((1, 1 : j, k) \in T\), \(((j, k) \neq (m, n))\) since we assume that the point is in \(I\), then we can find an \(e\), \(1 \leq e \leq n\), such that \((1, e : j, k) \not\in T\), since there are \(n\) such elements and our set has at most \(n - 1\) elements. The map \(\sigma_e^i \in H^1\) will map \(T\) to a set with \(\beta(1) = 0\), and then \(\delta_i^m\) can be used if necessary.

If \((1, k : 2, 1) \in T\), then there is an \(e\) such that \((1, k : 2, e) \not\in T\), so the map \(\sigma_e^2 \in H^2\) can be used, followed by \(\delta_i^m\) if necessary.

Finally, if \(m = 3\) and \(n\) is odd, then \(C\) corrects at most \(t = n - 1\) errors, so we have a PD-set. ■
5 Conclusion

Based on computations and similar arguments to those in the propositions, we believe that the codes for all the graphs $L_m(n)$ will have PD-sets for full error correction, although we have only found explicit sets for certain classes.

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References


