

Construction Method for Infinite Families of Bent-Sequences

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Abstract— Bent-sequences is one of the most important classes of Boolean functions, which are widely used in modern cryptographic algorithms, and telecommunication systems that are based on CDMA and OFDM standards. The problem of synthesis of bent-sequences of large lengths is actual and widely discussed. However, in view of the high complexity and unpredictability of the class of bent-sequences, the creation of methods for their synthesis faces significant difficulties. In this paper, a recursive method for constructing infinite families of bent-sequences, based on easily synthesized bent-sequences of small length, has been developed. As the basis of this method, the operations of interleaving of elements and strings, which are widely used in the theory of synthesis of perfect binary arrays, are applied. Effective reproduction rules for bent-sequences in the time domain based on the operation of rearrangement of segments, a rotor, and dimensional changes are proposed. The method developed allows rapid acquisition of a lot of bent-sequences of any predefined length. Moreover, the obtained bent-sequences belong to different classes according to Agievich classification, which is important from the cryptographic point of view.

Index Terms — bent-sequence, Maiorana-McFarland construction, recursive method.

I. INTRODUCTION

One of the most important classes of Boolean functions, which are widely used in cryptography, coding theory, extended-range communication systems, and other fields of science and technology are bent-sequences. This class, discovered in the 1960s by O. Rothaus [1], is still an object of close attention of many researchers working in the branch of communication theory and mathematics. Being maximally non-linear, bent-sequences allows to resist most effectively the attacks of linear cryptanalysis – approximation by affine functions. Bent-sequences also have a uniform distribution of the absolute values of the Walsh-Hadamard spectrum [2], which makes them indispensable in the tasks of rational use of transmitter power in digital information transmission systems. For this reason, bent-sequences are successfully applied in such modern standards of digital communication such as CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) and OFDM (Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiplexing), and also common cryptographic algorithms such as CAST-256 (block symmetric cipher), HAVAL (hashing algorithm), Grain (stream cipher), and many others.

Of course, such a wide use of bent-sequences in modern information transmission systems makes actual the problem of synthesis of complete classes of these signals for arbitrary length $N = 2^k$, where k is even. However, in view of the

peculiarities of the class of bent-sequences, whose structure is very unpredictable, this problem, in the general case, has not yet been solved. Moreover, currently, in the literature, there are not even asymptotic estimates of the bent-sequences class cardinality for values $k > 8$. Existing estimates of the cardinalities of bent-functions classes are mainly based on the well-known Maiorana-McFarland construction [3], which uses the recursive algorithm for constructing Hadamard matrices for the construction of bent-sequences. Anyhow, it turns out that the Maiorana-McFarland construction allows acquisition of only a very small part of the bent-sequences in comparison with their full class, which certainly significantly hampers the full use of their beneficial properties in modern information technology.

The purpose of this article is to develop a new effective method for constructing infinite families of bent-sequences based on existing small-length bent-sequences that can be easily found in accordance with known regular methods [4,5].

II. MAIORANA-MCFARLAND AND DVORNIKOV CONSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with the definition [4], the binary sequence $\mathbf{B} = [b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{N-1}]$, where $b_i \in \{\pm 1\}$ are coefficients, of even length $N = 2^k$, $k = 2, 4, 6, \dots$ is called a bent-sequence if it has a uniform absolute value of Walsh-Hadamard spectrum, which is representable in matrix form

$$\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{B}}(\omega) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}, \quad \omega = 0, 1, \dots, 2^{k-1}, \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{A} is the Walsh-Hadamard matrix of order N . We note, that bent-sequence is considered as a truth table of corresponding bent-function.

Based on the definition of the bent-function, each spectral coefficient of the sequence $\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{B}}(\omega = 0), \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{B}}(\omega = 1), \dots, \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{B}}(\omega = N-1)$ takes values from the set $\{\pm\sqrt{N}\}$.

The most effective of the known methods of recursive construction of bent-sequences of length N is the Maiorana-McFarland construction [3], which is based on the concatenation of rows of the Hadamard matrix \mathbf{A} of order $L = \sqrt{N}$, as well as all possible $L!$ permutations of its rows and 2^L of their sign encodings. Then, in turn, the Hadamard matrix of each successive order is constructed in accordance with the well-known recurrence rule [6]

introduced in [6, 8] for the recursive construction of perfect binary arrays. Schematically, the operation of interleaving the first two rows of the matrix β_1 can be represented as the following algebraic construction

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{cccccc} + & - & - & + & - & + \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ - & & + & & - & + \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \{ + - - + - - + + \} \quad (14)$$

Similarly, by interleaving each two neighboring rows of matrices β_1, β_2 we construct auxiliary matrices Z_1, Z_2 of the size $\sqrt{N}/2 \times 2\sqrt{N}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Z_1 = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \end{bmatrix}; \\ Z_2 = \begin{bmatrix} - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \right. \quad (15)$$

Step 5. We build new bent-sequences in the form of matrices β'_1 and β'_2 of size $2\sqrt{N} \times 2\sqrt{N}$ by the rules

$$\beta'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} Z_1 \\ \cup \\ Z_2 \\ cat \\ Z_1 \\ \cup \\ -Z_2 \end{bmatrix}, \beta'_2 = \begin{bmatrix} Z_1 \\ \cup \\ Z_2 \\ cat \\ -Z_1 \\ \cup \\ Z_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

where the operator \cup means the interleaving of lines — a consecutive line spacing of the rows of the lower matrix between the rows of the upper matrix; *cat* is the operation of vertical concatenation (union) of two submatrices.

For our example, we obtain matrices β'_1 and β'_2 , of size 8×8 corresponding to bents-sequences of length $N' = (2\sqrt{N})^2 = 4N = 64$

$$\beta'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & + & - & - & - & + & + \end{bmatrix}, \quad (17)$$

$$\beta'_2 = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \end{bmatrix}$$

As the next step we increase the cardinality of obtained bent-sequences by using the following Rules:

Rule R1. We represent matrices β'_1 and β'_2 in the following form

$$\beta = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}, \quad (18)$$

by simply dividing the original matrix of the size $\sqrt{N'} \times \sqrt{N'}$ into 4 parts of size $\sqrt{N'}/2 \times \sqrt{N'}/2$, as, for example, is shown for the matrix β'_1

$$\beta'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + \\ - & + & + & - \\ - & + & - & + \\ + & - & - & + \end{bmatrix} & B = \begin{bmatrix} - & - & + & + \\ - & - & + & + \\ + & + & + & + \\ + & + & + & + \end{bmatrix} \\ C = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + \\ - & + & + & - \\ - & + & - & + \\ + & - & - & + \end{bmatrix} & D = \begin{bmatrix} - & - & + & + \\ - & - & + & + \\ + & + & + & + \\ + & + & + & + \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

Performing $4! = 24$ permutations of the blocks A, B, C, D , we obtain from the original matrix $J_1 = 24$ new matrices corresponding to the bent-sequences.

Rule R2. The operation of the rotor to $90^\circ, 180^\circ, 270^\circ$ preserves the properties of the bent-sequence generating matrix and allows to obtain $J_2 = 4$ new bent-sequences on the basis of one initial matrix. For example, a matrix β'_1 rotor leads to the appearance of the following new structures

$$\beta'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & + & - & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & + & - & - & - & + & + \end{bmatrix},$$

$$rot_{90}(\beta'_1) = \begin{bmatrix} + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ - & - & + & - & + & + & - \\ - & - & + & - & + & + & - \\ + & - & + & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & - & - & - & - & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + \\ + & - & - & - & + & + & - \end{bmatrix},$$

$$rot_{180}(\beta'_1) = \begin{bmatrix} - & - & - & - & + & - & + \\ + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ - & - & + & - & + & + & - \\ + & - & + & + & + & + & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ + & + & - & - & + & - & + \end{bmatrix},$$

$$rot_{270}(\beta'_1) = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & + & + & - & - & + \\ - & + & - & - & + & + & - \\ + & - & - & - & - & - & + \\ - & + & + & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & - & - & + & + & + \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

Rule R3. Representation of the original matrix in the form of rectangles of dimensions $L/2\lambda \times 2\lambda L$, $\lambda = 2^0, 2^1, \dots, 2^{\log_2 k-1}$ and selection of elements by columns. For example, for the size of the original matrix 8×8 , these are rectangles 2×32 and 4×16 , which for the matrix β'_1 have the following form

$$(\beta'_1)_{2 \times 32} = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \end{bmatrix};$$

$$(\beta'_1)_{4 \times 16} = \begin{bmatrix} + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \end{bmatrix}$$

