

A CONSTRUCTION FOR MAXIMAL $(+1, -1)$ - MATRIX OF ORDER 54^1

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Let m_n be an $n \times n$ matrix with entries $+1$ or -1 and α_n be the maximal absolute value of $\det(m_n)$. When $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, it is known that

$$\alpha_n^2 \leq 4(n-2)^{n-2}(n-1)^2 = \mu_n \quad (\text{see Ehlich [1]})$$

and

$$\alpha_n = \mu_n^{1/2}, \quad \text{for } n \leq 50, \text{ except } n = 22 \text{ and } 34 \quad (\text{see [1], [2]}).$$

It is found that the above equality also holds for $n = 54$.

The maximal $(+1, -1)$ -matrix M of order 54 can be constructed as follows:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ -A_2^T & A_1^T \end{pmatrix},$$

where A_1, A_2 are circulant matrices of order 27 and T indicates the transposed matrix. The first rows of A_1 and A_2 are found respectively as:

A_1 : $-+-+ - ++-++ ++++++ +-+++ - -++++ - -$

A_2 : $-++++ +-+-+ -++-+ +-++++ - -++- - -$

where $-$ means -1 and $+$ stands for $+1$. The absolute value of $\det(M)$ can be obtained easily from

$$MM^T = \begin{pmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where } P = \begin{bmatrix} 54 & & & 2 \\ & \cdot & & \\ & & \cdot & \\ 2 & & & 54 \end{bmatrix}.$$

REFERENCES

1. H. Ehlich, *Determinantenabschätzungen für binäre Matrizen*, Math. Z. **83** (1964), 123-132.
2. C. H. Yang, *Some designs for maximal $(+1, -1)$ -determinant of order $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$* , Math. Comp. **20** (1966), 147-148.

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