

**WEIGHING MATRICES: GENERALIZATIONS, RELATED  
CONFIGURATIONS**

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## **DEDICATION**

To my wife and son who changed everything.



## **ABSTRACT**

It is the purpose of this thesis to explore the relationships that exist between weighing matrices, including their generalizations, and various other combinatorial configurations.

Principally, it will be shown that any balanced generalized weighing matrix with entries from a finite abelian group is equivalent to the existence of families of commutative association schemes.

Additionally, novel constructions of related combinatorial configurations are presented such as balancedly splittable orthogonal designs and new families of balanced weighing matrices.





## **PREFACE**



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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# Contents

<b>Dedication</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Preface</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>List of Symbols</b>	<b>xiii</b>

## **I Preliminaries**

### **Chapter 1. A Study of Incidence: Block designs, error-correcting codes**

§1. Balanced Incomplete Block Designs . . . . .	3
1.1. Definition and Necessary Parametric Conditions . . . . .	3
1.2. Related Configurations . . . . .	8
1.3. Difference Set Construction I . . . . .	11
1.4. Isomorphisms of Designs . . . . .	14
§2. Error-Correcting Codes . . . . .	16
2.1. Linear Codes . . . . .	16
2.2. The Hamming and Simplex Codes . . . . .	20
Notes . . . . .	23

### **Chapter 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations**

§3. Weighing Matrices . . . . .	25
3.1. Definitions . . . . .	26
3.2. Necessary Conditions on Existence . . . . .	28
3.3. Complex Weighing Matrices . . . . .	30
3.4. Difference Set Construction II . . . . .	31
3.5. Isomorphisms of Weighing Matrices . . . . .	34
§4. Balanced Generalized Weighing Matrices . . . . .	35
4.1. Generalized weighing matrices . . . . .	36
4.2. Generalized Bhaskar Rao Designs . . . . .	37
4.3. Properties and Simple Constructions . . . . .	39

4.4.	Difference Set Construction III . . . . .	42
4.5.	Monomial Equivalence . . . . .	44
§5.	Orthogonal Designs . . . . .	45
5.1.	Definitions . . . . .	45
5.2.	Sequences and Circulants . . . . .	47
Notes	. . . . .	49

### Chapter 3. Association Schemes

§6.	Strongly Regular Graphs . . . . .	51
6.1.	Definition and Elementary Properties . . . . .	52
6.2.	Eigenvalues . . . . .	55
6.3.	Generated Matrix Algebra . . . . .	56
§7.	Association Schemes . . . . .	57
7.1.	Definitions . . . . .	58
7.2.	Adjacency Algebras . . . . .	59
7.3.	Parameters . . . . .	61
7.4.	Intersection Matrices . . . . .	64
Notes	. . . . .	65

## II Results

### Chapter 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

§8.	Balancedly Splittable Hadamard Matrices . . . . .	69
8.1.	Definition . . . . .	69
8.2.	Equiangular Lines . . . . .	71
8.3.	Constructions . . . . .	72
§9.	Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs . . . . .	75
9.1.	Definition . . . . .	75
9.2.	Unfaithful Constructions . . . . .	76
9.3.	Faithful Construction . . . . .	82
§10.	Related Configurations . . . . .	88
10.1.	Quasi-Symmetric BIBDs . . . . .	88
10.2.	Equiangular Tight Frames . . . . .	91
10.3.	Unbiased Orthogonal Designs . . . . .	94
Notes	. . . . .	96

### Chapter 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

§11.	Generalized Kronecker Product . . . . .	99
11.1.	Definitions . . . . .	100
11.2.	A First Application: Block designs . . . . .	102
11.3.	A Second Application: Bkaskar Rao designs . . . . .	104
§12.	A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices . . . . .	105

12.1.	Lemmata . . . . .	105
12.2.	Construction . . . . .	109
§13.	Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes . . . . .	111
13.1.	Adjacency Matrices . . . . .	112
13.2.	Character Tables . . . . .	114
Notes	. . . . .	117
 <b>Chapter 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices</b>		
§14.	A General Method . . . . .	119
14.1.	A First Application: Weighing matrices . . . . .	120
14.2.	A Second Application: Block designs . . . . .	123
§15.	BGW Matrices and Association Schemes . . . . .	126
15.1.	Adjacency Matrices . . . . .	126
15.2.	Character Tables . . . . .	129
Notes	. . . . .	134
 <b>Bibliography</b>		<b>135</b>
 <b>Index</b>		<b>141</b>





## LIST OF SYMBOLS

$\mathbf{N}$	The additive semigroup of natural numbers $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .
$\mathbf{Z}$	The ring of integers $\{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$ .
$\mathbf{Q}$	The rational number field $\{\frac{n}{m} : n, m \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ .
$\mathbf{R}$	The real number field.
$\mathbf{C}$	The complex number field $\{x + y\sqrt{-1} : x, y \in \mathbf{R}\}$ .
$\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$	The integers modulo $n$ $\{\bar{0}, \dots, \overline{n-1}\}$ .
$\text{GF}(q)$	The Galois field of $q$ elements.
$\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$	A balanced incomplete block design with point set $X$ and block set $\mathcal{B}$ .
$\text{BIBD}(v, k, \lambda)$	A balanced incomplete block design with associated parameters.
$\mathfrak{C}(\mathbf{D})$	Complementary design of $\mathbf{D}$ .
$\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{D})$	Residual design of $\mathbf{D}$ .
$\mathfrak{D}(\mathbf{D})$	Derived design of $\mathbf{D}$ .
$A(\mathbf{D})$	Incidence matrix of the design $\mathbf{D}$ .
$\text{GDD}(m, n, k, \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$	A group divisible design with associated parameters.
$\text{DS}(v, k, \lambda)$	A difference set of size $k$ on a group of order $v$ with index $\lambda$ .
$\text{Dev}(D)$	The development of the set $D$ .
$\text{D}(m, q)$	Singer difference set.
$\text{RDS}(m, n, k, \lambda)$	A relative difference set of size $k$ , on a group of order $mn$ , with index $\lambda$ , and relative to a normal subgroup of order $n$ .
$\text{P}(m, q)$	The projective space of dimension $m$ .
$[n, k, d, w]_q\text{-code}$	A linear code in $\text{GF}(q^n)$ of dimension $k$ , minimum distance $d$ , and minimum weight $w$ .
$(n, M, d, w)_q\text{-code}$	A nonlinear code in an alphabet of $q$ letters of length $n$ , with $M$ codewords, minimum distance $d$ , and minimum weight $w$ .
$A_q(n, d, w)$	The maximum size of any $(n, M, d, w)_q\text{-code}$ , i.e. $M \leq A_q(n, d, w)$ .
$\mathbf{W}(v, k)$	A weighing matrix of order $v$ and weight $k$ .
$\mathbf{BW}(v, k; n)$	A Butson weighing matrix of order $v$ and weight $k$ over the $n$ -th roots of unity.
$\mathbf{GW}(v, k; G)$	A generalized weighing matrix of order $v$ and weight $k$ over the finite group $G$ .
$\mathbf{GBRD}(v, k, \lambda; G)$	A generalized Bhaskar Rao design over the finite group $G$ with associated parameters.

$\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$	A balanced generalized weighing matrix of order $v$ , weight $k$ , and index $\lambda/ G $ , over the finite group $G$ .
$\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$	A strongly regular graph with associated parameters.
$A(\Gamma)$	The adjacency matrix of the graph $\Gamma$ .
$\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$	An association scheme with point set $X$ and relations $\mathcal{R}$ .
$\tau(A)$	The sum of the elements of the matrix $A$ .
$\text{Tr}(A)$	The sum of the diagonal elements of the matrix $A$ .
$\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$	A generalized simplex code.
$\mathcal{H}_{q,n}$	A generalized Hamming code.
$A \otimes B$	The Kronecker product of $A$ by $B$ .

## **Part I**

# **Preliminaries**



# 1

## **A Study of Incidence: Block designs, error-correcting codes**

This first preliminary chapter introduces incidence in the context of two different but related objects. The first section will discuss the fundamental incidence structure underlying our constructions, namely, the balanced incomplete block designs. The second and final section moves on to consider in brief error-correcting codes.

### **§1. Balanced Incomplete Block Designs**

This section presents some basic definitions and results about block designs that will be used throughout this work. Particular emphasis will be placed on matrix representations of such objects.

\* \* \*

*1.1. Definition and Necessary Parametric Conditions.* Consider the following example (see MacWilliams and Sloane, 1977, §2.5). From a group of individ-

## 1. A Study of Incidence

uals, we must choose a number of committees, each of identical size, such that the appearances of each of the individuals among the various committees are equinumerous, as are the appearances of each of the  $t$ -subsets of the individuals. To be concrete, given eight individuals, can we arrange them into some number of committees of size four such that each individual is replicated the same number of times, and such that each triple of individuals is replicated precisely once.

This problem is solved by the following configuration where  $\{a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h\}$  is our collection of individuals. The groups, or committees, are given by the following.

$$\begin{array}{llll} \{a, b, e, f\}, & \{c, d, g, h\}, & \{a, c, e, g\}, & \{b, d, f, h\}, \\ \{a, d, e, h\}, & \{b, c, f, g\}, & \{a, b, c, d\}, & \{e, f, g, h\}, \\ \{a, b, g, h\}, & \{c, d, e, f\}, & \{a, c, f, h\}, & \{b, d, e, g\}, \\ \{a, d, f, g\}, & \{b, c, e, h\}. & & \end{array}$$

This configuration is an example of a so-called  $t$ -design. The case that  $t = 2$  is the case with which we will concern ourselves. In what follows, we use  $\binom{X}{k}$  to denote the  $k$ -subsets of a set  $X$ .

**1.1. Definition.** Let  $X$  be a set of order  $v$ , called the set of varieties; and let  $\mathcal{B} \subset \binom{X}{k}$ , called the set of blocks, have order  $b$ . The ordered pair  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is a *balanced incomplete block design* (henceforth BIBD) if there is a positive integer  $\lambda$  such that each 2-subset of varieties appears in  $\lambda$  blocks of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

The conditions placed on a finite set and a collection of its subsets in order to form a BIBD are quite strong, and we have at once the following result.

## 1. A Study of Incidence

**1.2. Proposition.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be a BIBD with  $|X| = v$ , and  $\mathcal{B} \subset \binom{X}{k}$  for which  $|\mathcal{B}| = b$ . Then:

(1.2.a) Every point of  $X$  occurs in  $r = \frac{\lambda(v-1)}{k-1}$  blocks, and

(1.2.b) there are  $b = \frac{vr}{k} = \frac{\lambda v(v-1)}{k(k-1)}$  blocks in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x \in X$ , and take  $r_x = \#\{B \in \mathcal{B} : B \ni x\}$ . We count in two ways the number of ordered pairs  $(y, B)$  such that  $y \in X \setminus \{x\}$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , and  $\{x, y\} \in B$ .

To begin, there are  $v - 1$  ways to choose  $y$  different from  $x$ . For each choice of  $y$ , there are  $\lambda$  blocks  $B$  which contain both  $x$  and  $y$ . On the other hand, there are  $r_x$  ways to choose  $B$ , and there are  $k - 1$  remaining points in  $B$  different from  $x$ .

We have just shown that  $r_x(k - 1) = \lambda(v - 1)$ . Since this argument was independent of the choice of  $x$ , this shows (1.2.a).

Recall  $b = |\mathcal{B}|$ . As above, we will employ double counting; we will count the number of ordered pairs  $(x, B)$  such that  $x \in X$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $x \in B$ .

First, there are  $b$  blocks, and, for each block, there are  $k$  points in this block. Second, there are  $v$  points, and, for each point, we have already shown that there are  $r$  blocks containing this point. All this shows that  $bk = vr$ . Substituting (1.2.a) into this result yields the final equality in (1.2.b). ■

Since these parameters are integers, we have the following immediate consequence.

**1.3. Corollary.** For the parameters  $v, k, \lambda$  of a BIBD, it must hold that

(1.3.a)  $\lambda(v - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{k - 1}$ , and

(1.3.b)  $\lambda v(v - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{k(k - 1)}$ .

## 1. A Study of Incidence

If  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is a BIBD with the parameters shown above, then we denote this property as  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ . As we have seen, however, the parameters  $b$  and  $r$  are expressible in terms of  $v$ ,  $k$ , and  $\lambda$ ; hence, we will usually shorten the denotation to  $\text{BIBD}(v, k, \lambda)$  whenever no confusion will arise.

Corollary 1.3 imposes some necessary conditions on the parameters of a BIBD. Our next result, due to Fisher (1940), is a strong necessary condition relating the number of points to the number of blocks of a BIBD, and it has far reaching consequences in the applications of designs to fields like statistics.

**1.4. Fisher's Inequality.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be a  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ . It follows that

$$(1.4.a) \quad b \geq v.$$

**Proof.** We will apply the technique of variance counting<sup>1</sup>) as given in Cameron (1994). Let  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , and, for  $i \in \{0, \dots, k\}$ , let

$$n_i = \#\{B' \in \mathcal{B} : B' \neq B \text{ and } |B \cap B'| = i\}.$$

Since there are  $b - 1$  blocks distinct from  $B$ , we have immediately that  $\sum_i n_i = b - 1$ .

We next count pairs  $(x, B')$  where  $x \in X$ ,  $B' \in \mathcal{B}$  with  $B' \neq B$ , and  $x \in B' \cap B$ . First, there are  $k$  points  $x$  in  $B$ , and there are  $r - 1$  remaining blocks  $B'$  that contain  $x$ . Second, there are  $n_i$  blocks  $B'$  for which there are  $i$  points in  $B \cap B'$ . This establishes the equality  $\sum_i i n_i = k(r - 1)$ .

Counting triples  $(x_1, x_2, B')$  where  $x_1 \neq x_2$ ,  $B' \neq B$ , and  $x_1, x_2 \in B \cap B'$ , we see that there are  $k$  choices for  $x_1$ ,  $k - 1$  choices for  $x_2$ , and  $\lambda - 1$  blocks  $B'$  different from  $B$  that contain both points. Second, if  $|B \cap B'| = i$ , then there are  $i$  choices for  $x_1$ ,  $i - 1$  choices for  $x_2$ , and there are  $n_i$  such blocks  $B'$ . Hence, we



## 1. A Study of Incidence

have  $\sum_i i(i-1)n_i = k(k-1)(\lambda-1)$ .

Using the equalities just derived, we find that  $\sum_{i=0}^k i^2 n_i = k(r-1) + k(k-1)(\lambda-1)$ , hence

$$\sum_{i=0}^k (z-i)^2 n_i = (b-1)z^2 - 2k(r-1)z + [k(r-1) + k(k-1)(\lambda-1)],$$

for some variable  $z$ . From the left-hand side, it follows that the quadratic is positive semi-definite; so, the discriminant of the right-hand side is non-positive, that is,

$$k^2(r-1)^2 - (b-1)k[(r-1) + (k-1)(\lambda-1)] \leq 0.$$

Using (1.2.a) and (1.2.b), and multiplying by  $v-1$ , the above equality becomes

$$k^2(r-1)^2(v-1) - (vr-k)(r-k)(v-1) - (vr-k)r(k-1)^2 \leq 0.$$

This simplifies to  $(k-r)r(v-k)^2 \leq 0$ ; and, since  $r > 0$  and  $(v-k)^2 > 0$ , it follows that  $k \leq r$ . Again using (1.2.b), it must be that  $v \leq b$ , as desired. ■

The extremal case of Fisher's inequality is naturally very interesting and important. We single this case out thus.

**1.5. Definition.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be some BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ). If  $v = b$  (equiv.  $k = r$ ), then we say that  $\mathbf{D}$  is a *symmetric* balanced incomplete block design, or simply symmetric.

**1.6. Example.** Take  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13\}$ , and let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the collection of blocks given by

$$\begin{array}{lll} \{1, 2, 8, 13\}, & \{2, 7, 9, 10\}, & \{1, 3, 4, 7\}, \\ \{4, 8, 10, 11\}, & \{2, 4, 5, 6\}, & \{6, 7, 8, 12\}, \end{array}$$

## 1. A Study of Incidence

$$\begin{array}{lll} \{5, 7, 11, 13\}, & \{3, 5, 8, 9\}, & \{1, 6, 9, 11\}, \\ \{1, 5, 10, 12\}, & \{2, 3, 11, 12\}, & \{4, 9, 12, 13\}, \\ \{3, 6, 10, 13\}. \end{array}$$

Then  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is a symmetric BIBD(13, 4, 1); in fact, it is a projective plane of order 3 (see §1.3).

\* \* \*

**1.2. Related Configurations.** Thus far, we have been thinking of designs strictly as subsets of some finite set. We can, however, broaden our view to include the following tool, and in so doing the theory of linear algebra can be brought to bear on the subject.

**1.7. Definition.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (\{x_0, \dots, x_{v-1}\}, \{B_0, \dots, B_{b-1}\})$  be a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ), and let  $A$  be a  $v \times b$   $(0, 1)$ -matrix defined by

$$(1.7.a) \quad A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_i \in B_j, \text{ and} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_i \notin B_j. \end{cases}$$

We call  $A$  the *incidence matrix* of the design.

The next result is immediate. Note that we use  $I_n$  and  $J_n$  to denote the identity matrix and the all ones matrix, respectively, of  $n$  rows and  $n$  columns. Similarly,  $\mathbf{1}_n$  and  $\mathbf{0}_n$  will denote the column with  $n$  ones and the column with  $n$  zeros. For simplicity, the indices will at times be omitted.

**1.8. Proposition.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (\{x_0, \dots, x_{v-1}\}, \{B_0, \dots, B_{b-1}\})$  be a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ), and let  $A$  be a  $v \times b$   $(0, 1)$ -matrix. Then  $A$  is the incidence matrix of the design if and only if the following hold.

$$(1.8.a) \quad AA^t = rI_v + \lambda(J_v - I_v), \text{ and}$$

$$(1.8.b) \quad \mathbf{1}_v^t A = k\mathbf{1}_b^t.$$

## 1. A Study of Incidence

**Proof.** To show sufficiency, assume that  $A$  is the incidence matrix of a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ) with rows indexed as  $r_0, \dots, r_{v-1}$ . Then  $r_i r_i^t = \sum_k A_{ik}^2 = \sum_k A_{ik}$ . Since there are  $r$  blocks containing the point  $x_i$ , it follows that there are  $r$  indices  $k$  for which  $A_{ik} = 1$ ; hence,  $r_i r_i^t = r$ .

Similarly, for  $i \neq j$ , we have  $r_i r_j^t = \sum_k A_{ik} A_{jk}$ . Since there are  $\lambda$  blocks containing the 2-subset  $\{x_i, x_j\}$ , it follows that there are  $\lambda$  indices  $k$  such that  $A_{ik} = A_{jk} = 1$ . We have, then,  $r_i r_j^t = \lambda$ , and (1.8.a) holds.

Finally, (1.8.b) is clear since there are  $k$  points in every block. Necessity follows by simply transposing the above argument. ■

To show the utility of the incidence matrices, we will give a necessary and sufficient condition under which a design can be symmetric (see Cameron and van Lint, 1991, Theorem 1.14).

**1.9. Proposition.** For a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ) with  $k < v$ , the following are equivalent.

(1.9.a)  $b = v$ ;

(1.9.b)  $r = k$ ;

(1.9.c) any two blocks intersect at  $\lambda$  points; and

(1.9.d) any two blocks intersect at a constant number of points.

**Proof.** That (1.9.a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (1.9.b) is clear. To show (1.9.b)  $\Rightarrow$  (1.9.c), let  $A$  be the incidence matrix of the design. Then Proposition 1.8 shows that  $A^t J = J A^t = kJ$ , hence  $A^t$  commutes with  $rI + \lambda(J - I)$  and with  $[rI + \lambda(J - I)](A^t)^{-1} = A$ . Therefore,  $A^t A = rI + \lambda(J - I)$ , which demonstrates the implication.

Since (1.9.c)  $\Rightarrow$  (1.9.d) is trivial, it remains to show (1.9.d)  $\Rightarrow$  (1.9.a). To do this, we will need the concept of a dual design: If  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  is a BIBD, then

## 1. A Study of Incidence

its dual is the pair  $(X^t, \mathcal{B}^t)$  where  $X^t = \mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}^t = \{\beta_x : x \in X\}$ , with  $\beta_x = \{B \in \mathcal{B} : B \ni x\}$ .

Clearly, the dual structure is again a design if and only if (1.9.d) holds. An application of (1.4.a) then yields (1.9.a). ■

As balanced incomplete block designs can more generally be regarded as finite incidence structures<sup>2</sup>), there can be related a number of further such structures. For our purposes, we will be interested in the following.

**1.10. Definition.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be a BIBD, and let  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then the *complement design*  $\mathfrak{C}(\mathbf{D})$  is the pair  $(X, \binom{X}{k} \setminus \mathcal{B})$ . If  $\mathbf{D}$  is symmetric, we have that the *derived design*  $\mathfrak{D}(\mathbf{D})$  is the pair  $(B_0, \{B \cap B_0 : B \in \mathcal{B} \text{ and } B \neq B_0\})$ , and the *residual design*  $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{D})$  is the pair  $(X \setminus B_0, \{B - B_0 : B \in \mathcal{B} \text{ and } B \neq B_0\})$ . When convenient, we will simply denote the complement, derived, and residual designs as  $\mathfrak{C}$ ,  $\mathfrak{D}$ , and  $\mathfrak{R}$ , respectively.

The next result is immediate.

**1.11. Proposition.** Let  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be a  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ . Then

(1.11.a)  $\mathfrak{C}$  is a  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, b - r, v - k, b - 2r + \lambda)$ .

If  $\mathbf{D}$  is symmetric, then we further have that

(1.11.b)  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a  $\text{BIBD}(k, b - 1, k - 1, \lambda, \lambda - 1)$ , and

(1.11.c)  $\mathfrak{R}$  is a  $\text{BIBD}(v - k, b - 1, k, k - \lambda, \lambda)$ .

**Proof.** The result is most easily seen using incidence matrices. To that effect, assume  $\mathbf{D}$  is symmetric, let  $A$  be its incidence matrix, and note that by permuting the rows and columns, we may assume (see §1.4) that it has the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{v-k} & A_1 \\ \mathbf{1}_k & A_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 1. A Study of Incidence

Then  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are the incidence matrices of the derived and residual designs of  $\mathbf{D}$ . (1.11.b) and (1.11.c) now follow.

It remains to note that  $\mathfrak{C}$  has the incidence matrix  $J - A$  (where the design is not assumed to be symmetric here), and (1.11.a) follows. ■

Notice that for  $\mathfrak{R}$ ,  $r = \lambda + k$ ; and for  $\mathfrak{D}$ ,  $k = \lambda + 1$ . Conversely, if there is a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ) satisfying  $r = k + \lambda$ , then we say that it is *quasi-residual*; if instead  $k = \lambda + 1$ , then we say that it is *quasi-derived*.

\* \* \*

**1.3. Difference Set Construction I.** To present a unifying thread of the material in these preliminary chapters, we will introduce the concept of a difference set. We first look to the following example given in Hall (1986).

Consider the subset  $D = \{\bar{1}, \bar{5}, \bar{6}, \bar{8}\}$  of  $\mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}$ . We examine the possible differences between distinct elements of  $D$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} \bar{1} = \bar{6} - \bar{5}, & \bar{7} = \bar{8} - \bar{1}, \\ \bar{2} = \bar{8} - \bar{6}, & \bar{8} = \bar{1} - \bar{6}, \\ \bar{3} = \bar{8} - \bar{5}, & \bar{9} = \bar{1} - \bar{5}, \\ \bar{4} = \bar{5} - \bar{1}, & \bar{10} = \bar{5} - \bar{8}, \\ \bar{5} = \bar{6} - \bar{1}, & \bar{11} = \bar{6} - \bar{8}, \\ \bar{6} = \bar{1} - \bar{8}, & \bar{12} = \bar{5} - \bar{6}. \end{array}$$

We see that each element of  $(\mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}) \setminus \{\bar{0}\} = \{\bar{1}, \dots, \bar{12}\}$  appears precisely once as a difference of elements of  $D$ . To see the significance of such a configuration, consider now the translates  $B_x = \bar{x} + D$ , for  $\bar{x} \in \mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}$ . In ascending order,

$$B_0 = \{\bar{1}, \bar{5}, \bar{6}, \bar{8}\}, \quad B_7 = \{\bar{0}, \bar{2}, \bar{8}, \bar{12}\},$$

## 1. A Study of Incidence

$$\begin{aligned}
B_1 &= \{\overline{2}, \overline{6}, \overline{7}, \overline{9}\}, & B_8 &= \{\overline{0}, \overline{1}, \overline{3}, \overline{9}\}, \\
B_2 &= \{\overline{3}, \overline{7}, \overline{8}, \overline{10}\}, & B_9 &= \{\overline{1}, \overline{2}, \overline{4}, \overline{10}\}, \\
B_3 &= \{\overline{4}, \overline{8}, \overline{9}, \overline{11}\}, & B_{10} &= \{\overline{2}, \overline{3}, \overline{5}, \overline{11}\}, \\
B_4 &= \{\overline{5}, \overline{9}, \overline{10}, \overline{12}\}, & B_{11} &= \{\overline{3}, \overline{4}, \overline{6}, \overline{12}\}, \\
B_5 &= \{\overline{0}, \overline{6}, \overline{10}, \overline{11}\}, & B_{12} &= \{\overline{0}, \overline{4}, \overline{5}, \overline{7}\}. \\
B_6 &= \{\overline{1}, \overline{7}, \overline{11}, \overline{12}\},
\end{aligned}$$

Examining these translates, we see that they are distinct, each group element appears in 4 sets, and each pair of distinct points appears in 1 block; that is, we see that these blocks together with  $\mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}$  form a symmetric BIBD(13, 4, 1).

This construction also shows that the maps  $i \mapsto i + j$ , for each  $j \in \mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}$ , are each an automorphism of the design; in particular, the group of automorphisms (see Definition 1.15) of the design has a subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}$  which acts sharply transitively<sup>3</sup>) on the design.

All this motivates the following definition.

**1.12. Definition.** Let  $G$  be an additive finite abelian group of order  $v$ . Let  $D \in \binom{G}{k}$ , for  $k < v$ . Following Beth et al. (1999), we define  $\Delta(D)$  to be the multiset of differences between distinct elements of  $D$ . We say that  $D$  is a *difference set* if

$$(1.12.a) \quad \Delta(D) = \lambda(G \setminus \{0\}), \text{ for some } \lambda \in \mathbf{N}.$$

We write  $D$  is a  $\text{DS}(v, k, \lambda)$  in the group  $G$ . The collection of all the translates  $g + D$ , for  $g \in G$ , is called the *development*  $\text{Dev}(D)$  of  $D$ .

The importance of these objects to designs is encapsulated in the following result, which we do not pause to prove (see Hall, 1986, Theorem 11.1.2).

**1.13. Theorem.** A  $k$ -subset  $D$  of a group  $G$  is a  $\text{DS}(v, k, \lambda)$  if and only if  $\text{Dev}(D)$  is a symmetric BIBD( $v, k, \lambda$ ).

## 1. A Study of Incidence

**1.14. Corollary.** A symmetric design  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is the development of a difference set in a group  $G$  if and only if the group of automorphism of  $\mathbf{D}$  has a sharply transitive subgroup isomorphic to  $G$ .

We will need the following ideas from finite geometry. Let  $q$  be a prime power. If  $K = \text{GF}(q)$ , then recall that the extension field  $F = \text{GF}(q^{m+1})$  can be regarded as an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional vector space over  $K$ .

The  $m$ -dimensional projective space  $P(m, q)$  has points given by the non-trivial 1-dimensional subspaces of which there are  $(q^{m+1} - 1)/(q - 1)$ . If  $x$  is a projective point, and if  $V \subseteq F$  is a linear subspace, then either  $x \subseteq V$  or  $x \cap V = \emptyset$ . If  $V$  has dimension  $d + 1$ , then the collection of all projective points  $x \subseteq V$  forms a  $d$ -dimensional projective subspace of cardinality  $(q^{d+1} - 1)/(q - 1)$ .

The projective points, lines, planes, and hyperplanes are the 0-, 1-, 2-, and  $(m - 1)$ -dimensional projective subspaces, respectively. More generally, the  $d$ -dimensional projective subspaces are called  $d$ -flats.

It isn't difficult to show that any two distinct points are contained in precisely  $(q^{m-1} - 1)/(q - 1)$  hyperplanes. Evidently, then, the points and hyperplanes of  $P(m, q)$  form a square BIBD with parameters

$$\left( \frac{q^{m+1} - 1}{q - 1}, \frac{q^m - 1}{q - 1}, \frac{q^{m-1} - 1}{q - 1} \right).$$

It is well-known<sup>4</sup>) that the points of the space  $P(m, q)$  can be represented by the cyclic coset space  $G = F^*/K^*$ . If  $\pi : F^* \rightarrow F^*/K^*$  is the natural projection, and if  $H$  is any hyperplane of  $P(m, q)$ , then it follows by the comments above that  $\pi(H)$  is a difference set in  $G$  with parameters given above. The difference sets so constructed are the so-called Singer difference sets (Singer, 1938).

If  $D$  is a  $\text{DS}(v, k, \lambda)$  in a group  $G$ , then  $D^c = G \setminus D$  is clearly a  $\text{DS}(v, v - k, 2 - 2k + \lambda)$ . It follows that the complement of a Singer difference set in  $P(m, q)$

## 1. A Study of Incidence

is a difference set with parameters

$$\left( \frac{q^{m+1} - 1}{q - 1}, q^m, q^m - q^{m-1} \right).$$

We will follow Arasu et al. (1995) in labelling this difference set  $D(m, q)$ . It is customary to call such difference sets Singer difference sets as well, and we choose to follow this pattern.

\* \* \*

**1.4. Isomorphisms of Designs.** We conclude this section by briefly discussing isomorphisms of designs.

**1.15. Definition.** Let  $D_1 = (X_1, \mathcal{B}_1)$  and  $D_2 = (X_2, \mathcal{B}_2)$  be two BIBDs with the same parameters, and let  $f : X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  be some bijection. If  $f(\mathcal{B}_1) = \mathcal{B}_2$ , then we say that  $f$  is an *isomorphism* and that the two designs are *isomorphic*. For the case in which  $D_1 = D_2$ , we say that  $f$  is an *automorphism*. The collection of all automorphisms of a design  $D$  forms a group under composition called the *automorphism group* of the design.

In practice, one is usually concerned with the actions of isomorphisms on the incidence matrices of designs. In particular, two  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ s with incidence matrices  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are isomorphic if and only if there is a permutation matrix  $P$  of order  $v$  and a permutation matrix  $Q$  of order  $b$  such that

$$(1.15.a) \quad PA_1Q = A_2.^5)$$

**1.16. Definition.** As nothing essential is changed under the action of an isomorphism, one can then assume that the incidence matrix of a square design has the



## 1. A Study of Incidence

following form

$$(1.16.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{v-k} & A_1 \\ \mathbf{1}_k & A_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We will say that such an incidence matrix is in *normal form*.

**1.17. Example.** The projective plane of order 3 in Example 1.6 has the incidence matrix

$$(1.17.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

It can be rearranged, however, so that it has the incidence matrix

$$(1.17.b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where the residual and derived designs are easily seen. The residual is the affine plane of order 3.

## 1. A Study of Incidence

### §2. Error-Correcting Codes

In this section, the definitions of linear error-correcting codes will be given. We then move on to consider the famous generalized Hamming and simplex codes. As these are the only family of codes that we require, this section will be brief. The interested reader is referred to the standard references of Huffman and Pless (2003) and MacWilliams and Sloane (1977) for a greater exposition of the subject.

\* \* \*

**2.1. Linear Codes.** In elementary physics, we learn of the principal of superposition while studying oscillation theory; we learn how energy passing through a medium in the form of a wave can *interfere* with other such waves to create a new wave, the sum of the waves. This persists until these bursts of energy have passed.

The modern theories of communication and information seek to pass information via electrical signals (waves) passing through some channel (media). As information in the form of signals passes through the channel, it will invariably come into contact with other signals, whether latent or otherwise. The signal will then change, and there is no guarantee that the signal received will be the signal sent; whence, one of the fundamental problems of digital communication is exposed. It becomes necessary, then, to attempt a solution. Hill (1986) provides the following instructive example.

Imagine there are two possible messages that we would like to send: YES and NO. And suppose further that YES is encoded as 0 and NO as 1. If we had sent the message 0, there is the possibility of the single bit being flipped, i.e. 1 is received instead of 0, the initial message. The receiver would then have an incorrect message. It isn't difficult to envisage scenarios in which such an error would have a terrible impact.

## 1. A Study of Incidence

Instead, we will encode YES as 00000 and NO as 11111. If we sent 00000 through the channel, and if the receiver got 01000, then it would be reasonable to assume<sup>6)</sup> that the message intended was YES, a correct assumption. Since a single bit was all that was necessary to convey our minimal lexicon {YES, NO}, we see that the remaining 4 bits are *redundant*; however, we also see that these redundancies allowed us to correct the message in the case that any single bit was flipped. Similarly, if any two bits had been flipped, then we also would have correctly interpreted the message. If, however, we sent 00000 and received 00111, then we would have interpreted this message as 11111, clearly incorrect. So we see that there is a limitation of our ability to correct errors in transmission, but this is hardly unexpected. In any event, the ability to detect and correct errors is a remarkable property whose importance cannot be overstated in today's digital world.

The process of appending to 0 and 1 the redundant strings of bits 0000 and 1111, respectively, is called *encoding*, and we now introduce such a method.

Suppose we had the binary string  $x = x_0x_1 \cdots x_{n-1}$ , where the first  $k$  bits  $x_0x_1 \cdots x_{k-1}$  are the message we desire to preserve upon sending through some channel. We choose the remaining *check bits*  $x_kx_{k+1} \cdots x_{n-1}$  (the redundancies) in such a way that

$$Hx^t = 0 \pmod{2},$$

where  $H$  is the binary  $(n - k) \times n$  matrix called the *parity check matrix* of the code. Moreover, by our assumptions on  $x$ ,  $H$  can be assumed to have the form

$$H = (A \mid I_{n-k}),$$

for some binary matrix  $A$ .

More generally, we may take  $x$  and  $H$  to be over any field  $\text{GF}(q)$ . We have the

## 1. A Study of Incidence

following definition.

**2.1. Definition.** Let  $H = (A \mid I_{n-k})$  be an  $(n-k) \times n$  matrix over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . The linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  with parity check matrix  $H$  is given by  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Null}(H) = \{x \in \text{GF}(q^n) : Hx^t = 0\}$ , where the extension  $\text{GF}(q^n)$  is interpreted here as a linear space over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a linear  $[n, k]_q$ -code, where clearly  $\dim(\mathcal{C}) = k$ .

**2.2. Example.** The repetition code over  $\text{GF}(q) = \{0, a_1, \dots, a_{q-1}\}$  of length  $n$  is given by

$$(2.2.a) \quad \begin{array}{cccc} \overbrace{\phantom{0 \quad 0 \quad \cdots \quad 0}}^n & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_1 & a_1 & \cdots & a_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{q-1} & a_{q-1} & \cdots & a_{q-1} \end{array}$$

and has parity check matrix  $H = (\mathbf{1}_{n-1} \mid I_{n-1})$ .

We have defined a linear code by its parity check matrix. An equivalent definition is to use the so-called *generator matrix*  $G$ . If  $H = (A \mid I_{n-k})$  is the parity check matrix of the code, then  $G = (I_k \mid -A^t)$ . The code is then given by the linear span of the rows of  $G$ . Note that by construction, it follows that  $GH^t = HG^t = O$ .

**2.3. Example.** The repetition code of the previous example has the generator matrix  $\mathbf{1}_n^t$ .

The dual of a linear code  $\mathcal{C}$  is given in the usual way by  $\mathcal{C}^\perp = \{x \in \text{GF}(q^n) : xy^t = 0, \text{ for every } y \in \mathcal{C}\}$ . If  $H$  and  $G$  are the parity check and generator matrices of  $\mathcal{C}$ , then  $G$  and  $H$  are the parity check and generator matrices of  $\mathcal{C}^\perp$ , respectively.

In Definition 2.1, there are two parameters explicitly given of a code, namely, the length  $n$  of the codewords and the dimension  $k$  of the linear space consisting of

## 1. A Study of Incidence

the codewords. Two more fundamental parameters for us are the minimum distance and the minimum weight defined thus.

**2.4. Definition.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a linear  $[n, k]_q$ -code. Then the *Hamming weight* of a codeword  $x = x_0x_1 \cdots x_{n-1} \in \mathcal{C}$  is given by

$$(2.4.a) \quad \text{wt}(x) = \#\{i : x_i \neq 0\}.$$

If  $y = y_0y_1 \cdots y_{n-1} \in \mathcal{C}$  is any other codeword, then the *Hamming distance* between  $x$  and  $y$  is defined as

$$(2.4.b) \quad \text{dist}(x, y) = \#\{i : x_i \neq y_i\}.$$

We then have that the minimum weight of the code and the minimum distance of the code are

$$(2.4.c) \quad \text{wt}(\mathcal{C}) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{C} \setminus \{0\}} \text{wt}(x) \text{ and}$$

$$(2.4.d) \quad \text{dist}(\mathcal{C}) = \min_{\substack{x, y \in \mathcal{C} \\ x \neq y}} \text{dist}(x, y).$$

If we wish to emphasize the distance  $d = \text{dist}(\mathcal{C})$  of a code, we write  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code; and to emphasize the weight  $w = \text{wt}(\mathcal{C})$  of a code as well,  $[n, k, d, w]_q$ -code.

The Hamming distance can easily be seen to form a metric<sup>7</sup>) on  $\text{GF}(q^n)$ . The next result is then clear (see Hill, 1986, Theorem 1.9).

**2.5. Proposition.** If  $\mathcal{C}$  is any  $[n, k, d]_q$ -code, then the following hold.

$$(2.5.a) \quad \text{The code can detect } s \text{ errors if } \text{dist}(\mathcal{C}) \geq s + 1;$$

$$(2.5.b) \quad \text{the code can correct up to } t \text{ errors if } \text{dist}(\mathcal{C}) \geq 2t + 1; \text{ and}$$

$$(2.5.c) \quad \text{for every } x, y \in \mathcal{C}, \text{ it holds that } \text{dist}(x, y) = \text{wt}(x - y), \text{ hence } \text{dist}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{wt}(\mathcal{C}).$$

## 1. A Study of Incidence

We note that in the case the code is nonlinear, the condition (2.5.c) fails to hold in general.

We give one final result in this subsection relating the parity check matrix and the minimum distance.

**2.6. Proposition.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a linear  $[n, k]_q$ -code with parity check matrix  $H$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}$  has  $\text{dist}(\mathcal{C}) \geq d$  if and only if every  $d - 1$  columns of  $H$  are linearly independent.

**Proof.** To show necessity, let  $x \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $w = \text{wt}(x)$ . Since  $Hx^t = 0$ ,  $H$  has at least  $w$  linearly dependent columns; hence, if any  $d - 1$  columns of  $H$  are linearly independent, then, by an application of (2.5.c),  $\mathcal{C}$  cannot have a codeword of weight  $d - 1$  or less.

Towards sufficiency, assume that  $H$  has  $d - 1$  linearly independent columns. If  $c_0, \dots, c_{n-1}$  are the columns of  $H$ , then there is a dependence relation  $a_0c_0 + \dots + a_{n-1}c_{n-1} = 0$  ( $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in \text{GF}(q)$ ) for which at most  $d - 1$  of the  $a_i$ s are nonzero. Then the codeword  $x = a_0a_2 \dots a_{n-1}$  has weight less than  $d$ , thereupon  $\text{dist}(\mathcal{C}) \leq d$ . ■

\* \* \*

**2.2. The Hamming and Simplex Codes.** The theory of error-correcting codes began with the seminal paper of Richard W. Hamming (1950) who introduced redundancy for the purpose of error correction. In this paper, he also constructed a most useful family of codes, aptly called the *Hamming codes*. The codes constructed by Hamming were binary; however, it is a simple matter to extend the construction to an arbitrary finite field.

**2.7. Definition.** Let  $H$  be the  $n \times (q^n - 1)/(q - 1)$  matrix over  $\text{GF}(q)$  whose columns are representatives of the nonzero 1-dimensional subspaces of the exten-

## 1. A Study of Incidence

sion field  $\text{GF}(q^n)$  over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . The linear code  $\mathcal{H}_{q,n}$  whose parity check matrix is  $H$  is called a *Hamming code*. The linear code  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$  whose generator matrix is  $H$  is called a *simplex code*.

**2.8. Example.** The following is a simplex code in  $\text{GF}(9)$  over  $\text{GF}(3) \simeq \mathbf{Z}/3\mathbf{Z}$ .

$$(2.8.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \bar{1} & \bar{1} & \bar{2} & \bar{0} \\ \bar{2} & \bar{1} & \bar{0} & \bar{2} \\ \bar{0} & \bar{1} & \bar{1} & \bar{1} \\ \bar{1} & \bar{2} & \bar{0} & \bar{1} \\ \bar{2} & \bar{2} & \bar{1} & \bar{0} \\ \bar{0} & \bar{2} & \bar{2} & \bar{2} \\ \bar{1} & \bar{0} & \bar{1} & \bar{2} \\ \bar{2} & \bar{0} & \bar{2} & \bar{1} \\ \bar{0} & \bar{0} & \bar{0} & \bar{0} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The following result is immediate.

**2.9. Proposition.** Let  $q$  be a prime power,  $n > 1$ , and let  $v = (q^n - 1)/(q - 1)$ .

Then:

(2.9.a)  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$  is a linear  $[v, n]_q$ -code, and

(2.9.b)  $\mathcal{H}_{q,n}$  is a linear  $[v, v - n]_q$ -code.

Using Proposition 2.6, we see that  $\mathcal{H}_{q,n}$  is a linear single-error correcting code. In what follows, however, the simplex code will play a central role. Due to its importance, then, we work through the rather lengthy proof of the following characterizing result (see Ionin and Shrikhande, 2006, Theorem 3.9.27).

**2.10. Theorem.** Let  $q$  be a prime power,  $n > 1$ , and let  $v = (q^n - 1)/(q - 1)$ .

Then a linear  $[v, n]_q$ -code  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$  code if and only if  $\text{wt}(x) = q^{n-1}$ , for every  $x \in \mathcal{C}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a linear  $[v, n]$ -code in  $\text{GF}(q^v)$ , and let  $W = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ \vdots \\ x_{v-1} \end{pmatrix}$ , where the  $x_i$  are representatives of the nonzero 1-dimensional subspaces of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Without loss of generality, assume that the first  $n$  rows of  $W$  form a generator matrix  $H$  for

## 1. A Study of Incidence

the code  $\mathcal{C}$ . Let  $y_0, \dots, y_{v-1}$  be the columns of  $W$  and let  $Y = \langle y_0, \dots, y_{v-1} \rangle$ . Then  $\dim(Y) = \text{rank}(W) = \dim(\mathcal{C}) = n$ . For  $i \in \{0, \dots, v-1\}$ , let  $U_i$  be the hyperplane generated by all strings with the  $i$ -th position 0.

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$ , then the columns of  $H$  are representatives of all the distinct 1-dimensional subspaces of a linear  $n$ -dimensional space over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . By extension, then,  $y_0, \dots, y_{v-1}$  are representatives of the distinct 1-dimensional subspaces of  $Y$ . If  $Y \subseteq U_i$ , then  $x_i = 0$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $\dim(Y \cap U_i) = n-1$  so that  $Y \cap U_i$  has  $(q^{n-1} - 1)/(q-1)$  1-dimensional subspaces. It follows that  $\text{wt}(x_i) = v - (q^{n-1} - 1)/(q-1) = q^{n-1}$ , but every string in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a scalar multiple of some  $x_i$ , hence  $\text{wt}(x) = q^{n-1}$ , for every  $x \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Towards necessity, assume that  $\text{wt}(x) = q^{n-1}$ , for every  $x \in \mathcal{C}$ . As the code  $\mathcal{C}$  is linear, it follows that it is equidistant with  $d(\mathcal{C}) = q^{n-1}$ .

If  $Y \cap U_i = Y \cap U_j$ , then  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  have zeros in the same  $(q^{n-1} - 1)/(q-1)$  positions. Then, if  $W_{ih} \neq 0$ ,  $W_{jh} \neq 0$  and  $W_{ih} = \alpha W_{jh}$  for some  $\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)^*$ . It follows that

$$\text{dist}(x_i, \alpha x_j) \leq v - \frac{q^{n-1} - 1}{q-1} - 1 < q^{n-1},$$

a contradiction. Since  $x_i \neq \alpha x_j$ , we have  $Y \cap U_i \neq Y \cap U_j$ . Then  $Y \cap U_i \cap U_j = n-2$  so that there are  $(q^{n-2} - 1)/(q-1)$  indices  $h$  for which  $W_{ih} = W_{jh} = 0$ . If  $N$  is the matrix obtained from  $W$  by replacing the nonzero entries with 1, then our discussion shows that two distinct rows of  $N$  have inner product

$$v - 2 \frac{q^{n-1} - 1}{q-1} + \frac{q^{n-2} - 1}{q-1} = q^{n-1} - q^{n-2};$$

hence,  $N$  is the incidence matrix of a square BIBD( $v, q^{n-1}, q^{n-1} - q^{n-2}$ ). By Proposition 1.9, no two columns of  $N$  are proportional, thereupon no two columns of  $W$  are proportional.



## 1. A Study of Incidence

It remains to show that the columns of  $H$  represent all the distinct 1-dimensional subspaces of an  $n$ -dimensional linear space over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . Let  $z_0, \dots, z_{v-1}$  be the columns of  $H$ . Suppose there are distinct  $i, j \in \{0, \dots, v-1\}$  and an  $\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)^*$  such that  $z_i = \alpha z_j$ . Then  $W_{hi} = \alpha W_{hj}$ , for all  $h \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ . Since  $\{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{C}$ , it follows that there are  $\beta_0, \dots, \beta_{n-1} \in \text{GF}(q)$  such that  $x_\ell = \sum_k \beta_k x_k$ . Thus,

$$W_{\ell i} = \sum_k \beta_k W_{ki} = \alpha \sum_k \beta_k W_{kj} = \alpha W_{\ell j},$$

from which it would follow that  $y_i = \alpha y_j$ , which cannot happen. Then  $H$  is a generator matrix of  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$ . ■

The fact that  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$  is constant weight—and hence equidistant—will be used to great effect in Part II of this essay.

## Notes

1. This technique is famously used in the justification of Hoffman's co-clique bound (see Brouwer et al., 1989, Proposition 1.3.2). In Cameron (1994) and Cameron and van Lint (1991), it is used to great effect in the context of designs.
2. By an incidence structure is meant a triple  $S = (X, \mathcal{B}, I)$ , where  $I \subseteq X \times \mathcal{B}$ . We say that  $X$  is the point set,  $\mathcal{B}$  the block set, and  $I$  the set of flags. If  $(x, B) \in I$ , then the point  $x$  and block  $B$  are said to be incident. See Batten (1997) and Dembowski (1997) for a standard treatment of incidence. See Beth et al. (1999) for study of incidence in the context of design theory.
3. Recall that a group  $G$  is said to act on a set  $\Omega$  if there is a map  $\mu : \Omega \times G \rightarrow \Omega$  satisfying (a)  $\mu(\mu(\alpha, g), h) = \mu(\alpha, gh)$ , for all  $\alpha \in \Omega$  and  $g, h \in G$ ; and (b)  $\mu(\alpha, 1) = \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Omega$ . In particular,  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $S_\Omega$ , the symmetric group of  $\Omega$ . The action is sharply transitive if, for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$ , there is a unique  $g \in G$  such that  $\mu(\alpha, g) = \beta$ . Cameron (1999) is a standard reference on permutation groups offering a wealth of explanation. Beth et al. (1999) studies the applications of transitive groups to designs.
4. What follows is given in the derivation of Theorem 9.2.1 of Ionin and Shrikhande (2006). If  $\pi : \text{GF}(q^{m+1})^* \rightarrow \text{GF}(q^{m+1})^*/\text{GF}(q)^*$  is the natural projection, and if  $\alpha$  is a primitive element of  $\text{GF}(q^{m+1})$ , then  $x = \pi(\alpha)$  is a generator of the cyclic coset space  $\text{GF}(q^{m+1})^*/\text{GF}(q)^*$ . We have at once that the cosets  $x^n$  are given by all the nonzero elements of the 1-dimensional linear space spanned by  $\alpha^n$  of the extension  $\text{GF}(q^{m+1})/\text{GF}(q)$ .
5. This is more generally given as the orbits of the action of  $S_v \times S_b$  on the set of binary  $v \times b$  matrices defined by  $\mu(A, (P, Q)) = P^t A Q$ , where the transposition is necessary in order to properly define

## 1. A Study of Incidence

a right action.

6. This technique is known as nearest neighbour decoding (see MacWilliams and Sloane, 1977).

7. Recall that a metric space is a pair  $(X, \varrho)$ , where  $X$  is a nonempty set, and where  $\varrho : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$  is a map satisfying, for all  $x, y, z \in X$ , (a)  $\varrho(x, y) \geq 0$  with equality iff  $x = y$ ; (b)  $\varrho(x, y) = \varrho(y, x)$ ; and (c)  $\varrho(x, y) \leq \varrho(x, z) + \varrho(z, y)$ . We then say that  $\varrho$  is a metric.

# 2

## **Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations**

This chapter focuses on a third combinatorial configuration, namely, weighing matrices, and their generalizations. We begin with a brief look at weighing matrices themselves, before moving onto to consider two generalizations. The first generalization is allowing the entries of a weighing matrix to be chosen from a finite group. This idea is then synthesized with the ideas of §1. Finally, we allow the entries of a weighing matrix to be taken from sets of indeterminants and consider the utility of such an approach.

### **§3. Weighing Matrices**

In this section, we study weighing matrices. Apart from having numerous applications, these objects are of significant theoretical interest. Though we will be focusing on certain generalizations of these objects, it is worthwhile to consider their simplest case.

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

\* \* \*

**3.1. Definitions.** Imagine, for a moment, the simple senario in which you need to weigh several objects, say, four objects (see MacWilliams and Sloane, 1977, Chapter 2). Imagine further that you are using a simple balance with two pans that makes an error  $\epsilon$  everytime that it is used, where  $\epsilon$  is random with mean 0 and variance  $\sigma^2$ .

Assume the actual weights are  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$ . If we weigh them seperately with measurements  $y_1, y_2, y_3$ , and  $y_4$ , and if the errors are  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_3$ , and  $\epsilon_4$ , then we obtain the four equations

$$a = y_1 + \epsilon_1, \quad b = y_2 + \epsilon_2, \quad c = y_3 + \epsilon_3, \quad d = y_4 + \epsilon_4.$$

The estimates of the weights are then

$$\hat{a} = y_1 = a - \epsilon_1, \quad \hat{b} = y_2 = b - \epsilon_2, \quad \hat{c} = y_3 = c - \epsilon_3, \quad \hat{d} = y_4 = d - \epsilon_4,$$

each having variance  $\sigma^2$ .

Now, we will weigh the objects together in the following way.

$$a + b + c + d = y_1 + \epsilon_1,$$

$$a - b + c - d = y_2 + \epsilon_2,$$

$$a + b - d - d = y_3 + \epsilon_3,$$

$$a - b - c + d = y_4 + \epsilon_4,$$

where we have used  $+1$  to indicate being placed on the right pan, and we have used  $-1$  to indicate being placed on the left pan.

One can see that the coefficient matrix for the weighing configuration is non-

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

singular. As such, we can solve for the variables; for example, we show the estimate for  $a$ :

$$\hat{a} = \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + y_4}{4}.$$

From this, we can see that the variance of  $\hat{a}$  is given by  $\sigma^2/4$ , a large improvement from the initial configuration in which each weight was weighed independently.

In general, if there are  $n$  weights, and if there is a non-singular ternary  $(-1,0,1)$ -matrix of order  $n$  with a constant number of non-zero entries in each row, then that matrix can be used as a weighing configuration for the collection of objects in which the variance of the errors can be reduced.

All this motivates the following definition.

**3.1. Definition.** Let  $W$  be a  $(-1,0,1)$ -matrix of order  $n$ .  $W$  is a *weighing matrix* of order  $n$  and weight  $k$  if

$$(3.1.a) \quad WW^t = kI_n.$$

If  $n = k$ , then we say that  $W$  is a *Hadamard matrix*. If  $n - 1 = k$ , then we say that  $W$  is a *conference matrix*. In any event, we write  $W(n, k)$  to denote this property.

**3.2. Example.** The following can be verified directly to be a  $W(13, 9)$  (NB: We have used  $-$  in place of  $-1$  and  $+$  in place of  $+1$ )

$$(3.2.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & - & - & - & - & 0 & - \\ + & 0 & + & + & + & 0 & - & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & + \\ + & 0 & 0 & - & + & + & + & 0 & - & + & - & - & 0 \\ - & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & - & 0 & - & + & + \\ - & - & - & + & 0 & + & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 \\ - & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & - & + & + & - & - & + \\ + & + & - & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & + & + \\ + & - & + & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & - \\ 0 & + & 0 & + & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & + & - & - & - \\ 0 & + & - & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & - & + \\ 0 & + & + & 0 & - & + & + & - & + & - & 0 & - & 0 \\ - & + & 0 & - & + & + & - & + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - \\ + & - & - & - & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & - & - & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

The weighing matrix of the previous example is indicative of a more general construction that uses relative difference sets (see §3.4). Note that upon changing the nonzero entries of (3.2.a), one obtains the incidence matrix of the complement design of (1.17.a).

\* \* \*

**3.2. Necessary Conditions on Existence.** The conditions placed on a matrix in order for it to be a weighing matrix are none too restrictive: One only needs orthogonality of the rows, a constant number of nonzero entries in every row, and the non-zero entries to have absolute value 1. Usually, in order to construct these objects one must assume some further combinatorial and/or algebraic properties. So-called cocyclic matrices, for example, are studied extensively in Horadam (2007) and de Launey and Flannery (2011). Nevertheless, we can say a few things at the outset.

By Cauchy's property of the determinant<sup>8</sup>),  $\det(W)^2 = k^n I_n$ , for any  $W(n, k)$ . In particular, if  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , then  $k$  is a square. This leaves the case that  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ . It turns out, though we will not show it here, that if  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then it must be the case that  $k = a^2 + b^2$ , for some  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}^9$ ). Much is not known about the case  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , though Seberry (2017) conjectures that a  $W(4n, k)$  exists for every  $n$  and  $k \leq 4n$ .

Considering the weights, if  $k = n - 1$ , then it is clear that  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ; for otherwise, if  $n$  is odd, then there will be  $n - 2$  instances of  $\begin{pmatrix} + \\ + \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} + \\ - \end{pmatrix}$ , or their negatives, in the product between any two distinct rows. Therefore, the product will resolve to a sum of  $n - 2$  terms each consisting of  $\pm 1$ . Since  $n - 2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , this can never be zero.

In the case that  $n = k$ , we can assume (see §3.5) the first three rows have the

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

following form.

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 \overbrace{\begin{array}{ccc} + & \dots & + \end{array}}^a & \overbrace{\begin{array}{ccc} + & \dots & + \end{array}}^b & \overbrace{\begin{array}{ccc} + & \dots & + \end{array}}^c & \overbrace{\begin{array}{ccc} + & \dots & + \end{array}}^d \\
 + & \dots & + & + & \dots & + & - & \dots & - & - & \dots & - \\
 + & \dots & + & - & \dots & - & + & \dots & + & - & \dots & -
 \end{array}$$

Evidently, this configuration yields the following linear system.

$$a + b + c + d = n,$$

$$a + b - c - d = 0,$$

$$a - b + c - d = 0,$$

$$a - b - c + d = 0,$$

whose solution is  $a = b = c = d = n/4$ . As these are integers, it must be the case, outside of the trivial cases  $n = 1$  or  $2$ , that  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  whenever  $n = k$ .

Finally, it follows by the definition and the above remarks that  $W$  is non-singular with  $W^{-1} = k^{-1}W^t$ , hence  $W^tW = kI_n$ . We record these result below.

**3.3. Proposition.** If there exists a  $W(n, k)$ , say  $W$ , then the following must hold.

(3.3.a) If  $n - 1 = k$ , then  $n$  is even;

(3.3.b) if  $n = k$ , then  $n$  is 1, 2, or a multiple of 4;

(3.3.c) if  $n$  is odd, then  $k$  is a square;

(3.3.d) if 2 exactly divides  $n$ , then  $k$  is the sum of two squares; and

(3.3.e)  $W$  is non-singular and  $WW^t = W^tW = kI_n$ .

\* \* \*

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

**3.3. Complex Weighing Matrices.** There are many useful generalizations of weighing matrices. We will take this up generally in the next section, but for now we note the following special case, where we use  $A^*$  to denote the conjugate (Hermitian) transpose of a complex matrix  $A$ .

**3.4. Definition.** Let  $G = \{\exp(\frac{2\pi im}{p}) : 0 \leq m < p\}$ , and let  $W$  be a  $(0, G)$ -matrix of order  $v$ . We say that  $W$  is a *Butson weighing matrix* of order  $v$  and weight  $k$  if

$$(3.4.a) \quad WW^* = kI_n,$$

and we write  $BW(v, k; p)$  to denote this property.

**3.5. Example.** Let  $\xi = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{7})$ , and let  $H$ , for  $0 \leq i, j < 7$ , be defined by  $H_{ij} = \xi^{ij}$ . It follows easily that  $H$  is a Butson weighing matrix (see Davis, 1979, §2.5); in fact, it is a Butson Hadamard matrix as  $n = k$ . To be concrete, the following is a  $BW(7, 7; 7)$

$$(3.5.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \xi & \xi^2 & \xi^3 & \xi^4 & \xi^5 & \xi^6 \\ 1 & \xi^2 & \xi^4 & \xi^6 & \xi & \xi^3 & \xi^5 \\ 1 & \xi^3 & \xi^6 & \xi^2 & \xi^5 & \xi & \xi^4 \\ 1 & \xi^4 & \xi & \xi^5 & \xi^2 & \xi^6 & \xi^3 \\ 1 & \xi^5 & \xi^3 & \xi & \xi^6 & \xi^4 & \xi^2 \\ 1 & \xi^6 & \xi^5 & \xi^4 & \xi^3 & \xi^2 & \xi \end{pmatrix}.$$

The next result can be found in Lam and Leung (2000).

**3.6. Lemma.** Let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $\xi$  be a primitive complex  $p$ -th root of unity. Then  $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i = 0$  for some  $n < p$  and  $a_i \in \mathbf{N}$  if and only if  $n = p - 1$  and  $a_0 = \dots = a_n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$ . The minimal polynomial of  $\xi$  over  $\mathbf{Q}$  is the  $p$ -th cyclotomic polynomial  $h(x) = 1 + x + \dots + x^{p-1}$ . Therefore, since the



## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

degree of  $f$  is at most  $p$ , we conclude that if  $f(\xi) = 0$ , then it must be an integer multiple of  $h$ . ■

\* \* \*

**3.4. Difference Set Construction II.** Let  $G$  be some additive, finite group. In Definition 1.12, a subset  $D \in \binom{G}{k}$  was said to be a difference set if  $\Delta(D)$  contained each element of  $G \setminus \{0\}$  a constant number of times. Of course, we needn't restrict ourselves to omitting only the identity element; in fact, if we omit elements from a proper normal subgroup, we are left with a most useful object.

**3.7. Definition.** Let  $G$  be an additive, finite group for which  $|G| = mn$ ,  $N \subset G$  a normal subgroup of order  $n$ , and let  $R \in \binom{G}{k}$  with  $k < mn$ . We say that  $R$  is a *relative difference set* in  $G$  with *forbidden subgroup*  $N$  if

$$(3.7.a) \text{ If } \Delta(R) = \lambda(G \setminus N), \text{ for some } \lambda \in \mathbf{N}.$$

If  $N$  is a direct factor of  $G$ , then we call  $R$  a *splitting* relative difference set. In any case, we write  $R$  is an  $\text{RDS}(m, n, k, \lambda)$  in  $G$  relative to  $N$ .

**3.8. Example.** The set  $R = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{4}, \bar{8}\}$  is an  $\text{RDS}(5, 3, 4, 1)$  in  $\mathbf{Z}/15\mathbf{Z}$  relative to  $\{\bar{0}, \bar{3}, \bar{6}, \bar{9}, \bar{12}\}$ .

**3.9. Example.** Let  $G$  be the direct product of  $\mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z}$  and  $S_3$ , and let  $a = (1, 2)$  and  $b = (1, 2, 3)$ . Then  $R = \{\bar{1}a, \bar{2}, \bar{3}ab, \bar{5}, \bar{6}, \bar{7}ab^2, \bar{8}a, \bar{9}ab^2, \bar{11}ab\}$  is an  $\text{RDS}(13, 6, 9, 1)$  in  $G$  relative to  $S_3$ .

Though we do not show it here, just as difference sets are equivalent to square designs admitting a sharply transitive automorphism group, relative difference sets can be shown to be equivalent to group divisible designs admitting a sharply transitive automorphism group in which each element either fixes all or no point classes (see Jungnickel, 1982).

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

For our purposes, however, we are interested in the application of difference sets to weighing matrices and their generalizations. By far the most important family of such relative difference sets are found in the next result which is Theorem 9.6.12 of Ionin and Shrikhande (2006), and are called the *classical* relative difference sets.

**3.10. Proposition.** Let  $q$  be a prime power and  $n > 1$ . Let  $f : \text{GF}(q^n) \rightarrow \text{GF}(q)$  be some nondegenerate linear map over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . Then

$$(3.10.a) \quad R = \{x \in \text{GF}(q^n) : f(x) = 1\} \text{ is an RDS in } \text{GF}(q^n)^* \text{ relative to } \text{GF}(q^*).$$

Moreover, the parameters of  $R$  are given by

$$(3.10.b) \quad \left( \frac{q^n-1}{q-1}, q-1, q^{n-1}, q^{n-2} \right).$$

**Proof.** Since  $f$  is nondegenerate, the Rank–Nullity Theorem<sup>10</sup>) implies that the dimension of  $\ker(f)$  is  $n-1$ .

Suppose, for  $x, y \in R$ , that  $xy^{-1} \in \text{GF}(q)$ . Then  $1 = f(x) = af(y) = a$ , hence  $\text{GF}(q)^* \cap \Delta(R) = \{1\}$ .

It remains to verify that  $\Delta(R) = q^{n-2}(\text{GF}(q^n)^* \setminus \text{GF}(q)^*)$ . Let  $t \in \text{GF}(q^n)^* \setminus \text{GF}(q)^*$ , and define  $g : \text{GF}(q^n) \rightarrow \text{GF}(q)$  by  $g(y) = f(ty)$ . It then suffices to show that there are  $q^{n-2}$  elements  $y \in \text{GF}(q^n)^*$  such that  $f(y) = g(y) = 1$ .

Since  $g$  is a nondegenerate linear map, the set  $Y = g^{-1}(1)$  is an  $(n-1)$ -dimensional space over  $\text{GF}(q)$ . Now,  $\ker(g) = t^{-1}\ker(f)$ , and, since  $t \notin \text{GF}(q)$ ,  $\ker(g) \neq \ker(f)$ . Therefore,  $\dim(R \cap Y) = n-2$ , and we're done. ■

**3.11. Example.** Take  $K = \text{GF}(3)$  and  $F = \text{GF}(27)$  with the usual polynomial representation, and let  $\text{Tr} : F \rightarrow K$  be the absolute trace function<sup>11</sup>). By Proposition (3.10.a),

$$(3.11.a) \quad R = \{x \in F : \text{Tr}(x) = 1\} = \{2x^2 + x + 2, 2x^2 + 2, 2x^2, 2x^2 + x, 2x^2 + 2x + 2, 2x^2 + x + 1, 2x^2 + 2x, 2x^2 + 2x + 1, 2x^2 + 1\}.$$

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

is an RDS(13, 2, 9, 3) in  $F^*$  relative to  $K^*$ .

The following result is standard, and we do not pause to prove it (see Elliott and Butson, 1966).

**3.12. Proposition.** Let  $R$  be an RDS( $m, n, k, \lambda$ ) in a group  $G$  relative to a normal subgroup  $N$ , and let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$  be a group epimorphism. Take  $U = \ker(\varphi)$  and  $|U| = u$ . If  $U \subseteq N$ , then  $\varphi(R)$  is an RDS( $m, n/u, k, \lambda u$ ) in  $H$  relative to  $\varphi(N)$ . In particular, if  $U = N$ , then  $f(R)$  is a DS( $m, k, \lambda u$ ) in  $H$ .

We now present a construction of weighing matrices using relative difference sets. This construction is a special case of a more general result to be proven later, so we omit the proof.

**3.13. Theorem.** Let  $R$  be an RDS( $m, 2, k, \lambda$ ) in a group  $G$  relative to a normal subgroup  $N = \{1, t\}$ . Let  $g_0, \dots, g_{m-1}$  be distinct coset representatives of  $N$  in  $G$ . Let  $W$  be a  $(-1, 0, 1)$ -matrix of order  $m$  defined by

$$(3.13.a) \quad W_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g_i g_j^{-1} \in R; \\ -1 & \text{if } t g_i g_j^{-1} \in R; \text{ and} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $W$  is a  $W(m, k)$ .

Speaking of the relative difference sets (3.10.a) for odd  $q$ , we see that the forbidden subgroup is cyclic of even order, hence it has a unique normal subgroup of order 2. Proposition 3.12 and Theorem 3.13 then imply the existence of a  $W((q^n - 1)/(q - 1), q^{n-1})$  for every  $n > 1$ . We record this result as a corollary.

**3.14. Corollary.** For every odd prime power  $q$ , there is a  $W((q^n - 1)/(q - 1), q^{n-1})$ , for every  $n > 1$ .

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

The case in which  $q$  is even, Arasu et al. (2001) showed that there is a  $W((q^n - 1)/(q - 1), q^{n-1})$  whenever  $n$  is odd.

**3.15. Example.** Let  $R$  be as in (3.11.a). Using the coset representatives  $1, 2x^2 + 2x, 2x^2 + 2x + 1, x^2 + x + 1, x^2 + 2x, x^2 + 2x + 2, 2x^2 + x + 2, 2x^2, 2x, 2x + 1, 2x$  of  $\text{GF}(3)^*$  in  $\text{GF}(27)^*$ , we can construct the weighing matrix in (3.2.a).

We will require one further result. Due to its length, we omit the proof; but the interested reader is referred to Chapter 9 of Ionin and Shrikhande (2006).

**3.16. Proposition.** Let  $q$  be a prime power,  $\alpha$  a primitive element of  $\text{GF}(q^2)$ , and  $G = \{g_0, \dots, g_{q-1}\}$  a group of order  $q$ . Let  $C_i = \{a\alpha^i : a \in \text{GF}(q)^*\}$ , for each  $i \in \{0, \dots, q\}$ . Define

$$(3.16.a) \quad R = \{(0, 1_g)\} \cup \{(a, 1_g) : a \in C_0\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^q \{(a, g_{i-1}) : a \in C_i\}.$$

Then  $R$  is an  $\text{RDS}(q^2, q, q^2, q)$  in  $\text{GF}(q^2)^+ \times G$  relative to  $\{0\} \times G$ .

Proposition 3.12 then yields the following.

**3.17. Corollary.** Let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $m \leq n$  be positive integers. Let  $A = \text{GF}(q^{2m})^+$ , and let  $G$  be any group of order  $p^n$ . Then there is an  $\text{RDS}(p^{2m}, p^n, p^{2m}, p^{2m-n})$  in  $A \times G$  relative to  $\{0\} \times G$ .

\* \* \*

**3.5. Isomorphisms of Weighing Matrices.** Let  $W$  be some  $W(v, k)$ , and let  $P$  and  $Q$  be signed permutation matrices of order  $v$ . It is then clear that  $PWQ$  is again a  $W(v, k)$ . We have the following.

**3.18. Definition.** Two weighing matrices  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are *Hadamard equivalent* if there are two signed permutation matrices  $P$  and  $Q$  such that

$$(3.18.a) \quad PW_1Q = W_2.^{12})$$

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

**3.19. Example.** The weighing matrix (3.2.a) is Hadamard equivalent to the following.

$$(3.19.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & + & + & + & + & + & 0 & + \\ 0 & + & 0 & + & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & - \\ 0 & + & + & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & - \\ 0 & + & - & 0 & - & + & - & + & - & + & 0 & - \\ + & 0 & - & + & + & 0 & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & - \\ + & 0 & 0 & - & + & + & - & 0 & + & - & + & - \\ + & 0 & + & 0 & + & - & 0 & + & - & 0 & - & + \\ + & + & - & - & 0 & - & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & + \\ + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & - & + & + & - & + \\ + & + & + & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & + \\ + & - & - & 0 & - & + & + & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 \\ + & - & 0 & + & - & - & - & + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ + & - & + & - & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & + & + & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The above example motivates the following definition.

**3.20. Definition.** A  $W(v, k)$  is said to be in *normal form* if it has the form

$$(3.20.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{v-k} & A_1 \\ \mathbf{1}_k & A_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similar to designs, we call  $A_1$  the *residual part* and  $A_2$  the *derived part* of the weighing matrix.

As a consequence of (3.20.a), we have

$$(3.20.b) \quad A_1 A_1^t = k I_{v-k} \text{ and}$$

$$(3.20.c) \quad A_2 A_2^t = k I_k - J_k.$$

## §4. Balanced Generalized Weighing Matrices

We come now to the central object of our study, namely, the so-called balanced generalized weighing matrices. These objects are intriguing in their own right as

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

we shall see, but they also have interesting applications in the construction of other configurations.

\* \* \*

**4.1. Generalized weighing matrices.** In the previous section, we defined a weighing matrix as a square matrix over  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$ . We then extended this definition to include those matrices over  $\mathbb{C}$  together with the complex  $p$ -th roots of unity. More generally, we can have weighing matrices over any finite group.

Before we can do this, however, we need to extend the conjugate transpose to group matrices. To accomplish this, let  $A$  be some matrix over a finite group  $G$ , and define  $\overline{A}$  by  $\overline{A}_{ij} = A_{ij}^{-1}$ , that is, the matrix obtained by taking the group inverse of the nonzero entries of  $A$ . Finally, define  $A^* = \overline{A}^t$ . We then have the following.

**4.1. Definition.** Let  $G$  be some finite group not containing the symbol 0, and let  $W$  be a  $(0, G)$ -matrix of order  $v$ . If  $WW^* = kI_n$  modulo the ideal  $\mathbf{Z}G$ , then we say that  $W$  is a generalized weighing matrix of order  $v$  and weight  $k$ . We write  $\text{GW}(v, k; G)$  to denote this property.<sup>13)</sup>

**4.2. Example.** A real  $W(v, k)$  is a  $\text{GW}(v, k; C_2)$ , and a  $\text{BW}(v, k; p)$  is a  $\text{GW}(v, k; C_p)$ , where  $C_p$  denotes the cyclic group of prime order  $p$ .

**4.3. Example.** In the case that one has  $\text{BW}(v, k; C_n)$ , where  $n$  is composite, one does not in general have a generalized weighing matrix. Consider the  $\text{BW}(6, 6; 4)$  given by

$$(4.3.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} i & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & i & - & + & - & + \\ + & - & i & - & + & + \\ + & + & - & i & + & - \\ + & - & + & + & i & - \\ + & + & + & - & - & i \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

Clearly, this is a Hadamard matrix; however,  $\pm i$  each appear only once in the conjugate inner product between distinct rows, hence it is not a generalized weighing matrix.

**4.4. Example.** The following is a  $\text{GW}(15, 7; C_3)$ , where the nonzero elements are the logarithms of a generator of  $C_3$ .

$$(4.4.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

\* \* \*

**4.2. Generalized Bhaskar Rao Designs.** Our goal in introducing weighing matrices over arbitrary finite groups is to synthesize the ideas of weighing matrices and balanced incomplete block designs. We combine these concepts thus.

**4.5. Definition.** Let  $G$  be some finite group, and let  $A$  be a  $v \times b$   $(0, G)$ -matrix such that

$$(4.5.a) \quad AA^* = rI_v + \frac{\lambda}{|G|} \left( \sum_{g \in G} g \right) (J_v - I_v),$$

for some positive integers  $r$  and  $\lambda$ , and such that there are  $k$  non-zero entries in every column. We then say that  $A$  is a *generalized Bhaskar Rao design* (henceforth GBRD), and we write  $\text{GBRD}(v, k, \lambda; G)$  to denote this property. If we need to

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

stress the remaining parameters, then we write  $\text{GBRD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda; G)$ .

Often it is helpful to give a combinatorial definition of GBRDs that is equivalent to the one just given. Again let  $A$  be a  $v \times b$   $(0, G)$ -matrix that has  $k$  nonzero entries in every column. If the multisets  $\{A_{i\ell}A_{j\ell}^{-1} : A_{i\ell} \neq 0 \neq A_{j\ell} \text{ and } 0 \leq \ell < b\}$ , for  $i, j \in \{0, \dots, v-1\}, i \neq j$ , have  $\lambda/|G|$  copies of every group element in  $G$ , then we say that  $A$  is a  $\text{GBRD}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ .

A few things are rather immediate. If  $\check{A}$  denotes the matrix obtained from  $A$  by changing each non-zero entry to 1, then condition (4.5.a) implies that  $\check{A}$  is a BIBD. Conversely, a BIBD is a GBRD over the trivial group  $\{1\}$ .

Evidently, Fisher's inequality applies, hence  $b \geq v$ . We single out the extremal case of Fisher's inequality again.

**4.6. Definition.** A *balanced generalized weighing matrix* is a  $\text{GBRD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda; G)$  in which  $v = b$  (equiv.  $k = r$ ). We use the denotation  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ . A  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$  in which  $v = k$  is called a *generalized Hadamard matrix*, and we denote this as  $\text{GH}(G, \lambda)$  where  $\lambda = v/|G|$ . If  $G = \text{EA}(q)$ , the elementary abelian group<sup>14</sup> of order  $q$ , then we write  $\text{GH}(q, \lambda)$  instead.

**4.7. Example.** The generalized weighing matrix (4.4.a) is a  $\text{BGW}(15, 7, 3; C_3)$ .

**4.8. Example.** Let  $G = \langle \alpha, \beta : \alpha^2 = \beta^2 = 1, \alpha\beta = \beta\alpha \rangle$ . Then

$$(4.8.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \alpha & \beta & \alpha\beta \\ 1 & \beta & \alpha\beta & \alpha \\ 1 & \alpha\beta & \alpha & \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

is a  $\text{GH}(4, 1)$ .

**4.9. Example.** A  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; \{-1, 1\})$  is a *balanced weighing matrix*. The weighing matrix (3.2.a) is balanced.

\* \* \*



## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

**4.3. Properties and Simple Constructions.** Since A GBRD ultimately yields a BIBD, it follow that the necessary conditions of Proposition 1.2 also hold for the parameters of GBRDs. However, since we are now dealing with group matrices that are balanced with respect to the group, the next result is clear.

**4.10. Proposition.** Let  $A$  be a  $\text{GBRD}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ , and let  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  be some group epimorphism. Then  $(\phi(A_{ij}))$  is a  $\text{GBRD}(v, k, \lambda)$  over  $H$  with the same parameters.

Our work from the previous section, namely, Lemma 3.6 yields the following.

**4.11. Proposition.** A Butson weighing matrix  $W$  over the  $p$ -th roots of unity, where  $p$  is a prime, is a BGW if and only if  $(|W_{ij}|)$  is a BIBD.

The remainder of this section will focus on BGW matrices and will closely follow Chapter 10 of Ionin and Shrikhande (2006). We first present a few simple constructions.

**4.12. Proposition.** Let  $\text{GF}(q) = \{a_0, \dots, a_{q-1}\}$ , and define  $H$  of order  $q$  by  $H_{ij} = a_i a_j$ . Then  $H$  is a  $\text{GH}(q, 1)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $H$  be so defined, and let  $i, j \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$ ,  $i \neq j$ . Observe  $\sum_k (a_i a_k - a_j a_k) = (a_i - a_j) \sum_k a_k$ , hence each group element appears precisely once in  $\{H_{ik} H_{jk}^{-1} : 0 \leq k < q\}$ . ■

**4.13. Example.** The  $\text{GH}(4, 1)$  (4.8.a) was constructed using Proposition 4.12.

**4.14. Proposition.** Let  $\text{GF}(q) = \{a_0, \dots, a_{q-1}\}$ , and define  $W$  of order  $q+1$  by

$$(4.14.a) \quad W_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = j = 0; \\ 1 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0, \text{ but } i \neq j; \text{ and} \\ a_{i-1} - a_{j-1} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

Then  $W$  is a  $\text{BGW}(q+1, q, q-1; \text{GF}(q)^*)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, q\}, i \neq j$ . Then, for  $\ell \neq j$ ,

$$W_{i\ell}W_{j\ell}^{-1} = \frac{a_{i-1} - a_{\ell-1}}{a_{j-1} - a_{\ell-1}} = \frac{a_{i-1} - a_{j-1}}{a_{j-1} - a_{\ell-1}} + 1.$$

As  $\ell$  ranges over  $\{1, \dots, q\} \setminus \{j\}$ , the difference  $a_{j-1} - a_{\ell-1}$  ranges over  $\text{GF}(q)^*$ . Since  $W_{i0} = W_{j0} = 1$ , the multiset  $\{W_{i\ell}W_{j\ell}^{-1} : W_{i\ell} \neq 0 \neq W_{j\ell} \text{ and } 0 \leq \ell < q+1\}$  contains each element of  $\text{GF}(q)^*$  once. The remaining cases in which  $i = 0$  or  $j = 0$  are trivial. ■

**4.15. Example.** A  $\text{BGW}(8, 7, 6; \text{GF}(7)^*)$  formed from Proposition 4.14 is given by

$$(4.15.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 6 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 6 & 2 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 6 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 6 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & 2 & 6 & 5 & 1 & 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where the nonzero elements are the logarithms of some generator of  $\text{GF}(7)^*$ . One can see that the matrix is skew-symmetric.

We present a construction due to Jungnickel and Tonchev (2002), which we do not prove here, that yields what are called the classical family of BGWs; more than that, however, the matrices so constructed are what is termed  $\omega$ -circulant, a simple generalization of circulant matrices.

**4.16. Definition.** Let  $G = \langle \omega \rangle$  be a finite cyclic group, and let  $W$  be a matrix over  $\mathbf{Z}[G]$  with first row  $(\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$ .  $W$  is  $\omega$ -circulant if  $W_{ij} = \alpha_{j-i}$  if  $i \leq j$  and  $W_{ij} = \omega\alpha_{j-i}$  if  $i > j$ , where the indices are calculated modulo  $n$ .

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

Finally, we are ready to present this simple and elegant construction.

**4.17. Proposition.** Let  $q$  be a prime power, and let  $\beta$  be a primitive element of the extension of order  $d$  of the field  $\text{GF}(q)$ . Further, take  $m = (q^d - 1)/(q - 1)$ , and define  $\omega = \beta^{-m} \in \text{GF}(q)$ , i.e. the norm of  $\beta$ . Finally, we claim that the  $\omega$ -circulant matrix with first row  $(\text{Tr}(\beta^k))_{k=0}^{m-1}$  is a  $\text{BGW}(m, q^{d-1}, q^{d-1} - q^{d-2}; \text{GF}(q)^*)$ .<sup>15)</sup>

**4.18. Example.** The matrix

$$(4.18.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is an  $\omega$ -circulant  $\text{BGW}(13, 9, 6; \text{GF}(4)^*)$ , where the nonzero elements are the logarithms of some generator of  $\text{GF}(4)^*$ .

We present a few brief remarks on the conjugate transpose and similar operations on BGWs.

**4.19. Proposition.** If  $W$  is a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ , then  $W^*$  is also a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ .

**Proof.** Consider  $W$  as a matrix over the ring  $\mathbf{Q}[G]$  so that it satisfies (4.5.a) over  $\mathbf{Q}[G]$ . Let  $\pi : \mathbf{Q}[G] \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}[G]/\mathbf{Q}G$  be the natural ring epimorphism. If  $\pi W$  denotes the matrix  $(\pi(W_{ij}))$ , then (4.5.a) becomes  $(\pi W)(\pi W^*) = kI_v$ , and hence  $(\pi W)^{-1} = k^{-1}(\pi W^*)$ . Therefore,  $(\pi W^*)(\pi W) = kI_v$  so that  $W^*W = kI_v + A$  for some  $A = (a_{ij} \sum_{g \in G} g)$  over the ideal  $\mathbf{Q}G$ . Moreover, since  $\check{W}^t$  is a BIBD, there

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

exist integers  $a_g$  such that, for  $i \neq j$ ,  $\sum_k w_{ki} w_{kj}^{-1} = \sum_{g \in G} a_g g$  where  $\sum_{g \in G} a_g = \lambda$ .

Evidently, then,  $A = \frac{\lambda}{|G|} \left( \sum_{g \in G} g \right) (J_v - I_v)$ , and the result follows. ■

**4.20. Corollary.** If  $W$  is a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$  where  $G$  is abelian, then  $\overline{W}$  and  $W^t$  are also  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ s.

**Proof.** Since the group is abelian, the map  $g \mapsto g^{-1}$  is an automorphism; hence, by Proposition 4.10,  $\overline{W}$  is also a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ . Then, by the proposition,  $(\overline{W})^* = W^t$  is also a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ . ■

\* \* \*

**4.4. Difference Set Construction III.** In §3.4, we introduced relative difference sets, and (3.13.a) then uses a difference set relative to a normal subgroup of order 2 in order to construct a weighing matrix. We saw how the classical relative difference sets with parameters (3.10.b), together with Proposition 3.12, whenever  $q$  is odd, can be used to construct the so-called classical weighing matrices. It so happens that this construction is a special case of something more general (see Ionin and Shrikhande, 2006, Theorem 10.3.1).

**4.21. Theorem.** Let  $R$  be an  $\text{RDS}(m, n, k, \lambda)$  in a group  $G$  relative to a normal subgroup  $N$ . Let  $g_0, \dots, g_{m-1}$  be all of the distinct coset representatives of  $N$ . Let  $W$  be a  $(0, N)$ -matrix of order  $m$  such that, for each  $h \in N$ ,  $W_{ij} = \alpha$  if and only if  $g_i N \cap Rg_j = \{g_i \alpha\}$ . Then  $W$  is a  $\text{BGW}(m, k, \lambda n; N)$ .

**Proof.** To begin, we first need that  $|g_i \cap Rg_j| \leq 1$ , for each  $i, j \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ . To that end, let  $a, b \in g_i N \cap Rg_j$ ; then  $a = g_i \alpha = tg_j$  and  $b = g_i \beta = ug_j$ , for  $t, u \in R$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in N$ . Then  $t = g_i \alpha g_j^{-1}$  and  $u = g_i \beta g_j^{-1}$ , hence  $tu^{-1} = g_i \alpha \beta^{-1} g_i^{-1}$ . It follows that  $tu^{-1} \in N$ , as  $N$  is normal; thus,  $t = u$  so that  $a = b$ .

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

For each  $j \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ , we have

$$k = |Rg_j| = \left| \bigcup_{i=0}^{m-1} g_i N \cap Rg_j \right| = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} |g_i N \cap Rg_j|,$$

so we obtain that every column of  $W$  has  $k$  nonzero entries.

Now, let  $i, h \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ , with  $i \neq h$ , and let  $\gamma \in N$ . First, assume that  $\gamma = W_{ij} \overline{W_{hj}}$  for some  $j$ . Then there are unique  $t, u \in R$  such that  $tg_j = g_i W_{ij}$  and  $ug_j = g_h W_{hj}$ . It follows that  $tu^{-1} = g_i \gamma g_h^{-1}$ .

On the other hand, suppose that  $g_i \gamma g_h^{-1} = tu^{-1}$ , for some  $t, u \in R$ . Then there is a unique  $j$  such that  $u^{-1}g_h \in g_j N$ , that is,  $u^{-1}g_h = g_j \beta$ , for some  $\beta \in N$ . Then  $ug_j = g_h \beta^{-1}$  and  $tg_j = tu^{-1}g_h \beta^{-1} = g_i \gamma \beta^{-1}$  with  $\gamma \beta^{-1} \in N$ . Thus,  $W_{ij} = \gamma \beta^{-1}$ ,  $W_{hj} = \beta^{-1}$ , and  $\gamma = w_{ij} \overline{W_{hj}}$ .

It follows that the number of indices  $j$  such that  $\gamma = W_{ij} \overline{W_{hj}}$  is equal to the number of ordered pairs  $(t, u)$  of elements of  $R$  such that  $tu^{-1} = g_i \gamma g_h^{-1}$ . Since  $g_i \gamma g_h^{-1} \notin N$ , there are exactly  $\lambda$  such pairs. Therefore,  $W$  is a BGW( $m, k, \lambda n; N$ ), and the proof is complete. ■

Using the Theorem and the relative difference sets (3.16.a), yields the following.

**4.22. Corollary.** Let  $G$  be an arbitrary group of order  $p^n$ . Then there is a GH( $G; p^{2m-n}$ ), for every  $m \geq n$ .

**4.23. Example.** Using the relative difference sets (3.16.a), we construct a GH( $C_4, 4$ )

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

over  $C_4 \simeq \langle \begin{pmatrix} 0 & + \\ - & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$  given by

$$(4.23.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & - \\ 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + \\ 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 \\ 0 & - & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + \\ - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 \\ 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 \\ 0 & + & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + \\ - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 \\ 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & 0 \\ - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 \\ + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 \\ 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 \\ 0 & + & 0 & + & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 \\ - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & - & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 \\ - & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & + & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & - & 0 & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

\* \* \*

**4.5. Monomial Equivalence.** As before, we can impose an equivalence on the set of all  $v \times b$   $(0, G)$ -matrices, which will play an important part in what is to come.

**4.24. Definition.** Two  $v \times b$   $(0, G)$ -matrices  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are said to be *monomially equivalent* if there are monomial  $(0, G)$ -matrices  $P$  and  $Q$  of orders  $v$  and  $b$ , respectively, such that

$$(4.24.a) \quad PA_1Q = A_2.^{16)}$$

In order to extend (1.15.a) and (3.18.a) to BGW matrices, we begin by altering somewhat Definition 4.5 as in Part V of Colbourn and Dinitz (2007).

**4.25. Definition.** let  $G$  be some finite group, and let  $A$  be a  $v \times b$   $(0, G)$ -matrix. If  $A$  has  $k$  non-zero entries in every column, and if there is an element  $c \in (\frac{\lambda}{|G|}G) \setminus \{1\} \subset \mathbf{Z}[G]$  such that

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

$$(4.25.a) \quad AA^* = rI_v + c(J_v - I_v),$$

then we say that  $A$  is a  $c$ -GBRD( $v, k, \lambda - 1; G$ ), or a  $c$ -GBRD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda - 1; G$ ) if more precision required.

We can now properly extend the idea of normality to BGW matrices.

**4.26. Definition.** A BGW( $v, k, \lambda; G$ ) is said to be in *normal form* if it has the form

$$(4.26.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{v-k} & A_1 \\ \mathbf{1}_k & A_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that of necessity,  $A_1$  is a GBRD( $v - k, v - 1, k, k - \lambda, \lambda; G$ ) and  $A_2$  is a  $c$ -GBRD( $k, v - 1, k - 1, \lambda, \lambda - 1; G$ ). These have the parameters of the residual and derived designs of a square BIBD( $v, k, \lambda$ ), hence we call them, respectively, a residual GBRD and a derived  $c$ -GBRD.

## §5. Orthogonal Designs

In the previous section, we covered one generalization of weighing matrices, namely, we allowed the nonzero entries to come from a finite group. In this section, we pursue another generalization in a different direction. In particular, instead of allowing the nonzero entries to come from some group, we will take the nonzero entries to be indeterminants—real, complex, or quaternary<sup>17</sup>).

\* \* \*

**5.1. Definitions.** We begin with the case of real indeterminants.

**5.1. Definition.** Let  $x_1, \dots, x_u$  be real, commuting indeterminants, and let  $X$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with entries from  $\{0, \pm x_1, \dots, \pm x_u\}$ . We say that  $X$  is an *orthogonal design* if

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

$$(5.1.a) \quad XX^t = \left( \sum_i s_i x_i^2 \right) I_n.$$

We say that the orthogonal design is of order  $n$  and type  $(s_1, \dots, s_u)$ , and we write  $X$  is an  $\text{OD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$ . If  $\sum_i s_i = n$ , then we say that the OD is *full*.

**5.2. Example.** The following are examples of full ODs of types  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$ , and  $(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1)$ , respectively,

$$(5.2.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ \bar{b} & a \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ \bar{b} & a & \bar{d} & c \\ \bar{c} & d & a & \bar{b} \\ \bar{d} & \bar{c} & b & a \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d & e & f & g & h \\ \bar{b} & a & d & \bar{c} & f & \bar{e} & \bar{h} & g \\ \bar{c} & \bar{d} & a & b & g & h & \bar{e} & \bar{f} \\ \bar{d} & c & \bar{b} & a & h & \bar{g} & f & \bar{e} \\ \bar{e} & \bar{f} & \bar{g} & \bar{h} & a & b & c & d \\ \bar{f} & e & h & g & \bar{b} & a & \bar{d} & c \\ \bar{g} & h & e & \bar{f} & \bar{c} & d & a & \bar{b} \\ \bar{h} & \bar{g} & f & e & \bar{d} & \bar{c} & b & a \end{pmatrix},$$

where we have used  $\bar{x}$  to stand for  $-x$ . We do not have space to pursue these remarkable matrices here, but the interested reader is referred to Seberry (2017) and the references cited therein for details.

We now extend Definition 5.1 to the case of complex and quaternary numbers.

**5.3. Definition.** Let  $z_1, \dots, z_u$  be complex (resp. quaternary), commuting indeterminants, and let  $X$  be a matrix of order  $n$  with entries from  $\{0, \varepsilon_1 z_1, \dots, \varepsilon_u z_u\}$  and  $\{\varepsilon_1 z_1^*, \dots, \varepsilon_u z_u^*\}$ , where each  $\varepsilon_t \in \{\pm 1, \pm i\}$  (resp.  $\varepsilon_t \in \{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$ ). In the event that

$$(5.3.a) \quad XX^* = \left( \sum_i s_i |z_i|^2 \right) I_n,$$

then we say that  $X$  is a *complex* (resp. *quaternary*) orthogonal design of type  $(s_1, \dots, s_u)$ . We write  $X$  is a  $\text{COD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$  (resp.  $\text{QOD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$ ).

**5.4. Example.** The matrix

$$(5.4.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} ia & b \\ b & ia \end{pmatrix},$$



## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

where  $a$  and  $b$  are real commuting indeterminants, is a COD(2; 1, 1).

**5.5. Example.** The matrix

$$(5.5.a) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{a} & \bar{b} & ic & ic \\ b & \bar{a} & ic & i\bar{c} \\ j\bar{c} & j\bar{c} & ka & kb \\ j\bar{c} & jc & k\bar{b} & ka \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are real indeterminants, is a QOD(4; 1, 1, 2).

\* \* \*

**5.2. Sequences and Circulants.** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with first row  $(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$ . Recall that  $A$  is *circulant* if  $A_{ij} = a_{j-i}$ , where the indices are calculated modulo  $n$ . In this way, the entire matrix is determined by its first row; moreover, if  $A$  and  $B$  are two circulants of the same dimension, then  $A^t$ ,  $A+B$ , and  $AB$  are also circulant matrices. Therefore, to effect a study of circulant matrices, we can profitably study sequences.

What we are particularly interested with here is the following.

**5.6. Definition.** Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_i\}$  be a finite collection of circulant matrices of the same dimension over a commutative ring  $R$  endowed with an involution  $\cdot^*$ . The collection  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be *complementary* if

$$(5.6.a) \sum_i A_i A_i^* = aI, \text{ for some } a \in R,$$

where, as usual,  $(m_{ij})^* = (m_{ji}^*)$ .

Note, however, that we can state this in terms of sequences. First, a definition.

**5.7. Definition.** Let  $a_0 = (a_{0,0}, \dots, a_{0,n-1})$  be a sequence in a commutative ring  $R$  with the involution  $\cdot^*$ . The  $j$ -th *aperiodic* and  $j$ -th *periodic autocorrelations* of the sequence  $a$  are given respectively by

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

$$(5.7.a) \quad N_j(a) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-j-1} a_{0,i} a_{0,i+j}^*, \text{ and}$$

$$(5.7.b) \quad P_j(a) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_{0,i} a_{0,i+j}^*, \text{ indices calculated modulo } n.$$

If  $a_1 = (a_{1,0}, \dots, a_{1,n-1}), \dots, a_m = (a_{m,0}, \dots, a_{m,n-1})$  are any other sequence in  $R$ , then  $a_0, \dots, a_m$  are *complementary* if

$$(5.7.c) \quad \sum_i P_j(a_i) = 0, \text{ for every } j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}.$$

For the case in which  $m = 1$ , we say that we have a *Golay pair*.

We see immediately that  $P_j(a) = N_j(a) + N_{n-j}(a)^*$ ; hence, if  $N_j(a) + N_j(b) = 0$ , for every  $j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ , then  $a$  and  $b$  are complementary. However, vanishing periodic autocorrelations does not in general imply vanishing aperiodic autocorrelations.

The importance of the periodic correlation is given by the fact that if the first row of the circulant  $A$  continues to be  $a = (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$ , then the first row of  $AA^*$  is given by  $(\sum_i |a_i|^2, P_{n-1}(a), \dots, P_1(a))$ . So we see that complementary circulants and complementary sequences are one and the same.

Complementary sequences and orthogonal designs are connected in an intimate way; in fact, complementary sequences offer many elegant constructions of ODs. To make the connection precise, we need to allow sequence elements to be indeterminates whether real, complex, or quaternary, and where the involution is taken to be conjugation.

**5.8. Proposition.** Let  $\{z_1, \dots, z_u\}$  be commuting quaternary indeterminates, and let  $a = (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$  and  $b = (b_0, \dots, b_{n-1})$  be complementary sequences with entries from  $\{0, \varepsilon_0 z_0, \dots, \varepsilon_u z_u\}$ , where  $\varepsilon_t \in \{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$ , such that

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

$\sum_i (|a_i|^2 + |b_i|^2) = \sum_i s_i x_i^2$ . Then

$$(5.8.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ -B^* & A^* \end{pmatrix}$$

is a QOD( $2n; s_1, \dots, s_u$ ), where  $A$  and  $B$  are the circulants with first rows  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively.

**Proof.** A restatement of (5.7.c). ■

The matrix (5.8.a) will feature as a submatrix in our later work where the sequences will be composed of matrices. We will need one further idea before we proceed.

**5.9. Definition.** Let  $a = (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$  and  $b = (b_0, \dots, b_{n-1})$  be two sequences over a ring with involution  $\cdot^*$ . The  $j$ -th cross-correlation of  $a$  by  $b$  is given by

$$(5.9.a) \quad C_j(a, b) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i b_{i+j}^*, \text{ for each } j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}.$$

If  $A$  has first row  $a = (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$ , and if  $B$  has first row  $b = (b_0, \dots, b_{n-1})$ , then the first row of the circulant  $AB^*$  is  $(\sum_i a_i b_i^*, C_{n-1}(a, b), \dots, C_1(a, b))$ . Note, however, that  $C_j(a, b)$  is not in general equal to  $C_j(b, a)$ . So, care must be taken in extending Proposition 5.8 since amicability is required in maintaining orthogonality when substituting into an OD.

Much more can be said about this most useful topic. The interested reader is may consult Seberry (2017) and Seberry and Yamada (1992) for a wealth of material.

## 2. Weighing Matrices and Their Generalizations

### Notes

8. Cauchy's determinant property states that if  $\{A_i\}$  is a finite set of square matrices of the same order, then  $\det(\prod_i A_i) = \prod_i \det(A_i)$ .
9. This is a consequences of the Hasse-Minkowski Theory, more specifically, the Bruck-Ryser-Chowla Theorem. There are a number of references that treat this result. The interested reader is asked to consult Hall (1986) and Stinson (2004).
10. Let  $V$  and  $W$  be two linear spaces, and let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear epimorphism. Recall that  $W \simeq V/\ker(T)$ . In the case that the spaces are finite-dimensional, we have  $\dim(V) = \text{rank}(T) + \text{null}(T)$ .
11. Let  $K = \text{GF}(q)$  and  $F = \text{GF}(q^n)$ . The *relative trace function*  $\text{Tr}_{F/K} : F \rightarrow K$  is defined by  $\text{Tr}_{F/K}(\alpha) = \alpha + \alpha^q + \dots + \alpha^{q^{n-1}}$ . In the case that  $K$  is prime,  $\text{Tr}_{F/K}$  is the *absolute* trace function. Similarly, the relative norm  $N_{F/K} : F \rightarrow K$  is defined by  $N(\alpha) = \alpha^{1+q+\dots+q^{n-1}} = \alpha^{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}}$ . See Lidl and Niederreiter (1994) for details.
12. Let  $H$  and  $G \leq S_v$  be finite groups. Recall that the wreath product  $H \wr G$  is the semi direct product  $H^v \rtimes G$  where  $g(h_0, \dots, h_{v-1})g^{-1} = (h_{g^{-1}0}, \dots, h_{g^{-1}(v-1)})$ . Let  $H = \{-1, 1\}$ , and let  $G = H \wr S_v$ . We define an action of  $G \times G$  on the set of  $(-1, 0, 1)$ -matrices by  $\mu(W, (P, Q)) = P^t W Q$ . The Hadamard equivalent weighing matrices reside in the same orbits of this action.
13. Here, we are doing arithmetic over the group ring  $\mathbf{Z}[G]$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}G$ , as is customary, denotes the integer multiples of  $\sum_{g \in G} g$ .
14. If  $q = p^n$ , for some prime  $p$ , then  $\text{EA}(q) \simeq \underbrace{C_p \times \dots \times C_p}_n$ .
15. By note 12, it follows that the  $\omega$  of Proposition 4.17 is the multiplicative inverse of the relative norm of the primitive element  $\beta$ .
16. Let  $H_1 = G \wr S_v$ , let  $H_2 = G \wr S_b$ , and let  $H = H_1 \times H_2$ . We define an action of  $H$  on the set of all  $v \times b$   $(0, G)$ -matrices by  $\mu(A, (P, Q)) = P^* A Q$ . The monomially equivalent matrices are composed precisely by the orbits of this action.
17. Recall that the quaternion group  $\{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$  is defined with anticommutative multiplication given by  $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1, ij = k, jk = i, ki = j$ . We then take the quaternion algebra to be the  $\mathbf{R}$ -algebra  $\{a_1 + a_i i + a_j j + a_k k : a_1, a_i, a_j, a_k \in \mathbf{R}\}$ . Conjugation is extended to the quaternion algebra by  $(a_1 + a_i i + a_j j + a_k k)^* = a_1 - a_i i - a_j j - a_k k$ .

# 3

## Association Schemes

This third and final preliminary chapter briefly touches on association schemes, a fundamental abstract object used as a unifying tool across the otherwise disparate fields of combinatorics. It is composed of two sections. The first will introduce the basic ideas via strongly regular graphs, the simplest nontrivial example of an association scheme. The second moves on to consider these objects in general. Only enough theory is developed in order to be applied in later chapters.

### §6. Strongly Regular Graphs

This section introduces the so-called strongly regular graphs. Much attention has been given to these objects, both in excogitating their properties as well as answering existence and classification problems. Many of the results of this section will be generalized in the next section.

\* \* \*

### 3. Association Schemes

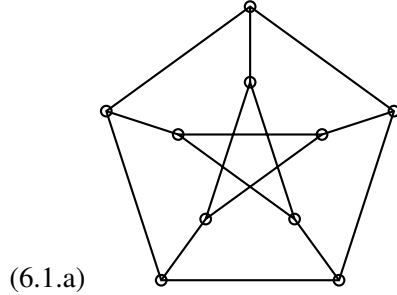
**6.1. Definition and Elementary Properties.** A *graph*, similar to a balanced incomplete block design, is simply an ordered pair  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  where  $V$  is a finite set of  $v$  points, called *vertices*, and where  $E \subset \binom{V}{2}$ , called the *edges*.<sup>18)</sup>

If  $x, y \in V$  are distinct, and if  $\{x, y\} \in E$ , then we say that  $x$  and  $y$  are *adjacent*, and we write  $x \sim y$ . If there is a sequence of vertices  $x = v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1} = y$  such that  $v_{i-1} \sim v_i$ , for  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ , then we say that  $x$  and  $y$  are *connected*. Connectedness is easily seen to be an equivalence relation of the vertex set  $V$ .

The *degree* of vertex  $x$  is defined as the number of vertices that are adjacent to  $x$ . If every vertex has the same degree, say,  $k$ , then we say that the graph is *regular* with degree  $k$ .

The *complement* of a graph  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  is given by  $\bar{\Gamma} = (V, \binom{V}{2} \setminus E)$ .

**6.1. Example.** The following is a graph on 10 vertices called the *Petersen graph*, where the vertices are the nodes, and where the line segments represent adjacencies. One can see that each pair of distinct vertices are connected.



This graph evinces further interesting properties, namely, the graph is regular with degree 3, each pair of adjacent vertices have 0 common neighbours, and each pair of non-adjacent vertices have 1 common neighbour.

The above example motivates the following definition.

**6.2. Definition.** Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be a graph with  $|V| = v$ .  $\Gamma$  is said to be *strongly regular* if the following are satisfied.

### 3. Association Schemes

(6.2.a) The graph is regular with degree  $k$ ,

(6.2.b) each pair of adjacent vertices have  $\lambda$  common neighbours, and

(6.2.c) each pair of non-adjacent vertices have  $\mu$  common neighbours.

In such a case we write  $\Gamma$  is an  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$ .

**6.3. Example.** The Petersen graph of Example 6.1 is an  $\text{SRG}(10, 3, 0, 1)$ .

**6.4. Example.** Let  $[m] = \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ , for  $m > 2$ , and take  $V = \binom{[m]}{2}$ . Define adjacencies by  $x \sim y$  iff  $|x \cap y| = 1$ . The ensuing structure is called the  $T(m)$  graph. Clearly, the graph is regular of degree  $k = 2(m-2)$ . The vertices adjacent to both  $\{a, c\}$  and  $\{b, c\}$  are given by those  $\{c, d\}$ , where  $d \neq a, b, c$ , and  $\{a, b\}$ . Hence,  $\lambda = m-2$ . Finally, the number of vertices adjacent to the nonadjacent vertices  $\{a, b\}$  and  $\{c, d\}$  is given by  $\{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{b, c\}, \{b, d\}$ ; hence,  $\mu = 4$ . We have shown that  $T(m)$  is strongly regular with parameters  $(m(m-1)/2, 2(m-2), m-2, 4)$ .

**6.5. Proposition.** The parameters of an  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  satisfy

$$(6.5.a) \quad k(k - \lambda - 1) = \mu(v - k - 1).$$

**Proof.** Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be an  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$ , and fix a vertex  $x \in V$ . Count in two ways the edges  $\{y, z\} \in E$  such that  $x \sim y$ ,  $x \not\sim z$ , and  $z \neq x$ . First, there are  $k$  choices for  $y$  and  $k - \lambda - 1$  choices for  $z$ . On the other hand, there are  $v - k - 1$  choices for  $z$  and  $\mu$  choices for  $y$ . ■

With graphs, as with BIBDs, we can represent these objects with matrices.

**6.6. Definition.** Let  $\Gamma = (\{x_0, \dots, x_{v-1}\}, E)$  be some graph. The *adjacency matrix*  $A = A(\Gamma)$  of  $\Gamma$  is the  $(0, 1)$ -matrix of order  $v$  defined by

### 3. Association Schemes

$$(6.6.a) \quad A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_i \sim x_j, \text{ and} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

From the definition, we can see that  $A(\Gamma)$  is symmetric and has zero diagonal. Furthermore,  $A(\bar{\Gamma}) = J - I - A(\Gamma)$ .

Using the adjacency matrix, it turns out that SRGs are completely characterized by a simple matrix equation.

**6.7. Proposition.** A graph  $\Gamma$  with adjacency matrix  $A = A(\Gamma)$  is strongly regular with parameters  $(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  if and only if

$$(6.7.a) \quad A^2 = kI + \lambda A + \mu(J - I - A).$$

**Proof.** Restatement of Definition 6.2. ■

**6.8. Corollary.** The complement of an  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  is an  $\text{SRG}(v, v - k - 1, v - 2k + \mu - 2, v - 2k + \lambda)$ .

We conclude this subsection with one further result. Its justification is rather immediate, and as such, it is omitted (see Ionin and Shrikhande, 2006, Proposition 7.1.6).

**6.9. Proposition.** Let  $\Gamma$  be an  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$ . Then the following are equivalent.

$$(6.9.a) \quad \mu = 0;$$

$$(6.9.b) \quad k = \lambda + 1;$$

$$(6.9.c) \quad \Gamma \text{ is not connected; and}$$

$$(6.9.d) \quad \Gamma \text{ is the disjoint union of } v/k \text{ copies of } K_k.$$



### 3. Association Schemes

The above proposition shows that the interesting SRGs are those which are connected. We will assume this to be the case unless otherwise stated.

\* \* \*

**6.2. Eigenvalues.** This subsection will closely follow §1.2 of Bannai et al. (2021).

Let  $\Gamma$  be an  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  with adjacency matrix  $A = A(\Gamma)$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is regular of degree  $k$ , it follows that  $AJ = JA = kJ$ . Since  $A$  and  $J$  are then symmetric matrices which commute, they are simultaneously orthogonally diagonalizable<sup>19</sup>).

The rank of  $J$  is one, and its eigenvalues are  $v$  and 0 with multiplicities 1 and  $v - 1$ , respectively.

Since  $\Gamma$  is regular of degree  $k$ , it has eigenvalue  $k$  with multiplicity given by the number of connected components of the graph (see Bannai and Ito, 1984, Theorem 1.5). Since we are assuming that  $\Gamma$  is connected, the eigenvalue  $k$  has multiplicity 1. Moreover, by (6.7.a), it follows that  $k^2 = k + \lambda k + \mu(v - k - 1)$ , which shows again (6.5.a).

Since  $\text{Tr}(A) = 0$ , it follows that there is at least one further eigenvalue. If there is only one further eigenvalue, say  $\varrho$ , then  $k + (v - 1)\varrho = 0$ ; hence,  $\varrho = -\frac{k}{v-1}$  is a rational integer. But this would imply that  $\Gamma = K_v$ , the complete graph on  $v$  vertices<sup>20</sup>). We therefore assume that  $\Gamma$  has more than two eigenvalues.

If  $\varrho$  is any other eigenvalue of  $A$ , then  $\varrho^2 = k - \mu + (\lambda - \mu)\varrho$ ; hence, there are precisely three eigenvalues of  $A$  given by  $k, r$ , and  $s$ , where

$$r = (\lambda - \mu + \sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)})/2, \text{ and}$$

$$s = (\lambda - \mu - \sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)})/2.$$

Furthermore, if the multiplicities of  $r$  and  $s$  are  $f$  and  $g$ , respectively, then

### 3. Association Schemes

$v = 1 + f + g$  and  $k + fr + gs = 0$ . Solving this system yields

$$f = (v - 1 + [(\mu - \lambda)(v - 1) - 2k] / \sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)}) / 2, \text{ and}$$

$$g = (v - 1 - [(\mu - \lambda)(v - 1) - 2k] / \sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)}) / 2.$$

We have shown the following result.

**6.10. Theorem.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a connected, noncomplete  $\text{SRG}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  with adjacency matrix  $A = A(\Gamma)$ . Then  $A$  has eigenvalues

(6.10.a)  $k$  of multiplicity 1,

(6.10.b)  $r = \frac{1}{2}(\lambda - \mu + \sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)})$  of multiplicity  
 $f = \frac{1}{2} \left( v - 1 + \frac{(\mu - \lambda)(v - 1) - 2k}{\sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)}} \right)$ , and

(6.10.c)  $s = \frac{1}{2}(\lambda - \mu - \sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)})$  of multiplicity  
 $g = \frac{1}{2} \left( v - 1 - \frac{(\mu - \lambda)(v - 1) - 2k}{\sqrt{(\lambda - \mu)^2 + 4(k - \mu)}} \right)$ .

Moreover, we have that

(6.10.d)  $\lambda = k + r + s + rs$ , and

(6.10.e)  $\mu = k + rs$ .

\* \* \*

**6.3. Generated Matrix Algebra.** Let  $\text{Mat}_v(\mathbf{C})$  be the algebra of  $v \times v$  matrices with entries from  $\mathbf{C}$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be an SRG, and let  $A = A(\Gamma)$  and  $\bar{A} = A(\bar{\Gamma})$ . Since  $A + \bar{A} = J - I$ , it follows that  $I, A$  and  $\bar{A}$  are  $\mathbf{C}$ -linearly independent and, therefore, span a 3-dimensional linear subspace of  $\text{Mat}_v(\mathbf{C})$ , say,  $\mathfrak{U}$ .

If we use  $\cdot \circ \cdot$  to denote Schur multiplication<sup>21</sup>, then we see at once that  $X \circ X = X$ , for each  $X \in \{I, A, \bar{A}\}$ . Therefore,  $\mathfrak{U}$  is closed under Schur multiplication. We denote this algebra as  $\hat{\mathfrak{U}}$  and call  $I, A$ , and  $\bar{A}$  the *Schur idempotents* of  $\hat{\mathfrak{U}}$ .

### 3. Association Schemes

It turns out that  $\mathfrak{U}$  also has an algebra structure with respect to matrix multiplication.

**6.11. Proposition.** Let  $\Gamma$  be an SRG, and let  $A = A(\Gamma)$ . Then  $\mathfrak{U} = \langle I, A, \bar{A} \rangle$  is a commutative matrix algebra.

**Proof.** By (6.7.a), we have that  $J - I = \mu^{-1}[A^2 + A(\mu - \lambda) - kI]$ . Therefore,  $\bar{A} = \mu^{-1}A^2 + A[\mu^{-1}(\mu - \lambda) - 1] - \mu^{-1}kI$ ; so,  $\bar{A}$  is a polynomial in  $A$ , whence it commutes with  $A$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}A &= A\bar{A} = A(J - I - A) = kJ - A - A^2 \\ &= kJ - A - kI - \lambda A - \mu\bar{A} \\ &= k(I + A + \bar{A}) - A - kI - \lambda A - \mu\bar{A} \\ &= (k - \lambda - 1)A + (k - \mu)\bar{A}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $A\bar{A} = \bar{A}A \in \mathfrak{U}$ . By (6.7.a), we see that  $A^2, \bar{A}^2 \in \mathfrak{U}$ . We therefore have that  $\mathfrak{U}$  is closed under standard matrix multiplication. ■

Since  $I$ ,  $A$ , and  $\bar{A}$  are symmetric, pairwise commuting matrices, they are simultaneously diagonalizable; hence,  $\mathfrak{U}$  is semisimple (see Lang, 2002). It follows that there are matrices  $E_0, E_1, E_2 \in \mathfrak{U}$  such that (a)  $\mathfrak{U} = \langle E_0, E_1, E_2 \rangle$ , (b)  $E_0 + E_1 + E_2 = I$ , and (c)  $E_i E_j = \delta_{i,j} E_j$ .

## §7. Association Schemes

Here we generalize some the concepts of the previous section, and we will mostly draw from Chapter 2 of Bannai and Ito (1984), the standard reference on the subject.

\* \* \*

### 3. Association Schemes

**7.1. Definitions.** We begin with the following definition.

**7.1. Definition.** Let  $X$  be a finite set of  $v$  elements, and let  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_0, \dots, R_d\}$  be a collection of relations on  $X$ . We say that the ordered pair  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$  is an *association scheme* with  $d$  classes whenever the following are satisfied.

$$(7.1.a) \ R_0 = \{(x, x) : x \in X\};$$

$$(7.1.b) \ R_i \cap R_j = \emptyset \text{ and } X \times X \text{ is the disjoint union of } R_0, \dots, R_d;$$

$$(7.1.c) \ R_i^t = R_{i'} \text{ for some } i' \in \{0, \dots, d\}, \text{ where } R_i^t = \{(x, y) : (y, x) \in R_i\};$$

and

$$(7.1.d) \ \text{Given } (x, y) \in R_k, \text{ the number of } z \in X \text{ such that } (x, z) \in R_i \text{ and } (z, y) \in R_j \text{ is a constant } p_{ij}^k. \text{ We call the } p_{ij}^k, \text{ the } \textit{intersection numbers} \text{ of the scheme.}$$

The scheme  $\mathfrak{X}$  is *commutative* if

$$(7.1.e) \ p_{ij}^k = p_{ji}^k, \text{ for all } i, j, k \in \{0, \dots, d\}.$$

The scheme is *symmetric* if

$$(7.1.f) \ i = i', \text{ for every } i \in \{0, \dots, d\}.$$

We denote  $p_{ii}^0$  as  $k_i$ , the *valency* of the relation  $R_i$ .

We present a few classical examples.

**7.2. Example.** Let  $G$  be a transitive permutation group on a set  $X$ , and let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the collection of orbits of  $G$  on  $X \times X$ . Then  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$  is an association scheme (see Higman, 1975, 1976). In general  $\mathfrak{X}$  is non-commutative; however, the scheme is commutative if and only if the Hecke algebra is commutative (see Wielandt, 1964).  $\mathfrak{X}$  is symmetric if and only if the group is generously transitive<sup>22</sup>).

### 3. Association Schemes

**7.3. Example.** Recall The definition of a  $q$ -ary code. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be our  $q$ -ary alphabet, and take  $X = \underbrace{\mathcal{A} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{A}}_n$ . We partition  $X \times X$  in the following way. We take  $(x, y) \in R_i$  if and only if  $\text{dist}(x, y) = i$ . Since the wreath product  $S_q \wr S_n$  acts transitively on each  $R_i$ , we have that  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$  is a symmetric association scheme on  $n$  classes called the *Hamming scheme*.

**7.4. Example.** Let  $V$  be a set of order  $v$ , and take  $X = \binom{V}{k}$ , where  $k \leq v/2$ . Partition  $X \times X$  by  $(x, y) \in R_i$  if and only if  $|x \cap y| = k - i$ . The symmetric group  $S_v$  acts transitively on each  $R_i$ , hence  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$  is a symmetric association scheme of  $k$  classes called the *Johnson scheme*.

Unless otherwise stated, we will assume that the association schemes we are working with are commutative.

\* \* \*

**7.2. Adjacency Algebras.** The importance of association schemes resides in the following definition.

**7.5. Definition.** Let  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$  be a  $d$ -class association scheme. For  $i \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ , define the  $v \times v$   $(0, 1)$ -matrix  $A_i$  with rows and columns indexed by elements of  $X$  by  $(A_i)_{xy} = 1$  if and only if  $(x, y) \in R_i$ . We call  $A_i$  the *adjacency matrix* of the relation  $R_i$ . Then Definition 7.1 is equivalent to the following.

$$(7.5.a) \quad A_0 = I;$$

$$(7.5.b) \quad A_0 + \cdots + A_d = J;$$

$$(7.5.c) \quad A_i^t = A_{i'} \text{ for some } i' \in \{0, \dots, d\}; \text{ and}$$

$$(7.5.d) \quad A_i A_j = \sum_k p_{ij}^k A_k, \text{ for every } i, j \in \{0, \dots, d\}.$$

If  $\mathfrak{X}$  is commutative, then

### 3. Association Schemes

$$(7.5.e) \quad A_i A_j = A_j A_i, \text{ for each } i, j \in \{0, \dots, d\}.$$

If  $\mathfrak{X}$  is symmetric, then

$$(7.5.f) \quad A_i^t = A_i, \text{ for every } i \in \{0, \dots, d\}.$$

By (7.5.b), the adjacency matrices of the scheme are  $\mathbf{C}$ -linearly independent and generate a subspace  $\mathfrak{U}$  of  $\text{Mat}_v(\mathbf{C})$  of dimension  $d+1$ . By (7.5.d),  $\mathfrak{U}$  is closed under standard matrix multiplication. We call  $\mathfrak{U}$  the *adjacency algebra* of the association scheme  $\mathfrak{X}$ .

We further have that  $A_i \circ A_j = \delta_{ij} A_i$ . Therefore,  $A_0, \dots, A_d$  also generate a commutative algebra  $\hat{\mathfrak{U}}$  with Schur multiplication for which they are primitive idempotents<sup>23</sup>). We therefore also call the adjacency matrices the *Schur idempotents* of the scheme.

Assume an ordering of  $X = \{x_0, \dots, x_{v-1}\}$ , and take  $e_{x_i}$  to be the standard vector with  $i$ -th position equal to 1 and 0 elsewhere. Take  $V$  to be the Hermitian space with the standard orthonormal basis  $\{e_x : x \in X\}$ .

Since we are assuming commutativity, the adjacency matrices  $A_0, \dots, A_d$  are pairwise commuting, normal matrices. So, they share an eigenbasis, and by the Spectral Theorem for normal matrices,  $V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^r V_i$ , where the  $V_i$  are maximal common eigenspaces.

Since  $J = \sum_i A_i$ , we find the eigenspace corresponding to the eigenvalue  $v$  is spanned by  $\mathbf{1}_v$ , i.e. it is 1-dimensional and hence maximal. It follows that this space is equal to  $V_i$  for some  $i$ . We can assume, then, that  $i = 0$ .

If we take  $E_i$  to be the orthogonal projection  $V \rightarrow V_i$  with respect to the basis  $\{e_x : x \in X\}$ , then we can assume that  $E_0 = |X|^{-1} J$ , and we have  $E_0 + \dots + E_d = I$ . Moreover, there is a unitary matrix  $\Lambda$  such that  $\Lambda^* E_i \Lambda = \text{diag}(0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{m_i}, 0, \dots, 0)$ , where we have used  $m_i$  to denote  $\dim(V_i)$ . The numbers  $m_i$ , for  $i \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ , are called the *multiplicities* of the scheme.

### 3. Association Schemes

It can be shown (see Bannai and Ito, 1984, Theorem 3.1) that the projection matrices  $E_0, \dots, E_d$  are primitive idempotents of  $\mathfrak{U}$  and form a dual basis of  $\mathfrak{U}$ . It follows that there are constants  $P_{ij}$  and  $Q_{ij}$ , for  $i, j \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ , called the *eigenvalues* and *dual-eigenvalues* of the scheme, such that  $A_j = \sum_i P_{ij} E_i$  and  $E_j = |X|^{-1} \sum_i Q_{ij} A_i$ . Using these constants, we form the matrices  $P$  and  $Q$  with  $(i, j)$ -th entry given by  $P_{ij}$  and  $Q_{ij}$ , respectively, and we call these matrices the *first* and *second character tables* of the scheme. By what has been said, we have at once that  $PQ = QP = vI$ .

**7.6. Example.** Using the notation of the previous section, we see that a strongly regular graph has first and second character tables

$$(7.6.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & v-k-1 \\ 1 & r & -r-1 \\ 1 & s & -s-1 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{r-s} \begin{pmatrix} r-s & -k-(v-1)s & k+(v-1)r \\ r-s & v-k-s & k-v-r \\ r-s & s-k & k-r \end{pmatrix},$$

respectively.

\* \* \*

**7.3. Parameters.** As we have seen, there are numerous parameters related to a given association scheme. The regular structure of a scheme allows us to relate these parameters together in a number of interesting ways.

To begin, we have a few immediate properties of the intersection numbers.

**7.7. Proposition.**

$$(7.7.a) \quad p_{0j}^k = \delta_{jk},$$

$$(7.7.b) \quad p_{i0}^k = \delta_{ik},$$

$$(7.7.c) \quad p_{ij}^0 = k_i \delta_{ij'},$$

### 3. Association Schemes

$$(7.7.d) \quad p_{ij}^k = p_{i'j'}^{k'},$$

$$(7.7.e) \quad \sum_{j=0}^d p_{ij}^k = k_i,$$

$$(7.7.f) \quad k_\gamma p_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma = k_\beta p_{\alpha'\gamma}^\beta = k_\alpha p_{\gamma\beta'}^\alpha, \text{ and}$$

$$(7.7.g) \quad \sum_{\alpha=0}^d p_{ij}^\alpha p_{k\alpha}^\ell = \sum_{\beta=0}^d p_{ki}^\beta p_{\beta j}^\ell.$$

**Proof.** (7.7.a-d) are a restatement of the definitions. To show (7.7.e), fix a pair  $(x, y) \in R_k$  and count the points  $z \in X$  such that  $(x, z) \in R_i$ . For (7.7.f), count the triangles  $(x, y, z)$  such that  $(x, y) \in R_\gamma$ ,  $(x, z) \in R_\alpha$ , and  $(z, y) \in R_\beta$ . Finally, we show (7.7.g) in the following way. Fix a pair  $(x, y) \in R_\ell$  and count the pairs  $(z, w)$  such that  $(x, z) \in R_k$ ,  $(z, w) \in R_i$ , and  $(w, y) \in R_j$ . ■

Regarding the bases, we have the following, where  $\tau(C) = \sum_{i,j} C_{ij}$  is the sum of the elements of the matrix  $C$ .

#### 7.8. Proposition.

$$(7.8.a) \quad \text{Tr}(A_i) = \delta_{i0}|X|,$$

$$(7.8.b) \quad \tau(A_i) = |X|k_i,$$

$$(7.8.c) \quad \text{Tr}(E_i) = m_i, \text{ and}$$

$$(7.8.d) \quad \tau(E_i) = \delta_{i0}|X|.$$

**Proof.** Trivial. ■

Regarding the character tables of the scheme, we have the following two propositions.

#### 7.9. Proposition. For each $i \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ ,

$$(7.9.a) \quad P_{i0} = 1,$$



### 3. Association Schemes

$$(7.9.b) \quad P_{0i} = k_i,$$

$$(7.9.c) \quad Q_{i0} = 1, \text{ and}$$

$$(7.9.d) \quad Q_{0i} = m_i.$$

**Proof.** To show (7.9.a), compare coefficients in  $\sum_i E_i = A_0 = I = \sum_i P_{i0} E_i$ . To show (7.9.b), apply the functional  $\tau$  to  $A_i = \sum_j P_{ji} E_j$ . Comparing coefficients in  $E_0 = |X|^{-1} J = |X|^{-1} \sum_i A_i$  yields (7.9.c). Finally, taking the trace of  $E_i = |X|^{-1} \sum_j Q_{ji} A_j$  gives (7.9.d). ■

**7.10. Proposition.** For each  $i, j \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ ,

$$(7.10.a) \quad Q_{ij}/m_j = \overline{P_{ij}}/k_i,$$

$$(7.10.b) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^d k_\nu^{-1} P_{i\nu} \overline{P_{j\nu}} = \delta_{ij} |X|/m_i, \text{ and}$$

$$(7.10.c) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^d m_\nu P_{\nu i} \overline{P_{\nu j}} = \delta_{ij} |X| k_i.$$

It is customary to refer to (7.10.b) and (7.10.c) as the *first* and *second orthogonality relations of association schemes*.

**Proof.** To show (7.10.a), note that  $E_j \circ A_i = |X|^{-1} Q_{ij} A_i$ ; hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(E_j \circ A_i) &= \text{Tr}(E_j A_i^t) \\ &= \text{Tr}(E_j A_{i'}) \\ &= \text{Tr}(P_{ji'} E_j) \\ &= P_{ji'} m_j \\ &= m_j \overline{P_{ji}}. \end{aligned}$$

### 3. Association Schemes

Similarly,  $\tau(|X|^{-1}Q_{ij}A_i) = Q_{ij}k_i$ . The remaining points follow by writing  $PQ = |X|I$  and  $QP = |X|$  entrywise. ■

Much more can be said of this most interesting topic, but we do not have the space to pursue it here. It suffices to say that the character tables of a scheme in a sense characterize the scheme. In order to derive these character tables, however, we will often try to employ a further object, namely, the intersection matrices of the scheme.

\* \* \*

**7.4. Intersection Matrices.** If we regard left multiplication of  $\mathfrak{U}$  as linear transformations of  $\mathfrak{U}$  and express them in terms of the basis  $\{A_0, \dots, A_d\}$ , then we have an algebra homomorphism  $\mathfrak{U} \rightarrow \text{Mat}_v(\mathbb{C})$  called the *left regular representation of  $\mathfrak{U}$*  with respect to  $\{A_0, \dots, A_d\}$ .

For  $i \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ , define the matrix  $B_i$  by  $(B_i)_{jk} = p_{ij}^k$ , called the *i-th intersection matrix*. It then follows by (7.5.d) that the image of  $A_i$  under the above homomorphism is  $B_i^t$ , whence  $A_i \leftrightarrow B_i^t$  is an isomorphism. Since, however, we are assuming that our schemes are commutative, transposition is an isomorphism; thus,  $A_i \leftrightarrow B_i$  is an isomorphism. If we denote  $\mathfrak{B} = \langle B_0, \dots, B_d \rangle$ , then we have shown  $\mathfrak{U} \simeq \mathfrak{B}$ .

That the intersection matrices and the isomorphism given above are important for us is shown in the next result. First, however, we say that a vector is in *standard form* if the first entry is 1.

**7.11. Theorem.** Let  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, \mathcal{R})$  be a commutative association scheme with  $d$  classes. Let  $v_i = (P_{i0}, \dots, P_{id})$  and  $u_i = (\overline{P_{i0}}/k_0, \dots, \overline{P_{id}}/k_d)$  be the row vectors obtained by standardizing the first row and column of  $P$  and  $Q$ , respectively. Then  $u_i$  is the unique standardized common left eigenvector  $u$  of the matrices  $B_j$  such

### 3. Association Schemes

that  $uB_j = P_{ij}u$ . Similarly,  $v_i^t$  is the common right eigenvector  $v^t$  of the matrices  $B_j$  such that  $B_jv^t = P_{ij}v^t$ .

**Proof.** We consider the left regular representation of the adjacency algebra  $\mathfrak{U}$  of  $\mathfrak{X}$ . With respect to the basis  $\{A_0, \dots, A_d\}$ , the image of  $A_j$  is  $B_j^t$ . With respect to the basis  $\{E_0, \dots, E_d\}$ , the image of  $A_j$  is  $\text{diag}(P_{0j}, \dots, P_{dj})$ . Since  $E_jP = A_j$ , we have that  $B_j^t = P^{-1}\text{diag}(P_{0j}, \dots, P_{dj})P$ , hence  $B_jP^t = P^t\text{diag}(P_{0j}, \dots, P_{dj})$ . Thus, the  $i$ -th column  $v_i^t$  of  $P^t$  is a right eigenvector of  $B_j$  belonging to the eigenvalue  $P_{ij}$ .

Multiplying by  $Q^t$  on the right and left,  $Q^tB_j = \text{diag}(P_{0j}, \dots, P_{dj})Q^t$ . So, the  $i$ -th row vector  $(Q_{0i}, \dots, Q_{di})$  of  $Q^t$  is a left eigenvector of  $B_j$  belonging to the eigenvalue  $P_{ij}$ . By (7.10.a),  $m_i^{-1}(Q_{0i}, \dots, Q_{di}) = u_i$ .

Let  $u$  be a common left eigenvector of  $B_j$  such that  $uB_j = P_{ij}u$ , for all  $j$ . By the linear independence of  $\{u_k\}$ , we can write  $u = \sum_k \lambda_k u_k$ . Applying  $B_j$ ,  $P_{ij} \sum_k \lambda_k u_k = \sum_k \lambda_k P_{kj} u_k$ , hence  $\lambda_k P_{ij} = \lambda_k P_{kj}$ , for every  $j$ . If  $\lambda_k \neq 0$ , then  $P_{ij} = P_{kj}$  so that  $i = k$  as  $\det(P) \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $u$  is a multiple of  $u_i$

$v_i^t$  is similarly characterized. ■

As stated in Bannai and Ito (1984), by virtue of this result, one can conceivably derive the character tables  $P$  and  $Q$  from the intersection matrices. In particular, if the algebra  $\mathfrak{B}$  is generated by a single  $B_j$ , we can use the single matrix  $B_j$  to calculate the character tables. Following Lemma 2.2.1 of Brouwer et al. (1989), the authors go on to point out that if some  $B_j$  has  $d + 1$  distinct eigenvalues, then we can similarly use this intersection matrix. Of course, if  $\mathfrak{B}$  is cyclic, then this property is satisfied by the generator matrix.

### 3. Association Schemes

## Notes

18. NB: Our definition of a graph given here precludes the case of loops, that is, it is assumed that  $x \sim x$  can never happen. Moreover, the graph is undirected: If  $x \sim y$ , then  $y \sim x$ , and we do not differentiate these two cases. To use the standard nomenclature, this is a simple, undirected graph.
19. More generally, if  $\{A_i\}$  is a finite collection of pairwise commuting, diagonalizable matrices, then they share an eigenbasis; hence, there is a matrix  $\Lambda$  such that  $\Lambda^* A_i \Lambda$  is diagonal, for each  $i$ .
20. Note that  $A(K_n) = J - I$ ; so,  $K_n$  has eigenvalue  $n - 1$  with eigenvector  $\mathbf{1}$ . Next,  $A + I$  has rank 1 so that there are  $n - 1$  linearly independent eigenvectors for the eigenvalue  $-1$ . By transposing the argument, we get the converse.
21. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two matrices of the same dimension over some commutative ring. Then  $(A \circ B)_{ij} = A_{ij} B_{ij}$ , i.e. componentwise multiplication.
22. Let  $\mu : \Omega \times G \rightarrow \Omega$  be an action of  $G$  on  $\Omega$ . The action is *generously transitive* if, for each pair of points  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $\Omega$ , there is an element  $g \in G$  such that  $\mu(\alpha, g) = \beta$  and  $\mu(\beta, g) = \alpha$ . The terminology is due to Neumann (1975).
23. The algebra  $\hat{\mathfrak{U}}$  is in many senses the dual of the algebra  $\mathfrak{U}$ . This is explored in Bannai and Ito (1984), Bannai et al. (2021), and Delsarte (1973).

## **Part II**

# **Results**



# 4

## Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

This is the first chapter constituting the novel results of this work. Here balancedly splittable orthogonal designs are defined and various constructions are presented. These most interesting objects are connected to several objects such as frames and pairs of unbiased orthogonal designs.

### §8. Balancedly Splittable Hadamard Matrices

Most of the results of this section are due to Kharaghani and Suda (2019). We include this material here to evince the fact that the concept of a balancedly splittable orthogonal design is a generalization of previous work.

\* \* \*

**8.1. Definition.** Recall that a Hadamard matrix is a weighing matrix  $W(n, n)$  (see §3). These elusive objects have vexed combinatorialists for over a century now. Ever more clever techniques from ever more branches of mathematics are needed in order to construct these objects.

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

We will consider one such construction in preparation for our study of orthogonal designs. The matrices we will study are the so-called balancedly splittable Hadamard matrices. First, an example.

**8.1. Example.** Consider a Hadamard matrix of order 4 shown below

$$(8.1.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & + \\ + & + & - & - \\ + & - & + & - \\ + & - & - & + \end{pmatrix}.$$

Label the rows  $h_0, h_1, h_2$ , and  $h_3$ . We then form the block matrix with  $(i, j)$ -th entry given by  $h_j^t h_i$ .

$$(8.1.b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & - & - & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & + & - & - & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & - & - & - & - & + & + & + \\ + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - \\ + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & - & - & + \\ + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + \\ + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & + & + & - \\ + & - & + & - & + & - & + & - & + & - & + & - & + & - & + \\ + & - & + & - & + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & - & + & - \\ + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - \\ + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & - & + & - & + & + & - & - \\ + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - \\ + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & - & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & + \end{pmatrix}.$$

The matrix (8.1.b) has the submatrix  $H_1$  which we have shown in bold above. This submatrix has the property that  $H_1^t H_1 = 4I + 4A$ , for some symmetric  $(0, 1)$ -matrix  $A$  with zero diagonal. In particular, there are only two angles that exist between the columns of  $H_1$ .

The above example motivates the following definition.

**8.2. Definition.** A Hadamard Matrix  $H$  of order  $n$  is *balancedly splittable* with parameters  $(n, \ell, a, b)$  if  $H$  has an  $\ell \times n$  submatrix  $H_1$  such that



#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(8.2.a) \quad H_1^t H_1 = \ell I + aA + b(J - I - A),$$

for some binary  $(0, 1)$ -matrix  $A$  with zero diagonal.

This definition and the previous example are suggestive. Notably, a connection to sets of biangular lines is inherent in the definition. These connections will be taken up in the following subsections.

\* \* \*

**8.2. Equiangular Lines.** In the previous subsection, it was intimated that balancedly splittable Hadamard matrices were related to collections of biangular lines. By a set of *lines*, we mean a collection of vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^\ell$ , for some  $\ell$ . Given a collection  $\mathcal{L}$  of lines in  $\mathbf{R}^\ell$ , define  $\Xi = \{|\langle u, v \rangle| : u, v \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } u \neq v\}$ . If  $|\Xi| = 2$ , then we say that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a set of *biangular lines*; while if  $|\Xi| = 1$ , then we say that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a set of *equiangular lines*<sup>24</sup>).

Clearly, if  $H$  is balancedly splittable with respect to the  $\ell \times n$  submatrix  $H_1$ , then Definition 8.2 implies that the columns of  $H_1$  are at most biangular. They are equiangular precisely in the case that  $b = -a$ .

We will require the following proposition due to Delsarte et al. (1977).

**8.3. Proposition.** Let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathbf{R}^\ell$  be a set of lines (vectors) such that  $|\langle u, v \rangle| = a$ , for every pair of distinct lines  $u$  and  $v$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ . If  $\ell < a^{-2}$ , then

$$(8.3.a) \quad |\mathcal{L}| \leq \ell(1 - a^2)/(1 - \ell a^2).$$

Using balancedly splittable Hadamard matrices, we can construct optimal sets of equiangular lines.

**8.4. Theorem.** If there exists a balancedly splittable Hadamard matrix with parameters  $(n, \ell, a, -a)$ , then there is an optimal set of equiangular lines in  $\mathbf{R}^\ell$ .

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

**Proof.** Suppose that  $H$  is a balancedly splittable Hadamard matrix with respect to the  $\ell \times n$  submatrix  $H_1$  with parameters  $(n, \ell, a, -a)$ . Take  $\mathcal{L}$  to be the collection of normalized columns of  $H_1$ . Note that  $a^2 \ell^2 = \ell(n - \ell)/(n - 1)$ ; then the absolute value of the inner product between distinct lines in  $\mathcal{L}$  is given by  $a = \sqrt{n - \ell}/\sqrt{\ell(n - 1)}$ ; moreover,  $\ell \leq a$ . The right-hand side of (8.3.a) reduces to  $n$ . We have, therefore, exhibited an optimal set of equiangular lines. ■

In §10, we will pursue this topic again in the more restricted setting of frames.

\* \* \*

**8.3. Constructions.** For the sake of completeness, we make Example 8.1 general.

**8.5. Proposition.** If there exists a Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ , then there exists a balancedly splittable Hadamard matrix with parameters  $(n^2, n, n, 0)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $H$  be a normalized Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ , and label the rows  $h_0 = \mathbf{1}, \dots, h_{n-1}$ . Take  $M$  to be the block matrix defined by  $M_{ij} = h_j^t h_i$ . Then  $M_{ij} M_{kj}^t = (h_j^t h_i)(h_j^t h_k)^t = h_j^t (h_i h_k^t) h_j = O$  whenever  $i \neq k$ , hence  $M$  is a Hadamard matrix of order  $n^2$  (cf Kharaghani, 1986). Take  $M_1$  to be the first block row of  $M$ . Then

$$M_1^t M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} J \\ \mathbf{1}^t h_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{1}^t h_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} J & h_2^t \mathbf{1} & \dots & h_{n-1}^t \mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} = mI \otimes J,$$

and the proof is complete. ■

There are many more constructions presented in Kharaghani and Suda (2019)

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

that the interested reader may consult. For our purposes, however, we present a novel construction. Consider the following example.

**8.6. Example.** Consider the Hadamard matrix of order 2

$$(8.6.a) \begin{pmatrix} + & + \\ + & - \end{pmatrix},$$

and label the rows  $h_0$  and  $h_1$ . Form the matrices  $c_i = h_i^t h_i$ , the so-called *auxiliary matrices*, shown in order below.

$$(8.6.b) \ c_0 = \begin{pmatrix} + & + \\ + & + \end{pmatrix}, c_1 = \begin{pmatrix} + & - \\ - & + \end{pmatrix}.$$

Take  $K = H \otimes H$ , labelling the rows as  $k_0, k_1, k_2$ , and  $k_3$ . Form the block circulant matrices  $A$  and  $B$  with first rows  $(c_0, c_1, c_1)$  and  $(c_0, c_1, -c_1)$ , shown below.

$$(8.6.c) \ A = \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & - & + & - \\ + & + & - & + & - & + \\ + & - & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & - & + \\ + & - & + & - & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & - & - & + \\ + & + & - & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & + & - \\ + & - & + & + & - & + \\ + & - & - & + & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & + & + \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, form the block matrix  $F = (F_1 \dots F_7)$  by defining  $F_i = k_i^t h_0$

$$(8.6.d) \ F = \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & + & + & + \\ - & - & + & + & - & - \\ + & + & - & - & - & - \\ - & - & - & - & + & + \end{pmatrix}.$$

Finally, take  $E = F^t$ . We then form the block matrix  $X = \begin{pmatrix} J & F & -F \\ E & A & B \\ -E & B & A \end{pmatrix}$

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(8.6.e) \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & - & - \\ + & + & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & + & + \\ + & + & + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & + \\ + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & + & + & - & - \\ + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + \\ + & - & + & - & + & + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ + & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & - & + & + & + & - \\ + & + & - & - & - & + & + & + & - & + & - & + & + & - & + \\ + & - & - & + & + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & - & + & + & + \\ + & - & - & + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & - & + & + & + \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & + & - & - & + & + & + & + & - & + & - \\ - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & + & - & + & - & + & - \\ - & - & + & + & - & + & + & + & + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - \\ - & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + \\ - & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & + & + & + & - & + & - & + & + \\ - & + & + & - & - & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & - & + & + \end{pmatrix}.$$

The matrix  $X$  is a Hadamard matrix of order 16, and evidently, it is balancedly splittable. Indeed, the submatrix shown in bold above can be used to form a balanced split. Due to the form of  $X$ , however, any one of the following can be used to form a balanced split

$$(8.6.f) \quad \begin{pmatrix} F \\ A \\ B \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -F \\ B \\ A \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} E & A & B \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -E & B & A \end{pmatrix}.$$

In any event, the parameters of the splits are  $(16, 6, 2, -2)$ . Therefore, we have optimal sets of equiangular lines.

This construction can be made perfectly general. Since this result is ultimately a special case of Theorem 9.13, we will not show it explicitly.

**8.7. Theorem.** There is a balancedly splittable Hadamard matrix of order  $4n^2$  with parameters  $(4n^2, 2n^2 - n, n, -n)$  whenever there is a Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ .

**8.8. Corollary.** If there is a Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ , then there is an optimal set of equiangular lines in  $\mathbf{R}^{2n^2-n}$ .

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

We mention in passing that Kharaghani and Suda (2019) showed that balancedly splittable Hadamard matrices can be used to construct various association schemes. As nothing essentially new about association schemes has been added in our study of orthogonal designs, we will not pursue this topic here and simply refer the reader to the aforementioned article.

### §9. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

In this and the following section, the new results of Kharaghani et al. (2021) are presented. Here we define balanced splittability of orthogonal designs and give several constructions. To avoid obfuscation, we give the constructions in terms of real and complex ODs; however, the results are perfectly valid for the more general QODs.

\* \* \*

**9.1. Definition.** Generalizing balanced splittability to orthogonal designs presents several difficulties. The various cases are encapsulated in the next definition.

**9.1. Definition.** Let  $X$  be a full QOD( $n; s_1, \dots, s_u$ ).  $X$  is *balancedly splittable* if there is an  $\ell \times n$  submatrix  $X_1$  where one of the following conditions holds. In what follows  $\alpha, \beta \in \{a + ib + jc + kd : a, b, c, d \in \mathbf{R}\}$ .

(9.1.a) The off-diagonal entries of  $X_1^* X_1$  are in the set

$$\{\pm \varepsilon c x_1^{m_1} \dots x_u^{m_u} x_1^{*m'_1} \dots x_u^{*m'_u} : m_i, m'_i \in \mathbf{N}, \varepsilon \in \{1, i, j, k\}, c \in \{\alpha, \alpha^*, \beta, \beta^*\}\}.$$

(9.1.b) The off-diagonal entries of  $X_1^* X_1$  are in the set

$$\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^u t_i |x_i|^2 : t_i \in \mathbf{N}, \sum_{i=1}^u t_i = m \right\}$$

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

or in the set

$$\{\pm \varepsilon c x_1^{m_1} \cdots x_u^{m_u} x_1^{*m'_1} \cdots x_u^{*m'_u} : m_i, m'_i \in \mathbf{N}, \varepsilon \in \{1, i, j, k\}, c \in \{\alpha, \alpha^*, \beta, \beta^*\}\}.$$

(9.1.c) The off-diagonal entries of  $X_1^* X_1$  are in the set

$$\{\pm \varepsilon c \sigma : \varepsilon \in \{1, i, j, k\}, c \in \{\alpha, \alpha^*, \beta, \beta^*\}\},$$

$$\text{where } \sigma = \sum_i s_i |x_i|^2 \text{ (cf. (5.3.a)).}$$

In the first case, the split is *unstable*; in the second, the split is *unfaithfully unstable*; and in the third, the split is *stable*. The term *faithful* is used to describe the first and third cases.

From the definition, we see that if  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the same in absolute value, the split corresponds to a set of equiangular lines. Interestingly, we will see that both conditions in (9.1.b) can hold simultaneously.

The next two subsections will present constructions for both the unfaithful, and the faithful case.

\* \* \*

**9.2. Unfaithful Constructions.** The constructions of this section are similar to those presented in Fender et al. (2018) and Pender (2020), and are applicable to real and complex orthogonal designs.

To begin, if  $W$  is a skew-symmetric  $W(q+1, q)$ , then we take  $Q$  to be its core, i.e. the submatrix obtained by deleting the first row and column. Further, we can assume that  $W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1^t \\ -1 & Q \end{pmatrix}$ , hence  $JQ = QJ = O$  and  $Q^2 = J - qI$ . We

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

recursively define the following family of matrices.

$$\mathcal{J}_m = \begin{cases} aJ_1 & \text{if } m = 0, \text{ and} \\ J_q \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} & \text{if } m > 0; \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_m = \begin{cases} bJ_1 & \text{if } m = 0, \text{ and} \\ I_q \otimes \mathcal{J}_{m-1} + Q \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} & \text{if } m > 0; \end{cases}$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are commuting indeterminants.

We require the following lemma.

##### 9.2. Lemma.

$$(9.2.a) \quad \mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t = \mathcal{A}_m \mathcal{J}_m^t;$$

$$(9.2.b) \quad \mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{J}_m^t + q \mathcal{A}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t = (q^m a^2 + q^{m+1} b^2) I; \text{ and}$$

$$(9.2.c) \quad \mathcal{J}_1^t \mathcal{J}_1 = qa^2 J, \mathcal{A}_1^t \mathcal{A}_1 = a^2 I + b^2(qI - J), \text{ and } \mathcal{A}_1^t \mathcal{J}_1 = \mathcal{J}_1^t \mathcal{A}_1 = abJ.$$

**Proof.** We have  $\mathcal{J}_0 \mathcal{A}_0^t = ab = ba = \mathcal{A}_0 \mathcal{J}_0^t$ . Assume  $\mathcal{J}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t = \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{J}_{m-1}^t$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t &= (J \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1})(I \otimes \mathcal{J}_{m-1} + Q \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1})^t \\ &= J \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{J}_{m-1}^t + JQ^t \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t \\ &= J \otimes \mathcal{J}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t + QJ \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t \\ &= (I \otimes \mathcal{J}_{m-1} + Q \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1})(J \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1})^t, \end{aligned}$$

and (9.2.a) has been shown.

Clearly,  $\mathcal{J}_0 \mathcal{J}_0^t + q \mathcal{A}_0 \mathcal{A}_0^t = a^2 + qb^2$ ; so, assume  $\mathcal{J}_{m-1} \mathcal{J}_{m-1}^t + q \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t = (a^2 + qb^2)I$ . Then

$$\mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{J}_m^t + q \mathcal{A}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t = qJ \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t + q(I \otimes \mathcal{J}_{m-1} \mathcal{J}_{m-1}^t - Q^2 \otimes \mathcal{A}_{m-1} \mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t)$$

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$\begin{aligned}
&= qI \otimes (\mathcal{J}_{m-1}\mathcal{J}_{m-1}^t + q\mathcal{A}_{m-1}\mathcal{A}_{m-1}^t) \\
&= qI \otimes (q^{m-1}q^2 + q^m b^2)I \\
&= (q^m a^2 + q^{m+1} b^2)I,
\end{aligned}$$

and (9.2.b) is proven.

Finally, (9.2.c) is simply a restatement of the definitions of  $\mathcal{J}_m$  and  $\mathcal{A}_m$ .  $\blacksquare$

We can now present the first construction of the novel balancedly splittable ODs.

**9.3. Theorem.** Let  $W$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_m$ , and  $\mathcal{J}_m$  be as above. Define  $X_m = I \otimes \mathcal{J}_m + W \otimes \mathcal{A}_m$ . Then:

(9.3.a)  $X_m$  is an  $\text{OD}(q^m(q+1); q^m, q^{m+1})$ , and

(9.3.b) The matrix  $X_1$  is an unfaithful balancedly splittable  $\text{OD}(q(q+1); q, q^2)$ .

**Proof.**  $X_m$  has entries from  $\{\pm a, \pm b\}$ . Observe:

$$\begin{aligned}
X_m X_m^t &= (I \otimes \mathcal{J}_m + W \otimes \mathcal{A}_m)(I \otimes \mathcal{J}_m + W \otimes \mathcal{A}_m)^t \\
&= I \otimes \mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{J}_m^t + W W^t \otimes \mathcal{A}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t \\
&= I \otimes \mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{J}_m^t + qI \otimes \mathcal{A}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t \\
&= I \otimes (\mathcal{J}_m \mathcal{J}_m^t + q\mathcal{A}_m \mathcal{A}_m^t) \\
&= I \otimes (q^m a^2 + q^{m+1} b^2)I \\
&= (q^m a^2 + q^{m+1} b^2)I,
\end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $X_m$  is an  $\text{OD}(q^m(q+1); q^m, q^{m+1})$ . It remains to prove the balanced splittability of the base case.



#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

Take  $Y = (\mathcal{J}_1 \mathcal{A}_1 \dots \mathcal{A}_1)$ , the first block row of  $X_1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} Y^t Y &= \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{J}_1^t \mathcal{J}_1 & \mathbf{1}^t \otimes \mathcal{J}_1^t \mathcal{A}_1 \\ \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathcal{A}_1^t \mathcal{J}_1 & J \otimes \mathcal{A}_1^t \mathcal{A}_1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} qa^2 J & ab \mathbf{1}^t \otimes J \\ ab \mathbf{1} \otimes J & J \otimes [(a^2 - b^2)J + qb^2 I] \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $X_1$  admits an unfaithfully balanced split. ■

**9.4. Corollary.** For every prime power  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , and for every integer  $m > 0$ , there is an  $\text{OD}(q^m(q+1); q^m, q^{m+1})$

**Proof.** By Propositions 4.14 and 4.10, there is a skew-symmetric  $W(q+1, q)$ . Apply the theorem to this matrix. ■

**9.5. Corollary.** For every prime power  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , there is an unfaithful balancedly splittable  $\text{OD}(q(q+1); q, q^2)$ .

**9.6. Example.** Using the skew-symmetric Paley weighing matrix<sup>25</sup>)  $W(4, 3)$  given by

$$(9.6.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & + & + & + \\ - & 0 & + & - \\ - & - & 0 & + \\ - & + & - & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

we construct the smallest case of an  $\text{OD}(12; 3, 9)$  given by the theorem

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(9.6.b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} \\ \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} \\ \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{b} \\ b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & b & b & \bar{b} & a & b & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} \\ \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & b & b & b & b & \bar{b} & a & \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} \\ \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & b & b & b & a & b & \bar{b} \\ b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & b & b & \bar{b} & a & b \\ \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & b & b & b & b & \bar{b} & a \\ \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & a & b & \bar{b} & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & b & b & b \\ b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & \bar{b} & a & b & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & b & b & b \\ \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & b & \bar{b} & a & \bar{b} & b & \bar{a} & b & b & b \end{pmatrix},$$

where the unfaithful split is shown in bold.

Our first construction yields real ODs and is applicable in the case that we have a prime power  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ . Of course, since  $(q-1)/2$  is odd, we can apply the results of §4 to construct a weighing matrix that is skew-symmetric, a property essential to the construction. If  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $(q-1)/2$  is even and the ensuing weighing matrix is symmetric. In this event, we need to appeal to complex ODs in order to apply the construction.

To apply the complex units, we make the following recursive definitions where  $W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{1}^t \\ \mathbf{1} & Q \end{pmatrix}$  is a  $W(q+1, q)$  with  $Q^t = Q$ .

$$\mathcal{C}_m = \begin{cases} aJ_1 & \text{if } m = 0, \text{ and} \\ J_q \otimes \mathcal{D}_{m-1} & \text{if } m > 0; \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_m = \begin{cases} bJ_1 & \text{if } m = 0, \text{ and} \\ I_q \otimes \mathcal{C}_{m-1} + iQ \otimes \mathcal{D}_{m-1} & \text{if } m > 0; \end{cases}$$

where again  $a$  and  $b$  are real commuting indeterminants. As above, we have the following lemma that is shown in precisely the same way as before, save one replaces transposition with conjugate transposition.

**9.7. Lemma.**

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(9.7.a) \quad \mathcal{C}_m \mathcal{D}_m^* = \mathcal{D}_m \mathcal{C}_m^*;$$

$$(9.7.b) \quad \mathcal{C}_m \mathcal{C}_m^* + q \mathcal{D}_m \mathcal{D}_m^* = (q^m a^2 + q^{m+1} b^2) I; \text{ and}$$

$$(9.7.c) \quad \mathcal{C}_1^* \mathcal{C}_1 = q a^2 J, \mathcal{D}_1^* \mathcal{D}_1 = a^2 I + b^2 (q I - J), \text{ and } \mathcal{D}_1^* \mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{C}_1^* \mathcal{D}_1 = ab J.$$

**9.8. Theorem.** Let  $W$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_m$ , and  $\mathcal{D}_m$  be as above, and define  $Y_m = iI \otimes \mathcal{C}_m + W \otimes \mathcal{D}_m$ . Then:

$$(9.8.a) \quad \text{The matrix } Y_m \text{ is a COD}(q^m(q+1); q^m, q^{m+1}), \text{ and}$$

$$(9.8.b) \quad Y_1 \text{ admits an unfaithfully balanced split.}$$

**9.9. Corollary.** For every prime power  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , and for every integer  $m > 0$ , there is a COD( $q^m(q+1); q^m, q^{m+1}$ ).

**9.10. Corollary.** For every prime power  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , there is an unfaithful balancedly splittable COD( $q(q+1); q, q^2$ ).

We again explore the smallest case.

**9.11. Example.** Take  $q = 5$  and consider the symmetric Paley weighing matrix  $W(6, 5)$  given by

$$(9.11.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & + & + & + & + & + \\ + & 0 & + & - & - & + \\ + & + & 0 & + & - & - \\ + & - & + & 0 & + & - \\ + & - & - & + & 0 & + \\ + & + & - & - & + & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Applying the construction, we obtain

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

[illegible]

a COD(30; 5, 25), where the unfaithful split is shown in bold.

\*\*\*

**9.3. Faithful Construction.** Here we will introduce a most useful construction of orthogonal designs admitting a faithful split. We will see later how we can use these constructed matrices in constructing other objects.

To begin, we assume the existence of a full  $\text{OD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$ , say  $X$ , and label the rows of  $X$  as  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ . Further, assume that the coefficients of the indeterminants of the first row and column are  $+1$ . We need to extend the idea of an auxiliary matrix given in Example 8.6. To do this, we will follow Kharaghani and Suda (2018) in defining the auxiliary matrix of an OD thus: Let  $H$  be the Hadamard matrix obtained by setting each indeterminate of  $X$  to  $+1$ , and label the rows of  $H$  as  $h_0, \dots, h_{n-1}$ . Then the auxiliary matrices<sup>26)</sup> of  $X$  are given by  $c_i = h_i^t x_i$ . We have the following result.

**9.12. Lemma.** Let  $c_i = h_i^t x_i$ , for  $i \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ , be the auxiliary matrices of an  $\text{OD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$   $X$  where  $XX^t = \sigma I$ . Then:

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(9.12.a) \quad \sum_i c_i c_i^t = n\sigma I_n, \text{ and}$$

$$(9.12.b) \quad c_i c_j^t = \delta_{ij} \sigma h_i^t h_i.$$

We need the simple fact that if  $(a, b)$  denotes the concatenation of sequences  $a$  and  $b$ , then  $(a, b)$  and  $(a, -b)$  is a Golay pair (see §5). Continuing to let  $c_0, \dots, c_{n-1}$  be the auxiliary matrices of the  $\text{OD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$   $X$ , then  $a = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{n-1}, c_{n-1}, \dots, c_1)$  and  $b = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{n-1}, -c_{n-1}, \dots, -c_1)$  form a complementary pair. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be the block-circulant matrices with first rows  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively.

Now, take  $\tilde{X} = \begin{pmatrix} + & + \\ + & + \end{pmatrix} \otimes X$  and  $\tilde{H} = \begin{pmatrix} + & + \\ + & + \end{pmatrix} \otimes H$ , and label the block rows  $\tilde{x}_0, \dots, \tilde{x}_{2n-1}$  and  $\tilde{h}_0, \dots, \tilde{h}_{2n-1}$ . Define  $G = \tilde{h}_0^t \tilde{x}_0$ , and define the block matrices  $E^t = (E_1^t \dots E_{2n-1}^t)^t$  and  $F = (F_1 \dots F_{2n-1})$  by  $E_i = h_0^t \tilde{x}_i$  and  $F_i = \tilde{h}_i^t x_0$ .

As before, we then take  $Z = \begin{pmatrix} G & F & -F \\ E & A & B \\ -E & B & A \end{pmatrix}$ . The next result then follows.

**9.13. Theorem.** If there is an  $\text{OD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$ , then the block matrix  $Z$  is an  $\text{OD}(4n^2; 4ns_1, \dots, 4ns_u)$ .

**Proof.** The proof amounts to checking the block entries of  $ZZ^t$ .

To begin,  $GE_i^t = (\tilde{h}_0^t \tilde{x}_0)(h_0^t \tilde{x}_i)^t = \tilde{h}_0^t(\tilde{x}_0 \tilde{x}_i^t)h_0 = O$ , hence  $GE^t = EG^t = O$ . Then  $F_i c_j^t = (\tilde{h}_i^t x_0)(h_j^t x_j)^t = \tilde{h}_i^t(x_0 x_j^t)h_j = \delta_{0j} \sigma \tilde{h}_i^t h_0$  so that

$$FA^t = FB^t = \sigma \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{h}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{h}_{2n-1} \end{pmatrix}^t (1_{2n-1} \otimes h_0).$$

We have, therefore, that  $FA^t - FB^t = O$ . Then the inner product between the first and second, and the first and third, block rows of  $Z$  vanish.

Next,  $E_i E_j^t = (h_0^t \tilde{x}_i)(h_0^t \tilde{x}_j)^t = h_0^t(\tilde{x}_i \tilde{x}_j^t)h_0 = \delta_{ij} 2\sigma J_n$ . It follows that  $EE^t = (E_i E_j^t) = (\delta_{ij} 2\sigma J_n) = 2\sigma(I_{2n-1} \otimes J_n)$ .

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

We need to examine the product  $AB^t$  and in order to do that, we need to examine the cross-product correlations (see §5). To begin, the product between the first block row and column of  $A$  and  $B^t$  is given by  $c_0c_0^t + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_i c_i^t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_i c_i^t = \sigma J_n$ . Next, let  $a$  and  $b$  be two sequences of length  $2n - 1$  defined by

$$a_i = \begin{cases} c_i & \text{if } 0 \leq i < n, \text{ and} \\ c_{2n-i-1} & \text{if } n \leq i < 2n - 1, \end{cases}$$

$$b_i = \begin{cases} c_0 & \text{if } i = 0, \\ -c_i & \text{if } 0 < i < n, \text{ and} \\ c_{2n-i-1} & \text{if } n \leq i < 2n - 1. \end{cases}$$

For  $j \in \{1, \dots, 2n-2\}$ , we have  $C_j(a, b) = \sum_{i=0}^{2n-2} a_i b_{i+j}^t = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i b_{i+j}^t + \sum_{i=n}^{2n-2} a_i b_{i+j}^t$ , where precisely one of the right-hand sums is nonzero by (9.12.b). For  $j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i b_{i+j}^t &= a_0 b_j^t + \sum_{i=1}^{n-j-1} a_i b_{i+j}^t + \sum_{i=n-j}^{n-1} a_i b_{i+j}^t \\ &= c_0 c_j^t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-j-1} c_i c_{i+j}^t + \sum_{i=n-j}^{n-1} c_i c_{2n-j-i-1}^t \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} c_{n-j+i} c_{n-i-1}^t, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=n}^{2n-2} a_i b_{i+j}^t &= \sum_{i=n}^{2n-j-2} a_i b_{i+j}^t + \sum_{i=2n-j-1}^{2n-2} a_i b_{i+j}^t \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-j-2} c_{n-i-1} c_{n-j-i-1}^t + c_j c_0^t - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} c_{j-i} c_i^t \end{aligned}$$

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$= - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} c_{j-i} c_i^t.$$

We have shown that, for  $j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} C_j(a, b) &= \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} c_{n-j+i} c_{n-i-1}^t - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} c_{j-i} c_i^t \\ &= \begin{cases} \sigma h_{n-i-1}^t h_{n-i-1} & \text{if } j-1 = 2i, \text{ for some } i; \text{ and} \\ -\sigma h_i^t h_i & \text{if } j = 2i, \text{ for some } i \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we find that  $C_{2n-j-1}(a, b) = -C_j(a, b)$ , for  $j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ , and  $C_j(b, a) = -C_j(a, b)$ , for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, 2n-2\}$ .

Putting things together, we have shown that

$$\begin{aligned} AB^t &= \text{circ}(\sigma J, C_{2n-2}(a, b), \dots, C_1(a, b)) \\ &= \text{circ}(\sigma J, -C_1(a, b), \dots, -C_{n-1}(a, b), C_{n-1}(a, b), \dots, C_1(a, b)) \\ &= \sigma \text{circ}(J, -h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}, \dots, -h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \\ &\quad h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \dots, h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}), \text{ and} \\ BA^t &= \sigma \text{circ}(J, h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}, \dots, h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \\ &\quad -h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \dots, -h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that the product between the second and third block rows vanishes, i.e.

$$-EE^t + AB^t + BA^t = O.$$

It remains to evaluate the block diagonal entries of  $ZZ^t$ . The first block row gives

$$GG^t + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} F_i F_i^t = 2\sigma J + 2\sigma \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} \tilde{h}_i^t \tilde{h}_i$$

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 2\sigma J + 2\sigma \left( \sum_{i=0}^{2n-1} \tilde{h}_i^t \tilde{h}_i - \tilde{h}_0^t \tilde{h}_0 \right) \\
&= 2\sigma J + 2\sigma (2nI - J) \\
&= 4n\sigma I.
\end{aligned}$$

By a similar argument about the sequences  $a$  and  $b$  given above, we find that

$$\begin{aligned}
AA^t &= \sigma \text{circ}(2nI - J, h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}, \dots, h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \\
&\quad h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \dots, h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}), \text{ and} \\
BB^t &= \sigma \text{circ}(2nI - J, -h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}, \dots, -h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \\
&\quad -h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \dots, -h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $EE^t + AA^t + BB^t = 4\sigma I$ . The proof is complete.  $\blacksquare$

We have shown that  $Z$  is an OD. It remains to show that  $Z$  admits a faithful split. This is accomplished with the next result.

**9.14. Theorem.** Assume the OD  $Z$  of the previous theorem. Then:

(9.14.a) The submatrices  $\begin{pmatrix} F \\ A \\ B \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} -F \\ B \\ A \end{pmatrix}$  yield stable splits, and

(9.14.b) The submatrices  $\begin{pmatrix} E & A & B \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} -E & B & A \end{pmatrix}$  yield unstable splits.

**Proof.** It suffices to show the result for one matrix of each class. Note that

$$\begin{pmatrix} F \\ A \\ B \end{pmatrix} (F^t \ A^t \ B^t) = \begin{pmatrix} FF^t & FA^t & FB^t \\ AF^t & AA^t & AB^t \\ BF^t & BA^t & BB^t \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows by the proof of the previous theorem that

$$FF^t = 2n\sigma I - \sigma J,$$



#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$\begin{aligned}
FA^t &= FB^t = \sigma \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} \tilde{h}_i^t h_0, \\
AA^t &= \sigma \text{circ}(2nI - J, h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}, \dots, h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \\
&\quad h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \dots, h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}), \text{ and} \\
BB^t &= \sigma \text{circ}(2nI - J, -h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}, \dots, -h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \\
&\quad -h_{n/2}^t h_{n/2}, \dots, -h_{n-1}^t h_{n-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the product between distinct rows is  $\pm\sigma$ , which shows (9.14.a).

Next,

$$\begin{pmatrix} E^t \\ A^t \\ B^t \end{pmatrix} (E \ A \ B) = \begin{pmatrix} E^t E & E^t A & E^t B \\ A^t E & A^t A & A^t B \\ B^t E & B^t A & B^t B \end{pmatrix}.$$

However,  $E^t E = n \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} \tilde{x}_i^t \tilde{x}_0$  has off-diagonal entries in the set

$$\{\pm x_1^{m_1} \cdots x_u^{m_u} x_1^{*m'_1} \cdots x_u^{*m'_u} : m_i, m'_i \in \mathbb{N}\},$$

which shows (9.14.b). ■

**9.15. Example.** Applying the construction to the OD(2; 1, 1)

$$(9.15.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & \bar{a} \end{pmatrix},$$

we obtain the balancedly splittble OD(16; 8, 8)

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(9.15.b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b & a & b & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & \bar{a} & \bar{b} \\ a & b & a & b & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & a & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & b \\ a & b & a & b & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & b & a & b \\ a & b & a & b & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & a & b & a & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} \\ b & \bar{a} & b & \bar{a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & a & b & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a \\ b & \bar{a} & b & \bar{a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & a & b & \bar{b} & a & b & \bar{a} \\ a & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{b} & a & a & b & b & \bar{a} \\ a & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & b & \bar{a} & a & b & \bar{b} & a \\ b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & a & b \\ b & \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{b} & a & b & \bar{a} & a & b \\ \bar{b} & a & \bar{b} & a & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & a & b & b & \bar{a} & b & \bar{a} \\ \bar{b} & a & \bar{b} & a & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & a & b & \bar{b} & a & \bar{b} & a \\ \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & b & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & b & \bar{a} & a & b & b & \bar{a} \\ \bar{a} & \bar{b} & a & b & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \bar{b} & a & a & b & \bar{b} & a \\ \bar{b} & a & b & \bar{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & b & \bar{a} & b & \bar{a} & a & b \\ \bar{b} & a & b & \bar{a} & \bar{\mathbf{b}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \bar{b} & a & \bar{b} & a & a & b \end{pmatrix},$$

where a stable vertical split is shown in bold.

Finally, we see at once how Theorem 8.7 is a consequence of Theorem 9.13 as we can simply set the indeterminants to +1 to obtain the result.

## §10. Related Configurations

In this section, the balancedly splittable orthogonal designs of the previous section are applied in the construction of related objects. We will explore quasi-symmetric balanced incomplete block designs, equiangular tight frames, and unbiased orthogonal designs.

\* \* \*

**10.1. Quasi-Symmetric BIBDs.** Symmetric designs are characterized by the fact that the blocks of the design intersect in a constant number of points. The “next best” designs are those which have two cardinalities for the intersections between distinct blocks.

**10.1. Definition.** A balanced incomplete block design is *quasi-symmetric* if there exist two cardinalities that exist for the intersections between pairs of distinct

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

blocks. The cardinalities of the intersections are called the *intersection numbers* of the design.<sup>27)</sup>

These beautiful objects are studied extensively in Shrikhande and Sane (1991). Ionin and Shrikhande (2006) also contains a study of these objects, especially as it pertains to SRGs and association schemes.

**10.2. Example.** The following is the incidence matrix of a quasi-symmetric BIBD(6, 15, 5, 2, 1)

$$(10.2.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with block intersection numbers 0 and 2.

Using the balancedly splittable Hadamard matrices constructed in Theorem 9.13, we can construct quasi-symmetric BIBDs. For the proposition, we assume the notations of §8.3.

**10.3. Proposition.** If there is a Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ , there is a quasi-symmetric BIBD( $2n^2 - n, 4n^2 - 1, 2n^2 - n - 1, n^2 - n, n^2 - n - 1$ ) with intersection numbers  $(n^2 - n)/2$  and  $(n^2 - 2n)/2$ .

**Proof.** If there exists a normalized Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ , there exists a balancedly splittable Hadamard matrix of order  $4n^2$  by Theorem 8.7 (or by Theorem 9.13 upon setting the indeterminants to unity if there is a full OD of order  $n$ ). It suffices to show the result for one of the four splits obtained by the theorem; in particular, we will show the result for the submatrix  $X = \begin{pmatrix} -F \\ B \\ A \end{pmatrix}$ . Form the matrix  $\tilde{Y} = (1/2)(J - X)$ , and take  $Y$  to be the matrix formed by omitting the first row of  $\tilde{Y}$  consisting of all zeros.

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

Since  $H$  is assumed to be normalized, each row of  $H$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} + & + \\ + & - \end{pmatrix} \otimes H$ , other than the first, of course, contain  $n/2$  and  $n^2/2 - 1$ s, respectively. By construction, then, the first row of  $F$  consists of all ones, while the remaining rows have  $n^2 - n + 1$ s; thus, the same rows of  $-F$  have  $n^2 - n - 1$ s. Similarly,  $A$  and  $B$  have  $n(2n - 2)/2 = n^2 - n - 1$ s in each row. It also follows that there must be  $2n^2 - 2n + n - 1 = 2n^2 - n - 1 - 1$ s in each column of  $X$ .

Finally, the index of the design follows by considering the Menon design<sup>28)</sup> induced by the regular Hadamard matrix of the construction.

It remains to consider the block intersection numbers of the design. Consider the first row of  $X$  along with any other two distinct rows. Without loss of generality, we can assume the following situation.

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 \overbrace{\quad\quad\quad}^a & \overbrace{\quad\quad\quad}^b & \overbrace{\quad\quad\quad}^c & \overbrace{\quad\quad\quad}^d \\
 - & \dots & - & - & \dots & - & - & \dots & - \\
 + & \dots & + & + & \dots & + & - & \dots & - \\
 + & \dots & + & - & \dots & - & + & \dots & + & - & \dots & -
 \end{array}$$

This yields the two linear systems of equations

$$\begin{aligned}
 a + b + c + d &= 2n^2 - n, \\
 -a - b + c + d &= -n, \\
 -a + b - c + d &= -n, \text{ and} \\
 a - b - c + d &= \pm n.
 \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $d$  gives  $2d = n^2 - n$  or  $n^2 - 2n$ , which proves the result. ■

**10.4. Example.** The quasi-symmetric BIBD(6, 15, 5, 2, 1) given by (10.2.a) is obtained by the splittable Hadamard matrix (8.6.e).

The quasi-symmetric designs of the previous result are not new, however. They

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

represent a subset of the designs obtained in Bracken et al. (2006) viz. McGuire (1997).

\* \* \*

**10.2. Equiangular Tight Frames.** In our earliest collegiate education, we learn that given some linear space, the “nice” bases are those which are orthonormal. As Han et al. (2007) points out, however, the property of orthonormality can be too restrictive in many applications. For instance, if a signal is interfered with in transmission, then the lost information cannot be recovered.

By contrast, a frame is an overdetermined<sup>29)</sup> spanning set of vectors. In this way, calculations and applications involving these objects can at times be simplified and data loss deterred. Frames have theoretical applications as well, as shown in the seminal paper of Paley and Wiener (1987) using different language, however.

We will not have the opportunity to explore the theory of frames in any depth; rather, we direct the reader to the standard references of Christensen (2016), Waldron (2018), and Young (2001).

**10.5. Definition.** Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space<sup>30)</sup> with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , and let  $\{f_i\} \subset H$ . Then  $\{f_i\}$  is a *frame* if there exists two constants  $A$  and  $B$  such that

$$(10.5.a) \quad A\|f\|^2 \leq \sum_i |\langle f, f_i \rangle|^2 \leq B\|f\|^2, \text{ for all } f \in H.$$

$A$  and  $B$  are called frame bounds. If  $\#\{f_i\} < \infty$ , it is a *finite frame*. If  $A = B$ , the frame is said to be *tight*. If  $A = B = 1$ , then  $\{f_i\}$  is said to be a *Parseval frame*.

The frame bounds of a frame are not unique. The *optimal upper frame bound* is the infimum of the collection of all upper bounds of the frame. Similarly, the *optimal lower frame bound* is the supremum of the collection of all lower bounds of the frame.

It also follows from the definition that  $\overline{\text{span}}\{f_i\} = H$ .

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

**10.6. Example.** If  $\{e_i\}$  is an orthonormal basis, then  $\{e_0, e_0, e_1, e_1, \dots\}$ , where each element is repeated twice, is a tight frame with  $A = 2$ .

**10.7. Example.** If  $\{e_i\}$  is an orthonormal basis, then  $\{e_0, 2^{-\frac{1}{2}}e_1, 2^{-\frac{1}{2}}e_1, 3^{-\frac{1}{2}}e_2, 3^{-\frac{1}{2}}e_2, 3^{-\frac{1}{2}}e_2\}$ , where the element  $(n+1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}e_n$  is repeated  $n+1$  times, is a frame with  $A = 1$ .

From this point on, we will assume that we are working with a finite dimensional Hilbert space of dimension  $k$ . Our frames will, therefore, always be finite, say of order  $n$ . Just as for the standard bases of a space, we can relate matrices to finite frames.

**10.8. Definition.** Let  $\{f_0, \dots, f_{n-1}\}$  be a finite frame in a finite dimensional Hilbert space  $H$ . The matrix  $\Theta = \begin{pmatrix} f_0^* \\ \vdots \\ f_{n-1}^* \end{pmatrix}$  is the *analysis operator* of the frame, and  $\Theta^*$  is called the *synthesis operator* of the frame.

The following is then a restatement of the definitions.

**10.9. Proposition.** Let  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$  be vectors in a Hilbert space  $H$  of dimension  $n$ , and define the  $k \times n$  matrix  $T = (x_0 \dots x_{n-1})$ . Then:

(10.9.a)  $\{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$  is a frame if and only if  $\text{rank}(T) = n$ ,

(10.9.b)  $\{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$  is a tight frame with bound  $A$  if and only if  $TT^* = \sqrt{A}I$ .

In what follows, we will take  $\mathbf{H} = \{a_1 + a_i i + a_j j + a_k k : a_1, a_i, a_j, a_k \in \mathbf{R}\}$ , i.e. the  $\mathbf{R}$ -algebra of quaternions<sup>31</sup>), and we will consider frames over  $\mathbf{H}^k$ . Furthermore, for  $q = z + wj$  where  $z, w \in \mathbf{C}$ , we define  $\text{Co}_1(q) = z$  and  $\text{Co}_2(q) = w^*$ . Finally, define  $[\cdot]_{\mathbf{C}} : \mathbf{H}^d \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^{2d}$  by  $[q]_{\mathbf{C}} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Co}_1(q) \\ \text{Co}_2(q) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z \\ w^* \end{pmatrix}$ .

The following is Theorem 3.2 of Waldron (2020).

**10.10. Theorem.** (10.10.a) Tight frames for  $\mathbf{C}^{2k}$  correspond to tight frames for  $\mathbf{H}^k$ , and

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

(10.10.b) Tight frames for  $\mathbf{H}^k$  correspond to tight frames for  $\mathbf{C}^k$  if and only if

$$\sum_{i,j} |\text{Co}_1(\langle f_i, f_j \rangle)|^2 = \sum_{i,j} |\text{Co}_2(\langle f_i, f_j \rangle)|^2.$$

In light of this result, it is of interest to find frames over  $\mathbf{H}^k$  for which they are not equivalent to frames over  $\mathbf{C}^{2d}$ , i.e. there can be no reduction in the ring of scalars. We present two examples of such frames.

**10.11. Example.** The following is a QOD(2; 1, 1)

$$(10.11.a) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{a} & bi \\ \bar{b}j & ak \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are real variables. We then arrive at the following QOD(16; 8, 8)

$$(10.11.b) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & a & \bar{b}i & a & \bar{b}i \\ \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi \\ \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi \\ \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i \\ \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} \\ \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} \\ \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} \\ \bar{a} & bi & a & \bar{b}i & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} \\ \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi \\ \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi \\ \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} \\ \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} \\ a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} \\ a & \bar{b}i & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} \\ \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi \\ \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{\bar{b}j} & \mathbf{ak} & \bar{a} & bi & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \mathbf{bj} & \mathbf{\bar{a}k} & \bar{a} & bi \end{pmatrix}.$$

Taking the horizontal frame shown in bold as the synthesis operator of a frame over

$\mathbf{H}^6$  after setting  $a = b = 1$ , we find that  $(1/2)H^*H$  is given by

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

$$(10.11.c) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 3 & i & -i & \bar{j} & \bar{k} & 1 & \bar{i} & \bar{j} & \bar{k} & \bar{j} & \bar{k} & 1 & \bar{i} & \bar{j} & \bar{k} \\ \bar{i} & 3 & \bar{i} & -k & \bar{j} & i & 1 & k & \bar{j} & k & \bar{j} & i & 1 & k & \bar{j} \\ -i & 3 & i & \bar{j} & \bar{k} & -i & j & k & \bar{j} & \bar{k} & -i & j & k \\ \bar{i} & -\bar{i} & 3 & k & \bar{j} & \bar{i} & -\bar{k} & j & k & \bar{j} & \bar{i} & -\bar{k} & j \\ j & \bar{k} & j & \bar{k} & 3 & i & 1 & i & 1 & i & 1 & \bar{i} & -\bar{i} & 1 & i \\ k & j & k & j & \bar{i} & 3 & \bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & i & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 1 \\ 1 & \bar{i} & -i & 1 & i & 3 & i & 1 & i & 1 & i & 1 & \bar{i} & -\bar{i} \\ i & 1 & \bar{i} & -\bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & 3 & \bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & i & 1 & i & - \\ j & \bar{k} & \bar{j} & k & 1 & i & 1 & i & 3 & i & -\bar{i} & 1 & i & 1 & \bar{i} \\ k & j & \bar{k} & \bar{j} & \bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & 3 & i & -\bar{i} & 1 & i & 1 \\ j & \bar{k} & j & \bar{k} & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 3 & i & -\bar{i} & -\bar{i} \\ k & j & k & j & i & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 3 & i & -i & - \\ 1 & \bar{i} & -i & -\bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 3 & i & -\bar{i} \\ i & 1 & \bar{i} & -i & -i & 1 & \bar{i} & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 3 & i & - \\ j & \bar{k} & \bar{j} & k & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 1 & \bar{i} & -\bar{i} & -\bar{i} & 3 & i \\ k & j & \bar{k} & \bar{j} & \bar{i} & 1 & i & -i & 1 & i & -\bar{i} & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows that  $320 = \sum_{i,j} |\text{Co}_1(\langle f_i, f_j \rangle)|^2 \neq \sum_{i,j} |\text{Co}_2(\langle f_i, f_j \rangle)|^2 = 64$  so that the frame is not reducible to a frame over  $\mathbf{C}^{12}$ .

**10.12. Example.** Beginning with the QOD(6; 1, 5)

$$(10.12.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b & b & b & b & b \\ b & \bar{a} & bk & \bar{b}k & \bar{b}k & bk \\ b & bk & \bar{a} & bk & \bar{b}k & \bar{b}k \\ b & \bar{b}k & bk & \bar{a} & bk & \bar{b}k \\ b & \bar{b}k & \bar{b}k & bk & \bar{a} & bk \\ b & bk & \bar{b}k & \bar{b}k & bk & \bar{a} \end{pmatrix},$$

we apply the construction to obtain a QOD(144; 24, 120). Taking  $H$  to again be the first horizontal frame of the splittable QOD, we find that  $29056 = \sum_{i,j} |\text{Co}_1(\langle f_i, f_j \rangle)|^2 \neq \sum_{i,j} |\text{Co}_2(\langle f_i, f_j \rangle)|^2 = 8960$ . It follows that we have constructed another quaternion frame not reducible to a complex frame.

\* \* \*

**10.3. Unbiased Orthogonal Designs.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two orthonormal bases of the Hilbert space  $\mathbf{C}^k$ . The bases are said to be *mutually unbiased* in the event that  $|\langle a, b \rangle| = k^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , for every  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , and where  $\langle a, b \rangle$  denotes the usual sesquilinear inner product between  $a$  and  $b$ .



#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

The reader will recognize unbiased bases as a subtype of equiangular lines (see §8.2). These objects are fundamental in many applications such as quantum key distribution (see Boykin et al., 2005).

Unitary Hadamard matrices, i.e. a matrices with entries from the unit circle in the complex plane whose rows are pairwise orthogonal, have received much attention with their connection to unbiased bases. Two unitary Hadamard matrices  $H$  and  $K$  of order  $n$  are *unbiased* if  $HK^* = \sqrt{n}L$ , for some unitary Hadamard matrix  $L$ . Recently, these ideas were studied for the case of unitary weighing matrices<sup>32</sup>) in Best et al. (2015). The case of unbiased real Hadamard matrices were studied in Holzmam et al. (2010), and the case of unbiased quaternary complex Hadamard in Best and Kharaghani (2010).

We have seen that extending concepts from matrices of concrete values to matrices of indeterminants usually presents us with subtle difficulties, and extending unbiasedness is no different. In Kharaghani and Suda (2018), unbiased orthogonal designs are presented thus.

**10.13. Definition.** Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be two instances of an  $\text{OD}(n; s_1, \dots, s_u)$  in the indeterminants  $x_1, \dots, x_u$ . Then  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are *unbiased* with parameter  $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}_+$  if there is a  $(-1, 0, 1)$ -matrix  $W$  such that

$$(10.13.a) \quad X_1 X_2^t = \left( \alpha^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_i s_i x_i^t \right) W.$$

We use the stable construction presented in the previous section to construct pairs of unbiased orthogonal designs. Note that this is essentially a generalization of a method presented in Kharaghani and Suda (2019). In what follows, we take  $Z$  to be as in §9.3.

**10.14. Proposition.** Let

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} -F \\ B \\ A \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } U = \begin{pmatrix} G & F \\ E & A \\ -E & B \end{pmatrix}$$

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

so that  $Z = \begin{pmatrix} U & V \end{pmatrix}$ , and take  $Y = \begin{pmatrix} U & -V \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $Y$  is an OD of the same order and type as  $Z$ . In particular,  $ZY^t = 2\sigma K$ , where  $K$  is a Hadamard matrix.

**Proof.** That  $Y$  is also an OD is clear. Then  $ZY^t = (UU^t - VV^t)$ . We claim that  $K = (1/2\sigma)(UU^t - VV^t)$  is a Hadamard matrix. Indeed, since the vertical frames of  $Z$  constitute a stable split, and since  $Z$  is an OD, we find that  $K$  has entries from the set  $\{-1, 1\}$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} KK^t &= \frac{1}{4\sigma^2}(UU^tUU^t + VV^tVV^t) \\ &= \frac{n}{\sigma}(UU^t + VV^t) \\ &= 4n^2I, \end{aligned}$$

and the proof is complete. ■

### Notes

24. Recall the angle between two vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^\ell$  is given by  $\alpha = \arccos(\langle u, v \rangle / \|u\| \|v\|)$ . It follows that we only need to consider  $|\langle u, v \rangle|$  whenever we want to deduce the number of angles that exist between a collection of vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^\ell$ .
25. The classic construction due to Paley goes as follows. Let  $q$  be odd, and take  $\text{GF}(q) = \{a_0 = 0, a_1, \dots, a_{q-1}\}$ . If  $\eta$  is the quadratic character on  $\text{GF}(q)$ , define  $Q$  by  $Q_{ij} = \eta(a_j - a_i)$ . Finally, form the matrix  $W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{1}^t \\ (-1)^{(q-1)/2} \mathbf{1} & Q \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $W$  is a  $W(q+1, q)$ . If  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $W^t = -W$ ; while if  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $W^t = W$ . See Hall (1986) for more detail.
26. In defining the auxiliary matrix of a full OD, we limit ourselves to using the Hadamard matrix obtained from the OD by setting the indeterminants equal to  $+1$ . This is done that the formation of the auxiliary matrices is unique.
27. Quasi-symmetric designs are often studied in the more general context of  $t$ -designs (see §1.1). This is the approach taken in Ionin and Shrikhande (2006) and Shrikhande and Sane (1991).
28. It isn't difficult to see that a regular Hadamard matrix  $H$  must have square order  $4u^2$ . Moreover, it follows that  $(1/2)(J - H)$  is a symmetric BIBD( $4u^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h$ ). The converse can also be seen to be true. The reader may consult Stinson (2004) for a standard treatment of these objects. Ionin and Shrikhande (2006) studies these objects and their applications in constructing other configurations.
29. Note the similarity to the redundancy introduced in constructing the error-correcting codes of §2.
30. Recall that a Hilbert space is a complete normed linear space where the norm is induced by an inner

#### 4. Balancedly Splittable Orthogonal Designs

product. Halmos (1982) and Halmos (1998) are standard references on the subject of Hilbert spaces.

31. There is some ambiguity in defining frames over  $\mathbf{H}^k$ . As  $\mathbf{H}$  is a skew-field, we can take  $\mathbf{H}^k$  to be either a left- or right-module. This discussion is taken up in detail in Waldron (2020), where the right-module is always used.
32. There are different ways of defining unbiased weighing matrices. Classically, two unitary weighing matrices  $W(n, k)$ , say  $H$  and  $K$ , are *unbiased* if  $HK^* = \sqrt{k}L$ , for some unitary weighing matrix  $L$  of weight  $k$ . In Nozaki and Suda (2015), the weighing matrices  $H$  and  $K$  above are *quasi-unbiased* with parameters  $(n, k, \ell, a)$  if  $a^{-\frac{1}{2}}HK^*$  is a  $W(n, \ell)$ . It is this idea of quasi-unbiasedness that is most easily extended to orthogonal designs.



# 5

## **A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes**

This chapter serves as a particular application of a more general construction to be given in the following chapter. Here a new family of balanced weighing matrices are constructed, and an equivalence to certain association schemes is developed. The work shown here is a result of Kharaghani et al. (2022).

### **§11. Generalized Kronecker Product**

In this section, we briefly review the Kronecker product and a few of its properties and applications, namely, we will see its applications to regular Hadamard matrices. Following this, we will consider a simple generalization of the Kronecker product in order to allow particular bijections to act on a matrix.

\* \* \*

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

**11.1. Definitions.** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times m$  matrix, and let  $B$  be an  $s \times t$  matrix, each with entries from some field. The *Kronecker product* of  $A$  by  $B$  is the  $ns \times mt$  matrix given by  $A \otimes B = (A_{ij}B)$ . This noncommutative matrix product has the following immediate properties wherever the sizes of the matrices make sense.

**11.1. Lemma.** Let  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  be matrices over some field  $F$ , and let  $\lambda \in F$ . Then:

$$(11.1.a) \quad \lambda A \otimes B = A \otimes \lambda B = \lambda(A \otimes B),$$

$$(11.1.b) \quad A \otimes B = (A \times I)(I \otimes B) = (I \otimes B)(A \otimes I),$$

$$(11.1.c) \quad (A + B) \otimes C = (A \otimes C) + (B \otimes C),$$

$$(11.1.d) \quad A \otimes (B + C) = (A \otimes B) + (A \otimes C),$$

$$(11.1.e) \quad (A \otimes B)(C \otimes D) = AC \otimes BD,$$

$$(11.1.f) \quad (A \otimes B)^t = A^t \otimes B^t, \text{ and}$$

$$(11.1.g) \quad \text{if } A \text{ is } n \times n \text{ and } B \text{ is } m \times m, \text{ then } \det(A \otimes B) = [\det(A)]^m [\det(B)]^n.$$

There are a number of immediate applications of the Kronecker product to what we have done so far. For instance, if  $H$  is a  $W(n_1, k_1)$  and  $K$  a  $W(n_2, k_2)$ , then  $H \otimes K$  is a  $W(n_1 n_2, k_1 k_2)$ .

**11.2. Example.** Let  $H$  be the Hadamard matrix of order 4 given by

$$(11.2.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} - & + & + & + \\ + & - & + & + \\ + & + & - & + \\ + & + & + & - \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $H \otimes H$  is the Hadamard matrix of 16 given by

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

$$(11.2.b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + \\ - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + \\ - & - & + & - & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + \\ - & - & - & + & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + \\ + & - & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + \\ + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + \\ + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + \\ + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + \\ + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - & + & + & - & + \\ + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + & + & + & + & - \\ - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & + & - & - & - \\ + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & - & + & - & - \\ + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & - & - & + & - \\ + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & + & + & + & - & - & - & - & + \end{pmatrix},$$

where the block structure is evident<sup>33</sup>).

As one further application of the standard Kronecker product before we move on, we will consider regular Hadamard matrices.

**11.3. Definition.** A Hadamard matrix is *row regular* (or *column regular*) if it's rows (resp. columns) have a constant sum. A Hadamard matrix is *regular* if it is both row and column regular.

It isn't difficult to see that a Hadamard matrix is row regular or column regular if and only if it is regular. Moreover, if the constant row (column) sum is  $s$ , then the order of the matrix is  $s^2$  (see Stinson, 2004, Chapter 4). By the definition of the standard Kronecker product, we also see that if  $H$  and  $K$  are regular Hadamard matrices, then so is  $H \otimes K$ .

Example 11.2 has evinced the existence of a regular  $W(4, 4)$ . It is also known that there is a regular  $W(36, 36)$  (see Stinson, 2004, Chapter 4). Also, if there is a Hadamard matrix of order  $n$ , then there is a symmetric, regular, Hadamard matrix with constant block diagonal of order  $n^2$  (see Colbourn and Dinitz, 2007, Part V). We then have the following result.

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

**11.4. Proposition.** If there exist Hadamard matrices of orders  $n_1, \dots, n_k$ , then there is a regular Hadamard matrix of order  $4^a 9^b n_1^2 \cdots n_k^2$ , for  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}_+$  and  $a \geq b$ .

Having convinced ourselves of the utility of the standard Kronecker product, we generalize in the following way. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a collection of  $n \times m$  matrices with entries from some commutative ring  $R$ , and let  $\Xi$  be an  $s \times t$  matrix over the collection of endofunctions of  $\mathcal{M}$ . For each  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ , the  $ns \times mt$  matrix  $\Xi \otimes A$  over  $R$  is defined as  $(\Xi_{ij}(A))$ . If certain properties of  $A$  are left invariant under the elements of  $\Xi$ , then these properties will be reflected in the block structure of  $\Xi \otimes A$ .

With the above ideas in mind, if we have a collection  $\mathcal{M}$  of objects, we desire a subset of the collection of endofunctions of  $\mathcal{M}$  that are property preserving. If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a collection of incidence structures, then a set of bijections of  $\mathcal{M}$  that preserve incidence is called a *group of symmetries* of  $\mathcal{M}$ . If  $\Xi$  is a BGW over a group of symmetries, then  $\Xi \otimes A$  has both inter-block regularities and intra-block regularities.

\* \* \*

**11.2. A First Application: Block designs.** In the previous subsection, we began a brief discussion of groups of symmetries of incidence structures. As an example, let  $\mathbf{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ), and let  $\mathcal{B} = \bigcup_{i=1}^m \mathcal{B}_i$  be a partition of the blocks of  $\mathbf{D}$ . If  $G_i$  acts on  $\mathcal{B}_i$ , then,  $(X, \bigcup_{i=1}^m \mathcal{B}_i g_i)$ , for  $g_i \in G_i$ , is again a BIBD( $v, b, r, k, \lambda$ ). Let  $A = A(\mathbf{D})$  be the incidence matrix of  $\mathbf{D}$ , and assume that  $A = (A(X, \mathcal{B}_1) \cdots A(X, \mathcal{B}_m))$ . Then  $G = \prod_i G_i$  acts naturally on the columns of  $A$ . If in addition  $G_i$  is sharply transitive on  $\mathcal{B}_i$ , and if each point  $x \in X$  appears  $r_i$  times in  $\mathcal{B}_i$ , then

$$|G|^{-1} \sum_{g \in G} Ag = (r_1 b_1^{-1} J_{v \times b_1} \cdots r_m b_m^{-1} J_{v \times b_m}),$$



## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

where  $b_i = |\mathcal{B}_i|$ . Therefore, if  $r_i b_j = r_j b_i$ , for all  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , then  $\sum_{g \in G} Ag$  is an integer multiple of  $J_{v \times b}$  since  $b_i \mid |G|$ . Since  $G$  acts on the columns of  $A$ , we also have that  $Xg(Yg)^t = XY^t$ , for each  $X, Y \in AG$ .

This motivates the following. If  $G$  is a group of symmetries of a collection  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ s such that  $\sum_{g \in G} Xg = \alpha_X J$ , for some  $\alpha_X \in \mathbb{N}$  and all  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ ; and if  $Xg(Yg)^t = XY^t$ , for all  $X, Y \in \mathcal{M}$ ; then we say that  $G$  is an *admissible* group of symmetries of  $\mathbf{D}$ . We then have the following.

**11.5. Theorem.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a collection of  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ s, and let  $G$  be an admissible group of symmetries of  $\mathcal{M}$ . If  $\Xi$  is a  $\text{BGW}(w, \ell, \mu; G)$  such that  $kr\mu = v\lambda\ell$ , then  $\Xi \otimes X$  is a  $\text{BIBD}(vw, bw, r\ell, k\ell, \lambda\ell)$ , for any  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ .

**Proof.** Straightforward calculation. See Theorem 2.4 of Ionin (2001) for details. ■

**11.6. Corollary.** If  $X$  is quasi-residual, then so is  $\Xi \otimes X$ .

**11.7. Example.** Let  $q = p^n$  be a prime power, and let  $H$  be a  $\text{GH}(q, 1)$  over  $\text{EA}(q)$  where the elements have the usual representation of  $(0, 1)$ -matrices. Then it isn't difficult to see that  $A = (I_q \otimes 1_q \ H)$  is a  $\text{BIBD}(q^2, q + q^2, 1 + q, q, 1)$ . Importantly, the columns are placed into  $1 + q$  consecutive disjoint groups of  $q$  columns each such that each point appears precisely once in every group<sup>34</sup>). Let  $G$  be the group which cyclically permutes the blocks in each group so that  $|G| = q$ .

If  $1 + q$  is a prime power, then there is a  $\text{BGW}(2 + q, 1 + q, q; C_q)$ , say  $\Xi$ , where the group elements cyclically permute the blocks of each partition class in the above design. The parametric conditions of the theorem are met, hence  $\Xi \otimes A$  is a  $\text{BIBD}(q^2(2 + q), (q + q^2)(2 + q), (1 + q)^2, q(1 + q), 1 + q)$ . More generally, we can take  $\Xi$  to be any  $\text{BGW}((p^{n+1} - 1)/(p - 1), p^n, p^n - p^{n-1}; C_q)$ , where  $p = 1 + q$ .

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

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**11.3. A Second Application: Bhaskar Rao designs.** It isn't difficult to extend the ideas of Theorem 11.5 to the more general Bhaskar Rao designs. In order to accomplish this, however, we need to extend the idea of admissible groups of symmetries.

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a collection of  $\text{GBRD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda; H)$ s. Then a group of bijections  $G$  of  $\mathcal{M}$  is an admissible group of symmetries if (a)  $\sum_{g \in G} Xg = \alpha_X HJ$ , for some  $\alpha_X \in \mathbb{N}$  and every  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ , and (b)  $Xg(Yg)^* = XY^*$ , for every  $X, Y \in \mathcal{M}$ .

The following is then a simple generalization of Theorem 11.5

**11.8. Theorem.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a collection of  $\text{GBRD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda; H)$ s, and let  $G$  be an admissible group of symmetries of  $\mathcal{M}$ . If  $\Xi$  is a  $\text{BGW}(w, \ell, \mu; G)$  such that  $kr\mu = v\lambda\ell$ , then  $\Xi \otimes X$  is a  $\text{GBRD}(vw, bw, r\ell, k\ell, \lambda\ell; H)$ , for any  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ .

**11.9. Example.** The following example was noted in Pender (2020). The following  $\text{BGW}(15, 7, 3; C_3)$  was found by computational means in Gibbons and Mathon (1987)

$$(11.9.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix},$$

where the nonzero entries are logarithms of some generator of  $C_3$ . Note that the core of (11.9.a) is composed of 4 circulant matrices. Taking  $R$  to be the residual part of (11.9.a), and letting  $g = \begin{pmatrix} O & I_7 \\ \omega I_7 & O \end{pmatrix}$ , we see that  $G = \langle g \rangle$  forms an admissible

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

group of symmetries for  $R$ . For any  $n \in N$ , there is a  $\text{BGW}((7^{n+1} - 1)/6, 7^n, 6 \cdot 7^{n-1}; G)$  which satisfy the parametric conditions of Theorem 11.8. Therefore, for any  $n > 0$ , there is a  $\text{GBRD}(4(7^{n+1} - 1)/3, 2 \cdot 7^{n+1}, 7^{n+1}, 4 \cdot 7^n, 3 \cdot 7^n; C_3)^{35})$

This concludes our introduction to the generalized Kronecker product.

## §12. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices

Here the generalized Kronecker product of the previous subsection will be put to use in constructing a new family of balanced weighing matrices. Additionally, the simplex codes appear again and are applied in the construction. The construction presented here is indicative of a general method to be presented in the following chapter.

\* \* \*

**12.1. Lemmata.** In §2.2, we introduced the linear simplex code  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$ . There it was shown that the code had constant weight  $q^{n-1}$ ; in particular, it follows that it is equidistant with constant Hamming distance  $q^{n-1}$  since the code is linear.

In Rajkundlia (1983), and later reproduced in Ionin (2001) using the language of BGW matrices, generalized Hadamard matrices  $\text{GH}(q, q^{n-1})$  were used recursively in conjunction with the classical parameter  $\text{BGW}((q^n - 1)/(q - 1), q^{n-1}, q^{n-1} - q^{n-2}; \text{GF}(q)^*)$ s in order to construct certain designs. It turns out that the  $\text{GH}(q, q^{n-1})$  used in the construction can be replaced by  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$ , and so simplify the construction.

In order to apply the linear code  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$ , we will require the following lemma.

**12.1. Lemma.** Let  $\text{GF}(q) = \{a_0 = 0, a_1, \dots, a_{q-1}\}$ , and let  $n > 1$ . Then there exist disjoint  $(0, 1)$ -matrices  $A_{a_1}, \dots, A_{a_{q-1}}$  of dimensions  $q^n \times (q^n - 1)/(q - 1)$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

such that  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)^*} \alpha A_\alpha$ . If we define  $A_0 = J - \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)^*} A_\alpha$ , then the following hold.

$$(12.1.a) \quad \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t = \frac{q^{n-1}-1}{q-1} J + q^{n-1} I, \text{ and}$$

$$(12.1.b) \quad \sum_{\substack{\alpha, \beta \in \text{GF}(q) \\ \alpha \neq \beta}} A_\alpha A_\beta^t = q^{n-1} (J - I).$$

**Proof.** Labeling the rows of  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n}$  by  $r_0, \dots, r_{q^n-1}$ , and taking  $A = \mathcal{S}_{q,n}$ , we then have that

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t \right)_{ij} &= \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} (A_\alpha A_\alpha^t)_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\frac{q(q^{n-1}-1)}{q-1}} (A_\alpha)_{i\ell} (A_\alpha)_{j\ell} \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} \# \{ \ell \in \{0, \dots, \frac{q(q^{n-1}-1)}{q-1}\} : A_{i\ell} = A_{j\ell} = \alpha \} \\ &= \# \{ \ell \in \{0, \dots, \frac{q(q^{n-1}-1)}{q-1}\} : A_{i\ell} = A_{j\ell} \} \\ &= \frac{q^n - 1}{q - 1} - \text{dist}(r_i, r_j), \end{aligned}$$

which shows (12.1.a).

Since  $\sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} A_\alpha = J$ , it follows that  $\sum_{\alpha, \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t = (\sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha) (\sum_{\beta} A_\beta)^t = \frac{q^n-1}{q-1} J$ , and (12.1.b) has been proven. ■

If  $W$  is a BGW( $v, k, \lambda; C_n$ ) over some cyclic group  $C_n = \{1, g, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$  of order  $n$ , then there are  $n$  disjoint  $(0, 1)$ -matrices  $W_0, \dots, W_{n-1}$  such that  $W = W_0 + gW_1 + \dots + g^{n-1}W_{n-1}$ . We call  $W_0$  and  $W_1$  the *decomposition matrices* of the weighing matrix. Because  $W$  is a BGW matrix, we have the following lemma.

### 12.2. Lemma.

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

$$(12.2.a) \sum_{i,j} g^{i-j} W_i W_j^t = \sum_{i,j} g^{i-j} W_j^t W_i = kI + \frac{\lambda}{n} \left( \sum_i g_i \right) (J - I),$$

$$(12.2.b) \sum_i W_i W_i^t = \sum_i W_i^t W_i = kI + \frac{\lambda}{n} (J - I), \text{ and}$$

$$(12.2.c) \sum_i W_i W_{i+j}^t = \sum_i W_{i+j}^t W_i = \frac{\lambda}{n} (J - I), \text{ for } j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}.$$

**Proof.** (12.2.a) is simply a restatement of the fact that both  $W$  and  $W^*$  are BGW( $v, k, \lambda; C_n$ )s (see Proposition 4.19). (12.2.b) follows by noting that there are  $k$  nonzero entries in every row of  $W$ , and that 1 appears  $\lambda/n$  times in the conjugate inner product between distinct rows. Similarly, (12.2.c) follows by noting that each nonidentity element of the group appears  $\lambda/n$  times in the conjugate inner product between distinct rows of  $W$ , and that  $i \neq i+j$ , for each  $i$  whenever  $j \not\equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . ■

Now, consider the balanced W(19, 9) shown to exist by computational means in de Launey and Sarvate (1984).

$$W_{19} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + \\ 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & - & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & + & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & + \\ 0 & + & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - \\ 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & - & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 \\ 0 & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & + & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + \\ 0 & + & 0 & + & + & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & + & + & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + \\ + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 \\ + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & + & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + \\ + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & + & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 \\ + & + & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - \\ + & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - \\ + & 0 & - & + & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

Take  $R_1$  and  $D$  to be the residual and derived parts, respectively, of  $W_{19}$ . Define the matrix  $|R_1|$  by  $|R_1|_{ij} = |R_{1ij}|$ . Then  $|R_1|$  is the incidence matrix of a residual BIBD(10, 18, 9, 5, 4), hence  $|R_2| = J - |R_1|$  is a BIBD with the same parameters. Moreover,  $|R_2|$  is residual since  $|R_2|$  together with  $|D|$  also forms a symmetric design. We therefore seek a signing of  $|R_2|$  over  $\{-1, 1\}$ . This search was conducted via Maple, and the following signing was produced.

$$R_2 = \begin{pmatrix} + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & - & + & + & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + \\ - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & + & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 \\ - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & + & - & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & - & + & + & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & + & 0 & 0 & + \\ 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & + & - & + & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & - & + & + \\ 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & - & 0 & - & 0 & 0 & + & + & 0 & 0 & + & - & + \\ + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + & 0 & + & + & - \end{pmatrix}.$$

Remarkably,  $R_2$  together with  $D$  also forms a balanced  $W(19, 9)$ . The matrices  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , and  $D$  then satisfy several properties.

### 12.3. Lemma.

$$(12.3.a) \quad R_1 R_1^t = R_2 R_2^t = I, \quad R_1 R_2^t = R_2 R_1^t;$$

$$(12.3.b) \quad D D^t = 9I - J;$$

$$(12.3.c) \quad R_1 D^t = R_2 D^t = O;$$

$$(12.3.d) \quad |R_1| |R_1|^t = |R_2| |R_2|^t = 5I + 4J, \quad |R_1| |R_2|^t = |R_2| |R_1|^t = 5(J - I);$$

and

$$(12.3.e) \quad |D| |D|^t = 5I + 3J, \quad |R_1| |D|^t = |R_2| |D|^t = 4J.$$

**Proof.** Restatement of the facts that  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , and  $D$  form balanced  $W(19, 4)$  weighing matrices. ■

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

\* \* \*

**12.2. Construction.** Having the lemmata of the previous subsection at our disposal, we are ready to present the construction of a new family of balanced weighing matrices. We desire to apply BGWs in the construction of these matrices, so we need an admissible group of symmetries. Take  $\mathcal{M} = \{R_1, R_2\}$ ; then it isn't difficult to see that  $-R_2 \mapsto -R_1 \mapsto R_2 \mapsto R_1 \mapsto -R_2$  is an admissible cyclic group of symmetries of order 4 for  $\mathcal{M}$ —though, this will be derived explicitly below.

Let  $n > 1$ , and take  $\Xi$  to be a BGW $((9^n - 1)/8, 9^{n-1}, 9^{n-1} - 9^{n-2}; C_4)$ . We claim that  $\Xi \otimes R_1$  is the residual part of a balanced W $([9(9^n - 1)/4] + 1, 9^n)$ . Note there are disjoint  $(0, 1)$ -matrices  $\Xi_0, \Xi_1, \Xi_2, \Xi_3$  such that  $\Xi = \Xi_0 + g\Xi_1 + g^2\Xi_2 + g^3\Xi_3$  if  $C_4 = \{e, g, g^2, g^3\}$ . Then  $\Xi \otimes R_1 = \Xi_0 \otimes R_1 - \Xi_1 \otimes R_2 - \Xi_2 \otimes R_1 + \Xi_3 \otimes R_2$ .

Next, let  $\mathcal{S}_{9,n} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)^*} \alpha A_\alpha$ , and define  $A_0 = J - \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)^*} A_\alpha$ . Finally, take  $\Theta = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)} A_\alpha \otimes D$ . It will be shown that  $\Theta$  is the derived part of a balanced W $([9(9^n - 1)/4] + 1, 9^n)$ .

We require the following lemma.

### 12.4. Lemma.

$$(12.4.a) \quad (\Xi \otimes R_1)(\Xi \otimes R_1)^t = 9^n I;$$

$$(12.4.b) \quad \Theta \Theta^* = 9^n I - J;$$

$$(12.4.c) \quad (\Xi \otimes R_1) \Theta^t = \Theta (\Xi \otimes R_1)^t = O;$$

$$(12.4.d) \quad |\Xi \otimes R_1| |\Xi \otimes R_1|^t = 5 \cdot 9^n I + 4 \cdot 9^n J;$$

$$(12.4.e) \quad |\Theta| |\Theta|^t = 5 \cdot 9^n I + (4 \cdot 9^n - 1) J; \text{ and}$$

$$(12.4.f) \quad |\Xi \otimes R_1| |\Theta|^t = |\Theta| |\Xi \otimes R_1|^t = 4 \cdot 9^n J.$$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

**Proof.** By Lemma 12.2 and (12.3.a),

$$\begin{aligned}
(\Xi \otimes R_1)(\Xi \otimes R_1) &= 9\Xi_0\Xi_0^t \otimes I - \Xi_0\Xi_1^t \otimes R_1R_2^t - 9\Xi_0\Xi_2^t \otimes I + \Xi_0\Xi_3^t \otimes R_1R_2^t \\
&\quad - \Xi_1\Xi_0^t \otimes R_2R_1^t + 9\Xi_1\Xi_1^t \otimes I + \Xi_1\Xi_2^t \otimes R_2R_1^t - 9\Xi_1\Xi_3^t \otimes I \\
&\quad - 9\Xi_2\Xi_0^t \otimes I + \Xi_2\Xi_1^t \otimes R_1R_2^t + 9\Xi_2\Xi_2^t \otimes I - \Xi_2\Xi_3^t \otimes R_1R_2^t \\
&\quad + \Xi_3\Xi_0^t \otimes R_2R_1^t - 9\Xi_3\Xi_1^t \otimes I - \Xi_3\Xi_2^t \otimes R_2R_1^t + 9\Xi_3\Xi_3^t \otimes I \\
&= 9 \sum_i (\Xi_i\Xi_i^t - \Xi_i\Xi_{i+2}^t) \otimes I - \sum_i (\Xi_i\Xi_{i+1}^t - \Xi_i\Xi_{i+3}^t) \otimes R_1R_2^t \\
&= 9^n I,
\end{aligned}$$

and (12.4.a) is shown.

Next, by Lemma 12.1 and (12.3.b), and upon indexing the rows of  $D$  by elements of  $\text{GF}(9)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Theta\Theta^t &= \sum_{\alpha, \beta \in \text{GF}(9)} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\beta^t \\
&= \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\alpha^t + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\beta^t \\
&= 8 \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t - \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \\
&= (9^{n-1} - 1)J + 8 \cdot 9^{n-1}I - 9^{n-1}(J - I) \\
&= 9^n I - J,
\end{aligned}$$

which shows (12.4.b).

By Lemma (12.3.c),

$$\begin{aligned}
(\Xi \otimes R_1)\Theta^t &= \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)} (\Xi_0 A_\alpha^t \otimes R_1 r_\alpha^t - \Xi_1 A_\alpha^t \otimes R_2 r_\alpha^t - \Xi_2 A_\alpha^t \otimes R_2 r_\alpha^t + \Xi_3 A_\alpha^t \otimes R_2 r_\alpha^t) \\
&= O,
\end{aligned}$$

and (12.4.c) has been shown.



## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

Since  $|\Xi \otimes R_1| = (\Xi_0 + \Xi_2) \otimes |R_1| + (\Xi_1 + \Xi_3) \otimes |R_2|$ , (12.4.d) is shown similarly to (12.4.a).

(12.4.e) is shown just as (12.4.b) after noting that  $|\Theta| = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(9)} A_\alpha \otimes |r_\alpha|$ .

Finally, (12.4.f) is shown precisely as in (12.4.c). ■

We are now ready to present the main construction.

**12.5. Theorem.** Given  $\Xi \otimes R_1$  and  $\Theta$  defined above,

$$(12.5.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \Xi \otimes R_1 \\ \mathbf{1} & \Theta \end{pmatrix}$$

is a balanced  $W([9(9^n - 1)/4] + 1, 9^n)$ .

**Proof.** By the lemma,  $(\Xi \otimes R_1)(\Xi \otimes R_1)^t = 9^n I$ ,  $\Theta \Theta^t = 9^n I - J$ , and  $(\Xi \otimes R_1) \Theta^t = O$ ; thus, (12.5.a) is a weighing matrix with the appropriate parameters. It remains to show it is balanced. But the lemma again gives  $|\Xi \otimes R_1| |\Xi \otimes R_1|^t = 5 \cdot 9^n I + 4 \cdot 9^n J$ ,  $|\Theta| |\Theta|^t = 5 \cdot 9^n I + (4 \cdot 9^n - 1)J$ , and  $|\Xi \otimes R_1| \Theta^t = 4 \cdot 9^n J$ . We have then shown that (12.5.a) is balanced, and the proof is complete. ■

## §13. Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

In Brouwer et al. (1989) it is shown that symmetric designs are equivalent to certain 3-class association schemes. It is a natural question to ask whether or not a balanced weighing matrix could be related to this scheme, particularly an augmentation. This is the goal of this subsection.

\* \* \*

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

**13.1. Adjacency Matrices.** Assume the existence of a balanced  $W(v, k)$ , say  $W = W_0 - W_1$ , where  $W_0$  and  $W_1$  are disjoint  $(0, 1)$ -matrices, and define the following matrices where  $P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A_0 &= I_{4v}, \\ A_1 &= I_2 \otimes P \otimes I_v, \\ A_2 &= I_2 \otimes J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v), \\ A_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} O & I_2 \otimes W_0 + P \otimes W_1 \\ I_2 \otimes W_0^t + P \otimes W_1^t & O \end{pmatrix}, \\ A_4 &= \begin{pmatrix} O & I_2 \otimes W_1 + P \otimes W_0 \\ I_2 \otimes W_1^t + P \otimes W_0^t & O \end{pmatrix}, \\ A_5 &= \begin{pmatrix} O & J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0 - W_1) \\ J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0^t - W_1^t) & O \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that  $\{A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5\}$  form a 5-class symmetric association scheme. Clearly, (7.5.a), (7.5.b), and (7.5.f) are satisfied. It remains to show closure under multiplication.

First,  $A_1^2 = (I_2 \otimes P \otimes I_v)^2 = I_2 \otimes P^2 \otimes I_v = I = A_0$ . Next, since

$$\begin{aligned} [J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)]^2 &= 2J_2 \otimes [(v-1)I_v + (v-2)(J_v - I_v)] \\ &= 2(v-1)J_2 \otimes I_v + 2(v-2)J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v) \\ &= 2(v-1)(I_2 + P) \otimes I_v + 2(v-2)J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v), \end{aligned}$$

it follows that  $A_2^2 = 2(v-1)(A_0 + A_1) + 2(v-2)A_2$ . By (12.2.b) and (12.2.c),

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

we find

$$\begin{aligned}
(I_2 \otimes W_0 + P \otimes W_1)(I_2 \otimes W_0^t + P \otimes W_1^t) &= I_2 \otimes (W_0 W_0^t + W_1 W_1^t) \\
&\quad + P \otimes (W_0 W_1^t + W_1 W_0^t) \\
&= I_2 \otimes [kI_v + \frac{\lambda}{2}(J_v - I_v)] + P \otimes \frac{\lambda}{2}(J_v - I_v) \\
&= kI_{2v} + \frac{\lambda}{2}J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda = k(k-1)/(v-1)$ . Therefore,  $A_3^3 = A_4^2 = kA_0 + \frac{\lambda}{2}A_2$ . Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
J_2^2 \otimes [J_v - W_0 - W_1](J_v - W_0^t - W_1^t) &= J_2^2 \otimes (J_v^2 - 2J_v(W_0 + W_1) \\
&\quad + W_0 W_0^t + W_1 W_1^t + W_0 W_1^t + W_1 W_0^t) \\
&= J_2 \otimes [2(v-k)I_v + 2(v-2k+\lambda)(J_v - I_v)],
\end{aligned}$$

hence  $A_5^2 = 2(v-k)(A_0 + A_1) + 2(v-2k+\lambda)A_1$ . We next show that  $A_i A_j \in$

$\langle A_0, \dots, A_5 \rangle$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .

Note  $(P \otimes I_v)[J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)] = J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)$  so that  $A_1 A_2 = A_2 A_1 = A_2$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
(I_2 \otimes W_0 + P \otimes W_1)(I_2 \otimes W_1^t + P \otimes W_0^t) &= I_2 \otimes (W_0 W_1^t + W_1 W_0^t) + P \otimes (W_0 W_0^t + W_1 W_1^t) \\
&= I_2 \otimes \frac{\lambda}{2}(J_v - I_v) + P \otimes [kI_v + \frac{\lambda}{2}(J_v - I_v)] \\
&= \frac{\lambda}{2}J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v) + kP \otimes I_v
\end{aligned}$$

so that  $A_3 A_4 = A_4 A_3 = kA_1 + \frac{\lambda}{2}A_2$ . Next,  $(P \otimes I_v)(I_2 \otimes W_0 + P \otimes W_1) = I_2 \otimes W_1 + P \otimes W_0$ , hence  $A_1 A_3 = A_3 A_1 = A_4$ ; and similarly,  $A_1 A_4 = A_4 A_1 = A_3$ . Then  $(P \otimes I_v)[J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0 - W_1)] = J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0 - W_1)$  and  $A_1 A_5 = A_5 A_1 = A_5$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
(I_2 \otimes W_0 + P \otimes W_1)[J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0^t - W_1^t)] &= J_2 \otimes [(W_0 + W_1)(J_v - (W_0 + W_1)^t)] \\
&= (k - \lambda)J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)
\end{aligned}$$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

so that  $A_3A_5 = A_5A_3 = (k - \lambda)A_2$ . Similarly,  $A_4A_5 = A_5A_4 = (k - \lambda)A_2$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} [J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)](I_2 \otimes W_0 + P \otimes W_1) &= J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)(W_0 + W_1) \\ &= (k - 1)J_2 \otimes J_v + J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0 - W_1), \end{aligned}$$

it follows that  $A_2A_3 = A_3A_2 = (k - 1)(A_3 + A_4 + A_5) + kA_5$ . Similarly,  $A_2A_4 = A_4A_2 = (k - 1)(A_3 + A_4 + A_5) + kA_5$ . Finally,

$$[J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)][J_2 \otimes (J_v - W_0 - W_1)] = J_2 \otimes [2(v - k)J_v - 2(J_v - W_0 - W_1)],$$

and  $A_2A_5 = A_5A_2 = 2(v - k)(A_3 + A_4 + A_5) - 2A_5$ .

We have shown the following result.

**13.1. Theorem.** If there is a balanced  $W(v, k)$ , then there is a 5-class symmetric association scheme.

\* \* \*

**13.2. Character Tables.** Our work from the previous subsection shows that the third intersection matrix is given by

$$B_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & k-1 & k-1 & k \\ k & 0 & \frac{k(k-1)}{2(v-1)} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & k & \frac{k(k-1)}{2(v-1)} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{k(v-k)}{v-1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

It can be shown that  $B_3^t$  has the six distinct eigenvalues  $\pm k, \pm\sqrt{k}$ , and  $\pm\sqrt{k(v-k)/(v-1)}$  with corresponding eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{1}_6, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \frac{-1}{v-1} \\ \frac{v-1}{v-k} \\ \frac{\sqrt{k(v-1)(v-k)}}{\sqrt{k(v-1)(v-k)}} \\ \frac{\sqrt{v-k}}{\sqrt{k(v-1)}} \\ \frac{-k}{\sqrt{k(v-1)(v-k)}} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \frac{-1}{k-v} \\ \frac{v-1}{k-v} \\ \frac{\sqrt{k(v-1)(v-k)}}{\sqrt{k(v-1)(v-k)}} \\ -\sqrt{\frac{v-k}{k(v-1)}} \\ \frac{k}{\sqrt{k(v-1)(v-k)}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The valencies of the scheme are  $k_0 = k_1 = 1$ ,  $k_2 = 2(v-1)$ ,  $k_3 = k_4 = k$ , and  $k_5 = 2(v-k)$ . Define  $\Delta_k = \text{diag}(k_0, \dots, k_5)$ . Then  $v_i^t = (\Delta_k u_i)^t$  are the standardized left eigenvectors of  $B_3^t$ . The vectors  $v_i^t$  form the rows of the first character table  $P$ .

Next, the multiplicities of the scheme are given by  $m_i = 4v / \langle u_i, v_i \rangle$  and evaluate to 1, 1,  $v$ ,  $v$ ,  $v-1$ , and  $v-1$ . Then  $m_i u_i$  are the columns of the second character table  $Q$ .

Summing up, we have the following result.

**13.2. Theorem.** The 5-class symmetric association scheme of Theorem 13.1 has the character tables

$$P = \begin{matrix} & A_0 & A_1 & A_2 & A_3 & A_4 & A_5 \\ \begin{matrix} E_0 \\ E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \\ E_4 \\ E_5 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2(v-1) & k & k & 2(v-k) \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & \sqrt{k} & -\sqrt{k} & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & -\sqrt{k} & \sqrt{k} & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2(v-1) & -k & -k & 2(k-v) \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & -\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} & -\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} & 2\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & \sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} & \sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} & -2\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

$$Q = \begin{matrix} & E_0 & E_1 & E_2 & E_3 & E_4 & E_5 \\ \begin{matrix} A_0 \\ A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \\ A_4 \\ A_5 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & v & v & 1 & v-1 & v-1 \\ 1 & -v & -v & 1 & v-1 & v-1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & \frac{v}{\sqrt{k}} & -\frac{v}{\sqrt{k}} & -1 & -\sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{k}} & \sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{k}} \\ 1 & -\frac{v}{\sqrt{k}} & \frac{v}{\sqrt{k}} & -1 & -\sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{k}} & \sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{k}} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & \sqrt{\frac{k(v-1)}{v-k}} & -\sqrt{\frac{k(v-1)}{v-k}} \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}.$$

Interestingly, the converse holds as well.

**13.3. Theorem.** If there is a 5-class symmetric association scheme with the character tables given in the statement of Theorem 13.2, then there is a balanced  $W(v, k)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{A}_0, \dots, \tilde{A}_5$  be the adjacency matrices of the scheme. Then  $\tilde{A}_1 + \tilde{A}_2$  has eigenvalues  $2v - 1$  and  $-1$  with multiplicities 2 and  $4v - 2$ , respectively. It follows (see note 21) that  $\tilde{A}_1 + \tilde{A}_2 \sim I_2 \otimes A(K_{2v})$ . By the eigenvalues of  $\tilde{A}_1$ , it is the adjacency matrix of  $2v$  disjoint 2-cliques, hence  $\tilde{A}_1 \sim I_2 \otimes P \otimes I_v$  and  $\tilde{A}_2 \sim I_2 \otimes J_2 \otimes (J_v - I_v)$ .

It follows that

$$A_3 = \begin{pmatrix} O & O & X_1 & X_2 \\ O & O & X_3 & X_4 \\ X_1^t & X_3^t & O & O \\ X_2^t & X_4^t & O & O \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } A_4 = \begin{pmatrix} O & O & Y_1 & Y_2 \\ O & O & Y_3 & Y_4 \\ Y_1^t & Y_3^t & O & O \\ Y_2^t & Y_4^t & O & O \end{pmatrix}.$$

It can be shown (see Bannai and Ito, 1984, Theorem 3.6.2, for example) that the eigenvalues of the scheme imply that  $A_1 A_3 = A_4$  so that

$$\begin{pmatrix} O & O & X_3 & X_4 \\ O & O & X_1 & X_2 \\ X_2^t & X_4^t & O & O \\ X_1^t & X_3^t & O & O \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} O & O & Y_1 & Y_2 \\ O & O & Y_3 & Y_4 \\ Y_1^t & Y_3^t & O & O \\ Y_2^t & Y_4^t & O & O \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

Therefore, there are  $(0, 1)$ -matrices  $W_0$  and  $W_1$  such that

$$A_3 = \begin{pmatrix} O & O & W_0 & W_1 \\ O & O & W_1 & W_0 \\ W_0^t & W_1^t & O & O \\ W_1^t & W_0^t & O & O \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } A_4 = \begin{pmatrix} O & O & W_1 & W_0 \\ O & O & W_0 & W_1 \\ W_1^t & W_0^t & O & O \\ W_0^t & W_1^t & O & O \end{pmatrix}.$$

Appealing to the character tables again, it can be shown that

$$\begin{aligned} A_3^2 &= kA_0 + \frac{k(k-1)}{2(v-1)}A_2, \\ A_3A_4 &= A_4A_3 = kA_1 + \frac{k(k-1)}{2(v-1)}A_2, \text{ and} \\ A_4^2 &= kA_0 + \frac{k(k-1)}{2(v-1)}A_2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $(A_3 - A_4)^2 = 2k(A_0 - A_1)$  and  $(A_3 + A_4)^2 = 2k(A_0 + A_1) + \frac{2k(k-1)}{v-1}A_2$ , from which it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} (W_0 - W_1)(W_0 - W_1)^t &= kI, \text{ and} \\ (W_0 + W_1)(W_0 + W_1)^t &= kI + \lambda(J - I), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda = k(k-1)/(v-1)$ .

We then have that  $W_0 - W_1$  is the required matrix. ■

In light of the equivalence, we make the following definition.

**13.4. Definition.** A symmetric 5-class association scheme is a *weighing scheme* if it has the character tables given in Theorem 13.2.

## Notes

33. Seberry (2017), Seberry and Yamada (1992), and Wallis et al. (1972) all contain a wealth of constructions for weighing matrices and orthogonal designs using the Kronecker product.

## 5. A New Family of Balanced Weighing Matrices and Association Schemes

34. Such a decomposition of the block set is called a *parallelism*. Beth et al. (1999) studies partitions of the blocks of an incidence structure in great detail.
35. The author and Prof. Kharaghani have tried several different groups acting of the residual part of the  $BGW(15, 7, 3; C_3)$  for which the derived part of the design can be embedded into a larger BGW. So far, we have been unsuccessful.



# 6

## A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

In this final chapter of results, we present a general method to construct certain configurations using classical parameter BGW matrices and the generalized simplex codes. This method is similar to that given by Rajkundlia (1983) and Ionin (2001), but it can be seen that it is much simpler to apply than the recursive methods of the aforementioned seminal articles. Following the presentation of this construction technique, we find an equivalence between arbitrary BGW matrices over a finite abelian group and certain commutative association schemes. This result generalizes that obtained over the course of the previous chapter.

### §14. A General Method

In this section, the general method intimated above is derived and used in the construction of weighing matrices and symmetric designs. Resulting parameters of configurations so constructible are then tabulated.

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

\* \* \*

**14.1. A First Application: Weighing matrices.** It is a peculiarity of the construction that the application of the method to weighing matrices is predicated upon the weight of the matrix being a prime power. Indeed, as in the previous chapter, the generalized simplex codes are applied to the derived part of the matrix by substituting the rows of the derived part for the letters of the code. The simplex code, as the reader may remember, has a prime power number of letters.

To begin, let  $W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & R \\ 1 & D \end{pmatrix}$  be a  $W(v, q)$  weighing matrix in normal form, where  $q$  is some prime power. Then it is easy to see that  $RR^t = kI$  and  $DD^t = kI - J$ . We say that  $W$  is the *seed matrix* of the construction.

Let  $\mathcal{S}_{q,n} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)^*} \alpha A_\alpha$ , and define  $A_0 = J - \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)^*} A_\alpha$ . Index the rows of  $D$  by the elements of  $\text{GF}(q)$ , and take  $\mathcal{D} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} A_\alpha \otimes r_\alpha$ . Next, by our previous work, there is a  $W((q^n - 1)/(q - 1), q^{n-1})$ , say  $H$ , for every  $n > 1$ . We define  $\mathcal{R} = H \otimes R$ .

We claim that  $\mathcal{W} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathcal{R} \\ 1 & \mathcal{D} \end{pmatrix}$  is again a weighing matrix. Indeed,  $\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}^t = (H \otimes R)(H \otimes R)^t = HH^t \otimes RR^t = q^n I$ . Further, by Lemma 12.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}\mathcal{D}^t &= \left( \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha \otimes r_\alpha \right) \left( \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha \otimes r_\alpha \right) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\alpha^t + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\beta^t \\ &= (q - 1) \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t - \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \\ &= (q - 1) \left( \frac{q^{n-1} - 1}{q - 1} J + q^{n-1} I \right) - q^{n-1} (J - I) \\ &= q^n I - J. \end{aligned}$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{RD}^t &= (H \otimes R) \left( \sum_{\alpha} A_{\alpha} \otimes r_{\alpha} \right)^t \\
 &= \sum_{\alpha} H A_{\alpha}^t \otimes R r_{\alpha}^t \\
 &= \sum_{\alpha} H A_{\alpha}^t \otimes O \\
 &= O.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{W}$  is a weighing matrix. We record this result below.

**14.1. Theorem.** If there exists a  $W(v, q)$  weighing matrix of prime power weight, then there is a weighing matrix with parameters

$$(14.1.a) \quad \left( \frac{(v-1)(q^n-1)}{q-1} + 1, q^n \right).$$

**14.2. Example.** Take as a seed matrix the  $W(8, 5)$  shown below

$$(14.2.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & + & 0 & 0 & - & - & + & + \\ 0 & 0 & + & 0 & - & + & - & + \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & + & - & + & + & - \\ + & + & + & + & + & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ + & + & - & - & 0 & + & 0 & 0 \\ + & - & + & - & 0 & 0 & + & 0 \\ + & - & - & + & 0 & 0 & 0 & + \\ + & 0 & 0 & 0 & - & - & - & - \end{pmatrix}.$$

Applying the construction, we find a  $W(43, 25)$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

(14.2.b)

Evidently, this resolves the question of existence of a  $W(43, 25)$  given in Part V of Colbourn and Dinitz (2007).

To further evince the utility of the method, we include a table of constructible parameters given a seed weighing matrix known to exist.

Table 6.1: Small parameter consequential order/weight pairs.

$Seed(v, k)$	$Succident(v', k')$	$Seed(v, k)$	$Succident(v', k')$
$(6, 5)^\ddagger$ :	$(31, 25)^\ddagger, (156, 125)^\ddagger, (781, 625)^\ddagger$	$(16, 3)$ :	$(69, 9), (196, 27), (601, 81)$
$(8, 5)$ :	$(43, 25)^\dagger, (218, 125)$	$(16, 5)$ :	$(91, 25), (466, 125)$
$(8, 7)^\ddagger$ :	$(57, 49)^\ddagger, (400, 343)^\ddagger$	$(16, 7)$ :	$(121, 49), (856, 343)$
$(10, 5)$ :	$(55, 25), (280, 125)$	$(16, 9)$ :	$(151, 81)$
$(10, 9)^\ddagger$ :	$(91, 81)^\ddagger, (820, 729)^\ddagger$	$(16, 11)$ :	$(181, 121)^\dagger$
$(12, 5)$ :	$(67, 25), (342, 125)$	$(16, 13)$ :	$(211, 169)$
$(12, 7)$ :	$(89, 49)^\dagger, (628, 343)$	$(18, 13)$ :	$(239, 169)$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

Continuation of Table 6.1.

<i>Seed</i> ( $v, k$ )	<i>Succident</i> ( $v', k'$ )	<i>Seed</i> ( $v, k$ )	<i>Succident</i> ( $v', k'$ )
(12, 9):	(111, 81) <sup>†</sup>	(19, 9) <sup>‡</sup> :	(181, 81) <sup>*</sup>
(13, 9) <sup>‡</sup> :	(121, 81)	(20, 7):	(153, 49)
(14, 9):	(131, 81)	(20, 13):	(267, 169) <sup>†</sup>
(14, 13) <sup>‡</sup> :	(183, 169) <sup>‡</sup>		

\* Note that the  $W(181, 81)$  constructible from the balanced seed  $W(19, 9)$  can be made to be balanced as shown in the previous chapter. It is not, however, a consequence of the construction of this chapter that the succident matrix is balanced.

<sup>†</sup> Denotes previously unknown order weight pairs.

<sup>‡</sup> Denotes a balanced weighing matrix.

\* \* \*

**14.2. A Second Application: Block designs.** The construction is perfectly amenable to certain symmetric designs. For precisely the same reasoning given in the previous subsection, we require that the design have a prime power block size. Furthermore, we require that the parameters of the residual of the design be invariant under complementation. Explicitly, if  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & R \\ 1 & D \end{pmatrix}$  is the incidence matrix of the given design, then  $J - R$  must have the same parameters as  $R$ .

As shown in Hall (1986), there is a  $W(2q + 2, 2q + 2)$  if and only if there is a symmetric  $BIBD(2q + 1, q, (q - 1)/2)$ , called a *Hadamard design*<sup>36</sup>). Accordingly, the residual of this design is a  $BIBD(q + 1, 2q, q, (q + 1)/2, (q - 1)/2)$ , the parameters of which are invariant under complementation. Also, the derived design is a  $BIBD(q, 2q, q - 1, (q - 1)/2, (q - 3)/2)$ .

Let  $H = H_0 - H_1$  be a balanced  $W((q^n - 1)/(q - 1), q^{n-1})$ , and let  $\{A_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in GF(q)}$  be as above. If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & R \\ 1 & D \end{pmatrix}$  is a Hadamard design with parameters  $(2q + 1, q, (q - 1)/2)$ , then we form  $\mathcal{R} = H_0 \otimes R + H_1 \otimes (J - R)$ . Indexing the rows of  $D$  by

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

the elements of  $\text{GF}(q)$ , we then form  $\mathcal{D} = \sum_{\alpha \in \text{GF}(q)} A_\alpha \otimes r_\alpha$ .

We claim that  $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathcal{R} \\ 1 & \mathcal{D} \end{pmatrix}$  is a symmetric design. To show this, we proceed as before. Using Lemma 12.2, we find

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}^t &= [H_0 \otimes R + H_1 \otimes (J_{q+1,2q} - R)][H_0 \otimes R + H_1 \otimes (J_{q+1,2q} - R)]^t \\
&= (H_0 H_0^t + H_1 H_1^t) \otimes \left( \frac{q+1}{2} I_{q+1} + \frac{q-1}{2} J_{q+1} \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{q+1}{2} (H_0 H_1^t + H_1 H_0^t) \otimes (J_{q+1} - I_{q+1}) \\
&= \frac{q^{n-2}}{4} [(q+1) I_{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}} + (q-1) J_{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}}] \otimes [(q+1) I_{q+1} + (q-1) J_{q+1}] \\
&\quad + \frac{q^{n-2}(q^2-1)}{4} (J_{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}} - I_{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}}) \otimes (J_{q+1} - I_{q+1}) \\
&= \frac{q^{n-2}}{4} \left[ 2q(q+1) I_{\frac{(q+1)(q^n-1)}{q-1}} + 2q(q-1) J_{\frac{(q+1)(q^n-1)}{q-1}} \right] \\
&= q^n I_{\frac{(q+1)(q^n-1)}{q-1}} + \frac{q^n - q^{n-1}}{2} (J_{\frac{(q+1)(q^n-1)}{q-1}} - I_{\frac{(q+1)(q^n-1)}{q-1}}),
\end{aligned}$$

whence  $\mathcal{R}$  is a quasi-residual BIBD with parameters

$$\left( \frac{(q+1)(q^n-1)}{q-1}, \frac{2q^{n+1}-2q}{q-1}, q^n, \frac{q^n+q^{n-1}}{2}, \frac{q^n-q^{n-1}}{2} \right).$$

Next, by Lemma 12.1

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}\mathcal{D}^t &= \left( \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha \otimes r_\alpha \right) \left( \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha \otimes r_\alpha \right)^t \\
&= \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\alpha^t + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \otimes r_\alpha r_\beta^t \\
&= (q-1) \sum_{\alpha} A_\alpha A_\alpha^t + \frac{q-3}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} A_\alpha A_\beta^t \\
&= (q-1) \left( \frac{q^{n-1}-1}{q-1} J - q^{n-1} I \right) + \frac{q^{n-1}(q-3)}{2} (J - I) \\
&= (q^n-1) I + \frac{q^n - q^{n-1} - 2}{2} (J - I),
\end{aligned}$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

and  $\mathcal{D}$  is a quasi-derived BIBD with parameters

$$\left( q^{n+1}, \frac{2q^{n+1} - 2q}{q-1}, q^n - 1, \frac{q^n - q^{n-1}}{2}, \frac{q^n - q^{n-1} - 2}{2} \right).$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{RD}^t &= [H_0 \otimes R + H_1 \otimes (J - R)] \left( \sum_{\alpha} A_{\alpha} \otimes r_{\alpha} \right)^t \\ &= \sum_{\alpha} H_0 A_{\alpha}^t \otimes R r_{\alpha}^t + \sum_{\alpha} H_1 A_{\alpha}^t \otimes (J - R) r_{\alpha}^t \\ &= \frac{q-1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} H_0 A_{\alpha}^t \otimes \mathbf{1} + \frac{q-1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} H_1 A_{\alpha}^t \otimes \mathbf{1} \\ &= \frac{q-1}{2} (H_0 + H_1) \sum_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}^t \otimes \mathbf{1} \\ &= \frac{q-1}{2} (H_0 + H_1) J \\ &= \frac{q^n - q^{n-1}}{2} J. \end{aligned}$$

We have shown that  $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathcal{R} \\ \mathbf{1} & \mathcal{D} \end{pmatrix}$  is a symmetric BIBD. We record this result below.

**14.3. Theorem.** If there is a symmetric BIBD( $2q+1, q, (q-1)/2$ ), then there is a symmetric BIBD with parameters

$$(14.3.a) \quad \left( \frac{2q^{n+1} - 2q}{q-1} + 1, q^n, \frac{q^n - q^{n-1}}{2} \right).$$

**14.4. Example.** Consider the Hadamard design

$$(14.4.a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with parameters  $(7, 3, 1)$ . The result of the first iteration of the construction is the symmetric BIBD( $25, 9, 3$ )

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

$$(14.4.b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## §15. BGW Matrices and Association Schemes

In this section we present perhaps the most striking result of this essay. Here the equivalence between BGW matrices and commutative association schemes is described in detail.

\* \* \*

**15.1. Adjacency Matrices.** We must first extend Lemma 12.2 to the case of arbitrary BGW matrices. Let  $G = \{g_0 = 1, g_1, \dots, g_{n-1}\}$  be an abelian group, and let  $W = \sum_{g \in G} g W_g$  be a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ . We then have the following.

**15.1. Lemma.**

$$(15.1.a) \quad \sum_{g,h} g h^{-1} W_g W_h^t = \sum_{g,h} h^{-1} g W_h^t W_g = kI + \frac{\lambda}{n} \left( \sum_g g \right) (J - I),$$



## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

$$(15.1.b) \quad \sum_g W_g W_g^t = \sum_g W_g^t W_g = kI + \frac{\lambda}{n}(J - I), \text{ and}$$

$$(15.1.c) \quad \sum_g W_g W_{gh^{-1}}^t = \sum_g W_{gh^{-1}}^t W_g = \frac{\lambda}{n}(J - I) \text{ whenever } h \neq 1.$$

**Proof.** Restatement of the fact that  $W = \sum_g g W_g$  is a BGW( $v, k, \lambda; G$ ). ■

Let  $\{U_g : g \in G\}$  be the usual regular linear representation of  $G$ , that is,  $U_g = (\delta(g_i^{-1} g g_j))$  where  $\delta(h) = 1$  if  $h = 1$  and 0 otherwise. Consider the following family of matrices.

$$\begin{aligned} A_{0,g} &= I_2 \otimes U_g \otimes I_v, \text{ for } g \in G, \\ A_1 &= I_2 \otimes J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v), \\ A_{2,g} &= \begin{pmatrix} O & \sum_{h \in G} (U_h \otimes W_{gh}) \\ \sum_{h \in G} (U_h \otimes W_{g^{-1}h^{-1}}^t) & O \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for } g \in G, \text{ and} \\ A_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} O & J_n \otimes (J_v - \sum_{h \in G} W_h) \\ J_n \otimes (J_v - \sum_{h \in G} W_h^t) & O \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

In showing that  $\{A_1, A_3\} \cup \{A_{0,g}, A_{2,g} : g \in G\}$  is an association scheme, we proceed precisely as before. First,  $A_1 + A_3 + \sum_{g \in G} (A_{0,g} + A_{2,g}) = J$ . Second,  $A_{0,g}^t = A_{0,g^{-1}}, A_1^t = A_1, A_{2,g}^t = A_{2,g^{-1}}$ , and  $A_3^t = A_3$ .

We next show closure under multiplication. We have  $A_{0,g} A_{0,h} = A_{0,gh} = A_{0,hg} = A_{0,h} A_{0,g}$ . Then  $A_{0,g} A_1 = A_1 A_{0,g} = A_1$  and  $A_{0,g} A_3 = A_3 A_{0,g} = A_3$ . Since  $\sum_j (U_{gj} \otimes W_{hj}) = \sum_j (U_j \otimes W_{g^{-1}hj})$ , it follows that  $A_{0,g} A_{2,h} = A_{2,h} A_{0,g} = A_{2,g^{-1}h}$ . As  $[J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v)]^2 = n(v-1) \sum_g (U_g \otimes I_v) + n(v-$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

2)  $J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v)$ , we have  $A_1^2 = n(v-1) \sum_g A_{0,g} + n(v-2)A_1$ . Next,

$$\begin{aligned} [J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v)] \sum_h (U_h \otimes W_{gh}) &= J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v) \sum_h W_h \\ &= (k-1)J_n \otimes J_v + J_n \otimes (J_v - \sum_h W_h), \end{aligned}$$

hence  $A_1 A_{2,g} = A_{2,g} A_1 = (k-1) \sum_{g \in G} A_{2,g} + kA_3$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} [J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v)] \left[ J_n \otimes (J_v - \sum_h W_h) \right] &= nJ_n \otimes (J_v - I_v) \left( J_v - \sum_h W_h \right) \\ &= n(v-k)J_n \otimes J_v - nJ_n \otimes \left( J_v - \sum_h W_h \right) \end{aligned}$$

so that  $A_1 A_3 = A_3 A_1 = n(v-k) \sum_{g \in G} A_{2,g} + n(v-k-1)A_3$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_h (U_h \otimes W_{gh}) \left[ J_n \otimes (J_v - \sum_j W_j^t) \right] &= J_n \otimes \left( \sum_h W_h J_v - \sum_{h,j} W_h W_j^t \right) \\ &= (k-\lambda)J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v), \end{aligned}$$

and  $A_{2,g} A_3 = A_3 A_{2,g} = (k-\lambda)A_1$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \left( J_v - \sum_{h \in G} W_h \right) \left( J_v - \sum_{g \in G} W_g^t \right) &= vJ_v - 2kJ_v + kI_v + \lambda(J_v - I_v) \\ &= (v-2k+\lambda)(J_v - I_v) + (v-k)I_v, \end{aligned}$$

one finds that  $A_3^2 = n(v-2k+\lambda)A_1 + n(v-k) \sum_{g \in G} A_{0,g}$ . Finally, for fixed  $g, h \in G$ , we note that

$$\sum_{\alpha, \beta} (U_{\alpha\beta} \otimes W_{g\alpha} W_{h^{-1}\beta^{-1}}^t) = \sum_{\gamma} \left( U_{\gamma} \otimes \sum_{\alpha\beta=\gamma} W_{g\alpha} W_{h^{-1}\beta^{-1}}^t \right)$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{\gamma \neq g^{-1}h^{-1}} \left( U_\gamma \otimes \sum_{\alpha\beta=\gamma} W_{g\alpha} W_{h^{-1}\beta^{-1}}^t \right) \\
&\quad + U_{g^{-1}h^{-1}} \otimes \sum_{\gamma} W_\gamma W_\gamma^t \\
&= \sum_{\gamma \neq g^{-1}h^{-1}} \left[ U_\gamma \otimes \frac{\lambda}{n} (J_v - I_v) \right] \\
&\quad + U_{g^{-1}h^{-1}} \otimes \left[ kI_v + \frac{\lambda}{n} (J_v - I_v) \right] \\
&= \frac{\lambda}{n} J_n \otimes (J_v - I_v) + kU_{g^{-1}h^{-1}} \otimes I_v
\end{aligned}$$

so that  $A_{2,g}A_{2,h} = A_{2,h}A_{2,g} = \frac{\lambda}{n}A_1 + kA_{0,g^{-1}h^{-1}}$ .

We have shown the following result.

**15.2. Theorem.** If  $G$  is a finite abelian group, and if there is a BGW( $v, k, \lambda; G$ ), then there is either a commutative  $2n$ - or  $(2n + 1)$ -class association scheme predicated upon whether or not  $v = k$ .

\* \* \*

**15.2. Character Tables.** As before, we desire to give explicitly the character tables of the scheme. The difference between the schemes arising from an arbitrary BGW vs. a balanced weighing matrix, is that the number of classes is no longer fixed. Therefore, we desire to exhibit a general form for the primitive idempotents of the scheme in terms of the adjacency matrices.

To this end, let  $\hat{G} = \{\chi_g : g \in G\}$  be the collection of irreducible characters<sup>37)</sup> of the group  $G$ , i.e. the dual group of  $G$ . Following Kharaghani and Suda (2021), we make the following definitions for each  $g \in G$ :

$$F_{0,g} = \sum_{h \in G} \chi_g(h) A_{0,h}, \quad \text{and} \quad F_{2,g} = \sum_{h \in G} \chi_g(h) A_{2,h}.$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

Using the intersection numbers derived above, and using the generalized orthogonality relation of characters (see Isaacs, 2006, Theorem 2.13), we have the following lemma.

### 15.3. Lemma.

$$(15.3.a) \quad F_{0,g}F_{0,h} = n\delta_{gh}F_{0,g},$$

$$(15.3.b) \quad F_{0,g}F_{2,h} = F_{2,h}F_{0,g} = n\delta_{g^{-1}h}F_{2,h}, \text{ and}$$

$$(15.3.c) \quad F_{2,g}F_{2,h} = n\lambda\delta_{gh}\delta_{g1}A_1 + nk\delta_{gh}F_{0,g^{-1}}.$$

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} F_{0,g}F_{0,h} &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \chi_g(\alpha)\chi_h(\beta)A_{0,\alpha\beta} \\ &= n \sum_{\gamma} \left( \sum_{\alpha\beta=\gamma} \chi_g(\alpha)\chi_h(\beta) \right) A_{0,\gamma} \\ &= n \sum_{\gamma} \left( \sum_{\beta} \chi_g(\beta^{-1}\gamma)\chi_h(\beta) \right) A_{0,\gamma} \\ &= n\delta_{gh} \sum_{\gamma} \chi_g(\gamma)A_{0,\gamma} \\ &= n\delta_{gh}F_{0,g}, \end{aligned}$$

which shows (15.3.a). Next,

$$\begin{aligned} F_{0,g}F_{2,h} &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \chi_g(\alpha)\chi_h(\beta)A_{0,g}A_{2,h} \\ &= n \sum_{\gamma} \left( \sum_{\alpha\beta=\gamma} \chi_{g^{-1}}(\alpha)\chi_h(\beta) \right) A_{2,\gamma} \\ &= n\delta_{g^{-1}h} \sum_{\gamma} \chi_h(\gamma)A_{2,\gamma} \end{aligned}$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

$$= n\delta_{g^{-1}h}F_{2,h}.$$

Since the scheme is commutative,  $F_{2,h}F_{0,g} = F_{0,g}F_{2,h}$ , which shows (15.3.b).

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} F_{2,g}F_{2,h} &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \chi_g(\alpha)\chi_h(\beta) \left( \frac{\lambda}{n}A_1 + kA_{0,\alpha^{-1}\beta^{-1}} \right) \\ &= n \sum_{\gamma} \left( \sum_{\alpha\beta=\gamma} \chi_{g^{-1}}(\alpha)\chi_{h^{-1}}(\beta) \right) \left( \frac{\lambda}{n}A_1 + kA_{0,\gamma} \right) \\ &= n \sum_{\gamma} \left( \sum_{\beta} \chi_{g^{-1}}(\beta^{-1}\gamma)\chi_{h^{-1}}(\beta) \right) \left( \frac{\lambda}{n}A_1 + kA_{0,\gamma} \right) \\ &= n\delta_{gh} \sum_{\gamma} \chi_{g^{-1}}(\gamma) \left( \frac{\lambda}{n}A_1 + kA_{0,\gamma} \right) \\ &= n\lambda\delta_{gh}\delta_{g1}A_1 + nk\delta_{gh}F_{0,g^{-1}}, \end{aligned}$$

showing (15.3.c). This completes the proof.  $\blacksquare$

We are now ready to give the idempotents of the scheme. There are two cases to consider, namely, whether or not  $v = k$ . In the latter case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= \frac{1}{2nv}(F_{0,0} + F_{2,0} + A_1 + A_3), \\ E_1 &= \frac{1}{2nv}(F_{0,0} - F_{2,0} + A_1 - A_3), \\ E_{2,1} &= \frac{1}{2nv} \left( (v-1)F_{0,0} + \sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{k}}F_{2,0} - A_1 - \sqrt{\frac{k(v-1)}{v-k}}A_3 \right), \\ E_{2,2} &= \frac{1}{2nv} \left( (v-1)F_{0,0} - \sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{k}}F_{2,0} - A_1 + \sqrt{\frac{k(v-1)}{v-k}}A_3 \right), \\ E_{3,g} &= \frac{1}{2nv} \left( vF_{0,g} + \frac{v}{\sqrt{k}}F_{2,g} \right), \text{ for } g \in G/\{1\}, \text{ and} \\ E_{4,g} &= \frac{1}{2nv} \left( vF_{0,g} - \frac{v}{\sqrt{k}}F_{2,g} \right), \text{ for } g \in G/\{1\}. \end{aligned}$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

In the case that  $v = k$ , then  $A_3 = O$  and we replace  $E_{2,1}$  and  $E_{2,2}$  with  $E_2 = E_{2,1} + E_{2,2}$ . The following lemma is immediate.

**15.4. Lemma.** Let  $\mathcal{E} = \{E_0, E_1, E_{2,1}, E_{2,2}, E_{3,g}, E_{4,g} : g \in G/\{1\}\}$ . Then:

$$(15.4.a) \quad EF = \delta_{EF}E, \text{ for all } E, F \in \mathcal{E};$$

$$(15.4.b) \quad I = \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}} E; \text{ and}$$

$$(15.4.c) \quad E^* \in \mathcal{E}, \text{ for each } E \in \mathcal{E}.$$

**Proof.** Straightforward but tedious calculation. ■

Using these lemmata, we have the following result.

**15.5. Theorem.** The commutative association scheme given in Theorem 15.2 has the first and second character tables

$$P = \begin{matrix} & A_{0,h} & A_1 & A_{2,h} \\ \begin{matrix} E_0 \\ E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_{3,g} \\ E_{4,g} \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n(v-1) & k \\ 1 & n(v-1) & -k \\ -n & 0 & \\ \chi_{g^{-1}}(h) & 0 & \sqrt{k}\chi_{g^{-1}}(h) \\ \chi_{g^{-1}}(h) & 0 & \chi_{g^{-1}}(h) \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix},$$

$$Q = \begin{matrix} & E_0 & E_1 & E_2 & E_{3,g} & E_{4,g} \\ \begin{matrix} A_{0,h} \\ A_1 \\ A_{2,h} \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2(v-1) & v\chi_g(h) & v\chi_g(h) \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & \frac{v}{\sqrt{k}}\chi_g(h) & -\frac{v}{\sqrt{k}}\chi_g(h) \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

in the case that  $v = k$  and

$$P = \begin{matrix} & A_{0,h} & A_1 & A_{2,h} & A_3 \\ \begin{matrix} E_0 \\ E_1 \\ E_{2,1} \\ E_{2,2} \\ E_{3,g} \\ E_{3,g} \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n(v-1) & k & n(v-k) \\ 1 & n(v-1) & -k & n(k-v) \\ 1 & -n & \sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} & -n\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} \\ 1 & -n & -\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} & n\sqrt{\frac{k(v-k)}{v-1}} \\ -\chi_{g^{-1}}(h) & 0 & \sqrt{k}\chi_{g^{-1}}(h) & 0 \\ \chi_{g^{-1}}(h) & 0 & -\sqrt{k}\chi_{g^{-1}}(h) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix},$$

$$Q = \begin{matrix} & E_0 & E_1 & E_{2,1} & E_{2,2} & E_{3,g} & E_{4,g} \\ \begin{matrix} A_{0,h} \\ A_1 \\ A_{2,h} \\ A_3 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & v-1 & v-1 & v\chi_g(h) & v\chi_g(h) \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & \sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{v-k}} & -\sqrt{\frac{(v-1)(v-k)}{v-k}} & \frac{v}{\sqrt{k}}\chi_g(h) & -\frac{v}{\sqrt{k}}\chi_g(h) \\ 1 & 1 & -\sqrt{\frac{k(v-1)}{v-k}} & \sqrt{\frac{k(v-1)}{v-k}} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

in the case that  $v > k$ .

As before, the converse also holds.

**15.6. Theorem.** If there is a commutative scheme with the character tables given in Theorem 15.5, then there is a  $\text{BGW}(v, k, \lambda; G)$ , where  $G$  is an abelian group isomorphic to  $\{\chi_g\}$ .

**Proof.** The derivation of this fact is the same mutatis mutandis as that for Theorem 13.3 and is, therefore, omitted. ■

In light of this equivalence, we make the following final definition.

**15.7. Definition.** The commutative association schemes with character tables given in Theorem 15.5 are called *generalized weighing schemes*.

## 6. A Unified Construction of Weighing Matrices

Since the largest—indeed, the most important—families of generalized matrices are those over a group which is either cyclic or elementary abelian, it would be beneficial to conclude with a brief discussion of the irreducible characters of these groups in an effort to make the preceeding results more concrete.

To this end, recall the irreducible characters of the cyclic group  $C_p \simeq \{1, g, \dots, g^{p-1}\}$  of order  $p$  are given by  $\chi_{g^i}(g^j) = e^{\frac{2\pi\sqrt{-1}ij}{p}}$ . This suffices for the case in which the group is cyclic.

Let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $C_p$  be as above. If  $q = p^n$ , then  $\text{EA}(q) \simeq \underbrace{C_p \otimes \dots \otimes C_p}_n = \{g^{m_0} \otimes \dots \otimes g^{m_{n-1}} : 0 \leq m_0, \dots, m_{n-1} < p\}$ . By Theorem 4.21 of Isaacs (2006), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{g^{m_0} \otimes \dots \otimes g^{m_{n-1}}}(g^{k_0} \otimes \dots \otimes g^{k_{n-1}}) &= \prod_i \chi_{g^{m_i}}(g^{k_i}) \\ &= \prod_i e^{\frac{2\pi\sqrt{-1}m_i k_i}{p}} \\ &= e^{\frac{2\pi\sqrt{-1}}{p} \sum_i m_i k_i}. \end{aligned}$$

This concludes our study of weighing matrices and related configurations.

## Notes

36. Let  $C$  be the matrix obtained upon deleting the first row and column of a normalized Hadamard matrix of order  $4n$ . Then  $(1/2)(J + C)$  is a symmetric BIBD( $4n - 1, 2n - 1, n - 1$ ). See Hall (1986) for a proof of this result and related discussions.
37. Recall that a linear representation of a group  $G$  is a homomorphism  $\varrho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ , where  $V$  is some linear space. The character of the representation is then  $\chi(g) = \text{Tr}(\varrho(g))$ , for each  $g \in G$ . Isaacs (2006) is the classical reference for the character theory of finite groups.



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# Index

- $\omega$ -circulant, 40
- adjacency algebra, 60
- adjacency matrix, 53
- admissible group of symmetries, 103, 104
- analysis operator, 92
- aperiodic autocorrelation, 47
- association scheme, 58
- auxiliary matrices, 73, 82
- balanced generalized weighing matrix, 38
  - normal form, 45
- balanced incomplete block design, 4
  - automorphism group, 14
  - complement design, 10
  - derived design, 10
  - incidence matrix of, 8
  - isomorphisms of, 14
  - normal form, 14
  - residual design, 10
  - symmetric design, 7
- balancedly splittable Hadamard matrix, 70
- balancedly splittable orthogonal designs, 75
- Butson weighing matrix, 30
- c-GBRD, 44
- character tables, 61
- circulant matrix, 47
  - complementary, 47
- complementary sequences, 47, 48
- complex orthogonal design, 46
- conference matrix, 27
- conjugate transpose, 36
- connected, 52
- cross-correlation, 49
- decomposition matrices, 106
- difference set, 12
  - complement of, 13
  - development of, 12
- dual-eigenvalues of a scheme, 61
- edge, 52
- eigenvalues of a scheme, 61
- elementary abelian group, 38
- equiangular lines, 71
- first and second orthogonality relations of schemes, 63
- Fisher's inequality, 6
- forbidden subgroup, 31
- frame, 91
  - bounds of, 91
- generalized Bhaskar Rao design, 37
- generalized Hadamard matrix, 38
- generalized weighing matrix, 36
- generalized weighing schemes, 133
- graph, 52
  - complement of, 52
  - regular, 52
- group of symmetries, 102
- Hadamard design, 123
- Hadamard equivalence, 34

## Index

- Hadamard matrix, 27
- Hamming code, 20
- Hamming distance, 19
- Hamming scheme, 59
- Hamming weight, 19
- intersection matrix, 64
- intersection numbers, 58
- Johnson scheme, 59
- Kronecker product, 100
- linear error-correcting code, 18
  - dual of, 18
- monomial equivalence, 44
- multiplicities, 60
- mutually unbiased bases, 94
- orthogonal design, 45
- Parseval frame, 91
- periodic autocorrelation, 47
- Petersen graph, 52
- projective geometry, 13
- quaternary orthogonal design, 46
- regular Hadamard matrix, 101
- relative difference set, 31
  - classical, 32
  - splitting, 31
- Schur idempotents, 60
- simplex code, 20
- Singer difference set, 13
- standard form, 64
- strongly regular graph, 52
- synthesis operator, 92
- $T(m)$  graph, 53
- tight frame, 91
- unbiased Hadamard matrices, 95
- unbiased orthogonal designs, 95
- vertex, 52
  - degree of, 52
- weighing matrix, 27
  - balanced, 38
  - derived part, 35
  - normal form, 35
  - residual part, 35
- weighing schemes, 117