

ON SOME 4- AND 5-DESIGNS ON ≤ 49 POINTS

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ABSTRACT. A search for those t - $(q + 1, k, \lambda)$ designs is made, which arise by action of the groups $PSL(2, q)$ and $PGL(2, q)$ on the ground-set $\Omega(q) = \{0, 1, \dots, q - 1\} \cup \{\infty\}$. The search is made for $(t, k) = (4, 5)$ with prime powers $q \leq 49$ and for $(t, k) \in \{(4, 6), (5, 6)\}$ with prime powers $q \leq 31$. The group $PSL(2, q)$ is used for $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ and the group $PGL(2, q)$ is used otherwise.

The search uses orbit incidence matrices determined by orbits of t -subsets and k -subsets (shortly: t -orbits and k -orbits) of the ground-set, obtained by action of the group used. An element of an orbit incidence matrix is the number of those k -sets within a k -orbit, which contain a fixed t -set (representative) of a t -orbit. Construction of orbit incidence matrices essentially uses 3-homogeneity of the groups.

The total number of distinct quadruples (t, q, k, λ) of parameters, for which t - $(q + 1, k, \lambda)$ designs are constructed is equal to 75. It is guaranteed that the obtained values of λ are the only possible, which can be reached by action of the groups used, for the considered triples (t, q, k) . It is assumed that most of the obtained quadruples of design parameters are new, in particular those for $q = 19, 25, 27, 31$ and 37 .

1. Introduction

Let n -set denote a set of cardinality n . A t - (v, k, λ) design [5] is an incidence structure on v points, which consists of some k -sets of points (called *blocks*) without repetitions and which satisfies that each t points are contained in exactly λ blocks. $GF(q)$ is the Galois field associated to a prime power $q = p^s$.

The group $GL(2, q)$ is the group of all non-singular 2×2 matrices with elements in $GF(q)$ (= non-singular linear transformations over $(GF(q))^2$), while $SL(2, q)$ is its subgroup consisting of the matrices with determinant 1. The projective general linear group $PGL(2, q)$ and the projective special

linear group $PSL(2, q)$ are obtained from $GL(2, q)$ and $SL(2, q)$ respectively, by reduction with the corresponding groups of homoteties.

Both $PGL(2, q)$ and $PSL(2, q)$ act on the common ground-set $\Omega(q) = \{0, 1, \dots, q-1\} \cup \{\infty\}$. It is known that $PGL(2, q)$ acts 3-transitively for all q , while $PSL(2, q)$ acts 3-homogenously for $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ and only 2-transitively for other prime powers q . Construction of these two groups is described in [3] and [2] respectively.

The orbit incidence matrix method for searching designs, which will be referred to as "Λ-technique", introduced in [2], can be sketched as follows:

- Let be given a 3-homogenous permutation group G acting on $\Omega(q)$ and a pair (t, k) of natural numbers satisfying $4 \leq t < k \leq q$.
- Construct the orbits T_1, \dots, T_m of those t -subsets of $\Omega(q)$, which include the set $\{0, 1, \infty\}$. Similarly, construct the orbits B_1, \dots, B_n of those k -subsets of $\Omega(q)$, which include the set $\{0, 1, \infty\}$.
- Construct the orbit incidence matrix $\Lambda = (\lambda_{ij})$, $1 \leq i \leq m$, $1 \leq j \leq n$, where λ_{ij} denotes the number k -subsets of $\Omega(q)$ within B_j , which contain a fixed t -subset (representative) of T_i ; the sum of all elements in each row of Λ is equal to

$$\lambda_{\text{trivial}} = \binom{q+1-t}{k-t} = \lambda\text{-value of the trivial } t\text{-}(q+1, k, \lambda)\text{-design.}$$

- Try to find for a *proper* subset P of the column set of Λ , which satisfies that the sum of elements within the columns of P is equal to the same constant λ for all the rows ($1 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_{\text{trivial}}/2$).
- If the subset P is found, then all the k -subsets of $\Omega(q)$, which belong to the orbits B_j corresponding to the columns of P , are the blocks of a $t\text{-}(q+1, k, \lambda)$ design. The complementary k -subsets of $\Omega(q)$ are the blocks of a $t\text{-}(q+1, k, \lambda_{\text{trivial}} - \lambda)$ design.

1.1. A comparison between the use of $PSL(2, q)$ and $PGL(2, q)$

Statement. *If a prime power q is of the form $4k+3$, then the group $PSL(2, q)$ is more suitable for looking for designs than $PGL(2, q)$.*

Namely, as already mentioned, the group $PSL(2, q)$ is 3-homogenous with the values of q of this form. Although 3-transitivity (possessed by $PGL(2, q)$) is a stronger property, it is only 3-homogeneity that matters when the application of the Λ-technique is considered. On the other hand, the group $PSL(2, q)$ is a subgroup (normal, of index 2) of $PGL(2, q)$, which implies that orbits by action of $PSL(2, q)$ are included in orbits by action of $PGL(2, q)$. "Building constituents" of the designs are k -orbits. The smaller are the constituents, the larger is the chance for making equilibrium (suitable sums of λ_{ij} 's), which leads to designs. Therefore we have the following:

Consequence. *If a prime power q is of the form $4k + 3$, then each design which can be derived by Λ -technique with application of the group $PGL(2, q)$, can be also derived with application of $PSL(2, q)$.*

However, the group $PGL(2, q)$ is more suitable with other prime powers. It is always 3-transitive (and consequently 3-homogenous), while, when $PSL(2, q)$ is considered, only 2-transitivity is guaranteed.

Conclusion. *The group $PSL(2, q)$ is used for searching for designs with prime powers q of the form $4k + 3$, while the group $PGL(2, q)$ is used with other prime powers q .*

2. Results

2.1. A global account of the generated designs

The computer search was performed for prime powers $q \leq 31$ with $k = 6$ and for further prime powers $q \leq 49$ with $k = 5$.

The search was successful with:

$PSL(2, q)$ and $(t, k) = (4, 5)$ for $q = 47$;

$PSL(2, q)$ and $(t, k) = (4, 6)$ for $q = 19$;

$PSL(2, q)$ and $(t, k) = (5, 6)$ for $q = 11, 23, 27, 31$;

$PGL(2, q)$ and $(t, k) = (4, 6)$ for $q = 25$;

$PGL(2, q)$ and $(t, k) = (4, 5)$ for $q = 17, 32, 37$.

Note that the reported success with $(t, k) = (4, 6)$ means that there was no success with $(t, k) = (5, 6)$; otherwise, a $4-(q + 1, 6, \lambda_2)$ design would be a consequence of a $5-(q + 1, 6, \lambda_1)$ design, which corresponds to the same set of columns of the λ_{ij} matrix.

More precisely, the constructed $t-(q + 1, k, \lambda)$ designs are summarized in the following table (the numbers of t -orbits and k -orbits by action of the group cited are denoted by m and n respectively):

t	q	k	$\lambda \leq \lambda_{\text{trivial}}/2$	λ_{trivial}	G	m	n
5	11	6	1,2	7	$PSL(2, 11)$	2	6
4	17	5	4	14	$PGL(2, 17)$	3	4
4	19	6	60	120	$PSL(2, 19)$	5	19
5	23	6	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	19	$PSL(2, 23)$	7	34
4	25	6	51,60,81,90,111	231	$PSL(2, 25)$	5	28
5	27	6	2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11	23	$PSL(2, 27)$	10	54
5	31	6	6,12	27	$PSL(2, 31)$	15	83
4	32	5	4,5,9	29	$PSL(2, 32)$	5	11
4	37	5	16	34	$PGL(2, 37)$	7	15
4	47	5	8,12,16,20	44	$PSL(2, 47)$	10	33

When the design complementations are taken into account, it turns out that the total number of generated designs with distinct parameters is equal to $75 = 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 9 + 2 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot 10 + 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 4$. (note that $\lambda = \lambda_{\text{trivial}}/2$ for $q = 19$).

A global conclusion concerning the generated designs, obtained after a thorough examination of the generated Λ -matrices, is the following:

Statement. *The above listed values of λ (taking in addition the values complementary w.r.t. λ_{trivial} into account), are the only possible values of λ which can be reached by action of the corresponding listed groups.*

However, it is not to say that there may not exist t - (v, k, λ) designs, obtained in another manner, which have some other values of λ and the same values of t , v and k as some of the listed ones.

2.2. Detailed results of application of λ -technique

In this section are listed Λ -matrices corresponding to each one of the ten above cited groups, together with representatives of the underlying orbits and with a representative of the generated designs, for each possible quadruple of parameters. The t -orbits and k -orbits corresponding to successive rows and columns of a Λ -matrix are listed in front of it.

2.2.1. Denotations.

Λ -matrices in this section will be denoted as $\Lambda(G; t, k)$. A Λ -matrix is determined by the corresponding group G and by the values of parameters t and k ; it establishes relationship between t -orbits and k -orbits by action of G .

In order to enable precise identification of s -orbits (for $s \in \{4, 5, 6\}$), the following data will be given in the form $(A : B; C)$, where

- A = the ordinal number of the corresponding orbit (= row or column of the (λ_{ij}) matrix).
- B = $s - 2$ elements of the lexicographically the first "special" representative, apart from the compulsory elements $0, 1, \infty$.
- C = the number of "special" subsets (supersets of $\{0, 1, \infty\}$) within the orbit.

For example, the denotation $(4 : 2, 3, 7; 10)$ below (that is, $A = 4$; $B = 2, 3, 7$; $C = 10$), used for a 6-orbit by action of $PSL(2, 11)$, means that this orbit is the fourth one among the 6-orbits (corresponds to the 4th column of the λ_{ij} matrix), has the 6-subset $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, \infty\}$ as a representative and contains ten "special" 6-subsets.

The design(s) generated from a Λ -matrix are listed after the word "Design(s)". A representative design is given in ()-brackets separately for each

possible λ . Designs are denoted by the ordinal numbers of the columns belonging to the set P (cited in the description of Λ -technique); the blocks of the designs are exactly the k -sets belonging to the k -orbits corresponding to the columns of P .

Thus the denotation $(\lambda = 2 : 7, 21, 22, 30)$ after the matrix $\Lambda(PSL(2, 23); 5, 6)$ means that the 6-sets of the 7th, 21st, 22nd and 30th orbit of this Λ -matrix constitute a 5-(24, 6, 2) design.

2.2.2. $PSL(2, 11)$, $t = 5$, $k = 6$, $\lambda_{trivial} = 7$.

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 30) (2 : 3, 4; 6)

6-orbits: (1 : 2, 3, 4; 30) (2 : 2, 3, 5; 12) (3 : 2, 3, 6; 10) (4 : 2, 3, 7; 10) (5 : 2, 3, 8; 10) (6 : 2, 3, 9; 12)

The 2×6 matrix $\Lambda(PSL(2, 11); 5, 6)$: $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 5 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Designs: $(\lambda = 1 : 2)$ $(\lambda = 2 : 2, 6)$

2.2.3. $PGL(2, 17)$, $t = 4$, $k = 5$, $\lambda_{trivial} = 14$.

4-orbits: (1 : 2; 3) (2 : 3; 6) (3 : 4; 6)

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 30) (2 : 2, 5; 15) (3 : 2, 6; 30) (4 : 3, 7; 30)

The 3×4 matrix $\Lambda(PGL(2, 17); 4, 5)$: $\begin{pmatrix} 8 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

Designs: $(\lambda = 4 : 3)$

2.2.4. $PSL(2, 19)$, $t = 4$, $k = 6$, $\lambda_{trivial} = 120$.

4-orbits: (1 : 2; 3) (2 : 3; 6) (3 : 4; 6) (4 : 8; 1) (5 : 12; 1)

6-orbits: (1 : 2, 3, 4; 30) (2 : 2, 3, 5; 60) (3 : 2, 3, 6; 60) (4 : 2, 3, 7; 30) (5 : 2, 3, 8; 60) (6 : 2, 3, 9; 60) (7 : 2, 3, 10; 30) (8 : 2, 3, 11; 10) (9 : 2, 3, 12; 30) (10 : 2, 3, 13; 60) (11 : 2, 3, 15; 30) (12 : 2, 5, 6; 30) (13 : 2, 5, 8; 10) (14 : 2, 5, 12; 60) (15 : 2, 5, 15; 30) (16 : 2, 5, 16; 30) (17 : 2, 6, 12; 10) (18 : 2, 6, 16; 30) (19 : 3, 4, 9; 20)

The 5×19 matrix $\Lambda(PSL(2, 19); 4, 6)$:

									1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	12	16	6	12	8	8	4	8	8	6	4	2	8	2	4	2	2	0
7	12	8	6	12	10	4	2	4	10	6	2	1	10	7	5	1	7	6
4	8	10	5	8	14	5	1	5	14	5	9	2	12	4	4	2	4	4
0	12	12	0	12	12	12	0	0	0	6	6	6	12	12	12	0	6	0
0	12	12	6	12	0	0	0	12	12	0	6	0	12	6	12	6	12	0

Design: $(\lambda = 60 : 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15)$.

2.2.5. $PSL(2, 23)$, $t = 5$, $k = 6$, $\lambda_{trivial} = 19$.

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 30) (2 : 2, 5; 30) (3 : 2, 6; 30) (4 : 2, 8; 30) (5 : 3, 4; 30) (6 : 3, 7; 30) (7 : 3, 14; 30)

33, 34, 39, 40, 45, 48, 54) ($\lambda = 8 : 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 16, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 29, 32, 37, 38, 39, 43, 45, 49, 52, 54$) ($\lambda = 9 : 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36, 39, 40, 44, 45, 47, 48, 51, 53, 54$) ($\lambda = 10 : 1, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 24, 30, 33, 34, 36, 38, 39, 42, 44, 45, 47, 51, 53, 54$) ($\lambda = 11 : 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 39, 40, 43, 46, 48, 49$).

2.2.8. $PSL(2, 31)$, $t = 5, k = 6, \lambda_{trivial} = 27$.

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 30) (2 : 2, 5; 30) (3 : 2, 6; 30) (4 : 2, 8; 30) (5 : 2, 9; 30) (6 : 2, 18; 30) (7 : 3, 4; 30) (8 : 3, 7; 30) (9 : 3, 8; 30) (10 : 3, 10; 30) (11 : 4, 6; 30) (12 : 4, 9; 30) (13 : 5, 6; 10) (14 : 5, 7; 30) (15 : 12, 13; 6)

6-orbits: (1 : 2, 3, 4; 30) (2 : 2, 3, 5; 60) (3 : 2, 3, 6; 30) (4 : 2, 3, 7; 60) (5 : 2, 3, 8; 60) (6 : 2, 3, 9; 60) (7 : 2, 3, 10; 60) (8 : 2, 3, 11; 60) (9 : 2, 3, 13; 60) (10 : 2, 3, 14; 60) (11 : 2, 3, 15; 60) (12 : 2, 3, 16; 30) (13 : 2, 3, 17; 10) (14 : 2, 3, 18; 30) (15 : 2, 3, 19; 60) (16 : 2, 3, 20; 60) (17 : 2, 3, 21; 60) (18 : 2, 3, 22; 60) (19 : 2, 3, 24; 60) (20 : 2, 3, 25; 60) (21 : 2, 3, 26; 60) (22 : 2, 3, 27; 60) (23 : 2, 3, 28; 30) (24 : 2, 5, 6; 60) (25 : 2, 5, 7; 60) (26 : 2, 5, 8; 60) (27 : 2, 5, 9; 30) (28 : 2, 5, 10; 60) (29 : 2, 5, 12; 60) (30 : 2, 5, 13; 60) (31 : 2, 5, 14; 60) (32 : 2, 5, 15; 30) (33 : 2, 5, 18; 60) (34 : 2, 5, 19; 20) (35 : 2, 5, 21; 60) (36 : 2, 5, 23; 60) (37 : 2, 5, 24; 30) (38 : 2, 5, 25; 60) (39 : 2, 5, 27; 60) (40 : 2, 5, 28; 30) (41 : 2, 6, 7; 30) (42 : 2, 6, 8; 60) (43 : 2, 6, 9; 60) (44 : 2, 6, 10; 30) (45 : 2, 6, 12; 30) (46 : 2, 6, 18; 60) (47 : 2, 6, 21; 60) (48 : 2, 6, 23; 60) (49 : 2, 6, 26; 30) (50 : 2, 6, 27; 30) (51 : 2, 6, 28; 60) (52 : 2, 8, 10; 30) (53 : 2, 8, 13; 60) (54 : 2, 8, 18; 60) (55 : 2, 8, 21; 60) (56 : 2, 8, 26; 30) (57 : 2, 9, 13; 60) (58 : 2, 9, 21; 30) (59 : 2, 9, 27; 60) (60 : 2, 9, 28; 30) (61 : 2, 18, 21; 30) (62 : 2, 18, 26; 30) (63 : 3, 4, 9; 30) (64 : 3, 4, 10; 60) (65 : 3, 4, 11; 30) (66 : 3, 4, 12; 30) (67 : 3, 4, 15; 60) (68 : 3, 4, 23; 30) (69 : 3, 4, 24; 30) (70 : 3, 4, 25; 60) (71 : 3, 4, 26; 30) (72 : 3, 7, 8; 30) (73 : 3, 7, 15; 12) (74 : 3, 7, 20; 10) (75 : 3, 7, 23; 20) (76 : 3, 8, 12; 30) (77 : 3, 8, 14; 30) (78 : 3, 8, 18; 60) (79 : 3, 8, 22; 30) (80 : 3, 10, 18; 10) (81 : 4, 6, 17; 10) (82 : 5, 7, 23; 10) (83 : 5, 7, 29; 12)

The 15×83 matrix $\Lambda(PSL(2, 31); 5, 6)$:

1111111111222222222233333333333344444444445555555555666666666677777777778888
12345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123
22111112111111111211111000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000
01100000011000011011000111111211121111100000000000000000000000000000000000000000000
01121000201100000000001100010011000000112121111110000000000000000000000000000000000
000011121000000101110001021200000010100010100010001000100021111000000000000000000000000
00000110110000110100001101111001100010100200000010100021110000000000000000000000000
000000000000110210012100001000102001100000110110001101101200000000000000000000000
10001110100000010111000000000000110000100020000010100001001112111100000000000000000
0001000100100011000101000000011100000000101010010000202000100000101101011110000000000
0101100001000001010011001000020000011010000000001101000001100000101000100011210000
0000020000001100100100100001020100000100000011100000011001000011000011000000221000
010010000011000000200000100010001000100010010101000100100200000110000110000020200100
00000100010000010001000002020010001000100010002100110100100000110020011100001000000
000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000
000101010101000100000010010000100001200000200000000000100110011010110100000101000011
00000000000000000000000000000000050000000000000500000000005000000050000000000010000000001

Designs: ($\lambda = 6 : 8, 13, 15, 16, 21, 25, 26, 29, 30, 38, 45, 46, 49, 67, 71, 76, 80, 83$) ($\lambda = 12 : 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 33, 36, 37, 41, 42, 46, 47, 49, 53, 54, 55, 58, 59, 70, 73, 78, 83$).

2.2.9. $PGL(2, 32)$, $t = 4$, $k = 5$, $\lambda_{\text{trivial}} = 29$.

4-orbits: (1 : 2; 6) (2 : 4; 6) (3 : 6; 6) (4 : 14; 6) (5 : 16; 6)

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 15) (2 : 2, 5; 60) (3 : 2, 6; 60) (4 : 2, 8; 60) (5 : 2, 9; 60) (6 : 2, 11; 60) (7 : 2, 12; 15) (8 : 4, 5; 15) (9 : 4, 17; 60) (10 : 6, 14; 15) (11 : 14, 22; 15)

The 5×11 matrix $\Lambda(PGL(2, 32); 4, 5)$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 8 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 8 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 8 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 8 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Designs: ($\lambda = 4 : 5$) ($\lambda = 5 : 1, 7, 8, 10, 11$) ($\lambda = 9 : 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11$)

2.2.10. $PGL(2, 37)$, $t = 4$, $k = 5$, $\lambda_{\text{trivial}} = 34$.

4-orbits: (1 : 2; 3) (2 : 3; 6) (3 : 4; 6) (4 : 5; 6) (5 : 6; 6) (6 : 8; 6) (7 : 11; 2)

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 30) (2 : 2, 5; 60) (3 : 2, 6; 60) (4 : 2, 7; 15) (5 : 2, 8; 60) (6 : 3, 4; 30) (7 : 3, 7; 60) (8 : 3, 12; 60) (9 : 3, 14; 30) (10 : 3, 15; 30) (11 : 3, 26; 60) (12 : 4, 5; 30) (13 : 4, 11; 10) (14 : 4, 17; 30) (15 : 5, 8; 30)

The 7×15 matrix $\Lambda(PGL(2, 37); 4, 5)$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 & 8 & 8 & 2 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 8 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 12 & 0 & 12 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Design: ($\lambda = 16 : 2, 3, 7, 8, 13, 14$)

2.2.11. $PSL(2, 47)$, $t = 4$, $k = 5$, $\lambda_{\text{trivial}} = 44$.

4-orbits: (1 : 2; 3) (2 : 3; 6) (3 : 4; 6) (4 : 5; 3) (5 : 6; 6) (6 : 7; 6) (7 : 10; 3) (8 : 11; 6) (9 : 13; 3) (10 : 22; 3)

5-orbits: (1 : 2, 3; 30) (2 : 2, 5; 30) (3 : 2, 6; 30) (4 : 2, 7; 30) (5 : 2, 8; 30) (6 : 2, 10; 30) (7 : 2, 12; 30) (8 : 2, 13; 30) (9 : 2, 14; 30) (10 : 2, 16; 30) (11 : 3, 4; 30) (12 : 3, 7; 30) (13 : 3, 8; 30) (14 : 3, 11; 30) (15 : 3, 12; 30) (16 : 3, 13; 30) (17 : 3, 14; 30) (18 : 3, 15; 30) (19 : 3, 17; 30) (20 : 3, 19; 30) (21 : 3, 20; 30) (22 : 3, 22; 30) (23 : 3, 26; 30) (24 : 3, 39; 30) (25 : 4, 9; 30) (26 : 4, 13; 30) (27 : 4, 19; 30) (28 : 4, 20; 30) (29 : 4, 21; 30) (30 : 4, 27; 30) (31 : 5, 8; 30) (32 : 6, 10; 30) (33 : 7, 11; 30)

The 10×33 matrix $\Lambda(PSL(2, 47); 5, 6)$:

															1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3				
8	4	4	4	8	4	4	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	8	8	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2	2	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	4	2	2	4	2	0	0	0				
0	4	4	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	4	4	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0				
0	0	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	4	0	4	4	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	2	2	0	0				
0	0	0	4	4	2	2	0	2	0	2	4	4	2	0	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	4	0	0	4				
0	4	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	4	8	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	4				
0	2	0	0	4	2	2	2	0	0	4	4	2	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	2				
0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	8	0	4	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	4				
0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	4	4	4				

Designs: ($\lambda = 8 : 5, 14, 21, 23, 24$) ($\lambda = 12 : 2, 4, 10, 14, 17, 20, 21, 26$) ($\lambda = 16 : 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30$) ($\lambda = 20 : 3, 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31$)

2.3. Some observations on the constructed designs

In this section we give some miscellaneous data concerning the constructed designs and the construction itself.

The designs for $q \in \{17, 32\}$ were considered in more detail in [2]; just a few data are mentioned here. The construction for $q = 17$ is due to Alltop and was described in [5], Example 8.5, pp. 186-187; Λ -technique is an improvement of the Alltop’s construction. The design constructed for $q = 32$ and $\lambda = 5$ is the first member of an Alltop’s infinite class of 4-designs. It is likely that all the constructed designs for $q = 32$ can arise ([8]) by action of the 4-homogeneous group $PGammaL(2, 32)$.

The designs with $q = 11$ and $q = 23$ are related to the well-known ([5]) Steiner systems $S(5, 6; 12)$ and $S(5, 6; 24)$ (that is, to the 5-(12, 6, 1) design and to the 5-(24, 6, 1) design). The first one of these Steiner systems is, as stated in [7], Theorem 2.26., the uniquely determined Steiner system $S(5, 6; 12)$, with the automorphism group isomorphic to the famous Mathieu 5-transitive group M_{12} of cardinality $8 \cdot 9 \cdot 10 \cdot 11 \cdot 12$.

The brute-force search over the columns of Λ -matrices was applicable on a PC-386 computer in the cases when the number n of columns was restricted to 30 ($n = 30$ required one week of computing time and each added unit to n would double the time required). The following shortcut was used for $q = 23$ and $q = 47$, where n is equal to 34 and 33 respectively:

It is observed that there exist in both cases several pairs of duplicate columns within the Λ -matrix (exactly four pairs with $q = 23, n = 34$ and three pairs with $q = 47, n = 33$). The search is performed over the reduced 30-column matrices, which are obtained from the Λ -matrices by discarding one of the columns from each duplicate pair. Such a reduction does not guar-

antee completeness of the search; it might happen that some of the existing designs require combinations of columns which include both columns in a duplicate pair. However, the arguments related to the specific coefficients of the two Λ -matrices show that no set of design parameters is missed in this way.

For example, the set of λ values with $q = 23$ is complete (all the values in the interval $[1, \dots, 18 = \lambda_{\text{trivial}} - 1]$ are present). Similarly, all the elements in the first row of the Λ -matrix for $q = 47$ are divisible by 4, which implies that all the corresponding values of λ must be divisible by 4; an additional argument shows that $\lambda = 4$ is impossible.

The Λ -matrices with $q = 27$ and $q = 31$ have very large numbers of columns (54 and 83 respectively), so there is no chance for a full search. However, ad hoc designed heuristic approaches ([3]) have given designs with all the possible values of λ in these cases.

The number of successful (that is, design-corresponding) combinations of columns is very large with some of the Λ -matrices (several hundreds with $q = 19$ and $q = 47$ and several thousands with $q = 23$).

Some of the obtained parameters seem to be particularly interesting. For example, the designs constructed for $q = 37$ seem ([8]) to be the first 4-designs known on 38 points.

A design isomorphism search was performed ([6]) among the constructed 560 4-designs on 48 points for $\lambda \in \{8, 12, 16, 20\}$. Auxiliary graphs were attached to the designs so that non-isomorphism of some two attached graphs implies non-isomorphism of the corresponding designs. Global results of this search seem to be very interesting. All the equivalence classes of isomorphic attached graphs are of cardinality 2; this implies that at least one half of the total number of the constructed designs are pairwise non-isomorphic. Moreover, the unique and involutory (a product of transpositions) isomorphism maps onto each other the two graphs of each one of the equivalence classes; this means that the recognized isomorphism is a global symmetry of the whole found class of 4-designs.

Finally, it seems worth-while to try an isomorphism search for $q = 19$. It is only in this case that there exists a unique (and self-complementary) value $\lambda = 60$. Is the 4-(20,6,60) design unique up to an isomorphism within the class of designs with these parameters generated by $PSL(2, 19)$? The isomorphism search in this case might use attached hypergraphs with edges containing three vertices each.

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