

## Designs

Problem in agriculture: (Experimental designs)

- v different varieties of grain, want to compare them

Grain types: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

- Also want to vary conditions - soil, temperature, etc, so you make b blocks, each of the same size k, in terms of number of grains tested, in different conditions

$k=3$ :  $\{1, 2, 4\}$ ,  $\{2, 3, 5\}$ , ...  
soil A                  soil B

$b=7$  (7 types of soil)

- Too inefficient to test every grain in every soil, but want to compare all pairs of grains to determine the best one:  
 $\uparrow$   
 $t=2$

Soil A: 1 2 3

Soil B: 3 4 5

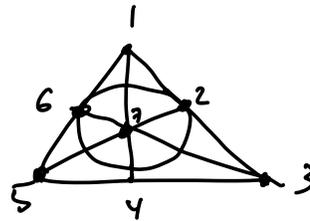
5 6 1

⋮ 1 4 7

⋮ 2 5 7

⋮ 3 6 7

2 4 6



"Fano plane"

7 blocks, each pair of grains appears together in exactly 1 block. Each grain is tested 3 times

- In general have each pair occur in  $\lambda$  blocks each. Each variety occurs in  $r$  blocks each.

Def: A  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design is a collection of blocks  $\mathcal{B}$  consisting of  $\binom{v-t}{k-t}$   $k$ -elt subsets of a set  $X$  of size  $v$  (elts of  $X$  are called points) s.t.  
 \* Every  $t$ -elt subset of  $X$  is in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks.

Ex: The Fano plane above is a  $2$ - $(7, 3, 1)$  design.

Def: For  $\lambda=1$ , called a Steiner system.

Note: We'll be assuming repeated blocks are not allowed.

Ex:  $\binom{[n]}{k}$  is a  $t$ - $(n, k, \lambda)$  design for what  $\lambda$ ? Ans:  $\lambda = \binom{n-t}{k-t}$ .

Lemma: Any  $t$ -design is also an  $s$ -design for any  $s \leq t$ .

Pf: Let  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  be a  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design, and let  $s \leq t$ . Then each  $s$ -size subset  $S \subseteq X$  is contained in exactly  $\binom{v-s}{t-s}$  sets  $T \subseteq X$  of size  $t$ . Each  $T$  occurs in  $\lambda$  blocks  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , so this gives  $\lambda \binom{v-s}{t-s}$  occurrences of  $S$  in blocks  $B$ , where we have overcounted by the number of  $T$  containing  $S$  within any given block  $B$  containing  $S$ , which is  $\binom{k-s}{t-s}$ .

So  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  is an  $s$ - $(v, k, \lambda')$  design where  $\lambda' = \lambda \frac{\binom{v-s}{t-s}}{\binom{k-s}{t-s}}$ .

Lemma: Let  $r$  be the number of blocks each  $x \in X$  occurs in, in a design. Then

$$bk = vr$$

"Burger King = Virtual Reality"

Pf:  $b \cdot k = \# \text{ pairs } (x, B): x \in B, B \in \mathcal{B}$   
 $= v \cdot r$

(note:  $r$  exists by previous lemma)

Lemma: In a 2-design, have  $r(k-1) = (v-1)\lambda$ .

Pf:  $r = \# \text{ blocks } x \in X \text{ is contained in}$   
 $k-1 = \# \text{ ways to pick another elt } y \text{ to pair w/ } x \text{ in a block } B$   
 $v-1 = \# \text{ elts } y \text{ besides } x \text{ in } X$   
 $\lambda = \# \text{ blocks containing } (x, y)$

Fix  $x \in X$ .  $(v-1)\lambda = \# \text{ pairs } (y, B) \text{ s.t. } x, y \in B.$   
 $= r(k-1).$

Def: Incidence matrix of a design: Write each block as a 0-1 row vector.

Ex: Fano plane is

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(	1	1	1				
			1	1	1		
	1				1	1	
	1			1			1
		1			1	1	
			1			1	1
)				1	1		

Can rearrange rows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

↙ symmetric matrix!

Def: The dual of a design  $\mathcal{D} = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is written  $\mathcal{D}^T$  and consists of transposing the incidence matrix, i.e.

$$X^T = \mathcal{B}$$

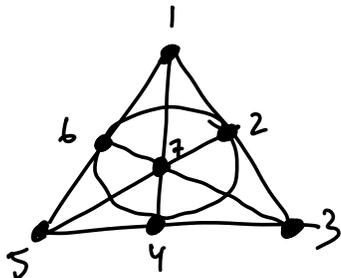
$$\mathcal{B}^T = \{ \{ B \ni x \} : x \in X \}$$

Symmetric design if  $\mathcal{D}^T \cong \mathcal{D}$ .

Isomorphism:  $(X, \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow (X', \mathcal{B}')$  is a bijection  $X \rightarrow X'$  that induces a bijection  $\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}'$ .

Note: There are nontrivial automorphisms - isomorphisms to itself.

Ex: Automorphism of the Fano plane:



$$6 \leftrightarrow 2$$

$$5 \leftrightarrow 3$$

Ex: A  $2-(9, 3, 1)$  design:

123  
456  
789  
147  
258  
369  
168  
249  
357  
159  
267  
348

1 2 3  
: ' '  
4 5 6  
: ' '  
7 8 9

Dual is not a 2-design, but is a 1-design,

The dual of a 1-design is a 1-design

Above ex is a  $1-(9, 3, 4)$  design

Its dual is a  $1-(12, 4, 3)$  design.

In fact, 2-designs' duals are 2-designs  
iff their incidence matrix is square, i.e.  $b=v$ :

Thm (Fisher's Inequality) In a 2-design with  
 $k < v$ , we have  $b \geq v$ .

Pf: First note that if  $M$  is the inc. matrix,

$$M = \begin{matrix} & x_1 & \dots & x_v \\ \begin{matrix} B_1 \\ \vdots \\ B_b \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$M^T M =$  matrix whose  $(i, j)$  entry is the dot product of column  $i$  w/ col  $j$  in  $M$

$=$  matrix whose  $(i, j)$  entry is

$$\begin{cases} \# B \text{ containing } x_i \text{ and } x_j & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \# B \text{ containing } x_i & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \lambda & \text{if } i \neq j \\ r & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

$$= (r - \lambda) I_v + \lambda J_v.$$

$$J_v = \begin{pmatrix} (1) & (1) & (1) & (1) \\ (1) & (1) & (1) & (1) \\ (1) & (1) & (1) & (1) \\ (1) & (1) & (1) & (1) \end{pmatrix}$$

Want to show  $M^T M$  is nonsingular, which would show  $b \geq v$ . So want to compute

$$\det(M^T M) = \det((r - \lambda) I_v + \lambda J_v)$$

$=$  product of eigenvalues.

The all-1's vector  $u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is an eigenvector

w/ eigenvalue  $r - \lambda + \lambda v = r + \lambda(v-1) = r + r(k-1) = rk.$

The orthogonal vectors to  $u$ , like  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$

are also eigens w/ eigenvalue  $r - \lambda$

$\Rightarrow \det = rk(r - \lambda)^{v-1}.$

To check  $r - \lambda \neq 0$ : we have

$$r(k-1) = (v-1)\lambda$$

$$(r - \lambda)(k-1) = \lambda(v-1) - \lambda(k-1)$$

$$(r - \lambda)(k-1) = \lambda(v - k)$$

$\uparrow > 0 \quad \quad \quad \uparrow > 0$  by assumption

so this is  $> 0.$

Thus  $\det M^T M \neq 0$ , so  $b \geq v.$

Thm: TFAE (and such a 2-design is called square) for

a 2-design w/  $k < v$ :

a)  $b = v$

b)  $r = k$

c) Any two blocks have  $\lambda$  common points

d) Any two blocks have a constant number of common points

Pf: (a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (b) by  $bk = vr$

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): If  $r = k$ ,  $t \leq n$   $M J_v = J_r M = k J_{r \times v}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } M M^T &= M (M^T M) M^{-1} \\ &= M ((r - \lambda) I_v + \lambda J_v) M^{-1} \\ &= ((r - \lambda) I_r + \lambda J_r) M M^{-1} \\ &= (r - \lambda) I_r + \lambda J_r \end{aligned}$$

and so any two blocks have  $\lambda$  pts in common.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d) trivially

(d)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): If (d) is true then the dual design is a 2-design, and so  $b \geq v$  and  $v \geq b$  and so  $b = v$ .

## Hadamard designs

Def: A Hadamard matrix is an  $n \times n$  matrix with  $\pm 1$  entries s.t.  $H H^T = I_n$ .

i.e. each row  $\vec{r}$  has  $\langle \vec{r}, \vec{r} \rangle = n$  and two rows  $\vec{r}_1 \neq \vec{r}_2$  have  $\langle \vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2 \rangle = 0$ .

Ex:

$$(1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

3x3 Hadamard?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \times$$

→ must have even size (after 1)

Why Hadamard matrices? Equality case in

"Hadamard det thm": if all entries of  $M$  have  $|M_{ij}| \leq 1$ ,  
 $|\det(M)| \leq n^{n/2}$ .

Note: Can multiply any row or col by  $-1$  and still have a Hadamard matrix. Also swap rows or columns. Normalized:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$

Ex: Normalization of

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{is}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Lemma: Hadamard matrices must have  $n = 1, 2, 4t$ .

Pf. Suppose  $H$  Hadamard, <sup>size  $> 3$ ,</sup> consider first 3 rows, normalize and arrange cols so they look like:

$$\begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & \dots & | \\ | & | & | & \dots & | \\ | & | & | & \dots & | \end{pmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_x \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_y \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_z \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_w$

Then  $x + y = z + w$  and  $x + z = y + w$  and  
 $x + w = y + z$

So  $x = y = z = w$ .

Thus  $n$  is div. by 4.

Conjecture (OPEN!) There  $\exists$  a Hadamard matrix of order  $4t$  for every  $t$ .

## Connection to designs

Prop: Let  $H$  be a normalized Hadamard matrix (first row and first column all 1's).

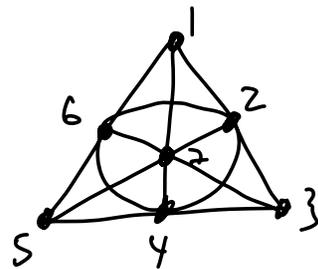
Let  $M$  be the matrix formed by deleting the first row, col from  $H$  and replacing every  $+1$  by  $1$  and  $-1$  by  $0$ .

Then  $M$  is the incidence matrix of a  $2-(4t-1, 2t-1, t-1)$  design.

If we instead replace  $+1$  by  $0$  and  $-1$  by  $1$ , get a  $2-(4t-1, 2t, t)$  design.

Ex:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



↖ Hadamard matrix order 8  
( $t=2$ )

Duality - an isom. between  $\mathcal{D}$  and its dual

(for a symmetric

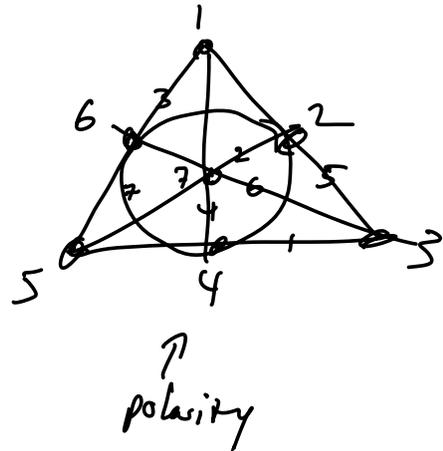
design  $\mathcal{D}$  with  $\mathcal{D} \cong \mathcal{D}^T$ ):

a pair of bijections

$$\sigma: X \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$$

$$\tau: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow X$$

s.t.  $x \in \mathcal{B}$  iff  
 $\tau(\mathcal{B}) \in \sigma(x)$



If  $\sigma\tau = \text{id}_{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $\tau\sigma = \text{id}_X$ ,  
 say the duality is a polarity.

Ex: A  $2-(16, 6, 2)$ -design:

$X = \{ \text{with squares in: } \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & & \\ \hline & & \\ \hline & & \\ \hline \end{array} \}$

$\mathcal{B} = \{ \text{blocks of the form } \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & & \\ \hline & & \\ \hline & & \\ \hline \end{array} \}$

( 6 shaded squares in vertical  
 or horiz alignment w/  
 a given square. )

Polarity:  $x \rightarrow$  its associated block.

In this polarity, no  $x$  is in its own block.

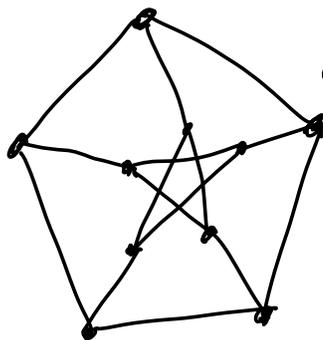
## Strongly Regular Graphs (SRG's)

Regular graph - all vertices the same degree

Def. An SRG w/ parameters  $(n, k, \lambda, \mu)$  is a graph w/  $n$  vertices, not  $K_n$  or its complement, s.t. # common neighbors of any two vertices  $x, y$  is

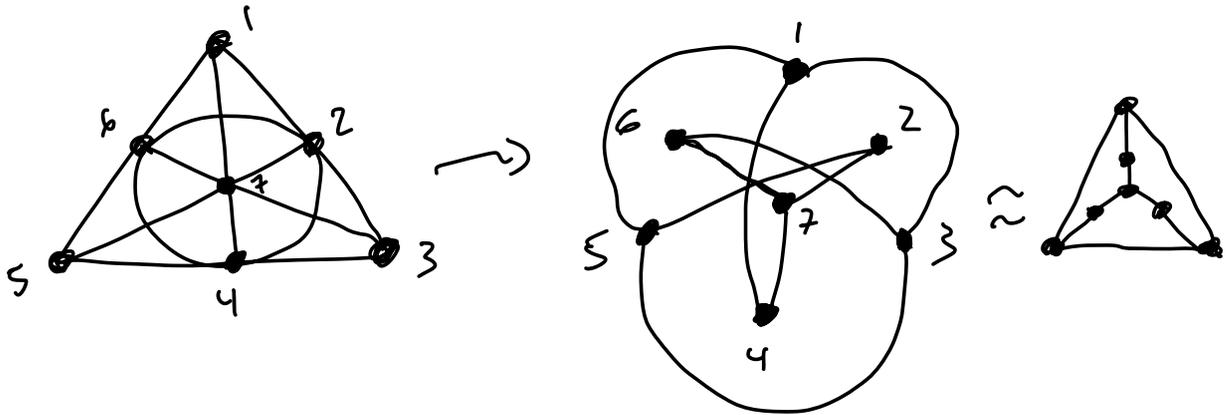
$$\begin{cases} k & \text{if } x=y & \leftarrow \text{regular deg } k \\ \lambda & \text{if } x \text{ adj. to } y \\ \mu & \text{if } x \text{ not adj. to } y \end{cases}$$

Ex.



$\leftarrow$  Petersen Graph;  
SRG w/ parameters  
 $(10, 3, 0, 1)$

Construction: Given a design w/ a polarity, make a graph on  $X$  where we join  $x-y$  if  $x \neq y$  and  $y \in \sigma(x)$



6, 4, 2 degree 2  
1, 5, 7, 3 degree 3

Not regular in this example because sometimes  $x \in \sigma(x)$  and other times not. But:

Lemma: If, in a polarity  $\sigma$ , we never (or always) have  $x \in \sigma(x)$ , the associated graph is strongly regular.

Pf: For never: We have  $|\sigma(x) \cap \sigma(y)| = \lambda$  for all  $x \neq y$  (where the design is a symmetric  $2-(v, k, \lambda)$  design). So whether or not  $x, y$  are adjacent, they have  $\lambda$  common

neighbors. It also has degree  $k$ , so  
 it is an  $(n, k, \lambda, \mu)$  SRG.

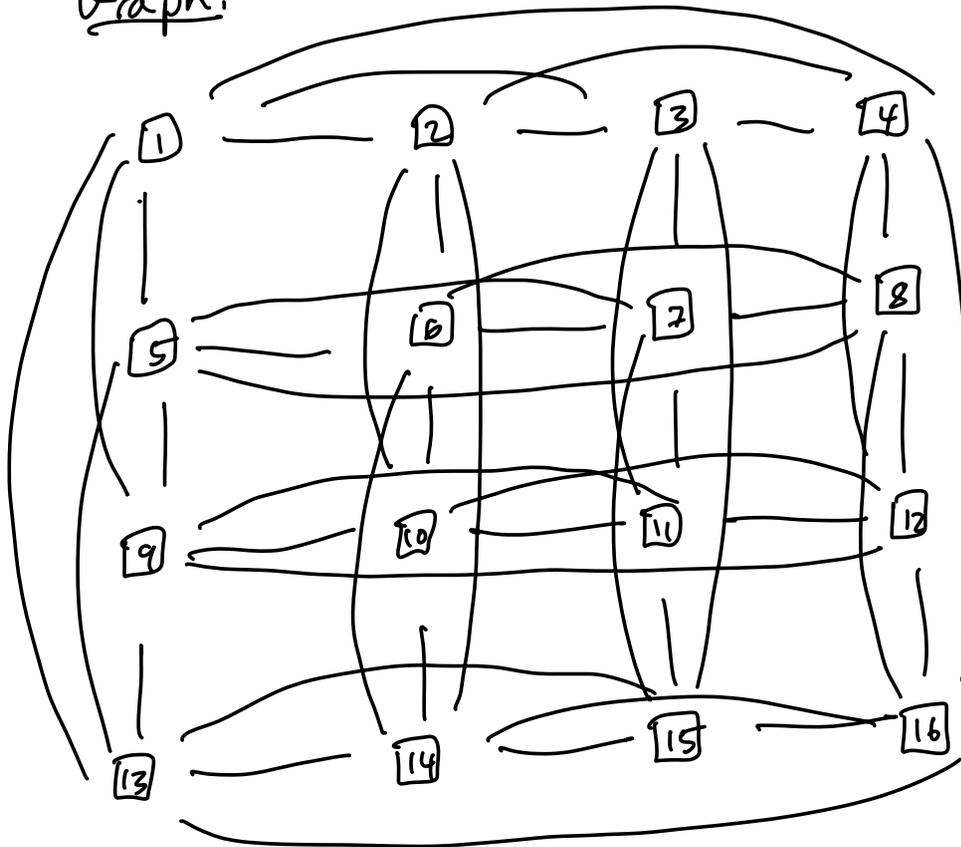
Ex:

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16

$X = \{\text{squares at left}\}$

$B = \{2345913, 13461014, \dots\}$

Graph:



$L_2(4)$

Converse: Given an SRG  $(V, E)$  of parameters  $(n, k, \lambda, \mu)$ , there is a symmetric  $2-(n, k, \lambda)$  design and a polarity that gives rise to it.

PF: Let  $X = V$  and define the blocks to be the sets of neighbors of each  $x \in X$ .

This gives the  $2-(n, k, \lambda)$  design, and the polarity sends each  $x$  to its neighbor block.  $\square$