

Abstract

On some generalizations of symmetric designs

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A symmetric (v,k,λ) -design is a finite incidence structure of v elements and v blocks such that each block contains k elements, each element occurs on k blocks, and (*) 2 different elements occur in a common block exactly λ times.

(1) Without condition (*) we obtain a tactical configuration $TC(v,k)$. (2) For even designs $ED(v,k)$ condition (*) is replaced by (**) 2 different elements occur in a common block an even number of times. (3) For symmetric configurations v_k condition (*) is replaced by (***) 2 different elements occur in a common block at most once. (4) For symmetric spatial configurations $(v_k)_2$ (*) is replaced by (****) 2 different elements occur in a common block at least twice, and 2 different blocks intersect in at most 2 elements.

An orbital matrix $OM(v,k,x;\lambda)$ is a matrix A of size v with non-negative integer entries and row and column sum k such that $AA^t = (k+x-\lambda)I_v + \lambda J_v$.

A weighing matrix $W(n,w)$ of weight $w \neq 0$ and order n is a square matrix of size n with entries from $\{-1, 0, +1\}$ satisfying $WW^t = wI$.

This paper will discuss some of these discrete structures and investigate their properties.