

Construction of α -Resolvable 2-Associates PBIB Designs

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ABSTRACT

This paper deals with the construction method of α -resolvable group divisible (GD) designs with illustrations; which is based on the restricted dualisation of certain known affine resolvable balanced incomplete block designs.

Key Words : Balanced incomplete block design, Partially balanced incomplete block design, Group divisible design, α -resolvable design, Affine resolvable design, Affine α -resolvable, Dualisation

INTRODUCTION

A balanced incomplete block design is an arrangement of v symbols (treatment) into b sets (blocks) such that (i) each block contains k ($< v$) distinct treatments; (ii) each treatment appears in r ($> \lambda$) different blocks and (iii) every pair of distinct treatments appears together in exactly λ blocks. Here, the parameters of balanced incomplete block design (v, b, r, k, λ) are related by the parametric relations $vr = bk$, $r(k-1) = \lambda(v-1)$ and $b \geq v$ (Fisher's inequality).

A block design is said to be resolvable if the b blocks each of size k can be grouped into r resolution sets of b/r blocks each such that in each resolution set every treatment is replicated exactly once. Bose (1942) proved that necessary condition for the resolvability of a balanced incomplete block design is $b \geq v + r - 1$.

A resolvable block design is said to be affine resolvable if and only if $b = v + r - 1$ and any two blocks belonging to same resolution set have no treatment in common, say, $q_1 = 0$ whereas any two blocks belonging to different resolution sets intersect in the same number, say, $q_2 = k^2/v$ of treatments.

The concept of resolvability and affine resolvability was generalized by Shirkhande and Raghavarao (1964) to α -resolvability and affine α -resolvability. An incomplete block design with parameters $v, b = \beta t, r = \alpha t, k$ is said to be α -resolvable if the β blocks can be divided into t resolution sets of β blocks each, such that each

treatment occurs α times in each resolution set. Further, α -resolvable incomplete block design is said to be affine α -resolvable if every two distinct blocks from the same resolution set intersect in the same number, say, q_1 , of treatments, whereas every two blocks belonging to different α -resolution sets intersect in the same number, say, q_2 , of treatments. The necessary and sufficient condition for the α -resolvable balanced incomplete block design to be affine α -resolvable with the block intersection numbers q_1 and q_2 is $q_1 = k(\alpha-1)/(\beta-1)$ and $q_2 = \alpha k/\beta = k^2/v$. There has been a very rapid development in this area of experimental designs. Some of the prominent work has been seen in Bailey *et al.* (1995), Banerjee *et al.* (1990), Kageyama (1972, 1973, 1977), Kageyama and Mohan (1983, 1984) Kageyama *et al.* (1989, 2001), Rai *et al.* (2004), Rudra *et al.* (2005), Agrawal *et al.* (2016).

A partially balanced incomplete block design based on an m -association scheme, with parameters v, b, r, k, λ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, m$), is a block design with v treatments and b blocks of size k each such that every treatment occurs in r blocks and two distinct treatments being i^{th} associate occur together in exactly λ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, m$) blocks.

The existence of group divisible (GD) designs has been of interest over the years, going back to at least the work of Bose and Shimamoto (1952), who began classifying such designs. A group divisible (GD) design is a 2-associates partially balanced incomplete block design based on group divisible association scheme, *i.e.*

an arrangement of $v = mn$ treatments in b blocks such that each block contains $k (< v)$ treatments, each replicated r times, and the mn treatments can be divided into m groups of n treatments each, such that any two treatments occur together in λ_1 blocks if they belong to the same group and in λ_2 blocks if they belong to different groups. Furthermore, a group divisible (GD) design is said to be Singular (S) if $r - \lambda_1 = 0$; Semi regular (SR) if $r - \lambda_1 > 0$ and $rk - v\lambda_2 = 0$; Regular (R) if $r - \lambda_1 > 0$ and $rk - v\lambda_2 > 0$. For the definitions of partially balanced incomplete block design with their combinatorial properties, refer, Raghavarao (1971). Group divisible designs and partially balanced incomplete block designs have been studied by Banerjee and Kageyama (1986, 1988, 1990), Bhagwandas *et al.* (1985), Kageyama *et al.* (1989), Ghosh *et al.* (1989), Mohan and Kageyama (1983).

Bose and Nair (1939) first introduced the concept of “dualisation” in the field of design of experiments. They derived a new class of block designs by interchanging the role of treatments and blocks in a block design. Shrikhande (1952) applied the concept of dualisation to an asymmetric BIB design with $\lambda = 1$ or 2 to produce 2-associate PBIB designs. Dualisation of an incomplete block design with respect to unordered pairs of treatments could be found in Vanstone (1975), who constructed a BIB design through symmetric BIB designs with $\lambda \geq 2$. Using similar technique Mohan and Kageyama (1986) constructed 2-associate group divisible designs. The generalization of the concept due to Vanstone (1974) *i.e.* dualisation with respect to s -tuples could be seen in Kageyama and Mohan (1984) in constructing PBIB designs for any $s \geq 1$.

In the present paper a construction method of α -resolvable group divisible (GD) designs is provided, which is based on restricted dualisation of certain known affine α -resolvable balanced incomplete block designs. We have proposed 2-multiple solution of SRGD designs, which have no repeated blocks. Thus, these designs, having three properties *i.e.* resolvability, multiplicity of design and no repeated blocks; which are interesting from statistical and/or combinatorial point of view and some new non-isomorphic solutions of the GD designs are also obtained. These non-isomorphic solutions (SR42, SR59 and SR76) are new in the sense that they are not reported in Clatworthy table (1973).

Method of Construction

Consider an affine α -resolvable balanced incomplete

block design D , with the parameters $v, b = \beta t, r = \alpha t, k, \lambda$. Number the b blocks of design D by B_1, B_2, \dots, B_b and dualise the design with respect to each of the treatment $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_v$. Thus, we get a semi regular group divisible (SRGD) design D_1 with the parameters $v' = b, b' = v, r' = k, k' = r, \lambda_1' = q_1, \lambda_2' = k^2/v, m' = t$ and $n' = b/t$. The association scheme of design D_1 is given as follows

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 G_1 & G_2 & \dots\dots & G_m \\
 \hline
 \theta_1 & \theta_2 & \dots\dots & \theta_n \\
 \theta_{n+1} & \theta_{n+2} & \dots\dots & \theta_{2n} \\
 \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\
 \theta_{2n+1} & \theta_{2n+2} & \dots\dots & \theta_v
 \end{array} \tag{1}$$

Now number the b blocks of the design D in reverse order by B_b, B_{b-1}, \dots, B_1 and again dualise with respect to each of the treatment. By doing so, we get another SRGD design D_2 with the same parameters as of design D_1 . The association scheme is also same as D_1 . Then their juxtaposition given in the following structure.

$$D^* = [D_1 : D_2] \tag{2}$$

gives α -resolvable SRGD design D^* with the parameters $v^* = b, b^* = 2v, r^* = 2k, k^* = r, \lambda_1^* = 2q_1, \lambda_2^* = 2(k^2/v), m^* = t$ and $n^* = b/t$. The association scheme of the resultant design is given as follows :

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 G_1 & G_2 & \dots\dots & G_m \\
 \hline
 \theta_1 & \theta_2 & \dots\dots & \theta_n \\
 \theta_{n+1} & \theta_{n+2} & \dots\dots & \theta_{2n} \\
 \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\
 \theta_{2n+1} & \theta_{2n+2} & \dots\dots & \theta_v
 \end{array} \tag{3}$$

Theorem 2.1: The existence of affine α -resolvable balanced incomplete block design with parameters $v, b = \beta t, r = \alpha t, k, \lambda$ implies the existence of α -resolvable SRGD design with the parameters $v^* = b, b^* = 2v, r^* = 2k, k^* = r, \lambda_1^* = 2q_1, \lambda_2^* = 2(k^2/v), m^* = t$ and $n^* = b/t$.

Proof: Consider an affine α -resolvable balanced incomplete block design D with parameters v, b, r, k, λ . Under the present construction method on dualising design D with respect to each of the treatments $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_v$, we will get SRGD design D_1 . The parameters $v' = b, b' = v, r' = k$ and $k' = r$, are obvious by construction.

Here there are $v' = b$ treatments, which are arranged in $m' = t$ groups of size $n' = b/t$ in such a way that any two treatments in the same group are first associates and any two treatments from different groups are second associates. The association scheme of the design D_1 is defined in (1).

Since in affine α -resolvable balanced incomplete block design; any two blocks from the same resolution set have $q_1 = k + \lambda - r$ treatments in common and any two blocks from different resolution set have $q_2 = k^2/v$ treatments in common. Thus in the design D_1 any (θ, ϕ) pair belonging to same group occurs together in $\lambda_1' = k + \lambda - r$ blocks; whereas belonging to different groups occurs together in $\lambda_2' = k^2/v$.

Now number the b blocks of the design D in reverse order by B_b, B_{b-1}, \dots, B_1 . Thus, we get another semi regular group divisible design D_2 with the same parameters as of design D_1 ; with no repeated blocks.

Further, juxtaposition the designs D_1 and D_2 as defined in (2), we will get the required design D^* . The parameters $v^*=b, b^*=2v, r^*=2k, k^*=r$, are obvious by construction method. In the resultant design, v^* treatments are arranged in m^* groups of size n^* each. After juxtaposition, any (θ, ϕ) , pair belonging to same group occurs together in $\lambda_1^* = 2(k + \lambda - r)$ blocks; whereas belonging to different groups occurs together in $\lambda_2^* = 2(k^2/v)$ blocks.

It is now obvious to note that in D^* ; $r^*k^*-v^*\lambda_2^*=0$. So, the resultant design is SRGD design. Also, there is a natural partition of resolution sets and every v^* treatment occurs r' times in each resolution set. Hence, the resultant design is r' -resolvable SRGD design. This completes the proof.

Corollary 2.2: When $\alpha = 1$, then also Theorem 2.1 yields α -resolvable semi regular group divisible design with the parameters $v^*=b, b^*=2v, r^*=2k, k^*=r, \lambda_1^*=0, \lambda_2^*=2(k^2/v), m^*=r$ and $n^*=b/r$.

Example 2.3 : Consider an affine 1 - resolvable balanced incomplete block design D with parameters $v=9, b=12, r=4, k=3$ and $\lambda=1$. We number the b blocks of design D by 1,2,3,.....,12 as given below :

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 5 & 6 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 8 & 9 & 7 & 9 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

After dualising design D , we will get the following SRGD design D_1 with parameters $v'=12, b'=9, r'=3, k'=4, \lambda_1'=0, \lambda_2'=1, m'=4$ and $n'=3$

$$D_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 & 9 & 7 & 8 & 6 & 9 & 7 \\ 10 & 11 & 12 & 11 & 12 & 10 & 12 & 10 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now number the blocks of design D in reverse order by 12,11,.....,1 as given below

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 11 & 10 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 5 & 6 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 8 & 9 & 7 & 9 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

After dualising above design we will get following SRGD design D_2 with the same parameters as that of D_1 ; with no repeated block.

$$D_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 6 & 5 & 4 & 5 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 5 \\ 9 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 7 \\ 10 & 12 & 12 & 11 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 10 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then the construction method yields the following 3-resolvable SRGD design with parameters $v^*=12, b^*=18, r^*=6, k^*=4, \lambda_1^*=0, \lambda_2^*=2, m^*=4$ and $n^*=3$

$$D^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 5 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 5 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 & 9 & 7 & 8 & 6 & 9 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 7 \\ 10 & 11 & 12 & 11 & 12 & 10 & 12 & 10 & 11 & 10 & 12 & 12 & 11 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 10 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

The GD association scheme of the resultant design is given as follows

$$\begin{matrix} G_1 & G_2 & G_3 & G_4 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 \end{matrix}$$

In the resultant design D^* every treatment is replicated 3 times in each resolution sets. Hence, the design constructed above is 3-resolvable SRGD design

Example 2.4: Consider an affine α -resolvable balanced incomplete block design D with parameters $v=9, b=12, r=8, k=6, \lambda=5$. We number the b blocks of design D by 1,2,3,.....,12 as given below

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 6 & 3 & 3 & 5 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 5 & 4 & 5 & 4 \\ 7 & 7 & 4 & 6 & 6 & 5 & 6 & 5 & 6 & 5 & 6 & 6 \\ 8 & 8 & 5 & 8 & 7 & 7 & 7 & 8 & 7 & 7 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 9 & 6 & 9 & 9 & 8 & 8 & 9 & 9 & 9 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

After dualising the design D , we will get the following SRGD design D_1 with parameters $v'=12, b'=9, r'=6, k'=8, \lambda_1'=3, \lambda_2'=4, m'=4$ and $n'=3$.

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