

# On higher-dimensional designs<sup>\*</sup>

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(joint work with Mario Osvin Pavčević and Kristijan Tabak)

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Pushing the Limits of Computational Combinatorial Constructions

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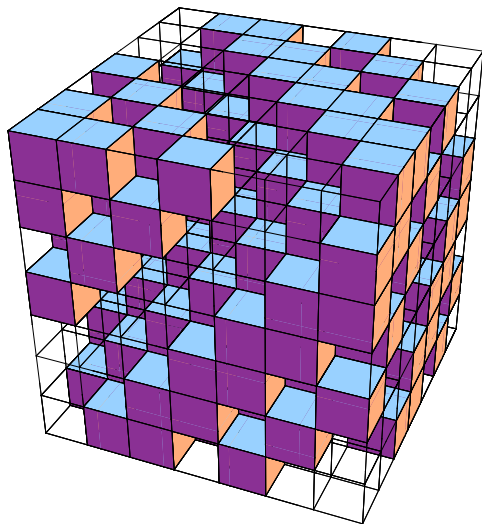
Dagstuhl Seminar 23161, Leibniz Center for Informatics

<sup>\*</sup> This work was fully supported by the Croatian Science Foundation under the project 9752.

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Motivation



# Definitions

A function  $C : \{1, \dots, v\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  or  $\{-1, 1\}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional cube of symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs, or an  $n$ -dimensional Hadamard matrix of order  $v$  if all 2-dimensional slices are incidence matrices of  $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs, or Hadamard matrices of order  $v$ .

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The direct product of symmetric groups  $(S_v)^n = S_v \times \dots \times S_v$  acts on the set of all cubes  $\mathcal{C}^n(v, k, \lambda)$  by isotopy, i.e. permuting indices:

$$C^\alpha(i_1, \dots, i_n) = C(\alpha_1^{-1}(i_1), \dots, \alpha_n^{-1}(i_n)), \text{ for } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in (S_v)^n.$$

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Additionally, permutations  $\gamma \in S_n$  act by **conjugation**, i.e. changing order of the indices:  $C^\gamma(i_1, \dots, i_n) = C(i_{\gamma^{-1}(1)}, \dots, i_{\gamma^{-1}(n)})$ .

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For Hadamard matrices, multiplication of hyperplanes by  $-1$  is also allowed as an equivalence operation.

# Known constructions

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Let  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_v\}$  be a group of order  $v$  and  $\chi : G \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  such that  $h = (h_{ij})$ ,  $h_{ij} = \chi(g_i \cdot g_j)$  is a **group developed** Hadamard matrix. Then  $H : \{1, \dots, v\}^n \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional Hadamard matrix:

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**Analogous construction:** let  $D \subseteq G$  be a  $(v, k, \lambda)$  difference set. Then  $A = (a_{ij})$ ,  $a_{ij} = [g_i \cdot g_j \in D]$  is an incidence matrix of a symmetric design. Furthermore,  $C : \{1, \dots, v\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is a  $(v, k, \lambda)$  **difference cube**:

$$C(i_1, \dots, i_n) = [g_{i_1} \cdots g_{i_n} \in D]$$

Here  $[ \cdot ]$  is the **Iverson bracket**.

# Known constructions

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## The product construction:

If  $h : \{1, \dots, v\}^2 \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  is a Hadamard matrix of order  $v$ , then

$$H(i_1, \dots, i_n) = \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} h(i_j, i_k)$$

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**Question 1.** Is there an analogous construction for  $n$ -dimensional cubes of symmetric designs?

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**Question 1.** Is there an analogous construction for  $n$ -dimensional cubes of symmetric designs?

**Question 2.** For parameters  $(25, 9, 3)$  there are exactly 78 designs, but no difference sets. Is there a 3-cube of  $(25, 9, 3)$  designs?

# Known constructions

W. de Launey, *On the construction of  $n$ -dimensional designs from 2-dimensional designs*, *Combin. mathematics and combin. computing*, Vol. 1 (Brisbane, 1989), *Australas. J. Combin.* **1** (1990), 67–81.

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A **2-cocycle** from  $G$  to  $\{-1, 1\}$  is a function  $f : G \times G \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  satisfying  $f(a, b)f(ab, c) = f(b, c)f(a, bc)$ ,  $\forall a, b, c \in G$ .



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A **cocyclic Hadamard matrix**  $h = (h_{ij})$  over  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_v\}$  is of the form  $h_{ij} = f(g_i, g_j)\chi(g_i \cdot g_j)$ , for some  $\chi : G \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ .

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Cocyclic Hadamard matrices need not be regular and are conjectured to exist for all orders  $v = 4m$  by de Launey and Horadam (1993).

## The cocyclic construction:

If  $h_{ij} = f(g_i, g_j)\chi(g_i \cdot g_j)$  is a cocyclic Hadamard matrix of order  $v$ , then

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Higher-dimensional Hadamard matrices obtained by both the product construction and the cocyclic construction have the property that **all slices are equivalent**. The same property holds for difference cubes of symmetric designs.

# A new construction

V. Krčadinac, M. O. Pavčević, K. Tabak, *Cubes of symmetric designs*, preprint, 2023. <http://arxiv.org/abs/2304.05446>

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## The group cube construction:

If  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_v\}$  is a group and  $\mathcal{D} = \{B_1, \dots, B_v\}$  is a  $(v, k, \lambda)$  design such that all blocks are difference sets, then

$$H(i_1, \dots, i_n) = [g_{i_2} \cdots g_{i_n} \in B_{i_1}]$$

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**Proof:** If the first index  $i_1$  is fixed, this is the  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional difference cube of  $B_{i_1}$ , so all slices are equivalent with its development.



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If  $\mathcal{D}$  is the development of its blocks, this is just the difference cube.

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$C_1 =$  difference cube in  $\mathbb{Z}_{21}$

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$C_3 =$  non-difference group cube in  $F_{21}$

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$C_1 =$  difference cube in  $\mathbb{Z}_{21} \rightsquigarrow |\text{Atop}(C_1)| = 2646$

$C_2 =$  difference cube in  $F_{21} \rightsquigarrow |\text{Atop}(C_2)| = 1323$

$C_3 =$  non-difference group cube in  $F_{21} \rightsquigarrow |\text{Atop}(C_3)| = 441$

# Designs with difference sets as blocks

**Question 3.** Are there symmetric designs with all blocks being  $(v, k, \lambda)$  difference sets in a group  $G$ , which are **not** developments?

**Example:**  $(21, 5, 1)$

$\mathbb{Z}_{21} \rightsquigarrow 42$  difference sets  $\rightsquigarrow 2$  designs, both are developments

$F_{21} = \mathbb{Z}_7 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3 \rightsquigarrow 294$  difference sets  $\rightsquigarrow 70$  designs  $\rightsquigarrow 14$  designs are left developments, 14 are right developments, and 42 are not developments

These 42 blocks designs give rise to equivalent group cubes.

The group cube is not a difference cube!

$C_1 =$  difference cube in  $\mathbb{Z}_{21} \rightsquigarrow |\text{Atop}(C_1)| = 2646$

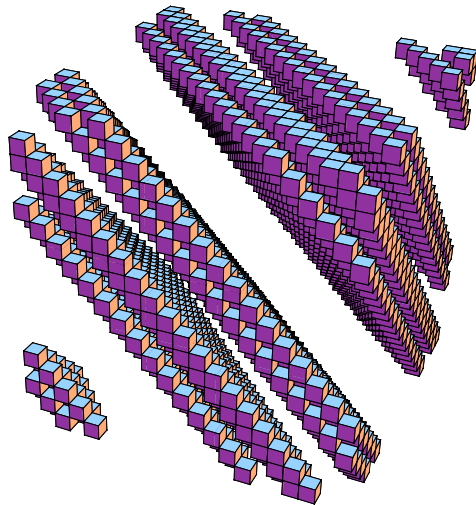
$C_2 =$  difference cube in  $F_{21} \rightsquigarrow |\text{Atop}(C_2)| = 1323$

$C_3 =$  non-difference group cube in  $F_{21} \rightsquigarrow |\text{Atop}(C_3)| = 441$

However, all slices are equivalent, because there is only one  $(21, 5, 1)$  design: the projective plane  $PG(2, 4)$ .

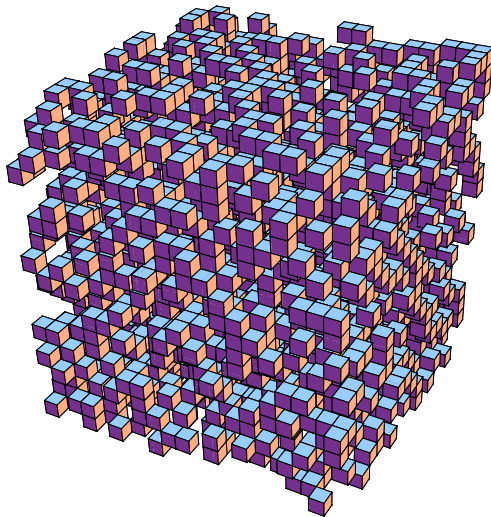
# Group 3-cubes

$C_1$



# Group 3-cubes

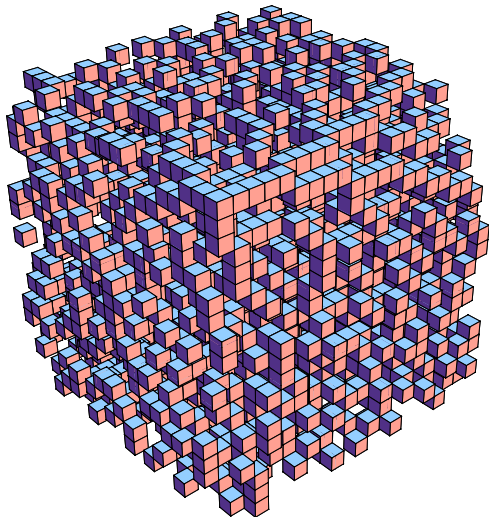
$C_2$





# Group 3-cubes

$C_3$



# PAG

## Prescribed Automorphism Groups

0.2.1

4 April 2023

### Abstract

PAG is a GAP package for constructing combinatorial objects with prescribed automorphism groups.

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## Prescribed Automorphism Groups

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PAG is a GAP package for constructing combinatorial objects with prescribed automorphism groups.

<https://vkrcadinac.github.io/PAG/>

<https://github.com/vkrcadinac/PAG>

## PAG

Prescribed Automorphism Groups

Version 0.2.0

Released 2023-03-27

Download .tar.gz

View On GitHub

This project is maintained by  
[Vedran Krčadinac](#)

Hosted on [GitHub Pages](#), based on  
[GitHubPagesForGAP](#) using the Dinky  
theme

Last updated: 2023-03-27 22:55

## GAP Package PAG

The PAG package contains functions for constructing combinatorial objects with prescribed automorphism groups.

The current version of this package is version 0.2.0, released on 2023-03-27. For more information, please refer to [the package manual](#). There is also a [README](#) file.

## Dependencies

This package requires GAP version 4.11

The following other GAP packages are needed:

- [GAPDoc](#) 1.5
- [images](#) 1.3
- [GRAPE](#) 4.8
- [DESIGN](#) 1.7

The following additional GAP packages are not required, but suggested:

- [AssociationSchemes](#) 2.0
- [GUAVA](#) 3.15
- [DiffSets](#) 2.3.1

# The PAG package

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lib	Experimental release	3 days ago
src	Experimental release	3 days ago
CHANGES.txt	Experimental release	3 days ago
LICENSE.txt	PAG 0.2.0 initial commit	2 weeks ago
Makefile.in	Experimental release	3 days ago
PackageInfo.g	Experimental release	3 days ago
README.md	Corrected typo	2 weeks ago
configure.sh	PAG 0.2.0 initial commit	2 weeks ago
init.g	PAG 0.2.0 initial commit	2 weeks ago
makedoc.g	PAG 0.2.0 initial commit	2 weeks ago
read.g	PAG 0.2.0 initial commit	2 weeks ago

Prescribed Automorphism Groups (PAG) is a GAP package for constructing combinatorial objects with prescribed automorphism groups.

- Readme
- GPL-2.0 license
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- 1 watching
- 0 forks

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No packages published



## 2.6 Cubes of Symmetric Designs

### 2.6.1 DifferenceCube

▷ `DifferenceCube( $G$ ,  $ds$ ,  $n$ )` (function)

Returns the  $n$ -dimensional difference cube constructed from a difference set  $ds$  in the group  $G$ .

### 2.6.2 GroupCube

▷ `GroupCube( $G$ ,  $dds$ ,  $n$ )` (function)

Returns the  $n$ -dimensional group cube constructed from a symmetric design  $dds$  such that the blocks are difference sets in the group  $G$ .

### 2.6.3 CubeSlice

▷ `CubeSlice( $C$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $fixed$ )` (function)

Returns a 2-dimensional slice of the incidence cube  $C$  obtained by varying coordinates in positions  $x$  and  $y$ , and taking fixed values for the remaining coordinates given in a list  $fixed$ .

### 2.6.4 CubeSlices

▷ `CubeSlices( $C$ [,  $x$ ,  $y$ ][,  $fixed$ ])` (function)

**Example.** There are three  $(16, 6, 2)$  designs:

$$|\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}_1)| = 11520, \quad |\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}_2)| = 768, \quad |\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}_3)| = 384$$

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D. Peifer, *DifSets, an algorithm for enumerating all difference sets in a group*, Version 2.3.1, 2019. <https://dylanpeifer.github.io/difsets>



# Group 3-cubes

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ID	Structure	Nds	Ndc	dev	Tds	Ngc
1	$\mathbb{Z}_{16}$	0	0	–	0	0
2	$\mathbb{Z}_4^2$	3	3	$\mathcal{D}_1$	192	55
3	$(\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2$	4	4	$\mathcal{D}_1$	192	83
4	$\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$	3	3	$\mathcal{D}_1$	192	81
5	$\mathbb{Z}_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2$	192	106
6	$\mathbb{Z}_8 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1$	64	34
7	$D_{16}$	0	0	–	0	0
8	$QD_{16}$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1$	128	50
9	$Q_{16}$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1$	256	71
10	$\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1$	448	131
11	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_8$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1$	192	52
12	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times Q_8$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_3$	704	197
13	$(\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2$	2	2	$\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_3$	320	77
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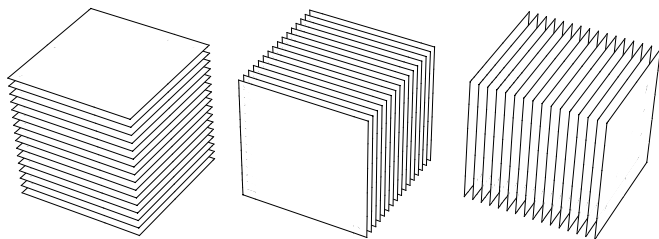
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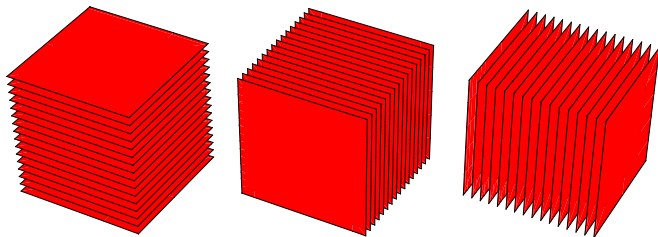
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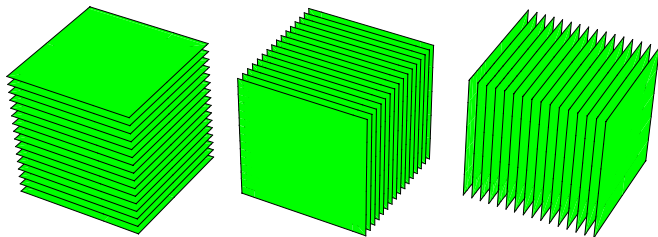


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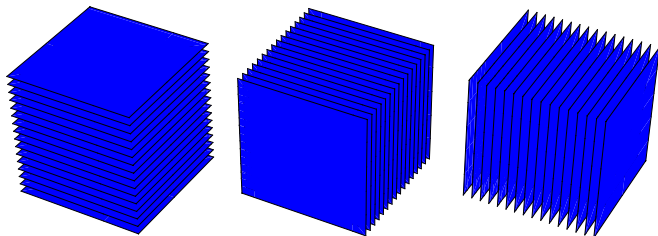


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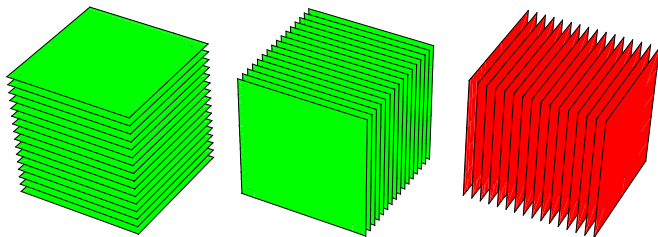
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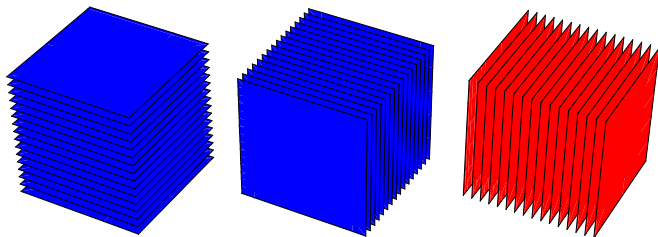


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The set  $\mathcal{C}^n(4^m, 2^{m-1}(2^m - 1), 2^{m-1}(2^{m-1} - 1))$  contains at least two inequivalent non-difference group cubes constructed in  $\mathbb{Z}_2^{2m}$  for every  $m \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 3$ .

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**Question 4.** Are there examples of  $n$ -dimensional Hadamard matrices with inequivalent slices without this restriction?

# Group 3-cubes

More examples of  $(16, 6, 2)$  cubes...

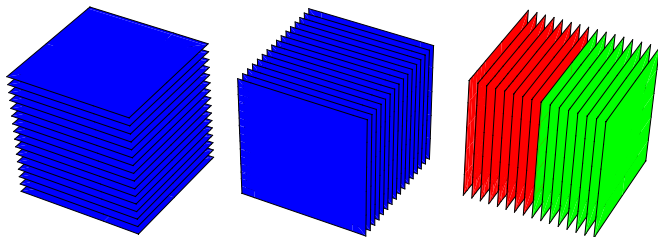
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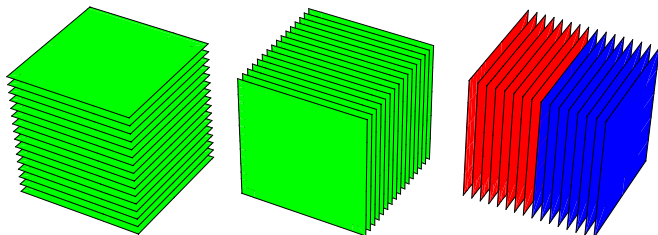
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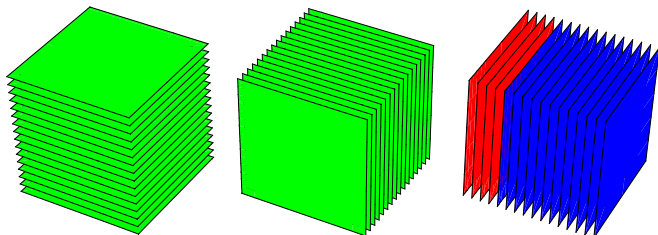
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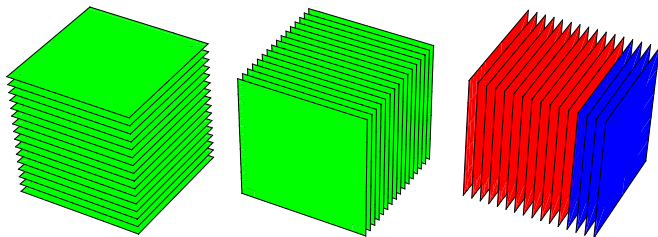
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# Group 3-cubes

Larger examples. . .

Parameters	Nds	Ndc	Ngc
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Does the converse hold?

**Question 5.** If two difference cubes are isotopic, do they necessarily come from equivalent difference sets?

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I know of no examples for dimensions  $n \geq 3$ .

# Non-group cubes

An  $n$ -cube  $C \in \mathcal{C}^n(v, k, \lambda)$  can be represented as

$$\bar{C} = \{(i_1, \dots, i_n) \in \{1, \dots, v\}^n \mid C(i_1, \dots, i_n) = 1\}.$$

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We can construct such transversal designs by the Kramer-Mesner method. Candidates for prescribed autotopy groups: take a known cube  $C \in \mathcal{C}^3(16, 6, 2)$ , compute  $\text{Atop}(C)$  and choose a subgroup  $G$ .

**E. S. Kramer, D. M. Mesner,  $t$ -designs on hypergraphs, *Discrete Math.* **15** (1976), no. 3, 263–296.**



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The set  $\mathcal{C}^3(16, 6, 2)$  contains at least 1423 inequivalent non-group cubes.

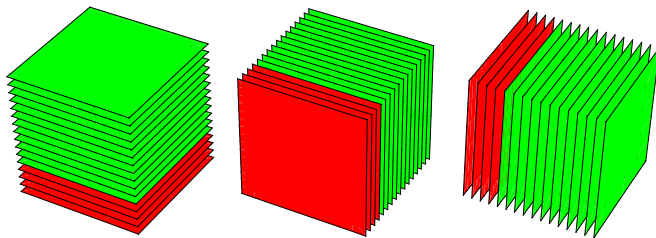
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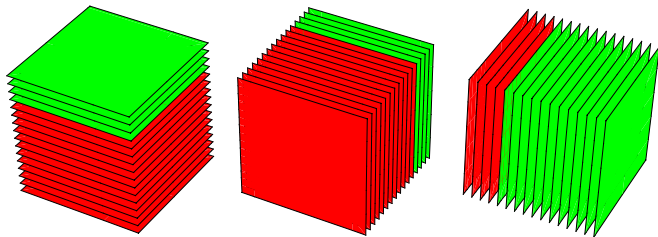
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**Question 7.** Are there non-group cubes for smaller parameters  $(v, k, \lambda)$ ? We tried constructing them by the Kramer-Mesner method, but did not find any examples except for  $(16, 6, 2)$ . What about  $(15, 7, 3)$ ?

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Clearly we must always get the cube  $C$  we started from, but often we also get other inequivalent cubes, some of which are not equivalent to any group cube.

## Proposition.

The set  $\mathcal{C}^3(16, 6, 2)$  contains at least 1423 inequivalent non-group cubes.

**Question 7.** Are there non-group cubes for smaller parameters  $(v, k, \lambda)$ ? We tried constructing them by the Kramer-Mesner method, but did not find any examples except for  $(16, 6, 2)$ . What about  $(15, 7, 3)$ ?

**Question 8.** Are there non-group cubes for larger parameters  $(v, k, \lambda)$ ? Our Kramer-Mesner approach was too inefficient. By what computational method can we construct them?

# Combinatorial Constructions Conference

April 7-13, 2024, Dubrovnik, Croatia



**Combinatorial Constructions Conference (CCC)** will take place at the Centre for Advanced Academic Studies in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

**April 7-13, 2024**

Invited Speakers (confirmed):

Eimear Byrne, Ireland

Dean Crnković, Croatia

Daniel Horsley, Australia

Michael Kiermaier, Germany

Patric Östergård, Finland

Kai-Uwe Schmidt, Germany

<https://web.math.pmf.unizg.hr/acco/meetings.php>

**Thanks for your attention!**