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Non-proper PBIB Designs using Star-polygon

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Abstract

This article provides a new series of non-proper partially balanced incomplete block (PBIB) designs using star-polygon graph with minimal replications. Constructed PBIB designs are of resolvable design category which can be successfully employed in sequential experimentations. A catalogue of PBIB designs for v (number of treatments) ≤ 100 along with computed efficiencies and average variances is also presented.

Keywords: Canonical efficiency factors; Star-polygon association scheme; Non-proper PBIB design; Resolvable design

1. Introduction

The concept of PBIB designs was initially developed by Bose and Nair (1951) [21]. Later, 2-associate class PBIB designs have been extensively studied in the literature [see e.g., Clatworthy (1973)] [4]. Further, 3- or higher-class PBIB designs such as rectangular designs are an important class of block designs with factorial structure for experiments with two factors [see e.g., Vartak (1955) [41], Sharma and Das (1985) [32], Suen (1989) [36], Srivastava *et al.* (2000) [35], Parsad *et al.* (2007a, 2007b) [22-23] and references cited therein]. The nested group divisible designs, a class of PBIB (3) designs, useful for 3-factor experiments was studied by Roy (1953) [30], Raghavarao (1960) [27], Miao *et al.* (1996) [18], and Kageyama and Singh (2002) [9]. More generalized association scheme called extended group divisible (EGD) association scheme and related designs are known as extended group divisible (EGD) designs [Hinkelmann (1964)] [13]. Many practical applications of these designs were fostered by Parsad *et al.* (2007a, 2007b) [22-23]. circular lattice designs was introduced by Rao (1956) which were essentially PBIB(3) designs for $v = 2n^2$ treatments, where $n \geq 2$ and these were further generalized by Varghese and Sharma (2004) [39] to accommodate $2sn^2$ treatments; $n, s \geq 2$. Varghese *et al.* (2004) [39] gave a list of PBIB (3) designs and their applications to partial diallel crosses. Sharma *et al.* (2010) [32] introduced 3-associate-class tetrahedral and cubical association schemes and related PBIB(3) designs. Some light on investigations of 4-associate class PBIB designs was thrown by several authors such as Nair (1951) [21], Tharthare (1963, 1965) [37-38]; Garg *et al.* (2011) [9]; Vinayaka and Vinaykumar (2021) [42], *etc.* Further, investigations on 2-replicate PBIB designs are limited to only Varghese and Sharma (2004) [39]; Sharma *et al.* (2010) [33]; Kipkemoi *et al.* (2013, 2015) [16-17] gave concept of affine resolvability including relationships between affine resolvability and variance balance using parametric relationships. Subsequently, described two methods for constructing affine resolvable block designs with different block sizes. Affine α -resolvable PBIB(2) designs has been investigated by Kadowaki and Kageyama (2092) [2]. For distinct block sizes, obtained some construction methods for affine resolvable rectangular type PBIB designs. Recently, a series of affine resolvable 2-replicate PBIB(4) designs with unequal blocks have been obtained by Jha *et al.* (2011) [10] and Vinaykumar *et al.* (2023) [43]. Apart from being used as block designs for multi-environmental trials, PBIB designs can find profound application in designing breeding trials *i.e.*, in obtaining mating-environmental designs involving a representative sample of crosses and partially replicated (p-rep) designs.

Here, we extend the work on 3-associate class non-proper PBIB designs further by proposing construction of PBIB (3) designs using star-polygon graph.

These designs fall under the category of resolvable designs which is used in information theory *i.e.*, constructing A^2 -codes and low-density parity-check (LDPC) codes [Pei (2006); and Xu *et al.* (2015, 2020)]^[46-47, 26] and in sequential experimentation over space and time [John and Williams (1995)^[15]; and Morgan and Reck (2007)]^[20]. However, many authors, among others, Harshbarger (1949)^[12]; Bose and Nair (1962)^[3]; David (1967)^[5]; Patterson and Williams (1976)^[45]; Williams *et al.* (1976, 1977)^[44-45]; Jarrett and Hall (1978)^[14]; Varghese and Sharma (2004)^[39]; and Sharma *et al.* (2010)^[33] were discussed on problems of construction and analysis of resolvable incomplete block designs.

The article is organized as follows: In Section 2, the star-polygon association scheme is defined along with numerical illustration. Section 3 deals with the construction of non-proper PBIB(3) designs using star polygon graph along with example. Section 4 reveals a brief discussion. At last, a table of efficient PBIB designs for $v \leq 100$ has also been obtained.

3. Star Polygon Association scheme

Let $v = 10s$ ($s \geq 2$) be the number of treatments. Arrange these treatments on the vertices of a Star Polygon graph such that each vertex contains exactly m distinct treatments. Now we define the association scheme on these v treatments as follows: Treatment β is the first associate of α , if β lies on the same vertex of α ; the second associate, if β lies on any of the quadruplets (where each quadruplet has precisely four equidistant vertices) that intersect the vertex of α and third associates, otherwise [Vinayaka and Vinaykumar (2021)]^[42]. The parameters of first kind and association matrices (called as parameters of second of kind) of the association scheme are given respectively: $v = 10s$, $n_1 = s - 1$, $n_2 = 6s$, $n_3 = 3s$, and

$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} s-2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3s \end{bmatrix}, P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & s-1 & 0 \\ s-1 & 3s & 2s \\ 0 & 2s & s \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } P_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & s-1 \\ 0 & 4s & 2s \\ s-1 & 2s & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

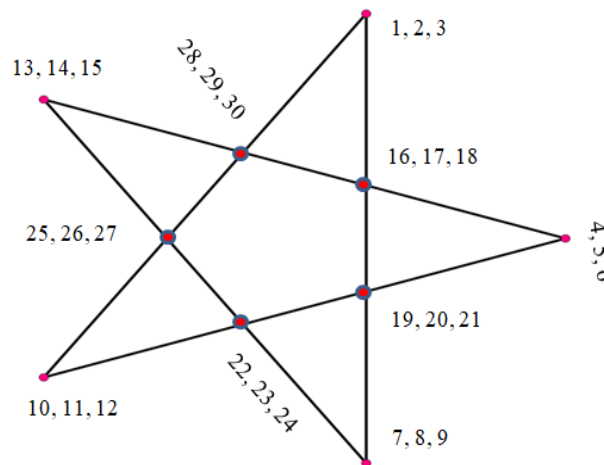


Fig 1: Arrangement of 30 treatments on vertices of a Star Polygon

Illustration 1: Let $v = 30$ ($= 10 \times 3$) treatments are arranged on the vertices of a Star Polygon graph such that each vertex contains exactly three distinct treatments as shown in Figure 1. Here, $n_1 = 2$, $n_2 = 18$, $n_3 = 9$ and the three associates of treatments, say, 1, 2, 7 and 22 are as given in Table 1. Association matrices of this illustration are as follows:

$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 18 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}, P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 9 & 6 \\ 0 & 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } P_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Table 1: Different associates of some treatments 1, 2, 7 and 13

Treatment	1 st associates	2 nd associates	3 rd associates
1	2, 3	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30	4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24
2	1, 3	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30	4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24
7	8, 9	1, 2, 3, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 28, 29, 30
13	14, 15	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30	1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21

Method of construction

Let $v = 10s$ ($s \geq 2$) treatments are arranged on the vertices of a Star Polygon graph as indicated in the association scheme. By taking all possible triangles as blocks such that treatments situated on the three vertices of each triangle taken together as a block and also form another set of blocks of the design each one corresponding to a quadruplets by taking together the treatments that lie on the four vertices (points) of each quadruplet as a block, then combine all these blocks implies a non-proper PBIB(3) design based on Star Polygon association scheme with parameters $v = 10s$, $b_1 = 10$, $b_2 = 5$, $r = 5$, $k_1 = 3s$, $k_2 = 4s$, $\lambda_1 = 5$, $\lambda_2 = 2$, $\lambda_3 = 0$.

Illustration 2: Let $v = 30$ treatments for $s = 3$ are arranged on the vertices of a Star Polygon graph as given in Figure 1. By following the procedure of above method, we can get a PBIB(3) design based on Star Polygon association scheme with block contents as

- (1, 2, 3, 16, 17, 18, 28, 29, 30)
- (4, 5, 6, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21)
- (7, 8, 9, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)

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

The parameters of this design are: $v = 30$, $b_1 = 10$, $b_2 = 5$, $r = 5$, $k_1 = 9$, $k_2 = 12$, $\lambda_1 = 5$, $\lambda_2 = 2$, $\lambda_3 = 0$.

A total of nine PBIB(3) designs for $v \leq 100$ generated by this method are listed in Table 2 along with their average variance (\bar{V}) and canonical efficiency factors (CEFs) as compared to a

randomized complete block design. Details on canonical efficiency factors is available in Dey (2008). All the designs have good efficiency that is within the range of 0.8000 to 0.9628.

Table 2: PBIB(3) designs based on Star-polygon association scheme for $v \leq 100$

SI. No.	s	v	b ₁	b ₂	r	k ₁	k ₂	λ ₁	λ ₂	λ ₃	\bar{V}	CEFs
1	2	20	10	5	5	6	8	5	2	0	0.4677	0.8553
2	3	30	10	5	5	9	12	5	2	0	0.4443	0.9002
3	4	40	10	5	5	12	16	5	2	0	0.4330	0.9239
4	5	50	10	5	5	15	20	5	2	0	0.4262	0.9384
5	6	60	10	5	5	18	24	5	2	0	0.4218	0.9483
6	7	70	10	5	5	21	28	5	2	0	0.4186	0.9555
7	8	80	10	5	5	24	32	5	2	0	0.4163	0.9609
8	9	90	10	5	5	27	36	5	2	0	0.4144	0.9651
9	10	100	10	5	5	30	40	5	2	0	0.4130	0.9686

Remark 1: For $s = 1$, this scheme also reduced to 2-associate class G_1 association scheme of Garg and Farooq (2014) [9]. Thus obtained design is non-proper PBIB(2) design with parameters $v = 10, b_1 = 10, b_2 = 5, r = 5, k_1 = 3, k_2 = 4, \lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 2, n_1 = 3, n_2 = 6$.

Discussion

The PBIB(3) designs with unequal block sizes obtained from the star polygon association scheme fall into the resolvable group of designs with minimal replications (i.e., $r = 5$). The benefit of resolvable design is that its replications can be applied over different locations or over distinct time periods. Further, these are applicable when the experimenter’s facing problem of constraint of resources. Moreover, efficiencies of these designs are quite high. Hence, these designs can be used to test a large number of cultivars in agricultural varietal trials. Also, the association schemes of these designs can be utilized in plant/animal breeding experiments to construct efficient partial diallel cross plans.

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