

# New symmetric designs from regular Hadamard matrices

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## Abstract

For every positive integer  $m$ , we construct a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design with parameters  $v = \frac{h((2h-1)^{2m}-1)}{h-1}$ ,  $k = h(2h-1)^{2m-1}$ , and  $\lambda = h(h-1)(2h-1)^{2m-2}$ , where  $h = \pm 3 \cdot 2^d$  and  $|2h-1|$  is a prime power. For  $m \geq 2$  and  $d \geq 1$ , these parameter values were previously undecided. The tools used in the construction are balanced generalized weighing matrices and regular Hadamard matrices of order  $9 \cdot 4^d$ .

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $v > k > \lambda \geq 0$  be integers. A *symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design* is an incidence structure  $(P, \mathcal{B})$ , where  $P$  is a set of cardinality  $v$  (the point-set) and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a family of  $v$   $k$ -subsets (blocks) of  $P$  such that any two distinct points are contained in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks. If  $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_v\}$  and  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_1, \dots, B_v\}$ , then the  $(0, 1)$ -matrix  $M = [m_{ij}]$  of order  $v$ , where  $m_{ij} = 1$  if and only if  $p_j \in B_i$ , is the *incidence matrix* of the design. A  $(0, 1)$ -matrix  $X$  of order  $v$  is the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design if and only if it satisfies the equation  $XX^T = (k - \lambda)I + \lambda J$ , where  $I$  is the identity matrix and  $J$  is the all-one matrix of order  $v$ . For references, see [1] or [3, Chapter 5].

A *Hadamard matrix* of order  $n$  is an  $n$  by  $n$  matrix  $H$  with entries equal to  $\pm 1$  satisfying  $HH^T = nI$ . A Hadamard matrix is *regular* if its row and column sums are constant. This sum is always even and if we denote it  $2h$ , then the order of the matrix is equal to  $4h^2$ . Replacing  $-1$ s in a regular Hadamard matrix of order  $4h^2$  by 0s yields the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(4h^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h)$ -design usually

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called a *Menon design*. Conversely, replacing 0s by  $-1$ s in the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(4h^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h)$ -design yields a regular Hadamard matrix of order  $4h^2$ . For references, see [9]. In this paper, we will be interested in regular Hadamard matrices of order  $9 \cdot 4^d$ , where  $d$  is a positive integer. If  $H$  is such a matrix, then the Kronecker product of a regular Hadamard matrix of order 4 and  $H$  is a regular Hadamard matrix of order  $9 \cdot 4^{d+1}$ . Therefore, one can obtain a family of regular Hadamard matrices of order  $9 \cdot 4^d$ , starting with a regular Hadamard matrix of order 36.

A *balanced generalized weighing matrix*  $BGW(v, k, \lambda)$  over a (multiplicatively written) group  $G$  is a matrix  $W = [\omega_{ij}]$  of order  $v$  with entries from the set  $G \cup \{0\}$  such that (i) each row and each column of  $W$  contain exactly  $k$  non-zero entries and (ii) for any distinct rows  $i$  and  $h$ , the multiset

$$\{\omega_{hj}^{-1}\omega_{ij} : 1 \leq j \leq v, \omega_{ij} \neq 0, \omega_{hj} \neq 0\}$$

contains exactly  $\lambda/|G|$  copies of every element of  $G$ .

In this paper, we will use a balanced generalized weighing matrix  $BGW(q^m + q^{m-1} + \cdots + q + 1, q^m, q^m - q^{m-1})$  over a cyclic group  $G$  of order  $t$ , where  $q$  is a prime power,  $m$  is a positive integer, and  $t$  is a divisor of  $q - 1$ . Such matrices are known to exist [3, IV.4.22] and have been applied to constructing symmetric designs by Rajkundlia [8], Brouwer [2], Fanning [4], and the author [5, 6]. If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a set of  $m$  by  $n$  matrices,  $G$  is a group of bijections  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ , and  $W$  is a balanced generalized weighing matrix over  $G$ , then, for any  $P \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $W \otimes P$  denotes the matrix obtained by replacing every entry  $\sigma$  in  $W$  by the matrix  $\sigma P$ . In Section 2 (Lemma 2.1), we will prove the following modification of a result from [6]:

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a set of matrices of order  $v$  containing the incidence matrix  $M$  of a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design with  $q = \frac{k^2}{k-\lambda}$  a prime power. Let  $G$  be a finite cyclic group of bijections  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  such that (i)  $(\sigma P)(\sigma Q)^T = PQ^T$  for any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\sigma \in G$ , (ii)  $\sum_{\sigma \in G} \sigma M = \frac{k|G|}{v} J$ , and (iii)  $|G|$  divides  $q - 1$ . If  $W$  is a balanced generalized weighing matrix  $BGW(q^m + \cdots + q + 1, q^m, q^m - q^{m-1})$  over  $G$ , then  $W \otimes M$  is the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(v(q^m + q^{m-1} + \cdots + q + 1), kq^m, \lambda q^m)$ -design.

In order to apply this lemma, we need a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design to start with. In the paper [6], we have shown that the designs corresponding to certain McFarland and Spence difference sets (or their complements) serve as such starters. In Section 3 of this paper, we show that for  $h = \pm 3 \cdot 2^d$ , if  $|2h - 1|$  is a prime power, then there is a symmetric  $(4h^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h)$ -design, which can also serve as a starter. As a result, we show that for any positive integers  $m$  and  $d$ , if  $h = \pm 3 \cdot 2^d$  and  $|2h - 1|$  is a prime power, then there exists a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design with

$$v = \frac{h((2h - 1)^{2m} - 1)}{h - 1}, k = h(2h - 1)^{2m-1}, \lambda = h(h - 1)(2h - 1)^{2m-2}.$$

These parameters are new, except  $m = 1$  (Menon designs) and  $d = 0$  (constructed by the author in [6]).

## 2 Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we will denote identity, zero, and all-one matrices of suitable orders by  $I$ ,  $O$ , and  $J$ , respectively.

If  $W$  is a balanced generalized weighing matrix of order  $w$  over a group  $G$  of bijections on a set  $\mathcal{M}$  of matrices of order  $n$ , then, for any  $P \in \mathcal{M}$ , we will denote by  $W \otimes P$  the matrix of order  $wn$  obtained by replacing every nonzero entry  $\sigma$  in  $W$  by the matrix  $\sigma P$  and every zero entry in  $W$  by the zero matrix of order  $n$ .

The following lemma represents a slight modification of a result proven in [6]. Since it is crucial for this paper and the proof is short, we will repeat it here.

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $v > k > \lambda \geq 0$  be integers. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a set of matrices of order  $v$  and  $G$  a finite group of bijections  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (i)  $\mathcal{M}$  contains the incidence matrix  $M$  of a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design;
- (ii) for any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\sigma \in G$ ,

$$(\sigma P)(\sigma Q)^T = PQ^T;$$

(iii)  $\sum_{\sigma \in G} \sigma M = \frac{k|G|}{v} J$ ;

(iv)  $q = \frac{k^2}{k-\lambda}$  is a prime power;

(v)  $G$  is cyclic and  $|G|$  divides  $q - 1$ .

Then, for any positive integer  $m$ , there exists a symmetric  $(vw, kq^m, \lambda q^m)$ -design, where  $w = \frac{q^{m+1}-1}{q-1}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $W = [\omega_{ij}]$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, w$  be a balanced generalized weighing matrix  $BGW(w, q^m, q^m - q^{m-1})$  over  $G$ . We claim that  $W \otimes M$  is the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(vw, kq^m, \lambda q^m)$ -design. It suffices to show that, for  $i, h = 1, 2, \dots, w$ ,

$$\sum_{j=1}^w (\omega_{ij} M)(\omega_{hj} M)^T = \begin{cases} (k - \lambda)q^m I + \lambda q^m J & \text{if } i = h, \\ \lambda q^m J & \text{if } i \neq h. \end{cases}$$

If  $i = h$ , we have for some  $\sigma_j \in G$ ,

$$\sum_{j=1}^w (\omega_{ij} M)(\omega_{hj} M)^T = \sum_{j=1}^{q^m} (\sigma_j M)(\sigma_j M)^T = \sum_{j=1}^{q^m} M M^T = (k - \lambda)q^m I + \lambda q^m J.$$

If  $i \neq h$ , we have for some  $\sigma_j, \tau_j \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^w (\omega_{ij} M)(\omega_{hj} M)^T &= \sum_{j=1}^{q^m - q^{m-1}} (\sigma_j M)(\tau_j M)^T = \sum_{j=1}^{q^m - q^{m-1}} (\tau_j^{-1} \sigma_j M) M^T \\ &= \frac{q^m - q^{m-1}}{|G|} \left( \sum_{\sigma \in G} \sigma M \right) M^T = \frac{k(q^m - q^{m-1})}{v} J M^T = \frac{k^2(q^m - q^{m-1})}{v} J = \lambda q^m J. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 2.2** Let  $v > k > \lambda > 0$  be integers. A  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -difference set is a  $k$ -subset of an (additively written) group  $\Gamma$  of order  $v$  such that the multiset  $\{x - y : x, y \in \Gamma\}$  contains exactly  $\lambda$  copies of each nonzero element of  $\Gamma$ .

Several infinite families of difference sets are known (see [3] or [7] for references). We will mention the McFarland family having parameters  $(p^{d+1}(r+1), p^d r, p^{d-1}(r-1))$ , where  $p$  is a prime power,  $d$  is a positive integer, and  $r = \frac{p^{d+1}-1}{p-1}$ , and the Spence family having parameters  $(3^{d+1}(3^{d+1}-1)/2, 3^d(3^{d+1}+1)/2, 3^d(3^d+1)/2)$ , where  $d$  is a positive integer.

If  $\Delta$  is a  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -difference set in a group  $\Gamma$  and  $\mathcal{B} = \{\Delta + x : x \in \Gamma\}$ , then  $\text{dev}(\Delta) = (\Gamma, \mathcal{B})$  is a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design.

In order to apply Lemma 2.1, we need a symmetric  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -design with  $q = \frac{k^2}{k-\lambda}$  a prime power, a set  $\mathcal{M}$  of matrices of order  $v$  containing the incidence matrix this design, and a cyclic group  $G$  satisfying conditions (ii), (iii), and (v) of Lemma 2.1. In the paper [6], we have shown that  $(v, k, \lambda)$  can be the parameters of any McFarland or Spence difference set or their complement with  $q = \frac{k^2}{k-\lambda}$  a prime power. In this paper, we will use the Spence  $(36, 15, 6)$ -difference set in  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$  and the complementary  $(36, 21, 12)$ -difference set. In the next section, we will reproduce the construction of the corresponding  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $G$  given in [6]

### 3 (36, 15, 6)- and (36, 21, 12)-difference sets

We start with a brief description of the Spence  $(36, 15, 6)$ -difference set in  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$ .

We consider  $\Gamma$  as the set of triples  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ , where  $x_1, x_2 \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  and  $x_3 \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  with the mod 3 and the mod 4 addition, respectively. Consider  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$  as a 2-dimensional vector space over the field  $\text{GF}(3)$ . Let  $L_1, L_2, L_3, L_4$  be its 1-dimensional subspaces. Put  $D_1 = \{(x_1, x_2, 0) \in \Gamma : (x_1, x_2) \notin L_1\}$  and, for  $i = 2, 3, 4$ ,  $D_i = \{(x_1, x_2, i-1) \in \Gamma : (x_1, x_2) \in L_i\}$ . Then  $D = D_1 \cup D_2 \cup D_3 \cup D_4$  is a  $(36, 15, 6)$ -difference set in  $\Gamma$  [7, Theorem 11.2].

In order to obtain the incidence matrix of the corresponding symmetric design, we have to select an order on  $\Gamma$ . We will assume that  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  precedes  $(y_1, y_2, y_3)$  in  $\Gamma$  if and only if there is  $i$  such that  $x_i < y_i$  and  $x_j = y_j$  whenever  $j > i$ . Let  $M$  be the  $(0, 1)$ -matrix of order 36 whose rows and columns are indexed by elements of  $\Gamma$  in this order and  $(x, y)$ -entry is equal to 1 if and only if  $y - x \in D$ . Then  $M$  is the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(36, 15, 6)$ -design. In order to describe the structural properties of  $M$  which will be important in the sequel, we introduce the following operation  $\rho$  on the set of 3 by 3 block-matrices.

**Definition 3.1** Let  $P = [P_{ij}]$  be a 3 by 3 block-matrix with square blocks (in particular,  $P$  can be a 3 by 3 matrix). Denote by  $\rho P$  the matrix obtained by applying the

cyclic permutation  $\rho = (123)$  of degree 3 to the set of columns of  $P$ , i.e.,

$$\rho \begin{bmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_{13} & P_{11} & P_{12} \\ P_{23} & P_{21} & P_{22} \\ P_{33} & P_{31} & P_{32} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The above incidence matrix  $M$  of a symmetric  $(36, 15, 6)$ -design can be represented as a 4 by 4 block-matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} M_1 & M_2 & M_3 & M_4 \\ M_4 & M_1 & M_2 & M_3 \\ M_3 & M_4 & M_1 & M_2 \\ M_2 & M_3 & M_4 & M_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

where each  $M_i$  is a 9 by 9 matrix. Further, each  $M_i$  can be represented as a 3 by 3 block-matrix

$$M_i = \begin{bmatrix} M_{i1} & M_{i2} & M_{i3} \\ M_{i3} & M_{i1} & M_{i2} \\ M_{i2} & M_{i3} & M_{i1} \end{bmatrix},$$

where each  $M_{ij}$  is a matrix of order 3,  $M_{11} = O$ ,  $M_{12} = M_{13} = J$ ,  $M_{21} = M_{22} = M_{23} = M_{31} = M_{41} = I$ ,  $M_{32} = M_{43} = \rho I$ , and  $M_{33} = M_{42} = \rho^2 I$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the set of block-matrices  $P = [P_{ij}]$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , where each  $P_{ij}$  is a block-matrix  $P_{ij} = [P_{ijkl}]$ ,  $k, l = 1, 2, 3$ , satisfying the following conditions:

- (i) each  $P_{ijkl}$  is a  $(0, 1)$ -matrix of order 3;
- (ii) for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , there is a unique  $h_i = h_i(P) \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  such that

$$(P_{ijk1}, P_{ijk2}, P_{ijk3}) \text{ is a permutation of } (O, J, J) \text{ for } j = h_i \text{ and all } k$$

and

$$P_{ijkl} \in \{I, \rho I, \rho^2 I\} \text{ for } j \neq h_i \text{ and all } k, l.$$

Clearly, the above matrix  $M$  is an element of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

Define a bijection  $\sigma: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  by  $\sigma P = P'$ , where

- (i) for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  and  $j = 2, 3, 4$ ,  $P'_{ij} = P_{i,j-1}$ ;
- (ii) for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , if  $h_i = 4$ , then  $P'_{i1} = \rho P_{i4}$ ;
- (iii) for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , if  $h_i \neq 4$ , then  $P'_{i1kl} = \rho P_{i4kl}$  for all  $k, l$ .

Let  $G$  be the cyclic group generated by  $\sigma$ . Then  $|G| = 12$ .

*Claim.* For any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $(\sigma P)(\sigma Q)^T = PQ^T$ .

**Proof.** Let  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$  and let  $P' = \sigma P$  and  $Q' = \sigma Q$ . It suffices to show that, for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,

$$P'_{i1} Q'_{i1}{}^T = P_{i4} Q_{i4}{}^T. \tag{1}$$

If  $h_i(P) = h_i(Q) = 4$  or  $h_i(P) \neq 4$  and  $h_i(Q) \neq 4$ , then  $P'_{i1}$  is obtained from  $P_{i4}$  by the same permutation of columns as  $Q'_{i1}$  from  $Q_{i4}$ , so (1) is clear. Suppose  $h_i(P) = 4$

and  $h_i(Q) \neq 4$ . Then  $(P_{i4k1}, P_{i4k2}, P_{i4k3})$  is a permutation of  $(O, J, J)$  and matrices  $Q_{i4k1}, Q_{i4k2}, Q_{i4k3}$  have the same row sum (equal to 1). Therefore

$$\sum_{l=1}^3 P'_{i1kl} Q_{i1kl}^T = \sum_{l=1}^3 P_{i4kl} Q_{i4kl}^T = 2J,$$

and (1) follows.  $\square$

It is readily verified that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{11} \sigma^n M = 5J. \tag{2}$$

Thus, the set  $\mathcal{M}$ , the matrix  $M$ , and the group  $G$  satisfy Lemma 2.1 for  $(v, k, \lambda) = (36, 15, 6)$  with  $|G| = 12$ . Note that the sum of the entries of any row of any matrix  $P \in \mathcal{M}$  is equal to 15.

Let  $\overline{M} = J - M$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{M}} = \{J - P : P \in \mathcal{M}\}$ . Without changing  $G$ , we obtain that  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}, \overline{M}$ , and  $G$  satisfy Lemma 2.1 for  $(v, k, \lambda) = (36, 21, 12)$ . The sum of the entries of any row of any matrix  $P \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$  is equal to 21.

Note that the described  $(36, 15, 6)$ -design and  $(36, 21, 12)$ -design are symmetric  $(4h^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h)$ -designs with  $h = 3$  and  $h = -3$ , respectively.

### 4 Using the Kronecker product

The next lemma will allow us to double the parameter  $h$  in a family of symmetric  $(4h^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h)$ -designs satisfying Lemma 2.1.

**Lemma 4.1** *Let an integer  $h \neq 0$ , a set  $\mathcal{M}$  of matrices of order  $4h^2$ , and a finite cyclic group  $G = \langle \sigma \rangle$  of bijections  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i)  $\mathcal{M}$  contains the incidence matrix  $M$  of a symmetric  $(4h^2, 2h^2 - h, h^2 - h)$ -design;
- (ii) for any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $(\sigma P)(\sigma Q)^T = PQ^T$ ;
- (iii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{|G|-1} \sigma^n M = \frac{(2h-1)|G|}{4h} J$ .
- (iv) the sum of the entries of any row of any matrix  $P \in \mathcal{M}$  is equal to  $2h^2 - h$ .

*Then there exists a set  $\mathcal{M}_1$  of matrices of order  $16h^2$  and a cyclic group  $G_1 = \langle \tau \rangle$  of bijections  $\mathcal{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_1$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a)  $\mathcal{M}_1$  contains the incidence matrix  $M_1$  of a symmetric  $(16h^2, 8h^2 - 2h, 4h^2 - 2h)$ -design;
- (b) for any  $R, S \in \mathcal{M}_1$ ,  $(\tau R)(\tau S)^T = RS^T$ ;
- (c)  $\sum_{n=0}^{|G_1|-1} \tau^n M_1 = \frac{(4h-1)|G_1|}{8h} J$ ;
- (d) the sum of the entries of any row of any matrix  $R \in \mathcal{M}_1$  is equal to  $8h^2 - 2h$ ;
- (e)  $|G_1| = 2|G|$ .

**Proof.** For any  $P \in \mathcal{M}$ , define

$$R_P = \begin{bmatrix} J - P & P & P & P \\ P & J - P & P & P \\ P & P & J - P & P \\ P & P & P & J - P \end{bmatrix}.$$

It is well known and readily verified that  $M_1 = R_M$  is the incidence matrix of a symmetric  $(16h^2, 8h^2 - 2h, 4h^2 - 2h)$ -design.

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1 = \{R_P : P \in \mathcal{M}\}$ . Then  $M_1 \in \mathcal{M}_1$ , so  $\mathcal{M}_1$  satisfies (a). Condition (d) is implied by (iv). Any matrix  $R \in \mathcal{M}_1$  can be divided into eight  $4h^2$  by  $8h^2$  cells  $R_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 4, 1 \leq j \leq 2$ . Observe that each  $R_{ij}$  is of one of the two following types:

(type 1)  $R_{ij} = [P \ J - P]$  or  $R_{ij} = [J - P \ P], P \in \mathcal{M}$ ;

(type 2)  $R_{ij} = [P \ P], P \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Observe also that  $R_{i1}$  and  $R_{i2}$  are not of the same type.

For any  $R \in \mathcal{M}_1$ , denote by  $\tau R$  a  $(0, 1)$ -matrix of order  $16h^2$  divided into eight  $4h^2$  by  $8h^2$  cells  $\tau R_{ij}, 1 \leq i \leq 4, 1 \leq j \leq 2$ , where

$$\tau R_{i2} = R_{i1}$$

and

$$\tau R_{i1} = \begin{cases} J - R_{i2} & \text{if } R_{i2} \text{ is of type 1,} \\ [\sigma P \ \sigma P] & \text{if } R_{i2} = [P \ P]. \end{cases}$$

In order to verify (b), it suffices to show that, for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, (\tau R_{i1})(\tau S_{i1})^T = R_{i2}S_{i2}^T$ .

If  $R_{i2}$  and  $S_{i2}$  are of type (1), then  $(\tau R_{i1})(\tau S_{i1})^T = (J - R_{i2})(J - S_{i2})^T = 8h^2J - R_{i2}J^T - JS_{i2}^T + R_{i2}S_{i2}^T = R_{i2}S_{i2}^T$  for the row sum of any matrix of type 1 is equal to  $4h^2$ . If  $R_{i2} = [P \ P]$  and  $S_{i2} = [Q \ Q]$ , where  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $(\tau R_{i1})(\tau S_{i1})^T = 2(\sigma P)(\sigma Q)^T = 2PQ^T = R_{i2}S_{i2}^T$ . If  $R_{i2} = [P \ P]$  and  $S_{i2}$  is of type 1, then  $(\tau R_{i1})(\tau S_{i1})^T = (\sigma P)J = (2h^2 - h)J = R_{i2}S_{i2}^T$ .

Let  $G_1$  be the group of bijections  $\mathcal{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_1$  generated by  $\tau$ . Then (e) is satisfied, and we have to verify (c). For  $n = 1, 2, \dots, 2|G| - 1$ , let  $A_n$  be the  $(i, j)$ -block of the 4 by 4 block-matrix  $\tau^n M_1$ . Then there is  $P \in \mathcal{M}$  such that the multiset  $\{A_n : 0 \leq n \leq 2|G| - 1\}$  is the union of  $\{\sigma^n P : 0 \leq n \leq |G| - 1\}$  and the multiset consisting of  $\frac{|G|}{2}$  copies of  $P$  and  $\frac{|G|}{2}$  copies of  $J - P$ . Therefore,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{2|G|-1} A_n = \sum_{n=0}^{|G|-1} \sigma^n P + \frac{|G|}{2}J = \frac{(2h-1)|G|}{4h}J + \frac{|G|}{2}J = \frac{(4h-1)|G|}{8h}J.$$

□

The following theorem is now immediate by induction.

**Theorem 4.2** *Let an integer  $h \neq 0$ , a set  $\mathcal{M}$  of matrices of order  $4h^2$ , and a finite cyclic group  $G$  of bijections  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  satisfy conditions (i)–(iv) of Lemma 4.1. Then, for any positive integer  $d$ , there exists a non-empty set  $\mathcal{M}_d$  of matrices of order  $4^{d+1}h^2$  and a cyclic group  $G_d$  of bijections  $\mathcal{M}_d \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_d$  satisfying the following conditions:*

(a)  $\mathcal{M}_d$  contains the incidence matrix  $M_d$  of a symmetric design with parameters

$$(4^{d+1}h^2, 2^{2d+1}h^2 - 2^d h, 2^{2d}h^2 - 2^d h);$$

(b) for any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}_d$  and  $\tau \in G_d, (\tau P)(\tau Q)^T = PQ^T$ ;

- (c)  $\sum_{\tau \in G_d} \tau M_d = \frac{(2^{d+1}h-1)|G_d|}{2^{d+2}h} J$ ;
- (d) the sum of the entries of any row of any matrix  $R \in \mathcal{M}_d$  is equal to  $2^{2d+1}h^2 - 2^d h$ ;
- (e)  $|G_d| = 2^d |G|$ .

We combine Theorem 4.2 and Lemma 2.1 and obtain the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 4.3** *If  $h = \pm 3 \cdot 2^d$ , where  $d$  is a positive integer and  $|2h - 1|$  is a prime power, then, for any positive integer  $m$ , there exists a symmetric  $(\frac{h((2h-1)^{2m}-1)}{h-1}, h(2h-1)^{2m-1}, h(h-1)(2h-1)^{2m-2})$ -design.*

**Proof.** We start with the set  $\mathcal{M}$  or  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$  described in Section 3 and apply Theorem 4.2 to this set to obtain the set of matrices  $\mathcal{M}_d$  or  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_d$  and the group  $G_d$ . Then we apply Lemma 2.1. Properties (ii) and (iii) required in Lemma 2.1 are implied by (b) and (c) of Theorem 4.2. The parameter  $q$  of Lemma 2.1 is equal to  $(2h_d - 1)^2$ , where  $h_d = \pm 3 \cdot 2^d$ , so  $q$  is a prime power. Since  $|G| = 12$ , we have  $|G_d| = 3 \cdot 2^{d+2} = 4|h_d|$ , so  $|G_d|$  divides  $q - 1$ .  $\square$

**Remark 4.4** *These parameters are new, except  $m = 1$  (Menon designs).*

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