

# Resolving Triple Systems into Regular Configurations

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## Abstract

A  $\lambda$ -Triple System( $v$ ), or a  $\lambda$ - $TS(V, \mathcal{B})$ , is a pair  $(V, \mathcal{B})$  where  $V$  is a set and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a subset of the 3-subsets of  $V$  so that every pair is in **exactly**  $\lambda$  elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ . A *regular configuration* on  $p$  points with regularity  $\rho$  on  $l$  blocks is a pair  $(P, \mathcal{L})$  where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a collection of 3-subsets of a (usually small) set  $P$  so that every  $p$  in  $P$  is in **exactly**  $\rho$  elements of  $\mathcal{L}$ , and  $|\mathcal{L}| = l$ . The Pasch configuration  $(\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{012, 035, 245, 134\})$  has  $p=6$ ,  $l=4$ , and  $\rho=2$ . A  $\lambda$ - $TS(V, \mathcal{B})$ , is resolvable into a regular configuration  $\mathbb{C}=(P, \mathcal{L})$ , or  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable, if  $\mathcal{B}$  can be partitioned into sets  $\Pi_i$  so that for each  $i$ ,  $(V, \Pi_i)$  is isomorphic to a set of vertex disjoint copies of  $(P, \mathcal{L})$ . If the configuration is a single block on three points this corresponds to ordinary resolvability of a Triple System.

In this paper we examine all regular configurations  $\mathbb{C}$  on 6 or fewer blocks and construct  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -Triple Systems of order  $v$  for many values of  $v$  and  $\lambda$ . These conditions are also sufficient for each  $\mathbb{C}$  having 4 blocks or fewer. For example for the Pasch configuration  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  are necessary and sufficient.

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## 1 Introduction

The study of the way in which small configurations are germane to analysing the structure of combinatorial objects has progressed from the study of finite geometries

[7] (for example Desargues and Pappus configurations) to using small configurations in the analysis of other designs. The concepts of avoidance of [1, 13], ubiquity of [16], decomposability into [10], and bases for [9], small configurations, have all provided insights into the structure of designs.

On the other hand resolvability and  $\lambda$ -resolvability have had a similar but much longer history starting from Euclid's fifth postulate to through the end of the Euler conjecture and to the present. [6]

In this work we shall combine the two ideas into the concept of  $\mathbb{C}$ -Resolvable triple systems. We start with the following basic definitions:

**Definition 1.1** A  $\lambda$ -Triple System  $(v)$ , a  $\lambda$ -TS  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , is a pair  $(V, \mathcal{B})$  where  $V$  is a  $v$ -set and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a subset of the 3-subsets of  $V$  so that every pair is in **exactly**  $\lambda$  elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Definition 1.2** A regular configuration on  $p$  points with regularity  $\rho$  on  $b$  blocks is a pair  $(P, \mathcal{L})$  where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a collection of 3-subsets of a (usually small) set  $P$  so that every  $p$  in  $P$  is in **exactly**  $\rho$  elements of  $\mathcal{L}$ , and  $|\mathcal{L}| = l$ .

The Pasch configuration  $(\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{012, 035, 125, 134\})$  has  $p=6$ ,  $l=4$ , and  $\rho=2$ .

**Definition 1.3** A  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel (or resolution) class of size  $v = pt$  is a set of  $v$  points together with a collection of  $lt$  lines which is isomorphic to  $t$  vertex disjoint copies of  $\mathbb{C}$

**Definition 1.4** A  $\lambda$ -TS  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , is resolvable into a regular configuration  $\mathbb{C} = (P, \mathcal{L})$  if  $\mathcal{B}$  can be partitioned into sets  $\Pi_i$  parallel classes  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{b}{l}$ , or more simply, a triple system is called  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable iff its blocks can be partitioned into disjoint  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes.

If the configuration is a single block on three points this corresponds to ordinary resolvability of a triple system. On the other hand if  $\mathbb{C}$  is itself a  $\lambda$ -TS  $(k)$ , the existence of  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable resolvable  $\lambda \times \mu$ -TS  $(v)$  is equivalent to the existence of a resolvable balanced incomplete block design  $RBIBD(v, k, \mu)$ . This frames the existence problem for  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable triple systems between the concept of resolvable triple systems and resolvable block designs of other block sizes. Since not much is known about resolvable block designs with  $k \geq 7$  perhaps the intermediate problem of  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable triple systems with a small number of lines will shed some light on the general problem.

We shall use  $\mathbb{C}$  for a configuration with  $p$  for the number of points and  $l$  for the number of lines and regularity  $\rho$ . Further we define  $\lambda_{max}$  to be the maximal number of lines that any pair occurs in. Similarly  $rep_{max}$  will denote the maximal number of times a block is repeated.

**Lemma 1.1** The necessary conditions for a  $\lambda$ -TS  $(v)$  to be  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable are

1.  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$
2.  $\lambda(v-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$
3.  $\lambda \geq \lambda_{max}$
4. Let  $v = tp$  then  $\lambda p(pt-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{6l}$
5. If  $\mathbb{C} = (P, \mathcal{L})$  where  $\mathcal{L}$  consists of  $m$  copies of the set  $\mathcal{L}'$  then necessary (and sufficient) conditions for  $\mathbb{C}$  are those of  $\mathbb{C}'$  with “ $\lambda$ ” replaced by “ $m\lambda$ ”

Proof: 1, 2, 3 and 5 are trivial. The number of blocks in the  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$  is  $\frac{\lambda pt(pt-1)}{6}$  which must be divisible by the number of blocks in a parallel class which is  $tl$ .

■

The solutions to the equation

$$3l = p\rho$$

will be useful in classifying the regular configurations.

## 2 $\mathbb{C}$ -Resolvable Group Divisible Designs

In order to construct the desired triple systems we shall need two auxiliary concepts. We recall the standard definition of a  $k - GDD_\lambda(g, n)$ .

**Definition 2.1** A  $k - GDD_\lambda(g, n)$  is a set  $V$  partitioned into  $n$ ,  $g$ -sets  $G_i$  called groups together with a collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $k$ -subsets called blocks so that

1. every 2-subset (pair) of elements of  $V$  which are from different groups are a subset of **exactly**  $\lambda$  blocks
2. and **no** block contains two elements from the same group.

**Definition 2.2** A resolvable  $k - GDD_\lambda(g, n)$  is a  $k - GDD_\lambda(g, n)$  where  $\mathcal{B}$  can be partitioned into parallel classes i.e each class contains every point exactly once.

**Definition 2.3** A  $k - GDD_\lambda(g, n)$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable when  $\mathcal{B}$  can be partitioned into  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes.

For this paper, we shall always have  $k = 3$  and may omit it from the notation; we may also omit  $\lambda$  when  $\lambda = 1$ .

The constructions will be based on the following variants of Wilson's Theorem.

**Theorem 2.1** (Master by Ingredient) *Let  $(V_M, \mathcal{B}_M)$  be a resolvable 3-GDD $_{\lambda}(g, n)$ , (called the master) and  $(V_I, \mathcal{B}_I)$  be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable 3-GDD $_{\mu}(h, 3)$  (called the ingredient) then there exists a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable 3-GDD $_{\lambda \times \mu}(gh, n)$ .*

**Theorem 2.2** (Filling in groups) *Let  $(V, \mathcal{B})$  be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable 3-GDD $_{\lambda}(g, n)$  and  $(D, \mathcal{B}_D)$  be  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS with  $|D| = g$ . Then there exists a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $gn$ ) there exists.*

The proofs of the above theorems are routine exercises based on the proofs of the original theorems found in the introductory chapter of [8].

Sometimes we have the fortuitous situation of what we shall call an  $\mu$ -auto ingredient configuration. That is a situation where the configuration  $\mathbb{C} = (P, \mathcal{L})$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel class of a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable 3-GDD $_{\mu}(g, 3)$ ,  $3g = |P|$ . We give 3 examples:

**Example 2.1** *The trivial examples of the  $r$ -repeated block*

$$\mathbb{C} = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \underbrace{\{123, 123 \cdots 123\}}_{r \text{ times}})$$

*is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable 3-GDD $_r(1, 3)$ .*

**Example 2.2**  $\mathbb{C}_{4.6.2}$  or Pasch

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{125, 146, 326, 345\}$$

*This is also a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable 3-GDD $_1(2, 3)$  with groups  $\{1, 3\}$ ,  $\{2, 4\}$ ,  $\{5, 6\}$ .*

**Example 2.3**  $\mathbb{C}_{4.6.3}$  or FIFA

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{125, 126, 346, 345\}$$

*This forms one  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable class of 3-GDD $_2(2, 3)$  with groups  $\{1, 3\}$ ,  $\{2, 4\}$ ,  $\{5, 6\}$ . The other is  $\{145, 146, 236, 235\}$ .*

**Corollary 2.1** *If  $\mathbb{C}$  is an  $\mu$  auto-ingredient configuration  $(P, \mathcal{L})$  with  $|P| = 3g$  and there exist a resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $w$ ) and a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\mu$ -TS( $3g$ ), then there exists a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda \times \mu$ -TS( $gw$ ).*

### 3 The regular configurations on 6 or fewer lines

#### 3.1 Enumeration and Necessity

We shall now enumerate all regular configurations on six or fewer lines and give necessary conditions for the existence of a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$ .

We shall number the configurations by  $\mathbb{C}_{l,p,n}$ , where  $l$  is the number of lines,  $p$  the number of points, and  $n$  the number of the configuration.

**Lemma 3.1** *The enumeration of the regular configurations with  $l \leq 3$  lines is as follows*

**The case  $l=1$**

$\mathbb{C}_{1.3.1}$   $P = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \{123\}$ .

*A  $\mathbb{C}_{1.3.1}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$  is just a resolvable triple system for which the necessary conditions are  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $\lambda$  even if  $v$  is even .*

**The case  $l=2$ .** *In this case there are two configurations*

$\mathbb{C}_{2.3.1}$   $P = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \{123, 123\}$

*A  $\mathbb{C}_{2.3.1}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$  is just a resolvable triple system with every block repeated. The necessary conditions are  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  if  $v$  is odd and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  if  $v$  is even.*

$\mathbb{C}_{2.6.1}$   $P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \{123, 456\}$

*A  $\mathbb{C}_{2.6.1}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$  is just a resolvable triple system with an even number of blocks and the necessary conditions are  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ .*

**The case  $l=3$**

$\mathbb{C}_{3.3.1}$   $P = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 123\}$  *A  $\mathbb{C}_{3.3.1}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$  is just a resolvable triple system with every block repeated 3 times. The necessary conditions are  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  if  $v$  is odd and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  if  $v$  is even.*

$\mathbb{C}_{3.9.1}$   $P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \{123, 456, 789\}$

*A  $\mathbb{C}_{3.9.1}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$  is just a resolvable triple system whose number of blocks is divisible by 3. The necessary conditions are  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$ .*

**Lemma 3.2** *There are six regular configurations with four lines and the necessary conditions for the existence of a  $\mathbb{C}_{4,x}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ - $TS(v)$ , say  $\mathcal{B}_{4,x}$ , are as follows:*

$\mathbb{C}_{4.3.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 123, 123\}$$

$v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  if  $v$  odd,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  if  $v$  even.

 $\mathbb{C}_{4.4.1}$  or  $2\mathbb{K}_4$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 234, 341, 412\}$$

$v \equiv 4 \pmod{12}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 2, 4 \pmod{6}$  and  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$

 $\mathbb{C}_{4.6.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 456, 456\}$$

$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$

 $\mathbb{C}_{4.6.2}$  or **Pasch**

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{125, 146, 326, 345\}$$

$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$

 $\mathbb{C}_{4.6.3}$  or **FIFA**

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{125, 126, 346, 345\}$$

$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$

 $\mathbb{C}_{4.12.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 456, 789, ABC\}$$

$v \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$

**Lemma 3.3** *There are four regular configurations with five lines and the necessary conditions for the existence of a  $\mathbb{C}_{5,x}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $v$ ), say  $\mathcal{B}_{5,x}$ , are as follows:*

 $\mathbb{C}_{5.3.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 123, 123, 123\}$$

$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$  and  $v \equiv 3 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$

$\mathbb{C}_{5.5.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 145, 245, 345\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 0 \pmod{5}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}; \\ v &\equiv 10 \pmod{15}, \lambda \equiv 2, 4 \pmod{6}, \lambda \geq 3; \\ v &\equiv 5 \pmod{10}, \lambda \equiv 3 \pmod{6}; \\ v &\equiv 10 \pmod{15}, \lambda \equiv 1, 5 \pmod{6}, \lambda \geq 3. \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{5.5.2}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 135, 245, 345\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 0 \pmod{5}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}; \quad v \equiv 10 \pmod{15}, \lambda \equiv 2, 4 \pmod{6}; \quad v \equiv 5 \\ &\pmod{10}, \lambda \equiv 3 \pmod{6}; \\ v &\equiv 10 \pmod{15}, \lambda \equiv 1, 5 \pmod{6}, \lambda \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{5.15.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{L} = \{123, 456, 789, ABC, DEF\}$$

$$v \equiv 15 \pmod{30}, \text{ any } \lambda, \text{ and } v \equiv 0 \pmod{30}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

In order to distinguish the isomorphism classes for  $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.x}$  and  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.x}$ , we shall use the invariants of number of repeated blocks, number of repeated pairs and the maximal number of disjoint blocks in the configuration.

**Lemma 3.4** *There are 18 regular configurations with six lines and the necessary conditions for the existence of a  $\mathbb{C}_{6.x}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $v$ ), say  $\mathcal{B}_{6.x}$ , are as follows:*

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.3.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 123, 123, 123, 123\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 123, 456, 456, 456\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

$\mathbb{C}_{6.6.2}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 134, 256, 456, 456\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.3}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 135, 236, 456, 456\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.4}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 134, 256, 356, 456\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.5}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 135, 246, 356, 456\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.6}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 135, 346, 256, 456\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.7}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 156, 256, 345, 346\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.1}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 456, 456, 789, 789\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{9}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \text{ and}$$

$$v \equiv 9 \pmod{18}, \lambda \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$$

$\mathbb{C}_{6.9.2}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 456, 457, 689, 789\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \lambda \geq 2, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.3}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 356, 457, 689, 789\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \lambda \geq 2, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.4}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 367, 489, 567, 589\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \lambda \geq 2, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.5}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 124, 367, 489, 568, 579\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \lambda \geq 2, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.6}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 145, 246, 379, 578, 689\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \text{any } \lambda, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.7}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 145, 267, 367, 489, 589\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \lambda \geq 2, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.8}$ 

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 145, 267, 389, 468, 579\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv 9s \pmod{36} & \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2; \\ \lambda &\equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \text{any } \lambda, s = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbb{C}_{6.9.9}$

$$P = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \text{ and } \mathcal{L} = \{123, 123, 456, 478, 579, 689\}$$

$$v \equiv 9s \pmod{36} \quad \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, s = 0, 2;$$

$$\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, s = 3; \lambda \geq 2, s = 1$$

$\mathbb{C}_{6.18.1}$

$$P = \{a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r\} \text{ and}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \{abc, def, ghi, jkl, mno, pqr\}$$

$$v \equiv 0 \pmod{18}, \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

### 3.2 Necessary and Sufficient conditions for all $l \leq 4$ and some $l = 5, 6$

**Theorem 3.1** *The necessary conditions for the following  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable designs to exist are sufficient with the addition of  $v \neq 6$ ,  $v \neq 6$  and  $\lambda \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $v \neq 6$  and  $\lambda \equiv 6 \pmod{12}$  to those marked respectively with a “\*”, “\*\*”, “\*\*\*”:*

Configuration	Note	Configuration	Note	Configuration	Note
$\mathcal{B}_{1.3.1}^*$	1	$\mathcal{B}_{2.3.1}^*$	3	$\mathcal{B}_{2.6.1}^{**}$	2,3
$\mathcal{B}_{3.3.1}^*$	1	$\mathcal{B}_{3.9.1}$	2	$\mathcal{B}_{4.3.1}^*$	2
$\mathcal{B}_{4.4.1}$	2	$\mathcal{B}_{4.6.1}$	2,3	$\mathcal{B}_{4.12.1}$	1
$\mathcal{B}_{5.3.1}^*$	3	$\mathcal{B}_{5.15.1}$	1	$\mathcal{B}_{6.3.1}^*$	3
$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.1}^{***}$	2,3	$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.1}$	2,3	$\mathcal{B}_{6.18.1}$	1

Proof: The desired  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable design is equivalent to the existence of a RBIBD whose number of blocks is a multiple of the number of blocks in the former and whose  $\lambda$  is a divisor of the former because

1. A parallel class of the RBIBD can be partitioned to form a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable parallel class.
2. Some multiple of each of the RBIBD can be partitioned into copies of  $\mathbb{C}$ .
3. A  $\mathbb{C}$  parallel class is just an RBIBD parallel class with each block repeated  $\mu$  times.

The “Note” indicates which reason(s) should be used for the given configuration.



**Theorem 3.2** *The necessary conditions for the existence of a  $\mathcal{B}_{4.6.2}$  and a  $\mathcal{B}_{4.6.3}$  are sufficient except possibly if  $v = 12$ .*

Proof: It is well-known that a  $3$ - $RGDD(3, n)$  (or a Kirkman triple system of order  $3n$ ) exists if and only if  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  and also that a  $3$ - $RGDD_2(3, n)$  exists for all integers  $n \neq 2$ . We use the master by ingredient construction using for a master a  $3$ - $RGDD(3, n)$  if  $v \equiv 6 \pmod{12}$  and a  $3$ - $RGDD_2(3, n)$  if  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  $v \geq 24$ . For auto-ingredient use example 2.2 (taken 4 times in the first case and 2 times in the second one) for the Pasch and example 2.3 (taken twice in the first case and 1 time in the second one) for the FIFA.

In order to fill in groups we need  $\mathbb{C}_{4.6.2}$  and  $.3$  resolvable designs:

$\mathcal{B}_{4.6.2}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 4$ . The 5  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:  
 $\{\{\infty, 1+i, 3+i\}, \{\infty, 2+i, 4+i\}, \{0+i, 1+i, 2+i\},$   
 $\{0+i, 3+i, 4+i\} \pmod{5}\}, i \in Z_5$

$\mathcal{B}_{4.6.3}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 4$ . The 5  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are  
 $\{\{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 2+i, 4+i\}, \{0+i, 1+i, 4+i\},$   
 $\{0+i, 2+i, 4+i\} \pmod{5}\}, i \in Z_5$

**Theorem 3.3** *If there is a  $RBIBD(v, 5, \mu)$  then there is a  $\mathcal{B}_{5.5.x}$  for the following values of  $x$  and  $\lambda$ :  $x = 1$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6\mu}$ ;  $x = 2$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{3\mu}$ .*

Proof: The existence of a  $RBIBD(v, 5, \mu)$  is known in many cases, see [6] for a survey of the results. The proof follows from the existence of a  $\mathcal{B}_{5.5.x}$ , and using one parallel class of blocks as the groups to create the master  $RGDD$  needed.  $x = 1$  and  $\lambda = 6$ ,  $x = 2$  and  $\lambda = 3$ .

$\mathcal{B}_{6.5.1}$ ,  $V = Z_5$ ,  $\lambda = 6$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\{032, 032, 014, 214, 314\},$$

$$\{012, 012, 034, 134, 234\},$$

$$\{123, 123, 104, 204, 304\},$$

$$\{013, 013, 024, 124, 324\}.$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.5.2}$ ,  $V = Z_5$ ,  $\lambda = 3$ . The 2  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\{032, 034, 021, 341, 241\},$$

$$\{041, 042, 013, 423, 123\}.$$

### 3.3 Further sufficient conditions for $l = 6$

In this section we examine some sufficient conditions which fall short of the necessary conditions. In each case there is a range of uncertainty which further work may narrow.

**Theorem 3.4** *For each  $v \equiv 6 \pmod{12}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  and  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  $v \geq 24$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ , there exists a  $\mathcal{B}_{6.6.3}$ .*

Proof: We proceed as in Theorem 3.2 by using the same master, the following 6-auto ingredient configuration and  $\mathcal{B}_{6.6.3}$  with  $v = 6$ ,  $\lambda = 6$ .

A 6-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.3}$ :

$V = Z_6$ . The groups are:  $\{0, 3\}$ ,  $\{1, 4\}$ ,  $\{2, 5\}$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\{012, 015, 024, 123, 534, 534\},$$

$$\{312, 315, 324, 120, 045, 045\},$$

$$\{315, 312, 354, 150, 024, 024\},$$

$$\{015, 012, 054, 153, 234, 234\}.$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.3}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 6$ . The 5  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 1+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 1+i, 3+i\}, \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i \pmod{5}\}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

■

**Theorem 3.5** *For each  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  $v \neq 24$ , there exists a  $\mathcal{B}_{6.6.2}$  and a  $\mathcal{B}_{6.6.5}$ .*

Proof: A 6-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.2}$ :

$V = Z_6$ . The groups are:  $\{0, 3\}$ ,  $\{1, 4\}$ ,  $\{2, 5\}$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\{012, 012, 024, 135, 435, 435\},$$

$$\{312, 312, 324, 105, 405, 405\},$$

$$\{015, 015, 054, 123, 423, 423\},$$

$$\{315, 315, 354, 102, 402, 402\}.$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.2}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 12$ . The 10  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 1+i, 3+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 2+i, 4+i\}, \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i\} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 2+i, 3+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 1+i, 4+i\}, \{1+i, 3+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{1+i, 3+i, 4+i\} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

A 6-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.6.5}$ :

$V = Z_6$ . The groups are:  $\{0, 3\}$ ,  $\{1, 4\}$ ,  $\{2, 5\}$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{012, 015, 024, 153, 243, 543\}, \\ & \{045, 042, 051, 423, 513, 213\}, \\ & \{342, 345, 321, 450, 210, 510\}, \\ & \{042, 045, 021, 453, 213, 513\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.5}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 12$  The 10  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 1+i, 3+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 2+i, 4+i\}, \{1+i, 3+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i\} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \\ & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 4+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 4+i, 3+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 2+i, 1+i\}, \{4+i, 3+i, 1+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 3+i, 1+i\} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

■

**Theorem 3.6** *Let  $\lambda$  be even. The necessary conditions for a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\mathcal{B}_{6.9.x}$ ,  $x = 2, 3, 4, 8$ , to exist are sufficient with the addition of  $v \neq 18$ .*

Proof: A 2-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.2}$ :

$V = Z_9$ . The groups are:  $\{1, 3, 0\}$ ,  $\{2, 5, 7\}$ ,  $\{4, 6, 8\}$ . The 3  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{176, 176, 432, 435, 280, 580\}, \\ & \{378, 378, 415, 412, 560, 260\}, \\ & \{470, 470, 182, 185, 236, 536\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.2}$ ,  $V = Z_9$ ,  $\lambda = 2$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{123, 123, 705, 708, 564, 864\}, \\ & \{247, 247, 180, 186, 053, 653\}, \\ & \{258, 258, 673, 671, 340, 140\}, \\ & \{260, 260, 387, 384, 715, 415\}. \end{aligned}$$

A 2-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.3}$ :

$V = Z_9$ . The groups are:  $\{0, 1, 3\}$ ,  $\{2, 5, 7\}$ ,  $\{4, 6, 8\}$ . The 3  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{124, 128, 470, 873, 563, 560\}, \\ &\{541, 543, 176, 378, 620, 820\}, \\ &\{580, 581, 047, 176, 423, 623\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.3}$ ,  $V = Z_9$ ,  $\lambda = 2$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{130, 134, 085, 486, 627, 527\}, \\ &\{120, 124, 056, 457, 638, 738\}, \\ &\{178, 176, 802, 604, 453, 253\}, \\ &\{704, 703, 428, 326, 851, 651\}. \end{aligned}$$

A 2-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.4}$ :

$V = Z_9$ . The groups are:  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\{4, 6, 8\}$ ,  $\{0, 5, 7\}$ . The 3  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{145, 147, 526, 738, 026, 038\}, \\ &\{167, 160, 728, 034, 528, 534\}, \\ &\{365, 367, 518, 724, 018, 024\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.4}$ ,  $V = Z_9$ ,  $\lambda = 2$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{374, 378, 124, 125, 608, 605\}, \\ &\{167, 163, 287, 280, 453, 450\}, \\ &\{301, 302, 481, 486, 752, 756\}, \\ &\{701, 704, 851, 853, 623, 264\}. \end{aligned}$$

A 2-auto ingredient configuration  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.8}$ :

$V = Z_9$ . The groups are:  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\{4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $\{0, 7, 8\}$ . The 3  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{147, 160, 428, 735, 638, 025\}, \\ &\{160, 158, 627, 034, 537, 824\}, \\ &\{158, 147, 520, 836, 430, 726\}. \end{aligned}$$

For a  $\mathcal{B}_{6.9.8}$  with  $\lambda = 2$  take two copies of the following Kirkman triple system of order 9:

$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.8}$ ,  $V = Z_9$ ,  $\lambda = 1$ . The 2  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{023, 067, 245, 318, 658, 741\}, \\ &\{162, 150, 287, 634, 537, 048\}. \end{aligned}$$



## 4 Conclusions

$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.4}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 12$ . The 10  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 1+i, 2+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 3+i, 4+i\}, \{1+i, 3+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i \} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \\ & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 3+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 2+i\}, \{\infty, 3+i, 2+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 1+i, 4+i\}, \{3+i, 1+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 1+i, 4+i \} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.6}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 6$ . The 5  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 4+i\}, \{\infty, 1+i, 3+i\}, \\ & \{1+i, 4+i, 2+i\}, \{0+i, 3+i, 2+i\}, \\ & \{2+i, 3+i, 4+i \} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.6.7}$ ,  $V = Z_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\lambda = 12$ . The 10  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 0+i, 3+i\}, \{\infty, 4+i, 2+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 2+i, 4+i\}, \{1+i, 3+i, 2+i\}, \\ & \{1+i, 3+i, 4+i \} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \\ & \{ \{\infty, 0+i, 1+i\}, \{\infty, 1+i, 4+i\}, \{\infty, 3+i, 2+i\}, \\ & \{1+i, 2+i, 3+i\}, \{0+i, 2+i, 4+i\}, \\ & \{0+i, 3+i, 4+i \} \bmod 5 \}, i \in Z_5 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.2}$ ,  $V = Z_9$ ,  $\lambda = 3$ . The 6  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{123, 123, 470, 478, 650, 658\}, \\ & \{268, 268, 174, 170, 354, 350\}, \\ & \{348, 348, 157, 152, 607, 602\}, \\ & \{108, 108, 452, 456, 372, 376\}, \\ & \{146, 146, 278, 275, 308, 305\}, \\ & \{240, 240, 361, 367, 581, 587\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_{6.9.9}$ ,  $V = Z_9$ ,  $\lambda = 2$ . The 4  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes are:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{123, 123, 465, 478, 570, 680\}, \\ & \{158, 158, 246, 270, 347, 360\}, \\ & \{140, 140, 256, 287, 357, 368\}, \\ & \{167, 167, 245, 280, 348, 350\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4.1** A configuration  $\mathbb{C} = (P, \mathcal{L})$  is strongly 3-colorable if and only if the vertices of  $P$  can be colored such that each  $l \in \mathcal{L}$  receives one vertex of each color.[2]

**Definition 4.2** A coloring of a configuration  $\mathbb{C} = (P, \mathcal{L})$  is equitable if and only if all color classes have the same size.[3]

**Definition 4.3** A regular configuration is uniform if it has a strong equitable coloring.

For example  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.2}$  and  $\mathbb{C}_{6.9.9}$  is uniform,  $\mathbb{C}_{5.5.1}$  and  $\mathbb{C}_{5.5.2}$  is not uniform.

Let  $\mathbb{C}$  be a uniform configuration, and let  $(V, \mathcal{B})$  be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS. We will suppose that the blocks of  $\mathcal{B}$  are colored by inheriting the colors of  $\mathbb{C}$ . Further we will always write the blocks as  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$  where the color of  $a_i = i$ .

**Theorem 4.1** Let  $\mathbb{C}$  be uniform configuration. Suppose there exist: a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $v$ ),  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ ; a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $w$ ); two orthogonal quasigroups of order  $w$ ,  $(Z_w, \cdot)$  and  $(Z_w, \circ)$ . Then there is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $vw$ ).

Proof: For each  $\alpha \in Z_w$  let  $T_\alpha = \{(i, j, i \circ j) \mid i, j \in Z_w \ i \cdot j = \alpha\}$  be a transversal of  $(Z_w, \circ)$ . Let  $W = (V \times Z_w) \cup T$  and construct a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $vw$ ),  $(W, \mathcal{D})$  in the following way:

For each  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel class  $\mathcal{B}_x$  of  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , construct the following  $w$   $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel classes of  $(W, \mathcal{D})$ ,

$$\mathcal{B}_x^\alpha = \{\{a_i, b_j, c_{i \circ j}\} \mid \{a, b, c\} \in \mathcal{B}_x \text{ and } (i, j, i \circ j) \in T_\alpha\}.$$

For each  $a \in V$  let  $(a \times Z_w, \mathcal{E}_a)$  be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -resolvable  $\lambda$ -TS( $w$ ). Clearly  $\cup_{a \in V} \mathcal{E}_a$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -parallel class of  $(W, \mathcal{D})$ . ■

**Corollary 4.1** For each  $v=9^n$  there is a  $\mathcal{B}_{6,9,2}$  with  $\lambda = 3$  and a  $\mathcal{B}_{6,9,9}$  with  $\lambda = 2$ .

Proof: The proof follows from Theorem 4.1 and the existence of above  $\mathcal{B}_{6,9,2}$  with  $v = 9$ ,  $\lambda = 3$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{6,9,9}$  with  $v = 9$ ,  $\lambda = 2$ . ■

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