
**11. Practice sheet for the lecture:
Combinatorics (DS I)**

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Due dates: 25./27. June

<http://www.math.tu-berlin.de/~felsner/Lehre/dsI19.html>

- (1) (This exercise gives 2 points.) For which of the parameter sets does a design exist? Either show that there is none or present one. (if λ is omitted, it is 1.)

- (a) $S(2, 3, 127)$ (d) $S(2, 7, 36)$
(b) $S_2(4, 7, 13)$ (e) $S_{10}(2, 5, 9)$
(c) $S_3(2, 10, 25)$ (f) $S_3(3, 5, 21)$

[Hint to (f): Consider the edge set of K_7 .]

- (2) Let $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B})$ be a $S_\lambda(t, k, v)$ design.

- (a) Let $p \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\mathcal{B}^p := \{B : p \notin B \in \mathcal{B}\}$ be the set of blocks, which do not contain p . Show that $(\mathcal{P} \setminus \{p\}, \mathcal{B}^p)$ is a design. What are its parameters?
(b) Consider the *complement* of a $S_\lambda(t, k, v)$, i.e., replace each block by its complement. Prove that the complement of a $S_\lambda(t, k, v)$ is a design for the same parameter t . Determine its other parameters.

- (3) A design $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B})$ is *resolvable*, if there is a partition of \mathcal{B} , such that each part is a partition of \mathcal{P} .

Let $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B}) = S(2, n+1, n^2+n+1)$ be a projective plane and fix $B \in \mathcal{B}$. Show that

$$\left(\mathcal{P} \setminus B, \{C \setminus B \mid C \in \mathcal{B} \setminus \{B\}\} \right)$$

is a resolvable $S(2, n, n^2)$ design.

- (4) Let (V, \mathcal{B}) be a design, $I, J \subseteq V$ with $I \cap J = \emptyset$ and $|I| = i, |J| = j$ such that $i+j \leq t$. Let $\lambda_{I,J} = \#\{B \in \mathcal{B} \mid I \subseteq B \text{ and } J \cap B = \emptyset\}$.

- (a) Show that $\lambda_{I,J}$ does only depend on i and j and not on I and J , i.e. $\lambda_{i,j} := \lambda_{I,J}$ is well defined.

- (b) Prove $\lambda_{i,j} = \lambda_{i+1,j} + \lambda_{i,j+1}$ for $i+j < t$.

- (c) Prove $\lambda_{i,j} = \sum_{r=0}^j (-1)^r \binom{j}{r} \lambda_{i+r,0}$.

- (5) Let q be a prime power. For every $k, n \in \mathbb{N}, k \leq n$, construct the following design:

$$S_\lambda \left(2, \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, \begin{bmatrix} n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q \right) \text{ with } \lambda = \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ k-2 \end{bmatrix}_q.$$