

# Mutually Disjoint Designs and New 5-Designs Derived from Groups and Codes

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## Abstract

The paper gives constructions of disjoint 5-designs obtained from permutation groups and extremal self-dual codes. Several new simple 5-designs are found with parameters that were left open in the table of 5-designs given in [10], namely, 5- $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs with  $(v, k, \lambda) = (18, 8, 2m)$  ( $m = 6, 9$ ),  $(19, 9, 7m)$  ( $m = 6, 9$ ),  $(24, 9, 6m)$  ( $m = 3, 4, 5$ ),  $(25, 9, 30)$ ,  $(25, 10, 24m)$  ( $m = 4, 5$ ),  $(26, 10, 126)$ ,  $(30, 12, 440)$ ,  $(32, 6, 3m)$  ( $m = 2, 3, 4$ ),  $(33, 7, 84)$ , and  $(36, 12, 45n)$  for  $2 \leq n \leq 17$ . These results imply that a simple 5- $(v, k, \lambda)$  design with  $(v, k) = (24, 9)$ ,  $(25, 9)$ ,  $(26, 10)$ ,  $(32, 6)$ , or  $(33, 7)$  exists for all admissible values of  $\lambda$ .

## 1 Introduction

A  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design  $D$  is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  where  $X$  is a set of  $v$  points and a collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $k$ -subsets of  $X$  called blocks such that every  $t$ -subset of  $X$  is

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contained in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks (see [3] and [6]). A design with no repeated block is called *simple*. All designs in this paper are simple. A *Steiner system*  $S(t, k, v)$  is a  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design with  $\lambda = 1$ . An automorphism of a  $t$ -design  $D$  is any permutation of the points that preserves the collection of blocks, and the *automorphism group*  $\text{Aut}(D)$  of  $D$  is the group consisting of all automorphisms of  $D$ .

The main goal of this paper is to determine the value of  $\lambda$  for which there exists a  $5$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design with

$$(1) \quad (v, k) = (24, 9), (25, 9), (26, 10), (32, 6) \text{ and } (33, 7).$$

Given a  $v$ -set  $X$ , we denote by  $\binom{X}{k}$  the collection of all  $k$ -subsets of  $X$ . Since  $D = (X, \binom{X}{k})$  is a  $t$ - $(v, k, \binom{v-t}{k-t})$  design, we have  $\lambda \leq \binom{v-t}{k-t}$  for any simple  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design. If  $D = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is a simple  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design then  $(X, \binom{X}{k} \setminus \mathcal{B})$  is a simple  $t$ - $(v, k, \binom{v-t}{k-t} - \lambda)$  design. Hence, it is sufficient to determine the existence of  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs with  $\lambda \leq \lfloor \binom{v-t}{k-t} / 2 \rfloor$ . If a  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design exists then  $\lambda_s = \lambda \binom{v-s}{t-s} / \binom{k-s}{t-s}$  is an integer for every integer  $s$  in the range  $0 \leq s \leq t$ . This often implies that  $\lambda$  is divisible by some positive integer  $u$ . For the values  $(v, k)$  listed in (1), we have  $\lambda = 6m, 15m, 63m, 3m$  and  $43m$ , respectively, where  $m$  is a positive integer. The largest  $m$  satisfying these conditions for a given  $(v, k)$  from (1) is listed in the last column of Table 1, and the values of  $m$  for which a  $5$ - $(v, k, mu)$  design is known to exist are listed in the third column of Table 1 (see Table 4.46 in [10]).

Table 1: Parameters of some 5-designs

$(v, k, \lambda)$	New	Known (Table 4.46 in [10])	Max
$(24, 9, 6m)$	3, 4, 5	1, 2, 6, $\dots$ , 323	323
$(25, 9, 15m)$	2	1, 3, 4, $\dots$ , 161	161
$(26, 10, 63m)$	2	1, 3, 4, $\dots$ , 161	161
$(32, 6, 3m)$	2, 3, 4	1	4
$(33, 7, 42m)$	2	1, 3, 4	4

Kramer and Mesner [13] introduced a method for the construction of  $t$ -designs with prescribed automorphism group. Using this approach, a software package DISCRETA [4] was developed that has already led to the discovery of several new  $t$ -designs with large  $t$ . Two  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs with

the same point set are said to be *disjoint* if they have no blocks in common. By finding permutations such that all images of the block set of a  $t$ -design under these permutations are mutually disjoint, mutually disjoint  $t$ -designs can be constructed. Moreover, the union of  $s$  mutually disjoint  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs gives a simple  $t$ - $(v, k, s\lambda)$  design. In Sections 3 and 4, we construct 5- $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs with parameters  $(v, k, \lambda) = (25, 9, 30)$ ,  $(26, 10, 126)$ ,  $(32, 6, 3m)$  ( $m = 2, 3, 4$ ) and  $(33, 7, 84)$  where the values of  $m$  are listed in the second column of Table 1. These 5-designs are constructed by considering mutually disjoint designs of known 5-designs and using DISCRETA, along with Proposition 2.1.

It is well known that a Steiner system  $S(5, 8, 24)$  and a 5- $(24, 12, 48)$  design can be constructed by taking as blocks the supports of codewords of weights 8 and 12 in the binary extended Golay  $[24, 12, 8]$  code. Similarly, a number of other 5-designs are constructed from self-dual codes (see [16, Table 1.61]). Mutually disjoint Steiner systems  $S(5, 8, 24)$  and 5- $(24, 12, 48)$  designs were constructed [1], [2], [9], [12]. In Sections 5 and 6, we investigate mutually disjoint designs for 5-designs which are obtained from extremal self-dual codes. In particular, 5- $(24, 9, 6m)$  designs with  $m = 3, 4, 5$  are constructed from mutually disjoint 5- $(24, 9, 6)$  designs. Thus, we determine all values of  $\lambda$  for which there exists a 5- $(v, k, \lambda)$  design with  $(v, k)$  as in (1). These values are listed in Table 1. Some other new 5-designs with parameters that were not known to exist before are also constructed in Section 6, namely, 5- $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs with  $(v, k, \lambda) = (18, 8, 2m)$  ( $m = 6, 9$ ),  $(19, 9, 7m)$  ( $m = 6, 9$ ),  $(25, 10, 24m)$  ( $m = 4, 5$ ),  $(30, 12, 440)$ , and  $(36, 12, 45n)$  for  $2 \leq n \leq 17$ .

## 2 Preliminaries

Throughout this paper,  $X_v$  will denote the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, v\}$ . Let  $D = (X_v, \mathcal{B})$  be a  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  design. We denote  $\{B^\sigma \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$  by  $\mathcal{B}^\sigma$ , where  $B^\sigma$  is the image of a block  $B$  under a permutation  $\sigma$  on  $X_v$ . Disjoint  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs  $(X_v, \mathcal{B})$  and  $(X_v, \mathcal{B}^\sigma)$  are constructed by finding a permutation  $\sigma$  such that  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}^\sigma$  have no blocks in common. Let  $(X_v, \mathcal{B}_1), (X_v, \mathcal{B}_2), \dots, (X_v, \mathcal{B}_m)$  be mutually disjoint  $t$ - $(v, k, \lambda)$  designs. Then  $(X_v, \cup_{i=1}^m \mathcal{B}_i)$  is a simple  $t$ - $(v, k, m\lambda)$  design. In this paper, we use this approach to find simple 5-designs with parameters that were not known to exist before.

Some of the 5-designs constructed in this paper are found using DISCRETA [4]. If  $G$  is a permutation group on  $X_v$  and  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_s$  are  $k$ -

subsets of  $X$  such that  $(X_v, \mathcal{B})$  is a  $t$ -( $v, k, \lambda$ ) design  $D$  where  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_i^\sigma \mid \sigma \in G, i = 1, 2, \dots, s\}$ , we call the blocks  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_s$  *base blocks* of  $D$  (with respect to  $G$ ). For description of designs constructed using this approach, we give a permutation group  $G$  along with base blocks.

We will need also the following auxiliary construction due to Tran van Trung [17].

**Proposition 2.1** ([17]). *If there is a  $t$ -( $v, k, \lambda_1$ ) design  $D_1 = (X_v, \mathcal{B}_1)$  and there is a  $t$ -( $v, k + 1, \lambda_2$ ) design  $D_2 = (X_v, \mathcal{B}_2)$  such that  $\lambda_1(v - t + 1)/(k - t + 1) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$ , then*

$$D_{new} = (X_v \cup \{v + 1\}, \text{app}_{v+1}(\mathcal{B}_1) \cup \mathcal{B}_2)$$

*is a  $t$ -( $v + 1, k + 1, \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$ ) design, where  $\text{app}_{v+1}(\mathcal{B}_1) = \{B \cup \{v + 1\} \mid B \in \mathcal{B}_1\}$ .*

### 3 5-(25, 9, 15 $m$ ) designs and 5-(26, 10, 63 $m$ ) designs

In order to construct a 5-(25, 9, 15) design using Proposition 2.1, we first construct a 5-(24, 8, 3) design and a 5-(24, 9, 12) design. A Steiner system  $S(5, 8, 24)$   $(X_{24}, \mathcal{E}_1)$  can be constructed from the group generated by the following permutations

$$(1, 3, 14, 10, 8, 16, 6, 12, 5, 20, 9, 23, 4, 18, 7, 22, 15, 21, 11, 19, 17, 13, 24), \\ (1, 2, 24)(3, 13, 23)(4, 17, 12)(5, 19, 16)(6, 11, 18)(7, 21, 10)(8, 15, 20)(9, 22, 14),$$

which is isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$ , along with a base block  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 16, 19\}$ . Define permutations on  $X_{24}$

$$\alpha_1 = (2, 5, 3, 19, 8, 4, 11, 12, 9, 15)(6, 16, 14, 18, 20, 10)(7, 17), \\ \alpha_2 = (2, 20, 17, 6, 19, 14, 12, 8, 7, 16, 5, 4, 11, 13, 9)(3, 10, 15, 18).$$

Then  $\{(X_{24}, \mathcal{E}_1), (X_{24}, \mathcal{E}_1^{\alpha_1}), (X_{24}, \mathcal{E}_1^{\alpha_2})\}$  are three mutually disjoint Steiner systems  $S(5, 8, 24)$  (see [12]). Hence  $(X_{24}, \mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_1^{\alpha_1} \cup \mathcal{E}_1^{\alpha_2})$  is a simple 5-(24, 8, 3) design  $E_{24,1}$ . A 5-(24, 9, 12) design  $E_{24,2}$  can be constructed from the above group  $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$  along with base blocks

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 16, 17\}.$$

By Proposition 2.1, a 5-(25, 9, 15) design  $(X_{25}, \mathcal{B}_{25})$  can be constructed from  $E_{24,1}$  and  $E_{24,2}$ .

Moreover we have verified that  $\{(X_{25}, \mathcal{B}_{25}), (X_{25}, \mathcal{B}_{25}^{\sigma_{25}})\}$  are two disjoint 5-(25, 9, 15) designs, where

$$\sigma_{25} = (1, 13, 2, 24)(3, 22, 6, 23, 16, 10, 21, 17, 4, 8)(5, 15, 12, 14, 19, 18, 9, 7)(11, 20).$$

Hence  $D_{25} = (X_{25}, \mathcal{B}_{25} \cup \mathcal{B}_{25}^{\sigma_{25}})$  is a simple 5-(25, 9, 30) design, and we have the following.

**Lemma 3.1.** (i) *There are at least two disjoint 5-(25, 9, 15) designs.*

(ii) *There is a simple 5-(25, 9, 30) design.*

We have verified by MAGMA [5] that  $D_{25}$  has a trivial automorphism group.

From Table 1, it is sufficient to consider whether a 5-(25, 9, 15 $m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 161$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(25, 9, 15 $m$ ) design for  $m = 1, 3, 4, \dots, 161$ . Hence, using Lemma 3.1, we can determine all  $\lambda$  for which there exists a simple 5-(25, 9,  $\lambda$ ) design.

**Theorem 3.2.** *A simple 5-(25, 9, 15 $m$ ) design exists for all  $m \leq 161$ .*

Using DISCRETA [4], a 5-(25, 10, 96) design  $D'_{25}$  can be constructed from the group generated by the following two permutations

$$(2, 4, 15, 11, 9, 17, 7, 13, 6, 21, 10, 24, 5, 19, 8, 23, 16, 22, 12, 20, 18, 14, 25), \\ (2, 3, 25)(4, 14, 24)(5, 18, 13)(6, 20, 17)(7, 12, 19)(8, 22, 11)(9, 16, 21)(10, 23, 15),$$

which is isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$ , along with base blocks

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 19\}, \quad \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 19, 22\}, \\ \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 22\}, \quad \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15\}, \\ \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15, 18\}.$$

By Proposition 2.1, a 5-(26, 10, 126) design  $D_{26}$  is constructed from the 5-(25, 9, 30) design  $D_{25}$  and the 5-(25, 10, 96) design  $D'_{25}$ . Thus, we have the following.

**Lemma 3.3.** *There exists a simple 5-(26, 10, 126) design.*

We have verified by MAGMA [5] that  $D_{26}$  has a trivial automorphism group.

From Table 1, it is sufficient to determine whether a  $5$ -(26, 10,  $63m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 161$ . It is known that there exists a  $5$ -(26, 10,  $63m$ ) design for  $m = 1, 3, 4, \dots, 161$ . Hence, by Lemma 3.3, we have the following result.

**Theorem 3.4.** *A simple  $5$ -(26, 10,  $63m$ ) design exists for all  $m \leq 161$ .*

*Remark 3.5.* Alternative proofs of Theorems 3.2 and 3.4 are given in Section 5.

## 4 $5$ -(32, 6, $3m$ ) designs and $5$ -(33, 7, $42m$ ) designs

In this section, using DISCRETA [4], we construct  $5$ -(32, 6,  $3m$ ) designs for  $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$  and a  $5$ -(33, 7, 84) design.

Let  $G_{32,1}$  be the group generated by the following two permutations

$$\begin{aligned} &(1, 10, 23, 28, 13, 18, 31, 4, 9, 22, 27, 16, 17, 30, 3, 12, \\ &\quad 21, 26, 15, 20, 29, 2, 11, 24, 25, 14, 19, 32)(5, 6, 7, 8), \\ &(1, 6, 29, 2, 5, 30)(3, 7, 31)(4, 8, 32)(9, 18, 25, 10, 17, 26) \\ &\quad (11, 19, 27)(12, 20, 28)(13, 14)(21, 22). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $G_{32,2}$  be the group generated by the following two permutations

$$\begin{aligned} &(1, 3, 18, 23, 10, 27, 28, 11, 6, 9, 30, 19, 15, 14, 22, 31, \\ &\quad 4, 13, 21, 20, 16, 5, 26, 29, 24, 7, 8, 25, 12, 17, 32), \\ &(1, 2, 32)(3, 17, 31)(4, 12, 16)(5, 25, 11)(6, 8, 24)(9, 29, 23) \\ &\quad (10, 26, 28)(13, 20, 15)(14, 21, 19)(18, 22, 30), \end{aligned}$$

and let  $G_{33}$  be the group generated by the following two permutations

$$\begin{aligned} &(1, 3)(4, 31)(5, 21)(6, 24)(7, 10)(8, 15)(9, 17)(11, 25)(12, 19) \\ &\quad (13, 26)(14, 16)(18, 27)(20, 30)(22, 29)(23, 33)(28, 32), \\ &(1, 20, 29, 7, 18, 23, 5, 13, 33, 10, 16, 15, 25, 27, 31, \\ &\quad 3, 2, 30, 26, 24, 14, 17, 11, 32, 12, 4, 22, 19, 6, 28, 21). \end{aligned}$$

Table 2: Groups and base blocks of  $D_{32,m}$  ( $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) and  $D_{33}$

	Designs $D$	Groups	Base blocks	$\text{Aut}(D)$
$D_{32,1}$	5-(32, 6, 3) design	$G_{32,1}$	Table 3	$G_{32,1}$
$D_{32,2}$	5-(32, 6, 6) design	$G_{32,2}$	Table 4	$G_{32,2}$
$D_{32,3}$	5-(32, 6, 9) design	$G_{32,1}$	Table 5	$G_{32,1}$
$D_{32,4}$	5-(32, 6, 12) design	$G_{32,2}$	Table 6	$G_{32,2}$
$D_{33}$	5-(33, 7, 84) design	$G_{33}$	Table 7	$G_{33}$

The groups are isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 7) \times S_4$ ,  $\text{PSL}(2, 31)$  and  $\text{PSL}(2, 32)$ , respectively.

We list in Table 2 the groups and base blocks for constructing 5-(32, 6,  $3m$ ) designs  $D_{32,m}$  ( $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) and a 5-(33, 7, 84) design  $D_{33}$ . The automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(D)$  for each design  $D$  is also given in the table where these automorphism groups are determined by MAGMA [5].

Table 4.46 in [10] claims the existence of a 5-(32, 6, 3) design with automorphism group  $\text{PSL}(2, 31)$ . This could not be verified with DISCRETA, but there exists a 5-(32, 6, 3) design having  $\text{PSL}(2, 7) \times S_4$  as automorphism group. The base blocks of this design are listed in Table 3. Thus we have the following.

**Lemma 4.1.** *There is a simple 5-(32, 6,  $3m$ ) design for  $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$  and there is a simple 5-(33, 7, 84) design.*

From Table 1, it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(32, 6,  $3m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 4$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(32, 6, 3) design. Hence, we can determine all  $\lambda$  for which there is a simple 5-(32, 6,  $\lambda$ ) design.

**Theorem 4.2.** *A simple 5-(32, 6,  $3m$ ) design exists for all  $m \leq 4$ .*

From Table 1, it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(33, 7,  $42m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 4$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(33, 7,  $42m$ ) design for  $m = 1, 3, 4$ . Hence, we determined all  $\lambda$  for which there is a simple 5-(33, 7,  $\lambda$ ) design.

**Theorem 4.3.** *A simple 5-(33, 7,  $42m$ ) design exists for all  $m \leq 4$ .*

Table 3: Base blocks of  $D_{32,1}$

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 18\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 20\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 28\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, 16\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 25\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 26\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 19\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 20\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 14\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 24\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 30\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 16\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 30\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 26\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 28\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 19\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 22\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 28\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 9, 17, 30\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 9, 17, 31\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 9, 27, 32\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 24\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 31\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 10, 19, 20\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 10, 19, 27\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 10, 19, 31\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 10, 23, 24\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 28\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 5, 19, 27, 31\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 7, 11, 16, 19\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 7, 11, 16, 27\}$ ,
$\{1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21\}$ ,	$\{1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 22\}$ ,	$\{1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 25\}$ ,	$\{1, 5, 9, 14, 19, 24\}$ ,
$\{1, 5, 9, 14, 22, 30\}$ ,	$\{1, 5, 9, 14, 23, 26\}$ ,	$\{1, 5, 10, 14, 19, 27\}$ ,	$\{1, 5, 10, 15, 18, 32\}$ ,
$\{1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 26\}$			

Table 4: Base blocks of  $D_{32,2}$

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 17\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 22\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 26\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 28\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 30\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 12\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 17\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 30\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 20\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 25\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 28\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 23\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 30\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 20, 23\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 28\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 22\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 14\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 16\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 5, 12, 20\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 31\}$			

## 5 5-(24, 9, 6m) designs

Recently, Jimbo and Shiromoto [9] have found 22 mutually disjoint Steiner systems  $S(5, 8, 24)$  by considering the binary extended Golay  $[24, 12, 8]$  code as a bordered double circulant code and using some permutations of special type. Inspired by this result, we give in this section 11 mutually disjoint 5-(24, 9, 6) designs obtained from the Pless symmetry code  $P_{24}$  of length 24 (see [15] for the Pless symmetry codes).

The code  $P_{24}$  is an extremal ternary bordered double circulant self-dual  $[24, 12, 9]$  code with the following generator matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 \\ & & & \vdots \\ & I_{12} & R_{11} & 1 \\ & & 2 & \cdots & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R_{11}$  is the circulant matrix with first row  $(0, 2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1)$  and  $I_{12}$  is the identity matrix of order 12. The codewords of weight 9 in  $P_{24}$  support a 5-(24, 9, 6) design  $D_{24} = (X_{24}, \mathcal{B}_{24})$  [15].



Table 5: Base blocks of  $D_{32,3}$

{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8},
{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 19},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 20},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 17},
{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 16},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 17},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 25},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 28},
{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 30},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 24},
{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 27},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 12, 20},	{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, 16},	{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, 20},
{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, 28},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 13},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 17},
{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 18},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 23},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 26},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 30},
{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 15},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 27},	{1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 28},
{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 14},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 15},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 19},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 24},
{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 25},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 27},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 28},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 16},
{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 18},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 20},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 28},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 30},
{1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 16},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 18},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 26},
{1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 30},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 32},	{1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 32},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 18},
{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 21},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 23},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 25},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 31},
{1, 2, 5, 9, 14, 19},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 14, 26},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 14, 30},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 16},
{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 19},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 22},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 24},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 28},
{1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 17, 30},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 17, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 19, 22},
{1, 2, 5, 9, 19, 30},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 19, 32},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 23, 27},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 23, 28},
{1, 2, 5, 9, 23, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 9, 26, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20},	{1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 23},
{1, 2, 5, 10, 19, 28},	{1, 2, 5, 10, 19, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 10, 23, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 10, 27, 28},
{1, 2, 5, 10, 27, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 10, 31, 32},	{1, 2, 5, 11, 12, 23},	{1, 2, 5, 11, 12, 31},
{1, 2, 5, 11, 15, 27},	{1, 2, 5, 11, 15, 32},	{1, 2, 5, 11, 19, 28},	{1, 2, 5, 11, 20, 27},
{1, 2, 5, 11, 20, 28},	{1, 2, 5, 11, 28, 31},	{1, 2, 5, 19, 27, 31},	{1, 2, 7, 11, 15, 20},
{1, 2, 7, 11, 15, 23},	{1, 2, 7, 11, 15, 27},	{1, 2, 7, 11, 16, 24},	{1, 2, 7, 11, 16, 27},
{1, 2, 7, 11, 16, 32},	{1, 2, 7, 11, 20, 27},	{1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21},	{1, 5, 9, 13, 18, 27},
{1, 5, 9, 14, 17, 22},	{1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 22},	{1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 23},	{1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 26},
{1, 5, 9, 14, 19, 25},	{1, 5, 9, 14, 19, 26},	{1, 5, 9, 14, 23, 26},	{1, 5, 9, 14, 23, 28},
{1, 5, 10, 14, 19, 28},	{1, 5, 10, 14, 27, 31},	{1, 5, 10, 14, 27, 32},	{1, 5, 10, 15, 18, 24},
{1, 5, 10, 15, 18, 27},	{1, 5, 10, 15, 18, 31},	{1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24},	{1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 28},
{1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 32}			

Table 6: Base blocks of  $D_{32,4}$

{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 17},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 19},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 20},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 22},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 23},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 27},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 28},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 29},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 12},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 15},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 16},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 17},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 20},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 27},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 30},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 12},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 20},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 25},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 28},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 29},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 30},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 12},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 15},	{1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 23},
{1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 30},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 12},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 25},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 28},
{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 17},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 22},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 14},	{1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 24},
{1, 2, 3, 5, 12, 20},	{1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 25},	{1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 31}	

Table 7: Base blocks of  $D_{33}$

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 22\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 17\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 23\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 26\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 29\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 15\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 17\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 18\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 20\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 23\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 18, 23\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 22, 26\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 26, 29\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 27\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 29\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 14\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 16\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 17\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 21\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 15\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 11, 17\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 12, 13\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 12, 14\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 14, 25\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 14, 27\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 16, 27\}$ ,	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 19, 29\}$ ,
$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 25, 33\}$			

Let  $G_{24}$  be the group of order 11 generated by the following permutation

$$(2) \quad \sigma_{24} = (13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23).$$

We have verified that  $\{(X_{24}, \mathcal{B}_{24}^\sigma) \mid \sigma \in G_{24}\}$  gives 11 mutually disjoint 5-(24, 9, 6) designs. For any non-empty subset  $S \subset G_{24}$ ,  $(X_{24}, \cup_{\sigma \in S} \mathcal{B}_{24}^\sigma)$  is a simple 5-(24, 9, 6| $S$ ) design. Hence, we have the following result.

**Lemma 5.1.** (i) *There exist at least 11 mutually disjoint 5-(24, 9, 6) designs.*

(ii) *A simple 5-(24, 9, 6 $m$ ) design exists for  $m = 1, 2, \dots, 11$ .*

We have verified by MAGMA [5] that the 5-(24, 9, 6 $m$ ) designs  $(X_{24}, \cup_{i=0}^{m-1} \mathcal{B}_{24}^{\sigma_{24}^i})$  have automorphism groups of orders 44 ( $m = 2, 3, \dots, 9$ ), 220 ( $m = 10$ ) and 2420 ( $m = 11$ ).

From Table 1, it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(24, 9, 6 $m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 323$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(24, 9, 6 $m$ ) design for  $m = 1, 2, 6, \dots, 323$ . Hence, using Lemma 5.1, we can determine all  $\lambda$  for which there is a simple 5-(24, 9,  $\lambda$ ) design.

**Theorem 5.2.** *A simple 5-(24, 9, 6 $m$ ) design exists for all  $m \leq 323$ .*

In Table 8, we list the parameters  $(v, k, \lambda)$  of 5-( $v, k, \lambda$ ) designs  $D_{\text{new}}$  constructed by Proposition 2.1 where the parameters of  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  in Proposition 2.1 and their references are also listed.

**Lemma 5.3.** *There exists a simple 5-(25, 10, 96) design and there exists a simple 5-(25, 10, 120) design.*

Table 8: 5-designs by Proposition 2.1 from designs in Lemma 5.1

	$D_{\text{new}}$	$D_1$	$D_2$
$N_1$	(25, 10, 96)	(24, 9, 24) Lemma 5.1	(24, 10, 72) [10, Table 4.46]
$N_2$	(25, 9, 30)	(24, 8, 6) [10, Table 4.46]	(24, 9, 24) Lemma 5.1
$N_3$	(25, 10, 120)	(24, 9, 30) Lemma 5.1	(24, 10, 90) [10, Table 4.46]
$N_4$	(26, 10, 126)	(25, 9, 30) Lemma 5.1	(25, 10, 96) $N_1$

*Remark 5.4.* The designs  $N_2$  and  $N_4$  give alternative proofs of Theorems 3.2 and 3.4, respectively.

Moreover, from [10, Table 4.46] it is sufficient to consider whether a 5-(25, 10, 24 $m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 323$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(25, 10, 24 $m$ ) design for  $m = 2, 6, \dots, 323$ . Therefore, we have the following result.

**Corollary 5.5.** *There exists a simple 5-(25, 10, 24 $m$ ) design for  $m = 2, 4, \dots, 323$ .*

## 6 Other 5-designs derived from self-dual codes

In this section, we investigate mutually disjoint designs for 5-designs which are constructed from some self-dual codes [16, Table 1.61].

### 6.1 5-(36, 12, 15 $m$ ) designs

The Pless symmetry code  $P_{36}$  of length 36 is an extremal ternary bordered double circulant self-dual code of length 36 with the following generator matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 \\ & I_{18} & R_{17} & \vdots \\ & & & 1 \\ & & 2 \ \cdots \ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R_{17}$  is the circulant matrix with first row

$$(0, 2, 2, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2).$$

A 5-(36, 12, 45) design  $D_{36} = (X_{36}, \mathcal{B}_{36})$  is constructed by taking as blocks the supports of codewords of weight 12 in  $P_{36}$  [15].

Let  $G_{36}$  be the group of order 17 generated by the following permutation

$$\sigma_{36} = (19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35).$$

We have verified that  $\{(X_{36}, \mathcal{B}_{36}^\sigma) \mid \sigma \in G_{36}\}$  gives 17 mutually disjoint 5-(36, 12, 45) designs.

**Lemma 6.1.** *There are at least 17 mutually disjoint 5-(36, 12, 45) designs.*

*Remark 6.2.* Jimbo [8] pointed out that Lemmas 5.1 and 6.1 have been proved by Angata and Shiromoto independently.

From [10, Table 4.46], it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(36, 12, 15m) design exists for  $m \leq 87652$ , and it is known that there exists a 5-(36, 12, 15m) design for only  $m = 3$ . Our mutually disjoint designs imply the following existence result for 5-(36, 12, 15m) designs.

**Theorem 6.3.** *There exists a simple 5-(36, 12, 15m) design with  $m = 3n$  for all  $1 \leq n \leq 17$ .*

We have verified by MAGMA [5] that the 5-(36, 12, 45m) designs  $(X_{36}, \cup_{i=0}^{m-1} \mathcal{B}_{36}^{(\sigma_{36}^i)})$  have automorphism groups of orders 68 ( $m = 2, 3, \dots, 15$ ), 544 ( $m = 16$ ) and 9248 ( $m = 17$ ).

## 6.2 5-(18, 8, 2m) designs

Let  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \{0, 1, \omega, \bar{\omega}\}$  be the finite field of order 4, where  $\bar{\omega} = \omega^2 = \omega + 1$ . An extremal Hermitian self-dual  $\mathbb{F}_4$ -code  $S_{18}$  of length 18 was given in [14] and is generated by

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & 1 \\ & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\ & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R'_{17}$  is the circulant matrix with first row

$$(1, \omega, \bar{\omega}, \omega, \omega, \omega, \bar{\omega}, \bar{\omega}, \bar{\omega}, \bar{\omega}, \bar{\omega}, \bar{\omega}, \bar{\omega}, \omega, \omega, \omega, \bar{\omega}, \omega).$$

A 5-(18, 8, 6) design  $D_{18} = (X_{18}, \mathcal{B}_{18})$  is constructed by taking as blocks the supports of codewords of weight 8 in  $S_{18}$  [14].

We have verified that  $\{(X_{18}, \mathcal{B}_{18}), (X_{18}, \mathcal{B}_{18}^{\sigma_{18,1}}), (X_{18}, \mathcal{B}_{18}^{\sigma_{18,2}})\}$  are mutually disjoint 5-(18, 8, 6) designs, where

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{18,1} &= (3, 16, 5, 12, 6, 14, 9, 11)(4, 7, 8)(10, 18, 15, 17, 13), \\ \sigma_{18,2} &= (2, 17, 4, 16, 11, 18, 8, 13, 9, 3, 10)(5, 12, 7, 6)(14, 15).\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 6.4.** *There are at least three mutually disjoint 5-(18, 8, 6) designs.*

From [10, Table 4.46], it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(18, 8, 2m) design exists for  $m \leq 71$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(18, 8, 2m) design for  $m = 3, 7, 8, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 24, 30, \dots, 33, 38, \dots, 41, 46, \dots, 49, 52, 54, \dots, 57, 62, \dots, 65, 70$  and 71. Our mutually disjoint designs determine the existence of a 5-(18, 8, 6m) design ( $m = 2, 3$ ). We have verified by MAGMA [5] that the 5-(18, 8, 6m) designs ( $m = 2, 3$ )  $(X_{18}, \mathcal{B}_{18} \cup \mathcal{B}_{18}^{\sigma_{18,1}})$  and  $(X_{18}, \mathcal{B}_{18} \cup \mathcal{B}_{18}^{\sigma_{18,1}} \cup \mathcal{B}_{18}^{\sigma_{18,2}})$  have automorphism groups of orders 1 and 2, respectively. Moreover, since a simple 5-(18, 9, 5m) design is known for  $m = 6, 9$  (see Table 4.46 in [10]), by Proposition 2.1, a 5-(19, 9, 7m) design is constructed for the first time for  $m = 6, 9$ .

**Proposition 6.5.** *There exists a simple 5-(18, 8, 6m) design for  $m = 2, 3$ , and there exists a simple 5-(19, 9, 7m) design for  $m = 6, 9$ .*

### 6.3 5-(30, 12, 220m) designs

Let  $C_{30}$  be the bordered double circulant  $\mathbb{F}_4$ -code with the following generator matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & & 1 \\ & & & & \vdots \\ & I_{15} & & R_{14} & 1 \\ & & & & 1 \\ & & & 1 & \cdots & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R_{14}$  is the circulant matrix with first row

$$(\bar{\omega}, \omega, 0, 1, \omega, \bar{\omega}, 0, 1, \bar{\omega}, \omega, 1, 1, 0, 0).$$

The code  $C_{30}$  is an extremal Hermitian self-dual code of length 30 and it is equivalent to the extended quadratic residue code of length 30 in [14]. A 5-(30, 12, 220) design  $D_{30} = (X_{30}, \mathcal{B}_{30})$  is constructed by taking as blocks the supports of codewords of weight 12 in  $C_{30}$  [14].

We have verified that  $\{(X_{30}, \mathcal{B}_{30}), (X_{30}, \mathcal{B}_{30}^{(\sigma_{30}^{12})})\}$  are mutually disjoint 5-(30, 12, 220) designs, where

$$\sigma_{30} = (16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29).$$

**Lemma 6.6.** *There exist at least two disjoint 5-(30, 12, 220) designs.*

From [10, Table 4.46], it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(30, 12, 220 $m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 1092$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(30, 12, 220 $m$ ) design for  $m = 1, 345, 760, 805, 920$ . Our mutually disjoint designs imply the existence of a 5-(30, 12, 440) design. We have verified by MAGMA [5] that the 5-(30, 12, 440) design  $(X_{30}, \mathcal{B}_{30} \cup \mathcal{B}_{30}^{(\sigma_{30}^{12})})$  has automorphism group of order 56.

**Proposition 6.7.** *There exists a simple 5-(30, 12, 440) design.*

## 6.4 Mutually disjoint 5-(24, 10, 36) designs

Let  $\mathbb{Z}_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  be the ring of integers modulo 4. Let  $C_{24}$  be the bordered double circulant  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ -code with the following generator matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 \\ & I_{12} & R'_{11} & \vdots \\ & & 3 & \cdots & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R'_{11}$  is the circulant matrix with first row  $(2, 3, 3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0)$ . The code  $C_{24}$  is an extremal Type II  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ -code of length 24 and it is equivalent to the code  $C_{1,11}$  given in [7, Table 1]. A 5-(24, 10, 36) design  $D'_{24} = (X_{24}, \mathcal{B}'_{24})$  is constructed by taking as blocks the supports of codewords of weight 10 in  $C_{24}$  [7].

We have verified that  $\{(X_{24}, \mathcal{B}'_{24}^{(\sigma_{24}^i)}) \mid i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$  are five mutually disjoint 5-(24, 10, 36) designs, where  $\sigma_{24}$  is given in (2).

**Proposition 6.8.** *There are at least 5 mutually disjoint 5-(24, 10, 36) designs.*

From [10, Table 4.46], it is sufficient to determine whether a 5-(24, 10, 18 $m$ ) design exists for  $m \leq 323$ , and it is known that there is a 5-(24, 10, 18 $m$ ) design for  $m = 2, 4, 5, \dots, 323$ . Our mutually disjoint 5-(24, 10, 36) designs do

not give simple designs with new parameters, although the resulting designs are non-isomorphic to the 5-(24, 10,  $m36$ ) designs ( $m = 2, 3, 4, 5$ ) invariant under  $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$  in [11] since we have verified by MAGMA [5] that the 5-(24, 10,  $36m$ ) designs  $(X_{24}, \cup_{i=0}^{m-1} \mathcal{B}'_{24}(\sigma_{24}^i))$  have automorphism groups of orders 22 ( $m = 2, 3, 4, 5$ ).

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