# Quantum designs and difference multisets 

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What are those quantum designs?
Let's start with
Combinatorial design: system of sets having symmetry


| 5 | 3 |  |  | 7 |  |  |  |  |
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|  | 9 | 8 |  |  |  |  | 6 |  |
| 8 |  |  |  | 6 |  |  |  | 3 |
| 4 |  |  | 8 |  | 3 |  |  | 1 |
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|  | 6 |  |  |  |  | 2 | 8 |  |
|  |  |  | 4 | 1 | 9 |  |  | 5 |
|  |  |  |  | 8 |  |  | 7 | 9 |



## Quantum designs Spherical $t$-designs <br> Unitary designs


$U(d)$ - group of unitary $d \times d$ matrices $f(U)$ - homogenous function If

$$
\frac{1}{|X|} \sum_{U \in X} f(U)=\int_{U(d)} f(U) d U
$$

for all $f(U)$ of degree $t$ in $U$ and $U^{*}$ then $X$ is a unitary $t$-design
Quadrature on a sphere
Accurate for polynomials up to order $t$

## A sub-problem: difference multisets



Difference set $\{0,1,4,6\}$ in $\mathbb{Z}_{13}$


Difference multiset $\{0,1,1,4,4\}$ in $\mathbb{Z}_{5}$

## Notation and questions

- $(v, k, \lambda)$-difference multiset - a multiset of size $k$ that produces each element of group $G(|G|=v)$ exactly $\lambda$ times as difference of multiset's elements.
$\{0,1,1,4,4\}$ produces each of $v=5$ elements of $\mathbb{Z}_{5}=\{0,1,2,3,4\}$ exactly $\lambda=4$ times.
- For which $v, k, \lambda$ do difference multisets exist and when don't they exist?
- What are the constructions of difference multisets?


## Step 1: Computer search

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Searching the difference cover
- Private functions
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    M~\mathrm{ Find actual differences .),}
    (c. Find difference covers
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## printDifferenceCoversUpToComplexity[30000];

$\{3,3,2\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{1\}\}$
$\{3,4,4\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{1\},\{1\}\}$
$\{3,7,14\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{1\},\{1\},\{2\}\}$
$\{6,4,2\} \rightarrow\{\{0,0\},\{0,0\},\{0,1\},\{1,1\}\}$
$\{5,5,4\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{1\},\{1\},\{3\}\}$
$\{3,10,30\} \rightarrow$
$\{3,12,44\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{1\},\{1\},\{1\}$,
$\{5,6,6\} \rightarrow$
$\{3,13,52\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{1\},\{1\},\{1\}$,
$\{3,16,80\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{1\}$,
$\{4,9,18\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{1\},\{1\},\{1\},\{2\},\{2\},\{2\}\}$
$\{3,19,114\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\}$
$\{3,21,140\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\}$
$\{3,22,154\} \rightarrow$
$\{3,25,200\} \rightarrow\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\}$
$\{3,27,234\} \rightarrow$
$\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{C$
$\{3,28,252\} \rightarrow$
$\{\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{0\},\{C$
$\{3,30,290\} \rightarrow$

## Computer search results

- For some parameters there are multiple, for some there are none... It's not easy to notice a structure.
- There's a lot of difference multisets over $\mathbb{Z}_{3}$.
- Let's focus on those $\mathbb{Z}_{3}$ difference multisets!

Next step: Analytic approach $\left\{\begin{array}{l}3 \lambda=k(k-1) \\ \sum n_{i}=k \\ \sum n_{n} n_{i+1}=\lambda\end{array}\right.$

Theorem 4.1. Multiplicities of different $\left(\mathbb{Z}_{3}, k\right)$-difference multiset elements $i$ un $j$ are related via

$$
\begin{equation*}
n_{i \neq j}=\frac{k-n_{j} \pm \sqrt{\frac{4 k-\left(k-3 n_{j}\right)^{2}}{3}}}{2} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

But for which $k$ can we find non-negative integers $n_{i}$ and $n_{j}$ that satisfy this?

## Improve computer search

$$
n_{i \neq j}=\frac{k-n_{j} \pm \sqrt{\frac{4 k-\left(k-3 n_{j}\right)^{2}}{3}}}{2}
$$

$$
\frac{k-2 \sqrt{k}}{3} \leq n_{j} \leq \frac{k+2 \sqrt{k}}{3}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { There are difference multisets over } \mathbb{Z}_{3} \text { for } \\
& k=3,4,7,9,12,13,16,19,21,25,27,28,31,36, \ldots
\end{aligned}
$$

4318617
4318621
$\{1438817,1438876,1440924\}$
4318639
4318639 $\{1438172,1440185,1440280\}$

How are these values special?

# Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. 

# THE ON-LINE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INTEGER SEQUENCES ${ }^{\circledR}$ 

founded in 1964 by N. J. A. Sloane

$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|}
\hline 3,4,7,9,12,13,16,19,21,25,27,28,31,36 & \text { Search Hints } \\
\hline \text { (Greetings from The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences!) } &
\end{array}
$$

Sort: relevance | references $\mid$ number $\mid$ modified $\mid$ created $\quad$ Format: long $\mid$ short $\mid$ data

| A003136 |
| :--- | :--- | | Loeschian numbers: numbers of the form $\mathrm{x}^{\wedge} 2+\mathrm{xy}+\mathrm{y} \wedge 2 ;$ norms of vectors in A2 lattice. |
| :--- |
| (Formerly M2336) |$\quad$| +20 |
| ---: |
| 88 |

## Löschian numbers. Is there a link?

Recall: $\frac{k-2 \sqrt{k}}{3} \leq n_{j} \leq \frac{k+2 \sqrt{k}}{3}$
Let's consider multiplicities as «average plus something»: $n_{j}=\frac{k+\Delta_{j}}{3}$
$n_{i \neq j}=\frac{k-n_{j} \pm \sqrt{\frac{4 k-\left(k-3 n_{j}\right)^{2}}{3}}}{2} \quad \square n_{i \neq j}=\frac{k-n_{j} \pm \sqrt{\frac{4 k-\Delta_{j}^{2}}{3}}}{2}$
If $k=a^{2}+a b+b^{2}$ then the following values of $\Delta$ makes the value under root a perfect square: $\pm(2 a+b), \pm(a+2 b), \pm(a-b)$
and at least one of them makes whole expression take an integer value.

## What about the opposite direction?

Thus $k$ being a Löschian number turns out to be enough for this to work.
But are there other difference multisets? Or is $k$ always a Löschian number if a difference multiset exists?

Attempt 1: Check the computer search results.
-- Nope, difference multisets only exist for Löschian k.

But I got stuck and couldn't prove what seemed to be correct.

## Ask for help! stackexchange.com

## QUESTIONS TAGS USERS BADGES UNANSWERED

certain values seem to make an expression into perfect square, ca

All the variables in this question are in integers. I am trying to prove that

$$
\frac{4 k-\Delta^{2}}{3}
$$

is a perfect square only if $\Delta \in\{ \pm(2 a+b), \pm(a+2 b), \pm(a-b)\}$ where $a, b$ are such that $k=a^{2}+a b+b^{2}$.


1 Answer active oldest votes
Suppose $\frac{4 k \Delta^{2}}{3}$ is a square, in particular say

$$
\frac{4 k-\Delta^{2}}{3}=M^{2} .
$$

Then $4 k=\Delta^{2}+3 M^{2}$.
Reducing modulo 4, we see that $\Delta^{2}+3 M^{2}=0(\bmod 4)$, so $\Delta^{2}=M^{2}(\bmod 4)$. Hence, $\Delta=M(\bmod 2)$, so they are both even or both odd.

If they are both odd:
Set

$$
a=\frac{\Delta+M}{2}, \quad b=\frac{M-\Delta}{2}
$$

which are certainly both integers. It can be checked that $a^{2}+a b+b^{2}=\frac{1}{4}\left(\Delta^{2}+3 M^{2}\right)=k$ Also, $\Delta=a-b$, so $\Delta$ can be written as $a-b$, where $a, b$ satisfy $k=a^{2}+a b+b^{2}$

If they are both even:
Similarly, set

$$
a=\frac{\Delta-M}{2}, \quad b=M
$$

both integers.
Again, we have $a^{2}+a b+b^{2}=k$, and $\Delta=2 a+b$, as required.

Ultimately, we have shown that for any $\Delta$ which makes $\frac{4 k-\Delta^{2}}{3}$ a square number, there are $a, b$ satisfying $a^{2}+a b+b^{2}=k$ and $\Delta=2 a+b$ or $\Delta=a-b$.
share cite edit flag
edited Nov 26 '17 at 1:51
answered Nov $26^{\prime}{ }^{17}$ at 1:4


## Put it all together, draw conclusions, clean it up... the final result is here!

Theorem 4.5. For every pair $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k=a^{2}+a b+b^{2}$ and $a \geq b \geq$ 0 there are exactly $-(k+1) \bmod 3$ (up to automorphisms) $\left(\mathbb{Z}_{3}, k\right)$-difference multisets and the multiplicities of their elements are

- $n_{i}=\frac{k+\Delta_{i}}{3}$ for one and $n_{i}=\frac{k-\Delta_{i}}{3}$ for the other if $3 \mid k$.
- $n_{i}=\frac{k+\Delta_{i}}{3}$ if $3 \nmid k$ un $b-a \equiv 1 \bmod 3$.
- $n_{i}=\frac{k-\Delta_{i}}{3}$ if $3 \nmid k$ un $a-b \equiv 1 \bmod 3$.


## Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?


