

# Pairwise additive 1-rotational BIB designs with $\lambda = 1$

KAZUKI MATSUBARA

*Faculty of Commerce, Chuo Gakuin University  
Chiba 270-1196  
Japan  
additivestructure@gmail.com*

SANPEI KAGEYAMA

*Research Center for Math and Science Education  
Tokyo University of Science  
Tokyo 162-8601  
Japan  
pkyfc055@ybb.ne.jp*

## Abstract

The existence of pairwise additive balanced incomplete block (BIB) designs and pairwise additive cyclic BIB designs with  $\lambda = 1$  has been discussed through direct and recursive constructions in the literature. This paper takes BIB designs with 1-rotational automorphisms and then the existence of pairwise additive 1-rotational BIB designs is investigated for  $\lambda = 1$ . Finally, it is shown that there exists a 2-pairwise additive 1-rotational BIB design with parameters  $v, k$  and  $\lambda = 1$  if and only if any  $v \geq 4$  and  $k = 2$ .

## 1 Introduction

A *balanced incomplete block (BIB) design* is a system  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , where  $V$  is a set of  $v$  points and  $\mathcal{B}$  ( $|\mathcal{B}| = b$ ) is a family of  $k$ -subsets (blocks) of  $V$ , such that each point of  $V$  appears in  $r$  different blocks of  $\mathcal{B}$  and any two different points of  $V$  appear in exactly  $\lambda$  blocks in  $\mathcal{B}$  [21]. This is denoted by  $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$  or  $\text{B}(v, k, \lambda)$ .

For a BIB design  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , let  $\sigma$  be a permutation on  $V$ . For a block  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\} \in \mathcal{B}$  and a permutation  $\sigma$  on  $V$ , let  $B^\sigma = \{v_1^\sigma, \dots, v_k^\sigma\}$ . When  $\mathcal{B} = \{B^\sigma \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$ ,  $\sigma$  is called an *automorphism* of the design  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ . If there exists an automorphism  $\sigma$  of order  $v = |V|$ , then the BIB design is said to be *cyclic*. On

the other hand, when there exists an automorphism  $\sigma$  of order  $v - 1$  with one fixed point, the BIB design is said to be *1-rotational with respect to the cyclic group of order  $v - 1$*  [2, 19]. Throughout the paper, the BIB design being 1-rotational with respect to the cyclic group of order  $v - 1$  is simply said to be 1-rotational. Note that 1-rotational BIB designs with respect to other algebraic groups are not said to be 1-rotational in this paper.

For a cyclic BIB design  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , the set  $V$  of  $v$  points can be identified with  $Z_v = \{0, 1, \dots, v - 1\}$ . In this case, the design has an automorphism  $\sigma : i \mapsto i + 1 \pmod{v}$ . The *block orbit* containing  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\} \in \mathcal{B}$  is a set of distinct blocks  $B + i = \{v_1 + i, v_2 + i, \dots, v_k + i\} \pmod{v}$  for  $i \in Z_v$ . A block orbit is said to be *full* or *short* according as  $|\{B + i \mid 0 \leq i \leq v - 1\}| = v$  or not.

For a 1-rotational BIB design  $(V, \mathcal{B})$ , the set  $V$  of  $v$  points can be identified with  $Z_{v-1} \cup \{\infty\}$  and the block orbit containing  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\} \in \mathcal{B}$  is a set of distinct blocks  $B + i = \{v_1 + i, v_2 + i, \dots, v_k + i\} \pmod{v - 1}$  for  $i \in Z_{v-1}$ . When  $B = \{\infty, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ ,  $B + i = \{\infty, v_2 + i, \dots, v_k + i\}$ . Moreover, if  $\lambda = 1$ , then the orbit of  $B = \{\infty, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  has cardinality  $(v - 1)/(k - 1)$ . Similarly, a block orbit is said to be full or short according as  $|\{B + i \mid 0 \leq i \leq v - 2\}| = v - 1$  or not.

Choose an arbitrary block from each block orbit and call it an *initial block*. The initial block in a full block orbit and a short block orbit is called a full initial block and a short initial block, respectively. It is clear that a cyclic  $B(2t, 2, 1)$  or a 1-rotational  $B(2t + 1, 2, 1)$  has a short orbit given by the 2-subset  $\{0, t\}$  for any  $t \geq 1$ . This short orbit is denoted by  $\{0, t\}\text{PC}(t)$ , where  $\text{PC}(t)$  means a short cycle of order  $t$ , i.e., only  $0, 1, \dots, t - 1$  are to be added to the initial block.

Let  $s = v/k$ , where  $s$  need not be an integer, unlike other design parameters. A set of  $\ell$   $\text{BIBD}(v, b, r, k, \lambda)$ 's, namely,  $(V, \mathcal{B}_1), (V, \mathcal{B}_2), \dots, (V, \mathcal{B}_\ell)$ , is called an  *$\ell$ -pairwise additive BIB design*, denoted by  $\ell\text{-PAB}(v, k, \lambda)$ , if it is possible to pair the designs  $(V, \mathcal{B}_1), (V, \mathcal{B}_2), \dots, (V, \mathcal{B}_\ell)$ , in such a way that every pair  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_1}), (V, \mathcal{B}_{i_2})$ , where  $1 \leq i_1, i_2 \leq \ell$ ,  $i_1 \neq i_2$ , gives rise to a new design  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_1 i_2}^*)$  with parameters  $v^* = v = sk$ ,  $b^* = b$ ,  $r^* = 2r$ ,  $k^* = 2k$ ,  $\lambda^* = 2r(2k - 1)/(sk - 1)$ . The family  $\mathcal{B}_{i_1 i_2}^*$  is defined by  $\mathcal{B}_{i_1 i_2}^* = \{B_{i_1 j} \cup B_{i_2 j} \mid 1 \leq j \leq b\}$  with  $B_{ij}$  being the  $j$ th block of an  $i$ th block family  $\mathcal{B}_i$ . When  $\ell = s$ , this is called an *additive BIB design* [16, 23], denoted by  $\text{AB}(v, k, \lambda)$ . An  $\ell\text{-PAB}(v, k, \lambda)$  is said to be cyclic or 1-rotational, denoted by  $\ell\text{-PACB}(v, k, \lambda)$  or  $\ell\text{-PARB}(v, k, \lambda)$ , if (i) every design  $(V, \mathcal{B}_1), (V, \mathcal{B}_2), \dots, (V, \mathcal{B}_\ell)$  is cyclic or 1-rotational, respectively, and (ii) every design  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_1 i_2}^*)$  arising from the pair  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_1}), (V, \mathcal{B}_{i_2})$  is cyclic or 1-rotational and its initial blocks are obtained by joining an initial block in  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_1})$  to an initial block in  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_2})$ , where two orbits given by  $B_{i_1 j}$  and  $B_{i_2 j}$  have the same cardinality for each  $1 \leq j \leq b$ . Note that if we join an initial block of a  $B(v, k, \lambda)$  to an initial block of another  $B(v, k, \lambda)$ , then the resulting block might not be an initial block of a  $B(v, 2k, \lambda')$ . When  $\ell = s$ , this is called an *additive cyclic BIB design* or an *additive 1-rotational BIB design*, denoted by  $\text{ACB}(v, k, \lambda)$  or  $\text{ARB}(v, k, \lambda)$ , respectively. For example, it is checked that the

four block families

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, 1\}, \{4, 2\}, \{3, 6\}, \{5, \infty\} \pmod{7} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{4, 2\}, \{0, 1\}, \{5, \infty\}, \{3, 6\} \pmod{7} \\ \mathcal{B}_3 & : \{5, \infty\}, \{3, 6\}, \{0, 1\}, \{4, 2\} \pmod{7} \\ \mathcal{B}_4 & : \{3, 6\}, \{5, \infty\}, \{4, 2\}, \{0, 1\} \pmod{7}\end{aligned}$$

yield an ARB(8, 2, 1). Note that we allow repeated blocks in  $(V, \mathcal{B}_{i_1 i_2}^*)$ .

Some results on existence are reviewed. In a PAB( $v, k, 1$ ), it is shown that there are an AB( $2^n, 2, 1$ ) and an AB( $3^n, 3, 1$ ) for any integer  $n \geq 2$  [22, 23], and there are a 2-PAB( $v, 2, 1$ ) for any  $v \geq 4$  and a 3-PAB( $v, 2, 1$ ) for any  $v \geq 6$  [11, 14]. Furthermore, partial results on asymptotic existence of  $\ell$ -PAB( $v, k, \lambda$ )'s and the existence of 2-PACB( $v, k, 1$ )'s are also shown in [12, 13, 15]. However, for an  $\ell$ -PACB( $v, k, 1$ ), its complete existence is not yet known in the literature, even if  $\ell = 2$  and  $k = 2$ , as the following shows.

**Theorem 1.1** [12] There exists a 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ ) for any odd integer  $v \geq 5$  such that  $\gcd(v, 9) \neq 3$ .

**Theorem 1.2** [15] There exists a 2-PACB( $2^m t, 2, 1$ ) for any integer  $m \geq 2$  and any odd integer  $t (\geq 1)$  such that  $\gcd(t, 27) \neq 3, 9$ .

We now focus on 1-rotational BIB designs and the complete existence of a 2-PARB( $v, k, 1$ ) will be established in Section 5 as follows. This will be the main result of the present paper.

**Theorem 1.3** There exists a 2-PARB( $v, k, 1$ ) if and only if any  $v \geq 4$  and  $k = 2$ .

Note that the existence of  $\ell$ -pairwise additive BIB designs is equivalent to the existence of some kind of decompositions of a  $\lambda$ -fold complete graph  $\lambda K_v$  into edge-disjoint subgraphs isomorphic to a complete graph  $K_k$ , denoted by a  $(v, K_k, \lambda)$ -design, in terms of graph embeddings (cf. [3, 7]). In fact, Theorem 1.3 is equivalent to say that there are two 1-rotational  $(v, K_2, 1)$ -designs simultaneously embedded into a 1-rotational  $(v, K_4, 6)$ -design allowed the repeated blocks such that two  $K_2$ 's simultaneously embedded into each  $K_4$  are vertex-disjoint. However, as far as the authors know, any existence result on graphs which is equivalent to Theorem 1.3 has not been provided in literature.

On the other hand, [14] gives a construction of an  $\ell$ -PAB( $v, k, \lambda$ ) by use of nested BIB designs defined in [20]. A survey of nested BIB designs is given in [18] and a more general class of nested BIB designs is further discussed in [10, 17] with wide applicability for other designs. Unfortunately, to the best of our knowledge, by utilizing any result on nested BIB designs we cannot show the complete existence of a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ).

In particular,  $Z$ -cyclic whist tournament designs of order  $4n$  in [1] coincide with a special class of nested BIB designs having both a 1-rotational automorphism and

the property of resolvability. It is seen that the  $Z$ -cyclic whist tournament designs of order  $4n$  can give the  $2\text{-PARB}(4n, 2, 1)$  with resolvability by use of the construction method in [14]. However, the investigation of existence of a  $2\text{-PARB}(v, 2, 1)$  with resolvability may be as difficult as showing the existence of  $Z$ -cyclic whist tournament designs. The resolvability of a  $2\text{-PARB}(v, k, 1)$  will be discussed in another paper.

In Section 2, fundamental results for  $\text{PAB}(v, k, 1)$ 's and 1-rotational BIB designs will be reviewed and the nonexistence of a  $2\text{-PARB}(v, k, 1)$  for any  $k \geq 3$  will be shown. In Section 3, a pairwise additive cyclic relative difference family (PACDF) used in the proof of Theorem 1.3 will be defined and recursive constructions used in [4, 9, 24] will be developed for the PACDF. Section 4 shows some existence of PACDFs and Section 5 is devoted to the proof of Theorem 1.3. As the appendix, individual examples will be presented.

## 2 Fundamental results

It is known [23] that in a  $\text{PAB}(v, k, \lambda)$

$$2\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{k-1} \quad (2.1)$$

which implies  $k = 2$  or  $3$  when  $\lambda = 1$ .

A  $\text{B}(v, 3, 1)$  is known as a Steiner triple system (STS). The existence of 1-rotational STSs with respect to an arbitrary group is studied in [2]. Moreover, a characterization of 1-rotational STSs with respect to the cyclic group of order  $v-1$  is known as follows.

**Lemma 2.1** [19] Any 1-rotational  $\text{B}(v, 3, 1)$   $(V, \mathcal{B})$  with a point set  $V = Z_{v-1} \cup \{\infty\}$  contains the short orbit of the block  $\{0, (v-1)/2, \infty\}$  and full orbits in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Now the nonexistence of an  $\ell\text{-PARB}(v, k, 1)$  can be shown.

**Theorem 2.2** There exists no  $\ell\text{-PARB}(v, k, 1)$  for any integers  $\ell \geq 2$ ,  $v \geq \ell k$  and  $k \geq 3$ .

*Proof.* When  $k \geq 4$ , (2.1) shows the nonexistence of the design. When  $k = 3$ , on account of Lemma 2.1, let  $\{a, a + (v-1)/2, \infty\}$  and  $\{a', a' + (v-1)/2, \infty\}$ ,  $a, a' \in Z_{v-1}$ , can be short initial blocks of  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$ , respectively. By the definition of a  $2\text{-PARB}(v, 3, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_{12}^*$  must contain a set-union of two short initial blocks. However, both of the two blocks contain the element  $\infty$  in common. Hence there does not exist the required design.  $\square$

**Remark 2.3** By taking account of an idea used in the proof of Theorem 2.2, a general result can be shown such that there exists no  $\ell\text{-PARB}(v, k, (k-1)/2)$  for any  $\ell \geq 2$ , any  $v \geq \ell k$  and any odd integer  $k \geq 3$ . Hence, it follows from (2.1) that  $\lambda \geq k-1$  in a  $\text{PARB}(v, k, \lambda)$ .

From now on, we will discuss the remaining case  $k = 2$  for  $\lambda = 1$  and any  $v \geq 4$  to obtain the main result of this paper.

### 3 Some combinatorial structures

In this section, cyclic difference matrices (CDMs) and cyclic relative difference families (CDFs) are reviewed and pairwise additive cyclic relative difference families (PACDFs) are newly defined. In [4, 9, 24], CDFs are used to construct designs with cyclic (or 1-rotational) automorphisms, and useful recursive constructions of CDFs are given by use of CDMs. Similarly, some constructions of PACDFs are discussed here.

At first CDMs are reviewed. A *cyclic difference matrix* on  $Z_v$ , denoted by  $\text{CDM}(k, v)$ , is defined as a  $k \times v$  array  $(a(m, n))$ ,  $a(m, n) \in Z_v$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq n \leq v$ , that satisfies

$$Z_v = \{a(i, n) - a(j, n) \pmod{v} \mid 1 \leq n \leq v\}$$

for each  $1 \leq i < j \leq k$ , that is, the differences of any two distinct rows contain every element of  $Z_v$  exactly once (see [8]).

**Lemma 3.1** [8] There exists a  $\text{CDM}(4, v)$  for any odd integer  $v \geq 5$  such that  $\gcd(v, 27) \neq 9$ .

Let  $G$  be a group and  $N$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then a family  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i \in I\}$  of  $k$ -subsets of  $G$  is called a *relative difference family*, denoted by  $(G, N, k, \lambda)$ -DF, if the list of differences  $(d - d' \mid d, d' \in D_i, d \neq d', i \in I)$  contains each element of  $G - N$  exactly  $\lambda$  times and each element of  $N$  zero time. When  $G$  is the cyclic group  $Z_v$  and  $N$  is the subgroup of  $Z_v$  of order  $n$ , the relative difference family is said to be *cyclic*, denoted by  $(v, n, k, \lambda)$ -CDF (cf. [4, 24]).

Some results on the existence of  $(vg, g, 4, 1)$ -CDFs are known as follows.

**Lemma 3.2** [5, 6] There exists a  $(2^{s+4}, 2^s, 4, 1)$ -CDF for any integer  $s \geq 2$ .

**Lemma 3.3** [6] There exist a  $(81, 9, 4, 1)$ -CDF and a  $(243, 27, 4, 1)$ -CDF.

A set of two families  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  is called a *2-pairwise additive*  $(vg, g, k, \lambda)$ -CDF, denoted by  $2$ - $(vg, g, k, \lambda)$ -PACDF, if both  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  are  $(vg, g, k, \lambda)$ -CDFs and the family of set-unions of the  $j$ th  $k$ -subsets  $B_j^{(1)} \in \mathcal{F}_1$  and  $B_j^{(2)} \in \mathcal{F}_2$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq |\mathcal{F}_1| = |\mathcal{F}_2|$ , is also a  $(vg, g, 2k, \lambda')$ -CDF with  $\lambda' = 2\lambda(2k-1)/(k-1)$ . Throughout the paper, the above “ $2$ - $(vg, g, k, \lambda)$ -PACDF” is simply denoted by “ $(vg, g, k, \lambda)$ -PACDF”.

Next, some constructions of  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs are provided.

**Lemma 3.4** The existence of a  $(vg, g, 4, 1)$ -CDF implies the existence of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF.

*Proof.* Let 4-subsets of the  $(vg, g, 4, 1)$ -CDF on  $Z_{vg}$  be

$$\{a_i, b_i, c_i, d_i\}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq \frac{g(v-1)}{12}.$$

Then it is seen that the following families on subsets of  $Z_{vg}$  yield the required  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_1 & : \{a_i, b_i\}, \{a_i, c_i\}, \{a_i, d_i\}, \{c_i, b_i\}, \{b_i, d_i\}, \{d_i, c_i\} \\ \mathcal{F}_2 & : \{c_i, d_i\}, \{d_i, b_i\}, \{b_i, c_i\}, \{d_i, a_i\}, \{c_i, a_i\}, \{b_i, a_i\} \end{aligned}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq g(v-1)/12$ . □

Note that in the proof of Lemma 3.4 the construction of  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  is skillful, since an initial subset of the CDF might not arise from the union of initial subsets belonging to families with other parameters.

**Lemma 3.5** Let  $m$  be a divisor of  $g$ . Then the existence of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(g, m, 2, 1)$ -PACDF implies the existence of a  $(vg, m, 2, 1)$ -PACDF.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$  and  $\mathcal{F}'_1, \mathcal{F}'_2$  be families of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(g, m, 2, 1)$ -PACDF, respectively. Then combined families  $\mathcal{F}_h^* = \mathcal{F}_h \cup \{vx, vy \mid \{x, y\} \in \mathcal{F}'_h\}$  on  $Z_{vg}$ ,  $h = 1, 2$ , can yield a  $(vg, m, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. □

**Lemma 3.6** The existence of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $\text{CDM}(4, v')$  implies the existence of a  $(vv'g, v'g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF.

*Proof.* Let two families of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF be

$$\mathcal{F}_h : \{x_{hi}, y_{hi}\}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq g(v-1)/2$  and  $h = 1, 2$ . Further let  $A$  be the  $\text{CDM}(4, v')$  with  $a(m, n)$  as the  $(m, n)$ -entry for  $1 \leq m \leq 4$  and  $1 \leq n \leq v'$ . Then, it can be shown that the following two families yield the required  $(vv'g, v'g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF on  $Z_{vv'g}$ :

$$\mathcal{F}_h^* : \{x_{hi} + a(2h-1, n)vg, y_{hi} + a(2h, n)vg\}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq g(v-1)/2, 1 \leq n \leq v'$  and  $h = 1, 2$ . In fact, let  $\{x_{hj}^*, y_{hj}^*\}$  be the  $j$ th subset of  $\mathcal{F}_h^*$  for  $1 \leq j \leq v'g(v-1)/2$  and  $h = 1, 2$ . Then, by the property of the  $\text{CDM}(4, v')$ , it can be checked that the multiset of differences arising from the subsets of  $\mathcal{F}_h^*$ ,  $h = 1, 2$ , is composed of (i)  $\cup_{j=1}^{v'g(v-1)/2} \{\pm(x_{hj}^* - y_{hj}^*)\} = \{\pm(x_{hi} - y_{hi}) + nvg \mid 1 \leq i \leq g(v-1)/2, 0 \leq n \leq v' - 1\}$  containing every element of  $Z_{vv'g} - vZ_{vv'g}$  exactly once for each  $h = 1, 2$  and (ii)  $\cup_{j=1}^{v'g(v-1)/2} \{\pm(x_{1j}^* - x_{2j}^*), \pm(y_{1j}^* - y_{2j}^*), \pm(x_{1j}^* - y_{2j}^*), \pm(y_{1j}^* - x_{2j}^*)\} = \{\pm(x_{1i} - x_{2i} + nvg), \pm(y_{1i} - y_{2i} + nvg), \pm(x_{1i} - y_{2i} + nvg), \pm(y_{1i} - x_{2i} + nvg) \mid 1 \leq i \leq g(v-1)/2, 0 \leq n \leq v' - 1\}$  containing every element of  $Z_{vv'g} - vZ_{vv'g}$  exactly four times. Thus it is seen that both  $\mathcal{F}_1^*$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^*$  are  $(vv'g, v'g, 2, 1)$ -CDFs, and the family of set-unions  $\{x_{1j}^*, y_{1j}^*\} \cup \{x_{2j}^*, y_{2j}^*\}, 1 \leq j \leq v'g(v-1)/2$ , yields a  $(vv'g, v'g, 4, 6)$ -CDF. The proof is complete. □

Note that full initial blocks of a 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ ) with no short initial blocks can be considered as a  $(v, 1, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. Hence, it is clear that Lemma 3.6 provides a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF, by use of the 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ ) with no short initial blocks and a CDM( $4, g$ ).

On the other hand, it is obvious that there does not exist a CDM( $4, 2$ ). Hence, Lemma 3.6 cannot be utilized for the case of  $v' = 2$ . However, the following recursive construction can be presented.

**Lemma 3.7** The existence of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF implies the existence of a  $(2vg, 2g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF.

*Proof.* Let two families of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF be

$$\mathcal{F}_h : \{x_{hi}, y_{hi}\}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq g(v - 1)/2$  and  $h = 1, 2$ . Then, by choosing arbitrary blocks in each orbit of  $\{x_{1i}, y_{1i}\} \cup \{x_{2i}, y_{2i}\}$ , without loss of generality it can be assumed that  $\{x_{1i}, y_{1i}\} = \{0, i\}$ .

Now it can be shown that the following two families yield the required  $(2vg, 2g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF on  $Z_{2vg}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_1^* & : \{x_{1i}, y_{1i}\}, \{x_{2i}, y_{2i} + \delta_i vg\} \\ \mathcal{F}_2^* & : \{x_{2i}, y_{2i} + \delta_i vg\}, \{x_{1i} + vg, y_{1i} + vg\} \end{aligned}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq g(v - 1)/2$ , where  $\delta_i = 1$  or  $0$  according as  $|y_{2i} - x_{2i}| < vg/2$  or otherwise. In fact, let  $\{x_{hj}^*, y_{hj}^*\}$  be the  $j$ th subset of  $\mathcal{F}_h^*$  for  $1 \leq j \leq g(v - 1)$  and  $h = 1, 2$ . Then the definition of  $\delta_i$  implies that  $\cup_{j=1}^{g(v-1)} \{\pm(x_{hj}^* - y_{hj}^*)\} = \{\pm(x_{1i} - y_{1i}), \pm(x_{2i} - y_{2i} - \delta_i vg) \mid 1 \leq i \leq g(v - 1)/2\}$  contains every element of  $Z_{2vg} - vZ_{2vg}$  exactly once for each  $h = 1, 2$ . Furthermore, it can be checked that  $\cup_{j=1}^{g(v-1)} \{\pm(x_{1j}^* - x_{2j}^*), \pm(y_{1j}^* - y_{2j}^*), \pm(x_{1j}^* - y_{2j}^*), \pm(y_{1j}^* - x_{2j}^*)\} = \{\pm(x_{1i} - x_{2i} + nvg), \pm(y_{1i} - y_{2i} + nvg), \pm(x_{1i} - y_{2i} + nvg), \pm(y_{1i} - x_{2i} + nvg) \mid 1 \leq i \leq g(v - 1)/2, 0 \leq n \leq 1\}$  contains every element of  $Z_{2vg} - vZ_{2vg}$  exactly four times. Thus it is seen that both  $\mathcal{F}_1^*$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^*$  are  $(2vg, 2g, 2, 1)$ -CDFs, and the family of set-unions  $\{x_{1j}^*, y_{1j}^*\} \cup \{x_{2j}^*, y_{2j}^*\}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq g(v - 1)$ , yields a  $(2vg, 2g, 4, 6)$ -CDF. The proof is complete.  $\square$

The results obtained here will be used in the next section.

### 4 Existence of $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs

In this section, the discussion on existence of  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs is made by use of direct and recursive methods.

Throughout Sections 4 and 5, let  $P$  be any odd integer such that  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$  and  $P \geq 5$ . Then any prime factor of  $P$  is not less than 5.

At first, two classes of  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs are produced by use of direct constructions as the following shows.

**Lemma 4.1** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(2P, 2, 2, 1)$ -PACDF.

*Proof.* Since  $\gcd(2, P) = 1$ , the following two families on  $Z_2 \times Z_P$  can yield the required  $(2P, 2, 2, 1)$ -PACDF on  $Z_{2P}$ , by corresponding the element  $j$  for  $0 \leq j \leq 2P - 1$  to  $(z, w)$ , where  $j \equiv z \pmod{2}$  and  $j \equiv w \pmod{P}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_1 & : \{(0, 0), (1, a)\}, \{(0, 0), (0, a)\} \\ \mathcal{F}_2 & : \{(1, 2a), (1, 4a)\}, \{(0, 2a), (1, 4a)\} \end{aligned}$$

for any integer  $a$  with  $1 \leq a \leq (P - 1)/2$ . □

**Lemma 4.2** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(3P, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF.

*Proof.* Since  $\gcd(3, P) = 1$ , the following two families on  $Z_3 \times Z_P$  can yield the required  $(3P, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF on  $Z_{3P}$ , by corresponding the element  $j$  for  $0 \leq j \leq 3P - 1$  to  $(z, w)$ , where  $j \equiv z \pmod{3}$  and  $j \equiv w \pmod{P}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_1 & : \{(0, 0), (1, a)\}, \{(0, a'), (0, -a')\} \\ \mathcal{F}_2 & : \{(0, 2a), (1, 3a)\}, \{(1, 2a'), (1, -2a')\} \end{aligned}$$

for any integers  $a$  and  $a'$  with  $1 \leq a \leq P - 1$  and  $1 \leq a' \leq (P - 1)/2$ . □

Next, some results on the existence of  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs obtained from  $(vg, g, 4, 1)$ -CDFs are shown as follows.

**Lemma 4.3** There exists a  $(2^{4m+n}, 2^n, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any  $n \in \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and any positive integer  $m$ .

*Proof.* Lemma 3.4 with the  $(2^{4m+n}, 2^{4m+n-4}, 4, 1)$ -CDF obtained by Lemma 3.2 can provide a  $(2^{4m+n}, 2^{4m+n-4}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any  $m \geq 1$  and any  $n \in \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Hence, for  $m = 1$  the result can be shown. Furthermore, by Lemma 3.5 with a  $(2^{4(m+1)+n}, 2^{4m+n}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF, the existence of a  $(2^{4m+n}, 2^n, 2, 1)$ -PACDF implies the existence of a  $(2^{4(m+1)+n}, 2^n, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for  $m \geq 1$ . Thus, the proof is complete by mathematical induction on  $m$ . □

**Lemma 4.4** There exist a  $(3^n, 9, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(3^{n'}, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any even integer  $n \geq 4$  and any odd integer  $n' \geq 3$ .

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 3.4 with the  $(81, 9, 4, 1)$ -CDF and the  $(243, 27, 4, 1)$ -CDF given in Lemma 3.3, it is shown that there are a  $(81, 9, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(243, 27, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. Furthermore, a  $(27, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF is given in Example A.9. Hence, for any  $n \geq 3$ , a  $(3^n, 3^{n-2}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be obtained by applying Lemma 3.6 with the CDM(4, 27) given by Lemma 3.1. Thus, by applying Lemma 3.5 with a  $(3^n, 3^{n-2}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(3^m, 3^{m-2}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for  $3 \leq m \leq n - 2$  repeatedly,

a  $(3^n, 9, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(3^{n'}, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be obtained for any even integer  $n \geq 4$  and any odd integer  $n' \geq 3$ , respectively.  $\square$

Finally, some results on the existence of  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs are shown by use of recursive constructions as follows.

**Lemma 4.5** There exist a  $(2 \cdot 3^n, 18, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(2 \cdot 3^{n'}, 6, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any even integer  $n \geq 4$  and any odd integer  $n' \geq 3$ .

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 3.7 with the  $(3^n, 9, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and  $(3^{n'}, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF obtained by Lemma 4.4, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.6** There exists a  $(2^m 3, 2^{m-1}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any integer  $m \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 3.7 with the  $(12, 2, 2, 1)$ -PACDF given in Example A.8 repeatedly, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.7** There exists a  $(2^m 3^n, 2^m, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any integers  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* It follows that a family of initial blocks of the 2-PACB $(3^n, 2, 1)$  for  $n \geq 2$  obtained by Theorem 1.1 yields a  $(3^n, 1, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. Hence, by applying Lemma 3.7 repeatedly, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.8** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(2Pq, 2q, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any odd prime  $q \geq 5$ .

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 3.6 with the CDM $(4, q)$  for a prime  $q$  and the  $(2P, 2, 2, 1)$ -PACDF obtained by Lemmas 3.1 and 4.1, respectively, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.9** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(2^n P, 2^n, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any positive integer  $n$ .

*Proof.* It follows that a family of initial blocks of the 2-PACB $(P, 2, 1)$  obtained by Theorem 1.1 yields a  $(P, 1, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. Hence, by applying Lemma 3.7 repeatedly, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.10** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(3^n P, P, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any integer  $n \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* For any  $n \geq 2$ , it follows that a family of initial blocks of the 2-PACB $(3^n, 2, 1)$  obtained by Theorem 1.1 yields a  $(3^n, 1, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. Hence, by applying Lemma 3.6 with the CDM $(4, P)$  obtained by Lemma 3.1, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.11** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(2^m 3P, 2^m 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any positive integer  $m$ .

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 3.7 with the  $(3P, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF obtained by Lemma 4.2 repeatedly, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.12** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a  $(2^m 3^n P, 2^m P, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any integers  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* By applying Lemma 3.7 with the  $(3^n P, P, 2, 1)$ -PACDF obtained by Lemma 4.10 repeatedly, the proof is complete.  $\square$

Each of the above-mentioned results will play an important role to show the existence of a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ) in the next section.

### 5 Proof of Theorem 1.3

In this section, Theorem 1.3 as the main result of this paper is established. At first a class of 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ )’s is formed.

**Lemma 5.1** There exists a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ) for any  $v \geq 6$  with  $\gcd(v - 1, 6) = 1$ .

*Proof.* First note that the condition  $\gcd(v - 1, 6) = 1$  implies  $\{\pm ta \mid 2 \leq a \leq (v - 2)/2\} = Z_{v-1} \setminus \{0, \pm t\}$  on  $Z_{v-1}$  for any  $t \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Then, it can be shown that the following block families on  $Z_{v-1} \cup \{\infty\}$  yield the required 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ) having

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, 1\}, \{0, \infty\}, \{0, a\} \pmod{v - 1} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{2, \infty\}, \{2, 3\}, \{2a, 3a\} \pmod{v - 1} \end{aligned}$$

for any integer  $a$  with  $2 \leq a \leq (v - 2)/2$ .  $\square$

Note that Lemma 5.1 reveals a generalization of Theorem 2.5 in [11], since any odd prime  $v - 1$  satisfies  $\gcd(v - 1, 6) = 1$ .

Next, a class of 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ )’s can be produced as the following shows.

**Lemma 5.2** There exists a 2-PARB( $2p + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any odd prime  $p$ .

*Proof.* When  $p = 3, 5, 7$ , Examples A.2, A.4 and A.6 yield the required designs. Next let  $p \geq 11$ . Then it can be shown that the following block families yield a 2-PAB( $v, 2, 1$ ) on  $Z_2 \times Z_p \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_1 & : \{(0, 2), (1, 1)\}, \{(0, 4), (1, 2)\}, \{(0, 0), (1, 3)\}, \{(0, 0), (1, 4)\}, \\ & \quad \{(0, 0), \infty\}, \{(0, 0), (1, a)\}, \{(0, 0), (0, a')\}, \\ & \quad \{(0, 0), (1, 0)\}PC(p) \pmod{(2, p)} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{(1, 2), (1, 4)\}, \{(1, 4), (1, 8)\}, \{(1, 6), (1, 12)\}, \{(0, 12), \infty\}, \\ & \quad \{(1, 8), (1, 16)\}, \{(1, 2a), (1, 4a)\}, \{(0, 2a'), (1, 4a')\}, \\ & \quad \{(0, 4), (1, 4)\}PC(p) \pmod{(2, p)} \end{aligned}$$

for any integers  $a$  and  $a'$  with  $5 \leq a \leq (p - 1)/2$  and  $1 \leq a' \leq (p - 1)/2$ . Since  $\gcd(2, p) = 1$  implies  $Z_2 \times Z_p \cong Z_{2p}$ , the required 2-PARB( $2p + 1, 2, 1$ ) on  $Z_{2p} \cup \{\infty\}$  can be constructed, by corresponding the element  $j$  for  $0 \leq j \leq 2p - 1$  to  $(z, w)$ , where  $j \equiv z \pmod{2}$  and  $j \equiv w \pmod{p}$ .  $\square$

Next, some results on the existence of a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ) are shown by use of the observation on  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDFs given in Section 4 and the following recursive construction.

**Lemma 5.3** The existence of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a 2-PARB( $g + 1, 2, 1$ ) implies the existence of a 2-PARB( $vg + 1, 2, 1$ ).

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$  be two families of a  $(vg, g, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. Further let two families of initial blocks of a 2-PARB( $g + 1, 2, 1$ ) be

$$\mathcal{F}'_h : \{x_i^{(h)}, y_i^{(h)}\}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq \lfloor (g + 2)/2 \rfloor$  and  $h = 1, 2$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}_h^* = \mathcal{F}_h \cup v\mathcal{F}'_h$ ,  $h = 1, 2$ , can yield a 2-PARB( $vg + 1, 2, 1$ ) with

$$v\mathcal{F}'_h : \{vx_i^{(h)}, vy_i^{(h)}\}$$

on  $Z_{vg} \cup \{\infty\}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \lfloor (g + 2)/2 \rfloor$  and  $h = 1, 2$ .  $\square$

The following example illustrates Lemma 5.3 with  $v = 9$  and  $g = 3$ .

**Example 5.4** Let  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be two families of the  $(27, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF given in Example A.9. Furthermore, two families of initial blocks on  $Z_{27} \cup \{\infty\}$  obtained from the 2-PARB( $4, 2, 1$ ) given in Example A.1 can be

$$\begin{aligned} 9\mathcal{F}'_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{9, 18\} \\ 9\mathcal{F}'_2 & : \{9, 18\}, \{0, \infty\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then combined families  $\mathcal{F}_h^* = \mathcal{F}_h \cup 9\mathcal{F}'_h$ ,  $h = 1, 2$ , yield a 2-PARB( $28, 2, 1$ ).

For a 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ ) with families  $\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2$  of blocks, two initial blocks  $\{a, a + t\} \in \mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\{b, b + t\} \in \mathcal{B}_2$ ,  $a, b, t \in Z_v, t \neq v/2$ , such that a set-union of the two initial blocks is an initial block of  $\mathcal{B}_{12}^*$ , are now called *friend initial blocks*.

**Lemma 5.5** There exists a 2-PARB( $2^n + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any integer  $n \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* When  $n = 2, 3, 4$ , the respective existence of a 2-PACB( $2^n, 2, 1$ ) with friend initial blocks can be seen in [12], i.e., Example 3.4 with  $\{0, 1\}, \{2, 3\}$ , Example 3.5 with  $\{0, 1\}, \{4, 5\}$  and Example 3.9 with  $\{0, 7\}, \{5, 12\}$ . When  $n = 5$ , Lemma 3.2 in [15] gives a 2-PACB( $2^5, 2, 1$ ) with friend initial blocks  $\{0, 11\}, \{19, 30\}$ .

By replacing the friend initial blocks  $\{a, a + t\}$  with  $\{a, a + t\}$  and  $\{a, \infty\}$ , and also  $\{b, b + t\}$  with  $\{b, \infty\}$  and  $\{b, b + t\}$ , it is shown that there exists a 2-PARB( $2^n + 1, 2, 1$ ) for  $n = 2, 3, 4, 5$ .

On the other hand, for any  $n' \in \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and any integer  $s \geq 1$ , a  $(2^{4s+n'}, 2^{n'}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be obtained by Lemma 4.3. Hence, by applying Lemma 5.3 with a 2-PARB( $2^{n'} + 1, 2, 1$ ), the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.6** There exists a 2-PARB( $3^n + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any positive integer  $n$ .

*Proof.* When  $n = 1, 2$ , the existence of the required design is given in Examples A.1 and A.3. On the other hand, Lemma 4.4 shows the existence of a  $(3^n, 9, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(3^{n'}, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any even integer  $n \geq 4$  and any odd integer  $n' \geq 3$ , respectively. Hence, based on these PACDFs, by applying Lemma 5.3 with a 2-PARB( $10, 2, 1$ ) and a 2-PARB( $4, 2, 1$ ), the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.7** There exists a 2-PARB( $2^m 3^n + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ .

*Proof.* When  $(m, n) = (1, 1), (2, 1), (1, 2)$ , Examples A.2, A.5 and A.7 show the result, respectively.

Let  $m = 1$ . Then Lemma 4.5 shows the existence of a  $(2 \cdot 3^n, 18, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and a  $(2 \cdot 3^{n'}, 6, 2, 1)$ -PACDF for any even integer  $n \geq 4$  and any odd integer  $n' \geq 3$ , respectively. Hence, based on these PACDFs, Lemma 5.3 with a 2-PARB( $19, 2, 1$ ) and a 2-PARB( $7, 2, 1$ ) shows the existence of a 2-PARB( $2 \cdot 3^n + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any integer  $n \geq 3$ .

Let  $m \geq 3$  and  $n = 1$ . Then the  $(2^m \cdot 3, 2^{m-1}, 2, 1)$ -PACDF obtained by Lemma 4.6 and the 2-PARB( $2^{m-1} + 1, 2, 1$ ) as in Lemma 5.5 show the existence of a 2-PARB( $2^m \cdot 3 + 1, 2, 1$ ), by applying Lemma 5.3.

Finally, let  $m \geq 2, n \geq 2$ . Then a 2-PARB( $2^m \cdot 3^n + 1, 2, 1$ ) can be obtained by applying Lemma 5.3 with the  $(2^m \cdot 3^n, 2^m, 2, 1)$ -PACDF and the 2-PARB( $2^m + 1, 2, 1$ ) obtained by Lemmas 4.7 and 5.5, respectively.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.8** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a 2-PARB( $2^n P + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any positive integer  $n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p \geq 5$  be a prime factor of  $P$  and  $P/p = Q$ . Then  $Q \geq 1$ .

When  $n = 1$ , Lemma 5.2 itself shows the result for  $Q = 1$ . Next, for  $Q \geq 5$ , a  $(2P, 2p, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be obtained by applying Lemma 4.8. Hence, Lemmas 5.2 and 5.3 show the existence of a 2-PARB( $2P + 1, 2, 1$ ).

When  $n \geq 2$ , a  $(2^n P, 2^n, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be obtained by Lemma 4.9. Hence, the existence of a 2-PARB( $2^n + 1, 2, 1$ ), on account of Lemma 5.5, implies the existence of a 2-PARB( $2^n P + 1, 2, 1$ ).  $\square$

**Lemma 5.9** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a 2-PARB( $3^n P + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any positive integer  $n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $n = 1$ . Then the existing  $(3P, 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF obtained by Lemma 4.2 and the 2-PARB( $4, 2, 1$ ) given in Example A.1 show the existence of the required design by Lemma 5.3.

When  $n \geq 2$ , Lemma 4.10 can provide a  $(3^n P, P, 2, 1)$ -PACDF. On the other hand, a 2-PARB( $P + 1, 2, 1$ ) can be given by Theorem 5.1. Hence, Lemma 5.3 can be used to show the existence of a 2-PARB( $3^n P + 1, 2, 1$ ).  $\square$

**Lemma 5.10** Let  $P \geq 5$  be an odd integer with  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then there exists a 2-PARB( $2^m 3^n P + 1, 2, 1$ ) for any positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $m \geq 1$  and  $n = 1$ . Then a  $(2^m \cdot 3P, 2^m \cdot 3, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be given by Lemma 4.11. Furthermore Lemmas 5.3 and 5.7 show the existence of a 2-PARB( $2^m \cdot 3P + 1, 2, 1$ ).

When  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 2$ , a  $(2^m \cdot 3^n P, 2^m P, 2, 1)$ -PACDF can be obtained by Lemma 4.12. Hence, Lemmas 5.3 and 5.8 can be used to show the existence of a 2-PARB( $2^m \cdot 3^n P + 1, 2, 1$ ).  $\square$

Finally, the main result is now established as in Theorem 1.3 by taking Theorem 2.2 and Lemmas 5.1 and 5.5 to 5.10.

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* When  $\gcd(v - 1, 6) = 1$ , Lemma 5.1 shows the existence of a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ). If  $\gcd(v - 1, 6) \neq 1$ , then  $v - 1 = 2^m 3^n$  or  $2^m 3^n P$ , where  $m \geq 0, n \geq 0, (m, n) \neq (0, 0)$  and  $P \geq 5$  is any odd integer such that  $\gcd(P, 6) = 1$ . Then by using Lemmas 5.5 to 5.10 the existence of a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ) is shown for any  $v \geq 4$ . This fact with Theorem 2.2 completes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark.** Some results on the existence of a 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ ) are obtained in [12, 15]. Furthermore, some methods of constructing a 2-PARB( $v, 2, 1$ ) given in this paper can be used to construct 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ )’s. As a result, Theorem 1.2 on the existence of 2-PACB designs would be improved. Even so, we cannot show the existence of a 2-PACB( $v, 2, 1$ ) for *any*  $v$ . The existence problem of this cyclic type will be discussed in a forthcoming paper.

## Appendix

Some individual examples which can be found by use of a computer are presented. Note that each of these examples cannot be given by the construction methods provided in this paper.

**Example A.1** An ARB(4, 2, 1) on  $Z_3 \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{1, 2\} \pmod 3 \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{1, 2\}, \{0, \infty\} \pmod 3. \end{aligned}$$

**Example A.2** A 3-PARB(7, 2, 1) on  $Z_6 \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\} \text{PC}(3) \pmod 6 \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{1, 3\}, \{2, \infty\}, \{4, 5\}, \{1, 4\} \text{PC}(3) \pmod 6 \\ \mathcal{B}_3 & : \{4, 5\}, \{3, 5\}, \{3, \infty\}, \{2, 5\} \text{PC}(3) \pmod 6. \end{aligned}$$

**Example A.3** A 2-PARB(10, 2, 1) on  $Z_9 \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\} \pmod 9 \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{4, 7\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 4\}, \{4, \infty\}, \{3, 7\} \pmod 9.\end{aligned}$$

**Example A.4** A 2-PARB(11, 2, 1) on  $Z_{10} \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{0, 5\} \text{PC}(5) \pmod{10} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{4, 7\}, \{7, 9\}, \{8, 9\}, \{4, 8\}, \{5, \infty\}, \{2, 7\} \text{PC}(5) \pmod{10}.\end{aligned}$$

**Example A.5** A 2-PARB(13, 2, 1) on  $Z_{12} \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{0, 5\}, \\ & \quad \{0, 6\} \text{PC}(6) \pmod{12} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{6, 8\}, \{2, 11\}, \{6, \infty\}, \{10, 5\}, \{7, 3\}, \{8, 9\}, \\ & \quad \{1, 7\} \text{PC}(6) \pmod{12}.\end{aligned}$$

**Example A.6** A 2-PARB(15, 2, 1) on  $Z_{14} \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{0, 5\}, \{0, 6\}, \\ & \quad \{0, 7\} \text{PC}(7) \pmod{14} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{7, 10\}, \{3, 12\}, \{1, 9\}, \{9, 11\}, \{1, \infty\}, \{9, 10\}, \{4, 8\}, \\ & \quad \{6, 13\} \text{PC}(7) \pmod{14}.\end{aligned}$$

**Example A.7** A 2-PARB(19, 2, 1) on  $Z_{18} \cup \{\infty\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_1 & : \{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{0, 5\}, \{0, 6\}, \\ & \quad \{0, 7\}, \{0, 8\}, \{0, 9\} \text{PC}(9) \pmod{18} \\ \mathcal{B}_2 & : \{7, 10\}, \{4, 12\}, \{7, \infty\}, \{9, 16\}, \{1, 5\}, \{9, 10\}, \{2, 8\}, \\ & \quad \{1, 3\}, \{2, 15\}, \{1, 10\} \text{PC}(9) \pmod{18}.\end{aligned}$$

The following examples of PACDFs are used for recursive constructions in Section 4.

**Example A.8** A (12, 2, 2, 1)-PACDF:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_1 & : \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{0, 5\} \\ \mathcal{F}_2 & : \{5, 10\}, \{7, 11\}, \{2, 4\}, \{8, 11\}, \{2, 3\}.\end{aligned}$$

**Example A.9** A (27, 3, 2, 1)-PACDF:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_1 & : \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{0, 5\}, \{0, 6\}, \{0, 7\}, \{0, 8\}, \\ & \quad \{0, 10\}, \{0, 11\}, \{0, 12\}, \{0, 13\} \\ \mathcal{F}_2 & : \{6, 7\}, \{7, 26\}, \{8, 13\}, \{2, 17\}, \{17, 24\}, \{1, 7\}, \{19, 23\}, \{14, 24\}, \\ & \quad \{3, 14\}, \{15, 17\}, \{1, 4\}, \{11, 25\}.\end{aligned}$$

## Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank one of the referees for constructive comments through pointing out an error. They make the paper much more readable.

## References

- [1] I. Anderson and N. J. Finizio, Some new  $Z$ -cyclic whist tournament designs, *Discrete Math.* **293** (2005), 19–28.
- [2] S. Bonvicini, M. Buratti, G. Rinaldi and T. Traetta, Some progress on the existence of 1-rotational Steiner triple systems, *Des. Codes Cryptogr.* **62** (2012), 63–78.
- [3] D. Bryant and S. El-Zanati, Graph decompositions, In: *The CRC Handbook of Combinatorial Designs (2nd ed.)* (Eds.: C. J. Colbourn and J. H. Dinitz), CRC Press, Boca Raton (2007), 477–486.
- [4] M. Buratti, Recursive constructions for difference matrices and relative difference families, *J. Combin. Des.* **6** (1998), 165–182.
- [5] Y. Chang, Some cyclic BIBDs with block size four, *J. Combin. Des.* **12** (2004), 177–183.
- [6] Y. Chang and Y. Miao, Constructions for optimal optical orthogonal codes, *Discrete Math.* **261** (2003), 127–139.
- [7] R. Diestel, *Graph Theory*, 4th ed., Springer-Verlag, 2010.
- [8] G. Ge, On  $(g, 4; 1)$ -difference matrices, *Discrete Math.* **301** (2005), 164–174.
- [9] M. Jimbo, Recursive constructions for cyclic BIB designs and their generalizations, *Discrete Math.* **116** (1993), 79–95.
- [10] S. Kageyama and Y. Miao, Nested designs with block size five and subblock size two, *J. Statist. Plann. Inference* **64** (1997), 125–139.
- [11] K. Matsubara and S. Kageyama, The existence of two pairwise additive  $\text{BIBD}(v, 2, 1)$  for any  $v$ , *J. Stat. Theory Pract.* **7** (2013), 783–790.
- [12] K. Matsubara and S. Kageyama, Some pairwise additive cyclic BIB designs, *Stat. Appl.* **11** (2013), 55–77.
- [13] K. Matsubara and S. Kageyama, The construction of pairwise additive minimal BIB designs with asymptotic results, *Applied Math.* **5** (2014), 2130–2136.

- [14] K. Matsubara and S. Kageyama, The existence of 3 pairwise additive  $B(v, 2, 1)$  for any  $v \geq 6$ , *J. Combin. Math. Combin. Comput.* **95** (2015), 27–32.
- [15] K. Matsubara, M. Hirao and S. Kageyama, The existence of 2 pairwise additive cyclic BIB designs with an even number of points, *Bull. Inst. Combin. Appl.* **75** (2015), 91–94.
- [16] K. Matsubara, M. Sawa, D. Matsumoto, H. Kiyama and S. Kageyama, An addition structure on incidence matrices of a BIB design, *Ars Combin.* **78** (2006), 113–122.
- [17] M. Mishima, Y. Miao, S. Kageyama and M. Jimbo, Constructions of nested directed BIB designs, *Australas. J. Combin.* **18** (1998), 157–172.
- [18] J. P. Morgan, D. A. Preece and D. H. Rees, Nested balanced incomplete block designs, *Discrete Math.* **231** (2001), 351–389.
- [19] K. T. Phelps and A. Rosa, Steiner triple systems with rotational automorphisms, *Discrete Math.* **33** (1981), 57–66.
- [20] D. A. Preece, Nested balanced incomplete block designs, *Biometrika* **54** (1976), 479–486.
- [21] D. Raghavarao, *Constructions and Combinatorial Problems in Design of Experiments*, Dover, New York, 1988.
- [22] M. Sawa, S. Kageyama and M. Jimbo, Compatibility of BIB designs, *Stat. Appl.* **6** (2008), 73–89.
- [23] M. Sawa, K. Matsubara, D. Matsumoto, H. Kiyama and S. Kageyama, The spectrum of additive BIB designs, *J. Combin. Des.* **15** (2007), 235–254.
- [24] J. Yin, Some combinatorial constructions for optical orthogonal codes, *Discrete Math.* **185** (1998), 201–219.

(Received 24 June 2016; revised 29 Dec 2016, 5 Apr 2017)