

## THE POLYTOPAL ASSOCIATION SCHEME

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### Summary

The polytopal association scheme for PBIB designs is introduced and studied utilizing the concept of clustering of treatments.

### 1. Introduction

In [1], a family of  $m$ -associate class partially balanced association schemes (PBAS( $m$ )) was defined by considering  $n$  treatments as being clustered at each of the  $s$  vertices of a regular  $s$ -sided polygon. This *polygonal association scheme* and the resulting partially balanced incomplete block (PBIB) designs were studied in detail for  $s=3, 4, 5$  and  $6$ .

In the present paper, the ideas begun in [1] are extended to general  $s$ -sided polygons (Section 4), to  $p$ -dimensional polytopes (Section 3), and to the five regular polyhedra in three dimensional space (Section 5).

### 2. Clustering and the polytopal association scheme

In [3], it was shown how a PBAS having  $m+1$  associate classes could be constructed from a PBAS having  $m$  associate classes. The procedure involves replacing each of the  $s$  treatments of the original PBAS by  $n$  treatments. The resulting *clustered* PBAS in  $v=ns$  treatments will be referred to as a CPBAS( $m+1$ ). The relation between the parameters of the PBAS( $m$ ) and the CPBAS( $m+1$ ) are given in [3]. The characteristic roots of the resulting PBIB( $m+1$ ) design in terms of those of the PBIB( $m$ ) design are given by the following theorem.

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $N$  denote the incidence matrix of a PBIB( $m$ ) design and let  $NN'$  have characteristic roots  $\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_m$  with multi-*

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plicities  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m$ . If  $N^*$  denotes the incidence matrix of the corresponding clustered PBIB  $(m+1)$  design, then the characteristic roots of  $N^*N^*$  are  $\theta_i^* = n\theta_i$  with multiplicities  $\alpha_i^* = \alpha_i$  for  $i=0, 1, 2, \dots, m$ , and  $\theta_{m+1}^* = 0$  with multiplicity  $\alpha_{m+1}^* = v(n-1)$ .

This theorem is easily established by noting that  $N^* = N \otimes J_n$ , the Kronecker product of  $N$  with a column vector of  $n$  1's. Also of note is that  $\theta_{m+1}^* = r - \lambda_{m+1} = 0$  so that  $\lambda_{m+1} = r$ , where  $\lambda_i$  denotes the number of blocks in the design in which two treatments that are  $i$ th associates jointly appear.

The regular polytopal association scheme provides an example of the usefulness of the clustering principle. It can be defined as follows. Consider an  $s$ -vertexed regular polytope in  $p$ -dimensional space, and suppose  $n$  treatments are clustered at each of the  $s$  vertices, so that  $v = ns$ . Two treatments belonging to adjacent (i.e. one-edge-away) vertices will be called first associates; two treatments "two-edges-away" will be second associates; ...; two treatments " $(m-1)$ -edges-away" will be  $(m-1)$ th associates; and two treatments in the same cluster will be  $m$ th associates.

The important properties of a PBAS are contained in its parameters, namely the number of treatments involved ( $v$ ), the number of associate classes ( $m$ ), the number of  $i$ th associates of each treatment ( $n_i$ ,  $i=1, 2, \dots, m$ ), and the matrices  $P_i = (p_{jk}^i)$  in which  $p_{jk}^i$  denotes the number of treatments that are simultaneously  $j$ th associates of one treatment (say  $t_1$ ) and  $k$ th associates of another treatment (say  $t_2$ ), where  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are themselves  $i$ th associates (for  $i, j, k=1, 2, \dots, m$ ). The important properties of the corresponding PBIB design are the characteristic roots  $\theta_0, \theta_1, \dots, \theta_m$  of  $NN'$ , where  $N$  again denotes the incidence matrix of the design, together with their multiplicities  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$ . In the next three sections, these properties are given for regular polytopal designs.

### 3. The regular polytopal association scheme for general $p$

For  $p > 4$  there are only three regular polytopes each of which has an analogue in 2, 3 and 4-dimensional space. These three are the regular simplex, the cross polytope, and the measure polytope. The designs corresponding to these polytopes will be examined in this section.

*Regular simplex.* The regular simplex in  $p$ -dimensions has  $s = p+1$  vertices, each vertex being joined to every other by an edge (see Fig. 1). For  $p=2$  the regular simplex is an equilateral triangle and for  $p=3$  it is a regular tetrahedron. The parameters of the regular simplex design are given in Table 1.

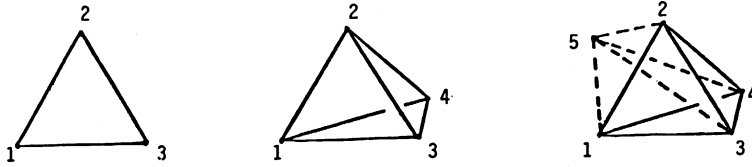


Fig. 1. The regular simplex in  $p$ -space for  $p=2, 3, 4$

Table 1. Parameters of the regular simplex design

|   |   |
|---|---|
| $v=n(p+1)$  | $m=2$   |
| $n_1=np$  | $n_2=n-1$   |
| $P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} n(p-1) & n-1 \\ n-1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} np & 0 \\ 0 & n-2 \end{bmatrix}$ |
| $\theta_0=rk$   | $\alpha_0=1$  |
| $\theta_1=r-n\lambda_1+(n-1)\lambda_2$                        | $\alpha_1=p$  |
| $\theta_2=r-\lambda_2$  | $\alpha_2=(n-1)(p+1)$                                   |

*Cross polytope.* The cross polytope in  $p$ -dimensions has  $s=2p$  vertices, each vertex being joined to  $2(p-1)$  other vertices by an edge. The remaining vertices are two-edges-away (see Fig. 2). For  $p=2$  the cross polytope is a square and for  $p=3$  it is a regular octahedron. The parameters of the cross polytope design are given in Table 2.

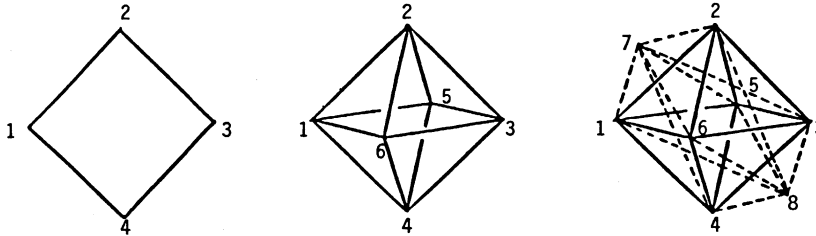


Fig. 2. The cross polytope in  $p$ -space for  $p=2, 3, 4$

Table 2. Parameters of the cross polytope design

|   |                    |           |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
| $v=2np$   | $m=3$              |           |
| $n_1=2n(p-1)$   | $n_2=n$            | $n_3=n-1$ |
| $P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2n(p-2) & n & n-1 \\ n & 0 & 0 \\ n-1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ |                    |           |
| $P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2n(p-1) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n-1 \\ 0 & n-1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ |                    |           |
| $P_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2n(p-1) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n-2 \end{bmatrix}$   |                    |           |
| $\theta_0=rk$   | $\alpha_0=1$       |           |
| $\theta_1=r-2n\lambda_1+n\lambda_2+(n-1)\lambda_3$                                  | $\alpha_1=p-1$     |           |
| $\theta_2=r-n\lambda_2+(n-1)\lambda_3$  | $\alpha_2=p$       |           |
| $\theta_3=r-\lambda_3$  | $\alpha_3=2p(n-1)$ |           |

*Measure polytope.* The  $p$ -dimensional analogue of the cube is the measure polytope. It has  $s=2^p$  vertices and  $p2^{p-1}$  edges with each vertex being joined to  $p$  others. Other vertices are at most  $p$ -edges-away (see Fig. 3). For  $p=2$  the measure polytope is a square and for  $p=3$  it is a cube. The parameters of the measure polytope design are given in Table 3.

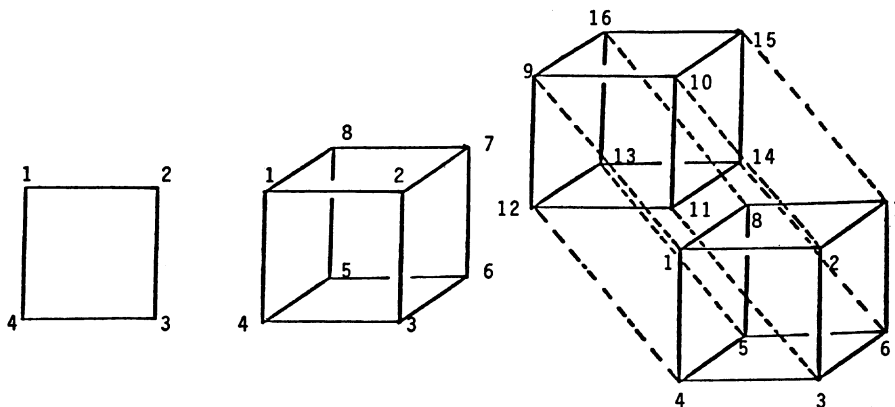


Fig. 3. The measure polytope in  $p$ -space for  $p=2, 3, 4$

Table 3. Parameters of the measure polytope design

$$v = n2^p \quad m = p + 1$$

$$n_i = n \binom{p}{i}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, p \quad n_{p+1} = n - 1$$

$$P_{p+1} = \text{diag}(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_p, n - 1)$$

and, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ ,

$$P_i = (p_{jk}^i) \text{ is a symmetric matrix with}$$

$$p_{jk}^i = \begin{cases} n \binom{i}{i/2} \binom{p-i}{k-i/2} & \text{for } j = k = 1, 2, \dots, p \\ 0 & \text{for } j = k = p + 1 \\ n \binom{i}{k-j+i} \binom{p-i}{k+j-i} & \text{for } j < k = 1, 2, \dots, p \\ (n-1)\delta_{ij} & \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, p, k = p + 1 \end{cases}$$

in which  $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker delta and  $\binom{a}{b}$  is assumed to be 0 if  $b$  is not an integer or if  $b > a$  or if  $b < 0$ .

$$\theta_0 = rk \quad \alpha_0 = 1$$

$$\theta_i = r + \sum_{j=1}^{p+1} \lambda_j z_{ij} \quad \alpha_i = \binom{p}{i} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p$$

$$\theta_{p+1} = r - \lambda_{p+1} \quad \alpha_{p+1} = 2^p(n-1)$$

in which  $z_{ij} = \sum_{k=\max(0, i+j-p)}^{\min(i, j)} \binom{i}{k} \binom{p-i}{j-k} (-1)^k$   
 for  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, p$   
 and  $z_{i, p+1} = n - 1$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ .

#### 4. The polygonal association scheme

For  $p=2$ , polytopes become polygons and give rise to the polygonal association scheme introduced in [1]. Let  $n$  treatments be clustered at each of the  $s$  vertices of a regular  $s$ -sided polygon, for  $s=3, 4, 5, \dots$ . The resulting polygonal association scheme has parameters as given in Table 4.

Table 4. Parameters of polygonal Designs

$$v=ns \quad m=(s+1)/2 \quad \text{for } s \text{ odd}$$

$$m=(s+2)/2 \quad \text{for } s \text{ even}$$

For  $i=1, 2, \dots, m-1$ ,

$$P_i = \begin{bmatrix} Q_i & R_i \\ R_i & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

in which  $Q_i=(q_{jk}^i)$  is an  $(m-1) \times (m-1)$  symmetric matrix with  $q_{jk}^i = n(\delta_{j-k, i} + \delta_{j+k, i} + \delta_{j+k, s-i})$  and  $R_i=(r_{j,1})$  is an  $(m-1) \times 1$  column vector with  $r_{j,1}=(n-1)\delta_{i,j}$ ,

$$\text{and } P_m = \text{diag}(2n, 2n, \dots, 2n, n-2) \quad \text{for } s \text{ odd}$$

$$= \text{diag}(2n, 2n, \dots, 2n, n, n-2) \quad \text{for } s \text{ even.}$$

$$\theta_0 = rk$$

$$\theta_i = r + \sum_{j=1}^m n_j \lambda_j \cos(2\pi ij/s) \quad \text{for } i=1, 2, \dots, m-1$$

$$\theta_m = r - \lambda_m$$

with  $\alpha_0=1$ ,  $\alpha_m=(n-1)s$ , and  
 for  $s$  odd,  $\alpha_i=2$  for  $i=1, 2, \dots, m-1$  and  
 for  $s$  even,  $\alpha_i=2$  for  $i=1, 2, \dots, m-2$   
 $\alpha_{m-1}=1$ .

One interesting feature of these designs is that, with proper numbering of the  $ns$  treatments, the matrix  $NN'$  becomes a *circulant* matrix. Suppose treatment number  $t$  ( $t=1, 2, \dots, ns$ ) is assigned coordinates  $(\alpha, \beta)$  ( $\alpha=1, 2, \dots, s$ ;  $\beta=1, 2, \dots, n$ ) such that  $t=(\beta-1)s+\alpha$  so that the treatment numbered  $t$  is the  $\beta$ th treatment in the cluster of  $n$  treatments at the  $\alpha$ th vertex. Two treatments  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $(\alpha', \beta')$  will then be  $k$ th associates ( $k=1, 2, \dots, m-1$ ) if  $|\alpha-\alpha'|=k$  and will be  $m$ th associates if  $\alpha=\alpha'$ .

With this numbering, the matrix  $NN'$  for a polygonal design is a real symmetric circulant matrix. Its characteristic roots have the form

$$\theta_i = \sum_{j=1}^{ns} a_j \cos(2\pi ij/ns), \quad i=1, 2, \dots, ns$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{ns}$  are the entries in the first row of  $NN'$  (see [2]). Observing that the  $a_j$  values are each  $r, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$ , or  $\lambda_m$ , and that certain characteristic roots are repeated, the characteristic roots of  $NN'$  and their multiplicities can be written as in Table 4.

5. The polyhedral association scheme

There are five regular polyhedra in 3-space, each giving rise to a PBAS in a similar way. The tetrahedron, octahedron and hexahedron are special cases of the regular simplex, cross polytope and measure polytope, respectively, with  $p=3$ . The icosahedron and dodecahedron designs have parameters given in Tables 5 and 6 respectively.

Table 5. Parameters of the icosahedron design

|          |  |         |  |  |
|----------|--|---------|--|--|
| $v=12n$  | $m=4$  |         |  |  |
| $n_1=5n$ | $n_2=5n$   | $n_3=n$ | $n_4=n-1$  |  |
| $P_1=$   | $\begin{bmatrix} 2n & 2n & 0 & n-1 \\ 2n & 2n & n & 0 \\ 0 & n & 0 & 0 \\ n-1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $P_2=$  | $\begin{bmatrix} 2n & 2n & n & 0 \\ 2n & 2n & 0 & n-1 \\ n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & n-1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ |  |
| $P_3=$   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 5n & 0 & 0 \\ 5n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & n-1 \\ 0 & 0 & n-1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   | $P_4=$  | $\begin{bmatrix} 5n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & n-2 \end{bmatrix}$     |  |
|          | $\theta_0=rk$  |         | $\alpha_0=1$   |  |
|          | $\theta_1=r-n\lambda_1-n\lambda_2+n\lambda_3+(n-1)\lambda_4$   |         | $\alpha_1=5$   |  |
|          | $\theta_2=r+\sqrt{5}n\lambda_1-\sqrt{5}n\lambda_2-n\lambda_3+(n-1)\lambda_4$                             |         | $\alpha_2=3$   |  |
|          | $\theta_3=r-\sqrt{5}n\lambda_1+\sqrt{5}n\lambda_2-n\lambda_3+(n-1)\lambda_4$                             |         | $\alpha_3=3$   |  |
|          | $\theta_4=r-\lambda_4$   |         | $\alpha_4=12(n-1)$   |  |

Table 6. Parameters of the dodecahedron design

|          |  |          |          |         |  |
|----------|--|----------|----------|---------|--|
| $v=20n$  | $m=6$  |          |          |         |  |
| $n_1=3n$ | $n_2=6n$   | $n_3=6n$ | $n_4=3n$ | $n_5=n$ | $n_6=n-1$  |
| $P_1=$   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2n & 0 & 0 & 0 & n-1 \\ 2n & 2n & 2n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2n & 2n & 2n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2n & 0 & n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & n & 0 & 0 \\ n-1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ |          |          | $P_2=$  | $\begin{bmatrix} n & n & n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ n & n & 2n & n & 0 & n-1 \\ n & 2n & n & n & n & 0 \\ 0 & n & n & n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & n-1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$       |
| $P_3=$   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & n & n & n & 0 & 0 \\ n & 2n & n & n & n & 0 \\ n & n & 2n & n & 0 & n-1 \\ n & n & n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n-1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$       |          |          | $P_4=$  | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2n & 0 & n & 0 \\ 0 & 2n & 2n & 2n & 0 & 0 \\ 2n & 2n & 2n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2n & 0 & 0 & 0 & n-1 \\ n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & n-1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ |
| $P_5=$   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 3n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 6n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & n-1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & n-1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$     |          |          | $P_6=$  | $\begin{bmatrix} 3n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 6n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & n-2 \end{bmatrix}$       |

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| $\theta_0 = rk$  | $\alpha_0 = 1$       |
| $\theta_1 = r - 3n\lambda_2 + 3n\lambda_3 - n\lambda_5 + (n-1)\lambda_6$   | $\alpha_1 = 4$       |
| $\theta_2 = r + n\lambda_1 - 2n\lambda_2 - 2n\lambda_3 + n\lambda_4 + n\lambda_5 + (n-1)\lambda_6$                 | $\alpha_2 = 5$       |
| $\theta_3 = r - 2n\lambda_1 + n\lambda_2 + n\lambda_3 - 2n\lambda_4 + n\lambda_5 + (n-1)\lambda_6$                 | $\alpha_3 = 4$       |
| $\theta_4 = r - \sqrt{5}n\lambda_1 + 2n\lambda_2 - 2n\lambda_3 + \sqrt{5}n\lambda_4 - n\lambda_5 + (n-1)\lambda_6$ | $\alpha_4 = 3$       |
| $\theta_5 = r + \sqrt{5}n\lambda_1 + 2n\lambda_2 - 2n\lambda_3 - \sqrt{5}n\lambda_4 - n\lambda_5 + (n-1)\lambda_6$ | $\alpha_5 = 3$       |
| $\theta_6 = r - \lambda_6$   | $\alpha_6 = 20(n-1)$ |

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