

## ON $\mu$ -RESOLVABLE AND AFFINE $\mu$ -RESOLVABLE BALANCED INCOMPLETE BLOCK DESIGNS

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The concept of resolvability and affine resolvability was generalized to  $\mu$ -resolvability and affine  $\mu$ -resolvability by Shrikhande and Raghavarao (1964). In this paper, a representation of parameters of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design is given and necessary conditions for the existence of this design are derived. Some methods of constructing (affine)  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs are given and some inequalities for these designs are obtained. Finally, some information on the block structure of  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs is provided.

**0. Introduction and summary.** In a Balanced Incomplete Block (BIB) design with parameters  $v$ ,  $b$ ,  $r$ ,  $k$  and  $\lambda$ , we have the following relations:

$$(0.1) \quad vr = bk, \quad \lambda(v - 1) = r(k - 1), \quad b \geq v.$$

The concept of resolvability and affine resolvability, introduced by Bose [2], was generalized to  $\mu$ -resolvability and affine  $\mu$ -resolvability by Shrikhande and Raghavarao [11]. They gave necessary and sufficient conditions for a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design to be affine  $\mu$ -resolvable, a necessary condition for the existence of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design, and further in [10] gave a certain method of constructing these designs.

In this paper, a different approach is used. The parameters of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design expressed in terms of only three integral variables are given, and necessary conditions for the existence of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design are derived. Some methods of constructing (affine)  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs are stated and further (affine)  $\mu$ -resolvability of a BIB design based on a finite geometry over a Galois field is investigated. Some inequalities (including a generalization of Bose's one) for BIB designs with special parameters are given. Finally, we provide some information on the block structure of  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs of a certain type.

**1. Parameters and nonexistence of affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs.** A BIB design is called  $\mu$ -resolvable if the blocks can be separated into  $t$  sets of  $m$  blocks each such that each set contains every treatment exactly  $\mu$  times. For a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design, we necessarily have

$$(1.1) \quad b = mt, \quad r = \mu t, \quad v\mu = mk, \quad b\mu = mr.$$

A  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design is called affine  $\mu$ -resolvable if any pair of blocks belonging to the same set contain  $q_1$  treatments in common, whereas any pair of

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blocks belonging to different sets contain  $q_2$  treatments in common. An (affine) 1-resolvable design may be simply called (affine) resolvable.

**THEOREM A** (cf. [11]). *The necessary and sufficient condition for a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design to be affine  $\mu$ -resolvable is*

$$(1.2) \quad b - v = t - 1.$$

From (0.1), (1.1) and the definition of affine  $\mu$ -resolvability, we have  $q_1 = (\mu - 1)k/(m - 1)$  and  $q_2 = \mu k/m = k^2/v$ . Moreover, since from (1.1) and (1.2)  $q_1 = (\mu - 1)k/(m - 1) = k + \lambda - r$  can be obviously shown, we have

**THEOREM 1.1.** *A necessary condition for the existence of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$ , where  $b - v = t - 1$ , is that  $k^2/v = \mu k/m$  is an integer.*

This is essentially an alternative derivation of Theorem 3 of Shrikhande and Raghavarao [11]. We use Theorems A and 1.1 to obtain a representation of parameters of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design. The result is given in Theorem 1.2.

**THEOREM 1.2.** *The parameters  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda$  of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design can be essentially expressed in terms of only three integral variables  $\mu (\geq 1)$ ,  $m (\geq 2)$  and  $j (\geq (1 - \mu)/m_1)$  as follows:*

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{aligned} v &= \frac{m}{\mu} \{m_1(m - 1)j + m\mu\}, & b &= \frac{m}{\mu} \{mm_1j + (m + 1)\mu\}, \\ r &= mm_1j + (m + 1)\mu, & k &= m_1(m - 1)j + m\mu, \\ \lambda &= m_1\mu j + \mu^2 + \mu(\mu - 1)/(m - 1), \end{aligned}$$

where  $j \geq 0$  when  $(\mu, m) = 1$ , and  $m_1$  is an integer satisfying  $(\mu, m) = g; \mu = \mu_1 g, m = m_1 g$  and  $(\mu_1, m_1) = 1$ .

**PROOF.** Let  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda$  be the parameters of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design. Then substituting (1.1) into (1.2), we have

$$(1.4) \quad r = k + (k - \mu)/(m - 1).$$

Since  $r$  and  $k$  are integers,  $k - \mu$  must be divisible by  $m - 1$ . Hence

$$(1.5) \quad k = (m - 1)p + \mu,$$

where  $p$  is a positive integer. Substituting (1.5) into (1.4), we have

$$(1.6) \quad r = mp + \mu.$$

Moreover from (0.1), (1.1) and (1.5) we have

$$(1.7) \quad \lambda = \mu p + \mu(\mu - 1)/(m - 1).$$

The  $(\mu, m) = g$  leads to an expression  $\mu = \mu_1 g, m = m_1 g, (\mu_1, m_1) = 1$ . Further, from Theorem 1.1  $\mu_1\{(m - 1)p + \mu\}/m_1$  must be an integer. Hence from  $(\mu_1, m_1) = 1, (m - 1)p + \mu$  must be a multiple of  $m_1$ , i.e., there exists a positive

integer  $\alpha$  such that  $(m - 1)p + \mu = \alpha m_1$  or  $p = \mu + (gp - \alpha)m_1$ . Let  $j = gp - \alpha$ , then from  $p \geq 1$  we have  $j \geq 0$  when  $(\mu, m) = 1$ . Thus using (1.1), (1.5), (1.6), (1.7) and  $p = \mu + m_1 j$  we obtain (1.3).

Bose [2] has obtained the particular case (i.e.,  $\mu = 1$ ) of Theorem 1.2. From Theorem 1.2 we have the following theorems for the nonexistence of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design:

**THEOREM 1.3.** *When  $r$  divides  $b$ , an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$  does not exist for an integer  $\mu$  satisfying  $\mu \geq 2$ .*

**PROOF.** From the assumption and (1.1)  $m$  is a multiple of  $\mu$ . Hence  $(\mu, m - 1) = 1$ . Since in (1.3)  $\lambda - m_1 \mu j - \mu^2 = \mu(\mu - 1)/(m - 1)$  is an integer,  $(\mu, m - 1) = 1$  implies that  $(\mu - 1)/(m - 1)$  is an integer. This contradicts  $\mu < m$  derived from  $k < v$  and (1.1). Note that when  $\mu = 1$  this approach is essentially meaningless.

**THEOREM 1.4.** *When  $r$  does not divide  $b$ , a necessary condition for the existence of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$  for an integer  $\mu$  satisfying  $\mu \geq 2$  is that there exists a positive integer  $p_2$  satisfying the following conditions:*

(i)  $p_2 \leq \mu - 1$ , (ii)  $\mu(\mu - 1)$  is divisible by  $p_2$ .

In this case

$$(1.8) \quad m = \mu(\mu - 1)/p_2 + 1,$$

$$(1.9) \quad j = \mu_1 p_1,$$

$$(1.10) \quad \lambda = m_1 \mu_1 \mu p_1 + \mu^2 + p_2,$$

where  $p_1$  is an integer, but in particular  $p_1$  is a nonnegative integer when  $(\mu, m) = 1$ , and  $\mu_1$  is an integer satisfying  $(\mu, m) = g; \mu = \mu_1 g, m = m_1 g$  and  $(\mu_1, m_1) = 1$ .

**PROOF.** From the assumption and (1.1)  $m$  is not a multiple of  $\mu$ . The  $(\mu, m) = g$  leads to an expression  $\mu = \mu_1 g, m = m_1 g, (\mu_1, m_1) = 1$ . Since in (1.3)  $v = m_1 k/\mu_1$  and  $b = m_1 r/\mu_1$  are integers, from  $(\mu_1, m_1) = 1$  both  $r$  and  $k$  must be the multiples of  $\mu_1$ . From  $r = mm_1 j + (m + 1)\mu, k = m_1(m - 1)j + m\mu$  in (1.3) and  $(\mu_1, m_1) = 1$ , there exist both integers  $p_1^*$  and  $p_2^*$  satisfying  $m j = p_1^* \mu_1$  and  $(m - 1)j = p_2^* \mu_1$ . Setting  $p_1 = p_1^* - p_2^*$  leads to (1.9). When  $(\mu, m) = 1$ , from  $j \geq 0$  and  $m > \mu \geq 2$  we have  $p_1^* \geq p_2^*$ , i.e.,  $p_1 \geq 0$ . Since in (1.3)  $\lambda$  is an integer,  $m - 1$  must divide  $\mu(\mu - 1)$ , i.e., there exists a positive integer  $p_2$  satisfying  $\mu(\mu - 1) = p_2(m - 1)$ . This implies (ii), (1.8) and moreover (i) by  $m > \mu$ . Substituting (1.9) and  $\mu(\mu - 1) = p_2(m - 1)$  into  $\lambda$  of (1.3), we obtain (1.10). Thus the proof is completed. Note that when  $\mu = 1$ , this approach is essentially meaningless and further, in this case an affine resolvable BIB design does not exist from the definition of resolvability.

Note from (1.1) that when  $r$  is a prime, a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda$  does not exist for an integer  $\mu$  satisfying  $\mu \geq 2$ . It follows from Theorems 1.3 and 1.4 that an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda \leq 4$  does not exist for an integer  $\mu$  satisfying  $\mu \geq 2$ . Further

note that  $\mu_1 = \mu$  in Theorem 1.4 provided that  $\mu$  is a prime or a prime power, because we can show  $(\mu, m) = 1$  from (1.8). For example when  $\mu = 2$ , from Theorem 1.4 we have  $\lambda = 5 + 12p_1$  ( $p_1 \geq 0$ ). Hence when  $\lambda \not\equiv 5 \pmod{12}$  affine 2-resolvable BIB designs do not exist. Thus only one affine 2-resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 9$ ,  $b = 12$ ,  $r = 8$ ,  $k = 6$  and  $\lambda = 5$ , which is constructed by a method described in the next section, exists for  $r \leq 15$ .

**2. Method of construction.** From a BIB design with parameters  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda$  we can construct its complementary BIB design with parameters  $v^* = v$ ,  $b^* = b$ ,  $r^* = b - r$ ,  $k^* = v - k$  and  $\lambda^* = b - 2r + \lambda$ , and vice versa. Then we have

**THEOREM 2.1.** *The existence of an (affine)  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$  implies the existence of an (affine)  $(m - \mu)$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v^* = v, b^* = b, r^* = (m - \mu)t, k^* = v - k$  and  $\lambda^* = (m - 2\mu)t + \lambda$  by the complementary method, and vice versa.*

**PROOF.** It is sufficient to show (affine)  $(m - \mu)$ -resolvability of a BIB design constructed by the complementary method. Now since each treatment occurs  $\mu$  times among the  $m$  blocks in each of  $t$  sets of a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda$ , each treatment obviously occurs exactly  $m - \mu$  times in each of  $t$  sets of its complementary BIB design with parameters  $v^* = v, b^* = b, r^* = b - r = (m - \mu)t, k^* = v - k$  and  $\lambda^* = (m - 2\mu)t + \lambda$ . This implies  $(m - \mu)$ -resolvability. Moreover, when the original design is affine  $\mu$ -resolvable, we have  $v^* + t - 1 = v + t - 1 = b = b^*, q_1^* = (m - \mu - 1)(v - k)/(m - 1) = v - 2k + (\mu - 1)k/(m - 1)$ , and  $q_2^* = (m - \mu)(v - k)/m = v - 2k + \mu k/m$ . Hence affine  $(m - \mu)$ -resolvability is shown from Theorems A and 1.1.

Thus we can construct many  $\mu$ -resolvable or affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs by using known solutions of resolvable or affine resolvable BIB designs from Theorem 2.1. For example an affine resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 9, b = 12, r = 4, k = 3$  and  $\lambda = 1$  having a solution [6], i.e.,  $\text{PC}(4)[(1, 6, 7), (2, 3, 5), (0, 4, \infty)] \pmod{8}$ , gives an affine 2-resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 9, b = 12, r = 8, k = 6$  and  $\lambda = 5$  having a solution, i.e.,  $\text{PC}(4)[(0, 2, 3, 4, 5, \infty), (0, 1, 4, 6, 7, \infty), (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7)] \pmod{8}$ , where  $\text{PC}(4)$  means a partial cycle of order 4, i.e., only 0, 1, 2, 3 are to be added to the initial blocks when developed mod 8. It follows from the preceding section that this design is an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with the least set of parameters for  $\mu \geq 2$ . Similarly, from an affine resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 16, b = 20, r = 5, k = 4$  and  $\lambda = 1$  ([6], [7]), we can construct an affine 3-resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 16, b = 20, r = 15, k = 12$  and  $\lambda = 11$ . Noting that an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with  $r \leq 15$  does not exist provided  $\mu \geq 4$ , it is clear that existent affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs with  $\mu \geq 2$  and  $r \leq 15$  are only two designs described above.

In the rest of this paper unless otherwise specified, both a design and its incidence matrix may be denoted by the same symbol. By using the idea of Rao [8], we clearly obtain

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Let  $N_1$  be a BIB design with parameters  $v_1, b_1, r_1, k_1, \lambda_1$ , and  $N_1' = (\mathbf{n}'_1, \mathbf{n}'_2, \dots, \mathbf{n}'_{v_1})$ , where  $\mathbf{n}_i \mathbf{n}'_j = r_1$  ( $i = j$ ) or  $\lambda_1$  ( $i \neq j$ ),  $N_1'$  is the transpose of a matrix  $N_1$ . Let  $N_2$  be a  $\mu_2$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v_2, b_2 = m_2 t_2, r_2 = \mu_2 t_2, k_2 = v_1, \lambda_2$ . Substitute  $v_1$  distinct row vectors  $\mathbf{n}_i$  ( $1 \times b_1$ ) in place of  $v_1$  distinct units and  $\mathbf{0}$  ( $1 \times b_1$ ) in place of  $v_2 - v_1$  distinct  $\mathbf{0}$  (zero) in every block of  $N_2$ . Then the resulting matrix is an  $\alpha$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = v_2, b = b_1 b_2, r = r_1 r_2, k = k_1, \lambda = \lambda_1 \lambda_2, m = m_2 b_1, t = t_2$  and  $\alpha = r_1 \mu_2$ .*

For example a BIB design with parameters  $v_1 = b_1 = 4, r_1 = k_1 = 3, \lambda_1 = 2$  and a resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v_2 = 8, b_2 = 14, r_2 = 7, k_2 = 4, \lambda_2 = 3$  lead to a 3-resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 8, b = 56, r = 21, k = 3, \lambda = 6$  by Theorem 2.2.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *If  $N_1$  is a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v_1, b_1 = mt, r_1 = \mu t, k_1, \lambda_1$  satisfying  $b_1 = 4(r_1 - \lambda_1)$ , and  $N_2$  is a BIB design with parameters  $v_2, b_2, r_2, k_2, \lambda_2$  satisfying  $b_2 = 4(r_2 - \lambda_2)$ , then  $N = N_1 \otimes N_2 + N_1^* \otimes N_2^*$  is an  $\alpha$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = v_1 v_2, b = b_1 b_2, r = r_1 r_2 + (b_1 - r_1)(b_2 - r_2), k = k_1 k_2 + (v_1 - k_1)(v_2 - k_2), \lambda = r - b/4, \alpha = \mu r_2 + (m - \mu)(b_2 - r_2)$ , where  $N_i^*$  is the complement of a BIB design  $N_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $A \otimes B = \|a_{ij} B\|$  denotes the Kronecker product of matrices  $A = \|a_{ij}\|$  and  $B$ .*

Since it is proved by Shrikhande [9] and Sillitto [12] that  $N = N_1 \otimes N_2 + N_1^* \otimes N_2^*$  is a BIB design with the above parameters,  $\alpha$ -resolvability is easily shown.

From the definition of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design, it follows that the existence of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$  implies the existence of a BIB design with parameters  $v' = m, b' = v, r' = k, k' = \mu$  and  $\lambda' = k + \lambda - r$ .

It is interesting to note that if  $r$  is a multiple of an integer  $\alpha$ , then grouping of  $\alpha$  complete sets each of blocks in a resolvable BIB design leads to an  $\alpha$ -resolvable BIB design with the same set of parameters. Moreover, from two  $\mu_i$ -resolvable BIB designs ( $i = 1, 2$ ) with common parameters  $v, k$  and  $t_1 = t_2, a$  ( $\mu_1 + \mu_2$ )-resolvable BIB design can be constructed. Finally, by using Bose's first Module Theorem [1] it follows that the BIB designs with parameters  $v, b, r, k$  and  $\lambda$  in some series of Bose ([1], [3]) and of Sprott ([13], [14]) are  $k$ -resolvable.

**3.  $d$ -flats in  $PG(t, q)$  and  $EG(t, q)$ .** A finite projective  $t$ -dimensional geometry over a Galois field  $GF(q)$ , where  $q$  is a prime or a prime power, is denoted by  $PG(t, q)$  and the corresponding Euclidean geometry by  $EG(t, q)$ . It is known that the BIB designs with parameters  $v = \phi(t, 0, q), b = \phi(t, d, q), r = \phi(t - 1, d - 1, q), k = \phi(d, 0, q), \lambda = \phi(t - 2, d - 2, q)$  and  $v = q^t, b = q^{t-d} \phi(t - 1, d - 1, q), r = \phi(t - 1, d - 1, q), k = q^d, \lambda = \phi(t - 2, d - 2, q)$  are obtained by choosing the points as treatments and all  $d$ -dimensional linear subspaces ( $d$ -flats) as blocks from  $PG(t, q)$  and  $EG(t, q)$ , respectively, where  $\phi(t, d, q) = (q^{t+1} - 1)(q^t - 1) \dots (q^{t-d+1} - 1)/(q^{d+1} - 1)(q^d - 1) \dots (q - 1)$  is the number

of  $d$ -flats in  $PG(t, q)$  [1]. Designs so obtained are denoted by  $PG(t, q): d$  and  $EG(t, q): d$ , respectively.

It is not difficult to verify that when  $(t + 1, d + 1) = 1$ , a BIB design  $PG(t, q): d$  is  $k$ -resolvable, where  $k = \phi(d, 0, q)$ , and that there does not exist an affine resolvable BIB design  $PG(t, q): d$ .

Since Rao [6] consequentially showed that a BIB design  $EG(t, q): d$  is resolvable, it follows from Theorem A and its direct calculation that a necessary and sufficient condition for a resolvable BIB design  $EG(t, q): d$  to be affine resolvable is  $d = t - 1$ . Further, since the parameters of a BIB design  $EG(t, q): d$  satisfy the condition of Theorem 1.3, it follows that an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design  $EG(t, q): d$  does not exist for  $\mu \geq 2$ . The construction of an affine resolvable BIB design  $EG(t, q): t - 1$  is given by Rao [6], [7].

It should be noted that a BIB design, which is constructed by Theorem 2.1 from a resolvable BIB design  $EG(t, q): d$ , is  $(q^{t-d} - 1)$ -resolvable, and that in particular a BIB design, which is constructed from an affine resolvable BIB design  $EG(t, q): t - 1$ , is affine  $(q - 1)$ -resolvable. Finally, as a complement we point out an apparent error of Rao with respect to EG design. As stated in this section, an  $EG(t, q): d$  is a resolvable BIB design. Nevertheless, Rao [7] carelessly listed an  $EG(3, 3): 1$  as a non-resolvable BIB design. A non-cyclical resolvable geometrical solution of this BIB design  $EG(3, 3): 1$  with parameters  $v = 27, b = 117, r = 13, k = 3$  and  $\lambda = 1$ , however, is easily given by a method of constructing parallel pencils in  $EG(3, 3)$  and omitted here.

**4. Some inequalities among the parameters.** We consider inequalities for BIB designs with parameters  $b = mt$  and  $r = \mu t$ .

**THEOREM 4.1.** *For a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$ , then*

$$(4.1) \quad b \geq v + t - 1.$$

**PROOF.** Let  $N$  be the incidence matrix of a  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design. In each of  $t$  sets of  $m$  blocks (or columns) each in  $N$ , where a set of the  $m$  columns is such that each treatment occurs exactly  $\mu$  times, adding the 1st, 2nd,  $\dots$ ,  $(m - 1)$ th columns to the  $m$ th column of a set, we obtain a column consisting of  $\mu$  only. As there are such  $t$  sets evidently  $v = \text{Rank } N \leq b - (t - 1)$ . Therefore we have  $b \geq v + t - 1$ .

Theorem 4.1 shows that the concept of  $\mu$ -resolvability cannot be introduced in a symmetrical BIB design. The particular case  $b \geq v + r - 1$  of the above theorem when  $\mu = 1$  was derived by Bose [2]. Since  $b \geq v + r - 1$  holds for any BIB design with the assumption that  $v$  is a multiple of  $k$  [4], if  $m$  is a multiple of  $\mu$ , then (4.1) can be improved to  $b \geq v + r - 1$ . As another improvement of (4.1), we have

**THEOREM 4.2.** *For a BIB design with parameters  $v, b = mt, r = \mu t, k$  and  $\lambda$ , then*

$$(4.2) \quad (i) \quad b \geq \frac{v - 1}{\mu} + r.$$

If, in addition,  $v \leq r$ , then

$$(4.3) \quad (ii) \quad b \geq \frac{2(v-1)}{\mu} + r.$$

PROOF. (i) Multiplying (0.1) by  $\mu$ , from (1.1) we have  $\mu(r - \lambda) = (\mu r - m\lambda)k$ . Since  $r - \lambda > 0$  and hence  $\mu(r - \lambda)$  is a positive integer, we have  $\mu r - m\lambda \geq 1$ . Now from (0.1) and  $\mu(r - \lambda) = (\mu r - m\lambda)k$ , we get  $b = v\{(\mu r - m\lambda)k + \mu\lambda\}/\mu k$  or

$$(4.4) \quad b = \frac{1}{\mu} (v - 1)(\mu r - m\lambda) + r.$$

Hence from  $\mu r - m\lambda \geq 1$  and (4.4) we obtain (4.2). (ii) Since  $\mu r - m\lambda \geq 1$ , assume on the contrary that  $\mu r - m\lambda = 1$ . Then from (4.4)  $v - 1 + \mu r = b\mu = mr$ , i.e.,  $m - \mu = (v - 1)/r$ . Since  $m - \mu$  is an integer,  $(v - 1)/r$  is an integer, which is a contradiction since  $v \leq r$ . Hence we have  $\mu r - m\lambda \geq 2$ . Thus from  $\mu r - m\lambda \geq 2$  and (4.4) we obtain (4.3).

Since  $2(v - 1)/\mu + r > (v - 1)/\mu + r \geq v + t - 1$  for  $v \leq r$ , if (4.1) is compared with (4.2) and (4.3), then (4.3) is more stringent than (4.1) provided  $v \leq r$ . As an example which attains the bound of (4.3), we have a 2-resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 6, b = 15, r = 10, k = 4$  and  $\lambda = 6$  which is not affine 2-resolvable. The particular case  $b \geq 2v + r - 2$  of (4.3) when  $\mu = 1$  was derived without a condition  $v \leq r$  by Kageyama [4]. Finally, one should be referred to Kageyama [5] as a further improvement of inequalities in this section.

**5. Block structure of a certain type.** We give a certain aspect of the block structure of a special class of  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB designs (derived in Theorem 2.3).

THEOREM 5.1. *If an  $\alpha$ -resolvable BIB design  $N$  is the Kronecker product  $N = N_1 \otimes N_2 + N_1^* \otimes N_2^*$  of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design  $N_1$  with parameters  $v_1, b_1 = mt, r_1 = \mu t, k_1, \lambda_1, q_1 = k_1 + \lambda_1 - r_1, q_2 = k_1^2/v_1$  and a symmetrical BIB design  $N_2$  with parameters  $v_2 = b_2, r_2 = k_2, \lambda_2$ , and  $b_i = 4(r_i - \lambda_i), i = 1, 2$ , then with respect to any block  $B$  in  $N$ , the other blocks fall into five groups such that the group (1) contains  $b_2 - 1$  blocks each having  $\lambda_2 k_1 + (b_2 - 2r_2 + \lambda_2)(v_1 - k_1)$  treatments in common with  $B$ , the group (2) contains  $m - 1$  blocks each having  $k_2 q_1 + (v_2 - k_2)(v_1 + q_1 - 2k_1)$  treatments in common with  $B$ , the group (3) contains  $(m - 1)(b_2 - 1)$  blocks each having  $\lambda_2 q_1 + 2(k_2 - \lambda_2)(k_1 - q_1) + (b_2 - 2r_2 + \lambda_2)(v_1 + q_1 - 2k_1)$  treatments in common with  $B$ , the group (4) contains  $m(t - 1)$  blocks each having  $k_2 q_2 + (v_2 - k_2)(v_1 + q_2 - 2k_1)$  treatments in common with  $B$ , and the group (5) contains  $m(t - 1)(b_2 - 1)$  blocks each having  $\lambda_2 q_2 + 2(k_2 - \lambda_2)(k_1 - q_2) + (b_2 - 2r_2 + \lambda_2)(v_1 + q_2 - 2k_1)$  treatments in common with  $B$ .*

PROOF. Under the assumption, the blocks of a BIB design  $N$  are separated into  $t$  sets of  $mb_2$  blocks each such that each set contains every treatment exactly  $\mu r_2 + (m - \mu)(b_2 - r_2)$  times. Since in each set of an affine  $\mu$ -resolvable BIB design  $N_1$ , any two blocks contain (1.1), (1.0), (0.1) and (0.0) exactly  $q_1, k_1 - q_1,$

$k_1 - q_1$  and  $v_1 + q_1 - 2k_1$  times respectively,  $(N_2, N_2)$ ,  $(N_2, N_2^*)$ ,  $(N_2^*, N_2)$  and  $(N_2^*, N_2^*)$  in each set of  $N$  occur exactly  $q_1$ ,  $k_1 - q_1$ ,  $k_1 - q_1$  and  $v_1 + q_1 - 2k_1$  times, respectively. Since any two blocks belonging to different sets of  $N_1$  contain (1.1), (1.0), (0.1) and (0.0) exactly  $q_2$ ,  $k_1 - q_2$ ,  $k_1 - q_2$  and  $v_1 + q_2 - 2k_1$  times respectively,  $(N_2, N_2)$ ,  $(N_2, N_2^*)$ ,  $(N_2^*, N_2)$  and  $(N_2^*, N_2^*)$  in a different set of  $N$  occur exactly  $q_2$ ,  $k_1 - q_2$ ,  $k_1 - q_2$  and  $v_1 + q_2 - 2k_1$  times, respectively. On the other hand, from symmetry of  $N_2$ , the scalar product of any two columns of  $(N_2, N_2)$  (or  $(N_2^*, N_2^*)$ ) is  $k_2$  and  $\lambda_2$  (or  $v_2 - k_2$  and  $b_2 - 2r_2 + \lambda_2$ ). The scalar product of any two columns of  $(N_2, N_2^*)$  is 0,  $\lambda_2$  and  $k_2 - \lambda_2$ . Hence fix a block  $B$  arbitrarily in such a set and consider the block structure between  $B$  and the remaining blocks, i.e., consider  $N'N$ . With respect to any block  $B$  in  $N$ , the required results are obtained.

For example an affine resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v_1 = 9$ ,  $b_1 = 12$ ,  $r_1 = 4$ ,  $k_1 = 3$ ,  $\lambda_1 = 1$ ,  $q_2 = 1$  and a symmetrical BIB design with parameters  $v_2 = b_2 = 4$ ,  $r_2 = k_2 = 3$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 2$  lead to a 5-resolvable BIB design with parameters  $v = 36$ ,  $b = 48$ ,  $r = 20$ ,  $k = 15$ ,  $\lambda = 8$  by Theorem 2.3. This example would also illustrate Theorem 5.1. Similarly, we have the following

**THEOREM 5.2.** *If an  $\alpha$ -resolvable BIB design  $N$  is the Kronecker product  $N = N_1 \otimes N_2 + N_1^* \otimes N_2^*$  of two affine  $\mu_i$ -resolvable BIB designs  $N_i$  with parameters  $v_i$ ,  $b_i = m_i t_i$ ,  $r_i = \mu_i t_i$ ,  $k_i$ ,  $\lambda_i$ ,  $q_{i1} = k_i + \lambda_i - r_i$ ,  $q_{i2} = k_i^2/v_i$  and  $b_i = 4(r_i - \lambda_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , then with respect to any block  $B$  in  $N$ , the other blocks fall into eight groups such that the group (1) contains  $m_2 - 1$  blocks each having  $q_{21}k_1 + q_{21}^*(v_1 - k_1)$  treatments, the group (2) contains  $m_2(t_2 - 1)$  blocks each having  $q_{22}k_1 + q_{22}^*(v_1 - k_1)$  treatments, the group (3) contains  $m_1 - 1$  blocks each having  $k_2q_{11} + (v_2 - k_2)(v_1 + q_{11} - 2k_1)$  treatments, the group (4) contains  $(m_1 - 1)(m_2 - 1)$  blocks each having  $q_{21}q_{11} + 2(k_2 - q_{21})(k_1 - q_{11}) + q_{21}^*(v_1 + q_{11} - 2k_1)$  treatments, the group (5) contains  $m_2(m_1 - 1)(t_2 - 1)$  blocks each having  $q_{22}q_{11} + 2(k_2 - q_{22})(k_1 - q_{11}) + q_{22}^*(v_1 + q_{11} - 2k_1)$  treatments, the group (6) contains  $m_1(t_1 - 1)$  blocks each having  $k_2q_{12} + (v_2 - k_2)(v_1 + q_{12} - 2k_1)$  treatments, the group (7) contains  $m_1(m_2 - 1)(t_1 - 1)$  blocks each having  $q_{21}q_{12} + 2(k_2 - q_{21})(k_1 - q_{12}) + q_{21}^*(v_1 + q_{12} - 2k_1)$  treatments, and the group (8) contains  $m_1m_2(t_1 - 1)(t_2 - 1)$  blocks each having  $q_{22}q_{12} + 2(k_2 - q_{22})(k_1 - q_{12}) + q_{22}^*(v_1 + q_{12} - 2k_1)$  treatments, in common with  $B$ , where  $q_{21}^* = v_2 + \lambda_2 - k_2 - r_2$  and  $q_{22}^* = (v_2 - k_2)^2/v_2$ .*

Note that if the complementary designs are not considered, i.e., we consider  $N = N_1 \otimes N_2$  only, then Theorems 5.1 and 5.2 contain Corollaries 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 of Vartak [15] for  $\mu = \mu_1 = \mu_2 = 1$ , respectively as a special case.

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