# Designs in the generalised symmetric group 

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12 December 2023

Joint work with Kai-Uwe Schmidt

## Introduction



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## symmetry group $S_{4}$

## Introduction



$$
\text { symmetry group } S_{4}
$$

real space:

## Introduction



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real space:

- tetrahedron (simplex)


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- cube (hypercube)


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- octahedron (hyperoctahedron)


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## Transitivity in polytopes

$\lambda$-transitive set of symmetries $\longleftrightarrow$ design in $S_{n}$
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$\rightarrow$ unifiying framework to study codes and designs


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This motivates the present general definition [of $T$-designs], the 'conjecture' being that $T$-designs will often have interesting properties.

- Delsarte's thesis, 1973


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Conjugacy class scheme of $S_{n}$ :

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## Theorem [Martin, Sagan 2006]

Let $\lambda$ be a partition of $n$ and $D \subseteq S_{n}$. Then: $D$ is $\lambda$-transitive $\Longleftrightarrow a_{\mu}^{\prime}=0$ for all $\lambda \unlhd \mu \neq(n)$.

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If a subgroup $D \subseteq S_{n}$ is $t$-homogeneous for $1 \leq t \leq n / 2$, then it is also ( $t-1$ )-homogeneous.

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## Other polytopes

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$C_{2} \backslash S_{n}$

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## Other polytopes


$C_{2} \backslash S_{n}$

(complex regular polytope)
$C_{r} \backslash S_{n}$

## Transitivity in $C_{r}\left\langle S_{n}\right.$

## Transitivity in $C_{r}<S_{n}$



## Transitivity in $C_{r}$ 2 $S_{n}$



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## Transitivity in $C_{r}$ $2 S_{n}$

$(\lambda, k)$-transitive set of symmetries $\longleftrightarrow$ design in $C_{r} \backslash S_{n}$
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- Mayer 1975: Relation $\rightarrow$ for Coxeter groups $A, B, D$
- Relation $\rightarrow$ defined algorithmically


## Characterisation of designs in $C_{r}$ S $S_{n}$

## Theorem [Martin, Sagan 2006]

Let $\lambda$ be a partition of $n$ and $D \subseteq S_{n}$. Then: $D$ is $\lambda$-transitive $\Longleftrightarrow a_{\mu}^{\prime}=0$ for all $\lambda \unlhd \mu \neq(n)$.

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## Theorem [K., Schmidt 2023]

Let $D \subseteq C_{r}\left\langle S_{n}\right.$. Then:
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Theorem also works for any finite abelian group $G$ instead of $C_{r}$

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Let $\lambda$ be a partition of $n$ and $D \subseteq S_{n}$. Then:
$D$ is $\lambda$-transitive $\Longleftrightarrow a_{\mu}^{\prime}=0$ for all $\lambda \unlhd \mu \neq(n)$.

## Theorem [K., Schmidt 2023]

Let $D \subseteq C_{r}\left\langle S_{n}\right.$. Then:
$D$ is $(\lambda, k)$-transitive $\Longleftrightarrow a_{\left(\alpha_{1}, \ldots, \alpha_{r}\right)}^{\prime}=0$ for all $\left(\alpha_{1}, \ldots, \alpha_{r}\right) \neq(n, \emptyset, \ldots, \emptyset)$ with

$$
(\lambda, k) \rightarrow\left(\alpha_{1}, \ldots, \alpha_{r}\right)
$$

Theorem also works for any finite abelian group $G$ instead of $C_{r}$ Theorem also works for more general transitivity types

## Comparing designs

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Theorem [Martin, Sagan 2006]
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## Construction

## Construction

## Interpret $C_{r}$ \ $S_{n}$ as coloured permutations:

## Construction

Interpret $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$ as coloured permutations:

| 1 | 2 3 <br> 2 2 <br> 1 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

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$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}$

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$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array

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$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

## Construction

Interpret $C_{r} \backslash S_{n}$ as coloured permutations:

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

- $S_{n}$ : recursive construction by Martin and Sagan


## Construction

Interpret $C_{r} \backslash S_{n}$ as coloured permutations:

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$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

- $S_{n}$ : recursive construction by Martin and Sagan
- orthogonal arrays: existence by Kuperberg, Lovett and Peled


## Thank you for your attention!

## The relation $\rightarrow$

## In $C_{3}$ 乙 $S_{10}$ we have $(4211,2) \rightarrow(3,211,3)$ because

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(2)

$\square$

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## The generalised symmetric group

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$C_{r} \backslash S_{n} \cong C_{r}^{n} \rtimes S_{n}$

- 'coloured permutations'


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$C_{r} \backslash S_{n} \cong C_{r}^{n} \rtimes S_{n}$

- 'coloured permutations'

$S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## The generalised symmetric group

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$\left.C_{3}\right)_{4}$ :


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$C_{r} \backslash S_{n} \cong C_{r}^{n} \rtimes S_{n}$

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$S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


$C_{3}$, $S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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$C_{r} \backslash S_{n} \cong C_{r}^{n} \rtimes S_{n}$

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$S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


$C_{3}$ 亿 $S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |

## The generalised symmetric group

$C_{r} \backslash S_{n} \cong C_{r}^{n} \rtimes S_{n}$

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$S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


$C_{3}$ 亿 $S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
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## The generalised symmetric group

$C_{r} \backslash S_{n} \cong C_{r}^{n} \rtimes S_{n}$

- 'coloured permutations'

$S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


$C_{3}$ 亿 $S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |

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- 'coloured permutations'

$S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


$C_{3}$ 亿 $S_{4}:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |$\rightarrow$| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |

## Construction

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}$

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

\section*{| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |}


| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 |

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

\section*{| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |}


| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 |

(111)

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|l|}
\hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 |$+$


(111)

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

(111)

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(111)

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

| 1 2 3 |
| :--- |
| 1 2 3 <br> 2 3 1 <br> 3 1 2 <br> 2 1 3 <br> 3 2 1 <br> 1 3 2$+$$+$1 2 3 <br> 1 2 3 <br> 1 2 3 <br> 1 2 3 <br> 2 3 1 <br> 2 3 1 <br> 2 3 1 <br> 2 3 1 <br> 3 1 2 <br> 3 1 2 <br> 3 1 2 <br> 3 1 2 |

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 |

(111)

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |$\quad$| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 |

(111)

$=$| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 |

## Construction

$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$


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$\lambda$-transitive set in $S_{n}+$ orthogonal array $=\underline{\lambda}$-transitive set in $C_{r} 2 S_{n}$

$(11,1)$

