



Geometric Graph Designs

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British Combinatorial Conference, Exeter, 4 July 2011

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G designs

Let G be a simple graph.

A G design of order n is a partitioning of the edges of a complete graph K_n into copies of graphs isomorphic to G .

- (i) $n = 1$ or $n \geq |V(G)|$,
- (ii) $n(n - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{2|E(G)|}$,
- (iii) $n - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{d}$,

where d is the GCD of the vertex degrees of G .

The problem: Determine the *spectrum* of G : $\{n : \exists \text{ a } G \text{ design of order } n\}$.

Given G , a G design exists for all sufficiently large n satisfying (ii) and (iii) (R. M. Wilson, 1976).

The determination of the spectrum of G is therefore a finite problem.

Wilson's direct construction: There exists a G design of order $q > |E(G)||V(G)|^2$ whenever q is a prime power satisfying (ii) and (iii).

Examples

A K_k design of order n is a Steiner system $S(2, k, n)$.

The spectrum is known for $k = 2$ (trivial), $k = 3$ (Kirkman, 1847), and $k = 4$ & 5 (Hanani, 1961). Conditions (i)–(iii) are sufficient.

For larger k the results are incomplete.

A K_k design of order k^2 , also called an *affine plane* of order k , exists whenever k is a prime power.

Survey article

Adams, Bryant & Buchanan,

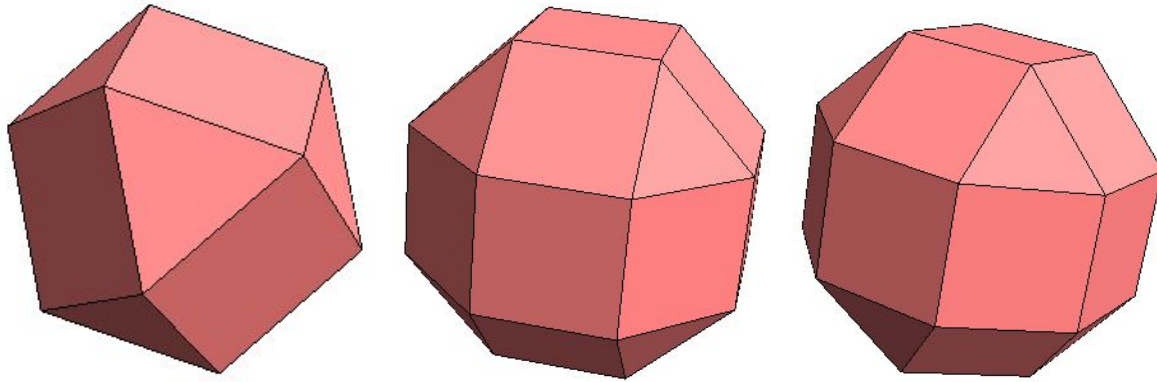
A survey on the existence of G designs, *J. Combin. Des.* (2008).

G -designs web site managed by Darryn Bryant and Tom McCourt

<http://wiki.smp.uq.edu.au/G-designs>

Trees, cycles, matchings, paths, stars, cubes, complete bipartite graphs, even graphs, theta graphs, . . . , and graphs of geometric solids.

Archimedean graphs



Cuboctahedron $d = 4$, $v = 12$, $e = 24$, $\chi = 3$,

$n \equiv 1, 33 \pmod{48}$

Done: Grannell, Griggs & Holroyd (2000).

Rhombicuboctahedron $d = 4$, $v = 24$, $e = 48$, $\chi = 3$,

$n \equiv 1, 33 \pmod{96}$

(Small rhombicuboctahedron)

Done: TF, Griggs & Holroyd (2010).

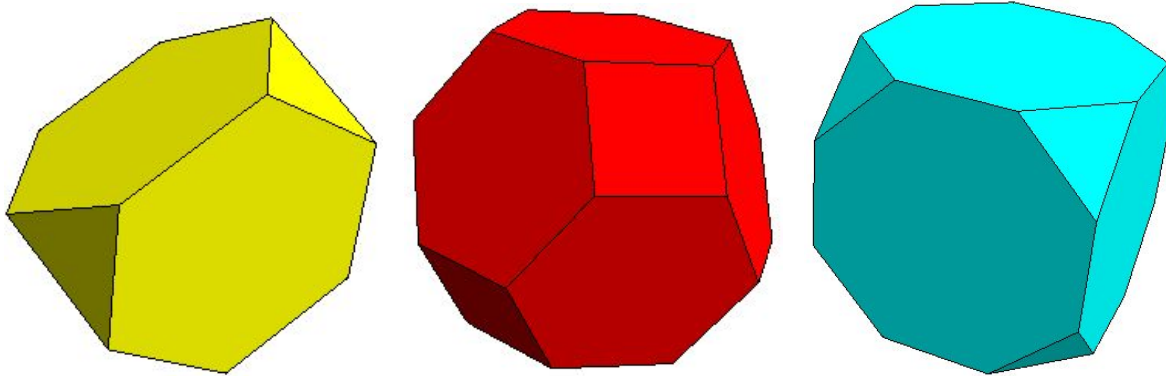
Pseudo-rhombicuboctahedron $d = 4$, $v = 24$,

$e = 48$, $\chi = 3$, $n \equiv 1, 33 \pmod{96}$

(Elongated square gyrobicupola, J_{37} , the $13\frac{1}{2}$ th Archimedean solid)

Done: TF & Griggs (2011+).

Archimedean graphs



Truncated tetrahedron

$$d = 3, v = 12, e = 18, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 28 \pmod{36}$$

Truncated octahedron

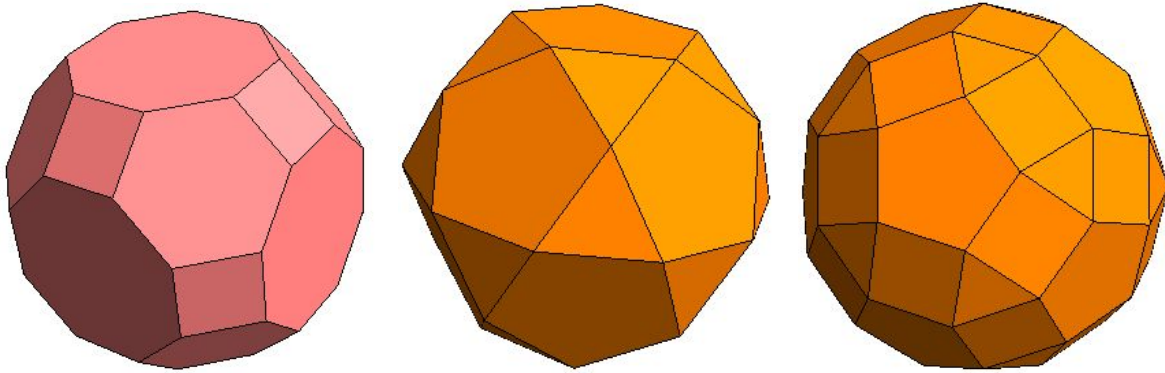
$$d = 3, v = 24, e = 36, \chi = 2, n \equiv 1, 64 \pmod{72}$$

Truncated cube

$$d = 3, v = 24, e = 36, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 64 \pmod{72}$$

All done: TF, Griggs & Holroyd (2011).

Archimedean graphs: residue class 1 (mod $2e$)



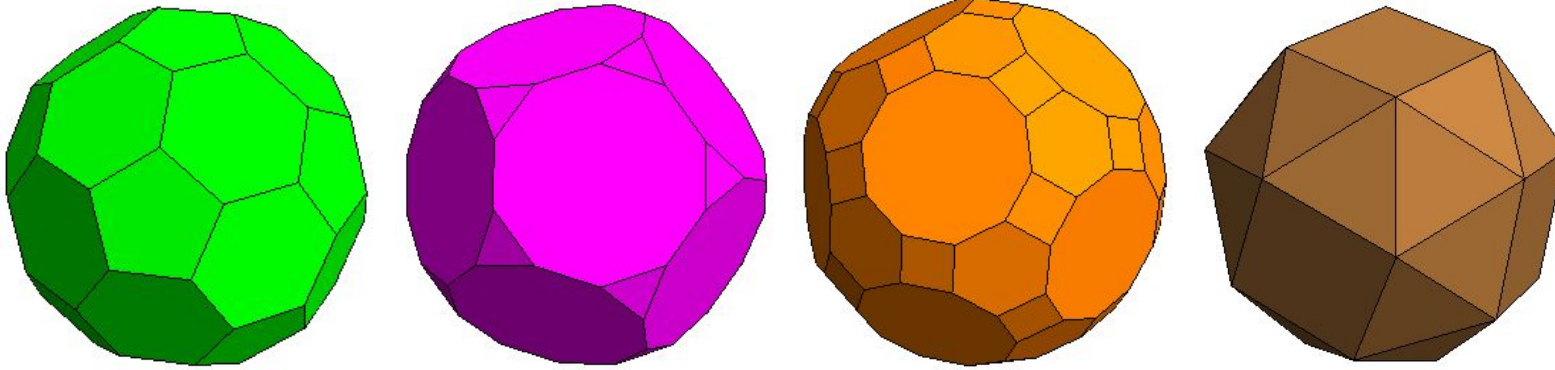
Truncated cuboctahedron $d = 3$, $v = 48$,
 $e = 72$, $\chi = 2$, $n \equiv 1, 64 \pmod{144}$
(Great rhombicuboctahedron)

Icosidodecahedron $d = 4$, $v = 30$,
 $e = 60$, $\chi = 3$, $n \equiv 1, 25, 81, 105 \pmod{120}$, $n \neq 25$

Rhombicosidodecahedron $d = 4$, $v = 60$,
 $e = 120$, $\chi = 3$, $n \equiv 1, 81, 145, 225 \pmod{240}$
(Small rhombicosidodecahedron)

Residue class 1 (mod $2e$) done; TF & Griggs (2011+).

Archimedean graphs: residue class 1 (mod $2e$)



Truncated icosahedron $d = 3, v = 60,$
 $e = 90, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 100, 136, 145 \pmod{180}$
(Football)

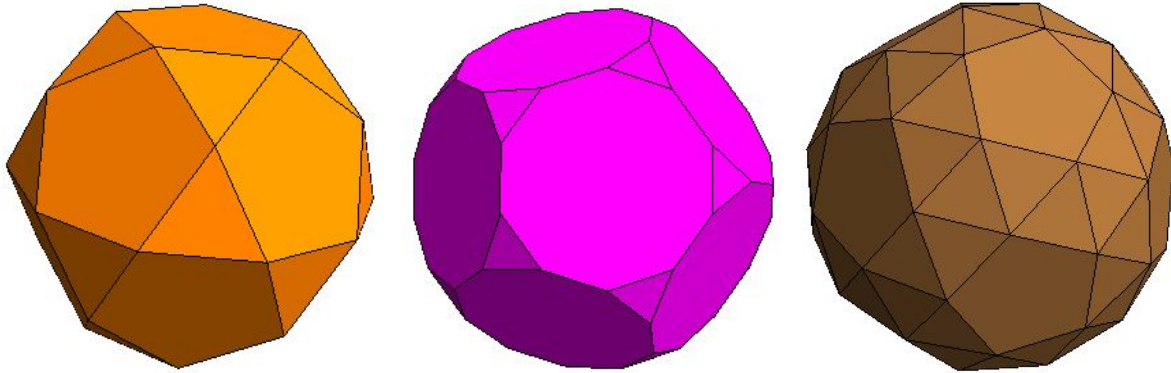
Truncated dodecahedron $d = 3, v = 60,$
 $e = 90, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 100, 136, 145 \pmod{180}$

Truncated icosidodecahedron $d = 3, v = 120,$
 $e = 180, \chi = 2, n \equiv 1, 136, 145, 280 \pmod{360}$
(Great rhombicosidodecahedron)

Snub cube $d = 5, v = 24,$
 $e = 60, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 16, 81, 96 \pmod{120}, n \neq 16$

Residue class 1 (mod $2e$) done; TF & Griggs (2011+).

Archimedean graphs: other results



Icosidodecahedron $d = 4, v = 30,$

$e = 60, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 25, 81, 105 \pmod{120}, n \neq 25$

There exists a design of order 81; hence $81 \pmod{240}$.

Truncated dodecahedron $d = 3, v = 60,$

$e = 90, \chi = 3, n \equiv 1, 100, 136, 145 \pmod{180}$

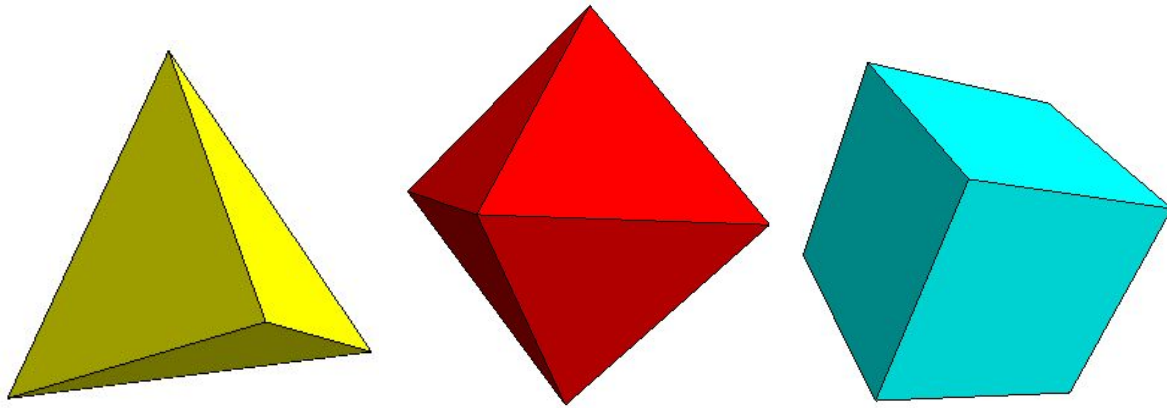
There exists a design of order 145.

Snub dodecahedron $d = 5, v = 60,$

$e = 150, \chi = 4, n \equiv 1, 76, 201, 276 \pmod{300}$

Nothing!

Platonic graphs



Tetrahedron $d = 3, v = 4, e = 6, \chi = 4,$

$n \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{12}$

Hanani (1961)

Octahedron $d = 4, v = 6, e = 12, \chi = 3,$

$n \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{24}, n \neq 9$

Griggs, deResmini & Rosa (1992);

Adams, Billington & Rodger (1994)

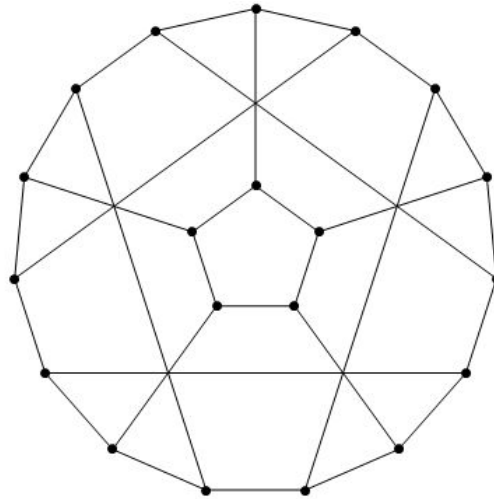
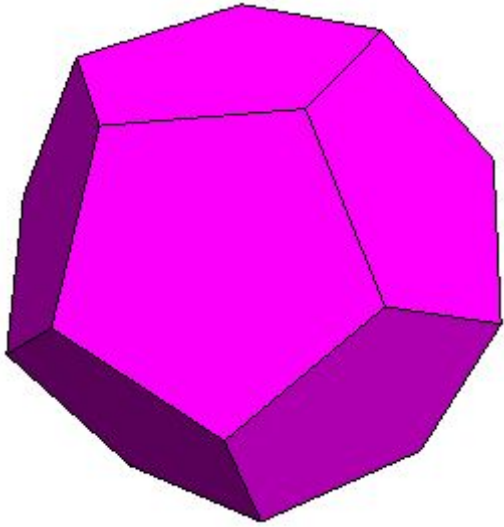
Cube $d = 3, v = 8, e = 12, \chi = 2,$

$n \equiv 1, 16 \pmod{24}$

Maheo (1980); Kotzig (1981);

Bryant, El-Zanati & Gardner (1994)

Platonic graphs



Dodecahedron $d = 3, v = 20, e = 30, \chi = 3, i = 8,$
 $n \equiv 1, 16, 25, 40 \pmod{60}, n \neq 16$

Residue class 1 (mod 60): Adams & Bryant (1996)

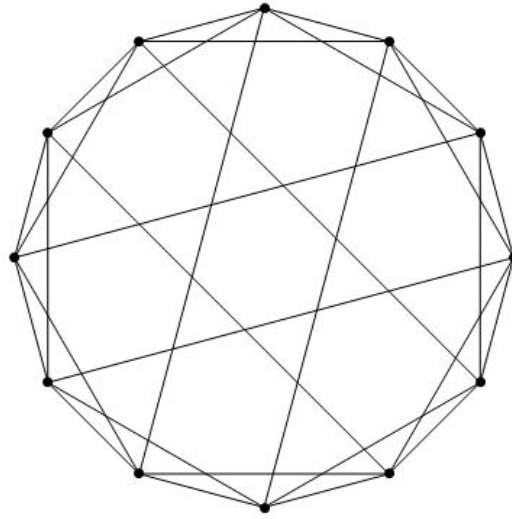
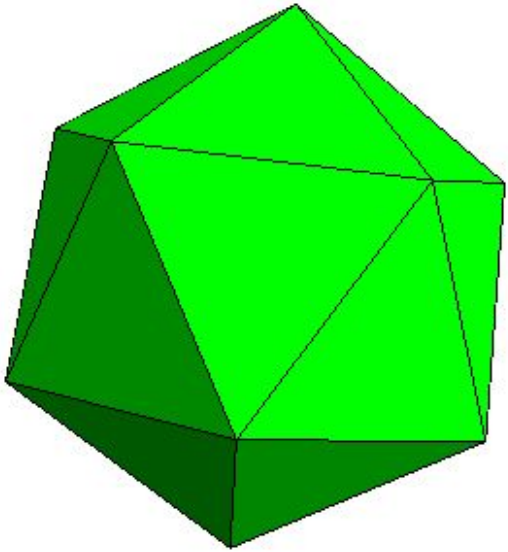
25, 40, 76: Adams, Bryant & Buchanan (2008)

Completed: Adams, Bryant, TF & Griggs (2011)

Flower snark J5 $d = 3, v = 20, e = 30, \chi = 3, i = 9,$
 $n \equiv 1, 16, 25, 40 \pmod{60}, n \neq 16$

Completed: TF

Platonic graphs



Icosahedron $d = 5, v = 12, e = 30, \chi = 4, i = 3,$
 $n \equiv 1, 16, 21, 36 \pmod{60}$

Residue class 1 (mod 60): Adams & Bryant (1996)

16, 76: Adams, Bryant & Buchanan (2008)

Completed except for 21, 141, 156, 201, 261, 276:
TF & Griggs (2011)

Transitive 5-regular 12-vertex graph $d = 5, v = 12, e = 30, \chi = 3, i = 4,$
 $n \equiv 1, 16, 21, 36 \pmod{60}$

Completed: TF

Icosahedron

THEOREM \exists an icosahedron design of order $12jt + 4j + 15w + 1$ if $j \in \{15, 20\}$, $w \in \{0, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13\}$ and $t \geq w/4$.

| j | w | min t | $12jt + 4j + 15w + 1$ | exceptions |
|-----|-----|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 15 | 0 | 0 | 61, 241, 421, ... | — |
| 15 | 4 | 1 | 301, 481, 661, ... | 121 |
| 15 | 8 | 2 | 541, 721, 901, ... | 1, 181, 361 |
| 15 | 1 | 1 | 256, 436, 616, ... | 76 |
| 15 | 5 | 2 | 496, 676, 856, ... | 136, 316 |
| 15 | 9 | 3 | 736, 916, 1096, ... | 16, 196, 376, 556 |
| 20 | 0 | 0 | 81, 321, 561, ... | — |
| 20 | 4 | 1 | 381, 621, 861, ... | [141] |
| 20 | 8 | 2 | 681, 921, 1161, ... | [201], 441 |
| 20 | 12 | 3 | 981, 1221, 1461, ... | [21], [261], 501, 741 |
| 20 | 1 | 1 | 336, 576, 816, ... | 96 |
| 20 | 5 | 2 | 636, 876, 1116, ... | [156], 396 |
| 20 | 9 | 3 | 936, 1176, 1416, ... | 216, 456, 696 |
| 20 | 13 | 4 | 1236, 1476, 1716, ... | 36, [276], 516, 756, 996 |

Group divisible designs

K -GDD of type u^t : triple (V, G, B) , where

V is a set of size tu ,

G is a partition of V into t subsets of size u (*groups*),

B is a set of subsets of sizes $k \in K$ (*blocks*) such that a pair of elements from different groups occurs in precisely one block but no pair of elements from the same group occurs at all.

K -GDD of type $u^t w^1$: t groups of size u and one group of size w .

k -GDD: $\{k\}$ -GDD.

Parallel class: a subset of the block set in which each element of the base set appears exactly once.

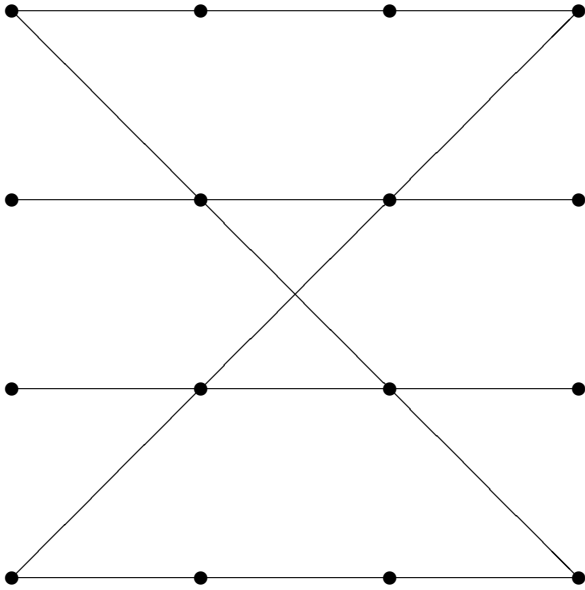
Resolvable K -GDD (K -RGDD): the entire set of blocks can be partitioned into parallel classes.

Steiner system $S(2, k, v)$: (V, B) of a k -GDD of type 1^v .

Affine plane of order k : Steiner system $S(2, k, k^2)$ — resolvable.

Proof of the theorem (i)

Start with a 4-RGDD of type 4^{3t+1}



\exists 4-RGDD of type 4^{3t+1} , Hanani, Ray-Chaudhuri & Wilson (1972).
 $4t(3t + 1)$ blocks resolvable into $4t$ parallel classes.

Picture represents the case $t = 1$.

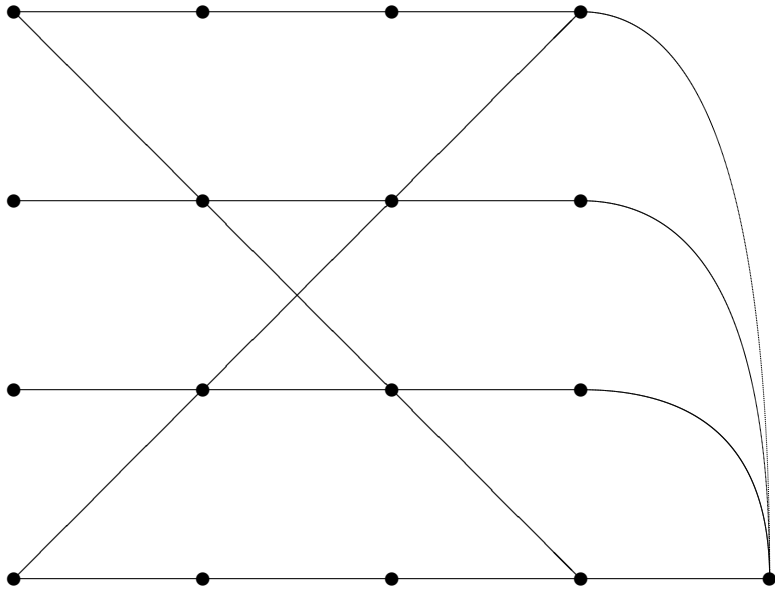
Columns represent the groups (of size 4).

The horizontal lines form a parallel class.

Two other typical blocks shown.

Proof of the theorem (ii)

Add a new group of w points.



Add a new group of size w , $0 \leq w \leq 4t$, $w = 0, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12$ or 13 .

Map each new point to a distinct parallel class and extend its blocks to its associated point.

$w = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 4\text{-GDD of type } 4^{3t+1} \quad (\text{nothing new}).$

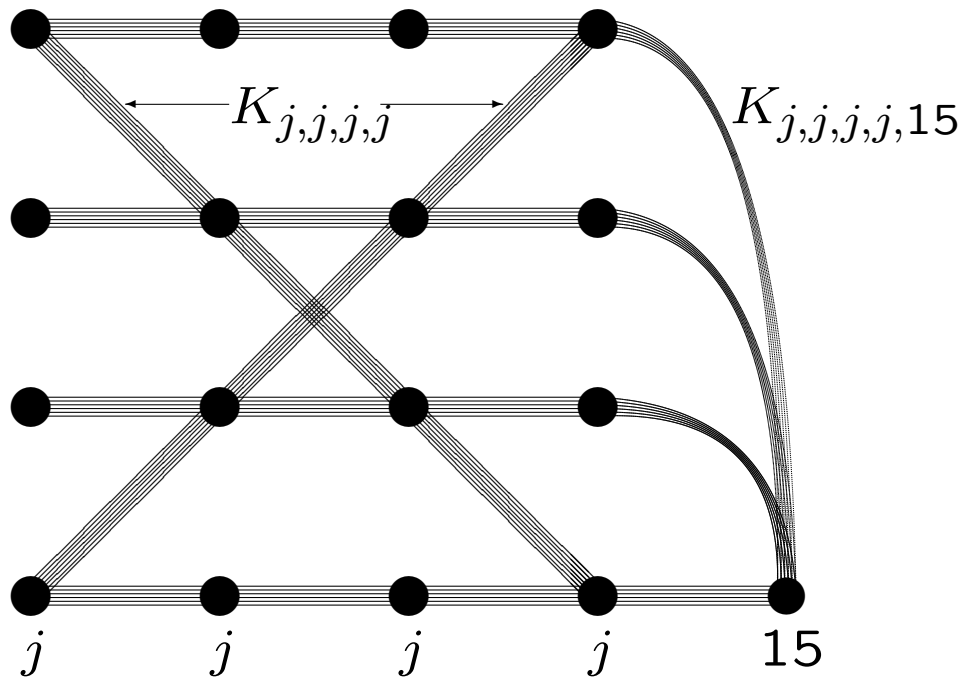
$0 < w < 4t \quad \Rightarrow \quad \{4, 5\}\text{-GDD of type } 4^{3t+1}w^1.$

$w = 4t \quad \Rightarrow \quad 5\text{-GDD of type } 4^{3t+1}w^1.$

$w = 1$ in the picture.

So four 5-element blocks are created.

Proof of the theorem (iii) Inflate.



$$w = 0, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12 \text{ or } 13$$

Inflate points in the original 4-RGDD by j , $j = 15$ or 20 .

Inflate points in the new group by 15 .

Replace original 4-element blocks by $K_{j,j,j,j}$.

Replace new 5-element blocks by $K_{j,j,j,j,15}$.

Known icosahedron decompositions:

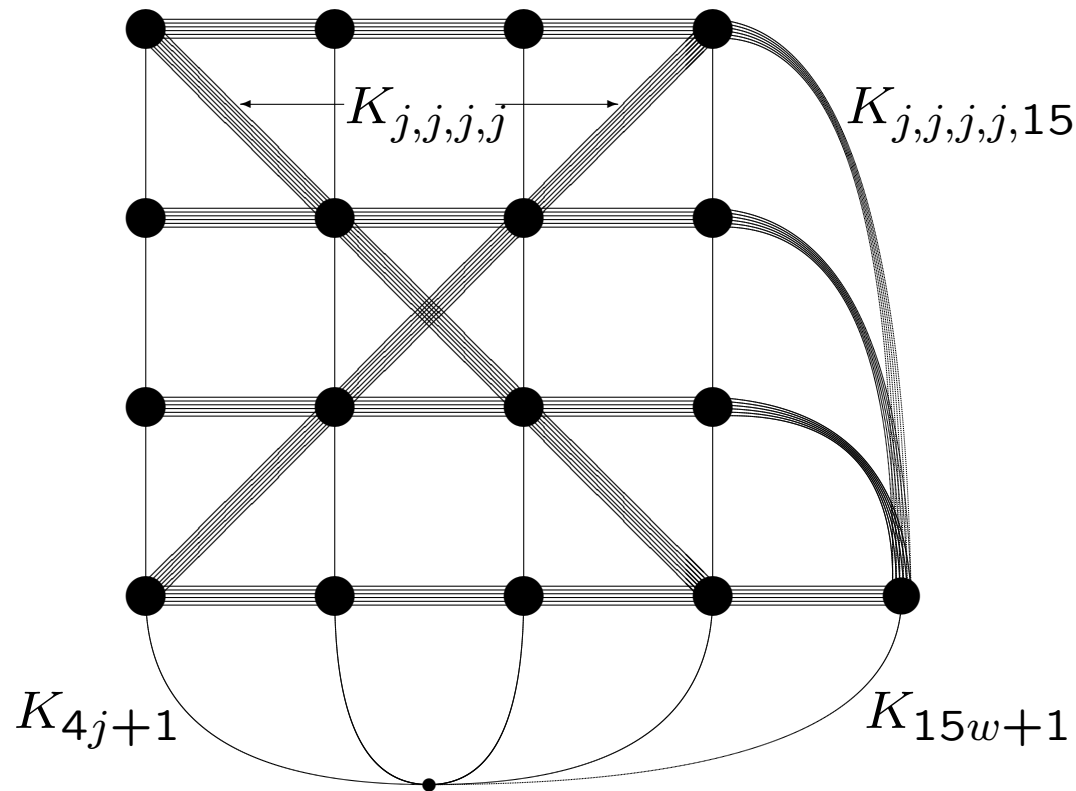
$K_{20,20,20,20}$, $K_{15,15,15,15,15}$ from Adams & Bryant (1996).

New icosahedron decompositions:

$K_{15,15,15,15}$, $K_{20,20,20,20,15}$.

Proof of the theorem (iv)

Add a point and add the vertical graphs.



$$j = 15 \text{ or } 20$$

$$w = 0, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12 \text{ or } 13$$

Overlay each original inflated group plus new point by K_{4j+1} .

Overlay each new inflated group plus new point by K_{15w+1} .

Known icosahedron decompositions:

K_{61} , K_{121} , K_{181} from Adams & Bryant (1996);

K_{16} , K_{76} from Adams, Bryant & Buchanan (2008).

New icosahedron decompositions: K_{81} , K_{136} , K_{196} .

Total points: $4j(3t + 1) + 15w + 1 = 12jt + 4j + 15w + 1$.

Icosahedron decompositions

Complete graphs:

$K_{16}, K_{36}, K_{61}, K_{81}, K_{121}, K_{181}$

Complete uniform multipartite graphs:

$K_{15,15,15,15}, K_{20,20,20,20}, K_{30,30,30,30}, K_{40,40,40,40},$

$K_{15,15,15,15,15}, K_{30,30,30,30,30},$

$K_{2,2,2,2,2,2}, K_{4,4,4,4,4,4}, K_{6,6,6,6,6,6}, K_{10,10,10,10,10,10},$

$K_{12,12,12,12,12,12}, K_{20,20,20,20,20,20}, K_{36,36,36,36,36,36},$

$K_{10^7}, K_{20^7}, K_{15^8}, K_{15^9}, K_{20^9}, K_{20^{10}}, K_{6^{11}}, K_{12^{11}},$

$K_{18^{11}}, K_{5^{12}}, K_{10^{12}}, K_{15^{12}}, K_{5^{13}}, K_{10^{13}}, K_{15^{13}},$

$K_{2^{16}}, K_{4^{16}}, K_{8^{16}}, K_{10^{18}}, K_{2^{21}}, K_{3^{21}}, K_{6^{21}},$

$K_{5^{24}}, K_{5^{25}}, K_{2^{31}}, K_{4^{31}}, K_{3^{41}}, K_{2^{61}}, K_{2^{91}}.$

Complete non-uniform multipartite graphs:

$K_{20,20,20,20,15}, K_{20,20,20,20,30}, K_{30,30,30,30,15}, K_{40,40,40,40,30},$

$K_{10^5,5}, K_{15^5,30}, K_{25^5,10}, K_{10^6,5}, K_{10^6,25}, K_{20^6,10},$

$K_{10^7,30}, K_{5^9,10}, K_{10^9,20},$

$K_{10^{10},15}, K_{5^{15},25}, K_{5^{17},20},$

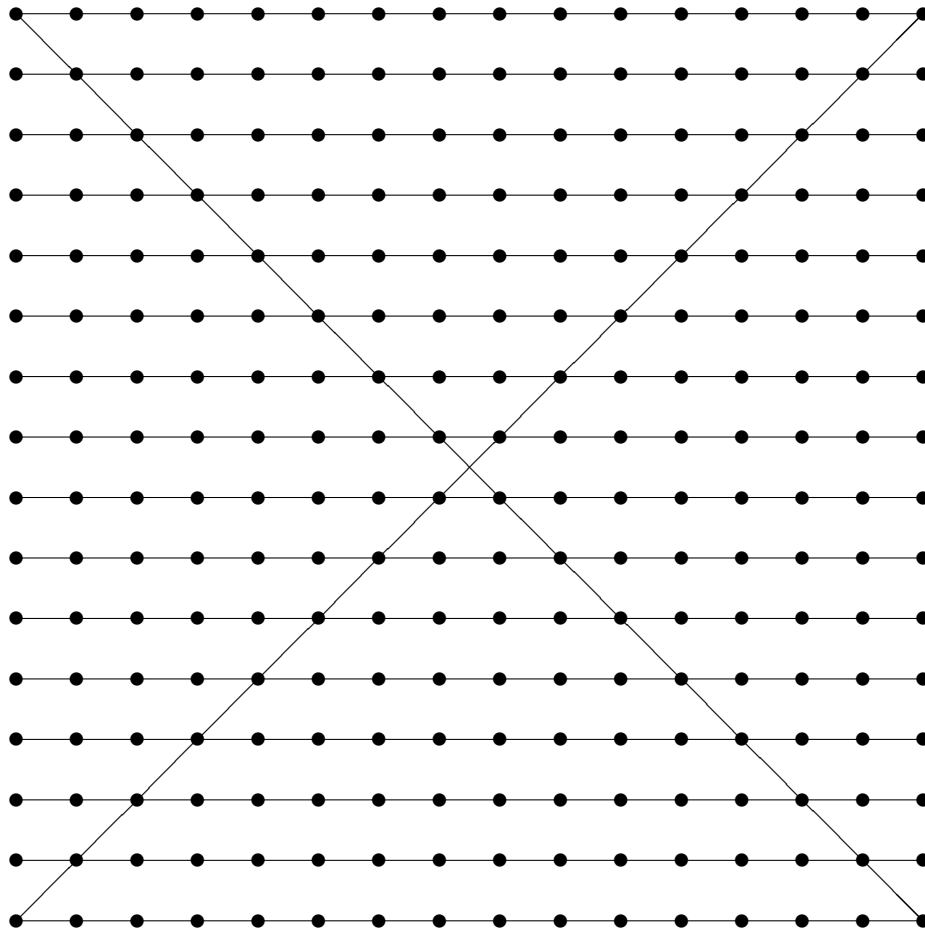
$K_{5^{19},15}, K_{5^{21},10}, K_{5^{31},15}.$

The one that got away:

$K_{21}.$

Icosahedron design of order 996 (i)

Affine plane of order 16.



16 is a prime power.

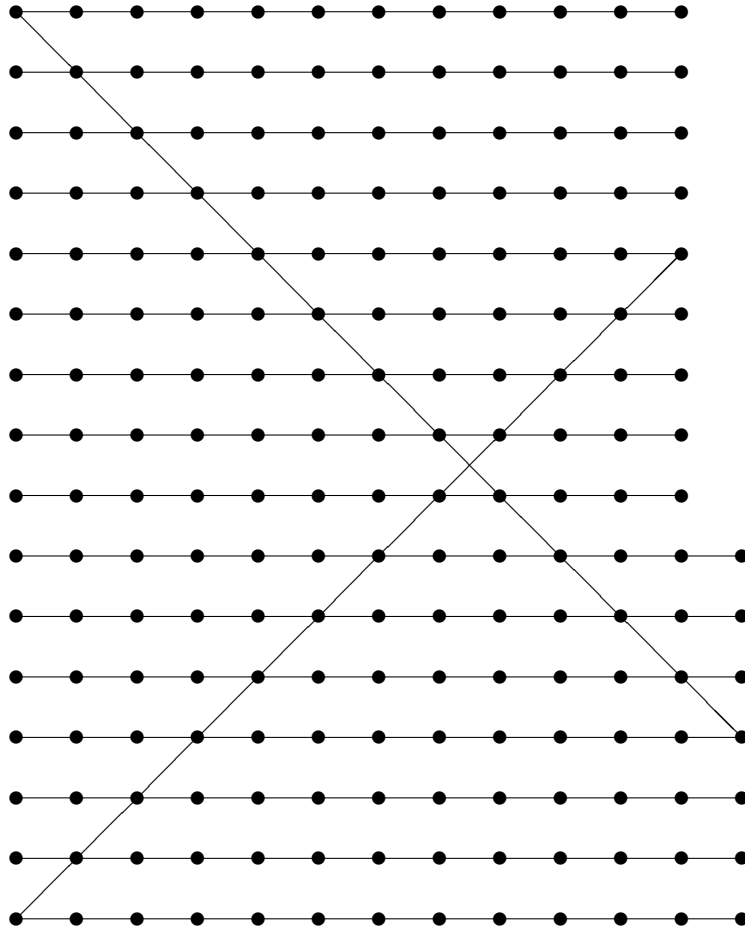
Hence \exists an affine plane of order 16.

Removing a parallel class creates a 16-GDD of type 16^{16} .

Picture shows the horizontal parallel class plus two typical blocks.

Icosahedron design of order 996 (ii)

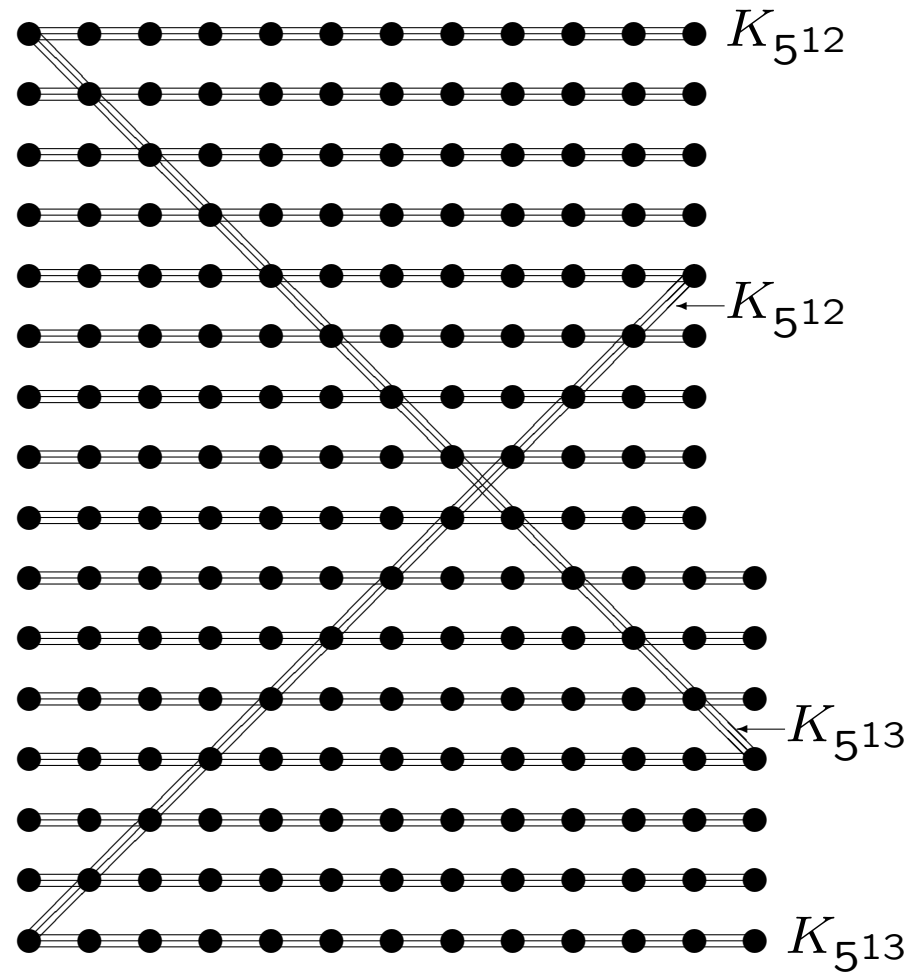
Remove 3 groups & 9 points.



Remove 3 groups and 9 points from a single group to give a $\{12, 13\}$ -GDD of type $16^{12}7^1$.

Icosahedron design of order 996 (iii)

Inflate by 5.



Inflate each point by a factor of 5.

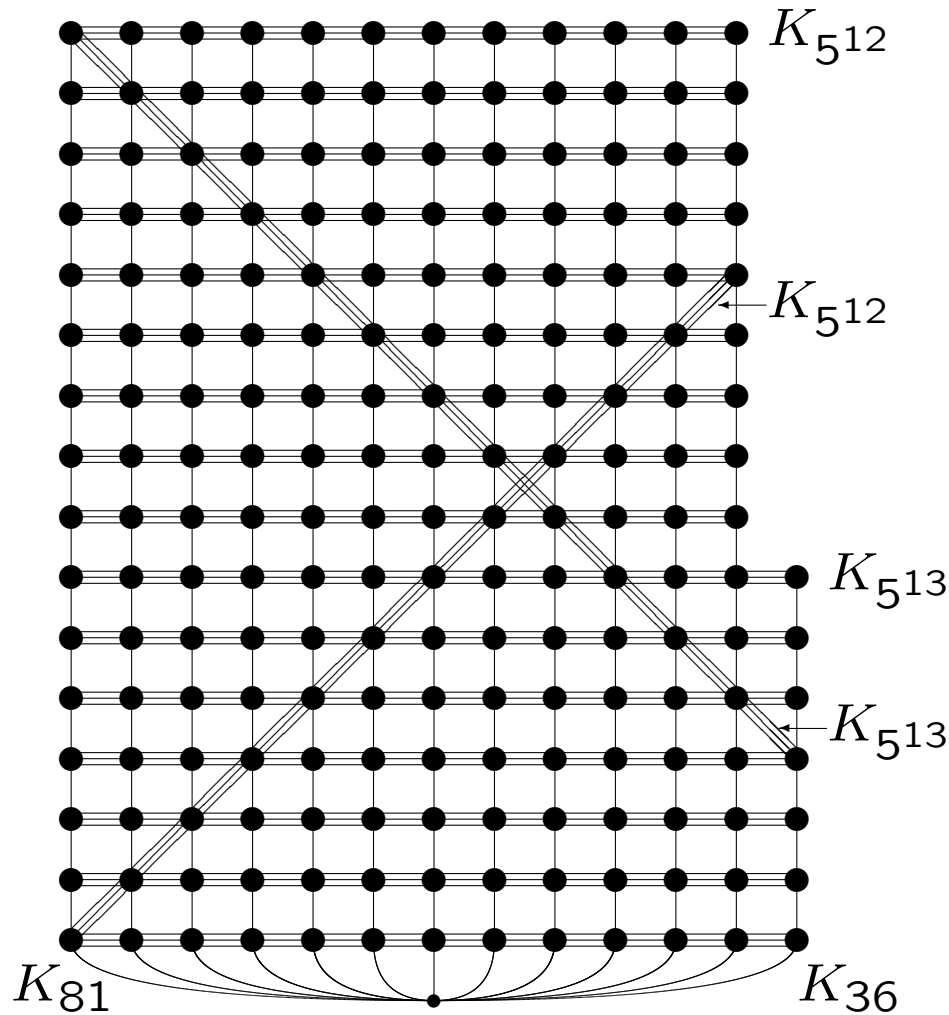
Replace 12-element blocks by $K_{5^{12}}$.

Replace 13-element blocks by $K_{5^{13}}$.

New icosahedron decompositions: $K_{5^{12}}, K_{5^{13}}$.

Icosahedron design of order 996 (iv)

Add a point; add vertical graphs.



Add a new point.

Overlay inflated 16-element group + new point by K_{81} .

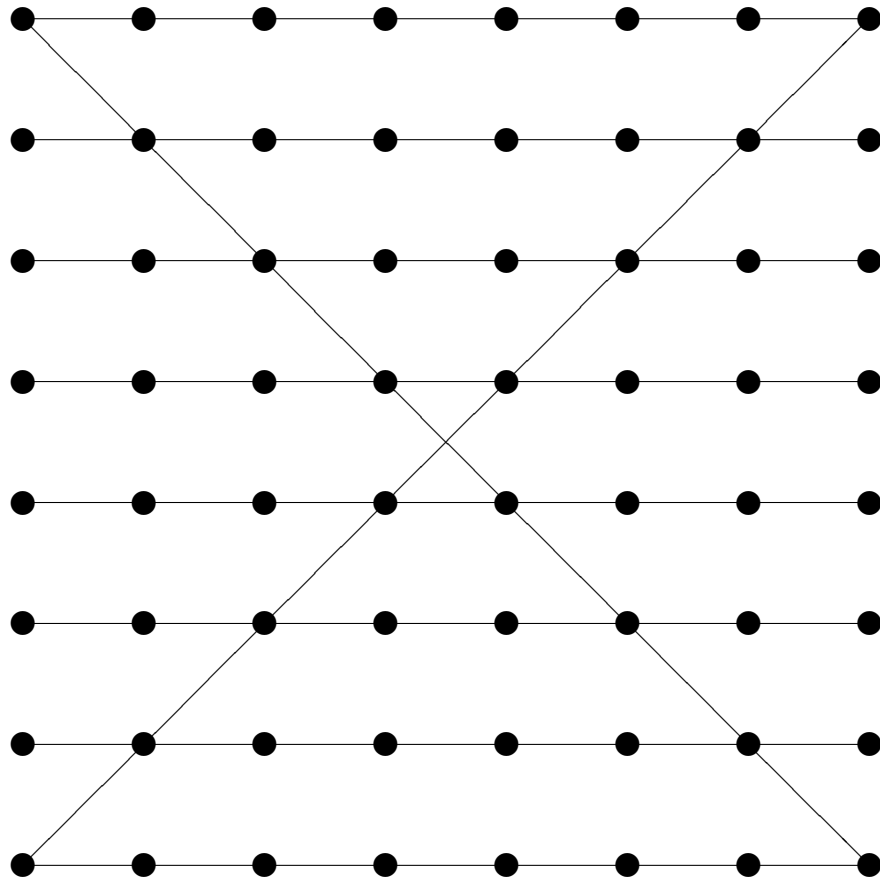
Overlay inflated 7-element group + new point by K_{36} .

New icosahedron decompositions: K_{36} , K_{81} .

Total points: $12 \cdot 80 + 35 + 1 = 996$.

Icosahedron design of order 96 (i)

Affine plane of order 8.



8 is a prime power.

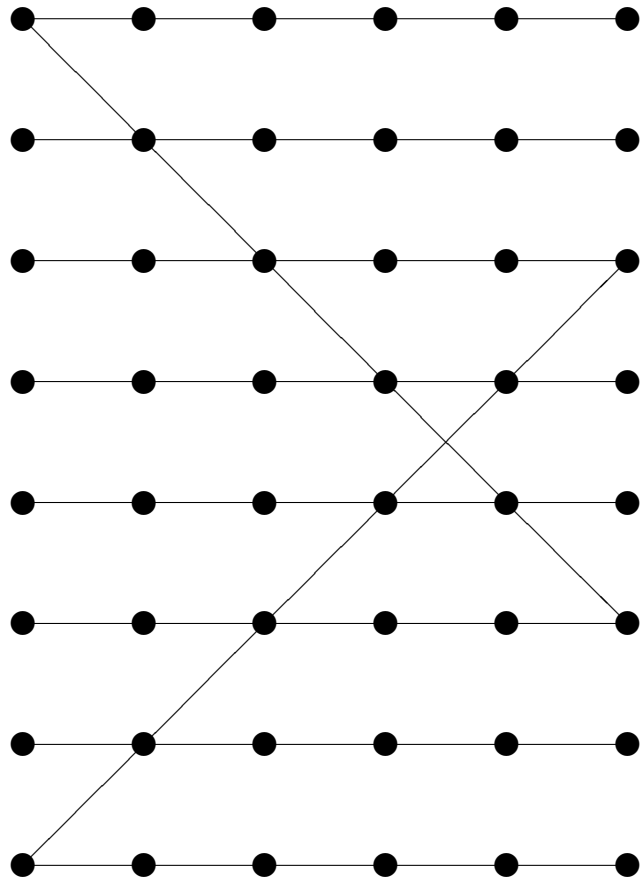
Hence \exists an affine plane of order 8.

Removing a parallel class \Rightarrow 8-GDD of type 8^8 .

Picture shows the horizontal parallel class plus two typical blocks.

Icosahedron design of order 96 (ii)

Remove 2 groups.

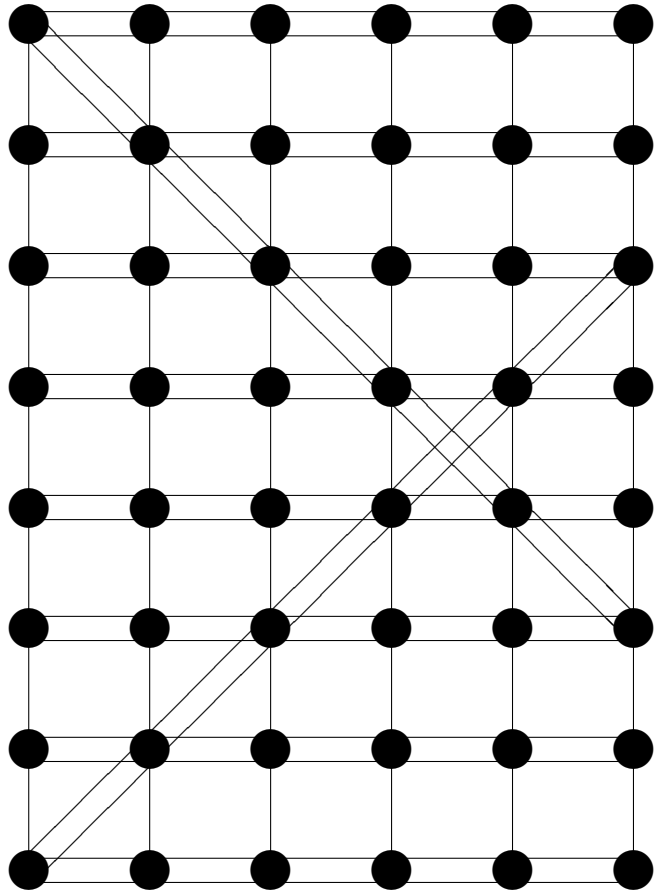


Remove 2 groups entirely to give a 6-GDD of type 8^6 .

(Alternatively, construct this thing from four MOLS of side 8.)

Icosahedron design of order 96 (iii)

Inflate by 2 and add graphs.



Inflate each point by a factor of 2.

Replace each block by $K_{2,2,2,2,2,2}$.

Replace each group by K_{16} .

Use icosahedron decompositions of K_{16} , $K_{2,2,2,2,2,2}$.

$$6 \cdot 2 \cdot 8 = 96.$$