

Steiner Triple Systems Of Order 25

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Abstract: The higher order Steiner system is very complex in nature. Various methodologies can be used to construct and enumerate the STS for order of 25. The various combinatory theory and design theory can be used for the enumeration of the desired STS. Here, in this paper, we have presented a detailed method of the enumeration, methodology and construction of the STS systems. Detailed numerical analysis has been done for the enumeration of the STS of order 25. The algorithm discussed will here generate the total possible STS combinations. Finally, construction methodology has also been presented. Graphical construction has been discussed with the reference to the Kirkman systems. The properties of the STS system equations have been discussed. The various theorems have been represented using the order 9 subsystems. Results have shown the steps of the enumeration and combinations of various pairs showing the properties of STS of the order 25.

Date of Submission: 07-10-2017

Date of acceptance: 21-11-2017

I. Introduction

Steiner defined two kinds of structure: S_n , what we have called a Steiner triple system of order n ; and S_n^0 whose exact details don't concern here. It shows:

- (a) S_1 exists;
- (b) if S_n exists, then S_{2n+1} exists;
- (c) if S_n exists, n exists for $n > 29$ and $n \equiv 1 \pmod{6}$

II. Enumeration Of Problems

Problem-1: To construct the disjoint points of the STS using generating points [15] and generating function (GF) [11][12] of order 25 using polynomial formulation.

To show that $Z^2 - Z + 1$ is irreducible over GF(5), it is enough to show that none of the five elements of GF(5) is a root:

$$0^2 - 0 + 1 = 1 \neq 0,$$

$$1^2 - 1 + 1 = 1 \neq 0,$$

$$2^2 - 2 + 1 = 3 \neq 0,$$

$$3^2 - 3 + 1 = 2 \neq 0,$$

$$4^2 - 4 + 1 = 3 \neq 0,$$

A root of the quadratic is a primitive 6th root of unity (since $Z^2 - Z + 1$ divides $Z^6 - 1$ but doesn't divide $Z^3 - 1$ or $Z^2 - 1$); but the multiplicative group of GF(5) has order 4 and has no primitive 6th root of unity. So GF(25) [15] can be represented as claimed.

The subgroup generated by z is $\{1, Z, Z-1, -1, -Z, -Z+1\}$. Now choose an element, say 2 , and form the coset $\{2, 2Z, 2Z-2, -2, -2Z, -2Z+2\}$; another, say $Z+1$, and form $\{Z+1, 2Z-1, Z-2, -Z-1, -2Z+1, -Z+2\}$; and finally, say $Z+2$, which gives three mainings six non-zero elements.

So the four base triples are $\{0,1,Z\}$, $\{0,2,2Z\}$, $\{0,Z+1,2Z-1\}$, and $\{0,z+2,-2z-1\}$. Thus, other triples are obtained by adding the elements of GF (25) to each of these.

More generally, the number of triples of a $STS(n)$ disjoint from a given triple is $(n-3)(n-7)/6$: for there are $n(n-1)/6$ triples altogether, of which each point of a triple T lies in $(n-1)/2$ triples, $n(n-3)/2$ of which meet T ; none point [15]

For $n=7$, let 1, 2, 4 be any three points not for a triple. There are unique triples through any two of them, which we may label 123, 145, 246. Then the triples through 16, 25 and 43 must each contain the one remaining point, say 7. Finally, the three pairs 36, 35, 56 must each lie on a triple, and since only one triple remains to be found, it must be 356 [11]

For $n=9$, the two triples disjoint from a given one are disjoint from one another. For if T_i , T_j is a triple and $x \in T_i$, then x lies on four triples, three of which meet T_i , so just one is disjoint from T_i . Hence the twelve triples fall in to four sets of three mutually disjoint triples, so that triples from different sets intersect. Then two of these sets form a square grid, and we can number the points so that these triples are [11]

III. Detailed Enumeration

Starting with the analysis used above for $n=9$: there are ten triples disjoint from a given one, each of the ten points lying on three triples. Classify the configurations formed by the set of ten triples [13]

An *automorphism* of a Steiner triple system [13] is an isomorphism from the system to itself.

For $n=7$, any three points x, y, z not forming a triple can be mapped to any other three such points by a unique isomorphism. If we take the two systems to be the same, then isomorphisms are auto-morphisms. So the number of Auto-isomorphism [13] is equal to the number of choices of x, y, z , which is $7 \cdot 6 \cdot 4 = 168$. For $n=9$, the argument is similar, and yields $9 \cdot 8 \cdot 6 = 432$ as the number of auto-isomorphisms.

Theorem (Kirkman): A triple system, each triangle lies in a subsystem of order 9 [15]

(a) Prove that an affine triple system is a Kirkman system [15]

(b) Given a triangle x, y, z , consider the set

$$\{x + \mu y + z : \mu = 1\}.$$

This set contains nine points. (There are nine choices of x, μ, y, z with sum zero in the integers mod 3. If two choices lead to the same vector, we have $x + y + z = 0$. Up to permutation, there are two cases:

Moreover, these nine points form a subsystem. For suppose that

$$a_i = x_i + \mu_i y + z_i, \quad x_i + \mu_i + z_i = 0$$

For $i=1,2$, and let $a_3 = -(a_1 + a_2)$ be the third point of the triple through $a_1 a_2$

The entry agrees with the bound given by last equation. So we are required just to exhibit it packing and coverings attaining the bounds. This is clear for the values $n=3,7,9$ for which STS exist, and also for $p(6)$ and $p(8)$, by [2]. For the other values we have:

$$p(4): 123$$

$$c(4): 123, 124, 134$$

$$c(5): 123, 145, 234, 235$$

$$c(6): 123, 124, 345, 346, 565, 562$$

$$c(8): STS(7) together with 128, 348, 568, 678.$$

We see that $p(5) \leq 2$ as follows: two 3-sets can have at most one point in common, so are 123, 145 without loss of generality. A further 3-set could contain at most one of 1, 2, 3 and at most one of 4, 5, so cannot exist. A packing of size 2 is

If a SQS of order n exists, with $n \geq 2$, then $n \equiv 2 \text{ or } 4 \pmod{6}$.

If (X, B) is a SQS and $x \in X$, let $Y = X \setminus \{x\}$ and let C be the set of triples T such that $T \cup \{x\} \in B$. Then (Y, C) is a STS. Hence if a SQS of order n exists, then $n - 1 \equiv 1 \text{ or } 3 \pmod{6}$, when $cen \equiv 2 \text{ or } 4 \pmod{6}$.

If (X, B) is a SQS of order n , then $|B| = n(n-1)(n-2)/24$.

Count pairs (x, U) , where x is a point and U a quadruple containing it. We see that $4|B| = n(n-1)(n-2)/6$. (By the remarks in the preceding solution, the number of quadruples containing x is equal to the number of triples in a STS of order $n-1$.)

Let X be a vector space over $Z(2)$, and let B be the set of 4-subsets $\{x, y, z, w\}$ of X for which $x + y + z + w = 0$. Show that (X, B) is a SQS.

Given three distinct vectors x, y, z , let $w = x + y + z$. Since $-1 = 1$, we have $x + y + z + w = 0$. Could w be equal to one of (x, y, z) ? If $w = x$, then $y + z = 0$, when $cey = z$, contrary to assumption. The other cases are similar. So $\{w, x, y, z\}$ is a quadruple, clearly the unique quadruple containing x, y, z .

Now let $Y = X \cup X^0$, and $C = B \cup B^0 \cup R$, where R is the set of 4-sets $\{x, y, z^0, w^0\}$ such that $x, y \in X, z^0, w^0 \in X^0$;

for some $i (1 \leq i \leq n-1)$, $\{x, y\} \in R_i$ and $\{z^0, w^0\} \in R^0$. i

Show that (Y, C) is a SQS of order $2n$.

Clearly all elements of C are 4-sets. We have to show that any three points x, y, z lie in exactly one quadruple. There are several cases:

(a) $x, y, z \in X$. Then a unique quadruple in B contains them.

(b) $x, y \in X, z \in X^0$. There is a unique i such that $\{x, y\} \in R_i$, and then a unique w such that $\{z, w\} \in R^0$. then $\{x, y, z, w\}$ is the unique quadruple containing the three points.

Problem-2: To validate and find the resolution for STS 25 systems:

Theorem [11]: To validate and find the resolution of the STS 25 system of higher order n

Let (X, B) be a STS of order n , and Y a subsystem of order m , where $m < n$. Prove that $n \geq 2m + 1$. Show further that $n = 2m + 1$ if and only if every triple in B contains either 1 or 3 points of Y

Let $x \in X \setminus Y$. Then x lies in $(n-1)/2$ triples. But the points of Y lie on distinct triples through x , since a triple containing two points of Y is contained within y . As there are m such triples, we have $m \leq (n-1)/2$, or $n \geq 2m+1$.

Equality holds if and only if every triple containing x meets Y . Since this is true for each point outside Y , equality holds if and only if no triple is disjoint from Y . By the definition of a subsystem, no triple can meet Y in two points. So, finally, equality holds if and only if every triple meets Y in one or three points.

Let (X, B) be a STS of order $n=2m+1$, and Y a subsystem of order m ; say $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$. For $i=1, \dots, m$, let R_i be the set of all pairs $\{z, z^0\} \subseteq X \setminus Y$ for which $\{y_i, z, z^0\} \in B$. Show that $\{R_1, \dots, R_m\}$ is a tournament schedule on $X \setminus Y$. Show further that this construction can be reversed: a $STS(m)$ and a tournament schedule of order $m+1$ can be used to build a $STS(2m+1)$.

Given an $y_i, z, z^0 \in X \setminus Y$, the triple containing z and z^0 meets Y in a point y_i (see Question 11); so $\{z, z^0\} \in R_i$. On the other hand, y_i lies on m triples, of which $(m-1)/2$ are in the subsystem Y , so $(m+1)/2$ have the form $\{y_i, z, z^0\}$ for some $z, z^0 \in X \setminus Y$. Since the pairs $\{z, z^0\}$ are disjoint, they cover the $m+1$ points of $X \setminus Y$. So we do have a tournament schedule.

Theorem [11]-[13]: Pairing properties of the STS systems for finding the unique triples

And let D consist of all triples of the following types:

- $\{(x, y_1), (x, y_2), (x, y_3)\}$ for $x \in X, \{y_1, y_2, y_3\} \in C$;
- $\{(x_1, y), (x_2, y), (x_3, y)\}$ for $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \in B, y \in Y$;
- $\{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)\}$ for $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \in B, \{y_1, y_2, y_3\} \in C$

(Note that a triple in Band one in C give rise to six triples of the third type, corresponding to the six possible bijections from one to the other.) Show that (Z, D) is a STS of order mn . Show further that, if $m > 1$ and $n > 1$, then (Z, D) contains subsystem of order 9

(a) If $x_1 = x_2$ and $y_1 = y_2$, there is a unique triple $\{y_1, y_2, y_3\} \in C$: then (x_1, y_3)

Is the third point of the triple through the two given points.

(b) $x_1 = x_2, y_1 = y_2$: dual to (a).

(c) $x_1 = x_2$ and $y_1 = y_2$. There are unique triples $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \in B$ and $\{y_1, y_2, y_3\} \in C$; then (x_3, y_3) is the third point of the triple.

If $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \in B$ and $\{y_1, y_2, y_3\} \in C$, then $\{(x_i, y_j) : i, j = 1, 2, 3\}$ is a subsystem of order 9.

IV. Results

Here, the grouping of the pairs for the STS has been selected. The non-cyclic STS has been evaluated. Thus, the total number of STS pairs presented for STS of order 25 for the non-cyclic is found to be 75[18].

Thus, the total isomeric generations can be obtained as:

Non-cyclic Generation: 75[18]

Non-isomorphic generation seeds: 784

Isomorphic generation: 576

CPU Time – 2 Hrs

Triple systems in general. Although direct constructions have been known previously for many cases, notably those of Bose [2] for Steiner triple systems and the elegant construction for $(v, 2)$ triple systems we have succeeded in pushing through the direct construction for all cases. For many values of $(0, A)$ whose designs have already been constructed directly by others, our constructions give non isomorphic designs in general, and we present them anew here both for completeness and for use in the construction of triple systems with other parameters, as in the case for the direct construction of designs for $h = 3$ and $h = 6$.

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Awatef Ahmed Omar Aughnai Steiner Triple Systems Of Order 25. *IOSR Journal of Mathematics (IOSR-JM)*, vol. 13, no. 6, 2017, pp. 01-05.