A new Euclidean tight 6-design

Eiichi Bannai, Etsuko Bannai, Junichi Shigezumi

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Abstract

Euclidean \( t \)-designs, which are finite weighted subsets of Euclidean space, were defined by Neumaier-Seidel (1988). A tight \( t \)-design is defined as a \( t \)-design whose cardinality is equal to the known natural lower bound.

In this paper, we give a new Euclidean tight 6-design in \( \mathbb{R}^2 \). Furthermore, we also show its uniqueness up to similar transformation fixing the origin.

This design has the structure of coherent configuration, which was defined by Higman, and is obtained from the properties of general permutation groups. We also show that the design is obtained by combining two orbits of McLaughlin simple group.

1 Introduction

Euclidean \( t \)-designs were defined by Neumaier-Seidel [21] as a two step generalization of spherical designs (cf. [13]). (We note that similar concepts as Euclidean \( t \)-designs have existed in numerical analysis as certain cubature formulas, and in statistics as rotatable designs (cf. [8]).)

First we give some notation. Let \( (X, w) \) be a finite weighted subset in Euclidean space \( \mathbb{R}^n \), where \( X \) is a finite subset and \( w \) is a positive real valued weight function on \( X \). We say \( X \) is supported by \( p \) concentric spheres. That is, there are distinct nonnegative integers \( r_1, \ldots, r_p \), sphere \( S_i \) of radius \( r_i \) centered at the origin and subset \( X_i = X \cap S_i \) for each \( 1 \leq i \leq p \), such that \( X = X_1 \cup \cdots \cup X_p \). Let \( w(X_i) = \sum_{x \in X_i} w(x) \) and \( |S_i| = \int_{S_i} d\sigma_i(x) \).

We denote by \( \mathcal{P}^l(\mathbb{R}^n) \) the vector space of polynomials in \( n \) variables \( x_1, \ldots, x_n \) over the fields \( \mathbb{R} \) of real numbers. Let \( \text{Hom}_l(\mathbb{R}^n) \) be the subspace of \( \mathcal{P}^l(\mathbb{R}^n) \) which consists of homogeneous polynomials of degree \( l \), and let \( \mathcal{P}_l(\mathbb{R}^n) = \oplus_{i=0}^l \text{Hom}_i(\mathbb{R}^n) \).

Definition 1 (Euclidean \( t \)-design). (see [21]) Let \( t \) be a positive integer. A weighted finite set \( (X, w) \) in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) is a Euclidean \( t \)-design, if the following equation

\[
\sum_{i=1}^p \frac{w(X_i)}{|S_i|} \int_{x \in S_i} f(x) d\sigma_i(x) = \sum_{x \in X} w(x) f(x) \quad (1.1)
\]

is satisfied for any polynomial \( f \in \mathcal{P}_t(\mathbb{R}^n) \).
There is known a natural lower bound for the cardinalities of Euclidean $t$-designs (see [20, 14, 21, 9, 6]), and tight $t$-design is defined as a $t$-design whose cardinality is equal to this lower bound, (see [14, 21, 4, 6, 9, 8]. This lower bound for $t$-design for even $t$ is straightforward, but the lower bound for odd $t$ is somewhat delicate. (See [8], or the papers referred there, in particular those by Möller [19, 20], etc., for more details.)

Here, we give only for the case where $t$ is even:

Theorem 2. (see [20, 14]) Let $(X, w)$ be a Euclidean $2e$-design supported by $p$ concentric spheres $S$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Then

$$|X| \geq \dim(\mathcal{P}_e(S))$$

holds, where $\mathcal{P}_e(S) = \{ f|_S : f \in \mathcal{P}_e(\mathbb{R}^n) \}$

Definition 3. (see [14, 4])

(1) Definitions and notations are the same as above. If the equality (1) holds, then $(X, w)$ is called a tight $2e$-design on $p$ concentric spheres.

(2) Moreover, if $\dim(\mathcal{P}_e(S)) = \dim(\mathcal{P}_e(\mathbb{R}^n)) = \binom{n+e}{e}$ holds, then $(X, w)$ is called a Euclidean tight $2e$-design of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

Many tight Euclidean $t$-designs have been constructed (see [1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 18]). However, the studies have been so far mostly limited to either (i) for $n = 2$ or (ii) for $t \leq 5$ or $t = 7$ (for $n \geq 3$).

In the previous paper [7], we observed that some of the known tight Euclidean $t$-designs have the structure of coherent configuration. (In particular, tight $t$-designs on two concentric spheres always have this property.) Here note that coherent configuration is a concept defined by Higman [15, 16] as a generalization of association schemes. In [7] we tried to classify certain Euclidean $t$-designs which have the structure of coherent configuration. Furthermore, trying to generalize the work of [7], we started to study Euclidean tight 6-designs on two concentric spheres with one layer (fiber) being a spherical tight 4-design. (Such a tight 6-design on two concentric spheres is automatically a tight 6-design of $\mathbb{R}^n$ as well.) This classification problem is not yet completed, but we were able to show that there is only one feasible parameter set remains if $n$ is small, say $3 \leq n \leq 438$. (This is the parameter set described in Section 2 of this paper.) At first we were a bit surprised and excited at finding this new feasible parameter set. Then we noticed that there actually exists such a Euclidean tight 6-design, by combining two orbits of the McLaughlin simple group acting as orthogonal transformations on the Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^{22}$. Although these two permutation representations themselves are well known, it seems new to observe that they actually lead to a Euclidean tight 6-design. (Compare this with the well known fact that there exists no spherical tight 6-design for $n \geq 3$.) The main purpose of this short note is to describe this new design. Namely, we obtain:

Theorem 4. There exists a Euclidean tight 6-design of $\mathbb{R}^{22}$ supported by two concentric spheres of cardinality $\binom{22+3}{3}$ with the ratio $r_2/r_1 = \sqrt{11}$ of the radii $r_1$ and $r_2$, and the ratio $w_2/w_1 = 1/729$ of the two weights $w_1$ and $w_2$. 

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**Remark 1.** We describe all the parameters of the associated coherent configuration in Section 2. Also, we remark that this Euclidean tight 6-design is unique in \( \mathbb{R}^{22} \) supported by two concentric spheres with \(|X_1| = 275\), up to similar transformation fixing the origin.

## 2 Parameters of the Euclidean tight 6-design in \( \mathbb{R}^{22} \)

Let \((X, w)\) be a tight Euclidean 6-design of \( \mathbb{R}^{22} \) supported by 2 concentric spheres of positive radii \( r_1 \) and \( r_2 \). Let \( X = X_1 \cup X_2 \), and \( X_i \subset S^{21} \) \((i = 1, 2)\). Then Lemma 1.10 in [4] implies that the weight function \( w \) is constant on each \( X_i \). Let \( w \equiv w_i \) on \( X_i \) for \( i = 1, 2 \). Also Theorem 1.5 in [7] implies that \( X \) has the structure of a coherent configuration with 2 fibers. Also Theorem 1.8 in [9] implies that \( X_1 \) and \( X_2 \) are spherical 4-designs. In the following we assume that \( X_1 \) is a tight spherical 4-design, i.e., \(|X_1| = 275\).

We define \( A(X_i, X_j) = \{ \frac{x \cdot y}{r_i} \mid x \in X_i, y \in X_j, x \neq y \} \) for any \( i, j = 1, 2 \). Then (Proof of) Lemma 1.10 in [4] implies that \(|A(X_i, X_j)| \leq 3\). Since we must have \(|X_2| = |X| - |X_1| = \binom{22+3}{3} - 275 = 2025\), \( X_2 \) must be a 3-distance set, i.e., \(|A(X_2, X_2)| = 3\) holds. We can also prove that \(|A(X_1, X_2)| = 3\) holds. Also, we can prove that

\[
\begin{align*}
A(X_1, X_1) & = \{ \alpha_1 = \frac{1}{6}, \alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{4} \}, \\
A(X_2, X_2) & = \{ \beta_1 = \frac{7}{22}, \beta_2 = -\frac{1}{44}, \beta_3 = -\frac{4}{11} \}, \\
A(X_1, X_2) & = \{ \gamma_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{11}}, \gamma_2 = -\frac{1}{4\sqrt{11}}, \gamma_3 = -\frac{3}{2\sqrt{11}} \},
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\frac{w_2}{w_1} = \frac{1}{22}, \text{ and } \frac{r_2}{r_1} = \sqrt{11} \text{ hold.}
\]

Define \( \alpha_0 = 0, \beta_0 = 0 \). Then the structure parameters of the coherent algebra (intersection numbers of the coherent configuration) \( p_{\alpha_i, \alpha_j}^k \) \((0 \leq i, j, k \leq 2)\), \( p_{\beta_i, \beta_j}^k \) \((0 \leq i, j, k \leq 3)\), \( p_{\gamma_i, \gamma_j}^k \) \((0 \leq k \leq 3, 1 \leq i, j \leq 3)\), \( p_{\beta_i, \gamma_j}^k \) \((0 \leq i \leq 2, 1 \leq j, k \leq 3)\), and \( p_{\beta_i, \gamma_j}^k \) \((0 \leq i \leq 3, 1 \leq j, k \leq 3)\) are determined uniquely to the values listed below.

Until this stage we just used the values of inner product \( \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3 \) to determine the structure of the coherent configuration. In the following we introduce the following description. \( R_{\alpha_i} = \{(x, y) \in X_1 \times X_1 \mid \frac{x \cdot y}{r_1} = \alpha_i \} \) for \( i = 0, 1, 2 \), \( R_{\beta_i} = \{(x, y) \in X_2 \times X_2 \mid \frac{x \cdot y}{r_2} = \beta_i \} \) for \( i = 0, 1, 2, 3 \), \( R_{\gamma_i}^{(+)} = \{(x, y) \in X_1 \times X_2 \mid \frac{x \cdot y}{r_1 r_2} = \gamma_i \} \) for \( i = 1, 2, 3 \), and \( R_{\gamma_i}^{(-)} = \{(x, y) \in X_2 \times X_1 \mid \frac{x \cdot y}{r_1 r_2} = \gamma_i \} \) for \( i = 1, 2, 3 \). Thus \( X \times X \) is partitioned into 13 subsets. For \((x, y) \in R_c \) we denote \( p_{\alpha, \beta}^c = |\{(z, x) \in X, (z, y) \in R_a, (z, y) \in R_b\}| \). We define 13 \( \times \) 13 matrices \( B_{\alpha} \) intersection matrix, whose rows and columns are indexed by the set \( \{ \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \gamma_1^{(+)}, \gamma_2^{(+)}, \gamma_3^{(+)}, \gamma_1^{(-)}, \gamma_2^{(-)}, \gamma_3^{(-)} \} \) with this ordering, where \( a \in \{ \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \gamma_1^{(+)}, \gamma_2^{(+)}, \gamma_3^{(+)}, \gamma_1^{(-)}, \gamma_2^{(-)}, \gamma_3^{(-)} \} \). The \((b, c)\) entry of \( B_{\alpha} \) is defined by \( B_{\alpha}(b, c) = p_{\alpha, \beta}^{+} \) for any \( a, b, c \in \{ \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \gamma_1^{(+)}, \gamma_2^{(+)}, \gamma_3^{(+)}, \gamma_1^{(-)}, \gamma_2^{(-)}, \gamma_3^{(-)} \} \).
\[ B_{\alpha_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_{\alpha_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 162 & 105 & 81 \\ 0 & 56 & 81 \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ B_{\alpha_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 56 & 81 \\ 112 & 56 & 30 \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ B_{\beta_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_{\beta_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ B_{\beta_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ B_{\gamma_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 216 & 105 & 21 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_{\gamma_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 60 & 35 \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ B_{\gamma_3} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 6 & 42 & 105 \end{bmatrix} \]
3 Proof of Theorem 1

As is well known and described in ATLAS (page 100) and Wilson [23], there are two permutation representations of $G = McL$ (McLaughlin simple group) of degree 275 and 2025 in which the one point stabilizers are $H_1 = U_4(3)$ and $H_2 = M_{22}$, respectively. The permutation character $\chi_1$ of the first one is decomposed into irreducible characters as $\chi_1 = 1 + 22 + 252$ and the second $\chi_2$ as $\chi_2 = 1 + 22 + 252 + 1750$. This implies that by the method described below, we have a coherent configurations of type $[3, 3; 4]$ in the sense of D. G. Higman [17], by considering the decomposition of the permutation characters $\chi_1$ and $\chi_2$. It is easy to see, that if we take the two nonzero points $x_1$ and $x_2$ in $\mathbb{R}^{22}$ fixed by $H_1$ and $H_2$ respectively, then $G$ acts on the union of the two orbits $x_1G \cup x_2G$. Then it is easy to show that this intransitive action form a coherent configuration with the same parameters as given in Section 2. (Here the distances of $x_i$ from the origin do not affect the structure of coherent configurations. For example, all the parameters $p_{i,j}$ as well as $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$ do not depend on them. It is easy to perform these calculations, if we use either MAGMA or GAP. (It was actually performed.)

Here we note that this is proved more theoretically, by using the known facts. In ATLAS [11], Conway-Sloane [12], Wilson [23], all the 275 points (corresponding to $G/H_1$) are explicitly described, and it is shown that the action of $H_2 = M_{22}$ on the 275 points are very visible and divided into three orbits of lengths 22, 77 and 176. (See Wilson page 400.) Then, using the fact that these 275 points form a tight spherical 4-design, using the fundamental equation (cf. Venkov [22], or [3]), we can easily determine $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$, and they are identical with the parameters given in Section 2. This completes a proof of Theorem 1.

The uniqueness of the Euclidean tight 6-design in $\mathbb{R}^{22}$ is proved as follows. Since $X_1$ forms a tight 4-design in $S^{21} \subset \mathbb{R}^{22}$, and since the uniqueness of tight 4-design in $S^{21}$ is known, we can fix the 275 points on the unit sphere. We want to determine the points on the sphere $S^{21}(r_2)$, with the angles to any of the 275 points in $X_1$ are one of $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3\}$. (Actually we can fix 22 points of $X_1$, which are linearly independent, and then we can determine the points which have all the angles one of $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3\}$. The calculation shows that there are only 4050 of them. They are divided into two subsets each of 2025 points correspond to the two inequivalent transitive permutation representations of $McL/M_{22}$ of the degree 2025, which are interchanged each other by an outer automorphism of $McL$. This implies the uniqueness of the Euclidean tight 6-design in $\mathbb{R}^{22}$.

Remark 2. The class 3 association schemes $X_2 = McL/M_{22}$ is Q-polynomial (but not P-polynomial), and so it is in the list of Bill Martin (see the home page: http://users.wpi.edu/~martin/). According to Bill Martin, he obtained this information originally from an article (by A. Munemasa on “spherical designs” in the Handbook of Combinatorial Designs, 2nd ed. Chapman and Hall/CRC, pp. 617–622.) It is interesting to note that $X_2$ is a spherical 4-design. Also, it is interesting to note that the characterization (uniqueness) of the association scheme $X_2$ itself by parameters seems not yet known at the time of this writing.
Remark 3. In this section, we show that the design is obtained by combining two orbits of McLaughlin simple group, that is $\text{McL}/U_4(3)$ and $\text{McL}/M_{22}$. In addition, by the advice of Professor Masaaki Kitazume, we noticed that there is a relationship between these two orbits and one orbit of the Conway group $\text{Co}_2$ that is $\text{Co}_2/U_6(2)$. It has 4600 points in $\mathbb{R}^{23}$, and we can classify them into 2300 antipodal pairs. The relationship is one to one correspondence between these pairs and 275 + 2025 points of two orbits. Note that Conway group $\text{Co}_2$ acts on these 2300 pairs transitively. We can refer to Remark 4 in detail.

Note that $\text{Co}_2/U_6(2)$ with 4600 points is a spherical tight 7-design of $\mathbb{R}^{23}$, which is uniquely determined.

4 Some calculations

Here, we want to explain the method to calculate vectors of $X$. Again by Wilson [23], we obtain vectors of $X$ from the Leech lattice $\Lambda_{24}$.

We must choose the vectors $A, B \in \Lambda_{24}$ of norm 4 such that $(A, B) = -1$. Then, we define the following sets of vectors

$$X_1^0 := \{ x \in \Lambda_{24} \mid (x, x) = 6, (x, A) = 3, (x, B) = -3 \}, \quad (4.1)$$
$$X_2^0 := \{ x \in \Lambda_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, A) = 2, (x, B) = 0 \}. \quad (4.2)$$

In conclusion, we obtain just 275 (resp. 2025) vectors for $X_1^0$ (resp. $X_2^0$) from the shell of the Leech lattice of norm 6 (resp. 4), which has 16773120 (resp. 196560) vectors. It may not be easy to obtain $X_1^0$ since the shell of norm 6 has too many vectors, but we performed this calculation.

In addition, we consider the orthogonal projection $P$ from $\mathbb{R}^{24}$ to orthogonal complement of the space spanned by vectors $A$ and $B$. Finally, with the adjustment on radii, we obtain

$$X_1 = P(X_1^0), \quad X_2 = 3 P(X_2^0).$$

Then, we obtain the design $X = X_1 \cup X_2$.

In the proof of the uniqueness of the design, we obtain 4050 vectors with the angles to any of the 275 vectors in $X_1$ are one of $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3\}$.

First, we want to explain a method of calculation. We denote

$$\overline{X}_2 := \left\{ y \in S^{21} \mid \forall x \in \Lambda_{r_1}, x \cdot y \in \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{11}}, -\frac{1}{4\sqrt{11}}, -\frac{3}{2\sqrt{11}} \right\} \right\}.$$ 

The angles between the distinct vectors of $X_1$ are in $\{\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{4}\}$. Thus, the lattice $L$ generated by all the vectors of $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{r_1}X_1$ is integral. In addition, by the definition of $\overline{X}_2$, the inner products between the vectors of $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{r_1}X_1$ and the vectors of $\frac{4\sqrt{11}}{2\sqrt{3}}\overline{X}_2$ are in $\{4, -1, -6\}$. Then, $\frac{4\sqrt{11}}{2\sqrt{3}}\overline{X}_2$ is included in the dual lattice $L^2$. Furthermore, we can choose basis $\{e_1, \ldots, e_{22}\}$ of $L$ from $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{r_1}X_1$. Then, we can also obtain dual basis $\{e_1', \ldots, e_{22}'\}$ of $L^2$ such that $e_i \cdot e_j' = \delta_{i,j}$ for every $1 \leq i, j \leq 22$. With the dual basis, we can denote the vectors of
Thus, in this method, we may calculate the vectors of $X_2$ more easily. Now, we can obtain 4050 vectors, half of which are the vectors of $\frac{1}{r_2}X_2$. We denote by $X_2' := r_2X_2 \setminus X_2$. Then, the calculation shows that we have $X_2' = P(X_2')$ where

$$X_2' := \{x \in \lambda_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, A) = 0, (x, B) = -2\}.$$ Moreover, we can write

$$X_1^0 = \{x \in \lambda_{24} \mid (x, x) = 6, (x, (-B)) = 3, (x, (-A)) = -3\},$$

$$X_2^0 = \{x \in \lambda_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, (-B)) = 2, (x, (-A)) = 0\}.$$

Comparing with the definitions of $X_1^0$ and $X_2^0$, it is clear that $X_1 \cup X_2'$ is isometric to $X_1 \cup X_2$.

**Remark 4.** By Remark 3 we can calculate $X_1$ by another method. We define

$$Y_{+1}^0 := \{x \in A_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, A) = 2, (x, B) = 1\}$$

$$Y_{+2}^0 := \{x \in A_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, A) = 2, (x, B) = 0\} \quad (= X_2^0)$$

$$Y_{-2}^0 := \{x \in A_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, A) = 2, (x, B) = -1\}$$

$$Y_{-1}^0 := \{x \in A_{24} \mid (x, x) = 4, (x, A) = 2, (x, B) = -2\}$$

where vectors $A$, $B$ are same as above. Then, we obtain $X_1 = P(Y_{+1}^0)$ by the same orthogonal projection $P$.

Moreover, we consider another orthogonal projection $P_0$ from $\mathbb{R}^{24}$ to orthogonal complement of the space spanned by the only vector $A$. We denote by $Y_{+i}^0 = P_0(Y_{+i}^0)$ for $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Then, we obtain 4600 vectors in $Y_{+1}^0 \cup Y_{+2}^0 \cup Y_{-1}^0 \cup Y_{-2}^0 = C_0/\mathbb{R}_6(2)$. Since $Y_{+i}^0 = -Y_{-i}$ for $i \in \{1, 2\}$, we have 2300 antipodal pairs.

Oppositely, let $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ be the Euclidean tight 6-design, having $|X_1| = 275$ and $|X_2| = 2025$. And let $Z_{\pm 1}$ and $Z_{\pm 2}$ be subsets on $S^{22} \subset \mathbb{R}^{23}$ defined below:

$$Z_{+1} = \{(a_1x_1, b_1) \mid x_1 \in X_1\}, \quad Z_{-1} = \{-(a_1x_1, b_1) \mid x_1 \in X_1\},$$

$$Z_{+2} = \{(a_2x_2, b_2) \mid x_2 \in X_2\}, \quad Z_{-2} = \{-(a_2x_2, b_2) \mid x_2 \in X_2\},$$

where $a_1 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}$, $a_2 = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{5}}$, and $b_2 = 1$. Then, $Z = Z_{+1} \cup Z_{+2} \cup Z_{-1} \cup Z_{-2}$ has 4600 points, and $Z$ is a spherical tight 7-design.

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Eiichi Bannai
Faculty of Mathematics
Graduate School
Kyushu University
Motooka 744, Nishi-ku
Fukuoka, 819-0395, Japan
bannai@math.kyushu-u.ac.jp

Etsuko Bannai
Misakigaoka 2-8-21,
Itoshima-shi, 819-1136, Japan
et-ban@rc4.so-net.ne.jp

Junichi Shigezumi
Faculty of Mathematics
Graduate School
Kyushu University
Motooka 744, Nishi-ku
Fukuoka, 819-0395, Japan
j.shigezumi@math.kyushu-u.ac.jp