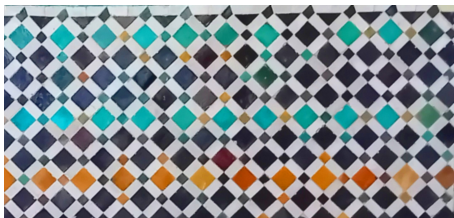


# On mosaics of designs<sup>\*</sup>



**Vedran Krčadinac**

University of Zagreb, Croatia

11.7.2024.

<sup>\*</sup> This work was fully supported by the Croatian Science Foundation under the project 9752.

# Mosaics of combinatorial designs

O. W. Gnilke, M. Greferath, M. O. Pavčević, *Mosaics of combinatorial designs*, Des. Codes Cryptogr. **86** (2018), no. 1, 85–95.

## Definition.

Let  $t_i-(v, k_i, \lambda_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, c$  be parameters of combinatorial designs, all with  $v$  points and  $b$  blocks and  $\sum_{i=1}^c k_i = v$ . A **mosaic** with parameters

$$t_1-(v, k_1, \lambda_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus t_c-(v, k_c, \lambda_c)$$

is a  $v \times b$  matrix with entries from  $\{1, \dots, c\}$  such that the entries  $i$  represent incidences of a  $t_i-(v, k_i, \lambda_i)$  design, for  $i = 1, \dots, c$ . Here,  $c$  is the number of **colors** and the matrix is also called a **c-mosaic**.

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Related concept: (strong) colored  $t$ -design

A. Bonnetaze, E. Rains, P. Solé, *3-colored 5-designs and  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ -codes*, J. Statist. Plann. Inference **86** (2000), no. 2, 349–368.

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## Theorem.

A resolvable  $t-(v, k, \lambda)$  design gives rise to a  $c$ -mosaic

$$t-(v, k, \lambda) \oplus \dots \oplus t-(v, k, \lambda)$$

with  $c = v/k$  colors.

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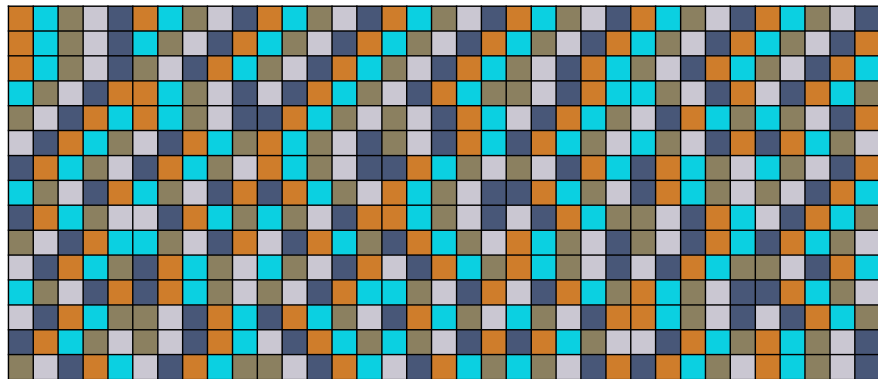
## Theorem.

A resolvable  $t-(v, k, \lambda)$  design gives rise to a **homogenous**  $c$ -mosaic

$$t-(v, k, \lambda) \oplus \cdots \oplus t-(v, k, \lambda)$$

with  $c = v/k$  colors.

# Mosaics of combinatorial designs



$$2-(15, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(15, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(15, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(15, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(15, 3, 1)$$

# Are there mosaics that are not homogenous?

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Trivial examples:

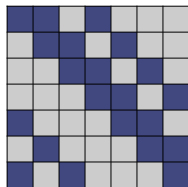
$$t\text{-}(v, k, \lambda) \oplus t\text{-}(v, v - k, \bar{\lambda}), \quad \bar{\lambda} = \lambda \binom{v-t}{k} / \binom{v-t}{k-t}$$



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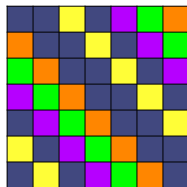


$$2-(7, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(7, 4, 2)$$

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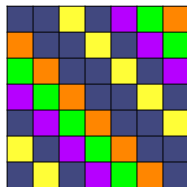


$$2-(7, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(7, 1, 0) \oplus 2-(7, 1, 0) \oplus 2-(7, 1, 0) \oplus 2-(7, 1, 0)$$

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$$2\text{-}(7, 3, 1) \oplus 2\text{-}(7, 1, 0) \oplus 2\text{-}(7, 1, 0) \oplus 2\text{-}(7, 1, 0) \oplus 2\text{-}(7, 1, 0)$$

## Proposition.

Every partial mosaic of symmetric designs, with  $v = b$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^c k_i < v$

$$2\text{-}(v, k_1, \lambda_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus 2\text{-}(v, k_c, \lambda_c)$$

can be completed by adding  $2\text{-}(v, 1, 0)$  designs.

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**Nontrivial:**  $c \geq 3$ ,  $t_i \geq 2$  and  $k_i \geq 3$  for  $i = 1, \dots, c$

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Purely arithmetically, we may think of

$$2\text{-(31, 15, 7)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 10, 3)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 6, 1)},$$

however, so far, we have not been able to provide an example of a 3-valued incidence matrix giving rise to this decomposition.

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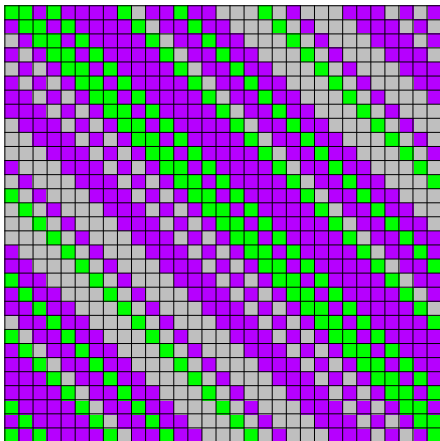
Number of non-isomorphic designs:

$$2\text{-(31, 15, 7)} \geq \mathbf{22\,478\,260} \quad (\text{Hadamard})$$

$$2\text{-(31, 10, 3)} \quad \mathbf{151} \quad (\text{E. Spence, 1992})$$

$$2\text{-(31, 6, 1)} \quad \mathbf{1} \quad (\text{PG}(2, 5))$$

# Are there mosaics that are not homogenous?



$$2-(31, 15, 7) \oplus 2-(31, 6, 1)$$

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O. Gnilke, P. Ó Catháin, O. Olmez, G. Nuñez Ponasso, *Invariants of quadratic forms and applications in design theory*, *Linear Algebra Appl.* **682** (2024), 1–27.

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## 4.3. *Decomposition of symmetric designs*

We consider the following question: when can the incidence matrix of a symmetric design be written as the sum of two disjoint  $\{0, 1\}$  matrices, each of which is the incidence matrix of a symmetric design? The obvious necessary condition is that designs with suitable parameters should exist individually. In this section, we develop a further necessary condition in terms of invariants of quadratic forms.

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$$\overline{2-(31, 6, 1)} = 2-(31, 15, 7) \oplus 2-(31, 10, 3)$$

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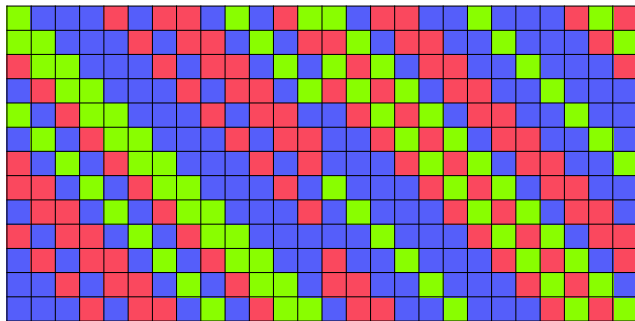
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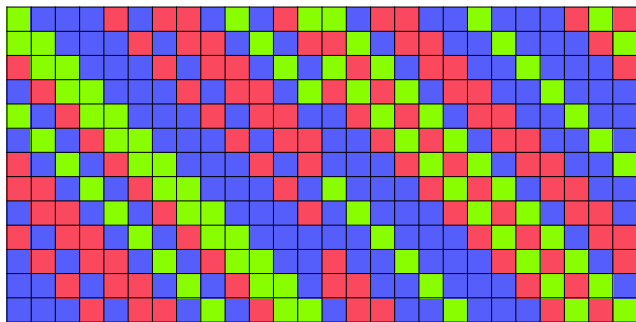
These methods **cannot** rule out the existence of a  $(31, 25, 20)$ -design (the complement of a projective plane of order 5) which decomposes into a  $(31, 15, 7)$ -design and a  $(31, 10, 3)$ -design. This is the smallest open case for a decomposition. Finally, we observe that solutions to this problem do exist, the sum of a skew-Hadamard design with parameters  $(4t - 1, 2t - 1, t - 1)$  with a trivial  $(4t - 1, 1, 0)$ -design gives a  $(4t - 1, 2t, t)$ -design, so the concept is not vacuous [10]. This topic will be considered more fully in forthcoming work of the authors.

# Are there mosaics that are not homogenous?



$$2-(13, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(13, 4, 2) \oplus 2-(13, 6, 5)$$

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$$2-(13, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(13, 4, 2) \oplus 2-(13, 6, 5)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_1 = (\{0, 1, 4\}, \{0, 2, 7\})$$

$$\mathcal{F}_2 = (\{2, 6, 7, 9\}, \{1, 3, 10, 11\})$$

$$\mathcal{F}_3 = (\{3, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12\}, \{4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12\})$$

}  $\mathbb{Z}_{13}$

M. Wiese, H. Boche, *Mosaics of combinatorial designs for information-theoretic security*, Des. Codes Cryptogr. **90** (2022), no. 3, 593–632.

M. Wiese, H. Boche,  *$\varepsilon$ -Almost collision-flat universal hash functions and mosaics of designs*, Des. Codes Cryptogr. **92** (2024), no. 4, 975–998.

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## 6 Open questions

After our extension results (Theorems 3 and 4), we discussed how the original function  $g$  and the generated  $\hat{g}$  or  $\check{g}$  relate with respect to equalities in the lower bounds on the seed sizes. What remained open was whether every seed-optimal OCFU hash function can be derived from a seed-optimal OU hash function. Formulated in terms of mosaics and designs, the question is: *Are the members of every mosaic of BIBDs resolvable?* In other words, is the method of Gnilke, Geferath and Pavčević (Corollary 3) essentially the only way of constructing a mosaic of BIBDs? By Corollary 2, the members of a mosaics of  $\text{BIBD}(v, k, \lambda)$  certainly need to satisfy the necessary condition  $b \geq v + r - 1$  for resolvable designs.

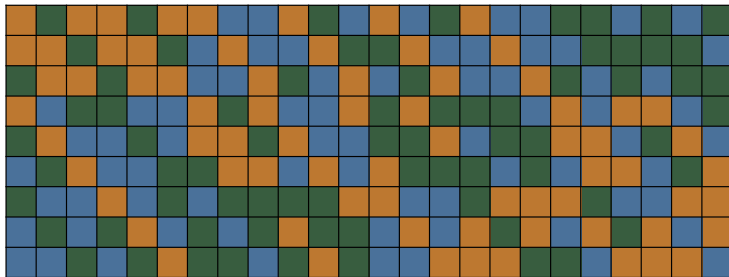


# Homogenous mosaics of non-resolvable designs

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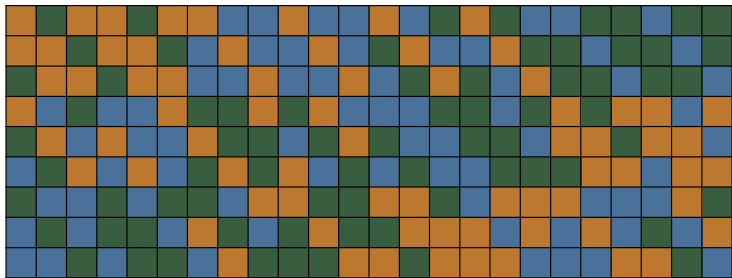


$$2-(9, 3, 2) \oplus 2-(9, 3, 2) \oplus 2-(9, 3, 2)$$

Contains 3 isomorphic copies of a non-resolvable design

# Homogenous mosaics of non-resolvable designs

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$$2-(9, 3, 2) \oplus 2-(9, 3, 2) \oplus 2-(9, 3, 2)$$


Contains 3 non-isomorphic designs (1 resolvable, 2 non-resolvable)

## PAG

Prescribed Automorphism Groups

Version 0.2.3

Released 2024-05-21

 [Download .tar.gz](#)

 [View On GitHub](#)

This project is maintained by  
[Vedran Krčadinac](#)

## GAP Package PAG

The PAG package contains functions for constructing combinatorial objects with prescribed automorphism groups.

The current version of this package is version 0.2.3, released on 2024-05-21. For more information, please refer to [the package manual](#). There is also a [README](#) file.

## Dependencies

This package requires GAP version 4.11

<https://vkrcadinac.github.io/PAG/>

# Autotopies and automorphisms of mosaics

Let  $A = [a_{ij}]$  and  $B = [b_{ij}]$  be  $c$ -mosaics of type  $v \times b$ .

They are **isotopic** if there are permutations  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in S_v \times S_b \times S_c$  such that  $b_{ij} = \gamma(a_{\alpha(i)\beta(j)})$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, v, j = 1, \dots, b$ .

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Similar as for Latin squares!

# Tiling groups with difference sets

A. Ćustić, V. Krčadinac, Y. Zhou, *Tiling groups with difference sets*,  
Electron. J. Combin. **22** (2015), no. 2, Paper 2.56, 13 pp.



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## Definition.

A **tiling** of an additively written group  $G$  is a family of pairwise disjoint  $(v, k, \lambda)$  difference sets  $\{D_1, \dots, D_c\}$  such that  $D_1 \cup \dots \cup D_c = G \setminus \{0\}$ .

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## Theorem.

The development of a tiling of  $G$  with  $(v, k, \lambda)$  difference sets is a mosaic

$$2-(v, k, \lambda) \oplus \dots \oplus 2-(v, k, \lambda) \oplus 2-(v, 1, 0)$$

of symmetric designs. It has  $G$  as an automorphism group acting regularly on the rows and columns.

**Example.** A tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}_{31} = \{0, \dots, 30\}$  with  $(31, 6, 1)$  difference sets:

$$D_1 = \{1, 5, 11, 24, 25, 27\}$$

$$D_2 = \{2, 10, 17, 19, 22, 23\}$$

$$D_3 = \{3, 4, 7, 13, 15, 20\}$$

$$D_4 = \{6, 8, 9, 14, 26, 30\}$$

$$D_5 = \{12, 16, 18, 21, 28, 29\}$$



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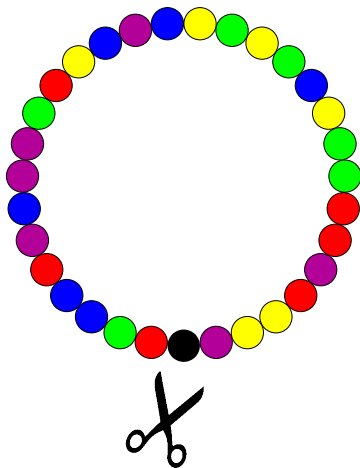
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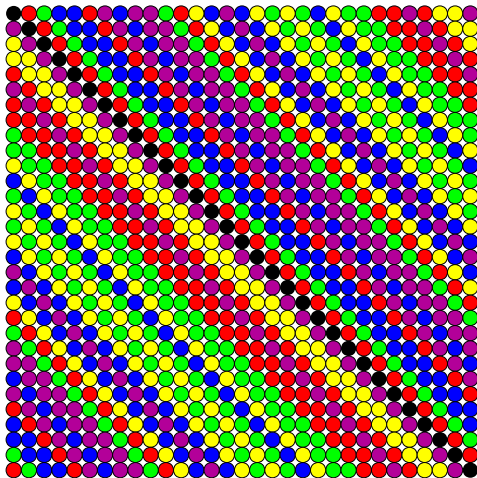
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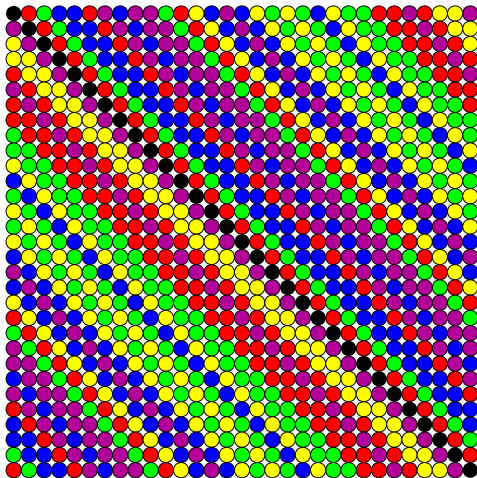
# Tiling groups with difference sets



# Tiling groups with difference sets



# Tiling groups with difference sets



$$2\text{-(31, 6, 1)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 6, 1)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 6, 1)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 6, 1)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 6, 1)} \oplus 2\text{-(31, 1, 0)}$$



# Tiling groups with difference sets

<https://www.imaginary.org/gallery/difference-bracelets>



A model of the  $(31, 6, 1)$   
bracelet

Difference bracelets cannot be built without the black bead, representing the identity element of the group. A slightly larger faceted bead was used here.

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More Galleries



# Mosaics of projective planes

For what orders  $q$  are there  $q$ -mosaics of projective planes of order  $q$ ?

$$(q^2 + q + 1, q + 1, 1) \oplus \cdots \oplus (q^2 + q + 1, q + 1, 1) \oplus (q^2 + q + 1, 1, 0)$$

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A. Čustić, V. Krčadinac, Y. Zhou, *Tiling groups with difference sets*,  
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$q$	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	...
Tiling	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	?	...
Mosaic								...

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$q$	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	...
Tiling	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	?	...
Mosaic	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		...

V. Krčadinac, *Small examples of mosaics of combinatorial designs*,  
preprint, 2024. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.12672>

# Mosaics of projective planes

For what orders  $q$  are there  $q$ -mosaics of projective planes of order  $q$ ?

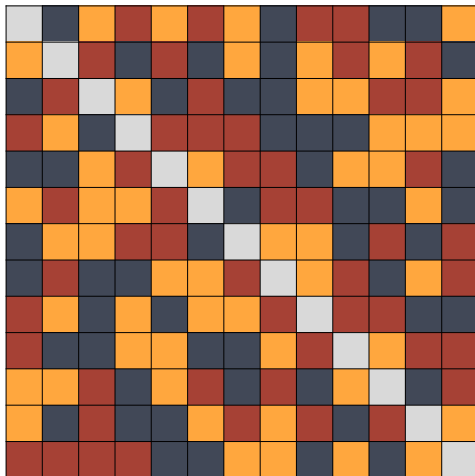
$$(q^2 + q + 1, q + 1, 1) \oplus \cdots \oplus (q^2 + q + 1, q + 1, 1) \oplus (q^2 + q + 1, 1, 0)$$

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# Mosaics of projective planes



$$2-(13, 4, 1) \oplus 2-(13, 4, 1) \oplus 2-(13, 4, 1) \oplus 2-(13, 1, 0)$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ - & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ - & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ - & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ - & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ - & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ - & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ - & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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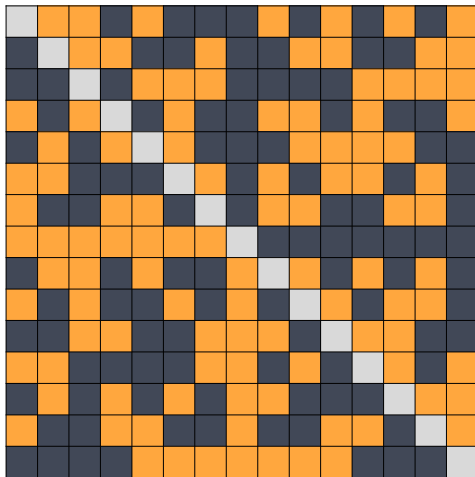
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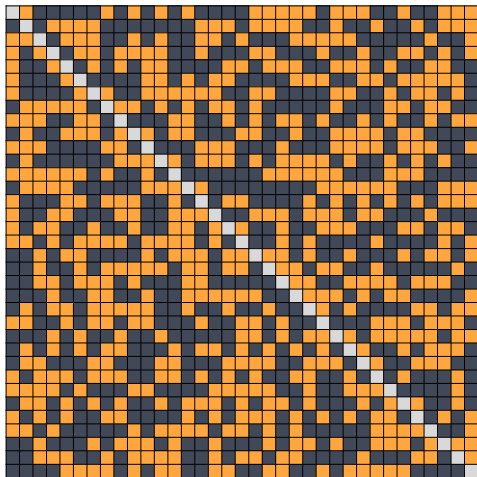
$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{aligned} &2-(7, 3, 1) \oplus 2-(7, 3, 1) \\ &\oplus 2-(7, 1, 0) \end{aligned}$$

# Hadamard mosaics



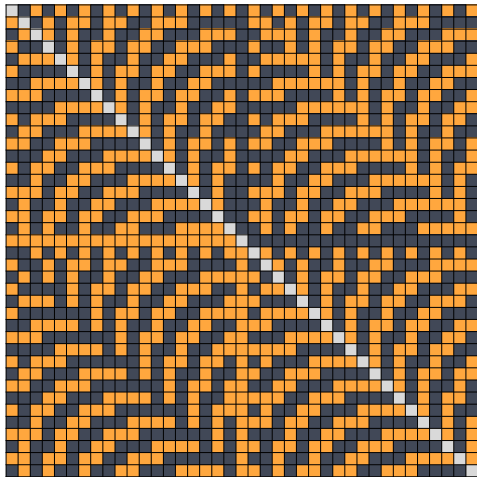
$$2-(15, 7, 3) \oplus 2-(15, 7, 3) \oplus 2-(15, 1, 0)$$

# Hadamard mosaics



$$2-(35, 17, 8) \oplus 2-(35, 17, 8) \oplus 2-(35, 1, 0)$$

# Hadamard mosaics



$$2-(39, 19, 9) \oplus 2-(39, 19, 9) \oplus 2-(39, 1, 0)$$

**Conjecture:** skew Hadamard matrices exist for all orders divisible by 4  
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Padraig Ó Catháin, *Nesting symmetric designs*, Irish Math. Soc. Bull. **72** (2013), 71–74.

Theorem.

A symmetric  $2-(v, k, \lambda)$  design can be extended to a  $2-(v, k + 1, \lambda')$  design if and only if it comes from a skew Hadamard matrix.



**Thanks for your attention!**