

Some Aspects of Optimal Covariate Designs in Factorial Experiments

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Abstract

Following Sinha *et al.* (2014), we initiate a study in the context of 2^n -factorial experiments involving the question of optimal allocation of covariate values. There is one controllable quantitative covariate and it is assumed to 'cover' two experimental units at a time. Earlier we dealt with block design set-up [Sinha *et al.* (2014)]. Here we take up 2^n -factorial set-up and address the question of optimal allocation of the covariate values. Results are illustrated for 2^2 - or 2^3 -factorial experiments.

Key words: Factorial experiments; Models with covariates; Optimal placement of covariate values.

1. Introduction

The key reference to this article is Sinha *et al.* (2014) dealing with a varietal design set-up. Here we start with a factorial experiment with the level-combinations having standard representations such as $[(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)]$ for a 2^2 experiment. There is a controllable covariate x attached to every experimental unit and x assumes values in the closed interval $[-1, 1]$. However, every attempt towards choice and application of x necessarily 'covers' a pair of experimental units each time. Thus, for example, we may choose 2 units and apply the level combinations $(0, 0)$ and $(0, 1)$ and attach a value $x = x_1$ to each of these two units. The mean responses for the two underlying outputs $Y[(0, 0); x_1]$ and $Y[(0, 1); x_1]$ are assumed to be of the form $\tau(00) + \beta x_1$ and $\tau(01) + \beta x_1$ respectively. Naturally, the contrast $\tau(01) - \tau(00)$ is readily estimated.

Based on the $2^2 = 4$ level combinations, we may form 6 pairs of the above form and make use of $6 \times 2 = 12$ experimental units in pairs and thereby use 6 covariate values. All 'level-combination contrasts' are trivially estimated and hence Main Effects and the 2-factor Interaction are unbiasedly estimated. We wish to provide unbiased estimate of the β -coefficient with utmost precision by suitable choice of the covariate values x 's.

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Likewise, we may take up the case of 2^3 -factorial experiment and study similar optimality problem involving 28 x -values, all in the closed interval $[-1, 1]$.

While we will develop the theory of optimization for the general case of 2^n -factorial experiment involving $2^{(n-1)}(2^n - 1)$ covariate-values, the cases of $n = 2, 3$ will serve as illustrative examples.

2. Optimal Choice of Covariate Values for 2^n -factorial Design Set-up

For n factors, each at 2-levels, let $N = 2^n$ denote the total number of level combinations. Since the allocation of covariate-values is assumed to 'cover' a pair of experimental units each time, we let $c = \binom{N}{2}$ denote the number of covariates $x_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, c$ and X denote the $(c \times 1)$ vector $(x_1 x_2 \dots x_c)'$. Now, it follows that $I(\beta)$ is a quadratic form in X and we denote it by a constant times $Q(X)$.

Construction of the matrix of quadratic form:

$$I(\beta) = 2X'IX - [(c'_1 X)^2 + \dots + (c'_N X)^2]/(N - 1) \\ = (1/(N - 1))X'\{2(N - 1)I - [(c_1 c'_1 + \dots + c_N c'_N)]\}X = (1/(N - 1))Q(X),$$

where c_i is the coefficient vector of order $(c \times 1)$ of i^{th} constraint having $(N - 1)$ elements equal to 1 and the rest equal to 0.

Therefore each $c_i c'_i$ is a symmetric matrix of order $(c \times c)$ with only $(N - 1)$ nonnull rows (columns) with each nonnull row (column) having $(N - 1)$ elements equal to 1 and the rest of $(c - N + 1)$ elements equal to 0.

Thus $Q(X) = X'[2(N - 1)I - M]X$ where $M = \sum c_i c'_i$.

Notice that M is a symmetric matrix of order $(c \times c)$ wherein each row (column) has diagonal element equal to 2, $2(N - 2)$ elements equal to 1 and the rest of $(c - 2N + 3)$ elements equal to 0.

In order to maximize $Q(X)$ for optimal choice of X i.e., of the x_i 's, we argue, as in Sinha *et al.* (2014), that $Q(X)$ is maximized only when the x 's are each at the extremes i.e., $+/- 1$. We skip the proof in general terms. However, we provide all the technical details below for the cases of $n = 2, 3$.

3. Optimal Choice of Covariate Values for 2^2 Factorial Design Set-up

We start with the following Table 1 of x -values :

Standard representation in the form $[Y, A\theta, \sigma^2 I]$ with

$$\theta = (\tau(00), \tau(01), \tau(10), \tau(11), \beta)'$$

suggests a form of the matrix A of order 12×5 and we partition it as usual to derive an expression for Information on β i.e., $I(\beta)$. For simplicity, we drop the multiplier σ^{-2} . It follows that

$$I(\beta) = 2\left(\sum x_i^2\right) - [(x_1 + x_2 + x_3)^2 + (x_1 + x_4 + x_5)^2 + (x_2 + x_4 + x_6)^2 + (x_3 + x_5 + x_6)^2]/3.$$

Table 1

x - values	level - combination(1)	level - combination(2)
x_1	(0, 0)	(0, 1)
x_2	(0, 0)	(1, 0)
x_3	(0, 0)	(1, 1)
x_4	(0, 1)	(1, 0)
x_5	(0, 1)	(1, 1)
x_6	(1, 0)	(1, 1)

Optimality problem centers around optimal choice of the x 's so as to maximize $I(\beta)$ when $-1 \leq x_i, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \leq 1$.

It follows that $I(\beta)$ can be expressed as a constant times a quadratic form $Q(X)$. $I(\beta) = X'[6I - M]X/3 = Q(X)/3$ where the matrix M with i^{th} column m_i is given in an explicit form as

$$M = \sum c_i c_i' = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & m_2 & m_3 & m_4 & m_5 & m_6 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

It turns out that a choice of the X 's subject to the value of each of the expressions $(x_1 + x_2 + x_3), (x_1 + x_4 + x_5), (x_2 + x_4 + x_6), (x_3 + x_5 + x_6)$ is $+/-1$; $x_i = +/-1$ serves the purpose and we achieve $I(\beta) = 32/3$. Specifically, one choice is

$x_1 = -1, x_2 = +1, x_3 = -1, x_4 = -1, x_5 = +1, x_6 = +1$ which yields, for the partial sums, $(x_1 + x_2 + x_3) = -1, (x_1 + x_4 + x_5) = -1, (x_2 + x_4 + x_6) = +1, (x_3 + x_5 + x_6) = +1$.

We give a proof of the above claim below.

Lemma 1 : Let $X_0 = (x_1 x_2 \cdots x_c)'$ be the vector with elements in the interval $[-1, +1]$ which maximizes $Q(X) = X'(tI - M)X$, where $t \geq \max(m_{ii})$ is a positive constant. Then each component x_i of X_0 is $+/-1$.

Proof: Write $X_0 = U_i + x_i e_i$ where e_i is the i^{th} column of I . Then

$$Q(X_0) = (U_i + x_i e_i)'(tI - M)(U_i + x_i e_i) = U_i'(tI - M)U_i + x_i^2(t - m_{ii}) + 2x_i U_i'(tI - M)e_i \\ = U_i'(tI - M)U_i + x_i^2(t - m_{ii}) + 2x_i U_i'(-M)e_i = p_i + (t - m_{ii})x_i^2 + 2x_i q_i,$$

where $p_i = U_i'(tI - M)U_i$ and $q_i = -U_i' M e_i = -U_i' m_i$ do not involve x_i .

Now it is clear that for $Q(X_0)$ to be maximum the value of x_i should be $+/-1$ with sign as that of the constant q_i . In case $q_i = 0$, x_i can be given any of $+1$ or -1 .

Algorithm: Start with $U_0 = \phi$. For $i = 1, 2, \dots, c$, in i^{th} step, calculate $q_i = -U_{i-1}' m_i$. Replace i^{th} element of U_{i-1} with $+/-1$, the sign being that of q_i and denote this new vector by U_i . If $q_i = 0$ then any sign can be chosen. Add $|q_i|$ to q . Increase i by 1 and repeat.

After c steps, check the vector $X = U_c$ is a vector which maximizes $Q(X)$ or not.

The following lemma is useful for checking whether the vector computed using above algorithm maximizes $Q(X)$ or not.

Lemma 2 : Starting with $U_0 = \phi$, the final vector U_c obtained after c steps of above algorithm maximizes $Q(X)$ if and only if $2q=2\Sigma|q_i| = \Sigma m_{ii} - N$.

Proof: Let Q_i denote $Q(U_i)$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, c$. Notice that at i^{th} step $Q_i = Q_{i-1} + (t - m_{ii})x_i^2 + 2x_iq_i$. Hence the increment at i^{th} step is $(t - m_{ii})x_i^2 + 2x_iq_i$. Thus $Q_c = \Sigma((t - m_{ii})x_i^2 + 2x_iq_i) = t \times c - \Sigma m_{ii} + 2 \times \Sigma|q_i|$. Comparing this with the maximum value $t \times c - N$ of $Q(X)$, we get the required result.

For $n = 2, N = 4, c = 6, t = 6$, each $m_{ii} = 2$ and $\Sigma|q_i| = 4$ (from the table).Therefore, $2\Sigma|q_i| = 8 = \Sigma m_{ii} - N$. Hence $Q(U_c)$ maximizes $Q(X)$.

In order to achieve the solution, it is now a matter of verification of the conditions

$$(u_1 + u_2 + u_3) = (u_1 + u_4 + u_5) = (u_2 + u_4 + u_6) = (u_3 + u_5 + u_6) = + / - 1; x_i = + / - 1.$$

Example: For the case $n = 2$, the successive U vectors along with k_2 values are as follows:

q_i	0	-1	0	0	-1	2
U_0	U_1	U_2	U_3	U_4	U_5	U_6
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
0	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1
0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1

The first row gives the values of $q_i = -U'_{i-1}m_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, c$, and the last column displays the optimum choice of U since the conditions are readily verified to hold.

For the first step when $q_1 = 0$, we chose the value $+1$ for the first element of U_1 . Next step $q_2 = -1$ and we take the second element of $U_2 = -1$. For the third step, $q_3 = 0$ and we choose the third element of $U_3 = 1$ and so on. The solution is not unique though. For example, another choice of the final vector is $(1 - 1 1 1 - 1 1)$ which also maximizes $Q(x)$.

4. Optimal Choice of Covariate Values in A 2^3 Factorial Experiment

We now discuss similar result for the case of 2^3 factorial experiment. A version of Table 1 would be Table 2 as shown below. This time the matrix A is of order 28×9 and $I(\beta)$ is given by the expression [again ignoring σ^{-2}]

$$I(\beta) = 2 \sum x_i^2 - [(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_7)^2 + \dots + (x_7 + x_{13} + x_{18} + x_{22} + x_{25} + x_{27} + x_{28})^2]/7$$

It turns out that $I(\beta)$ attains its maximum value of $56 - 8/7 = 384/7$ for a choice of the x 's at the extreme values $+/-1$ subject to

$$\begin{aligned}
 (000) : \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (001) : \quad & x_1 + x_8 + x_9 + x_{10} + x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (010) : \quad & x_2 + x_8 + x_{14} + x_{15} + x_{16} + x_{17} + x_{18} = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (011) : \quad & x_3 + x_9 + x_{14} + x_{19} + x_{20} + x_{21} + x_{22} = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (100) : \quad & x_4 + x_{10} + x_{15} + x_{19} + x_{23} + x_{24} + x_{25} = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (101) : \quad & x_5 + x_{11} + x_{16} + x_{20} + x_{23} + x_{26} + x_{27} = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (110) : \quad & x_6 + x_{12} + x_{17} + x_{21} + x_{24} + x_{26} + x_{28} = \quad +/ - 1, \\
 (111) : \quad & x_7 + x_{13} + x_{18} + x_{22} + x_{25} + x_{27} + x_{28} = \quad +/ - 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

One such (optimal) choice is given in the same Table 2.

The realized values of various partial sums of the x 's corresponding to the above solution to the x 's are given below.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (000) : \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 = \quad -1, \\
 (001) : \quad & x_1 + x_8 + x_9 + x_{10} + x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} = \quad -1, \\
 (010) : \quad & x_2 + x_8 + x_{14} + x_{15} + x_{16} + x_{17} + x_{18} = \quad -1, \\
 (011) : \quad & x_3 + x_9 + x_{14} + x_{19} + x_{20} + x_{21} + x_{22} = \quad -1, \\
 (100) : \quad & x_4 + x_{10} + x_{15} + x_{19} + x_{23} + x_{24} + x_{25} = \quad -1, \\
 (101) : \quad & x_5 + x_{11} + x_{16} + x_{20} + x_{23} + x_{26} + x_{27} = \quad +1, \\
 (110) : \quad & x_6 + x_{12} + x_{17} + x_{21} + x_{24} + x_{26} + x_{28} = \quad -1, \\
 (111) : \quad & x_7 + x_{13} + x_{18} + x_{22} + x_{25} + x_{27} + x_{28} = \quad +1.
 \end{aligned}$$

5. Proof of Claim for 2^3 Case

The expression for $Q(x)$ given for 2^2 factorial set-up generalizes itself naturally to the case of 2^3 factorial set-up and is given by $I(\beta) = X'[14I - M]X/7 = Q(X)/7$ where all the diagonal elements of the matrix M are each equal to 2 while its off-diagonal elements are a known combination of 0s and 1s. The Lemma 1 and the algorithm stated above both work in this set-up as well. In the above, we have given one solution and there are other solutions too.

Table 3 gives the matrix M along with the final vector U_c (obtained using the above algorithm with initial vector as null vector), the values of q_i and $|q_i|$. $Q(X)$ attains maximum at $X = U$.

For $n = 3$, $N = 8$, $c = 6$, $t = 14$, each $m_{ii} = 2$ and $\Sigma|q_i| = 24$ (from the table). Therefore, $2\Sigma|q_i| = 48 = \Sigma m_{ii} - N$. Hence U_c maximizes $Q(X)$.

For the choice vector displayed above, various partial sums, as realized, are shown below.

Table 2

<i>generic x – values</i>	<i>level – combination(1)</i>	<i>level – combination(2)</i>	<i>optimal x – values</i>
x_1	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 0, 1)	-1
x_2	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 0)	-1
x_3	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 1)	-1
x_4	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 0)	-1
x_5	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 1)	1
x_6	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 0)	1
x_7	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 1)	1
x_8	(0, 0, 1)	(0, 1, 0)	1
x_9	(0, 0, 1)	(0, 1, 1)	1
x_{10}	(0, 0, 1)	(1, 0, 0)	1
x_{11}	(0, 0, 1)	(1, 0, 1)	1
x_{12}	(0, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 0)	-1
x_{13}	(0, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 1)	-1
x_{14}	(0, 1, 0)	(0, 1, 1)	-1
x_{15}	(0, 1, 0)	(1, 0, 0)	-1
x_{16}	(0, 1, 0)	(1, 0, 1)	-1
x_{17}	(0, 1, 0)	(1, 1, 0)	1
x_{18}	(0, 1, 0)	(1, 1, 1)	1
x_{19}	(0, 1, 1)	(1, 0, 0)	1
x_{20}	(0, 1, 1)	(1, 0, 1)	1
x_{21}	(0, 1, 1)	(1, 1, 0)	1
x_{22}	(0, 1, 1)	(1, 1, 1)	-1
x_{23}	(1, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 1)	-1
x_{24}	(1, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 0)	-1
x_{25}	(1, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 1)	1
x_{26}	(1, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 0)	-1
x_{27}	(1, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 1)	1
x_{28}	(1, 1, 0)	(1, 1, 1)	-1

$$(000) : x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 = 1,$$

$$(001) : x_1 + x_8 + x_9 + x_{10} + x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} = 1,$$

$$(010) : x_2 + x_8 + x_{14} + x_{15} + x_{16} + x_{17} + x_{18} = 1,$$

$$(011) : x_3 + x_9 + x_{14} + x_{19} + x_{20} + x_{21} + x_{22} = 1,$$

$$(100) : x_4 + x_{10} + x_{15} + x_{19} + x_{23} + x_{24} + x_{25} = 1,$$

$$(101) : x_5 + x_{11} + x_{16} + x_{20} + x_{23} + x_{26} + x_{27} = 1,$$

$$(110) : x_6 + x_{12} + x_{17} + x_{21} + x_{24} + x_{26} + x_{28} = 1,$$

$$(111) : x_7 + x_{13} + x_{18} + x_{22} + x_{25} + x_{27} + x_{28} = 1.$$

It may be seen that this solution is different from the one shown earlier.

Table 3

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	U_c	q_i	$ q_i $
1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	1
3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	-1	-1	1
5	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
6	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	-1	-1	1	
7	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
9	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-3	3	3
10	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
11	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	-1	-3	3	3
12	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
13	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	-3	3	3
14	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
15	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	-1	-1	1	1
16	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
17	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	-1	1	1
18	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
19	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
20	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	-1	-3	3	3
21	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
22	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	-1	-3	3	3
23	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
24	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	-1	-1	1	1
25	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
26	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-3	3	3
28	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

Table 4

<i>x</i> – values	level – combination(1)	level – combination(2)	level – combination(3)
x_1	(0, 0)	(0, 1)	(1, 0)
x_2	(0, 0)	(0, 1)	(1, 1)
x_3	(0, 0)	(1, 0)	(1, 1)
x_4	(0, 1)	(1, 0)	(1, 1)

6. Generalization to ‘triplets’

We now contemplate a situation when every single application of the covariate value x encompasses three experimental units i.e., ‘covers the eu’s in triplets’. What would be the optimal choice of covariate values for most efficient estimation of the β co-efficient? We study the cases of 2^2 and 2^3 factorials in this section.

(A) The case of 2^2 factorial

It follows that we need 4 covariate-values x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 as are indicated in the Table 4 below.

It transpires that $I(\beta)$ has the representation

$$I(\beta) = 3 \sum x_i^2 - [(T - x_1)^2 + (T - x_2)^2 + (T - x_3)^2 + (T - x_4)^2]/3, T = \sum x_i$$

We readily find that $I(\beta) = [8 \sum x_i^2 - 2T^2]/3 \leq 32/3$ with “=” if and only if $T = 0; x_i = +/ - 1; i = 1, 2, 3, 4$. Any contrast of order 4×1 involving $+/ - 1$ ’s such as $(1, 1, -1, -1)$ gives a solution.

(B) The case of 2^3 factorial

It follows that we need 56 covariate-values x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{56} associated with the triplets of the level-combinations as are partially indicated in the Table 5 below.

In the above, we have displayed the first set of 21 x -values corresponding to the triplets starting with $(0, 0, 0)$. Note that the second set of 15 x -values $[x_{22} - x_{36}]$ correspond to triplets starting with $(0, 0, 1)$. Likewise, third set of 10 $[x_{37} - x_{46}]$ start with $(0, 1, 0)$; fourth set of 6 $[x_{47} - x_{52}]$ start with $(0, 1, 1)$; fifth set of 3 $[x_{53} - x_{55}]$ start with $(1, 0, 0)$ and the last [sixth] set of a singleton starts with $(1, 0, 1)$.

Next note that each triplet generates three observations and hence we have a total of $56 \times 3 = 168$ observations in the vector representation Y . Moreover, every x -value will have three replications. It transpires that $I(\beta)$ has the representation

$$I(\beta) = 3 \sum x_i^2 - [T_1^2 + T_2^2 + \dots + T_8^2]/21.$$

Table 5

x – values	level – combination(1)	level – combination(2)	level – combination(3)
x_1	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 0, 1)	(0, 1, 0)
x_2	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 0, 1)	(0, 1, 1)
–	–	–	–
x_6	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 1)
x_7	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 0)	(0, 1, 1)
–	–	–	–
x_{11}	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 0)	(1, 1, 1)
x_{12}	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 1)	(1, 0, 0)
–	–	–	–
x_{15}	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 1)	(1, 1, 1)
x_{16}	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 1)
x_{17}	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 0)
x_{18}	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 1)
x_{19}	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 0)
x_{20}	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 1)
x_{21}	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 0)	(1, 1, 1)

There are eight level-combinations and therefore, eight T_i 's. Every T_i contains 21 terms and we demand it to assume the value $+/- 1$. In the above expression, each T_i is a linear combination of x_i s. The Lemma holds true once again. Each x_i has to be necessarily $+/- 1$. Now writing $T_i = c'_i x$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 8$, the following table gives the 8 these coefficient vectors c_i , along with a solution vector X .

References

Sinha, B. K., Rao, P. S. S. N. V. P., Mathew, T. and Rao, S. B. (2014). A new class of optimal designs in the presence of a quantitative covariate. *International Journal of Statistical Sciences*, **14**(1-2), 1–16.

Table 6

	c_1	c_2	c_3	c_4	c_5	c_6	c_7	c_8	X
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1
3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
4	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	-1
5	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1
7	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
8	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1
9	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
10	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-1
11	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
12	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	-1
13	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
14	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	-1
15	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
16	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	-1
17	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
18	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	-1
19	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
20	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	-1
21	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
22	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	-1
23	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
24	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	-1
25	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
26	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1
27	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
28	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	-1
29	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
30	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	-1
31	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
32	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	-1
33	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
34	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	-1
35	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
36	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	-1
37	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
38	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	-1
39	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1
40	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	-1
41	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
42	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	-1
43	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
44	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	-1
45	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
46	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	-1
47	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	-1
48	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
49	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	-1
50	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
51	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	-1
52	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
53	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	-1
54	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
55	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	-1
56	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1