

ON THE SPECTRUM OF OCTAGON QUADRANGLE  
SYSTEMS OF ANY INDEX

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**ABSTRACT.** An *octagon quadrangle* is the graph consisting of a length 8 cycle  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_8)$  and two chords,  $\{x_1, x_4\}$  and  $\{x_5, x_8\}$ . An *octagon quadrangle system* of order  $v$  and index  $\lambda$  is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{B})$ , where  $X$  is a finite set of  $v$  vertices and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a collection of octagon quadrangles (called blocks) which partition the edge set of  $\lambda K_v$ , with  $X$  as the vertex set. In this paper we completely determine the spectrum of octagon quadrangle systems for any index  $\lambda$ , with the only possible exception of  $v = 20$  for  $\lambda = 1$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G = (X, E)$  be the graph having  $X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8\}$  and  $E = \{\{x_i, x_{i+1}\}, \{x_1, x_4\}, \{x_5, x_8\} \mid i \in \mathbb{Z}_8\}$ . A graph of this type will be denoted  $[(x_1), x_2, x_3, (x_4), (x_5), x_6, x_7, (x_8)]$ . It is called *octagon quadrangle* (briefly OQ).

A  $G$ -design of order  $v$  and index  $\lambda$  is a couple  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$ , where  $X$  is a finite set of  $v$  elements and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a family of graphs all isomorphic to  $G$  such that for any  $x, y \in X$ , with  $x \neq y$ , there exist  $\lambda$  graphs  $G \in \mathcal{B}$  having  $\{x, y\}$  as an edge. A  $G$ -design is also called a  $G$ -decomposition of  $\lambda K_v$  [11, 14].

An octagon quadrangle system of order  $v$  and index  $\lambda$  will be denoted by  $OQS(v)$ . Concepts and definitions of *octagon quadrangle* and *octagon quadrangle systems* have been introduced in [1, 2, 4], where the authors studied *perfect OQSs*, determining their spectrum. Similar questions have been studied in all the other papers cited in the references (see, e.g., [5, 3, 6, 7]).

If a block  $[(x_1), x_2, x_3, (x_4), (x_5), x_6, x_7, (x_8)]$  is repeated  $k$  times in an OQS, we use the notation  $[(x_1), x_2, x_3, (x_4), (x_5), x_6, x_7, (x_8)]_{(k)}$ .

A technique used in the constructions in the main results of the paper is the *difference method*. Given  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and given any two  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $a \neq b$ , there exists precisely one  $x \in \{1, \dots, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor\}$  such that either  $a = x + b$  or  $b = x + a$ . In this case we say that the edge  $\{a, b\}$  has *difference*  $x$ .

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Let  $n$  be odd. Given an edge  $\{a, b\}$  of difference  $x \in \{1, \dots, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor\}$ , any edge of the same difference  $x$  is of type  $\{a + i, b + i\}$  for exactly one  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ . Let  $n$  even. Given an edge  $\{a, b\}$  of difference  $x \in \{1, \dots, (n/2) - 1\}$ , any edge of same difference  $x$  is of type  $\{a + i, b + i\}$  for exactly one  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ ; given an edge  $\{a, b\}$  of difference  $n/2$ , any edge of same difference  $x$  is of type  $\{a + i, b + i\}$  for exactly one  $i \in \{0, \dots, (n/2) - 1\}$ . So in this paper, often blocks in an  $OQS$  are given by the translated forms of a base block. Other techniques used in these type of problems can also be found in [6, 7].

In this paper we will determine the spectrum of all  $OQS(v)$  for any  $\lambda$ , with the exception of  $\lambda = 1$  for  $v = 20$ .

## 2. INDEX $\lambda = 1$

In the following theorem we will give necessary conditions for the existence of an  $OQS(v)$  of fixed index  $\lambda$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  be an  $OQS(v)$  of index  $\lambda \geq 1$ . Then:*

- (1) *if  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$ , then  $v \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $v \geq 8$ ,*
- (2) *if  $\lambda \equiv 1, 3, 7, 9 \pmod{10}$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1, 5, 16 \pmod{20}$ , with  $v \geq 16$ ,*
- (3) *if  $\lambda \equiv 2, 4, 6, 8 \pmod{10}$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{5}$ , with  $v \geq 10$ ,*
- (4) *if  $\lambda \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ , with  $v \geq 8$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index  $\lambda$ , we have:

$$|\mathcal{B}| = \frac{\lambda v(v-1)}{20}.$$

□

In the following theorem we get the spectrum for  $OQS(v)$  of index 1 with a possible exception.

**Theorem 2.2.** *For  $\lambda = 1$  and for every  $v \equiv 0, 1, 5, 16 \pmod{20}$ , with  $v \neq 20$ , there exists an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1.*

*Proof.* Let  $v = 20k + 1$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . In this case we use the difference method. Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{20k+1}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

$$[(20k + 8 - 10i), 0, 20k + 10 - 10i, (1), (20k + 6 - 10i), 3, 20k + 4 - 10i, (2)]$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  and all their translated forms. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1.

Let  $v = 20k + 5$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{20k+4} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{D})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{20k+4}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $A_i = [(2i + 1), \infty, 2i, (2i + 3), (2i + 6), 2i + 8, 2i + 4, (2i + 5)]$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- (2)  $B_i = [(2i), 2i + 10k + 1, 2i + 10k + 6, (2i + 5), (2i + 10k + 7), 2i + 4, 2i + 20k + 3, (2i + 10k + 2)]$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 5k\}$ ,
- (3)  $C_{ij} = [(2i + 5j + 8), 2i, 2i + 5j + 10, (2i + 1), (2i + 5j + 11), 2i + 3, 2i + 5j + 9, (2i + 2)]$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$  and  $j \in \{0, \dots, 2k - 2\}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1. Indeed, in this case we are using the difference method in an appropriate way, since  $20k + 4$  is even. So in the blocks  $A_i$  we have the differences:

- 1, given by the edges  $\{2i + 4, 2i + 5\}$  and  $\{2i + 5, 2i + 6\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- 2, given by the edges  $\{2i + 1, 2i + 3\}$  and  $\{2i + 6, 2i + 8\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- 3, given by the edges  $\{2i, 2i + 3\}$  and  $\{2i + 3, 2i + 6\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- 4, given by the edges  $\{2i + 1, 2i + 5\}$  and  $\{2i + 4, 2i + 8\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ .

In the blocks  $B_i$  we have the differences:

- 5, given by the edges  $\{2i, 2i + 5\}$ ,  $\{2i + 10k + 2, 2i + 10k + 7\}$ ,  $\{2i + 10k + 1, 2i + 10k + 6\}$  and  $\{2i + 20k + 3, 2i + 4\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 5k\}$ ,
- $10k + 1$ , given by the edges  $\{2i, 2i + 10k + 1\}$ ,  $\{2i + 10k + 2, 2i + 20k + 3\}$ ,  $\{2i + 5, 2i + 10k + 6\}$  and  $\{2i + 10k + 7, 2i + 4\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 5k\}$ ,
- $10k + 2$ , given by the edges  $\{2i, 2i + 10k + 2\}$  and  $\{2i + 5, 2i + 10k + 7\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 5k\}$ .

In the blocks  $C_{ij}$  we have the differences:

- $5j + 6$ , given by the differences  $\{2i + 3, 2i + 5j + 9\}$  and  $\{2i + 2, 2i + 5j + 8\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- $5j + 7$ , given by the differences  $\{2i + 2, 2i + 5j + 9\}$  and  $\{2i + 1, 2i + 5j + 8\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- $5j + 8$ , given by the differences  $\{2i + 3, 2i + 5j + 11\}$  and  $\{2i, 2i + 5j + 8\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- $5j + 9$ , given by the differences  $\{2i + 1, 2i + 5j + 10\}$  and  $\{2i + 2, 2i + 5j + 11\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,
- $5j + 10$ , given by the differences  $\{2i, 2i + 5j + 10\}$  and  $\{2i + 1, 2i + 5j + 11\}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 10k + 1\}$ ,

with  $j \in \{0, \dots, 2k - 2\}$ .

Let  $v = 16$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{16}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

- (1)  $A_i = [(2i), 2i + 4, 2i + 11, (2i + 5), (2i + 13), 2i + 3, 2i + 12, (2i + 8)]$   
for  $i \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ ,
- (2)  $B_i = [(2i + 1), 2i + 5, 2i + 3, (2i + 6), (2i + 7), 2i + 4, 2i + 10, (2i + 8)]$   
for  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 7\}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1. Indeed, we use again the difference method in a way similar to the previous one and we get:

- the differences 1, 2 and 3 in the blocks  $B_i$ ,
- the differences 4, 5, 6 and 7 in the blocks  $A_i$  and  $B_i$ ,
- the difference 8 in the blocks  $A_i$ .

Let  $v = 20k + 16$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{20k+16}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

- (1)  $A_i = [(20k + 23 - 10i), 0, 20k + 25 - 10i, (1), (20k + 21 - 10i), 3, 20k + 19 - 10i, (2)]$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  and all their translated forms,
- (2)  $B_i = [(2i), 2i + 10k + 4, 2i + 20k + 11, (2i + 10k + 5), (2i + 20k + 13), 2i + 10k + 3, 2i + 20k + 12, (2i + 10k + 8)]$  for  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 5k + 3\}$ ,
- (3)  $C_i = [(2i), 2i + 10k + 1, 2i - 3, (2i + 10k + 2), (2i + 1), 2i + 10k + 4, 2i + 20k + 10, (2i + 10k + 3)]$  for  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 10k + 7\}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1. In fact, using the previous method we get:

- the differences  $1, 2, \dots, 10k$  in the blocks  $A_i$  and their translated forms,
- the differences  $10k + 1, 10k + 2$  and  $10k + 3$  in the blocks  $C_i$ ,
- the differences  $10k + 4, 10k + 5, 10k + 6$  and  $10k + 7$  in the blocks  $B_i$  and  $C_i$ ,
- the difference  $10k + 8$  in the blocks  $B_i$ .

Let  $v = 40$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{13} \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , where  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{13} \times \mathbb{Z}_3$  and whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[((i, 1)), (i + 1, 2), (i, 0), (\infty), ((i, 2)), (i + 1, 0), (i - 1, 2), ((i + 1, 1))]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ ,
- (2)  $[((i + 2, 0)), (i, 0), (i + 1, 0), ((i + 5, 0)), ((i + 1, 2)), (i, 2), (i + 2, 2), ((i + 5, 2))]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ ,
- (3)  $[((i + 5, 1)), (i + 2, 1), (i, 1), ((i, 0)), ((i, 2)), (i + 11, 1), (i + 4, 1), ((i + 9, 1))]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ ,
- (4)  $[((i + 6, 0)), (i, 0), (i + 5, 0), ((i + 12, 1)), ((i + 5, 2)), (i, 2), (i + 6, 2), ((i + 10, 1))]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ ,
- (5)  $[((i + 12, 1)), (i + 6, 2), (i + 9, 1), ((i, 0)), ((i + 2, 1)), (i + 7, 0), (i + 4, 1), ((i + 1, 0))]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ ,
- (6)  $[((i, 2)), (i + 11, 0), (i + 5, 2), ((i, 1)), ((i + 3, 2)), (i + 6, 0), (i + 12, 2), ((i + 8, 0))]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1.

Let  $v = 60$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , an  $OQS(45)$  of index 1, with  $X = \{a_i \mid i = 0, \dots, 44\}$ . Given  $\mathbb{Z}_{15}$ , consider:

- (1)  $\mathcal{C}_1 = \{[(i + 5), i + 1, i, (a_{42}), (i + 10), i + 4, i + 12, (i + 7)] \mid i = 0, \dots, 4\}$ ,
- (2)  $\mathcal{C}_2 = \{[(i + 5), i + 1, i, (a_{43}), (i + 10), i + 4, i + 12, (i + 7)] \mid i = 5, \dots, 9\}$ ,
- (3)  $\mathcal{C}_3 = \{[(i + 5), i + 1, i, (a_{44}), (i + 10), i + 4, i + 12, (i + 7)] \mid i = 10, \dots, 14\}$ ,
- (4)  $\mathcal{C}_4 = \{[(i + 1), a_{2i}, i, (a_{2i-1}), (i + 2), a_{2i-3}, i + 3, (a_{2i-2})] \mid i = 0, \dots, 20\}$ , where  $i, i + 1, i + 2, i + 3$  are taken modulo 15 and the indices of the  $a_j$  are taken modulo 42,
- (5)  $\mathcal{C}_5 = \{[(i + 6), a_{2i}, i + 5, (a_{2i-1}), (i + 7), a_{2i-3}, i + 8, (a_{2i-2})] \mid i = 0, \dots, 20\}$ , where  $i + 5, i + 6, i + 7, i + 8$  are taken modulo 15 and the indices of the  $a_j$  are taken modulo 42,
- (6)  $\mathcal{C}_6 = \{[(i + 11), a_{2i}, i + 10, (a_{2i-1}), (i + 12), a_{2i-3}, i + 13, (a_{2i-2})] \mid i = 0, \dots, 20\}$ , where  $i + 10, i + 11, i + 12, i + 13$  are taken modulo 15 and the indices of the  $a_j$  are taken modulo 42.

Then  $\Sigma = (X \cup \mathbb{Z}_{15}, \mathcal{B}' \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^6 \mathcal{C}_i)$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1.

Let  $\Sigma' = (X', \mathcal{B}')$  be an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1, for some  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{20}$ ,  $v \neq 20$ , with  $X' = \{a_i \mid i = 0, \dots, v-1\}$ , and let  $\Sigma'' = (X'', \mathcal{B}'')$  be an  $OQS(40)$ , with  $X'' = \{b_i \mid i = 0, \dots, 39\}$ . Let us consider:

$$\mathcal{C} = \{[(b_{i+1+10j}), a_i, b_{i+10j}, (a_{i-2}), (b_{i+2+10j}), a_{i-6}, b_{i+3+10j}, (a_{i-4})] \mid i = 0, \dots, v-1, j = 0, 1, 2, 3\},$$

where the indices are taken modulo  $v$  and modulo 40. Then, given  $X = X' \cup X''$  and  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}' \cup \mathcal{B}'' \cup \mathcal{C}$ ,  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  is an  $OQS(v+40)$  of index 1. This proves that for any  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{20}$ ,  $v \geq 40$ , there exists an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1.  $\square$

### 3. INDEX $\lambda = 2$

**Theorem 3.1.** *For  $\lambda = 2$  and for every  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{5}$  there exists an  $OQS(v)$  of index 2.*

*Proof.* Let  $v = 10k$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{10k-1} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{10k}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(0), 5i+1, 10i+6, (5i+2), (10i+5), 5i+4, 10i+8, (5i+3)]$  for any  $i \in \{0, \dots, k-2\}$  and all their translated forms (in the case  $k \geq 2$ ),
- (2)  $[(i), i+5k-4, \infty, (i+5k-3), (i+10k-5), i+5k-2, i+10k-3, (i+5k-1)]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{10k-1}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 2.

Let  $v = 10k+1$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{10k+1}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

$$[(0), 5i+1, 10i+6, (5i+2), (10i+5), 5i+4, 10i+8, (5i+3)] \quad \text{for } i = 0, \dots, k-1$$

and all their translated forms. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 2.

Let  $v = 10k+5$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{10k+4} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{10k+4}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $A_i = [(0), 5i+1, 10i+6, (5i+2), (10i+5), 5i+4, 10i+8, (5i+3)]$  for any  $i \in \{0, \dots, k-2\}$  and all their translated forms (in the case  $k \geq 2$ ),
- (2)  $B_i = [(i+10k-2), i+5k-2, i+10k-5, (i+5k-1), (i+10k), \infty, i+10k-1, (i+5k+2)]$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{10k+4}$ ,
- (3)  $C_j = [(2j+3), 2j+5k+3, 2j+1, (2j+5k+2), (2j), 2j+5k, 2j+2, (2j+5k+1)]$  for any  $j \in \{0, \dots, 5k+1\}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 2. In fact, in this case we use again the difference method and we get:

- the differences  $1, 2, \dots, 5k-5$ , each repeated twice, in the blocks  $A_i$  and their translated forms,
- the differences  $5k-4$  and  $5k-3$  twice in the blocks  $B_i$ ,
- the differences  $5k-2, 5k-1, 5k$  and  $5k+1$ , each once in the blocks  $B_i$  and once in the blocks  $C_j$ ,

- the difference  $5k + 2$  in the blocks  $C_j$ , given by the edges  $\{2j, 2j + 5k + 2\}$  and  $\{2j + 1, 2j + 5k + 3\}$  for  $j \in \{0, \dots, 5k + 1\}$ , so that each edge of difference  $5k + 2$  appears twice.

Let  $v = 10k + 6$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{10k+6}, \mathcal{B})$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $A_{ij} = [(2j), 2j + 5i + 3, 2j - 1, (2j + 5i + 4), (2j + 3), 2j + 5i + 6, 2j + 4, (2j + 5i + 5)]_{(2)}$  for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, k - 1\}$  and for any  $j \in \{0, \dots, 5k + 2\}$  (in the case  $k \geq 2$ ),
- (2)  $B_j = [(2j), 2j + 1, 2j + 6, (2j + 2), (2j + 7), 2j + 8, 2j + 5, (2j + 3)]$  for any  $j \in \{0, \dots, 5k + 2\}$ ,
- (3)  $C_j = [(2j - 1), 2j + 5k, 2j - 2, (2j + 5k + 1), (2j), 2j + 1, 2j - 3, (2j + 2)]$  for any  $j \in \{0, \dots, 5k + 2\}$ ,
- (4)  $D_j = [(2j), 2j + 5k + 1, 2j - 1, (2j + 5k + 2), (2j + 1), 2j + 2, 2j - 2, (2j + 3)]$  for any  $j \in \{0, \dots, 5k + 2\}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 2. Indeed, also in this case we use the difference method and get:

- the differences 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 once in the blocks  $B_j$  and once among the blocks  $C_j$  and  $D_j$ ,
- the differences  $6, 7, \dots, 5k$  in the blocks  $A_{ij}$ , each of them repeated twice, because the blocks are repeated twice,
- the differences  $5k + 1$  and  $5k + 2$  once in the blocks  $C_j$  and once in the blocks  $D_j$ ,
- the difference  $5k + 3$ , in the blocks  $C_j$  given by the edges  $\{2j - 2, 2j + 5k + 1\}$  and in the blocks  $D_j$  given by the edges  $\{2j - 1, 2j + 5k + 2\}$ , so that each edge of difference  $5k + 3$  appears twice.

□

#### 4. INDEX $\lambda = 5$

**Theorem 4.1.** *For  $\lambda = 5$  and for every  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ , there exists an  $OQS(v)$  of index 5.*

*Proof.* Let  $v = 9$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_9, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

$$[(6), 0, 1, (2), (3), 4, 5, (8)] \quad \text{and} \quad [(6), 0, 2, (4), (7), 3, 5, (1)]$$

and all their translated forms. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(9)$  of index 5.

Let  $v = 4k + 1$ , for some  $k \geq 3$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{4k+1}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(2i - 1), 0, 2i, (4i + 1), (2i + 1), 4i + 3, 6i + 2, (4i)]$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k - 1$ ,
- (2)  $[(2k - 1), 4k - 2, 2k - 2, (4k), (1), 3, 2, (0)]$

and all their translated forms. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 5.

Let  $v = 8$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_7 \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(j + 6), \infty, j + 5, (j + 4), (j + 1), j, j + 2, (j + 3)]$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ ,
- (2)  $[(\infty), j + 3, j + 6, (j + 5), (j + 2), j, j + 1, (j + 4)]$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(8)$  of index 5.

Let  $v = 4k$ , for some  $k \geq 3$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{4k-1} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(2i-1), 0, 2i, (4i+1), (2i+1), 4i+3, 6i+2, (4i)]$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k-2$  and all their translated forms,
- (2)  $[(\infty), j, j+2k-1, (j+1), (j+2k-2), j+4k-3, j+2k, (j+4k-2)]$ , for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{4k-1}$ ,
- (3)  $[(j+2), j, j+1, (j+3), (j+2k+2), \infty, j+5, (j+2k+4)]$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{4k-1}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 5.  $\square$

## 5. INDEX $\lambda = 10$

**Theorem 5.1.** *For  $\lambda = 10$  and for every  $v \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $v \geq 8$ , there exists an  $OQS(v)$  of index 10.*

*Proof.* Let  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ . Then, in this case, the proof follows by Theorem 4.1, because, given  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  an  $OQS(v)$  of index 5,  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , whose blocks are those of  $\mathcal{B}$ , each repeated twice, is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 10$ . Let  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  an  $OQS(10)$  of index 2, as given in Theorem 3.1. Then  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , whose blocks are those of  $\mathcal{B}$ , each repeated 5 times, is an  $OQS(10)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 14$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{13} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(1), 0, 5, (6), (7), 8, 3, (2)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (2)  $[(5), 0, 1, (6), (11), 3, 2, (10)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (3)  $[(j+11), \infty, j+1, (j+7), (j+3), j, j+2, (j+5)]_{(5)}$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{13}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(14)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 18$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{17} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{17}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(1), 0, 4, (5), (6), 7, 3, (2)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (2)  $[(4), 0, 1, (5), (9), 13, 12, (8)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (3)  $[(2), 0, 3, (5), (7), 9, 6, (4)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (4)  $[(3), 0, 2, (5), (8), 11, 9, (6)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (5)  $[(j+10), \infty, j+9, (j+3), (j+8), j, j+7, (j+2)]_{(5)}$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{17}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(18)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 4k + 2$ , for some  $k \geq 5$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{4k+1} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{4k+1}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(2i-1), 0, 2i, (4i+1), (2i+1), 4i+3, 6i+2, (4i)]_{(2)}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k-3$  and all their translated forms,
- (2)  $[(2k-5), 4k-10, 2k-6, (4k), (1), 3, 2, (0)]_{(2)}$  and all its translated forms,
- (3)  $[(j+2k+2), \infty, j+2k+1, (j+3), (j+2k), j, j+2k-1, (j+2)]_{(5)}$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{4k+1}$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 11$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{11}, \mathcal{B})$  having  $[(0), 1, 8, (2), (4), 10, 6, (3)]$  and all its translated forms as blocks, each repeated 5 times. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(11)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 15$ . Consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{15}, \mathcal{B})$  with blocks  $[(0), 1, 6, (2), (7), 4, 5, (3)]$  and all its translates, each repeated 5 times, and  $[(8), 0, 7, (1), (10), 4, 11, (2)]$  and all its translates, each repeated twice. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(15)$  of index 10.

Let  $v = 4k + 3$ , for some  $k \geq 4$ . Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{4k+3}, \mathcal{B})$  whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(2i-1), 0, 2i, (4i+1), (2i+1), 4i+3, 6i+2, (4i)]_{(2)}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k-1$ ,
- (2)  $[(2k+4), 0, 1, (2k+5), (6), 2k+10, 2k+9, (5)]$ ,
- (3)  $[(2), 0, 2k+1, (2k+3), (2k+5), 2k+7, 6, (4)]$ ,
- (4)  $[(2k), 0, 2k+1, (4k+2), (2k-1), 4k-1, 2k-2, (4k+1)]$

and all their translated forms. Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(v)$  of index 10.  $\square$

## 6. ANY INDEX $\lambda$

**Theorem 6.1.** *For any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $\lambda \geq 2$ , there exists an  $OQS(20)$  of index  $\lambda$ .*

*Proof.* Let us consider  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{Z}_{19} \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{B})$ , with  $\infty \notin \mathbb{Z}_{19}$ , whose blocks are:

- (1)  $[(i+1), i+3, i, (\infty), (i+2), i+13, i+7, (i+6)]$ , for any  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{19}$ ,
- (2)  $[(2), 0, 1, (5), (14), 7, 15, (9)]$  and all its translated forms,
- (3)  $[(2), 0, 1, (5), (13), 6, 16, (7)]$  and all its translated forms.

Then  $\Sigma$  is an  $OQS(20)$  of index 3.

By this construction and by Theorem 3.1 we know that the statement holds for  $\lambda = 2, 3$ . Taking any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $\lambda \geq 2$ , we know that  $\lambda = 2a + 3b$ , for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let us now consider two  $OQS(20)$ ,  $\Sigma_1 = (X, \mathcal{B}_1)$  and  $\Sigma_2 = (X, \mathcal{B}_2)$  on the same vertex set  $X$ , of indices 2 and 3, respectively. Then  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$ , whose blocks are those of  $\mathcal{B}_1$ , each repeated  $a$  times, and those of  $\mathcal{B}_2$ , each repeated  $b$  times, is an  $OQS(20)$  of index  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

As a consequence of all the previous results, the following statement follows easily:

**Theorem 6.2.** *Let us consider  $\lambda, v \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $v \geq 8$ , such that:*

- (1) *if  $\lambda = 1$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1, 5, 16 \pmod{20}$ , with  $v \neq 20$ ,*
- (2) *if  $\lambda \equiv 1, 3, 7, 9 \pmod{10}$ ,  $\lambda \neq 1$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1, 5, 16 \pmod{20}$ ,*
- (3) *if  $\lambda \equiv 2, 4, 6, 8 \pmod{10}$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{5}$ ,*
- (4) *if  $\lambda \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$ , then  $v \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ .*

*Then there exists an  $OQS(v)$  of order  $\lambda$ .*

*Proof.* The statement has been proved in the case that  $\lambda = 1, 2, 5, 10$ .

Let  $\lambda \equiv 1, 3, 7, 9 \pmod{20}$ , with  $\lambda \neq 1$ . If  $v = 20$ , the proof follows by Theorem 6.1. Let  $v \neq 20$ . Given  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  an  $OQS(v)$  of index 1,  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , where the blocks of  $\mathcal{B}'$  are those of  $\mathcal{B}$ , each repeated  $\lambda$  times, is an  $OQS(v)$  of index  $\lambda$ .



Let  $\lambda \equiv 2, 4, 6, 8 \pmod{10}$ . Given  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  an  $OQS(v)$  of index 2,  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , where the blocks of  $\mathcal{B}'$  are those of  $\mathcal{B}$ , each repeated  $\lambda/2$  times, is an  $OQS(v)$  of index  $\lambda$ .

Let  $\lambda \equiv 5 \pmod{10}$ . Given  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  an  $OQS(v)$  of index 5,  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , where the blocks of  $\mathcal{B}'$  are those of  $\mathcal{B}$ , each repeated  $\lambda/5$  times, is an  $OQS(v)$  of index  $\lambda$ .

Let  $\lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{10}$ . Given  $\Sigma = (X, \mathcal{B})$  an  $OQS(v)$  of index 10,  $\Sigma' = (X, \mathcal{B}')$ , where the blocks of  $\mathcal{B}'$  are those of  $\mathcal{B}$ , each repeated  $\lambda/10$  times, is an  $OQS(v)$  of index  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

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