

## NUMBERS OF COMMON WEIGHTS FOR EXTENDED TRIPLE SYSTEMS

BY

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**Abstract.** Let  $K_v$  be the complete graph on  $v$  vertices and  $K_v^+$  the graph obtained by attaching a loop to each vertex of  $K_v$ . An extended triple system of order  $v$  is a pair  $(V, B)$ , where  $V$  is a  $v$ -set and  $B$  is a collection of non-ordered triples of elements in  $V$  (each triple may have repeated elements), such that every pair of elements of  $V$  (not necessarily distinct) belongs to exactly one triple. It has been established that an extended triple system of order  $v$  corresponds to a decomposition of edges of  $K_v^+$  into triangles, lollipops, and loops. In this paper the decomposition of  $K_v^+$  is used to construct two extended triple systems of order  $v$  with each prescribed intersection numbers in the following set:

- (1)  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-6, m-5, m-3, m\}$ , for even  $v \geq 8$ , and
- (2)  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-11, m-10, m-8, m-6, m\}$ , for odd  $v \geq 11$ , where  $m = v(v+1)/2$ .

### 1. Introduction

The concept of an extended triple system was introduced by D. M. Johnson and N. S. Mendelsohn [4]. An extended triple system of order  $v$  (ETS( $v$ )) is a pair  $(V, B)$ , where  $V$  is a  $v$ -set and  $B$  is a collection of non-ordered triples of elements in  $V$  (each triple may have repeated elements), such that every pair of elements of  $V$  (not necessarily distinct) belongs to exactly one triple. An element of  $B$  is called a block. There are three types of blocks: (1)  $\{x, x, x\}$  (2)  $\{y, y, z\}$  (3)  $\{a, b, c\}$  (we write the blocks as  $xxx$ ,  $yyz$  and  $abc$  for brevity).

We want to characterize extended triple systems similar to Steiner triple systems (which are equivalent to a  $C_3$ -decompositions of the complete graph) by graph decompositions. Just of all we will introduce some graph terminology.

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A loop is an edge whose two ends are the same. A link is an edge whose two ends are distinct. A graph on two vertices which consists of one loop and one link is called a lollipop. As usual,  $K_v$  denotes the complete graph on  $v$  vertices, while  $K_v^+$  denotes the graph obtained by attaching a loop to each vertex of  $K_v$ .  $K_3$  is called a triangle. Thus an extended triple system of order  $v$  can be regarded as a partition of the edges of  $K_v^+$  into triangles, lollipops, and loops.

The necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of an extended triple system of order  $v$  with no idempotent is  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . This design has  $s_v = v(v+3)/6$  blocks. Lo Faro [7] constructed two non-idempotent extended triple systems of order  $v$  with intersection numbers in following set: (i)  $\{0, 1, \dots, s_v - 3, s_v\}$  for  $v \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $v \neq 9$  and (ii)  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 12, 14, 15, 18\}$  for  $v = 9$ .

For extended triple systems, we define an intersection in the following sense.

Let  $(V, T_1)$  and  $(V, T_2)$  be two ETSs with the same point set  $V$ . The two systems have a common weight  $k$  if  $k = \sum \omega(B)$ , where  $B$  is a common block in  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , and

$$\omega(B) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } B = xxx \\ 2 & \text{if } B = yyz \\ 3 & \text{if } B = abc . \end{cases}$$

In this case, we write  $|T_1 \cap T_2| = k$ .

Let  $J[v]$  be the set of all integers  $k$  such that there exists a pair of extended triple systems of order  $v$  which have a common weight  $k$ . Let  $I_e[v] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-6, m-5, m-3, m\}$  and  $I_o[v] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-11, m-10, m-8, m-6, m\}$ , where  $m = v(v+1)/2$ .

**Main Theorem.** *For even  $v$ ,  $J[v] = I_e[v]$  if  $v \geq 8$ ; and for odd  $v$ ,  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  if  $v \geq 11$ .*

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets of integers and  $k$  a positive integer. We define  $A+B = \{a+b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$ ,  $k+A = \{k\} + A$ , and  $kA = \{k \cdot a \mid a \in A\}$ .

## 2. Auxiliary Constructions of ETS

In order to count the common weights, we need some special embedding constructions. Therefore, let  $(V_1, B)$  be an ETS( $v$ ), where  $V_1 = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_v\}$ .

**(1)  $v$  to  $2v$ ,  $v$  even**

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v - 1\}$  be a 1-factorization of  $K_v$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_v\}$ . Let  $S = V_1 \cup V_2$  and  $T = B \cup C \cup D$ , where  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v - 1\}$  and  $D = \{a_v xx \mid \text{for each } x \in V_2\}$ . Then  $(S, T)$  is an ETS( $2v$ ) denoted by  $(V_1 \cup V_2, (B, \mathcal{F}))$ .

**(2)  $v$  to  $2v + 2$ ,  $v$  even**

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v + 1\}$  be a 1-factorization of  $K_{v+2}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+2}\}$ . Let  $S = V_1 \cup V_2$  and  $T = B \cup C \cup D$ , where  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $D = \{xxy, yyy \mid \text{for each } xy \in F_{v+1}\}$ . Then  $(S, T)$  is an ETS( $2v + 2$ ).

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, 2v - 1\}$  be a 1-factorization of  $K_{2v}$  on  $N = \{1, 2, \dots, 2v\}$ . If  $F_a, F_b \in \mathcal{F}$ , the notation  $F_a \cdot F_b$  ([7]) will denote the following set of blocks:  $\{1x_{i_2}, x_{i_2}x_{i_2}x_{i_3}, \dots, x_{i_r}x_{i_r}1\} \cup \{x_{j_1}x_{j_1}x_{j_2}, x_{j_2}x_{j_2}x_{j_3}, \dots, x_{j_s}x_{j_s}x_{j_1}\} \cup \dots \cup \{x_{p_1}x_{p_1}x_{p_2}, x_{p_2}x_{p_2}x_{p_3}, \dots, x_{p_t}x_{p_t}x_{p_1}\} \cup \{x_{q_1}x_{q_1}x_{q_2}, x_{q_2}x_{q_2}x_{q_3}, \dots, x_{q_m}x_{q_m}x_{q_1}\}$  where  $x_{j_1} = \min(N \setminus \{1, x_{i_2}, x_{i_3}, \dots, x_{i_r}\}), \dots, x_{q_1} = \min(N \setminus \{1, x_{i_2}, x_{i_3}, \dots, x_{i_r}, x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}, x_{j_3}, \dots, x_{j_s}, \dots, x_{p_1}, x_{p_2}, x_{p_3}, \dots, x_{p_t}\})$ ;  $F_a = \{1x_{i_2}, x_{i_3}x_{i_4}, \dots, x_{i_{r-1}}x_{i_r}, x_{j_1}x_{j_2}, x_{j_3}x_{j_4}, \dots, x_{j_{s-1}}x_{j_s}, \dots, x_{p_1}x_{p_2}, x_{p_3}x_{p_4}, \dots, x_{p_{t-1}}x_{p_t}, x_{q_1}x_{q_2}, x_{q_3}x_{q_4}, \dots, x_{q_{m-1}}x_{q_m}\}$  and  $F_b = \{x_{i_2}x_{i_3}, x_{i_4}x_{i_5}, \dots, x_{i_r}1, x_{j_2}x_{j_3}, x_{j_4}x_{j_5}, \dots, x_{j_s}x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{p_2}x_{p_3}, x_{p_4}x_{p_5}, \dots, x_{p_t}x_{p_1}, x_{q_2}x_{q_3}, x_{q_4}x_{q_5}, \dots, x_{q_m}x_{q_1}\}$ .

**(3)  $v$  to  $2v + 3$ ,  $v$  odd**

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v + 2\}$  be a 1-factorization of  $K_{v+3}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+3}\}$ . Let  $S = V_1 \cup V_2$  and  $T = B \cup C \cup D$ , where  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $D = F_{v+1} \cdot F_{v+2}$ . Then  $(S, T)$  is an ETS( $2v + 3$ ).

**(4)  $v$  to  $2v + 1$ ,  $v$  odd**

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  be a 1-factorization of  $K_{v+1}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+1}\}$ . Let  $S = V_1 \cup V_2$  and  $T = B \cup C \cup D$ , where  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $D = \{x_i x_i x_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v + 1\}$ . Then  $(S, T)$  is an ETS( $2v + 1$ ).

Let  $K_{2v}$  be a complete graph on  $2v$  vertices ( $2v \geq 8$ ). The edges of  $K_{2v}$  fall into  $v$  disjoint classes  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_v$  with  $\{i, k\} \in P_j$  if and only if  $i - k \equiv j \pmod{2v}$ . R. G. Stanton and I. P. Goulden [8] have proved that:

**P1.** If  $2x + 1 < v$  then  $P_{2x} \cup P_{2x+1}$  splits into four one-factors.

**P2.** The graph  $K_{2v}$  may be factored into a set of  $2v$  triangles covering  $P_1, P_{2j}, P_{2j+1}$  ( $2j + 1 < v$ ) and a set of  $2v - 7$  one factors covering the other  $P_i$ .

**(5)  $v$  to  $2v + 9$ ,  $v$  odd**

Using the above description we factor the complete graph  $K_{v+9}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+9}\}$ . Let  $L$  be the set of  $v + 9$  triangles and  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v + 2\}$  the set of 1-factors. Put  $S = V_1 \cup V_2$  and  $T = B \cup L \cup C \cup D$ , where  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $D = F_{v+1} \cdot F_{v+2}$ . Then  $(S, T)$  is an ETS( $2v + 9$ ).

### 3. Proof of the Main Theorem for Even $v$

It has been established that the class of all extended triple systems is co-extensive with the variety of quasigroups satisfying the identities  $x(xy) = y$ ,  $(yx)x = y$  (It is called a totally symmetric quasigroup). In 1980, Hilton and Rodger [2] proved that if  $v$  is odd then those lollipops ignoring loops form a vertex-disjoint union of cycles, and if  $v$  is even, they form a vertex-disjoint union of unicycles with trees each of whose degree is odd.

The smallest possible mutually balanced subgraphs of  $K_v^+$  are  $\{xxx, xyy\}$  or  $\{xxx, xyy, yzz\}$ , (which can be changed to  $\{yyy, yxx\}$  or  $\{xxy, yyz, zzz\}$ , respectively),  $J[v] \subseteq I_e[v] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m - 6, m - 5, m - 3, m\}$ , where  $m = v(v + 1)/2$ .

Using exhaustive computer checking for  $v = 2, 4$  and  $6$  the following results were obtained:

$$J[2] = \{0, 3\},$$

$$J[4] = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10\},$$

$$J[6] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 14, 15, 18, 21\}.$$

When we talk about the intersection of two one-factorizations of  $K_v$ , where  $v$  is even, we have to order the one-factors and consider their intersections. Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_{v-1}\}$  and  $\mathcal{G} = \{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_{v-1}\}$  be two one-factorizations of  $K_v$ , where the  $F_i$  and  $G_i$  are one-factors, we define

$$|\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G}| = \sum_{i=1}^{v-1} |F_i \cap G_i|, \text{ where } F_i \in \mathcal{F} \text{ and } G_i \in \mathcal{G}.$$

Let  $J_F(v)$  be a set of  $k$  such that there exist pairs of 1-factorizations of  $K_v$  having  $k$  common edges. In [6], C. C. Lindner and W. D. Wallis showed that  $J_F(2) = \{1\}$ ,  $J_F(6) = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15\}$  and  $J_F(v) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, \binom{v}{2} = t\} \setminus \{t - 1, t - 2, t - 3, t - 5\}$  for  $v = 4$  or  $v \geq 8$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $v$  is even,  $v \geq 8$ , and  $J[v] = I_e[v]$  then  $J[2v] = I_e[2v]$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two ETS( $v$ ) which have a common weight  $k$ . Also let  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  be two 1-factorizations of  $K_v$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_v\}$  such that  $h = \sum_{i=1}^{v-1} |F_i \cap G_i|$ . We can see that  $(V_1 \cup V_2, (B_1, \mathcal{F}))$  and  $(V_1 \cup V_2, (B_2, \mathcal{G}))$  are two ETS( $2v$ ) with a common weight  $k + 2v + 3h$ . Therefore

$$J[2v] \supseteq J[v] + 2v + 3J_F(v).$$

Since  $J[v] = I_e[v]$ ,

$$J[2v] \supseteq I_e[v] + 2v + 3J_F(v) = I_e[2v] \setminus \{0, 1, \dots, 2v - 1\}.$$

For the remaining data, let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two ETS( $v$ ) with a common weight  $k$ ,  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2v - 1\}$ , and  $T = (B_1, \mathcal{F})$ . If  $T^*$  is the union of  $B_2$ ,  $\{a_{i+1}xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v - 1\}$  and  $\{a_1xx \mid x \in V_2\}$ , then  $|T \cap T^*| = k$ . This implies that  $J[2v] = I_e[2v]$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $v$  is even,  $v \geq 8$ , and  $J[v] = I_e[v]$  then  $J[2v + 2] = I_e[2v + 2]$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two ETS( $v$ ) with a common weight  $k$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  a 1-factorization of  $K_{v+2}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+2}\}$ . Let  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $C_\alpha = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_{\alpha(i)}, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$ , where  $\alpha$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, v\}$  with exactly  $p$  elements fixed ( $\alpha$  exists for  $p = 0, 1, 2, \dots, v - 2, v$ ). Then,  $C$  and  $C_\alpha$  have  $p(v + 2)/2$  blocks in common. Let  $D = \{xxy, yyy \mid \text{for each } xy \in F_{v+1}\}$  and  $D^i$  is obtained by  $D$  replacing the first  $i$  pairs  $xxy$  and  $yyy$  with  $yyx$  and  $xxx$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (v + 2)/2$ . We can see that  $(V_1 \cup V_2, B_1 \cup C \cup D)$  and  $(V_1 \cup V_2, B_2 \cup C_\alpha \cup D^i)$  are two ETS( $2v$ ) with a common weight  $k + 3p(v + 2)/2 + 3((v + 2)/2 - i)$ . Therefore

$$J[2v + 2] \supseteq J[v] + 3\frac{v + 2}{2}\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v - 2, v\} + 3\{0, 1, 2, \dots, \frac{v + 2}{2}\}.$$

Since  $J[v] = I_e[v]$ , then

$$J[2v + 2] \supseteq I_e[v] + 3\frac{v + 2}{2}\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v - 2, v\} + 3\{0, 1, 2, \dots, \frac{v + 2}{2}\} = I_e[2v + 2].$$

Next, in order to solve for small  $v$  such that  $J[v] = I_e[v]$ , we need the results obtained in reference [6] as follows:

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $v$  be positive integer,  $v \geq 4$ .  $J[3v] \supseteq J[v] + J[v] + J[v] + 3S_v$ , where  $S_v = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v^2 - 7, v^2 - 6, v^2 - 4, v^2\}$  for  $v \geq 5$  and  $S_4 = \{0, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16\}$ .*

**Proof.**  $K_{3v}^+$  can be partitioned into three vertex-disjoint  $K_v^+$  and a complete tripartite graph  $K_{v,v,v}$ . The partition of  $K_{v,v,v}$  into  $v^2$  edge-disjoint triangles can be constructed by a latin square of order  $v$ . Using different ETS( $v$ ) in each  $K_v^*$  and different latin squares of order  $v$ , we have  $J[3v] \supseteq J[v] + J[v] + J[v] + 3S_v$  where  $S_v = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v^2 - 7, v^2 - 6, v^2 - 4, v^2\}$  for  $v \geq 5$  and  $S_4 = \{0, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16\}$  (see [1]).

We start from  $v = 8$  in order to obtain  $J[v] = I_e[v]$ .

**$v = 8$ .** Applying the method of Lemma 3.1 to  $J[4]$ , we have  $J[8] \supseteq J_e[8] \setminus \{4, 6, 12, 20, 22, 23, 25, 30\}$ . For some unsolvable data, using a similar argument to that in Lemma 3.1, let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two ETS(4) with a common weight of 0 or 10, and  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_1, F_2, F_3\}$  a 1-factorization of  $K_4$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ . Let  $T_1 = (B_1, \mathcal{F})$  and  $T_2 = B_2 \cup C \cup D$ , where

$$C = \{a_1xy \mid xy \in F_1\} \cup \{a_{i+1}xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 2, 3\}$$

$$D = \{a_2xx \mid x \in V_2\}$$

or

$$C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2\} \cup \{a_4 xy \mid xy \in F_3\}$$

$$D = \{a_3 xx \mid x \in V_2\},$$

then  $\{0, 10\} + \{6, 12\} \subseteq |T_1 \cap T_2|$ . Thus  $J[8] \supseteq I_e[8] \setminus \{4, 20, 23, 25, 30\}$ .

Let  $E_1, E_2, E_3$  be the following ETS(8):  $E_1 = \{111, 122, 133, 144, 155, 167, 188, 234, 256, 278, 357, 368, 458, 466, 477\}$ ,  $E_2 = \{111, 122, 133, 144, 155, 166, 178,$

234, 256, 277, 288, 357, 368, 458, 467},  $E_3 = \{112, 135, 147, 168, 222, 238, 246, 257, 334, 367, 444, 458, 556, 666, 777, 788\}$ .

Consider the isomorphic designs obtained from  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  by permuting elements:  $N_1 = (12654)(387)E_1$ ,  $N_2 = (23)E_2$ . Now,  $N_3$  comes from  $E_1$  with 167, 357, 368, 458, 466, 477 replaced by 166, 177, 358, 367, 457, 468.  $N_4$  comes from  $E_3$  with 112, 222, 334, 444 replaced by 221, 111, 443, 333.  $N_5$  comes from  $E_3$  with 112, 222, 334, 444, 367, 666, 777 replaced by 111, 122, 336, 667, 773, 344.

Therefore  $|E_1 \cap N_1| = 4$ ,  $|E_2 \cap N_2| = 23$ ,  $|E_1 \cap N_3| = 20$ ,  $|E_3 \cap N_4| = 30$  and  $|E_3 \cap N_5| = 25$ . Thus, we have  $J[8] = I_e[8]$ .

$v = 12$ . Applying the method of Lemma 3.1 to  $J[6]$ , we have  $J[12] \supseteq J_e[12] \setminus \{55, 56, 73\}$ . The values remaining are handled by Lemma 3.3, so we have  $J[12] = I_e[12]$ .

From now on, for convenience, we will write  $t_i$  for  $10 + i$  and  $t$  for 10.

$v = 10$ . Using the method of Lemma 3.2, we have  $J[10] \supseteq J[4] + 9\{0, 1, 2, 4\} + 3\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . That is  $J[10] \supseteq I_e[10] \setminus \{33, 35\}$ .

Let  $E_1$  be the following ETS(10):  $E_1 = \{111, 122, 134, 156, 17t, 189, 233, 244, 257, 268, 29t, 358, 36t, 379, 45t, 469, 478, 555, 599, 666, 677, 888, 8tt\}$ . Now,  $N_1$  comes from  $E_1$  with 111, 122, 233, 45t, 469, 478, 599, 677, 8tt replaced by 112, 223, 333, 459, 467, 48t, 5tt, 699, 778.  $N_2$  comes from  $N_1$  with 778, 888, 5tt, 555 replaced by 55t, ttt, 887, 777. Therefore  $|E_1 \cap N_1| = 35$  and  $|E_1 \cap N_2| = 33$ . Thus, we have  $J[10] = I_e[10]$ .

$v = 14$ . Using the method of Lemma 3.2, we have  $J[14] \supseteq I_e[14] \setminus \{100\}$ . From the existence of Steiner triple system of order 13, we can give a  $C_3$ -decomposition of  $K_{13}$  based on  $V_1 = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{13}\}$ , denoted by  $B_1$ . Let  $V_2 = V_1 \cup \{a_{14}\}$  and  $B_2 = \{a_i a_i a_{14} \mid i = 2, 3, \dots, 13\} \cup \{a_{14} a_{14} a_1\} \cup \{a_1 a_1 a_1\}$ , then  $(V_2, B_1 \cup B_2)$  is an ETS(14). Now  $B_3$  comes from  $B_1 \cup B_2$  by replacing  $a_2 a_2 a_{14}$ ,  $a_{14} a_{14} a_1$ ,  $a_1 a_1 a_1$  with  $a_1 a_1 a_{14}$ ,  $a_{14} a_{14} a_2$ ,  $a_2 a_2 a_2$ . It is shown that  $|B_3 \cap (B_1 \cup B_2)| = 100$ . We have  $J[14] = I_e[14]$ .

**Lemma 3.4.**  $J[8] = I_e[8]$ ,  $J[10] = I_e[10]$ ,  $J[12] = I_e[12]$ , and  $J[14] = I_e[14]$ .

Applying the results in Lemma 3.4 to Lemma 3.1 and 3.2 recursively, we obtained the following result.

**Theorem 3.5.**  $J[v] = I_e[v]$  for even  $v$ ,  $v \geq 8$ .

#### 4. Proof of the Main Theorem for Odd $v$

Since  $v$  is odd, the smallest cycle contains 3 edges. Thus two distinct  $\text{ETS}(v)$  contain at least 6 different weights. After the cycle of length 3 is a cycle of length 4 and length 5, two  $\text{ETS}(v)$  containing 7 or 9 different weights do not exist. Therefore,  $J[v] \subseteq I_o[v] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-10, m-8, m-6, m\}$ , where  $m = v(v+1)/2$ .

Exhaustive computer checking for  $v = 3, 5$  and  $7$  produced the following results:

$$J[3] = \{0, 6\},$$

$$J[5] = \{0, 2, 3, 7, 15\},$$

$$J[7] = \{0, 1, \dots, 14, 16, 17, 22, 28\}.$$

**Lemma 4.1.** *If  $v$  is odd,  $v \geq 9$ , and  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  then  $J[2v+3] = I_o[2v+3]$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two  $\text{ETS}(v)$  with a common weight  $k$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  a 1-factorization of  $K_{v+3}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+3}\}$ . Let  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $C_\alpha = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_{\alpha(i)}, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$ , where  $\alpha$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, v\}$  with exactly  $p$  elements fixed. Then,  $C$  and  $C_\alpha$  have  $p(v+3)/2$  blocks in common. It is easy to see that  $(V_1 \cup V_2, B_1 \cup C \cup F_{v+1} \cdot F_{v+2})$  is an  $\text{ETS}(2v+3)$ . If we replace  $B_1$  with  $B_2$ ,  $C$  with  $C_\alpha$  or  $(F_{v+1} \cdot F_{v+2})$  with  $(F_{v+2} \cdot F_{v+1})$ ,  $((F_{v+1} \cdot F_{v+2}) \cap (F_{v+2} \cdot F_{v+1}) = \emptyset)$ , then the two  $\text{ETS}(2v+3)$  produced have a common weight  $k + 3p(v+3)/2 + 2q(v+3)$ , where  $p \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v-2, v\}$  and  $q \in \{0, 1\}$ . Therefore

$$J[2v+3] \supseteq J[v] + 3\frac{v+3}{2}\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v-2, v\} + 2(v+3)\{0, 1\}.$$

Since  $J[v] = I_o[v]$ ,

$$J[2v+3] \supseteq I_o[v] + 3\frac{v+3}{2}\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v-2, v\} + 2(v+3)\{0, 1\} = I_o[2v+3].$$

This implies that  $J[2v+3] = I_o[2v+3]$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** *If  $v$  is odd,  $v \geq 11$ , and  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  then  $J[2v+1] \supseteq I_o[2v+1] \setminus \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v\}$ .*



**Proof.** Let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two ETS( $v$ ) with a common weight  $k$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  a 1-factorization of  $K_{v+1}$  on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+1}\}$ . Let  $D = \{x_i x_i x_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v+1\}$ ,  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$  and  $C_\alpha = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_{\alpha(i)}, i = 1, 2, \dots, v\}$ , where  $\alpha$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, v\}$  with exactly  $p$  elements fixed. Then,  $C$  and  $C_\alpha$  have  $p(v+1)/2$  blocks in common. It is easy to see that  $(V_1 \cup V_2, B_1 \cup C \cup D)$  is an ETS( $2v+1$ ). If we replace  $B_1$  with  $B_2$  or  $C$  with  $C_\alpha$ , then the two ETS( $2v+1$ ) produced have a common weight  $k+3p(v+1)/2+(v+1)$ , where  $p \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v-2, v\}$ . Therefore

$$J[2v+1] \supseteq J[v] + 3\frac{v+1}{2}\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v-2, v\} + \{v+1\}.$$

Since  $J[v] = I_o[v]$ ,

$$J[2v+1] \supseteq I_o[v] + 3\frac{v+1}{2}\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v-2, v\} + \{v+1\} = I_o[2v+1] \setminus \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v\}.$$

For proof of  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v\} \subset J[2v+1]$ , we need to embed an ETS( $v$ ) into an ETS( $2v+9$ ), for odd  $v$ .

**Lemma 4.3.** *If  $v$  is odd,  $v \geq 11$ , and  $\{0, 1, \dots, v\} \subset J[v-4]$  then  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v\} \subset J[2v+1]$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $(V_1, B_1)$  and  $(V_1, B_2)$  be two ETS( $v-4$ ) with a common weight  $k$ , where  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, v\}$ . From construction 5 in section 2, an ETS( $v-4$ ) can be embedded in an ETS( $2v+1$ ). Let  $K_{v+5}$  be the complete graph on vertex set  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{v+5}\}$ . Set  $L_1 = \{x_i x_{i+1} x_{i+3} \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v+5\}$  and  $L_2 = \{x_i x_{i+4} x_{i+5} \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v+5\}$ . From **P1**,  $P_4 \cup P_5$  splits into four 1-factors  $F_1, F_2, F_3, F_4$  and  $P_2 \cup P_3$  splits into four 1-factors  $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4$ . From **P2**, we have two sets of one-factors  $\{F_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v-2\}$  covering all  $P_j$  with  $j = 4, 5, \dots, (v+5)/2$  and  $\{G_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, v-2\}$  covering all  $P_j$  with  $j = 2, 3, 6, 7, \dots, (v+5)/2$ . We can assume that  $F_i = G_i$ , for  $i = 5, 6, \dots, v-2$ .

Let  $\alpha$  be a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, v-4\}$  with 0 elements fixed,  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, v-4\}$  and  $C_\alpha = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_{\alpha(i)}, i = 1, 2, \dots, v-4\}$ , then  $(B_1 \cup C \cup L_1 \cup F_{v-3} \cdot F_{v-2})$  and  $(B_2 \cup C_\alpha \cup L_2 \cup F_{v-2} \cdot F_{v-3})$  have exactly a common weight  $k$ . Thus  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, v\} \subset J[2v+1]$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $v$  be odd and  $v \geq 11$ . If  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  and  $\{0, 1, \dots, v\} \subset J[v-4]$  then  $J[2v+1] = I_o[2v+1]$ .*

**Proof.** It follows from Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3.

For small  $v$ , we start from  $v = 9$ .

$v = 9$ . Using a similar argument to Lemma 4.1, we have  $J[9] \supseteq J[3] + 9\{0, 1, 3\} + 12\{0, 1\} = \{0, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 27, 33, 39, 45\}$ . Let  $E_1 = \{111, 123, 145, 169, 178, 222, 246, 257, 289, 333, 347, 359, 368, 448, 499, 556, 588, 667, 779\}$ .  $E_2 = A \cup B$ , where  $A = \{111, 123, 146, 157, 189, 222, 247, 259, 268, 333, 356, 669, 677\}$  and  $B = \{349, 378, 444, 458, 555, 799, 888\}$ .  $E_3 = \{118, 122, 136, 147, 159, 233, 249, 258, 267, 344, 357, 389, 455, 468, 566, 699, 779, 788\}$ .

Now,  $N_1$  comes from  $E_2$  by replacing  $B$  with  $\{348, 379, 445, 499, 558, 788\}$ .  $N_2$  comes from  $E_2$  by replacing  $\{669, 997, 776, 349, 333, 444\}$  with  $\{334, 449, 993, 679, 666, 777\}$ .  $N_3$  comes from  $E_3$  by replacing  $\{118, 136, 344, 468\}$  with  $\{113, 168, 346, 448\}$ .  $N_4$  comes from  $E_1$  by replacing  $\{145, 448, 885, 111\}$  with  $\{458, 441, 115, 888\}$ .

**Table 1.**

Intersection	Size	Intersection	Size
$E_1 \cap (1347)(26)(58)E_1$	1	$E_1 \cap (154)(289)(367)E_1$	20
$E_1 \cap (162534)E_1$	2	$E_1 \cap (15)(36)E_1$	22
$E_1 \cap (163452)E_1$	3	$E_1 \cap (14)(36)E_1$	23
$E_1 \cap (156432)E_1$	4	$E_1 \cap (12)(4857694)E_1$	24
$E_1 \cap (153624)E_1$	5	$E_1 \cap (14)E_1$	25
$E_1 \cap (2654)E_1$	7	$E_1 \cap (23)(476)(589)E_1$	26
$E_1 \cap (165)(23)E_1$	8	$E_1 \cap (123)(4789)E_1$	28
$E_1 \cap (13654)E_1$	10	$E_1 \cap (24)(35)E_1$	29
$E_1 \cap (132)(465)E_1$	11	$E_3 \cap (25)(36)(49)E_3$	30
$E_1 \cap (23)(46)E_1$	13	$E_2 \cap N_1$	31
$E_1 \cap (12563)E_1$	14	$E_2 \cap N_2$	34
$E_1 \cap (243)E_1$	16	$E_3 \cap N_3$	35
$E_1 \cap (1256)E_1$	17	$E_1 \cap N_4$	37
$E_1 \cap (13)(46)E_1$	19		

Thus,  $J[9] \supseteq I_o[9] \setminus \{32\}$ . If  $32 \in J[19]$ , then the only possible mutually balanced subgraph on  $K_9^+$  is  $A = \{a_1a_1a_2, a_2a_2a_3, a_3a_3a_4, a_1a_3a_7, a_2a_4a_7, a_7a_7a_7\}$

which can be changed to  $\{a_1a_1a_7, a_7a_7a_2, a_2a_2a_4, a_1a_2a_3, a_3a_4a_7, a_3a_3a_3\}$ . Since the lollipops of the ETS(9) ignoring loops are cycles of length 3, 6, or 9, and the only possible cycle is of length 6, we can add blocks  $B = \{a_4a_4a_5, a_5a_5a_6, a_6a_6a_4\}$  to the partial ETS(9)  $A$ . Using a computer program showed that the partial ETS(9) containing  $A \cup B$  can not be completed to an ETS(9). Thus  $32 \notin J[9]$ . So  $J[9] = I_o[9] \setminus \{32\}$ .

$v = 13$ ,  $v = 17$  or  $v = 21$ . First, we used a similar argument to Lemma 4.1.

When  $v = 13$ , Lindner and Rosa [5] showed that for each  $k \in A = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 26\}$ , there exists a pair of Steiner triple systems of order 13 (the structure with 13 loops forms ETS(13)) intersecting in  $k$  triples. Therefore,  $3A + 13 \subseteq J[13]$ . The missing data give the following:

Let  $E_1 = \{111, 124, 135, 16t_3, 179, 18t, 1t_1t_2, 223, 255, 267, 289, 2tt_1, 2t_2t_3, 334, 368, 37t_1, 39t_3, 3tt_2, 445, 46t_1, 47t_2, 48t_3, 49t, 56t_2, 578, 59t_1, 5tt_3, 66t, 699, 77t_3, 7tt, 88t_2, 8t_1t_1, 9t_2t_2, t_1t_3t_3\}$ .  $E_2 = \{11t_1, 124, 137, 156, 188, 19t, 1t_2t_3, 228, 235, 267, 299, 2tt_3, 2t_1t_2, 33t_3, 346, 38t_2, 39t_1, 3tt, 44t_2, 457, 48t, 49t_3, 4t_1t_1, 559, 58t_3, 5tt_1, 5t_2t_2, 66t, 68t_1, 69t_2, 6t_3t_3, 777, 789, 7tt_2, 7t_1t_3\}$ .  $E_3 = A \cup B$ , where  $A = \{111, 123, 145, 17t_2, 189, 225, 244, 269, 2t_2t_3, 334, 355, 38t_1, 3tt_3, 49t, 568, 57t_3, 59t_1, 5tt_2, 7tt\}$  and  $B = \{16t, 1t_1t_3, 278, 2tt_1, 367, 39t_2, 46t_2, 47t_1, 48t_3, 66t_1, 6t_3t_3, 779, 88t, 8t_2t_2, 99t_3, t_1t_1t_2\}$ .  $E_4 = \{118, 122, 137, 14t_3, 156, 19t, 1t_1t_2, 235, 249, 267, 288, 2tt_2, 2t_1t_3, 33t_1, 346, 38t_3, 39t_2, 3tt, 44t_2, 457, 48t, 4t_1t_1, 559, 58t_1, 5tt_3, 5t_2t_2, 66t, 68t_2, 69t_1, 6t_3t_3, 777, 789, 7tt_1, 7t_2t_3, 99t_3\}$ .  $E_5 = \{112, 137, 14t_3, 156, 188, 19t, 1t_1t_2, 228, 235, 249, 267, 2tt_2, 2t_1t_3, 33t, 346, 38t_3, 39t_2, 3t_1t_1, 44t_1, 457, 48t, 4t_2t_2, 55t_2, 58t_1, 599, 5tt_3, 66t_3, 68t_2, 69t_1, 6tt, 777, 789, 7tt_1, 7t_2t_3, 9t_3t_3\}$ .  $E_6 = C \cup D$ , where  $C = \{111, 123, 145, 16t, 17t_1, 18t_2, 19t_3, 224, 255, 26t_1, 28t_3, 335, 344, 36t_2, 37t_3, 38t, 39t_1, 46t_3, 48t_1, 568, 5t_1t_3\}$  and  $D = \{279, 2tt_2, 47t_2, 49t, 57t, 59t_2, 669, 677, 788, 899, ttt_3, tt_1t_1, t_1t_2t_2, t_2t_3t_3\}$ .  $E_7 = E \cup F$ , where  $E = \{16t, 18t_2, 26t_1, 27t_2, 28t_3, 29t, 36t_3, 37t_3, 38t, 39t_1, 46t_3, 47t, 48t_1, 49t_2, 568, 5tt_2, ttt_1, tt_3t_3, t_1t_1t_2, t_2t_2t_3\}$  and  $F = \{111, 124, 135, 17t_1, 19t_3, 223, 255, 334, 445, 579, 5t_1t_3, 667, 699, 778, 889\}$ .  $E_8 = \{112, 133, 145, 167, 189, 1tt_1, 1t_2t_3, 223, 246, 257, 28t, 29t_2, 2t_1t_3, 348, 35t_2, 36t_3, 37t_1, 39t, 444, 479, 4tt_3, 4t_1t_2, 555, 56t, 58t_1, 59t_3, 666, 68t_2, 69t_1, 77t, 78t_3, 7t_2t_2, 888, 999, ttt_2, t_1t_1t_1, t_3t_3t_3\}$ .

Now,  $N_1$  comes from  $E_4$  by replacing  $\{118, 122, 14t_3, 249, 288, 33t_1, 346, 3tt, 4t_1t_1, 66t, 99t_3\}$  with  $\{11t_3, 124, 188, 228, 299, 333, 34t_1, 36t, 466, 49t_3, ttt, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .  $N_2$  comes from  $E_7$  by replacing  $F$  with  $\{112, 133, 145, 179, 1t_1t_3, 224, 235, 344, 555, 57t_1, 59t_3, 669, 677, 788, 899\}$ .  $N_3$  comes from  $E_3$  by replacing  $B$  with  $\{16t_3, 1tt_1, 27t_1, 28t, 36t_2, 379, 467, 48t_2, 4t_1t_3, 66t, 6t_1t_1, 778, 88t_3, 99t_2, 9t_3t_3, t_1t_2t_2\}$ .  $N_4$  comes from  $E_4$  by replacing  $\{118, 122, 137, 14t_3, 156, 235, 249, 267, 288, 99t_3\}$  with  $\{11t_3, 124, 135, 167, 188, 228, 237, 256, 299, 49t_3\}$ .  $N_5$  comes from  $E_6$  by replacing  $D$  with  $\{27t_2, 29t, 47t, 49t_2, 579, 5tt_2, 667, 699, 778, 889, ttt_1, tt_3t_3, t_1t_1t_2, t_2t_2t_3\}$ .  $N_6$  comes from  $E_4$  by replacing  $\{118, 882, 221\}$  with  $\{112, 228, 881\}$ .  $N_7$  comes from  $E_2$  by replacing  $\{137, 156, 235, 267, 33t_3, 3tt, 66t, 6t_3t_3\}$  with  $\{135, 167, 237, 256, 33t, 3t_3t_3, 66t_3, 6tt\}$ .  $N_8$  comes from  $E_2$  by replacing  $\{11t_1, 124, 188, 228, 299, 44t_2, 4t_1t_1, 559, 5t_2t_2\}$  with  $\{111, 128, 14t_1, 229, 244, 4t_2t_2, 55t_2, 599, 888, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .  $N_9$  comes from  $E_8$  by replacing  $\{112, 133, 145, 223, 444, 555, 77t, 7t_2t_2, ttt_2\}$  with  $\{114, 123, 155, 222, 333, 445, 777, 7tt_2, ttt, t_2t_2t_2\}$ .  $N_{10}$  comes from  $E_4$  by replacing  $\{118, 122, 14t_3, 249, 288, 99t_3\}$  with  $\{11t_3, 124, 188, 228, 299, 49t_3\}$ .

Table 2.

Intersection	Size	Intersection	Size
$E_1 \cap (2t)(38t_2t_14759t_36)E_1$	1	$E_5 \cap N_2$	48
$E_1 \cap (138)(267459)E_1$	4	$E_3 \cap N_3$	50
$E_1 \cap (174692538)E_1$	5	$E_5 \cap N_4$	53
$E_1 \cap (29486)(357)E_1$	6	$E_7 \cap N_2$	56
$E_1 \cap (1759368)E_1$	8	$E_6 \cap N_5$	57
$E_1 \cap (27463)(598)E_1$	9	$E_4 \cap N_4$	65
$E_1 \cap (127589)(34)E_1$	10	$E_4 \cap N_1$	66
$E_1 \cap (15)(286)(3479)E_1$	11	$N_1 \cap N_4$	68
$E_1 \cap (384756)E_1$	17	$N_4 \cap N_6$	69
$E_1 \cap (13948)(567)E_1$	20	$E_2 \cap N_7$	71
$E_1 \cap (34689)E_1$	21	$E_2 \cap N_8$	72
$E_1 \cap (1369)(47)E_1$	29	$E_8 \cap N_9$	74
$E_1 \cap (4586)E_1$	32	$E_4 \cap N_{10}$	77
$E_1 \cap (3457)E_1$	33	$N_1 \cap N_{10}$	80
$E_1 \cap (39)(46)E_1$	41	$N_6 \cap N_{10}$	81
$E_1 \cap (78)(9t)E_1$	44	$E_4 \cap N_6$	85
$E_2 \cap N_1$	45		

We have  $J[13] = I_o[13]$ .

When  $v = 17$ , we have  $J[17] \supseteq I_o[17] \setminus \{120, 124, 140, 143, 145\}$ . Let  $E_1 = \{113, 12t_1, 14t_3, 15t_6, 16t_5, 17t_7, 18t_4, 199, 1tt_2, 224, 23t_2, 25t_4, 26t_7, 27t_6, 28t_5, 29t_3, 2tt, 335, 34t_1, 36t_3, 37t_5, 38t_7, 39t_6, 3tt_4, 446, 45t_2, 47t_4, 48t_6, 49t_7, 4tt_5, 557, 56t_1, 58t_3, 59t_5, 5tt_7, 668, 67t_2, 69t_4, 6tt_6, 779, 78t_1, 7tt_3, 88t, 89t_2, 9tt_1, t_1t_1t_1, t_1t_2t_3, t_1t_4t_6, t_1t_5t_7, t_2t_2t_2, t_2t_4t_5, t_2t_6t_7, t_3t_3t_4, t_3t_5t_6, t_3t_7t_7, t_4t_4t_7, t_5t_5t_5, t_6t_6t_6\}$ ,  $E_2 = \{11t, 124, 139, 157, 168, 1t_1t_1, 1t_2t_7, 1t_3t_6, 1t_4t_5, 22t_1, 235, 269, 278, 2tt_2, 2t_3t_3, 2t_4t_7, 2t_5t_6, 33t_5, 348, 367, 3tt_4, 3t_1t_3, 3t_2t_2, 3t_6t_7, 44t_3, 456, 479, 4tt_6, 4t_1t_5, 4t_2t_4, 4t_7t_7, 55t_4, 589, 5tt, 5t_1t_7, 5t_2t_6, 5t_3t_5, 66t_2, 6tt_1, 6t_3t_7, 6t_4t_6, 6t_5t_5, 77t_6, 7tt_3, 7t_1t_2, 7t_4t_4, 7t_5t_7, 88t_7, 8tt_5, 8t_1t_4, 8t_2t_3, 8t_6t_6, 999, 9tt_7, 9t_1t_6, 9t_2t_5, 9t_3t_4\}$  and  $E_3 = \{111, 123, 14t_3, 159, 16t_5, 17t_7, 18t_6, 1tt_4, 1t_1t_2, 224, 25t_3, 26t, 27t_6, 28t_7, 29t_5, 2t_1t_4, 2t_2t_2, 333, 345, 36t_3, 37t_1, 38t_5, 39t_7, 3tt_6, 3t_2t_4, 446, 47t_4, 48t_2, 49t_6, 4tt_7, 4t_1t_5, 555, 567, 58t_4, 5tt_5, 5t_1t_7, 5t_2t_6, 668, 69t_4, 6t_1t_6, 6t_2t_7, 777, 789, 7tt_3, 7t_2t_5, 88t, 8t_1t_3, 999, 9tt_1, 9t_2t_3, ttt_2, t_1t_1t_1, t_3t_3t_4, t_3t_5t_5, t_3t_6t_7, t_4t_4t_6, t_4t_5t_7, t_5t_6t_6, t_7t_7t_7\}$ .

Now,  $N_1$  comes from  $E_1$  by removing the blocks  $\{113, 199, 335, 557, 779, t_1t_4t_6, t_1t_5t_7, t_2t_4t_5, t_2t_6t_7, t_3t_3t_4, t_3t_5t_6, t_3t_7t_7, t_4t_4t_7, t_5t_5t_5, t_6t_6t_6\}$  and replacing them with  $\{119, 133, 355, 577, 799, t_1t_4t_5, t_1t_6t_7, t_2t_4t_6, t_2t_5t_7, t_3t_3t_5, t_3t_4t_7, t_3t_6t_6, t_4t_4t_4, t_5t_5t_6, t_7t_7t_7\}$ .  $N_2$  comes from  $E_1$  by removing the blocks  $\{113, 199, 335, 557, 779, t_1t_4t_6, t_1t_5t_7, t_2t_2t_2, t_2t_6t_7, t_3t_5t_6, t_3t_7t_7, t_4t_4t_7, t_5t_5t_5, t_6t_6t_6\}$  and replacing them with  $\{119, 133, 355, 577, 799, t_1t_4t_7, t_1t_5t_6, t_2t_2t_7, t_2t_6t_6, t_3t_5t_5, t_3t_6t_7, t_4t_4t_6, t_5t_7t_7\}$ .  $N_3$  comes from  $E_2$  by removing the blocks  $\{278, 2t_4t_7, 7t_4t_4, 88t_7\}$  and replacing them with  $\{27t_4, 28t_7, 788, t_4t_4t_7\}$ .  $N_4$  comes from  $E_3$  by removing the blocks  $\{t_3t_3t_4, t_3t_5t_5, t_3t_6t_7, t_4t_4t_6, t_4t_5t_7, t_7t_7t_7\}$  and replacing them with  $\{t_3t_3t_3, t_3t_4t_6, t_3t_5t_7, t_4t_4t_7, t_4t_5t_5, t_6t_7t_7\}$ .  $N_5$  comes from  $E_3$  by removing the blocks  $\{t_3t_3t_4, t_3t_5t_5, t_4t_4t_6, t_5t_6t_6\}$  and replacing them with  $\{t_3t_3t_5, t_3t_4t_4, t_4t_6t_6, t_5t_5t_6\}$ .

Then  $|E_1 \cap N_1| = 120$ ,  $|E_1 \cap N_2| = 124$ ,  $|E_2 \cap N_3| = 143$ ,  $|E_3 \cap N_4| = 140$  and  $|E_3 \cap N_5| = 145$ . Thus,  $J[17] = I_o[17]$ .

When  $v = 21$ , the only missing data is 218, we can embed ETS(5) into ETS(21) ([3]). Thus we have  $J[21] = I_o[21]$ .

$v = 11, v = 15$  or  $v = 19$ . First, we use a similar argument to Lemma 4.2.

When  $v = 11$ , we can embed ETS(3) into ETS(11) as follows. Given a ETS(3)  $(V_1, B_1)$ , where  $V_1 = \{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$ , we can decompose the graph  $K_8^+$  (based on  $V_2 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_8\}$ ) into three 1-factors  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_1, F_2, F_3\}$ , triangles  $T$ , lollipops  $L_1$ , and loops  $L_2$ , where  $F_1 = \{x_1x_5, x_2x_6, x_3x_7, x_4x_8\}$ ,  $F_2 = \{x_1x_4, x_2x_7, x_5x_8, x_3x_6\}$ ,  $F_3 = \{x_4x_7, x_2x_5, x_3x_8, x_1x_6\}$ ,  $T = \{x_1x_2x_3, x_3x_4x_5, x_5x_6x_7, x_7x_8x_1\}$ ,  $L_1 = \{x_2x_2x_4, x_4x_4x_6, x_6x_6x_8, x_8x_8x_2\}$  and  $L_2 = \{x_1x_1x_1, x_3x_3x_3, x_5x_5x_5, x_7x_7x_7\}$ . Let  $C = \{a_i xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, 3\}$ , then  $(V_1 \cup V_2, B_1 \cup C \cup T \cup L_1 \cup L_2)$  is an ETS(11). Replacing the blocks in ETS(3) on  $V_1$  and changing  $C$  by  $\{a_{\alpha(i)} xy \mid xy \in F_i, i = 1, 2, 3\}$  with  $\alpha = (23)$  or  $(123)$ ,  $L_1$  by  $\{x_2x_2x_8, x_8x_8x_6, x_6x_6x_4, x_4x_4x_2\}$ , or  $T \cup L_1 \cup L_2$  by  $\{x_2x_3x_4, x_4x_5x_6, x_6x_7x_8, x_8x_1x_2, x_1x_1x_3, x_3x_3x_5, x_5x_5x_7, x_7x_7x_1, x_2x_2x_2, x_4x_4x_4, x_6x_6x_6, x_8x_8x_8\}$ , we have  $J[11] \supseteq \{0, 6\} + \{0, 12, 36\} + \{0, 16, 24\} \supseteq \{0, 6, 18, 22, 24, 30, 36, 58\}$ . The missing data gives the following.

Let  $E_1 = \{111, 123, 145, 167, 18t_1, 19t, 224, 255, 268, 279, 2tt_1, 335, 344, 369, 37t_1, 38t, 46t, 478, 49t_1, 56t_1, 57t, 589, 666, 777, 888, 999, ttt, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .  $E_2 = \{116, 123, 145, 177, 18t_1, 19t, 225, 244, 268, 279, 2tt_1, 334, 355, 369, 37t_1, 38t, 46t, 478, 49t_1, 56t_1, 57t, 589, 667, 888, 999, ttt, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .  $E_3 = \{112, 133, 145, 167, 18t_1, 19t, 224, 235, 268, 279, 2tt_1, 344, 369, 37t_1, 38t, 46t, 478, 49t_1, 556, 57t, 589, 5t_1t_1, 66t_1, 777, 888, 999, ttt\}$ .  $E_4 = \{118, 123, 145, 166, 179, 1tt_1, 225, 244, 267, 28t_1, 29t, 334, 355, 369, 37t_1, 38t, 46t, 478, 49t_1, 56t_1, 57t, 589, 688, 777, 999, ttt, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .  $E_5 = \{112, 13t_1, 144, 156, 179, 18t, 22t, 237, 249, 25t_1, 268, 336, 34t, 358, 399, 457, 466, 48t_1, 555, 59t, 67t, 69t_1, 778, 7t_1t_1, 889, ttt_1\}$ .

Now,  $N_1$  comes from  $E_2$  by removing the blocks  $\{116, 123, 145, 177, 18t_1, 225, 244, 355, 667, 888, t_1t_1t_1\}$  and replacing them with  $\{118, 124, 135, 167, 1t_1t_1, 223, 255, 445, 666, 777, 88t_1\}$ .  $N_2$  comes from  $E_4$  by removing the blocks  $\{166, 179, 1tt_1, 267, 28t_1, 29t, 688, t_1t_1t_1\}$  and replacing them with  $\{167, 19t, 1t_1t_1, 268, 279, 2tt_1, 666, 88t_1\}$ .  $N_3$  comes from  $E_2$  by removing the blocks  $\{116, 177, 18t_1, 225, 244, 334, 355, 667, 888, t_1t_1t_1\}$  and replacing them with  $\{118, 167, 1t_1t_1, 224, 255, 335, 344, 666, 777, 88t_1\}$ .  $N_4$  comes from  $E_3$  by removing the blocks  $\{112, 133, 167, 235, 556, 5t_1t_1, 66t_1, 777\}$  and replacing them with  $\{116, 123, 177, 255, 335, 56t_1, 667, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .  $N_5$  comes from  $E_5$  by removing the blocks  $\{112, 144, 22t, 237, 336, 466, 67t\}$  and replacing them with  $\{114, 122, 233, 27t, 367, 446, 66t\}$ .  $N_6$  comes from  $E_5$  by removing the blocks  $\{466, 889, 48t_1, 69t_1\}$

and replacing them with  $\{669, 884, 46t_1, 89t_1\}$ .  $N_7$  comes from  $E_3$  by removing the blocks  $\{112, 133, 167, 224, 235, 344\ 556, 5t_1t_1, 66t_1, 777\}$  and replacing them with  $\{116, 123, 177, 225, 244, 334, 355\ 56t_1, 667, t_1t_1t_1\}$ .

**Table 3.**

Intersection	Size	Intersection	Size
$E_5 \cap (14)(23)(6t_1\ 7t_8)E_5$	1	$E_1 \cap (46)(57)E_1$	32
$E_5 \cap (3865t_1\ 4t_79)E_5$	2	$E_1 \cap E_4$	37
$E_1 \cap (13764)(2958)E_1$	3	$E_1 \cap (26)(37)E_1$	38
$E_1 \cap (1263)(475)E_1$	4	$E_2 \cap N_1$	43
$E_1 \cap (135624)E_1$	5	$E_2 \cap E_4$	44
$E_1 \cap (156)(2734)E_1$	7	$E_3 \cap N_7$	45
$E_1 \cap (14)(2736)E_1$	10	$E_4 \cap N_2$	46
$E_1 \cap (157426)E_1$	11	$E_2 \cap N_3$	47
$E_1 \cap (234756)E_1$	14	$E_3 \cap N_4$	49
$E_1 \cap (14)(36)(57)E_1$	19	$E_5 \cap N_5$	50
$E_1 \cap (2734)E_1$	20	$E_2 \cap N_2$	55
$E_1 \cap (265)(47)E_1$	23	$E_5 \cap N_6$	56
$E_1 \cap (257634)E_1$	25		

We have  $J[11] = I_o[11]$ .

When  $v = 15$ , we can obtain  $J[15] \supseteq I_o[15] \setminus \{1, 83\}$  using Lemma 3.3. Let  $E_1 = A \cup B$ , where  $A = \{123, 1tt_5, 1t_1t_4, 1t_2t_3, 28t, 29t_1, 2t_3t_4, 335, 38t_1, 39t_3, 3tt_2, 3t_4t_5, 48t_2, 49t_5, 4tt_4, 4t_1t_3, 58t_3, 59t, 5t_1t_5, 5t_2t_4, 68t_4, 69t_2, 6t_3t_5, 777, 78t_5, 79t_4, 7tt_3, 7t_1t_2, t_3t_3t_3, t_4t_4t_4\}$  and  $B = \{118, 146, 157, 199, 22t_2, 247, 256, 2t_5t_5, 344, 367, 455, 66t, 6t_1t_1, 889, ttt_1, t_2t_2t_5\}$ .  $N_1$  is obtained from  $E_1$  by removing the blocks  $B$  and replacing them with  $\{111, 145, 167, 189, 222, 246, 257, 2t_2t_5, 347, 366, 444, 556, 6tt_1, 888, 999, ttt, t_1t_1t_1, t_2t_2t_2, t_5t_5t_5\}$ . Then  $|E_1 \cap N_1| = 83$  and  $|(1529t_24)(3t_1)(6tt_4)(7t_38t_5)E_1 \cap E_1| = 1$ . Thus we have  $J[15] = I_o[15]$ .

For  $v = 19$ , the only missing data is 177, we can embed ETS(5) into ETS(19) ([3]). Thus we have  $J[19] = I_o[19]$ .

**Lemma 4.5.**  $J[9] = I_o[9] \setminus \{32\}$  and  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  for  $v = 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21$ .

Applying Lemma 4.5 to Lemmas 4.1 and 4.4 recursively, we obtained the following result.

**Theorem 4.6.**  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  for odd  $v$ ,  $v \geq 11$ .

## 5. Conclusions.

By Theorems 3.5 and 4.6, we obtained the following results:

**Main Theorem.** For even  $v$ ,  $J[v] = I_e[v]$  if  $v \geq 8$ ; and for odd  $v$ ,  $J[v] = I_o[v]$  if  $v \geq 11$ .

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