

# CONFOUNDING DIALLEL EXPERIMENTS—II

By

K.R. AGGARWAL

*Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana*

(Received in January, 1974)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

While presenting the analysis of some two-three-and four-class *PBIB* designs through latent roots and latent vectors of their *C*-matrices, Aggarwal ([1], [2], [3]) discussed the analysis of the confounding diallel experiments for the Methods (1), (3) and (4) of Griffing [5]. Some series of these *PBIB* designs which can be taken as useful confounded diallel experiments under different situations were also reported therein. This paper contains the analysis of the confounded diallel experiments known as the Method (2) of Griffing [5]. With  $u$  inbred lines, the  $[u(u+1)/2]-1$  degrees of freedom for this method of Griffing, are partitioned into three orthogonal sets of  $(u-1)$ , 1 and  $(u+1)(u-2)/2$  degrees of freedom, said to belong to general combining ability (*g.c.a.*), parents vs hybrids and specific combining ability (*s.c.a.*) effects, respectively. This partitioning is done by giving another characterization to the triangular association scheme of Bose and Shimamoto [4].

## 2. DEFINITIONS

We give another characterization of the triangular association scheme of Bose and Shimamoto [4] as following :

**Definition 2.1.** Let the  $v = u(u+1)/2$  treatments be represented by an  $u \times u$  square array

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 11 & 12 & \dots & 1u \\ 21 & 22 & \dots & 2u \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ u1 & u2 & \dots & uu \end{array} \quad \dots(2.1)$$

The  $u(u+1)/2$  treatments of this array, can be denoted by  $ij$  ( $i, j=1, 2, \dots, u; ij=ji$ ). For a treatment  $ij$  ( $i \neq j$ )

- (1) first associates are the treatments occurring in the same row and column in which the treatment  $ij$  ( $i \neq j$ ) occurs; and
- (2) all other treatments are second associates.

For a treatment  $ii$

- (1) first associates are the treatments occurring in the same row or column in which the treatment  $ii$  occurs and the treatments occurring in the diagonal positions of the array (2.1) from the left top to the right bottom; and
- (2) all other treatments and second associates.

**Definition 2.2.** A <sup>P</sup>BIB design with the triangular association scheme, is called a triangular design.

Let  $N$  be the incidence matrix of a connected triangular design with the parameters  $v=u(u+1)/2$ ,  $b, r, k, \lambda_1, \lambda_2$ . Then the latent roots  $\theta_i$  of  $NN'$  with their multiplicities  $\alpha_i$  ( $i=0, 1, 2$ ) will be

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_0 &= rk, \alpha_0 = 1; \theta_1 = r + (u-3)\lambda_1 - (u-2)\lambda_2, \alpha_1 = u; \\ \theta_2 &= r - 2\lambda_1 + \lambda_2, \alpha_2 = (u+1)(u-2)/2, \end{aligned} \quad \dots(2.2)$$

The latent roots  $\phi_i$  of the  $C$ -matrix of this triangular design with their multiplicities  $\alpha_i$ , are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_i &= r - \theta_i/k \\ (i &= 0, 1, 2). \end{aligned} \quad \dots(2.3)$$

Let there be  $u$  inbred lines. Let us consider  $u(u-1)/2 F_1$ 's and  $u$  parents. Let these  $u(u+1)/2$  crosses be denoted by the treatments  $ij$  ( $i, j=1, 2, \dots, u; ij=ji$ ) of a connected triangular design with the parameters  $v=u(u+1)/2$ ,  $b, r, k, \lambda_1, \lambda_2$ . Then the  $(u(u+1)/2) - 1$  degrees of freedom can be partitioned into three orthogonal sets of  $(u-1)$ ,  $1$ ,  $(u+1)(u-2)/2$  degrees of freedom said to belong to *g.c.a.*, parents vs hybrids and *s.c.a.*, effects, respectively, as discussed in detail in the next section.

3. ANALYSIS

(a) Fixed effects model

Let  $Y_{ijl}$ , the observed value of the plot in the  $l$ 'th block to which the  $ij$ th treatment is allotted, be given by

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{ijl} &= m + t_{ij} + \beta_l + e_{ijl}, \\ i, j &= 1, 2, \dots, u; \\ ij &= ji; \\ l &= 1, 2, \dots, b \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

$m$  is called the general mean,  $t_{ij}$  is called the  $ij$ th treatment effect and  $\beta_l$  is called  $l$ th block effect, Let  $m$ ,  $t_{ij}$ 's and  $\beta_l$ 's be the fixed-effects. Let  $e_{ijl}$ 's be normally and independently distributed with expectations

0 and variances  $\sigma^2$  Let  $\sum_{i < j} \sum_{i=j} t_{ij} = 0$ . The equation (3.1) with

these assumptions is called a fixed-effects model I (see Scheffe [7], p. 6).

Let  $Y \dots$  denote the total of all the observations in the experiment. Let  $T_{ij}$  be the total of all the observations for the  $ij$ th treatment. Let  $B^{ij}$  be the total of all the blocks in which the  $ij$ th treatment occurs. Then  $Q_{ij}$ , the adjusted treatment total is given by  $T_{ij} - (1/k) B^{ij}$ . Let  $\hat{t}_{ij}$  be the least square estimate or  $t_{ij}$  the true effect or the  $ij$ th treatment.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} p &= (p_{11}, p_{12}, \dots, p_{1u}, p_{22}, \dots, p_{2u}, \dots, p_{(u-1)u}, p_{uu})'. \\ p_i &= \sum_j p_{ij}, p_j = \sum_i p_{ij}; D^p = \sum_i p_{ii}; \dots (3.2) \\ \Delta^p &= \sum_{i < j} \sum_{i < j} p_{ij}; p = t, Q, \hat{t}. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$t_{ij} = g_i + g_j + s_{ij} \tag{3.3}$$

where  $g_i$  and  $g_j$  are the common genic contributions of the  $i$ th maternal line and the  $j$ th paternal line.  $g_i$  is called the general combining ability (*g.c.a.*) effect of the  $i$ th line;  $s_{ij}$  is the interaction between the genic contributions of the  $i$ th maternal line and  $j$ th paternal line,  $s_{ij}$  is called the specific combining ability (*s.c.a.*) effect due to the  $ij$ th cross.

Let us further assume

$$\sum_j s_{ij} = 0, \text{ for all } i; \quad \dots (3.4)$$

$$\bar{g} = \left( \sum g_i \right) / u.$$

Then it can easily be seen that

$$g_i = (t_i/u) + (D^i/2u^2); \quad s_{ij} = t_{ij} - g_i - g_j. \quad \dots (3.5)$$

The latent vectors  $\underline{x}_i$  ( $i=2, 3, \dots, u$ ) and  $\underline{y}$  corresponding to the latent root  $\phi_1$  of the  $C$ -matrix, form the contrasts for the *g.c.a.* effects and parents vs hybrids,

respectively and the latent vectors  $\underline{z}_i$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, (u+1)(u-2)/2$ ) corresponding to the root  $\phi_2$  of the  $C$ -matrix, from the contrasts belonging to the *s.c.a.* effects. These three sets of contrasts are

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{t}' \underline{x}_i &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} t_j - (i-1) t_i \right) \div [(i-1) i (u-1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & \quad i=2, 3, \dots, u; \\ \underline{t}' \underline{y} &= [(u-1) D^i - 2 \Delta^i] \div [(u(u-1)(u+1))]^{\frac{1}{2}}; \\ \underline{t}' \underline{z}_i & \quad (i=1, 2, \dots, (u+1)(u-2)/2) \end{aligned} \quad \dots (3.6)$$

where the vectors  $\underline{z}_1$ 's are orthonormal and orthogonal to the vectors  $\underline{x}_1$ 's and  $\underline{y}$ . It may be noted that the  $(n-1)$  *g.c.a.* orthogonal contrasts will be  $g_1 - g_2, g_1 + g_2 - 2g_3, \dots, g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_{(u-1)} - (u-1)g_u$  which will be the same as given by  $\underline{t}' \underline{x}_i$  ( $i=2, 3, \dots, u$ ) in (3.6) and  $\underline{t}' \underline{y}$  represents parents vs hybrids contrast. The remaining  $(u+1)(u-2)/2$  orthogonal contrasts are said to represent *s.c.a.* contrasts.

It may further be noted that the set of assumptions given in (3.4) is different from the set of assumptions (i)  $\sum_i g_i=0$ , and (ii)  $\sum s_{ij}+s_{ii}=0$  given by Griffing ([5] p. 473). The (ii) set of assumptions, seems to be unrealistic and has to be assumed by Griffing to solve the normal equations. We do not assume  $\sum_i g_i=0$  but as it can be seen that we shall test the hypothesis  $\sum_i g_i=0$ . To solve the normal equations, we have assumed  $\sum_{i < j} t_{ij}=0$ . It may be noted that  $t' y=0$  implies  $D^t=0$  which implies  $\sum_i g_i=0$  or  $\sum_i s_{ii}=0$ .

The parents vs hybrids 1 degree of freedom under the set of assumptions (3.4), can be used to test the significance of  $\sum_i g_i$  or  $D^t$  or  $\sum_i s_{ii}$ .

We shall, now, present the analysis. Let

$$A_1 = \sum_{i=2}^u x_i x'_i, A_2 = y y', A_3 = \sum_{i=2}^u z_i z'_i. \quad \dots(3.7)$$

Then a solution of the reduced normal equations will be given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{t}_{ij} &= (Q_{ij}/\phi_2) + ((1/\phi_1) - (1/\phi_2)) (Q_i + Q_j)/(u-1), \\ i, j &= 1, 2, \dots, u; i < j; \end{aligned} \quad \dots(3.8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{t}_{ii} &= (Q_{ii}/\phi_2) + ((1/\phi_1) - (1/\phi_2))(Q_i + D^Q)/(u-1), \\ i &= 1, 2, \dots, u. \end{aligned}$$

Following Aggarwal [1], the sum of squares pertaining to the g.c.a., parents vs hybrids and s.c.a. degrees of freedom will be given as in the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.1.** In a connected triangular design, the sum of squares due to *g.c.a.*, effects parents vs hybrids and *s.c.a.* effects eliminating block effects, are  $(1/\phi_1) \underline{Q}' A_1 \underline{Q}$ ,  $(1/\phi_1) \underline{Q}' A_2 \underline{Q}$  and  $(1/\phi_2) \underline{Q}_3' A \underline{Q}$ , respectively.

The Anova table giving the sum of squares (*S.S.*) due to the various effects and their expected mean squares is given in Table 3.1.

The equality of  $g_1$ 's is tested by comparing  $M_g$  with the error mean square  $M_e$ . The *F*-ratio  $M_{gh}/M_e$  provides a test for the significance of parents vs hybrids contrast or

$$\Sigma s_{ii} \text{ or } \Sigma g_i \text{ or } \Sigma t_{ii}.$$

The signification of  $s_{ij}$ 's can be tested approximately as suggested in scheffe ([7], p. 247-48).

The least square estimates of the various parameters are given as follows :

$$\hat{g}_i = (Q_i/u \phi_1) + (D^Q / 2u^2 \phi_1), \quad \hat{s}_{ij} = \hat{t}_{ij} - \hat{g}_i - \hat{g}_j \quad \dots(3.9)$$

and

$$V(\hat{g}_i - \hat{g}_j) = 2(u-1) \sigma^2 / u^2 \phi_1, \quad i \neq j. \quad \dots(3.10)$$

The variances of elementary contrasts of  $s_{ij}$ 's are slightly complicated in form and can be found out from the well known result

$$V(\underline{l}' \hat{t}) = \sigma^2 \underline{l}' \underline{C} \underline{l} = \sigma^2 \underline{l}' ((1/\phi_1) (A_1 + A_2) + (1/\phi_2) A_3) \underline{l} \quad \dots(3.11)$$

where  $\underline{l}' \hat{t}$  is some estimable contrast. It can be seen that the *S.S.* due to the three types of contrasts given by (3.6), will be

$$\begin{aligned} & \phi_1 (\underline{x}' \hat{t})^2, & i=2, 3, \dots, u \\ & \phi_1 (\underline{y}' \hat{t})^2, \\ & \phi_2 (\underline{z}' \hat{t})^2, & i=1, 2, \dots, (u+1)(u-2)/2. \quad \dots(3.12) \end{aligned}$$

The usual test procedure is followed to test the significance of these contrasts. Further, it may be noted that all the elementary contrasts pertaining to *g.c.a.* effects are estimable with equal precision, whereas elementary contrasts pertaining to *s.c.a.* effects, are not

TABLE 3.1.  
Anova Table

Source	<i>d.f.</i>	<i>S.S.</i>	<i>M.S.</i>	<i>E(M.S.) Fixed-effects model</i>	<i>E(M.S.) mixed-effects model</i>
Blocks ignoring treatments	( <i>b</i> -1)	$[(\sum B_i^2)/k] - Y^2.../rv$	—	—	—
Treatments eliminating blocks					
<i>g.c.a.</i>	( <i>u</i> -1)	$[\sum_i Q_i^2 - ((D^Q)^2/u)]/(u-1)$	$\phi_1 M_g$	$\sigma^2 + u^2 \phi_1 \sum (g_i - \bar{g})^2 / (u-1)^2$	$\sigma^2 + u^2 \phi_1 \sigma_g^2 / (u-1) + 2(u+1) [2(u-1) \phi_1 / (u+1)^2 + \phi_2^2 / u^2 \phi_1] \sigma_s^2$
Parents vs Hybrids	1	$(u+1) (D^Q)^2 / u (u-1)$	$M_{ph}$	$\sigma^2 + u \phi_1 (D^s)^2 / (u+1) (u-1)$	$\sigma^2 + 2(u+1) [2(u-1) \phi_1 / (u+1)^2 + \phi_2^2 / u^2 \phi_1] \sigma_s^2$
<i>s.c.a.</i>	$(u+1) / (u-2) / 2$	$\sum_{i \leq j} Q_{ij}^2 - [ \sum_i Q_i^2 + (D^Q)^2 ] / (u-1) / \phi_2$	$M_s$	$\sigma^2 + 2\phi_2 (g_1 - \bar{g})^2 / (u-1) (u+1) + 2\phi_2 \sum_{i \leq j} s_{ij}^2 / (u-2) + \phi_2 \sum_i g_i s_{ii} / (u+1) (u-2)$	$\sigma^2 + 2\phi_2 \sigma_g^2 / (u+1) + \phi_2 \sigma_s^2$
Error	$v(r-1) / -b+1$	By subtraction	$M_e$	$\sigma^2$	$\sigma^2$
Total	<i>vr</i> -1	$\sum \sum \sum Y_{ijl}^2 - Y^2.../rv$	—	—	—

*n*\* in *E(M.S.)* for *s.c.a.* is a function of *u*,  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$ , *k* only.

estimable with equal precision. The relative loss of information on each of the partially confounded degree of freedom can be worked out as suggested by Aggarwal [2].

For the series of triangular designs (See Raghavarao [6], p. 154) with the parameters

$$\begin{aligned} v &= u(u+1)/2, \quad b = u(u-2), \quad r = (u-2), \quad k = (u+1)/2, \\ \lambda_1 &= 0, \quad \lambda_2 = 1 \end{aligned} \quad \dots (3.13)$$

the  $(u-1)$  degrees of freedom pertaining to *g.c.a.* effects and one degree of freedom pertaining to parents vs hybrids is not confounded whereas the relative loss of information on each of the  $(u+1)(u-2)/2$  partially confounded degrees of freedom pertaining to *s.c.a.* effects is  $2(u-1)/(u-2)(u+1)$ . For the series of triangular designs (See Raghavarao [6], p. 152) with the parameters

$$v = u(u+1)/2, \quad b = (u+1), \quad r = 2, \quad k = u, \quad \lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = 0 \quad \dots (3.14)$$

the relative loss of information on the partially confounded  $(u-1)$  degree of freedom pertaining to *g.c.a.* effects and the one degree of freedom pertaining to parents vs hybrids is  $(u-1)/2u$ . The *s.c.a.* effects are left unconfounded.

#### (b) Mixed effects model

Let us again consider the relations given in (3.1) and (3.3). Let  $m, \beta_i$ 's be taken as fixed effects. Let  $g_i$ 's,  $s_{ij}$ 's and  $e_{ijl}$ 's be normally and independently distributed with expectations 0 and variances  $\sigma_g^2$ ,  $\sigma_s^2$  and  $\sigma^2$ , respectively. Further let these random variables be pairwise uncorrelated. That is  $\text{cov}(g_i, s_{ij}) = 0$ ,  $\text{cov}(g_i, e_{ijl}) = 0$  and  $\text{cov}(s_{ij}, e_{ijl}) = 0$ , for all  $i, j, l$ . The observational set up given in (3.1) and (3.3) with these assumptions, is called a mixed-effects model (See Scheffe [7], p. 6). The expectations of the various mean square under a mixed-effects model are also given in the table 3.1. For testing the significance of  $\sigma_g^2$ , the *F*-ratio  $M_g/M_{gh}$  is used and for testing the significance of  $\sigma_s^2$  the ratio  $M_{gh}/M_e$  is used and usual test procedure is followed. The estimates of  $\sigma_g^2$ ,  $\sigma_s^2$  and  $\sigma^2$  can, easily, be worked out from the Anova Table 3.1.



4. ILLUSTRATION

Let us consider a triangular design with the parameters

$$v=6, b=4, r=2, k=3, \lambda_1=1, \lambda_2=0$$

and with the triangular association scheme

$$\begin{matrix} 11 & 12 & 13 \\ 12 & 22 & 23 \\ 13 & 23 & 33 \end{matrix} \dots(3.15)$$

Let us assume an intrablock model. Let the 4 blocks of this triangular design (yields given within brackets) be as following :

$$\begin{matrix} (11(7), 22(10), 33(11)), & (11(9), 12(14), 13(16)), \\ (22(11), 12(13), 23(17)), & (33(13), 13(18), 23(20)). \end{matrix} \dots(3.16)$$

Then the matrix  $(Q_{ij})$  will be

$$\begin{matrix} -6.33 & 0.33 & 4.00 \\ 0.33 & -2.00 & 6.33 \\ 4.00 & 6.33 & -2.33 \end{matrix} \dots(3.17)$$

The anova is given Table 3.2.

TABLE 3.2  
Anova Table

Source	d. f.	S.S.	M.S.	F-ratio
Blocks ignoring treatments	3	88.9200	—	—
<i>g.c.a.</i>	2	19.4389	9.7195	26.18*
Parents vs hybrids	1	56.8178	56.8178	158.79**
<i>s.c.a.</i>	2	2.0000	1.0000	2.79
Error	3	1.0733	0.3576	
Total	11	168.2500		

From the anova Table 3.2. it may be observed that the *g.c.a.* effects are significantly different at 5 *p.c.* level of significance and parents vs hybrids contrast is also significant at 1 *p.c.* level of

significance. The least square estimates of  $g_1$ ,  $g_2$  and  $g_3$  are  $-0.94$ ,  $0.64$ , and  $1.56$ , respectively. *C.D.* for the *g.c.a.* effects at 5 percent level of significance is  $1.08$ .

#### SUMMARY

In this paper, analysis of the confounded diallel experiments for the Method (2) Griffing [5] is presented. With  $u$  inbred lines, the  $(u(u+1)/2)-1$  degrees of freedom for this method of Griffing, are partitioned into three orthogonal sets of  $(u-1)$ , 1 and  $(u+1)(u-2)/2$  degrees of freedom, said to belong to general combining ability (*g.c.a.*) parents vs hybrids and specific combining ability (*s.c.a.*) effects, respectively.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The referee's suggestions have improved presentation of the material contained in this paper and are gratefully acknowledged

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Aggarwal, K.R. (1974a) : DT and MDT designs and their applications to breeding experiments. *Can. J. Stat.*, 2, 61-73.
- [2] Aggarwal, K.R. (1974b) : Confounding in diallel experiments—I. *Sankhya*, Series B, (to appear).
- [3] Aggarwal, K.R. (1974c) : Analysis of  $L_t(s)$  and triangular designs. *Jour Indian Soc. Agri. Res. Stat.*, 26, 3-13.
- [4] Bose, R.C. and Shimamoto, T. (1952) : Classification and analysis of partially balanced incomplete block design with two associate classes. *J. Am. Stat. Assn.*, 42, 151-184.
- [5] Griffing, B. (1956) : Concept of general and specific combining ability in relation to diallel crossing system. *Aust. J. Bio. Sci.*, 9, 463-93.
- [6] Raghavarao, D. (1971) : *Constructions and Combinatorial Problems in Designs of experiments*. Wiley, New York.
- [7] Scheffe, H. (1959) : *The Analysis of variance*. Wiley, New York. 1959.