1135-05-986Heather D Jordon* (hjordon@albion.edu), Benjamin Abels, Nichole Brown and
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For a positive integer t, a Skolem-type difference set of order t is a partition of the set $\{1, 2, ..., 3t\}$ into triples $\{a_i, b_i, c_i\}$ such that $a_i + b_i = c_i$. Skolem-type difference sets and their many generalizations are well studied, and necessary and sufficient conditions for Skolem difference sets are known. A practical application of Skolem-type difference sets involves rewriting the triple $\{a_i, b_i, c_i\}$ as $a_i + b_i + c_i = 0$ where c_i is necessarily negative. Hence, we study \pm Skolem-type difference sets of order 2t which are partitions of the set $\{\pm 1, \pm 2, ..., \pm 3t\}$ into triples $\{a_i, b_i, c_i\}$ such that $a_i + b_i + c_i = 0$. We also study a Langford-type generalization of this concept, namely, partitions of the set $\{\pm d, \pm (d+1), \ldots, \pm (d+3t-1)\}$ into into 2t triples $\{a_i, b_i, c_i\}$ such that $a_i + b_i + c_i = 0$ for d = 2 and d = 3. (Received September 18, 2017)