An association scheme is metathin if it has a thin closed subset with a thin quotient, i.e. such that the thin residue is contained in the thin radical; thus a metathin scheme is an extension of a group by another group. Hirasaka and Kim considered metathin schemes such that the thin radical and the thin residue are equal and correspond to an elementary abelian group of order $p^2$, where $p$ is prime, and where all the nonthin elements have valency equal to $p$. In particular, they studied which groups can arise as the quotient groups of such a scheme. In this talk, we consider connections between the existence of schemes with specified quotient groups and certain variations of difference sets in such groups. (Received July 15, 2019)