

Tetrads of Lines Spanning $PG(7, 2)$

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Finite Geometries, Fourth Irsee Conference,
September 15, 2014

Joint work with

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The non-zero decomposable tensors of $\bigotimes_{k=1}^3 V_k$ determine the **Segre variety**

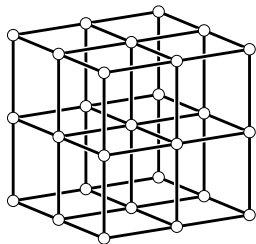
$$\mathcal{S}_{1,1,1}(2) = \{a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes a_3 \mid a_k \in V_k \setminus \{0\}\}$$

with ambient projective space $\mathbb{P}(\bigotimes_{k=1}^3 V_k) = \text{PG}(7, 2)$.

(Over \mathbb{F}_2 we identify projective points and non-zero vectors.)

Orbits

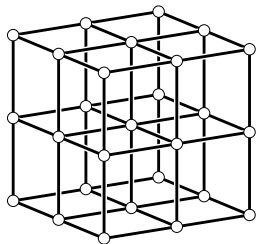
The ambient $\text{PG}(7, 2)$ of the Segre $\mathcal{S}_{1,1,1}(2) =: \mathcal{S}$ has **255 points** that fall into **five orbits** $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2, \dots, \mathcal{O}_5$ under the subgroup $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{S}} < \text{GL}(8, 2)$ stabilising \mathcal{S} .



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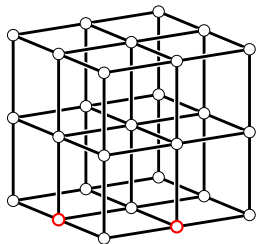


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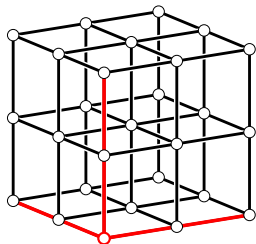


- \mathcal{O}_5 : **27 points** of the Segre \mathcal{S} ,
- \mathcal{O}_2 : **54 points** on bisecants (sums of two points of \mathcal{S} at distance 2),

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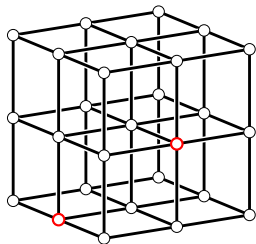


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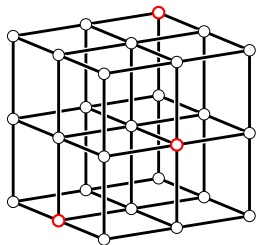


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- \mathcal{O}_1 : **12 points** (sums of triads of \mathcal{S} at distance 3).

Orbits (cont.)

The results from the previous slide and generalisations thereof were established by various authors:

- D. Glynn, T. A. Gulliver, J. G. Maks, and M. K. Gupta (2006) [2].
- B. Odehnal, M. Saniga, and H. H. (2012) [3].
- R. Shaw, N. Gordon, and H. H. (2012) [5].
- M. R. Bremner and St. G. Stavrou (2013) [1].
- M. Lavrauw and J. Sheekey (2014) [4].

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Two sets deserve special mention:

- The union $\mathcal{O}_2 \cup \mathcal{O}_4 \cup \mathcal{O}_5$ (135 points) is a **hyperbolic quadric** \mathcal{H}_7 of $\text{PG}(7, 2)$.

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- The union $\mathcal{O}_2 \cup \mathcal{O}_4 \cup \mathcal{O}_5$ (135 points) is a **hyperbolic quadric** \mathcal{H}_7 of $\text{PG}(7, 2)$.
- The orbit \mathcal{O}_1 (12 points) comprises a **tetrad of lines** spanning $\text{PG}(7, 2)$.

Basic assumption

We start out from a(ny) direct sum decomposition

$$V_8 = V_a \oplus V_b \oplus V_c \oplus V_d$$

of $V_8 := V(8, 2)$ into 2-dimensional spaces V_a, V_b, V_c, V_d .

So we obtain the **tetrad of lines**

$$\mathcal{L}_4 := \{L_a, L_b, L_c, L_d\},$$

where

$$L_h := \mathbb{P}(V_h), \quad h \in \{a, b, c, d\};$$

$\mathbb{P}(V_8) = \text{PG}(7, 2)$ is the span of this tetrad of lines.

The stabiliser group $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$

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The group $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$ has the semi-direct product structure

$$\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4) = \mathcal{N} \rtimes \text{Sym}(4),$$

where

$$\mathcal{N} := \text{GL}(V_a) \times \text{GL}(V_b) \times \text{GL}(V_c) \times \text{GL}(V_d),$$

and where

$$\text{Sym}(4) = \text{Sym}(\{a, b, c, d\}).$$

Line weight

Let us define the *line-weight* $lw(p)$ of a point $p \in PG(7, 2)$ as follows: Write

$$p = v_a + v_b + v_c + v_d \text{ with } v_h \in V_h, h \in \{a, b, c, d\}.$$

Then

$$lw(p) = r$$

whenever precisely r of the vectors v_a, v_b, v_c, v_d are non-zero.

Orbits

The 255 points of $\text{PG}(7, 2)$ fall into just **four $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$ -orbits** $\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4$, where

$$\omega_r = \{p \in \text{PG}(7, 2) \mid \text{lw}(p) = r\}.$$

The lengths of these orbits are accordingly

$$\begin{aligned} |\omega_1| &= \mathbf{12}, & |\omega_2| &= \binom{4}{2} \times 3^2 = \mathbf{54}, \\ |\omega_3| &= \binom{4}{3} \times 3^3 = \mathbf{108}, & |\omega_4| &= 3^4 = \mathbf{81}. \end{aligned}$$

The symplectic form of \mathcal{L}_4

There is a *unique symplectic form* B on V_8 such that the subspaces V_a, V_b, V_c, V_d are hyperbolic 2-dimensional spaces which are pairwise orthogonal.

The quadric of \mathcal{L}_4

The tetrad \mathcal{L}_4 also determines a particular **non-degenerate quadric** Q in $\text{PG}(7, 2)$. Such a quadric Q is uniquely determined by the two conditions

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- (i) it has equation $Q(x) = 0$ such that the quadratic form Q polarises to give the foregoing symplectic form B ;
- (ii) the 12-set of points

$$\omega_1 = L_a \cup L_b \cup L_c \cup L_d \subset \text{PG}(7, 2)$$

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supporting the tetrad \mathcal{L}_4 is external to Q .

The quadric Q is seen to be $\omega_2 \cup \omega_4$ (**54 + 81 = 135 points**), and so it is hyperbolic.

The normal subgroup \mathcal{G}_{81} of $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$

For each $h \in \{a, b, c, d\}$ let us choose an element $\zeta_h \in \text{GL}(V_h)$ of order 3 that effects a **cyclic permutation** of the points of L_h .

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Observe that ω_4 is a single \mathcal{G}_{81} -orbit.

A GF(3) view of \mathcal{G}_{81}

By viewing 0, 1, 2 as the elements of $\mathbb{F}_3 = \text{GF}(3)$ the map

$$(\mathbb{F}_3)^4 \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{81} : ijkl \mapsto A_{ijkl}$$

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Example: The elements $I = A_{0000}$, A_{1000} , and $A_{1000}^2 = A_{2000}$ constitute that subgroup of \mathcal{G}_{81} which **fixes pointwise** each of the three lines L_b , L_c , and L_d .

Z_3 subgroups of \mathcal{G}_{81}

Any Z_3 subgroup of \mathcal{G}_{81} is of the form $\{I, A_\sigma, A_{2\sigma}\}$ for some non-zero $\sigma \in (\mathbb{F}_3)^4$ and vice versa. Thus:

The group \mathcal{G}_{81} contains 40 subgroups $\cong Z_3$ which are in bijective correspondence with the 40 points of the projective space $\text{PG}(3, 3)$.

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Under the action by conjugacy of $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$ on \mathcal{G}_{81} the particular 4-set of Z_3 subgroups corresponding to

$$\mathcal{T} := \{\langle 1000 \rangle, \langle 0100 \rangle, \langle 0010 \rangle, \langle 0001 \rangle\}$$

is fixed. So \mathcal{T} is a $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$ -distinguished tetrahedron of reference in $\text{PG}(3, 3)$.

Triplets of 27-sets

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_H &:= \{hu \mid h \in H\}, \\ \mathcal{R}'_H &:= \{h'u \mid h' \in H'\}, \\ \mathcal{R}''_H &:= \{h''u \mid h'' \in H''\}.\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

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Each such subgroup $H < \mathcal{G}_{81}$ gives rise to a decomposition

$$\omega_4 = \mathcal{R}_H \cup \mathcal{R}'_H \cup \mathcal{R}''_H$$

of ω_4 into a triplet of 27-sets.

Classification of subgroups of \mathcal{G}_{81}

Theorem

The normal subgroup $\mathcal{G}_{81} < \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$ contains precisely 40 subgroups $H \cong Z_3 \times Z_3 \times Z_3$. These fall into four conjugacy classes of $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$, of respective sizes 8, 16, 12, 4.

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Proof. Any such H corresponds to one of the 40 projective planes in $\text{PG}(3, 3)$.

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$$|\mathcal{P}_0| = 8, \quad |\mathcal{P}_1| = 16, \quad |\mathcal{P}_2| = 12, \quad |\mathcal{P}_3| = 4$$

the theorem now follows, since planes of the same kind are seen to correspond to conjugate $Z_3 \times Z_3 \times Z_3$ subgroups.

Segre varieties from \mathcal{L}_4

Theorem

A triplet of 27-sets $\{\mathcal{R}_H, \mathcal{R}'_H, \mathcal{R}''_H\}$ in (1) which arises from a $Z_3 \times Z_3 \times Z_3$ subgroup H will consist of Segre varieties $S_{1,1,1}(2)$ if, and only if, the corresponding projective plane in $PG(3, 3)$ is of kind \mathcal{P}_0 .

Our approach yields precisely 24 copies of a Segre variety $S_{1,1,1}(2)$ which are contained in ω_4 .

Final Remarks

- The **five \mathcal{G}_S -orbits** are related to the **four $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{L}_4)$ -orbits** in the following simple manner:

$$\omega_1 = \mathcal{O}_1, \omega_2 = \mathcal{O}_2, \omega_3 = \mathcal{O}_3, \omega_4 = \mathcal{O}_4 \cup \mathcal{O}_5 = \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{S}' \cup \mathcal{S}''.$$

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- The article [6] contains a detailed description of the **non-Segre-27-sets** and their **intersection properties**.

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