

# Spreads and Packings of $PG(3,2)$ , Formally!



Picture taken from David A. Richter

<http://homepages.wmich.edu/~drichter/projectivespace.htm>

Nicolas Magaud - Université de Strasbourg, France

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# Outline

- 1 Projective Geometry, esp. in 3D
- 2 Data Structures for Finite Projective Geometry
- 3 Spreads and Packings
- 4 Formal Proofs
- 5 Conclusions and Future Work

# Projective Space Geometry

- Context
  - Incidence Geometry
    - points, lines and an **incidence** relation
  - Projective Incidence Geometry
    - in 2D : 2 lines always intersect
    - in 3D : Pasch's axiom
  - Simple description : **only 6 axioms**
- Goal :
  - Specifying some finite models of projective geometry
  - Formally checking the axioms
  - Computing spreads and packings
  - Proving some of their properties
  - Taking Coq to its limits (w.r.t. specification and w.r.t. proof)

# Objects and Operations

- Objects : **Point, Line**

```
Parameter Point, Line : Type.
```

- Incidence relation : **incid\_lp**

```
Parameter incid_lp : Point -> Line -> bool.
```

- Boolean equalities on points and lines : **eqP, eqL**

```
Parameter eqP : Point -> Point -> bool.
```

```
Parameter eqL : Line -> Line -> bool.
```

- All distinct points and/or lines : **dist\_3p, dist\_4p, ..., dist\_5l**

```
Definition dist_3p (A B C :Point) : bool :=  
(negb (eqP A B)) && (negb (eqP A C)) && (negb (eqP B C)).
```

```
Definition dist_4p (A B C D:Point) : bool := ...
```

```
Definition dist_5l (l1 l2 l3:Line) : bool := ...
```

```
Definition dist_5l (l1 l2 l3 l4 l5:Line) : bool := ...
```

- Intersection of 2 lines : **Intersect\_In**

```
Definition Intersect_In (l1 l2 :Line) (P:Point) :=  
incid_lp P l1 && incid_lp P l2.
```

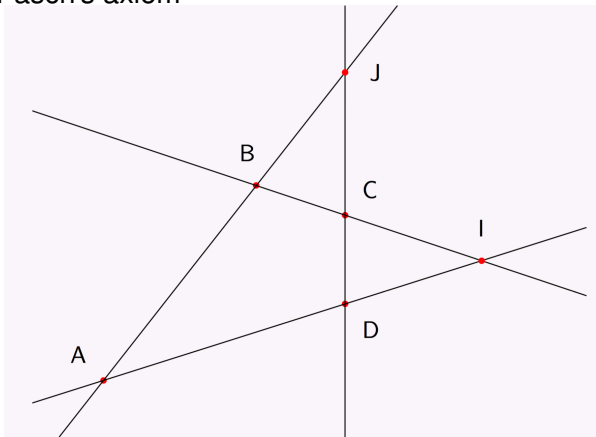
# Axioms for Projective Space Geometry :

## from a geometry point of view

- **a1** : through 2 points, there is one line.
- **uniqueness** : Given 2 points and 2 lines, if the 2 points are both on both lines, either the points are equal, or the lines.
- **a2** : Pasch's axiom (if 2 lines intersect. . .).
- **a3\_1** : Each line has at least 3 points.
- **a3\_2** : There exists 2 lines which do not intersect ( $\dim > 2$ ).
- **a3\_3** : Given 3 distinct lines, there exists a fourth one which intersects with all three ( $\dim \leq 3$ ).

# Axioms for Projective Space Geometry : from a geometry point of view

- Pasch's axiom



# Axioms for Projective Space Geometry :

## from a geometry point of view

**Axiom a1\_exists** : forall A B : Point, { l : Line | incid\_lp A l && incid\_lp B l }.

**Axiom uniqueness** : forall (A B :Point) (l1 l2:Line),  
incid\_lp A l1 -> incid\_lp B l1 -> incid\_lp A l2 -> incid\_lp B l2 -> A = B  $\vee$  l1 = l2.

**Axiom a2** : forall A B C D:Point, forall lAB lCD lAC lBD :Line, dist\_4p A B C D ->  
incid\_lp A lAB && incid\_lp B lAB -> incid\_lp C lCD && incid\_lp D lCD ->  
incid\_lp A lAC && incid\_lp C lAC -> incid\_lp B lBD && incid\_lp D lBD ->  
(exists I:Point, incid\_lp I lAB && incid\_lp I lCD) ->  
exists J:Point, incid\_lp J lAC && incid\_lp J lBD.

**Axiom a3\_1** : forall l:Line,  
{A:Point & {B:Point & {C:Point |  
(dist\_3p A B C) && (incid\_lp A l && incid\_lp B l && incid\_lp C l)}}}.

**Axiom a3\_2** : exists l1:Line, exists l2:Line,  
forall p:Point, (incid\_lp p l1 && incid\_lp p l2).

**Axiom a3\_3** : forall l1 l2 l3:Line, dist\_3l l1 l2 l3 ->  
exists l4 :Line, exists J1:Point, exists J2:Point, exists J3:Point,  
Intersect\_In l1 l4 J1 && Intersect\_In l2 l4 J2 && Intersect\_In l3 l4 J3.

# Axioms for Projective Space Geometry : from a logic point of view

```
Axiom a1_exists : forall A B : Point, { l : Line | incid_lp A l && incid_lp B l }.
```

```
Axiom uniqueness : forall (A B :Point) (l1 l2:Line),  
incid_lp A l1 -> incid_lp B l1 -> incid_lp A l2 -> incid_lp B l2 -> A = B \ / l1 = l2.
```

```
Axiom a2 : forall A B C D:Point, forall lAB lCD lAC lBD :Line, dist_4p A B C D ->  
incid_lp A lAB && incid_lp B lAB -> incid_lp C lCD && incid_lp D lCD ->  
incid_lp A lAC && incid_lp C lAC -> incid_lp B lBD && incid_lp D lBD ->  
(exists I:Point, incid_lp I lAB && incid_lp I lCD) ->  
exists J:Point, incid_lp J lAC && incid_lp J lBD.
```

```
Axiom a3_1 : forall l:Line,  
{A:Point & {B:Point & {C:Point |  
(dist_3p A B C) && (incid_lp A l && incid_lp B l && incid_lp C l)}}}.
```

```
Axiom a3_2 : exists l1:Line, exists l2:Line,  
forall p:Point, (incid_lp p l1 && incid_lp p l2).
```

```
Axiom a3_3 : forall l1 l2 l3:Line, dist_3l l1 l2 l3 ->  
exists l4 :Line, exists J1:Point, exists J2:Point, exists J3:Point,  
Intersect_In l1 l4 J1 && Intersect_In l2 l4 J2 && Intersect_In l3 l4 J3.
```



# Finite Projective Spaces $PG(3,q)$

	# points	# lines	# points per line
$PG(3, 2)$	15	35	3
$PG(3, 3)$	40	130	4
$PG(3, 4)$	85	357	5
$PG(3, q)$	$(q^2 + 1)(q + 1)$	$(q^2 + q + 1)(q^2 + 1)$	$q + 1$

- By duality : # planes = # points.
- Describing the incidence relation of  $PG(3, q)$  :  
for each line, we provide the  $q+1$  points which belong to it.

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# Coq specifications

- **Point** and **Line** as simple inductive types.
  - Case analysis is easy.
  - Finding a witness can be challenging.  
= trying each possible value and running the tactics.
  - Writing the specification is a bit boring (even worse with higher orders).

```
Inductive Point := P0 | P1 | P2 | ... | P14.
```

- **Automation**
  - An external program to generate the specification
  - Also useful to generate the witnesses for existential proofs
    - incidence relation as a boolean predicate
    - decidable equality
    - *ad-hoc* order relation on points and lines
    - witnesses are computed in advance

# Inductive Definitions and Functions

```
Inductive Point :=  
| P0 | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 | P7 | P8 | P9 | P10 | P11 | P12 | P13 | P14 .
```

```
Inductive Line :=  
| L0 | L1 | L2 | L3 | L4 | L5 | L6 | L7 | L8 | L9  
| L10 | L11 | L12 | L13 | L14 | L15 | L16 | L17 | L18 | L19  
| L20 | L21 | L22 | L23 | L24 | L25 | L26 | L27 | L28 | L29  
| L30 | L31 | L32 | L33 | L34 .
```

```
Definition incid_lp (p:Point) (l:Line) : bool :=  
match l with  
| L0 => match p with P0 | P1 | P2 => true | _ => false end  
| L1 => match p with P0 | P3 | P4 => true | _ => false end  
| L2 => match p with P0 | P5 | P6 => true | _ => false end  
| L3 => match p with P0 | P7 | P8 => true | _ => false end  
| L4 => match p with P0 | P10 | P9 => true | _ => false end  
| [...] end.  
end.
```

```
Definition f_a3_3 (l1:Line) (l2:Line) (l3:Line) :=  
match l3 with  
| L0 => match l2 with  
| L0 => match l1 with  
| L0 => (L0, (P0,P0,P0))  
| _ => (L0, (P0,P0,P0))  
end  
| _ => (L0, (P0,P0,P0))  
end  
| L1 => [...] end.  
end.
```

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# Spreads and Packings of $PG(3,q)$

- A **spread** of  $PG(3,q)$  is a set of  $q^2 + 1$  lines which are pairwise disjoint and thus partitions the set of points.
  - In  $PG(3,2)$ , it corresponds to some sets of 5 lines.
- A **packing** of  $PG(3,q)$  is a set of  $q^2 + q + 1$  spreads which are pairwise disjoint and thus partitions the set of lines.
  - In  $PG(3,2)$ , it corresponds to some sets of 7 spreads.

## Results for PG(3,2)

- There are 56 (isomorphic) spreads in PG(3,2).
- There are 240 packings in PG(3,2), upto isomorphism.
- These 240 packings are divided into 2 distinct equivalence classes (120 packings each).
- See [Finite Projective Spaces of Three Dimensions](#) (Hirschfeld,1985) for details

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- Formal definition of a spread

```
Definition is_partition (p q r s t: list Point) :bool :=  
(forall_Point (fun x => inb x p || inb x q || inb x r || inb x s || inb x t)) &&  
(forall_Point (fun x => negb (inb x p && inb x q && inb x r && inb x s && inb x t))).
```

```
Definition is_spread5 (l1 l2 l3 l4 l5:Line) : bool :=  
disj_5l l1 l2 l3 l4 l5 && is_partition l1 l2 l3 l4.
```

- Spreads are computed externally.
- This exactly computes all the spreads of  $PG(3,2)$ .

```
Lemma is_spread_descr : forall l1 l2 l3 l4 l5,  
(is_spread5 l1 l2 l3 l4 l5) <-> In [l1;l2;l3;l4;l5] spreads.
```

- Proceeds by induction of the 5 variables  $l_1, l_2, l_3, l_4, l_5$   
( $35^5 = 52\ 521\ 875$  cases)

# Spreads

- All these spreads are isomorphic.
  - Collineation : bijection which respects the incidence relation
  - There exists a collineation between each pair of spreads.

```
Lemma all\_isomorphic\_lemma : forall t1 t2 : list Line,  
  In t1 spreads -> In t2 spreads -> are_isomorphic t1 t2.
```

- Proof achieved using a circular argument  
 $S_0 \rightarrow S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow S_{55} \rightarrow S_0$

# Packings

- We build the 240 packings of  $PG(3,2)$ .
- We still need to show that they are no other packings of  $PG(3,2)$ .
- We build 2 classes of isomorphim (120 packings each).
- We still need to show that they are actually two **distinct** classes.

# Issues and Solutions

- Issues
  - Finding effective representations of objects for both computation and formal (automated reasoning)
  - Reaching the Frontiers/Limitations of Coq
- Solutions
  - Enhancing Coq abilities
  - Circumventing the limitations
    - Simplifying
    - Decomposing the proof
    - ...

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# Conclusions and Future Work

- Achievements
  - Some (Big) Formal Proofs in  $PG(3,2)$
  - Pushing Coq to its limits
- Next steps (examples of state-of-the-art results)
  - Betten. *The packings of  $PG(3,3)$* . 2015
  - Svetlana Topalova and Stela Zhelezova. *On transitive parallelisms of  $PG(3,4)$* . 2017
- Using alternative provers
  - Lean
  - Z3

# Thanks ! Questions ?

<https://github.com/magaud/PG3q>

