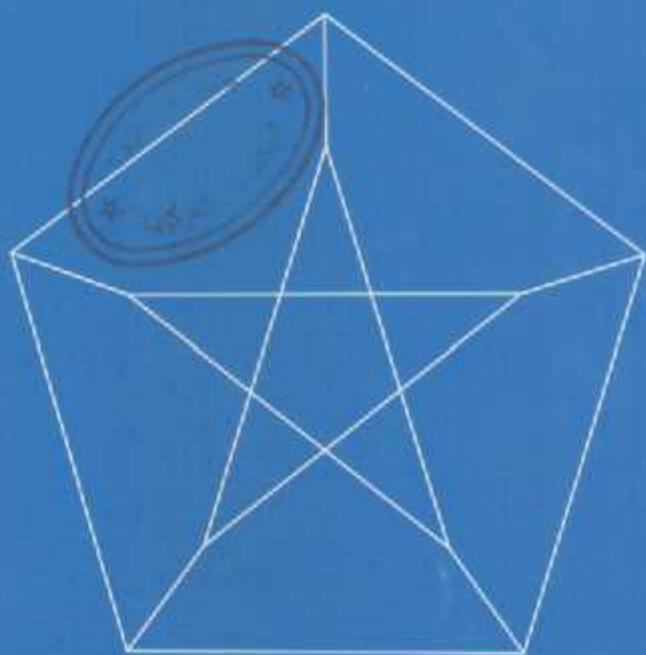




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The twisted cubic in $PG(3, q)$ and translation spreads in $H(q)^2$

G. Baronti, G. Polverino

Department of Mathematics, University of Calabria, I-87030 Rende (CS), Italy (baronti@mat.unical.it)

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Abstract

Using the fundamental theorem of Galois theory, results on the classical generalized hexagon $H(q)$ and the translation plane $\mathcal{P}(H(q))$ are established. In particular, Cameron (1978) [16], [17] has proved that $H(q)$ is transitive for odd q and $H(q^2)$ is 2-transitive for odd q . In this paper we extend these results to even q .

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Keywords: Generalized hexagon; Spread; Translation plane

1. Introduction

In [16] Cameron et al. prove that each generalized hexagon with respect to a line of the generalized hexagon $H(q)$ is a linear space containing \mathcal{L}_q lines, defined as \mathcal{L}_q lines subset \mathcal{L} of $H(q)$, $q \geq 3$, of rank 3, whose points belong to a unique circle of a q -spread \mathcal{F} of $H(q)$, $q \geq 3$, and conversely. This observation has motivated the study of \mathcal{L}_q linear sets of $H(q)$, $q \geq 3$, of rank 3, with the main hypothesis

(L) the authors prove that if q is a Fermat prime, then each \mathcal{L}_q linear set of $H(q)$ is a \mathcal{L}_q linear set of rank 3 of $H(q)$, $q \geq 3$, whose points belong to a unique circle of a q -spread \mathcal{F} of $H(q)$, $q \geq 3$, containing that linear set of circles of \mathcal{F} , and conversely of this set \mathcal{L} .

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