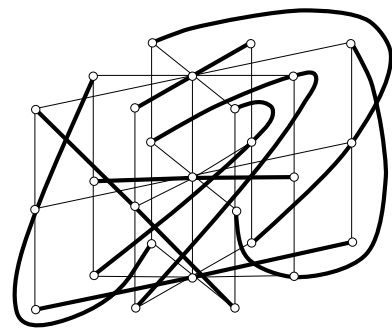


## IV. Geometry

- partial geometries
- classification
- pseudogeometric
- quadratic forms
- isotropic spaces
- classical generalized quadrangles
- small examples



A unique spread  
in  $GQ(3,3)=W(3)$

A triple  $(P, L, I)$ , i.e., (points, lines, incidence), is called a **partial geometry**  $pg(R, K, T)$ , when  $\forall \ell, \ell' \in L, \forall p, p' \in P$ :

- $|\ell| = K, |\ell \cap \ell'| \leq 1$ ,
- $|p| = R$ , at most one line on  $p$  and  $p'$ ,
- if  $p \notin \ell$ , then there are exactly  $T$  points on  $\ell$  that are collinear with  $p$ .

The **dual**  $(L, P, I^t)$  of a  $pg(R, K, T)$  is again a partial geometry, with parameters  $(K, R, T)$ .

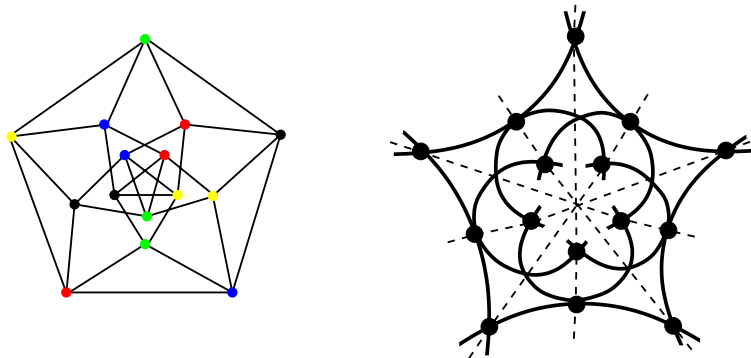
## Classification

We divide partial geometries into four classes:

1.  $T = K$ :  $2$ -( $v, K, 1$ ) design,
2.  $T = R - 1$ : net,  
 $T = K - 1$ : transversal design,
3.  $T = 1$ : a generalized quadrangle  $GQ(K - 1, R - 1)$ ,
4. For  $1 < T < \min\{K - 1, R - 1\}$  we say we have a **proper partial geometry**.

A  $pg(t + 1, s + 1, 1)$  is a **generalized quadrangle**  $GQ(s, t)$ .

## An example



$L(\text{Peterson})$  is the point graph of the  $\text{GQ}(2, 2)$  minus a spread (where spread consists of antipodal classes).

What about trivial examples?

## Pseudo-geometric

The **point graph** of a  $pg(P, L, I)$  is the graph with vertex set  $X = P$  whose edges are the pairs of collinear points (also known as the *collinearity graph*).

The point graph of a  $pg(R, K, T)$  is SRG:  
 $k = R(K - 1)$ ,  $\lambda = (R - 1)(T - 1) + K - 2$ ,  $\mu = RT$ ,  
and eigenvalues  $r = K - 1 - T$  and  $s = -R$ .

A SRG is called **pseudo-geometric**  $(R, K, T)$  if its parameters are as above.

## Quadratic forms

A **quadratic form**  $Q(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  over  $\text{GF}(q)$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree 2, i.e., for  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and an  $(n + 1)$ -dim square matrix  $C$  over  $\text{GF}(q)$ :

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i,j=0}^n c_{ij}x_i x_j = \mathbf{x}C\mathbf{x}^T.$$

A **quadric** in  $\text{PG}(n, q)$  is the set of **isotropic** points:

$$Q = \{\langle \mathbf{x} \rangle \mid Q(\mathbf{x}) = 0\},$$

where  $\langle \mathbf{x} \rangle$  is the 1-dim. subspace of  $\text{GF}(q)^{n+1}$  generated by  $\mathbf{x} \in (\text{GF}(q))^{n+1}$ .

Two quadratic forms  $Q_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $Q_2(\mathbf{x})$  are **projectively equivalent** if there is an invertible matrix  $A$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$  such that

$$Q_2(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda Q_1(\mathbf{x}A).$$

The **rank** of a quadratic form is the smallest number of indeterminates that occur in a projectively equivalent quadratic form.

A quadratic form  $Q(x_0, \dots, x_n)$  (or the quadric  $Q$  in  $\text{PG}(n, q)$  determined by it) is **nondegenerate** if its rank is  $n + 1$ . (i.e.,  $Q \cap Q^\perp = 0$  and also  $Q^\perp = 0$ ).

For  $q$  odd a subspace  $U$  is **degenerate** whenever

$$U \cap U^\perp \neq \emptyset,$$

i.e., whenever its orthogonal complement  $U^\perp$  is degenerate, where  $\perp$  denotes the inner product on the vector space  $V(n+1, q)$  defined by

$$(x, y) := Q(x + y) - Q(x) - Q(y).$$



## Isotropic spaces

A **flat** of projective space  $\text{PG}(n, q)$  (defined over  $(n + 1)$ -dim. space  $V$ ) consists of 1-dim. subspaces of  $V$  that are contained in some subspace of  $V$ .

A flat is said to be **isotropic** when all its points are isotropic.

The dimension of maximal isotropic flats will be determined soon.

**Theorem.** *A nondegenerate quadric  $Q(\mathbf{x})$  in  $\text{PG}(n, q)$ ,  $q$  odd, has the following canonical form*

(i) *for  $n$  even:  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=0}^n x_i^2$ ,*

(ii) *for  $n$  odd:*

(a)  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=0}^n x_i^2$ ,

(b)  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \eta x_0^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$ , *where  $\eta$  is not a square.*

**Theorem.** Any nondegenerate quadratic form  $Q(\mathbf{x})$  over  $\text{GF}(q)$  is projectively equivalent to

(i) for  $n = 2s$ :  $\mathcal{P}_{2s} = x_0^2 + \sum_{i=1}^s x_{2i}x_{2i-1}$  (**parabolic**),

(ii) for  $n = 2s - 1$

(a)  $\mathcal{H}_{2s-1} = \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} x_{2i}x_{2i+1}$  (**hyperbolic**),

(b)  $\mathcal{H}_{2s-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{s-1} x_{2i}x_{2i+1} + f(x_0, x_1)$ , (**elliptic**)

where  $f$  is an irreducible quadratic form.

The dimension of maximal isotropic flats:

**Theorem.** *A nondegenerate quadric  $Q$  in  $\text{PG}(n, q)$  has the following number of points and maximal projective dim. of a flat  $F$ ,  $F \subseteq Q$ :*

- |              |   |                    |                    |
|--------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>(i)</b>   | $\frac{q^n - 1}{q - 1},$                            | $\frac{n - 2}{2},$ | <i>parabolic</i>   |
| <b>(ii)</b>  | $\frac{(q^{(n+1)/2} - 1)(q^{(n+1)/2} + 1)}{q - 1},$ | $\frac{n - 1}{2}$  | <i>hyperbolic,</i> |
| <b>(iii)</b> | $\frac{(q^{(n+1)/2} - 1)(q^{(n+1)/2} + 1)}{q - 1},$ | $\frac{n - 3}{2}$  | <i>elliptic.</i>   |