

# Projective Geometry

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# Chapter 0

## Some Algebra

### 0.1 Groups, Rings and Fields

#### 0.1.1 Groups

**Definition.** A *group* is an ordered pair  $(G, *)$  where  $G$  is a set and  $*$  is a binary operation on  $G$  satisfying the following axioms:

- (i)  $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c) \forall a, b \in G$ ,
- (ii)  $\exists e \in G$ , called identity of  $G$ , such that  $\forall a \in G$  we have  $a * e = e * a = a$ ,
- (iii) for each  $a \in G$ ,  $\exists a^{-1} \in G$ , called inverse of  $a$ , such that  $a * a^{-1} = a^{-1} * a = e$ ,

The group is called abelian is  $a * b = b * a \forall a, b \in G$ . [DF04]

**Ex.**  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathbb{C}$  are groups under  $+$  with  $e = 0$ , and  $a^{-1} = -a$  for all  $a$ , and  $\mathbb{Q} - \{0\}$ ,  $\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ , and  $\mathbb{C} - \{0\}$  are groups under  $\times$  with  $e = 1$  and  $a^{-1} = \frac{1}{a}$  for all  $a$ .

*Remark.* If  $G$  is a group under the operation  $*$ , then

1. the identity of  $G$  is unique,
2. for each  $a \in G$ ,  $a^{-1}$  is uniquely determined,
3.  $(a^{-1})^{-1} = a$  for all  $a \in G$ ,
4.  $(a * b)^{-1} = b^{-1} * a^{-1}$ ,
5. for any  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in G$ , the value of  $a_1 * a_2 * \dots * a_n$  is independent of how the expression is bracketed,

6. if  $a * u = a * v$ , then  $u = v$ , and if  $u * b = v * b$ , then  $u = v$ .

**Definition.** Let  $(G, *)$  and  $(H, \diamond)$  be groups. A map  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  such that  $\phi(x * y) = \phi(x) \diamond \phi(y)$  for all  $x, y \in G$  is called a *homomorphism*. The map is called an *isomorphism* and  $G$  and  $H$  are said to be *isomorphic*, written  $G \cong H$ , if  $\phi$  is a bijective homomorphism. [DF04]

**Ex.** For any group  $G$ ,  $G \cong G$ . The identity map provides an obvious isomorphism.  
- The exponentiation map  $\exp : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  defined by  $\exp(x) = e^x$ , is an isomorphism from  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$  to  $(\mathbb{R}^+, \times)$ .

### 0.1.2 Fields

**Definition.** A *field* is a set  $F$  together with two binary operations  $+$  and  $\times$  such that  $(F, +)$  is an abelian group and  $(F - \{0\}, \times)$  is also an abelian group, and the following distribution law holds:  $a \times (b + c) = (a \times b) + (a \times c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in F$ . [DF04]

**Ex.** With usual addition and multiplication,  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are fields.  
-  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $p$  is a prime, with modular addition and multiplication, is a finite field.

*Remark.* For any field  $F$  if  $|F| < \infty$ , then  $|F| = p^m$  for some prime  $p$  and some integer  $m$ .

**Definition.** The *characteristic* of a field  $F$ , denoted by  $ch(F)$ , is defined to be the smallest positive integer  $p$  such that  $p \cdot 1_F = 0$  if such  $p$  exists, and defined to be zero otherwise. [DF04]

*Remark.* The characteristic of a field  $F$ ,  $ch(F)$ , is either 0 or a prime  $p$ .

### 0.1.3 Rings

**Definition.** A *ring*  $R$  is a set together with two binary operations  $+$  and  $\times$  satisfying the following axioms

- (i)  $(R, +)$  is an abelian group,
- (ii)  $\times$  is associative:  $(a \times b) \times c = a \times (b \times c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in R$ ,
- (iii) the distributive laws hold in  $R$ : for all  $a, b, c \in R$ ,  $(a + b) \times c = (a \times c) + (b \times c)$  and  $a \times (b + c) = (a \times b) + (a \times c)$

The ring  $R$  is coommutative if  $R$  is commutative.  $R$  is said to have an identity if there is an element  $1 \in R$  with  $1 \times a = a \times 1$  for all  $a \in R$ . [DF04]

**Ex.** All fields are obviously rings.

- The simplest rings are *trivial rings*, obtained by taking  $R$  to be any abelian group and defining multiplication  $\times$  on  $R$  by  $a \times b = 0$  for all  $(a, b) \in R$ . *trivial rings* are also commutative, as obviuos from the definition.
- The ring of integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  - under usual addition and multiplication is a commutative ring with identity 1.

## 0.2 Field Extensions

**Definition.** If  $K$  is a field containing the subfield  $F$ , then  $K$  is said to be an *extension* of  $F$ , denoted  $K/F$ . The field  $F$  is sometimes called the base field of the extension. [DF04]

**Definition.** The *prime subfield* of a field  $F$  is the subfield of  $F$  generated by its multiplicative identity  $1_F$ . It is isomorphic to either  $\mathbb{Q}$ (if  $ch(F) = 0$ ), or to  $\mathbb{F}_p$ (if  $ch(F) = p$ ). [DF04]

*Remark.* Every field  $F$  is an extension of its prime subfield.

**Definition.** The *degree* of a field extension  $K/F$ , denoted  $[K : F]$ , is the dimension of  $K$  as a vector space over  $F$ . [DF04]

An important class of field extensions are those obtained by trying to solve equations over a field  $F$ . Famously, Gauss extended  $\mathbb{R}$  in an attempt to solve the equation  $x^2 + 1 = 0$ . The new field generated by adjoining the roots of the equation  $i$  and  $-i$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ . Given any field  $F$  and a polynomial  $p(x) \in F[x]$ , one can similarly extend it to form a field  $K$ , containing solution to the equation  $p(x) = 0$ .

# Chapter 1

## Conics

**Definition.** A conic section, a conic, or a quadratic curve is a curve obtained from a cone's surface intersecting a plane.

### 1.1 Dandelin Spheres

Germinal Pierre Dandelin, a 19th century French-Belgian Professor, discovered this beautiful proof to demonstrate that any plane that cuts through a right circular cone produces a quadratic curve.

*Theorem.* When a plane intersects a right circular cone, the curve produced will either be an ellipse, a parabola or a hyperbola.

*Proof.* Place a sphere tangent to the intersecting plane  $\pi$  and the cone such that it touches the plane at  $F$ , and the cone in a circle  $C$  with centre  $O$  that lies on a horizontal plane  $\epsilon$ .<sup>1</sup>

Take an arbitrary point  $P$  on the curve  $Q$ , and extend the line  $VP$  from the vertex  $V$  of the cone to meet  $C$  at point  $L$ . Let  $D$  be the point on the intersection of the planes  $\pi$  and  $\epsilon$  such that  $PD$  is perpendicular to the line of intersection. (If the planes do not intersect,  $Q$  will be a circle)

Drop a perpendicular  $PM$  on  $OL$  such that  $\triangle PML$  and  $\triangle PMD$  are both right angled. Denote  $\angle PLM$  as  $\alpha$ , and  $\angle PDM$  as  $\beta$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Assuming such sphere exists.

From the triangles  $\triangle PML$  and  $\triangle PMD$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \alpha &= \frac{PM}{PD} \\ \text{and } \sin \beta &= \frac{PM}{PL} \\ \text{i.e. } \frac{PL}{PD} &= \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta} \end{aligned}$$

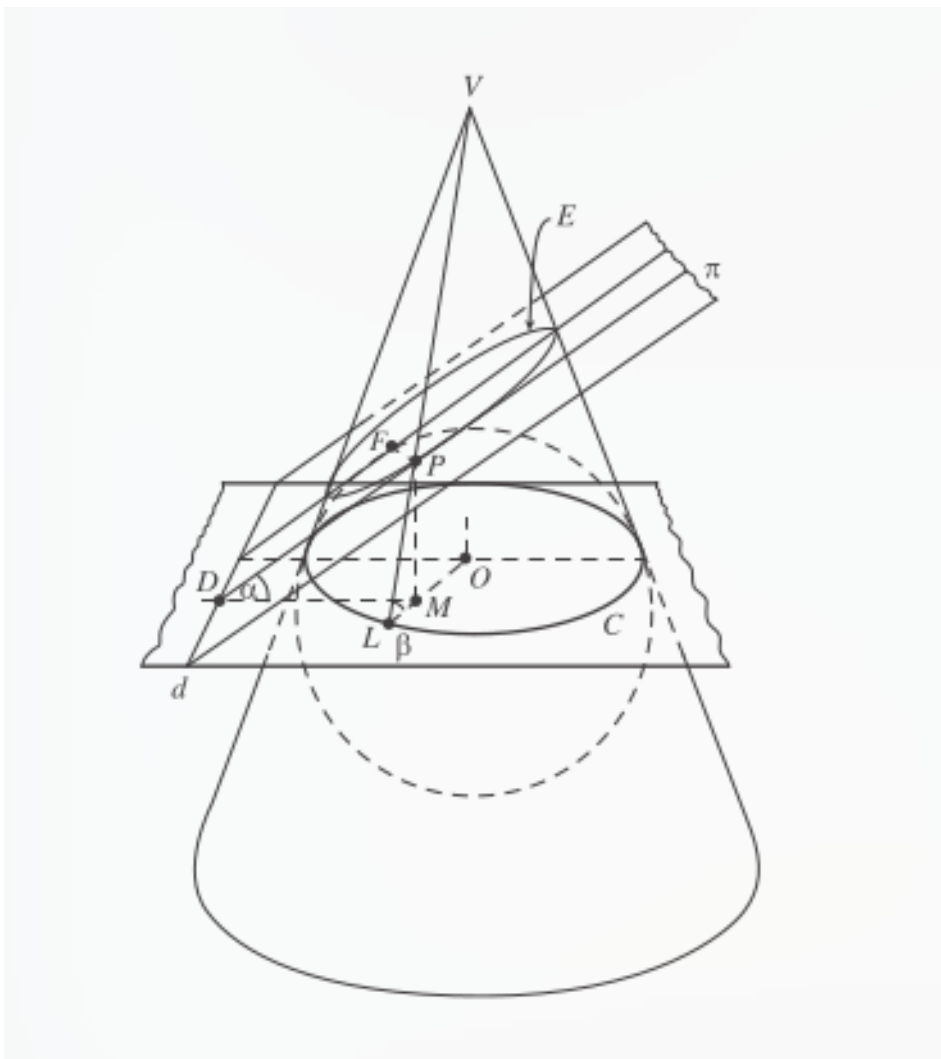


Figure 1.1: When  $0 < \alpha < \beta < \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Figure from [BEG12]

Since  $PL$  and  $PF$  are both tangents from  $P$  to the sphere,  $PF = PL$ . Therefore,

$$\frac{PF}{PD} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta}$$

i.e.  $PF = e \cdot PD$ , where  $e = \sin \alpha / \sin \beta$

It follows from the focus - directrix definition that  $Q$  will be an ellipse if  $\alpha < \beta$ , a parabola if  $\alpha = \beta$ , or a hyperbola if  $\alpha > \beta$ . ■

*Remark.* Proof adapted from [BEG12] with modifications to generalize it for all conics.

## 1.2 Group Laws on Conics

Consider a conic section  $C : \{f(x) = 0, f(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]\}$ , where  $\deg(f(x)) = 2$ , and  $ch(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$ , and a point  $O \in C$ . For any  $P, Q \in C$ , define a binary operation  $\oplus : C \times C \rightarrow C$  by  $P \oplus Q = R$ , where  $R$  is such that  $l_{PQ} \parallel l_{OR}$ .

*Theorem.* Set of points of  $C$  forms a group  $G(C)$  under the binary operation  $\oplus$ , with  $O$  as the identity element.

*Proof. Closure:* The line through  $O$  parallel to  $l_{PQ}$  necessarily meets  $C$  again, (counting algebraic multiplicities) since for any quadratic equation with real coefficients, if one of the roots is real, the other one must be real too.

**Existence of Identity Element:** The point  $O$  serves as the identity element.

**Existence of Inverse:** Constructively, when  $Q$  is such that the line parallel to  $l_{PQ}$  that passes through  $O$  is tangent to the conic, i.e when  $R = O$ , we get  $P \oplus Q = O$ . So,  $Q$  serves as the inverse of  $P$ .

**Associativity:** To prove associativity, we'll find algebraic formula for  $P \oplus Q$  for standard conics, i.e for the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ , for the parabola  $y = x^2$ , and for the hyperbola  $xy = 1$ . In the next chapter, we'll prove that any ellipse, hyperbola or parabola is affine congruent to its standard form. This result will generalize the result to all conics. The following formulae will be valid for any fields with non-two characteristic.

Let the point  $P$  be  $(p_1, p_2)$ ,  $Q$  be  $(q_1, q_2)$ ,  $O$  be  $(o_1, o_2)$ , and  $R$  be  $(r_1, r_2)$ , and let the slope of the line  $l_{PQ}$  be  $\lambda = (q_2 - p_2)/(q_1 - p_1)$ , assuming  $P \neq Q$ , since associativity would be trivial then. Let  $\ell$  be the line through  $O$  with slope  $\lambda$ . The coordinates of  $R$  will satisfy  $\lambda = \frac{r_2 - o_2}{r_1 - o_1} = \frac{q_2 - p_2}{q_1 - p_1}$ ,  $\Rightarrow r_2 = o_2 + \mu(q_2 - p_2)$  and  $r_1 = o_1 + \mu(q_1 - p_1)$  for some  $\mu \in \mathbb{F}$ .



(i) **Circle**

Without loss of generality, let  $O = (1, 0)$ . Since  $R$  also lies on  $C$ ,  $r_1^2 + r_2^2 = 1$ .  
i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + \mu(q_1 - p_1))^2 + (0 + \mu(q_2 - p_2))^2 = 1 \\ \implies & \mu(\mu(q_1 - p_1)^2 + \mu(q_2 - p_2)^2 + 2(q_1 - p_1)) = 0 \\ \implies & \mu = 0 \text{ or } \mu = -\frac{2(q_1 - p_1)}{(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2} \end{aligned}$$

We assume that  $(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2 \neq 0$ . Because if it was so,

$$\begin{aligned} & q_1^2 + p_1^2 - 2q_1p_1 + q_2^2 + p_2^2 - 2p_2q_2 = 0 \\ \implies & 1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2 = 0 \\ \implies & p_1^2q_1^2 = 1 + p_2^2q_2^2 - 2p_2q_2 \\ \implies & p_1^2q_1^2 = 1 + (1 - p_1^2)(1 - q_1^2) - 2p_2q_2 \\ \implies & 0 = 2 - p_1^2 - q_1^2 - 2p_2q_2 \\ \implies & (p_2 - q_2)^2 = 0 \\ \implies & p_2 = q_2 \text{ and similarly, } p_1 = q_1 \end{aligned}$$

Which is when  $P = Q$ , which we have assumed not to be true.

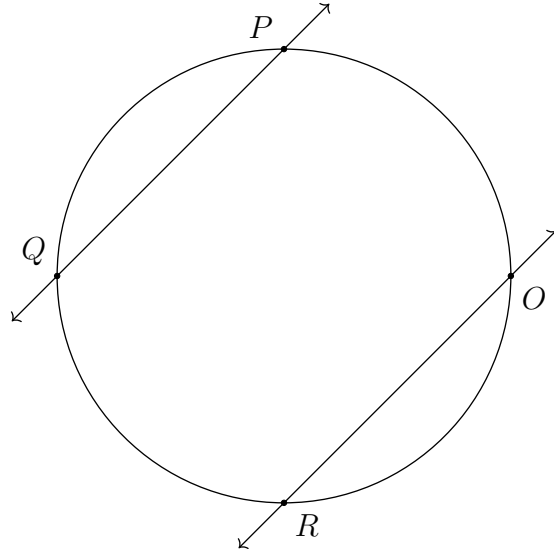


Figure 1.2:  $R = P \oplus Q$  when  $C$  is a circle.

The  $\mu = 0$  solution corresponds to  $O$ . Considering the other solution,

$$\begin{aligned}
r_1 &= 1 - \frac{2(q_1 - p_1)^2}{(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2} \\
&= \frac{(q_2 - p_2)^2 - (q_1 - p_1)^2}{(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2} \\
&= \frac{q_2^2 + p_2^2 - 2p_2q_2 - q_1^2 - p_1^2 + 2p_1q_1}{2(1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2)} \\
&= \frac{1 - p_1^2 - q_1^2 + p_1q_1 - p_2q_2}{1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2} \\
&= \frac{(p_1q_1 - p_2q_2)(1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2)}{1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2} \\
&= p_1q_1 - p_2q_2 \\
\text{and, } r_2 &= -\frac{2(q_1 - p_1)(q_2 - p_2)}{(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2} \\
&= \frac{p_2q_2 + p_2q_1 - p_1p_2 - q_1q_2}{1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2} \\
&= \frac{(p_1q_2 + p_2q_1)(1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2)}{1 - p_1q_1 - p_2q_2} \\
&= p_1q_2 + p_2q_1
\end{aligned}$$

$$\implies R = P \oplus Q = (r_1, r_2) = (p_1q_1 - p_2q_2, p_1q_2 + p_2q_1)$$

Using this formula, it can be proved that  $(P \oplus Q) \oplus R = P \oplus (Q \oplus R)$ .

(ii) **Parabola**

Without loss of generality, let  $O = (0, 0)$ . The points of the standard parabola can be parameterized as  $(t, t^2)$ . Let  $P = (p, p^2)$ ,  $Q = (q, q^2)$ , and  $R = (r, r^2)$ . Substituting these in  $\lambda$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda &= \frac{r^2}{r} = \frac{q^2 - p^2}{q - p} \\
&\implies r = p + q \\
&\implies P \oplus Q = (p + q, (p + q)^2)
\end{aligned}$$

Since the parameters just get added, it can be easily proved that  $P \oplus (Q \oplus R) = (P \oplus Q) \oplus R$

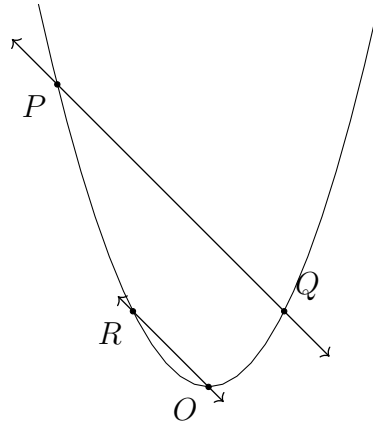


Figure 1.3:  $R = P \oplus Q$  when  $C$  is a parabola.

(iii) **Hyperbola**

Without loss of generality, let  $O = (1, 1)$ . The points of the standard hyperbola can be parameterized as  $(t, \frac{1}{t})$ . Let  $P = (p, \frac{1}{p})$ ,  $Q = (q, \frac{1}{q})$ , and  $R = (r, \frac{1}{r})$ . Substituting these in  $\lambda$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{\frac{1}{r} - 1}{r - 1} = \frac{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{p}}{p - q} \\ \implies &r = pq \\ \implies &P \oplus Q = (pq, \frac{1}{pq}) \end{aligned}$$

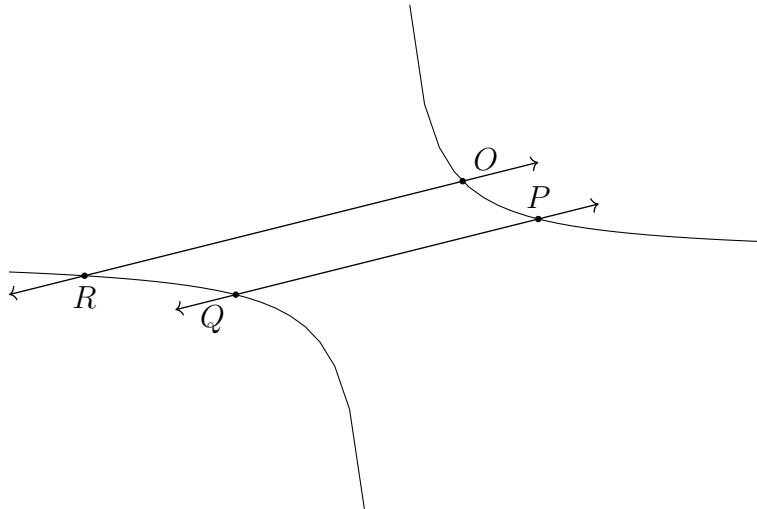


Figure 1.4:  $R = P \oplus Q$  when  $C$  is a hyperbola.

Since parameters just get multiplied, it can be easily proved that  
 $P \oplus (Q \oplus R) = (P \oplus Q) \oplus R$

■

*Remark.* Proof adapted from [Shi09] with a formula based field independent proof for associativity.

### 1.3 Generating Solutions for Diophantine Equations

Consider the conic  $C = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q} \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$ , and  $P = (1, 0) \in C$ . Let  $l_m$  be the line with slope  $m \in \mathbb{Q}$ , passing through  $P$  and another point  $Q = (x, y) \in C$ . The coordinates of  $Q$  can be found by substituting  $y = m(x - 1)$ .

$$x^2 + m^2(x - 1)^2 - 1 = (1 + m^2)x^2 - 2m^2x - (1 - m^2) = 0$$

using the quadratic formula,

$$x = \frac{m^2 \pm 1}{1 + m^2}$$

using the non-trivial solution, we get  $x = \frac{m^2 - 1}{m^2 + 1}$  and  $y = \frac{-2m}{m^2 + 1}$ . substituting these values in the equation for the conic,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{m^2 - 1}{m^2 + 1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{-2m}{m^2 + 1}\right)^2 &= 1 \\ \implies (m^2 - 1)^2 + (2m)^2 &= (m^2 + 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

This equation will produce integer solutions for  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ , though not all of them. Similarly rational or integer solutions for any equations of the form  $ax^2 + by^2 = c$ , where  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

### 1.4 Conics in Fields of Characteristic 2

# Chapter 2

## Affine Geometry

### 2.1 Affine Space

**Definition.** A set  $\varepsilon$  is endowed with the structure of an affine space by a vector space  $E$  and a mapping  $\Theta$  that associates a vector of  $E$  with any ordered pair of points in  $\varepsilon$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \varepsilon \times \varepsilon & \longrightarrow & E \\ (A, B) & \longmapsto & \overrightarrow{AB} \end{array}$$

such that:

- for any point  $A$  of  $\varepsilon$ , the partial map  $\Theta_A : B \mapsto \overrightarrow{AB}$  is a bijection from  $\varepsilon$  to  $E$ .
- for any points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  in  $\varepsilon$ , we have  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \overrightarrow{AC} + \overrightarrow{CB}$ .

The vector space  $E$  is the direction of  $\varepsilon$ , or its underlying vector space. The elements of  $\varepsilon$  are called points, and the dimension of the vector space  $E$  is called the dimension of  $\varepsilon$ . [Aud02]

### 2.2 Fundamental Theorem of Affine Geometry

### 2.3 Affine Congruence of Conics

# Chapter 3

## Projective Geometry

### 3.1 The Projective Space

### 3.2 Fundamental Theorem of Projective Geometry

### 3.3 Some Theorems

*Theorem* (Desargues's Theorem).

*Proof.* Consider the figure

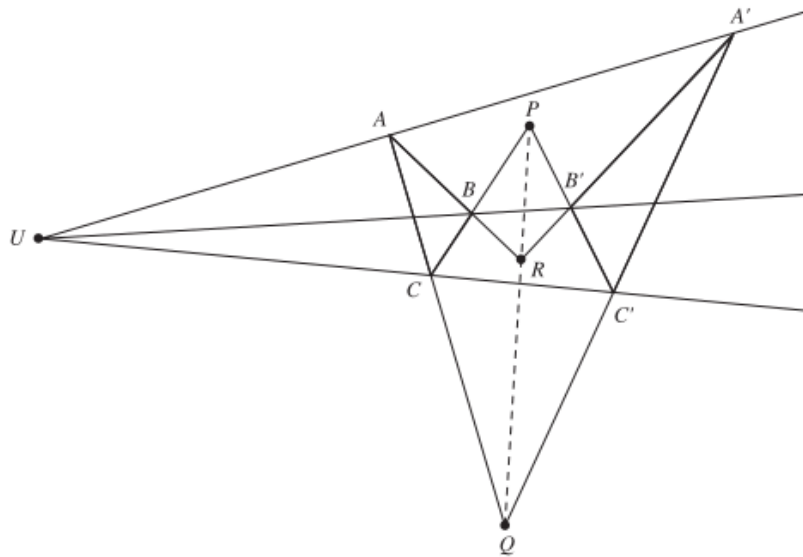
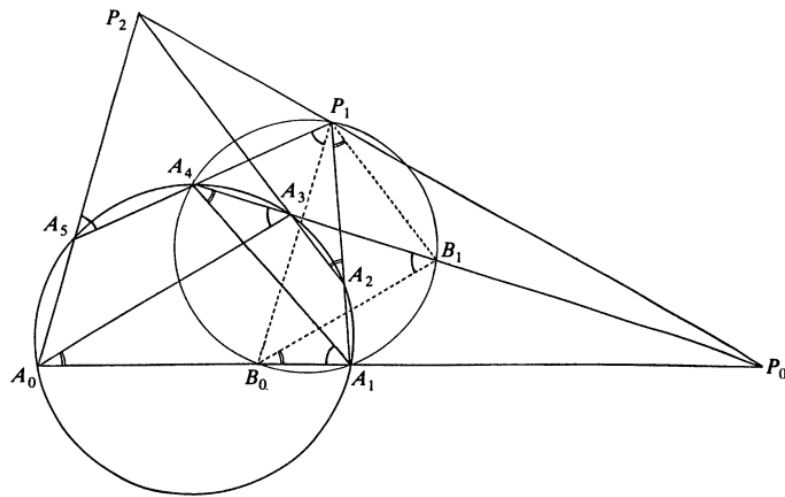


Figure 3.1: Figure from [BEG12].

1

*Theorem* (Pascal's Theorem).

*Proof.* Consider the figure



*Remark.* Proof adapted from [vY93].

### 3.4 Group Laws on Elliptic Curves

**Definition.** An elliptic curve is a non-empty, non-singular, degree 3 projective curve. [Spa]

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