

Some progress on locally-primitive generalized polygons

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joint work with Caiheng Li, Peice Hua

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Some definitions on finite geometries

A **finite geometry (of rank 2)** is a triple $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$, where \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L} are disjoint non-empty finite sets and $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{L}$ is a relation, the **incidence relation**.

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\mathcal{S} is a **partial linear space** if any two collinear points are incident with a unique line.

$$P \sim Q \Rightarrow L := PQ, L \sim M \Rightarrow P' := L \cap M$$

Definitions on generalized polygons

Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$ be a finite geometry.

The **incidence graph** Γ of \mathcal{S} is the graph with the vertex set $\mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$ and flags of \mathcal{S} as edges.

Definition

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\mathcal{S} is a **finite generalized n -gon** if the following two axioms are satisfied:

- ▶ \mathcal{S} contains two ordinary k -gon as a sub-geometry, for $2 \leq k < n$.
- ▶ Any two elements $x, y \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$ are contained in some ordinary n -gon as a sub-geometry in \mathcal{S} .

Definitions on generalized polygons

Let \mathcal{S} be a finite generalized n -gon.

\mathcal{S} has order (s, t) if Γ is bi-regular of degree $(s + 1, t + 1)$, where $s + 1$ is the degree of vertices in \mathcal{L} .

A finite generalized n -gon \mathcal{S} is called **thick** if every vertex of Γ has degree at least 3.

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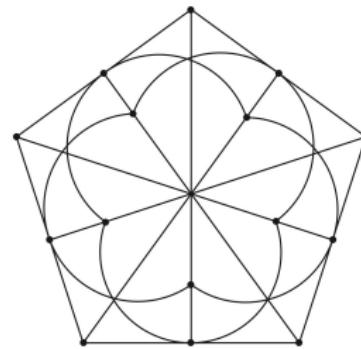
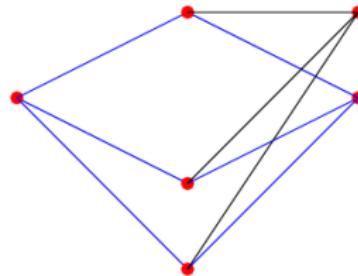
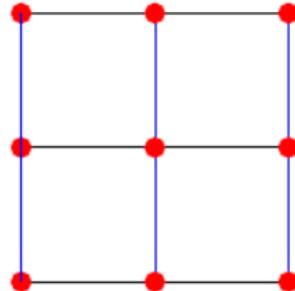
A finite generalized n -gon \mathcal{S} is called **thick** if every vertex of Γ has degree at least 3.

Lemma

- (*Feit-Higman, 1964*) Finite thick generalized n -gons exist only for $n \in \{3, 4, 6, 8\}$.
- (*V Maldeghem, Generalized Polygons*) Every thick generalized n -gon has an order (s, t) with $s, t \geq 2$; if $n = 3$ then $s = t$, and if $n = 8$ then $s \neq t$.

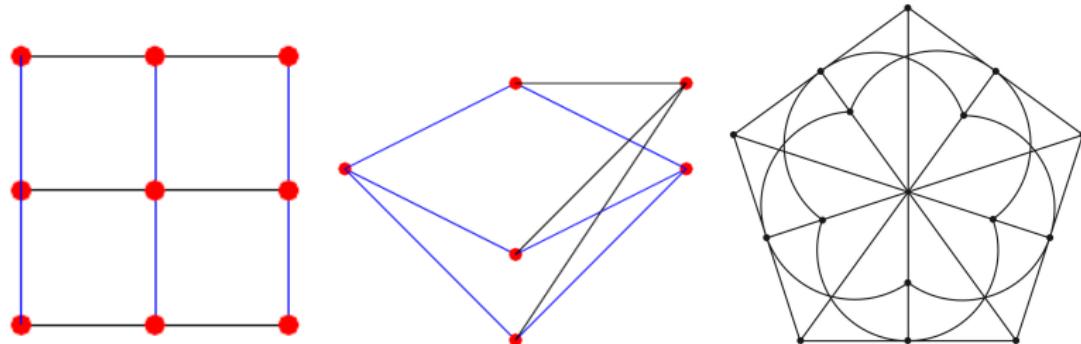
Examples of finite generalized n -gons

$n = 4$, examples of thin and thick generalized quadrangles.

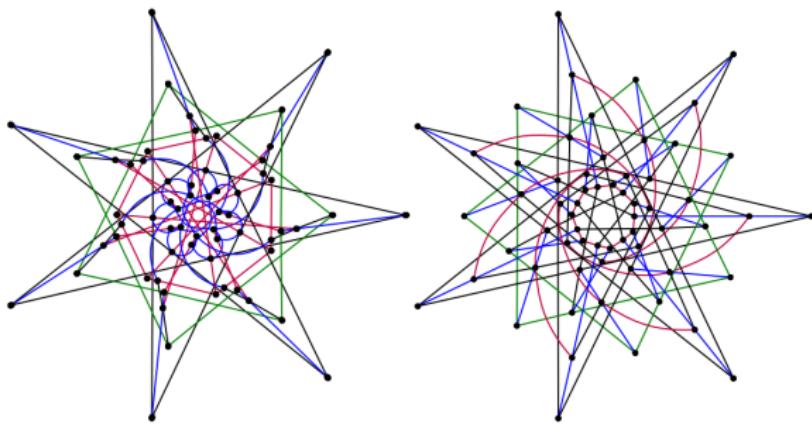


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$n = 6$, example of the smallest thick generalized hexagon.



Equivalent definitions on thick n -gons for $n \in \{4, 6, 8\}$

Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$ be a finite partial linear space. Then \mathcal{S} is a thick generalized n -gon of order (s, t) if the following two conditions hold:

- ① each point is incident with $t + 1$ lines and each line is incident with $s + 1$ points;
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 - ▶ ($n = 6$) 6 is the smallest positive integer k such that \mathcal{S} has a circuit consisting of k points and k lines, and any two elements $x, y \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$ are contained in some circuit.

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 - ▶ ($n = 6$) 6 is the smallest positive integer k such that \mathcal{S} has a circuit consisting of k points and k lines, and any two elements $x, y \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$ are contained in some circuit.
 - ▶ ($n = 8$) 8 is the smallest positive integer k such that \mathcal{S} has a circuit consisting of k points and k lines, and any two elements $x, y \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$ are contained in some circuit.

Known examples of finite classical thick GQs

The classical GQs, embedded in $PG(d, q)$, $3 \leq d \leq 5$.

Table: The classical GQs

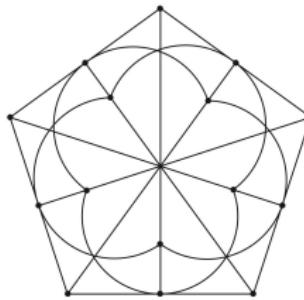
\mathcal{Q}	Order	$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{Q})$	Symmetry
$W_3(q)$	(q, q)	$P\Gamma Sp_4(q)$	flag-trans., point-prim., line-prim.
$Q_4(q)$, q odd	(q, q)	$P\Gamma O_5(q)$	flag-trans., point-prim., line-prim.
$H_3(q^2)$	(q^2, q)	$P\Gamma U_4(q)$	flag-trans., point-prim., line-prim.
$Q_5^-(q)$	(q, q^2)	$P\Gamma O_6^-(q)$	flag-trans., point-prim., line-prim.
$H_4(q^2)$	(q^2, q^3)	$P\Gamma U_5(q)$	flag-trans., point-prim., line-prim.
$H_4(q^2)^D$	(q^3, q^2)	$P\Gamma U_5(q)$	flag-trans., point-prim., line-prim.

The smallest thick GQ: $GQ(2, 2) \cong W_3(2)$

Let $V = \mathbb{F}_q^3$.

- Take $b(x, y) = x_1y_2 - x_2y_1 + x_3y_4 - x_4y_3$;
- \mathcal{P} : 1-dimensional isotropic subspace of $V_4(\mathbb{F}_q)$;
- \mathcal{L} : 2-dimensional isotropic subspace of $V_4(\mathbb{F}_q)$;
- each 2-dim. isotropic subspace contains $q + 1$ points.
- each 1-dim. isotropic subspace is contained in $\frac{\frac{q^3-1}{q-1}-1}{q} = q + 1$ lines.
- $x \in \mathcal{P}, \ell \in \mathcal{L}, x \notin \ell$. $x^\perp \cap \ell$ is a 1-dimensional isotropic subspace.

The unique smallest thick GQ is $W_3(2)$.



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- To each regular point P of a GQ \mathcal{S} of order s , there is associated a GQ of order $(s - 1, s + 1)$, **the only examples where s is not a prime power.**

For more details, see [S E Payne, J A Thas, Finite Generalized Quadrangles, Chap 3].

Known examples of finite thick GHs and GOs

Up to duality, the only known (two infinite families of) examples of **finite generalised hexagons** arose from the finite almost simple groups of Lie type G_2 and 3D_4 , and had orders (q, q) and (q^3, q) respectively.

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Up to duality, the only known (one infinite families of) examples of **finite octagons** arose from the finite almost simple groups of Lie type 2F_4 , and had order $(2^e, 2^{2e})$ with e odd.

For more details, see [[H V Maldeghem, Generalized Polygons, Chap 2](#)].

Automorphism groups on generalized n -gons

Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$ be a finite generalized n -gon.

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All known GHs and GOs are flag-transitive, point-primitive, and line-primitive.

All known classical GQs are flag-transitive, point-primitive, and line primitive.

Classify GPs with certain symmetry?

Open problem 1: Classify all flag-transitive finite generalized n -gons?

Conjecture:

- $n = 4$, ([Kantor, 1991](#)) up to duality, a finite flag-transitive GQ is classical, or $T_2^*(O)$ arise from hyper-oval O in $PG(2, 2^2)$ and $PG(2, 2^4)$ with order $(3, 5)$ and $(15, 17)$ respectively.

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Furthermore, Are all finite GHs and GOs known?

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problem 2: Classify all point-primitive (and line-primitive) finite generalized n -gons?

Local conditions on generalized n -gons

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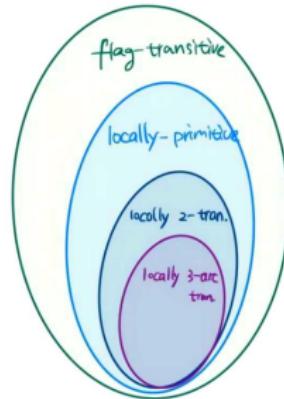
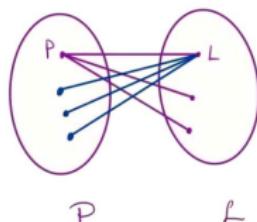
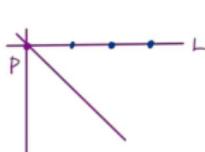
\mathcal{S} is **G -locally transitive** if G_u acts transitively on $\Gamma(u)$ for each u in Γ .

\mathcal{S} is **G -locally primitive** if G_u acts primitively on $\Gamma(u)$ for each u in Γ .

\mathcal{S} is **G -locally 2-transitive** if G_u acts 2-transitively on $\Gamma(u)$ for each u in Γ .

\mathcal{S} is **G -locally 3-arc transitive** if G_u acts 3-arc transitively on $\Gamma(u)$ for each u in Γ .

Relations between local conditions and integral conditions



flag transitive \Leftrightarrow locally transitive

$$\text{locally 2-transitive} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} G_P \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(P) & \text{2-transitive} \\ G_L \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(L) & \text{2-transitive} \end{cases}$$

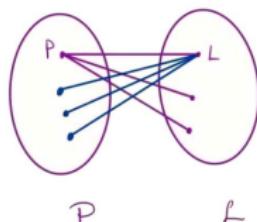
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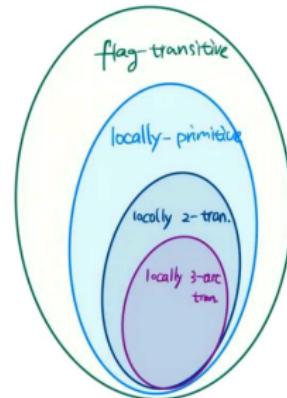
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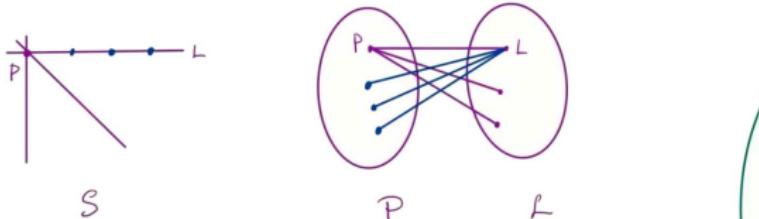
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S is flag-transitive $\Leftrightarrow S$ is locally transitive $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma$ is edge-transitive

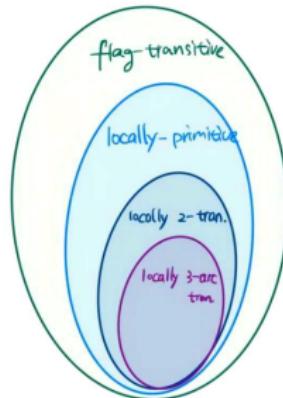
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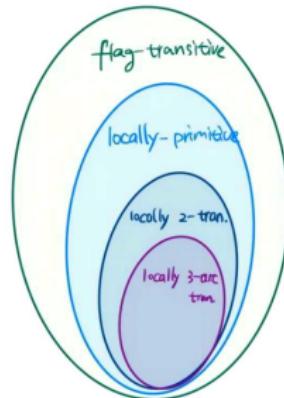
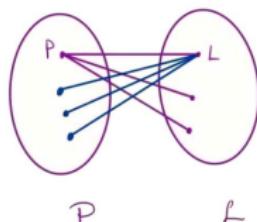
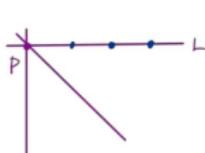
$$\begin{aligned} \text{locally 2-transitive} &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} G_P \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(P) & \text{2-transitive} \\ G_L \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(L) & \text{2-transitive} \end{cases} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} G_P \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(P) & \text{transitive} \\ G_L \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(L) & \text{transitive} \end{cases} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{locally 2-arc transitive} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{locally 3-arc transitive} &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} G_P \curvearrowright \Gamma_3(P) & \text{transitive} \\ G_L \curvearrowright \Gamma_3(L) & \text{transitive} \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{for } n=4} \text{antiflag-transitive} \end{aligned}$$



S is flag-transitive $\Leftrightarrow S$ is locally transitive $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma$ is edge-transitive
 S is locally 2-transitive $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma$ is locally 2-arc transitive.

Relations between local conditions and integral conditions



\mathcal{S} flag-transitive $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{S}$ locally-transitive

$$\begin{aligned} \text{locally 2-transitive} &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} G_P \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(P) & \text{2-transitive} \\ G_L \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(L) & \text{2-transitive} \end{cases} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} G_P \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(P) & \text{transitive} \\ G_L \curvearrowright \Gamma_2(L) & \text{transitive} \end{cases} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{S} \text{ locally 2-arc transitive} \end{aligned}$$

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\mathcal{S} is flag-transitive $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{S}$ is locally transitive $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma$ is edge-transitive

\mathcal{S} is locally 2-transitive $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma$ is locally 2-arc transitive.

For $n = 4$, \mathcal{S} is locally 3-arc transitive $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{S}$ is antiflag-transitive.

Progress on GQs with (integral) primitive conditions

For $n = 4$:

- Bamberg-Giudici-Morris-Poyle-Spiga, (*J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, 2012),
point-primitive+line-primitive \Rightarrow AS type;
- Bamberg-Glasby-Popiel-Praeger, (*J. Combin. Des.*, 2016),
classified GQs with condition point-primitive+line-transitive+HA type
- Bamberg-Popiel-Praeger, (*J. Group Theory*, 2017),
point-primitive+line-transitive \Rightarrow cannot be HS, HC type;
- Bamberg-Popiel-Praeger, (*Nagoya Math. J.*, 2019), point-primitive \Rightarrow
cannot be HC type,
- Feng-Di, (*preprint, 2024+*),
point-primitive \Rightarrow cannot be HS type
- Feng-Lu, (*preprint, 2024+*),
classified GQs with condition point-primitive +line-primitive+
 $Soc(G) = PSL_n(q)$

Progress on GQs with local conditions

- Bamberg-Li-Swartz (*Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 2018*), classified antiflag-transitive (i.e. locally 3-arc transitive) and locally 2-transitive generalized quadrangles.
- Bamberg-Li-Swartz (*Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 2021*), classified locally 2-transitive generalized quadrangles.

Is it possible to give a classification of locally-primitive GQs?

Progress on GHs and GOs with certain conditions

For $n = 6$ or 8 :

- Schneider-Hendrik-Van Maldeghem (*J. Combin. Theory Ser. A, 2008*),
 G -point-primitive+flag-transitive $\Rightarrow G$ must be an almost simple group of Lie type.
- Bamberg-Glasby-Popiel-Praeger-Schneider (*J. Combin. Theory Ser. A, 2017*),
 G -point-primitive $\Rightarrow G$ must be an almost simple group of Lie type.

Is it possible to give a classification of locally 2-transitive (locally primitive) GHs or GOs ?

Primitive groups and quasiprimitive groups

Suppose that G acts transitively on Ω .

A **block** of Ω is a nonempty proper subset B of Ω s.t. $B^g = B$ or $B^g \cap B = \emptyset, \forall g \in G$.

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If G is a primitive permutation group, then

- each minimal normal subgroup is transitive;
- G has at most two minimal normal subgroups.

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G is a **quasiprimitive permutation group** on Ω if each minimal normal subgroup is transitive on Ω .

Each primitive permutation group is quasiprimitive.

O'Nan-Scott-Praeger type for (quasi-)primitive groups

Abbreviation	O'Nan-Scott type	Descriptions on minimal normal subgroups N
HA	Affine	1; elementary abelian; regular
HS	Holomorph simple	2; non-abelian simple; regular
HC	Holomorph compound	2; both isomorphic to T^k , $k \geq 2$; regular
AS (As)	Almost simple	1; non-abelian simple; non-regular
TW (Tw)	Twisted wreath	$1; N \cong T^k$, $k \geq 6$; regular; G acts transitively on the k simple direct factors of N
SD(Sd)	Simple diagonal	$1; N \cong T^k$, $k \geq 2$; non-regular; N_α is a full diagonal subgroup of N ; G acts primitively on the k simple direct factors of N
CD(Cd)	Compound diagonal	$1; N \cong T^{kr}$, $k, r \geq 2$; non-regular; G acts transitively on the kr direct factors of N ; $N_\alpha \cong T^r$ is a direct product of r pair-wise disjoint full strips of length k ; the support of any full strip forms a block with minimal size
PA (Pa)	Product action	$1; N \cong T^k$, $k \geq 2$; non-regular; G acts transitively on the k simple direct factors of N ; N_α is a subdirect subgroup of R^k , and $N_\alpha \cong R^k$ for some proper non-trivial subgroup R of T

Table: 8 types of (quasi-)primitive permutation groups

Parameter conditions on Generalized n -gons

Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, I)$ be a generalized n -gon of order (s, t) for $n \in \{4, 6, 8\}$ with incidence graph Γ .

Lemma (Payne-Thas, Finite Generalized Quadrangles)

For $n = 4$, then

- (i) $|\mathcal{P}| = (s + 1)(st + 1)$, and $|\mathcal{L}| = (t + 1)(st + 1)$;
- (ii) $s \leq t^2$, and $t \leq s^2$;
- (iii) $|\Gamma_i(x)| = (t + 1)s^{\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \rfloor}t^{\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2} \rfloor}$, $1 \leq i \leq 3$, and $|\Gamma_4(x)| = s^2t$.
- (iv) $s + t \mid st(s + 1)(t + 1)$.

Lemma (Maldeghem, Generalized Polygons)

For $n = 6$, then

- (i) $|\mathcal{P}| = (s+1)(s^2t^2 + st + 1)$, and $|\mathcal{L}| = (t+1)(s^2t^2 + st + 1)$;
- (ii) st is a perfect square, and $t \leq s^3$;
- (iii) $|\Gamma_i(x)| = (t+1)s^{\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \rfloor} t^{\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2} \rfloor}$, $1 \leq i \leq 5$, and $|\Gamma_6(x)| = s^3 t^2$;
- (iv) $|\mathcal{P}|_2 = (s+1)_2$, and $|\mathcal{L}|_2 = (t+1)_2$.

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- (iv) $|\mathcal{P}|_2 = (s+1)_2$, and $|\mathcal{L}|_2 = (t+1)_2$.

For $n = 8$ then

- (i) $|\mathcal{P}| = (s+1)(st+1)(s^2t^2 + 1)$, and $|\mathcal{L}| = (t+1)(st+1)(s^2t^2 + 1)$;
- (ii) $2st$ is a perfect square, and $t \leq s^2$;
- (iii) $|\Gamma_i(x)| = (t+1)s^{\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \rfloor} t^{\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2} \rfloor}$, $1 \leq i \leq 7$, and $|\Gamma_8(x)| = s^4 t^3$;
- (iv) $s \neq t$, and st is even. In addition, either $|\mathcal{P}|$ is odd and $|\mathcal{L}|_2 = (t+1)_2$, or $|\mathcal{L}|$ is odd and $|\mathcal{P}|_2 = (s+1)_2$.

Benson type argument

Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$ be a n -gon of order (s, t) for $n \in \{4, 6, 8\}$, with incidence graph Γ .

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$$f_i = |\{P \in \mathcal{P} : d(P, P^g) = 2i\}|, g_i = |\{L \in \mathcal{L} : d(L, L^g) = 2i\}|, i \leq n/2.$$

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Lemma (Temmermans-Thas-Van Maldeghem, Combinatorica, 2009)

There is $(1+t)f_0 + f_1 = (1+s)g_0 + g_1$. Moreover,

(i) for $n = 4$,

$$(1+t)f_0 + f_1 = k(s+t) + (1+s)(1+t) \text{ for some integer } k;$$

(ii) for $n = 6$,

$$(1+t)f_0 + f_1 = k_1(s+t + \sqrt{st}) + k_2(s+t - \sqrt{st}) + (1+s)(1+t) \text{ for some integer } k_1 \text{ and } k_2;$$

(iii) for $n = 8$,

$$(1+t)f_0 + f_1 = k_1(s+t + \sqrt{2st}) + k_2(s+t - \sqrt{2st}) + k_3(s+t) + (1+s)(1+t) \text{ for some integer } k_1, k_2 \text{ and } k_3.$$

The fixed element structure \mathcal{S}_g

Let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$ be a n -gon of order (s, t) for $n \in \{4, 6, 8\}$, with incidence graph Γ .

Let g be any automorphism of \mathcal{S} .

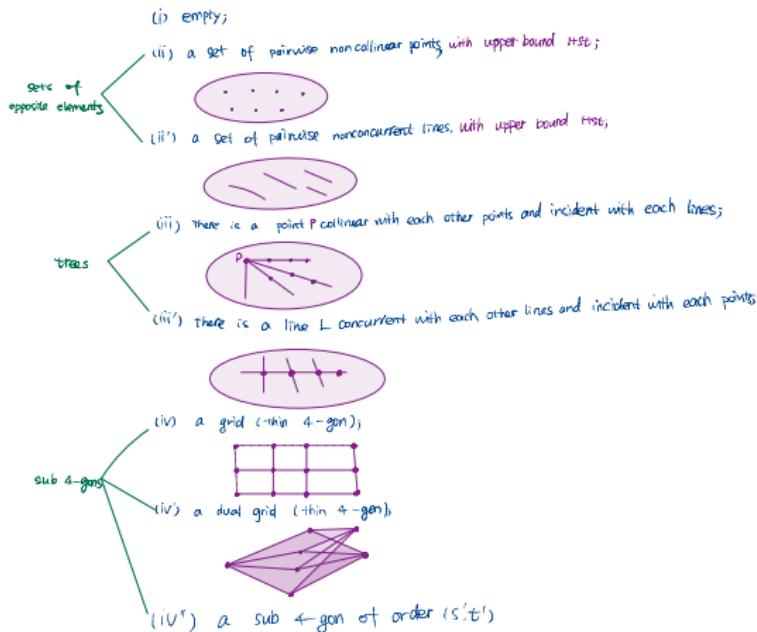
Define the fixed element structure \mathcal{S}_g of g to be the subgeometry with points fixed by g , lines fixed by g .

Lemma

Then \mathcal{S}_g is in one of the following 4 cases:

- (i) empty;
- (ii) consists of a set of elements all opposite one another;
- (iii) a tree of diameter at most n in the incidence graph Γ ;
- (iv) a sub- n -gon, may be thin.

Example: S_g for $n = 4$



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Γ is a **cover** of Γ_N if $|\Gamma(x_1) \cap B_2| = 1$ for each edge $\{O_1, O_2\}$ in Γ_N and for each $x_1 \in O_1$.

Lemma (Giudici-Li-Praeger, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 2004)

Let Γ be a connected G -locally primitive bipartite graph. Let $N \trianglelefteq G$, the maximal subject to being intransitive on the two parts. Then Γ is a cover of Γ_N and N acts semiregularly on the two parts. Moreover, Γ_N is a (G/N) -locally primitive bipartite graph satisfying at least one of the following:

- (i) $\Gamma_N \cong K_{m,m'}$;
- (ii) G/N acts faithfully and quasi-primitively on the two parts of Γ_N ;
- (iii) G/N acts faithfully on the two parts of Γ_N but only acts quasi-primitively on one of them.

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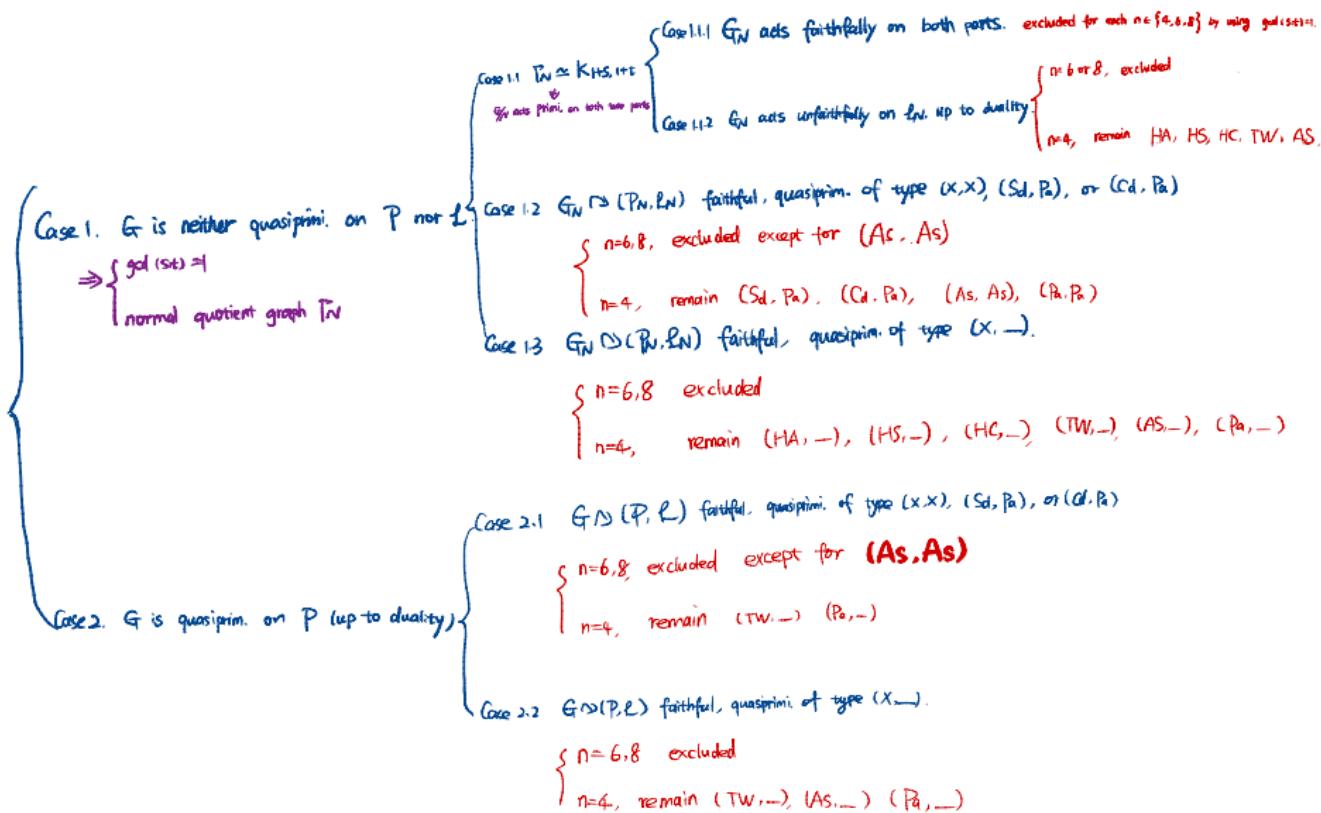
Let Γ be a G -locally primitive connected bipartite graph such that G acts faithfully and quasiprimitively on both parts with type $\{X, Y\}$. Then either $X = Y$, or $\{X, Y\} = \{Sd, Pa\}$ or $\{Cd, Pa\}$.

G -Locally primitive generalized n -gons

From now on, suppose that

- $n \in \{4, 6, 8\}$;
- $\mathcal{S} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathbf{I})$ be a generalized n -gon of order (s, t) , with incidence graph Γ ;
- \mathcal{S} is G -locally primitive, where $G \leq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{S})$.

Outline



Case 1. G is neither quasi-primitive on \mathcal{P} nor \mathcal{L}

There is $N \trianglelefteq G$ intransitive on both \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{L} , and we get the normal quotient graph Γ_N , with Γ a cover.

Γ_N is a biregular bipartite graph, with valency $\{s+1, t+1\}$.
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Lemma (Li-Hua-Di)

We have $\gcd(s, t) = 1$. Furthermore,

- for $n = 4$, $s + t \mid st + 1$, and $s + t \leq \gcd(t + 1, s - 1) \cdot \gcd(t - 1, s + 1)$;
- for $n = 6$ or 8 , $4 \nmid 1 + s$ and $4 \nmid 1 + t$.

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- for $n = 4$, $s + t \mid st + 1$, and $s + t \leq \gcd(t + 1, s - 1) \cdot \gcd(t - 1, s + 1)$;
- for $n = 6$ or 8 , $4 \nmid 1 + s$ and $4 \nmid 1 + t$.

Proof.

For any $g \in N$, g is fixed-point-free and fixed-line-free since N is semiregular.

For any line $L \in \mathcal{L}$, the N -orbit L^N is a set of pairwise non-concurrent lines.
 $g_1 = 0$, $f_1 = 0$.

By Benson type argument, we have $\gcd(s, t) = 1$.

Case 1.1 $\Gamma_N \cong K_{1+s, 1+t}$

Lemma (Fan-Li-Pan, J. Group Theory, 2014)

For a complete bipartite graph $K = K_{m,n}$ with $m, n \geq 3$, a group $H \leq \text{Aut}(K)$ acts on K locally primitively iff H is primitive on both parts, and one of the following three cases holds:

- H acts faithfully on both parts, and all possible pairs of $\{m, n\}$ are given.
- H acts faithfully on one of the two parts, and $K \cong \text{Cos}(H, L, R)$, where L, R are two maximal subgroups such that L is core-free, $L \cap R$ is maximal in R , and R contains a nontrivial normal subgroup of H .
- H acts unfaithfully on both parts, and $X = (M \times N).P$ such that $M.P$ and $N.P$ are primitive permutation groups of degree n and M , respectively.

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Suppose that G/N acts unfaithfully on \mathcal{L}_N .

Then consider the O'Nan-Scott type X induced by G_N on \mathcal{P}_N case by case.

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Then consider the O'Nan-Scott type X induced by G_N on \mathcal{P}_N case by case.
For $n = 6$ or 8 , $4 \nmid 1 + s \Rightarrow X \in \{PA, HA, AS\}$.

Lemma (Li-Hua-Di)

Suppose that G_P acts on $\Gamma(P)$ unfaithfully, and denote by $G_P^{[1]}$ this kernel. Then for any $g \in G_P^{[1]}$, the following holds:

- (1) if $n \in \{4, 6\}$, the fixed element structure S_g of g is either a star with $t + 1$ lines or a sub- n -gon with order (s', t) , where $s' \geq 1$, and $s't < s$;
- (2) if $n = 8$, the fixed element structure S_g of g is a star with $t + 1$ lines.

Proof.

- For any point Q fixed by g , g fixes each lines through it.
- For any line fixed by g , there is a constant number of points fixed by g on it.
- S_g is either a star with $t + 1$ lines or a sub- n -gon with order (s', t) . In particular, for $n = 8$, there is no sub 8-gon of order (s, t') or (s', t) .



Lemma (Li-Hua-Di)

The primitive action induced by G/N on \mathcal{P}_N cannot be of type PA.

Proof.

Suppose for a contrary that the primitive permutation action induced by G/N on \mathcal{P}_N is of type PA. Then $\text{soc}(G/N^{\mathcal{P}_N}) = T^k$, $k \geq 2$. Set K to be the kernel of G/N on \mathcal{L}_N .

- Identify \mathcal{P}_N as Δ^k , and T acts on Δ irregularly with point stabilizer T_δ . Take $u = (\delta, \dots, \delta) \in \Delta^k$.
- $T^k \leq K$, and $T_\delta^k \leq K_u$.
- Take $t \in T_\delta$ such that $|\text{fix}_\Delta(t)| > 1$. For each $1 \leq i \leq k$, let $\theta_i \in T_\delta^k$ with the first i entries t and the last $k - i$ entries 1.
- The fixed elements substructure S_i of the pre-image of θ_i in G is a sub-n-gon with order (s_i, t) , and $n \in \{4, 6\}$.
- Since $S_2 \subset S_1 \subset \mathcal{S}$, s is equal to a power of t , which contradicts with $\gcd(s, t) = 1$.



Lemma (Li-Hua-Di)

The primitive action induced by G/N on \mathcal{P}_N cannot be of type HA for $n \in \{6, 8\}$.

Proof.

Suppose for a contrary that the primitive permutation action induced by G/N on \mathcal{P}_N is of type HA. Then $\text{soc}(G/N^{\mathcal{P}_N}) = Z_p^d$, p odd, $d \geq 1$. Set K to be the kernel of G/N on \mathcal{L}_N .

- s is even, t is odd, and $1 + t \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$.
- $X := G/N$ on \mathcal{L}_N is of AS type.
- $X = (Z_p^d \times T).P$ or $X \lesssim Z_p^d.(T.\text{Out}(T))$ according to G/N acts unfaithfully on \mathcal{P}_N or not.
- If $X = (Z_p^d \times T).P$, choose $t_1, t_2 \in T_\delta$, where $\text{Cos}(T : T_\delta) \cong \mathcal{L}_N$. Then $(S_{\hat{t}_1} \cap S_{\hat{t}_2}) \subset S_{\hat{t}_1} \subset S$, a contradiction.
- If $X \lesssim Z_p^d.(T.\text{Out}(T))$, then $T \leq GL_d(p)$, an irreducible subgroup. So $d > 1$.



Proof.

- For $n = 6$, and s is a square. By the Catalan's Conjecture, $1 + s = p^d$ has a unique pair of solution: $2^3 + 1 = 3^2$. Excluded.
- For $n = 8$, t is a square, so $|T|_p = |T_\delta|_p$ for any prime $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$.



Lemma

The primitive action induced by G/N on \mathcal{P}_N cannot be of type AS.

Proof.

Suppose that the primitive permutation action induced by G/N on \mathcal{P}_N is of type AS. Then $(G/N)^{\mathcal{P}_N} = T$, with point stabilizer T_u , where $u \in \mathcal{P}_N$.

- T acts trivially on \mathcal{L}_N .
- Choose t such that $|fix_{\mathcal{P}_N}(t)| > 1$. Then the fixed element substructure $\mathcal{S}_{\hat{t}}$ is a sub-n-gon with order (s', t) , where $t \leq s't < s$ and $n \in \{4, 6\}$.
- G/N on \mathcal{L}_N is also of type AS.
- If the action of G/N on \mathcal{P}_N is unfaithful, we can deduce $s < t$, which cannot occur. So, G/N acts faithfully on \mathcal{P}_N .
- T has a transitive permutation representation of degree $t + 1$. So we have $t + 1 \geq p(T)$, where $p(T)$ denotes the least permutation representation of T . $Out(T)$ induced a primitive action of degree $s + 1$. So, $s + 1 \mid |Out(T)|$.
- $(s + 1)^2 \leq |Out(T)|^2 \leq p(T) \leq t + 1$ except for 5 possibilities.

Case 1.1. $G_N \cong K_{1+s, 1+t}$

Conclusion:

- For $n = 6$ or 8 , **excluded**;
- For $n = 4$, up to duality, it must be that G/N acts unfaithfully on \mathcal{L}_N , and induced a primitive action on \mathcal{P}_N of one of type HA, HS, HC, TW, AS.

Case 1.2. G/N acts faithfully and quasiprimitively on both parts

Conclusion:

- For $n = 6$ or 8 , the remaining quasiprimitive type is (As, As) , or (Pa, Pa) ;
- For $n = 4$, up to duality, the remaining quasiprimitive type is one of (Sd, Pa) , (Cd, Pa) , (As, As) and (Pa, Pa) .

Case 1.3. G/N acts faithfully on both parts, but quasiprimitively on one of them

Conclusion:

- For $n = 6$ or 8 , **excluded**;
- For $n = 4$, up to duality, the remaining quasiprimitive type is one of $(\text{HA}, -)$, $(\text{HS}, -)$, $(\text{HC}, -)$, $(\text{TW}, -)$, $(\text{As}, -)$.

Case 2. G acts quasiprimitively on \mathcal{P} up to duality

In this case, G acts faithfully on both \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{L} .

Conclusion:

- For $n = 6$ or 8 , the remaining quasiprimitive type is (As, As) , (Pa, Sd) , or (Pa, Cd) ;
- For $n = 4$, up to duality, the remaining quasiprimitive type is one of $(Tw, -)$, (Tw, Tw) , (Pa, Pa) , (Pa, Sd) , (Pa, Cd) , (As, As) .

Thanks for your attention!