

Lecture CVIII CROSS-RATIO.

Projective transformation does not preserve length. What does it preserve?

Cross-ratio.

Let A, B, C, D be four distinct points on projective line

	coordinate	homogen. coordinate
A	u_A	$[x_A : y_A]$
B	u_B	$[x_B : y_B]$
C	u_C	$[x_C : y_C]$
D	u_D	$[x_D : y_D]$

Definition. Cross-ratio (A, B, C, D) of four points A, B, C, D which are on projective line is defined:

$$(A, B, C, D) = \frac{(u_A - u_C)(u_B - u_D)}{(u_A - u_D)(u_B - u_C)} =$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{x_A}{y_A} - \frac{x_C}{y_C} \right) \left(\frac{x_B}{y_B} - \frac{x_D}{y_D} \right)}{\left(\frac{x_A}{y_A} - \frac{x_D}{y_D} \right) \left(\frac{x_B}{y_B} - \frac{x_C}{y_C} \right)} =$$

$$= \frac{(x_A y_C - x_C y_A)(x_B y_D - x_D y_B)}{(x_A y_D - x_D y_A)(x_B y_C - x_C y_B)} =$$

$$= \frac{\det \begin{pmatrix} x_A & x_C \\ y_A & y_C \end{pmatrix} \det \begin{pmatrix} x_B & x_D \\ y_B & y_D \end{pmatrix}}{\det \begin{pmatrix} x_A & x_D \\ y_A & y_D \end{pmatrix} \det \begin{pmatrix} x_B & x_C \\ y_B & y_C \end{pmatrix}}.$$

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Theorem.

Cross-ratio is invariant of projective transformations of projective line.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{R}P^1 & \longleftrightarrow & \mathbb{R}P^1 \\ u & \longrightarrow & u' = \frac{\alpha u + \beta}{\gamma u + \delta} \\ [x:y] & \longrightarrow & [x':y'] = [\alpha x + \beta y : \gamma x + \delta y] \end{array}$$

$$(A, B, C, D) = (A', B', C', D')$$

Proof: straightforward calculations:

$$A \rightarrow A', \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Hence} \quad \det \begin{pmatrix} x_{A'} & x_{B'} \\ y_{A'} & y_{B'} \end{pmatrix} = \left[\det \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 \det \begin{pmatrix} x_A & x_B \\ y_A & y_B \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(A', B', C', D') = \frac{\left[\det \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 \cdot \left[\det \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \right]^2}{\left[\det \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 \cdot \left[\det \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \right]^2} (A, B, C, D)$$

i.e.

$$(A', B', C', D') = (A, B, C, D)$$

Not compulsory

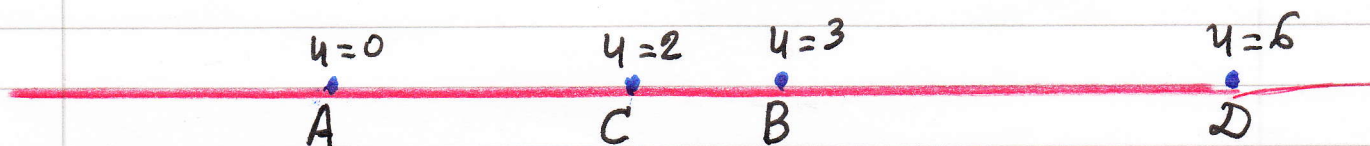
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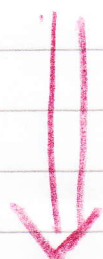
Consider four points A, B, C, D :

Cross-ratio

$$(A, B, C, D) = \frac{(0-2)(3-6)}{(0-6)(3-2)} = -1.$$

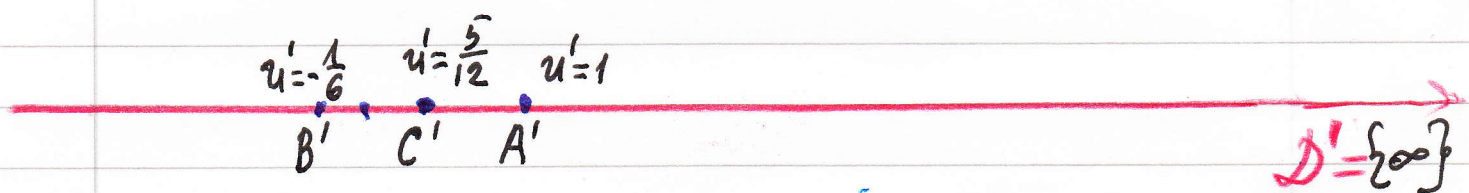


projective
transformation



$$u' = \frac{13u - 36}{6u - 36}$$

$$[x': y'] = [13x - 36y : 6x - 36y]$$



The point A $u=0$ goes to the point A' $u'=1$, $[x': y'] = [1: 1]$
 The point B $u=3$ goes to the point B' $u' = -\frac{1}{6}$, $[x': y'] = [-1: 6]$
 The point C $u=2$ goes to the point C' $u' = \frac{5}{12}$, $[x': y'] = [5: 12]$
 The point D $u=6$ goes to the point D' $u' = \infty$, $[x': y'] = [1: 0]$

$$(A', B', C', D') = \frac{\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 12 \end{pmatrix} \det \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}{\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \det \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ 6 & 12 \end{pmatrix}} = \frac{7 \cdot (-6)}{(-1) \cdot (-42)} = -1$$

Cross-ratio remains the same.

Remark. Cross-ratio changes if we change order of points $(A, B, C, D) \neq (B, A, C, D), \dots$

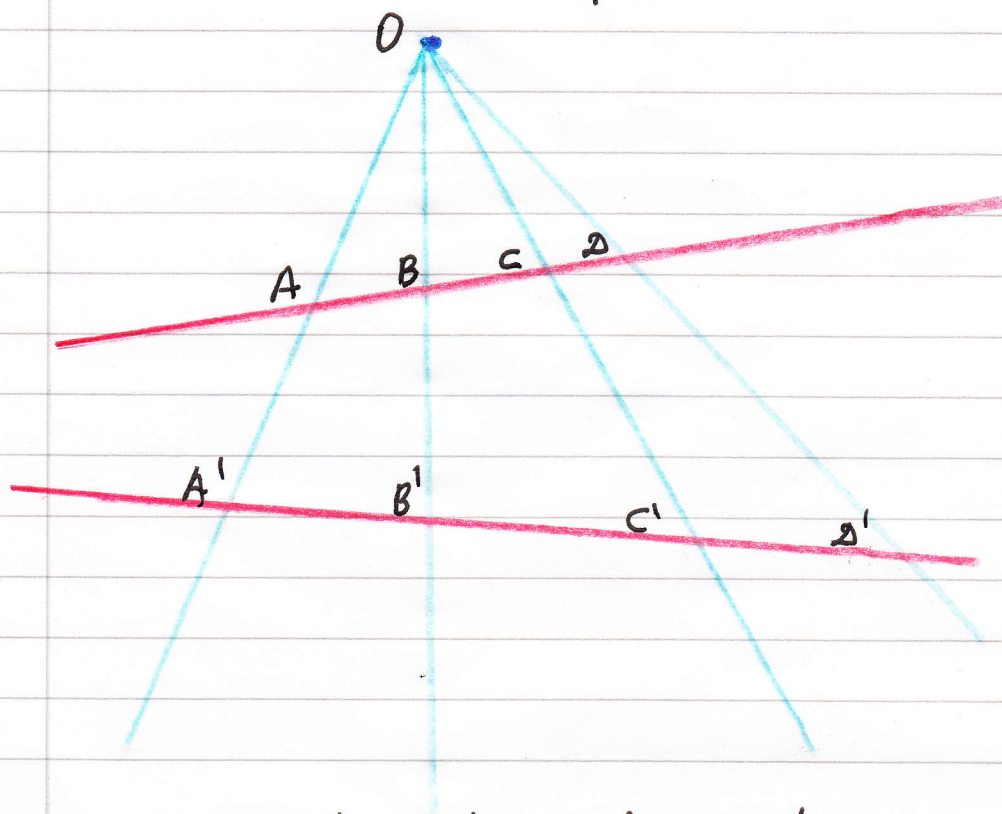
(see Homework 9)

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Where a word 'projective' comes from?

Consider central projection,



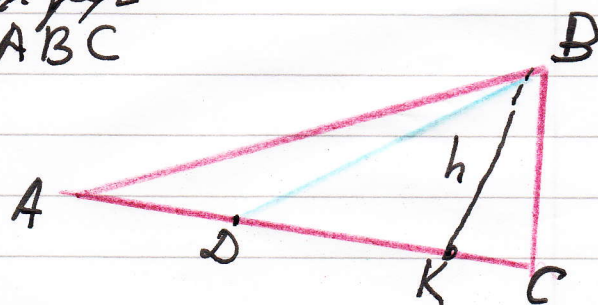
This is projective transformation.

To show it we first show that it preserves

cross-ratio: $(A, B, C, D) = (A', B', C', D')$

To show, it consider triangles

Note that for arbitrary $\triangle ABC$



$$\frac{AD}{DC} = \frac{S_{\triangle ABD}}{S_{\triangle DBC}}$$

since these \triangle triangles have the same height BK

$$S_{\triangle ABD} = \frac{h \cdot AD}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{S_{\triangle ABD}}{S_{\triangle DBC}} = \frac{AD}{DC}$$

$$S_{\triangle DBC} = \frac{h \cdot DC}{2}$$

we suppose that the plane is provided with Euclidean structure.
Our final answer will not depend on a choice of this structure.

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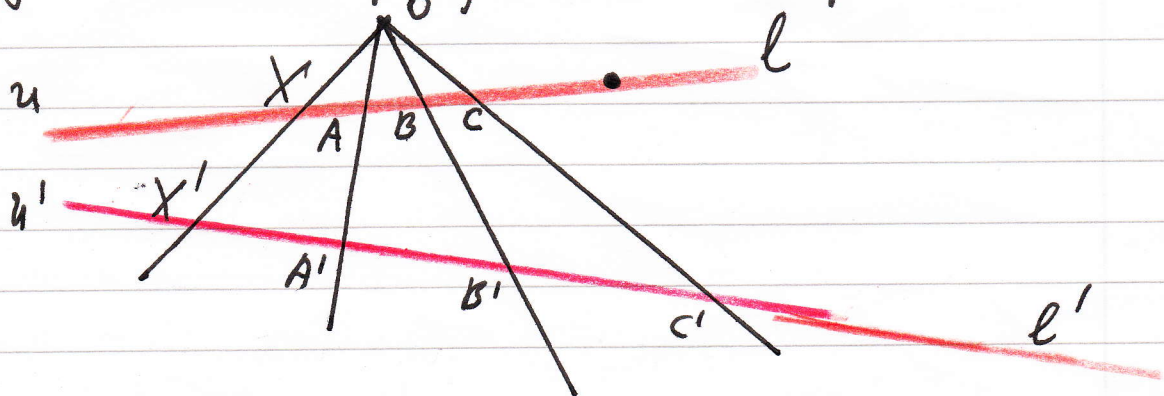
Using this relation we will compare cross-ratios (A, B, C, D) & (A', B', C', D') .

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A, B, C, D) &= \frac{(u_A - u_C)(u_B - u_D)}{(u_A - u_D)(u_B - u_C)} = \\
 &= \frac{u_A - u_C}{u_A - u_D} \cdot \frac{u_B - u_D}{u_B - u_C} = \frac{S_{\triangle AOC}}{S_{\triangle AOD}} \cdot \frac{S_{\triangle BOD}}{S_{\triangle BOC}} = \\
 &= \frac{|AO| \cdot |CO| \sin \angle AOC}{|AO| \cdot |DO| \sin \angle AOD} \cdot \frac{|BO| \cdot |DO| \sin \angle BOD}{|BO| \cdot |CO| \sin \angle BOC} = \\
 &= \frac{\sin \angle AOC \cdot \sin \angle BOD}{\sin \angle AOD \cdot \sin \angle BOC} \quad (*)
 \end{aligned}$$

For the points A', B', C', D' we will come to (*) also. Hence $(A, B, C, D) = (A', B', C', D')$. (**)

Sure these calculations depend on a choice of Euclidean structure [we calculated lengths, angles...]
 but the final relation is proved & is valid
 irrelevant to a choice of this structure

Now we are ready to prove that central projection is projective transformation.



Choose arbitrary distinct three points A, B, C on the line l

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Let X be an arbitrary point on the line l

Let X' be its central projection on the line l'

$$(A, B, C, X) = (A', B', C', X')$$

↓

$$\frac{(u_A - u_K)(u_B - u_X)}{(u_A - u_X)(u_B - u_C)} = \frac{(u'_{A'} - u'_{K'}) (u'_{B'} - u'_{X'})}{(u'_{A'} - u'_{X'}) (u'_{B'} - u'_{C'})}$$

$$\frac{u_B - u_X}{u_A - u_K} = R \cdot \frac{u'_{B'} - u'_{X'}}{u'_{A'} - u'_{X'}} \quad (*)$$

$$\text{where } R = \frac{u'_{A'} - u'_{C'}}{u'_{B'} - u'_{C'}} \cdot \frac{u_B - u_C}{u_A - u_C}$$

Relation (*) implies that

$u'_{X'}$ and u_X are related with linear fractional transformation. \square

not compulsory