

ON THE POINT-LINE AS ELEMENT OF SPACE: A STUDY OF THE CORRESPONDING BILINEAR CONNEX*

BY

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In the last paper published during his lifetime, CLEBSCH † enriched the analytical geometry of the plane by the introduction of a new form, the connex, which includes as very special cases both the curve considered as point locus and the curve considered as line envelope. The connex (m, n) , of the m -th order and n -th class, is represented by an equation $f(x_1, x_2, x_3; u_1, u_2, u_3) = 0$, involving a set of point coördinates and a set of line coördinates. It may be defined as a manifold of ∞^3 elements each consisting of a point and a line. CLEBSCH studied the case $(1, 1)$, equivalent to a collineation; and with his pupil GODT, the case $(1, n)$. ‡ The general connex (m, n) has been only incompletely investigated, principally in connection with the theory of algebraic differential equations. §

An extension to space was first proposed by KRAUSE, || who took for element the combination of a point and plane. An equation

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4; u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4) = 0$$

represents a manifold of ∞^5 elements which may be termed for distinction a *point-plane connex*. KRAUSE confined himself to the case $(2, 1)$. The general connex (m, n) has been studied, in an elaborate memoir, by SINTSOF. ¶

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† *Ueber ein neues Grundgebilde der analytischen Geometrie der Ebene*, Göttinger Nachrichten, 1872; reprinted, *Mathematische Annalen*, vol. 6 (1873), pp. 203-225.

‡ Cf. CLEBSCH-LINDEMAN, *Vorlesungen über Geometrie*, vol. 1 (1876), 2d section; GODT, *Ueber den Connex erster Ordnung und zweiter Classe*, Göttingen, 1873.

§ DARBOUX, *Bulletin des Sciences Mathématiques*, ser. 2, vol. 2 (1878); STEPHANOS, *ibid.*, vol. 4 (1880).

|| *Ueber ein Gebilde der analytischen Geometrie des Raumes, welche dem Connexe zweiter Ordnung und erster Classe entspricht*, *Mathematische Annalen*, vol. 14 (1879), pp. 294-322.

¶ *Theory of the connex in space, in connection with the theory of partial differential equations of the first order* (Russian), Publications of Kasan University, 1895, 254 pp. This is known to the writer only through the author's summary in the *Fortschritte der Mathematik*. Cf. *Theorie des connexes dans l'espace*, *Bulletin des Sciences Mathématiques*, 1898, p. 176.

A different extension to space is made in the present paper. We have namely, as the simple elements of space, not only the point and the plane, but also the line; for compound element we may take then not only the point-plane, but also the point-line or the plane-line.* The last combination however is merely the dual of the second, and therefore requires no separate study. The combination of a point and a line, represented analytically by the coördinates $(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4; p_{12}, p_{13}, p_{14}, p_{34}, p_{42}, p_{23})$, will be termed simply an *element*. The total number of elements in space is ∞^7 , so that in the corresponding geometry space is seven dimensional. An equation

$$f(x; p) \equiv a_x^m A_p^m = 0,$$

represents then a manifold of ∞^6 elements, which will be termed a *point-line connex of space*, or, when there is no ambiguity, simply a connex.

If we regard the point x as fixed, the equation above is satisfied by ∞^3 lines, namely those lines which combined with the given point constitute elements of the connex; these lines form a complex (of n th order) which will be referred to as *the complex corresponding to the point x* . On the other hand, if the line p is regarded as fixed, there are ∞^2 points which may be combined with it so as to give elements of the connex; these points form a surface (of m th order) which we term *the surface corresponding to the line p* .

After the study of manifolds defined by a single equation $f(x; p) = 0$, we might consider the manifolds of smaller dimension defined by two or more equations. Thus two equations $f_{m,n} = 0, f'_{m',n'} = 0$ represent ∞^5 elements, namely, those common to the corresponding connexes $(m, n), (m', n')$. To each point there corresponds, in this manifold, a congruence of lines, and to each line, a curve. The order of the congruence is nn' and the order of the curve is mm' .

Three equations $f_{m,n} = 0, f'_{m',n'} = 0, f''_{m'',n''} = 0$ represent a manifold of ∞^4 elements. The lines corresponding to a given point constitute a regulus of order $2nn'n''$; and the points corresponding to a given line form a discrete set, the number being $mm'm''$. Four equations represent ∞^3 elements, etc.

Returning to the case of a single equation $f = 0$ representing a connex, we proceed to define what may be termed, in analogy with CLEBSCH's terminology, its *principal coincidence*. This is composed of these elements of the connex for which the point x and the line p are mutually incident. Incidence of a point and line is a two-fold condition, whose complete expression requires, however, four equations † $\Omega_1 = \Omega_2 = \Omega_3 = \Omega_4 = 0$. The principal coincidence consists then of the ∞^4 elements satisfying the equations

$$f = 0, \quad \Omega_1 = \Omega_2 = \Omega_3 = \Omega_4 = 0.$$

* To complete the series, another compound element must be considered, namely the combination of a point, a line, and a plane. This the author expects to do elsewhere.

† See § 4. equations (13).

To each point there corresponds a single infinity of lines passing through it, forming a conical surface. This suggests an intimate relation between the geometry of point-line connexes and the theory of total or MONGE * differential equations in three variables, which the author expects to discuss elsewhere.

The object of the present paper is to study the simplest and most important case of the new type of connex, namely the case $(1, 1)$. This is defined by a bilinear quaternary-senary form equated to zero. The complex corresponding to a point is now linear, and the surface corresponding to a line reduces to a plane. We have thus two linear transformations, one from a point to a linear complex, and the other from a line to a plane. These are discussed in §§ 1–3 from the point of view of distinct spaces, and in §§ 3–6 from that of superposed spaces, the last section being devoted to the principal coincidence. In the next section a covariant point-plane connex of type $(2, 1)$ is derived. Normal forms with respect to both digredient and cogredient transformations are deduced in § 9 and § 11.

The basis of a purely synthetic treatment is furnished in § 8, where it is shown that the bilinear connex is equivalent to a correspondence between the points of a quadric surface and the lines of a linear congruence. This suggests the isomorphism of certain well-known projective groups, and the equivalence of the corresponding geometries (§ 10). In § 11 it is shown that the connex is completely determined by its fundamental configuration of five arbitrary points and two arbitrary lines. The absolute invariants of the connex are obtained in § 12.

§ 1. *The related linear transformations F' , F'' .*

The connex to be studied is defined by an equation of the type †

$$(1) \quad F \equiv \sum a_{i,kl} x_i P_{kl} = 0,$$

involving linearly the four point coördinates x_i and the six line coördinates P_{kl} . Symbolically,

$$F \equiv a_x A_P,$$

where

$$a_x \equiv a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + a_3 x_3 + a_4 x_4,$$

$$A_P \equiv A_{12} P_{12} + A_{13} P_{13} + A_{14} P_{14} + A_{34} P_{34} + A_{42} P_{42} + A_{23} P_{23},$$

so that

$$a_i A_{kl} = a_{i,kl} = -a_i A_{lk} = -a_{i,lk}.$$

* Cf. LIE-SCHEFFERS, *Geometrie der Berührungstransformationen*, Leipzig, 1896, chap. 7.

† Throughout the paper the indices i, k, l are understood to take the values 1, 2, 3, 4, and the summations extend over all the indices involved.

The ∞^2 points, each of which, combined with a fixed line P , gives an element of the connex, constitute a plane

$$(2) \quad u_i = a_i A_P.$$

This will be termed the plane corresponding to the line P ; and the linear transformation (2), which defines the passage from P to u , will be called the transformation F' .

Consider next, in connection with a fixed point x , the lines which may be combined with it so as to give elements of the connex. There are ∞^3 such lines constituting a linear complex $\Sigma L_{ik} P_{ik} = 0$, the coefficients being

$$(3) \quad L_{ik} = A_{ik} a_x.$$

This is the linear complex corresponding to the point x ; the equations (3) define the linear transformation from x to L , which we shall refer to as the transformation F'' .

We then have, in connection with the general bilinear connex F , two linear transformations F' and F'' , each of which determines the other and also F . The study of F may therefore be regarded as equivalent to that of either of the transformations (2) or (3).

§2. The transformation F' and the two fundamental lines.

The transformation (2), written out in extenso, is

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} u_1 &= a_{1,12} P_{12} + a_{1,13} P_{13} + a_{1,14} P_{14} + a_{1,34} P_{34} + a_{1,42} P_{42} + a_{1,23} P_{23}, \\ u_2 &= a_{2,12} P_{12} + a_{2,13} P_{13} + a_{2,14} P_{14} + a_{2,34} P_{34} + a_{2,42} P_{42} + a_{2,23} P_{23}, \\ u_3 &= a_{3,12} P_{12} + a_{3,13} P_{13} + a_{3,14} P_{14} + a_{3,34} P_{34} + a_{3,42} P_{42} + a_{3,23} P_{23}, \\ u_4 &= a_{4,12} P_{12} + a_{4,13} P_{13} + a_{4,14} P_{14} + a_{4,34} P_{34} + a_{4,42} P_{42} + a_{4,23} P_{23}. \end{aligned}$$

The plane u , into which any line P is transformed, is unique unless all its coördinates vanish, i. e., unless

$$(5) \quad a_1 A_P = a_2 A_P = a_3 A_P = a_4 A_P = 0.$$

These linear equations define two lines, say Π' , Π'' , so that we may write

$$(6) \quad a_i A_{\Pi'} = 0, \quad a_i A_{\Pi''} = 0.$$

The transformation F' thus possesses two fundamental lines Π' , Π'' having the property that the corresponding plane is indeterminate.

In connection with the original connex F the property of these lines may be restated: Each of the fundamental lines combined with an arbitrary point forms an element belonging to F .

The correspondence between the lines P and the planes u , defined by (4), is not uniquely reversible, as is evident from the fact that there are ∞^4 lines, but only ∞^3 planes. To each plane there corresponds indeed an infinity of lines whose locus we proceed to consider. The lines corresponding to u satisfy the equations

$$(7) \quad \frac{a_1 A_P}{u_1} = \frac{a_2 A_P}{u_2} = \frac{a_3 A_P}{u_3} = \frac{a_4 A_P}{u_4}.$$

These equations define a regulus* (half-quadric) which, in virtue of (6), contains the lines Π' and Π'' .

Conversely, consider the regulus determined by a given line P and the fundamental lines. The coördinates of any line of this regulus are of the form

$$\lambda P_{ik} + \lambda' \Pi_{ik} + \lambda'' \Pi''_{ik}.$$

The corresponding plane has the coördinates

$$a_i A_{\lambda P + \lambda' \Pi + \lambda'' \Pi''} = \lambda a_i A_P + \lambda' a_i A_{\Pi} + \lambda'' a_i A_{\Pi''},$$

which by (6) reduce simply to $\lambda a_i A_P$, namely the coördinates of the plane corresponding to P . The result obtained may be stated as follows:

The lines of any regulus which contains the fundamental lines Π' , Π'' all transform by F' into the same plane. Conversely, corresponding to any plane u , there are an infinite number of lines, constituting a regulus passing through Π' , Π'' .

§ 3. The transformation F'' and the quadric ω .

Written out in extenso, the second transformation, defined by (3), becomes

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} L_{12} &= a_{1,12} x_1 + a_{2,12} x_2 + a_{3,12} x_3 + a_{4,12} x_4, \\ L_{13} &= a_{1,13} x_1 + a_{2,13} x_2 + a_{3,13} x_3 + a_{4,13} x_4, \\ L_{14} &= a_{1,14} x_1 + a_{2,14} x_2 + a_{3,14} x_3 + a_{4,14} x_4, \\ L_{34} &= a_{1,34} x_1 + a_{2,34} x_2 + a_{3,34} x_3 + a_{4,34} x_4, \\ L_{42} &= a_{1,42} x_1 + a_{2,42} x_2 + a_{3,42} x_3 + a_{4,42} x_4, \\ L_{23} &= a_{1,23} x_1 + a_{2,23} x_2 + a_{3,23} x_3 + a_{4,23} x_4. \end{aligned}$$

Here the quantities L are the coördinates of the linear complex corresponding to the point x , so that the complex itself is

$$(9) \quad L_P \equiv \Sigma L_{ik} P_{ik} = 0.$$

* The term *regulus* hereafter will be used in a special sense, denoting the system defined by three linear equations, that is, one set of generators of a quadric surface. Cf. the French term *demi-quadrique*.

The complex will be special only if its invariant

$$(10) \quad [L, L] \equiv 2(L_{12}L_{34} + L_{13}L_{42} + L_{14}L_{23})$$

vanishes. Substituting the values of L , the condition takes the form

$$(11) \quad \omega \equiv \omega_x^2 \equiv [A, A'] a_x a'_x = 0,$$

where

$$[AA'] = A_{12}A'_{34} + A_{13}A'_{42} + A_{14}A'_{23} + A_{34}A'_{12} + A_{42}A'_{13} + A_{23}A'_{14}.$$

Therefore,

The points which are transformed into special linear complexes form a quadric surface $\omega = 0$.

The transformation F'' produces, from all the points of space, ∞^3 linear complexes, which are now to be characterized. The six linear functions $A_{ik}a_x$ of the four variables x_i must be connected by two linear relations. These are in fact

$$L_{\Pi'} = 0, \quad L_{\Pi''} = 0.$$

For if we substitute the values of L in terms of x , we have for example $L_{\Pi'} = a_x A_{\Pi'}$, which vanishes by (6).

The totality of linear complexes L , corresponding to all the points of space, constitute the linear three parameter system apolar to Π' , Π'' .*

This system includes ∞^2 special complexes, whose directrices are of course the tractors of the fundamental lines Π' , Π'' . These correspond to the points of the quadric ω .†

§ 4 *The five fundamental points O_κ .*

We have seen that to each point x , of the quadric ω , there corresponds by F' a special linear complex; which may be regarded as equivalent to simply a line (its directrix). The coördinates of this line are

$$(12) \quad P_{12} = A_{34}a_x, P_{13} = A_{42}a_x, \text{ etc.}$$

We inquire now concerning the points for which the corresponding line is an incident line, i. e., passes through the original point.

The general conditions expressing the incidence of a point x_i and a line p_{ik} are

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &\equiv x_2 p_{34} + x_3 p_{42} + x_4 p_{23} = 0, \\ -\Omega_2 &\equiv x_3 p_{41} + x_4 p_{13} + x_1 p_{34} = 0, \\ \Omega_3 &\equiv x_4 p_{12} + x_1 p_{24} + x_2 p_{41} = 0, \\ -\Omega_4 &\equiv x_1 p_{23} + x_2 p_{31} + x_3 p_{12} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

* In this connection the apolar relation signifies that the lines Π' , Π'' are common to all the linear complexes L .

† For the detailed study of this correspondence see § 8 below.

The bilinear forms Ω_i are connected by the relation

$$(13') \quad x_1 \Omega_1 + x_2 \Omega_2 + x_3 \Omega_3 + x_4 \Omega_4 \equiv 0.$$

Applying these conditions to the case of a point x_i (of the surface ω) and its corresponding line P_{ik} as given by (12), we obtain

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} q_1 &\equiv (x_2 A_{12} + x_3 A_{13} + x_4 A_{14}) a_x = 0, \\ q_2 &\equiv (x_3 A_{23} + x_4 A_{24} + x_1 A_{21}) a_x = 0, \\ q_3 &\equiv (x_4 A_{34} + x_1 A_{31} + x_2 A_{32}) a_x = 0, \\ q_4 &\equiv (x_1 A_{41} + x_2 A_{42} + x_3 A_{43}) a_x = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The quadrics q_i are connected by the relation

$$(14') \quad x_1 q_1 + x_2 q_2 + x_3 q_3 + x_4 q_4 \equiv 0.$$

The question now resolves itself into the discussion of the points common to the five quadrics

$$\omega = 0, \quad q_1 = 0, \quad q_2 = 0, \quad q_3 = 0, \quad q_4 = 0.$$

In the first place, the points common to the last four necessarily lie on the first. For by introducing the values $L_{ik} = A_{ik} a_x$, q_1 for example may be written

$$L_{12} x_2 + L_{13} x_3 + L_{14} x_4 = 0.$$

As a consequence of the four equations $q_i = 0$, we then have

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & L_{12} & L_{13} & L_{14} \\ L_{21} & 0 & L_{23} & L_{24} \\ L_{31} & L_{32} & 0 & L_{34} \\ L_{41} & L_{42} & L_{43} & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0,$$

which reduces to

$$L_{12} L_{34} + L_{13} L_{42} + L_{14} L_{23} = 0;$$

this, however, in virtue of the values of L_{ik} , is simply another form of (11), the equation of the quadric $\omega = 0$.

It remains to consider the points common to the four quadrics $q_i = 0$. The quadrics $q_1 = 0$, $q_2 = 0$, $q_3 = 0$ intersect in 8 points. Any point common to these three, by (14'), will also lie on $q_4 = 0$, unless $x_4 = 0$. We must exclude then those among the 8 points which lie in the plane $x_4 = 0$. This plane cuts the first three quadrics in the conics

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{q}_1 &\equiv (x_2 A_{12} + x_3 A_{13}) \bar{a}_x = 0 \\ \bar{q}_2 &\equiv (x_3 A_{23} + x_1 A_{21}) \bar{a}_x = 0 \quad (\bar{a}_x = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + a_3 x_3), \\ \bar{q}_3 &\equiv (x_1 A_{31} + x_2 A_{32}) \bar{a}_x = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where the ternary forms are connected by

$$x_1 \bar{q} + x_2 \bar{q}_2 + x_3 q_3 = 0.$$

It follows that these conics have 3 points in common; for of the 4 points in which the first two intersect, that point must be excluded for which $x_3 = 0$. We have then finally $8 - 3 = 5$ points common to the four quadrics $q_i = 0$.

There are five points O_1, O_2, O_3, O_4, O_5 each of which (O_κ) has the property that the linear complex which corresponds by F'' is special and has for directrix an incident line (N_κ). These points lie on the quadric $\omega = 0$.

§5. The congruence Γ and the surface σ .

We return now to the transformation F' and inquire concerning the lines P for which the corresponding plane u is incident. The general conditions of incidence are

$$\begin{aligned} (15) \quad & u_2 P_{12} + u_3 P_{13} + u_4 P_{14} = 0, \\ & u_3 P_{23} + u_4 P_{24} + u_1 P_{21} = 0, \\ & u_4 P_{34} + u_1 P_{31} + u_2 P_{32} = 0, \\ & u_1 P_{41} + u_2 P_{42} + u_3 P_{43} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting then $u_i = a_i A_P$, we obtain, as conditions on the lines P in question,

$$\begin{aligned} (16) \quad & \Gamma_1 \equiv (a_2 P_{12} + a_3 P_{13} + a_4 P_{14}) A_P = 0, \\ & \Gamma_2 \equiv (a_3 P_{23} + a_4 P_{24} + a_1 P_{21}) A_P = 0, \\ & \Gamma_3 \equiv (a_4 P_{34} + a_1 P_{31} + a_2 P_{32}) A_P = 0, \\ & \Gamma_4 \equiv (a_1 P_{41} + a_2 P_{42} + a_3 P_{43}) A_P = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The lines P , characterized by the property that the plane which corresponds by F' is incident, form a congruence Γ defined by the equations (16).

What is the order and the class of this congruence? Consider any point, for convenience say $(1, 0, 0, 0)$. If the line P of the congruence passes through this point, then in the first place $P_{34} = P_{42} = P_{23} = 0$; and in the second place the remaining three coördinates satisfy the equations

$$\begin{aligned} (17) \quad & (a_2 P_{12} + a_3 P_{13} + a_4 P_{14})(A_{12} P_{12} + A_{13} P_{13} + A_{14} P_{14}) = 0, \\ & a_1 P_{12}(A_{12} P_{12} + A_{13} P_{13} + A_{14} P_{14}) = 0, \\ & a_1 P_{13}(A_{12} P_{12} + A_{13} P_{13} + A_{14} P_{14}) = 0, \\ & a_1 P_{14}(A_{12} P_{12} + A_{13} P_{13} + A_{14} P_{14}) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

obtained from (16). From the last three equations of this set, since P_{12} , P_{13} , P_{14} cannot all vanish (for then all six coördinates would vanish), it follows that

$$a_1(A_{12}P_{12} + A_{13}P_{13} + A_{14}P_{14}) = 0,$$

which, in combination with the first equation of (17), shows that there are two solutions. Since the coördinate system is entirely arbitrary, the point $(1, 0, 0, 0)$ is really a point in general position, and it has thus been proved that through the general point there pass two lines of the congruence. The order of Γ is therefore equal to two.

The class of the congruence is determined by finding the number of lines contained in a general plane, say $x_1 = 0$. We have now $P_{12} = P_{13} = P_{14} = 0$; the first equation of (16) is then identically satisfied, and the other equations, yield three quadratic equations in P_{32} , P_{42} , P_{23} , whose discussion shows that there are three common solutions. The class of Γ is therefore equal to three.

The congruence Γ is of second order and third class. It follows that the number of congruence lines cutting a given line is equal to five.

To the double infinity of lines Γ there corresponds, by F' , a double infinity of planes which is now to be investigated. For this purpose, consider the equations (15) in connection with the system $\rho u_i = a_i A_P$, and eliminate the constant factor ρ and the coördinates P_{ik} . The result may be written

$$(18) \quad \left| \begin{array}{cccccc} a_{1,12} & a_{1,13} & a_{1,14} & a_{2,34} & a_{1,42} & a_{1,23} & u_1 \\ a_{2,12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & u_2 \\ a_{3,12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & u_3 \\ a_{4,12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & u_4 \\ u_2 & u_3 & u_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -u_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u_4 & u_3 & 0 \\ 0 & -u_1 & 0 & u_4 & 0 & -u_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -u_1 & -u_3 & u_2 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right| = 0.$$

If we denote the determinants of seventh order, obtained by leaving out in turn the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th row, by σ_1 , σ_2 , σ_3 and σ_4 respectively, it may be shown that these determinants are factorable. For example σ_4 vanishes if $u_4 = 0$, and therefore contains u_4 as a factor. The result of the detailed discussion is that there is a factor σ , of the third degree in u , which is common to all four determinants σ_i ; so that

$$(19) \quad \sigma \equiv \frac{\sigma_1}{u_1} \equiv \frac{\sigma_2}{u_2} \equiv \frac{\sigma_3}{u_3} \equiv \frac{\sigma_4}{u_4}.$$

The planes which correspond to the lines of the congruence Γ envelope a surface of third class $\sigma = 0$, where σ is defined by (19).

§ 6. *The principal coincidence and the covariant K .*

The principal coincidence of the connex F consists, by definition, of the ∞^4 incident elements belonging to F , i. e., of those elements in which the point and the lines are incident. Connected with each point x there is a single infinity of lines P ; these are the lines of the corresponding linear complex L , defined in § 3, which pass through x . These lines lie in a plane U , the polar plane of x in the null system determined by L . The coördinates of U are given by

$$(20) \quad \begin{aligned} U_1 &= L_{12}x_2 + L_{13}x_3 + L_{14}x_4 = (A_{12}x_2 + A_{13}x_3 + A_{14}x_4)a_x, \\ U_2 &= L_{23}x_3 + L_{24}x_4 + L_{21}x_1 = (A_{23}x_3 + A_{24}x_4 + A_{21}x_1)a_x, \\ U_3 &= L_{34}x_4 + L_{31}x_1 + L_{32}x_2 = (A_{34}x_4 + A_{31}x_1 + A_{32}x_2)a_x, \\ U_4 &= L_{41}x_1 + L_{42}x_2 + L_{43}x_3 = (A_{41}x_1 + A_{42}x_2 + A_{43}x_3)a_x. \end{aligned}$$

Comparing with (14), these may be abbreviated

$$(20') \quad U_i = q_i = q_{ix}^2.$$

The principal coincidence is completely defined by this quadratic transformation from the point x to the plane U . The transformation may also be expressed by means of the vanishing of a form involving two sets of point coördinates, namely by

$$(21) \quad \begin{aligned} K &\equiv k_x^2 K_X \equiv \Sigma q_{ix}^2 X_i \\ &\equiv \left\{ (A_{12}x_2 + A_{13}x_3 + A_{14}x_4)X_1 + (A_{23}x_3 + A_{24}x_4 + A_{21}x_1)X_2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (A_{34}x_4 + A_{31}x_1 + A_{32}x_2)X_3 + (A_{41}x_1 + A_{42}x_2 + A_{43}x_3)X_4 \right\} a_x = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The vanishing of the covariant K may therefore be interpreted: to each point x there corresponds a plane U (passing through it) containing the pencil of lines which, combined with x , constitute elements of the principal coincidence. The plane U is the polar of x with respect to the linear complex L corresponding to x by F .

The plane U ceases to be determined when the complex L is special and has its directrix passing through x . This we have seen occurs only for the five points O_1, O_2, O_3, O_4, O_5 defined in § 3. Therefore the principal coincidence of F has five fundamental points O_1, \dots, O_5 ; with each of these may be combined not merely a pencil of lines, but the entire bundle of lines through the point.

We consider now the inverse of the transformation defined by (20) or (20'), and prove that there are in general three points x which correspond to the same plane U . The points x are in fact determined by the equations

$$\frac{q_1}{U_1} = \frac{q_2}{U_2} = \frac{q_3}{U_3} = \frac{q_4}{U_4},$$

or by the equivalent set

$$U_1 q_2 - U_2 q_1 = 0, \quad U_1 q_3 - U_3 q_1 = 0, \quad U_1 q_4 - U_4 q_3 = 0.$$

These quadratic equations in x , for all values of U_i , are satisfied by the coördinates of the five points O_κ , since the latter cause all the quadrics q_i to vanish. There are then only three variable solutions of the system—which proves the result stated above.

By means of $K = 0$, to each point X there corresponds a quadric surface

$$K_x k_x^2 \equiv X_1 q_1 + X_2 q_2 + X_3 q_3 + X_4 q_4 = 0$$

belonging to the linear system determined by q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4 . *This quadric is the locus of the point x for which the corresponding plane U (by F') passes through the original point X .*

The locus of the point x whose corresponding plane U is incident is the cubic surface $k_x^2 K_x = 0$. The locus of the point X whose corresponding quadric surface is degenerate is the quartic surface

$$(k k' k'' k''')^2 K_x K'_x K''_x K'''_x = 0.$$

§ 7. The covariant point-plane connex C .

Consider the bundle of lines through any point X ; for each of these lines we have from (13)

$$(22) \quad X_2 P_{34} + X_3 P_{42} + X_4 P_{23} = 0, \text{ etc.}$$

To each line of the bundle there corresponds, by F' , a plane u , so that

$$(23) \quad a_i A_p - \rho u_i = 0.$$

We prove now that the double infinity of planes so obtained themselves constitute a bundle.

Eliminate ρ and the coördinates P_{ik} from the four equations (23) and any three of the set (22). We obtain thus four relations, expressed by the vanishing of the determinants in the matrix

$$(24) \quad \begin{vmatrix} a_{1,12} & a_{1,13} & a_{1,14} & a_{1,34} & a_{1,42} & a_{1,23} & u_1 \\ a_{2,12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & u_2 \\ a_{3,12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & u_3 \\ a_{4,12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & u_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & X_2 & X_3 & X_4 & 0 \\ 0 & -X_4 & X_3 & -X_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ X_4 & 0 & -X_2 & 0 & -X_1 & 0 & 0 \\ -X_3 & X_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -X_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

which result from omitting in turn the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth row. These determinants have redundant factors X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 respectively; the factor common to all is of the second degree in X and of the first degree in u . The covariant thus obtained will be written

$$(25) \quad C \equiv C_X^2 u_c.$$

We thus obtain a covariant point-plane connex $C = 0$ of the second order and first class. In this connex, to each point X there corresponds a bundle of planes, which coincides with the bundle obtained by F' from the bundle of lines through X .

The coördinates of the vertex x of this bundle are given by

$$(26) \quad x_i = c_i C_X^2.$$

If the point x and the plane u together form an element of the connex $C = 0$, it follows from the above theorem that there exists a line through X whose corresponding plane (by F') is u ; or, what is equivalent, that of the ∞ lines forming a regulus corresponding by F' to u , one passes through X .

The quadric surface which corresponds, in the connex $C = 0$, to a given plane u , contains the regulus of lines which are transformed by F' into the same plane u .

The general point-plane connex of second order and first class has been investigated by KRAUSE.* The results may be applied to the connex $C = 0$, and thus indirectly to the original point-line connex F . For example, the locus of the plane u for which the corresponding quadric is degenerate, is the surface of fourth class

$$(CC' C'' C''')^2 u_c u_{c'} u_{c''} u_{c'''} = 0;$$

the left member is therefore a covariant of F , involving the coefficients of F to the sixteenth degree. The condition that the plane should be tangent to the corresponding quadric yields a surface of fifth class

$$(CC' C'' u)^2 u_c u_{c'} u_{c''} = 0.$$

There are 15 points X each of which coincides with its corresponding point x .

The covariant C was obtained by considering the ∞^2 lines passing through a point X . In an entirely analogous manner, by considering the ∞^2 lines lying in a plane U , we obtain another covariant, involving two sets of plane coördinates, which we write

$$(27) \quad E \equiv U_E^2 u_c.$$

By means of $E = 0$, to a plane U there corresponds a point x such that the lines of U are transformed, by F' , into the planes through x ; again to a plane u

* See reference on page 213 above.

there corresponds a (class) quadric, containing the regulus of lines which F' transforms into u . It follows that the class quadric thus obtained is identical with the order quadric corresponding by $C = 0$ to the same plane u .

§8. *A geometrical construction (or definition) of the connex.**

If we interpret the x_i as point coördinates in a space s , and the P_{ik} as line coördinates in a distinct or superposed space S , then, connected with the general connex F' , there is in s a quadric surface ω , and in S a pair of lines Π' , Π'' , such that to each point of ω there corresponds a tractor of Π' , Π'' . The transformation from the point x to the line P , as seen from (12), is linear, hence to a linear system of points corresponds a linear system of lines. But the only linear systems of points on ω are the generators; therefore to the points of a generator correspond lines forming a pencil. Since all the lines must be tractors of Π' , Π'' it follows that the center of the pencil is a point on Π' or Π'' and that the plane of the pencil passes through Π'' or Π' . Generators of the same system do not intersect; hence the corresponding pencils have centers on the same line Π' or Π'' . Thus there are established $(1, 1)$ correspondences between the generators of the first system on ω and the points of say Π' ; and between the generators of the second system and the points of Π'' . The tractor corresponding to any point of ω is of course the line joining the points on Π' and Π'' which correspond respectively to the two generators passing through the given point.

If now we take arbitrarily, in the space s , a quadric ω , and in the space S , a pair of lines Π' , Π'' , and establish $(1, 1)$ correspondences between the two systems of generators and the points of Π' , Π'' —or what is the same, establish a $(1, 1)$ correspondence between the points of ω and the tractors of Π' , Π'' , we employ $9 + 4 + 4 + 6 = 23$ parameters. This is the number of parameters involved in the general connex F' . It is thus rendered plausible that the connex is defined by the figure described.

The connex is in fact obtained most simply as follows, in terms of the related transformation F' . Consider any line P in the space S . The tractors common to P , Π' , Π'' establish a homographic correspondence between the points of Π' and Π'' ; the corresponding generators must also be in $(1, 1)$ correspondence; hence the locus of the points on ω corresponding to the tractors considered is a conic. Thus to the line P in S there corresponds finally a unique plane in s , namely the plane of the conic just obtained.

The transformation F'' is derived as follows. Consider any point x in s , with the bundle of planes passing through it. Each of these planes intersects ω in a conic; this conic establishes a $(1, 1)$ correspondence between the two systems of generators; the ranges on Π' and Π'' are thus placed in homographic

* This section furnishes the basis for a purely synthetic treatment of the bilinear connex.

correspondence; hence the joins of corresponding points constitute a regulus (half-quadric). The ∞^2 planes of the bundle yield in this way ∞^2 reguli, and the ∞^3 lines of these reguli constitute a linear complex. This is the linear complex L which corresponds to the point x by means of the transformation F'

Given a plane u , it was seen in § 2 that there is a regulus of lines which are all transformed by F' into the same plane u . This regulus is now obtained as the conjugate regulus of that described in the preceding paragraph as derived from the conic in which u cuts ω .*

The connex F' itself is composed of ∞^6 elements (x, P) each consisting of a point in s and a line in S ; *these elements are characterized as follows: to the tractors of P, Π', Π'' correspond points on ω whose locus is a conic of which the plane passes through x .*

The results of this section may be stated:

The study of the general bilinear connex is equivalent to the study of the configuration composed of a general quadric surface and a linear congruence (tractors of a pair of lines), the points of the surface and the lines of the congruence being placed in $(1, 1)$ correspondence.

§ 9. Normal form with respect to digredient transformation.

From the preceding geometrical determination we may obtain a useful normal form. For this purpose it is sufficient to take the quadric ω , the pair of lines Π', Π'' , and the correspondence, in the simplest fashion. Let the quadric in s be

$$(28) \quad \omega \equiv x_2 x_3 - x_1 x_4 = 0;$$

its generators are

$$(28') \quad \frac{x_1}{x_2} = \frac{x_3}{x_4} = \lambda, \quad \frac{x_1}{x_3} = \frac{x_2}{x_4} = \mu,$$

where λ, μ are parameters. In S let the two fundamental lines be

$$(29) \quad \begin{aligned} \Pi': & \quad 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, \\ \Pi'': & \quad 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1. \end{aligned}$$

The correspondence we define by assigning to the generator of the first system with parameter λ , the point $(\lambda, 0, 0, 1)$ on the line Π' ; and similarly, to the generator of the second system with parameter μ , the point $(0, \mu, 1, 0)$ on the

* From this it is seen that the regulus degenerates when, and only when, the plane u is tangent to ω ; the result of the degeneration being two pencils having their vertices on Π', Π'' respectively. The totality of pencils so obtained constitute the quadratic complex

$$(a\omega\omega'\omega'')(a\omega'\omega\omega'')A_P A'_P = 0,$$

which therefore degenerates into the two linear complexes composed of the lines cutting Π' or Π'' .

line Π'' . To the point (λ, μ) of ω there corresponds then the tractor joining the points $(\lambda, 0, 0, 1)$, $(0, \mu, 1, 0)$, namely the line

$$(30) \quad \lambda\mu, \lambda, 0, -1, \mu, 0.$$

Consider any line P_{ik} in S . If the tractor (30) is to intersect this line, then

$$P_{34}\lambda\mu + P_{42}\lambda + P_{13}\mu - P_{12} = 0;$$

or, from (28'),

$$P_{34}x_1 + P_{13}x_2 + P_{42}x_3 - P_{12}x_4 = 0.$$

This is in fact the plane corresponding to the line P , so that the transformation F' takes the form

$$(31) \quad u_1 = P_{34}, u_2 = P_{13}, u_3 = P_{42}, u_4 = -P_{12}.$$

The matrix of this transformation is

$$(32) \quad \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix},$$

which, read by columns, gives for the transformation F''

$$(33) \quad L_{12} = -x_4, L_{13} = x_2, L_{14} = 0, L_{34} = x_1, L_{42} = x_3, L_{23} = 0.$$

Finally the normal form of the connex is

$$(34) \quad F \equiv x_1 P_{34} + x_2 P_{13} + x_3 P_{42} - x_4 P_{12} = 0.$$

In the reduction to this form, it is assumed that ω is not degenerate and that Π' , Π'' are distinct and non-intersecting. Consider first the condition that ω shall be degenerate, namely the vanishing of its discriminant J . We have

$$\omega \equiv \omega_x^2 \equiv [A A'] a_x a'_x,$$

so that

$$(35) \quad J = (\omega \omega' \omega'' \omega''')^2$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} [AA']a_1a'_1 & [AA']a_1a'_2 & [AA']a_1a'_3 & [AA']a_1a'_4 \\ [A''A''']a''_2a'''_1 & [A''A''']a''_2a'''_2 & [A''A''']a''_2a'''_3 & [A''A''']a''_2a'''_4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{vmatrix},$$

which, by permutation of the equivalent symbols, may finally be reduced to

$$(35') \quad J = [AA'] [A''A'''] [A^{(4)}A^{(5)}] [A^{(6)}A^{(7)}] \\ (aa''a^{(4)}a^{(6)})(a'a'''a^{(5)}a^{(7)}).$$

Consider in the second place the condition that Π' , Π'' shall coincide. Since these are obtained as the lines common to four linear complexes, namely (20), the required condition is expressed by the vanishing of the combinant of these four complexes. This combinant is

$$\begin{vmatrix} (11) & (12) & (13) & (14) \\ (21) & (22) & (23) & (24) \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{vmatrix},$$

where (11), for example, denotes the invariant of $a_1 A_P = 0$, and (12), the simultaneous invariant of $a_1 A_P = 0$, $a_2 A_P = 0$; so that

$$(11) = a_1 a'_1 [AA'], \quad (12) = a_1 a'_2 [AA'], \text{ etc.}$$

Introducing these values, the combinant reduces to the invariant J defined above. Therefore

*When the quadric ω degenerates, the fundamental lines Π' , Π'' coincide, and vice versa. The condition for either case is expressed by the vanishing of the invariant of the eighth degree J defined by (35').**

When J does not vanish the initial representations (28), (28'), (29) are justified, and therefore

The connex F , by digredient transformation, may be reduced to the normal form (34), provided the invariant J does not vanish.†

§ 10. The relation of certain projective groups.

The discussion in § 8 leads to the consideration of a (1, 1) correspondence between the points of quadric surface and the lines of a linear congruence. This correspondence is of interest in itself and suggests a connection between the related transformations which we shall now consider.

A proper quadric surface is transformed into itself by a well known six parameter group of collineations, composed of two continuous series g_6 , h_6 distinguished by the fact that the transformations of the first kind turn each system of generators into itself, while those of the second kind interchange the two systems. On the other hand, a proper linear congruence, consisting of the tractors of two non-intersecting lines, is converted into itself by a seven parameter group of collineations (G_7 , H_7), the transformations of the first kind leaving each of the fundamental lines invariant while those of the second kind interchange them.

* To the points of ω correspond the congruence composed of the tractors of Π' , Π'' ; the theorem above shows that the quadric and the congruence degenerate simultaneously.

† Moreover the reduction may be effected in ∞^7 distinct ways. This follows from the last theorem of § 10.

This group possesses a self-conjugate subgroup I_1 composed of the single infinity of skew perspectivities* which leave invariant the individual points of both fundamental lines.

In virtue of the correspondence between the elements, each transformation of the group (G_7, H_7) induces a transformation of the points of ω which is equivalent to a collineation of the automorphic group (g_6, h_6) . The transformations of I_1 leave invariant each line of the congruence, and hence the induced transformation is merely identity. It follows that any two collineations of (G_7, H_7) which may be obtained from each other by a transformation I_1 induce the same collineation of (g_6, h_6) .

The group (g_6, h_6) of a proper quadric surface is isomorphic with the group (G_7, H_7) of a proper linear congruence. The isomorphism is meriedric; to each transformation of the first group corresponds an infinity of transformations of the second, all of which are obtained from any one by means of the self-conjugate group I_1 .

If we regard as identical, in the congruence group, those collineations which have the same effect upon the lines of the congruence (though they have different effects upon the points of space), the group reduces to one of six parameters (\bar{G}_6, \bar{H}_6) ,† and the relation above may be restated: *The groups (g_6, h_6) and (\bar{G}_6, \bar{H}_6) are simply isomorphic.*

The nature of the isomorphism is seen most clearly by observing that each point of the quadric, as well as each line of the congruence, may be represented by a pair of parameters (λ, μ) , and that then both groups take the form

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda' &= \frac{a\lambda + b}{c\lambda + d}, & \mu' &= \frac{a\mu + \beta}{\gamma\mu + \delta}; \\ \lambda' &= \frac{a\mu + b}{c\mu + d}, & \mu' &= \frac{a\lambda + \beta}{\gamma\lambda + \delta}.\end{aligned}$$

Another point of view is obtained by making use of the well known representation of lines by points in a space R_5 . All the lines of space being represented by a manifold M_4^2 , a linear congruence is represented by the intersection of this manifold with a 3-flat, i. e., by an ordinary quadric surface.

The correspondence of elements and the isomorphism of groups justify the statement: *Geometry on a quadric surface is equivalent to geometry in a linear congruence.* Both may be adequately represented by means of double binary forms involving digredient variables.‡

* Such a collineation is defined by the property that the join of corresponding points meets two fixed lines and is divided by them in a fixed anharmonic ratio.

† This is of course equivalent to the quotient group of (G_7, H_7) over I_1 .

‡ Cf. E. KASNER, *The cogredient and digredient theories of multiple binary forms*, Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, vol. 4 (1903), pp. 86-102.

The detailed study of the correspondence between the two geometries is of some interest and presents little difficulty. Thus to a conic corresponds an hyperboloid passing through the two fundamental lines; two conics intersect in two points, hence the corresponding hyperboloids intersect in two lines—in addition to the fundamental lines; to a twisted quartic of the first species corresponds a quartic surface having each of the fundamental lines for a double line,* etc.

We return now to the connex F , and inquire concerning its automorphic transformations. The spaces s and S are here regarded as distinct, undergoing independent collineations, so that the number of constants involved in a transformation, made up of a pair of collineations, is thirty. The number of conditions imposed by the invariance of F is 23, so that the automorphic group involves 7 parameters. The question is equivalent to the automorphic transformation of the configuration composed of the quadric ω , the linear congruence defined by Π' , Π'' , and the correspondence between the two.

Consider any collineation T of the group (G_7, H_7) . This in virtue of the correspondence induces in the space s a collineation t of the group (g_6, h_6) . The pair t , T then constitute a transformation of the required type. Since one pair arises from each collineation of the group (G_7, H_7) it follows that

The digredient transformations for which the general bilinear connex is invariant constitute a seven parameter group isomorphic with the group (G_7, H_7) of the general linear congruence.

§ 11. *The fundamental configuration, and a normal form with respect to cogredient transformation.*

It has been seen in § 4 that the bilinear connex has five fundamental points O_κ , for each of which the corresponding linear complex degenerates into an incident line N_κ . The configuration O_κ, N_κ is not entirely arbitrary since the lines N_κ are all tractors of the fundamental lines Π' , Π'' . There is however no other restriction, as is rendered plausible by an enumeration of constants; in fact the figure composed of five arbitrary points and two arbitrary lines involves $15 + 8$ constants, which is the number of constants involved in the general connex. We now prove precisely that

The connex is, in general, completely determined by the five arbitrary points O_1, O_2, O_3, O_4, O_5 and the two arbitrary lines Π', Π'' .

We suppose that the points and lines above are in general position: specifi-

* The geometries above are also equivalent to the inversion geometry of the plane, so that to a circle corresponds an hyperboloid, etc. Cf. the author's article, *The invariant theory of the inversion group: geometry on a quadric surface*, Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, vol. 1 (1900), pp. 430-498. The results as to cyclic curves in chapter V of this article may easily be translated into theorems regarding ruled surfaces of the fourth order.

cally, that the two lines do not intersect; that none of the points lies on either line; that no three of the points are collinear; and that none of the lines joining two of the points intersects both of the given lines. It follows from these assumptions that the lines N_κ , namely the tractors of Π' , Π'' passing through the points O_κ , are all distinct and intersect Π' in distinct points A'_κ , and Π'' in distinct points A''_κ . We proceed now with the proof of the theorem stated.

In the first place, the quadric surface ω is completely determined as follows: It must pass through the five points O_κ , and in such a way that the generators g'_κ of the first system passing through these points are homographic to the points A'_κ , and that the generators g''_κ of the second system are homographic to the points A''_κ . This is in fact equivalent to nine linear conditions. The quadric ω may be constructed synthetically quite simply. Take any non-degenerate quadric $\bar{\omega}$, and upon it any three points $\bar{O}_1, \bar{O}_2, \bar{O}_3$, no two lying on the same generator; denote the generators through these points by $\bar{g}'_1, \bar{g}'_2, \bar{g}'_3$ and $\bar{g}''_1, \bar{g}''_2, \bar{g}''_3$. In the first* system find the two generators \bar{g}'_4, \bar{g}'_5 so that the five generators \bar{g}'_κ shall be homographic to the points A'_κ ; similarly find \bar{g}''_4, \bar{g}''_5 . Denote the intersection of \bar{g}'_4, \bar{g}''_4 by \bar{O}_4 , and that of \bar{g}'_5, \bar{g}''_5 by \bar{O}_5 . Since the generators \bar{g}'_4, \bar{g}''_4 are all distinct it follows that the points \bar{O}_κ are all distinct and that no three are collinear. The same is true by hypothesis of the given points O_κ . There must exist then a unique collineation which transforms the points \bar{O}_κ in the points O_κ . This collineation converts $\bar{\omega}$ into the required quadric ω .

In the second place, there is a definite correspondence between the points of ω and the tractors of Π', Π'' . For we have corresponding to g'_1, g'_2, g'_3 the points A'_1, A'_2, A'_3 , and to g''_1, g''_2, g''_3 , the points A''_1, A''_2, A''_3 . This defines the correspondence; then in virtue of the above construction A'_4, A'_5 correspond to g'_4, g'_5 , and A''_4, A''_5 correspond to g''_4, g''_5 .

Having now determined the quadric ω , the congruence defined by Π', Π'' , and the correspondence between the two, it follows from § 9 that the connex itself is uniquely determined, which completes the proof of the theorem.

It is of interest to carry out the argument on analytic lines as it leads to a normal form for F . Take for the coördinate tetrahedron that defined by the points O_1, O_2, O_3, O_4 and let O_5 be the unit point. The coördinates of the five fundamental points are thus

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} O_1 & & O_2 & & O_3 & & O_4 & & O_5 \\ (1, 0, 0, 0) & (0, 1, 0, 0) & (0, 0, 1, 0) & (0, 0, 0, 1) & (1, 1, 1, 1). \end{array}$$

Let the coördinates of Π', Π'' be $\lambda'_{ik}, \lambda''_{ik}$ respectively. The problem is now to find the connex F determined by these fundamental points and lines, i. e., to

* Which system is called first, is a matter of indifference; for the interchange of the two systems, it may be shown, does not affect the final result.

express the 24 coefficients $\alpha_{i,kl}$ in terms of $\lambda'_{ik}, \lambda''_{ik}$. The transformation F' carries the point O_1 into the line whose coördinates are

$$\alpha_{1,12}, \quad \alpha_{1,13}, \quad \alpha_{1,14}, \quad \alpha_{1,34}, \quad \alpha_{1,42}, \quad \alpha_{1,23};$$

since this is to be a line through O_1 , it follows from the conditions for incidence that the last three coördinates vanish. Dealing similarly with O_2, O_3, O_4 , it is found that the matrix of F' is of the form

$$(36) \quad \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \alpha_{1,34} & \alpha_{1,42} & \alpha_{1,23} \\ 0 & \alpha_{2,13} & \alpha_{2,14} & \alpha_{2,34} & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{3,12} & 0 & \alpha_{3,14} & 0 & \alpha_{3,42} & 0 \\ \alpha_{4,12} & \alpha_{4,13} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \alpha_{4,23} \end{vmatrix}.$$

The general connex contains 23 constants; by a proper collineation it should be possible to reduce the number to $23 - 15 = 8$. The matrix above, involving 12 homogeneous constants, is thus equivalent to only a semi-normal form of the connex. A reduced normal form is obtained by expressing the twelve coefficients of the matrix in terms of $\lambda'_{ik}, \lambda''_{ik}$, which are in fact equivalent to only eight essential constants, since each sextuple of coördinates is connected by a quadratic relation. This reduction will now be carried out as follows.

The line into which O_1 is transformed, namely $(\alpha_{1,34}, \alpha_{1,42}, \alpha_{1,23}, 0, 0, 0)$ is to be a tractor of Π', Π'' , hence

$$\lambda'_{34}\alpha_{1,34} + \lambda'_{42}\alpha_{1,42} + \lambda'_{23}\alpha_{1,23} = 0,$$

$$\lambda''_{34}\alpha_{1,34} + \lambda''_{42}\alpha_{1,42} + \lambda''_{23}\alpha_{1,23} = 0.$$

Similarly from O_2, O_3, O_4 we find

$$\lambda'_{13}\alpha_{2,13} + \lambda'_{14}\alpha_{2,14} + \lambda'_{34}\alpha_{2,34} = 0,$$

$$\lambda''_{13}\alpha_{2,13} + \lambda''_{14}\alpha_{2,14} + \lambda''_{34}\alpha_{2,34} = 0;$$

$$\lambda'_{12}\alpha_{3,12} + \lambda'_{14}\alpha_{3,14} + \lambda'_{42}\alpha_{3,42} = 0,$$

$$\lambda''_{12}\alpha_{3,12} + \lambda''_{14}\alpha_{3,14} + \lambda''_{42}\alpha_{3,42} = 0;$$

$$\lambda'_{12}\alpha_{4,12} + \lambda'_{13}\alpha_{4,13} + \lambda'_{23}\alpha_{4,23} = 0,$$

$$\lambda''_{12}\alpha_{4,12} + \lambda''_{13}\alpha_{4,13} + \lambda''_{23}\alpha_{4,23} = 0.$$

Finally, since O_5 is to be transformed into an incident line, we have the additional conditions

$$\alpha_{2,13} + \alpha_{2,14} + \alpha_{3,12} + \alpha_{3,14} + \alpha_{4,12} + \alpha_{4,13} = 0,$$

$$\alpha_{3,24} + \alpha_{3,21} + \alpha_{4,23} + \alpha_{4,21} + \alpha_{1,23} + \alpha_{1,24} = 0,$$

$$\alpha_{4,31} + \alpha_{4,32} + \alpha_{1,34} + \alpha_{1,32} + \alpha_{2,34} + \alpha_{2,31} = 0,$$

$$\alpha_{1,42} + \alpha_{1,43} + \alpha_{2,41} + \alpha_{2,43} + \alpha_{3,41} + \alpha_{3,42} = 0,$$

of which, however, only three are independent. Taking then any three of this set with the eight equations above, we have eleven linear equations for the determination of the twelve homogeneous coefficients in terms of λ'_{ih} , λ''_{ik} . The substitution of these values in the matrix (36) gives the reduced normal form of the matrix, and thus the final normal form of the connex F .

§ 12 *The absolute invariants of the connex.*

To obtain the absolute invariants of F , we may employ its covariant figures, in particular the quadric ω , the five points O_κ , the lines Π' , Π'' , and the tractors N_κ . The line N_κ cuts Π' and Π'' in A'_κ and A''_κ ; it intersects the quadric ω in the point O_κ and in an additional point say \bar{O}_κ . Through O_κ there pass two generators of ω , say g'_κ , g''_κ ; and through \bar{O}_κ , two generators \bar{g}'_κ , \bar{g}''_κ .

The number of independent absolute invariants of F is $23 - 15 = 8$. These may be represented as anharmonic ratios by means of the covariant elements above. The five points A'_κ on Π' give two independent ratios, and so do the five points A''_κ on Π'' . In virtue of the (1, 1) correspondences between the points of Π' and the generators of the system g' , and between the points Π'' and the generators of the system g'' , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} (g'_1, g'_2, g'_3, g'_4, g'_5) &8 (A'_1, A'_2, A'_3, A'_4, A'_5), \\ (g''_1, g''_2, g''_3, g''_4, g''_5) &8 (A''_1, A''_2, A''_3, A''_4, A''_5), \end{aligned}$$

where the symbol denotes the equality of corresponding anharmonic ratios. Additional absolute invariants are obtained by considering however the generators \bar{g}'_κ , \bar{g}''_κ , so that

A set of eight independent absolute invariants is obtained by taking a pair of anharmonic ratios from each of the four quintuples g'_κ , g''_κ , \bar{g}'_κ , \bar{g}''_κ . All the absolute invariants of the connex are expressible in terms of these eight.

Another set is obtained by considering the points in which ω intersects Π' , Π'' . On each line Π' , Π'' we have then seven points (two arising from ω and five from the tractors N_κ). Seven collinear points, however, have four independent anharmonic ratios, so that we obtain in all the required eight.

Again, absolute invariants may be defined, though not so symmetrically, without making use of the quadric ω . This must be possible, since it was seen in § 8 that the fundamental figure O_κ , Π' , Π'' by itself determines F . Construct first the tractors N_κ . Pass planes through each triple of fundamental points, cutting each of the remaining lines in two new points, and giving in all 20 points, four on each line N_κ . Thus with O_κ , A'_κ , A''_κ we have seven points on each of the five lines, and from these we derive 15 anharmonic ratios. These, of course, cannot be independent since they are expressible in terms of eight; but the relations between them are not of sufficient interest to be given here.