# Embedding and hyperplane of point-line geometry of type $D_{n,k}(F)$

Dr. Abdelsalam Osman Abou Zayda"

#### الملخص

أثبت Shult الفضاء Grasmann المنتهي القابل للطمر أن كل مستوى فوقي  $k \geq 2$  هذا البحث نبرهن أن هندسة نقطة-خط من نوع  $D_{n,k}$  حيث  $n \geq k+3$  ، قابلة للطمر في فضاء إسقاطي وأن كل مستوى فوقي عادي يأتي من ذلك الطمر .

### Abstract

Shult [7] proved that every hyperplane of embeddable Grassmann space of finite rank, arises from an embedding. In this paper it is proved that the point-line geometry of type  $D_{n,k}$  ( $k\geq 2$ ,  $n\geq k+3$ ) can be embedded in projective space and every regular hyperplane arises from an embedding using the result in [7].

<sup>\*</sup>Assistant Prof. in Mathematics, Al - Aqsa University, Gaza, Palestine.

#### Introduction

Many authors are interested in embeddability of some geometeries in a projective space. Lynn Batten [4] found an intimate relationship between affine and projective planes by showing that any affine plane is embeddable in projective plane. Cooperstein and Shult [3] showed that any geometric hyperplane arises from an embedding for the following Lie-incidence geometries:  $A_{n,2}$ ,  $D_{5,5}$  and  $E_{6,1}$ .

A great effort has been spent by Shult [8] showing that the half-spin geometry of type  $D_{n,n}$  is embeddable in a projective space. Ronan Theory [5] presented a basic tool for certain strong parapolar spaces to show that whether the hyperplanes arise from an embedding. It has been proved in [9] the embeddability of certain class of geometries  $D_{n,2}$ ,  $D_{n,2}$  and  $D_{n,3}$  In this paper we use the result in [7] to prove the embeddability of the point-line geometry  $D_{n,k}$ ,  $k\geq 2$  and  $n\geq k+3$ .

A subspace of a point-line geometry  $\Gamma = (P, L)$  is a subset  $X \subseteq P$  such that any line which has at least two of its incident points in X has all of its incident points in X.  $\langle X \rangle$  means the intersection over all subspaces containing X, where  $X \subseteq P$ . Lines incident with more than two points are called *thick* lines, those incident with exactly two points are called *thin* lines.

The singular rank of a space  $\Gamma$  is the maximal number n (possibly  $\infty$ ) for which there exist a chain of distinct subspaces  $\phi \neq X_0 \subset X_1 \subset ... \subset X_n$  such that  $X_i$  is singular for each i,  $X_i \neq X_j$ ,  $i \neq j$ . For example rank( $\phi$ )=-1, rank( $\{p\}$ )=0 where p is a point and rank(l)=1 where l a line.

In a point-line geometry  $\Gamma = (P, L)$ , a path of length n is a sequence of n+1  $(x_0,x_1,...,x_n)$  where,  $(x_i,x_{i+1})$  are collinear,  $x_0$  is called the initial point

and  $x_n$  is called the end point. A geodesic from a point x to a point y is a path of minimal possible length with initial point x and end point y. We denote this length by  $d_{\Gamma}(x, y)$ .

A geometry  $\Gamma$  is called *connected* if and only if for any two of its points there is a path connecting them. A subset X of P is said to be *convex* if X contains all points of all geodesics connecting two points of X.

A polar space is a point-line geometry  $\Gamma = (P, L)$  satisfying the axiom: For each point-line pair (p, l) with p not incident with l; p is collinear with one or all points of l, that is  $|p^{\perp} \cap l| = 1$  or else  $p^{\perp} \supset l$ . Clearly this axiom is equivalent to saying that  $p^{\perp}$  is a geometric hyperplane of  $\Gamma$  for every point  $p \in P$ .

A point-line geometry  $\Gamma$ =(P, L) is called *a projective plane* if and only if it satisfies the following conditions [5]:

- (i)  $\Gamma$  is a linear space; every two distinct points x, y in P lie exactly on one line,
  - (ii) every two lines intersect in one point,
  - (iii) there are four points no three of them are on a line.

A point-line geometry  $\Gamma$ =(P, L) is called a **projective space** if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) every two points lie exactly on one line,
- (ii) if  $l_1$ ,  $l_2$  are two lines  $l_1 \cap l_2 \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\langle l_1, l_2 \rangle$  is a projective plane. ( $\langle l_1, l_2 \rangle$  means the smallest subspace of  $\Gamma$  containing  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ .)

A point-line geometry  $\Gamma$ =(P, L) is called *a parapolar space* if and only if it satisfies the following properties:

- i-  $\Gamma$  is a connected gamma space,
- ii- For every line l;  $l^{\perp}$  s not a singular subspace,

iii- For every pair of non-collinear points x, y;  $x^{\perp} \cap y^{\perp}$  is either empty, a single point, or a non-degenerate polar space of rank at least 2.

If x, y are distinct points in P, and if  $|x^{\perp} \cap y^{\perp}|=1$ , then (x, y) is called a special pair, and if  $x^{\perp} \cap y^{\perp}$  is a polar space, then (x, y) is called a polar pair (or a symplectic pair). A parapolar space is called a strong parapolar space if it has no special pairs.

**Embeddings.**[6] Let  $\Gamma$ =(P, L) be a point-line geometry, that is, an incidence system of points P and lines L, such that each line is viewed as a set of points. A projective embedding of a point-line geometry  $\Gamma$  into the projective space P(V) of all proper subspaces of the vector space V is an injective mapping e: P $\rightarrow$  projective points of P(V)=1-spaces of V such that

- i- e(l) is a projective line for each l of L, and
- ii- the image points e(P) span P(V).

Such an embedding is denoted by the symbol e:  $\Gamma \rightarrow P(V)$ .

A geometric hyperplane of a point-line geometry is a proper subspace which meets each line non-trivially. Let  $e: \Gamma \to P(V)$  be a projective embedding of the point line geometry  $\Gamma = (P, L)$ . Suppose **H** is a projective hyperplane of P(V), the set  $H(H) := \{x \in P \mid e(x) \in H\}$  is a hyperplane of  $\Gamma$ . A hyperplane H of  $\Gamma$  is said to arise from the embedding e if and only if it has the form H = H(H).

Morphisms of embeddings. Let  $\tau: V \to W$  be a semilinear transformation of vector spaces. This induces a partial mapping of the corresponding projective spaces P(V) and P(W), sending points of P(V) not contained in  $\ker \tau$  in P(V) to projective points of P(W). If e:  $\Gamma \to P(V)$  is a projective embedding of the point-line geometry  $\Gamma$ , then composition with the partial

map  $\tau$  can yield a new embedding  $e\tau$  if and only if it satisfies the following conditions:

i-  $\tau$  is a surjective semilinear transformation, and

ii- for any point p and q of  $\Gamma$ , ker  $\tau$  meets the subspace  $\langle e(p), e(q) \rangle$  at the zero subspace of V. We call the transfer from embedding e to embedding et a morphism of embeddings and write  $e \rightarrow e \tau$ . In general if we insist that  $e \rightarrow e'$  is a morphism of embedding, it means that  $e' = e\tau$  for an appropriate semilinear transformation  $\tau$ . If ker  $\tau$  is the zero vector space, e and e' are said to be equivalent embeddings.

An embedding  $u: \Gamma \rightarrow P(V)$  is said to be *relatively universal* if and only if the existence of a morphism  $w\rightarrow u$  implies w is equivalent to u.

### 2- Old results and Notations

Shult has proved in the following theorem that every hyperplane of embeddable Grassmannspace of finite rank, arises from an embeding. For characterization and construction of  $A_{n,k}$  see [1-2].

**2.1 Theorem [7].** Let  $\Gamma$ =(P,L) be a Grassmann space of type  $A_{n,k}(F)$ , where F is a field, 1<k<n. Then every geometric hyperplane of  $\Gamma$  arises from the universal embedding of  $\Gamma$  in P(W) where W is the k-fold wedge product of the n-space V over F with itself.

For embeddings of different Lie incidence geometries, there are three methods showing that every hyperplane arises from embedding that have been successful.

**Method 1.** (Circuitry) A circuit  $C=(x_0,x_1,...,x_{n-1})$  in the collinearity graph  $X=(P-H,\sim)$  is said to be *decomposable* if it is the sum of circuits  $C_0, C_1,...$ , in X such that each  $C_i$  lies in some symplecton  $S_i$  of the parapolar space  $\Gamma$ .

We say that C is *minimal indecomposable* if C is not decomposable and all circuits of smaller length are decomposable.

Using results of Ronan [5], for a strong parapolar space, it is sufficient to show that for any hyperplane H of  $\Gamma$ , that in the subgraph of  $(P,\sim)$  induced on P-H, every circuit C is a sum of triangles and 4-circuits.

Method 2. (Inductive construction of a functional) If e:  $\Gamma \rightarrow P(V)$  is the embedding, we wish to show that for each hyperplane H of  $\Gamma$ , there exists a functional h:  $V \rightarrow F$  of V such that eoh vanishes on H but never vanishes on P-H. Inductively there exists a family S of subgeometries of  $\Gamma$  belonging to a parameterized family of geometries containing  $\Gamma$  and such that the restriction of e to S in S is still relatively universal. Then for each  $S \in S$ , there exists by induction a functional

$$H_S : \langle e(S) \rangle := W_S \rightarrow F$$

Which vanishes on e(S-H) (if the latter is empty, of cource,  $h_S=0$ ). This method was used in [7].

Method 3. (The direct sum method) This method also uses induction indifferent way. We assume as before that e:  $\Gamma \rightarrow P(V)$  is relatively universal. Again  $\Gamma$  is assumed to belong a family of geometries parameterized by an integer-valued function  $\tau$ . The theorem being proved asserts that for some function  $\delta: Z \rightarrow Z$ , if  $\dim V \ge \delta(\tau(\Gamma))$ , then  $\dim V = \delta(\tau(\Gamma))$  and every hyperplane arises from embedding. The geometries  $\Gamma$  must have the property that they always possess two subgeometries  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  in the same parameterized family satisfying

i- 
$$\langle S_1, S_2 \rangle_{\Gamma} = P$$
, and

$$ii\text{-}\ \delta(\tau(S_1))\text{+}\ \delta(\tau(S_2))\leq\!\!\delta(\tau(\Gamma)).$$

Induction on the  $S_i$  immediately yields the fact that  $V=\langle e(S_1)\rangle \oplus \langle e(S_2)\rangle$  and that  $dim\langle e(S_i)\rangle_V = \delta(\tau(S_i))$ . By induction, the hyperplane H can be assumed to meet each  $S_i$  properly at a hyperplane  $H_i$  of  $S_i$ . One sets X to be all points x of H such that e(x) is not in the subspace  $U:=\langle e(H_1)\rangle \oplus \langle e(S_2)\rangle$  of codimension 2 in V. For x,  $y\in X$ , one write

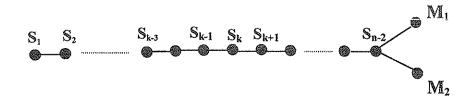
$$x\sim y$$
 if and only if  $U \oplus \langle x \rangle = U \oplus \langle y \rangle$ .

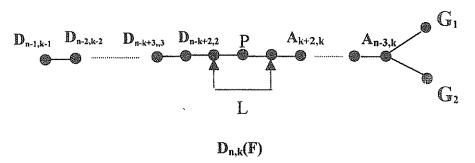
The rest of the proof consists in showing that the graph  $(X,\sim)$  is connected. Summarizing known resuls, we have:

Geometry	Reference	Method
$E_{6,1}$ , $D_{5,5}$ and $A_{n,2}$	Cooperstein and Shult [3]	Circuitry
Half-spin geometry, $D_{n,n}$	Shult [8]	Direct sum
$A_{n,k}$ , $2 \le [(n+1)/2]$	Shult [7]	Functional method
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We present some facts about the point-line geometry of type  $D_{n,k}$  that can be found in [9, 10].

Construction of  $D_{n,k}$  (F) [10]. Consider the polar space  $\Delta = \Omega^+(2n, F)$  that comes from a vector space V of dimension 2n over a finite field F=GF(q) with a symmetric hyperbolic bilinear form B.  $S_1$  is the set of all totally isotropic i-dimensional subspaces of V;  $1 \le i \le n-2$ . The two classes  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  consist of maximal totally isotropic n-dimensional subspaces. Two n-spaces fall in the same class if their intersection is of odd dimension.





The geometry of type  $\mathbb{D}_{n,k}(\mathbb{F})$  is the point-line geometry (P, L), whose set of points P is the collection of all k-dimensional subspaces of the vector space V, and whose lines are the pairs (A, B) where A is (k-1)-dimensional subspace of (k+1)-subspace B—that is, the set of (k-1, k+1)-subspace of V. A point C is incident with a line (A, B) if and only if  $A \subset C \subset B$  as a subspaces of V.

To define the collinearity, let  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  be two points (the points are the T.I k-spaces), then  $C_1$  is collinear to  $C_2$  if and only if the intersection of  $C_1 \cap C_2 = (k-1)$ -space and  $\langle C_1, C_2 \rangle = (k+1)$ -space.

The elements of the classes  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are Grassmannian geometries of type  $A_{n-1,k}$ .

There are two kinds of symlecta. The first kind is the convex polar spaces  $A_{3,2}$  that represents the (k-2, k+2) subspaces of V. Then symplecton S of kind  $A_{3,2}$  is the set of TI k-dimensional spaces that contain the TI (k-2)-

dimensional space and contained in the TI (k+2)-dimensional space. (2) The second kind of symplecta is the convex polar spaces of type  $D_{n-k+1,1}$  that represents the collection of all TI (k-1)-subspaces of V. Thus this kind of symplecta is defined as the collection of all TI k-subspaces of V that contain such TI (k-1)-spaces.

## **2.2 Proposition** [9]. Let $\Gamma = (P, L)$ be the geometry of type $D_{n,k}(F)$ . Thus:

i-  $\Gamma$  is of diameter k+1,.

ii- $\Gamma$  is a weak parapolar geometry.

#### 3- The main result

Before proving the main theorem we need to present the definition of the regular hyperplane and we show that the point line geometry D<sub>n,k</sub> is a geometric subspace of the Grassmann geometry A<sub>n,k</sub>.

**3.1 Definition** [9]. Let  $\Gamma$  be a sub-geometry of a geometry  $\Gamma'$ . Let H be a hyperplane of  $\Gamma$ . If there exist a hyperplane H' of  $\Gamma'$  such that  $H=H'\cap \Gamma$  we say that H is a regular hyperplane of  $\Gamma$  with respect to  $\Gamma$ . Otherwise we say that H is irregular with respect to  $\Gamma$ \.

For example if H' is a hyperplane of  $\Gamma'$ , then K=H' $\cap$  $\Gamma$  is a hyperplane of  $\Gamma$ implies that K is regular with respect to  $\Gamma^{\setminus}$ .

3.2. Lemma  $\Gamma = D_{n,k}(F)$  is a geometric subspace of  $\Gamma' = A_{n,k}(F)$ . **Proof.** Let l be a line of  $\Gamma'$ . We must show that if l has two of its incident points in  $\Gamma$  has all of its incident points in  $\Gamma$ . Suppose that p, q are the two incident points of l in  $\Gamma$  and r is a point incident with l. Then p and q form a TI (k+1)-space. But r is incident with l, then it a k-space contained in the TI (k+1)-space, so  $r \in \Gamma$  and l is completely lying in  $\Gamma$ .

**4.3. THE MAIN THEOREM** Let  $\Gamma$ =(P, L) be a geometry of type  $D_{n,k}(F)$ , where  $k \ge 2$ ,  $n \ge k+3$  and F is a field, then  $\Gamma$  can be embedded in a projective space and every regular geometric hyperplane arises from an embedding of  $\Gamma$  in a projective space.

**Proof.** Let K be a regular geometric hyperplane of  $D_{n,k}(F)$ . Then by regularity there exists a geometric hyperplane H of  $A_{n,k}(F)$  such that  $K=H\cap D_{n,k}$ . Since every hyperplane of  $A_{n,k}$  arises from embedding. Then there exists an embedding  $\mu^{\setminus}$  of  $A_{n,k}$  into P(V) such that there exists  $H^{\setminus}$  a hyperplane of P(V) with  $H=\mu^{\setminus -1}(H^{\setminus})$ . We know that  $D_{n,k}$  is a subspace of  $A_{n,k}$ , then  $\mu^{\setminus}(D_{n,k})$  is a subspace of P(V) say there exists a vector subspace W of V such that  $\mu^{\setminus}(D_{n,k})=P(W)$ ,  $H^{\setminus}\cap P(W)$  is a hyperplane of P(W). It follows that

$$K = \mu^{l-1}(H^l \cap P(W) \cap \mu^l(D_{n,k}))$$
$$= \mu^{l-1}(H^l \cap P(W)) \cap D_{n,k}$$

i.e., K arises from embedding.

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