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# ON THE GEOMETRY OF SUBGROUPS OF SUZUKI GROUP IN FINITE NON-MIQUELIAN INVERSIVE PLANES\*

CHAVDAR LOZANOV, GERGANA ENEVA

Чавдар Лозанов, Гергана Енева. О ГЕОМЕТРИИ ПОДГРУПП ГРУППЫ СУЗУКИ В КОНЕЧНЫХ НЕМИКЕЛЕВЫХ ИНВЕРСНЫХ ПЛОСКОСТЯХ

Простую группу Сузуки  $Sz(2^{2r+1})$  можно рассматривать как подгруппу группы коллинеаций трехмерного проективного пространства  $PG(3,2^{2r+1})$  над  $GF(2^{2r+1})$ , которая фиксирует овоид Титса  $t(\psi)$ . Эта группа определяет конечную немикелевую овоидальную инверсную плоскость  $\mathfrak{I}(o)$  порядка q, которая состоится из точек и секущих плоскостей данного овоида, когда  $q=2^{2r+1}$ . В этой работе детально рассматривается геометрия подгрупп  $Sz(2^{2r+1})$  относительно немикелевой инверсной плоскости S(q).

Chardar Lozanov, Gergana Eneva. ON THE GEOMETRY OF SUBGROUPS OF SUZUKI GROUP IN FINITE NON-MIQUELIAN INVERSIVE PLANES

The simple Suzuki group  $Sz(2^{2r+1})$  can be considered as a subgroup of the group of collineations of 3-dimensional projective space  $PG(3, 2^{2r+1})$  over  $GF(2^{2r+1})$ , fixing the special Tits ovoid  $t(\psi)$ . This group determines a finite non-miquelian egglike Mobius plane  $\Im(o)$  of order q, consisting of points and plane sections of the above ovoid, when  $q = 2^{2r+1}$ . In this paper a detailed picture of the geometry of the subgroups of  $Sz(2^{2r+1})$  is given with respect to the non-miquelian Mobius plane S(q).

In 1958 Suzuki discovered a class of simple groups  $Sz(2^{2r+1})$  with properties similar to that of the little projective group  $PSL(3,2^r)$  over Galois field  $GF(2^r)$ .

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The group  $PSL(3,2^r)$  can be considered as a subgroup of the collineations of 3-dimensional projective space  $PG(3,2^r)$  over  $GF(2^r)$ , leaving invariant an ovoid which is non-ruled quadric. Later Tits showed that there exist an ovoid  $t(\psi)$  such that the group  $Sz(2^{2r+1})$  also can be considered as a subgroup of the collineations of 3-dimensional projective space  $PG(3,2^{2r+1})$  over  $GF(2^{2r+1})$ , leaving invariant the ovoid  $t(\psi)$ .

Each of these groups determine a class of finite egglike Mobius planes  $\Im(o)$ , consisting of points and plane sections of the above ovoids. The two classes are: miquelian planes — M(q), where o is non-ruled quadric in PG(3,q) and non-miquelian — S(q), where o is the Tits ovoid  $t(\psi)$ , and  $q = 2^{2r+1}$ .

A Mobius (inversive) plane can be considered also as an incidence structure  $\mathfrak{I}=(\mathfrak{P},\mathfrak{B},z)$ , whose blocks are called circles, such that the following axiom is satisfied:

For every point  $P \in \mathfrak{P}$  the internal structure  $\mathfrak{I}_P$  is an affine plane.

The automorfism group of S(q) — AutS(q), is the semidirect product Sz(q). AutGF(q). AutS(q) is doubly transitive on the points of S(q) and transitive on circles of S(q).

The structure of Suzuki group  $\mathbb{G} = Sz(q)$  is investigated by Luneburg in [1], where some geometric characteristics of subgroups of Sz(q) are given.

Suzuki group  $\mathbb{G}$  has order  $o(\mathbb{G}) = (q^2 + 1)q^2(q - 1)$  and contains the following subgroups:

- 1) Sylow 2-subgroup S of order  $q^2$ ;
- 2) The normalizer  $\mathbb{F} = \mathfrak{R}_G \mathbb{S}$  of  $\mathbb{S}$ , which is Frobenius group of order  $q^2(q-1)$ ;
- 3) Dihedral group  $\mathbb D$  of order 2(q-1);
- 4) Two cyclic subgroups:  $\mathbb{Z}'$  of order  $q + \sqrt{2q} + 1$  and  $\mathbb{Z}''$  of order  $q \sqrt{2q} + 1$ ;
- 5) The normalizers:  $N' = \Re_G \mathbb{Z}'$  of order  $4(q + \sqrt{2q} + 1)$  and  $N'' = \Re_G \mathbb{Z}''$  of order  $4(q \sqrt{2q} + 1)$ ;
  - 6) The group S(k), when  $q = k^n$  and  $k \ge 8$  [1].

In this paper we give more detailed picture of the geometry of the above subgroups.

The elements of the automorphism group of S(q) —  $\mathrm{Aut}S(q)$  are explicitly given by:

$$(\infty)\varphi^{\alpha}_{abpsr} = (a^{\alpha}, b^{\beta});$$
  $(p, s)\varphi^{\alpha}_{abpsr} = (\infty);$   $(\infty)\tau^{\beta}_{klm} = (\infty),$ 

where  $a, b, p, s, r, k, l, m \in GF(q)$ ,  $r \neq 0, k \neq 0$ , and  $\alpha, \beta$  are inner automorphisms of GF(q).

The subgroup Sz(q) of AutS(q) is of type:

$$\{\varphi_{abpsr}^{\alpha}, \tau_{klm}^{\beta} : \alpha = \beta = 1\}.$$

We shall use the following notations:

 $\Pi^L$  — a set of pencils (parabolic pencils) with carrier L;

 $\pi^L$  — a pencil (parabolic pencils) with carrier L;

 $\varepsilon^{AB}$  — the bundle (hyperbolic pencil) with carriers A, B;

xAB — the flock (elliptic pencil) with carriers A, B;

 $\Gamma^P$  — the subgroup of  $\mathbb{G} = Sz(q)$  that fixes the point P;

 $\Gamma^{PQ}$  — the subgroup of  $\mathbb{G} = Sz(q)$  that fixes the set of two points P and Q.

## I. SUBGROUPS WHICH FIX A POINT OF S(Q)

1) As it is shown in [2] the Frobenius group  $\mathbb{F}$  is the stabilizer of a fixed point P,  $\mathbb{F}^P = \operatorname{Stab} P$ . A more detailed information on the geometry of  $\mathbb{F}$  gives:

A.  $\mathbb{F} = \operatorname{Stab}P$  is the stabilizer of the set  $\Pi^P$ . There exists a unique pencil  $\pi_o^P \in \Pi^P$ , such that the  $\mathbb{F}$  is transitive on the pencils of the set  $\{\Pi^P \setminus \pi_o^P\}$  and doubly transitive on the circles of  $\pi_o^P$  [3].

We call  $\pi_o^P$  the special pencil in the point P. Note that these special pencils correspond to the special pencils of type VI.1 in Hering's classification of Mobius planes.

2) The Sylow 2-subgroup S C F is characterized geometrically by

**B.**  $\mathbb{S}^P$  fixes given point P and  $\Pi^P$ , and is transitive on the pencils of the set  $\{\Pi^P \setminus \pi^P\}$ . It is transitive, but not doubly transitive, on the circles of  $\pi_o^P$  [3].

The 2-Sylow subgroup  $S^P$  possesses an Abelian subgroup  $\Delta^P$  of order q and exponent 2. It fixes the point P and considered as a permutation group on the points of  $\{S(q) \mid P\}$  has q orbits of length q. The points of each orbit are incident with a circle of the special pencil  $\pi_o^P$  in the point P.

The stabilizer  $\mathbb C$  of a fixed circle c is a subgroup of order q(q-1). Another characterization of  $\mathbb C$  is given by

C. There exists a unique point  $P \ge c$  fixed by  $\mathbb{C}$ , and  $\mathbb{C}^P$  is doubly transitive on the point set  $\{c \setminus P\}$ .  $\mathbb{C}^P$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{F}^P$ . We call P the special point of the circle c.

In other words, P is the special point of the circle c, if and only if Stab  $c \subset \operatorname{Stab} P$ .

The subgroup  $\mathbb{C}^P$  also contains an Abelian subgroup  $\Delta^P$  of order q and exponent 2. Consider the set  $\mathfrak{M} = \{\mathbb{C}_i^P : \mathbb{C}_i^P \cap \mathbb{C}_j^P = \Delta^P\}$ . The set of circles  $c_i$  corresponding to the groups  $\mathbb{C}_i^P$  form the special pencil  $\pi_0^P$  in the point P.

Let A, B, C, D be four points incident with a circle c. If  $c_0$  is a circle incident with the points B and C, the pencils  $\pi^B$  and  $\pi^C$  are determined. There exists a

unique circle  $c_1 \in \pi^B$ ,  $c_1 \not \subset A$ , and unique circle  $c_2 \in \pi^C$ ,  $c_2 \not \subset D$ . Then the circle  $c_1$  determines a pencil  $\pi^A$  with carrier A, and the circle  $c_2$  determines a pencil  $\pi^D$  with carrier D. Let c' be the circle of  $\pi^A$ , incident with D, and c'' be the circle of  $\pi^D$ , incident with A.

There are two possibilities for c' and c'':

i. c' coincides with c'';

ii. c' and c'' are distinct.

The first case corresponds to the theorem of Miquel for 4 circles tangent two by two. In miquelian Mobius planes — M(q), only this case is realized.

The second possibility corresponds to the degenerated case of the theorem of Miquel for 5 points and there is no nontrivial realization of it in miquelian Mobius plane. But in non-miquelian Mobius planes S(q) it can be realized particularly.

So the following definitions are natural:

A quadruple of concircular points (A, B, C, D) in S(q) is called *miquelian* if for any circle  $c_0$  incident with the points B and C the corresponding circles c' and c'' coincide.

A quadruple of concircular points (A, B, C, D) in S(q) is called non-miquelian if for any circle  $c_0$  incident with the points B and C the corresponding circles c' and c'' are distinct.

We proved in [4] that

**D**. A quadruple of concircular points (A, B, C, D) in S(q) is miquelian if and only if there exists  $\varphi \in \Delta$  such that

$$\varphi\{A,B,C,D\}=\{A,B,C,D\}$$

or, equivalently, if there exists an involution in which they are corresponding points. Note that in miquelian Mobius planes M(q) there is always such involution —

the inversion which fixes the circle incident with A, B, C, D.

**E**. A quadruple of concircular points (A, B, C, D) in S(q) is non-miquelian if and only if for any  $\psi \in \mathbf{C}$ 

$$\psi\{A, B, C, D\} \neq \{A, B, C, D\}$$

or, equivalently, if there is no involution in which they are corresponding points. Moreover, if one of the points A, B, C, D is the special point of the circle c then the quadruple (A, B, C, D) is always non-miquelian.

## **II. SUBGROUPS WITHOUT FIXED POINTS**

3) The dihedral group  $\mathbb{D}$  fixes a set of two points P and Q, i. e. it is stabilizer of the bundle  $\varepsilon^{PQ}$  with carriers P, Q. There exist exactly two circles  $c_0$ ,  $c_0^* \in \varepsilon^{PQ}$  such that  $\mathbb{D}^{PQ}$  is transitive on the set of circles  $\{\varepsilon \setminus c_0, c_0^*\}$  and on the set of points  $\{c_0 \cup c_0^* \setminus P \cup Q\}$ . Also  $\mathbb{D}$  is stabilizer of the flock  $\chi^{PQ}$  with carriers P, Q and is transitive on it's circles [3].

We call  $c_0$  and  $c_0^*$  special circles of the bundle  $\varepsilon$ .

The dihedral group  $\mathbb{D}^{PQ}$ , possesses a cyclic subgroup  $\mathbb{T}^P$  of order q-1. It fixes the point P and considered as a permutation group on the points of  $\{S(q) \mid P \cup Q\}$  has q+1 orbits of length q-1. The points of exactly two orbits are incident with a circle and these are the special circles of the bundle  $\varepsilon^{PQ}$ . The points of any other orbit are not incident with a circle.

Note that in [2], [3] and [4] we consider the problem of realization of some configurational propositions in S(q), while here we interpret some of the results from the point of view of the geometry of subgroups of Sz(q).

4) At least we shall list some particular but interesting results about the geometry of the cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}'$  in the unique finite inversive non-miquelian plane S(8).

Since the order of Sz(8) is  $o(Sz(8)) = 2^6.5.7.13$  it follows that the groups  $\mathbb{Z}'$  and  $\mathbb{Z}''$  are Sylow p-subgroups of Sz(8) with p = 13 and p = 5 respectively.

An immediate consequence of the Theorems of Sylow is that the number of Sylow p-subgroups of Sz(8) is equal to the index of the normalizer of any p-subgroup in Sz(8). Also if A and B are Sylow p-subgroups of the group  $\mathbb G$  considered as a permutation group on the points of S(8), there exists element  $\psi \in \mathbb G$ , such that if  $\{O^{\mathbf A}\}$  and  $\{O^{\mathbf B}\}$  are the orbits of A and B respectively, then  $\{O^{\mathbf A}\}\psi = \{O^{\mathbf B}\}$ .

So we can consider any fixed cyclic subgroup  $\mathbb{Z}^{13}$  of Sz(8).

Since  $o(\mathbb{F}) = 2^6.7$ ,  $\mathbb{F}^{\infty} = \{\tau_{klm}^1\}$  and  $o(\mathbb{Z}') = 13$ , then

$$\mathbb{Z}' = \{\varphi^1_{abpsr}\}.$$

A sufficient condition  $\mathbb{Z}'$  to be generated by  $\varphi_{abpsr}$  is a = p.

In the case of  $S(8)-q=2^3$  from  $\left(\varphi^1_{abpsr}\right)^{13}=\mathrm{id}$  follows

(1) 
$$1 + [r(b+s)]^2 + [r(b+s)]^3 = 0.$$

Let z be a generator of Galois field GF(8). Then a solution of (1) is  $b=z^3$ , s=0, r=1 and since a=p is not fixed, we put a=p=0. We denote by  $\mathbb{Z}_0^{13}$  this subgroup, i. e.  $\mathbb{Z}_0^{13}=\langle \varphi_{0z^3001}^1 \rangle$ .

**F.**  $\mathbb{Z}_0^{13}$  considered as a permutation group on the points of S(8) has five distinct orbits  $\mathfrak{D}$ . On the other hand,  $\mathbb{Z}_0^{13}$  considered as a permutation group on the circles of S(8) has 40 distinct orbits  $\omega$ , such that each point orbit  $\mathfrak{D}$  generates exactly ten circle orbits and every two point orbits have one circle orbit in common [5].

Let  $\mathfrak{D}'$  and  $\mathfrak{D}''$  be two point orbits of  $\mathbb{Z}_0^{13}$  and  $(\mathfrak{D}')\psi = \mathfrak{D}''$ , where  $\psi \in Sz(8)$ . Then  $\psi \in N_G(\mathbb{Z}_0^{13})$ . In fact for any such  $\psi$  we have  $(\psi)^{-1}\mathbb{Z}_0^{13}\psi = \mathbb{Z}_0^{13}$ . From here it is easy to prove

G. There are two point orbits  $\mathfrak{D}'$  and  $\mathfrak{D}''$  which are not isomorphic with respect to the group Sz(8) and any other point orbit is isomorphic either to  $\mathfrak{D}'$  or to  $\mathfrak{D}''$ .

Every point orbit  $\mathfrak D$  of the group  $\mathbb Z_0^{13}$  generates six circle orbits  $\omega$ , such that if  $c \in \omega$  then  $|c \cap \mathfrak D| = 3$ , and four circle orbits  $\pi$ , such that if  $c \in \pi$  then  $|c \cup \mathfrak D| = 4$ .

- **H**. Let  $\omega$  be a circle orbit generated by a point orbit  $\mathfrak{D}$  with  $|c \cap \mathfrak{D}| = 3$  if  $c \in \omega$ . Then there exists automorphism  $\varphi \in \mathbb{Z}_0^{13}$  such that  $\omega = \{c_i = (c_0)\varphi^i \mid i = 1 \div 13\}$  and  $(c_i, c_{i+1})$  determine a bundle, and  $(c_i, c_{i+2})$  determine a pencil.
- I. Let  $\pi$  be a circle orbit  $\mathfrak D$  with  $|c\cap \mathfrak D|=4$  if  $c\in \pi$ . If consider  $\pi$  as an incidence structure with "points" the points of  $\mathfrak D$ , "blocks" the circles of  $\pi$ , and incidence the same as in S(8), then  $\pi$  is a projective 2-(13,3,1) design. So  $\pi$  is a projective plane of order 3. Since all finite projective planes of order  $n\leq 8$  are desarguesian,  $\pi$  is desarguesian. Then  $\pi$  is a desarguesian projective plane of order 3 [5].

The geometric characterization of the fact that  $\mathfrak{D}'$  and  $\mathfrak{D}''$  are nonisomorphic is given by:

- **J**. Every quadruple of concircular points of the orbit  $\mathfrak{D}'$  is miquelian. Every two quadruples of concircular points of the orbit  $\mathfrak{D}'$  are isomorphic.
  - K. Every quadruple concircular points of any orbit  $\mathfrak{D}''$  is non-miquelian.

Thus we obtain the following geometric characterization of a cyclic subgroup  $\mathbb{Z}^{13}$  in S(8):

L. The quadruples of concircular points of one orbit form projective planes. This planes are of two types with respect to Sz(8). The "lines" of the planes of the first type are incident with miquelian quadruples of points, and the "lines" of the second type are incident with non-miquelian quadruples of points.

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