

Mathematics. — *A Representation of a Complex of Biquadratic Twisted Curves of the First Kind on Point Space.* By J. W. A. VAN KOL.
(Communicated by Prof. HENDRIK DE VRIES).

(Communicated at the meeting of September 29, 1928).

§ 1. The complex of the biquadratic twisted curves of the first kind k^4 that pass through five given points A_1, \dots, A_5 , cut a given line a_1 twice and a given line a_2 once, may be represented on the points of space in the following way. We choose a quadratic cone K^2 and a line c . We suppose a projective correspondence to be established between the points K of a_1 and the tangent planes \varkappa of K^2 and another one between the points C of a_2 and the planes γ through c . To a curve k^4 that cuts a_1 in K_1 and K_2 , and a_2 in C , we associate the point of intersection of the planes \varkappa_1 , \varkappa_2 and γ associated to K_1 , K_2 and C .

§ 2. *The vertex T of K^2 is a cardinal point; in T are represented the ∞^2 curves k^4 that pass through the point A of a_2 which is associated to the plane cT .*

c is a singular line; the ∞^2 curves k^4 that are represented on c , cut a_1 in pairs of points of a quadratic involution I .

We have still to investigate whether it is possible that of a group of eight associated points five lie in A_1, \dots, A_5 , two on a_1 and one on a_2 ; for the consequence would be the appearance of a cardinal point. This, however, is not the case. If in a group of eight associated points five lie in A_1, \dots, A_5 and two on a_1 , the eighth lies on the twisted cubic that passes through A_1, \dots, A_5 and has a_1 as chord. As a rule this curve does not cut a_2 .

§ 3. There are ∞^1 curves k^4 that are singular for the representation, viz. the curves k^4 that pass through A and cut a_1 in a pair of points of I . They are represented on the rays of the pencil in the plane cT that has T as centre and they lie on the quadratic surface through A , A_1, \dots, A_5 that contains a_1 .

§ 4. Our complex contains the following systems of ∞^1 degenerate curves k^4 :

The twisted cubic through A_1, \dots, A_5 that has a_1 as chord, is completed by its chords that cut a_2 , to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a line through T .

Each of the five twisted cubics that pass through A_1, \dots, A_5 and cut a_1 and a_2 , is completed by its chords that cut a_1 , to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a line cutting c and touching K^2 .

The twisted cubics that pass through A_1, \dots, A_5 and cut a_1 , are completed by their chords which cut a_1 and a_2 , to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a biquadratic curve c^4 that passes through T and cuts c three times and which is, accordingly, of the second kind. We prove this by cutting c^4 by a tangent plane \varkappa of K^2 . The number of points of intersection outside T is equal to the number of curves of the system that pass through the point K of a_1 that is associated to \varkappa . Now through K there passes one twisted cubic that passes at the same time through A_1, \dots, A_5 and is completed by its two chords that cut a_1 and a_2 to degenerate curves k^4 . Further there is one twisted cubic that passes through A_1, \dots, A_5 , cuts a_1 outside K , and has a ray of the plane pencil (K, a_2) as chord. This is a consequence of the property that the twisted cubics which pass through five given points, produce a polar correspondence in an arbitrary plane, so that the three points of intersection of any of the curves with the plane form a polar triangle¹⁾. The aforesaid twisted cubic forms a degenerate curve k^4 through K with the ray of the plane pencil (K, a_2) which it has as chord. Accordingly \varkappa cuts c^4 outside T in three points. From the above mentioned property it also follows that c^4 has a singular point in T and that a plane through c cuts c^4 outside c in one point, so that c^4 cuts c three times.

The twisted cubics that pass through A_i, \dots, A_m and cut a_1 once and a_2 twice, are completed by their chords through A_n to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a twisted cubic which passes through T and has c as chord. This is proved in a similar way as above.

A twisted cubic that passes through A_i, \dots, A_m and cuts a_1 twice, cuts a ray of the plane pencil (A_n, a_2) only then twice when this ray lies with A_i, \dots, A_m and a_1 on one quadratic surface. If S_1 and S_2 are the points where the plane $A_n a_2$ is cut outside A_n by the twisted cubic that passes through A_1, \dots, A_5 and has a_1 as chord, the quadratic surface through A_i, \dots, A_m and a_1 and $A_n S_1$ (resp. $A_n S_2$) contains ∞^1 twisted cubics that pass through A_i, \dots, A_m and cut a_1 and $A_n S_1$ (resp. $A_n S_2$) twice and that are completed by $A_n S_1$ (resp. $A_n S_2$) to a system of degenerate curves k^4 which is represented on a line cutting c .

The twisted cubics that pass through A_i, \dots, A_m , cut a_1 and a_2 , and have a ray of the plane pencil (A_n, a_1) as chord, are completed by these chords to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a curve of the order six that passes through T and cuts c five times.

The transversal through A_n of a_1 and a_2 is completed by the twisted

¹⁾ Vg. R. STURM, Die Lehre von den geometrischen Verwandtschaften, 4, 103.

cubics that have this transversal as chord, pass through A_i, \dots, A_m and cut a_1 to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a line which cuts c and touches K^2 .

The line $A_i A_k$ is completed by the twisted cubics that pass through A_i, A_m, A_n , cut $A_i A_k$ and a_1 twice and a_2 once, and which, accordingly, lie on the quadratic surface that passes through A_i, A_m, A_n and contains $A_i A_k$ and a_1 , to two systems of degenerate curves k^4 that are represented on two lines which cut c .

The conic that passes through A_i, A_k, A_l and cuts a_1 and a_2 , is completed by the conics that pass through A_m, A_n and cut the said conic twice and a_1 once, to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a line which cuts c and touches K^2 .

The conics that pass through A_i, A_k, A_l and cut a_1 , are completed by the conics that pass through A_m, A_n , cut a_1 and a_2 and cut one of the aforesaid conics twice, to a system of degenerate curves k^4 that is represented on a conic which passes through T , cuts c , and lies in a tangent plane of K^2 .

§ 5. K^2 is the image surface of the system of the curves k^4 that touch a_1 .

The curves k^4 that pass through a given point P , lie on the quadratic surface ω^2 that passes through A_1, \dots, A_5 and P and contains a_1 . Let a_2 cut ω^2 in P_1 and P_2 . The curves k^4 on ω^2 that pass through P and P_1 as well as those that pass through P and P_2 cut a_1 in pairs of points of a quadratic involution. Consequently the system of the curves k^4 that pass through a given point P , is represented on two lines a_p and a'_p , that cut c .

a_p and a'_p together cut K^2 in four points; hence:

There are four curves k^4 that pass through a sixth given point and touch a_1 .

This number can also be deduced directly. For each of the above mentioned involutions on a_1 has two double points.

§ 6. Let k_b be the image curve of the system Σ_1 of the curves k^4 that have a given chord b . By making use of the property that the biquadratic curves of the first kind that pass through six given points and cut a given line twice, lie on the quadratic surface that is defined by these elements, we find that through a given point of a_1 or a_2 there pass two resp. one curve of Σ_1 . Hence a tangent plane K^2 cuts k_b in all in three points. Accordingly k_b is a twisted cubic that passes through T and has c as chord.

k_b cuts K^2 outside T in four points. Hence:

There are four curves k^4 that touch a_1 and cut a third given line twice.

§ 7. Let us call O_l the image surface of the system Σ_2 of the curves k^4 that cut a given line l . In order to determine the degree we cut O_l by a line that cuts c and touches K^2 . The number of points of intersection outside c is equal to the number of curves of Σ_2 that pass through a given point of a_1 and a given point of a_2 . This number is equal to two as the biquadratic curves of the first kind that pass through seven given points and cut a given line, form a biquadratic surface with double points in the given points¹⁾. From this property it also follows that c is a quadruple line of O_l . Consequently O_l is a surface of the sixth degree that has a double point in T and on which c is a quadruple line.

By investigating in how many points O_l is cut outside c and T by the pair of lines a_p, a'_p and by k_b , we find the following numbers, of which the former also directly follows from a property indicated in § 5:

There are four curves k^4 that pass through a given point P and cut a given line l .

There are eight curves k^4 that have a given chord b and cut a given line l .

§ 8. Two surfaces O_l and O_m cut each other along the line c , which must be counted sixteen times, and a curve k_{lm} of the order twenty, which is obviously the image curve of the system of the curves k^4 that cut two given lines l and m . k_{lm} has a quadruple point in T and cuts c in sixteen points.

Intersection of k_{lm} with K^2 and O_n gives:

There are 32 curves k^4 that touch a_1 and cut two given lines l and m .

There are 48 curves k^4 that cut three given lines l, m and n .

§ 9. The system Σ_3 of the curves k^4 that cut a_2 twice and, accordingly, each have two image points on a line through T , is represented on a plane α_{a_2} that passes through T . For the curves of Σ_3 cut a_1 in pairs of points of the quadratic involution on a_1 produced by the pencil of quadratic surfaces that pass through A_1, \dots, A_5 and contain a_2 .

If we cut α_{a_2} by the pair of lines a_p, a'_p and by k_b , we find the following numbers, of which the former is again an immediate consequence of a property indicated in § 5:

There is one curve k^4 that cuts a_2 twice and passes through a given point P .

There is one curve k^4 that cuts a_2 as well as a given line b twice.

§ 10. The congruence of the biquadratic curves k^4 of the first kind that pass through seven given points A_1, \dots, A_7 , may be brought into a one-one-correspondence with the points of the plane $\alpha \equiv A_1 A_2 A_3$ by

¹⁾ Cf. Prof. JAN DE VRIES, Eine Kongruenz von Raumkurven vierter Ordnung, erster Art. Nieuw Archief v. Wisk. 15, 229.

associating to any curve k^4 its fourth point of intersection with α as image point. A_1, A_2 and A_3 are singular points. In A_i are represented the ∞^1 curves k^4 that touch α in A_i and lie on the quadratic surface ω^2_i that passes through A_4, \dots, A_7 and contains the lines $A_i A_k$ and $A_i A_l$.

A line a through A_i in α is the image of the system of the ∞^1 curves k^4 that lie on the quadratic surface ω^2 which passes through A_4, \dots, A_7 and contains the lines a and $A_k A_l$. ω^2 as well as ω^2_i contain two curves k^4 that cut a given line l . Hence the system of the curves k^4 that cut a given line l , is represented on a biquadratic curve k_l with double points in A_1, A_2 and A_3 , which is evidently the intersection of α and the surface formed by the curves k^4 that cut l . In this way we have proved the property applied in § 7.

ω^2 as well as ω^2_i contain six curves k^4 that touch a given plane φ . Accordingly the system of the curves k^4 that touch a given plane φ , is represented on a curve k_φ of the twelfth order with sextuple points in A_1, A_2 and A_3 . k_φ cuts k_l outside A_1, A_2 and A_3 in twelve points.

There are, therefore, twelve curves k^4 that cut a given line and touch a given plane.

The intersection of two curves k_φ en k_ψ also gives:

There are 36 curves k^4 that touch two given planes.

§ 11. Through application of the above we can show in a simple way that the system of the curves k^4 that touch a given plane φ , is represented on a surface O_φ of the 18th degree that has a sextuple point in T and on which c is a twelve-fold line.

Intersection of O_φ with (a_p, a'_p) , k_b and k_{lm} gives the following numbers, of which the former again follows immediately from § 5:

There are twelve curves k^4 that pass through a given point P and touch a given plane φ .

There are 24 curves k^4 that have a given chord b and touch a given plane φ .

There are 144 curves k^4 that cut two given lines l and m and touch a given plane φ .

§ 12. We can also investigate the representations of different other systems of curves k^4 , as e.g. the systems of the curves k^4 that touch two given planes, that cut a given line and touch a given plane, and others.

The numbers that can be deduced from this and the numbers deduced above are the following ones:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P^7 \nu^2 &= 4 & P^6 T\nu &= 4 & P^5 B^3 &= 1 & P^5 BT\nu &= 4 & P^5 B\nu^4 &= 48 \\
 P^7 \nu Q &= 12 & P^6 B^2 &= 1 & P^5 B^2\nu^2 &= 8 & P^5 T\nu^3 &= 32 & P^5 B\nu^3 Q &= 144 \\
 P^7 Q^2 &= 36 & P^6 B\nu^2 &= 4 & P^5 B^2\nu Q &= 24 & P^5 T\nu^2 Q &= 96 & P^5 B\nu^2 Q^2 &= 432 \\
 & & P^6 B\nu Q &= 12 & P^5 B^2 Q^2 &= 72 & P^5 T\nu Q^2 &= 288 & P^5 B\nu Q^3 &= 1296
 \end{aligned}$$

Here P represents the condition that a biquadratic curve of the first kind pass through a given point, ν that it cut a given line once, B that it cut a given line twice, T that it touch a given line and ϱ that it touch a given plane.

§ 13. The above enables us to indicate properties of surfaces formed by systems of ∞^1 curves k^4 , such as:

The curves k^4 that have a given chord b , form a surface of the eighth degree with quadruple points in A_1, \dots, A_5 , on which a_1 and b are double lines and a_2 is a single line.

The curves k^4 that cut two given lines l and m , form a surface of the degree 48 with 24-fold points in A_1, \dots, A_5 , on which a_1 is a 16-fold line and a_2, l and m are 8-fold lines. The multiplicity of a_1 is equal to the number of curves k^4 that pass through a given point of a_1 and cut l and m . From the property indicated in § 8 that k_{lm} cuts c in 16 points, it follows that this number is equal to 16. Etc.

