

Projective embedding of projective spaces

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Abstract

In this paper, embeddings $\phi : M \rightarrow P$ from a linear space (M, \mathfrak{M}) in a projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) are studied. We give examples for $\dim M > \dim P$ and show under which conditions equality holds.

More precisely, we introduce properties **(G)** (for a line $L \in \mathfrak{L}$ and for a plane $E \subset M$ it holds that $|L \cap \phi(M)| \neq 1$) and **(E)** ($\phi(E) = \overline{\phi(E)} \cap \phi(M)$), whereby $\overline{\phi(E)}$ denotes the by $\phi(E)$ generated subspace of P). If **(G)** and **(E)** are satisfied then $\dim M = \dim P$. Moreover we give examples of embeddings of m -dimensional projective spaces in n -dimensional projective spaces with $m > n$ that map any $n+1$ independent points onto $n+1$ independent points. This implies that for a proper subspace T of M it holds $\phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(M)$ if and only if $\dim T \leq n-1$, in particular **(E)** holds for $n \geq 3$. (cf. 4.1)

1 Introduction

An embedding $\phi : M \rightarrow P$ of a linear space (M, \mathfrak{M}) in a linear space (P, \mathfrak{L}) is an injective mapping that maps collinear points onto collinear points and noncollinear points onto noncollinear points. There are lots of papers concerning the embedding of linear spaces in projective spaces (cf. [3, Chap.6]). Important results are that every locally projective space (M, \mathfrak{M}) of $\dim M \geq 4$ (cf. [7, 10, 17, 19]) and every locally projective space (M, \mathfrak{M}) of $\dim M = 3$ satisfying the Bundle Theorem (cf. [8, 15]) is embeddable in a projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) . Due to the construction of the projective space the mentioned Embedding Theorems have the useful property that for every subspace T of (M, \mathfrak{M}) there exists exactly one subspace U of (P, \mathfrak{L}) with $\phi(T) = U \cap \phi(M)$. This property is equivalent to the two properties **(G)**, **(E)**;

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A linear space satisfying **(G)**, **(E)** is called *locally complete* (cf. 2.4). For locally complete embeddings the dimension of M and P coincide (cf. 2.5). There are also projective embeddings of linear spaces which are not locally complete, but have the property that the dimension and order of M and P are equal (cf. [13, 14]). But there exist also embeddings which do not preserve the dimension. If $\phi(M)$ generates P , one obtains $\dim M \geq \dim P$ (cf. 2.3), hence we have to consider only the case $\dim M > \dim P$. For example one can embed every linear space in a projective plane E by a free construction of E . (Then of course, E is not a Desarguesian plane.) Kalhoff constructed in [9] the embedding of any finite partial planes in a translation plane, and hence in a projective plane of Lenz class V.

In this paper we are interested in embeddings in Desarguesian projective planes and spaces. There are some papers which give a characterisation of embeddings of projective spaces in Desarguesian projective spaces. For a field K and the $(m+1)$ -dimensional vector space (K^{m+1}, K) over K , let $\text{PG}(m, K)$ denote the m -dimensional projective space over K with the 1-dimensional vector subspaces as points and the 2-dimensional vector subspaces as lines. M. Limbos [16] has shown for finite projective spaces that every embedding of $\text{PG}(m, K)$ in $\text{PG}(n, L)$ with $m > n$ is a product of the trivial embedding of $\text{PG}(m, K)$ in $\text{PG}(m, L)$ for a field extension L of K , and a projection of $\text{PG}(m, L)$ in the subspace $\text{PG}(n, L)$. In [16] a geometric construction of embeddings is given and the proof that every embedding can be obtained by this construction. H. Havlicek [6] and C.A. Faure, A. Froelicher [4, 5] give a similar characterisation for the infinite case, but without a construction. For an arbitrary field K an example of an embedding of $\text{PG}(m, K)$ in $\text{PG}(m-1, L)$ for a field extension L of K is given by A. Brezuleanu, D.-C. Rădulescu [1, (5.8)]. For a finite field K , J. Brown gives in [2] an analytic example of an embedding $\phi : \text{PG}(m, K) \rightarrow \text{PG}(2, L)$ for a field extension L of K . This examples does not satisfy **(E)**.

In this paper we answer the question, if there exists an embedding $\phi : P \rightarrow P'$ of a Pappian projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) in a Pappian projective space (P', \mathfrak{L}') which does not preserve dimension, but satisfy property **(E)**. We show the corresponding statements for higher dimensions. We show that for $\dim P' = n$ there are embeddings which map any $n+1$ independent points of P onto $n+1$ independent points of P' . It follows that the image of an $(n-1)$ -dimensional subspace T of P generates an $(n-1)$ -dimensional subspace $\overline{\phi(T)}$ of P' with $\phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P)$. We remark that there exist also embeddings of projective spaces in projective planes satisfying property **(G)**.

2 Locally Complete Embeddings

A *linear space* (P, \mathfrak{L}, I) will be defined as a set P of elements, called *points*, a distinct set \mathfrak{L} of elements, called *lines*, and an incidence relation I such that any two distinct points are incident with exactly one line and every line is incident with at least two points. Usually one identifies a line $L \in \mathfrak{L}$ with the set of points incident with L , hence the lines of $(P, \mathfrak{L}, I) = (P, \mathfrak{L})$ are subsets of P .

A *subspace* is a subset $U \subset P$ such that for all distinct points $x, y \in U$ the unique line incident with x, y is contained in U . Let \mathfrak{U} denote the set of all subspaces. For

every subset $X \subset P$ we define the following *closure operator*:

$$\bar{} : \mathfrak{P}(P) \rightarrow \mathfrak{U} : X \mapsto \overline{X} := \bigcap_{\substack{U \in \mathfrak{U} \\ X \subset U}} U \quad (1)$$

The closure of X is a subspace containing X . For $U \in \mathfrak{U}$ we call $\dim U := \inf\{|X| - 1 : X \subset U \text{ and } \overline{X} = U\}$ the *dimension* of U . A subspace of dimension two is a *plane*. A subset $X \subset P$ is *independent* if $x \notin \overline{X \setminus \{x\}}$ for every $x \in X$, and is a *basis* of a subspace U if X is independent and $\overline{X} = U$.

For two linear spaces (M, \mathfrak{M}) and (P, \mathfrak{L}) , an injective mapping

$$\phi : M \rightarrow P, x \mapsto \phi(x) \quad (2)$$

is called an *embedding*, if ϕ maps collinear points onto collinear points and non-collinear points onto noncollinear points, i.e., $\{\phi(G) : G \in \mathfrak{M}\} = \{L \cap \phi(M) : L \in \mathfrak{L} \text{ and } |L \cap \phi(M)| \geq 2\}$. Hence $(\phi(M), \{\phi(G) : G \in \mathfrak{M}\})$ is the restriction of (P, \mathfrak{L}) to $\phi(M)$. Clearly:

Lemma 2.1 *If ϕ is an embedding of (M, \mathfrak{M}) in (P, \mathfrak{L}) , and ψ is an embedding of (P, \mathfrak{L}) in (P', \mathfrak{L}') , then $\psi \circ \phi$ is an embedding of (M, \mathfrak{M}) in (P', \mathfrak{L}') .*

Let $Y \mapsto \overline{Y}$ denote the closure of (P, \mathfrak{L}) and $X \mapsto \langle X \rangle$ the closure of (M, \mathfrak{M}) . By [12, (1.1)]:

Lemma 2.2 *If ϕ is an embedding of (M, \mathfrak{M}) in (P, \mathfrak{L}) , and U a subspace of (P, \mathfrak{L}) and $X \subset M$, then:*

1. $\phi^{-1}(U \cap \phi(M))$ is a subspace of M .
2. $\phi(\langle X \rangle) \subset \overline{\phi(X)}$ and $\overline{\phi(\langle X \rangle)} = \overline{\phi(X)}$.
3. If $\phi(X)$ is independent in P , then X is independent in M .

Lemma 2.3 *If $\phi : M \rightarrow P$ is an embedding of a linear space (M, \mathfrak{M}) in a linear space (P, \mathfrak{L}) satisfying $\overline{\phi(M)} = P$, then $\dim M \geq \dim P$.*

Proof. Let $X \subset M$ be a subset generating M , i.e. $\langle X \rangle = M$. Then $P = \overline{\phi(M)} = \overline{\phi(\langle X \rangle)} = \overline{\phi(X)}$ by 2.2. Therefore $\phi(X)$ is a generating set of P with $|X| = |\phi(X)|$, hence $\dim P \leq \dim M$. ■

We call an embedding ϕ of (M, \mathfrak{M}) in (P, \mathfrak{L}) *locally complete*, if for every nonempty subspace T of M , there is exactly one subspace U of P with $\phi(T) = U \cap \phi(M)$.

By [12, (1.5)] we have:

Lemma 2.4 *For an embedding ϕ of (M, \mathfrak{M}) in (P, \mathfrak{L}) the following statements are equivalent:*

1. ϕ is locally complete.

2. For every subspace T of (M, \mathfrak{M}) and for every subspace U of (P, \mathfrak{L}) with $\phi(M) \cap U \neq \emptyset$ we have

$$U = \overline{U \cap \phi(M)} \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(M)$$

3. The following properties **(G)**, **(E)** are satisfied.

(G) For every line $L \in \mathfrak{L}$, $|L \cap \phi(M)| \neq 1$

(E) For every plane E of M , $\phi(E) = \overline{\phi(E)} \cap \phi(M)$

A linear space (P, \mathfrak{L}) satisfies the *exchange condition* if

$$\text{for } S \subset P \text{ and } x, y \in P \text{ with } x \in \overline{S \cup \{y\}} \setminus \overline{S} \text{ it follows that } y \in \overline{S \cup \{x\}}. \quad (3)$$

Lemma 2.5 *If ϕ is a locally complete embedding of a linear space (M, \mathfrak{M}) in a linear space (P, \mathfrak{L}) satisfying the exchange condition, then $\dim M = \dim P$.*

Proof. Since ϕ is locally complete, $P = \overline{P \cap \phi(M)} = \overline{\phi(M)}$, hence, by Lemma 2.3, $\dim P \leq \dim M$. Now let $x \in \phi(M)$. Since (P, \mathfrak{L}) is an exchange space, there is a basis C of P containing x (cf. [11, §8]). By Lemma 2.4, **(G)** holds. Moreover for every $y \in C \setminus \{x\}$, there exists a $y' \in (\overline{x, y} \cap \phi(M)) \setminus \{x\}$. Hence we obtain a basis $C' \subset \phi(M)$ of P with $|C| = |C'|$. Let $T := \langle \phi^{-1}(C') \rangle$ denote the subspace of M generated by $\phi^{-1}(C')$, i.e. $C' \subset \phi(T)$ and $P = \overline{C'} = \overline{\phi(T)}$. We get $\phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(M) = P \cap \phi(M) = \phi(M)$, hence $M = T$ is generated by $\phi^{-1}(C')$ and $\dim M \leq \dim P$. ■

The Lemma 2.5 applies in particular, if (P, \mathfrak{L}) is a projective space.

Theorem 2.6 *Let $(P, \mathfrak{L}), (M, \mathfrak{M})$ be linear spaces satisfying the exchange condition and $\dim M > \dim P$. If $\phi : M \rightarrow P$ is an embedding satisfying **(G)**, then there exist subspaces $M' \subset M, P' \subset P$ with $\dim M' > \dim P' = 2$ such that $\phi|_{M'} : M' \rightarrow P'$ is an embedding satisfying **(G)**.*

Proof. By Lemma 2.5 **(E)** is not satisfied, since $\dim M > \dim P$. Hence there exists a plane $E \subset M$ with $\phi(E) \neq (\overline{\phi(E)} \cap \phi(M))$. Therefore $M' := \phi^{-1}(\overline{\phi(E)} \cap \phi(M))$ is a subspace with $E \subset M'$ and $E \neq M'$, i.e. $\dim M' > 2$. Since E is a plane, also $P' := \overline{\phi(E)} = \overline{\phi(M')}$ is a plane, and the restriction of ϕ to M' is an embedding. For a line $L \subset P'$ we have $L \cap \phi(M) = L \cap \phi(M')$. Hence if $x \in L \cap \phi(M')$ we have $G := \phi^{-1}(L \cap \phi(M')) \in \mathfrak{M}$, since ϕ satisfies **(G)**. Because $G \subset M'$, also $\phi|_{M'}$ satisfies **(G)**. ■

Theorem 2.7 *Let $(P, \mathfrak{L}) = \text{PG}(m, K)$ and $(P', \mathfrak{L}') = \text{PG}(n, L)$ be projective spaces and $\phi : P \rightarrow P'$ an embedding, then K is isomorphic to a subfield of L .*

Proof. Let E be a plane of P . Then $\phi(E) \simeq \text{PG}(2, K)$ is a subplane of the Desarguesian projective plane $\overline{\phi(E)} \simeq \text{PG}(2, L)$, hence K is isomorphic to a subfield of L (cf. [18, (8.2)], [6, (3.6.1)]). ■

3 A mapping of a vector space in a vector space over a field extension

In this section let $n, s \in \mathbb{N}$ be integers with $n \geq 2$, let K be a commutative field, and $L = K(t)$ an extension field of K with a transcendental or algebraic element t of degree at least $2^{s(n+1)}$ over K . We consider the two left vector spaces (K^{n+s+1}, K) and (L^{n+1}, L) . For $i \in 0, 1, \dots, n$ let $\mathbf{x}_i \in K^{n+s+1}$, more precisely

$$\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i,0}, x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,n+s}) \quad (4)$$

with elements $x_{i,k} \in K$. We denote the rows of the matrix

$$\mathbf{X} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_0 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{0,0} & \dots & x_{0,n+s} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{n,0} & \dots & x_{n,n+s} \end{pmatrix} = (\mathbf{a}_0^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s}^T), \quad (5)$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{a}_k^T = \begin{pmatrix} x_{0,k} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n,k} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots, n+s. \quad (6)$$

Since the column rank and the row rank of \mathbf{X} are equal, we have:

Lemma 3.1 *The following statements are equivalent:*

1. *The vectors $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ are linearly independent in (K^{n+s+1}, K) .*
2. *The matrix $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{a}_0^T, \mathbf{a}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s}^T)$ has rank $n+1$.*
3. *There exist distinct integers $i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n \in \{0, 1, \dots, n+s\}$ such that $\mathbf{a}_{i_0}, \mathbf{a}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i_n}$ are linearly independent in (K^{n+1}, K) .*

Now we consider arbitrary vectors $\mathbf{a}_0, \mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s} \in K^{n+1} \subset L^{n+1}$ and define

$$\mathbf{b}_i^T := \mathbf{a}_i^T + \sum_{j_i=1}^s t^{2^{(j_i-1)(n+1)+i}} \mathbf{a}_{n+j_i}^T \in L^{n+1} \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, n. \quad (7)$$

For example, for $s = 2$ we obtain: $\mathbf{b}_i^T := \mathbf{a}_i^T + t^{2^i} \mathbf{a}_{n+1}^T + t^{2^{(n+1)+i}} \mathbf{a}_{n+2}^T$.

Lemma 3.2 $\det(\mathbf{b}_0^T, \mathbf{b}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n^T) \neq 0$ if and only if $\text{rank}(\mathbf{a}_0^T, \mathbf{a}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s}^T) = n+1$.

Proof. (i). First we introduce some notation to get a shorter representation. For $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ and $j_i \in \{0, \dots, s\}$ we define

$$\lambda_{i,j_i} := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j_i = 0 \\ 2^{(j_i-1)(n+1)+i} & \text{if } j_i \neq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and } \mathbf{a}_{i,j_i}^T := \begin{cases} \mathbf{a}_i^T & \text{if } j_i = 0 \\ \mathbf{a}_{n+j_i}^T & \text{if } j_i \neq 0 \end{cases},$$

$$\text{so} \quad \mathbf{b}_i^T := t^0 \mathbf{a}_i^T + \sum_{j_i=1}^s t^{2^{(j_i-1)(n+1)+i}} \mathbf{a}_{n+j_i}^T = \sum_{j_i=0}^s t^{\lambda_{i,j_i}} \mathbf{a}_{i,j_i}^T. \quad (8)$$

(ii). We recall that we can write every integer $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, 2^{s(n+1)} - 1\}$ as a sum of elements of $\{2^r : r = 0, 1, \dots, s(n+1) - 1\} = \{2^{(j_i-1)(n+1)+i} : j_i = 1, 2, \dots, s, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n\} = \{\lambda_{i,j_i} : j_i = 1, 2, \dots, s, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n\}$ in a unique way. Hence we have for $j_i, k_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, s\}$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_{i,j_i} = \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_{i,k_i} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad j_i = k_i \quad \text{for all} \quad i \in \{0, \dots, n\} \quad (9)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \prod_{i=0}^n t^{\lambda_{i,j_i}} = \prod_{i=0}^n t^{\lambda_{i,k_i}} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad j_i = k_i \quad \text{for all} \quad i \in \{0, \dots, n\}. \quad (10)$$

(iii). By (i) we get

$$\begin{aligned} d &:= \det(\mathbf{b}_0^T, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n^T) = \det\left(\sum_{j_0=0}^s t^{\lambda_{0,j_0}} \mathbf{a}_{0,j_0}^T, \dots, \sum_{j_n=0}^s t^{\lambda_{n,j_n}} \mathbf{a}_{n,j_n}^T\right) = \\ &= \sum_{j_0, \dots, j_n=0}^s \left(t^{\lambda_{0,j_0}} \dots t^{\lambda_{n,j_n}}\right) \det(\mathbf{a}_{0,j_0}^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n,j_n}^T) = \sum_{k \leq m} t^k \det \mathbf{A}_k \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

with $k = \sum \lambda_{0,j_0} + \dots + \lambda_{n,j_n}$, $m = 2^{s(n+1)} - 1$ and $\mathbf{A}_k = (\mathbf{a}_{i_0}^T, \mathbf{a}_{i_1}^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i_n}^T)$ with not necessarily distinct integers $i_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n+s\}$, $j = 0, 1, \dots, n$.

(vi). Since $t \in L \setminus K$ has at least degree $m+1 = 2^{s(n+1)}$ over K , we have $d = \sum_{k=0}^m t^k \det \mathbf{A}_k = 0$ if and only if $\det \mathbf{A}_k = 0$ for every $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2^{s(n+1)} - 1\}$. This means in particular that for distinct elements $i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n \in \{0, 1, \dots, n+s\}$ the vectors $\mathbf{a}_{i_0}^T, \mathbf{a}_{i_1}^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i_n}^T$ are linearly dependent. By Lemma 3.1 it follows that $\text{rank}(\mathbf{a}_0^T, \mathbf{a}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s}^T) < n+1$.

On the other hand, if $d \neq 0$, then there exist integers $i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n \in \{0, 1, \dots, n+s\}$ with $\det(\mathbf{a}_{i_0}^T, \mathbf{a}_{i_1}^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i_n}^T) \neq 0$, hence i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n are distinct and $\mathbf{a}_{i_0}^T, \mathbf{a}_{i_1}^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i_n}^T$ are linearly independent. By Lemma 3.1 we get $\text{rank}(\mathbf{a}_0^T, \mathbf{a}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s}^T) = n+1$. ■

Now we define the map

$$\begin{aligned} f : K^{n+s+1} &\rightarrow L^{n+1}, \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_{n+s+1}) \mapsto \mathbf{x}' = (x'_0, \dots, x'_n) \\ \text{by} \quad x'_i &= x_i + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)+i}} x_{n+j}, \quad \text{for} \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Lemma 3.3 1. $f(K\mathbf{x}) = Kf(\mathbf{x}) \subset Lf(\mathbf{x})$.

2. The vectors $\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ are linearly independent in (K^{n+s+1}, K) if and only if $f(\mathbf{x}_0), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n)$ are linearly independent in (L^{n+1}, L) .

3. In particular for three vectors $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in K^{n+s+1}$, $\text{rank}(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = 3$ if and only if $\text{rank}(f(\mathbf{x}_0), f(\mathbf{x}_1), f(\mathbf{x}_2)) = 3$.

Proof. 1. By definition $f(\lambda\mathbf{x}) = \lambda f(\mathbf{x})$ for $\lambda \in K$. Clearly $Kf(\mathbf{x}) \subset Lf(\mathbf{x})$.

2. For $\mathbf{r}_0, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n \in K^{n+s+1}$ with $\mathbf{r}_i = (x_{i,0}, x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,n+s})$, we consider the matrix

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X}' &:= \begin{pmatrix} f(\mathbf{r}_0) \\ \vdots \\ f(\mathbf{r}_n) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} x_{0,0} + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)}} x_{0,n+j} & \dots & x_{0,n} + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)+n}} x_{0,n+j} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{n,0} + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)}} x_{n,n+j} & \dots & x_{n,n} + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)+n}} x_{n,n+j} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \left(\mathbf{a}_0^T + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)}} \mathbf{a}_{n+j}^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n^T + \sum_{j=1}^s t^{2^{(j-1)(n+1)+n}} \mathbf{a}_{n+j}^T \right) \\ &= \left(\mathbf{b}_0^T, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n^T \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Lemma 3.2 we have $\det(\mathbf{X}') = \det(\mathbf{b}_0^T, \mathbf{b}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n^T) \neq 0$ iff $\text{rank}(\mathbf{a}_0^T, \mathbf{a}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+s}^T) = n+1$, i.e. by Lemma 3.1, iff $\mathbf{r}_0, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n$ are linearly independent.

Since $n \geq 2$, 3. is a consequence of 2. ■

4 Embeddings satisfying (E)

Using the map f introduced in the preceding section, we now construct projective embeddings.

Let (P, \mathfrak{L}) be a Pappian projective space with $\dim P = n+s$ for $n, s \in \mathbb{N}$ with $n \geq 2$. Then we can represent $(P, \mathfrak{L}) = \text{PG}(n+s, K)$ by an $(n+s+1)$ -dimensional vector space (K^{n+s+1}, K) over a commutative field K . Let us denote by $(P', \mathfrak{L}') := \text{PG}(n, L)$ the n -dimensional projective space with the underlying vector space (L^{n+1}, L) where L is the field extension of K introduced in the preceding section. We recall that three points $a = K\mathbf{a}, b = K\mathbf{b}, c = K\mathbf{c}$ are noncollinear if and only if $\text{rank}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}) = 3$ for vectors $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} \in K^{n+s+1}$.

Theorem 4.1 1. For every $n, s \in \mathbb{N}$ with $n \geq 2$ and every Pappian projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) of dimension $n+s$, there exists an embedding $\phi : P \rightarrow P'$ in an n -dimensional projective Pappian space (P', \mathfrak{L}') such that any $n+1$ points $x_0, \dots, x_n \in P$ are independent in (P, \mathfrak{L}) if and only if $\phi(x_0), \dots, \phi(x_n)$ are independent in (P', \mathfrak{L}') .

2. For a proper subspace T of P it holds that $\phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P)$ if and only if $\dim T \leq n-1$

3. For $n \geq 3$, ϕ satisfies (E).

Proof. 1. Using the map f of Lemma 3.3, we define

$$\phi : P \rightarrow P', \quad x = K\mathbf{r} \mapsto \phi(x) := Lf(\mathbf{r}) \quad (13)$$

By Lemma 3.3(1), ϕ is well defined, and by Lemma 3.3(3), ϕ maps collinear points onto collinear point and noncollinear points onto noncollinear points, hence ϕ is

an embedding. Since $x_0 = K\mathfrak{x}_0, \dots, x_n = K\mathfrak{x}_n$ are independent iff $\mathfrak{x}_0, \dots, \mathfrak{x}_n$ are linearly independent, and $\phi(x_0) = Lf(\mathfrak{x}_0), \dots, \phi(x_n) = Lf(\mathfrak{x}_n)$ are independent iff $f(\mathfrak{x}_0), \dots, f(\mathfrak{x}_n)$ are linearly independent, one obtain by Lemma 3.3(2) that $x_0, \dots, x_n \in P$ are independent iff $\phi(x_0), \dots, \phi(x_n)$ are independent.

2. For $r \leq n-1$, let T be an r -dimensional subspace of (P, \mathfrak{L}) with a basis a_0, \dots, a_r . Assume that $\phi(T) \neq \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P)$. Then there exists a point $b \in P$ with $\phi(b) \in (\overline{\phi(T)} \setminus \phi(T))$, i.e. $b \notin T$ and a_0, \dots, a_r, b are independent in (P, \mathfrak{L}) . Since $\phi(b) \in \overline{\phi(T)} = \overline{\phi(a_0), \dots, \phi(a_r)}$ (cf. Lemma 2.2(2)), it follows that $\phi(a_0), \dots, \phi(a_r), \phi(b)$ are dependent in (P', \mathfrak{L}') .

Since $r+2 \leq n+1$, by 1., the points $\phi(a_0), \dots, \phi(a_r), \phi(b)$ are independent since a_0, \dots, a_r, b are independent, a contradiction to the assumption $\phi(T) \neq \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P)$. Hence $\phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P)$ for $\dim T \leq n-1$. For every proper subspace T of P with $\dim T \geq n$, there are $n+1$ independent points $a_0, \dots, a_n \in T$. By 1. $\phi(a_0), \dots, \phi(a_n)$ are independent in P' , hence $P' = \overline{\phi(a_0), \dots, \phi(a_n)} \subset \overline{\phi(T)}$ and $\phi(T) \neq \phi(P) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P) = P' \cup \phi(P)$, since T is a proper subspace of P .

3. By 2., (E) is satisfied for $n \geq 3$. ■

Corollary 4.2 *For every $n, s \in \mathbb{N}$ with $n \geq 2$ and every finite projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) of dimension $n+s$, there exists an embedding $\phi : P \rightarrow P'$ in an n -dimensional finite projective Desarguesian space (P', \mathfrak{L}') such that any $n+1$ points $x_0, \dots, x_n \in P$ are independent in (P, \mathfrak{L}) if and only if $\phi(x_0), \dots, \phi(x_n)$ are independent in (P', \mathfrak{L}') .*

For a proper subspace T of P it holds that $\phi(T) = \overline{\phi(T)} \cap \phi(P)$ if and only if $\dim T \leq n-1$, and for $n \geq 3$, ϕ satisfies (E).

Proof. If P is finite, then $\text{ord} P$ is finite and $(P, \mathfrak{L}) = \text{PG}(n+s, K)$ for a commutative field K . There exists a finite field extension $L = K(t)$ of finite degree t at least $2^{s(n+1)}$, hence L , and therefore also P' are finite and the assertion follows with 4.1. ■

If we set $n = 2$ we obtain:

Corollary 4.3 *Every Pappian projective space is embeddable in a Pappian projective plane.*

Proof. For a Pappian projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) of finite dimension, Corollary 4.3 is a direct consequence of Theorem 4.1 with $n = 2$. For $\dim P = \infty$ we modify the construction of the last section, by taking a transcendental element t_b for every element b of a basis B of P . Then for $T = \{t_b : b \in B\}$ and $L := K(T)$ we get the result analogous to the proofs of Lemma 3.1 to 3.3. ■

Let (M, \mathfrak{M}) be a linear space. Two lines $G, L \in \mathfrak{L}$ are called *parallel* if $G = L$, or if G, L are contained in a common plane and $G \cap L = \emptyset$. For $x \in M \setminus L$ let

$$\pi(x, L) := |\{G \in \mathfrak{M} : x \in G \text{ and } G, L \text{ parallel}\}| \quad (14)$$

denote the number of all parallel lines of L passing x . For $m \in \mathbb{N}$, (M, \mathfrak{M}) is called an $[0, m]$ -space, if for each non-incident point-line pair (x, L) we have that $\pi(x, L) \in [0, m] = \{0, 1, \dots, m\}$. Let $\pi(L) := \max\{\pi(y, L) : y \in M \setminus L\}$. If $|L| + \pi(L) - 1 \geq 3m + 1$ and $\dim M \geq 3$, then by [14, Theorem (2.10)], $\text{ord} M := |L| + \pi(L) - 1$ is constant for every line $L \in \mathfrak{M}$. If $\text{ord} M \geq 3m + 2$ and $\dim M \geq 3$, then by [14, Embedding Theorem (4.5)], (M, \mathfrak{M}) is embeddable in a projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) with $\dim M = \dim P$ and $\text{ord} M = \text{ord} P$. Hence:

Corollary 4.4 *Every finite $[0, m]$ -space (M, \mathfrak{M}) with $\dim M \geq 3$ and $\text{ord} M \geq 3m + 2$ is embeddable in a finite Pappian projective plane.*

Proof. Since M is finite, also $\text{ord} M = \text{ord} P$ and $\dim M = \dim P$ is finite and (M, \mathfrak{M}) is embeddable in a finite projective space (P, \mathfrak{L}) . Now by 4.2 for $n = 2$, (P, \mathfrak{L}) is embeddable in a finite Pappian plane (P', \mathfrak{L}') and by 2.1 the assertion follows. ■

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