A standard form for scattered linearized polynomials and properties of the related translation planes

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DEFINITION.

A scattered polynomial in $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}[x]$ is an \mathbb{F}_q -linearized polynomial $f(x) = \sum_i a_i x^{q^i}$ such that $\frac{f(y)}{y} = \frac{f(z)}{z}, \ y, z \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^* \Rightarrow \langle y \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q} = \langle z \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}.$



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Let $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}[x]$ be scattered. Then

• $U_f = \{(y, f(y)) : y \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}\}$ is a scattered \mathbb{F}_q -subspace of $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$ with respect to the Desarguesian spread $\mathcal{D} = \{\langle v \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}} : v \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2, v \neq 0\}$; that is, $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q}(U_f \cap \langle v \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}}) \leq 1$ for any $v \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$.



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- $L_f = \{\langle (y, f(y)) \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}} : y \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^* \}$ is a scattered linear set of rank *n* in PG(1, *qⁿ*); $|L_f| = (q^n - 1)/(q - 1).$



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EXAMPLE.

 $f(x) = x^q$ and $g(x) = ax + x^q$ are GL-equivalent scattered polynomials for any $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}$.



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- $f(x) = x^{q^s} + \delta x^{q^{n-s}}, n \ge 4, (s, n) = 1, N_{q^n/q}(\delta) \neq 0, 1$ (Lunardon-Polverino 2001; Sheekey 2016)





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- $f(x) = \delta x^{q^{\delta}} + x^{q^{\delta+n/2}}, n \in \{6, 8\}, (s, n/2) = 1$, some δ and q (Csajbók-Marino-Polverino-Z. 2018)



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- $f(x) = x^q + x^{q^3} + \delta x^{q^5}$, n = 6, $\delta^2 + \delta = 1$, q odd (Csajbók, Marino, Montanucci, Zullo 2018, 2020)



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- $f(x) = x^{q^s} + x^{q^{s(t-1)}} + h^{1+q^s} x^{q^{s(t+1)}} + h^{1-q^{s(2t-1)}} x^{q^{s(2t-1)}}$, $n = 2t, t \ge 3$, (s, n) = 1, qodd, $N_{q^n/q^t}(h) = -1$ (Bartoli, Longobardi, Marino, Neri, Santonastaso, Z., Zhou, Zullo 2020-202x)



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Ingredients:

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If $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}[x]$ is scattered, then any two distinct subspaces hU_f , kU_f , $h, k \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*$, intersect trivially (for: $h(y, f(y)) = k(z, f(z)) \Rightarrow \frac{f(y)}{y} = \frac{f(z)}{z}$). So, $\mathcal{B}_f = (\mathcal{D} \setminus L_f) \cup \{hU_f : h \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*\}$ is a spread of $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$ in *n*-dimensional \mathbb{F}_q -subspaces.

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- \mathcal{A}_f is the affine translation plane whose
 - point set is $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$
 - I lines are v + U, $v \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$, $U \in \mathcal{B}_f$



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The elements of \mathcal{B}_f are lines through the origin, and will also be considered as points of the *line at infinity* $L_{\infty} = (L_{\infty})_f$. 4 of 16









 $PG(1, q^n)$ is a spread \mathcal{D} of $\mathbb{F}^2_{q^n}$ containing L_f

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 $(L_{\infty})_f$ is a spread $\mathcal{B}_f = (\mathcal{D} \setminus L_f) \cup \{hU_f \colon h \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*\}$ of $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$ obtained from \mathcal{D} by replacing L_f 5 of 16

Equivalence of translation planes



Always: q > 3.

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THEOREM (CASARINO-LONGOBARDI-Z. 2022).

Let $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}[x]$ be scattered, and let $\Psi : \mathcal{A}_f \to \mathcal{A}_g$ be a collineation. Then

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COROLLARY 1.

 $\mathcal{A}_f \cong \mathcal{A}_g$ iff f(x) and g(x) are Γ L-equivalent.



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 $\mathcal{A}_f \cong \mathcal{A}_g$ iff f(x) and g(x) are Γ L-equivalent.

COROLLARY 2.

Any linear set L_f of Γ L-class c (Csajbók-Marino-Polverino 2018) gives rise to c pairwise nonisomorphic translation planes.




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Let $\alpha : \mathbb{F}_q^* \to \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ be any mapping, and $B_{m,\alpha} = \{(x, mx^{q^{\alpha} \binom{N_{q^n/q}(m)}{p}}) : x \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*\}, \quad m \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*.$ Then $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha} = \{B_{m,\alpha} : m \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*\} \cup \{\langle (1, 0) \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}}, \langle (0, 1) \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}}\}$ is a spread of $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}^2$, and the related translation plane is an *André plane*.



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Recall: $\mathcal{B}_f = (\mathcal{D} \setminus L_f) \cup \{hU_f : h \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*\}$



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EXAMPLE.

If $f(x) = x^{q^s}$, then $\mathcal{B}_f = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha}$ where $\alpha(\nu) = \begin{cases} s & \text{if } \nu = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$

hence \mathcal{A}_f is an André plane (Lunardon-Polverino 2001).



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QUESTION.

For which f(x) is A_f an André plane, or a *generalized* André plane?







Many (but not all) scattered polynomials, e.g.

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We call a polynomial in standard form any polynomial of this type.



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DEFINITION (LONGOBARDI-Z. 202x).

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Indeed, $f(\alpha y) = \alpha^{q^s} F(y^{q^s}) = \alpha^{q^s} f(y) \ \forall y \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}$.



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DEFINITION (SHEEKEY 2016).

The rank distance code associated with f(x) is the following subspace of $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})$: $\mathcal{C}_f = \langle x, f(x) \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}}$



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$$\langle x^{q^{t_i}}: i=0,1,\ldots,k-1 \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}}$$

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THEOREM (Longobardi-Marino-Trombetti-Zhou 202x).

 $I_R(\mathcal{C}_f)$ and $G_f \cup \{0\}$ are isomorphic fields. (R.: G_f , setwise stabilizer of U_f in $\mathsf{GL}(2, q^n)$.)

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If f(x) is in standard form, then G_f only depends on s and r, i.e. on the shape of f(x).

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 $V_1, V_2 \notin L_f$

Proof. The orbits in $L_f \setminus \{V_1, V_2\}$ under G_f are of size $|G_f|/(q-1)$, obtain a contradiction.



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Open problem.

Do V_1 and V_2 depend only on the linear set L_f ?





THEOREM (Longobardi-Z. 202x).

If $|G_f| > q - 1$, then f(x) is GL-equivalent to a scattered polynomial g(x) in standard form. Such g(x) is essentially unique, i.e. the only polynomials in standard form which are GL-equivalent to f(x) are

ag(bx) and $ag^{-1}(bx)$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^*$.



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EXAMPLE

For $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, $f(x) = x^q + x^{q^2} - x^{q^4} + x^{q^5} \in \mathbb{F}_{q^6}[x]$ is scattered and GL-equivalent to $g(x) = (1 - \rho)x^q - x^{q^3} + (1 + \rho)x^{q^5}$ where $\rho^2 = -1$.

Consequences on translation planes





An *affine central collineation* of an affine plane A fixes an affine line *a* (the *axis*) pointwise, as well as all lines through a point *C* (the *center*) at infinity.



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If $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_f, f(x)$ scattered, then any affine central collineation κ is of type $\kappa : x \mapsto v + d\varphi(x), v \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^{2n}, d \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^{*n}, \varphi \in G_f.$

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If $|G_f| > q - 1$, the center and the co-center are the transversal points of f.

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THEOREM (Jha-Johnson 2008 for the Lunardon-Polverino polynomials; Longobardi-Z. 202x for the general case).

(i) If $|G_f| = q - 1$, then A_f admits no nontrivial central collineation.



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- (i) If $|G_f| = q 1$, then A_f admits no nontrivial central collineation.
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THEOREM (Jha-Johnson 2008 for the Lunardon-Polverino polynomials; Longobardi-Z. 202x for the general case).

If f(x) is a scattered polynomial not GL-equivalent to a polynomial of pseudoregulus type, then A_f is neither an André plane nor a generalized André plane.

Thank you!