

# Projective geometry of Freudenthal's varieties of certain type

KAJI, Hajime

Department of Mathematical Sciences, Waseda University

kaji@waseda.jp

## FREUDENTHAL'S MAGIC SQUARE

	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$	projective variety
elliptic geometry	$B_1$	$A_2$	$C_3$	$F_4$	Severi variety $\cap(1)$
projective geometry	$A_2$	$A_2 + A_2$	$A_5$	$E_6$	Severi variety
symplectic geometry	$C_3$	$A_5$	$D_6$	$E_7$	Freudenthal variety $V$
metasymplectic geometry	$F_4$	$E_6$	$E_7$	$E_8$	adjoint variety $X$

## FREUDENTHAL VARIETIES

$\mathfrak{g}$	$\mathfrak{g}_{00}$	$V \subseteq \mathbb{P}(\mathfrak{g}_1)$	references
$\mathfrak{e}_8$	$\mathfrak{e}_7$	$E_7(\omega_6) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{55}$	[S.Harris] (1971)
$\mathfrak{e}_7$	$\mathfrak{so}_{12}$	$S_5 = \mathbb{G}_{\text{orthog.}}(6, 12) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{2^5-1}$	[J.-i.Igusa] (1970)
$\mathfrak{e}_6$	$\mathfrak{sl}_6$	$\mathbb{G}(3, 6) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{19}$	[T.Kimura] (1982)
$\mathfrak{f}_4$	$\mathfrak{sp}_6$	$\mathbb{G}_{\text{symp.}}(3, 6) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{13}$	[J.-i.Igusa] (1970)
$\mathfrak{g}_2$	$\mathfrak{sl}_2$	$v_3\mathbb{P}^1 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^3$	[M.Sato-M.Kashiwara-T.Kimura-T.Oshima] (1980)
$\mathfrak{so}_m$	$\mathfrak{sl}_2 \oplus \mathfrak{so}_{m-4}$	$\mathbb{P}^1 \times Q^{m-6} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{2m-9}$	[M.Sato-M.Kashiwara-T.Kimura-T.Oshima] (1980)
$\mathfrak{sp}_{2m}$	$\mathfrak{sp}_{2m-2}$	$\emptyset \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{2m-3}$	
$\mathfrak{sl}_m$	$\mathfrak{gl}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{sl}_{m-2}$	$\mathbb{P}^{m-3} \sqcup \mathbb{P}^{m-3} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{2m-5}$	

*Notation:* We denote by  $\cap(1)$  cutting by a general hyperplane, and by  $v_d$  the Veronese embedding of degree  $d$ . We denote by  $\mathbb{G}(r, m)$  a Grassmann variety of  $r$ -planes in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ , and denote by  $\mathbb{G}_{\text{orthog.}}(r, m)$  and by  $\mathbb{G}_{\text{symp.}}(r, m)$  respectively an orthogonal and a symplectic Grassmann varieties of isotropic  $r$ -planes in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . A simple exceptional Lie algebra of Dynkin type  $G$  is denoted by the lowercase of  $G$  in the German character, a simple algebraic group of type  $G$  is denoted by just  $G$ , and for a dominant integral weight  $\omega$  of  $G$ , the minimal closed orbit of  $G$  in  $\mathbb{P}(V_\omega)$  is denoted by  $G(\omega)$ , where  $V_\omega$  is the irreducible representation space of  $G$  with highest weight  $\omega$ : For example,  $\mathfrak{g}_2$  in the list is the simple Lie algebra of type  $G_2$ , and  $G_2(\omega_2)$  is the minimal closed orbit of an algebraic group of type  $G_2$  in  $\mathbb{P}(V_{\omega_2})$ , where  $\omega_2$  is the second fundamental dominant weight with the standard notation of Bourbaki.

**Aim:** study projective geometry of Freudenthal varieties *systematically* with *unified proofs*, not depending of the classification of simple Lie algebras

*Notation:*

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{-2} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_2$ , a simple, graded Lie algebra of contact type/ $\mathbb{C}$   
 $(E_+, H, E_-)$ , the  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple associated to the decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \sum \mathfrak{g}_i$  above  
 $\mathfrak{g}_{00} := \text{Ker}(\text{ad } E_+|_{\mathfrak{g}_0})$ , a subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  with  $\mathfrak{g}_0 = \mathfrak{g}_{00} \oplus \mathbb{C}$   
 $G_{00}$ , a connected, algebraic group with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_{00}$   
 $\mathcal{V} := \{x \in \mathfrak{g}_1 \setminus \{0\} \mid (\text{ad } x)^2 \mathfrak{g}_{-2} = 0\}$   
 $V := \pi(\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \mathbb{P}(\mathfrak{g}_1)$ , the *Freudenthal variety* associated to  $\mathfrak{g}$   
 $\pi : \mathfrak{g}_1 \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\mathfrak{g}_1) =: \mathbb{P}$ , the natural projection  
 $V_k := \pi(\{x \in \mathfrak{g}_1 \setminus \{0\} \mid (\text{ad } x)^{k+1} \mathfrak{g}_{-2} = 0\})$  with  $\emptyset = V_0 \subseteq V_1 \subseteq V_2 \subseteq V_3 \subseteq V_4 = \mathbb{P}$  and  $V = V_1$   
 $q$ , a quartic polynomial on  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  defining  $V_3$ , defined by  $(\text{ad } x)^4 E_- = 2q(x)E_+$   
 $\langle, \rangle : \mathfrak{g}_1 \times \mathfrak{g}_1 \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_2 \simeq \mathbb{C}$ , a non-degenerate skew-symmetric form defined by  $[x, y] = 2\langle x, y \rangle E_+$   
 $\gamma : \mathbb{P} \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}$ , the Cremona transformation defined by  $x \mapsto (\text{ad } x)^3 \mathfrak{g}_{-2}$  with base locus  $V_2$   
 $\mathcal{D}$ , the 1-dimensional distribution on  $\mathbb{P} \setminus \text{Sing } V_3$  defined by the differential  $dq$   
 $L_P$ , the (closure of the) integral curve of  $\mathcal{D}$  passing through  $P \in \mathbb{P} \setminus \text{Sing } V_3$

**Theorem** (H.Kaji-O.Yasukura). *Assume that  $V$  is irreducible. Then we have:*

- (1)  *$V$  is a Legendre subvariety of  $\mathbb{P}$ , that is, the projectivization of a Lagrangian subvariety of  $\mathfrak{g}_1$ , with  $\dim V = n - 1$ , spans  $\mathbb{P}$ , and is an orbit of  $G_{00}$  hence smooth, where  $\dim \mathfrak{g}_1 = 2n$ . In particular, the projective dual  $V^*$  of  $V$  is equal to the union of tangents to  $V$  via the symplectic form.*
- (2)  *$V_2$  is the singular locus of  $V_3$ , and for any  $P \in \mathbb{P} \setminus V_2$ ,  $L_P$  is the line in  $\mathbb{P}$  joining  $P$  and  $\gamma(P)$ . Moreover, we have:*
  - (a) *If  $P \in \mathbb{P} \setminus V_3$ , then  $L_P$  is a unique secant line of  $V$  passing through  $P$ , there is no tangent line to  $V$  passing through  $P$ ,  $L_P \cap V$  consists of harmonic conjugates with respect to  $P$  and  $\gamma(P)$ , and  $L_P \setminus V \subseteq \mathbb{P} \setminus V_3$ . Moreover,  $\gamma$  preserves  $L_P$ , and the automorphism of  $L_P$  induced from  $\gamma$  leaves each point in  $L_P \cap V$  invariant and permutes  $P$  and  $\gamma(P)$ .*
  - (b) *If  $P \in V_3 \setminus V_2$ , then there is no secant line of  $V$  passing through  $P$ ,  $L_P$  is a unique tangent line to  $V$  passing through  $P$ ,  $L_P \cap V = \gamma(P)$ , and  $L_P \setminus V \subseteq V_3 \setminus V_2$ . Moreover,  $L_P$  is contracted by  $\gamma$  to the contact point  $\gamma(P)$ , and conversely the fibre of  $\gamma$  on  $Q \in V$  consists of the points  $P \in V_3 \setminus V_2$  such that  $Q \in L_P$ , or equivalently,  $P$  lies on some tangent to  $V$  at  $Q$ . Furthermore, for any  $Q \in V$ , if the secant line joining  $Q$  and the contact point  $\gamma(P)$  of  $L_P$  is not isotropic with respect to the symplectic form, then there is a twisted cubic curve  $C$  contained in  $V$  such that  $L_P$  and  $L_R$  are tangent to  $C$  at  $\gamma(P)$  and at  $Q$ , respectively, where  $R$  is a point in  $T_Q V \setminus V_2$  uniquely determined by  $P$  and  $Q$ .*

*In particular,  $V$  is a variety with one apparent double point, and  $V_3$  is the union of tangents to  $V$ .*

- (3) *For any  $P \in V_2 \setminus V$ , the family of secants of  $V$  passing through  $P$  is of dimension at least 1 and a tangent to  $V$  passing through  $P$  exists as a degeneration of those secants. Moreover, a secant line joining  $Q, R \in V$  is isotropic if and only if  $T_Q V \cap T_R V \neq \emptyset$ .*
- (4) *If  $V_2 \neq V$ , then  $V$  is ruled, that is, covered by lines contained in  $V$ .*
- (5) *For any  $P \in V$ , a double projection from  $P$  gives a birational map from  $V$  onto  $\mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ , and by the inverse  $V$  is written as the closure of the image of a cubic Veronese embedding of a certain affine space  $\mathbb{A}^{n-1}$  under some projection to  $\mathbb{P}$ .*

It can be shown also that the three conditions,  $V = \emptyset$ ,  $V_3 = \mathbb{P}$  and  $V_2 = \mathbb{P}$  are equivalent to each other, and that if  $V$  is neither empty nor irreducible, then  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  decomposes naturally into two irreducible  $\mathfrak{g}_0$ -submodules of dimension  $n$  and  $V$  is the (disjoint) union of the projectivizations of those summands.