

# Geometries from inner ideals associated to structurable algebras

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## Credits

- ▶ Most work is joint with Tom De Medts (Ghent University), my supervisor.
- ▶ Work on extremal geometries is joint with Hans Cuypers (Eindhoven University of Technology).

## Overview/motivation

- ▶ Structurable algebras are a class of non-associative, non-commutative algebras.
- ▶ Boelaert, De Medts, Stavrova: Connection between structurable division algebras and so-called Moufang sets ("geometries of rank 1").
- ▶ Cohen, Ivanyos: 1-dimensional inner ideals in a Lie algebra are related to point-line geometries ("extremal geometries").
- ▶ Tits-Kantor-Koecher-procedure: We can associate a Lie algebra to a structurable algebra.
- ▶ Question: Constructions for higher rank geometries?
- ▶ Question: Relation with extremal geometries?
- ▶ Ingredient: Inner ideals!

# Structurable algebras: what are these?

## Assumption

All algebras are finite-dimensional and defined over a field  $k$  of characteristic different from 2 and 3! Moreover, we do not assume them to be associative nor commutative.

## Definition.

Consider an algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with involution. (I.e.,  $\overline{\overline{xy}} = \overline{y} \cdot \overline{x}$ )

Set

$$V_{x,y}z = (x\overline{y})z + (z\overline{y})x - (z\overline{x})y.$$

Then we call  $\mathcal{A}$  structurable if

$$[V_{x,y}, V_{a,b}] = V_{V_{x,y}a,b} - V_{a,V_{y,x}b}.$$

Hence  $\langle V_{x,y} \mid x, y \in \mathcal{A} \rangle \leq \text{End}(\mathcal{A})$  is a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(\mathcal{A})$ .

- ▶ Assume that the involution is the identity.
- ▶ Then  $xy = \overline{xy} = \bar{y} \cdot \bar{x} = yx$ . I.e.,  $\mathcal{A}$  is commutative.
- ▶ Moreover, one can show that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Jordan algebra. (So satisfying  $(xy)x^2 = x(yx^2)$ )
- ▶ Example:  $A$  associative, then  $A^+ = (A, \circ)$  Jordan, with  $a \circ b = (ab + ba)/2$ .
- ▶ Example: Jordan algebra associated to a quadratic form.
- ▶ Exceptional example: 27-dimensional Albert algebra, constructed from octonions.

**Theorem.**

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a central simple structurable algebra, it is isomorphic to (at least) one of the following:

- ▶ Central simple associative algebra with involution.
- ▶ Central simple Jordan algebra.
- ▶ Hermitian type.
- ▶ Central simple structurable algebra of skew-dimension one.
- ▶ Forms of tensor product of two composition algebras.
- ▶ Smirnov algebra.

The skew-dimension is  $\dim(\mathcal{S})$ , with

$$\mathcal{S} := \{a \in \mathcal{A} \mid \bar{a} = -a\}.$$

Classification due to:

- ▶ Characteristic 0: Allison, '79.
- ▶ Characteristic  $\neq 2, 3, 5$ : Smirnov, '91.
- ▶ Characteristic = 5: Boelaert, De Medts, Stavrova, '19, together with separate article of Stavrova, '19.



**Definition.**

If  $C_i$  is a composition algebra over  $k$  with involution  $\sigma_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , then the  $k$ -algebra  $C_1 \otimes_k C_2$ , together with the involution

$$- = \sigma := \sigma_1 \otimes \sigma_2$$

is a structurable algebra.

- ▶ One notes  $\mathcal{S} = \{s_1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes s_2 \mid s_i \in S_i\}$ , with  $S_i$  the set of skew elements w.r.t. the involution  $\sigma_i$ . In particular, it is of dimension 7, 8, 10 or 14 if  $C_1$  is octonion.
- ▶ There only exist forms if  $\dim(C_1) = \dim(C_2)$ .

Let  $J$  be a Jordan algebra,  $T : J \times J \rightarrow k$  be a symmetric bilinear form,  $\times : J \times J \rightarrow J$  be a symmetric bilinear map, and  $N : J \rightarrow k$  be a cubic form such that one of the following holds:

- ▶  $J$  is a cubic Jordan algebra with a non-degenerate admissible form  $N$ , with basepoint 1, trace form  $T$ , and Freudenthal cross product  $\times$ .
- ▶  $J$  is a Jordan algebra of a non-degenerate quadratic form  $q$  with basepoint 1, and  $T$  is the linearization of  $q$ . In this case,  $N$  and  $\times$  are the zero maps.
- ▶  $J = 0$ , and the maps  $N$ ,  $T$  and  $\times$  are the zero maps. In this case,  $J$  is not unital.

Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & j_1 \\ j_2 & k_2 \end{pmatrix} \mid k_1, k_2 \in k, j_1, j_2 \in J \right\},$$

and define the multiplication and the involution by

$$\begin{pmatrix} k_1 & j_1 \\ j_2 & k_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} k'_1 & j'_1 \\ j'_2 & k'_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 k'_1 + T(j_1, j'_2) & k_1 j'_1 + k'_2 j_1 + j_2 \times j'_2 \\ k'_1 j_2 + k_2 j'_2 + j_1 \times j'_1 & k_2 k'_2 + T(j_2, j'_1) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\overline{\begin{pmatrix} k_1 & j_1 \\ j_2 & k_2 \end{pmatrix}} = \begin{pmatrix} k_2 & j_1 \\ j_2 & k_1 \end{pmatrix},$$

for all  $k_1, k_2, k'_1, k'_2 \in k$  and  $j_1, j_2, j'_1, j'_2 \in J$ .

- ▶ This is called a matrix structurable algebra, denoted by  $M(J, 1)$ .
- ▶ Similar construction for  $M(J, \eta)$ ,  $\eta \in k^\times$ .
- ▶ Assume  $\mathcal{A}$  skew-dimension one.
- ▶ Consider  $0 \neq s_0 \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $s_0^2 = \mu \cdot 1$ , for some  $\mu \in k^\times$ .
- ▶ Allison-Faulkner '84:  $\mathcal{A} \cong M(J, 1) \iff \mu$  is a square.
- ▶ In particular: There exists a quadratic field extension  $m/k$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \otimes m \cong M(J, 1)$ .
- ▶ Example cubic Jordan algebra: Any Albert algebra.
- ▶ Other example: Hermitian  $(3 \times 3)$ -matrices over a composition algebra. These have dimension 6, 9, 15 or 27.

- ▶ Recall that  $\text{Instrl}(\mathcal{A}) := \langle V_{x,y} \mid x, y \in \mathcal{A} \rangle \leq \text{End}(\mathcal{A})$  is a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(\mathcal{A})$ .
- ▶ If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a structurable algebra, then

$$K(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{S}_- \oplus \mathcal{A}_- \oplus \text{Instrl}(\mathcal{A}) \oplus \mathcal{A}_+ \oplus \mathcal{S}_+$$

is a 5-graded Lie algebra. Denote its  $i$ -th component by  $L_i$ .

- ▶ So  $[L_i, L_j] \leq L_{i+j}$ .
- ▶  $\mathcal{A}_+$  and  $\mathcal{A}_-$  are two copies of  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- ▶ E.g.:  $[x_+, y_-] = V_{x,y}$ .
- ▶ E.g.:  $[s_+, t_-] = L_s L_t$ .
- ▶ E.g.:  $[V_{x,y}, z_+] = (V_{x,y}z)_+$ .

**Definition.**

A Lie algebra  $L$  is of (absolute) type  $X_n$  if  $L \otimes \bar{k}$  is of type  $X_n$ .

Some examples:

**Example.**

We get the Freudenthal-Tits-magic square for the tensor product of two composition algebras:

$\dim(C_i)$	1	2	4	8
1	$A_1$	$A_2$	$C_3$	$F_4$
2	$A_2$	$A_2 \times A_2$	$A_5$	$E_6$
4	$C_3$	$A_5$	$D_6$	$E_7$
8	$F_4$	$E_6$	$E_7$	$E_8$

**Example.**

If  $J$  is a cubic Jordan algebra, we get (at least if  $\text{char}(k) = 0$ ):

$\dim(J)$	$\dim(M(J, 1))$	type of $K(M(J, 1))$
6	14	$F_4$
9	20	$E_6$
15	32	$E_7$
27	56	$E_8$

**Definition.**

An inner ideal of a Lie algebra  $L$  is a subspace  $I$  such that  $[I, [I, L]] \leq I$ . If  $I$  is 1-dimensional, any non-zero element of  $I$  is called extremal.

Any ideal is an inner ideal,  $0$  and  $L$  as well.

**Example**

For  $L = sl_2$  we have a basis  $\{e, f, h\}$  with  $[e, f] = h$ ,  $[h, e] = 2e$  and  $[h, f] = -2f$ . Then  $e$  is extremal by  $[e, [e, h]] = 0 = [e, [e, e]]$  and  $[e, [e, f]] = [e, h] = -2e$ .



- ▶  $[L_i, [L_i, L_j]] \leq L_{2i+j}$ .
- ▶  $\mathcal{S}_+$  will always be an inner ideal!
- ▶ If  $\mathcal{S} = 0$ , then  $\mathcal{A}_+$  will always be an inner ideal.
- ▶ If  $\mathcal{A}$  is central simple, any proper inner ideal  $I \leq K(\mathcal{A})$  satisfies  $[I, I] = 0$ .
- ▶ A Lie algebra automorphism maps inner ideals on to inner ideals.

- ▶ For any  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  we get  $\text{ad}(a_+ + s_+)^5 = 0$ .
- ▶ If  $\mathcal{A}$  is central simple

$$e_+(a, s) := \exp(\text{ad}(a_+ + s_+)) = \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{1}{i!} \text{ad}(a_+ + s_+)^i$$

is a Lie algebra automorphism. (Quite delicate in characteristic 5!)

- ▶ Set  $E_+(\mathcal{A}) = \{e_+(a, s) \mid s \in \mathcal{S}, a \in \mathcal{A}\}$  and similarly  $E_-(\mathcal{A})$ .
- ▶  $E(\mathcal{A})$  is the subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(L)$  generated by  $E_+(\mathcal{A})$  and  $E_-(\mathcal{A})$ .

Set  $U_x(y) = V_{x,y}x$ .

## Definition

A subspace  $I$  of a Jordan algebra  $J$  is an inner ideal if  $U_I(J) \leq I$ .

## Example

Let  $J = \text{Jord}(Q, c)$  be the Jordan algebra corresponding to a non-degenerate quadratic form  $Q$  with basepoint  $c$ .  
The proper inner ideals are precisely the isotropic subspaces.

- ▶ Motivation for terminology:  $I \leq A^+$  is inner if  $|A| \leq I$ .
- ▶ Studied by McCrimmon in 1971 (*Inner ideals in quadratic Jordan algebras*).
- ▶ If  $J$  is division, there are no non-trivial proper inner ideals.
- ▶ A subspace  $I \leq J$  is an inner ideal if and only if  $I_+$  is an inner ideal in  $K(J)$ .

**Definition.**

An element  $u \in \mathcal{A}$  is called conjugate invertible if there exists  $\hat{u} \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $V_{u,\hat{u}} = \text{Id}$ . (This implies  $U_u$  invertible.)

The structurable algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called division if every non-zero element of  $\mathcal{A}$  is conjugate invertible.

Some examples:

- ▶ Associative division algebra with involution. Then  $\hat{u} = \bar{u}^{-1}$ .
- ▶ Albert division algebra.
- ▶ Jordan algebra associated with anisotropic quadratic form.

- ▶ Octonion division algebra.
- ▶ Consider a quartic field extension whose splitting field has Galois group  $\text{Alt}(4)$  or  $\text{Sym}(4)$ . Then one can apply a generalized Cayley-Dickson process to this algebra to obtain a skew-dimension one structurable division algebra (of dimension 8).
- ▶ Exceptional cases: quite hard to determine explicitly!

**Theorem (De Medts - M.).**

Let  $J$  be a central simple Jordan division algebra.

Then any non-trivial proper inner ideal of  $K(J)$  distinct from  $J_-$  equals  $e_-(j)(J_+)$  for a unique  $j \in J$ .

Note:  $sl_2 = K(k)$ .

**Theorem (De Medts - M.).**

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a central simple structurable division algebra with  $\mathcal{S} \neq 0$ .

Then any non-trivial proper inner ideal of  $K(\mathcal{A})$  distinct from  $\mathcal{S}_-$  equals  $e_-(a, s)(\mathcal{S}_+)$  for unique  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ .

In particular: all inner ideals have the same dimension.

**Definition**

Let  $X$  be a set and  $\{U_x \mid x \in X\}$  a collection of subgroups of  $\text{Sym}(X)$ . The data  $(X, \{U_x\}_{x \in X})$  is a Moufang set if:

- ▶ For each  $x \in X$ ,  $U_x$  fixes  $x$  and acts sharply transitively on  $X \setminus \{x\}$ .
- ▶ For each  $g \in G := \langle U_x \mid x \in X \rangle$  and each  $y \in X$  we have  $U_y^g = U_{y \cdot g}$ .

Corollary of previous result: If  $\mathcal{A}$  is central simple division, the set of non-trivial proper inner ideals of  $K(\mathcal{A})$  is a Moufang set.

Note:  $U_{S_-} = E_-(\mathcal{A})$ .



- ▶ Recall the skew-dimension one structurable algebra  $M(J) := M(J, 1)$  with as elements

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & i \\ j & b \end{pmatrix},$$

with  $a, b \in k$  and  $i, j \in J$ .

- ▶  $J$  is a cubic Jordan **division** algebra. ( $N(j) = 0$  implies  $j = 0$ )
- ▶ Example of  $J$ : an Albert division algebra.
- ▶ Other example:  $k$  with cubic form  $N(a) = a^3$ .

**Lemma (De Medts - M.).**

Any non-trivial inner ideal of  $K(M(J))$  is the image of an inner ideal containing  $\mathcal{S}_+$  under an element of  $E(\mathcal{A})$ .

- ▶  $\mathcal{S}_+$  is 1-dimensional.
- ▶ What are the inner ideals containing  $\mathcal{S}_+$ ?
- ▶ The inner ideals of a structurable algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  are the subspaces  $I$  satisfying  $U_I(\mathcal{A}) \leq I$ .
- ▶ In this case all non-trivial proper inner ideals of  $M(J)$  are 1-dimensional and form a Moufang set.

### Lemma (De Medts - M.).

The only proper inner ideals properly containing  $\mathcal{S}_+$  are  $\mathcal{S}_+ \oplus \langle a_+ \rangle$ , with  $\langle a \rangle$  an inner ideal.

- ▶ Each non-trivial proper inner ideal is 1 or 2-dimensional.
- ▶ If its dimension is 2, all subspaces are inner ideals.
- ▶ In particular: the Moufang set in  $M(J)$  embeds in the lattice of inner ideals of  $K(M(J))$ .
- ▶ What geometry does this lattice of inner ideals form?
- ▶ First, we have to introduce some incidence-geometry concepts!

**Definition.**

A point-line geometry is a tuple  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L})$ , with  $\mathcal{P}$  a set, called the set of points, and  $\mathcal{L}$  a subset of  $2^{\mathcal{P}}$ , called the set of lines.

We say that a point  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  is on a line  $l \in \mathcal{L}$  if  $p \in l$ .

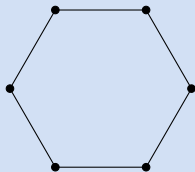
**Definition.**

We say that  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L})$  is a partial linear space if for any two distinct  $p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}$  there exists at most one line containing both  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  and similarly, for any two distinct lines, there is at most one point on both lines.

**Example.**

An ordinary  $n$ -gon.

Explicitly:  $\mathcal{P} = \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\mathcal{L} = \{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \dots, \{n, 1\}\}$ .



## Generalized polygons

Let  $n \geq 3$ . A generalized  $n$ -gon is a point-line geometry such that

- ▶ It is a partial linear space.
- ▶ It does not have ordinary  $m$ -gons as subgeometries, for all  $2 < m < n$ .
- ▶ It does have an ordinary  $n$ -gon as subgeometry.
- ▶ For any two points  $p_1, p_2$ , there exists an ordinary  $n$ -gon as subgeometry, containing both points.
- ▶ Similarly, for any two lines and any point and line, there exists an ordinary  $n$ -gon as subgeometry, containing both these elements.

We call a point-line geometry a generalized polygon if it is a generalized  $n$ -gon, for some  $n \geq 3$ .

Recall the (axiomatic) definition of a projective plane:

**Definition.**

A point-line geometry is a projective plane if

- ▶ Any two points are on a unique line.
- ▶ Any two lines intersect in a unique point.
- ▶ There are at least two lines.

Then one easily sees that a generalized 3-gon is precisely the same as a projective plane!

- ▶ Classifying projective planes is quite a tedious task! (Even if the point set is finite.)
- ▶ Classification is completed if one assumes thickness and some (transitivity) conditions on the automorphism group of the generalized polygon.
- ▶ This condition is called the Moufang condition, and the generalized polygons satisfying it the Moufang polygons.
- ▶ Implies  $n = 3, 4, 6$  or  $8$ .
- ▶ Classification due to Jacques Tits and Richard Weiss ('02).
- ▶ Now: describe some embeddings into Lie algebras, using inner ideals.



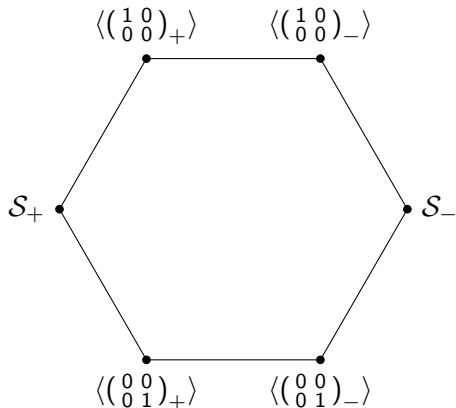
- ▶ A generalized hexagon is a point-line geometry which does not contain triangles, quadrangles or pentagons and such that any two distinct points, any two distinct lines and any point and line lie in a hexagon.
- ▶ In particular: two points are at distance at most 3.

### **Theorem (De Medts - M.).**

The point-line geometry with as points the 1-dimensional inner ideals of  $K(M(J))$ , as lines all proper inner ideals of dimension  $> 1$  and inclusion as incidence is a Moufang hexagon.

- ▶  $\mathcal{S}_+$  and  $\mathcal{S}_-$  are at distance 3.

The generic hexagon in  $K(M(J))$  is:



- ▶ In *Groups with Steinberg Relations and Coordinatization of Polygonal Geometries* ('77) Faulkner constructs a Lie algebra starting from a cubic Jordan division algebra. He then constructs a generalized hexagon with as points and lines some specific inner ideals.
- ▶ Similar ideas can also be used to determine inner ideals of some other TKK Lie algebras that will correspond to projective planes. We will describe this now.

- ▶ Let  $F$  be an alternative algebra (i.e., satisfying  $x^2y = x(xy)$  and  $yx^2 = (yx)x$ ).
- ▶ Consider  $\mathcal{A} := F \oplus F$ , with multiplication  $(x, y)(a, b) = (xa, by)$  and involution  $(x, y) \mapsto (y, x)$ .
- ▶ Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a structurable algebra.
- ▶  $\mathcal{S} = \{(f, -f) \mid f \in F\}$  has the same dimension as  $F$ .
- ▶ So, in general not a skew-dimension one structurable algebra.
- ▶ Assume from now on that  $F$  is division.

**Lemma (De Medts - M.).**

Any non-trivial inner ideal of  $K(\mathcal{A})$  is the image of an inner ideal containing  $\mathcal{S}_+$  under an element of  $E(\mathcal{A})$ .

- ▶ What are the inner ideals containing  $\mathcal{S}_+$ ?
- ▶ There are precisely two of these:  $\mathcal{S}_+ \oplus (F \oplus 0)_+$  and  $\mathcal{S}_+ \oplus (0 \oplus F)_+$ .
- ▶ Hence all non-trivial proper inner ideals have dimension  $\dim(F)$  or  $2 \dim(F)$ .

## Constructing a geometry

- ▶  $\mathcal{P} = \{I \mid I \text{ is a minimal non-trivial inner ideal}\}$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L} = \{I \mid I \text{ is a proper non-trivial non-minimal inner ideal}\}$ .
- ▶ Then  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L})$  is a point-line geometry with containment as incidence.
- ▶ The situation is more involved, since the minimal inner ideals are not 1-dimensional.

### Lemma (De Medts-M.).

Let  $I, J \in \mathcal{P}$  be two distinct points at distance  $d$  in  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L})$ . Then

$$d = 1 \iff [I, J] = 0,$$

$$d = 2 \iff [I, J] \neq 0 \text{ and } [I, [I, J]] = 0,$$

$$d = 3 \iff [I, [I, J]] \neq 0.$$

We call a geometry thin, if every point is on precisely two lines.

**Theorem (De Medts-M.).**

The point-line geometry  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L})$  is a thin generalized hexagon. It is the so-called double of a Moufang triangle.

- ▶ For some classical class of Moufang quadrangles we also have a description in terms of inner ideals. (Related to quadratic forms.)
- ▶ There are also Moufang quadrangles of type  $E_6$ ,  $E_7$  and  $E_8$ .
- ▶ It seems that one obtains this as inner ideal geometry if you consider a suitable structurable algebra.
- ▶ Hopefully, we can attack higher rank geometries with this approach as well.
- ▶ This will be related to extremal geometries.



## Extremal geometries

From now on: joint with Hans Cuypers (TU Eindhoven)

- ▶ Recall:  $0 \neq x \in L$  is extremal if  $[x, [x, L]] \leq \langle x \rangle$ .
- ▶  $E$  = set of extremal elements.
- ▶  $x$  is a zero divisor if  $[x, [x, L]] = 0$ .
- ▶ If  $L$  does not contain a non-zero zero divisor, it is called non-degenerate.
- ▶ Assume that  $L$  is a simple non-degenerate Lie algebra generated by its extremal elements.
- ▶  $\mathcal{P} = \{\langle x \rangle \mid x \in E\}$ .
- ▶  $\mathcal{L} = \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid [x, y] = 0 \text{ and } \lambda x + \mu y \in E, \forall \lambda, \mu \in k, (\lambda, \mu) \neq (0, 0)\}$ .
- ▶  $\Gamma := (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L})$  is a point-line geometry, called the extremal geometry.
- ▶ Introduced by Arjeh Cohen and Gabor Ivanyos. ('06)

**Theorem.**

If  $\mathcal{L} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to a root shadow space of type  $A_{n,\{1,n\}}$  ( $n \geq 2$ ),  $BC_{n,2}$  ( $n \geq 3$ ),  $D_{n,2}$  ( $n \geq 4$ ),  $E_{6,2}$ ,  $E_{7,1}$ ,  $E_{8,8}$ ,  $F_{4,1}$  or  $G_{2,2}$ .

- ▶ Precise definition does not matter. What is important: they are classified and more or less known.
- ▶ Example:  $A_{n,\{1,n\}}$  is associated with a projective space.
- ▶ Example:  $G_{2,2}$  are precisely these generalized hexagons.
- ▶ The extremal geometry in a split Lie algebra of type  $X_n$  has the same type.
- ▶ Moreover, their approach works in any characteristic.
- ▶ However, there is one root shadow space missing, namely the polar spaces (generalized quadrangles are of this type).

- ▶ In order to fix this, we extended the line set.
- ▶ We call  $I$  an inner line ideal if it is a proper inner ideal containing two linearly independent extremal elements and is minimal with these properties.
- ▶ Set  $\mathcal{L}' := \{I \mid I \text{ is an inner line ideal}\}$ .
- ▶ We call  $\Gamma' = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}')$  the inner line ideal geometry of  $L$ .

**Theorem (Cuypers-M.).**

Suppose  $L$  is a simple non-degenerate Lie algebra generated by extremal elements over a field of characteristic not 2. Then we have one of the following:

- (a) The extremal geometry of  $L$  contains lines and coincides with the inner line ideal geometry.
- (b) The extremal geometry of  $L$  contains no lines, but  $L$  contains two commuting, but linearly independent extremal elements; the inner line ideal geometry is a non-degenerate polar space of rank at least 2.
- (c) The Lie algebra  $L$  does not contain commuting, but linearly independent extremal elements, and the inner line ideal geometry has no lines.

Relying on results of Stavrova:

**Theorem (Cuypers - M.).**

If  $L$  is a non-degenerate non-symplectic simple Lie algebra generated by its extremal elements, then  $L = K(\mathcal{A})$  for some skew-dimension one structurable algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .

- ▶ Moreover, the inner line ideal geometry coincides with the extremal geometry if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  is isomorphic to a matrix structurable algebra.
- ▶ If the inner line ideal geometry has no lines, it is coming from a skew-dimension one structurable division algebra. Hence, it is a Moufang set!

- ▶ In particular one sees that one does not recover all Moufang sets, using the extremal geometry/inner line ideal geometry approach.
- ▶ A geometry of type  $A_{2,\{1,2\}}$  is precisely the double of a projective plane.
- ▶ So we only get the double of the projective plane over the ground field as extremal geometry.
- ▶ For other projective planes, the minimal inner ideals need to have dimension strictly bigger than 1.

- ▶ What happens in characteristic 2 (and 3)? Extremal elements in characteristic 2 are well-defined, what is “good” definition for inner ideals of Lie algebras?
- ▶ Inner ideals of a Jordan algebra correspond to inner ideals of its Lie algebra, what happens when structurable algebra is not Jordan?
- ▶ Good definition for structurable algebras in characteristic 2 and/or 3?
- ▶ Explicit construction for forms of matrix structurable algebras corresponding to quadrangles of type  $E_6$ ,  $E_7$ ,  $E_8$ ?

Thanks for your attention!