

# Fake Projective Planes

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## 2 Our Results

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A complex surface is a topological space such that every point has a neighborhood that is locally homeomorphic to a neighborhood in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , with the additional requirement that the transition functions are holomorphic. One such example is the complex projective plane  $\mathbb{CP}^2$ , defined to be  $\{\text{Lines through the origin in } \mathbb{C}^3\}$ .

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- There are exactly 100 FPPs, and they come in complex-conjugate pairs (50 pairs in total). Each FPP is realized in the form of  $B^2/\Gamma$ , where  $B^2 \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  is the open unit ball, and  $\Gamma$  is some group of biholomorphisms acting on  $B^2$ .

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- It is known that every FPP is an algebraic surface (follows from Chow's theorem). However, the above construction only gives the FPPs as a complex manifold; it does not give rise to explicit polynomial equations.
- Out of the 50 pairs of FPPs, only 12 have known equations. The goal for this project is to find explicit polynomial equations for three more pairs of FPPs.

# Brief Introduction to Line Bundles

## Definition (Informal)

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- **Fact:** The collections of all sections of a bundle  $W$  on  $X$  forms a finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$ , which we will denote as  $H^0(X, W)$ .
- **Fact:** Every complex surface has a *canonical (line) bundle*, which we denote as  $K$ .
- **Fact:** For well enough behaved line bundles  $W$  on a surface  $X$ , choosing a basis for  $H^0(X, W)$  gives us a map from  $X$  into  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ , where  $n + 1 = \dim H^0(X, W)$ .

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## Definition

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- When we choose a basis  $B = (s_0, \dots, s_n)$  of  $H^0(FPP, 2K)$ , the  $s_i$  can be just be thought of as global coordinates for the  $FPP$  under its embedding to projective space.

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So in summary, we find equations in two steps:

- 1 Find a suitable basis of  $H^0(FPP, 2K)$ .
- 2 Look for polynomial relations amongst the basis elements.

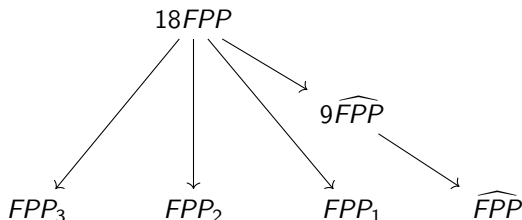
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# Big Picture

- We started with known equations for an FPP. We will denote this FPP as  $\widehat{FPP}$ . We used these equations as a starting point to work towards finding equations of three unknown FPPs, denoted  $FPP_1$ ,  $FPP_2$ , and  $FPP_3$ , by working through a common covering space as shown in the following diagram:



(here,  $9\widehat{FPP}$  is a 9-fold cover of  $\widehat{FPP}$ , and  $18FPP$  is an 18-fold cover of  $FPP_1, FPP_2, FPP_3$ , and  $\widehat{FPP}$ ).

# Results: Nonreduced Linear Cut

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- We later use this to get sections in  $H^0(18FPP, K)$ .
- We found it by doing an exhaustive search over  $\mathbb{F}_{17}\mathbb{P}^9$  and then lifting the solution to  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2})$ .

# Results: Nonreduced Linear Cut

For those curious, this was the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_0 &+ \frac{772 + 230i\sqrt{2}}{1539} Y_1 + \frac{490092282515 + 172394599619i\sqrt{2}}{74626445502} Y_2 \\ &+ \frac{-103321297235596 - 53009187345521i\sqrt{2}}{8291827278} Y_3 \\ &+ \frac{-231232791152 - 281704162355i\sqrt{2}}{74626445502} Y_4 \\ &+ \frac{-129148133758 - 116323978837i\sqrt{2}}{51044488723368} Y_5 \\ &+ \frac{-442659985194376532 - 470633182584423089i\sqrt{2}}{134209873944} Y_6 \\ &+ \frac{24706724315212555 + 23536035499434854i\sqrt{2}}{882959697} Y_7 \\ &+ \frac{1344530700471761 + 7054273282673287i\sqrt{2}}{92943126} Y_8 \\ &+ \frac{-62544241547336555633 + 28178108663648971918i\sqrt{2}}{3145055128201595952} Y_9 \end{aligned}$$

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- We then used the nonreduced linear cut to construct the 2-to-1 cover  $18FPP \rightarrow 9\widehat{FPP}$ . To start, there is a section  $s^2 \in H^0(\widehat{FPP}, 2K)$  such that  $s^2 = \text{equation for nonreduced cut}$ .

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- We then pull back  $s^2$  to  $H^0(18FPP, 2K)$ , and since the pullback is a perfect square, we get a section  $s \in H^0(18FPP, K)$ .
- We then used this  $s$  along with the eight  $W_i$  to construct a basis of the 17-dimensional space  $H^0(18FPP, K)$ ; call this basis  $B$ .

# Results: Extending the Group Action

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- This allows us to get equations for the FPPs by looking for relations between sections of  $H^0(18FPP, 2K)$  that are invariant on a subgroup of  $C_3 \times C_3 \times S_3$ .
- However, the coefficients we got when we solved for the  $S_3$  action were incredibly ugly, so we want to find a better basis than  $B$  before looking for equations (this will make the equations we find nicer).

# What's Left

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- After this, we take degree 2 monomials in  $B$  and average them over a subgroup of  $C_3 \times C_3 \times S_3$  to get invariant sections; this gives us a basis of  $H^0(FPP_i, 2K)$  (for each  $i$ ), call this  $B_i$ .

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- We then search for degree 3 polynomial relations between the elements of  $B_i$ , which will give us the desired equations.

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- ② L. Borisov and B. Wang, *Finding equations of the fake projective plane* ( $C18, p = 3, \{2I\}$ ), arXiv:2512.03213, 2025.
- ③ L. Borisov, *Adventures in algebraic geometry*, arXiv:2407.10041v2, 2025.
- ④ L. Borisov, M. Ji, Y. Li, and S. Mondal. *On the Geometry of a Fake Projective Plane with 21 Automorphisms*, arXiv:2308.10429v2, 2024.

# Acknowledgements

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