

- Let  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  be 4 points on one line. Prove that  $(A, B, C, D) = (B, A, D, C) = (D, C, B, A) = (C, D, A, B)$
- Let  $L_1, L_2, L_3$  and  $L_4$  be 4 planes in the space passing through one line  $\mu$ . Take any line  $l$  which does not belong to the planes and which is not parallel to any of them. Consider 4 points of intersections  $A_i = l \cap L_i, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Prove that the cross ratio  $(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4)$  does not depend on the choice of the line  $l$ .
- Let  $l_1, l_2, l_3$  be 3 lines in general position in the space and let  $a, b, c, d$  be 4 lines in the space such that each of them intersects all lines  $l_1, l_2$  and  $l_3$ . Prove that the three cross ratios of the points of such intersections on each line  $l_1, l_2$  and  $l_3$  are the same (hint: use the previous problem).
- Take an angle between 2 rays  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  with vertex  $O$ . Take a point  $A$  inside the angle. Consider all triangles with vertex  $O$  two sides of which belong to  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  and third side of which passes through the point  $A$ . Prove that the area of the triangle will be the smallest if the point  $A$  is the middle of the third side.
- Take 3 lines  $l, l_1$  and  $l_2$  in general position in the space. Consider the following map  $F$  from line  $l_1$  to line  $l_2$ . By definition for each point  $A \in l_1$  the point  $F(A)$  is the point of intersection of the line  $l_2$  with the plane passing through the line  $l$  and the point  $A$ . Prove that the map  $F$  is projective, i.e.  $F$  preserves the cross ratio of each 4 points.
- Take a projective map  $f : l \rightarrow l$  from a line  $l$  to itself. Assume that there is a point  $a \in l$  such that  $f(a) \neq a$  but  $f(f(a)) = a$ . Prove that  $f(f(x)) = x$  for every  $x \in l$ .
- Assume that for four lines  $a, b, c, d$  passing through a point  $P$  the cross-ratio  $(a, b, c, d)$  equals  $-1$ . Prove: if the ray  $c$  bisects the angle between  $a$  and  $b$ , then  $d$  is perpendicular to  $c$ .
- Let  $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4$  be four points on an ellipse  $E$ . Show that the cross ratio of lines  $QP_1, QP_2, QP_3, QP_4$  does not depend on the choice of the point  $Q \in E$ .
- If  $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4$  are vertices of a square inscribed in a circle  $E$ , what is the cross ratio of lines  $QP_1, QP_2, QP_3, QP_4$  for  $Q \in E$ ?
- Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  and  $A_4$  be 4 points on one line. Assume that the cross ratio  $(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4)$  is equal to  $t$ . Prove that among 24 numbers  $(A_{i_1}, A_{i_2}, A_{i_3}, A_{i_4})$  with different indices  $i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4$  there are at

most 6 different numbers. Prove that these numbers are equal to  $t, 1 - t, 1/t, (t - 1)/t, t/(t - 1), 1/(1 - t)$ .

- Take a sheet of graph paper, draw a horizontal segment of length 11 (which occupies roughly the middle third of the sheet), draw a line through the left endpoint  $A$  of the segment with the slope of  $-45^\circ$ , draw another line through the right endpoint  $B$  of the segment with the slope of  $45^\circ$ . Draw a series of lines through the following pairs of points: pick an integer  $x$  between  $-9$  and  $9$ , move the point  $A$  along the first line by  $x$  squares and get a new point  $A(x)$ , move the point  $B$  along the second line by  $x$  squares and get a new point  $B(x)$ ; (for positive  $x$   $A(x)$  and  $B(x)$  lie to the right of  $A$  and  $B$  respectively); and then draw a line through  $A(x)$  and  $B(x)$ . The resulting picture will clearly show a conic section (parabola) that is tangent to all lines that you have drawn. Explain why all these lines are tangent to a conic section and why this conic section is a parabola.