

As another application, we can prove

Pascal's Theorem. The pairs of opposite sides of a hexagon inscribed in a smooth conic Q meet in three collinear points.

Proof. Suppose that $L_1 L_2 L_3 L_4 L_5 L_6$ is the inscribed hexagon. Take $C = L_1 + L_3 + L_5$, $D = L_2 + L_4 + L_6$, and $E = Q + \overline{P_{32} P_{14}}$ where $P_{ij} = L_i \cap L_j$. Then E passes through the remaining point P_{36} of $C \cap D$. Q.E.D.

▮ Cubic is a curve of degree 3.

Conic is a curve of degree 2.

$$C = L_1 + L_3 + L_5 = \{ (a_{11}X_0 + a_{12}X_1 + a_{13}X_2) (a_{31}X_0 + a_{32}X_1 + a_{33}X_2) (a_{51}X_0 + a_{52}X_1 + a_{53}X_2) = 0 \}$$

$$D = L_2 + L_4 + L_6 = \{ (a_{21}X_0 + a_{22}X_1 + a_{23}X_2) (a_{41}X_0 + a_{42}X_1 + a_{43}X_2) (a_{61}X_0 + a_{62}X_1 + a_{63}X_2) = 0 \}$$

$$Q = \{ f = 0 \}, \quad f \text{ irreducible of degree 2.}$$

$\Rightarrow Q + L$ is going to be a cubic

$$E = Q + \overline{P_{41} P_{25}} \quad P_{36} = L_3 \cap L_6, \quad P_{25} = L_2 \cap L_5, \quad P_{41} = L_4 \cap L_1$$

$\Rightarrow E$ passes eight points \Rightarrow By the classical theorem above, E passes the remaining point P_{36} . $\Rightarrow \overline{P_{41} P_{25}}$ passes through P_{36} . $\Rightarrow P_{41}, P_{25}$ & P_{36} are collinear. \square

There is also a

Converse to Pascal's Theorem. If $H = L_1 L_2 L_3 L_4 L_5 L_6$ is