

But this is comprised in Mr. Salmon's theorem in his paper referred to. It can be also shown that for the twisted cubic of the type (2) of constant curvature, the same conditions (4) are necessary and sufficient. This was carried out by Mr. S. Narumi, one of our students. Hence the theorem: *The twisted cubics of the type (2) of constant torsion are of constant curvature, and conversely those of constant curvature are of constant torsion; they are all imaginary and satisfy the conditions (4).* A similar problem on the twisted cubics of the most general type (1), that is rather more interesting, as Prof. T. Kubota, one of our colleagues, says, remains unsolved.

February, 1919.

SOME GENERALIZATIONS OF THE SATELLITE THEORY.

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§1. *The Rational Cubic.*

In a forthcoming paper* in the *American Journal of Mathematics* the author considers the satellite line of the cubic and some related curves. The object of the present note is to point out how the principal results there obtained can be generalized.

For the rational cubic R^3 ,

$$x_1 = 3t^2, \quad x_2 = 3t, \quad x_3 = t^3 + 1,$$

the relation connecting a point τ and its tangential t is

$$t\tau^2 + 1 = 0.$$

And the condition that $3n$ points lie on a curve C_n is

$$s_{3n} = (-1)^n,$$

where s refers to the product of the t 's†. From these equations we have at once the following theorems:

1. *The tangentials of the points in which a C_n ' cuts R^3 lie on a second C_n .*

* "On the satellite line of the cubic," read before the San Francisco section of the American Mathematical Society, April 6, 1918.

† Winger, "Involutions on the rational cubic," this BULLETIN, Oct., 1918.

2. *The contacts of tangents from the points in which a C_n meets R^3 lie on a C_{2n}' when n is even—and only then.*

Theorem 1 repeatedly applied yields a chain of curves of the same degree. We should naturally designate C_n' and C_n as primary and satellite respectively, but this terminology is hardly appropriate when $n > 2$. For then each curve is one of a pencil on the same points. We shall therefore speak of the points in question as a *primary set* S_{3n}' and a *satellite set* S_{3n} .

Any primary set has a unique satellite set* but a satellite set has a multitude of primaries. Let a conic C_2 cut the cubic in six points t_1, t_2, \dots, t_6 . Then $s_6 = 1$. The tangentials of these points may be arranged in two sets $\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_6$ and $-\tau_1, -\tau_2, \dots, -\tau_6$ such that the product of each set is unity. Call these points A and B and denote their products by A_6 and B_6 respectively. Selecting 6 t 's from points A and B in such a way that each subscript occurs but once, the set will lie on a conic provided it contains an even number of points B . There are thus 32 primary conics in all. Or, *the twelve contacts of tangents from the points of intersection of a conic and a rational cubic lie by sixes on thirty-two conics.*

In general, n even, a satellite set S_{3n} will have as many primary sets as there are combinations of $3n$ things 0, 2, 4, \dots , $3n$ at a time. The total number is therefore the sum of alternate binomial coefficients, beginning with the first, of degree $3n$,† i.e., 2^{3n-1} .

When n is odd, group the points τ so that $A_{3n} = 1, B_{3n} = -1$. Then points B but not A are on a C_n . We shall get a primary set as before, provided we use an odd number of points B . The total number of such sets therefore is the sum of alternate binomial coefficients of degree $3n$ beginning with the second, again 2^{3n-1} .

Hence in either case, *the $6n$ contacts of tangents from the intersections of C_n and R^3 can be arranged in primary sets S_{3n}' in 2^{3n-1} ways.*

§2. *The General Cubic.*

Theorem 1 of the previous section can be extended at once to the general cubic by the theory of residuation. Theorem 2 is replaced by

* If theorem 1 is applied to the points of intersection of R^3 and C_{2n}' of 2, the satellite set S_{6n} is an S_{3n} repeated.

† i.e., in the expansion of a binomial of degree $3n$.

3. *The $12n$ contacts of tangents from the points in which a C_n meets the general cubic lie on a C'_{4n} .*

For if the elliptic argument u is properly chosen, the intersections u_i of C_n satisfy the condition

$$u_1 + u_2 + \cdots + u_{3n} = \mu\omega + \mu'\omega'.$$

The contacts of tangents from u_i are

$$-\frac{u_i}{2}, \quad -\frac{u_i + \omega}{2}, \quad -\frac{u_i + \omega'}{2}, \quad -\frac{u_i + \omega + \omega'}{2},$$

the sum of which ($i = 1, \dots, 3n$) is $-2\Sigma u_i - 3n(\omega + \omega')$, hence the theorem is proved.

Again a primary set has a unique satellite set. To enumerate the primary sets of a satellite set, consider first a cubic C_3 meeting the base curve in nine points u_1, u_2, \dots, u_9 . Denote the contacts of tangents from points u_i by A_i, B_i, C_i and D_i . A cubic C'_3 on eight of these points $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_8$,† where the subscripts are all different, will cut again in a ninth point, say u . The satellite set of C'_3 will be cut out by a cubic on the eight points u_1, \dots, u_8 . But any cubic on these eight points passes through u_9 . Hence u_9 is the tangential point of u , or u is none other than a point α_9 . That is to say, any cubic on eight of the points α , so chosen that all subscripts except one are represented, will pass through one of the four points carrying the omitted subscript and will have points u_i for a satellite set. Now the points α_1 can be chosen in four ways, α_2 likewise and so on to α_8 , α_9 then being determined. Hence *the points A, B, C, D can be chosen as primary sets in 4^8 ways.* By precisely the same reasoning, *the contacts of tangents from the $3n$ points in which a C_n cuts C_3 can be arranged in primary sets S_{3n}' in 4^{3n-1} ways.*

§3. *Extension to Higher Cases.*

The satellite theory, as frequently happens, can be generalized in several directions. This is plain if it is recalled that there are three factors involved—the primary (a line), the base curve (a cubic), and the tangent lines at the points of intersection. Any one, any two or all three of these elements may be generalized. Of the more interesting cases we mention

* Pascal, Repertorium, 2d ed., II, p. 393.

† α : refers to any one of the points with subscript i .

the following, the validity of which can be inferred from the fundamental theorem of residuation.*

4. *The n tangents at collinear points of a C_n meet again in $n(n-2)$ points which lie on a C_{n-2} .*

5. *The mn tangents to C_n at points of intersection of a C_m cut C_n again in points of a $C_{m(n-2)}$.*

6. *Given a base curve C_n , and a primary C_m , cutting C_n in points P_i . Then any set of mn C_p 's cut C_n in points of a C_{mnp} . If $C_p^{(i)}$ has k -point contact with C_n at P_i the remaining $mn(np-k)$ points constitute a satellite set.*

Theorem 6 which is itself a special case of the fundamental theorem includes all the generalizations suggested. Theorems 4 and 5 repeatedly applied yield chain theorems connecting an unending series of curves.

In particular the dual of 5, beginning with $n = 1$, establishes the chain, the first link of which was obtained by another method in the earlier paper.†

Many isolated classic theorems appear here as special cases. From 6 can be deduced readily the theorem that if $n-1$ intersections of a line with a C_n are points P_k with k -point tangents, $k > 2$, the remaining intersection is a P_k . This includes as a special case the familiar theorem concerning flexes.

We shall conclude with a consideration of curves C_m each of which has with a base cubic a $(3m-1)$ -point contact P_{3m-1} . Thus conics with quintactic points at intersections of a line l' with a rational cubic cut again in three points of a line l . But from each of the latter points can be drawn five quintactic conics.‡ These 15 quintactic points lie by threes on 25 lines l' five of which pass through each point.

Similarly the 24 P_8 's of cubics passing simply through the intersections of l and R^3 determine a configuration of 24 points and 64 lines, 3 points on a line and 8 lines on a point.

Again if l is replaced by a conic C_2 there will be 30 quintactic conics from points of intersection of C_2 and R^3 . By reasoning analogous to that employed in §2 it is easily established that these 30 points lie by sixes on 5^5 conics C_2' .

Generally, from a point of R^3 can be drawn $(3m-1)$ C_m 's each having a contact P_{3m-1} elsewhere. The $3i$ common points

* Pascal, Repertorium, 2d ed., II, p. 321.

† Winger, "On the satellite line of the cubic," l.c.

‡ Winger, "Involutions on the rational cubic," l.c., p. 30.

of a C_i and R^3 determine thus $3i(3m-1)$ such points which can be arranged in primary sets S'_{3i} of the $3i$ points in $(3m-1)^{3i-1}$ ways.

Passing now to the general cubic, if a C_m have $(3m-1)$ -point contact at u' and cuts again at u the relation connecting the elliptic arguments is

$$u' = \frac{\mu\omega + \mu'\omega' - u}{3m-1}.$$

For given u there are $(3m-1)^2$ values of u' since $\mu, \mu' = 1, 2, \dots, 3m-1$. Thus from the common points of a conic and a C_3 can be drawn $6 \cdot 25$ quintactic conics whose 150 quintactic points lie by sixes on 5^{10} primary conics.

And generally from the $3i$ common points of a C_i and C_3 can be drawn $3i(3m-1)^2$ C_m 's each having a $(3m-1)$ -point contact. These $3i(3m-1)^2 P_{3m-1}$'s can be grouped in primary sets S_{3i}' of the $3i$ points in $3(3m-1)^{6i-2}$ ways.

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CAJORI'S HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS

A History of Mathematics. By FLORIAN CAJORI, Ph.D., Professor of the History of Mathematics in the University of California. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1919. vii + 514 pp. Price, \$4.00.

THE present edition of Cajori's well known History of Mathematics is so completely revised and so considerably enlarged that it might almost be regarded as a new book. While it contains only about 100 more pages than the earlier edition,* it has about twice as much reading matter, the pages being larger and more closely printed than those of the first edition. The general arrangement of the subjects treated remains unchanged, but three brief new sections relating largely to ancient mathematics have been added. These are headed; "The Maya," "The Chinese" and "The Japanese" respectively, and are based on special histories relating to these peoples, which have appeared since the publication in 1894 of the first edition of the present work.

* Reviewed in this BULLETIN, vol. 3 (1894), pp. 190 and 248, by D. E. Smith and G. B. Halsted.