# A combinatorial approach to doubly transitive permutation groups 

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## 1 Introduction

Known doubly transitive permutation groups are well studied and the classification of all doubly transitive groups has been done by applying the classification of the finite simple groups. Readers may refer to [6]. This may mean that it is not still sufficient to study doubly transitive groups as permutation groups. Typical arguments on doubly transitive groups are seen in the book[3]. In the present paper we will give a combinatorial approach to doubly transitive groups. We use a combinatorial structure called a superscheme defined by the stabilizer of a point in a doubly transitive group and try to construct the superscheme defined by the given doubly transitive group. So if a superscheme defined by a transitive group is given first, our algorithm will construct the superscheme defined by the expected transitive extension of the given group. We do not use any group elements in this construction. Then if no superscheme is constructed, we can conclude that there is no transitive extension. If a superscheme is constructed, its automorphism group can be expected to be closely related to the transitive extension. However we will not compute the automorphism group, since we can guess what doubly transitive group it is. We will show how our algorithm works in the case of projective special linear groups $\operatorname{PSL}(m, q)$, $m \geq 3$. Our algorithm also works successfully in the case of symplectic groups $S p(2 m, 2), m \geq 3$, over $G F(2)$ acting on the cosets by $O^{+}(2 m, 2)$ and $O^{-}(2 m, 2)$. In $P S L$-cases the automorphism groups of the obtained superschemes are usually imagined to be $P G L$. We also compute the transitive extensions of these groups itself. Our algorithm shows that they do not have transitive extensions except that $\operatorname{PSL}(m, 2)$ and $\operatorname{PSL}(3,4)$, which are known to give $A G L(m, 2)$ and the Mathieu group $M_{22}$ of degree 22 , and so on, we can consider the extensions of the obtained groups. Computer experiments suggest that our algorithm can be applied to any doubly or more transitive groups. We note that an obtained superscheme may not have a doubly transitive automorphism group.

Association schemes are often used to study permutation groups. A doubly
transitive group of degree $n$ defines a trivial association scheme which is the same one given by the symmetric group of degree $n$. So it is worthless to consider the association schemes given by doubly transitive groups. If a group $G$ is doubly transitive and not triply transitive, the stabilizer of a point in $G$ defines a nontrivial association scheme. But as is mentioned in [7], this association scheme is not sufficient to construct the group $G$. I will repeat about this fact briefly in the present paper. So we will use superschemes to construct doubly transitive groups from their stabilizers of a point. Superschemes are introduced in [5, 8]. We will follow a slightly different definition of superschemes given in [4]. In particular association schemes are superschemes.

We note that we used GAP[2] for our computer experiments.

## 2 Association schemes and superschemes

Let $X=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{s}\right\}$ be the set of vertices. Then an association scheme $\left(X,\left\{R_{i}\right\}_{0 \leq i \leq d}\right)$ and a superscheme $(X, \Pi)$ are defined as follows.

Definition. ( $X,\left\{R_{i}\right\}_{0 \leq i \leq d}$ ) is an association scheme if and only if

1. $R_{0}=\{(x, x) \mid x \in X\}$,
2. $\left\{R_{0}, R_{1}, \cdots, R_{d}\right\}$ is a partition of $X \times X$,
3. for all $R_{i}$ there exists $R_{i^{\prime}}$ such that $R_{i^{\prime}}=\left\{(y, x) \mid(x, y) \in R_{i}\right\}$,
4. for all $R_{i}, R_{j}, R_{k}$ and for all $(x, y) \in R_{k}$, there exists a constant number $p_{i j k}$ such that

$$
p_{i j k}=\#\left\{z \in X \mid(x, z) \in R_{i},(z, y) \in R_{j},(x, y) \in R_{k}\right\} .
$$

Definition. $(X, \Pi)$ is a superscheme if and only if

1. $\Pi=\left\{\Pi^{1}, \Pi^{2}, \cdots, \Pi^{t}\right\}$ for some $t \geq 2, \Pi^{l}$ is a partition of $X^{l}$ for $1 \leq l \leq t$,
2. let $\sigma\left(\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{l}\right)\right)=\left(y_{\sigma(1)}, y_{\sigma(2)}, \cdots, y_{\sigma(l)}\right)$ for $\sigma \in \operatorname{Sym}(l)$, let $\Pi^{l}=$ $\left\{R_{0}^{l}, R_{1}^{l}, \cdots, R_{d_{l}}^{l}\right\}, 1 \leq l \leq t$, then $\sigma\left(R_{k}^{l}\right) \in \Pi^{l}$ for all $R_{k}^{l}$ and all $\sigma \in$ Sym(l),
3. let a projection $\pi^{l}: X^{l} \rightarrow X^{l-1}$ be defined by $\pi^{l}\left(\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{l-1}, y_{l}\right)\right)=\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{l-1}\right)$, then $\pi^{l}\left(R_{k}^{l}\right) \in \Pi^{l-1}$ for all $R_{k}^{l} \in \Pi^{l}, 2 \leq l \leq t$,
4. for all $R_{k}^{l}, 2 \leq l \leq t$, for all $y=\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{l-1}\right) \in \pi^{l}\left(R_{k}^{l}\right)$, there exists a constant number $p_{k}^{l}$ such that $p_{k}^{l}=\left|\left(\pi^{l}\right)^{-1}(y) \cap R_{k}^{l}\right|$. In particular $p_{k}^{l}=$ $\left|R_{k}^{l}\right| /\left|\pi^{l}\left(R_{k}^{l}\right)\right|$.
For more properties of association schemes, readers may refer to [1]. The properties 2 and 4 of a superscheme are called symmetric and regular in [4], respectively. Referring to the number $t$ in the definition of a superscheme, we simply call a $t$-superscheme. Each $R_{i}^{l}$ is called a relation.

By the property 4 an association scheme always induces a 3 -superscheme such that $\Pi^{1}=\{X\}, \Pi^{2}=\left\{R_{0}, R_{1}, \cdots, R_{d}\right\}$ and $\Pi^{3}$ consists of $R_{i, j, k}=$ $\left\{(x, y, z) \mid(x, y) \in R_{k},(x, z) \in R_{i},(z, y) \in R_{j}\right\}$, where some of them may be empty.

## 3 Computation of superschemes related to transitive extensions

Let $G$ be a transitive permutation group on a set $X$ and let $G_{\alpha}$ be the stabilizer of a point $\alpha \in X$ in $G$. If the group $G_{\alpha}$ is given first, then the group $G$ is said to be the transitive extension of $G_{\alpha}$. Suppose that $G$ is $(t-1)$-ply transitive and not $t$-ply transitive on $X$, where $t \geq 3$. Suppose $X=\{1,2, \cdots, n, n+1\}$. Let $X^{(l)}=\left\{\left(i_{1}, i_{2}, \cdots, i_{l}\right) \mid i_{j} \in X\right.$, all $i_{j}$ are distinct $\}$ for $1 \leq l \leq t$. Then the orbits of the stabilizer $G_{n+1}$ of $n+1 \in X$ in $G$ acting on $X^{l}$ are obtained from those on $X^{(l)}$. So we will only consider the orbits on $X^{(l)}$ and consider the partition of $X^{(l)}$ for superschemes, which will be denoted so that $\Pi^{(l)}=\left\{R_{1}^{(l)}, \cdots, R_{d_{l}}^{(l)}\right\}$. We set $\pi_{j}^{l}=\pi^{l} \cdot(j, j+1, \cdots, l)$, where $(j, j+1, \cdots, l) \in \operatorname{Sym}(l)$. Then by the symmetricity and the regularity of superschemes we have a constant number $p_{k, j}^{l}$ such that $p_{k, j}^{l}=\left|\left(\pi_{j}^{l}\right)^{-1}(y) \cap R_{k}^{l}\right|$ for all $R_{k}^{l}, 2 \leq l \leq t$ and for all $y=$ $\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{l-1}\right) \in \pi_{j}^{l}\left(R_{k}^{l}\right)$.

Let $\left(X, \Pi^{\prime}\right)$ be the $t$-superscheme given by a $(t-2)$-ply transitive group $G_{n+1}$ on $X \backslash\{n+1\}$. Suppose that there exists the transitive extension $G$ of $G_{n+1}$ and let $(X, \Pi)$ be the $t$-superscheme given by $G$. Then the superscheme given by a $(t-1)$-ply transitive group satisfies that $\Pi^{(l)}=\left\{X^{(l)}\right\}$ for $1 \leq l<t$. Now we try to combine the orbits of $G_{n+1}$ on $X^{(t)}$ to be the possible orbits of $G$ on $X^{(t)}$. This is done only using the superschemes. We will construct all the possible $\Pi^{(t)}$ from $\Pi^{\prime(t)}$. Since $G$ is $(t-1)$-ply transitive, the following holds.

Proposition 1 Let $R_{k}^{(t-1)}$, $1 \leq k \leq r$, be the relations in $\Pi^{\prime(t-1)}$ such that $R_{k}^{(t-1)} \subseteq(X \backslash\{n+1\})^{(t-1)}$. Then $G$ has $r$ orbits on $X^{(t)}$ which are of size $|X| \cdot\left|R_{k}^{(t-1)}\right|, k=1,2, \cdots, r$.

Theorem 2 Let $\Pi^{\prime(t)}=\left\{R_{1}^{\prime}, R_{2}^{\prime}, \cdots, R_{d}^{\prime}\right\}$ and set $Y=\{1,2, \cdots, d\}$. Let $\left\{Y_{1}\right.$, $\left.Y_{2}, \cdots, Y_{r}\right\}$ be a partition of $Y$ and set $R_{k}$ to be the union of $R_{i}^{\prime}, i \in Y_{k}$ for $1 \leq k \leq r$. If it hold that $\Pi^{(t)}=\left\{R_{1}, R_{2}, \cdots, R_{r}\right\}$, then $\pi_{j}^{t}\left(R_{k}\right)=X^{(t-1)}$ and we have the constants $p_{k, j}^{t}=|X| \cdot\left|R_{k}^{(t-1)}\right| /\left|X^{(t-1)}\right|=\left|R_{k}^{(t-1)}\right| /\left|(X \backslash\{n+1\})^{(t-2)}\right|$ for all $1 \leq k \leq r$ and all $1 \leq j \leq t$ in the $t$-superscheme $(X, \Pi)$. Let $p_{i, j}^{\prime t}=$ $\left|R_{i}^{\prime}\right| /\left|\pi_{j}^{t}\left(R_{i}^{\prime}\right)\right|$ be the constants of $\left(X, \Pi^{\prime}\right)$. For any $R_{s}^{(t-1)} \in \Pi^{\prime(t-1)}$ we set $Y_{k, j, s}=\left\{i \in Y_{k} \mid \pi_{j}^{t}\left(R_{i}^{\prime}\right)=R_{s}^{(t-1)}\right\}$. Then we have $p_{k, j}^{t}=\sum_{i \in Y_{k, j, s}} p_{i, j}^{\prime t}$.

Theorem 2 is a little complicated to check the conditions without a computer and it is rather an algorithm which one can understand easily if one see the examples in the next section.

Table 1
Orbits of the stabilizer of $P_{l}$ in $P S L(m, q)$ on $\mathbf{P}^{(2)}$ and
those of $P S L(m, q)$ on $\left(\mathbf{P} \cup\left\{P_{0}\right\}\right)^{(3)}$

|  | stabilizer of $P_{l}$ |  | $P S L(m, q)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No. | size | rep. | size | rep. | property |
| 1 | $n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}\right)$ | $(n+1) n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{l}\right\rangle$ |
| 2 | $n(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}\right)$ | $(n+1) n(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{i}, P_{l}\right\rangle$ |
| 3 | $n$ | $\left(P_{l}, P_{i}\right)$ | $(n+1) n$ | $\left(P_{0}, P_{i}, P_{l}\right)$ |  |
| 4 | $n$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{l}\right)$ | $(n+1) n$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{0}, P_{l}\right)$ |  |
| 5 |  |  | $(n+1) n$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{l}, P_{0}\right)$ |  |

## 4 Examples

We will show how our algorithm works for $G=\operatorname{PSL}(m, q), m \geq 3$. Let $G_{n+1}$ be the stabilizer of a point $P_{l}$ in $G$ acting on the projective space $\mathbf{P}$ of dimension $m-1$ over a finite field of $q$ elements. So $X=\mathbf{P}, t=3$ and $n=q+q^{2}+\cdots+q^{m-1}$. The orbits of $G_{n+1}$ on $\mathbf{P}^{(2)}$ are shown in Table 1 together with those of $G$ on $\left(\mathbf{P} \cup\left\{P_{0}\right\}\right)^{(3)} . G_{n+1}$ has four orbits on $\mathbf{P}^{(2)}$ and two of them are contained in $\left(\mathbf{P} \backslash\left\{P_{l}\right\}\right)^{(2)}$, which are numbered 1 and 2 in Table 1. Table 1 shows that, for instance, the orbit 1 is of size $n(q-1)$ and consists of the couples $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}\right)$ such that the point $P_{j}$ belongs to the projective line $\left\langle P_{i}, P_{l}\right\rangle$. Then by Theorem $2 G$ has two orbits on $\mathbf{P}^{(3)}$ and we have $p_{j, 1}^{3}=q-1$ and $p_{j, 2}^{3}=n-q, 1 \leq j \leq 3$.

Table 2 consists of two parts. The first part of table 2 shows the orbits of $G_{n+1}$ on $\mathbf{P}^{(3)}$. For instance, $G_{n+1}$ has $q-2$ orbits $1(1), \cdots, 1(q-2)$ which consist of $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ satisfying $P_{j}, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle . G_{n+1}$ is transitive on the triples $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ satisfying $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ and any three of $P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}$ and $P_{l}$ non collinear if $m \neq 3$ or $3 \nmid q-1$, which is denoted by orbit 6 . If $m=3 \mid q-1$, then $G_{n+1}$ has three orbits on them. So in this case they are denoted by $6(1)$, $6(2)$ and $6(3)$. The second part of Table 2 denotes the orbit numbers $s$ of $G_{n+1}$ on $\mathbf{P}^{(2)}$ in Table 1 such that $\pi_{j}^{t}\left(R_{i}^{\prime}\right)=R_{s}^{(t-1)}$ in the columns of label "im." and the constants $p_{i, j}^{\prime 3}=\left|R_{i}^{\prime}\right| /\left|\pi_{j}^{3}\left(R_{i}^{\prime}\right)\right|$ in the columns of label "mult." for each orbit shown in the first part of Table 2. Here $\pi_{j}=\pi_{j}^{3}, 1 \leq j \leq 3$.

Now we compute the partition $\left\{Y_{1}, Y_{2}\right\}$ of the set $Y$ of the orbit numbers in the first part of Table 2 . We have $\{2,3,4,9,11,13\} \subset Y_{2}$, since $n-q>q-1$ and each of the orbits $\{2,3,4,9,11,13\}$ has a constant $p_{i, j}^{\prime 3}=n-q$ for some $i$, $j$. Then $\{8,10,12\} \subset Y_{1}$. Furthermore we have $\{1(1), 1(2), \cdots, 1(q-2)\} \subset Y_{1}$, since $n-q=p_{2,1}^{3}=p_{4,1}^{\prime 3}$ implies $Y_{2,1,1}=\{4\}$. Here we consider three cases. In the first case we assume that $q>2$ and $(m \neq 3$ or $q \neq 4)$. We assume $q=2$ in the second case and assume $m=3$ and $q=4$ in the third case.

In the first case $p_{6,1}^{\prime 3}=(q-1)^{2}>q-1$ or $p_{6(i), 1}^{\prime 3}=(q-1)^{2} / 3>q-1$. So we have 6 or $6(i) \in Y_{2}$. If $m=3$, there does not exist the orbit 7 , as $n=q+q^{2}$, else $p_{7,1}^{\prime 3}>q-1$. So we have $7 \in Y_{2}$ in general. Thus we have $Y_{1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), 5,8,10,12\}$ and $Y_{2}=Y \backslash Y_{1}$. Here we see, for instance, in the $\pi_{1}$-column of Table 2 that $Y_{1,1,1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), 8\}, Y_{1,1,2}=\{5\}$,

Table 2
Orbits of the stabilizer of $P_{l}$ in $P S L(m, q)$ on $\mathbf{P}^{(3)}$

| No. | size | rep. | property |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1(1)$ | $n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{j}, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ |
| $1(q-2)$ | $n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{j}, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 2 | $n(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{j} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 3 | $n(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 4 | $n(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 5 | $n(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 6 | $n(q-1)^{2}(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$, non collinear |
| $6(1,2,3)$ | $n(q-1)^{2}(n-q) / 3$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | as above and m=3\|q-1 |
| 7 | $n(n-q)\left(n-q-q^{2}\right)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$, non collinear |
| 8 | $n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right)$ | $P_{j} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 9 | $n(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 10 | $n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{l}, P_{j}\right)$ | $P_{j} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 11 | $n(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{l}, P_{j}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 12 | $n(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 13 | $n(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |

The properties of projections

|  | $\pi_{1}$ |  | $\pi_{2}$ |  | $\pi_{3}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | ---: |
| No. | im. | mult. | im. | mult. | im. | mult. |
| $1(1, \cdots, q-2)$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 1 | $n-q$ |
| 3 | 2 | $q-1$ | 1 | $n-q$ | 2 | $q-1$ |
| 4 | 1 | $n-q$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ |
| 5 | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ |
| 6 | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ |
| $6(1,2,3)$ | $2(q-1)^{2} / 3$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2} / 3$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2} / 3$ |  |
| 7 | 2 | $n-q-q^{2}$ | 2 | $n-q-q^{2}$ | 2 | $n-q-q^{2}$ |
| 8 | 1 | 1 | 3 | $q-1$ | 3 | $q-1$ |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | $n-q$ | 3 | $n-q$ |
| 10 | 3 | $q-1$ | 1 | 1 | 4 | $q-1$ |
| 11 | 3 | $n-q$ | 2 | 1 | 4 | $n-q$ |
| 12 | 4 | $q-1$ | 4 | $q-1$ | 1 | 1 |
| 13 | 4 | $n-q$ | 4 | $n-q$ | 2 | 1 |

$Y_{1,1,3}=\{10\}, Y_{1,1,4}=\{12\}, Y_{2,1,1}=\{4\}, Y_{2,1,2}=\{2,3,6,7,9\}, Y_{2,1,3}=\{11\}$ and $Y_{2,1,4}=\{13\}$.

In the second case, since $(q-1)^{2}=q-1$, the orbits 5 and 6 have the same entries. Since $q-2=0$, there exist no orbits $1(1, \cdots, q-2)$. So we have two possibilities $Y_{1}=\{5,8,10,12\}$ and $Y_{1}=\{6,8,10,12\}$. Then $Y_{2}=Y \backslash Y_{1}$, respectively. Computer experiment shows that the automorphism groups of the obtained superschemes are $\operatorname{PSL}(3,2)$ in both of the possibilities if $m=3$.

In the third case, since $(q-1)^{2} / 3=q-1$, all the orbits 5 and $6(1,2,3)$ have the same entries. So we have four possibilities $Y_{1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), i, 8,10,12\}$, where $i$ is any of $\{5,6(1), 6(2), 6(3)\}$, and $Y_{2}=Y \backslash Y_{1}$. In all of the possibilities computer experiment gives that the automorphism groups are $P \Gamma L(3,4)$.

Here we mention about the association scheme defined by $G_{n+1}$ on $X \backslash\{n+$ $1\}$. In an association scheme we easily see that the orbits of $G_{n+1}$ on $(X \backslash\{n+$ $1\})^{(3)}$ which have the same entries in the "im."-columns are contained in a common relation. So in particular the orbits 5 and 6 are contained in a relation of the association scheme defined by $G_{n+1}$. But the above argument gives that the orbits 5 and 6 belong to the different sets of $Y_{1}$ and $Y_{2}$ with $Y_{1} \cap$ $Y_{2}=\phi$. Therefore association schemes are not sufficient to compute transitive extensions.

Next we try to compute the 4 -superschemes given by the transitive extensions of $P S L(m, q)$ itself. So $t=4$ and $Y=\{1,2, \cdots, 15\}$. Consulting Table 3 , similar arguments as above give that $\{2,3,4,5\} \subset Y_{2}$. Here we notice that the four orbits $2,3,4$, and 5 are permuted by the $\operatorname{Sym}(4)$ in the property 2 of a superscheme with $t=4$. We consider three cases as above. In the first case the same argument as above implies $5 \in Y_{1}$. But already $5 \in Y_{2}$, a contradiction. So we have no possibilities in the first case. In the second case we have one possibility $Y_{1}=\{6,8,10,12,14\}$. So in this case we may have the transitive extension $A G L(m, 2)$. In the third case we have three possibilities $Y_{1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), i, 8,10,12,14\}$, where $i$ is any of $\{6(1), 6(2), 6(3)\}$. So we can expect the transitive extension $M_{22}$.

Then let us go forward to consider the further transitive extensions. Now $t=5$ and $Y=\{1,2, \cdots, 17\}$. Comparing Table 2 and 3 , readers may easily guess the properties of the orbits 16 and 17 . Then as we noticed above, in this extension the $\operatorname{Sym}(5)$ should permute the orbits $2,3,4,5$ and one more orbit which should be the orbit 6 or $6(\mathrm{i})$. This gives some conditions that $\pi_{5}$ should satisfy. This also implies that they are all contained in $Y_{2}$, since the $\operatorname{Sym}(5)$ acts trivially on $\Pi^{(5)}=\left\{R_{1}^{(5)}, R_{2}^{(5)}\right\}$ with $\left|R_{1}^{(5)}\right| \neq\left|R_{2}^{(5)}\right|$. So if $q=2$, we have $Y_{1}=\{8,10,12,14,16\}$, which does not satisfy the conditions in Theorem 2. Thus $A G L(m, 2)$ does not have a transitive extension. If $m=3$ and $q=4$, then we may assume $6(3) \in Y_{2}$ and we have still two possibilities $Y_{1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), i, 8,10,12,14,16\}$, where $i$ is any of $\{6(1), 6(2)\}$. Here we expect $M_{23}$. In the next extension we can expect $M_{24}$ with $t=6,|Y|=19$, and $Y_{1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), 6(1), 8,10,12,14,16\}$. At last we consider the transitive extension of $M_{24}$. Then $t=7,|Y|=21$ and the $\operatorname{Sym}(7)$ should permute the orbits $2,3,4,5,6(1), 6(2)$ and $6(3)$. Hence they are contained in $Y_{2}$. So we

Table 3
Orbits of $P S L(m, q)$ on $\left(\mathbf{P} \cup\left\{P_{0}\right\}\right)^{(4)}$

| No. | size $(a=(n+1) n)$ | rep. | property |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1(1)$ | $a(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j}, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ |
| $1(q-2)$ | $a(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j}, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 2 | $a(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 3 | $a(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle$ |
| 4 | $a(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 5 | $a(q-1)(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{j} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}\right\rangle, P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 6 | $a(q-1)^{2}(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$, non collinear |
| $6(1,2,3)$ | $a(q-1)^{2}(n-q) / 3$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | as above and $m=3 \mid q-1$ |
| 7 | $a(n-q)\left(n-q-q^{2}\right)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{l}\right)$ | $P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{l}, P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$, non collinear |
| 8 | $a(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{0}, P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 9 | $a(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{0}, P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 10 | $a(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{0}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 11 | $a(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{0}, P_{j}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 12 | $a(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{0}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 13 | $a(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{0}, P_{k}\right)$ | $P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 14 | $a(q-1)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{0}\right)$ | $P_{k} \in\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |
| 15 | $a(n-q)$ | $\left(P_{i}, P_{j}, P_{k}, P_{0}\right)$ | $P_{k} \notin\left\langle P_{i}, P_{j}\right\rangle$ |

The properties of projections

|  | $\pi_{1}$ |  | $\pi_{2}$ |  | $\pi_{3}$ |  | $\pi_{4}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No. | im | mult. | im. | mult. | im. | mult. | im. | mult. |
| $1(1, \cdots, q-2)$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 1 | $n-q$ | 2 | $q-1$ |
| 3 | 2 | $q-1$ | 1 | $n-q$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ |
| 4 | 1 | $n-q$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ |
| 5 | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 1 | $n-q$ |
| 6 | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ | 2 | $(q-1)^{2}$ |
| $6(1,2,3)$ |  | $(q-1)^{2} / 3$ |  | $(q-1)^{2} / 3$ |  | $(q-1)^{2} / 3$ |  | $(q-1)^{2} / 3$ |
| 7 |  | $n-q-q^{2}$ |  | $n-q-q^{2}$ | 2 | $n-q-q^{2}$ |  | $-q-q^{2}$ |
| 8 | 1 |  | 3 | $q-1$ | 3 | $q-1$ | 3 | $q-1$ |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | $n-q$ | 3 | $n-q$ | 3 | $n-q$ |
| 10 | 3 | $q-1$ | 1 |  | 4 | $q-1$ | 4 | $q-1$ |
| 11 | 3 | $n-q$ | 2 | 1 | 4 | $n-q$ | 4 | $n-q$ |
| 12 | 4 | $q-1$ | 4 | $q-1$ | 1 | 1 | 5 | $q-1$ |
| 13 | 4 | $n-q$ | 4 | $n-q$ | 2 | 1 | 5 | $n-q$ |
| 14 | 5 | $q-1$ | 5 | $q-1$ | 5 | $q-1$ | 1 | 1 |
| 15 | 5 | $n-q$ | 5 | $n-q$ | 5 | $n-q$ | 2 | 1 |

have $Y_{1}=\{1(1, \cdots, q-2), 8,10,12,14,16,18,20\}$, which does not satisfy the conditions in Theorem 2. Thus $M_{24}$ does not have a transitive extension.

For the cases of $S p(2 m, 2)$ acting on $S p(2 m, 2) / O^{+}(2 m, 2)$ and $S p(2 m, 2) /$ $O^{-}(2 m, 2)$ we have the 3 -superschemes defined by $S p(2 m, 2)$ and have no 4 superschemes which may give the transitive extensions of $\operatorname{Sp}(2 m, 2)$ itself. So in particular we have $S p(2 m, 2), m \geq 3$ have no transitive extensions.

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