

The Geometrical Interpretation of the Complete System of two Double Binary (2, 1) Forms.

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$$\text{Let } *f = a_x^2 \alpha_x \xi = b_x^2 \beta_x \xi = \xi_1 (a_{01} x_1^2 + 2a_{11} x_1 x_2 + a_{21} x_2^2) \\ + \xi_2 (a_{02} x_1^2 + 2a_{12} x_1 x_2 + a_{22} x_2^2)$$

$$\text{and } f' = a'_x \alpha'_x \xi = b'_x \beta'_x \xi$$

denote two double binary (2-1) forms in (x, ξ) . It is proposed to discuss the geometrical significance of their simultaneous covariant complete system, which is here quoted without proof. †

When two quadrics which possess a common generator intersect, the remaining curve of intersection is in general a twisted cubic. Such a twisted cubic intersects each generator of one system in two points and the generators of the opposite system in one point. Let $x(=x_1: x_2)$ be the parameter of the one system, and let ξ be that of the opposite system. This leads to a chord ξ of the cubic joining two points P, Q of the curve and through each of the points P and Q will pass a generator x of the opposite system. Thus to each ξ correspond two x 's and to one x corresponds one ξ : namely the generator through the point of intersection of the cubic curve with x . There is thus a $(2-1)$ correspondence between the x and ξ , and as our double binary $(2-1)$ form is of such a nature we represent our double binary forms f and f' as twisted cubics of the same kind on a quadric surface. We recall these facts: if θ_x^2 and ϕ_x^2 are binary quadratics then $(\theta\phi) \theta_x \phi_x$ is simultaneously harmonic to both quadratics: and if $(\theta\phi)^2$ vanishes, θ_x^2 and ϕ_x^2 are harmonic pairs.

* H. W. TURNBULL. *Proceedings of Royal Society of Edinburgh*, Vol. XLIII., 1923, pp. 44.

KASNER. *Transactions of American Mathematical Society*, Vol. I., 1900.

PEANO. *Battaglini Giorn. di Math.*, XX., 1882.

† SADDLER. *Proceedings of Royal Society of Edinburgh*, Vol. XLV., 1924.

The complete list of the irreducible covariants is given for reference.

f, f'	$a_x^2 \alpha_\xi$		
D, D'	$(ab)(\alpha\beta) a_x b_x$	$= (f, f)_{11}$	§ 2
Δ, Δ'	$(ab)^2 \alpha_\xi \beta_\xi$	$= (f, f)_{20}$	"
P, P'	$-(ab)^2 (\alpha\gamma) c_x^2 \beta_\xi$	$= (f, D)_{10} = (f\Delta)_{01}$	"
R, R'	$(ab)^2 (cd)^2 (\alpha\gamma) (\beta\delta)$	$= (f, P)_{21}$	"
E	$(\alpha a') a_x a'_x \alpha_\xi \alpha'_\xi$	$= (f, f')_{10}$	"
F	$(\alpha\alpha') a_x^2 a'_x{}^2$	$= (f, f')_{01}$	"
D_{12}	$(\alpha a') (\alpha\alpha') a_x a'_x$	$= (f, f')_{11}$	§ § 2 & 3
Δ_{12}	$(\alpha a')^2 \alpha_\xi \alpha'_\xi$	$= (f, f')_{20}$	§ 3
A	$(\alpha a')^2 (\alpha\alpha')$	$= (f, f')_{21}$	"
G, G'	$(\alpha D') a_x D'_x \alpha_\xi$	$= (f, D')_{10}$	"
κ, κ'	$(\alpha D')^2 \alpha_\xi$	$= (f, D')_{20}$	§ 2
H, H'	$(a'b')^2 (\alpha\alpha') a_x^2 \beta'_\xi$	$= (f, \Delta')_{01}$	§ 3
U	$(\alpha D') (\alpha\beta) b_x^2$	$= (D, D')_{10}$	"
R_2	$(ab)(\alpha\beta) (\alpha D') (bD')$	$= (D, D')_{20}$	"
u	$(ab)^2 (\alpha\Delta') \beta_\xi \Delta'_\xi$	$= (\Delta, \Delta')_{01}$	"
R_3	$(ab)^2 (\alpha\Delta') (\beta\Delta')$	$= (\Delta, \Delta')_{02}$	"
τ, τ'	$(\alpha a')^2 (\alpha' \Delta') \alpha_\xi \Delta'_\xi$	$= (f, P')_{20}$	"
Q, Q'	$a_x^2 a'_x{}^2 (\alpha\Delta) (\alpha' \Delta)$	$= (f, P')_{01}$	"
M, M'	$(\alpha a') (\alpha' D') (\alpha\alpha') a_x D'_x$	$= (f, P')_{11}$	"
B, B'	$(\alpha a')^2 (\alpha\Delta') (\alpha' \Delta') = (D_{12}, D')_{20}$	$= (f, P')_{21}$	"
ρ, ρ'	$-(ab)^2 (\alpha\gamma) (cD')^2 \beta_\xi$	$= (P, D')_{10}$	"
R_4	$(\alpha a')^2 (\alpha\Delta) (\alpha' \Delta') (\Delta\Delta')$	$= (P, P')_{21}$	"
X, Y	$a_x^2 b_x^2 (\alpha\Delta') (\beta\Delta')$	$= (f^2, \Delta')_{02}$ (only 1 necessary)	
σ, σ'	$(ab)^2 (Da')^2 (\alpha\alpha') \beta_\xi$	$= (D\Delta, f')_{21}$	"

The symbolic equivalent and transvectant are given for the first member : thus $\rho = -(ab)^2 (\alpha\gamma) cD'^2 \beta_\xi = (P, D')_{10}$.

§ 2. When ξ varies, the points P, Q where the generator cuts the cubic curve are pairs of points in involution. P is uniquely determined by Q , given ξ , and when Q moves to P , then P moves to Q .

$\Delta = (ab)^2 \alpha_\xi \beta_\xi$. The values of x given by $f=0$ coincide if $\Delta=0$. Thus the double points D_1, D_2 of the involution on the curve are given by Δ . The values of ξ satisfying $\Delta_\xi^2=0$ answer therefore to the two ξ tangent generators of the curve: (throughout we shall

consider these points as D_1, D_2 and similar points for the second cubic as D'_1, D'_2). Since $(f, D)_{20}$ vanishes identically,* the values of x satisfying $D_x^2 = (ab)(\alpha\beta) a_x b_x$ answer to the two x generators through $D_1 D_2$.

$P = p_x^2 \pi_\xi = (f, D)_{10}$ is an associated twisted cubic which is the locus of the harmonic conjugates of the pairs of points in which any ξ generator cuts $f=0$ and $D_x^2=0$.

- (1) The x generators through the intersection of f and P being given by $(fP)_{01} = \frac{1}{2}D^2=0$, we infer that P has double contact with f at the points $D_1 D_2$ and no other intersection with f at all.
- (2) Since $(fP)_{20} \equiv 0$ any ξ generator cuts f and P harmonically.

Thus f and P are corresponding curves: the covariant D of P is that of f multiplied by the Resultant R : similarly for the other covariants of P . Thus $(P, P)_{20} = \frac{1}{2}R\Delta$.

$R = (f, P)_{21} = (D, D)_{20} = (\Delta, \Delta)_{0,2}$ is the resultant of the two quadratics $a_x^2 \alpha_x$ and $a_x^2 \alpha'_x$ and vanishes if f decomposes into an x generator and a (1, 1) form, or a conic.

$F_x^4 = (\alpha\alpha') a_x^2 a_x'^2 = 0$ gives the four x generators through the points of intersection of the two cubic curves. The four generators will be equianharmonic if $A^2 + 3(R_3 - R_2) = 0$. Reciprocally the corresponding ξ generators will be obtained by eliminating x from $a_x^2 \alpha_x = 0$ and $a_x'^2 \alpha'_x = 0$, and are given by

$$(ab)^2 \alpha_\xi \beta_\xi \cdot (a' b')^2 \alpha'_\xi \beta'_\xi - \{aa'\}^2 \alpha_\xi \alpha'_\xi \}^2 = 0 \text{ or}$$

$$\Delta \cdot \Delta' - \Delta_{12}^2 = 0.$$

$E = e_x^2 \epsilon \xi^2 = 0 = (aa') a_x \alpha'_x \alpha_x \alpha'_x$. This is a two-two curve generated as the locus of the pairs of points harmonic to each of the two pairs in which any ξ generator cuts the two twisted cubics. It is the same for all pencils of twisted cubics which pass through the intersection of the two given ones, since

$$(\lambda f + \mu f'', \lambda' f + \mu' f'')_{10} = (\lambda \mu' + \lambda' \mu)(f, f'')_{10}.$$

It passes through the four common points of the two cubics.

* $(fD)_{20} = (a_x^2 \alpha_x, (bc)(\beta\gamma)b_x c_x)_{20} = - (ab)(bc)(ca)(\beta\gamma)\alpha_\xi$
 $= - \frac{1}{3}(ab)(bc)(ca) \{(\beta\gamma)a_\xi + (\gamma\alpha)\beta_\xi + (\alpha\beta)\gamma_\xi\} \equiv 0$

The x generators common to E and f' are given by

$$(aa') \alpha_x \alpha'_x \cdot (\alpha\beta)(\alpha'\gamma) b_x^2 c_x^2 = \frac{1}{2}(ab)(\alpha\beta) \alpha_x b_x \cdot (\alpha'\gamma) \alpha_x^2 c_x^2 = \frac{1}{2} D. \quad f' = 0.$$

The ξ generators common to E and f are obtained by elimination of x , and are thus $(f'f)_{2,0} \cdot (EE)_{2,0} - \{(fE)_{2,0}\}^2 = 0$ or $\Delta \cdot (\Delta\Delta' - \Delta_{1,2}^2) = 0$, since $(fE)_{2,0} \equiv 0$.

Thus E , whose branch quartic* is $\Delta\Delta' - \Delta_{1,2}^2 = 0$, touches the four ξ generators through the common points of intersection of the two cubics and passes through the points corresponding to the double points of the involution on each of the cubics:—the points corresponding to (D, Δ) and (D', Δ') .

The intermediate covariant, Δ , of the pencil $\alpha_x^2 \alpha_\xi + \lambda \alpha_x'^2 \alpha'_\xi = 0$

is
$$(ab)^2 \alpha_\xi \beta_\xi + 2\lambda(aa')^2 \alpha_\xi \alpha'_\xi + \lambda^2 (a'b')^2 \alpha'_\xi \beta'_\xi = 0$$

or
$$\Delta + 2\lambda\Delta_{1,2} + \lambda^2 \Delta' = 0,$$

where $\Delta_{1,2} = 0$ gives the two ξ generators which cut the two twisted cubics in a harmonic range.

Now when this quadratic in λ has equal roots $\Delta_{1,2}^2 - \Delta\Delta' = 0$ giving, as before, the branch quartic of the two-two curve E .

The second branch quartic of this two two curve is $(E, E)_{0,2} = 0$ or $DD' - D_{1,2}^2 = 0$ where $D_{1,2} = (aa')(\alpha\alpha')\alpha_x \alpha'_x$ which may be obtained by considering the intermediate covariant D of $f' + \lambda f'' = 0$, i.e. $D + 2\lambda D_{1,2} + \lambda^2 D' = 0$.

THE LINEAR COVARIANT $\kappa_\xi = (f'D')_{2,0} = -(D_{1,2}, f'')_{2,0} = 0$.

$\kappa_\xi = 0$ can be regarded as the ξ generator which cuts f and D' harmonically, or better:—let the two x generators of the second cubic through $D'_1 D'_2$ meet the first cubic in $D_3 D_4$: the harmonic pair to $D_1 D_2$; $D_3 D_4$ will be the points in which κ_ξ meets the first cubic: similarly for $\kappa'_\xi = (f''D)_{2,0}$. Again $\kappa_\xi = -(D_{1,2}, f'')_{2,0}$ where $D_{1,2} = (aa')(\alpha\alpha')\alpha_x \alpha'_x$. Let κ_ξ meet the second cubic in $D''_1 D''_2$: and let P, Q be the pair of points where the two x generators corresponding to $D_{1,2} = 0$ meet f' . Then the common pair of harmonic points to PQ ; $D'_1 D'_2$ will be the points $D''_1 D''_2$.

§ 3. POLAR CONIC OF A GIVEN x - GENERATOR.

Fix a ξ generator and take the fourth harmonic to where an x generator (say y) meets this ξ with respect to the two points where the generator cuts the cubic: namely $\alpha_x \alpha_y \alpha_\xi = 0$. Vary ξ —this

* TURNBULL. *Proc. Royal Soc. Edinburgh*, Vol. XLIV. (1923-4) p. 36.

gives us a *polar conic* on the quadric corresponding to all points on y : a conic, since it is a (1,1) correspondence on the quadric between x and ξ

Similarly take the polar conic of y with respect to the second cubic, so that $\alpha'_x \alpha'_y \alpha'_\xi = 0$.

These two polar conics have their planes conjugate with respect to the quadric, if y satisfies $(\alpha\alpha')(\alpha\alpha')\alpha_y \alpha'_y = 0$, i.e. if y belongs to the covariant $D_{12} = 0$.

It is to be noticed that two conics on the quadric $p_x \pi_\xi = 0$ and $q_x \rho_\xi = 0$ are conjugate to one another when the forms are apolar:—namely when $(p q)(\pi \rho) = 0$.

PROPERTIES OF THE TWO-TWO CURVE, $E_x^2 \epsilon_\xi^2 = 0$.

Its J covariant $(E, E)_{1,1}$ is another two-two form which may be shown to be $f.\kappa + f' \kappa' = 0$.

J passes through the four points of intersection of f and f' and also where κ cuts f' and where κ' cuts f . Again

$$(E_x^2 \epsilon_\xi^2, J)_{0,2} = UD_{12} + D'.M' - DM - ADD' = 0, \text{ (Syzzygy 34),}$$

proving that any ξ generator cuts E and J harmonically: similarly for any x generator.*

The x generators through the intersection of E and J obtained by eliminating ξ between these two equations, are given by

$$\lambda.F(DD' - D_{12}^2) = 0 \text{ where } \lambda \text{ is a constant factor, } AR_2 - R_4.$$

But $F = 0$ gives the four x generators through the intersection of E and f and $DD' - D_{12}^2 = 0$ is the branch quartic corresponding to the four x rays which touch E .

The second branch quartic of E has been shown to be

$$\Delta\Delta' - \Delta_{12}^2 = 0$$

which determines the ξ rays touching E at the points of intersection of E and f and, as shown above, of E and J .

Thus the curves E and J intersect at 8 points

$$I_1 I_2 I_3 I_4 ; I_1^1 I_2^1 I_3^1 I_4^1.$$

The x generators through the four I points touch E at these points; similarly for the ξ generators.*

The condition that J breaks up into linear factors is the vanishing of the third degree invariant of E : i.e.

$$(EJ)_{2,2} = \frac{3}{2} (AR_2 - 2R_4).*$$

* TURNBULL, *loc. cit.*, pp. 36, 34.

Now $(\kappa \kappa')_{01} = AR_2 - 2R_3$. Thus when the two ξ generators corresponding to κ and κ' coincide the J covariant of the two-two curve E breaks up into linear factors.

APOLARITY OF f AND f' .

If $A = (aa')^2(\alpha\alpha')$, then A vanishes when f and f' are apolar. Two interpretations may be given as follows.

If the polar conic corresponding to y with respect to f is conjugate to the polar conic of z with respect to f' , then

$$(aa')(\alpha\alpha') a_y a'_z = 0.$$

If the reciprocal relation also holds then

$$(aa')(\alpha\alpha') a_z a'_y = 0.$$

Thus $(aa')(\alpha\alpha') \{a_z a'_z - a_z a'_y\} = 0$

or $(aa')^2(\alpha\alpha')(yz) = 0 \qquad (yz) \neq 0$

thus $(aa')^2(\alpha\alpha') = A = 0.$

Again, the two ξ generators which are cut harmonically by the cubics f and P' are given by $\tau\xi^2 = 0 = (aa')^2(\alpha'\Delta')\alpha\xi\Delta'\xi$.

These two generators will be harmonic to the pair given by $\Delta_{12} = 0$ if $(\tau\xi^2, \Delta_{12}\xi^2)_{02}$ vanishes.

But $(r\xi^2, \Delta_{12}\xi^2)_{02} = \frac{1}{2}(aa')^2(\alpha'\Delta')(bb')^2 \{(\alpha\beta)(\Delta'\beta') + (\alpha\beta')(\Delta'\beta)\}$
 $= \frac{1}{2}(aa')^2(\alpha'\Delta')(bb')^2(\alpha\Delta')(\beta\beta')$
 $+ (aa')^2(bb')^2(\alpha'\Delta')(\alpha\beta)(\Delta'\beta')$
 $= -\frac{1}{2}A.(fp')_{21} + R_p$

where R_p vanishes identically on interchanging a and b and also a' and b' . $= -\frac{1}{2}A(fp')_{21} = -\frac{1}{2}A.B.$

Thus, if B does not vanish the two cubics will be apolar when the two generators corresponding to Δ_{12} are harmonic to the two given by $\tau\xi^2$:

Similarly the apolarity of

$$P \text{ and } G' (= (\alpha'D)\alpha'_x D'_x \alpha\xi') = \frac{1}{2}AR = 0,$$

$$P' \text{ and } G (= (\alpha D')\alpha_x D_x \alpha\xi) = \frac{1}{2}AR' = 0,$$

$$P \text{ and } H' (= (\alpha'\Delta)\alpha'_x{}^2 \Delta\xi) = -\frac{1}{2}AR = 0.$$

$$G_x{}^2 \gamma\xi = 0 = (f, D')_{10} = -(\Delta_{12}, f')_{01}.$$

This is the two-one curve which is the locus of the common harmonic conjugates of the pair of points in which any ξ generator cuts the cubic f and the pair of generators $D'_x{}^2 = 0.$

Any ξ generator naturally cuts f and G harmonically, since $(f, G)_{2_0}$ identically vanishes.

The x generators through the point of intersection of f and G are $-(aa')^2(\alpha'\beta')(\alpha\beta)b_x^2b'_x{}^2=0=D.D'$, and the ξ generators corresponding are got by eliminating x between

$$\alpha_x^2\alpha_\xi=0=f \text{ and } (\alpha D')\alpha_x D'_x\alpha_\xi=G=0 \text{ and are } \Delta\{R'\Delta-\kappa\xi^2\}=0.$$

Thus G passes through the common points of f and P and has two x generators $D'_x{}^2=0$ common with f' and P' : Similarly for G' . G will be apolar to f if $R_2=(DD')^2$ vanishes, which is the condition that the x generators corresponding to D and D' may be harmonic.

$H_x^2\eta_\xi=(\alpha\Delta')\alpha_x^2\Delta'_\xi=(f\Delta')_{0_1}$. Let a ξ generator cut the first cubic in A_1A_2 : the line harmonic to A_1A_2 with respect to $\Delta'_\xi{}^2$ will be cut by the two x generators through A_1A_2 in points which lie on a new cubic $H_x^2\eta_\xi=0$.

$H_x^2\eta_\xi=0$ passes through the points where the two lines given by Δ meet f : the x generators through the points of intersection of H and f' being given by $(\alpha\Delta')(\alpha'\Delta')\alpha_x^2\alpha'_x{}^2=0$, form the covariant $Q=0$ and are thus the same lines as pass through the intersection of f and P' .

Similarly the x generators through f' and P are the same as those through f and H' and are given by $Q'_x{}^4=0$.

$$H_x^2\eta_\xi=0 \text{ will be apolar to } f'=0 \text{ if } (\alpha_x^2\alpha'_\xi, (\alpha\Delta')\alpha_x^2\Delta'_\xi)=0, \\ \text{or } (aa')^2(\alpha\Delta')(\alpha'\Delta')=0=(fP')_{2_1}=B.$$

$$\text{But if } B \text{ vanish } \tau_\xi^2=0 \text{ will be harmonic to } \Delta_{1_2}\xi^2=0 \\ \text{or } D'_x{}^2=0 \dots\dots\dots \text{ to } D_{1_2}x^2=0.$$

Thus when f and P' are apolar so are H and f' , and τ is harmonic to Δ_{1_2} .

Again, $\tau=(fP')_{2_0}=0$ will be harmonic to $\Delta_\xi^2=0$ when $(\tau_\xi^2, \Delta_\xi^2)_{0_2}=0=R_4=(P, P')_{2_1}$ so when P is apolar to P' , τ will be harmonic to Δ and τ' will be harmonic to Δ' .

Just as we have $\kappa_\xi=(fD')_{2_0}$ so we have $\rho_\xi=(p_x^3\pi_\xi, D'_x{}^2)_{2_0}$ and our linear covariant corresponding to $\rho_\xi=0$ can be identified with a ξ generator cutting across the curve $p_x^2\pi_\xi=0$ in a similar manner to that corresponding to $\kappa_\xi=0$ and $f=0$: now the x generators through κ and P are the same as those through ρ and f : both are

given by $(\kappa_\xi, p_x^2 \pi_\xi)_{01} = RD' - R_2 D = 0$, while exactly the same pair are given by κ' and $G' = 0$. Thus the x generators through the intersection of

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \quad & \rho_\xi = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_x^2 \alpha_\xi = 0 \\ 2 \quad & \kappa_\xi = 0 \quad ,, \quad p_x^2 \pi_\xi^2 = 0 \\ 3 \quad & \kappa'_\xi = 0 \quad ,, \quad G_x'^2 \gamma'_\xi = 0 \end{aligned}$$

are all given by $RD' - R_2 D = 0$,

and of

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \quad & \rho'_\xi = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_x'^2 \alpha'_\xi = 0 \\ 2 \quad & \kappa'_\xi = 0 \quad ,, \quad p_x'^2 \pi'_\xi = 0 \\ 3 \quad & \kappa_\xi = 0 \quad ,, \quad G_x^2 \gamma_\xi = 0 \end{aligned}$$

by $R'D - R_2 D' = 0$.

These being linear combinations of D and D' , it follows that $U_x^2 = 0 = (DD') D_x D'_x$ will be harmonic to such generators.

e.g., $\rho_\xi = (p_x^2 \pi_\xi, D_x'^2)_{20}$

$$= (aD)(aD')(DD')\alpha_\xi :$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha_x^2 \alpha_\xi, \rho_\xi)_{01} &= (\alpha\beta)(bD)(bD')(DD')\alpha_x^2 \\ &= (DD')(aD)(bD')(\alpha\beta) - (ab)(bD')(DD')(\alpha\beta) \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\beta)(ab) \dots (DD')^2 - (D_1 D') (DD') D_x D_{1x} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} D \cdot R_2 - \frac{1}{2} \{ 2(DD')^2 D_{1x}^2 - (DD_1)^2 D_x'^2 \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} RD' - \frac{1}{2} D \cdot R_2 \end{aligned}$$

The two x generators corresponding to $(DD') D_x D'_x = U_x^2 = 0$ are the two generators through the intersection of κ_ξ and f or through κ'_ξ and f' since $(DD')_{10} = (\kappa_\xi, f)_{01} = (\kappa', f')_{01}$

$$\begin{aligned} (\kappa_\xi, f)_{01} &= \{ (aD')^2 \alpha_\xi, b_x^2 \beta_\xi \}_{01} = (\alpha\beta)(aD')^2 b_x^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\beta) \{ (aD')^2 b_x^2 - (bD')^2 \alpha_x^2 \} \\ &= (\alpha\beta)(bD')(ab)a_x D_x' \\ &= (DD') D_x D_x'. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $\kappa_\xi = 0$ is produced to meet the second cubic $f' = 0$ in the points A_3, A_4 ; the x generators through these points are given by

$$\begin{aligned} & (aD')^2 (\alpha\alpha') \alpha_x'^2 = 0 \\ \text{or } & (aa')(aD')(a\alpha') D_x \alpha_x + A \cdot D_x'^2 = 0 \\ \text{or } & M_x^2 + A \cdot D_x'^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Producing these lines through A_3 and A_4 to meet f again in A_5, A_6 and taking the pair of points harmonic to A_5, A_6, D_1, D_2 we get $(aD')^2 (\alpha\alpha') (\alpha' b)^2 \alpha'_\xi = 0$

$$\text{or } A\kappa_\xi - \rho'_\xi = 0.$$

Similarly we can construct $A\kappa'_\xi - \rho_\xi = 0$.

These lines can be taken to represent the linear covariants instead of $\rho'_\xi = 0, \rho_\xi = 0$; so for $M_x^2 = 0$ and $M'_x{}^2 = 0$. Again $M_x^2 = (fP')_{11} = 0$ can be regarded as the two x generators whose polar conics on the quadric with respect to f and P' are conjugate: or since $(fP')_{11} = (aa')(a\Delta')(a'\Delta') a_x a'_x = \{(aa') a_x a'_x \alpha_\xi \alpha'_\xi, \Delta'_\xi{}^2\}_{02}$ as the two generators whose corresponding ξ generators of the two-curve $E_x^2 \epsilon_\xi^2 = 0$ are harmonic to the pair $\Delta'_\xi{}^2 = 0$.

Most of the covariants can be interpreted in a similar manner. Thus $X_x^4 = a_x^2 b_x^2 (\alpha\Delta') (\beta\Delta') = 0$ will give the four x generators through the points of intersection of $\Delta'_\xi{}^2 = 0$ with f : or the lines through the intersection of $H_x^2 \eta_\xi = 0$ and f since

$$\begin{aligned} a_x^2 b_x^2 (\alpha\Delta') (\beta\Delta') &= -\{a_x^2 (\alpha\Delta') \Delta'_\xi, b_x^2 \beta_\xi\}_{01} \\ &= +\{f, H\}_{01}. \end{aligned}$$

The (2,1) covariant $p_x^2 \pi_\xi$ of $a_x^2 \alpha_\xi + \lambda a'_x{}^2 \alpha'_\xi$ is

$$P + \lambda(Af + 2G' + H') + \lambda^2(H + 2G - Af') + \lambda^3 P' = 0 = P_{f+\lambda f'}$$

while the invariant R of the form is

$$\begin{aligned} &(a_x^2 \alpha_\xi + \lambda a'_x{}^2 \alpha'_\xi, P_{f+\lambda f'})_{21} \\ &= R + 4\lambda B' + 2\lambda^2(2R_2 + R_3 - A^2) + 4\lambda^3 B + \lambda^4 R' \\ &= R_{f+\lambda f'} \end{aligned}$$

There are thus four members of the pencil which degenerate into a linear form in ξ and a conic: the values of λ will satisfy the equation $R_{f+\lambda f'} = 0$.