

## ON PROPERTIES OF GEOMETRY OF TYPE $D_{n,k}$

**Mohammed Suliman El-Atrash**

Professor of mathematics Science College, Mathematics Department  
Islamic University of Gaza, Gaza, Palestine  
E-mail: [matrash@mail.iugaza.edu](mailto:matrash@mail.iugaza.edu)

**Abdelsalam Abou zayda**

Assistant professor of mathematics  
Math. Department, Al-Aqsa University, Gaza, Palestine  
E-mail : [zayda8@hotmail.com](mailto:zayda8@hotmail.com)

**Abstract:** In this paper we present a general case of the class of geometries  $D_{n,2}$ ,  $D_{n,3}$  and  $D_{n,4}$  that is a point-line geometry of type  $D_{n,k}(F)$  where  $k \geq 2$ ,  $n \geq k+3$  and  $F$  is a field. We define the varieties of the geometry and we prove that the geometry is a parapolar with diameter  $k+1$ . The properties related to the relations between the varieties will be investigated.

### 1- Introduction

In [5] and [7] it has been proved that the class of geometries  $D_{n,2}$ ,  $D_{n,3}$  and  $D_{n,4}$  are weak parapolar geometries with diameters 3, 4 and 5 respectively. We prove in this paper that the general case  $D_{n,k}(F)$  is a parapolar geometry with diameter  $k+1$  for  $k \geq 2$  and  $n \geq k+3$  and we get the same results with respect to the relations between symplecta themselves and the relations between points and symplecta.

$x^\perp$  means the set of all points in  $P$  collinear with  $x$ , including  $x$  itself.

A *subspace* of a point-line geometry  $\Gamma=(P, L)$  is a subset  $X \subseteq P$  such that any line which has at least two of its incident points in  $X$  has all of its incident points in  $X$ .  $\langle X \rangle$  means the intersection over all subspaces containing  $X$ , where  $X \subseteq P$ . Lines incident with more than two points are called *thick* lines, those incident with exactly two points are called *thin* lines.

*The singular rank* of a space  $\Gamma$  is the maximal number  $n$  (possibly  $\infty$ ) for which there exist a chain of distinct subspaces  $\emptyset \neq X_0 \subset X_1 \subset \dots \subset X_n$  such that  $X_i$  is singular for each  $i$ ,  $X_i \neq X_j$ ,  $i \neq j$ , for example  $\text{rank}(\emptyset)=-1$ ,  $\text{rank}(\{p\})=0$  where  $p$  is a point and  $\text{rank}(L)=1$  where  $L$  a line.

In a point-line geometry  $\Gamma=(P, L)$ , a path of length  $n$  is a sequence of  $n+1$   $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  where,  $(x_i, x_{i+1})$  are collinear,  $x_0$  is called the initial point and  $x_n$  is called the end point. A *geodesic* from a point  $x$  to a point  $y$  is a path of minimal possible length with initial point  $x$  and end point  $y$ . We denote this length by  $d_\Gamma(x, y)$ .

A geometry  $\Gamma$  is called **connected** if and only if for any two of its points there is a path connecting them. A subset  $X$  of  $P$  is said to be **convex** if  $X$  contains all points of all geodesics connecting two points of  $X$ .

A **polar space** is a point-line geometry  $\Gamma=(P, L)$  satisfying the Buekenhout-Shult axiom [1] :

For each point-line pair  $(p, l)$  with  $p$  not incident with  $l$ ;  $p$  is collinear with one or all points of  $l$ , that is  $|p^\perp \cap l|=1$  or else  $p^\perp \supset l$ . Clearly this axiom is equivalent to saying that  $p^\perp$  is a geometric hyperplane of  $\Gamma$  for every point  $p \in P$ .

A point-line geometry  $\Gamma=(P, L)$  is called a **projective plane** if and only if it satisfies the following conditions [2]:

- (i)  $\Gamma$  is a linear space; every two distinct points  $x, y$  in  $P$  lie exactly on one line,
- (ii) every two lines intersect in one point,
- (iii) there are four points no three of them are on a line.

A point-line geometry  $\Gamma=(P, L)$  is called a **projective space** if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) every two points lie exactly on one line ,
- (ii) if  $l_1, l_2$  are two lines  $l_1 \cap l_2 \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\langle l_1, l_2 \rangle$  is a projective plane. ( $\langle l_1, l_2 \rangle$  means the smallest subspace of  $\Gamma$  containing  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ .)

A point-line geometry  $\Gamma=(P, L)$  is called a **parapolar space** if and only if it satisfies the following properties:

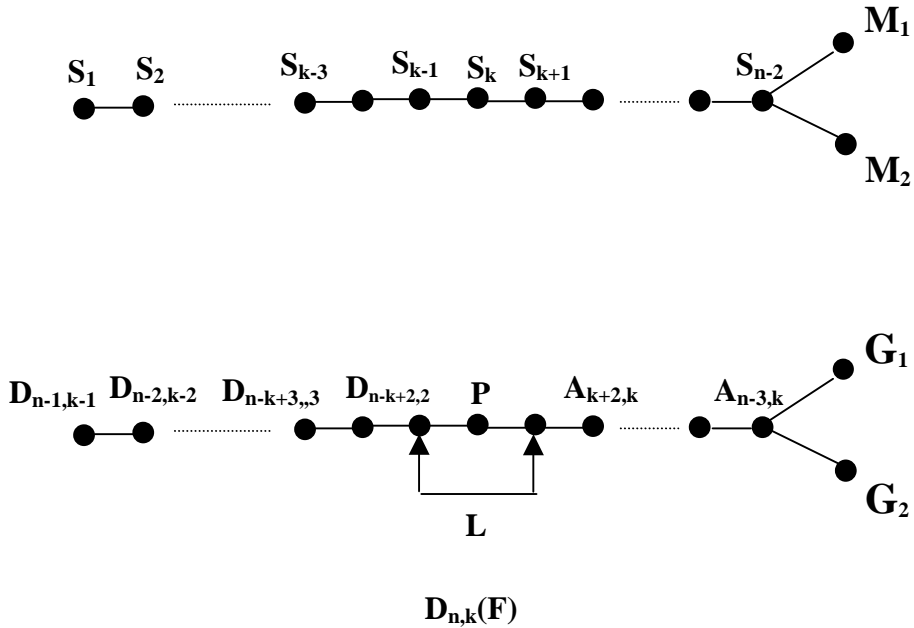
- (i)  $\Gamma$  is a connected gamma space,
- (ii) for every line  $l$ ;  $l^\perp$  is not a singular subspace,
- (iii) for every pair of non-collinear points  $x, y$ ;  $x^\perp \cap y^\perp$  is either empty, a single point, or a non-degenerate polar space of rank at least 2.

If  $x, y$  are distinct points in  $P$ , and if  $|x^\perp \cap y^\perp|=1$ , then  $(x, y)$  is called a **special pair**, and if  $x^\perp \cap y^\perp$  is a polar space, then  $(x, y)$  is called a **polar pair** (or a **symplectic pair**). A parapolar space is called a **strong parapolar space** if it has no special pairs [4].

## 2. Construction of $D_{n,k}(F)$

Consider the polar space  $\Delta=\Omega^+(2n, F)$  that comes from a vector space  $V$  of dimension  $2n$  over a finite field  $F=GF(k)$  with a symmetric hyperbolic bilinear form  $B$ .  $S_i$  is the set of all totally isotropic  $i$ -dimensional subspaces of  $V$ ;  $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ . The two classes  $M_1, M_2$  consist of maximal totally isotropic  $n$ -dimensional subspaces. Two  $n$ -subspaces fall in the same class if their intersection is of odd dimension.

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The geometry of type  $D_{n,k}(F)$  is the point-line geometry  $(P, L)$ , whose set of points  $P$  is the collection of all  $k$ -dimensional subspaces of the vector space  $V$ , and whose lines are the pairs  $(A, B)$  where  $A$  is  $k-1$ -dimensional subspace of  $k+1$ -subspace  $B$  – that is, the set of  $(k-1, k+1)$ -subspace of  $V$ . A point  $C$  is incident with a line  $(A, B)$  if and only if  $A \subset C \subset B$  as a subspaces of  $V$ .

To define the collinearity, let  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  be two point (the points are the T.I  $k$ -spaces), then  $C_1$  is collinear to  $C_2$  if and only if the intersection of  $C_1 \cap C_2 = k-1$ -space and  $\langle C_1, C_2 \rangle = k+1$ -space.

The elements of the classes  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are Grassmannian geometries of type  $A_{n-1,k}$  for more details about these kinds of geometries see [6] and [3]

There are two kinds of symplecta (1) The first kind is the convex polar spaces  $A_{3,2}$  that represent the  $(k-2, k+2)$  subspaces of  $V$ . Then symplecton  $S$  of kind  $A_{3,2}$  is the set of TI  $k$ -dimensional spaces that contain the TI  $k-2$ -dimensional space and contained in the TI  $k+2$ -dimensional space. (2) The second kind of symplecta is the convex polar spaces of type  $D_{n-k+1,1}$ , that represent the collection of all TI  $k-1$ -subspaces of  $V$ . Thus this kind of symplecta is defined as the collection of all TI  $k$ -subspaces of  $V$  that contain such TI  $k-1$ -subspaces.

**Notation.** Let the map  $\Psi: P \rightarrow V$  defined above, i.e.,  $\Psi(p)$  is the T.I.  $k$ -dimensional subspace corresponding to the point  $p$ . We will use  $\Psi$  for the

rest of the varieties of the geometry; for example  $\Psi(D_{n-1,k-1})$  is the T.I. 1-dimensional subspace corresponding to a geometry of type  $D_{n-1,k-1}(F)$ . The inverse map  $\Psi^{-1}$  will be used for the inverse.

**3-The main result.**

The following theorem represents the first part of the main result of this paper that is:  $D_{n,k}(F)$  is weak parapolar geometry of diameter  $k+1$ .

**3.1 Theorem.** Let  $\Gamma=(P, L)$  be the geometry of type  $D_{n,k}(F)$ . Thus:

- i-  $\Gamma$  is of diameter  $k+1$ ,
- ii-  $\Gamma$  is parapolar geometry.

**Proof: i** We shall use the mathematical induction for  $k \geq 2$ . If  $k=2$ , then we have geometry of type  $D_{n,2}(F)$  with diameter 3 [5]. Now for all the cases  $k-1, k-2, \dots, 4, 3, 2$  the geometries  $D_{n,k-1}, D_{n,k-2}, \dots, D_{n,4}, D_{n,3}, D_{n,2}$  have the diameters  $k, k-1, \dots, 5, 4, 3$  respectively. Now we shall prove that the diameter of  $D_{n,k}$  is  $k+1$ . Suppose that  $p$  and  $q$  are two arbitrary points of  $D_{n,k}$ , that represent TI  $k$ -spaces  $\Psi(p)=C_1=\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle$  and  $\Psi(q)=C_2=\langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \rangle$ . If  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle \cap \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \rangle = 1$ -space, 2-space, ..... or  $(k-2)$ -space, then the two points lie in the geometries  $D_{n,k-1}, D_{n,k-2}, \dots$  and  $D_{n,2}$  respectively. Thus by the hypotheses the diameter are  $k, k-1, \dots, 3$  respectively.

If  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle \cap \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \rangle = (k-1)$ -space, without loss of generality we take  $z_1=x_2=y_2, z_2=x_3=y_3, \dots, z_{k-1}=x_k=y_k$ , then  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle \cap \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \rangle = \langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle$ . Thus we have two cases:

- 1-  $x_1^\perp \cap C_2 = C_2$
- 2-  $x_1^\perp \cap C_2 = \langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle$ .

In case 1,  $\langle x_1, y_1, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle$  forms a  $(k+1)$ -space and  $(\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle, \langle x_1, y_1, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle)$  is the line that contains the two points. Thus  $d(p,q)=1$ . In case 2,  $B(x_1, y_1) \neq 0$  and  $C_2$  is contained in a maximal TI  $n$ -space  $K$ , say  $K = \langle y_1, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, z_k, z_{k+1}, \dots, z_{n-1} \rangle$ . Then  $x_1^\perp \cap K$  is a hyperplane of  $K$ , say  $H = \langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, z_k, z_{k+1}, \dots, z_{n-1} \rangle$ . We have two  $(k+1)$ -spaces  $\langle x_1, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, z_k \rangle$  and  $\langle y_1, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, z_k \rangle$ , then  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, z_k \rangle$  is a point that is collinear to each of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . Thus  $d(p,q)=2$ .

If  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle \cap \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \rangle = 0$ -space, then we the following cases:

- 1-  $x_i^\perp \cap C_2 = C_2, i=1, 2, \dots, k$ .
- 2-  $x_i^\perp \cap C_2 = \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{i-1}, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_k \rangle$  and  $x_j^\perp \cap C_2 = C_2$  where  $i \neq j$  and  $i, j=1, 2, \dots, k$ .
- 3-  $x_i^\perp \cap C_2 = \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{i-1}, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_k \rangle, i=1, 2, \dots, k$ .

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In the first two cases we have always  $d(p,q) \leq k$  because at least one of the vectors  $x_i$  we have  $x_i^\perp \cap C_2 = C_2$ .

In case 3, the least number of vertices that can make a geodesic between  $p$  and  $q$  is equal  $k$ . Since  $C_2$  is contained in a maximal TI  $n$ -space, then without loss of generality we can choose the points  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k$  such that  $\Psi(r_1) = \langle z, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_k \rangle$ ,  $\Psi(r_2) = \langle z, y_1, x_3, \dots, x_k \rangle$ ,  $\Psi(r_3) = \langle z, y_1, y_2, x_4, \dots, x_k \rangle, \dots, \Psi(r_k) = \langle z, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{k-1} \rangle$ . where  $z$  is a vector in the  $n$ -space in which  $C_2$  is contained. Thus  $p \sim r_1, r_1 \sim r_2, \dots, r_k \sim q$  i.e.,  $d(p, q) = k+1$  and diameter of  $D_{n,k}$  is  $k+1$ .

ii- To prove that the geometry is parapolar, we first prove that  $D_{n,k}$  is gamma space. Assume that  $l$  is a line containing two points  $p$  and  $q$  such that  $\psi(p) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle$  and  $\psi(q) = \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \rangle$ . Then by the definition of collinearity, the two points form a TI  $(k+1)$ -space  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, x_1, y_1 \rangle$ , where  $z_1 = x_2 = y_2, z_2 = x_3 = y_3, \dots, z_{k-1} = x_k = y_k$ . Let  $s$  be a point not in  $l$  such that  $s$  is collinear to  $p$  and  $q$ , we shall prove that  $s$  is collinear to every point incident to  $l$ . Since  $s$  is collinear to  $p$  and  $q$ , then  $s$  does not contain the TI  $(k-1)$ -space  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle$  and form  $(k+1)$ -spaces with  $p$  and  $q$ . Now assume that  $r$  is arbitrary point in  $l$  such that  $r \neq p \neq q$ , then  $\psi(r), \psi(s)$  contain the same  $(k-1)$ -space  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle$  and they are contained in  $(k+1)$ -space  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, x_1, y_1 \rangle$ . Thus  $s$  is collinear to  $r$ .

Now for the completion of the proof we need to show that for any line  $l; l^\perp$  is non-singular. For this purpose we take the same above line i.e.,  $l = (\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1} \rangle, \langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, x_1, y_1 \rangle)$ . Thus the points  $r, s$  can be chosen to be non-collinear and each of them is collinear to  $p$  and  $q$ . Since  $\psi(s)$  is contained in a maximal  $n$ -space, then we take  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-2}, x_1, y_1 \rangle, \langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, u \rangle$  to the points  $r, s$  where  $u$  is a vector in the  $n$ -space not in  $\psi(s)$ . Now  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-2}, x_1, y_1 \rangle \cap \langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, u \rangle$  does not contain a  $(k-1)$ -space, this means that  $r$  is not collinear to  $s$  but  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, x_1, y_1 \rangle$  and  $\langle z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}, y_1, u \rangle$  form  $(k+1)$ -spaces, then  $r, s$  are collinear to each of  $p$  and  $q$ . Thus  $l^\perp$  is non-singular. ♦

**3.2 Corollary.**  $D_{n,k}$  is a non-degenerate weak geometry.

**Proof.** By the definition of collinearity and By Theorem 3.1,  $D_{n,k}$  is a non-degenerate. Since the geometry of type  $D_{n,2}$  is a weak sub-geometry of  $D_{n,k}$  [ 5 ], then  $D_{n,k}$  is a weak. ♦

## 4- Properties of $D_{n,k}$

It has been proved that for any pair of distinct sympleta  $(S_1, S_2)$  of the class of geometries  $D_{n,2}, D_{n,3}, D_{n,4}$ ,  $\text{rank}(S_1 \cap S_2) = -1, 0, 2$ , Moreover for any pair

of non-incident point and symplecton  $(p, S)$ , we have  $\text{rank}(p^\perp \cap S) = -1, 1, 2$  see [5] and [7]. In this Paper we prove the same result is satisfied for the general case  $D_{n,k}$ .

**Remark.** Each geometry of the class  $\mathbf{G}_1$  or  $\mathbf{G}_2$  of  $D_{n,k}$  is denoted by  $A_T$ , where  $T$  is the TI  $n$ -space that corresponds to such geometry and  $A_D$  denotes to the symplecton of type  $A_{3,2}$ , where  $D$  is the TI  $(k+2)$ -space that corresponds to such symplecton.

**4.1 Theorem.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a geometry of type  $D_{n,k}$ , then:*

- 1- Let  $A_{D_1}, A_{D_2}$  be two distinct symplecta of type  $A_{3,2}$  with then  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1, 0, 2$ .
- 2- If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are symplecta of type  $D_{n-1,1}$ , then  $\text{rank}(S_1 \cap S_2) = -1, 0$ .
- 3- If  $S$  is a symplecton of type  $D_{n-1,1}$  and  $A_D$  is a symplecton of type  $A_{3,2}$ , then  $\text{rank}(S \cap A_D) = -1, 2$ .
- 4- If  $(p, S)$  is a non-incident pair of point and symplecton, then  $\text{rank}(p^\perp \cap S) = -1, 1, 2$ .

**Proof. 1-**  $A_{T_1}$  and  $A_{T_2}$  are located in the same class ( $\mathbf{G}_1$ ), so  $A_{D_1}$  and  $A_{D_2}$  are located in the located in  $\mathbf{G}_1$ , then we have two cases:

- a-  $A_{D_1}, A_{D_2}$  are symplecta of the same geometry  $A_T$ , then it has three cases:
  - a1- If  $D_1 \cap D_2 \leq (k-1)$ -space, then  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1$ .
  - a2- if  $D_1 \cap D_2 = k$ -space, then  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = 0$ .
  - a3- if  $D_1 \cap D_2 = (k+1)$ -space, then  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = 2$ .
- b-  $A_{D_1}, A_{D_2}$  are symplecta of different geometries  $A_{T_1}$  and  $A_{T_2}$  respectively, then  $T_1 \cap T_2$  is a space of odd dimension and we have three cases:
  - b1- For  $\dim(T_1 \cap T_2) \leq k-1$ ,  $\dim(D_1 \cap D_2) \leq k-1$ , so  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1$ .
  - b2- For  $\dim(T_1 \cap T_2) = k$ ,  $\dim(D_1 \cap D_2) \leq k$ . Then  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1, 0$ .
  - b3- For  $\dim(T_1 \cap T_2) > k$ , then either  $\dim(D_1 \cap D_2) \leq k$  and  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1, 0$  or  $\dim(D_1 \cap D_2) = k+1$  and  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = 2$ . Then  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1, 0, 2$ .

Now the case in which  $A_{T_1}$  and  $A_{T_2}$  are located in different classes is similar to that cases above i.e.,  $\text{rank}(A_{D_1} \cap A_{D_2}) = -1, 0, 2$ .

**2-** In this case  $\psi(S_1)$  and  $\psi(S_2)$  correspond to  $(k-1)$ -spaces. We have two cases:

- i- If  $(\psi(S_1) \cap \psi(S_2)) < k-2$ , then we cannot find a  $k$ -space that contains  $\langle \psi(S_1), \psi(S_2) \rangle$ , i.e.,  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$ . Thus  $\text{rank}(S_1 \cap S_2) = -1$ .
- ii- If  $\psi(S_1) \cap \psi(S_2) = k-2$  and  $\langle \psi(S_1), \psi(S_2) \rangle = k$ -space, then  $\text{rank}(S_1 \cap S_2) = 0$ .

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**3-** If  $S$  is a symplecton of type  $D_{n-1,1}$  and  $A_D$  is a symplecton of type  $A_{3,2}$ , then we have two cases:

i-  $\psi(S) \cap D \leq (k-2)$ -space, then we there is no a  $k$ -space that contains  $\psi(S)$  and contained in  $D$ , i.e.,  $\text{rank}(S \cap A_D) = -1$ .

ii-  $\psi(S) \subseteq D$ , then the number of different  $k$ -spaces in  $D$  that contains  $\psi(S)$  form a space of rank 3 i.e.,  $\text{rank}(S \cap A_D) = 2$ . ♦

**4-** a- For any pair  $(p, A_D)$  of a point  $p$  and a symplecton  $A_D$  of type  $A_{3,2}$ , there are two cases:

ai- If  $\dim(\psi(p) \cap D) < k-1$ , then there is no any  $k$ -space contained in  $D$  and meets  $\psi(p)$  in a  $(k-1)$ -space i.e.,  $\psi(p) \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $\text{rank}(p^\perp \cap S) = -1$ .

aii- If  $\dim(\psi(p) \cap D) = k-1$ , then set of  $k$ -spaces in  $D$  that contain the  $(k-1)$ -space  $\psi(p) \cap D$  form a projective plane i.e.,  $\text{rank}(p^\perp \cap S) = 2$ .

b- For any pair  $(p, S)$  of a point  $p$  and a symplecton  $S$  of type  $D_{n-k+1,1}$ , there are two cases:

bi- If  $\dim((\psi(p) \cap \psi(S))) < k-2$ , then we cannot find any  $k$ -space contains  $\psi(S)$  and meets  $\psi(p)$  in a  $(k-1)$ -space i.e.,  $\text{rank}(p^\perp \cap S) = -1$ .

bii- If  $\dim((\psi(p) \cap \psi(S))) = k-2$ , and  $\langle \psi(p), \psi(S) \rangle = (k+1)$ -space, then there are two  $k$ -spaces meet  $\psi(p)$  in a  $(k-1)$ -space and contain  $\psi(S)$ . Since the two  $k$ -space form a  $(k+1)$ -space, then  $p^\perp \cap S$  is a line i.e.,  $\text{rank}(p^\perp \cap S) = 1$ .

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