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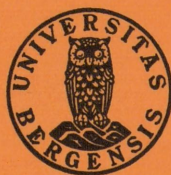
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A numerical study of algebraic
space curves.

by

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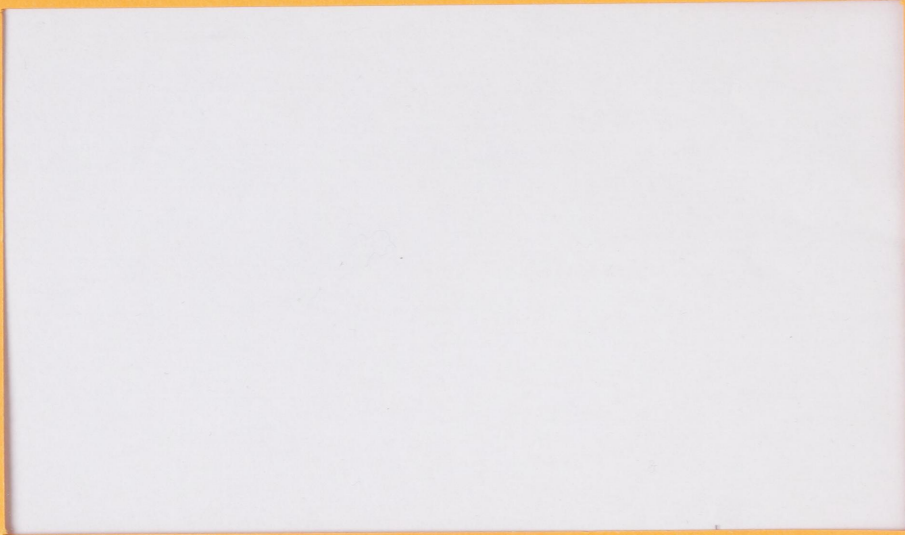


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§0. Introduction.

The basic and important Classification Problem in projective algebraic geometry is the following:

Let k be a field, say $k = \bar{k}$, and consider the set $V_{N,n}$ of all smooth, projective subvarieties of $\mathbb{P}_k^N = \mathbb{P}^N$ of dimension n . $\text{PGL}(N+1, k)$ acts on $V_{N,n}$ in the obvious way, two varieties are said to be projectively equivalent if they belong to the same orbit. The problem then is to classify all varieties in $V_{N,n}$ up to projective equivalence.

Already for $n = 1$ this problem is unsolved. In fact, the lack of information even in this case is demonstrated by the fact that a simple and suggestive question concerning the classification of curves in \mathbb{P}^3 has stood open for almost 100 years.

In 1882 two great works on the classification of smooth curves in \mathbb{P}^3 appeared, written by G. Halphen [Hal] and M. Noether [No1], [No2]. They had been submitted to the Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin in competition for the Steinersche Preis for 1882, which had been announced for the best treatise on the classification of space curves.

The two authors actually shared the price, having written two extensive and fundamental articles, which were to have a deep and far reaching influence in the years to come.

But the results obtained were in no way complete or definitive. Moreover, Halphen's article is very hard to read, and contains passages which need further justification, see L. Gruson and C. Peskine [G-P].

In particular, Halphen claims a theorem which for a given integer $d \geq 1$ would yield a list of those integers g such that there exists a smooth curve in \mathbb{P}^3 of degree d and genus g . Unfortunately, the proof of this assestion contains a gap, and Halphen's assestion thus remains an open conjecture. See R. Hartshorne [Har2] for further comments on this.

It is quite probable that this question will be settled along the lines set out by Halphen, however. In fact, research by Gruson and Peskine, based on a critical reading of Halphen, seems to suggest this.¹⁾

1) See note added in proof at the end of this paper.

Also, it should be noted that the classical works cited above yield verifications of the genera lists for all $d \leq 20$.

The basic problem behind the present article is the following: To find a collection of curve generating algorithms which up to projective equivalence yield all smooth, projective curves in \mathbb{P}^3 of a given degree d . A solution to this problem would certainly settle the Classification Problem for curves in a complete and very satisfactory way.

Of course a large number of more or less elementary curve generating algorithms are easily constructed. Thus for instance chapters IV, V of [Har1] yield a list of such algorithms. It would be rather surprising if already this list should be sufficient, and as a first step one might want to convince oneself that additional curve generating algorithms are really required. Since we strongly believe in Halphen's conjecture, an obvious approach is to test the conjecture on the output of our elementary curve generating algorithms.

So we select three specific algorithms, which were suggested by some initial experimentation.

Surprisingly, it turns out that these are capable of filling Halphen's conjectural genera lists for all $d \leq 100$. This is done on the UNIVAC 1100 Computer at the University of Bergen, the programs being written in SIMULA-67.

For practical reasons we proceed by first running a main program, which implements two curve generating algorithms. This main program turns out to be capable of filling almost all of the conjectured domain for (d,g) . The few remaining gaps are then removed by a secondary program, which implements a certain search-algorithm. But first about half of the remaining gaps may be removed by inspection, utilizing a trivial special case of this final algorithm.

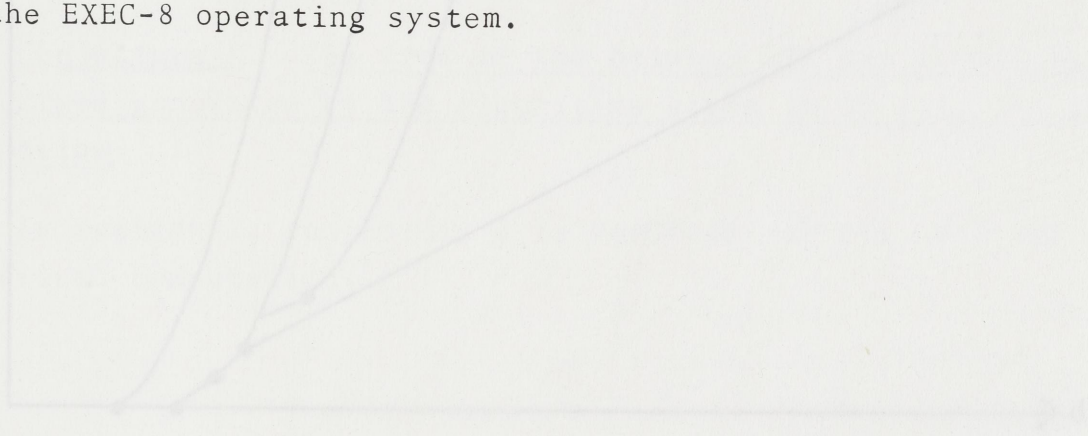
Selecting the list of curve generating algorithms was not immediate. This process involved a certain amount of experimentation, which would have been impossible without the computer. Interesting as this experimental phase was, we will not go into this at all here, but only present the appropriate algorithms as they now stand. Part of the experiments are described in [Ho1], to which the reader is referred. A different path which was attempted, but discarded for this particular project, was to study non singular curves on certain projective surfaces with singularities.

1) See note added at the end of this paper.

The reason for stopping at $d = 100$ is basically one of economy. The main program works by going through all possible cases, and in doing so a given g turns out to be realized a large number of times as the genus of non-equivalent curves. Since the CPU time grows rapidly with d , further computations along these lines seem impracticable.¹⁾ Instead a certain type of stochastic algorithm could be used, particularly because of the "overkill" encountered in the main program referred to above. We might return to this in [Ho2], which constitutes a continuation of the work initiated in this article.

When explicitly giving algorithms, we adhere to the format established by D. Knuth (cf. [Kn]), even though an ALGOL-like notation might have been more transparent in the present cases.

I would like to thank Robin Hartshorne for calling my attention to the methods of §1.2, and Vinjar Wærenskjold as well as Dag-Olav Bjorøy of the University of Bergen for helping me getting started on the EXEC-8 operating system.



I-IV are given as follows:

1. Curve generating algorithms.

1.1. Existence of smooth curves in \mathbb{P}^3 . We consider the following question: Given a pair (d,g) of non negative integers. When does there exist a smooth curve in \mathbb{P}^3 of degree d and genus g ?

Here \mathbb{P}^3 denotes projective 3-space over some algebraically closed field k .

1) See note added at the end of this paper.

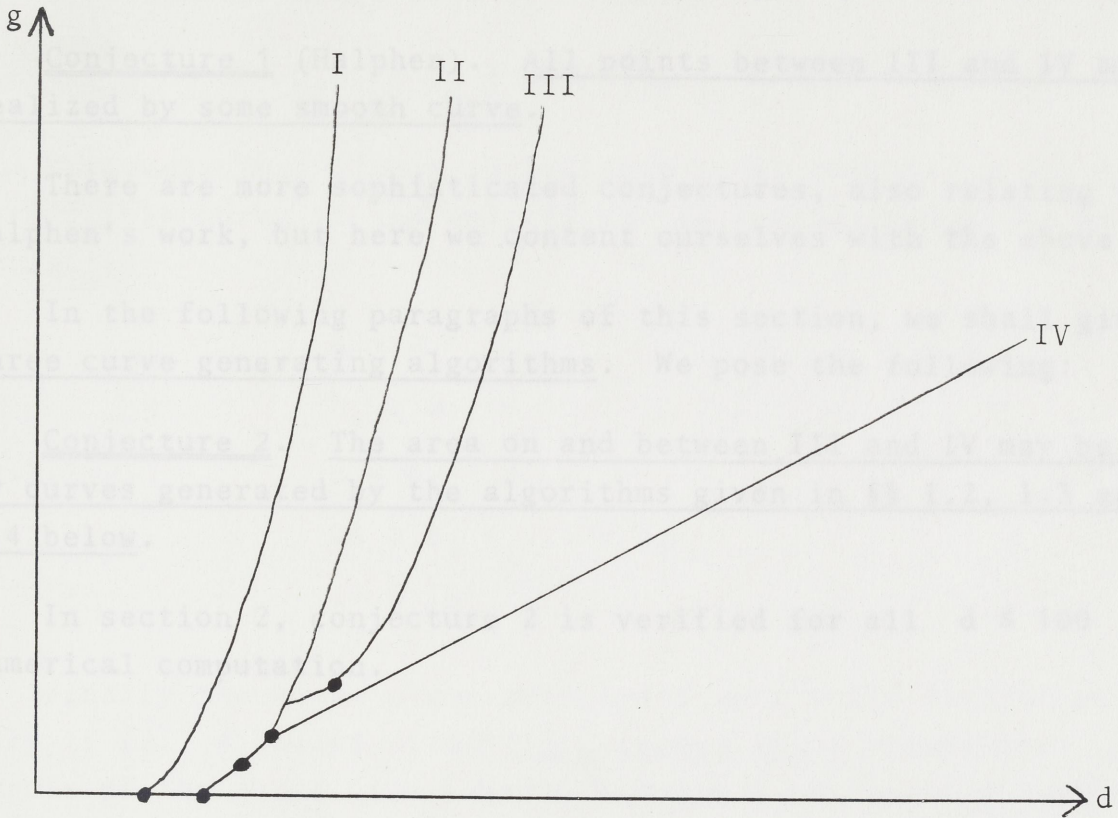
Clearly there are no curves to the left of I. On I we find the plane curves, while again there are no curves between I and II. Between II and III, inclusive of the upper limit, there are some surfaces, and their (d, g) values are easily listed. On and below IV all points are realized by suitable curves. See [Mar1] and [Mar2] for details on this, which is actually quite elementary. All curves on III are realized (see below), and the open question that is:

Conjecture 1 (Halphen) All points between III and IV are realized by some smooth curve.

There are more sophisticated conjectures, also relating to Halphen's work, but here we content ourselves with the above.

In the following paragraphs of this section, we shall give three curve generating algorithms. We pose the following Conjecture 2. The area on and between I and IV may be filled by curves generated by the algorithms given in 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 below.

In section 2, Conjecture 2 is verified for all $d \leq 100$ by numerical computation.



1.2. Curves of the non-singular cubic surface in \mathbb{P}^3

Following [Mar1] and [Mar2] we first recall below the definition and description of the non-singular cubic surface with 27 lines.

- I: $g = \frac{1}{2}(d-1)(d-2)$
- II: $g = \left[\frac{1}{4}d^2 - d + 1 \right]$
- III: $g = \left[\frac{1}{6}d(d-3) + 1 \right]$
- IV: $g = d - 3$

Let Y be an irreducible curve on X of degree $d \geq 3$. Then one can write the linear equivalence class of Y as

(1.2.1) $Y \sim \sum_{i=1}^3 b_i \sigma_i$

Clearly there are no curves to the left of I. On I we find the plane curves, while again there are no curves between I and II. Between II and III, inclusive of the upper limit, there are some curves. They are all contained in the non singular quadric surface, and their (d,g) values are easily listed. On and below IV all points are realized by suitable curves. See [Har1] and [Har2] for details on this, which is actually quite elementary. All curves on III are realized (see below), and the open question thus is:

Conjecture 1 (Halphen). All points between III and IV are realized by some smooth curve.

There are more sophisticated conjectures, also relating to Halphen's work, but here we content ourselves with the above.

In the following paragraphs of this section, we shall give three curve generating algorithms. We pose the following:

Conjecture 2. The area on and between III and IV may be filled by curves generated by the algorithms given in §§ 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 below.

In section 2, conjecture 2 is verified for all $d \leq 100$ by numerical computation.

1.2. Curves on the non singular cubic surface in \mathbb{P}^3 .

Following [Har1] and [Har2] we first recall below the explicit description of degrees and genera of the non singular curves which lie on the non singular cubic surface.

A non singular cubic surface X in \mathbb{P}^3 is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^2 with six points P_1, \dots, P_6 blown up. Let ℓ denote the total transform of a line in \mathbb{P}^2 , and e_i the exceptional divisors corresponding to P_i , $i=1, \dots, 6$. Then $\text{Pic}(X)$ is the free abelian group of rank 7 generated by ℓ, e_1, \dots, e_6 .

Let Y be an irreducible curve on X of degree $d \geq 3$. Then one can write the linear equivalence class of Y as

Hence

$$(1.2.1) \quad a\ell - \sum_{i=1}^6 b_i e_i$$

with $a > 0$ and $b_i \geq 0$. The degree d and the genus g of Y is given as follows:

$$(1.2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} d &= 3a - \sum b_i \\ g &= \binom{a-1}{2} - \sum \binom{b_i}{2} \end{aligned}$$

We normalize the above data by assuming

$$(1.2.3) \quad b_1 \geq b_2 \geq \dots \geq b_6$$

Moreover, this linear equivalence class contains a non singular irreducible curve if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

$$(1.2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} a &> 0 \\ b_6 &\geq 0 \\ a &\geq b_1 + b_2 \\ 2a &\geq b_1 + \dots + b_5 \\ a^2 &> \sum b_i^2 \end{aligned}$$

Finally the above class contains a very ample divisor if and only if (2.1.4) holds with strict inequalities everywhere. For proofs of the above, see [Har1], Chapter V, Exercise 4.8 and Corollary 4.13.

For a given value of d there is only a finite number of strings a, b_1, \dots, b_6 such that (1.2.2)-(1.2.4) holds. In fact, since

$$2a \geq b_1 + \dots + b_5 = 3a - d - b_6$$

and

$$b_6 \leq \frac{1}{6}(3a-d)$$

we get

$$2a \geq 3a - d - \frac{1}{6}(3a-d)$$

Hence

$$a \leq \frac{5}{3}d .$$

Thus Hartshorne's description above yields a method which in principle makes it possible to compute all values of g for curves on the non singular cubic of a fixed degree d .

To make this into a reasonably efficient algorithm, however, one first of all needs to find the best possible upper bound for a . Here we have the following

Proposition 1.2.5. All possible values of g are attained for $a \leq d$.

Proof. In fact, we show that the data above are symmetrical around $a = d$. So let

$$a = d + \alpha, \quad a > \alpha \geq 0$$

Let b_1, \dots, b_6 be such that (1.2.2) holds. Then

$$\sum b_i = d + 3\alpha$$

$$g = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ d^2 + (2\alpha - 3)d + \alpha^2 - 3\alpha + 2 - \sum b_i (b_i - 1) \right\}$$

Now put

$$\tilde{a} = d - \alpha, \quad \tilde{b}_i = b_i - \alpha$$

Since

$$2a \geq 3a - d - b_6$$

we have in general that

$$b_6 \geq a - d$$

Hence $b_6 \geq \alpha$ and thus $\tilde{b}_6 \geq 0$. Further,

since

$$d + \alpha \geq b_1 + b_2$$

we get

$$\tilde{a} \geq \tilde{b}_1 + \tilde{b}_2$$

Similarly one verifies that

$$2\tilde{a} \geq \tilde{b}_1 + \dots + \tilde{b}_5$$

Finally we also have

$$\tilde{a}^2 > \sum \tilde{b}_i^2$$

since one verifies that

$$\tilde{a}^2 - \sum \tilde{b}_i^2 = a^2 - \sum b_i^2 > 0 .$$

If \tilde{d} and \tilde{g} are defined by (1.2.2) using $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}_1, \dots, \tilde{b}_6$, we now get

$$\tilde{d} = 3\tilde{a} - \sum \tilde{b}_i = 3(a-2\alpha) - \sum b_i + 6\alpha = d .$$

Observing that

$$(1.2.6) \quad g = \frac{1}{2} \{ a^2 - \sum b_i^2 - d + 2 \}$$

we also get

$$\tilde{g} = g$$

by what is already verified above.

Using the above description, one can get some general information on the occurring values of g . For instance, it is easily seen that all (d,g) lie on or below III and that all point on III are realized: If $d = 3v$, take

$$b_1 = \dots = b_6 = v, \quad a = 3v$$

Then all inequalities required hold, and by (1.2.6)

$$\begin{aligned} g &= \frac{1}{2} (9v^2 - 6v^2 - 3v + 2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{3}d^2 - d + 2 \right) = \frac{1}{6}d(d-3) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

For $d = 3v \pm 1$ the argument is modified in the obvious way.

We are now ready to formulate the first of our three algorithms. This algorithm is the fundamental one, which by itself fills a large portion of the conjectured (d,g) -range. However, it does leave certain gaps, and as d increases the number of gaps grows rapidly. See §2.1. for more on this.

on the non singular quadric surface ... we have the following observation:

Theorem 1.3.1. Let d, g be integers such that there exist non singular curves of genus g and degree d , and

$$g \geq \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } d=1 \\ 1 & \text{if } d=2 \end{cases}$$

Hartshorne's algorithm (Curves on the non singular cubic in \mathbb{P}^3). Given an integer d , we let gen_i , $0 \leq i \leq \left\lfloor \frac{1}{6}d(d-3) \right\rfloor + 1$ be integers initialized to zero. a and b_1, \dots, b_6 are integral variables. The algorithm terminates with $\text{gen}_g = 1$ if g is the genus of a curve of degree d on the non singular cubic and $\text{gen}_g = 0$ otherwise.

Init a : Set $a := d$

Init b_1 : Set $b_1 := 3a - d$

Init b_2 : Set $b_2 := \text{Min}\{3a - d - b_1, b_1\}$

H1: Test. If $a < b_1 + b_2$ then go to Loop b_2

Init b_3 : Set $b_3 := \text{Min}\{3a - d - b_1 - b_2, b_2\}$

Init b_4 : Set $b_4 := \text{Min}\{3a - d - b_1 - b_2 - b_3, b_3\}$

Init b_5 : Set $b_5 := \text{Min}\{3a - d - b_1 - b_2 - b_3 - b_4, b_4\}$

H1' : Test. If $2a < b_1 + \dots + b_5$ then go to Loop b_5

H2: Set b_6 and test. Set $b_6 := 3a - d - b_1 - \dots - b_5$. If $b_6 > b_5$ or $a^2 \leq b_1^2 + \dots + b_6^2$ then go to Loop b_5

H3: Set gen_g . Set $g := \frac{1}{2} \left((a-1)(a-2) - \sum b_i(b_i-1) \right)$. Set $\text{gen}_g := 1$.

Loop b_5 : If $b_5 > 0$, then $b_5 := b_5 - 1$. Go to H1.

Loop b_4 : If $b_4 > 0$, then $b_4 := b_4 - 1$. Go to Init b_5

Loop b_3 : If $b_3 > 0$, then $b_3 := b_3 - 1$. Go to Init b_4

Loop b_2 : If $b_2 > 0$, then $b_2 := b_2 - 1$. Go to Init b_3

Loop b_1 : If $b_1 > 0$, then $b_1 := b_1 - 1$. Go to Init b_2

Loop a : If $a > 0$, then $a := a - 1$. Go to Init b_1

E: End. The algorithm terminates.

1.3. Type (a,b)-curves. In this section we describe a class of curves which is generated in an analogous manner to the curves on the non singular quadric surface in \mathbb{P}^3 . In fact, we have the following observation:

Theorem 1.3.1. Let $d_i, g_i, i = 1, 2$ be integers such that there exist non singular curves X_i in \mathbb{P}^3 of degree d_i and genus g_i for $i = 1, 2$. Let

$$a_i \geq \begin{cases} g_i + 3 & \text{if } g_i \geq 2 \\ 3 & \text{if } g_i = 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } g_i = 0 \end{cases}$$

Then there exists a non singular irreducible curve in P^3 of degree

$$d = d_2 a_1 + d_1 a_2$$

and genus

$$g = g_1 + g_2 - g_1 g_2 + (a_1 + g_1 - 1)(a_2 + g_2 - 1) .$$

Proof. We need the following result, which is due to G. Halphen. For a proof, one may consult [Har1] Chapter IV §6.

Lemma. A curve X of genus $g \geq 2$ has a non-special very ample divisor of degree d if and only if $d \geq g + 3$.

Remark. By this lemma, all points on and below IV in §1.1 are realized as the (d, g) of some non-singular curve in P^3 .

In particular it follows that there exists a very ample divisor D_i on X_i of degree a_i . Letting

$$Q = X_1 \times X_2$$

we get that

$$O_Q(D_1, D_2) = \text{pr}_1^* O_{X_1}(D_1) \otimes \text{pr}_2^* O_{X_2}(D_2)$$

is a very ample sheaf on Q . Hence the corresponding linear equivalence class of divisors contains non singular, irreducible curves by Bertini's Theorem. Let Y denote one of these. Then $J_Y = O_Q(-Y) = O_Q(-D_1, -D_2)$ is the Ideal sheaf of Y on Q . We thus have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow O_Q(-D_1, -D_2) \rightarrow O_Q \rightarrow O_Y \rightarrow 0$$

The long exact cohomology sequence becomes

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \rightarrow H^0(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) \rightarrow H^0(O_Q, Q) \rightarrow H^0(Y, O_Y) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H^1(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) \rightarrow H^1(O_Q, Q) \rightarrow H^1(Y, O_Y) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H^2(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) \rightarrow H^2(O_Q, Q) \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

By the Künneth-formula we get

$$H^0(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) = H^0(O_{X_1}(-D_1)) \otimes H^0(O_{X_2}(-D_2)) = 0$$

and similarly

$$H^1(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) = H^0(O_{X_1}(-D_1), X_1) \otimes H^1(O_{X_2}(-D_2), X_2) .$$

$$\otimes H^1(O_{X_1}(-D_1), X_1) \otimes H^0(O_{X_2}(-D_2), X_2) = 0$$

while

$$H^2(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) \cong H^1(O_{X_1}(-D_1), X_1) \otimes H^1(O_{X_2}(-D_2), X_2)$$

We also get, in the same way

$$H^1(O_Q) \cong H^1(O_{X_1}) \oplus H^1(O_{X_2})$$

$$H^2(O_Q) \cong H^1(O_{X_1}) \otimes H^1(O_{X_2})$$

By Riemann-Roch's theorem for the curves X_1 and X_2 we get

$$\dim H^0(O_{X_i}(-D_i), X_i) - \dim H^1(O_{X_i}(-D_i), X_i) = -a_i - g_i + 1$$

so that

$$\dim H^1(O_{X_i}(-D_i), X_i) = a_i + g_i - 1$$

Hence

$$\dim H^2(O_Q(-D_1, -D_2), Q) = (a_1 + g_1 - 1)(a_2 + g_2 - 1)$$

Moreover,

$$\dim H^1(O_Q, Q) = g_1 + g_2$$

$$\dim H^2(O_Q, Q) = g_1 g_2$$

Thus the long exact cohomology sequence yields

$$g_1 + g_2 - g(Y) + (a_1 + g_1 - 1)(a_2 + g_2 - 1) - g_1 g_2 = 0$$

so that the claimed formula for $g(Y)$ follows.

In order to show the formula for d , note that the projective embedding of Q corresponding to the linear system $[Y]$ is the composition

$$X_1 \times X_2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^3 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{15}$$

where the first embedding is the product of the two given embeddings, and the last is the Segre-embedding. Let s, t, τ denote, respectively, the pullbacks of the hyperplane classes of \mathbb{P}^3 via the first and the second projection, and the hyperplane class of \mathbb{P}^{15} . Then we have

$$[Y] = [D_1 \times X_2] + [X_1 \times D_2] \in A(\mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^3)$$

so that

$$[Y] = d_2 a_1 s^3 t^2 + d_1 a_2 s^2 t^3$$

Since $s^3 t^2$ and $s^2 t^3$ are both mapped to τ^{14} , we are done.

Remark. Of course we may assume that

$$d - 1 \geq d_1 \geq d_2$$

The last inequality is by symmetry, and the first follows from the formula for d .

Curves of the above type will be referred to as type (a,b)-curves. The type (a,b)-curves form a more sparse family than those generated by Hartshorne's algorithm, but is still sufficiently rich not only to fill all but a handful of the gaps left by Hartshorne's algorithm, but also to realistically test some of the conjectures related to general postulation problems for curves in \mathbb{P}^3 . We hope to return to this in a forthcoming paper [Ho 2].

The algorithm generating these curves is given below.

Algorithm for type (a,b)-curves. Given an integer d , we let gen_g , $0 \leq g \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-1)(d-2)$ be integers initialized to zero. $aa_i := i$, $ab_i := d-i$ for $1 \leq i \leq d$ correspond to $d_2 a_1$ and $d_1 a_2$ above. g_1, g_2, j and k are integers. The integral variable $Minab_i$ is defined for $0 \leq i \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-2)(d-3)$, and set as follows: $Minab_0 := 1$, $Minab_1 := 3$, $Minab_i := i+3$ for $i \geq 2$. The boolean variable $Truegenus_{i,j}$ is defined for $1 \leq i \leq d-1$, $0 \leq j \leq \frac{1}{2}(i-1)(i-2)$. It is set to TRUE if j is known to be the genus of some smooth curve in \mathbb{P}^3 of degree i , and to FALSE otherwise. The algorithm terminates with $gen_g = 1$ if (d,g) is realized by a curve of type (a,b), and $gen_g = 0$ otherwise.

If, as in this case, the purpose is to verify Halphen's conjecture, then we may set $Truegenus$ under the assumption that the conjecture holds up to $d-1$. On the other hand it is more convenient in practice to content oneself with fewer cases where $Truegenus$ is set to True, as we shall see in §2.2. Also, in the actual computer programs one should limit the use of $Truegenus$, thereby speeding up the execution of the program.

Init j : Set $j:=1$.
Init i : Set $i:=1$.
Init k : Set $k:=1$.
AB 1. Test. If aa_k/i or ab_k/j is not an integer, then go to Loop k.
Init g₁: Set $g_1:=0$.
Init g₂: Set $g_2:=0$.
AB 2. Test and compute g. With notation as in the theorem, we now have:

$$d_2=i, a_1=aa_k/i$$

$$d_1=j, a_2=ab_k/j$$
 If $\text{Truegenus}_{j,g_1}$ and $\text{Truegenus}_{i,g_2}$ are true, and if

$$aa_k/i \geq \text{Minab}_{g_1}$$

$$ab_k/j \geq \text{Minab}_{g_2}$$
 then set

$$g:=g_1+g_2-g_1g_2+(aa_k/i+g_1-1)(ab_k/j+g_2-1)$$

$$\text{gen}_g:=1$$
Loop g₂: If $g_2 < \frac{1}{2}(i-1)(i-2)$ then $g_2:=g_2+1$. Go to AB 2.
Loop g₁: If $g_1 < \frac{1}{2}(j-1)(j-2)$ then $g_1:=g_1+1$. Go to Init g₂.
Loop k : If $k < d$ then $k:=k+1$. Go to AB 1.
Loop i : If $i < j$ then $i:=i+1$. Go to Init k.
Loop j : If $j < d-1$ then $j:=j+1$. Go to Init i.
E: End. The algorithm terminates.

1.4. Curves on re-embeddings of the cubic surface.

In §1.2 all the very ample linear systems of the non singular cubic surface is described. By a trivial modification of Hartshorne's algorithm we may generate the parameters $(\alpha, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_6)$ of these, and we find in particular that the surface may be re-embedded into \mathbb{P}^5 as a surface of degree 5 in 3 ways, and one of degree 6 in 6 ways, 7 in 12 ways, 8 in 18 ways, 9 in 39 ways and 10 in 54 ways. See the table at the end of this paper for the parameters of those embeddings.

Clearly this large number of possible re-embeddings places at our disposal a powerful tool for the generation of curves in \mathbb{P}^3 .

2. The computations.

In fact, suppose that the linear system is given by the parameters

$$\alpha, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_6$$

and a curve on the cubic surface by

$$a, b_1, \dots, b_6$$

Then by the new embedding it gets the degree

$$d = \alpha a - \sum \beta_i b_i$$

and since it may be projected isomorphically onto a curve in \mathbb{P}^3 , we obtain the following:

Theorem 1.4.1. With the above notation, assume that the parameters satisfy all the requirements of §1.2. Let σ be a permutation of $\{1, 2, \dots, 6\}$. Let

$$g = \frac{1}{2}((a-1)(a-2) - \sum b_i(b_i-1))$$

$$d = \alpha a - \sum \beta_{\sigma(i)} b_i$$

Then there exists a smooth curve in \mathbb{P}^3 of degree d and genus g .

We immediately observe that the gap-filling procedure of twisting some curve on the cubic surface, which a priori appears as an ad hoc method, is a special case of this. Namely, take

$$(\alpha, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_6) = (3\nu, \nu, \dots, \nu) .$$

The algorithm which returns all curves of this type for some given d will not be made explicit here. The strength of the theorem is in no way fully utilized in the computations of the next section, but we will return to this class of curves in the forthcoming case [Ho2]. For the time being, we have only used the theorem to devise a simple search procedure to fill the gaps remaining after the algorithms in §§1.2, 1.3; see §2.3.

§2. The computations.

2.1. Implementing Hartshorne's algorithm. We now determine all possible values of degree d and genus g for non singular curves on the non singular cubic surface in \mathbb{P}^3 .

The following SIMULA program uses Hartshorne's algorithm described in section 1.2. It takes as input integers $\min \leq \max$, and evaluates all possible values of g for $\min \leq d \leq \max$.

The program gives as output all gaps in the g -sequence for the various values of d .

```

19:   FOR d1 := 1 TO dmax STEP 1 UNTIL 0 DO
20:     BEGIN d2 := IF d1 GT dmax-d+1 THEN
21:               dmax-d+1 ELSE d1
22:           FOR d3 := d2 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
23:             BEGIN IF A LT d1+d2 THEN GOTO OUT2
24:                 d4 := IF d2 GT dmax-d-d1-d2 THEN
25:                       dmax-d-d1-d2 ELSE d2
26:                 FOR d5 := d4 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
27:                   BEGIN d6 := IF d3 GT dmax-d-d1-d2-d3 THEN
28:                             dmax-d-d1-d2-d3 ELSE d3
29:                   FOR d7 := d6 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
30:                     BEGIN d8 := IF d4 GT dmax-d-d1-d2-d3-d4 THEN
31:                               dmax-d-d1-d2-d3-d4 ELSE d4
32:                     FOR d9 := d8 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
33:                       BEGIN s1 := d1+d2+d3+d4+d5
34:                         IF d4 LT s1 THEN GOTO OUT4
35:                         d6 := d4 - d - s1
36:                         IF d6 GT d3 THEN GOTO OUT4
37:                         IF d6 LT 0 THEN GOTO OUT4
38:                         s2 := d1+d2+d3+d4+d5+d6
39:                         GOTO OUT4
40:                         IF A AND d6 LE d2 THEN GOTO OUT4
41:                         g := (d-1)*d5-d3+d1+d2-d2*d6
42:                         GAPSD(d) := -1
43: OUT5:   ENDS
44:       ENDS
45:     ENDS
46: OUT2:   ENDS
47:   ENDS
48: ENDS
49:   FOR A := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL dmax DO
50:     BEGIN
51:       IF GAPSD(A) = 0 THEN NAVS.OUTPUT(A,d)
52:       GAPSD(A) := 0
53:     ENDS GAPSD(A*(d-3)/6 + 1) := 0
54:   ENDS
55: ENDS
56: NAVS.CLOSE
57: ENDS

```


GAPS

```

1: BEGIN INTEGER MIN, MAX, GMAX, GGMAX, D, A, S, S1, S2,
2: B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, BM2, BM3, BM4, BM5
3: REF(OUTFILE) NAVN
4: NAVN := NEW OUTFILE(OTABELL)
5: NAVN.OPEN(BLANKS(70))
6: MIN := ININT$ MAX := ININT$
7: GMAX := MAX*(MAX-3)/6 + 1$
8: BEGIN INTEGER ARRAY GAPS(D:GMAX)$
9:   NAVN.OUTPUTTEXT(CURVES ON THE NON SING. CUBIC SURFACE:)$
10:   NAVN.OUTPUTIMAGES$
11:   FOR D := MIN STEP 1 UNTIL MAX DO
12:     BEGIN NAVN.OUTPUTIMAGES$ NAVN.OUTPUTTEXT(D = )$ NAVN.OUTPUTINT(D,5)$
13:     GGMAX := D*(D-3)/6$
14:     IF MOD(D,3) = 0 THEN GGMAX := GGMAX + 1$
15:     NAVN.OUTPUTTEXT(   GMAX = )$
16:     NAVN.OUTPUTINT(GGMAX,5)$ NAVN.OUTPUTTEXT(   GAPS: )$
17:     FOR A := D STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
18:       BEGIN
19:         FOR B1 := 3*A - D STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
20:           BEGIN BM2 := IF B1 GT 3*A-D-B1 THEN
21:             3*A-D-B1 ELSE B1$
22:           FOR B2 := BM2 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
23:             BEGIN IF A LT B1+B2 THEN GOTO OUT2$
24:             BM3 := IF B2 GT 3*A-D-B1-B2 THEN
25:               3*A-D-B1-B2 ELSE B2$
26:             FOR B3 := BM3 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
27:               BEGIN BM4 := IF B3 GT 3*A-D-B1-B2-B3 THEN
28:                 3*A-D-B1-B2-B3 ELSE B3$
29:               FOR B4 := BM4 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
30:                 BEGIN BM5 := IF B4 GT 3*A-D-B1-B2-B3-B4 THEN
31:                   3*A-D-B1-B2-B3-B4 ELSE B4$
32:                 FOR B5 := BM5 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
33:                   BEGIN S1 := B1+B2+B3+B4+B5$
34:                   IF 2*A LT S1 THEN GOTO OUT3$
35:                   B6 := 3*A - D - S1$
36:                   IF B6 GT B5 THEN GOTO OUT5$
37:                   IF B6 LT 0 THEN GOTO OUT5$
38:                   S2 := B1**2+B2**2+B3**2+B4**2+
39:                     B5**2+B6**2$
40:                   IF A**2 LE S2 THEN GOTO OUT5$
41:                   G := ((A-1)*(A-2)+(S1+B6)-S2)/2$
42:                   GAPS(G) := -1$
43: OUT5:   ENDS
44:         ENDS
45:       ENDS
46: OUT2:   ENDS
47:     ENDS
48:   ENDS
49:   FOR A := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL GGMAX DO
50:     BEGIN
51:       IF GAPS(A) = 0 THEN NAVN.OUTPUTINT(A,5)$
52:       GAPS(A) := 0$
53:     ENDS$ GAPS(D*(D-3)/6 + 1) := 0$
54:   ENDS
55: ENDS
56: NAVN.CLOSE$
57: ENDS

```


D =	35	GMAX =		187	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	33	34	35	36	37	38	40					
D =	30	GMAX =		199	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	34	35	36	37	38	40					
D =	37	GMAX =		210	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	43	51	
D =	38	GMAX =		222	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	36	37	38	39	40	41	43	53	
D =	39	GMAX =		235	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	
D =	40	GMAX =		247	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	38	39	40	41	42	43	
D =	41	GMAX =		260	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	39	40	41	42	43	
D =	42	GMAX =		274	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	40	41	42	43	
D =	43	GMAX =		287	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	41	42	43	
D =	44	GMAX =		301	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	42	43	
D =	45	GMAX =		316	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	43	
	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	55	55	63	64	65
D =	46	GMAX =		330	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	55	55	65	66	67
D =	47	GMAX =		345	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
	38	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	58	
D =	48	GMAX =		361	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
	38	39	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	58	
	68	69	70	71	73	88	91								
D =	49	GMAX =		376	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	21	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
	38	39	40	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	
	58	59	61	69	70	71	72	73	75	91	93				
D =	50	GMAX =		392	GAPS:		1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	21	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
	38	39	40	41	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	
	58	59	61	71	72	73	74	75	77	92	93	96			

One notes that $g_{\max} = \left\lceil \frac{1}{6}d(d-3) \right\rceil + 1$ is printed out.

Looking at $d = 28$ in the table above, we find Hartshorne's estimate in [Har2], page 12 confirmed. Hartshorne also conjecture that in general all gaps occur for $g \leq g_0(d) \approx \frac{1}{3}d^{3/2}$. For $1 \leq d \leq 51$ we get the following table for $\left\lceil \frac{1}{3}d^{3/2} \right\rceil$:

d	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
$\left\lceil \frac{1}{3}d^{3/2} \right\rceil$	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	7	9	10	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
15	17	19	21	23	25	27	29	32	34	36	39	41
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
44	46	49	52	54	57	60	63	66	69	72	75	78
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
81	84	87	90	93	97	100	103	107	110	114	117	121

Thus Hartshorne's conjecture holds for these values of d .

2.2. The Main Program. The program given below finds curves in the area covered by the conjecture as follows:

Integers $\min \leq \max$ are given as input, and d runs from \min to \max . For fixed d , Hartshorne's algorithm is first used with $a=d, d-1$. Then some type (a,b) -curves not on the quadric surface are generated. The idea here is to keep the values of g_1 , and g_2 relatively small, since experimental evidence have suggested that it is such values which contribute most in filling the gaps left by Hartshorne's algorithm.

Indeed, it turns out that as d approaches 100, only very occasional gaps are left unfilled in this way.

It is clear from the output given in §2.2, that Halphen's conjecture holds for all $d \leq 24$. This is built into the program.

GAPS

```

1:BEGIN INTEGER MIN,MAX,GMIN,GMAX,D,A,G,S1,S2,S,B,I,J,K,G1,G2,
2:B1,B2,B3,B4,B5,B6,BM2,BM3,BM4,BM5$BOOLEAN FOUND$
3:BOOLEAN ARRAY TRUEGENUS(1:6,0:10)$
4:  MIN := ININT$ MAX := ININT$
5:  FOR I := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL 6 DO
6:    TRUEGENUS(I,0) := TRUE$
7:  FOR I := 3 STEP 1 UNTIL 6 DO
8:    TRUEGENUS(I,1) := TRUE$
9:  TRUEGENUS(5,2) := TRUEGENUS(6,2) :=
10: TRUEGENUS(6,3) := TRUEGENUS(6,4) :=
11: TRUEGENUS(6,10) := TRUEGENUS(5,6) := TRUE$
12: IF MIN LT 24 THEN MIN := 24$
13: FOR D := MIN STEP 1 UNTIL MAX DO
14: BEGIN GMAX := D*(D-3)/6$
15:   IF MOD(D,3) = 0 THEN GMAX := GMAX + 1$
16:   GMIN := D-2$
17:   BEGIN INTEGER ARRAY GAPS(GMIN:GMAX),MINAB(0:GMAX),
18:   AA,BA,MAXG(1:D)$
19:   FOR A := D STEP -1 UNTIL D-1 DO
20:     BEGIN
21:       FOR B1 := A STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
22:         BEGIN BM2 := IF B1 GT 3*A-D-B1 THEN
23:           3*A-D-B1 ELSE B1$
24:         FOR B2 := BM2 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
25:           BEGIN IF A LT B1+B2 THEN GOTO OUT2$
26:             BM3 := IF B2 GT 3*A-D-B1-B2 THEN
27:               3*A-D-B1-B2 ELSE B2$
28:             FOR B3 := BM3 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
29:               BEGIN BM4 := IF B3 GT 3*A-D-B1-B2-B3 THEN
30:                 3*A-D-B1-B2-B3 ELSE B3$
31:               FOR B4 := BM4 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
32:                 BEGIN BM5 := IF B4 GT 3*A-D-B1-B2-B3-B4 THEN
33:                   3*A-D-B1-B2-B3-B4 ELSE B4$
34:                 FOR B5 := BM5 STEP -1 UNTIL 0 DO
35:                   BEGIN S1 := B1+B2+B3+B4+B5$
36:                     IF 2*A LT S1 THEN GOTO OUT5$
37:                     B6 := 3*A - D - S1$
38:                     IF B6 GT B5 THEN GOTO OUT5$
39:                     IF B6 LT 0 THEN GOTO OUT5$
40:                     S2 := B1**2+B2**2+B3**2+B4**2+
41:                       B5**2+B6**2$
42:                     IF A**2 LE S2 THEN GOTO OUT5$
43:                     G := ((A-1)*(A-2)+(S1+B6)-S2)/2$
44:                     IF G LT GMIN THEN GOTO OUT $
45:                     GAPS(G) := -1$
46:OUT5$
47:           ENDS
48:         ENDS
49:       ENDS
50:     ENDS
51:   ENDS

```



```

52: FOR I := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL D DO
53: BEGIN IF I LE 24 THEN MAXG(I) := I*(I-3)/6$
54: IF MOD(I,3) = 0 THEN MAXG(I) := MAXG(I)+1$
55: IF I GT 24 THEN MAXG(I) := I-3$
56: ENDS$
57: FOR I := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL 6 DO
58: MAXG(I) := 10$
59: MAXG(7) := 6$ MAXG(8) := 9$
60: MAXG(14) := 27$ MAXG(19) := 52$
61: MAXG(21) := 64$ MAXG(24) := 85$
62: FOR I := 2 STEP 1 UNTIL GMAX DO
63: MINAB(I) := I+3$
64: MINAB(0) := 1$ MINAB(1) := 3$
65: FOR I := 2 STEP 1 UNTIL D DO
66: BEGIN AA(I) := I$
67: BA(I) := D-I$
68: ENDS$
69: FOR I := 2 STEP 1 UNTIL D -1 DO
70: BEGIN FOR J := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL I DO
71: BEGIN FOR K := 1 STEP 1 UNTIL D DO
72: BEGIN IF MOD(AA(K),I) NE 0 THEN GOTO OUTS$
73: IF MOD(BA(K),J) NE 0 THEN GOTO OUTS$
74: FOR G1 := 0 STEP 1 UNTIL MAXG(J) DO
75: BEGIN FOR G2 := 0 STEP 1 UNTIL MAXG(I) DO
76: BEGIN G := G1+G2-G1*G2+(AA(K)/I+G1-1)*
77: (BA(K)/J+G2-1)$
78: IF G LT GMIN THEN GOTO OUUTS$
79: IF G GT GMAX THEN GOTO OUUTS$
80: IF AA(K)/I LT MINAB(G1) THEN GOTO OUUTS$
81: IF BA(K)/J LT MINAB(G2) THEN GOTO OUUTS$
82: IF I LE 6 THEN
83: BEGIN
84: IF NOT TRUEGENUS(J,G1) THEN GOTO OUUTS$
85: IF NOT TRUEGENUS(I,G2) THEN GOTO OUUTS$
86: ENDS$
87: GAPS(G) := -1$
88:OUUT: ENDS$
89: ENDS$
90:OUT: ENDS$
91: ENDS$
92: ENDS$
93: OUTIMAGES$ OUTIMAGES$
94: OUTTEXT(ⓐD = ⓐ)$ OUTINT(D,5)$
95: OUTTEXT(ⓐ POSSIBLE GAPS ARE: ⓐ)$
96: FOR G := GMIN STEP 1 UNTIL GMAX DO
97: IF GAPS(G) = 0 THEN
98: BEGIN OUTINT(G,5)$
99: FOUND := TRUE$
100: ENDS$
101: IF NOT FOUND THEN OUTTEXT(ⓐ NONE.ⓐ)$
102: OUTTEXT(ⓐ HALPHENS BOUND =ⓐ)$ OUTINT(GMAX,5)$
103: FOUND := FALSE$
104: ENDS$
105: ENDS$
106:ENDS$

```


The output for $25 \leq d \leq 100$ is given in the table below.

$$H(d) = \left\lceil \frac{1}{6}d(d-3) \right\rceil + 1.$$

d	Gaps	H(d)	d	Gaps	H(d)	d	Gaps	H(d)
25	23	92	51	None	409	77	None	950
26	None	100	52	None	425	78	None	976
27	None	109	53	None	442	79	None	1001
28	None	117	54	None	460	80	None	1027
29	27	126	55	59,80,83	477	81	None	1054
30	None	136	56	84	495	82	None	1080
31	29	145	57	107	514	83	None	1107
32	None	155	58	None	532	84	174,198	1135
33	35	166	59	63	551	85	None	1162
34	None	176	60	68,87	571	86	None	1190
35	None	187	61	119	590	87	None	1219
36	38	199	62	122	610	88	None	1247
37	35	210	63	None	631	89	None	1276
38	None	222	64	148	651	90	None	1306
39	39	235	65	None	672	91	None	1335
40	44	247	66	128	694	92	None	1365
41	39	260	67	None	714	93	None	1396
42	None	274	68	None	737	94	268	1424
43	47	287	69	143	760	95	None	1457
44	None	301	70	164	782	96	None	1489
45	47,63,83	316	71	None	805	97	None	1520
46	86	330	72	140,147,170	829	98	282	1552
47	None	345	73	None	852	99	None	1585
48	50	361	74	None	876	100	None	1617
49	59	376	75	147	901			
50	72	392	76	None	925			

Some of the possible gaps encountered here may be filled immediately, simply by taking the v -uple embedding of some curve of lower degree, for some $v = 2, 3, \dots$. We get the table below.

When listed, $(d/v; g_1, \dots, g_r)$ indicates that there exist curves of degree d/v and genera g_1, \dots, g_r , so that those gaps may be filled by twisting.

d	Gaps	$(d/v; g)$	d	Gaps	$(d/v; g)$
25	23		57	107	
29	27		59	63	
31	29		60	68, 87	$(30; 68, 87)$
33	35		61	119	
36	38	$(18; 38)$	62	122	$(31; 122)$
37	35		64	148	$(32; 148)$
39	39		66	128	$(33; 128)$
40	44	$(20; 44)$	69	143	
41	39		70	164	$(35; 164)$
43	47		72	140, 147, 170	$(36; 140, 147, 170)$
45	47, 63, 83		75	147	
46	86		84	174, 198	$(42; 174, 198)$
48	50	$(24; 50)$	94	268	$(47; 268)$
49	59		98	282	$(49; 282)$
50	72	$(25; 72)$			
55	59, 80, 83				
56	84	$(28; 84)$			

2.3. The Search Procedure. The remaining gaps are now filled by re-embedding the cubic surface. It turns out that it is not too difficult to encounter linear systems which when used to re-embed the cubic surface, transforms some known curve into one which fills a gap. No systematic attempts were made to minimize the required data, however. Instead we first generated the parameters of all very ample linear systems of degree between 3 and 10, and stored them on the file VADATAFILE. The program implements an obvious modification of Hartshorne's algorithm, and is omitted here. Then our initial approach was to store all gap-values on another file, GADATAFILE., and generate the parameters of all non singular curves of ordinary degree between integers

Min and Max, storing those parameter sets for which the corresponding g appeared on GADATAFILE on the file DATAFILE. This being done, the program MAKELIST below would produce a list of all possible curves obtainable by re-embedding the ones on DATAFILE by the linear systems on VADATAFILE. The list is stored on the OUTPUTFIL in the format

(New degree, Genus)

The program is the following:

MAKELIST

```
1:BEGIN INTEGER I,D,COUNT$
2:INTEGER ARRAY B,PB(0:7)$
3:REF(INFILE) PAR,VAPAR$
4:REF(OUTFILE) LIST$
5: PAR :- NEW INFILE (@DATAFILE@)$
6: VAPAR :- NEW INFILE (@VADATAFILE@)$
7: LIST :- NEW OUTFILE (@OUTPUTFIL@)$
8: PAR.OPEN(BLANKS(60))$
9: VAPAR.OPEN(BLANKS(60))$
10: LIST.OPEN(BLANKS(110))$
11: WHILE NOT PAR.LASTITEM DO
12:   BEGIN
13:     FOR I := 0 STEP 1 UNTIL 7 DO
14:       B(I) := PAR.ININTS$
15:       PAR.INIMAGES$
16:       WHILE NOT VAPAR.LASTITEM DO
17:         BEGIN
18:           FOR I := 0 STEP 1 UNTIL 6 DO
19:             PB(I) := VAPAR.ININTS$
20:             VAPAR.INIMAGES$
21:             D := B(0)*PB(0)-B(1)*PB(1)-B(2)*PB(2)-B(3)*PB(3)
22:                -B(4)*PB(4)-B(5)*PB(5)-B(6)*PB(6)$
23:             LIST.OUTINT(D,3)$LIST.OUTINT(B(7),4)$
24:             LIST.OUTTEXT(@ @)$
25:             COUNT := COUNT + 1$
26:             IF COUNT = 380000 THEN GOTO E$
27:           ENDS$
28:         VAPAR.CLOSE$
29:         VAPAR.OPEN(BLANKS(60))$
30:       ENDS$
31: E: PAR.CLOSE$
32: VAPAR.CLOSE$
33: LIST.CLOSE$
34: OUTTEXT(@NUMBER OF ENTRIES ON OUTPUTFIL: @)$
35: OUTINT(COUNT,20)$ OUTIMAGES$
36: ENDS
```

The final program scans the list produced above, and gives as output a list of all appearing values of g for $\text{Min} \leq \text{New degree} \leq \text{Max}$.

SEARCH

```
1:BEGIN INTEGER I,D,LD,G,MIN,MAX,MINGS$
2:BOOLEAN FOUND$
3:REF(INFILE) LIST$
4:LIST :- NEW INFILE(OUTPUTFIL)$
5:LIST.OPEN(BLANKS(110))$
6:OUTTEXT(          THE FOLLOWING GENERA ARE VERIFIED: )$
7:MIN := ININT$ MAX := ININT$
8:FOR D := MIN STEP 1 UNTIL MAX DO
9:  BEGIN INTEGER ARRAY GAPS(D-2:D*(D-3)/6)$
10:  WHILE NOT LIST.LASTITEM DO
11:    BEGIN LD := LIST.ININT$ G:= LIST.ININT$
12:    IF LD = D AND G LE D*(D-3)/6 AND G GE D-2 THEN
13:      GAPS(G) := -1$
14:    ENDS$
15:  LIST.CLOSE$ LIST.OPEN(BLANKS(110))$
16:  OUTIMAGE$ OUTIMAGE$
17:  OUTTEXT(D = )$ OUTINT(D,5)$
18:OUTTEXT(      : )$
19:FOR G := D-2 STEP 1 UNTIL D*(D-3)/6 DO
20:  IF GAPS(G) = -1 THEN
21:    BEGIN OUTINT(G,5)$
22:    FOUND := TRUE$
23:    ENDS$
24:  IF NOT FOUND THEN OUTTEXT(      NONE. )$
25:  FOUND := FALSE$
26:  ENDS$
27:LIST.CLOSE$
28:ENDS$
```

Initial experimentation with these programs revealed, however, that it was surprisingly easy to find curves which filled the gaps when re-embedded in this way. Therefore we proceeded in a somewhat different manner.

First, a list of curve parameters was selected more or less at random, with some educated guesses. Of course, all the wanted genus-values were represented on the list, which is reproduced in the table of Appendix 2. With this list on DATAFILE, the programs MAKELIST and SEARCH were run, producing the output given in Appendix 3 for $25 \leq d \leq 75$.

All unfilled gaps in the table at the end of §2.3 now appear in the appropriate line in the output listing of Appendix 3. Thus our Conjecture 2 is verified for all $d \leq 100$, and in particular Halphen's conjecture holds in this range.

Of course the list of parameters in Appendix 2 is not minimal, no effort was made to produce such a list. This is easily done, but would serve no purpose in our situation.

Appendix 1. The first 123 very ample linear systems on the cubic surface.

α	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4	β_5	β_6	d	α	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4	β_5	β_6	d
3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	10	4	4	4	4	3	2	9
6	3	2	2	2	2	2	5	10	4	4	4	3	3	3	9
5	2	2	2	2	1	1	5	9	5	3	3	3	3	1	9
4	2	1	1	1	1	1	5	9	5	3	3	3	2	2	9
8	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	9	4	4	4	4	1	1	9
7	3	3	3	2	2	2	6	9	4	4	4	3	2	1	9
6	3	2	2	2	2	1	6	9	4	4	4	2	2	2	9
6	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	9	4	4	3	3	3	1	9
5	2	2	2	1	1	1	6	9	4	4	3	3	2	2	9
4	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	9	4	3	3	3	3	2	9
9	5	3	3	3	3	3	7	9	3	3	3	3	3	3	9
9	4	4	3	3	3	3	7	8	5	2	2	2	2	2	9
8	4	3	3	3	2	2	7	8	4	3	4	4	1	1	9
8	3	3	3	3	3	2	7	8	4	3	3	2	2	1	9
7	4	2	2	2	2	2	7	8	4	3	2	2	2	2	9
7	3	3	3	3	1	1	7	8	3	3	3	3	2	1	9
7	3	3	3	2	2	1	7	8	3	3	3	2	2	2	9
7	3	3	2	2	2	2	7	7	4	2	2	2	1	1	9
6	3	2	2	2	1	1	7	7	3	3	3	1	1	1	9
6	2	2	2	2	2	1	7	7	3	3	2	2	1	1	9
5	3	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	3	2	2	2	2	1	9
5	2	2	1	1	1	1	7	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	9
11	5	4	4	4	4	4	8	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	9
10	5	4	4	3	3	3	8	6	3	2	1	1	1	1	9
10	4	4	4	4	3	3	8	6	2	2	2	1	1	1	9
9	5	3	3	3	3	2	8	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
9	4	4	4	3	2	2	8	14	7	5	5	5	5	5	10
9	4	4	3	3	3	2	8	14	6	6	5	5	5	5	10
9	4	3	3	3	3	3	8	13	7	5	5	4	4	4	10
8	4	3	3	3	2	1	8	13	6	6	5	4	4	4	10
8	4	3	3	2	2	2	8	13	6	5	5	5	4	4	10
8	3	3	3	3	3	1	8	13	5	5	5	5	5	4	10
8	3	3	3	3	2	2	8	12	7	4	4	4	4	3	10
7	4	2	2	2	2	1	8	12	6	5	5	4	3	3	10
7	3	3	3	2	1	1	8	12	6	5	4	4	4	3	10
7	3	3	2	2	2	1	8	12	6	4	4	4	4	4	10
7	3	2	2	2	2	2	8	12	5	5	5	5	3	3	10
6	3	2	2	1	1	1	8	12	5	5	5	4	4	3	10
6	2	2	2	2	1	1	8	12	5	5	4	4	4	4	10
5	2	1	1	1	1	1	8	11	6	4	4	4	3	2	10
13	5	5	5	5	5	5	9	11	6	4	4	3	3	3	10
12	7	4	4	4	4	4	9	11	5	5	5	4	2	2	10
12	6	5	4	4	4	4	9	11	5	5	5	3	3	2	10
12	5	5	5	4	4	4	9	11	5	5	4	4	3	2	10
11	6	4	4	4	3	3	9	11	5	5	4	3	3	3	10
11	5	5	5	3	3	3	9	11	5	4	4	4	4	2	10
11	5	5	4	4	3	3	9	11	5	4	4	4	3	3	10
11	5	4	4	4	4	3	9	11	4	4	4	4	4	3	10
11	4	4	4	4	4	4	9	10	6	3	3	3	3	2	10
10	6	4	4	4	4	4	9	10	5	4	4	4	2	1	10
10	5	4	4	4	2	2	9	10	5	4	4	3	3	1	10
10	5	4	4	3	3	2	9	10	5	4	4	3	2	2	10
10	5	4	3	3	3	3	9	10	5	4	3	3	3	2	10

α	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4	β_5	β_6	d
10	5	3	3	3	3	3	10
10	4	4	4	4	3	1	10
10	4	4	4	4	2	2	10
10	4	4	4	3	3	2	10
10	4	4	3	3	3	3	10
9	5	3	3	3	2	1	10
9	5	3	3	2	2	2	10
9	4	4	4	3	1	1	10
9	4	4	4	2	2	1	10
9	4	4	3	3	2	1	10
9	4	4	3	2	2	2	10
9	4	3	3	3	3	1	10
9	4	3	3	3	2	2	10
9	3	3	3	3	3	2	10
8	5	2	2	2	2	1	10
8	4	3	3	2	1	1	10
8	4	3	2	2	2	1	10
8	4	2	2	2	2	2	10
8	3	3	3	3	1	1	10
8	3	3	3	2	2	1	10
8	3	3	2	2	2	2	10
7	4	2	2	1	1	1	10
7	3	3	2	1	1	1	10
7	3	2	2	2	1	1	10
7	2	2	2	2	2	1	10
6	3	1	1	1	1	1	10
6	2	2	1	1	1	1	10

Appendix 3. Output from SEARCH.

Appendix 2. A list of selected curve parameters.

THE FOLLOWING GENERA ARE VERIFIED:

a	b ₁	b ₂	b ₃	b ₄	b ₅	b ₆	d
24	12	11	9	8	4	3	59
14	6	6	5	4	4	3	23
13	6	5	4	4	3	3	23
13	5	5	5	4	4	2	23
15	6	6	6	5	4	3	27
14	6	6	4	4	4	3	27
14	6	5	5	5	3	3	27
17	7	7	7	5	4	4	35
17	7	7	6	6	4	3	35
17	7	8	8	5	5	5	39
17	6	6	6	6	6	4	39
16	7	7	5	4	4	4	35
16	7	6	6	5	4	3	35
16	6	6	5	5	5	4	39
14	5	5	5	5	5	2	27
19	8	8	8	6	6	1	39
18	7	7	7	5	5	4	47
21	12	7	7	6	5	5	47
25	15	10	7	7	6	5	59
25	15	9	7	7	6	6	63
25	12	9	8	7	7	7	83
25	12	8	8	8	8	6	83
25	9	9	9	9	9	5	86
24	9	9	9	8	7	5	86
22	8	8	8	8	6	5	80
20	15	10	9	9	8	7	107
35	20	15	12	10	7	6	119
35	18	16	10	9	9	8	143
32	12	12	12	11	11	5	147
15	6	6	5	5	4	4	29
14	6	5	4	4	4	4	29
15	5	5	5	5	4	3	29
25	12	10	8	7	7	6	80
25	12	9	9	8	6	6	80
25	12	9	8	8	8	5	80
25	11	11	8	8	6	6	80
25	11	10	10	7	6	6	80
25	10	10	10	9	6	5	80
25	10	10	9	9	8	4	80
24	12	8	8	7	6	6	80
24	11	10	8	6	6	6	80
24	11	10	7	7	7	5	80
24	11	9	9	7	6	5	80
24	11	8	8	8	8	4	80
24	10	10	8	8	7	4	80
24	10	9	9	9	5	5	80
23	11	9	6	6	6	6	80
23	11	8	8	6	6	5	80
23	10	10	7	6	6	5	80
23	10	9	8	7	6	4	80
23	9	8	8	8	8	3	80

Appendix 3. Output from SEARCH.

THE FOLLOWING GENERA ARE VERIFIED:

D =	25	:	23	27	29	35	59	63	80	83	86
D =	26	:	35								
D =	27	:	27	35	39						
D =	28	:	27	29	39						
D =	29	:	27	29	47	107					
D =	30	:	29	35	47						
D =	31	:	29	35	39	47					
D =	32	:	39								
D =	33	:	35	39	59	147					
D =	34	:	35	39	47						
D =	35	:	35	39	47	59	63	119	143		
D =	36	:	35	39	59	80					
D =	37	:	35	39	47	59	63	80			
D =	38	:	39	47	49	80	83	86			
D =	39	:	39	47	80	83	86				
D =	40	:	39	47	59	80	86				
D =	41	:	39	47	59	63	80	86			
D =	42	:	47	59	80						
D =	43	:	47	59	80	107					
D =	44	:	47	63	80	83	107				
D =	45	:	47	59	63	80	83				
D =	46	:	47	59	80	83	86				
D =	47	:	47	59	63	80	83	86			
D =	48	:	47	59	80	86	119				
D =	49	:	47	59	63	80	86				
D =	50	:	59	63	80	83	86	107	119	147	
D =	51	:	59	63	80	83	86				
D =	52	:	59	80	83	86	143				
D =	53	:	59	63	80	83	86	107	147		
D =	54	:	59	63	80	83	86	147			
D =	55	:	59	63	80	83	86				
D =	56	:	59	63	80	83	86	119			
D =	57	:	59	63	80	83	86	107			
D =	58	:	59	80	83	107	119				
D =	59	:	59	63	80	83	86	107	147		
D =	60	:	59	63	80	83	86	107	143		
D =	61	:	59	63	80	83	86	119	143	147	
D =	62	:	63	80	83	86	107	147			
D =	63	:	63	80	83	86	119				
D =	64	:	63	80	83	86	107	119			
D =	65	:	63	80	83	86	107	119	147		
D =	66	:	80	83	86	147					
D =	67	:	80	83	86	107	147				
D =	68	:	80	83	86	107					
D =	69	:	80	83	86	107	119	143			
D =	70	:	80	83	86	119	143	147			
D =	71	:	80	83	86	107	119	143	147		
D =	72	:	80	83	86	107	147				
D =	73	:	80	83	86	107	119	147			
D =	74	:	80	83	86	107	119	147			
D =	75	:	80	83	86	107	147				

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Note added in proof.

After these computations were completed in 1980, Peskine and Gruson have proved Halphen's conjecture. One of the key steps in their proof is a confirmation of Hartshorne's conjecture for an upper bound of the gaps on the non singular cubic surface. I understand they are now in the process of writing up their work.

My program implementing Hartshornes's Algorithm has been made more efficient by Svein Mossige of the University of Bergen. Unfortunately it still runs too slowly to be of any use beyond say, $d = 200$.

The results obtained are listed in the table given below. Upper and lower limits of the gap intervals are given, the reader may compare the output format to that of the table in §2.

134																			
1	63	67	123	132	133	187	187	197	243	243	243	260	299	307	303	306	306	323	333
355	356	358	358	361	361	385	403	407	411	413	416	447	453	457	459	461	462	307	311
514	515	517	518	323	323	320	320												
135																			
1	64	68	126	133	133	190	190	198	243	247	247	262	304	306	306	308	308	326	333
358	359	361	361	364	364	388	412	414	413	413	416	422	422	430	439	461	463	433	466
511	512	514	516	320	320	323	324	320	320	322	322								
136																			
1	64	68	127	134	138	190	190	200	247	247	249	264	304	306	308	311	311	323	339
361	362	364	364	367	367	391	412	414	413	422	423	434	463	463	467	469	470	313	320
523	524	526	527	332	332	333	333	376	376										
137																			
1	65	69	128	133	171	193	193	201	239	231	231	266	309	311	311	313	313	331	362
364	365	367	367	370	370	394	419	421	423	423	423	429	429	437	467	469	471	473	474
519	521	523	527	329	329	332	333	333	333	341	341	381	381	341	341				
138																			
1	65	69	129	136	191	193	193	203	231	233	233	268	309	311	313	316	316	333	363
367	368	370	370	373	373	397	419	421	423	429	430	461	471	473	473	477	478	323	329
522	523	523	536	341	341	344	344	386	386										
139																			
1	66	70	130	137	194	196	196	204	233	233	233	270	314	316	316	318	318	336	368
370	371	373	373	376	376	400	426	426	430	432	432	436	436	464	464	473	477	481	482
527	530	532	536	338	333	341	342	344	344	330	330	391	391	332	332				
140																			
1	66	70	131	138	194	196	196	206	233	237	237	272	314	316	318	321	321	338	371
373	374	376	376	379	379	403	426	426	432	436	437	466	479	481	483	483	486	332	338
541	542	544	543	330	333	333	333	396	396										
141																			
1	67	71	132	139	197	199	199	207	237	239	239	274	319	321	321	323	323	341	374
376	377	379	379	382	382	406	433	433	437	439	439	443	443	471	483	483	487	489	490
533	539	541	543	347	347	333	331	333	333	337	339	601	601	363	363				
142																			
1	67	71	133	140	197	199	199	209	239	261	261	276	319	321	323	326	326	343	377
379	380	382	382	385	385	409	433	433	439	443	444	473	487	489	491	493	494	339	339
541	547	550	551	333	334	339	339	362	362	603	603	606	606						
143																			
1	68	72	134	141	200	202	202	210	261	263	263	276	324	326	326	328	328	346	380
382	383	383	383	388	388	412	440	442	444	446	446	450	450	478	491	493	493	497	498
543	548	550	554	336	336	339	360	362	362	368	368	608	608	611	611	674	674		
144																			
1	68	72	135	142	200	202	202	212	263	263	263	280	324	326	328	331	331	348	383
383	386	388	388	391	391	413	440	442	446	433	431	482	493	497	499	501	502	347	348
550	556	559	560	362	363	368	368	371	371	613	613	616	616						
145																			
1	69	73	136	143	203	205	205	213	265	267	267	282	329	331	331	333	333	351	386
388	389	391	391	394	394	418	447	449	451	453	453	457	457	485	499	501	503	303	306
551	557	559	563	365	365	368	369	371	371	377	377	618	618	621	621	683	683		
146																			
1	69	73	137	144	203	205	205	215	267	269	269	284	329	331	333	336	336	353	389
391	392	394	394	397	397	421	447	449	453	457	458	489	503	503	507	509	510	355	357
559	565	568	569	371	372	377	377	380	380	621	621	623	623	626	626				
147																			
1	70	74	138	145	206	208	208	216	269	271	271	286	334	336	336	338	333	356	392
394	395	397	397	400	400	424	434	436	438	460	460	464	464	492	507	509	511	313	314
554	566	568	572	374	374	377	378	380	380	386	386	626	626	628	628	631	631	696	696
148																			
1	70	74	139	146	206	208	208	218	271	273	273	288	334	336	338	341	341	358	395
397	398	400	400	403	403	427	434	436	460	464	463	496	511	513	513	517	513	363	366
568	574	577	578	380	381	386	386	389	389	631	631	633	633	636	646	696	696		
149																			
1	71	75	140	147	209	211	211	219	273	275	275	290	339	341	341	343	343	361	398
400	401	403	403	406	406	430	461	463	463	467	467	471	471	499	513	517	519	321	322
567	575	577	581	383	383	386	387	389	389	393	393	636	636	638	638	641	641	707	707
150																			
1	71	75	141	148	209	211	211	221	273	277	277	292	339	341	343	346	346	363	401
403	404	406	406	409	409	433	461	463	467	471	472	503	519	521	523	523	526	371	375
577	583	586	587	389	390	393	393	398	398	641	641	643	643	646	646	716	707		
151																			
1	72	76	142	149	212	214	214	222	277	279	279	294	344	346	346	348	348	366	404
406	407	409	409	412	412	436	468	470	472	474	474	478	478	506	523	523	527	329	330
573	584	586	590	392	392	393	396	398	398	604	604	646	646	648	648	631	631	718	718



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