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Erdős, Paul

Combinatorial problems in geometry. (In English)

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This is a nice conference lecture given by the author at the 17th New Zealand Mathematics Colloquium, Dunedin, 17-19 May 1982. The author talks about some combinatorial problems in geometry, such as the following ones: 1. If you have n points in the plane and every line which goes through two of them also goes through a third then the points all lie on a straight line. 2. If you have n points in the plane, not all on a line and you join two of the points, then you get at least n distinct lines. 3. (Conjecture). If there are n points in the plane, at most $n - k$ on a line, then the number of distinct lines is greater than ckn , for an absolute constant c . 4. If there is an infinite set of points in the plane, such that the distances between any two of them are integers, then all the points lie on a line. 5. (unsolved for $n \geq 6$). It is quite easy to find n points on a circle so that all the distances are integers, but can you find n points in general position no three on a line, no four on a circle, such that all distances are integers?

M. Ștefănescu

Classification:

51E25 Other finite nonlinear geometries

05B25 Finite geometries (combinatorics)

52A37 Other problems of combinatorial convexity

00A07 Problem books