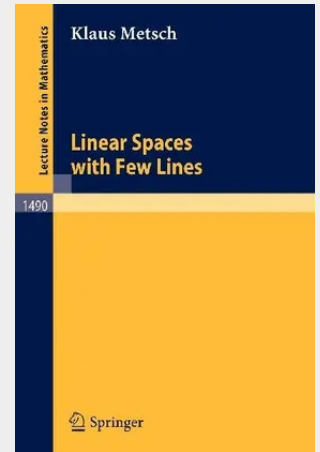


Linear Spaces with Few Lines

A famous theorem in the theory of linear spaces states that every finite linear space has at least as many lines as points. This result of De Bruijn and Erdős led to the conjecture that every linear space with "few lines" can be obtained from a projective plane by changing only a small part of its structure. Many results related to this conjecture have been proved in the last twenty years. This monograph surveys the subject and presents several new results, such as the recent proof of the Dowling-Wilson conjecture. Typical methods used in combinatorics are developed so that the text can be understood without too much background. Thus the book will be of interest to anybody doing combinatorics and can also help other readers to learn the techniques used in this particular field.

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