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ON FINITE SIMPLE CLASSICAL GROUPS OVER FIELDS OF DIFFERENT  
CHARACTERISTICS WITH COINCIDING PRIME GRAPHS

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Suppose that  $G$  is a finite group,  $\pi(G)$  is the set of prime divisors of its order, and  $\omega(G)$  is the set of orders of its elements. We define a graph on  $\pi(G)$  with the following adjacency relation: different vertices  $r$  and  $s$  from  $\pi(G)$  are adjacent if and only if  $rs \in \omega(G)$ . This graph is called the *Gruenberg–Kegel graph* or the *prime graph* of  $G$  and is denoted by  $GK(G)$ . Let  $G$  and  $G_1$  be two nonisomorphic finite simple groups of Lie type over fields of orders  $q$  and  $q_1$ , respectively, with different characteristics. It is proved that, if  $G$  is a classical group of a sufficiently high Lie rank, then the prime graphs of the groups  $G$  and  $G_1$  may coincide only in one of three cases. It is also proved that, if  $G = A_1(q)$  and  $G_1$  is a classical group, then the prime graphs of the groups  $G$  and  $G_1$  coincide only if  $\{G, G_1\}$  is equal to  $\{A_1(9), A_1(4)\}$ ,  $\{A_1(9), A_1(5)\}$ ,  $\{A_1(7), A_1(8)\}$ , or  $\{A_1(49), A_3(3)\}$ .

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