PROJECTIVE GEOMETRY

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Contents

CHAPTER 1
Conics

1.1 Group Laws on Conics

Consider a non-degenerate conic section $\mathcal{C}$ and a point $O \in \mathcal{C}$. For any points $P, Q \in \mathcal{C}$, let ℓ' be the line passing through O such that $\ell' \parallel \ell$ where ℓ is the line joining P and Q. If ℓ' intersects $\mathcal{C}$ at a point other than O, call that point R. Otherwise, take $R = O$. Define a binary operation $\oplus_O : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{C}$ as $P \oplus_O Q := R$.

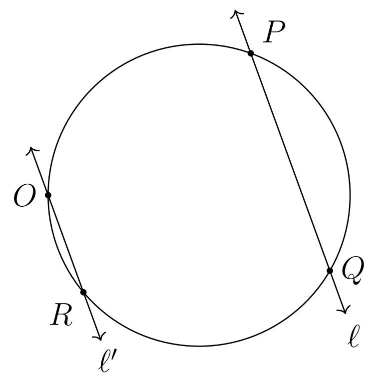

Figure 1.1 : $P \oplus_O Q$ when $\mathcal{C}$ is a circle.

We'll first find formulae to calculate $P \oplus_O Q$ and then proceed to prove that $\mathcal{C}$ is a group with $\oplus_O$.

A Note on Standard Forms

Throughout this section, we'll only use standard forms of non-degenerate conics i.e. circle, rectangular hyperbola and parabola with equations $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, $xy = 1$ and $y = x^2$ respectively. In the next chapter, we'll show that any ellipse, hyperbola and parabola is affine-congruent to these standard forms; generalizing our results to all conics.

Circle

If $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{S}$ with equation $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, any point $P \in \mathcal{S}$ has coordinates $(\cos t, \sin t)$ where $t \in [0, 2\pi)$ is the angle P forms with the positive x-axis in the counter-clockwise direction.

Let $O, P, Q, R \in \mathcal{P}$ be points with parameters t_0, t_1, t_2 and t_3 respectively such that $P \oplus_O Q = R$. By definition of $P \oplus_O Q$, we have $PQ \parallel OR$. Note that if $P = Q$, then slope at P is

$$y'|_{x=t_1} = \left(-\frac{x}{y}\right)_{t=t_1} = \left(-\frac{\cos t}{\sin t}\right)_{t=t_1} = -\cot t_1 = -\cot\left(\frac{t_1+t_2}{2}\right)$$

and if $P \neq Q$, then $t_1 \neq t_2$ and slope of PQ is

$$\frac{\sin t_2 - \sin t_1}{\cos t_2 - \cos t_1} = -\frac{\sin\left(\frac{t_2-t_1}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{t_2+t_1}{2}\right)}{\sin\left(\frac{t_2-t_1}{2}\right)\sin\left(\frac{t_2+t_1}{2}\right)} = -\cot\left(\frac{t_2+t_1}{2}\right)$$

Also note that $\sin\left(\frac{t_2-t_1}{2}\right)$ can be cancelled as it's only zero when $t_2 = t_1 + 2n\pi$ which means $P = Q$. So, we don't need to consider the points being same as a separate case. Equating slopes of PQ and OR, we get,

$$\begin{aligned} -\cot\left(\frac{t_2+t_1}{2}\right) &= -\cot\left(\frac{t_3+t_0}{2}\right) \\ \implies \frac{t_2+t_1}{2} &= n\pi + \frac{t_3+t_0}{2} \\ \implies t_3 &= t_2 + t_1 - t_0 - 2n\pi \end{aligned}$$

As shifts of $2n\pi$ don't affect t_3, we can ignore that term on the RHS. Thus for any $P, Q \in \mathcal{S}$ with parameters t_1 and t_2 respectively for circle $\mathcal{S}$, $P \oplus_O Q = R$ has parameter $t_3 = t_1 + t_2 - t_0$ where t_0 is the parameter for point O. Note that we always add or subtract multiples of 2π to make sure $t_3 \in [0, 2\pi)$.

It is easy to see that $\oplus_O$ satisfies closure for $\mathcal{S}$. We'll verfiy each of the group axioms now.

1. **Identity:** For any $P \in \mathcal{S}$ with parameter t, $P \oplus_O O$ will have parameter

   $$t' = t + t_0 - t_0 = t$$

   Thus O acts as the identity element for $\oplus_O$.

2. **Inverse:** The point $Q \in \mathcal{S}$ with parameter $2t_0 - t$ gives the parameter of $P \oplus_O Q$ to be

   $$t' = t + 2t_0 - t - t_0 = t_0$$

   Hence, Q is the inverse of P.

3. **Associativity:** For any $P, Q, R \in \mathcal{S}$ with parameters t_1, t_2 and t_3 respectively, $P \oplus_O (Q \oplus_O R)$ has parameter

   $$t_1 + (t_2 + t_3 - t_0) - t_0 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3 - 2t_0$$

   On the other hand, $(P \oplus_O Q) \oplus_O R$ has parameter

   $$(t_1 + t_2 - t_0) + t_3 - t_0 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3 - 2t_0$$

   Thus $\oplus_O$ is associative.

This shows that $\mathcal{S}$ is a group with $\oplus_O$.

Theorem 1. $\langle \mathcal{S}, \oplus_O \rangle \cong \langle S^1, \cdot \rangle$ *where* $S^1 = \{e^{i\theta} \in \mathbb{C} : \theta \in [0, 2\pi)\}$.

Proof. Consider $\varphi : \mathcal{S} \to S^1$ given by $\varphi((\cos\theta, \sin\theta)) = e^{i(\theta-\theta_0)}$. For any points $P, Q \in \mathcal{S}$ parametrized by θ_1 and θ_2 respectively, $P \oplus_O Q$ has parameter $\theta_1 + \theta_2 - \theta_0$. So,

$$\varphi(P \oplus_O Q) = e^{i(\theta_1+\theta_2-2\theta_0)} = e^{i(\theta_1-\theta_0)}e^{i(\theta_2-\theta_0)} = \varphi(P)\varphi(Q)$$

Thus φ is a homomorphism.
If $\varphi(P) = \varphi(Q)$ for some $P, Q \in \mathcal{S}$ parametrized by θ_1 and θ_2 respectively, then

$$e^{i(\theta_1-\theta_0)} = e^{i(\theta_2-\theta_0)} \implies e^{i\theta_1}e^{-i\theta_0} = e^{i\theta_2}e^{-i\theta_0} \implies e^{i\theta_1} = e^{i\theta_2} \implies \theta_1 = 2n\pi + \theta_2$$

i.e. $P = Q$. Thus φ is injective.
For any $e^{i\theta} \in S^1$, we have the point $P = (\cos(\theta+\theta_0), \sin(\theta+\theta_0)) \in \mathcal{S}$ such that

$$\varphi(P) = e^{i(\theta+\theta_0-\theta_0)} = e^{i\theta}$$

Thus φ is surjective. This shows that φ is a bijective homomorphism i.e. an isomorphism from $\langle \mathcal{S}, \oplus_O \rangle$ to $\langle S^1, \cdot \rangle$. ■

Parabola

If $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{P}$ is the parabola with equation $y = x^2$, any point on it can be parametrized as (t, t^2) where $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let $O, P, Q, R \in \mathcal{P}$ be points with parameters t_0, t_1, t_2 and t_3 respectively such that $P \oplus_O Q = R$. By definition of $P \oplus_O Q$, we have $PQ \parallel OR$. Note that if $P = Q$, then slope at P is

$$y'|_{x=t_1} = (2x)_{x=t_1} = 2t_1 = t_1 + t_2$$

and if $P \neq Q$, then $t_1 \neq t_2$ and slope of PQ is

$$\frac{t_2^2 - t_1^2}{t_2 - t_1} = t_1 + t_2$$

So, we don't need to consider the points being same as a separate case. Equating slopes of PQ and OR, we get,

$$t_1 + t_2 = t_0 + t_3 \implies t_3 = t_1 + t_2 - t_0$$

Thus, for any points $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ with parameters t_1 and t_2 respectively for a parabola $\mathcal{P}$, $P \oplus_O Q = R$ has parameter $t_3 = t_1 + t_2 - t_0$ where t_0 is the parameter for point O.

It is easy to see that $\oplus_O$ satisfies closure for $\mathcal{P}$. We'll verfiy each of the group axioms now.

1. **Identity:** For any $P \in \mathcal{P}$ with parameter t, $P \oplus_O O$ will have parameter

$$t' = t + t_0 - t_0 = t$$

Thus O acts as the identity element for $\oplus_O$.

2. **Inverse:** The point $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ with parameter $2t_0 - t$ gives the parameter of $P \oplus_O Q$ to be

$$t' = t + 2t_0 - t - t_0 = t_0$$

Hence, Q is the inverse of P.

3. **Associativity:** For any $P, Q, R \in \mathcal{P}$ with parameters t_1, t_2 and t_3 respectively, $P \oplus_O (Q \oplus_O R)$ has parameter

$$t_1 + (t_2 + t_3 - t_0) - t_0 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3 - 2t_0$$

On the other hand, $(P \oplus_O Q) \oplus_O R$ has parameter

$$(t_1 + t_2 - t_0) + t_3 - t_0 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3 - 2t_0$$

Thus $\oplus_O$ is associative.

This shows that $\mathcal{P}$ is a group with $\oplus_O$.

Theorem 2. $\langle \mathcal{P}, \oplus_O \rangle \cong \langle \mathbb{R}, + \rangle$.

Proof. Consider $\varphi : \mathcal{P} \to \mathbb{R}$ given by $\varphi((t, t^2)) = t - t_0$. For any points $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ parametrized by t_1 and t_2 respectively, $P \oplus_O Q$ has parameter $t_1 + t_2 - t_0$. So,

$$\varphi(P \oplus_O Q) = t_1 + t_2 - 2t_0 = (t_1 - t_0) + (t_2 - t_0) = \varphi(P) + \varphi(Q)$$

Thus φ is a homomorphism.
If $\varphi(P) = \varphi(Q)$ for some $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ parametrized by t_1 and t_2 respectively, then

$$t_1 - t_0 = t_2 - t_0 \implies t_1 = t_2$$

i.e. $P = Q$. Thus φ is injective.
For any $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we have the point $P = (t + t_0, (t + t_0)^2) \in \mathcal{P}$ such that

$$\varphi(P) = t + t_0 - t_0 = t$$

Thus φ is surjective. This shows that φ is a bijective homomorphism i.e. an isomorphism from $\langle \mathcal{P}, \oplus_O \rangle$ to $\langle \mathbb{R}, + \rangle$. ■

Hyperbola

If $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{H}$ is the rectangular hyperbola with equation $xy = 1$, any point on it can be parametrized as (t, t^{-1}) where $t \in \mathbb{R}^{\times}$.

Let $O, P, Q, R \in \mathcal{H}$ be points with parameters t_0, t_1, t_2 and t_3 respectively such that $P \oplus_O Q = R$. By definition of $P \oplus_O Q$, we have $PQ \parallel OR$. Note that if $P = Q$, then slope at P is

$$y'|_{x=t_1} = \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right)_{x=t_1} = -\frac{1}{t_1^2} = -\frac{1}{t_1 t_2}$$

and if $P \neq Q$, then $t_1 \neq t_2$ and slope of PQ is

$$\frac{t_2^{-1} - t_1^{-1}}{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{t_1 - t_2}{t_1 t_2 (t_2 - t_1)} = -\frac{1}{t_1 t_2}$$

So, we don't need to consider points being same as a separate case. Equating slopes of PQ and OR, we get,

$$-\frac{1}{t_1 t_2} = -\frac{1}{t_0 t_3} \implies t_3 = \frac{t_1 t_2}{t_0}$$

Thus, for any points $P, Q \in \mathcal{H}$ with parameters t_1 and t_2 respectively for a rectangular hyperbola $\mathcal{H}$, $P \oplus_O Q = R$ has parameter $t_3 = t_1 t_2 t_0^{-1}$ where t_0 is the parameter corresponding to point O.

It is easy to see that $\oplus_O$ satisfies closure for $\mathcal{H}$. We'll verfiy each of the group axioms now.

1. **Identity:** For any $P \in \mathcal{H}$ with parameter t, $P \oplus_O O$ will have parameter

   $$t' = t t_0 t_0^{-1} = t$$

   Thus O acts as the identity element for $\oplus_O$.

2. **Inverse:** The point $Q \in \mathcal{H}$ with parameter $t_0^2 t^{-1}$ gives the parameter of $P \oplus_O Q$ to be

   $$t' = t(t_0^2 t^{-1}) t_0^{-1} = t_0$$

   Hence, Q is the inverse of P.

3. **Associativity:** For any $P, Q, R \in \mathcal{H}$ with parameters t_1, t_2 and t_3 respectively, $P \oplus_O (Q \oplus_O R)$ has parameter

   $$t_1 (t_2 t_3 t_0^{-1}) t_0^{-1} = t_1 t_2 t_3 t_0^{-2}$$

   On the other hand, $(P \oplus_O Q) \oplus_O R$ has parameter

   $$(t_1 t_2 t_0^{-1}) t_3 t_0^{-1} = t_1 t_2 t_3 t_0^{-2}$$

   Thus $\oplus_O$ is associative.

This shows that $\mathcal{H}$ is a group with $\oplus_O$.

Theorem 3. $\langle \mathcal{H}, \oplus_O \rangle \cong \langle \mathbb{R}^\times, \cdot \rangle$.

Proof. Consider $\varphi : \mathcal{H} \to \mathbb{R}^\times$ given by $\varphi((t, t^{-1})) = tt_0^{-1}$. For any points $P, Q \in \mathcal{H}$ parametrized by t_1 and t_2 respectively, $P \oplus_O Q$ has parameter $t_1 t_2 t_0^{-1}$. So,

$$\varphi(P \oplus_O Q) = t_1 t_2 t_0^{-2} = (t_1 t_0^{-1})(t_2 t_0^{-1}) = \varphi(P)\varphi(Q)$$

Thus φ is a homomorphism.

If $\varphi(P) = \varphi(Q)$ for some $P, Q \in \mathcal{H}$ parametrized by t_1 and t_2 respectively, then

$$t_1 t_0^{-1} = t_2 t_0^{-1} \implies t_1 = t_2$$

i.e. $P = Q$. Thus φ is injective.

For any $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we have the point $P = (tt_0, (tt_0)^{-1}) \in \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$\varphi(P) = tt_0 t_0^{-1} = t$$

Thus φ is surjective. This shows that φ is a bijective homomorphism i.e. an isomorphism from $\langle \mathcal{H}, \oplus_O \rangle$ to $\langle \mathbb{R}^\times, \cdot \rangle$. ∎

1.2 Generalizing to any field

Note: *Throughout this section, we'll limit ourselves to fields whose characteristic is not 2 as fields with characteristic 2 require a more careful treatment.*

In the previous section, we've considered our conic as the set of points $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ that make $f(x, y) = 0$ where $f \in \mathbb{R}[x, y]$ is square-free and has degree 2. We could very well have considered a similar set for any field $\mathbb{F}$ and we'll now show how a similar operation gives rise to a group structure.

We'll consider $\mathbb{F}^2$ as a vector space for the rest of this section. Consider a set

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}^2 : f(x, y) = 0\}$$

where $f \in \mathbb{F}[x, y]$ is square-free and has degree 2. Fix an $\vec{O} = (x_0, y_0) \in \mathcal{C}$. For any $\vec{A}, \vec{B} \in \mathcal{C}$ where $\vec{A} = (a_1, a_2)$ and $\vec{B} = (b_1, b_2)$.

Let

$$\vec{c} = \begin{cases} \vec{B} - \vec{A} & \text{if } \vec{A} \neq \vec{B} \\ \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, -\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)_{(x,y)=\vec{A}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = \{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{F}^2 : \vec{x} = \vec{O} + \lambda \vec{c} \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{F}\}$$

Note that the partial derivative above is a formal derivative since we considered f to be a polynomial in x and y. We aren't really considering any limits here. Clearly, $\vec{O} \in \mathcal{C} \cap \ell$. Now, $|\mathcal{C} \cap \ell|$ can either be 1 or 2 (from the Bezout bound). Define

$$\vec{A} \oplus_O \vec{B} := \begin{cases} \vec{C} & \text{if } \mathcal{C} \cap \ell = \{\vec{O}, \vec{C}\} \\ \vec{O} & \text{if } \mathcal{C} \cap \ell = \{\vec{O}\} \end{cases}$$

Hyperbola and Parabola

For $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{P}$ and $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{H}$, we get $f(x, y)$ to be $y - x^2$ and $xy - 1$ respectively. In both cases, the parametrization we used for $\mathbb{R}^2$ case works for $\mathbb{F}^2$ as well. Further, even our formula for the operation extends nicely to $\mathbb{F}^2$ as the derivation didn't really use any properties special to the vector space $\mathbb{R}^2$. So, we have $\langle \mathcal{P}, \oplus_O \rangle \cong \langle \mathbb{F}, + \rangle$ and $\langle \mathcal{H}, \oplus_O \rangle \cong \langle \mathbb{F}^\times, \cdot \rangle$.

Circle

For $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{S}$, we get $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 1$. This curve has radial symmetry, so we can always apply a rotation to it such that $\vec{O} = (1, 0)$. Our goal is to find λ such that $\vec{O} + \lambda\vec{c} \in \mathcal{S}$. Suppose $\vec{c} = (z, w)$. Any point on $\mathcal{S}$ must satisfy $x^2 + y^2 = 1$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
&(1 + \lambda z)^2 + (0 + \lambda w)^2 = 1 \\
\implies &1 + \lambda^2(z^2 + w^2) + 2\lambda z = 1 \\
\implies &\lambda^2(z^2 + w^2) + 2\lambda z = 0 \\
\implies &\lambda((z^2 + w^2)\lambda + 2z) = 0 \\
\implies &\lambda = 0 \text{ or } \lambda = -\frac{2z}{z^2 + w^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Since $P \neq Q$, $(z, w) = (b_1 - a_1, b_2 - a_2)$. If $z^2 + w^2 = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
&b^2 + a^2 + a^2 + b^2 - 2a_1b_1 - 2a_2b_2 = 0 \\
\implies &a_1b_1 = 1 - a_2b_2 \\
\implies &a_1^2b_1^2 = 1 + a_2^2b_2^2 - 2a_2b_2 \\
\implies &a_1^2b_1^2 = 1 + (1 - a_1^2)(1 - b_1^2) - 2a_2b_2 \\
\implies &2a_2b_2 = 1 - a_1^2 + 1 - b_1^2 \\
\implies &a_2^2 + b_2^2 - 2a_2b_2 = 0 \\
\implies &(a_2 - b_2)^2 = 0 \\
\implies &a_2 = b_2
\end{aligned}$$

It is now easy to see that $a_1^2 = b_1^2$ or $a_1 = \pm b_1$. If $a_1 = b_1$, then $P = Q$ which is a contradiction. If $a_1 = -b_1$, then $(z, w) = (2b_1, 0)$ but this means $4b_1^2 = 0$ or $b_1 = a_1 = 0$ or $P = Q$ which is again a contradiction. Hence, we can safely assume $z^2 + w^2 \neq 0$ when $P \neq Q$. The first solution just corresponds to $\vec{O}$, hence we take the second one. So, $\vec{A} \oplus_O \vec{B} = (1 + \lambda z, \lambda w)$.

If $\vec{A} \neq \vec{B}$, then $\vec{c} = (z, w) = (b_1 - a_1, b_2 - a_2)$. This means the first coordinate is

$$\begin{aligned}
1 + \lambda z &= \frac{z^2 + w^2 - 2z^2}{z^2 + w^2} \\
&= \frac{1 - b_1^2 - a_1^2 - a_2b_2 + a_1b_1}{1 - a_1b_1 - a_2b_2} \\
&= \frac{(1 - b_1^2 - a_1^2 - a_2b_2 + a_1b_1)(a_1b_1 - a_2b_2)}{(1 - a_1b_1 - a_2b_2)(a_1b_1 - a_2b_2)} \\
&= \frac{(1 - b_1^2 - a_1^2 - a_2b_2 + a_1b_1)(a_1b_1 - a_2b_2)}{1 - b_1^2 - a_1^2 - a_2b_2 + a_1b_1} \\
&= a_1b_1 - a_2b_2
\end{aligned}$$

and the second coordinate is

$$
\begin{aligned}
\lambda w &= \frac{-2zw}{z^2 + w^2} \\
&= \frac{-(b_1b_2 + a_1a_2 - a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)}{1 - a_1b_1 - a_2b_2} \\
&= \frac{-(b_1b_2 + a_1a_2 - a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)(a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)}{(1 - a_1b_1 - a_2b_2)(a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)} \\
&= \frac{-(b_1b_2 + a_1a_2 - a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)(a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)}{a_1b_2 + a_2b_1 - b_1b_2 - a_1a_2} \\
&= a_1b_2 + a_2b_1
\end{aligned}
$$

If $\vec{A} = \vec{B}$, then $\vec{c} = (z, w) = (2a_2, -2a_1)$. So,

$$
\begin{aligned}
1 + \lambda z &= 1 + \frac{-4a_2(2a_2)}{4a_2^2 + 4a_1^2} = 1 - 2a_2^2 = a_1^2 - a_2^2 \\
\text{and } \lambda w &= \frac{-4a_2(-2a_1)}{4a_2^2 + 4a_1^2} = 2a_1a_2
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence, $\vec{A} \oplus_O \vec{B} = (a_1b_1 - a_2b_2, a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)$ for any points $\vec{A}, \vec{B} \in \mathcal{S}$.

Theorem 4. *If S is defined over $\mathbb{F}^2$, $\langle \mathcal{S}, \oplus_O \rangle \cong \langle \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F}), \cdot \rangle$.*

Proof. Consider $\varphi : \mathcal{S} \to \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$ given by

$$
\varphi((a_1, a_2)) = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}
$$

It is easy to see that det $\varphi((a_1, a_2)) = a_1^2 + a_2^2 = 1$. Further, the columns are orthogonal to each other as $-a_1a_2 + a_2a_1 = 0$.

For any $(a_1, a_2), (b_1, b_2) \in \mathcal{S}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varphi((a_1, a_2))\varphi((b_1, b_2)) &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & -b_2 \\ b_2 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 - a_2b_2 & -a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 \\ a_1b_2 + a_2b_1 & a_1b_1 - a_2b_2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \varphi((a_1b_1 - a_2b_2, a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)) \\
&= \varphi((a_1, a_2) \oplus_O (b_1, b_2))
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus φ is a homomorphism.

For any $(a_1, a_2), (b_1, b_2) \in \mathcal{S}$,

$$
\varphi((a_1, a_2)) = \varphi((b_1, b_2)) \implies \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & -b_2 \\ b_2 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \implies (a_1, a_2) = (b_1, b_2)
$$

Thus φ is injective.

Consider any $M \in \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$, where

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, by definition of $\mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$, $ad - bc = 1$ and $MM^{\mathrm{T}} = I$. The second condition gives

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies a^2 + b^2 &= 1 \\ c^2 + d^2 &= 1 \\ ac + bd &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Using these, we get $a = d$ and $b = -c$. Consider a point $(a, b) \in \mathbb{F}^2$. Since $a^2 + b^2 = 1$, $(a, b) \in \mathcal{S}$. Further, $\varphi((a, b)) = M$. Thus φ is surjective. This shows that φ is a bijective homomorphism i.e. an isomorphism from $\langle \mathcal{S}, \oplus_O \rangle$ to $\langle \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F}), \cdot \rangle$. ■

Theorem 5. *If $x^2 + 1 = 0$ has a solution in $\mathbb{F}$, then $\langle \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F}), \cdot \rangle \cong \langle \mathbb{F}^\times, \cdot \rangle$.*

Proof. Let $i \in \mathbb{F}$ be a solution to $x^2 + 1 = 0$. From the previous proof, we have, for any $M \in \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$,

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

where $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$. The characteristic polynomial of M is $(a - \lambda)^2 + b^2$ or $\lambda^2 - 2a\lambda + a^2 + b^2$. Thus the eigenvalues are $a \pm ib$. The corresponding eigenvectors will be $(1, \mp i)$. We can then write M as a diagonal matrix,

$$M' = \begin{bmatrix} a + ib & 0 \\ 0 & a - ib \end{bmatrix}$$

So, we'll denote elements of $\mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$ as $M(a + ib)$ where $a + ib \neq 0$ as elements of $\mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$ are invertible. Consider the map $\varphi : \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F}) \to \mathbb{F}^\times$ given by $\varphi(M(a + ib)) = a + ib$.

For any $M(a + ib), M(c + id) \in \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(M(a + ib)M(c + id)) &= \varphi(M((a + ib)(c + id))) \\ &= (a + ib)(c + id) \\ &= \varphi(M(a + ib))\varphi(M(c + id)) \end{aligned}$$

Thus φ is a homomorphism.

For any $M(a + ib), M(c + id) \in \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$,

$$\varphi(M(a + ib)) = \varphi(M(c + id)) \implies a + ib = c + id$$

Thus φ is injective.

For any $a, x \in \mathbb{F}^\times$, let $x = a + ib$. This gives $b = -i(x - a)$. Further, $a^2 + b^2 = 1$ gives $x^2 - 2ax + 1 = 0$ which is just the characteristic equation of $M(x)$. Hence, we have $M(x) \in \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F})$ such that $\varphi(M(x)) = x$. Thus φ is surjective. This shows that φ is a bijective homomorphism i.e. an isomorphism from $\langle \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F}), \cdot \rangle$ to $\langle \mathbb{F}^\times, \cdot \rangle$. ■

The above theorem can better be understood by noting that applying $(x, y) \mapsto (x, iy)$ to the equation $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ results in $x^2 - y^2 = 1$ which is an equation of a hyperbola. Hence, the group $\langle \mathbb{F}^\times, \cdot \rangle$ corresponding to hyperbola is actually isomorphic to the group $\langle \mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{F}), \cdot \rangle$ corresponding to the circle if $x^2 + 1 = 0$ has a solution in $\mathbb{F}$.

1.3 Finding Pythagorean Triplets

Consider the set $\mathcal{C} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$ and $P_0 = (1, 0) \in \mathcal{C}$. For any $t, b \in \mathbb{Q}$, let $\ell_{t,b} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q} : y = tx + b\}$ such that $P_0 \in \ell_{t,b} \,\forall\, t, b \in \mathbb{Q}$. This means $0 = t + b$ or $b = -t$. Define $\ell_t := \ell_{t,-t}$. We'll now find the intersection of ℓ_t and $\mathcal{C}$. From ℓ_t, we have $y = tx - t = t(x - 1)$. Putting this in $x^2 + y^2 = 1$,

$$x^2 + t^2(x^2 + 1 - 2x) = 1 \implies (1 + t^2)x^2 - 2t^2x + (t^2 - 1) = 0$$

Applying the quadratic formula, we get

$$x = \frac{t^2 \pm \sqrt{t^4 - (t^2 + 1)(t^2 - 1)}}{t^2 + 1} = \frac{t^2 \pm 1}{1 + t^2}$$

Thus $x = 1$ or $x = (t^2 - 1)/(t^2 + 1)$. $x = 1$ corresponds to $y = 0$ i.e. the point P_0. For $x = (t^2 - 1)/(t^2 + 1)$,

$$y = t\left(\frac{t^2 - 1}{t^2 + 1} - 1\right) = \frac{-2t}{t^2 + 1}$$

Call this point P_t. As $P_t \in \mathcal{C}$,

$$\left(\frac{t^2 - 1}{t^2 + 1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{-2t}{t^2 + 1}\right)^2 = 1 \implies (t^2 - 1)^2 + (2t)^2 = (t^2 + 1)^2$$

If $t \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $(t^2 - 1)$, $2t$ and $(t^2 + 1)$ will all be in $\mathbb{Z}$. Hence, $(t^2 - 1, 2t, t^2 + 1)$ is a valid Pythagorean triple for all $t \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Note that this does **NOT** generate all Pythagorean triples. E.g. the triple $(5, 12, 13)$ will never be generated by this method as neither 5 nor 12 is one less than a perfect square.

We can adopt a similar strategy to generate rational or integer solutions to equations of the form $ax^2 + by^2 = cz^2$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$.

CHAPTER 2

Affine Geometry