

## MATH 665 PROBLEM SET 0

FALL 2024

**Due Thursday, October 10.** You may consult books, papers, and websites as long as you cite all sources and write up your solutions in your own words. **This problem set is only assigned to the undergraduates in the course.**

**Problem 1.** A crash course in modern algebraic geometry.

- (1) Read or review II.1–II.3 in Hartshorne’s *Algebraic Geometry*.
- (2) Do Exercises 1–6 from II.1.
- (3) Do Exercises 1–4, 7, 8 from II.2.
- (4) Read Chapters 5–6 in Milne, *Lectures on Étale Cohomology*.<sup>1</sup> You may find the Wikipedia article on “Grothendieck topology” helpful.
- (5) Determine the finite étale covers of  $\mathrm{Spec} \mathbf{F}_p$  and of  $\mathrm{Spec} \bar{\mathbf{F}}_p((t))$  for prime  $p$ .

**Problem 2.** A crash course in Lie theory. You may find the following helpful:

- The section “Roots” in the Wikipedia article “Reductive group”.
- The sections “Structure” and “Example root space decomposition. . .” in the Wikipedia article “Semisimple Lie algebra”.

Over an algebraically closed field of characteristic not 2, let

$$\mathfrak{g} = \{\gamma \in \mathfrak{gl}_4 \mid \gamma^t J + J\gamma = 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad G = \{g \in \mathrm{GL}_4 \mid g^t J g = J\},$$

where  $J$  is the symplectic form

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 \\ & & 1 & \\ & -1 & & \\ -1 & & & \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus  $\mathfrak{g}$  is the Lie algebra of  $G$ . Let  $T \subseteq G$  be the subgroup of diagonal elements.

- (1) Determine the diagonal and strictly upper-triangular elements of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . They should form subspaces of dimensions 2 and 4, respectively.
- (2) Assuming that  $T$  is a maximal torus, use (1) to list the upper-triangular root subgroups  $U_\alpha \subseteq G$ . Use the fact that  $tut^{-1} = \alpha(t)u$  for all  $t \in T$  and  $u \in U_\alpha$  to find the corresponding roots  $\alpha : T \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_m$ .
- (3) Draw the character lattice  $X(T) := \mathrm{Hom}(T, \mathbf{G}_m)$ , and plot the roots in (2). Recall that the Weyl group of  $(G, T)$  is generated by the reflections that send  $\alpha \mapsto -\alpha$ . Which group is it?

In the literature,  $\mathfrak{g}$  is known as the *symplectic Lie algebra*  $\mathfrak{sp}_4$  and  $G$  is known as the *symplectic linear group*  $\mathrm{Sp}_4$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Available at <https://www.jmilne.org/math/CourseNotes/LEC.pdf> for free.