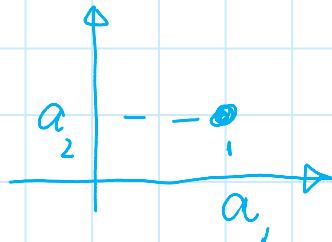


# Bernstein-Kouchnirenko-Khovanskii with a symmetry

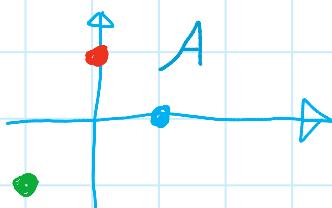
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Nottingham AG seminar  
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## Prequel: the classics



$$\mapsto x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} =: x^a$$



$$\mapsto \alpha \cdot x_1 + \beta \cdot x_2 + \gamma \cdot x_1^{-1} x_2^{-1} = 0$$

a polynomial supported at A

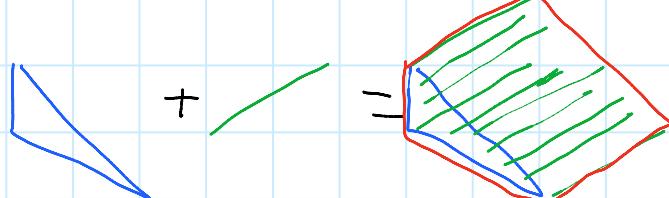
$A, B \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \mapsto$  systems of equations  $f = g = 0$  supported at  $A, B$

### Kouchnirenko-Bernstein formula:

$f_1 = \dots = f_n = 0$  is a generic system supported at  $A_1, \dots, A_n \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \Rightarrow$  the number of its solutions in  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^n$  equals the mixed volume of  $A_1, \dots, A_n$

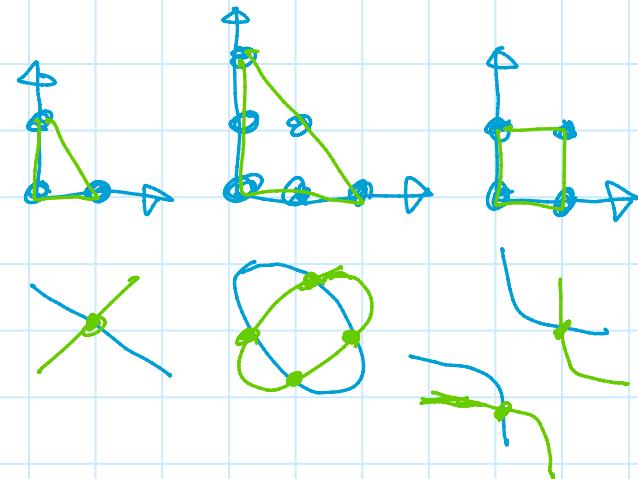
### Minkowski sum

$$A + B := \{a + b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$$



### Mixed volume

$$A_1 \cdot \dots \cdot A_n := \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_q} (-1)^{n-q} \text{Vol}(A_{i_1} + \dots + A_{i_q})$$



$$\bullet - = \boxed{\text{---}} - | - = | - 0 - 0 = |$$

**BKK toolkit:**  $f = g = 0$  is a generic system supported at  $A, B \subset \mathbb{Z}^3 \Rightarrow$

1)  $f = g = 0$  defines a smooth curve in  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3$

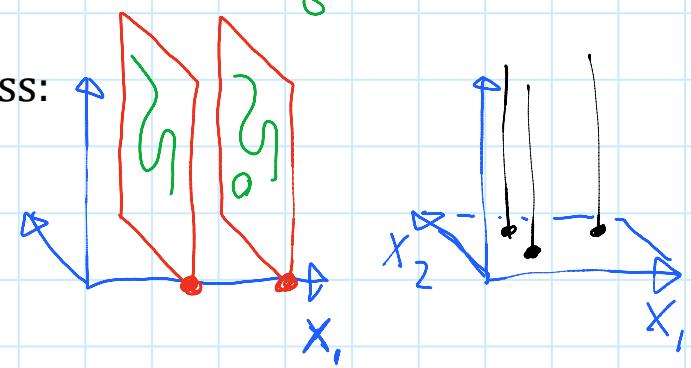
2)  $e(f = g = 0) = -(A + B) \cdot A \cdot B$

3) The genus, the tropical fan, ...

4) The curve is irreducible unless:

a.  $f(x_1) = g(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 0$

b.  $f(x_1, x_2) = g(x_1, x_2) = 0$



## Chapter 1: the symmetry

The **involution**  $I: \mathbb{Z}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^3$ ,  $I(u, v, w) := (v, u, w)$

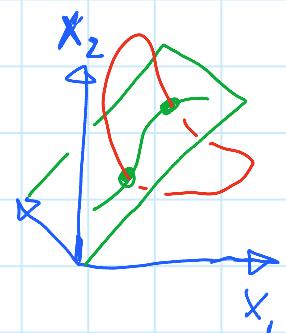
The **diagonal plane**  $D \subset \mathbb{Z}^3$  and the **fixed line**  $L \subset \mathbb{Z}^3$

Same in the algebraic torus:  $I: (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3 \supset D$

The **symmetric curve**  $C$ :

$f(x) = f(Ix) = 0$  for generic  $f$  supported at  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^3$

- BKK Toolkit for it?
- Higher dimensions & symmetries?
- What for?



$C$  is never irreducible: it has a **diagonal component**

$$C \cap D = \{f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = f(x_2, x_1, x_3) = 0, x_1 = x_2\}$$

This is **planar**: lies in  $D \simeq (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^2$ , so covered by the classical BKK.

Other diagonal components:  $\{f = 0, x_1 = \sqrt[d]{1} \cdot x_2\}$   
 where  $d = |\mathbb{Z}^3/(D + A + IA)|$

The rest of  $C$  is its **proper part**  $C_P$

**Theorem:** 1.  $C_P$  is smooth.

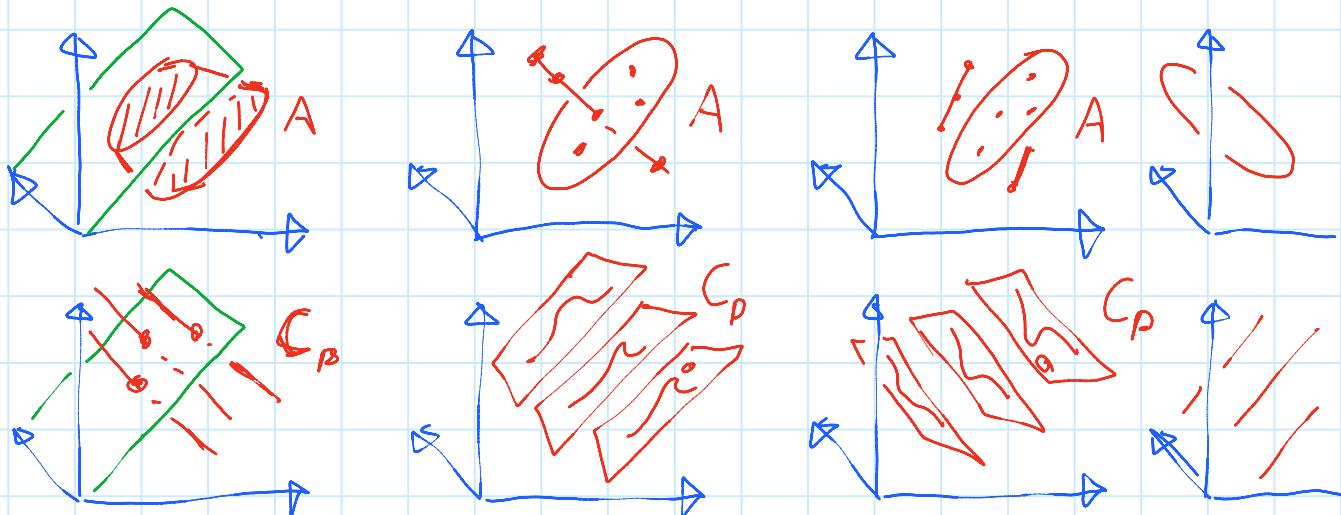
2. It intersects transversally every diagonal component at  $A/L \cdot A/L - \sum_{H \parallel D} (A/L - (A \setminus H)/L)$  points.

3.  $e(C_P) = \# - (A + IA) \cdot IA - \sum_{H \parallel D} (IA - (A \setminus H) \cdot I(A \setminus H))$

4. The genus, the tropical fan, ...

- Have you seen expressions like this?
- Simple to write, difficult to count
- No blenders - no sums

5.  $C_P$  is irreducible except for the following  $A$ :



**Example:**  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = g(x_1 \cdot x_2, x_3) + x_1 \cdot h(x_1 \cdot x_2, x_3)$

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = f(x_2, x_1, x_3) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x_1 - x_2) \cdot g = (x_1 - x_2) \cdot h = 0$$

**Proof:** difficult

**Conjecture:** easy

The proper part has more than one component

The proper part is locally planar

## Chapter 2: generalities and applications

A finite group  $G$  acts on  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^n$ ,  $\{\pm 1\}$  and  $\{1, \dots, k\}$ .

Finite sets  $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  satisfy  $A_{gi} = gA_i$  for  $g \in G$ .

Polynomials  $f_i$  supported at  $A_i$  & generic modulo  $f_{gi} = (-1)^g f_i \circ g$ .

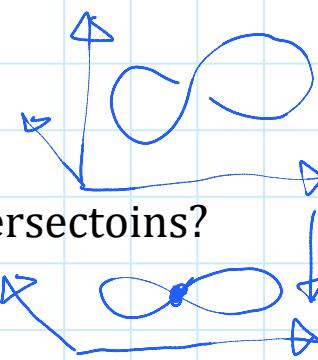
Study the complete intersection  $f_1 = \dots = f_k = 0$  in  $(\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^n$ .

### Interesting special cases

#### Self-intersections of an algebraic knot link

$\{f_1 = f_2 = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^2$ , how many self-intersections?

$f_1(x, y, z) = f_1(x, y, z') = f_2(x, y, z) = f_2(x, y, z') = 0$

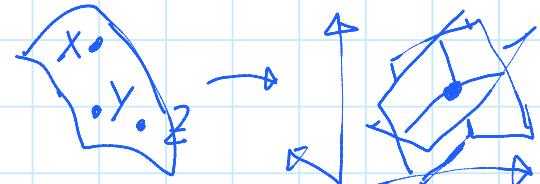
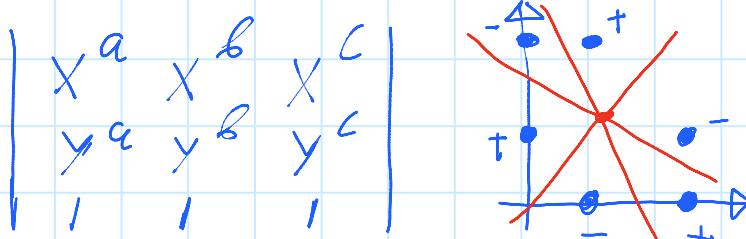


- Voorhaar'19  
- c.f. classical multiple point formulas

#### Affine multiple point formulas

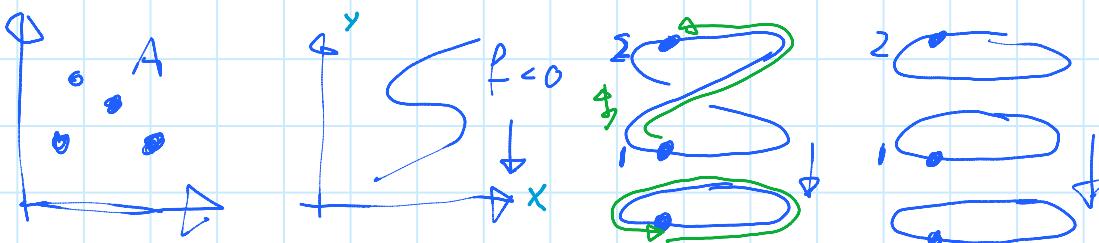
$f = (f_1, f_2, f_3) : (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^3$ , how many 3-points  $f(x) = f(y) = f(z)$ ?

#### Irreducibility of Schur polynomials



- Dvornicich, Zannier'09  
- Applications in representation theory  
(unique factorization of representations of  $GL$ )

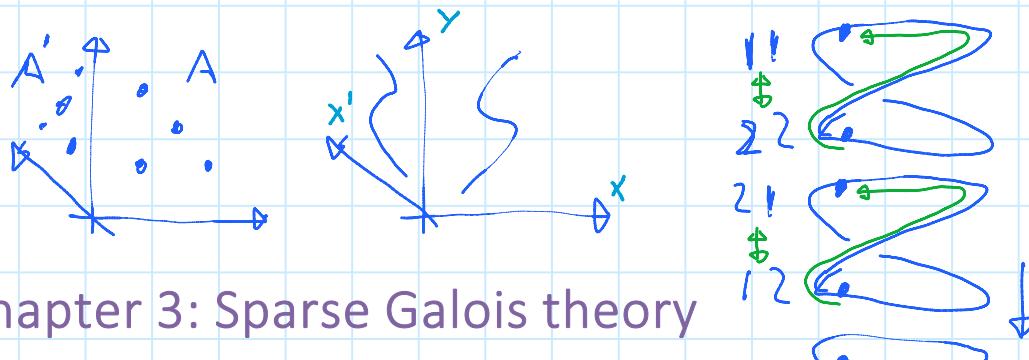
**Transitivity of monodromy:**  $\{f = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^2$  is irreducible  $\Leftrightarrow$  monodromy of  $\{f = 0\} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^1$ ,  $(x, y) \mapsto x$ , is transitive



A group  $G \subset S_k$  is **2-transitive** if  $\forall (i, j)$  is sent to  $\forall (i', j')$  with  $g \in G$ .

monodromy of  $\{f = 0\} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^1$ ,  $(x, y) \mapsto x$ , is 2-transitive  $\Leftrightarrow$

the **fiber square**  $\{f(x, y) = f(x', y) = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3$  is irreducible



### Chapter 3: Sparse Galois theory

$$c_1x + c_0 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -c_0/c_1$$

$$c_2x^2 + c_1x + c_0 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-c_1 \pm \sqrt{c_1^2 - 4c_0c_2}}{c_2}$$

$$c_3x^3 + \dots = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right)} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c}{3a} - \frac{b^2}{9a^2}\right)^3}$$

$$+ \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right)} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c}{3a} - \frac{b^2}{9a^2}\right)^3} - \frac{b}{3a}$$

$c_4x^4 + \dots = 0 \Rightarrow \dots$

$$c_5x^5 + \dots = 0 \Rightarrow \text{NO formula by radicals. But:}$$

$$px^2 + qx^{12} + rx^{22} \mapsto px^0 + qx^{10} + rx^{20} \mapsto p + qy + ry^2$$



**Theorem:** given several monomials  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}$ ,  
assume wlog that  $A$  starts at 0 and generates  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Then the general equation supported at  $A$  is solvable iff  $\max A \leq 4$ :

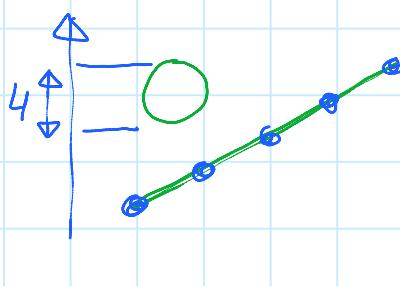
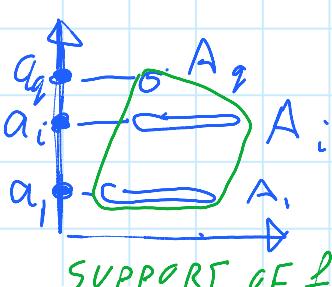
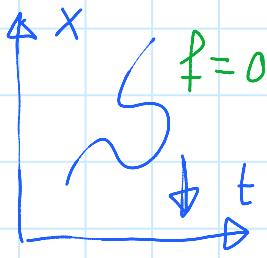
$$c_0 + c_1x^{a_1} + \dots + c_qx^{a_q} = 0$$

$f(x, t)$

**Specialization:** consider  $c_0(t) + c_1(t)x^{a_1} + \dots + c_q(t)x^{a_q} = 0$ ,  
where  $c_i(t)$  is a generic polynomial supported at  $A_i \subset \mathbb{Z}$ .

Its solutions  $x = x(t)$  can be expressed by radicals

Iff  $\max A \leq 4$  OR  $A_i = \{\alpha + \beta a_i\}$ :





**Why:** the Galois group of the covering  $(x, t) \mapsto t$  is full symmetric,  
**UNLESS**  $A_i = \{\alpha + \beta a_i\}$

**Why:** it contains a transposition and is 2-transitive  
**UNLESS**  $A_i = \{\alpha + \beta a_i\} \Rightarrow$  contains all transpositions

Thank you!