

Separated Variables on Plane Algebraic Curves

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Supported by the LIT with the grant LIT-2022-11-YOU-214

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Problem

Solve

$$r + q(x, y)p = f(x) - g(y)$$

for $q, f, g \in \mathbb{C}(x, y)$.

Some **field theoretic** interpretations

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$$r \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbf{x}) \pmod{p}$$

Sum-decomposition

$$r \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbb{C}(\mathbf{y}) \pmod{p}$$

Such problems arise in

- enumerative combinatorics
- computer vision
- parameter identification in ODE models
- algebraic independence of solutions of ODEs
- designing diffractive optical systems

Define

$$F(\mathfrak{r}, \mathfrak{p}) := \{(f, g) \in \mathbb{C}(\mathfrak{x}) \times \mathbb{C}(\mathfrak{y}) : f - g \in \mathfrak{r} + \langle \mathfrak{p} \rangle\}.$$

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Prop

Let (f, g) be any element of $F(r, p)$. Then

$$F(r, p) = (f, g) + F(0, p).$$

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Prop

Let (f, g) be any element of $F(r, p)$. Then

$$F(r, p) = (f, g) + F(0, p).$$

Furthermore,

$$F(p) \equiv F(0, p)$$

is a simple field.

Examples

$$p = (1 - x - x^3)y^2 - (1 - y - y^3)x^2$$

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$$F(p) = \mathbb{C} \left(\left(\frac{1 - x - x^3}{x^2}, \frac{1 - y - y^3}{y^2} \right) \right)$$

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$$F(p) = \mathbb{C}((1, 1)) \cong \mathbb{C}.$$

What are the solutions to

$$r + qp = f - g$$

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Hence

$$F(r, p) = \left(\frac{x-1}{x}, \frac{1}{y} \right) + F(p).$$

The problem of computing $F(r, p)$ splits into

- 1) finding a **generator** of $F(p)$, and
- 2) determining **any** element of $F(r, p)$.

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Strategy

The non-linear problem of solving

$$r + qp = f - g$$

is reduced to a **linear** problem. The reduction is based on the computation of the **poles** of f and g and their **multiplicities**.

1) Finding a generator of $F(p)$

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Poles

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Def

Let \sim be the smallest equivalence relation on $\{p = 0\}$ such that

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The equivalence class of (x_0, y_0) is called the **orbit** of (x_0, y_0) .

Thm

The coordinates of the orbit of ∞ are **poles** of f and g , respectively. The orbit is **finite**, and it is **exhaustive**.

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Remark

When $F(p)$ is trivial, then the orbit might be infinite.

1) Finding a generator of $F(p)$

Multiplicities

The problem is reduced to one for **homogeneous** polynomials by studying p **locally** at the elements of the **orbit** of ∞ .

Any $\omega \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ induces a **grading** on $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ by

$$\omega(ax^i y^j) = \omega_x i + \omega_y j.$$

The **leading part** of $p(x, y)$ is the sum of terms of maximal (weighted) degree $\omega(p)$. It is denoted by $lp_\omega(p)$.

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The weighted degrees of the terms of

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with respect to $\omega = (1, -2)$ are

$$-1, 0, -2, 0, -2.$$

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$$lp_\omega(p) = -1 - x^2y.$$

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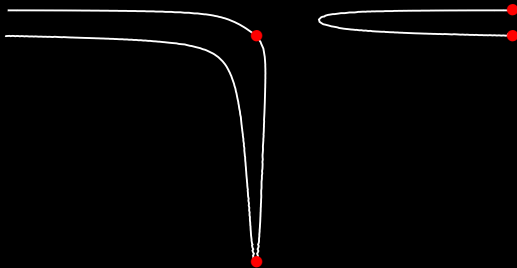
$$(\infty, 0), (\infty, -1), (0, -1) \quad \text{and} \quad (0, \infty).$$

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Since

$$F(\text{lp}_\omega(p)) = \mathbb{C}((x^2, -y^{-1})),$$

there is a $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$(m(\infty, f), m(0, g)) = k \cdot (2, 1).$$

The analysis of the other poles is done analogously. It results in the following 1-parameter family for their multiplicities.

f		g	
∞	$2k$	∞	k
0	$2k$	0	k
		-1	$2k$

Making the ansatz

$$f = \frac{f_0 + f_1x + \cdots + f_4x^4}{x^2} \quad \text{and} \quad g = \frac{g_0 + g_1y + \cdots + g_4y^4}{y(1+y)^2}$$

and

$$q = \frac{q_{0,0} + q_{1,0}x + \cdots + q_{2,1}x^2y}{x^2y(1+y)^2}$$

we find that

$$F(p) = \mathbb{C} \left(\left(\frac{(1-x)^2(1+x+x^2)}{x^2}, -\frac{(1+y+y^2)^2}{y(1+y)^2} \right) \right).$$

Thm

If $F(p)$ is non-trivial, then choosing $k = 1$ results in the multiplicities of the poles of a generator.

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Problem

Compute an upper bound on the size of a finite orbit.

Some tests for showing that $F(p)$ is trivial

Prop

Let $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ be the outward pointing normals of two edges of the Newton polygon of p . If

$$\operatorname{sgn}(\omega_1) = \operatorname{sgn}(\omega_2),$$

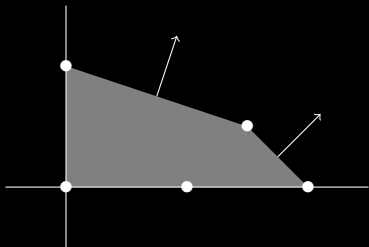
then $F(p) \cong \mathbb{C}$.

Example

The polynomial $1 + x^2 + x^4 + x^3y + y^2$ is not separable.

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Prop

If $F(lp_\omega(p))$ is trivial, then so is $F(p)$.

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Problem

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for $q, f \in \mathbb{C}(x, y)$.

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If

$$r(s_1, s_2) < \infty, \quad \text{then} \quad f(s_1) = \infty \quad \text{iff} \quad g(s_2) = \infty.$$

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It is also necessary to consider the orbits of its **roots** if $F(p)$ is non-trivial, and the **finite orbits** if $F(p)$ is trivial.

Prop [Bell, Moosa, Topaz, Bellaïche]

If $F(p)$ is trivial, then the number of finite orbits is finite.

2) Determining an element of $F(r, p)$

Multiplicities

(Upper) bounds on the multiplicities are
(partly conjecturally) derived from

- the local behavior of r ,
- its (weighted) degrees $\omega(r)$,
- and the generators of $F(\mathfrak{lp}_\omega(\mathfrak{p}))$.

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Thank you!