

# Resolution of Singularities.

## § 0. Preliminaries and Main Goal

A variety is an integral separate scheme of finite type over a field  $k$ .

Main Goal: Let  $X$  be a variety over a field of char zero. Then there exists a canonical desingularization of  $X$ , that is a smooth variety  $\tilde{X}$  and a proj bir morphism

$$\text{res}_X: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$$

such that

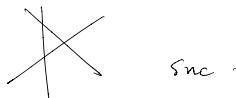
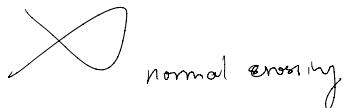
(1)  $\text{res}_X^{-1}(\text{Sing } X)$  is a divisor with simple normal crossings.

(2)  $\text{res}_X$  is functorial respect to smooth morphisms and field extension.

Remark:  $E = \sum E^i$ ,  $E^i$  irr is called snc (on smooth var)

If  $E^i$  is smooth, and for each closed pt,  $\exists$  local cors

$z_1, \dots, z_n$  s.t.  $E^i = (z_k^{d_i} = 0)$ ,  $E = (\prod z_k^{d_i} = 0)$ ,



Remark: Res "functor", associate each object  $X \in \text{Var}$  an  $\tilde{X} \in \text{Var}$  and a bir proj  $\text{res}_X: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ .

We say it is functorial resp to sm mor if  
 $\forall h: Y \rightarrow X$  smooth mor,  $\exists \tilde{h}: \tilde{Y} \rightarrow \tilde{X}$  s.t.

the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{Y} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{h}} & \tilde{X} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res}_X \\ Y & \xrightarrow{h} & X \end{array}$$

is a fiber product.

Prop 1: Let  $\text{Res}$  be a resolution "functor" that is functorial resp to sm mor, then if var  $X$ ,  $\text{res}_x: \widetilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is an isomorphism over  $X \setminus \text{Sing}(X)$ .

Proof: Let  $x \in X$  be a smooth point.

$$X \ni x \xleftarrow[\text{open}]{} U \xrightarrow{\pi} A_k^{\dim X} \quad \pi \text{ is \'etale}$$

$\downarrow$

$k$

Claim I\*:  $G$  is an algebraic group/ $k$  char 0, then

$$\text{res}_G: \widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \text{ is an isomorphism.}$$

Assuming claim I\*:

$$U \xrightarrow{\pi} A_k^{\dim X}$$

Since  $\text{res}_U: \widetilde{U} \rightarrow U$  is a fiber product

$$\widetilde{U} \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\pi}} A_k^{\dim X}$$

$\Rightarrow \text{res}_U$  is an isomorphism.

Now,

$$x \in X \hookrightarrow U \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{res}_x|_U \text{ is an iso}$$

$$\text{res}_x \uparrow \quad \text{?} \quad \uparrow \text{id}$$

$$\widetilde{X} \hookrightarrow U \quad \square.$$

Proof of claim I\*: suppose  $\text{res}_G: \widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \circ g_1$  is not iso on  $g_1$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{G} & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \widetilde{G} \\ \text{res}_G \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res}_G \\ G & \xrightarrow{g_1 \circ g_2^{-1}} & G \\ g_2 & \xrightarrow{\parallel} & g_1 \\ & \phi & \end{array}$$

here  $g_2$  is a general pt s.t.  $\text{res}_G$  is iso!

$$\Rightarrow 1 \leq \dim \widetilde{\phi}^{-1} \text{res}_G^{-1}(g_1) = \dim \text{res}_G^{-1} \phi^{-1}(g_1) = \dim \text{res}_{\widetilde{G}}^{-1}(g_2) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \square$

$\square$

Prop 2: Let  $\text{Res}$  be a resolution "functor" as above.  
 Let  $X \in \text{Var}/k$  char = 0,  $G$  is an algebraic group acting on  $X$ , then  
 the  $G$ -action lifts to a  $G$  action on  $\tilde{X}$  s.t.  
 $\text{res}_X: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is  $G$ -equivariant. i.e.  
 $\text{res}_X(g(\tilde{x})) = g \text{res}_X(\tilde{x})$ .

Proof: Note that the  $G$ -action is a smooth morphism.

i.e.  $G \times X \xrightarrow{\phi_G} X$  is smooth.

① Consider  $\pi_1: G \times X \rightarrow X$  projection.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\widetilde{G \times X}) & \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\pi}_1} & \widetilde{X} \\ \text{res} \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ G \times X & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & X \end{array}$$

is fiber product  $\Rightarrow (\widetilde{G \times X}) \cong G \times \widetilde{X}$ .

Consider  $\phi_{\widetilde{G}}: G \times \widetilde{X} \rightarrow \widetilde{X}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G \times \widetilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\phi}_G} & \widetilde{X} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ G \times X & \xrightarrow{\phi_G} & X \end{array}$$

We now show that  $\widetilde{\phi}_G$  gives a group action on  $\widetilde{X}$ .

②

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} G \times G \times X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id} \times \phi_G} & G \times X & & G \times G \times \widetilde{X} \rightarrow G \times \widetilde{X} \\ \downarrow m_G \times \text{Id} & \nearrow G \times G \times \widetilde{X} & \downarrow \phi_G & \nearrow G \times \widetilde{X} & \downarrow \\ G \times X & \xrightarrow{\phi} & X & \xrightarrow{\phi} & G \times \widetilde{X} \\ \downarrow & \nearrow G \times \widetilde{G} & \downarrow & \nearrow \widetilde{G} & \downarrow \\ G \times \widetilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\phi}} & \widetilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\phi}} & \widetilde{X} \end{array}$$

We know, the diagram commutes over  $X \setminus \text{Sing } X$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} g_1 \times g_2 \times \widetilde{X} \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\phi}} g_1 \times g_2 \widetilde{X} \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ g_1 g_2 \times \widetilde{X} \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \widetilde{X} \end{array}$$

$\forall \widetilde{x} \in \widetilde{X}$ ,  $\exists$  a general smooth curve not in  $\text{res}^{-1}(\text{Reg } X)$ ,  
 denoted as  $\widetilde{C} \ni \widetilde{x}$ , by valuative criteria  
 $\phi_1(c) = \phi_2(c) / (X \setminus \text{Sing } X) \Rightarrow \phi_1(c) = \phi_2(c)$

$\Rightarrow \phi_1(\widetilde{x}) = \phi_2(\widetilde{x})$  □.

One of the key ideas is, instead of considering the resolution problem, we consider the "Principalization" problem.

Easy version, weak.

PI: Let  $X$  be a smooth variety over  $\mathbb{K}$  char=0,  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_X$  non-zero ideal sheaf.  
Then  $\exists f: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  proj bir,  $\tilde{X}$  sm, such that  
 $f^* I \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}} \subset \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}$  is an invertible ideal sheaf.

Rem:  $f^* I \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}$  is the image of  $f^* I$  under  $f^* \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}$ .

Cor I: (Elimination of indeterminacies).

Let  $X$  be a smooth variety /  $\mathbb{K}$  char=0,  $g: X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}$  a rational map to some proj space. Then  $\exists$  sm var  $\tilde{X}$  and proj bir mor  $f: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  such that  $g \circ f: \tilde{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  is a morphism.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{X} & & \\ f \downarrow & \searrow g \circ f & \\ X & \dashrightarrow & \mathbb{P} \\ g & & \end{array}$$

Proof: Since  $\mathbb{P}$  is projective,  $\exists Z \subseteq X$  with  $\text{codim } Z \geq 2$  s.t.  $g: X \setminus Z \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  is a morphism. (Valuative criterion for properness)

By algebraic Hartogs thm,  $g^* \mathcal{O}(1)|_{X \setminus Z}$  extends uniquely to a linebundle on  $X$ , denoted as  $L$ .

Let  $J \subset L$  be a subsheaf generated by  $g^* H^0(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}(1))$ ,  $I = J \otimes L^\perp \subset \mathcal{O}_X$ .  
Take  $f: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  s.t.  $f^* I \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}$  is invertible ideal sheaf.

Since  $f^* I = f^* J \otimes (f^* L)^{-1} \Rightarrow f^* J = f^* I \otimes f^* L$ .

$\tau: f^* I \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}$  that defines  $f^* I \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}$

$\tau \otimes f^* L: f^* I \otimes f^* L = f^* J \rightarrow \underline{\underline{f^* I \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}} \otimes f^* L}}$  invertible.

$\Rightarrow \text{Im}(f^* J)$  is a subsheaf of  $L'$  generated by  $(g \circ f)^* H^0(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}(1)) \Rightarrow$  No base locus on  $\tilde{X} \Rightarrow$  defines a mor.

of "principalization"

Before we state a stronger version, let's recall some notations.

Smooth blow-up:  $Z \overset{\text{closed}}{\subset} X$ ,  $\pi: \text{Bl}_Z^{\text{closed}} \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$

We say  $\pi$  is a smooth blow-up if  $X, Z$  are both smooth,  $Z \text{ sm } X$ .

We say  $\pi$  is trivial if  $Z$  is Cartier,  $\pi$  is iso.

We say  $\pi$  is empty if  $Z = \emptyset$ ,  $\pi$  is iso.

snc - center:  $E$  is a snc divisor,  $E = \sum E_i$ ,  $Z \subset X$

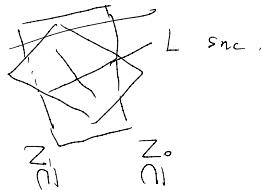
We say  $Z$  is snc with  $E$  if  $\exists$  local cor system  $\{z_1, \dots, z_n\}$

$$\text{s.t. } Z = (Z_{j_1} = \dots = Z_{j_s} = 0) \quad E_i = (Z_{c(i)} = 0)$$

If  $Z \notin \text{Supp } E$ , then  $E|_Z$  is snc.



$E$



Let  $\pi: X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_0 = X$  be a seq of blow-ups of sm variety  $X$ .  $E$  snc div on  $X$ ,  $Z_i$  is snc with  $E$  if

$$Z_i \subset X_i \text{ is snc with } \pi_i^{-1}E + \sum_{j \leq i} \pi_{ij}^*(Z_j) \text{ (snc).}$$

Here,  $\pi_i: X_i \rightarrow X$ ,  $\pi_{ij}: X_i \rightarrow X_j$ .

When  $E = \emptyset$ ,  $Z_i$  is snc with exceptional set.

Now we state a stronger version.

PII: Let  $X$  be a sm variety /  $k$  char = 0,  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_X$  a nonzero ideal sheaf,  $E$  snc div on  $X$ ,  $\exists$  seq of sm blow-ups

$$\pi: \tilde{X} = X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_0 = X$$

whose center has snc with  $E$ , such that (Center Smooth)

- $\star$  (1)  $(\pi^+ I, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}})$  is the  $i^{th}$  sheaf of a snc div, and (snc with excep).
- (2)  $\pi$  is functorial resp. to sm morphism.

Rem: (2) guarantees that  $\pi|_{X \setminus \text{Supp } I}$  is an iso.

Cor II: (Non functorial "weak" Embedded Resolution of Sing)

Let  $Y$  be a closed subvariety of a sm variety  $X/k$  char 0. Then there is a bir proj mor  $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  such that  $\pi$  is iso near  $\eta_Y$  i.e.

$\pi|_Y: \tilde{Y} \rightarrow Y$  proj bir, and

$\tilde{Y}$  has snc with  $\sqcup$  excep divs on  $\tilde{X}$ .

$$\downarrow_{\text{smooth.}} \rightarrow (A^n, \mathcal{O}_{A^n})$$

(Not sure  $\pi|_Y$  is iso over  $Y \setminus \text{Sing } Y$ ,  $(\pi|_Y)^+ (\text{Sing } Y)$  snc on  $\tilde{Y}$ ).

Proof: (of CII assuming PII)

Let  $I_Y$  be the ideal sheaf of  $Y \subseteq X$ . Let

$\pi_r: X_r \rightarrow X_{r-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_0 = X$  be a seq of sm blow-ups whose centers are snc with  $\emptyset$  as in PII such that  $\pi_r^+ I_Y, \mathcal{O}_{X_r}$  is principal.

① If  $\pi_r$  is an iso over  $\eta_Y \subseteq X$ , since  $\pi^+ I_Y, \mathcal{O}_{X_r}$  is an snc div, we can find an irr comp of  $\text{Supp } \pi^+ I_Y, \mathcal{O}_{X_r}$ , denoted as  $\tilde{Y}$  and  $\tilde{Y} \rightarrow Y$  is bir,  $\tilde{Y}$  is smooth.

② If  $\pi_r$  is not an iso over  $\eta_Y$ .  $\exists j$  s.t.  $\eta_Y \subseteq Z_j$  and  $\eta_Y \not\subseteq Z_i$  for  $i < j$ . Since  $\pi$  is iso over  $X \setminus Y$ ,

and  $\pi_j^+(Z_j) \subseteq \text{Supp } (I_Y) = Y \Rightarrow \exists$  irr comp of  $Z_j$ , denoted as  $\tilde{Y}$   
s.t.  $\tilde{Y} \rightarrow Y$  bir.

Remark: ① In PII, only  $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is "functorial" resp to sm mor, but we choose middle blow up  $\pi_j: X_j \rightarrow X$ , "fun" fails.

Let's introduce some notations and definitions.

Def 1: (Blow-up sequence) Let  $X$  be a var, a blow-up seq of length  $r$  starting with  $X$  is a chain of morphisms

$$\mathbb{B}: \pi: X_r \xrightarrow{\pi_{r-1}} X_{r-1} \rightarrow \dots \xrightarrow{\pi_1} X_1 \xrightarrow{\pi_0} X_0 = X$$

$\cup$        $\cup$        $\cup$   
 $Z_{r-1}$        $Z_1$        $Z_0$

where each  $\pi_i$  is a blow up of  $X_i$  with center  $Z_i$ .

$$\pi_{ij}: X_i \rightarrow X_j \quad \pi_i: X_i \rightarrow X$$

We say a blow-up seq is smooth if  $X_i, Z_i$  are all smooth  
 We allow trivial and empty blow-ups in the seq  $\mathbb{B}$ .

Def 2 (Pull back blow-up seq by sm morphism)

$\mathbb{B}$  be a blow-up seq as above.  $h: Y \rightarrow X$  smooth morphism.

$$h^*\mathbb{B} \quad h^*\pi: X_r \times_X Y \rightarrow X_{r-1} \times_X Y \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_1 \times_X Y \rightarrow X_0 \times_X Y = Y$$

$\cup$        $\cup$        $\cup$   
 $Z_{r-1} \times_X Y$        $Z_1 \times_X Y$        $Z_0 \times_X Y$

$h^*\mathbb{B}$  is called the pull back of  $\mathbb{B}$  by  $h$ .  
 Rem: ①  $h^*\mathbb{B}$  defines a blow up seq. i.e.

$\pi_Y$  is a blow up of  $h^*Z$ .

In general,  $h$  not smooth,  $h^*\mathbb{B}$  ? see examp

$$S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_0 \mathbb{P}^2 \text{ obviously not a blow up} \quad S = \mathbb{B}_0 \mathbb{P}^2 \times_{\mathbb{P}^2} \mathbb{B}_0 \mathbb{P}^2. \quad \underline{\mathbb{B}_0 \mathbb{P}^2} \xrightarrow{h} \mathbb{P}^2$$

$$\mathbb{B}_0 \mathbb{P}^2 \xrightarrow{h} \mathbb{P}^2$$

$$S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_0 \mathbb{P}^2$$

- ②  $B$  is smooth, then  $h^*B$  is smooth blow-up  
 ③  $h$  is not surjective,  $h^*B$  may contain extra empty blow-up

Def 3 (Restriction to closed subvariety)

Let  $B$  as above,  $f: S \rightarrow X$  is a closed emb. def

$$B|_S = S_r \xrightarrow{\cup} S_{r-1} \xrightarrow{\cup} \dots \xrightarrow{\cup} S_1 \xrightarrow{\cup} S_0 = S.$$

$Z_r \cap S_{r-1}$        $Z_1 \cap S_1$        $Z_0 \cap S_0$

here we need  $\eta_s \notin Z_j$ , (In fact we require all  $Z_i$  has image strictly contained in  $S$  in application)

Def 4 (Push forward rep to closed embedding)

$f: S \rightarrow X$  closed embedding.

$$B_S: \pi: S_r \xrightarrow{\cup} S_{r-1} \xrightarrow{\cup} \dots \xrightarrow{\cup} S_1 \xrightarrow{\cup} S_0 = S \quad \text{blow-up seq for } S,$$

$Z_r^S$        $Z_{r-1}^S$        $\dots$        $Z_1^S$        $Z_0^S$

define

$$f_* B_S \quad \text{as} \quad f_* \pi: X_r \xrightarrow{\cup} X_{r-1} \xrightarrow{\cup} \dots \xrightarrow{\cup} X_1 \xrightarrow{\cup} X_0 = X$$

$Z_{r-1}^S$        $Z_{r-2}^S$        $\dots$        $Z_1^S$        $Z_0^S$

Remark: if  $B(S)$  is smooth, then  $f_* B(S)$  is smooth.

Now we consider a triple  $(X, I, E)$ , where  
 $X$  is smooth var,  $I$  ideal sheaf  $\subseteq \mathcal{O}_X$ ,  $\text{div } E \subseteq X$

$$B(X, I, E) \quad \pi: X_r \xrightarrow{\cup} X_{r-1} \xrightarrow{\cup} \dots \xrightarrow{\cup} X_1 \xrightarrow{\cup} X_0 = X$$

$$I_i = \pi^{-1} I \cdot \mathcal{O}_{X_i}, \quad E_i = \pi^{-1} E \text{ on } X_i$$

$$X_i \times_Y h^*(I_i) = h_i^{-1} I_i \cdot \mathcal{O}_{X_i \times_Y}$$

$\downarrow$

$$\bigoplus_{I_i} I_i \cdot E_i$$

We extend push-forward, pull-back for triple.

①  $h: Y \rightarrow X$  smooth,  $\boxed{h^* B(X, I, E)}$ : as

$$h^*(I_i) = h_i^{-1} I_i \cdot \mathcal{O}_{X_i \times_Y}$$

$$h^*(E_i) = E_i \times_X Y$$

$L_s$

②  $j: S \rightarrow X$  is a closed embedding.  $\boxed{j_* B(S, I_S, E_S)}$

$$E_S \subset S \subset X \quad E_S \subset S_i \subset X_i \quad \text{natural.}$$

$$j_* I_S$$

$\downarrow$

$$\text{def: } j_* I_S \cdot \mathcal{O}_X = (j^*)^{-1}(j_* I_S) \quad j^*: \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow j_* \mathcal{O}_S$$

$$\mathcal{O}_X / j_* I_S \cdot \mathcal{O}_X = j_*(\mathcal{O}_S / I_S)$$

$$\text{badly: } j: \underset{\overline{I}}{\text{Spec } R/A} \rightarrow \text{Spec } R. \quad \varphi: R \rightarrow R/A$$

$$j_* \widetilde{\overline{I}} \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R} = \widetilde{\varphi^{-1}(\overline{I})}$$

$$\text{define } \widetilde{j}_*(I_S)_i = \widetilde{j}_* I_S \cdot \mathcal{O}_{X_i} \quad j_i: S_i \rightarrow X_i$$

Def 5: (Functional Package)

①  $B(X, I, E)$  commutes with smooth morphism  $h: Y \rightarrow X$   
if

$$\underline{h^* B(X, I, E)}$$
 is an extension of  $\underline{B(Y, h^! I \cdot \mathcal{O}_Y, h^! E)}$ .

extension:  $h^* B$  is  $B(Y, h^! I \cdot \mathcal{O}_Y, h^! E)$  by adding some empty blow-ups.

②  $B(X, I, E)$  commutes with closed embedding if

$$j: S \xrightarrow{f} X \quad \boxed{B(X, j_* I_S \cdot \mathcal{O}_X, E) = j_* B(S, I_S, E_S)}$$

$$\Rightarrow j^*(X, j_* I_S \cdot \mathcal{O}_X, E) = B(S, I_S, E_S)$$