

Algebraic Curves

David Wiedemann

Table des matières

1	Affine algebraic sets	5
1.1	Recollection on commutative algebra	5
1.2	Polynomial rings	7
1.3	Affine spaces and algebraic sets	7
1.4	Ideals of a set of points and the nullstellensatz	9
1.5	Irreducible sets	11
1.6	Algebraic subsets of \mathbb{A}^2	12
2	Affine algebraic varieties	12
2.1	Zariski topology	12
2.2	Regular functions and coordinate rings	14
2.2.1	Affine case	14
3	(Quasi-)Projective and general algebraic varieties	19
3.1	Projective space	19
3.2	Projective algebraic sets	20
3.3	Quasi-projective and general varieties	24
3.4	Morphisms	25
3.5	General rational functions and local rings	27
3.6	The field of rational functions	29
3.7	Dimension of a Variety	30
4	Local Properties of plane curves	33
4.1	Curves and DVR's	37
4.2	Intersection Numbers	39
4.3	Algorithm for $I(p, F \cap G)$	43
5	Projective Plane Curves	43
5.1	Bezout's Theorem	44
5.2	Applications to Incidence Geometry	46
5.3	Elliptic Curves	48

List of Theorems

1	Lemme	5
2	Lemme	5
3	Lemme	5
4	Theorème	6
5	Theorème	6
6	Theorème (Gauss Lemma)	6
7	Theorème (Euler's theorem)	7
1	Definition	8
8	Lemme	8
10	Lemme	9
11	Lemme	9
12	Theorème (Hilbert's Nullstellensatz)	10
13	Theorème (Weak Nullstellensatz)	10
14	Corollaire	10
2	Definition (Irreducible set)	11
16	Proposition	11
17	Theorème (Theorem name)	11
3	Definition (Irreducible Components)	11
19	Lemme	12
20	Corollaire	12
4	Definition (Affine algebraic variety)	12
5	Definition (Zariski topology)	12
21	Lemme	13
6	Definition	13
7	Definition (New definition of irreducibility)	13
23	Lemme	13
8	Definition (Quasi-affine algebraic variety)	13
9	Definition	14
25	Lemme	14
10	Definition (Subobjects)	14
26	Lemme	14
11	Definition (Morphism)	15
28	Proposition	15
12	Definition	16
13	Definition (Local Ring)	16
32	Proposition	16
14	Definition	17
15	Definition	18
36	Proposition	18
37	Lemme	18

38	Corollaire	18
16	Definition (Projective n -space)	19
17	Definition	20
18	Definition (Projective set)	20
19	Definition (Homogeneous ideal)	21
46	Lemme	21
20	Definition (Zariski topology)	21
21	Definition	22
22	Definition (Cone)	22
48	Lemme	22
49	Proposition (Projective nullstellensatz)	23
50	Corollaire	23
23	Definition (Homogenization)	23
53	Lemme	24
24	Definition	24
25	Definition	24
26	Definition	25
27	Definition (Morphism)	25
58	Proposition	25
28	Definition	26
59	Corollaire	26
62	Lemme	26
64	Corollaire	27
29	Definition (Local ring)	28
66	Lemme	28
30	Definition (Field of rational functions)	29
68	Proposition	29
31	Definition (Dimension of a topological space)	30
70	Proposition	30
71	Theorème	31
72	Corollaire	31
73	Corollaire	31
74	Lemme	31
75	Proposition	32
77	Theorème (Krull's Hauptidealsatz)	33
32	Definition (Plane curve)	33
33	Definition (Singular point)	34
34	Definition	34
35	Definition	34
79	Theorème	35
81	Lemme	35

82	Proposition	37
36	Definition (Discrete valuation ring)	37
37	Definition (uniformizer)	38
84	Corollaire	38
38	Definition	38
39	Definition (Intersection Number)	39
40	Definition (Transversal intersection)	39
85	Proposition	39
87	Theorème (Axiomatic properties)	40
41	Definition (Plane Curves)	43
42	Definition	44
89	Theorème (Bezout)	44
91	Corollaire	45
92	Corollaire	45
93	Theorème (Cayley-Bacharch)	46
94	Corollaire (Pappus theorem)	48
43	Definition (Elliptic Curve)	48
96	Theorème	48
97	Lemme	49

Lecture 1: Introduction

Fri 25 Feb

Let K be a field, given a set of polynomials $S = \{f_1, \dots\}$, we can consider $V(S) = \{(x_1, \dots) \in K^n \mid f_i(x_1, \dots) = 0 \forall i\}$.

Notice that if $a_1, \dots \in K[x_1, \dots]$ then also $\sum_i a_i(x) f_i(x) = 0$ only depends on the ideal generated by S .

If $I(S)$ happens to be prime, we call V an algebraic variety.

1 Affine algebraic sets

1.1 Recollection on commutative algebra

All rings are commutative and with unit.

Let R be a ring.

- R is an integral domain, or just domain if there are no zero divisors, ie, $\forall a, b \in R$ s.t.

$$a.b = 0 \implies a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0$$

- Any domain can be embedded into its quotient ring.
- A proper ideal I is maximal if it's not contained in any other proper ideal
- A proper ideal I is prime if

$$\forall a, b \in R, ab \in I \implies a \in I \text{ or } b \in I$$

- A proper ideal I is radical if

$$a^n \in I \implies a \in I$$

- For any ideal $I \subset R$, the radical \sqrt{I} is the smallest radical ideal containing I

Lemme 1

- $I \subset R$ is maximal $\iff R/I$ is a field

Lemme 2

- $I \subset R$ is prime $\iff R/I$ is a domain

Lemme 3

- radical $\iff R/I$ has no nilpotent elements.

Given a subset $S \subset R$ we can consider the ideal generated by S

$$I(S) = \left\{ \sum_i a_i s_i \right\}$$

I is finitely generated if $I = I(S)$ with S finite.

- We say that R is Noetherian \iff \nexists a chain of strictly increasing ideals. Equivalently, every ideal is finitely generated.

Theorème 4

- *In fact, hilbert's basis theorem says that, if R is Noetherian, then $R[x]$ is noetherian.*

In particular $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is Noetherian

- I is in principal if it is generated by one element.
- A domain is called a principal ideal domain (PID) if every ideal is principal.
- $a \in R$ is irreducible if a is not a unit, nor zero and if

$$a = b.c$$

then either b or c are units.

- A pid $(a) \subset R$ is prime $\iff a$ is irreducible.
- R is a UFD if R is a domain and elements in R can be factored uniquely up to units and reordering into irreducible elements.

Theorème 5

R is a UFD $\implies R[x]$ is a UFD

And, if R is a PID, then R is a UFD

Theorème 6 (Gauss Lemmma)

- *R is a UFD and $a \in R[X]$ irreducible, then also $a \in Q(R)[X]$ is irreducible.*

- Localization

Let R be a domain, if $S \subset R$ is a multiplicative subset, then the localization of R at S is defined as

$$S^{-1}R = \left\{ x \in Q(R) \mid x = \frac{a}{b}, b \in S \right\}$$

If M is an R -module, we have similarly

$$S^{-1}M = \left\{ \frac{m}{s} \mid m \in M, s \in S \right\} / \left\{ \frac{m}{s} = \frac{m'}{s'} \iff ms' = sm' \right\}$$

If $p \subset R$ is a prime ideal, then its complement is a multiplicative subset and we define

$$R_p = (R \setminus p)^{-1}R$$

- There is a 1-1 correspondence between $p \subset R$ prime and ideals of R_p , furthermore R_p is a local ring
- Localization is exact, in particular, given $I \subset p$ the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow I \rightarrow R \rightarrow R/I \rightarrow 0$$

gets sent to

$$0 \rightarrow I_p \rightarrow R_p \rightarrow (R/I)_p \rightarrow 0 \quad (1)$$

ie. localization commutes with taking quotients.

1.2 Polynomial rings

For $a \in \mathbb{N}^n$, we set

$$X^a = X_1^{a_1} \dots \in k[X_1, \dots]$$

Thus for any $F \in k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, we can write it as

$$F = \sum_{a \in \mathbb{N}^n} \lambda_a X^a$$

F is homogeneous or a form of degree d if the coefficients $\lambda_a = 0$ unless $a_1 + \dots + a_n = d$.

Any F can be written uniquely as $F = F_0 + \dots + F_d$ where F_i is a form of degree i .

The derivative of $F = \sum_{a \in \mathbb{N}^n} \lambda_a X^a$ with respect to X_i is $F_{X_i} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_i}$.

If F is a form of degree d we have

Theorème 7 (Euler's theorem)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_i} X_i = dF$$

Lecture 2: Affine space and algebraic sets

Wed 02 Mar

1.3 Affine spaces and algebraic sets

Let k be a field.

Definition 1

For every $n \geq 0$ the affine n -space \mathbb{A}_k^n is the set k^n .

In particular \mathbb{A}^0 is a point, \mathbb{A}^1 is a line, \mathbb{A}^2 the affine plane.

Given a subset $S \subset k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ of polynomials, we set

$$V(S) = \{x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0 \forall f \in S\}$$

If S is finite, we write $V(f_1, \dots, f_k)$ for $V(S)$.

If the set S is a singleton, then we call $V(S)$ a hyperplane.

Any subset of \mathbb{A}^n is algebraic if $V = V(S)$ for some subset of polynomials.

Lemme 8

- Let $S \subset k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ and I the ideal generated by S , then $V(S) = V(I)$.
- Let $\{I_\alpha\}$ be a collection of ideals, then

$$V\left(\bigcup_{\alpha} I_{\alpha}\right) = \bigcap_{\alpha} V(I_{\alpha})$$

- If $I \subset J$ then $V(J) \subset V(I)$
- For polynomials $f, g \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, then $V(f) \cup V(g) = V(f \cdot g)$
- For ideals I, J ideals, then $V(I) \cup V(J) = V(I \cdot J)$ where $IJ = \{fg \mid f \in I, g \in J\}$
- For $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n$, $v(\{x_1 - a_1, \dots\}) = \{a\}$

Preuve

1. Let $h \in \sum_i f_i g_i \subset I$ with $f_i \in S$ and $x \in V(S)$, then $f_i(x) = 0 \forall i$ hence $h(x) = 0 \implies x \in V(I) \implies V(S) \subset V(I)$.
Furthermore, if $x \in V(I)$, then in particular $f(x) = 0 \forall f \in S \subset I$, hence $x \in V(S)$ and $V(S) \supset V(I)$
2. Let $x \in V(\bigcup_{\alpha} I_{\alpha})$, then for any α and $f \in I_{\alpha}$, we must have $f(x) = 0$, hence $x \in V(I_{\alpha}) \implies x \in \bigcap_{\alpha} V(I_{\alpha})$.
Conversely, if $x \in \bigcap_{\alpha} V(I_{\alpha})$ and $f \in \bigcup_{\alpha} I_{\alpha}$, then $f \in I_{\alpha}$ for some α , then $f(x) = 0$ hence $x \in V(\bigcup_{\alpha} I_{\alpha})$ \square

By Hilbert's basis theorem $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is Noetherian hence every ideal is finitely generated.

Corollaire 9

Every algebraic set $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is of the form

$$V = V(f_1, \dots, f_k) = V(f_1) \cap \dots \cap V(f_k)$$

1.4 Ideals of a set of points and the nullstellensatz

Using the previous section, we have a map

$$V : \{ \text{Ideals in } k[X_1, \dots, X_N] \} \mapsto \{ \text{algebraic sets in } \mathbb{A}^n \}$$

Conversely, for any subset $X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ we define

$$I(X) := \{ f \in k[X_1, \dots, X_N] \mid f(x) = 0 \forall x \in X \} \subset k[X_1, \dots, X_N]$$

Lemme 10

1. If $X \subset Y$ then $I(X) \supset I(Y)$
2. For $J \subset k[X_1, \dots, X_N]$ an ideal $I(V(J)) \supset J$
3. For $W \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ algebraic, $V(I(W)) = W$

Preuve

1. Let $f \in I(Y)$, then f vanishes on X and hence $f \in I(X)$
2. $I(V(J)) = \{ f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid f(x) = 0 \forall x \in V(J) \} \supset J$
3. By definition $V(I(X)) \supset X$ for any X .
If in addition, if $X = V(J)$ algebraic, then $V(I(X)) = V(I(V(J))) \subset V(J) = X$ □

There are essentially two reasons why $I(V(J)) \supsetneq J$ in general

1. $J = (x^n) \subset k[x] \implies V(x^n) = \{0\}$ and $I(\{0\}) = (x)$
2. $(x^2 + 1) \subset \mathbb{R}[x]$ and $I(\emptyset) = \mathbb{R}[X]$

Lemme 11

For any $X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$, $I(X)$ is a radical ideal

Preuve

If $f^n \in I(X)$ for some n , then $f(x)^n = 0$ and hence $f(x) = 0$ □

So the first phenomenon is related to the fact that J is not radical, the second is related to the fact that \mathbb{R} is not algebraically closed.

Theorème 12 (Hilbert's Nullstellensatz)

Let K be algebraically closed, $J \subset k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, then

$$I(V(J)) = \sqrt{J}$$

Using this, there is a one to one correspondence

$$\{ \text{radical ideals in } k[X_1, \dots, X_n] \} \leftrightarrow \{ \text{algebraic subsets of } \mathbb{A}^n \}$$

Theorème 13 (Weak Nullstellensatz)

Let K be algebraically closed, every maximal ideal $I \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ is of the form $I = \{x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n\}$ with $a = (a_i) \in \mathbb{A}^n$

Corollaire 14

Let $I \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ be any ideal, then $V(I)$ is a finite set $\iff k[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I$ is a finite dimensional K - vector space.

In this case

$$|V(I)| \leq \dim_k k[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I$$

Preuve

First, we show that if $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$ is finite dimensional, then $V(I)$ is finite.

Let $I \subset k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ be any ideal and $P_1, \dots, P_r \subset V(I)$ be distinct points, we want to show that $r \leq \dim_k k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$.

We can choose (Exercise) $F_1, \dots, F_r \in K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ s.t. $F_i(P_j) = \delta_{ij}$, then we write f_1, \dots, f_r for the residues of F_1, \dots, F_r in $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I$.

We claim f_1, \dots, f_r are linearly independent.

Indeed suppose $\sum_i \lambda_i f_i = 0$, this implies $\sum_i \lambda_i F_i \in I$ hence $0 = \sum \lambda_i F_i(P_j)$ which implies $\lambda_j = 0$, hence the f_i are linearly independent.

It follows that $\dim_k K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I < \infty \implies |V(I)| < \infty$ and in this case $\dim_k K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I \geq |V(I)|$.

Now assume $V(I)$ is a finite set $\{P_1, \dots, P_r\} \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ and write $P_i = (a_{i1}, \dots, a_{in})$ and define $F_j = \prod_{i=1}^r (X_j - a_{ij})$.

By construction $F_j \in I(V(I)) = \sqrt{I}$

$\exists N > 0$ such that $F_j^N \in I$.

Hence $f_j^N = 0$ in $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I$, but $f_j^N = (x_j^{Nr}) + \text{lower order terms}$.

This means that X_j^{Nr} is a K -linear combination of $\{1, \dots, X_j^{Nr-1}\}$.

This means that X_j^s is a linear combination for any $s > 0$.

Hence taking products for different j 's, we see that the set $\{x_1^{m_1}, \dots, x_n^{m_n}\}$ generates $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I$ \square

Due to these theorems, we'll always suppose K is algebraically closed.

Lecture 3: Irreducible sets

Fri 11 Mar

1.5 Irreducible sets

Definition 2 (Irreducible set)

An algebraic set $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is irreducible if $\forall W_1, W_2 \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ algebraic s.t. $V = W_1 \cup W_2$, then either $W_1 = V$ or $W_2 = V$

Example

- Let $V = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is irreducible iff $n = 1$
- Let $f(X, Y) = Y(X^2 - Y)$, $V = V(f) \subset \mathbb{A}^2$ is not irreducible by taking $W_1 = V(Y)$, $W_2 = V(X^2 - Y)$

Proposition 16

An algebraic set V is irreducible iff $I(V)$ is prime.

Preuve

If $I(V)$ is not prime, let $F_1, F_2 \notin I(V)$ s.t. $F_1, F_2 \in I(V)$, then we can write $V = (V \cap V(F_1)) \cup (V \cap V(F_2))$.

Conversely, if $V = W_1 \cup W_2$ and $W_i \neq V$, then $I(W_i) \supsetneq I(V)$, pick $F_i \in I(W_i) \setminus I(V)$, then $F_1 F_2 \in I(W_1) \cap I(W_2) = I(V)$. \square

If $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is irreducible, we can decompose it into a union of irreducible sets. The union is always finite as the polynomial ring is noetherian.

Théorème 17 (Theorem name)

Every $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ algebraic can be written uniquely (up to ordering) as a union of irreducible sets.

$$V = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_k$$

where the V_i 's are irreducible and $V_i \not\subset V_j \forall i \neq j$

Definition 3 (Irreducible Components)

The $V_1 \dots V_k$ are irreducible components of V .

Remarque

Applying I in theorem 1.9, we get

$$I(V) = I(V_1) \cap \dots \cap I(V_k)$$

and $I(V_i)$ is the primary decomposition of $I(V)$

In general, it is quite difficult to find this decomposition.

For hypersurfaces, it's easy, for $I(F)$, write $F = F_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot \dots \cdot F_k^{\alpha_k}$, then $V(F) = V(F_1) \cup \dots \cup V(F_k)$.

1.6 Algebraic subsets of \mathbb{A}^2

Lemme 19

Let $F, G \in k[X, Y]$ with no common factors, then $V(F) \cap V(G)$ is a finite set of points.

Preuve

By Gauss's lemma, F, G have no common factors in $k(X)[Y]$. Since $k(X)[Y]$ is a PID $\exists A, B \in k(X)$ such that

$$AF + BG = 1$$

Now there exists $C \in k[X]$ such that $AC, BC \in k[X]$.

Let $(x, y) \in V(F, G)$, then $C(x) = 0$ and hence there are only finitely many x 's possible.

By symmetry, the same is true for the Y coordinate, hence $|V(F, G)| < \infty$ \square

Using this, we can now classify all algebraic subsets of \mathbb{A}^2 .

Corollaire 20

The irreducible algebraic subsets of \mathbb{A}^2 are $\mathbb{A}^2, V(F)$ with F irreducible or singletons.

2 Affine algebraic varieties

Definition 4 (Affine algebraic variety)

An affine algebraic variety is an irreducible affine algebraic set.

2.1 Zariski topology

Definition 5 (Zariski topology)

The Zariski-topology on \mathbb{A}^n is the topology whose open sets are complements of algebraic sets.

Lemme 21

This indeed defines a topology on \mathbb{A}^n

Preuve

Certainly \emptyset, \mathbb{A}^n are algebraic, hence their complements are open.

Let $\{U_i\}$ be a family of open sets, ie. such that

$$U_i = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(I_i)$$

Then

$$\bigcup U_i = \bigcup \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(I_i) = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \bigcap_i V(I_i) = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V\left(\bigcup I_i\right)$$

Similarly, if U_1, U_2 are open, then

$$U_1 \cap U_2 = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(I_1 + I_2) \quad \square$$

is again open.

Exemple

If $n = 1$, then algebraically closed sets are either \mathbb{A}^1, \emptyset or finite union of points so the Zariski topology is the cofinite topology. Hence the open sets are huge.

Definition 6

For $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ an algebraic variety or set, the Zariski topology on V is just the subspace topology.

Definition 7 (New definition of irreducibility)

A non-empty subset V of a topological space X is irreducible if it cannot be expressed as $V = W_1 \cup W_2$ where $W_1, W_2 \subsetneq V$ are closed subsets.

Lemme 23

A non-empty open subset of an irreducible topological space is again irreducible and dense.

Furthermore, if $V \subset X$ is irreducible, then so is \overline{V}

The proof is an exercise.

Definition 8 (Quasi-affine algebraic variety)

A quasi-affine variety is an open subset of an affine variety.

Remarque

By the lemma above, quasi-affine variety are also irreducible.

2.2 Regular functions and coordinate rings

Regular functions are the natural "continuous" functions on algebraic varieties.

2.2.1 Affine case

Definition 9

Let $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ be an affine algebraic variety.

A map

$$f : V \rightarrow K = \mathbb{A}^1$$

is regular if $\exists F \in k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ such that

$$f(X) = F(X) \forall X \in V$$

The set $\Gamma(V)$ of regular functions on V is a ring with the usual pointwise multiplication and addition. and is called the coordinate ring of V .

Lemme 25

If $I = I(V)$ for some prime, then

$$\Gamma(V) \simeq k[X_1, \dots, X_n] / I(V)$$

In particular, $\Gamma(V)$ is a domain.

Preuve

By definition, we have a surjective morphism

$$k[X_1, \dots, X_n] \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$$

Now note that $F \in \ker \phi \iff F(X) = 0 \forall x \in V \iff F \in I(V)$ □

Definition 10 (Subobjects)

An affine subvariety of V is an affine variety contained in V .

Lemme 26

There is a one-to-one correspondence between V and $\Gamma(V)$ where

$$\{ \text{algebraic subsets of } V \} \leftrightarrow \{ \text{radical ideals of } \Gamma(V) \}$$

$$\{ \text{algebraic subvarieties of } V \} \leftrightarrow \{ \text{prime ideals of } \Gamma(V) \}$$

$$\{ \text{points of } V \} \leftrightarrow \{ \text{maximal ideals of } \Gamma(V) \}$$

The proof is again an exercise.

Definition 11 (Morphism)

A morphism $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ between affine algebraic varieties $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n, W \subset \mathbb{A}^m$ is a map such that \exists polynomials $T_1, \dots, T_m \in k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ such that

$$\phi(X) = (T_1(X), \dots, T_m(X))$$

Then ϕ is an isomorphism if there exists a morphism ψ such that $\phi \circ \psi = \text{Id}$ and $\psi \circ \phi = \text{Id}$.

Example

Take $V(X^2 - Y) \subset \mathbb{A}^2$ the the projection $p : V(X^2 - Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$ on the first coordinate is an isomorphism with inverse $\psi(X) = (X, X^2)$.

A non-example of a bijective map which is not an isomorphism :

$$\phi : \mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow V(Y^2 - X^3), \phi(t) = (t^2, t^3).$$

One can check that ϕ is bijective but not an isomorphism.

Lecture 4: Morphisms of Affine Varieties

Fri 18 Mar

In general any morphism $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ induces a morphism of rings (of k -algebras) $\tilde{\phi} : \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$ by composition, ie.

$$\tilde{\phi}(f) = f \circ \phi$$

Proposition 28

This defines a one to one correspondence

$$\{ \text{Morphisms } \phi : V \rightarrow W \} \leftrightarrow \{ k\text{-algebra homomorphisms } \tilde{\phi} : \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V) \}$$

In particular ϕ is an isomorphism iff $\tilde{\phi}$ is an isomorphism.

Preuve

Need to construct for any $\alpha : \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$ a morphism $\bar{\alpha} : V \rightarrow W$ s.t.

$$\tilde{\bar{\alpha}} = \alpha$$

Suppose $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n, W \subset \mathbb{A}^m$ and write

$$\Gamma(V) = k[x_1, \dots, x_n] / I(V) \text{ and } \Gamma(W) = k[y_1, \dots, y_m] / I(W)$$

Choose lifts T_i of $\alpha([Y_i])$ in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

In particular $\forall f \in \Gamma(W)$ and F a lift, then

$$\alpha(f) = F(T_1, \dots, T_m) \mod I(V)$$

Then define $T : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^m : x \mapsto (T_1(x) \dots T_m(x))$.

We claim that $T(V) \subset W$.

From the diagram, we see that for any $G \in I(W)$, $G(T_1, \dots, T_m) \in I(V)$, hence for any $v \in V$, $0 = G(T_1, \dots, T_m)(v) = G(T(v))$ which means that $T(v) \in W$.

Now

$$\tilde{\alpha} : \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$$

satisfies $\forall v \in V \forall f \in \Gamma(W)$

$$\tilde{\alpha}(v) = f(\tilde{\alpha}(v)) = f(T(v)) = \alpha(f(v)) \implies \tilde{\alpha} = \alpha \quad \square$$

Definition 12

The quotient field $K(V)$ of $\Gamma(V)$ is called the field of rational function on V .

Let $f \in K(V)$ is defined at a point $p \in V$ if we can write f as the quotient $f = \frac{a}{b}$ and $b(p) \neq 0$.

The pole set of $f \in K(V)$ is the set of points where f is not defined.

Remarque

$\Gamma(V)$ is not a UFD in general, and so the presentation $f = \frac{a}{b}$ is not unique.

Example

$V = (xy - zw) \subset \mathbb{A}^4$ and let $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}, \bar{w} \in \Gamma(V)$ be the respective images.

Then $f = \frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{y}} = \frac{\bar{z}}{\bar{w}}$.

Hence f is defined whenever $Y \neq 0$ or $w \neq 0$

Hence the pole set of f is $\{Y = 0\} \cap \{W = 0\}$

Definition 13 (Local Ring)

The local ring of V at a point $p \in V$ is a subring $K(V)$ defined by

$$\mathcal{O}_p(V) = \{f \in K(V) | f \text{ defined at } p\}$$

We have natural inclusions $\Gamma(V) \subset \mathcal{O}_p(V) \subset K(V)$

Remarque

$\Gamma(V), \mathcal{O}_p(V)$ and $K(V)$ are intrinsic to V , ie. if $V \simeq W$ then $\Gamma(V) \simeq \Gamma(W)$ and $\mathcal{O}_p(V) \simeq \mathcal{O}_{p'}(W)$

Proposition 32

Let $p \in V$ and $m_p \subset \Gamma(V)$ be the corresponding maximal ideal, then

$$\mathcal{O}_p(V) \simeq \Gamma(V)_{m_p}$$

In particular $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is a noetherian local domain and we have that

$$\Gamma(V) = \bigcap_{p \in V} \mathcal{O}_p(V) \subset K(V)$$

Preuve

Recall that $m_p = \{f \in \Gamma(V) \mid f(p) = 0\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(V)_{m_p} &= \left\{ f \in K(V) \mid f = \frac{a}{b}, b \notin m_p \right\} \\ &= \mathcal{O}_p(V) \end{aligned}$$

The rest follows from standard properties of localization.

In particular for any domain R we have that

$$R = \bigcap_{m \in R, m \text{ maximal}} R_m$$

□

Notice that the notions of regular functions is sufficient to define morphisms of local rings etc.

How can we extend this to quasi-affine varieties?

Example

Consider $V(XY - 1) \subset \mathbb{A}^2$.

There is a natural projection $\phi : V(XY - 1) \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{A}^1$.

The image of ϕ is $\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$ quasi-affine and we'd like ϕ to be an isomorphism, ie.

$$\phi^{-1}(x) = \left(x, \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

Ie. the map $x \rightarrow \frac{1}{x}$ should be a regular function on $\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$.

Definition 14

Let $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ be quasi-affine.

A map $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1 = k$ is called regular if $\forall v \in V$ there exists an open neighbourhood $v \in U \subset V$ and $g, h \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ s.t. $h(V) \neq 0 \forall x \in U$ and $f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)}$

Why do we need the U ?

Example

Consider again $V = V(XY - ZW) \setminus V(Y, W)$ and consider $f = \frac{x}{w} = \frac{z}{y}$ on V .

None of the two presentations works on V

Definition 15

Let $\mathcal{O}(V)$ be the ring of regular functions on V

Remarque

$f : V \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1 : x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}$ is regular.

Then we may take $U = V$, it is not hard to see that

$$\mathcal{O}(V) = k[x][\frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{x^2}, \dots]$$

In particular $\mathcal{O}(V) \supsetneq \Gamma(\mathbb{A}^1)$

If $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is affine, then we have $k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V) : F \mapsto (v \mapsto F(v))$.

Proposition 36

For V affine, we have that $\Gamma(V) \simeq \mathcal{O}(V)$.

Preuve

We have $\mathcal{O}(V) \subset O_p(V) \forall p \in V$ hence $\Gamma(V) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}(V) \hookrightarrow \bigcap_{p \in V} O_p(V) = \Gamma(V)$ \square

Lemme 37

Let V be a quasi-affine subset and $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$ regular, then f is continuous (with respect to the Zariski topology)

Preuve

It is enough to show that $f^{-1}(X)$ is closed for any closed X .

Without loss of generality $X = \{x\}$.

Let $V = \bigcup_i U_i$ a cover such that $f|_{U_i} = \frac{g_i}{h_i}$ and $h_i \neq 0$ on U_i .

Then $f^{-1}(X) \cap U_i = \left\{ v \in U_i \mid f(v) = \frac{g_i(v)}{h_i(v)} \right\} = \{v \in U_i \mid x \cdot h_i(v) - g_i(v) = 0\}$ which is an algebraic set.

Hence $f^{-1}(X) \cap U_i$ is closed which implies $f^{-1}(X)$ is closed. \square

Corollaire 38

Let $f, g \in \mathcal{O}(V)$ and $U \subset V$ non empty and open s.t. $f|_U = g|_U$ then $f = g$

Preuve

Using an exercise, open subsets are dense, since f, g are continuous

$$f|_U = g|_U \implies f|_{\text{cl } U} = g|_{\text{cl } U} \implies f|_{\text{cl } V} = g|_{\text{cl } V} \implies f = g \quad \square$$

Remarque

Let $U \subset V$ open, then the restriction of functions induces $\mathcal{O}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U)$.

i.e. $\mathcal{O}(-)$ defines a sheaf of k -algebras on V .

Using this one can define a general algebraic as a topological space X with some sheaf \mathcal{O}_X which locally looks like a quasi-affine variety V with $\mathcal{O}(-)$.

We'll define $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ and $K(V)$ for V quasi-affine, but these depend only on "local structure".

We can guess $\mathcal{O}_p(V) = \mathcal{O}_p(\text{cl } V)$ and similarly for the quotient field.

3 (Quasi-)Projective and general algebraic varieties

Affine varieties usually "go to infinity" when we draw them.

This leads to complications in the theory

Example

Two distinct lines in \mathbb{A}^2 they will intersect in 1 point unless they're parallel

3.1 Projective space

Definition 16 (Projective n-space)

\mathbb{P}^n is the set

$$\mathbb{P}^n = K^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} / \sim$$

Where we identify

$$(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) \sim (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}) \text{ if } \exists \lambda \in K^* \text{ s.t. } x_i = \lambda y_i$$

Elements in \mathbb{P}^n are called points.

If $p \in \mathbb{P}^n$ is the equivalence classe of $(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) \in K^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$ we write

$$p = [x_1 : \dots : x_n]$$

x_1, \dots, x_n are the homogenous coordinates of p .

Remarque

Any point in $\mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{0\}$ defines a line through the origin and $x, y \in \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{0\}$ define the same line iff $x = \lambda y$

Lecture 5: Projective varieties

Fri 25 Mar

While the i -th coordinate x_i of a point $[x_1 : \dots : x_{n+1}] \in \mathbb{P}^n$ is not well defined, the equation $x_i = 0$ or $x_i \neq 0$ is well defined.

Hence we can write

$$U_i = \{[x_1 : \dots : x_n] | x_i \neq 0\}$$

Clearly $\mathbb{P}^n = \cup_i U_i$.

Furthermore for all i , we have a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_i : \mathbb{A}^n &\rightarrow U_i \\ (x_1, \dots, x_n) &\mapsto [x_1 : \dots : x_{i-1} : 1 : x_{i+1} : \dots : x_{n+1}] \end{aligned}$$

And this is clearly a bijection.

We'll see in a bit, that the ϕ_i 's provide an open cover of \mathbb{P}^n by \mathbb{A}^n

Definition 17

The set

$$H_\infty := \mathbb{P}^n \setminus U_{n+1} = \{x \in \mathbb{P}^n | x_{n+1} = 0\}$$

is called the hyperplane at infinity.

One can identify $H_\infty = \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$

Thus

$$\mathbb{P}^n = U_{n+1} \coprod H_\infty = \mathbb{A}^n \coprod \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$$

Example

$\mathbb{P}^0 = \text{point}$

$\mathbb{P}^1 = \mathbb{A}^1 \coprod \text{point}$ is called the projective line.

Similarly \mathbb{P}^2 is called the projective plane.

3.2 Projective algebraic sets

For a general $F \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, the equation $F(x) = 0, x \in \mathbb{P}^n$ doesn't make sense.

But it does if F is homogeneous, say of degree d , since then

$$F(\lambda x) = \lambda^d F(x) = 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{A}^{n+1}, \lambda \in k^*$$

Definition 18 (Projective set)

For any set $S \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ of homogeneous polynomials we set

$$V(S) = \{[x_1 : \dots : x_n] \in \mathbb{P}^n | F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0 \forall F \in S\}$$

A subset of \mathbb{P}^n is algebraic if it is of the form $V(S)$ as above.

Example

Take $V(X^2 - YZ) \subset \mathbb{P}^2$, how to draw it?

We draw the intersections $V \cap U_i$

Definition 19 (Homogeneous ideal)

An ideal $I \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is homogeneous if it is generated by homogeneous elements.

The for I a homogeneous ideal we set

$$V(I) = V(T) \subset \mathbb{P}^n$$

where T is the set of forms in I .

Remarque

Since the ring is noetherian, we can always find a finite number of homogeneous generators.

For $I = (x_1, \dots, x_{n+1})$ we have $V(I) = \emptyset$, we denote this ideal by I_+ , it's called the irrelevant ideal.

Example

(x, y^2) is homogeneous, $(x + y^2, y^2)$ is also homogeneous but $(x + y^2)$ is not.

Lemme 46

I is a homogeneous ideal if and only if for every $F \in I$, if we write $F = \sum_{i \geq 0} F_i$ with F_i homogeneous of degree i .

Preuve

Let $G^{(1)}, \dots, G^{(k)}$ be a set of homogeneous generators of I with degrees d_1, \dots, d_k .

Any $F = \sum F_i$ can be written as $F = \sum A^{(i)} G^{(i)}$ for some $A^{(i)}$.

Since the degree is additive we get $F_j = \sum A_{j-d_i}^{(i)} G^{(i)}$

For the other direction, let $G^{(1)}, \dots, G^{(k)}$ any set of generators, then $G_j^{(i)} \in I$ and then the set of $G_j^{(i)}$ is a set of generators. \square

Furthermore, the sum, the product, the intersection and the radical of homogeneous ideals are homogeneous.

A homogeneous ideal is prime if for any homogeneous $f, g \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$$fg \in I \implies f \in I \text{ or } g \in I$$

Definition 20 (Zariski topology)

We define the Zariski topology on \mathbb{P}^n by taking the open sets to be the complements of algebraic sets.

This defines a topology using the properties above.

Definition 21

An algebraic set $V \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ is irreducible if it is irreducible as a topological space.

As in the affine case, there is a correspondence

$$\{ \text{Algebraic subsets in } \mathbb{P}^n \} \leftrightarrow \{ \text{Homogeneous ideals in } k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \}$$

Where $I(V)$ is the ideal generated by $\{F \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid F \text{ homogeneous}, F(v) = 0 \forall v \in V\}$

Remarque

If we need to distinguish between the affine and projective correspondence we'll write V_a, I_a and V_p, I_p respectively.

Definition 22 (Cone)

For $V \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ algebraic, we define the cone over V as

$$C(V) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \mid [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \in V\} \cup \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$$

Lemme 48

1. For $V \neq \emptyset$, then

$$I_p(V) = I_a(C(V))$$

2. If $I \subsetneq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ homogeneous, then

$$C(V_p(I)) = V_a(I)$$

Preuve

1. $G \in I_p(V)$ homogeneous and $(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) \in C(V)$, then

$$G(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) = 0$$

Conversely, if $G \in I_a(C(V))$ write

$$G = \sum_i G_i, \quad G_i \text{ homogeneous}$$

Then, for every $x \in C(V)$ and $\lambda \in k^*$ we have $\lambda x \in C(V)$ hence

$$0 = G(\lambda x) = \sum_i \lambda^i G_i(x)$$

Let $\tilde{G}(y) = \sum_i y^i G_i(x) \in K[Y]$, this has infinitely many 0's.

Which in turn implies $G_i \in I_p(V)$

2. Notice for G homogeneous non-constant, then

$$C(V_p(G)) = V_a(G)$$

Since I is generated by homogeneous polynomials, the statement holds.

□

Proposition 49 (Projective nullstellensatz)

Let I be a homogeneous ideal, then

- If $V_p(I) = \emptyset$, then $\sqrt{I} = k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ or $\sqrt{I} = I_+$
- If $V_p(I) \neq \emptyset$ then $I_p(V_p(I)) = \sqrt{I}$

Preuve

- If $V_p(I) = \emptyset \iff V_a(I) \subset \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$ which implies $\sqrt{I} \supset (x_1, \dots, x_{n+1})$.

- $I_p(V_p(I)) = I_a(C(V_p(I))) = I_a(V_a(I)) = \sqrt{I}$

□

Corollaire 50

There is a one-to-one correspondence between radical homogeneous ideals and projective algebraic sets.

Furthermore $V_p(I)$ is irreducible $\iff I$ is prime.

Remarque

Points in \mathbb{P}^n do not correspond to maximal ideals.

We can also relate affine and projective algebraic sets through the charts

$$\phi_i : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow U_i$$

We'll focus on $\phi := \phi_{n+1} : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow U := U_{n+1}$

For $F \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ homogeneous, we define

$$F_*(x_1, \dots, x_n) = F(x_1, \dots, x_n, 1)$$

Conversely, for $G \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, we write

$$G = \sum_{i=0}^d G_i \text{ and define } G^*(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) = x_{n+1}^d G_0 + \dots + G_d = X_{n+1}^d G\left(\frac{x_1}{x_{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}}\right)$$

Definition 23 (Homogenization)

$(\cdot)_*$ and $(\cdot)^*$ are called dehomogenisation and homogenization.

For I an ideal, we denote by I^* be the homogeneous ideal generated by $\{F^* | F \in I\}$.

Conversely, if $V = V_a(I)$, we write

$$V^* = V_p(I^*)$$

V^* is called the projective closure of V in \mathbb{P}^n .
Similarly if I is homogeneous, then

$$I_* = \{F_* | F \in I\}$$

and if $V = V_p(I)$, we set $V_* = V_a(I_*)$

Example

Let $F = X_1^2 - X_2$, then

$$F^* = X_1^2 - X_2 X_3$$

Lemme 53

If $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is closed, then $\phi(V) = V^* \cap U$

Conversely, if $V \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ is closed then $\phi^{-1}(V \cap U) = V_*$

In particular ϕ is a homeomorphism

Preuve

Recall that $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = [x_1 : \dots : x_n : 1]$.

For $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ write $V = V_a(F_1, \dots, F_k)$ then

$$V^* = V_p(F_1^*, \dots, F_k^*)$$

But $F_i^* = X_{n+1}^d F_i(\frac{x_1}{x_{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}})$ $F_i(v) = 0 \iff F_i^*(\phi(v)) = 0 \implies \phi(V) = V^* \cap U$ □

Lecture 6: Algebraic varieties

Fri 01 Apr

3.3 Quasi-projective and general varieties

Definition 24

A projective variety is a closed irreducible subset of \mathbb{P}^n .

A quasi-projective variety is an open subset of a projective variety.

An algebraic variety is one of the four types we've seen : affine, quasi-affine, projective or quasi-projective.

Remarque

In order to define morphisms between varieties, we need regular functions, ie. $\mathcal{O}(V)$ for V quasi-projective.

Definition 25

Let $V \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ be quasi-projective, a map $f : V \rightarrow k$ is regular at $p \in V$ if \exists an open neighbourhood $p \in U \subset V$ and $g, h \in k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ formes of the same degree such that $h(U) \neq 0$ and such that $f(u) = \frac{g(u)}{h(u)}$

Exemple

Set $V = \mathbb{P}^n$ and take also $U = V$ in the definition, then $h(u) \neq 0 \forall u \in \mathbb{P}^n$ is only possible if h is constant.

In fact, constants are the only regular functions on \mathbb{P}^n and in fact on any projective variety.

Definition 26

We again, define $\mathcal{O}(V)$ the ring of regular functions on V .

Remarque

As in the quasi-affine case, regular functions are continuous for the Zariski topology.

3.4 Morphisms**Definition 27 (Morphism)**

A morphism between two algebraic varieties V, W is a continuous map $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ such that for every open $U \subset W$ and every $f \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ the map $\phi \circ f : \phi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow k$ is regular.

ϕ is an isomorphism if $\exists \psi : W \rightarrow V$ such that $\phi \circ \psi$ and $\psi \circ \phi$ is the identity.

Remarque

In particular any $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ induces a map $\tilde{\phi} : \mathcal{O}(W) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V)$ a k -algebra homomorphism.

The converse is only true if W is affine.

Proposition 58

The maps $\phi_i : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow U_i \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ are isomorphisms.

In fact, for every $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ quasi-affine, $\phi_i|_V$ is an isomorphism onto its image $\phi_i(V) \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ which is quasi-projective.

Preuve

We may take $i = n + 1$ and write $\phi = \phi_{n+1} : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow U$

We know that ϕ is a homeomorphism, hence $\phi(V)$ is quasi projective since

$$\phi(V) \subset \phi(\overline{V}) = \overline{\phi(V)} = \overline{\phi(V)}^* \cap U \subset \overline{\phi(V)}^*$$

Let F be some regular function on some open $W \subset \phi(V)$.

By shrinking if necessary we can write $F = \frac{G}{H}$ where G and H are forms of the same degree and $H(w) \neq 0 \forall w \in W$.

Then

$$F \circ \phi = \frac{G \circ \phi}{H \circ \phi} = \frac{G_*}{H_*}$$

and since G_* and H_* don't vanish on $\phi^{-1}(W)$, $F \circ \phi$ is regular.

Thus $\phi|_V$ is a morphism of algebraic varieties.

Conversely, we have $\phi^{-1} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n$, let $W \subset V$, take $F \in \mathcal{O}(W)$, up to shrinking.

$$\text{Then } F \circ \phi^{-1}([x_1 : \dots : x_{n+1}]) = \frac{G(\frac{x_1}{x_{n+1}}, \dots)}{H(\frac{x_1}{x_{n+1}}, \dots)} = x_{n+1}^\alpha \frac{G^*([x_1 : \dots : x_{n+1}])}{H^*[x_1 : \dots : x_{n+1}]}.$$

Now, if $\alpha \geq 0$ then x_{n+1}^α then $x_{n+1}^\alpha G^*$ and H^* are of the same degree.

If $\alpha < 0$, then G^* and $x_{n+1}^{-\alpha} H^*$.

Hence $F \circ \phi^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}(\phi(V))$ and hence ϕ^{-1} is a morphism. \square

Definition 28

A variety is (quasi-) affine or quasi-projective if V is isomorphic to a quasi-affine or quasi-projective variety.

Corollaire 59

Any variety is quasi-projective.

Every quasi-projective variety admits a finite open cover by quasi-affine varieties namely $V = \bigcup_i V \cap U_i$

Preuve

projective implies quasi-projective and affine implies quasi-affine and the theorem above gives quasi-affine implies quasi-projective.

Furthermore, since $\mathbb{P}^n = \bigcup_i U_i \implies V = \bigcup V \cap U_i$.

If V is projective, $V \cap U_i \subset U_i \simeq \mathbb{A}^n$ is closed and irreducible, hence $V \cap U_i$.

Finally, if $V \subset \overline{V} \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ quasi-projective, then $V \cap U_i \subset \overline{V} \cap U_i$ is quasi-affine. \square

Example

For any polynomial $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $\mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(f)$ is affine, but $\mathbb{A}^2 \setminus \{0\}$ is not affine.

Remarque

The above also shows that if V is quasi-affine, then $\mathcal{O}(V) \simeq \mathcal{O}(\phi(V))$, hence all our definitions of $\mathcal{O}(-)$ are compatible.

The definition of a morphism is clean, but difficult to check in practice.

It becomes easier if at least the target is affine :

Lemme 62

Let $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ be a map, suppose $W \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ affine, and $x_i : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$

coordinate functions, then ϕ is a morphism $\iff x_i \circ \phi : V \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$ is regular.

Preuve

If ϕ is a morphism, then $x_i \circ \phi$ is regular by definition.

Conversely, if $x_i \circ \phi$ is regular for all $1 \leq i \leq n$, then

$$f \circ \phi$$

is also regular for any $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Since regular functions form a ring.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^{-1}(V(f_1, \dots, f_k) \cap W) &= \bigcap \phi^{-1}(V(f_i) \cap W) \\ &= \bigcap (f \circ \phi)^{-1}(0) \end{aligned}$$

Thus ϕ is continuous.

Now let $U \subset W$ be open and $f \in \mathcal{O}(U)$, after shrinking, we may suppose

$f = \frac{g}{h}$ where $g, h \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $h(u) \neq 0 \forall u \in U$.

Then

$$f \circ \phi = \frac{g \circ \phi}{h \circ \phi}$$

where $g \circ \phi, h \circ \phi$ are regular and $h \circ \phi(v) \neq 0 \forall v \in V$.

Thus $\frac{1}{h \circ \phi}$ is regular, therefore $\frac{g \circ \phi}{h \circ \phi}$ is regular. □

Example

Now, the map $\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow V(XY - 1) \subset \mathbb{A}^2$ is a morphism.

Corollaire 64

Let V, W be two varieties and W affine, then there is a bijection

$$\text{hom}_{\text{Var}}(V, W) \simeq \text{hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(\mathcal{O}(W), \mathcal{O}(V))$$

sending $\phi \rightarrow \tilde{\phi}$

Remarque

If V is projective, we claim that $\mathcal{O}(V) \simeq k$

3.5 General rational functions and local rings

Let V be an algebraic variety and $p \in V$.

Definition 29 (Local ring)

The local ring of V at $p : \mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is the set of pairs $\langle U, f \rangle$, where $U \subset V$ is open containing p and f is a regular function on U , modulo the relation

$$[U, f] \sim [U', f'] \iff f = f' \text{ on } U \cap U'$$

Lemme 66

\sim is an equivalence relation and $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is a ring with the operations

$$[U, f] + [U', f'] = [U \cap U', f + f']$$

and similarly for the product

$$[U, f] \cdot [U', f'] = [U \cap U', f \cdot f']$$

Furthermore $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is a local ring with maximal ideal

$$m = \{[U, f] \mid f(p) = 0\}$$

Preuve

Reflexivity and identity is obvious, we need to check transitivity, suppose $[U, f] \sim [U', f']$ and $[U'', f''] \sim [U', f']$ then clearly $f = f''$ on $U \cap U' \cap U''$ but

$$U \cap U' \cap U'' \subset U \cap U''$$

is open and dense and since f, f'' are continuous, $f = f''$ on $U \cap U''$.

To show the ring is local, notice that there is an evaluation morphism

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_p(V) &\rightarrow k \\ [U, f] &\rightarrow f(p) \end{aligned}$$

This map is surjective since we have constant functions.

Hence m_p is a maximal ideal.

Finally $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is local since $[U, f] \notin m_p$ hence $f(p) \neq 0$.

Thus $\frac{1}{f}$ is regular in some neighbourhood of p .

Thus f is a unit. □

Lecture 7: rational functions and dimension

Fri 08 Apr

3.6 The field of rational functions

Definition 30 (Field of rational functions)

$K(V)$ is the set of pairs (U, f) with $U \subset V$ open and non-empty and f a regular function on U modulo the equivalence relation $(U, f) \sim (U', f')$ iff $f = f'$ on $U \cap U'$.

Remarque

Since V is irreducible, any non-empty open is dense, hence $U \cap U'$ is non-empty and open as well.

Furthermore, note that $[U, f]$ has $\frac{1}{f}$ as an inverse.

As in the affine case, we have inclusions

$$\mathcal{O}(V) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_p(V) \hookrightarrow K(V)$$

Proposition 68

1. Let V be an algebraic variety and $U \subset V$ open and non-empty.
Then $K(V) = K(U)$ and $\mathcal{O}_p(V) = \mathcal{O}_p(U)$ for any $p \in U$.
2. For any algebraic variety V and any $p \in V$, $K(V)$ is the quotient field of $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$.
3. If V is affine, then $\mathcal{O}_p(V) = \Gamma(V)_{\mathfrak{m}_p}$ for any $p \in V$ and $K(V)$ is the quotient field at $\Gamma(V)$.
In particular all definitions of $K(V)$ and $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ agree for affine varieties.

Remarque

1. For $V \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ quasi-projective and $P \in V \cap U_i$ for some i , then $\mathcal{O}_p(V) = \mathcal{O}_p(\overline{V}) = \mathcal{O}_p(\overline{V} \cap U_i)$.
Since $U_i = \mathbb{A}^n$, $\overline{V} \cap U_i$ is affine and $\mathcal{O}_p(\overline{V} \cap U_i) = \Gamma(\overline{V} \cap U_i)_{\mathfrak{m}_p}$.
Thus $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is always an explicit localization (as any variety is quasi-projective).

Preuve

1. Immediate from the definition : $[W, f] \in \mathcal{O}_p(V)$.
We know that $[W, f] \sim [W \cap U, f] \in \mathcal{O}_p(U)$ so there is a bijection between the equivalence classes.
2. As in the remark, we can reduce to the affine case and then it follows from the third part of the proposition.
3. We have a map $\Gamma(V)_{\mathfrak{m}_p} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_p(V)$ sending $\frac{f}{g} \rightarrow [V, \frac{f}{g}]$.
It is injective by continuity (as V is open hence dense.).

And also surjective by definition of $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$.

Indeed, any $[U, h] \in \mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is of the form $h = \frac{f}{g}$ with $g(u) \neq 0$ on U . Since U is quasi-affine, f and g are both quotients of regular functions on $V = \overline{U}$.

Similarly, we have an inclusion $Q(\Gamma(V)) \hookrightarrow K(V)$ sending $\frac{f}{g} \rightarrow [V, \frac{f}{g}]$.

But any $[U, h] \in K(V)$ is contained in $\mathcal{O}_p(V) \subset Q(\Gamma(V))$ for any $p \in U$ so we also have a reverse inclusion. \square

3.7 Dimension of a Variety

Should be a basic invariant, in fact it isn't.

Definition 31 (Dimension of a topological space)

The dimension of a topological space X is the largest integer n such that there exists a chain $Z_n \supset \dots \supset Z_1 \supset Z_0$ of distinct irreducible closed subsets of X .

Then, the dimension of an algebraic set is its dimension as a topological space.

So now we'd like to relate this definition with the dimension theory for rings.

Recall that in any ring A , the height $ht(p)$ of a prime ideal $P \subset A$ is the supremum of all integers n such that \exists a chain $p_0 \subset \dots \subset p_n = p$ of distinct prime ideals.

The Krull dimension of A is defined as

$$\dim A = \sup \{ht(p) | p \subset A \text{ prime} \}$$

Proposition 70

If $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is an affine algebraic variety, then

$$\dim V = \dim \mathcal{O}(V)$$

Preuve

If $V_0 \subset V_1 \dots \subset V_d = V$ is a maximal chain of irreducible closed subsets of V , then ($d < \infty$ by Noetherianity), applying I gives

$$I(V_1) \supset \dots \supset I(V_d) = I(V)$$

is a chain of distinct prime ideals containing $I(V)$, so in the quotient we get a chain

$$p_0 \supset \dots \supset p_d = (0) \text{ in } \mathcal{O}(V) \quad \square$$

So $\dim \mathcal{O}(V) \geq \dim V$, we can of course go the other way to find $\dim \mathcal{O}(V) \leq \dim V$

Computing dimensions is hard, the main tool is the following theorem

Theorème 71

Let K be a field and B a domain, which is a finitely generated K -algebra, then

$$\dim B = \text{transcendence degree of } Q(B)/K$$

— For any prime ideal $p \subset B$ we have

$$\text{ht}(p) + \dim B/p = \dim B$$

Corollaire 72

$$\dim \mathbb{A}^n = n$$

Preuve

We have that

$$\dim \mathbb{A}^n = \dim K[x_1, \dots, x_n] = \text{trdeg} K(x_1, \dots, x_n) = n \quad \square$$

Corollaire 73

If $V \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ is a quasi-projective variety, then

$$\dim \bar{V} = \dim V$$

To prove this, we need the following lemma

Lemme 74

If X is a topological space and $\{U_i\}$ a family of open subsets covering X , then

$$\dim X = \sup_i \dim U_i$$

Preuve (Of the Corollary)

Let U_1, \dots, U_{n+1} be the open charts of \mathbb{P}^n , then $V_i = V \cap U_i$ gives an open cover of V by quasi-affine varieties and $\bar{V} \cap U_i = \bar{V}_i$ where the second closure is taken in $U_i \simeq \mathbb{A}^n$.

If we know the corollary for quasi-affine varieties, we get that

$$\dim \bar{V} = \sup \dim \bar{V}_i = \sup \dim V_i = \dim V$$

Therefore, assume $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is quasi-affine of dimension d and let $Z_0 \subset \dots \subset Z_d$ be a maximal chain of irreducibles in V .

Hence $Z_d = V$ and $Z_0 = \{x\}$.

Let $m \subset \mathcal{O}(\bar{V})$ be the maximal ideal corresponding to x , we claim that $\text{ht}(m) = d$.

If this is true, then we have

$$\dim \bar{V} = \dim \mathcal{O}(\bar{V}) = \dim \mathcal{O}(\bar{V})/m + \text{ht}(m) = d$$

So now we have to prove the claim.

Clearly $\text{ht}(m) \geq d$.

Let $p_0 \subset \dots \subset p_r = m$ be a longer chain of distinct prime ideals in $\mathcal{O}(\bar{V})$.

Set $W_i = V(p_i) \rightarrow \bar{V} = W_0 \supset \dots \supset W_r = \{x\}$.

Intersecting with V gives

$$V = W_0 \cap V \supset \dots \supset W_r \cap V = \{x\}$$

Since $W_i \cap V \subset W_i$ are open and non-empty, $W_i \cap V$ is irreducible.

By maximality of the initial sequence $\exists i$ such that

$$W_i \cap V = W_{i+1} \cap V$$

But then $W_i = \overline{W_i \cap V} = \overline{W_{i+1} \cap V} = W_{i+1}$ which is a contradiction. \square

From linear algebra, we would expect that if V is given by r "independent" equations should have dimension $n - r$.

Proposition 75

— Let V be an affine variety of $\dim d$ and $H = V(F) \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ a hypersurface such that $V \subsetneq H$. Then every irreducible component of $V \cap H$ has dimension $d - 1$.

— Let $I \subset K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be an ideal that can be generated by r polynomials, then every irreducible component of $V(I)$ has dimension $\geq n - r$

Note that it is not true that if we choose the minimal number of generators, we get equality

Example

If $I = (XY, YZ) \subset K[x, y, z]$, then

$$V(I) = V(Y) \cup V(X, Z)$$

Lecture 8: Dimension

Fri 29 Apr

We'll use the following without proof :

Theorème 77 (Krull's Hauptidealsatz)

Let A be a noetherian ring, $f \in A$ neither a 0-divisor nor a unit.

Then any minimal ideal containing f has height 1.

We can now prove the above proposition.

Preuve

$V \not\subset H = V(f)$ which means $f \neq 0$ in $\mathcal{O}(V)$.

Hence, f is not a zero-divisor.

If f is a unit in $\mathcal{O}(V)$, then $V \cap H = \emptyset$ and there is nothing to prove.

Otherwise every irreducible component of $V \cap H \subset V$ corresponds to a prime ideal p in $\mathcal{O}(V)$ and p is minimal.

Hence $ht(p) = 1$ and thus $\dim V(p) = \dim(\mathcal{O}(V)_p) = \dim(\mathcal{O}(V)) - ht(p) = d - 1$

To prove the second statement we argue by induction.

For $r = 0$, this is trivially true.

Let $I = (f_1, \dots, f_r)$ with $r \geq 1$ and W an irreducible component of $V(I)$.

By induction any irreducible component W' of $V(f_1, \dots, f_{r-1})$ has dimension $n - (r - 1)$.

By a every irreducible component of $W' \cap V(f_r)$ has dimension $\geq n - r$.

W is a union of irreducible components of $W' \cap V(f_r)$. \square

4 Local Properties of plane curves

Definition 32 (Plane curve)

Let $F, G \in K[x, y]$ are equivalent if $\exists \lambda \in K^\times$ such that $F = \lambda G$.

An affine plane curve is an equivalence class of non constant polynomials in $K[x, y]$.

If $F = \prod F_i e_i$ with F_i irreducible.

We call F_i the components of F and e_i the multiplicities. Note that we can recover the F_i from $V(F)$ but not the e_i 's.

The degree of an affine plane curve is the degree of F as a polynomial.

A line is a curve of degree 1.

If F is irreducible, we write $\Gamma(F), \mathcal{O}_p(F)$ for $\Gamma(V(F))$ etc.

Definition 33 (Singular point)

Let F be a plane curve and $P = (a, b) \in F$.

Then P is called a simple point if either

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial X}(p) = F_X(p) \neq 0 \text{ or } \frac{\partial F}{\partial Y}(p) \neq 0$$

I.e., if the jacobian of F has full rank. In this case, the line $L(x, y) = F_x(p)(X - a) + F_y(p)(Y - b)$ is the tangent line to F at p .

A point which is not simple is called singular or multiple.

A curve with only simple points is called non-singular or smooth.

We'll usually arrange things such that $p = (0, 0)$ is a singular point of F .
Writing $F = F_m + \dots + F_n$ for F_i forms of degree i , $(0, 0) \in F \iff m \geq 1$

Definition 34

The integer $m = m_p(F)$ is called the multiplicity of F at $p = (0, 0)$

We have that $p = (0, 0)$ is simple iff $m = 1$.

And in this case F_1 is the tangent line to F at $(0, 0)$.

If $m = 2$ then $p = (0, 0)$ is called a double point.

Since F_m is homogeneous and in two variables we can factor it as

$$F = \prod L_i^{r_i}$$

where L_i are distinct lines through the origin.

To see this, notice that the dehomogenization $(F_m)_* = F_m(X, 1)$ factors into linear terms.

Definition 35

The L_i are called the tangent lines to F at $(0, 0)$.

L_i is a simple (double, triple,...) tangent if $r_i = 1(2, 3)$.

A point P is an ordinary multiple point of F , if F has m distinct tangents at p .

An ordinary double point is called a node. It is in many ways the simplest example of a singular point.

Example

Let $F = Y^2 - X^3 - X^2 = F_2 + F_3$.

We can write $F_2 = (Y - X)(Y + X)$

If $F = \prod F_i^{e_i}$ then $m_p(F) = \sum_i e_i m_p(F_i)$.

And if L is a tangent to F_i with multiplicity r_i , then L is a tangent to F with

multiplicity $\sum e_i r_i$.

For $p = (a, b)$ let $T(x, y) = (x + a, y + b)$ and set $F^T(x, y) = F(T(x, y))$.

We then define $m_p(F) = m_{(0,0)}(F^T)$ and similarly for tangent lines, multiple points etc.

Theorème 79

Let P be a point on an irreducible plane curve F and $\mathfrak{m}_p(F) \subset \mathcal{O}_p(F)$ the corresponding maximal ideal.

Then for sufficiently large n , we have that

$$m_p(F) = \dim_K \left(\mathfrak{m}_p(F)^n / \mathfrak{m}_p(F)^{n+1} \right)$$

Exemple

Let $F = X$ and $p = (0, 0)$, then

$$\mathfrak{m}_p(F) = (Y, X) \subset \left(k[x, y] / (x) \right)_{(x, y)}$$

and

$$\mathfrak{m}_p(F)^n = (Y^n)$$

and thus $(Y^n) / (Y^{n+1})$ is generated by Y^n

We'll need the following lemma

Lemme 81

Let $I \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ be an ideal such that $V(I) = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ is finite.

Let $\mathcal{O}_i = \mathcal{O}_{P_i}(\mathbb{A}^n)$.

Then there is an isomorphism

$$\Phi : K[x_1, \dots, x_n] / I \rightarrow \prod \mathcal{O}_i / I \cdot \mathcal{O}_i$$

We'll prove the theorem assuming this.

Let's write $\mathcal{O}, \mathfrak{m}$ and m for $\mathcal{O}_p(F), \mathfrak{m}_p(F)$ and $m_p(F)$.

We have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}^n / \mathfrak{m}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{O} / \mathfrak{m}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{O} / \mathfrak{m}^n \rightarrow 0$$

The theorem follows if $\dim(\mathcal{O} / \mathfrak{m}^n) = n \cdot m + s$ and all $n \geq m$. Without loss of generality $P = (0, 0)$ and hence $\mathfrak{m}^n = I^n \mathcal{O}$.

Then

$$\mathcal{O} / \mathfrak{m}^n = \mathcal{O} / I^n \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2) / (F, I^n) = K[x, y] / (F, I^n)$$

Notice $\forall G \in I^{n-m} \quad GF \in I^n$.

We get a short exact sequence

$$K[x, y]_{/I^{n-m}} \xrightarrow{F} k[x, y]_{/I^n} \rightarrow K[x, y]_{/(F, I^n)} \rightarrow 0$$

Since $\dim_k K[x, y]_{/I^n} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ we have

$$\dim K[x, y]_{/(F, I^n)} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - \frac{(n-m)(n-m+1)}{2} = mn - \frac{m(m-1)}{2}$$

Lecture 9: stuff

Fri 06 May

We now show the lemma above.

Preuve

Let $\mathfrak{m}_i = \mathfrak{m}_{P_i}$ and $R = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{/I}$ and $R_i = \mathcal{O}_i_{/I}\mathcal{O}_i$.

For each i we have the localisation map

$$\phi_i : K[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{/I} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_i_{/I}\mathcal{O}_i$$

And we define ϕ as the product of the ϕ_i .

To show that ϕ is an isomorphism, we construct idempotents $e_1, \dots, e_n \in R$ such that

$$e_i^2 = e_i, e_i e_j = 0 \text{ and } \sum_i e_i = 1$$

Further, we'll want $e_i(P_i) = 1$ and $\forall G \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ with $G(P_i) \neq 0$, $\exists t \in R$ such that $tg = e_i$ ($g = \overline{G}$).

Let's suppose we have such e_i 's, then

1. ϕ is injective.

Indeed, if $f \in \ker \phi_i \iff \exists G$ with $G(P_i) \neq 0$ and $GF \in I$. Thus,
 $f \in \ker \phi \implies \forall i \exists G_i$ with $G_i(P_i) \neq 0$ and $G_i F = 0$

$$f = \sum_i e_i f = \sum_i t_i g_i f$$

2. ϕ is surjective.

Let $z = (\frac{a_1}{g_1}, \dots, \frac{a_n}{g_n}) \in \prod R_i$ where $g_i(P_i) \neq 0$.

Let $t_i \in R$ be such that $t_i g_i = e_i$, since $e_i(P_i) = 1$, $\phi_i(e_i) \in R^*$.

$$\phi_i(e_j) = \phi_i(e_j e_i) \phi_i(e_i)^{-1} = 0$$

Thus

$$\phi_i(e_i) = \phi_i(\sum_i e_i) = \phi_i(1) = 1$$

Hence $\phi_i(t_i g_i) = 1$ and

$$\frac{a_i}{g_i} = \phi_i(a_i t_i)$$

Let's construct e_1, \dots, e_n :

By the nullstellensatz, we have that $\sqrt{I} = I(P_1, \dots, P_n) = \bigcap_{i=1}^N \mathfrak{m}_i$

Thus there exists d such that $(\bigcap_i \mathfrak{m}_i)^d \subset I$.

Choose F_i such that $F_i(P_j) = \delta_{ij}$ and set $E_i = 1 - (1 - F_i^d)^d$.

Then the residues $e_i \in R$ of E satisfy 1 and 2.

We have $E_i = F_i^d D_i$ thus $E_i \in \mathfrak{m}_j^d \forall j \neq i$.

Then $i \neq j$ implies $E_i E_j \in \bigcap_k \mathfrak{m}_k^d = (\bigcap \mathfrak{m}_k)^d \subset I$.

Then

$$1 - \sum_i E_i = 1 - E_j = \sum_{i \neq j} E_i \in \bigcap_k \mathfrak{m}_k^d \subset I$$

Further

$$E_i - E_i^2 = E_i(1 - F_i^d)^d \in \bigcap_j \mathfrak{m}_j^d \mathfrak{m}_i^d \subset I$$

Let $G \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $G(P_i) \neq 0$, say $G(P_i) = 1$, $H = 1 - G \in \mathfrak{m}_i$.

Then $H^d E_i \in \mathfrak{m}_i \bigcap_{j \neq i} \mathfrak{m}_j^d \in I$.

Then

$$g(e_i + he_i + \dots + h^{d-1}e_i) = e_i - h^d e_i = e_i$$

□

4.1 Curves and DVR's

Proposition 82

Let R be a domain that is not a field, then the two following things are equivalent

1. R is a noetherian, local and the maximal ideal is principal.
2. There exists an irreducible element $t \in R$ such that every non zero element $z \in R$ can be written uniquely as $z = U \cdot t^n$, where $U \in R^\times$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.

Definition 36 (Discrete valuation ring)

A ring satisfying these properties is called a discrete valuation ring.

Example

1. $K[[t]]$, with maximal ideal (t)
2. $k[x]_{(x)} = \left\{ \frac{f}{g} \mid g(0) \neq 0 \right\}$
3. $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$.

We prove the equivalence above.

Preuve

1 \implies 2

Let $\mathfrak{m} \subset R$, let $t \in \mathfrak{m}$ be a generator.

Since $(t) = \mathfrak{m}$, t is irreducible.

Assume $ut^m = vt^n$ with $n \geq m$.

Then

$$u = vt^{n-m} \in R \setminus \mathfrak{m}$$

Assume $\exists z \in R \setminus \{0\}$ which is not of the form ut^n .

Since z is not a unit, $z \in (t)$.

Thus there exists z_1 such that $z = tz_1$.

If z_1 is a unit, we're done, otherwise we get z_1, \dots , with $z_i = tz_{i+1}$.

Since R is noetherian, the chain

$$(z) \subset (z_1) \subset \dots$$

stabilizes.

Thus, there exists a $v \in R$ such that $z_{n+1} = vz_n = vtz_{n+1}$.

2 \implies 1

Clearly $\mathfrak{m} = (t)$ is the set of non-units, thus R is local with maximal ideal (t) .

It's enough to show that every ideal of R is finitely generated.

Let $I \subset R$ be an ideal, then $I \subset \mathfrak{m}$.

Let $n = \min \{n | \exists u \in R^\times \text{ such that } ut^n \in I\}$.

Then $t^n \in I$, but any $z \in I$ is of the form ut^m and thus I is finitely generated.

The proof also shows that any ideal in R is of the form (t^n) , thus DVR \implies PID. \square

Definition 37 (uniformizer)

A generator t of \mathfrak{m} in DVR is a uniformizer.

If $K = Q(R)$ denotes the quotient field, then any $z \in K$ can be written uniquely as $z = ut^n$ with $u \in R^\times$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

The integer n is called the order of z and is denoted $\text{ord}(z)$.

Corollaire 84

Let F be an irreducible plane curve and $p \in F$, then p is simple iff $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is a DVR.

In this case, if $L = aX + bY + c$ is any line through P that is not tangent to F , then its image in $\mathcal{O}_p(F)$ is a uniformizer.

Definition 38

If $p \in F$ is simple, F irreducible, we write ord_p^F for the order on $K(F)$.

We have $\text{ord}_p^F(g) = \dim_K(\mathcal{O}_p(F)_{(g)})$ for any $g \in \mathcal{O}_p(F)$.

Preuve

If $\mathcal{O}_p(F)$ is a DVR, let $\mathfrak{m}_p(F) = (x)$, then

$$\mathfrak{m}_p(F)^n = (x^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_p(F) \rightarrow k$$

Where we send λx^n to λ .

This map is surjective with kernel (X^{n+1}) , thus

$$m_P(F) = \dim_K((X^n)/_{X^{n+1}}) = 1 \quad \square$$

Conversely, let P be a simple point, say $P = (0, 0)$.

Let T be the unique tangent and $L \neq T$ a line as in the statement.

$\exists A \in GL_2(K)$ such that $AT = \{y = 0\}$ and $AL = \{X = 0\}$.

Since $FA \simeq F$ as varieties, we may assume that $T = Y, L = X$.

Then $F = Y +$ terms of higher order.

We need to show $\mathfrak{m}_p(F) = (x, y) \subset \mathcal{O}_p(F)$ is principal with generator X .

Write $F =$ (All monomial containing Y) + Rest = $Y(1 + H(x, y)) + X^2G(x)$.

The image of $1 + H$ is a unit in $\mathcal{O}_p(F)$.

Thus $Y = x^2G(x)(1 + H)^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}_pF$.

Thus $(x, y) = (x)$ is principal, thus $\mathcal{O}_p(F)$ is a DVR.

Lecture 10: Intersection numbers

Fri 13 May

4.2 Intersection Numbers**Definition 39 (Intersection Number)**

Let $p \in \mathbb{A}^2$, F, G two plane curves, then the intersection number of F and G at p $I(p, F \cap G) = \dim_k \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)/(F, G) \in \mathbb{N} \cup \infty$

Definition 40 (Transversal intersection)

Two plane curves F, G intersect transversally at $p \in F \cap G$ if p is a simple point of F and G and the tangent of F at p is different from the tangent of G at p .

In fact

Proposition 85

Two plane curves intersect transversally iff $I(p, F \cap G) = 1$

Preuve

Suppose F irreducible.

$$\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)/(F, G) = (k[x, y]/(F, G))_{m_p} = (\Gamma(F)/G)_{m_p} = \mathcal{O}_p(F)/(g)$$

where g is the image of G at \mathcal{O}_p .

Note that since $G(p) = 0, g \in m_p$.

Further, recall that the tangent of G at p is a uniformizer of $\mathcal{O}_p(F)$.

Thus

$$\mathcal{O}_p(F)_{/(g)} = \mathcal{O}_p(F)_{/(L)} \simeq k$$

□

Example

Let $G = x^2 - y$ and $F = y$

Then

$$\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)_{/(F, G)} \simeq (k[x, y]_{/(x^2 - y, y)})_{m_p} = k[x]_{/(x^2)}$$

We now move on to axiomatic properties of intersection numbers

Theorème 87 (Axiomatic properties)

1. $I(p, F \cap G) = \infty$ iff p lies on a common component of F and G
2. $I(p, F \cap G) = 0$ iff $p \notin F \cap G$
3. (locality) $I(p, F \cap G)$ only depends on the components of F and G passing through p .
4. $I(p, F \cap G) = I(p, G \cap F)$
5. (lower bound) $I(p, F \cap G) \geq m_p(F)m_p(G)$ and we have equality iff F and G have no common tangent line at P .
6. (compatibility with products) If $F = \prod F_i^{r_i}$ and $G = \prod G_i^{s_i}$, then

$$I(p, F \cap G) = \sum_{i,j} r_i s_j$$

7. $I(p, F \cap G) = I(p, F \cap (G + FA)) \forall a \in k[x, y]$
8. If p is a simple point of F

$$I(p, F \cap G) = \text{ord}_p^F(G)$$

9. (local-global) if F, G have no common component, then

$$\sum_{p \in F \cap G} I(p, F \cap G) = \dim_k(k[x, y]_{/(F, G)})$$

Preuve

Lets first prove 1 and 9.

If F, G have no common component, then $|V(F, G)| < \infty$ and by some lemma

$$k[x, y]_{/(F, G)} = \prod_{p \in F \cap G} \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)_{/(F, G)}$$

Thus, $\forall p \in F \cap G, I(p, F \cap G) < \infty$, taking dimensions yields

$$\dim_k k[x, y]_{(F, G)} = \sum_{p \in F \cap G} I(p, F \cap G)$$

If H is a common irreducible component of F, G .

The slogan is that $\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)_{(F, G)}$ is “bigger than” $\Gamma(H)$.

Indeed, we have a surjective map (just a quotient)

$$\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)_{(F, G)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)_{(H)}$$

Since $\dim \Gamma(H) = \infty$, we have that $I(p, F \cap G) = \infty$.

Now we prove 2.

Note that $p \in F \cap G \iff m_p \supset (F, G) \iff (F, G) \subsetneq \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2) \iff I(p, F \cap G) \neq 0$.

To show 3, write $F = F_1 F_2$, if $F_2(P) \neq 0$, thus $F_2(P)$ is a unit in $\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$ thus $(F, G) = (F_1, G)$, hence we get equality. To show 6, note that it is sufficient to show that $\forall F, G, H \in k[x, y]$

$$I(p, F \cap GH) = I(p, F \cap G) + I(p, F \cap H)$$

We may also assume that F, GH have no common irreducible components, otherwise the equality is trivial.

We'll decompose the ring $\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)_{(F, GH)}$.

We'll write $\mathcal{O} := \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$.

Then we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{(F, H)} \xrightarrow{\xi} \mathcal{O}_{(F, GH)} \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathcal{O}_{(F, G)} \rightarrow 0$$

Where ϕ is the quotient map $(F, G) \supset (F, GH)$ and ξ is the multiplication by G .

Showing that this is exact will imply the claim, it is in fact enough to show that

$$0 \rightarrow k[x, y]_{(F, H)} \xrightarrow{\xi} k[x, y]_{(F, G)} \rightarrow k[x, y]_{(F, G)} \rightarrow 0$$

Note that ϕ is surjective since it is a quotient.

ψ is injective :

Let $z \in k[x, y]$, we want to prove that if $Gz \in (F, GH)$ then $z \in (F, H)$.

Assume that $Gz = AF + BGH \iff AF = G(z - BH)$, since F, G have no common components $F|z - BH$ thus there exists C such that $z = BH + CF \in (F, H)$

To show 7, simply notice that $(F, G) = (F, G + AF)$.

Finally, wlog, suppose F is irreducible (if it isn't split into irreducible components), then

$$\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{A}^2)_{(F, G)} = \mathcal{O}_p(F)_{(g)}$$

Finally, taking dimensions we get the desired equality.

We now go on to prove part 5.

Write $m = m_p(F)$, $n = m_p(G)$ and assume $p = (0, 0)$, then $m_p = I = (X, Y)$.

Consider the resolution

$$k[x, y]/I^n \times k[x, y]/I^m \rightarrow k[x, y]/I^{n+m} \rightarrow k[x, y]/(I^{n+m}, F, G)$$

where the first map is given by $\psi(A, B) = FA + BG$.

Since $k[x, y]/(I^{n+m}, F, G) \simeq \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)/(I^{n+m}, F, G)$.

Since $\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)/(F, G)$ surjects onto this ring, $(I(p, F \cap G)) \geq \dim_k k[x, y]/(I^{n+m}, F, G) \geq \dim_k k[x, y]/I^{m+n} - \dim_k k[x, y]/I^n - \dim_k k[x, y]/I^m = mn$.

Thus $I(p, F \cap G) \geq mn$ with equality iff $\alpha : \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)/(F, G) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)/(I^{m+n}, F, G)$ is an isomorphism and ψ is injective.

Thus the proposition follows if can show that if F, G have no common tangents at P , then $I^t \subset (F, G) \cdot \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$ for $t \geq m + n - 1$.

Further we have to show that ψ is injective iff F, G have no common tangents.

First we show that $I^t \subset (F, G) \cdot \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$ for target t :

Let $V(F, G) = \{P, Q_1, \dots, Q_s\}$ and choose H such that $H(p) \neq 0$ and $H(Q_i) = 0$.

Thus $\exists N$ such that $(HX)^N$ and $(HY)^N \in (F, G)$.

But H^N is a unit, thus $X^N, Y^N \in (F, G) \cdot \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$.

Thus $I^{2N} \subset (F, G) \cdot \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$.

Now let L_1, \dots, L_m be the tangents of F at P and M_1, \dots, M_n the tangents of G at P .

Set $A_{i,j} = L_1 \dots L_i M_1 \dots M_j$ where we set $L_i = L_m$ if $i \geq m + 1$ and $M_j = M_n \forall j > n$.

Using an exercise, the set $\{A_{i,j} | i + j = t\}$ is a basis for I^t/I^{t-1} .

Hence we need to show that $A_{i,j} \in (F, G) \cdot \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{A}^2)$ if $i + j \geq m + n - 1$.

Wlog $i \geq m$ then $A_{i,j} = A_{m,0}B$ with $B \in I^{i+j-m}$ and we can write $F = A_{m,0} + F'$ with $F' \in I^{m+1}$ and we can write $A_{i,j} - BF = BF' \in I^{i+j+1}$.

We can now repeat this with elements in $I^{i+j+1}, I^{i+j+2}, \dots$

Let's show the second point.

Let $A, B \in k[x, y]$ with $\psi(A, B) = AF + BG = 0$.

Write $A = A_r + \dots + A_d$ and $B = B_s + \dots + B_d$.

We need to show $r \geq n$ and $s \geq m$, assume not, then write

$$A_r F_m + B_s G_n + \text{higher order} \in I^{m+n} \quad \square$$

Thus $A_r F_m = -B_s G_n$, since by assumption F_m, G_n have no common factors, thus $F_m | B_s, G_n | A_r$ thus $m \leq s$ and $n \leq r$.

For the other direction, assume L is a common tangent, then $F_m = LF'_{m-1}$ and $G_n = LG'_{n-1}$, then $\psi(G'_{n-1}, -F'_{n-1}) = G_{n-1}'F - F'_{m-1}G = 0$

4.3 Algorithm for $I(p, F \cap G)$

The main idea is to notice that it is easy to compute $\forall G$

$$I(p, Y \cap G)$$

So let's suppose $p = (0, 0)$ (wlog) and $F, G \ni p$.

Let $r = \deg(F(x, 0)), j = \deg(G(x, 0))$ and wlog $r \leq s$.

Now, if $r = 0$, then $Y|F$ hence by 6

$$I(p, F \cap G) = \underbrace{I(p, Y \cap G)}_{\text{easy}} + \underbrace{I(p, H \cap G)}_{\text{compute recursively}}$$

So write $G(X, 0) = X^m(a_0 + a_1X \dots)$ where $m > 0$ because $p \in G$.

Then $I(p, Y \cap G) = m$

Now for the second case, assume $F(X, 0)$ are monic, then let $H = G - X^{s-r}F$ then $I(p, F \cap G) = I(p, F \cap G) = I(p, F \cap H)$ and $\deg(H(x, 0)) < r$ and we repeat until r or s is $= 0$.

Lecture 11: Projective Plane Curves

Fri 20 May

5 Projective Plane Curves

Definition 41 (Plane Curves)

Two non constant forms $F, G \in k[x, y, z]$ are equivalent if $\exists \lambda \in K^*$ such that $F = \lambda G$.

A projective plane curve is an equivalence class of forms.

The degree of a projective plane curve is the degree of a form representing it.

As before we'll write $F \subset \mathbb{P}^2$ instead of $V(F)$.

Curves of degrees 1, 2, 3, 4 are called lines, conics, cubics and quartics.

Components and multiplicities are defined as in the affine case.

If $p = [x : y : 1]$, then $\mathcal{O}_p(F) = \mathcal{O}_{(x,y)}(F_*)$.

The multiplicity $m_p(F)$ of F at $p \in \mathbb{P}^2$ is defined as (for F irreducible)

$$m_p(F) = \dim_k m_p^n(F) / m_p^{n+1}(F)$$

for n big enough.

If $p \in F$ is a simple point ($\iff m_p(F) = 1$) and F is irreducible then $\mathcal{O}_p(F)$

is a DVR.

We write ord_p^F for the corresponding order function on $K(F)$.

Finally, if $P = [x, y, 1]$ and F, G projective plane curves, we set $I(p, F \cap G) = I((x, y), F_* \cap G_*) = \dim_k \mathcal{O}_{(x,y)}(\mathbb{A}^2)_{(F_*, G_*)}$.

Where we always choose a "practical" dehomogenization.

Remarque

We'd like to define

$$I(p, F \cap G) = \dim_k (\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{P}^2) / (F, G))$$

but F, G are not functions defined in a neighbourhood of p .

However if L is any line in \mathbb{P}^2 not containing p , then $\frac{F}{L^{\deg F}} \in \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{P}^2)$, if L' is another line, then $\frac{F}{L^{\deg F}}, \frac{F}{L'^{\deg F}}$ differ by $(\frac{L'}{L})^{\deg F}$ which is a unit in $\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{P}^2)$.

By abuse of notation we may write $F \in \mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{P}^2)$ for $\frac{F}{L^{\deg F}}$ which is well defined up to a unit.

And then

$$I(p, F \cap G) = \dim_k \left(\mathcal{O}_p(\mathbb{P}^2) / (F, G) \right)$$

In particular, $I(p, F \cap G)$ does not depend on the dehomogenization we choose.

Definition 42

A line L is tangent to F at p if

$$I(p, L \cap F) > m_p(F)$$

P is an ordinary multiple point of F if there are $m_p(F)$ distinct tangents.

5.1 Bezout's Theorem

Theorème 89 (Bezout)

Let F, G be projective plane curves of degree m and n and suppose F and G have no common component.

Then,

$$\sum_{p \in F \cap G} I(p, F \cap G) = mn$$

We defer the proof until next week.

Corollaire 90

If F, G have no common components, then

$$\sum_{p \in F \cap G} m_p(F) m_p(G) \leq \deg F \deg G$$

Preuve

Immediate using the theorem about general properties of intersection numbers. \square

Corollaire 91

If F and G meet in $\deg F \deg G$ points, then all these points are simple.

Corollaire 92

If two curves of degree m and n have more than mn points in common, then they must have a common component.

Lecture 12: Bezout's Theorem

Fri 27 May

Preuve (Bezout's Theorem)

First, notice that F and G having no common components implies that $|F \cap G| < \infty$.

After a projective change of coordinates, we may assume that none of these points lie at ∞ .

Then,

$$\sum_{p \in F \cap G} I(p, F \cap G) = \sum_{p \in F_* \cap G_*} I(p, F_* \cap G_*) = \dim_k k[x, y] / (F_*, G_*)$$

Now, let $\Gamma = k[x, y, z] / (F, G)$, $\Gamma_* = k[x, y] / (F_*, G_*)$ and $R = k[x, y, z]$.

Consider $h : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_*$ sending $\bar{H} \rightarrow \bar{H}_*$.

Set $\Gamma_d = \{\bar{H} \in \Gamma \mid \deg H = d\} \cup \{0\}$, note that Γ_d is a vector space.

We claim that $\dim_k \Gamma_d = mn$ for $d \geq m + n$.

Since F, G have no common components, we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow R \xrightarrow{\psi} R \times R \xrightarrow{\phi} R \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow 0$$

where $\psi(c) = (cG, -cF)$ and $\phi(A, B) = (AF + BG)$.

Restricting this to a given degree, we get

$$0 \rightarrow R_{d-m-b} \rightarrow R_{d-m} \times R_{d-n} \rightarrow R_d \rightarrow \Gamma_d \rightarrow 0$$

Since $\dim R_k = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$ we get $\Gamma_d = mn$.

Now, we claim that the map $\alpha : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ sending $\overline{H} \rightarrow z\overline{H}$ is injective.

In particular, $\alpha|_{\Gamma_d} : \Gamma_d \rightarrow \Gamma_{d+1}$ is an isomorphism for $d \geq m+n$.

Assume $\overline{zH} = 0 \iff zH = AF + BG$.

Let $A_0, B_0, F_0, G_0 \in k[x, y]$ be $A(x, y, 0), \dots$

As $F \cap G \cap \{z = 0\} = \emptyset$, F_0 and G_0 have no common components, since any such component would be homogeneous and its 0-set would be contained in $F \cap G \cap \{z = 0\}$.

Thus $B_0 = F_0 C$ and $A_0 = -G_0 C$.

Set $A' = A + GC$ and $B' = B - FC$.

Then $A'_0 = A_0 + G_0 C = 0 = B'_0$, thus $z|A', z|B'$.

Thus $zH = AF + BG = (A + GC)F + (B - FC)G$, thus $\overline{H} = 0$.

Finally, we claim that $H|_{\Gamma_d} : \Gamma_d \rightarrow \Gamma_*$ is an isomorphism of k -vector spaces.

Let $\overline{A}_1, \dots, \overline{A}_{mn}$ be a basis of Γ_d .

The image of this basis generates Γ_* :

Let $H_* \in \Gamma_*$ and $N > 0$ such that

$$z^N H^* = z^{N'} H\left(\frac{x}{z}, \frac{y}{z}\right)$$

is a form of degree $N' = d + r \geq d$, thus $\overline{z^{N'} H^*} \in \Gamma_{d+r} \simeq \Gamma_d$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{z^{N'} H} &= \sum_i \lambda_i \overline{z^r A_i} \\ \overline{H} &= \overline{(z^{N'} H)_*} = \sum_i \lambda_i \overline{A_{i*} r} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we have to show they are linearly independent :

Assume $\sum_i \lambda_i \overline{A_{i*}} = 0 \iff \sum_i \lambda_i A_{i*} = AF_* + BG_*$.

Then, homogenizing gives

$$z^a \sum_i \lambda_i A_i = z^b A^* F + z^c B^* G$$

Thus, $\sum_i \lambda_i \overline{z^a A_i} = 0$ in Γ_{d+a} and thus, by the second claim, $\lambda_i = 0$. \square

5.2 Applications to Incidence Geometry

Theorème 93 (Cayley-Bacharch)

Let F_1, F_2 be two projective cubics intersecting in 9 different points $A_1, \dots, A_9 \in \mathbb{P}^2$.

If G is another cubic such that $A_1, \dots, A_8 \in G$, then G is a linear combination of F_1, F_2 .

Preuve

1. No 4 points of $F_1 \cap F_2$ are colinear, otherwise, this line L containing these points would be a component of F_1 and F_2 .
2. By the same argument, no seven points lie on a quadric.
3. Any 5 points in $F_1 \cap F_2$ define a unique quadric.

Existence :

A general quadric Q in \mathbb{P}^2 has the following form

$$a_1X^2 + a_2Y^2 + \dots + a_6XZ$$

The 5 points will give 5 linear conditions for a_1, \dots, a_6 , thus there exists a non trivial solution.

Uniqueness :

Assume Q_1, Q_2 are two quadrics containing the 5 points, then they share a component, thus they must share a line L_1 (otherwise $Q_1 = Q_2$).

By the first part, this line contains at most 3 of the 5 points.

Let L_2 be the line passing through the other two, then $\frac{Q_1}{L_1} = L_2 = \frac{Q_2}{L_1} \implies Q_1 = Q_2$

4. No 3 points in A_1, \dots, A_8 are colinear :

Assume A_1, A_2, A_3 lie on a line L , then A_4, \dots, A_8 don't lie on L (using the first part) and $\exists!$ quadric Q passing through A_4, \dots, A_8 .

Let $B \in L \setminus \{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$ and $C \in \mathbb{P}^2 \setminus \{L, Q\}$.

By linear algebra $\exists \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in K$ not all 0 such that

$$H := \alpha F_1 + \beta F_2 + \gamma G$$

vanishes on B and C and $H \neq 0$ (otherwise we're done).

Then H vanishes on A_1, A_2, A_3, B , thus $L|H$ and the quadric $\frac{H}{L}$ vanishes on A_4, \dots, A_8 .

Using 3, $\frac{H}{L} = Q \implies H = LQ$ but $L(C)Q(C) \neq 0$

5. No 6 points on $\{A_1, \dots, A_8\}$ lie on a quadric (Exercise)
6. Finally, let L be the line through A_1, A_2 and Q the unique quadric through A_3, \dots, A_7 .

Pick $B, C \in L \setminus \{A_1, A_2\}$ and let $H = \alpha F_1 + \beta F_2 + \gamma G$ such that $B, C \in H$ and assume $H \neq 0$.

Then $A_1, A_2, B, C \in L \cap H \implies L|H$ and $A_3, \dots, A_7 \in \frac{H}{L}$, thus $\frac{H}{L} = Q$.

However $A_8 \notin QL = H$, thus $H = 0$

□

Corollaire 94 (Pappus theorem)

Let $L_1, L_2 \in \mathbb{P}^2$ be two distinct lines. Let $A_1, A_2, A_3 \in L_2 \setminus L_1$ and $B_1, B_2, B_3 \in L_1 \setminus L_2$.

Let c_{ij} be the intersection of the lines $\overline{A_i B_j}$ and $\overline{A_j B_i}$ for $ij = 12, 23, 31$, then C_{12}, C_{23}, C_{31} are colinear.

Preuve

Let G the line through C_{12}, C_{23} with $|F_1 \cap F_2| = 9$.

As G contains 8 of them, $C_{31} \in G$.

However $C_{31} \notin L_1 L_2 \implies C_{31} \in \overline{C_{12} C_{23}}$. □

Remarque

Typically this theorem is stated in \mathbb{R}^2 , but we may just consider the equations of the real lines in \mathbb{C}^2 , homogenize and then apply the actual corollary.

5.3 Elliptic Curves

We have seen in an exercise that $F \subset \mathbb{P}^2$ of degree 2 and irreducible is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^1 .

Elliptic curves are the next "simplest" case, ie. $\deg F = 3$.

Definition 43 (Elliptic Curve)

An elliptic curve $(E, 0)$ is a non-singular cubic $E \subset \mathbb{P}^2$ together with a point $0 \in E$.

$(E, 0)$ comes with a commutative group structure.

Define a map $\phi : E \times E \rightarrow E$ by $\phi(A, B) \in E$ is the unique third intersection point of the line \overline{AB} with E if $A \neq B$.

Or of the tangent of A with E if $A = B$.

Finally, we define $A + B = \phi(0, \phi(A, B))$

Lecture 13: Elliptic Curves

Fri 03 Jun

Theorème 96

$(E, 0, +)$ is a commutative group.

Preuve

We saw that 0 is a neutral element in the exercises and that $\forall A \in E, -A := \phi(A, \phi(0, 0))$ is an additive inverse.

So it suffices to show associativity. We want to show that $(P + Q) + R = P + (Q + R)$, let $S' = \phi(P, Q), S = P + Q, U' = \phi(Q, R), Q + R = U$.

We want to show that $S + R = P + U$, it is sufficient to show that $\phi(S, R) =$

$\phi(P, U)$.

Assume that none of the points are the same.

Let F be the product of $\overline{QP}, \overline{U}, \overline{U'}, \overline{RS}$ and G the product of $\overline{QR}, \overline{SS'}, \overline{PU}$.

$F \cap E$ intersect in 9 different points and G contains 8 of them (all but $\phi(P, U)$ a priori).

By Cayley-Bacharach, G also contains $\phi(P, U) \in G$ but $|G \cap E| = 9$. \square

(Up to here for exam)

Lemme 97

Any elliptic curve is isomorphic to a curve with equation

$$Y^2Z - X^3 - aXZ^2 - bZ^3$$

where $a, b \in K$ such that $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$

Preuve (Sketch)

To get the equation, one has to do a series of coordinate changes.

The condition $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$ is equivalent to the curve being non-singular.

Note that 0 is the only point of the curve at ∞ and it is a simple point.

If $z = 1$, we get $Y^2 - X^3 - aX - b$.

Taking the derivatives, we get $\frac{\partial E}{\partial Y} = 2Y$ and $\frac{\partial E}{\partial X} = 3X^2 - a$.

Thus, $Y = 0$ implies $X^3 + aX + b = 0$ and $3X^2 - a$. solving this gives the criteria. \square

If we add the point 0, we get something compact.

Topologically, all elliptic curves are Tori, ie. $E \simeq S^1 \times S^1$.

The fact that E has a group structure is reflected by the fact that $S^1 \times S^1$ has many automorphisms.

If $\deg(F) > 3$, $F(\mathbb{C})$ is a torus with many holes, which has few automorphisms and so putting a group structure on it is difficult.

The fact that elliptic curves have a group structure is useful :

Lenstra's Algorithm for integer factorization

Given $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, is it prime? If not, find the factorization.

The basic idea is to compute $\gcd(a, n)$ for a varying in some finite subset of \mathbb{Z}

Pollard's $(p-1)$ -method

Choose $a \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ random and fix $k \in \mathbb{N}$ with many small prime factors.

Then, compute $a^k \bmod (n)$ and $\gcd(a^k - 1, n)$.

This works well if n has a prime divisor p such that $p-1$ is a product of small primes and $p-1|k$.

If further $p \nmid a$ then by Fermat $p|a^k - 1 \implies p|\gcd(a^k - 1, n)$.

If we believe that everything we learned about elliptic curves over an algebraically closed field K can be extended to $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, we can describe Lenstra's algorithm.

Choose a random elliptic curve over $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ i.e. an equation of the form $Y^2Z - X^3 - aZ^2 - bZ^3$.

Choose K with many small prime divisors and a random point $e \in E$ satisfying the Weierstrass equation.

Now compute $Ke = e + \dots + e$ k -times and then $\gcd(n, z - \text{coordinate})$.

If this gcd is > 1 we're done.

Why does this work?

If n has a prime divisor p s.t. $|E(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})| \nmid K$ then $Ke = 0$ in $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$.

Remarque (Weil bound)

$$p + 1 - 2\sqrt{p}|E(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})| \leq p + 1 + 2\sqrt{p}$$