

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

School of Mathematics

**ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY**

MATHM0036

(Paper code MATH–M0036)

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May/June 2023   2 hours 30 minutes

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**This paper contains one sections.**  
**Each section should be answered in a separate booklet.**

The exam contains FOUR questions  
All Four answers will be used for assessment.

Calculators of an approved type (permissible for A-Level examinations) are permitted.

**Candidates may bring four sheets of A4 notes written double-sided into the examination.**

On this examination, the marking scheme is indicative and is intended only as a guide to the relative weighting of the questions.

*Do not turn over until instructed.*

- Q3. (a) **(10 marks)** Consider the family of algebraic varieties, with parameter  $t \in \mathbb{C}$ , given by

$$V_t := \mathbb{V}(xy - t) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2.$$

Sketch the variety of  $V_0, V_1$ , and  $V_2$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Determine whether or not these varieties are smooth. Briefly justify your answers.

- (b) **(15 marks)** Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  and  $W \subseteq \mathbb{A}^m$  be two affine algebraic varieties, and

$$\varphi : V \longrightarrow W$$

a morphism. Show that the pullback

$$\varphi^* : \mathbb{C}[W] \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}[V]$$

is injective if and only if  $\varphi$  is *dominant*. Recall that a map  $\varphi$  is called dominant if its image,  $\varphi(V)$ , is dense in  $W$ .

**Solution.**

- (a) Let  $f_t = xy - t$ .  $\nabla f_0 = \nabla f_1 = \nabla f_2 = (y, x)$ . Note that the kernel of  $\nabla f_i$  is always one dimensional except at  $(0, 0)$ . However,  $(0, 0)$  is in  $V_0$  but not in  $V_1$  nor  $V_2$ . Therefore,  $V_0$  is not smooth, but  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are.
- (b) “  $\Leftarrow$  ” Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}[W]$ . If  $\varphi^*(f) = 0$ , and  $\varphi$  is dominant, then  $f \circ \varphi(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in V$ . Since  $\varphi(V)$  is dense in  $W$ , and  $f$  is continuous,  $f = 0$  on all  $W$ , and  $f \in \mathbb{I}(W)$ .
- “  $\Rightarrow$  ” Assume that  $\varphi$  is not dominant. Then  $\overline{\varphi(V)} \subsetneq W$  and by Nullstellensatz  $\mathbb{I}(\overline{\varphi(V)}) \supsetneq \mathbb{I}(W)$ . Choose  $f \in \mathbb{I}(\overline{\varphi(V)}) \setminus \mathbb{I}(W)$ . Then,  $\varphi^*(f) = 0$ , but  $f \notin \mathbb{I}(W)$ .

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Q2. (20 marks) (Standard - Unseen) Consider the product varieties  $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ ,  $Y = \mathbb{V}(xw - yz) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^3$  and the Segre morphism

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi : X &\longrightarrow Y \\ ([s : t] \times [u : v]) &\longmapsto [su : sv : tu : tv].\end{aligned}$$

- (a) (10 marks) Find the inverse map  $\psi : Y \rightarrow X$ .  
 (b) (10 marks) Prove that  $\psi$  is a morphism.

**Solution.**

- (a) For any variable  $f$  let  $U_f$  denote a chart with  $f \neq 0$ . On the chart  $U_t \times U_v$ , we have the restrictions

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi : U_t \times U_v &\longrightarrow U_w \subseteq Y \\ ([s : 1] \times [u : 1]) &\longmapsto [su : v : u : 1].\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi : U_t \times U_u &\longrightarrow U_z \subseteq Y \\ ([s : 1] \times [1 : v]) &\longmapsto [s : sv : 1 : v].\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we define,

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_w : U_w &\longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1, \\ \left[\frac{x}{w} : \frac{y}{w} : \frac{z}{w} : 1\right] &\longmapsto \left(\left[\frac{y}{w} : 1\right], \left[\frac{z}{w} : 1\right]\right).\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_z : U_z &\longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1, \\ \left[\frac{x}{z} : \frac{y}{z} : 1 : \frac{w}{z}\right] &\longmapsto \left(\left[\frac{x}{z} : 1\right], \left[1 : \frac{w}{z}\right]\right).\end{aligned}$$

Similarly on other charts. Note that on  $U_w \cap U_z \cap \mathbb{V}(xw - yz)$  the values of the above functions coincide, and therefore we can define a map  $\psi$ , given as above in charts  $U_x, \dots, U_w$ .

- (b) We have to check that (1)  $\psi$  is continuous, which is clear since it is locally a polynomial map, (2) for  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$ ,  $\psi^*(f) \in \mathcal{O}_Y(\varphi^{-1}(U))$ . However, this is clear, since by a theorem in the notes we have to only check that the coordinate functions of  $\psi$ .

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Q1. **(20 marks) (Standard)** A *sheaf*  $\mathcal{F}$  of rings associated to a topological space  $X$  consists of the following data:

- (i) To each open set  $U \subseteq X$ , it associates a ring  $\mathcal{F}(U)$ .
- (ii) To each inclusion of open sets  $U \hookrightarrow V$ , there exists a map  $\text{res}_{V,U} : \mathcal{F}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(U)$  called the restriction map from  $\mathcal{F}(V)$  to  $\mathcal{F}(U)$ . These maps satisfy the property that  $\text{res}_{U,U} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{F}(U)}$  and  $\text{res}_{V,U} \circ \text{res}_{W,V} = \text{res}_{W,U}$ , where  $U \subseteq V \subseteq W$  are open sets.

These data satisfy the following properties:

- (iii) Suppose that  $f_i \in \mathcal{F}(U_i)$  are a collection of sections which agree on overlaps (formally,  $\text{res}_{U_i, U_i \cap U_j} f_i = \text{res}_{U_j, U_i \cap U_j} f_j$  whenever the intersection exists). Then they lift to a section  $f \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  which has the property that  $\text{res}_{U, U_i} f = f_i$  for all  $i \in I$ .
- (iv) Suppose that  $f, f' \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  and that  $\text{res}_{U, U_i} f = \text{res}_{U, U_i} f'$  for all  $i \in I$ . Then  $f = f'$ .

Let  $X$  be an irreducible quasi-projective variety.

- (a) **(10 marks)** Prove that any regular function  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(X)$  is continuous.
- (b) **(10 marks)** Show that the set of regular functions  $\{\mathcal{O}_X(U)\}$ , for  $U \subseteq X$ , forms a sheaf on  $X$ .

**Solution.**

- (a) Let  $a \in \mathbb{A}^1$ , and  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(X)$ . It is sufficient to show that  $f^{-1}(a) \subseteq X$  is closed. We can cover  $X = \cup U_i$  by a union of open affine sets, such that on each  $U_i$ ,  $f = \frac{k_i}{h_i}$ . Note that  $U_i \cap f^{-1}(a) = \{x : f^{-1}(x) = \frac{k_i(x)}{h_i(x)} = a\} = U_i \cap \{x : ah_i(x) - k_i(x) = 0\} = U_i \cap \mathbb{V}(ah_i - k_i)$ . The function  $ah_i - k_i$  is homogenous, therefore it defines a closed subvariety of  $X$ , and we have proved that  $f^{-1}(a)$  is closed in each  $U_i$ , and therefore it is closed in  $X$ .
- (b) Properties (i), (ii) are clear. For (iii), we just define  $f|_{U_i} = f_i$  and since  $f_i$ 's agree on the intersection,  $f$  is well-defined. (iv) is also clear.

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Q4. (30 marks)(Standard - Workbook) Let  $\Sigma$  be the fan consisting of

- $\sigma_1$  cone spanned by  $\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\}$ ;
- $\sigma_2$  cone spanned by  $\{(1, 0), (1, -1)\}$ ;
- $\tau$  cone spanned by  $\{(1, 0)\}$ .

- (a) (6 marks) Determine whether or not the toric variety  $X_\Sigma$  has the following properties. Justify your answer.
- (i) Smooth;
  - (ii) Complete.
- (b) (9 marks) Describe the coordinate rings of  $X_{\sigma_1}$ ,  $X_{\sigma_2}$ , and  $X_\tau$ .
- (c) (15 marks) Explain
- (i)  $\mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_1}] \subseteq \mathbb{C}[X_\tau]$ ;
  - (ii)  $\mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_2}] \subseteq \mathbb{C}[X_\tau]$ ;
  - (iii) The gluing map of  $X_{\sigma_1}$  and  $X_{\sigma_2}$  along  $X_\tau$ .

**Solution.**

- (a) (i) Yes, since the  $\sigma_1 \cap \mathbb{Z}^2$  and  $\sigma_2 \cap \mathbb{Z}^2$  both span  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ .  
(ii) No, since  $|\Sigma| \subsetneq \mathbb{R}^2$ .
- (b) We have  $\sigma_1^\vee = \text{cone}(\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\})$ ,  $\sigma_2^\vee = \text{cone}(\{(1, 1), (0, -1)\})$ ,  $\tau^\vee = \text{cone}(\{(1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1)\})$ .  
Therefore  $\mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_1}] = \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ ,  $\mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_2}] = \mathbb{C}[xy, y^{-1}]$ ,  $\mathbb{C}[X_\tau] = \mathbb{C}[x, y, y^{-1}] = \mathbb{C}[xy, y, y^{-1}]$ .
- (c) Therefore, the equalities  $\mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_1}]_y = \mathbb{C}[X_\tau] = \mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_2}]_{y^{-1}}$ . These equalities give rise to the inclusions  $X_\tau \subseteq X_{\sigma_1}$  and  $X_\tau \subseteq X_{\sigma_2}$ . We also have the isomorphisms of  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebras

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_1}] \supseteq \mathbb{C}[X_\tau] &\longrightarrow \mathbb{C}[X_\tau] \subseteq \mathbb{C}[X_{\sigma_2}] \\ x &\longmapsto xy \\ y &\longmapsto y^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

The map  $\Phi$  provides the information for gluing the coordinate rings, as well as the corresponding varieties  $X_\tau \subseteq X_{\sigma_1}$  and  $X_\tau \subseteq X_{\sigma_2}$ .

*End of examination.*