

meromorphic function on projective space
must be rational

Canonical name	MeromorphicFunctionOnProjectiveSpaceMustBeRational
Date of creation	2013-03-22 17:52:13
Last modified on	2013-03-22 17:52:13
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Last modified by	jirka (4157)
Numerical id	5
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Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 51N15
Classification	msc 32A20
Related topic	ChowsTheorem

To define a rational function on complex projective space \mathbb{P}^n , we just take two homogeneous polynomials of the same degree p and q on \mathbb{C}^{n+1} , and we note that p/q induces a meromorphic function on \mathbb{P}^n . In fact, every meromorphic function on \mathbb{P}^n is rational.

Theorem. *Let f be a meromorphic function on \mathbb{P}^n . Then f is rational.*

Proof. Note that the zero set of f and the pole set are analytic subvarieties of \mathbb{P}^n and hence algebraic by Chow's theorem. f induces a meromorphic function \tilde{f} on $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$. Let p and q be two homogeneous polynomials such that $q = 0$ are the poles and $p = 0$ are the zeros of \tilde{f} . We can assume we can take p and q such that if we multiply \tilde{f} by q/p we have a holomorphic function outside the origin. Hence $(q/p)\tilde{f}$ extends through the origin by Hartogs' theorem. Further since \tilde{f} was constant on complex lines through the origin, it is not hard to see that $(q/p)\tilde{f}$ is homogeneous and hence a homogeneous polynomial, by the same argument as in the proof of Chow's theorem. Since it is not zero outside the origin, it can't be zero at the origin, and hence $(q/p)\tilde{f}$ must be a constant, and the proof is finished. \square