

Commutative algebra HW7

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Problem 2

Let k be an algebraically closed field. Let $K = k(t)$. Denote $v_c = \text{ord}_{t=c}$ the valuation corresponding to c in k . Denote ∞ the valuation corresponding to the point at infinity. With this notation:

1. Give a basis for $L(D)$ when $D = 2v_0 + 3v_1$.
2. Give a basis for $L(D)$ when $D = 2v_0 + 2\infty$.

Solution

When $D = 2v_0 + 3v_1$ we allow poles of order at most 2 at 0 and at most 3 at 1. However, we don't allow any poles at ∞ , so the degree of the functions in $L(D)$ has to be at most 0. Then a basis for $L(D)$ is:

$$\left\{ 1, \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{x^2}, \frac{1}{x-1}, \frac{1}{(x-1)^2}, \frac{1}{(x-1)^3} \right\}$$

When $D = 2v_0 + 2\infty$, we allow poles of order at most 2 at 0, and we allow the degree of functions in $L(D)$ to be at most 2. Then a basis is:

$$\left\{ 1, \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{x^2}, x, x^2 \right\}$$

Problem 3

Assume k does not have characteristic 2. Let K be the degree 2 extension of $k(t)$ defined by $y^2 = f(t)$ for some cubic squarefree polynomial f . Find all the discrete valuations on K/k . In other words, analyze the structure of these discrete valuations as we did in the class for the field $k(t)$, but try to use as much as you can the lemmas from the lectures. (If you like you can pick a specific f and a specific k .)

Solution

In order to simplify matters we study the case $k = \mathbb{C}$. In this case the polynomial $f(t)$

factors into $(t - \lambda_1)(t - \lambda_2)(t - \lambda_3)$. We will use throughout the lemma proved in the last homework, i.e. that any valuation w_i on K restricts to $e_i v$ for e_i natural and v a valuation on $k(t)$, where we have $\sum_i e_i = [K : k(t)] = 2$. This means that, for every $\lambda \in k(t)$, we have two possibilities for the valuations lying over λ . Either there is only one with ramification index 2, or there are two of them, each with ramification index 1. We also use the fact that the valuations on $k(t)$ are $\text{ord}_{t=\lambda}$ and ord_∞ .

We start by analyzing the way valuations act on $(t - \lambda_i)$, for $i = 1, 2, 3$. This will give us all information about the valuations over λ_i and over ∞ . Assume that there exists some valuation w such that $w(t - \lambda_i) > 0$. Then w restricts on $k(t)$ to $m \text{ord}_{t=\lambda_i}$ for some natural m . Using properties of valuations, we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} 2w(y) &= w(y^2) \\ &= w(t - \lambda_1) + w(t - \lambda_2) + w(t - \lambda_3) \\ &= m \text{ord}_{t=\lambda_i}(t - \lambda_1) + m \text{ord}_{t=\lambda_i}(t - \lambda_2) + m \text{ord}_{t=\lambda_i}(t - \lambda_3) \\ &= m \end{aligned}$$

We see that m is a multiple of 2, but since m is at most 2 we get $m = 2$. Therefore there is only one valuation over each λ_i ; it is ramified and has $w(y) = 1$. Now assume there exists some valuation w such that $w(\lambda_i) < 0$ for $i = 1, 2$ or 3 . Then w restricts to $n \text{ord}_\infty$, and we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} 2w(y) &= w(y^2) \\ &= w(t - \lambda_1) + w(t - \lambda_2) + w(t - \lambda_3) \\ &= m \text{ord}_\infty(t - \lambda_1) + m \text{ord}_\infty(t - \lambda_2) + m \text{ord}_\infty(t - \lambda_3) \\ &= -3m \end{aligned}$$

Which can only be fulfilled if $m = 2$ and $w(y) = -3$. This means that there is only one valuation above ∞ , which is also ramified.

We have already found 4 ramification points for the curve $y^2 = (t - \lambda_1)(t - \lambda_2)(t - \lambda_3)$. This curve defines a torus, so its genus is 1. But there cannot be more than $2(g + 1)$ ramification points on the curve, or else these would determine an additional cut, which would increase its genus. Therefore the 4 ramification points we found are the only ones, and we can conclude that above any other λ there are two valuations, each with ramification index 1.