# AUTOMATED GEOMETRIC THEOREM PROVING

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**Background Information** 

### **Different Geometries**

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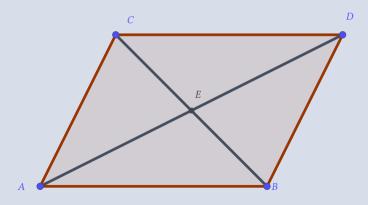
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**Defferent Proving Strategies** 

### **Traditional Proof**

## Diagonals of a parallelogram bisect each other.

Let A, B, C, D be the vertices of a parallelogram in the plane. The two diagonals  $\overline{AD}$  and  $\overline{BC}$  of any parallelogram intersect at a point which bisects both diagonals.



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### **%** Solution:

$$\triangle ADB \cong \triangle DAC$$

hence  $AB \equiv CD$ 

 $\triangle AEB \cong \triangle DEC$ 

hence  $AE \equiv DE$ 

Therefore, diagonals of a parallelogram bisect each other.

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We can let  $A = (0,0), B = (u_1,0), C = (u_2,u_3), D = (x_1,x_2), \text{ and } E = (x_3,x_4).$  Then we want to prove  $g = x_1^2 - 2x_1x_3 - 2x_4x_2 + x_2^2$ .

$$h_1 = x_2 - u_3$$

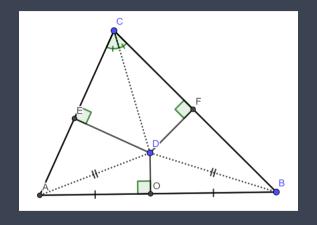
$$h_2 = (x_1 - u_1) u_3 - u_2 x_2$$

$$h_3 = x_4 x_1 - x_3 x_2$$

$$h_4 = x_4 (u_2 - u_1) - (x_3 - u_1) u_3.$$

 $g = x_1^2 - 2x_1x_3 - 2x_4x_2 + x_2^2$ .

Every triangle is isosceles. Let ABC be a triangle as shown in figure. We want to prove  $CA \equiv CB$ .



Proof. It is easy to see that  $\triangle CDE \cong \triangle CDF$  and  $\triangle ADE \cong \triangle BDF$ . Hence CE + EA = CF + FB, i.e.,  $CA \equiv CB$ 

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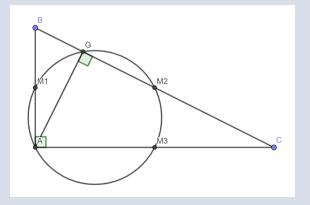
# **Geometric Config to Polynomials**

Let A, B, C, D, E, F be points in the plane. Each of the following geometric statements can be expressed by one or more polynomial equations:

- $\odot \overline{AB}$  is perpendicular to  $\overline{CD}$ .
- $\odot$  A, B, C are collinear.
- $\odot$  The distance from *A* to *B* is equal to the distance from *C* to *D* i.e. AB = CD.
- $\odot$  C lies on the circle with center A and radius AB.
- $\odot$  *C* is the midpoint of  $\overline{AB}$ .
- ⊚ The acute angle  $\angle ABC$  is equal to the acute angle  $\angle DEF$
- ⊚  $\overline{BD}$  bisects the angle  $\angle ABC$ .

### Circle Theorem of Appolonius

Let  $\triangle ABC$  be a right triangle in the plane, with right angle at A. The midpoints of the three sides and the foot of the altitude drawn from A to  $\overline{BC}$  all lie on one circle.



We begin by constructing the triangle.

A at (0,0) B at  $(u_1,0)$ , the hypothesis that  $\angle CAB$  is a right angle says  $C=(0,u_2)$ .

$$M_1 = (x_1, 0)$$
,  $M_2 = (0, x_2)$ , and  $M_3 = (x_3, x_4)$ .

We obtain the equations

$$h_1 = 2x_1 - u_1 = 0,$$
  
 $h_2 = 2x_2 - u_2 = 0,$   
 $h_3 = 2x_3 - u_1 = 0,$   
 $h_4 = 2x_4 - u_2 = 0.$ 

The next step is to construct the point  $H = (x_5, x_6)$ , the foot of the altitude drawn from A. We have two hypotheses here:

$$B, H, C \text{ collinear}: h_5 = u_2 x_5 + u_1 x_6 - u_1 u_2 = 0,$$
 
$$AH \perp BC: h_6 = u_1 x_5 - u_2 x_6 = 0.$$

Finally, we must consider the statement that  $M_1, M_2, M_3, H$  lie on a circle.

We call the center  $O = (x_7, x_8)$  and derive two additional hypotheses:

$$M_1O = M_2O : h_7 = (x_1 - x_7)^2 + x_8^2 - x_7^2 - (x_8 - x_2)^2 = 0$$
  
 $M_1O = M_3O : h_8 = (x_1 - x_7)^2 + (0 - x_8)^2 - (x_3 - x_7)^2 - (x_4 - x_8)^2 = 0.$ 

Our conclusion is  $HO = M_1O$ , which takes the form

$$g = (x_5 - x_7)^2 + (x_6 - x_8)^2 - (x_1 - x_7)^2 - x_8^2 = 0.$$

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### Generalization

For given geometric configuration, we will have some number of arbitrary coordinates, or independent variables in our construction, denoted by  $u_1, \dots, u_m$ . In addition, there will be some collection of dependent variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

The hypotheses of the theorem will be represented by a collection of polynomial equations in the  $u_i, x_i$ .

$$h_1(u_1, ..., u_m, x_1, ..., x_n) = 0$$
  
 $\vdots$   
 $h_n(u_1, ..., u_m, x_1, ..., x_n) = 0.$ 

The conclusions of the theorem will also be expressed as polynomials in the  $u_i, x_i$ .

$$g(u_1,\ldots,u_m,x_1,\ldots,x_n)=0$$

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# How can the fact that g follows from $h_1, \dots, h_n$ be deduced algebraically?

The basic idea is that we want g to vanish whenever  $h_1, \dots, h_n$  do.

## Follows strictly

The conclusion g follows strictly from the hypotheses  $h_1, \ldots, h_n$  if  $g \in \mathbf{I}(V) \subseteq \mathbb{R}[u_1, \ldots, u_m, x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ , where  $V = \mathbf{V}(h_1, \ldots, h_n) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$ 

If  $g \in \sqrt{\langle h_1, \ldots, h_n \rangle} \subseteq \mathbf{I}(V)$ , then g follows strictly from  $h_1, \ldots, h_n$ Note that the converse fails whenever  $\sqrt{\langle h_1, \ldots, h_n \rangle} \subseteq \mathbf{I}(V)$ 

Let 
$$\bar{I}=\langle h_1,\dots,h_n,1-yg\rangle$$
 in the ring  $\mathbb{R}\left[u_1,\dots,u_m,x_1,\dots,x_n,y\right]$ , then 
$$g\in\sqrt{\langle h_1,\dots,h_n\rangle}\Longleftrightarrow\{1\} \text{ is the reduced Gr\"{o}bner basis of }\bar{I}.$$

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# How can the fact that g follows from $h_1, \dots, h_n$ be deduced algebraically?

$$g \in \sqrt{\langle h_1, \dots, h_n \rangle} \subseteq \mathbb{R}\left[u_1, \dots, u_m, x_1, \dots, x_n\right] \iff g \in \mathbf{I}\left(V_{\mathbb{C}}\right) = \sqrt{\langle h_1, \dots, h_n \rangle} \subseteq \mathbb{C}\left[u_1, \dots, u_m, x_1, \dots, x_n\right]$$

Example 1 (continued). Taking as hypotheses the four polynomials:

$$h_1 = x_2 - u_3$$

$$h_2 = (x_1 - u_1) u_3 - u_2 x_2$$

$$h_3 = x_4 x_1 - x_3 x_2$$

$$h_4 = x_4 (u_2 - u_1) - (x_3 - u_1) u_3.$$

We will take as conclusion the first polynomial:

$$g = x_1^2 - 2x_1x_3 - 2x_4x_2 + x_2^2.$$

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# How can the fact that g follows from $h_1, \dots, h_n$ be deduced algebraically?

Now must compute a Gröbner basis for

$$\bar{I} = \langle h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4, 1 - yg \rangle \subseteq \mathbb{R} [u_1, u_2, u_3, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, y].$$

Surprisingly enough, we do not find {1}.

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Gröbner basis for  $I = \langle h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4 \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{R}[u_1, u_2, u_3, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$ , using lex order with  $x_1 > x_2 > x_3 > x_4 > u_1 > u_2 > u_3$ . The result is

$$\begin{split} f_1 &= x_1 x_4 + x_4 u_1 - x_4 u_2 - u_1 u_3, \\ f_2 &= x_1 u_3 - u_1 u_3 - u_2 u_3, \\ f_3 &= x_2 - u_3, \\ f_4 &= x_3 u_3 + x_4 u_1 + x_4 u_2 - u_1 u_3, \\ f_5 &= x_4 u_1^2 - x_4 u_1 u_2 - \frac{1}{2} u_1^2 u_3 + \frac{1}{2} u_1 u_2 u_3, \\ f_6 &= x_4 u_1 u_3 - \frac{1}{2} u_1 u_3^2. \end{split}$$

$$V = \mathbf{V}(h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4) = \mathbf{V}(f_1, \dots, f_6) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^7$$

Note  $f_2$  factors as  $(x_1 - u_1 - u_2) u_3$ 

$$V = \mathbf{V}(f_1, x_1 - u_1 - u_2, f_3, f_4, f_5, f_6) \cup \mathbf{V}(f_1, u_3, f_3, f_4, f_5, f_6)$$

Since  $f_5$  and  $f_6$  also factor, we can continue this decomposition process.

$$V = V' \cup U_1 \cup U_2 \cup U_3$$

into irreducible varieties, where

$$V' = \mathbf{V} \left( x_1 - u_1 - u_2, x_2 - u_3, x_3 - \frac{u_1 + u_2}{2}, x_4 - \frac{u_3}{2} \right),$$

$$U_1 = \mathbf{V} (x_2, x_4, u_3)$$

$$U_2 = \mathbf{V} (x_1, x_2, u_1 - u_2, u_3)$$

$$U_3 = \mathbf{V} (x_1 - u_2, x_2 - u_3, x_3 u_3 - x_4 u_2, u_1)$$

 $(u_3 = 0, x_2 = 0, x_4 = 0)$  here  $h_i$ 's are simultaneously zero but g is not

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Let  $V = \mathbf{V}(h_1, \dots, h_n) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$  as a finite union of irreducible varieties

$$V=V_1\cup\cdots\cup V_k.$$

Let W be an irreducible variety in the affine space  $\mathbb{R}^{m+n}$  with coordinates  $u_1, \dots, u_m, x_1, \dots, x_n$ . We say that the functions  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  are algebraically independent on W if  $I(W) \cap \mathbb{R}[u_1, \ldots, u_m] = \{0\}$ .

We can regroup the irreducible components in the following way:

$$V = W_1 \cup \cdots \cup W_p \cup U_1 \cup \cdots \cup U_q,$$

$$V' = W_1 \cup \cdots \cup W_p \subseteq V.$$

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## Follows Generically

The conclusion g follows generically from the hypotheses  $h_1, \dots, h_n$  if  $g \in \mathbb{I}(V') \subseteq \mathbb{R}[u_1, \dots, u_m, x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , where, as above,  $V' \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$  is the union of the components of the variety  $V = \mathbf{V}(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  on which the  $u_i$  are algebraically independent.

The conclusion g follows generically from  $h_1, ..., h_n$  whenever there is some nonzero

$$c \cdot g \in \sqrt{H}$$
,

where H is the ideal generated by the hypotheses  $h_i$  in  $\mathbb{R}[u_1, \dots, u_m, x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

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# **Follows Generically**

### The following are equivalent

- 1. There is a nonzero polynomial  $c \in \mathbb{R}[u_1, ..., u_m]$  such that  $c \cdot g \in \sqrt{H}$ .
- 2.  $g \in \sqrt{\widetilde{H}}$ , where  $\widetilde{H}$  is the ideal generated by the  $h_j$  in  $\mathbb{R}(u_1, \dots, u_m)[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .
- 3. {1} is the reduced Gröbner basis of the ideal

$$\langle h_1,\ldots,h_n,1-yg\rangle\subseteq\mathbb{R}\left(u_1,\ldots,u_m\right)\left[x_1,\ldots,x_n,y\right]$$

We will call this the Gröbner basis method in geometric theorem proving.

We first compute a Gröbner basis of the ideal  $\langle h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4, 1 - yg \rangle$  in the ring  $\mathbb{R}(u_1, u_2, u_3)[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, y]$ . This computation does yield  $\{1\}$  as we expect.

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### Pseudodivision

Let  $f, g \in k[x_1, ..., x_n, y]$  and assume  $m \le p$  and  $d_m \ne 0$ .

$$f = c_p y^p + \dots + c_1 y + c_0,$$
  

$$g = d_m y^m + \dots + d_1 y + d_0,$$

There is an equation

$$d_m^s f = qg + r,$$

where  $q, r \in k[x_1, ..., x_n, y]$ ,  $s \ge 0$ , and either r = 0 or the degree of r in y is less than m.  $r \in \langle f, g \rangle$  in the ring  $k[x_1, ..., x_n, y]$ .

For example, if we pseudodivide  $f = x^2y^3 - y$  by  $g = x^3y - 2$  with respect to y by the algorithm above, we obtain the equation

$$(x^3)^3 f = (x^8y^2 + 2x^5y + 4x^2 - x^6)g + 8x^2 - 2x^6.$$

In particular, the pseudoremainder is  $Rem(f, g, y) = 8x^2 - 2x^6$ .

### Wu's Method1

Step 1. Conversion of a geometry statement into the corresponding polynomial equations.

Step 2. Triangulation of the hypothesis polynomials using pseudo division.

$$f_{1} = f_{1}(u_{1}, ..., u_{m}, x_{1})$$

$$f_{2} = f_{2}(u_{1}, ..., u_{m}, x_{1}, x_{2})$$

$$\vdots$$

$$f_{n} = f_{n}(u_{1}, ..., u_{m}, x_{1}, ..., x_{n})$$

### Wu's Method

Step 3. Successive pseudo division to compute the final remainder  $R_0$ .

$$\begin{split} R_{n-1} &= \text{Rem} \left( g, f_n, x_n \right), \\ R_{n-2} &= \text{Rem} \left( R_{n-1}, f_{n-1}, x_{n-1} \right), \\ &\vdots \\ R_1 &= \text{Rem} \left( R_2, f_2, x_2 \right), \\ R_0 &= \text{Rem} \left( R_1, f_1, x_1 \right). \end{split}$$

Step 4. Analysis of nondegenerate conditions  $d_1 \neq 0, \dots, d_r \neq 0$ 

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## Main Idea

If 
$$R_0 = 0$$
 in  $d_1^{s_1} \cdots d_n^{s_n} g = A_1 f_1 + \cdots + A_n f_n + R_0$ 

$$h_1 = 0 \wedge \dots \wedge h_n = 0 \wedge d_1 \neq 0 \wedge \dots \wedge d_k \neq 0 \Rightarrow g = 0$$

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# **Affine Space**

### Affine Space

Given a field *k* and a positive integer *n*, we define the *n*-dimensional affine space over *k* to be the set

$$k^n = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mid a_1, \dots, a_n \in k\}$$

### Affine Varieties

Let k be a field, and let  $f_1, \ldots, f_s$  be polynomials in  $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ . Then we set

$$V(f_1, ..., f_s) = \{(a_1, ..., a_n) \in k^n \mid f_i(a_1, ..., a_n) = 0 \text{ for all } 1 \le i \le s\}.$$

We call  $V(f_1, ..., f_s)$  the affine variety defined by  $f_1, ..., f_s$ .

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## **Affine Space**

In the plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the variety  $\mathbf{V}(x^2+y^2-1)$ , which is the circle of radius 1 centered at the origin

If  $V, W \subseteq k^n$  are affine varieties, then so are  $V \cup W$  and  $V \cap W$ .

Suppose that 
$$V = \mathbf{V}(f_1, \dots, f_s)$$
 and  $W = \mathbf{V}(g_1, \dots, g_t)$ . 
$$V \cap W = \mathbf{V}(f_1, \dots, f_s, g_1, \dots, g_t)$$
 
$$V \cup W = \mathbf{V}(f_i g_j \mid 1 \leq i \leq s, 1 \leq j \leq t)$$

$$I(V) = \{ f \in k [x_1, ..., x_n] \mid f(a_1, ..., a_n) = 0 \text{ for all } (a_1, ..., a_n) \in V \} \text{ is ideal}$$

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# **Affine Space**

### Hilbert's Nullstellensatz

Let k be an algebraically closed field. If  $f, f_1, \dots, f_s \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , then  $f \in \mathbf{I}(\mathbf{V}(f_1, \dots, f_s))$  if and only if

$$f^m \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$$

for some integer  $m \ge 1$ .

## Radical Membership

Let k be an arbitrary field and let  $I = \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle \subseteq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be an ideal. Then  $f \in \sqrt{I}$  if and only if the constant polynomial 1 belongs to the ideal  $\tilde{I} = \langle f_1, \dots, f_s, 1 - yf \rangle \subseteq k[x_1, \dots, x_n, y]$ , in which case  $\tilde{I} = k[x_1, \dots, x_n, y]$ .

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