

# Subvarieties in Abelian Variety

Xiaoxiang Zhou

Supervisor: Thomas Krämer

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

August 30, 2025

## Setting:

- $A/\mathbb{C}$ : an abelian variety of dim  $n$
- $Z \subset A$ : a (nondegenerate) subvariety of dim  $r$   
 $Z$  is a curve  $C$  in our talk.

## Goal

- *Construct a family of subvarieties in  $A$ .*
- *Find their dimension and homology class.*

### Example (Jacobian case)

*When  $C$  is a smooth projective curve over  $\mathbb{C}$  of genus  $g \geq 2$ ,*

$$A := \text{Jac}(C)$$

*the Jacobian of  $C$*

$$\text{AJ}_C : C \hookrightarrow A$$

*Abel–Jacobi map*

### Example (Prym case)

*When  $h : C \rightarrow C'$  is an unramified double cover of smooth projective curves, we can define*

$$A := \text{Prym}(C/C')$$

*the Prym variety of  $h$*

$$\text{AP}_{C/C'} : C \rightarrow A$$

*Abel–Prym map*

*We need to assume  $C$  is non-hyperelliptic so that  $\text{AP}_{C/C'}$  is injective.*

# Construct new subvarieties

Since  $A$  has addition structure, one defines

$$C + C := \{p + q \mid p, q \in C\} \subseteq A$$

$$2C := \{2p \mid p \in C\} \subseteq A$$

and so on.

## Remark

Since  $C$  is nondegenerate,

$$\underbrace{C + C + \cdots + C}_{\geq n \text{ many}} = A.$$

# Construct new subvarieties

## Question

Can we define a family of subvarieties

$$\{m_1C + \cdots + m_dC \subseteq A \mid m_1, \dots, m_k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

more respect to the addition structures?

They should not be  $A$ .

In fact, we can construct a family of subvarieties

$$\{Z_\chi \subseteq A \mid \chi \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$$

via the conormal variety.

# Conic Lagrangian cycle

For a (smooth) subvariety  $Z \subset A$ , one can define the conormal variety  $\Lambda_Z \subset T^*A \cong A \times T_0^*A$  by

$$\Lambda_Z := \left\{ (p, \xi) \in T^*A \mid \xi|_{T_p^*Z} = 0 \right\}.$$

## Facts

- $\Lambda_Z$  is a conic Lagrangian cycle in  $T^*A$ ;
- We have one-to-one correspondence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\text{irr conic Lagrangian cycles in } T^*A\} & \cong & \{\text{irr subvarieties in } A\} \\ \Lambda_Z & \longleftrightarrow & Z \end{array}$$

- The map  $\gamma_Z : \Lambda_Z \subset A \times T_0^*A \longrightarrow T_0^*A$  is a generically finite map, when  $Z$  is nondegenerate.

# Family of subvarieties

## Definition

Fix a general point  $\xi_0 \in T_0^*A$ , and  $d := \deg \gamma_Z$ ,

$$\gamma_Z^{-1}(\xi_0) := \{p_1, \dots, p_d\} \subset Z.$$

Denote  $\Lambda_Z^{\text{univ}}$  as the irreducible component of

$$\underbrace{\Lambda_Z \times_{T_0^*A} \cdots \times_{T_0^*A} \Lambda_Z}_{d \text{ many}} \subset A \times \cdots \times A \times T_0^*A$$

containing the point  $(p_1, \dots, p_d, \xi_0)$ .

For  $\chi = (m_1, \dots, m_d) \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , define  $\Lambda_{Z_\chi} := f(\Lambda_Z^{\text{univ}})$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} f : A \times \cdots \times A \times T_0^*A &\longrightarrow A \times T_0^*A \\ (q_1, \dots, q_d, \xi) &\longmapsto (\sum_i m_i q_i, \xi) \end{aligned}$$

$Z_\chi$  is then the corresponding subvariety of  $\Lambda_{Z_\chi}$ .

# Our work

We determine  $\dim Z_\chi$  and  $[Z_\chi] \in H_*(A; \mathbb{Z})$  in special cases.

## Example

*In the Jacobian case,  $d = \deg \gamma_C = 2g - 2$ .*

*Assume that  $C$  is non-hyperelliptic. For  $\chi = (m_1, \dots, m_d) \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , when no  $g$  of  $m_i$  equal to each other, we get*

$$\dim Z_\chi = g - 1$$
$$[Z_\chi] = \frac{1}{\deg f|_{\Lambda_Z^{\text{univ}}}} \left( \frac{1}{2^{g-1}} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2g-2}} \prod_{l=1}^{g-1} \left( m_{\sigma(2l-1)} - m_{\sigma(2l)} \right)^2 \right) \cdot [\Theta]$$



# Q & A

Thank you for your listening!

Any questions?

This slide is online available: <https://shorturl.at/qqWDe>  
For more infos (and references) about this topic, please check  
`dim_of_Zchi.pdf` and `subvarieties_in_abelian_variety.pdf`.

Financial support by the Berlin Mathematical School is gratefully  
acknowledged.

