

§2: Projective toric varieties

A projective toric variety is an irreducible projective variety X containing a torus $T \simeq (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ as a Zariski open subset, such that $T \times T \rightarrow T$ extends to an algebraic action $T \times X \rightarrow X$.

Example: \mathbb{P}^n is a projective toric variety with torus

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\mathbb{P}^n} &= \{(x_0 : \dots : x_n) \in \mathbb{P}^n \mid x_i \neq 0, \forall i\} \\ &= \{(1 : t_1 : \dots : t_n) \in \mathbb{P}^n \mid t \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n\} \\ &\simeq (\mathbb{C}^*)^n. \end{aligned}$$

Recall: $T_{\mathbb{P}^n} \simeq (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1}/\mathbb{C}^*$, with quotient map $\pi: (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1} \rightarrow T_{\mathbb{P}^n}$, $(t_0, \dots, t_n) \mapsto (t_0 : \dots : t_n)$.

\Rightarrow the character lattice M_n of $T_{\mathbb{P}^n}$ can be viewed as a sublattice of \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} .

$$1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{P}^1} \rightarrow 1$$

gives $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \left\{ (a_0, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} \mid \sum_{i=0}^n a_i = 0 \right\}$$

2.1 Projective toric varieties from monomial maps and toric ideals

Recall: $\mathcal{M} = \{m_1, \dots, m_s\} \subset M$ gives

$$\phi_{\mathcal{M}} : T \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^s, \quad t \mapsto (t^{m_i})_{i=1, \dots, s}.$$

We compose this with $\pi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^s \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{s-1}$ to get a map to projective space:

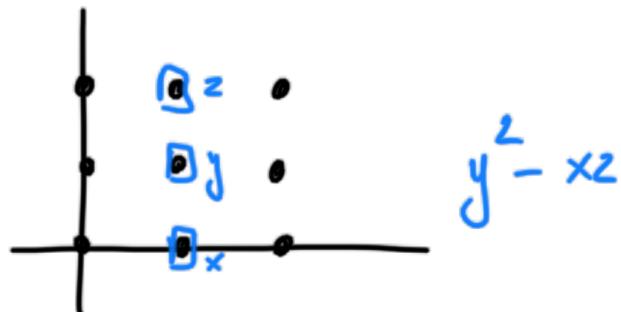
$$X_{\mathcal{M}} = \overline{(\pi \circ \phi_{\mathcal{M}})(T)} \subset \mathbb{P}^{s-1}.$$

Example : $T = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$, $X_{\mathcal{M}}$ is the closure of the image of $t \mapsto (t^{m_1} : \dots : t^{m_s})$.

Prop : $X_{\mathcal{M}}$ is a projective toric variety

proof : similar to " $Y_{\mathcal{M}}$ is an affine toric variety." \square

We've seen examples where $\gamma_{\text{st}} \subset \mathbb{C}^s$ is given by homogeneous equations, so that it is naturally the cone over X_{st} :



$$\dim \gamma_{\text{st}} = \omega$$

$$\dim X_{\text{st}} = 1.$$

Let $L = \ker \hat{\phi}_{\text{st}}$, where $\hat{\phi}_{\text{st}} : \mathbb{Z}^s \rightarrow M$
 $(a_1, \dots, a_s) \mapsto \sum a_i m_i$

and let $I_L = I(\gamma_{\text{st}}) = \langle x^a - x^b \mid a - b \in L \rangle$.

Prop: I_L is homogeneous if and only if there is $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\langle n, m_i \rangle = c + o$ for $i = 1, \dots, s$.

\iff the m_i lie on an affine hyperplane
 $\iff (1, 1, \dots, 1) \in \text{Row}_Q(A)$.

proof: (case $M = \mathbb{Z}^n$) I_L homogeneous means

$$\sum_{i=1}^{s_r} (l_+)_i - \sum_{i=1}^{s_l} (l_-)_i = \langle (1, \dots, 1), l \rangle = 0 \quad \forall l \in L.$$

Therefore $(1, \dots, 1) \in (L \otimes \mathbb{Q})^\perp = \text{Row}_{\mathbb{Q}}(A)$.

Conversely, $(1, \dots, 1) \in \text{Row}_{\mathbb{Q}}(A)$ means $\sum a_i = \sum b_i$ for every $a - b \in L$, so that I_L is homogeneous. \square .

Note: in this case $\dim Y_{\hat{A}} = \dim X_{\hat{A}} + 1$, and

$Y_{\hat{A}}$ is the affine cone over $X_{\hat{A}}$.

We can make the points in $\hat{A} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$ lie on an affine hyperplane by adding a row of ones to A:

$$t \mapsto (t^{m_1} : \dots : t^{m_s}) \rightsquigarrow (t_0 t^{m_1} : \dots : t_0 t^{m_s}).$$

$$\hat{A} = \{m_1, \dots, m_s\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \quad \hat{A} = \{(1, m_1), \dots, (1, m_s)\}$$

For $L = \ker \hat{\phi}_{\hat{A}}$, we have

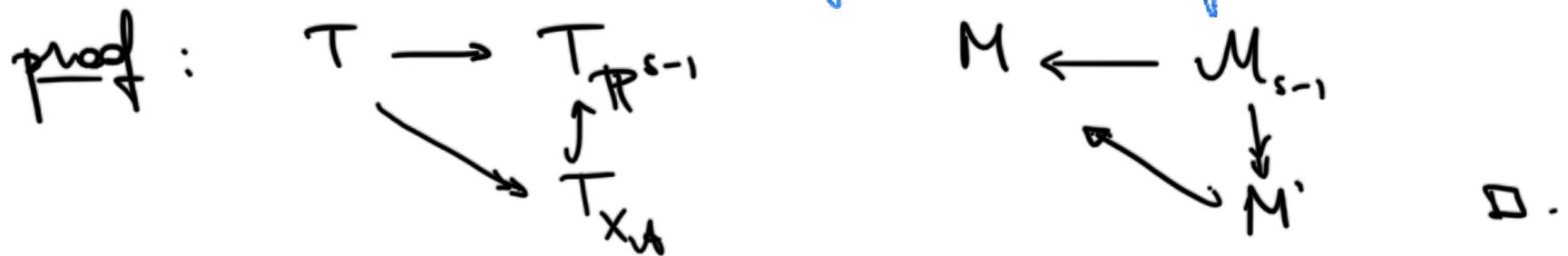
$$I(Y_{\hat{A}}) = I(X_{\hat{A}}) = I(X_A) = I_L$$

Prop: The character lattice of the torus T_{X_A} of X_A is

$$\mathbb{Z}^{\hat{A}} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s a_i m_i \mid a_i \in \mathbb{Z}, \sum a_i = 0 \right\}.$$

Note : $\mathbb{Z}^{\text{'}\mathcal{A}}$ is called the lattice affinely generated by \mathcal{A} . It is equal to $\mathbb{Z} \cdot (\mathcal{A} - m_i)$, for any i , since

$$a_1m_1 + \dots + \widehat{a_i m_i} + \dots + a_s m_s - \left(\sum_{j \neq i} a_j \right) m_i = \sum_{j \neq i} a_j (m_j - m_i).$$



Cor : $\dim X_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{cases} \text{rank } \mathbb{Z}^{\text{'}\mathcal{A}} - 1 & \text{if } I(Y_{\mathcal{A}}) \text{ is homogeneous} \\ \text{rank } \mathbb{Z}^{\mathcal{A}} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Exercise : Let \mathcal{A} be given by

$T_{X_{\mathcal{A}}} \rightarrow T_{X_{\mathcal{A}}}$ is 2-to-1.

2.2 Kushnirenko's theorem

Let $\mathcal{A} = \{m_i\}_{i=1}^s \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$ be such that $\mathbb{Z}^{\text{'}\mathcal{A}} = \mathbb{Z}^n$.

The convex hull of \mathcal{A} is

$$\text{Conv}(\mathcal{A}) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_i m_i \mid \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \sum \lambda_i = 1 \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Theorem (Kushnirenko) The degree of X_A is

the normalized volume $n! \operatorname{Vol}(\operatorname{Conv}(A))$.

Our proof is based on the notes [Sottile '17]. It uses a series of auxiliary results, starting with a classic:

Theorem (Hilbert) Let $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{s-1}$ be a projective variety with coordinate ring $\mathbb{C}[X] = \frac{\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_s]}{I(X)}$.

For $d \gg 0$, the Hilbert function

$$\text{HF}_X : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, d \mapsto \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}[X]_d$$

is a polynomial (called the Hilbert polynomial)

with leading term $\frac{\deg(X)}{\dim(X)!} \cdot d^{\dim(X)}$.

Lemma: The coordinate ring of X_A is $\mathbb{C}[N \widehat{\mathcal{A}}]$,

with grading

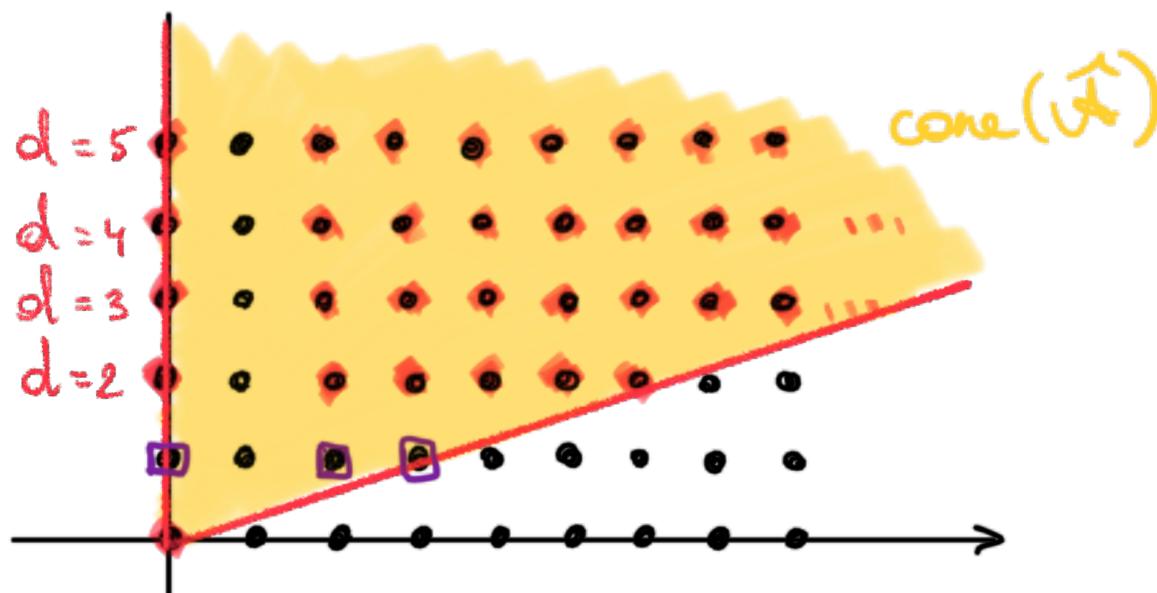
$$\mathbb{C}[N \widehat{\mathcal{A}}] = \bigoplus_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{C}[N \widehat{\mathcal{A}}]_d, \quad \mathbb{C}[N \widehat{\mathcal{A}}]_d = \bigoplus_{\left\{ \sum_{j=1}^d m_j \mid m_j \in \mathcal{A} \right\}} \mathbb{C} \cdot x^{(d, m)}$$

Proof : $\mathbb{C}[X_{\mathcal{A}}] = \mathbb{C}[Y_{\widehat{\mathcal{A}}}] = \frac{\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_s]}{\mathcal{I}(Y_{\widehat{\mathcal{A}}})} \simeq \mathbb{C}[N_{\widehat{\mathcal{A}}}],$

where the last isomorphism is $x_i + \mathcal{I}(Y_{\widehat{\mathcal{A}}}) \mapsto \chi^{(1, m_i)}$.

Example $\mathcal{A} = \{0, 1, 2, 3\} \subset \mathbb{Z}$

$$\widehat{\mathcal{A}} = \{(1, 0), (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3)\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$$



$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} d & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & \rightarrow \text{HP}_{X_{\mathcal{A}}} = 3d. \\ \text{HF}_{X_{\mathcal{A}}}(d) & 1 & 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 & \dots & \end{array}$$

Exercise : $\mathcal{I}(X_{\mathcal{A}}) = \langle xz^2 - y^3 \rangle.$

Corollary : $\text{HF}_{X_{\mathcal{A}}}(d) = |d \cdot \mathcal{A}|.$

The Ehrhart polynomial E_P of a lattice polytope $P \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is given by $E_P : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, $d \mapsto |dP \cap \mathbb{Z}^n|$.

Theorem The degree of E_P is $\dim P$. If $\dim P = n$, the leading term is $\text{Vol}(P) d^n$.

Proposition : $\text{HF}_{X_{\text{tf}}} (d) \leq E_{\text{Cone}(\mathbb{A})} (d)$ for all $d \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof Immediate from $d \mathbb{A} \subset dP \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$ \square

Let $\sigma^\vee = \text{Cone}(\widehat{\mathbb{A}}) \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ and $S_\sigma = \sigma^\vee \cap \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$.

If $S_\sigma = \mathbb{N} \widehat{\mathbb{A}}$, then $|d \cdot \mathbb{A}| = |d \cdot P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n|$, $d \in \mathbb{N}$,

so $\text{HF}_{X_{\text{tf}}} (d) = E_P (d)$, $d \in \mathbb{N}$ and this proves

Kushnirenko's theorem. If (*) holds, X_{tf} is

called projectively normal. In general, $S_\sigma \supset \mathbb{N} \widehat{\mathbb{A}}$.

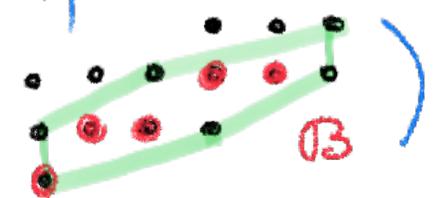
Lemma : There exists $m \in \mathbb{N} \widehat{\mathbb{A}}$ such that

$$m + S_\sigma \subset \mathbb{N} \widehat{\mathbb{A}}.$$

proof : Let $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_i (1, m_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} \mid \lambda_i \in [0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q} \right\}$

(this is the origin + the interior points of a

zonotope, in our previous example:



for each $b \in \mathcal{B}$, fix $a_i(b) \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$b = \sum_{i=1}^s a_i(b) (1, m_i)$$

This is possible because $\mathbb{Z}^s \otimes \mathbb{Z}^m = \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$

Fix $v \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $-v \leq a_i(b)$, $\forall b \in \mathcal{B}$, $i = 1, \dots, s$.

We define $m = v \cdot \sum_{i=1}^s (1, m_i)$.

If $m' \in m + S_r$, we have $m' - m = \sum_{i=1}^s \alpha_i (1, m_i)$

for some $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$. Set $\alpha'_i = \lambda_i + \gamma_i$, $\lambda_i \in [0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q}$
 $\gamma_i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Then $m' - m = \sum \lambda_i (1, m_i) + \sum \gamma_i (1, m_i) = b + c$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so that } m' &= m + \sum a_i(b) (1, m_i) + c \\ &= \sum (a_i(b) + v) (1, m_i) + c \in \mathbb{N} \widehat{\wedge} \end{aligned}$$

proof (of Kushnirenko's theorem) By the previous lemma : for $d \gg 0$

$$|(d - v \cdot |\lambda|) \cdot \text{Conv}(\lambda) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n| \leq |d \cdot \lambda| \leq |d \cdot (\text{Conv}(\lambda) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n)|$$

$$E_{\text{Conv}(\lambda)}(d - v \cdot |\lambda|) \leq HF_{X_{\lambda}}(d) \leq E_{\text{Conv}(\lambda)}(d)$$

So there are all polynomials with the same leading term.

Hence $\text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(\lambda)) = \frac{\deg(X_\lambda)}{n!}$. \square .

Corollary : for generic coefficients $c_{i,j}$, the system

of equations $f_{t_1} = \dots = f_{t_n} = 0$ with

$$f_j = \sum_{i=1}^s c_{i,j} t^{m_i} \in \mathbb{C}[z^n]$$

has $n! \text{Vol}(\text{Conv}(\lambda))$ solutions.

Exercises : 2.1.4

2.1.6

For $\mathcal{U} = \{(0,0), (1,0), (0,1), (2,1), (1,2)\}$,
compute $\deg(\mathcal{U})$ via Kushnirenko's theorem,
and verify using the last corollary in
this lecture.

Now delete the point $(0,0)$. Explain
what happens.

Please read Sec 2.2. in [CLS].