

University of Waterloo
Algebraic Geometry - Summer 2015
Assignment 3

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Problem 1

Part a

We know from linear algebra that every element of $O(n, k)$ has determinant either 1 or -1 . Thus $O(n, k) = (V(\det_n - 1) \cap O(n, k)) \cup (V(\det_n + 1) \cap O(n, k))$. So the set is reducible and therefore is not a variety.

Part b

We just need to note that

$$SU(2, \mathbb{C}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & -\bar{b} \\ b & \bar{a} \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{C}, |a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1 \right\}$$

As I argued in Assignment 1, this intersects the line $z = 1$ infinitely many times and therefore is not an algebraic set.

Part c

The polynomial map $\phi : \mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow V(xz - y^2, yz - x^3, z^2 - x^y)$ that sends t to (t^3, t^4, t^5) is surjective. Therefore since \mathbb{A}^1 is irreducible, so is $X = \phi(\mathbb{A}^1)$.

Problem 2

It is sufficient to show that $k(\mathbb{A}^1)$ is not isomorphic to $k(V(y^2 - x^3))$.

We have that $k(V(y^2 - x^3))$ is isomorphic to $k[t^2, t^3]$ and $k(\mathbb{A}^1)$ is isomorphic to $k[t]$.

Note that $k[t]$ is a UFD, but $k[t^2, t^3]$ is not because $t^8 = t^3 t^3 t^2 = (t^2)^3$ has two factorizations.

Hence $k(\mathbb{A}^1)$ is not isomorphic to $k(V(y^2 - x^3))$.

Problem 3

Part a

Note that ϕ^* sends $g + I(Y)$ to $g \circ \phi + I(X)$.

So ϕ^* is injective means $g \in I(Y) \iff g \circ \phi \in I(X)$.

Since $g \circ \phi \in I(X) \iff g \in I(\phi(X))$, we have that ϕ^* is injective if and only if

$$I(Y) = I(\phi(X))$$

which is equivalent to image of ϕ under X being dense in Y .

Part b

Assume ϕ has a polynomial left-inverse ψ .

Let $p + I(X)$ be an arbitrary element of the coordinate ring of X .

Note that $p \circ \psi \in k[y_1, \dots, y_m]$.

We have $\phi^*(p \circ \psi + I(Y)) = p \circ \psi \circ \phi + I(X) = p(\psi \circ \phi) + I(X) = p + I(X)$.

Thus ϕ^* is surjective.

Conversely assume ϕ^* is surjective.

Since ϕ^* is surjective, there exist $g_i \in k[y_1, \dots, y_m]$ such that $\phi(g_i + I(Y)) = x_i + I(X)$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

So $(g_i \circ \phi) + I(X) = x_i + I(X) \rightarrow (g_i \circ \phi)(x) = x_i(x) \forall x \in X$.

Let $\psi = (g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n)$, then we clearly have $\psi \circ \phi = id_X$.

Problem 4

Since k is a field, to prove bijectivity, it is sufficient to prove that ϕ is a ring homomorphism.

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{A}^1$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(a + b) &= (a + b)^p \\ &= a^p + \binom{p}{1} a^{p-1} b + \dots + \binom{p}{i} a^{p-1i} b^i + \dots + b^p \\ &= a^p + b^p \quad \text{since } \text{char}(k) = p \text{ } p \text{ is prime} \\ &= \phi(a) + \phi(b) \end{aligned}$$

Also $\phi(ab) = (ab)^p = a^p b^p = \phi(a)\phi(b)$. Thus ϕ is a ring homomorphism.

Let $g \in k[x]$. Note that $\phi^*(g) = g \circ \phi$. So $\phi^* : k[x] \rightarrow k[x^p]$. Thus ϕ^* is not an isomorphism as $k[x]$ is not isomorphic to $k[x^p]$ (ϕ^* is not even surjective). Hence ϕ is not an isomorphism.

Problem 5

$I(y^2 - x^2(x+1)) = \langle y^2 - x^2(x+1) \rangle$ since $y^2 - x^2(x+1)$ is irreducible. So we have $\bar{y}^2 = \bar{x}^2(\bar{x} + \bar{1})$ in $\Gamma(V(y^2 - x^2(x+1)))$. Thus

$$z = \frac{\bar{y}}{\bar{x}} = \frac{\bar{x}^2(\bar{x} + \bar{1})}{\bar{x}\bar{y}} = \frac{\bar{x}(\bar{x} + \bar{1})}{\bar{y}}$$

and

$$z^2 = \frac{\bar{y}^2}{\bar{x}^2} = \frac{\bar{x}^2(\bar{x} + \bar{1})}{\bar{x}^2} = \bar{x} + \bar{1}$$

So z^2 has no poles since it has a polynomial representation and also $z^2 \in \Gamma(X)$.

We can also see that z has no pole at (a, b) if $a \neq 0$ or $b \neq 0$. So the only possible pole for z is $(0, 0)$.

Assume for a contradiction that z is defined on $(0, 0)$. So there exist $g, h \in \Gamma(X)$ such that $z = \frac{g}{h}$ and $h(0, 0) \neq 0$. Equivalently $h\bar{y} = g\bar{x}$.

Because of the relation $\bar{y}^2 = \bar{x}^2(\bar{x} + \bar{1})$ any element of $\Gamma(X)$ can be written uniquely in the form $a(\bar{x}) + b(\bar{x})\bar{y}$.

So we can write $h\bar{y} = g\bar{x}$ as:

$$(h_1(\bar{x}) + h_2(\bar{x})\bar{y})\bar{y} = (g_1(\bar{x}) + g_2(\bar{x})\bar{y})\bar{x}$$

where $h_1(0) \neq 0$. So

$$h_1(\bar{x})\bar{y} + h_2(\bar{x})\bar{x}^2(\bar{x} + \bar{1}) = g_1(\bar{x})\bar{x} + g_2(\bar{x})\bar{x}\bar{y}$$

Now by uniqueness we have $h_1(\bar{x}) = g_2(\bar{x})\bar{x}$. Thus $h_1(0) = 0$ which is a contradiction. Hence $(0, 0)$ is the only pole of z and $z \notin \Gamma(X)$.

Problem 6

Part a

Let $F(x, y) = ax^2 + by^2 + cxy + dx + ey + f \in k[x, y]$ be irreducible. We break the problem down into a few cases and subcases:

Case 1: Either a or b is nonzero. WLOG assume $a \neq 0$.

Let $X_1 = \sqrt{a}(x + \frac{c}{2a}y)$. There exists b_1 such that $F = X_1^2 + b_1y^2 + dx + ey + f$.

There exist constants d_1, e_1, f_1 such that $F = X_1^2 + b_1y^2 + d_1X_1 + e_1y + f_1$. (It's very tedious to calculate these constants but they clearly exist).

Let $X_2 = X_1 + \frac{d_1}{2}$. Then there exist constant f_2 such that $F = X_2^2 + b_1y^2 + e_1y + f_2$.

We have 2 subcases to consider here:

Subcase 1: $b_1 = 0$.

So $F = X_2^2 + e_1y + f_2$. Note that if $e_1 = 0$ we get $F = (X_2 - \sqrt{f_2})(X_2 + \sqrt{f_2})$ which is reducible so $e_1 \neq 0$.

Now let $Y = -e_1y - f_2$ and we have $F = X_2^2 - Y$.

Subcase 2: $b_1 \neq 0$.

So $F = X_2^2 + b_1y^2 + e_1y + f_2 = X_2^2 + y^2 + \frac{e_1}{b_1}y + \frac{f_2}{b_1}$.

Let $Y_1 = y + \frac{e_1}{2b_1}$. Then there exist constant f_3 such that $F = X_2^2 + Y_1^2 - f_3$. Note that if $f_3 = 0$ then $F = (X_2 - iY_1)(X_2 + iY_1)$ which is reducible. So $f_3 \neq 0$.

Now let $X_3 = \sqrt{f_3}X_2$ and $Y_2 = \sqrt{f_3}Y_1$. Then $F = f_3(X_3^2 + Y_2^2 - 1)$. Therefore $V(F)$ can be written in the form $X_3^2 + Y_2^2 - 1 = 0$.

Case 2: $a = b = 0$.

So $F = cxy + dx + ey + f$. Note that $c \neq 0$ because otherwise the polynomial would have degree 1. We have:

$F = c(xy + \frac{d}{c}x + \frac{e}{c}y) + f$. So there exist constant c_1 such that $F = c(x + \frac{e}{c})(y + \frac{d}{c}) + f_1$.

Where $f_1 \neq 0$ otherwise the polynomial would be reducible.

Let $X = \frac{-\sqrt{c}}{f_1}(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{e}{2c} + \frac{d}{2c})$ and $Y = \frac{-i\sqrt{c}}{f_1}(\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{e}{2c} - \frac{d}{2c})$.

Then $X^2 + Y^2 - 1 = (X - iY)(X + iY) - 1 = \frac{-c}{f_1}(x + \frac{e}{c})(y + \frac{d}{c}) - 1$.

So $V(F)$ can be written in the form $X^2 + Y^2 - 1 = 0$.

Now we consider the case that $\text{char}(k) = 2$.

Let $F(x, y) = ax^2 + by^2 + cxy + dx + ey + f \in k[x, y]$ be irreducible.

Case 1: $c = 0$

Let $X = \sqrt{a}x + \sqrt{b}y$ and let $Y = -dx - ey - f$. Then $F = X^2 - Y$. Thus $V(F)$ is isomorphic to $V(Y - X^2)$.

Case 2: $c \neq 0$

We have 2 subcases

Subcase 1: $a = b = 0$

Let $X = cx + e$ and let $Y = y + \frac{d}{c}$. Then $F = XY - f_1$ for some constant f_1 . Thus $V(F)$ is isomorphic to $V(XY - 1)$ and I will prove in part (b) of this problem that $V(XY - 1)$ is isomorphic to $V(X^2 + Y^2 - 1)$.

Subcase 2: Either a or b is nonzero. WLOG assume $a \neq 0$.

Part b

The polynomial map $\phi : \mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow V(y - x^2)$ which sends t to (t^2, t) is clearly an isomorphism because its inverse simply sends (t^2, t) to t which is polynomial. So $V(y - x^2)$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{A}^1 .

Claim: $V(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$ is isomorphic to $V(xy - 1)$.

Proof: Let $\phi : V(x^2 + y^2 - 1) \rightarrow V(xy - 1)$ be a polynomial map that sends (a, b) to $(a - ib, a + ib)$.

Its inverse $\phi^{-1} : V(xy - 1) \rightarrow V(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$ sends (a, b) to $(\frac{1}{2}(a + b), i\frac{1}{2}(a - b))$.

Hence $V(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$ is isomorphic to $V(xy - 1)$.

We proved in class that $V(xy - 1)$ is not isomorphic to the affine line, thus $V(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$ is not isomorphic to \mathbb{A}^1 .

Part c

Given a point $(a, b) \in V(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$, we need to verify that the intersection of $y = 0$ and the line containing (a, b) and $(0, 1)$ is the point $(\frac{a}{1-b}, 0)$.

The line passing through (a, b) and $(0, 1)$ is $y - 1 = \frac{b-1}{a}x$. $y = 0$, so $-1 = \frac{b-1}{a}x$. Thus $x = \frac{a}{1-b}$.

Hence the rational map sending (x, y) to $\frac{x}{1-y}$ is stereographic projection.

The inverse $\Theta^{-1} : \mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow V(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$ is also a rational map that sends t to $(\frac{2t}{1+t^2}, \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2})$.

Also note that both Θ^{-1} and Θ are dominant because

$cl(\Theta^{-1}(\mathbb{A}^1)) = cl(X \setminus \{(0, 1)\}) = X$ and $cl(\Theta(X)) = \mathbb{A}^1$.

Thus Θ is a birational equivalence.