


# Algebraic Geometry

= study of the geometry of the solutions of algebraic systems of equations

Example  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  defines the circle   $(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  in Pythagorean triple  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

General setting Let  $\bar{k}$  be a fixed algebraically closed field  $k \subset \bar{k}$  a subfield (Typically:  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{C}$ )

Given  $S_1, \dots, S_r \in k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ , then

$$X = V(S_1, \dots, S_r) = \{a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \bar{k}^n \mid S_i(a) = 0, \dots, S_r(a) = 0\}$$

the vanishing loci or zero loci

Let  $A^n = \mathbb{A}^n(\bar{k}) = \bar{k}^n$  a set (not the vector space denote the affine  $n$ -space)

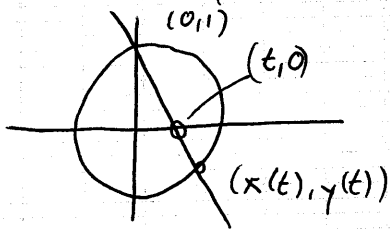
$X = V(S_1, \dots, S_r) \subset A^n$  is called an algebraic set

$X(k) = X \cap A^n(k)$  is called the set of  $k$ -rational points  
 $k$  is called a field of definition of  $X$

Remark: Since a polynomial  $S \in k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  has only finitely many coefficients we take as a field of definition of  $V(S_1, \dots, S_r)$  always a finitely generated extension of field of a prime field.

$$\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

Example  $(\frac{a}{c}, \frac{b}{c}) \in E(\mathbb{Q})$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$  rational point of the circle  
 Can we find all?



Consider the projection of  $E$  from the point  $(0,1)$  on the  $x$ -axis

The equation of the line through  $(x_1, y_1) = (0,1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_2) = (t,0)$  is given by

$$\frac{y-y_1}{x-x_1} = \frac{y_2-y_1}{x_2-x_1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y-1 = \frac{-1}{t}(x-0)$$

Substituting  $y = -\frac{x}{t} + 1$  into  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  gives

$$x^2 + \left(-\frac{x}{t} + 1\right)^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + \left(\frac{x^2}{t^2} - 2\frac{x}{t}\right) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \left(x \left(1 + \frac{1}{t^2}\right) - \frac{2}{t}\right) = 0$$

Hence  $x(t) = \frac{2t}{t^2+1} \cdot \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{t^2}} = \frac{2t}{t^2+1}$ ,  $y(t) = \frac{t^2-1}{t^2+1}$   
 By using the equation of the line  
 Check:  $\left(\frac{2t}{t^2+1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{t^2-1}{t^2+1}\right)^2 = \frac{(t^2+1)^2}{(t^2+1)^2} = 1$

$f: A^1 \rightarrow E, t \mapsto (x(t), y(t)) = \left(\frac{2t}{t^2+1}, \frac{t^2-1}{t^2+1}\right)$   
 is a rational parametrization of the circle  
 with  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t) = (0, 1)$ .

Why is this better than the analytic parametrization  
 $t \mapsto (\cos(t), \sin(t))$ ?

Because  $f(\mathbb{Q}) \cup \{(0, 1)\} = E(\mathbb{Q})$

What are the basic questions we would like to answer?

(A) Given  $S_1, \dots, S_r \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$   
 Does there exist a solution  $X = V(S_1, \dots, S_r) \neq \emptyset$ ?

Answer: Hilbert's Nullstellensatz

$X = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow$  The ideal  $I = (S_1, \dots, S_r) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^r g_i S_i \mid g_i \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n] \right\}$   
 contains 1

$\Leftrightarrow I = (1)$

" $\Leftarrow$ " easy " $\Rightarrow$ " is the essential direction

"Looking for" solution in  $\bar{K}$  is important

$X = V(x^2+1), X(\mathbb{R}) = \emptyset$  but  $\langle x^2+1 \rangle \subsetneq \mathbb{R}[x]$

(B) When is  $X$  a finite set?

Answer:  $|X| < \infty \Leftrightarrow$  the quotient ring  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$   
 is a finite  $\dim_{\bar{K}} K - \bar{K}$  vector space.

If  $\dim_{K-\text{vs}} K[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I = N < \infty$ , then

$1, \bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_1^2, \dots, \bar{x}_1^N$  must be  $K$ -linear dependent in  
 $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$

(C) If  $X = V(S_1, \dots, S_n)$  is an infinite set, what is  
 the dimension of the solution space?

Answer: Suppose  $(S_1, \dots, S_r)$  is a prime ideal

Then  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$  is an integral domain and

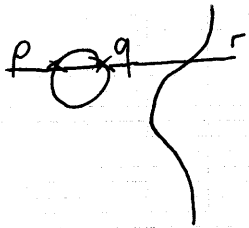
$\dim X = \text{tr deg}_K Q(K[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I)$  (Quotient field)

$\circ x^2 + y^2 = 1 \quad \mathbb{C}[x, y] / (x^2 + y^2 - 1) = \mathbb{C}(x)[y] / (y^2 + x^2 - 1)$   
 $\cup \mathbb{C}(x)$  is degree 2 alg extension.

(D) Given  $S_1, \dots, S_r \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is  $X(\mathbb{Q}) \neq \emptyset$ ?

$X(\mathbb{Z})$  Diophantine Geometry

Example  $X: y^2 = x^2 + ax + b \in \mathbb{Q}[x, y]$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$



$p, q \in X(\mathbb{Q}) \Rightarrow r \in X(\mathbb{Q})$

Elliptic curve

Mordell:  $X(\mathbb{Q}) \cup \{O\}$  is a finitely generated abelian group

(E) Can we use rational functions to parametrize  $X$ ?

Example:  $y^2 = x^3 - x$  no

$y^2 = x^3 + x^2$  yes

Exercise 1



Singular point

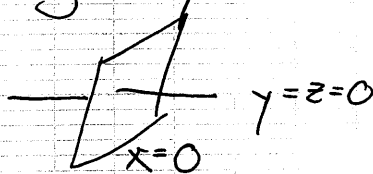
Remember  $K[x, y]$  is factorial

$y^2 = x^3 + x$

no singular points

We will answer this question completely in case  $X=1$   
 For  $\dim X > 1$  this question is part of birational geometry the research area of Grothendieck

(F) For some systems, e.g.  $xy=0, xz=0$  the solution set decomposes

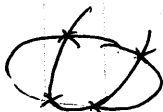


When is  $X$  irreducible?

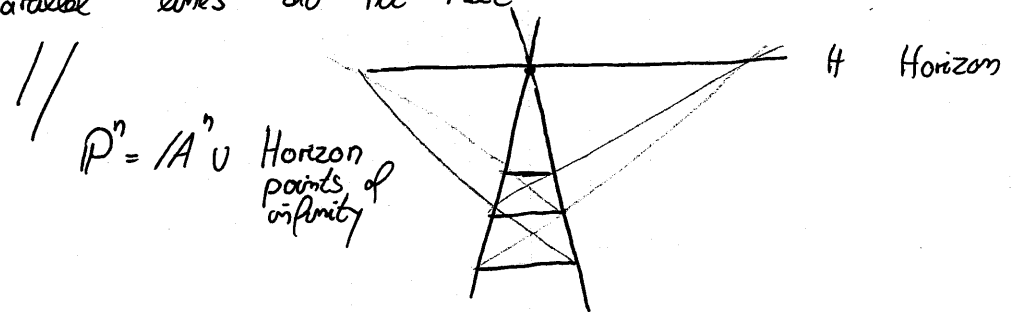
Answer:  $I = \langle S_1, \dots, S_r \rangle$  is a prime ideal  $\Rightarrow X$  irreducible

(G) For  $n$  polynomials in  $n$  variables  
 Taking our cue from linear algebra, we expect for sufficiently general polynomials only finitely many solutions

For two conic degree two equations  
 $4 = 2 \cdot 2$  solutions



(H) For special system of equations we might have fewer or infinitely many solutions  
 Parallel lines do not meet



(I) Thm (Bézout),  $S, g \in K[x, y]$  be polynomials of degree  $d$  and  $e$  such that  $C = V(S)$  and  $D = V(g)$  have no common component. Then

$$\sum_{p \in P^2} i(C, D, p) = de$$

intersection multiplicity

Example  $\cup y = x^2$  How to define  $i(C, D, p)$   
 $\underbrace{\quad}_{i \text{ double bro}} y = 0$  (1)  $y^3 = x^2$  dynamical part of view  
 $\odot y^2 = x^3$

(2)  $K[x, y] / \langle S, g \rangle$   
 $p = (0, 0) \in A^2, i(C, D, 0) = \dim_{K\text{-vs}} K[x, y] / \langle S, g \rangle$   
 $\langle y^2 - x^3, x^2 - y^3 \rangle = \langle x^2 - y^3, y^2 - xy^3 \rangle = \langle x^2 - y^3, y^2 \rangle$   
 $= \langle x^2, y^2 \rangle$