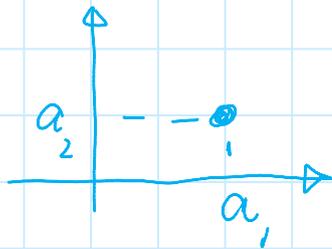


Bernstein-Kouchnirenko-Khovanskii with a symmetry

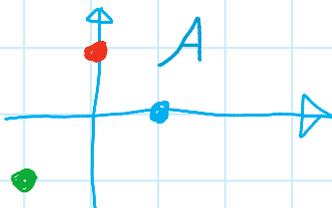
Alexander Esterov (LIMS)
Nottingham AG seminar
June 2023



Prequel: the classics



$$\mapsto x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} =: x^a$$



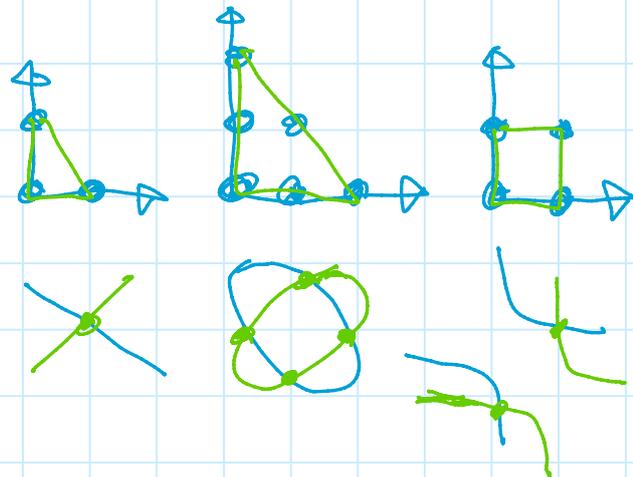
$$\mapsto \alpha \cdot x_1 + \beta \cdot x_2 + \gamma \cdot x_1^{-1} x_2^{-1} = 0$$

a polynomial supported at A

$A, B \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \mapsto$ systems of equations $f = g = 0$ supported at A, B

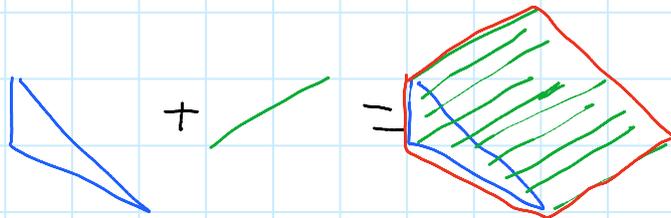
Kouchnirenko-Bernstein formula:

$f_1 = \dots = f_n = 0$ is a generic system supported at $A_1, \dots, A_n \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \Rightarrow$ the number of its solutions in $(\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^n$ equals the mixed volume of A_1, \dots, A_n



Minkowski sum

$$A + B := \{a + b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$$



Mixed volume

$$A_1 \cdot \dots \cdot A_n := \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_q} (-1)^{n-q} \text{Vol}(A_{i_1} + \dots + A_{i_q})$$

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & \text{---} & \\ & \text{---} & \\ & \text{---} & \end{array} \right| - \left| \begin{array}{ccc} \text{---} & & \\ \text{---} & & \\ \text{---} & & \end{array} \right| = 1 - 0 - 0 = 1$$

BKK toolkit: $f = g = 0$ is a generic system supported at $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}^3 \Rightarrow$

1) $f = g = 0$ defines a smooth curve in $(\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3$

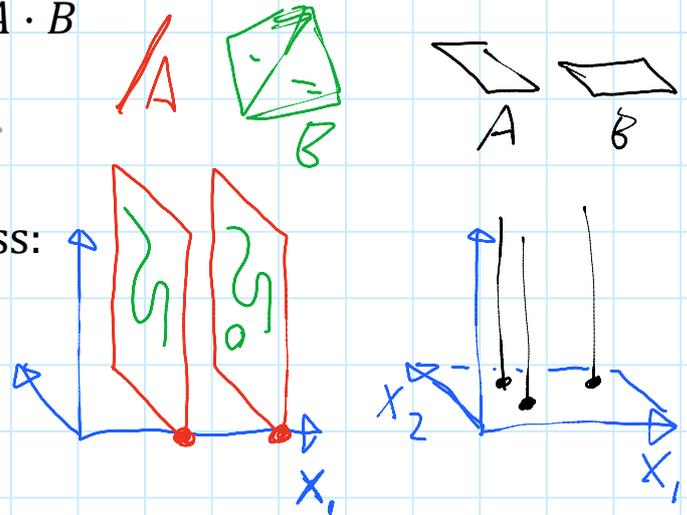
2) $e(f = g = 0) = -(A + B) \cdot A \cdot B$

3) The genus, the tropical fan, ...

4) The curve is irreducible unless:

a. $f(x_1) = g(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 0$

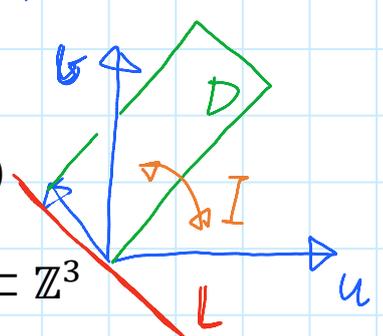
b. $f(x_1, x_2) = g(x_1, x_2) = 0$



Chapter 1: the symmetry

The **involution** $I: \mathbb{Z}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^3$, $I(u, v, w) := (v, u, w)$

The **diagonal plane** $D \subset \mathbb{Z}^3$ and the **fixed line** $L \subset \mathbb{Z}^3$

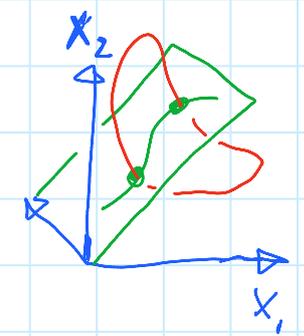


Same in the algebraic torus: $I: (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3 \supset D$

The **symmetric curve** C :

$f(x) = f(Ix) = 0$ for generic f supported at $A \in \mathbb{Z}^3$

- BKK Toolkit for it?
- Higher dimensions & symmetries?
- What for?

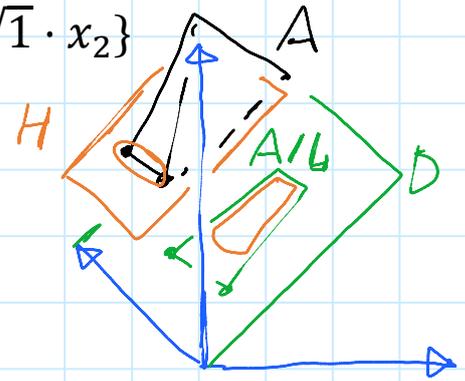


C is never irreducible: it has a **diagonal component**

$$C \cap D = \{f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = f(x_2, x_1, x_3) = 0, x_1 = x_2\}$$

This is **planar**: lies in $D \simeq (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^2$, so covered by the classical BKK.

Other diagonal components: $\{f = 0, x_1 = \sqrt[d]{1} \cdot x_2\}$
 where $d = |\mathbb{Z}^3 / (D + A + IA)|$



The rest of C is its **proper part** C_P

Theorem: 1. C_P is smooth.

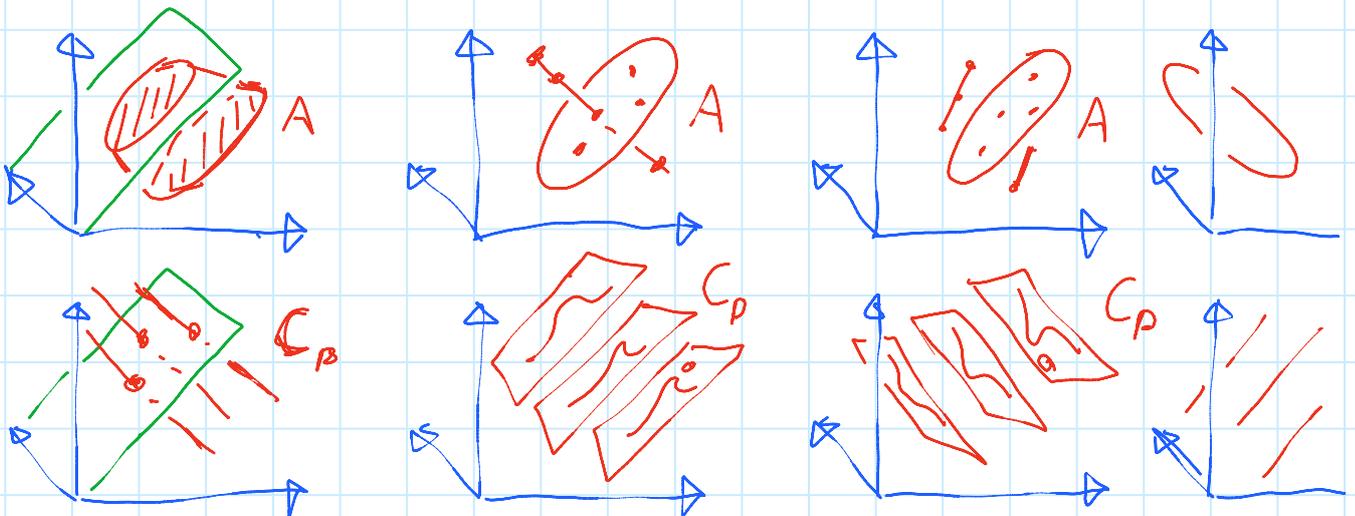
2. It intersects transversally every diagonal component at $A/L \cdot A(L - \sum_{H \parallel D} (A/L - (A \setminus H)/L))$ points.

3. $e(C_P) = \# - (A + IA) \cdot A \cdot IA - \sum_{H \parallel D} A \cdot IA - (A \setminus H) \cdot I(A \setminus H)$

4. The genus, the tropical fan, ...

- Have you seen expressions like this?
- Simple to write, difficult to count
- No blinders - no sums

5. C_P is irreducible except for the following A :



Example: $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = g(x_1 \cdot x_2, x_3) + x_1 \cdot h(x_1 \cdot x_2, x_3)$

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = f(x_2, x_1, x_3) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x_1 - x_2) \cdot g = (x_1 - x_2) \cdot h = 0$$

Proof: difficult

Conjecture: easy

The proper part has more than one component

The proper part is locally planar

Chapter 2: generalities and applications

A finite group G acts on \mathbb{Z}^n , $(\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^n$, $\{\pm 1\}$ and $\{1, \dots, k\}$.

Finite sets $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ satisfy $A_{gi} = gA_i$ for $g \in G$.

Polynomials f_i supported at A_i & generic modulo $f_{gi} = (-1)^g f_i \circ g$.

Study the complete intersection $f_1 = \dots = f_k = 0$ in $(\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^n$.

Interesting special cases

Self-intersections of an algebraic knot link

$\{f_1 = f_2 = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^2$, how many self-intersections?

$$f_1(x, y, z) = f_1(x, y, z') = f_2(x, y, z) = f_2(x, y, z') = 0$$

- Voorhaar'19
- c.f. classical multiple point formulas

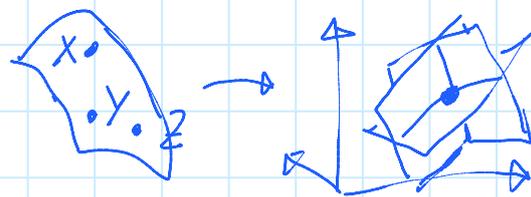
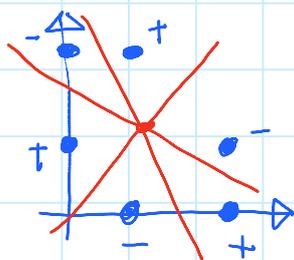


Affine multiple point formulas

$f = (f_1, f_2, f_3): (\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^3$, how many 3-points $f(x) = f(y) = f(z)$?

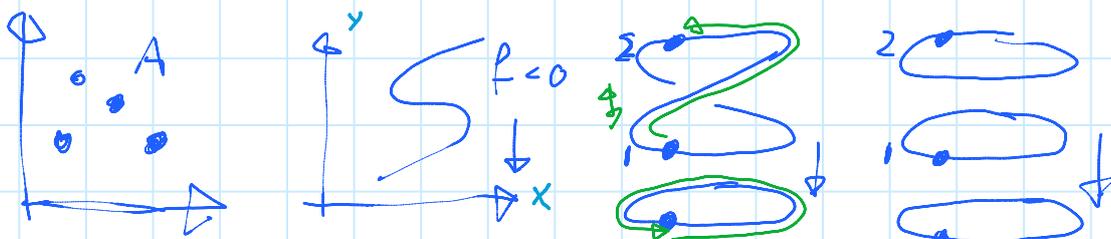
Irreducibility of Schur polynomials

$$\begin{vmatrix} x^a & x^b & x^c \\ y^a & y^b & y^c \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$



- Dvornicich, Zannier'09
- Applications in representation theory
(unique factorization of representations of GL)

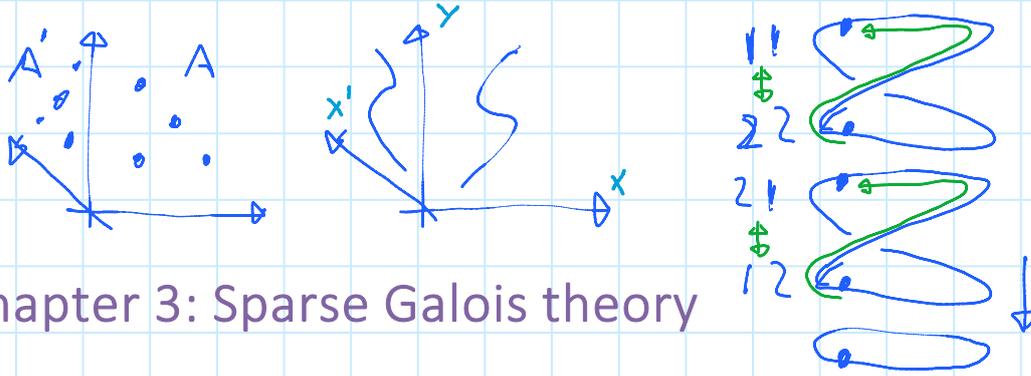
Transitivity of monodromy: $\{f = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^2$ is irreducible \Leftrightarrow monodromy of $\{f = 0\} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^1$, $(x, y) \mapsto x$, is transitive



A group $G \subset S_k$ is **2-transitive** if $\forall (i, j)$ is sent to $\forall (i', j')$ with $g \in G$.

monodromy of $\{f = 0\} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}\setminus 0)^1$, $(x, y) \mapsto x$, is 2-transitive \Leftrightarrow

the fiber square $\{f(x, y) = f(x', y) = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C} \setminus 0)^3$ is irreducible



Chapter 3: Sparse Galois theory

$$c_1x + c_0 = 0 \implies x = -c_0/c_1$$

$$c_2x^2 + c_1x + c_0 = 0 \implies x = \frac{-c_1 \pm \sqrt{c_1^2 - 4c_0c_2}}{c_2}$$

$$c_3x^3 + \dots = 0 \implies$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right) + \sqrt{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c}{3a} - \frac{b^2}{9a^2}\right)^3}}$$

$$c_4x^4 + \dots = 0 \implies \dots$$

$$+ \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right) - \sqrt{\left(\frac{bc}{6a^2} - \frac{d}{2a} - \frac{b^3}{27a^3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c}{3a} - \frac{b^2}{9a^2}\right)^3}} - \frac{b}{3a}$$

$c_5x^5 + \dots = 0 \implies$ NO formula by radicals. But:

$$px^2 + qx^{12} + rx^{22} \mapsto px^0 + qx^{10} + rx^{20} \mapsto p + qy + ry^2$$



Theorem: given several monomials $A \subset \mathbb{Z}$,
assume wlog that A starts at 0 and generates \mathbb{Z} .

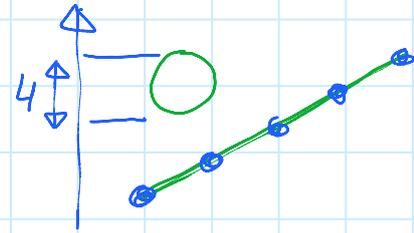
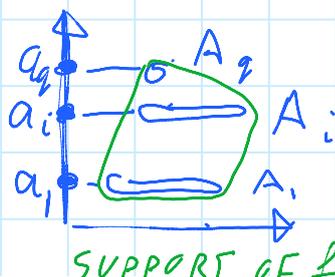
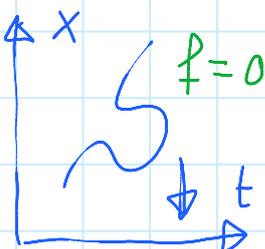
Then the general equation supported at A is solvable iff $\max A \leq 4$:

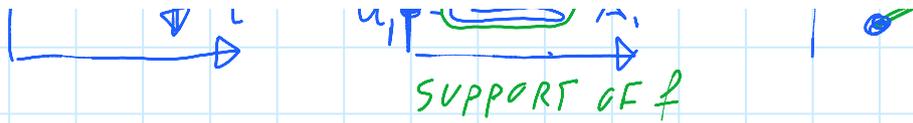
$$c_0 + c_1x^{a_1} + \dots + c_qx^{a_q} = 0$$

Specialization: consider $c_0(t) + c_1(t)x^{a_1} + \dots + c_q(t)x^{a_q} = 0$,
where $c_i(t)$ is a generic polynomial supported at $A_i \subset \mathbb{Z}$.

Its solutions $x = x(t)$ can be expressed by radicals

iff $\max A \leq 4$ OR $A_i = \{\alpha + \beta a_i\}$:





Why: the Galois group of the covering $(x, t) \mapsto t$ is full symmetric,
 UNLESS $A_i = \{\alpha + \beta a_i\}$

Why: it contains a transposition and is 2-transitive
 UNLESS $A_i = \{\alpha + \beta a_i\} \Rightarrow$ contains all transpositions

Thank you!