

April 10      Zoom

One the main goals of intersec. theory

is the following: Given variety  $X$   
(proj. or complete)

Construct a ring structure on subvarieties

of  $X$  (similar to cohomology ring in topology)

$+$   $\rightsquigarrow$  Formal addition

$$\text{alg. cycle} = \sum_i a_i Z_i$$

finite formal sum of subvar.  $Z_i \subset X$

&  $a_i$  from some Coeff. ring.

such as  $\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$\times$   $\rightsquigarrow$  Intersection of subvarieties

For an intro/review see appendix in Hartshorne.

• Main theorem: this is doable when  $X$  is non-sing. (called Chow ring of  
 $X$ )

Degree of a proj. var.  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$

Assumption:  $\text{char } k = 0$  (if you like  $k = \mathbb{C}$ )

Def. / thm Let  $r = \dim X$

Consider space of all  $(N-r)$ -dim planes in  $\mathbb{P}^N$  (image of all  $(N+1-r)$ -dim. planes in  $\mathbb{A}^{N+1}$ )

This is Grassmannian  $Gr(N-r, N)$ .

(one shows  $Gr(N-r, N)$  is itself a proj. variety)

$L = \mathcal{V}(\langle l_1, \dots, l_r \rangle)$  lin. ind.  $l_i$  lin. poly. in  $x_0, \dots, x_N$

$L \in Gr(N-r, N)$

$\tilde{U} \subset \underbrace{k^{N+1} \times \dots \times k^{N+1}}_r = \text{Mat}_{r \times N+1}(k)$  of all  $(l_1, \dots, l_r)$

that are lin. ind.

$\tilde{U} \longrightarrow Gr(N-r, N)$

$$\exists \mathcal{U} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{U}} \subset \text{Mat}_{r \times N+1}$$

↗ depending on  $X$

Zariski open  
non-empty

(or equiv. you can take a Zariski open  
in  $Gr(N-r, N)$ ).

such that

$$\text{If } (\ell_1, \dots, \ell_r) \in \mathcal{U} \quad \& \quad L = V(\langle \ell_1, \dots, \ell_r \rangle) \in \mathbb{P}^N$$

↘  $L$  is "generic" or "in general position"

↗ codim  $r$  plane

then  $|X \cap L|$  is finite &  
ind. of choice of  $L$ .

$d = \deg(X)$

↙ Cardinality of this set

We call this number degree of  $X$ .

Rem  $V$  some variety, any  $x \in V$   
is called "generic" or "in general position"

if  $x \in \mathcal{U} \subset V$ .  
open  
non-empty

Ex.  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$

$$\dim X = 0$$

$X$  finite set

$$|X| = d$$

$$\deg(X) = ?$$

$$\dim X = \text{codim } L = 0$$

$$\dim L = N$$

$$\text{Gr}(N, N) = \{\mathbb{P}^N\}$$

only one element

only possible  $L$

$$\deg X = |X \cap \mathbb{P}^N| = |X| = d.$$

Ex.  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$

$X$   $r$ -dim proj. plane

$L$   $N-r$ -dim proj. plane

generic

$$|X \cap L| =$$

$$\tilde{X} \subset \mathbb{A}^{N+1}$$

affine cone

$$\dim \tilde{X} = r+1$$

$$\tilde{L} \subset \mathbb{A}^{N+1}$$

$$\dim \tilde{L} = N+1-r$$

$$\dim \tilde{X} \cap \tilde{L} = 1$$

line through  $\underline{0}$

$$X \cap L = \{\text{pt}\}$$

$$|X \cap L| = 1.$$

Ex.  $X = V(f) \subset \mathbb{P}^2$

$f(x, y, z)$  homog. poly. of deg  $d$ .

$$\deg(X) = d$$

$$\dim X = 1$$

$$\dim L = 1$$

↳ proj. line

$$|X \cap L| = d$$

$$L = \left\{ (x : y : z) \mid l_1 x + l_2 y + l_3 z = 0 \right\}$$

sub-in  $\rightarrow$  in  $f(x, y, z) = 0$   $z = -\frac{l_1}{l_3}x - \frac{l_2}{l_3}y$

we get homog. poly. in  $x, y$  of deg  $d$ .

↳ If  $l_1, l_2, l_3$  generic it has exactly  $d$  solutions  $\mathbb{A}^2 \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  by assumption that  $k$  alg. closed & char.  $k = 0$ .

- Same works for hypersurf.

$$X = V(f) \subset \mathbb{P}^N$$

$f =$  homog. poly. of degree  $d$ .

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Rem you can define degree of  
an affine variety  $X \subset \mathbb{A}^N$   
 $\overline{X} \subset \mathbb{P}^N$

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Rem Lots of problems in geo./alg./  
comb.  
are about finding degree of a  
variety.

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BKK theorem  $\rightsquigarrow$  Bernstein -  
Kushnirenko -  
Khovanskii  
(1970's)

- It is about number of sol. of a system of poly. equ. with fixed exponents.

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$$

$$X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

the  $x_i$

$$X^\alpha := x_1^{\alpha_1} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n} \quad \text{a monomial in}$$

Fix a finite set  $A = \{\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_N\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$

Consider the vec. space

$$\mathcal{L} = \left\{ f \in k[x_1^\pm, \dots, x_n^\pm] \mid f = \sum_{i=0}^N c_i X^{\alpha_i} \right\}$$

$$= \text{span} \{ X^{\alpha_0}, \dots, X^{\alpha_N} \}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \subset k[x_1^\pm, \dots, x_n^\pm]$$

- Any  $f \in k[x_1^\pm, \dots, x_n^\pm]$  can be evaluated at  $(k \setminus \{0\})^n$ .

$T \rightarrow$  alg. torus

Exercise:  $(k \setminus 0)^n \subset \mathbb{A}^n$   
open Zariski

(quasi-affine by def.)

is itself affine var. (i.e. iso. to an affine var.)

$n=1$ :

$$\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus 0 \subset \mathbb{A}^1$$

$$\{x \neq 0\} \cong \{xy - 1 = 0\} \subset \mathbb{A}^2$$

$$\underline{k[T]} \cong k[x_1^\pm, \dots, x_n^\pm].$$

↳ rig of reg. functions on  $T$

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For Lingyu:

Exercise:  $\mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{0\}$  is quasi-affine

but not affine var.

$$\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{0\}) = \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{A}^n) = k[x_1, \dots, x_n].$$



## BKK thm

Fix  $A = \{\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_N\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$

$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_A = \text{span} \{x^{\alpha_0}, \dots, x^{\alpha_N}\} \subset k[x_1^{\pm}, \dots, x_n^{\pm}]$

$\dim_k \mathcal{L} = N+1 = |A|$ .  
coeff. are  $c_i$  in  $\sum c_i x^{\alpha_i}$   
random

Take  $(f_1, \dots, f_n)$  "generic"  $\in \underbrace{\mathcal{L} \times \dots \times \mathcal{L}}_n$

Then  $\left| \left\{ z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in (k \setminus \{0\})^n \mid \begin{array}{l} f_1(z) = \dots = f_n(z) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \right|$

is: ① ind. of  $(f_1, \dots, f_n) \in \mathcal{L} \times \dots \times \mathcal{L}$

② This number is equal:

$n! \cdot \underbrace{\text{vol}_n}_{\text{usual}}(\text{Conv}(A))$ .

Euclidean vol.  
(Lebesgue measure)

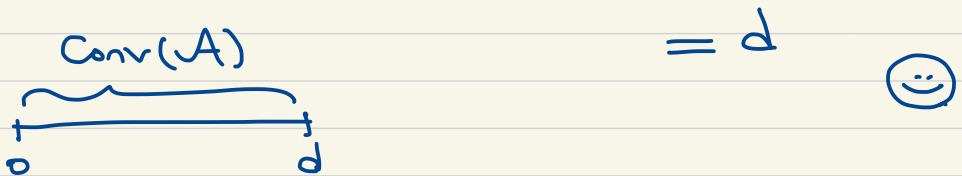


Ex.  $n=1$   $A = \{0, \dots, d\}$

$\mathcal{L} =$  All poly. of degree  $d$ .

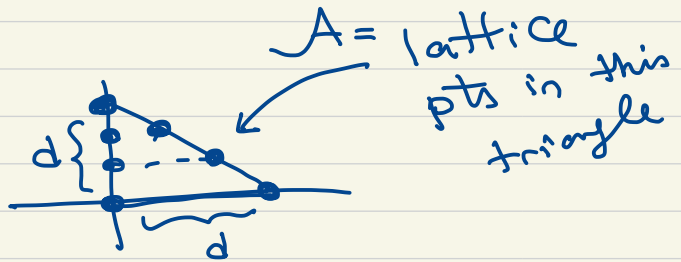
BKK: If coeff. of  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + \dots + c_dx^d$   
are "generic" ( $f$  gen. poly. of deg  $d$ )

then # of roots of  $f = d!$

$$\text{Conv}(A) = d$$


length of  $\text{Conv}(A) = d$

Ex.  $n=2$



$\mathcal{L} =$  All poly. of deg.  $d$  in  $x, y$

$f, g \in \mathcal{L}$  generic

$$x, y \neq 0$$

$$f(x, y) = g(x, y) = 0$$

$$\# \text{ of sol.} = 2! \underbrace{\text{Area of } \triangle}_{\frac{1}{2}d^2}$$

$$= d^2 \rightarrow \text{agrees with Bezout thm.}$$

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Proof uses the important notion of Hilbert function/polynomial of a proj. var. / graded module.

$$X \subset \mathbb{P}^N \text{ proj. var.}$$

$$k[X] = \text{homog. Coor. ring}$$

$$:= k[z_0, \dots, z_N] / I$$

$$I = I(X) \\ \text{homog. ideal.}$$

$$k[X] = \bigoplus_{m \geq 0} k[X]_m$$

$$k[X]_m = k[z_0, \dots, z_N]_m \pmod{I}$$

↳  $\dim k[X]_m < \infty$

Def.  $H_X : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

Hilbert function of  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$

is:  $H_X(m) := \dim_k k[X]_m$ .

Thm (Hilbert) Let  $r = \dim X$

•  $\exists$  poly.  $P_X(m)$  s.t.

$$H_X(m) = P_X(m) \quad \text{for } m \gg 0.$$

• degree of poly.  $P_X(m) = \dim X$

• degree of  $X = r!$  · leading coeff. of  $P_X$ .