

# Algebraic Curves and Riemann Surfaces

Matthew Baxter

MAT477: Professor P. Milman

March 12, 2010

# Plane $\mathbb{C}$ -Algebraic Curves

$[\xi_0 : \xi_1 : \xi_2]$  homog coord. on  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$

Projective Curves:

$C := \{F(\xi_0, \xi_1, \xi_2) = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ ,  $F$  homog. reduced  $\deg C = \deg F$

Affine:  $C_0 := \{f(x, y) = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ , reduced  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x, y]$   $\deg C_0 = \deg f$

$$p \in \text{sing}(C) \Leftrightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \Big|_p = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \Big|_p = \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \Big|_p = 0 \\ \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_p = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Big|_p = 0 \quad \text{affine case} \right) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Canonical embedding  $\mathbb{C}^2 \leftarrow C_0 \ni (x, y) \mapsto [x : y : 1] \in C \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$

Irreducible curves  $\leftrightarrow$  irreducible polynomials

# Riemann surfaces $\mathcal{C}$ are Connected $\mathbb{C}$ 1-Manifolds

Riemann surfaces are oriented 2-manifolds. Topological classification

of compact Riemann surfaces by (topological) genus  $g = 0, 1, \dots$

**Theorem(Plücker)**: For smooth Curves  $g = \frac{(d-1)(d-2)}{2}$

with notation degree  $d$  and genus  $g$  for the respective curve.

Let  $P(y, a) := y^p + \sum_{i=1}^p a_i y^{p-i}$  and  $Q(y, b) := y^q + \sum_{j=1}^q b_j y^{q-j}$

## The Resultant of $P(y, a)$ and $Q(y, b)$

$$D(y, c) := y^d + \sum_{k=1}^d c_k y^{d-k} := P(y, a) \cdot Q(y, b) \quad (d = p + q)$$

define map  $\varphi: \mathbb{C}^p \times \mathbb{C}^q \ni (a, b) \mapsto c \in \mathbb{C}^d$  then  $\frac{\partial}{\partial a_i}$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial b_j} \Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{k=1}^d \frac{\partial c_k}{\partial a_i} y^{d-k} = y^{p-i} Q(y, b) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=1}^d \frac{\partial c_k}{\partial b_j} y^{d-k} = y^{q-j} P(y, a)$$

i.e.  $Res_{P,Q} := \frac{\partial c}{\partial (a,b)}: \mathcal{P}^{p-1} \times \mathcal{P}^{q-1} \ni (F, G) \mapsto F \cdot Q + G \cdot P$

$$res_{P,Q}(a, b) := \det Res_{P,Q}(a, b), \quad \text{Discriminant: } \mathcal{D}_P(a) := res_{P, P'_y}(a)$$

Note:  $\exists(F, G) \neq 0, Res_{P,Q}(F, G) = 0$  iff  $res_{P,Q}(a, b) = 0$ .

**Cor. 1:**  $P$  and  $Q$  have a common root iff  $res_{P,Q}(a, b) = 0$ .

**Cor. 2:**  $\nexists$  common root  $P(y, a_0), Q(y, b_0) \Rightarrow \exists \varphi^{-1}$  at  $c_0 := \varphi(a_0, b_0)$

**Claim:**  $\mathbb{C}[x, y] \ni P(y, a(x))$  irred  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_P(a(x)) \neq 0$  (see Slide 15).

**Cor. 3:**  $sing(V(P)) \hookrightarrow V(P) \cap \pi^{-1}(\{\mathcal{D}_P(x) = 0\})$  and

is finite if  $P$  reduced, where  $\pi$  is the projection onto the  $x$ -axis.

# Irred. Curves “are” Compact Riemann Surfaces

Cor. 3 plus Chow’s Theorem (Mitsuru’s talk)  $\implies C^* := C \setminus \text{sing}(C)$  is connected whenever  $C$  irred. ie. is a Riemann surface.

When  $\text{sing}(C) \neq \emptyset \exists \tilde{C}$  and  $\sigma: \tilde{C} \rightarrow C \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  proper holomorphic s.th.

$$1) \sigma(\tilde{C}) = C \quad 2) \sigma^{-1}(\text{sing}(C)) \text{ finite}$$

$$3) \sigma: \tilde{C} \setminus \sigma^{-1}(\text{sing}(C)) \rightarrow C^* \text{ biholomorphic.}$$

By desingularization (Will/Illia’s talks)

Most important:  $\tilde{C}$  is a compact Riemann surface

# Holomorphic $f: C \rightarrow C'$ of Riemann Surfaces

**Prop:**  $\forall p \in C \exists$  local coordinates s.th. not constant  $f: w = z^m$

$mult_p(f) := m$  unique ; if  $m > 1$ ,  $p$  ramification  $f(p)$  branch points.

**Proof:** say  $f: w = h(z) \in \mathbb{C}\{z\}$  in local coord centred at  $p$  and  $f(p)$

$\Rightarrow h(z) = (a \cdot z)^m \cdot g(z)$  with  $g(0) = 1$ ,  $g \in \mathbb{C}\{z\} \Rightarrow$

$z \mapsto a \cdot z \cdot g(z)^{1/m}$  is a coord. change  $\Rightarrow$  the result. ■

If in local coord.  $f: w = h(z)$ ,  $h \in \mathbb{C}\{z\}$  then  $mult_p(f) = 1 + ord_p\left(\frac{dh(z)}{dz}\right)$

# Compact Riemann Surfaces of Genus $g, g'$

For holomorphic  $f: C \rightarrow C'$

**Cor:**  $\deg f := \sum_{p \in f^{-1}(q)} \text{mult}_p(f) \quad \forall q \in C'$  (from Mustazee's talk)

For compact  $C$  and  $C'$  there are finitely many branch/ramification points

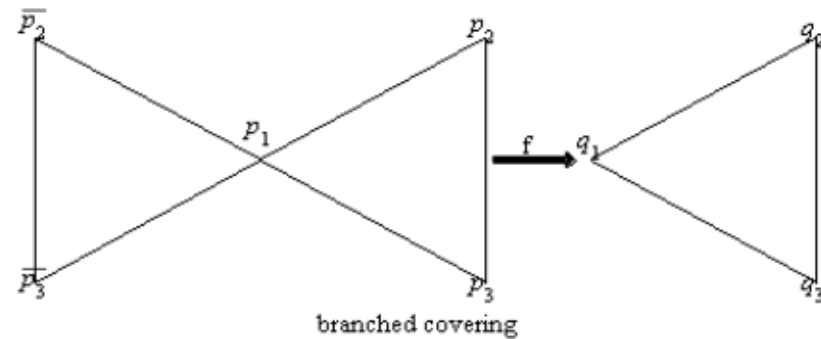
**Theorem (Hurwitz):**  $2g - 2 = \deg f (2g' - 2) + \sum_{p \in C} [\text{mult}_p(f) - 1]$ .

**Proof:** Pick a triangulation of  $C'$  s.th. branch points are vertices



# Proof of Hurwitz Formula

say  $v'$  vertices,  $e'$  edges,  $t'$  faces.



$f$  a 'branched covering map'  $\Rightarrow$  triangulation lifts via  $f$  to  $C$

with  $v$  vertices,  $e = \deg f \cdot e'$  edges and  $t = \deg f \cdot t'$  faces.

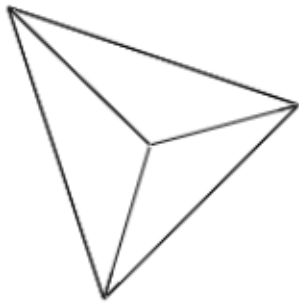
$$|f^{-1}(q)| = \deg f + \sum_{p \in f^{-1}(q)} [1 - \text{mult}_p(f)] \quad \forall q \in C'$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \sum_{q \text{ vertex of } C'} |f^{-1}(q)| = \deg f \cdot v' - \sum_{p \in C} [\text{mult}_p(f) - 1]$$

$$2g - 2 = -\chi(C)$$

(for details see below)

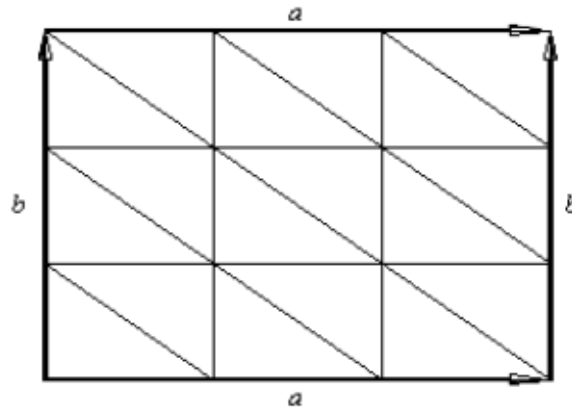
$$-\chi(C) = -\deg f (v' - e' + t') + \sum_{p \in C} [\text{mult}_p(f) - 1] \quad \blacksquare$$



$S^2: g = 0$

$$v = 4, e = 6, t = 4$$

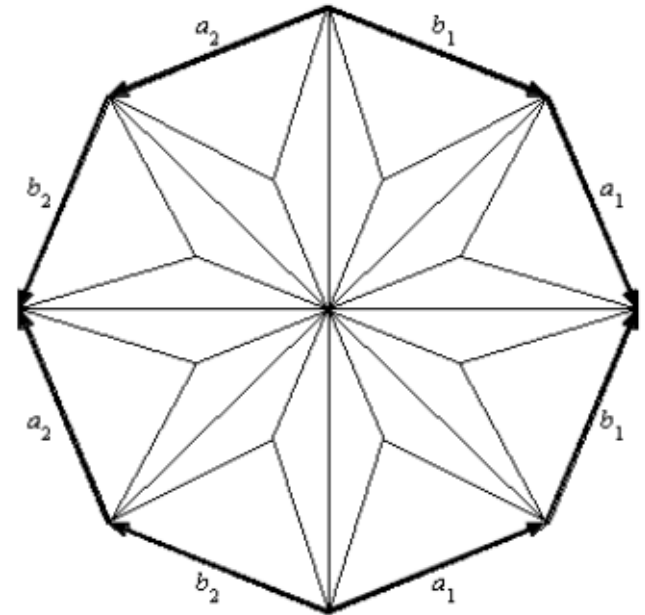
$$\chi(S^2) = 2 = 2 - 2g$$



$T^2: g = 1$

$$v = 9, e = 27, t = 18$$

$$\chi(T^2) = 0 = 2 - 2g$$



$C$  (2 - handles):  $g = 2$

$$v = 10, e = 36, t = 24$$

$$\chi(C) = -2 = 2 - 2g$$

Assignment: for  $g > 2$  it follows that  $\chi(C) = 2 - 2g$ .

# Proof of Plücker's Formula

$C$  affine:  $f(x, y) = 0$  and let  $E := \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y) = 0 \right\}$ .  $f$  irreducible  $\Rightarrow$

$(C \cdot E) := \sum_p \text{mult}_p(C \cap E) = d(d - 1)$  (Bezout Thm on Slide 16).

Exercise: given finite # lines  $\subset \mathbb{C}^3 \ni \text{plane} \approx \mathbb{C}^2 \not\ni$  any of these lines

$\Rightarrow$  can choose coordinates *s.th.*  $C \cap L_\infty = d$  (Bezout Thm on Slide 16).

$\pi: \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2 \supset C \ni [x:y:z] \mapsto [x:z] \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1 \Rightarrow \deg \pi = d$  .

Lemma:  $p \in C_0 / \text{sing}(C_0)$  then  $\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_p = 0 \Leftrightarrow p$  ramification point of  $\pi$

Proof: " ...  $\Rightarrow$  ... "  $\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_p \neq 0$ . IFThm  $\Rightarrow$  exists  $x = x(y)$  *s.th.*  $f(x(y), y) = 0$

$$0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x(y), y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x(y), y)x'(y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x(y), y) \text{ near } p$$

centred at  $(0,0) \Rightarrow x'(0) = 0 \Leftrightarrow p$  ramification point of  $\pi$ .

Conversely if  $\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_p \neq 0$  then  $\pi$  provides a chart at  $p$ . Done.

$$(E \cdot C)_p := mult_p(E \cap C) = ord_p \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x(y), y) \right) \quad (\text{see Slide 18})$$

$$= mult_p(\pi) - 1 \quad \text{then} \quad (E \cdot C) = \sum_{p \in ram(\pi)} (E \cdot C)_p = \sum_{p \in C} [mult_p(\pi) - 1]$$

Hurwitz Thm (Slide 7 with  $f = \pi, \deg \pi = d, g' = 0) \Rightarrow$

$$d(d-1) = 2g - 2 + 2d \Rightarrow g = \frac{(d-1)(d-2)}{2}. \quad \blacksquare$$

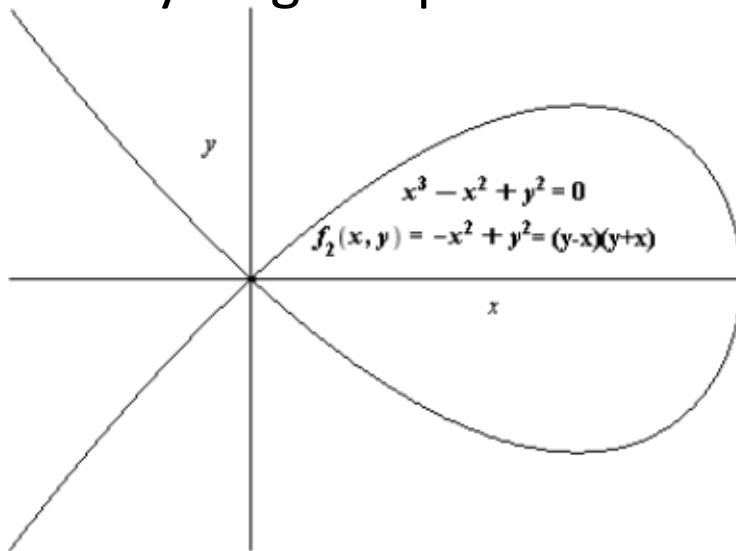
# Types of Singular Points

$p \in C$  choose coord. on  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  s.th.  $p = [0:0:1] \Rightarrow f(0,0) = 0$ .

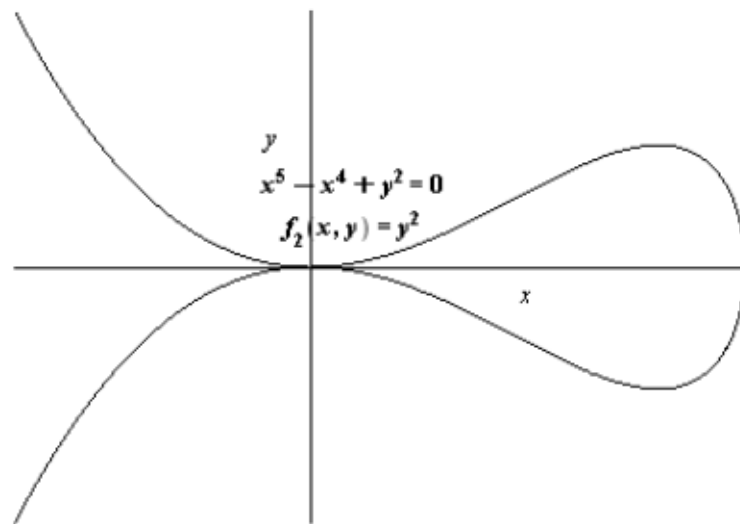
Then  $f(x, y) = f_k(x, y) + \dots + f_d(x, y)$ ,  $f_j$  homog,  $\deg f_j = j$

$f_k \not\equiv 0$ ,  $p \in \text{sing}(C) \Leftrightarrow \text{mult}_p f = k > 1$  (for  $k = 1$ :  $f_1(x, y) = ax + by$ )

Ordinary singular point means  $k$  distinct tangents at  $p$ .



Ordinary Double Point



Not Ordinary Double Point

## Plücker with $n$ ordinary double points

Replace  $\pi$  with  $\psi = \pi \circ \sigma: \tilde{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1$ . Choose coordinates s.th.

1)  $C \cap L_\infty = d$       2) no vertical tangents in  $\text{sing}(C)$ .

$p \notin \text{sing}(C) \Rightarrow (E \cdot C)_p = \text{mult}_p(\psi) - 1$  (see Slide 11).

Say  $\{p_j\}_{j=1}^n$  are double points ( $k = 2$ ). In local coord centred at  $p_j$ :

$$f(x, y) = ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 + f_3(x, y) + \cdots + f_d(x, y)$$

$$\Rightarrow ac - b^2 \neq 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2bx + 2cy + \cdots \text{ and}$$

$$2) \Rightarrow c \neq 0 \text{ at } p_j. \quad \exists \quad y(x) = -\frac{b}{c}x + \dots \text{ s.th. } \frac{\partial f(x, y(x))}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (\text{IFTThm})$$

$$f(x, y(x)) = ax^2 + 2bxy(x) + cy(x)^2 + \dots = \frac{ac-b^2}{c}x^2 + \dots$$

$$\text{As before } (C \cdot E)_{p_j} = \text{ord}_{p_j} \left( f(x, y(x)) \right) = 2 \quad (\text{in total } 2n)$$

$$d(d-1) = (C \cdot E) = 2g - 2 + 2d + 2n \quad (\text{obtained using Slide7})$$

$$\Rightarrow g = \frac{(d-1)(d-2)}{2} - n \quad \blacksquare$$

## Proof of $P$ irreducible $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_P(a(x)) \neq 0$

Assume  $\mathcal{D}_P \equiv 0$ ,  $\mathbb{K} := \mathbb{C}(x) \Rightarrow \exists y_* \in \bar{\mathbb{K}}$  s.th.  $P(y_*) = P'(y_*) = 0$ .

$\mathbb{K}[y]$  is a PID.  $\exists \tilde{Q} \in \mathbb{K}[y]$  of min. degree, monic with  $\tilde{Q}(y_*) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \deg \tilde{Q} \leq \deg P' < \deg P$ .  $\mathbb{C}[x, y] \subset \mathbb{K}[y] \Rightarrow P \in \tilde{Q} \cdot \mathbb{K}[y] \Rightarrow$

$P(y, x) = \tilde{Q}(y, x)\tilde{G}(y, x)$ .  $\exists g, q \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  and  $Q, G \in (\mathbb{C}[x])[y]$  s.th.

$Q = q\tilde{Q}, G = g\tilde{G}$  and  $\gcd = 1$  (in  $\mathbb{C}[x]$  for coeff's of  $Q$  and of  $G$ )

$\Rightarrow q(x)g(x)P(y, x) = Q(y, x)G(y, x) \Rightarrow g, q \in \mathbb{C}$  (?!). Done.



# Bezout Thm: Proof $(C \cdot E) = d(d - 1)$

$F(x, y, z) = y^d + \dots$  and  $\mathcal{D}_F \not\equiv 0 \Rightarrow \exists$  a line in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  s.t.  $\mathcal{D}_F \not\equiv 0$

Pick coord  $(x, z)$  with  $\{z = 0\}$  being this line  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_F|_{z=0} \not\equiv 0$ .

$\mathcal{L}f(x, y) := F(x, y, 0) = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq d} (y - \lambda_j x)$ . Choose  $y$ -axis with only single

points of  $C \cap E$  on lines parallel to  $y$ -axis  $\Rightarrow |C \cap E| = |\{\mathcal{D}_f = 0\}| \leq \deg_x \mathcal{D}_f$

$$= \deg_x \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{L}f} \quad (\text{use } \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{L}f} = \mathcal{D}_F|_{z=0} \not\equiv 0)$$

$$\text{Say } y^d + \sum_{j=1}^d a_j x^j y^{d-j} := \mathcal{L}f(x, y)$$

$\mathcal{P}^{p-1} \times \mathcal{P}^{q-1} \ni (F, G) \mapsto F \cdot Q + G \cdot P$  with  $P(y, a(x)) := \mathcal{L}f(x, y)$  and  $Q := P'_y$

$$Res_{P,Q} = \left( \begin{array}{cccccccc} d & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \\ (d-1)a_1x & d & \vdots & \vdots & a_1x & 1 & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & (d-1)a_1x & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & a_1x & \vdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & a_1x \\ a_{d-1}x^{d-1} & \vdots & \vdots & d & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & a_{d-1}x^{d-1} & \vdots & (d-1)a_1x & a_dx^d & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & 0 & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & a_dx^d & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \vdots & a_{d-1}x^{d-1} & 0 & 0 & \vdots & a_dx^d \end{array} \right)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_d$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{d-1}$

$\Rightarrow d(d-1) = \deg_x \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{L}f}(x) \geq |C \cap E|$  (assignment for Joho... ■)

Hint: with  $\Phi := (F, F'_y, z) \Rightarrow \Phi|_{z=0} = (\mathcal{L}f, \mathcal{L}f'_y)$  and  $\varphi := (f, f'_y)$  are proper  
 (using  $\mu_0(\psi) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{O}/(\psi) \Rightarrow d(d-1) \geq (C \cdot E) := \deg \varphi = \deg \Phi$   
 $= \mu_0(\Phi) = \mu_0(\Phi|_{z=0}) \geq d(d-1)$  due to  $\mathcal{O}_x/(\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{L}f}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{x,y}/(\mathcal{L}f, \mathcal{L}f'_y)$ ).

# Proof $(C \cdot E)_p = \text{ord}_p(g(x(y), y))$

From Joho's talk:  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{O}_p/(g, f) = \mu_p(g, f) = |U_p \cap (f, g)^{-1}(b)|$ ,

for generic points  $b$  near  $0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $U_p$  a 'small' neighbourhood of  $p$ .

If  $df(p) \neq 0$  IFTM  $\Rightarrow f \approx X = x - y(x)$  locally  $\Rightarrow$

$\mathcal{O}_p/(g, f) \cong \mathbb{C}\{y\}/g|_{\{X=0\}} \cong \mathcal{P}^{k-1}$  whenever

$$g|_{\{X=0\}} := g(x(y), y) = y^k(1 + \dots)$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{O}_p/(g, f) = \text{ord}_p(g(x(y), y)) \quad \blacksquare$$