

# Curves and genus

Ex  $X = \{x_1^2, x_2 = x_0(x_0 - x_2)(x_0 - 2x_2)\} \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  cubic curve.

In chart  $x_2 \neq 0$ , define  $x = \frac{x_0}{x_2}$ ,  $y = \frac{x_1}{x_2}$

$$X = \{y^2 = x(x-1)(x-2) = p(x)\}$$

Claim  $X$  is smooth

Proof At  $\{x_2 \neq 0\}$ , we get  $y^2 - p(x) = 0$

$$\mathcal{J} = \begin{pmatrix} -p'(x) & 2y \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $y=0$  then  $p(x)=0 \Rightarrow p'(x) \neq 0$  since  $p(x)$  has distinct roots

so  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{J}) = 1$  everywhere.

At  $x_2=0$ , we get  $x_0^3=0 \Rightarrow$  one point at infinity  $[0:1:0]$

In chart  $\{x_1 \neq 0\}$ , we get  $x_2 = x_0(x_0 - x_2)(x_0 - 2x_2)$

Linearization at  $(x_0=x_2=0)$ :  $x_2=0 \Rightarrow \text{rank}(\mathcal{J})=1 \Rightarrow$   
smooth at  $[0:1:0]$

Now we want to study 1-forms on  $X$

In the chart  $\{x_2 \neq 0\}$  we get  $y^2 = p(x)$ , so

$$\boxed{2y dy = p'(x) dx}$$

Claim  $\frac{dx}{y}$  defines a global regular 1-form on  $X$ .

$\{x_2 \neq 0\}$

• If  $y \neq 0$ , we are OK

• If  $y = 0$ , then  $x = 0, 1, 2$

•  $\rightarrow y \neq 0$ , we are OK

• If  $y = 0$  then  $p(x) = 0$ , but  $p'(x) \neq 0$  ( $p(x)$  has simple roots)

Therefore we can rewrite  $\frac{dx_i}{y} = \frac{2dy}{P'(x)}$

What happens at  $\infty$ ?  $x_1^2 x_2 = x_0(x_0 - x_2)(x_0 - 2x_2)$

$$\frac{dx}{y} = \frac{d\left(\frac{x_0}{x_2}\right)}{\left(\frac{x_1}{x_2}\right)} = \frac{x_2 dx_0 - x_0 dx_2}{x_2^2} = \left(\frac{x_1}{x_2}\right) \omega$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{x_2 dx_0 - x_0 dx_2}{x_1 x_2} = \omega}$$

In chart  $x_1 = 1$ :  $x_2 = x_0(x_0 - x_2)(x_0 - 2x_2) = x_0^3 - 3x_0^2 x_2 + 2x_0 x_2^2$

$$dx_2 = (3x_0^2 - 6x_0 x_2 + 2x_2^2) dx_0 + (-3x_0^2 + 4x_0 x_2) dx_2$$

$$\boxed{dx_2 = \frac{(3x_0^2 - 6x_0 x_2 + 2x_2^2) dx_0}{(1 + 3x_0^2 - 4x_0 x_2)}} \quad \begin{matrix} \cdot x_2 + 2x_2^2 \\ -6x_0 x_2 + 2x_2^2 \end{matrix}$$

$$\omega = \frac{x_2 dx_0 - x_0 dx_2}{x_2} = dx_0 - \frac{x_0 dx_2}{x_2} = dx_0 - \frac{(3x_0^3 - 6x_0^2 x_2 + 2x_0 x_2^2) dx_2}{x_2}$$

but from the equation  $x_0^3$  is divisible by  $x_2$ , so

$$(x_0^3 = x_2 + 3x_0^2 x_2 - 2x_0 x_2^2)$$

$\omega$  is regular whenever  $1 + 3x_0^2 - 4x_0 x_2 \neq 0$

This is an open subset containing the point at  $\infty$   $[0:1:0]$ .

So we are done!

Def  $X = \text{smooth, projective curve (dim } X = 1)$

The arithmetic genus  $g(X)$  is defined as

Def  $\pi$  - smooth, projective curve (dim = 1)

The geometric genus  $p_g(X)$  is defined as

$$p_g(X) = \dim \{ \text{global 1-forms on } X \} = \Gamma(\Omega^1_X)$$

Ex  $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \Rightarrow$  last time we proved there're no global 1-forms

$$\Rightarrow p_g(\mathbb{P}^1) = 0.$$

Ex  $X = \{ y^2 = x(x-1)(x-2) \} \subset \mathbb{P}^2$

Then  $p_g(X) = 1$  and in fact

$$\Gamma(\Omega^1_X) = \text{span} \left( \frac{dx}{y} \right)$$

Here are some cool facts:

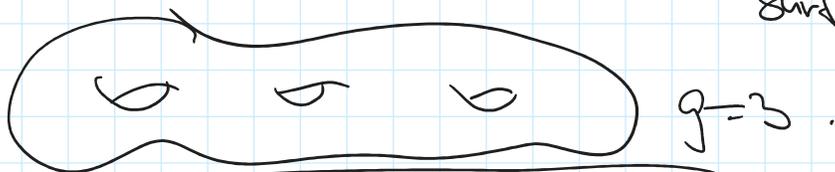
①  $X_{\mathbb{C}} =$  smooth complex curve for  $K = \mathbb{C}$ .

$\Rightarrow X_{\mathbb{C}} =$  smooth 2-dimensional surface in  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ .

$\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  is compact  $\Rightarrow X_{\mathbb{C}}$  is a compact surface.

One can check it is orientable.

Classification of surfaces Any orientable, compact, connected surface is homeomorphic to a genus  $g$  surface



Thm  $p_g(X_{\mathbb{C}}) = \text{genus of } X_{\mathbb{C}}$

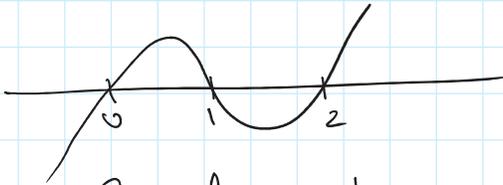
Ex  $y^2 = x(x-1)(x-2) \iff g=1 \iff \text{torus in } \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ .

Ex  $y^2 = x(x-1)(x-2) \iff g=1 \iff$  torus in  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ .

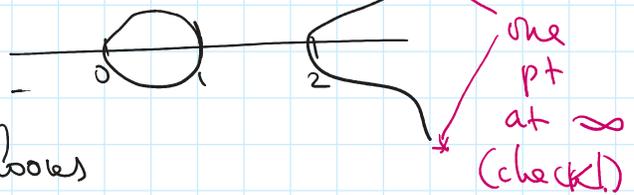
(2)  $X_{\mathbb{R}} =$  smooth 1-dim curve in  $\mathbb{R}P^2$

Ex  $y^2 = x(x-1)(x-2)$

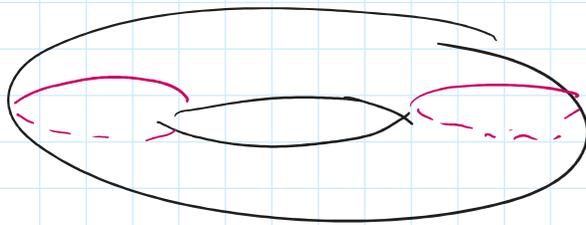
$x(x-1)(x-2)$



$y = \pm \sqrt{x(x-1)(x-2)}$



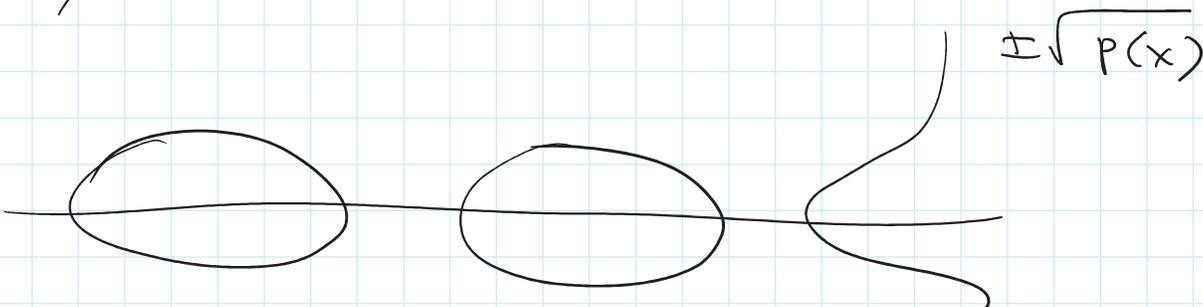
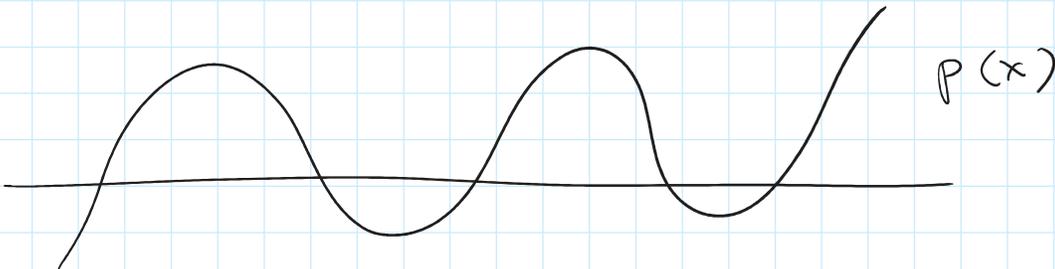
So the picture in  $\mathbb{R}P^2$  looks like



which is indeed a real cross-section of a complex curve  $X_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

Def Hyperelliptic curve in  $A^2$

$X = \{y^2 = p(x)\}$  ← degree  $d$  polynomial with  $d$  distinct roots.



Lemma  $\frac{dx}{y}$  is regular on this curve.

Proof: Same as above.

Exercise, If we consider the same equation homogenized

$$\text{in } \mathbb{P}^2: x_1^2 x_2^{d-2} = \tilde{p}(x_0, x_2) \quad (*)$$

then for  $d \geq 3$  the point at  $\infty$   $[0:1:0]$  is singular.

Fact: (1) There exists a smooth projective curve  $\tilde{X}$  which resolves the singularity of  $(*)$  at  $\infty$ .

$$(2) \quad \begin{array}{l} p_g(X) = \\ \text{"} \\ g(X_\infty) \end{array} = \begin{cases} k, & d = 2k+1 \\ k, & d = 2k+2. \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \tilde{X} - \{\infty\} \\ \downarrow \\ \tilde{X} - \{\infty\} \end{array}$$

In fact, the forms  $\frac{dx}{y}, x \frac{dx}{y}, \dots, x^{k-1} \frac{dx}{y}$

extend from  $X - \{\infty\}$  to  $\tilde{X}$ .

and give a basis of  $\Gamma(\Omega_{\tilde{X}}^1)$ .