

**Math 203C (Algebraic Geometry), UCSD, spring 2013**  
**Problem Set 7 (due Wednesday, June 5)**

Solve the following problems, and turn in the solutions to *four* of them, including at most two of 1–3 and at most one of 7–8.

Notation for problems 1–3: fix positive integers  $n \geq m > 0$ . Put

$$\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{mn} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[x_{i,j} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n]$$

and

$$\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{\binom{n}{m}} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[x_J : J = (j_1, \dots, j_m), 1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_m \leq n].$$

For  $I = (i_1, \dots, i_m) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^m$ , put

$$x_I = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i_1, \dots, i_m \text{ are not all distinct} \\ \text{sgn}(\sigma)x_J & \text{if } I = \sigma(J) \text{ and } j_1 < \dots < j_m. \end{cases}$$

Define the map  $f : \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{mn} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{\binom{n}{m}}$  by

$$f^*(x_J) = \det(x_{i,j_\ell} : 1 \leq i, \ell \leq m).$$

Let  $V_J$  be the basic open subscheme of  $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{mn}$  defined by  $f^*(x_J)$ . Let  $Z_J$  be the closed subscheme of  $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{mn}$  (and  $V_J$ ) defined by the relations  $(x_{i,j_\ell}) - I_m$ .

1. Prove that  $V_J \cong \text{GL}(m) \times_{\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}} Z_J$ . Hint: you should be using Yoneda's lemma throughout this problem set, in order to express such questions in terms of points over affine schemes.
2. Define the *Plücker relations* as follows: for  $I, J \in \{1, \dots, n\}^m$  and  $s \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , put

$$Q_{I,J,s} = x_I x_J - \sum_{t=1}^m x_{(i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}, j_t, i_{s+1}, \dots, i_m)} x_{(j_1, \dots, j_{t-1}, i_s, j_{t+1}, \dots, j_m)}.$$

Prove that  $f$  factors through the closed subscheme of  $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^{\binom{n}{m}}$  cut out by the  $Q_{I,J,s}$ . Hint: first reduce to considering only  $Z_J$ .

3. Let  $G(m, n)$  be the closed subscheme of  $\mathbb{P}^{\binom{n}{m}-1}$  cut out by the  $Q_{I,J,s}$ . By the previous exercise,  $f$  induces a map  $Z_J \rightarrow G(m, n)_{x_J}$ . Prove that this map is an isomorphism.
4. In this exercise we prove a form of *Chow's lemma*, which we used in class a while back.
  - (a) For any morphism  $f : Y \rightarrow X$  of schemes with  $X$  noetherian, prove that there is a minimal closed subscheme  $Z$  of  $X$  through which  $f$  factors. We call this the *closed image* of  $f$ .

- (b) Let  $S$  be a noetherian affine scheme. Let  $X \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of finite type. Prove that  $X$  can be covered by finitely many open subschemes  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  which are *quasiprojective* over  $S$ . That is, each  $U_i$  admits an open immersion (over  $S$ ) into a projective  $S$ -scheme  $P_i$ . Hint: embed affine space into projective space.
- (c) Let  $X \rightarrow S$  be a proper morphism of schemes with  $S$  affine and noetherian. Prove that there exists a morphism  $X' \rightarrow X$  with  $X' \rightarrow S$  proper such that for some open dense subscheme  $U$  of  $X$ , the map  $X' \times_X U \rightarrow U$  is an isomorphism. Hint: reduce to the case of  $X$  irreducible. Then put  $U = U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_n$  and let  $X'$  be the closed image of  $U \rightarrow X \times_S P_1 \times_S \dots \times_S P_n$ .
5. Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0. Let  $C$  be a smooth projective connected curve over  $k$  of genus  $g \geq 2$ . In this exercise, we prove that any finite group  $G$  of automorphisms of  $C$  has order at most  $84(g-1)$  (the *Hurwitz bound*). This bound is achieved in some cases, e.g., for  $g = 3$  (see below). It can also be shown that any group of automorphisms of  $C$  is finite, but we will not do this here.
- (a) Let  $n$  be the order of  $G$ ; then the  $G$ -fixed subfield of  $K(C)$  is itself the function field of a curve  $T$ , and the inclusion of fields corresponds to a morphism  $f : C \rightarrow T$  of degree  $n$ . Prove that  $G$  acts transitively on the preimage of any point of  $T$ .
- (b) For each closed point  $P \in T$ , let  $r_P$  denote the ramification number of the map at some preimage of  $P$  (by (a), it does not matter which one is chosen). Prove that

$$\frac{2g-2}{n} = 2g(T) - 2 + \sum_P \left(1 - \frac{1}{r_P}\right).$$

Note that the sum is finite because  $r_P = 1$  for all but finitely many  $P$ .

- (c) Prove there do not exist integers  $h \geq 0$  and  $r_1, \dots, r_m \geq 2$  such that

$$0 < 2h - 2 + \sum_{i=1}^m \left(1 - \frac{1}{r_i}\right) < \frac{1}{42}.$$

- (d) Deduce that  $n \leq 84(g-1)$ .
6. Let  $C$  be a curve of genus 2 over an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq 2$ .
- (a) Let  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_k^1$  be the map defined by the canonical divisor. Prove that any finite group of automorphisms of  $C$  of odd order acts faithfully on the ramification points of  $f$ .
- (b) Prove that the Hurwitz bound is *never* achieved for  $g = 2$ .
7. Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0. Let  $C$  be the *Klein quartic* curve

$$\text{Proj } k[x, y, z]/(x^3y + y^3z + z^3x).$$

- (a) Prove that  $g(C) = 3$ .
- (b) Write down explicit automorphisms of  $C$  of orders 3 and 7.
- (b) It can be shown that the group of automorphisms of  $C$  is finite and contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$ . Assuming these facts, prove that  $C$  achieves the Hurwitz bound.
8. Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Let  $q$  be a power of  $p$ . Prove that

$$\text{Proj } k[x, y, z]/(y^{q+1} - zx^q - z^q x)$$

is a smooth projective curve which violates the Hurwitz bound for  $q$  sufficiently large compared to  $p$ .