

Algebraic surfaces

LINEAR SERIES AND MAPS TO PROJECTIVE SPACES

Fix a non-singular variety X and a divisor $D \in \text{Div}(X)$. One can define

$$\mathcal{L}(D) := \{f \in K(X) \mid \text{div}(f) + D \geq 0\},$$

and

$$|D| = \{D' \in \text{Div}(X) \mid D' \sim D, D' \geq 0\}.$$

Moreover there is a map $\pi : \mathcal{L}(D) - \{0\} \rightarrow |D|$ by sending f to $\text{div}(f) + D$. Such $|D|$ is called the complete linear series of D . One can also consider a vector subspace $V \subset \mathcal{L}(D)$ and then produce a subseries $|V| \subset |D|$.

Another remark is that π maps the punctured space to a projective space. Thus $\dim |D| = \dim \mathcal{L}(D) - 1$.

Suppose now that $\mathcal{L}(D) \neq \{0\}$, one can define a map $X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$. To start with, we pick a basis f_0, f_1, \dots, f_n of $\mathcal{L}(D)$ and consider the local equation of D , denoted $\{(f_\alpha, U_\alpha)\}$. For $x \in U_\alpha$, we define $\varphi_\alpha : x \mapsto [f_0 f_\alpha(x), f_1 f_\alpha(x), \dots, f_n f_\alpha(x)]$.

One notice that on U_α , $\text{div}(f_i) + D|_{U_\alpha} = \text{div}(f_i f_\alpha) \geq 0$. Hence $f_i f_\alpha$ is indeed a regular function on U_α . It turns out the φ_α is undefined only at the common zero of $f_i f_\alpha$.

If $x \in U_\alpha \cap U_\beta$, then $f_\alpha f_\beta^{-1}(x)$ is a non-zero constant, hence $\varphi_\alpha(x) = \varphi_\beta(x)$. All these maps patch together to give $\varphi_D : X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$. Let $Bs|D|$ the the locus where φ_D is undefined. Then $Bs|D|$ can be described as

$$\begin{aligned} Bs|D| &= \{x \in X \mid f_i f_\alpha(x) = 0 \quad \forall i, \text{ for some } U_\alpha \ni x\} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid f f_\alpha(x) = 0, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{L}, \text{ for some } U_\alpha \ni x\} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid x \in \text{Supp}(D'), \quad \forall D' \in |D|\}. \end{aligned}$$

The set $Bs|D|$ is call the base locus of $|D|$.

Definition 0.1. $|D|$ (or D) is said to be base point free if $Bs|D| = \emptyset$. In this case, φ_D is a morphism.

$|D|$ (or D) is said to be very ample if φ_D is a embedding.

Example 0.2. Consider $X = \mathbb{P}^2$ and $D = (XY - Z^2 = 0) \in \text{Div}(X)$. Then $\mathcal{L}(D)$ has a basis $f_0 := \frac{XY}{XY-Z^2}, f_1 := \frac{YZ}{XY-Z^2}, f_2 := \frac{ZX}{XY-Z^2}, f_3 := \frac{X^2}{XY-Z^2}, f_4 := \frac{Y^2}{XY-Z^2}, f_5 := \frac{Z^2}{XY-Z^2}$

If we consider the subspace $V = \langle f_0, f_1, f_2 \rangle$, then $\varphi_{|V|} : X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$ by $[a_0, a_1, a_2] \mapsto [a_0 a_1, a_1 a_2, a_2 a_0]$. One finds that $Bs|V| = \{[1, 0, 0], [0, 1, 0], [0, 0, 1]\}$.

If we consider the complete linear series $|D|$, then $\varphi_D : X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^5$ by $[a_0, a_1, a_2] \mapsto [a_0 a_1, a_1 a_2, a_2 a_0, a_0^2, a_1^2, a_2^2]$ without any base point. Hence $|D|$ is base point free. In fact, it's very ample.