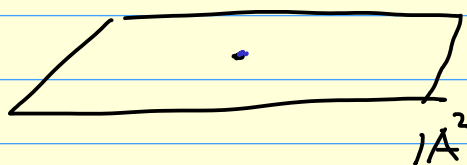
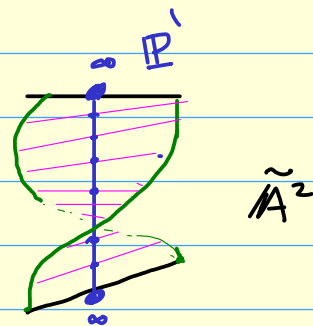


Algebraic Geometry 15

Blow up a point in \mathbb{A}^n :

Let $p = (0, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{A}^n$.



Def: The blowup of \mathbb{A}^n at p is defined to be

$$\tilde{\mathbb{A}}^n = \left\{ (x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n, y = [y_1, \dots, y_n] \in \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \mid x_i y_j = x_j y_i \forall i, j \leq n) \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$$

Prop: $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}^n$ is an ^{irreducible} variety of dimension n and there is a morphism

$$\begin{aligned} \pi: \tilde{\mathbb{A}}^n &\longrightarrow \mathbb{A}^n \\ \pi(x, y) &= x \end{aligned}$$

such that

(a) $\pi^{-1}(p = (0, \dots, 0)) \cong \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ called exceptional set (divisor).

(b) The restriction of π to $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}^n \setminus \pi^{-1}(p)$ is an isomorphism
 $\pi: \tilde{\mathbb{A}}^n \setminus \pi^{-1}(p) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{p\}$.

Proof: Let $U = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{p\}$, then

$$f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \quad (U \text{ is the cone of } \mathbb{P}^{n-1})$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow [x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

is a morphism. Thus, the graph of f

$$\Gamma_f = \{(x, y) \in U \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \mid f(x) = y\} \subseteq U \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$$

is closed in $U \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$. Note that $y = [y_1, \dots, y_n] = f(x)$ is equivalent to the condition

$$x_i y_j - x_j y_i = 0 \quad \forall i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

Therefore, $\tilde{A}^n = \overline{\Gamma_f}$ is the closure in $\mathbb{A}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$.

Note that Γ_f is irreducible (since U is irreducible), thus $\tilde{A}^n = \overline{\Gamma_f}$ is irreducible. (and $\dim U = n = \dim \Gamma_f = \dim \tilde{A}^n$).

The map π is the composition

$$\overline{\Gamma_f} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{A}^n.$$

Since $p = (0, \dots, 0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^{-1}(p) &= \{(\{p\}, y) : y_j \cdot 0 - y_i \cdot 0 = 0\} \subseteq \{p\} \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \\ &\cong \mathbb{P}^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

On the open set $U = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{p\}$,

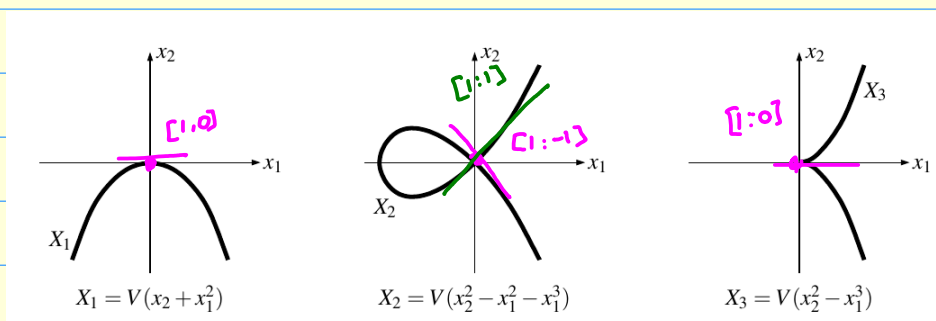
$$\pi^{-1}(U) \cong \Gamma_f \subseteq U \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$$

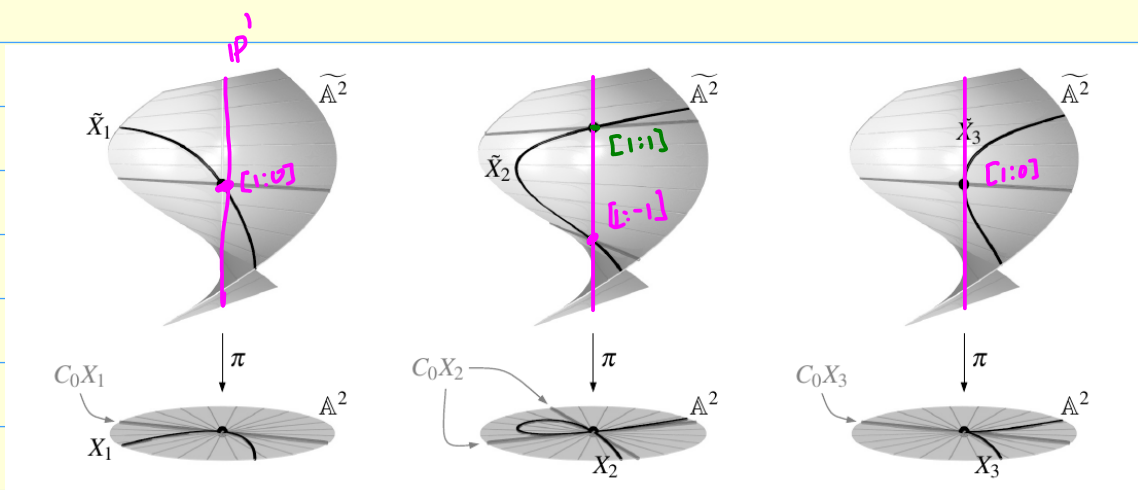
and hence

$\pi: \Gamma_f \rightarrow U$ is an isomorphism with inverse $(x, f): U \rightarrow \Gamma_f \subseteq U \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$.

□

\tilde{A}^n captures all the tangent directions at point p !





Eg: Let $C = Z(x_2 + x_1^2) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2$.

The lift of C to $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}^2$ is the closure $\tilde{C} = \overline{\pi^{-1}(C \setminus \{(0,0)\})} \subseteq \tilde{\mathbb{A}}^2$.

Explicitly, $\tilde{C} = Z(x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1, x_2^2 + x_1, y_2 + x_1 y_1) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1$

$$\tilde{C} \cap \pi^{-1}(0,0) = \{[1:0]\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^1$$

Ex: Let $C = Z(x_2^2 - x_1^2 - x_1^3) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2$. Then

$$\tilde{C} = Z(x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1, x_2^2 - x_1^2 - x_1^3, y_2^2 - y_1^2 - x_1 y_1^2) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1$$

$$\tilde{C} \cap \pi^{-1}(0,0) = \{[1:-1], [1:1]\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^1$$

Ex: Let $C = Z(x_2^2 - x_1^3) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2$. Then

$$\tilde{C} = Z(x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1, x_2^2 - x_1^3, y_2^2 - x_1 y_1^2) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1$$

Note that $\tilde{C} \cap \pi^{-1}(0,0) = \{[1:0]\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^1$.

↑
Comes with "multiplicity" two!

Blow up of X at a point

Def: Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ be an affine v and $p \in X$ be a point (assume $p = (0, \dots, 0)$ is the point in X). Let $U = X \setminus \{p\}$, then there is morphism

$$f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \\ x \rightarrow [x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

where x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are coordinate functions. The blow up of X at point p is

$$\tilde{X} = \overline{\Gamma_f} = \{(x, y) \in X \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \mid x_i y_j - x_j y_i = 0 \ \forall \ i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$$

is the closure of the graph of f in $X \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$.

We let $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ be the birational map given by the

$$\tilde{X} \xrightarrow{\quad} X \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\quad} X \\ \pi$$

HW: Show that the definition of \tilde{X} is independent of the choice of coordinate functions $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A(X)$.

Def: Let X be a variety and $p \in X$ be a point. Let $U \subseteq X$ be an open affine neighbourhood containing p . Let \tilde{U} be blow up of U at point p , and define

$$\tilde{X} = \text{blow up of } X \text{ at point } p \\ := \text{"Gluing" varieties } X \setminus \{p\} \text{ and } \tilde{U} \text{ along } \\ X \setminus \{p\} \cap \tilde{U} \cong U.$$

In particular, we can define blow up of \mathbb{P}^2 at a point.

Rem: There is a morphism $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ (given by $\pi: \tilde{U} \rightarrow U$ as above) is birational and $E := \pi^{-1}(\{p\})$ is called exceptional set.

We have isomorphism

$$\pi: \tilde{X} \setminus E \xrightarrow{\sim} X \setminus \{p\}$$

Rem: The exception set E is a projective variety. Indeed,
 $E \subseteq \overline{\Gamma}_f \cap \{p\} \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ (Let $U \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ affine as chosen above).
 where $\overline{\Gamma}_f$ is closed in $U \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$.

Def: (Tangent cone) Let X be a variety and $\{p\} \in X$ be a point. Let \tilde{X} be the blowup of X at p . The tangent cone

$$C_p X = \text{cone of } E \subseteq \{p\} \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}.$$

Eg: Blow up of $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ at one point \cong Blow up of \mathbb{P}^2 at two distinct points (successively).

$$X = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 = Z(z_0 z_3 - z_1 z_2) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^3$$

Let $a = [0:0:0:1] \in X$, then the blowup of X at the point a can be calculated by considering the affine chart

$$X \cap U_3 \subseteq \mathbb{A}^3 \quad \text{where } U_3 = \mathbb{P}^3 \setminus Z(z_3) \cong \mathbb{A}^3$$

and blowing up the point $a = [0:0:0:1]$ that restricts to $(0,0,0)$.

The blowup of $a \in X$ is explicitly describable by blowing up $(0,0,0) \in Z(z_0 - z_1 z_2) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^3$.

$$\cong X \cap U_3$$

$$\tilde{X} \cong \left\{ (z, y) \in \mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \mid \begin{array}{l} z_0 z_3 = z_1 z_2; \\ z_0 y_1 = z_1 y_0; z_0 y_2 = z_2 y_0; \\ z_1 y_2 = z_2 y_1 \end{array} \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^2$$

blow up!
 $[z_0 : z_1 : z_2] = [y_0 : y_1 : y_2]$

Let $b = [0:1:0], c = [0:0:1] \in \mathbb{P}^2$ (distinct points).

We can blow up b in the open affine charts $U_1 = \mathbb{P}^2 \setminus z(x_1) \cong \mathbb{A}^2$
 and blow up c in the open affine charts $U_2 = \mathbb{P}^2 \setminus z(x_2) \cong \mathbb{A}^2$.

Explicitly, it is given by

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}^2 := \mathbb{Z} \left((x, s, t) \in \mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \mid \begin{array}{l} x_0 s_1 = x_2 s_0 \\ x_0 t_1 = x_1 t_0 \end{array} \right) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$$

Now use the Segre embedding $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$
 $[s_0 : s_1], [t_0 : t_1] \rightarrow [s_0 t_0 : s_0 t_1 : s_1 t_0 : s_1 t_1]$
 $w_0 \quad w_1 \quad w_2 \quad w_3$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}^2 = \mathbb{Z} \left((x, w) \in \mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} x_0 w_2 = x_2 w_0; \quad x_0 w_1 = x_1 w_0; \quad w_0 w_2 = w_1 w_3 \\ x_0 w_1 = x_2 w_3; \quad x_0 w_2 = x_1 w_3 \end{array} \right)$$

Claim: The isomorphism $f: \mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^3$ induces
 $(z, y) \rightarrow (x=y, w=z)$
 isomorphism of subvarieties $f: \tilde{X} \xrightarrow{\sim} \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^2$.

HW: Check!