

General motivation

Algebraic variety is "the common zero locus of set of polynomials"
 (usually we insist these are irreducible)

Classification up to iso is crazy hard

1-Dim

lines

elliptic curves

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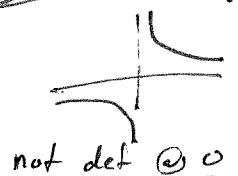
2-Dim

waaah!

Morphisms — Two types

(1) Regular morphism: maps are polynomial funct
 defined everywhere on domain

(2) Rational morphism: maps are defined on an Ex $x \mapsto (\frac{x_1}{x_2}, x_3)$
 open subset of domain

Varieties / C

Rational varieties: Varieties $\xrightarrow{\text{birational}} \mathbb{C}^n = \mathbb{A}^n \leftarrow$ Dom & care about \circ
 \downarrow
 $\mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ rational } comp is
 $\mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{V}$ rational } rational rel.
 (rel on open set)

$$\boxed{\text{Ex } \mathbb{P}^n = \mathbb{A}^n \coprod \mathbb{P}^{n-1}}$$

\Rightarrow a rational variety.

Toric varieties: Rational varieties which contain an open torus $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$
 as a Zariski open set, so that $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$
 action extends over variety.

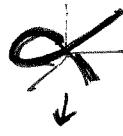
$(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$
 $(\mathbb{C}^{*})^n$
 $S^1 \times$

Like a compactification of an algebraic group...

Toric bundles: Vector bundles on toric varieties w/
 compatible torus action.

(2)

Why are toric varieties useful?



- They generalize A^n , \mathbb{P}^n
- Natural to look at when resolving singularities ~~Ex~~ 
 - Blow up at point cuts out point ($\cong \mathbb{C}^*$) sticks in \mathbb{P}^1 $y^2 = x^3(x+1)$
- Testing ground for conjectures
 - ~~Ex~~: Conjectures about mirror-symmetry
 - ~~Ex~~: Vector bundles problems (more on this later)
 - ~~Ex~~: Derived algebraic geometry
- Has been useful for problems in representation theory:
 - Klyachko: ~~solution of~~ Horn's conjecture
 - What do you know about eigenvalues of $(A+B)$ if you know eigenvalues of A and B ?
 - Horn conj big list of inequalities was complete list.
 - ~~Ex~~ sum eigenval A + sum eigenval B = sum eigenval $(A+B)$
 - :

→ Next week: Explicit definition

Explanation of diagrams (pictures)

Explanation of some work of Özgür.