

# Differents for a set of points in $\mathbb{P}_K^n$

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## General setting

Throughout this poster we let  $K$  be an arbitrary field, let  $\mathbb{X} = \{p_1, \dots, p_s\}$  be a set of  $s$  distinct  $K$ -rational points in the projective space  $\mathbb{P}_K^n$  such that  $\mathbb{X} \cap \mathbb{Z}^+(X_0) = \emptyset$ . We equip  $P = K[X_0, \dots, X_n]$  with its standard grading  $\deg(X_i) = 1$ , and let  $\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})$  be the homogeneous vanishing ideal of  $\mathbb{X}$  in  $P$ . Then  $R = P/\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X}) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} R_i$  is the homogeneous coordinate ring of  $\mathbb{X}$  in  $\mathbb{P}_K^n$ . The image of  $X_i$  in  $R$  is denoted by  $x_i$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n$ .

## Differents for a set of points in $\mathbb{P}_K^n$

Let  $\mathcal{J}$  denote the kernel of the canonical multiplication map  $\mu : R \otimes_{K[x_0]} R \rightarrow R, r \otimes r' \mapsto rr'$ . The **universal derivation** of the  $K[x_0]$ -algebra  $R$  is the homogeneous  $K[x_0]$ -linear map  $d_{R/K[x_0]} : R \rightarrow \mathcal{J}/\mathcal{J}^2$  given by  $d_{R/K[x_0]}(r) = r \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes r + \mathcal{J}^2$ , and the **module of Kähler differentials** of the  $K[x_0]$ -algebra  $R$  is the graded  $R$ -module  $\Omega_{R/K[x_0]}^1 = \mathcal{J}/\mathcal{J}^2$ . We know that  $x_0$  is not a zerodivisor of  $R$  and  $R$  is a graded free  $K[x_0]$ -module of rank  $s$ . Let  $\mathcal{Q}^h(R)$  be the **homogeneous quotient ring** of  $R$ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{Q}^h(R) = \left\{ \frac{r}{r'} \mid r, r' \in R, r' \text{ is a homogeneous non-zerodivisor} \right\}.$$

- The homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{D}_N(R/K[x_0]) = \mu(\text{Ann}_{R \otimes_{K[x_0]} R}(\mathcal{J})) \subseteq R$  is called the **Noether different** of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$ .
- The first non-zero Fitting ideal of  $\Omega_{R/K[x_0]}^1$  is called the **Kähler different** of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$  and denoted by  $\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])$ .
- The image of the homomorphism of graded  $R$ -modules

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \text{Hom}_{K[x_0]}(R, K[x_0]) &\hookrightarrow \text{Hom}_{K[x_0, x_0^{-1}]}(\mathcal{Q}^h(R), K[x_0, x_0^{-1}]) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{Q}^h(R) \\ \varphi &\mapsto \varphi \otimes \text{id}_{K[x_0, x_0^{-1}]} \end{aligned}$$

is a homogeneous fraction  $R$ -ideal  $\mathfrak{C}_{R/K[x_0]}$  of  $\mathcal{Q}^h(R)$ , it is called the **Dedekind complement module** of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$ . Its inverse,  $\mathfrak{D}_D(R/K[x_0]) = \mathfrak{C}_{R/K[x_0]}^{-1} = \{x \in \mathcal{Q}^h(R) \mid x \cdot \mathfrak{C}_{R/K[x_0]} \subseteq R\}$ , is called the **Dedekind different** of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$ .

We have relations between  $\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])$ ,  $\mathfrak{D}_N(R/K[x_0])$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}_D(R/K[x_0])$  as follows.

**Theorem 1 (Ernst Kunz).** Let  $m$  be the minimal number of generators of  $\Omega_{R/K[x_0]}^1$ . Then we have

$$\mathfrak{D}_D(R/K[x_0])^m \subseteq \mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0]) \subseteq \mathfrak{D}_N(R/K[x_0]) = \mathfrak{D}_D(R/K[x_0]).$$

Set  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0]) := \mathfrak{D}_N(R/K[x_0]) = \mathfrak{D}_D(R/K[x_0])$ . We say  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$  the **Noether-Dedekind different** of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$ .

**Proposition 2 (Ernst Kunz).** Let  $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_K^n$  be a complete intersection with  $\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X}) = (F_1, \dots, F_n) \subseteq P$ , where  $F_j$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d_j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Then we have

- $\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0]) = \mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0]) = \left\langle \frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_n)}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)} \right\rangle$ , where  $\frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_n)}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$  is a non-zerodivisor of  $R$  and has degree  $\deg\left(\frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_n)}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n d_j - n$ .
- $\mathfrak{C}_{R/K[x_0]} = \left\langle \frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_n)}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)} \right\rangle_R^{-1}$ .

## How to compute the differents for a set of points?

In order to compute the differents, we let  $\{F_1, \dots, F_r\}$ ,  $r \geq n$ , be a homogeneous generating system of  $\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X}) \subseteq P$ . Firstly, we observe that the Kähler different  $\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])$  is generated by the  $n$ -minors of the Jacobian matrix  $\left(\frac{\partial F_j}{\partial x_i}\right)_{\substack{i=1, \dots, n \\ j=1, \dots, r}}$ . Thus, it is not hard to write a CoCoA (an ApCoCoA) function to compute  $\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])$ . Now we need to find a way to compute the Noether-Dedekind different  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$ . We let  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  be new indeterminates, let  $F'_i = F_i(X_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , and let  $I'$  be the ideal of  $K[X_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n]$  generated by  $\{F'_1, \dots, F'_r\}$ . We denote the standard graded polynomial ring  $K[X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n]$  by  $Q$ , denote  $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  by  $S$ , and denote the homogeneous ideal in  $Q$  generated by  $\{F'_1, \dots, F'_r\}$  (resp. by  $\{F_1, \dots, F_r\}$ ) by  $I'Q$  (resp.  $\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})Q$ ). Then we have the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Q & \xrightarrow{\psi} & P \\ \downarrow \phi & & \downarrow \mu \\ Q/I'Q & \xrightarrow{\phi} & S = R[X_1, \dots, X_n] \xrightarrow{\rho} R \otimes_{K[x_0]} R \xrightarrow{\mu} R \end{array} \quad (1)$$

where  $\rho$  is an  $R$ -algebra epimorphism given by  $\rho(X_i) = 1 \otimes x_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ;  $\phi$  is a  $K[x_0]$ -algebra isomorphism given by  $\phi(Y_i + I'Q) = x_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\phi(X_j + I'Q) = X_j$  for  $j = 0, \dots, n$ ; and  $\psi$  is a  $P$ -algebra epimorphism defined by  $\psi(Y_j) = X_j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

**Proposition 3.** Let  $I_1 := (\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})Q + I'Q) :_Q ((X_1 - Y_1, \dots, X_n - Y_n) + I'Q) \subseteq Q$ . Then the Noether-Dedekind different of  $R$  w.r.t  $x_0$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0]) &= \{F(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in R \mid F \in \mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})S :_S (X_1 - x_1, \dots, X_n - x_n)\} \\ &= (\mu \circ \rho \circ \phi)(I_1/I'Q) \\ &= \psi(I_1/\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})). \end{aligned}$$

Based on Proposition 3, we can compute a system of generators of  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$ . Another way to compute  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$ , we use the results of M. Kreuzer and S. Beck in the paper "How to compute the canonical module of a set of points" to compute the Dedekind complementary module  $\mathfrak{C}_{R/K[x_0]}$ , and apply the equality  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0]) = (x_0^{2r_\mathbb{X}}) :_R x_0^{2r_\mathbb{X}} \mathfrak{C}_{R/K[x_0]}$ , where  $r_\mathbb{X}$  is the regularity index of  $\text{HF}_\mathbb{X}$  (see later).

## Algorithm for computing a minimal homogeneous generating system of $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$

The following algorithm enables us to compute a minimal homogeneous system of generators of the Noether-Dedekind different of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$ .

**Algorithm 4.** Let  $\mathbb{X} = \{p_1, \dots, p_s\}$  be a set of  $s$  distinct  $K$ -rational points in  $\mathbb{P}_K^n$  such that  $\mathbb{X} \cap \mathbb{Z}^+(X_0) = \emptyset$ , let  $\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})$  be the homogeneous vanishing ideal of  $\mathbb{X}$ , let  $R = P/\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})$  be the homogeneous coordinate ring of  $\mathbb{X}$ , and let  $<_\sigma$  be a term ordering on  $\mathbb{T}^{n+1} = \mathbb{T}(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n)$ . Consider the following instructions.

- 1) Compute the reduced  $<_\sigma$ -Gröbner basis  $\{F_1, \dots, F_r\}$  of  $\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})$  by using the Projective Buchberger-Möller Algorithm.
- 2) Form the polynomial ring  $Q = K[X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n]$  and equip it with the standard grading ( $\deg(X_i) = \deg(Y_j) = 1$ ), and form  $I'Q = (F_1(X_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n), \dots, F_r(X_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n))$ .
- 3) Let  $<_{\bar{\sigma}}$  be a term ordering on  $\mathbb{T}(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$ . Compute a  $<_{\bar{\sigma}}$ -Gröbner basis  $\mathcal{H} = \{H_1, \dots, H_t\}$  of the homogeneous colon ideal

$$I_1 = (\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X})Q + I'Q) :_Q ((X_1 - Y_1, \dots, X_n - Y_n) + I'Q).$$

- 4) Compute a reduced  $<_{\bar{\sigma}}$ -Gröbner basis  $\{H'_1, \dots, H'_t\}$  of  $J_1 = \psi(I_1)$ , where  $\psi$  is given by (1). Let  $m_i = \deg(H'_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, t'$ . We sort the set  $\{H'_1, \dots, H'_t\}$  such that  $m_1 \leq \dots \leq m_{t'}$ .
- 5) We denote the image of  $H'_i$  in  $R$  by  $h_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, t'$ , and compute the set

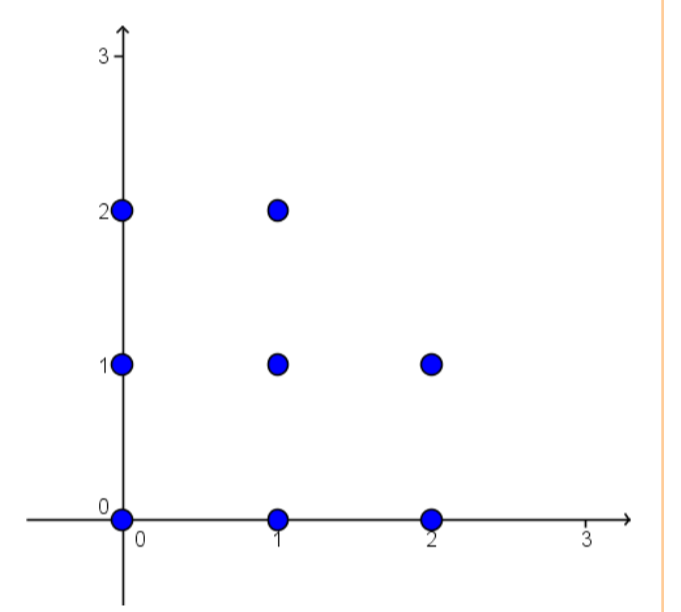
$$\mathfrak{D} = \{h_i \mid i \in \{1, \dots, t'\}, H'_i \notin (H'_1, \dots, H'_{i-1}, F_1, \dots, F_r)\}.$$

- 6) Return the set  $\mathfrak{D} \subseteq R$  and stop.

This is an algorithm which computes a minimal homogeneous system of generators of the Noether-Dedekind different  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$  of  $R$  with respect to  $x_0$ .

## Example

Let  $\mathbb{X} = \{p_1, \dots, p_8\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_\mathbb{Q}^2$  be a set of 8 distinct points with  $p_1 = (1 : 0 : 0)$ ,  $p_2 = (1 : 0 : 1)$ ,  $p_3 = (1 : 1 : 0)$ ,  $p_4 = (1 : 1 : 1)$ ,  $p_5 = (1 : 0 : 2)$ ,  $p_6 = (1 : 2 : 0)$ ,  $p_7 = (1 : 2 : 1)$ , and  $p_8 = (1 : 1 : 2)$ . Sketch in the affine plane  $\mathbb{A}_\mathbb{Q}^2 = D_+(X_0) = \{p = (c_0 : c_1 : c_2) \in \mathbb{P}_\mathbb{Q}^2 \mid c_0 \neq 0\}$  as in beside figure. We use  $P = \mathbb{Q}[X_0, X_1, X_2]$ ,  $R = P/\mathcal{J}^+(\mathbb{X}) = K[x_0, x_1, x_2]$ , and the term ordering  $\text{DegRevLex}$ . By writing and applying a CoCoA (an ApCoCoA) function which implements Algorithm 4, we calculate  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/\mathbb{Q}[x_0]) = (x_0^4 - 3x_0x_1^3 + 3/2x_1^4 + 27/4x_0x_1x_2^2 - 9/4x_1^2x_2^2 - 3x_0x_2^3 - 9/4x_1x_2^3 + 3/2x_2^4, x_1^2x_2^3 + 5/8x_0x_2^4 - 2x_1x_2^4 + 1/24x_2^5, x_1^4 + 429/16x_0x_2^4 - 33x_1x_2^4 - 93/16x_2^5)$ .



## Hilbert functions of the differents

Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $R$ -module.

- The **Hilbert function** of  $M$  is defined by  $\text{HF}_M(i) = \dim_K(M_i)$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . In particular, the Hilbert function of  $R$  is given by  $\text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(i) = \dim_K(R_i)$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- The regularity index of  $\text{HF}_M$  is called the **regularity index** of  $M$  and is denoted by  $r_M$ . The regularity index of  $\text{HF}_\mathbb{X}$  will be denoted by  $r_\mathbb{X}$ .

It is well-known that the Hilbert function  $\text{HF}_\mathbb{X}$  satisfies  $\text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(i) = 0$  for  $i < 0$ ,  $\text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(i) = s$  for  $i \geq r_\mathbb{X}$ , and

$$0 < 1 = \text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(0) < \text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(1) < \dots < \text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(r_\mathbb{X}) = s.$$

The Hilbert functions and the regularity indices of differents are described in the following proposition.

## Proposition 5.

- We have  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) = \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])}(i) = 0$  for  $i < 0$  and  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) = \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])}(i) = s$  for  $i \geq 0$ .
- The regularity index of  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$  is exactly  $2r_\mathbb{X}$ .
- The regularity index of  $\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])$  satisfies  $2r_\mathbb{X} \leq r_{\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])} \leq (n+1)r_\mathbb{X}$ .
- If  $\mathbb{X}$  is arithmetically Gorenstein (i.e.  $R$  is a Gorenstein ring), then  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) = \text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(i - r_\mathbb{X})$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- If  $\mathbb{X}$  is a complete intersection, then  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) = \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])}(i) = \text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(i - r_\mathbb{X})$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

## Differents for Cayley-Bacharach schemes

A set of  $s$  distinct  $K$ -rational points  $\mathbb{X} = \{p_1, \dots, p_s\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_K^n$  is called a **Cayley-Bacharach scheme**, if every hypersurface of degree less than  $r_\mathbb{X}$  which contains all but one point of  $\mathbb{X}$  must contain all the points of  $\mathbb{X}$ . The Hilbert functions of differents for a Cayley-Bacharach scheme are described as follows.

**Proposition 6.** If  $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_K^n$  is a Cayley-Bacharach scheme, then for every  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have

$$\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])}(i) \leq \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) \leq \text{HF}_\mathbb{X}(i - r_\mathbb{X}).$$

In particular, the Hilbert function of  $\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])$  satisfies  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) = 0$  for  $i < r_\mathbb{X}$ ,  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(i) = s$  for  $i \geq 2r_\mathbb{X}$ , and

$$0 \leq \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(r_\mathbb{X}) \leq \dots \leq \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(2r_\mathbb{X} - 1) < \text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(2r_\mathbb{X}) = s.$$

Our next proposition gives criteria for a set of  $s$  distinct  $K$ -rational points in  $\mathbb{P}_K^n$  to be either an arithmetically Gorenstein scheme or a complete intersection.

**Proposition 7.** Let  $\mathbb{X}$  be a set of  $s$  distinct  $K$ -rational points in  $\mathbb{P}_K^n$ .

- $\mathbb{X}$  is arithmetically Gorenstein if and only if it is a Cayley-Bacharach scheme and  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_\mathbb{X}(R/K[x_0])}(r_\mathbb{X}) \neq 0$ .
- $\mathbb{X}$  is a complete intersection if and only if it is a Cayley-Bacharach scheme and  $\text{HF}_{\mathfrak{D}_K(R/K[x_0])}(r_\mathbb{X}) \neq 0$ .