

§3. Rational Maps into Abelian Varieties

Note: Today, all varieties are irreducible.

Rational Maps

Let  $V, W$  be varieties /  $k$ .

Consider pairs  $(U, \varphi_U)$ , where  $\emptyset \neq U \subseteq V$  open subset (so dense), and  $\varphi_U: U \rightarrow W$  is a regular map.

Def: • Two pairs  $(U, \varphi_U), (U', \varphi_{U'})$  are equivalent if  $\varphi_U$  and  $\varphi_{U'}$  agree on  $U \cap U'$ .

• An equivalence class  $\varphi$  of  $\{(U, \varphi_U)\}$  is a rational map  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow W$ .

•  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow W$  is defined at  $v \in V$  if  $v \in U$  for some  $(U, \varphi_U) \in \varphi$ .

Note: The set  $U_\varphi = \bigcup_{(U, \varphi_U) \in \varphi} U$ , where  $\varphi$  is defined is open and  $(U_\varphi, \varphi_\varphi) \in \varphi$  where  $\varphi_\varphi: U_\varphi \rightarrow W$  restricts to  $\varphi_U$  on  $U$ .

Example (where  $U_1 \neq V$ )

① Let  $\emptyset \neq W \subsetneq V$  be open. Then the rational map  $V \dashrightarrow W$  induced by  $\text{id}: W \rightarrow W$  will not extend to  $V$ .

To avoid this, assume  $W$  is complete.



(2) Consider  $C: Y^2 = X^3$

We have a regular map  $\alpha: A^1 \rightarrow C$

$$\alpha \mapsto (\alpha^2, \alpha^3)$$

which restricts to an isomorphism  $A^1 \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow C \setminus \{0\}$ .

The inverse of  $\alpha|_{A^1 \setminus \{0\}}$  represents  $\beta: C \dashrightarrow A^1$  which does not extend to  $C$ .

$\beta$  corresponds to a map on function fields

$$K(t) \longrightarrow K(x, y)$$

$$t \longmapsto y/x$$

which does not send  $K[t]_{(t)}$  to  $K[x, y]_{(x, y)}$

(3) Let  $V$  be a nonsingular surface,  $P \in V$ .

Then  $\exists \alpha: W \rightarrow V$  regular that induces an isomorphism

$\alpha: W \setminus \alpha^{-1}(P) \rightarrow V \setminus P$ , but  $\alpha^{-1}(P)$  is a full projective line.

The rational map represented by  $\alpha^{-1}$  is not regular on  $V$  (ie. where to send  $P$ ?).

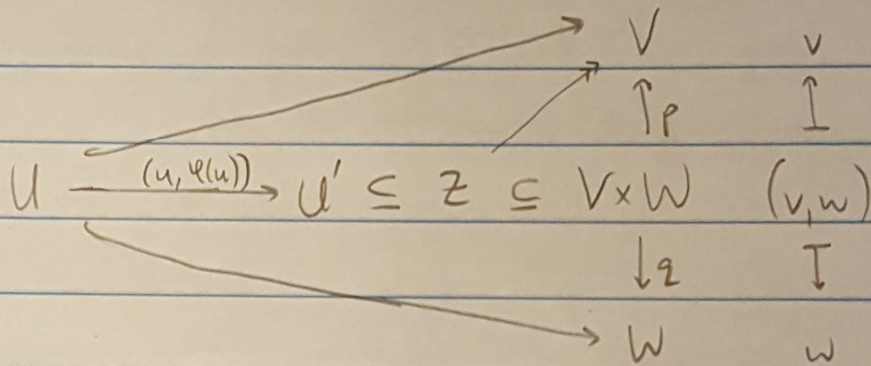
### Theorem 3.1

A rational map  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow W$  from a nonsingular variety  $V$  to a complete variety  $W$  is defined on an open subset  $U \subseteq V$  whose complement has codimension  $\geq 2$ .



Proof: (We'll consider the case that  $V$  is a curve)

Let  $V$  be a nonsingular curve,  $\emptyset \neq U \subseteq V$  open,  $\varphi: U \rightarrow V$  a regular map.



$U'$  is the image of  $U$ .

$Z = \overline{U'}$  is the closure of  $U'$ .

$W$  complete,  $Z$  closed  $\Rightarrow p(Z) \subseteq V$  is closed

Also  $U \subseteq p(Z) \Rightarrow p(Z) = V$  since  $U$  is dense.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{We have } U \xrightarrow{\sim} U' \rightarrow U, & \simeq & U' \xrightarrow{\sim} U \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}_{\text{id}} & & \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\
 & & Z \longrightarrow V
 \end{array}$$

Since curves are specified by their function fields, this implies  $Z \xrightarrow{\sim} V$ .

Then  $q|_Z: Z(\simeq V) \rightarrow W$  is the extension of  $\varphi$  to  $V$ .

□



# Rational maps into AVs

## Theorem 3.2

A rational map  $\alpha: V \dashrightarrow A$  from a nonsingular variety to an abelian variety must extend to all of  $V$ .

To prove this, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 3.3: Let  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow G$  from a nonsingular variety to a group variety. Then either  $\varphi$  is defined on all of  $V$  or the subset where  $\varphi$  is not defined is closed of pure codimension 1.

Proof: Fix  $(U, \varphi_U) \in \varphi$  and consider  $\bar{\varphi}: V \times V \rightarrow G$  represented by

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} U \times U & \xrightarrow{\varphi_U \times \varphi_U} & G \times G & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \text{inv}} & G \times G & \xrightarrow{m} & G \\ (x, y) & \longmapsto & & & & & \varphi_U(x) \varphi_U(y)^{-1} \end{array}$$

Check:  $\varphi$  is defined at  $x \iff \bar{\varphi}$  is defined at  $(x, x)$

(In this case,  $\bar{\varphi}(x, x) = e$ ).

$\iff$  The map  $\bar{\varphi}^*: \mathcal{O}_{G, e} \rightarrow K(V \times V)$

induced by  $\bar{\varphi}$  satisfies

$$\text{Im}(\bar{\varphi}^*) \subseteq \mathcal{O}_{V \times V, (x, x)}$$



For a nonzero function  $f$  on  $V \times V$ , write

$$\operatorname{div}(f) = \underbrace{\operatorname{div}(f)_0 - \operatorname{div}(f)_\infty}_{\text{effective divisors}}$$

Then

$$\mathcal{O}_{V \times V, (x,x)} = \{0\} \cup \left\{ f \in K(V \times V) \mid \operatorname{div}(f)_\infty \text{ does not contain } (x,x) \right\}$$

Suppose  $\varphi$  is not defined at  $x$ .

Then there exists  $f \in \operatorname{Im}(\mathcal{O}_{g,e})$  such that  $(x,x) \in \operatorname{div}(f)_\infty$ .

Then  $\Phi$  is not defined at any  $(y,y) \in \Delta \cap \underbrace{\operatorname{div}(f)_\infty}_{= \operatorname{div}(f')_0}$ , which is

a pure codimension 1 subset of  $\Delta$  by [AG, Thm 9.2]

The corresponding subset in  $V$  is of pure codimension 1, and  $\varphi$  is not defined there.

□

Proof of Thm 3.2:

If the rational map  $\alpha: V \dashrightarrow A$  were not defined on all of  $V$ , the subset where it is not defined, by Lemma 3.3, would be of pure codim 1.

However, by Thm 3.1 this cannot occur.

Thus  $\alpha$  must be defined on all of  $V$ .

□



### Theorem 3.4

Let  $\alpha: V \times W \rightarrow A$  be a morphism from a product of nonsingular varieties into an abelian variety. Assume  $V \times W$  irreducible.

If

$$\alpha(V \times \{w_0\}) = \{\alpha_0\} = \alpha(\{v_0\} \times W)$$

for some  $\alpha_0 \in A$ ,  $v_0 \in V$ ,  $w_0 \in W$ , then  $\alpha(V \times W) = \{\alpha_0\}$ .

Note: If  $V$  or  $W$  is complete, this is a special case of the Rigidity Theorem (see Lecture 1).

### Corollary

Every rational map  $\alpha: G \dashrightarrow A$  from a group variety into an abelian variety is the composition of a homomorphism  $G \rightarrow A$  and a translation in  $A$ .

Proof: Since group varieties are nonsingular,  $\alpha$  is a regular map by Theorem 3.2.

From here the proof is identical to that for the analogous statement in Lecture 1.

□



# Abelian Varieties up to Birational Equivalence

Dfn:  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow W$  is dominating if  $\text{Im}(\varphi_u)$  is dense in  $W$  for a representative  $(U, \varphi_u) \in \varphi$ .

Exercise: A dominating  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow W$  defines a homomorphism  $K(W) \rightarrow K(V)$ , and any such homomorphism arises from a unique dominating rational map.

Dfn:  $\varphi: V \dashrightarrow W$  is birational if the corresponding homomorphism  $K(W) \rightarrow K(V)$  is an isomorphism.

Or, equivalently, if there exists  $\psi: W \dashrightarrow V$  such that  $\psi \circ \varphi$  and  $\varphi \circ \psi$  are the identity where they are defined.

In this case, we say  $V$  and  $W$  are birationally equivalent.

Note: In general, birational equivalence  $\not\Rightarrow$  isomorphic

Example: (from earlier)

①  $V$  variety,  $\emptyset \neq W \subsetneq V$  an open subset.

②  $V = \mathbb{A}^1$ ,  $W: Y^2 = X^3$



### Theorem 3.8

If two abelian varieties are birationally equivalent, then they are isomorphic as abelian varieties.

Proof:  $A, B$  abelian varieties.

$\varphi: A \dashrightarrow B$  a birational map with inverse  $\psi$ .

Then, by Theorem 3.2, these both extend to regular maps.

$$\varphi: A \rightarrow B, \quad \psi: B \rightarrow A$$

and  $\varphi \circ \psi, \psi \circ \varphi$  are the identity everywhere.

$\Rightarrow \varphi$  is an isomorphism of algebraic varieties, and after composing with a translation,  $\varphi$  is also a group isomorphism.  $\square$

Proposition 3.4: Any rational map  $A' \dashrightarrow A$  or  $\mathbb{P}^1 \dashrightarrow A$ , for  $A$  an abelian variety, is constant.

Proof: Theorem 3.2  $\Rightarrow$  any  $\alpha: A' \dashrightarrow A$  extends to a regular map  $\alpha: A' \rightarrow A$  and we may assume  $\alpha(0) = e$ .

We can think of  $A'$  and  $A' \setminus \{0\}$  as group varieties.

Then the corollary to Thm 3.4 tells us

• on  $(A', +)$  we have  $\alpha(x+y) = \alpha(x) + \alpha(y)$

• on  $(A' \setminus \{0\}, \cdot)$ , we have  $\alpha(xy) = \alpha(x) + \alpha(y) + c$   
for some  $c \in A$ .



These can only hold at the same time if  $\alpha$  is constant.

$P' \dashrightarrow A$  is constant, since it's constant on affine patches. □

Dfn:  $V/\bar{k}$  is unirational if there is a dominating map  $A^n \dashrightarrow V$ , where  $n = \dim_{\bar{k}} V$ .

$V/\bar{k}$  is unirational if  $V/\bar{k}$  is.

Proposition 3.10: Every rational map  $V \dashrightarrow A$  from  $V$  unirational to  $A$  an abelian variety is constant.

Proof: WLOG,  $k = \bar{k}$ .

Think of  $A^n \subseteq P^1 \times \dots \times P^1$  open.

Since  $V$  is unirational, we get

$$\beta: P^1 \times \dots \times P^1 \dashrightarrow V \dashrightarrow A$$

which extends to  $\beta: P^1 \times \dots \times P^1 \rightarrow A$ .

Then by Corollary 1.5, there exist regular maps  $\beta_i: P^1 \rightarrow A$  such that  $\beta(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum \beta_i(x_i)$  and by Proposition 3.9 each  $\beta_i$  map is constant. □