

# Line Bundles and the Dual Abelian Variety

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Meta-goal: Understand line bundles on abelian varieties

Setup:  $A$  an abelian variety /  $k$ .

Last time: For  $L$  a line bundle on  $A$ , we get a map

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_L: A(k) &\longrightarrow \text{Pic}(A) \\ a &\longmapsto t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\text{Pic}(A) = \{ \text{line bundles on } A \} / \sim.$$

This is a group homomorphism (by the Thm of the  $\square$ ).

We define

$$\begin{aligned}K(L)(k) &= \ker(\phi_L) \\ &= \{ a \in A(k) \mid t_a^* L \cong L \}.\end{aligned}$$

Today: We are going to package these into a big map

$$\begin{aligned}\phi: \text{Pic}(A) &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}(A(k), \text{Pic}(A)) \\ L &\longmapsto \left( \begin{array}{l} \phi_L: A(k) \longrightarrow \text{Pic}(A) \\ a \longmapsto t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1} \end{array} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Proposition: (1)  $\phi$  is a group homomorphism  
(2)  $\phi_{t_a^* L} = \phi_L$

Proof: ①  $\phi_{L \otimes M}(a) = t_a^*(L \otimes M) \otimes (L \otimes M)^{-1}$   
 $= (t_a^*L \otimes L^{-1}) \otimes (t_a^*M \otimes M^{-1})$   
 $= \phi_L \otimes \phi_M$

②  $\phi_{t_b^*L}(a) = t_a^*(t_b^*L) \otimes (t_b^*L)^{-1}$   
 $= t_{a+tb}^*L \otimes (t_b^*L)^{-1}$   
 $= t_a^*L \otimes t_b^*L \otimes L^{-1} \otimes (t_b^*L)^{-1}$  (Then of  $\square$ )  
 $= \phi_L(a).$

$\square$

Defn:  $\text{Pic}^0(A) = \ker(\phi)$   
 $= \{L \in \text{Pic}(X) \mid \phi_L = 0\}$   
 $= \{L \in \text{Pic}(X) \mid t_a^*L \cong L \quad \forall a \in A(k)\}$   
 $= \{ \text{translation invariant line bundles} \} / \sim$

Goals: Study  $\text{Pic}^0(A)$

Give it an abelian variety structure

Solve a moduli problem

Demonstrate some duality.

## §1) See-saws

### Then (See-saw Principle)

Let  $X, T$  be varieties,  $X$  complete.

Let  $L$  be a line bundle on  $X \times T$ .

Let

$$T_1 = \{t \in T \mid L|_{X \times \{t\}} \text{ is trivial on } X \times \{t\}\}.$$

Then  $T_1$  is closed in  $T$ .

Further, let  $p_2: X \times T_1 \rightarrow T_1$ .

Then  $L|_{X \times T_1} \cong p_2^* M$  for some line bundle  $M$  on  $T_1$ .

Remark: In fact,  $M = p_{2*} L$ .

### Corollary (That no one states)

Let  $X, T$  as above and  $L, M$  line bundles on  $X \times T$  such that

$$\bullet L|_{X \times \{t\}} \cong M|_{X \times \{t\}} \text{ for all } t \in T$$

$$\bullet L|_{\{x\} \times T} \cong M|_{\{x\} \times T}.$$

Then  $L \cong M$ .

Proof: We have  $(L \otimes M^{-1})|_{X \times \{t\}} \cong \mathcal{O}_{X \times \{t\}} \quad \forall t.$

So, by the See-saw Principle, we have

$$L \otimes M^{-1} \cong p_2^* N \text{ for some } N.$$

In fact,  $N = p_{2*}(L \otimes M^{-1})$ .

However

$$(L \otimes M^{-1})_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times T} \cong \mathcal{O}_T$$

$$\Rightarrow N \cong \mathcal{O}_T$$

$$\Rightarrow L \otimes M^{-1} \cong p_2^* \mathcal{O}_T = \mathcal{O}_{X \times T}$$

$$\Rightarrow L \cong M. \quad \square$$

So to specify a line bundle, it is enough to specify it on  $X \times \{t\} \forall t \in T$  and on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times T$ .

## §2. Properties of $Pic^0(A)$

Lemma: Let  $L \in Pic^0(A)$ ,  $m, p_1, p_2: A \times A \rightarrow A$ .

$$(1) m^* L \cong p_1^* L \otimes p_2^* L$$

$$(2) \text{ Given } f, g: X \rightarrow A, (f+g)^* L \cong f^* L \otimes g^* L$$

$$(3) [m]^* L \cong L^{\otimes n}$$

$$(4) \text{ If } L \text{ is nontrivial, } H^i(A, L) = 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$(5) \phi_L(A(L)) \subseteq Pic^0(A).$$

Proof: (1)  $(m^* L \otimes (p_1^* L)^{-1} \otimes (p_2^* L)^{-1})|_{A \times \{a\}} \cong t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1} = \mathcal{O}_A$   
 $(\text{--- " ---})|_{\{0\} \times A} \cong \mathcal{O}_A$

$$\Rightarrow m^* L \otimes (p_1^* L)^{-1} \otimes (p_2^* L)^{-1} \cong \mathcal{O}_{A \times A}, \text{ by Seesaw.}$$

$$(2) (f+g)^* L = (f \times g)^* m^* L \\ = (f \times g)^* (p_1^* L \otimes p_2^* L) = f^* L \otimes g^* L$$

(3) By induction using (2)

$$\begin{aligned} [n+1]^* L &= [n]^* L \otimes L \\ &\cong L^{\otimes n} \otimes L \cong L^{\otimes (n+1)} \end{aligned}$$

(4) If  $H^0(A, L) \neq 0$ , we have a nontrivial section  $s$  of  $L$ .  
Then  $(-1)^* s$  is a nontrivial section of  $(-1)^* L \cong L^{-1}$  (by (3)).  
If  $L$  and  $L^{-1}$  have a nontrivial section, then  $L = \mathcal{O}_A$ .  
Since  $L$  nontrivial, must have  $H^0(A, L) = 0$ .

Proceed by induction.

Assume  $H^i(A, L) = 0 \quad \forall i < j$ .

Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times 0} & A \times A & \xrightarrow{\pi} & A \\ a & \mapsto & (a, 0) & \mapsto & a \end{array}$$

This gives

$$H^j(A, L) \rightarrow H^j(A \times A, \pi^* L) \rightarrow H^j(A, L)$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{id}}$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} H^j(A \times A, \pi^* L) &\cong H^j(A \times A, p_1^* L \otimes p_2^* L) && \text{(by (1))} \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^j H^i(A, L) \otimes H^{j-i}(A, L) && \text{(by K\"{u}nneth formula)} \\ &= 0 && \text{by inductive hypothesis.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \text{id}: H^j(A, L) \rightarrow H^j(A, L)$  factors through 0.

$\Rightarrow H^j(A, L) = 0$ .

$$(5) \quad \phi_{t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1}} = \phi_{t_a^* L} \otimes \phi_{L^{-1}} = \phi_L \otimes \phi_L^{-1} = 0.$$

□

So by (5) we think of  $\phi_L$  as a map  
 $\phi_L: A(k) \rightarrow \text{Pic}^0(A)$ ,  
 with kernel  $K(L)(k)$ .

Theorem: If  $K(L)(k)$  is finite, then  $\phi_L$  is surjective.

Proof (Sketch): We have the Mumford Bundle

$$\Lambda(L) = \pi^* L \otimes p_1^* L^{-1} \otimes p_2^* L^{-1}.$$

(Recall earlier we had  $\Lambda(L)$  trivial  $\iff L \in \text{Pic}^0(A)$ ).

Let  $N = \Lambda(L) \otimes p_1^* M^{-1}$  for some  $M \in \text{Pic}^0(A)$ .

Then

$$N|_{\{a\} \times A} \cong t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1}, \quad N|_{A \times \{a\}} \cong t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1} \otimes M^{-1}.$$

Assume  $M \notin \text{im}(\phi_L)$ .

Then  $N|_{A \times \{a\}}$  nontrivial.

$$\Rightarrow H^i(A, N|_{A \times \{a\}}) = 0 \quad \forall i, \quad \forall a \in A(k)$$

(Leray Spectral Sequence?)  $\Rightarrow H^i(A \times A, N) = 0 \quad \forall i$

If  $a \notin K(L)(k)$ ,  $N|_{\text{pt}(x)} \cong t_a^* \mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{-1}$  nontrivial.  
 $\Rightarrow H^i(A, N|_{\text{pt}(x)}) = 0 \quad \forall i$

So  $H^i(A, N|_{\text{pt}(x)})$  supported on  $K(L)(k)$ , a finite set.

(Leray Spectral Sequence?)  $\Rightarrow$  In fact  $H^i(A, N|_{\text{pt}(x)}) = 0 \quad \forall i \quad \forall a \in A(k)$ .

However, we then have  $H^0(A, N|_{\text{pt}(x)}) = H^0(A, \mathcal{O}_A) = 0$ .

Contradiction!

Thus, cannot have  $M \notin \text{im}(\phi)$ . □

Remark: On the level of abelian groups, by the first isomorphism theorem, we now have

$$A(k)/K(L)(k) \cong \text{Pic}^0(A)$$

for any  $L$  such that  $K(L)(k)$  is finite  
(eg.  $L$  ample).

Idea: Use this to give  $\text{Pic}^0(A)$  an abelian variety structure.

First we need to get some more structure on  $K(L)$   
(this is unnecessary in the char 0 case).

### §3 $K(L)$ as a finite group scheme

Proposition: Let  $X$  be a complete variety,  $Y$  an arbitrary scheme.

Let  $L$  be a line bundle on  $X \times Y$ .

There exists a unique  $Y_1 \subseteq Y$  such that

$f: Z \rightarrow Y$  factors  $\iff$  There exists a line bundle  $M$  on  $Z$   
through  $Y_1$ , such that  $p_2^* M \simeq (\text{id} \times f)^* L$ .

Proof: [Polischinski, Prop 9.3], [Mumford III, §10 Prop].  $\square$

Remark:  $Y_1$  is precisely the maximal closed subscheme on which  $L$  is trivial.

Corollary: Let  $A$  be an abelian variety,  $L$  a line bundle.

There exists a subscheme  $K(L) \subseteq A$  such that its  $k$ -points are  $K(L)(k)$  as before.

Proof: Apply the above Proposition to the Mumford bundle  $\Lambda(L)$  on  $A \times A$ .

We have a closed subscheme  $A_1 \subseteq A$  with the above universal property.

This is the maximal subscheme such that  $\Lambda(L)|_{A_1 \times A}$  is trivial. For  $a \in A(k)$ ,  $\Lambda(L)|_{A \times \{a\}} \simeq t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1}$ .

Thus

$$A_1(k) = \left\{ a \in A(k) \mid t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1} \text{ is trivial} \right\} = K(L)(k). \quad \square$$



Proposition:  $K(L)$  is a subgroup scheme of  $A$ .

Pf sketch: Given a scheme  $Z$  and morphisms  $f_g: Z \rightarrow K(L)$  (i.e.  $Z$ -points of  $K(L)$ ), we use

$$t_{f_g}^* L \otimes L^{-1} \simeq t_f^* L \otimes L^{-1} \otimes t_g^* L \otimes L^{-1} \quad (\text{Thm of } \square)$$

where

$$t_f: A \times Z \rightarrow A \times Z$$

$$(\alpha, z) \mapsto (\alpha + f(z), z).$$

This shows  $K(L)$  closed under addition in  $A$ .  $\square$

## §4) The Dual Abelian Variety

Theorem: Let  $A$  be an abelian variety,  $L$  an ample line bundle on  $A$ .

Then the quotient scheme  $A/K(L)$  exists and is an abelian variety of the same dimension as  $A$ .

Proof sketch: (Char 0)

Can just think of  $K(L)$  as a finite group

On affine pieces  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$ ,

we set  $U/K(L) = \text{Spec}(R^{K(L)})$ .

← ring of invariants

Then glue. (Details in Mumford II, §6 Appendix, Theorem)

It is crucial that the orbits be contained in affines.

This is automatic since  $A$  is projective

(Since orbit is finite, take complement of one hyperplane missing  $\emptyset$ ).  $\square$

Dfn Given an abelian variety  $A$ , the dual abelian variety

is

$$\hat{A} := A/K(L)$$

for  $L$  some ample line bundle on  $A$ .

Remarks: •  $\hat{A}(k) = \text{Pic}^0(A)$

• We have an isogeny  $\phi_L: A \rightarrow \hat{A}$ .

$\hat{A}$  does more than give a variety which characterizes line bundles in  $\text{Pic}^0(A)$ .

In fact, we get the following.

Theorem: Let  $A$  be an abelian variety.

There is a uniquely determined bundle  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $A \times \hat{A}$ , called the Poincaré bundle, such that

①  $\mathcal{P}|_{A \times \{x\}} \in \text{Pic}^0(A \times \{x\})$  for all  $x \in \hat{A}$

②  $\mathcal{P}|_{0 \times \hat{A}}$  is trivial.

③ If  $Z$  is a scheme with a line bundle  $R$  on  $X \times Z$  satisfying ① and ②,  $\exists! f: Z \rightarrow \hat{A}$  s.t.  $(\text{id} \times f)^* \mathcal{P} \cong R$ .

That is,  $(\hat{A}, \mathcal{P})$  represents the functor

$$Z \mapsto \left\{ L \in \text{Pic}(A \times Z) \mid \begin{array}{l} L|_{A \times \{z\}} \in \text{Pic}^0(A \times \{z\}) \quad \forall z \in Z \\ L|_{0 \times Z} \text{ is trivial} \end{array} \right\}$$

and the Poincaré bundle corresponds to  $\text{id}_{\hat{A}}$ .

Proof sketch: We want to construct  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $A \times \hat{A}$  by considering  $\mathcal{N}(L)$  on  $A \times A$  and the projection  $\pi = \text{id} \times \phi_L : A \times A \rightarrow A \times \hat{A}$ .

Then  $\mathcal{P}$  should satisfy  $\pi^* \mathcal{P} = \mathcal{N}(L)$ .

To see that this satisfies ① and ②, let  $a \in A$  and that  $x = \phi_L(a)$ .

The

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \mathcal{P}|_{A \times \{x\}} &= (\text{id} \times \phi_L)^* \mathcal{P}|_{A \times \{a\}} = \pi^* \mathcal{P}|_{A \times \{a\}} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(L)|_{A \times \{a\}} \\ &= t_a^* L \otimes L^{-1} \in \text{Pic}^0(A) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \mathcal{P}|_{\{0\} \times \hat{A}} &= \pi^* \mathcal{P}|_{\{0\} \times A} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(L)|_{\{0\} \times A} = L \otimes L^{-1} = \mathcal{O}_A \end{aligned}$$

We omit universal property & uniqueness.  $\square$

## §5 Dual morphisms

Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of abelian varieties.

Let  $\mathcal{P}_A, \mathcal{P}_B$  be the Poincaré bundles on  $A \times \hat{A}$  and  $B \times \hat{B}$ .

Consider  $M = (f \times \text{id}_{\hat{B}})^* \mathcal{P}_B$  on  $A \times \hat{B}$ .

Then  $M|_{A \times \{x\}} \in \text{Pic}(A \times \{x\})$

$M|_{\{0\} \times \hat{B}}$  trivial.

Thus we get by the universal property a unique morphism  $\hat{f}: \hat{B} \rightarrow \hat{A}$ , satisfying  $(\text{id}_A \times \hat{f})^* \mathcal{P}_A \cong (f \times \text{id}_{\hat{B}})^* \mathcal{P}_B$ .

Dfn: Given a homomorphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of abelian varieties,  $\hat{f}: \hat{B} \rightarrow \hat{A}$  as above is called the dual morphism.

Remark:  $\hat{f}: \hat{B}(k) = \text{Pic}^0(B) \longrightarrow \hat{A}(k) = \text{Pic}^0(A)$   
 $L \longmapsto f^*L$

$\cdot [\hat{n}_*] = [n_A^*]$  (since  $[n]^*L \cong L^{\otimes n}$ ).

Consider now the Poincaré bundle  $\mathcal{P}_A$  on  $\hat{A} \times \hat{A}$ .

$\mathcal{P}_A$  on  $A \times \hat{A}$  can be thought of as living on  $\hat{A} \times A$ .

Thus, by the universal property of  $\mathcal{P}_A$  we get a morphism

$$\text{can}_A: A \longrightarrow \hat{A}.$$

(In fact, this is an isomorphism).

Lemma:  $\phi_{f^*L} = \hat{f} \circ \phi_L$  of

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof: } \hat{f}(\phi_L(f(a))) &= \hat{f}(t_{f(a)}^* L \otimes L^{-1}) \\ &= f^*(t_{f(a)}^* L \otimes f^* L^{-1}) \\ &= t_a^*(f^* L) \otimes f^* L^{-1} \\ &= \phi_{f^*L}(a). \end{aligned}$$

□

Proposition: If  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is an isogeny, the  $\hat{f}: \hat{B} \rightarrow \hat{A}$  is  
an isogeny.

Further, if  $N = \ker f$ , the  $\hat{N} = \ker \hat{f}$ , where  
 $\hat{N}$  is the Cartier dual of  $N$ .

Final concepts...

Dfn: • A morphism  $f: A \rightarrow \hat{A}$  is symmetric if  $f = \hat{f} \circ \text{id}_A$ .

• A polarisation is a symmetric isogeny  $f: A \rightarrow \hat{A}$  such that  
 $f = \phi_L$  for some ample line bundle  $L$  on  $A$ .

• A principal polarisation is a polarisation of degree 1  
(i.e. an isomorphism  $A \xrightarrow{\sim} \hat{A}$ ).

Remark: Elliptic curves always admit principal polarisations  $E \xrightarrow{\sim} \hat{E}$ .  
Thus, often, when one wishes to correctly generalise a  
result on elliptic curves to abelian varieties, one instead  
considers principally polarised abelian varieties.  
That is, AVs with a principal polarisation.

Phew! Got these.

## Aside: Alternate defn of $\text{Pic}^0(A)$

Defn: Let  $L_1, L_2$  be line bundles on an abelian variety  $A$ .

$L_1$  and  $L_2$  are algebraically equivalent if there exists a variety  $Y$  with a line bundle  $L$  and points  $y_1, y_2 \in Y$  such that

$$L|_{A \times \{y_1\}} \cong L_1, \quad L|_{A \times \{y_2\}} \cong L_2$$

Remark: This looks a lot like homotopy.

Proposition:  $\text{Pic}^0(A) = \{ \text{line bundles on } A \text{ that are algebraically equivalent to } \mathcal{O}_A \}$

Proof: [Polishchuk, Cor 9.2]. □