

## Solutions Sheet 2

## CLASSICAL VARIETES, RATIONAL MAPS, BLOWUPS, SPECTRUM

Let  $K$  be an algebraically closed field. All algebraic sets and varieties below are defined over  $K$ , unless specified otherwise.

1. Consider the set  $M := \text{Mat}_{m,n}(K)$  of  $m \times n$ -matrices. It can be identified with the affine algebraic variety  $\mathbb{A}^{nm}$ . Determine if  $S$  is open/closed/dense in  $M$ :
  - (a)  $S := \{A \in M \mid A^t A \text{ has an eigenvalue } 1\}$
  - (b)  $S := \{A \in M \mid \text{rank}(A) = \min\{m, n\}\}$
  - (c) for  $m = n$ ,  $S := \{A \in M \mid A \text{ is diagonalisable}\}$

*Solution:*

- (a) We define the map  $\varphi : M \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$  to be  $A \mapsto \det(A^t A - \text{id})$ . For a matrix  $A \in M$  the matrix  $A^t A$  has an eigenvalue 1 if and only if  $\varphi(A) = 0$ . The map  $\varphi$  is a polynomial in the coefficients of  $A$  and hence a morphism of algebraic varieties. We conclude that  $S = \varphi^{-1}(0)$  is a closed subset of  $M$ .
- (b) We define  $d := \min\{m, n\}$  and  $N := \binom{\max\{m, n\}}{d}$ . We define  $\varphi : M \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^N$  as the map taking an  $m \times n$ -matrix  $A$  to all of its  $d \times d$ -minors. Then  $A$  has full rank  $\text{rank}(A) = d$  if and only if  $\varphi(A) \neq (0, \dots, 0)$ . Since minors are polynomial expressions in the coefficients of  $A$ , we conclude that  $\varphi$  is a morphism of algebraic varieties. Hence  $S = M \setminus \varphi^{-1}(0)$  is an open subset of  $M$ .
- (c) It is neither: We define the map  $\varphi : M \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$  as the map taking a matrix  $A \in M$  to the discriminant of its characteristic polynomial. Since the discriminant is a polynomial expression in the coefficients of the characteristic polynomial, and these coefficients are polynomial expressions in the coefficients of  $A$ , we conclude that  $\varphi$  is a morphism of algebraic varieties. Furthermore, every matrix  $A$  with  $\varphi(A) \neq 0$  is diagonalisable. Thus  $S$  contains an open set  $S \supset \varphi^{-1}(0)$  and since  $M$  is irreducible, we conclude that  $S$  is dense in  $M$ . Since not all matrices are diagonalisable, we conclude that  $S$  is not closed in  $M$ . To see that  $S$  is neither open, for all  $\alpha \in K$  define the matrices  $A_\alpha$  as everywhere zero except for the upper left corner, where we have  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Define the set  $R$  to be the set of matrices  $A_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Then every element of  $R$  is not diagonalisable and thus in the complement of  $S$ . However, the matrix  $A_0$  is contained in the Zariski closure of  $R$  and is diagonalisable. Hence the complement of  $S$  is not closed, which implies that  $S$  is not open.

2. Show that a commutative  $K$ -algebra,  $A$ , is of the form  $\mathcal{O}(Y)$  for some algebraic set  $Y$  if and only if it is finitely generated and it does not contain non-zero nilpotent elements.

*Solution:* Let  $A$  be a finitely generated commutative  $K$ -algebra which does not contain non-zero nilpotent. Since  $A$  is finitely generated, there exists a set of generators  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  over  $K$ . Let  $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be the polynomial ring in  $n$  variables, then the ring morphism

$$\psi : \begin{array}{ccc} K[X_1, \dots, X_n] & \rightarrow & A \\ X_i & \mapsto & x_i, \end{array}$$

is surjective, i.e.  $A = K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/\text{Ker}(\psi)$ . Moreover  $\text{Ker}(\psi)$  is a radical ideal, since  $A$  does not contain non-zero nilpotent elements. Thus,  $A = \mathcal{O}(Y)$  where  $Y = Z(\text{Ker}(\psi))$ . On the other hand, assume that  $A = \mathcal{O}(Y)$  for some algebraic set  $Y$ . We may assume  $Y \subset \mathbb{A}_K^n$  for some  $n \geq 0$ . Then there exists  $I \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  ideal such that  $Y = Z(I)$ . Then by definition  $A = \mathcal{O}(Y) = K[X_1, \dots, X_n]/\sqrt{I}$ , i.e.  $A$  is a finitely generated commutative  $K$ -algebra which does not contain non-zero nilpotent.

3. Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer and  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . Let

$$G_{n,k} := \{V \subset K^n : V \text{ is a } K\text{-vector space of dimension } k\}.$$

Moreover, for a  $K$ -vector space,  $W$ , we denote by

$$\mathbb{P}(W) := \{\text{lines in } W\}.$$

- (a) Let  $V \in G_{n,k}$ , show that for any basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_k)$  of  $V$  the element

$$e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_k \in \Lambda^k K^n$$

is non zero, and generates a line  $\lambda(V) \in \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^k K^n)$  independent of the choice of the basis.

- (b) Show that the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_{n,k} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^k K^n) \\ V & \mapsto & \lambda(V), \end{array}$$

is an injection.

- (c) Let  $w \in \Lambda^k K^n$  with  $w \neq 0$ . Show that  $w$  is of the form

$$v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k,$$

for  $v_i \in K^n$  if and only if the linear map

$$\varphi_w : \begin{array}{ccc} K^n & \rightarrow & \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^{k+1} K^n) \\ v & \mapsto & w \wedge v, \end{array}$$

has rank  $n - k$ .

- (d) Deduce that the image of  $\psi$  is a projective subset of  $\mathbb{P}(\Lambda^k K^n)$ . It is called the *grassmannians of  $k$ -spaces in  $K^n$* .

*Solution:* First, we recall some notion about exterior algebras:

- i) for any  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in K^n$  one has that

$$v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k \neq 0$$

if and only if  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  are linearly independent.

- ii) for any  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$  and any  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in V$

$$a_1 v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge a_k v_k = \left( \prod_i^k a_i \right) v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k$$

- iii) for any  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$  and any  $\sigma \in \Omega_k$  ( $\Omega_k$  is the permutation group of  $k$  elements), we have

$$v_{\sigma(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge v_{\sigma(k)} = \text{sng}(\sigma) v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k$$

- iv) A basis for  $\Lambda^k K^n$  is given by

$$\mathcal{E}_k := \{e_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{i_k} : 1 \leq i_1 < \cdots < i_k \leq n\},$$

where  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  is the standard basis of  $K^n$ .

- (a) Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}$  and  $\{f_1, \dots, f_k\}$  be two basis for  $V$ . Then for any  $i = 1, \dots, k$  we have that

$$f_i = \sum_{j=1}^k a_{i,j} e_j,$$

for some  $a_{i,j} \in K$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
f_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge f_k &= \left( \sum_{j_1=1}^k a_{1,j_1} e_{j_1} \right) \wedge \cdots \wedge \left( \sum_{j_k=1}^k a_{k,j_k} e_{j_k} \right) \\
&= \sum_{j_1=1}^k \cdots \sum_{j_k=1}^k a_{1,j_1} e_{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge a_{k,j_k} e_{j_k} \\
&\stackrel{(i)}{=} \sum_{\substack{j_1=1 \\ j_s \neq j_t \text{ if } s \neq t}}^k \cdots \sum_{j_k=1}^k a_{1,j_1} e_{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge a_{k,j_k} e_{j_k} \\
&= \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega_k} a_{1,\sigma(1)} e_{\sigma(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge a_{k,\sigma(k)} e_{\sigma(k)} \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega_k} \left( \prod_{i=1}^k a_{i,\sigma(i)} \right) e_{\sigma(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{\sigma(k)} \\
&\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \left( \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega_k} \text{sng}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^k a_{i,\sigma(i)} \right) e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_k \\
&= (\det A) e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_k,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $A = (a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i, j \leq k}$ . Thus  $e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_k$  and  $f_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge f_k$  generate the same line in  $\mathbb{P}(\Lambda^k K^n)$ .

- (b) Let  $V, W \subset K^n$  be two subvector spaces of  $K^n$  of dimension  $k$ , and assume  $V \neq W$ . Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}$  be a basis for  $V$  and  $\{f_1, \dots, f_k\}$  be a basis for  $W$ . Since  $V \neq W$ , there exists an element of the basis of  $W$ ,  $f_i$ , such that  $f_i \notin V$ . Thus,  $e_1, \dots, e_k, f_i$  are linearly independent, i.e.

$$e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_k \wedge f_i \neq 0.$$

By contradiction, assume  $\lambda(V) = \lambda(W)$ . Then one would have

$$a(e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_k) = f_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge f_k,$$

for some  $a \in K^\times$ . This would imply that

$$0 = f_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge f_k \wedge f_i = a(e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_k \wedge f_i) \neq 0,$$

and this is absurd. Then  $\lambda(V) \neq \lambda(W)$  if  $V \neq W$ , i.e. the map  $\lambda$  is injective.

- (c) Let us first assume that  $w = v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k$  for some  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in K^n$ . Then there exist  $u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n \in K^n$  such that  $v_1, \dots, v_k, u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n$  is a basis for  $K^n$ . Then we have that  $\varphi_w(v_i) = v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_i \cdots \wedge v_k \wedge v_i = 0$  for any  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . On the other hand

$$\{\varphi_w(u_j) : j = k+1, \dots, n\} = \{v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k \wedge u_j : j = k+1, \dots, n\} \subset \mathcal{E}_k$$

is a subset of  $n - k$  elements of the basis for  $\Lambda^k K^n$ . Thus  $\text{rank}(\varphi_w) = n - k$ . Assume that  $w \in \Lambda^k K^n$  is such that  $\varphi_w$  has rank  $n - k$ . Then, there exists a basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  such that  $\varphi_w(v_i) = 0$  if  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $\varphi_w(v_i) \neq 0$  if  $k + 1 \leq i \leq n$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} w &= \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} a_{i_1, \dots, i_k} v_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge v_{i_k} \\ &= a_{1, \dots, k} v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n \\ i_k > k}} a_{i_1, \dots, i_k} v_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge v_{i_k}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $1 \leq s \leq k$ . By hypothesis, one knows that  $w \wedge v_s = 0$ . Hence, one has that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= w \wedge v_s = a_{1, \dots, k} v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k \wedge v_s + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n \\ i_k > k}} a_{i_1, \dots, i_k} v_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge v_{i_k} \wedge v_s \\ &= \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n \\ i_j \neq s \text{ for any } i_j}} a_{i_1, \dots, i_k} v_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge v_{i_k} \wedge v_s. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

On the other hand.

$$\{v_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge v_{i_k} \wedge v_s : 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n, i_j \neq s \text{ for any } i_j\} \subset \mathcal{E}_{k+1}$$

Thus equation (??) implies

$$a_{a_{i_1, \dots, i_k}} = 0$$

for any  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n$  such that  $i_j \neq s$  for any  $i_j$ . Since this holds for any  $1 \leq s \leq k$  we conclude that

$$w = a_{1, \dots, k} v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k,$$

as we wanted.

(d) The map

$$\varphi : \begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda^k K^n & \rightarrow & \text{Hom}(V, \Lambda^{k+1} K^n) \\ w & \mapsto & \varphi_w, \end{array}$$

is linear, that is, the entries of the matrix  $\varphi_w \in \text{Hom}(V, \Lambda^{k+1} K^n)$  are homogeneous coordinates on  $\mathbb{P}(\Lambda^k K^n)$ ; we say that  $G_{n,k} \subset \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^k K^n)$  is the subvariety defined by the vanishing of the  $(n - k + 1) \times (n - k + 1)$  minors of this matrix.

4. Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer

- (a) Let  $0 \leq k \leq n$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{P}^n$ . Show that the set of lines contained in the subspace  $V$  of  $K^{n+1}$  generated by  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  is a projective set in  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . Show that it is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^{d-1}$ , where  $d = \dim(V)$ . It is denoted  $\mathbb{P}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ .

- (b) Show that a closed projective set  $Y$  in  $\mathbb{P}^n$  is isomorphic to a set of the form  $\mathbb{P}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  for some  $k$  and some  $(x_i)$  if and only if it is the zero set of a family of homogeneous polynomials of degree  $\leq 1$ .
- (c) Let  $H = \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$  and  $x \in \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$  fixed. For  $y \in \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\}$ , show that there is a unique point  $\zeta \in H$  such that  $\zeta \in \mathbb{P}(x, y)$ .
- (d) Show that the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\} & \rightarrow & H \\ y & \mapsto & \zeta, \end{array}$$

is a morphism.

*Solution:*

- (a) Let  $V \subset K^n$  be the subspace of dimension  $d$  generated by  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $x_1, \dots, x_d$  generates  $V$ . Then a vector  $v$  is contained in  $V$  if and only if all the  $(d+1) \times (d+1)$  minors of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

have determinant vanishing. These determinants are homogeneous linear equations in the variables  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , thus  $V$  is a projective variety. For the second part, let us consider  $u_1, \dots, u_d$  a basis for  $V$ . Recall that we can see

$$\mathbb{P}^n = G_{n,1} = \{\langle v \rangle : v \in K^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}\}.$$

Then we define

$$\varphi : \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{P}^d & \rightarrow & \mathbb{P}^n \\ [a_1 : \dots : a_d] & \mapsto & \langle a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_d u_d \rangle. \end{array}$$

It is easy to check that this map is an injective morphism and that  $\varphi(\mathbb{P}^d) = \mathbb{P}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ .

- (b) In part (a) we have shown that, if  $Y = \mathbb{P}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  for some  $k$  and some  $(x_i)$ , then  $Y$  is the zero set of a family of homogeneous polynomials of degree  $\leq 1$ . On the other hand, let  $Y$  be the zero set of homogeneous polynomials of degree  $\leq 1$ ,  $f_1, \dots, f_n$ . Let us consider  $I = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$ . Then  $Z(I) \subset K^{n+1}$  is a subspace of  $K^{n+1}$ , because  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  are linear polynomials. Then  $Y = \mathbb{P}(x_1, \dots, x_{\dim(Z(I))})$  where  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{\dim(Z(I))}\}$  is a basis for  $Z(I)$ .
- (c) Let  $x \in \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$  and  $y \in \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\}$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}(x, y)$  is the projective line passing through  $x$  and  $y$ . We can parametrize this line as

$$\mu \cdot x + \lambda y.$$

Then we have that  $\mu \cdot x + \lambda y \in H$  if and only if

$$\mu x_n + \lambda y_n = 0.$$

Since  $x \in \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$ , the above equation became

$$\mu = -\lambda y_n.$$

Thus, we have two possibilities: either  $\zeta = y \in H \cap \mathbb{P}(x, y)$  or  $\zeta := y - x \in H \cap \mathbb{P}(x, y)$ . Moreover, in both cases this point is unique.

(d) Let us consider the map

$$\psi : \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\} & \rightarrow & H \\ y & \mapsto & \zeta, \end{array}$$

Let  $Z(f) \subset H$  be a closed subset where  $f$  is an homogeneous polynomial. Since  $H = \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$ , then  $f \in K[X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}]$ . Our goal is to show that  $\psi^{-1}(Z(f))$  is closed in  $\mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\}$ . Let us first consider  $\psi^{-1}(Z(f)) \cap \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$ . Thanks to part (c),  $y \in \psi^{-1}(Z(f)) \cap \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$  if and only if  $y - x \in Z(f)$ , i.e. if and only if  $y$  is solution of the polynomial

$$g := f(X_1 - x_1, \dots, X_{n-1} - x_{n-1}).$$

Let  $G$  be the polynomial

$$G = f(X_1 - x_1 X_n, \dots, X_{n-1} - x_{n-1} X_n).$$

Then we have that

$$Z(G) \cap H = Z(f),$$

because

$$G(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, 0) = f(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}).$$

On the other hand,  $Z(G) \cap \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n = \psi^{-1}(Z(f)) \cap \mathbb{A}_{x_n}^n$ , since

$$G(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, 1) = f(X_1 - x_1, \dots, X_{n-1} - x_{n-1}).$$

Thus,  $\psi^{-1}(Z(f)) = Z(G) \cap \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\}$ , i.e.  $\psi^{-1}(Z(f))$  is closed in  $Z(G) \cap \mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{x\}$ . Hence,  $\psi$  is a morphism since

$$\{V(f) : f \in K[X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}] \text{ homogeneous polynomial}\}$$

is a base for the Zarisky topology of  $H$ .

5. Recall the quadric surface  $Q$  given by  $xy - zw$  in  $\mathbb{P}^3$  of exercise 12, sheet 1. Prove that  $Q$  is birationally equivalent to  $\mathbb{P}^2$ .

*Solution:* Let  $U \subset Q$  be the open set defined as the complement  $Q \setminus \{[0 : 0 : 0 : 1]\}$ . We define the map  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  as  $[x : y : z : w] \mapsto [x : y : z]$ . This is well-defined on  $U$  and thus defines a rational map from  $Q$  to  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . Let  $V \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  be the open set where the third coordinate does not vanish. Define the map  $g : V \rightarrow Q$  as  $[x_0 : x_1 : x_2] \mapsto [x_0x_2 : x_1x_2 : x_2^2 : x_0x_1]$ . It is well-defined on  $V$  and thus defines a rational map from  $\mathbb{P}^2$  to  $Q$ . We note that the compositions  $f \circ g$  and  $g \circ f$  are the identity on the respective open sets where they are defined. Hence  $Q$  and  $\mathbb{P}^2$  are birationally equivalent.

6. A birational map of  $\mathbb{P}^2$  into itself is called a *plane Cremona transformation*. Define the rational map  $\varphi : \mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  as  $[a_0 : a_1 : a_2] \mapsto [a_1a_2 : a_0a_2 : a_0a_1]$ .
- Show that  $\varphi$  is birational, and its own inverse.
  - Find open sets  $U, V \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  such that  $\varphi : U \rightarrow V$  is an isomorphism.
  - Find the open sets where  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi^{-1}$  are defined, and describe the corresponding morphisms.

*Solution:*

- Define the open set  $V \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  to be the complement in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  of the three points  $[1 : 0 : 0], [0 : 1 : 0], [0 : 0 : 1]$ . Then  $\varphi$  is regular on  $V$ , hence a rational map on  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . Let  $[a_0 : a_1 : a_2]$  be a point in the preimage  $\varphi^{-1}(V) \subset V$ . Then

$$\varphi^2([a_0 : a_1 : a_2]) = [a_0^2a_1a_2 : a_0a_1^2a_2 : a_0a_1a_2^2] = [a_0 : a_1 : a_2].$$

So  $\varphi$  is birational and its own inverse.

- Define the subset  $U := \mathbb{P}^2 \setminus V(xyz)$  as the set of all points in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  where no coordinate is zero. Then  $\varphi(U) \subset U$  and by the above calculation,  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism from  $U$  to  $U$ . On  $U$ , the isomorphism  $\varphi$  is given by  $[a_0 : a_1 : a_2] \mapsto [\frac{1}{a_0} : \frac{1}{a_1} : \frac{1}{a_2}]$ .
- The maps  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi^{-1} = \varphi$  are both maximally defined on the open set  $V$  given in the solution of (a).

7. *Blowing-up.* We define the *Blowing-up* of  $\mathbb{A}^2$  at the point 0 to be the subset  $B := \{((x, y), [t : u]) \mid xu = ty\} \subset \mathbb{A}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ . Let  $\varphi : B \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^2$  be the restriction to  $B$  of the projection onto the first component (see Figure 1). Prove that:

- The map  $\varphi$  is birational and restricts to an isomorphism  $B \setminus \varphi^{-1}(0) \cong \mathbb{A}^2 \setminus 0$ .
- We have  $\varphi^{-1}(0) \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ .
- The points in  $\varphi^{-1}(0)$  are in 1-to-1-correspondence with lines  $\ell$  in  $\mathbb{A}^2$  through the point 0. [Hint: Look at  $\varphi^{-1}(\ell \setminus 0)$  and its closure.]

*Solution:*



- (a) The projection is a morphism and thus in particular a rational map. Define the open set  $U := \mathbb{A}^2 \setminus 0$  and the morphism  $\psi : U \rightarrow B$  given by  $(x, y) \mapsto ((x, y), [x : y])$ . The map  $\psi$  defines a rational map from  $\mathbb{A}^2$  to  $B$  which is clearly the inverse of  $\varphi$ . Therefore  $\varphi$  is birational. Looking at the definition of  $\psi$ , we see that  $\psi(U) \subset B \setminus \varphi^{-1}(0)$ . Thus  $\varphi$  restricts to an isomorphism with inverse  $\psi$ .
- (b) Since  $\varphi$  is projection onto the first component and  $(0, [t : u]) \in B$  for all  $[t : u] \in \mathbb{P}^1$ , it follows that  $\varphi^{-1}(0) = \{0\} \times \mathbb{P}^1 \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ .
- (c) Let  $\ell \subset \mathbb{A}^2$  be a line through the point 0 given by  $\ell = \{(az, bz) \mid z \in \mathbb{A}^1\}$  for two parameters  $a, b \in K$  which are not both zero, i.e.  $[a : b] \in \mathbb{P}^1$ . The inverse image  $\varphi^{-1}(\ell \setminus 0) = \psi(\ell \setminus 0)$  is given by  $\{((az, bz), [az : bz]) \mid z \in \mathbb{A}^1 \setminus 0\}$ . But in this set we have  $[az : bz] = [a : b]$  which is also defined for  $z = 0$ . Hence the closure of  $\varphi^{-1}(\ell \setminus 0)$  contains the point  $((0, 0), [a : b])$ . So we have a 1-to-1-correspondence given by sending  $\ell$  to  $((0, 0), [a : b])$ .

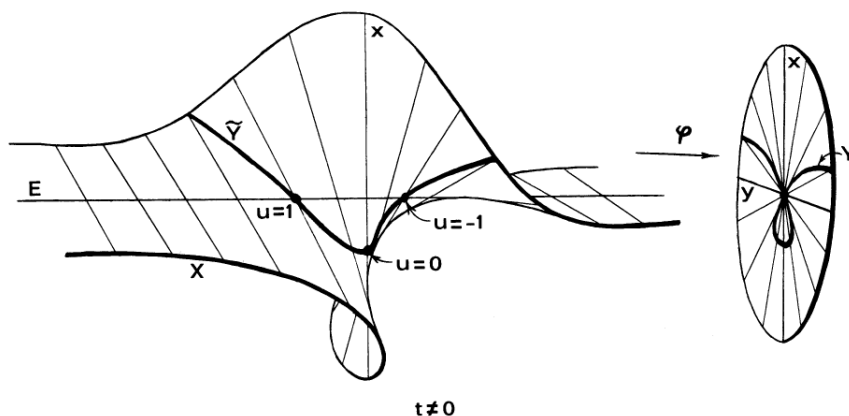


Figure 1: Blowing-up, figure taken from Hartshorne.