



Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

[–, J.

Jelisiejew,

P. Macias

Marques,

K.

Ranestad]

Alessandra

Bernardi

Cactus Varieties of Cubic Forms: Apolar Local Artinian Gorenstein Rings

[–, J. Jelisiejew, P. Macias Marques, K. Ranestad]

Alessandra Bernardi

Univeristy of Bologna (Italy)

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Tensors in Computer Science and Geometry

Simons Institute, Berkeley



Brief

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- 1 Waring rank and Cactus rank
- 2 Theorem: Dimensions of Cactus varieties for cubic forms
- 3 Apolarity
- 4 Local apolar schemes
- 5 Proof of the Theorem



Waring rank

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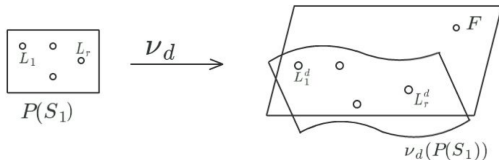
$F \in S_d = K[x_0, \dots, x_n]_d$ homog. of deg d ($\text{char} K \neq 2, 3$)

Definition

Waring rank: $\min r \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $F = L_1^d + \dots + L_r^d$ with $L_i \in S_1$

Veronese: $\nu_d : \mathbb{P}(S_1) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(S_d), [L] \mapsto [L^d]$

- $\min r \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $[F] \in r$ -th secant space to $\nu_d(\mathbb{P}(S_1))$
- The shortest length of a **smooth** finite scheme $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{P}(S_1)$ s.t. $[F] \in \langle \nu_d(\Gamma) \rangle, \Gamma = \{[L_1], \dots, [L_r]\}$





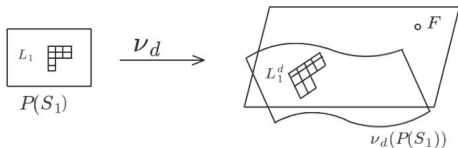
Cactus rank

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Remove “smooth”

Definition

Cactus Rank: $\min r \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. \exists finite (Gor.) scheme Γ of length r
 s.t. $[F] \in \langle \nu_d(\Gamma) \rangle$



$\text{Sec}_r(\nu_d(\mathbb{P}(S_1))) = \overline{\cup_{\Gamma \in \text{Hilb}_r(\mathbb{P}(S_1)), \Gamma \text{ smooth}} \langle \nu_d(\Gamma) \rangle}$ Secant variety to
 Veronese

$\text{Cactus}_r(\nu_d(\mathbb{P}(S_1))) = \overline{\cup_{\Gamma \in \text{Hilb}_r(\mathbb{P}(S_1))} \langle \nu_d(\Gamma) \rangle}$ Cactus variety



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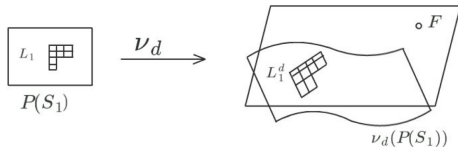
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Theorem

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We focus on **CUBIC** forms

Theorem

When $r \leq 17$, then

$$\dim \text{Cactus}_r(X_{3,n}) = \dim \text{Sec}_r(X_{3,n}).$$

When $18 \leq r \leq 2n + 2$, then $\dim \text{Cactus}_r(X_{3,n}) > \dim \text{Sec}_r(X_{3,n})$ and

$$\dim \text{Cactus}_r(X_{3,n}) =$$

$$= \begin{cases} \min \left\{ \frac{1}{48}r^3 - \frac{3}{8}r^2 + rn + \frac{5}{3}r - 2, \binom{n+3}{3} - 1 \right\}, & \text{if } r \geq 18 \text{ even,} \\ \min \left\{ \frac{1}{48}r^3 - \frac{7}{16}r^2 + rn + \frac{119}{48}r - \frac{65}{16}, \binom{n+3}{3} - 1 \right\}, & \text{if } r \geq 18 \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

[CNJ] : $r \leq 13$ Any local scheme is smoothable (=flat limit of smooth)



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$$S = K[x_0, \dots, x_n], \quad T = K[y_0, \dots, y_n]$$

$$y^\alpha (x^{[\beta]}) = \begin{cases} x^{[\beta-\alpha]} & \text{if } \beta \geq \alpha, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

S_1 and T_1 are dual spaces.

T is naturally the coordinate ring of $\mathbb{P}(S_1)$.

Definition

$f \in S$. **Apolar ideal:** $f^\perp = \{\varphi \in T \mid \varphi(f) = 0\}$.

$\Gamma \subset \mathbb{P}(S_1)$ is apolar to $F \in S$ if $I_\Gamma \subset F^\perp \subset T$.

Lemma (Apolarity Lemma)

$\Gamma \subset \mathbb{P}(S_1)$ is apolar to $F \in S_d$ iff $[F] \in \langle \nu_d(\Gamma) \rangle \subset \mathbb{P}(S_d)$.



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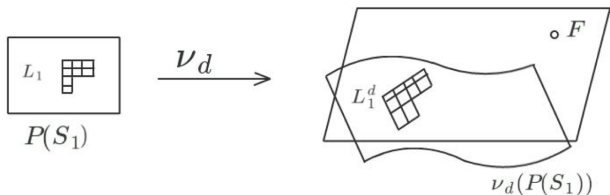
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- $\text{crk}(F) = \min r \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \exists \Gamma \in \text{Hilb}_r(\mathbb{P}(S_1)) : [F] \in \langle \nu_d(\Gamma) \rangle$
- $\text{crk}(F) = \min r \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \exists \Gamma \in \text{Hilb}_r(\mathbb{P}(S_1)) : \Gamma \text{ is apolar to } F$
- $\text{crk}(F) = \min r \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \exists \Gamma \in \text{Hilb}_r(\mathbb{P}(S_1)) : l_\Gamma \subset F^\perp$



Local apolar scheme

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Properties: $T_f := T/f^\perp$ local Artinian Gorenstein ring ([IK]):

- Local: The image of T_1 in T_f generates the only max ideal m ;
- Artinian: T_f is finitely generated as K -mod;
- Gor: T_f has 1-dim'l socle (the annihilator of the max ideal).

If F is homog. $\Rightarrow T/F^\perp$ graded.



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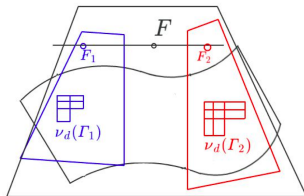
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$F \in S_d \Rightarrow \Gamma$ apolar scheme **locally** Gor. \Rightarrow

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \cup \dots \cup \Gamma_s, \text{ with } \Gamma_i \text{ local A.G.}$$

$$F = F_1 + \dots + F_s \text{ s.t. } \Gamma_i \text{ apolar to } F_i$$



More generally: any **Local** AG scheme Γ_i is the **AFFINE** apolar scheme of a poly $g_i \in S$ (unique up to a unit in the ring of diff. operators): for any LAG $T^0/I, \exists g \in S^0$ s.t. $I = g^\perp$.



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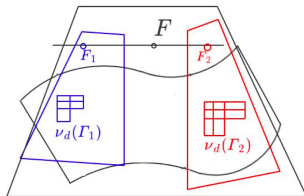
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F defines Γ :

$F \in S_d \Rightarrow \Gamma = \Gamma_1 \cup \cdots \cup \Gamma_s$, with Γ_i **local** A.G.

Γ is defined by g_i 's:

$\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \cup \cdots \cup \Gamma_s \Leftarrow g_1 + \cdots + g_s$ s.t. Γ_i AFFINE apolar to g_i

Plan of the proof of the Theorem:

- 1 Understand the link between F and the g_i 's.



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1 Understand the link between F and the g_i 's.

$$g = \underbrace{g^{(0)} + \dots + g^{(d)}}_{\text{deg } d \text{ tail of } g} + g^{d+1} + \dots + g^{(l)}, \deg(g^{(i)}) = i.$$

Proposition

$F \in S_d$, $f = F(1, x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Let Γ be a scheme of minimal length among local schemes supported at $[I] = [1 : 0 : \dots : 0]$ that are apolar to $F \Rightarrow \Gamma$ is the **AFFINE** apolar scheme to a poly $g \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ whose deg d tail equals f .

So g may be chosen s.t. f is its tail (Γ is also defined by many g 's that does not have f as a tail)



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Proof of Proposition

Natural apolar scheme of F at $[l]$: $Z_{F,l} := V(f^\perp)$

Lemma (Buczyński)

Z local supp at $[l]$ apolar to $F \Rightarrow \exists Z' \subset Z$ apolar to F s.t. $Z' = Z_{G,l}$ for some $G \in S$. Moreover $F = \Psi(G)$ for some $\Psi \in T$.

\Rightarrow we can choose $\Gamma = Z_{G,l}$ for some G s.t. $F = \Psi(G)$.

If $F = \Psi(G)$ then f and $\psi(g)$ have the same deg d tail.

$\text{Diff}(\psi(g)) \subset \text{Diff}(g) \Rightarrow Z_{\psi(g)} \subset \Gamma$.

Γ minimal \Rightarrow suff. to see that $Z_{\psi(g)}$ apolar F

$(\psi'(\psi(g))) = 0 \Rightarrow \Psi'(\Psi(G)) = 0$.



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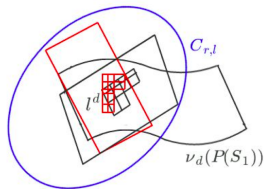
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- 2 Parameterize the set of poly's $g \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ whose affine apolar scheme has given length. $\overset{\text{Proposition}}{\iff}$ Parameterize the family of cubic tails $f \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ of g 's.

$$C_{r,l} = \bigcup_{\text{supp } Z_l = [l^d], l(Z_l) \leq r} \langle Z_l \rangle$$



$$= \{[F] \in \mathbb{P}(S_d) \mid f = g_{\leq d} \text{ for some } g \in S_{loc} \text{ with } \dim \text{Diff}(g) \leq r\}$$

$$W_{r,n} = \bigcup_{l \in S_1} C_{r,l}$$

$$\text{Cactus}_r(\nu_d(\mathbb{P}(S_1))) = \overline{\bigcup_{r_1 + \dots + r_s = r} J(W_{r_1, n}, \dots, W_{r_s, n})}$$



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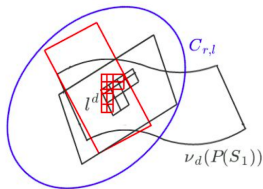
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Proof of the Thm

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

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Gorenstein

Rings

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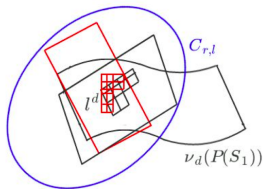
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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

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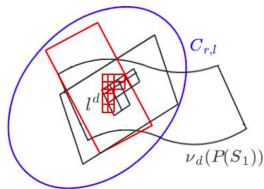
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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Plan of the proof of the Theorem:

- 1 Understand the link between F and the g_i 's.
- 2 Parameterize the set of poly's $g \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ whose affine apolar scheme has given length.

Proposition
 \iff

Parameterize the family of cubic tails $f \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ of g 's.

Find a discrete invariant for LAG schemes, parameterize the cubic tails of all polynomials that define a scheme with given invariant.

- 3 Show which invariants have the biggest family of cubic tails.
(Invariant: Hilbert function with symmetric decomposition)



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Marques,

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- 2 Parameterize the set of poly's $g \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ whose affine apolar scheme has given length.

Find a discrete invariant for local AG schemes, parameterize the cubic tails of all polynomials that define a scheme with given invariant.

$$f \in S, \deg(f) = d, f^\perp \subset T$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T_f := T/f^\perp & \xrightarrow[\tau]{\sim} & \text{Diff}(f) = \{\psi(f) \mid \psi \in T\} \\ \psi & \mapsto & \psi(f) \end{array}$$



Proof of the Thm

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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T_f is local \Rightarrow one max ideal m .

- m -adic filtration:

$$T_f = m^0 \supset \dots \supset m^{d+1} = 0$$

$$T_f^* = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d \frac{m^i}{m^{i+1}}$$

- Löewy filtration:

$$T_f = (0 : m^{d+1}) \supset \dots \supset$$

$$(0 : m) \supset 0$$

Interpr. in terms of partial of f

- $m^i \xrightarrow{\tau}$ Partial of order at least i of f ($\deg \leq d - i$)
(Order of a partial f' of $f =$ largest order of $\psi \in T$ s.t. $f' = \psi(f)$)
- $(0 : m^i) \xrightarrow{\tau}$ $\text{Diff}(f)_{i-1}$ = partials of deg at most $i - 1$ of f



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

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Gorenstein

Rings

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Marques,

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Order filtration: $\text{Diff}(f) = \text{Diff}(f)^0 \supseteq \text{Diff}(f)^1 \supseteq \dots \supseteq \text{Diff}(f)^d$

Degree filtration: $\text{Diff}(f) = \text{Diff}(f)_d \supseteq \text{Diff}(f)_{d-1} \supseteq \dots \supseteq \text{Diff}(f)_0$

Different filtrations (f not homog)

but

$$\frac{(0 : m^i)}{(0 : m^{i-1})} \cong \left(\frac{m^{i-1}}{m^i} \right)^\vee$$

$$\frac{\text{Diff}(f)_{i+1}}{\text{Diff}(f)_i} \simeq \frac{\text{Diff}(f)^{i+1}}{\text{Diff}(f)^i}$$

and for the double filtration:

$\text{Diff}(f)_i^a$ = Partials of deg at most i and order at least $d - i - a$

$$Q_{a,i}^\vee \simeq \frac{\text{Diff}(f)_i^a}{\text{Diff}(f)_{i-1}^a + \text{Diff}(f)_i^{a-1}} \simeq \frac{\text{Diff}(f)_a^i}{\text{Diff}(f)_{a-1}^{i-1} + \text{Diff}(f)_{a-1}^i}$$

So the Hf of the two filtrations are dual to each other.



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Rings

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In particular

$$H_f(i) = \dim_K(\text{Diff}(f))_i - \dim_K(\text{Diff}(f))_{i-1}$$

has symmetric decomposition:

$$H = \sum_{a \geq 0} \Delta_a$$

each Δ_a symm. around $(d - a)/2$, i.e. $\Delta_a(i) = \Delta_a(d - a - i)$

where $\dim(Q_{a,i}^\vee) = \Delta_{f,a}(i)$.

Every partial sum $\sum_{a=0}^{\alpha} \Delta_{Q_a}$ is the Hf of a K -alg. generated in deg 1.

(Various restrictions on the possible decompositions (Mgc))



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Gorenstein

Rings

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Our goal was to parameterize the set of poly's $f \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ with a given length for their subschem Z_f

Example

$f = x_1^3 + x_2^2$, $\text{Length}(Z_f) = 5$:

$$1(f) = f = x_1^3 + x_2^2$$

$$y_1(f) = x_1^2 \quad y_2(f) = x_2$$

$$y_1^2(f) = x_1 \quad y_2^2(f) = 1$$

$$y_1^3(f) = 1$$

$$H = 1 \quad 2 \quad 1 \quad 1$$

$$\Delta_0 = 1 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 1$$

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Next step: Characterize poly's f with given symm decomp. for H_f .



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

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Cubic Forms:

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Gorenstein

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A general cubic form $F \in S = \mathbb{C}[y_0, \dots, y_n]$ with **even** local cactus rank $2m$, $m \leq n$ is projectively equivalent to some

$$f_3 + x_0 f_2 + x_0^2 f_1 + x_0^3 f_0$$

where

$$f_3 \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{m-1}]_3,$$

$$f_2 \in \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \cdot \langle x_1, \dots, x_{m-1} \rangle,$$

$$f_1 \in \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle,$$

$$f_0 \in \mathbb{C}.$$

The forms of local cactus rank $2n$ form a family of codimension $\binom{n-1}{2} + 1$ in the space of cubic forms $\mathbb{C}[x_0, \dots, x_n]_3$.



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

[-, J.

Jelisiejew,

P. Macias

Marques,

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Bernardi

A general cubic form $F \in S = \mathbb{C}[y_0, \dots, y_n]$, with **odd** local cactus rank $2m + 1$, $m \leq n$ is projectively equivalent to some

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$$f_0 \in \mathbb{C}.$$

The forms of local cactus rank $2n + 1$, $n > 3$ form a family of codimension $\binom{n-2}{2} - 1$ in the space of cubic forms $\mathbb{C}[x_0, \dots, x_n]_3$.



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Marques,

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Ranestad]

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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For which H_f and which Δ , $v(3, \Delta, n) := \dim(V(3, \Delta, n))$ attains its max given r ? $\implies \max(v(3, \Delta, n)) =$ upper bound for

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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

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Rings

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Varieties of

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Apolar Local

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Varieties of

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Apolar Local

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Gorenstein

Rings

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Jelisiejew,
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Marques,
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Proposition

$r \geq 7$, $v(3, \Delta, n)$ attains its max for

$$\begin{cases} \Delta = (1, m-1, m-1, 1), & r = 2m, \\ \Delta = (1, 1, 1, 1, 1), (0, m-2, m-2, 0), & r = 2m+1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$v(3, \Delta, n) = \begin{cases} M_e := \binom{m+2}{3} + 2m(n-m) + 3m - n - 1, & r = 2m, \\ M_o := \binom{m+2}{3} + 2m(n-m) + 3m - 2, & r = 2m+1. \end{cases}$$



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

[-, J.

Jelisiejew,

P. Macias

Marques,

K.

Ranestad]

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$$\text{Cactus}_r(X_{3,n}) = \overline{\bigcup_{r_1+\dots+r_s} J(W_{r_1,n}, \dots, W_{r_s,n})}$$

$$W_{r,n} = \overline{\bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{S}_1} C_{r,I}} \text{ Local cactus variety}$$

$$C_{r,I} = V_r(3, n) = \bigcup_{I(\Delta) \leq r} V(3, \Delta, n)$$

$$\max(v(3, \Delta, n)) \Rightarrow \text{upper bound for } v_r(3, n), \text{ i.e. for } \dim(C_{r,I})$$

The largest component of $W_{2m,n}$ is the union as I varies, of projective varieties whose affine cones are isomorphic to $V_{2m}(3, n)$, so a parameterization of $W_{2m,n}$ has dimension $v_{2m}(3, n) - 1 + n$.

Similarly, the largest component of $W_{2m+1,n}$ is the union as I varies, of varieties isomorphic to $V_{2m+1}(3, n)$, so a parameterization of $W_{2m+1,n}$ has dimension $v_{2m+1}(3, n) + n$.

BUT parameterization may not be generically finite, the formulas are upper bounds for the dimension of these varieties.



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

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Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

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Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

[-, J.

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Ranestad]

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Bernardi

$$\text{Cactus}_r(X_{3,n}) = \overline{\bigcup_{r_1+\dots+r_s} J(W_{r_1,n}, \dots, W_{r_s,n})}$$

$$W_{r,n} = \overline{\bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{S}_1} C_{r,I}} \text{ Local cactus variety}$$

$$C_{r,I} = V_r(3, n) = \bigcup_{I(\Delta) \leq r} V(3, \Delta, n)$$

$\max(v(3, \Delta, n)) \Rightarrow$ upper bound for $v_r(3, n)$, i.e. for $\dim(C_{r,I})$

The largest component of $W_{2m,n}$ is the union as I varies, of projective varieties whose affine cones are isomorphic to $V_{2m}(3, n)$, so a parameterization of $W_{2m,n}$ has dimension $v_{2m}(3, n) - 1 + n$.

Similarly, the largest component of $W_{2m+1,n}$ is the union as I varies, of varieties isomorphic to $V_{2m+1}(3, n)$, so a parameterization of $W_{2m+1,n}$ has dimension $v_{2m+1}(3, n) + n$.

BUT parameterization may not be generically finite, the formulas are upper bounds for the dimension of these varieties.



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

Artinian

Gorenstein

Rings

[-, J.

Jelisiejew,

P. Macias

Marques,

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Cubic Forms:

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Gorenstein

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Gorenstein

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Proof of the Thm

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Gorenstein

Rings

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We have equality if we show that the parameterization is generically one to one.

When b is even, for a general $[F] \in W_{b,n}$ there is a unique l such that $Z_{F,l}$ has length b .

When b is odd, and there is a unique l such that $f = \pi_l(F)$ is the tail of a quartic polynomial g_l whose apolar scheme Z_{g_l} has length b .

$$\text{So } \dim(\text{Cactus}_r(\mathcal{X}_{3,n})) = \dim W_{r,n}.$$



Proof of the Thm

Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

Apolar Local

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Gorenstein

Rings

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Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Cactus

Varieties of

Cubic Forms:

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Artinian

Gorenstein

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K.

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