

Exercises

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Example 0.1. Let C be a non-singular real algebraic plane curve of degree d . Show that:

- If d is odd, then $C(\mathbb{R})$ has exactly one pseudo-line;
- If d is even, then $C(\mathbb{R})$ has only ovals (also no ovals is possible).

Example 0.2 (Harnack's inequality). Let C be a non-singular real algebraic plane curve of degree d . Denote with l the number of the connected components of $C(\mathbb{R})$. Prove that

$$l \leq \frac{(d-1)(d-2)}{2} + 1$$

applying Bézout theorem.

Example 0.3. Let us consider $\mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C})$ equipped with the anti-holomorphic involution

$$\sigma : ([x_0 : y_0], [x_1 : y_1]) \mapsto ([\bar{x}_1 : \bar{y}_1], [\bar{x}_0 : \bar{y}_0])$$

. Which anti-holomorphic involution on $\mathbb{P}^3(\mathbb{C})$ make the Segre embedding

$$i : \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^3(\mathbb{C})$$

$$([x_0 : y_0], [x_1 : y_1]) \mapsto [x_0x_1 : x_0y_1 : y_0x_1 : y_0y_1]$$

a real map?

Recall: Given $f : \sigma_X \circ X \rightarrow Y \circ \sigma_Y$ between real algebraic varieties, we say that f is real if

$$f \circ \sigma_X = \sigma_Y \circ f$$

Example 0.4. • Let $C \circ \sigma$ be a smooth projective real algebraic curve of genus g . Show that, if C is maximal, then it is separating.

- Let $C \circ \sigma$ be a smooth projective real algebraic plane curve of genus g . Show that, if C has a maximal nest, then it is separating.

Hint: show there exists a map f

$$\sigma \circ C \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{P}^3(\mathbb{C}) \circ \text{conj}$$

such that

1. f is real
2. f has degree d
3. $f^{(-1)}\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{R}) = C(\mathbb{R})$.

Example 0.5. 1. Via Harnack's construction method construct inductively non-singular real maximal plane curves of degree d .

Hint for the induction step: assume that there exists a non-singular real algebraic plane curve A_{n-1} of degree $n-1$ such that:

- exactly one connected component of $A_{n-1}(\mathbb{R})$ intersects a given real line in $n-1$ real points;
- A_{n-1} is maximal.

2. Which real schemes may a real maximal plane curve of degree d realise?

Example 0.6. Classify non-singular real algebraic plane curves of degree for all $d \leq 5$.