

# Spherical varieties: Lecture 10

## Classification of sph. varieties

$Y_0 = G/H$  sph. hom. space

Problem: Classify sph. vars.  $X \supset Y_0$   
open  $G$ -orbit

Luna-Vust '1983, Knop '1991

## Birational invariants

### 1) Weight lattice

$$B \curvearrowright k(X) = k(Y_0), \quad (b \cdot f)(x) = f(b^{-1} \cdot x)$$

Group of  $B$ -semi-inv. rat. functions:

$$\begin{aligned} k(X)^{(B)} &= \{f \in k(X) \setminus 0 \mid b \cdot f = \lambda(b) \cdot f, \forall b \in B, \text{ for some } \lambda \in \Lambda(B)\} \\ &= k(Y_0)^{(B)} \end{aligned}$$

Weight lattice  $\Lambda_X = \Lambda_{Y_0} = \{ \lambda \in \Lambda(B) \mid \exists f_\lambda \in k(X)^{(B)} \text{ of wt. } \lambda \}$

$\uparrow$   
 unique up to scalar mult.:  
 $f'_\lambda / f_\lambda \in k(X)^B = k$   
 $= \text{const}$

Exact sequence:

$$1 \longrightarrow k^\times \longrightarrow k(X)^{(B)} \longrightarrow \Lambda_X \longrightarrow 0$$

$$f_\lambda \longmapsto \lambda$$

$Y_0 \supset Y^0$  open B-orbit  
 $\downarrow$   
 $y_0$  base pt.

May choose  $f_\lambda$  s.t.  $f_\lambda(y_0) = 1$

Then:  $f_{\lambda+\mu} = f_\lambda \cdot f_\mu$ ,  $\forall \lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_X$

Rank  $r(X) := \text{rk } \Lambda_X$

Example.  $X = G/P$ ,  $B \subset P \subset G$

Stabilizer  $G_{y_0} = P \Rightarrow U^- \cdot y_0$  open in  $X$   
dense

$$G \supset B^- \cdot B = U^- \cdot B \text{ open subset}$$

$$B^- \cdot P = U^- \cdot P \text{ bigger open subset}$$

$$\forall f \in k(X)^{(B^-)} : f = \text{const} \mid_{U^- \cdot y_0}$$

$$\Rightarrow r(X) = 0$$

## 2) Invariant valuations

Def. **Valuation** of  $k(X)/k$  : a map  $v: k(X)^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$

s.t. (1)  $v(f \cdot g) = v(f) + v(g)$

(2)  $v(f+g) \geq \min \{v(f), v(g)\}$  if  $f+g \neq 0$

$v(0) := +\infty$

(3)  $v(k^\times) = 0$

(4)  $\text{Im}(v) \cong_{\text{or}} \mathbb{Z}$

Exercise 1:  $\textcircled{=}$  holds in (2) if  $v(f) \neq v(g)$

Basic example:  $X \supset D$  prime divisor



valuation  $v_D$ ,  $v_D(f) := \text{ord}_D f$

Example.  $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \ni \infty$ ,  $k(\mathbb{P}^1) = k(A^1) = k(t)$   
 $f \in k(t)$ ,  $f = \frac{p}{q}$ ,  $p, q \in k[t]$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow v_\infty(f) &= v_\infty(p) - v_\infty(q) \\ &= \deg(q) - \deg(p) \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2: Suppose  $X$  quasialf.

Prove: every map  $v: k[X] \setminus 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$   
satisfying (1), (2), (3) and s.t.

$\text{Im}(v) \subset \text{cyclic subgroup of } \mathbb{Q}$   
uniquely extends to a val. of  $k(x)/k$

$X$  spherical  $\Rightarrow 1 \rightarrow k^X \rightarrow k(X)^{(B)} \rightarrow \Lambda_X \rightarrow 0$   
 $v$  val. of  $k(X)/k$

$\downarrow$   
 $0$

$\in$

$\downarrow v$   
 $\mathbb{Q}$

$\swarrow$   
 lin. function  $\bar{v}$

Lemma 1. G-inv. valuation  $v$  uniquely determined by  $\bar{v}$

Proof: Quasiaff. case.  $X$  quasiaff.  $\Rightarrow$   $v$  uniquely determined by  $v|_{k[X]}$  Exc. 2

$$k[x] = \bigoplus_{\lambda} k[x]_{(\lambda)},$$

$$k[x]_{(\lambda)} \cong V(\lambda)$$

$f_\lambda$  ht. wt. vector

G-inv. filtration :  $k[x] = \bigcup_{c \in \mathbb{Q}} k[x]_{\geq c}$   
(decreasing)

$$k[x]_{\geq c} = \{f \in k[x] \mid v(f) \geq c\}$$

$$\forall \lambda \forall c : \text{either } k[X]_{\geq c} \supset k[X]_{(\lambda)} \\ \text{or } k[X]_{\geq c} \cap k[X]_{(\lambda)} = 0$$

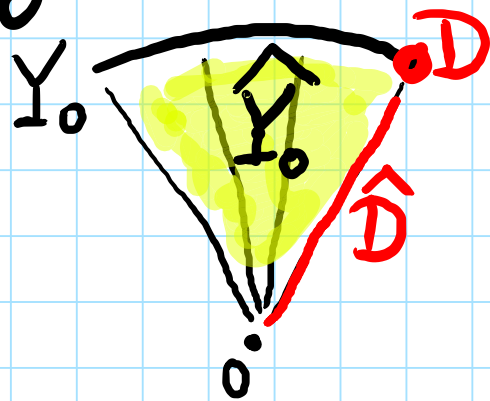
$$\text{Hence : } v = \text{const on } k[X]_{(\lambda)} \setminus 0 \\ \Rightarrow k[X]_{\geq c} = \bigoplus_{\langle \bar{v}, \lambda \rangle \geq c} k[X]_{(\lambda)}$$

$$\forall f \in k[X] \setminus 0 : f = \sum_i f_i, \quad f_i \in k[X]_{(\lambda_i)}$$

$$\Rightarrow v(f) = \max \{ c \in \mathbb{Q} \mid f \in k[X]_{\geq c} \} \\ = \min_i \langle \bar{v}, \lambda_i \rangle$$

General case.

May assume  $X = Y_0 \simeq G \cdot [v] \subset \mathbb{P}(V)$



$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \text{proj.} \\ \hat{Y}_0 = \hat{G} \cdot v \subset V \\ \hat{G} = G \times \mathbb{A}^1 \end{array}$$

$$k(Y_0) \subset k(\hat{Y}_0) = k(Y_0)(t), \quad t \in V^*(B) \Big|_{\hat{Y}_0}$$

$v \rightsquigarrow \hat{v}$  val. of  $k(\hat{Y}_0)/k$

$$\hat{v}(t) = 0$$

$$f = \sum_k f_k \cdot t^k \in k(Y_0)[t] \Rightarrow \hat{v}(f) := \min_k v(f_k)$$

$$f = p/q, \quad p, q \in k(Y_0)[t] \Rightarrow \hat{v}(f) = \hat{v}(p) - \hat{v}(q)$$

**Exercise 3:** Check that  $\hat{v}$  is indeed a valuation

Geom. meaning: if  $v$  corresponds to a prime divisor  $D$   
then  $\hat{v}$  corresponds to  $\hat{D}$

Lemma 2.  $\forall$  val.  $v$  of  $k(X)/k \quad \exists G$ -inv. val  $\tilde{v}$

(approximation lemma) s.t.  $\forall f \in k(X) \quad \exists$  open  $U \subset G$

$$\forall g \in U: v(g \cdot f) = \tilde{v}(f)$$

Apply Lemma 2 to  $\hat{v} \rightsquigarrow \hat{G}$ -inv. val  $\tilde{v}$  of  $k(\hat{Y}_0)/k$   
 $\tilde{v} = v$  on  $k(Y_0)$