

X smooth proj. varieties $\rightsquigarrow D^b(X)$ bounded derived category.

Q: $X \subset \mathbb{P}^5$ general cubic 4-fold: is it rational?

«Kuznetsov's proposal»: semi-orthogonal decompositions in birational geometry.

Rationality: $X \cong_{\text{bir}} Y$ birational if $k(X) \cong k(Y) \Leftrightarrow \exists U \subset X, V \subset Y$
open sets such that $U \cong V$.

Def: X is called rational if $X \cong_{\text{bir}} \mathbb{P}^n$ i.e. $k(X) \cong k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$.

X is called stably rational if $X \times \mathbb{P}^m$ rational for some m .

X is called unirational if \exists dominant rational map $\mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow X$

X is called rationally connected if $\forall p, q \in X$ general $\exists \mathbb{P}^1 \xrightarrow{f} X$
s.t. $p, q \in f(\mathbb{P}^1)$.

Ex: dim 1: smooth alg curve C is rational $\Leftrightarrow C = \mathbb{P}^1$ and all are equivalent:

$$\left[\text{If } f: \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow C \text{ nonconstant} \Rightarrow f^*: H^0(C, K_C) \hookrightarrow H^0(\mathbb{P}^1, K_{\mathbb{P}^1}) \xrightarrow{\cong} 0 \right]$$
 $C \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ $H^0(C, K_C) \cong 0$ $H^0(\mathbb{P}^1, K_{\mathbb{P}^1}) \cong 0$

In fact $h^0(K_X) = \{ \text{global holom. } n\text{-forms} \}_{n=\dim X}$ is a birational invariant.

Also plurigeners $h^0(rK_X), \dots$

Exercise: X rationally connected \Rightarrow all plurigeners vanish.

In dim = 2, see Castelnuovo criteria.

Artin-Mumford invariant: Thm $H^3(X, \mathbb{Z})$ not birat. invariant
but $Tors(H^3(X, \mathbb{Z}))$ is a stable birat. invariant, in fact,

$$X \times \mathbb{P}^r \xrightarrow{\text{bir}} Y \times \mathbb{P}^1 \Rightarrow \text{Tors}(H^3(X, \mathbb{Z})) = \text{Tors}(H^3(Y, \mathbb{Z})) \quad (2)$$

Proof: $H^3(X \times \mathbb{P}^1, \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^3(X, \mathbb{Z}) \oplus \underbrace{H^1(X, \mathbb{Z})}_{\text{Has no torsion by universal coefficient theorem}}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tors}(H^3(X, \mathbb{Z})) \simeq \text{Tors}(H^3(X \times \mathbb{P}^1, \mathbb{Z}))$$

Left to prove: $X \xrightarrow{\text{bir}} Y \Rightarrow \text{Tors}(H^3(X, \mathbb{Z})) \simeq \text{Tors}(H^3(Y, \mathbb{Z}))$

Use Zariski's weak factorization

Thm: $X \xrightarrow{\text{bir}} Y \Leftrightarrow \exists$ sequence $X_0 = X \xleftarrow{Z_1} X_1 \xleftarrow{Z_2} X_2 \xleftarrow{\dots} X_n = Y$

where every morphism $Z_i: X_i \rightarrow X_{i-1}$ is a blow-up at a smooth subvariety:

$$\text{Ex: } \begin{array}{ccc} D \subset \text{Bl}_W(X) & & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \\ W \subset X & \text{sub.} & \end{array} \quad X \setminus W \simeq \text{Bl}_W X \setminus D$$

Therefore it suffices to show that $\text{Tors} H^3(X, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tors} H^3(\text{Bl}_W X, \mathbb{Z})$

$$H^3(\text{Bl}_W X, \mathbb{Z}) \simeq H^3(X, \mathbb{Z}) \oplus \underbrace{H^1(W, \mathbb{Z})}_{\text{No torsion}}$$

Artin-Mumford example: $S \subset \mathbb{P}^3$ quartic surface $p \in S$ node (A₁ sing.)
 «K3 surface»

$$X \xrightarrow{2:1} \mathbb{P}^3 \text{ ramified over } S$$

Near p , X has local equation $w^2 = g(x, y, z)$ where $g(x, y, z)$ local equation of a quartic, then X also has a node at p .

Projection $\mathbb{P}^3 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$ from p , then it is double cover $S \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$

$\Rightarrow \text{Bl}_p S \xrightarrow{2:1} \mathbb{P}^2$ ramified along a sextic curve. Then Artin-Mumford impose the condition $C = E_1 \cup E_2$

$\Rightarrow S$ has 10 nodes total.

Artin-Mumford: $H^3(X, \mathbb{Z})$ has torsion (eg $C = E_1 \cup E_2$) and so it is not rational. (3)

Simple geometric argument shows that X has a rational double cover $\Rightarrow X$ is unirational (true any C)

Clair's theorem: X is not rational for a general C .

Semi-orthogonal decompositions: linear algebraic version

- V vector space ($\dim V < \infty$) with a bilinear form (\cdot, \cdot)
 $(u, v) = u^t B v$, $B = \text{Gram matrix}$
Do not assume that B is symmetric or skew-symmetric (Colbi-Yau condition on geom. context), but assume it is not degenerate (ie, B invertible $\Leftrightarrow \forall u \in V, u \neq 0, \exists v (u, v) \neq 0$).
- $U \subset V$ is called admissible if $(\cdot, \cdot)|_U$ is not degenerate

$$\text{Equivalently, } U^\perp = \{v \in V : (u, v) = 0 \forall u \in U\}$$
$${}^\perp U = \{v \in V : (v, u) = 0 \forall u \in U\}$$

$$U \text{ is admissible} \Leftrightarrow V = U \oplus {}^\perp U \Leftrightarrow V = U^\perp \oplus U \quad (\text{Two step semi-orthogonal decom.})$$

Equivalently, $U \subset V$ is admissible $\Leftrightarrow i: U \hookrightarrow V$ (linear map) has a left and right adjoint maps $i^*, i^!: V \rightarrow U$

$$\forall u \in U, v \in V \quad (i(u), v) = (u, i^!(v)) \quad (v, i(u)) = (i^*(v), u)$$

Indeed, $i^!(v)$ is a projection of v onto U along ${}^\perp U$

$$V = U \oplus {}^\perp U$$

$$v \mapsto i^!(v)$$

and $i^*(v)$ is a projection of v onto U along U^\perp .

Def 1 A Semi-orthog. decomp (SOD) of V is a decomposition of $V = \mathcal{U}_1 \oplus \mathcal{U}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{U}_r$ such that $(u_i, u_j) = 0 \quad i > j$. (4)

Special case: $\dim \mathcal{U}_i = 1$, $u_i = \langle e_i \rangle$ we can assume $(e_i, e_i) = 1$

Then we say: Semi-orthonormal basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ of V $(e_i, e_i) = 1$
 $(e_i, e_j) = 0 \quad \forall i > j$.

So Gram matrix $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & * \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Example: $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \delta \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\delta \in \mathbb{Z} > 0$.

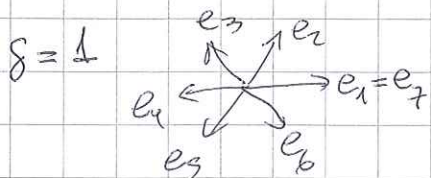
$\{e_1, e_2\}$ is orthonormal. Define $e_i \in V \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}$,
 $e_{i-1} + e_{i+1} = \delta e_i \quad \forall i$

Claim: $\{e_i, e_{i+1}\}$ is also an orthonormal basis with some B .

Induction on i : Suppose $\{e_i, e_{i+1}\}$ and show $\{e_i, e_{i+1}\}$ is orthonormal
 $e_{i+1} = \delta e_i - e_{i-1}$

$$(e_{i+1}, e_{i+1}) = \delta^2 (e_i, e_i) - \delta \underbrace{(e_i, e_{i-1})}_0 - \delta \underbrace{(e_{i-1}, e_i)}_{\frac{1}{\delta}} + (e_{i+1}, e_{i+1}) = 1$$

~~Example~~ $\dots, e_{-1}, e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, \dots$ mutations.



$\delta > 1 \Rightarrow$ all e_i 's are different (∞ many)

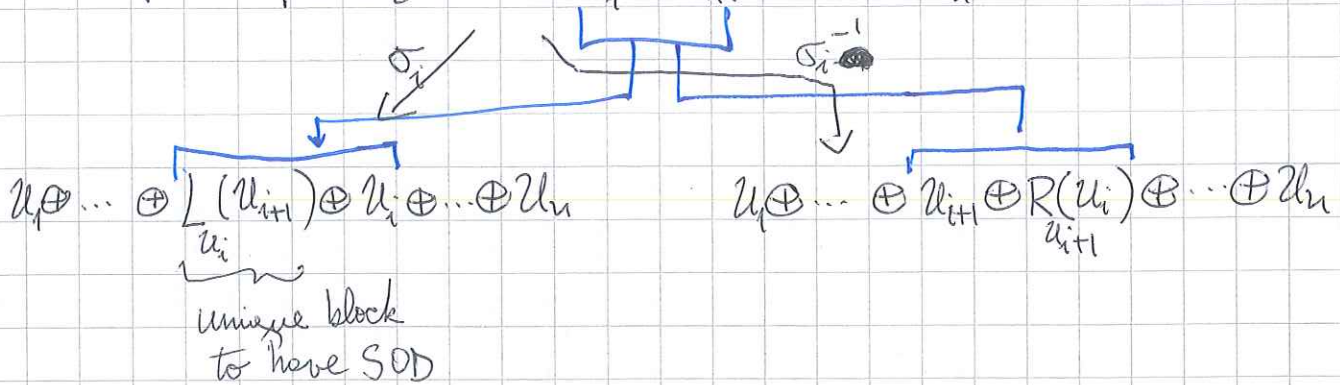
mutations of semi-orthogonal decomp:

$$V = \mathcal{U}_1 \oplus \mathcal{U}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{U}_i \oplus \mathcal{U}_{i+1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{U}_n$$

$$V = \mathcal{U}_1 \oplus \mathcal{U}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{U}_i \oplus \mathcal{U}_{i+1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{U}_n$$

SOD

(5)

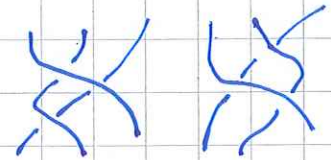


This gives an action of the braid group B_n on the set of SOD groupes de bases.

Artin generators :

Artin relations : $\sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i \quad i > j+1$

Artin braid relations : $\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1}$



These relations are satisfied for mutations of SOD.