# Parametrizing rational algebraic curves using integral bases 

Based on a 1994 paper by Mark Van Hoeij

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## Algebraic curves and parametrization



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\left\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{2}: x^{2}+y^{2}=1\right\}
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Implicit representation

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Parametrization algorithms:

- Sendra, Winkler 1991, 1997
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- All elements of $K$ are algebraic
- Let $\beta \in K$, there exists $a_{i}, b_{i} \in \mathbb{Z}, d \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

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\beta^{d}=\frac{a_{0}}{b_{0}}+\frac{a_{1}}{b_{1}} \beta+\cdots+\frac{a_{d-1}}{b_{d-1}} \beta^{d-1}
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- The monic minimal polynomial of $\beta$ is $\mu_{\beta}=X^{d}-\frac{a_{d-1}}{b_{d-1}} X^{d-1}-\cdots-\frac{a_{0}}{b_{0}} \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$ (with $d$ minimal)


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- $\beta$ is integral if all the $b_{i}$ are 1 , or equivalently if $\mu_{\beta} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$
- The set $\mathcal{O}_{K}$ of integral elements of $K$ is called the ring of integers of $K$


## Examples

Recall: $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_{K} \Longleftrightarrow$ its monic minimal polynomial has coefficients in $\mathbb{Z}$

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- Let $K=\mathbb{Q}[i]$, then $\mathcal{O}_{K}=\mathbb{Z}[i]$
- Let $K=\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{5}]$, then $\varphi=\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ is integral with $\varphi^{2}-\varphi-1=0$ and $\mathcal{O}_{K}=\mathbb{Z}[\varphi]$


## Integral bases

- Let $K=\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)=\mathbb{Q}[X] /\langle f\rangle$ be a finite extension of $\mathbb{Q}$ of degree $n$
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- Let $\mathcal{B}=\left(1, \alpha_{1}, \ldots, \alpha_{n-1}\right)$ be an integral basis of $K$
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- Integral bases can be effectively computed (Trager, Van Hoeij)


## Summary: integral bases of number fields

66 Let $K=\mathbb{Q}[X] /\langle f\rangle$ be a finite extension of $\mathbb{Q}$ with degree $n$. An element $\beta \in K$ has a monic minimal polynomial $\mu \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$, and $\beta$ is integral if $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$.

The set of integral elements in $K$ is denoted by $\mathcal{O}_{K}$, it is a free $\mathbb{Z}$-module with rank $n$.
An integral basis of $K$ is a basis of $\mathcal{O}_{K}$ as a $\mathbb{Z}$-module.
Let $\mathcal{B}=\left\{1, b_{1}, \ldots, b_{n-1}\right\}$ be an integral basis of $K$ and $\beta \in K$. $\beta$ is integral if and only if all its coefficients in $\mathcal{B}$ lie in $\mathbb{Z}$.

## Integral bases of function fields

66 Let $K=k(X)[Y] /\langle f\rangle$ be a finite extension of $k(X)$ with degree $n$. An element $\beta \in K$ has a monic minimal polynomial $\mu \in k(X)[Y]$, and $\beta$ is integral if $\mu \in k[X][Y]$.

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- $\beta$ is locally integral at $x$ if it does not have any pole at $(x, \bullet) \in \mathcal{C}$
- A local integral basis of $K$ at $X=x$ is a basis $\mathcal{B}=\left(1, \alpha_{1}, \ldots, \alpha_{n-1}\right)$ of $K$ such that
- All $\alpha_{i}$ are locally integral at $x$
- $\beta \in K$ is locally integral at $x$ iff its coeffs in $\mathcal{B}$ do not have $X-x$ at the denominator


## What is parametrizing?

Data: $f(X, Y) \in k[X, Y]$ irreducible, $\mathcal{C}=\{(x, y): f(x, y)=0\}$
Goal: find $x(T), y(T) \in k(T)$ such that

- for almost all $t \in k,(x(t), y(t)) \in \mathcal{C}$
- for almost all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{C}$, there exists $t \in k$ such that $x=x(t), y=y(t)$


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There is a morphism of fields:

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There is an isomorphism of fields:

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\begin{aligned}
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Y & \longmapsto y(T) \\
t(X, Y) & \longleftrightarrow T
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Goal: find $x(T), y(T) \in k(T)$ and $t(X, Y) \in k(X)[Y] /\langle f\rangle$ such that

- $f(x(T), y(T))=0$ in $k(T)$
- $K(t(X, Y))=K(X)[Y] /\langle f\rangle$

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$$

Such a $t(X, Y)$ is called a parameter for the curve.

## How to compute a parameter?

## Characterization:

$t(X, Y) \in k(X)[Y] /\langle f\rangle$ is a parameter iff it has exactly one pole, with multiplicity 1 , on $\mathcal{C}$
Example 1


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Where is the pole of $t$ ?

## Points at infinity

$$
f(x, y)=0
$$


$x y-1=0$

## Points at infinity

$$
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$$
\begin{aligned}
& x y-1=0 \\
& (z \neq 0)
\end{aligned} \quad x y-z^{2}=0
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## Points at infinity



$x y-1=0$
$(z \neq 0)$
$(z \neq 0)$

$x y-z^{2}=0$

$$
\begin{gathered}
y-z^{2}=0 \\
(x \neq 0)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Points at infinity



Finite plane

$x y-1=0$
$(z \neq 0)$
$x y-z^{2}=0$


$$
\begin{gathered}
y-z^{2}=0 \\
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Back to example 2: pole at infinity

$\longrightarrow t \in k$

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Input: a polynomial $f \in k[X, Y]$ defining a curve $\mathcal{C}$
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1. $f$ is irreducible

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1. $f$ is irreducible
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3. $f_{h}(0: 1: 0) \neq 0$

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Key idea: $t$ is a parameter iff it has exactly one pole on $\mathcal{C}$ (including at infinity)

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3. $f_{h}(0: 1: 0) \neq 0$

Key idea: $t$ is a parameter iff it has exactly one pole on $\mathcal{C}$ (including at infinity)

- Integral bases tell us which functions do not have poles


## Full problem

Input: a polynomial $f \in k[X, Y]$ defining a curve $\mathcal{C}$, a point $(x, y) \in \mathcal{C}$
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- ... but only on finite parts
- ... and we need a function with 1 pole


## Overview of the algorithm

Split the projective plane into:

- The finite plane $A:=\{z \neq 0\}$
- Part of the line at infinity $B:=\{x \neq 0, z=0\}$
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5. $P+Q$ is our parameter $t$
6. Finding a function with one pole


## 1. Finding a function with one pole

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## Construction

1. Write $f(x, Y)=(Y-y) g(Y)$ with $g(y) \neq 0$
2. $P$ is $\frac{g(Y)}{X-x}$


## 2. Equations characterizing functions with no pole in $A$

1. Compute an integral basis $b_{0}, \ldots, b_{n-1}$ of $k(x)[y] /\langle f\rangle$
2. $Q$ does not have a pole in $A$ iff $Q \in k[x] b_{0}+\cdots+k[x] b_{n-1}$
3. Write an Ansatz $Q=\frac{\sum_{i+j \leq N} a_{i j} x^{i} y^{j}}{D(x)}$ where $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $D \in k[x]$ are "sufficiently big"
4. Multiply out the denominators
5. Use reductions (e.g. ala Gröbner) to write $D Q=\bullet(x) D b_{0}+\bullet(x) D b_{n-1}+r(x, y)$
6. The coefficients of $r$ are linear in the $a_{i j}$, set them to 0 and obtain a system of equations

## 3. Equations characterizing functions with no poles in $B$

1. Compute an local integral basis $c_{0}, \ldots, c_{n-1}$ of $k(z)[y] /\left\langle f_{z}\right\rangle$
2. $P+Q$ does not have a pole in $B \backslash A$ iff $P+Q \in k[x]_{(z)} b_{0}+\cdots+k[x]_{(z)} b_{n-1}$
3. Forget the denominators not divisible by $z$
4. Multiply out the rest of the denominators $z^{d}$
5. Use reductions (e.g. ala Gröbner) to write $z^{d}(P+Q)=\bullet(x) z^{d} c_{0}+\bullet(x) z^{d} c_{n-1}+s(x, y)$
6. The coefficients of $s$ are linear in the $a_{i j}$, set them to 0 and obtain a system of equations

## Full process

1. Split $\mathcal{C}$ into $(\mathcal{C} \cap\{z=1\}) \cup(\mathcal{C} \cap\{z=0\})$
2. Compute $P$ with exactly one pole at finite distance
3. Write an Ansatz for $Q=\frac{\sum_{i+j \leq N} a_{i j} x^{i} y^{j}}{D(x)}$
4. Compute an integral basis of $k(x)[y] /\langle f\rangle$
5. Find a linear system in the $a_{i j}$ ensuring that $Q$ does not have a pole at finite distance
6. Compute an integral basis of $k(z)[y] /\left\langle f_{z}\right\rangle$
7. Find a linear system in the $a_{i j}$ ensuring that $P+Q$ does not have a pole at infinity
8. Solve the equations and find $t=P+Q$

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8. Solve the equations and find $t=P+Q$
9. Eliminate $Y$ from the system $(T-t, f)$ and solve in $X$ to find $x(T)$
10. Eliminate $X$ from the system $(T-t, f)$ and solve in $Y$ to find $y(T)$
