

§ Generalities about cones.

Def. A cone $\sigma \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a non-empty convex subset satisfying

- 1) $\forall u, v \in \sigma, u+v \in \sigma,$
- 2) $\forall u \in \sigma$ and $\forall r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, ru \in \sigma.$ (Note that $\vec{0} \in \sigma$ automatically)

Attributes of cones. A cone $\sigma \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is

• Closed if it is closed in the Euclidean topology.

• pointed provided it contains no line through $\vec{0}.$

• rational polyhedral if

$$\sigma = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m r_i v_i \mid r_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \right\},$$

for some $v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n.$ (This implies closed.)

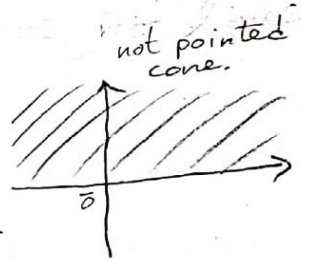
• full-dimensional if σ spans $\mathbb{R}^n.$

Hw. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a linear functional. Define the cone

$$\sigma := \{ y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(y) \geq 0 \}.$$

1) Show that σ is a cone. (This implies closed.)

2) Show that if σ is full-dimensional, then σ is pointed.



§ Cones of effective k -cycles.

X irr. smooth proj. var. of dim n . Let $0 \leq k \leq n$.

Recall the group homomorphisms

$$A_k(X) \rightarrow B_k(X) \rightarrow N_k(X)$$

Recall that $A_k(X)$ may not be finitely generated (for instance $A_0(X)$ where X is a curve of positive genus).

● However, $N_k(X)$ is a finitely generated abelian group (Fulton, "Intersection Theory", Example 19.1.4)

● Moreover, $N_k(X)$ is torsion free: assume $\alpha = [\sum n_Y Y]$ in $N_k(X)$ satisfies $m\alpha = 0$ for some integer $m \geq 2$. Then $(n-k)$ -cycle $B \in Z_{n-k}(X)$, $(\sum n_Y Y) \cdot B = \frac{1}{m} (m \sum n_Y Y) \cdot B = 0$, so $\sum n_Y Y$ is numerically trivial, which implies $\alpha = 0$.

So $N_k(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}^r$ for some $r \geq 0$. In particular,

$N_k(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} =: N_k(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ is a finite dim. real vector space.

Def. Let

● $\text{Eff}_k(X) = \left\{ \sum_{\substack{Y \in X \\ \text{closed} \\ \text{irr. } k\text{-dim} \\ \text{subvar.}}} a_Y Y \mid a_Y \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ all zero but finitely many of them} \right\}$

It is clear from the definition that

$\text{Eff}_k(X)$ is a cone. It is called the cone of effective k -cycles. The closure $\overline{\text{Eff}_k(X)}$ is also a cone called the cone of pseudo-effective k -cycles.

Rmk

1) $\text{Eff}_k(X)$ is full-dimensional, as it spans $N_k(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ (immediate from definition). Hence also $\overline{\text{Eff}_k(X)}$ is full-dimensional.

2) $\text{Eff}_k(X)$ is pointed. By contradiction, assume $\exists \alpha \in \text{Eff}_k(X) \setminus \{0\}$ s.t. $-\alpha \in \text{Eff}_k(X) \setminus \{0\}$.

Let $D \in A_{n-1}(X)$ be an ample divisor on X .

Then $\alpha \cdot D^k > 0$ & $(-\alpha) \cdot D^k > 0$ since both α and $-\alpha$ are effective.
Hence $0 < \alpha \cdot D^k + (-\alpha) \cdot D^k = (\alpha - \alpha) \cdot D^k = 0 \cdot D^k = 0$,
which cannot be.

Also $\overline{\text{Eff}_k(X)}$ is pointed: see Fulger-Lehmann, "Positive cones of dual cycle classes", 2017.

Ex. Let $0 \leq k \leq n$, and let $L_k \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ be a k -dim linear subspace. Recall that $A_k(\mathbb{P}^n) = \mathbb{Z}[L_k]$.

Note that $A_k(\mathbb{P}^n) = N_k(\mathbb{P}^n)$ as \mathbb{P}^n is an H1 space. So $N_k(\mathbb{P}^n)_{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R}[L_k]$, and

$$\text{Eff}_k(\mathbb{P}^n) = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[L_k] = \overline{\text{Eff}_k(\mathbb{P}^n)}.$$

In what follows, we study more examples of $\text{Eff}_k(X)$ with more intricate structure.

§ The cone of curves of $Bl_p \mathbb{P}^2$.

Let $p \in \mathbb{P}^2$. Let $\sigma: S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$ be the blow up of \mathbb{P}^2 at p .

Let $E \subseteq S$ be the exceptional divisor.

Let $L_p \subseteq \mathbb{P}^2$ be a line s.t. $p \in L_p$. $\hat{L}_p \subseteq S$ strict transform

We show that $\langle [\hat{L}_p], [E] \rangle = \text{Eff}_1(S)$.

↑ cone generated by E and L_p .

Let $C \subseteq S$ be an irreducible curve which is not E .

Let $D := \sigma_* C$, which is a curve in \mathbb{P}^2 of a certain degree $d > 0$. So $D \sim dL_p$. Hence:

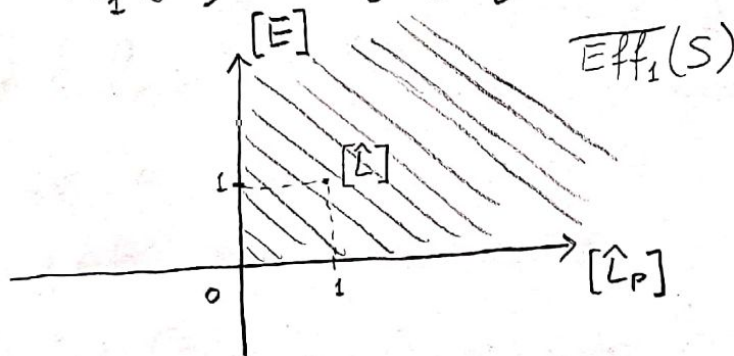
$$\sigma^* D = C + m_p(D) \cdot E$$

$$\sigma^* dL_p = d\sigma^* L_p = d(\hat{L}_p + E)$$

$$\Rightarrow C \sim d\hat{L}_p + (d - m_p(D))E$$

As $d \geq m_p(D)$, we have that $[C] \in \langle [\hat{L}_p], [E] \rangle$.

Hence, $\text{Eff}_1(S) = \langle [\hat{L}_p], [E] \rangle = \overline{\text{Eff}_1(S)}$.



Note:

$L \subseteq \mathbb{P}^2$ line, $p \notin L$. $L \sim L_p + E$.

§ Blow up of \mathbb{P}^2 at the 9 base points of a pencil of cubics.

To understand this we need a preliminary lemma.

Lemma. Let X be a smooth proj. surface, $C \subseteq X$ irreducible curve.

- If $C^2 \leq 0$, then $[C]$ is in the boundary of $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X)$;
- If $C^2 < 0$, then $[C]$ is extremal in $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X)$.

Proof. For a curve C , $l_C: N_1(X)_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t.

- $[D] \mapsto C \cdot D$ defines a linear map, and $\{l_C \geq 0\} \subseteq N_1(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ is a half-space.
- If $C^2 = 0$, then $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X) \subseteq \{l_C \geq 0\}$ and $[C]$ is in the boundary of $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X)$.
- If $C^2 < 0$, then $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X)$ is generated by $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[C]$ and $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X) \cap \{l_C \geq 0\}$.

As $[C] \notin \{l_C \geq 0\}$, $[C]$ is extremal in $\overline{\text{Eff}}_1(X)$. \square