

Jet and arc spaces from a commutative algebra point of view

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CARES

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Outline

Topics:

- Functors of points
- Definition of jets and arcs
- Examples of jets and arcs
- Characterization of jets and arcs
- Jet/arc schemes

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Conventions:

- k is a field (you're welcome to think \mathbf{C} , but the characteristic doesn't matter)
- $R, S, T \in \mathbf{Alg}_k$ (you're welcome to think of finite type, i.e., $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(f_1, \dots, f_s)$)
- $m \in \mathbf{N}$
- For a category \mathcal{C} , $X \in \mathcal{C}$ means X is an object of \mathcal{C}
- I suppress the noodly hypotheses

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 - The “ Y -valued-points” of X are $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Top}}(Y, X)$, for any Y .

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Yoneda Lemma/Corollary. *In any category \mathcal{C} , $X_1 \cong X_2$ if and only if $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, X_1) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, X_2)$.*

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 - Does that mess with the Yoneda Lemma at all? No, work in the opposite category.
- 4 When we have a functor of the form $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(T, -) : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$, we say that T represents the functor.

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Do $J^m R$ and $J^\infty R$ exist?

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Representing objects are unique up to isomorphism, so $J^0 R \cong R$ for any R .

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Therefore the map $k[x, y]/(xy) \rightarrow S[t]/t^3$ is the same as a map $k[a_0, a_1, a_2, b_0, b_1, b_2]/(a_0b_0, a_0b_1 + a_1b_0, a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0) \rightarrow S$.

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In fact, if $\text{char } k \neq 2$, a change of variables allows us:

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A relabeling of variables will enlighten us:

$$J^{2k}[x, y]_{(xy)} \cong k[a_0, a_1, a_2, b_0, b_1, b_2]_{(a_0b_0, a_0b_1 + a_1b_0, a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0)}.$$

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Derivatives!

In fact, if $\text{char } k \neq 2$, a change of variables allows us:

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Theorem. *If $R = k[x_\alpha]/(f_\beta)$ for indices α, β , then*

$$J^m R \cong k[x_\alpha, x_\alpha', \dots, x_\alpha^{(m)}]/(f_\beta, f_\beta', \dots, f_\beta^{(m)})$$

and

$$J^\infty R \cong k[x_\alpha, x_\alpha', \dots]/(f_\beta, f_\beta', \dots).$$

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We know that for affine schemes, we can cook up jet spaces and arc spaces.

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What about a generic (not necessarily affine) scheme?

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Proof.

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Sch}_k}(\text{Spec } S, J^m X) \cong \text{Hom}_{\text{Sch}_k}(\text{Spec } S[t]/t^{m+1}, X).$$

A map $\text{Spec } S[t]/t^{m+1} \rightarrow X$ factors through V if and only if $\text{Spec } S \rightarrow \text{Spec } S[t]/t^{m+1} \rightarrow X$ factors through V . \square

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So now we have a scheme X , an affine cover $\{U_i\}$, and a characterization of the m jets of any $V \subseteq X$; when they exist, they are $J^m V \cong \pi_m^{-1} V$.

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By our characterization, for all i and j , $J^m(U_i \cap U_j)$ is both

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So the jets of the affine cover canonically agree along their intersections.

Thus we can glue all the $\{J^m U_i\}$ along these intersections to get a well-defined scheme.

Jet/arc schemes

It is then straightforward to see that this scheme, which we will call $J^m X$, is the representing object of the functor $S \mapsto \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sch}_k}(\mathrm{Spec} S[t]/t^{m+1}, X)$.

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In other words:

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sch}_k}(\mathrm{Spec} S, J^m X) \cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sch}_k}(\mathrm{Spec} S[t]/t^{m+1}, X).$$

Thank you!

Lawrence Ein and Mircea Mustața. *Jet schemes and singularities*. Proceedings of Symposia in Pure Mathematics, p. 505-546. 2009. AMS.