

Jacobians of Compact Riemann Surfaces

Avital Berry

Motivation: Why should we consider compact Riemann surfaces? Let A be an abelian variety over \mathbb{C} . Then $A(\mathbb{C})$ inherits a complex structure as submanifold of $\mathbb{P}^n(\mathbb{C})$. It is a connected compact complex manifold and has an abelian group structure. Note that $A(\mathbb{C}) \cong V/\Lambda$ where $V \cong \mathbb{C}^g$ and $\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$.

Let C be a smooth projective connected curve over \mathbb{C} . Then $C(\mathbb{C})$ is a compact connected Riemann surface. So we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 C & \rightsquigarrow & C(\mathbb{C}) & & \\
 \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & \rightsquigarrow & \\
 J_C & \rightsquigarrow & J_C(\mathbb{C}) \cong V/\Lambda \cong J(C(\mathbb{C})) & & \\
 \nearrow \text{AJ} & & \searrow \text{AJ} & & \\
 C & & C(\mathbb{C}) & &
 \end{array}$$

where $J(X)$ for X a Riemann surface is to be defined. We want to complete the analytic side.

Remark: Every compact connected Riemann surface is an algebraic curve. [2]

For the duration of the talk, unless stated otherwise, X is a compact connected Riemann surface of genus g .

Goals: (i) Define the Jacobian of X , $J(X)$.

(ii) Describe its structure as a complex torus.

We will view it as the quotient $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) / H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}_X)$ which is isomorphic to \mathbb{C}^g / Λ for some lattice Λ .

(iii) Classify line bundles on X .

(iv) Define the first Chern class and use it to identify the Jacobian with a torus.

(v) Show that $J(X) \cong H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)^* / H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ if time permits.

(vi) Play with the Abel-Jacobi map if we have the time.

Definitions: (i) $\text{Div}(X)$ is the free abelian group of points in X .

(ii) A divisor is called principal if it equals

$$\text{div}(f) = \sum_p \text{ord}_p(f) \cdot p$$

where $\mathbb{C}(X)$ is meromorphic functions on X , $\text{ord}_p(f)$ is the order of the pole/zero of $f(p)$, and $f \in \mathbb{C}(X)^\times$.

Notice that div is a homomorphism

$$\mathbb{C}(X)^\times \rightarrow \text{Div}(X)$$

and hence $\text{Princ}(X)$ is a subgroup of $\text{Div}(X)$.

(iii) We call

$$\text{Cl}(X) = \text{Div}(X) / \text{Princ}(X)$$

the divisor class group.

(iv) $\text{Div}^0(X)$ is the kernel of the degree map, i.e.

$\text{deg}: \text{Div}(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \quad \sum_k n_k p_k \mapsto \sum_k n_k$. It is a non-trivial result that principal divisors have degree zero. So we have that $\text{Princ}(X)$ is a subgroup of $\text{Div}^0(X)$ as well.

(v) Denote

$$\text{Cl}^0(X) = \text{Div}^0(X) / \text{Princ}(X).$$

We then have

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Cl}^0(X) \rightarrow \text{Cl}(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0.$$

Theorem: $Cl^0(X)$ can be given the structure of a g -dimensional complex torus, i.e. the quotient of a g -dimensional complex vector space by a lattice.

Definition: The Jacobian of X , $J(X)$, is $Cl^0(X)$ together with the above structure.

Our strategy for the proof is:

- (i) Show $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) / H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}_X)$ is a torus in $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*)$.
- (ii) Show this torus is exactly $Cl^0(X) \subset H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*)$. This will be done by means of showing that both identify with the kernel of the Chern class map

$$c_1: H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) \rightarrow H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

Definitions: (i) A (differential) form on X is a section of the exterior algebra of the cotangent bundle over X . Differential 2-forms can be integrated over X .

(ii) A form α is exact if there exists a form β such that $\alpha = d\beta$

(iii) A form α is closed if $d\alpha = 0$.

(iv) The de Rham complex is the cochain complex

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega^0(X) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(X) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(X) \rightarrow \dots$$

where $\Omega^i(X)$ is smooth functions on X for $i=0$ and i -forms on X for $i>0$. The differential is defined by (a) $d\alpha$ is the differential of α for a 0-form α , (b) $d^2\alpha=0$ for α a 0-form, (c) $d(\alpha \wedge \beta) = d\alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^i(\alpha \wedge d\beta)$.

The cohomology of this complex is the de Rham cohomology. $H_{dR}^i \cong \{\text{closed } i\text{-forms}\} / \{\text{exact } i\text{-forms}\}$.

As a first step we must classify line bundles on X . Let \mathcal{M} be a line bundle on X with $\phi_i: \mathcal{M}(U_i) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{O}_X(U_i)$ local trivialization. Thus $\phi_i \phi_j^{-1}: \mathcal{O}_X(U_{ij}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{O}_X(U_{ij})$. Hence $\phi_i \phi_j^{-1}$ is given by $f_{ij} \in \mathcal{O}_X(U_{ij})^\times$, i.e. f_{ij} is a nowhere zero holomorphic function. We see that

$$f_{ij} f_{jk} f_{ki} = \phi_i \phi_j^{-1} \phi_j \phi_k^{-1} \phi_k \phi_i^{-1} = 1.$$

Therefore f_{ij} defines a 1-cocycle for \mathcal{O}_X^\times .

We have the following isomorphisms

$$\{f_{ij}\} / \sim = \check{H}^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^\times) \xleftarrow{\cong} H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^\times) \cong \{\mathcal{O}_X^\times\text{-torsors}\}.$$

Let P be an \mathcal{O}_X^\times -torsor. So we have the action of \mathcal{O}_X^\times on P . Then we have a line bundle

$$P \times_{\mathcal{O}_X^\times} \mathcal{O}_X \in \text{Pic}(X).$$

Next assume we have a line bundle, \mathcal{M} . We map \mathcal{M} to $\underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{M})$. The action

$$\mathcal{O}_X^\times \times \underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{M})$$

is given by

$$(g, f) \longmapsto f \circ g.$$

One can show $\underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{M}) \times^{\mathcal{O}_X^*} \mathcal{O}_X \cong \mathcal{M}$ and $\underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{P} \times^{\mathcal{O}_X^*} \mathcal{O}_X) \cong \mathcal{P}$ choose a trivializing cover for each. From this you get local isomorphisms to the trivial bundle or trivial torsor and show that they glue nicely on intersections.

From this we get:

Theorem: There is a bijection

$$H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes} \\ \text{of line bundles on } X \end{array} \right\}. \quad \square$$

The short exact sequence (exponential sheaf sequence)

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{e^{2\pi i}} \mathcal{O}_X^* \rightarrow 1$$

gives rise to the exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}_X) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) \rightarrow \dots.$$

This short exact sequence exists since the exponential defines a homomorphism $\mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^*$. For surjectivity let $s \in \mathcal{O}_X^*(U)$ take a cover of U by disks

U_i . Then for each U_i we choose a logarithm and define $t_i := \log_{U_i} s$. So we have that $s|_{U_i} = e^{2\pi\sqrt{-1}t_i}$ and thus the exponential map is surjective. Some normalization of \log_{U_i} might be necessary.

We want to study the first group in the long exact sequence. Consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_X \rightarrow \overset{S^1}{U(1)}_X \rightarrow 0$$

from which we get

$$\dots \rightarrow H^0(X, \mathbb{R}_X) \rightarrow H^0(X, U(1)_X) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}_X) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{R}_X) \rightarrow \dots$$

X is connected and therefore we have a

$$\text{identification } H^0(X, \mathbb{R}_X) \cong \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow U(1) \cong H^0(X, U(1)_X).$$

Hence $H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}_X) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{R}_X)$ is injective. Now we have

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_X \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{cl}}^1 \rightarrow 0$$

$$\downarrow \cong$$

$$A_{\mathbb{R}}^1 \rightarrow A_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

where $C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty}$ is the sheaf of real valued smooth functions and $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{cl}}^1$ is the sheaf of real valued closed forms. The map d is associated with the differential of the de Rham complex of a real manifold. To see that d is surjective let $s \in \mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{cl}}^1(U)$. Take U_i disks. By Poincaré lemma $s|_{U_i}$ is exact. We define t_i by $s|_{U_i} = dt_i$ and we have surjectivity. From this we have

$$\dots \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{cl}}^1(X) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{R}_X) \rightarrow H^1(X, C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty}) \rightarrow \dots$$

An element of $H^1(X, C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty})$ is represented by a cocycle

$f_{ij} \in C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty}(U_{ij})$. Choose a smooth partition of unity ψ_i subordinate to the open cover U_i . Let

$$\phi_i = \sum_k \psi_k f_{ik}.$$

We compute

$$\phi_i - \phi_j = \sum_k \psi_k (f_{ik} - f_{jk}) = *.$$

By the cocycle condition

$$* = \sum_k \psi_k f_{ij} = f_{ij} \sum_k \psi_k = *.$$

Since ψ_k is a partition of unity

$$* = f_{ij}.$$

So f_{ij} is a coboundary and $H^1(X, C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty}) = 0$.

From this we obtain a version of de Rham's theorem:

Theorem:

$$H^1(X, \mathbb{R}_X) \cong \{\text{closed real 1-forms}\} / \{\text{exact real 1-forms}\}.$$

By de Rham's theorem, $H^1(X, \mathbb{R}_X)$ is a $2g$ -dimensional real vector space.

Proof: We have done most of the work, we just note that the image of $C_{\mathbb{R}}^{\infty}(X)$ in $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{ce}}^1(X)$ is by definition the exact forms.

de Rham's theorem and what we have proven give us

$$H^2(X, \mathbb{R}_X) \cong H_{\text{dR}}^2(X) \cong H^2(X, \mathbb{R}).$$

For the dimension, consider the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^{\text{hol}} \rightarrow \Omega_X^{1, \text{hol}} \rightarrow 0.$$

We get a triangle

$$R\Gamma(X, \mathbb{C}_X) \rightarrow R\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X^{\text{hol}}) \rightarrow R\Gamma(X, \Omega_X^{1, \text{hol}}) \rightarrow \dots.$$

Therefore

$$\chi(\mathbb{C}_X) - \chi(\Omega_X^{1, \text{hol}}) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_X^{\text{hol}})$$

$$2 - \dim_{\mathbb{C}} H^1(X, \mathbb{C}_X) + g - 1 = 1 - g$$

$$\dim_{\mathbb{R}} H^1(X, \mathbb{R}_X) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} H^1(X, \mathbb{C}_X) = 2g. \quad \square$$

Consider next $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}_X) \subset H^2(X, \mathbb{R}_X)$. Like for \mathbb{R} we have an isomorphism

$$H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}_X) \cong H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}).$$

$H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}_X)$ can be identified with the subgroup represented by closed 1-forms α such that

$$\int_{\gamma} \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$$

for all closed loops $\gamma \subset X$. It is sufficient to check for $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{2g}$ a homology basis of $H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$. Therefore $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}_X)$ forms a lattice inside $H^2(X, \mathbb{R}_X)$.

Theorem: $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ forms a lattice inside $H^2(X, \mathbb{C}_X)$.

Therefore the quotient is a g -dimensional complex torus.

Proof: Since $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ is a lattice in $H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$, we need to construct an isomorphism $\pi: H^2(X, \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ compatible with the maps $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$. The map π is the one induced by $\mathbb{R}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$. It is not obvious, but we have the following isomorphisms [3]

$$H^2(X, \mathbb{R}) \cong \{\text{harmonic real 1-forms}\},$$

$$H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \cong \{\text{antiholomorphic 1-forms}\}.$$

Given α we have $\pi(\alpha) = \alpha^{(0,1)} \in H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$.

$$H^2(X, \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{\pi} H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$$

$$\cong \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \cong$$

$$\{\text{h.r. 1-forms}\} \xrightarrow{\pi} \{\text{a.h. 1-forms}\}$$

$$f_1(z)dz + f_2(z)d\bar{z} \mapsto f_2(z)d\bar{z}$$

The inverse is the map sending $\beta \in H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ to $\beta + \bar{\beta} \in H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$. □

Now that we have shown that the image of $H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ in $H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*)$ is a torus. Recall

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) & \hookrightarrow & H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X) & \longrightarrow & H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) & \longrightarrow & H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 0 \\
 & \searrow & \cong \downarrow & & & & \cong \downarrow \\
 & & H^2(X, \mathbb{R}) & & & & \mathbb{Z}
 \end{array}$$

We can proceed to show that $Cl^0(X)$ coincides with the image of $H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$. For this we start by defining the first Chern class.

Proposition: \mathcal{M} lies in the image of $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ iff $c_1(\mathcal{M})=0$. Where c_1 is the connecting homomorphism $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) \rightarrow H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ and $c_1(\mathcal{M})=c_1([f_{ij}])$.

To understand c_1 better we will show another interpretation of it. We can map $c_1(\mathcal{M})$ to $H^2(X, \mathbb{C}_X) \cong H^2(X, \mathbb{C}) \cong H_{dR, \mathbb{C}}^2(X)$ under the embedding $\mathbb{Z}_X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_X$. Then $c_1(\mathcal{M})$ is a differential form. We have a commutative diagram with exact rows

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & \mathbb{Z}_X & \rightarrow & \mathcal{O}_X & \rightarrow & \mathcal{O}_X^* \rightarrow 1 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} d \log \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \mathbb{C}_X & \rightarrow & \mathcal{O}_X & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega_X^1 \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where $d \log f = df/f$. We have

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \rightarrow & H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) & \rightarrow & H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) & \rightarrow & H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(X, \mathbb{C}_X) \rightarrow \dots \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \dots & \rightarrow & H^1(X, \mathbb{C}_X) & \rightarrow & H^1(X, \Omega_X^1) \xrightarrow{\cong} & H^2(X, \mathbb{C}) & \rightarrow H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \xrightarrow{=0} \dots \end{array}$$

from which we get that $c_1([f_{ij}])$ is the coboundary of

$$w_{ij} := \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} d \log(f_{ij}).$$

w_{ij} is a holomorphic 1-form (can be thought of as smooth).

By a partition of unity argument we can find α_i such that $w_{ij} = \alpha_i - \alpha_j$. Let $\beta_i = d\alpha_i$. When restricting to U_{ij} we get

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_i - \beta_j &= d\alpha_i - d\alpha_j = dw_{ij} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} d d \log(f_{ij}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

So the β_i glue nicely. β is a 2-form and X is 2-dimensional (real) so we can integrate β over X to get a number in \mathbb{C} because X is compact. Since there is an isomorphism $H^2(X, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}$ we can treat $c_1(M)$ as a number.

Proposition: $c_1(\mathcal{O}(D)) = \pm \deg D$ for a divisor D .

Proof: Suppose $X = \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$, $D = 1 \cdot 0$. Then

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \rightarrow & H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) & \rightarrow & H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*) & \rightarrow & H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow \cdots \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ & & 0 & & \mathbb{Z} \cdot \mathcal{O}(1) & & \mathbb{Z} \\ & & & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ & & & & \mathbb{Z} & & 0 \end{array}$$

So $c_1(\mathcal{O}(1)) = \pm 1 = \deg \mathcal{O}(1)$. We claim this case is sufficient.

Let X be arbitrary again. Suppose $D = n \cdot x$. By Riemann-Roch if $n \gg 0$ is large enough there exists $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$ such that $\mathcal{O}(D) = f^* \mathcal{O}(1)$ and $D = f^{-1}(0)$ as sets. Therefore

$$\begin{array}{ccc} c_1(\mathcal{O}(D)) = f^* c_1(\mathcal{O}(1)) \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \mathbb{Z} \\ & \begin{array}{ccc} f^* \uparrow & (*) & \uparrow \deg f = n \\ & H^2(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1, \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cong} & \mathbb{Z} \end{array} & \end{array}$$

Provided that $(*)$ commutes, we are done. But we can view $\mathcal{O}(1)$ as the line bundle associated to x as a divisor and then $f^* \mathcal{O}(x)$ is the line bundle associated to $f^*(x)$. So then we have $\deg f^*(x) = \deg f \cdot \deg(x)$ which

implies $\deg f = n$. □

This completes the proof of the first theorem.

We want to give another description of $J(X)$. We have

$$H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \xrightarrow{\phi} H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)^*$$

$$w \mapsto (\beta \mapsto \int_X \beta \wedge w).$$

where w is viewed as an antiholomorphic 1-form.

We claim this is an isomorphism. Observe that both sides have dimension g and since if $\beta \neq 0$ then

$$\int_X \beta \wedge \bar{\beta} \neq 0$$

and we have that the kernel is trivial. Under ϕ the image of $H^1(X, \mathbb{Z})$ in $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is mapped to the image of $H_1(X, \mathbb{Z})$ in $H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)^*$ by

$$\gamma \mapsto \int_{\gamma} -.$$

Therefore

$$J(X) \cong H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)^* / H_1(X, \mathbb{Z}).$$

We carry on to the final part where we discuss the Abel-Jacobi map.

Definition: Fix a basepoint $p_0 \in X$. Define the Abel-Jacobi map

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha: X &\rightarrow J(X) \\ x &\mapsto x - p_0. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition: α is holomorphic.

Definition: The n -th symmetric product of X is

$$S^n X = X \times \cdots \times X / S_n.$$

If z_1, \dots, z_n are local coordinates of X^n then the elementary symmetric functions give us local coordinates $\sigma_i(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ on $S^n X$. Thus $S^n X$ is a complex manifold. $S^n X$ corresponds to effective divisors of degree n since $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto x_1 + \dots + x_n$ is stable under permutation and $x_1 + \dots + x_n$ is effective. Define

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_n: S^n X &\longrightarrow J(X) \\ x_1 + \dots + x_n &\longmapsto x_1 - p_0 + \dots + x_n - p_0. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem: (i) (Abel) If $D \in S^n X$ then the fiber $\alpha_n^{-1} \alpha_n(D)$ consists of all effective divisors linearly equivalent to D , i.e. D' such that $D - D'$ is principal.
(ii) (Jacobi) α_g is surjective.

Corollary: If X is an elliptic curve, i.e. genus 1, then $X \cong J(X)$.

Proof: Note that $\alpha_1 = \alpha$. So α is holomorphic and surjective. Let $p \in X$. Then $H^0(X, \mathcal{O}(p))$ is a vector space over \mathbb{C} and by Riemann-Roch is of dimension 1 and isomorphic to \mathbb{C} . So p is the only effective divisor linearly equivalent to p . Hence α has degree 1 and is then an isomorphism. \square

Corollary: $J(X)$ and $S^g X$ are bimeromorphically equivalent, i.e. there exists a meromorphic map from one to the other which admits a meromorphic inverse.

References

- [1] Arapura - The Jacobian of a Riemann Surface
- [2] Griffiths & Harris - Principles of Algebraic Geometry
- [3] Arapura - Riemann's Inequality and Riemann-Roch