

# Lefschetz properties and the Togliatti Surface

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## Abstract

This work aims to present the Togliatti Surface, the first to relate the existence of non-homogeneous Artinian ideals that fail the Weak Lefschetz Property to the existence of projective varieties that satisfy at least one Laplace equation.

## Laplace Equations

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a quasi-projective variety of dimension  $n$  contained in  $\mathbb{P}^N$ , and let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a smooth point on  $\mathcal{X}$ . We can choose a system of  $N$  affine coordinates around  $\mathbf{x}$ , together with a local parameterization  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\mathbf{x}$ , such that  $\mathbf{f} : \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ , where  $\Delta$  is a multidisk. This allows us to define the **tangent space**  $T_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathcal{X})$  as a vector space generated by the  $n$  linearly independent vectors associated with the affine coordinates. Additionally, we can define the **osculating space**  $T_{\mathbf{x}}^s(\mathcal{X})$  as the space spanned by all partial derivatives of order less than or equal to  $s$ .

Although the expected dimension of  $T_{\mathbf{x}}^s(\mathcal{X})$  is given by  $\binom{n+s}{s} - 1$ , in general, the dimension is  $\dim(T_{\mathbf{x}}^s(\mathcal{X}))$  is less than or equal to this value. If, for all smooth points on  $\mathcal{X}$ , the actual dimension of  $T_{\mathbf{x}}^s(\mathcal{X})$  is strictly less than  $\binom{n+s}{s} - 1 - \delta$  for some  $\delta$ , we say that  $\mathcal{X}$  satisfies  $\delta$  Laplace equations of order  $s$ .

**Example:** The Togliatti surface  $\mathcal{X}$  is given by the closure of the image of the projection map:

$$\varphi : \mathbb{P}^2 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^5 \\ (\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{y} : \mathbf{z}) \mapsto (\mathbf{x}^2\mathbf{y} : \mathbf{x}^2\mathbf{z} : \mathbf{xy}^2 : \mathbf{xz}^2 : \mathbf{y}^2\mathbf{z} : \mathbf{yz}^2).$$

We will see that  $\mathcal{X}$  satisfies a Laplace equation of order 2 given by:

$$\mathbf{x}^2 \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} - \mathbf{xy} \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{x} \partial \mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{xz} \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{x} \partial \mathbf{z}} + \mathbf{y}^2 \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{y}^2} - \mathbf{yz} \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{y} \partial \mathbf{z}} + \mathbf{z}^2 \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{z}^2} = 0$$

## Weak Lefschetz Property

Consider the ring  $\mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n]$ , where  $\kappa$  is an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0, and let  $\mathbf{A} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^n \mathbf{A}_i$  be a  $\kappa$ -algebra. We define the

**Hilbert function** as  $\text{Hilb}(\mathbf{A})(i) = \dim \mathbf{A}_i$ . If  $\mathbf{A}$  is an Artinian algebra, the Hilbert function has a finite number of nonzero entries and is commonly referred to as the **Hilbert vector** of the algebra, denoted by  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{A})$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a standard graded algebra. We say that such an algebra has the **Weak Lefschetz Property (WLP)** if there exists a linear form  $\mathbf{L}$  in  $\mathbf{A}$  such that, for every integer  $i$ , the multiplicative map  $\times \mathbf{L} : \mathbf{A}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_{i+1}$ . It has maximum rank, that is, it is surjective or injective. In this case, we say that the linear map  $\mathbf{L}$  is called a **Lefschetz element** of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

**Example:** Consider the ring  $\mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}]$ , the ideal  $\mathbf{I} = (\mathbf{x}^3, \mathbf{y}^3, \mathbf{z}^3, \mathbf{xyz})$ , the linear form  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{ax} + \mathbf{by} + \mathbf{cz}$ , and  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{I}$ . The Hilbert vector of  $\mathbf{A}$  is:  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{A}) = (1, 3, 6, 6, 3)$ . Note that a possible fail in the **WLP** lies in the map  $\times \mathbf{L} : \mathbf{A}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_3$ . Note that, in fact, there exists a nontrivial element in the kernel of  $\times \mathbf{L}$ , which is  $\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{a}^2\mathbf{x}^2 + \mathbf{b}^2\mathbf{y}^2 + \mathbf{c}^2\mathbf{z}^2 + \mathbf{abxy} + \mathbf{acxz} + \mathbf{bcyz}$ . Therefore, the map does not have maximum rank and, consequently,  $\mathbf{A}$  fails the **WLP**.

## Macaulay's Inverse System

Let  $\mathbf{V}$  be a  $\kappa$ -vector space of dimension  $n+1$ , and let  $\mathbf{R} = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} \text{Sym}^i \mathbf{V}^*$

and  $\mathbf{Q} = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} \text{Sym}^i \mathbf{V}$ . Consider  $\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  and  $\mathbf{X}_0, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  as dual bases of  $\mathbf{V}^*$  and  $\mathbf{V}$ , respectively. Thus, we can express  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  as  $\mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n]$  and  $\mathbf{Q} = \kappa[\mathbf{X}_0, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n]$ . In this way, the following action guarantees the existence of the product that gives  $\mathbf{R}$  the structure of a  $\mathbf{Q}$ -module:

$$\text{Sym}^i \mathbf{V} \otimes \text{Sym}^j \mathbf{V}^* \rightarrow \text{Sym}^{j-i} \mathbf{V} \\ \alpha \otimes \mathbf{f} \quad \quad \quad \alpha(\mathbf{f}).$$

Let  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{Q}$  be a homogeneous ideal. We define  $\mathbf{I}^{-1} := \{\mathbf{f} \in \mathbf{R} \mid \alpha(\mathbf{f}) = 0, \text{ for all } \alpha\}$  as the **Macaulay inverse system** of  $\mathbf{I}$ . Such  $\mathbf{I}^{-1}$  is also a  $\mathbf{Q}$ -submodule of  $\mathbf{R}$  that inherits the grading of  $\mathbf{R}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{Q}$  be a homogeneous ideal and  $\mathbf{I}^{-1} \subset \mathbf{R}$  be a Macaulay inverse system. Consider a positive integer  $\mathbf{k}$  and assume that  $\dim \mathbf{I}_k = \mathbf{r} > 0$ , where  $\mathbf{I}_k = \langle \mathbf{F}_1, \dots, \mathbf{F}_r \rangle$ .

Associated with the linear system  $|\mathbf{I}_k^{-1}|$  of dimension  $\mathbf{N} = \binom{n+k}{k} - \mathbf{r} - 1$ , we have the rational map  $\varphi_k : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{\mathbf{N}}$  whose closure of the image,  $\mathcal{X}_k = \overline{\varphi_k(\mathbb{P}^n)} \subset \mathbb{P}^{\mathbf{N}}$ , is the projection of the Veronese variety  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{n})$ , of dimension  $\mathbf{n}$ , from the linear system  $\mathbf{I}_k = \langle \mathbf{F}_1, \dots, \mathbf{F}_r \rangle \subset |\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(\mathbf{k})|$ .

**Theorem:** Let  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{R}$  be an artinian ideal generated by  $\mathbf{r}$  homogeneous polynomials  $\mathbf{F}_1, \dots, \mathbf{F}_r$  of degree  $\mathbf{d}$ , and let  $\mathbf{I}^{-1}$  be a Macaulay inverse system. If  $\mathbf{r} \geq \binom{n+d-1}{n-1}$ , the following statements are equivalent:

1. The ideal  $\mathbf{I}$  fails the Weak Lefschetz Property (**WLP**) in degree  $\mathbf{d} - 1$ .
2. On a general hyperplane  $\mathbf{H} \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ , the homogeneous forms are  $\kappa$ -linearly independent.
3. Given a rational map  $\varphi : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{\binom{n+d}{d}-r-1}$  associated with  $(\mathbf{I}^{-1})_d$ , the variety  $\mathcal{X} = \overline{\text{Im}(\varphi)}$ , of dimension  $\mathbf{n}$ , satisfies at least one Laplace equation of order  $\mathbf{d} - 1$ .

Proof: See [3, Theorem 3.2].

## Togliatti Systems

Let  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n]$  be an Artinian ideal generated by  $\mathbf{r}$  forms, with  $\mathbf{r} \leq \binom{n+d-1}{n-1}$ . We define:

1.  $\mathbf{I}$  is a **Togliatti system** if it satisfies one, and consequently all three, conditions of the above Theorem;
2.  $\mathbf{I}$  is a **monomial Togliatti system** if it can be generated by monomials;
3.  $\mathbf{I}$  is a **smooth Togliatti system** if the variety  $\mathcal{X}$  is smooth;
4.  $\mathbf{I}$  is a **minimal Togliatti system** if no proper subset of the set of generators defines a Togliatti system.

Let  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n]$  be a monomial Artinian ideal generated by monomials of degree  $\mathbf{d}$ , and let  $\mathbf{I}^{-1}$  be the Macaulay inverse system. We denote by  $\Delta_n$  the  $\mathbf{n}$ -dimensional standard simplex in the lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$ . We consider  $\mathbf{d}\Delta_n$  and define the polytope  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{I}}$  as the convex hull of a finite subset  $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{I}} \subset \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$  corresponding to the monomials of degree  $\mathbf{d}$  in  $\mathbf{I}^{-1}$ .

**Proposition:** Let  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n]$  be a monomial Artinian ideal generated by  $\mathbf{r}$  monomials of degree  $\mathbf{d}$ . Assume  $\mathbf{r} \leq \binom{n+d-1}{n-1}$ .

Then,  $\mathbf{I}$  is a Togliatti system if and only if there exists a hypersurface of degree  $\mathbf{d} - 1$  containing  $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{I}} \subset \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$ . Moreover,  $\mathbf{I}$  is a minimal Togliatti system if and only if any other hypersurface  $\mathbf{F}$  does not contain an integral point of  $\mathbf{d}\Delta_n$  except possibly at the vertices of  $\mathbf{d}\Delta_n$ .

Proof: See [2, Proposition 3.4].

**Example:** Let  $\mathbf{R} = \kappa[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}]$ . Consider the Artinian ideal  $\mathbf{I} \subset \mathbf{R}$  with  $\mathbf{I} = (\mathbf{x}^3, \mathbf{y}^3, \mathbf{z}^3, \mathbf{xyz})$ . Also, let

$$\mathbf{I}^{-1} = (\mathbf{x}^2\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}^2\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{xy}^2, \mathbf{xz}^2, \mathbf{y}^2\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{yz}^2)$$

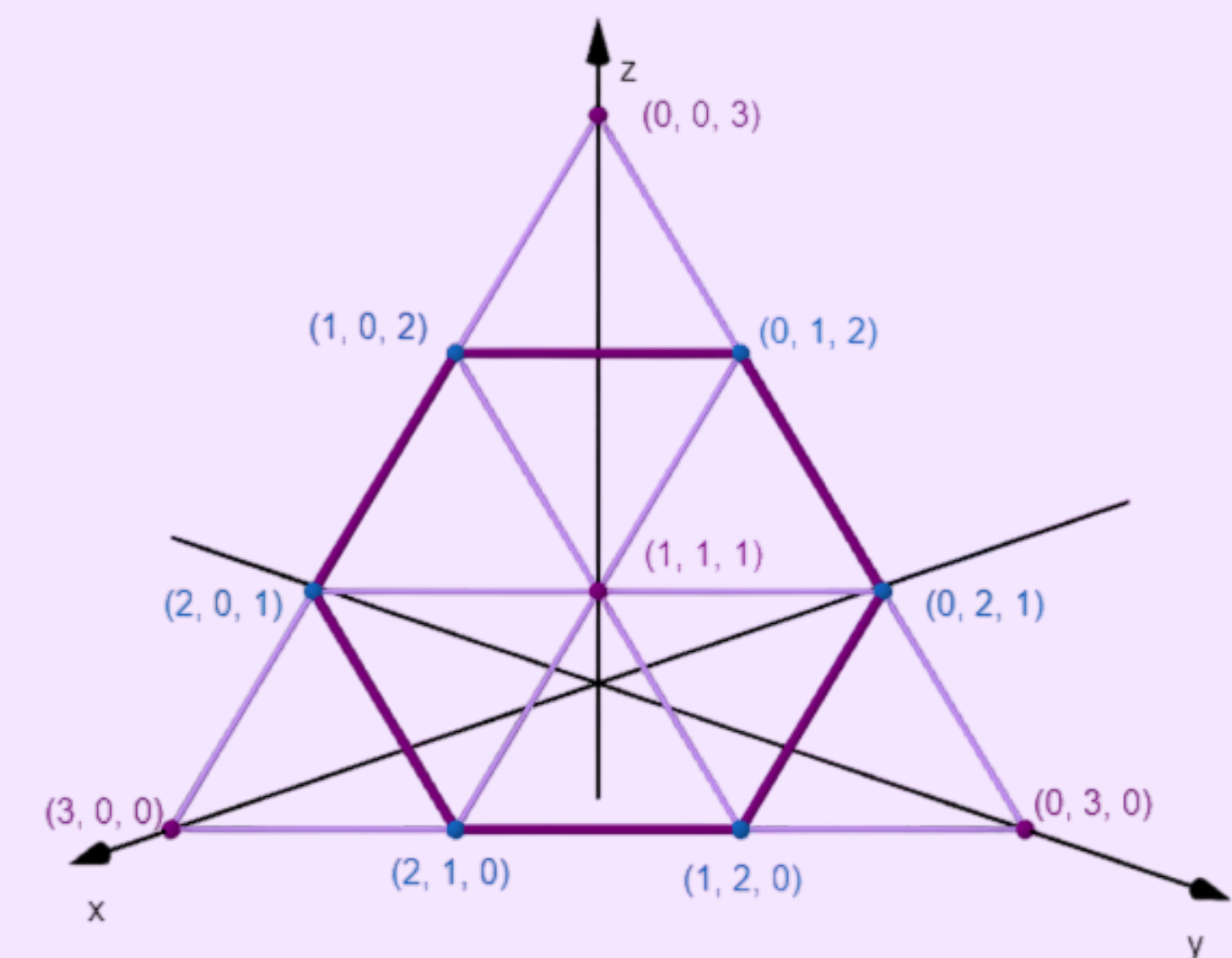
its Macaulay inverse system and  $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{I}} \subset \mathbb{Z}^3$  given by

$$\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{I}} = \{(2, 1, 0), (2, 0, 1), (1, 2, 0), (1, 0, 2), (0, 2, 1), (0, 1, 2)\}.$$

We have

$$3\Delta_2 = \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{I}} \cup \{(3, 0, 0), (0, 3, 0), (0, 0, 3), (1, 1, 1)\}.$$

and thus we construct  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{I}}$ , the polytope associated with the Togliatti system  $\mathbf{I}$



## References

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