

Conversely, if $C \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ is an irreducible, nondegenerate curve of degree n , let p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1} be any $(n-1)$ independent points of C . $V = \overline{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}} \cong \mathbb{P}^{n-2}$ their linear span, and $\{H_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{P}^1}$ the pencil of hyperplanes in \mathbb{P}^n containing V . Each hyperplane H_λ will then intersect C in n points: p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1} and an additional point we ^{will} call $q(\lambda)$. (In case H_λ is the hyperplane containing V and tangent to C at p_i , the point $q(\lambda) = p_i$.)

□ Since C is a curve of degree n , each hyperplane H_λ will intersect C in n points. \square

Every point of C will lie on a unique hyperplane H_λ , and so the map $q: \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow C$ is an isomorphism.

□ For each H_λ , $C \cap H_\lambda = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}, q(\lambda)\}$.

Suppose $C \cap H_\lambda \supset \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}, p\}$ where $p \in \overline{p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}}$, $p \neq p_i$. Since C is nondegenerate, $\exists q \in C$ s.t. $q \notin H_\lambda$.

Consider $\overline{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}, q} = \mathbb{P}^{n-1} = H_\lambda$ for some λ .
 $\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \cap C \supset \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}, p, q\}$ which is a set of $(n+1)$ points $\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \cap C$ contains a curve, see p64. \Rightarrow Since C is irreducible, $C \subset \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \Rightarrow$ Contradiction to the nondegeneracy of C . (see

Thus we can conclude that $C \cap \overline{p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}} =$ exactly $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}\}$.

Given $q' \in C - \overline{p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}}$, $\{q', p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}\}$ is a set of linearly independent points.