

Chern classes of projective space. Let X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n be linear coordinates on \mathbb{C}^{n+1} , and let E and π_* be as in the Euler sequence above. Let $A = (\alpha_{ij})$ be an $(n+1) \times (n+1)$ matrix all of whose minors are distinct and non-zero, and consider the vector fields

$$\begin{aligned} v_i &= E(\alpha_{i,0}X_0, \dots, \alpha_{i,n}X_n) \\ &= \pi_* \sum_j \alpha_{ij} X_j \frac{\partial}{\partial X_j} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{0,0} & \alpha_{0,1} & \dots & \alpha_{0,n} \\ \alpha_{1,0} & \alpha_{1,1} & \dots & \alpha_{1,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \alpha_{n,0} & \alpha_{n,1} & \dots & \alpha_{n,n} \end{pmatrix} = A \quad \begin{aligned} v_i &= E(\alpha_{i,0}X_0, \dots, \alpha_{i,n}X_n) \\ &= \pi_* \left(\sum_j \alpha_{ij} X_j \frac{\partial}{\partial X_j} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha_{i,0}X_0$ may be considered the linear functional $L_i: \mathbb{C}\{X\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined by $(X'_0, \dots, X'_n) \mapsto \alpha_{i,0}X'_0$.

We will leave it as an exercise to verify that, under the assumptions made about A , v_0, \dots, v_n are generic sections of $T^*(\mathbb{P}^n)$ (this is simply a matter of writing v_i out in terms of Euclidean coordinates on \mathbb{P}^n), and compute the degeneracy cycles D_i of v_0, \dots, v_i .

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma \quad v_1 &= \pi_* \left(\alpha_{1j} X_j \frac{\partial}{\partial X_j} \right) = \alpha_{1j} X_j \pi_* \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X_j} \right) = \alpha_{1,0} X_0 \pi_* \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X_0} \right) + \alpha_{1,1} X_1 \pi_* \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X_1} \right) + \dots \\ &+ \alpha_{1,n} X_n \pi_* \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X_n} \right) = \alpha_{1,0} X_0 \left(- \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i}{X_0^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_i} \right) + \alpha_{1,1} X_1 \frac{1}{X_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_1} \\ &+ \dots + \alpha_{1,n} X_n \frac{1}{X_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\alpha_{1,1} - \frac{X_1}{X_0} \alpha_{1,0} \right) \frac{X_1}{X_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_1} + \left(\alpha_{1,2} - \alpha_{1,0} \frac{X_2}{X_0} \right) \frac{X_1}{X_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_2} + \left(\alpha_{1,3} - \alpha_{1,0} \frac{X_3}{X_0} \right) \frac{X_1}{X_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_3} \\ &+ \dots + \left(\alpha_{1,n} - \alpha_{1,0} \frac{X_n}{X_0} \right) \frac{X_1}{X_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_n} \\ \Rightarrow D_1 &= \{ x \in \mathbb{P}^n : v_1 = 0 \} \Rightarrow X_1 = 0 \text{ or } \alpha_{1,1} - \frac{X_1}{X_0} \alpha_{1,0} = \dots \end{aligned}$$