

# Contents

Preface	vii
Acknowledgments	ix
Using This Book	xi
<b>PART I: EXAMPLES OF VARIETIES AND MAPS</b>	
<b>LECTURE 1</b>	
Affine and Projective Varieties	3
A Note About Our Field	3
Affine Space and Affine Varieties	3
Projective Space and Projective Varieties	3
Linear Spaces	5
Finite Sets	6
Hypersurfaces	8
Analytic Subvarieties and Submanifolds	8
The Twisted Cubic	9
Rational Normal Curves	10
Determinantal Representation of the Rational Normal Curve	11
Another Parametrization of the Rational Normal Curve	11
The Family of Plane Conics	12
A Synthetic Construction of the Rational Normal Curve	13
Other Rational Curves	14
Varieties Defined over Subfields of $K$	16
A Note on Dimension, Smoothness, and Degree	16
<b>LECTURE 2</b>	
Regular Functions and Maps	17
The Zariski Topology	17
Regular Functions on an Affine Variety	18

Projective Varieties	20
Regular Maps	21
The Veronese Map	23
Determinantal Representation of Veronese Varieties	24
Subvarieties of Veronese Varieties	24
The Segre Maps	25
Subvarieties of Segre Varieties	27
Products of Varieties	28
Graphs	29
Fiber Products	30
Combinations of Veronese and Segre Maps	30
<b>LECTURE 3</b>	
<b>Cones, Projections, and More About Products</b>	<b>32</b>
Cones	32
Quadrics	33
Projections	34
More Cones	37
More Projections	38
Constructible Sets	39
<b>LECTURE 4</b>	
<b>Families and Parameter Spaces</b>	<b>41</b>
Families of Varieties	41
The Universal Hyperplane	42
The Universal Hyperplane Section	43
Parameter Spaces of Hypersurfaces	44
Universal Families of Hypersurfaces	45
A Family of Lines	47
<b>LECTURE 5</b>	
<b>Ideals of Varieties, Irreducible Decomposition, and the Nullstellensatz</b>	<b>48</b>
Generating Ideals	48
Ideals of Projective Varieties	50
Irreducible Varieties and Irreducible Decomposition	51
General Objects	53
General Projections	54
General Twisted Cubics	55
Double Point Loci	56
A Little Algebra	57
Restatements and Corollaries	60
<b>LECTURE 6</b>	
<b>Grassmannians and Related Varieties</b>	<b>63</b>
Grassmannians	63
Subvarieties of Grassmannians	66

The Grassmannian $\mathbb{G}(1, 3)$	67
An Analog of the Veronese Map	68
Incidence Correspondences	68
Varieties of Incident Planes	69
The Join of Two Varieties	70
Fano Varieties	70
<b>LECTURE 7</b>	
<b>Rational Functions and Rational Maps</b>	<b>72</b>
Rational Functions	72
Rational Maps	73
Graphs of Rational Maps	75
Birational Isomorphism	77
The Quadric Surface	78
Hypersurfaces	79
Degree of a Rational Map	79
Blow-Ups	80
Blowing Up Points	81
Blowing Up Subvarieties	82
The Quadric Surface Again	84
The Cubic Scroll in $\mathbb{P}^4$	85
Unirationality	87
<b>LECTURE 8</b>	
<b>More Examples</b>	<b>88</b>
The Join of Two Varieties	88
The Secant Plane Map	89
Secant Varieties	90
Trisecant Lines, etc.	90
Joins of Corresponding Points	91
Rational Normal Scrolls	92
Higher-Dimensional Scrolls	93
More Incidence Correspondences	94
Flag Manifolds	95
More Joins and Intersections	95
Quadrics of Rank 4	96
Rational Normal Scrolls II	97
<b>LECTURE 9</b>	
<b>Determinantal Varieties</b>	<b>98</b>
Generic Determinantal Varieties	98
Segre Varieties	98
Secant Varieties of Segre Varieties	99
Linear Determinantal Varieties in General	99
Rational Normal Curves	100
Secant Varieties to Rational Normal Curves	103
Rational Normal Scrolls III	105

Rational Normal Scrolls IV	109
More General Determinantal Varieties	111
Symmetric and Skew-Symmetric Determinantal Varieties	112
Fano Varieties of Determinantal Varieties	112
<b>LECTURE 10</b>	
<b>Algebraic Groups</b>	<b>114</b>
The General Linear Group $GL_n K$	114
The Orthogonal Group $SO_n K$	115
The Symplectic Group $Sp_{2n} K$	116
Group Actions	116
$PGL_{n+1} K$ acts on $\mathbb{P}^n$	116
$PGL_2 K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}^2$	117
$PGL_2 K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}^3$	118
$PGL_2 K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}^n$	119
$PGL_3 K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}^5$	120
$PGL_3 K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}^9$	121
$PO_n K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ (automorphisms of the Grassmannian)	122
$PGL_n K$ Acts on $\mathbb{P}(\wedge^k K^n)$	122
Quotients	123
Quotients of Affine Varieties by Finite Groups	124
Quotients of Affine Space	125
Symmetric Products	126
Quotients of Projective Varieties by Finite Groups	126
Weighted Projective Spaces	127
<b>PART II: ATTRIBUTES OF VARIETIES</b>	
<b>LECTURE 11</b>	
<b>Definitions of Dimension and Elementary Examples</b>	<b>133</b>
Hypersurfaces	136
Complete Intersections	136
Immediate Examples	138
The Universal $k$ -Plane	142
Varieties of Incident Planes	142
Secant Varieties	143
Secant Varieties in General	146
Joins of Varieties	148
Flag Manifolds	148
(Some) Schubert Varieties	149
<b>LECTURE 12</b>	
<b>More Dimension Computations</b>	<b>151</b>
Determinantal Varieties	151
Fano Varieties	152
Parameter Spaces of Twisted Cubics	155
Twisted Cubics	155

Twisted Cubics on a General Surface	156
Complete Intersections	157
Curves of Type $(a, b)$ on a Quadric	158
Determinantal Varieties	159
Group Actions	161
$GL(V)$ Acts on $\text{Sym}^d V$ and $\wedge^k V$	161
$PGL_{n+1} K$ Acts on $(\mathbb{P}^n)^l$ and $\mathbb{G}(k, n)^l$	161
<b>LECTURE 13</b>	
<b>Hilbert Polynomials</b>	<b>163</b>
Hilbert Functions and Polynomials	163
Hilbert Function of the Rational Normal Curve	166
Hilbert Function of the Veronese Variety	166
Hilbert Polynomials of Curves	166
Szygies	168
Three Points in $\mathbb{P}^2$	170
Four Points in $\mathbb{P}^2$	171
Complete Intersections: Koszul Complexes	172
<b>LECTURE 14</b>	
<b>Smoothness and Tangent Spaces</b>	<b>174</b>
The Zariski Tangent Space to a Variety	174
A Local Criterion for Isomorphism	177
Projective Tangent Spaces	181
Determinantal Varieties	184
<b>LECTURE 15</b>	
<b>Gauss Maps, Tangential and Dual Varieties</b>	<b>186</b>
A Note About Characteristic	186
Gauss Maps	188
Tangential Varieties	189
The Variety of Tangent Lines	190
Joins of Intersecting Varieties	193
The Locus of Bitangent Lines	195
Dual Varieties	196
<b>LECTURE 16</b>	
<b>Tangent Spaces to Grassmannians</b>	<b>200</b>
Tangent Spaces to Grassmannians	200
Tangent Spaces to Incidence Correspondences	202
Varieties of Incident Planes	203
The Variety of Secant Lines	204
Varieties Swept out by Linear Spaces	204
The Resolution of the Generic Determinantal Variety	206
Tangent Spaces to Dual Varieties	208
Tangent Spaces to Fano Varieties	209

LECTURE 17	
Further Topics Involving Smoothness and Tangent Spaces	211
Gauss Maps on Curves	211
Osculating Planes and Associated Maps	213
The Second Fundamental Form	214
The Locus of Tangent Lines to a Variety	215
Bertini's Theorem	216
Blow-ups, Nash Blow-ups, and the Resolution of Singularities	219
Subadditivity of Codimensions of Intersections	222
 LECTURE 18	
Degree	224
Bézout's Theorem	227
The Rational Normal Curves	229
More Examples of Degrees	231
Veronese Varieties	231
Segre Varieties	233
Degrees of Cones and Projections	234
Joins of Varieties	235
Unirationality of Cubic Hypersurfaces	237
 LECTURE 19	
Further Examples and Applications of Degree	239
Multidegree of a Subvariety of a Product	239
Projective Degree of a Map	240
Joins of Corresponding Points	241
Varieties of Minimal Degree	242
Degrees of Determinantal Varieties	243
Degrees of Varieties Swept out by Linear Spaces	244
Degrees of Some Grassmannians	245
Harnack's Theorem	247
 LECTURE 20	
Singular Points and Tangent Cones	251
Tangent Cones	251
Tangent Cones to Determinantal Varieties	256
Multiplicity	258
Examples of Singularities	260
Resolution of Singularities for Curves	264
 LECTURE 21	
Parameter Spaces and Moduli Spaces	266
Parameter Spaces	266
Chow Varieties	268
Hilbert Varieties	273

Curves of Degree 2	275
Moduli Spaces	278
Plane Cubics	279
 LECTURE 22	
Quadrics	282
Generalities about Quadrics	282
Tangent Spaces to Quadrics	283
Plane Conics	284
Quadric Surfaces	285
Quadrics in $\mathbb{P}^n$	287
Linear Spaces on Quadrics	289
Lines on Quadrics	290
Planes on Four-Dimensional Quadrics	291
Fano Varieties of Quadrics in General	293
Families of Quadrics	295
The Variety of Quadrics in $\mathbb{P}^1$	295
The Variety of Quadrics in $\mathbb{P}^2$	296
Complete Conics	297
Quadrics in $\mathbb{P}^n$	299
Pencils of Quadrics	301
Hints for Selected Exercises	308
References	314
Index	317