

**REAL ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY LECTURE NOTES**  
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1. FINAL SEGMENTS

As always, let  $K$  be an ordered field and let  $v$  denote the natural valuation on  $K$  with value group  $G := v(K^*)$ .

**Lemma 1.1.** *Let  $G$  be a totally ordered abelian group and denote by  $v_G$  its natural valuation.*

(i) *If  $G_w \neq \{0\}$  is some convex subgroup of  $G$ , then  $\Gamma_w := v_G(G_w \setminus \{0\})$  is a non-empty final segment of  $\Gamma := v_G(G \setminus \{0\})$  ( $\Gamma$  denotes the value set of  $G$ )*

(ii) *Conversely, if  $\Gamma_w$  is a non-empty final segment of  $\Gamma$ , then*

$$G_w := \{g \in G : v_G(g) \in \Gamma_w\} \cup \{0\}$$

*is a convex subgroup of  $G$  with  $\Gamma_w = v_G(G_w)$ .*

*Proof.*

(i) Clearly  $\Gamma_w$  is non-empty since  $G_w \neq \{0\}$ . Show  $\Gamma_w$  is a final segment. Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma_w$  and  $\gamma' \in \Gamma$  such that  $\gamma < \gamma'$ . We want to show that  $\gamma' \in \Gamma_w$ .

Now  $\gamma \in \Gamma_w$ , so let  $g \in G_w$  such that  $\gamma = v_G(g)$  and let  $g' \in G$  such that  $v_G(g') = \gamma'$ . Now  $\gamma < \gamma'$  means  $g' \ll g$ , i.e.  $n|g'| \leq |g|$ . Therefore  $g' \in G_w$  since  $G_w$  is convex. Thus,  $\gamma' \in \Gamma_w$  as required.

(ii) ÜA.

□

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $\Gamma \neq \emptyset$  be a totally ordered set. Define

$$\Gamma^{\text{fs}} := \{F : F \neq \emptyset \text{ a final segment of } \Gamma\}.$$

**Remark 1.3.** The set  $\Gamma^{\text{fs}}$  is totally ordered by inclusion. Indeed, given  $F_1 \neq \emptyset, F_2 \neq \emptyset$  final segments, either  $F_1 \subseteq F_2$  or  $F_2 \subseteq F_1$  (verify!). So  $\Gamma^{\text{fs}}$  is a totally ordered set.

**Example 1.4.**

- For  $\Gamma = \mathbb{R}$ , what is the order type of  $\Gamma^{\text{fs}}$ ?

A non-empty final segment of  $\mathbb{R}$  is either of the form  $r^+ := [r, \infty)$  or  $r^- := (r, \infty)$  for  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  (Recall the Dedekind completeness of the reals, see RAG I). Hence

$$\Gamma^{\text{fs}} = \{r^\pm : r \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Clearly  $r^- < r^+$ . Let  $r_1 \neq r_2$ , say  $r_1 < r_2$ . Then  $r_2^- < r_2^+ < r_1^- < r_2^-$ , i.e.  $\Gamma^{\text{fs}}$  is a double covering of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\left( \sum_{\mathbb{R}} 2 \right) + 1 = \mathbb{R} \times_{\text{lex}} 2 + 1.$$

- Suppose  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $F := \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q > \sqrt{2}\}$ . Let  $\emptyset \neq F$  be a proper final segment of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $F = [q, \infty) =: q^+$  and  $F = (q, \infty) =: q^-$  in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - $r \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $F = r^{-1} \cap \mathbb{Q} = r^+ \cap \mathbb{Q}$ .

I claim that these are all the proper non-empty final segments.

- $\mathbb{Z}^{\text{fs}} = \mathbb{Z} + \{1\}$ .

**Corollary 1.5.** *There is a 1 to 1 correspondence*

$$G_w \mapsto v_G(G_w \setminus \{0\}) = \Gamma_w$$

*between the rank of  $G$  and  $\Gamma^{\text{fs}}$ , where  $\Gamma = v_G(G \setminus \{0\})$ .*

**Corollary 1.6.** *There is a bijective correspondence*

$$K_w \mapsto G_w = v(U_w) \mapsto \Gamma_w$$

*between the rank of  $K$  and  $\Gamma^{\text{fs}}$ .*

**Lemma 1.7.** *The map*

$$\iota : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma^{\text{fs}}, \gamma \mapsto \gamma^+$$

*is an order reversing embedding. Its image consists of those final segments which have a smallest element*

**Notation 1.8.** Let us denote by  $\Gamma^*$  the set  $\Gamma$  endowed with the reverse order.

**Corollary 1.9.** *The map  $\iota : \Gamma^* \hookrightarrow \Gamma^{\text{fs}}, \gamma \mapsto \gamma^+$  is an order preserving embedding.*

**Definition 1.10.** A final segment which has a smallest element is called a **principal final segment**.

**Corollary 1.11.**  *$\Gamma^*$  is isomorphic to the chain of principal final segments of  $\Gamma$ .*