
Homework 12
Due: Friday, April 27

1. Let X/k be a smooth projective curve, and let $P \in X$ be a point (of codimension one). Show that there exists a nonconstant rational function $f \in K(X)$ which is regular everywhere except at P .
2. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a finite morphism of smooth, projective curves. Show that $g_X \geq g_Y$. (HINT: You may assume f is separable.)
3. Let X/\mathbb{F}_q be a smooth projective curve of genus g . Suppose that $n \geq 2g - 1$, and let $D \in \text{Div}(X)$ be a divisor of degree n . Show that the number of effective divisors linearly equivalent to D is

$$\frac{q^{n-g+1} - 1}{q - 1}.$$

(HINT: How many elements are in $\mathbb{P}^m(\mathbb{F}_q)$?)

4. Let X/\mathbb{F}_q be a smooth projective curve. We will define the zeta function of X in the following way:

$$a_X(n) = \#\{D \in \text{Div}(X) : D \geq 0, \deg(D) = n\}$$
$$Z_X(t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_X(n)t^n$$

If Y/\mathbb{F}_q is an arbitrary variety, for each $r \geq 1$ let $N_Y(r) = \#Y(\mathbb{F}_{q^r})$. One defines the zeta function of Y as

$$\tilde{Z}_Y(t) = \exp\left(\sum_{r \geq 1} N_Y(r) \frac{t^r}{r}\right).$$

Show that these two definitions are the same, i.e., that

$$Z_X(t) = \tilde{Z}_X(t).$$

(HINT: Don't worry about convergence of any of the power series in question.)

5. Using whichever definition you prefer, show that

$$Z_{\mathbb{P}^1/\mathbb{F}_q}(t) = \frac{1}{(1-t)(1-qt)}.$$