

Tropical moduli spaces and toric embeddings

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$\overline{M}_{0,n}$ seminar

$$M_{0,n} \rightarrow \overline{M}_{0,n}$$

as a tropical compactification

Let $T^n = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ be the n -dimensional *algebraic torus*

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Proposition

❶ \overline{Y} is complete $\iff \text{trop}(Y) \subseteq |\Sigma|$.

❷ If \overline{Y} is complete, then

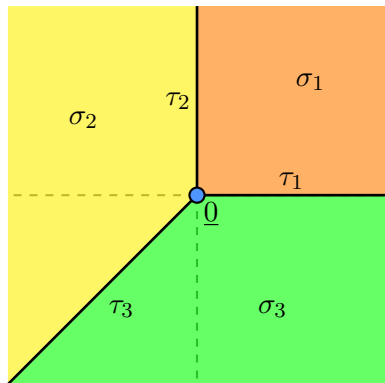
$Y \cap \mathcal{O}_\sigma$ is pure of dimension $\dim(Y) - \dim(\sigma)$, $\forall \sigma \in \Sigma$ $\iff \text{trop}(Y) = |\Sigma|$

Tropical compactification

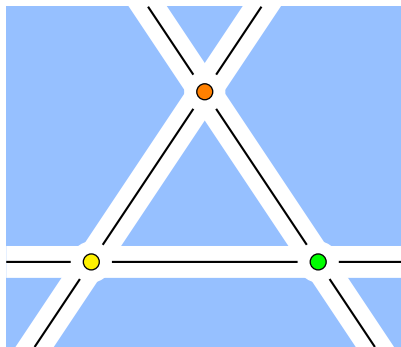
Definition (Tropical Compactification)

A **tropical compactification** of $Y \subseteq T^n$ is its closure \overline{Y} in a toric variety with X_Σ with $|\Sigma| = \text{trop}(Y)$.

Example



Σ

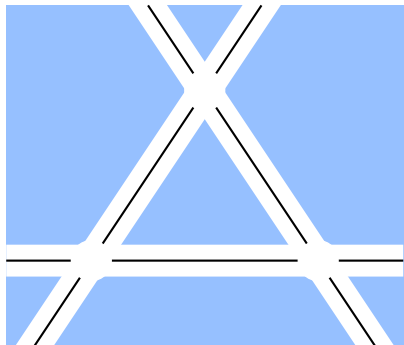
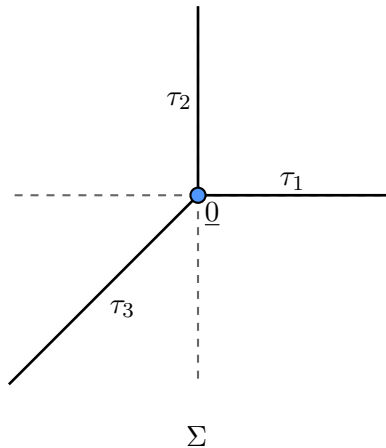


$X_\Sigma = \mathbb{P}^2$

Three coordinate points: $(0:0:1)$ $(1:0:0)$ $(0:1:0)$

The light blue part is T^2

Example



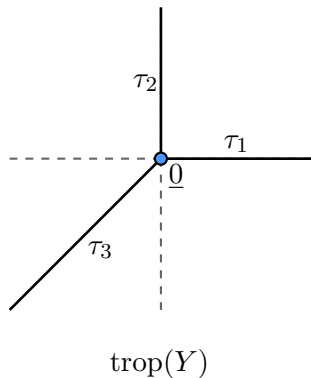
$$X_{\Sigma} = \mathbb{P}^2 \setminus 3 \text{ points}$$

Example

$$Y = V(x + y + 1) \subseteq T^2$$

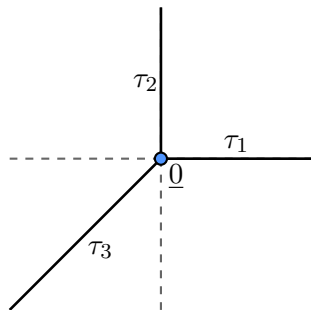
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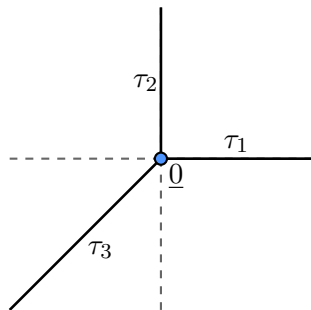
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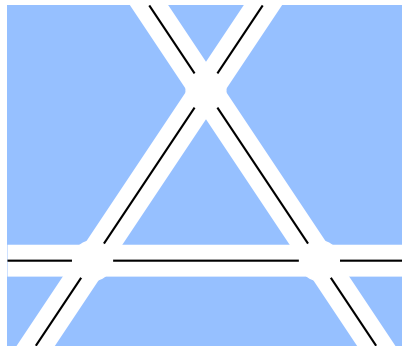
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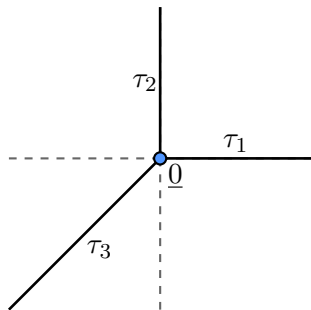
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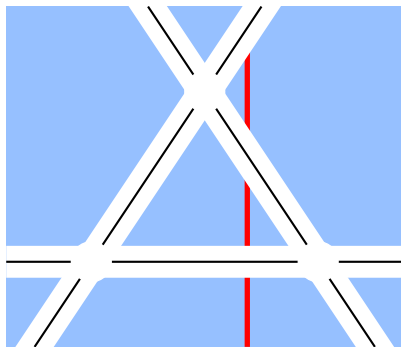
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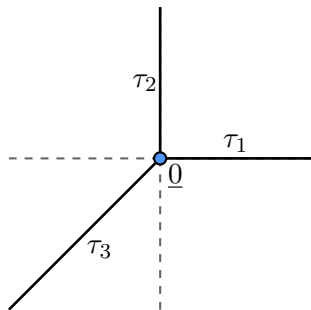
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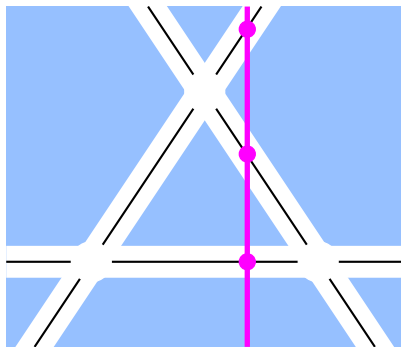
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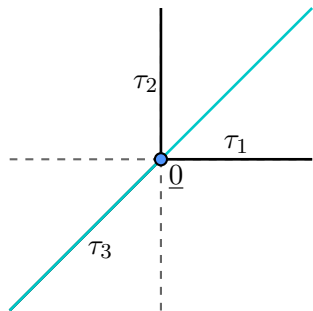
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Example 2

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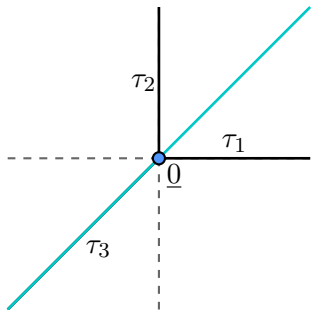
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$\text{trop}(Y)$

Example 2

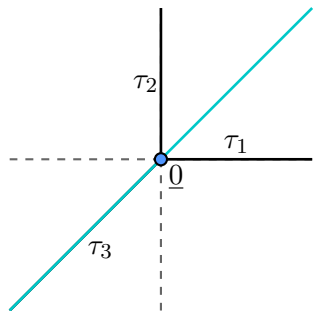
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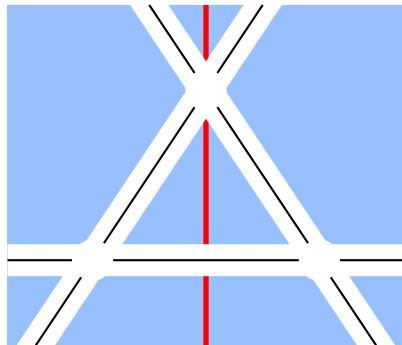
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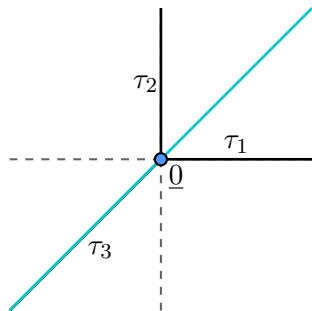
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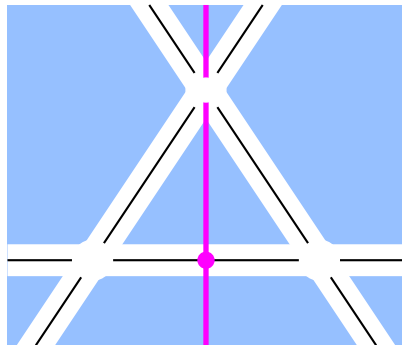
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$$\text{trop}(Y) \neq |\Sigma|$$



$$\begin{aligned} \overline{Y} &\subseteq X_\Sigma \\ \overline{Y} &\simeq \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \text{point} \end{aligned}$$

$$M_{0,n} = (\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\})^{n-3} \setminus \text{diagonals}$$

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\end{aligned}$$

We have realized $M_{0,n}$ as the complement of $\binom{n-1}{2}$ hyperplanes, with equations given by the columns of the matrix:

$$B = \left[\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -1 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 1 & \dots \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -1 & \dots & -1 & 0 & \dots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -1 & \dots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots
\end{array} \right] \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-2), \binom{n-1}{2}}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
identity matrix

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
columns given by $e_i - e_j$

This gives us a closed embedding

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Viewed inside $\mathbb{P}^{\binom{n-1}{2}-1}$ it is defined by the homogeneous ideal

$$I_{0,n} = \langle z_{ij} - z_{1j} + z_{1i} : 2 \leq i, j \leq n-1 \rangle \subseteq \mathbb{C}[z_{ij}]$$

$\text{trop}(M_{0,n})$ and phylogenetic trees

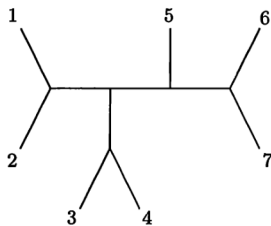
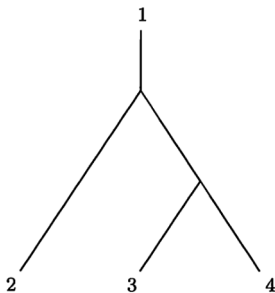
Let Δ be a fan with $|\Delta| = \text{trop}(M_{0,n})$ with the coarser fan structure. This fan is the space of *phylogenetic trees*.

$\text{trop}(M_{0,n})$ and phylogenetic trees

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Definition

A *phylogenetic tree* is a tree with no vertices of degree 2.



Given a phylogenetic tree τ , assign to each edge e a length $l_e \in \mathbb{R}$.

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Definition

*The vector $(d_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{\binom{n}{2}}$ is a **tree distance**. The **space of phylogenetic trees** is the set Δ of all tree distances.*

For every leaf i , adding the vector $\sum_{j \neq i} e_{ij}$ to a tree distance (d_{ij}) corresponds to adding 1 to the length of the pendant edge containing i .

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Therefore, we can view Δ as a subset of $\mathbb{R}^{\binom{n}{2}}/L \simeq \mathbb{R}^{\binom{n-1}{2}}$. The combinatorial types of the phylogenetic trees give Δ the structure of a fan in a natural way.

Theorem

The closure of $M_{0,n}$ in the corresponding toric variety X_Δ is isomorphic to the Deligne-Mumford compactification $\overline{M}_{0,n}$.

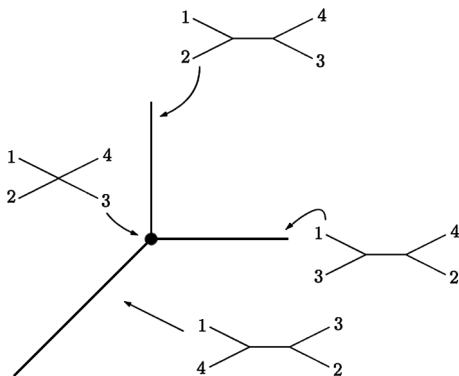
Example: $M_{0,4}$

Let $n = 4$ and consider $M_{0,4} \simeq \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_{0,4} = \langle -z_{12} + z_{13} + z_{23} \rangle$$

We can think it as being $M_{0,4} = V(x + y + 1)$. The space Δ of phylogenetic trees is then the tropicalization of a general line:



Example: $M_{0,5}$

Let $n = 5$ and consider $M_{0,5}$

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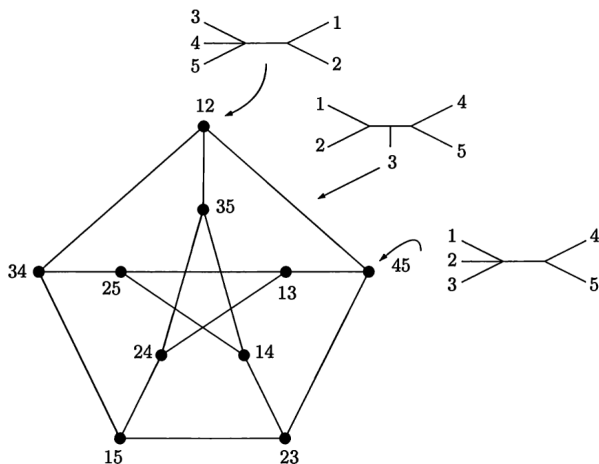
$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The equations of $M_{0,5}$ are given by the row of the kernel of B

$$\ker B = \begin{bmatrix} z_{12} & z_{13} & z_{14} & z_{23} & z_{24} & z_{34} \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_{0,5} = \langle -z_{12} + z_{13} + z_{23}, -z_{12} + z_{14} + z_{24}, -z_{13} + z_{14} + z_{34} \rangle$$

The space of phylogenetic trees Δ is a fan of dimension 2 that can be thought as the cone over the *Petersen graph*:



Intersection theory of $\overline{M}_{0,n}$

Theorem

$$A^*(\overline{M}_{0,n}) \simeq A^*(X_\Delta)$$

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Intersection theory of $\overline{M}_{0,n}$

Theorem

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Where $A^*(X_\Delta)$ can be explicitly described as follows. Suppose Δ has s rays and let D_i be the divisor of X_Δ corresponding to the i -th ray. Define

$$\mathrm{SR}(\Delta) = \left\langle \prod_{i \in \sigma} D_i : \sigma \notin \Delta \right\rangle, \quad L_\Delta = \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^s V_{ij} D_j : 1 \leq i \leq n \right\rangle,$$

where $V = (V_{ij})$ is the matrix with columns the first lattice points of the rays of Δ . We have

$$A^*(X_\Delta) = \mathbb{Z}[D_1, \dots, D_s] / (\mathrm{SR}(\Delta) + L_\Delta)$$

Thank you for your attention!

