

# The Reimann-Hurwitz Formula

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The final project for Fiber Bundles class  
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- ① Riemann Surfaces
- ② Holomorphic maps between Riemann Surfaces
- ③ Order, Multiplicity, and Euler number
- ④ Riemann-Hurwitz Formula

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# Basic Definition

We denote  $\mathbb{C}$  to be the complex plane in which the imaginary part is denoted by  $i$ .

## Complex structures

Let  $X$  be a topological space. A *complex chart* on  $X$  is a homeomorphism  $\phi : U \rightarrow V$ , where  $U$  is an open set in  $X$  and  $V$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

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$$\phi_2 \circ \phi_1^{-1} : \phi(U_1 \cap U_2) \rightarrow \phi(U_1 \cap U_2)$$

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is holomorphic. A **complex atlas**  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $X$  is a collection of compatible complex charts  $\mathcal{A} = \{\phi_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha\}$  such that  $X \subseteq \bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha$ .

## Reimann Surface

A *Reimann surface* is a second countable connected Hausdorff topological space  $X$  with a complex structure.

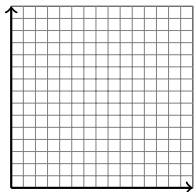
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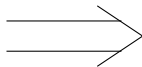
### Example

Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ , and let  $U$  be any open subset. Define  $\phi_U : U \rightarrow V \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  such that  $(x, y) \mapsto x + iy$ . This is a complex chart.

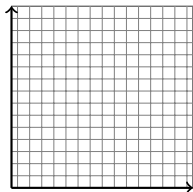
y-axis



x-axis



$Im(z)$



$Re(z)$



## Example (Reimann Sphere $\mathbb{C}^\infty$ )

Let  $S^2 := \{(x, y, w) \mid x^2 + y^2 + w^2 = 1\}$  denote the unit 2-sphere inside  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Consider the maps

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1 : S^2 - (0, 0, 1) &\rightarrow \mathbb{C}, & \phi_1(x, y, w) &= \frac{x}{1-w} + i \frac{y}{1-w} \\ \phi_2 : S^2 - (0, 0, -1) &\rightarrow \mathbb{C}, & \phi_2(x, y, w) &= \frac{x}{1+w} + i \frac{y}{1+w}\end{aligned}$$

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Then  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are compatible complex charts as  $\phi_2 \circ \phi_1^{-1}(z) = \frac{1}{z}$ , which is holomorphic on  $\phi_i(S^2 - (0, 0, \pm 1)) = \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ . The set  $\mathcal{A} = \{\phi_1, \phi_2\}$  forms an atlas of  $S^2$ .

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We denote Reimann Sphere by  $\mathbb{C}^\infty = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ , because if we subject to the chart  $\phi_1$ , we map  $(0, 0, 1)$  to  $\{\infty\}$  and if we subject to the chart  $\phi_2$ , we map  $(0, 0, -1)$  to  $\{\infty\}$ .

# Forming a Riemann surface

- 1 Start with a set  $X$ .
- 2 Find a countable collection of subsets  $\{U_\alpha\}$  covering  $X$ .
- 3 For each  $\alpha$ , find a bijection  $\phi_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha$  where  $V_\alpha$  is open in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- 4 Check that for every  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $\phi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$  is open in  $V_\alpha$ .
- 5 Endow  $X$  with a topology induced by  $\{\phi_\alpha\}$  i.e. a subset  $U \subseteq U_\alpha$  is open in  $X$  if and only if  $\phi_\alpha(U)$  is open in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- 6 Check that  $\phi_\alpha$  is pairwise compatible.
- 7 Check that  $X$  is connected and Hausdorff.

## Example

Let  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  denote the complex projective line. Consider the sets

$$U_0 := \{[x_0, x_1] \in \mathbb{CP}^1 : x_0 \neq 0\}, \quad U_1 := \{[x_0, x_1] \in \mathbb{CP}^1 : x_1 \neq 0\}.$$

Consider the bijective map  $\phi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\phi_i([x_j]) \mapsto \frac{x_j}{x_i}$ . Clearly  $\phi_0 \circ \phi_1^{-1}$  is compatible as it sends  $s$  to  $\frac{1}{s}$ . Give  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  the topology induced by the charts.

The complex projective line  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  is a Riemann surface.

## Definition

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## Example

Let  $f([x, y]) = \frac{p(x, y)}{q(x, y)}$  be a complex-valued function defined on  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$ , where  $p(x, y)$  and  $q(x, y)$  are homogenous polynomials of the same degree. Suppose  $q(x_0, y_0) \neq 0$  then  $q \neq 0$  on some neighborhood of  $[x_0, y_0]$ , implying that  $f$  is holomorphic on some neighborhood of  $[x_0, y_0]$ .



# Singularities and Meromorphic Functions

## Definition

Let  $f$  be a holomorphic function in a punctured neighborhood of  $p \in X$ .

- We say  $f$  has a *removable singularity* at  $p$  if and only if there exists a chart  $\phi : U \rightarrow V$ , with  $p \in U$ , such that the composition  $f \circ \phi^{-1}$  has a removable singularity at  $\phi(p)$ .

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- We say  $f$  has a *pole* at  $p$  if and only if there exists a chart  $\phi : U \rightarrow V$ , with  $p \in U$ , such that the composition  $f \circ \phi^{-1}$  has a pole at  $\phi(p)$ .
- We say  $f$  has a *essential singularity* at  $p$  if and only if there exists a chart  $\phi : U \rightarrow V$ , with  $p \in U$ , such that the composition  $f \circ \phi^{-1}$  has a essential singularity at  $\phi(p)$ .

# Meromorphic functions

## Definition

A function  $f$  on  $X$  is **meromorphic** on  $X$  if it is either holomorphic, has a removable singularity, or has a pole at every point  $p$  in  $X$ .

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## Example

If  $p(x, y)$  and  $q(x, y)$  are homogeneous polynomials of the same degree with  $q$  not identically zero, then  $f(x, y) = \frac{p(x, y)}{q(x, y)}$  descends to a meromorphic function on  $\mathbb{CP}^1$ .

## Definition

- 1 If  $W$  is an open set in a Riemann surface  $X$ , we denote  $\mathcal{O}(W)$  to be the collection of holomorphic functions on  $W$ . We note that  $\mathcal{O}(W)$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra.
- 2 If  $W$  is an open set in a Riemann surface  $X$ , we denote  $\mathcal{M}(W)$  to be the collection of meromorphic functions on  $W$ . We note that  $\mathcal{M}(W)$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra.

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## Definition

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Riemann surfaces. A mapping  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  is **holomorphic** if for any point  $p \in X$ , there exists charts  $\phi_1 : U_1 \rightarrow V_1$  on  $X$  with  $p \in U_1$  and  $\phi_2 : U_2 \rightarrow V_2$  on  $Y$  with  $F(p) \in U_2$ , such that the composition  $\phi_2 \circ F \circ \phi_1^{-1}$  is holomorphic at  $\phi(p)$ .

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## Example

Every holomorphic complex-valued function on a Riemann surface is a holomorphic map from  $X$  to the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , considered as a trivial Riemann surface.



## Lemma

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Riemann surfaces and  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a holomorphic map between them.

- 1 Composition of holomorphic maps is holomorphic.
- 2 The composition of a holomorphic map with a holomorphic function is holomorphic.
- 3 The composition of a holomorphic map with a meromorphic function is meromorphic.

## Lemma

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Thus for any holomorphic map  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  between Riemann surfaces, then for any open set  $W \subseteq Y$  we have a corresponding  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra homomorphism

$$F^* : \mathcal{O}_Y(W) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(F^{-1}(W)).$$

## Definition

An *isomorphism* between Riemann surfaces is a holomorphic map  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  which is bijective, and whose inverse  $F^{-1} : X \rightarrow Y$  is holomorphic. A self-isomorphism  $F : X \rightarrow X$  is called an *automorphism*.

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## Theorem

The Riemann Sphere  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$  and the projective line  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$  are isomorphic.

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- 3 Let  $X$  be a compact Riemann surface, and let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map. Then  $Y$  is compact and  $F$  is onto.

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# Properties of holomorphic maps

## Theorem

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- 4 Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map. Then for every  $y \in Y$ , the preimage of  $F^{-1}(y)$  is a discrete subset of  $X$ .
- 5 There is a one-one correspondence between meromorphic functions on  $X$  and holomorphic maps  $F : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$  between  $X$  and the Riemann sphere which are not identically  $\infty$ , given by  $F(x) = f(x)$  if  $x$  is not a pole of  $f$  and  $F(x) = \infty$  if  $x$  is a pole of  $f$ .

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# Order of a meromorphic function

## Definition

Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function at  $p$ , whose Laurent series in local coordinate  $z$  is  $\sum_n c_n(z - z_0)^n$  where  $f(p) = z_0$ . The order of  $f$  at  $p$ , denoted by  $\text{ord}_p(f)$ , is the minimum exponent appearing in the Laurent series i.e.

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## Theorem

Suppose  $f$  is a meromorphic function at  $p$ .

- 1 Then  $f$  is holomorphic at  $p$  if and only if  $\text{ord}_p(f) \geq 0$ .
- 2 Then  $f$  has a pole at  $p$  if and only if  $\text{ord}_p(f) < 0$ .
- 3 Then  $f$  has neither zero nor a pole at  $p$  if and only if  $\text{ord}_p(f) = 0$ .

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be nonzero meromorphic functions at  $p \in X$ . Then

- ①  $\text{ord}_p(fg) = \text{ord}_p(f) + \text{ord}_p(g)$ .
- ②  $\text{ord}_p(f/g) = \text{ord}_p(f) - \text{ord}_p(g)$ .
- ③  $\text{ord}_p(1/f) = -\text{ord}_p(f)$ .
- ④  $\text{ord}_p(f \pm g) \geq \min\{\text{ord}_p(f), \text{ord}_p(g)\}$ .

## Proposition: Local Normal Form

Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map between the Riemann surfaces  $X$  and  $Y$  defined at  $p$ . Then there exists a unique integer  $m \geq 1$  which satisfies the following property:

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*Proof:* Consider charts  $\phi_1 : U_1 \rightarrow V_1$  on  $X$  centered at  $p$  (i.e.  $\phi_1(p) = 0$ ) and  $\phi_2 : U_2 \rightarrow V_2$  on  $Y$  centered at  $F(p)$ . Consider the Taylor expansion  $\sum_m c_m w^m$  of  $\Psi = \phi_2 \circ F \circ \phi_1^{-1}(w)$  on  $\phi_1(U_1)$ . Then  $m \geq 1$  as  $T(0) = 0$ . Take  $T(w) = w^m(S(w))^m$  where  $S(w) \neq 0$  on  $\phi_1(U_1)$ .



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$$\begin{aligned}\phi_2(F((wS(w) \circ \phi_1)^{-1}(wS(w)))) &= \phi_2(F(\phi_1^{-1} \circ (wS(w))^{-1}(wS(w)))) \\ &= T((wS(w))^{-1}(wS(w))) \\ &= T(w) = (wS(w))^m.\end{aligned}$$

# Multiplicity

## Definition

The *multiplicity* of  $F$  at  $p$ , denoted  $\text{mult}_p(F)$ , is the unique integer  $m$  such that there are local coordinates near  $p$  and  $F(p)$  with  $F$  having the form  $z \rightarrow z^m$ .

If  $\text{mult}_p(F) \geq 2$ , then  $p$  is called a *ramification point*.

If  $p$  is a ramification point, then  $F(p) \in Y$  is a *branch point*.

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## Example

Let  $X$  be a Riemann surface. Let  $\phi : U \rightarrow V$  be a chart map on  $X$ . Consider  $\phi$  as a holomorphic map to the trivial Riemann surface  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then  $\phi$  has multiplicity one at every point of  $U$ .

## Lemma

Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a holomorphic map at  $p \in X$ . Take any local coordinates  $z$  near  $p$  and  $w$  near  $F(p)$  where  $z_0$  and  $w_0$  corresponds to  $p$  and  $F(p)$  respectively. Then  $F$  can be written as  $w = h(z)$  where  $h$  is a holomorphic function. The multiplicity of  $F$  at  $p$  is one more than the order of vanishing of the derivative  $h'(z_0)$  of  $h$  i.e.

$$\text{mult}_p(F) = 1 + \text{ord}_{z_0} \left( \frac{dh}{dz} \right).$$

# Degree of a Holomorphic map

## Theorem

Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map between compact Riemann surfaces. For each  $y \in Y$ , define  $d_y(F)$  to be the sum of the multiplicities of  $F$  at the points of  $X$  mapping to  $y$ :

$$d_y(F) = \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(y)} \text{mult}_p(F).$$

Then  $d_y(F)$  is constant, independent of  $y$ .

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Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map between compact Riemann surfaces. For each  $y \in Y$ , define  $d_y(F)$  to be the sum of the multiplicities of  $F$  at the points of  $X$  mapping to  $y$ :

$$d_y(F) = \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(y)} \text{mult}_p(F).$$

Then  $d_y(F)$  is constant, independent of  $y$ .

## Definition

Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map between compact Riemann surfaces, The **degree** of  $F$ , denoted by  $\deg(F)$ , is the integer  $d_y(F)$  for any  $y \in Y$ .

## Proposition

A holomorphic map between compact Riemann surfaces is an isomorphism if and only if it has degree one.

# Some results

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## Proposition

Let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function on a compact Riemann surface  $X$ . Then

$$\sum_{p \in X} \text{ord}_p(f) = 0.$$

## Definition

Let  $S$  be a compact 2-manifold. A *triangulation* of  $S$  is a decomposition of  $S$  into closed subsets, each homeomorphic to a triangle, such that any two triangles are either disjoint, meet only at a single vertex, or meet only along a single edge.

# Euler Number

## Definition

Let  $S$  be a compact 2-manifold. A *triangulation* of  $S$  is a decomposition of  $S$  into closed subsets, each homeomorphic to a triangle, such that any two triangles are either disjoint, meet only at a single vertex, or meet only along a single edge.

## Definition

Let  $S$  be a compact 2-manifold, possibly with boundary. Suppose a triangulation of  $S$  is given, with  $v$  vertices,  $e$  edges, and  $t$  triangles. The *Euler number* of  $S$  is the integer  $\mathbf{e}(S) = v - e + t$ .

## Fact!

The Euler number is independent of the choice of triangulations of  $S$ .

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- ④ Riemann-Hurwitz Formula

## Theorem (Riemann-Hurwitz Formula)

Let  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  be a nonconstant holomorphic map between compact Riemann surfaces. Then

$$e(X) = \deg(F)e(Y) - \sum_{\text{branch point } p \in X} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)].$$

*Proof:* Since  $X$  is compact, the set of ramification points is finite.

Take a triangulation of  $Y$ , such that each branch point of  $F$  is a vertex. Assume there are  $v$  vertices,  $e$  edges, and  $t$  triangles. Lift this triangulation to  $X$  via the map  $F$ , and assume there are  $v'$  vertices,  $e'$  edges, and  $t'$  triangles on  $X$ . Note that every ramification point of  $F$  is a vertex on  $X$ .

Since there are no ramification points over the general point of any triangle, each triangle of  $Y$  lifts to  $\deg(F)$  triangles in  $X$ . Thus  $t' = \deg(F)t$ . Similarly,  $e' = \deg(F)e$ .

Now, for any  $q \in Y$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |F^{-1}(q)| &= \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} 1 \\ &= \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} 1 + \deg(F) - \deg(F) \\ &= \deg(F) + \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)]. \end{aligned}$$

Now, for any  $q \in Y$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |F^{-1}(q)| &= \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} 1 \\ &= \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} 1 + \deg(F) - \deg(F) \\ &= \deg(F) + \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)]. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the total number of preimages of vertices of  $Y$ , which is the number  $v'$  of vertices of  $X$ , is

$$\begin{aligned} v' &= \sum_{\text{branch point } q \text{ of } Y} \left( \deg(F) + \sum_{p \in F^{-1}(q)} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)] \right) \\ &= \deg(F)v + \sum_{\text{ramification point } p \text{ of } X} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)] \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} e(X) &= v' - e' + t' \\ &= \left( \deg(F)v + \sum_{\text{vertex } p \text{ of } X} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)] \right) - \deg(F)e + \deg(F)t \\ &= \deg(F)e(Y) + \sum_{\text{vertex } p \text{ of } X} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)]. \end{aligned}$$





# Example

Let  $f(z) = \frac{z^3}{1-z^2}$ , considered as a meromorphic function on the Riemann Sphere  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$  i.e.  $S^2 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \mathbb{C}_\infty \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{C}$  where  $\phi_1(x, y, w) = \frac{x}{1-w} + \frac{y}{1-w}i = z$  and  $\phi_1(0, 0, 1) = \infty$ .

At  $z = 0$ , we have  $\frac{z^3}{1-z^2} = \sum_{n \geq 0} z^{2n+3}$ , which implies  $\text{ord}_0(f) = 3$ .

At  $z = 1$ , we have  $\frac{z^3}{1-z^2} = \frac{(1-(1-z))^3}{(1-z)(1+z)}$ , which implies  $\text{ord}_1(f) = -1$ .

At  $z = -1$ , we have  $\frac{z^3}{1-z^2} = \frac{((1+z)-1)^3}{(1-z)(1+z)}$ , which implies  $\text{ord}_{-1}(f) = -1$ .

At  $z = \infty$ , we have  $\frac{\frac{1}{z^3}}{1-\frac{1}{z^2}} = -\sum_{n \geq 0} z^{2n-1}$ , which implies  $\text{ord}_\infty(f) = -1$ .

To find multiplicity, we need to resort to the local coordinates. We have two charts  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  on the domain space along with  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  in the target space. Local coordinates attached to them are  $z, \frac{1}{z}, f(z)$  and  $\frac{1}{f(z)}$  respectively. We then have

$$h(z) = \begin{cases} f(z) = \frac{z^3}{1-z^2}, & F^{-1}(V_1) \cap U_1, \\ f(\frac{1}{z}) = \frac{1}{z(z^2-1)}, & F^{-1}(V_1) \cap U_2, \\ \frac{1}{f(z)} = \frac{1-z^2}{z^3}, & F^{-1}(V_2) \cap U_1, \\ \frac{1}{f(\frac{1}{z})} = z(z^2-1), & F^{-1}(V_2) \cap U_2. \end{cases}$$

On  $F^{-1}(V_1) \cap U_1$ , we have  $h'(z) = \frac{z^2(3-z^2)}{(1-z^2)^2}$ . This gives the ramification points

$$z = 0, \quad \text{mult}_0(F) = 1 + 2 = 3,$$

$$z = \sqrt{3}, \quad \text{mult}_{\sqrt{3}}(F) = 1 + 1 = 2,$$

$$z = -\sqrt{3}, \quad \text{mult}_{-\sqrt{3}}(F) = 1 + 1 = 2.$$

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$$z = -\sqrt{3}, \quad \text{mult}_{-\sqrt{3}}(F) = 1 + 1 = 2.$$

Similarly, we have

$$F^{-1}(V_1) \cap U_2 \implies h'(z) = \frac{1 - 3z^2}{z^2(z^2 - 1)} \quad \text{R.P } \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sim \pm\sqrt{3}$$

$$F^{-1}(V_2) \cap U_1 \implies h'(z) = \frac{z^2(z^2 - 3)}{z^6} \quad \text{No new R.P}$$

$$F^{-1}(V_2) \cap U_2 \implies h'(z) = 3z^2 - 1 \quad \text{No new R.P}$$

Recall the formula

$$e(X) = \deg(F)e(Y) - \sum_{\text{branch point } p \in X} [1 - \text{mult}_p(F)].$$

We know that  $e(\mathbb{C}_\infty) = -2$ . Furthermore, the degree of  $F$  is 3 by the ramification point 0. So,

$$-2 = 3(-2) - ((1 - 3) + (1 - 2) + (1 - 2))$$

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THANK YOU!!!