

Dr. Paul Hamacher

Abelian varieties (MA 5115)

As usual, we work over an algebraically closed field k .

This week we are considering quotients of schemes by finite groups. As we will see next week, if we form the quotient of an Abelian variety by a finite group, the quotient is an Abelian variety and the quotient map is an isogeny. In other words, the quotient construction allows us to construct isogenies (if $\text{char } k = 0$ even “all of them”).

Exercise 1. Let X be a scheme with a finite group G acting on it such that the quotient $X // G$ exists. We want to show the following universal property. Let $\pi: X \rightarrow X'$ be a G -invariant morphism of schemes (i.e. $\pi(gx) = \pi(x)$ for all g, x). Then there exists a unique morphism $X // G \rightarrow X'$ such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\pi} & X' \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \\ X // G & & \end{array}$$

commutes.

- First show that there exists a unique continuous map of topological spaces such that the diagram is commutative.
- now show that there exists a unique morphism of schemes

Exercise 2. In order to define quotients of varieties, we are going to need the following property. If X is a quasi-projective variety $S \subset X$ a finite set, then there exists $U \subset X$ affine open such that $S \subset U$.

- Prove the statement for projective varieties (as we will apply it to Abelian varieties)
- Prove the statement in general.

Deadline: Monday, 18th January, 2011