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A NOTE ON HIGHER ORDER DUAL VARIETIES, WITH AN APPLICATION TO SCROLLS
by

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# A note on higher order dual varieties, with an application to scrollis. 

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## 1. Introduction.

The dual variety $X^{\vee} \subset \mathbb{P}^{n}$ of a variety $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{n}$ is the closure of the set of byperplanes containing the tangent space to $X$ at some smooth point. We define the m-aual variety $X_{m}^{V} \leftharpoondown \mathbb{P}^{n}$ of $x$ as the closure of the set of hyperplanes containing an m-th osculating space to $X$, in particular, $X_{1}^{V} * X^{V}$. More generally, if $G=$ Grass $_{a+1}(V)$ denotes the Grassmann variety of a-spaces in $\mathbb{P}(V)=\mathbb{P}^{n}$, we can define muth osculating spaces of a variety $X \subset G, u s i n g$ the sheaves of principal parts, and hence its m-dual variety $X_{m}^{V} \subset$ Grass $_{a+1}\left(V^{V}\right)$ as the closure of the set of (n-a-1)spaces containing an m-th oiculating space to $X$. This is of course closely related to Poll's associated varieties ([Poh1]).

We show, in Prop. 1, a weak biduality resuit for m-duals: one always has $X \subset\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)_{m}^{V}$, and equality hold: wider a dimension hypothesis, which is alway. satiefied in the cla.sical sase.

It is natural to ask for the degree of $X_{u s}^{V}$ in terms of characters of $X$. Since we are working with "modified" bundes of principal parts, this can be done - at least in prineiple: - as in the clussical case (see e.g. [P2], [U]).

Here we only deal explicitly with the case of a scroll (i.e., a ruled, non-developable surface) $X \subset \mathbb{P}(V)$, or, equivalently, a curve $C \subset G r a s s_{2}(V)$. In general, a scroll has $2 n d$ osculating spaces of dimension 4. We give a formula for deg $X_{2}^{V}$ 。

[^0]In the case $\mathbb{P}(V)=\mathbb{P}^{5}$, we call $X^{*}=X_{2}^{V}$ the sicict dual of $X$. If dim $X^{*}=2$, then $X^{*}$ is also a scroll and $X^{* *}=X$ holas. Moreover, the dual vaxiety $X^{\prime}$ (the normal bundle of $X$ ) is equal to the osculating developable of $X^{*}$, and the dual plane of a tangent plane to $X$ is the tangent plane to $X^{*}$ at the corresponding point. Hence we get, for scrolls in $\mathbb{P}^{5}$, a complete parallell to the duality existing between a curve $C \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$, itis strict dual curve $0^{*} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$, and their developables (see e.g. $[P 1]$, 9 ; [p3], Remark 1 on p. 111).

Scrolls are examples of surfaces with "too small" osculating spaces of higher order, hence are "of type ${ }^{\text {s }}$ " in the texminology of Corrado Segre. I am grateful to Gianni Sacchiero for bringing these - in particular the scrolls and their strict duals - to my attention.

## 2. Higher order dual varieties.

Fix the following notations:
$V$ is an $(n+1)$-dimensional vector space over an algebraically closed field $k$ of characteristic $0, G$ is the Grassmann variety Grass $_{a+1}(V)$ consisting of $(a+1)$-quotients of $V$, (identified with a.-dimensional linear subspaces of $\mathbb{P}(V)$ ), and $V_{G} \rightarrow Q$ is the universal $(a+1)$-quotient on $G$.

For each integer m there is a natural homomorphism

$$
\alpha^{m}: V_{G}=H^{\circ}(G, Q)_{G} \rightarrow \bar{F}_{G}^{m}(Q)
$$

Where $P_{G}^{m}(Q)$ denotes the bundle of principal parts of order $m$ of $Q$ (see [P1], §6).

Let $X \in G$ be a subvariety, of dimension $r$, and set $E=Q \mid$ The restriction of $\alpha^{m}$, composed with the natural map $\left.P_{G}^{m}(Q)\right|_{X} \rightarrow P_{X}^{m}(E)$, gives a homonorphism

$$
a^{m}: V_{X} \rightarrow P_{X}^{m}(E)
$$

A point $x \in X$ is called $m$ megular if $x$ is smooth and if $a^{\text {II }}(x)$ is surjective; if these points are dense in $X$, we say that $X$ is generically m-regular. At each maregular point $x \in X$ there is a. well-defined $m-t h$ osculating space, of dimension $(a+1)\binom{r+m}{m}-1$, defined by $a^{m}(x)$. Hence a generically m-regulax $X$ has an $m$-th associated variety $X^{(m)} C$ Grass $(a+1)\binom{r+m}{m}(V)$, defined as the closure of the set of the m-th osculating spaces (see [Pohl], § IV). We define the $\underline{m-d u a l}$ variety $X_{r a}^{V} \subset G^{V}=$ Grass $_{2+1}\left(V^{V}\right)=\operatorname{Grass}_{n+a}(V)$ to be the closure of the set of (n-a-1)-spaces containing an m-th osculating space.

Even if $X$ is nowhere m-regular, we can define motin oscu.. lating spaces: let $U \subset X$ be an open dense smooth subscheme such that $K_{U}=\left.\operatorname{Ker}\left(a^{m}\right)\right|_{U}$ is a sub.mbunde of $V_{U}$, or, equivelentiy, such that $\operatorname{Im}\left(a^{m}\right)$ is a bundle. If $\operatorname{Im}\left(a^{m}\right) \propto s+1$, then each point $x \in U$ has an $m$-th osculating space, of dimension $s$, . defined by $a^{m}(x)$. The m-dual variety $X_{m}^{V} c G^{V}$ of $X$ is the closure of the set of ( $n-a-1$ )-spaces containing the m-th osculating spaces. Let $\tilde{X} \in G \times G^{V}$ be the closure of $\operatorname{Grass}_{a+1}\left(K_{U}^{V}\right) \operatorname{cGrass}_{a+1}\left(V_{U}^{V}\right)=U \times G_{g}^{V}$ then $X_{m}^{V}=\operatorname{pr}_{2}(\tilde{X})$. Let $\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)^{\sim} G G \times G^{\vee}$ denote the corresponding variety constructed for $X_{f}^{V}$, so that $\left.\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)_{m}^{V}=\mathrm{pr}_{1}\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)^{\sim}\right)_{\text {. }}$

The following proposition gives a weak biduality for m-dual varieties, generalizing the classical biduality for projective varieties (see [K]).

Proposition 1; If $X_{m \neq}^{V} \neq \phi$, then $\tilde{x} \in\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)^{\sim}$ and $X \subset\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)_{m}^{V}$. In particular, if $\tilde{X}=\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)^{\sim}$ (ide., if $\left.\operatorname{dim} \tilde{\mathbb{M}_{2}}=\operatorname{dim}\left(X_{m}^{V}\right)^{\sim}\right)$, then $X=\left(X_{\text {II }}^{V}\right)_{\text {m }}^{V}$ holds.

Remark: In the classical case $(a=0, m=1), \operatorname{dim} \tilde{X}=\operatorname{dim}\left(X^{V}\right)^{\sim}=n-1$ always. An example where the equality does not hold: $X \in \mathbb{P}^{6}$ a generically 2-regular surface contained in a hyperplane $H$. Then $X_{2}^{V}=\{H\} \in \mathbb{P}^{6}$ and $\left(X_{2}^{V}\right)_{2}^{V} H_{0}$

Proof: It suffices to show the inclusion $\tilde{X} c\left(X_{r u}^{V}\right)^{V}$ on an open dense of $\tilde{X}_{0}$ Let $p: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ and $q: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X_{z}^{V}$ denote the projections. Consider a point $(x, y) \in \tilde{X} \subset G \times G^{V}$ such that $X \in U, X$ is in the corresponding $V \subset X_{m}^{V}$, and $q$ is smooth at $(x, y)$. Let $F$ denote the restriction of the universal (a+1 )-quotient of $V^{\vee} v$ to $X_{f a}^{V}$, and consider the following diagram (restricted to $\mathrm{p}^{-1} \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{U}}^{\mathrm{G}}$ ) :


To show that $(x, y) \in\left(X_{i n}^{V}\right)^{V}$ amounts to showing that the compositron $q^{*} \cdot P_{y_{m}^{m}}^{V_{m}}(F) \rightarrow p^{*} E$ is zero (locally at ( $\left.x, y\right)$ ). The map
 composition $\quad q^{*} F^{V} \rightarrow V_{\tilde{Z}} \rightarrow P^{*} E$ is zero, we obtain, by "differentiating" (i.e. applying the differential operators of order $\leq m$, correlsponding to $P_{\widetilde{X}}^{M n}$, to this composition), that $P_{\widetilde{X}}^{m}\left(q^{*} \mathbb{F}\right)^{V} \rightarrow p^{*} E$ is zero. Since $q^{*} p_{y_{k}^{m}}^{v_{n}}(\mathbb{F}) \rightarrow p_{\tilde{X}}^{m}\left(q^{*} F\right)$ is locally split at $(x, y)$, we
obtain that $q^{*} P_{X_{V}^{m}}^{V_{m}}(F) \rightarrow p^{*} E$ is zero at $(x, y)$. (This is the same as the axgument ${ }^{\mathrm{m}}$ used for curves in $\mathbb{P}^{n}$, as in $[P 1], \S 5$. )

Suppose $X$ is generically m-regular. Then $r k K_{U}=n+1-(a+1)\binom{r+m}{m}$. If $r k K_{U} \geq a+1$, then $\dddot{X}$ is defined and has dimension $x+(a+1)\left(n-a-(a+1)\binom{r+m}{m}\right)$. Set $r^{V}=\operatorname{dim} X_{m}^{V}$. If $X_{m}^{V}$ is also generically m-regular, then biduality holds if and only if $r-(a+1)^{2}\binom{x+m}{y n}=x^{v}-(a+1)^{2}\binom{x^{v}+m}{m}$.

This is possible only if $a=0$ and $m=1$ (the classical case), or if $r=r^{V}$. In fact, when $r k K_{U}>a+1, X_{m}^{V}$ is ruled, and hence shguld not be generically m-regular. Note that the surjections $P_{X}^{i}(E) \rightarrow P_{X}^{j-1}(E)$ give a sequence of inclusions

$$
x^{V}=X_{1}^{v} \supset x_{2}^{V} \supset \ldots \supset x_{\text {m }}^{V} \supset \ldots
$$

and that one could, instead
of $\tilde{X}$, construct an $\tilde{X}_{1,2}, \ldots$ in the product of all the Grass. mannians.

As in the case of clasisical duality, there is an invariance of m-duals under sections and projections: Suppose $W \subset V$ is a subspace, din $W \geq a+1$. For $X \subset G=\operatorname{Grass}_{a+1}(V)$, consider the projection

$$
X \rightarrow-\rightarrow \text { Grass }_{a+1}(W) \text { corresponding to } W_{G} \rightarrow E .
$$

If the center of projection $\mathbb{P}(V / W)$ is reasonable (i.e., if most of the a-spaces coxresponding to points of $X$ are projected to a Spaces in $\mathbb{P}(W)$ ), this map is rational, and we denote by $\mathbb{X}$ the closure of its image, From the functorial properties of the sheaves of principal parts, we get:

Proposition 2: The madual of a projection is the corresponding section of the m-dual, i.e.,

$$
X_{m}^{V}=X_{m}^{V} n \text { Grass }_{a+1}\left(W^{V}\right) \text { hol.ds. }
$$

(The proof. is similar to the one in the classical ( $a=0$ ) case: See [P2], p.269, and observe that the genericity assump.tion made there is unnecessary.)

The degree of $X \in G$ is its degree in $\mathbb{P}\left(\wedge^{a+1} V\right)$ via the Plücke embedding. Thus we have deg $X=c_{1}(E)^{r} \cap[K]$, and deg $X_{m}^{V}=$ $c_{1}(F)^{r^{V}} \cap\left[x_{m}^{V}\right]$. Whenever we can express $F$ (or $q^{*} F$ ) in terms. of known bundles, we get an expression for deg $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{m}}^{V}$. When x is generically m-regular, $F$ is detormined by $P_{X}^{m}(E)$ and the singularities of $a^{\text {m }}$; hence we get, at least in principle, an expression for $\operatorname{deg} X_{\mathrm{D}}^{V}$ in terms of the degree of $X$ and its Chern classes (or rather, the Chern classes of a desingularization of $X$ ) and the various singulaxities of $X$ and $a^{m}$. The very simplest case occurs when $X$ is smooth and m-regular, $n-a=(a+1)\binom{r+m}{m}$ and $r^{V}=r$. Then deg $X_{m}^{V}=c_{1}\left(q^{*} F\right)^{r}=c_{1}\left(K^{V}\right)^{r}=c_{1}\left(P_{X}^{W}(E)\right)^{r}$. (For formulas in the classical case, see [P2], [U]; see also [Pohl] for associated varieties).

In the case of curves, formulas exist: Let $X \subset \mathbb{X}(V)$ be a curve spanning $\mathbb{P}(V)$. Then $X$ is generically m-regular, for $m \leq n$, and we have associated curves $X^{(n)} \subset \operatorname{Grass}_{m+1}(V)$ and corresponding osculating developables $Y_{m} \subset \mathbb{F}(V)$. We also have m-dual varieties $X_{\mathrm{In}}^{V} \subset \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$ - these are nothing but the osculating developables $Y_{n-n-1}^{*}$ of the strict dusl curve $X^{*}=X^{(n-1)} \subset \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$; and they are also equal to the dual of the osculating develapables of $X$. More precisely, for each in we have..

$$
\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{m}}^{\mathrm{V}}=\mathrm{Y}_{\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{m}-1}^{*}=\left(\mathrm{Y}_{\mathrm{m}-1}\right)^{V}
$$

The fixst equality followis from the duality of certajn exact sequences on $X$ and $X^{*}$ (3ee $[P 1], 5.2$ ), the second holds because the taugent spaces to $Y_{m-1}$ are the $m$-th osculating spaces to $X$. Thus we have formulas

$$
\operatorname{deg} X_{m}^{V}=(m+1)(d+n(g-1))-\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}(m-i) k_{i},
$$

where $\alpha=\operatorname{deg} X, g=$ (geonetric) genus of $X$, and $k_{i}$ is the i-th stationary index of $X([P 1], 3.2)$.

## 3. Dual varieties of a 3 croll.

Let $X \subset G$ be as in the preceding section. If $m$ is such that $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ is birational, i.e., if there is a uniquely determined $m-t h$ osculating ( $n-a-1$ )-space to $X$ at $X$ for most points $X \in X$, we shall call $X^{*}=X_{m}^{V}$ the itirict dual variety of $X$ 。

For example, if $G \subset \mathbb{P}^{n}$ is a curve spanning $\mathbb{P}^{n}$, then $\mathrm{C}^{*}=\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}-\mathcal{1}^{V}}^{V}$ If $\mathrm{X} \subset \mathbb{P}^{6}$ is a surface which is gererically 2 -regular, then $X^{*}=X_{2}^{V} \subset \mathbb{P}^{V}$ is the strict dual.

An example of surface:; that are nowhere 2-regular (C. Segre called them "of type $\mathbf{q}^{\prime \prime}$ ), are the ruled surfaces: scrolls, developables, and cones. The theory of duals of developables and cones reduces to that of curves in projective space; let us now look at the scrolls. By definition, a scroll $X \subset \mathbb{P}(V)$ is a ruled surface such that the tangent planes to $X$ along a (general) generator are non-constant. Suppose $1 \subset X$ is a generator, $x \in 1$. The 2nd osculating space to $X$ at $x$, defined by $a^{2}: V_{X} \rightarrow P_{X}^{2}(1)$, is the space spanned by the tangent planes to $X$ along 1 (this gives a $\mathbb{P}^{3}$ ) and the and osculating space to
a curve on $X$ at $X$. If $X$ is not contained in a $\mathbb{P}^{3}$, one expect this space to be of dimension 4 ; if $X$ is not contained in a $\mathbb{P}^{4}$, one expects these 4 -spaces to vary along $l$, so that $X^{*}$ has dimension 2. We shall now generalize to scrolls in $\mathbb{I P}^{5}$ the duality results for curves in $\mathbb{P}^{3}([P 1],[P 3]):$ Let $C \subset \mathbb{P}^{3} \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{V}$ be a (non planar) curve, and let $C^{*} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$ denote its strict dual. The dual $C^{V} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$ is the normal bundie to $C$ and the tangent developable of $C^{*}$, and similarly for $\left(C^{*}\right)^{V}$. Moreover, the dual line of a tangent line to $C$ is the tangent line to $C^{*}$ at the corresponding point - in other words, the associated curves ${ }_{C}{ }^{(1)} \subset \operatorname{Grass}_{2}(V)$ and $C^{*(1)} \subset \operatorname{Grass}_{2}\left(V^{V}\right)=\operatorname{Grass}_{2}(V)$ are equal. Proposition 3: Let $X \subset \mathbb{P}(V)=\mathbb{P}^{5}$ be a scroll which admits a strict dual $X^{*}=X_{2}^{V}$, and assume $\operatorname{dim} X^{*}=2$. Then $X^{*}$ is a scroll. The dual $X^{\vee} \subset \mathbb{P}\left(V^{\vee}\right)$, the nomal bundle of $X$, is equal to the tangent developable of $\mathrm{X}^{*}$, and vice versa. Moreover, the dual plane of a tangent plane to $X$ is the tangent plane to $X^{*}$ at the corresponding point - in other words, the associated varieties $X^{(1)} \subset \operatorname{Grass}_{3}(V)$ and $X^{*}(1) \subset \operatorname{Grass}_{3}\left(V^{V}\right)$ are equal.

Proof: Let $X^{\prime}$ be a modification of $X$ and of $X^{*}$ such that $\operatorname{Im}\left(a^{1}\right)$ and $\operatorname{Im}\left(a_{*}^{1}\right)$ admit quotiont bundles $P_{1}$ and $P_{1}^{*}$ of rank 3. Then $K=\operatorname{ker}\left(V_{X^{\prime}} \rightarrow P_{1}\right)$ and $K^{*}=\operatorname{ker}\left(V_{X^{\prime}}^{V} \rightarrow P_{1}^{*}\right)$ are bundles of rank 3 , and the sequences $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow V_{X^{\prime}} \rightarrow P^{1} \rightarrow 0$ and $0-P_{1}^{*}+V_{X^{\prime}}^{V}+K^{*}+0$ are dual to each other: as j.n the proof of Prop. 1, one shows that (generically on $X^{\prime}$ ) the composition of $\left(a_{*}^{1}\right)^{V}: P_{X *}^{1}(1)^{V} \rightarrow V_{X *}$ with $a^{1}: V_{X} \rightarrow P_{X}^{1}(1)$ is zero; since $a_{*}^{1}$ and $a^{1}$ both have rank 3 , the result follows. In particular
the existence of the exact sequence

$$
0 \rightarrow\left(P_{1}^{*}\right)^{v} \rightarrow v_{X .} . \rightarrow p^{1} \rightarrow 0
$$

Bhows that the tangent planes to $X^{*}$ are the dual planes of the tangent planes to $X$; hence if $X$ is a scroll, so is $X^{*}$. The other statements also follow directly from that exact sequence.

There is still another parallell to the curve case, namely to the fact that the stirict dual curve $0^{*} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$ is a cuspidal edge of the dual variety $C^{V} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$ of a curve $c \subset P^{3}$.

Proposition 4: If $X \in \mathbb{P}^{5}$ is a scroll, then its strict dual $X^{*}$ is a "cuspidal edge" of the dual variety $X^{\vee} \subset \mathbb{P}^{\vee}$.

Proof: Assume $X$ is smooth, and $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3} \quad$ a generic projection. Scrolls with ordinary singularities in $\mathbb{P}^{3}$ are numerjcally selfdual, so $\bar{X}^{\vee} \subset \mathbb{P}^{3}$ has a finite number of pinch points, corresponding to the pinch points of $\mathbb{X}$. If $L \in \mathbb{p}^{5}$ is the centre of projection, a pinch point of $\bar{X}$ occurs when $L$ intersects a tangent, i.e., when $I$ intexsects the $\mathbb{H}^{3}$ spanned by the t:agent planes along a generator. But then $I$ and this $\mathbb{P}^{3}$ span a $\mathbb{P}^{4}$ which is necessarily a point in $X^{*}$ and also in $\mathbb{P}^{3}=L^{V} \subset \mathbb{P}^{V}$. Since $X^{V}=X^{\vee} \cap \mathbb{Z}^{3}$, it follows that the "ramified singularities" of $X^{V}$ are precisely the points of $X^{*}$. Jf $X$ is not assumed smooth, there might be other "cuspidal edges", as in the case of curves, where inflectionary tangents are cuspidal edges on the developable.

In order to compute the aegree of $\mathrm{X}^{*}$, it is convenient to consider $X$ as a curve $C \subset G=G r a s s{ }_{2}(V)$. Consider $a^{1}: V_{C} \rightarrow P_{C}^{1}(F)$, where $E$ is the restriction of the universal 2-quotient of $V$ on $G$. The subspaces of $V$ defined by $a^{1}$ can be interpreted by choosjng, locally, a trivialization of $E$, correspondjng to two curve sections of $x$. Hence $a^{1}$ defines, at a generator 1. $\in C$ of $X$, the space spanned by 1 and the tangent to the curves at the points of intersection with 1 , hence it is equal to the space spanned by the tangent planes to $X$ along $l_{0}$ Since $X$ j.s a scroll, this space has dirammion 3 , so 0 is generically 1mpegular. It follows that $C^{*}=O_{1}^{V} \operatorname{CGrass}_{4}(V)=$ Grassen $\left(V^{V}\right)$ is the strict dual of $C$ (and $C^{*} \Rightarrow C^{(1)}$, the 1 st associated curve of $C$ ). If $X^{*}$ jis a scroll, then $C^{*}$ is generically 1~regular, and $C^{* *}=\mathrm{C}$ (by Prop.1). Moreover, the $2 n d$ osculating spaces to $X$ along a generator 1 are just the 4 -spaces containing the 3 -space spanned by the tangent planes. In other words, $0^{*}$ is equal to $X^{*}$ considered as a curve in Grasse $\left(V^{\vee}\right)$, Thus we have proved;

Proposition 5: If $X \in \mathbb{F}(V)=\mathbb{P}^{5}$ is a scroll such that $X^{*}$ is a scroll, then $X^{* *}=X$ holds。

The next propesition gives a Iomula for the degree of $\mathbb{X}^{*}$.

Proposition 6: Let $X \in \mathbb{P}(V) \cong \mathbb{P}^{5}$ be a scroll of degree $d$ and genus $g$, and suppose $X^{*} \subset \mathbb{P}\left(V^{\vee}\right)$ is a serolt. Then

$$
\left.\operatorname{deg} X^{*}=2(d+c)-2\right)+k
$$

where $k$ is the stationary index of $C \subset G r a s n_{2}(V)$.
Remark: Let $v: C^{\prime} \rightarrow C$ denote the normalization, then, by definition, $k=\lg \left(\right.$ Coker $\left.V_{O^{\prime}}{ }^{-1} \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{C}}{ }^{\prime}\left(\nu^{*} \mathrm{E}\right)\right)$. By trivializing E one sees that an ordinary cusp of 0 counts twice in $k$ (which checks with [Edge] § 349). Or, $k$ is the number (counted properly) of singular Eenerators of $X$ ([Pon], p.208).

Corollary: The stationary index $k^{*}$ of $C^{*}$ is given by

$$
k^{*}=3(d+2(2 g-2))-2 k
$$

Proof: On $C^{\prime}, P_{C}^{1}(E)$ admitis a 4-quotient, namely $P_{1}=\operatorname{Im}\left(V_{C^{\prime}} \rightarrow P_{C}^{\prime}\left(\nu^{*} E\right)\right)_{0}$ llence: $\operatorname{atg} X^{*}=\operatorname{deg} C^{*}=c_{1}\left(P_{1}\right)=$ $c_{1}\left(P_{C}^{1},\left(v^{*} E\right)\right)-k=2(d+2 \xi-2)-k$. Tre corollacy lollow from the duality $X^{* *}=X$ of prop. $\quad \mathrm{a}=\mathrm{ateg} \mathrm{X}=2\left(\mathrm{a}^{*}+2 \mathrm{C}-2\right)-k^{*}$.

Note that if: $X$ has no :ingulas generators ( $k=0$ ), then $k^{*}=3(\alpha+2(2,-2))$, and hence $X^{*}$ has nu singalar generatorm i.f and only if $d:=d^{*}=4, E^{*}=0$. (Such scrolls are linearly normal in $\mathbb{P}^{5}$.)

We shall now look at some other approaches to the degree of $X^{*}$.

Because of the following (classical) proposition, the degree of $X^{*}$ is equal to $d e g\left(X^{*}\right)^{V}$, nonce to the degree of the tangent developable of $X$ (Prop.3).

Proposition 2 : Let $X \in \mathbb{P}(V) \approx \mathbb{P}^{n}$ be a sucroll, $X^{V}=\mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$ i.ts dual. Shen:

$$
\operatorname{deg} X^{V}=\operatorname{deg} X
$$

Proof: The classical proot goes like this: project X to a scroll $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{P}(W) \cong \mathbb{P}^{3}$ with $a=\operatorname{deg} X=\operatorname{deg} X$. Then $\bar{X}^{V}=X^{V} \cap \mathbb{P}(V / W)$, so deg $X^{V}=\operatorname{deg} X^{V}$ holds. If $L \subset \mathbb{P}(W)$ is a general line,
 $=$ deg $X$. Note that $X$ and $\bar{X}^{V}$ are in fact equal considered as curves in $\operatorname{Grass}_{2}(W)=\operatorname{Grasis}_{2}\left(W^{V}\right)$.

For a "modern" proof, ore reduces to the case that $X \in \mathbb{P}(V)$ is smooth, say $X=\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{E}) \rightarrow C$, Then

$$
\operatorname{deg} X^{v}=c_{2}\left(P_{X}^{1}(1)\right) s=c_{2}\left(\Omega_{X}^{1}(1)\right)+c_{1}\left(\Omega_{X}^{1}(1) c_{1}\left(o_{X}(1)\right)\right.
$$

which, by standard exact sequenves, reduces to

$$
\operatorname{deg} X^{V}=2 c_{1}(E) c_{1}\left(O_{X}(1)\right)-c_{1}\left(O_{X}(1)\right)^{2}=2 d-d=d
$$

From the exact sequence given in the proof of Prop. 3 we obtain (using [P2], § 2):

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{deg} X^{*} & =\operatorname{deg}\left(X^{*}\right)^{v}=a_{2}\left(P_{1}^{*}\right)=c_{1}\left(p_{1}\right)^{2}-c_{2}\left(P_{1}\right) \\
& =c_{1}\left(P_{1}\right)^{2}-\operatorname{deg} X^{v}=c_{1}\left(P_{1}\right)^{2}-d
\end{aligned}
$$

Suppose $X=P(E) \rightarrow C$ is smooth. Then $X^{\prime} \pm X$ and $P_{1}=P_{X}^{1}(1)$, so we get,

$$
\operatorname{deg} X^{*}=c_{1}\left(P_{X}^{\prime}(1)\right)^{2}-d=3 d+2(2 g-2)-d=2(d+2 g-2)
$$

In the general case, $X$ is the image of a smooth $Y=\mathbb{P}(E) \rightarrow C$, and $X^{\prime}$ is a blowmup of $X$ then $c_{1}\left(P_{1}\right)=c_{1}\left(P_{X}^{\prime}(1)\right)-[R]$, where $R$ is the ramification divisor of $X^{\prime} \rightarrow X$, and we obtain
the earlier formula, but with $k$ expressed "in terms of" $k$.

Two other approaches have been commanicated to me by
I. Vainsencher and $F$. Ronga, respectively.

1. (Vainsencher)

Let $X \subset \mathbb{P}(V) \cong \mathbb{P}^{5}$ be a smooth scroll,
$Y=\mathbb{P}(N(-1))=\left\{(x, H) \mid \mathbb{H} t_{G}\right.$, to $X$ at $\left.x\right\} \subset \mathbb{P}(V) \times \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$,
and set $Z=\left\{(X, H) \in Y \mid H \cap X=1_{X} \cup D\right.$ with $D$ singular at $\left.X\right\}$.
Then $X^{*}=p r_{2}(Z)$. One shows that $Z$ is the zeros of a section of a certain rank 2 bundle on $Y$; since the class of $Y$ in $X \times \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$ is the 3 rd Chern class of a rank 3 bundle, this gives the class of $Z$ in $X \times \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$ as a 5 th Chern class, and allows us to compute deg $X^{*}=2(d+2 g-2)$, provided dim $X^{*}=2$ 。
2. (Ronga)

Assume $X \subset \mathbb{P}(V)$ as above. Now one interprets $Z$ as a modified $\Sigma^{2, ?}$ (again by "forgetting" the generators of $X$ ) of the projection map $X \times \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)+\mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$ 。 By computing all the nomal bundles in sight, one gets an expression for the class of $Z$ in $X \times \mathbb{P}\left(V^{V}\right)$, which allows one to compute $\operatorname{deg} x^{*}=2(d+2 g-2)$.

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