

Let us have $S = \mathfrak{Z}(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - w^2) \subseteq \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^3$ as our quadric surface. Let $N = (0, 0, 1, 1) \in S$ and let $F = \mathfrak{Z}(z)$. Note that $L_1 = \mathfrak{Z}(x - iy, z - w)$, $L_2 = \mathfrak{Z}(ix - y, z - w) \subseteq S$ are rulings at N .

Let us define a map $\pi : S \rightarrow F$ given by projection from N . Let $(a, b, c, d) \in S \setminus \{N\}$. Then the line connecting N and (a, b, c, d) can be parametrized by $(t, u) \in \mathbb{P}^1$ as

$$(ta, tb, (u - t) + tc, (u - t) + td).$$

This line intersects F when $(u - t) + tc = 0$, and so $u - (1 - c)t = 0$, and so $(t, u) = (1, 1 - c)$. Thus the line intersects F at $(a, b, 0, d - c)$. Thus $\pi(a, b, c, d) = (a, b, 0, d - c)$ for all $(a, b, c, d) \neq N$.

We run into a problem with this definition at N . We would have $\pi(N) = (0, 0, 0, 1 - 1) = (0, 0, 0, 0)$ which is not defined. To remedy this, we will need to blow up the quadric at N . By blowing up \mathbb{P}^3 at N , we are essentially replacing N with the set of all lines that contain N . This set of lines forms a plane. When we blow up S at N , we are only interested in such lines that are contained in $T_N(S) = \mathfrak{Z}(z - w)$, the tangent plane of S at N . This set of lines forms a line, which we may parametrize with $(t, u) \in \mathbb{P}^1$. For example, we will denote the line $\mathfrak{Z}(ux - ty, z - w)$ as (t, u) . Note that the rulings L_1 and L_2 may be denoted $(i, 1)$ and $(1, i)$, respectively.

Now that we have blown up S at N , our resulting surface will be denoted \tilde{S} . It is not sufficient to speak of N , in \tilde{S} , but rather $(N, (t, u))$. Note that $T_N(S) \cap F = \mathfrak{Z}(z, w) = \{(a, b, 0, 0)\}$. The line that connects N with $(a, b, 0, 0)$ is $\mathfrak{Z}(bx - ay, z - w)$, which we denote as (a, b) . Thus when we develop a new map to extend π later, we can send $(N, (t, u))$ to $(t, u, 0, 0)$.

Let us return to the rulings L_1 and L_2 . We can parametrize L_1 as (is, s, r, r) for some $(s, r) \in \mathbb{P}^1$. Note that for $s \neq 0$, $\pi(is, s, r, r) = (is, s, 0, 0) = (i, 1, 0, 0)$. Therefore $\pi(L_1) = (i, 1, 0, 0)$. Similarly, we have $\pi(L_2) = (1, i, 0, 0)$. This is not injective. To remedy this, we will need to blow up F at the two points $P_1 = (i, 1, 0, 0)$ and $P_2 = (1, i, 0, 0)$. Blowing up F at P_1 and P_2 replaces each point with the set of lines that contain it. Thus in the blowup \tilde{F} , we must write $(P_1, (t, u))$ instead of P_1 and $(P_2, (t, u))$ instead of P_2 , where $(t, u) \in \mathbb{P}^1$.

The (t, u) in $(P_1, (t, u))$ will stand for the point $(t, 0, 0, u)$ on the x -axis $\mathfrak{Z}(y, z)$ that lays on the line through P_1 . Likewise for $(P_2, (t, u))$.

Then in the extension of π , we can send (is, s, r, r) to $(P_1, (r, s))$ and send (s, is, r, r) to $(P_2, (r, s))$. Note that when $s = 0$, $(is, s, r, r) = (s, is, r, r) = N$ in S . In \tilde{S} , we have $(is, s, r, r) = (N, (i, 1))$ and $(s, is, r, r) = (N, (1, i))$ when $s = 0$. These points get sent to $(P_1, (1, 0))$ and $(P_2, (1, 0))$ respectively. [The reason for this apparent backwards-ness is explained in the blue paragraph below.](#)

Finally, we can formally describe the extension of π ,

$$\tilde{\pi} : \tilde{S} \rightarrow \tilde{F}$$

satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}
 (N, (i, 1)) &\mapsto \overline{(P_1, (0, 1))} (P_1, (1, 0)) \\
 (N, (1, i)) &\mapsto \overline{(P_2, (0, 1))} (P_2, (1, 0)) \\
 (N, (t, u)) &\mapsto (t, u, 0, 0), (i, 1) \neq (t, u) \neq (1, i) \\
 (is, s, r, r) &\mapsto \overline{(P_1, (s, r))} (P_1, (r, s)), (s, r) \neq (0, 1) \\
 (s, is, r, r) &\mapsto \overline{(P_2, (s, r))} (P_2, (r, s)), (s, r) \neq (0, 1) \\
 (a, b, c, d) &\mapsto (a, b, 0, d - c), \text{ else.}
 \end{aligned}$$

We flip the r and s because the points $(P_1, (1, 0))$ and $(P_2, (1, 0))$ are collinear and the line connecting them is $\mathfrak{Z}(z, w)$, which is the image of $\{(N, (t, u))\}$. That is, $\mathfrak{Z}(z, w)$ is the image of the exceptional line of \tilde{S} , and we represent this line with the pair $(1, 0) \in \mathbb{P}^1$. This naming convention comes from the fact that $\mathfrak{Z}(z, w)$ intersects the x -axis $\mathfrak{Z}(y, z)$ at the point $(1, 0, 0, 0)$. We then extend this necessity of the image of N -line to the images of the lines L_1 and L_2 .

We claim that $\tilde{\pi}$ is an isomorphism. We wish to show that blowing down the line in \tilde{F} that connects $(P_1, (1, 0))$ and $(P_2, (1, 0))$ (which is the lift of the line $\mathfrak{Z}(w)$ that connects P_1 and P_2 in F), creates a surface which is isomorphic to \tilde{S} blown down at the exceptional line $\tilde{N} := \{(N, (t, u))\}$. We then wish to understand the blow-down of \tilde{F} as a $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ and understand the graph of the real part of S as a subset of $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$.

Not sure why exactly $\tilde{\pi}$ is an isomorphism. TBD.

We know that $\mathfrak{Z}(w)$ is the image of the exceptional line at N in \tilde{S} , and so (given that $\tilde{\pi}$ is indeed an isomorphism) blowing down the exceptional line in \tilde{S} and blowing down $\mathfrak{Z}(w)$ should maintain isomorphism.

Let \hat{F} be the blowdown of \tilde{F} at $\mathfrak{Z}(w)$. We claim that $\hat{F} \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$. Let $(a, b, 0, d) \in \hat{F} \setminus \mathfrak{Z}(w)$. Then we can represent $(a, b, 0, d)$ with a line through P_1 and a line through P_2 . Let us begin with the case that $(a, b, 0, d)$ is on neither the exceptional lines at P_1 or P_2 . Then in F , we can represent the line connecting P_1 and $(a, b, 0, d)$ with a point along the x -axis collinear with $(a, b, 0, d)$ and P_1 . The line connecting $P_1 = (i, 1, 0, 0)$ and $(a, b, 0, d)$ is given by the polynomial

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} x & y & w \\ a & b & d \\ i & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = x(-d) - y(-di) + w(a - ib).$$

This line intersects the x -axis $\mathfrak{Z}(y, z)$ at $(a - ib, 0, 0, d)$. Thus we can represent the line connecting P_1 and $(a, b, 0, d)$ with the pair $(a - ib, d) \in \mathbb{P}^1$.

Similarly, we can represent the line connecting P_2 and $(a, b, 0, d)$ with the pair $(a + ib, d) \in \mathbb{P}^1$. Thus we can represent $(a, b, 0, d)$ in \hat{F} as $((a - ib, d), (a + ib, d))$.

Now let us pick a point $(P_1, (t, u))$ on the exceptional line at P_1 . Then we know that $(P_1, (t, u))$ blows down to P_1 in F , whose connecting-line to P_2 is $\mathfrak{Z}(w)$, which intersects the x -axis at $(1, 0)$. Thus we can represent $(P_1, (t, u))$ as $((t, u), (1, 0))$. Similarly, we can represent $(P_2, (t, u))$ as $((1, 0), (t, u))$. Thus we represent the entire line $\mathfrak{Z}(w)$ connecting $(P_1, (1, 0))$ and $(P_2, (1, 0))$ as $((1, 0), (1, 0))$. This is good, because we are blowing down this line. Note that

$\tilde{N} \mapsto \mathfrak{Z}(w) \mapsto ((1, 0), (1, 0))$, and so in our map $\hat{\pi} : S \rightarrow \hat{F}$, we know $\hat{\pi}(N) = ((1, 0), (1, 0))$. Also for $s \neq 0$, $\hat{\pi}(is, s, r, r) = ((r, s), (1, 0))$ and $\hat{\pi}(s, is, r, r) = ((1, 0), (r, s))$. For all other points, $\hat{\pi}(a, b, c, d) = ((a - bi, d - c), (a + ib, d - c))$.

Now for a real point $(a, b, c, d) \in S$ (where a, b, c, d are all real), we can see the image $\hat{\pi}(\mathbb{R}(S)) = \{((a - ib, d - c), (a + ib, d - c)) : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{((1, 0), (1, 0))\}$.

Also note that the total transform of the line L through P_1 and P_2 on F is $\tilde{L} + E_1 + E_2$. Thus

$$1 = L^2 = (\tilde{L} + E_1 + E_2)^2 = \tilde{L}^2 + 2\tilde{L}E_1 + 2\tilde{L}E_2 + 2E_1E_2 + E_1^2 + E_2^2 = \tilde{L}^2 + 2 + 2 - 1 - 1 = \tilde{L}^2 + 2.$$

Thus $\tilde{L}^2 = -1$.

Now we will look at this through a more algebraic perspective. We will show that $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ minus two lines is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^2 minus one line by looking at the induced maps on their respective coordinate rings.

Note that $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \cong Q = \mathfrak{V}(u_0u_3 - u_1u_2) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^3$. We can define a map

$$\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \longrightarrow Q$$

given by

$$((a : b), (c : d)) \longmapsto (ac : ad : bc : bd)$$

and an inverse map

$$Q \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$$

given by

$$(u_0 : u_1 : u_2 : u_3) \longmapsto ((u_0 + u_1 : u_2 + u_3), (u_0 + u_2 : u_1 + u_3)).$$

Let $U = \mathbb{P}^2 \setminus \mathfrak{V}(z) = \mathfrak{D}_+(z)$. Then $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(U) = k[x, y, z, z^{-1}]$. We can choose $(1 : 0 : 0)$ and $(0 : 1 : 0) \in \mathfrak{V}(z)$ as our two blowup points. Then any point on U can be uniquely determined by the slopes of the lines connecting it with the two points at infinity (the point's width and height). Then we can define a birational map

$$\mathbb{P}^2 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \longrightarrow Q$$

given by

$$(a : b : c) \longmapsto ((a : c), (b : c)) \longmapsto (ab : ac : bc : c^2).$$

Then we can find an open subset $V \subseteq Q$ and a map

$$\mathcal{O}_Q(V) = k[u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3]/(u_0u_3 - u_1u_2)_V \longrightarrow k[x, y, z, z^{-1}]$$

satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} u_0 &\longmapsto xy, \\ u_1 &\longmapsto xz, \\ u_2 &\longmapsto yz, \\ u_3 &\longmapsto z^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $V = Q \setminus \mathfrak{V}(u_3)$ so that we can invert u_3 . Note that $Q \cap \mathfrak{V}(u_3) = \mathfrak{V}(u_1, u_3) \cup \mathfrak{V}(u_2, u_3)$, a union of two lines! Thus

$$\mathcal{O}_Q(V) = k[u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3, u_3^{-1}]/(u_0u_3 - u_1u_2) \cong k[u_1, u_2, u_3, u_3^{-1}]$$

which is isomorphic to $k[x, y, z, z^{-1}] = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(\mathfrak{D}_+(z))$. Note that the map given above is injective but not surjective; but its image is $k[xz, yz, z^2, z^{-2}]$, which is isomorphic to $k[x, y, z, z^{-1}]$!!

Thus the quadric minus two lines ($Q \cap V(u_3) = \mathfrak{V}(u_1, u_3) \cup \mathfrak{V}(u_2, u_3)$) is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^2 minus one line ($\mathfrak{V}(z)$). Thus the quadric is rational.