BOUNDEDNESS PROPERTIES FOR BIRATIONAL AUTOMORPHISMS

COSTYA SHRAMOV

A classical theorem by H.Minkowski says that the orders of finite subgroups of the group $GL_N(\mathbb{Q})$ are bounded by a constant that depends only on N. Another classical theorem by C. Jordan says that for any finite subgroup G of $GL_N(\mathbb{C})$ there is an abelian subgroup whose index in G is bounded by a constant that depends only on N. It is partially known and partially expected that birational automorphism groups of many varieties over \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{C} , respectively, enjoy similar properties.

I will survey some relevant results (due to many people) including lowdimensional cases, higher dimensional cases modulo standard conjectures of birational geometry, estimates for the relevant constants, counter-examples, and analogous results in other settings.