

Last lecture

Reference Atiyah - Macdonald §3

·)  $\text{Spec}(A) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \subset A \text{ prime ideal} \}$

·)  $S \subseteq A$  subset. Then there is a localization map

$$\varphi: A \longrightarrow A[S^{-1}]$$

Today

Study  $\text{Spec}(\varphi): \text{Spec}(A[S^{-1}]) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$

& related topics.

### §1 More on localization

$A$  ring,  $S \subseteq A$  subset,  $\overline{S} :=$  multiplicative closure. Then

$$A[\frac{1}{s}, s \in S] / (s \cdot \frac{1}{s} - 1, s \in S) \cong \overline{S}^{-1}A := \left\{ \frac{a}{s} \mid a \in A, s \in \overline{S} \right\} / \sim.$$

provide two explicit descriptions for the localization.

Lemma 1  $\ker(A \longrightarrow A[S^{-1}]) = \{ a \in A \mid \exists s \in \overline{S} \text{ s.t. } sa = 0 \}$

Proof RHS describes precisely those  $a$  s.t.  $\frac{a}{1} \sim 0$  in the defn of  $\overline{S}^{-1}A$ . □

Recall  $s \in A$  zero-divisor  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists 0 \neq a$  with  $sa = 0$ .

$s \in A$  regular  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} s$  no zero-divisor.

Thus  $A \rightarrow A[s^{-1}]$  injective  $\Leftrightarrow S$  consists of regular elements.

Examples 1)  $A$  domain,  $S \subseteq A - \{0\}$ . Then

$$\frac{a_1}{s_1} \sim \frac{a_2}{s_2} \Leftrightarrow a_1 s_2 = a_2 s_1. \quad \text{simplifies from general defn of } \sim.$$

$\text{Quot}(A) := A[(A - \{0\})^{-1}]$  quotient field or field of fractions of  $A$

If  $S \subseteq A - \{0\}$  any, then

$A[s^{-1}] \subseteq \text{Quot}(A)$  subring generated by  $A$  and all  $s^{-1}$ ,  $s \in S$ .

E.g.  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{6}] = \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}] \subset \mathbb{Q}.$

$$k[X, \frac{1}{X(X+1)}] \subset k(X) := \text{Quot}(k[X])$$

2) Assume  $\varepsilon \in S$  is nilpotent. Lem 1 says  $A[s^{-1}] = 0$ .

Can also be seen directly: If  $\varepsilon^{n+1} = 0$ , then

$$1 = (1 - \varepsilon T_\varepsilon)(1 + \varepsilon T_\varepsilon + \cdots + \varepsilon^n T_\varepsilon^n),$$

$$\text{so } (s \cdot T_s - 1, s \in S) = (1).$$

More sophisticated example:

$$\mathbb{C}[x, y] / (xy) [X^{-1}] = \mathbb{C}[x, y, T] / \underbrace{(xy, XT-1)}_{\sigma} \quad (*)$$

Have  $y = y \cdot (1 - XT) \in \sigma$ , so

$$(*) = \mathbb{C}[x, y, T] / (y, XT-1) \cong \mathbb{C}[x, X^{-1}] \subset \mathbb{C}(x)$$

$$y \mapsto 0$$

$$T \mapsto X^{-1}$$

## §2 Localization and Ideals

lem 2  $S \subseteq A$  any subset,  $\varphi: A \rightarrow A[S^{-1}]$  the localization.

Consider  $\{\text{ideals of } A\} \rightleftharpoons \{\text{ideals of } A[S^{-1}]\}$

$$\sigma \longmapsto \varphi(\sigma) \cdot A[S^{-1}]$$

$$\varphi^{-1}(b) \longmapsto b$$

The map  $b \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(b)$  is surjective and, more precisely,

$$b = \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(b)) \cdot A[S^{-1}]. \quad (**)$$

Proof Enough to show (\*\*):  $\supseteq$  is immediate because

$b \supseteq \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(b))$ . Show  $\subseteq$ : If  $\frac{a}{s} \in b$ ,  $a \in A$ ,  $s \in S$ ,

then  $a = s \cdot \frac{a}{s} \in \varphi^{-1}(b)$ , hence  $\frac{a}{s} = \frac{1}{s} \cdot a \in \text{RHS}$ .  $\square$

In general, ideals of  $A[S^{-1}]$  are simpler than those of  $A$ :

Example  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is not a PID:

$$T^2 + 5 \equiv T^2 - 1 = (T+1)(T-1) \pmod{3},$$

so there are two primes above  $(3)$ :

$$\mathfrak{p}_{\pm} = (3, 1 \pm \sqrt{-5})$$

$$\text{Then } \gcd(N(3), N(1 \pm \sqrt{-5})) = \gcd(9, 6) = 3,$$

but there are no  $x + y\sqrt{-5}$  with

$$N(x + y\sqrt{-5}) = x^2 + 5y^2 = 3, \text{ so there is}$$

no element dividing both  $3, 1 \pm \sqrt{-5}$ .

$\Rightarrow \mathfrak{p}_{\pm}$  both not principal.

$$\text{But } \frac{3}{1 \pm \sqrt{-5}} = \frac{3}{(1 \pm \sqrt{-5})(1 \mp \sqrt{-5})} \cdot (1 \mp \sqrt{-5}) = \frac{1 \mp \sqrt{-5}}{2}$$

We conclude that

$$\mathfrak{p}_{\pm} \cdot \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}, \frac{1}{2}] = (1 \mp \sqrt{-5}) \text{ are both principal.}$$

(In fact,  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}, \frac{1}{2}]$  is a PID.)

lem 3  $S \subseteq A$ ,  $\varphi$  as before,  $\sigma \subseteq A$  any ideal and  $\pi: A \longrightarrow A/\sigma$  the quotient map. Then

$$A/\sigma [\pi(s)^{-1}] \xrightarrow{\cong} A[s^{-1}] / \varphi(\sigma) \cdot A[s^{-1}].$$

Proof Let  $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} \tilde{A}$  denote either of the two ring maps.

Then  $\alpha(\sigma) = 0$ ,  $\alpha(s) \in \tilde{A}^\times$ . Moreover,  $\alpha$  has the universal property

$\varphi: A \rightarrow B$  factors through  $\alpha \iff \varphi(\sigma) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(s) \in B^\times$   
+ such a factorization is unique.  $\square$

Alternative explicit argument:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= A/\sigma [T_{\pi(s)}, \pi(s) \in \pi(S)] / (\pi(s) T_{\pi(s)} - 1, \pi(s) \in \pi(S)) \\ &= A/\sigma [T_s, s \in S] / (\pi(s) T_s - 1, s \in S) \quad \text{because inverses of elements are unique.} \\ &\cong A[T_s, s \in S] / \sigma + (s \cdot T_s - 1, s \in S) \\ &\cong (A[T_s, s \in S] / (s \cdot T_s - 1, s \in S)) / (\varphi(\sigma)) = \text{RHS.} \end{aligned}$$

Prop 4  $S \subseteq A$ ,  $\varphi$  as before. Then

1)  $\text{Spec}(\varphi): \text{Spec}(A[S^{-1}]) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$  is injective.

2) Its image equals  $\{ \mathfrak{p} \subseteq A \mid S \cap \mathfrak{p} = \emptyset \}$ .

3) If  $\mathfrak{p} \cap S \neq \emptyset$ , then

$$\text{Spec}(\varphi)^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) = \varphi(\mathfrak{p}) \cdot A[S^{-1}].$$

Proof 1) Clear by Lem 2.

2) Assume  $\mathfrak{p} = \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{q})$  for some  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(A[S^{-1}])$ .

Then  $\varphi(\mathfrak{p}) \cap A[S^{-1}]^{\times} \subseteq \mathfrak{q} \cap A[S^{-1}]^{\times} = \emptyset$ ,

hence  $\mathfrak{p} \cap S = \emptyset$ .

Conversely, let  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(A)$ . Lem 3 says that

$$A[S^{-1}] / \mathfrak{p} \cdot A[S^{-1}] = (A/\mathfrak{p})[\pi(S)^{-1}].$$

If  $S \cap \mathfrak{p} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $0 \notin \pi(S)$  in the integral domain

$A/\mathfrak{p}$ . Then  $(A/\mathfrak{p})[\pi(S)^{-1}]$  is an integral domain

and hence  $\mathfrak{p} \cdot A[S^{-1}]$  a prime ideal.

3) By Lem 1,  $A/\mathfrak{p} \longrightarrow (A/\mathfrak{p})[\pi(S)^{-1}]$  is injective,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{so } \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p} \cdot A[s^{-1}]) &= \ker(A \longrightarrow (A/\mathfrak{p})[\pi(s)^{-1}]) \\
&= \ker(A \longrightarrow A/\mathfrak{p}) \\
&= \mathfrak{p}. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Remark If  $S \cap \mathfrak{p} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\mathfrak{p} \cdot A[s^{-1}] = (1)$ .

The two most common instances:

1)  $f \in A$  any element.

$$\text{Spec}(A[f^{-1}]) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \subset A \mid f \notin \mathfrak{p} \}.$$

e.g.  $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11}] = \{ (2), (7), (13), (17), \dots \} \cup \{ (0) \}.$

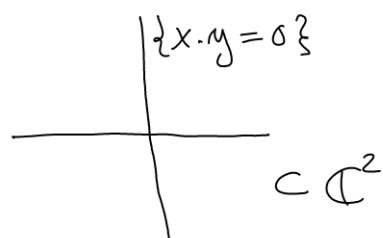
$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Spec } \mathbb{C}[x, y]_{(xy)} &= \{ (x-x, y) \} \cup \{ (x, y-y) \} \\
&\cup \{ (x), (y) \}.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Spec } \mathbb{C}[x, y]_{(xy)}[x^{-1}]$$

$$= \{ (x-x, y), x \neq 0 \} \cup \{ (y) \}$$

$$\xrightarrow{1:1} \text{Spec } \mathbb{C}[x, x^{-1}].$$

$$= \{ (x-x), x \neq 0 \} \cup \{ (0) \}.$$



2)  $\mathfrak{p} \subset A$  a prime. Then  $A \setminus \mathfrak{p}$  is mult. set!

Defn Localization of  $A$  at  $\mathfrak{p}$   $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A_{\mathfrak{p}} := (A \setminus \mathfrak{p})^{-1} A$ .

Then  $\text{Spec}(A_{\mathfrak{p}}) \xrightarrow{1:1} \{ \sigma \in \text{Spec } A, \sigma \subseteq \mathfrak{p} \}$ .

In partic,  $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$  has a unique maximal ideal, namely  $\mathfrak{p} \cdot A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ .

Terminology Rings w/ unique max ideal are local rings.

$K(\mathfrak{p}) := A_{\mathfrak{p}} / \mathfrak{p} A_{\mathfrak{p}}$  residue field of  $\mathfrak{p}$ .

By Lem 3:  $A_{\mathfrak{p}} / \mathfrak{p} A_{\mathfrak{p}} = \text{Quot}(A/\mathfrak{p})$ .

Example  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} \mid p \nmid b \right\}$ .

$$\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} / p \mathbb{Z}_{(p)} \cong \mathbb{F}_p$$

$$\frac{a}{b}$$

$$\longmapsto b^{-1}a.$$

$b^{-1}$  exists in  $\mathbb{F}_p$   
since  $p \nmid b$ .



### § 3 Application to Spectra

Situation  $\varphi: A \longrightarrow B$  ring map,  $\text{Spec } A$  known.

How to compute  $\text{Spec } B$  ?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Consider} & \text{Spec}(B) \supseteq \text{Spec}(\varphi)^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) & \\ & \downarrow \text{Spec}(\varphi) & \downarrow \\ & \text{Spec}(A) & \ni \mathfrak{p} \end{array}$$

$$\text{Then } \text{Spec}(\varphi)^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) = \left\{ \mathfrak{q} \subset B \mid \begin{array}{l} \varphi(\mathfrak{p}) \subset \mathfrak{q} \text{ and} \\ s \notin \mathfrak{p} \Rightarrow \varphi(s) \notin \mathfrak{q} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \text{Spec } B/\varphi(\mathfrak{p}) [\varphi(S)^{-1}] \quad S = A \setminus \mathfrak{p}.$$

$$\text{via } \pi^{-1}(\overline{\mathfrak{q}}) \longleftrightarrow \overline{\mathfrak{q}}$$

where  $\pi: B \longrightarrow B/\varphi(\mathfrak{p}) [\varphi(S)^{-1}]$  is the natural map.

$$\text{If, for example, } B = A[T_1, \dots, T_n] / (f_1, \dots, f_m),$$

$$\text{then } B/\varphi(\mathfrak{p}) [\varphi(S)^{-1}] = \kappa(\mathfrak{p})[T_1, \dots, T_n] / (f_1, \dots, f_m)$$

$$\text{and } \text{Spec}(\varphi)^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) = \text{Spec } \kappa(\mathfrak{p})[T_1, \dots, T_n] / (f_1, \dots, f_m).$$

$$\pi^{-1}(\overline{\mathfrak{q}}) \longleftrightarrow \overline{\mathfrak{q}}$$

Example  $\varphi: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[T]$  from last time. Then,  
for  $(0) \subset \mathbb{Z}$ , residue field is  $\mathbb{Q}$  and

$$\text{Spec}(\varphi)^{-1}((0)) = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Q}[T]$$

$$\mathbb{Z}[T] \cap \mathfrak{o}_f \longrightarrow \mathfrak{o}_f$$

In fact, for any ring  $A$ , we obtain the description

$$\text{Spec}(A) = \bigsqcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(A)} \text{Spec } \mathbb{K}(\mathfrak{p})[T].$$

## §4 Appendix: Geometric Intuition

$X := \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A := C^\infty(X, \mathbb{R})$  smooth fcts. on  $X$

$X \rightarrow \text{MaxSpec}(A)$ ,  $x \mapsto \mathfrak{m}_x := \{f \mid f(x) = 0\}$

Residue field  $\mathcal{K}(\mathfrak{m}_x) = A/\mathfrak{m}_x \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{R}$   
 $f \mapsto f(x)$ .

Given  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in A$ , have two operations:

$$1) \quad V = V(f_1, \dots, f_n) = \{x \in X \mid f_1(x) = \dots = f_n(x) = 0\}$$

Then  $V$  is closed. For  $\bar{g} \in A/(f_1, \dots, f_n)$  and  $x \in V$ , the value  $\bar{g}(x) \in \mathbb{R}$  is well-defined, so

$A/(f_1, \dots, f_n)$  is a ring of functions on  $V$ .

$$2) \quad D = D(f_1, \dots, f_n) = \{x \in X \mid (f_1 \cdots f_n)(x) \neq 0\}$$

This set is open and  $A[f_1^{-1}, \dots, f_n^{-1}]$  is a ring of functions on  $D$ .

Rule  $V$  is for "vanishing set",

$D$  is for "does not vanish set".

For general ring  $A$  and  $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ , the intuition is exactly the same. Two differences:

1)  $f$  viewed as "function" on  $X$  takes values

$$f(p) := \text{image of } f \text{ in } \kappa(p)$$

in the varying fields  $\kappa(p)$ .

2)  $X$ ,  $V(f_1, \dots, f_n)$ ,  $D(f_1, \dots, f_n)$  are completely described by their rings as

$$X = \text{Spec } A$$

$$V(f_1, \dots, f_n) = \text{Spec } A/(f_1, \dots, f_n)$$

$$D(f_1, \dots, f_n) = \text{Spec } A[f_1^{-1}, \dots, f_n^{-1}].$$