Algebraic Geometry 2

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Abstract

Algebraic Geometry is such a messy subject in a sense that a different books and lecture notes introduce different materials in a different orders, as well as having different prerequisites. After understanding a bit more in the subject, I believe that there is the need to give a clear distinction between traditional algebraic geometry and contemporary algebraic geometry. Although there are undoubtedly many overlapping between the two, I attempt to separate them to make clear their motivations as well as their results.

This book will mainly cover traditional algebraic geometry in the sense that the construction of affine and projective varieties will be covered, as well as the Hilbert Nullstellensatz theorems, morphisms, tangent maps and smoothness as well as classical constructions of some varieties. Affine schemes and sheaf theory are left for another time where they attempt to reinvent the fundamentals of algebraic geometry.

Knowledge on commutative algebra is required as a prerequisite. These set of notes make use of

- Algebraic Geometry I by I. R. Shafarevich and V. I. Danilov
- Algebraic Geometry by R. Hartshorne
- An Invitation to Algebraic Geometry by Karen. S, Pekka. K, Lauri .K, William .T

Contents

1 The Tangent Space and Smooth Points

1.1 The Tangent Space of Affine Varieties

Definition 1.1.1: The Tangent Space of an Affine Variety

Let k be a field. Let $V = \mathbb{V}(f_1, \dots, f_r)$ be an affine variety over k. Define the tangent space of V at $p \in V$ to be the zero set

$$T_pV = \mathbb{V}\left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_k}\bigg|_p (x_k - p_k), \dots, \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial f_r}{\partial x_k}\bigg|_p (x_k - p_k)\right)$$

It should first be made sense that the definition is independent of the choice of polynomials $f_1, \dots, f_r$ of the zero set.

Proposition 1.1.2

Let V be a closed affine variety over $\mathbb{C}$. Let $p \in V$. Let m_p denote the corresponding maximal ideal. Then there is an isomorphism

$$T_pV \cong \left(\frac{m_p}{m_p^2}\right)^*$$

given by ?????. In particular, we have the identity

$$\dim(T_pV) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}[V]/m_p}(m_p/m_p^2)$$

Definition 1.1.3: The Tangent Space of a Quasi-Projective Variety

Let k be a field. Let V be a quasi-projective variety over k. Let $p \in V$. Define the tangent space of V at p to be

$$T_pV = \left(\frac{m_p}{m_p}\right)^*$$

where m_p is the unique maximal ideal of the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{V,p}$.

1.2 Smooth Points of an Affine Variety

We continue to restrict our attention to affine varieties.

Definition 1.2.1: Smooth and Singular Points of Affine Varieties

Let k be a field. Let X be an irreducible affine variety over k. Let $p \in X$ be a point. We say that p is a smooth point of X if

$$\dim(T_p(X)) = \dim(X)$$

Otherwise, we say that p is a singular point of X.

Proposition 1.2.2

Let $V = \mathbb{V}(f_1, \dots, f_m) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$ be an irreducible affine variety. Let $p \in V$. Then p is singular if and only if the Jacobian

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}\Big|_p & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n}\Big|_p \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1}\Big|_p & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n}\Big|_p \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank $n - \dim(V)$.

Proposition 1.2.3

Let X be an affine variety. Let $p \in X$. Then X is smooth at p if and only if the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ is regular.

1.3 Smooth Points of a Variety in General

We can now motivate the definition of a smooth point using the purely algebraic characterization.

Definition 1.3.1: Smooth and Singular Points of A General Variety

Let X be a variety. We say that X is smooth at a point $p \in X$ if the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ is a regular local ring, otherwise it is singular. X is smooth if every point of X is smooth.

Theorem 1.3.2

Let X be a variety. Then the set of singular points of X is a proper closed subset of X.

Proposition 1.3.3

Let X be a variety. If $p \in X$ is a smooth point, then $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ is a UFD.

Proposition 1.3.4

Let X be a variety and let $Y \subseteq X$ be an irreducible subvariety of X. If $p \in X$ is non-singular, then there exists an affine neighbourhood $U \subseteq X$ of x together with $f_1, \dots, f_k \in k[U]$

2 Birational Geometry

2.1 Birational Morphisms

Definition 2.1.1: Projective Morphism

A morphism of varieties $\pi : X \to V$ is called a projective morphism if X is a closed subvariety of a product variety, meaning that $X \subset V \times \mathbb{P}^n$ and π is the restriction of the projection onto the first coordinate.

Note that this is not the same as morphisms of projective varieties.

Definition 2.1.2: Birational Morphism

A morphism $\pi : X \to V$ of quasiprojective varieties is called a birational morphism if its restriction to some dense open set $U \subset X$ is an isomorphism onto some dense open subset $U' \subset V$.

2.2 Birational Maps

While morphisms are meant to be defined entirely for the variety, rational maps of varieties simply rely on a definition on open subsets of the variety, which makes it more versatile.

Lemma 2.2.1

Open subsets of a variety is dense.

Lemma 2.2.2

Let X, Y be varieties. Let ϕ, ψ be two morphisms from $X \to Y$. Suppose that there is a nonempty open subset $U \subseteq X$ such that $\phi|_U = \psi|_U$. Then $\phi = \psi$.

Definition 2.2.3: Rational Maps

Let X, Y he varieties. A rational map $\phi : X \to Y$ is an equivalence class of pairs $\langle U, \phi_U \rangle$, where U is a nonempty open subset of X, and $\phi|_U$ is a morphism of U to Y.

We say that $\langle U, \phi|_U \rangle$ and $\langle V, \phi|_V \rangle$ are equivalent if $\phi|_U$ and $\phi|_V$ agree on $U \cap V$.

The rational map ϕ is dominant if for some (and hence every) pair $\langle U, \phi|_U \rangle$, the image of $\phi|_U$ is dense in Y.

Definition 2.2.4: Birational Maps

A birational map $\phi : X \to Y$ is a rational map which has an inverse. In this case, we say that X and Y are birationally equivalent.

Varieties can form a category where morphisms are simply dominant rational maps. Isomorphisms in the category are birational maps.

2.3 Categorical Equivalence with Finitely Generated Field Extensions

Proposition 2.3.1

Let $\phi : X \to Y$ be a dominant rational map represented by $\langle U, \phi_U \rangle$. Let $f \in \mathbb{C}[Y]$ be a rational function represented by $\langle V, f \rangle$ where V is an open set in Y and f regular function on V. Then $f \circ \phi_U$ is a homomorphism of $\mathbb{C}$-algebras from $\mathbb{C}[Y]$ to $\mathbb{C}[X]$.

Proof. Notice that since $\phi_U(U)$ is dense in Y, $\phi_U^{-1}(V)$ is a nonempty open subset of X. Thus $f \circ \phi_U$ is a regular function on $\phi_U^{-1}(V)$. Thus $f \circ \phi_U$ is rational function on X. This means that $f \circ \phi_U \in \mathbb{C}[X]$.

In particular, the map taking f to $f \circ \phi_U$ is a $\mathbb{C}$-algebra homomorphism. □

Theorem 2.3.2

Let X and Y be two varieties. The above construction gives a bijection between the set of dominant rational maps from $X \to Y$ and the set of $\mathbb{C}$-algebra homomorphisms from $\mathbb{C}[Y]$ to $\mathbb{C}[X]$.

In other words, this correspondence is a contravariant functor from the category of varieties and the category of finitely generated field extensions of $\mathbb{C}$.

Corollary 2.3.3

Let X, Y be two varieties. The the following conditions are equivalent.

- X and Y are birationally equivalent
- There exists open subsets $U \subseteq X$ and $V \subseteq Y$ with U isomorphic to V
- $K(X)$ and $K(Y)$ are isomorphic $\mathbb{C}$-algebras

2.4 Blowing Ups

Definition 2.4.1: Blowing Up at $\mathbb{A}^n$

Define the blowing up of $\mathbb{A}^n$ at the point 0 to be the closed subset X of $\mathbb{A}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ defined by the equations $\{x_i y_j = x_j y_i | 0 \leq i, j \leq n\}$. Restricting the projection $\mathbb{A}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1} \to \mathbb{A}^n$ to the first factor gives a natural morphism $\phi : X \to \mathbb{A}^n$.

Theorem 2.4.2

The following are true with regards to blowing up at $\mathbb{A}^n$.

- X is a quasiprojective variety
- ϕ is an isomorphism for the sets $X \setminus \phi^{-1}(0)$ and $\mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{0\}$
- $\phi^{-1}(0) \cong \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$

Definition 2.4.3: Blowing Up at a Point

Let Y be a closed subvariety of $\mathbb{A}^n$ passing through 0. Define the blowing up of Y at 0 to be the the closure of $Z = \phi^{-1}(Y \setminus \{0\})$, where $\phi : X \to \mathbb{A}^n$ is obtained from the above blowing up at $\mathbb{A}^n$. Also denote $\phi : \overline{Z} \to Z$ the morphism obtained by further restricting ϕ to $\overline{Z}$.

To blow up any point other than 0, perform a linear change in coordinates sending P to 0.

Definition 2.4.4: Blowup along an Ideal

Let $F_1, \dots, F_r$ be functions in the coordinate ring $\mathbb{C}[x]$ of an affine algebraic variety X, and let I be the ideal they generate. Assume that I is a proper nonzero ideal of $\mathbb{C}[x]$. The blowup of the variety X along the ideal I is the graph B of the rational map $F : X \to \mathbb{P}^{r-1}$ defined by

$$F(x) = [F_1(x) : \dots : F_r(x)]$$

amd the natural projection $\pi : X \times \mathbb{P}^{r-1} \to X$.

3 Theory of Divisors

3.1 Divisors of a Variety

Definition 3.1.1: Divisors of a Variety

Let X be a variety. Let $C_1, \dots, C_r$ be irreducible closed subvarieties of X of codimension 1. A divisor of X is of the form
$$D = \sum_{i=1}^r k_i C_i$$
for $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say that k_i is the multiplicity of C_i in D. Define the free group of all divisors of X by
$$\text{Div}(X) = \mathbb{Z}\left\langle C \mid C_{\substack{\text{is an irreducible closed} \\ \text{subvariety of codimension 1}}} \right\rangle$$
Generators of $\text{Div}(X)$ are called prime divisors.

Definition 3.1.2: Effective Divisor

Let X be a variety. We say that a divisor
$$D = \sum_{i=1}^r k_i C_i$$
of X is effective if $k_i \geq 0$ for all i. In this case we write $D > 0$.

Definition 3.1.3: Divisor of a Function

Let X be a variety such that the set of singular points of X has codimension ≥ 2. Let $f \in K(X)$. Let C be a prime divisor of X.

Definition 3.1.4: Principal Divisors

Let X be a variety. A divisor of the form $D = \text{div}(f)$ for some $f \in K(X)$ is called a principal divisor.

Define the set of all principal divisors by $P(X)$.

Proposition 3.1.5

Let X be a variety. The set of all principal divisors $P(X)$ is a group.

Definition 3.1.6: Divisor Class Group

Let X be a variety. Define the divisor class group of X to be
$$\text{Cl}(X) = \frac{\text{Div}(X)}{P(X)}$$
We say that two divisors D_1 and D_2 are linearly equivalent if they lie in the same coset of $\text{Cl}(X)$, written as $D_1 \sim D_2$.

Definition 3.1.7: Degree of a Divisor

Proposition 3.1.8

Let X be a variety. Then D is a principal divisor if and only if $\deg(D) = 0$.

3.2 The Linear System of a Divisor

Definition 3.2.1: Associated Vector Space of a Divisor

Let X be a nonsingular variety. Define the associated vector space of a divisor D of X to be

$$\mathcal{L}(D) = \{f \in K(X) \mid \text{div}(f) + D \geq 0\} \cup \{0\}$$

Lemma 3.2.2

Let X be a nonsingular variety. Then $\mathcal{L}(D)$ is a vector space over the field k.

Definition 3.2.3: Dimension of the Associated Vector Space

Let X be a nonsingular variety. Denote $\ell(D)$ the dimension of $\mathcal{L}(D)$, which is also called the dimension of D.

Theorem 3.2.4

Linearly equivalent divisors have the same dimension.

4 Intersection Theory