

algebraic geometry

chapter 1

exercise (1.1, My first algebraic variety).

- (a) Let Y be the plane curve $y = x^2$ (ie., Y is the zero set of the polynomial $f = y - x^2$). Show that $A(Y)$ is isomorphic to a polynomial ring in one variable over k .
- (b) Let Z be the plane curve $xy = 1$. Show that $A(Z)$ is not isomorphic to a polynomial ring in one variable over k .
- *(c) Let f be any irreducible quadratic polynomial in $k[x, y]$, and let W be the conic defined by f . Show that $A(W)$ is isomorphic to $A(Y)$ or $A(Z)$. Which one is it when?

Proof.

- (a) Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} k[x, y] &\rightarrow k[x] \\ 1 &\mapsto 1 \\ x &\mapsto x \\ y &\mapsto x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that $y - x^2 \in k[x, y]$ is mapped to 0, so the kernel of this map is $(y - x^2)$. It is also surjective, so we have $A(Y) = k[x, y]/(y - x^2) \cong k[x]$.

- (b) In constructing a map like in the former exercise, we may fix 1 and x , and we should map y to $1/x$. However, $1/x$ is not an element of $k[x]$ so we really have an isomorphism $k[x, y]/(xy - 1) \cong k[x, \frac{1}{x}] \not\cong k[x]$.

□

exercise (2.14, The Segre Embedding). Let $\psi : \mathbb{P}^r \times \mathbb{P}^s \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^N$ be the map defined by sending the order pair $(a_0, \dots, a_r) \times (b_0, \dots, b_s)$ to $(\dots, a_i b_j, \dots)$ in lexicographic order, where $N = rs + r + s$. Note that ψ is well-defined and injective. It is called the *Segre embedding*. Show that the image of ψ is a subvariety of \mathbb{P}^N . [Hint: Let the homogeneous coordinates of \mathbb{P}^N be $\{z_{ij} : i = 0, \dots, r, j = 0, \dots, s\}$ and let \mathfrak{a} be the kernel of the homomorphism $k[\{z_{ij}\}] \rightarrow k[x_0, \dots, x_r, y_0, \dots, y_s]$ which sends z_{ij} to $x_i y_j$. Then show that $\text{img } \psi = Z(\mathfrak{a})$.

Solution. First let's make sure the dimension N is correct. The easy way is found in [wiki](#): $N = (r + 1)(s + 1) - 1$ which is the number of possible choices of pairs of things taking one out of $r + 1$, another out of $s + 1$, and then remember there is only one zero index so take one away.

To see that ψ is injective we follow [StackExchange](#): Let $z = [z_{00} : z_{01} : \dots : z_{ij} : \dots : z_{rs}]$ be an element of the image of ψ and let $(a, b) \in \mathbb{P}^r \times \mathbb{P}^s$ be such that $\psi(a, b) = z$. WLOG we can assume $a_0 = b_0 = z_{00} = 1$. Then $b_j = z_{0j}$ for all $0 \leq j \leq s$ and $a_i = z_{i0}$ so a, b are uniquely determined and this map is bijective onto the image.

Actually, what we have done is constructed an inverse morphism of the Segre map. According to [StackExchange](#), this makes it into an embedding.

To show that $\text{img } \psi$ is a subvariety of \mathbb{P}^N we need to find a set of homogeneous polynomials in $k[z_{ij}]$.

Following the hint, as before let $z \in \text{img } \psi$ and f any polynomial in the kernel of $k[[z_{ij}]] \rightarrow k[x_0, \dots, x_r, y_0, \dots, y_s]$. We must show that $f(z) = 0$. Well it doesn't make much sense because if $f = \sum a_{ij} z_{ij}$ is in the kernel of that map, then its image $\sum a_{ij} x_i y_j$ is the zero polynomial, so obviously $f(z) = \sum a_{ij} z_{ij} = \sum a_{ij} x_i y_j = 0$. So this is confusing.

So what are the equations of $\text{img } \psi$? A polynomial $f(z_{00}, \dots, z_{rs})$ will vanish on $\text{img } \psi$ if somehow it vanishes \square

exercise (2.15, The Quadric Surface in \mathbb{P}^3). Consider the surface Q (a *surface* is a variety of dimension 2) in \mathbb{P}^3 defined by the equation $xy - wz = 0$.

1. Show that Q is equal to the Segre embedding of $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ in \mathbb{P}^3 , for suitable choice of coordinates.
2. Show that Q contains two families of lines (a *line* is a linear variety of dimension 1), $\{L_t\}, \{M_t\}$ each parametrized by $t \in \mathbb{P}^1$, with the properties that if $L_t \neq L_u$ then $L_t \cap L_u = \emptyset$ and if $M_t \neq M_u$, $M_t \cap M_u = \emptyset$, and for all t, u , $L_t \cap M_u$ is a point.
3. Show that Q contains other curves besides these lines, and deduce that the Zariski topology on Q is not homeomorphic via ψ to the product topology on $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ where each \mathbb{P}^1 has its Zariski topology.

Solution.

1. It turns out that the image of the Segre embedding $\psi : \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$ equals is the algebraic variety given by the zeroes of the polynomial $f = z_{00}z_{11} - z_{10}z_{01} \in k[z_{00}, z_{01}, z_{10}, z_{11}]$. One contention is easy: if $(x, y) = ([x_0, x_1], [y_0, y_1]) \in \text{img } \psi$, then clearly $f(\psi(x, y)) = x_0y_0x_1y_1 - x_0y_1x_1y_0$ is zero because these are numbers in the field k .

Now for the other contention pick $z = [z_{00}, z_{01}, z_{10}, z_{11}] \in V(f)$ and let's find an element $(x, y) \in \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ such that $\psi(x, y) = z$. $z \in V(f)$ means that $z_{00}z_{11} = z_{10}z_{01}$. If $z_{00} \neq 0$, then we can define $([z_{00}, z_{11}], [z_{01}, z_{10}])$ **what?**

Maybe for the other contention try to define the inverse map $\text{img } \psi \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ by $z = [z_{00}, z_{01}, z_{10}, z_{11}] \mapsto ([z_{00}, z_{01}], [z_{00}, z_{10}])$ when $z_{00} \neq 0$ and $([z_{11}, z_{01}], [z_{11}, z_{10}])$ when $z_{11} \neq 0$. Is this defining a global map?

2. The lines correspond to fixing one entry and running over the other one in the Segre embedding $(x, y) \rightarrow z$.

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exercise (H-3.16, Products of Quasi-Projective Varieties). Use the Segre embedding (Ex. 2.14) to identify $\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m$ with its image and hence give it a structure of projective variety. Now for any two quasi-projective varieties $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ and $Y \subseteq \mathbb{P}^m$ consider $X \times Y \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m$.

- (a) Show that $X \times Y$ is a quasi-projective variety.
- (b) If X, Y are both projective, show that $X \times Y$ is projective.
- (c) Show that $X \times Y$ is a product in the category of varieties.

Solution. content...

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exercise (Class). How to blow up a point P on a smooth complex surface?

Solution. content...

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