

Math 7240, Linear Algebraic Groups over Fields, Fall 2025

Homework

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from lecture 1

1. Let X be a k -space (that is, a functor from commutative k -algebras to sets). A field point of X is an element of $X(L)$ where L is a field extension of k . If $x \in X(L)$ and $y \in X(E)$ are field valued points of X , we say that $x \sim y$ if there exists a field extension M/k and morphisms of field extensions $\phi : E \rightarrow M$, $\psi : L \rightarrow M$ such that $X(\psi)(x) = X(\phi)(y)$ (in class we wrote this as $x_M = y_M$).

Show that if $X = \operatorname{Spec} A$, then the equivalence classes of field valued points of X are in bijection with the prime ideals of A .

2. Recall that if X is a k -space which is of the form $X(R) = \operatorname{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(A, R)$ for some k -algebra A (i.e. X is a representable functor), we say that A is the coordinate ring of X and write $A = k[X]$. We also say in this case that X is the spectrum of A and write $X = \operatorname{Spec} A$. If X has this form, we say that X is an affine k -scheme.

Show that Spec and $k[_]$ defines an equivalence of categories between the category of affine k -schemes (that is, the full subcategory of the category of k -spaces consisting of affine k -schemes) and the opposite of the category of k -algebras.

note: you should prove this “from scratch,” and not simply quote theorems from category theory!

3. (possibly challenging)
 - (a) Show that if A, B are k -algebras, then $A \times B$ is the categorical product of A and B in the category of rings and $\operatorname{Spec}(A \times B)$ is the categorical coproduct of $\operatorname{Spec} A$ and $\operatorname{Spec} B$ in the category of k -sheaves¹.
 - (b) On the other hand, show that if $A_\lambda, \lambda \in \Lambda$ is a collection of nonzero k -algebras, then $\times_{\lambda \in \Lambda} A_\lambda$ is the categorical product of the A_λ 's in the category of rings, but if Λ is infinite, $\operatorname{Spec}(\times_{\lambda \in \Lambda} A_\lambda)$ is not the categorical coproduct of the spaces $\operatorname{Spec} A_\lambda$ in the category of k -sheaves.

¹note – this was incorrectly written as spaces previously!

from lecture 2

4. Suppose $X = Z(f_1, \dots, f_s)$ with $f_1, \dots, f_s \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ and $Y = Z(g_1, \dots, g_t)$ with $g_1, \dots, g_t \in k[y_1, \dots, y_m]$ are finite type affine k -schemes. We think of these as sitting inside the affine spaces $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ and $Y \subseteq \mathbb{A}^m$ where \mathbb{A}^n has coordinate functions given by the x_i 's and \mathbb{A}^m has coordinate functions given by the y_i 's.

A morphism of affine schemes from X to Y is a collection of polynomials $\phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m)$ with $\phi_i \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ (which we can think of as polynomial functions from \mathbb{A}^n to \mathbb{A}^m), such that whenever we have an R -point of X , that is, $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R^n$ such that $f_i(a) = 0$ for all i , we have $\phi(a) = (\phi_1(a), \phi_2(a), \dots, \phi_m(a)) \in R^m$ is an R -point of Y .

Show that morphisms of affine schemes $X \rightarrow Y$ are in bijection with natural transformations of functors from X to Y (considered as k -spaces).

5. Show that if the coordinate rings of X and Y are domains in the prior problem, if $\phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m)$ with $\phi_i \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, then ϕ is a morphism from X to Y as affine schemes if and only if for every field extension L/k , we have an L -point of X , $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in L^n$ then $\phi(a) = (\phi_1(a), \phi_2(a), \dots, \phi_m(a)) \in L^m$ is an L -point of Y .
6. (challenging) In the previous problem, show that instead of considering all field extensions L/k , it suffices to consider any single field extension L/k with L algebraically closed!

lecture 3

7. Consider the following functors from k -algebras to sets defined by

1. $F : R \mapsto R[[t]]$
2. $G : R \mapsto R((t)) = \{\sum_{i=d}^{\infty} a_i x^i \mid d \in \mathbb{Z}, a_i \in R\}$
3. $H : R \mapsto R[[t]]^*$
4. $K : R \mapsto R((t))^*$

Which of these are representable? If a functor is representable, demonstrate it by finding a k -algebra representing it. If it isn't representable, provide an argument explaining why.

8. Consider the k -group space T_2 , defined as the functor from rings to sets given by

$$T_2(R) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} \mid ad \in R^* \right\},$$

with its usual group structure.

- (a) Show that T_2 is representable – that is, show that $T_2 = \text{Spec}(A)$ for some k -algebra A .
- (b) Recall that this implies that A has a comultiplication operation $A \rightarrow A \otimes_k A$ corresponding to the group operation $T_2 \times T_2 \rightarrow T_2$. Give an explicit description of this comultiplication.
- (c) Similarly, there should be a map $S : A \rightarrow A$ (the “antipode”) corresponding to group inversion $\iota : T_2 \rightarrow T_2$. Find an explicit description of the map S .

vaguely lecture 1-4 related, making connections to schemes

9. Let Top be the category of topological spaces. If F is a contravariant functor from Top to sets, we say that F is a Top -sheaf if for every topological space X , when F is restricted to open subsets of X , it forms a sheaf.

Show that for every topological space Y , the functor $X \mapsto \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ is a Top -sheaf.

10. Recall that a ringed space is a pair $X = (X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ consisting of a topological space X and a sheaf of rings \mathcal{O}_X on X . A morphism of locally ringed spaces $f = (f, f^\#) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ consists of a map of topological spaces $f : X \rightarrow Y$ together with a morphism of sheaves of rings $f^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow f_*\mathcal{O}_X$.

- (a) Fix a ringed space Y and consider the functor h_Y from ringed spaces to sets given by $h_Y(X) = \text{Hom}(X, Y)$. Show that if we restrict h_Y to the open subsets of X , we obtain a sheaf on X .

- (b) Recall that X is called locally ringed if the stalks $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ are local rings, and a morphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a morphism of locally ringed spaces if the induced maps $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ are *local* maps – that is, they take the maximal ideal of one to the maximal ideal of the other.

Show that if Y is a locally ringed space and if we define a functor from locally ringed spaces to sets via $\tilde{h}_Y(X) = \text{Hom}_{\text{local}}(X, Y)$, then again for every locally ringed space X , the restriction of \tilde{h}_Y to the open sets of X is a sheaf on X .

- (c) Use the above to show that if X is a scheme, then $R \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\text{scheme}}(\text{Spec } R, X)$ is a k -sheaf.

11. Let X be a k -sheaf. Define a “relative power-set space” of X via

$$\mathcal{P}_X(R) = \{\text{subsheaves } F \subseteq X \times \text{Spec } R\}$$

with, for $\phi : R \rightarrow R'$, we define

$$\mathcal{P}_X(\phi)(F) = F \times_{\text{Spec } R} \text{Spec } R' \subseteq X \times \text{Spec } R' \cong (X \times \text{Spec } R) \times_{\text{Spec } R} \text{Spec } R'.$$

Show that \mathcal{P}_X is a k -sheaf.