

Title

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Let $k = \bar{k}$ and R a ring containing ideals I, J .

Definition 1.0.1 (Radical).

Recall that the *radical* of I is defined as

$$\sqrt{I} = \left\{ r \in R \mid r^k \in I \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

Example 1.1.

Let $I = (x_1, x_2^2) \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2]$, so $I = \{ f_1 x_1 + f_2 x_2 \mid f_1, f_2 \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2] \}$. Then $\sqrt{I} = (x_1, x_2)$, since $x_2^2 \in I \implies x_2 \in \sqrt{I}$.

Given $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, take its value at $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ and denote it $f(a)$. Set $\deg(f)$ to be the largest value of $i_1 + \dots + i_n$ such that the coefficient of $\prod x_j^{i_j}$ is nonzero.

Example 1.2.

$$\deg(x_1 + x_2^2 + x_1 x_2^3) = 4$$

Definition 1.0.2 (Affine Variety).

1. Affine n -space $\mathbb{A}^n = \mathbb{A}_k^n$ is defined as $\{ (a_1, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in k \}$.

Remark: not k^n , since we won't necessarily use the vector space structure (e.g. adding points).

2. Let $S \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ to be a set of polynomials. Then define $V(S) = \{ x \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(x) = 0 \} \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ to be an *affine variety*.

Example 1.3.

- $\mathbb{A}^n = V(0)$.
- For any point $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n$, then $V(x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n) = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ uniquely determines the point.
- For any finite set $r_1, \dots, r_k \in \mathbb{A}^1$, there exists a polynomial $f(x)$ whose roots are r_i .

Remark 1.

We may as well assume S is an ideal by taking the ideal it generates, $S \subseteq \langle S \rangle = \left\{ \sum g_i f_i \mid g_i \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n], f_i \in S \right\}$. Then $V(\langle S \rangle) \subset V(S)$.

Conversely, if f_1, f_2 vanish at $x \in \mathbb{A}^n$, then $f_1 + f_2, gf_1$ also vanish at x for all $g \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. Thus $V(S) \subset V(\langle S \rangle)$.

Lemma 1.1.

1. If $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ then $V(S_1) \supseteq V(S_2)$.
2. $V(S_1 \cup S_2) = V(S_1 S_2) = V(S_1) \cap V(S_2)$.

We thus have a map

$$V : \{\text{Ideals in } k[x_1, \dots, x_n]\} \longrightarrow \{\text{Affine varieties in } \mathbb{A}^n\}.$$

Definition 1.1.1 (The Ideal of a Set).

Let $X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ be any set, then *the ideal of X* is defined as

$$I(X) := \left\{ f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid f(x) = 0 \forall x \in X \right\}.$$

Example 1.4.

Let X be the union of the x_1 and x_2 axes in \mathbb{A}^2 , then $I(X) = (x_1 x_2) = \{x_1 x_2 g \mid g \in k[x_1, x_2]\}$.

Note that if $X_1 \subset X_2$ then $I(X_1) \subset I(X_2)$.

Proposition 1.2 (*The Image of V is Radical*).

$I(X)$ is a radical ideal, i.e. $I(X) = \sqrt{I(X)}$.

This is because $f(x)^k = 0 \forall x \in X$ implies $f(x) = 0$ for all $x \in X$, so $f^k \in I(X)$ and thus $f \in I(X)$.

Our correspondence is thus

$$\begin{aligned} \{\text{Ideals in } k[x_1, \dots, x_n]\} &\xrightarrow{V} \{\text{Affine Varieties}\} \\ \{\text{Radical Ideals}\} &\xleftarrow{I} \{?\}. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 1.3 (*Hilbert Nullstellensatz (Zero Locus Theorem)*).

- a. For any affine variety X , $V(I(X)) = X$.
- b. For any ideal $J \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $I(V(J)) = \sqrt{J}$.

Thus there is a bijection between radical ideals and affine varieties.

1.1 Proof of Nullstellensatz

Remark 2.

Recall the Hilbert Basis Theorem: any ideal in a finitely generated polynomial ring over a field is again finitely generated.

We need to show 4 inclusions, 3 of which are easy.

a: $X \subset V(I(X))$:

- If $x \in X$ then $f(x) = 0$ for all $f \in I(X)$.
- So $x \in V(I(X))$, since every $f \in I(X)$ vanishes at x .

b: $\sqrt{J} \subset I(V(J))$:

- If $f \in \sqrt{J}$ then $f^k \in J$ for some k .
- Then $f^k(x) = 0$ for all $x \in V(J)$.
- So $f(x) = 0$ for all $x \in V(J)$.
- Thus $f \in I(V(J))$.

c: $V(I(X)) \subset X$:

- Need to now use that X is an affine variety.
 - Counterexample: $X = \mathbb{Z}^2 \subset \mathbb{C}^2$, then $I(X) = 0$. But $V(I(X)) = \mathbb{C}^2$, but $\mathbb{C}^2 \not\subset \mathbb{Z}^2$.
- By (b), $I(V(J)) \supset \sqrt{J} \supset J$.
- Since $V(\cdot)$ is order-reversing, taking V of both sides reverses the containment.
- So $V(I(V(J))) \subset V(J)$, i.e. $V(I(X)) \subset X$.