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1 | Thursday, November 05

Today: projective spaces. We defined $\mathbb{P}_k^n := k^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} / \sim$ where $x \sim \lambda x$ for all $x \in k^\times$, which we identified with lines through the origin in k^{n+1} . We have homogeneous coordinates $p = [x_0 : \cdots : x_n]$.

We say an ideal is *homogeneous* iff for all $f \in I$, the homogeneous part $f_d \in I$ for all d . In this case $V_p(I) \subset \mathbb{P}_k^n$ defined as the vanishing locus of all homogeneous elements of I is well-defined. Think of this as the “projective version” of a vanishing locus.

Similarly we defined $I_p(S)$ defined as the ideal generated by all homogeneous $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ such that $f(x) = 0$ for all $x \in S$.

Remark 1.0.1.

Observe that $V_a(I)$ defined as the cone over $V_p(I)$ is the set of points in $\mathbb{A}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \cup \{0\}$ which map to $V_p(I)$.

We have an alternative definition of a cone in \mathbb{A}^{n+1} , characterized as a closed subset C which is closed under scaling, so $kC \subseteq C$.

Proposition 1.0.1.

- If $S \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is a set of homogeneous polynomials, then $V_a(S)$ is a cone since it is closed and closed under scaling. This follows from the fact that $f(x) = 0 \iff f(\lambda x) = 0$ for $\lambda \in k^\times$ when f is homogeneous.
- If C is a cone, then its affine ideal $I_a(C)$ is homogeneous.

Proof (?).

Let $f \in I_a(C)$, then $f(x) = 0$ for all $x \in C$. Since C is closed under scaling, $f(\lambda x) = 0$ for all $x \in C$ and $\lambda \in k^\times$. Decompose $f = \sum_d f_d$ into homogeneous pieces, then

$$x \in C \implies 0 = f(\lambda x) = \sum \lambda^d f_d(x).$$

Fixing $x \in C$, the quantities $f_d(x)$ are constants, so the resulting polynomial in λ vanishes for all λ . But since k is infinite, this forces $f_d(x) = 0$ for all d , which shows that $f_d \in I_a(C)$. ■

Lemma 1.1 (?).

There is a bijective correspondence

$$\begin{aligned} \{\text{Cones}\} &\iff \{\text{Projective Varieties}\} \\ \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \supset X &\mapsto \mathbb{P}X \subset \mathbb{P}^n \\ \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \supset CX &\mapsto X \subset \mathbb{P}^n \end{aligned}$$

Proof (?).

$\mathbb{P}V_a(S) = V_p(S)$ for any set S of homogeneous polynomials, and $C(V_p(S)) = V_a(S)$, where $V_p(S)$ is a cone by part (a) of the previous proposition. Conversely, every cone is the variety associated to some homogeneous ideal. ■

1.1 Projective Nullstellensatz

Definition 1.1.1 (Irrelevant Ideal).

The homogeneous ideal $I_0 := (x_0, \dots, x_n) \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is denoted the **irrelevant ideal**.

Proposition 1.1.1 (*Projective Nullstellensatz*).

- a. For all $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$, $V_p(I_p(X)) = X$.
- b. For all homogeneous ideal $J \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ such that (importantly) $\sqrt{J} \neq I_0$, $I_p(V_p(J)) = \sqrt{J}$.

Proof (of a).

⊃: If we let I denote the ideal of all homogeneous polynomials vanishing on X , then this certainly contains X .

⊂: This follows from part (b), since $X = V_p(J)$ implies that $(V_p I_p V_p)(J) = V_p(\sqrt{J}) = V_p(J) = X$, since taking roots of homogeneous polynomials doesn't change the vanishing locus. ■

Proof (of b).

That $I_p(V_p(J)) \supset \sqrt{J}$ is obvious, since $f \in \sqrt{J}$ vanishes on $V_p(J)$.

Check

It remains to show $\sqrt{J} \subset I_p(V_p(J))$, but we can write $I_p(V_p(J))$ as $\langle f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid \text{the set of homogeneous polynomials vanishing on } V_p(S), \text{ which is equal to those vanishing on } V_a(J) \setminus \{0\} \rangle$.

But since $I_p(\dots)$ is closed, this is equal to the f that vanish on $\overline{V_a(J) \setminus \{0\}}$, which is only equal to $V_a(J)$ iff $V_a(J) \neq \{0\}$.

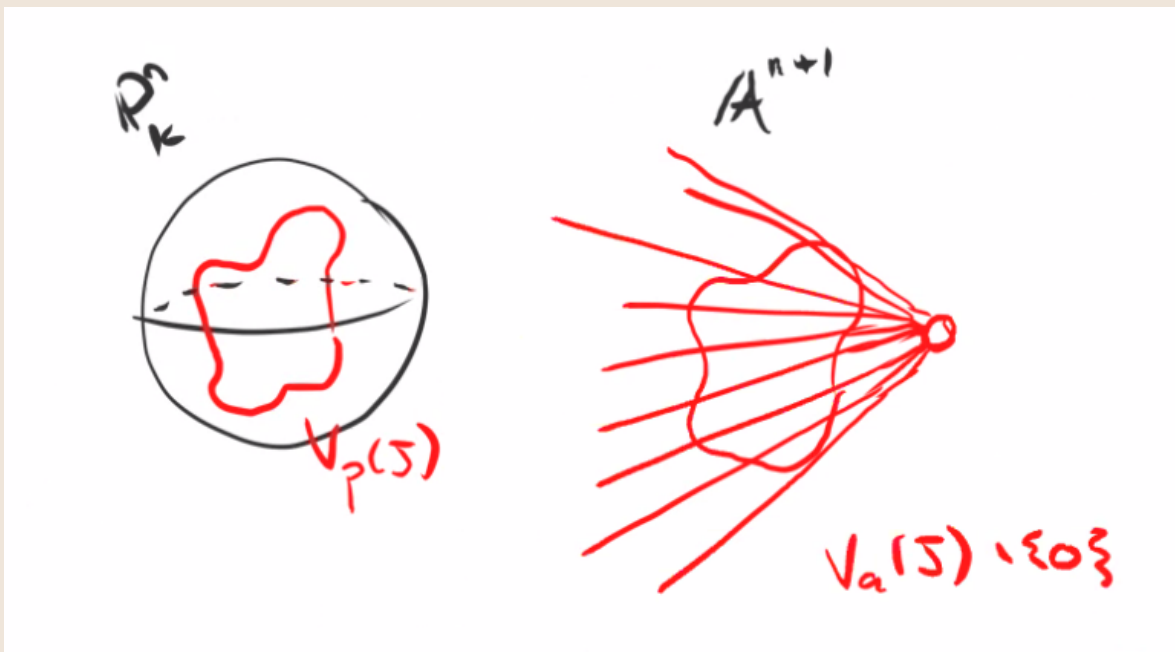


Figure 1: Image

By the affine Nullstellensatz,

$$V_a(J) = \{0\} \iff \sqrt{J} = I_0.$$

Thus $I_p(V_p(J)) = \langle f \mid \text{homogeneous vanishing on } V_a(J) \rangle$. Using the fact that $V_a(J)$ is a cone, its ideal is homogeneous and thus generated by homogeneous polynomials by part (b) of the previous proposition. Thus

$$I_p(V_p(J)) = I_a(V_a(J)) = \sqrt{J},$$

where the last equality follows from the affine Nullstellensatz. ■

Corollary 1.1.1(?).

There is an order-reversing bijection

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Projective varieties} \\ X \subset \mathbb{P}^n \end{array} \right\} & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Homog non-irrelevant radical ideals} \\ \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \end{array} \right\} & \\ & X \mapsto I_p(X) & \\ & ? \leftarrow ? & \end{array}$$

Remark 1.1.1.

A better definition of a cone over $X \subset \mathbb{P}_k^n$ is $\overline{\pi^{-1}(X)} \subset \mathbb{A}_k^{n+1}$ where

$$\pi : \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$$

$$().$$