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# Algebraic Geometry Ch1.

- i. a) The closure of  $A$  in  $A^n$  is the smallest Zariski-closed subset of  $A^n$  containing  $A$ . A Zariski-closed subset of  $A^n$  is the common zero locus of a collection of polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , so the closure of  $A$  is the smallest common zero locus of a collection of polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  containing  $A$ .

b) Prove  $\bar{A} = V(\mathcal{I}(A))$

First observe that by definition  $\mathcal{I}(A)$  consists of all polynomials that vanish on  $A$ , so by definition of  $V(\mathcal{I}(A)) = \{x \in A^n \mid f(x) = 0 \forall f \in \mathcal{I}(A)\}$ , we have that  $A \subseteq V(\mathcal{I}(A))$ .  $V(\mathcal{I}(A))$  is clearly closed in the Zariski topology. ~~we need only show that~~

This means that  $A \subseteq \bar{A} \subseteq V(\mathcal{I}(A))$  by the minimality of the closure.

Now suppose  $B$  is any ~~other~~ closed set such that  $A \subseteq B$ , so every polynomial that vanishes on  $B$  must vanish on  $A$ . i.e.  $\mathcal{I}(A) \supseteq \mathcal{I}(B)$  for some ideal  $\mathcal{I}(B)$  where  $B = V(\mathcal{I}(B))$ .

So  $V(\mathcal{I}(A)) \subseteq V(\mathcal{I}(B)) = B$ . so  $V(\mathcal{I}(A))$  is minimal, i.e.  $\bar{A} = V(\mathcal{I}(A))$ .

c) Let  $B = \{\frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

The Euclidean closure  $\bar{B} = B \cup \{0\}$  as  $(\frac{1}{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  has limit point 0.

The Zariski closure is all of  $\mathbb{C}$  as  $\mathcal{I}(B)$  must vanish on all of  $B$ . In one dimension this can only happen if a polynomial is either 0 everywhere or of infinite degree, but the degree must be finite, so  $\bar{B}$  is generated by the 0 polynomial. The zero locus of the zero polynomial is all of  $\mathbb{C}$  so  $\bar{B} = \mathbb{C}$ .

2. a) Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. A set  $Y \subseteq X$  is compact if every open cover of  $Y$  has a finite subcover. That is, if  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is an open cover, there is a  $\{U_{\alpha_i}\}_{i=1}^n \subseteq \{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  which covers  $Y$ .

- b) ~~This~~ holds in general for any closed affine algebraic variety  $V$ , that  $V$  is compact in the Zariski topology. We prove this below.

Suppose  $V$  is covered by  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$ . Each  $U_\alpha$  is open so  $U_\alpha = \bigcap_{i=1}^k N(f_{\alpha i})$  where  $N(f_\alpha) = \{p \in X \mid f_\alpha(p) \neq 0\}$  for some polynomial  $f_\alpha$ .



As  $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is a cover for  $X$ ,

$$V = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} (X \cap N(f_\alpha)).$$

So  $\forall p \in X, \exists$  some  $\alpha$  s.t.  $p \in N(f_\alpha)$ , i.e.  $f_\alpha(p) \neq 0$ .

Now consider the ideal  $I = (f_\alpha \mid \alpha \in A) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Since  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is <sup>Noetherian</sup> finitely generated by Hilbert's basis theorem, every ideal is finitely generated.

So  $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  has a finite subset  $\{f_1, \dots, f_m\}$  s.t.  $V(f_\alpha \mid \alpha \in A) = V(f_1, \dots, f_m)$ .

$$\text{So } X = \bigcup_{i=1}^m (X \cap N(f_{\alpha_i})) = U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_m.$$

where  $\{U_1, \dots, U_m\}$  is a finite subcover for  $M.V.$

So  $V(x^2 - y^3) \subseteq \mathbb{C}^2$  is compact in the Zariski topology.

It is compact in the Euclidean topology as it is even bounded. (since in Euclidean spaces compact  $\Rightarrow$  bounded).

3. a) Consider the curve  $W = y^2 - x$ , and the morphism  $\varphi(x, y) = (x^2, y)$ .

Then  $\varphi^{-1}(W) = y^2 - x^2 = (y-x)(y+x)$  so  $\varphi^{-1}(W)$  is reducible.

But  $W$  itself is irreducible as it has no linear factors.  $\varphi$  is a morphism as it is a polynomial, thus the required condition is satisfied.

b).  $X \subseteq Y$  is irreducible if  $X = (G_1 \cap X) \cup (G_2 \cap X)$  where  $G_1, G_2$  are closed subsets of  $Y$  and neither  $G_1$  nor  $G_2$  contains  $X$ .

We are to prove  $X$  is irreducible  $\Rightarrow \overline{X}$  is irreducible, by using the contrapositive. So assume  $\overline{X} = (G_1 \cap \overline{X}) \cup (G_2 \cap \overline{X})$ , and neither  $G_1$  nor  $G_2$  contains  $X$ .

Then  $X \subseteq \overline{X} \Rightarrow X = X \cap ((G_1 \cap \overline{X}) \cup (G_2 \cap \overline{X})) = (G_1 \cap X) \cup (G_2 \cap X)$  where neither  $G_1$  nor  $G_2$  contains  $X$ .

We need that neither  $G_1$  nor  $G_2$  contains  $\overline{X} \Rightarrow$  neither contains  $X$ . We again take the contrapositive: One contains  $X \Rightarrow$  one contains  $\overline{X}$ .



Suppose WLOG that  $X \subset G_1$ . Then  $\bar{X} \subset G_1$  as  $G_1$  is closed and any limit point of  $X$  must therefore be a limit point of  $G_1$  (minimality of closure).

So we have that  $X = (G_1 \cap X) \cup (G_2 \cap X)$  where  $G_1, G_2 \in \mathcal{Y}$  are closed and neither  $G_1$  nor  $G_2$  contains  $X$ , i.e.  $X$  is reducible.

c). Suppose  $V, W$  are closed affine algebraic varieties, and  $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$  an isomorphism.

1. Suppose  $V$  is irreducible, ~~and  $\varphi(V)$  is reducible~~ and  $\varphi(V)$  is reducible for the sake of contradiction.

i.e.  $\varphi(V) = A \cup B$  where  $A, B$  are proper closed subsets of  $\varphi(V)$ , disjoint.

Then  $\varphi^{-1}(A), \varphi^{-1}(B) \subset V$  and are closed by continuity of  $\varphi$ . In fact,  
 $V = \varphi^{-1}(A) \cup \varphi^{-1}(B)$ .

Since  $V$  is irreducible, either  $\varphi^{-1}(A)$  or  $\varphi^{-1}(B)$  must be all of  $V$ , assume WLOG  $\varphi^{-1}(A) = V$ .  
 Then  $\varphi(V) \subset A$ , contradicting that  $B \neq \emptyset$  if  $A, B$  disjoint. So  $\varphi(V)$  must be irreducible.  
 $\therefore W$  is irreducible as  $\varphi(V) = W$  due to ~~surjectivity~~ surjectivity of isomorphism.

2. By definition,  $\dim(V) = \max \{d \in \mathbb{N} \mid V = V_d \supset V_{d-1} \supset \dots \supset V_0, V_i \subsetneq V \text{ red subvarieties}\}$ .

So suppose  $\dim(V) = d$ , i.e.  $V = V_d \supset V_{d-1} \supset \dots \supset V_0$ .

Then  $\varphi(V) = \varphi(V_d) \supset \varphi(V_{d-1}) \supset \dots \supset \varphi(V_0)$ . finally, and the equalities are eliminated since  $\varphi$ , being an isomorphism, is injective.

So  $\varphi(V) = \varphi(V_d) \supset \varphi(V_{d-1}) \supset \dots \supset \varphi(V_0)$ , that is,  $\dim(\varphi(V)) = \dim(V) = d$ .

But as  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism onto  $W$ ,  $\varphi(V) = W$  so  $\dim(W) = \dim(V)$ .

d). Find the irreducible components of  $V(Zx - y, y^2 - x^2(x+1)) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^3$ .

We let both equal zero to obtain  $zx = y$  and  $y^2 = x^2(x+1)$ .

So  $z^2 x^2 = y^2 = x^2(x+1)$ . So either  $x = 0$  or  $z^2 = x+1$ .

when  $z^2 = x+1$ ,  $y = z^3 - z$  and when  $x=0$   $y=0$  so the components are

$V_1 = V(x, y)$  and  $V_2 = V(x+1 - z^2, y - z^3)$ .



$V_1$  is irreducible since  $(x, y)$  is a prime ideal and  $\mathbb{C}[x, y, z]/(x, y) \cong \mathbb{C}[z]$ .

By part c) irreducibility is preserved by isomorphism so  $V_1$  is irreducible.

$V_2 = V(z^2 - x - 1, y - zx)$ , so its coordinate ring is

$$R = \frac{\mathbb{C}[x, y, z]}{(z^2 - x - 1, y - zx)} \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}[x, z]}{(z^2 - x - 1)} \text{ as } y = zx.$$

$z^2 - x - 1$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{C}[x, z]$  as it has no linear factors, so  $V_2$  is an irreducible variety.

4. a). Take a polynomial  $g \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  that vanishes on  $V$ , i.e.  $\forall x \in V, g(x) = 0$ ; ~~and such that  $g(a) \neq 0$  since  $a \in \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V$ .~~

Then define  $f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{g(a)}$ . Then when  $g(x) = 0$ , i.e. when  $x \in V$ ,  $f(x) = \frac{0}{g(a)} = 0$ , so  $f \in I(V)$ .

But  $f(a) = \frac{g(a)}{g(a)} = 1$ .

b. i). Let  $I = (f_1, \dots, f_r)$ ,  $(g) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be ideals such that  $V(g) \supseteq V(I)$ .

We need to prove that  $(f_1, \dots, f_r, x_{n+1}g - 1) = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ .  
Call  $(f_1, \dots, f_r, x_{n+1}g - 1)$   $J$ .

The condition  $V(g) \supseteq V(I)$  means every common zero of the polynomials in  $I$  is also a zero of  $g$ . So if  $f_i(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0, \forall i$ , we have  $g(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$ .

To show the ideal  $J = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$  we need only show that  $1 \in J$ , so suppose for the sake of contradiction that  $1 \notin J$ .

Suppose for the sake of contradiction that  $J \neq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ . Then  $J$  is contained in a maximal ideal  $m$ . Maximal ideals correspond to points in  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  meaning there exists a point  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n+1})$  such that  $\forall i, f_i(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$ , and  $x_{n+1}g(a_1, \dots, a_n) - 1 = 0$ .

But ① implies  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in V(I)$ , which as explained above implies  $g(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$ . But this means  $x_{n+1} \cdot 0 - 1 = 0$ , an obvious impossibility and hence a contradiction, so  $J = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ .



ii). Trivially  $g^m \in J$  as  $J = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ .

So we can write  $g^m = \sum_{i=1}^k h_i f_i + x_{n+1} h_{k+1}$ .

for polynomials  $h_1, \dots, h_{k+1} \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ .

But since  $(g) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $g$  cannot depend on  $x_{n+1}$  and so neither can  $g^m$ , so  $g^m = \sum_{i=1}^k h_i f_i$ , i.e.  $g^m \in I$ .

5. a)  $\varphi^*: \mathbb{C}[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[V]$  is injective  $\Leftrightarrow \varphi$  is dominant (i.e.  $\varphi(V)$  dense in  $W$ ).  
i.e. every point of  $W$  is arbitrarily close to a point of  $\varphi(V)$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Suppose  $\varphi(V) \not\subset W$  is dense. For any  $g \in \mathbb{C}[W]$  nonzero, consider the set  $\varphi(V) \cap N(g)$  where as in 2b,  $N(g)$  is the open set where  $g$  doesn't vanish. Since  $\varphi(V)$  is dense this must be nonempty.

Now choose  $y \in \varphi(V) \cap N(g)$ . Then  $(\varphi^*(g))(y) \neq 0$  so  $\varphi^*(g) \neq 0$ . This means  $\text{Ker } \varphi^* = \{0\}$ , which is equivalent to  $\varphi^*$  being injective.

( $\Rightarrow$ ): We use the contrapositive. Suppose  $\varphi(V) \subset W$  is not dense. Then there exists an open subset  $U$  such that  $\varphi(V) \cap U = \emptyset$ , which implies  $\varphi(V) \subseteq W \setminus U$ , as  $U$  is open,  $W \setminus U$  is a proper closed subset of  $W$ , so is contained in a variety contained in a maximal ideal, i.e.  $V(p)$  for some  $p \in \mathbb{C}[W]$  nonzero constant. Then  $\varphi^*(p) = 0$  for some  $p \neq 0$  so  $\text{Ker } \varphi^* \neq \{0\}$ , i.e.  $\varphi$  is not injective.

11b).  $\varphi^*: \mathbb{C}[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[V]$  is surjective  $\Leftrightarrow \varphi$  defines an isomorphism  $V \rightarrow X$  a subvariety of  $W$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Suppose  $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$  is an isomorphism onto  $X \subseteq W$ . There are maps  $\varphi \circ \phi: V \rightarrow X$  isomorphism and  $\psi: X \rightarrow W$  the inclusion map,  $\varphi = \psi \circ \phi$ . Taking pullbacks gives  $\varphi^* = (\psi \circ \phi)^* = \phi^* \circ \psi^*: \mathbb{C}[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[X] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[V]$ .  $\phi^*$  is an isomorphism, as  $\phi$  is, and since  $X$  is a subvariety of  $W$ ,  $\psi^*$  is surjective, as any polynomial  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$  can be extended (using the same polynomial) to  $W \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$ .  $\therefore \varphi^*$  is a composition of surjections so it is itself a surjection.

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Suppose  $\varphi^*: \mathbb{C}[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[V]$  is surjective. Consider  $\varphi(V) \subseteq W$ .

The Zariski closure of  $\varphi(V)$ ,  $\overline{\varphi(V)}$  is by definition a subvariety of  $W$ .

So we have maps  $V \rightarrow \overline{\varphi(V)} \xrightarrow{\text{inclusion}} W$



$\mathbb{A}^1$  and the corresponding pullbacks are  $\mathbb{A}^1[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1[\overline{\psi(V)}] \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1[V]$ .

The map  $V \rightarrow \overline{\psi(V)}$  is dominant so  $\mathbb{A}^1[\overline{\psi(V)}] \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1[V]$  is injective by part a).

Since by assumption  $\psi^*: \mathbb{A}^1[W] \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1[V]$  is surjective, the extension to  $\mathbb{A}^1[\overline{\psi(V)}] \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1[V]$  is also surjective.

$\therefore$  the map  $\mathbb{A}^1[\overline{\psi(V)}] \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1[V]$  is both injective and surjective so is an isomorphism.

It follows that  $\psi: V \rightarrow \overline{\psi(V)}$  is an isomorphism, satisfying the claim since  $\overline{\psi(V)}$  is a subvariety of  $W$ .