

Notes on 'Algebraic Geometry I: Schemes'

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Part I

Algebraic Geometry I: Schemes, Gortz-Wedhorn

1 Prevarieties

1.1 Affine Algebraic Sets

1.1.1 The Zariski Topology on \mathbb{A}_k^n

Definition 1 Let $M \subseteq k[T_1, \dots, T_n] =: k[\underline{T}]$. The set of common zeros of the polynomials in M is defined as

$$\mathbb{V}(M) := \{p \in k^n : f(p) = 0 \quad \forall f \in M\}$$

Proposition 1 The sets $\mathbb{V}(\mathfrak{a})$ where \mathfrak{a} is an ideal in $k[\underline{T}]$ form a topology on \mathbb{A}_k^n called the Zariski topology.

This is a very elementary problem in algebraic geometry .

1.1.2 Affine Algebraic Sets

Definition 2 The closed subspaces of \mathbb{A}_k^n are called affine algebraic sets.

1.1.3 Hilbert's Nullstellensatz

Theorem 1 Hilbert's Nullstellensatz: Let K be field and A a finitely generated K -algebra. Then A is Jacobson, that is for every prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \subset A$ we have

$$\mathfrak{p} = \bigcap_{\mathfrak{m} \supseteq \mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{m} \text{ maximal}} \mathfrak{m}$$

Theorem 2 Noether's Normalisation Theorem: Let K be a field and $A \neq 0$ a finitely generated K -algebra. Then there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and t_1, \dots, t_n such that the K -algebra homomorphism $K[T_1, \dots, T_n] \rightarrow A, T_i \rightarrow t_i$ is injective and finite

Lemma 1 Let A, B be integral domains and $A \rightarrow B$ an injective integral ring homomorphism. Then A is a field iff B is a field

Proof. Let A be a field and $b \in B$ non-zero. Then $A[b]$ is an A -vector space of finite dimension. As B is an integral domain, the multiplication by $b, A[b] \rightarrow A[b]$ is injective. As this map is A -linear it is bijective and hence b is a unit. We can extend this type of argument to every $a \neq 0 \in A$ and prove that a must be a unit.

We can further investigate the impact of the Nullstellensatz on algebraically closed fields. Let $K = k$ be an algebraically closed field. Then the Nullstellensatz implies the following:

- Let A be a finitely generated k -algebra and $\mathfrak{m} \subset A$ a maximal ideal. Then $A/\mathfrak{m} = k$
- $\mathfrak{m} \subset k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ maximal implies existence of a point (x_1, \dots, x_n) in A such that $\mathfrak{m} = (T_1 - x_1, \dots, T_n - x_n)$

These points have nice geometric interpretations. When A is the set of polynomials $A = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ and \mathfrak{m} is a maximal ideal, the coordinate ring of $X = \mathbb{V}(\mathfrak{m})$ is isomorphic to the underlying field. The second point is also nice and tells us that all maximal ideals in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ correspond to points in \mathbb{A}_k^n . This is interesting, maximal ideals are large but correspond to very small/finite varieties.

1.1.4 The Radical-Affine Correspondence

There is a bijective correspondence between radical ideals and affine varieties:

$$\begin{aligned}\{\mathfrak{p} \subset A : \text{rad}(\mathfrak{p}) = \mathfrak{p}\} &\leftrightarrow \{X \subset \mathbb{A}_k^n : X = \mathbb{V}(f_1, \dots, f_n)\} \\ \mathfrak{p} &\rightarrow \mathbb{V}(\mathfrak{p}) \\ \mathbb{I}(X) &\leftarrow X\end{aligned}$$

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