

# Notes Topics in Algebraic Geometry

Jonas van der Schaaf

February-May 2024

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Toric Geometry</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Monoids . . . . .	2
1.2	Rational polyhedral cones . . . . .	2
1.2.1	Duality and faces . . . . .	3
1.2.2	Fans . . . . .	4
1.3	Toric schemes . . . . .	5
1.4	Toric morphisms . . . . .	7
1.5	The torus action . . . . .	8
1.6	Flat morphisms . . . . .	9
1.7	Proper morphisms . . . . .	9

# 1 Toric Geometry

## 1.1 Monoids

**Definition 1.1.1.** A commutative monoid is a triple  $(M, +, 0)$  with  $+: M^2 \rightarrow M$  and  $0 \in M$  such that

- $+$  is associative,
- $+$  is commutative,
- $0$  is an identity element.

**Example 1.1.2.** The following are examples of monoids:

- $(\mathbb{Z}_{>0}, \cdot, 1)$
- $(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, +, 0)$

**Lemma 1.1.3.** Let  $R$  be a ring. Then the functor

$$\mathbf{Alg}_R \rightarrow \mathbf{Mon} : R \mapsto (R, \cdot, 1)$$

has a left adjoint

$$R[-] : \mathbf{Mon} \leftarrow \mathbf{Alg}_R : M \mapsto R[M]$$

*Proof.* We construct  $R[M]$  as a ring:

As an additive group it is the linearization  $R[M]$  with multiplication given by

$$\sum_i x_i m_i \cdot \sum_j y_j n_j = \sum_{i,j} x_i y_j (m_i + n_j)$$

which is well-defined by finite support of exact sequences.



**Example 1.1.4.** For a ring  $R$ , we have natural isomorphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Alg}_R}(R[\mathbb{N}], A) &\cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Mon}}(\mathbb{N}, (A, \cdot)) \\ &\cong A \\ &\cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Alg}_R}(R[x], A). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we conclude by the Yoneda lemma that  $R[\mathbb{N}] \cong R[x]$ .

## 1.2 Rational polyhedral cones

**Definition 1.2.1.** Let  $M$  be a free finitely generated Abelian group with  $v_1, \dots, v_s \in M$ . The cone generated by the  $v_i$  is

$$\left\{ \sum_i r_i v_i : r_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \right\} \subseteq M \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} =: M_{\mathbb{R}}.$$

We identify  $M$  with the inclusion

$$M \hookrightarrow M_{\mathbb{R}} : m \mapsto m \otimes 1.$$

A subset  $\sigma \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}}$  is a rational polyhedron (RP) cone if  $\exists s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_s \in M$  such that  $\sigma$  is of this form.

**Proposition 1.2.2** (Gordon's lemma). *If  $\sigma \in M_{\mathbb{R}}$  is an RP cone then  $\sigma \cap M$  is a finitely generated monoid.*

*The generators of  $\sigma$  don't necessarily generate  $\sigma \cap M$ !*

### 1.2.1 Duality and faces

**Definition 1.2.3.** For any monoid we can define

$$M^\vee = \text{Hom}(M, \mathbb{Z})$$

and

$$M_{\mathbb{R}}^\vee = \text{Hom}(M_{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{R})$$

Given a cone  $\sigma \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}}$  we define

$$\sigma^\vee = \{n \in M_{\mathbb{R}}^\vee : \forall m \in \sigma, m \cdot n = n(m) \geq 0\}$$

**Lemma 1.2.4.** *The dual cone  $\sigma^\vee$  is an RP cone.*

$$(\sigma^\vee)^\vee = \sigma.$$

**Definition 1.2.5.** We write  $\langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}}$  to be the cone generated by the  $v_i$ , concretely:

$$\langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle = \left\{ \sum_i r_i v_i : \forall i, r_i \geq 0 \right\}.$$

A face of  $\sigma$  is a cone of the form  $\sigma \cap \langle -\tau \rangle^\vee$  for any  $\tau \in \sigma^\vee$ .

**Lemma 1.2.6.** *A face of an RP cone is an RP cone.*

**Remark 1.2.7.** There is a nice trick for computing duals of cones. Let  $M = \mathbb{Z}^n$  and  $\sigma \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}} \cong \mathbb{R}^n$  a cone generated by the elements  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in M$ .

We have an isomorphism  $M_{\mathbb{R}} \cong M_{\mathbb{R}}^\vee$  given by  $v \mapsto \langle v, - \rangle$ . Take any  $v \in M$ , there is then a line through the origin perpendicular to  $v$ . The dual  $\langle v \rangle^\vee$  corresponds to the half plane  $H_v$  corresponding to that line in which  $v$  lies.

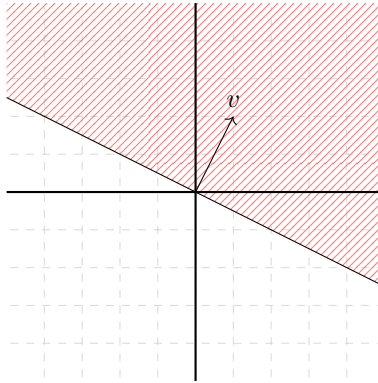


Figure 1: The dual of a cone  $\langle v \rangle$ .

For a general cone  $\sigma = \langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle$  one can then compute the dual as the intersection of the half planes:

$$\sigma^\vee = \bigcap_i H_{v_i}.$$

The right to left inclusion is easy to see: if  $n \in \bigcap_i H_{v_i}$  then for all  $(r_i) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\begin{aligned} n \cdot \left( \sum_i r_i v_i \right) &= \sum_i r_i (n \cdot v_i) \\ &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

because  $n \in H_{v_i}$  so  $n \cdot v_i \geq 0$ .

Conversely, suppose  $n \in \sigma^\vee$ . Then  $n \cdot v_i \geq 0$  by assumption so  $n \in \langle v_i \rangle^\vee = H_{v_i}$  for all  $i$  so  $n$  is also in the intersection.

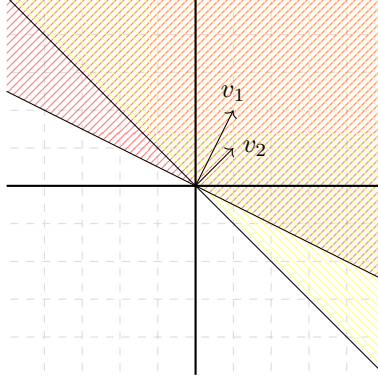


Figure 2: The dual of the cone  $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$  is the doubly shaded region.

**Definition 1.2.8.** An  $RP$  cone  $\sigma \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}}$  is strictly convex ( $SRP$  cone) if

$$\sigma \cap -\sigma = 0$$

or equivalently  $\sigma$  does not contain a line through the origin.

### 1.2.2 Fans

**Definition 1.2.9.** A fan  $F$  in  $M_{\mathbb{R}}$  is a set of  $SRP$  cones in  $M_{\mathbb{R}}$  satisfying the following properties:

- i.  $\{0\} \subseteq F$ ,
- ii. for all  $\sigma \in F$  and faces  $\tau$  of  $\sigma$  we have  $\tau \in F$ ,
- iii. for all  $\sigma, \sigma' \in F$  we have that  $\sigma \cap \sigma'$  is a face of  $\sigma$ .

If  $\sigma$  is an  $SRP$  cone then the set  $\{\text{faces of } \sigma\}$  is a fan.

**Example 1.2.10.** Let  $M = \mathbb{Z}^2$ . Then the following is a fan:

$$F = \{ \langle (1, 0), (0, 1) \rangle, \langle (1, 0) \rangle, \langle (0, 1) \rangle, \{0\} \}.$$

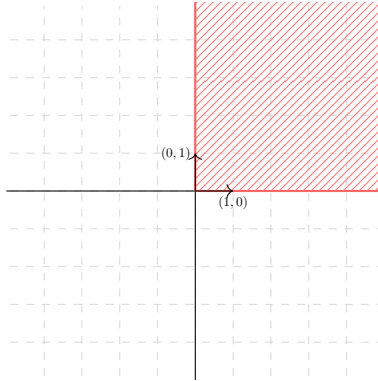


Figure 3: The fan  $F$ .

**Example 1.2.11.** Let  $M = \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$F = \{\sigma_2 = \langle 1 \rangle, \sigma_1 = \langle -1 \rangle, \sigma_0 = \{0\}\}$$

is a fan.

### 1.3 Toric schemes

We fix some ring  $R \in \mathbf{CRing}$ .

**Definition 1.3.1.** Let  $\sigma$  be an *SRP* cone. The affine toric scheme associated to  $\sigma$  is given by

$$X_\sigma = \text{Spec}(R[\sigma^\vee \cap M^\vee]).$$

We often write  $S_\sigma = \sigma^\vee \cap M^\vee$ .

**Remark 1.3.2.** If  $\sigma' \subseteq \sigma$  then  $\sigma^\vee \subseteq (\sigma')^\vee$  inducing a map  $S_\sigma \rightarrow S_{\sigma'}$  and therefore also a map  $X_{\sigma'} \rightarrow X_\sigma$ .

**Example 1.3.3.** If  $M = \mathbb{Z}^m$  we can take

$$\sigma = R_{\geq 0}^a = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^a \times \{0\}^{n-1} \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Then

$$X_\sigma = \mathbb{A}_R^a \times_R \mathbb{G}_{m,R}^{n-a}.$$

This is because  $\sigma^\vee = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^a \times \mathbb{R}^{n-a}$  so  $S_\sigma = \mathbb{N}^a \times \mathbb{Z}^{n-a}$ . We know that  $R[\mathbb{N}] \cong R[x]$  and  $R[\mathbb{Z}] \cong R[x, x^{-1}]$ .

**Exercise 1.3.4.** The following are equivalent:

- i. A cone  $\sigma$  is strictly convex,
- ii. the linear span of  $\sigma^\vee$  is  $M_{\mathbb{R}}^\vee$ ,
- iii. the map  $X_{\{0\}} \rightarrow \text{Spec } R[\sigma^\vee \cap M^\vee]$  is an open immersion<sup>1</sup>.

Therefore, the affine schemes we get this way are those with a torus as a dense open subset.

**Remark 1.3.5.** The scheme  $\text{Spec } R[t, t^{-1}]$  is often called the torus.

**Lemma 1.3.6** (Gluing schemes). *Let  $I$  be an index set,  $X_i$  a scheme for all  $i \in I$ , for all  $i, j$  an open  $U_{ij} \subseteq X_i$  such that  $U_{ii} = X_i$  and  $\varphi_{ij} : U_{ij} \cong U_{ji}$  and for all  $i, j, k$  we have  $\varphi_{ij}^{-1}(U_{ji} \cap U_{jk}) = U_{ij} \cap U_{ik}$  and the diagram below commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U_{ij} \cap U_{ik} & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{ik}} & U_{ki} \cap U_{kj} \\ & \searrow \varphi_{ij} \quad \nearrow \varphi_{jk} & \\ & U_{ji} \cap U_{jk} & \end{array}$$

Then there is a scheme  $X$  and opens  $U_i$  such that  $\varphi_i : X_i \cong U_i$  and

- i  $X = \bigcup_i U_i$ ,
- ii  $\varphi_i(U_{ij}) = U_i \cap U_j$ ,
- iii  $\varphi_{ij} = \varphi_j^{-1}|_{U_i \cap U_j} \circ \varphi_i|_{U_{ij}}$ .

---

<sup>1</sup>We write  $R[S_\sigma]$  because we only defined  $X_s$  if  $\sigma$  is indeed strictly convex.

**Lemma 1.3.7.** *Let  $\sigma$  be an RP cone and  $(\sigma') = \sigma \cap \langle \ell \rangle^\vee$  a face. Then  $\sigma^\vee \subseteq (\sigma')^\vee$  and the map*

$$R[S_\sigma] \rightarrow R[S_{\sigma'}]$$

*is the localization at the multiplicative subset.*

$$T = \langle \ell \rangle \cap M^\vee.$$

*Proof.* We prove this is the localization using the universal property:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}_R(R[S_{\sigma'}], A) &\cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Mon}}(S_{\sigma'}, (A, \times)) \\ &\cong \{f \in \mathrm{Hom}(S_\sigma, A) : f(\ell) \in A^\times\} \\ &\cong \{f \in \mathrm{Hom}_R(R[S_\sigma], A) : f(\ell) \in A^\times\} \\ &\cong \mathrm{Hom}_R(T^{-1}R[S_\sigma], A). \end{aligned}$$



**Lemma 1.3.8.** *Given a fan  $F$  we can define gluing data. We let the index set be  $F$  and define  $X_\sigma = X_\sigma$  for all  $\sigma \in F$ . Given  $\sigma, \sigma' \in F$  let  $\tau = \sigma \cap \sigma'$  then define  $U_{\sigma\sigma'} = X_\tau$  with isomorphism  $\varphi_{\sigma\sigma'} = \mathrm{Id} : X_\tau \rightarrow X_\tau$ .*

*Proof.* We need to verify  $X_\tau \rightarrow X_\sigma$  is an open immersion and the triple overlap condition.

The overlap condition boils down to verifying the following: if  $\tau, \tau'$  are faces of  $\sigma$  then  $\tau \cap \tau'$  is a face of  $\sigma$  and  $X_{\tau \cap \tau'} = X_{\tau \cap \tau'} \subseteq X_\sigma$ .

Let  $\sigma'$  be a face of  $\sigma$ . We show that  $X_{\sigma'} \rightarrow X_\sigma$  is an open immersion. Let  $\sigma' = \langle -\ell \rangle^\vee$  for some  $\ell \in M^\vee$ . Then  $(\sigma')^\vee = \sigma^\vee + \langle -\ell \rangle$ . The statement now follows from Lemma 1.3.7.

We leave the overlap condition to the reader.



**Definition 1.3.9.** Given a fan  $F$  we define  $X_F$  to be the result of the gluing data of Lemma 1.3.8. This can also be described as a colimit of affine schemes  $F \rightarrow \mathbf{Sch}$ :  $\sigma \mapsto X_\sigma$  with the natural open immersions as morphisms.

**Remark 1.3.10.** Suppose  $F$  is a fan given by the faces of a single cone  $\sigma$ . Then  $X_F = X_\sigma$ .

*Proof.* In this case there is a natural inclusion  $\tau \subseteq \sigma$  for all  $\tau \in F$ . Therefore,  $X_\sigma$  is a terminal object in the cocone of schemes given by  $F \rightarrow \mathbf{Sch}$  which is then also the colimit of the diagram by general abstract nonsense.



**Example 1.3.11.** Consider the fan  $F$  from Example 1.2.11. Then the corresponding scheme is given by  $\mathbb{P}_R^1$ .

We first compute  $S_{\sigma_i}$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2$ .

For  $\sigma_0 = \{0\}$  the dual cone is all of  $M_\mathbb{R}^\vee$ . Therefore,  $S_{\sigma_0} = M_\mathbb{R}^\vee \cap M^\vee = M^\vee$ .

For  $\sigma_1 = \langle -1 \rangle$

Note that we have

$$\begin{aligned} X_{\sigma_0} &= \mathrm{Spec} R[\mathbb{Z}] = \mathrm{Spec} R[t, t^{-1}], \\ X_{\sigma_1} &= \mathrm{Spec} R[\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}] = \mathrm{Spec} R[t], \\ X_{\sigma_2} &= \mathrm{Spec} R[\mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}] = \mathrm{Spec} R[t^{-1}]. \end{aligned}$$

There is a pushout diagram of schemes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec} R[t, t^{-1}] & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Spec} R[t] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec} R[t^{-1}] & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{P}_R^1 \end{array}$$

which gives that the gluing gives  $\mathbb{P}_R^1$ .

**Lemma 1.3.12.** *Suppose we have a finite number of finitely generated groups  $(M_i)_{i \leq n}$  and SRP cones  $\sigma_i \subseteq (M_i)_R$ . Then the product  $\prod_i \sigma_i \subseteq \prod_i M_i$  corresponds to the product of schemes  $X_{\sigma_1} \times X_{\sigma_2}$ .*

*Proof.* We note that

$$\left( \prod_i \sigma_i \right)^\vee = \prod_i \sigma_i^\vee$$

so  $S_{\prod_i \sigma_i} = \prod_i S_{\sigma_i}$ .

We also have

$$\prod_i S_{\sigma_i} = \bigoplus_i S_{\sigma_i}$$

because we have finitely many  $M_i$ .

We show using Yoneda that  $R[\prod_i S_{\sigma_i}] \cong \bigotimes_i R[S_{\sigma_i}]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Alg}_R} \left( R \left[ \prod_i S_{\sigma_i} \right], A \right) &= \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Mon}} \left( \prod_i S_{\sigma_i}, (A, \times) \right) \\ &= \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Mon}} \left( \bigoplus_i S_{\sigma_i}, (A, \times) \right) \\ &= \prod_i \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Mon}} (S_{\sigma_i}, (A, \times)) \\ &= \prod_i \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Alg}_R} (R[\sigma_i], A) \\ &= \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Alg}_R} \left( \bigotimes_i R[\sigma_i], A \right). \end{aligned}$$

This is because tensor products are coproducts in the category of commutative  $R$ -algebras. The right adjoint functor  $\mathrm{Spec} : \mathbf{CRing}^{op} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sch}$  preserves limits, so it sends the tensor product to the product of schemes.



## 1.4 Toric morphisms

Now we define morphisms of toric schemes to turn the function from fans to schemes into a functor.

**Definition 1.4.1.** Let  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  be a morphism of monoids,  $\sigma \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}}, \sigma' \subseteq M'_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $f^*$  the pullback map  $\mathrm{Hom}(M'_{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}(M_{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{R})$ . Then if  $f[\sigma] \subseteq \sigma'$  we get a map of monoids  $S_{\sigma'} \rightarrow S_{\sigma}$  inducing a morphism of rings  $R[S_{\sigma'}] \rightarrow R[S_{\sigma}]$  or equivalently a scheme morphism  $X_{\sigma} \rightarrow X_{\sigma'}$ .

**Remark 1.4.2.** The functor  $R[-]$  is not full so not every morphism between these rings is induced by monoid morphisms. Consider a map  $\mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{N}] = R[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{N}] = R[x]$  sending  $x \mapsto x^2$ . This is not induced by a monoid map  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ .


**Definition 1.4.3.** Let  $F, F'$  be fans on  $M, M'$  respectively and  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  be a monoid morphism such that for each  $\sigma \in F$  there is a  $\sigma' \in F'$  such that  $f[\sigma] \subseteq \sigma'$ . Then  $f$  is called compatible with  $F$  and  $F'$ .

**Theorem 1.4.4.** Let  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  be a morphism compatible with the fans  $F, F'$ . Then it induces a morphism  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$ . Such a map is called a toric morphism.

*Proof.* First we note that for any  $\sigma$  there is a smallest  $\sigma'$  which contains it. To see this note that  $F^{op}$  is directed: if  $\tau, \tau' \in F'$  then  $\tau \cap \tau' \in F'$ . Now because  $F$  is finite this process terminates eventually. We write  $\sigma'$  for the smallest cone in  $F'$  containing  $\sigma \in F$ .

Given any  $\sigma \in F$  we know there is a map  $X_\sigma \rightarrow X_{\sigma'} \rightarrow X_{F'}$ . If we show that this collection of maps forms a cocone then it induces a map  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  by the universal property. To prove this, by functoriality it suffices to show that the diagram


$$\begin{array}{ccc} S_\tau & \longrightarrow & S_{\tau'} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S_\sigma & \longrightarrow & S_{\sigma'} \end{array}$$

is a commutative diagram of monoids for any  $\sigma \subseteq \tau \in F$ . This is immediate because the vertical maps are inclusions and the horizontal map is the restriction of the pullback  $f^*$  on the ambient space. 

**Proposition 1.4.5.** The map  $F \mapsto X_F$  extends to a functor from fans to schemes.

*Proof.* We define the functor on morphisms of fans using the morphisms defined in Theorem 1.4.4.

This functor preserves the identity because for any fan map  $F \rightarrow F$  the induced map  $S_\sigma \rightarrow S_\sigma$  is the identity for all  $\sigma \in F$  because pullbacks preserve identity.

Similarly, this is multiplicative because the pullback preserves composition so the pullback given by a composition  $F \rightarrow F' \rightarrow F''$  is the composition of the individual pullbacks. 

**Example 1.4.6.** Let  $\pi : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  be the projection onto the first coordinate and  $F$  a fan with support contained in  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . Let  $F'$  be the fan  $F' = \{\{0\}, \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}\}$ . Then  $\pi$  is compatible with the fans. We therefore get a map

$$X_F \rightarrow X_{F'} \cong \text{Spec } R[x] = \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}}^1.$$

In particular if we take  $F$  from Example 1.2.10 then we get a morphism of rings

$$R[x] \rightarrow R[x, y] : x \mapsto R[x, y]$$

which corresponds to the natural projection  $\mathbb{A}_R^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{A}_R^1$ .

**Example 1.4.7.** Let  $M = \mathbb{Z}^n$  and  $F$  a collection of cones. Then  $f(x) = mx$  is compatible with  $F$  for fixed  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Any cone  $\sigma \in F$  is closed under scaling with a non-negative number so  $f[\sigma] \subseteq \sigma \in F$ . This gives an endomorphism  $X_F \rightarrow X_F$ .

## 1.5 The torus action

**Definition 1.5.1.** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated Abelian group of rank  $n$  and  $F$  a fan on  $M$ . Writing  $T = \text{Spec } R[M^\vee]$  for the torus there is a map

$$X_F \times_R T \rightarrow X_F$$


locally given for each  $\sigma \in F$  by a map  $R[S_\sigma] \rightarrow R[S_\sigma] \otimes_R T$  sending  $x \mapsto x \otimes x$  where we embed  $R[S_\sigma] \subseteq T$  by the natural inclusion  $S_\sigma \rightarrow M^\vee$ .



*Proof.* We show that this map exists. Notice that  $(X_\sigma \times_R T)_{\sigma \in F}$  is an open cover of the fibre product. Therefore, if the maps are compatible on this affine cover it defines a scheme morphism.

Let  $\tau \subseteq \sigma$  be cones in  $F$ . To show compatibility of the cone map means showing commutativity of the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R[S_\sigma] & \longrightarrow & R[S_\sigma] \otimes T \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ R[S_\tau] & \longrightarrow & R[S_\tau] \otimes T \end{array}$$

This is trivial because the map into the tensor product is a natural transformation between functors and the vertical maps are both the natural localization map. 


**Theorem 1.5.2.** *Let  $M \rightarrow M'$  be a map of monoids such that  $F, F'$  are compatible with it. Then the torus action is compatible with the induced  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$ . Concretely the diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_F \times T_M & \longrightarrow & X_{F'} \times T_{M'} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X_F & \longrightarrow & X_{F'} \end{array}$$

*commutes.*

*Proof.* It is sufficient the diagram commutes locally. Concretely we must have that the following commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R[S_\sigma] & \longrightarrow & R[S_{\sigma'}] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ R[S_\sigma] \otimes R[M] & \longrightarrow & R[S_{\sigma'}] \otimes R[M'] \end{array}$$

This is clearly true. 

**Remark 1.5.3.** Given a toric scheme  $X_F$  over  $R$ . The toric action gives an action  $X_F(R) \times T(R) \rightarrow X_F(R)$  of the torus rational points on the rational points of  $X_F$  which is compatible with toric morphisms.

## 1.6 Flat morphisms

**Definition 1.6.1.** Let  $A, B$  be two commutative rings and  $f : A \rightarrow B$  a ring morphism. Then  $f$  is called flat if  $B$  is a flat  $A$ -module by this map.

**Example 1.6.2.** The localization map  $R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  is flat for any ring  $R$  and multiplicatively closed subset  $S \subseteq R$ .

## 1.7 Proper morphisms

**Definition 1.7.1.** We quickly define a couple properties of morphisms. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes

- i.  $f$  is called separated if the diagonal map  $X \hookrightarrow X \times_Y X$  is a closed immersion,
- ii.  $f$  is called of finite type if for all opens  $V \subseteq Y$  the map  $\mathcal{O}_Y(V) \rightarrow f_*\mathcal{O}_X(V) = \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}[V])$  turns  $f_*\mathcal{O}_X(V)$  into a finitely generated  $\mathcal{O}_Y(V)$  algebra,

- iii.  $f$  is called universally closed when any pullback along  $Z \rightarrow Y$  has that  $X \times_Y Z \rightarrow X$  is a closed embedding of topological spaces,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times_Y Z & \longrightarrow & Z \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ X & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

- iv. A morphism is proper if it has all three of the above properties.

**Example 1.7.2.** Most “natural” morphisms of schemes are separated and of finite type. However, not all nice maps are universally closed. The standard example is the map  $\mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . Pulling back along  $\mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  gives the projection map  $\mathbb{A}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$  which is not closed because the closed  $Z(xy - 1) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2$  is mapped onto the open  $D(x) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^1$ .

**Definition 1.7.3.** We write  $|F| = \bigcup_{\sigma \in F} \sigma \subseteq M_{\mathbb{R}}$  and call it the support of a fan.

We are going to work towards the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.7.4.** *Let  $M, M'$  be finitely generated Abelian groups,  $F, F'$  fans in the respective lattices and  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  a morphism compatible with the fans. Then the induced  $f : X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  of toric schemes is proper if and only if  $f^{-1}[|F'|] = F$ .*

**Example 1.7.5.** Consider the fan from Example 1.2.10 and the following fan

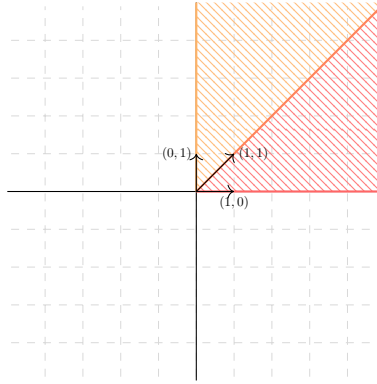


Figure 4: A “refinement”  $F'$ .

The identity on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  is compatible with  $F' \rightarrow F$ . The only points of  $M_{\mathbb{R}}$  mapped into  $|F|$  are those already in  $|F'|$ . Therefore, this defines a proper map of toric schemes (later we will see this corresponds to a blow-up).

**Example 1.7.6.** A non-example we have already seen is sending the fan  $\{\langle 1 \rangle\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  to the zero fan in 0. It corresponds to the structure map  $\mathbb{A}_R^1 \rightarrow R$  which is not proper because  $-1 \notin \pi^{-1}[0]$ .

**Definition 1.7.7.** Let  $R$  be a domain. A discrete valuation is a map  $v : R \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  with the following properties:

- i  $v(x) = \infty$  if and only if  $x = 0$ ,
- ii  $v(xy) = v(x) + v(y)$ ,
- iii  $v(x + y) \geq \min(v(x), v(y))$ .

It extends to the fraction field  $K$  with a function  $K \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \cup \{\infty\}$  by  $v(x/y) = v(x) - v(y)$ .

We call  $R$  a discrete valuation ring (DVR) if we can recover  $R = \{x \in K : v(x) \geq 0\}$ .

**Example 1.7.8.** Let  $k$  be a field. Then the ring  $k[x]_{(x)}$  is a valuation ring with valuation

$$v(f) = \max \{i \in \mathbb{N} : x^i \mid f\}.$$

It has fraction field  $k(x)$  the fraction field of  $k[x]$ .

**Theorem 1.7.9** (Valuative criterion of properness). *Let  $X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of Noetherian schemes<sup>2</sup>. Then it is proper if and only if for all discrete valuation rings  $R$  the following commutative square has a unique lift:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \operatorname{Spec} K & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \exists! & \downarrow \\ \operatorname{Spec} R & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

Now we can start the proof of Theorem 1.7.4. We will prove both implications in separate lemmas.

**Lemma 1.7.10.** *Let  $M, M'$  be finitely generated Abelian groups,  $F, F'$  fans in the respective lattices and  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  a morphism compatible with the fans. If the induced  $f : X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  of toric schemes over  $R$  is proper then  $f^{-1}[|F'|] = F$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  is proper, but there is a  $w \in M \setminus |F|$  that has  $f(w) \in |F'|$ . We want to arrive at a contradiction: find some square such that Theorem 1.7.9 has no lift. To do this we fix some  $\sigma' \in F'$  with  $f(w) \in \sigma'$ .

We want to find some field  $k$  and a map  $R \rightarrow k$ . This is purely to construct a DVR for the valuative criterion, the choice does not matter. We fix a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$  and set  $k = R/\mathfrak{m}$ .

We construct a commutative square by giving maps  $\operatorname{Spec} k(x) \rightarrow X_F$  and  $\operatorname{Spec} k[x]_{(x)} \rightarrow X_{F'}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_w : \operatorname{Spec} k(x) &\rightarrow \operatorname{Spec} R[M^\vee] \subseteq X_F \\ k(x) &\leftarrow R[M^\vee] \\ x^{u(w)} &\leftarrow u \in M^\vee, \\ \lambda_{f(w)} \operatorname{Spec} k[x]_{(x)} &\rightarrow \operatorname{Spec} X_{\sigma'} \subseteq X_{F'} \\ k[x]_{(x)} &\leftarrow R[\sigma'^\vee \cap M^\vee] \\ x^{u(f(w))} &\leftarrow u \in \sigma'^\vee \cap M^\vee. \end{aligned}$$

This gives a commutative square with lift by assumption of properness. We track in which affine open  $X_\sigma$  the point  $(x) \triangleleft \mathbb{Q}[x]_{(x)}$  lands, and obtain a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \operatorname{Spec} k(x) & \xrightarrow{\lambda_w} & X_\sigma \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \exists! & \downarrow \\ \operatorname{Spec} k[x]_{(x)} & \xrightarrow{\lambda_{f(w)}} & X_{F'} \end{array}$$

Note that  $w \notin \sigma$ . This means that there is some  $u \in \sigma'^\vee \cap M^\vee$  with  $u(w) < 0$ . We obtain a commutative triangle of rings

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k(x) & \longleftarrow & R[\sigma'^\vee \cap M^\vee] \\ \uparrow & \swarrow & \\ k[x]_{(x)} & & \end{array}$$

but  $u$  is mapped to  $x^{u(w)} \in k(x)$  which has  $v(x^{u(w)}) = u(w) < 0$  so  $u$  cannot be sent into  $k[x]_{(x)}$ . This is a contradiction so no such  $w$  can exist, proving the lemma.



<sup>2</sup>There is a more general version of this for non-Noetherian schemes with all valuation rings. We need DVR's because we can construct maps to  $\mathbb{Z}$  from them which live in dual spaces.

Now we prove the opposite implication, first over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and extend our results using results about base changes of proper maps. We do this to work with Noetherian schemes for which the weakened valuative criterion is sufficient.

**Lemma 1.7.11.** *Let  $M, M'$  be finitely generated Abelian groups,  $F, F'$  fans in the respective lattices and  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  a morphism compatible with the fans. If  $f^{-1}[|F'|] = F$  then the induced  $f : X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  of toric schemes over  $\mathbb{Z}$  is proper.*

*Proof.* We show that the induced map  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  is proper using the valuative criterion of Noetherian schemes. Toric schemes over  $\mathbb{Z}$  are Noetherian because affine toric schemes correspond to finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebras and therefore any toric scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$  can be covered by finitely many affine Noetherian schemes.

Let  $(R, v)$  be a DVR with fraction field  $K$  such that we have a commutative square. We want to find a lift and show its uniqueness.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec} K & \longrightarrow & X_F \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow f_* \\ \mathrm{Spec} R & \longrightarrow & X_{F'} \end{array}$$

We can assume that the top map  $\mathrm{Spec} K \rightarrow X_F$  factors through the torus because  $X_F$  is irreducible<sup>34</sup>.

Consider any  $\sigma' \in F'$  be such that  $\mathrm{Spec} R \rightarrow X_{F'}$  factors through  $X_{\sigma'}$ . Then we get a commutative square of rings


$$\begin{array}{ccc} K & \xleftarrow{\alpha} & \mathbb{Z}[M^\vee] \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow f^* \\ R & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{Z}[\sigma'^\vee \cap M'^\vee] \end{array}$$

Because  $M^\vee$  is a group, the map  $M^\vee \rightarrow K$  takes values in the units of  $K$ . This means that we obtain a map  $v \circ \alpha \circ f^* : \sigma'^\vee \cap M'^\vee \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , it factors through  $R$  where all elements have non-negative valuation: we have a map  $v \circ \alpha \circ f^* : \sigma'^\vee \cap M'^\vee \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ . This corresponds to some point in  $\sigma' \cap M'$  which we will denote  $v \circ \alpha \circ f^*$ . It is in the image of  $f$ : it is given by  $f(v \circ \alpha)$ . By the assumption on  $f$  this means that there is a cone  $\sigma \in F$  with  $v \circ \alpha \in \sigma$ . Now we fix a particular cone  $\sigma' \in F'$  such that  $f[\sigma] \subseteq \sigma'$  to obtain a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} K & \xleftarrow{\alpha} & \mathbb{Z}[M^\vee] & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{Z}[\sigma^\vee \cap M^\vee] \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow f^* & \nearrow & \\ R & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{Z}[\sigma'^\vee \cap M'^\vee] & & \end{array}$$

Because  $v \circ \alpha$  is a point in  $\sigma$  the map  $v \circ \alpha : \sigma^\vee \cap M^\vee \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  takes values in  $\mathbb{N}$  and therefore gifts a lift of the diagram. This shows the existence part of the valuative criterion.

Now we show uniqueness. If we show that  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  is separated, we get the uniqueness of such lifts for free by the valuative criterion of separatedness. Any toric scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$  is separated<sup>5</sup>. We now make use of the following properties of separated morphisms: if  $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$  is separated then  $X \rightarrow Y$  is separated. This gives immediately that the map is separated and thus uniqueness of the lift.

We conclude that  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  satisfies the valuative criterion for properness and is therefore proper. 

Now we can prove the remaining implication Theorem 1.7.4 for arbitrary rings using base change.

<sup>34</sup>The toric scheme  $X_F$  is irreducible because  $\mathbb{Z}[M^\vee]$  is a dense irreducible open.

<sup>4</sup>This is not an easy thing to see, and the proof involves some complicated scheme theory. We refer to <https://mathoverflow.net/questions/68648/valuation-criterion-of-properness-irreducible-varieties>.

<sup>5</sup>This is true for a toric scheme over any ring. We will not show this but refer to any standard text e.g. Theorem 3.1.5 of Toric Varieties by Cox, Little, and Schenck.

**Corollary 1.7.12.** *Let  $M, M'$  be finitely generated Abelian groups,  $F, F'$  fans in the respective lattices and  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  a morphism compatible with the fans. If  $f^{-1}[|F'|] = F$  then the induced  $f : X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  of toric schemes over any ring  $R$  is proper.*

*Proof.* Let  $R$  be any ring. We will write  $X_F$  for the toric scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $X_F^R$  for the scheme over  $R$ .

Suppose we satisfy all hypotheses, then  $X_F \rightarrow X_{F'}$  is a proper map. We show that  $X_F^R \rightarrow X_{F'}^R$  is a proper map by exhibiting it as a base change. Proper maps are preserved by base change, so the resulting map is also proper.

We can give  $X_F^R$  is given by a pullback diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_F^R & \longrightarrow & R \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ X_F & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

Now we can construct the morphism we are interested in as a pullback:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X_F^R & \longrightarrow & X_{F'}^R & \longrightarrow & R \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ X_F & \longrightarrow & X_{F'} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

This concludes the proof.

