Notes on Algebraic Geometry

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June 25, 2024

Contents

For this section, let K be a fixed algebraically closed field, and $A = K[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]$

Definition 0.0.1. We define affine n-space over K, denoted $\mathbb{A}^n$ or simply $\mathbb{A}^n$, to be the set of all n-tuples of elements of K. An element $p \in \mathbb{A}^n$ will be called a point, and if $p = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ with $a_i \in k$, then the a_i will be called the coordinates of p.

Intuition 0.0.2. It's just space with points. But not vectors, because we don't add points.

Definition 0.0.3.

1. The set of zeros for $f \in A = K[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]$ is

$$\{ p \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(p) = 0 \}.$$

2. For a subset T of the polynomial ring $A = k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, we define the zero set of T to be the common zeros of all the elements of T, i.e.

$$Z(T) = \{ P \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(P) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in T \}.$$

Intuition 0.0.4. These are just curves.

Remark 0.0.5.

1. If $\mathfrak{a}$ is generated by T, then $Z(T) = Z(\mathfrak{a})$.
2. $Z(T)$ can be written in finitely many generators.

Definition 0.0.6. A subset Y of $\mathbb{A}^n$ is an algebraic set if there exists a subset $T \subset A = k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ such that $Y = Z(T)$.

Intuition 0.0.7. So if the points on the space is a curve, then it's an algebraic set.

Definition 0.0.8. An affine algebraic variety is an irreducible closed subset of $\mathbb{A}^n$. An open subset of an affine variety is a quasi-affine variety.

Corollary 0.0.9. *An algebraic set is irreducible if and only if its ideal is a prime ideal.*

Definition 0.0.10. If $Y \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ is an affine algebraic set, we define the affine coordinate ring $A(Y)$ of Y, to be $A/I(Y)$.

Definition 0.0.11. If X is a topological space, we define the dimension of X (denoted $\dim X$) to be the supremum of all integers n such that there exists a chain $Z_0 \subset Z_1 \subset \cdots \subset Z_n$ of distinct irreducible closed subsets of X. We define the dimension of an affine or quasi-affine variety to be its dimension as a topological space.

Exercise 0.0.1. *Show that k-algebra B is isomorphic to the affine coordinate ring of some algebraic set in $\mathbb{A}^n$, for some n, if and only if B is a finitely generated k-algebra with no nilpotent elements.*

Bibliography

[Har77] Robin Hartshorne. *Algebraic Geometry*. New York: Springer, 1977.