

# Algebraic Geometry

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April 21, 2024



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# Housekeeping

Notes taken from

- my course

**to-do**

- 1.



# Chapter 1

## Basics?

Let  $K$  be an arbitrary field.

**Definition 1** (Algebraic Subset). For a subset  $M \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ , we define

$$V(M) = \{ p \in K^n \mid \text{for all polynomials } f \in M \text{ it is } f(p) = 0 \}$$

called the algebraic subset in  $K^n$  or an affine algebraic set over  $K$ .

**Intuition.** Imagine the ring of polynomials  $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  to be a set of locks and the kartesian product of the field  $K^n$  to be a set of keys. Then, a subset  $M$  of  $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  is some combination of locks and the algebraic subset  $V(M)$  are the set of keys that open all the locks in  $M$ .

**Example 1.1.** 1. Let  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  and  $A = \mathbb{C}[X]$ .

(a) If we set  $M = \{ X^2 - 1 \} \subset \mathbb{C}[X]$ , then  $V(\{ X^2 - 1 \}) = \{ -1, 1 \} \in \mathbb{C}$  is the algebraic subset.

(b) Now, if we append the set above to  $M = \{ X^2 - 1, X - 1 \} \subset \mathbb{C}[X]$ , we have

$$V(\{ X^2 - 1, X - 1 \}) = \{ 1 \} \in \mathbb{C}$$

instead. This example illustrates that appending the set of polynomials makes its algebraic subset smaller.

(c) In general, the finite subsets of  $\mathbb{K}$  are precisely the algebraic subsets of  $\mathbb{K}$ .

2. Let  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  and  $A = \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$ .

(a) If  $M = \{ X - 1, Y - 1 \} \subset \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$ , then  $V(\{ X - 1, Y - 1 \}) = \{ (1, 1) \} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ .

(b) If we remove the second polynomial, we get  $M = \{ X - 1 \} \subset \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$  and

$$V(\{ X - 1 \}) = \{ (1, y) \mid y \in \mathbb{C} \}.$$

It is the first example of an infinite algebraic subset.

**Lemma 2.** If  $M, N \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  with  $N \subset M$ , then it is  $V(N) \supset V(M)$ .

**Intuition.**  $N$  has less locks than  $M$ . If  $N$  has less locks, then more keys are able to open all locks in  $N$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p \in V(M)$ . For all  $f \in M$ , we have  $f(p) = 0$ . Now,  $N \subset M$ , thus for all  $g \in N$  it is  $g \in M$  and therefore  $g(p) = 0$ . That means  $V(M) \subset V(N)$ .  $\square$

- Proposition 3.**
1. The empty set  $\emptyset$  is an algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{K}^n$ .
  2. The whole set  $\mathbb{K}^n$  is an algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{K}^n$ .
  3. An arbitrary intersection of algebraic subsets of  $\mathbb{K}^n$  is an algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{K}^n$ .
  4. A finite union of algebraic subsets of  $\mathbb{K}^n$  is an algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{K}^n$ .

**Example 3.1.** The union of non-finite union of algebraic subsets is not algebraic. Take  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  and  $A = \mathbb{C}[X]$ . As we have seen before, the singleton sets  $\{x\}$  are algebraic for each  $x \in \mathbb{N}$ , but their union

$$\bigcup_{x \in \mathbb{N}} \{x\} = \mathbb{N}$$

is not.

The above proposition justifies the following definition.

**Definition 4.** The unique topology on  $K^n$  whose closed subsets are the algebraic subsets are called the Zariski topology on  $K^n$ .

##missing I think we didn't prove the uniqueness yet.

**Lemma 5.** Let  $M \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be a subset. Define  $I$  to be the ideal generated<sup>a</sup> by  $M$ . Then we have  $V(M) = V(I)$ .

<sup>a</sup>By Hilbert's Basis Theorem the polynomial ring is Noetherian and thus this ideal is finitely generated.

Thus,  $V(M)$  may be expressed by finite amount of generators  $V(M) = V(f_1, \dots, f_n)$ .

**Example 5.1.** 1. Let  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  and  $A = \mathbb{C}[X]$ .

- (a) With the same example as above, set  $M = \{X^2 - 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}[X]$ , then  $V(\{X^2 - 1\}) = \{-1, 1\} \in \mathbb{C}$  is the algebraic subset. Consider the ideal  $(X^2 - 1)$ . Some elements in this ideal are

$$3(X^2 - 1), \quad X(X^2 - 1), \quad (X + 1)(X^2 - 1)$$

which all still have the roots  $\{-1, 1\}$ .

**Definition 6** (Radical of an Ideal).

**Proposition 7.** Let  $I$  be an ideal in  $A$ , then:

1.  $\sqrt{I} = \sqrt{\sqrt{I}}$
2.  $I = \sqrt{I} \iff A/I$  is a reduced ring, i.e. there are no nilpotent elements in  $A/I$ .
3.  $A \xrightarrow{\pi} A_{\text{red}} := A/\sqrt{I}$  has the following universal property:

*Proof.*

$\square$



**Lemma 8.**  $V(I) = V(\sqrt{I})$

*Proof.* “ $V(I) \subset V(\sqrt{I})$ ”: Let  $p \in V(I)$  ##missing  
 “ $V(I) \supset V(\sqrt{I})$ ”: This one follows immediately from  $I \subset \sqrt{I}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** The map

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \text{radical ideals in } K[X_1, \dots, X_n] \} &\rightarrow \{ \text{algebraic sets of } \mathbb{A}^n(K) \} \\ \sqrt{I} &\mapsto V(\sqrt{I}) \end{aligned}$$

is surjective.

**Example 8.1.** The map above is not injective in general. ##missing

**Theorem 9** (Hilbert Nullstellensatz). If  $\mathbb{K}$  is algebraically closed, then the map above is a bijection, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \text{radical ideals in } K[X_1, \dots, X_n] \} &\longleftrightarrow \{ \text{algebraic sets of } \mathbb{A}^n(K) \} \\ \sqrt{I} &\longmapsto V(\sqrt{I}) \\ \{ f \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n] \mid f(p) = 0 \text{ for all } p \in V \} &\longleftarrow V \end{aligned}$$

From now on, assume  $K = \overline{K}$ .

**Corollary 2.** For any proper ideal  $I \subset K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  there is a  $p \in K^n$  with  $f(p) = 0$  for all  $p \in I$ .

**Definition 10** ( $A$ -algebra). Let  $A$  be a ring. An  $A$ -algebra is a ring  $B$  together with a ring homomorphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , making  $B$  into an  $A$ -module such that scalar multiplication and the product on  $B$  are compatible.

If  $A = K$  is a field,  $f$  is injective, so a  $K$ -algebra is a ring containing  $K$  as a subring, for example  $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ .

##missing something about two  $A$ -algebras

**Definition 11** (Annihilator). Let  $R$  be a ring, and let  $M$  be a  $R$ -module. For a non-empty subset  $S$  of  $M$ , the set of all elements  $r$  in  $R$  such that for all  $s$  in  $S$ , it is  $rs = 0$  is called the annihilator of  $S$  and is denoted by

$$\text{Ann}_R(S) = \{ r \in R \mid rs = 0 \text{ for all } s \in S \}.$$

**Definition 12** (Coordinate Ring). Let  $V \subset K^n$  be an algebraic subset. Define the coordinate ring to be

$$\mathcal{O}(V) := K[X_1, \dots, X_n] / \text{Ann}(V)$$

which is a reduced, finitely generated  $K$ -algebra (underlying ring is reduced).

**Proposition 13.**  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  is a reduced, finitely generated  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra.

*Proof.* “ $\mathcal{O}(V)$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra”: Firstly,  $\mathbb{K}$  is a field and hence also a ring. Define the map

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{K} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(V) = \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n] / \text{Ann}_{\mathbb{K}}(V) \\ x &\longmapsto x \mod \text{Ann}_{\mathbb{K}}(V). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Example 13.1.** 1. Set  $\mathbb{K} := \mathbb{C}$ , and  $A := \mathbb{C}[X]$ . The algebraic subsets  $V$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  are the finite subsets and the whole set. For any such algebraic subset  $V$ , the annihilator is  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{C}}(V) = \{0\}$ .

2. Set  $\mathbb{K} := \mathbb{C}$ , and  $A := \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$ .

- (a) An algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is  $\{(1, -2); (1, 2)\}$ . For this algebraic subset, the annihilator is again  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{C}}(V) = \{0\}$ .
- (b) Another algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is  $\{(0, y) \mid y \in \mathbb{C}\}$ . The annihilator is again  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{C}}(V) = \{0\}$ .

**Definition 14.** Let  $X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$  and  $Y \subset \mathbb{A}^m$  be two algebraic sets. A morphism between those two is a map

$$\begin{aligned} f : X &\longrightarrow Y \\ p &\longmapsto (f_1(p), \dots, f_m(p)) \end{aligned}$$

where  $f$

**Definition 15.** A morphism between affine algebraic sets is a map

$$\begin{aligned} f : X &\longrightarrow Y \\ p &\longmapsto (f_1(p), \dots, f_m(p)) \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_i \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  and  $f(p) = Y$

##missing blue text

End of 1. lecture.

## Chapter 2

# Spectrum of a Ring?

**Theorem 16** (Noether Normalization).