

Remark. A scheme will be a “space modelled on \mathbb{M} with an open cover by affine schemes”. This section defines the notion of “open subfunctors” of a \mathbb{Z} -functor and an “open cover”. Since \mathbb{Z} -functors are meant to be modelled on \mathbb{M} , we first define everything for affine schemes.

Somehow, no one could eradicate the special role of fields as “points”.

Definition – Points and Covers

^a Define the *category of test points*, Pts , to be the full subcategory of \mathbb{M} consisting of K^{op} where K is a field. For $X \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}$, a *point of X* is defined to be a morphism $x \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}(\text{Sp } K, X)$ where $K^{op} \in \text{Pts}$. For $\varphi \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}(X, Y)$, we will use $\varphi(x)$ to denote $\varphi \circ x$. For $f \in \mathcal{O}(X)$, we will use ev_x to denote the pullback $x^b : \mathcal{O}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(K)$.

For $\varphi \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}(Y, X)$, we will use $Y^{\text{Pts}}, X^{\text{Pts}}$ to denote the restriction of Y, X to Pts^{op} and $\varphi^{\text{Pts}} : Y^{\text{Pts}} \rightarrow X^{\text{Pts}}$ the restricted morphism. Then we say φ is *surjective on points* when φ^{Pts} is an epimorphism (equivalently, component-wise surjective).

For a subset $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{M}\text{Set} \downarrow X$ for any $X \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}$, we say \mathcal{U} *covers X* when $\coprod \mathcal{U} \rightarrow X$ is surjective on points. Equivalently, for all points $x : \text{Sp } K \rightarrow X$ of X , there exists $U \in \mathcal{U}$ with a factoring

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U & \longrightarrow & X \\ & \nwarrow & \uparrow x \\ & & \text{Sp } K \end{array}$$

^aPts and “surjective on points” is non-standard definition.

Counter Example (Surjective on Points implies Surjective).

Consider $\text{Sp } \mathbb{F}_2 \rightarrow \text{Sp } \mathbb{F}_2[dT]$ where $dT^2 := 0$. $(\text{Sp } \mathbb{F}_2)^{\text{Pts}} \cong (\text{Sp } \mathbb{F}_2[dT])^{\text{Pts}}$ but $(\text{Sp } \mathbb{F}_2[dT])(\mathbb{F}_2[dT])$ bijects with \mathbb{F}_2 whilst $(\text{Sp } \mathbb{F}_2)(\mathbb{F}_2[dT])$ is singleton.

Proposition – Base Change of Cover

Let \mathcal{U} be a cover of $X \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}$. Then for all $\varphi \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}(Y, X)$, the set $\varphi^{-1}\mathcal{U}$ of pullbacks of morphisms in \mathcal{U} forms a cover of Y .

Proof. Follows from fiber product in $\mathbb{M}\text{Set}$ being computed component-wise. □

Proposition – Multiplicative Group Scheme

Consider the functor $\mathbb{G}^\times \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}$ defined by $A \in \mathbb{M}^{op} \mapsto A^\times$. Then

- \mathbb{G}^\times is representable by the ring $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]$ and hence affine.
- \mathbb{G}^\times is a group object in $\mathbb{M}\text{Set}$. In fact, for any $X \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}$, $\mathbb{M}\text{Set}(X, \mathbb{G}^\times) = \mathcal{O}(X)^\times$.

Proof. UP of $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]$ implies it represents \mathbb{G}^\times . The second property can be straightforwardly deduced either from the Spec-global functions adjunction or elementarily. □

Proposition – Basic Opens of a \mathbb{Z} -Functor

Let $X \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}$ and $f \in \mathcal{O}(X)$. The *support of f* , X_f , is defined as the subfunctor of X sending $A \in \mathbb{M}^{op}$ to the set of $\alpha \in \mathbb{M}\text{Set}(\text{Sp } A, X)$ such that $\varphi^b(f) \in A^\times$.

Then X_f is the pullback of \mathbb{G}^\times along $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_f & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{G}^\times & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{A}^1 \end{array}$$

Subfunctors of X of the form X_f are called *basic opens*.

Proof. Easy. □

Remark – Intuition of Multiplicative Group Scheme and Basic Opens. For a smooth manifold X ,

$$C^\infty \mathbf{Mfd}(X, \mathbb{R}^\times) \cong C^\infty(X)^\times$$

“ \mathbb{R}^\times is classifying space for invertible global functions on X .” One can thus think of \mathbb{G}^\times as “ $\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$ ”. A basic open X_f is then just the preimage of “ $\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$ ” under $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$.

Proposition – Opens of Affine Schemes

Let $X \in \mathbf{Aff}$. For $I \in \text{Ideal } \mathcal{O}(X)$, define $D(I) \in \mathbf{SubMSet}(X)$ by

$$A \in \mathbb{M}^{op} \mapsto \left\{ \varphi \in \mathbf{Aff}(\text{Sp } A, X) \mid A\varphi^b I = A \right\}$$

In particular, for $I = (f)$, we have $D(I) = X_f$. Sometimes, we use $D(f)$ to denote X_f .

Then

- (Basic Opens are Affine) for $f \in \mathcal{O}(X)$, $D(f)$ is representable by $\mathcal{O}(X)[f^{-1}]$.
- (Ideals to Opens) For $I, J \in \text{Ideal } \mathcal{O}(X)$, $I \subseteq J$ implies $D(I) \subseteq D(J)$.

This defines $D : \text{Ideal } \mathcal{O}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{SubMSet}(X)$. The category $\text{Open } X$ of *opens of X* is defined as the essential image of D . We call $U \in \text{Open } X$ an *open of X* .

- (Intuitive Definition of Opens) for $I \in \text{Ideal } \mathcal{O}(X)$, $\{D(f)\}_{f \in I}$ covers $D(I)$.
- (Partition of Unity) For $I \in \text{Ideal } \mathcal{O}(X)$, $D(I)$ covers X if and only if there exists finite $I_0 \subseteq I$ such that $AI_0 = A$. Such $I_0 \subseteq A$ are called *partitions of unity*.
- (Base Change / “Preimage of Opens are Open”) Let $\varphi \in \mathbf{Aff}(Y, X)$, $I \in \text{Ideal } \mathcal{O}(X)$. Let the following be a pullback diagram :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
Y & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X \\
\uparrow & & \uparrow \\
\varphi^{-1}D(I) & \longrightarrow & D(I)
\end{array}$$

Then $\varphi^{-1}D(I) = D(\varphi^b I)$.

- (Fiber Product) Let $X, X_1 \in \mathbf{Aff}/Y$ where $Y \in \mathbf{Aff}$. Let I, I_1 be ideals of $\mathcal{O}(X), \mathcal{O}(X_1)$ respectively. Then we have the pullback diagram :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
D(I) & \longrightarrow & Y \\
\uparrow & & \uparrow \\
D(I \otimes_{\mathcal{O}(Y)} I_1) & \longrightarrow & D(I_1)
\end{array}$$

In particular, $X = X_1 = Y$ implies the intersection of two opens of X is an open of X . The special case of $D(I) = D(f)$ and $D(I_1) = D(f_1)$ yields $D(f) \cap D(f_1) = D(ff_1)$.

Proof.

(Basic Opens are Affine) UP of $\mathcal{O}(X)[f^{-1}]$ as an $\mathcal{O}(X)$ algebra.

(Intuitive Def of Opens) Let $x : \mathrm{Sp} K \rightarrow X$ be a point of X . Then $Kx^b I = K$ if and only if there exists $f \in I$ with $f(x) \in K^\times$.

(Partition of Unity) Having finite $I_0 \subseteq I$ with $AI_0 = A$ is equivalent to $AI = A$. Clearly, $AI = A$ implies $D(I)$ covers $\mathrm{Sp} A$. Conversely, suppose $AI \subsetneq A$. $D(I)$ not covering $\mathrm{Sp} A$ is the same as it “missing a point of $\mathrm{Sp} A$ ”, that is to say we are looking for a point $x : \mathrm{Sp} K \rightarrow \mathrm{Sp} A$ of $\mathrm{Sp} A$ that doesn’t admit a lift across $D(I) \rightarrow \mathrm{Sp} A$. This is the same as $I \subseteq \ker \mathrm{ev}_x$. Well, $AI \subsetneq A$ implies by Zorn’s lemma the existence of a map $\mathrm{ev}_x : A \rightarrow K$ where K is a field with the desired property. \square

Counter Example ($\bigcup_{f \in I} D(f) = D(I)$).

Consider the ring $\mathbb{F}_2 \times \mathbb{F}_2$ and elements $(1, 0), (0, 1)$. The ideal I generated by these is the whole ring. But $D((1, 0))(\mathbb{F}_2 \times \mathbb{F}_2) \cup D((0, 1))(\mathbb{F}_2 \times \mathbb{F}_2) \subsetneq D(I)(\mathbb{F}_2 \times \mathbb{F}_2)$ since the ring endomorphism $(a, b) \mapsto (b, a)$ doesn’t map any of $(1, 0), (0, 1)$ to units. Thus $D((1, 0)) \cup D((0, 1)) \subsetneq D(I)$.

Definition – Open Subfunctor

Let $X \in \mathbf{MSet}$. For $U \in \mathbf{SubMSet}(X)$, U is called *open* when for all $\varphi : \mathrm{Sp} A \rightarrow X$, the pullback $\varphi^{-1}U$ of U along φ is an open of $\mathrm{Sp} A$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathrm{Sp} A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X \\
\uparrow & & \uparrow \\
\varphi^{-1}U & \longrightarrow & U
\end{array}$$

We will use $\mathrm{Open} X$ to denote the full subcategory of opens of X in $\mathbf{SubMSet}(X)$. When X is affine, this agrees with our specialized notion for affine schemes.

Proposition – Basic Facts about Open Subfunctors

The following are true :

- (“Extensionality”) Let $U, V \in \mathrm{Open} X$. Then $U = V$ if and only if $U^{\mathrm{Pts}} = V^{\mathrm{Pts}}$.
- (Composition) Let $V \in \mathrm{Open} U, U \in \mathrm{Open} X, X \in \mathbf{MSet}$. Then $V \in \mathrm{Open} X$.
- (Base Change/“Preimage of Opens are Opens”) Let $X \in \mathbf{MSet}, U \in \mathrm{Open} X$ and $\varphi \in \mathbf{MSet}(Y, X)$. Then the pullback $\varphi^{-1}U$ of U along φ is an open of Y .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
Y & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X \\
\uparrow & & \uparrow \\
\varphi^{-1}U & \longrightarrow & U
\end{array}$$

- (Fiber Product) Let U, U_1 be opens of $X, X_1 \in \mathbf{MSet}$ respectively. Then for any $X \rightarrow S, X_1 \rightarrow S$, the fiber product $U \times_S U_1$ is an open of $X \times_S X_1$. In particular, for $X = X_1 = S$, this proves the intersection of two opens of X is again an open of X .

Proof. (Extensionality) Reduce to affine global case and use partition of unity. □