TRANSACTIONS OF THE
AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY
Volume 00, Number 0, Pages 000–000
S 0002-9947(XX)0000-0

NOTE ON COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRA

LIANG TONGTONG

ABSTRACT. This is a short note on commutative algebra.

CONTENTS

1. Going-up and Going-down 1
2. Dimension theory 5
3. Geometric viewpoint of primary decomposition 6
4. Regularity and DVRs 7
5. Decomposition and Dedekind domain 10
6. Divisor on curves 12
References 14

1. GOING-UP AND GOING-DOWN

Theorem 1.1. *Suppose $f : A \hookrightarrow B$ is an integral extension, then the induced scheme morphism $f^* \colon \operatorname{Spec} B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ is surjective.*

Theorem 1.2 (Going-up)**.** *Let A, B be two integral domain and $f \colon A \hookrightarrow B$ be an integral extension. For any two prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}_1 \subset \mathfrak{p}_2$ in A and a prime ideal $\mathfrak{q}_1$ in B such that $\mathfrak{q}_1 \cap A = \mathfrak{p}_1$, then there exists $\mathfrak{q}_2$ in B such that $\mathfrak{q}_2 \cap A = \mathfrak{p}_2$.*

Going-down property: Let $A \hookrightarrow B$ be an integral extension, $\mathfrak{p}_2 \subset \mathfrak{p}_1 \subset A$ and $\mathfrak{q}_1 \subset B$ be prime ideals such that $\mathfrak{p}_1 \cap A = \mathfrak{p}_1$, then there exists $\mathfrak{q}_2 \in \operatorname{Spec} B$ such that $\mathfrak{q}_2 \cap A = \mathfrak{p}_2$.

Theorem 1.3 (Going-down)**.** *When $A \subset B$ are rings and A is integrally closed, then the going-down property holds and the induced morphism $f^* \colon \operatorname{Spec} B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ is an open map.*

To prove this theorem, we need several lemmas.

Lemma 1.4 (Heuristic)**.** *Let $A \subset B$ be rings such that B is integral over B, then for any prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \subset B$ there exists a prime ideal $\mathfrak{P}$ in B such that $\mathfrak{P} \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$.*

Proof. First, we do localization with respect to $\mathfrak{p}$ and $A_{\mathfrak{p}} \to B_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is still an integral extension. If there exists a prime ideal $\mathfrak{P}B_{\mathfrak{p}}$ in $B_{\mathfrak{p}}$ over $\mathfrak{p}A_{\mathfrak{p}}$, then $\mathfrak{P} = \mathfrak{P}B_{\mathfrak{p}} \cap B$ satifies that $\mathfrak{P} \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$.

Received by the editors June 12, 2021.
1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary.

Hence the problem is reduced to local case that we may assume A is a local ring with maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}$. Next we just need to find a prime ideal $\mathfrak{n}$ in B such that $\mathfrak{n} \cap A = \mathfrak{m}$. A good candidate for such $\mathfrak{n}$ is the maximal ideal in B that contains $\mathfrak{m}B$, but we still need to show that $\mathfrak{m}B$ is a proper ideal in B.

Argue by contradiction to show that $\mathfrak{m}B$ is a proper ideal in B. If $\mathfrak{m}B = B$, then there exists $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$ and $m_1, \dots, m_n \in \mathfrak{m}$ such that

$$\sum m_i b_i = 1$$

Then we have a subsring $A[b_1, \dots, b_n]$. Note that all b_i is integral over A, then $M = A[b_1, \dots, b_n]$ is a finitely generated A-module and by previous assumption, $M \subset \mathfrak{m}M$. By Nakayama's lemma, $M = 0$, contradiction.

Hence there exists a maximal ideal $\mathfrak{n} \subset B$ such that $\mathfrak{n}$ is over $\mathfrak{m}$. Claim that $\mathfrak{n} \cap A$ is a maximal ideal in A, because $B/\mathfrak{n}$ is a field integral over $A/(\mathfrak{n} \cap A)$, for any non-zero element $x \in A/(\mathfrak{n} \cap A)$, $x^{-1} \in B$ and x^{-1} is integral over $A/(\mathfrak{n} \cap A)$ i.e there exists a monic polynomial with $A/(\mathfrak{n} \cap A)$ such that

$$x^{-n} + a_1 x^{-n+1} + \cdots + a_n = 0$$

Then we have

$$x^{-1} = -(a_n x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1)$$

which shows that $A/(\mathfrak{n} \cap A)$ is a field. Here we finish the proof. $\square$

Lemma 1.5. *Let $A \subset B$ be integral domains, for given $\mathfrak{q}_1$ in* $\operatorname{Spec} B$ *and $\mathfrak{p}_1$ in* $\operatorname{Spec} A$*, then there exists a minimal prime ideal $\mathfrak{q}$ of* $\operatorname{Spec} B$ *such that $\mathfrak{q} \cap A$ is a minimal prime ideal in* $\operatorname{Spec} A$*.*

This is a straight result from Heuristic lemma. Hence we may assume A, B are integral domains. **However, the key problem is that we have guaranteed that such $\mathfrak{q} \subset \mathfrak{q}_1$ yet and that we will do next.**

Next we show that the condition that A is integrally closed is essential.

Example 1.6. Let $k = \mathbb{C}$, $B = k[x, y]$ and $A = \{f \in B \mid f(0,0) = f(0,1)\}$. The picture of $\operatorname{Spec} B$ is the plane k^2 and we get $\operatorname{Spec} A$ by gluing $P_1 = (0,0)$ and $P_2 = (0,1)$ in k^2 to be one point P and the induced map $\operatorname{Spec} B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ is the quotient map. Let C be the $x-$axis in k^2 and $\overline{C}$ be the image of $x-$axis in $\operatorname{Spec} A$. However, the we have $P \in \overline{C}$ and P_2 over P, but we can find an irreducible closed subset in $\operatorname{Spec} B$ such that it contains P_2 and its image is $\overline{C}$, because the preimage of $\overline{C}$ is C and $P_2 \notin C$. Here the going-down property fails.

(The question is: How to show B is integral over A and A is not integrally closed?)

B is integral over A: $x \in A$, we just need to show for any $f(y) \in B$, $f(y)$ is integral over A: consider $(f(y) - f(0))(f(y) - f(1)) \in A$, then $f^2(y) - (f(0) + f(1)f(y) + f(0)f(1) - (f(y) - f(0))(f(y) - f(1)) = 0$ clearly.

A is not integrally closed: Consider

$$\frac{(x + y - \frac{1}{2})^2 - (y - \frac{1}{2})^2}{x} = 2y - 1$$

which is in $K(A)$ but not in A. However, $(2y-1)^2$ is in A, then $2y - 1$ is a zero for a monic polynomial over A with variable T:

$$T^2 - (2y - 1)^2$$

Now suppose $A \subset B$ are integral domains and A is integrally closed.

Observation 1: We may assume B is the integral closure of A in L.

Let L be the fraction field of B and K be the fraction field of A, then L/K is an algebraic field extension clearly. Let $\overline{A}$ be the integral closure of A in L, if the going-down property holds for $\overline{A}$, then it holds for B because $A \subset B \subset \overline{A}$.

Observation 2: If for finite field extension L/K, the going-down properties holds, then for infinite algebraic field extensions, it still holds.

Suppose it is true for finite field extension, then for an algebraic field extension L/K, we have a filtration:

$$K = L_0 \subset L_1 \subset L_2 \subset \cdots \subset L_n \subset \cdots \subset L$$

where L_n/L_{n-1} is a finite field extension. Let $\overline{A}_i$ be the integral closure of A in L_i, and $\overline{A} = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$. For given prime ideals $\mathfrak{q} \subset \mathfrak{p}$ in A and $\mathfrak{Q}$ in $\overline{A}$ such that $\mathfrak{P} \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$. Let $\mathfrak{P}_n = \mathfrak{P} \cap L_n$, and apply the going-down property for the finite field extension L_n/K to get $\mathfrak{Q}_n \subset \mathfrak{P}_n$ in $\overline{A}_n$ such that $\mathfrak{Q}_n \cap A = \mathfrak{q}$. Clearly, $\cup_i^{\infty} \mathfrak{Q}_i \subset \overline{A}$ is a prime ideal and is what we need.

Observation 3: We may assume L/K is a normal finite extension.

We just take the normal closure of L then restrict the prime ideals.

Observation 4: For a finite normal extension L/K, we consider $K \subset K^s \subset L$, where K/K^s is separable and L/K^s is purely inseparable. Hence we just need to check two cases: finite Galois extension (normal and separable) and finite normal purely separable extension.

Lemma 1.7. *Suppose L/K is a finite Galois extension with Galois group G, A is integrally closed in K, then for any prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$, G acts transitively on the set of prime ideals of B lying over $\mathfrak{p}$.*

Proof. Suppose $\mathfrak{q}$ and $\mathfrak{q}'$ are two prime ideals of B lying over $\mathfrak{p}$. We need to show there is $\sigma \in G$ such that $\sigma(\mathfrak{q}) = \mathfrak{q}'$.

Claim: $\mathfrak{q}' \subset \bigcup_{\sigma \in G} \sigma(\mathfrak{q})$. For any $x \in \mathfrak{q}'$ and $y = \prod_{\sigma' \in G} \sigma'(x) \in K \in \mathfrak{q}'$, hence $y \in \mathfrak{q}' \cap K$. Since A is integrally closed, $y \in A$, hence $y \in \mathfrak{p}$ actually. So $y \in \sigma(\mathfrak{q})$ for any $\sigma \in G$. Because $\sigma(\mathfrak{q})$ is a prime ideal, there exists $\sigma'(x) \in \sigma(\mathfrak{q})$, then $x \in \sigma'^{-1}\sigma(\mathfrak{q})$. Thus $\mathfrak{q} \subset \bigcup_{\sigma \in G} \sigma(\mathfrak{q})$.

By prime avoidance, there exists a $\sigma(\mathfrak{q})$ such that $\mathfrak{q} \subset \sigma(\mathfrak{q})$. However, $\mathfrak{q}' \cap A = \sigma(\mathfrak{q}) \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$, so $\mathfrak{q}' = \sigma(\mathfrak{q})$, because for integral domains, (0) is unique prime ideal lying over (0)). $\square$

Note that if L/K is a finite normal and purely-inseparable field extension , then $\mathrm{Aut}(L/K) = \{\mathrm{id}\}$ and we may assume the characteristic is p. For $x \in L$, there is some integer v such that $x^{p^v} = \alpha \in K$ and $x^{p^v} - \alpha$ is the minimal polynomial.

Recall a lemma in field theory:

Lemma 1.8. *Suppose K is of characteristic p, if $f(x) \in K[x]$ is irreducible, then there exists a non-negative integer v and an irreducible separable polynomial $g(x) \in K[x]$ such that $f(x) = g(x^{p^v})$*

Sketch proof. We argue it by induction and notice that if f is not separable, then the formal derivation $f' = 0$, which means that for each non constant item x^m, m is a multiple of p. Hence there is a polynomial f_1 such that $f(x) = f_1(x^p)$. We proceed this procedure until we have a separable polynomial. $\square$

Lemma 1.9. *Let $A \subset B$ be integral domains and A is integrally closed. If $x \in B$ is integral over an ideal A, then the minimal polynomial of x over $K(A)$ is of the form*

$$x^n + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x^{n-i}$$

where $c_i \in A$.

A proof for more general case is in P63 Proposition 5.15 in [Ati69].

Proof. Clearly, x is algebraic over $K(A)$, suppose the minimal polynomial is

$$x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n = 0$$

and we let L be the splitting field of this irreducible polynomial, so all the conjugates $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ are in L and a_i is given by symmetric polynomials in x_i. Note x_i is integral over A as x, then the coefficients a_i are integral over A. Since A is integrally closed, $a_i \in A$ for each i. $\square$

Lemma 1.10. *Suppose L/K is a finite normal and purely inseparable extension, for any prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Spec} A$, the fiber over $\mathfrak{p}$ consists of exactly one element.*

Proof. Suppose there are two prime ideals, $\mathfrak{q}, \mathfrak{q}'$ of B lying over $\mathfrak{p}$. We need to show $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{q}'$. Suppose $x \in \mathfrak{q}$, then $x^{p^v} = \alpha \in A$ (due to previous lemma) for some integer $v \in \mathbb{N}$, so $\alpha \in \mathfrak{q} \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$, then $x^{p^v} \in \mathfrak{q}'$ and $x \in \mathfrak{p}'$. Thus $\mathfrak{q} \subset \mathfrak{q}'$. Similarly, we have $\mathfrak{q}' \subset \mathfrak{q}$. Finally, $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{q}'$.

The existence is given by Heuristic approach. $\square$

Theorem 1.11. *Suppose $f : A \to B$ is an integral extension between integral domains and A is integrally closed, then $f^* \colon \operatorname{Spec} B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ is an open map.*

Proof. Since Zariski topology is generated by distinguished open set $D_x = \{\mathfrak{q} \in \operatorname{Spec} B \mid x \notin \mathfrak{q}\}, x \in B$, we just need to show $f^*(D_x)$ is open.

Let the minimal polynomial of x over $K = K(A)$ be

$$x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n \tag{1}$$

where $a_i \in A$ by Lemma 1.9, then we claim that $f^*(D_x) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} D_{a_i}$.

By previous lemmas, we first assume L/K is a Galois extension and B is the integral closure of A in L and let G be the Galois group. Note that for any prime ideal $\mathfrak{q} \in \operatorname{Spec} B$, $f^*(\mathfrak{q}) = f^*(\sigma(\mathfrak{q}))$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(D(x) &= \bigcup_{\sigma \in G} f^*(\sigma(D_x)) \\ &= \bigcup_{\sigma \in G} f^*(D_{\sigma(x)}) \\ &= f^*(\bigcup_{\sigma \in G} D_{\sigma(x)}) \\ &= f^*(V(\{\sigma(x) \mid \sigma \in G\})^c) \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Note that a_i acts on B via the extension f, let $a_i' = f(a_i)$ and we rewrite equation 1 to be

$$x^n + a_1' x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n' = 0 \tag{3}$$

and if $\mathfrak{q} \in V(\{\sigma(x) \mid \sigma \in G\})$, then $\mathfrak{q} \in V(a'_1, \dots, a'_n)$ because a'_i is given by polynomial in $\sigma(x)$. Conversely, if $\mathfrak{q} \in V(a'_1, \dots, a'_n)$, then consider $B/\mathfrak{q}$, $\overline{x}^n = 0$ in $B/\mathfrak{q}$, hence $x \in \mathfrak{q}$, moreover, $\sigma(x) \in \mathfrak{q}$ for all $\sigma \in G$. Hence we have

$$V(\{\sigma(x) \mid \sigma \in G\}) = V(a'_1, \dots, a'_n)$$

Back to equation 2, we have

$$f^*(D_x) = f^*(V(a'_1, \dots, a'_n)^c) = f^*(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} D_{a'_i}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} f^*(D_{a'_i}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} D_{a_i}$$

Then we may assume L/K is a finite normal and purely inseparable extension, then by Lemma 1.10, f^* is injective. For any $x \in B$, there is a natural number v such that $x^{p^v} \in A$, then $f^* D_x = D_{x^{p^v}}$ clearly. f^* is an open map clearly. □

Theorem 1.12. *Following the condition in previous theorem, $f : A \to B$ has the going-down property.*

Proof. We just follows Lemma 1.5 to show we have such minimal prime ideal that is contained in $\mathfrak{q}_1$. First, we can find $\mathfrak{q}'$ such that $\mathfrak{q}' \cap A$ is a minimal prime ideal contained in $\mathfrak{p}_1$. Then consider the induced map $A/(\mathfrak{q}' \cap A) \to B/\mathfrak{q}'$ and we have $\overline{\mathfrak{q}'_1}$ in $B/\mathfrak{q}'$ such that $\mathfrak{q}'_1 \cap A = \mathfrak{p}_1$. Since the Galois group acts transitively on the fiber of $\mathfrak{p}$, then we can find σ in the Galois group such that $\sigma(\mathfrak{q}'_1) = \mathfrak{q}_1$, then $\mathfrak{q} = \sigma(\mathfrak{q}')$ is what we need, because $\sigma(\mathfrak{q}') \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$ and $\mathfrak{q} \subset \mathfrak{q}_1$.

□

The trick of Galois group action(group action):

Proposition 1.1. *Let G be a finite group of automorphisms of a ring A, $\mathfrak{p}$ be a prime ideal of A^G (G-fixed points of A) and X be a set of prime ideals $\mathfrak{P}$ in A such that $\mathfrak{P} \cap A^G = \mathfrak{p}$, then G acts transistively on X.*

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{P}$ and $\mathfrak{P}'$ be two elements in X, we now claim that $\mathfrak{P}' \subset \bigcup_{\sigma \in G} \sigma(\mathfrak{P})$. If the claim is true, then by prime avoidance, there exists some $\sigma' \in G$ such that $\mathfrak{P} \subset \sigma'(\mathfrak{P})$. Since $\mathfrak{P}' \cap A^G = \sigma'(\mathfrak{P}) \cap A^G = \mathfrak{p}$, then $\mathfrak{P}' = \sigma'(\mathfrak{P})$.

Now we prove the claim: for any $x \in \mathfrak{P}'$, consider $\prod_{\sigma \in G} \sigma(x) \in A^G \cap \mathfrak{P}' = \mathfrak{p}$, then $\prod_{\sigma \in G} \sigma(x) \in \mathfrak{P}$. Hence there exists $\sigma \in G$ such that $\sigma(x) \in \mathfrak{P}$, which is equivalent to say that $x \in \sigma^{-1}\mathfrak{P}$, then $x \in \prod_{\sigma \in G} \sigma(x)$. □

2. Dimension theory

Definition 2.1. Let A be a Noetherian semilocal ring and $\mathfrak{m}$ be the Jacobson radical of A, for an ideal I in A satisfying $\mathfrak{m}^v \subset I \subset \mathfrak{m}$ for some postive integer v, then we define the **associated graded ring** $G_I(A)$ to be

$$G_I(A) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} I^n / I^{n+1}$$

If M is a finitely generated A-module, then the **associated graded module** is defined as

$$G_I(M) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} I^n M / I^{n+1} M.$$

Remark 2.2. Note that A/I is an Artin ring, we just need to show A/I is of dimension 0 i.e. every prime ideal in A that contains I is a maximal ideal. Let $\mathfrak{p}$ be a prime ideal in A that contains I, then $\mathfrak{m}^v \subset \mathfrak{p}$ and $\mathfrak{m} \subset \mathfrak{p}$ so that the product of all maximal ideals in A is contained in $\mathfrak{p}$, hence $\mathfrak{p}$ is one of maximal ideals.

Proposition 2.1. *Let A be a Noetherian semilocal ring and I is such a ideal in the previous definition, then*

$$\dim A = \dim G_I(A)$$

Proof. □

Application of dimension theory:

Theorem 2.3 (Zariski lemma)**.** *Suppose A is a finitely generated k-algebra and $\mathfrak{m}$ is a maximal ideal of A, then $A/\mathfrak{m}$ is a finite algebraic extension of k.*

Proof. Note that the dimension of $A/\mathfrak{m}$ is 0, then the transcendental degree of $A/\mathfrak{m}$ is 0, hence $A/\mathfrak{m}$ is a algebraic extension of k. Since $A/\mathfrak{m}$ is finitely generated, $A/\mathfrak{m}$ is a finite k extension. □

3. Geometric viewpoint of primary decomposition

Given a spectrum $\operatorname{Spec} A$, the associated points are the generic points of irreducible components of support of some global section i.e. for some $s \in A$,

$$\operatorname{Supp}(s) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Spec} A \mid \frac{s}{1} \neq 0 \in A_{\mathfrak{p}}\}$$

namely if $\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Supp}(s)$, then $\operatorname{Ann}(s) \subset \mathfrak{p}$, which means that

$$\operatorname{Supp}(s) = V(\operatorname{Ann}(s))$$

For any A-module, we just take the global section of the quasicoherent sheaf $\tilde{M}$ so that we can define associated point of A-modules.

The **isolated points** is the generic points of irreducible components of $\operatorname{Spec} A$ i.e. the support of the function 1, while the other associated points are called **embedded points**. (The ideal is to replace the category of A-modules by the category quasicoherent sheaves over $\operatorname{Spec} A$, then think it geometrically.)

Proposition 3.1. *Suppose A is a reduced ring, then* $\operatorname{Spec} A$ *has no embedded points.*

Proof. If A is integral, for any non-zero $a \in A$, $\operatorname{Ann}(x) = (0)$, hence the support is $\operatorname{Spec} A$. Since $\operatorname{Spec} A$ is irreducible, the unique associated point is the generic point of $\operatorname{Spec} A$ i.e. $[(0)]$.

For general case, if $f \in A$ is a function on a reduced affine scheme $\operatorname{Spec} A$, then claim that $\operatorname{Supp}(f) = \overline{D(f)}$: first, clearly $D(f) \subset \operatorname{Supp}(f)$ and $\operatorname{Supp}(f)$ is a closed subset, we just need to show $\operatorname{Supp}(f)$ is the smallest closed set to contain $D(f)$. Suppose $V(I) \supset D(f)$ for ideal I, then

$$I \subset \bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \in D(f)} \mathfrak{p}$$

since A is reduced, so is A_f, hence $I = 0$ in A_f, i.e. for any $s \in I$, there is a positive integer n such that $sf^n = 0$ in A. Thus we have $s^n f^n = 0$ and $sf = 0$, due to the reducedness. Then $I \subseteq \operatorname{Ann}(f)$.

Now we conclude that, for any $s \in I$, $V(\operatorname{Ann}(f)) \subset V(s)$, then $\operatorname{Supp}(f) \subset V(I)$.

Next to show $\overline{D(f)}$ is the union of irreducible components that meets $D(f)$. Suppose $V(\mathfrak{p})$ is an irreducible component of $\operatorname{Spec} A$ i.e. $\mathfrak{p}$ is a minimal prime ideal in A and $V(\mathfrak{p}) \cap D(f) \neq \emptyset$, then there is a prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}'$ such that $\mathfrak{p} \subset \mathfrak{p}'$ and $f \notin \mathfrak{p}'$ i.e. $f \notin \mathfrak{p}$, then $\mathfrak{p} \in D(f)$. Hence $V(\mathfrak{p}) = \overline{\{\mathfrak{p}\}} \subset \overline{D(f)}$.

Therefore $\operatorname{Supp}(f)$ is a union of irreducible components and each irreducible component $V(\mathfrak{p})$ has no embedded point (because $A/\mathfrak{p}$ is an integral domian). □

An important property of associated points: The natural map

$$M \to \prod_{\text{associated primes } \mathfrak{p}} M_{\mathfrak{p}}$$

is injective. The elements in the kernel of this map vanishes at each associated points, which means that their support are empty, hence their zero functions on $\operatorname{Spec} A$ i.e. 0 in M.

4. Regularity and DVRs

Theorem 4.1. *Suppose $(A, \mathfrak{m}, k)$ is a Noetherian local ring, then* $\dim A \leqslant \dim_k \mathfrak{m}/fm^2$.

Proof. Since A is a Noetherian, $\mathfrak{m}$ is a finitely generated A-module. Then by Nakayama's lemma, we may assume $\mathfrak{m} = (x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ such that $\{\overline{x_i}\}_{i=1}^n$ is a k-basis of vector space $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$. Then by Krull's height theorem, $\mathfrak{m}$ is the minimal prime ideal that over $(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$, then the height of $\mathfrak{m}$ is not bigger than n i.e. $\dim A \leqslant \dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$. □

Definition 4.2. $(A, \mathfrak{m}, k)$ is a regular local ring, if A is a Noetherian ring and $\dim A = \dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$. If a Noetherian ring A is saied to be regular, then it is regular at all its prime ideal.

Proposition 4.1. *A dimension 0 Noetherian local ring is regular if and only if it is a field.*

Proof. The proof is straightforward, Since it is of dimension 0 and regular, then its maxmial ideal is 0. □

Lemma 4.3. *A surjection between to integral domains of the same dimension is an isomorphism.*

Proof. Let A, B be two integral domain of the same dimension and $f : A \to B$ be a surjective ring homomorphism. The kernel $\ker f$ must be a prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$ with $A/\mathfrak{p} \cong B$. Since $A/\mathfrak{p}$ and A have the same dimension, $\mathfrak{p}$ must be a minimal prime ideal of A. Because A is an integral domain, $\mathfrak{p} = 0$, then f is an isomorphism. □

Theorem 4.4. *Suppose $(A, \mathfrak{m}, k)$ is a regular local ring of dimension n, then A is an integral domain.*

Proof. We prove it by induction on n. When $n = 0$, it is clearly true by previous proposition. Suppose it is true for dimension less than n.

Take $f \in \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$, then $A/(f)$ is a Noatherian local ring. According to Krull's principal ideal theorem, $\dim A/(f) \geqslant n - 1$. Observe that the Zariski cotangent space at $A/(f)$ i.e. $(\mathfrak{m}/(f))/(\mathfrak{m}/(f))^2 = (\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2)/(\overline{f})$ is of dimension $n - 1$ clearly. By Theorem 4, $A/(f)$ is a regular local ring of dimension $n-1$. Apply the inductive hypothesis, $A/(f)$ is an integral domain.

We just need to show that any minimal prime ideal in A is (0). Let $\mathfrak{p} \subset A$ be a minimal prime ideal, we claim that $A/\mathfrak{p}$ is a regular local ring of dimension n. The Zariski cotangent space of $A/\mathfrak{p}$ is a quotient of $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$, hence its dimension is at most n. Since $\mathfrak{p}$ is a minimal prime ideal of A, $\dim A/\mathfrak{p} = \dim A = n$, then by Theorem 4, $A/\mathfrak{p}$ is a regular Noetherian local ring of dimension n. Now we replace A by $A/\mathfrak{p}$ in the argument in the first paragraph, then $A/(\mathfrak{p} + (f))$ is an integral domain. Note that the quotient morphism $A/(f) \to A/(\mathfrak{p} + (f))$ is an isomorphism by Lemma 4.3.

Thus $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p} + (f)$ i.e. $\mathfrak{p} \subset fA$. Every element in $\mathfrak{p}$ is of the form fv for $v \in A$. Further, since $f \notin \mathfrak{p}$, $v \in \mathfrak{p}$. We have $\mathfrak{p} \subset f\mathfrak{p}$, then $\mathfrak{p} = f\mathfrak{p}$. Then apply Nakayama's lemma (global version), we conclude that $\mathfrak{p} = 0$. $\square$

Next we focus on the case of dimension 1.

Theorem 4.5. *Suppose $(A, \mathfrak{m}, k)$ is a Noetherian local ring of dimension 1, then the following are equivalent:*

- *(a) $(A, \mathfrak{m})$ is regular.*
- *(b) $\mathfrak{m}$ is principal*
- *(c) all the non-zero ideals are of the form $\mathfrak{m}^n$.*
- *(c)' A is a principal ideal domain.*

Proof. $(a) \implies (b)$: Since A is regular and $\dim A = 1$, then $\dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2 = 1$. Let $u \in \mathfrak{m} \setminus \mathfrak{m}^2$ be a representative of a generator in $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$. By Nakayama's lemma, u generates $\mathfrak{m}$, hence $\mathfrak{m}$ is a principal ideal.

$(b) \implies (a)$: It is obvious. Since $\mathfrak{m} = (t)$, then $\dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2 \leqslant 1$, while $1 = \dim A \leqslant \dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$. Thus $\dim A = \dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2 = 1$ and A is regular.

$(a) \implies (c)$: Let $I \subset A$ be a non-zero ideal, then there exists n such that $I \subset \mathfrak{m}^n$ and $I \not\subset \mathfrak{m}^{n+1}$. We take $t \in I \setminus \mathfrak{m}^{n+1}$. Note that $\dim_k \mathfrak{m}^n/\mathfrak{m}^{n+1} = 1$ because $\mathfrak{m}^n = (u^n)$ (recall previous argument), hence t generates $\mathfrak{m}^n/\mathfrak{m}^{n+1}$ as a representative. By Nakayama's lemma, t generates $\mathfrak{m}^n$. Hence $\mathfrak{m}^n = (t) \subset I \subset \mathfrak{m}^{m+1}$ and $I = \mathfrak{m}^n$. In total, all the non-zero ideals of A is of the form $\mathfrak{m}^k$ for some positive integer k.

$(c) \implies (a)$: Argue by contradiction. Suppose A is not regular, then $\dim_k \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$ is at least 2. Then there is an element $x \in \mathfrak{m} \setminus \mathfrak{m}^2$, such that $\mathfrak{m}^2 \subsetneq (u, \mathfrak{m}^2) \subsetneq \mathfrak{m}$, contradiction.

$(c)'$ is equivalent to (c) clearly. $\square$

Definition 4.6. Suppose K is a field, a **discrete valuation** on K is a function $v\colon K^* \to \mathbb{Z}$ such that $v(xy) = v(x) + v(y)$ and if $x + y \neq 0$,

$$v(x+y) \geqslant \min\{v(x), v(y)\}$$

(we set $v(0) = \infty$ for convenience). The **valuation ring $\mathcal{O}_v$ with respect to** v is defined to be

$$\mathcal{O}_v = \{x \in K \mid v(x) \geqslant 0\}$$

We say a ring A is a **discrete valuation ring** or **DVR** if there is a discrete valuation v on the fraction field $K = K(A)$ such that A is the valuation ring with respect to v.

Proposition 4.2. $(A, \mathfrak{m})$ *is a DVR if and only if it satisfies the one of the equivalent conditions in 4.5.*

Proof. We first to show a DVR is a Noetherian local principal ideal domain. First, it is a local ring: let $\mathfrak{m} = \{x \in A \mid v(x) > 0\}$, it is an ideal clearly. For $x \in A \setminus \mathfrak{m}$, then $v(x) = 0$ and $v(x^{-1}x) = v(x^{-1}) + v(x) = v(1) = 0$, then $v(x^{-1}) = 0$ with $x^{-1} \in A$. Hence $\mathfrak{m}$ is the unique maximal ideal in A. Next to show $\mathfrak{m}$ is a principal ideal: take $t \in \mathfrak{m}$ such that $v(u) = 1$, then for any $x \in \mathfrak{m}$ $v(xu^{-1}) = v(x) - v(u) \geqslant 0$ hence $xu^{-1} \in A$ and $\mathfrak{m} = (u)$. Let $I_n = \{x \in A \mid v(x) \geqslant n$, then we have a filtration

$$A = I_0 \supsetneq \mathfrak{m} = I_1 \supsetneq I_2 \supsetneq I_3 \supsetneq I_4 \cdots \supsetneq I_n \supsetneq \dots$$

We claim that all the non-zero ideals are of the form I_n. Let $I \subset A$ be an ideal, then take $x \in I$ such that $v(x) = n$ is the least one in I, then $I \subset I_n$. Conversely, for any $y \in I$, $v(x^{-1}y) = v(y) - v(x) \geqslant 0$, then $x^{-1}y \in A$, hence $I = (t)$. Similarly, $(t) = I_n$. Now we have proven the claim. In particular, suppose $\mathfrak{m} = (u)$, all the non-zero ideals are of the form (u^n). Then A is a principal ideal domain of dimension 1(it is a domain because it is a subring of a field). Hence A satisfies the conditions in Theorem 4.5.

Conversely, suppose A is a regular Noetherian local and $\mathfrak{m} = (u)$, we define the valuation on $K = K(A)$ by sending $v(u) = 1$ and $v(i) = 0$ if i is a unit in A. Claim that all non-zero element in K is of the form au^n with an integer n: for any $x, y \in A$, they are of the forms $x = bx^n$ and $y = cx^m$ for $b, c \in A^*$ and non-negative integers n, m, then

$$\frac{x}{y} = bc^{-1}x^{n-m}$$

where bc^{-1} is still a unit in A. Hence we prove the claim and following the claim, the valuation is well-defined by extending $v(ax^n) = n$. Clearly, if $v(x) \geqslant 0$, then $x \in A$. Hence A is a DVR. □

Theorem 4.7. *Suppose $(A, \mathfrak{m})$ is a Noetherian local domain of dimension 1, then A is a DVR if and only if A is integrally closed.*

Proof. When A is a DVR, it is a principal ideal domain, in particular, it is a UFD, hence it is integrally closed. Conversely, suppose A is integrally closed, we are going to show that $\mathfrak{m}$ is a principal ideal. For any non-zero $x \in \mathfrak{m}$, (x) is a $\mathfrak{m}$-primary (because $\mathfrak{m}$ is of height 1 i.e. the unique non-zero prime ideal in A). Then $\sqrt{(x)} = \mathfrak{m}$ i.e. for any $y \in \mathfrak{m}$, there exists a positive integer n_y such that $y^{n_y} \in (x)$. Since $\mathfrak{m}$ is finitely generated, there exists n such that $\mathfrak{m}^n \subseteq (x)$ and $\mathfrak{m}^{n-1} \nsubseteq (x)$. Choose $y \in \mathfrak{m}^{n-1}$ such that $y \notin (x)$, then $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m} \subseteq \frac{1}{x}\mathfrak{m}^n \subseteq A$, hence $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m}$ is an ideal in A and either $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m} \subset \mathfrak{m}$ or $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m} = A$. We want to show that $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m} = A$ then $\mathfrak{m} = \frac{x}{y}A$ is a principal ideal.

It suffices to show that $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m} \nsubseteq \mathfrak{m}$ and we argue by contradiction. Suppose $\frac{y}{x}\mathfrak{m} \subset \mathfrak{m}$, then $\frac{y}{x}$ determines an A-linear map from finitely generated A-module $\mathfrak{m}$ to itself. Take a list of generators and we have an A-matrix T. Note that $T - \frac{y}{x}I = 0$ and $\det(T - \frac{y}{x}I) = 0$, hence the monic polynomial with coefficients in A is $\det(T - tI)$ in variable of t. Then $\frac{y}{x}$ is integral over A and $\frac{y}{x} \in A$ because A is integrally closed. Hence $y \in (x)$, which leads to contradiction. □

5. Decomposition and Dedekind domain

We first do some observation: suppose A is a Noetherian domain and $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq A$ is a non-zero ideal. We have known that the primary decomposition exists, hence

$$\mathfrak{a} = \bigcap_{\text{primary}} \mathfrak{q}$$

If A is of dimension 1, then every non-zero prime ideal is a maximal ideal and for a primary decomposition, there is no embedded prime in the set of associated prime ideals of $\mathfrak{a}$. Note that for two distinct primary ideals $\mathfrak{q}$ and $\mathfrak{q}'$ where $\sqrt{\mathfrak{q}} = \mathfrak{m}$ and $\sqrt{\mathfrak{q}'} = \mathfrak{m}'$ are two distinct maximal ideal, then claim that $\mathfrak{q} + \mathfrak{q}' = 1$. If $\mathfrak{q} + \mathfrak{q}' \neq 1$, then there exists a maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}''$ to contain $\mathfrak{q} + \mathfrak{q}'$, further $\mathfrak{m}''$ contain $\sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$ and $\sqrt{\mathfrak{q}'}$ i.e. $\mathfrak{m}''$ contain $\mathfrak{m} + \mathfrak{m}' = (1)$, contradiction. Since all distinct primary ideals are coprime, we may write

$$\mathfrak{a} = \prod_{\text{primary}} \mathfrak{q}$$

Now the question is: **when would every $\mathfrak{p}$-primary ideal of A be a power of $\mathfrak{p}$?** The answer is when A is integrally closed (necessary and sufficient condition). Now we move on to this answer.

Observation

- $\mathfrak{q}$ is $\mathfrak{p}$-primary in A if and only if $\mathfrak{q}A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is $\mathfrak{p}A_{\mathfrak{p}}$-primary.
- when $\mathfrak{q}$ is $\mathfrak{p}$-primary, then $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}^n$ if and only $\mathfrak{q}A_{\mathfrak{p}} = (\mathfrak{p}A_{\mathfrak{p}})^n$.

Hence we may reduce the question to local case.

Now the question is: **For a Noetherian local domain $(A, \mathfrak{m})$ of dimension 1, when would every $\mathfrak{m}$-primary ideal be a power of $\mathfrak{m}$?**

Further observation:

- Every non-zero ideal in A is $\mathfrak{m}$-primary.
- $\mathfrak{q}$ is $\mathfrak{m}$-primary if and only if $\sqrt{\mathfrak{q}} = \mathfrak{m}$.

Thus, the local question becomes: **For a Noetherian local domain $(A, \mathfrak{m})$ of dimension 1, when would every non-zero ideal be of the form $\mathfrak{m}^n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$?**

Recall Theorem 4.5, we see that the answer is DVR!

Theorem 5.1. *Let A be a Noetherian domain of dimension 1, then every primary decomposition is a prime decomposition if and only if for each non-zero prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$, $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a DVR.*

Recall that A is integrally closed if and only if $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is integrally closed for each prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Spec} A$. Then by Theorem 4.7, we have

Theorem 5.2. *Let A be a Noetherian domain of dimension 1, then every primary decomposition is a prime decomposition if and only if A is integrally closed.*

Definition 5.3. A is a Dedekind domain if A is an integrally closed Noetherian domain of dimension 1.

Example 5.4. Let K be a finite field extension of $\mathbb{Q}$ and $\mathcal{O}_K$ be the integral closure of $\mathbb{Z}$ in K (we may also call it the ring of integers in K.) Now we claim that $\mathcal{O}_K$ is a Dedkind domain.

First, $\mathcal{O}_K$ is integrally closed clearly. Second, $\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_K$ is an integral morphism, and $\mathbb{Z}$ is a Dedekind domain clearly, hence by going-up and going-down, $\dim \mathcal{O}_K = \dim \mathbb{Z} = 1$. Finally, it remains to show $\mathcal{O}_K$ is a Noetherian. We need the following lemma to show it.

Lemma 5.5. *Given a domain A and $K = K(A)$ the fraction field with characteristic 0, let L/K be a finite separable extension of degree n and B be the integral closure of A in L. Then there exists a basis $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ in L such that*

$$B \subseteq Av_1 + \cdots + Av_n$$

Thus, as a consequence, if A is Noetherian, so is B.

Proof. Observe that for any non-zero $v \in L$, there is an $a \in A$ such that $av \in B$ (there is an a such that av is integral over A because v is algebraic over K, the fraction field of A.)

Thus we may assume $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$ is a basis of L over K with $w_i \in B$. Note that $\langle v, v' \rangle = \mathrm{Tr}(vv')$ is a non-degenerate bilinear form of L over K when it is separable. Let $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ be the dual basis of $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ namely $\langle v_i, w_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ for each i, j. ($(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ is still a basis of L over K because they are linearly independent.)

Then $\forall b \in B$, write $b = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i v_i$ where $\alpha_i \in K$. Then

$$\langle b, w_j \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i \langle vi, w_j \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i \delta_{ij} = \alpha_j$$

because $bw_j \in B$, $\mathrm{Tr}(bw_j) \in B$(the trace is the sum of all its Galois conjugate elements and all its Galois conjugate elements is integral over K clearly), then $\mathrm{Tr}(bw_j) = B \cap K = A$ i.e. $\alpha_j \in A$. □

In general, there is proposition:

Theorem 5.6 (Krull-Akizuki)**.** *Let A be a Noetherian domain of dimension 1 with fraction field K, if L/K is a finite extension and $B \subset L$ is an arbitrary subring that contains A, then B is a Noetherian domain.*

We need to prove that for any ideal I in B, I is a finitely generated B-module. Observe that $I \otimes_A K$ is a K-vector space in L, hence $I \otimes_A K$ is of finite dimension, namely we say that I is an A-module of finite rank. We need the following lemma to prove the theorem.

Lemma 5.7. *Let A and L be the ones in the assumption of the theorem and let M be a torsion-free A-module of finite rank r. Then for $0 \neq a \in A$, we have*

$$l(M/aM) \leqslant r * l(A/aA)$$

Proof. First, we assume M is finitely generated. Take $x_1, \dots, x_r$ in M linearly independent over A and let $E = \oplus_{i=1}^{r} Ax_i$, then there exists $t \in A$ such that for any $y \in M$, $ty \in E$ (We just find such t' for each generator of M, then multiply them together to get such t). Let $C = M/E$ and $tC = 0$ i.e. C is totally an A-torsion module and is finitely generated obviously. Then there exists a filtration of C:

$$C = C_0 \supset C_1 \supset \cdots \supset C_n = 0$$

such that $C_i/C_{i+1} = A/\mathfrak{p}_i$ for some non-zero prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}_i$ and actually, such prime ideals are maximal ideals (the existence of this filtration is in Professor Qiu's notes Proposition 4.11 P75 and since A is an integral domain of dimension 1, every non-zero prime ideal is a maximal ideal). Hence C is of finite length clearly. For any $0 \neq a \in A$ and any positive integer n, we have an exact sequence

$$E/a^n E \longrightarrow M/a^n M \longrightarrow C/a^n C \longrightarrow 0$$

this gives

$$l(M/a^nM) \leqslant l(E/a^nE) + l(C) \tag{4}$$

Since M and E are torsion-free, we have $a^iE/a^{i+1}E \cong E/aE$ and similar for M, then we may rewrite the equation 4 into

$$nl(M/aM) \leqslant nl(E/a^nE) + l(C) \tag{5}$$

for each n. Thus $l(M/aM) \leqslant l(E/aE)$. Note that $E \cong A^r$, hence $l(E/aE) = rl(A/aA)$. This completes the proof in the case finitely generated modules.

In general case, take any finitely generated submodule $\overline{N}$ in M/aM and let N be the preimage of $\overline{N}$ in M, which is finitely generated. Then

$$l(\overline{N}) = l(N/(N \cap aM)) \leqslant l(N/aN) \leqslant rl(A/aA)$$

Since this inequation is independence of the choice of finitely generated submodules in M/aM, so that $\overline{M}$ is in fact finitely generated, otherwise we can find a finitely generated submodule in $\overline{M}$ of arbitrarily length. Hence $l(M/aM) \leqslant rl(A/aA)$. □

Remark 5.8. We need C to be torsion, otherwise, consider $C = \mathbb{Z}^2$ and $A = \mathbb{Z}$, which is not of finite length.

Now we prove the theorem.

Proof of the theorem. We may replace the field L by the fraction field of B. For any non-zero ideal I in B, I is a finite rank A-module. Take $0 \neq a \in I \cap A$, $l(I/aI) \leqslant l(A/aA)$. By Krull's principal ideal theorem, A/aA is of dimension 0, then A/aA is an Artinian ring (Noetherian and dimension 0), hence $l(A/aA)$ is finite. Thus $l(I/aI)$ is finite i.e. I/aI is a finite length A-module. Moreover, I is a finitely generated B-module. □

Remark 5.9. Actually, such B is of dimension at most 1. If P is a non-zero prime ideal in B, B/P is a Noetherian domain of dimension 0 i.e. an Artinian ring, therefore B/P is a field, namely P is a maximal ideal and $\dim B = 1$.

6. Divisor on curves

Definition 6.1. Let $f\colon X \to Y$ be a finite morphism between smooth curves. We define

$$f^*\colon \mathrm{Weil}Y \to \mathrm{Weil}X$$

as follows, for any closed point $Q \in Y$, let t be a local parameter of Q i.e. a generator of the prime ideal in the DVR $\mathscr{O}_Q$, then define

$$f^*Q = \sum_{f(P)=Q} v_P(f^*(t))[P]$$

where P are closed points and note that f induces a morphism at stalk-level $\mathscr{O}_P \to \mathscr{O}_Q$.

We can extend this definition from prime divisors to any divisor freely.

Remark 6.2. f^*Q is independent of the choice of local parameter t because two local parameters is in difference of a unit in the local ring.

Since f is a finite morphism, then $f^{-1}(Q)$ is a finite set, hence it is well defined.

For a principal divisor $\operatorname{div}(f)$ in Y, $f^*(\operatorname{div}(g)) = \operatorname{div}(g \circ f)$ (we may identify $g \circ f$ as the image of g via the morphism induced by f at the sheaf-level. Hence, we actually have a morphism

$$f^* \colon \mathrm{Cl}(Y) \to \mathrm{Cl}(X)$$

Proposition 6.1. *Let $f \colon X \to Y$ be a finite morphism between smooth curves, the the degree of field extension $K(Y) \hookrightarrow K(X)$ induced by f is called **the degree of** f, denoted by $\deg f$. Then for any divisor $D \in \operatorname{Weil}(X)$, we have*

$$\deg(f^* D) = \deg(f) * \deg(D)$$

Corollary 6.1. *For a principle divisor $\operatorname{div}(h)$ on X, $\deg(h) = 0$. Hence there is a surjective homomorphism*

$$\deg \colon \mathrm{Cl}(X) \to \mathbb{Z}$$

However, in general, deg is not injective. Next we will show the necessary and sufficient condition that deg is injective.

Example 6.3. Let X be a projective and smooth curve, then if there exists a pair of distinct closed points $P, Q \in X$ such that $P - Q = \operatorname{div}(h)$ for some $h \in K(X)$, then $X \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$ i.e X is birational equivalent to a projective line. Hence $cl(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ if and only if $X \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$.

First, $\operatorname{div}(h) = P - Q$ means for a rational function h on X, h has a simple zero at P and a simple pole at Q.

Fact, there is a rational map $\varphi : X \to \mathbb{P}^1$ corresponds to the field extension $K(t) \to K(X)$ by sending $t \mapsto h$ i.e. on the level of closed points, we have

$$\varphi(\alpha) = \begin{cases} [1 : h(\alpha)] & h(\alpha) \neq 0 \\ [0 : 1] & h(\alpha) = 0 \end{cases} \tag{6}$$

Hence $\varphi^*([1:0] = P$ while $varphi^*([0:1]) = Q$. Recall Proposition 6.1, we have

$$1 = \deg(\varphi^*([1:0]) = \deg \phi * 1$$

thus $\deg \varphi = 1$ and then $K(X) = K(t)$, $X, \mathbb{P}^1$ are birational.

Example 6.4. Elliptic curves Elliptic curves are smooth cubic curves (degree 3) in $\mathbb{P}^2_k$. For simplicity, assume $\mathrm{char} k \neq 2$, then it can be described by

$$y^2 = 4x^3 + g_2 x + g_3$$

(it can be homogenized by replace x, y by $x/z, y/z$). This form is called **Weierstrass form**. Now to describe the group structure on the set of closed points of elliptic curve E. Let $\mathrm{Cl}^0(E)$ be the kernel of $\deg \colon \mathrm{Cl}(E) \to \mathbb{Z}$ and we will show there is an 1-1 correspondence between E and $\mathrm{Cl}^0(E)$. (Here we abuse of notation: E means the set of closed points in E, when we want to take it as a group).

We just consider the special case of elliptic curves

$$y^2 z - x^3 + xz^2 = 0$$

then let $P_0 = [0:1:0] \in E$ and $\div(z) = 3P_0$ on E due to the following equations

$$\begin{cases} y^2 z - x^3 + xz^2 = & 0 \\ z = & 0 \end{cases}$$

have 3 zeros at $z = 0, x = 0$.

Then let $L \subset \mathbb{P}^2$ be a line $ax+by+cz=0$ and let $l = ax+by+cz$ and $L = \div(l)$ on $\mathbb{P}^2$. According to Bezout's theorem and a line is of degree 1, $L \cap E$ has 3 points (including multiplicities, then we have

$$\div(\frac{l}{z}) = P + Q + R - 3P_0$$

which means that

$$[P+Q+R] \sim 3[P_0]$$

on E. Note that $\deg(P - P_0) = 0$ for any point P, hence $P - P_0 \in \mathrm{Cl}^{)}(E)$, then we give a map $\alpha \colon E \to \mathrm{Cl}^0(E)$ by

$$P \mapsto [P - P_0]$$

Now claim that it is injective: if $P - P_0 \sim Q - P_0$, then $P - Q \sim \div(f)$ for some rational function f, if $P \neq Q$, then $E \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$ by $F \colon E \to \mathrm{Cl}^0(E)$

$$x \mapsto [1 : f(x)]$$

when $x \neq Q$ and $Q \mapsto [0 : 1]$ and note that $F * ([1 : 0]) = P$, thus $\deg F = 0$. However, an elliptic curve is not rational, which leads to contradiction. Therefore, we must have $P = Q$.

Next to show it is surjective: For any $D = \sum n_i P_i \in \mathrm{Cl}^0(E)$ with $\sim n_i = 0$, then

$$\sum n_i P_i = \sum n_i (P_i - P_0)$$

let L be a line in $\mathbb{P}^2$ determined by P_0 and P_i, and let P_0, P_i, R_i be $L \cap E$ and

$$P_0 + P_i + R_i \sim 3P_0 \tag{7}$$

Hence $P_i - P_0 \sim -(R_i - P_0)$.

Then if $n_i < 0$, we may replace $P_i - P_0$ by $-(R_i - P_0)$ so that we may assume $n_i \geqslant 0$. In particular, $\sum n_i \geqslant 0$. If $\sum n_i = 1$ with all $n_i \geqslant 0$, then $D = P_i - P_0$, which is in the image. Now we argue by induction on $\sum n_i$.

Observe that $P_1 - P_0 + P_2 - P_0 \sim P_0 - R$ for some R (recall the relation 7, we get such R be consider the intersection between E and a line determined by P_1, P_2) Then there is a point T such that $T - P_0 \sim P_0 - R$ by consider the intersection between the E and the line given by T, P_0. Then we can use this observation to proceed the induction.

References

[Ati69] Michael Atiyah, *Introduction to commutative algebra*, Addison-Wesley, 1969.

SUSTech
Email address: 11711505@mail.sustech.edu.cn