III Algebraic Geometry

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0 Introduction

Introductory reading by Hassett and Reid.

More commutative algebra by Atiyah and Macdonald, and Matsumura.

Standard AG texts by Hartshorne, Görtz-Wedhorn, and Ravi Vakil.

0.1 Recap

In undergraduate, we fix an algebraically closed field K, and define affine n-space $\mathbb{A}^n = K^n$, and for an ideal $I \subseteq K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ we define

$$Z(I) = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in I\} \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n.$$

We can define a topology on \mathbb{A}^n by taking the closed sets to be the sets of the form Z(I).

This turns out to be no good. We will instead introduce schemes. Natural questions are; why schemes, and why not varieties? Well,

- With varieties, we always work with algebraically closed fields, to relate the algebra with the geometry. If $K = \mathbb{R}$, and $I = (x^2 + y^2 + 1) \subseteq K[x, y]$, then $Z(I) = \emptyset$, losing information about I.
- We may be interested in Diophantine equations, where the natural space is \mathbb{Z} .
- Even if K is algebraically closed, we lose information passing from I to Z(I). For example if $I = (x^2)$, $Z = \{0\}$, then I(Z(I)) = (x).

But it is natural to consider ideals like (x^2) , for example considering $(y - x^2, y - \alpha) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x, y]$. This produces two points for $\alpha \neq 0$, but only one point if $\alpha = 0$, but with some multiplicity.

0.2 Categorical Philosophy

Let **Set** be the category of sets. **Set** is the category with objects being all sets with morphisms between objects being maps of sets. If X, Y are sets, we write Hom(X, Y) for the set of maps between X and Y.

Note that there is a bijection $\operatorname{Hom}(\{*\}, X) \to X$ given by $(f : \{*\} \to X) \mapsto f(*)$.

We can use this philosophy to understand points on affine algebraic varieties. Nota \mathbb{A}^0 is a point. If X is an affine variety, then the points of X should be in one-to-one correspondence with $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{A}^0, X)$.

Recall morphisms of affine varieties. Denote A(X) by $K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]/I(X)$, where $I(X) = \{f \in K[x_1, \ldots, x_n] \mid f|_X = 0\}$. A(X) is the coordinate ring of X, a K-algebra.

We showed that if X, Y are affine varieties, then

$$\operatorname{Hom}(X, Y) = \operatorname{Hom}(A(Y), A(X)).$$

So,

$$\operatorname{Hom}(\mathbb{A}^0, X) = \operatorname{Hom}(K[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I(X), K).$$

Note giving a K-algebra homomorphism $K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]/I(X) \to K$ can be done by specifying the images of x_1 , say $x_1 \mapsto a_1$, such that, for any $f \in I(X)$, $f(a_1, \ldots, a_n) = 0$. So there is a one-to-one correspondence between such K-algebra homomorphisms, and points of X.

If K is algebraically closed, the maximal ideals of $K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ are precisely ideals of the form $(x_1 - a_1, \ldots, x_n - a_n)$ by Hilbert's Nullstellensatz. Similarly, for A(X), the maximal ideals are $(x_1 - a_1, \ldots, x_n - a_n) \mod I(X)$, with $(a_1, \ldots, a_n) \in X$.

Thus there is a bijection between points on X, and the maximal ideals of A(X). This gives three objects, X, the homomorphisms and the maximal ideals, which are all bijective.

Now suppose K is not algebraically closed. Consider the K-algebra homomorphisms $A(X) \to L$, where L is an extension of K. If $x_i \mapsto a_i$, then $f(a_1, \ldots, a_n) = 0$ for all $f \in I(X)$. Thus,

$$\operatorname{Hom}_K(A(X), L) = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in I(X)\}.$$

These correspond to L-valued points.

We could also work over \mathbb{Z} . Take an ideal $I \subseteq \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, and $A = \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$.

Then ring homomorphisms $A \to \mathbb{Z}$ are in one-to-one correspondence with points $(a_1, \ldots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ such that $f(a_1, \ldots, a_n) = 0$ for all $f \in I$.

Moreover maps $A \to \mathbb{F}_p$ give solutions mod p, and $A \to \mathbb{Q}$ give rational solutions.

0.3 What we want

Given a ring A, we want to define a gadget

$$X = \operatorname{Spec} A$$
,

and an R-valued point of X is a ring-homomorphism $A \to R$. We write the set of R-valued points as

$$X(R) = \operatorname{Hom}(A, R).$$

Morphisms Spec $B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ should be the same as ring homomorphisms $A \to B$. In category theory,

Definition 0.1. The category of affine schemes it the *opposite category* of rings.

Reminder: In this course, all of our rings are unital, are commutative, and ring homomorphism $\phi: A \to B$ satisfy $\phi(1) = 1$.

Definition 0.2. A *scheme* is a geometric object which is locally an affine scheme.

Currently this is a nonsensical definition, which we will be trying to make sense of. The motivating example is the manifold, which locally looks like an open subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

0.4 Introductory Definitions

Definition 0.3. Let A be a ring. Then,

Spec
$$A = \{ p \subseteq A \mid p \text{ is a prime ideal} \}.$$

In general, if we have an L-valued point of $X = Z(I) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$, we get a ring homomorphism $\phi: A(X) \to L$, which has image an integral subdomain of L, and so Ker ϕ is prime.

Definition 0.4. For $I \subseteq A$ an ideal, define

$$V(I) = \{ p \in \operatorname{Spec} A \mid p \supset I \}.$$

Again recall p is no longer a point, but a prime ideal.

Proposition 0.1. The sets V(I) form the closed sets of a topology on Spec A, the Zariski topology.

Proof: Need to check a handful of things.

- $V(A) = \emptyset$, so \emptyset is closed.
- $V(0) = \operatorname{Spec} A$, so $\operatorname{Spec} A$ is closed.

• If $\{I_j\}_{j\in J}$ is a collection of ideals, then note

$$\bigcap_{j \in J} V(I_j) = V\left(\sum_{j \in J} I_j\right).$$

• We show that $V(I_1) \cup V(I_2) = V(I_1 \cap I_2)$. Indeed, if $p \supseteq I_1$ or $p \supseteq I_2$, then $p \supseteq I_1 \cap I_2$.

In the other direction, then $p \supseteq I_1 \cap I_2$, then $p \supseteq I_1$ or $p \supseteq I_2$. This was proven in Part II. Or see Atiyah + Macdonald.

This is easy: if $I_1, I_2 \not\subseteq p$, then there exists $i_1, i_2 \in I_1, I_2$ respectively that are not in p. But now $i_1 i_2 \in I_1 \cap I_2 \subseteq p$, so $i_1 i_2 \in p$.

However p is prime, so either $i_1 \in p$ or $i_2 \in p$, contradiction.

Example 0.1.

Consider $A = K[x_1, ..., x_n]$ with K algebraically closed. For $I \subseteq A$, the maximal ideals of A corresponding to points of Z(I) are precisely the maximal ideals containing I.

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1 Sheaves

Fix a topological space X.

Definition 1.1. A presheaf \mathcal{F} on X consists of data, such that:

• For every open set $U \subseteq X$, we have an abelian group $\mathcal{F}(U)$ (or more generally any element of a category).

• Whenever $V \subseteq U \subseteq X$ is open, there is a restriction homomorphism

$$\rho_{UV}: \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{F}(V),$$

such that $\rho_{UU} = \mathrm{id}_{\mathcal{F}(U)}$, and if $W \subseteq V \subseteq U \subseteq X$, then

$$\rho_{UW} = \rho_{VW} \circ \rho_{UV}.$$

Remark. This is precisely a contravariant functor from the category of open sets to the category of abelian groups. As mentioned, we may replace the category of abelian groups with any category.

Definition 1.2. If \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G} are presheaves on X, then a morphism $f : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ is data for each $U \subseteq X$, a group homomorphism $f_U : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)$ such that whenever $V \subseteq U$, we have a commutative diagram

$$\mathcal{F}(U) \xrightarrow{f_U} \mathcal{G}(U)$$

$$\downarrow^{\rho_{UV}^{\mathcal{F}}} \qquad \downarrow^{\rho_{UV}^{\mathcal{G}}}$$

$$\mathcal{F}(V) \xrightarrow{f_V} \mathcal{G}(V)$$

Definition 1.3. A presheaf \mathcal{F} on X is a *sheaf* if it satisfies:

- 1. If $U \subseteq X$ is covered by $\{U_i\}$, and $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ such that $s|_{U_i} = \rho_{UU_i}(s) = 0$ for all i, then s = 0.
- 2. If $U, \{U_i\}$ are as in the above, and $s_i \in \mathcal{F}(U_i)$ for each i such that

$$s_i|_{U_i\cap U_j} = s_j|_{U_i\cap U_j}$$

for all i, j, then there exists $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ such that

$$s|_{U_i} = s_i$$

for all i.

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Remark.

• If \mathcal{F} is a sheaf, then $\mathcal{F}(\emptyset) = 0$, since the empty cover is a cover of \emptyset .

• The two conditions together can be stated by saying

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(U) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}(U_i) \xrightarrow{\beta_1 \atop \beta_2} \bigoplus_{i,j \in I} \mathcal{F}(U_i \cap U_j)$$

is exact for all $U \subseteq X$ open, and open covers $\{U_i\}$ of U. Here,

$$\alpha(s) = (s|_{U_i})_{i \in I},$$

$$\beta_1((s_i)_{i \in I}) = (s_i|_{U_i \cap U_j})_{i,j \in I},$$

$$\beta_2((s_i)_{i \in I}) = (s_j|_{U_i \cap U_j})_{i,j \in I}.$$

In category theory, α is the equalizer of β_1, β_2 .

Exactness means that:

- $-\alpha$ is injective (property 1).
- $-\beta_1 \circ \alpha = \beta_2 \circ \alpha.$
- For any $(s_i) \in \bigoplus \mathcal{F}(U_i)$ with $\beta_1((s_i)) = \beta_2((s_i))$, there exists an $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ with $\alpha(s) = (s_i)$ (property 2).

This definition works even if $\mathcal{F}(U)$ is a set, rather than an abelian group.

Example 1.1.

1. For X any topological space,

$$\mathcal{F}(U) = \{ \text{continuous functions } f: U \to \mathbb{R} \}$$

is a sheaf.

2. If $X = \mathbb{C}$ with the Euclidean topology, then

$$\mathcal{F}(U) = \{ f : U \to \mathbb{C} \mid f \text{ bounded and holomorphic} \}$$

is not a sheaf, as gluing fails because it does not preserve boundedness.

3. Let G be a group, and set $\mathcal{F}(U) = G$ for all $U \subseteq X$. Then $\rho_{UV} = \mathrm{id}$. This is a presheaf known as the *constant presheaf*.

If we give G the discrete topology, set

$$\mathcal{F}(U) = \{ f : U \to G \text{ continuous} \}.$$

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These are all locally constant functions, and is obviously a sheaf, called the *constant sheaf*.

4. If X is a variety, denote by $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ the set of regular functions $f: U \to K$. Then $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ is a sheaf, called the *structure sheaf* of X.

Definition 1.4. Let \mathcal{F} be a presheaf in $X, p \in X$. Then the *stalk* of \mathcal{F} at p is

$$\mathcal{F}_p = \{(U, s) \mid U \text{ an open neighbourhood of } p, s \in F(U)\}/\cong$$

where $(U,s)\cong (V,t)$ if there exists $W\subseteq U\cap V$, a neighbourhood of p, such that

$$s|_W = t|_W$$
.

The equivalence class of $(U, s) \in \mathcal{F}_p$ is written as s_p , and is the *germ* of s at p.

So the stalk is the set of germs. The stalks should be thought of as the local information of the sheaf around p. Note that given a morphism $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$, we obtain $f_p: \mathcal{F}_p \to \mathcal{G}_p$ by

$$f_p(U,s) = (U, f_U(s)).$$

Proposition 1.1. Let $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of sheaves (i.e. a morphism of presheaves). Then f is an isomorphism if and only if f_p is an isomorphism, for all $p \in X$.

Proof: The forward direction is obvious.

For the other direction, assume f_p is an isomorphism for all p. We will show that $f(U): \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)$ is an isomorphism for all U, and then we can define the inverse to f by $(f^{-1})_U = (f_U)^{-1}$.

First we show f_U is injective. Suppose $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ is such that $f_U(s) = 0$. Then for all $p \in U$,

$$f_p((U,s)) = (U, f_U(s)) = (U,0) = 0 \in \mathcal{G}_p.$$

Thus $s_p = 0$ since f_p is injective. So there is an open neighbourhood $V_p \subseteq U$ of p such that $s|_{V_p} = 0$.

But $\{V_p\}$ covers U, so by property 1, s=0.

Now we show f_U is surjective. Let $t \in \mathcal{G}(U)$. Then for all $p \in U$, there exists $s_p \in \mathcal{F}_p$ such that $f_p(s_p) = t_p$, i.e. there exists an open neighbourhood V_p at $p \in U$ and a germ (V_p, \tilde{s}_p) representing s_p such that

$$(V_p, f_{V_p}(\tilde{s}_p)) \cong (U, t) = t_p.$$

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Shrinking V_p if necessary, we can assume that $f_{V_p}(\tilde{s}_p) = t|_{V_p}$. Now on $V_p \cap V_q$,

$$f_{V_p \cap V_q}(\tilde{s}_p|_{V_p \cap V_q} - \tilde{s}_q|_{V_p \cap V_q}) = t|_{V_p \cap V_q} - t|_{V_p \cap V_q} = 0.$$

Since we have shown that $f_{V_p \cap V_q}$ is injective, we get

$$\tilde{s}_p|_{V_p \cap V_q} = \tilde{s}_q|_{V_p \cap V_q},$$

and so by property 2, there exists $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ such that

$$s|_{V_p} = \tilde{s}_p,$$

for all p. Now,

$$f_U(s)|_{V_p} = f_{V_p}(s|_{V_p}) = f_{V_p}(\tilde{s}_p) = t|_{V_p}.$$

Therefore, $f_U(s) - t = 0$, so by property 1, $f_U(s) = t$. Hence f_U is surjective.

Remark. If $f_p: \mathcal{F}_p \to \mathcal{G}_p$ is injective for all p, then $f_U: \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)$ is still injective.

But instead if $f_p: \mathcal{F}_p \to \mathcal{G}_p$ is surjective for all p, it need not be the case that $f_U: \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{U})$ is surjective.

1.1 Sheafification

Given a presheaf \mathcal{F} , there exists a sheaf \mathcal{F}^+ and a morphism $\theta: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F}^+$, satisfying the following universal property:

For any sheaf \mathcal{G} and morphism $\phi: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$, there exists a unique morphism $\phi^+: \mathcal{F}^+ \to \mathcal{G}$ such that

$$\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\theta} \mathcal{F}^{+}$$

$$\downarrow^{\phi^{+}}$$

$$\mathcal{G}$$

commutes.

The pair (\mathcal{F}^+, θ) is unique up to isomorphism. Also $\mathcal{F}_p \cong \mathcal{F}_p^+$ via θ_p , for all $p \in X$.

The sheafification is defined as follows: define $\mathcal{F}^+(U)$ to be the functions

$$s: U \to \bigsqcup_{p \in U} \mathcal{F}_p$$

such that:

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- (i) $s(p) \in \mathcal{F}_p$ for all p,
- (ii) for each $p \in U$, there exists an open neighbourhood $p \in V \subseteq U$ and an element $t \in \mathcal{F}(V)$ such that

$$(V,t) = s(q),$$

for all $q \in V$.

We define $\theta: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F}^+$ given by

$$\mathcal{F}(U) \ni s \mapsto (p \mapsto (U, s) \in \mathcal{F}_p).$$

We can check that this satisfies the universal property stated previously.

Definition 1.5. Let $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of presheaves. We define:

1. The presheaf kernel of f as

$$(\ker f)(U) = \ker(f_U : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)).$$

2. The presheaf cokernel of f as

$$(\operatorname{coker} f)(U) = \operatorname{coker} f_U.$$

3. The presheaf image as

$$(\operatorname{im} f)(U) = \operatorname{im} f_U.$$

Remark. If $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ is a morphism of sheaves, then ker f is a sheaf. First note that any sub-presheaf of \mathcal{F} satisfies property 1.

To check property 2, given $s_i \in (\ker f)(U_i) \subseteq \mathcal{F}(U_i)$ for $\{U_i\}$ an open cover of U, suppose $s_i|_{U_i \cap U_i} = s_j|_{U_i \cap U_i}$. Then the s_i 's glue to given an $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$. Now,

$$f_U(s)|_{U_i} = f_{U_i}(s_i) = 0,$$

so by property 1, $f_U(s) = 0$. Hence $s \in (\ker f)(U)$.

Example 1.2.

Take $X = \mathbb{P}^1$, or the Riemann sphere, and let $P, Q \in X$ be distinct points.

Let \mathcal{G} be the sheaf of regular functions on X (or the holomorphic functions on X), and let \mathcal{F} be the sheaf of regular functions on X vanishing at P and Q (or the holomorphic functions vanishing at P, Q).

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Note $\mathcal{F}(U) = \mathcal{G}(U)$ if $U \cap \{P, Q\} = \emptyset$. By Liouville's theorem, $\mathcal{G}(X) = K$, and $\mathcal{F}(X) = 0$.

Let $U = X \setminus \{P\}$, $V = X \setminus \{Q\}$, and $f : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ the obvious inclusion. Note $\mathcal{G}(U) = K[x]$ by affine geometry, $\mathcal{F}(U) = (x)$. So,

$$(\operatorname{coker} f)(X) = \mathcal{G}(X)/\mathcal{F}(X) = K,$$

$$(\operatorname{coker} f)(U \cap V) = \mathcal{G}(U \cap V)/\mathcal{F}(U \cap V) = 0,$$

$$(\operatorname{coker} f)(U) = \mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F}(U) = K[x]/(x) = K,$$

$$(\operatorname{coker} f)(V) = K.$$

Choose $s_U \in (\operatorname{coker} f)(U)$, $s_V \in (\operatorname{coker} f)(V)$. But now $s_U|_{U \cap V} = s_V|_{U \cap V} = 0$, and this would imply that if coker f were a sheaf, that

$$K \oplus K \subseteq (\operatorname{coker} f)(X)$$
.

Remark. This shows that coker f need not be a sheaf. The same is true of im f.

Definition 1.6. Let $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of sheaves. The *sheaf kernel* of f is ker f, the presheaf kernel.

The *sheaf cokernel* of f is the sheafification of the presheaf cokernel. We still write this as coker f.

Note that to show $\operatorname{coker} f$ is a presheaf, we need to use the third isomorphism theorem.

We can also show that the sheaf image of f is a subsheaf of \mathcal{G} (prove this).

We say that f is *injective* if ker f = 0, and f is *surjective* if im $f = \mathcal{G}$. We say that a sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{i-1} \stackrel{f^i}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{F}^i \stackrel{f^{i+1}}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{F}^{i+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

is exact if $\ker f^{i+1} = \operatorname{im} f^i$.

If $\mathcal{F}' \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ is a subsheaf, we write \mathcal{F}/\mathcal{F}' for the sheaf associated to the presheaf

$$U \mapsto \mathcal{F}(U)/\mathcal{F}'(U)$$
.

This is $\operatorname{coker}(\iota : \mathcal{F}' \hookrightarrow \mathcal{F})$, where ι is the inclusion.

Lemma 1.1. Let $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of sheaves. Then,

$$(\ker f)_p = \ker(f_p : \mathcal{F}_p \to \mathcal{G}_p),$$

 $(\operatorname{im} f)_p = \operatorname{im} f_p.$

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Proof: We have a map $(\ker f)_p \to \ker f_p$, defined as follows: if $(U, s) \in (\ker f)_p$, then $s \in (\ker f)(U)$, and $(U, s) \in \mathcal{F}_p$. So,

$$f_n(U,s) = (U, f(s)) = (U,0) = 0 \in \mathcal{G}_n$$

thus $(U, s) \in \ker f_p$.

It is easy to see this map is injective: if (U, s) = 0 in \mathcal{F}_p , then in some neighbourhood $s|_V = 0$. So $(U, s) \sim (V, s|_V) = 0$ in $(\ker f)_p$.

We now tackle surjectivity. If $(U, s) \in \ker f_p$, then $0 = f_p(U, s) = (U, f_U(s))$ in \mathcal{G}_p , so in some neighbourhood V, $f_U(s)|_V = 0$.

Thus $f_V(s|_V) = 0$, so $(U, s) \sim (V, s|_V)$, and $s|_V \in (\ker f)(V)$. Thus $(V, s|_V) \in (\ker f)_p$, which maps to $(U, s) \in \ker f_p$.

We now prove the appropriate theorem for images. Let im' f denote the presheaf image. Recall that if \mathcal{F} is a presheaf, then $\mathcal{F}_p \cong \mathcal{F}_p^+$, via θ_p . So it is enough to show there is an isomorphism

$$(\operatorname{im}' f)_p \cong \operatorname{im} f_p.$$

First, define

$$(\operatorname{im}' f)_p \to \operatorname{im} f_p$$

 $(U, s) \mapsto (U, s),$

with $s \in f_U(t)$ for some $t \in \mathcal{F}(U)$, which lives in im f_p since

$$f_p(U,t) = (U, f_U(t)) = (U,s)$$

First we show injectivity. If (U, s) = 0 in \mathcal{G}_p , then there exists $p \in V \subseteq U$ such that $s|_V = 0$. But then,

$$(U,s) \sim (V,s|_V) = (V,0) = 0$$

in $(\operatorname{im}' f)_p$.

To show surjectivity, we know that for $(U, s) \in \text{im } f_p$, that there is $(V, t) \in \mathcal{F}_p$ with $f_p(V, t) \sim (U, s)$. We can replace U with the smaller open set V, so can assume that U = V, and then

$$f_p(U,t) = (U, f_U(t)) \sim (U,s)$$

in \mathcal{G}_p . Shrinking U further, we can assume $f_U(t) = s$, and hence

$$(U,s) = (U, f_U(t)) \in (\operatorname{im}' f)_p.$$

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Proposition 1.2. $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ is injective if and only if $f_p: \mathcal{F}_p \to \mathcal{G}_p$ is injective for all p.

 $f: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ is surjective if and only if $f_p: \mathcal{F}_p \to \mathcal{G}_p$ is surjective for all p.

Proof: We have

$$f_p$$
 is injective $\iff \ker f_p = 0$ $\forall p$
 $\iff (\ker f)_p = 0$ $\forall p$ by the lemma
 $\iff \ker f = 0.$

Note this uses the easy fact that if \mathcal{F} is a sheaf, and $\mathcal{F}_p = 0$ for all p, then $\mathcal{F} = 0$. Also,

$$f_p$$
 is surjective $\iff \operatorname{im} f_p = \mathcal{G}_p \qquad \forall p$
 $\iff (\operatorname{im} f)_p = \mathcal{G}_p \qquad \forall p \text{ by the lemma}$
 $\iff \operatorname{im} f = \mathcal{G}.$

Hence if $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ are sheaves with $\mathcal{F}_p = \mathcal{G}_p$, we can check that $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{G}$.

1.2 Passing between Spaces

Let $f: X \to Y$ be a continuous map of topological spaces.

Let \mathcal{F} be a sheaf in X. Define a sheaf $f_*\mathcal{F}$ on Y by

$$(f_*\mathcal{F})(U) = \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(U)).$$

This is the *push-forward* of \mathcal{F} . This can be checked to be a sheaf.

If \mathcal{G} is a sheaf on Y, define the *pull-back* sheaf $f^{-1}\mathcal{G}$ to be the sheaf associated to the presheaf

$$U \mapsto \{(V, s) \mid V \subseteq f(U), V \text{ open}, s \in \mathcal{G}(V)\}/\sim,$$

where $(V, s) \sim (V', s')$ if there exists W with $f(U) \subseteq W \subseteq V \cap V'$ with $s|_W = s'|_W$.

Example 1.3.

If $f: \{p\} \hookrightarrow Y$, then $f^{-1}\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_p$, by identifying a sheaf \mathcal{F} on a topological space X with the group $\mathcal{F}(X)$.

More generally, if $\iota: Z \hookrightarrow X$ is an inclusion, we often write $\mathcal{F}|_Z$ for the sheaf $\iota^{-1}\mathcal{F}$.

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If $\iota: U \hookrightarrow X$ is an open subset, then in fact $i^{-1}\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}|_Z$ is the sheaf $V \mapsto \mathcal{F}(V)$, for $V \subseteq U$ open.

If $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$, we call s a section of \mathcal{F} over U. We often also write

$$\mathcal{F}(U) = \Gamma(U, \mathcal{F}),$$

thinking of $\Gamma(U,\cdot)$ as a covariant functor

 $\Gamma(U,\cdot): \mathbf{Presheaves}_X \to \mathbf{Ab}.$

2 Affine Schemes

Let A be a ring. Spec A is a topological space analogous to the sheaf of regular functions.

Let $S \subseteq A$ be a multiplicatively closed subset, i.e. $1 \in S$ and whenever $a, b \in S$, we have $a \cdot b \in S$. We define

$$S^{-1}A = \{(a, s) \mid a \in A, s \in S\} / \sim,$$

where $(a, s) \sim (a', s')$ if there exists $s'' \in S$ such that

$$s''(as' - a's) = 0.$$

This is called the *localization* of A at S.

$\overline{\text{Example } 2.1}$.

1. Say $S = \{1, f, f^2, \ldots\}$ for some $f \in A$. Then

$$A_f = S^{-1}A = \left\{ \frac{a}{f^n} \mid a \in A, n \ge 0 \right\} / \sim.$$

2. Take $P \subseteq A$ a prime ideal, and $S = A \setminus P$. Then we write $A_P = S^{-1}A$.

Our goal is to now construct the sheaf

$$\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A}$$
.

For $U \subseteq \operatorname{Spec} A$ open, we write

$$\mathcal{O}(U) = \left\{ s : U \to \bigsqcup_{p \in U} A_p \mid s(p) \in A_p \land \text{for each } p \in U, \exists q \in V \subseteq U \right\}$$

and
$$a, f \in A$$
 such that $\forall q \in V, f \not\in q \land s(q) = \frac{a}{f} \in A_q$

This is a sheaf, as it is only defined locally.

The scheme has the following properties. First, for any $p \in \operatorname{Spec} A$, $\mathcal{O}_p = A_p$.

Proof: We have a map $\mathcal{O}_p \to A_p$ given by $(U, s) \mapsto s(p)$.

First we show surjectivity. Any element of A_p can be written as a/f, for

 $a \in A$ and $f \notin p$. We define

$$D(f) = (\operatorname{Spec} A) \setminus V((f)) = \{ q \in \operatorname{Spec} A \mid f \notin q \}.$$

This is an open neighbourhood of $p \in \operatorname{Spec} A$. Then a/f defines a section s of \mathcal{O} over D(f), via

$$s(q) = \frac{a}{f} = A_q.$$

In particular, $s(p) = a/f \in A_p$. So, $(D(f), s) \mapsto a/f$ under this map.

For injectivity, let $p \in U \subseteq \operatorname{Spec} A$, and $s \in \mathcal{O}(U)$, defining a germ $(U, s) \in \mathcal{O}_p$.

Suppose s(p) = 0. We want to show (U, s) = 0 in \mathcal{O}_p . We may shrink U and assume there are $a, f \in A$ such that s(q) = a/f for all $q \in U$. In particular, $f \notin q$.

Since s(p) = 0, a/f = 0 in A_p . Thus there exists $h \in A \setminus p$ such that

$$h(a \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot f) = 0,$$

i.e. $h \cdot a = 0$. Let $V = D(f) \cap D(h)$. Then for $q \in V$, a/f = 0 in A_q .

Since $h \notin q$ and $h \cdot a = 0$, $s|_V = 0$, so (U, s) = 0. Moreover, V is non-empty as it contains p.

Another property is as follows: for any $f \in A$, $\mathcal{O}(D(f)) = A_f$. In particular,

$$\mathcal{O}(\operatorname{Spec} A) = \mathcal{O}(D(1)) = A_1 = A.$$

Proof: Let $\psi: A_f \to \mathcal{O}(D(f))$ be given by

$$\frac{a}{f^n} \mapsto \left(p \mapsto \frac{a}{f^n} \in A_p \right).$$

We need to show this map is injective, and surjective.

Injectivity: To show ψ is injective, if $\psi(a/f^n) = 0$, then for all $p \in D(f)$, $a/f^n = 0$ in A_p . So there exists $h \notin p$ such that $h \cdot a = 0$, where h may depend on p. Let

$$I = \{ g \in A \mid g \cdot a = 0 \}.$$

So $h \in I$, for all p. But also $h \notin p$, so $I \nsubseteq p$. This is true for all $p \in D(f)$, so

$$V(I)\cap D(f)=\emptyset.$$

Thus,

$$f \in \bigcap_{q \in V(I)} q = \sqrt{I},$$

the radical of I. Thus $f^m \in I$ for some n > 0. Thus $f^m \cdot a = 0$, so in particular $a/f^n = 0$ in A_f , by choosing $h = f^m$.

Surjectivity: is a lot harder. Let $s \in \mathcal{O}(D(f))$. Our goal is to show that $s = \psi(a/f^n)$ for some a and n. Let $\{V_i\}$ be an open cover of D(f) such that $s|_{V_i}$ is represented by a_i/g_i with $g_i \notin p$, for all $p \in V_i$.

Thus $V_i \subseteq D(g_i)$. By an example sheet question, the open sets of te form D(h) form a basis for the Zariski topology. We can thus assume $V_i = D(h_i)$ for some $h_i \in A$.

Since $D(h_i) \subseteq D(g_i)$, $V((h_i)) \subseteq V((g_i))$, so $\sqrt{(h_i)} \subseteq \sqrt{(g_i)}$. Therefore $h_i^n \in (g_i)$, for some n, so $h_i^n = c_i g_i$ for some $c_i \in A$. Thus,

$$\frac{a_i}{g_i} = \frac{c_i a_i}{h_i^n}.$$

We can thus replace h_i with h_i^n , since a prime ideal containing one contains the other, and can now assume that $s|_{V_i}$ is represented by an element of the for a_i/h_i , where $V_i = D(h_i)$.

So far, we have proven that D(f) is covered with open sets $V_i = D(h_i)$, and $s|_{V_i}$ represented by a_i/h_i .

Claim: D(f) can be covered with a finite number of the $D(h_i)$'s, in other words D(f) is *quasicompact*, meaning compact without the Hausdorff condition.

The proof is as follows:

$$D(f) \subseteq \bigcup_{i} D(h_{i})$$

$$\iff V((f)) \supseteq \bigcap V((h_{i})) = V\left(\sum_{i} (h_{i})\right)$$

$$\iff \int \sqrt{f} \subseteq \sqrt{\sum_{i} (h_{i})}$$

$$\iff f \in \sqrt{\sum_{i} (h_{i})}$$

$$\iff f^{n} \in \sum_{i} (h_{i})$$

for some n. Thus,

$$f^n = \sum b_i h_i$$

for some finite set of h_i 's. Thus, by running the above proof backwards, we find that the finite number of these $D(h_i)$ cover D(f).

Now we have a finite cover of D(f). On $D(h_i) \cap D(h_j)$, a_i/h_i and a_j/h_j both represent $s|_{D(h_i) \cap D(h_j)}$. But,

$$\psi: A_{h_i h_j} \to \mathcal{O}(D(h_i, h_j)) = \mathcal{O}(D(h_i) \cap D(h_j))$$

is injective, by proof of injectivity. So, $a_i/h_i = a_j/h_j$ in $A_{h_ih_j}$. Thus for some n,

$$(h_i h_j)^n (h_j a_i - h_i a_j) = 0.$$

We can choose n to work for all i, j. Rewriting this as

$$h_j^{n+1}(h_i^n a_i) - h_i^{n+1}(h_j^n a_j) = 0,$$

and replacing each h_i with h_i^{n+1} and a_i with $h_i^n a_i$, the ratio is the same, and so s is still represented by a_i/h_i , but also $h_j a_i = h_i a_j$ for all i, j. Let

$$a = \sum b_i a_i,$$

where we recall that

$$f^n = \sum b_i h_i.$$

Then for any j,

$$h_j a = \sum_i h_i b_i a_i = \sum_i h_i b_i a_j = f^n a_j,$$

so $a_j/h_j = a/f^n$, for all j. So $\psi(a/f^n) = s$.

Definition 2.1. A ringed space is a pair (X, \mathcal{O}_X) where:

- X is a topological space,
- \mathcal{O}_X is a sheaf of rings.

A morphism of ringed spaces $f:(X,\mathcal{O}_X)\to (Y,\mathcal{O}_Y)$ is data such that:

- $f: X \to Y$ is continuous.
- $f^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_Y \to f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ is a morphism of sheaves of rings, i.e.

$$f_U^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_Y(U) \to (f_*\mathcal{O}_X)(U) = \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(U))$$

is a ring homomorphism.

Example 2.2.

1. Let X be a variety, and \mathcal{O}_X the sheaf of regular functions on X, so

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) = \{f : U \to K \text{ such that } f \text{ is regular}\}.$$

A morphism $f: X \to Y$ of varieties is a continuous map $f: X \to Y$ inducing a map, for all $U \subseteq Y$, by $\mathcal{O}_Y(U) \to \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(U))$, where $\varphi \mapsto \varphi \circ f$.

2. Let X be a topological space, then we can consider

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) = \{ f : U \to \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ continuous} \}.$$

3. Let X be a C^{∞} -manifold, and

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) = \{ f : U \to \mathbb{R} \mid fC^{\infty} \}.$$

Then $f: X \to Y$ a continuous map between C^{∞} manifolds is C^{∞} if and only if, for any C^{∞} function $\varphi: U \to \mathbb{R}$, and $U \subseteq Y$, $f \circ \varphi: f^{-1}(U) \to \mathbb{R}$ is C^{∞} .

Remark. All of these example have the feature that $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$, for $p \in X$, is a local ring, i.e. one with a unique maximal ideal.

Indeed, take $m_p = \{(U, f) \mid f(p) = 0\}$. Note $(U, f) \sim (V, f|_V)$ for some V with $f|_V$ non-vanishing if $f(p) \neq 0$.

So every element in $\mathcal{O}_{X,p} \setminus m_p$ is invertible, hence m_p is the unique maximal ideal.

Note that given a morphism of ringed space $f:(X,\mathcal{O}_X)\to (Y,\mathcal{O}_Y)$ in the previous three examples, we get a map

$$f_p^\#: \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(p)} \to \mathcal{O}_{X,p}$$

for $p \in X$ defined by

$$f_p^{\#}(U,\varphi) = (f^{-1}(U), \varphi \circ f).$$

Note that $(U,\varphi) \in m_{f(p)}$ if and only if $(f^{-1}(U), \varphi \circ f) \in m_p$.

In particular, $(f_p^{\#})^{-1}(m_p) = m_{f(p)}$.

Definition 2.2. A locally ringed space is a ringed space (X, \mathcal{O}_X) such that $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ is a local ring for all $p \in X$.

A morphism $f:(X,\mathcal{O}_X)\to (Y,\mathcal{O}_Y)$ of locally ringed spaces is a morphism of ringed spaces such that the induced morphism

$$f_p^\#: \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(p)} \to \mathcal{O}_{X,p}$$

is a local homomorphism.

Here $f_p^{\#}$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(p)} \ni (U,\varphi) \mapsto (f^{-1}(U), f_U^{\#}(\varphi)) \in \mathcal{O}_{X,p}.$$

A homomorphism $g: A \to B$ of local rings is a ring homomorphism such that $g^{-1}(m_B) = m_A$. Note that $g(A \setminus m_a) = g(A^*) \subseteq B^* = B \setminus m_B$, so we always have $g^{-1}(m_B) \subseteq m_A$.

The motivating example is (Spec A, $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec }A}$), which we will show is a locally ringed space. Recall that $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec }A,p} = A_p$, which has a unique maximal ideal

$$m = \left\{ \frac{a}{s} \mid a \in p, s \notin p \right\}.$$

There is a natural map $A \to A_p$ by $a \mapsto a/1$, and $m \subseteq A_p$ is the ideal generated by the image of p under this map. This is often written as pA_p .

We call (Spec A, $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec }A}$) an affine scheme.

Theorem 2.1. The category of affine schemes with morphisms being morphisms of locally ringed spaces is equivalent to the opposite category of rings.

Proof: We need to show that:

• If $\varphi: A \to B$ is a homomorphism of rings, we get a morphism of locally ringed spaces

$$(f, f^{\#}): (\operatorname{Spec} B, \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B}) \to (\operatorname{Spec} A, \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A}).$$

• Any morphism of locally ringed spaces is induced by a homomorphism $\varphi:A\to B$ of rings.

For the first part, we define $f: \operatorname{Spec} B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ by

$$f(p) = \varphi^{-1}(p).$$

Note that $\varphi^{-1}(p)$ is prime, as if $a \cdot b \in \varphi^{-1}(p)$, then $\varphi(a)\varphi(b) = \varphi(ab) \in p$, so say $\varphi(a) \in p$. Then $a \in \varphi^{-1}(p)$.

Now we show f is continuous. Note for any $I \subseteq A$,

$$f^{-1}(V(I)) = \{ p \in \operatorname{Spec} B \mid f(p) \supseteq I \} = \{ p \in \operatorname{Spec} B \mid \varphi^{-1}(p) \supseteq I \}$$
$$= \{ p \in \operatorname{Spec} B \mid p \supseteq \varphi(I) \}$$
$$= V(\varphi(I)).$$

Now we need to define $f^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A} \to f_{*}\mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B}$, where $f^{\#}_{V}: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A}(V) \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B}(f^{-1}(V))$.

Note for $p \in \operatorname{Spec} B$, we obtain a map

$$\varphi_p: A_{\varphi^{-1}(p)} \to B_p$$

 $a/s \mapsto \varphi(a)/\varphi(s).$

This makes sense since $s \notin \varphi^{-1}(p)$ means that $\varphi(s) \notin p$. Now we claim φ_p is a local homomorphism. Consider the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & B \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A_{\varphi^{-1}(p)} & \xrightarrow{\varphi_p} & B_p \end{array}$$

The maximal ideal of B_p is generated by the image of p, and the maximal ideal of $A_{\varphi^{-1}(p)}$ is generated by the image of $\varphi^{-1}(p)$.

Thus $\varphi_p^{-1}(m_{B_p})$ contains the image of the ideal generated by $\varphi^{-1}(p)$, i.e. $m_{A_{\varphi^{-1}(p)}}$. Thus,

$$\varphi_p^{-1}(m_{B_p}) = m_{A_{\varphi^{-1}(p)}}.$$

Now given $V \subseteq \operatorname{Spec} A$, we may define $f_V^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A}(V) \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B}(f^{-1}(V))$, given by

$$(p \mapsto s(p)) \mapsto (q \in f^{-1}(V) \mapsto \varphi_q(s(f(q)))),$$

giving $f^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A} \to f_* \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B}$.

Note we need to check the local coherence, i.e. if s is locally given by a/b, then $f_V^{\#}(a/b)$ is locally given by $\varphi(a)/\varphi(b)$.

By construction, $f_p^\#: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A, f(p)} \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B, p}$ is $\varphi_p: A_{\varphi^{-1}(p)} \to B_p$, a local homomorphism, and hence $(f, f^\#)$ defines a morphism of locally ringed spaces.

The other part of this is to show that $(f, f^{\#})$: Spec $B \to \operatorname{Spec} A$, a morphism of locally ringed spaces, is given by a morphism of rings. First,

$$f_{\operatorname{Spec} A}^{\#} = \varphi : \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A}(\operatorname{Spec} A) \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B}(\operatorname{Spec} B),$$

i.e. $\varphi: A \to B$. We also have $f_p^\#: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} A, f(p)} \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} B, p}$ giving a local homomorphism. This map is compatible with $\varphi = f_{\operatorname{Spec} A}^\#$, i.e. we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & B \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
A_{f(p)} & \xrightarrow{f_p^{\#}} & B_p
\end{array}$$

The vertical maps correspond to $a \mapsto a/1$. Thus, $(f_p^{\#})^{-1}(pB_p) = f(p)A_{f(p)}$, so $\varphi^{-1}(p) = f(p0)$ as the pullback of pB_p to B is p, and the pullback of $f(p)A_{f(p)}$ to A is f(p). Thus $f(p) = \varphi^{-1}(p)$.

So f is induced by φ , and $f_p^{\#} = \varphi_p$. This implies $(f, f^{\#})$ is induced by φ .

Definition 2.3. An *affine scheme* is a locally ringed space isomorphic, in the category of locally ringed spaces, to (Spec A, $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec }A}$) for some A.

A scheme is a locally ringed space (X, \mathcal{O}_X) with an open cover $\{U_i\}$ with each $(U, \mathcal{O}_X|_{U_i})$ an affine scheme.

Example 2.3.

1. Let K be a field, then

Spec
$$K = (\{*\}, \mathcal{O} = K\}$$

Suppose X is a scheme, and $f: \operatorname{Spec} K \to X$ a morphism. Then its map f is determined by $f(*) = x_0$.

 $f^{\#}$ gives $f_X^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_{X,x_0} \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} K,*} = K$, a local homomorphism, so

$$(f_{x_0}^{\#})^{-1}(0) = m_{x_0} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}$$

is the maximal ideal. Thus we obtain an inclusion

$$K(x-0) = \mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}/m_{x_0} \hookrightarrow K,$$

where $K(x_0)$ is the residue field of x_0 . Note $f^{\#}$ is determined by this map:

$$f_V^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_X(V) \to \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} K}(f^{-1}(V)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_0 \notin V, \\ K & \text{if } x_0 \in V. \end{cases}$$

In the second case, $f_V^{\#}$ must factor as

$$\mathcal{O}_X(V) \to \mathcal{O}_{X,x_0} \to \mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}/m_{x_0} = K(x_0) \to K.$$

Conversely, given $x_0 \in X$ and an inclusion $K(x_0) \hookrightarrow K$, we get a morphism $f : \operatorname{Spec} K \to X$.

Note: if $X = \operatorname{Spec} A$, giving $\operatorname{Spec} K \to X$ is the same thing as giving $A \to K$, which we saw as defining a K-valued point.

What is a morphism $f: X \to \operatorname{Spec} K$? The map is constant. We need $f^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} K} \to f_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X}$, i.e. a map $f^{\#}_{\operatorname{Spec} K}: K \to \mathcal{O}_{X}(X)$, which gives $\mathcal{O}_{X}(X)$ a K-algebra structure.

Note that this makes $\mathcal{O}_X(V)$ a K-algebra for all $V \subseteq X$ open via

$$K \to \mathcal{O}_X(X) \to \mathcal{O}_X(V),$$

and also all local rings $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$ K-algebras.

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