

MATH 6422: Algebraic Geometry II

Frank Qiang
Instructor: Harold Blum

Georgia Institute of Technology
Spring 2026

Contents

1 Jan. 13 — Overview and Review	2
1.1 Course Overview	2
1.2 Review of Algebraic Geometry I	2
1.3 Vector and Line Bundles	4

Lecture 1

Jan. 13 — Overview and Review

1.1 Course Overview

Remark. This course will cover the following topics:

- (i) vector bundles and line bundles in algebraic geometry;
- (ii) coherent sheaves;
- (iii) differentials;
- (iv) sheaf cohomology: in particular, we will see that $H_{\text{dR}}^k(X^{\text{an}}, \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_{i+j=k} H^i(X, \wedge^j T_X^*)$;
- (v) the Riemann-Roch theorem: if $\omega = f dz$ is a rational 1-form on a smooth projective curve C , then

$$(\# \text{ zeroes of } \omega) - (\# \text{ poles of } \omega) = 2 \text{ genus}(C) - 2;$$

- (vi) surfaces and toric varieties;
- (vii) schemes: for example, $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$ has points corresponding to the primes p and 0.

1.2 Review of Algebraic Geometry I

Remark. Let $k = \bar{k}$ be an algebraically closed field.

Remark (Hilbert's Nullstellensatz). There is a correspondence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{closed subvarieties of } \mathbb{A}^n &\longleftrightarrow \text{radical ideals in } k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \\ Z &\longmapsto I(Z) \\ V(J) &\longleftarrow J. \end{aligned}$$

Under this correspondence, Z being irreducible (resp. a point) corresponds to $I(Z)$ being prime (resp. maximal).

Remark (Zariski topology on \mathbb{A}^n). The closed sets in \mathbb{A}^n are of the form $V(J)$, and this induces a Zariski topology on any subset of \mathbb{A}^n .

Remark (Embedded affine varieties). Let $J \subseteq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. Then we can associate to J a ringed space (X, \mathcal{O}_X) by setting $X := V(J) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ with the Zariski topology, and \mathcal{O}_X to be the sheaf of regular functions on X , i.e. for $U \subseteq X$ open, we have

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) := \{\varphi : U \rightarrow k \mid \varphi \text{ is regular}\}.$$

Here, $\varphi : U \rightarrow k$ is *regular* if for each $p \in U$, there exists an open set $p \in U_p \subseteq U$ and $f, g \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ such that $\varphi(x) = f(x)/g(x)$ for all $x \in U_p$.

Remark (Coordinate ring). The *coordinate ring* of X is

$$A(X) := \mathcal{O}_X(X) \cong k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I(X).$$

We also get a version of Hilbert's Nullstellensatz for $A(X)$:

$$\text{closed subsets of } X \longleftrightarrow \text{radical ideals of } A(X).$$

Remark (Distinguished open sets). The *distinguished open sets* of X are

$$D(f) := \{x \in X : f(x) \neq 0\} = X \setminus V(f).$$

These form a basis for X as we vary $f \in A(X)$.

Definition 1.1. An *affine variety* is a ringed space (X, \mathcal{O}_X) (here \mathcal{O}_X is a sheaf of k -valued functions) which is isomorphic to an embedded affine variety.

Example 1.1.1. If (X, \mathcal{O}_X) is an affine variety and $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(X)$, then

$$(D(f), \mathcal{O}_X|_{D(f)})$$

is again an affine variety. To see this, we may assume that $X = V(J) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ with $J \leq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ a radical ideal. Now we can define a map

$$\begin{aligned} D(f) &\longrightarrow V(J, fy - 1) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_{x_i}^n \times \mathbb{A}_y^1 \\ x &\longmapsto (x, 1/f(x)), \end{aligned}$$

which one can check is an isomorphism. Now that this also shows

$$\mathcal{O}_X(D(f)) = A(D(f)) \cong \frac{k[x_1, \dots, x_n, y]}{(J, fy - 1)} \cong \frac{(k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/J)[y]}{(\bar{f}y - 1)} \cong A(X)_f.$$

Theorem 1.1. *There is an equivalence of categories*

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \text{Aff-var} &\longrightarrow \text{Red-f.g.-}k\text{-alg}^{\text{op}} \\ (X, \mathcal{O}_X) &\longmapsto A(X). \end{aligned}$$

This implies the following:

1. There is a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\text{aff-var}}(X, Y) &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(A(Y), A(X)) \\ f &\longmapsto f^*. \end{aligned}$$

2. For any reduced finitely generated k -algebra A , there exists an affine variety with $A \cong A(X)$.

Remark. How can we explicitly define the inverse functor $\text{Red-f.g.-}k\text{-alg}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Aff-var}$? We can define this as $A \mapsto (X, \mathcal{O}_X)$, where X is the set of maximal ideals of A . Think about what \mathcal{O}_X should be.

Remark (Varieties). A *variety* (X, \mathcal{O}_X) is a ringed space such that

- there exists a finite open cover of X by affine varieties,
- the diagonal Δ_X is closed in $X \times X$.

Example 1.1.2. The following are examples of varieties:

- affine varieties,
- open or closed subsets of varieties,
- $\mathbb{P}^n = (\mathbb{A}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\})/k^\times$.

Remark (Projective spaces). Recall that \mathbb{P}^n has an open cover by

$$U_i = \{[x] \in \mathbb{P}^n : x_i \neq 0\} \cong \mathbb{A}^n.$$

A basis for \mathbb{P}^n by distinguished open sets is given by

$$D(f) = \{[x] \in \mathbb{P}^n : f(x) \neq 0\}$$

with $f \in k[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ homogeneous.

1.3 Vector and Line Bundles

Definition 1.2. Let X be a variety. A *vector bundle (of rank m)* on X is a variety \mathbb{E} with a morphism $p : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow X$ such that

1. $\mathbb{E}_x = p^{-1}(X)$ has the structure of a rank m vector space for every $x \in X$ (i.e. k^m),
2. for every $x \in X$, there exists an open neighborhood $x \in U \subseteq X$ and an isomorphism $p^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times \mathbb{A}^m$ such that for any $y \in U$, the map $\mathbb{E}_y \rightarrow \{y\} \times \mathbb{A}^m$ is an isomorphism of vector spaces, i.e.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\phi_U} & U \times \mathbb{A}^m \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & U & \end{array}$$

commutes. We will call the map ϕ_U a *trivialization*.

Definition 1.3. A *line bundle* on X is a rank 1 vector bundle.

Remark. A different way to think about this is the following:

1. Given two trivializations $\phi_U : p^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times \mathbb{A}^m$ and $\phi_V : p^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V \times \mathbb{A}^m$, we get a morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (U \cap V) \times \mathbb{A}^m & \xrightarrow{\phi_{U,V}} & (U \cap V) \times \mathbb{A}^m \\ & \searrow \phi_V^{-1} & \swarrow \phi_U \\ & p^{-1}(U \cap V) & \end{array}$$

with $\phi_{U,V} = \phi_U \circ \phi_V^{-1}$. Observe $\phi_{U,V}(x, v) = (x, g_{U,V}(x)v)$ for some $g_{U,V}(x) \in \mathrm{GL}(m, k)$. Furthermore, $g_{U,V} : U \cap V \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(m, k)$ is a morphism. We will call the $g_{U,V}$ *transition functions*.

In the special case where $m = 1$ (so \mathbb{E} is a line bundle and $\mathrm{GL}(1, k) = k^\times$), the map $g_{U,V} : U \cap V \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(m, k)$ is equivalent to the data of a non-vanishing function $g_{U,V} : U \cap V \rightarrow k$.

2. The data of a vector bundle of rank m is equivalent to the data of

- an open cover $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$,
- and morphisms $g_{i,j} : U_i \cap U_j \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(m, k)$

such that $g_{i,k} = g_{i,j}g_{j,k}$, $g_{i,i} = g_{i,i}^{-1}$, and $g_{i,i} = \mathrm{id}$.

To recover the vector bundle, we can glue $\mathbb{E}_i = U_i \times \mathbb{A}^m$ for $i \in I$ via

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{i,j} &= (U_i \cap U_j) \times \mathbb{A}^m \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}_{j,i} = (U_j \cap U_i) \times \mathbb{A}^m \\ (x, v) &\longmapsto (x, g_{i,j}(x)v).\end{aligned}$$

One can check that this defines a vector bundle \mathbb{E} on X .

Example 1.3.1 (Trivial vector bundle). Define the vector bundle $\mathbb{E} : X \times \mathbb{A}^m \rightarrow X$ by $(x, v) \rightarrow x$. Given a cover $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$, we get $g_{i,j} : U_i \cap U_j \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(m, k)$ as $x \mapsto I_m$.

Example 1.3.2 (Trivial line bundle). We will denote the trivial line bundle by $\mathbb{1}_X : X \times \mathbb{A}^1 \rightarrow X$.

Example 1.3.3. Let $X = \mathbb{P}^n$ and $\mathbb{L} = \{(\ell, x) \in \mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{A}^{n+1} : x \in \ell\}$. Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbb{L} & \\ p \swarrow & & \searrow q \\ \mathbb{P}^n & & \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \end{array}$$

The map $q : \mathbb{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^{n+1}$ is the blowup. We claim that $p : \mathbb{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ is a line bundle. We have:

- $p^{-1}([x]) = kx$, a 1-dimensional vector space;
- let $U_i = \{[x] \in \mathbb{P}^n : x_i \neq 0\}$, then we can define

$$\begin{aligned}p^{-1}(U_i) &\longrightarrow U_i \times \mathbb{A}^1 \\ ([x], y) &\longmapsto ([x], y_i),\end{aligned}$$

which one can check is a trivialization.