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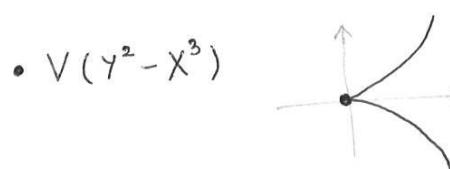
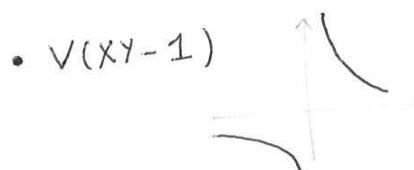
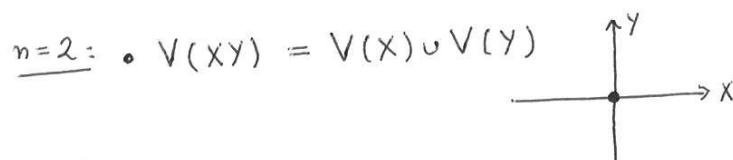
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## O. Motivation: A glimpse of Algebraic Geometry

$k$  algebraically closed field ( $\mathbb{C}, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}, \bar{\mathbb{F}_p}, \dots$ )

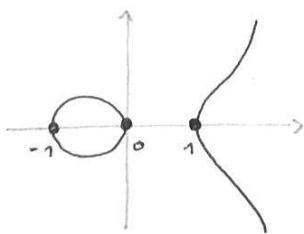
Def Consider the affine n-space  $A^n(k) := k^n$ .  
An algebraic subset of  $A^n(k)$  is a set of the  
form  $V(f_1, \dots, f_m) := \{\underline{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in k^n \mid f_i(\underline{a}) = 0 \quad \forall i=1, \dots, m\}$   
cut out by polynomials  $f_1, \dots, f_m \in R := k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Ex  $n=1$ : Proper alg. subsets of  $A^1(k)$   
are precisely the finite sets.



- $V(y^2 - x(x-1)(x+1))$

etc.



Remark • The choice of  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  is ambiguous,

$V := V(f_1, \dots, f_m)$  only depends on the ideal

$$\mathcal{J} := (f_1, \dots, f_m) \cong \mathbb{R}.$$

• The latter is still ambiguous:  $V(\mathcal{J}) = V(\mathcal{J}^N) \forall N \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  no smallest possible choice,

but  $\exists$  natural biggest choice:

take  $\mathcal{J} := \mathcal{J}(V) := \{f \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(\underline{a}) = 0 \quad \forall \underline{a} \in V\}$ .

Let's call ideals of this form "vanishing ideals".

Thm The assignment

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left\{ \text{algebraic subsets of } \mathbb{A}^n(\mathbb{k}) \right\} & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \left\{ \substack{\text{vanishing} \\ \text{ideals in } \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]} \right\} \\ W & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \mathcal{J}(W) \end{array}$$

is a bijection.

Pf. Surjective by def'n of "vanishing ideal".

Injective: Let  $W \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n(\mathbb{k})$  be algebraic,  
then we claim

$$W = V(\mathcal{J}(W))$$

Indeed

$$V(\mathcal{J}(W)) = \{ \underline{a} \in \mathbb{k}^n \mid \begin{matrix} f(\underline{a}) = 0 \\ \forall f \in \mathcal{J}(W) \end{matrix} \}$$

$$= \{ \underline{a} \in \mathbb{k}^n \mid f|_W = 0 \text{ implies } f(\underline{a}) = 0 \}$$

$$\stackrel{\uparrow}{=} W$$

" $\supseteq$ " trivial

" $\subseteq$ ": Let  $\underline{a} \notin W$  and put  $W = V(f)$  with  $f \in \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  
then  $\exists f \in \mathcal{J}$  with  $f(\underline{a}) \neq 0$  by def'n of  $V(\mathcal{J})$ ,  
but obviously  $f \in \mathcal{J}(V(f))$ , hence  $f|_W = 0$ .  $\square$

Ex  $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{k}^n \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{J}(W) = (x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n) =: m_{\underline{a}}$ .

Note  $m_{\underline{a}} \trianglelefteq R = \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a maximal ideal  
since  $R/m_{\underline{a}} \cong \mathbb{k}$ .

We'll see later that all max. ideals of  $R$  arise  
like this ( $\rightarrow$  "Hilbert's Nullstellensatz").

Also, vanishing ideals are precisely the so-called "radical ideals" ...

Upshot: Geometry  $\rightsquigarrow$  Algebra  
 (hard)  $\qquad\qquad$  (much easier)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{A}^n(\mathbb{k}) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{Spm}(R) := \{ \text{max. ideals of } R \} \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ \underline{a} & \longmapsto & \underline{m_a} \end{array}$$

Note: Via this bijection,

$$\begin{aligned} V(J) &\mapsto \{ m \in \text{Spm}(R) \mid J \subseteq m \} \\ &\cong \text{Spm}(R/J) \end{aligned}$$

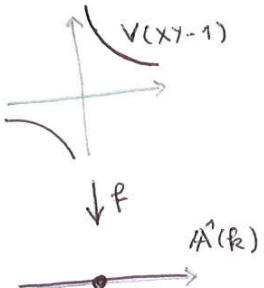
$\Rightarrow$  Use algebra (theory of rings & their ideals)  
 to do geometry!

Ex Intersections:  $V(J) \cap V(J') = V(J+J')$   
 Unions:  $V(J) \cup V(J') = V(J \cdot J') = V(J \cap J')$

Ex Projection maps:  
 e.g.  $f: V(XY-1) \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1(\mathbb{k})$   
 $\underline{a} = (a_1, a_2) \longmapsto a_1$   
 corresponds to the ring homomorphism

$$\tilde{R} := \mathbb{k}[X, Y]/(XY-1) \xleftarrow{f^*} R := \mathbb{k}[X] \quad (\text{via } f = \text{Spm}(f^*))$$

3'



Note that  $f$  is not surjective,  
 but induces a bijection  $f: V(XY-1) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{A}^1(\mathbb{k}) \setminus \{0\}$ .

Algebraically,  $f^*: R \rightarrow \tilde{R}$  is not a ring isomorphism  
 but becomes so after inverting the element  $X \in R$ :

Since  $f^*(X) \in \tilde{R}^*$  is a unit, we have a factorization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \tilde{R} = \mathbb{k}[X, Y]/(XY-1) \\ & & \swarrow \exists! \text{ iso} \\ & & R[\frac{1}{X}] = \mathbb{k}[X, \frac{1}{X}] \end{array}$$

"localization of  $R$   
 at the multiplicative set  $S := \{1, X, X^2, \dots\}$ "

Ex Resolution of singularities:  
 e.g.  $g: \mathbb{A}^1(\mathbb{k}) \rightarrow V(Y^2-X^3)$   
 $t \mapsto (t^2, t^3)$

corresponds to

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{k}[T] & \xleftarrow{g^*} & \mathbb{k}[X, Y]/(Y^2-X^3) \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ P(T^2, T^3) & \xleftarrow{\psi} & P(X, Y) \bmod (Y^2-X^3) \end{array}$$

(etc.)

(via  $g = \text{Spm}(g^*)$ )

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Grothendieck:

Why only consider  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/J$  with  $\begin{cases} k \text{ alg closed field} \\ J \text{ radical ideal} \end{cases}$ ?

Try the same for arbitrary commutative rings  $R$ !

Rem. a) In general a ring homom.  $f: R \rightarrow S$

does NOT induce  $f^*: \text{Spm } S \not\rightarrow \text{Spm } R$

usually  $f^{-1}(m) \trianglelefteq R$  is not maximal for  $m \in \text{Spm } S$ .

But we do get  $f^*: \text{Spec } S \rightarrow \text{Spec } R := \{\text{prime ideals of } R\}$ ,  
ie  $f^{-1}(p) \trianglelefteq R$  is prime  $\forall p \in \text{Spec } S$ .

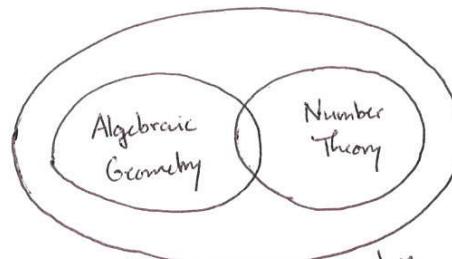
$\Rightarrow$  work with  $\text{Spec } R$  instead of  $\text{Spm } R$ ,  
get many "new" points ("generic points")...

b)  $R$  may have nilpotents, eg  $R = k[x]/(x^n)$

$\Rightarrow$  get "functions" on  $\text{Spec } R$   
that "vanish everywhere"

↑  
Taylor series  
up to  $n^{\text{th}}$  order  
→ view  $\text{Spec } R$   
as  $n^{\text{th}}$  infinitesimal  
thickening of the  
point  $\text{Spec } k \dots$

$\Rightarrow$  Very powerful & flexible language, e.g. can study polynomial eqns over  $\mathbb{Z}$  such as  $x^n + y^n = z^n \dots$



commutative algebra  
= study of rings, ideals & modules

Possible topics:

I. Rings and modules

II. Chain conditions

III. Integral extensions

IV. Primary decomposition

V. Dimension theory

VI. Homological algebra

(we won't be able to cover  
all of these in one semester)

# I. Rings and Modules

## 1. Rings, ideals, homomorphisms

Def A monoid is a set  $R$

w/ an operation  $\circ : R \times R \rightarrow R$

which is

- associative:  $a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c \quad \forall a, b, c \in R,$

- unital:  $\exists 1 \in R$  w/  $1 \cdot a = a = a \cdot 1 \quad \forall a \in R.$

The monoid is commutative if  $a \cdot b = b \cdot a \quad \forall a, b \in R.$

NB The element  $1 \in R$  is determined uniquely  
and called the unit of the monoid  $(R, \circ)$ .

Def A ring with unit is a set  $R$  endowed with  
two operations  $+, \circ : R \times R \rightarrow R$   
s.t.

- $(R, +)$  is an abelian gp whose neutral element we denote by  $0$ ,

- $(R, \cdot)$  is a monoid whose unit we denote by  $1$ ,

- Distributivity holds:

$$a \cdot (b+c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c \quad \forall a, b, c \in R.$$

A ring  $(R, +, \cdot)$  is called commutative if the monoid  $(R, \cdot)$  is so.

From now on, we use the convention

"ring := commutative ring with unit"

Def A zero divisor is an element  $a \in R \setminus \{0\}$  w/  $a \cdot b = 0$  for some  $b \in R \setminus \{0\}$ .

We say  $R$  is an integral domain if it has no zero divisors (and  $1 \neq 0$ ).

The group of units is

$$R^* := \{a \in R \mid \exists b \in R \text{ with } a \cdot b = 1\}.$$

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- Ex. • Any field  $K$  is an integral domain w/  $K^* = K \setminus \{0\}$ .

- $R = \mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain w/  $R^* = \{\pm 1\}$ .

- $R = \mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a+bi \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is an integral domain w/  $R^* = \{\pm 1, \pm i\}$ .

- If  $R$  is an integral domain, then so is the polynomial ring  $S = R[X]$  w/  $S^* = R^*$ .

- For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \text{ integral domain} &\iff \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \text{ field} \\ &\iff n = p \text{ prime} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^* = \{a \bmod n\mathbb{Z} \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}.$$

- With our convention, for  $n > 1$  and  $R \neq \{0\}$  the matrix ring  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(R)$  is not a ring (not commutative!).

- We do allow the zero ring  $R = \{0\}$  where  $1 = 0$ , but by defn this is not an integral domain...

The class of rings is a category  
w/ the obvious notion of morphisms:

Def A homomorphism between rings  $R$  and  $S$

is a map of sets  $f: R \rightarrow S$

which is both a group homomorphism for "+"  
and a monoid  $\dashv \dashv \cdot$

i.e.  $\forall a, b \in R$ ,

- $f(a+b) = f(a) + f(b)$
- $f(a \cdot b) = f(a) \cdot f(b)$
- $f(1) = 1$  (don't forget this condition...)

Notation:  $\text{Hom}(R, S) := \{f: R \rightarrow S \text{ ring hom.}\}$ ,

$\text{End}(S) := \text{Hom}(S, S)$  "endomorphisms"

We say  $f$  is a

- monomorphism if  $f$  is injective
- epimorphism  $\dashv$  surjective
- isomorphism  $\dashv \dashv$  bijective.

Rem. a) The category of rings has initial object  $\mathbb{Z}$   
and terminal object the zero ring  $\{0\}$ :

For any ring  $R$ ,  $\exists!$  homomorphisms

$$\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{f} R \longrightarrow \{0\}.$$

unique because  
we imposed  $1 \mapsto 1$ .

b) Caution with the notion of epi:

If  $f: R \rightarrow S$  is epi, then

$$\begin{array}{l|l} \text{Hom}(S, T) \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}(R, T) \\ g \longmapsto g \circ f \end{array}$$

is injective for all rings  $T$

but NOT conversely in general,

consider for instance the inclusion  $f: R = \mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow S = \mathbb{Q}$ .

However, for mono's we do have

$$f: R \rightarrow S \text{ mono} \iff \begin{array}{l|l} \text{Hom}(T, R) \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}(T, S) \\ g \longmapsto f \circ g \end{array}$$

injective for all rings  $T$

(exercise).

Most rings in Alg. Geometry + Number Theory arise from some base ring  $R$  by successively forming

- polynomial rings  $R[X]$
- power series rings  $R[[X]]$
- quotient rings  $R/\alpha$  by ideals  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ , etc.

Recall:

Def An ideal of a ring  $R$  is a subset  $\alpha \subseteq R$  which is

- an additive subgroup:  $a_1 + a_2 \in \alpha \quad \forall a_1, a_2 \in \alpha$
- stable under scalar multiplication:
 
$$r \alpha \in \alpha \quad \forall r \in R,$$

$$r \in R.$$

Notation:  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ .

Ex. For  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R$  put  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i r_i \mid r_i \in R \right\} \trianglelefteq R$

Ideals of this form are called finitely generated.

For  $n=1$  we call  $(a) = aR$  a principal ideal.

Trivial cases:  $(0) = \{0\} \trianglelefteq R$  zero ideal  
 $(1) = R \trianglelefteq R$  unit ideal.

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Def A principal ideal domain (PID)

is an integral domain in which every ideal is principal.

- Ex.  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}[i], \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}], \mathbb{F}_p[X]$  ( $\mathbb{F}$  a field)  
 are PID's (in fact Euclidean)
- $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is NOT a PID (look at  $\alpha := (2, X)$ )
  - $\mathbb{Z}[X]$  is NOT a PID
  - $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is NOT a PID  
 (look at  $\alpha := (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$   
 and use the norm map  $N: \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \dots$ )

Rem. Let  $R := \mathbb{Z}[x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots]$  be the polynomial ring in  $\infty$  many variables, then the ideal

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &:= (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots) \\ &:= \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \cdot f_i \mid f_i \in R, N \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \trianglelefteq R \end{aligned}$$

is not finitely generated,  
 because any finite number of generators would involve only finitely many of the variables.

We'll later focus on the class of Noetherian rings where such phenomena don't happen.

Back to quotients:

Def For ideals  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  consider the equivalence relation mod  $\alpha$  on  $R$  defined by

$$r \equiv s \pmod{\alpha} \iff r - s \in \alpha.$$

We endow

$$R/\alpha := \{r \pmod{\alpha} \mid r \in R\}$$

with the ring structure

$$\begin{aligned}(r \pmod{\alpha}) + (s \pmod{\alpha}) &:= (r+s \pmod{\alpha}) \\ (\text{---}) \cdot (\text{---}) &:= (r \cdot s \pmod{\alpha}),\end{aligned}$$

i.e. the unique ring structure sth the quotient map  $R \xrightarrow{\pi} R/\alpha$  is a ring homomorphism.

NB Can recover the ideal as  $\alpha = \ker(\pi)$ , where for any ring homomorphism  $f: R \rightarrow S$  we define the kernel by

$$\ker(f) := \{r \in R \mid f(r) = 0\} \trianglelefteq R.$$

$\Rightarrow$  Ideals = kernels of ring homomorphisms, and we have:

Lemma. Let  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ . Then for any  $f: R \rightarrow S$  with  $\alpha \subseteq \ker(f)$ ,  $\exists!$  factorization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{f} & S \\ \pi \searrow & \nearrow \bar{f} & \\ & R/\alpha & \end{array}$$

Moreover,

$$\bar{f} \text{ monomorphism} \iff \alpha = \ker(f).$$

Pf. Uniqueness of  $\bar{f}$  clear since  $\pi: R \rightarrow R/\alpha$  epi. Existence of  $\bar{f}$  clear since  $\alpha \subseteq \ker(f)$  means that  $f(a)$  only depends on  $a \pmod{\alpha}$ .

Finally  $\ker(\bar{f}) = \ker(f)/\alpha \cong R/\alpha$ , so  $\bar{f}$  is mono iff  $\alpha = \ker(f)$ .  $\square$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{NB } \{ \text{Ideals in } R/\alpha \} & \xleftrightarrow{1:1} & \{ \text{Ideals in } R \text{ containing } \alpha \} \\ & \downarrow & \\ & \mathfrak{b}/\alpha & \longleftrightarrow \mathfrak{b} \text{ with } \mathfrak{b} \supseteq \alpha \end{array}$$

## 2. The spectrum of a ring (Can you "see" algebra?)

Def An ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \trianglelefteq R$  is called

- prime if  $R/\mathfrak{a}$  is an integral domain
- maximal if  $R/\mathfrak{a}$  is a field.

NB By our convention then in particular  $\mathfrak{a} \neq (1)$  is not the unit ideal.

Notation:  $\mathfrak{a} \trianglelefteq R$ .

Ex. The prime ideals in  $\mathbb{Z}$  are precisely the ideals  $(p) \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Z}$  with  $p$  prime or  $p = 0$ , and all nonzero ones are maximal.  
 $(\rightarrow \text{outlook: } \dim(\mathbb{Z}) = 1)$

Ex. In  $k[X, Y]$  one has a chain of prime ideals  $(0) \trianglelefteq (X) \trianglelefteq (X, Y) \trianglelefteq k[X, Y]$ , of which only the last one is maximal.  
 $(\rightarrow \text{outlook: } \dim(k[X, Y]) = 2)$

Lemma A proper ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \trianglelefteq R$  is

- (a) prime iff  $a, b \notin \mathfrak{a}$  implies  $a \cdot b \notin \mathfrak{a}$ .
- (b) maximal iff it is not contained in any bigger proper ideal of  $R$ .

Pf.

For (a) write  $\bar{a} := a \bmod \mathfrak{a} \in R/\mathfrak{a}$  etc

$$\begin{aligned} a \in \mathfrak{a} &\iff \bar{a} = 0 \\ b \in \mathfrak{a} &\iff \bar{b} = 0 \\ a \cdot b \in \mathfrak{a} &\iff \bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

For (b) note

$$\begin{aligned} R/\mathfrak{a} \text{ field} &\iff R/\mathfrak{a} \text{ has no nontrivial ideals} \\ &\iff (0) \trianglelefteq R/\mathfrak{a} \text{ maximal wrt inclusion} \\ &\quad \text{of proper ideals} \\ &\iff \mathfrak{a} \trianglelefteq R \end{aligned}$$

□

Notation:  $\text{Spec } R := \{\text{prime ideals } \mathfrak{p} \trianglelefteq R\}$

$\cup$   
 $\text{Spm } R := \{\text{maximal ideals } \mathfrak{m} \trianglelefteq R\}$

Why do we care?

① Number Theory:

Rings of algebraic integers such as  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  are usually not UFD's, e.g.

$$(1+\sqrt{-5})(1-\sqrt{-5}) = 2 \cdot 3 \quad (*)$$

irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$   
but no two differ by a unit!

But: Any ideal in such a ring factors uniquely as a product of powers of prime ideals, e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} (2) &= p^2 \\ (3) &= \alpha p \cdot \bar{\alpha} \end{aligned} \quad \text{refines } (*)$$

$$(1+\sqrt{-5}) = p \cdot \alpha$$

$$(1-\sqrt{-5}) = p \cdot \bar{\alpha}$$

with  $\begin{cases} p := (2, 1+\sqrt{-5}) \\ \alpha := (3, 1+\sqrt{-5}) \\ \bar{\alpha} := (3, 1-\sqrt{-5}) \end{cases} \left. \right\} \in \text{Spm}(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]).$

11'

② Algebraic Geometry:

Let  $k$  be a field,

$A^n(k) := k^n$  affine  $n$ -space,

$R := k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  the ring of polynomial fcts on it.

⇒ get a map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A^n(k) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \text{Spm}(R) \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) & \longmapsto & m_x := (x_1 - x_1, \dots, x_n - x_n) \end{array}$$

"ideal of functions  
vanishing at  $x$ "

(to see that  $m_x \trianglelefteq R$  is maximal,

note that  $R/m_x \cong k$  is a field).

We'll see later:

If  $k$  is algebraically closed, then  $\varphi$  is bijective!

(→ Hilbert's Nullstellensatz,  
chapter III)

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Want to study algebraic varieties,  
ie zero loci

$$V(f_1, \dots, f_m) := \{x \in A^n(k) \mid f_1(x) = \dots = f_m(x) = 0\}$$

cut out by finitely many polynomials  $f_1, \dots, f_m \in R$ .

Clearly  $V(f_1, \dots, f_m) = V(\mathfrak{a}_f)$

only depends on the ideal  $\mathfrak{a}_f := (f_1, \dots, f_m) \trianglelefteq R$

(in fact only on its radical  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}_f}$ ,  
see later...)

For  $k$  alg. closed we get:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A^n(k) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{Spm}(R) \\ \cup & & \cup \\ V(\mathfrak{a}_f) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{Spm}(R/\mathfrak{a}_f) \end{array} \quad \begin{aligned} \exists m = \pi^{-1}(m/\mathfrak{a}_f) \\ (\pi: R \rightarrow R/\mathfrak{a}_f) \\ \text{with } m \trianglelefteq R \\ \mathfrak{a}_f \subseteq m \end{aligned}$$

... generalize:

$\Rightarrow$  For any ring  $R$ ,

want to view  $\text{Spm}(R)$  as a top. space

w/ closed subsets given by  $\text{Spm}(R/\mathfrak{a}) \subset \text{Spm}(R)$   
for ideals  $\mathfrak{a} \trianglelefteq R$ .

- Q:
- $\text{Spm}(R) \neq \emptyset$ ?
  - topology?
  - functorial properties?

Lemma Any ring  $R \neq 0$  has a maximal ideal,  
ie.  $\text{Spm}(R) \neq \emptyset$ .

Pf. Recall Zorn's lemma:

$I \neq \emptyset$  partially ordered set  
s.t. every totally ordered subset  $J \subseteq I$   
has an upper bound in  $I$

$\Rightarrow I$  contains a maximal element

Apply this to

$$I := \{ \text{proper ideals } \alpha \subsetneq R \}$$

partially ordered by inclusion.

Assumptions of Zorn's lemma hold:

- $I \neq \emptyset$  since  $(0) \in I$  (this uses  $R \neq 0!$ )
- $\mathcal{J} \subseteq I$  totally ordered, wlog  $\neq \emptyset$   
 $\Rightarrow \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{J}, \alpha \subseteq \beta \text{ or } \beta \subseteq \alpha$   
 $\Rightarrow \exists c := \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{J}} \alpha \neq R \text{ is a proper ideal:}$

Ideal since  $a, b \in c \Rightarrow \exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{J}: \begin{array}{c} a \in \alpha \\ b \in \beta \\ \alpha \subseteq \beta, \\ \text{then } a, b \in \beta \\ \text{hence } a+b \in \beta, ra \in \beta \\ \Rightarrow a+b \in c, ra \in c \end{array}$

Proper since  $1 \in c$  would imply  $1 \in \alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{J} \Leftrightarrow$

By construction  $\alpha \subseteq c \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{J}$ ,

i.e.  $c \in I$  is an upper bound for  $\mathcal{J}$ .  $\square$

Cor. Any proper ideal  $\alpha \subsetneq R$  is contained in a maximal one.

Pf. Consider  $\pi: R \rightarrow R/\alpha$ .

Let  $\tilde{m} := \pi^{-1}(m)$  for any  $m \in \text{Spm}(R/\alpha)$ .  $\square$   
 $\Rightarrow \tilde{m} \in \text{Spm}(R) \quad \& \quad \alpha \subseteq \tilde{m}$ .

Caution: For arbitrary ring homomorphisms  $f: R \rightarrow S$  and  $m \in \text{Spm}(S)$  usually  $\tilde{f}^{-1}(m) \notin \text{Spm}(R)$ ,  
think of  $f: \mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  and  $m = (0) \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Q} \dots$

But still get prime ideals:

Lemma.  $\text{Spec}(-)$  is a functor on rings:

Any ring homom.  $f: R \rightarrow S$  induces a

map  $\text{Spec}(S) \xrightarrow{\psi} \text{Spec}(R)$   
 $\wp \longmapsto f^{-1}(\wp)$

and these are compatible with composition.

Pf. For  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(S)$ ,

have

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 R & \xrightarrow{f} & S \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 R/\mathfrak{f}^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) & \xhookrightarrow{\exists!} & S/\mathfrak{p} \\
 \uparrow \text{monomorphism} & & \leftarrow \text{integral domain because } \mathfrak{p} \text{ prime}
 \end{array}$$

$\because \mathfrak{f}^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) = \ker(R \rightarrow S/\mathfrak{p})$

Subrings of integral domains are integral domains  
 $\Rightarrow R/\mathfrak{f}^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})$  integral domain  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{f}^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})$  prime.  $\square$

Thus: Rather than  $\text{Spn}(R)$ ,  
 should use  $\text{Spec}(R)$  to do geometry!

Def (a) For ideals  $\mathfrak{a}_i \subseteq R$  ( $i \in I$  ← any index set,  
 may be infinite)

put

$$\sum_{i \in I} \mathfrak{a}_i := \left\{ \sum_{i \in I} a_i \mid a_i \in \mathfrak{a}_i, \text{ almost all zero} \right\}$$

$=$  smallest ideal containing each  $\mathfrak{a}_i$ .

(b) For  $\mathfrak{a}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{a}_n \subseteq R$  put

$\mathfrak{a}_1 \dots \mathfrak{a}_n :=$  ideal generated by the products  
 $a_1 \dots a_n$  with  $a_i \in \mathfrak{a}_i$ .

Lemma.  $\exists!$  topology on the set  $\text{Spec}(R)$

whose closed sets are the subsets

$$\text{Spec}(R/\alpha) \subseteq \text{Spec}(R) \text{ for } \alpha \subseteq R.$$

Pf.

① For  $\alpha \subseteq R$  the map  $\pi: R \rightarrow R/\alpha$  induces an injective map  $\text{Spec}(R/\alpha) \hookrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$

$$\uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$\alpha \qquad \qquad \qquad \pi^{-1}(\alpha)$$

because  $\mathfrak{p} = \pi(\pi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}))$ .

Denote by

$$V(\alpha) := \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid \alpha \subseteq \mathfrak{p} \} \text{ its image,}$$

and declare these subsets to be closed.

② Clearly  $\text{Spec}(R) = V((0))$  and  $\emptyset = V((1))$  are closed.

③ Arbitrary intersections of closed subsets are closed:

$$\alpha_i \subseteq R \quad (i \in I)$$

$$\Rightarrow \bigcap_{i \in I} V(\alpha_i) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid \alpha_i \subseteq \mathfrak{p} \ \forall i \} = V(\alpha)$$

$$\text{for } \alpha := \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i.$$

③ Finite unions of closed subsets are closed:

$$\alpha, \beta \in R$$

$$\Rightarrow V(\alpha) \cup V(\beta) = \{ p \in \text{Spec } R \mid \alpha \subseteq p \text{ or } \beta \subseteq p \}$$

$$= \{ p \in \text{Spec } R \mid \alpha \cdot \beta \subseteq p \} = V(\alpha \cdot \beta).$$

" $\subseteq$ " obvious

" $\supseteq$ " uses that  $p$  is prime:

$$\begin{aligned} a \in \alpha \setminus p &\Rightarrow ab \in \alpha \cdot \beta \setminus p \\ b \in \beta \setminus p \end{aligned}$$

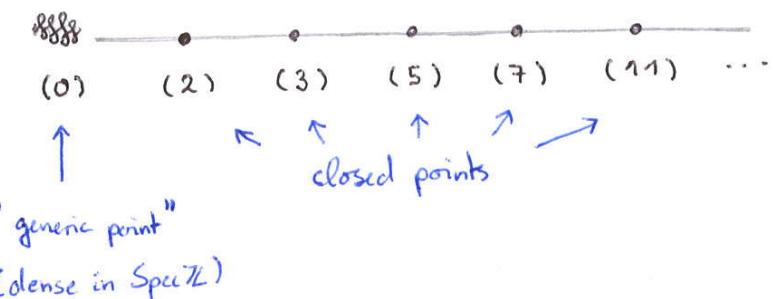
□

The above topology is called the Zariski topology.

Rmk. (a) We recover  $\text{Spm}(R) \subseteq \text{Spec}(R)$  as the set of closed points in the Zariski topology (exercise). Thus using primes rather than maximal ideals leads to non-closed points (see pictures below)!

(b) The Zariski topology is not Hausdorff, e.g. any proper closed subset of  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$  is finite!

Ex. (a)  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ :



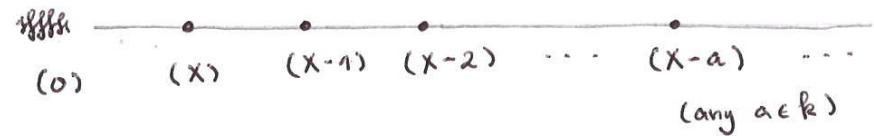
(b)  $\text{Spec } k[X]$ ,  $k$  a field:

Maximal ideals are all of the form  $(f(X))$

w/  $f \in k[X]$  irreducible,

and the only non-maximal prime ideal is  $(0)$   
(use that  $k[X]$  is a PID).

If  $k$  is alg. closed, then any irreducible polynomial has the form  $f(X) = c \cdot (X - a)$  w/  $a \in k$ ,  $c \in k^*$  and we get the affine line:



These are "1-dimensional" examples,  
similar picture for  $\text{Spec } R$  when  $R$  is any Dedekind  
domain (in case you know this from number theory).

Let's go one dimension up:

Ex  $\text{Spec } k[X, Y]$  and  $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[Y]$ :

Let  $A = k[X]$  or  $A = \mathbb{Z}$  (or any other PID),  
then we have

Lemma. All prime ideals in  $R = A[Y]$  are of the  
following form:

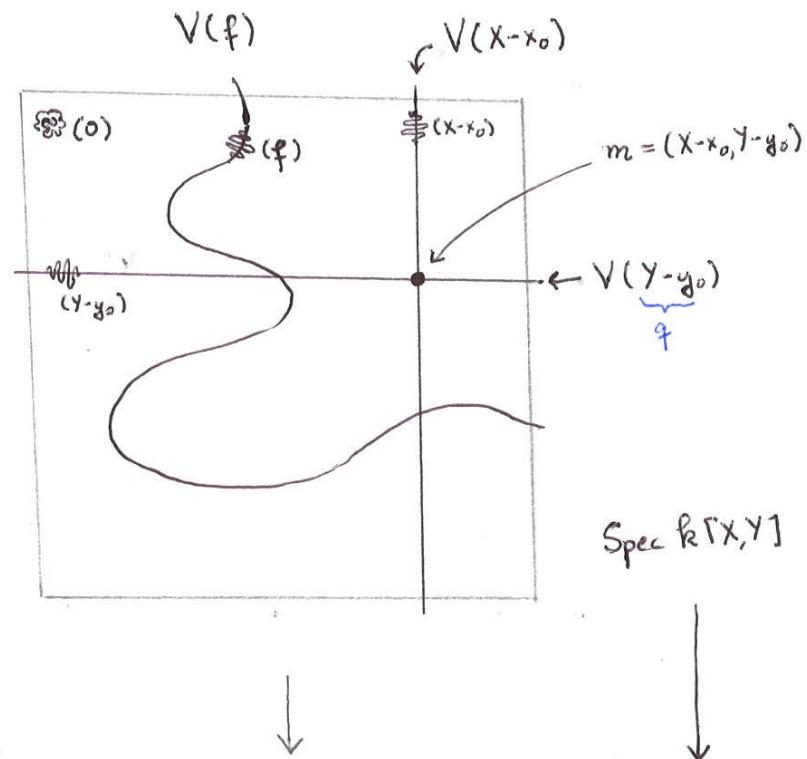
- $(0)$
- $(f)$  for irreducible  $f \in R$
- maximal ideals  $m = (p, q)$

where  $p \in A$  is irreducible in  $A$ ,  
 $q \in R = A[Y]$  is a polynomial  
whose reduction  $\bar{q} \in (A/(p))[Y]$  is  
irreducible.

78!

Note: For  $R = k[X, Y]$  with  $k$  algebraically closed,  
these maximal ideals have the form  $m = (X - x_0, Y - y_0)$   
with  $x_0, y_0 \in k$ , so we get the affine plane.

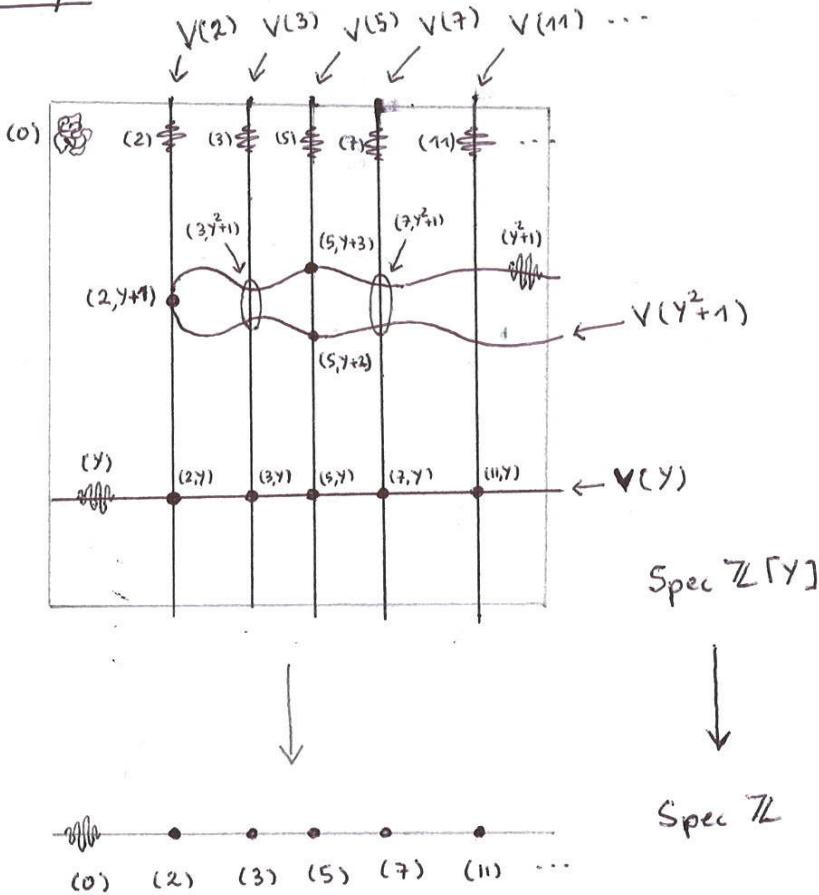
Picture:



⇒ get 3 types of points:  
 \* closed points  $(X - x_0, Y - y_0)$   
 \* a "big generic point"  $(0)$   
 \* for each curve  $V(f)$  a generic pt  $(f)$  on that curve

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Similarly:



Note the different types of fibers for  $V(y^2+1) \rightarrow \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$y^2+1 = (y+1)^2 \text{ in } \mathbb{F}_2[\mathbb{Y}],$$

$$y^2+1 \text{ irreducible in } \mathbb{F}_3[\mathbb{Y}],$$

$$y^2+1 = (y+2)(y+3) \text{ in } \mathbb{F}_5[\mathbb{Y}], \dots$$

Pf of the lemma.

$A$  a PID

$R = A[\mathbb{Y}] \hookrightarrow K[\mathbb{Y}]$  where  $K = \text{Quot}(A)$   
(quotient field)

$f \in \text{Spec}(R)$

wlog not a principal ideal

$\Rightarrow \exists f_1, f_2 \in f$  which do not have any common divisor in  $R$  (except units)

Gauss' lemma Then  $f_1, f_2$  don't have any common divisor in  $K[\mathbb{Y}]$  (except units)

$\Rightarrow$  Since  $K[\mathbb{Y}]$  is a PID,

we get  $(f_1, f_2) = (1) \cong K[\mathbb{Y}]$ ,

i.e.  $a_1 f_1 + a_2 f_2 = 1$  for some  $a_i \in K[\mathbb{Y}]$

$\Rightarrow$  Since  $K = \text{Quot}(A)$ , we can find  $c \in A \setminus \{0\}$

with  $c_i := c \cdot a_i \in A[\mathbb{Y}] \subseteq K[\mathbb{Y}]$

for  $i = 1, 2$ .

$$\Rightarrow c = c_1 f_1 + c_2 f_2 \in \mathfrak{f} \cap A$$

hence  $\mathfrak{f} \cap A \neq (0)$

$\Rightarrow$  Since  $A$  is a PID,

$\exists$  irreducible  $p \in A$  with  $\mathfrak{f} \cap A = (p)$   
and  $A/(p)$  is a field

Put  $\bar{\mathfrak{f}} := \text{image } (\mathfrak{f}) \triangleq \underbrace{(A/(p))[\gamma]}_{\text{this is a PID}}$

$\Rightarrow \bar{\mathfrak{f}}$  principal ideal  $\neq (0)$  and prime,  
ie.  $\bar{\mathfrak{f}} = (\bar{q})$  for some irreducible

$$\bar{q} \in (A/(p))[\gamma]$$

$\Rightarrow$  Can take  $q := (\text{any lift of } \bar{q}) \in A[\gamma]$ .



### 3. More on PID and UFD

Let  $A$  be an integral domain.

For  $a, b \in A$  we say  $a$  divides  $b$  (notation  $a|b$ )  
if  $b = ac$  for some  $c \in A$ .

What are the analogs of prime numbers in  $A$ ?

Def We say  $a \in A \setminus (A^* \cup \{0\})$  is

- prime if  $a|bc$  implies  $a|b$  or  $a|c$ ,
- irreducible if it can't be written as  $a = bc$   
with  $b, c \notin A^*$ .

Rem • prime  $\Rightarrow$  irreducible,

indeed: If  $a = bc$  is prime

then wlog  $a|b$ , say  $b = ad$ ,

ie  $a = adc$  and so  $a \cdot (1 - cd) = 0$ ,  
whence  $cd = 1$  (integral domain!), so  $c \in A^*$ .

• Converse fails in general,

$$\text{eg. } (1+\sqrt{-5})(1-\sqrt{-5}) = 2 \cdot 3 \quad \text{in } A = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$$

irreducible but  
not prime in  $A$

Def A is a unique factorization domain (UFD)  
 if every  $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$  can be written as a  
 finite product  $a = u \cdot p_1 \cdots p_n$  (\*)  
 with a unit  $u \in A^*$  and prime elements  $p_i \in A$ .

Rem

- The def<sup>n</sup> of "prime" implies that the prime factorization (\*) is unique up to reordering the factors and multiplying them by units.
- In a UFD we have irreducible  $\Leftrightarrow$  prime.  
 In particular, in the definition of UFD it's not enough to assume the  $p_i$  irreducible (see previous example).

Prop Euclidean  $\Rightarrow$  PID  $\Rightarrow$  UFD.

Pf. a) Assume A Euclidean,  
 i.e.  $\exists N: A \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall a, b \in A \setminus \{0\}$ ,

- $N(a) \leq N(ab)$
- $\exists q, r \in A: a = qb + r$   
 where  $r = 0$  or  $N(r) < N(b)$ .

Given  $a \in A$ , pick  $b \in A \setminus \{0\}$  with  $N(b)$  minimal,  
 then  $(a) = (b)$  (exercise).

(b) Assume A is a PID.

Claim 1: Then irreducibles are prime.

Indeed, let  $a \in A$  irreducible and  $a \mid bc$ .

Being irreducible, a has no proper divisors,  
 and since A is a PID, we get that  $(a) \trianglelefteq A$  is maximal.

Then:

- either  $(a, b) = (a) \Rightarrow b \in (a)$   
 $\Rightarrow a \mid b$
- or  $(a, b) = (1) \Rightarrow \exists r, s \in A: ar + bs = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow c = a \cdot rc + bc \cdot s$   
 $\Rightarrow a \mid c$

thus a is prime.

Claim 2: Any  $a \in A \setminus (A^* \cup \{0\})$  is a finite product of irreducibles.

Indeed, in a PID we have: " $a$  reducible  $\Leftrightarrow (a) \trianglelefteq A$  not maximal,"  
 so if the claim fails we can find an infinite chain  $(a_1) \subsetneq (a_2) \subsetneq \dots \trianglelefteq A$  of ideals.

Put  $a_1 := \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (a_n) \trianglelefteq A$ , again an ideal!

$\xrightarrow[\text{PID}]{} a_1 = (a)$  for some  $a \in \text{Ob}$

But then  $a \in (a_n)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

so  $(a_n) = (a_{n+1}) = (a_{n+2}) = \dots = (a)$   $\checkmark$

□

Rem. • In general UFD  $\not\Rightarrow$  PID  $\not\Rightarrow$  Euclidean.

• The above has shown that in a PID,  
any ascending chain of ideals stabilizes.

Such rings are called Noetherian and will be  
discussed in detail later.

Goal for the rest of this section:

$A \text{ UFD} \Rightarrow A[X] \text{ UFD}$

(this is NOT true for PIDs;

think of  $A = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(2, X) \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Z}[X] \dots$ )

Def We say  $d \in A$  is a greatest common divisor (gcd)  
of  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$  if

- $d | a_i \forall i$
- any  $e$  with  $e | a_i \forall i$  satisfies  $e | d$ .

In a UFD any  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$  have a gcd,  
which is unique up to multiplication by a unit  
and we denote by  $\text{gcd}(a_1, \dots, a_n) \trianglelefteq A$  the ideal  
it generates.

Def Let  $A$  be a UFD.

The content of  $f \in A[X]$  is the ideal

$$c(f) := \text{gcd}(\text{coefficients of } f) \trianglelefteq A.$$

We say  $f$  is primitive if  $c(f) = (1)$ .

Gauss' lemma For any  $f, g \in A[X]$ ,

$$c(fg) = c(f)c(g).$$

In particular:

$fg$  primitive  $\Leftrightarrow f$  and  $g$   
both primitive.

Pf. Put  $c(f) =: (d)$   
 $c(g) =: (e)$  with  $d, e \in A$

$\Rightarrow f = df_0$   
 $g = eg_0$  with  $f_0, g_0 \in A[X]$  primitive

Replacing  $f$  by  $f_0$   
 $g$  by  $g_0$  can assume wlog  $f, g$  primitive.

If  $fg$  were not primitive,

$\exists$  prime  $p \in A$  with  $p \mid fg$ .

$\Rightarrow$  the reductions  $\bar{f}, \bar{g} \in \underbrace{A/(p)}_{\text{integral domain!}}[X]$

satisfy  $\bar{f}\bar{g} = \bar{fg} = 0$  in  $A/(p)[X]$

(because  $p$  is prime in  $A$ )

$\Rightarrow \bar{f} = 0$  or  $\bar{g} = 0$

$\Rightarrow p \mid f$  or  $p \mid g$ ,

i.e.  $f$  or  $g$  not primitive

□

Cor: Let  $A$  be a UFD and  $K = \text{Quot}(A)$ .

If  $f \in A[X]$  has degree  $> 0$  and is  
reducible in  $K[X]$ , then also in  $A[X]$ .

Pf. Wlog  $f$  primitive (factor out  $c(f)$ ).

Assume  $f = f_1 f_2$  with  $f_i \in K[X]$ ,  $\deg f_i > 0$ .

Write  $f_i = c_i \cdot g_i$  with  $c_i \in K^*$   
 $g_i \in A[X]$  primitive.

$\Rightarrow f = c \cdot g_1 g_2$  with  $c := c_1 c_2$ .

A priori  $c \in K^*$ , we're done if we show  $c \in A^*$ .

Write  $c = \frac{a}{b}$  with  $a, b \in A \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$

$\Rightarrow bf = ag_1 g_2$

$\Rightarrow (b) = c(bf) = c(ag_1 g_2) = (a) \cdot c(g_1 g_2) \stackrel{(a)}{\uparrow}$

$f$  primitive

$g_1 g_2$  primitive  
by Gauss' lemma

$\Rightarrow (b) = (a)$ , i.e.  $c = \frac{a}{b} \in A^*$   
is a unit.

□

Rem In fact we have shown: For  $f \in A[X]$ ,  
if a primitive polynomial  $g \in A[X]$  divides  $f$  in  $K[X]$ ,  
then it does so already in  $A[X]$ .

Thus: If  $f_1, f_2 \in A[X]$  have no common divisor in  $A[X]$   
except units, then they also don't in  $K[X]$ ,  
as we used in the lemma of section 2.

Finally, let's summarize:

Thm Let  $A$  be a UFD and  $K = \text{Quot}(A)$ .

Then

- (a)  $A[X]$  is a UFD
- (b) its irreducible (= prime) elements are
  - constant polynomials  $f(X) \equiv c$   
with  $c \in A$  irreducible,
  - primitive polynomials  $f(X) \in A[X]$   
that are irreducible of  $\deg > 0$  in  $K[X]$ .

Pf. Given  $f \in A[X] \setminus (A^* \cup \{0\})$ ,  
factor it into irreducibles in  $K[X]$ .

Clearing denominators & using Gauss' lemma,  
we get a factorization of  $f$  as a product of elements  
described in (b), which are irreducible.

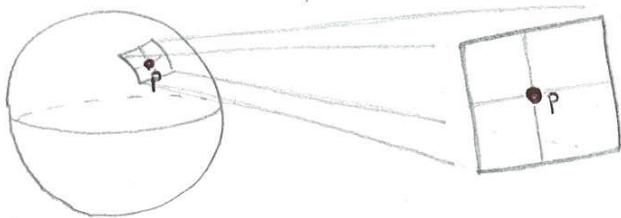
So it only remains to show that the elements in (b)  
are prime.

- $c \in A$  irreducible in  $A$  ( $\Rightarrow$  prime in  $A$   
since  $A$  is a UFD)
  - and  $c \mid fg$  in  $A[X]$
  - for  $f, g \in A[X]$
  - $\Rightarrow$  writing  $c(f) = (d)$   $c(g) = (e)$  we have  $c \mid de$  in  $A$
  - $\Rightarrow c \mid d$  or  $c \mid e$  because  $c \in A$  is prime
  - $\Rightarrow c \mid f$  or  $c \mid g$  in  $A[X]$
- $f \in A[X]$  primitive of  $\deg > 0$  & irreduc. in  $K[X]$   
with  $f \mid gh$  in  $A[X]$  for some  $f, g \in A[X]$ 
  - $\Rightarrow f \mid gh$  in the UFD  $K[X]$
  - but there  $f$  is prime
  - $\Rightarrow f \mid g$  or  $f \mid h$  in  $K[X]$
  - $\Rightarrow$  idem in  $A[X]$  by the previous remark,  
since  $f$  is primitive.

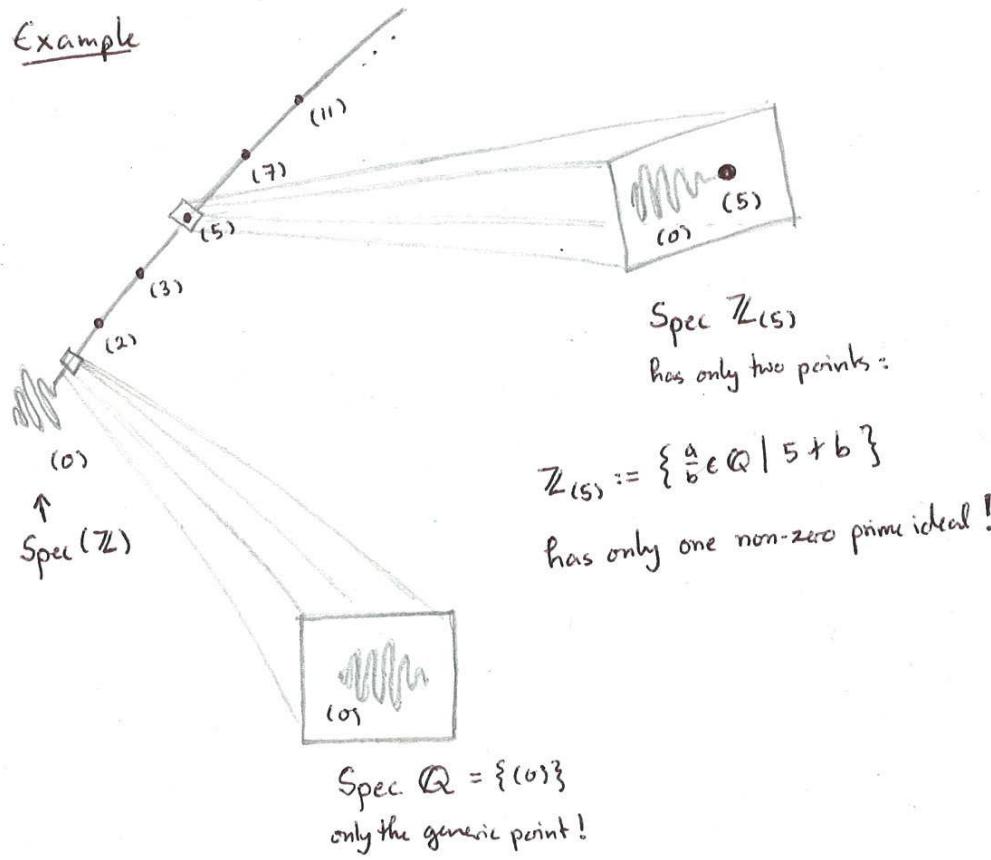


## 4. Localization (making life easy)

Idea: Simplify things by working "locally"



Example



Def A local ring is a ring  $R$  with a unique maximal ideal  $m \neq R$ . (ie  $\text{Spec } R$  contains a unique closed point)

Lemma Let  $R$  be a ring and  $m \neq R$  a proper ideal. Then TFAE:

a)  $R$  is local w/ maximal ideal  $m$ .

b)  $R \setminus m \subseteq R^*$

c)  $m \in \text{Spm}(R)$  and  $1+m \subseteq R^*$ .  
ii  
 $\{1+x \mid x \in m\}$

Pf. a  $\Leftrightarrow$  b:

$r \in R \setminus m \Rightarrow (r) \neq m$   
but then  $(r) = R$  by a)  
since  $m$  is the only max. ideal in  $R$

$\Rightarrow r \in R^*$  & converse is trivial

b  $\Rightarrow$  c:

$R \setminus m \subseteq R^* \Rightarrow m$  maximal.  
and  $\forall x \in m$ ,  $1+x \notin m$  (since  $1 \notin m$ ),  
so  $1+x \in R \setminus m \subseteq \overset{\uparrow}{R^*}$   
(b)

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (b):

$$r \in R \setminus m \Rightarrow m + (r) = (1) \text{ by maximality of } m$$

i.e.  $x + rs = 1$  for some  $x \in m, s \in R$

$$\Rightarrow rs = 1 - x \in 1 + m \subseteq \overset{\text{(c)}}{R^*} \quad \square$$

$$\Rightarrow r \in R^*$$

Ex • Any field  $k$  is a local ring with  $m = (0)$ .

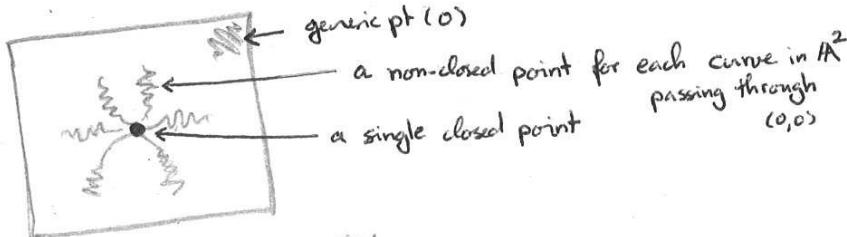
• Any discrete valuation ring (DVR),  
i.e. PID with a unique prime element (up to units),  
such as

$$\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} := \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} \mid p \nmid b \right\} \text{ for } p \text{ prime,}$$

$$k[X]_{(X)} := \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in k(X) \mid b(0) \neq 0 \right\}$$

for  $k$  a field,

$$k[X, Y]_{(X, Y)} := \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in k(X, Y) \mid b(0, 0) \neq (0, 0) \right\}$$



All these examples arise from a given ring  $A$  by inverting all elements of a subset  $S \subset A$ , namely

- $S = k \setminus \{0\} \subset k$
- $S = \mathbb{Z} \setminus (p) \subset \mathbb{Z}$
- $S = k[X] \setminus (X) \subset k[X]$
- $S = k[X, Y] \setminus (X, Y) \subset k[X, Y]$

More systematically:

Def By a multiplicative subset of a ring  $A$  we mean a submonoid  $S \subset (A, \cdot)$ , i.e. a subset  $S \subset A$  with  $\begin{cases} 1 \in S \\ st \in S \forall s, t \in S \end{cases}$

Want to invert those "as economically as possible":

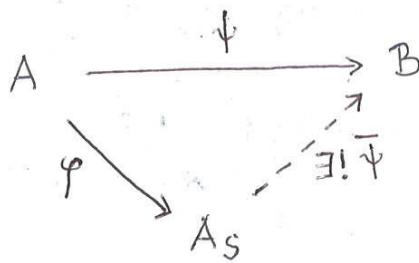
Thm Let  $A$  be a ring and  $S \subset A$  multiplicative.  
Then  $\exists$  a ring  $A_S$  with a natural homom.  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A_S$

s.t.

a)  $\varphi(S) \subset A_S^*$

b) any other ring homom.  $\psi: A \rightarrow B$  with  $\psi(S) \subset B^*$  factors uniquely over  $\varphi$ :

i.e.



Step 2: Put  $A_S := (A \times S)/\sim$  as a set.

For  $(a, s) \in A \times S$  put  $\frac{a}{s} := \text{"equivalence class of } (a, s) \text{ mod } \sim$ "

Claim:  $A_S$  is a ring with

$$\frac{a}{s} + \frac{b}{t} := \frac{at + bs}{st}$$

$$\frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} := \frac{ab}{st}.$$

Main point is to see these operations are well-defined:

$$\text{Let } \frac{a}{s} = \frac{a'}{s'} \text{ and } \frac{b}{t} = \frac{b'}{t'}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(as' - a's) = v(bt' - b't) = 0 \text{ with } u, v \in S \quad (*)$$

$$\Rightarrow [(at + bs) \cdot s't' - (a't' + b's') \cdot st] \cdot uv$$

$$= \underbrace{uas' \cdot tt'u}_{=ua's \text{ by } (*)} + \underbrace{vbt' \cdot ss'u}_{=vb't \text{ by } (*)} - ua's \cdot tt'u - vb't \cdot ss'u$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a}{s} + \frac{b}{t} = \frac{a'}{s'} + \frac{b'}{t'}$$

$$= 0$$

and

$$[abs't' - ab'st] \cdot uv$$

$$= \underbrace{uas' \cdot vbt'}_{(*)} - ua's \cdot vb't = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} = \frac{a'}{s'} \cdot \frac{b'}{t'}$$

OK!

Pf.

Intuitive idea:  $A_S = \left\{ \frac{a}{s} \mid a \in A, s \in S \right\}$

Step 1: Define a relation " $\sim$ " on the set  $A \times S$  by

$$(a, s) \sim (a', s') \iff t \cdot (as' - a's) = 0 \text{ for some } t \in S$$

Claim: This is an equivalence relation!

( $\Delta$  the extra factor  $t$  is needed for this if  $A$  has zero divisors ...)

• reflexive + symmetric: obvious (can take  $t = 1$ )

• transitive:

$$(a, s) \sim (a', s') \Rightarrow t \cdot (as' - a's) = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$(a', s') \sim (a'', s'') \Rightarrow t' \cdot (a's'' - a''s') = 0 \quad (**)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{ss''tt'}_{\in S} \cdot (as'' - a''s) = (s')^2 t \cdot (*) + ss''t \cdot (**) = 0.$$

OK!

Step 3: Define  $\varphi: A \rightarrow A_S$

$$\text{by } \varphi(a) := \frac{a}{1}.$$

$\Rightarrow$  this is a ring homomorphism:  $\begin{cases} \frac{a+b}{1} = \frac{a}{1} + \frac{b}{1} \\ \frac{ab}{1} = \frac{a}{1} \cdot \frac{b}{1} \end{cases}$

(Claim: Properties a) and b) hold.)

a) For  $a = s \in S$ ,  
 $\varphi(s) = \frac{s}{1} \in A_S^*$  w/ inverse  $s^{-1} = \frac{1}{s}$  (obvious),  
hence  $\varphi(S) \subset A_S^*$ .

b) Let  $\psi: A \rightarrow B$  be given with  $\psi(S) \subset B^*$ .

If  $\exists$  factorization  $\psi = \bar{\psi} \circ \varphi$ ,

necessarily

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\psi}\left(\frac{a}{s}\right) &= \bar{\psi}\left(\frac{a}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{s}\right) \\ &= \bar{\psi}\left(\frac{a}{1}\right) \cdot \bar{\psi}\left(\frac{1}{s}\right) \quad (\bar{\psi} \text{ homomorphism}) \\ &= \bar{\psi}(\varphi(a)) \cdot \bar{\psi}(\psi(s)^{-1}) \quad (\text{def'' of } \varphi) \\ &= \bar{\psi}(\varphi(a)) \cdot \bar{\psi}(\psi(s))^{-1} \quad (\bar{\psi} \text{ homomorphism}) \\ &= \psi(a) \cdot \psi(s)^{-1} \quad (\psi = \bar{\psi} \circ \varphi) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \bar{\psi}$  is unique (if it exists at all)

Existence:

Define  $\bar{\psi}\left(\frac{a}{s}\right) := \psi(a) \cdot \psi(s)^{-1}$   
using  $\psi(s) \in B^*$

Welldefined:

Let  $\frac{a}{s} = \frac{a'}{s'}$ , then  $t(as' - a's) = 0$  for some  $t \in S$

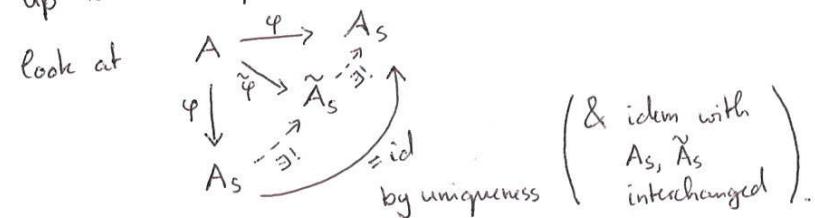
$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\psi(t)}_{\in B^*} \cdot \underbrace{(\psi(a) \cdot \psi(s') - \psi(a') \cdot \psi(s))}_{\in B^*} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi(a) \cdot \psi(s)^{-1} = \psi(a') \cdot \psi(s')^{-1} \quad \underline{\text{ok!}}$$

This  $\bar{\psi}$  is a ring homomorphism (obvious).  $\square$

Def / Rem. We call  $A_S$  the localization of  $A$  at  $S$   
and also denote it by  $S^{-1}A := A_S$ .

It is determined uniquely by the UMP a), b),  
up to iso: If  $\tilde{\psi}: A \rightarrow \tilde{A}_S$  also satisfies a), b),



Ex

1a) For any  $p \in \text{Spec}(A)$ ,

the subset  $S := A \setminus p$  is multiplicative.

By abuse of notation we put  $A_p := A_S$

e.g.  $A_{(0)} = \text{Quot}(A)$  for  $A$  integral domain,

$$\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} \mid p \nmid b \right\},$$

$$k[[x]] = \left\{ \frac{f}{g} \in k(x) \mid g(0) \neq 0 \right\}, \dots$$

1b) Similarly for families  $(p_i \in \text{Spec}(A))_{i \in I}$ ,

can consider  $S := A \setminus \bigcup_{i \in I} p_i = \bigcap_{i \in I} A \setminus p_i$

$$\text{e.g. } \mathbb{Z}_S = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} \mid p_i \nmid b \forall i \in I \right\}.$$

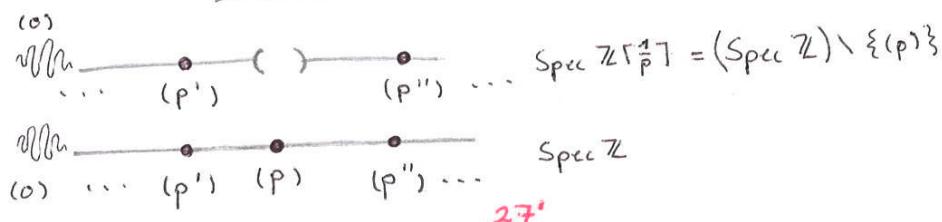
2a) For  $f \in A$  take  $S = \{f^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ .

By abuse of notation we put  $A_f := A[S] = A_S$ .

⚠ NEVER use this notation for  $A = \mathbb{Z}$  &  $f = p$ .  
For historic reasons  $\mathbb{Z}_p := (\text{completion of } \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}) \neq \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]$



these two are really  
opposite to each other...



2b) For families  $(f_i \in A)_{i \in I}$  put  $S :=$  monoid generated by the  $f_i$

= {finite products of elements  $f_i, i \in I$ }

Lemma In this case

$$A_S \simeq A[T_i \mid i \in I] / (1 - f_i T_i \mid i \in I)$$

where the  $T_i$  are formal variables.

Pf. Check universal property for the natural homom.

$$\varphi: A \rightarrow B := A[T_i \mid i \in I] / (1 - f_i T_i \mid i \in I).$$

a)  $\varphi(f_i) \in B^*$  since  $\varphi(f_i) \cdot T_i = 1$  in  $B$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(S) \subset B^*$$

b) Let  $\psi: A \rightarrow C$  with  $\psi(S) \subset C^*$ .

The universal property of polynomial rings says:

$$\forall c_i \in C \exists! \tilde{\psi}: A[T_i \mid i \in I] \rightarrow C$$

$$(i \in I) \quad \text{with } T_i \mapsto c_i.$$

Apply this to  $c_i := \psi(f_i)^{-1} \in C^*$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{\psi}: A[T_i \mid i \in I] \rightarrow C$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \nearrow & \searrow \\ & \exists! \tilde{\psi} & \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & B & \end{array}$$

since  $\ker(\tilde{\psi}) \supset 1 - f_i T_i \quad \forall i \in I$ .

□

⚠ Caution about zero divisors:

Lemma. Let  $A$  be a ring and  $S \subset A$  multiplicative.

$$(a) \ker(\varphi: A \rightarrow A_S) = \{a \in A \mid \exists s \in S : as = 0\}$$

$$(b) A_S = \{0\} \iff 0 \in S$$

$$(c) \varphi: A \xrightarrow{\sim} A_S \text{ iso} \iff S \subset A^*$$

Pf.

$$a) \varphi(a) = 0 \iff \frac{a}{1} = \frac{0}{1} \iff s \cdot \underbrace{(a \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 1)}_{=a} = 0 \text{ for some } s \in S$$

$$b) A_S = \{0\} \iff \frac{1}{1} = \frac{0}{1} \iff s \cdot 1 = 0 \text{ for some } s \in S \\ \text{ie } 0 \in S$$

$$c) " \Rightarrow " \text{ trivial since } \varphi(S) \subset A_S^*$$

" $\Leftarrow$ " if  $S \subset A^*$  then  $\tilde{\varphi} := \text{id}: A \rightarrow B := A$   
has the universal property of localization.  $\square$

Back to our geometric motivation for localization:

What about (prime) ideals?

Prop a) We have a natural map

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{proper ideals} \\ b \not\subseteq A_S \end{array} \right\} \hookrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ideals } \alpha \subseteq A \\ \text{with } S \cap \alpha = \emptyset \end{array} \right\}$$

$$b \longmapsto \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(b) =: \alpha,$$

which is injective with left inverse given by  
the map  $b = \alpha \cdot A_S \longleftarrow \alpha$

$$\text{i.e. we have } \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(b) \cdot A_S = b \quad \forall b \not\subseteq A_S.$$

b) On prime ideals this induces a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Spec}(A_S) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(A) \mid S \cap \mathfrak{p} = \emptyset \} \\ \mathfrak{p} &\longmapsto \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) =: \mathfrak{p}' \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{with inverse } \mathfrak{p}' := \mathfrak{p} \cdot A_S \longleftrightarrow \mathfrak{p},$$

$$\text{i.e. we also have } \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(\mathfrak{p} \cdot A_S) = \mathfrak{p}$$

$$\text{if } \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(A) \\ \text{with } \mathfrak{p} \cap S = \emptyset.$$

Pf.

a) Clearly  $\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(B) \trianglelefteq A$  is an ideal for any  $B \trianglelefteq A_S$ ,

and

$$\bullet \quad B = A_S \Rightarrow 1 = \frac{1}{1} \in B \Rightarrow 1 \in \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(B) = \alpha \Rightarrow S\alpha \neq \emptyset$$

$$\bullet \quad S\alpha \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists s \in S\alpha \Rightarrow \frac{s}{1} \in B \Rightarrow B = A_S$$

because  $\frac{s}{1} \in A_S^*$ .

thus

$$\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}: \{B \trianglelefteq A_S\} \rightarrow \{\alpha \trianglelefteq A \mid S\alpha = \emptyset\}.$$

Claim:

$$\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(B) \cdot A_S := \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{ideal of } A_S \text{ generated} \\ \text{by } \frac{a}{1} \text{ for } a \in \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(B) \end{array} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} B$$

Indeed " $\subseteq$ " obvious,

$$\text{for " $\supseteq$ " let } \frac{b}{s} \in B,$$

$$\text{then } \frac{b}{1} = \frac{s}{1} \cdot \frac{b}{s} \in B \Rightarrow b \in \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(B)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{b}{s} = \frac{b}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{s} \in \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(B) \cdot A_S \quad \underline{\text{OK!}}$$

b) Clearly  $\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(p) \in \text{Spec } A$  for  $p \in \text{Spec } A_S$ .

Conversely:

$$p \in \text{Spec } A \quad \left| \Rightarrow p \cdot A_S \in \text{Spec } A_S : \right.$$

$p \cap S = \emptyset$

Suppose  $\frac{a}{s}, \frac{b}{t} \in A_S$  and  $\frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} \in p \cdot A_S$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} = \frac{c}{u} \in A_S \text{ with } c \in p, u \in S$$

$$\Rightarrow (abu - cst) \cdot v = 0 \text{ in } A \text{ for some } v \in S$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 $c \in p \quad v \notin p$   
since  $p \cap S = \emptyset$

$$\Rightarrow abu \in p$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in p \text{ or } b \in p \quad (\text{since } u \notin p)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a}{s} \in pA_S \text{ or } \frac{b}{t} \in pA_S,$$

$$\text{ie } pA_S \in \text{Spec } A_S.$$

$$\text{Final claim: } \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(pA_S) = p.$$

Indeed " $\supseteq$ " obvious (without using that  $p$  is prime).

For " $\subseteq$ " let  $a \in \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(pA_S)$ ,

$$\text{then } \frac{a}{1} \in pA_S, \text{ say } \frac{a}{1} = \frac{b}{s} \text{ with } b \in p, s \in S$$

$$\Rightarrow t \cdot (sa - b) = 0 \text{ for some } t \in S$$

$$\Rightarrow sa - b \in p$$

$\underset{t \notin p}{\therefore} \quad \underset{b \in p}{\therefore} \quad \underset{s \notin p}{\therefore}$



Rem. The last step used that  $\mathfrak{p}$  was prime.

In general

$$\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l} A_S)$$

can be a strict inclusion if  $\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l}$  is not prime!

(unlike  $\mathfrak{b} = \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{b}) \cdot A_S$  which always holds).

e.g. this happens for

$$A = k[X, Y]$$

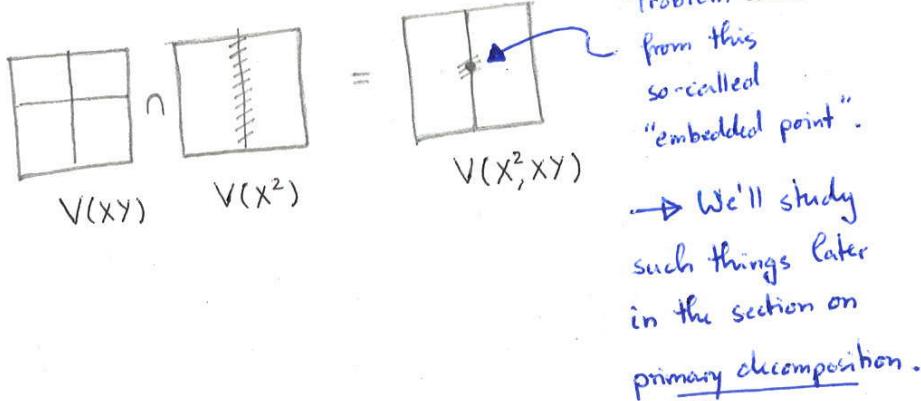
$$S = A \setminus (X)$$

$$\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l} = (X^2, XY) :$$

$$\text{Here } Y \in S \Rightarrow \frac{X}{Y} = \frac{XY}{Y} \in \mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l} A_S$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l} A_S) = (X) \overset{?}{=} \mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{l} = (X^2, XY)$$

Picture:



Back to prime spectra:

Cor. a) For  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A$ ,

the localization  $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is a local ring w/ maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{p} \cdot A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ .

b) For  $f \in A$ , one has

$$\text{Spec}(A_f) = D(f) := \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A \mid f \notin \mathfrak{p}\} \subseteq \text{Spec } A$$

Zariski-open  
(exercise)

Pf. a) Proposition says

$$\text{Spec } A_{\mathfrak{p}} = \{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec } A \mid \mathfrak{q} \cap (A \setminus \mathfrak{p}) = \emptyset\}$$

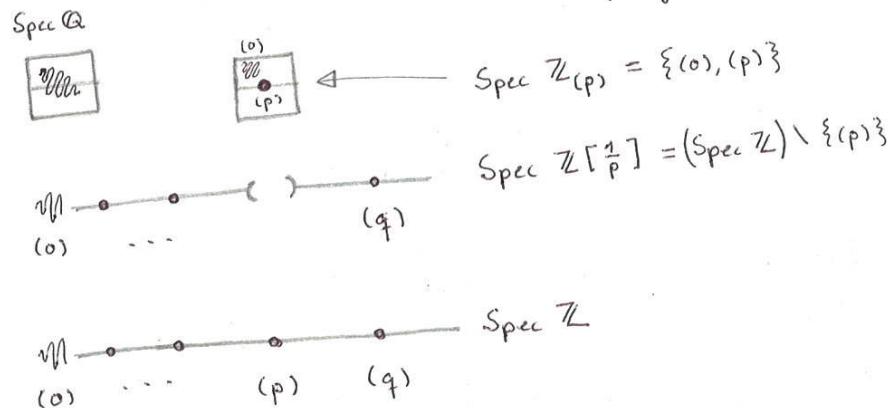
i.e.  $\mathfrak{q} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$

thus  $\mathfrak{p} \cdot A_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is the unique maximal ideal of  $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ .

$$\text{b) Similarly } \text{Spec } A_{\mathfrak{p}} = \{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec } A \mid \mathfrak{q} \cap \{f^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} = \emptyset\}$$

i.e.  $f \notin \mathfrak{p}$

□



## 5. Radicals

(Fun with zero functions)

Recall: Want to view  $R$  as a ring of "functions" on the "space"  $\text{Spm } R$ , or better  $\text{Spec } R$ , viewing  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$  as the ideal of functions vanishing at the corresponding point.

Q: What about functions vanishing everywhere ???

Def For a ring  $R$  we put

- $\text{Jac}(R) := \bigcap_{m \in \text{Spm}(R)} m$  "Jacobson radical"  
 $\uparrow$   
 $=$  functions vanishing at all closed points...
- $\text{Rad}(R) := \bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R} \mathfrak{p}$  "Nilradical / Radical"  
 $=$  functions vanishing at all points...

Ex 1)  $R = \text{DVR}$   
 $w/ \text{max. ideal } (\pi) \trianglelefteq R \Rightarrow \text{Jac}(R) = (\pi)$   
 $\text{Rad}(R) = (0)$

2)  $R = k[[t]]/(t^2) \Rightarrow \text{Spec } R = \{(\mathfrak{e})\}, \mathfrak{e} := t \bmod (t^2)$   
 $(k \text{ a field}) \Rightarrow \text{Rad } R = \text{Jac } R = (\mathfrak{e})$

3)  $\text{Jac}(R)$  is a max. ideal iff  $R$  is local.

Prop Let  $R$  be a ring.

- a)  $\text{Jac}(R) = \{a \in R \mid 1-ab \in R^* \ \forall b \in R\}$
- b)  $\text{Rad}(R) = \{a \in R \mid a^n = 0 \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$   
 $\uparrow$  "nilpotent elements"

Pf.

$$\begin{aligned} a) \subseteq & a \in \text{Jac}(R) \Rightarrow a \in m \ \forall m \in \text{Spm}(R) \\ & \Rightarrow 1-ab \notin m \ \forall m \in \text{Spm}(R) \\ & \quad \forall b \in R \\ & \Rightarrow 1-ab \in R^* \ \forall b \in R \\ & \text{(any non-unit lies in some max ideal} \\ & \quad \text{by Zorn's lemma}) \end{aligned}$$

$$a) \supseteq a \in R \setminus \text{Jac}(R)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \Rightarrow \exists m \in \text{Spm}(R) : a \notin m \\ & \Rightarrow (m, a) = (1), \text{ i.e. } 1 = x + ab \text{ with } x \in m \\ & \quad b \in R \\ & \Rightarrow 1-ab = x \in m, \\ & \quad \text{hence not a unit in } R. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b) \supseteq & a^n = 0 \Rightarrow a^n \in \mathfrak{p} \ \forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R \\ & \Rightarrow a \in \mathfrak{p} \text{ by defn of prime ideal,} \\ & \quad \forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R \\ & \Rightarrow a \in \text{Rad}(R) \end{aligned}$$

" $\subseteq$ "  $a^n \neq 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\Rightarrow S := \{a^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0\} \neq \emptyset$$

hence  $R_S \neq \{0\}$  by §4

Pick any  $\varphi \in \text{Spm}(R_S)$ ,

and put  $\varphi := \varphi^*(\varphi) \in \text{Spec}(R)$  for  $\varphi: R \rightarrow R_S$   
(the localization map).

$\Rightarrow a \notin \varphi$  because  $\varphi \cap S = \emptyset$  by §4

□

$\Rightarrow a \notin \text{Rad}(R)$

Why care about nilpotents?

Ex Inside  $\text{Spec } k[X]$  ( $k$  a field)

have the vanishing loci

$$V(X) = V(X^2) = V(X^3) = \dots = \{(X)\} \subset \text{Spec } k[X].$$

As sets they are all equal, because if  $\varphi \cong k[X]$  is prime, then  $X^n \in \varphi \Leftrightarrow X \in \varphi$

for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Aside: The quotient map  $k[X] \rightarrow k[X]/(X^n)$  sends a polynomial  $f$  to the first  $n$  terms of its Taylor expansion — so for  $n > 1$  it keeps more info than just the value  $f(0)$ . Intuitively we think of  $\text{Spec}(k[X]/(X^n))$  as an "infinitesimal thickening" of the origin in the affine plane, though as a topological space it is just a single point — need algebraic geometry (scheme theory) to make sense of this...

Q: How to get rid of this ambiguity?

Def A ring  $R$  is reduced if it has no nilpotents  $\neq 0$ , i.e. if  $\text{Rad}(R) = \{0\}$ .

Ex  $k[X]/(X^n)$  is reduced iff  $n = 1$ .

Def Let  $R$  be a ring. The radical of  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is defined as  $\sqrt{\alpha} := \{f \in R \mid f^n \in \alpha \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Ex.  $\sqrt{(0)} = \text{Rad}(R)$ . For  $R = k[X]$ ,  $\sqrt{(X^n)} = (X)$ .

Lemma Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ . Then

$$\sqrt{\alpha} = \bigcap_{\substack{p \in \text{Spec } R \\ \alpha \subseteq p}} p = \tilde{q}^{-1}(\text{Rad}(R/\alpha))$$

where  $q: R \rightarrow R/\alpha$  denotes the quotient map.

Cor. In particular,  $\sqrt{\alpha} \trianglelefteq R$  is an ideal.

Pf of the lemma.

$$\text{By def}^n \text{ Rad}(R/\alpha) = \bigcap_{\bar{p} \in \text{Spec } R/\alpha} \bar{p}$$

Now recall that  $\tilde{q}^{-1} = \{ \text{ideals of } R/\alpha \} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{ \text{ideals of } R \text{ containing } \alpha \}$   
 is an inclusion-preserving bijection,  
 and idem for "ideals" replaced by "prime ideals".

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \tilde{q}^{-1}(\text{Rad}(R/\alpha)) &= \tilde{q}^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{\bar{p} \in \text{Spec } R/\alpha} \bar{p}\right) \\ &= \bigcap_{\substack{\bar{p} \in \text{Spec } R/\alpha \\ \alpha \subseteq \bar{p}}} \tilde{q}^{-1}(\bar{p}) = \bigcap_{\substack{p \in \text{Spec } R \\ \alpha \subseteq p}} p. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} f \in \sqrt{\alpha} &\iff \exists n: f^n \in \alpha \\ &\iff \exists n: (q(f))^n = 0 \text{ in } R/\alpha \\ &\iff q(f) \in \text{Rad}(R/\alpha) \\ &\iff f \in \tilde{q}^{-1}(\text{Rad}(R/\alpha)). \end{aligned}$$

□

Geometric interpretation:

For any subset  $V \subset \text{Spec } R$  consider the ideal

$$J(V) := \bigcap_{p \in V} p = \text{"functions vanishing at all points of } V\text{"}$$

Similarly, for  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  we've put

$$V(\alpha) := \{ p \in \text{Spec } R \mid \alpha \subseteq p \} = \text{"vanishing locus of the ideal } \alpha\text{"}$$

The lemma says:

$$J(V(\alpha)) = \sqrt{\alpha},$$

i.e.: "The radical  $\sqrt{\alpha}$  is the ideal of all functions that vanish on all points of the Zariski closed subset  $V(\alpha) \subset \text{Spec } R$ ."

Upshot: The information about  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  captured by the subset  $V(\alpha) \subset \text{Spec } R$  is precisely the radical  $\sqrt{\alpha}$ .

Def We say that  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is a radical ideal if  $\alpha = \sqrt{\alpha}$  (i.e. if the ring  $R/\alpha$  is reduced).

Ex For any  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  the ideal  $\sqrt{\alpha}$  is a radical ideal.

Conclusion We have a bijective, inclusion-reversing correspondence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Zariski closed} \\ \text{subsets } V \subset \text{Spec } R \end{array} \right\} & \xleftrightarrow{1:1} & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{radical ideals} \\ \alpha \trianglelefteq R \end{array} \right\} \\ V & \longmapsto & J(V) \\ V(\alpha) & \longleftrightarrow & \alpha \end{array}$$

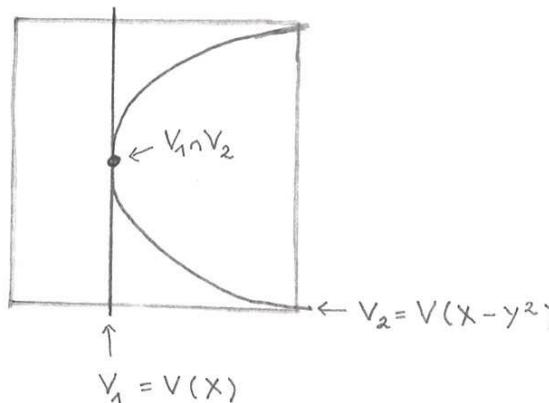
Ex For  $V_1, V_2 \subset \text{Spec } R$  Zariski-closed,

$$J(V_1 \cap V_2) = \sqrt{J(V_1) + J(V_2)}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Indeed: } p \in V_1 \cap V_2 &\iff J(V_1) \subseteq p \text{ and } J(V_2) \subseteq p \\ &\iff J(V_1) + J(V_2) \subseteq p \\ &\iff p \in V(J(V_1) + J(V_2)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and hence } V_1 \cap V_2 = V(J(V_1) + J(V_2)),$$

$$\text{so } J(V_1 \cap V_2) = \sqrt{J(V_1) + J(V_2)} \text{ by the lemma.}$$



$\text{e.g. } R = k[X, Y]$ $J(V_1) = (X)$ $J(V_2) = (X - Y^2)$ $J(V_1) + J(V_2) = (X, Y^2)$ $J(V_1 \cap V_2) = (X, Y)$
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Rem. In general it's NOT enough to look at  $\text{Spm } R$ :  
e.g. let  $R$  be a local integral domain but not a field, and let  $m \neq (0)$  be its max. ideal,

then

$$V_1 := V(m) = \{m\} \xrightarrow{\neq} V_2 := V((0)) \ni (0)$$

$$\text{but } V_1 \cap \text{Spm } R = \{m\} = V_2 \cap \text{Spm } R.$$

Working with maximal ideals only recovers the Jacobson

$$\underset{\text{radical}}{\text{Jac}}(\alpha) := \bigcap_{\substack{m \in \text{Spm } R \\ \alpha \subseteq m}} m \xrightarrow{\quad} \sqrt{\alpha} = \bigcap_{\substack{p \in \text{Spec } R \\ \alpha \subseteq p}}$$

inclusion can be strict!

As before we have

$$\text{Jac}(\alpha) = \bar{\varphi}^{-1}(\text{Jac}(R/\alpha))$$

for the quotient map  $\varphi: R \rightarrow R/\alpha$  (exercise)

A ring  $R$  is called Jacobson ring if  $\sqrt{\alpha} = \text{Jac}(\alpha)$   
for all  $\alpha \in R$ .

We'll see later:  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is Jacobson for any field  $k$   
( $\rightarrow$  Hilbert's Nullstellensatz).

Rem • The nilradical is important because of its universal property: For any reduced ring  $S$

$$\text{Hom}(R, S) = \text{Hom}(R^{\text{red}}, S)$$

where  $R^{\text{red}} := R/\text{Rad}(R)$  is the "biggest reduced quotient of  $R$ ".

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & S \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \exists! \bar{\varphi} \text{ if } S \text{ is reduced} \\ & R^{\text{red}} & \end{array}$$

• The Jacobson radical will return later in  
"Nakayama's lemma" ( $\S 7$ ).

## 6. Modules

(Linear algebra over a ring)

Let  $R$  be a ring.

Def A module over  $R$  (or an  $R$ -module)  
is an abelian grp  $(M, +)$  with a  
map  $R \times M \rightarrow M$ ,  $(r, m) \mapsto r \cdot m$  ("scalar  
multiplication")

which is

- unital:  $1 \cdot m = m$
- associative:  $a \cdot (b \cdot m) = (ab) \cdot m$
- distributive:  $(a+b) \cdot m = a \cdot m + b \cdot m$   
 $a \cdot (m+n) = a \cdot m + a \cdot n$

$\forall a, b \in R, m, n \in M$ .

Ex •  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules = abelian groups

- if  $k$  is a field,

$k$ -modules = vector spaces over  $k$ .

- any ring  $R$  is a module over itself via multiplication.

- for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have the free  $R$ -module of rank  $n$

$M = R^n$  with  $a \cdot (r_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} := (ar_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$   
for  $a \in R$ ,  $(r_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \in R^n$ .

Def We denote by  $\text{Mod}(R)$  the category of  $R$ -modules,

with

- objects: the  $R$ -modules  $M$

- morphisms: the homomorphisms of  $R$ -modules,  
i.e. maps  $f: M \rightarrow N$  that are  $R$ -linear =

$$f(a \cdot m) = a \cdot f(m)$$

$$f(m_1 + m_2) = f(m_1) + f(m_2)$$

$$\forall a \in R$$

$$\forall m, m_1, m_2 \in M.$$

Notation:  $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) := \{ f: M \rightarrow N \text{ homom. of } R\text{-modules} \}.$

As usual, by a mono- / epi- / isomorphism of  $R$ -modules we mean a homomorphism that is injective / surjective / bijective.

By a submodule of  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  we mean a subgroup  $N \subseteq M$  s.t.  $a \cdot n \in N \quad \forall a \in R, n \in N$ .

( $\Rightarrow N \in \text{Mod}(R)$  and the inclusion  $N \hookrightarrow M$  is a monomorphism of  $R$ -modules).

Ex The submodules of  $R$  are precisely its ideals.

Note: If  $R$  is not a PID, then these usually cannot be generated by a single element (unlike  $R = R \cdot 1$ ).  
(as an  $R$ -module)

Ex For any  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  we have the torsion submodule

$$M_{\text{tors}} := \{ m \in M \mid am = 0 \text{ for some } a \in R \setminus \{0\} \} \hookrightarrow M.$$

Any isomorphism of  $R$ -modules  $f: M \xrightarrow{\sim} N$  restricts to  $f: M_{\text{tors}} \xrightarrow{\sim} N_{\text{tors}}$ . In particular:

$M_{\text{tors}} \neq \{0\} \Rightarrow M$  is not isomorphic to a free  $R$ -module

(e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  not free as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.)

$\Delta$  Converse " $\Leftarrow$ " fails in general:

Lemma. Let  $R$  be an integral domain.

Then an ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ , viewed as an  $R$ -submodule, is a free  $R$ -module iff it is a principal ideal.

Pf. " $\Rightarrow$ " Suppose  $\exists$  index set  $I$  with iso  $\varphi: R^I \xrightarrow{\sim} \alpha$  as  $R$ -modules.

$\nexists |I| > 2$ , pick  $i \neq j \in I$ . Put  $a_i := \varphi(e_i) \in \alpha$   
 $a_j := \varphi(e_j) \in \alpha$   
 $\uparrow$   
( $e_i, e_j$ : standard basis vectors in  $R^I$ )

Then  $a_i a_j - a_j a_i = 0$  ( $R$  is commutative)

but  $\tilde{\varphi}(a_i a_j - a_j a_i) = a_i \cdot e_j - a_j \cdot e_i$  ( $\tilde{\varphi}$  is  $R$ -linear)  
 $\neq 0$  ( $R^I$  is free as an  $R$ -module  
and  $i \neq j$ )  
 $\checkmark$

So we must have  $|I| = 1$ ,

i.e.  $\varphi: R \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{or}$  as an  $R$ -module.

$\Rightarrow \text{or} = R \cdot a$  for  $a := \varphi(1)$ ,

i.e.  $\text{or} = (a)$  is a principal ideal.

" $\Leftarrow$ " Assume  $\text{or} = (a) \trianglelefteq R$  principal.

Consider  $\varphi: R \rightarrow \text{or}$   
 $b \mapsto b \cdot a$ .

This is an epimorphism but also mono since  $R$  is an integral domain!



Slogan: The more complicated a ring is,  
the richer is its theory of modules!

Like for ideals we can take quotients:

Def For  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  and a submodule  $N \subseteq M$ ,  
put

$$m_1 \equiv m_2 \pmod{N} \iff m_1 - m_2 \in N.$$

We endow

$$M/N := \{m \pmod{N} \mid m \in M\}$$

with the  $R$ -module structure

$$(m_1 \pmod{N}) + (m_2 \pmod{N}) := (m_1 + m_2 \pmod{N})$$

$$a \cdot (m \pmod{N}) := (am \pmod{N})$$

$$\forall a \in R, m_1, m_2, m \in M,$$

i.e. the unique  $R$ -module structure s.t. the quotient

map  $\pi: M \xrightarrow{\pi} M/N$  is a homomorphism of  $R$ -modules.

NB Can recover the submodule as  $N = \ker(\pi)$ ,  
where for any  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M')$  we define  
the kernel by

$$\ker(f) := \{m \in M \mid f(m) = 0\} \hookrightarrow M.$$

$\Rightarrow$  submodules = kernels of module homomorphisms,  
and we have:

Lemma. Let  $N \hookrightarrow M$  be an  $R$ -submodule.

Then  $\forall f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M')$  with  $N \subseteq \ker(f)$ ,

$\exists!$  factorization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{f} & M' \\ \pi \downarrow & \nearrow \exists! \bar{f} & \\ M/N & & \end{array}$$

Moreover,  $\bar{f}$  monomorphism  $\Leftrightarrow N = \ker(f)$ .

□

Pf. Same as for ideals.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{NB } \{ \text{Submodules of } M/N \} & \xleftrightarrow{1:1} & \{ \text{Submodules of } M \text{ containing } N \} \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ M'/N & \longleftrightarrow & M' \text{ with } M' \supseteq N \end{array}$$

Def For  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M')$  put  $\text{im}(f) := \{f(m) \mid m \in M\} \hookrightarrow M'$   
(the image of  $f$ )

$\Rightarrow \exists$  natural factorization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{f} & M' \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M/\ker(f) & \xrightarrow[\exists!]{} & \text{im}(f) \end{array}$$

Rem. This can be formalized  
in the abstract notion  
of an "abelian category",  
of which  $\text{Mod}(R)$  is  
the prototypical example.

How to get new modules from a given one?

Ex Let  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ .

- For any  $m \in M$   
we have a submodule  $Rm := \{a \cdot m \mid a \in R\} \hookrightarrow M$ .

- More generally, for  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$   
put  $Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n := \left\{ \sum_i a_i m_i \mid a_i \in R \right\} \hookrightarrow M$ .

Such submodules are called finitely generated.

We say  $M$  is finitely generated if  $M = Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n$   
for suitable  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$ .

- For any family of submodules  $M_i \hookrightarrow M$  ( $i \in I$ )  
their sum / intersection

$$\sum_{i \in I} M_i := \left\{ \sum_{i \in I} m_i \mid m_i \in M_i \text{ almost all zero} \right\} \hookrightarrow M$$

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} M_i = \{m \in M \mid m \in M_i \forall i\} \hookrightarrow M$$

are submodules.

Rem. In the sum  $\sum_{i \in I} M_i \hookrightarrow M$

the submodules  $M_i \hookrightarrow M$  needn't be  
"linearly independent over  $R$ ",

as in linear algebra ("sum" vs "direct sum").

Thm Let  $M_i \in \text{Mod}(R)$  for  $i \in I$ .

a)  $\exists !$  R-module  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  (called the "direct sum" of the  $M_i$ )  
 ↑  
 (unique up to unique isomorphism)

with monomorphisms  $M_i \xrightarrow{\iota_i} \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$

sth for any  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_R\left(\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i, M\right) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \prod_{i \in I} \text{Hom}_R(M_i, M) \\ f &\longmapsto (f \circ \iota_i)_{i \in I}, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. any collection of  $f_i \in \text{Hom}_R(M_i, M)$  arises from a unique  $f \in \text{Hom}\left(\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i, M\right)$  as shown below:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_i & \xrightarrow{\iota_i} & \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \exists! f \\ & f_i & M \end{array}$$

b)  $\exists !$  R-module  $\prod_{i \in I} M_i$  (the "direct product" of the  $M_i$ )  
 with epimorphisms  $p_i : \prod_{i \in I} M_i \twoheadrightarrow M_i$  sth  $\forall M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_R\left(M, \prod_{i \in I} M_i\right) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \prod_{i \in I} \text{Hom}_R(M, M_i) \\ g &\longmapsto (p_i \circ g)_{i \in I} \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{g} & \prod_{i \in I} M_i \\ \downarrow \exists! g & & \downarrow p_i \\ \prod_{i \in I} M_i & \xrightarrow{\pi_i} & M_i \end{array}$$

for any  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(M, \prod_{i \in I} M_i)$  (i.e.).

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Pf. Uniqueness follows from universal property,  
 so only need to check existence.

Put  $\prod_{i \in I} M_i := \{(m_i)_{i \in I} \mid m_i \in M_i\}$   
 $M_i \xleftarrow[\text{pr}]{} \prod_{i \in I} M_i$  (set-theoretic product of the  $M_i$ )

$M_i \xrightarrow[\text{incl.}]{} \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i := \{(m_i)_{i \in I} \mid m_i \in M_i \text{ almost all zero}\}$

Given  $g_i \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M_i) \quad \forall i \in I$ ,

define  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(M, \prod_{i \in I} M_i)$  by  $g(m) := (g_i(m))_{i \in I}$ .

infinitely many of  
 these may be  $\neq 0$   
 so we need  $\prod$   
 (not  $\bigoplus$ )

Given  $f_i \in \text{Hom}_R(M_i, M) \quad \forall i \in I$ ,

define  $f \in \text{Hom}_R\left(\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i, M\right)$

by  $f((m_i)_{i \in I}) := \sum_{i \in I} f_i(m_i)$  (sum inside  $M$ )

only finitely many  
 summands  $\neq 0$  since  
 we used  $\bigoplus$  (not  $\prod$ )

□

Ex Let  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ . For any  $m_i \in M$  ( $i \in I$ ) have an epimorphism

$$\begin{array}{c} \bigoplus_{i \in I} R \xrightarrow{\varphi} \sum_{i \in I} R \cdot m_i \subseteq M \\ (a_i)_{i \in I} \longmapsto \sum_{i \in I} a_i m_i. \end{array}$$

We call  $M$  a free  $R$ -module (generalizing our previous definition for the case of finite rank)

if the  $m_i$  can be chosen s.t.

- they generate  $M$  (ie  $\sum_{i \in I} Rm_i = M$ ), and
- they satisfy no  $R$ -linear relation (ie  $\ker \varphi = 0$ ),

i.e. s.t.

$$\varphi: \bigoplus_{i \in I} R \xrightarrow{\sim} M.$$

We then say the  $m_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) form a basis of the free  $R$ -module  $M$ .

Caution: Most modules are not free (unless  $R$  is a field) & most submodules are not direct summands (—), eg think of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule  $n\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  ( $n > 1$ ).

Such defects are studied in "homological algebra".

## 7. Tensor products (Multilinear algebra)

Let  $R$  be a ring.

Def For  $M, N, T \in \text{Mod}(R)$

a map  $M \times N \xrightarrow{f} T$  is  $R$ -bilinear

if  $\forall m \in M: f(m, \cdot) \in \text{Hom}_R(N, T)$   
 $\forall n \in N: f(\cdot, n) \in \text{Hom}_R(M, T)$ .

Thm Let  $M, N \in \text{Mod}(R)$ .

$\Rightarrow \exists !$   $R$ -module  $M \otimes_R N$  (called the "tensor product" of  $M$  and  $N$ )

w/ a bilinear map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \otimes: M \times N & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_R N \\ (m, n) & \longmapsto & m \otimes n \end{array}$$

over which any other bilinear map  $f: M \times N \rightarrow T$  factors uniquely:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{f} & T \\ & \searrow \otimes & \nearrow \exists! \bar{f} \\ & M \otimes_R N & \end{array}$$

Pf. Uniqueness clear by universal property.

Existence:

Put  $F := \bigoplus_{(m,n) \in M \times N} R$  the free  $R$ -module on the set  $M \times N$ ,

w/ basis vectors  $e_{m,n}$  indexed by  $(m,n) \in M \times N$ .

Its elements are finite sums  $\sum_{\substack{m \in M \\ n \in N}} a_{m,n} e_{m,n}$  w/  $a_{m,n} \in R$   
(almost all zero).

Let  $F_0 \hookrightarrow F$  be the  $R$ -submodule generated by all

elements

- $e_{m+m',n} - e_{m,n} - e_{m',n}$
  - $e_{m,n+n'} - e_{m,n} - e_{m,n'}$
  - $e_{am,n} - a \cdot e_{m,n}$
  - $e_{m,an} - a \cdot e_{m,n}$
- w/  $m, m' \in M$   
 $n, n' \in N$   
 $a \in R$ .

Put

$$M \otimes_R N := F/F_0,$$

and for  $(m,n) \in M \times N$  write  $m \otimes n := (e_{m,n} \text{ mod } F_0) \in M \otimes N$

$\Rightarrow$  The map  $M \times N \rightarrow M \otimes N$ ,  $(m,n) \mapsto m \otimes n$   
is  $R$ -bilinear by def<sup>n</sup> of  $F_0$ .

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Furthermore, any map  $f: M \times N \rightarrow T$  extends uniquely

to an  $R$ -linear map  $\tilde{f}: R^{M \times N} = F \rightarrow T$

via  $\tilde{f}(e_{m,n}) := f(m,n)$ , and we have:

$f$  is  $R$ -bilinear iff  $\tilde{f}|_{F_0} = 0$ ,

in which case  $\tilde{f}$  factors uniquely over  $M \otimes_R N = F/F_0$ .  $\square$

Rem 1) We simply write  $M \otimes N := M \otimes_R N$  when  $R$  is clear from the context.

3) the notation  $m \otimes n$  makes sense only if we specify  
the tensor product  $M \otimes_R N$  in which it should live:

e.g. take  $R = \mathbb{Z}$

$$M = \mathbb{Z} \supset N = 2\mathbb{Z} \ni 2$$

$$N = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \ni \bar{1}$$

$$2 \otimes \bar{1} = 1 \otimes 2\bar{1} = 0 \text{ in } M \otimes_R N$$

$$2 \otimes \bar{1} \neq 0 \text{ in } M' \otimes_R N.$$

then but  $\Rightarrow$  here the map  $M' \otimes N \xrightarrow{\text{incl.}} M \otimes N$  is NOT injective!

use part a)  
of the next lemma

$$4) \mathbb{Z}/2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/3 \cong \{0\}.$$

(hint:  $\gcd = mx + ny$   
with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \dots$ )

$$\text{In general, } \mathbb{Z}/m \otimes \mathbb{Z}/n \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Z}/\gcd(m,n) \xrightarrow{\cong} ab$$

(exercise)

$$\mathbb{Z}/m \times \mathbb{Z}/n \ni (a,b)$$

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2) Concretely, any element of  $M \otimes N$  can be written as  $\sum_{i=1}^n m_i \otimes n_i$  with  $m_i \in M, n_i \in N$ .

Usually we cannot achieve  $n=1$  though.

Elements of the form  $m \otimes n$  are called "elementary tensors" and satisfy

$$a \cdot (m \otimes n) = am \otimes n = m \otimes an$$

$$(m+m') \otimes n = m \otimes n + m' \otimes n$$

$$m \otimes (n+n') = m \otimes n + m \otimes n' \quad (\text{by def } n).$$

Lemma Let  $M, N, T \in \text{Mod}(R)$ , then  $\exists$  natural iso's

a) Unity:  $R \otimes_R M \xrightarrow{\sim} M, a \otimes m \mapsto am$

b) Commutativity:  $M \otimes_R N \xrightarrow{\sim} N \otimes_R M, m \otimes n \mapsto n \otimes m$

c) Associativity:

$$(M \otimes_R N) \otimes_R T \xrightarrow{\sim} M \otimes_R (N \otimes_R T), \\ (m \otimes n) \otimes t \mapsto m \otimes (n \otimes t).$$

Pf. a) Take  $R \times M \rightarrow M$   
 $(a, m) \mapsto am$

which is  $R$ -bilinear  
 $\Rightarrow$  factors over  $R \otimes_R M \xrightarrow{u} M$

with  $a \otimes m \mapsto am$ .

The map  $M \xrightarrow{v} R \otimes_R M$

$m \mapsto 1 \otimes m$  is  $R$ -linear with  $uv = \text{id}_M$   
and  $vu = \text{id}_{R \otimes_R M}$ .

b) Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{\text{flip}} & N \times M & \xrightarrow{\text{flip}} & M \times N \\ \otimes \downarrow & \searrow R\text{-bilinear} & \otimes \downarrow & \swarrow R\text{-bilinear} & \otimes \downarrow \\ M \otimes_R N & \dashrightarrow_{\exists! \alpha} & N \otimes_R M & \dashrightarrow_{\exists! \beta} & M \otimes_R N \end{array}$$

By uniqueness  $f \circ \alpha = \text{id}$ , similarly  $\alpha \circ f = \text{id}$ . □

c) Similar (exercise).

Rem. The properties a,b,c in the lemma (+various compatibilities) can be formalized in the abstract notion of a tensor category, including the following

Lemma. For  $M, M_i \in \text{Mod}(R)$  ( $i \in I$  any index family),  
 $\exists$  natural iso

$$(\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i) \otimes_R M \xrightarrow{\sim} \bigoplus_{i \in I} (M_i \otimes_R M)$$

("Distributivity").

Pf. Let  $i_i: M_i \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{j \in I} M_j$  be the inclusion

$$\Rightarrow i_i \otimes \text{id}: M_i \otimes_R M \rightarrow (\bigoplus_{j \in I} M_j) \otimes_R M$$

Sum over all  $i$ , using universal property of  $\bigoplus (\dots)$ :

Get natural map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i \otimes_R M & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \left( \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i \right) \otimes_R M \\ \downarrow \psi & & \\ (m_i \otimes m)_{i \in I} & \longleftarrow & (m_i)_{i \in I} \otimes m \end{array} \quad \text{by universal property of } \otimes$$

Check  $\psi\varphi = \text{id}$  and  $\varphi\psi = \text{id}$ ... (exercise).  $\square$

Rem. The analog for infinite products fails in general:

We have a canonical map

$$\psi: \left( \prod_{i \in I} M_i \right) \otimes_R M \longrightarrow \prod_{i \in I} M_i \otimes_R M$$

but it needn't be injective, e.g. for  $M_i := \mathbb{Z}/p^i\mathbb{Z}$   
nor surjective, e.g. for  $M_i := \mathbb{Z}$

where in both cases  $R := \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $I := \mathbb{N}$ ,  $M := \mathbb{Q}$   
(exercise)

## 8. Change of rings (more fun with tensors)

For a ring homomorphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  we have  
the "restriction of scalars" functor

$$f_*: \text{Mod}(B) \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(A)$$

where  $f_* N := N$  as an abelian gp

w/ scalar multiplication  $a \cdot n := f(a) \cdot n$   
 $\forall a \in A, n \in N$

Ex If  $f: A \hookrightarrow B$  is an embedding,  
then sometimes  $f$  is called "forgetful functor"  
since it forgets some of the structure,  
e.g.  $\text{Vect}(\mathbb{Q}) = \text{Mod}(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\mathbb{Z}) = \text{AbGps}$ .

Can we go back?

Given  $M \in \text{Mod}(A)$ , put  $f^* M := \underset{A}{\underset{\uparrow}{M \otimes B}}$  as abelian gp.

For  $b \in B$  have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times B & \xrightarrow{\text{A-bilinear}} & M \otimes_B B \\ (m, c) \mapsto m \otimes bc & & \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \exists! \text{id} \otimes b \text{-id} \\ & M \otimes_B B & \end{array}$$

thus defines a "scalar mult" by  $b$   
on  $f^* M$ !

$\Rightarrow$  get an "extension of scalars" functor

$$f^*: \text{Mod}(A) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(B).$$

Universal property:

Prop The functor  $f^*$  is left adjoint to  $f_*$ ,  
i.e.  $\exists$  natural iso

$$\text{Hom}_A(M, f_* N) \cong \text{Hom}_B(f^* M, N)$$

for all  $M \in \text{Mod}(A)$ ,  $N \in \text{Mod}(B)$ .

Pf. Given  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_A(M, f_* N)$  (i.e. an  $A$ -linear map  $\varphi: M \rightarrow N$ ),

consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times B & \xrightarrow{\text{A-bilinear!}} & N \\ (m, b) \mapsto b \cdot \varphi(m) & \nearrow \exists! \tilde{\varphi} & \downarrow \\ M \otimes_A B & & \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\varphi} \in \text{Hom}_B(f^* M, N)$ .

Conversely, given  $\tilde{\varphi}$  put  $\varphi := \tilde{\varphi} \circ \iota$  where  $\iota: M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$   
 $\qquad\qquad\qquad m \mapsto m \otimes 1$

$$\text{Hom}_A(M, f_* N)$$

These two assignments are mutually inverse.  $\square$

Ex For  $M \in \text{AbGps} = \text{Mod}(\mathbb{Z})$  &  $N \in \text{Vect}(\mathbb{Q}) = \text{Mod}(\mathbb{Q})$ ,

have

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{AbGps}}(M, N) \cong \text{Hom}_{\text{Vect}(\mathbb{Q})}(M \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}, N).$$

Ex For  $m \in \text{Spm}(A)$  w/ residue field  $\mathbb{F}_k := A/m$ ,  
the quotient map  $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_k$  induces

$$f_*: \text{Mod}(A) \rightarrow \text{Vect}(\mathbb{F}_k)$$

$\uparrow$   
(much easier to study!)

Ex For  $S \subset A$  a multiplicative subset &  $M \in \text{Mod}(A)$   
define the localization

$$M_S := (M \otimes S)/\sim \in \text{Mod}(A_S)$$

where

$$(m, s) \sim (m', s') \Leftrightarrow \exists t \in S : t \cdot (s'm - s'm') = 0 \text{ in } M,$$

with scalar multiplication

$$\frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{m}{t} := \frac{am}{st} \quad \text{for} \quad \frac{a}{s} \in A_S$$

$$\frac{m}{t} := ((m, t) \text{ mod } \sim) \in M_S,$$

then we have:

Lemma  $\exists$  natural iso  $M \otimes_A A_S \xrightarrow{\sim} M_S$ .

Pf.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times A_S & \xrightarrow{\text{A-bilinear}} & M_S \\ (m, \frac{a}{s}) \mapsto \frac{am}{s} & & \\ \otimes \searrow & \nearrow \exists! \psi & \\ M \otimes_A A_S & & \end{array}$$

Inverse:  $\psi: M_S \rightarrow M \otimes_A A_S, \frac{m}{s} \mapsto m \otimes \frac{1}{s}$

is well-defined:

$$\frac{m}{s} = \frac{m'}{s'} \text{ in } M_S \Rightarrow \exists t \in S: ts'm - tsm' = 0 \text{ in } M$$

$$\Rightarrow (m \otimes \frac{1}{s} - m' \otimes \frac{1}{s'}) \cdot \underbrace{sts'}_{\in A_S^*} = 0 \text{ in } M \otimes_A A_S$$

$$\Rightarrow m \otimes \frac{1}{s} - m' \otimes \frac{1}{s'} = 0 \text{ in } M \otimes_A A_S.$$

□

Rem. a)  $\ker(M \rightarrow M_S) = \{m \in M \mid \exists s \in S: sm = 0\}$ .  
 $m \mapsto \frac{m}{1}$

b) If  $f \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  is  $\begin{cases} \text{mono} \\ \text{epi} \\ \text{iso} \end{cases}$  then  $f_S \in \text{Hom}_{A_S}(M_S, N_S)$  is so.

Pf. a) obvious.

b) for "epi" this holds for any extension of coeff's functor.  
For "mono" assume  $f: M \hookrightarrow N$ . Let  $\frac{m}{s} \in M_S$  with  $f_S(\frac{m}{s}) = 0$ ,  
then  $\exists t \in S: t \cdot f(m) = 0$  in  $N$ , so  $tm \in \ker(f) = \{0\}$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{m}{s} = 0$  in  $M_S$ . □

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Upshot: For any  $p \in \text{Spec } A$  w/ localization  $A_p$   
& residue field  $k(p) := A_p / pA_p$ ,

coefficient extension gives functors

$$\text{Mod}(A) \xrightarrow{\otimes A_p} \text{Mod}(A_p) \xrightarrow{\otimes k(p)} \text{Vect}(k(p))$$

$\begin{matrix} \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \text{maybe hard} & \rightsquigarrow \text{easier} & \rightsquigarrow \text{very simple} \end{matrix}$

The localization functor keeps all information:

Lemma. The natural map  $M \hookrightarrow \prod_{m \in \text{Spm } A} M_m$  is injective.

In particular,  $M = 0$  iff  $M_m = 0 \forall m \in \text{Spm } A$ .

Pf. Assume  $x \in M$  maps to  $\frac{x}{1} = 0 \in M_m \forall m \in \text{Spm } A$ , i.e.

$\exists a_m \in A \setminus m$  s.t.  $a_m \cdot x = 0$  in  $M$ .

Note:  $\mathcal{O}_L := (a_m \mid m \in \text{Spm } A) \trianglelefteq A$  is not contained in any maximal ideal  $m_0 \in \text{Spm } A$ , since  $a_{m_0} \in \mathcal{O}_L$ .

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L = (1)$  and hence  $x = 1 \cdot x = 0$  in  $M$ . □

Q: What about the "quotient functor"

$$\text{Mod}(A_m) \rightarrow \text{Vect}(k(m))?$$

eg. does  $M \otimes k(m) \cong \{0\}$   
imply that  $M \cong \{0\}$ ?

(→ Nakayama's lemma)

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## 9. Nakayama's lemma

(the inverse function theorem  
in algebraic geometry)

Motivation: Suppose  $M, N \in \text{Mod}(R)$

$f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$  is  $\begin{cases} \text{mono} \\ \text{epi} \end{cases}$

$$\text{iff } \begin{cases} \ker(f) \cong 0 \\ \text{cok}(f) := N/\text{im}(f) \cong 0. \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Want a criterion for an  $R$ -module  
to be isomorphic to zero.

Def An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called cyclic if  $\exists m \in M$   
with  $M = R \cdot m$ . Then  $f: R \rightarrow M, a \mapsto am$   
is epi with  $\ker(f) = \text{Ann}(m) := \{a \in R \mid am = 0\} \trianglelefteq R$   
(the "annihilator of  $m$  in  $R$ ")

$\Rightarrow M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  is cyclic iff  $M \cong R/\alpha$   
for some  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ .

Note If  $M$  is cyclic and  $I \subseteq \text{Ann}(M) := \{a \in R \mid am = 0 \forall m \in M\}$   
is an ideal with  $I \cdot M = M$ ,

then  $M \cong \{0\}$  (obviously).

Lemma. Any finitely generated module  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ ,  $M \neq \{0\}$ ,  
has a non-zero cyclic quotient  $M \rightarrow Q \cong R/\alpha$ ,  
for some  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ .

Pf. Pick a set of generators  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$  with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$   
minimal ( $n > 0$  since  $M \neq \{0\}$ ).  
 $\Rightarrow N := Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_{n-1} \subsetneq M = Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n$   
 $\Rightarrow Q := M/N \neq \{0\}$   
but by construction  $Q = R \cdot \bar{m}_n$  for the image  $\bar{m}_n := m_n \bmod N$ .  $\square$

Rem Can assume  $\alpha = m \in \text{Spm } R$  is a maximal ideal  
after replacing  $Q$  by an even smaller quotient.

Ex For  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  the lemma says:

Any fin. gen. abelian grp  $M \neq \{0\}$   
admits a quotient  $M \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  for some prime  $p$ .

! Finite generation is essential here,  
eg. the group  $M = \mathbb{Q}$  has no quotient  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$   
( $\mathbb{Q}$  is a divisible grp while  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is not:  
the only element of the form  $x = p \cdot y$  w/  $y \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$   
is the zero element)

### Nakayama's Lemma (version I)

$M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  fin.gen.  
 $\& I \cdot M = M$   
 for some ideal  $I \subseteq \text{Jac}(R)$   
 $\Rightarrow M \cong \{0\}$ .

Pf.  $M$  fin.gen.  $\Rightarrow \exists m_0 \in \text{Spm } R$  and  $\exists f: M \rightarrow Q := R/m_0$

But  $I \subseteq \text{Jac } R = \bigcap_{m \in \text{Spm } R} m \subseteq m_0 \Rightarrow I \cdot Q = \{0\}$   
 $\Rightarrow I \cdot M \subseteq \ker(f)$   
 contradicting  $IM = M \quad \square$

NB This is useful if  $\text{Jac}(R)$  is big.

If  $\text{Jac}(R) = \{0\}$  it says nothing,

so we should first localize!

### Nakayama's lemma (version II)

$R$  local ring  
 w/ max. ideal  $m$ ,  
 residue field  $k(m) = R/m$   
 $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  fin.gen.

- then a)  $M \otimes_R k(m) \cong \{0\} \Rightarrow M \cong \{0\}$
- b)  $N \subseteq M$  submodule w/  $M = N + m \cdot M \Rightarrow N = M$ .
- c) If  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$  lift a basis  $\bar{m}_1, \dots, \bar{m}_n$  of  $M \otimes_R k(m)$   
 then  $M = Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n$ .

Pf.

b)  $\Rightarrow$  a):  $M \otimes_R k(m) = M \otimes_R R/m = M/m \cdot M \cong \{0\}$

Exercise:

$$M \otimes_R R/m \cong M/m \cdot M$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{via } x \otimes (a \text{ mod } m) &\mapsto ax \text{ mod } m \\ y \otimes (1 \text{ mod } m) &\mapsto y \text{ mod } m \end{aligned}$$

implies

$$M = m \cdot M$$

so we can  
 take  $N = \{0\}$  in b)  
 to get  $M = N = \{0\}$ .

b)  $\Rightarrow$  c): Take  $N := Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n \subseteq M$   
 then  $M = N + m \cdot M$

because  $\bar{m}_1, \dots, \bar{m}_n$  generate  $M/m \cdot M$ ,  
 hence  $N = M$  by b).

b):  $M = N + m \cdot M$  means  $m \cdot Q = Q$

where  $Q := M/N \in \text{Mod}(R)$   
 (fin.gen.)

Nakayama I applied to  $Q$  & to  $m = \text{Jac}(R)$  ( $R$  local!)  $\square$

implies  $Q \cong \{0\}$ , so  $N = M$ .

Rem. ① Part c) is a kind of "inverse function thm":

e.g. take  $k$  a field,

$$R := (k[x_1, \dots, x_n])_m \quad \text{for the max. ideal}$$

$$m := (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$M := m$  as an  $R$ -module

= "functions on  $A^n(k)$  vanishing at the origin"

then

$$M \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} k(m) = M/mM = m/m^2$$

= "linear terms of Taylor series"

= cotangent space to  $A^n(k)$   
at the origin,

and Nakayama says:

If  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in m$  are functions

whose "differentials"  $f_i'(0) := [f_i] \in m/m^2$

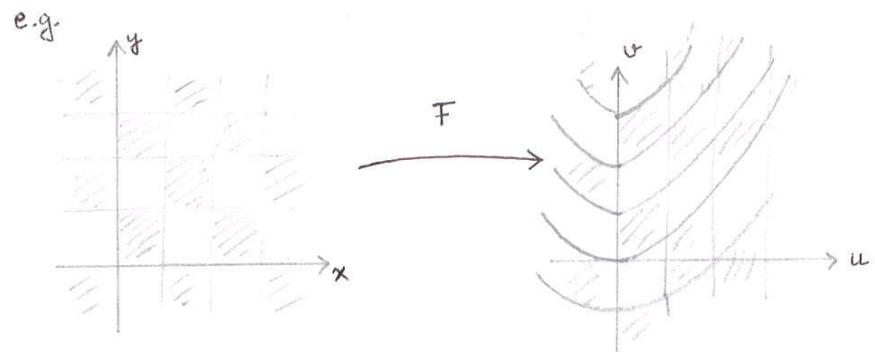
are linearly independent over  $k = k(m)$ ,

then

$$m = Rf_1 + \dots + Rf_n.$$

$\uparrow$

("ie.  $(f_1, \dots, f_n)$  behave a bit like  
a system of local coordinates near the origin")

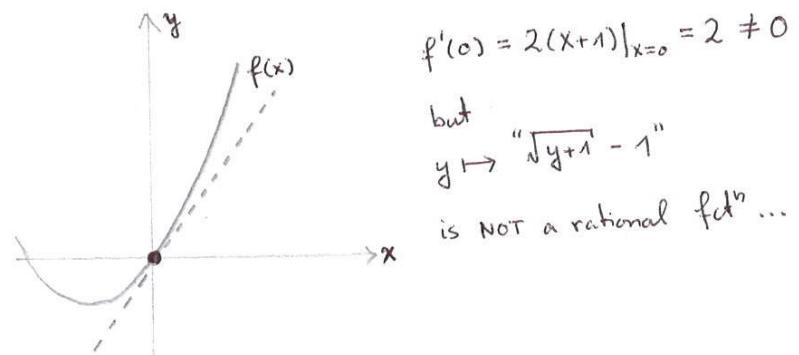


$$F(x, y) := (f_1(x, y), f_2(x, y)) := (x, y+x^2)$$

$$\text{Here } (f_1'(0), f_2'(0)) = (1 \ 2x) \Big|_{(x,y)=(0,0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow f_1'(0)$  &  $f_2'(0)$  are linearly independent in  $m/m^2 \cong k^2$

Warning: In general  $m = Rf_1 + \dots + Rf_n$  does NOT imply that  $(f_1, \dots, f_n) : A^n(k) \rightarrow A^n(k)$  has an inverse given by polynomials (even locally), think of  $n=1$  and  $f(x) = (x+1)^2 - 1$



Rem ② Part c) of Nakayama II does NOT imply that a module  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  is fin.gen. if  $M \otimes_R k(m)$  is so. On the contrary:

Cor. If  $R$  is an integral domain which is not a field, then  $k := \text{Quot}(R)$  is not fin.gen. as an  $R$ -module.

Pf. Assume  $k$  fin.gen. as  $R$ -module

$\Rightarrow k$  fin.gen. as  $R_m$ -module, for any  $m \in \text{Spm}(R)$

But if  $R$  is not a field, then  $m \neq 0$ ,  
so  $I := mR_m \trianglelefteq R_m$  satisfies  $I \cdot k = k$

Since  $I \subseteq \text{Jac}(R_m)$ , Nakayama I implies  $k = 0$   $\square$

Ex.  $M := \mathbb{Q}$  is NOT fin.gen. as a module over  $R := \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$   
for  $p$  prime,

though

$$M \otimes_R R/m = \mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}} \mathbb{Z}_{(p)} / p\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$$

$$\simeq \mathbb{Q}/p \cdot \mathbb{Q} = \{0\}$$

( $\Rightarrow$  Nakayama badly fails for modules that are not finitely generated).

### Nakayama's lemma (version III)

Let  $R$  be a ring  
(not necessarily local)  
 $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  fin.gen.  
s.t.  $I \cdot M = M$   
for some ideal  $I \trianglelefteq R$   
(not necessarily  $\subseteq \text{Jac}(R)$ ).  
 $\Rightarrow \exists i \in I$ : For all  $m \in M$ ,  $im = m$ .  
(Mnemonic:  $IM = M \Rightarrow im = m$ )

Pf. Must see:  $\exists s \in R$  with  $s \equiv 1 \pmod{I}$  and  $s \cdot M = \{0\}$   
(then put  $i := 1 - s \in I$ ).

Consider the set

$$S := 1 + I := \{1 + a \mid a \in I\} \subseteq R.$$

$\Rightarrow S$  is multiplicative because  $I$  is an ideal

For any  $\frac{a}{s} \in IR_S$  and all  $\frac{b}{t} \in RS$  ( $a \in I, b \in R, s, t \in S$ )  
we have

$$1 + \frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{st}}_{\in 1+I} \cdot \underbrace{(st + ab)}_{\in I} \in R_S^*$$

$$\Rightarrow I \cdot R_S \subseteq \{x \in R_S \mid 1 + xy \in R_S^* \ \forall y \in R_S\} = \text{Jac}(R_S) \quad f \text{ epi} \Rightarrow X \cdot M = M$$

But by assumption  $I \cdot M = M$

so  $I \cdot R_S \cdot M_S = M_S$  and  $M_S \in \text{Mod}(R_S)$  is still fin.gen.

$$\Rightarrow M_S = \{0\} \text{ by Nakayama I } (*)$$

Pick generators  $m_1, \dots, m_n$  with  $M = Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n$

then by  $(*)$  there exist  $s_i \in S$  with  $s_i \cdot m_i = 0$  in  $M$

$$\Rightarrow s := s_1 \cdots s_n \in S \text{ satisfies } s \cdot m_i = 0 \ \forall i,$$

$$\text{hence } s \cdot M = \{0\}. \quad \square$$

Here's a fun application:

Cor. Let  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  be fin.gen.

$\Rightarrow$  any epimorphism  $f: M \rightarrow M$  is an iso.

$\Rightarrow$  by Nakayama III for  $I := (X) \trianglelefteq R[X]$ ,  
 $\exists P(X) \in R(X)$  sth  $\underbrace{X \cdot P(X)}_{=: i \in I} \circ m = m \ \forall m \in M$

$$\Rightarrow g := P(f) \in \text{End}_R(M)$$

$$\text{satisfies } g \circ f = f \circ g = \text{id}_M$$

$\square$

Rem. The analogous statement for monomorphisms is obviously false, think of  $f: \mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \mapsto 2n$ .

Cor If  $M \cong R^n$  is a free  $R$ -module of rk  $n$ ,  
 then any set of  $n$  generators is a basis.

Pf. Consider the epi  $R^n \rightarrow M \cong R^n$

$$(a_i)_{i=1,\dots,n} \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n a_i m_i \text{ for } M = Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n.$$

$\square$

Pf. Given  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M)$ , regard  $M$  as an  $R[X]$ -module

$$\begin{matrix} // \\ \text{End}_R(M) \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{via } P(X) \cdot m := P(f)(m)$$

$$\text{for } P(X) \in R[X], m \in M.$$

## II. Finiteness Conditions

### 1. Some homological algebra (the snake lemma)

$R$  ring

Def A sequence  $M_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} M_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} M_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} \dots \xrightarrow{f_n} M_{n+1}$

in  $\text{Mod}(R)$  is called exact if

$$\text{im}(f_{i-1}) = \ker(f_i) \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}.$$

- Ex
- $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M$  is exact iff  $f$  is mono
  - $M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0$  is exact iff  $g$  is epi
  - $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{h} N \rightarrow 0$  is exact iff  $h$  is iso

Def By a short exact sequence we mean an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0$

i.e. one where

- $f$  mono
- $g$  epi
- $\text{im}(f) = \ker(g)$

Rem Any mono  $f: M' \hookrightarrow M$  fits into  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \rightarrow \text{coker}(f) \rightarrow 0$   
for the cokernel  $\text{coker}(f) := M / \text{im}(f)$ .

Any epi  $g: M \rightarrow M''$  fits into  $0 \rightarrow \text{ker}(g) \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$ .

Any short exact sequence arises like this up to iso:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & M' & \rightarrow & M & \rightarrow & \text{coker}(f) \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \exists: 12 \\ 0 & \rightarrow & M' & \xrightarrow{f} & M & \xrightarrow{g} & M'' \\ & \text{S! E!} & & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \text{ker}(g) & \rightarrow & M & \rightarrow & M'' \end{array} \rightarrow 0$$

Def A morphism between s.e. sequences  $0 \rightarrow M'_i \xrightarrow{f_i} M_i \xrightarrow{g_i} M''_i \rightarrow 0$   
is a commutative diagram in  $\text{Mod}(R)$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & M'_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & M_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & M''_1 \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \varphi' & & \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \varphi'' \\ 0 & \rightarrow & M'_2 & \xrightarrow{f_2} & M_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & M''_2 \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

We call it an isomorphism if  $\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''$  are iso's.

Def A short exact sequence is called split if it is  
isomorphic to a sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{\text{inclusion}} M' \oplus M'' \xrightarrow{\text{projection}} M'' \rightarrow 0$$

$m' \mapsto (m', 0)$

$(m', m'') \mapsto m''$

Lemma For a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0$ ,  
the following are equivalent:

- a) It splits.
- b)  $\exists$  "section"  $s \in \text{Hom}_R(M'', M)$  w/  $g \circ s = \text{id}_{M''}$ .
- c)  $\exists$  "retraction"  $p \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M')$  w/  $p \circ f = \text{id}_{M'}$ .

Pf. a)  $\Rightarrow$  b) & c) via  $s(m'') := (0, m'')$ ,  
 $p(m', m'') := m'$ .

b)  $\Rightarrow$  a):

Given a section  $s: M'' \rightarrow M$ ,

consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & M' & \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} & M' \oplus M'' & \xrightarrow{p^r} & M'' \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow f \oplus s & & \parallel \\ 0 & \rightarrow & M' & \xrightarrow{f} & M & \xrightarrow{g} & M'' \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Claim 1:  $f \oplus s$  mono, indeed  $f(M') \cap s(M'') = 0$   $m'' := g(m)$

Claim 2:  $f \oplus s$  epi, indeed  $\forall m \in M$ ,  $m - s(m'') \in \text{ker}(g)$   
 $\Rightarrow \exists m' \in M': m - s(m'') = f(m')$   $m'' \in \text{im}(f)$   
 $\Rightarrow (f \oplus s)(m', m'') = f(m') + s(m'') = m$ .

c)  $\Rightarrow$  a): Similar (exercise). □

Rem The main purpose of homological algebra is to deal with  
non-split sequences.

The above proof is a special case of the

"Snake lemma"

Consider a comm. diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} M'_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & M_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & M''_1 & \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \varphi' & & \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \varphi'' & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & M'_2 & \xrightarrow{f_2} & M_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & M''_2 \end{array} \quad \text{w/ exact rows}$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  exact sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \ker(\varphi') & \xrightarrow{f_0} & \ker(\varphi) & \xrightarrow{g_0} & \ker(\varphi'') \\ \hookrightarrow & & \hookrightarrow & & \hookrightarrow \\ \operatorname{cok}(\varphi') & \xrightarrow{f_3} & \operatorname{cok}(\varphi) & \xrightarrow{g_3} & \operatorname{cok}(\varphi'') \end{array} \quad \exists \delta$$

making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \ker(\varphi') & \rightarrow & \ker(\varphi) & \rightarrow & \ker(\varphi'') & \\ & i'' \downarrow & & i \downarrow & & i'' \downarrow & \\ M'_1 & \rightarrow & M_1 & \rightarrow & M''_1 & \rightarrow 0 & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & M'_2 & \rightarrow & M_2 & \rightarrow & M''_2 \\ p' \downarrow & & p \downarrow & & p'' \downarrow & & \\ & \operatorname{cok}(\varphi') & \rightarrow & \operatorname{cok}(\varphi) & \rightarrow & \operatorname{cok}(\varphi'') & \end{array}$$

$i, i', i'':$  the natural inclusions  
 $p, p', p'':$  the natural quotient maps

commute. Moreover,  $f_0$  is mono if  $f_1$  is so,  
and  $g_3$  is epi if  $g_2$  is so.

Pf.

① Construction of  $f_0, g_0$  & exactness at  $\ker(\varphi)$ :

- For  $f_0$ , apply universal property of  $\ker(\varphi)$  to  $N := \ker(\varphi')$ :

$$\operatorname{Hom}(N, \ker(\varphi)) \xrightarrow[i \circ (-)]{\sim} \{ f \in \operatorname{Hom}_R(N, M_1) \mid \varphi \circ f = 0 \}$$

$$\exists! f_0 \xrightarrow{\quad} f := f_1 \circ i'$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{because } \varphi \circ f &= \varphi \circ f_1 \circ i' \\ &= f_2 \circ \underbrace{\varphi \circ i'}_{=0} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

By construction  $i \circ f_0 = f_1 \circ i'$ .

- Similarly get a unique  $g_0$  with  $i'' \circ g_0 = g_1 \circ i'$ .

• Exactness at  $\ker(\varphi)$ :

$$\text{Clearly } g_0 \circ f_0 = 0 \text{ because } i'' \circ g_0 \circ f_0 = \underbrace{g_1 \circ f_1 \circ i'}_{=0} = 0,$$

$$\text{so } \operatorname{im}(f_0) \subseteq \ker(g_0).$$

Conversely: Let  $k_0 \in \ker(g_0)$

$$\Rightarrow i(k_0) \in \ker(g_1) = \operatorname{im}(f_1),$$

say  $i(k_0) = f_1(m'_1)$  with  $m'_1 \in M'_1$

$$\text{Want: } \varphi'(m'_1) = 0,$$

$$\text{which follows from } f_2(\varphi'(m'_1)) = \varphi(\underbrace{f_1(m'_1)}_{=i(k_0)}) \in \ker(\varphi)$$

(using that  $f_2$  is mono!)

② Construction of  $f_3, g_3$  & exactness at  $\text{cok } \varphi$ :  
 Dual argument, apply universal property of  $\text{cok } \varphi$  to  $N := \text{cok } \varphi^{\prime\prime}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}(\text{cok } \varphi, N) &\xrightarrow[\sim]{(-)\circ p} \{g \in \text{Hom}_R(M_2, N) \mid g \circ \varphi = 0\} \\ \exists! g_3 &\xrightarrow{\quad \Downarrow \quad} g := p'' \circ g_2 \\ \text{because} \\ g \circ \varphi &= p'' \circ g_2 \circ \varphi \\ &= p'' \circ \underbrace{\varphi'' \circ \varphi}_{=0} \end{aligned}$$

Get unique  $f_3, g_3$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{with } f_3 \circ p' &= p \circ f_2 \\ g_3 \circ p &= p'' \circ g_2 \end{aligned}$$

& exactness  $\ker(g_3) = \text{im}(f_3)$  follows from  $g_1$  being epi  
 (exercise).

③ The "connecting map"  $\delta$ :

Given  $k'' \in \ker(\varphi'')$ ,  
 write  $i''(k'') = g_1(m_1)$  w/  $m_1 \in M_1$  (using that  $g_1$  is epi)

$$\Rightarrow g_2(\varphi(m_1)) = \varphi(g_1(m_1)) = \varphi(i''(k'')) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(m_1) \in \ker(g_2) = \text{im}(f_2),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{say } \varphi(m_1) &= f_2(m'_2) \text{ w/ } m'_2 \in M'_2 \\ &\uparrow \\ &\text{uniquely determined} \\ &\text{since } f_2 \text{ is mono!} \end{aligned}$$

We put  $\delta(k'') := p'(m'_2) \in \text{cok } (\varphi')$ .

Check this is well-defined:

Let  $\tilde{m}_1 \in M_1$  be another lift of  $i''(k'')$ ,

$$\text{i.e. } g_1(\tilde{m}_1) = g_1(m_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{m}_1 - m_1 \in \ker(g_1) = \text{im}(f_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{m}_1 = m_1 + f_1(m'_1) \text{ w/ } m'_1 \in M'_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \varphi(\tilde{m}_1) &= \varphi(m_1) + \underbrace{\varphi(f_1(m'_1))}_{= f_2(\varphi'(m'_1))} \\ &= f_2(\varphi'(m'_1)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{the unique } \tilde{m}'_2 \in M'_2$$

$$\text{with } \varphi(\tilde{m}_1) = f_2(\tilde{m}'_2)$$

$$\text{satisfies } \tilde{m}'_2 = m'_2 + \varphi'(m'_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow p'(\tilde{m}'_2) = p'(m'_2) \text{ because } p' \circ \varphi' = 0$$

④ Exactness at  $\ker(\varphi'')$  &  $\text{cok } (\varphi')$ : Exercise. □

## 2. Finitely presented modules

Recall  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  is finitely generated if  $\exists \text{epi } R^n \xrightarrow{P} M$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We then also say  $M$  is of finite type as an  $R$ -module.

⚠ It does NOT follow that  $\ker(P)$  is of finite type,  
think of  $M := R/\alpha$  for a not fingen ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ .

Def  $M$  is of finite presentation if  $\exists$  exact sequence

$$R^m \rightarrow R^n \xrightarrow{P} M \rightarrow 0$$

with  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  (ie an epi  $P$  w/  $\ker(P)$  fin.gen.).

Lemma. Consider an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0$ .

a)  $M$  fingen.  $\Rightarrow M''$  fingen.

b1)  $M', M''$  both fingen.  $\Rightarrow M$  fingen.

b2) ~~fin-pres.~~  $\Rightarrow M$  fin.pres.

Pf. a) Obvious:  $R^n \xrightarrow{P} M \xrightarrow{g} M''$  is epi

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} b1) & 0 & \rightarrow & R^{n'} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & R^{n+n'} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}} R^{n''} \rightarrow 0 \\ & & & p' \downarrow & \downarrow \exists p & \downarrow & \downarrow p'' \\ \circledast & 0 & \rightarrow & M' & \xrightarrow{f} & M & \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

$\tilde{f}(e_i) := e_i$   
 $1 \leq i \leq n'$   
 $\tilde{g}(e_j) := \begin{cases} 0, j \leq n' \\ e_{j-n'}, j > n' \end{cases}$

To define  $p$ , choose any lifts  $m_j \mapsto p''(e_{j-n'})$ ,  $j > n'$

$$\text{Put } m_i := p'(e_i), i \leq n', \quad M \rightarrow M''$$

and define

$$\begin{aligned} p: R^{n+n'} &\rightarrow M \\ \text{by } e_k &\mapsto m_k \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, n+n'. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Diagram  $\circledast$  commutes & rows are exact,  
and  $p$  epi by snake lemma.

b2) Choose  $p', p''$  with fingen kernel.

Snake lemma:  $0 \rightarrow \ker(p') \rightarrow \ker(p) \rightarrow \ker(p'') \rightarrow 0$   
 $\parallel$   
 $\text{coker}(p')$

$\Rightarrow \ker(p)$  fin.gen. by an application of b1)  
w/  $\ker(p')$ ,  $\ker(p'')$  fingen. □

Rev. Part a) does NOT hold for "fin. pres."

e.g. suppose  $\text{or } \trianglelefteq R$  is not fin. gen.

and put  $M := R$  (fin. pres.)



$M' := R/\alpha$  (NOT fin. presented,  
see next proposition  
with)

Prop A module  $N \in \text{Mod}(R)$  is fin. pres.

iff 

- $N$  is fin. gen., and
- for every epi  $f: M \rightarrow N$  w/  $M$  fin. gen.,  
the kernel  $\ker(f)$  is fin. gen.

Pf. " $\Leftarrow$ " trivial.

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Fix a presentation  $R^m \xrightarrow{q} R^n \xrightarrow{p} N \rightarrow 0$ .

Given  $f: M \rightarrow N$ ,

consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} R^m & \xrightarrow{q} & R^n & \xrightarrow{p} & N & \rightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \parallel & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \ker(f) & \rightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{f} & N \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where  $p(e_i) := (\text{any lift of } p(e_i)) \in M$   
 $\alpha(e_j) := (\text{any lift of } \beta(p(e_j))) \in \ker(f)$   
 (using that  $R^m$  and  $R^n$  are free).

Snake lemma gives exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{cok}(\alpha) \rightarrow \text{cok}(p) \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \\ \parallel \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ \ker(\text{id}_N)$$

$\Rightarrow \text{cok}(\alpha) \cong \text{cok}(p)$ ,  
 and the latter is fin. gen. (being a quotient of  
 the fin. gen. module  $M$ )

Now look at

$$0 \rightarrow \text{im}(\alpha) \rightarrow \ker(f) \rightarrow \text{cok}(\alpha) \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ \text{fin. gen.} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{fin. gen.} \\ (\text{as quotient of } R^m) \qquad (\text{see above})$$

$\Rightarrow \ker(f)$  fin. gen.  
previous lemma b1)

□

### 3. Noetherian rings and modules

- Have seen:
- "fin.gen" is not preserved under taking submodules
  - "fin.pres."  $\dashv$  submodules / quotients (in general)

Def A module  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  is Noetherian

if every submodule  $N \subseteq M$  is fin.gen.

Lemma  $M$  is Noetherian if it satisfies the

"ascending chain condition (acc)":

$\forall$  submodules  $M_1 \subsetneq M_2 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq M$ ,

$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $M_n = M_{n+1} = M_{n+2} = \dots$

Pf. " $\Leftarrow$ ": Let  $N \subseteq M$  not fin.gen.

Pick  $n_1 \in N$  and set  $M_1 := Rn_1$

$\vdots$   
 $n_i \in N \setminus M_{i-1}$ , set  $M_i := M_{i-1} + R \cdot n_i$

Since  $N$  is NOT fin.gen., we have  $M_i \not\hookrightarrow N \ \forall i$ ,  
 so this doesn't terminate.

$\Rightarrow M_1 \not\hookrightarrow M_2 \not\hookrightarrow \dots \subsetneq M$  doesn't stabilize

" $\Rightarrow$ " Given  $M_1 \subsetneq M_2 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq M$

consider the  $R$ -submodule

$$N := \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} M_n \hookrightarrow M.$$

If  $M$  is Noetherian, then  $N$  is fin.gen, say  $N = \sum_{i=1}^k Rm_i$

$$\Rightarrow \exists n: m_1, \dots, m_k \in M_n$$

$$\Rightarrow M_n = M_{n+1} = \dots = M$$

□

The property "Noetherian" behaves much nicer than "fin.gen"  
 or "fin.pres":

Lemma For a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0$

we have:

$$M \text{ Noetherian} \iff M' \text{ and } M'' \text{ Noetherian.}$$

Pf. " $\Rightarrow$ "

$M$  Noetherian  $\Rightarrow$  •  $M'$  Noetherian because  $N \subseteq M'$  implies  $N \subseteq M$ .

•  $M''$  Noetherian because for  $N \subseteq M''$

the submodule  $g^{-1}(N) \subseteq M$  is fin.gen

so that its image  $N = g(g^{-1}(N))$  is fin.gen.

" $\Leftarrow$ " Given  $N \subseteq M$ ,

have exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow f'(N) \rightarrow N \rightarrow g(N) \rightarrow 0$$

$\downarrow$   
fin.gen.  
since  $\subseteq M'$   
and  $M'$  Noetherian

$\downarrow$   
fin.gen.  
since  $\subseteq M''$   
and  $M''$  Noetherian

$\Rightarrow N$  fin.gen.

□

Pf.

(a)

$$0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_1 \oplus M_2 \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow 0$$

$\Rightarrow M_1 \oplus M_2$  Noetherian by previous lemma.

$$\text{Similarly, } 0 \rightarrow \ker(\text{sum}) \rightarrow M_1 \oplus M_2 \xrightarrow{\text{sum}} M_1 + M_2 \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow M_1 + M_2 \text{ and } \ker(\text{sum}) \cong M_1 \cap M_2$$

Noetherian by previous lemma.

Lemma Let  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ .

(a) If  $M_1, M_2 \subseteq M$  are Noetherian submodules,

then so are  $M_1 \cap M_2 \subseteq M$

$M_1 + M_2 \subseteq M$ .

(b) If  $M$  is Noetherian as an  $R$ -module  
and  $S \subseteq R$  is a multiplicative subset,  
then the localization  $M_S \cong M \otimes_R R_S$

is Noetherian as an  $R_S$ -module.

(b) Consider the localization map  $\alpha: M \rightarrow M_S$   
 $m \mapsto \frac{m}{1}$ .

For an  $R_S$ -submodule  $N \subseteq M_S$ ,

the preimage  $\tilde{N} := \alpha^{-1}(N) \subseteq M$  is an  $R$ -submodule,

hence fin.gen as an  $R$ -module.

$\Rightarrow N = \tilde{N}_S$  fin.gen as  $R_S$ -module.

□

⚠ In general, for a ring homom.  $R \rightarrow T$ ,

$M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  Noetherian does NOT imply  $M \otimes_R T \in \text{Mod}(T)$   
to be Noetherian,

(think of  $M = R \dots$ )!

Anyway: Get many Noetherian modules from any given one.  
via free, cok,  $\oplus$ ,  $+$ ,  $\cap$ , localization... How to get started?

Def A ring  $R$  is Noetherian if it is so as an  $R$ -module,  
i.e. if any ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is fin.gen. ( $\Leftrightarrow$  acc for ideals).

Ex a)  $R := \mathbb{Q}[X_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}]$  is not Noetherian  
since  $\alpha := (X_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}) \trianglelefteq R$  is not fin.gen.

b) For  $k$  a field,

$R := \{ a + x f(x,y) \mid a \in k, f \in k[x,y] \}$  is not Noetherian  
since  $\alpha := (x, xy, xy^2, xy^3, \dots) \trianglelefteq R$  is not fin.gen.

c)  $R := C([0,1], \mathbb{R}) := \{ \text{continuous fcts } f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \}$   
is not Noetherian (exercise).

d) Any PID  $R$  is Noetherian

(as we've seen in proving  $\text{PID} \Rightarrow \text{UFD}$ , see § I.3).

e) Quotients and localizations of Noetherian rings are Noetherian

f) Fin.gen. modules over Noetherian rings are Noetherian.

Hilbert's basis thm

$R$  Noetherian

$\Rightarrow R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  Noetherian  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

Pf. Wlog  $n=1$  by induction.

Let  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R[X]$ .

Put  $\alpha_0 := \{ \text{leading coeffs of polynomials in } \alpha \} \trianglelefteq R$ .

$R$  Noetherian  $\Rightarrow \alpha_0$  fin.gen., say  $\alpha_0 = (a_1, \dots, a_m) \trianglelefteq R$ .

Pick  $f_i \in \alpha$  w/  $f_i = a_i X^{n_i} + \text{lower order terms}$   
and let  $B := (f_1, \dots, f_m) \trianglelefteq R[X]$ .

Given  $f = a X^n + \text{lower order terms} \in \alpha$ ,

write  $a = \sum_{i=1}^m r_i a_i$  w/  $r_i \in R$  (since  $a \in \alpha_0$ )

If  $n \geq n_0 := \max\{n_1, \dots, n_m\}$ ,

then  $g := f - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^m r_i f_i X^{n-n_i}}_{\in B} \in \alpha$

has  $\deg(g) < n$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Proceeding like this,

$$\text{find } b \in \mathfrak{b} \text{ sth } f - b \in \mathfrak{c} \cap M \quad (*)$$

$$\text{for } M := (1, X, X^2, \dots, X^{n_0-1})$$

$M$  fin.gen module over the Noetherian ring  $R \Rightarrow$  Noetherian

$\Rightarrow$  any submodule  $\mathfrak{c} \cap M \subseteq M$  is fin.gen

Thus:

$$\mathfrak{c} \mathfrak{r} = (\mathfrak{c} \cap M) + \mathfrak{b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathfrak{c} \mathfrak{r} \trianglelefteq R[X]$$

$\begin{matrix} \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mathfrak{c} \cap M & \mathfrak{b} \\ \text{fin.gen.} & \text{fin.gen.} \end{matrix}$

□

Cor If  $R$  is a Noetherian ring,

then so is any fin.gen.  $R$ -algebra.

i.e. any quotient  
of  $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ ,  
 $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Recall An  $R$ -algebra is a ring  $S$   
w/ a ring homom.  $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$ .

It is called fin.gen. as an  $R$ -algebra

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if  $\exists s_1, \dots, s_n \in S$   
st. every  $s \in S$   
is a polynomial  
in  $s_1, \dots, s_n$  with  
coefficients in  $\varphi(R)$ .

NB Don't confuse this with the much more restrictive  
notion of  $S$  being fin.gen as an  $R$ -module,  
which allows only  $\varphi(R)$ -linear combinations of  $s_1, \dots, s_n$ .

In that case  $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$  is a so-called integral  
ring extension, these are very special (see later).

Upshot "Almost all rings in algebraic geometry are Noetherian"

This simplifies life:

Remark Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring,  
then for  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  TFAE:

- $M$  fin.gen.
- $M$  fin.pres.
- $M$  Noetherian.

Pf. a)  $\Rightarrow$  c) already noted above  
( $R$  Noeth  $\Rightarrow R^n$  Noeth  $\Rightarrow$  quotients of  $R^n$  Noeth.)

c)  $\Rightarrow$  b)  $M$  Noeth  $\Rightarrow$  fin.gen, say  $R^n \xrightarrow{\varphi} M$   
 $\Rightarrow \ker(\varphi) \subseteq R^n$  also fin.gen as  $R^n$  Noeth

b)  $\Rightarrow$  a) trivial.

□

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#### 4. Artinian rings and modules

Def  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  is Artinian if it satisfies

the "descending chain condition (dcc)":

$\forall$  submodules  $\dots M_3 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq M$

$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $M_n = M_{n+1} = M_{n+2} = \dots$

Def A ring  $R$  is Artinian if it is so as an  $R$ -module.

⚠ MUCH more restrictive than Noetherian!

We'll see: "Artin rings are the simplest ones next to fields."

Ex • Any field is an Artin ring.

•  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  is an Artin ring iff  $n \neq 0$ .

• a fin.gen. abelian gp  $M \in \text{Mod}(\mathbb{Z})$  is an Artinian module iff  $M$  is finite.

• for any field  $k$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

the ring  $k[t]/(t^n)$  is Artin (its Spec is a "fat point")

NB: "Fin.gen." cannot be dropped in " $\Rightarrow$ "  
see the example b) on p. 63

Lemma For a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0$  we have:

$M$  Artin  $\Leftrightarrow M'$  and  $M''$  Artin.

Pf. " $\Leftarrow$ " Given  $\dots \subseteq M_n \subseteq M_{n-1} \subseteq \dots \subseteq M_1 \subseteq M$ ,

consider  $M'_n := f^{-1}(M_n) \subseteq M'$

$M''_n := g(M_n) \subseteq M''$ .

If  $M'$ ,  $M''$  are Artin, then  $\exists n: M'_n = M'_{n+1} = \dots = M'_m = M''_m = M''_{m+1} = \dots$

hence  $M_n = M_{n+1} = \dots$

" $\Rightarrow$ " Given  $\dots \subseteq M_n'' \subseteq M_{n-1}'' \subseteq \dots \subseteq M_1'' \subseteq M''$

put  $M_n := g^{-1}(M_n'')$ .

If  $M$  is Artin, then  $\exists n: M_n = M_{n+1} = \dots$

and so  $g(M_n) = g(M_{n+1}) = \dots \Rightarrow M''$  Artin

$\overset{\text{"}}{M}_n'' \quad \overset{\text{"}}{M}_{n+1}''$

& similarly for  $M'$



Lemma Let  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ .

(a) If  $M_1, M_2 \subseteq M$  are Artin submodules,

$$\text{so are } M_1 \cap M_2 \subseteq M$$

$$M_1 + M_2 \subseteq M.$$

(b) If  $M$  is Artin as an  $R$ -module  
and  $S \subseteq R$  is multiplicative,  
then  $M_S \cong M \otimes_R R_S$  is Artin as  $R_S$ -module.

□

Pf. Exercise.

Cor  $R$  Artin and  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  fingen  $\Rightarrow M$  Artin.

Want to build up Artinian modules from simple pieces:

Def A composition series for a module  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$

is a chain

$$0 = M_0 \subset M_1 \subset \dots \subset M_n = M$$

which cannot be refined,

i.e. for which each  $M_i/M_{i-1}$  is simple.

↓  
(has no submodules  
other than 0 & itself)

The  $M_i/M_{i-1}$  are called composition factors  
and  $n$  is called the length of the series.

We say  $M$  has finite length if it admits a  
composition series.

Thm (Jordan-Hölder) Assume  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  has finite length.

Then a) any chain can be refined into a compos. series,  
b) any two compos. series have the same length  
and isomorphic compos. factors up to permutation.

Pf.

a) Let  $0 = M_0 \subset M_1 \subset \dots \subset M_n = M$  be any chain  
and  $0 = N_0 \subset N_1 \subset \dots \subset N_m = M$  a compos. series.

Put  $M_{i,j} := M_{i-1} + M_i \cap N_j$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$   
 $j = 1, \dots, m$ .

$$\Rightarrow \dots \subseteq M_{i-1} = M_{i-1,0} \subseteq M_{i-1,1} \subseteq \dots \subseteq M_{i-1,m} = M_i \subseteq \dots$$

This is a composition series refining the given chain,

since each  $M_{i-1,j}/M_{i-1,j-1} \hookrightarrow N_j/N_{j-1}$  is either zero or simple.

↑ Simple by assumption!

b) Now assume  $0 = M_0 \subset \dots \subset M_n = M$  is also a composition series (not just a chain).

Then each  $M_i/M_{i-1}$  is simple

$\Rightarrow \exists! J(i)$  with

$$\textcircled{*} \quad M_{i,j}/M_{i,j-1} \simeq \begin{cases} M_i/M_{i-1} & \text{if } j = J(i) \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Similarly, put  $N_{j,i} := N_{j-1} + N_j \cap M_i$ ,

then  $\forall j \exists! I(j)$  with

$$\textcircled{**} \quad N_{j,i}/N_{j,i-1} \simeq \begin{cases} N_j/N_{j-1} & \text{if } i = I(j) \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Suffices to show that  $\textcircled{*} \simeq \textcircled{**} \forall i, j$ .

Indeed

$$\textcircled{*} = \frac{M_{i-1} + M_i \cap N_j}{M_{i-1} + M_i \cap N_{j-1}} \xleftarrow{\sim} \frac{N_{j-1} + N_j \cap M_i}{N_{j-1} + N_j \cap M_{i-1}} = \textcircled{**}$$

$\swarrow_2 \qquad \nearrow \sim$

$$\frac{M_i \cap N_j}{M_i \cap N_{j-1} + M_{i-1} \cap N_j} \quad \square$$

Df  $\ell(M) := n$  is called the length of  $M$ .

Cor.  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$  has finite length  
iff  $M$  is both Artinian & Noetherian.

Pf. " $\Rightarrow$ " by Jordan-Hölder thm,  
any chain has length  $\leq \ell(M)$ ,  
so acc + dec hold.

" $\Leftarrow$ " Pick a maximal submodule  $M_1 \neq M$  ( $M$  Noetherian)  
 $\overbrace{\quad \quad \quad}^{\perp\perp} \quad M_2 \neq M_1 \quad (M^\circ \dashv\dashv)$   
 $\vdots$

Get chain  $M = M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \dots$  with each  $M_i/M_{i+1}$  simple or zero

$M$  Artin  $\Rightarrow \exists n: M_n = M_{n+1} = \dots = \{0\}$   
so we get a composition series of length  $n$ .  $\square$

Ex Need both dec & acc: Put  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ .

a)  $M = \mathbb{Z}$  Noetherian but NOT Artinian.

b)  $M = \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}] / \mathbb{Z} = \left\{ \frac{a}{p^n} \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}, n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$

Exercise: All proper subgps of  $M$  are  $M_n := \frac{1}{p^n} \mathbb{Z} / \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\Rightarrow M$  Artinian but NOT Noetherian:

$$M_1 \neq M_2 \neq M_3 \neq \dots \subseteq M.$$

Ex If  $R = k$  is a field, TFAE for  $M \in \text{Mod}(R)$ :

- a)  $M$  Noetherian
- b)  $M$  Artinian
- c)  $\dim_{\mathbb{K}}(M) < \infty$

and in this case  $\ell(M) = \dim_{\mathbb{K}}(M)$ .

## 5. The Structure of Artinian rings

Let's take a closer look at Artin rings (not modules).

Lemma Let  $R$  be a ring s.t.  $m_1, \dots, m_n = (0)$

for suitable  $m_i \in \text{Spm}(R)$  (not necessarily distinct).

Then:  $R$  Noetherian  $\Leftrightarrow R$  Artinian

Pf. Put  $M_i := m_1 \dots m_i \subseteq R$

$$\Rightarrow R = M_0 \supset M_1 \supset \dots \supset M_n = \{0\}$$

Each  $Q_i := M_{i-1}/M_i \in \text{Mod}(R/m_i)$

is a vector space over the field  $k_i := R/m_i$ .

Previous ex. gives:  $Q_i$  Noetherian  $\Leftrightarrow Q_i$  Artinian  
 in  $\text{Mod}(k_i)$  in  $\text{Mod}(k_i)$   
 (or in  $\text{Mod}(R)$ ) (or in  $\text{Mod}(R)$ )

□

But by induction  $R$  is Artin/Noeth iff all  $Q_i$  are so.

Does this always apply?

Prop Let  $R$  be an Artin ring. Then:

a)  $\text{Spm}(R) = \text{Spec}(R)$  and this is a finite set.

b)  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}: \text{Jac}(R)^n = (0)$ .

c)  $R$  is Noetherian.

Pf. a1) Assume  $m_1, m_2, \dots \in \text{Spm}(R)$  all distinct

$R$  Artin  $\Rightarrow$  the chain  $m_1 \supseteq m_1 \cap m_2 \supseteq m_1 \cap m_2 \cap m_3 \supseteq \dots$   
 stabilizes

$$\Rightarrow \exists n: m_1 \cap \dots \cap m_n \subseteq \wp := m_{n+1}$$

$$\text{hence } m_1 \cap \dots \cap m_n \subseteq \wp$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\}: m_i \subseteq \wp \text{ (since } \wp \text{ prime).}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Spm } R = \{m_1, \dots, m_n\} \text{ finite set}$$

a2) Let  $\wp \in \text{Spec } R$

$\Rightarrow K := R/\wp$  is both Artin & integral domain, hence a field  
 (for  $a \in K \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\exists n: (a^n) = (a^{n+1}) = \dots$ , so  $a^n = c \cdot a^{n+1}$  (some  $c \in K$ )  
 and hence  $1 = ca$  because  $K$  integral)  
 $\Rightarrow \wp$  maximal

b) Put  $J := \text{Jac}(R)$ .

$$R \text{ Artin} \Rightarrow \exists n: J^n = J^{n+1} = \dots$$

$$\text{Put } \alpha := \text{Ann}(J^n) := \{a \in R \mid a \cdot J^n = (0)\}.$$

$$\text{Want: } \alpha = (1) \quad (\text{then } J^n = 1 \cdot J^n = (0)).$$

If  $a \neq (\pm 1)$ ,  $\downarrow$  exists since  $R/\alpha I$  is an Artinian module!  
 pick a simple submodule  $B/\alpha I \subsetneq R/\alpha I$  ( $B \trianglelefteq R$ ).

$J = \text{Jac}(R)$  annihilates all simple  $R$ -modules

$$\Rightarrow J \cdot B/\alpha I = \{0\}$$

$$\Rightarrow J \cdot B \subseteq \alpha I = \text{Ann}(J^n)$$

$$\Rightarrow B \subseteq \text{Ann}(J^{n+1}) \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} \text{Ann}(J^n) =: \alpha I \quad \begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ (\text{recall } J^{n+1} = J^n) \end{matrix}$$

c) Combining a) & b),

$$\exists m_1, \dots, m_n \in \text{Spm}(R) \text{ with } m_1 \cdots m_n = (0)$$

Hence  $R$  Artinian  $\Rightarrow R$  Noetherian by previous lemma.

□

Cor For any ring  $R$ , TFAE:

a)  $R$  is Artin.

b)  $R$  is Noetherian and  $\overline{\text{Spec } R} = \text{Spm } R$ .

i.e. " $\dim R = 0$ "

where we define

$$\dim R := \sup \{ n \mid \exists g_0 \in \text{Spec } R \text{ with } g_0 \not\supseteq g_1 \not\supseteq \dots \not\supseteq g_n \}$$

$$\mathbb{N}_0 \cup \{\infty\}$$

Pf. a)  $\Rightarrow$  b) by previous proposition.

b)  $\Rightarrow$  a):

FACT: Any Noetherian ring  $R$  has only finitely many minimal prime ideals  
 $(\cong \text{irred. cpts of } \text{Spec } R, \text{ see next section})$

If  $\dim R = 0$ , these are all the prime (= maximal = minimal) ideals,  
 say  $\text{Spec } R = \{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \text{Rad } R = p_1 \cap \dots \cap p_m$$

But  $\text{Rad } R$  is fin. gen. ( $R$  Noetherian)  $\left. \begin{matrix} \exists n: \\ (\text{Rad } R)^n = (0) \end{matrix} \right\}$   
 & all its elements are nilpotent

$$\Rightarrow p_1^m \cdots p_m^m = (0),$$

hence  $R$  Noetherian implies  $R$  Artinian by previous lemma. □

Cor A ring  $R$  is Artin iff it is of finite length over itself.

Pf. For  $R$ -modules we know: Finite length  $\Leftrightarrow$  Artin + Noetherian,  
 so previous corollary applies.

... geometric interpretation?

Rem. Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\mathfrak{J} \trianglelefteq R$  an ideal w/  $\mathfrak{J} \subseteq \text{Rad } R$

$\Rightarrow$  The quotient map  $R \rightarrow R/\mathfrak{J}$

induces a bijection

$$\{\text{idempotents of } R\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{\text{idempotents of } R/\mathfrak{J}\}.$$

(  
i.e. elements  $e \in R$   
with  $e^2 = e$ )

Pf 1. Check by hand that  $\forall k$ ,

idempotents of  $R/\mathfrak{J}^k$  can be lifted to idempotents of  $R/\mathfrak{J}^{k+1}$   
(exercise, slightly messy)  $\square$

Pf 2 (better). Use geometry:

- $\text{Spec}(R/\mathfrak{J}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Spec}(R)$  as top. spaces  
(since  $\mathfrak{J} \subseteq \text{Rad } R$ )
- $\{\text{idempotents of } R\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{subsets of } \text{Spec}(R) \\ \text{which are both open \& closed} \end{array} \right\}$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $e \longmapsto V(e)$   
(closed by def<sup>n</sup> of Zariski top,  
open since  $(\text{Spec } R) \setminus V(e) = V(1-e)$ )  
(see next section)  $\square$

Prop Let  $R$  be a ring with  $\text{Spm } R = \{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$  finite  
&  $\text{Jac } R = \text{Rad } R$ . pairwise distinct

Then  $R \xrightarrow{\sim} R_{m_1} \times \dots \times R_{m_n}$  (a product of local rings).

Pf. By maximality  $m_i + m_j = (1) \quad \forall i \neq j$

$\Rightarrow$  Chinese Remainder Thm gives

$$R/\text{Jac } R \xrightarrow{\sim} \prod_{i=1}^n R/m_i \quad \text{since } \text{Jac } R = m_1 \cap \dots \cap m_n.$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \text{idempotents } \bar{e}_i \in R/\text{Jac } R \text{ with } \bar{e}_i \equiv \begin{cases} 1 \pmod{m_i} \\ 0 \pmod{m_j} & \forall j \neq i \end{cases}$$

By previous remark, these lift to idempotents  $e_i \in R$ .

Note:

- For  $i \neq j$  we have  $e_i \cdot e_j = 0$   
(indeed  $e_i \cdot e_j$  is both idempotent and  $\in \bigcap_{i=1}^n m_i = \text{Rad } R$ )
- Similarly  $e_1 + \dots + e_n = 1$   
(indeed  $1 - e_1 - \dots - e_n$  is idempotent and  $\in \text{Rad } R$ ).

nilpotent elts!  
 $\downarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow R &\xrightarrow{\sim} R_{e_1} \times \dots \times R_{e_n} \\ a &\longmapsto (ae_1, \dots, ae_n) \\ b_1 + \dots + b_n &\longleftarrow (b_1, \dots, b_n) \end{aligned}$$

By construction,  
each  $R_{e_i}$  has a  
unique max. ideal  
and it maps to  $m_i$   
so that  $R_{e_i} \cong R_{m_i}$ .  $\square$

Cor. ("Structure thm for Artin rings")

A ring  $R$  is Artin iff  $R \cong R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n$   
with local Artin rings  $R_i$ .

The rings  $R_i$  are uniquely determined up to iso,  
they are the localizations of  $R$  at its maximal ideals.

Pf. Only remains to check uniqueness.

Given an iso  $\varphi: R \cong R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n$  w/  $\text{Spm } R_i = \{\bar{m}_i\}$ ,

put

$$m_i := \varphi^{-1}(\bar{m}_i)$$

via  $\text{Spm}(R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n) \cong \text{Spm}(R_1) \times \cdots \times \text{Spm}(R_n)$ .

$$\Rightarrow \text{Spm}(R) = \{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$$

$$\text{and } R_{m_i} \xrightarrow{\varphi} R_i, \bar{m}_i = R_i.$$

(since  $R_i$  is local)

Note: By construction the  $m_i$  are pairwise distinct

because the  $\bar{m}_i$  live in different factors of  $R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n$ .

□

Rem. A local ring  $R$  w/ max. ideal  $m \trianglelefteq R$

is Artin iff  $m^n = (0)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

(use that  $\text{Jac } R = m$ ).

We then think of  $\text{Spec } R$  as a "fat point",

so in general spectra of Artin rings are unions of such:

$$\text{Spec } (\mathbb{k}[X]/(f(X))), \quad f(X) = \prod_{i=1}^n (X - a_i)^{e_i} \quad (a_i \in \mathbb{k} \text{ pairwise distinct})$$

Caution For arbitrary rings  $R$ ,

$\text{Spec}(R) = \text{finite union of closed points}$

does NOT imply that  $R$  is Artin:

e.g. take  $\mathbb{k}$  a field and  $V \in \text{Vect}(\mathbb{k})$

then  $R := \mathbb{k} \oplus V$  as a  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra

with multiplication defined by  $V \cdot V := \{0\}$

has  $\text{Spec } R = \text{a single pt}$ , but  $R$  is Noetherian  
only if  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} V < \infty$ .

This example was artificial as we made  $\text{Rad}(R)$  huge.

But we need to be careful even in reduced cases:

Ex Let  $R = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} k_i$  be an infinite product of fields  $k_i$ .  
 $\Rightarrow R$  is not Noetherian but  $\dim R = 0$ .

Pf. Consider the following property of rings  $S$ :

(\*)  $\forall s \in S$ , the element  $s^2$  divides  $s$  in  $S$   
(“von Neumann rings”)

Then:

- fields satisfy (\*)
- (\*) is stable under arbitrary products & quotients

In our case we get: For any  $p \in \text{Spec}(R)$ ,  
the integral domain  $S := R/p$  has (\*)

But an integral domain with (\*) is necessarily a field:

For  $s \in S \setminus \{0\}$  write  $s = s^2t$  with  $t \in S$  by (\*),  
then we get  $st = 1$  since  $S$  is an integral domain.

Conclusion: Any  $p \in \text{Spec} R$  is maximal, ie  $\dim R = 0$ .  $\square$

## 6. Connected components

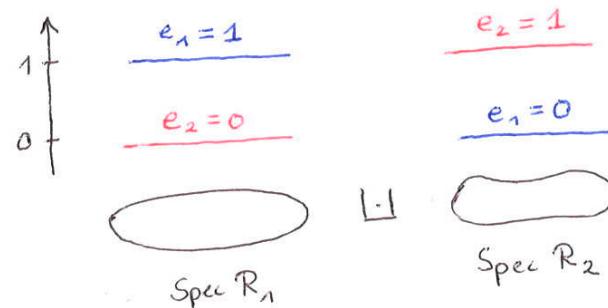
Let  $R$  be a ring.

The top. space  $\text{Spec } R$  doesn't have to be connected,  
ie. it may be a disjoint union of two closed subsets:

Ex  $R = R_1 \times R_2$  product of two rings  
 $\Rightarrow \text{Spec } R = V_1 \sqcup V_2$  with  $V_i := \text{Spec } R_i$   
 $\uparrow$   
(disjoint union)

The  $V_i \subset \text{Spec } R$  are closed since  $V_i = V(e_i)$   
for the “basis vectors”  $e_1 = (1, 0) \in R_1 \times R_2$ ,  
 $e_2 = (0, 1) \in R_1 \times R_2$ .

This is like a “partition of unity”:



More precisely:  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are idempotent,  $e_1 e_2 = 0$   
and  $e_1 + e_2 = 1$ .

- Def
- An element  $e \in R$  is called idempotent if  $e^2 = e$ .
  - For a topological space  $X$ ,  
a subset  $Y \subseteq X$  is called clopen if it is  
both closed & open ( $\Leftrightarrow Y$  and  $X \setminus Y$  are both closed).

Lemma For any ring  $R$ ,  $\exists$  bijection

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{ \text{idempotents } e \in R \} & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \{ \text{clopen subsets of } \text{Spec } R \} \\ & & (\text{in the Zariski topology}) \\ e & \longmapsto & V(e) \subseteq \text{Spec } R \end{array}$$

Pf.

- ① For  $e \in R$  idempotent, also  $f := 1 - e$  is idempotent

$$(f^2 = 1 - 2e + e^2 = 1 - 2e + e = f)$$

We have

- $e \cdot f = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Spec } R = V(e) \cup V(f)$
- $e + f = 1 \Rightarrow V(e) \cap V(f) = \emptyset$

thus both  $V(e)$  & its complement  $\text{Spec } R \setminus V(e) = V(f)$   
are closed, ie.  $V(e)$  is clopen.

- ② Conversely, assume  $V = V(\tilde{I}) \subseteq \text{Spec } R$  clopen for some  $\tilde{I} \trianglelefteq R$ .

Write  $W = \text{Spec } R \setminus V(\tilde{I}) = V(\tilde{J})$  with  $\tilde{J} \trianglelefteq R$   
(as  $W$  is also closed).

- Now  $V(\tilde{I}) \cap V(\tilde{J}) = \emptyset$   
 $\Rightarrow$  the ideal  $\tilde{I} + \tilde{J}$  is not contained in any prime ideal  
 $\Rightarrow \tilde{I} + \tilde{J} = (1)$   
 $\Rightarrow \exists \tilde{e} \in \tilde{I}, \tilde{f} \in \tilde{J}: \tilde{e} + \tilde{f} = 1$ .  
 $\Rightarrow V(\tilde{e}) \supseteq V(\tilde{I})$  and  $V(\tilde{e}) \cap V(\tilde{f}) = \emptyset$   
 $V(\tilde{f}) \supseteq V(\tilde{J})$

Since  $\text{Spec } R = V(\tilde{I}) \sqcup V(\tilde{J}) \subseteq V(\tilde{e}) \sqcup V(\tilde{f}) \subseteq \text{Spec } R$   
it follows that " $=$ " holds everywhere.

$$\Rightarrow \text{Wlog } \frac{\tilde{I}}{\tilde{J}} = \frac{(\tilde{e})}{(\tilde{f})} \text{ without changing vanishing loci } V, W.$$

- Now if we knew  $\tilde{e}\tilde{f} = 0$  then  $\tilde{e}, \tilde{f}$  would be idempotent  
since  $\tilde{f} = 1 - \tilde{e}$ , so we'd be done.

This doesn't always work.

$$\text{However, } V(\tilde{I}) \cup V(\tilde{J}) = \text{Spec } R$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{I}\tilde{J} \subseteq \bigcap_{P \in \text{Spec } R} P = \text{Rad } R$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists n \in \mathbb{N}: (\tilde{e}\tilde{f})^n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow IJ = 0 \text{ for the ideals } I = (\tilde{e}^n), J = (\tilde{f}^n) \trianglelefteq R.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } V &= V(I) = V(\tilde{I}) \\ W &= V(J) = V(\tilde{J}) \quad \text{since} \quad \sqrt{I} = \sqrt{\tilde{I}} \\ \sqrt{J} &= \sqrt{\tilde{J}} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  same argument as before gives  $e \in I$ ,  $f \in J$   
with  $e + f = 1$

but now also  $ef \in IJ = (0)$ , so  $ef = 0$ .

$\Rightarrow e \in R$  idempotent with  $V = V(e)$ .

③ So we've shown every clopen  $V \subseteq \text{Spec } R$  has the form  $V = V(e)$   
with  $e \in R$  idempotent.

Remains to check uniqueness:

Let  $e_1 \neq e_2 \in R$  be distinct idempotents.

Put  $f_i := 1 - e_i \in R$ , again idempotent w/  $e_i f_i = 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow 0 \neq e_1 - e_2 = \underbrace{e_1 \cdot (e_2 + f_2)}_{=1} - \underbrace{(e_1 + f_1) \cdot e_2}_{=1} = e_1 f_2 - f_1 e_2.$$

$\Rightarrow e_1 f_2 \neq 0$  or  $f_1 e_2 \neq 0$ . Say  $e_1 f_2 \neq 0$ .

Nonzero idempotents are not nilpotent, so  $e_1 f_2 \notin \text{Rad } R$

$\Rightarrow \exists g \in \text{Spec } R : e_1 f_2 \notin g$

$\Rightarrow e_1 \notin g$  and  $f_2 \notin g$ , but the latter implies  $e_2 \in g$   
because  $e_2 f_2 = 0$ .

$\Rightarrow V(e_1) \neq V(e_2)$ . □

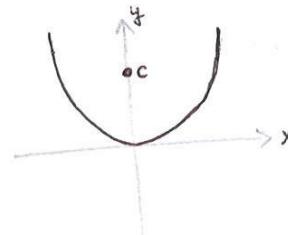
Cor.  $\text{Spec } R$  is connected iff the only idempotents in  $R$  are  $e = 0, 1$ .  
Ex. If  $R$  is an integral domain, then  $\text{Spec } R$  is connected (even irreducible, see below).

Rem. If  $e \in R$  is idempotent and  $f := 1 - e$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } R &\xrightarrow{\sim} R_e \times R_f \quad \text{with } R_e := R \cdot e \\ a &\mapsto (ae, af) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow V(e) = \text{Spec}(R_e)$  & the example from the  
 $V(f) = \text{Spec}(R_f)$  beginning covers all cases.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex } R &= k[x,y]/(c) \quad \text{for } k \text{ a field,} \\ c &:= \underbrace{(y-x^2)}_{I} \cdot \underbrace{(x,y-c)}_{J} \end{aligned}$$



Look for  $e \in I$ ,  $f \in J$   
with  $e + f = 1 =$

For  $c \neq 0$ , can take

$$\begin{aligned} e &:= \frac{1}{c} \cdot (y - x^2) \in I \\ f &:= \frac{1}{c} \cdot (x^2 - (y - c)) \in J. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then put } R_e &:= Re \cong k[x,y]/(x,y-c) \cong k \\ R_f &:= Rf \cong k[x,y]/(y-x^2) \cong k[x] \\ \Rightarrow R &\xrightarrow{\sim} R_e \times R_f \cong k \times k[x] \text{ via} \quad a \mapsto (a, a), \quad a \in k \\ &\quad x \mapsto (0, x), \\ &\quad y \mapsto (c, x^2). \end{aligned}$$

Do you see what happens for  $c = 0$ ?

## 7. Irreducible components

Recall: Any top space  $X$  is the disjoint union of its connected components (= max. clopen subsets).

Q: When  $X = \text{Spec } R$ ,

- a) can we refine this decomposition;
- b) and find conditions under which it is finite?

Def: A top space  $X$  is irreducible if it cannot be written as  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  w/  $X_1, X_2 \subsetneq X$  proper closed subsets.

Ex:  $X = \text{Spec } k[t]$  is irreducible (its proper closed subsets are finite)

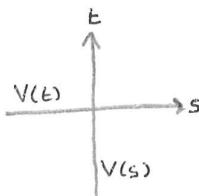
$\bullet X = \text{Spec } k[s, t]/(st) = V(s) \cup V(t)$

is not irreducible,

it decomposes in two irreducible closed subsets  
 $V(s) \cong \text{Spec } k[t]$   
 $V(t) \cong \text{Spec } k[s]$ .

However,  $X$  is connected:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{e} \in k[s, t]/(st) \text{ idempotent} &\iff e \in k[s, t] \text{ with } e(e-1) \in (st) \\ &\iff e \in (st) \text{ or } e-1 \in (st) \\ &\quad (\text{exercise}) \\ &\iff \bar{e} \in \{0, 1\}. \end{aligned}$$



Lemma:  $X = \text{Spec } R$  is irreducible

iff  $\text{Rad}(R) \trianglelefteq R$  is a prime ideal.

Pf.:  $X$  is irreducible iff  $\left| \begin{array}{l} X = V(\alpha) \cup V(\beta) \text{ w/ } \alpha, \beta \trianglelefteq R \\ \text{implies that } X = V(\alpha) \text{ or } X = V(\beta) \end{array} \right.$

Since  $V(\alpha) \cup V(\beta) = V(\alpha \cdot \beta)$ , it is equivalent to require:

" $\alpha \cdot \beta \trianglelefteq R$  implies  $\alpha \trianglelefteq \text{Rad } R$  or  $\beta \trianglelefteq \text{Rad } R$ ".  $\square$

But this is equivalent to  $\text{Rad } R$  being prime.

Cor.: A closed subset  $V(\alpha) \subseteq \text{Spec } R$  is irreducible

iff  $\sqrt{\alpha} \trianglelefteq R$  is prime.

Pf.:  $V(\alpha) = \text{Spec } (R/\alpha)$  and  $\text{Rad}(R/\alpha) = \sqrt{\alpha}/\alpha$ .  $\square$

Def: By an irreducible component of a top space  $X$  we mean a maximal irreducible closed subset.

By the above,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimal prime} \\ \text{ideals } \mathfrak{p} \trianglelefteq \text{Spec } R \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{irreducible cpts} \\ \text{of } X = \text{Spec } R \end{array} \right\}$$

... are there only finitely many?

Def A top space  $X$  is Noetherian if it satisfies dcc for closed subsets: Any chain

$$X = X_0 \supseteq X_1 \supseteq X_2 \supseteq \dots$$

stabilizes, ie  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $X_n = X_{n+1} = X_{n+2} = \dots$

Ex  $R$  Noetherian ring  $\Rightarrow \text{Spec } R$  Noetherian

(as descending chains of closed subsets in  $\text{Spec } R$  correspond to ascending chains of vanishing ideals)

Note Converse is NOT true in general:

e.g. take  $R = k[x_n | n \in \mathbb{N}] / (x_n^2 | n \in \mathbb{N})$

$\Rightarrow$  every  $x_n$  is nilpotent, hence contained in all primes of  $R$

$\Rightarrow \wp := (x_n | n \in \mathbb{N}) \trianglelefteq R$  is the only prime ideal

$\Rightarrow \text{Spec } R = \{\wp\}$  is a singleton space,  
clearly Noetherian

but  $R$  is NOT Noetherian since  $\wp$  is not fin.gen.

Lemma. Every Noetherian top space  $X$  is the union of finitely many irreducible components.

Pf. We show that any closed subset of  $X$  is a finite union of irreducibles.

Put  $\mathcal{S} := \{ \text{closed subsets } Z \subset X \text{ that are not finite unions of irreducible closed subsets} \}$

Then  $\mathcal{S}$  is partially ordered by " $\subseteq$ ".

If  $\mathcal{S} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\exists$  a minimal element  $Z \in \mathcal{S}$  (since  $X$  Noetherian)

Since  $Z \in \mathcal{S}$ , in particular  $Z$  is not irreducible,

so  $Z = Z_1 \cup Z_2$  with  $Z_i \not\subseteq Z$  closed.

By minimality  $Z_1, Z_2 \notin \mathcal{S}$ , so both  $Z_i$  are finite unions of irreducible closed subsets & then so is  $Z = Z_1 \cup Z_2$   $\square$

Cor For any Noetherian ring  $R$ ,

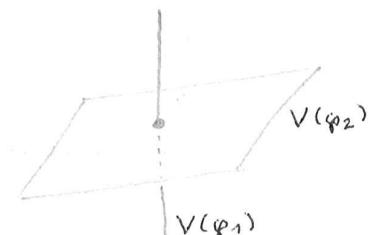
- a) the spectrum  $X = \text{Spec } R$  is a finite union of irreducible components,
- b) hence  $R$  has finitely many minimal prime ideals.

Ex  $R = k[x, y, z] / (xz, yz)$

minimal primes:

$$\wp_1 = (x, y) \trianglelefteq R$$

$$\wp_2 = (z) \trianglelefteq R$$



$\text{Spec}(R)$

## 8. Primary ideals

$R$  ring,  $\sqrt{a} \subseteq R$

"irreducible cpt's"



Have seen: If  $R$  is Noetherian,

$$\text{then } V(\sqrt{a}) = \text{Spec}(R/\sqrt{a}) = V(p_1) \cup \dots \cup V(p_n)$$

for the finitely many minimal prime ideals  $p_i \supseteq \sqrt{a}$ .

$$\text{Equivalently: } \sqrt{a} = p_1 \cap \dots \cap p_n,$$

Cor. In a Noetherian ring  $R$ ,

any radical ideal is a finite intersection of prime ideals.

Q: What about non-radical ideals?

$$\text{Ex a) } R = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\sqrt{a} = (a)$$

$$a = \pm p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_n^{e_n}$$

prime factorized

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{a} &= (p_1 \cdots p_n) \\ &= (p_1) \cap \dots \cap (p_n) \end{aligned}$$

but

$$\sqrt{a} = (p_1)^{e_1} \cap \dots \cap (p_n)^{e_n}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Want to allow powers of prime ideals  $p \supseteq \sqrt{a}$  ("fat points")

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Hilb}} \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(p_1)^{e_1} \cap \dots \cap (p_n)^{e_n}$$

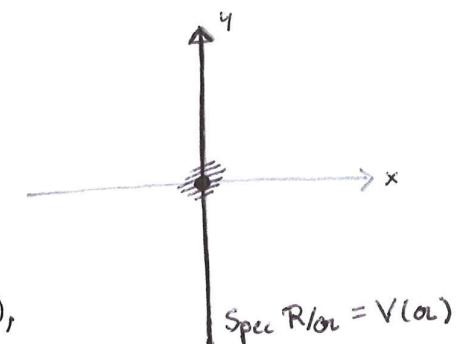
b)  $R = k[x, y]$  ( $k$  a field)

$$\sqrt{a} = (xy, x^2)$$

There is a unique smallest prime  $p \supseteq \sqrt{a}$ , namely  $p = (x)$

( $\cong$  the unique irreduc. cpt. of  $\text{Spec } R/\sqrt{a}$ ),

but clearly  $\sqrt{a} \neq p^n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ !



$$\text{Spec } R/\sqrt{a} = V(\sqrt{a})$$

However,

$$\sqrt{a} = \{ \text{fct's vanishing along the y-axis} \\ \& \text{vanishing to order} \geq 2 \text{ at the origin} \} = (p_1) \cap (p_2)^2$$

where

$$p_1 := (x)$$

$$p_2 := (x, y)$$

Note: Here  $V(p_2) \subseteq V(p_1)$ , since  $p_2 \subseteq p_1$  is not minimal containing  $\sqrt{a}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Want to consider not only minimal primes  $\supseteq \sqrt{a}$   
( $\cong$  irreduc. cpt's of  $V(\sqrt{a})$ )

but also other "associated primes"

( $\cong$  "embedded cpt's of  $V(\sqrt{a})$ ")

c)  $R = k[X, Y]$

$\alpha = (X, Y^2)$  is NOT an intersection of prime powers:

Indeed, if  $\alpha = p_1^{e_1} \cap \dots \cap p_n^{e_n}$

then  $\alpha \subseteq p_i \forall i$ , so  $X, Y \in p_i$ ,

hence  $(X, Y) \subsetneq p_i$  & equality holds by maximality,  
i.e.  $n=1$  and  $p_1 = (X, Y)$ , but  $\alpha \neq p_1^{e_i} \forall e_i \in \mathbb{N}$

Rem.

Imposing just " $ab \in \alpha \Rightarrow \exists n: a^n \in \alpha \text{ or } b^n \in \alpha$ "  
would be strictly weaker:

e.g.  $\alpha := (XY, Y^2) \subseteq k[X, Y]$  satisfies this  
condition but is not primary,  
since  $XY \in \alpha$ ,  $Y \notin \alpha$  but  $X^n \notin \alpha \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Thus the order of  $a, b$  in condition (ii) matters,  
we require (ii) not only for  $(a, b)$  but also for  $(b, a)$ .

But: Here  $R/\alpha \cong k[Y]/(Y^2)$ , although not integral,

becomes integral when dividing out its radical...

$\Rightarrow$  Want to relax the notion of prime ideal

to "primary ideal":

Def An ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is primary if it satisfies the  
following equivalent conditions:

(i) Every zero divisor of  $R/\alpha$  is nilpotent.

(ii)  $ab \in \alpha \Rightarrow a \in \alpha \text{ or } b^n \in \alpha \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(iii)  $ab \in \alpha$  but  $a, b \notin \alpha \Rightarrow \exists m, n \in \mathbb{N}: a^m, b^n \in \alpha$ .

Ex. If  $R$  is a PID, then

$\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is primary iff  $\alpha = p^n$  for some  $p \in \text{Spec } R$ ,  
 $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Pf. Write  $\alpha = (c)$  for some  $c \in R$ .

Then:  $\alpha \neq p^n$  for all  $p \in \text{Spec } R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$\Leftrightarrow c = ab$  with  $a, b \notin R^*$   
and  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

In that case,  $c \nmid a^m$   $\forall m, n$  but  $c \mid ab$ ,  
 $c \nmid b^n$

hence  $\alpha = (c)$  is not primary (and vice versa). □

Back to arbitrary rings  $R$ :

Lemma a) Every prime ideal is primary.

b) If  $\mathfrak{q} \trianglelefteq R$  is primary, then  $\mathfrak{p} := \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$  is prime.

Pf. a) Obvious: Integral domains have no zero divisors  $\neq 0$ .

b) Let  $a, b \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$

$$\Rightarrow \exists N: (ab)^N \in \mathfrak{q}$$

If  $a^N \in \mathfrak{q}$  then  $a \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$ , similarly for  $b$ .

$$\Rightarrow \text{wlog } a^N, b^N \notin \mathfrak{q}$$

$\Rightarrow \exists m, n: a^m, b^n \in \mathfrak{q}$  since  $\mathfrak{q}$  is primary

$$\Rightarrow a, b \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$$

Cor. For  $\mathfrak{q} \trianglelefteq R$  primary,

$\mathfrak{p} := \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$  is the unique smallest prime ideal  $\ni \mathfrak{q}$ .

Pf. Any prime ideal containing  $\mathfrak{q}$  must contain  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$ .  $\square$

Def We say that  $\mathfrak{q}$  is  $\mathfrak{p}$ -primary if it is primary  
with  $\mathfrak{p} = \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$ .

Warning In general,

a) primary  $\not\Rightarrow$  prime power,

$$\text{e.g. } \mathfrak{q} := (x, y^2) \trianglelefteq R := k[x, y]$$

is a primary ideal but not a power of any prime ideal.

b) prime power  $\not\Rightarrow$  primary,

$$\text{e.g. } \mathfrak{p} := (x, z) \trianglelefteq R := k[x, y, z] / (xy - z^2)$$

is a prime ideal but  $\mathfrak{p}^2$  is not primary  
(exercise).

However, we do have:

Lemma If  $\mathfrak{q} \trianglelefteq R$  is an ideal s.t.  $\mathfrak{m} := \sqrt{\mathfrak{q}}$  is maximal,  
then  $\mathfrak{q}$  is primary. In particular, powers of  
maximal ideals are primary.

Pf. Consider the epi  $R/\mathfrak{q} \rightarrowtail K := R/\mathfrak{m}$ .

If  $a \in R/\mathfrak{q}$  is a zero divisor which is not nilpotent,  
then it maps to a zero divisor  $\neq 0$  in  $K$ ,  
but  $K$  is a field  $\nmid$   $\square$

## 9. Primary decomposition

Goal: Decompose arbitrary ideals  
into their "irreducible" pieces.

Def A primary decomposition of an ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$   
is a representation as an intersection  
 $\alpha = \alpha_1 \cap \dots \cap \alpha_n$  of primary ideals  $\alpha_i \trianglelefteq R$ .

Two questions: Existence?  
Uniqueness?

Let's start with existence..

Def An ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is called irreducible  
if it cannot be written as  $\alpha = \alpha_1 \cap \alpha_2$   
with  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \neq \alpha$ .

Thm If  $R$  is Noetherian, then

- every ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is a finite intersection  
of irreducibles,
- every irreducible ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  is primary

Pf. a) Put  $S := \{ \text{proper ideals } \alpha \trianglelefteq R \text{ that are not finite intersections of irreducibles} \}$ .

If  $S \neq \emptyset$ ,  
we could find a maximal element  $\alpha \in S$  (since  $R$  Noetherian).  
 $\Rightarrow \alpha$  not irreducible, say  $\alpha = \alpha_1 \cap \alpha_2$  w/  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \neq \alpha$   
 $\Rightarrow$  by maximality both  $\alpha_i$  are finite intersections of irr.  
 $\Rightarrow$  so is  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $\alpha \notin S \quad \checkmark$

b) Let  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  be irreducible.

Passing to  $R/\alpha$  we may assume  $\alpha = (0)$ .

Want:  $(0) \trianglelefteq R$  irreducible  $\Rightarrow$  every zero divisor  $b \in R$   
is nilpotent.

Assume  $ab = 0$  but  $a \neq 0$ .

Consider the chain

$$\text{Ann}(b) \subseteq \text{Ann}(b^2) \subseteq \text{Ann}(b^3) \subseteq \dots \trianglelefteq R.$$

$R$  Noetherian  $\Rightarrow \exists n \in \mathbb{N}: \text{Ann}(b^n) = \text{Ann}(b^{n+1})$ .

We want to show  $(a) \cap (b^n) = (0)$

(then  $b^n = 0$  by irreducibility of  $(0) \trianglelefteq R$ ).

Indeed, let

$$\lambda_a = \mu b^n \in (a) \cap (b^n) \text{ w/ } \lambda, \mu \in R$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu b^{n+1} = \lambda \cdot b = \lambda \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu \in \text{Ann}(b^{n+1}) = \text{Ann}(b^n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu b^n = 0 \text{ as required.}$$

□

Caution The converse to b) does NOT hold:

e.g. take  $R = k[x, y]$  for a field  $k$ ,

$$\text{then } q_f := (x^2, xy, y^2) = (x, y)^2$$

is primary (being a power of a max. ideal)

but not irreducible since

$$q_f = (x, y^2) \cap (y, x^2).$$

⇒ In particular, primary decompositions are not unique!

Imposing irreducibility of the factors doesn't help:

$$\text{e.g. } (x, y^2) \cap (y, x^2) = (x, \tilde{y}^2) \cap (\tilde{y}, x^2) \text{ for } \tilde{y} := y + x$$

Exercise: These four ideals are all irreducible, but looking at linear terms shows  $(y, x^2) \neq (x, \tilde{y}^2), (\tilde{y}, x^2)$ .

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So let's try to be more economic:

Lemma If  $q_1, \dots, q_n \subseteq R$  are  $\mathfrak{p}$ -primary for the same prime  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , then so is  $q_f := q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_n$ .

Pf. By def<sup>n</sup> of the radical,

$$\sqrt{q_f} = \sqrt{q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_n} \stackrel{!}{=} \sqrt{q_1} \cap \dots \cap \sqrt{q_n} = \mathfrak{p} \cap \dots \cap \mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p}.$$

To check  $q_f$  is primary, assume  $ab \in q_f$  but  $a \notin q_f$ .

$$\Rightarrow \exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : a \notin q_i$$

But  $ab \in q_i$  &  $q_i$  is primary  $\Rightarrow b \in \sqrt{q_i} = \mathfrak{p} = \sqrt{q_f}$ ,  
i.e.  $\exists m : b^m \in q_f$ .

□

Cor / Def Any primary decomposition of an ideal  $q_f \subseteq R$  can be changed (applying the lemma & removing terms)

to a primary decomposition  $q_f = q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_n$  which is minimal in the sense that

- $\sqrt{q_i} \neq \sqrt{q_j} \wedge i \neq j$ ,
- none of the  $q_i$  can be removed:  $\bigcap_{j \neq i} q_j \notin q_i$   
 $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

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... still not unique:

Ex The ideal  $\alpha := (x^2, xy) \trianglelefteq R = k[x, y]$  has the minimal primary decompositions

$$\alpha = (x) \cap (x, y)^2 = (x) \cap (x^2, y).$$

Note: The two decompositions differ, but they share the set of radicals:  $(x)$  and  $(X, Y)$ .

Thm ("1<sup>st</sup> uniqueness thm for primary decomposition")

Let  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  have a minimal primary decomposition

$$\alpha = \alpha_1 \cap \dots \cap \alpha_n.$$

Then up to permutation the radicals  $\sqrt{\alpha_i} := \sqrt{\alpha_i}$  only depend on  $\alpha$ : They are precisely the prime ideals of the form  $\varphi = \sqrt{(\alpha : x)}$

with  $x \in R$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } (\alpha : x) &:= \text{Ann}(\bar{x} \in R/\alpha) \\ &:= \{a \in R \mid ax \in \alpha\}. \end{aligned}$$

Pf. Step ①:

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad \alpha &= \bigcap_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \implies (\alpha : x) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n (\alpha_i : x) \\ &\implies \sqrt{(\alpha : x)} = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \sqrt{(\alpha_i : x)} \\ &= \bigcap_{\substack{\alpha_i \neq x}} \sqrt{(\alpha_i : x)} \\ &\quad \uparrow \\ &\quad (\text{if } x \in \alpha_i \text{ then } (\alpha_i : x) = R) \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet \quad \alpha_i \text{ primary with } x \notin \alpha_i \implies \sqrt{(\alpha_i : x)} = \sqrt{\alpha_i}$$

$$\bullet \quad \text{Conclusion: } \sqrt{(\alpha : x)} = \bigcap_{\substack{\alpha_i \neq x}} \sqrt{\alpha_i} \quad (*)$$

$$\implies \text{if } \varphi := \sqrt{(\alpha : x)} \text{ is prime,} \\ \text{then } \exists i \text{ with } \varphi = \sqrt{\alpha_i}$$

Step ②: Conversely,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \exists x \in \bigcap_{j \neq i} \alpha_j \setminus \alpha_i$   
(since the primary decomposition is minimal)

$$(*) \Rightarrow \sqrt{\alpha_i} = \sqrt{(\alpha : x)}$$

□

Rem. If  $R$  is Noetherian, then the  $\wp_i := \sqrt{\wp_i}$  can also be characterized as being precisely those ideals  $(\alpha : y)$  that are prime ( $y \in R$ ).  
 (without taking the radical)

Pf. Given  $x \in R$  with  $\sqrt{(\alpha : x)} = \sqrt{\wp_i}$ ,

$\exists N \in \mathbb{N} : \sqrt{\wp_i^N} \subseteq \wp_i$  (because  $R$  is Noetherian)

$$\Rightarrow (\bigcap_{j \neq i} \wp_j) \cdot \sqrt{\wp_i^N} \subseteq \alpha = \bigcap_{k=1}^n \wp_k \quad (**)$$

Fix  $N$  minimal with  $(**)$

$$\Rightarrow \exists y \in (\bigcap_{j \neq i} \wp_j) \cdot \sqrt{\wp_i^{N-1}} \text{ with } y \notin \alpha \\ \text{ie. } y \notin \wp_i.$$

But

$$\sqrt{\wp_i} \subseteq (\alpha : y) \subseteq \sqrt{(\alpha : y)} = \sqrt{\wp_i}$$

$\uparrow$  by  $(**)$        $\uparrow$  trivial       $\uparrow$  by  $(*)$  from previous proof,  
 since  $y \in \wp_j \forall j \neq i$

$\Rightarrow$  equality holds  
 & we're done. □

Def In the above setup, the  $\wp_i := \sqrt{\wp_i} \in \text{Spec}(R)$  are called the primes associated to  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$ .

We divide them in two types:

- a) The minimal ones among the  $\wp_i$  are called isolated primes,
- b) the others are embedded primes.

These terms come from geometry:

Lemma Let  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  have associated primes  $\underbrace{\wp_1, \dots, \wp_m}_{\text{isolated}}$ ,  $\underbrace{\wp_{m+1}, \dots, \wp_n}_{\text{embedded}}$

Then

$$V(\alpha) = \bigcup_{i=1}^m V(\wp_i)$$

is the decomposition of  $V(\alpha)$  in irreducible cpt's, while each  $V(\wp_j)$  with  $j > m$  is embedded as a proper closed subset in one of these cpt's (we also say that  $V(\wp_j)$  is an "embedded cpt" of  $V(\alpha) = \text{Spec } R/\alpha$ ).

Pf. Pick a primary decomposition

$$\alpha = \alpha_1 \cap \dots \cap \alpha_n \text{ with } p_i = \sqrt{\alpha_i}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{\alpha} = p_1 \cap \dots \cap p_n$$

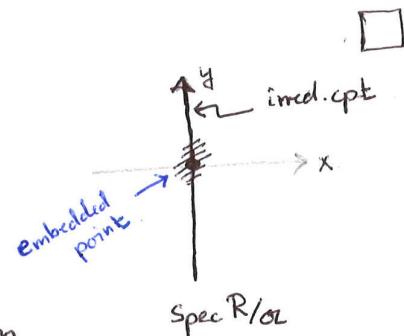
$$= p_1 \cap \dots \cap p_m \quad (\text{as each } p_j, j > m, \\ \text{is } \subseteq p_i \text{ for some } i \leq m)$$

$$\Rightarrow V(\alpha) = \bigcup_{i=1}^m V(p_i)$$

↑ irreducible, closed, and  
none of them contained in another one.

Ex a)  $R := k[X, Y]$

$$\alpha = (XY, X^2)$$



We've already seen the primary decomposition

$$\alpha = \alpha_1 \cap \alpha_2 \quad \text{where}$$

$$\alpha_1 := p_1 = (X) = (\alpha : Y) \quad (\text{isolated})$$

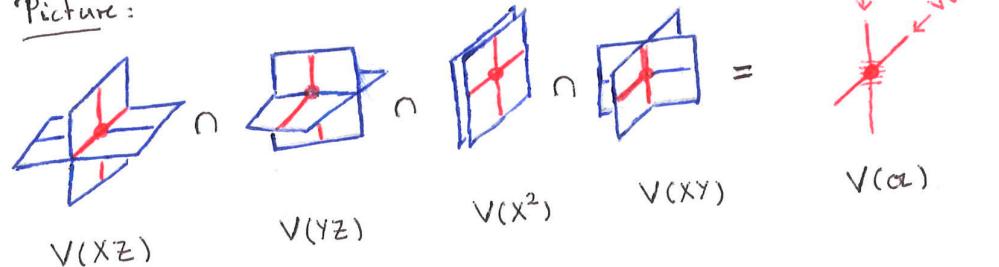
$$\alpha_2 := p_2^2 \quad \text{with } p_2 := (X, Y) = (\alpha : X) \quad (\text{embedded})$$

b)  $R := k[X, Y, Z]$

$\nabla 1$

$$\alpha := (XZ, YZ, X^2, XY)$$

Picture:



$\Rightarrow \text{Spec}(R/\alpha)$  should be the union of the Y-axis & Z-axis  
but with a "fat point at the origin"  
( $\cong$  tangent direction to X-axis at origin).

A primary decomposition:

$$\alpha = \underbrace{(X, Z)}_{\alpha_1} \cap \underbrace{(X, Y)}_{\alpha_2} \cap \underbrace{(X^2, Y, Z)}_{\alpha_3}$$

Indeed:

- $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$  are primary (exercise)

- $\alpha_1 \cap \alpha_2 = (X, YZ) \Rightarrow \alpha_1 \cap \alpha_2 \cap \alpha_3 = \alpha$ .

Associated primes:

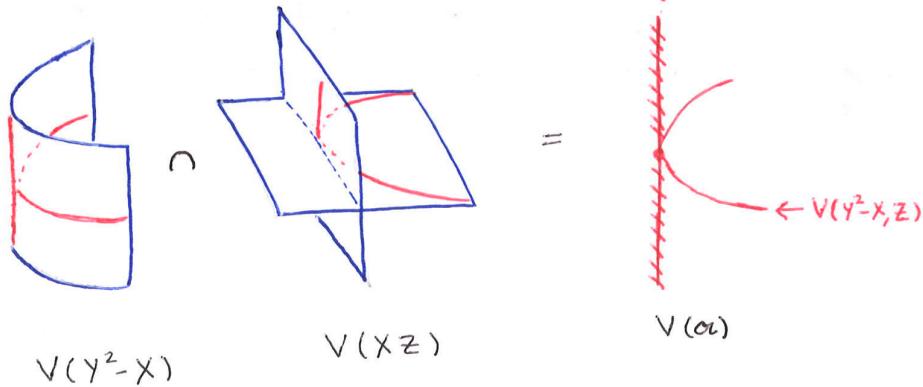
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} p_1 = (X, Z) \\ p_2 = (X, Y) \\ p_3 = (X, Y, Z) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} (\text{isolated}) \\ (\text{isolated}) \\ (\text{embedded}) \end{array}$$

$$c) f_R[x, y, z]$$

$\nabla_1$

$$\alpha_1 := (y^2 - x, xz)$$

Picture:



$\Rightarrow \text{Spec}(R/\alpha_1)$  should be the union of the parabola  $V(y^2 - x, z)$  with the  $z$ -axis, but the  $z$ -axis with "multiplicity two"  
( $\cong$  tangents in  $y$ -direction along the  $x$ -axis)

A primary decomposition:

$$\alpha_1 = (\underbrace{x, y^2}_{\alpha_1}) \cap (\underbrace{y^2 - x, z}_{\alpha_2})$$

Associated primes:

$$\mathfrak{p}_1 = (x, y) \quad (\text{both are isolated})$$

$$\mathfrak{p}_2 = (y^2 - x, z)$$

Rem In the last example  $\alpha_1 \neq p_1$  although  $p_1$  was isolated.

Q: Are primary cpt's  $\alpha_i$  of isolated primes  $p_i$  unique  
(all previous cases of non-uniqueness were about embedded primes)?

Idea: Trivially true if  $\exists!$  primary cpt. In general,  
can "zoom in" to kill all other primary cpt's by localizing!

Lemma. Let  $S \subset R$  be a multiplicative subset and  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$ .

a) If  $\mathfrak{p} \cap S \neq \emptyset$ ,

then  $\mathfrak{p} \cdot R_S = (1)$   $\Leftrightarrow$   $\mathfrak{p}$ -primary ideal  $\mathfrak{p} \trianglelefteq R$ .

b) If  $\mathfrak{p} \cap S = \emptyset$ , then the "localizat"  $\varphi: R \rightarrow R_S$   
induces a bijection

$$\left\{ \mathfrak{p} \text{-primary ideals in } R \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \left\{ \mathfrak{p} R_S \text{-primary ideals in } R_S \right\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{p} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathfrak{p} R_S \\ & \searrow \varphi^{-1} & \swarrow \end{array}$$

Pf. a) Recall  $\sqrt{q} = \bigcup_{q_i}$  if  $q_i$  is  $q$ -primary.

$$\text{Thus: } s \in S \cap q \Rightarrow \exists n: s^n \in S \cap q \Rightarrow \frac{s^n}{1} \in qR_S \cap R_S^* \\ \Rightarrow qR_S = (1)$$

b) Let  $S \cap q = \emptyset$ .

If  $q$  is  $q$ -primary, then  $qR_S$  is  $qR_S$ -primary:

- $qR_S$  is primary:  $\frac{a}{s}, \frac{b}{t} \in R_S$  with  $\frac{a}{s} \frac{b}{t} \in qR_S$  but  $\frac{a}{s} \notin qR_S$   
 $\Rightarrow \exists u \in S: ua \in q$   
but  $ua \notin q \forall u \in S$

In particular  $ua \notin q$ , so  $\exists n: b^n \in q$   
since  $q$  primary

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{b}{t}\right)^n \in qR_S$$

$$\bullet \sqrt{qR_S} = \bigcup_{q_i} q_i \cdot R_S = qR_S$$

Conversely, if  $qR_S \subseteq R_S$  is  $qR_S$ -primary,

then  $\bar{\varphi}^{-1}(qR_S)$  is  $q$ -primary (exercise).

Finally, these assignments are mutually inverse:

- $\varphi^{-1}(q_i) \cdot R_S = q_i$  (true for all ideals in a localization)
- $\varphi^{-1}(q \cdot R_S) = q$  ( $\frac{a}{s} \in qR_S \Rightarrow \exists s \in S: s \cdot a \in q \Rightarrow \exists n: a^n \in q$   
 $(s \notin q \& q \text{ primary}) \Rightarrow a \in q$ )  $\square$

Prop Let  $S \subset R$  be multiplicative,

$\alpha = q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_n$  a minimal primary decomposition  
with  $q_i := \bigcup_{q_j}$  disjoint from  $S$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$   
but not for  $i = m+1, \dots, n$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Have minimal primary decompositions

- $\alpha R_S = \bigcap_{i=1}^m q_i R_S$  in  $R_S$
- $\bar{\varphi}^{-1}(\alpha R_S) = \bigcap_{i=1}^m q_i$  in  $R$

$$\text{Pf. } \alpha R_S = (q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_n) R_S$$

$$= \bigcap_{i=1}^n q_i R_S \quad \text{as localization commutes w/ finite intersections}$$

$$= \bigcap_{i=1}^m q_i R_S \quad \text{as } q_i R_S = (1) \text{ for } i > m,$$

and this is a minimal primary decomposition  
by previous lemma.  $\square$

Now apply  $\bar{\varphi}^{-1}$  and use the lemma again.

Cor. ("2<sup>nd</sup> uniqueness thm for primary decomposition")

Let  $\alpha \trianglelefteq R$  have a minimal primary decomposition

$$\alpha = q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_n,$$

labelled such that among the associated primes  $q_i := \sqrt{q_i}$ , precisely  $q_1, \dots, q_m$  are isolated (ie minimal).

$\Rightarrow$  Up to permutation  $q_1, \dots, q_m \trianglelefteq R$   
are determined uniquely by the ideal  $\alpha$ .

Pf. The set of isolated primes  $q_1, \dots, q_m$  only depends on  $\alpha$ .

For  $i = 1, \dots, m$  the proposition gives

$$q_i = \bar{\varphi}(\alpha|_{R_S}) \text{ for } S := R \setminus q_i,$$

because  $q_i \cap S \neq \emptyset$  for all  $j \neq i$  (using minimality of  $q_i$ ).  $\square$

Application For  $R$  Noetherian,  $\varphi \in \text{Spec } R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

have  $V(\varphi^n) = V(\varphi)$  irreducible

$\Rightarrow \exists!$  primary component  $\varphi = q_1$

$$\text{of } \varphi^n = q_1 \cap \dots \cap q_m$$

corresponding to the unique isolated prime  
 $\varphi = \sqrt{q_1}$ .

Def We call  $\varphi^{(n)} := \varphi$  the  $n$ -th symbolic power of  $\varphi$ .

Rem  $\varphi^n \subseteq \varphi^{(n)}$  with " $=$ " iff  $\varphi^n$  is primary.

Thm (Zariski-Nagata) Let  $R = k[X_1, \dots, X_N]$  w/  $k$  an alg closed field

For  $\varphi \in \text{Spec } R$  put  $Z = V(\varphi) \subseteq k^N$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi^{(n)} = \{ f \in R \mid f \text{ vanishes to order } \geq n \text{ at every } z \in Z \}$$

( $\vdash \bigcap_{z \in Z} m_z$  for the maximal  
ideal  $m_z \trianglelefteq R$ )

... proof uses Hilbert's Nullstellensatz.

### III. Integrality and the Nullstellensatz

#### 1. Finite and integral extensions

Def Let  $A$  be a ring.

By an  $A$ -algebra we mean a ring  $B$  together with a ring homomorphism  $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$  (not required to be injective)

We call  $B$  finitely generated as an  $A$ -algebra if  $\exists$  epi  $\tilde{\varphi}: A[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow B$  extending  $\varphi$ ,  
i.e. if  $\exists b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$  s.t.  $B = A[b_1, \dots, b_n]$   
 $\quad := \text{im}(A[x_1, \dots, x_n] \xrightarrow{\tilde{\varphi}} B)$   
 $\quad x_i \mapsto b_i$

Want a much stronger notion:

We call  $B$  finite over  $A$  if  $B$  is fin.gen. as an  $A$ -module (!).

Abuse of notation: We then also say " $B/A$  is a finite ring extension"  
even though  $\varphi$  needn't be injective...

Prop Let  $B$  be an  $A$ -algebra. For  $b \in B$  the following are equivalent:

a) The subring  $A[b] \subseteq B$  is finite over  $A$ .

b)  $\exists$  finit.  $A$ -submodule  $M \subseteq B$  with  $1 \in M$  and  $b \cdot M \subseteq B$ .

c)  $\exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$  sth

$$b^n + a_1 b^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0.$$

Def We then say that  $b$  is integral over  $A$ .

We say that  $B$  is integral over  $A$  iff all  $b \in B$  are.

Pf of the prop.

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): trivial with  $M := A[b]$ .

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): trivial since (c) implies  $A[b] = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} A \cdot b^i$

is generated as an  $A$ -module by  $1, b, b^2, \dots, b^{n-1}$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): Pick generators  $m_i \in M$ ,

say  $M = Am_1 + \dots + Am_n$  w/  $m_1 = 1$ .

Then  $b \cdot M \subseteq M$  gives a system of equations

$$bm_1 = c_{11}m_1 + \dots + c_{1n}m_n$$

$\vdots$

$$bm_n = c_{n1}m_1 + \dots + c_{nn}m_n$$

with  $c_{ij} \in A$  (not necessarily unique but that doesn't matter).

$\Rightarrow$  the matrix  $\Delta := (s_{ij} \cdot b - c_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$   
 $\in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(A[b])$

satisfies  $\Delta \cdot v = 0$  for  $v := \begin{pmatrix} m_1 \\ \vdots \\ m_n \end{pmatrix}$  (\*)

By Cramer's rule

$$\Delta^{\text{ad}} \cdot \Delta = \det(\Delta) \cdot \mathbb{1} \quad (**)$$

for the adjoint matrix  $\Delta^{\text{ad}}$  whose  $(i,j)$ -entry is

$$(-1)^{i+j} \cdot \det(\Delta^{(i,j)})$$

$\Delta$  with row  $j$  & column  $i$  deleted

NB: (\*\*) is a polynomial identity in the entries of  $\Delta$ ,  
hence it holds over any ring if it does so over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .  
But over  $\mathbb{Z}$  it is true since it is so over  $\mathbb{Q} = \text{Quot}(\mathbb{Z})$ .

$$(*) + (**) \Rightarrow \det(\Delta) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} m_1 \\ \vdots \\ m_n \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(\Delta) \cdot m_i = 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(\Delta) = 0 \quad \text{since } m_1 = 1 \in B.$$

In other words:

$$\det(s_{ij} \cdot b - c_{ij}) = 0$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\epsilon A$

Expanding this gives an equation

$$b^n + a_1 b^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0 \quad \text{w/ } a_1, \dots, a_n \in A.$$

□

Ex If a ring extension  $A \rightarrow B$  is finite, then it is integral.

The converse does not hold:

e.g. an extension of fields  $A = k \hookrightarrow B = K$  is

- finite iff  $\dim_K(K) < \infty$
- integral iff  $K/k$  is an algebraic extension,  
i.e. a (possibly infinite) union of finite ones.

In general:  $B/A$  integral  $\Leftrightarrow$  union of finite subextensions  
 $B_i/A$

(e.g.  $B_i := A \cap i \nexists i \in B$ ).

Lemma If  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$  is an integral (resp. finite) extension,  
then so are

- $A/\alpha \xrightarrow{\varphi} B/\beta \quad \forall \alpha \in A, \beta \in B \text{ w/ } \varphi(\alpha) \subseteq \beta$ ,
- $C = A \otimes_A C \xrightarrow{\varphi} B \otimes_A C \quad \text{for any } A\text{-algebra } C$ ,
- $A_S \xrightarrow{\varphi} B_{\varphi(S)} \quad \text{for any multiplicative subset } S \subseteq A$ ,
- $A[X] \xrightarrow{\varphi} B[X]$ .

Pf. Part d) follows from b) with  $C := A[X]$ .

Part c) II  $C := A_S$

$$\text{using } B \otimes_A A_S \cong B_{\varphi(S)}.$$

Part a), b) are trivial if  $B/A$  is finite.

If  $B/A$  is integral, write  $B = \bigcup_{i \in I} B_i$  with  $B_i/A$  finite  $A$ -subalgebra.

$$\Rightarrow B/B = \bigcup_{i \in I} B_i/B \cong B_i \quad \leftarrow \text{finite } A \text{ subalgebra}$$

$$B \otimes_A C = \bigcup_{i \in I} \text{im}(B_i \otimes_A C \rightarrow B \otimes_A C)$$

$$\underbrace{\text{finite } C}_{\text{hence finite } B \otimes_A C}$$

□

Lemma If  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$  &  $B \xrightarrow{\psi} C$  are integral (resp. finite),  
then so is  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi \circ \psi} C$ .

Pf. For "finite" this is obvious:

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \sum_{i=1}^m A \cdot b_i \\ C &= \sum_{j=1}^n B \cdot c_j \end{aligned} \Rightarrow C = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n A \cdot c_{ij}$$

w/  $c_{ij} := b_i \cdot c_j$ .

For "integral" let  $c \in C$ .

$$C/B \text{ integral} \Rightarrow \exists b_1, \dots, b_n \in B : \quad (*)$$

$$c^n + b_1 c^{n-1} + \dots + b_n = 0$$

(proposition, part c)

$$B/A \text{ integral} \Rightarrow A[b_1] \text{ finite}/A \quad (\text{proposition, part a})$$

$$A[b_2] \text{ finite}/A, \text{ so } A[b_1, b_2] \text{ finite}/A[b_1]$$

⋮

$$A[b_1, \dots, b_n] \text{ finite} / A[b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}]$$

$$\Rightarrow A[b_1, \dots, b_n] \text{ finite} / A \quad (**)$$

$$\xrightarrow{(*)+(**)} A[b_1, \dots, b_n, c] \text{ finite}/A \Rightarrow c \text{ integral}/A$$

(by proposition, part b)  $\square$

## 2. The integral closure

Lemma. For any  $A$ -algebra  $B$ , the set

$$\bar{A} := \{b \in B \mid b \text{ integral over } A\} \subseteq B$$

is a subring.

Pf.

$$\begin{aligned} b_1, b_2 \in \bar{A} &\Rightarrow A[b_1, b_2] \text{ finite}/A \quad \text{by previous lemma} \\ &\quad \text{(or its proof)} \\ &\Rightarrow b_1 + b_2 \in \bar{A} \\ &b_1 \cdot b_2 \in \bar{A} \quad \text{by proposition, part c).} \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

Def We call  $\bar{A}$  the integral closure (or "normalization") of  $A$  in  $B$ .

We always have  $\varphi(A) \subseteq \bar{A}$  for the structure map

$$\varphi: A \rightarrow B.$$

If  $\bar{A} = \varphi(A)$  we say that  $A$  is integrally closed in  $B$ .

When  $A$  is an integral domain and  $B := \text{Quot}(A)$ ,  
then we also drop the phrase "in  $B$ " and just  
talk about "the integral closure / normalization of  $A$ ".  
resp. about  $A$  being "integrally closed / normal".

Remark For any  $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$ ,

the integral closure  $\bar{A} \subseteq B$  is integrally closed in  $B$ .

Pf. If  $b \in B$  is integral over  $\bar{A}$ ,  
then it is so over  $A$  because the extension  $\bar{A}/A$  is integral.  $\square$

Ex Any UFD is normal (exercise).

Ex Taking  $B = \mathbb{C}$  we get

$$\text{# } \bar{\mathbb{Q}} = \{ b \in \mathbb{C} \mid \exists \text{ monic } p \in \mathbb{Q}[X] \text{ w/ } p(b) = 0 \} \quad \text{"algebraic numbers"}$$

$$\uparrow \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{i}{2}, \dots$$

$$\bar{\mathbb{Z}} = \{ b \in \mathbb{C} \mid \exists \text{ monic } p \in \mathbb{Z}[X] \text{ w/ } p(b) = 0 \} \quad \text{"algebraic integers"}$$

$$\uparrow \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, i, \dots$$

Too big?

Def A number field is a finite field extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$ .

Its ring of integers is defined to be

$$\mathcal{O}_K := (\text{integral closure of } \mathbb{Z} \text{ in } K)$$

$$= \bar{\mathbb{Z}} \cap K$$

$\uparrow$   
for any embedding  $K \hookrightarrow \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{Q}} = \bigcup_{\substack{K \subseteq \bar{\mathbb{Q}} \\ \text{number field}}} K \supset \bar{\mathbb{Z}} = \bigcup_{\substack{K \subseteq \bar{\mathbb{Q}} \\ \text{number field}}} \mathcal{O}_K.$$

How to compute these?

Lemma Let  $A$  be a normal integral domain,  
 $K/k$  a finite extension field of  $k = \text{Quot}(A)$   
and  $B := \text{integral closure of } A \text{ inside } K$ .

Then

$$\text{a) } B = \{ b \in K \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{(normed)} \\ \text{the minimal polynomial of } b \text{ over } k \\ \text{lies in } A[X] \subset k[X] \end{array} \}$$

$$= \{ b \in K \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{(normed)} \\ \text{the characteristic polynomial of } b \\ \text{for the extension } K/k \text{ lies in } A[X] \end{array} \}$$

$$\text{b) } K = \left\{ \frac{b}{a} \mid b \in B, a \in A \setminus \{0\} \right\}.$$

Pf. a) If the min./char. polynomial of  $b$  lies in  $A[X]$ ,  
then  $b$  satisfies a monic polynomial eq<sup>n</sup> over  $A$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow b \in B$ .

Conversely, if  $b \in B$ , consider an algebraic closure  $\bar{k}/k$   
& fix an embedding  $K \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$ . Put  $\bar{A} := \text{int. closure of } A \text{ in } \bar{k}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bar{A} & \hookrightarrow & \bar{k} \\ | & & | \\ B & \hookrightarrow & K \\ | & & | \\ A & \hookrightarrow & k \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow \text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$  acts on  $\bar{k}$

& this action preserves the subring  $\bar{A} \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$   
(since it is trivial on  $A \hookrightarrow k$ )

$\Rightarrow$  Since  $b \in B \subseteq \bar{A}$ ,

we have  $\sigma(b) \in \bar{A} \quad \forall \sigma \in \text{Gal}(K/k)$

But these  $\sigma(b)$  are precisely the zeroes of the min/char polynomial  $p_b(x) \in k[X]$

$\Rightarrow p_b(x)$  has coeffs in  $k \cap \bar{A} = A$   
 $A$  int. closed in  $k$

b) Let  $x \in K$

$\Rightarrow x$  algebraic /  $k$ , say  $a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0$   
with  $a_0, \dots, a_n \in k$ ,  $a_0 \neq 0$

Multiply by common denominator  $\Rightarrow$  wlog all  $a_i \in A$

Multiply by  $a := a_0^{n-1}$

$\Rightarrow$  monic equation for  $b := a \cdot x$  w/ coeffs in  $A$ ,

hence  $x = \frac{b}{a}$  with  $b \in B$ . □

Ex  $A = \mathbb{Z} \subset k = \mathbb{Q}$

$\Rightarrow$  for any number field  $K$ ,

get  $\mathcal{O}_K = \{c \in K \mid \text{minpol}(c) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]\}$

Special case:

$K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  with  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  squarefree

has  $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ ,  $\alpha := \begin{cases} \sqrt{d} & \text{if } d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & \text{if } d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$

Pf. Let  $c = a + b\sqrt{d} \in K$  ( $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , wlog  $b \neq 0$ )

$\Rightarrow \text{minpol}(c) = X^2 - 2aX + (a^2 - b^2d)$

$\Rightarrow c \in \mathcal{O}_K \iff \begin{cases} 2a \in \mathbb{Z} \\ \text{and } a^2 - b^2d \in \mathbb{Z} \end{cases}$

This is equivalent to  $\begin{cases} a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ if } d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4} \\ a, b \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z} \text{ & } a-b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ else} \end{cases}$

(exercise). □

Geometrically, for an integral domain  $A$ ,  
being normal (= integrally closed in  $K = \text{Quot}(A)$ )  
is a kind of "nonsingularity condition" on  $\text{Spec } A$ :

Ex Let  $A := \mathbb{R}[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^2(X+1))$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} x &:= \text{image}(X) \in A \\ y &:= \text{image}(Y) \end{aligned}$$

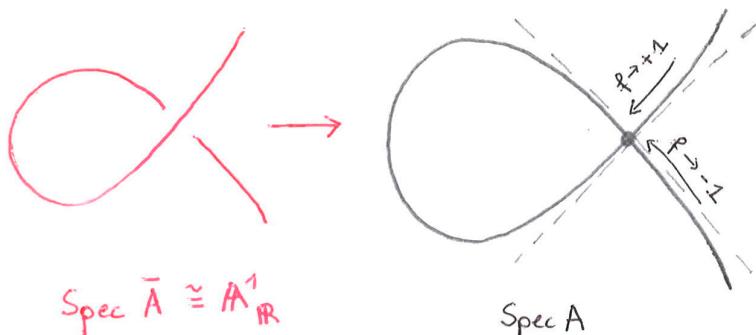
$$\Rightarrow f := \frac{y}{x} \in \text{Quot}(A) = K$$

is a rational "fct" on  $\text{Spec } A$

well-defined on the complement of  $(0,0)$ .

The problem at  $(0,0)$  is not a pole

but that  $f$  approaches two different values  
along the two branches as  $(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)$ :



We have  $f^2 \rightarrow +1$  as  $(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)$  on both branches,  
and indeed  $f^2 = \frac{y^2}{x^2} = x+1 \in A$

$\Rightarrow f \in K$  is integral over  $A$  but  $f \notin A$

$\Rightarrow A$  is not normal

Claim: Its normalization is  $\bar{A} = A[f] \cong \mathbb{R}[z]$

with the map  $A \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}[z]$  given by  $x \mapsto z^2-1$   
 $y \mapsto z \cdot (z^2-1)$

Pf. Since  $f$  is integral over  $A$ , we know  $A[f] \hookrightarrow \bar{A}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  equality if we can show  $A[f] \cong \mathbb{R}[z]$ , since  $\mathbb{R}[z]$  is  
a normal domain.

Indeed:

$$A[f] = \mathbb{R}[X, Y, \frac{Y}{X}] / (Y^2 - X^2(X+1)) \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathbb{R}[z]$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &\mapsto z^2-1 \\ y &\mapsto z \cdot (z^2-1) \end{aligned}$$

- is
- well-defined
  - iso w/ inverse given by  $z \mapsto \frac{y}{x} = f$ . □

### 3. Going up & down

Q: Given an integral ring extension  $A \hookrightarrow B$ ,  
how do prime ideals in  $B$  relate to those in  $A$ ?

Prop ("lying over") Let  $A \hookrightarrow B$  be integral.

Then  $\text{Spec } B \rightarrow \text{Spec } A$  is onto,

i.e.  $\forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A \exists \mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec } B$

with  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{q} \cap A$ .

Pf. Localize at  $S := A \setminus \mathfrak{p}$ .

Then  $A_{\mathfrak{p}} := A_S \rightarrow B_{\mathfrak{p}} := B_S$  is still integral

and we get a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & B_{\mathfrak{p}} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ A & \longrightarrow & A_{\mathfrak{p}} \end{array}$$

Note:  $B_{\mathfrak{p}} \neq \{0\}$  because  $A \hookrightarrow B$  is injective!!! A\_{\mathfrak{p}} is local!

Pick any  $m \in \text{Spm}(B_{\mathfrak{p}})$  (\*)  $\Rightarrow m \cap A_{\mathfrak{p}} \in \text{Spm}(A_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \{\mathfrak{p}A_{\mathfrak{p}}\}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathfrak{q} := \varphi^{-1}(m) \in \text{Spec } B$$

(\*) Use integrality  
(see below)!

90'

For (\*) we've used:

Rem Let  $A \hookrightarrow B$  be integral.

a) If  $B$  (hence  $A$ ) is a domain,  
then  $A$  is a field iff  $B$  is a field.

b)  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec } B$  is maximal iff  $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{q} \cap A \in \text{Spec } A$  is so.

Pf. a)  $A$  field

$b \in B \setminus \{0\}$ , say  $b^n + a_1 b^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0$  w.l.o.g.  $a_i \in A$

If  $B$  is a domain, then wlog  $a_n \neq 0$  (take  $n$  minimal)

$$\Rightarrow b^{-1} = -\frac{1}{a_n} \underbrace{(b^{n-1} + a_1 b^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1})}_{\in B} \in B \Rightarrow B \text{ field}$$

Conversely:  $B$  field

$a \in A \setminus \{0\}$ , say  $b := a^{-1}$  satisfies  $b^n + a_1 b^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0$  w.l.o.g.  $a_i \in A$

Multiply eq<sup>n</sup> by  $a^{n-1}$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{a}^{-1} = -a_1 - a_2 a - \dots - a_n a^{n-1} \in A \Rightarrow A \text{ field}$$

□

b) Apply a) to  $A/\mathfrak{p} \hookrightarrow B/\mathfrak{q}$ .

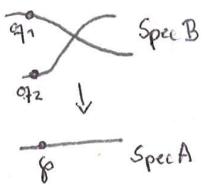
Def If  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec } B$  and  $\mathfrak{q} \cap A = \mathfrak{p}$  we say  $\mathfrak{q}$  lies over  $\mathfrak{p}$

and write  $\mathfrak{q} \hookrightarrow B$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & | \\ & & | \\ \mathfrak{p} & \hookrightarrow & A \end{array}$$

90

Rem Usually  $\exists$  more than one  $\wp$  over the same  $\wp_B$ ,  
ie  $\text{Spec } B \rightarrow \text{Spec } A$  needn't be injective:  
Consider  $A = k[X] \hookrightarrow B := k[X]/(f)$



But:

Prop ("Incomparability") If  $A \hookrightarrow B$  is integral

and  $\wp_1 \neq \wp_2 \in \text{Spec } B$  lie over the same  
 $\wp \in \text{Spec } A$ ,  
then  $\wp_1 \neq \wp_2 \neq \wp$ .

Pf. Assume  $\wp_1 \not\hookrightarrow \wp_2$  with  $\wp_1 \cap A = \wp_2 \cap A = \wp$

The extension  $\bar{A} := A/\wp \hookrightarrow \bar{B} := B/\wp_1$  is integral.

For  $b \in \wp_2 \setminus \wp_1$  and  $\bar{b} := \text{image}(b) \in \bar{B}$ ,

have  $\bar{b}^n + \bar{a}_1 \bar{b}^{n-1} + \dots + \bar{a}_n = 0$  w.l.o.g.  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in B$ .

Assume  $n$  minimal  $\Rightarrow \bar{a}_n \neq 0$  as  $\bar{B}$  is a domain

$\bar{a}_n$  gives  $\bar{a}_n = -\bar{b}^n - \dots - \bar{a}_{n-1} \bar{b} \in \bar{\wp}_2 := \wp_2/\wp_1$

But also  $a_n \in A$ , so  $a_n \in \wp_2 \cap A = \wp = \wp_1 \cap A$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{a}_n = 0 \quad \square$$

A geometric example: Let  $k$  be an alg closed field  
 $A := k[X] \longrightarrow B := k[X, Y]/(f)$

$$f = Y^2 - X^2$$

$A \rightarrow B$  integral

since  $Y \in B$  is

integral over  $A$

$$(Y^2 - X^2 = 0)$$

$\hat{A}$

$$f = XY - 1$$

$A \rightarrow B$  not integral,

indeed  $B \cong k[X, X^{-1}]$

and  $X^{-1}$  is not integral  
over  $A = k[X]$

$$f = XY$$

$A \rightarrow B$  not integral,

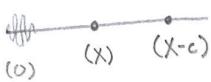
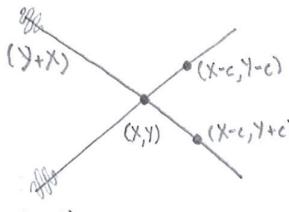
indeed  $Y \in B$

generates the  $A$ -algebra

$$B \cong A \oplus \bigoplus_{i \geq 1} \underbrace{Y \cdot k}_{w/ X \text{ acting by zero}},$$

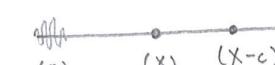
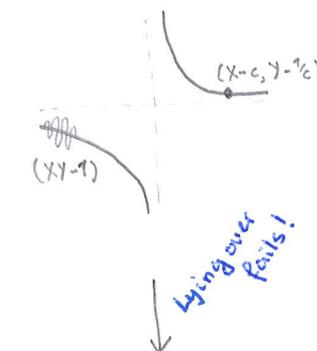
which is not finitely generated as  
an  $A$ -module.

$\text{Spec } B \rightarrow \text{Spec } A$   
onto:



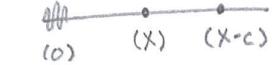
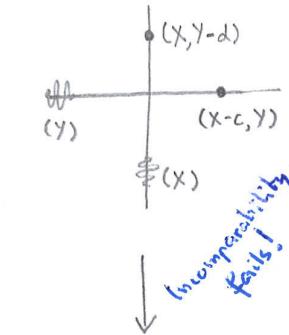
No prime in  $\text{Spec } B$   
lies over  $\wp = (X)$ !

$\text{Spec } B \rightarrow \text{Spec } A$   
not onto:



Here  $(X) \not\hookrightarrow (X, Y-d)$   
in  $\text{Spec } B$  both lie  
over the same  $\wp = (X)$ !

$\text{Spec } B \rightarrow \text{Spec } A$   
onto but has a fiber  
of dim > 0:



Goal: Want to apply "lying over" inductively for chains of prime ideals: Given  $p_1 \subset p_2$  in  $\text{Spec } A$  and  $q_i \in \text{Spec } B$  over  $p_i$  for one  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , want to find  $q_j$  over  $p_j$  for the other  $j \in \{1, 2\}$  fitting in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q_1 & \hookrightarrow & q_2 \\ | & & | \\ p_1 & \hookrightarrow & p_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \Delta B \\ \Delta A \end{array}$$

- Two cases:
- $i=1, j=2$ : Going up  $\rightarrow$
  - $i=2, j=1$ : Going down  $\leftarrow$   
(very different!)

Rem  $\exists$  topological interpretation:

Let  $X$  be a top space and  $p, q \in X$ .  
We call  $p$  a specialization of  $q$  if  $p \in \overline{\{q\}}$  closure  
and  $q$  a generalization of  $p$

Then going up / down for  $A \hookrightarrow B$  means:

"Given  $\text{Spec } B \rightarrow \text{Spec } A$ , any specialization / generalization  
 $q \mapsto p$  of  $q_0$  lifts to one of  $q_i$ "

Thm ("Going up") If  $A \hookrightarrow B$  is an integral extension, then for any  $p_1 \hookrightarrow p_2$  in  $\text{Spec } A$  and any  $q_1 \in \text{Spec } B$  over  $p_1$ ,  $\exists q_2 \in \text{Spec } B$  over  $p_2$  with  $q_1 \hookrightarrow q_2$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q_1 & \hookrightarrow & q_2 \\ | & & | \\ p_1 & \hookrightarrow & p_2 \end{array}$$

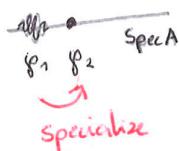
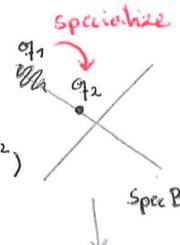
Pf. Consider the integral extension

$$\bar{A} := A/p_1 \hookrightarrow \bar{B} := B/q_1.$$

By "lying over",  $\exists \bar{q}_2 \in \text{Spec } \bar{B}$  over  $\bar{p}_2 := p_2/p_1 \in \text{Spec } \bar{A}$   
 $\Rightarrow q_2 := (\text{preimage of } \bar{q}_2) \in \text{Spec } B$  does the job. □

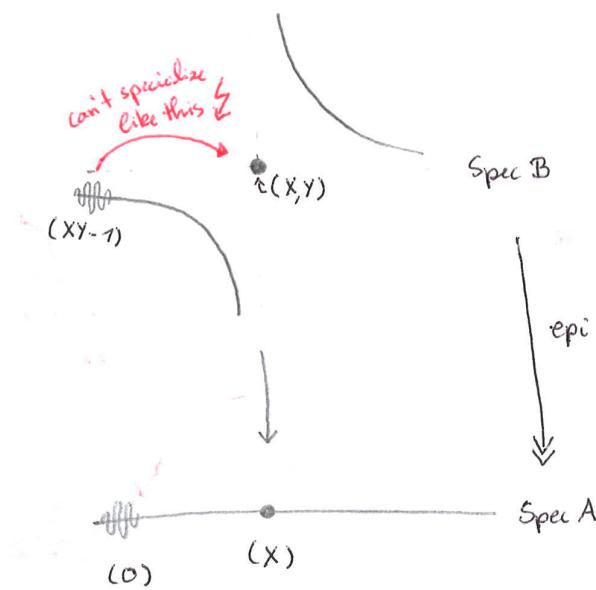
Ex a)  $(y+x) \quad (x-c, y+c)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} || & & || \\ q_1 & \hookrightarrow & q_2 \hookrightarrow \\ | & & | \\ p_1 & \hookrightarrow & p_2 \hookrightarrow \\ || & & || \\ (0) & & (x-c) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} B = k[x,y]/(x^2-y^2) \\ \text{integral} \\ A = k[x] \end{array}$$



Ex b)  $(XY-1)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{?} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B = k[X, Y]/(XY-1) \cap (X, Y) \\ q_1 \curvearrowleft & | & \text{not integral} \\ | & | & \\ p_1 \curvearrowleft & p_2 \curvearrowleft & A = k[X] \\ \parallel & \parallel & \\ (0) & (X) & \end{array}$$



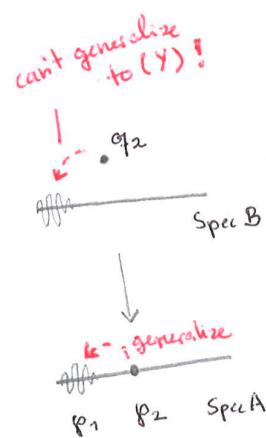
$\Rightarrow$  The only prime ideal over  $(X) \in \text{Spec } A$  is  $(X, Y) \in \text{Spec } B$   
but that one doesn't contain  $(XY-1)$ .

Thus: Going up says something about "continuity in fibers"  
under specialization ...

For "going down" we need more care:

Ex c) Trivial counterexample:

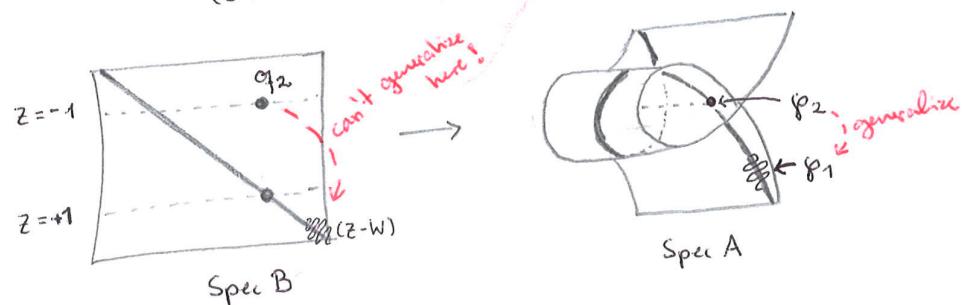
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{?} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B = k[X, Y]/(Y) \cap (X, Y-1) \\ q_2 \curvearrowleft & | & \text{integral} \\ | & | & \\ p_1 \curvearrowleft & p_2 \curvearrowleft & A = k[X] \\ \parallel & \parallel & \\ (0) & (X) & \end{array}$$



d) In the previous example  $\text{Spec } B$  was disconnected.

But even assuming  $B$  to be an integral domain won't help:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{?} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B = k[Z, W] \\ q_2 \curvearrowleft & | & \text{integral} \\ | & | & \\ p_1 \curvearrowleft & p_2 \curvearrowleft & A = k[X, Y, W]/(Y^2 - X^2(X+1)) \\ \parallel & \parallel & \\ (Z-W) \cap A & (X, Y, W-1) & \end{array}$$



Guess: Problem comes from A not being normal. Indeed:

Thm ("Going down") Let  $A \hookrightarrow B$  be an integral extension with A normal and B a domain. Then for any  $\varphi_1 \hookrightarrow \varphi_2$  in  $\text{Spec } A$  and any  $\mathfrak{q}_2 \in \text{Spec } B$  over  $\varphi_2$ ,  $\exists \mathfrak{q}_1 \in \text{Spec } B$  over  $\varphi_1$  with  $\mathfrak{q}_1 \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}_2$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{q}_1 & \hookrightarrow & \mathfrak{q}_2 \\ | & & | \\ \varphi_1 & \hookrightarrow & \varphi_2 \end{array}$$

Pf. ① Main idea: Localize at  $S := \{u \in A \setminus \varphi_1, v \in B \setminus \mathfrak{q}_2\}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi_1 B_S \\ & \cap \\ & \exists \tilde{\mathfrak{q}}_1 \hookrightarrow B_S \\ & | \\ & \exists \mathfrak{q}_1 \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}_2 \hookrightarrow B \\ & | \\ & \varphi_1 \hookrightarrow \varphi_2 \hookrightarrow A \end{aligned}$$

$\downarrow \text{get ideals over } \varphi_1$        $\downarrow \text{get ideals inside } \mathfrak{q}_2$

$$= (A \setminus \varphi_1) \cdot (B \setminus \mathfrak{q}_2)$$

$\Rightarrow$  enough to show  $\varphi_1 B \cap S = \emptyset$

since then  $\varphi_1 B_S \neq (1)$ ,  
so  $\exists \tilde{\mathfrak{q}}_1 \in \text{Spec } B_S$  with  $\varphi_1 B_S \subseteq \tilde{\mathfrak{q}}_1$   
and then  $\mathfrak{q}_1 := \tilde{\mathfrak{q}}_1 \cap B \in \text{Spec } B$   
satisfies  $\varphi_1 B \subseteq \mathfrak{q}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{q}_1 \cap S = \emptyset$ ,  
whence  $\mathfrak{q}_1 \cap A = \emptyset$  and  $\mathfrak{q}_1 \subseteq \mathfrak{q}_2$ .

② Preliminary reduction:

Assume  $\varphi_1 B \cap S \neq \emptyset$ , say  $x \in \varphi_1 B \cap S$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow x &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \quad (a_i \in \varphi_1, b_i \in S) \\ &= u \cdot v \quad (u \in A \setminus \varphi_1, v \in B \setminus \mathfrak{q}_2). \end{aligned}$$

Replace  $B$  by  $B' := A[u, b_1, \dots, b_n]$ ,

$\mathfrak{q}_2$  by  $\mathfrak{q}'_2 := \mathfrak{q}_2 \cap B'$ ,

$S$  by  $S' := S \cap B'$

$\Rightarrow$  Wlog may assume  $B$  is finitely generated as an  $A$ -algebra,  
hence as an  $A$ -module (by integrality).

③ Consider minpol's: finite field ext' by ②

Put  $K = \text{Quot}(A) \hookrightarrow L = \text{Quot}(B)$ ,

$$f(z) := \text{minpol}_K(v)(z)$$

$$= z^d + c_1 z^{d-1} + \dots + c_d \in K[z]$$

Note: A normal and  $v \in L$  integral over A

$$\Rightarrow \text{all } c_i \in A, \text{ ie } f \in A[z] \quad (\text{see } \S 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow u^i \cdot c_i \in \mathfrak{p}_1 \quad \forall i$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{all } c_i \in \mathfrak{p}_1 \quad (\text{since } u \notin \mathfrak{p}_1 \text{ & } \mathfrak{p}_1 \text{ prime})$$

$$\text{But then } f(v) = v^d + c_1 v^{d-1} + \dots + c_d = 0$$

$$\text{implies } v^d \in \mathfrak{p}_1 B \subseteq \mathfrak{p}_2,$$

$$\text{whence } v \in \mathfrak{p}_2 \quad \begin{matrix} \swarrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

□

On the other hand  $u \in K^*$ ,

so

$$g(z) := \text{minpol}_K(uv)(z)$$

$$= u^d \cdot \text{minpol}_K(v)\left(\frac{z}{u}\right)$$

$$= u^d \cdot f\left(\frac{z}{u}\right)$$

$$= z^d + u c_1 z^{d-1} + \dots + u^d c_d$$

Note:  $A \hookrightarrow B$  finite extension of domains &  $uv \in \mathfrak{p}_1 B$

$\Rightarrow$  all non-leading coefficients of  $g = \text{minpol}_K(uv)$   
are  $\in \mathfrak{p}_1$

(add-on to §2, see below)

In the proof we've used:

Add-on to §2 Let  $A \hookrightarrow B$  be a finite extension of domains,  
where A is normal and  $K := \text{Quot}(A)$ .

If  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A$ , then for any  $x \in \mathfrak{p}^B$ ,

writing

$$\text{minpol}_K(x)(z) = z^d + a_1 z^{d-1} + \dots + a_d$$

we have  $a_i \in \mathfrak{p}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$ .

Pf. Put  $L :=$  normal closure of  $\text{Quot}(B)$  in  $\overline{K}$   
 $\quad \quad \quad := K(\text{all conjugates of elts of } \text{Quot}(B)).$

Replacing  $B$  by the subring of  $L$  generated by  $\sigma(B)$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \forall \sigma \in \text{Aut}(L/K)$

we still have  $A \hookrightarrow B$  finite

$\Rightarrow$  wlog  $\text{Aut}(L/K)$  acts on  $B$  (and fixes  $A$ )

$\Rightarrow x \in \wp B$  implies  $\sigma(x) \in \wp B \quad \forall \sigma \in \text{Aut}(L/K)$

$\Rightarrow$  Writing  $\text{minpol}_K(x)(z) = \prod_{i=1}^d (z - x_i) \quad \text{w/ } x_i \in L$   
 $\quad \quad \quad x_i = x_j$

have  $x_i \in \wp B \quad \forall i$

↙ A normal,  $x$  integral  
over  $A$

$\Rightarrow$  all non-leading coeffs of  $\text{minpol}_K(x)(z) \in A[z]$

are  $\in \wp B \cap A = \wp$

↑  
since  $A \hookrightarrow B$  integral  
(use lying over ...)

□

#### 4. Noether normalization

Fix a field  $k$

Q Inside  $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^{n+1} := \text{Spec } k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ ,

consider a hypersurface

$$y = V(f) \subset \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^{n+1}$$

( $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$   
non-constant polynomial)

Can we find a coordinate change

$$k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \cong k[y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}]$$

st/ the projection

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}} & \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^n = \text{Spec } k[y_1, \dots, y_n] \\ (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}) & \mapsto & (y_1, \dots, y_n) \end{array}$$

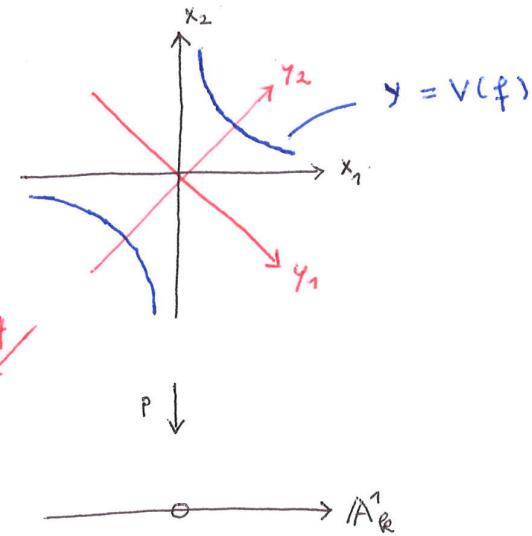
restricts to a finite morphism  $y \rightarrow \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^n$   
in the sense that the composite

$$k[y_1, \dots, y_n] \hookrightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \xrightarrow{\quad} k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] / (f)$$

is a finite ring extension?

Ex  $n=1$

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2 - 1$$



$\Rightarrow$  In the coordinates  $(x_1, x_2)$ ,

the projection  $p: Y \rightarrow A^1_k$ ,  $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto x_1$   
is not finite.

But in the coordinates  $(y_1, y_2)$ ,

$q: Y \rightarrow A^1_k$ ,  $(y_1, y_2) \mapsto y_1$  is finite  
if  $\text{char } k \neq 2$ :

Write  $x_1 = y_2 + y_1$  |  
 $x_2 = y_2 - y_1$  |  
← coordinate trafo since  $\text{char } k \neq 2$

then  $f(y_1, y_2) = (y_2 + y_1)(y_2 - y_1) - 1 = y_2^2 - y_1^2 - 1$

$y_2^2 - y_1^2 - 1$   
monic eq<sup>n</sup>  
for  $y_2 \bmod f$   
over  $k[y_1]$ !

$\Rightarrow k[y_1, y_2]/(f)$  finite over  $k[y_1]$ .

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Rem For  $\text{char } k = 2$  this doesn't work  
but we can instead take the coordinate

$$\text{trafo } x_1 = z_1 + z_2$$

$$x_2 = z_2$$

that works for all  $k$   
(exercise).

Expect that, for arbitrary  $V(f) \subset A^{n+1}_k$ ,  
a "sufficiently general" coordinate change will make  $p: V(f) \rightarrow A^n_k$  finite.

Indeed as in previous remark:

Exercise Assume  $k$  is an infinite field.

Then for any  $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \setminus k$ ,  
 $\exists c_1, \dots, c_n \in k$  s.t. for the new coordinates

$$\begin{cases} y_1 := x_1 - c_1 x_{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ y_n := x_n - c_n x_{n+1} \\ y_{n+1} := x_{n+1} \end{cases}$$

the eq<sup>n</sup>  $f(y_1 + c_1 y_{n+1}, \dots, y_n + c_n y_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) = 0$

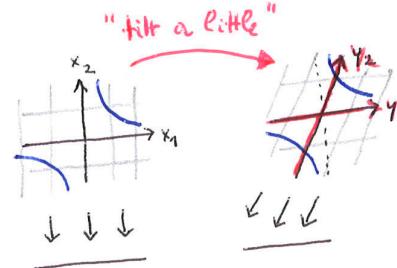
is monic, hence

$$V(f) \rightarrow A^n_k$$

$$(y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}) \mapsto (y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

is a finite morphism.

(ie  $k[y_1, \dots, y_n] \hookrightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] / (f)$   
finite ring extension)

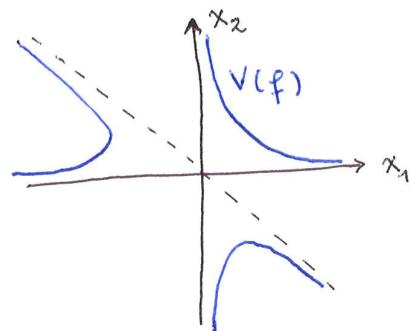


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Caution If  $k$  is finite this may fail:

e.g. let  $k = \mathbb{F}_2$ ,  
 $n = 1$ ,

$$f = x_1 x_2 (x_1 + x_2)^{-1}:$$



Over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  we have only 3 linear forms in  $(x_1, x_2)$ :

$$y_1 = x_1 \quad \text{or} \quad y_1 = x_2 \quad \text{or} \quad y_1 = x_1 + x_2$$

In the above real picture all three corresponding lines  $\{y_i = 0\}$  are asymptotes to  $V(f)$ .

And indeed: The extension

$k[y_1] \hookrightarrow k[x_1, x_2]/(f)$  is integral for none of them!

(exercise)

But a slightly more general coordinate trafo (nonlinear) will work also over finite fields:

Prop Let  $k$  be an arbitrary field &  $B = k[b_1, \dots, b_{n+1}]$  a fin gen  $k$ -algebra.

Assume  $\exists f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \setminus \{0\}$  w/  $f(b_1, \dots, b_{n+1}) = 0$ .

$\Rightarrow \exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in B$

- sth
  - $b_{n+1}$  is integral over  $A := k[a_1, \dots, a_n]$
  - $B = A[b_{n+1}]$ .

Pf. (Nagata 1950's)

Ansatz:  $a_i := b_i - b_{n+1}^{r_i}$  with  $r_i \in \mathbb{N}$   
 (our previous tilt would have  $r_i = 1$ ).

Correspondingly, define  $g \in k[y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}] \setminus \{0\}$

by  $g(y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}) := f(y_1 + y_{n+1}, \dots, y_n + y_{n+1}, y_{n+1})$ ,

so that

$$\boxed{g(a_1, \dots, a_n, b_{n+1}) = 0.}$$

Goal: Choose the  $r_i$  so that  $g \in (k[y_1, \dots, y_n])y_{n+1}$   
 has leading coefficient  $\in k$   
 ↳ (as polynomial in  $y_{n+1}$ )

Using multiindex notation,

$$\text{put } f = \sum_{\underline{m}} c_{\underline{m}} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i^{m_i} \text{ w/ } \underline{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_{n+1}), c_{\underline{m}} \in k$$

$$\Rightarrow g = \sum_{\substack{\underline{m} \\ \in M \\ \underline{r} \\ \in k}} c_{\underline{m}} \cdot \underbrace{\prod_{i=1}^n (y_i + y_{n+1}^{r_i})^{m_i}}_{\text{leading term wrt } y_{n+1}} \cdot y_{n+1}^{m_{n+1}}$$

is  $= y_{n+1}^{\underline{r} \cdot \underline{m}}$ ,  $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{m} := \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} r_i m_i$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Enough to show:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Given any finite collection of multiindices } M \subset \mathbb{N}_0^{n+1} \\ \exists \underline{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \text{ with } r_{n+1} = 1 \\ \text{s.t. } \delta: M \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ \underline{m} \mapsto \underline{r} \cdot \underline{m} \text{ is injective} \end{array} \right.$$

Indeed then the leading term of  $g$  wrt  $y_{n+1}$

will be

$$c_{\underline{m}} \cdot y_{n+1}^{\underline{r} \cdot \underline{m}} \quad \text{for the unique } \underline{m} \text{ with } \delta(\underline{m}) \text{ maximal.}$$

$\underline{c}_{\underline{m}} \in k^*$

Pf of (\*) works by induction:

$n=0$  trivial.

$n-1 \rightarrow n$ :

By induction  $\exists \underline{r}' = (r_2, \dots, r_{n+1}, 1)$

$$\text{w/ } \delta': M' := \{ \underline{m}' := (m_2, \dots, m_{n+1}) \mid \underline{m} \in M \} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$$

$$\underline{m}' \mapsto \underline{r}' \cdot \underline{m}'$$

injective.

Then take

$$r_1 > \max \{ \delta(\underline{m}') \mid \underline{m}' \in M' \}.$$

$\Rightarrow \underline{r} := (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{n+1})$  works.

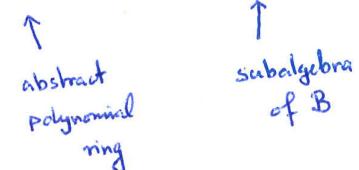
Let's reformulate this in a convenient way:

Def For a  $k$ -algebra  $B$ ,

elements  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in B$  are called algebraically independent (over the field  $k$ ) if the natural

homomorphism  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow k[a_1, \dots, a_n]$

is an isomorphism.



Thm ("Noether normalization") For any fin gen.  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra  $B$ ,  
 $\exists$  alg. independent  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in B$  (some  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ )

sth

$$A := \mathbb{k}[a_1, \dots, a_n] \hookrightarrow B$$

is a finite extension.

(ie.  $\text{Spec}(B) \xrightarrow{\exists} \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^n$  finite morphism).

Pf. Let  $B = \mathbb{k}[b_1, \dots, b_m]$  with  $b_i \in B$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$m=0$ : Trivial (take  $n:=0$ ).

$m-1 \rightarrow m$ : If  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  are alg. independent,  
we're done (take  $n:=m$  &  $a_i := b_i$ ).

So wlog  $\exists f \in \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_m] \setminus \{0\}$   
w/  $f(b_1, \dots, b_m) = 0$ .

Prop  $\Rightarrow \exists \tilde{a}_1, \dots, \tilde{a}_{m-1} \in B$

w/  $\circ$   $b_m$  integral over  $\tilde{A} := \mathbb{k}[\tilde{a}_1, \dots, \tilde{a}_{m-1}]$

$\circ$   $B = \tilde{A}[b_m]$

By induction  $\exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in \tilde{A}$  w/  $\mathbb{k}[a_1, \dots, a_n] \hookrightarrow \tilde{A}$   
finite

$\Rightarrow$  claim.  $\square$

## 5. Hilbert's Nullstellensatz

Recall our geometry  $\leftrightarrow$  algebra dictionary:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Zariski closed} \\ \text{subsets } V \subset \text{Spec } R \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{radical ideals} \\ \mathfrak{a} \subseteq R \end{array} \right\}$$

$$V \longmapsto J(V) := \bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \in V} \mathfrak{p}$$

$$V(\mathfrak{a}) := \{p \mid \mathfrak{a} \subseteq p\} \longleftarrow \mathfrak{a}$$

(see § I.5)

Goal: If  $R = \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  w/  $\mathbb{k}$  algebraically closed,  
then

a)  $\mathbb{k}^n \cong \text{Spm } R$  via  $\underline{a} \mapsto m_{\underline{a}} := (x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n)$

b) above correspondence works more naively

w/  $\text{Spm } R$  in place of  $\text{Spec } R$

$$V(\mathfrak{a}) := \{\underline{a} \in \mathbb{k}^n \mid f(a) = 0 \wedge f \in \mathfrak{a}\},$$

$$J(V) := \{f \in R \mid f(a) = 0 \forall \underline{a} \in V\}.$$

Main point is Noether normalization:

Thm (Nullstellensatz, version 1) Let  $k$  be any field.  
 $K/k$  is a field extension which is fin gen. as a  $k$ -algebra,  
then it is finite:  $[K:k] < \infty$ .  
 $(\Rightarrow K = k \text{ in case } k \text{ is alg closed})$

Pf. Noether normalization  $\Rightarrow K$  is finite over a polynomial ring  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$

So  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \hookrightarrow K$  integral

But  $K$  is a field  $\Rightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a field  
(see remarks after "lying over" in §3)

$\Rightarrow n=0$ , ie.  $k \hookrightarrow K$  is finite

□

Cor (Nullstellensatz, version 2) For  $k$  alg. closed,

(Goal a)  
from above

$$\text{Spm } k[x_1, \dots, x_n] = \{m_{\underline{a}} \mid \underline{a} \in k^n\}$$

$$\text{where } m_{\underline{a}} := (x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n).$$

10.11

Pf.  $\varphi \subseteq R := k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  maximal

$\Rightarrow R/\varphi$  a field & fin gen  $k$ -algebra

$\Rightarrow k \xrightarrow{\varphi} R/\varphi$  iso by previous thm

$$\text{Put } \underline{a_i} := \varphi^{-1}(x_i \bmod \varphi)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_i - a_i \in \varphi$$

$\Rightarrow m_{\underline{a}} \subseteq \varphi$ , hence " $=$ " since  $m_{\underline{a}}$  is maximal.

□

Cor (Nullstellensatz, version 3) Let  $k$  be alg closed,



(Goal a) for any  
fin gen  $k$ -algebra  $R$ )

$$J \subseteq k[x_1, \dots, x_n],$$

$$V := \{\underline{a} \in k^n \mid f(\underline{a}) = 0 \forall f \in J\}$$

a Zariski closed subset of  $k^n$ .

$\Rightarrow \exists$  bijection

$$\begin{aligned} V &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Spm}(R), \quad R := \frac{k[x_1, \dots, x_n]}{J} \\ \downarrow & \\ \underline{a} &\mapsto (m_{\underline{a}} \bmod J) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Pf. } \text{Spm } R \cong \{m \in \text{Spm } k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid J \subseteq m\}$$

$$\cong \{\underline{a} \in k^n \mid J \subseteq m_{\underline{a}}\} \stackrel{(*)}{=} V$$

(Nullstellensatz  
version 2)

(\*) see overhead

10.1

For (\*), note: " $\subseteq$ " obvious

" $\supseteq$ ":  $a \in V \Rightarrow J(V) \subseteq J(a)$

$$\text{UJ} \quad \text{II} \quad \Rightarrow J \subseteq m_a. \quad \square$$

Rem. In particular, for  $k$  alg closed &  $\alpha \notin k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  
one has  $V(\alpha) \neq \emptyset$ .

(For  $k$  non-closed this fails, think of  $\alpha = (x^2 + 1) \notin R[x]$ ...)

Cor (Nullstellensatz, version 4) Let  $k$  be a field.

$\Rightarrow$  any fin gen  $k$ -algebra  $R$  is Jacobson,

i.e.  $\sqrt{\alpha} = \text{Jac}(\alpha) \quad \forall \alpha \subseteq R$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{ii} & & \text{ii} \\ \bigcap_{\substack{f \in \alpha \\ \text{prime}}} & & \bigcap_{\substack{m \in \alpha \\ \text{maximal}}} \end{array}$$

Pf. " $\subseteq$ " obvious.

" $\supseteq$ ": Let  $f \in R \setminus \sqrt{\alpha}$ . Want to find  $m \supseteq \alpha$  maximal w/  $f \notin m$ .

$$f \notin \sqrt{\alpha} \Rightarrow f^n \notin \alpha \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \alpha \cdot R_f \neq (1) \Rightarrow \exists m \in \text{Spec } R$$

w/  $\alpha \subseteq m$

and  $mR_f \in \text{Spm } R_f$ .

Claim: This  $m \subseteq R$  must be maximal.

Indeed:

$$k \hookrightarrow R/m \hookrightarrow (R/m)_{\bar{f}} \cong R_f / mR_f$$

↑

thus

$$k \hookrightarrow R_f / mR_f \text{ finite}$$

$$\Rightarrow k \hookrightarrow R/m \text{ finite}$$

But  $k$  is a field

&  $R/m$  a domain

$\Rightarrow R/m$  is a field

$\Rightarrow m \in \text{Spm } R$  maximal.

this is

• a field

since  $mR_f \in \text{Spm } (R_f)$

• a fin gen.  $k$ -algebra

since it is generated by  $\bar{f}_f$  & generators of  $R$

$\Rightarrow \dim_k R_f / mR_f < \infty$

(Nullstellensatz, version 1)

Cor (Nullstellensatz, version 5)

(Goals a) and b)  
for any finiten R-algebra R)

Let  $\mathbb{J} \trianglelefteq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  w/  $k$  alg. closed,

and  $R := k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/\mathbb{J}$

$$V := V(\mathbb{J}) := \{\underline{a} \in k^n \mid f(\underline{a}) = 0 \forall f \in \mathbb{J}\}.$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Zariski closed} \\ \text{subsets } W \subseteq V \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{radical ideals} \\ \alpha \trianglelefteq R \end{array} \right\}$$

$$W \longmapsto \mathbb{J}(W)$$

$$:= \{f \bmod \mathbb{J} \mid f(\underline{a}) = 0 \forall f \in W\}$$

$$V(\alpha) := \{\underline{a} \in k^n \mid f(\underline{a}) = 0 \forall (f \bmod \mathbb{J}) \in \alpha\} \longleftarrow \alpha$$

Main point:  $\mathbb{J}(V(\alpha)) = \sqrt{\alpha} \quad \forall \alpha \trianglelefteq R$ .

$$\overset{\text{"}\supseteq\text{"}}{\uparrow} : f \in \sqrt{\alpha} \Rightarrow \exists n \in \mathbb{N}: f^n \in \alpha$$

$$\overset{\text{(always)}}{\uparrow} \Rightarrow \forall \underline{a} \in V(\alpha): f(\underline{a})^n = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } f(\underline{a}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f \in \mathbb{J}(V(\alpha))$$

$$\overset{\text{"}\subseteq\text{"}}{\uparrow} : f \notin \sqrt{\alpha} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{By Nullstellensatz, version 4} \\ \exists m \in \text{Spm}(R) \end{array}$$

( $k$  alg. closed)

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{w/ } \bullet \alpha \subseteq m \\ \bullet f \notin m \end{array}$$

$$\text{Nullstellensatz, version 3: } m = m_{\underline{a}} \bmod \mathbb{J}$$
  
$$\text{for some } \underline{a} \in V$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \subseteq m \text{ implies } \underline{a} \in V(\alpha)$$

$$f \notin m \text{ implies } f(\underline{a}) \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f \notin \mathbb{J}(V(\alpha))$$

□

## IV. Dimension

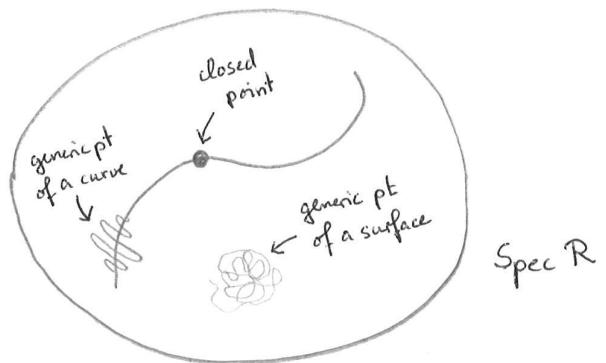
### 1. Krull dimension

Let  $R$  be a ring.

Intuitive idea:  $\text{Spec } R$  has

- $\dim = 0$  if it consists only of closed pts<sup>s</sup>
- $\dim \geq 1$  if it contains "generic pts<sup>s</sup> of curves"  
(non-closed pts<sup>s</sup> all of whose specializations are closed)
- $\dim \geq 2$  if it contains "generic pts<sup>s</sup> of surfaces"  
(pts<sup>s</sup> specializing (only) to generic pts<sup>s</sup> of curves  
& to closed pts<sup>s</sup>)

:



$\text{Spec } R$

$$\underline{\text{Ex}} \quad R = k[x, y]$$

$\nabla_1$

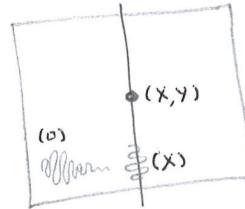
$(x, y)$  closed pt

$\cup$

$(x)$  generic pt of the  $y$ -axis

$\cup$

$(0)$  generic pt of the plane



Ex a)  $\dim R = 0 \iff$  every prime ideal is maximal,  
ie  $\text{Spec } R = \text{Spm } R$ .

e.g. fields, Artin rings ( $=$  Noetherian of  $\dim 0$ )

$\triangle$  In general,  $\dim R = 0$  does NOT imply  $R$  Noetherian,

e.g. take  $R = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} k_i$ : infinite product of fields...  
(see § II.5)

Def The Krull dimension (or simply dimension) of  $R$  is

$$\dim R := \sup \left\{ n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \mid \exists \text{ chain of prime ideals } \mathfrak{p}_0 \subsetneq \mathfrak{p}_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \mathfrak{p}_n \neq R \right\}$$

$$= \sup \left\{ n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \mid \exists \text{ chain of irreducible closed subsets } \text{Spec } R \supsetneq V_0 \supsetneq V_1 \supsetneq \dots \supsetneq V_n \neq \emptyset \right\}$$

$$\in \mathbb{N}_0 \cup \{\infty\}.$$

The codimension (or height) of  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$  is

$$\text{codim } \mathfrak{p} := \text{ht } \mathfrak{p}$$

$$:= \sup \left\{ n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \mid \exists \text{ chain of prime ideals } \mathfrak{p}_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \mathfrak{p}_n = \mathfrak{p} \right\}$$

$$= \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}}.$$

b) If  $R$  is a domain, then

$$\dim R = 1 \iff \text{the max. ideals are precisely the prime ideals } \neq (0), \\ \text{ie } \text{Spec } R = \{(0)\} \cup \text{Spm } R.$$

e.g. every PID  $R$  which is not a field has  $\dim R = 1$ ,

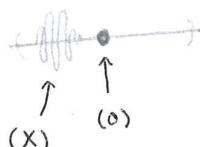
in particular  $R = \mathbb{Z}, k[X]$  ( $k$  a field)

but also DVR's such as  $R = k[X]_{(x)}, \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$  ( $p$  prime)

$\uparrow$

here  $\text{Spec } R = \{(0), (x)\}$

has only two points, but  
still  $(0)$  is the generic pt  
of a curve ...

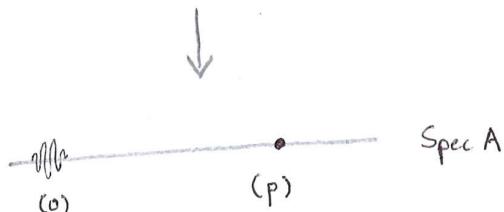
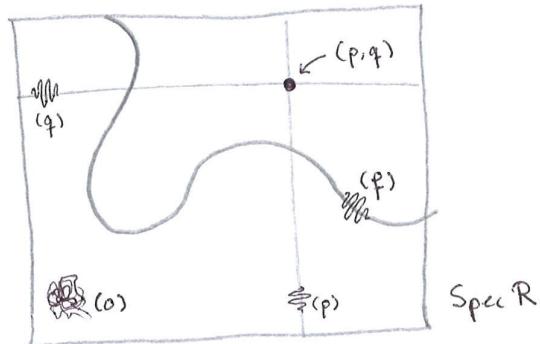


c) If  $R = A[Y]$  where  $A$  is a PID but not a field, then we've seen in § I.3 that any  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$  has the form

- $\mathfrak{p} = (0)$ , or
- $\mathfrak{p} = (f)$  w/  $f \in R$  irreducible, or
- $\mathfrak{p} = (p, q)$  maximal w/  $p \in A$  irreducible  
 $q \in R$  w/  $\bar{q} \in (A/(p))\Gamma Y$  irreducible.

generic pt of the surface, codim  $\mathfrak{p} = 0$   
 generic pt of a curve, codim  $\mathfrak{p} = 1$   
 closed point, codim  $\mathfrak{p} = 2$

$$\Rightarrow \dim R = 2$$



e.g.  $\dim k[X, Y] = 2$   
 $\dim \mathbb{Z}[Y] = 2$

d)  $R = k[X_n | n \in \mathbb{N}]$  has  $\dim R = \infty$ ,

indeed  $(0) \subsetneq (X_1) \subsetneq (X_1, X_2) \subsetneq (X_1, X_2, X_3) \subsetneq \dots$

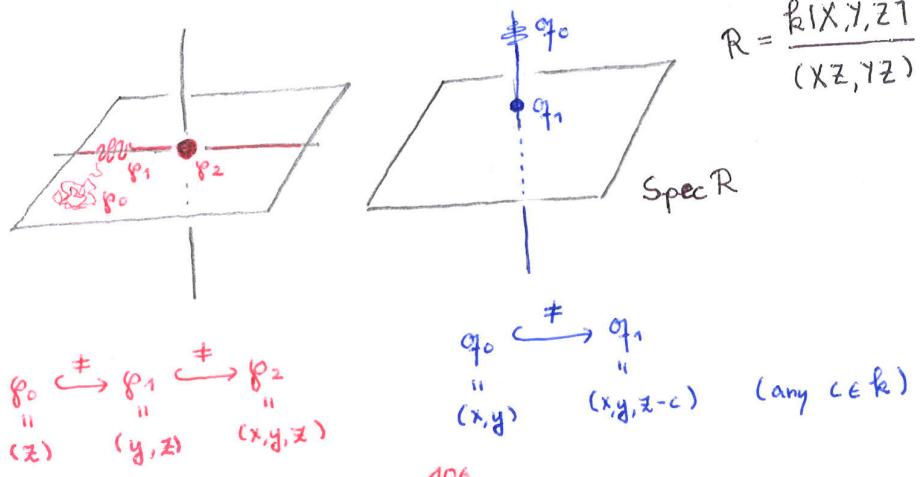
is a strictly ascending infinite chain of prime ideals.

⚠  $\exists$  examples where  $R$  is Noetherian but  $\dim R = \infty$   
 (Nagata 1962, see later)

## 2. Equidimensional rings

Def A chain  $\mathfrak{p}_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \mathfrak{p}_n \subseteq R$  of primes is maximal if it cannot be refined to a longer chain of primes.

Rem Maximal chains can have different length:



In general we only have:

Lemma a) Dimension is a "local notion":

$$\begin{aligned}\dim R &= \sup \{ \dim R_p \mid p \in \text{Spm } R \} \\ &= \sup \{ \text{codim } p \mid p \in \text{Spm } R \} \\ &\quad (" \text{maximal codim of a closed pt}")\end{aligned}$$

b) For any  $p \in \text{Spec } R$ ,

$$\dim R \geq \dim R/p + \text{codim } p.$$

Pf. a) Given a chain  $p_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq p_n = p$  in  $\text{Spec } R$

we get a chain  $p_0 R_p \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq p_n R_p$  in  $\text{Spec } R_p$

& conversely.

b) Pick chains

$$p_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq p_c = p \quad \text{w/ } c := \text{codim } p \quad (\text{if } < \infty)$$

$$(0) = q_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq q_d \trianglelefteq R/p \quad \text{w/ } d := \dim R/p \quad (\text{if } < \infty)$$

Put  $p_{c+d} := (\text{preimage of } q_d) \in \text{Spec } R$

$\Rightarrow$  get  $p_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq p_{c+d}$  in  $\text{Spec } R \Rightarrow \dim R \geq c+d$ .

□

Ex In the previous example  $R = k[x,y,z]/(xz, yz)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\dim R &= 2 > 1 = \dim R/p + \text{codim } p \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 \\ 0 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 1 \end{cases} \\ \text{for } p &:= \begin{cases} (x,y) \\ (x,y,z-c) \end{cases} \text{ with } c \neq 0.\end{aligned}$$

Ex  $R := A_S$  where  $A := k[x,y]$  &  $S := A \setminus (m \cup p)$ . Here  $R$  is even a domain!

Def A ring  $R$  is bi-equidimensional if all maximal chains of primes  $p_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq p_n \trianglelefteq R$  have the same length  $n$ . Then in particular

a)  $R$  is equidimensional,

ie all minimal primes  $p \in \text{Spec } R$  have the same  $\dim R/p$   
 $(\cong \text{"all irreducible pts of Spec } R \text{ have the same dim"})$

b)  $R$  is equicodimensional,

ie all maximal ideals  $m \in \text{Spm } R$  have the same  $\text{codim } m$   
 $(\cong \text{"all closed pts of Spec } R \text{ have the same codim"})$

c)  $R$  is catenary,

ie  $\forall$  fixed primes  $p \subseteq q \trianglelefteq R$ ,  
 all maximal chains of primes between  $p$  and  $q$   
 have the same length.

Caution: a), b), c)  $\not\Rightarrow$  biequidimensional (see later)  
 (this is wrong even in EGA IV)

Prop Let  $R$  be biequidimensional with  $\dim R < \infty$ .

For any  $p \in \text{Spec } R$  we have:

a)  $R/p$  and  $R_p$  are biequidim.

b)  $\dim R = \dim R/p + \text{codim } p$ .

("Dimension formula")

Pf.  $\dim R < \infty \Rightarrow \dim R/p < \infty$

Pick a max. chain  $(0) = q_0 \xrightarrow{\neq} \dots \xrightarrow{\neq} q_d$  in  $\text{Spec } R/p$

$\uparrow$  (i.e.  $\exists$  no refinement, but a priori  $d$  needn't be max.) ( $\text{so } d \leq \dim R/p$ ),

and a max. chain  $p_0 \xrightarrow{\neq} \dots \xrightarrow{\neq} p_c = p$  of primes  $\subseteq \{q_i\}$ ,  
 $(\text{so } c \leq \text{codim } p)$

$\Rightarrow$  max. chain  $p_0 \xrightarrow{\neq} \dots \xrightarrow{\neq} p_{c+d}$  in  $\text{Spec } R$

where  $p_{c+i} := (\text{preimage of } q_i) \trianglelefteq R$ .

$$\begin{aligned} R \text{ biequidim} &\rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \dim R &= c+d \leq \dim R/p + \text{codim } p \stackrel{\text{previous lemma}}{\leq} \dim R \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  equality holds & a), b) follow.  $\square$

### Appendix: Some weird examples

Ex. 1 (Katharina Heinrich 2014)

$\exists$  Noetherian ring  $R$  of  $\dim R = 2$   
 which is equidim, equicodim, catenary,  
 but NOT biequidim:

e.g. let  $R := A_S$  w/  $A := k[u, w, x, y]/(uy, wy)$

$S := A \setminus (p \cup q)$

$p := (u, w, x, y-1)$

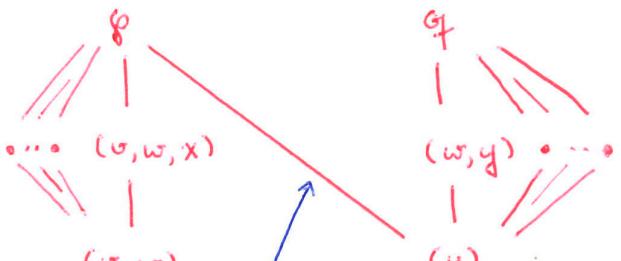
$q := (u, w, y)$

$\Rightarrow \text{Spec } R$  looks as follows:

max. ideals:

codim 1 primes:

minimal primes:



this is a maximal chain  
 of length  $1 < 2 = \dim R!$

(exercise)

Ex. 2 (Nagata 1962)

$\exists$  Noetherian ring  $R$  w/  $\dim R = \infty$ :

e.g.  $R := A_5$

w/  $A := k[X_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}]$

$$S := A \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} p_i$$

$$p_i := (X_{n_i+1}, X_{n_i+2}, \dots, X_{n_{i+1}}) \trianglelefteq A$$

for a sequence  $0 = n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$  in  $\mathbb{N}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Spm } R = \{p_i \cdot R \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim R = \sup \{n_{i+1} - n_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\} = \infty$$

for suitable  $n_1, n_2, \dots$

but one may show that  $R$  is Noetherian

(key point: Any  $a \in R$  lies in at most finitely many  $m \in \text{Spm } R$ ;

& for all  $m \in \text{Spm } R$  the localization  $R_m$  is Noetherian...)

### 3. Dimension of affine varieties

Q: What's the dimension of  $A_k^n = \text{Spec } k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ ,  
or more generally  $\dim R$  for a fin gen  $k$ -algebra  $R$ ?

Idea: Use Noether normalization ...

Prop If  $A \subset B$  is an integral ring extension,  
then  $\dim B = \dim A$ .

Pf.

" $\geq$ ":  $p_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq p_n$  chain in  $\text{Spec } A$

$\Rightarrow$  by "lying over"  $\exists q_0 \in \text{Spec } B$  w/  $q_0 \cap A = p_0$

$\Rightarrow$  by "going up" we can extend this to a  
chain  $q_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq q_n$  in  $\text{Spec } B$

w/  $q_i \cap A = p_i \quad \forall i$  (in particular  $q_i \subsetneq q_{i+1}$   
are strict inclusions)

$\Rightarrow \dim B \geq \dim A$

" $\leq$ " : If  $g_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq g_n$  is a chain in  $\text{Spec } B$ ,

we get a chain  $g_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq g_n$  in  $\text{Spec } A$

via  $g_i := g_i \cap A$ .

Incomparability  $\Rightarrow g_i \subsetneq g_{i+1}$  strict inclusion  $\forall i$ :

$$\Rightarrow \dim B \leq \dim A.$$

□

By Noether normalization this reduces us to:

Thm Let  $R = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  w/ a field  $k$  &  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

Then

a)  $R$  is biequidimensional

(ie all max. chains of primes have same length)

b)  $\dim R = n$

(as expected, since  $\text{Spec } R = \mathbb{A}^n_k$  ... )

Pf. By induction on  $n$ .

$n=0$  : trivial (in fact  $n=1$  also known by ex. 1.b  
 $n=2$  ————— 1.c)

Assume claim holds for  $n-1$  in place of  $n$ .

Clearly  $\dim R \geq n$ ,

as the chain  $(0) \subsetneq (x_1) \subsetneq (x_1, x_2) \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  shows.

Want:

For any other chain  $g_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq g_m$  in  $\text{Spec } R$

one has

•  $m \leq n$  ( $\Rightarrow b)$ )

• for maximal chains  $m=n$  ( $\Rightarrow a)$ )

Wlog  $g_0 = (0)$  (else extend the chain)

and  $g_1 = (f)$  for some irreducible  $f \in R$

(use that  $R$  is a UFD:

pick any  $g \in g_1$ , write  $g = g_1 \cdots g_s$  w/ irreducible  
 $g_i \in R$ ,

then  $\exists i$  s.t.  $f := g_i \in g_1$ ,

hence  $(f) \subseteq g_1$  &  $(f) \in \text{Spec } R$  by irreducibility

$\Rightarrow$  after refinement of the chain may assume  $g_1 = (f)$ .)

Coordinate change ("generalized tilt")

$$x_i \mapsto x_i + x_n^{r_i} \quad (i < n)$$

$$x_n \mapsto x_n$$

as in Noether normalization (proposition from § 3.4)

$\Rightarrow$  wlog  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is monic in  $x_n$

(up to a scalar  $\in k^*$   
that doesn't affect  $(f)$ )

$\Rightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}] \rightarrow R/(f)$  integral extension

Consider then

$$R = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

$$\downarrow \pi \text{ epi}$$

$$k[x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}] \xrightarrow[i]{\text{integral}} k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(f), \quad f = (f).$$

Note: Putting  $g_i := \pi(f_{i+1})$  we get a chain

$$g_0 \subsetneq g_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq g_{m-1} \text{ in } \text{Spec } R/f.$$

$$\Rightarrow m-1 \leq \dim R/f = \dim k[x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}] = n-1$$

↑  
previous proposition  
using that  $i$  is integral      ↑  
induction  
on  $n$

$$\Rightarrow m \leq n$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim R = n \text{ as claimed in b).}$$

For biequidimensionality in a) we need more work:

Assume  $g_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq g_m$  is a maximal chain  
in  $\text{Spec } R$ .

$\Rightarrow g_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq g_{m-1}$  is a maximal chain  
in  $\text{Spec } R/f$  (obvious)

We get a chain

$$i^{-1}g_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq i^{-1}g_{m-1} \text{ in } \text{Spec } k[x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}],$$

w/ strict inclusions by incomparability.

Fact: This chain is maximal! (use exercise below)

$\Rightarrow$  By induction we get  $m-1 = n-1$ ,  
hence  $m = n$  as claimed in a). □

Here we've used:

Exercise Let  $A \hookrightarrow B$  be an integral extension  
w/  $A$  a finiten.  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra.

Suppose we have primes  $\mathfrak{q} \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}'' \trianglelefteq B$   
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$   
 $\mathfrak{p} \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{p}'' \trianglelefteq A$

If  $\exists \mathfrak{p}' \in \text{Spec } A$  w/  $\mathfrak{p} \not\hookrightarrow \mathfrak{p}' \not\hookrightarrow \mathfrak{p}''$

then  $\exists \mathfrak{q}' \in \text{Spec } B$  w/  $\mathfrak{q} \not\hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}' \not\hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}''$ .

(Hint: Consider the integral extension  $A/\mathfrak{p} \hookrightarrow B/\mathfrak{q}$   
& try "going down". Caution:  $A/\mathfrak{p}$  needn't  
be normal, so use Noether normalization first.)

$\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_m] \hookrightarrow A/\mathfrak{p} \hookrightarrow B/\mathfrak{q}$  integral )

⚠ We only claim  $\mathfrak{q} \not\hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}' \not\hookrightarrow \mathfrak{q}''$ ,  
in general you won't find  $\mathfrak{q}'$  lying above  $\mathfrak{p}'$ .  
Do you see why?

From the thm we get:

Cor Let  $R$  be a domain & a finiten.  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra.  
Then

a)  $R$  is biequidim.

b)  $\forall$  Noether normalization  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n] \hookrightarrow R$   
we have

$$\dim R = n.$$

(In particular  $n$  doesn't depend on the chosen  
Noether normalization).

Pf. a) Write  $R = \underbrace{\mathbb{k}[y_1, \dots, y_m]}_{\substack{\text{biequidim} \\ \text{by thm}}}/\mathfrak{a}_R$  for some ideal  $\mathfrak{a}_R$

$\Rightarrow R$  biequidim by §2

b)  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n] \hookrightarrow R \Rightarrow \dim R = \dim \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$   
 $\downarrow$   
integral  $= n$   
by thm. □

Rem The irreducible subset  $\text{Spec } R \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^m = \text{Spec } \mathbb{k}[y_1, \dots, y_m]$   
is called an affine variety.

#### 4. Transcendence degree

Another way to see dimension of affine varieties?

Recall:

Def Let  $k \hookrightarrow K$  be a field extension.

A subset  $B \subseteq K$  is called algebraically dependent /  $k$  if  $\exists$  distinct elements  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$  &  $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  w/  $f(b_1, \dots, b_n) = 0$ .

We say  $B$  is

- alg. independent /  $k$  if it is not alg dep /  $k$
- a transcendence basis for  $K/k$

if it is alg indep /  $k$  and furthermore

$k(B) \hookrightarrow K$  is an algebraic extension.

ii  
[smallest subfield of  $K$   
containing  $k \cup B$ ]

Ex b) For singleton sets  $B = \{b\}$ , we have:

$$B \text{ alg dep } / k \iff b \text{ algebraic } / k \iff [k(b) : k] < \infty.$$

a) A subset  $B \subseteq k$  is alg. indep /  $k$  iff  $B = \emptyset$ .

The empty set  $B = \emptyset$  is a transcendence basis for  $K/k$  iff  $K/k$  is algebraic.

c) A finite set  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subset K$  w/  $b_i \neq b_j \forall i \neq j$  is alg. indep /  $k$  iff

$$\begin{aligned} k[x_1, \dots, x_n] &\hookrightarrow K \\ f &\mapsto f(b_1, \dots, b_n) \end{aligned}$$

is an embedding. In this case it gives rise to a field extension

$$k(x_1, \dots, x_n) := \text{Quot}(k[x_1, \dots, x_n]) \hookrightarrow K \quad (*)$$

and  $B$  is a transcendence basis for  $K/k$  iff  $(*)$  is an algebraic extension.

Thm Any field extension  $K/k$  has a (possibly infinite) transcendence basis, and any two such bases have the same cardinality.

Pf.

① Pick  $A \subseteq K$  alg. indep /  $k$

Take  $C \subseteq K$  with  $A \subseteq C$  and  $K = k(C)$ .

Claim:  $\exists$  transcendence basis  $B$  for  $K/k$  w/  $A \subseteq B \subseteq C$   
("basis extension thm")

Indeed, let  $\mathcal{S} := \{B \subseteq K \text{ alg. indep } / k \mid A \subseteq B\} \neq \emptyset$

partially ordered wrt " $\subseteq$ " & union of any chain in  $\mathcal{S}$   
is again in  $\mathcal{S}$

Zorn's lemma  $\Rightarrow \exists$  max. element  $B \in \mathcal{S}$

Then  $k(B) \hookrightarrow K = k(C)$  is algebraic

(else  $\exists b \in C \setminus B$  transcendental over  $k(B)$ , whence  $B \cup \{b\} \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}$ )

$\Rightarrow B$  is a transcendence basis for  $K/k$ .

② Now let  $B, B' \subseteq K$  be two transcendence bases.

Wlog  $|B'| \leq |B|$ .

Distinguish 2 cases:

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②a)  $B$  finite:

$\Rightarrow B'$  finite, say  $B' = \{b'_1, \dots, b'_m\}$   
 $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  w/  $m \leq n$ .

Induction on  $m$ :

$m=0 \Rightarrow K/k$  alg  $\Rightarrow n=0$

$m>0$ : Take  $f(x, y_1, \dots, y_n) \in k[x, y_1, \dots, y_n] \setminus \{0\}$   
irreducible

w/  $f(b'_1, b_1, \dots, b_n) = 0 \quad (*)$

Since  $b'_1$  is not algebraic /  $k$ , may assume  
 $f$  involves some  $y_i$ ,  
say  $y_1$ .

Then  $B'' := \{b'_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$

is also a transcendence basis for  $K/k$ :

$k(B'') \hookrightarrow k(B'' \cup \{b_1\}) \hookrightarrow K$   
algebraic by (\*) algebraic since  $B \subseteq B'' \cup \{b_1\}$

If  $B''$  were alg. dependent /  $k$ ,  
then  $b'_1$  were algebraic /  $k(b_2, \dots, b_n)$ ,  
but then also  $b_1$  would be so

$\Rightarrow \{b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  and  $\{b'_2, \dots, b'_m\}$  are transcendence  
bases for  $K/k(b'_1)$ , hence  $m=n$  by induction.

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(2b)  $B$  infinite =

$\forall b' \in B' \exists$  finite subset  $B_{b'} \subseteq B$   
with  $b'$  algebraic /  $k(B_{b'})$ .

Put  $B'' := \bigcup_{b' \in B'} B_{b'} \subseteq B$ .

Claim: Equality holds

Indeed, else  $\exists b \in B \setminus B''$

But  $b$  is algebraic over  $k(B')$ , hence over  $k(B'')$

$$\Rightarrow B = \bigcup_{b' \in B'} \frac{B_{b'}}{\text{finite } \# b'}$$

$\Rightarrow$  with  $B$  also  $B'$  has to be infinite

& in that case

$$|B| = |\bigcup_{b' \in B'} \text{finite set}| \leq |B'| \times |\mathbb{N}| = |B'| \leq |B|$$

[set theory:  
use Zorn's lemma]

to get a maximal  $B'' \subset B'$

w/  $|B'' \times \mathbb{N}| = |B''| \dots$

this works since  $B'$  is infinite]

$$\Rightarrow |B| = |B'|$$

□

Def The transcendence degree of a field extension  $K/k$

is  $\text{trdeg}_k(K) := |B|$

for any transcendence basis  $B$  (all have same cardinality).

Ex •  $\text{trdeg}_k(K) = 0 \iff K/k$  algebraic

•  $\text{trdeg}_k(k(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = n$

•  $\text{trdeg}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\pi, e^{2\pi i/3})) = \text{trdeg}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\pi)) = 1$

because  $\pi$  is a transcendental number (Lindemann 1882)

• Schanuel's Conjecture (1960's):

If  $z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C}$  are linearly independent /  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

then  $\text{trdeg}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(z_1, \dots, z_n, e^{z_1}, \dots, e^{z_n})) \geq n^2$ ?

e.g. are  $\pi$  and  $e$  alg. independent?

(take  $z_1 = 1, z_2 = i\pi$ )

... still open!

(see e.g. M. Waldschmidt, Schanuel's Conjecture,

Colloquium De Giorgi 2013/14 pp 129-137)

Prop Let  $R$  be a fin gen  $k$ -algebra & a domain.

$$\Rightarrow \dim R = \text{trdeg}_k(K) \text{ with } K := \text{Quot}(R).$$

Pf. Take a Noether normalization  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \xrightarrow{\text{finite}} R$ .

$$\Rightarrow \dim R = n$$

$$= \text{trdeg}_k k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$= \text{trdeg}_k K$$

since  $k(x_1, \dots, x_n) \hookrightarrow K$  is algebraic

□

Rem. "fin gen as a  $k$ -algebra" is important:

e.g.  $R = k(x)$  has  $\dim R = 0 < 1 = \text{trdeg}_k K$   
(here  $K = R$ ).

Exercise. Show that for any  $k$ -algebra  $R$  which is a domain,

$$\dim R \leq \text{trdeg}_k(K) \text{ with } K := \text{Quot}(R).$$