

2. (Quasi)Affine algebraic varieties

Def: An affine algebraic variety V is an irreducible affine algebraic set.

2.1 Zariski topology

Def: The Zariski topology on $\mathbb{A}^n$ is the topology whose closed sets are algebraic sets. The open sets are complements of closed sets.

Lemma 2.1: This actually defines a topology on $\mathbb{A}^n$.

pt: $\emptyset, \mathbb{A}^n$ are algebraic $\rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n, \emptyset$ are open.

Let $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a family of open sets i.e. $U_i = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(I_i)$

$\sim \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \bigcap V(I_i) = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(\bigcup I_i)$ is again open.

U_1, U_2 open. Then $U_1 \cap U_2 = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus \{V(I_1) \cup V(I_2)\} = \mathbb{A}^n \setminus V(I_1 \cup I_2)$
 $\square$

Exple: The only closed sets in $\mathbb{A}^1$ are $\mathbb{A}^1, \emptyset$ and finite sets of points i.e. Zariski = cofinite topology.
i.e. Open sets are Huge

Def: Let $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$ be an affine alg. var. The Zariski topology on V is the subspace topology induced by the Zariski topo. on $\mathbb{A}^n$.

Remark: At first it might seem strange to use a topology that differs so much from our intuition, but it turns out

to be extremely useful:

(New) Def: A non-empty subset V of a topological space X is irreducible if it cannot be expressed as $V = W_1 \cup W_2$, where $W_1, W_2 \subsetneq V$ closed in V .

This clearly generalizes irreducibility as we defined it before.

Lemma 2.2: A non-empty open subset of an irreducible space is irreducible and dense.

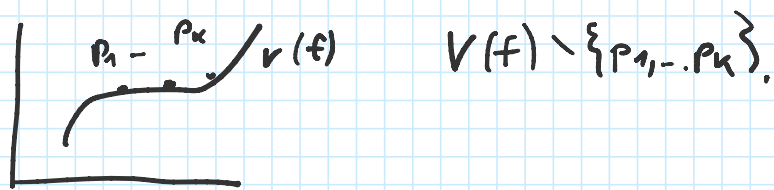
• If $V \subset X$ is irred., then so is $\bar{V}$.

pt: Exercise

• A quasi-affine variety is an open subset of an affine variety.

By the previous lemma quasi-affine var. are irred.

Exple: • $A^2 \setminus \{0\}$, $(A^2 \setminus V(f))$, $f \in K[x, y]$.



2.2. Regular functions and coordinate rings

2.2.1. Affine case

Regular functions are the natural continuous functions on quasi-affine varieties. Let's start with the affine case:

Def: Let $V \subset A^n$ be an affine variety. A map $f: V \rightarrow A^1 = K$

Def: Let $V \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ be an affine variety. A map

$$f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1 = K$$

is regular if $\exists F \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ s.t.

$$f(x) = F(x) \quad \forall x \in V \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n.$$

The set $\Gamma(V)$ of regular functions on V is a ring with the usual definition of addition and multiplication.

It is called the coordinate ring of V .

Lemma 2.3: If $V = V(I)$ for a prime ideal $I \subseteq K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

then $\Gamma(V) \cong K[x_1, \dots, x_n]_I$. I.e. $\Gamma(V)$ is a domain

pf: By definition we have a surj ring homom.

$$\varphi: K[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$$

$$F \mapsto F|_V, \text{ but } F \in \ker(\varphi) \Leftrightarrow F|_V \equiv 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow F \in I$$

□

Def: A affine subvariety W of V is an

affine variety contained in V .

Lemma 2.4: There is a 1-1 correspondence

between		V	$\Gamma(V)$
	alg subsets		radical ideals
	affine subvar		prime ideals
	points		maximal ideals

Pf: Exercise

Remark: We'll often write m_p or $m_p(V)$ for the maximal ideal corresp. to a point $p \in V$.

Def: A morphism $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$ between

Def: A morphism $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$ between affine alg. var. $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n$, $W \subset \mathbb{A}^m$ is a map s.t. $\exists$ polynomials $T_1, \dots, T_m \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ s.t.

$$\varphi(x) = (T_1(x), \dots, T_m(x)).$$

• φ is an isomorphism if $\exists$ a morphism $\psi: W \rightarrow V$ s.t. $\psi \circ \varphi = 1_V$, $\varphi \circ \psi = 1_W$.

Exple: • $V = V(x^2 - y) \subset \mathbb{A}^2$ $\bigcup \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{proj the } x \text{ coord.}$

Then $V \cong \mathbb{A}^1$
 $(x, y) \mapsto x$ since $y = x^2$ on V , this is an isom.

$$(x, x^2) \mapsto x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \varphi: \mathbb{A}^1 &\rightarrow V(y^2 - x^3) \subset \mathbb{A}^2 \\ t &\mapsto (t^2, t^3) \end{aligned} \quad \Bigg| \rightarrow \left\{ \right.$$

One can check that φ is a bijective morphism but not an isomorphism! (Exercise)

In general any morphism $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$ induces a ring homom. $\tilde{\varphi}: \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$ by composition

$$\tilde{\varphi}(f) := f \circ \varphi$$

Clearly if $V \xrightarrow{\varphi} W \xrightarrow{\psi} Z$, $\widetilde{\psi \circ \varphi} = \tilde{\psi} \circ \tilde{\varphi}$

Proposition 2.5: This defines a 1-1 corresp.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Morphisms} \\ \varphi: V \rightarrow W \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} k\text{-alg homom.} \\ \alpha: \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V) \end{array} \right\},$$

$\varphi \mapsto \tilde{\varphi}$

In particular φ is an iso. $\Leftrightarrow \tilde{\varphi}$ is an iso.

pt: Need to construct for any $\alpha: \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$

a morph. $\tilde{\alpha}: V \rightarrow W$ s.t. $\tilde{\alpha} = \alpha$ and $\tilde{\tilde{\varphi}} = \varphi$.

Supp. $V \subset A^n, W \subset A^m$ and write $\Gamma(V) = K[X_1, \dots, X_n] / I(V)$

$\Gamma(W) = K[Y_1, \dots, Y_m] / I(W)$.

Choose lifts T_i of $\alpha([Y_i])$ in $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$

We have a comm. diagram $Y_i \mapsto T_i$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K[Y_1, \dots, Y_m] & \xrightarrow{\quad} & K[X_1, \dots, X_n] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \Gamma(W) & \xrightarrow{\quad \alpha \quad} & \Gamma(V) \end{array}$$

In part. $\forall f \in \Gamma(W)$ and $F \in K[Y_1, \dots, Y_m]$ a lift, we have

$$\alpha(f) \equiv F(T_1, \dots, T_m) \pmod{I(V)}.$$

Let $T: A^n \rightarrow A^m$ be given by $T = (T_1, \dots, T_m)$

Claim: $T(V) \subset W$

pt: From the diagram we see $\forall G \in I(W)$

$$G(T_1, \dots, T_m) \in I(V)$$

$$\leadsto \forall v \in V \quad 0 = G(T_1, \dots, T_m)(v) = G(T(v)) \leadsto T(v) \in W_{\text{cl}}$$

We set $\tilde{\alpha} := T|_V: V \rightarrow W$.

Now $\tilde{\alpha}: \Gamma(W) \rightarrow \Gamma(V)$ satisfies $\forall v \in V \quad \forall f \in \Gamma(W)$

$$\tilde{\alpha}(f)(v) = f(\tilde{\alpha}(v)) = f(T_1(v), \dots, T_m(v)) = \alpha(f)(v)$$

$\leadsto \tilde{\alpha} = \alpha$. The pf of $\tilde{\alpha} = \alpha$ is similar $\square$

Def: The quotient field $k(V)$ of $\Gamma(V)$ is called the field of rational functions on V .

- $f \in k(V)$ is defined at a point $p \in V$ if we can write $f = \frac{a}{b}$ w $a, b \in \Gamma(V)$ and $b(p) \neq 0$.
- The pole set of $f \in k(V)$ is the set of points where f is not defined

Ex: $\Gamma(V)$ is not a UFD in general, so the presentation $f = \frac{a}{b}$ is not unique in any sense. For example $V = V(xy - zw) \subset \mathbb{A}^4$, let $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}, \bar{w}$ be the image of x, y, z, w in $\Gamma(V) = k[x, y, z, w] / (xy - zw)$.

Then $f = \frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{w}} = \frac{\bar{z}}{\bar{y}} \in k(V)$. Hence f is defined at $p = (x, y, z, w) \in \Gamma(V)$
 $\Leftrightarrow y \neq 0$ or $w \neq 0$.

Def: The local ring of V at $p \in V$ is the subring of $k(V)$ defined by $\mathcal{O}_p(V) := \{f \in k(V) \mid f \text{ is defined at } p\}$.

We have natural inclusions $\Gamma(V) \subset \mathcal{O}_p(V) \subset k(V)$.

Ex: $\Gamma(V)$, $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ and $k(V)$ are intrinsic to V by Prop. 2.5

Since if $V \xrightarrow{\varphi} W \Rightarrow \Gamma(V) \cong \Gamma(W) \Rightarrow k(V) \cong k(W)$
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}_p(V) \cong \mathcal{O}_{\varphi(p)}(W)$.

Proposition 2.6: Let $p \in V$ and $\mathfrak{m}_p \subset \Gamma(V)$ the corresp. maximal ideal. Then $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is the localization of $\Gamma(V)$ at $\mathfrak{m}_p$.

In part. $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ is a Noetherian local domain and we have

$$\Gamma(V) = \bigcap_{p \in V} \mathcal{O}_p(V) \subset k(V)$$

pf: Recall that $\mathfrak{m}_p = \{f \in \Gamma(V) \mid f(p) = 0\}$. Since $\Gamma(V)$ is

a domain $\Gamma(V)_{m_p} = \{f \in K(V) \mid f = \frac{a}{b} \text{ w. } b \notin m_p\}$
 $= \{ \quad \parallel \quad \mid \quad \parallel \quad b(p) \neq 0 \} = \mathcal{O}_p(V)$

The rest follows from standard properties of localization, i.e. for any domain R we have

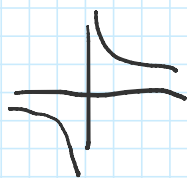
$$R = \bigcap_{m \in R_{\text{max}}} R_m \quad \square$$

Remark: One should think of $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ as functions in a nbhd of $p \in V$.

Notice that the notion of regular functions is sufficient to define morphisms, local rings, rational fct's.

How can we extend this to quasi-affine varieties?

Expl: $V(xy-1) \subset \mathbb{A}^2 \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathbb{A}^1$. The image of φ is the quasi-affine var. $\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\}$, and we'd like



φ to be an iso. But the inverse of φ is $x \mapsto (x, \frac{1}{x})$.

$\leadsto x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}$ should be a regular map on $\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\}$.

2.2.2. Quasi-affine case:

Def: Let V be a quasi-aff. var. contained in $\mathbb{A}^n$.

A map $f: V \rightarrow K$ is regular, if for every point $v \in V$

$\exists$ an open nbhd $v \in U \subset V$ and $g_i \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ s.t. $h(x) \neq 0 \forall x \in U$ and $f(x) = \frac{g_1(x)}{h(x)} \forall x \in U$.

s.t. $h(x) \neq 0 \forall x \in U$ and $f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)} \forall x \in U$.

Let $\mathcal{O}(V)$ be the ring of regular funct's on V .

Ex: $f: V = A^1 \setminus \{0\} \xrightarrow{x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}} K$ is regular, as we may take $U = V$

It is not hard to see that $\mathcal{O}(V) = K[X][\frac{1}{X}] = K[X, \frac{1}{X}] = K[X, Y]_{Y \neq 0}$
 i.e. $\mathcal{O}(V) \cong \mathcal{O}(A^1) = K[X]$.

$f: V \rightarrow K$
 If $V = V(XY - ZW) \setminus V(Y, W)$, $(x, y, z, w) \mapsto \begin{cases} \frac{x}{w} & \text{if } w \neq 0 \\ \frac{z}{y} & \text{if } y \neq 0 \end{cases}$
 Then there is no global presentation as $f = \frac{g}{h}$ on V

but $f = \frac{x}{w}$ on $V \setminus (V \cap V(W))$ and
 $f = \frac{z}{y}$ on $V \setminus (V \cap V(Y))$. $\leadsto$ that's why we need U in the definition.

Rank: If $V \subset A^n$ is affine we have a natural homom.

$$K[X_1, \dots, X_n] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V) \text{ with kernel } I(V)$$

$$f \mapsto f|_V$$

$$\leadsto \Gamma(V) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}(V).$$

Proposition 2.7: For V affine we have $\Gamma(V) \cong \mathcal{O}(V)$.

pt: We have that $\mathcal{O}(V) \subset \mathcal{O}_p(V) = \Gamma(V)_{m_p} \forall p \in V$.
 $\uparrow$ prop 2.6.

$$\Gamma(V) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}(V) \subset \bigcap_{p \in V} \mathcal{O}_p(V) = \Gamma(V)$$

$\uparrow$ prop. 2.6.

□

Lemma 2.8: V quasi-affine, $f: V \rightarrow K$ regular.

Then f is continuous if K is identified with A^1 .

pt: Enough to show that f^{-1} at a closed subset is closed.

$\dots \cap f^{-1}(1) \cap \dots \cap f^{-1}(1) = f^{-1}(1) \cap \dots \cap f^{-1}(1) = f^{-1}(1)$

pt: enough to show that f at a closed subset is closed.
 $(\Rightarrow) f^{-1}(a)$ is closed $\forall a \in K$, since the closed subsets of A^1 are $\emptyset, A^1$ and finite sets of points.

Let $V = \bigcup U_i$ a cover s.t. $f|_{U_i} = \frac{g_i}{h_i}$ and $a \in K$.

Then $f^{-1}(a) \cap U_i = \{v \in U_i \mid g_i(v) = h_i(v) \cdot a\} = V(g_i - h_i \cdot a) \cap U_i$
 is closed in $U_i \Rightarrow f^{-1}(a)$ closed in V $\square$

Corollary 2.9: $f, g \in \mathcal{O}(V)$ and $U \subset V$ open, non-empty,
 s.t. $f|_U = g|_U$. Then $f = g$.

pt: By Lemma 2.2., U is dense in V i.e. $\bar{U} = V$
 Since f, g are cont. $f|_{\bar{U}} = g|_{\bar{U}} \Rightarrow f = g$ $\square$

Remark: Let $U \subset V$ be open, then restriction of functions defines an (inj) map $\mathcal{O}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U)$
 i.e. $\mathcal{O}(\cdot)$ defines a sheaf of rings on V .

Using this, one can define a general alg. var. as a topol. space X w/ a sheaf $\mathcal{O}_X$ which looks "locally" like an affine variety V w/ $\mathcal{O}(\cdot)$. $\leadsto$ Notion of a scheme (content of Modern alg. geom.)

• We'll define $\mathcal{O}_p(V)$ and $K(V)$ for V quasi-affine varieties later, but since these depend on local str. we can already guess $\mathcal{O}_p(V) = \mathcal{O}_p(\bar{V})$, $K(V) = K(\bar{V})$.