



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS
I.C.T.P., P.O. BOX 586, 34100 TRIESTE, ITALY, CABLE: CENTRATOM TRIESTE



SMR.637/11

**ADVANCED WORKSHOP ON ARITHMETIC ALGEBRAIC
GEOMETRY**
(31 August - 11 September 1992)

Lectures on Schemes

A.J. Scholl
Department of Mathematics
University of Durham
South Road
Durham DH1 3LE
United Kingdom

These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants

MAIN BUILDING	STRADA COSTIERA, 11	TEL. 22401	TELEFAX 224163	TELEX 460392	ADRIATICO GUEST HOUSE	VIA GRIGNANO, 9	TEL. 224241	TELEFAX 224531	TELEX 460449
MICROPROCESSOR LAB.	VIA BEIRUT, 31	TEL. 224471	TELEFAX 224600	TELEX 460392	GALILEO GUEST HOUSE	VIA BEIRUT, 7	TEL. 22401	TELEFAX 224559	TELEX 460392

Trieste Workshop on Arithmetic Algebraic Geometry and Antalya Workshop on Geometry + Arithmetic.

(July, September 1992).

Lectures on SCHEMES
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I. Spec R.

In naive algebraic geometry, there is an equivalence of categories:-

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{affine varieties} \\ / k \\ + \text{morphisms} \end{array} \right) \longleftrightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{fin. generated integral} \\ k\text{-algebras} + \text{morphisms} \end{array} \right) \quad (\text{contravariant})$$

- quasi-projective varieties can be constructed by gluing affine varieties.

In schemes, take as basic object any ring R (always commutative, with 1) and construct a topological space $\text{Spec } R$, together with a sheaf of rings $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R}$. This is an affine scheme - general schemes are defined by gluing.

Defn. $\text{Spec } R = \{ \text{prime ideals } \mathfrak{p} \subseteq R \}$.

To define the Zariski topology, write for any ideal $a \subseteq R$

$$V(a) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R \mid \mathfrak{p} \supseteq a \}.$$

Prop. 1. (i) $V(a) \cup V(b) = V(a \cap b)$

$$(ii) \quad V\left(\sum_{i \in I} a_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in I} V(a_i).$$

$$(iii) \quad V(a) \subseteq V(b) \iff \sqrt{a} \supseteq b$$

$$(iv) \quad V(R) = \emptyset; \quad V(0) = \text{Spec } R.$$

Proof. (i) One way is obvious ($\subseteq$). The other way: let $\mathfrak{p} \in V(a \cap b)$, so that $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq a \cap b$. If $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq a$ then $\mathfrak{p} \in V(a)$. If not, $\exists x \in a$ st. $x \notin \mathfrak{p}$. Let $y \in b$; then $xy \in a \cap b \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$, so as $\mathfrak{p}$ is prime $y \in \mathfrak{p}$. Therefore $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq b$ i.e. $\mathfrak{p} \in V(b)$.

(ii), (iv) are easy exercises.

(iii) is easy once one recalls that $\sqrt{a}$ is the intersection of all prime ideals containing a .

(i), (ii), (iv) show that the subsets $V(a)$ satisfy the axioms for the closed subsets of a topology. This is called the Zariski topology on $\text{Spec } R$.

Among the open sets, we single out the distinguished open sets

$$D_f = \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R \mid f \notin \mathfrak{p} \} = \text{Spec } R - V((f))$$

(any $f \in R$). Clearly

$$D_f \cap D_g = D_{fg} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Spec } R - V(a) = \bigcup_{f \in a} D_f.$$

Therefore $\{D_f \mid f \in R\}$ is a basis for the topology on $\text{Spec } R$.

Exs. • k a field: $\text{Spec } k$ is a point (picture:- •)

• $k[x]$ where $k = \bar{k}$. Prime ideals are $(x-a)$ for $a \in k$ and (0) .

Picture:-



(0) is not a closed point of $\text{Spec } k[x]$; in fact $(0) \in V(a)$

$\forall a \neq 0$ of $a = (0)$. So the closure of $\{(0)\}$ is the whole space.

Remark. $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$ is a closed point $\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{p}$ is a maximal ideal.

Defn. X any topological space, $Y \subset X$ closed. Say $y \in Y$ is a generic point of Y if $\overline{\{y\}} = Y$.

Any such Y is necessarily irreducible (i.e. not the union of 2 proper closed subsets.)

Prop-2 $V(\alpha)$ is irreducible $\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{\alpha} = \mathfrak{p}$ is prime. If so, $V(\alpha)$ has a unique generic point, namely $\mathfrak{p}$.

Proof. First assume $\sqrt{\alpha} = \mathfrak{p}$ is prime. Then $\overline{\{\mathfrak{p}\}} = V(\mathfrak{p}) = V(\alpha)$, so $V(\alpha)$ is irreducible. If it has another generic point $\mathfrak{q}$, then $V(\mathfrak{p}) = V(\mathfrak{q})$, hence $\mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathfrak{q} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ and so $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{q}$.

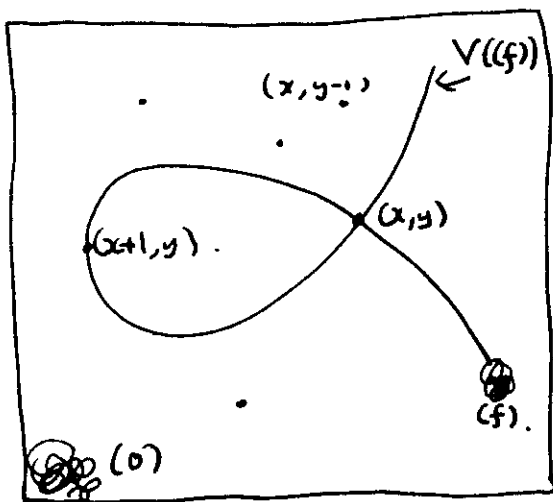
Conversely, suppose $V(\alpha)$ is irreducible. Assume without loss of generality that $\alpha = \sqrt{\alpha}$. We show α is prime. Let $x, y \in R$ s.t. $xy \in \alpha$. Then $V(\alpha) \subseteq V(xy) = V(x) \cup V(y)$.

$$\therefore V(\alpha) = [V(\alpha) \cap V(x)] \cup [V(\alpha) \cap V(y)].$$

As $V(\alpha)$ is irreducible, $V(\alpha) \subseteq V(x)$ or $V(\alpha) \subseteq V(y)$.
 $\Rightarrow x \in \alpha$ or $y \in \alpha$. So α prime.

Ex. $R = k[x, y]$, $k = \bar{k}$. Prime ideals are of 3 types:-

- $(x-a, y-b)$ for $a, b \in k$;
- $(f(x, y))$ for $f \in k[x, y]$ irreducible; and
- (0)



(f) is the generic point of $V((f))$. The other points in $V((f))$ are closed, and are the points $\{(x-a, y-b) \mid f(a, b) = 0\}$.

$$[f = y^2 - x^2(x+1)]$$

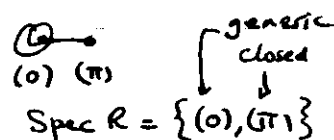
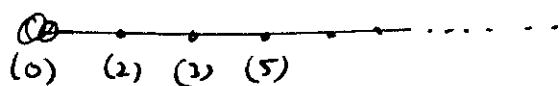
In general, if $R = k[X_1, \dots, X_N]$ with $k = \bar{k}$, the closed points of $V(a)$ are just

$$\left\{ (x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_N - a_N) \mid (a_i) \in k^N \text{ is in the zero-set of } a \right\}.$$

(by Hilbert's Nullstellensatz).

• $R = \mathbb{Z}$. Primes are (p) , (0) .

• $R =$ discrete valuation ring



If $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$ is a homomorphism (taking 1 to 1!)

then $q \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(q)$ is a map $\text{Spec } S \rightarrow \text{Spec } R$,

which is continuous for the Zariski topology [exercise]. *

For example: the canonical map $R \rightarrow R/\alpha$ (α any ideal) induces a map

$$\text{Spec } R/\alpha \rightarrow \text{Spec } R.$$

Fact (or easy exercise): this induces a homeomorphism of

$\text{Spec } R/\alpha$ with $V(\alpha)$.

Now consider the distinguished open sets D_f ($f \in R$).

Let R_f be $S^{-1}R$ where $S = \{f^n : n \geq 0\}$

Prop 4 $R \rightarrow R_f$ induces a homeomorphism of $\text{Spec } R_f$

with $D_f \subset \text{Spec } R$.

[* if we had taken $\text{Spec } R = \{\text{maximal ideals}\}$ this map would not exist!]

Prop. Let $\varphi: R \rightarrow R_f$ be the canonical mapping:—

$\varphi(x) = x/1 \in R_f$. Let $\mathfrak{p} \in D_f$, so that $f \notin \mathfrak{p}$. Define

$\mathfrak{p}_f = \varphi(\mathfrak{p}) \cdot R_f \subset R_f$. I claim $\mathfrak{p}_f$ is a prime ideal. For if a/f^n ,

$b/f^n \in R_f$ with $ab/f^{2n} \in \mathfrak{p}_f$, then for some $r \geq 1$ and

$c \in \mathfrak{p}$ we have $f^r ab - f^{2n}c = 0$, and $\therefore$

$f^r ab \in \mathfrak{p}$. As $\mathfrak{p}$ is prime and $f \notin \mathfrak{p}$, one of a, b is in $\mathfrak{p}$, hence

one of $a/f^n, b/f^n \in \mathfrak{p}_f$. It is now easy to check

that $\mathfrak{p} \mapsto \mathfrak{p}_f$ is a continuous map $D_f \rightarrow \text{Spec } R_f$, and

is an inverse of $\text{Spec } \varphi: \mathfrak{p} \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})$.

Prop 4. $\text{Spec } R = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_{f_i} \iff (\dots f_i \dots)_{i \in I} = R$.

More generally, $D_f = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_{f_i} \iff \sqrt{(\dots f_i \dots)} = \sqrt{(f)}$.

Proof. Prop 1 (i) & (ii), $D_f = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_{f_i}$ if and only if $V(f) =$

$V((\dots f_i \dots))$, which holds if and only if

$\sqrt{(f)} = \sqrt{(\dots f_i \dots)}$ by Prop 1 (iii). Taking $f=1$ we get

$(\dots f_i \dots) = R$ since $\sqrt{R} = R \implies R = R$.

Corollary $\text{Spec } R$ is quasi-compact (every open covering has a finite subcovering).

Proof. Since every open subset is a union of D_{f_i} 's it is enough

to show that if $\text{Spec } R = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_{f_i}$, then there is a finite

subset $I' \subset I$ such that $\text{Spec } R = \bigcup_{i \in I'} D_{f_i}$. We have

$R = \sqrt{(\dots f_i \dots)_{i \in I}}$, so for some finite $I' \subset I$ and $a_i \in R$ we

can write $1 = \sum_{i \in I'} a_i f_i$. Then $R = (\dots f_i \dots)_{i \in I'}$ and

thus $\text{Spec } R = \bigcup_{i \in I'} D_{f_i}$.

Remark: Suppose $f, g \in R$ and $D_f \supset D_g$. Then $g^n = af$ for some $n \geq 1$ and some $a \in R$ [since $V((f)) \subset V((g))$, so $(g) \subset \sqrt{(f)}$ by Prop 1 (iii)]

Then there is defined a homomorphism

$$p_{f,g} : R_f \longrightarrow R_g$$

$$\text{by } x/f^k \longmapsto a^k x / g^{kn}.$$

In particular, if $D_f = D_g$ there is an isomorphism $R_f \xrightarrow{\sim} R_g$.

These maps are transitive (if $D_f \supset D_g \supset D_h$ then $p_{f,h} = p_{g,h} \circ p_{f,g}$).

Theorem. There is a unique sheaf of rings $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R}$,

the structure sheaf, such that :-

(i) $\mathcal{O}(D_f) = R_f$, and if $D_f \supset D_g$ the restriction homomorphism $\mathcal{O}(D_f) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(D_g)$ is $p_{f,g}$;

(ii) $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}} = R_{\mathfrak{p}}$, the localisation of R at $\mathfrak{p}$, for every $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$.

[Actually, (i) already determines $\mathcal{O}$ uniquely by the sheaf axiom, since $\{D_f\}$ generate the topology and $D_f \cap D_g = D_{fg}$.]

The proof is complicated by the fact that not every open set is a D_f . We define $\mathcal{O}(U)$ for any open $U \subseteq \text{Spec } R$:-

$$\mathcal{O}(U) = \left\{ \text{all maps } s: U \longrightarrow \coprod_{\mathfrak{p} \in U} R_{\mathfrak{p}} \text{ such that for any distinguished } D_f \subset U, \text{ there exists } a/f^n \in R_f \text{ such that for all } \mathfrak{p} \in D_f, s(\mathfrak{p}) = a/f^n \in R_{\mathfrak{p}}. \right\}.$$

Defining $+$ and $\times$ componentwise makes $\mathcal{O}$ into a $\checkmark$ presheaf of rings on $\text{Spec } R$.

ii), iii) are easy to check [the main point is that the product of the localization maps $R_f \rightarrow \prod_{g \in D_f} R_g$ is injective].

The tricky part is to show that $\mathcal{O}$ satisfies the sheaf axiom. Arguing formally from the fact that $\{D_f\}$ generate the topology, one is reduced to showing that if

$$D_f = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_{f_i}$$

then for every collection (x_i) with $x_i \in R_{f_i}$ satisfying $p_{f_i, f_i f_j}(x_i) = p_{f_i, f_i f_j}(x_j) \in D_{f_i f_j}$, there is a unique $x \in R_f$ such that $x_i = p_{f, f_i}(x)$ for every i .

This is proved as follows. First, by coroll. to Proposition 4 it is permissible to replace I by a finite subset — so we assume $I = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ for some N . Next we remark that replacing f by a positive power f^n does not change D_f or R_f . So by Prop. 4 we can assume

$$f = c_1 f_1 + \dots + c_N f_N \quad \text{for some } c_i \in R.$$

Now suppose $y \in R_f$ such that $p_{f, f_i}(y) = 0 \quad \forall i \in I$.

Then $f_i^n y = 0$ for all i and some (large) n . So

$$f^m y = (\sum c_i f_i)^m y = 0 \quad \text{for some (larger) } m.$$

As f is invertible in R_f , $y = 0$.

This shows that x , if it exists, is unique (the difference between 2 possible x 's being taken as y). Finally we

assume that $\{x_i\}$ are given such that $p_{f_i, f_i f_j}(x_i)$
 $= p_{f_j, f_i f_j}(x_j)$ for all i, j . Write

$$x_i = b_i / f_i^m \quad \text{for some large } m \text{ (independent of } i)$$

The condition on $\{x_i\}$ implies:—

$$(*) \quad (f_i f_j)^m (b_i f_j^m - b_j f_i^m) = 0 \quad \text{for large } m.$$

Let $b_i' = b_i f_i^m$, $f_i' = f_i^{m+n}$. Then $D_{f_i'} = D_{f_i}$.

so $D_f = \bigcup_i D_{f_i'}$. Therefore by Propⁿ 4 (replacing f by
 a positive power if necessary) we can find $\{c_i'\}$ in R with

$$f = c_1' f_1' + \dots + c_n' f_n'.$$

$$(*) \Rightarrow b_i' f_j' - b_j' f_i' = 0. \quad (**)$$

Write $x = f^{-1} \sum_i c_i' b_i' \in R_f$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_i' x &= \sum_j f^{-1} c_j' b_j' f_i' \\ &= \sum_j f^{-1} c_j' f_j' b_i' \quad \text{by } (**) \\ &= f \cdot f^{-1} b_i' = b_i' \quad \text{hence } f_i' x_i' \in R_{f_i}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $p_{f_i, f_i}(x) = x_i \in R_{f_i}$ for all i as required.

II. Schemes.

Defn. A locally ringed space is a pair $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$, where

- X is a topological space;
- $\mathcal{O}_X$ is a sheaf of rings on X whose stalks $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ are local rings for every $x \in X$.

Notation: if $x \in X$, $\mathfrak{m}_x :=$ maximal ideal of $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$; $k(x) :=$ residue field $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} / \mathfrak{m}_x$.

Example. $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = (\text{Spec } R, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R})$.

We use this example to define schemes, which will be locally ringed spaces locally isomorphic to $(\text{Spec } R, \mathcal{O})$.

First some ideas from sheaf theory:-

Let $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ be a continuous map of topological spaces. If $\mathcal{F}$ is a sheaf on X (of abelian groups or rings) we define the direct image $f_* \mathcal{F}$ on Y by

$$(f_* \mathcal{F})(V) = \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(V)) \quad , \quad V \subseteq^{\text{open}} Y ;$$

it is easy to see that it is a sheaf. [Check axioms!]

A common situation is to have $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$, $\mathcal{F}$ on X and $\mathcal{G}$ on Y , together with a morphism

$$\alpha: \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow f_* \mathcal{F}.$$

Example. Let $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$ be the sheaves of continuous functions on X, Y respectively. Given $f: X \rightarrow Y$ there is a canonical morphism $\alpha: \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow f_* \mathcal{F}$, given by:-

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- this is just "pullback of continuous functions".

$$U \rightsquigarrow \lim_{V \supseteq f(u)} g(v)$$
$$(*) \quad \text{Hom}_Y(g, f_* \mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_X(f^{-1}g, \mathcal{F}).$$
$$\gamma_v: \mathcal{G}_v(v) \rightarrow f^{-1}\mathcal{G}(f^{-1}(v))$$
$$\alpha_v = \beta_{f^{-1}(v)} \circ \gamma_v : \mathcal{G}(v) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(f^{-1}(v)).$$

Varying $V \subset Y$ gives a morphism $\alpha: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$.

Although the definition of $f^{-1}\mathcal{G}$ is not totally simple, it has good properties:-

- The stalk $(f^{-1}\mathcal{G})_x$ is $\mathcal{G}_{f(x)}$;

- if $f: X \hookrightarrow Y$ is the inclusion of an open subset, then $f^{-1}\mathcal{G}$ is simply the restriction of $\mathcal{G}$ to open sets in X .

Property $\oplus$ is usually expressed by saying " f^{-1} and f_* are adjoint functors".

Consequence: $\alpha: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow f_*\mathcal{F}$ induces, for every $x \in X$, a homomorphism of stalks $\alpha_x: \mathcal{G}_{f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_x$.

Defn: A morphism $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ of locally ringed spaces is a pair $(f, f^\#)$ where:

- $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous map;
- $f^\#: \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ is a morphism of sheaves of rings, such that $f_x^\#: \mathcal{O}_{Y, f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X, x}$ is a local homomorphism (that means $f_x^\#(\mathfrak{m}_{f(x)}) \subset \mathfrak{m}_x$).

Remarks (i) One should think of $\mathcal{O}_X$ as being "functions" on X ; a morphism from X to Y should contain enough information to pull back functions. This is why $f^\#$ is part of the definition.

The last part ($f_x^\#$ is a local homomorphism) ensures that if a function on Y vanishes at $f(x)$, then the "pullback" to X vanishes at x .

(ii) The formula (*) on p.10 expresses the fact that

f^{-1} and f_* are adjoint functors (f^{-1} is left adjoint to f_*).

If $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a locally ringed space then if $U \subset X$ is $\checkmark^2$ open the pair $(U, \mathcal{O}_X|_U)$ is also a locally ringed space.

Defⁿ. An affine scheme is a locally ringed space isomorphic to $(\text{Spec } R, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R})$ for some R .

A scheme is a locally ringed space $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ which has a covering $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ such that each $(U_i, \mathcal{O}_X|_{U_i})$ is an affine scheme.

A morphism of schemes is a morphism of locally ringed spaces.

Ex. $\mathbb{A}^n = (\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n], \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]})$.

- affine n-space.

To save space write now $\text{Spec } R$ for the pair $(\text{Spec } R, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R})$.

$\mathbb{P}^n$ - projective n-space. Take $n+1$ copies of $\mathbb{A}^n$:-

$$U_i = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[X_0/X_i, \dots, X_n/X_i] \quad 0 \leq i \leq n.$$

The distinguished open set

$$U_i \cap U_j = D_{X_j/X_i} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[X_0/X_i, \dots, X_n/X_i, X_j/X_i].$$

Now as $X_0/X_i = X_0/X_j \cdot X_j/X_i$ etc. we can identify

$$\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[X_0/X_j, \dots, X_n/X_j, X_j/X_i] = U_j.$$

By gluing the $\{U_i\}$ together along the overlaps we get a topological space. Since $U_j \cong U_i$ as schemes

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We can glue the sheaves together. This gives a scheme

$$\mathbb{P}^n = \bigcup_i U_i$$

Fact: $\Gamma(\mathbb{P}^n, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}) = \mathbb{Z}$. So $\mathbb{P}^n$ is definitely not affine for $n \geq 1$ (if so, it would be $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$).

Ex. k a field. Let $X = \text{Spec } k[x, y] - \{(x, y)\}$ with the induced structure sheaf. Then one can show that

$$\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = k[x, y] = \Gamma(\text{Spec } k[x, y], \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } k[x, y]}).$$

In particular X is not affine, as $X \neq \text{Spec } k[x, y]$.

(X = affine plane with origin removed).*

Now let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of schemes. Then it determines a ring homomorphism

$$f_Y^\# : \Gamma(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) \rightarrow \Gamma(Y, f_* \mathcal{O}_X) = \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X).$$

If Y is affine, this is enough to determine f :

Theorem (i) let $X = \text{Spec } R$, $Y = \text{Spec } R'$. Then $f \mapsto f_Y^\#$ gives a bijection

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{schemes}}(X, Y) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(R', R).$$

(ii) Let $Y = \text{Spec } R$. Then $f \mapsto f_Y^\#$ gives a bijection

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{schemes}}(X, \text{Spec } R) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(R, \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)).$$

* Exercise: Use the covering $X = D_x \cup D_y \subset \text{Spec } k[x, y]$ to show (a) X is a scheme; and (b) $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = k[x, y]$.

I will not give a complete proof. We have already seen that $\varphi: R' \rightarrow R$ (a homomorphism) determines a map of topological spaces

$$f = \text{Spec}(\varphi): \text{Spec } R \rightarrow \text{Spec } R'.$$

If $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$, $f(\mathfrak{p}) = \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})$, and by localisation we get a homomorphism

$$\varphi_{\mathfrak{p}}: R'_{\varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})} \rightarrow R_{\mathfrak{p}}.$$

This allows us to define $f^*: \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R'} \rightarrow f_* \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R}$ as follows: let

$$s = (s_{\mathfrak{q}}) \in \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R'}(V) \subseteq \prod_{\mathfrak{q} \in V} R'_{\mathfrak{q}}.$$

Define $t = f^*_V(s) = (t_{\mathfrak{p}}) \in \prod_{\mathfrak{p} \in f^{-1}(V)} R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ by

$$t_{\mathfrak{p}} = \varphi_{\mathfrak{p}}(s_{\varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})}).$$

One can check this defines a morphism of sheaves. Then one has to check that any (f, f^*) is uniquely determined by f^* , in case (i).

For (ii) one replaces X by an open covering by affine schemes U_i . The restriction of $f: X \rightarrow Y$ to U_i is a morphism $f_i: U_i \rightarrow Y$, hence by (i) corresponds to a homomorphism $\varphi_i: R \rightarrow \Gamma(U_i, \mathcal{O}_X)$. The sheaf axiom shows that (f_i) come from some $f: X \rightarrow Y$ if and only if (φ_i) come from a homomorphism $\varphi: R \rightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$.

For details see Hartshorne p. 73 or Mumford p. 111.

Ex. For any scheme X , there is a unique homomorphism $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ and so a unique morphism $X \rightarrow \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$.

Ex. If X is a scheme and R is a ring, the set of morphisms $\text{Spec } R \rightarrow X$ is called the set of R -valued points of X , denoted $X(R)$. Let's determine it for some special X :-

- $X = \mathbb{A}^n = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Then $X(R) = \{ \text{homomorphisms } \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n] \xrightarrow{\varphi} R \}$
 $\cong R^n$

(the last bijection by $\varphi \mapsto (\varphi(x_1), \dots, \varphi(x_n))$). So $\mathbb{A}^n(R) = R^n$.

In particular $\mathbb{A}^n(k) = k^n$, "usual" affine space $/k$.

- $X = \mathbb{P}^n$; we'll restrict to the case $R = k$ (field).

Then as $\text{Spec } k = \{\text{point}\}$, any morphism $\text{Spec } k \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ has image contained in one of the U_i 's. That is,

$$\mathbb{P}^n(k) = \bigcup U_i(k)$$

and each $U_i(k) \cong k^n$. Examining the gluing data we see that this identifies $\mathbb{P}^n(k)$ ~~as~~ with the set of lines in k^{n+1} .

~~If X is a scheme then any open subset U of the topological space of X ~~is that~~ has a sheaf of rings $\mathcal{O}_X|_U$, and is also a scheme* called an open subscheme of X .~~

~~But if $Y \subset X$ is a closed subset, there is no obvious way to get a sheaf of rings on Y . If $i: Y \hookrightarrow X$ is the inclusion, then $i^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$ will generally be "too big".~~

*this requires a short proof.

(15.1)

A more intrinsic way to define projective space is given by the "Proj" construction, which we now sketch. Let

$$S = \bigoplus_{d \geq 0} S_d$$

be any graded ring. [for example, $S = R[X_0 \dots X_m]$, with $S_d =$ homogeneous polynomials of degree d]. We say a prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \subset S$ is homogeneous if

$$\mathfrak{p} = \bigoplus_{d \geq 0} (\mathfrak{p} \cap S_d).$$

Let $S_+ = \bigoplus_{d > 0} S_d$, and define

$$\text{Proj } S = \{ \text{homogen. prime ideals } \mathfrak{p} \text{ st. } \mathfrak{p} \neq S_+ \}$$

Then ~~the~~ define $V_+(a) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \ni a \}$, $D_f^+ = \{ \mathfrak{p} \nmid f \}$ for f, a homogeneous, just as for $\text{Spec } R$.

Thm. There is a unique sheaf of rings $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Proj } S}$ on $\text{Proj } S$ such that

$$\Gamma(D_f^+, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Proj } S}) = S_{(f)} \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \left\{ \frac{a}{f^n}, a \in S \text{ homog. of degree } n \cdot \deg f \right\} \subseteq S_f.$$

$(\text{Proj } S, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Proj } S})$ is a scheme, and

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{Proj } S, \mathfrak{p}} = S_{(\mathfrak{p})} \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \{ \text{degree 0 elements of the localisation of } S \text{ w.r.t. homog. elts of } S - \mathfrak{p} \}$$

Now we can define $\mathbb{P}_R^N = \text{Proj } R[X_0 \dots X_N]$. See Hartshorne, pp 76-77, for more details, (and EGA for all details!).

A slight generalisation of affine space is given as follows -
 let E be a vector space over a field k . Consider the
Symmetric algebra

$$\text{Sym } E = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \text{Sym}^n E$$

(recall that $\text{Sym}^0 E = k$, $\text{Sym}^1 E = E$ and $\text{Sym}^n E$ is the quotient of $E \otimes_k \dots \otimes_k E$ [n copies] by all relations derived from $x \otimes y = y \otimes x$.)

let $V[E] = \text{Spec}(\text{Sym } E)$. Then $V[E]$ is an affine k -scheme,
 and

$$V[E](k) = \text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(\text{Sym } E, k) = \text{Hom}_{k\text{-vect}}(E, k) = E^\vee$$

This is the natural way to construct an affine space-scheme from
 a vector space. Choosing a basis $e_1, \dots, e_n$ for E (if it is f -dimensional)
 gives an isomorphism $\text{Sym } E \xrightarrow{\sim} k[e_1, \dots, e_n]$ and so an isomorphism
 of $V[E]$ with A^n_k .

Slightly more generally, if E is a free ~~commutatively projective~~ module
 over a ring R , we can form

$$V[E] = \text{Spec}(\text{Sym } E)$$

which is an affine R -scheme. If $E = R^n$ then $V[E] = A^n_R$.

There is an analogous construction for projective spaces.
 Let E/k be a vector space, and consider

$$P[E] = \text{Proj}(\text{Sym } E)$$

where $\text{Sym } E$ is graded in the obvious way. It is an easy exercise
 in the definition of Proj to see that

$$P[E](k) = (E^\vee - \{0\})/k^* = \{\text{hyperplanes in } E\}$$

the dual projective space to E . This will be generalised later to
 a relative setting giving vector bundles and projective bundles.

III. Schemes (continued)

If $U \subset X$ is an open subset, where $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a locally ringed space, then $(U, \mathcal{O}_X|_U)$ is also a locally ringed space.

If $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a scheme then $(U, \mathcal{O}_X|_U)$ is also a scheme [exercise: prove this!]. We call this an open subscheme of X .

To simplify notation we will generally now use $X, Y, \dots$ to denote schemes (i.e. spaces + structure sheaves), and $f: X \rightarrow Y, \dots$ to denote morphisms of schemes. When we refer to the underlying topological space we will write $\text{sp}(X), \text{sp}(f), \dots$

The content of the first paragraph is then that if X is a scheme, then ~~any open~~ there is a bijection between the set of open subspaces of $\text{sp}(X)$ and the set of open subschemes of X .

Now look at closed subsets. There is no analogous way to ~~define~~ restrict a ~~sheaf~~ to maps to a closed subset. To specify a "closed subscheme" we will need to give not only the underlying space, but also the structure sheaf.

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We therefore define :-

Defn A closed subscheme of X is a scheme Y

and a morphism $i: Y \rightarrow X$ such that :-

a) on topological spaces, i is the inclusion of a closed subset of X ;

b) the map $i^\# : \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow i_* \mathcal{O}_Y$ is a surjection (as a morphism of sheaves).

Examples $X = \text{Spec } R$. Then if $\alpha \subset R$ is any ideal, there is a closed subscheme Y of X isomorphic to $\text{Spec } R/\alpha$. In fact, take the canonical map

$$i: \text{Spec } R/\alpha \longrightarrow \text{Spec } R$$

and identify the space of $\text{Spec } R/\alpha$ with its image $V(\alpha)$. We need to check (b), but this is essentially obvious:- if

$$x = \mathfrak{p} \in V(\alpha) \text{ then } i_x^\# : \mathcal{O}_{X,x} = R_{\mathfrak{p}} \longrightarrow (i_* \mathcal{O}_Y)_x = R_{\mathfrak{p}}/\alpha_{\mathfrak{p}};$$

and if $x \notin V(\alpha)$ then $(i_* \mathcal{O}_Y)_x = 0$ (since $\exists$ open U with $x \in U$, $V(\alpha) \cap U = \emptyset$, and so $(i_* \mathcal{O}_Y)(U) = 0$). Notice that as $\text{sp}(Y) = V(\alpha)$, different α with the same radical will give different Y , with the Any closed subscheme of $\text{Spec } R$ is of this type (this is not trivial!).
same underlying space.

Ex. $X = \text{Spec } k[x]$, $n \geq 1$. Consider $\alpha = (x^n)$. Then $V(\alpha) = \{(x)\}$

and the closed subscheme attached to α is $Y \cong \text{Spec } k[x]/(x^n)$.

Note $\mathcal{O}_Y$ has nilpotent elements! If $s = s(x) \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = k[x]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } i_{(x)}^\#(s) &= s \bmod (x^n) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} a_j x^j \bmod (x^n) \quad \text{if } s = \sum a_j x^j. \end{aligned}$$

~~mean~~ - so one recovers not also the value $s(0)$, but also

the first n terms in the expansion in powers of x , from $i^{\#}$ s.

We have an infinite chain of closed subschemes:-

$$Y_1 \subset Y_2 \subset \dots \subset Y_n \subset \dots \subset X$$

all with the same underlying space $\text{sp}(Y_n) = \{(x)\}$. They are called infinitesimal neighbourhoods of (x) in X - these are useful for applying methods of differential geometry (tangent space, connections, ...) to abstract algebraic geometry.

Ex. Let $X = \text{Spec } k[x, y]$. We consider the closed subschemes Y', Y of X defined by the ideals

$$\mathfrak{A}' = (xy, y^2), \quad \mathfrak{A} = (y).$$

Since $\sqrt{\mathfrak{A}'} = \mathfrak{A}$, $\text{sp}(Y) = \text{sp}(Y') = V((y)) = \text{"x-axis"}$.

We compare Y and Y' - for simplicity, assume $k = \bar{k}$.

~~If $\mathfrak{p} \not\subset (y)$ then~~ The closed points of $\text{sp}(Y)$ are of the form $\mathfrak{p} = (x-a, y)$ with $a \in k$. If $a \neq 0$ then since $x \equiv a \pmod{\mathfrak{p}}$, x is invertible in $k[x, y]_{\mathfrak{p}}$ and therefore also in

$$\mathcal{O}_{Y', \mathfrak{p}} = (k[x, y]/(xy, y^2))_{(x-a, y)}$$

Hence as $xy = 0$ in $\mathcal{O}_{Y', \mathfrak{p}}$, we have $y = 0$ in $\mathcal{O}_{Y', \mathfrak{p}}$ so

$$\text{that } \mathcal{O}_{Y', \mathfrak{p}} \cong k[x]_{(x-a)} \cong \mathcal{O}_{Y, \mathfrak{p}}.$$

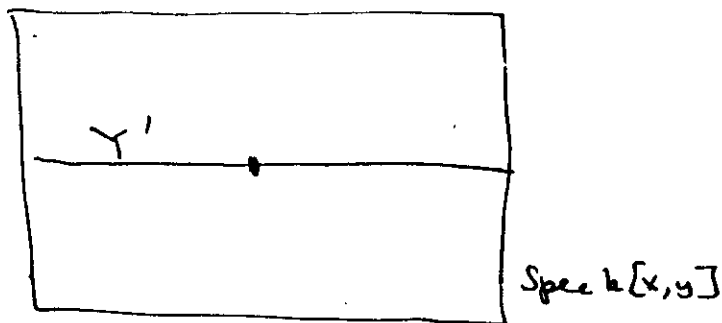
Now suppose $a = 0$. Then $\mathcal{O}_{Y, \mathfrak{p}} = k[x]_{(x)}$ but

$$\mathcal{O}_{Y', \mathfrak{p}} = (k[x, y]/(xy, y^2))_{(x, y)} \neq k[x]_{(x)} \text{ so the fact the}$$

maximal ideal $(x, y) \mathcal{O}_{Y', \mathfrak{p}}$ cannot be generated by one element.

Roughly speaking, $Y' \supset Y$ with a "thickened" point at $(0,0)$.

at the origin:-



Subschemes like this arise frequently in ~~basic~~ families in which most members are "nice".

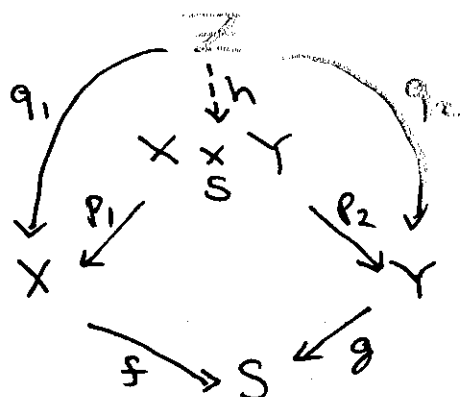
Now we will discuss one of the most important constructions in scheme theory — fibre products.

Def:- Let $f: X \rightarrow S$, $g: Y \rightarrow S$ be morphisms in a category $\mathcal{C}$.
~~we say that~~ A fibre product of f and g is an object W of $\mathcal{C}$, together with morphisms $p_1: W \rightarrow X$, $p_2: W \rightarrow Y$ such that $f \circ p_1 = g \circ p_2$, and satisfying the universal property:-

If $q_1: Z \rightarrow X$, $q_2: Z \rightarrow Y$ are any morphisms of $\mathcal{C}$ such that $f \circ q_1 = g \circ q_2$, there is a unique morphism $h: Z \rightarrow W$ such that $q_i = p_i \circ h$ ($i=1, 2$).

General fact If a fibre product exists it is unique up to isomorphism (this follows from the universal property).

We denote a fibre product by $X \times_S Y$. The diagram below summarises the definition:-



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Exs. • In the category of sets, the fibre product of $f: X \rightarrow S$, $g: Y \rightarrow S$ exists and is

$$X \times_S Y = \{ (x, y) \in X \times Y \mid f(x) = g(y) \}$$

So
$$X \times_S Y = \bigcup_{s \in S} f^{-1}(s) \times g^{-1}(s) \quad (\text{hence the name}).$$

- If U, V are subsets of a set (space) X , and $f: U \hookrightarrow X$, $g: V \hookrightarrow X$ are the inclusions, then

$$U \times_X V = U \cap V.$$

Theorem. Fibre products of schemes exist.

Idea of proof. (i) The affine case:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X = \text{Spec } A & & Y = \text{Spec } B \\ & \searrow f & \swarrow g \\ & S = \text{Spec } R & \end{array} \quad \text{corresponds to} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & B \\ & \nwarrow \varphi & \nearrow \psi \\ & R & \end{array},$$

where φ, ψ are ring homomorphisms. Then ~~then~~ we can form the tensor product $A \otimes_R B$, together with the maps

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_1: A &\longrightarrow A \otimes_R B, & \pi_2: B &\longrightarrow A \otimes_R B \\ a &\longmapsto a \otimes 1 & b &\longmapsto 1 \otimes b. \end{aligned}$$

It has the universal property: for any homomorphisms of rings $\theta_1: A \rightarrow C$, $\theta_2: B \rightarrow C$ such that $\theta_1 \circ \varphi = \theta_2 \circ \psi$ there is a unique $\omega: A \otimes_R B \rightarrow C$ such that $\theta_i = \omega \circ \pi_i$.

So if we define $X \times_S Y = \text{Spec } A \otimes_R B$ with the obvious morphisms to X and Y (coming from π_i) then it is immediate that $X \times_S Y$ is a fibre product.

(ii) the general case. One covers X, Y, S by open affines, and by a straightforward but tedious argument defines $X \times_S Y$ by gluing together products of the type (i). In case of necessity consult Hartshorne, p. 88 for (a subset of) the details.

Exs. • As $\mathbb{Z}[x_1 \dots x_n] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R = R[x_1 \dots x_n]$ we have

$$\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^n = \mathbb{A}^n \times_{\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}} \text{Spec } R.$$

Note that as every scheme has a unique morphism to $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$, there is for any pair of schemes X, Y a product $X \times_{\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}} Y$, which we abbreviate to $X \times Y$.

• $\mathbb{A}^m \times \mathbb{A}^n \cong \mathbb{A}^{m+n}$

• Definition of $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{Z}}^n := \mathbb{P}^n \times \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$.

[Notations •] A product $X \times_{\text{Spec } R'} \text{Spec } R'$ is usually abbreviated $X \otimes_R R'$.]

Also we can consider:—

• $Y_1, Y_2 \subset X$ closed subschemes. Then their intersection is the fibre product $Y_1 \times_X Y_2$. (This is not always a good notion of intersection, however!).

Ex. $X = \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^2$, Y_1 defined by (y) , Y_2 by $(y - x^2)$.
(char $k \neq 2$ say)

Then $Y_1 \times_X Y_2$ is defined by $(y, y - x^2) = (y, x^2)$:

a point with "multiplicity 2 in the x -direction". This is the scheme-theoretic picture of the contact of the curve $y = x^2$ and the line $y = 0$ in the affine plane.

Important example: fibres of a morphism.

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism, and $y \in Y$ a point, with residue field $k(y)$. We now define a scheme X_y , which for a closed point y will be a closed subscheme of X , playing the role of the "fibre $f^{-1}(y)$ ".

There is a unique ~~per~~ morphism $g: T = \text{Spec } k(y) \rightarrow Y$ such that:

- (i) $g(T)$ is the point $y \in Y$;
- (ii) $g^\#_y: \mathcal{O}_{Y,y} \rightarrow k(y)$ is the quotient map.

Define X_y to be the fibre product of f and g :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times_Y T = X_y & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow f_y & & \downarrow f \\ T & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array} \quad \text{and let } f_y \text{ be the projection onto the 2nd factor } T.$$

Ex. $X = \mathbb{A}^2_k = \text{Spec } k[u, v] \xrightarrow{f} Y = \mathbb{A}^1 = \text{Spec } k[t]$
 by $f^\# : t \mapsto u^2 - v^2$

Then let $y = (t - a) \in Y$, $a \in k$. Then $k(y) = k$ and

$$X_y = X \times_Y \text{Spec } k = \text{Spec } k[u, v] \otimes_{k[t]} k \quad \text{with respect to the ring homomorphisms } t \mapsto u^2 - v^2, t \mapsto a. \text{ Therefore}$$

$X_y = \text{Spec } k[u, v] / (u^2 - v^2 - a)$, so we have the

family of conics $u^2 - v^2 = a$ in $\mathbb{A}^2_k$.

Taking $y = (0) \in Y$ (generic point) gives $k(y) = k(t)$

and so $X_{(0)} = \text{Spec } k[u, v] \otimes_{k[t]} k(t)$

$$= \text{Spec } k(t)[u, v] / (u^2 - v^2 - t) \subset \mathbb{A}^2_{k(t)}$$

We say $X_{(0)}$ is the general fibre of $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$.

Ex. $X = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[u, v]/(f)$ where $f \in \mathbb{Z}[u, v], f \neq 0$
 $\downarrow$
 $Y = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$. (an arithmetic surface)

Taking $y = (p) \in Y$ for a prime p gives $k(y) = \mathbb{F}_p$ and

$$X_{(p)} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[u, v]/(f) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{F}_p = \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_p[u, v]/(\bar{f})$$

where $\bar{f} = \text{image of } f \text{ in } \mathbb{F}_p[u, v]$; taking $y = (0) \in Y$ gives

$$X_{(0)} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Q}[u, v]/(f) \quad \text{since } k(y) = \mathbb{Q}.$$

For example, if $f = v^2 - u^3 - 5$ then $X_{(0)}$ is the nonsingular curve $v^2 = u^3 + 5$ in affine 2-space over $\mathbb{Q}$.

$X_{(p)}$ is the curve $v^2 = u^3 + 5$ over $\mathbb{F}_p$, which is nonsingular

if $p \neq 5$. For $p = 5$, we have

$$X_{(5)} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_5[u, v]/(v^2 - u^3),$$

a cuspidal curve. (Exercise - determine $X_{(2)}$ and $X_{(3)}$.)

Ex. $X = \text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K \rightarrow Y = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$, where K is an algebraic number field. Then :-

- $X_{(0)} = \text{Spec } K$;
- If $(p) = \prod \mathfrak{p}_i$ does not ramify in K , then

$$X_{(p)} = \coprod \text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{p}_i = \coprod \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_{p^{f_i}};$$

- If (p) ramifies in K then $\mathcal{O}_{X_{(p)}}$ has nilpotent

elements.

[Prove these assertions using algebraic number theory].

Ex. Let $X = |A'_{\mathbb{F}_p}| = \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_p[u]$

be given by

$$\downarrow f$$

$$Y = |A'_{\mathbb{F}_p}| = \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_p[v]$$

$$f^\# : \mathbb{F}_p[v] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[u]$$

$$v \mapsto u^p.$$

Let $y = (q(v)) \in Y$ be a closed point, where $q(v) \in \mathbb{F}_p[v]$ is irreducible. Then

$$\kappa(y) = \mathbb{F}_q \text{ where } q = p^{\deg(q)};$$

let $a = \text{image of } v \text{ in } \mathbb{F}_q$ and $b \in \mathbb{F}_q$ be the element such that $b^p = a$. Then

$$X_{(q)} = \text{Spec } R, \text{ where } R \text{ is the fibre product of}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \mathbb{F}_p[u] \\ & \nearrow f^\# & \\ \mathbb{F}_p[v] & & \\ & \searrow & \\ & & \mathbb{F}_q \end{array}$$

$$\text{Therefore } R = \mathbb{F}_q[u] / (u^p - a) = \mathbb{F}_q[t] / (t^p) \quad (t = u - b).$$

So every fibre $X_{(q)} \cong \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_q[t] / (t^p)$ has nilpotent

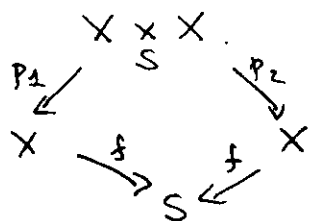
elements in its structure sheaf. Also $X_{(0)} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}_q(u)$ is

a (reduced) point. Therefore f is a homeomorphism on

topological spaces, but very far from being an isomorphism.

Ex. Let $f: X \rightarrow S$ be any morphism.

(We often say X is a scheme over S if there is given such a morphism). Consider the fibre product of f with itself:-



Then by the univ. property, there is a unique morphism

$\Delta: X \rightarrow X \times_S X$ such that $p_1 \circ \Delta = p_2 \circ \Delta = \text{the identity map } X \rightarrow X$.

Δ is called the diagonal - since in the category of sets the analogue is the map $x \mapsto (x, x) \in X \times X$.

If $X = \text{Spec } A$, $S = \text{Spec } R$ are affine, then

$X \times_S X = \text{Spec } A \otimes_R A$ and the diagonal is given

by $\Delta^\#: A \otimes_R A \rightarrow A$, $\Delta^\#(a \otimes b) = ab$.

[Since it is the unique map which, when composed with either of the canonical maps $\theta_i: A \rightarrow A \otimes_R A$ gives the identity on A].
 $a \mapsto a \otimes 1$ or $1 \otimes a$

We say f is separated if $\Delta(X)$ is a closed subset of $X \times_S X$.

If $S = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$, we simply say X is separated.

This is the analogue of the Hausdorff condition in topology. In topology, the map $g: X \xrightarrow{\Delta} X \times X$ is closed if and only if, whenever $(p, q) \in X \times X$ is a limit point of the diagonal, we have $p = q$. For a reasonable space X this is the same as saying that a sequence can have at most one limit.

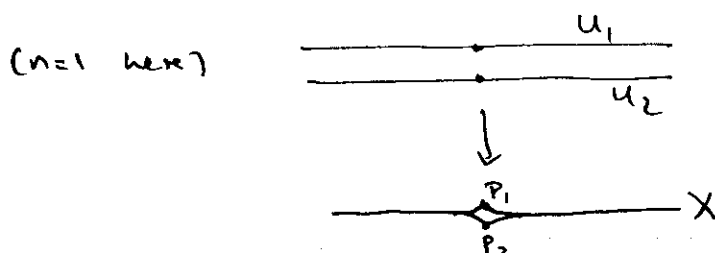
Proposition Every affine scheme is separated.

Proof In fact, we show that every morphism $\text{Spec } A \rightarrow \text{Spec } R$ of affine schemes is separated (take $R = \mathbb{Z}$ for the proposition).

$$\text{Let } J = \ker[\Delta^\#: A \otimes_R A \rightarrow A].$$

Clearly $\Delta^\#$ is surjective, so the image of Δ is the closed subscheme of $\text{Spec } A \otimes_R A$ defined by the ideal J ; so its topological space is closed.

Example (a non-separated scheme). Let U_1, U_2 be two copies of $A^n_{\mathbb{Q}} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, and join them along the open sets $U_1 - (\text{origin}), U_2 - (\text{origin})$: -



X is " A^n with the origin doubled". Consider $\Delta: X \rightarrow X \times X$.

Then $X \times X$ is the union of 4 copies of $A^n \times A^n$ and has 4 origins, namely (P_i, P_j) for $i, j = 1$ or 2 . Each of these is in the closure of the diagonal [since the generic point of the diagonal is in the intersection of the 4 copies of $A^n \times A^n$]; but $\Delta(X)$ contains only (P_1, P_1) and (P_2, P_2) . So $\Delta(X)$ is not closed.

Proposition If X is a separated scheme and $U_1, U_2 \subset X$ are affine open subschemes, then $U_1 \cap U_2$ is also affine.

Proof If X is separated then $\Delta(X)$ is a closed subset of $X \times X$, and as $\Delta^\#: \mathcal{O}_{X \times X} \rightarrow \Delta_* \mathcal{O}_X$ is

surjective [it is enough to consider the affine case,

when we already know it is true] the diagonal $\Delta(X)$ is a closed subscheme of $X \times X$, isomorphic to X

Now it is easy to see that $U_1 \cap U_2$ is isomorphic to $\Delta(X) \cap U_1 \times U_2$, which is a closed subscheme of the (affine!) scheme $U_1 \times U_2$. As we mentioned earlier, every closed subscheme of an affine scheme is also affine; hence $U_1 \cap U_2$ is affine.

The previous example for $n \geq 2$ shows how this can fail if X is not separated.

Remark X a scheme, $x \in X$ any point; $m_x \subset \mathcal{O}_{x,x}$ the maximal ideal

If $f \in \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X)$ where $x \in U$, attached to f has:

- $f_x = \text{image of } f \text{ in } \mathcal{O}_{x,x}$ ("germ of f ")
- $f(x) = \dots \xrightarrow{\text{residue field}} \mathcal{O}_{x,x} / m_x$ ("value of f ")

$\{f_x : x \in U\}$ clearly determines f (as $\mathcal{O}$ is a sheaf).

$\{f(x)\}$ needn't: if $f^2 = 0$ then $f(x) = 0 \forall x$.

Def. A scheme X is reduced if all $\mathcal{O}_{x,x}$ have no $\neq 0$ nilpotent elements.

(equivalently, if same is true for all $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$).

Slightly stronger is: X is integral if each $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ is an integral domain.

(equivalently, iff X is reduced and irreducible)

A (quasi-projective) variety over an alg. closed field k is an integral quasi-projective scheme over k .

[the category of such varieties is equivalent to the category of "naïve" varieties over k].

Dimension of a scheme X is the supremum of n st. there exists a chain

$$\emptyset \neq Z_0 \subsetneq Z_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq Z_n \subsetneq X$$

of distinct irreducible subsets of X .

R a ring then the (Krull) dimension of R is the supremum of the lengths of chains of prime ideals:-

$$R \supsetneq P_0 \supsetneq \dots \supsetneq P_n$$

Clearly $\dim R = \dim(\text{Spec } R)$.

Recall from local algebra:-

Defn: R local Noetherian ring, $k = R/\mathfrak{m}$. R is a regular ring.

$$\dim_{\mathfrak{m}} \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2 = \dim R$$

(always $\geq$)

Then say a scheme is regular if all its local rings are regular.
(enough to check closed points).

Regular local rings are UFD's, hence also integrally closed — so regular schemes have very nice local properties*. Here are examples in low dimension:-

Exs. of regular schemes of dimension 1: (dim = 0 is an exercise!)

• (geometric) $k = \bar{k}$ field: non-singular curves / k
(ie regular schemes of dim = 1, quasi-projective / k).

• (arithmetic) $\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K$ (K = number field).

More generally, if R is any Dedekind domain, $\text{Spec } R$ is a reg. ~~local~~ scheme of dim = 1.

eg R = discrete valuation ring, uniformiser π .

$$X = \text{Spec } R = \{ (0), (\pi) \}$$

$\begin{matrix} \text{generic} & \nearrow & \nwarrow & \text{closed} \\ & & & \end{matrix}$
 $\begin{matrix} \textcircled{0} & \longrightarrow & \textcircled{\pi} \\ (0) & & (\pi) \end{matrix}$

[such an X is called a "trait" in French, for which there exists no English equivalent]

Dimension 2. • (geometric) quasi-proj / k = non-singular surface

• (arithmetic) The important examples for Arakelov theory

is an arithmetic surface, which is a regular, irreducible

* Ex. every integral closed subscheme of dim = 1 is locally given by one equation.

projective scheme X over $\mathbb{Z}$ of dimension 2, such that $X \rightarrow \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$ is surjective [this is to ensure X is not a 2-dimensional scheme over some $\mathbb{F}_p$; equivalently, we may require that X be flat over $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$].

Simplest example is $\mathbb{P}^1_{\mathbb{Z}}$.

Note that the top space of an arithmetic surface is quite intricate: — even for $A^1_{\mathbb{Z}} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[x]$ has different sorts of point: —

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----|---|
| (0) | (p) | (f) | (p, f) |
| minimal prime | $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ irreducible | | maximal |
| | height = one | | $(f \in \mathbb{Z}[x], f \text{ mod } p \text{ irreducible})$ |
| | | | |
- * * * * *

Also even if we start with regular schemes, the fibres of a morphism between regular schemes can be quite unpleasant.

eg. $X = A^2_k = \text{Spec } k[x, y] \xrightarrow{f} Y = \text{Spec } k[u, v] \quad \text{char}(k) \neq 2, k = \bar{k}$
 $f^*(u, v) = (xy, y^2)$

$P \in Y$ no char pr. $k[u, v]_{(P)} = k$

$$f^{-1}(P) = \begin{cases} \text{Spec } k[u]_{(u)} & \text{if } b \neq 0 \\ \text{Spec } 0 = \emptyset & \text{if } a \neq 0 = b \\ \text{Spec } k[x, y]_{(xy, y^2)} & a = b = 0 \end{cases}$$

Another striking use of nilpotent elements is in the tangent space.

Let X be a ^{quasi-projective} scheme over $k = \bar{k}$. Write $D = k[\varepsilon]/(\varepsilon^2)$.

("dual numbers"). If $x \in X$ is a closed point, let

$$T_{X, x} = \left\{ \text{morphisms } \text{Spec } D \xrightarrow{\varphi} X \text{ st. } \varphi(\text{point}) = x \right\}$$

If X is quasi-projective then $k(X) = k$ (*), and then one finds

$$\begin{aligned} T_{X,x} &= \{ \text{local } k\text{-algebra homomorphisms } \mathcal{O}_{X,x} \rightarrow D \} \\ &= \{ k\text{-linear maps } m_x \xrightarrow{\lambda} k \in D \text{ such that } \lambda(m_x^2) = 0 \} \\ &= \text{Hom}_k(m_x/m_x^2, k) \end{aligned}$$

The space m_x/m_x^2 is called the cotangent space of X at x , and is closely related to differentials (see below). One can think of $\text{Spec } D$ therefore as "a point with a tangent vector attached" (but no ambient space!).

(*) because x is a closed point of $\mathbb{P}_k^n$, hence of A_k^n for some affine A_k^n ; and the closed points of A_k^n are all given by ideals of the form $(x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n)$, $(a_i) \in k^n$ [Hilbert Nullstellensatz].

Sheaves of modules

Let X be a scheme. A sheaf of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules (or simply an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module) is a sheaf $\mathcal{F}$ on X , and for every open $U \subset X$ an action

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) \times \mathcal{F}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(U)$$

compatible with restriction to open $V \subset U$, which makes each $\mathcal{F}(U)$ into an $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ -module. Morphisms of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules are defined in the obvious way.

A simple example of an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module is the free module:

$$\mathcal{O}_X \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}_X = \mathcal{O}_X^d$$

defined in an obvious way.

There is a particularly important class of sheaves of modules. First consider the case of an affine scheme $X = \text{Spec } R$. Let M be any R -module. Then the proof of the existence of the structure sheaf $\mathcal{O}_X$ can almost trivially be generalised to give:-

Theorem/Definition. There is a unique (up to isomorphism...) sheaf of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules $\tilde{M}$ on $X = \text{Spec } R$ such that

$$\Gamma(D_f, \tilde{M}) = M_f = M \otimes D_f$$

(compatible with the restriction maps). Its stalks are the localisations $M_p = M \otimes R_p$

This gives a functor $M \mapsto \tilde{M}$

$$(R\text{-modules}) \longrightarrow (\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R}\text{-modules})$$

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Which is faithful — i.e. $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R}}(\tilde{M}, \tilde{N})$

However there are $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules not isomorphic to $\tilde{M}$.

Ex. Let R be a discrete valuation ring, ^{with field of fractions} K . Let η, s be the generic and closed points of $X = \text{Spec } R$. Then the sheaf $\mathcal{F}$ given by

$$\Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) = 0$$

$$\Gamma(\{s\}, \mathcal{F}) = K$$

is not of the form $\tilde{M}$ [since $\Gamma(X, \tilde{M}) = M$!]

Remark

This is an example of extension by zero: if $j: U \hookrightarrow X$ is the inclusion of an open subscheme [X now arbitrary] and $\mathcal{G}$ is a sheaf on U , then there is a sheaf $j_! \mathcal{G}$ on X by

$$(j_! \mathcal{G})(V) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{G}(V) & \text{if } V \subseteq U \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have

$$\text{Hom}(j_! \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}) = \text{Hom}(\mathcal{G}, j^{-1} \mathcal{F})$$

for sheaves [of abelian groups] $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$ on X, U so

$j_!$ is left adjoint to j^{-1} (cf. pp 10-11).

Defⁿ Let X be a scheme. Then an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module $\mathcal{F}$ is said to be quasi-coherent if for

every open affine $U \subseteq X$, $\mathcal{F}|_U \cong \tilde{M}$ for some $\mathcal{O}(U)$ -module M .

A basic fact is that it is enough to check the condition for all U belonging to one affine covering of X . So taking $X = \text{Spec } R$ we see that the

quasi-coherent sheaves on $\text{Spec } R$ are precisely those of the form $\tilde{M}$.

For the most part we deal with quasi-coherent modules, which are closest to the idea of a module over a ring.

Examples • Let $i: Y \hookrightarrow X$ be a closed subscheme.

Write $\mathcal{I}_{Y/X} = \ker [i^\# : \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow i_* \mathcal{O}_Y]$. Then

$\mathcal{I}_{Y/X}$ is a sheaf of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules; actually it is a sheaf of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -ideals, as

$$\mathcal{I}_{Y/X}(U) = \ker [\mathcal{O}_X(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y(Y \cap U)].$$

$\mathfrak{I}$ is an $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ -ideal. This construction gives a bijection between the set of closed subschemes of X and the set of quasi-coherent sheaves of ideals in $\mathcal{O}_X$ — this generalises the affine analogue on page 17 (and the proof is the same — cf. Hartshorne §II.5, especially p.116).

• Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be any morphism. Then the homomorphism

$$f^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow f_* \mathcal{O}_X$$

gives $f_* \mathcal{O}_X$ the structure of $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module [in fact it is an $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -algebra]. It is not hard to see that

$f_* \mathcal{O}_X$ is quasi-coherent if (say) f is quasi-projective.

More generally, if $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a morphism and $\mathcal{F}$ is a quasi-coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, then $f_* \mathcal{F}$ is a quasi-coherent $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module under reasonable conditions on f (e.g. if X is quasi-projective over a Noetherian ring).

- (Kähler differentials) Recall that if $\varphi: R \rightarrow A$ is a ring homomorphism, the module of Kähler differentials $\Omega_{A/R}$ is defined to be the quotient of the free A -module on symbols $\{da \mid a \in R\}$ by relations -

$$d(a+b) = da + db$$

$$d(ab) = a db + b da$$

$$d(\varphi(r)) = 0$$

$$(a, b \in A, r \in R)$$

Ex $\Omega_{R[x_1, \dots, x_n]/R} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n R \cdot dx_i$, free of rank n .

$\Omega_{K/k} = 0$ if K/k is a separable algebraic extension of fields.

The formation of $\Omega_{A/R}$ commutes with localization. So if X/R is a scheme, there is a unique quasi-coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module $\Omega_{X/R}$ such that if $U = \text{Spec } A \subset X$ is open affine, then

$$\Omega_{X/R}|_U \cong \widetilde{\Omega_{A/R}}.$$

(in a way compatible with restriction)

Most standard operations on modules extend in an almost obvious way to $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules: for example:

- direct sum $\mathcal{F} \oplus \mathcal{G}$ by $(\mathcal{F} \oplus \mathcal{G})(u) = \mathcal{F}(u) \oplus \mathcal{G}(u)$
- tensor product $\mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{G} =$ sheaf associated to presheaf $u \mapsto \mathcal{F}(u) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X(u)} \mathcal{G}(u)$
- "Sheaf hom" $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$ by $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})(u) = \mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_X(u)}(\mathcal{F}|_u, \mathcal{G}|_u)$.
- "Dual sheaf" $\mathcal{F}^\vee = \mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{O}_X)$.
- Symmetric and exterior powers $\text{Sym}^n \mathcal{F}, \wedge^n \mathcal{F}$

For quasi-coherent modules these operations can be described in terms of open affine coverings: let $X = \bigcup U_i$ with $U_i = \text{Spec } A_i$. Let $\mathcal{F}|_{U_i} = \widetilde{M_i}$, $\mathcal{G}|_{U_i} = \widetilde{N_i}$ for $\mathcal{O}_X(U_i) = A_i$ -modules M_i, N_i . Then

$$\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}|_{U_i} = \widetilde{M_i \otimes_{A_i} N_i}, \quad \mathcal{F} \oplus \mathcal{G}|_{U_i} = \widetilde{M_i \oplus N_i},$$

and similarly for Sym^n and $\wedge^n$.

Remark. It is not true in general that $(\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})(u) = \mathcal{F}(u) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X(u)} \mathcal{G}(u)$ for every open u (not necessarily affine)

or that $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})(u) = \mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{F}(u), \mathcal{G}(u))$. In fact, for $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$ quasi-coherent $\mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$ need not even be quasi-coherent.

Inverse image of a sheaf of modules Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of schemes and $\mathcal{F}$ an $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module. Then $f^{-1}\mathcal{F}$ is not usually an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module [untrue for example $X = \text{Spec } k \rightarrow Y = \text{Spec } k$ for a field extension K/k !], but it is an $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module. We define

$$f^* \mathcal{F} = f^{-1} \mathcal{F} \otimes_{f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y} \mathcal{O}_X$$

(recall that by adjunction f^* can be viewed as a homomorphism $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$). If $\mathcal{Y}$ is

quasi-coherent one can be more explicit: if $U = \text{Spec } A \subset X$, $V = \text{Spec } B \subset Y$ are ^{open} affines with $f(U) \subset V$ and $\mathcal{Y}|_V = \widetilde{M}$ for a B -module M then $f^*\mathcal{Y}|_U = \widetilde{M \otimes_B A}$. In the category of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules (f^*, f_*) are adjoint:-

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(f^*\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_Y}(\mathcal{Y}, f_*\mathcal{G}).$$

Basic finiteness condition for $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules. In what follows we will assume X is quasi-projective over a Noetherian ring R .

Def: An $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module $\mathcal{Y}$ is coherent if for all open affines $U = \text{Spec } A \subset X$, $\mathcal{Y}|_U \cong \widetilde{M}$ for a finitely generated A -module M .

Remark - it is enough to consider all U belonging to a finite open covering of X .

The category of finitely-generated R -modules (R Noetherian) is stable under the usual operations $\oplus, \otimes_R, \text{Hom}_R(,), \wedge^p, \text{Sym}^p$, and dual. Therefore ~~the same is true for~~ the category of coherent sheaves is stable under $\oplus, \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X}, \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}, \wedge^p, \text{Sym}^p$ and $^{\vee}$. Also $f^*\mathcal{Y}$ is a coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module if $\mathcal{Y}$ is a coherent $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module [since $M \otimes_B A$ is finitely generated over A if M is finitely generated over B].

However $f_*\mathcal{Y}$ need not be coherent if $\mathcal{Y}$ is. For example, if $f: A^1_R \rightarrow \text{Spec } R$ and $\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{O}_{A^1_R}$, then $\mathcal{Y}$ is coherent but $f_*\mathcal{Y} = \widetilde{R[x]}$, and $R[x]$ is of course not finitely generated over R .

Theorem If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is projective* and $\mathcal{Y}$ is a coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, then $f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ is a coherent $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module.

[*] i.e. f factors as $X \xrightarrow{\text{closed subscheme}} \mathbb{P}^N \times Y \rightarrow Y$

For example, let X be projective over a field k .

Then $f_* \mathcal{O}_X = \tilde{M}$ where M is the k -vector space $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$.

So the theorem implies that the space of global sections of X is finite-dimensional.

The easiest proof of this theorem uses cohomology [see the lectures of Srinivas, or Hartshorne III.5.2].

More examples. (X always q -proj. over Noetherian R).

- $\gamma \subset X$ a closed subscheme; the $\mathcal{I}_{\gamma/X}$ is coherent (essentially by Hilbert's basis theorem)

- locally free sheaves. If X can be covered by open sets U_i such that $\mathcal{F}|_{U_i}$ is a free $\mathcal{O}_{U_i}$ -module, then $\mathcal{F}$ is said to be locally free. A locally free sheaf is coherent $\Leftrightarrow$ the free modules $\mathcal{F}|_{U_i}$ are $\cong \mathcal{O}_{U_i}^{d_i}$ for $d_i < \infty$.

Locally free sheaves are essentially the same as algebraic vector bundles. Suppose $\mathcal{E}$ is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, and pick a covering $\{U_i\}$ such that $\mathcal{E}|_{U_i}$ is free. We may as well assume each U_i is affine ($= \text{Spec } A_i$ say) so that

$$\mathcal{E}|_{U_i} \cong \tilde{M}_i \quad (\text{canonically!})$$

where $M_i = \Gamma(U_i, \mathcal{E})$ is a free A_i -module. For each U_i we can then form (see p. 15.2 above)

$$\mathbb{V}[\mathcal{E}|_{U_i}] = \text{Spec} [\text{Sym}_{A_i}(M_i)]$$

These glue together to give a scheme $\mathbb{V}[\mathcal{E}]$ together with a morphism $\mathbb{V}[\mathcal{E}] \xrightarrow{\pi} X$. Notice that

$$\mathbb{V}[\mathcal{E}|_{U_i}] \cong \mathbb{A}^{d_i} \times U_i, \quad d_i = \text{rank}_{A_i}(M_i)$$

and in particular the fibres of π are all affine spaces.

$\mathbb{V}[\mathcal{E}]$ is the algebraic vector bundle attached to $\mathcal{E}$.

To recover $\mathcal{E}$ from $\mathbb{V}[\mathcal{E}]$ observe that if $U \subset X$ is open, then

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \text{sections of } \pi \text{ over } U \} &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{E}^V(U) \\ \text{"} & \\ \{ \text{morphisms } s: U \rightarrow V[\mathcal{E}] \text{ such} & \\ \text{that } \pi \circ s = \text{inclusion } U \hookrightarrow X \} & \end{aligned}$$

(compare the construction on page 15.2)

Similar, the schemes $\text{Proj}(\text{Sym}_{A_i} M_i)$ glue together to give a scheme $P[\mathcal{E}]$, with a morphism to X , whose fibres are projective spaces. One cannot recover $\mathcal{E}$ from $P[\mathcal{E}]$ in general; of fact it is not hard to see that if $\mathcal{L}$ is a rank 1 locally free sheaf then

$$P[\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{L}] \cong P[\mathcal{E}]$$

• Invertible sheaves. A locally free sheaf $\mathcal{L}$ of rank 1 is called an invertible sheaf (since $\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{L}^V \cong \mathcal{O}_X$). The associated vector bundles are line bundles. Invertible sheaves are particularly important for projective schemes. In fact, projective space $\mathbb{P}_R^n$ carries a special invertible sheaf, denoted $\mathcal{O}(1)$. One way to define it is as follows. Consider the open subsets

$$U_i = \text{Spec } A_i, \quad A_i = R \left[\frac{X_0}{X_i}, \dots, \frac{X_n}{X_i} \right]$$

which cover $\mathbb{P}_R^n$. Let M_i be the $\text{free } A_i$ -module $A_i \cdot X_i = \left\{ \frac{f}{X_i^m} : f \text{ a homogeneous poly. of degree } m+1 \right\}$. Then

$\tilde{M}_i|_{U_i \cap U_j}$, $\tilde{M}_j|_{U_i \cap U_j}$ are canonically isomorphic (since X_i/X_j is invertible on $U_i \cap U_j$) and in fact there is a sheaf $\mathcal{O}(1)$ such that $\mathcal{O}(1)|_{U_i} = \tilde{M}_i$, compatible with these isomorphisms.

$$\text{We define } \mathcal{O}(d) = \begin{cases} \bigotimes_{\mathcal{O}_X}^d \mathcal{O}(1) & \text{for } d > 0 \\ \mathcal{O}_X & \text{for } d = 0 \\ \mathcal{O}(-d)^V & \text{for } d < 0. \end{cases}$$

The vector bundle $V[\mathcal{O}(1)]$ is just the tautological line bundle on $\mathbb{P}^n$.

Then $\mathcal{O}(m) \otimes \mathcal{O}(n) = \mathcal{O}(m+n)$ for all m, n , and

$$\Gamma(\mathbb{P}_R^n, \mathcal{O}(d)) = \{ \text{homogeneous } f \in R[X_0 \dots X_n] \text{ of degree } d \}.$$

In particular this gives $\mathcal{O}(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-1) \cong \mathcal{O}$, but

$$\mathcal{O} = \Gamma(\mathbb{P}_R^n, \mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes \Gamma(\mathbb{P}_R^n, \mathcal{O}(-1)) \neq \Gamma(\mathbb{P}_R^n, \mathcal{O}) = R$$

(cf. p 36 above).

If $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}_R^n$ is any quasi-projective scheme over R , then we define

$$\mathcal{O}_X(1) = i^* \left[\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_R^n}(1) \right]$$

A crucial property of the sheaves $\mathcal{O}_X(d)$ is that, even though a coherent sheaf $\mathcal{Y}$ on X need not have any global sections, for d sufficiently large $\mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(d)$ has plenty of them: more precisely

Theorem Let $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}_R^n$ be a quasi-projective scheme over R (a Noetherian ring) and $\mathcal{Y}$ a coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module. Then there exists $d_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:— for each $d \geq d_0$, the images of the global sections $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(d))$ generate the $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ -module $\mathcal{Y}_x \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X,x}(d)$ for all $x \in X$.

Another way to state this is that for every $d \geq d_0$ there exists a surjection

$$\mathcal{O}_X^r \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(d)$$

for some r (depending on d)

Remark In algebraic number theory a module M over a Dedekind domain R is said to be locally free if the localisations M_p are free R_p -modules. This is not quite analogous to the sheaf-theoretical definition. Here is an example of Srinivas:—

$$\text{Let } M = \left\{ \frac{m}{n} \in \mathbb{Q} \mid n \text{ is square-free} \right\}.$$

Then for every prime number p

$$M_{(p)} = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)} \cdot \frac{1}{p} \quad \mathbb{Z} \text{ free (of rank 1!)}$$

and $M_{(0)} = \mathbb{Q}$. But M is clearly not a free $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, and moreover $\tilde{M}$ is not locally free on $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$.

For finitely generated modules over a Noetherian ring, it is however true that

$$M_{\mathfrak{p}} \text{ is free over } R_{\mathfrak{p}} \text{ for all } \mathfrak{p} \iff \tilde{M} \text{ is a locally free } \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } R} \text{-module}$$

$$\iff M \text{ is a projective } R\text{-module.}$$

Line bundles and divisors Assume that X is quasi-projective over a Noetherian ring R , and that X is regular. (weaker conditions will in fact suffice).

By a divisor on X we mean a finite formal sum $D = \sum m_i Y_i$, where $Y_i \subset X$ is an integral closed subscheme of codimension 1, and $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}$.

We associate to D the invertible sheaf $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$ as follows:- consider the ideal sheaves $\mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X}$. If $x \in X \setminus Y_i$ then $\mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X, x} = \mathcal{O}_{X, x}$, and if $x \in Y_i$ then $\mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X, x} \subset \mathcal{O}_{X, x}$ is an ideal of height 1. Since $\mathcal{O}_{X, x}$ is a UFD this implies that $\mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X, x}$ is a principal ideal, and so since $\mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X}$ is coherent, it is locally free of rank 1. Define

$$\mathcal{O}_X(Y_i) = \mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X}^{\vee} = \mathcal{I}_{Y_i/X}^{\otimes -1}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_X(D) = \bigotimes_i \mathcal{O}_X(Y_i)^{\otimes m_i}$$

To go the other way, let $\mathcal{L}$ be an invertible sheaf on X . Let η be the generic point of X ; $\mathcal{O}_{X, \eta} = k(\eta)$ is a field, the field of rational functions on X . Pick a non-zero $s \in \mathcal{L}_{\eta}$. If $y \in X$ is a point whose closure $\overline{\{y\}}$ has

Codimension 1, the $\mathcal{O}_{X,y}$ is a regular local ring of dimension 1, hence a discrete valuation ring, with uniformiser π_y say. Let $\text{ord}_y(s) \in \mathbb{Z}$ be the unique integer such that

$$s \cdot \mathcal{O}_{X,y} = \pi_y^{\text{ord}_y(s)} \mathcal{L}_y \subset \mathcal{L}_y.$$

We associate to $(\mathcal{L}, s)$ the divisor $\text{div}(s) = \sum_y \text{ord}_y(s) \cdot \overline{\{y\}}$, where we give $\overline{\{y\}}$ the reduced subscheme structure.

A principal divisor is one of the form $\text{div}(s)$ where $s \in \mathcal{O}_{X,\eta}^\times$ is a rational function on X . This construction gives a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of invertible sheaves} \\ \text{on } X \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \frac{\left\{ \text{divisors on } X \right\}}{\left\{ \text{principal divisors} \right\}}$$

and the sum of divisors corresponds to the $\otimes$ of invertible sheaves. The group of isomorphism classes of invertible sheaves is denoted $\text{Pic } X$, and called the Picard group.

For example, $\Gamma(\mathbb{P}_R^n, \mathcal{O}(1)) = \{ \text{degree 1 homogeneous polynomials} \}$, so the divisor of any non-zero section of $\mathcal{O}(1)$ is simply a hyperplane section H , so $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(1) \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(H)$. However $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(1)$ is better than any of the sheaves $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n}(H)$, since it is canonical.

In fact, if $\mathcal{E}$ is a locally free sheaf on X , and if $\pi: \mathbb{P}[\mathcal{E}] \rightarrow X$ is the associated projective bundle, then for each open $U \subset X$ over which $\mathcal{E}$ is free, we get a sheaf $\mathcal{O}(1)$ on $\pi^{-1}(U)$. These patch together to give an invertible sheaf $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{E}]}(1)$ on $\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{E}]$. However we need not have an algebraic family of hyperplane sections $\{H_x \subset \pi^{-1}(x) \mid x \in X\}$.

Now take $X = \mathbb{P}_k^1$, and consider $\mathcal{O}_{X/k}^1$, which as we saw earlier is locally free of rank $\dim(X) + 1$. The differential dx/x at the generic point has divisor

$\text{div}(dx/x) = -(0) - (\infty)$, so $\Omega_{\mathbb{P}^1}^1 \cong \mathcal{O}(-2)$. For $\mathbb{P}^n$, $n \geq 1$ the situation is slightly more complicated. There is an exact sequence for $X = \mathbb{P}^n_R$.

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_{X/R} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{O}_X(-1)^{\oplus n+1} \xrightarrow{\beta} \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0$$

where α, β are defined as follows. Let $e_0, \dots, e_n$ be the "basis elements" of the module $\mathcal{O}_X(-1)$, so

$$\Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X(-1)^{\oplus n+1}) = \left\{ \sum_0^{n+1} f_j e_j \mid f_j \in \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X(-1)) \right\}.$$

On the distinguished open subset $U_i = \text{Spec } R[\frac{x_0}{x_i}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{x_i}]$ define

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha: d(x_j/x_i) &\mapsto x_i^{-2}(x_i e_j - x_j e_i) \in \Gamma(U_i, \mathcal{O}_X(-1)^{\oplus n+1}) \\ \beta: \sum f_j e_j &\mapsto \sum f_j x_j \in \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X). \end{aligned}$$

The exterior powers then give $\Lambda^n \Omega_{X/R} \cong \mathcal{O}_X(-n-2)$ for the canonical sheaf $\omega_{X/R} = \Lambda^n \Omega_{X/R}$. Any divisor K such that $\mathcal{O}(K) \cong \omega_{X/R}$ is called a canonical divisor.

In general, if $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic } X$ the associated divisor class is denoted $c_1(\mathcal{L})$. One of the aims of Intersection theory is to define groups of (suitable equivalence classes) of codimension r subschemes, $CH^r(X)$ (Chow groups) and Chern classes

$$c_r(\mathcal{E}) \in CH^r(X)$$

for any vector bundle $\mathcal{E}$; $CH^1(X)$ is the divisor class group introduced above.