

# M634 Algebraic Varieties 2

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HW every week. Office Hours: Monday 2:30 - 3:30 RH 251

Textbook: Ravi Vakil

Recalling some important background material.

- 1) Let  $A$  be a ring [commutative with identity by default]. Then  $\dim A = \sup\{n \mid \exists p_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq p_n \subset A\}$  max chain of prime ideals.
- 2) Naively one might assume every noetherian ring has a finite dimension. This is not true, there are noetherian ring with  $\infty$  dimension.
- 3) Let  $(A, m, k), k = A/m$  be a local noetherian ring. Then  $\dim A \leq \dim_k m/m^2$ . In particular,  $\dim A < \infty$ .
- 4) Given a prime ideal  $p \subset A$ , the height  $\text{ht}(p) = \text{codim}(p) = \sup\{n \mid \exists p_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq p_n = p\}$ .

We can ask the following quantities:  $\dim A$  [consider all prime ideal chains],  $\dim A/p$  [consider all prime ideal chains [strictly] containing  $p$ ] and  $\text{ht}(p)$  [consider all prime ideal chains ending with  $p$ ].

A natural question:  $\dim A \stackrel{?}{=} \dim A/p + \text{ht } p$ ?

Answer: Sadly, not in general, even for noetherian ring. Check 12.3.13.

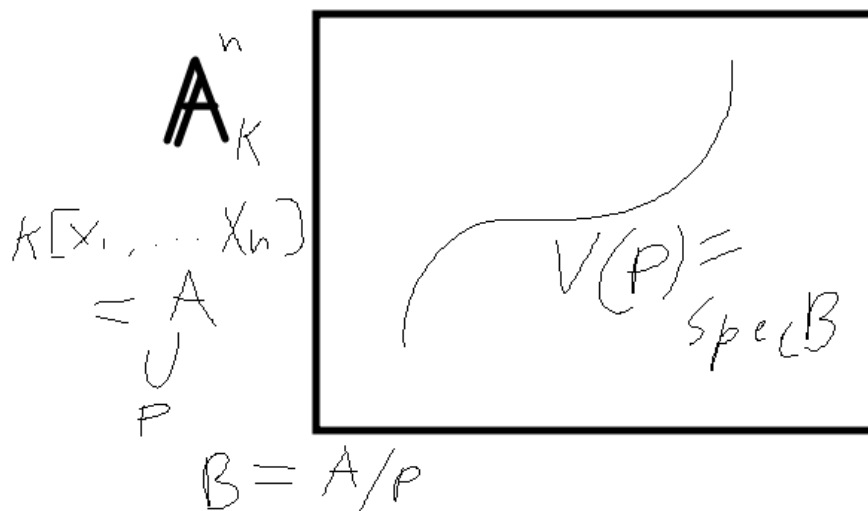
$A \supset p$  so that  $p$  is maximal, then height 1.  $\dim A = 2$ .

Remark: answer is yes if  $A$  is a *catenary ring*.

**Definition.**  $A$  is a *catenary ring* if  $\forall p \subset q \subset A$ , ‘every strictly increasing chain of prime ideals from  $p$  to  $q$ ’ is contained in such a chain with maximal length.

We start with a field  $k$ , suppose  $A/k$  is finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra.

Exercise 12.2.H : show that if  $A$  is a localization of a finitely generated algebra over a field, then  $A$  is catenary.



$$n = \dim A = \dim B + \text{ht}(P)$$

**Theorem 1** (Prime Ideal Theorem of Krull [PIT]). ]

Let  $A$  be a noetherian ring. Let  $f \in A$ .

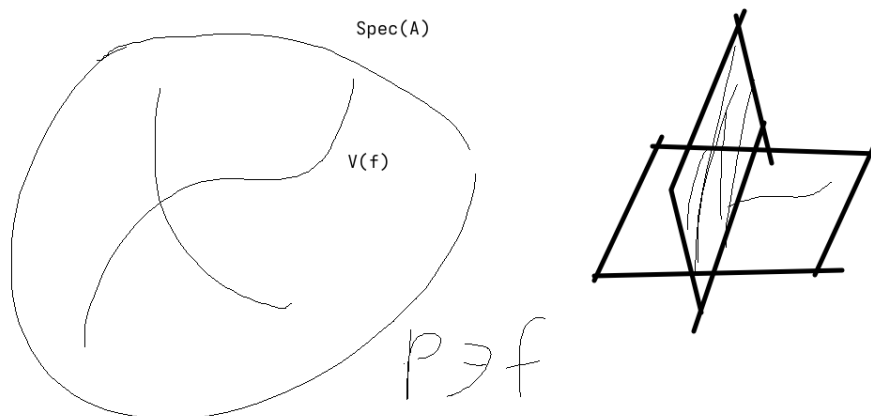


Figure 1: Geometric depiction

Then every minimal prime  $p \ni f$  has height  $\leq 1$ .

If further  $f$  is not a zero divisor [which geometrically means zero set of  $f$  doesn't cover a whole connected component of  $A$ ], then every minimal  $p \ni f$ ,  $\text{ht}(p) = 1$ .

Let us state an auxiliary result.

**Theorem 2** (12.3.10 Krull's Height Theorem). Let  $X = \text{Spec } A$  where  $A$  is noetherian.

Suppose  $Z$  is an irreducible component of  $V(f_1, \dots, f_r) \subset X$ . Then  $\text{codim } Z \leq r$ .

**Lemma 3** (12.3.9). Let  $A$  be noetherian,  $p_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq p_n$  a strict chain in  $A$ . Suppose  $f \in p_n \setminus p_0$ .

Then  $\exists$  strict chain  $p_0 = q_0 \subsetneq q_1 [\ni f] \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq q_n = p_n$ .

Note that in the catenary case this is trivial.

**Corollary 4.** Let  $(A, m)$  be a local noetherian ring.  $f \in m$ .

Then  $\dim A/(f) \geq \dim A - 1$ .

*Proof.* Choose a maximal chain in  $A$ .

$$p_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq m \text{ in } A$$

If  $f \in p_0$  then  $\overline{p_0} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq \overline{m}$  is still a strict chain. Thus  $\dim A/(f) = \dim A$ .

If  $f \notin p_0$  then  $f \in p_n \setminus p_0$ .

By lemma,  $\exists$

$$p_0 = q_0 \subsetneq q_1 [\ni f] \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq q_n = p_n$$

Quotient implies  $\overline{q_1} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq \overline{q_n} = \overline{m}$  is a valid chain.

So  $\dim A/(f) \geq n - 1$ .

□

Exercise 12.2.M : Suppose  $X$  is a locally finite type  $k$ -scheme of pure dimension  $= n$ . Take any field extension of the base field  $K/k$ . Then, the *extended scheme*  $X_k = K \times_k X$  also has pure dimension  $= n$ .

If  $A/k$  is a f.g. domain then  $\dim A = \text{trdeg } K(A)/k$ .

**Lemma 5** (Nakayama's Lemma). V1: Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $A$ -module.  $I \subset A$  an ideal.  $\varphi \in \text{End}_A M$  such that  $\varphi(M) \subset IM$ .

Then  $\exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in I$  such that,

$$\varphi^n + a_1 \varphi^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n = 0 \text{ in } \langle A, \varphi \rangle \subset \text{End}_A(M)$$

Even though  $\text{End}_A M$  is not commutative,  $\langle A, \varphi \rangle$  is.

Interesting even if  $I = A$ .

V2: Let  $A, m$  be a local ring and  $M$  a f.g.  $A$ -module so that  $mM = M$ . Then  $M = 0$ .

Note that finitely generated is important:  $\mathbb{C}[x]_{(x)}$  is a local ring with maximal ideal  $(x)$ . Suppose  $M = \mathbb{C}(x)$  which is not finitely generated. Then  $xM = M$  but  $M \neq 0$ .

V3: Let  $(A, m, k)$  be a noetherian local ring.  $M$  a f.g.  $A$ -module.

Then  $M/mM$  is a  $k$ -module.

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in M$  be elements of  $M$  so that their projections span  $M/mM$ . Then they span  $M$ .

A domain  $A$  is normal (integrally closed) if for any element  $x \in K(A)$  such that it is integral over the ring i.e.  $x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0 = 0$  then  $x \in A$ .

If  $A$  is factorial then  $A$  is normal.

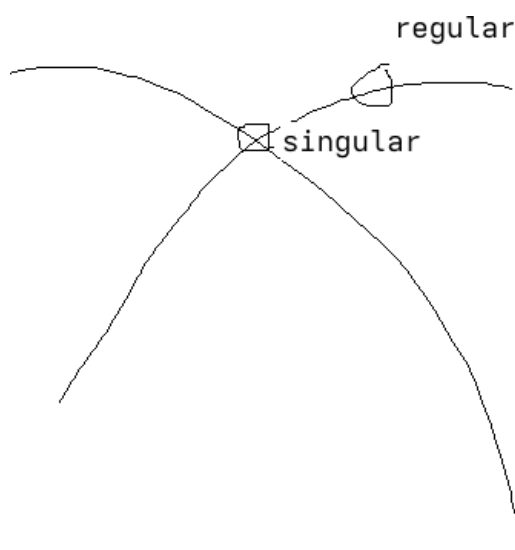
If  $A$  is normal then every localization  $A_P$  is also normal [5.4.A].

Now we move on to today's topic.

## 13 Regularity and Smoothness

Given  $p \in A$ ,  $[p] \in \text{Spec } A$ ,

Question: when is  $\text{Spec } A$  'manifold like' near  $[p]$ ?



**Definition.** Let  $(A, m, k)$  be local. Then its *Zariski Cotangent Space* is defined to be  $T^\vee := m/m^2/k$

It's dual space  $\text{Hom}_k(T^\vee, k)$  is the *Zariski Tangent Space*.

Suppose  $X$  is a scheme,  $p \in X$  a point.

Then the Zariski Cotangent Space  $T_{X,p}^\vee$  is the Zariski Cotangent Space at  $\mathcal{O}_{X,p}$

**Definition.** A noetherian local ring  $(A, m, k)$  is regular if  $\dim_k m/m^2 = \dim A$ . Note that we always have  $\geq$ , for regularity we need equality.

**Definition.** A noetherian ring  $A$  is regular if  $A_p$  is regular for all  $p \in A$ .

Example: Let  $X = \text{Spec } K[x, y]/(xy) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}_k^2$ .  $A = K[x, y]/(xy)$ . We want to take a point and see if it is regular.

$A$  is not regular in the origin. Consider  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \in K[x, y]/(xy)$ .  $A_{(0,0)} \supset m = (\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ ,  $m/m^2 = k \cdot \bar{x} + k \cdot \bar{y}$  so  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = m/m^2$ .

Dimension of the space is 2, ring has dimension 1.