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FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE MASTER PROJECT IN PURE  
MATHEMATICS**

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*Divisors in Algebraic Geometry, Central Simple Algebras  
and Severi-Brauer Varieties*

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# Introduction

The purpose of the present work is to present how algebraic varieties offer a bridge connecting different areas in mathematics. Especially, we are interested here in making clear how ideas (and even more, theories) are converted from an algebraic (resp., number field) aspect to a purely geometric one. We also, indicate -sometimes-how reverse feedbacks are gained from the introduction of geometric language in the study of specific topics in algebra and number field theories.

This thesis is written -mostly- in a self contained manner and is designated to introduce a non-specialist reader in algebraic geometry to this mathematical world. For this end, we present in this manuscript many necessary backgrounds from various algebraic and geometric areas, and we give -as possible- detailed proofs for the results contained here.

Roughly speaking, the introduction of algebraic varieties in mathematics can be considered as an attempt to combine tools, objects and arguments from algebra (at first commutative algebra) and some corresponding topological spaces defined in a manner shaped to fit with what existed in differential manifold theory. As will be seen in more details throughout the first chapter, classical affine varieties are defined by means of polynomial functions with coefficients in a base field preferably taken to be algebraically closed. Precisely, they are the vanishing locus of families of polynomials in a finite Cartesian product of this base field. Some authors -as we will do in this work- prefer to add the extra condition that they are 'irreducible' with respect to Zariski topology. Taking (coordinates) algebras of these (affine) varieties, allows then to establish a nice correspondence with finitely generated domains over the base field. This in fact generalizes to give an equivalence of categories between the category of 'non necessary irreducible' affine varieties and the category of 'reduced' finitely generated algebras over this field. As in differential geometry, projective varieties are defined similarly by means of homogeneous polynomials, and special open covers of them are given by affine varieties, making it possible to lift properties from the affine case to the projective one.

The importance of the above equivalence of categories arises from the fact that for (some) algebraic objects, we can benefit from all topological and geometric properties of the corresponding varieties. In this sense, many purely geometric notions are connected to some algebraic ones, e.g., in the affine case, the dimension of a variety (i.e., the topological dimension of its underlying space) coincides with the (Krull) dimension of the corresponding affine coordinate algebra.

In contrast with differential setting, algebraic varieties are not Hausdorff in general, and so an algebraic group for example -defined in the same manner as Lie group in differential geometry- is not a topological group. Nevertheless, a separation notion does exist for algebraic varieties and any morphism of affine schemes turns to be separated. Moreover, the idea of working locally on a variety, especially using germs of regular functions, is a main idea that remains valid in this algebraic context. Besides, many notions inspired from differential manifolds like closed and open immersions are very helpful in the study of these algebraic varieties. We have also a notion of (algebraic) tangent space which allows benefiting from connections with Lie theory when dealing for example with algebraic groups.

In modern algebraic geometry, the use of sheaf theory made it possible to work on a general commutative base ring (not only on a base field) and affine varieties, as will be explained in the second chapter, are defined by means of the spectrum of the considered ring.

For non affine varieties like projective ones, scheme theory developed essentially in Alexander's pioneer work and that of his collaborators, made it possible to generalize arbitrary varieties to the context of (commutative) rings. The idea of schemes consists in some gluing of spectra of many (commutative) rings along open subsets. This theory heavily relies on category language and the landscape appears very difficult without sufficient understanding of classical varieties. Schemes theory at its earlier beginning served to settle many important conjectures like Weil conjectures and Mordell conjecture. It becomes today an important component in many mathematical areas and continues to intervene in solving many hard problems. Indeed, many algebraic results still continue to have only geometric proofs.

As in algebraic topology and also in differential geometry, a notion of (algebraic) vector bundles was defined and used to build Grothendieck groups (of varieties). More generally, all K-theory groups are defined by using these algebraic bundles in the same model as for commutative rings. Indeed, in the language of modules over schemes -see the second chapter- and up to an equivalence of categories, algebraic vector bundles are exactly coherent modules over (Noetherian) schemes. Also, when dealing with an affine scheme, they correspond categorically - under some canonical equivalence- to finitely generated projective modules over the base ring. Besides this approach relating schemes to K-groups, many properties of schemes can be described by using adequate cohomological complexes.

In this manuscript we give two applications of algebraic geometry showing the above said interplay between algebra, number field theory and varieties. The first one concerns the notion of divisors in algebraic geometry and the second one deals with Severi-Brauer varieties.

The notion of divisors for varieties is part of intersection theory in algebraic geometry. It can be considered as an extension of the well known Kronecker's divisors in algebraic number field theory. Historically, it is known that Kronecker's divisors were built on a simple but fascinating idea which consists in determining greatest common divisors inside the polynomial algebra (in one indeterminate) over the rational field. The main tool used for this end was an easy notion of the 'content' of a polynomial which is the greatest common divisor of its coefficients in the case of a polynomial with integer coefficients. Indeed, at that time such simple notions were often the starting point of flourishing theories. Hermann Weyl developed then an axiomatization of divisors built on the same principal of Dedekind's elegant 'ideal theory' to give information on prime factorizations. A divisor became then some well defined ideal and a multiplicative group was then derived from nonzero divisors. This group was then related to other groups defined in Dedekind's theory. Moreover, besides working over a rational field, divisors were extended to be defined over more base fields, e.g., number fields. The study of divisors benefited from several algebraic and number field tools, e.g., Dedekind's discriminants, Picard group., but a great raise was due to the use of valuation theory, where divisors took another aspect based on the notion of 'places', which are closed to valuation rings. Plainly, Dedekind's and valuation approaches had opened new perspectives in the study of divisors; nevertheless, it is worthy to mention that the ancient (and almost forgotten) theory of 'contents' preserves some advantages when compared with these new approaches (e.g., it is independent of the considered base field which is not the case for Dedekind's approach).

The use of valuation language in the study of divisors, allowed for algebraic number fields at first - then for varieties - developing Riemann-Roch theory which is now widely applied in different areas of mathematics, especially in coding theory and cryptography.

Divisors in algebraic geometry were first defined on (classical) curves, since (special) discrete valuations exist on the function field of such a curve and local rings of nonsingular curve's points are regular. The theory was then extended to codimension one varieties in schemes theory and gave rise to Chow groups, where a general intersection theory was built from algebraic cycles. A (Weil) divisor is then a cycle of codimension one. Unfortunately, we

did not deal in this manuscript with this more general (intersection) theory for it would need more special background. Let's finally mention that divisors have close connection with vector bundles. Indeed, there is a one-to-one correspondence between equivalence classes of (Weil) divisors and isomorphism classes of (algebraic) line bundles.

The other example illustrating the usefulness of varieties that we treat in this manuscript concerns Severi-Brauer varieties which are widely applied in studying central simple algebras. They appeared in François Châtelet's paper [7] but historically it is announced that they appeared before and are due in part to Severi (see [2]). As will be explained in the third chapter, to every central simple algebra, one can attach a corresponding Severi-Brauer variety and this last one encodes information on splitting fields of such algebra. Indeed, Amitsur used in [1] the function field of this attached variety and defined a generic splitting field for the considered algebra. Since then, Severi-Brauer varieties became very useful in the study of Brauer groups, groups that classify central simple algebras over some fixed fields.

Throughout different discussions in this manuscript, we don't pretend originality, and we refer the reader to a list of references at the end.

In an attempt to achieve our described aim in this work, we organize the content of this manuscript as follows.

In the first chapter, which consists of two parts, we introduce in the first part the necessary background of (classical) affine and projective varieties. In particular, we define Zariski topology for such varieties. We define regular functions, morphisms and rational maps of varieties. We describe how a coordinate ring is associated to an affine variety and how equivalence of categories relate both sides. We show how a projective variety is covered by affine opens. We prove that the dimension of an affine variety coincides with the (Krull) dimension of its corresponding coordinate algebra. We define tangent spaces and study some elementary properties of nonsingular points. Also, we define the notion of normal varieties and show that a nonsingular variety is necessarily normal. In the second part of this chapter, we introduce divisors in terms of places and study some of their properties on (classical) curves. We give in particular a detailed survey on Riemann-Roch theory on these curves.

The second chapter, consisting of three parts deals with the theory of schemes. The first part lays out the basic definitions and properties of sheaf theory. The second one discusses schemes, morphisms between schemes, fiber products and dimension of schemes. It deals also with local and global properties of schemes. This includes the notions of Noetherian, irreducible, reduced, integral, regular, normal, separated, proper, projective schemes. We also study modules over schemes. The third part deals with cohomological interpretations in scheme theory and introduce Weil and Cartier divisors (defined now in terms of schemes). For a full treatment of sheaves, schemes, Weil divisors and Cartier divisors, we refer to [9], [17] and [12].

The third chapter consists of two parts. In the first one, we give a brief survey on simple and semisimple modules, on central simple algebras and prove in particular fundamental theorems like Wedderburn's theorem, the double centralizer theorem and Skolem-Noether theorem. We show how to build and we study Brauer group of a field and show how crossed products relate this group to a second Galois cohomology group. For more details on central simple algebras, we refer to [15], [10] and [21]. The second part, concerns Severi-Brauer varieties and discusses some of their properties and the interplay between these varieties, central simple algebras and some cohomological interpretations.

# Notation and terminology

$k$	<i>a field</i>
$k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$	<i>The (commutative) <math>k</math>-algebra of polynomials in <math>n</math> indeterminates with coefficients in <math>k</math>.</i>
$\mathbb{A}^n$	<i>The affine space of dimension <math>n</math> over <math>k</math>.</i>
$\mathbb{P}^n$	<i>The projective space of dimension <math>n</math> over <math>k</math></i>
$\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$	<i>The ring of integers, rational numbers, real numbers, complex numbers.</i>
$R$	<i>a commutative ring with identity element.</i>
UFD	<i>Unique factorization domain.</i>
PID	<i>Principal ideal domain.</i>
DVR	<i>Discrete valuation ring.</i>
$Z(S)$	<i>The set of common zeros of the polynomials in <math>S</math>.</i>
$I(X)$	<i>The ideal of a set <math>X</math>.</i>
$k[X]$	<i>The coordinate ring of an algebraic set.</i>
$\mathcal{O}(X)$	<i>The set of all regular functions on a variety <math>X</math> (the ring of regular functions on <math>X</math>)</i>
$\text{var}(k)$	<i>The category of varieties over <math>k</math>.</i>
$\mathcal{O}_x$	<i>The local ring of <math>X</math> at <math>x</math>, also called the ring of germs of regular functions at <math>x</math>.</i>
$T_x X$	<i>The tangent space to an algebraic set <math>X</math> at <math>x</math>.</i>
$\text{Der}_x(k[X])$	<i>The set of derivations of <math>k[X]</math> at <math>x</math>.</i>
$\mathbf{RF}(X, Y)$	<i>The set of all rational functions from <math>X</math> to <math>Y</math>.</i>
$\mathcal{T}\mathcal{A}_k$	<i>The category of spaces of functions over <math>k</math>.</i>
$V^\vee, \text{Hom}(V, k)$	<i>The dual space of <math>V</math>.</i>
$R_{\mathfrak{p}}$	<i>localization at <math>\mathfrak{p}</math>.</i>
$\text{Div}(E)$	<i>The group of divisors of a function field <math>E/k</math>.</i>
$\mathcal{L}(D)$	<i>The Riemann-Roch Space.</i>
$l(D)$	<i><math>\dim_k(\mathcal{L}(D))</math>.</i>
$\mathbb{A}_E$	<i>The set of all adèles of <math>E/k</math>.</i>
$\mathbb{P}_E$	<i>The set of all places <math>P</math> of <math>E/k</math>.</i>
$\text{Top}$	<i>The category of topological spaces.</i>
$\mathcal{F}$	<i>(pre)sheaf on a topological space.</i>
$\mathcal{F}^+$	<i>Sheafification of presheaf <math>\mathcal{F}</math>.</i>
$\mathcal{F}_x$	<i>The stalk of a presheaf <math>\mathcal{F}</math> at a point <math>x</math>.</i>
$\text{AbSh}_X$	<i>The category of abelian sheaves.</i>
$\text{PreSh}_X$	<i>The category of presheaves on the topological space <math>X</math>.</i>
$f_*\mathcal{F}$	<i>The pushforward of <math>\mathcal{F}</math>.</i>
$f^{-1}\mathcal{G}$	<i>The pullback sheaf.</i>
$\mathcal{C}$	<i>a category.</i>
$\text{Spec}(R)$	<i>The set of all prime ideals of <math>R</math>.</i>
$\mathcal{RS}$	<i>The category of ringed spaces.</i>
$\text{Sh}_X$	<i>The category of sheaves on <math>X</math>.</i>
$\text{Sch}$	<i>The category of schemes.</i>
$\text{ASch}$	<i>The category of affine schemes.</i>
$\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}}$	<i>The Structure Sheaf on <math>\text{Spec}(R)</math>.</i>
$\text{QCoh}_{\mathcal{O}_X}$	<i>The category of quasi-coherent <math>\mathcal{O}_X</math>-modules.</i>
$\text{Coh}(\mathcal{O}_X)$	<i>The category of coherent <math>\mathcal{O}_X</math>-modules.</i>
$S(M)$	<i>The set for all submodules of <math>M</math>.</i>



# Notation and terminology

$\text{Cdiv}(X)$	<i>The group of Cartier divisors.</i>
$\text{Cdiv}_+(X)$	<i>The set of effective Cartier divisors.</i>
$\text{CaCl}(X) := \text{CaDiv}(X) / \sim$	<i>Cartier divisors class group.</i>
$\text{Div}(X)$	<i>The group of Weil divisors.</i>
$\text{Div}^0(X)$	<i>The principal divisors.</i>
$\text{Cl}(X) := \text{Div}(X) / \text{Div}^0(X)$	<i>Weil class group of <math>X</math></i>
$\text{CSA}(F)$	<i>The class of all central simple algebras over <math>F</math>.</i>
$\text{Br}(F)$	<i>The Brauer group of <math>F</math>.</i>
$\text{Br}(E/F)$	<i>The relative Brauer group of the field extension <math>E \supseteq F</math>.</i>
$G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$	<i>The Galois group of <math>E/F</math>.</i>
$(E, G, a)$	<i>The crossed product algebra over <math>F</math> determined by <math>E</math> and <math>a</math>.</i>
$A = (E/F, \sigma, \beta)$	<i>The cyclic algebra over <math>F</math> determined by <math>E</math> and <math>\beta</math>.</i>
$\text{AbGrp}$	<i>The category of abelian groups</i>
$H^0(G, M)$	<i>The zeroth cohomology set of <math>G</math> with coefficients in <math>M</math>.</i>
$H^1(G, M)$	<i>The first cohomology set of <math>G</math> with coefficients in <math>M</math>.</i>
$\text{Az}_n^F$	<i>The set of all isomorphy classes of central simple algebras <math>A</math> of dimension <math>n^2</math> over <math>F</math>.</i>
$\text{Az}_n^{E/F}$	<i>The set of all isomorphy classes of central simple algebras <math>A</math> which are of dimension <math>n^2</math> over <math>F</math> and split over <math>E</math>.</i>
$\text{BS}_m^F$	<i>The set of all isomorphy classes of Severi-Brauer varieties <math>X</math> of dimension <math>m</math> over <math>F</math>.</i>
$\text{BS}_m^{E/F}$	<i>The set of all isomorphy classes of Severi-Brauer varieties <math>X</math> of dimension <math>m</math> over <math>F</math>.</i>

# Chapter 1

## Introduction to the Geometry of Affine and Projective Spaces

In *Algebraic Geometry*, we study geometric objects - *varieties* - that are defined by polynomial equations. One fascinating aspect of this is that we can do geometry over arbitrary fields, however we can gain a lot of geometric intuition from looking at *algebraically closed fields*  $k$ .<sup>\*</sup> The theory developed here is often described as the commutative part of algebraic geometry for it relies heavily on concepts and results from *commutative algebra*. In particular, unless otherwise mentioned, all considered algebras in this chapter - as well as in the second one - are assumed to be commutative. More details about the content of this chapter were given in the general introduction of this manuscript and we see no interest to repeat this description here.

### 1.1 Affine and projective varieties

In this section, we will define the basic objects of our study : *Algebraic sets* in affine space of dimension an arbitrary integer  $n$   $\mathbb{A}^n = k^n$ . We define also *affine* and *projective varieties* and give some of their first properties.

Throughout the rest, we let  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  denote the (commutative)  $k$ -algebra of polynomials in  $n$  indeterminates  $T_1, \dots, T_n$ , with coefficients in  $k$ . A polynomial  $f \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  defines a function  $\tilde{f} : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow k$ , given by  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mapsto f(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ . The  $k$ -valued functions on  $\mathbb{A}^n$  form a  $k$ -algebra via pointwise addition and multiplication.

The map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \varphi : k[T_1, \dots, T_n] & \longrightarrow & \{ \text{functions, } \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow k \} \\ f & \longmapsto & \tilde{f} \end{array}$$

is a  $k$ -algebra homomorphism.

#### 1.1.1 Affine varieties

As seen above the *affine space* of dimension  $n$  over  $k$  is simply the set  $k^n$ . It will be denoted by  $\mathbb{A}_k^n$  or simply by  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . The elements (also called points)  $\mathbb{A}^n$  are then  $n$ -uples  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ , where  $a_i \in k$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Algebraic sets in the affine space are defined by means of subsets  $S \subseteq k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . For such a subset, we let by  $(S)$  be the ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  generated by  $S$ .

---

<sup>\*</sup>A field  $k$  is *algebraically closed* if every non-constant polynomial (on one indeterminate and with coefficients in  $k$ ) has a root in  $k$ . It follows that every polynomial of degree  $n$  can be uniquely factorized (up to permutation of the factors) as

$$P = c \prod_{i=1}^n (X - a_i)$$

where  $c$  and the  $a_i$  are elements of  $k$ .

**Definition 1.1.1** Let  $S \subseteq k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  be any subset. The set

$$Z(S) := \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n \mid f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0, \text{ for all } f \in S\}$$

is called the **algebraic set** (of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ ) defined by  $S$ .

**Remarks 1.1.1** i) It is not hard to see that if the set of polynomials is larger, the set of common zeros is smaller, i.e.,

$$S \subseteq S' \implies Z(S') \subseteq Z(S)$$

ii) If  $I$  is the ideal generated by the polynomials in  $S$ , then we have  $Z(I) = Z(S)$ . So algebraic sets can be defined  $Z(I)$  for ideals  $I \subseteq k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . Recall that all ideals in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  are finitely generated by the **Hilbert Basis Theorem**.

**Examples 1.1.1** 1) Affine  $n$ -space itself is an algebraic set, since  $\mathbb{A}^n = Z(0)$ . Similarly, the empty set  $\emptyset = Z(1)$  is an algebraic set.

2) Any single point in  $\mathbb{A}^n$  is an algebraic set. Indeed, we have  $\{(a_1, \dots, a_n)\} = Z(T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n)$ .

3) The **special linear group**,  $SL(n, k)$  which is the set of all matrices  $A = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  with entries in  $k$  and such that  $\det(A) = 1$ , can be viewed as a subset of  $\mathbb{A}^{n^2}$  by the **correspondence**

$$(a_{ij}) \longmapsto (a_{11}, \dots, a_{1n}, \dots, a_{21}, \dots, a_{2n}, \dots, a_{n1}, \dots, a_{nn})$$

This is an algebraic set because the determinant of a matrix is a polynomial function of the matrix-elements, so that  $SL(n, k)$  is the set of zeros of the polynomial,  $\det(A) - 1$  for  $A \in \mathbb{A}^{n^2}$ .

Here are some basic properties of algebraic sets and the ideals that generate them :

**Proposition 1.1.1** Let  $I, J$  be ideals of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . Then

- 1)  $I \subseteq J$  implies  $Z(J) \subseteq Z(I)$ .
- 2)  $Z(IJ) = Z(I \cap J) = Z(I) \cup Z(J)$ .
- 3)  $Z(\sum I_i) = \cap Z(I_i)$ .

**Proof.** 1) For  $a \in Z(J)$ , we have  $f(a) = 0$ , for all  $f \in J$ , so in particular for all  $f \in I$ . So  $a \in Z(I)$ .

2) Plainly, we have  $IJ \subseteq I \cap J \subseteq I, J$ , so  $Z(I \cap J) \subseteq Z(I) \cup Z(J)$ . For the reverse inclusions, let  $a \notin Z(I) \cup Z(J)$ , then there exists  $f \in I$  and  $g \in J$  such that  $f(a) \neq 0$  and  $g(a) \neq 0$ . Then  $fg(a) \neq 0$ , so  $a \notin Z(IJ)$ .

3) For all  $j$ , we have  $I_j \subseteq \sum I_i$  then  $Z(\sum I_i) \subseteq Z(I_j)$ , hence  $Z(\sum I_i) \subseteq \cap Z(I_i)$ . Conversely, for  $a \in \cap Z(I_i)$ , we have  $a \in Z(I_i)$ , for all  $i$ . For each  $f \in \sum I_i$ , we can write  $f = \sum_{k=1}^r f_k$ , where  $f_k \in I_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, r$ . So,  $f(a) = \sum_{k=1}^r f_k(a) = 0$ , therefore  $a \in Z(\sum I_i)$ .

It follows that the **algebraic sets** in  $\mathbb{A}^n$  satisfy the axioms of the closed sets in a **topology**.

**Definition 1.1.2** The **Zariski topology** on  $\mathbb{A}^n$  is the topology for which the closed sets are algebraic sets of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ .

**Notation.** For a subset  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ , define  $I(X) := \{f \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n] \mid f(x) = 0, \forall x \in X\}$ . The set  $I(X)$  is an ideal in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ .

**Example 1.1.1** Let  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n$  be a point, then the ideal of the one-point set  $\{a\}$  is  $I(a) := I(\{a\}) = (T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n)$ .

We have now constructed operations

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\text{Algebraic sets in } \mathbb{A}^n\} & \longleftrightarrow & \{\text{ideals in } k[T_1, \dots, T_n]\} \\ X & \longrightarrow & I(X) \\ Z(J) & \longleftarrow & J \end{array}$$

and should check whether they actually give a bijective *correspondence* between *ideals* of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and *algebraic sets*.

**Lemma 1.1.1** Let  $S$  and  $S'$  be a subsets of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and let  $X$  and  $X'$  be a subsets of  $\mathbb{A}^n$

- i) If  $X \subseteq X'$  then  $I(X') \subseteq I(X)$ .
- ii)  $X \subseteq Z(I(X))$  and  $S \subseteq I(Z(S))$ .
- iii) The *Zariski closure* of  $X$  is exactly  $Z(I(X))$ . So, if  $X$  is an algebraic set, then  $Z(I(X)) = X$ .
- iv)  $I(X \cup X') = I(X) \cap I(X')$ .

**Proof.** i) Clear.

ii) Clear.

iii) By ii), we have  $X \subseteq Z(I(X))$  and so  $\overline{X} \subseteq Z(I(X))$ . Conversely, let  $W \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an algebraic set containing  $X$  and write  $W = Z(S)$  for some  $S \subseteq k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . Then, again by ii), we have  $S \subseteq I(Z(S)) = I(W) \subseteq I(X)$  and so  $Z(I(X)) \subseteq Z(S) = W$ , as required.

iv) We have  $X, X' \subseteq X \cup X'$ , so by i) we get  $I(X \cup X') \subseteq I(X) \cap I(X')$ . Conversely for  $f \in I(X) \cap I(X')$ , we have  $f(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in X \cup X'$ . So  $f \in I(X \cup X')$ .

By this lemma, the only thing left that would be needed for a bijective correspondence between *ideals* of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and *algebraic sets*  $\mathbb{A}^n$  would be  $I(Z(J)) \subset J$  for any ideal  $J$  (so that then  $I(Z(J)) = J$  by part ii). Unfortunately, the following example shows that why this is not true in general.

**Example 1.1.2** Let  $J$  be a nonzero ideal  $\mathbb{C}[X]$ . As  $\mathbb{C}[X]$  is a *principal ideal domain* and  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed, we have

$$J = ((X - b_1)^{m_1} \cdots (X - b_n)^{m_n})$$

for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , distinct elements  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Obviously, the zero locus of this ideal in  $\mathbb{A}^1$  is  $Z(J) = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ . The polynomials vanishing on this set are precisely those that contain each factor  $X - b_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  at least once, i. e. we have

$$I(Z(J)) = ((X - b_1) \cdots (X - b_n)) \neq J.$$

If at least one of the numbers  $m_1, \dots, m_n$  is greater than 1, this is a bigger ideal than  $J$ .

In what follows we will see that a bijective correspondence does however exist between algebraic sets in  $\mathbb{A}^n$  and some special ideals (radical ideals) of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ .

**Definition 1.1.3** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and let  $J \subseteq R$  be an ideal. Then the set of  $a \in R$  with the property that  $a^m \in J$  for some  $m > 0$  is an ideal of  $R$ , called the *radical* of  $J$  and denoted  $\text{rad}(J)$ . We say that  $J$  is a radical ideal if  $\text{rad}(J) = J$ .

We say that the ring  $R$  is *reduced* if the zero ideal  $(0)$  is a radical ideal (in other words, if  $a \in R$  with that  $a^m = 0$ , for some positive integer  $m$ , then  $a = 0$ ).

**Lemma 1.1.2** If  $A$  and  $B$  are *integral domains*, with  $B$  integral over  $A$ , then  $B$  is a field if and only if  $A$  is a field.

**Proof.** Let  $b \in B$  be a nonzero element. Since  $B$  is an integral over  $A$ , then we can write

$$b^m + a_{m-1}b^{m-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0 \quad (1.1)$$

with  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  a nonzero natural integer,  $a_i \in A$  ( $1 \leq i \leq m$ ). Moreover, Since  $A$  is integral domain, we can suppose that  $a_0 \neq 0$ .

Suppose that  $A$  is a field, then  $a_0$  has an inverse in  $A$ . By (1.1), we have :

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= -(b^m + a_{m-1}b^{m-1} + \dots + a_1b) \\ &= -(b^{m-1} + a_{m-1}b^{m-2} + \dots + a_1)b \end{aligned}$$

$1 = -a_0^{-1}(b^{m-1} + a_{m-1}b^{m-2} + \dots + a_1)b$ , which shows that  $b$  is a unit of  $B$ . Conversely, suppose  $B$  is a field and  $r \in A$ . Then  $r^{-1} \in B$  and we can write  $r$  :

$$r^{-n} + a_{n-1}r^{-(n-1)} + \dots + a_0 = 0$$

for some positive integer  $n$  and some elements  $a_i \in A$ . If we multiply this equality by  $r^{n-1}$ , we get

$$r^{-1} + a_{n-1} + \dots + a_0r^{n-1} = 0.$$

Hence  $r^{-1} = -(a_{n-1} + \dots + a_0r^{n-1}) \in A$ .

**Theorem 1.1.1** Let  $A$  be a finitely generated algebra over  $k$ . If  $A$  is a field, then  $A$  is an algebraic extension of  $k$ .

**Proof.** See [6, Lemma 9.1.2, p.454].

**Corollary 1.1.1** (*Hilbert's Nullstellensatz*) (weak form). Let  $k$  be an *algebraically closed* field. The maximal ideals of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  are precisely the ideals

$$I(a_1, \dots, a_n) = (T_1 - a_1, T_2 - a_2, \dots, T_n - a_n)$$

for all points  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\mathfrak{m}$  be a maximal ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and  $A := \frac{k[T_1, \dots, T_n]}{\mathfrak{m}}$ . Plainly, obvious that  $A$  is a finitely generated algebra over  $k$  (generated by the elements  $T_i + \mathfrak{m}$  of  $A$ ); moreover by theorem 1.1.1,  $A$  is an algebraic field extension of  $k$ . Since  $k$  is algebraically closed, embedding  $\phi : k \rightarrow A (= \frac{k[T_1, \dots, T_n]}{\mathfrak{m}})$ ,  $a \mapsto a + \mathfrak{m}$  is an isomorphism (of fields). In particular there exists  $a_i \in k$  such that  $T_i + \mathfrak{m} = \phi(a_i)$  (for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). This means that  $T_i - a_i \in \mathfrak{m}$ , so the ideal  $(T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n)$  is contained in  $\mathfrak{m}$ . Conversely, for any  $f \in \mathfrak{m}$  considering  $f$  as a polynomial in  $T_1$  and taking the *Euclidean division* of  $f$  by  $T_1 - a_1$ , we get  $f = f_1(T_1, \dots, T_n)(T_1 - a_1) + r(T_2, \dots, T_n)$ , where  $f_1(T_1, \dots, T_n), r(T_2, \dots, T_n) \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , with  $\deg r(T_2, \dots, T_n) = 0$  i.e.,  $T_1$  not appearing in  $r(T_2, \dots, T_n)$ . Once again, taking the Euclidean division of  $r(T_2, \dots, T_n)$  by  $T_2 - a_2$ , we get

$$f = f_1(T_1, \dots, T_n)(T_1 - a_1) + f_2(T_2, \dots, T_n)(T_2 - a_2) + r_3(T_3, \dots, T_n)$$

Continuing in this way, we get

$$f = f_1(T_1, \dots, T_n)(T_1 - a_1) + \dots + f_n(T_n)(T_n - a_n) + a.$$

We have  $T_i - a_i \in \mathfrak{m}$ , so necessarily  $a = 0$  (for  $a \in \mathfrak{m}$  and  $\mathfrak{m}$  is a maximal ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ ). Therefore  $f \in (T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n)$ . So  $\mathfrak{m} = (T_1 - a_1, T_2 - a_2, \dots, T_n - a_n)$ .

**Corollary 1.1.2** Let  $k$  be an **algebraically closed** field. For every proper ideal  $J$  in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , there is a point  $x \in Z(J)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $J$  be a proper ideal in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and let  $\mathfrak{m}$  be a maximal ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  containing  $J$ . By corollary 1.1.1, we can write  $\mathfrak{m} = (T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n)$ . As  $J \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$ , we may conclude that  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in Z(J)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.2 (Hilbert's Nullstellensatz).** Let  $k$  be an **algebraically closed** field. Then for every ideal  $J$  of  $K[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  we have  $I(Z(J)) = \text{rad}(J)$

**Proof.** Let  $f \in \text{rad}(J)$ , then there is some positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n \in J$ , so  $f^n$  vanishes on  $Z(J)$ , hence  $f$  vanishes on it too. Thus,  $I(Z(J)) \supseteq \text{rad}(J)$ . For the reverse inclusion, let's introduce a new auxiliary indeterminate to introduce a new auxiliary variable  $T_{n+1}$ . Let's also consider some  $g \in I(Z(J))$  and let  $L$  be the ideal of the polynomial ring  $k[T_1, \dots, T_{n+1}]$  given by

$$L = J \cdot k[T_1, \dots, T_{n+1}] + t(1 - T_{n+1} \cdot g)$$

In geometric terms the zero-locus  $Z(L) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^{n+1}$  is the intersection of the the subset  $Z = Z(1 - T_{n+1} \cdot g)$  and the inverse image  $\pi^{-1}(Z(J))$  of  $Z(J)$  under the projection  $\pi : \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n$  that forgets the auxiliary coordinate  $T_{n+1}$ . This intersection is empty since obviously  $g$  does not vanish along  $Z$ , but vanishes identically on  $\pi^{-1}(Z(J))$ . The corollary 1.1.1 therefore gives that  $1 \in L$ , and there are polynomials  $f_i$  in  $J$  and  $h_i$  and  $h$  in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_{n+1}]$  satisfying a relation like

$$1 = \sum_{i=1}^m f_i(T_1, \dots, T_n) h_i(T_1, \dots, T_{n+1}) + h(1 - T_{n+1} \cdot g)$$

We substitute  $T_{n+1} = \frac{1}{g}$  and multiply through by a sufficiently high power  $g^N$  of  $g$  to obtain

$$g^N = \sum f(T_1, \dots, T_n) H_i(T_1, \dots, T_n)$$

where  $H_i(T_1, \dots, T_n) = g^N \cdot h_i(T_1, \dots, T_n, g^{-1})$ . Hence  $g \in \text{rad}(J)$ .

**Hilbert's Nullstellensatz<sup>†</sup>** precisely describes the **correspondence** between **algebra** and **geometry** :

**Corollary 1.1.3** Let  $k$  be an **algebraically closed** field.

- i) The map  $J \mapsto Z(J)$  defines a one-to-one **correspondence** between the set of radical ideals in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and the set of algebraic subsets of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . Its inverse is given by  $X \mapsto I(X)$ , for any algebraic set in  $\mathbb{A}^n$  i.e

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{algebraic sets} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{A}^n \end{array} \right\} \xrightleftharpoons[Z]{I} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{radical ideals in} \\ k[T_1, \dots, T_n] \end{array} \right\}. \quad (1.2)$$

- ii) There is a one-to-one **correspondence**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{ \text{points of } \mathbb{A}^n \} & \longleftrightarrow & \{ \text{maximal ideals of } k[T_1, \dots, T_n] \} \\ p & \longmapsto & m_p \end{array}$$

where  $m_p := (T_1 - p_1, \dots, T_n - p_n)$ .

<sup>†</sup>**Hilbert's Nullstellensatz** is a theorem that establishes a fundamental relationship between geometry and algebra. This relationship is the basis of algebraic geometry, a branch of mathematics. It connects algebraic sets to ideals in polynomial rings on algebraically closed fields. This relation was discovered by **David Hilbert** who proved the Nullstellensatz and several other important related theorems named after him (such as Hilbert's basic theorems).

**Proof.** i) This follows from the fact that  $I(Z(J)) = J$  and  $Z(I(X)) = X$ , for every radical ideal  $J$  of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and every algebraic set  $X$  in  $\mathbb{A}^n$ .

ii) Let  $J$  be a maximal ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , then by corollary 1.1.1 there exists  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in k$  such that  $J = (T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n) = \mathfrak{m}_p$ , hence  $J = \mathfrak{m}_p$ , where  $p = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ . Then prove that  $p \mapsto \mathfrak{m}_p$  is a surjective map from  $\mathbb{A}^n$  onto the set of maximal ideals of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . This map is also injective, indeed let  $p_1$  and  $p_2 \in \mathbb{A}^n$ , and suppose  $\mathfrak{m}_{p_1} = \mathfrak{m}_{p_2}$ , then  $Z(\mathfrak{m}_{p_1}) = Z(\mathfrak{m}_{p_2})$ , but we have  $Z(\mathfrak{m}_{p_i}) = \{p_i\}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). So,  $p_1 = p_2$ .

**Corollary 1.1.4** The radical of an ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  is equal to the intersection of the maximal ideals containing it.

**Remark 1.1.1** The *radical* of an ideal is the intersections of all prime ideals that contain it (see corollary 1.1.4). The statement given here is true in the above context, where the basic field is algebraically closed.

**Proof.** Let a  $J \subseteq k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  be an ideal. Because maximal ideals are radical, every maximal ideal containing  $J$  also contains  $\text{rad}(J)$ , so

$$\text{rad}(J) \subset \bigcap_{\mathfrak{m} \supset J} \mathfrak{m}$$

For each  $P = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in k^n$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}_P = (T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n)$  is a maximal ideal in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and

$$f \in \mathfrak{m}_P \Leftrightarrow f(P) = 0$$

so

$$\mathfrak{m}_P \supset J \Leftrightarrow P \in Z(J)$$

If  $f \in \mathfrak{m}_P$  for all  $P \in Z(J)$ , then  $f$  vanishes on  $Z(J)$ , so  $f \in I(Z(J)) = \text{rad}(J)$ . It follows that

$$\text{rad}(J) \supseteq \bigcap_{P \in Z(J)} \mathfrak{m}_P.$$

## The coordinate ring of an algebraic set

The (affine) *coordinate ring* is one of the central concepts of *algebraic geometry*, particularly the theory of *affine algebraic* sets. It is the ring of *algebraic functions* on an algebraic set.

**Definition 1.1.4** Let  $X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$  be an *algebraic set*. The quotient ring

$$k[X] := k[T_1, \dots, T_n] / I(X)$$

is called the *affine coordinate ring* of  $X$ . It is a finitely generated algebra over  $k$ .

Two polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  on the indeterminates  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  restrict to the same function on  $X$  precisely when their difference  $f - g$  belongs to the ideal  $I(X)$ . Hence it is natural to interpret elements in  $k[X]$  as being polynomial functions from  $X$  into  $k$ , i.e.,  $k$ -valued functions on  $X$  that are restrictions of a polynomials.

**Example 1.1.3** Let  $X \subset \mathbb{A}^2$  be the hyperbola defined by  $XY - 1 = 0$ , so the coordinate ring is

$$k[X, Y] / (XY - 1) = k[X, X^{-1}].$$

the ring of so-called *Laurent polynomials*.



If  $X$  is an algebraic set of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  and if  $Y$  is an **algebraic set** contained in  $X$ , then as previously seen, we have  $I(X) \subseteq I(Y)$ . Conversely if  $I(Y)$  contains  $I(X)$ , then  $Y (= Z(I(Y))) \subseteq (Z(I(X)) = X)$ . Moreover, in such a case,  $I(Y)/I(X)$  is a radical ideal of  $k[X]$ . It follows that there is a one-to-one **correspondence** between **radical ideals** in the coordinate ring  $k[X]$  and algebraic subsets contained in  $X$ . If  $\mathfrak{a}$  is an ideal in  $k[X]$ , we denote by  $Z(\mathfrak{a})$  the corresponding closed subset of  $X$ , i.e.,  $Z(\mathfrak{a}) := Z(\phi^{-1}(\mathfrak{a}))$ , where  $\phi : k[T_1, \dots, T_n] \rightarrow k[X]$  is the canonical epimorphism. Also, for a subset  $Y$  of  $X$ , we let  $I_X(Y) := I(Y)/I(X) (\in k[X])$ . In particular, for a point  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in X$ , we let to be  $I_X(a)$ . Note that if  $f, g$  are polynomials of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  with  $f + I(X) = g + I(X)$  in  $k[X]$ , then for any  $x \in X$ , we have  $f(x) = g(x)$ , so  $f + I(X)$  defines a  $k$ -valued function on  $X$ . One can then see that  $Z_X(Y) = \{f + I(X) \in k[X] \mid f(y) = 0 \text{ for all } y \in Y\}$ .

**Proposition 1.1.2** The **coordinate ring**,  $k[X]$  of an algebraic set  $X$ , has the following properties :

- 1) The points of  $X$  are in a one-to-one correspondence with the maximal ideals of  $k[X]$ .
- 2) The closed sets of  $X$  are in a one-to-one correspondence with the radical ideals of  $k[X]$ .
- 3) If  $f \in k[X]$  and  $p \in X$  with corresponding maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_p$ , then  $k[X]/\mathfrak{m}_p$  is isomorphic (as a field to  $k$ ) and under this identification we have  $f(p) = \pi(f)$ , where  $\pi : k[X] \rightarrow k[X]/\mathfrak{m}_p$  is the canonical epimorphism.

For the proof of the previous proposition we need some lemmas.

**Lemma 1.1.3** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $I$  of  $R$  be an ideal and let

$$p : R \rightarrow R/I$$

Then  $p$  induces a one-to-one correspondence between ideals of  $R/I$  and ideals  $J$  of  $R$  that contain  $I$  addition, for any ideal  $I$  of  $R$  and any ideal  $K$  of  $R/I$ ,

- a)  $p(I)$  is prime or maximal in  $R/I$  if and only if  $I$  is prime or maximal in  $R$ .
- b)  $p^{-1}(K)$  is prime or maximal in  $R$  if and only if  $K$  is prime or maximal in  $R/I$ .

**Proof.** See [26, Lemma A.1.24, p.335].

We will also need to know the effect of multiple quotients :

**Lemma 1.1.4** Let  $I \subset J$  be ideals of a ring  $R$  and let

- i)  $f : R \rightarrow R/I$
- ii)  $g : R \rightarrow R/J$  and
- iii)  $h : R/I \rightarrow (R/I)/f(J)$  be the canonical projections. Then  $(R/I)/f(J) = R/J$  and the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{f} & R/I \\ \downarrow g & & \downarrow h \\ R/J & \xrightarrow{\quad} & (R/I)/f(J) \end{array}$$

commutes.

**Proof.** See [26, Lemma A.1.25, p.337].



**Proof.** Let  $X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$  be an algebraic set. If

$$\pi : k[T_1, \dots, T_n] \rightarrow k[X]$$

is the canonical projection, and  $J \subset k[X]$  is an ideal, then lemma 1.1.3 implies that

$$J \mapsto \pi^{-1}(J)$$

is a bijection from the set of ideals of  $k[X]$  onto the set of ideals of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  containing  $I(X)$ . Prime, and maximal ideals in  $k[X]$  correspond to prime, and maximal ideals in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  containing  $I(X)$ . The fact that radical ideals are intersections of maximal ideals (see corollary 1.1.4) implies that this correspondence respects radical ideals too. If  $p = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in X \subset \mathbb{A}^n$  is a point, the maximal ideal of functions in  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  that vanish at  $p$  is

$$L = (T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n) \subset k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$$

and this gives rise to the maximal ideal  $\pi(L) \subset k[X]$ .

Clearly

$$Z(\pi^{-1}(J)) = Z(J) \subseteq X$$

So  $J \mapsto Z(J)$  is a bijection between the set of radical ideals in  $k[X]$  and the algebraic sets contained  $X$ . To see that  $f(p) = \pi(f)$ , it suffices to apply lemma 1.1.4.

## Irreducible topological spaces

The algebraic set  $X = \{xy = 0\} \subset \mathbb{A}^2$  can be written as the union of the two coordinate axes  $X_1 = \{x = 0\}$  and  $X_2 = \{y = 0\}$ , which are themselves algebraic sets. However,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  cannot be decomposed further into finite unions of smaller algebraic sets. We now want to generalize this idea. It turns out that this can be done completely in the language of topological spaces. This has the advantage that it applies to more general cases, i.e., open subsets of algebraic sets.

**Definition 1.1.5** i) Topological space  $X$  is said to be **reducible** if it can be written as a union  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are (nonempty) closed subsets of  $X$  not equal to  $X$ . It is called **irreducible** otherwise. A subset  $Y$  of  $X$  is irreducible if it is an irreducible topological space with respect to the **induced topology**.

ii) A topological space  $X$  is called **disconnected** if it can be written as a disjoint union  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  of (nonempty) closed subsets of  $X$  not equal to  $X$ . It is called **connected** otherwise.

**Remark 1.1.2** Note that a **Hausdorff** topological space is always reducible unless it consists of at most one point. Thus the notion of **irreducibility** is relevant only for **non-Hausdorff** spaces. Also one should compare it with the notion of a connected space.

**Proposition 1.1.3** Let  $X$  be a topological space. Then :

- 1)  $X$  is **irreducible** if and only if the intersection of any two nonempty open subsets is nonempty.
- 2) If  $X$  is **irreducible**, then every nonempty open subset  $U$  of  $X$  is **dense** and **irreducible**.

**Proof.** 1) Assume first that  $X$  is irreducible and let  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  be two open subsets of  $X$ . If  $U_1 \cap U_2 = \emptyset$ , it would follow, when taking complements, that  $X = U_1^c \cup U_2^c$ , and  $X$  being irreducible, we would have that  $U_i^c = X$  for either  $i = 1$  or  $i = 2$ , hence  $U_i = \emptyset$  for one of the  $i$ 's. To prove the other implication, assume that  $X$  is expressed as a union  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  with the  $X_i$ 's being closed. Then  $X_1^c \cap X_2^c = \emptyset$ ; hence either  $X_1^c = \emptyset$  or  $X_2^c = \emptyset$ , and therefore either  $X_1 = X$  or  $X_2 = X$ .

- 2) Let  $U$  be a nonempty open subset of  $X$ . We have  $X = \overline{U} \cup (X \setminus U)$ , where  $\overline{U}$  is the closure of  $U$  in  $X$ , since  $X$  is irreducible and  $X \setminus U \neq U$ , then  $\overline{U} = X$ . Now that  $U$  is irreducible, let  $U_1, U_2$  be two nonempty open subsets of  $U$ . Since  $X$  is irreducible, then by 1) above the open subsets  $U \cap U_1$  and  $U \cap U_2$  of  $X$  are nonempty. Hence, again by 1) are two nonempty open subsets of  $X$ , since  $X$  is irreducible, by 1)  $(U \cap U_1) \cap (U \cap U_2)$  is nonempty. Therefore  $U_1 \cap U_2$  is nonempty, which yields (by 1))  $U$  is irreducible.

**Lemma 1.1.5** Let  $X$  be a topological space. A subspace  $Y \subseteq X$  in  $X$  is **irreducible** if and only if its closure  $\overline{Y}$  is **irreducible**.

**Proof.** By proposition 1.1.3 a subset  $Z$  of  $X$  is irreducible if and only if for any two open subsets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  which meet  $Z$ ,  $U \cap V$ , also meet  $Z$ , i.e., if  $Z \cap U \neq \emptyset$  and  $Z \cap V \neq \emptyset$  we have  $Z \cap (U \cap V) \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore, to conclude, it suffices to notice that an open subset of  $X$  meets  $Y$  if and only if it meets  $\overline{Y}$ .

**Definition 1.1.6** A maximal irreducible subset of a topological space  $X$  is called an **irreducible component** of  $X$ .

Let  $X$  be a topological space. Lemma 1.1.5 shows that every **irreducible component** is closed. The set of irreducible subsets of  $X$  is ordered inductively, as for every chain of irreducible subsets their union is again irreducible. Thus **Zorn's lemma**<sup>‡</sup> implies that every **irreducible** subset is contained in an **irreducible component** of  $X$ . In particular, every point of  $X$  is contained in an irreducible component. This shows that  $X$  is the union of its **irreducible components**.

For later use, we record one more lemma.

**Lemma 1.1.6** Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  be an open covering of  $X$  by connected open subsets  $U_i$ .

- 1) If  $X$  is not connected, then there exists a nonempty subset  $J$  of  $I$  such that for all  $j \in J$ ,  $i \in I \setminus J$ ,  $U_j \cap U_i = \emptyset$ .
- 2) If  $X$  is connected,  $I$  is finite, and all the  $U_i$  are irreducible, then  $X$  is irreducible.

**Proof.** To prove 1), note that if we can write  $X = V_1 \cup V_2$  as a disjoint union of open and closed subsets  $V_1, V_2$ , then each  $U_i$  is contained in either  $V_1$  or  $V_2$ , so we can set  $J = \{i \in I; U_i \subseteq V_1\}$ .

For the second part, recall that every irreducible subset is contained in an irreducible component, so the assumption implies that  $X$  has only finitely many irreducible components, say  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ . Assume  $n > 1$ . Since the  $X_i$  are closed, and  $X$  is connected,  $X_1$  must intersect another irreducible component, say  $X_2$  and let  $x \in X_1 \cap X_2$ . Let  $i \in I$  with  $x \in U_i$ . Then  $U_i \cap X_1$  is open and hence dense in  $X_1$ , and similarly for  $X_2$ , so that the closure of  $U_i$  in  $X$  contains  $X_1 \cup X_2$ , a contradiction.

Next proposition relates irreducible algebraic sets in  $\mathbb{A}^n$  to prime ideals of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ .

**Proposition 1.1.4** An affine algebraic set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  is **irreducible** if and only if  $I(X)$  is a **prime** ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  (which is equivalent to the fact that  $k[X]$  is a domain).

**Proof.** Suppose  $X$  is irreducible and let  $f, g \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  be such that  $fg \in I(X)$ . Then  $X \subseteq Z(fg) = Z(f) \cup Z(g)$ . Since  $X$  is irreducible, then  $X$  is contained in  $Z(f)$  or in  $Z(g)$ . So  $f \in I(X)$  or  $g \in I(X)$ , proving that  $I(X)$  is a prime ideal.

Conversely, suppose that  $X$  is the union of two closed subsets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  that are both different from  $X$ . Then, for  $i = 1, 2$ , there exist  $f_i \in I(X_i) \setminus I(X)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). It is clear that  $f_1 f_2$  vanishes on  $X_1 \cup X_2 = X$ , so that  $f_1 f_2 \in I(X)$ . Thus,  $I(X)$  is not a prime ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ .

<sup>‡</sup>Zorn's lemma, also known as **Kuratowski-Zorn** lemma originally called maximum principle, is a statement in the language of set theory, equivalent to the axiom of choice, that is often used to prove the existence of a mathematical object when it cannot be explicitly produced.

**Example 1.1.4** 1) The affine space  $\mathbb{A}^n$  is irreducible (and thus connected) by proposition 1.1.4, since its coordinate ring  $k[\mathbb{A}^n] = k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  is an integral domain.

2) The union  $X = V(x_1 x_2) \subset \mathbb{A}^2$  of the two coordinate axes  $X_1 = V(x_2)$  and  $X_2 = V(x_1)$  is not irreducible, since  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ . But  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  themselves are irreducible. This gives a decomposition of  $X$  into a union of two irreducible spaces.

**Remark 1.1.3** The correspondence of corollary 1.1.3 induces a bijection

$$\{\text{irreducible algebraic sets of } \mathbb{A}^n\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{prime ideals in } k[T_1, \dots, T_n]\}$$

From the **Nullstellensatz**, we obtain the following relations between algebraic objects and geometric one :

Let  $A = k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  with  $k$  algebraically closed field. Then the mappings  $X \mapsto I(X)$  and  $J \mapsto Z(J)$  give a one-to-one inclusion reversing correspondence between the objects in the left and right-hand columns in the following table :

Algebra	Geometry	(1.3)
maximal ideals of $A$	points of $\mathbb{A}^n$	
prime ideals of $A$	irreducible algebraic sets of $\mathbb{A}^n$	
radical ideals of $A$	algebraic sets $\mathbb{A}^n$	

**Definition 1.1.7** An affine algebraic variety is an irreducible algebraic sets of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ .

In what follows we introduce the concept of a **Noetherian** (topological) space. As will be seen, these spaces allow nice decomposition into irreducible components.

## Noetherian topological spaces

**Definition 1.1.8** A topological space  $X$  is called **Noetherian** if it satisfies the descending chain condition for closed subsets : For any sequence closed subsets of  $X$  if :

$$Y_1 \supseteq Y_2 \supseteq \dots$$

, is a such sequence, then there is an integer  $r$  such that  $Y_r = Y_j$ , for all  $j \geq r$ .

**Lemma 1.1.7** Let  $X$  be a topological space that has a finite covering  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^r X_i$  by **Noetherian** subspaces. Then  $X$  itself is **Noetherian**.

**Proof.** Let  $X \supseteq Y_1 \supseteq Y_2 \supseteq \dots$  be a descending chain of closed subsets of  $X$ . Then  $(Y_j \cap X_i)_j$  is a descending chain of closed subsets in  $X_i$ . Therefore there exists an integer  $N_i \geq 1$  such that  $Y_j \cap X_i = Y_{N_i} \cap X_i$  for all  $j \geq N_i$ . For  $N := \max \{N_1, \dots, N_r\}$ , we have  $Y_j = Y_N$  for all  $j \geq N$ .

**Lemma 1.1.8** Let  $X$  be a Noetherian topological space.

- i) Every subspace of  $X$  is **Noetherian**.
- ii) Every open subset of  $X$  is **compact** (in particular,  $X$  is **compact**).

**Proof.** i) Let  $(Z_i)_i$  be a descending chain of closed subsets of a subspace  $Y$ . Then the closures  $\overline{Z_i}$  of  $Z_i$  in  $X$  form a descending chain of closed subsets of  $X$  which becomes stationary by hypothesis. As we have  $Z_i = Y \cap \overline{Z_i}$ , this shows that the chain  $(Z_i)_i$  becomes stationary as well.

ii) By i) it suffices to show that  $X$  is compact. Let  $(U_i)_i$  be an open covering of  $X$  and let  $\mathcal{U}$  be the set of those open subsets of  $X$  that are finite unions of the subsets  $U_i$ . As  $X$  is Noetherian,  $\mathcal{U}$  has a maximal element  $V$ . Clearly  $V = X$ , otherwise there existed an  $U_i$  such that  $V \subsetneq V \cup U_i \in \mathcal{U}$ . This shows that  $(U_i)_i$  has a finite sub-covering.

**Example 1.1.5**  $\mathbb{A}^n$  is a **Noetherian** topological space. Indeed, If  $Y_1 \supseteq Y_2 \supseteq \dots$  is a descending chain of closed subsets, then  $I(Y_1) \subseteq I(Y_2) \subseteq \dots$  is an ascending chain of ideals in  $A := k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . Since  $A$  is a **Noetherian** ring, this chain of ideals is eventually stationary. But for each  $i$ ,  $Y_i = Z(I(Y_i))$ , so the chain  $Y_i$  is also stationary.

**Proposition 1.1.5** If  $X$  is an algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ , then  $X$  is a Noetherian space.

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be an algebraic subset of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ , by lemma 1.1.8 i) and example 1.1.5, then  $X$  is a **Noetherian** space.

**Theorem 1.1.3** Let  $X$  be a Noetherian topological space. Then  $X$  is a union of finitely many irreducible closed subsets  $X_k$  of  $X$ . Furthermore, if  $X_i \not\subseteq X_j$  for any  $i \neq j$ , then the subsets  $X_k$  are unique, up to a permutation of the indices.

**Proof.** Let us prove the first part of this result. If  $X$  is irreducible, then the assertion is obvious. Otherwise,  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ , where  $X_i$  are proper closed subsets of  $X$ . If both of them are irreducible, the assertion is true. Otherwise, one of them, say  $X_1$  is reducible. Hence  $X_1 = X'_1 \cup X'_2$  as above. Continuing in this way, we either stop somewhere and get the assertion or obtain an infinite strictly decreasing sequence of closed subsets of  $X$ . But the later case is impossible because  $X$  is Noetherian. To prove the second assertion, we assume that

$$X = X_1 \cup \dots \cup X_s = W_1 \cup \dots \cup W_t$$

where no one of the  $X_i$  (resp.  $W_j$ ) is contained in another  $X_{i'}$  (resp.  $W_{j'}$ ). We can assume that  $s \leq t$ . Obviously, we have :

$$X_1 = (X_1 \cap W_1) \cup \dots \cup (X_1 \cap W_t)$$

Since  $X_1$  is irreducible, one of the subsets  $X_1 \cap W_j$  is equal to  $X_1$ , i.e.,  $X_1 \subseteq W_j$ . We may assume that  $j = 1$ . Similarly, we show that  $W_1 \subseteq X_i$  for some  $i$ . Hence  $X_1 \subseteq W_1 \subseteq X_i$ . This contradicts the assumption  $X_i \not\subseteq X_j$  for  $i \neq j$ , so necessarily  $i = j$ , hence  $X_1 = W_1$  repeating this argument for  $X_2, \dots, X_s$ , we may assume that  $X_i = W_i$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq s$ . It will follow that necessarily  $t = s$ .

**Remark 1.1.4** Compare this proof with the proof of the theorem on **factorization** of integers into **prime factors**. Irreducible **components** play the role of prime factors.

In view of proposition 1.1.5, we can apply the previous terminology to affine algebraic sets  $X$ .

**Corollary 1.1.5** Every algebraic set in  $\mathbb{A}^n$  can be expressed uniquely -up to a permutation of the indices- as a union of varieties, no one containing another.

**Example 1.1.6** Let  $f = f_1^{a_1} \dots f_r^{a_r}$  be a decomposition of  $f$  into a product of irreducible polynomials. Then

$$Z(f) = Z(f_1) \cup \dots \cup Z(f_r)$$

since the ideal  $(f_i)$  of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , generated by  $f_i$  is prime, then  $Z(f_i)$  is a variety, therefore the above gives the decomposition of  $Z(f)$  into a union of varieties.

### 1.1.2 Projective varieties

We fix a ground field  $k$ , which we will always assume to be **algebraically closed** (we will nevertheless recall this fact in the statement of the main theorems). Let  $\mathbb{P}^n$  denote the **projective space** consisting of lines passing through the origin, but without including the origin the vector space  $k^{n+1}$ . An element of  $\mathbb{P}^n$  represented by the line generated by the nonzero vector  $x = (x_0, \dots, x_n) \in k^{n+1}$  will be denoted by  $[x] = (x_0 : \dots : x_n)$ . The elements  $(k$  is not necessarily a number field)  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  are not all zero, and they are defined only up to a common scalar multiple. They are called the **homogeneous coordinates** of the point  $[x] \in \mathbb{P}^n$ .

Let  $f \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  be a polynomial of degree  $d$  with **homogeneous** decomposition

$$f = f_0 + \dots + f_d.$$

Given a point  $x = (x_0 : \dots : x_n) \in \mathbb{P}^n$ , we cannot define the expression  $f(x)$  as  $f(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ , since it clearly depends on the choice of a vector representing  $x$ . Indeed, a general representative for  $x$  will have the form  $(\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n)$  (with  $\lambda \neq 0$ ) and then  $f((\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n)) = f_0(\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n) + \dots + f_d(\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n) = f_0(x_0, \dots, x_n) + \dots + \lambda^d f_d(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ , which clearly varies when  $\lambda$  varies. However, if  $f$  is homogeneous of degree  $d$ , we have  $f(\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n) = \lambda^d f(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ . Even if then  $f(x)$  is not defined neither, it makes sense at least to say when it is zero, since obviously  $f(\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n) = 0$  for any  $\lambda \neq 0$  if and only if  $f(x_0, \dots, x_n) = 0$ .

**Lemma 1.1.9** Let  $k$  be an infinite field,  $f \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ ,  $f_0, \dots, f_d$  be forms with  $\deg(f_i) = i$ , such that  $f = \sum_{i=0}^d f_i$ .  $P \in \mathbb{P}^n(k)$  is a root of  $f$  if and only if  $P$  is a root of  $f_i$  for all  $0 \leq i \leq d$ .

**Proof.** If  $P$  is a root of every  $f_i$ , then obviously it is also a root of  $f$ . Conversely, let  $(x_0 : \dots : x_n)$  be a fixed tuple of **homogeneous coordinates** of  $P$ . We consider the polynomial

$$g(\lambda) = f(\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n) = \sum_{i=0}^d \lambda^i f_i(x_0, \dots, x_n)$$

For  $P$  to be a root of  $f$ , the polynomial  $g$  must vanish on all  $\lambda \in k \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $k$  is infinite, this is only possible if  $g = 0$ , i.e.,  $f_i(x_0, \dots, x_n) = 0$  for all  $0 \leq i \leq d$ .

The main objects we are going to study will be the subsets of a projective space defined as zeros of **homogeneous** polynomials. More precisely :

**Definition 1.1.9** A **projective algebraic** set  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  is a subset for which there exists a set of **homogeneous** polynomials  $\{f_j \mid j \in J\}$  such that

$$X = \{p \in \mathbb{P}^n \mid f_j(p) = 0 \text{ for all } j \in J\}$$

For practical reasons, and in view of the previous lemma, we will say that  $f(x) = 0$  for a point  $x \in \mathbb{P}^n$  and an arbitrary polynomial  $f \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  if and only if any **homogeneous component** of  $f$  vanishes at  $x$ . With this convention we can make the following definitions :

**Definition 1.1.10** i) The projective algebraic set defined by a subset  $M \subseteq k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  will be

$$Z(M) := \{x \in \mathbb{P}^n \mid f(x) = 0, \text{ for any } f \in M\}.$$

ii) The **homogeneous ideal** of a subset  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  will be the ideal

$$I(X) := \{f \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n] \mid f(x) = 0 \text{ for any } x \in X\}.$$

iii) The **graded ring** of a projective algebraic set  $X$  is the ring

$$S(X) := k[T_0, \dots, T_n] / I(X).$$



**Remarks 1.1.2** i) If we want to distinguish these projective constructions from the affine ones in definition 1.1.9 and definition 1.1.1, we will denote them by  $Z_p(M)$  and  $I_p(X)$ , and the affine ones by  $Z_a(S)$  and  $I_a(X)$ , respectively.

ii) An ideal  $I$  of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  is said to be **homogeneous** if, for every  $f = \sum_{i=0}^d f_i \in I$ ,  $f_i$  form of degree  $i$  also  $f_i \in I$  for  $0 \leq i \leq d$ . So, as one can easily see,  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ , the ideal  $I(X)$  is **homogeneous**.

**Example 1.1.7** 1) As in the affine case, the empty set  $\emptyset = Z_p(1)$ , and the whole space  $\mathbb{P}^n = Z_p(0)$  are projective algebraic sets.

2) Let  $x \in \mathbb{P}^n$  be a point. Then the one-point set  $\{x\} = Z_p(T_0 - x_0, \dots, T_n - x_n)$ , with  $(x_0, \dots, x_n)$  the **homogeneous coordinates** of  $x$  is a projective algebraic set.

**Proposition 1.1.6** The operators  $Z_p$  and  $I_p$  satisfy the following properties :

- 1)  $I(\mathbb{P}^n) = \{0\}$  ( $k$  is assumed to be infinite),  $I_p(\emptyset) = k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ ,  $Z_p(\{0\}) = \mathbb{P}^n$ , and  $Z_p(\{1\}) = \emptyset$ .
- 2) If  $M \subset k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  and  $(M)$  is the ideal generated by  $M$ , then  $Z_p(M) = Z_p((M))$ . In particular, any projective algebraic set can be defined by a finite number of equations.
- 3) If  $M \subset M' \subset k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ , then  $Z_p(M') \subset Z_p(M) \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ .
- 4) If  $\{M_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a collection of subsets of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ , then  $Z_p\left(\bigcup_{j \in J} M_j\right) = \bigcap_{j \in J} Z_p(M_j)$ .
- 5) If  $\{I_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a collection of ideals of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ , then  $Z_p\left(\sum_{j \in J} I_j\right) = \bigcap_{j \in J} Z_p(I_j)$ .
- 6) If  $I \subset k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  is any **homogeneous** ideal, then  $Z_p(I) = Z_p(\text{rad}(I))$ .
- 7) If  $I, I' \subset k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  are two **homogeneous** ideals, then  $Z_p(I \cap I') = Z_p(II') = Z_p(I) \cap Z_p(I')$ .
- 8) If  $X \subset X' \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ , then  $I_p(X') \subset I_p(X)$ .
- 9) If  $\{X_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a collection of subsets of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ , then  $I_p\left(\bigcup_{j \in J} X_j\right) = \bigcap_{j \in J} I_p(X_j)$ .
- 10) For any  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ ,  $X \subset Z_p(I(X))$ , with equality holding if and only if  $X$  is a projective algebraic set.

**Proof.** We will just prove the first part of 1), leaving the rest since it can be proved by analogous arguments as we saw in the affine case. So we just need to prove that a homogeneous polynomial vanishing at  $\mathbb{P}^n$  is necessarily the zero polynomial. We will prove it by induction on  $n$ , the case  $n = 0$  being trivial. So assume  $n > 1$  and write  $f = f_0 + f_1 T_1 + \dots + f_d T_n^d$ , with  $f_0, f_1, \dots, f_d \in k[T_0, \dots, T_{n-1}]$  and  $f_d \neq 0$ . We thus know by induction hypothesis that we can find  $(x_0 : \dots : x_{n-1})$  such that  $f_d(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \neq 0$ . But then the polynomial  $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}, T_n) \in k[T_n]$  is nonzero, so it has a finite number of roots. Hence the fact that  $k$  is infinite implies that we can find a point  $(x_0 : \dots : x_{n-1} : x_n)$  not vanishing on  $f$ .

**Definition 1.1.11** Part 1), 4) and 7) of proposition 1.1.6 show that the set of **projective algebraic sets** satisfy the axioms needed to be the closed sets of a topology in  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . This topology (in which the closed sets are exactly the projective algebraic sets) is called the **Zariski topology** on  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . The intersection of a projective algebraic set with an open set will be called a **quasi-projective algebraic set**. The topology induced by the **Zariski topology** on any **quasi-projective algebraic set** will be still called **Zariski topology** on that **quasi-projective algebraic set**.

Recall the following : Let  $I$  be a homogeneous ideal of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ . We say that  $I$  **homogeneous prime** (or **graded prime**) if for any forms (i.e., **homogeneous polynomials**)  $f$  and  $g$  of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ , if  $fg \in I$ , then  $f \in I$  or  $g \in I$ . The (homogeneous) ideal  $I$  is said to be prime if the above implication holds but for arbitrary polynomials (non necessarily homogeneous)  $f$  and  $g$  of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ .

**Lemma 1.1.10** i) A homogeneous ideal  $I$  of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  is prime if and only if

$$fg \in I \text{ implies } f \in I \text{ or } g \in I$$

for arbitrary forms  $f, g \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ .

ii) If  $I$  is homogeneous, then also  $\text{rad}(I)$  is homogeneous.

**Proof.** i) We have to show that a homogeneous ideal  $I$  of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  is prime if and only if it is homogeneous prime. One sense of this implication is clear. Remains to prove that  $I$  is prime when it is homogeneous prime. To see this, assume that there exists polynomials  $f, g$  such that

$$fg \in I, \text{ but } f, g \notin I$$

Let  $f, g$  be such that  $\deg(fg)$  is least with this property. Write

$$f = f_k + \dots + f_0$$

$$g = g_l + \dots + g_0$$

where  $f_i, g_i$  are forms of degree  $i$ , and both  $f_k$  and  $g_l$  are nonzero. Since  $I$  contains  $fg$ , it must also contain its highest degree form  $f_k g_l$ , and therefore either  $f_k$  or  $g_l$ . Assume  $f_k \in I$ . Then also  $(f_{k-1} + \dots + f_0)g = fg - f_k g \in I$ , and it is of lower degree than  $fg$ . So either  $(f_{k-1} + \dots + f_0) \in I$ , and therefore  $f \in I$ , or  $g \in I$ .

ii) Let  $f = f_0 + \dots + f_k$  be a polynomial of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  with  $f_0, \dots, f_k$  being forms with increasing degrees. It suffices to show that  $f \in \text{rad}(I)$  implies  $f_k \in \text{rad}(I)$ . From  $f \in \text{rad}(I)$  we get  $f^m = f_k^m + \text{lower degree forms} \in I$  for some  $m$ , so  $f_k^m \in I$ , and therefore  $f_k \in \text{rad}(I)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.4** An ideal  $I$  of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  is homogeneous if and only if it is generated by a (finite) set of forms.

**Proof.** A homogeneous ideal is clearly generated by forms (i.e., by homogeneous polynomials). Conversely, an ideal that is generated by forms is plainly a homogeneous ideal. Indeed, these facts are true in general for any ideal of a graded ring. The fact that such a generating subset can be finite follows from the fact that the polynomial ring  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  is noetherian.

As for **affine algebraic sets**, we call a **projective algebraic set**  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  **irreducible** if it is so when endowed with its Zariski topology, i.e., if it cannot be written as the union of two algebraic subsets.

An **irreducible** projective algebraic set is called a **projective variety**. Analogously to the affine case one proves that every projective algebraic set can be decomposed uniquely into a union of finitely many projective varieties. These coincide with the irreducible components of the projective algebraic set.

Furthermore, in analogy to the affine case, one shows (using lemma 1.1.10 i)) that the projective algebraic set  $X$  is irreducible if and only if  $I_p(X)$  is prime.

In what follows, we want to show that  $\mathbb{A}^n$  can be considered as a topological subspace of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . To do this, we need the following definition :

**Definition 1.1.12** i) Let  $f = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \in \mathbb{N}} a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} T_1^{i_1} \cdots T_n^{i_n}$  be a (nonzero) polynomial of degree  $d$  of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . We define its **homogenization** to be the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} f^h &:= T_0^d f\left(\frac{T_1}{T_0}, \dots, \frac{T_n}{T_0}\right) \\ &= \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \in \mathbb{N}} a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} T_0^{d-i_1-\dots-i_n} T_1^{i_1} \cdots T_n^{i_n} \text{ of } k[T_0, \dots, T_n] \end{aligned}$$

obviously this is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d$ .

ii) The **homogenization** of an ideal  $I$  of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  is defined to be the ideal  $I^h$  of  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  generated by all  $f^h$  for  $f \in I$ .

**Remark 1.1.5** In the above the homogenization  $f^h$  would be called the homogenization with respect to the (new) indeterminate  $T_0$ . The same homogenization could be made with respect to any other (new) indeterminate, e.g., when a polynomial  $f \in k[R, S]$ , then for any new indeterminate  $V$ , one can define a homogenization of  $f$  with respect to  $V$  and have a polynomial  $f^h \in k[R, S, V]$ .

**Example 1.1.8** For  $f = T_1^2 - T_2^2 - 1 \in k[T_1, T_2]$ , we have  $f^h = T_1^2 - T_2^2 - T_0^2 \in k[T_0, T_1, T_2]$ .

**Remark 1.1.6** If  $f, g \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  are polynomials of degree  $d$  and  $e$ , respectively, then  $fg$  has degree  $d + e$ , and so we get

$$(fg)^h = T_0^{d+e} f\left(\frac{T_1}{T_0}, \dots, \frac{T_n}{T_0}\right) \cdot g\left(\frac{T_1}{T_0}, \dots, \frac{T_n}{T_0}\right) = f^h \cdot g^h.$$

However,  $(f + g)^h$  is clearly not equal to  $f^h + g^h$  in general.

**Notation.** Let  $f_i = T_i \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  and consider the open subset  $U_i = \mathbb{P}^n \setminus Z_p(T_i)$  of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . We define the map

$$\phi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n, (x_0 : \dots : x_n) \longmapsto \left(\frac{x_0}{x_i} : \dots : \frac{x_n}{x_i}\right)$$

As one can easily see,  $\phi$  is a bijective map, with inverse

$$\psi_i : \mathbb{A}^n \rightarrow U_i, (a_0, \dots, \hat{a}_i, \dots, a_n) \longmapsto (a_0 : \dots : 1 : \dots : a_n)$$

**Proposition 1.1.7** For  $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$  the map

$$\phi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n, (x_0 : \dots : x_n) \mapsto \left(\frac{x_0}{x_i} : \dots : \frac{x_n}{x_i}\right)$$

is a **homeomorphism**<sup>S</sup> when  $U_i$  and  $\mathbb{A}^n$  are endowed with their Zariski topologies.

**Proof.** We will show this result for  $i = 0$  and (the other cases follow in the same way). Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an algebraic set of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  and write  $X = Z(f_1, \dots, f_r)$  with  $f_1, \dots, f_r \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . One can easily see that  $\phi^{-1}(X) = Z_p(g_1, \dots, g_r) \cap U_0$ , where  $g_j = f_j^h$ , for all  $j$  (recall here that  $f_j^h$  denotes the homogenization of  $f_j$ ). So,  $\phi^{-1}(X)$  is closed  $U_0$ . Conversely, let  $Y$  be an algebraic set of  $U_0$ , then we can write  $Y = Z_p(g_1, \dots, g_r) \cap U_0$  with  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  the homogeneous polynomials in  $k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ . One can see that  $\phi(Y) = Z_a(Q_1, \dots, Q_r)$ ,  $Q_i(T_1, \dots, T_n) = g_i(1, \dots, T_n)$ .

**Remark 1.1.7** We have :

$$\mathbb{P}^n = \cup_{i=0}^n U_i$$

where  $U_i = \mathbb{P}^n \setminus Z_p(T_i)$  and by the above  $U_i \simeq \mathbb{A}^n$ , i.e.,  $U_i$  and  $\mathbb{A}^n$  are homeomorphic. Thus  $\mathbb{P}^n$  has a covering by open subsets all homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^n$ .

<sup>S</sup>A **homeomorphism** between two topological spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  is a bijection  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  both  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are continuous.



## 1.2 Dimension of a variety

In this section, we will introduce the notion of **dimension** of a topological space, and we will give some of its elementary properties. Before this we will recall some facts concerning the (**Krull**) dimension of a (commutative) ring since will apply this in the study of the dimension of an algebraic variety (**projective** or **affine**).

### 1.2.1 Dimension of rings

**Definition 1.2.1** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $P$  a prime ideal of  $R$ .

i) The height of  $P$  is the greatest integer  $n$  when there exists a family

$$P_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq P_n = P$$

with all  $P_i$  being prime ideals of  $R$ . We write in this case  $\text{ht}(P) = n$ . If such (greatest) integer does not exist, such a large integer does not exist we write  $\text{ht}(P) = \infty$ .

ii) The (**Krull**) dimension of the ring  $R$  is

$$\dim(R) := \sup\{\text{ht}(P) \mid P \subseteq R \text{ prime}\}.$$

**Examples 1.2.1** 1) Fields are of dimension 0.

2) If  $R$  is a principal ideal ring which is not a field, then  $\dim(R) = 1$ .

3) For any field  $k$ ,  $\dim(k[X]) = 1$ .

### 1.2.2 Transcendence Degree

We can describe the **size** of a field extension  $k/E$  using the idea of dimension from linear algebra

$$[k : E] = \dim_E(k)$$

But this doesn't say enough about the size of really big field extensions.

$$[k(T_1) : k] = [k(T_1, \dots, T_n) : k] = \infty$$

Another notion of the size of a field extension  $k/E$ , called **transcendence degree** is widely used in field theory and linear algebra. It has the following two important properties.

$$\text{tr.deg}_k(k(T_1, \dots, T_n)) = n$$

and if  $k/E$  is algebraic,  $\text{tr.deg}_E(k) = 0$ .

### Algebraic (In)dependence

**Definition 1.2.2** A subset  $S$  of  $k$  said to be **algebraically independent** over  $E$ , if for all nonzero polynomials  $f(T_1, \dots, T_n) \in E[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , and  $s_1, \dots, s_n \in S$  (all distinct), we have  $f(s_1, \dots, s_n) \neq 0$ . Otherwise, we say that  $S$  is **algebraically dependent** over  $E$ .

**Example 1.2.1** 1) If  $k/E$  is an algebraic extension and  $\alpha \in k$  then  $\{\alpha\}$  is algebraically dependent over  $E$ .

2) In  $k(T_1, \dots, T_n)/k$ ,  $\{T_1, \dots, T_n\}$  is algebraically independent.

**Lemma 1.2.1** If  $S \subseteq k$  is algebraically independent, then  $S$  is maximal if and only if  $k$  is algebraic over  $E(S)$ .

**Proof.** See [30, Section 030D].

**Theorem 1.2.1 (Exchange Lemma).** Let  $k/E$  be a field extension. If  $k$  is algebraic over  $E(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ , and  $\{b_1, \dots, b_m\}$  is an algebraically independent set, then  $m \leq n$ .

**Proof.** See [30, Section 030D].

**Corollary 1.2.1** If  $k/E$  has a maximal, finite, algebraically independent set  $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$ , then any other maximal algebraically independent set also has size  $n$ .

**Remarks 1.2.1** i) In fact it is true that if  $k/E$  has two maximal algebraically independent sets  $S$  and  $T$  then  $|S| = |T|$ . This is analogous to the fact that the cardinality of a vector space basis is unique, even when it is infinite. The proof of this fact is difficult, and we will not need this result. We refer the reader to [30, Ch 09FA, Section 030D].

ii) Every extension  $k/E$  has a maximal algebraically independent subset.

**Definition 1.2.3** 1) A maximal algebraically independent subset  $S \subseteq k$  is called a **transcendence base** for  $k/E$ . So by the above lemma,  $S$  is a transcendence base for  $k/E$  if and only if  $S$  is algebraically independent and  $k$  is algebraic over  $E(S)$ .

2) The **transcendence degree** of  $k/E$  is the size of a **transcendence base**. It is denoted  $\text{tr.deg}(k/E)$ .

**Example 1.2.2**  $\text{tr.deg}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})) = 0$ .

**Theorem 1.2.2** Let  $k$  be a field and  $A$  be a finitely generated algebra over  $k$ . Assume that  $A$  is an **integral domain** and let  $F$  be its field of fractions. Then  $\dim(A) = \text{tr.deg}_k(F)$ .

**Proof.** See [6, Theorem, 8.9.11, p.282].

**Example 1.2.3** We have  $\text{tr.deg}_k(k(T_1, \dots, T_n)) = n$ , so  $\dim(k[T_1, \dots, T_n]) = n$ .

### 1.2.3 Dimension of a topological space

**Definition 1.2.4** Let  $X$  be a nonempty topological space. Considering a strictly increasing chain of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ :

$$X_0 \subsetneq X_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq X_d.$$

We call  $d$  the length of this chain (that is, the number of inclusions in the chain).

The **Krull dimension** of  $X$  is the supremum of the lengths of such chains, denote it by  $\dim(X)$ . We then write  $\dim(X) = d$ .

**Remarks 1.2.2** 1) This notion has no interest if  $X$  is a **Hausdorff** space. Indeed, in such a case we have  $\dim(X) = 0$ .

2) By convention we assume that the **dimension** of the empty set is equal -1.

3) Note that the **dimension** of  $X$  may be equal to  $\infty$ .

**Lemma 1.2.2** Let  $X$  be a nonempty topological space and  $Y$  be a nonempty subspace of  $X$ . Then  $\dim(Y) \leq \dim(X)$ . In particular, if  $\dim(X)$  is finite, then also  $\dim(Y)$  is so (in this case, the integer  $\dim(X) - \dim(Y)$  is called the **co-dimension** of  $Y$  in  $X$ ).

**Proof.** Let  $S_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq S_d$  a family of irreducible closed subsets of  $Y$  and for each  $i$ , let  $\bar{S}_i$  be the closure of  $S_i$  in  $X$ , then by lemma 1.1.5,  $\bar{S}_0 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \bar{S}_d$  is a family of (increasing) irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ . Moreover, for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , we have  $S_i = \bar{S}_i \cap Y$ , so  $\bar{S}_{i-1} \neq \bar{S}_i$ , hence  $\dim(Y) \leq \dim(X)$ .

**Proposition 1.2.1** Let  $X$  be a nonempty topological space. The following statements hold :

- 1) If  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  is an open of  $X$ , then  $\dim(X) = \sup\{\dim(U_i)\}$ .
- 2) If  $X$  is **Noetherian**, and  $X_1, \dots, X_d$  are its **irreducible components**, then  $\dim(X) = \sup_i\{\dim(X_i)\}$ .
- 3) If  $Y \subseteq X$  is closed,  $X$  is **irreducible**,  $\dim(X)$  is finite and  $\dim(X) = \dim(Y)$ , then  $Y = X$ .

**Proof.** 1) Let  $X_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq X_d$  be a chain of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$  and let  $x_0$  be a point of  $X_0$ , then of  $X$ . Let  $x \in X_0$  be a point there exists an index  $i \in I$  such that  $x \in U_i$ . Plainly, for all  $j \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ ,  $X_j \cap U_i$  is nonempty; moreover this last set is an irreducible closed subset of  $U_i$ . Consider

$$X_0 \cap U_i \subseteq X_1 \cap U_i \subseteq \cdots \subseteq X_d \cap U_i$$

of irreducible closed subsets of  $U_i$ . It is a chain of length  $d$ . We check that for any  $0 \leq j \leq d-1$ , we have  $X_j \cap U_i \neq X_{j+1} \cap U_i$ . This shows that  $\dim(X) \leq \dim(U_i)$ . Thus,  $\dim(X) \leq \sup_i\{\dim(U_i)\}$ . The reverse inequality follows by lemma 1.2.2.

- 2) Any chain of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$  is completely contained in an **irreducible component** of  $X$ . Therefore,  $\dim(X) \leq \sup_i\{\dim(X_i)\}$ . As in 1) above the equality follows by lemma 1.1.5.
- 3) Let  $Y$  be a proper closed subset of  $X$  and let  $Y_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Y_d$  be a chain of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ . Considering the following chain

$$Y_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Y_d \subsetneq X$$

of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ , we see that  $\dim(Y) < \dim(X)$ .

In what follows, we restrict our attention to the case of varieties. We recall that  $k$  denotes an algebraically closed field.

## Dimension of an affine variety

Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be a **quasi-affine** variety.

**Theorem 1.2.3** Let  $X$  be an **affine variety**. Then

$$\dim(X) = \dim(k[X])$$

where  $k[X]$  is the **affine coordinate ring** of  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $X_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq X_m$  be a family of **irreducible** closed subsets of  $X$  (i.e., of **affine varieties** contained in  $X$ ), then

$$P_0 = I(X_m) \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq P_m = I(X_0)$$

and  $P_0, \dots, P_m$  are prime ideals of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . For any  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , we have  $X_i \subseteq X$ , so  $I(X) \subseteq I(X_i)$ . Thus,  $P_i$  are prime ideals which contain  $I(X)$ . It follows that  $P_i + I(X)$  are distinct prime ideals of  $k[X]$ . Therefore,  $\dim(X) \leq \dim(k[X])$ . The reverse inequality follows in the same way by noticing that any prime ideal of  $k[X]$  corresponds to a well defined irreducible closed subset of  $X$ .

**Corollary 1.2.2** Let  $X$  be an **affine variety**. Then

$$\dim(X) = \text{tr.deg}(\text{Frac}(k[X]))$$

**Proof.** Since  $X$  is an affine variety, then  $k[X]$  is a finitely generated  $k$ -algebra that is an integral domain, so  $\dim(k[X]) = \text{tr} \cdot \deg_k(\text{Frac}(k[X]))$ . The corollary follows then by theorem 1.2.2.

### Corollary 1.2.3

$$\dim(\mathbb{A}^n) = n.$$

**Proof.** Indeed, we have  $\dim(\mathbb{A}^n) = \dim(k[T_1, \dots, T_n]) = n$ .

**Corollary 1.2.4** The dimension of an affine variety is finite.

**Proof.** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine variety. Then by lemma 1.2.2, we have

$$\dim(X) \leq n.$$

## 1.3 Regular functions and morphisms

In this section, we will define **regular functions** on both affine and projective varieties and also morphisms between varieties. We show at the end of this section that there is an equivalence of categories between the category of affine varieties (over the base field  $k$ ) and the category of finitely generated (**integral**) domains over  $k$ .

### 1.3.1 Regular functions

**Definition 1.3.1** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be a **quasi-affine** variety and let  $x \in X$ .

- i) A function  $f : X \rightarrow k$  is said to be **regular** at  $x$  if there exists an open subset  $U \subseteq X$  containing  $x$  and polynomials  $g, h \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , with  $h(y) \neq 0$  for all  $y \in U$ , such that for all  $y \in U$ , we have

$$f|_U(y) = \frac{g(y)}{h(y)}$$

- ii) A function  $f : X \rightarrow k$ , is called a **regular function** if  $f$  is **regular** at all points of  $X$ .

**Example 1.3.1** Let  $f \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , then the polynomial function defined is a **regular function** on any quasi-affine variety  $X$  of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ .

**Proposition 1.3.1** Let  $X$  be a **quasi-affine** variety.

- 1) If  $f : X \rightarrow k$  is a **regular function**, then  $f$  is continuous for the **Zariski topologies** on  $X$  and  $k$ .
- 2) If  $f$  and  $g$  are **regular functions** on  $X$  that restrict to the same function on some nonempty open subset  $U \subseteq X$ , then  $f = g$ .

**Proof.** 1) As **continuity** is a local notion, it suffices to consider the case where  $f = \frac{g}{h}$  for some polynomial functions  $g$  and  $h$  with  $h$  nowhere vanishing. Recall that the proper closed subsets of  $k$  (for its Zariski topology) are the finite subsets of  $k$ , so continuity of  $f$  then follows from the fact that, for  $a \in k$ , we have  $f^{-1}(a) = Z(g - ah)$ , which is a closed subset of  $X$ .

- 2) The set  $Z = \{x \in X \mid f(x) = g(x)\}$  is the inverse image of  $0 \in k$  under the **regular function**  $f - g$ , so by 1)  $Z$  a closed subset of  $X$ . Suppose that if  $f|_U = g|_U$ , then it follows from the fact that  $U$  is dense in  $X$  (see proposition 1.1.3) that  $Z = X$ .

**Definition 1.3.2** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  be a **quasi-projective** variety and let  $x \in X$

- i) A function  $f : X \longrightarrow k$ , is said to be **regular** at the point  $x$  if there exists an open subset  $U \subseteq X$  containing  $x$  and **homogeneous polynomials** of the same degree  $g, h \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  with  $h(y) \neq 0$  for all  $y \in U$ , such that for all  $y \in U$ , we have

$$f|_U(y) = \frac{g(y)}{h(y)}.$$

- ii) A function  $f : X \longrightarrow k$  is called a **regular function** if it is **regular** at all points of  $X$ .

**Proposition 1.3.2** Let  $f : X \longrightarrow k$ , be a **regular function**. Then  $f$  is continuous when both  $X$  and  $k$  are endowed with their Zariski topologies.

**Proof.** As in the affine case, it is enough to prove that for any element  $a \in k$ ,  $f^{-1}(a)$  is closed in  $X$ ,  $a \in k$ . For all  $x \in X$ , a convenient open neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$ , and **homogeneous polynomials** of the same degree  $g, h$  with  $h(y) \neq 0$ , for all  $y \in U$  such that

$$f|_U(y) = \frac{g(y)}{h(y)}.$$

Then

$$f^{-1}(a) = \{y \in U \mid g(y) - ah(y) = 0\} = U \cap Z_p(g - ah)$$

, which is clearly closed in  $U$ . The proposition then the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.3.1** Let  $Y$  be a topological space,  $Y = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  be an open covering of  $Y$  and  $Z$  a subset of  $Y$ . Then  $Z$  is a closed subset of  $Y$  if and only if  $Z \cap U_i$  is closed in  $U_i$  for all  $i$ .

**Proof.** If  $Z$  is closed in  $Y$ , then clearly  $Z \cap U_i$  is a closed subset of  $U_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . Conversely, the fact that each  $Z \cap U_i$  is closed in  $U_i$  implies the existence of a collection of closed subsets  $Z_i$  of  $X$  such that  $U_i \cap Z = U_i \cap Z_i$ . We then have :

$$\begin{aligned} Y \setminus Z &= \bigcup_{i \in I} (U_i \setminus Z) \\ &= \bigcup_{i \in I} (U_i \cap Y \setminus Z) \\ &= \bigcup_{i \in I} (U_i \cap Y \setminus Z_i) \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $Z$  is a closed subset of  $Y$ .

**Terminology :** In what follows, the word **variety** will be used to mean a **quasi-affine** or a **quasi-projective** variety (which includes **affine** and **projective** varieties).

## 1.3.2 Morphisms of varieties

**Definition 1.3.3** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be varieties. A **morphism of varieties**  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  is a continuous map such that for all nonempty open subset  $V$  of  $Y$ , and for any **regular function**  $f : V \longrightarrow k$ , the map  $f \circ \phi : \phi^{-1}(V) \longrightarrow k$  is a **regular function**.

**Notation.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be tow varieties. We denote by  $\text{Hom}_{\text{Var}}(X, Y)$  the set of morphisms from  $X$  to  $Y$ .

**Remark 1.3.1** The **composition** of two morphisms is a morphism. Indeed, one can consider the category of varieties whose morphisms are those defined in above.

Let  $U_i = \mathbb{P}^n \setminus Z_p(T_i)$ , we previously saw that  $U_i$  is homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . The next proposition shows that the canonical homeomorphism between  $U_i$  and  $\mathbb{A}^n$  is an isomorphism of varieties.

**Proposition 1.3.3** Let  $U_i = \mathbb{P}^n \setminus Z_p(T_i)$ . Then the map

$$\phi_i : U_i \longrightarrow \mathbb{A}^n, (x_0 : \dots : x_n) \longmapsto \left( \frac{x_0}{x_i}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{x_i} \right).$$

is an **isomorphism** of varieties

**Proof.** We have already shown in proposition 1.1.7 that  $\phi$  is a homeomorphism.

To simplify the notation we take  $i = 0$  and denote  $U_0$  and  $\phi_0$  simply by  $U$  and  $\phi$ , respectively. To show that  $\phi$  is a morphism of varieties, let  $V$  be a nonempty open subset of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  and let  $f : V \longrightarrow k$  be a regular function. Locally,  $f$  is a quotient of two polynomial functions, so without losing the generality we can assume that  $f$  is a quotient on the whole  $V$  i.e., there exist polynomials  $g$  and  $h \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , such that for all  $y \in V$ ,  $h(y) \neq 0$  and  $f = \frac{g}{h}$ . One can then easily deduce that  $f \circ \phi : \phi^{-1}(V) \longrightarrow k$  is a regular function. Indeed, we have :

$$(f \circ \phi)(y) = \left( \frac{g}{h} \circ \phi \right)(y) = \frac{g \circ \phi(y)}{h \circ \phi(y)} = \frac{T_0^d f^h(y)}{T_0^e g^h(y)}, \text{ for all } y \in \phi^{-1}(V)$$

where  $e = \deg(f)$  and  $d = \deg(g)$ .

Conversely, Recall  $\phi^{-1} : \mathbb{A}^n \longrightarrow U$  is defined by  $(b_1, \dots, b_n) \longmapsto (1 : b_1 : \dots : b_n)$ . Let  $W$  be a nonempty open subset of  $U$  and  $g : W \longrightarrow k$  a regular function.  $g \circ \phi^{-1} : \phi(W) \longrightarrow k$  is a regular function. Then, locally  $g$  is a quotient of two homogeneous polynomials of the same degree. Also here without losing the generality we can suppose that on whole  $W$   $g$  is a quotient of such polynomial functions, say  $\frac{P}{Q}$  where  $P, Q \in k[T_0, \dots, T_n]$  i.e  $\forall y \in W$ ,  $Q(y) \neq 0$  and  $g(y) = \frac{P(y)}{Q(y)}$ .  $g \circ \phi^{-1} : \phi(W) \longrightarrow k$ , is then defined as follows :

$$g \circ \phi^{-1}(x) = \frac{s(P)(x)}{s(Q)(x)}, \forall x \in \phi(W), \text{ where } s(P) := P(1, T_1, \dots, T_n).$$

This shows that  $g \circ \phi^{-1} : \phi(W) \longrightarrow k$  is a regular function. This shows that  $\phi$  is an isomorphism of varieties.

**Remark 1.3.2** We previously saw that  $\mathbb{P}^n = \bigcup_{i=0}^n U_i$ . Moreover, we saw that  $U_i$  is homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^n$ , so  $\dim(U_i) = n$ . It follows that  $\dim(\mathbb{P}^n) = \sup_i(\dim(U_i)) = n$ .

**Lemma 1.3.2** Let  $X$  be an affine variety and  $\phi : X \longrightarrow k (= \mathbb{A}^1)$  be a map. Then,  $\phi$  is a morphism of varieties if and only if  $\phi$  be a regular function.

**Proof.** Straightforward.

**Proposition 1.3.4** Let  $X$  be an arbitrary variety and let  $Y \subseteq \mathbb{A}^m$  be an **affine variety**. A map of sets  $\psi : X \longrightarrow Y$  is a morphism if and only if  $t_i \circ \psi$  is a regular function on  $X$  for each  $i$ , where  $t_1, \dots, t_m$  are the coordinate functions on  $\mathbb{A}^m$ .

**Proof.** By lemma 1.3.2, for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $t_i$  is a morphism. So, assuming that  $\psi$  is a morphism, it follows that  $t_i \circ \psi$  is also a morphism. Conversely, suppose that for all  $i$ ,  $t_i \circ \psi$  is a regular function, then for any polynomial function  $f : Y \longrightarrow k$ ,  $f \circ \psi$  is regular function. So, for any algebraic set  $Z(P_1, \dots, P_r) \subseteq Y$ , it follows from the equality

$$\psi^{-1}(P_1, \dots, P_r) = \bigcap_{i=1}^r (P_i \circ \psi)^{-1}(\{0\})$$

that  $\psi$  is continuous. Let  $g : Y \longrightarrow k$  be a regular function, then there exists a nonempty open subset  $U \subseteq Y$  and polynomials  $g_1, g_2$  such that  $g|_U = \frac{g_1}{g_2}$ . Thus, for any  $x \in \psi^{-1}(U)$  :

$$g|_U(\psi(x)) = \frac{g_1(\psi(x))}{g_2(\psi(x))}$$

and we know  $g_i \circ \psi$  is regular functions for  $i = 1, 2$ . So,  $g \circ \psi : \psi^{-1}(U) \longrightarrow k$  is a regular function.



Now, we introduce some **rings of functions** associated with any varieties.

**Definition 1.3.4** Let  $X$  be a variety. We denote by  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  the set of all **regular functions** on  $X$ . One can easily see that endowed with the natural addition and multiplication,  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  is in fact a (commutative) ring we call the ring of **regular functions** on  $X$ . For all  $x \in X$ , we define the **local ring** of  $X$  at  $x$ , denoted  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ , or simply by  $\mathcal{O}_x$ , as being the ring of **germs** of regular functions at  $x$ .  $\mathcal{O}_x$  can be defined as follows : the set of all pairs  $(U, f)$ , where  $U$  is an open subset of  $X$  containing  $x$  and  $f : U \rightarrow k$  is a regular function, and we consider on this set of pairs the following relation :

$$(U, f) \sim (V, g) \text{ if } f|_{U \cap V} = g|_{U \cap V}$$

One can easily see that this is an **equivalence relation**. We define  $\mathcal{O}_x$  to be the corresponding to quotient set. Usually, when there is no risk of confusion, we just write  $f$  for the class of some pair  $(U, f)$ . For a convenient set of polynomials  $S$  and regular function  $g$  defined on some open subset  $U \setminus Z(S)$  of  $U$ , we will write  $g|_{U \setminus Z(S)}$  or  $g|_{U \setminus Z(S)}$ , for the class defined by the pair  $(U \setminus Z(S), g)$ . Note that  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is indeed a **local ring** for the canonical addition and multiplication laws. Its maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  is the set of germs of regular functions, which vanish at  $x$  (for if for a regular function  $f$ , we have  $f(x) \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{f}$  is **regular function** in some neighborhood of  $x$ ). One can easily see that the **residue field**  $\mathcal{O}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x$  is **isomorphic** to  $k$ .

**Remarks 1.3.1** 1) In what follows, we will need to consider the (canonical) structure of  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  as a  $k$ -algebra. We precise that this structure is given by the following operations :

Let  $f : X \rightarrow k$  and  $g : X \rightarrow k$  be two regular functions on  $X$ , then.

- \*  $f + g : X \rightarrow k$ , is defined by  $x \mapsto f(x) + g(x)$ .
- \*  $fg : X \rightarrow k$ , is defined by  $x \mapsto f(x)g(x)$ .
- \*  $\lambda f : X \rightarrow k$ , is defined by  $x \mapsto \lambda f(x)$ , for all  $\lambda \in k$ .

2) Similarly, it is easily verified that  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is a  $k$ -algebra when equipped by the following operations :

- \*  $\langle U, f \rangle + \langle V, g \rangle = \langle U \cap V, f|_{U \cap V} + g|_{U \cap V} \rangle$ .
- \*  $\langle U, f \rangle \times \langle V, g \rangle = \langle U \cap V, f|_{U \cap V} \times g|_{U \cap V} \rangle$ .
- \*  $\lambda \cdot \langle U, f \rangle = \langle U, \lambda f \rangle$ .

**Definition 1.3.5** Let  $X$  be a variety, we define the **function field**  $k(X)$  of  $X$  as follows : an element of  $k(X)$  is an **equivalence class** of pairs  $(U, f)$  where  $U$  is a nonempty open subset of  $X$ ,  $f$  is a **regular function** on  $U$ , and where we identify two pairs  $(U, f)$  and  $(V, g)$  when  $f = g$  on  $U \cap V$ .

**Remark 1.3.3** Note that  $k(X)$  is indeed a field, for :

- \* Let  $\langle U, f \rangle$  and  $\langle V, g \rangle$  two elements of  $k(X)$ . Since  $X$  is **irreducible**, any two nonempty open subsets have a nonempty intersection (see proposition 1.1.3). We define :

$$\langle U, f \rangle + \langle V, g \rangle := \langle U \cap V, f|_{U \cap V} + g|_{U \cap V} \rangle.$$

We show that this defines an abelian group structure on  $k(X)$ . In the same way we define the product of two elements of  $k(X)$  and the product of an element of  $k(X)$  by a scalar of  $k$ . We can easily see that this gives a (commutative) ring structure on  $k(X)$ .

- \* If  $\langle U, f \rangle \in k(X)$  with  $f \neq 0$ , we can restrict  $f$  to the open set  $W = U \setminus Z(f)$  it does not vanish, so that  $\frac{1}{f}$  is **regular function** on  $W$ , hence  $\langle U, f \rangle$  is invertible in  $k(X)$  with inverse  $\langle W, \frac{1}{f} \rangle$ .

## Relation between $k[X]$ and $\mathcal{O}(X)$ when $X$ is an affine variety

Considering an affine variety  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ , the algebraic object  $k[X] := k[T_1, \dots, T_n]/I(X)$  consists of all polynomials  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  modulo the equivalence relation  $\sim$  (i.e.,  $f \sim g$  if  $f - g \in I(X)$ ). We can identify each element of  $k[X]$  with a function defined on  $X$  i.e., if  $P \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , then we let  $f_{P+I(X)} : X \rightarrow k$  be the map defined by  $f_{P+I(X)}(x) := P(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . It is clear that  $f_{P+I(X)}$  is a **regular function** on  $X$ . Thus we have a map :

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma : \quad k[X] &\longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(X) \\ P + I(X) &\longmapsto f_{P+I(X)} \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

It is easy to verify that  $\gamma$  is a homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras. Moreover, by proposition 1.3.1 2)  $\gamma$  is injective.

**Theorem 1.3.1** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ , be an affine variety with affine coordinate ring  $k[X]$ . Then :

- i) The  $k$ -algebras  $k[X]$  and  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  are isomorphic (a canonical isomorphism is given by the map  $\gamma$  in above).
- ii) For each point  $x \in X$ , let  $\mathfrak{m}_x \subseteq k[X]$  be the ideal of functions vanishing at  $x$ . Then  $x \mapsto \mathfrak{m}_x$  gives a 1-1 correspondence between the points of  $X$  and the maximal ideals of  $k[X]$ .
- iii) For any point  $x \in X$  we have  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} = (T_1 - x_1, \dots, T_n - x_n)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}_x$  and we have  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_x) = \dim(X)$ .
- iv)  $\text{Frac}(k[X])$  is isomorphic (as a field) to  $k(X)$  and the transcendence degree of the finitely generated extension  $k(X)/k$  is equal to  $\dim(X)$ .

**Proof.** i) We have seen above that the map  $\gamma : k[X] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(X)$  is a  $k$ -algebra monomorphism. We will see below that it is also surjective, hence an algebra isomorphism.

- ii) By proposition 1.1.2  $x \mapsto \mathfrak{m}_x$  is a one-to-one correspondence between the points of  $X$  and the maximal ideals of  $k[X]$ .
- iii) Let  $f \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  be a polynomial, and let's denote its image in  $k[X]$  by  $\bar{f}$ . For a point  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in X$  such that  $\bar{f}(x) \neq 0$ ,  $\gamma(\bar{f})$  is a unit with inverse  $1/\gamma(\bar{f})|_{X \setminus Z(f)}$ . Thus, we obtain an algebra homomorphism

$$k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_x$$

induced by  $\gamma$ , which is injective (since any polynomial functions that coincide on a nonempty subset of  $X$  are actually equal). Moreover, this is surjective by definition of a regular function. We previously saw that  $\dim(X) = \text{tr.deg}_k(\text{Frac}(k[X]))$ . Moreover, we have  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_x) = \text{tr.deg}_k(\text{Frac}(\mathcal{O}_x))$ . We have also  $\text{Frac}(k[X]) = \text{Frac}(k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x})$ , so  $\dim(X) = \dim(\mathcal{O}_x)$ .

- iv) Any nonzero element  $f \in k[X]$  maps under  $\gamma$  to a unit with inverse  $(\frac{1}{\bar{f}})|_{X \setminus Z(f)}$ . Thus we obtain an injective map

$$\text{Frac}(k[X]) \hookrightarrow k(X)$$

In fact, this map is also surjective : for each nonzero  $\langle U, f \rangle \in k(X)$ , we have  $\langle U, f \rangle \in \mathcal{O}_x$  for some  $x \in X$ . This follows by the already established isomorphism in iii) and the fact that the following diagram commutes :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \mathcal{O}_x \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Frac}(k[X]) & \hookrightarrow & k(X) \end{array}$$



By theorem 1.2.2  $\dim(k(X)) = \text{tr.deg}_k(k(X))$  and that  $\dim(X) = \dim(k[X])$ . Hence  $k(X)$  is an algebraic extension of  $k$  with transcendence degree equal to  $\dim(X)$ .

To end the proof of i), let's show that the homomorphism  $\gamma$  is surjective. It suffices to see that, up to identification, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} k[X] &\subseteq \mathcal{O}(X) \\ &\subseteq \bigcap_{x \in X} \mathcal{O}_x \\ &\subseteq \bigcap_{x \in X} k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} \end{aligned}$$

Surjectivity now follows from the general fact that for an integral domain  $R$ , we have  $\bigcap_m R_m = R$  (where the intersection is considered inside the fractions field of  $R$ ).

**Remark 1.3.4** Let  $U$  be a nonempty open set of  $X$ . We can define a homomorphism of algebras over  $k$ ,  $h$  from  $k[X]$  into  $k[U]$  by

$$\langle V, f \rangle \mapsto \langle V \cap U, f|_{V \cap U} \rangle.$$

One can easily see that  $h$  is isomorphism of algebras over  $k$ . So  $k[U] \simeq k[X]$ . Let  $X$  be an arbitrary variety and  $Y$  an affine variety and let  $\phi : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism. Then there is induced map

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^* : \mathcal{O}(Y) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(X) \\ f &\longmapsto \phi^*(f) := f \circ \phi \end{aligned}$$

We have also already seen that  $k[Y] \simeq \mathcal{O}(Y)$  (see theorem 1.3.1). We get then a map  $k[Y] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(X)$ , which is a homomorphism of algebras over  $k$ , and so get a map

$$\begin{aligned} \beta : \text{Hom}_{\text{var}}(X, Y) &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(k[Y], \mathcal{O}(X)) \\ \phi &\longmapsto \phi^* \end{aligned}$$

The following proposition shows that this map is bijective.

**Proposition 1.3.5** The map  $\beta$  defined previously is bijective.

**Proof.** We describe an inverse to  $\beta$ . Let  $h : k[Y] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(X)$  be a homomorphism of algebras over  $k$  and let  $y_i : Y \rightarrow k$  be the coordinate functions. We previously saw that  $k[Y]$  can be (canonically) identified with  $\mathcal{O}(Y)$ . Under this identification, the functions  $y_i$  plainly generate the  $k$ -algebra of  $k[Y]$  (we can also take  $y_i = T_i + I(Y) \in k[Y]$ ). Let  $z_i = h(y_i) \in \mathcal{O}(X)$ , so that  $z_i : X \rightarrow k$  is a regular function. Suppose that  $Y$  is a variety in  $\mathbb{A}^n$ , and consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_h : X &\longrightarrow \mathbb{A}^n \\ x &\longmapsto (z_1(x), \dots, z_n(x)) \end{aligned}$$

For each  $P \in I(Y)$ , i.e.,  $P + I(Y) = 0$  in  $k[Y]$ , we have  $P(\phi_h(x)) = P(z_1(x), \dots, z_n(x)) = P(h(y_1)(x), \dots, h(y_n)(x))$ . Since  $h$  is a homomorphism we have  $P(h(y_1)(x), \dots, h(y_n)(x)) = h(P + I(Y))(x) = 0$ , and so  $\phi_h(x) \in Z(I(Y)) = Y$ , which shows that  $\phi_h(X) \subseteq Y$ . If we write  $t_i$  for the coordinate function of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  (so that  $y_i = t_{i|_Y}$ ), then we have  $t_i \circ \phi_h = z_i$  for all  $i$ . It follows from proposition 1.3.4 that  $\phi_h$  is a morphism (of varieties). We have then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha : \text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(k[Y], \mathcal{O}(X)) &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{var}}(X, Y) \\ h &\longmapsto \phi_h \end{aligned}$$

Let's show that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are mutually inverse to each other. We have  $\beta(\phi_h) = \phi_h^* : f \mapsto f \circ \phi_h$ , for all  $f \in k[Y]$ . Let  $x \in X$ , then  $f \circ \phi_h(x) = f(h(y_1)(x), \dots, h(y_n)(x))$ . So, writing  $f = Q + I(Y)$ , for some  $Q \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . We have  $f \circ \phi_h(x) = h(f)(x)$ . This shows that  $\phi_h^*(f) = h(f)$ . So  $\beta(\phi_h) = h$ , i.e  $\beta \circ \alpha(h) = h$ . It follows that  $\beta \circ \alpha = \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(k[Y], \mathcal{O}(X))}$ . Similarly, given  $\psi : X \rightarrow Y$ , and we have  $\alpha \circ \beta(\psi) = \alpha(\psi^*) = \phi_{\psi^*} : X \rightarrow Y, x \mapsto (t_1 \circ \psi(x), \dots, t_n \circ \psi(x)) = \psi(x)$ . which shows that  $\alpha \circ \beta(\psi) = \psi$ . It follows that  $\alpha \circ \beta = \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_{\text{var}}(X, Y)}$ .

**Corollary 1.3.1** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are two affine varieties, then  $X$  and  $Y$  are isomorphic if and only if  $k[X]$  and  $k[Y]$  are isomorphic as algebras over  $k$ .

**Proof.** Immediate from proposition 1.3.5.

**Remark 1.3.5** In the *language of categories*, we can express the above result as follows :

**Corollary 1.3.2** The functor  $X \longrightarrow k[X]$  induces an *arrow-reversing* equivalence of *categories* between the category of *affine varieties* over  $k$  and the category of *finitely generated integral domains* over  $k$ .

**Proof.** Immediate from proposition 1.3.5.

## 1.4 Rational functions

In *Algebraic Topology*, the notion of *homeomorphism* is relaxed to *homotopy* equivalence which leads to significant theorems (*Whitehead's Theorem*)<sup>¶</sup> relating *topology* to *algebra*. Similarly, *rational functions* are a relaxation of morphisms of varieties. We continue in this section, we explore how this notion interacts with algebra. We continue in this to assume that  $k$  is an *algebraically closed field*.

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two varieties. We consider the set  $S_{X,Y}$  of all pairs  $(U, \phi)$ , where  $U$  is a nonempty open subset of  $X$ , and  $\phi : U \longrightarrow Y$  is a morphism of varieties. On  $S_{X,Y}$ , we define the following equivalence relation

$$(U, \phi) \sim (V, \psi) \text{ if and only if } \phi_{U \cap V} = \psi_{U \cap V}$$

The equivalence class of  $(U, \phi)$  by this relation will be denoted  $\langle U, \phi \rangle$ .

**Definition 1.4.1** i) A *rational function* of varieties  $X \longrightarrow Y$  is an equivalence class (with respect to the above equivalence relation) of a pair  $(U, \phi)$ , where  $U \subseteq X$  is an open subset, and  $\phi : U \longrightarrow Y$  a morphism.

ii) We say that a *rational function*  $X \longrightarrow Y$  is *dominant* if for some (or equivalently, any) representative pair  $(U, \phi)$ ,  $\phi(U)$  is dense in  $Y$ .

**Remark 1.4.1** Let  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$ , and  $\psi : Y \longrightarrow Z$  be two *rational functions*. Suppose that  $\phi = (U, \phi)$ , and  $\psi = (V, \psi)$ , and that  $\phi(U) \cap V$  is nonempty. Then we may define the composition of  $\phi$ , and  $\psi$  by taking the pair  $(\psi \circ \phi, \phi^{-1}(V))$ .

Note that in general, we cannot compose rational functions. The problem might be that the image of the first function might lie in the locus, where the second function is not defined. However there will never be a problem when  $\phi$  is *dominant*.

**Lemma 1.4.1** Let  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a continuous map and  $U$  an open subset of  $Y$ . Then  $\overline{f^{-1}(U)} \subseteq f^{-1}(\overline{U})$ .

**Proof.** This follows from the fact that  $f$  is continuous and  $f^{-1}(U) \subseteq f^{-1}(\overline{U})$ .

**Lemma 1.4.2** Let  $X$  be a variety,  $Y$  be an affine variety,  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a morphism of varieties and  $\phi^* : \mathcal{O}(Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(X)$  be the corresponding algebra homomorphism. Then

$$\overline{\phi(X)} = Y \text{ if and only if } \phi^* \text{ is injective .}$$

<sup>¶</sup>In homotopy theory, the *Whitehead theorem* states that if a continuous mapping  $f$  between CW complexes  $X$  and  $Y$  induces isomorphisms on all homotopy groups, then  $f$  is a homotopy equivalence. This result was proved by **J. H. C. Whitehead** in two landmark papers from 1949, and provides a justification for working with the concept of a CW complex that he introduced there.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\overline{\phi(X)} = Y$ , and let  $f \in k[Y]$  such that  $\phi^*(f) = 0$ , i.e.  $f \circ \phi = 0$ , then  $f(\phi(X)) = 0$  or equivalently  $\phi(X) \subseteq f^{-1}(0)$ . By identifying  $k[Y]$  with  $\mathcal{O}(Y)$ , one can see that  $f$  is continuous, so  $f^{-1}(\{0\})$  is a closed subset in  $Y$ . Moreover, by assumption,  $Y = \overline{\phi(X)}$ , so  $Y = f^{-1}(0)$ , or equivalently  $f = 0$ . This shows that  $\phi^*$  is injective. Conversely, suppose that  $\overline{\phi(X)} \neq Y$ , so that there exists  $P \in I(\overline{\phi(X)})$  with  $P \notin I(Y)$ . Let  $f = P + I(Y)$ , then we have  $\phi^*(f) = 0$ , but  $f \neq 0$ , because  $P \notin I(Y)$ .

**Remark 1.4.2** In particular, if  $\phi : X \rightarrow Y$  is a *rational function*, and  $(U, \phi)$  is one representative of  $\phi$  and if we assume that  $Y$  is an affine variety, then

$$\overline{\phi(U)} = Y \text{ if and only if } \phi^* : k[Y] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U) \text{ is injective.}$$

Consequently

$\phi$  is *dominant* if and only if for any *representative*  $(U, \phi)$  of  $\phi$ ,  $\phi^* : k[Y] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U)$  is *injective*.

**Proposition 1.4.1** Let  $\phi : X \rightarrow Y$  be a *rational function* between two varieties, with  $\phi$  *dominant*. Then  $\phi$  induces a homomorphism of field extensions of  $k$ .

$$\phi^\perp : k(Y) \rightarrow k(X)$$

**Proof.** Let  $(U, \phi)$  one representative of  $\phi$ . The fact that  $\phi$  is dominant implies that  $\phi(U) \cap W$  is nonempty for any nonempty open subset  $W$  of  $Y$ . This yields that  $\phi^{-1}(W)$  is nonempty in  $X$ , and hence dense.

Let  $\langle V, f \rangle$  be an element of  $k(Y)$ , then  $f \circ \phi$  is defined on  $\phi^{-1}(V)$ , and hence gives an element  $\langle \phi^{-1}(V), f \circ \phi \rangle$  of  $k(X)$ .

$\phi^\perp$  is a homomorphism of fields. One can easily see that this construction yields a homomorphism of field extension of  $k$   $\phi^\perp : k(Y) \rightarrow k(X)$ .

**Proposition 1.4.2** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be an arbitrary variety and  $Y$  be an *affine variety*. Any homomorphism of fields over  $k$ ,  $h : k(Y) \rightarrow k(X)$  is induced by a *dominant rational function*  $\phi : X \rightarrow Y$ .

**Proof.** Let  $h : k(Y) \rightarrow k(X)$  be a nonzero homomorphism field extensions of  $k$ . We want to show that  $h$  is induced by a *rational function*  $\phi_h : X \rightarrow Y$ . For that, consider the restriction  $h|_{k[Y]} : k[Y] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(X)$ . Since  $h$  is a homomorphism of fields, then in particular,  $h|_{k[Y]}$  is injective.

Let  $y_i := T_i + I(Y)$  be the canonical generators of the  $k$ -algebra  $k[Y]$ . We have  $h(y_i) \in k(X)$ , so we can write  $h(y_i) = \langle U_i, f_i \rangle$ , where  $U_i$  is a nonempty open subset of  $X$ , and  $f_i : U_i \rightarrow k$  is a *regular function*. Since  $X$  is a variety, then  $U := \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_i$  is nonempty. We have  $\langle U_i, f_i \rangle = \langle U, f_i|_U \rangle$ , we can write  $h(y_i) = \langle U, g_i \rangle$ , where  $g_i = f_i|_U$ . It follows that  $h(y_i) \in \mathcal{O}(U)$  for all  $i$ . Thus,  $h(y_i) \in \mathcal{O}(U)$ . By proposition 1.3.5,  $h|_{k[Y]}$  corresponds to a morphism of varieties

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{h|_{k[Y]}} : U &\rightarrow Y \\ x &\mapsto (h(y_1)(x), \dots, h(y_n)(x)) \end{aligned}$$

We have  $h|_{k[Y]}$  is injective and  $h|_{k[Y]} = (\phi_{h|_{k[Y]}})^*$ , so by lemma 1.4.2  $\overline{\phi_{h|_{k[Y]}}(U)} = Y$ .  $\langle U, \phi_h \rangle$  is a *dominant rational function* from  $X$  to  $Y$  and as one can easily see  $h$  is induced by this (dominant) rational function.

**Notation.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be varieties. We will consider the following notation :

1)  $\mathbf{RF}(X, Y) := \{ \text{The set of all rational functions from } X \text{ to } Y \}$ .

2)

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma : \mathbf{FR}(X, Y) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}(k(Y), k(X)) \\ \phi &\mapsto \phi^\perp \end{aligned}$$

3)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \lambda : \text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(k(Y), k(X)) & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{FR}(X, Y) \\ h & \longmapsto & \phi_h \end{array}$$

**Theorem 1.4.1** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two affine varieties, then there is a bijection between  $\mathbf{FR}(X, Y)$  and  $\text{Hom}_{k\text{-alg}}(k(Y), k(X))$ .

**Proof.** Similar to the proof of proposition 1.3.5.

**Definition 1.4.2** We say that a **dominant** rational function  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  of varieties is **bi-rational** if it has an inverse. In this case we say that  $X$  and  $Y$  are **bi-rational** (or bi-rationally equivalent) and we write by  $X \sim_{\text{bir}} Y$ .

**Proposition 1.4.3** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two varieties. Then the following statements are equivalent

- 1)  $X$  and  $Y$  are **bi-rational**.
- 2)  $X$  and  $Y$  contain **isomorphic** open subsets.
- 3) The function fields of  $X$  and  $Y$  are **isomorphic**.

**Proof.** One can derive from theorem 1.4.1 that 1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  3) and clearly 2) implies 1). It remains to prove that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are bi-rational, then they contain **isomorphic** open subsets. Let  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a **bi-rational** function with inverse  $\psi : Y \longrightarrow X$ . Suppose that  $\phi$  is defined on  $U$ , and  $\psi$  is defined on  $V$ . Let  $W := \phi^{-1}(V) \subseteq U$  and let  $f := \phi|_W$ . Then  $f : W \longrightarrow f(W) \subseteq V$ . Note that  $\psi \circ f : W \longrightarrow W$  is the identity morphism. Therefore  $f(W) = \psi^{-1}(W)$  is an open and so  $\psi : f(W) \longrightarrow W$  is the inverse of  $f$ .

**Example 1.4.1** The projective space  $\mathbb{P}^n$ , and the affine space  $\mathbb{A}^n$  are **bi-rationally** equivalent.

**Corollary 1.4.1** The correspondence  $X \longmapsto k(X)$  defines an equivalence between the category of varieties over  $k$  with morphisms the dominant rational functions and the category of finitely generated field extensions of  $k$ .

## 1.5 Tangent spaces and singularities

We continue to assume in this section that  $k$  is an **algebraically closed**.

### 1.5.1 Tangent spaces

In **Differential Geometry**, tangent spaces at least for **smooth manifolds**, arise very naturally. The tangent space at a single point is best described as the collection of possible starting directions one can take when travelling from that point along the manifold. We will see in this section that a similar notion does exist for **algebraic varieties**. For this, we will start with the definition for **affine varieties**, and build from that towards a more general formulation.

**Notation.** For  $f \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  and  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{A}^n$ . The linear map  $k^n \longmapsto k$  given by

$$d_x f(a) := \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_j}(x) a_j, \forall a = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in k^n \quad (1.5)$$

sends a vector  $a \in k^n$  to the "**directional derivative**" of  $f$  at  $x$  along that vector. Thus, for a geometric interpretation,  $d_x f(a) = 0$  precisely for those directions in which  $f$  is stationary at  $x$ .

**Definition 1.5.1** Let  $X$  be a nonempty affine algebraic set,  $x \in X$ . Let  $v \in k^n$ , we say that  $v$  is tangent to a  $X$  at  $x$  if  $d_x g(v) = 0$ , for all  $g \in I(X)$ . The set of all vectors  $v$  of  $k^n$  which verifies this condition is called the **tangent space** to  $X$  at  $x$ . We denote it by  $T_x X$ .

**Remarks 1.5.1** 1) Let  $f_1, \dots, f_r \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  be such that  $I(X) = (f_1, \dots, f_r)$  and let  $g \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . For  $x \in X$ , we have :

$$\frac{\partial(f_i g)}{\partial T_j}(x) = f_i(x) \frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial T_j} + g(x) \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial T_j}(x) = g(x) \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial T_j}(x). \quad (1.6)$$

Note that an element of  $I(X)$  is of the form  $\sum_{j=1}^r f_j h_j$  where  $h_j \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . So, using (1.6) we can restrict ourselves in definition 1.5.1 to the case where  $g$  describes only the elements  $f_1, \dots, f_r$ .

2) Also, we can see the **tangent space** to  $X$  at  $x$  as

$$T_x X = \bigcap_{g \in I(X)} \ker(d_x g) \subseteq k^n.$$

So, clearly  $T_x X$  is  $k$ -vector subspace of  $k^n$ .

3) The **tangent space** is sometimes called the **Zariski tangent space**, when it is necessary to distinguish it from other kinds of tangent.

4)  $T_x X = \{(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in k^n \mid \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x) v_i = 0, \text{ for all } f \in I(X)\} = \ker(J_x)$ , where  $J_x$  is the **Jacobian matrix**

$$J_x = \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial T_j}(x) \right) \quad 1 \leq i \leq r, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n \quad (1.7)$$

so, we have  $\dim(T_x X) = n - \text{rank}(J_x)$ .

**Example 1.5.1** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2$  be the affine algebraic set defined by the polynomial

$$f(T_1, T_2) = T_2^2 - T_1^3$$

we have  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_1} = -3T_1^2$ , and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_2} = 2T_2$ . So

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_1}(0,0) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_2}(0,0) = 0.$$

Hence  $d_{(0,0)} f$  is the zero map. Thus

$$T_{(0,0)} X = \mathbb{A}^2.$$

We have another definition of **tangent space** in terms of **derivations**.

## Tangent space in terms of derivations

Recall that if  $M$  is a real manifold, and  $p \in M$ , a tangent vector  $X_p$  in  $T_p M$  defines a derivation of the  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra  $\mathcal{C}_p(M)$  :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C}_p(M) & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \\ f & \longmapsto & X_p(f) := d_p f(X_p) \end{array} \quad (1.8)$$

In particular, we have

$$X_p(fg) = X_p(f)g(p) + f(p)X_p(g)$$

The derivation is actually an  $\mathbb{R}$ -derivation, since  $X_p(\alpha) = 0$  for all constant functions  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Using **Taylor's formula** can prove that the tangent space of  $M$  at  $p$  is actually isomorphic to the vector space of derivations of  $\mathcal{C}_p(M)$  with values in  $\mathbb{R}$  (Cf., [28]) :

$$T_p M \simeq \text{Der}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{C}_p(M), \mathbb{R})$$

We will see below how algebraic tangent spaces are defined in a similar way :



**Definition 1.5.2** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be a nonempty affine algebraic set and  $D : k[X] \longrightarrow k$  be a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces. We say that  $D$  is a **derivation** of  $k[X]$  at  $x$  if for all  $f, g \in k[X]$ , we have:

$$D(fg) = f(x)D(g) + g(x)D(f).$$

We denote by  $\text{Der}_x(k[X])$  the set of **derivations** of  $k[X]$  at  $x$ .

**Remark 1.5.1** One can easily see that  $\text{Der}_x(k[X])$  is  $k$ -vector space.

Note that if  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  is the maximal ideal of  $k[X]$  corresponding to a point  $x$  of  $X$  i.e.,  $\mathfrak{m}_x = \{P + I(X) \mid P(x) = 0\}$ , then up to a field isomorphism,  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} / \mathfrak{m}_x$  is a field and  $k$  is algebraically closed. Note also, that if we identify  $k[X]$  with its canonical image in the localized algebra  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x}$  and so  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  the maximal ideal of  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x}$ , then for the same reason, we have  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} / \mathfrak{m}_x = k$ .

**Remark 1.5.2** Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a Noetherian local ring and  $k = R/\mathfrak{m}$ , then  $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$  is a finitely generated  $k$ -vector space. By **Nakayama's Lemma**,  $\dim_k(\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2)$  is the minimal number of generators of  $\mathfrak{m}$ .

In particular, if we take,  $R = k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x}$ , then  $\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2$  is a  $k$ -vector space. We will denote its dual space, i.e.,  $\text{Hom}(\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2)$  by  $(\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$ .

**Lemma 1.5.1** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine algebraic set and  $x$  be a point of  $X$ . Then there exists a **homomorphism** of  $k$ -vector spaces from  $T_x X$  into  $\text{Der}_x(k[X])$ .

**Proof.** Let  $v = (v_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  be a vector of  $T_x X$  and consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} D_v : k[T_1, \dots, T_n] &\longrightarrow k \\ f &\longmapsto \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x) v_i \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that  $D_v$  is a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces. Moreover, we have  $D_v(fg) = f(x)D_v(g) + g(x)D_v(f)$  for all  $f, g \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ . Also, by definition, for all  $f \in I(X)$ , we have  $D_v(f) = 0$ . So  $D_v$  induces a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces from  $k[X]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} D_v : k[X] &\longrightarrow k \\ \bar{f} &\longmapsto \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x) v_i \end{aligned}$$

which is an element of  $\text{Der}_x(k[X])$ .

The map

$$\begin{aligned} D : T_x X &\longrightarrow \text{Der}_x(k[X]) \\ v &\longmapsto D_v \end{aligned}$$

is a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces. Indeed, we have :

$$D(v + \lambda w)(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x)(v_i + \lambda w_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x)v_i + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x)w_i = D_v(f) + \lambda D_w(f), f \in k[X].$$

**Lemma 1.5.2** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine algebraic set,  $x \in X$ . Then there exists a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces from  $\text{Der}_x(k[X])$  into  $(\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$ .

**Proof.** Plainly, any  $\Delta \in \text{Der}_x(k[X])$  induces a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces that we denote also by  $\Delta$

$$\Delta : \mathfrak{m}_x \longrightarrow k$$

Let  $f, g \in \mathfrak{m}_x$ , then we have

$$\Delta(fg) = f(x)\Delta(g) + g(x)\Delta(f) = 0.$$

So  $\Delta$  induces a homomorphism  $k$ -vector spaces :

$$\Delta_x : \mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2 \longrightarrow k.$$

It's clear that  $\Delta_x \in (\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$ . Moreover, one can easily see that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Theta : \text{Der}_x(k[X]) & \longrightarrow & (\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee \\ \Delta & \longmapsto & \Delta_x \end{array}$$

is a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces.

**Lemma 1.5.3** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine algebraic set and  $x$  be an element of  $X$ .  $x \in X$ . Then there exists a homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces from  $(\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$  into  $T_x X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\Gamma \in (\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$  and let  $v_i := \Gamma(T_i - x_i + \mathfrak{m}_x^2)$ , then put  $v = (v_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . Let us show that  $v \in T_x X$ . For  $f \in I(X)$  using Taylor's development, we have

$$f \equiv f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x)(T_i - x_i) \pmod{\mathfrak{m}_x^2} \quad (1.9)$$

hence  $f + \mathfrak{m}_x^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x)(T_i - x_i) + \mathfrak{m}_x^2$ .

On the other hand we have

$$f + I(X) = 0 \text{ in } k[X].$$

Then

$$f + \mathfrak{m}_x^2 = 0 \text{ in } \mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \Gamma(f + \mathfrak{m}_x^2) \\ &= \Gamma\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x)(T_i - x_i) + \mathfrak{m}_x^2\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x) \Gamma((T_i - x_i) + \mathfrak{m}_x^2) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x) v_i \end{aligned}$$

which means that  $v \in T_x X$ . We get then a the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda : \mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2 & \longrightarrow & T_x X \\ \Gamma & \longmapsto & (v_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \end{array}$$

where  $v_i = \Gamma(T_i - x_i + \mathfrak{m}_x^2)$ . One can easily  $\Lambda$  is a  $k$ -vector spaces homomorphism.

**Proposition 1.5.1** Let  $X$  be a nonempty affine algebraic set of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . Then for any  $x \in X$ , we have

$$T_x X \simeq \text{Der}_x(k[X]) \simeq (\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$$

**Proof.** It suffices to verify that homomorphisms  $\Theta$ ,  $D$  and  $\Lambda$  defined in the preceding lemmas are *isomorphisms* of  $k$ -vector spaces.

We aim in what follows to define and study the tangent space of any (algebraic) variety.

**Definition 1.5.3** Let  $X$  be a projective quasi-variety,  $x$  be a point of  $X$  and  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  be the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_x$ . The *tangent space* of  $X$  at  $x \in X$  is as

$$T_x X := \text{Hom}_k(\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2, k) := (\mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee$$

**Remarks 1.5.2** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two varieties, then we have the following :

- 1) For any morphism  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  of varieties and any  $x \in X$ , there is an induced homomorphism of algebras

$$\phi^* : \mathcal{O}_{\phi(x)} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_x$$

which sends the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_{\phi(x)}$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{\phi(x)}$  inside the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  of  $\mathcal{O}_x$ , i.e.,  $\phi^*(\mathfrak{m}_{\phi(x)}) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}_x$ . Indeed, let  $f \in \mathfrak{m}_{\phi(x)}$ , then  $\phi^*(f) = f \circ \phi$ . So,  $\phi^*(f)(x) = f(\phi(x)) = 0$ . We get then an induced algebra homomorphism

$$\mathfrak{m}_{\phi(x)} / \mathfrak{m}_{\phi(x)}^2 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{m}_x / \mathfrak{m}_x^2$$

which dually yields a  $k$ -homomorphism of vector spaces

$$T_x \phi : T_x X \longrightarrow T_{\phi(x)} Y$$

- 2) If  $g : Y \longrightarrow Z$  is a morphism and  $z = g(f(x))$ , then

$$T_z g \circ T_x f = T_x(g \circ f)$$

- 3)  $T_x(id_X) = id_{T_x X}$ .

- 4) If  $\phi$  is an **isomorphism**, then we have a corresponding (induced) homomorphism of  $k$ -vector spaces

$$T_x \phi : T_x X \longrightarrow T_{\phi(x)} Y$$

is an **isomorphism**. Indeed, let  $\varphi$  be the inverse of  $\phi$ ,

$$T_{\phi(x)} \varphi : T_{\phi(x)} Y \longrightarrow T_x X.$$

Moreover, we have  $T_{\phi(x)} \varphi \circ T_x \phi = T_x(\varphi \circ \phi) = T_x(id_X) = id_{T_x X}$ , and  $T_x \phi \circ T_{\phi(x)} \varphi = T_{\phi(x)}(\phi \circ \varphi) = T_{\phi(x)}(id_Y) = id_{T_{\phi(x)} Y}$ . This shows that  $T_x \phi$  is an **isomorphism**.

**Lemma 1.5.4** If  $R$  is a **Noetherian** local ring with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  and let  $k := R/\mathfrak{m}$ , then  $\dim(R) \leq \dim_k(\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2)$ .

**Proof.** See [3, Corollary 11.15].

**Proposition 1.5.2** Let  $X$  be a variety and  $x$  be a point of  $X$ . Then

$$\dim_k(T_x X) \geq \dim(X).$$

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{O}_x$  be the local ring of  $X$  at  $x$  and  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  be the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_x$ . We previously saw that  $\dim(X) = \dim(\mathcal{O}_x)$ . Also, by lemma 1.5.4, we have  $\dim_k(\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2) \geq \dim(\mathcal{O}_x)$ . So,  $\dim_k T_x(X) = \dim_k(\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2) \geq \dim(X)$ .

**Definition 1.5.4** Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  and let  $k := R/\mathfrak{m}$ . We say that  $R$  is regular if  $\dim_k(\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2) = \dim(R)$ .

**Definition 1.5.5** Let  $X$  be an algebraic set. The dimension of  $X$  at a point  $x$ , denoted by  $\dim_x(X)$ , is the maximum of the dimensions of **irreducible components** of  $X$  containing  $x$ .

**Corollary 1.5.1** Let  $X$  be an algebraic set and  $x \in X$ . Then

$$\dim_k(T_x X) \geq \dim_x(X).$$

**Proof.** Let  $Z$  be an irreducible component of  $X$  containing  $x$ . Obviously  $T_x Z \subseteq T_x X$ . So

$$\dim_x(Z) \leq \dim_k(T_x Z) \leq \dim_k(T_x X).$$

Hence

$$\dim_k(T_x X) \geq \dim_x(X).$$



## 1.5.2 Singularities

**Definition 1.5.6** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine variety of dimension  $d$ , and  $x \in X$ .

- i) We say that  $X$  is **nonsingular** (or regular or smooth) in  $x$  if  $\text{rank } J_x = n - d$ .
- ii) We say that  $X$  is nonsingular if it is nonsingular at all its points.

**Notation.** We will write  $\text{Sing}(X) := \{x \in X \mid x \text{ singular}\}$ .

**Example 1.5.2** Let  $X = Z(f)$ , where  $f \in k[T_1, T_2]$ . Then  $X$  is **nonsingular** at  $x \in X$  if and only if

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_1}(x), \frac{\partial f}{\partial T_2}(x)\right) \neq (0, 0).$$

For example let  $f = T_1^3 - T_2^2$  and  $x = (a, b)$ . We have  $J_{(a,b)} = \begin{pmatrix} 3a^2 & -2b \end{pmatrix}$ , so  $X$  is **nonsingular** at  $x$  if and only if  $(a, b) \neq (0, 0)$ .

**Definition 1.5.7** Let  $X$  be a variety and  $x \in X$ . We say that  $X$  is **nonsingular** at  $x$  if the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is regular ring. We say that  $X$  is **nonsingular** if it is **nonsingular** at every point.

**Lemma 1.5.5** Let  $X$  be an affine algebraic set of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . For any integer  $d$ , the set  $X_d := \{x \in X \mid \dim_k(T_x X) \geq d\}$  is a closed subset of  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f_1, \dots, f_r \in k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  be such that  $I(X) = (f_1, \dots, f_r)$ . By remarks 1.5.1, we have  $T_x X = \bigcap_{i=1}^r \ker(d_x f_i) = \ker(J_x)$ , where

$$J_x = \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial T_j}(x) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n}$$

So  $\dim(T_x X) = n - \text{rank}(J_x)$ . Hence

$$X_d = \{x \in X \mid \text{rank}(J_x) < n - d\}$$

We know that  $\text{rank}(J_x) < n - d$  is equivalent the fact that : every  $(n - d) \times (n - d)$  sub-matrix of  $J_x$  has determinant zero. The determinant of a sub-matrix of  $J_x$  is a polynomial function, so  $X_d$  is a **closed** subset of  $X$ .

**Corollary 1.5.2** Let  $x$  be an affine algebraic set of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . Then the following statements are equivalent :

- i)  $X$  is singular at  $x$ .
- ii)  $\dim(T_x X) > \dim(X)$ .
- iii) The Jacobian matrix  $J_x$  does not have full rank.

**Proposition 1.5.3** Let  $X$  be an affine algebraic set of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . The set  $\text{Sing}(X)$  of singular points of  $X$  is a **closed** subset of  $X$ .

**Proof.** By lemma 1.5.4, and proof of lemma 1.5.5 the set of singular points is the set of points where the **rank** of the Jacobian matrix is  $< n - d$ , where  $d = \dim(X)$ . Thus,  $\text{Sing}(X)$  is an algebraic set defined by the ideal generated by  $I(X)$  together with all determinants of  $(n - d) \times (n - d)$  sub-matrices of the matrix  $J_x$ .

By the above,  $\text{Sing}(X)$  is a **closed** subset of  $X$ . In what follows, we want to show that it is a proper subset of  $X$ .

**Lemma 1.5.6** Let  $X, Y$  be two varieties and  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a **bi-rational** function. If  $X$  admits a **nonsingular** point, then so does  $Y$ .

**Proof.** By the above,  $\text{Sing}(X)$  is a closed subset of  $X$  if  $X$  has a **nonsingular** points, then there exists an open dense subset  $U \subseteq X$  containing only **nonsingular** points. Since  $X \sim_{\text{bir}} Y$ , then by proposition 1.4.3, there exists two open sets  $W \subseteq X$  and  $V \subseteq Y$  so that  $\phi|_W : W \longrightarrow V$  is an isomorphism. So  $Y$  has a **nonsingular points** as well (any point of  $\phi(W \cap U)$  well do).

**Lemma 1.5.7** Let  $X$  be a variety of dimension  $d$ . Then  $X$  is **bi-rationally** equivalent to a hypersurface  $\mathbb{A}^{d+1}$ .

**Proof.** See [12, proposition 4.9].

**Lemma 1.5.8** Let  $X$  be an affine hypersurface, then  $\text{Sing}(X)$  is a **proper closed** subset of  $X$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $X$  is an affine subvariety of  $\mathbb{A}^{n+1}$  and write  $X = Z(f)$ , with  $f$  is irreducible. We have  $x \in \text{Sing}(X)$  if and only if  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}(x) = 0$ , for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n+1\}$ .

$\text{Sing}(X) = X$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i} \in I(X)(= (f))$ . Note that  $(f)$  a prime ideal of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_{n+1}]$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}$  has smaller degree (than  $f$ ). So,  $\text{Sing}(X) = X$  if and only if  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial T_i}$  is the zero polynomial for all  $i$ , which means that  $f$  is constant, a contradiction.

**Theorem 1.5.1** Let  $X$  be an affine variety. Then the set  $\text{Sing}(X)$  of singular points **proper closed** subset of  $X$ .

**Proof.** By lemma 1.5.7,  $X$  is **bi-rationally** equivalent to hypersurface  $H$  in  $\mathbb{A}^{d+1}$ , so by proposition 1.4.3 there exist open subsets  $U \subseteq X$  and  $W \subseteq H$  which  $U \simeq W$ . As seen in lemma 1.5.8,  $\text{Sing}(H)$  is a proper closed subset of  $H$ . Therefore  $\text{Sing}(W)$  is proper subset of  $W$ .

## 1.6 Prevarieties

**Affine varieties** are special objects in the category  $\mathcal{TA}$  of topological spaces with distinguished algebras of regular functions. In order to define (abstract) algebraic varieties, we have to replace  $\mathcal{TA}$  with the category of spaces (**space of functions**) over  $k$ , where one has not only a distinguished sub-algebra  $\mathcal{O}_X$  on the entire space  $X$ , but for every open subset  $U$  of  $X$ . In this section, we define this more general category that we denote by  $\mathcal{TA}_k$ . We recall that throughout  $k$  is an **algebraically closed** field.

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a topological space. For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ . We pose

$$\text{Map}(U, k) := \{f : U \longrightarrow k\}$$

the set of all maps defined on  $U$  and with values in  $k$ .

$\text{Map}(U, k)$  is a  $k$ -algebra equipped with the usual laws.

**Definition 1.6.1** A **space of functions** over  $k$  is a topological space  $X$  together with a family  $\mathcal{O}_X$  of sub-algebras over  $k$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \subseteq \text{Map}(U, k)$  for every open subset  $U$  of that satisfy the following properties:

- i) If  $W, U$  are two open subsets of  $X$  such that  $W \subseteq U$ , then for any  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$ , the restriction  $f|_W \in \text{Map}(W, k)$  is an element of  $\mathcal{O}_X(W)$ .
- ii) Given an open subset  $U$  of  $X$  and an open cover  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $U$ , i.e.,  $U_i$  are open subsets of  $X$  such that  $U = \cup_{i \in I} U_i$ , together with  $f_i \in \mathcal{O}_X(U_i)$  such that

$$f_i|_{U_i \cap U_j} = f_j|_{U_i \cap U_j}$$

for all  $i, j \in I$ . There exists a unique  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  such that  $f|_{U_i} = f_i$ , for all  $i$ .

**Remark 1.6.1** The *space of functions*  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  will often be simply denoted by  $X$ .

**Examples 1.6.1** 1) Let  $X$  be a  $C^\infty$ -manifold. For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$  define

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) := \{f : U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is } C^\infty\}$$

with restriction maps given by restrictions of functions. Then  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a space of functions over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

2) Let  $X$  be a *quasi-affine* variety, for an arbitrary open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , let

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) := \{f : U \longrightarrow k \mid f \text{ being a regular function}\}.$$

Then  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a *space of functions*.

**Definition 1.6.2** (*Morphism of space with functions*) A morphisms  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  of spaces with functions is a continuous map  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  such that for any open subset  $V$  of  $Y$ , and any  $\psi \in \mathcal{O}_Y(V)$ , we have  $\psi \circ f \in \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(V))$ .

**Notation.** We will denote  $\psi \circ f$  by  $f^*\psi$ .

**Proposition 1.6.1** Let  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  be *spaces of functions* over  $k$ . Then

- 1) For any open subset of  $X$ , the inclusion map  $\iota : U \longrightarrow X$  is a morphism of spaces of functions.
- 2) The identity is a morphism.
- 3) If  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \longrightarrow Z$  are morphisms of spaces of functions, then  $g \circ f$  is a morphism.

**Proof.** 1) By definition of the induced topology on  $U$ ,  $\iota$  is continuous. For any open subset  $V$  of  $X$  and for any  $\psi \in \mathcal{O}_X(V)$  we have for every  $x \in \iota^{-1}(V)$ ,  $\iota(x) = x$ , so  $\psi \circ \iota(x) = \psi(x)$ . Therefore,  $\psi \circ \iota \in \mathcal{O}_U(\iota^{-1}(V))$ .

2) By 1) It suffices to take  $U = X$ , and we have  $\text{id}_X = \iota$ .

3) It is clear that  $g \circ f$  is continuous. Let  $W$  be an open subset of  $Z$ , and  $\psi \in \mathcal{O}_Z(W)$ . Then

$$g^*\psi \in \mathcal{O}_Y(g^{-1}(W)).$$

So

$$f^*g^*\psi \in \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(g^{-1}(W)))$$

Therefore, we get

$$(g \circ f)^*\psi \in \mathcal{O}_X((g \circ f)^{-1}(W)).$$

**Definition 1.6.3** We define the category  $\mathcal{TA}_k$  as follows :

- \* *Objects* :  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  where  $X$  is a topological space.
- \* *Morphisms* : morphisms of spaces with functions.

**Remarks 1.6.1** i) If  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  is an open cover of  $X$ ,  $\beta_i : U_i \longrightarrow X$  are the inclusions, and  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  is any map, then  $f$  is a morphism if and only if  $f \circ \beta_i$  is a morphism for all  $i$ .

ii)  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $f$  is a homeomorphism and for any open  $V \subseteq Y$

$$\psi : V \longrightarrow k \text{ is in } \mathcal{O}_Y(V) \text{ if and only if } f^*\psi \in \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(V)).$$

iii) If  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$ ,  $Z \subseteq \mathbb{A}^m$  are two affine varieties, one can easily see that a map  $h : X \rightarrow Z$  is a morphism in the new sense of definition 1.6.2 if and only if it is a morphism in the sense definition 1.3.3.

**Definition 1.6.4** An element  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  in  $\mathcal{TA}_k$  is an *affine variety* if it is isomorphic in  $\mathcal{TA}_k$  to certain  $(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ , where  $Y$  is an algebraic set of some  $\mathbb{A}^m$ .

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a space with functions and let  $U \subseteq X$  be an open subspace. We denote by  $(U, \mathcal{O}_{X|U})$  the space  $U$  of functions  $\mathcal{O}_U(W) := \mathcal{O}_{X|U}(W) := \mathcal{O}_X(W)$ , for any open subset  $W$  of  $U$ .

**Definition 1.6.5** A *prevariety* is a connected *space with functions*  $X$  with a finite open cover by *affine varieties*. This is a topological space  $X$  with an open cover  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  such that  $(U_i, \mathcal{O}_{U_i})$  is *isomorphic* to an *affine variety*.

**Remark 1.6.2** Morphisms of *prevarieties* are just morphisms in  $\mathcal{TA}_k$ .

**Lemma 1.6.1** Let  $X$  be a topological space, and  $X = U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_r$  be an open cover of  $X$  with all  $U_i$  nonempty. Then  $X$  is irreducible if and only if  $U_i$  is irreducible for all  $i$ , and  $U_i \cap U_j$  is irreducible for all  $i, j$ .

**Proof.** See [26, A.119, p.357].

**Proposition 1.6.2** Every prevariety  $X$  is an *irreducible* topological space.

**Proof.** Immediate, by lemma 1.6.1.

**Proposition 1.6.3** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a *space with functions*. If  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a *prevariety*, then  $X$  is a *Noetherian* topological space.

**Proof.** Write  $X = U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_r$ , where  $(U_i, \mathcal{O}_{U_i})$  are affine. Then  $U_i$  is *Noetherian* for all  $i$ . Note that any chain

$$S_1 \supseteq S_2 \supseteq \dots$$

of closed subsets in  $X$  gives a chain

$$S_1 \cap U_i \supseteq S_2 \cap U_i \supseteq \dots$$

of closed subsets in  $U_i$ , so there exists  $m_i$  such that  $S_j \cap U_i = S_{j+1} \cap U_i$  for  $j > m_i$ , whence  $S_j = S_{j+1}$  for  $j > \max\{m_1, \dots, m_r\}$ .

**Properties 1.6.1** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a *space with functions*

i) If  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a prevariety, then  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is subspace of the  $\mathcal{C}_X(U)$  of continuous functions to  $k$ , i.e.,

$$\mathcal{C}_X(U) = \{f : U \rightarrow k \mid f \text{ continuous}\}.$$

ii) If  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a prevariety and  $\psi \in \mathcal{O}_X(X)$ , then  $U := \{x \in X \mid \psi(x) \neq 0\}$  is an open subset of  $X$ , and we have  $\frac{1}{\psi} \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$ .

iii) All statements about dimensions of *quasi-affine* varieties to *prevarieties*.

iv) If  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a *prevariety*, then the open subsets of  $X$  that are affine form a basis for the topology of  $X$ .

**Proof.** i) Immediate.

iii) Immediate.

iv) Let  $\{X_i\}$  be any open affine covering of  $X$ . If  $U \subseteq X$  is an open subset of  $X$ , the sets  $U_i := U \cap X_i$  form an open covering of  $U$ . The  $U_i$ 's will not necessarily be affine, but we know that the principal open sets in  $X_i$  form a basis for its topology, so are affine varieties. Hence we can cover each of the  $U_i$ 's, and thereby  $U$ , by affine opens.

## 1.7 Normal varieties

In this section, we define the notion of a normal variety that corresponds to normal domains in algebra. In particular, we show that any nonsingular variety is normal. Along this section, we continue to assume that  $k$  is an *algebraically closed field*.

### Normal rings

**Definition 1.7.1** Let  $R$  be an integral domain with quotient field  $K$ . We say that  $R$  is normal if  $R$  coincides with its integral closure in  $K$ .

**Remark 1.7.1** For more details on *normal domains* one can see e.g., [3, Chapter 5].

**Example 1.7.1** 1) A *UFD* is a normal domain. ([20, Vol I, p.261].)

2) Any *DVR* is a normal domain.

**Proposition 1.7.1** Let  $R$  be a domain and  $K$  its field of fractions. Then, the following statements are equivalent.

- 1)  $R$  is normal.
- 2)  $S^{-1}R$  is normal for any multiplicative set of  $R$ .
- 3)  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is normal for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ .
- 4)  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$  is normal for all  $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spm}(R)$ .

**Proof.** See [23, Proof of theorem 4.1].

### Normal varieties

**Definition 1.7.2** Let  $X$  be an algebraic variety over  $k$  and  $x \in X$ . We say that  $x$  is *normal* if the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is a *normal domain*. We say that  $X$  is *normal* if all points of  $X$  are *normal*.

**Proposition 1.7.2** Let  $X$  be an affine variety, then  $X$  is a *normal* if and only if the coordinate ring  $k[X]$  is a *normal domain*.

**Proof.** If  $X$  is *normal*, then for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is normal domain. By theorem 1.3.1, we have  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x} \simeq \mathcal{O}_x$ , so  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x}$  is a *normal domain*. Recall that  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  describe all possible maximal ideals of  $k[X]$  when  $x$  describes all points of  $X$ , therefore by proposition 1.7.1  $k[X]$  is a *normal domain*. Conversely, if  $k[X]$  is a normal domain, then by proposition 1.7.1  $k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x}$  is normal for all  $x \in X$ , hence  $\mathcal{O}_x (\simeq k[X]_{\mathfrak{m}_x})$  is normal for all  $x \in X$ . So  $X$  is *normal*.

**Examples 1.7.1** 1)  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  is a *UFD* so as seen above. Recall that  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n] = K[X]$ , where  $X = \mathbb{A}^n$ , so by proposition 1.7.2  $\mathbb{A}^n$  is *normal*.

- 2) Let  $X = Z(T_2^2 - T_1^3) \subseteq \mathbb{A}^2$ , then  $X$  is not normal, indeed we have  $k[X] = k[T_1, T_2] / (T_2^2 - T_1^3) \simeq k[T^2, T^3]$  which is not an integrally closed domain in its field of fractions  $k(T^2, T^3) = k(T)$ . Indeed,  $X^2 - T^2 = 0$  is an equation of integral dependence of  $T$  over  $k[T^2, T^3]$ , but  $T \notin k[T^2, T^3]$ . In fact, the *integral closure* of  $k[T^2, T^3]$  in  $k(T)$  is  $k[T]$ .

**Theorem 1.7.1** Let  $X$  be a *normal variety*. Then the ring of regular functions  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  is a *normal domain*.

**Proof.** We know that  $\mathcal{O}(X) = \bigcap_{x \in X} \mathcal{O}_x$ . (intersection taken in  $k(X)$ ). Thus, the *integral closure* of  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  in  $k(X)$  is contained in  $\bigcap_{x \in X} \mathcal{O}_x$  (as each  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is normal), which is equal to  $\mathcal{O}(X)$ .

**Remark 1.7.2** Even if  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  is a *normal domain*,  $X$  need not be normal for general varieties. Indeed, in example 1.7.1, let  $\bar{X}$  to be the *projective closure* of  $X$ . It is a projective variety, and thus  $\mathcal{O}(X) = k$ , whence it is a normal domain. But, as  $X$  not a normal variety, then  $\bar{X}$  cannot be normal.

**Theorem 1.7.2** Let  $X$  be *nonsingular* variety, then  $X$  is *normal*.

**Proof.** Let  $x \in X$ , by definition the *local ring*  $\mathcal{O}_x$  regular, hence a *UFD*, hence by example 1.7.1.

**Remark 1.7.3** There are varieties which have *singular* points but are still *normal*. For example  $X := Z(T_1 T_2 - T_3^2)$  is normal and  $\mathcal{O}_{(0,0,0)}$  is not a regular ring.

## 1.8 Divisors in algebra

In this section, we introduce the basic definitions and results concerning divisors in terms of *places* on rational fields. This will prepare necessary background to give *Riemann-Roch* result on *curves* in the next section. Throughout this section  $k$  denotes a field and  $E$  an extension field of  $k$ .

### 1.8.1 Places

**Definition 1.8.1** Let  $E$  be a field and  $k$  be a subfield of  $E$ . We say  $E/k$  is a *function field* if there is at least one element  $x \in E$  that is transcendental over  $k$ . The field  $k$  is called in this case a constant field of  $E$ . In case  $E = k(x)$ , we say that  $E$  is a *rational function field* (over  $k$ ).

**Notation.** For any field  $F$  and any vector space  $V$  over  $F$ , we denote by  $\dim_F(V)$  or also by  $[V : F]$  the dimension of  $V$  over  $F$ .

**Definition 1.8.2** Let  $E/k$  be a field extension. We say that  $E/k$  is an *algebraic function field* in one variable if there exists a transcendental element  $x$  of  $E$  over  $k$  such that  $E/k(x)$  is a finite extension, i.e.,  $[E : k(x)] < +\infty$ . We call  $k$  the *full constant field* of  $E$ .

Now, we introduce the notions of *valuation rings* and *places* in this restricted case of a function field extension.

**Definition 1.8.3** Let  $E/k$  be a function field extension. A *valuation ring* of the function field  $E/k$  is a ring  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq E$  with the following properties :

- i)  $k \subsetneq \mathcal{O} \subsetneq E$ .
- ii) For every  $x \in E$ , we have  $x \in \mathcal{O}$  or  $x^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}$ .

**Example 1.8.1** If we take  $E = k(T)$ , i.e., the quotient field of the polynomial ring  $k[T]$ , then given an irreducible monic polynomial  $q(T) \in k[T]$ , we consider the set

$$\mathcal{O}_{q(T)} := \left\{ \frac{f(T)}{g(T)} \mid f(T), g(T) \in k[T], q(T) \nmid g(T) \right\}$$

then it is easy to see  $\mathcal{O}_{q(T)}$  is a valuation ring of  $k(T)/k$ .

**Proposition 1.8.1** Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a valuation ring of a function field extension  $E/k$  and let  $\tilde{k}$  be the algebraic closure of  $k$  in  $E$ . Then the following hold :



- 1)  $\mathcal{O}$  is a local with maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{O} \setminus \mathcal{O}^\times$ , where  $\mathcal{O}^\times$  the group of units of  $\mathcal{O}$ .
- 2) For every nonzero element  $x$  of  $E$ , we have  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  if and only if  $x^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}$ .
- 3) For the field  $\tilde{k}$ , we have  $\tilde{k} \subseteq \mathcal{O}$  and  $\tilde{k} \cap \mathcal{M} = 0$ .

**Proof.** 1) It suffices to see that  $\mathcal{O} \setminus \mathcal{O}^\times$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{O}$  (so  $\mathcal{O} \setminus \mathcal{O}^\times$  is the unique maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}$ ).

- 2) Assume that  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ . If  $x^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}$ , then we would have  $1 = xx^{-1} \in \mathcal{M}$ , which is not true. Conversely, if  $x^{-1} \notin \mathcal{O}$ , then  $x \in \mathcal{O}$  and  $x$  is not invertible in  $\mathcal{O}$ , so by the above  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ .
- 3) Let  $x$  be a nonzero element of  $\tilde{k}$ , and suppose that  $x \notin \mathcal{O}$ , then  $x^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}$ . Since  $x^{-1}$  also algebraic over  $k$ , there are elements  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in k$  with  $1 + \dots + \alpha_m(x^{-1})^m = 0$ . Hence  $x^{-1}(\alpha_m(x^{-1})^{m-1} + \dots + \alpha_1) = -1$ , which implies that  $x = (\alpha_m(x^{-1})^{m-1} + \dots + \alpha_1) \in k[x^{-1}] \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ . So  $x \in \mathcal{O}$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $\tilde{k} \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ . Since all nonzero invertible elements of  $\tilde{k}$  are then invertible in  $\mathcal{O}$ , then  $\tilde{k} \cap \mathcal{M} = 0$ .

**Definition 1.8.4** A **valuation** of  $E/k$  is a map  $\mathcal{V} : E \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$  satisfying the following conditions.

- i)  $\mathcal{V}(x) = \infty$  if and only if  $x = 0$ .
- ii)  $\mathcal{V}(xy) = \mathcal{V}(x) + \mathcal{V}(y)$  for all  $x, y \in E$ .
- iii)  $\mathcal{V}(x + y) \geq \min\{\mathcal{V}(x), \mathcal{V}(y)\}$  for all  $x, y \in E$ .
- iv)  $\mathcal{V}(E^*) \neq \{0\}$ .
- v)  $\mathcal{V}(a) = 0$  for all  $a \in k^*$ .

**Remarks 1.8.1** i) The symbol  $\infty$  means some element not in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $\infty + \infty = \infty + m = m + \infty = \infty$ , and  $\infty > n$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{R}$ .

ii) Note that if  $\mathcal{V}(x) \neq \mathcal{V}(y)$ , we have  $\mathcal{V}(x + y) = \min\{\mathcal{V}(x), \mathcal{V}(y)\}$ .

iii) If the image  $\mathcal{V}(E^*)$  is a discrete set in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $\mathcal{V}$  is called **discrete valuation**. If  $\mathcal{V}(E^*) = \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\mathcal{V}$  is called **normalized**.

Two discrete valuations  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{V}'$  of  $E/k$  are called **equivalent** if there exists a constant  $\lambda > 0$  such that

$$\mathcal{V}(x) = \lambda \mathcal{V}'(x) \text{ for all } x \in E^*.$$

One can easily see that this is an equivalence relation between the discrete evaluations of  $E/k$ . An equivalence class of discrete valuation of  $E/k$  is called a **place** of  $E/k$ .

If  $\mathcal{V}$  is a **discrete valuation** of  $E/k$ , then  $\mathcal{V}(E^*)$  is a nonzero discrete subgroup of  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ , and so we have  $\mathcal{V}(E^*) = c\mathbb{Z}$  for some positive  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus, there exists a uniquely determined **normalized valuation** of  $E$  that is equivalent to  $\mathcal{V}$ . In other words, every place  $P$  of  $E/k$  contains a uniquely determined **normalized valuation** of  $E/k$ , which is denoted by  $\mathcal{V}_P$ . Thus, we can identify places of  $E/k$  and (discrete) **normalized valuations** of  $E/k$ .

For the normalized valuation  $\mathcal{V}_P$  of  $E/k$  we have  $\mathcal{V}_P(E^*) = \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus, there exists an element  $\alpha \in E$  satisfying  $\mathcal{V}_P(\alpha) = 1$ . Such an element  $\alpha$  is called a **local parameter** (or **uniformizing parameter**) of  $E$  at the place  $P$ .

**Definition and Notation 1.8.1** 1)  $\mathbb{P}_E := \{P \mid P \text{ is a place of } E/k\}$ .

2) For a place  $P$  of  $E/k$ , we set

$$\mathcal{O}_P := \{x \in E \mid \mathcal{V}_P(x) \geq 0\}.$$

We call  $\mathcal{O}_P$  the **valuation ring** of the place  $P$ .

**Proposition 1.8.2** Let  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ , the valuation ring  $\mathcal{O}_P$  has a unique maximal ideal given by

$$\mathcal{M}_P := \{x \in E \mid \mathcal{V}_P(x) \geq 1\}$$

**Proof.** One can easily see that  $\mathcal{M}_P$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_P$ . Since  $1 \in \mathcal{O}_P \setminus \mathcal{M}_P$ , we obtain that  $\mathcal{M}_P$  is a proper ideal. It remains to show that any proper ideal  $I$  of  $\mathcal{O}_P$  is contained in  $\mathcal{M}_P$ . Let  $x \in I$  and suppose that  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) = 0$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}_P(x^{-1}) = -\mathcal{V}_P(x) = 0$ , and so  $x^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}_P$ . Thus,  $1 = xx^{-1} \in I$  and, hence,  $I = \mathcal{O}_P$  a contradiction. Therefore,  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) \geq 1$  and  $I \subseteq \mathcal{M}_P$ .

It is also necessary to understand some of the next result to recall that every valuation of a function field in one variable is discrete (see [19, Theorem 1.5.12, p.19]).

**Definition 1.8.5** Let  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_P$  its corresponding valuation ring and  $\mathcal{M}_P$  the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_P$ . The field  $E_P := \mathcal{O}_P / \mathcal{M}_P$  is called the **residue class field** of  $P$ . The canonical map, denoted  $x \mapsto \bar{x}_P$  (make this notation throughout the rest for the residue map images), from  $E$  to  $E_P$  is called the **residue class map** with respect to  $P$ . The degree of  $P$ , denoted  $\deg(P)$ , is the dimension  $[E_P : k]$ . We say that  $P$  is a **rational** place of  $E/k$  if  $\deg(P) = 1$ .

**Lemma 1.8.1** For any place  $P$  of  $E/k$ , the residue field  $E_P$  is a finite extension of  $k$ , hence the degree of  $P$  is finite.

**Proof.** See [19, Theorem 1.5.13, p.20].

**Corollary 1.8.1** The field  $\tilde{k}$  of constants of  $E/k$  is a finite field extension of  $k$ .

**Proof.** Choose some  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ . Since  $\tilde{k}$  can be embedded into  $E_P$  via the residue class map, then  $[\tilde{k} : k] \leq [E_P : k] < \infty$ .

**Proposition 1.8.3** Let  $E/k$  be a function field,  $R$  be a subring of  $E$  with  $k \subseteq R$  and  $J$  a nonzero ideal of  $R$ . Suppose that  $J$  is a proper ideal of  $R$ , then there is a place  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$  that  $J \subseteq \mathcal{M}_P$  and  $R \subseteq \mathcal{O}_P$ .

**Proof.** See [29, Theorem 1.1.19, p.7].

**Remark 1.8.1** Recall that if  $E/k$  is a function field in one variable, then by proposition 1.8.3 above that the set  $\mathbb{P}_E$  is nonempty.

**Definition 1.8.6** Let  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$  and  $x \in E$ .

- i) We say that  $P$  is a **zero** of  $x$  if  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) > 0$ .
- ii) We say that  $P$  is a **pole** of  $x$  if  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) < 0$ .
- iii) If  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) = n > 0$ , we say that  $P$  is a **zero** of  $x$  of order  $n$ .
- iv) If  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) = -n < 0$ , we say that  $P$  is a **pole** of  $x$  of order  $n$ .

**Corollary 1.8.2** Let  $E/k$  be a function field and  $x$  an element of  $E$  that is transcendental over  $k$ . Then  $x$  has at least one zero and one pole.

**Proof.** Let  $x \in E$ . Let  $R = k[x]$ , and the ideal  $J = xk[x]$ . By proposition 1.8.3 there exists a place  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$  with  $x \in \mathcal{M}_P$ , hence  $P$  is a zero of  $x$ . The same argument proves that  $x^{-1}$  has a zero  $P' \in \mathbb{P}_E$ . So  $P'$  is a pole of  $x$ .

**Lemma 1.8.2** (*Approximation Theorem*). Let  $E/k$  be a function field in one variable,  $P_1, \dots, P_m$  be distinct places of  $E/k$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in E$  and  $n_1, \dots, n_m$  be integers. Then there is some  $x \in E$  such that

$$\mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x - x_i) = n_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

**Proof.** See [19, Theorem 1.5.18, p.22].

**Corollary 1.8.3** Let  $E/k$  be a function field in one variable. Then  $E/k$  has infinitely many places.

**Proof.** Suppose there are only finitely many places, say  $P_1, \dots, P_m$ . By lemma 1.8.2 we can find a nonzero element  $x \in E$  with  $\mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x) > 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . Then  $x$  is transcendental over  $k$ , since it has zeros. But  $x$  has no pole, this is a contradiction to Corollary 1.8.2.

## 1.8.2 Divisors

As previously said in the introduction, divisors in algebraic geometry are in extension of divisors in number field theory. They reveal a large amount of information about the *variety* in question. In this section, we define a divisor in terms of places of the considered function field in one variable. In the next section, considering a curve over an algebraically closed field, the function field of this curve will be a function field in one variable, and hence one can translate the definitions and results given here to this geometric case. Many results in the rest of this chapter will allow to retrieve information about *zeros*, *poles* and the structure of functions defined on the variety through the use of divisors. In this paragraph,  $E/k$  will always denote an *algebraic function field* in (always replace in the rest function field of one variable by function field in one variable) one variable such that  $k$  is the *full constant field* of  $E/k$ .

**Definition 1.8.7** The *divisor group* of  $E/k$  is defined as the (additively written) free abelian group which is generated by the places of  $E/k$ , it is denoted by  $\text{Div}(E)$ . The elements of  $\text{Div}(E)$  are called divisors of  $E/k$ . In other words, a divisor is a formal sum

$$D = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P.$$

where  $n_P \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n_P = 0$  for all but finitely many  $n_P$ .

A divisor of the form  $D = P$  with  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$  is called a *prime divisor*.

**Remarks 1.8.2** i) The addition of divisors is defined component-wise :

$$\sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P + \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} m_P P = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} (n_P + m_P) P.$$

ii) For  $Q \in \mathbb{P}_E$  and  $D = \sum_{Q \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_Q Q \in \text{Div}(E)$ , we define  $\mathcal{V}_Q(D) := n_Q$ .

**Definition 1.8.8** (*Support of a divisor*) Let  $D$  be a divisor of  $E/k$ . The *support* of  $D$  is defined as

$$\text{supp}(D) := \{P \in \mathbb{P}_E \mid n_P \neq 0\}.$$

It is more convenient to write  $D = \sum_{P \in \text{supp}(D)} n_P P$ .

**Definition 1.8.9** (*Degree of a divisor*) The *degree* of a divisor is defined as

$$\deg\left(\sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P\right) = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P \cdot \deg(P) \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Obviously, the degree is a group homomorphism  $\deg : \text{Div}(E) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . Its kernel is denoted by

$$\text{Div}^0(E) = \{D \in \text{Div}(E) \mid \deg(D) = 0\}.$$

Note that a partial ordering on  $\text{Div}(E)$  is defined by

$$D \leq D' \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{V}_P(D) \leq \mathcal{V}_P(D') \text{ for all } P \in \mathbb{P}_E.$$

The **reflexivity**, **antisymmetry** and **transitivity** follow directly from the definition.

**Remark 1.8.2** Note that this partial ordering on  $\text{Div}(E)$  is not total in general. Indeed, If we take  $E = \mathbb{F}_q(x)$  and

$$\begin{cases} P_\infty = \left\{ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x], \deg(f(x)) < \deg(g(x)) \right\} \\ P_\alpha = P_{x-\alpha} = \left\{ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{F}_q[X], X - \alpha \nmid g(x) \text{ and } X - \alpha \mid f(x) \right\} \end{cases}$$

Then  $D = 4P_\alpha - 2P_\infty$  and  $D' = P_\alpha$  are not comparable

**Theorem 1.8.1** Let  $E/k$  be a function field in one variable,  $x \in E \setminus k$  and let  $P_1, \dots, P_m$  be zeros of  $x$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x) \cdot \deg(P_i) \leq [E : k(x)].$$

**Proof.** Set  $n := [E : k(x)]$ . Suppose that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x) \cdot \deg(P_i) > n$$

We have  $x \notin k$ , so  $x$  is not algebraic over  $k$  (since  $k$  is a full constant subfield of  $E$ ). We set  $n_i = \mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_j = \mathcal{V}_{P_j}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . Put  $\mathcal{O} := \bigcap_{i=1}^m \mathcal{O}_i$  where  $\mathcal{O}_i = \mathcal{O}_{P_i}$ . By lemma 1.8.2 we can choose an element  $y_i \in E$  such that  $\mathcal{V}_i(y_i) = -1$  with  $\mathcal{V}_j(y_i) = 0$  for all  $j$  with  $1 \leq j \leq m$  with  $i \neq j$ . Since  $[E_{P_i} : k]$  is finite (as  $k$ -vector space), then there exist  $z_{it} \in \mathcal{O}$ ,  $1 \leq t \leq \deg(P_i)$  such that  $\{z_{it}(P_i)\}_{1 \leq t \leq \deg(P_i)}$  forms a  $k$ -basis of the residue class field  $E_{P_i}$ . In order to arrive at a contradiction, it suffices to show that  $z_{it}y_i^j \in E$  ( $1 \leq t \leq \deg(P_i), 1 \leq j \leq n_i, 1 \leq i \leq m$ ) are linearly independent over  $k(x)$ . Suppose there is a nontrivial combination, then it can be written as :

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \eta_{ij} y_i^j + x \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \alpha_{ij} y_i^j = 0 \quad (1.10)$$

where  $\eta_{ij}, \alpha_{ij} \in \mathcal{O}$ , either  $\eta_{ij} = 0$  or  $\mathcal{V}_{P_i}(\eta_{ij}) = 0$  and the latter case occurs for at least one pair  $(i, j)$ . Now, let  $d$  such that

$$\mathcal{V}_{P_d}(\eta_{ij}) = 0, \text{ for some } j \text{ with } 1 \leq j \leq n_d.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{V}_{P_d}\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \eta_{ij} y_i^j\right) < 0.$$

and

$$\mathcal{V}_{P_d}\left(x \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \alpha_{ij} y_i^j\right) \geq 0$$

a contradiction.

**Corollary 1.8.4** Let  $E/k$  be a function field in one variable. Then every nonzero element  $x \in E$  has only finitely many **zeros** and **poles**.

**Proof.** Let  $x$  be a nonzero element of  $E$ . If  $x \in k$ ,  $x$  has neither zeros nor poles. If  $x \in E \setminus k$ , then  $x$  is transcendental over  $k$ , so by theorem 1.8.1, the number of zeros is finite. The same argument shows that  $x^{-1}$  has only a finite number of zeros, so  $x$  has a finite number of poles.

**Definition 1.8.10** (*Effective divisor*) A divisor  $D = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P$  is called *effective* (or positive) at  $P$  if  $n_P \geq 0$  and  $D$  is called *effective* if it is effective at each  $P$ .

**Definition 1.8.11** (*Zero divisor, pole divisor and principal divisor*) Let  $0 \neq x \in E$  and denote by  $\mathcal{Z}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{P}$ ) the set of *zeros* (resp. *poles*) of  $x$  in  $\mathbb{P}_E$ . Then we define

i) The *zero divisor*  $(x)_0$  of  $x$  by

$$(x)_0 = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{Z}} \mathcal{V}_P(x) P.$$

ii) The *pole divisor*  $(x)_\infty$  of  $x$  by

$$(x)_\infty = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} (-\mathcal{V}_P(x)) P.$$

iii) The *principal divisor* of  $x$  by

$$(x) = (x)_0 - (x)_\infty.$$

**Remark 1.8.3** Clearly  $(x)_0 \geq 0$ ,  $(x)_\infty \geq 0$  and

$$(x) = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} \mathcal{V}_P(x) P. \quad (1.11)$$

Sometimes the *principal divisor* of  $x$  is denoted by  $\text{div}(x)$ . Obviously,  $\text{div}$  is a *group homomorphism*  $\text{div} : E^* \longrightarrow \text{Div}(E)$ .

**Definition 1.8.12** The group

$$\text{Princ}(E) := \{\text{div}(x) \mid 0 \neq x \in E\}$$

is called the group of *principal divisors* of  $E/k$ . The quotient group

$$\text{Cl}(E) := \text{Div}(E) / \text{Princ}(E)$$

is called the *divisor class group* of  $E/k$ . Two divisors  $D$  and  $D'$  belonging to the same residue class of  $\text{Cl}(E)$  are said to be equivalent, we write  $D \sim D'$ . This means that  $D' = D + \text{div}(x)$  for some  $x \in E \setminus \{0\}$ .

## 1.9 Curves and Riemann-Roch Theorem

In this section we introduce a fundamental space attached to the study of divisors on a function field in one variable, the so-called *Riemann-Roch space*. A space that is in particular well known in *modern geometric coding theory* and also in *cryptography*. We also introduce the notion of an adèle space and genus of such function field and Weil differentials. As the reader can see, all these notions are part of algebraic number field theory and apply very well in the case of a (*smooth*) algebraic affine curve via its *rational function field*.

## 1.9.1 Curves

Let us start by giving the definition of **algebraic curves**. Unless otherwise mentioned, we continue to assume in the rest of this chapter that  $k$  is an **algebraically closed field**.

**Definition 1.9.1** Let  $X$  be an algebraic variety over  $k$ . We say that  $X$  is an affine (resp. projective) algebraic curve if  $\dim(X) = 1$ .

**Notation.** Sometimes we will denote the algebraic curve  $X$  over a field  $k$  by  $X/k$ .

**Example 1.9.1** Let  $f(X, Y)$  be an irreducible polynomial in two indeterminates coefficients in  $k$ . Then the graph in  $k^2$  which is defined by the equation  $f(X, Y) = 0$  is an algebraic curve.

Let  $R$  be a **local domain** of dimension one with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  and let  $h := R/\mathfrak{m}$ . Recall that  $R$  is a **discrete valuation ring** if and only if  $\dim_h(\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2) = 1$ .

**Proposition 1.9.1** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine algebraic curve and  $x \in X$ . Then  $X$  is smooth at  $x$  if and only if  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is a **discrete valuation ring**.

**Proof.** Note that  $X$  is nonsingular at  $x$  if and only if the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is regular ring. Moreover, since  $X$  is an affine curve, then  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_x) = \dim(X) = 1$  (see theorem 1.3.1 iii). So  $X$  is smooth at  $x$  if and only if  $\mathcal{O}_x$  is a valuation ring.

**Proposition 1.9.2** Let  $X$  be an affine algebraic curve. Then the set of singular points is a finite proper closed subset of  $X$ .

**Proof.** We already saw in theorem 1.5.1 that the set of singular points of  $X$  is a proper closed subset of  $X$ . It is finite by [19, Theorem 3.1.7, p.71].

**Remark 1.9.1** For more details on **nonsingular curves**, we refer to [19, Chapter 3].

## 1.9.2 Riemann-Roch Theorem

In this subsection, we fix an algebraic function field in one variable  $E/k$ . As the reader can see, most results in this section do not need the field  $k$  to be **algebraically closed**. Nevertheless, since  $k$  is a full constant field of  $E$ , then  $k$  is algebraically closed in  $E$ .

### The vector space $\mathcal{L}(D)$

Let  $D$  be a divisor of  $E/k$ , let

$$\mathcal{L}(D) := \{x \in E^* \mid \text{div}(x) + D \geq 0\} \cup \{0\}.$$

One can easily see that  $\mathcal{L}(D)$  is a  $k$ -vector space. This space is called **Riemann-Roch Space**. Its dimension over  $k$  will be denoted by  $l(D)$ , i.e.,  $l(D) := \dim_k(\mathcal{L}(D))$ .

For any divisor of  $E$ , we have  $x \in \mathcal{L}(D)$  if and only if  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) \geq -\mathcal{V}_P(D)$  for all  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ .

**Proposition 1.9.3** Let  $D, D'$  be two divisor of  $E/k$ . Then :

- 1) For the zero divisor  $0$ , we have  $\mathcal{L}(0) = k$ , and  $l(0) = 1$ .
- 2) If  $D \leq D'$ , then  $\mathcal{L}(D)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{L}(D')$  and  $\dim_k(\mathcal{L}(D')/\mathcal{L}(D)) \leq \deg(D') - \deg(D)$ .
- 3) If  $D \geq 0$ , then  $l(D) \geq 1$ .
- 4)  $l(D)$  is finite for all  $D$ .



5) For any element  $x \in E$ , we have  $l(D + \text{div}(x)) = l(D)$ .

**Proof.** 1) For any  $x \in k^*$ , we have  $\text{div}(x) = 0$ . So  $\text{div}(x) + 0 \geq 0$ , then  $k \subseteq \mathcal{L}(D)$ . Conversely, if  $x \in \mathcal{L}(D) \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $\text{div}(x) \geq 0$ . This means that  $x$  has no pole, so  $x \in k$  by corollary 1.8.2. Moreover,  $l(0) = \dim_k(\mathcal{L}(0)) = \dim_k(k) = 1$ .

2) Assume that  $D \leq D'$ , let  $x \in \mathcal{L}(D)$ , then  $\text{div}(x) + D' = \text{div}(x) + D + (D' - D) \geq 0$ . So  $x \in \mathcal{L}(D')$ . For the second assertion we can assume that  $D' = D + P$  for some  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ , the general case follows then by induction. Choose an element  $x_0 \in E$  with  $\mathcal{V}_P(x_0) = \mathcal{V}_P(D') = \mathcal{V}_P(D) + 1$ . For  $x \in \mathcal{L}(D')$  we have  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) \geq -\mathcal{V}_P(D') = -\mathcal{V}_P(x_0)$ , so  $xx_0 \in \mathcal{O}_P$ . Thus we obtain a  $k$ -linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \mathcal{L}(D') &\longrightarrow E_P \\ x &\longmapsto \overline{xx_0}_P \end{aligned}$$

For an element  $x \in E$ , we have  $x \in \ker(\Phi)$  if and only if  $\mathcal{V}_P(xx_0) > 0$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{V}_P(x) \geq -\mathcal{V}_P(D)$ . Hence  $\ker(\Phi) = \mathcal{L}(D)$  and  $\Phi$  induce a  $k$ -linear injective mapping from  $\mathcal{L}(D')/\mathcal{L}(D)$  to  $E_P$ . So  $\dim_k(\mathcal{L}(D')/\mathcal{L}(D)) \leq \dim(E_P) = \deg(P) = \deg(D') - \deg(D)$ .

3) By 1) and 2) we know that  $k = \mathcal{L}(0)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{L}(D)$ . So  $1 = l(0) \leq l(D)$ .

4) Assume that  $D \geq 0$ . Then applying 1) and 2), we get  $l(D) = \dim_k(\mathcal{L}(D)/\mathcal{L}(0)) + 1 \leq \deg(D) + 1$ . So  $l(D) < +\infty$ . If  $D$  is arbitrary, then it suffices to consider some positive divisor  $D'$  such that  $D \leq D'$  and to conclude.

5) Let  $D \in \text{Div}(E)$  and let  $x \in E$ . Then one can easily see that  $\mathcal{L}(D) = x\mathcal{L}(D + \text{div}(x))$ . Since  $x\mathcal{L}(D + \text{div}(x))$  and  $\mathcal{L}(D + \text{div}(x))$  have the same dimension over  $k$ , then we have  $l(D + \text{div}(x)) = l(D)$ .

**Remark 1.9.2** 5) implies that if  $D'$  is a divisor equivalent to  $D$ , then  $l(D) = l(D')$ .

**Lemma 1.9.1** Let  $D \in \text{div}(E)$ , if  $D = D_+ - D_-$  with positive divisors  $D_+$  and  $D_-$ , then

$$l(D) \leq \deg(D_+) + 1$$

**Proof.** Since  $\mathcal{L}(D) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(D_+)$ , it is sufficient to show that

$$l(D_+) \leq \deg(D_+) + 1.$$

But this by what we have already shown (See the proof of 4) in proposition 1.9.3.

**Remark 1.9.3** It follows by the above lemma that if  $D \geq 0$ , then we have

$$l(D) \leq \deg(D) + 1 \tag{1.12}$$

**Proposition 1.9.4** All principal divisors have degree zero. More precisely, let  $x \in E \setminus k$ , then we have

$$\deg((x)_0) = \deg((x)_\infty) = [E : k(x)]$$

**Proof.** Set  $m := [E : k(x)]$  and  $D := (x)_\infty = \sum_{i=1}^r -\mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x)P_i$  where  $P_1, \dots, P_r$  are all the pole of  $x$ . Then  $\deg(D) = \sum_{i=1}^r \mathcal{V}_{P_i}(x^{-1}) \cdot \deg(P_i) \leq [E : k(x)]$  (see theorem 1.8.1). Conversely, let  $m := [E : k(x)]$  and let's show that  $m \leq \deg(D)$ . For this let's choose a basis  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$  of  $E/k(x)$  and a divisor  $G \geq 0$  such that  $\text{div}(\beta_i) \geq -G$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . We have

$$l(tD + G) \geq m(t + 1) \text{ for all } t \geq 0.$$

which follows immediately from the fact  $x^i \beta_j \in \mathcal{L}(tD + G)$  for  $i = 0, \dots, r, j = 0, \dots, m$ . Set  $d = \deg(G)$ , we get  $m(t+1) \leq l(tD + G) \leq t \deg(D) + d + 1$  by lemma 1.9.1. Thus

$$t(\deg(D) - m) \geq m - d - 1 \quad (1.13)$$

for all  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ , the right hand side of (1.13) is independent of  $t$ , therefore (1.13) is possible only when  $\deg(D) \geq m$ . We have thus proved that  $\deg((x)_\infty) = [E : k(x)]$ . Since  $(x)_0 = (x^{-1})_\infty$ , we conclude that  $\deg((x)_0) = \deg((x^{-1})_\infty) = [E : k(x^{-1})] = [E : k(x)]$ .

**Corollary 1.9.1** If  $\deg(D) < 0$ , then  $l(D) = 0$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $\deg(D) < 0$  and suppose that there is some nonzero  $x \in \mathcal{L}(D)$ , then by definition  $\deg(\operatorname{div}(x) + D) \geq 0$ , but by applying proposition 1.9.4 and the fact that  $\deg$  is a group homomorphism, we have  $\deg(\operatorname{div}(x) + D) = \deg(D) (< 0)$ . It follows then that  $\mathcal{L}(D) = \{0\}$ , so  $l(D) = 0$ .

## Adèles

Most results here are true for an arbitrary function field  $E/k$ .

**Definition 1.9.2** An adèle of  $E/k$  is a mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \beta : \mathbb{P}_E &\longrightarrow E \\ P &\longmapsto \beta_P \end{aligned}$$

such that  $\beta_P \in \mathcal{O}_P$  for all but a finite number of  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ . We may regard an adèle as an element of the direct product  $\prod_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} E$  and therefore use the notation  $\beta = (\beta_P)_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E}$ .

The set

$$\mathbb{A}_E := \{\beta \mid \beta \text{ is an adèle of } E/k\}$$

is called the **adèle space** of  $E/K$ . The **principal adèle** of an element  $x \in E$  is the adèle whose components are equal to  $x$ . This gives the diagonal embedding  $x \longmapsto (x, x, x, \dots)$ , from  $E$  to  $\mathbb{A}_E$ .

**Remarks 1.9.1** i)  $\mathbb{A}_E$  is a vector space over  $k$ .

ii) The valuations  $\mathcal{V}_P$  of  $E/k$  extend naturally to  $\mathbb{A}_E$  by setting  $\mathcal{V}_P(\beta) := \mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P)$  (where  $\beta_P$  is the  $P$ -component of the adèle  $\beta$ ). By definition 1.9.2  $\mathcal{V}_P(\beta) \geq 0$  for all but finitely many  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ .

**Definition 1.9.3** For any divisor  $D = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P$ , we define

$$\mathbb{A}_E(D) := \{\beta \in \mathbb{A}_E \mid \mathcal{V}_P(\beta) + \mathcal{V}_P(D) \geq 0 \text{ for all } P \in \mathbb{P}_E\}.$$

Obviously this is a  $k$ -subspace of  $\mathbb{A}_E$ .

For divisors  $D = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P$  and  $D' = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} m_P P$ , we define  $\min\{D, D'\} := \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} \min\{n_P, m_P\} P$ , and  $\max\{D, D'\} := \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} \max\{n_P, m_P\} P$ .

**Proposition 1.9.5** Let  $D = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} n_P P$  and  $D' = \sum_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} m_P P$ . Then, the following statements hold:

1) If  $D \leq D'$ , then  $\mathbb{A}_E(D) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(D')$  and

$$\dim_k(\mathbb{A}_E(D')/\mathbb{A}_E(D)) = \deg(D') - \deg(D).$$

2)  $\mathbb{A}_E(\min\{D, D'\}) = \mathbb{A}_E(D) \cap \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ .

3)  $\mathbb{A}_E(\max\{D, D'\}) = \mathbb{A}_E(D) + \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ .

**Proof.** 1) If  $D \leq D'$ , then by definition,  $m_P \geq n_P$  for all  $P$ . Let  $(\beta_P)_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} \in \mathbb{A}_E(D)$  then

$$\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P) + m_P \geq \mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P) + n_P \geq 0, \text{ for all } P \in \mathbb{P}_E.$$

Thus  $(\beta_P)_{P \in \mathbb{P}_E} \in \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ , which shows that  $\mathbb{A}_E(D) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ . Let's prove the rest by induction on  $\deg(D') - \deg(D)$ .

- \* If  $\deg(D') = \deg(D)$ , then necessarily  $D = D'$  (for  $D \leq D'$ ), so  $\mathbb{A}_E(D') = \mathbb{A}_E(D)$ , hence  $\mathbb{A}_E(D')/\mathbb{A}_E(D) = \{0\}$ .
- \* For the rest of the induction, it suffices to consider the case where  $\deg(D') - \deg(D) = 1$ ,  $D' = D + P$  for some place  $P$ . Choose  $x_0 \in E$ , with  $\mathcal{V}_P(x_0) = \mathcal{V}_P(D') = \mathcal{V}_P(D) + 1$  and consider the  $k$ -linear map  $\Phi : \mathbb{A}_E(D') \rightarrow E_P$  defined by  $\beta \mapsto x_0 \beta_P$ , which is surjective with kernel  $\ker(\Phi) = \mathbb{A}_E(D)$ , and so

$$\dim_k(\mathbb{A}_E(D')/\mathbb{A}_E(D)) = \dim_k(E_P) = \deg(P) = 1.$$

- 2) Since  $\min\{D, D'\} \leq D, D'$ , then by 1),  $\mathbb{A}_E(\min\{D, D'\}) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(D) \cap \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ . Conversely, if  $(\beta) \in \mathbb{A}_E(D)$  and  $(\beta_P) \in \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ , then for any  $P \in \mathbb{P}_E$ ,

$$\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P) + n_P \geq 0 \text{ and } \mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P) + m_P \geq 0$$

Thus, we have

$$\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P) + \min\{n_P, m_P\} \geq 0.$$

Therefore

$$\mathbb{A}_E(D) \cap \mathbb{A}_E(D') = \mathbb{A}_E(\min\{D, D'\}).$$

- 3) We have  $D, D' \leq \max\{D, D'\}$ , so by 1),  $\mathbb{A}_E(D) + \mathbb{A}_E(D') \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(\max\{D, D'\})$ . Conversely, for  $(\beta_P) \in \mathbb{A}_E(D)$ ,  $(\alpha_P) \in \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ , if  $\beta_P = -\alpha_P$  then one can conclude easily. For arbitrary case, we have  $\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P + \alpha_P) \geq \min\{\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P), \mathcal{V}_P(\alpha_P)\}$ . Thus for all places  $P$ ,

$$\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P + \alpha_P) + \max\{n_P, m_P\} \geq \min\{\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P), \mathcal{V}_P(\alpha_P)\} + \max\{n_P, m_P\}$$

and

$$\min\{\mathcal{V}_P(\beta_P), \mathcal{V}_P(\alpha_P)\} + \max\{n_P, m_P\} \geq 0.$$

**Lemma 1.9.2** Let  $D, D'$  be two divisor of  $E/k$ , if  $D \leq D'$ . Then

$$\dim_k((\mathbb{A}_E(D') + E)/(\mathbb{A}_E(D) + E)) = (\deg(D') - l(D')) - (\deg(D) - l(D)).$$

**Proof.** We have an exact sequence of linear mappings

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}(D')/\mathcal{L}(D) \xrightarrow{\gamma_1} \mathbb{A}_E(D')/\mathbb{A}_E(D) \xrightarrow{\gamma_2} (\mathbb{A}_E(D') + E)/(\mathbb{A}_E(D) + E) \longrightarrow 0$$

$\gamma_1, \gamma_2$  are defined in the obvious manner. The only nontrivial assertion is that the kernel of  $\gamma_2$  is contained in the image of  $\gamma_1$ . In order to prove this let  $\beta \in \mathbb{A}_E(D')$  with  $\gamma_2(\beta + \mathbb{A}_E(D)) = 0$ . Then  $\beta \in \mathbb{A}_E(D) + E$ , so there is some  $x_0 \in E$  with  $\beta - x_0 \in \mathbb{A}_E(D)$ . As  $\mathbb{A}_E(D) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(D')$ . We conclude that  $x_0 \in \mathbb{A}_E(D') \cap E = \mathcal{L}(D')$ . Therefore  $\beta + \mathbb{A}_E(D) = x_0 + \mathbb{A}_E(D) = \gamma_1(x_0 + \mathcal{L}(D))$  lies in the image of  $\gamma_1$ . From the exactness of the above sequence, we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \dim_k((\mathbb{A}_E(D') + E)/(\mathbb{A}_E(D) + E)) &= \dim_k(\mathbb{A}_E(D')/\mathbb{A}_E(D)) - \dim_k(\mathcal{L}(D')/\mathcal{L}(D)) \\ &= (\deg(D') - l(D')) - (\deg(D) - l(D)). \end{aligned}$$

In the second equality here, we used proposition 1.9.5 1).

For any divisor  $D$  of  $E/k$ , we define

$$r(D) := \deg(D) - l(D).$$

We obtain a map  $r : \text{Div}(E) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . We have then the following lemma :

**Lemma 1.9.3** Let  $x \in E^*$  and  $D, D'$  be two divisors on  $E$ . The following statements hold :

- i) If  $D \leq D'$ , then  $r(D) \leq r(D')$
- ii)  $r(\text{div}(x) + D) = r(D)$ .

**Proof.** i) This follows from lemma 1.9.2.

ii) By proposition 1.9.3 5)

$$l(D + \text{div}(x)) = l(D).$$

Moreover, we have  $\deg(\text{div}(x) + D) = \deg(D) + \deg(\text{div}(x))$  and by proposition 1.9.4  $\deg(\text{div}(x)) = 0$ . So  $r(\text{div}(x) + D) = \deg(D) - l(D)$ .

**Proposition 1.9.6** Let  $E/k$  be an algebraic function field,  $r(D)$  has an upper bound, when  $D$  describes the divisors of  $E/k$ .

**Proof.** See [22, Theorem 4.10, p.15].

## Genus and the Riemann's theorem

**Definition 1.9.4** (*genus*) Let  $E/k$  be a function field in one variable, the genus of  $E$  is defined as

$$g := 1 + \max_D(r(D)).$$

i.e.,  $g$  is the last integer for which

$$\deg(D) - l(D) \leq g - 1.$$

holds for any divisor  $D$  of  $E/k$ .

Proposition 1.9.6 (with this definition) gives a proof to the following famous *Riemann's Theorem*.

**Theorem 1.9.1** Let  $E/k$  be an algebraic function field, then there exists a nonnegative integer  $g$  depending only on  $E$  such that

$$l(D) \geq \deg(D) + 1 - g \tag{1.14}$$

for every divisor  $D$  of  $E$ .

**Proof.** Clear.

**Corollary 1.9.2** There exists an integer  $c$  depending only on  $E$  such that

$$l(D) = \deg(D) + 1 - g$$

for any divisor  $D$  of  $E/k$  satisfying  $\deg(D) \geq c$ .

**Proof.** Let  $D$  and  $D_0$  be two divisors of  $E/k$  with  $g = 1 + r(D_0)$ . Set  $c := \deg(D_0) + g$ . If  $\deg(D) \geq c$  and applying theorem 1.9.1 we obtain

$$l(D - D_0) \geq \deg(D - D_0) + 1 - g \geq c - \deg(D_0) + 1 - g = 1.$$

Thus there exists a non-zero element  $z$  in  $\mathcal{L}(D - D_0)$ . Let the divisor  $D' := \text{div}(z) + D$ , which  $\geq D_0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(D) - l(D) &= \deg(D) - l(D') \\ &\geq \deg(D_0) - l(D_0) = g - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $l(D) \leq \deg(D) + 1 - g$ .

**Corollary 1.9.3** Let  $D$  be a divisor such that  $\deg(D) \geq c$  where  $c$  is the constant in corollary 1.9.2, we have

$$\mathbb{A}_E(D) + E = \mathbb{A}_E.$$

**Proof.** By lemma 1.9.2

$$\dim_k((\mathbb{A}_E(D') + E) / \mathbb{A}_E(D) + E) = r(D') - r(D)$$

for any divisors  $D' \geq D$ , by corollary 1.9.2  $\deg(D) \geq c$  implies  $r(D) = g - 1$ . Thus if  $\deg(D')$ ,  $\deg(D'') \geq c$ , then

$$\mathbb{A}_E(D'') + E = \mathbb{A}_E(D') + E$$

For any divisor  $D = \sum_P n_P P$  with  $\deg(D) \geq c$  and for any adèle  $(\beta_P)$ , define  $G := \max(D, -\text{div}(\beta_P))$ . Therefore,  $G \geq D$ ,  $\deg(G) \geq \deg(D) \geq c$ . By the above we get  $\mathbb{A}_E(G) + E = \mathbb{A}_E(D) + E$ . We have also  $(\beta_P) \in \mathbb{A}_E(-\text{div}(\beta_P)) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(G) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_E(G) + E = \mathbb{A}_E(D) + E$ . If  $\deg(D)$  is large enough, then any adèle is in  $\mathbb{A}_E(D) + E$  and we have  $\mathbb{A}_E \supseteq \mathbb{A}_E(D) + E$  since  $\mathbb{A}_E(D)$  and  $E$  are both subsets of the adèles under the diagonal embedding. Thus

$$\mathbb{A}_E(D) + E = \mathbb{A}_E.$$

In the case of an algebraic function field  $E/k$ , we already defined its genus, so by the same way we define the genus of an algebraic nonsingular projective curve as :

**Definition 1.9.5** The **genus** of a nonsingular projective curve  $X$  over  $k$  is defined to be the genus of its  $k$ -rational function field  $k(X)$ .

## Chapter 2

# Introduction to Schemes

In this chapter we aim to present basic background of *scheme theory*. The material developed here covers elementary definitions and properties and is oriented in order to prepare necessary tools to understand the meaning of *Severi-Brauer* varieties in the third chapter. In particular, we will study some local and global properties of schemes like the notions of *reduced*, *integral*, *regular*, *normal*, *separated*, *proper*, *projective* schemes. We will also study modules over schemes, some *cohomological interpretations* in scheme theory and introduce *Weil* and *Cartier divisors*.

## 2.1 Generalities on sheaf theory

*Sheaves* are tools which allow us to keep track of local *information* on a topological space in a single mathematical object. Their use is ubiquitous throughout *algebraic geometry*. In this section, we will study their basic theory. We present the notions of *presheaf* and *sheaf* on a topological space, that of morphisms of *presheaves*, as well as their first properties : *injectivity* and *surjectivity*, *exact sequences*. We then study the direct image and inverse image functors, which allow to pass from a *sheaf* on a topological space to a *sheaf* on another space and which play a fundamental role in the study of the *schemes*. Finally, we end with the study of the gluing of bundles

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a topological space. We will denote by  $\mathcal{T}_X$  the category having for objects the open subsets of  $X$  and for morphisms identity maps and inclusions. Also,  $\mathcal{C}$  will denote a category, which can be the category of *sets* (also denoted by  $\text{Set}$ ), that of *groups* (also denoted by  $\mathcal{Gp}$ ), that of  *$R$ -modules* (also denoted by  $R\text{-Mod}$ ), that of  *$R$ -algebras* (also denoted by  $R\text{-Alg}$ ), for some ring  $R$ .

### 2.1.1 Presheaves

**Definition 2.1.1** Let  $X$  be a topological space. A *presheaf*  $\mathcal{F}$  (of sets) on  $X$  consists of the following data:

- i) For every open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , a set  $\mathcal{F}(U)$ .
- ii) Whenever  $U \subseteq V$  are two open subsets of  $X$ , a map

$$\text{res}_{V,U} : \mathcal{F}(V) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(U)$$

called the *restriction* map, which satisfies the following conditions :

- a)  $\text{res}_{U,U} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{F}(U)}$ .
- b) Having three open subsets  $U \subseteq V \subseteq W$  of  $X$ , then  $\text{res}_{V,U} \circ \text{res}_{W,V} = \text{res}_{W,U}$

**Remarks 2.1.1** 1) We will mostly write  $s|_U$  for  $s$  when  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ . The elements of  $\mathcal{F}(U)$  are usually called *sections* of (the presheaf  $\mathcal{F}$ ) over  $U$ .



- 2) By considering  $\mathcal{F}(U)$  as an object in some category  $\mathcal{C}$  and assuming that  $\text{res}_{V,U}$  is a morphism between the objects  $\mathcal{F}(V)$  and  $\mathcal{F}(U)$ , we may define more generally a presheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  into  $\mathcal{C}$ . Note that we can state definition 2.1.1 in the following way : Let  $X$  be a topological space. A **presheaf**  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  (into a category  $\mathcal{C}$ ) is a **contravariant functor** from  $\mathcal{T}_X$  into  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F} : \mathcal{T}_X & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C} \\ U & \longmapsto & \mathcal{F}(U) \end{array}$$

**Examples 2.1.1** 1) For a topological space, a presheaf  $\mathcal{C}_X$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebras on  $X$  is defined by assigning to every open  $U \subseteq X$  the set of **continuous functions**  $U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- 2) Let  $X$  be a variety, we previously considered the presheaf of  $k$ -algebras  $\mathcal{O}_X$ . For any open  $U \subseteq X$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is the  $k$ -algebra of **regular functions**. If  $X$  be an **affine variety** we have  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) = k[U]$ .

- 3) Let  $X$  be a topological space, the formula :

$$U \longmapsto \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{if } U = X \\ \{0\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

defines a presheaf of **abelian groups** on  $X$ .

Although it is possible to define a presheaf of a topological space  $X$  into an arbitrary category  $\mathcal{C}$ , we will be interested in what follows only in cases where the objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  are sets (that could have an additional structure) and the morphisms  $\text{res}_{V,U}$  are maps (which are morphisms for the extra structure on  $\mathcal{F}(V)$  and  $\mathcal{F}(U)$ ).

**Definition 2.1.2** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a presheaf on  $X$ , a **subpresheaf**  $\mathcal{G}$  (of  $\mathcal{F}$ ) is a presheaf on  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{G}(U) \subseteq \mathcal{F}(U)$  for every open  $U \subseteq X$ , and such that the restriction maps of  $\mathcal{G}$  are induced by those of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Example 2.1.1** If  $U$  is an open subset of  $X$ , every presheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  induces, in an obvious way, a presheaf  $\mathcal{F}_U$  on  $U$  by setting  $\mathcal{F}_U(V) = \mathcal{F}(V)$  for every open subset  $V$  of  $U$ . This is the restriction of  $\mathcal{F}$  to  $U$ .

## Morphisms of presheaves

**Definition 2.1.3** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  be two **presheaves** on  $X$ . A morphism of presheaves  $\psi$  from  $\mathcal{F}$  to  $\mathcal{G}$  consists of the datum, for all open  $U$  of  $X$ , of a morphism  $\psi(U)$  from  $\mathcal{F}(U)$  to  $\mathcal{G}(U)$ , so that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(V) & \xrightarrow{\psi(V)} & \mathcal{G}(V) \\ \text{res}_{V,U} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res}_{V,U} \\ \mathcal{F}(U) & \xrightarrow{\psi(U)} & \mathcal{G}(U) \end{array}$$

commutes for any pair  $(U, V)$  of open subsets of  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq V$ .

**Remarks 2.1.2** i) The commutativity of the diagram is written :  $\psi(V)(s)|_U = \psi(U)(s|_U)$ , for every  $s \in \mathcal{F}(V)$ .

- ii) Morphisms of **presheaves** can be composed. So that presheaves on the topological space  $X$  form a category, that we will denote by  $\text{PreSh}_X$ .

- iii) A morphism  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  between two presheaves  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  is an **isomorphism** if it has a two-sided inverse i.e, a morphism  $\phi : \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\psi \circ \phi = \text{id}_{\mathcal{G}}$  and  $\phi \circ \psi = \text{id}_{\mathcal{F}}$ .

**Definition 2.1.4** Assume  $\mathcal{C}$  has *direct limits*. The *stalk* of a presheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  at a point  $x \in X$  is

$$\mathcal{F}_x := \varinjlim_{x \in U} \mathcal{F}(U)$$

The direct limit is taken over open neighborhoods of  $x$ , and restriction maps between them. Given a section  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ , and a point  $x \in U$ , we let  $s_x \in \mathcal{F}_x$  denote the image of  $s$  under the natural morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(U) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}_x \\ s & \longmapsto & s_x \end{array}$$

An element of the *stalk* is called a *germ*.

More generally, if  $Y \subseteq X$  is a *closed* and *irreducible* subset. Then, we set

$$\mathcal{F}_Y := \varinjlim_{U \cap Y \neq \emptyset} \mathcal{F}(U)$$

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $x \in X$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{V}$  the set of open neighborhoods of  $x$ , which is filtering for the opposite order to inclusion i.e, for all  $U, V \in \mathcal{V}$  we have

$$U \leq V \iff V \subseteq U.$$

**Remark 2.1.1** We can identify  $\mathcal{F}_x$  as the quotient of the set of pairs  $(U, s)$ , where  $U \in \mathcal{V}$  and where  $s$  is a section of  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $U$ , by the relation of equivalence defined as follows :

$(U, s) \sim (V, t)$  if and only if there exists an open neighborhood  $W$  of  $x$  in  $U \cap V$  such that  $s|_W = t|_W$ .

Moreover, we can see  $\mathcal{F}_x$  as the set of sections of  $\mathcal{F}$  defined in the neighborhood of  $x$ . Two sections belonging to  $\mathcal{F}_x$  being considered as equal if they coincide in some neighborhood of  $x$ .

**Example 2.1.2** Let  $\mathcal{F}(U) = \{ \text{continuous functions } U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \}$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}_x$  the set of *germs* of continuous functions at  $x$ .

**Proposition 2.1.1** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of presheaves, then  $\psi$  induces for every point  $x \in X$  a morphism  $\psi_x : \mathcal{F}_x \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$  between the *stalks*, where  $\psi_x$  is defined by  $\psi_x(s_x) = (\psi(U)(s))_x$  for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ , and  $x \in U$ .

**Proof.** If  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  and  $t \in \mathcal{F}(V)$  are such that  $s_x = t_x$ , then there exists an open neighborhood  $W$  of  $x$  such that  $s|_W = t|_W$ . So  $\psi(U)(s)|_W = \psi(W)(s|_W)$  and  $\psi(V)(t)|_W = \psi(W)(t|_W)$ . Hence  $(\psi(U)(s))_x = (\psi(V)(t))_x$ .

Note that if  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  and  $\phi : \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Z}$  are two morphisms of sheaves we have  $(\psi \circ \phi)_x = \psi_x \circ \phi_x$  and  $(id_{\mathcal{F}})_x = id_{\mathcal{F}_x}$ . Moreover,  $\psi \longrightarrow \psi_x$  define a *functor* from the category of sheaves over  $X$  to the category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Definition 2.1.5** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of presheaves

- i) We say that  $\psi$  is *injective* if for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $\psi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}(U)$  is *injective*.
- ii) We say that  $\psi$  is *surjective* if for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\psi_x : \mathcal{F}_x \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$  is *surjective*.

## 2.1.2 Sheaves

**Definition 2.1.6** We say that a *presheaf*  $\mathcal{F}$  is a *sheaf* if we have the following properties :

- i) (*Uniqueness*) Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ ,  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ ,  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  a covering of  $U$  by open subsets  $U_i$ . If  $s|_{U_i} = 0$  for every  $i \in I$ , then  $s = 0$ .
- ii) (*Gluing axiom*) If  $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ , and if  $s_i \in \mathcal{F}(U_i)$  is a collection of sections matching on the overlaps; that is, they satisfy

$$s_i|_{U_i \cap U_j} = s_j|_{U_i \cap U_j}$$

for all  $i, j \in I$ , then there exists a section  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  so that  $s|_{U_i} = s_i$ , for all  $i \in I$

**Remarks 2.1.3** 1) When  $\mathcal{F}$  is a presheaf of groups or of an algebraic structure that is in particular a group, we can replace *i*) by : for all  $s, t \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  such that for  $i \in I$ ,  $s|_{U_i} = t|_{U_i}$  then  $s = t$ .

2) The section  $s$  in *ii*) is unique by condition *i*).

**Examples 2.1.2** 1) Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $\mathcal{F} : U \mapsto \mathcal{C}^0(U, \mathbb{R})$  the correspondence that assigns to  $U$  the  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra of continuous maps from  $U$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $\mathcal{F}$  a sheaf of  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebras over  $X$ .

2) In example 2.1.1, if moreover,  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf then  $\mathcal{F}|_U$  is still a sheaf.

## Morphisms of sheaves

**Definition 2.1.7** A morphism of *sheaves* is just a morphism of the underlying presheaves.

**Remarks 2.1.4** 1) The sheaves of  $X$  form a *full subcategory*  $Sh_X$  of the category of the *presheaves* on  $X$ .

2) The notions *injective*, *surjective* and *isomorphism* for sheaves are defined in the same way as for presheaves.

**Lemma 2.1.1** Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ .

- i) Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf on  $X$  and let  $s, t \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  be two sections such that  $s_x = t_x$  for every  $x \in U$ . Then  $s = t$ .
- ii) Let  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  be presheaves on  $X$  and let  $\psi, \phi : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be morphisms of presheaves on  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{F}_x = \mathcal{G}_x$  for every  $x \in X$ . If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a sheaf, then  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{G}$ .

**Proof.** i) Let  $x \in U$ , since  $s_x = t_x$ , there exists an open subset  $W_x$  of  $U$  containing  $x$  such that  $s|_{W_x} = t|_{W_x}$ . Since  $(W_x)_x$  is an open covering of  $U$ , according to condition *i*) in definition 2.1.6, it comes that  $s = t$ .

ii) Let  $W$  be an open subset of  $X$  and let  $s \in \mathcal{F}(W)$ . We need to prove that  $s$  has the same image under the maps  $\psi(W)$  and  $\phi(W)$ , let  $t = \psi(W)(s)$  and  $l = \phi(W)(s)$ . For all  $x \in W$ , we have  $t_x = \psi_x(s_x) = \phi_x(s_x) = l_x$ . Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is a sheaf, then by *i*) we get that  $t = l$ .

In what follows, we consider (pre)sheaves of objects with algebraic structures which in particular are groups.

**Proposition 2.1.2** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves. Then  $\psi$  is *injective* if and only if  $\psi_x : \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$  is *injective* for every  $x \in X$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $\psi$  is injective. Let  $x \in X$  and  $s_x \in \mathcal{F}_x$  such that  $\psi_x(s_x) = 0$ , where  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  and  $U$  is an open neighborhood of  $x$ , so  $(\psi(U)(s))_x = 0$ . Then, there exists an open neighborhood  $W$  of  $x$  such that  $\psi(U)(s)|_W = 0$  or that  $\psi(W)(s|_W) = 0$ . From the **injectivity** of  $\psi$  it comes that  $s|_W = 0$ , thus  $s_x = 0$ . Conversely, suppose that for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\psi_x$  is injective, we fix an open subset  $V$  of  $X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{F}(V)$  such that  $\psi(V)(s) = 0$ , locally we have, for all  $x \in V$ ,  $\psi_x(s_x) = (\psi(U)(s))_x = 0$ , it comes from local injectivity, that for all  $x \in V$ ,  $s_x = 0$ . Hence  $s = 0$ .

**Remark 2.1.2** Proposition 2.1.2 gives a local characterization of the **injectivity**.

**Theorem 2.1.1** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves. The following assertions are equivalent :

- i)  $\psi$  is an **isomorphism**.
- ii) For every  $x \in X$ ,  $\psi_x : \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$  is an **isomorphism**.
- iii)  $\psi$  is both **injective** and **surjective**.

**Proof.** i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii) Let  $\phi$  be the inverse morphism of  $\psi$ . Plainly, for every  $x \in X$ , we have  $\phi_x \circ \psi_x = id_{\mathcal{F}_x}$  and  $\psi_x \circ \phi_x = id_{\mathcal{G}_x}$ . So  $\psi_x$  is an isomorphism.

ii)  $\Rightarrow$  iii) Immediate, according to proposition 2.1.2 and definition 2.1.5 ii)

iii)  $\Rightarrow$  i) We will construct the inverse  $\phi$  of  $\psi$ . Let  $W$  be an open subset of  $X$  and  $t \in \mathcal{G}(W)$ , for every  $x \in W$ , there exists  $U_x$  an open neighborhood of  $x$  and  $s^x \in \mathcal{F}(U_x)$  such that  $t_x = \psi_x(s^x_x) = (\psi(U_x)(s^x))_x$ . Hence there exists  $V_x \subseteq U_x \cap W$  neighborhood of  $x$  such that  $t|_{V_x} = (\psi(V_x)(s^x_{|V_x}))_{|V_x}$ . If  $y \in W$ , then  $\psi(V_x \cap V_y)(s^x_{|V_x \cap V_y}) = \psi(V_x \cap V_y)(s^y_{|V_x \cap V_y})$ , so  $s^x_{|V_x \cap V_y} = s^y_{|V_x \cap V_y}$ , as the family  $(V_x)_{x \in U}$  forms a covering of  $U$ , then  $(s^x)_x$  rises to a section  $s$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $U$ , and we have  $\psi(U)(s) = t$ , the **uniqueness** of  $s$  follows from the injectivity of  $\psi$ . We set  $\phi(U)(t) = s$ , then  $\phi$  is the inverse of  $\psi$ .

## Sheafification

In this paragraph, we answer the following question : How to build a **sheaf** from a **presheaves**?

**Definition 2.1.8** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a presheaf on a topological space  $X$ . We call associated sheaf with  $\mathcal{F}$  any sheaf  $\mathcal{F}^+$  equipped with a morphism of presheaves  $\beta : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^+$  satisfying the following **universal property** : For any morphism of presheaves  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ , where  $\mathcal{G}$  is a sheaf, there exists a unique morphism of sheaves  $\bar{\psi} : \mathcal{F}^+ \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  such that the following diagram is commutative :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \mathcal{G} \\ \beta \downarrow & \nearrow \bar{\psi} & \\ \mathcal{F}^+ & & \end{array}$$

**Remark 2.1.3** The **uniqueness** of  $\mathcal{F}^+$  when it exists is an immediate consequence of the universal property.

**Proposition 2.1.3** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a presheaf on a topological space  $X$ . Then the sheaf  $\mathcal{F}^+$  associated with  $\mathcal{F}$  exists and is a unique up to isomorphism. Moreover, using the above notation, all  $x \in X$ , the induced morphism  $\beta : \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^+_x$  is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a presheaf on  $X$ . Consider  $Z := \coprod_{x \in X} \mathcal{F}_x$  (**disjoint union**) and consider the map  $\pi : Z \rightarrow X$  defined by : for all  $s_x$ ,  $\pi(s_x) = x$ . For any open  $V$  of  $X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{F}(V)$ , let  $\pi_s$  be the map  $\pi_s : V \rightarrow Z$  defined by  $\pi_s(x) = s_x$ . Note that  $\pi(\pi_s(x)) = x$  i.e  $\pi \circ \pi_s = id_V$  ( $\pi_s$  is a **section** and  $\pi$

is a **retraction**). We now endow  $Z$  with the topology which makes all maps  $\pi_s : V \longrightarrow Z$ ,  $V$  open subset of  $X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{F}(V)$ , continuous.

For any open subset  $V$  of  $X$ , we define  $\mathcal{F}^+(V) := \{g : V \longrightarrow Z / g \text{ continuous and } \pi \circ g = \text{id}_V\}$  it is the set of sections of  $Z$  on  $V$ .

- \* For every  $W \subseteq V$ , the restriction  $\mathcal{F}^+(V) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^+(W)$  is the usual restriction, i.e  $g \longrightarrow g|_W$ . In particular  $\mathcal{F}^+$  is a presheaf.
- \* Condition **i**) in definition 2.1.6 is immediate.
- \* If  $(W_j)_j$  is a covering of  $V$  and  $g_j \in \mathcal{F}^+(W_j)$  are such that for all  $i, j$ ,  $g_i|_{W_i \cap W_j} = g_j|_{W_i \cap W_j}$ , then as the  $g_j$  are continuous, and coincide on the intersections, there exists  $g : V \longrightarrow X$  which is continuous such that for all  $j$ ,  $g|_{W_j} = g_j$ . Moreover  $g$  is a section in fact : for all  $x \in V$ , there is some  $j$  such that  $x \in W_j$ ,  $\pi \circ g(x) = \pi(g(x)) = \pi(g_j(x)) = x$ .  
 $\mathcal{F}^+$  is a sheaf.
- \* Definition of  $\beta : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^+$  : For any open subset  $V$  of  $X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{F}(V)$ , we define  $\beta(V)(s) := \pi_s \in \mathcal{F}^+(V)$ .
- \* Compatibility with restrictions : let  $W \subseteq V$  two open subsets of  $X$ ,  $s \in \mathcal{F}(V)$  and  $x \in W$ , we have  $\beta(V)(s)|_W(x) = \pi_s(x) = s_x = (s|_W)(x) = \pi_{s|_W}(x)$ . So  $\beta(V)(s)|_W = \beta(W)(s|_W)$ .
- \* Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a sheaf, and  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of presheaves. We cut a section  $g$  of  $\mathcal{F}^+(V)$  into small sections (sections of  $\mathcal{F}$ ) on a covering  $W_j$  of  $V$ , then by sending them to the  $\mathcal{G}(W_j)$ , then we stick back into  $\mathcal{G}$ . Sections of  $\mathcal{F}^+$  are obtained by gluing **sections** of  $\mathcal{F}$ , so  $\mathcal{F}_x = \mathcal{F}_x^+$ .

**Remark 2.1.4** If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf, it follows from the **universal property** that  $\mathcal{F} \simeq \mathcal{F}^+$ .

**Example 2.1.3** (**Constant sheaves**) Let  $A$  be a group (or a ring, an algebra, . . .), then

$$U \longmapsto \begin{cases} A & \text{if } U \neq \emptyset \\ \{0\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a presheaf and the **associated sheaf** is called the **constant sheaf** associated to  $A$ . We denoted by  $\underline{A}$ . For any  $x \in X$ , we have  $\underline{A}_x = A$ .

## Subsheaves and Quotient sheaves

Throughout, we fix a category of objects that have an algebraic structure which are in particular groups, say e.g.,  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{G}p$  or  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

### Subsheaves

**Definition 2.1.9** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  be two sheaves on  $X$ , we say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a **subsheaf** of  $\mathcal{G}$ , if for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(U) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(U)$  and such that we have compatibility with the restrictions induced from  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$ , i.e., For every open subsets  $U \subseteq V$  of  $X$ , the following diagram is commutative :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(V) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{G}(V) \\ \text{res}_{V,U} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res}_{V,U} \\ \mathcal{F}(U) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{G}(U) \end{array}$$

**Remark 2.1.5**  $\mathcal{F}$  is a subsheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$  if, the canonical injection  $\iota : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  is a morphism of sheaves.



**Definition 2.1.10** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  a morphism of presheaves on  $X$ . We define the presheaf  $\ker(\psi)$  by the formula :

$$U \longrightarrow \ker(\psi(U))$$

for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ .  $\ker(\psi)$  is said to be the **kernel** of  $\psi$ , it's a subpresheaf of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Using the notation of definition 2.1.10, one can easily see that  $\psi$  is injective if and only if its kernel is the trivial presheaf.

**Lemma 2.1.2** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves. Then the presheaf  $\ker(\psi)$  is a sheaf.

**Proof.** Let  $U$  be an open of  $X$ ,  $(U_j)_j$  be a covering of  $U$  and  $s_j \in \ker(\psi(U_j))$  such that for  $i, j$ ,  $s_{i|U_i \cap U_j} = s_{j|U_i \cap U_j}$ . Since  $s_j \in \mathcal{F}(U_j)$ , then  $(s_j)_j$  rises to a **section**  $s$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  over  $U$ , but for every  $x \in U$ , there exists  $j$  such that  $x \in U_j$ , and we have  $(\psi(U))(s)_x = (\psi(U_j))(s_j)_x = 0$ . So  $\psi(U)(s) = 0$ . Hence  $s \in \ker(\psi(U))$ . On the other hand, if  $s \in \ker(\psi(U))$  such that for every  $j$ ,  $s|_{U_j} = 0$ , then  $s = 0$  (because  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf).

**Definition 2.1.11** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of presheaves on  $X$ . We define the  $\text{im}(\psi)$  presheaf by the formula :

$$U \longmapsto \text{im}(\psi(U))$$

for any open set  $U$  of  $X$ . One can easily see that  $\text{im}(\psi)$  is indeed a subpresheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$ . We say that  $\text{im}(\psi)$  is the image presheaf of  $\psi$ .

**Remark 2.1.6** Note that the presheaf  $\text{im}(\psi)$  is not in general a sheaf.

**Definition 2.1.12** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaf. The **sheaf associated** with the image presheaf called the **image sheaf** of  $\psi$  is denoted  $\text{Im}(\psi)$ . In the same way we define the **cokernel sheaf** and that we denote by  $\text{Coker}(\psi)$ .

Note that in general  $(\text{Im}(\psi))(U) \neq \text{Im}(\psi(U))$ . The first term is section of the sheaf  $\text{Im}(\psi)$  on the open set  $U$ , while the second is the image of the morphism  $\psi(U)$ . More precisely, we have :

**Theorem 2.1.2** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves. Then, the following assertions hold :

- i) For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , and  $s \in \mathcal{G}(U)$ .  $s \in (\text{im}(\psi))(U)$  if and only if there exists an open covering  $(U_j)_j$  of  $U$  and  $t_j \in \mathcal{F}(U_j)$  such that, for any  $j$ ,  $s|_{U_j} = \psi(U_j)(t_j)$ .
- ii)  $\psi$  is **surjective** if and only if, for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{G}(U)$ , there exists an open covering  $(U_j)_j$  of  $U$  and  $t_j \in \mathcal{F}(U_j)$  such that, for any  $j$ ,  $s|_{U_j} = \psi(U_j)(t_j)$ .
- iii)  $\psi$  is **surjective** if and only if  $\mathcal{G} = \text{im}(\psi)$ .

**Proof.** i)  $\text{Im}(\psi)$  is a the sheaf associated with presheaf  $U \longmapsto \text{Im}(\psi(U))$ , hence the result.

ii) If  $\psi$  is surjective, let  $U$  an open subset of  $X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{G}(U)$ , for all  $x \in U$ , by theorem 2.1.1, the map  $\psi_x$  is surjective. So there exists  $t_x \in \mathcal{F}_x$  such that  $\psi_x(t_x) = s_x$ . Therefore, there there exists an open neighborhood  $U_x \subseteq U$ , and  $t^x \in U_x$  such that  $s|_{U_x} = \psi(U_x)(t^x)$ . The covering  $(U_x)_{x \in U}$  answers the question. Conversely, let  $x \in X$  and  $s \in \mathcal{G}(U)$ . Let  $(U_j)_j$  be covering of  $U$  and  $t_j \in \mathcal{F}(U_j)$  such that  $s|_{U_j} = \psi(U_j)(t_j)$  for all  $j$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf then there is  $t \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  such that  $t|_{U_j} = t_j$  for all  $j$ . In particular, for every  $j$  such that  $x \in U_j$ ,  $s_x = (s|_{U_j})_x = (\psi(U_j)(t_j))_x = \psi_x(t_j)$ . Hence  $\psi$  is surjective.

iii) Immediate from i) and ii).



## Quotients sheaves

Assume that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a **subsheaf** of the **sheaf**  $\mathcal{G}$ . Then we can define a presheaf whose sections over  $U$  are the **quotient**  $\mathcal{G}(U)/\mathcal{F}(U)$ . The restriction maps of  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  are compatible the inclusions  $\mathcal{F}(U) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(U)$  and hence pass to the **quotient**  $\mathcal{G}(U)/\mathcal{F}(U)$ . This presheaf, i.e.,  $U \mapsto \mathcal{G}(U)/\mathcal{F}(U)$ , is called **quotient presheaf** of  $\mathcal{G}$  by  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Definition 2.1.13** The **quotient sheaf**  $\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F}$  is the **sheafification** of the quotient presheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$  by  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Proposition 2.1.4** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a subsheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $x \in X$ . Then  $(\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F})_x = \mathcal{G}_x/\mathcal{F}_x$ .

**Proof.**  $\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F}$  is the sheaf associated with the presheaf  $U \mapsto \mathcal{G}(U)/\mathcal{F}(U)$  whose **stalks** at  $x$  is clearly isomorphic to  $\mathcal{G}_x/\mathcal{F}_x$ .

## Continuous maps and sheaves

So far, we have only talked about **sheaves** defined on a single topological space. We are going to study in this paragraph some **transformations** of sheaves via **continuous mappings** between topological spaces.

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map of topological spaces. We will define the **pushforward** and **pullback** functors for presheaves and sheaves.

### Pushforward

**Definition 2.1.14** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map between topological spaces. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a presheaf on  $X$ . We define the **pushforward** of  $\mathcal{F}$  by the formula :

$$f_*\mathcal{F}(V) = \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(V))$$

for any open  $V \subseteq Y$ .

Given opens  $W \subseteq V$  of  $Y$  the restriction map is given by the commutativity of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_*\mathcal{F}(V) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(V)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res}_{f^{-1}(V), f^{-1}(W)} \\ f_*\mathcal{F}(W) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(W)) \end{array}$$

It is clear that this defines a presheaf on  $Y$ .

**Remark 2.1.7** The construction is clearly **functorial** in the presheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  and hence we obtain a functor

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_* : \text{PreSh}_X & \longrightarrow & \text{PreSh}_Y \\ \mathcal{F} & \longmapsto & f_*\mathcal{F} \end{array}$$

**Proposition 2.1.5** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map and  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf on  $X$ . Then  $f_*\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf on  $Y$ .

**Proof.** This immediately follows from the fact that if  $(W_j)_j$  is an open covering of some open subset  $W$  of  $Y$  then,  $(f^{-1}(W_j))_j$  is an open covering of the open  $f^{-1}(W)$ . Consequently, we obtain a functor

$$f_* : \text{Sh}_X \longrightarrow \text{Sh}_Y$$

This is compatible with composition in the following strong sense :

**Lemma 2.1.3** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  be continuous maps of topological spaces. Then, the functors  $(g \circ f)_*$  and  $g_* \circ f_*$  are equal.

**Proof.** Immediate.

## Pullback

We saw in example 2.1.1 that if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf on  $X$ , then for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$   $\mathcal{F}|_U$  is a sheaf on  $U$ . Now if we take an arbitrary subset  $Z$  of  $X$ , the restriction of  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Z$  is not necessarily a sheaf because an open set  $W$  of  $Z$  is not necessarily an open set of  $X$ .

Next definition gives the meaning of  $\mathcal{F}|_Z$ , when  $Z$  is a closed subset of  $X$ . This will be generalized in definition 2.1.16 to give the meaning of the pullback presheaf defined by a continuous map. For this purpose, note that if  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a continuous map between topological spaces and  $V$  is an open of  $Y$ , then the family  $(U)_{f(U) \subseteq V}$  consisting of all open subsets  $U$  of  $X$  satisfying  $f(U) \subseteq V$ , is an inductive system for the inverse of the inclusion relation.

**Definition 2.1.15** If  $\iota : Z \rightarrow X$  is the inclusion of a closed subset  $Z$  of  $X$ , and  $V$  is an open subset of  $Z$ . We define the restriction  $\mathcal{F}|_Z$  as the **sheafification** of the following presheaf

$$V \mapsto \varinjlim_{V \subseteq U} \mathcal{F}(U)$$

**Definition 2.1.16** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map between topological spaces and  $\mathcal{G}$  be a presheaf on  $Y$ . We define the **pullback** presheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$  by the formula :

$$f_p \mathcal{G}(U) = \varinjlim_{f(U) \subseteq V} \mathcal{G}(V).$$

**Remark 2.1.8** In the language of **categories**. The **pullback** presheaf  $f_p \mathcal{G}$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  is defined as the **left adjoint** of the **pushforward**  $f_*$  on presheaves. In other words,  $f_p \mathcal{G}$  will be a **presheaf** on  $X$  such that

$$\text{Mor}_{\text{PreSh}_X}(f_p \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}) = \text{Mor}_{\text{PreSh}_Y}(\mathcal{G}, f_* \mathcal{F})$$

**Proposition 2.1.6** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map between topological spaces,  $x$  be a point of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  be a presheaf on  $Y$ . Then, up to an isomorphism, we have  $(f_p \mathcal{G})_x = \mathcal{G}_{f(x)}$ .

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned} (f_p \mathcal{G})_x &= \varinjlim_{x \in U} f_p \mathcal{G}(U) \\ &= \varinjlim_{x \in U} \varinjlim_{f(U) \subseteq V} \mathcal{G}(V) \\ &= \varinjlim_{f(x) \in V} \mathcal{G}(V) \\ &= \mathcal{G}_{f(x)} \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 2.1.17** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map between topological spaces and  $\mathcal{G}$  be a sheaf on  $Y$ . The **pullback** sheaf  $f^{-1} \mathcal{G}$  is defined by the formula :

$$f^{-1} \mathcal{G} = (f_p \mathcal{G})^+$$

$f^{-1} \mathcal{G}$  is also called the **inverse image** along the map  $f$ .

**Remark 2.1.9**  $f^{-1}$  defines a functor :

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1} : \text{Sh}_Y &\longrightarrow \text{Sh}_X \\ \mathcal{G} &\longmapsto f^{-1} \mathcal{G} \end{aligned}$$

The **pullback**  $f^{-1}$  is a **left adjoint** of **pushforward** on sheaves.

$$\text{Mor}_{\text{Sh}_X}(f^{-1} \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}) = \text{Mor}_{\text{Sh}_Y}(\mathcal{G}, f_* \mathcal{F}).$$

For more details see [9, 1.12.1, p.38].

**Example 2.1.4** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf on  $X$  and  $x \in X$ . Let  $\iota : \{x\} \rightarrow X$  be the inclusion map, then  $\iota^{-1}\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_x$

**Lemma 2.1.4** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map between topological spaces,  $x \in X$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  be a sheaf on  $Y$ , then the **stalks**  $(f^{-1}\mathcal{G})_x$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{f(x)}$  are equals.

**Proof.** This a combination of proposition 2.1.3 and proposition 2.1.6.

**Lemma 2.1.5** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  be continuous maps of topological spaces. The functors  $(g \circ f)^{-1}$  and  $f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$  are canonically isomorphic. Similarly,  $(g \circ f)_p = f_p \circ g_p$ , for presheaves.

**Proof.** This follows from the fact that **adjoint functors** are unique up to unique isomorphism, and Lemma 2.1.3.

## Exact sequences of sheaves

In this paragraph, we will define what is an **exact sequence** of sheaves, and we will study some of their properties. For this we will restrict our study to the case of sheaves of **groups**.

**Definition 2.1.18** A sequence of presheaves with presheaves morphisms

$$\dots \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{j-1} \xrightarrow{\psi^{j-1}} \mathcal{F}^j \xrightarrow{\psi^j} \mathcal{F}^{j+1} \xrightarrow{\psi^{j+1}} \dots$$

is said to be exact if for all  $i$ ,  $\text{Im}(\psi^{i-1}) = \ker(\psi^i)$ . In particular the following **exact sequence** is call a **short exact sequence** when it is exact :

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow 0$$

**Remark 2.1.10** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves. Then,

i)  $\psi$  is injective if and only if

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathcal{G}$$

is an exact sequence.

ii)  $\psi$  is surjective if and only if

$$\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence.

**Example 2.1.5** Let  $X = \mathbb{C}$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_X$  the sheaf of holomorphic functions and consider the map  $d : \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ , sending  $f(z)$  to  $f'(z)$ . There is an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}_X \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{O}_X \longrightarrow 0$$

Indeed, this follows by the following facts :

- \* A function whose derivative vanishes identically is **locally constant**, so  $\ker(d)$  is the constant sheaf  $\mathbb{C}_X$ .
- \* In small open disks any **holomorphic** function is a derivative.

**Lemma 2.1.6** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves on  $X$ . Then for any  $x \in X$ , we have  $(\ker \psi)_x = \ker(\psi_x)$  and  $(\operatorname{im} \psi)_x = \operatorname{im}(\psi_x)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $s_x \in (\ker(\psi))_x$ , and let  $U$  an open neighborhood of  $x$  such that  $s \in (\ker(\psi))(U) = \ker(\psi(U))$ , so  $\psi(U)(s) = 0$ , hence  $\psi_x(s_x) = (\psi(U)(s))_x = 0$ , so  $s_x \in \ker(\psi_x)$ . Conversely, if  $\psi_x(s_x) = 0$ , then  $(\psi(U)(s))_x = 0$  ( $U$  is an open neighborhood of  $x$  and  $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ ), then there exists an open neighborhood  $W \subseteq U$  of  $x$  such that  $\psi(U)(s)|_W = 0$ , i.e.,  $\psi(W)(s|_W) = 0$  and therefore  $s|_W \in \ker(\psi(W))$  whence  $s_x = (s|_W)_x \in (\ker(\psi))_x$ . One can proceed similarly for the image.

**Theorem 2.1.3** A sequence of sheaves with sheaves morphisms

$$\dots \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{j-1} \xrightarrow{\psi^{j-1}} \mathcal{F}^j \xrightarrow{\psi^j} \mathcal{F}^{j+1} \xrightarrow{\psi^{j+1}} \dots$$

is an exact sequence if and only if for any  $x \in X$

$$\dots \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_x^{j-1} \xrightarrow{\psi_x^{j-1}} \mathcal{F}_x^j \xrightarrow{\psi_x^j} \mathcal{F}_x^{j+1} \xrightarrow{\psi_x^{j+1}} \dots$$

is an exact sequence.

**Proof.**

$$\dots \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{j-1} \xrightarrow{\psi^{j-1}} \mathcal{F}^j \xrightarrow{\psi^j} \mathcal{F}^{j+1} \xrightarrow{\psi^{j+1}} \dots$$

is an exact sequence if and only if, for any  $j$ ,  $\operatorname{im}(\psi^{j-1}) = \ker(\psi^j)$  if and only if, for any  $x \in X$  and for any  $j$ ,  $\operatorname{im}(\psi_x^{j-1}) = \ker(\psi_x^j)$  if and only if,

$$\dots \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_x^{j-1} \xrightarrow{\psi_x^{j-1}} \mathcal{F}_x^j \xrightarrow{\psi_x^j} \mathcal{F}_x^{j+1} \xrightarrow{\psi_x^{j+1}} \dots$$

is an exact sequence.

**Proposition 2.1.7** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a subsheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$  on  $X$ . Then

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence.

**Proof.** By proposition 2.1.4, for any  $x \in X$ ,

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_x \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_x \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_x/\mathcal{F}_x = (\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F})_x \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence. Hence the result.

**Remark 2.1.11** If

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence over  $X$ , then  $\mathcal{F}$  can be identified with a sub-sheaf of  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F} \simeq \mathcal{H}$ .

**Corollary 2.1.1** Let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism of sheaves. Then

- 1)  $\operatorname{Im}(\psi) \simeq \mathcal{F}/\ker(\psi)$ .
- 2)  $\operatorname{Coker}(\psi) \simeq \mathcal{G}/\operatorname{Im}(\psi)$ .

**Proof.** 1) It is easy to check that for all  $x \in X$ , we have

$$0 \longrightarrow (\ker(\psi))_x \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_x \longrightarrow \text{im}(\psi)_x \longrightarrow 0$$

It follows by theorem 2.1.3, that

$$0 \longrightarrow \ker(\psi) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \text{im}(\psi) \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence. Also by remark 2.1.11 we have  $\text{im}(\psi) \simeq \mathcal{F} / \ker(\psi)$

2) Similar to 1).

### 2.1.3 Glueing sheaves

In this section, we fix a topological space  $X$ , and we consider an open covering  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $X$  with a sheaf  $\mathcal{F}_i$  on each subset  $U_i$ . Our goal is to "**glue**" the  $\mathcal{F}_i$  together, that is we search for a global sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  such that  $\mathcal{F}|_{U_i} = \mathcal{F}_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . For this, we consider the following notion:

**Notation.** i) For  $i, j \in I$ , we denote by  $U_{ij}$  the intersection  $U_i \cap U_j$ .

ii) For  $i, j, k \in I$ , we denote by  $U_{ijk}$  the intersection  $U_i \cap U_j \cap U_k$ .

**Definition 2.1.19** A **Gluing Data** consists of a family of sheaves  $\mathcal{F}_i$  over  $U_i$  and a family of morphisms  $\delta_{ij} : \mathcal{F}_i|_{U_{ij}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_j|_{U_{ij}}$  such that

i)  $\delta_{ii} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{F}_i}$ .

ii)  $\delta_{ji} = \delta_{ij}^{-1}$ .

iii)  $\delta_{ik} = \delta_{jk} \circ \delta_{ij}$  on  $U_{ijk}$ .

A morphism of gluing data  $(\mathcal{F}_i, \delta_{ij}) \longrightarrow (\mathcal{G}_i, \eta_{ij})$  is a family of morphism of sheaves  $\psi_i : \mathcal{F}_i \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_i$  such that the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}_i & \xrightarrow{\psi_i} & \mathcal{G}_i \\ \delta_{ij} \downarrow & & \downarrow \delta_{ij} \\ \mathcal{F}_j & \xrightarrow{\psi_j} & \mathcal{G}_j \end{array}$$

is commutative.

**Theorem 2.1.4** (**Gluing sheaves**) There exists a sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ , unique up to isomorphism such that there are isomorphisms  $\theta_i : \mathcal{F}|_{U_i} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_i$  satisfying

$$\theta_j = \delta_{ij} \circ \theta_i.$$

**Proof.** Let  $W$  be an open subset of  $X$ . We write  $W_i = U_i \cap W$ , and  $W_{ij} = U_{ij} \cap W$ . We are going to define the sections of  $\mathcal{F}$  over  $W$  by gluing sections of the  $\mathcal{F}_i$ 's over  $W_i$ 's along the  $W_{ij}$ 's using the isomorphisms  $\delta_{ij}$ . We define

$$\mathcal{F}(W) := \{(s_i)_{i \in I} \mid \delta_{ji}(s_i|_{W_{ij}}) = \delta_{j|W_{ij}}(s_j|_{W_{ij}})\} \subseteq \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i(W_i). \quad (2.1)$$

The  $\delta_{ij}$ 's are morphisms of sheaves and therefore are compatible with all restrictions maps (see definition 2.1.3). So if  $V \subseteq W$  is another open subset we have

$$\delta_{ij}(s_i|_{V_{ij}}) = s_j|_{V_{ij}}.$$

Because of this, the defining condition (2.1) is compatible with componentwise restrictions, and they can therefore be used as the restriction maps in  $\mathcal{F}$ . We get then a presheaf on  $X$ . To finish the proof we have to complete the following steps:

- \* **First step** : We need to establish an isomorphisms  $\theta_i : \mathcal{F}|_{U_i} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_i$ . To avoid getting confused by the indices, we shall work with a fixed index  $j \in I$ . Suppose  $W \subseteq U_j$  is an open set. We have  $W = W_j$ , and projecting from the product  $\prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i(W_i)$  onto the component

$$\mathcal{F}_j(W) = \mathcal{F}_j(W_j)$$

gives us a map  $\theta_j : \mathcal{F}|_{U_j} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_j$ . Moreover,  $\theta_j((s_i)_{i \in I}) = s_j$ . The situation is summarized in the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(W) & \hookrightarrow & \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i(W_i) \\ & \searrow \theta_j & \downarrow \pi_j \\ & & \mathcal{F}_j(W) \end{array}$$

Now, we want to show that  $\theta_j$ 's give the desired isomorphisms. We note that on the restrictions  $W_{jj'}$ , the requirement in the proposition, that

$$\theta_{j'} = \eta_{j'j} \circ \theta_j$$

is fulfilled. This follows directly from the (2.1) since we have

$$s_j|_{W_{jj'}} = \delta_{jj'}(s_{j'}|_{W_{jj'}}).$$

- \*  $\theta_j$  is **surjective** : Let  $\alpha$  be a section of  $\mathcal{F}_j(W)$  over some  $W \subseteq U_j$ , and let  $s = (\delta_{ij}(\alpha|_{W_{ij}}))_{i \in I}$ . Then  $s$  satisfies (2.1) and is therefore an element  $\mathcal{F}(W)$ . As  $\delta_{jj}(\alpha|_{W_{jj}}) = \alpha$  by the first gluing request, the element  $s$  projects to the section  $\alpha$  of  $\mathcal{F}_j$ .
- \*  $\theta_j$  is **injective** : Suppose that  $s_j = 0$ , then  $s_i|_{W_{ij}} = \delta_{ij}(s_j) = 0$  for each  $i \in I$ . Now  $\mathcal{F}_j$  is a sheaf, and the  $((W_{ij}))_{i \in I}$  is an open covering of  $W_j$ . So  $s = 0$ .
- \* **Final step** : We have to show  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf. Let  $\{W_j\}_{j \in J}$  be an open covering of  $W \subseteq U$ , and  $s_j \in \mathcal{F}(W_j)$  is a bunch of sections matching on the intersections  $W_{jj'}$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}|_{U_i \cap W}$  is a sheaf patch together to give sections  $s_i$  in  $\mathcal{F}_{U_i \cap W}$  matching on the overlaps  $U_{ij} \cap W$ . This last condition means that  $\delta_{ij}(s_i) = s_j$ . By definition  $(s_i)_{i \in I}$ , then is a section in  $\mathcal{F}(W)$  restricting to  $s_i$ . Hence the result.

The **Gluing axiom** (see definition 2.1.6) is easier : Let  $s = (s_i)_{i \in I}$  in  $\mathcal{F}(W)$ , and a covering  $\mathcal{L} = \{V_j\}_{j \in J}$  of  $W$  such that  $s|_{V_j} = 0$  for all  $j \in J$ , then also  $s|_{V_j \cap W_i} = 0$ , and since  $\{V_j \cap W_i\}_{j \in J}$  forms a covering of  $W_i$ , we must have  $s|_{W_i} = 0$  as well, since  $\mathcal{F}_{W_i} = \mathcal{F}_i$  is a sheaf. But from the (2.1) we thus see that  $s = 0$ .



## 2.2 Spectrum of a ring and ringed spaces

### 2.2.1 Spectrum of ring

In this section, for a commutative ring  $R$ , we will define **Zariski topology** on the spectrum  $\text{Spec}(R)$  of  $R$  and study some of the basic properties of this topological space. One can already notice the analogy with Zariski topology defined on affine algebraic sets, indeed, this last one is fully inspired from the first one in an attempt to make our work on varieties free from the assumption that the base field  $k$  is algebraically closed (even free from working on varieties defined only on field). We define then and study some basic facts concerning **ringed spaces** for which we make intensive call to **sheaf theory**. All this is made to prepare necessary tools to define schemes of rings which will generalize the notion of (classical) algebraic sets.

**Definition 2.2.1** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. The set of all **prime ideals** of  $R$  is called the **spectrum** of  $R$ . It will be denoted by  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Remark 2.2.1** Plainly, the set of all maximal ideals of  $R$  is a subset of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , it is denoted by  $\text{Spm}(R)$ . By **Krull theorem**, for any (nonzero) commutative ring  $R$ , then  $R$  has a maximal ideal, so  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is nonempty.

**Examples 2.2.1** 1) If  $R$  be a field, then  $\text{Spec}(R) = \{0\}$ .

2)  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}) = \{p\mathbb{Z} \mid p \text{ prime number}\} \cup \{0\}$ .

3) By corollary 1.1.1, if  $R$  is an **algebraically closed field**, then for any positive integer  $n$ ,  $\text{Spec}(R[T_1, \dots, T_n]) = \{(T_1 - a_1, \dots, T_n - a_n) \mid \text{where } a_i \in R\}$

**Notation.** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $S$  be a subset of  $R$ .

\* We define

$$V(S) = \{P \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid S \subseteq P\}.$$

\* For any  $f \in R$ , we denote by  $D(f)$  the complement of  $V(\{f\})$  i.e,

$$D(f) = \{P \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid f \notin P\}.$$

**Remark 2.2.2** One can easily see that  $V(1) = \emptyset$  and  $V(0) = \text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proposition 2.2.1** Let  $R$  be a ring,  $S, M$  be subsets of  $R$ ,  $I, J$  be ideals of  $R$  and  $f \in R$ . Then, the following statements hold :

- 1) If  $S \subseteq M$ , then  $V(M) \subseteq V(S)$ .
- 2) Let  $(S)$  be the ideal generated by  $S$ , then we have  $V(S) = V((S))$ .
- 3)  $V(J) = V(\text{rad}(J))$ .
- 4)  $V(I) = \emptyset$  if and only if  $I = R$ .
- 5)  $V(I) = V(J)$  if and only if  $\text{rad}(I) = \text{rad}(J)$ .
- 6)  $V(I) \cup V(J) = V(I \cap J) = V(IJ)$ .
- 7) If  $\{I_j\}$  is a family of ideals of  $R$ , then

$$\bigcap_j V(I_j) = V\left(\bigcup_j I_j\right).$$

**Proof.** 1) Clear.

- 2) Plainly, we have  $V((S)) \subseteq V(S)$ . Conversely, let  $P \in V(S)$  and  $g \in (S)$ , we need to show that  $g \in P$ . We can write  $g = \sum_{j=1}^r f_j h_j$ ,  $f_j \in S$ ,  $h_j \in R$ . Since  $S \subseteq P$ , then for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ ,  $f_j \in P$ . So  $f_j h_j \in P$ . Thus,  $\sum_{j=1}^r f_j h_j \in P$  which means that  $g \in P$ .
- 3) Since  $J \subseteq \text{rad}(J)$ , then clearly  $V(\text{rad}(J)) \subseteq V(J)$ . Conversely,  $P \in V(J)$ , then we have  $J \subseteq P$ , so  $\text{rad}(J) \subseteq \text{rad}(P) = P$ . Thus  $P \in V(\text{rad}(J))$ .
- 4) As seen above, we have  $V(R) = \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $I \neq R$ , then there exists a maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $R$  such that  $I \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . By 1) we have  $V(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq V(I)$ . Since  $\mathcal{M}$  is prime, then  $\mathcal{M} \in V(\mathcal{M})$ . So  $V(I) \neq \emptyset$ .
- 5) If  $\text{rad}(I) = \text{rad}(J)$ , then by 3),  $V(I) = V(J)$ . Conversely, suppose that  $V(I) = V(J)$ , then  $\bigcap_{I \subseteq P} P = \bigcap_{J \subseteq P} P$ , which means that  $\text{rad}(I) = \text{rad}(J)$ .
- 6) We have  $I \cap J \subseteq I, J$ , so by 1)  $V(I) \cup V(J) \subseteq V(I \cap J)$ . Conversely, let  $P \in V(I \cap J)$ , i.e.,  $I \cap J \subseteq P$ . Since  $P$  is prime, then necessarily  $I \subseteq P$  or  $J \subseteq P$ , so  $P \in V(I) \cup V(J)$ . The rest is clear.
- 7) Note that  $P \in \bigcap_j V(I_j)$  if and only if  $P$  contains all  $I_j$  if and only if  $P$  contains  $\bigcup_j I_j$  if and only if  $P \in V(\bigcup_j I_j)$ .

**Remark 2.2.3** Proposition 2.2.1 shows that we can consider a topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$  by taking the subsets  $V(S)$  to be the closed subsets of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Definition 2.2.2** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. The **topology** on  $\text{Spec}(R)$  whose closed sets are the sets  $V(S)$ , where  $S$  describes all subsets of  $R$ , is called the **Zariski topology** of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ . For  $f \in R$ ,  $D(f)$  is plainly an open subset of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ . These open sets are called the **principal open** subsets of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Remarks 2.2.1** i) Let  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $P$  is a closed point of  $\text{Spec}(R)$  (i.e.,  $\{P\}$  is a closed subset of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ ) if and only if  $P$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ .

ii)  $(0) (= \{0\}) \in \text{Spec}(R)$  if and only if  $R$  has a nonzero divisors.

**Proposition 2.2.2** For a commutative ring  $R$ , the following statements hold :

- 1)  $D(f) = \emptyset$ , if and only if  $f \in N(R)$ , the nilradical of  $R$ .
- 2)  $D(f) = \text{Spec}(R)$ , if and only if  $f \in U(R)$ , the group of invertible elements of  $R$ .
- 3) For all  $f, g \in R$ ,  $D(fg) = D(f) \cap D(g)$ .
- 4) For every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $D(f^m) = D(f)$ .

**Proof.** 1) Clearly, if  $D(f) = \emptyset$ , then  $f \in P$  for all prime ideals  $P$  of  $R$ , thus  $f \in N(R)$ . The converse is straightforward.

2) If  $D(f) = \text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $f$  is not in any prime ideal of  $R$ , and so it is not in any maximal ideal. Since every non-unit is contained in some maximal ideal,  $f$  must be a unit. The converse is clear.

3) and 4) Clear.

**Theorem 2.2.1** The sets  $D(f)$  form a **basis** for the **Zariski topology**.

**Proof.** Indeed, to show for any Ideal  $J$  of  $R$  we have  $\text{Spec}(R) \setminus V(J) = \bigcup_{f \in J} D(f)$ .

**Notation.** For any  $Y \subseteq \text{Spec}(R)$ , let  $j(Y) := \{f \in R \mid Y \subseteq V(f)\}$ . One has  $j(Y) = \bigcap_{P \in Y} P$ . In particular,  $j(Y)$  is a **radical** ideal of  $R$ .

**Lemma 2.2.1** 1) If  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are subsets of  $\text{Spec}(R)$  such that  $Y_1 \subseteq Y_2$ , then  $j(Y_2) \subseteq j(Y_1)$ .

2) If  $(Y_t)_{t \in T}$  is a family of subsets of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $j(\bigcup_{t \in T} Y_t) = \bigcap_{t \in T} j(Y_t)$ .

3) For every subset  $Y$  of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , we have  $Y \subseteq V(j(Y))$ .

4) For every subset  $S$  of  $R$ , we have  $S \subseteq j(V(S))$ .

**Proof.** 1) and 2) clear.

3) Let  $P \in Y$ . Since  $j(Y) = \bigcap_{P \in Y} P \subseteq P$ , then  $P \in V(j(Y))$ .

4) Clear.

The following result gives a **characterization** of the **closure** of a subset of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proposition 2.2.3** Let  $Y$  be a subset of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ . Then  $\bar{Y} = V(j(Y))$ .

**Proof.** By lemma 2.2.1 3)  $Y \subseteq V(j(Y))$ , so  $\bar{Y} \subseteq V(j(Y))$ . Conversely, it suffices to show that any closed set containing  $Y$  must contain  $V(j(Y))$ . If  $Y \subseteq V(S)$ , then for any  $P \in Y$ , we have  $S \subseteq P$ , and this yields  $S \cap \bigcap_{P \in Y} P = j(Y)$ . So  $V(j(Y)) \subseteq V(S)$ .

**Remark 2.2.4** Let  $X$  be a topological space, if  $X$  is **Hausdorff**, then for every  $x \in X$ , we have  $\{x\}$  is closed. So,  $X = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$  is not **Hausdorff**. Indeed, we have  $j(\{0\}) = \bigcap_{P \in X} P$  and by proposition 2.2.3, we have  $\overline{\{0\}} = V(j(\{0\})) = V(0) = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ . So  $\{0\}$  is not closed.

In the **chapter** 1, we gave a one-to-one **correspondence** between the set of **algebraic sets** of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  and the set of **radical ideals** of  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , when  $k$  is **algebraically closed**. This was defined by the maps  $X \mapsto I(X)$  and  $J \mapsto Z(J)$ . The following result gives a similar correspondence when replacing  $\mathbb{A}^n$  by  $\text{Spec}(R)$  and  $k[T_1, \dots, T_n]$  by  $R$ .

**Theorem 2.2.2** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Then

i) For every ideal  $I$  of  $R$ , we have  $j(V(I)) = \text{rad}(I)$ .

ii) The maps  $S \longrightarrow V(S)$  and  $Y \longrightarrow j(Y)$  induce bijections, inverse one of the other, between the set of **radical ideals** of  $R$  and the set of **closed subsets** of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proof.** i) We have  $j(V(I)) = \bigcap_{P \in V(I)} P = \bigcap_{I \subseteq P} P = \text{rad}(I)$ .

ii) This follows directly from i) and proposition 2.2.3.

**Proposition 2.2.4** 1) Let  $\psi : R \longrightarrow A$  be a homomorphism of rings. Then  $\psi$  induces a **continuous** map  $\psi^* : \text{Spec}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$  given by  $\psi^*(Q) = \psi^{-1}(Q)$ .

2) Let  $J$  be an ideal of  $R$  and  $\pi : R \longrightarrow R/J$  be the **canonical homomorphism**. Then  $\pi^*$  is a homeomorphism from  $\text{Spec}(R/J)$ , to the subspace  $V(J)$  of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proof.** 1) It is clear that for any  $Q \in \text{Spec}(A)$ ,  $\psi^{-1}(Q) \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . One can easily see that

$$(\psi^*)^{-1}(V(J)) = V(\psi(J)).$$

This shows that  $\psi^*$  is continuous.

- 2) We know that the prime ideals of  $R/J$  are the ideals  $I/J$  where  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  containing  $J$ . The rest of the proof is straightforward.

**Corollary 2.2.1** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, then  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is **homeomorphic** to  $\text{Spec}(R/N(R))$  where  $N(R)$  denotes the **nilradical** of  $R$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to see that  $V(N(R)) = \text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Remark 2.2.5** Let  $S$  be a multiplicatively stable subset of  $R \setminus \{0\}$ . By [3, Proposition, 3.11, p.41], there is one-to-one **correspondence** between **prime ideals** of  $S^{-1}R$ , and **prime ideals** of  $R$  disjoint from  $S$ . One deduce then the following result.

**Proposition 2.2.5** Let  $\Omega := \{P \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid P \cap S = \emptyset\}$ , then the map  $\theta : \Omega \rightarrow \text{Spec}(S^{-1}R)$ , defined by  $\theta(P) = S^{-1}P$  is a **homeomorphism**.

**Proposition 2.2.6** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Then  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is **compact**.

**Proof.** It suffices to show that any cover of  $\text{Spec}(R)$  by basic open sets, has a finite sub-cover. Assume  $\text{Spec}(R) \subseteq \bigcup_{t \in T} D(f_t)$  and let  $J := (\{f_t, t \in T\})$ , be the ideal of  $R$  generated by the  $f_t$ . For any  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , we have  $P \in D(f_t)$  for some  $t \in T$ . Thus,  $J$  cannot be contained in any prime ideal of  $R$ , and so cannot be contained in any maximal ideal of  $R$ . Write  $1 = \sum_{j=1}^r h_j f_j$ . For any  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , we have  $1 \notin P$ , so  $f_{t_j} \notin P$ , for some  $j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ . Hence  $f \in D(f_{t_j})$ . Therefore,  $\text{Spec}(R) \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^r D(f_{t_j})$ .

**Corollary 2.2.2** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and let  $f \in R$ . Then  $D(f)$  is **compact** with respect to the subspace topology induced from  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Theorem 2.2.3** Let  $R$  be a **Noetherian** ring, then  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is a **Noetherian** topological space.

**Proof.** Let

$$V(J_1) \supseteq V(J_2) \supseteq \dots$$

be a descending chain of closed sets in  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , where  $J_i$  are ideals of  $R$ , then we have a corresponding ascending sequence

$$\text{rad}(J_1) \subseteq \text{rad}(J_2) \subseteq \dots$$

of ideals of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is a **Noetherian** ring, then there exists  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for all  $r \geq d$ ,  $\text{rad}(J_r) = \text{rad}(J_d)$ . It follows that  $V(J_r) = V(J_d)$ , for all  $r \geq d$  showing  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is **Noetherian**.

## Irreducibility

We give in this section a characterization of the **irreducible** closed subsets of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Lemma 2.2.2** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ . Then  $V(P)$  is **irreducible** in  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that  $V(P) = V(J_1) \cup V(J_2)$ , where  $J_1, J_2$  are ideals of  $R$ . Since  $P \in V(P)$ , then  $P \in V(J_1)$  or  $P \in V(J_2)$ . Assume that  $P \in V(J_1)$ , i.e.,  $J_1 \subseteq P$ . , then for any  $Q \in V(P)$ , we have  $J_1 \subseteq P \subseteq Q$ , so  $Q \in V(J_1)$ . Consequently,  $V(P) = V(J_1)$ .

**Proposition 2.2.7** Let  $J$  be an ideal of  $R$ . If  $V(J)$  is **irreducible**, then  $\text{rad}(J)$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f, g \in R$  with  $fg \in \text{rad}(J)$  and suppose that  $f, g \notin \text{rad}(J)$ . Then there exist two prime ideals  $P, Q$  such that  $J \subseteq P, Q$  with  $f \notin P$  and  $g \notin Q$ . We then have  $P \in V(J) \cap D(f)$  and  $Q \in V(J) \cap D(g)$  and clearly  $V(J) \cap D(f), V(J) \cap D(g)$  are nonempty open subset of  $V(J)$ . Since  $V(J)$  is irreducible, by proposition 1.1.3 we have  $W := (V(J) \cap D(f)) \cap (V(J) \cap D(g)) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $L$  be the intersection of all elements of  $W$ . We have:

$L \subseteq V(J) = V(\text{rad}(J))$ , so  $\text{rad}(J) \subseteq L$  and  $L \subseteq D(f) \cap D(g) = D(fg)$ , so  $fg \notin L$  which contradicts the fact that  $fg \in \text{rad}(J) \subseteq L$ . Hence  $\text{rad}(J)$  is a prime ideal.

**Remark 2.2.6** If  $\text{rad}(J)$  is a prime ideal, by lemma 2.2.2 then  $V(J)$  is *irreducible*.

**Proposition 2.2.8** Let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a *closed subset*  $Y$  of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $Y$  is *irreducible* if and only if  $Y$  is of the form  $Y = V(P)$  for some ideal  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proof.** This follows from the above since for any ideal  $J$  of  $R$ , we have  $V(J) = V(\text{rad}(J))$ .

**Theorem 2.2.4** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Then  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is *irreducible* if and only if  $N(R)$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ .

**Proof.** For any  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , we have  $N(R) \subseteq P$ , so  $P \in V(N(R))$ . Thus,  $\text{Spec}(R) = V(N(R))$ , hence by remark 2.2.6  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is *irreducible* when  $N(R)$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ . Conversely, suppose that  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is irreducible. Let  $fg \in N(R)$ . By proposition 2.2.2 3 we have  $D(fg) = D(f) \cap D(g)$ , moreover, if  $f$  and  $g$  are not nilpotent, then by proposition 2.2.2,  $D(f)$  and  $D(g)$  are nonempty. Since  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is *irreducible* then  $D(fg) (= D(f) \cap D(g))$  is nonempty. This implies that  $fg$  is not nilpotent a contradiction.

## Generic points

**Definition 2.2.3** Let  $X$  be a topological space,  $Y$  be a *closed* subset of  $X$  and  $x \in Y$ . We say that  $x$  is a generic point for  $Y$  if  $Y$  is the *closure* of the singleton  $\{x\}$ , i.e.,  $Y = \overline{\{x\}}$ .

**Examples 2.2.2** 1) Let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ , then  $\overline{P} = V(P)$  and  $P$  is the only *generic point* of  $V(P)$ .

2) For an *integral domain*  $R$ , the zero ideal  $N(R) (= (0))$  is prime, and  $\overline{\{(0)\}} = \text{Spec}(R)$ . Then  $(0)$  is a *generic point* of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

## 2.2.2 Ringed spaces

**Definition 2.2.4** A *ringed* topological space is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  consisting of a space and a *sheaf* of rings  $\mathcal{O}_X$  called the *structure sheaf*.

**Examples 2.2.3** 1) Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $\mathcal{O}_X (= C^0(., \mathbb{R}))$  be a sheaf of continuous real functions on  $X$ . Then  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a *ringed space*.

2) Let  $M$  be a  $C^\infty$ -*manifold*, then the sheaf  $C^\infty(., \mathbb{R})$  of *smooth functions* is a sheaf of rings on  $M$ .

**Remark 2.2.7** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a *ringed space* and  $U$  an open subset of  $X$ , then  $(U, \mathcal{O}_{X|U})$  is a *ringed space*, the *structure sheaf*  $\mathcal{O}_{X|U}$  will be denoted simply by  $\mathcal{O}_U$ .

**Definition 2.2.5** A morphism of *ringed spaces* is pair  $(f, f^\#) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ , where  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *continuous map*, and  $f^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow f_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is a morphism of sheaves of rings on  $Y$ .

**Remark 2.2.8** For every open subset  $U$  of  $Y$  :



1)  $f^\sharp(U) : \mathcal{O}_Y(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(U))$  is a **ring homomorphism**.

2) We have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_Y(U) & \xrightarrow{f^\sharp(U)} & \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(U)) \\ \downarrow \text{res}_{U,V} & & \downarrow \text{res}_{f^{-1}(U), f^{-1}(V)} \\ \mathcal{O}_Y(V) & \xrightarrow{f^\sharp(V)} & \mathcal{O}_X(f^{-1}(V)) \end{array}$$

for any open subsets  $V \subseteq U$  of  $Y$

3) Let's denote the set of morphisms of ringed spaces from  $X$  to  $Y$  by  $\text{Hom}((X, \mathcal{O}_X), (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y))$ . Then we have a canonical categorical isomorphism :  $\text{Hom}((X, \mathcal{O}_X), (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)) \cong \{f : X \longrightarrow Y \text{ (a continuous map) and } f^\flat : f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \text{ (a morphism of sheaves)}\}$  (see [9, Lemma 1.45])

**Notation.** Let  $(f, f^\sharp) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of **ringed spaces**. We will simply write  $f$  instead of  $(f, f^\sharp)$ .

**Examples 2.2.4** 1) Let  $\psi : U \longrightarrow V$  be a morphism of varieties, then  $\psi$  induces a canonical morphism of **ringed spaces**

$$(U, \mathcal{O}_U) \longrightarrow (V, \mathcal{O}_V)$$

where  $\mathcal{O}_U$  (respectively  $\mathcal{O}_V$ ) is the sheaf of **regular functions** on  $U$  (resp  $V$ ).

We take  $f = \psi : U \longrightarrow V$  to be the corresponding continuous map and  $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_V \longrightarrow f_*\mathcal{O}_U$  to be defined by : For each open set  $W \subseteq V$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_V(W) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{O}_U(f^{-1}(W)) \\ h & \longmapsto & f^\sharp(h) := h \circ \psi. \end{array}$$

2) Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a ringed space,  $W \subseteq X$  be an open subset and let  $j : W \longrightarrow X$  be the canonical injection. Then  $(j, j^\sharp) : (W, \mathcal{O}_W) \longrightarrow (X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a morphism of **ringed spaces**, where for every open  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $j^\sharp(U) : \mathcal{O}_X(U) \longrightarrow j_*\mathcal{O}_W(U) (= \mathcal{O}_W(U \cap W))$  is the restriction morphism.

**Remarks 2.2.2** 1) Let  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of ringed spaces. For any  $x \in X$ ,  $f$  induces a morphism of the **stalks**  $f_x^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_{Y, f(x)} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X, x}$

2) Let  $(f, f^\sharp) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ , and  $(h, h^\sharp) : (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) \longrightarrow (Z, \mathcal{O}_Z)$  be morphisms of **ringed spaces**. It is clear that  $h \circ f$  is a continuous map and by lemma 2.1.3, we have  $(h \circ f)_* = h_* \circ f_*$ , then  $(h \circ f)_*\mathcal{O}_X = h_*(f_*\mathcal{O}_X)$ , since  $f_*\mathcal{O}_X$  is a sheaf on  $Y$  then  $h_* \circ f_*\mathcal{O}_X$  is a sheaf on  $Z$ .

**Definition 2.2.6** Let  $(f, f^\sharp) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  and  $(h, h^\sharp) : (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) \longrightarrow (Z, \mathcal{O}_Z)$  be morphisms of **ringed spaces**. The composition of these morphisms is given by the map  $h \circ f$  and the morphism of sheaves  $h^\sharp$  given by

$$\mathcal{O}_Z \longrightarrow h_*\mathcal{O}_Y \longrightarrow h_*f_*\mathcal{O}_X$$

We denote this **composition** of morphisms(of ringed spaces) as follows :

$$(h, h^\sharp) \circ (f, f^\sharp) = (h \circ f, f^\sharp \circ h^\sharp).$$

We get in this way a category  $\mathcal{RS}$  of **ringed spaces**. An **isomorphism** of ringed spaces is a morphism which has an inverse. If  $X$  is a **ringed space** with structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X$ ,  $Z$  a topological space and  $f : Z \longrightarrow X$  a continuous map, then  $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$  can be considered as a structure sheaf on  $Z$ . In particular any subspace of a **ringed space** is a ringed space.



## Locally ringed spaces

**Definition 2.2.7** i) A **locally ringed** space is a **ringed** space  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  with the property that the stalk of each point is a local ring. In other words for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} = \varinjlim_{U \ni x} \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is a local ring.

ii) Given a **locally ringed** space  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ , we say that  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is the **local ring** of  $X$  at  $x$ . We denote by  $\mathfrak{m}_{X,x}$  or simply by  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ . The **residue field** of  $X$  at  $x$  is  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}/\mathfrak{m}_x$ . We denote it by  $k(x)$ .

**Example 2.2.1** Let  $X$  be a complex analytic manifold and  $\mathcal{O}_X$  the sheaf of holomorphic functions on  $X$ , then  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a **locally ringed spaces**.

**Definition 2.2.8** A morphism of **locally ringed** spaces  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  is a morphism of ringed topological spaces  $(f, f^\#)$  such that for all  $x \in X$  the induced map

$$f_x^\# : \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$$

is a **local homomorphism** i.e.,  $f_x^\#(\mathfrak{m}_{f(x)}) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}_x$ . Recall that we have  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} = (f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y)_x$  (see lemma 2.1.4).

**Example 2.2.2** Let  $M$  be a manifold on which we consider the sheaf  $\mathcal{C}^\infty(M)$ . Then  $(M, \mathcal{C}^\infty(M))$  is a **locally ringed** space. Moreover, any morphism  $f : M \rightarrow N$  of manifolds induces a morphism of locally ringed spaces  $(M, \mathcal{C}^\infty(M)) \rightarrow (N, \mathcal{C}^\infty(N))$ .

Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a **locally ringed** space and  $x \in X$ . We have a **canonical surjection**  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \xrightarrow{\phi} k(x)$ , called **evaluation** at  $x$ . For  $h \in \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ , denoting  $\phi(x)$  by  $h(x)$ ,  $h(x) \neq 0$  if and only if  $h$  is invertible in  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ . Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$  and  $x \in U$ . The composition morphism  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x} \rightarrow k(x)$  will also be denoted by  $h \mapsto h(x)$ . In particular, if  $h$  is an **invertible** element of  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ , then  $h(x)$  is a nonzero element of  $k(x)$ .

## 2.3 Affine schemes and varieties

As we have seen, one can view a differentiable manifold of dimension  $m$  as a locally **ringed space**. **Grothendieck**\* defined a **scheme** in roughly the same way, with the important difference that, rather than one local model  $\mathbb{R}^m$  in each dimension, one needs to use all the ringed spaces  $\text{Spec}(R)$  for the local models.

### 2.3.1 Affine schemes

In section 2.1, we introduced the notion of **sheaf** on an arbitrary topological space. In this section, we are interested in a very particular space, the **spectrum** of a commutative ring. We continue to assume that  $R$  denotes a ring **commutative** a unit.

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\***Alexander Grothendieck**, (French 28 March 1928–13 November 2014) was a stateless and then French mathematician who became the leading figure in the creation of **modern algebraic geometry**. His research extended the scope of the field and added elements of commutative algebra, homological algebra, sheaf theory, and category theory to its foundations, while his so-called "relative" perspective led to revolutionary advances in many areas of pure mathematics. He is considered by many to be the greatest mathematician of the twentieth century.

## The Structure Sheaf on $\text{Spec}(R)$

**Definition 2.3.1** Let  $R$  be a ring,  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ . We define a **sheaf** of rings on  $\text{Spec}(R)$  as follows. For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , let

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) := \left\{ s : U \longrightarrow \coprod_{Q \in X} R_Q \mid \text{for all } Q \in U, \text{ we have } s(Q) \in R_Q, \text{ there exist } a, f \in R, \text{ and an open subset } V \text{ of } U \text{ such that } V \subseteq D(f) \text{ and } s(L) = \frac{a}{f} \text{ for all } L \in V \right\}.$$

This formula clearly defines a **sheaf** of rings on  $X$ .

**Remark 2.3.1** 1) Note the similarity in the above definition the definition of **regular functions** on a **variety**. The difference is that we consider functions into various **local rings**, instead of to a **field**.

- 2) It is clear that **sums** and **products** of such functions are again such, and that the element 1 which gives 1 in each  $R_P$  is an **identity**. Hence  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is a **commutative ring** with identity.
- 3) If  $V \subseteq U$  are open subsets of  $X$ , then the restriction map  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(V)$ ,  $s \longmapsto s|_V$  is a homomorphism of rings.

**Proposition 2.3.1** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ . Then :

- 1) For all  $f \in R$ , we have a **canonical isomorphism**  $\mathcal{O}_X(D(f)) \simeq R_f$ , where  $R_f$  the **localization** of  $R$  by  $S = \{1, f, f^2, \dots\}$ .
- 2) If  $g \in R$  and  $g \in (f)$ , then there is commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_X(D(f)) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{O}_X(D(g)) \\ \downarrow \simeq & & \downarrow \simeq \\ R_f & \longrightarrow & R_g \end{array}$$

where the vertical isomorphisms come from 1).

- 3) For any  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , there is a natural isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P} \cong R_P$  which fits in a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_{X,P} & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & R_P \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathcal{O}_X(X) & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & R \end{array}$$

Here the vertical morphisms are the natural ones and the lower horizontal one comes from 1).

**Proof.** 1) Let  $f \in R$ , and let  $\psi : R_f \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(D(f))$  be the map defined by :

$$\psi\left(\frac{a}{f^n}\right) := \text{the map } s : D(f) \longrightarrow \coprod_{P \in X} R_P \text{ which sends any } P \in D(f) \text{ to the image of } \frac{a}{f^n} \text{ in } R_P$$

One can easily see that  $\psi$  is a homomorphism of rings. We wish to show that  $\psi$  is an **isomorphism**.

\*  $\psi$  is injective :

We have  $\ker(\psi) = \left\{ \frac{a}{f^n} \in R_f \mid \psi\left(\frac{a}{f^n}\right) = 0 \right\} = \left\{ \frac{a}{f^n} \in R_f \mid s(P) := \frac{a}{f^n} = 0, \text{ in } R_P, \text{ for all } P \right\}$   
 Suppose that  $\frac{a}{f^n} \in \ker(\psi)$  and  $\frac{a}{f^n} \neq 0$ , and let  $\text{Ann}\left(\frac{a}{f^n}\right) := \{g \in R_f \mid g \cdot \frac{a}{f^n} = 0\}$ . Since  $\frac{a}{f^n}$ , since  $\frac{a}{f^n} \neq 0$ , then  $\text{Ann}\left(\frac{a}{f^n}\right) \neq R_f$ , so there exists a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $R_f$  such that  $\text{Ann}\left(\frac{a}{f^n}\right) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$ . It follows that the image of  $\frac{a}{f^n}$  in  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$  does not vanish, a contradiction.

\*  $\psi$  is surjective :

Let  $s \in \mathcal{O}_X(D(f))$ . We know that in the neighbourhood of every point of  $D(f)$ ,  $s$  is represented by a fraction. Since  $\mathcal{B} := \{D(g), g \in R\}$  is a basis of  $X$  (see theorem 2.2.1) and  $D(f)$  is **compact** (see proposition 2.2.2), then there are  $f_1, \dots, f_r \in R$   $D(f) = \bigcup_{j=1}^r D(f_j)$ . There are  $g_1, \dots, g_r \in R$  such that  $s$  is represented on  $D(f_j)$  by  $\frac{g_j}{f_j}$ . By proposition 2.2.2 we have  $D(f_i) \cap D(f_j) = D(f_i f_j)$ .

Using the fact that  $\psi$  is injective, we get  $\frac{g_i}{f_i} = \frac{g_j}{f_j}$ . Hence for some  $m$

$$(f_i f_j)^m f_j g_i = (f_i f_j)^m f_i g_j.$$

Using the assumption and proposition 2.2.1, there are  $h_1, \dots, h_r \in R$  and  $d \geq 1$  such that  $f^d = \sum_{j=1}^r h_j f_j^{m+1}$ . Let  $\beta := \sum_{j=1}^r h_j f_j^m g_j$ , it is easy to check that  $\beta f_i^{m+1} = f^d f_i^m g_i$ . Then

$$\frac{\beta}{f^d} = \frac{g_i}{f_i}$$

in  $R_{f_i}$ . In other words,  $\frac{\beta}{f^d}$  is an element of  $D(f)$  whose image in  $\mathcal{O}_X(D(f))$  is  $s$ .

2) Immediate, using the fact that if  $D(g) \subseteq D(f)$  if and only if  $g \in \text{rad}((f))$  if and only if  $g^m = fc$ , for some positive integer  $m$ . So  $f$  is invertible in  $R_g$ , and we have a homomorphism of rings

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \theta : R_f & \longrightarrow & R_g \\ \frac{a}{f^n} & \longmapsto & \frac{ac^n}{g^{mn}} \end{array}$$

3) We have a natural isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P} \cong \varinjlim_{f \in R, f \notin P} \mathcal{O}_X(D(f))$ . By 1) and 2), last ring is naturally isomorphic to  $\varinjlim_{f \in R, f \notin P} R_p$ , which can be identified with  $R_P$  (\*).

**Remark 2.3.2** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . There is a natural isomorphism

$$\varinjlim_{f \in R, f \notin P} R_P \simeq R_P$$

Here the arrows in the **inductive system** are defined as follows. If  $g$  is a multiple of  $f$  then the arrow is the natural map. Otherwise there is no arrow. This justifying (\*)

**Theorem 2.3.1** Let  $R$  and  $T$  be two rings, and let  $\psi : R \longrightarrow T$  be a homomorphism of rings. Then :

- i)  $(X = \text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a **locally ringed space**.
- ii)  $\psi$  induces a natural morphism of **locally ringed spaces**

$$(\psi, \psi^\sharp) : (Z := \text{Spec}(T), \mathcal{O}_Z) \longrightarrow (X := \text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_X)$$

- iii) Any morphism of **locally ringed spaces** from  $Z$  to  $X$  is induced by a homomorphism of rings  $\psi : R \longrightarrow T$  as in ii).

**Proof.** i) This follows from proposition 2.3.1.

- ii) By proposition 2.2.4  $\psi$  induces a continuous map  $\psi^* : Z \longrightarrow X$ , we can localize  $\psi$  to obtain a local homomorphism of local rings  $\psi_Q : R_{\psi^{-1}(Q)} \longrightarrow T_Q$ . Now, for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , we have a homomorphism of rings  $(\psi^*)^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_X(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_Z((\psi^*)^{-1}(U))$ . One can see that  $(\psi^*, (\psi^*)^\sharp)$  is a morphism of **locally ringed spaces**.

iii) Let  $(f, f^\sharp) : (Z, \mathcal{O}_Z) \longrightarrow (X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a morphism of locally ringed spaces. By definition we have for any open subset  $V$  of  $X$ , we have a homomorphism of rings  $f^\sharp(V) : \mathcal{O}_X(V) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_Z(\psi^{-1}(V))$ . In particular, for  $V = X$ , we have  $\mathcal{O}_X(X) = R$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_Z(f^{-1}(X)) = \mathcal{O}_Z(Z) = T$ . So we get a homomorphism of rings  $\psi := f^\sharp(X) : R \longrightarrow T$ . Let  $Q \in \text{Spec}(T)$ , we have an induced **local homomorphism** on the stalks,  $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_{X, f(Q)} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{Z, Q}$  such that the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\psi} & T \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ R_{f(Q)} & \xrightarrow{f_Q^\sharp} & T_Q \end{array}$$

commutes. The assumption that  $f_Q^\sharp$  is local then gives  $\psi^{-1}(Q) = f(Q)$ , which shows that  $f$  coincides with the map  $Z \longrightarrow X$  induced by  $\psi$ . It is immediate that  $f^\sharp$  also is induced by  $\psi$ . So that  $(f, f^\sharp)$  does indeed come from  $\psi$ .

**Corollary 2.3.1** Let  $R, T$  be a two rings. Then the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \chi : \text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(R, T) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}((Z, \mathcal{O}_Z), (X, \mathcal{O}_X)) \\ \psi & \longmapsto & (\psi^*, (\psi^*)^\sharp) \end{array}$$

is a bijection.

**Proof.** This follows from theorem 2.3.1 ii) and iii).

Now, we come to the definition of a **scheme**.

**Definition 2.3.2** Let  $X$  be a **locally ringed space**. We say that  $X$  is an **affine scheme** if there exists a ring  $R$  such that  $X$  is isomorphic to the **spectrum** of  $R$ , i.e.,  $X$  is an **affine scheme** if and only if  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \simeq (\text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)})$ , where  $\simeq$  is an **isomorphism** of **locally ringed spaces** as defined in section 2.2.2.

**Examples 2.3.1** 1) For a field  $k$ ,  $\text{Spec}(k)$  consists of one single point, with structural sheaf  $k$ .

2)  $\text{Spec}(k[T_1, \dots, T_n])$  is the affine space  $\mathbb{A}^n$  over  $k$ . More generally, an affine variety over a field  $k$  is an affine scheme  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , where the ring  $R$  is a finitely generated  $k$ -algebra.

3) Let  $X$  be an affine scheme and let  $f \in R$ , then  $(D(f), \mathcal{O}_{X|D(f)})$  is also an affine scheme. Indeed, the canonical ring homomorphism

$$R \longrightarrow R_f$$

induces a continuous map

$$h : \text{Spec}(R_f) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$$

which is a homeomorphism onto its image  $D(f)$  (see proposition 2.2.5). Moreover,  $h^\sharp$  is an isomorphism. Indeed, for any  $Q \in \text{Spec}(R_f)$

$$h_Q^\sharp : R_{h(Q)} \longrightarrow (R_f)_Q$$

since  $f \notin Q \cap R$ . Thus

$$(D(f), \mathcal{O}_{X|D(f)}) \simeq (\text{Spec}(R_f), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}})$$

4) Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be an affine scheme,  $V \subseteq X$  be an open subset and set  $\mathcal{O}_V := \mathcal{O}_{X|V}$ , then  $(V, \mathcal{O}_V)$  is not necessarily an affine scheme (see [9, 4.1]).

Now, we come to the general definition of a **scheme** :

**Definition 2.3.3** A **scheme** is a locally ringed space  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  such that every point  $x$  in  $X$  has an open neighbourhood  $U$ , which is **isomorphic** to an **affine scheme** as a locally ringed space. For each point  $x$  of a **scheme**  $X$ , one defines its residue field  $k(x)$  as the quotient of the **local ring**  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ , by its **maximal ideal**  $\mathfrak{m}_x$ .

**Remarks 2.3.1** 1) Equivalently,  $X$  is a **scheme** if there exists an open covering  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  of  $X$  such that  $(U_i, \mathcal{O}_{X|U_i})$  is isomorphic to an **affine scheme**  $(\text{Spec}(R_i), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R_i)})$  for some rings  $R_i$ .

2) We say that an open subset  $U$  of a scheme  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is **affine** if  $(U, \mathcal{O}_{X|U})$  is an affine scheme.

**Proposition 2.3.2** Any scheme has a basis of **affine** open subsets.

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be a scheme. By remarks 2.3.1, there exists an open covering  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  of  $X$  such that  $(U_i, \mathcal{O}_{X|U_i})$  is an affine scheme, i.e., For any  $i \in I$  there is a ring  $R_i$ , a homeomorphism

$$\psi : U_i \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R_i)$$

and a sheaf isomorphism

$$\psi_i : \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R_i)} \longrightarrow \psi_i^*(\mathcal{O}_{X|U_i})$$

For each  $i$ , we know that  $\{D(f_i) \subseteq \text{Spec}(R_i) \mid f_i \in R_i\}$  is a basis for the topology of  $\text{Spec}(R_i)$  (see theorem 2.2.1). Moreover, these  $D(f_i)$  again define affine schemes by examples 2.3.1 3)

$$(D(f_i), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R_i)|D(f_i)}) \simeq (\text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}).$$

Let  $V_i := \psi^{-1}(D(f_i)) \subseteq U_i$ , so that

$$(V_i, \mathcal{O}_{X|V_i}) \simeq (D(f_i), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R_i)|D(f_i)})$$

is an affine schemes and  $\mathcal{B}_i := \{V_i \subseteq U_i \mid f_i \in R_i\}$  is a basis of the topology on  $U_i \subseteq X$ . Then  $\mathcal{B} = \bigcup_{i \in I} \mathcal{B}_i$  is a basis of the topology of  $X$  consisting of affine open subsets.

We now describe the morphisms between schemes.

## Morphisms of Schemes

**Definition 2.3.4** A morphism of **schemes** is just a morphism of the underlying **locally ringed** spaces.

**Remarks 2.3.2** 1) Observe that if  $f : Z \longrightarrow X$  is a morphism of **schemes**, then for each  $z \in Z$ , with image  $x = f(z)$ , there is an induced **homomorphism**  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{Z,z}$ , hence also a **homomorphism** between the **residue fields**  $k(x) \longrightarrow k(y)$ .

2) For  $x \in X$ , by proposition 2.3.1 we have a natural isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} = R_P$ , for some prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ . Moreover, we have  $\mathfrak{m}_x = PR_P$ , and  $k(x) = R_P/PR_P$ .

3) The **schemes** form a category (which is a full subcategory of the category of **locally ringed spaces**), we shall denote it by  $\text{Sch}$ .

4) We shall denoted by  $\text{ASch}$  the category of **affine schemes**.

**Theorem 2.3.2** There is an equivalence of categories

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec} : (\text{Ring})^{\text{op}} & \longrightarrow & \text{ASch} \\ R & \longmapsto & (\text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}) \end{array}$$

**Proof.** One can easily see that  $\text{Spec}$  is a morphism of categories. It suffices then to show that it is fully faithful.

Let  $R, T$  be rings. We define the maps :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \chi : \text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(R, T) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}((Z, \mathcal{O}_Z), (X, \mathcal{O}_X)) \\ \psi & \longmapsto & (\psi^*, \psi^\#) \end{array}$$

which is a bijection (see corollary 2.3.1). Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ ,  $Z = \text{Spec}(T)$ , we define :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Psi : \text{Hom}_{\text{ASch}}(Z, X) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_{\text{Rings}}(R, T) \\ (f, f^\#) & \longmapsto & f^\#(X) \end{array}$$

where as previously seen,  $f^\# : \mathcal{O}_X(X)(= R) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_Z(Z)(= T)$ . It is easy to see that  $\chi \circ \Psi = \text{id}$ , and using theorem 2.3.1 iii), we also have  $\Psi \circ \chi = \text{id}$ .

## Relative schemes

**Grothendieck** has also introduced the relative viewpoint, whose idea is to study morphisms of schemes and how they behave instead of studying a scheme by itself.

**Definition 2.3.5** i) Let  $S$  be a (fixed) scheme. An  $S$ -scheme (or a scheme over  $S$ ) is a scheme  $X$ , equipped with a morphism  $f : X \longrightarrow S$ .

ii) A morphism from  $(X, f : X \longrightarrow S)$  to  $(Y, g : Y \longrightarrow S)$  is a morphism of schemes  $h : X \longrightarrow Y$  such that the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{h} & Y \\ & \searrow f & \swarrow g \\ & S & \end{array}$$

is commutative. We also call such a morphism  $h$  an  $S$ -morphism.

**Remarks 2.3.3** 1) The schemes over  $S$  form a category  $\text{Sch}/S$ , and the set of morphisms as defined above will be denoted by  $\text{Hom}_S(X, Y)$ .

2) We will say  $X$  is a scheme over over (a ring)  $R$  if  $X$  is a scheme over  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Examples 2.3.2** 1) Let  $S$  be a scheme that we view as an  $S$ -scheme with  $\text{id} : S \rightarrow S$ , and let  $X$  with  $f : X \longrightarrow S$  an  $S$ -scheme. The  $S$ -morphism  $f$  is called an  $S$ -section.

2) Every affine scheme is a scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Indeed, for any ring  $R$ , we have the natural map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \phi : \mathbb{Z} & \longrightarrow & R \\ n & \longmapsto & n \cdot 1 \end{array}$$

which induces such structure.

3) An affine variety  $X$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$  comes with an inclusion  $k \longrightarrow k[X]$ . Applying  $\text{Spec}$  to this map, we see that the canonically associated scheme to  $X$  is a scheme over  $k$ .

Now, we come to special classes of morphisms.



## Open subschemes and closed subschemes

**Definition 2.3.6** i) An open **subscheme**  $U$  of a scheme  $X$  is an open subset, equipped with the restriction of the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X$  to  $U$ .

ii) An **open immersion** is a morphism of schemes  $X \rightarrow Y$  which induces an isomorphism from  $X$  to an **open subscheme** of  $Y$ .

The notion of **closed subscheme** is more complicated, because you have to define a **locally ringed space** structure on the closed subset, and there is no canonical one. First we have to define **closed immersions**.

**Definition 2.3.7** A **closed immersion** is a morphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of schemes such that :

i)  $f$  induces a **homeomorphism** (a **bicontinuous map**) from  $X$  to a closed subset of  $Y$ .

ii) The morphism of sheaves  $f^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow f_*\mathcal{O}_X$  is surjective.

**Example 2.3.1** Let  $R$  be a ring,  $J$  an ideal of  $R$ ,  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  and  $Z = \text{Spec}(R/J)$ . By proposition 2.2.4  $\pi^* : Z \rightarrow X$  is a **homeomorphism** from  $Z$  to  $V(J)$ , and  $(\pi^*)^\# : \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \pi_*\mathcal{O}_Z$  is surjective because it is surjective on the stalks.

**Definition 2.3.8** (**closed subscheme**) Let  $X$  be a scheme. A closed subscheme of  $X$  is an **equivalence class** of closed immersions into  $X$ .

**Remark 2.3.3** More precisely, A **closed subscheme** of a scheme  $X$  is a scheme  $Z$ , equipped with a **closed immersion**  $\iota : Z \rightarrow X$ , where one identifies the pairs  $(Z, \iota)$  and  $(Z', \iota')$  if there exists an **isomorphism** of schemes  $h : Z \rightarrow Z'$  such that the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{h} & Z' \\ \uparrow \iota & \nearrow \iota' & \\ Z & & \end{array}$$

is commutative.

**Example 2.3.2**  $\text{Spec}(R/J)$  is a **closed subscheme** of  $\text{Spec}(R)$  with underlying topological space  $V(J)$ .

## Gluing schemes

Given a family  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  of schemes indexed by a set  $I$ . Assume that in each of the schemes  $X_i$  we are given a collection of open subschemes  $X_{ij}$ , where the indices  $i$  and  $j$  run through  $I$ .

**Notation.** Let  $X_{ij} \subseteq X_i$  be open subschemes, and  $\delta_{ij} : X_{ij} \rightarrow X_{ji}$  be isomorphisms of schemes for all  $i, j \in I$ . We require also that

i)  $\delta_{ii} = \text{id}$ .

ii)  $\delta_{ij}(X_{ij} \cap X_{ik}) = X_{ji} \cap X_{jk}$ .

iii)  $\delta_{ik} = \delta_{ik} \circ \delta_{ij}$  on  $X_{ij} \cap X_{ik}$ .

**Proposition 2.3.3** Given gluing data  $X_i, \delta_{ij}$  as above, there exists a scheme  $X$  with open immersions  $\delta_i : X_i \longrightarrow X$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X_{ij} & \hookrightarrow & X_i & & \\
 \delta_{ij} \downarrow & & \searrow \delta_i & & \\
 X_{ji} & \hookrightarrow & X_j & \xrightarrow{\delta_j} & X
 \end{array} \tag{2.2}$$

The scheme  $X$  has the **universal property** : For every scheme  $Z$  and any family of morphisms of schemes  $\eta_i : X_i \longrightarrow Z$  satisfying

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X_{ij} & \hookrightarrow & X_i & & \\
 \delta_{ij} \downarrow & & \searrow \eta_i & & \\
 X_{ji} & \hookrightarrow & X_j & \xrightarrow{\eta_j} & Z
 \end{array} \tag{2.3}$$

there exists a unique morphism  $\eta : X \longrightarrow Z$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X_i & \xrightarrow{\delta_i} & X \\
 & \searrow \eta_i & \downarrow \eta \\
 & & Z
 \end{array}$$

is commutative.

**Remarks 2.3.4** 1) In (2.2), we have  $\delta|_{X_{ij}} = \delta|_{X_{ji}} \circ \delta_{ij}$ .

2) In (2.3), we have  $\eta|_{X_{ij}} = \eta|_{X_{ji}} \circ \delta_{ij}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $X := \coprod_i X_i / \sim$ , where  $x \in X_i \sim y \in X_j$  if and only if  $y = \delta_{ij}(x)$ . This makes a topological space  $X$  with open subsets  $X_i \subseteq X$ . We have a sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_{X_i}$  on each  $X_i$ , and we glue them to get  $\mathcal{O}_X$  (see theorem 2.1.4). For more details for the proof we refer to [9, Section 4.3, p.91].

**Example 2.3.3** Let  $X_1 = X_2 = \mathbb{A}_k^1$ ,  $X_{12} = X_{21} = \mathbb{A}_k^1 \setminus \{0\}$ . Write  $X_{12} = \text{Spec}(k[X, X^{-1}])$ ,  $X_{21} = \text{Spec}(k[Y, Y^{-1}])$ . Gluing them by  $X \longmapsto Y^{-1}$ , we get the projective line  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .

## 2.3.2 Varieties

The goal of this section is to

- \* describe how **schemes** are a generalization of **varieties**
- \* or more precisely that how there is a **fully faithful** functor.

$$\tau : \text{Var}(k) \longrightarrow \text{Sch}_k$$

from the category of **varieties** over an algebraically closed field  $k$  to the category of **schemes** over  $\text{Spec}(k)$ .

If you feel like a *physicist*, you might want to regard this as a way of understanding observables like positions in terms of spectra of certain operators. The starting point is the basic observation that the information contained in ordinary spaces may be encoded in the (*rings* and / or *algebras* of) functions on these spaces.

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a topological space and denote by  $t(X)$  the set of nonempty *irreducible closed subsets* of  $X$ . Hence if  $Z \subseteq X$  is closed, then  $t(Z) \subseteq t(X)$ . Moreover  $t$  has the following properties :

- i)  $t(Z_1 \cup Z_2) = t(Z_1) \cup t(Z_2)$  if  $Z_1, Z_2 \subseteq X$  are closed
- ii) For a family of closed subsets  $\{Z_i\}_i$ , we have  $t(\bigcap_i Z_i) = \bigcap_i t(Z_i)$ .

*i)* and *ii)* define a topology on the set  $t(X)$  by saying that  $Y \subseteq t(X)$  is closed if and only if  $Y = t(Z)$  for some closed subset  $Z \subseteq X$ .

In addition, a continuous map  $f : X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  induces a continuous map  $t(f) : t(X_1) \rightarrow t(X_2)$  given by

$$t(f) : Z \rightarrow \overline{f(Z)}.$$

$t(f)$  is well-defined since for an irreducible closed subset  $Z$  of  $X$ ,  $f(Z)$  is irreducible, so its closure  $\overline{f(Z)}$  is also irreducible.

Thus  $t$  defines a functor  $\mathcal{T}op \rightarrow \mathcal{T}op$ . Furthermore we have a continuous map

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma : X &\rightarrow t(X) \\ x &\mapsto \overline{\{x\}} \end{aligned}$$

This map  $\gamma$  is the tool we have to use to add *generic points* in order to construct a *scheme* from a *variety*. We will only sketch the proof of the following theorem. A more detailed proof can e.g. be found in [12].

**Theorem 2.3.3** Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field. Then there exists a fully faithful functor  $\tau : \text{Var}(k) \rightarrow \text{Sch}_k$  from the category of *varieties* over  $k$  to the category of *schemes* over  $\text{Spec}(k)$ .

**The idea of the proof :** Let  $X$  be a variety over  $k$  and denote by  $\mathcal{O}_X$  its sheaf of *regular functions*. We set

$$\tau(X) := (t(X), \gamma_* \mathcal{O}_X).$$

One has to show that this is indeed a scheme over  $\text{Spec}(k)$ . One first proves that  $(t(X), \beta_* \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a scheme if  $X$  is an affine variety. Then, by examples 2.3.2, we know that giving a morphism of schemes  $t(X) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$  is equivalent to endowing the sheaf  $\gamma_* \mathcal{O}_X$  with the structure of a vector space over  $k$ . This is done by using theorem 2.3.2 : Since  $\gamma^{-1}(t(X)) = X$ , we have

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}h}((t(X), \gamma_* \mathcal{O}_X), (\text{Spec}(k), \mathcal{O}_k)) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(k, \gamma_*(t(X))) = \text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(k, \mathcal{O}_X(X)).$$

We define this ring homomorphism  $k \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(X)$  by mapping  $a \in k$  to the constant function  $\lambda_a$  on  $X$ . It follows that  $\tau(X)$  is a scheme over  $\text{Spec}(k)$ . Now if  $X$  and  $Y$  are two varieties, one also checks that the natural map induced by  $\tau$

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{var}(k)}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}h_k}(\tau(Y), \tau(X)).$$

is a bijection.

The functor  $\tau$  being *fully faithful*, it follows again that we may identify the *category* of *varieties* over  $k$  with a *full subcategory* of the *category* of *schemes* over  $\text{Spec}(k)$  in the case of an algebraically closed field. Thus we may see varieties as being "embedded" into the category of schemes. In particular, that  $\tau(X) \simeq \tau(Y)$  as schemes if and only if  $X \simeq Y$  as varieties.

## New definition of a variety

**Definition 2.3.9** Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field. We say that a scheme  $X$  over  $\text{Spec}(k)$  is an **affine variety** over  $k$  if it is isomorphic to the spectrum of the **coordinate ring** of an **affine variety**. In other words,  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , where  $R$  is a **finitely generated**  $k$ -algebra with no zero divisors.

**Examples 2.3.3** The schemes

- 1)  $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{C}}^1 = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[t])$  and  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[X, Y]/(X^2 - Y^3))$  are affine varieties.
- 2)  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[X, Y]/(XY))$  is not affine variety.

## 2.4 Fiber products and dimension of schemes

### 2.4.1 Fiber products

In classical geometry (The **theory of algebraic varieties**). We know that we can construct the **Cartesian product**  $X \times Y$  of two varieties  $X$  and  $Y$ . The identification  $\mathbb{A}_k^n \times \mathbb{A}_k^m = \mathbb{A}_k^{n+m}$  shows that this is a reasonable thing to do. Indeed, If  $X = Z(f_1, \dots, f_r) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_k^n$  and  $Y = Z(g_1, \dots, g_s) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_k^m$  are two **affine varieties**, then their product  $X \times Y$  is the **affine variety**  $Z(f_1, \dots, f_r, g_1, \dots, g_s) \subseteq \mathbb{A}_k^{m+n}$ , and departing from this, the general case is handled by a gluing process. However, with schemes we redefine

$$\mathbb{A}_k^n = \text{Spec}(k[T_1, \dots, T_n])$$

and the **cartesian product** no longer works even as sets!

We have to understand what the product really means in the categorical language. Let us start with sets  $X, Y$ , the product is a new set  $X \times Y$  with projections  $\pi_1 : X \times Y \rightarrow X$  and  $\pi_2 : X \times Y \rightarrow Y$  which is universal in the sense that given any other set  $Z$  with projections  $f_1 : Z \rightarrow X$ ,  $f_2 : Z \rightarrow Y$ , we have a unique map  $\phi : Z \rightarrow X \times Y$ , namely  $\phi(z) = (f_1(z), f_2(z))$ , such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{f_2} & Y \\ f_1 \downarrow & \searrow \phi & \uparrow \pi_2 \\ X & \xleftarrow{\pi_1} & X \times Y \end{array}$$

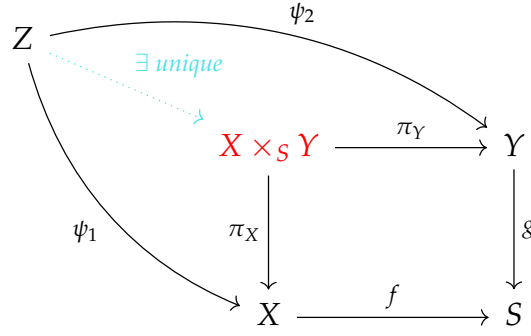
commutes. This can be used to define the **product** in any **category**. Note that there is no guarantee that the product exists in an arbitrary category, but it will be unique up to isomorphism if it does.

In this subsection, for any scheme  $S$  and any two  $S$ -schemes  $X \rightarrow S$  and  $Y \rightarrow S$  we will construct a new scheme, denoted  $X \times_S Y$ , equipped with projection morphisms  $\pi_X : X \times_S Y \rightarrow X$  and  $\pi_Y : X \times_S Y \rightarrow Y$  satisfying a certain **universal property**.

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be category and  $S$  be a fixed object in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Definition 2.4.1 (Fiber product)** The fiber product of  $f : X \rightarrow S$ ,  $g : Y \rightarrow S$  (if it exists) is an object  $X \times_S Y \in \mathcal{C}$  with morphism  $\pi_X, \pi_Y$  to  $X, Y$ . For any  $Z \in \mathcal{C}$  with morphisms  $\psi_1, \psi_2$  to  $X, Y$  respectively (commuting with  $f$  and  $g$  as indicated in the diagram below), there exists a unique morphism

$Z \rightarrow X \times Y$  such that the whole diagram is commutative.



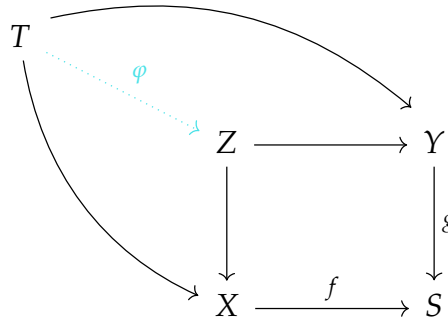
**Notation and convention** 1) We note the unique morphism  $Z \rightarrow X \times_S Y$  by  $(\psi_1, \psi_2)_S$ .

2) We call  $\pi_X : X \times_S Y \rightarrow X$  the **first projection**, and  $\pi_Y : X \times_S Y \rightarrow Y$  the **second projection**.

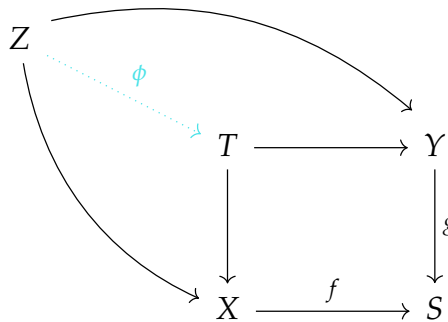
**Example 2.4.1** For sets or topological spaces  $X \times_S Y = \{(x, y) \in X \times Y \mid f(x) = g(y)\}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.1** The **fiber product**  $X \times_S Y$  is unique if it exists. In other words, if  $Z$  and  $T$  are two fiber products satisfying the above **characteristic property**, then  $Z$  and  $T$  are canonically isomorphic.

**Proof.** Let  $Z$  and  $T$  be two fiber products satisfying the above characteristic property. In particular  $T$  comes together with morphisms to  $X$  and  $Y$ . As  $Z$  is a **fiber product**, we get a morphism  $\varphi : T \rightarrow Z$



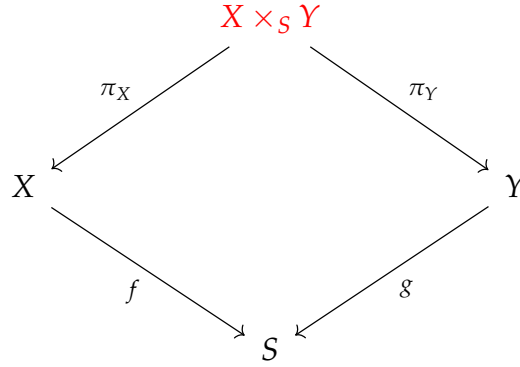
So that this diagram commutes. By symmetry we get a morphism  $\phi : Z \rightarrow T$  as well. The diagram



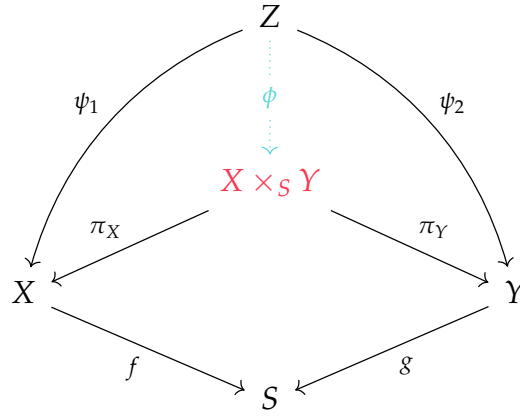
is then commutative by construction. But the same diagram is commutative too if we replace  $\phi \circ \phi$  by  $\text{id}_Z$ . The universal property when considering  $Z$  as a fiber product, we have  $\phi \circ \phi = \text{id}_Z$ . Moreover, by symmetry  $\phi \circ \phi = \text{id}_T$ . So  $Z$  and  $T$  are canonical isomorphic.

In particular, the **fiber product** is defined in the category of schemes, i.e., by taking  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Sh}$ , is defined in the following way :

**Definition 2.4.2** Let  $X, Y, S$  be schemes with morphisms  $f : X \longrightarrow S$ , and  $g : Y \longrightarrow S$ . The fiber product of  $X$  and  $Y$  over  $S$  is a scheme  $X \times_S Y$  with morphisms  $\pi_X, \pi_Y$



making the diagram commutative, along with the **universal property** that for any scheme  $Z$  with morphisms  $\psi_1, \psi_2$  to  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, such that  $f \circ \psi_1 = g \circ \psi_2$ , there exists a unique morphism  $\phi : Z \longrightarrow X \times_S Y$  such that  $\psi_1 = \pi_X \circ \phi$  and  $\psi_2 = \pi_Y \circ \phi$



**Proposition 2.4.1** **Fibre products** exist in the category of **schemes**.

**Proof.** See [12, Theorem 3.3, p.87].

**Consequence. 2.4.1** If  $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ ,  $Y = \text{Spec}(T)$  and  $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ , where  $A, T$  and  $R$  are commutative rings,  $f, g$  make  $A$  and  $T$  into  $R$ -algebras, and we have  $X \times_S Y = \text{Spec}(A \otimes_R T)$

**Remark 2.4.1** Observe that if  $S \subseteq T$  is an open subscheme, then  $X \times_T Y = X \times_S Y$  as if  $j : S \longrightarrow T$  is the natural inclusion morphism, then  $f \circ \psi_1 = g \circ \psi_2$  if and only if  $j \circ f \circ \psi_1 = j \circ g \circ \psi_2$ . Also observe that if  $V$  is an open subset of  $X$ , then  $U \times_S Y = \pi_X^{-1}(V) \subseteq X \times_S Y$ . Indeed,  $U \times_S Y$  is an open subscheme of  $X \times_S Y$ .

**Proposition 2.4.2** Let  $f : X \longrightarrow S$  and  $g : Y \longrightarrow S$  be morphisms of schemes. Suppose that  $U \subseteq S$ ,  $V \subseteq X$ ,  $W \subseteq Y$  are opens subschemes such that  $f(V) \subseteq U$  and  $g(W) \subseteq U$ . Then the canonical morphism  $V \times_U W \longrightarrow X \times_S Y$  is an open immersion which identifies  $V \times_U W$  with  $\pi_X^{-1}(V) \cap \pi_Y^{-1}(W)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $Z$  be a scheme. Suppose that  $\varphi_1 : Z \longrightarrow V$  and  $\varphi_2 : Z \longrightarrow W$  are morphisms such that  $f \circ \varphi_1 = g \circ \varphi_2$  as morphisms into  $U$ . Then they agree as morphisms into  $S$ . By the universal property of fibre product we get a unique morphism  $\phi : Z \longrightarrow X \times_S Y$ . Moreover,  $\phi$  has image contained in the open  $\pi_X^{-1}(V) \cap \pi_Y^{-1}(W)$ . Thus  $\pi_X^{-1}(V) \cap \pi_Y^{-1}(W)$  is a **fibre product** of  $V$  and  $W$  over  $U$ . The result follows from the uniqueness of the **fibre product**.



## Basic properties of the fibre product

**Proposition 2.4.3** Let  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  be schemes over  $S$ . Then :

- i) (**Reflectivity**)  $X \times_S S \simeq X$ .
- ii) (**Symmetry**)  $X \times_S Y \simeq Y \times_S X$ .
- iii) (**Associativity**)  $(X \times_S Y) \times_S Z \simeq X \times_S (Y \times_S Z)$ .

If  $S'$  is a scheme over  $S$  and we assume that  $Y$  is as well a scheme over  $S'$ , then

- iv) (**Transitivity**)  $X \times_S S' \times_{S'} Y \simeq X \times_S Y$ , where  $X \times_S S'$  is a scheme over  $S'$  via the projection onto  $S'$  and  $Y$  is a scheme over  $S$  via the map  $S' \rightarrow S$ .
- v) Let  $f_1 : X_1 \rightarrow X$  and  $g_1 : Y_1 \rightarrow Y$  two  $S$ -morphisms. There is a unique morphism  $f_1 \times g_1 : X_1 \times_S Y_1 \rightarrow X \times_S Y$  such that the two squares in the diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X_1 & \xleftarrow{\pi_{X_1}} & X_1 \times_S Y_1 & \xrightarrow{\pi_{Y_1}} & Y_1 \\
 \downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow f_1 \times g_1 & & \downarrow g_1 \\
 X & \xleftarrow{\pi_X} & X \times_S Y & \xrightarrow{\pi_Y} & Y
 \end{array}$$

**Proof.** All there properties follow from the **universal property** of the **fiber product**.

## Fibres

**Definition 2.4.3** Let  $f : X \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of scheme and  $s \in S$  be a point. The **scheme theoretic** fibre  $X_s$  of  $f$  over  $s$ , or simply the fibre of  $f$  over  $s$ , is the scheme fitting in the following fibre product diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X_s = \text{Spec}(k(s)) \times_S X & \longrightarrow & X \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \text{Spec}(k(s)) & \longrightarrow & S
 \end{array}$$

In particular, the fibre  $X_s$  is a scheme over  $k(s)$ .

**Proposition 2.4.4** The map  $\pi_X : X_s \rightarrow X$  is a **homeomorphism** between  $X_s$  and  $f^{-1}(s)$ .

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, we may assume  $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ ,  $X = \text{Spec}(T)$ , and  $f$  is induced by  $\psi : R \rightarrow T$ . Let  $s \in S$  be defined by the prime ideal  $\mathfrak{q}$ . We have  $k(s) = k(\mathfrak{q}) = R_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{q}R_{\mathfrak{q}}$ . So  $X_s = \text{Spec}(k(s)) \times_S X = \text{Spec}(R_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{q}R_{\mathfrak{q}} \otimes_R T) = \text{Spec}(T_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{q}T_{\mathfrak{q}})$ . Elements of  $\text{Spec}(T_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{q}T_{\mathfrak{q}})$  correspond bijectively to primes  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $T$  such that  $\psi(\mathfrak{q}) \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , and  $\mathfrak{p}$  does not intersect  $\psi(R \setminus \mathfrak{q})$ . This is equivalent to  $\psi^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) = \mathfrak{q}$ . So the map  $\pi_X : X_s \rightarrow f^{-1}(s)$  is a bijection. Since  $\text{Spec}(T_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{q}T_{\mathfrak{q}}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(T_{\mathfrak{q}}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(T)$  are successive embeddings, and  $f^{-1}(s)$  is endowed with the subspace topology,  $\pi_X$  is a **homeomorphism**.

**Remark 2.4.2** We may view a morphism  $f : X \rightarrow S$  as family of fibers  $X_s$  parameterized by  $s \in S$ .

**Example 2.4.2** Let  $X := \text{Spec}\left(\frac{k[X,Y,Z]}{(ZY-X^2)}\right)$  and  $S := \text{Spec}(k[Z])$ . We have the inclusion  $k[Z] \hookrightarrow \frac{k[X,Y,Z]}{(ZY-X^2)}$

so we get a continuous map  $g : X \rightarrow S$ . By identifying the closed point of  $S$  with elements of  $k$ , for  $b \in k, b \neq 0$ ,  $X_b$  is the **plane curve** defined by  $bY = X^2$ .

## Base change

**Definition 2.4.4** Let  $X, S$ , and  $S'$  be schemes. We define  $X_S := X \times_{S'} S$ , the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_S & \xrightarrow{\pi_X} & X \\ \pi_S \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ S & \xrightarrow{f} & S' \end{array}$$

is called the **base change** of  $g$  to  $S$  via  $f$ .

**Remarks 2.4.1** 1) The above definition generalises the idea of changing the "**base coefficients**".

2) Let  $h : Y \rightarrow S$ , and let  $\psi : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $S$ -morphism, then there is an induced morphism  $\psi_{S'} = \psi \times \text{id}_{S'}$  from  $X_{S'}$  to  $Y_{S'}$  over  $S'$ , making the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X_{S'} & \xrightarrow{\psi_{S'}} & Y_{S'} & \xrightarrow{\pi_{S'}} & S' \\ \pi_X \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi_Y & & \downarrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow{\psi} & Y & \xrightarrow{h} & S \end{array}$$

commutative.

**Example 2.4.3** Let  $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $\mathbb{A}_S^m := \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^m \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})} S$  is a base change of  $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Z}}^m (:= \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}[T_1, \dots, T_m])) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$  to  $X$  via  $S \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Definition 2.4.5** We say that a property  $\mathcal{P}$  of morphism of schemes is stable under **base change** if for any morphism  $X \rightarrow S$  verifying  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $X \times_S S'$  also verifies  $\mathcal{P}$  for every  $S$ -scheme  $S'$ .

## 2.4.2 Dimensions of schemes

Recall that the **Krull dimension** of a ring  $R$  is defined as the supremum of length of all strictly ascending chains of prime ideals in  $R$ .

Recall also that the dimension of a topological space  $X$  is the supremum of all integers  $d$  such that there exists a chain

$$Z_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq Z_n$$

of distinct irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ .

**Definition 2.4.6** Let  $X$  be a scheme. We define the **dimension** of  $X$  to be the dimension of its underlying topological space.

**Proposition 2.4.5** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine scheme. The dimension of  $X$  equals the **Krull dimension** of  $R$ .

**Proof.** Let  $Z_0 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq Z_r$  be a chain of distinct irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ . By proposition 2.2.8, the  $Z_i$  are the form  $V(P_i)$ , for some  $P_i \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . Moreover, by theorem 2.2.2 i), we have  $j(V(P_i)) = \text{rad}(P_i) = P_i$  for all  $i$ . Also, for all  $i$ , the fact that  $Z_i \subsetneq Z_{i+1}$  implies  $j(Z_{i+1}) = P_{i+1} \subsetneq j(Z_i) = P_i$ . Hence, we get a chain of strictly ascending prime ideals of  $R$

$$P_r \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq P_0.$$

Let  $Q_i = P_{r-i}$ , then we have

$$Q_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Q_r.$$

Hence  $\dim(X) \leq \dim(R)$ . Conversely, let  $P_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq P_n$  be a strictly ascending chain of prime ideals of  $R$ . Applying  $V(\cdot)$ , we get a chain of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$

$$V(P_n) \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq V(P_0).$$

Set  $Z_i = V(P_{n-i})$ , we get a strictly ascending chain

$$Z_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Z_n$$

of irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ . Hence  $\dim(R) \leq \dim(X)$ .

**Remark 2.4.3** Recall that, if  $R$  is a Noetherian ring, then  $\dim(R[T]) = \dim(R) + 1$ .

**Examples 2.4.1** 1) If  $R$  is a Noetherian ring, then the dimension of  $\mathbb{A}_R^m = \text{Spec}(R[T_1, \dots, T_n])$  equals  $m + \dim(R)$ .

2)  $\dim(\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})) = 1$ . all maximal chain have the form  $V(P) \subsetneq V(0) = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ .

3) If  $k$  is a field, then we  $\dim(k) = 0$ . So  $\dim(\text{Spec}(k)) = 0$ .

**Remark 2.4.4** Let  $X$  be a scheme.

i) If  $Y \subseteq X$  is an open or a closed subscheme, then  $\dim(Y) \leq \dim(X)$ .

ii) Let  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} \text{Spec}(R_i)$  be a scheme  $\dim(X) = \sup_i (\dim(\text{Spec}(R_i)))$  (see proposition 1.2.1 1)).

## Codimension

Let  $X$  be a topological space, and let  $Z \subseteq X$  be an irreducible closed subset of  $X$ .

\* The codimension  $\text{codim}(Z, X)$  of  $Z$  is defined to be

$\sup\{m \mid \text{there exists a strictly ascending chain } Z = Z_0 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Z_m, \text{ of irreducible closed subsets of } X\}.$

\* If  $Z$  is an arbitrary closed subset, we define its codimension as

$$\inf\{\text{codim}(Z', X) \mid Z' \text{ is an irreducible and closed subset of } X\}.$$

By the correspondence between **closed subsets** and **prime ideals** (see theorem 2.2.2), the codimension of  $V(P)$  in  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is the height of the prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ .

**Proposition 2.4.6** Let  $X$  be scheme,  $x \in X$  be a point and set  $Z = \overline{\{x\}}$ . Then  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x}) = \text{codim}(Z, X)$

**Proof.** Let  $Z \subsetneq Z_1 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Z_r$  be a chain of distincts irreducible closed subsets of  $X$ , then for any open neighborhood  $V$  of  $x$  the generic points  $y_1, \dots, y_r$  of  $Z'_i$  are contained in  $V$ . We can assume that  $V = \text{Spec}(R)$  is an affine open of  $x$ , then the generic points correspond to prime ideals (of  $R$ )  $P_r \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq P_0 = P$ , where  $P$  is the prime ideal corresponding to  $x \in V$ . in  $R$ . Therefore,  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x}) = \text{codim}(Z, X)$ .

## 2.5 Local and global properties of schemes

In this section, we survey some of the main geometric properties of schemes.

## 2.5.1 Noetherian schemes

- Definition 2.5.1** i) A scheme  $X$  is called **locally Noetherian** if  $X$  admits an affine open covering  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$  such that  $\mathcal{O}_X(X_i)$  is a **Noetherian** ring for all  $i$ .
- ii) A scheme  $X$  is called **Noetherian** if it is **compact** and **locally Noetherian**, where  $X$  is compact means that every open covering of  $X$  has a finite subcovering.

- Remarks 2.5.1** 1) Recall from lemma 2.2.6, that for any commutative ring  $R$ ,  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is compact. So an affine scheme is compact.
- 2) In general a scheme is **Noetherian** if and only if it can be covered by finitely many open affine schemes  $\text{Spec}(R_i)$ , where each  $R_i$  is **Noetherian**.

**Lemma 2.5.1** Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring and  $S$  be a multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$ . Then  $S^{-1}R$  is a **Noetherian** ring.

**Proof.** See [3, Proposition 7.3, p.80 ].

**Theorem 2.5.1** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Then  $X$  is **locally Noetherian** if and only if for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , which is isomorphic to an affine scheme  $(\text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)})$  as locally ringed space, the ring  $R$  is **Noetherian**.

**Proof.** By simple logical reductions using lemma 2.5.1 and proposition 2.2.2, the statement of the theorem can be shown to be equivalent to the following statement in commutative algebra. Let  $R$  be a ring, let  $g_1, \dots, g_r \in R$  be such that  $1 \in (g_1, \dots, g_r)$  i.e  $R = (g_1, \dots, g_r)$ . If  $R_{g_i}$  is Noetherian for all  $i$ , then  $R$  is Noetherian. This is what we shall prove.

Let  $\psi_i : R \rightarrow R_{g_i}$  be the natural homomorphism and  $J$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then we have

$$J = \bigcap_{i \in \{1, \dots, r\}} \psi_i^{-1}(\psi_i(J)R_{g_i}) \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\psi_i(J)R_{g_i}$  is the ideal in  $R_{g_i}$  generated by  $\psi_i(J)$ . Now, from the assumption that  $(g_1, \dots, g_r) = R$ , and by proposition 2.2.1 5) we seen that there are element  $b_i \in R$  such that

$$\sum_i b_i g_i^{m+n} = 1$$

Thus  $c \in J$ . Now consider an ascending chain of ideals of  $R$

$$J_1 \subseteq J_2 \subseteq \dots$$

For all  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$

$$\psi_i(J_1)R_{g_i} \subseteq \psi_i(J_2)R_{g_i} \subseteq \dots \quad (2.5)$$

is an ascending chain of ideals of  $R_{g_i}$ , which must become stationary because  $R_{g_i}$  is **Noetherian**, since there are only finite many  $R_{g_i}$ , we conclude from the above that  $J_1 \subseteq J_2 \subseteq \dots$  is stationary. Hence  $R$  is **Noetherian**.

**Proposition 2.5.1** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Then  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is **Noetherian** if and only if  $R$  is **Noetherian**.

**Proof.**  $\Rightarrow$ ) You should think of this as a purely algebraic fact : Refining the cover, we can assume that for each  $i$ , we have  $X_i = R_{f_i}$ . As in the proof of theorem 2.5.1  $R$  is Noetherian provided that each localization  $R_{f_i}$  is Noetherian, and  $1 \in (f_1, \dots, f_r)$ .

$\Leftarrow$ ) This follows from theorem 2.2.2.

**Proposition 2.5.2** Let  $X$  be a Noetherian scheme, then its underlining topological space is **Noetherian**.

**Proof.** Since  $X$  is compact, then we can write  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^r X_i$ , where  $(X_i, \mathcal{O}_{X_i}) \simeq (\text{Spec}(R_i), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R_i)})$ . A descending chain

$$Z_1 \supseteq Z_2 \supseteq \cdots \quad (2.6)$$

gives rise to a chain for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$

$$Z_1 \cap X_i \supseteq Z_2 \cap X_i \supseteq \cdots \quad (2.7)$$

of closed subsets in  $X_i$ . Since  $X_i$  are Noetherian, this last chain is stationary. Since we have only a finite number of indices  $i$ , this implies that  $X$  is Noetherian.

**Proposition 2.5.3** Let  $X$  be a **locally Noetherian** scheme. Then any closed or open subscheme of  $X$  is also **locally Noetherian**.

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $X$  is Noetherian. We can consider an open covering  $(X_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $X$  such that  $\forall i, X_i = \text{Spec}(R_i)$ , where each  $R_i$  is Noetherian.

Let  $Z \subseteq X$  be an open or closed subset, we will show that  $Z \cap X_i$  is Noetherian. Since  $Z \cap X_i$  is an open or a closed subset of an affine scheme, we reduce our statement to considering the case where  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ .

If  $Z$  is open, by theorem 2.2.1, there are elements  $f_1, \dots, f_r \in R$  such that  $Z = \bigcup_{i=1}^r D(f_i) = \bigcup_{i=1}^r \text{Spec}(R_{f_i})$ . Since  $R$  is Noetherian, then by lemma 2.5.1, for all  $i$ ,  $R_{f_i}$  are Noetherian, and so by proposition 2.5.1,  $\text{Spec}(R_{f_i})$  is Noetherian. It follows that  $Z$  is also Noetherian.

If  $Z$  is closed, we have  $Z = V(J)$  for some ideal  $J \subseteq R$ . We know that if  $R$  is Noetherian then  $R/J$  is also Noetherian. So  $\text{Spec}(R/J)$  is Noetherian, and by proposition 2.2.4,  $\text{Spec}(R/J)$  is homeomorphic to  $V(J)$ . Hence  $Z$  is Noetherian.

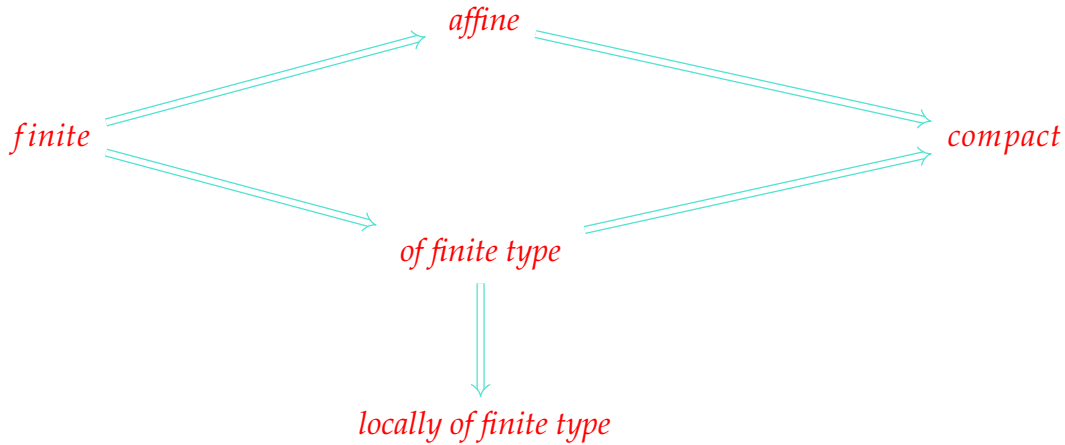
**Definition 2.5.2** Let  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes.

- i)  $f$  is called **locally of finite type** if for every affine open  $U = \text{Spec}(R) \subseteq Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(U) = \bigcup_j V_j$  with each  $V_j = \text{Spec}(A_j)$  affine open subset of  $X$ , with  $A_j$  a finitely generated  $R$ -algebra.
- ii)  $f$  is called **compact** if  $Y = \bigcup_i Y_i$  with  $Y_i$  open affine subschemes of  $Y$  that  $f^{-1}(Y_i)$  is compact for all  $i$ .
- iii)  $f$  is called **of finite type** if  $f$  is **locally of finite type** and **compact**.
- iv)  $f$  is called **finite** if  $Y = \bigcup_i Y_i$  with each  $Y_i = \text{Spec}(R_i)$  affine open subschemes of  $Y$  where  $A_i$  is a finite  $R_i$ -algebra.
- v)  $f$  is called **affine** if  $Y = \bigcup_i U_i$  with  $U_i = \text{Spec}(R_i)$ , an affine open subscheme of  $Y$  such that  $f^{-1}(U_i)$  is also **affine**.

**Remarks 2.5.2** 1) Recall that an  $R$ -algebra  $A$  is finite if  $A$  is finitely generated as an  $R$ -module.

- 2) **Finiteness** is transitive : The composition of finite morphisms is finite. This follows from the fact that finite generation of modules is transitive.
- 3) The base change of a morphism which is locally of finite type is locally of finite type. The same is true for morphisms of finite type (see [30]).

4) We have the following implications :



**Examples 2.5.1** 1)  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$  is not locally of finite type.

2) Let  $R$  be a ring. Then  $\mathbb{A}^n \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$ , and  $\mathbb{P}^n \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$  are both of finite type.

## 2.5.2 Irreducible schemes

**Definition 2.5.3** A nonempty scheme is **connected** if its underlying topological space is **connected**, i.e cannot be written as a disjoint union of two nonempty open sets.

**Proposition 2.5.4** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine scheme. The following assertions are equivalent :

- 1)  $X$  is **connected**.
- 2) The only idempotents of  $R$  are 0 and 1.

**Proof.** 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Assume that  $X$  is connected. If  $R$  contains an idempotent element  $r$  such that  $r \neq 1, 0$ , then we have  $R = r \cdot R \times (1 - r) \cdot R$  and both  $rR$  and  $(1 - r) \cdot R$  are non trivial subrings of  $R$ . Hence  $\text{Spec}(R) = \text{Spec}(rR) \times \text{Spec}((1 - r) \cdot R) \simeq \text{Spec}(rR) \coprod \text{Spec}((1 - r) \cdot R)$ . So  $X$  is not connected.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Assume that 0, 1 are the only idempotent of  $R$ . If  $X$  is not connected, then  $X = X_1 \coprod X_2$  with  $X_i \subsetneq X$  nonempty opens. We then have  $\mathcal{O}_X(X) = \mathcal{O}_X(X_1) \times \mathcal{O}_X(X_2)$ . As  $X_i$  are nonempty, then  $\mathcal{O}_X(X_i)$  are non trivial rings. In particular,  $(1, 0)$  is a non trivial idempotent of  $R$ . A contradiction.

**Definition 2.5.4** Let  $X$  be a scheme, we say that  $X$  is **irreducible** if its underlying topological space is **irreducible**.

**Remark 2.5.1** Plainly, irreducible topological spaces are **connected**.

**Examples 2.5.2** 1) Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field.  $\mathbb{A}_k^m = \text{Spec}(k[T_1, \dots, T_n])$  is irreducible.

2)  $X = k[X, Y]$ ,  $Z = V(XY) = V(X) \cup V(Y)$ . Then  $Z$  is not irreducible.

**Proposition 2.5.5** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine scheme. Then  $X$  is irreducible if and only if  $N(R)$  is a prime ideal.

**Proof.** See proof of theorem 2.2.4.

Recall again the following terminology : Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $x, y \in X$ , we say that  $x$  is a **generic point** if  $\overline{\{x\}} = X$  (see definition 2.2.3). An irreducible component of  $X$  is maximal irreducible closed subset of  $X$ .  $y$  is a **specialization** of  $x$  ( $x$  **specializes** to  $y$ ) if  $y \in \overline{\{x\}}$ .



**Examples 2.5.3** 1) Let  $X$  be an affine scheme, and let  $P \in X$ , then  $\overline{P} = V(P)$ . Moreover,  $P$  is the only generic point of  $V(P)$ .

2) Let  $R$  be a domain, then  $(0)$  is only generic point of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proposition 2.5.6** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Then :

- 1) Every irreducible closed subset of  $X$  has a unique **generic point**.
- 2) For any **generic point**  $x \in X$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}}$  is an irreducible component of  $X$ . Moreover, there exists a bijection between the set of **irreducible components** of  $X$  and the set of **generic points** of  $X$ .
- 3) For any  $x \in X$ , there exists a bijection between the set of **irreducible component** of  $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{X,x})$  and the set of irreducible components of  $X$  containing  $x$ .

**Proof.** 1) Let  $Z$  be an irreducible closed of  $X$ . Assume that  $X$  is affine scheme i.e  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  for some ring  $R$ . By proposition 2.2.8  $Z$  is irreducible if and only if  $Z$  is of the form  $Z = V(P)$ , for some prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ . By example 2.5.3,  $P$  is the only generic point of  $Z$ .

Now, for  $X$  an arbitrary scheme, let the only  $x \in Z$ , then  $x$  has an affine neighborhood  $V$  in  $X$ . Since  $Z$  is irreducible then  $Z \cap V \subseteq Z$  is irreducible and dense i.e  $\overline{Z \cap V} = Z$ . By the above,  $Z \cap V$  contains a **generic point**  $x_0$ , which is also a generic point of  $Z$ . If  $y_0 \in Z$  with  $\overline{\{y_0\}} = Z$ , then  $y_0 \in Z \cap V$  and it follows immediately (from the affine case above) that  $x_0 = y_0$ .

- 2) Let  $Z$  be an irreducible component of  $X$ , and  $x_0 \in Z$  be its **generic point**. We claim that  $x_0$  is a generic point of  $X$ , that is no point other than  $x_0$  can specialize to  $x_0$  : if  $y_0$  specialize to  $x_0$  then  $x_0 \in \overline{\{y_0\}}$ , hence  $Z = \overline{\{x_0\}} \subseteq \overline{\{y_0\}}$ . Since  $Z$  is a maximal irreducible closed subset of  $X$ , then  $\overline{\{x_0\}} = \overline{\{y_0\}}$ , hence  $x_0 = y_0$ . This shows that  $x_0$  is a generic point of  $X$ . It is easy to check that  $x \mapsto \overline{\{x\}}$  is a bijection from  $X$  onto the set of irreducible components of  $X$ .
- 3) We may assume that  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , with  $x \in X$  corresponding to a prime ideal  $P_x$  of  $R$ . By the correspondence between irreducible closed subsets and the prime ideals of  $R$  (see lemma 2.2.2 and proposition 2.2.8), an irreducible component of  $X$  corresponds to a minimal prime ideal of  $R$ . Hence the irreducible components of  $X$  containing  $x$  are in one-to-one correspondence with minimal prime ideals of  $R$  which are contained in  $P_x$ , or still with the minimal prime ideals of  $R_{P_x} = \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ , that is the irreducible component of  $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{X,x})$ .

## 2.5.3 Regular schemes

Recall that, a local Noetherian ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is said to be **regular** if  $\dim(R) = \dim_k(\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2)$ , where  $k := R/\mathfrak{m}$ . Recall also that  $R$  is regular if and only if every local ring  $R_P$  of  $R$  is regular. For more details we refer to [3, Theorem 11.22].

**Definition 2.5.5** Let  $X$  be a **locally Noetherian** scheme, and let  $x \in X$  be a point.

- i) We say that  $X$  is **regular** at  $x$ , or  $x$  is a regular point of  $X$  if  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is **regular**.
- ii) We say that  $X$  is **regular** if  $X$  is regular at all points.
- iii) A point  $x \in X$  which is not **regular** is called a **singular** point of  $X$ .
- iv) A scheme that is not **regular** is said to be **singular**.

**Remark 2.5.2** For i) equivalently,  $X$  is regular at  $x$  if there exists an affine open neighbourhood  $U \subseteq X$  of  $x$  such that the rings  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is **Noetherian** and **regular**.

**Proposition 2.5.7** Let  $X$  be a scheme. The following are equivalent :

- 1)  $X$  is **regular**.
- 2) For every open  $U \subseteq X$ , the ring  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is **Noetherian** and **regular**.
- 3) There exists an affine open covering  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  such that each  $\mathcal{O}_X(U_i)$  is Noetherian and regular.
- 4) There exists an affine open covering  $X = \bigcup_i X_i$  such that each open subscheme  $X_i$  is regular.

**Proof.** 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . By theorem 2.5.1  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \simeq (\text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)})$  as locally ringed space for some Noetherian ring. By theorem 2.2.3  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is Noetherian. So  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is Noetherian. Since  $X$  is regular, then in particular it is regular at all point of  $U$ , so necessarily for any prime ideal  $Q$  of  $R$ ,  $R_Q$  is regular, so  $R$  is regular.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3) Clear.

3)  $\Rightarrow$  4) Immediate.

4)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Assume that  $X = \bigcup_j X_j$  with  $X_j$  regular for all  $j$ . Let  $j_0$  such that  $x \in X_{j_0}$ . Since  $X_{j_0}$  is regular at  $x$ , then  $x$  is a regular point of  $X$ .

**Corollary 2.5.1** If  $X$  is a regular scheme, then every open subscheme is regular.

**Corollary 2.5.2** Let  $X$  be a Noetherian scheme, then  $X$  is regular if and only if  $X$  is regular at all its closed points.

**Proof.** If  $X$  is regular, then  $X$  is regular at all points of  $X$ . In particular,  $X$  is regular at all closed points. Conversely, note that, as  $X$  is Noetherian any closed subset of  $X$  admits a closed point. One can deduce that  $X$  is regular.

**Definition 2.5.6** Let  $X$  be a locally Noetherian scheme. We denote the set of regular points of  $X$  by  $\text{Reg}(X)$ , and we denote the set of singular points by  $\text{Sing}(X)$ .

**Remark 2.5.3** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  be a Noetherian affine scheme. Then  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is regular if and only if for all  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P} \simeq R_P$  is regular if and only if  $R$  is regular.

## 2.5.4 Reduced and integral schemes

### Reduced schemes

Recall that a commutative ring  $R$  is said to be **reduced** if it has no nilpotent elements, i.e the only **nilpotent** element of  $R$  is 0. Recall also that  $R$  is called **integral** if for any  $a, b \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ , we have  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .

**Definition 2.5.7** Let  $X$  be a scheme.

- i)  $X$  is called **reduced** at point  $x$ , if the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is **reduced**.
- ii)  $X$  is called **reduced**, if it is reduced at all points.

**Proposition 2.5.8** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Then  $X$  is reduced if and only if for each nonempty open  $U \subseteq X$ , the ring  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is reduced.

**Proof.** Assume that  $X$  is reduced and let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . We want to show that  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is a reduced ring. Let  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  be a section of  $U$  and suppose that  $f^m = 0$ , for some positive integer  $m$ . Plainly, the canonical image  $f_x$  of  $f$  in  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is also nilpotent, so  $f_x = 0$ . Since  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is a sheaf, then by definition 2.1.6 i)  $f = 0$ . The converse is clear.

Recall a direct limit of **reduced** rings is also **reduced**.

**Proposition 2.5.9** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine scheme, then  $X$  is reduced if and only if  $R$  is **reduced**.

**Proof.** If  $X$  is reduced by proposition 2.5.8  $\mathcal{O}_X(X)$  is reduced and by proposition 2.3.1 3)  $\mathcal{O}_X(X) \simeq R$ . So  $R$  is reduced. Conversely, suppose that  $R$  is reduced and let  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . By proposition 2.3.1 3) we have  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P} \simeq R_P$ . Moreover, we know that any localisation of a reduced ring is reduced. So,  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P}$  is reduced.

**Remark 2.5.4** Let  $X$  be an affine scheme i.e.,  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  for some ring  $R$ , then  $X_{\text{red}} := \text{Spec}(R/N(R))$  is a reduced scheme.

## Integral schemes

**Definition 2.5.8** Let  $X$  be a scheme.

- i) We say that  $X$  is an **integral** at  $x \in X$  if  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is **integral domain**.
- ii) If  $X$  is **integral** at all points of  $X$ , and  $X$  is irreducible, then we say  $X$  is **integral**.

**Proposition 2.5.10** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Then  $X$  is an **integral** if and only if  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is an integral domain for every open subset  $U$  of  $X$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $X$  is integral,  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ , and let  $f, g \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  such that  $fg = 0$ . For  $x \in X$ , let  $f(x)$  be the image of  $f$  in  $k(x)$ .  $X_f := \{x \in U \mid f(x) = 0\}$ , and  $X_g = \{x \in U \mid g(x) = 0\}$ .  $X_f$  and  $X_g$  are two closed subsets of  $X$ . Indeed, it suffices to see that  $X_f$  is closed in any affine open subset  $W = \text{Spec}(R)$  of  $U$ . We have  $X_f \cap W = V(f)$ , and  $X_g \cap W = V(g)$ . So  $X_f$  and  $X_g$  are closed in  $W$ . By lemma 1.3.1  $X_f$  and  $X_g$  are closed in  $X$ . Moreover, we have  $X_f \cup X_g = U$ , since  $fg = 0$ . Because  $U$  is irreducible, then  $X_f = U$  or  $X_g = U$ . We can assume  $X_f = U$ . We claim that  $f = 0$ . Indeed, we only need to show that  $f|_V = 0$  for any affine open  $V \subseteq U$ . But  $f|_V \in N(\mathcal{O}_X(V))$  which is reduced. So  $f|_V = 0$ . Hence  $f = 0$ . Conversely, assume that  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is integral for any nonempty open  $U$  of  $X$ . In particular, all local rings  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  are integral. It remains to check that  $X$  is irreducible. Write  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  with  $X_i$  two closed subsets of  $X$  such that  $X_i \subsetneq X$ . Let  $V_i = X \setminus X_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  which is open in  $X$ . Moreover, we have  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$ . Hence  $\mathcal{O}_X(V_1 \cup V_2) = \mathcal{O}_X(V_1) \times \mathcal{O}_X(V_2)$ . In particular  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ , where  $U = V_1 \cup V_2$ , is not integral. A contradiction.

**Proposition 2.5.11** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine scheme, then  $X$  is integral if and only if  $R$  is integral domain.

**Proof.** If  $X$  is integral, then by proposition 2.5.10 we have for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is an integral domain. In particular, for  $U = X$  we get  $R (= \mathcal{O}_X(X))$  is integral domain. Conversely, Assume that  $R$  is integral domain, then  $N(R)$  is a prime ideal, so by theorem 2.2.4,  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is irreducible. Now let  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P}$  being the localization of integral domain is also integral domain.

**Example 2.5.1** Let  $Z = \text{Spec}(k[T_1, \dots, T_n])$  be an affine scheme, then  $X$  is integral.

**Proposition 2.5.12** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Then  $X$  is **integral** if and only if it's **reduced**, and **irreducible**.

**Proof.** Assume  $X$  is integral. Clearly it is reduced. If  $X$  is reducible then there exist closed subsets  $X_1, X_2$  of  $X$  such that  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ , take  $U_i = X \setminus X_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , which are disjoint open subsets of  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_X(U_1 \cup U_2) = \mathcal{O}_X(U_1) \times \mathcal{O}_X(U_2)$ , which is not an integral domain. A contradiction. Now, assume  $X$  is reduced and irreducible. Let  $U \subseteq X$  be open and assume that  $f, g \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  with  $fg = 0$ . Let

$$X_f = \{x \in U \mid f_x \in \mathfrak{m}_x\}, \text{ and } X_g = \{x \in U \mid g_x \in \mathfrak{m}_x\}$$

For any affine open  $W = \text{Spec}(R) \subseteq U$ , we have

$$(f|_W)_x \in \mathfrak{m}_x \text{ if and only if } x \in V(f|_W).$$

Thus,  $X_f \cap W = V(f)$  and  $X_g \cap W = V(g)$ . So  $X_f$  and  $X_g$  are closed. Moreover, we  $X_f \cup X_g = U$ . But  $X$  is irreducible, so  $U$  is irreducible as well (see proposition 1.1.3). We can then assume that  $X_f = U$ . But then in  $R$ ,  $f$  is in every prime ideal, so  $f$  is nilpotent. So  $f = 0$ . Hence  $X$  is integral.

**Lemma 2.5.2** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme with a generic point  $\epsilon$ . Then :

- i)  $k(X) := \mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$  is a field (called the **function field** of  $X$ ).
- ii) For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , the natural maps  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$  are injective.

**Proof.** i) To see that  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$  is a field, we may take an arbitrary nonempty open affine subset  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  of  $X$  observe that  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon} = R_{(0)}$  which is the **fractions field** of  $R$ .

- ii) We may reduce our proof to the case where  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  is affine. In this case  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) = R \rightarrow \text{Frac}(R) = \mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$  is injective.

**Corollary 2.5.3** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme,  $W \subseteq U$  be open subsets of  $X$ , then the restriction map  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(W)$  is injective.

We say that an element  $f \in k(X)$  is defined (or **regular**) in the point  $x$  if  $f \in \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ .

**Proposition 2.5.13** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme and let  $f \in k(X)$ . The set  $U_f := \{x \in X \mid f \in \mathcal{O}_{X,x}\}$  where  $f$  is defined, is open.

**Proof.** Let  $x \in U_f$  and let  $V := \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine neighbourhood of  $x$ . Consider the ideal  $I_f := \{a \in R \mid af \in R\}$ . If  $P$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ , then  $f \in R_P$  if and only if  $I_f \not\subseteq P$  that is,  $V(I_f)$  is the complement of  $U_f \cap \text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proposition 2.5.14** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme with function field  $k(X)$ . Then

$$\mathcal{O}_X(U) = \bigcap_{x \in U} \mathcal{O}_{X,x} = \{f \in k(X) \mid f \text{ can be represented as } \frac{g}{h}, \text{ where } h(x) \neq 0, \forall x \in U\} (\subseteq k(X)).$$

**Proof.** Clearly, we have  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \subseteq \bigcap_{x \in U} \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ . Conversely, by the **sheaf condition**, and the injectivity proved in lemma 2.5.2 ii), we may assume that  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  is an affine open. Then we are reduced to prove that  $R = \bigcap_{P \in \text{Spec}(R)} R_P$ , seen as a subring of  $\text{Frac}(R)$ . Indeed, for  $f \in \text{Frac}(R)$  such that  $f \in \bigcap_{P \in \text{Spec}(R)} R_P$ , then for  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , there exists  $(a_P, b_P) \in R \times (R \setminus P)$  such that  $f = \frac{a_P}{b_P}$ . As  $R$  is **integral domain**, we deduce then  $fb_P \in R$ . If we take  $\{b_P, P \in \text{Spec}(R)\}$ , which generates the unit ideal. So one can find  $c_P \in R$ , almost all zero, such that  $1 = \sum_P c_P b_P$ , so  $f = \sum_P c_P f b_P = \sum_P c_P a_P$ . This gives the result.

**Remark 2.5.5** If  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , then

- 1)  $\mathcal{O}_X(D(f)) = \{\frac{a}{f^m} \mid a \in R, m \geq 0\} \subseteq \text{Frac}(R)$ .
- 2)  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} = \{\frac{f}{g} \mid f, g \in R, g \notin P_x\}$ .

**Examples 2.5.4** 1) The function field of  $\mathbb{A}_k^m = \text{Spec}(k[T_1, \dots, T_m])$  is  $k(T_1, \dots, T_m)$ .

2) The function field of  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Let  $X$  be an **integral scheme** of **finite type**. We can study the dimension of  $X$  in terms of the function field:

**Proposition 2.5.15** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme of finite type over field  $K$  with function field  $k(X)$ . Then

- 1)  $\dim(X) = \text{tr.deg}_K(k(X))$ .
- 2) For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , we have  $\dim(X) = \dim(U)$ .
- 3) If  $Z$  is a closed subset of  $X$ , then

$$\text{codim}(Z, X) = \inf\{\dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,z}) \mid z \in Z\} \text{ and } \dim(X) = \dim(Z) + \text{codim}(Z, X).$$

In particular, for a closed point  $x$  of  $X$ , we have  $\dim(X) = \dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x})$ .

**Proof.** 1) We may assume that  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  is affine. Since  $X$  is of finite type, then  $R$  is a finitely generated  $K$ -algebra, with the quotient field  $K := k(X)$ . By theorem 1.2.2, we have  $\dim(R) = \text{tr.deg}_K(\text{Frac}(R))$ , and by proposition 2.4.5, we have  $\dim(R) = \dim(\text{Spec}(R))$ . So,  $\dim(X) = \text{tr.deg}_K(\text{Frac}(R))$ .

2) Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . As  $X$  and  $U$  have the same function field, and by 1)  $\dim(U) = \dim(X)$ .

3) We may assume that  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , where  $R$  is a finitely generated  $K$ -algebra and then use the formula  $\dim(R/P) + \text{ht}(P) = \dim(R)$  for any prime ideal of  $R$ .

**Example 2.5.2**  $\dim(\mathbb{P}_k^m) = \dim(\mathbb{A}_k^m) = m$ .

## 2.5.5 Normal schemes

A **normal domain** is a domain which is **integrally closed** in its field of fractions. Recall that a ring  $R$  is said to be **normal** if all its local rings are normal domains. Thus it makes sense to define a **normal scheme** as follows.

**Definition 2.5.9** Let  $X$  be a scheme.

- i) We say that  $X$  is **normal** at  $x \in X$  if the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is a **normal** domain.
- ii) We say that  $X$  is **normal** if it is **irreducible** and **normal** at all  $x \in X$ .

**Proposition 2.5.16** Let  $X$  be a scheme. The following are equivalent.

- 1)  $X$  is **normal**.
- 2) For every open  $U \subseteq X$  the ring  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is a **normal** domain.

**Proof.** 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Suppose that  $X$  is normal. Let  $U$  be an open of  $X$ . The scheme  $X$  is integral, so  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is an integral domain. We may assume that  $U$  is affine, i.e.,  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  for some ring  $R$ . As  $X$  is normal then  $U$  is normal, so for any prime ideal of  $R$ , the localization  $R_P$  is normal. So  $R$  is normal. Hence  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is a normal domain.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $x \in X$ , and let  $U$  be an open neighborhood of  $x$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is a normal domain. So,  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is a normal domain. Hence  $X$  is normal at  $x$ .

**Corollary 2.5.4** If  $X$  is normal. Then :



- i) There exists an affine open covering  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  such that each  $\mathcal{O}_X(U_i)$  is normal.
- ii) There exists an open covering  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$  such that each open subscheme  $X_i$  is normal.

**Example 2.5.3**  $\mathbb{A}_k^m$  and  $\mathbb{P}_k^m$  are normal schemes.

**Proposition 2.5.17** Let  $X$  be a normal scheme. Then  $X$  is reduced.

**Proof.** Let  $x \in X$ . Since  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is a normal domain, then  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is domain, so the only nilpotent element of  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is 0, so  $X$  is reduced.

**Definition 2.5.10** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes. We say that  $f$  is **dominant** if the image of  $f$  is **dense** in  $Y$ .

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are integral,  $f$  is **dominant** is equivalent to saying that the **generic point** of  $X$  maps to the **generic point** of  $Y$ . In this case,  $f^\sharp$  induces a map from the stalk  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,\beta}$  to  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$ , where  $\epsilon$  and  $\beta$  are the generic points in  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively. But by lemma 2.5.2 the stalks at the generic points are the **function fields**  $k(X)$  and  $k(Y)$ . Hence we obtain a map  $\psi^\sharp : k(Y) \rightarrow k(X)$ , which is injective.

**Proposition 2.5.18** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of integral schemes. Then the following are equivalent :

- 1)  $f$  is **dominant**.
- 2) For every affine open subsets  $U \subseteq X$ ,  $V \subseteq Y$  such that  $f(U) \subseteq V$ , the ring homomorphism  $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_Y(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is injective.
- 3) For all  $x \in X$ , the local homomorphism  $f_x^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is injective.

**Proof.** 1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  2) We may assume that  $U = X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , and  $V = Y = \text{Spec}(A)$  and that  $f$  is induced by a homomorphism  $\psi : A \rightarrow R$  of integral domains. We see that  $f$  maps the **generic point** to the **generic point** if and only if  $\psi^{-1}(0) = (0)$  which holds true if and only if  $\psi$  is injective.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3) Let  $x \in X$  Taking  $U$  be an affine open neighborhood of  $x$ , and  $V$  also an affine open neighborhood of  $f(x)$  such that  $f(U) \subseteq V$ . By ii)  $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_Y(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is injective. Then by proposition 2.1.2 the induced morphism to stalks is also injective. Hence  $f_x^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is injective.

3)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Suppose that for any  $x \in X$ ,  $f_x^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is injective. By proposition 2.1.2  $f^\sharp$  is injective, so for any affine open  $U$  of  $X$ , and affine open subset  $V$  of  $Y$  such that  $f(U) \subseteq V$ ,  $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_Y(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  is injective.

**Theorem 2.5.2** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme, then there is a **normal** scheme  $\tilde{X}$ , and a morphism  $\pi : \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  satisfying the following universal property : For any **dominant** morphism  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  from a normal scheme  $Y$ , there is a unique morphism  $h : Y \rightarrow \tilde{X}$  such that  $g = \pi_X \circ h$ .

**Proof.** See [17, Proposition 1.22, p.120].

**Definition 2.5.11** The scheme  $\tilde{X}$  over  $X$  is called the **normalization** of  $X$ .

**Remark 2.5.6**  $X$  and  $\tilde{X}$  have the same dimension.

**Example 2.5.4** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  where  $R = k[X, Y]/(y^2 - X^3)$ . There is an isomorphism of  $k$ -algebras between  $R$  and  $k[t^2, t^3]$  given by sending  $X \mapsto t^2$  and  $Y \mapsto t^3$ . It is clear that  $k[t^2, t^3]$  is a **domain** with fraction field  $K = k(t)$ . Moreover, the **normalization** of  $R$  equals  $\tilde{R} = k[t]$ . The inclusion  $R \rightarrow \tilde{R}$  induces the **normalization morphism**  $f : \mathbb{A}_k^1 \rightarrow X$ .



## 2.5.6 Separated Schemes

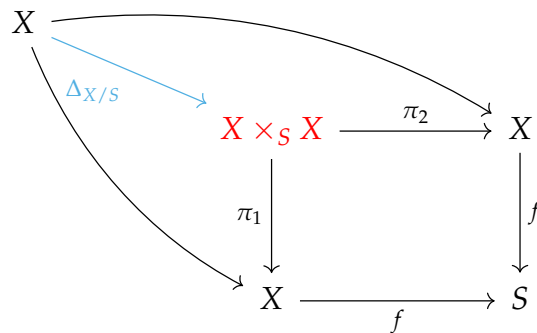
Recall that a topological space  $X$  is **separated** (or **Hausdorff**) if and only if the diagonal subset  $\Delta(X)$  of  $X \times X$  is a closed with respect to the product topology. The separation property fails on the underlying space of a scheme. So, one needs to refine the notion of separation to suite this context. For this, given a scheme  $X$  over a scheme  $S$  (with a morphism of schemes  $f : X \rightarrow S$ ), let's consider the **diagonal morphism**

$$\Delta_{X/S} : X \rightarrow X \times_S X$$

defined to be the unique morphism of schemes such that

$$\pi_i \circ \Delta_{X/S} = \text{id}_X, i = 1, 2, \text{ where } \pi_i \text{'s denote the two projections } X \times_S X \rightarrow X.$$

In terms of diagram we have the following diagram



**Definition 2.5.12** Let  $f : X \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of schemes.  $f$  is called an **immersion** if  $f$  factorizes as  $X \rightarrow U \rightarrow S$ , where  $X \rightarrow U$  is closed immersion and  $U \rightarrow S$  is open immersion.

**Lemma 2.5.3** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be an immersion of schemes. Then  $f$  is closed immersion if and only if  $f(X) \subseteq Y$  is a closed subset.

**Proof.** See [30, Lemma 26.10.4].

**Lemma 2.5.4** If  $X$  and  $S$  are affine schemes. Then  $\Delta_{X/S} : X \rightarrow X \times_S X$  is a closed immersion.

**Proof.** Let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ ,  $S = \text{Spec}(A)$  and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism.  $f$  is separated.  $\Delta_{X/S} : \text{Spec}(R) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R) \times_{\text{Spec}(A)} \text{Spec}(R) \cong \text{Spec}(R \otimes_A R)$  is induced by the canonical homomorphism of rings  $\Delta : R \otimes_A R \rightarrow R$ . The latter is surjective, hence  $\Delta_{X/S}$  is a closed immersion.

**Proposition 2.5.19** Let  $X$  be a scheme over  $S$ . Then  $\Delta_{X/S}$  is an immersion.

**Proof.** See [30, Lemma 26.21.2].

Let  $R$  be a ring, then the natural ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R, n \mapsto n \cdot 1_R$ , induces a morphism of schemes  $\text{Spec}(R) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$  and so any affine scheme can be considered as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -scheme in a natural way. More generally, any scheme  $X$  can be considered as  $\mathbb{Z}$  scheme in a canonical way.

**Definition 2.5.13** Let  $S$  be a scheme, and  $X$  an  $S$ -scheme with morphism  $f : X \rightarrow S$ .

- i) We say that  $f$  is **separated** if the diagonal morphism  $\Delta_{X/S} : X \rightarrow X \times_S X$  is **closed immersion**. In this case we say that  $X$  is **separated**  $S$ -scheme or  $X$  separated over  $S$ .
- ii) A scheme is said to be **separated** if  $X$  separated over  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Example 2.5.5** Any morphism of affine schemes is **separated**. In particular any affine scheme is separated.

**Proposition 2.5.20** Let  $f : X \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of schemes. Then  $f$  is separated if and only if  $\Delta_{X/S}(X)$  is a closed subset of  $X \times_S X$ .

**Proof.** If  $f$  is separated, then  $\Delta_{X/S}$  is a closed immersion. So  $\Delta_{X/S}(X)$  identifies with a closed of  $X \times_S X$  (see definition 2.3.7). Hence  $\Delta_{X/S}(X)$  is a closed. Conversely, as  $\Delta : X \rightarrow X \times_S X$  is an immersion (see proposition 2.5.19), and  $\Delta_{X/S}(X)$  is closed. Then by lemma 2.5.3  $\Delta_{X/S}$  is a closed immersion.

**Proposition 2.5.21** Let  $f : X \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of schemes with  $S = \text{Spec}(R)$  is affine. The following are equivalent :

- 1)  $f$  is separated.
- 2) For every pair of affine opens  $U, V \subseteq X$ ,  $U \cap V$  is again affine. Moreover, the canonical homomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(U \cap V)$  is surjective.
- 3) There exists an open affine covering  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  such that  $U_i \cap U_j$  is affine and the canonical homomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_X(U_i) \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(U_j) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(U_i \cap U_j)$  is surjective.

**Proof.** See [17, Proposition 3.6, p.100].

**Theorem 2.5.3** i) Open and closed immersions are *separated*.

- ii) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  be two separated morphisms, then  $g \circ f$  is separated. In particular, immersions are separated.
- iii) Separated (resp. quasi-separated) morphisms are stable under base change.
- iv) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  be morphisms such that  $g \circ f$  is separated (resp. quasi-separated). Then  $f$  is separated (resp. quasi-separated).
- v) A fibre product of separated (resp. quasi-separated) morphisms is separated (resp. quasi-separated).

**Proof.** See [17, Proposition 3.9, p.101].

## 2.5.7 Proper morphisms

In topology, a *proper* morphism is a morphism for which the inverse image of a *compact Hausdorff*<sup>†</sup> subspace set is *compact Hausdorff*. As above, the lack of good *separation* for the *Zariski topology* means one needs to use a some new notion on schemes.

Recall that a map of topological spaces  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be *closed* if for any closed subset  $Z$  of  $X$ , its image  $f(Z) \subseteq Y$  is closed.

**Definition 2.5.14** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes

- i)  $f$  is said *universally closed* if every base change of  $f$  is a closed mapping.
- ii)  $f$  is said to be *proper* if  $f$  is *separated*, *of finite type*, and *universally closed*. We say in this case that  $X$  is proper over  $Y$ .
- iii) We say that  $X$  is proper if  $X$  is proper over  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ .

In i)  $f$  is said *universally closed* if for each morphism  $Z \rightarrow Y$ , the projection  $\pi_Z : Z \times_Y X \rightarrow Z$  is closed.

<sup>†</sup>A topological space  $X$  is *compact Hausdorff* if  $X$  is Hausdorff space and for every open cover of  $X$  has a finite subcover.

**Examples 2.5.5** 1) Closed morphisms are not stable under base change. For example,  $\mathbb{A}_k^1 \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$  is closed but  $\mathbb{A}_k^2 = \mathbb{A}_k^1 \times \mathbb{A}_k^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{A}_k^1$ , which is not closed. Indeed, the image of  $V(xy - 1)$  is the open subset  $\mathbb{A}_k^1 \setminus \{0\}$ , which is not closed.

2) Let  $f : R \rightarrow A$  be a homomorphism of rings such that  $A$  is a finite  $R$ -module, then the induced map  $\text{Spec}(A) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$  is proper.

**Proposition 2.5.22** Let  $f : X \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of schemes. The following are equivalent :

- 1)  $f$  is proper.
- 2) There exists an open covering  $S = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  such that  $f^{-1}(U_i) \rightarrow U_i$  is proper for all  $i \in I$ .

**Proof.** See [30, Lemma 29.41.2].

**Theorem 2.5.4** We have the following properties :

- i) Closed immersions are proper.
- ii) The composition of two proper morphisms is proper.
- iii) The base change of a proper morphism is still proper.
- iv) The product of two proper morphisms is proper : if  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : X' \rightarrow Y'$  are proper, where all morphisms are morphisms of  $S$ -schemes, then  $f \times g : X \times_S X' \rightarrow Y \times_S Y'$  is proper.

**Proof.** See [12, Corollary 4.8, p.102].

## 2.5.8 Projective Schemes

We know that **projective** varieties are a special important class of varieties that are not affine, but still can be described globally without using glueing techniques. They arise from looking at **homogeneous ideals**, i.e., graded coordinate rings. A completely analogous construction exists in the category of schemes, starting with a graded ring and looking at homogeneous ideals in it.

### The Proj construction

The functor **Spec** is the basic operation going from rings to schemes. We describe a related operation **Proj** from graded rings to schemes.

**Definition 2.5.15** Let  $R$  be graded ring of the form  $R = \bigoplus_{d \geq 0} R_d$  and let  $R_+ := \bigoplus_{d > 0} R_d$ .

- i) We denote by  $\text{Proj}(R)$  the set of **homogeneous prime** ideals  $P \subseteq R$  such that  $P$  does not contain  $R_+$ . It is called the **projective** spectrum of  $R$ .
- ii) For a homogeneous ideal  $J$ , we let

$$V_h(J) = \{P \in \text{Proj}(R) \mid J \subseteq P\}.$$

**Remark 2.5.7** The operation  $V_h$  has properties analogous to the properties for  $V$  listed in proposition 2.2.1. So we can define a topology on  $\text{Proj}(R)$  for which the closed subsets are exactly those of the form  $V_h(J)$ , for  $J$  a **homogeneous** ideal of  $R$ . This topology is called the **Zariski topology** on  $\text{Proj}(R)$ . Note by definition we have  $V_h(R_+) = \emptyset$ .

## Principals opens of $\text{Proj}(R)$

Recall, in the affine case a principal open of  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is defined as  $D(f) := \{P \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid f \notin P\}$  for some  $f \in R$  (see definition 2.2.2). We define the **principal**  $D_+(f)$  of  $\text{Proj}(R)$  by

$$D_+(f) = \{P \in \text{Proj}(R) \mid f \notin P\}$$

with  $f$  is homogeneous of positive degree i.e  $f \in R_d$ , and  $d > 0$ .

**Proposition 2.5.23** Let  $f, g \in R$  be homogeneous of positive degree. Then

- 1)  $D_+(f) \cap D_+(g) = D_+(fg)$ .
- 2) The sets  $D_+(f)$  form a basis for the **Zariski topology** on  $\text{Proj}(R)$  when  $f$  runs through the homogeneous element of  $R$  of positive degree.

**Proof.** See [9, Proposition 10.6, p.144].

**Notation.** If  $P$  is a homogeneous prime ideal of a graded ring  $R$ , then  $R_{(P)}$  will denote the elements of degree zero in the localisation of  $R$  at the set of homogeneous elements which do not belong to  $P$ .

**Definition 2.5.16** Let  $R$  be graded ring, and  $X = \text{Proj}(R)$ . We define a sheaf of ring  $\mathcal{O}_X$  by considering for any open subset  $U \subseteq X$ , all functions

$$s : U \longrightarrow \coprod_{P \in X} R_{(P)}$$

such that  $s(P) \in R_{(P)}$ , which are locally represented by quotients. That is given any  $P \in U$  there is  $a, f \in R$  homogeneous elements of the same degree and an open  $V \subseteq U$  such that  $V \subseteq D_+(f)$ , and  $s(Q) = \frac{a}{f}$  for all  $Q \in V$ .

**Proposition 2.5.24** Let  $R$  be graded ring and set  $X = \text{Proj}(R)$ .

- 1) For every  $P \in X$ , the stalk  $\mathcal{O}_{X,P}$  is isomorphic to  $R_{(P)}$ .
- 2) For any homogeneous element  $f \in R_+$ , we have

$$(D_+(f), \mathcal{O}_{X|D_+(f)}) \simeq \text{Spec}(R_{(f)}).$$

where  $R_{(f)}$  consists of all element of degree zero in the localization  $R_f$ . In particular,  $\text{Proj}(R)$  is a scheme.

**Proof.** See [12, Proposition 2.5, p.76].

**Definition 2.5.17** Let  $R$  be a ring. The **Projective**  $n$ -space over  $R$  denote  $\mathbb{P}_R^n$  is the proj of the polynomial ring  $R[T_0, \dots, T_n]$ . When  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  we write simply  $\mathbb{P}^n$  for  $\text{Proj}(\mathbb{Z}[T_0, \dots, T_n])$ .

**Remarks 2.5.3** 1) Note that  $\mathbb{P}_R^n$  is a scheme over  $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ .

- 2) We define the  $n$ -space  $\mathbb{P}_S^n$  over an arbitrary scheme  $S$  as  $\mathbb{P}_S^n = \mathbb{P}^n \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})} S$ .

## Some basic properties of $\text{Proj}(R)$

**Theorem 2.5.5** Let  $R$  be a graded ring.

- i)  $\text{Proj}(R)$  is separated.
- ii) If  $R$  is Noetherian, then  $\text{Proj}(R)$  is Noetherian. In particular  $\text{Proj}(R)$  is compact.
- iii) If  $R$  is of finitely generated over  $R_0$ , then  $\text{Proj}(R)$  is a finite type over  $\text{Spec}(R_0)$  is the 0-component of  $R$ .
- iv) If  $R$  is an integral domain, then  $\text{Proj}(R)$  is integral.

**Proof.** See [9, Proposition 10.16, p.150].

**Definition 2.5.18** (*Projective morphisms*) Let  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes. We say that  $f$  is *projective* if there exists an open covering  $Y = \bigcup_i Y_i$  such that  $f|_{f^{-1}(Y_i)} : f^{-1}(Y_i) \longrightarrow Y_i$  can be factored as

$$f^{-1}(Y_i) \xrightarrow{j} \mathbb{P}_{Y_i}^{n_i} = \mathbb{P}^{n_i} \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})} Y_i \longrightarrow Y_i$$

with  $j$  a closed immersion.

**Example 2.5.6**  $X = \mathbb{P}_R^n \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$  is a projective morphism.

**Proposition 2.5.25** The projective space  $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{Z}}^n$  is separated and of finite type.

**Proof.** See [30, Section 27.13, Projective space].

**Theorem 2.5.6** Let  $S$  be a scheme. Then any projective morphism to  $S$  is proper.

**Proof.** See [17, Theorem 3.30, p.108].

**Corollary 2.5.5** We have the following properties :

- i) Closed immersions are projective morphisms.
- ii) The composition of two projective morphisms is a projective morphism.
- iii) Projective morphisms are stable under base change.
- iv) Let  $f : X \longrightarrow S$  and  $g : Y \longrightarrow S$  be projective morphisms, then  $X \times_S Y \longrightarrow S$  is a projective morphism.

**Definition 2.5.19** (*projective schemes*) Let  $X$  be a scheme over  $S$ . We say that  $X$  is projective over  $S$  if the *structure* morphism  $f : X \longrightarrow S$  is projective.

## 2.6 Tangent spaces

Let  $X$  be a scheme and  $x \in X$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  be the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ , and  $k(x) = \mathcal{O}_{X,x}/\mathfrak{m}_x$  be the **residue field**. It is clear that  $\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2$  is a vector space over  $k(x)$ .

**Definition 2.6.1** Let  $X$  be a scheme, and let  $x \in X$ . **Zariski tangent space** of  $X$  at  $x$  is the dual

$$T_x X = (\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2)^\vee.$$

**Remarks 2.6.1** 1) For any point  $x \in X$ , if the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is **Noetherian**, **Nakayama's lemma** shows that  $\dim_{k(x)}(\mathfrak{m}_x/\mathfrak{m}_x^2)$  is the minimal number of generators of  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  (see remark 1.5.2). In particular, if  $X$  is **locally Noetherian**,  $\dim_{k(x)}(T_x X)$  is finite.

2) For any open neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$ , we have  $T_x X = T_x U$ .

3) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes,  $x \in X$  and  $y = f(x)$ . Then  $f_x^\# : \mathcal{O}_{Y,y} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  canonically induces a  $k(x)$ -homomorphism of vector spaces

$$T_x f : T_x X \rightarrow T_y Y \otimes_{k(y)} k(x)$$

called the **tangent map** of  $f$  at  $x$ .

**Proposition 2.6.1** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Then :

- 1) If  $X$  is **locally Noetherian**, then for any  $x \in X$ , we have  $\dim_{k(x)}(T_x X) \geq \dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x})$ .
- 2) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  be morphisms of schemes. Then  $T_x(g \circ f) = (T_{f(y)} \otimes \text{id}_{k(x)}) \circ T_x f$

**Proof.** See [17, Proposition 2.2, p.126]

**Definition 2.6.2** Let  $X$  be a locally Noetherian scheme and  $x \in X$  be a point. We say that  $x$  is a **regular point** of  $X$  if  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x}) = \dim_{k(x)}(T_x X)$ . If  $x$  is not regular, we say that it is a **singular point**.

**Proposition 2.6.2** Let  $X$  be a locally Noetherian scheme. Then  $X$  is **regular** if and only if for any  $x \in X$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x}) = \dim_{k(x)}(T_x X)$ .

**Proof.**  $X$  is regular if and only if for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is regular if and only if for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\dim_{k(x)}(T_x X) = \dim(\mathcal{O}_{X,x})$ .

## 2.7 Modules over schemes

So far we discussed general properties of **sheaves**, in particular, of rings (see section 2.2.2). Similarly as in the **module theory** in abstract algebra, the notion of **sheaves of modules** allows us to increase our understanding of a given ringed space, and to provide further techniques. There are particularly important notions, namely, **quasi-coherent** and **coherent sheaves**. They are analogous notions of the usual **modules** (respectively, **finitely generated modules**) over a given ring. They also generalize the notion of **vector bundles**.



### 2.7.1 Sheaves of modules

**Definition 2.7.1** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a ringed space. A sheaf of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules, or simply an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules, is a sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  such that

- i) The group  $\mathcal{F}(U)$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ -module for each open set  $U \subseteq X$ .
- ii) For any  $V \subseteq U$  opens subsets of  $X$  the restriction map  $\text{res}_{U,V} : \mathcal{F}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(V)$  is compatible with the module structure via the rings homomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(V)$ . In other words the natural diagram below is required to commute

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(U) \times \mathcal{O}_X(U) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(U) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res}_{U,V} \\ \mathcal{F}(V) \times \mathcal{O}_X(V) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(V) \end{array}$$

where vertical arrows represent restrictions maps and horizontal ones multiplication maps.

**Definition 2.7.2** A morphism  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules is a morphism of sheaves such that the map  $\psi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}(U)$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ -module homomorphism for every open  $U \subseteq X$ .

**Remarks 2.7.1** i) We obtain a category of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules, which we denote by  $\text{Mod}_X$ .

- ii) Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module and  $x \in X$ , then the stalk  $\mathcal{F}_x$  carries a natural  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ -module structure. The  $k(x)$ -vector space  $\mathcal{F}(x) := \mathcal{F}_x \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{X,x}} k(x)$  is called the **fiber** of  $\mathcal{F}$  over  $x$ .

**Example 2.7.1** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a ringed space,  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  be  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules, and let  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}$  be a morphism. Then :

- 1) " $\ker(\psi)$ ", " $\text{Im}(\psi)$ " are again  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules.
- 2) If  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -submodule, then the quotient sheaf  $\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{F}$  (see definition 2.1.13) is an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module.

**Definition 2.7.3** Let  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  be two  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules

- i) We denoted the group morphisms from  $\mathcal{F}$  to  $\mathcal{G}$  by  $\text{Hom}_X(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$  (or  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$ ).
- ii) For  $U \subseteq X$ . The presheaf

$$U \longmapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}|_U, \mathcal{G}|_U)$$

is a sheaf and we will call it the sheaf  $\text{Hom}$ .

- iii) We may define the direct sum as

$$\mathcal{F} \oplus \mathcal{G} := \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}.$$

More generally, Given a any set  $I$  and for each  $i \in I$  a  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module  $\mathcal{F}_i$ . We can form the direct sum

$$\bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$$

which is the sheafification of the presheaf that associates to each open  $U$  the direct sum of the modules  $\mathcal{F}_i(U)$ .

## Tensor product

Let  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  be sheaves of abelian groups on  $X$ . For any  $U \subseteq X$  open subset. We consider the correspondence

$$U \longmapsto \mathcal{F}(U) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X(U)} \mathcal{G}(U).$$

This defines a presheaf on  $X$ .

**Definition 2.7.4** The sheaf associated to the presheaf  $U \longmapsto \mathcal{F}(U) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X(U)} \mathcal{G}(U)$  is called the **tensor product**. We denote it by  $\mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{G}$ . When there is no confusion, we write simply  $\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$ .

**Properties 2.7.1** Let  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  be two  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules.

- i) Stalk  $(\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})_x$  at the point  $x$  is naturally isomorphic to tensor product  $\mathcal{F}_x \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{X,x}} \mathcal{G}_x$ .
- ii) Tensor product is right exact in the category of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules i.e if  $\mathcal{F}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module and if

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules, then the induced sequence

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_3 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow 0.$$

is exact.

- iii) (Adjunction between Hom and  $\otimes$ ) For any  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  there is natural isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})) \simeq \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}).$$

(See [9, 10.10, p.187]).

## Pushforward and Pullback

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map between topological spaces. In section 2.1.2, we introduced two functors between the categories  $Sh_X$  and  $Sh_Y$ .

\* The **first functor** :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_* : Sh_X & \longrightarrow & Sh_Y \\ \mathcal{F} & \longmapsto & f_* \mathcal{F} \end{array}$$

defined by  $f_* \mathcal{F}(U) = \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(U))$  for any  $U$  open of  $Y$ . This functor is called the **pushforward** (see definition 2.1.14).

\* The **second functor** :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f^{-1} : Sh_Y & \longrightarrow & Sh_X \\ \mathcal{G} & \longmapsto & f^{-1} \mathcal{G} \end{array}$$

and  $f^{-1} \mathcal{G}(U) = (f_P \mathcal{G})^\dagger(U)$  for any open  $U$  of  $X$  (see definition 2.1.17)

In this paragraph, we parallel these two constructions when  $f$  is a morphism of schemes to obtain functors  $f_*$  and  $f^*$  between  $Mod_X$  and  $Mod_Y$ .

## Pushforward

Let  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of schemes. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, then for each open  $U \subseteq Y$ ,  $f_*\mathcal{F}(U)$  is a module over  $f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ .  $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_Y \longrightarrow f_*\mathcal{O}_X$  equips  $f_*\mathcal{F}$  with a natural structure of  $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module.

**Definition 2.7.5** The above  $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module  $f_*\mathcal{F}$  is called the **direct image** (or the **pushforward**) of  $\mathcal{F}$  under  $f$ .

**Remarks 2.7.2** i) This construction is clearly functorial in the sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$ , and gives a functor  $f_* : \text{Mod}_X \longrightarrow \text{Mod}_Y$ .

ii) The pushforward is functorial in the morphism  $f$  in the sens that  $(f \circ g)_* = f_* \circ g_*$ .

**Proposition 2.7.1** Let  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of schemes. The functor

$$f_* : \text{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}_X} \longrightarrow \text{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}_Y}$$

is left exact.

**Proof.** See [30, Section 18.14, Lemma 18.14.3].

## Pullback

Let  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of schemes.

Recall that if  $\mathcal{G}$  is a sheaf on  $Y$ , the inverse image  $f^{-1}\mathcal{G}$  is by the sheaf canonically associated to the presheaf

$$f_p\mathcal{G}(U) = \varinjlim_{f(U) \subseteq V} \mathcal{G}(V)$$

(see definition 2.1.16, definition 2.1.17). When  $\mathcal{G}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module, this sheaf is naturally an  $\mathcal{O}_X$  and  $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module and we can make  $f^{-1}\mathcal{G}$  into an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module using the map  $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ .

We define :

$$f^*\mathcal{G} := f^{-1}\mathcal{G} \otimes_{f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y} \mathcal{O}_X.$$

**Definition 2.7.6** The  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module  $f^*\mathcal{G}$  is called the **pullback** of  $\mathcal{G}$  under  $f$ .

**Remarks 2.7.3** i) In particular,  $f^*\mathcal{O}_Y = f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \otimes_{f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y} \mathcal{O}_X = \mathcal{O}_X$ .

iii) As in the case of the **pushforward**, we also get here a functor  $f^* : \text{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}_Y} \longrightarrow \text{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}_X}$ .

**Proposition 2.7.2** Let  $X$  be a scheme, for any  $x \in X$  we have

$$(f^*\mathcal{G})_x = \mathcal{G}_{f(x)} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)}} \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$$

**Proof.** The stalks commutes with sheafification and tensor product (see properties 2.7.1 i)), and  $(f^{-1}\mathcal{G})_x = \mathcal{G}_{f(x)}$  (see lemma 2.1.4). So

$$\begin{aligned} (f^*\mathcal{G})_x &= (f^{-1}\mathcal{G} \otimes_{f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y} \mathcal{O}_X)_x \\ &= (f^{-1}\mathcal{G})_x \otimes_{f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_{Y,x}} \mathcal{O}_{X,x} \\ &= \mathcal{G}_{f(x)} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)}} \mathcal{O}_{X,x}. \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 2.7.3** Let  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of schemes. The functor

$$f^* : \text{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}_Y} \longrightarrow \text{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}_X}$$

is right exact.

**Proof.** See [30, Section 18.14, Lemma 18.14.3].

## Global generation

Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a ringed space,  $\mathcal{F}$  be an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module,  $U$  be an open of  $X$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{F}_x$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ -module (see remarks 2.7.1).

**Definition 2.7.7** i)  $\mathcal{F}$  is **globally generated** at  $x \in X$  if the image of  $\mathcal{F}(X) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_x$  generates  $\mathcal{F}_x$  as an  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ -module. In other words,  $\mathcal{F}(X) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X(X)} \mathcal{O}_{X,x} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_x$  is surjective.

ii) We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is **globally generated** if  $\mathcal{F}$  is **globally generated** at every point  $x \in X$ .

**Remark 2.7.1** If  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is globally generated, then any direct sum  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{O}_X$  is also globally generated.

**Proposition 2.7.4** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module. Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is **generally generated** if and only if there is some set  $I$  such that there is an epimorphism  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{O}_X \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}$ .

**Proof.** See [17, Lemma 1.3, p.158].

## 2.7.2 Quasi-coherent modules

In this section, we introduce the notion of **quasi-coherent**  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module. This notion is very useful in algebraic geometry, since **quasi-coherent** modules on a scheme have a good description on any affine open.

### Quasi-coherent sheaves

**Definition 2.7.8** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a ringed space and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules. We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a **quasi-coherent** sheaf of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules if for every point  $x \in X$  there exists an open neighbourhood  $U \ni x \subseteq X$  such that  $\mathcal{F}|_U$  is isomorphic to the cokernel of a map

$$\bigoplus_{j \in J} \mathcal{O}_U \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{O}_U.$$

Note that the direct sum of two quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules is quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules.

It is not true in general that an infinite direct sum of quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules is quasi-coherent (see [30, chap. 17.10.9, Example 10.9]).

**Notation.** We will denote The category of **quasi-coherent**  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules by  $\mathcal{QCoh}_{\mathcal{O}_X}$ .

**Example 2.7.2** The structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is **quasi-coherent**.

**Proposition 2.7.5** Let  $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \longrightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of ringed spaces. The pullback  $f^*\mathcal{G}$  of a quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_Y$ -module is quasi-coherent.

**Proof.** See [9, Proposition 14.14, p.207].

## 2.7.3 Sheaves associated to modules

Since thinking about affine schemes is supposed to be equivalent to thinking about rings (the two categories are equivalent, see theorem 2.3.2), we would like our thinking about sheaves of modules on affine schemes to be equivalent to thinking about modules over rings. In this section, we will define the sheaf to modules.

**Definition 2.7.9** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. We define the sheaf associated to  $M$  on  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , denoted by  $\tilde{M}$ , as follows. For any open subset  $U$  of  $X$  we define

$\tilde{M}(U) := \{s : U \longrightarrow \coprod_{P \in X} M_P \mid \text{for all } P \in U, \text{ we have } s(P) \in M_P, \text{ and for all } P \in U \text{ there is } a \in M, r \in R, \text{ and an open neighbourhood } V \subseteq U \text{ such that } V \subseteq D(r) \text{ and } s(Q) = \frac{a}{r} \text{ for all } Q \in V\}.$

**Remark 2.7.2** The sheaf  $\tilde{M}$  carries an obvious  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module structure (see [12, Proposition 5.2, p.110]). The  $\sim$  is **functorial** in  $M$ . For any  $R$ -module homomorphism  $f : M \longrightarrow N$  there is an obvious way of obtaining an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module homomorphism  $\tilde{f} : \tilde{M} \longrightarrow \tilde{N}$ . Indeed, The maps  $f_r : M_r \longrightarrow N_r$  are  $\mathcal{O}_X(D(r))$ -modules homomorphisms compatible with localization maps i.e., the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_r & \xrightarrow{f_r} & N_r \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M_d & \xrightarrow{f_d} & N_d \end{array}$$

is commutative, and thus induce a map between  $\tilde{M}$  and  $\tilde{N}$ . Moreover, one has  $\widetilde{f \circ g} = \tilde{f} \circ \tilde{g}$ . So We have thus defined a functor from the category of  $R$ -modules to the category of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules.

**Proposition 2.7.6** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $M$  be an  $R$ -modules. The sheaf  $\tilde{M}$  on  $\text{Spec}(R)$  has the following three properties :

- 1) For all  $r \in R$ , we have a canonical isomorphism

$$\tilde{M}(D(r)) \simeq M_r.$$

- 2) If  $d \in R$  and  $d \in (r)$ , then there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{M}(D(r)) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \tilde{M}(D(d)) \\ \downarrow \simeq & & \downarrow \simeq \\ \tilde{M}_r & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \tilde{M}_d \end{array}$$

where the vertical isomorphisms one from 1).

- 3) There is natural isomorphism  $\tilde{M}_P \simeq M_P$  for all  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . This a natural isomorphism fits in a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{M}_P & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & M_P \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \tilde{M}(\text{Spec}(R)) & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & M \end{array}$$

Here the vertical morphisms are the natural ones and the lower horizontal ones come from 1).

**Proof.** The proof of this Proposition is similar to the proof of proposition 2.3.1. For more details, see [17, Proposition 5.10].

**Theorem 2.7.1** The functor  $M \longrightarrow \tilde{M}$  from the category of  $R$ -modules to the category of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules where  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  is exact and fully faithful.

**Proof.** See [9, Theorem 14.4, p.195].

## Tensor products, Pushforward and Pullback

**Proposition 2.7.7** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ . Also let  $\psi : R \longrightarrow A$  be a ring homomorphism, and  $f : \text{Spec}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$  be the corresponding morphism of spectra. Then :

- 1) If  $M$  and  $N$  are two  $R$ -modules. Then  $\widetilde{M \otimes_R N} \simeq \widetilde{M} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \widetilde{N}$ .
- 2) The  $A$ -module  $M$  can be considered as an  $R$ -module via the map  $\psi : R \longrightarrow A$ , and we denote this  $A$ -module by  $M_R$ . We have

$$f_* \widetilde{M} = \widetilde{M_R}.$$

- 3) Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then

$$f^* \widetilde{M} = \widetilde{M \otimes_R A}.$$

- 4) If  $\{M_i\}$  is any family of  $R$ -modules, then  $\widetilde{\bigoplus_i M_i} = \bigoplus_i \widetilde{M_i}$ .

**Proof.** See [12, Proposition 5.2, p.110].

**Theorem 2.7.2**  $\widetilde{M}$  is *quasi-coherent* sheaf.

**Proof.** See [9, Proposition 13.8, p.192].

## 2.7.4 Coherent sheaves

**Definition 2.7.10** Let  $X$  be a ringed space, and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module.

- i) We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is *finitely generated* if for every  $x \in X$ , there exist an open neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$ , an integer  $n \geq 1$  and a surjective homomorphism on  $\mathcal{O}_{X|U}^n \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}|_U$ .
- ii) We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is *coherent* if it is finitely generated, and if for every every open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , and for every homomorphism  $\beta : \mathcal{O}_{X|U}^n \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}|_U$ , Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  the kernel  $\text{Ker}(\beta)$  is finitely generated.

**Theorem 2.7.3** Let  $X$  be a scheme. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module. Let us consider the following properties:

- i)  $\mathcal{F}$  is coherent.
- ii)  $\mathcal{F}$  is finitely generated.
- iii) For every affine open subset  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(U)$  is *finitely generated* over  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ .

Then  $i) \Rightarrow ii) \Rightarrow iii)$ . Moreover, if  $X$  is locally Noetherian then these properties are equivalent.

**Proof.** See [17, Proposition 1.11, p.161].

## Coherence of pushforwards

**Proposition 2.7.8** Let  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a finite morphism of schemes.

- 1) If  $\mathcal{F}$  be a quasi-coherent sheaf on  $X$ , then  $f_* \mathcal{F}$  is quasi-coherent on  $Y$ .
- 2) If  $X$  and  $Y$  are Noetherian,  $f_* \mathcal{F}$  is even coherent if  $\mathcal{F}$  is.

**Proof.** See [9, Theorem 14.15, p.208].

**Notation.** The category of coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules is denoted  $\text{Coh}(\mathcal{O}_X)$ .



## 2.8 Some cohomology interpretations

In this section, we consider the theory of *cohomology* in algebraic geometry. It is an extremely rich and varied theory. In this section we are interested in one of the most elementary cohomology theories, the *Čech cohomology* of quasi-coherent sheaves.

### 2.8.1 Some homological algebra

#### Complexes of abelian groups

- \* Recall that a *complex* of abelian groups  $A^\bullet$  is a sequence of groups  $A^i$  together with maps between them

$$\dots \longrightarrow A^{i-1} \xrightarrow{d_i} A^i \xrightarrow{d_{i+1}} A^{i+1} \longrightarrow \dots$$

such that  $d^{i+1} \circ d^i = 0$  for each  $i$ .

- \* A morphism of complexes  $A^\bullet \xrightarrow{f^\bullet} B^\bullet$  is a collection  $f_i^\bullet : A^i \longrightarrow B^i$  of maps making the following diagram commutative :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \longrightarrow & A^{i-1} & \xrightarrow{d^i} & A^i & \xrightarrow{d^{i+1}} & A^{i+1} \longrightarrow \dots \\ & & \downarrow f_{i-1}^\bullet & & \downarrow f_i^\bullet & & \downarrow f_{i+1}^\bullet \\ \dots & \longrightarrow & B^{i-1} & \xrightarrow{\eta^i} & B^i & \xrightarrow{\eta^{i+1}} & B^{i+1} \longrightarrow \dots \end{array}$$

- \* We say that an element  $\sigma \in A^i$  is a *cocycle* if it lies in the kernel of the map  $d^i$ , i.e  $d^i(\sigma) = 0$ .
- \* A *coboundary* is an element in the image of  $d^{i-1}$ , i.e  $\sigma = d^{i-1}(\tau)$ . For some  $\tau \in A^{i-1}$ . These form subgroups of  $A^n$ , denoted by  $Z^i(A^\bullet)$ , and  $B^i(A^\bullet)$ , respectively. Since  $d^i(d^{i-1}(x)) = 0$  for all  $x$ , all coboundaries are cocycles, so that  $B^i(A^\bullet) \subseteq Z^i(A^\bullet)$ .
- \* The *cohomology groups* of the complex  $A^\bullet$ , are set up to measure the difference between these two notions. We define the  $i$ -The cohomology group as the quotient group

$$H^i(A^\bullet) := Z^i(A^\bullet) / B^i(A^\bullet).$$

- \* An exact sequence of complexes noted :  $0 \longrightarrow A^\bullet \xrightarrow{f^\bullet} B^\bullet \xrightarrow{g^\bullet} C^\bullet \longrightarrow 0$  is the given for all  $i$  of an exact sequence of abelian groups  $0 \longrightarrow A^i \xrightarrow{f_i^\bullet} B^i \xrightarrow{g_i^\bullet} C^i \longrightarrow 0$ .
- \* Given the previous definition, we deduce morphisms  $\tilde{f}_i^\bullet : H^i(A^\bullet) \longrightarrow H^i(B^\bullet)$

**Theorem 2.8.1** We consider the exact sequence of complexes  $0 \longrightarrow A^\bullet \xrightarrow{f^\bullet} B^\bullet \xrightarrow{g^\bullet} C^\bullet \longrightarrow 0$ . Then there is a long exact sequence of cohomology groups

$$\longrightarrow H^i(A^\bullet) \longrightarrow H^i(B^\bullet) \longrightarrow H^i(C^\bullet) \xrightarrow{\quad} H^{i+1}(A^\bullet) \longrightarrow H^{i+1}(B^\bullet) \longrightarrow H^{i+1}(C^\bullet) \longrightarrow$$

**Proof.** See [26, Proposition D.1.10, p.503].

## Complexes of sheaves

**Remark 2.8.1** The definitions and arguments of the previous subsection apply much more generally (to any abelian category). In particular, we make the following sheaf analogue.

**Definition 2.8.1** A **complex of sheaves**  $\mathcal{F}^\bullet$ , is a sequence of sheaves with maps between then

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{d^{i-2}} \mathcal{F}_{i-1} \xrightarrow{d^{i-1}} \mathcal{F}_i \xrightarrow{d^i} \mathcal{F}_{i+1} \xrightarrow{d^{i+1}} \cdots$$

such that  $d^{i+1} \circ d^i = 0$  for each  $i$ .

**Definition 2.8.2** Given a complex, we define the cohomology sheaves  $H^p(\mathcal{F}^\bullet)$ , as  $\text{Ker}(d^p) / \text{Im}(d^{p-1})$ .

As in theorem 2.8.1, a short exact sequence of complexes of sheaves gives rise to a long exact sequence of cohomology sheaves.

### 2.8.2 The Čech cohomology

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a topological space, and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf of abelian group on  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{U} := \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be an open cover of  $X$ . We denote by  $U_{ij} = U_i \cap U_j$  and more generally  $U_{i_0 \dots i_p} = U_{i_0} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_p}$ .

**Definition 2.8.3** i) For all  $p \geq 1$ , we denoted by

$$C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) := \prod_{i_0 < \dots < i_p} \mathcal{F}(U_{i_0 \dots i_p}) = \prod_{i_0 < \dots < i_p} \mathcal{F}(U_{i_0} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_p}).$$

We have thus constructed a complex of abelian groups  $C^\bullet(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$ .

ii) The elements of  $C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  are called *cochains*.  $C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  is called also group of  *$p$ -cochains* with values in  $\mathcal{F}$ .

iii) We also define the differential :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \delta^p : C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) & \longrightarrow & C^{p+1}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \\ s & \longmapsto & \delta s \end{array}$$

by

$$(\delta^p s)_{i_0 \dots i_{p+1}} = \sum_{k=0}^{p+1} (-1)^k s_{i_0 \dots \hat{i}_k \dots i_{p+1} | U_{i_0 \dots \hat{i}_k \dots i_p}}.$$

Note that for  $p \geq 0$ , we have  $\delta^{p+1} \circ \delta^p = 0$ .

**Notation.** \*  $Z^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \{\sigma \in C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \mid \delta^p(s) = 0\}$

$$* B^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \begin{cases} \delta(C^{p-1}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})) & \text{if } p > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Definition 2.8.4** The  $p$ -th Čech cohomology of  $\mathcal{F}$  with respect to  $\mathcal{U}$  is defined as

$$H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = Z^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) / B^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \ker(\delta^p) / \text{Im}(\delta^{p-1})$$

**Remark 2.8.2** Note that a sheaf homomorphism  $\psi : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow G$  induces a mapping of Čech cohomology groups, so we obtain functors  $\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  from abelian sheaves to abelian groups.

**Proposition 2.8.1** For any open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $X$  we have :

$$H^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}).$$

**Proof.** See [9, Theorem 17.13, p.258].

**Examples 2.8.1** 1) Let  $X = \mathbb{S}^1$  be the **unit circle** and equip it with a standard covering  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_1, U_2\}$ , consisting of two intervals (intersecting in two intervals  $S$  and  $N$ ) and let  $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{Z}_X$  be the constant sheaf. Here we have

$$* C^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \mathbb{Z}_X(U_1) \times \mathbb{Z}_X(U_2) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$$

$$* C^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \mathbb{Z}_X(U_1 \cap U_2) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$* \text{The map } \delta^0 : C^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow C^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is the map } \phi : \mathbb{Z}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2 \text{ given by } \delta^0(x, y) = (y - x, y - x).$$

$$\text{Hence } H^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \ker(\delta^0) = \mathbb{Z}(1, 1) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } H^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \text{Coker}(\delta^0) = (\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}) / \mathbb{Z}(1, 1) \simeq \mathbb{Z}.$$

2) Let  $X$  be an irreducible topological space. Then for any finite covering  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $X$  we have for a constant sheaf  $A_X$

$$H^p(\mathcal{U}, A_X) = 0$$

for  $p > 0$ . (See [9, Proposition 13.11, p.251]).

### The inductive system of $H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$

We will describe in this paragraph the inductive system which will allow us to define the  $H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$ .

**Definition 2.8.5 (Refinement function)** If  $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \Omega$ , with  $\mathcal{U} = (V_j)_{j \in J}$  and  $\Omega = (U_i)_{i \in I}$  then there exists a function  $\tau$  called **refinement function**  $\tau : J \longrightarrow I$  such that  $V_j \subseteq U_{\tau(j)}$  used to define maps :

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^p : C^p(\Omega, \mathcal{F}) &\longrightarrow C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \\ (s_{j_0 \dots j_p}) &\longmapsto (s_{\tau(j_0) \dots \tau(j_p)})|_{V_{j_0 \dots j_p}} \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.8.2** Let  $\tau, \tilde{\tau} : J \longrightarrow I$  be two refinement functions such that  $V_j \subseteq U_{\tau(j)} \cap U_{\tilde{\tau}(j)}$ . Then  $\tau$  and  $\tilde{\tau}$  induces the same function  $\phi_{\mathcal{U}}^{\Omega} : H^p(\Omega, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$ .

**Proof.** See [30, Section 20.15 Refinements and Čech cohomology].

### Long exact sequence in cohomology

**Theorem 2.8.3** Let  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  be sheaves on  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\beta} \mathcal{H}$  be two morphisms of sheaves.

If for any covering  $\Omega$  of  $X$  there exists a covering  $\Omega' \subseteq \Omega$  such that for any finite intersection  $W$  of open sets of  $\Omega'$  the following sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(W) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{G}(W) \xrightarrow{\beta} \mathcal{H}(W) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. Then the following infinite sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H^0(X, \mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} H^0(X, \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\beta}} H^0(X, \mathcal{H}) \xrightarrow{\Delta} H^1(X, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow \dots$$

$$\dots \longrightarrow H^p(X, \mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} H^p(X, \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\beta}} H^p(X, \mathcal{H}) \xrightarrow{\Delta} H^{p+1}(X, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow \dots$$

is exact.

**Proof.** See [9, Proposition 17.2, p.251].

**Theorem 2.8.4** Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf on  $X$ .

- i) The Čech cohomology groups are functors  $H^i(X, \cdot) : \mathcal{A}bSh_X \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}b\mathcal{G}$ .
- ii) (**Leray's theorem**) If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a covering such that  $H^i(U_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_p}, \mathcal{F}) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$  and multi-indices  $i_1 < \cdots < i_p$ , then

$$H^i(X, \mathcal{F}) = H^i(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}).$$

**Proof.** See [9, Theorem 13.13, p.254].

**Theorem 2.8.5** (**Serre**) Let  $R$  be a **Noetherian** ring, let  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$  and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a quasi-coherent sheaf on  $X$ . Then

$$H^p(X, \mathcal{F}) = 0.$$

for all  $p > 0$ .

**Proof.** See [9, Theorem 14.1, p.256].

**Corollary 2.8.1** Let  $X$  be a **Noetherian** affine scheme and

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow 0$$

be an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules with  $\mathcal{F}$  is quasi-coherent. Then the following sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(X) \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}(X) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}(X) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact.

**Proof.** See [9, Corollary 14.5, p.202].

**Theorem 2.8.6** (**Grothendieck**) Let  $X$  be a **Noetherian** topological space of dimension  $m$ , and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an abelian sheaf on  $X$ . Then

$$H^p(X, \mathcal{F}) = 0$$

for all  $p > m$ .

**Proof.** See [30, Proposition 20.20.7 **Grothendieck**].

## 2.9 Divisors defined by means of schemes

We previously described in the first chapter divisors on curves. We give here the interpretation (and generalization) of these divisors in the language of schemes. We present then in this section **Weil** and **Cartier Divisors** and some relations between them.

## 2.9.1 Cartier Divisors

### Definition 2.9.1 (Sheaf of meromorphic functions)

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. We denote by  $\mathcal{R}(R)$  for the set of nonzero divisors of  $R$ . Let  $X$  be a scheme, the sheaf  $\mathcal{R}_X$  is defined as follows : For any open subset  $U \subseteq X$

$$\mathcal{R}_X(U) := \{f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U) \mid \forall x \in U, f_x \in \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{O}_{X,x})\}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{K}'_X$  to be the presheaf on  $X$  defined by  $\mathcal{K}'_X(U) := \mathcal{R}_X(U)^{-1} \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  and  $\mathcal{K}_X$  to be the **sheafification** of  $\mathcal{K}'_X$ . We call  $\mathcal{K}_X$  the sheaf of **meromorphic functions** on  $X$ .

**Remarks 2.9.1** i)  $\mathcal{K}_X$  is called also the sheaf of **total quotient rings** of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ .

ii) Note that if  $U$  is an affine open subset of  $X$ , then  $\mathcal{R}_X(U) = \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{O}_X(U))$

iii) Note that there is a natural morphism of sheaves  $\mathcal{O}_X \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_X$ , which is a monomorphism because of the nonzerodivisor condition.

**Example 2.9.1** Let  $k$  is a field and  $Y = \text{Spec}(k[x])$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_Y(U)$  is the ring of **rational functions** on an open set  $U$  in  $Y$ . The image of any nonzero  $f \in \mathcal{O}_Y(U)$  in  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,x} = k[x]_{\mathfrak{p}}$  ( $x$  corresponds to a prime  $\mathfrak{p} \subseteq k[x]$ ) is a nonzerodivisor for any  $x$ , since the localization of an **integral domain** is again an integral domain, so  $\mathcal{K}_Y(U)$  is the fraction field of  $\mathcal{O}_Y(U)$ , which is clearly  $k(x)$ . As such,  $\mathcal{K}'_Y = \mathcal{K}_Y$  is just the **constant sheaf**  $k(x)$ , which is also isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,\epsilon} = k[x]_{(0)}$ , where  $\epsilon$  is the **generic point**  $(0)$ .

**Remark 2.9.1** In fact, for any **integral scheme**  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{K}_X$  is the constant sheaf associated to  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$ , by the same argument in the example 2.9.1.

**Definition 2.9.2** Let  $\mathcal{K}_X^\times$  be the subsheaf of **invertible elements** of  $\mathcal{K}_X$  and  $\mathcal{O}_X^\times$  be the subsheaf of invertible elements of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ . We denote  $\mathcal{K}_X^\times / \mathcal{O}_X^\times$  to be the sheafification of the presheaf  $U \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_X^\times(U) / \mathcal{O}_X^\times(U)$ . Then there is a natural morphism  $\mathcal{K}_X^\times \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_X^\times / \mathcal{O}_X^\times$ .

i) The group of **Cartier divisors** on  $X$  is defined to be  $\text{CaDiv}(X) := H^0(X, \mathcal{K}_X^\times / \mathcal{O}_X^\times)$ .

ii) The natural morphism above yields a homomorphism

$$\text{div} : H^0(X, \mathcal{K}_X^\times) \longrightarrow H^0(X, \mathcal{K}_X^\times / \mathcal{O}_X^\times).$$

A **Cartier divisor**  $D$  is said to be a **principal Cartier divisor** if  $D \in \text{Im}(\text{div})$ . Note that a principal divisor can be described with the singleton collection  $\{(X, f)\}$  for  $f \in \mathcal{K}_X^*(X)$ .

iii) We denote the group law on  $\text{CaDiv}(X)$  as addition. For any  $D, D' \in \text{CaDiv}(X)$ , we say  $D$  and  $D'$  are **linearly equivalent**,  $D \sim D'$ , if  $D - D' \in \text{Im}(\text{div})$ .

iv) Let  $D \in \text{CaDiv}(X)$ ,  $D$  is said to be **effective** if and only if  $D \in \text{Im}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X \cap \mathcal{K}_X^\times) \longrightarrow H^0(X, \mathcal{K}_X^\times / \mathcal{O}_X^\times))$ . We then write  $D \geq 0$ , and the set of **effective Cartier divisors** is denoted by  $\text{CaDiv}_+(X)$ .

v) The group of **Cartier divisors** mod principal divisors is denoted  $\text{CaCl}(X) := \text{CaDiv}(X) / \sim$ . Also  $\text{CaCl}(X)$  is called **Cartier divisor class group**.

**Remarks 2.9.2** i) For a sheaf of rings  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ , we can construct the sheaf  $\mathcal{F}^\times$  of **invertible elements**, which is a sheaf of abelian groups, by defining

$$\mathcal{F}^\times(U) := \{s \in \mathcal{F}(U) \mid st = 1_U \text{ for some } t \in \mathcal{F}(U)\}$$

Note that if  $st = 1_U$  in  $\mathcal{F}(U)$  and  $W \subseteq U$ , then  $s|_W t|_W = 1_W$ .

ii) Definition 2.9.2 allows us to represent a Cartier divisors by a system  $\{(U_i, f_i)\}$  where  $\{U_i\}$  is an open cover of  $X$  and  $f_i \in H^0(U_i, \mathcal{K}_X^\times)$  such that  $f_i f_j^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}_X^\times(U_{ij})$ , where  $U_{ij} = U_i \cap U_j = U_{ji}$ . In other words, there are units  $h_{ij} \in \mathcal{O}_X(U_{ij})$  such that  $f_i = h_{ij} f_j$  over  $U_{ij}$ .

**Definition 2.9.3** The pairs  $(U_i, f_i)$  are called the local defining data or the local equations for the divisor  $D$  (with respect to the covering  $U_i$ ).

Not that the local defining data are not unique : Suppose now we have two systems  $\{(U_i, f_i)\}$  and  $\{(W_j, g_j)\}$  which represent a same Cartier divisor  $D$ . Then on  $U_i \cap W_j$ ,  $f_i = h_{ij} g_j$  for some  $h_{ij} \in \mathcal{O}_X^\times(U_i \cap W_j)$ . Therefore, for convenience, we denote  $D = [\{(U_i, f_i)\}]$ .

Now, the set of **Cartier divisors** naturally form an abelian group with the group law defined by : If  $D = [\{(U_i, f_i)\}]$  and  $D' = [\{(V_j, g_j)\}] \in \text{CaDiv}(X)$ , then

$$D + D' := [\{(U_i \cap V_j, f_i g_j)\}].$$

The inverse  $-D$  is  $[\{(U_i, f_i^{-1})\}]$ .

Additionally, let  $D = [\{(U_i, f_i)\}] \in \text{CaDiv}(X)$ . Then  $D \in \text{CaDiv}_+(X)$  if and only if  $f_i \in \mathcal{O}_X(U_i)$  for all  $i$ . Moreover,  $D$  is **principal** if  $[\{(U_i, f_i)\}] = [\{(X, f)\}]$  for some convenient  $f$ .

**Example 2.9.2** On  $\mathbb{P}^1$  we can take the standard covering  $U_0 = \text{Spec}(k[s])$  and  $U_1 = \text{Spec}(k[s^{-1}])$ . Then there is a **Cartier divisor**  $D$  given by  $(U_0, s)$  and  $(U_1, 1)$ .

## Correspondence Between Sheaves and Cartier Divisors

We would like to reinterpret **Cartier divisors** in the language of sheaves.

For any  $D \in \text{CaDiv}(X)$ , we would like to associate a sheaf to  $D$ . Namely, let  $D = [\{(U_i, f_i)\}] \in \mathcal{O}_X(D)$ , the associated sheaf on  $X$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{O}_X(D)|_{U_i} := f_i^{-1} \mathcal{O}_X|_{U_i} = f_i^{-1} \mathcal{O}_{U_i}$$

i.e., the sheaves  $f_i^{-1} \mathcal{O}_{U_i}$  glue to a sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$  defined on all of  $X$ . It is by construction **invertible**, since it is **invertible** on each  $U_i$ .

This construction is independent of the choice of the representatives. Indeed, Two different representatives  $(U_i, f_i)$  and  $(W_j, g_j)$  for the same divisor  $D$  give rise to the same **invertible sheaf**. This is because over  $U_i \cap W_j$ , we have  $f_i = h_{ij} g_j$  for some sections  $h_{ij} \in \mathcal{O}_X^\times(U_i \cap W_j)$ . This means that  $f_i^{-1} \mathcal{O}_{U_i \cap W_j} = g_j^{-1} \mathcal{O}_{U_i \cap W_j}$ , and so the sheaf is uniquely determined as a subsheaf of  $\mathcal{K}_X$ .

**Theorem 2.9.1** The map  $D \mapsto \eta(D) = \mathcal{O}_X(D)$  gives a one-to-one correspondence between **Cartier divisors** on  $X$  and **invertible subsheaves** on  $\mathcal{K}_X$ .

**Proof.** See [12, Proposition 6.13, p.144].

## 2.9.2 Weil Divisors

In this subsection, we will introduce **Weil divisors**. We consider the schemes satisfying the following condition : (\*)  $X$  is a **Noetherian integral separated** scheme which is **regular** in codimension one (We say a scheme  $X$  is **regular in codimension one** (or sometimes nonsingular in codimension one) if every local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  of  $X$  of dimension one is regular.)

Recall that this means that each local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is an integral domain, which is integrally closed in its function field  $K = k(X)$ . Recall that if  $Z$  is an **irreducible closed** subset of a scheme  $X$ , then the codimension of  $Z$  in  $X$  is equal to the dimension of the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$ , where  $\epsilon \in Z$  is the **generic point** (see proposition 2.5.15).



**Definition 2.9.4** Let  $X$  satisfy  $(*)$

i) A **prime divisor** on  $X$  is a closed integral subscheme  $Z$  of codimension one. We denote by  $X^{(1)}$  the set of closed integral subschemes of codimension 1, or equivalently, their generic points.

ii) A **Weil divisor** on  $X$  is a finite formal sum

$$D = \sum_i n_i Y_i \quad (2.8)$$

where  $n_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $Y_i$  are prime divisors. Then the set of **Weil divisors**  $\text{Div}(X)$  is the **free abelian group** on  $X^{(1)}$ .

iii) We say  $D$  is **effective** if all the  $n_i$  are non-negative in (2.8).

iv) The **support** of a **Weil divisor**  $D$ , denoted  $\text{Supp}(D)$ , is the subset  $\cup_{n_i \neq 0} Y_i$ .

**Remark 2.9.2** If  $Z$  is a **prime divisor** on  $X$  and  $V \subseteq X$  is an open set, then  $Z \cap V$  is naturally a prime divisor on  $V$ . It follows that we obtain a presheaf  $V \mapsto \text{Div}(V)$ .

Our next task is to define the Weil divisor associated to a **rational function**.

The assumption  $(*)$  "**regular in codimension one**" implies that  $Z \subseteq X$  is a **prime divisor** with generic point  $\epsilon \in X$ , the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$  is a **discrete valuation ring**, with a corresponding valuation  $\mathcal{V} : K^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . The concept of a valuation is a generalization of the "**order**" of a **zero** or a **pole** of a meromorphic function in **complex analysis**.

In same logical, an element  $f \in K^\times$  has positive valuation  $m$  if it vanishes to order  $m$  along  $Z$ , and negative valuation  $-m$  if it has a pole of order  $m$  there.

To define this properly, let  $Z \subseteq X$  be a prime divisor, and let  $\epsilon \in X$  be its **generic point**. Then we define for a nonzero element  $f \in \mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}$ ,

$$\mathcal{V}_Z(f) = d \quad (2.9)$$

where  $d$  is the unique non-negative integer so that  $f \in \mathfrak{m}^d \setminus \mathfrak{m}^{d+1}$

In the function field  $K = k(X)$ , an element  $f$  is represented by a fraction  $h/g$  and we define  $\mathcal{V}_Z(f) = \mathcal{V}_Z(h) - \mathcal{V}_Z(g)$ . With this definition, we have  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon} = \mathcal{V}_Z^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{X,\epsilon}^\times = \mathcal{V}_Z^{-1}(0)$  and the **maximal ideal** is given by  $\mathfrak{m} = \mathcal{V}_Z^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1})$ .

**Definition 2.9.5** Let  $f \in K^\times$ , we define its corresponding **Weil divisor** as

$$\text{div}(f) = \sum_Z \mathcal{V}_Z(f) Z.$$

Divisors of the form  $\text{div}(f)$  are called **principal divisors**, and they generate a subgroup  $\text{Div}^0(X) \subseteq \text{Div}(X)$ .

In the definition 2.9.5 the sum is taken over all prime divisors on  $X$ . To see that this is well defined, see the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.9.1** Let  $X$  be an integral noetherian scheme which is regular in codimension one, with fraction field  $K$  and let  $f \in K$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}_Z(f) = 0$  for all but finitely many prime divisors  $Z$ .

**Proof.** See [9, Lemma 15.3, p.275].

**Lemma 2.9.2** Let  $f, g \in K^\times$ . Then

$$\operatorname{div}(fg) = \operatorname{div}(f) + \operatorname{div}(g)$$

as Weil divisors on  $X$ .

**Proof.** See [30, Section 31.26.6, *Weil divisors*].

**Example 2.9.3** Let  $X = \operatorname{Spec}(k[x]) = \mathbb{A}_k^1$  and  $K = k(x)$ . Here prime divisors in  $X$  correspond to closed points  $Z = [b] \in \mathbb{A}_k^1$  associated to maximal ideals  $(x - b)$ . Let  $f = \frac{x^3(x-1)}{x+1} \in K$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}_Z(f) = 0$  for all  $b$  except when  $b = 0, +1, -1$ , where we have  $\mathcal{V}_{[0]}(f) = 2$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_{[1]}(f) = 1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_{[-1]}(f) = -1$ . Hence the divisor of  $f$  is  $2[0] + [1] - [-1]$ .

### The sheaf associated to a Weil divisor

As in the subsection 2.9.1, we have been successful to associate any *Cartier divisors* with a sheaf. The same way we would like to form a sheaf, denoted  $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$  where  $D = \sum n_Z Z$  is *Weil divisors*, which should consist of rational functions with poles at worst along  $D$ .

If  $f = \frac{h}{g}$  is such a *rational function* where  $h, g$  are coprime, we have  $\operatorname{div}(f) = \operatorname{div}(h) - \operatorname{div}(g)$ .

So if  $D$  is a *prime divisor*, we want the pole  $\operatorname{div}(g)$  to be 'cancelled out' by  $D$ , i.e.,  $D - \operatorname{div}(g)$  is *effective*. In other words, we want  $\operatorname{div}(f) + D$  to be an *effective Weil divisor*. Thus, concretely, we define the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$  as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_X(D)(U) &= \{f \in K \mid (\operatorname{div}(f) + D)|_U \geq 0\} \cup \{0\} \\ &= \{f \in K \mid \mathcal{V}_Z(f) \geq -n_Z, \text{ for all } n_Z \in \mathbb{Z}\} \cup \{0\} \end{aligned}$$

Here  $Z$  ranges over all prime divisors in  $X$  and  $e_Z$  denotes the *generic point* of  $Z$ . Moreover, The sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$  is a quasi-coherent sheaf on  $X$  and it is *invertible* if and only if  $D$  is a *Cartier divisor*.

### Connection between Weil Divisors and Cartier Divisors

For each open subset  $U \subseteq X$  the following exact sequence :

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^\times(U) \longrightarrow K^\times \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} \operatorname{Div}(U)$$

This gives an exact sequence of sheaves

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^\times \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_X^\times \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} \operatorname{Div} \quad (2.10)$$

and we obtain the following injective map of sheaves

$$\Psi : \mathcal{K}_X^\times / \mathcal{O}_X^\times \longrightarrow \operatorname{Div}.$$

If we take global sections, we get an injective map

$$\beta : \operatorname{CaDiv}(X) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Div}(X).$$

Let  $D$  be a *Cartier divisor* given by the data  $(U_i, g_i)$ . If  $Z$  is a *prime divisor* on  $X$ , with *generic point*  $e$ , then since  $U_i$  is a cover,  $e \in U_i$  for some  $i$ . We can then define

$$\mathcal{V}_Z(D) = \mathcal{V}_Z(g_i)$$

This is independent of the choice of  $U_i$ . Indeed, If  $e \in U_i \cap U_j$ , then  $g_i g_j^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}_X^\times(U_i \cap U_j)$ , and so  $\mathcal{V}_Z(g_i g_j^{-1}) = 0$ , hence  $\mathcal{V}_Z(g_i) = \mathcal{V}_Z(g_j)$ . Then  $\beta$  is defined by

$$\beta(D) = \sum_Z \mathcal{V}_Z(D) Z$$

**Remark 2.9.3** So by explicit description above, we may view *Cartier divisors* as a subgroup of the group of *Weil divisors*.

**Theorem 2.9.2** Let  $X$  be an *integral normal* scheme. Then the following statement are equivalent :

i)  $\beta : \text{CaDiv}(X) \longrightarrow \text{Div}(X)$  is an isomorphism.

ii) The exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^\times \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_X^\times \xrightarrow{\text{div}} \text{Div}$$

is exact on the right.

iii)  $X$  is *locally factorial* (all the local rings  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  are *UFDs*).

**Proof.** See [9, Proposition 15.27, p.287].

**Corollary 2.9.1** Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field. Then  $\text{Pic}(\mathbb{A}_k^n) = \text{Cl}(\mathbb{A}_k^n) = \text{CaCl}(\mathbb{A}_k^n) = 0$ .

**Proof.** See [9, Theorem 20.43. p.311].

## Chapter 3

# Introduction to Central Simple Algebra, Severi-Brauer Varieties

The aim of this chapter is to present some basic properties of *central simple algebras* and to introduce *Severi-Brauer varieties* with a special focus on relationships between these varieties and splitting field of central simple algebras. We give at first a brief introduction to simple and semisimple modules, then we prove fundamental theorems on central simple algebras. In particular, this includes *Wedderburn's theorem*, the double centralizer theorem and *Skolem-Noether theorem*. We show how to construct *Brauer group* of a field and show how *crossed products* relate this group to a *second Galois cohomology group*. We define then Severi-Brauer varieties and present some of their properties. In particular, we are interested here in canonical connections between these varieties, central simple algebras and *some cohomological interpretations*.

### 3.1 Simple and semisimple modules

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. An *associative algebra* over  $R$ , is a pair  $(A, \psi)$  consisting of an associative ring  $A$  and a ring homomorphism

$$\psi : R \longrightarrow Z(A)$$

called the *structure map* of  $A$  over  $R$ , where

$$Z(A) = \{a \in A \mid xa = ax \text{ for all } x \in A\}$$

is called the *center* of  $A$ , which is a subring of  $A$ .

An *algebra homomorphism*  $\phi : A \longrightarrow B$  between two  $R$ -algebras is a ring homomorphism such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\phi} & B \\ \psi_1 \swarrow & & \searrow \psi_2 \\ & R & \end{array}$$

commutes. This defines the category  $\mathcal{A}lg_R$  of  $R$ -algebras.

#### 3.1.1 Simple Modules

Recall that a ring  $R$  is *simple* if it has no two-sided ideals but 0 and  $R$ .

**Definition 3.1.1** Let  $A$  be an algebra,  $M$  be a left (resp., right)  $A$ -module. We say that  $M$  is *simple* (or *irreducible*) if  $M \neq 0$  and it has no proper nonzero submodules.

**Convention.** In what follows, the word module will mean a *left* module.

**Examples 3.1.1** 1) Any field  $k$  is simple as  $k$ -module.

- 2) Take  $A = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $M = \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $M$  is a simple  $A$ -module.
- 3) Let  $J$  be maximal left ideal of  $A$ . Then  $A/J$  is a simple  $A$ -module. Indeed, let  $P$  be a submodule of  $A/J$ , and set  $\tilde{P} := \{a \in A \mid a + J \in P\}$ , then  $\tilde{P}$  is a left ideal of  $A$  containing  $J$  and we have  $\tilde{P}/J = P$ . Since  $J$  is a maximal ideal of  $A$ , then  $\tilde{P} = J$  or  $\tilde{P} = A$ . So  $P = 0$  or  $P = A/J$ . Conversely, let  $I$  be a left ideal of  $A$  such that  $A/J$  is a simple  $A$ -module, then  $J$  is a maximal left ideal. Indeed, Let  $L$  be a left ideal of  $A$  such that  $I \subseteq L$ , then  $L/I$  is a submodule of  $A/I$ . Since  $A/I$  is a simple, then we have  $L/I = \{0\}$  or  $L/I = A/I$ . Hence  $L = I$  or  $L = A$ .

In what follows,  $A$  will denote an algebra (over some commutative ring).

**Proposition 3.1.1** Let  $M$  be a nonzero  $A$ -module, then the followings statements are equivalent :

- 1)  $M$  is simple.
- 2) For all  $m \in M \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $Am = M$ .
- 3)  $M = A/J$  for some maximal left ideal  $J$  of  $A$ .

**Proof.** 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Since  $Am$  is a nonzero submodule of  $M$  and  $M$  is simple, so  $Am = M$ .

2)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $P$  be a nonzero submodule of  $M$  and let  $m$  be a nonzero element of  $P$ , then we have  $M = Am \subseteq P$ , which shows that  $P = M$ . This proves that  $M$  is a simple  $A$ -module.

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) This is a direct consequence of examples 3.1.1 3).

**Lemma 3.1.1 (Schur's lemma)** Let  $M$  and  $N$  be simple  $A$ -modules. If  $\phi : M \longrightarrow N$  is a homomorphism of modules, then either  $\phi = 0$  or  $\phi$  is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\phi \neq 0$ , then  $\ker(\phi) \neq M$ . It follows that  $\ker(\phi) = 0$ . Also,  $\text{im}(\phi) \neq 0$ , so  $\text{im}(\phi) = N$ . Thus,  $\phi$  is an isomorphism.

**Corollary 3.1.1** Let  $M, N$  be simple modules. Then  $M \simeq N$  (as  $A$ -modules) or  $\text{Hom}_A(M, N) = 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$ . If  $\phi \neq 0$ , then by lemma 3.1.1  $\phi$  is an isomorphism. Hence  $M$  and  $N$  are isomorphic.

**Definition 3.1.2** A division algebra is an algebra in which every nonzero element has a multiplicative inverse, but multiplication is not necessarily commutative. A ring (which is obviously a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra) that is a division ( $\mathbb{Z}$ -)algebra is also called a division ring or a skew field.

**Corollary 3.1.2** Let  $M$  be a simple  $A$ -module and  $D := \text{End}_A(M)$ , i.e., the algebra of endomorphisms of  $M$  (endowed with its canonical laws). Then  $D$  is a division algebra.

**Proof.** Let  $d \in D \setminus \{0\}$ , then by lemma 3.1.1  $d$  is an isomorphism. So  $d$  is invertible in  $D$ .

### 3.1.2 Semisimple modules

**Definition 3.1.3** A left (resp. right)  $A$ -module  $M$  is semisimple if there exist simple  $A$ -modules  $M_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) such that

$$M \simeq \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$$

(isomorphism of  $A$ -modules).

**Example 3.1.1** A simple module is semisimple.

**Definition 3.1.4** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. We say that  $M$  is *indecomposable* if writing  $M = P \oplus Q$  for some submodules  $P, Q$  of  $M$ , then necessarily  $P = 0$  or  $Q = 0$ .

**Proposition 3.1.2** Let  $M$  be a semisimple  $A$ -module. Then followings statements are equivalent :

- 1)  $M$  is a simple  $A$ -module.
- 2)  $\text{End}_A(M)$  is a division algebra.
- 3)  $M$  is indecomposable.

**Proof.** 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) This follows from corollary 3.1.2.

2  $\Rightarrow$  3) Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be two submodules of  $M$ . If we suppose that  $M = P \oplus Q$  with  $P \neq 0$  and  $Q \neq 0$ . Consider the followings homomorphism of  $A$ -modules :

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha := (id_M, 0) : M = P \oplus Q &\longrightarrow M \\ p + q &\longmapsto p \end{aligned}$$

By the hypothesis here  $\alpha$  must be an isomorphism, which is not the case. Therefore  $M$  is indecomposable.  
3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Immediate.

**Proposition 3.1.3** Let  $M$  be a nonzero  $A$ -module and let  $Q$  be proper submodule of  $M$ . Assume that  $M = \sum_{i \in I} M_i$ , where each  $M_i$  are a simple submodules. Then there exists  $J \subseteq I$  such that  $M = (\bigoplus_{j \in J} M_j) \oplus Q$

**Proof.** Since  $Q \neq M$ , then there exists  $i \in I$  such that  $M_i \not\subseteq Q$ . In this case, we have  $M_i \cap Q = \{0\}$ , because if  $x \neq 0 (\in M_i \cap Q)$  we obtain  $M_i = Ax \subseteq Q$  (see proposition 3.1.1). So  $M_i + Q = M_i \oplus Q$ . Consider  $J$  be a maximal for the property  $P_1 := \sum_{j \in J} M_j + Q = \sum_{j \in J} M_j \oplus Q$ . Now, let  $i \in I \setminus J$  if we may assume that  $P_1 + M_i = P_1 \oplus M_i = \sum_{k \in J \cup \{i\}} M_k \oplus Q$ . But that contradicts the maximality of  $J$ . Thus  $M_i \cap P_1 \neq 0$ . Let  $z \in M_i \cap P_1$ , we have  $M_i = Az \subseteq P_1$ . So for all  $i \in I$   $M_i \subseteq P_1$ , then  $M \subseteq P_1$ , so  $M = P_1$ . Hence  $M = \sum_{j \in J} M_j \oplus Q$ .

**Remark 3.1.1** In proposition 3.1.3, if we take  $Q = 0$  we obtain  $M = \bigoplus_{j \in J} M_j$ . Then  $M$  is *semisimple*.

**Definition 3.1.5** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module ( $\neq 0$ ). Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be submodules of  $M$ .

- i)  $Q$  is called a *complement* of  $P$  if  $P \oplus Q = M$ .
- ii) If any submodule of  $M$  has a complement in  $M$ . We say that  $M$  *supplemented*.

**Lemma 3.1.2** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. Then the followings are equivalent :

- i)  $M$  is a *supplemented*.
- ii) Any submodule of  $M$  is *supplemented*.

**Proof.** i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii) Let  $N$  be a submodule of  $M$ , and let  $P$  be a submodule of  $P$ . Then  $P$  is also be a submodule of  $M$ , since  $M$  is supplemented, then there exists  $Q$  be a submodule of  $M$  such that  $M = P \oplus Q$ , so we have  $N = N \cap M = (P \oplus Q) \cap N = P \oplus (Q \cap N)$ . Hence  $P$  has a complement in  $N$ .

ii)  $\Rightarrow$  i) Immediate.

**Proposition 3.1.4** Let  $M$  be a nonzero  $A$ -module. Then the followings are equivalent :

- 1)  $M$  is semisimple.
- 2)  $M$  is the sum of its simple submodules.



3)  $M$  is supplemented.

**Proof.** 1) $\Rightarrow$ 2) Immediate.

2) $\Rightarrow$ 3) proposition 3.1.3.

2) $\Rightarrow$ 1 remark 3.1.1.

3) $\Rightarrow$ 1) Let  $S$  be a maximal (proper) submodule of  $M$ . Since  $M$  is supplemented, then there exists a submodule  $Q \neq 0$  such that  $S \oplus Q = M$ . Also, since  $S$  is maximal in  $M$  then necessarily  $Q$  is a simple submodule of  $M$ . This prove that  $M$  has a simple submodule. Let  $N$  be sum of all simple submodules of  $M$  and let  $N'$  be a submodule of  $M$  such that  $M = N \oplus N'$ . Assume that  $N' \neq 0$ , then  $N'$  is supplemented (see lemma 3.1.2). So for the same reason as in above,  $N'$  has a simple submodule  $P$ . Plainly,  $P$  is also a simple submodule of  $M$ , but this contradicts the fact that  $N$  is the sum of all simple submodules of  $M$ . This shows that  $M$  is the sum of its simple submodules.

**Corollary 3.1.3** Let  $M$  be a semisimple  $A$ -module and let  $P$  be a nonzero submodule of  $M$ , then

i)  $P$  is semisimple.

ii)  $M/P$  is semisimple.

**Proof.** i) Since  $M$  is supplemented, then by lemma 3.1.2  $P$  is also supplemented. So by proposition 3.1.4  $P$  is semisimple.

ii) Since  $M$  is supplemented, then there exists a submodule  $Q$  of  $M$  such that  $P \oplus Q = M$ . So  $M/P \simeq Q$ . Hence by i)  $M/P$  is semisimple.

**Corollary 3.1.4** The direct sum of a family of the semisimple  $A$ -modules is a semisimple  $A$ -module.

**Proof.** This corollary is a direct consequence of the definition 3.1.3.

**Proposition 3.1.5** Let  $M = \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  where  $M_i$  are simple  $A$ -modules. Suppose that  $N$  is a simple  $A$ -module and suppose that there exists a nonzero homomorphism of  $A$ -modules  $\psi : N \longrightarrow M$ . Then there exists  $j_0 \in I$  such that  $M = \psi(N) \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \neq j_0} M_i)$ , and  $N \simeq M_{j_0}$  (isomorphism of  $A$ -modules).

**Proof.** By proposition 3.1.3, there exists a subset  $J$  of  $I$  such that  $M = \psi(N) \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \in J} M_i)$ . Since  $N$  is simple, then so is  $\psi(N)$ ; moreover we have the following canonical isomorphisms of  $A$ -modules :

$$\psi(N) \simeq M / \bigoplus_{j \in J} M_j \simeq \bigoplus_{j \in I \setminus J} M_j.$$

so necessarily  $|I \setminus J| = 1$ . So there exists  $j_0 \in I$  such that  $J = I \setminus \{j_0\}$ . The rest of the proof is obvious.

**Notation.** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. We denoted by  $S(M)$  the set for all submodules of  $M$ .

**Definition 3.1.6** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. The **radical** of  $M$  is  $\text{rad}(M) := \bigcap \{N \in S(M) \mid M/N \text{ is simple}\}$ .

**Remark 3.1.2**  $\text{rad}(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .

**Proposition 3.1.6** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module and  $N$  be a submodule of  $M$ . Then the following statements hold :

1) If  $\text{rad}(M/N) = 0$ , then  $\text{rad}(M) \subset N$ .

2)  $\text{rad}(M/\text{rad}(M)) = 0$ .

**Proof.** See [21].

**Lemma 3.1.3** Let  $M$  be a semisimple  $A$ -module. The followings are equivalent :

- i)  $M$  is **finitely generated**.
- ii)  $M$  is **Noetherian**.
- iii)  $M$  is **Artinian**.

**Proof.** See [21, Proposition, p.36].

**Theorem 3.1.1** Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. The following statements hold : (what you wrote here and the implications you have in the proof have no sense) are equivalent :

- i)  $M$  is semisimple and finitely generated.
- ii)  $\text{rad}(M) = 0$  and  $M$  is Artinian.

**Proof.** i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii) Suppose that  $M$  is semisimple and finitely generated, so by lemma 3.1.3  $M$  is Artinian. Write  $M = \bigoplus_{j \in I} M_j$  with  $M_i$  simple. For  $i \in I$ , put  $P_i = \bigoplus_{j \neq i} M_j$ , then

$$M/P_i \simeq M_i (\text{is simple})$$

So  $\text{rad}(M) \subseteq \bigcap_{j \in I} P_j = 0$ .

ii)  $\Rightarrow$  i) Assume that  $\text{rad}(M) = 0$  and  $M$  is Artinian and consider the family of all finite intersections  $M_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap M_{i_k}$ , where  $M_i$  is a submodule of  $M$  such that  $M/M_i$  is simple. Since  $M$  is Artinian, then this family has a minimal element that we may take to be by  $M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r$  for some positive integer  $r$ . Necessarily,  $M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r = 0$ . Indeed, for any submodule  $N$  of  $M$  such that  $M/N$  is simple, we have

$$(M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r) \cap N = M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r$$

because  $M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r$  is minimal. So  $M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r \subseteq N$ , which yields that  $\text{rad}(M) = M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r$ . Now, consider the canonical map :

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : M &\longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^r M/M_i \\ m &\longmapsto (m + M_i)_{1 \leq i \leq r} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $M/M_i$  are simple, then  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^r M/M_i$  is semisimple. Hence  $\psi(M)$  is semisimple ( because  $\psi(M)$  is submodule of  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^r M/M_i$ ). We have  $\ker(\psi) = M_1 \cap \cdots \cap M_r$ ,  $M \simeq \psi(M)$ . Therefore,  $M$  is semisimple. Moreover, by lemma 3.1.3,  $M$  is also Noetherian, so  $M$  is a finitely generated.

## 3.2 Semisimple and simple algebras

Throughout this section,  $F$  is a field. Recall that all algebras are associative and have an identity, denoted 1 (sometimes denoted  $1_A$ ). Most results will be written in terms of left modules (which we hence often will simply call modules). If we need to work with right modules then this will be specifically stated. The endomorphism ring of an  $A$ -module  $M$  is denoted  $\text{End}_A(M)$ . Similarly, we will use  $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  to denote the set of module homomorphism from  $M$  to  $N$ .

### 3.2.1 Semisimple algebras

**Definition 3.2.1** Let  $A$  be an algebra. We say that  $A$  is **semisimple** if  $A$  is semisimple when it is considered (in the natural way) as a left  $A$ -module.

**Remark 3.2.1** Note that if  $A$  is semisimple i.e.,  $A = \bigoplus_{i \in I} A_i$ , where each  $A_i$  is a simple left  $A$ -module (or equivalently, where each  $A_i$  is a left ideal of  $A$ ).

**Definition 3.2.2** Let  $A$  be an algebra, we say that  $A$  is left Artinian (resp. Noetherian) if  $A$  is an Artinian left  $A$ -module (resp., a Noetherian left  $A$ -module).

**Proposition 3.2.1** An algebra  $A$  is semisimple if and only if it is left Artinian and  $\text{rad}(A) = 0$ .

**Proof.** This follows from theorem 3.1.1 and remark 3.2.1.

**Proposition 3.2.2** Let  $A$  be a **semisimple** algebra. Then every  $A$ -module is semisimple and every image of  $A$  by a homomorphism of algebras is a semisimple algebra. Moreover, every simple  $A$ -module is isomorphic to a **minimal left ideal** of  $A$ .

**Proof.** Since  $A$  is a semisimple  $A$ -module, then the direct sum of  $\beta$  copies of  $A$  is also a semisimple  $A$ -module, for all the cardinal  $\beta$ . Therefore, every free left  $A$ -module is semisimple. Clearly, for any left  $A$ -module  $M$ , there exists a free  $A$ -module  $N$  and submodule  $P$  of  $N$  such that

$$M \simeq N/P$$

As seen above,  $N$  is semisimple, so by corollary 3.1.3  $N/P$  is also a semisimple  $A$ -module. Write the argument here which show that simple  $A$ -modules are isomorphic to minimal left ideal of  $A$ , after showing that the image of a semisimple algebra by a homomorphism of algebras is a semisimple algebra (see below), then by proposition 3.1.1, there exists a maximal left ideal  $J$  of  $A$  such that  $M \simeq A/J$  (as  $A$ -module). Since  $A$  is semisimple (as  $A$ -module), then  $A$  is supplemented (see proposition 3.1.4). Therefore, there exists a left ideal  $I$  of  $A$  such that  $I \oplus J = A$ , so we have

$$A/J \simeq I \text{ (as } A\text{-module)}$$

Also since  $J$  is a maximal left ideal of  $A$ , then necessarily,  $I$  is a minimal left ideal of  $A$ , so

$$M \simeq A/J \simeq I$$

and  $I$  is a minimal left ideal of  $A$ .

Assume that  $A$  is  $R$ -algebra where  $R$  is a commutative ring. Let  $B$  be a  $R$ -algebra and assume that there exists a homomorphism of  $R$ -algebras

$$\psi : A \longrightarrow B$$

Let's show that  $C := \psi(A)$  is a semisimple algebra. Without losing the generality we can assume that  $\psi$  is surjective i.e  $B = C$ . Note that  $\psi$  induces an action of  $A$  on  $B$  given by

$$a \cdot x := \psi(a)x \text{ for all } a \in A \text{ and } x \in B$$

Therefore  $B$  is a (left)  $A$ -module (left). and so by the above,  $B$  is a semisimple  $A$ -module. We can write  $B = \bigoplus_{i \in I} B_i$  with  $B_i$  simple  $A$ -submodule of  $B$ . Since  $\psi$  is surjective, then each also a simple  $B$ -submodule of  $B$ , so  $B$  is a semisimple algebra.

### 3.2.2 Simple algebras

**Definition 3.2.3** Let  $A$  be an algebra. We say that  $A$  is **simple** algebra if  $A \neq 0$ , i.e.,  $A \neq 0^*$  and the only two-sided ideals of  $A$  are  $\{0\}$  and  $A$ .

**Examples 3.2.1** 1) Let  $D$  be a division algebra (see definition 3.1.2). Then clearly  $D$  is a simple algebra.

2) For any field  $F$  and any positive integer  $n$ , the algebra  $A := M_n(F)$  is simple. Indeed, let  $(e_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  be the canonical base of  $A$ , i.e.,  $e_{ij}$  is the matrix of  $A$  for which all entries are 0 except the  $ij$ -entry which equals 1. Let  $I$  be a two-sided ideal of  $A$  and suppose that  $I$  contains some nonzero element  $a = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ . Let  $1 \leq r, s \leq n$  be such that  $a_{rs} \neq 0$ , then for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we have  $a_{rs}^{-1} e_{ir} a e_{si} = e_{ii}$ . It follows that  $I$  contains the unit element of  $A$  and so  $I = A$ .

3) Another important example of a finite dimensional noncommutative algebra over a field that was discovered by **William Rowan Hamilton**<sup>†</sup> on **16 October 1843**, is the algebra of quaternions (over the field  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers), a 4-dimensional algebra with basis  $1, i, j, k$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ , the multiplication being determined by the rules

$$i^2 = -1, j^2 = -1, ij = -ji = k.$$

This algebra which is often called the Hamilton algebra, is usually denoted by  $\mathbb{H} = (-1, -1)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . One can see that  $\mathbb{H}$  is a division algebra. Indeed, for any nonzero element  $x = \alpha + \beta i + \gamma j + \eta k$  of  $\mathbb{H}$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are real numbers, denoting  $\bar{x} := \alpha - \beta i - \gamma j - \eta k$  and  $N(x) := x\bar{x}$  (i.e.,  $N(x) = \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 + \eta^2$ , called the norm of  $x$ ), one can easily check that  $\frac{\bar{x}}{N(x)}$  is the inverse for  $x$  in  $\mathbb{H}$ .

4) Let  $F$  be a field of characteristic not 2. For any two elements  $a, b \in F^*$ , in a similar way as for the quaternion algebra  $\mathbb{H}$ , the (generalized) quaternion algebra  $(a, b)_F$  is defined to be the 4-dimensional  $F$ -algebra with basis  $1, i, j, k$  and with multiplication being determined by

$$i^2 = a, j^2 = b, ij = -ji = k.$$

The set  $\{1, i, j, k\}$  is called a **quaternion basis** of  $(a, b)_F$ . The algebra  $(a, b)_F$  is a simple algebra with  $Z((a, b)_F) = F$ . Indeed, let's define on  $(a, b)_F$  a new operation, the **Lie bracket**, by  $[x, y] = xy - yx$  for  $x, y \in (a, b)_F$ . It is clear that  $F \subseteq Z((a, b)_F)$ . Let  $x = \alpha + \beta i + \gamma j + \eta k \in (a, b)_F$ , where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \eta \in F$ . If  $x \in Z((a, b)_F)$ , then in particular,  $[i, x] = [j, x] = [k, x] = 0$ . We have :

$$\begin{aligned} * [i, x] &= 2a\eta j + 2\gamma k. \\ * [j, x] &= -2b\eta i - 2\beta k. \\ * [k, x] &= 2b\gamma i - 2a\beta j. \end{aligned}$$

So, if  $x \in Z((a, b)_F)$ , then  $\beta = \gamma = \eta = 0$ , hence  $x = \alpha \in F$ . Thus,  $Z((a, b)_F) = F$ .

Let's now consider a nonzero two-sided ideal  $J$  of  $(a, b)_F$ , and let  $x$  be a nonzero element of  $J$ . Since  $J$  is an ideal of  $A$ , then  $[i, x] = ix - xi \in J$ , also  $[j, x], [k, x] \in J$ . So  $[j, [i, x]], [k, [j, x]], [i, [k, x]] \in J$ . One can easily see that we have :

$$* [j, [i, x]] = -4b\gamma i.$$

\*For some authors an algebra is always assumed to be different from  $\{0\}$ .

<sup>†</sup>**William Rowan Hamilton** (4 August 1805-2 September 1865) was an Irish mathematician, Andrews Professor of Astronomy at Trinity College Dublin, and Royal Astronomer of Ireland at Dunsink Observatory. He made major contributions to optics, classical mechanics and abstract algebra. His work was of importance to theoretical physics, particularly his reformulation of Newtonian mechanics, now called Hamiltonian mechanics. It is now central both to electromagnetism and to quantum mechanics. In pure mathematics, he is best known as the inventor of quaternions.

$$\begin{aligned} * \quad [k, [j, x]] &= 4ab\eta j. \\ * \quad [i, [k, x]] &= -4a\beta k. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $J$  contains necessarily an invertible element of  $(a, b)_F$ , which yields. So  $J = (a, b)_F$ . Therefore,  $(a, b)_F$  is simple.

Let  $A$  be an algebra and  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. We denote  $\text{ann}_A(M) := \{a \in A \mid ax = 0 \text{ for all } x \in M\}$  that we call the annihilator of  $M$ . We say that  $M$  is a faithful  $A$ -module if  $\text{ann}_A(M) = 0$ . In other words, considering the (canonical) associated representation  $\psi : A \longrightarrow \text{End}_A(M)$ , defined by  $a \longmapsto l_a$ , where  $l_a : M \longrightarrow M$ , is given by  $l_a(x) = ax$ , for all  $x \in M$ ,  $M$  is a faithful  $A$ -module if and only if  $\psi$  is injective. To each module  $M$  over  $A$ , one can associate a faithful module over some algebra  $B$  by proceeding in this way : The ring homomorphism  $\psi : A \longrightarrow \text{End}_A(M)$  induces naturally an injective ring homomorphism  $\tilde{\psi} : A / \ker(\psi) \longrightarrow \text{End}_A(M)$  where  $\ker(\psi)$  is none but  $\text{ann}(M)$ . This gives rise to a faithful structure on  $M$  as an  $A / \text{ann}(M)$ -module.

**Lemma 3.2.1** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $e$  be a nonzero idempotent of  $R$ . Then we have a ring isomorphism

$$eRe \simeq \text{End}_R(eR).$$

where  $eR$  is considered as a right  $R$ -module.

**Proof.** Let  $r \in R$ , we define the following map

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_r : R &\longrightarrow R \\ x &\longmapsto rx \end{aligned}$$

It's clear that  $\psi_r$  is a group homomorphism, and also for all  $x, y \in R$ , we have  $\psi_r(xy) = (rx)y = \psi_r(x)y$ . Therefore  $\psi_r \in \text{End}_R(R)$ . Moreover, if  $r \in eRe$ , then clearly  $\psi_r$  restricts to an endomorphism of  $eR$ . So we get a map

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : eRe &\longrightarrow \text{End}_R(eR) \\ r &\longmapsto \psi_r \end{aligned}$$

One can easily see that  $\Phi$  is a ring isomorphism.

**Lemma 3.2.2** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $M$  be a right  $R$ -module. For all  $r \geq 1$ , we have a ring isomorphism

$$\text{End}_R(M^r) \simeq M_r(\text{End}_R(M)).$$

**Proof.** See [4, Lemma III.2.6, p.8].

## Wedderburn<sup>†</sup>'s theorem

Our aim here is to prove (a restricted version of) **Wedderburn's theorem**, a fundamental theorem in central simple algebra theory showing that a finite-dimensional central simple algebra over a field is a matrix algebra over this field. We assume throughout the rest, except other mention or other appearance from the context, that all algebras are finite-dimensional nonzero algebras over some fixed field (often denoted by  $F$ ). We continue to assume that an algebra is always associative with a unit element and a homomorphism of algebras from an algebra  $A$  into an algebra  $B$  always map to the unit element of  $A$  on that of  $B$ .

Let  $A$  be a (finite-dimensional)  $F$ -algebra, then clearly  $A$  has a minimal left (resp. right) ideal. Let  $A$  be a  $F$ -algebra and  $M$  be finitely generated free left (resp., right) nonzero  $A$ -module, then  $M \simeq A^r$  for a (uniquely determined) positive integer  $r$ . The **integer**  $r$  is called the **rank** of  $M$  and will be denoted by  $\text{rank}_A(M)$ .

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<sup>†</sup>**Joseph Henry Maclagan Wedderburn** (2 February 1882, Forfar, Angus, Scotland-9 October 1948, Princeton, New Jersey) was a Scottish mathematician, who taught at Princeton University for most of his career. A significant algebraist, he proved that a finite division algebra is a field, and part of the Artin–Wedderburn theorem on simple algebras. He also worked on group theory and matrix algebra.

**Lemma 3.2.3** Let  $A$  be a simple  $F$ -algebra and let  $J$  be a minimal right ideal. Then :

- 1) Every finitely generated right  $A$ -module  $M$  is isomorphic to  $J^n$  for some positive integer  $n$ .
- 2) All finitely generated simple right  $A$ -module is isomorphic to  $J$ .
- 3) A non zero finitely generated right  $A$ -module  $M$  is free (as a right  $A$ -module) if and only if  $\dim_F(A) | \dim_F(M)$ . Moreover, we have

$$\text{rank}_F(M) = \frac{\dim_F(M)}{\dim_F(A)}.$$

- 4) Two nonzero finitely generated right  $A$ -modules are isomorphic if and only if they have the same dimension over  $F$ .

**Proof.** 1) Let  $M$  be a nonzero finitely generated  $A$ -module. The left ideal generated by the elements of  $J$  is a nonzero two-sided ideal of  $A$ , hence equals  $A$ . In particular one may write

$$1 = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \alpha_i, b_i \in A, \alpha_i \in J.$$

Thus for all  $x \in A$ , we have

$$x = \left( \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \alpha_i \right) x = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i (\alpha_i x).$$

Since  $J$  is a right ideal, we have  $\alpha_i x \in J$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , and therefore we have

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \cdot J$$

Since  $M$  is finitely generated right  $A$ -module there exists  $m_1, \dots, m_r \in M$  such that

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i A$$

Therefore,

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i \sum_{j=1}^m b_j \cdot J = \sum_{i,j} m_i \cdot (b_j \cdot J) = \sum_{i,j} (m_i \cdot b_j) \cdot J.$$

Hence we may then write  $M = \sum_{i=1}^s m_i \cdot J$  with  $s$  minimal for this properties. Now we want to prove that

$$M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s m_i \cdot J$$

Assume that  $\sum_{i=1}^s m_i \gamma_i = 0$  for some  $\gamma_i \in J$ . If one of the  $\gamma_i$ 's is nonzero say  $\gamma_s$ , then  $\gamma_s A$  is a nonzero right ideal of  $A$  contained in  $J$  and hence  $J = \gamma_s A$  (for  $J$  is a minimal right  $A$ -ideal of  $A$ ). We obtain :

$$m_s \cdot J = (m_s \cdot \gamma_s) A = - \sum_{i=1}^{s-1} m_i \cdot J.$$

This yields

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^{s-1} m_i \cdot J$$

Contradicting the minimality of  $s$ . So  $\gamma_i = 0$  for all  $i$ . It follows that the  $A$ -linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : J^s &\longrightarrow M \\ (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_s) &\longmapsto \sum_{i=1}^s m_i \gamma_i \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism of right  $A$ -modules.



- 2) Let  $M$  be a finitely generated simple right  $A$ -module. In particular,  $M$  is nonzero and by [i\)](#) there exists an integer  $s \geq 1$  such that  $M \simeq J^s$  (as  $A$ -module). Since  $M$  is simple we have necessarily  $s = 1$ . Otherwise  $J^s$ , and thus  $M$ , would have a nontrivial submodule. Hence  $M \simeq J$ .
- 3) Let  $M$  be a nonzero finitely generated  $A$ -module. If  $M$  is free, then  $M \simeq A^r$  (as  $A$ -modules) where  $r = \text{rank}_A(M)$ . Since  $M$  and  $A^r$  are isomorphic as  $F$ -vector spaces, we have

$$\dim_F(M) = \text{rank}_A(M) \cdot \dim_F(A).$$

In particular,

$$\dim_F(A) \mid \dim_F(M)$$

and

$$\text{rank}_A(M) = \frac{\dim_F(M)}{\dim_F(A)}$$

Conversely, suppose that  $\dim_F(A) \mid \dim_F(M)$ . Since  $M$  and  $A$  are both nonzero finitely generated  $A$ -modules, then by [1\)](#) we have  $M \simeq J^{r_1}$ , and  $A \simeq J^{r_2}$  (as  $A$ -modules) for some integers  $r_1, r_2 \geq 1$ . The assumption implies that  $r_2 \mid r_1$  by comparing dimensions over  $F$ , write  $r_1 = nr_2$ , then we get  $M \simeq J^{r_2 n} \simeq (J^{r_2})^n \simeq A^{r_1}$ . Hence  $M$  is a free (right)  $A$ -module.

- 4) Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two nonzero finitely generated right  $A$ -modules. Then by [1\)](#)  $M \simeq J^{r_1}$  and  $N \simeq J^{r_2}$  for some integers  $r_1, r_2 \geq 1$ . In particular, if  $M$  and  $N$  have the same dimension as  $F$ -vector spaces, then  $r_1 \dim_F(J) = r_2 \dim_F(J)$  and therefore  $r_1 = r_2$ . So in this case

$$M \simeq J^{r_1} \simeq N.$$

Conversely, if  $M \simeq N$  (as  $A$ -modules), then plainly they are isomorphic as  $F$ -vector spaces. Thus  $M$  and  $N$  have the same dimension over  $F$ .

Note that this lemma is also true if we consider left  $A$ -modules rather than right  $A$ -modules.

**Proposition 3.2.3** Let  $D$  be a division  $F$ -algebra. Then every nonzero finitely generated right  $D$ -module is isomorphic to  $D^r$  for some  $r \geq 1$ .

**Proof.** Since  $D$  is a division algebra, then  $D$  itself is a minimal right ideal. So by lemma [3.2.3](#), any nonzero finitely generated  $D$ -module  $M$  is isomorphic to  $D^r$  for some positive integer  $r$ .

As an application, we can prove the following result :

**Proposition 3.2.4** Let  $m, n$  be two positive integers and  $D_1, D_2$  be two division  $F$ -algebras, then

$$M_n(D_1) \simeq M_m(D_2) \text{ if and only if } D_1 \simeq D_2 \text{ and } n = m.$$

**Proof.** Let  $A_1 = M_m(D_1)$ ,  $A_2 = M_n(D_2)$  and  $e = e_{11}$ , where  $(e_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq m}$  is the canonical basis of  $A_1$ , i.e.,  $e_{ij}$  is the matrix of  $M_m(D_1)$  with all entries equal to 0 but the  $ij$ -entry equal to 1. We have  $e^2 = e$ ,  $eA_1e = D_1e = eD_1$  and that the map

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : D_1 &\longrightarrow eA_1e \\ d &\longmapsto de \end{aligned}$$

is a ring isomorphism, thus  $D_1 \cong eA_1e$ . Also, we have the following ring isomorphism :

$$eA_1e \simeq \text{End}_{A_1}(eA_1)$$

see lemma [3.2.1](#). Let  $I_1 = eA_1$  which is easily seen to be the set of matrices whose only possibly nonzero row is the first one. This is a minimal right ideal of  $A_1$  and by the above, we have  $D_1 \cong \text{End}_{A_1}(I_1)$ .

Similarly,  $D_2 \simeq \text{End}_{A_2}(I_2)$ , where  $I_2$  is a similar right ideal of  $A_2$ . Now, if  $\psi : A_1 \rightarrow A_2$  is an isomorphism of  $F$ -algebras, then  $\psi(I_1)$  is a minimal right ideal of  $A_2$ . Since all the minimal right ideals of  $A_2$  are isomorphic by lemma 3.2.3, we have  $I_2 \simeq \psi(I_1)$ . Therefore, we have a ring isomorphism

$$D_1 \simeq \text{End}_{A_1}(I_1) \simeq \text{End}_{A_2}(I_2) \simeq D_2.$$

All these isomorphisms are  $F$ -linear, so  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are isomorphic as  $F$ -algebras. It follows easily that  $m = n$ .

**Theorem 3.2.1 (Wedderburn's theorem)** Let  $A$  be a simple  $F$ -algebra. Then  $A$  is isomorphic to  $M_n(D)$  for some integer  $m$  and some division  $F$ -algebra  $D$  with  $Z(D) = Z(A)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $J$  be a minimal left ideal of  $A$ . Since  $J$  is a simple left  $A$ -module, then by corollary 3.1.2  $D := \text{End}_A(J)$  is a division algebra. Moreover, since  $A$  is a left  $A$ -module, then by lemma 3.2.3 there exists an integer  $r \geq 1$  such that  $A \simeq J^r$  (as  $A$ -module). So taking  $e = 1$  in lemmas 3.2.1, 3.2.2 we obtain

$$A \simeq \text{End}_A(A) \simeq \text{End}_A(J^r) \simeq M_r(\text{End}_A(J)) \simeq M_r(D).$$

The uniqueness of the positive integer  $r$  and the division algebra  $D$  (up to an algebra isomorphism) comes directly from proposition 3.2.4 and the formula

$$\dim_F(A) = r^2 \dim_F(D).$$

For the second statement, one can easily see that we have the following canonical algebra isomorphisms :

$$Z(D) \simeq_F Z(M_r(D)) \simeq_F Z(A).$$

The division algebra  $D$ , which is unique up to an algebra isomorphism, is called the underlying division algebra of  $A$  (or the division algebra Brauer-equivalent to  $A$ ).

## Central simple algebras

**Definition 3.2.4 (Central simple algebra)** An  $F$ -algebra  $A$  is called a **central simple algebra** over  $F$  if  $A$  is simple and  $Z(A) = F$ .

**Notation.** The class of all central simple algebras over  $F$  we will denote by  $\text{CSA}/F$ .

**Examples 3.2.2** 1)  $M_n(F)$  is central simple algebra over  $F$ .

2) Any division  $F$ -algebra  $D$  is simple and if also  $D$  satisfying  $Z(D) = F$  is a central simple algebra over  $F$ .

3) By examples 3.2.1, for any field  $F$  of characteristic different from 2 and any elements  $a, b \in F^*$ , the quaternion algebra  $(a, b)_F$  is simple algebra and  $Z((a, b)_F) = F$ . Then  $(a, b)_F$  is a central simple algebra over  $F$ .

4) Any field  $F$  is a central simple algebra over itself.

**Corollary 3.2.1** Let  $A$  be a simple  $F$ -algebra. Then there exists a field extension  $E/F$  of finite degree such that  $A$  is a central simple  $E$ -algebra.

**Proof.** By theorem 3.2.1,  $A \simeq M_n(D)$  for some  $D$ . It suffices to take  $E = Z(D)$ , when identifying  $D$  with its canonical image in  $A$ .

**Proposition 3.2.5** Let  $A$  and  $B$  two central simple  $F$ -algebras. For every integer  $r \geq 1$ , we have

$$M_r(A) \simeq M_r(B) \text{ if and only if } A \simeq_F B.$$

**Proof.** By theorem 3.2.1 we may write

$$A \simeq M_{r_1}(D_1) \text{ and } B \simeq M_{r_2}(D_2).$$

where  $D_1, D_2$  are central division  $F$ -algebras and  $r_1, r_2$  are positive integers. Therefore, if  $M_r(A) \simeq M_r(B)$ , then we have  $M_{rr_1}(D_1) \simeq M_{rr_2}(D_2)$ . It follows then by proposition 3.2.3 that  $r_1 = r_2$  and  $D_1 \simeq D_2$  (as  $F$ -algebras) which implies  $A \simeq_F B$ .

**Lemma 3.2.4** Let  $D$  be a finite dimensional division algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$ . Then,  $D$  is isomorphic to  $F$ .

**Proof.** Let  $d \in D$ ,  $d$  be a nonzero element of  $D$ . As  $D$  is finite dimensional, the powers  $1, d, \dots, d^i, \dots$  are linearly dependent over  $F$ . Therefore, we can write :

$$\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \alpha_k d^k + d^m = 0.$$

for some  $m$  that can be chosen to be the smallest possible with all  $\alpha_k \in F$ . Now, consider the polynomial  $\pi(x) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \dots + x^m$ . Since  $F$  is algebraically closed,  $\pi$  has a root  $r$  in  $F$  i.e  $\pi(x) = (x - r)q(x)$  with  $\deg(q) = \deg(\pi) - 1$ . Evaluating at  $d$  we obtain  $\pi(d) = (d - r)q(d) = 0$ . As  $\pi$  was chosen to be of smallest degree,  $q(d) \neq 0$ . Hence  $d = r \in F$ , thus  $D = F$ .

**Corollary 3.2.2** If  $F$  is algebraically closed, then every central simple  $F$ -algebra is isomorphic to a (square) matrix algebra with entries in  $F$ .

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be an  $F$ -algebra. By theorem 3.2.1,  $A \simeq M_n(D)$  for some integer positive  $n$  and some central division algebra  $D$  over  $F$ . By lemma 3.2.4  $D$  is isomorphic to  $F$ , so  $A$  is isomorphic to the matrix algebra  $M_n(F)$ .

Throughout the rest, we assume familiarity with the properties of tensor products of modules and (associative) algebras. For more details, we refer the reader to Chapter 9 in Pierce book [21]. We now recall the main properties of the tensor product of  $F$ -algebras.

We summarize here some properties of **tensor products of algebras** that we will need in what follows : Let  $A, B$  and  $C$  be  $F$ -algebras.

\* Note that If  $(e_i)_{i \in I}$  and  $(e'_j)_{j \in J}$  are  $F$ -bases of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, then  $(e_i \otimes e'_j)_{(i,j) \in I \times J}$  is a  $F$ -basis of  $A \otimes_F B$ .

\* In particular, the above yields that  $A \otimes_F B$  is finite-dimensional  $F$  if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are so, and in this case we have

$$\dim_F(A \otimes_F B) = \dim_F(A) \dim_F(B). \quad (3.1)$$

\* Let  $f : A \longrightarrow C$ ,  $g : B \longrightarrow C$  be homomorphisms of  $F$ -algebras such that  $f(a)g(b) = g(b)f(a)$  for all  $(a, b) \in A \times B$ . Then there exists a unique homomorphism of  $F$ -algebras  $h : A \otimes_F B \longrightarrow C$  such that

$$h(a \otimes 1) = f(a) \text{ and } h(1 \otimes b) = g(b) \text{ for all } a \in A, b \in B. \quad (3.2)$$

\* If  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  and  $g : A' \longrightarrow B'$  are homomorphisms of  $F$ -algebras. Then  $f \otimes g : A \otimes A' \longrightarrow B \otimes B'$  is a homomorphism of  $F$ -algebras satisfying

$$(f \otimes g)(a \otimes b) = f(a) \otimes g(b) \text{ for all } a \in A, b \in B. \quad (3.3)$$

Moreover, if  $f$  and  $g$  are isomorphisms, then so is  $f \otimes g$ .

- \* Let  $E/F$  be a field extension. If  $B$  is also an  $E$ -algebra, then  $A \otimes_F B$  has a natural structure of an  $E$ -algebra, where the structure of  $E$ -vector space is defined by (linearly) extension of the equalities:

$$\alpha(a \otimes b) = a \otimes \alpha b \text{ for all } \alpha \in E, a \in A, b \in B. \quad (3.4)$$

In particular  $A \otimes_F E$  has a natural structure of an  $E$ -algebra. Moreover,  $A \otimes_F E$  is finite dimensional over  $E$  if and only if  $A$  is finite dimensional over  $F$ . Furthermore, in this case we have

$$\dim_E(A \otimes_F E) = \dim_F(A). \quad (3.5)$$

We have also a natural isomorphism of  $E$ -algebras

$$(A \otimes_F B) \otimes_E B \simeq_E A \otimes_E B. \quad (3.6)$$

- \* We have a natural  $E$ -algebra isomorphism

$$(A \otimes_F B) \otimes_F E \simeq_E (A \otimes_F E) \otimes_E (B \otimes_F E) \quad (3.7)$$

Hence, if  $L \subseteq F \subseteq E$  is a tower of field extensions, then we have

$$(A \otimes_L F) \otimes_F E \simeq_E A \otimes_F E.$$

- \* We have (the associativity property of tensor products) :

$$(A \otimes_F B) \otimes_F C \simeq A \otimes_F (B \otimes_F C). \quad (3.8)$$

- \* We have also (the commutativity property of tensor products) :

$$A \otimes_F B \simeq B \otimes_F A. \quad (3.9)$$

- \* If  $A$  is an algebra over  $F$ , and  $E/F$  be a field extension. We call the  $E$ -algebra

$$A_E := A \otimes_F E \quad (3.10)$$

the *scalar extension* of  $A$  by  $E$ . We have  $\dim_F(A) = \dim_E(A_E)$ .

- \* For any positive integers  $m, n$ , we have a natural isomorphism of algebras :

$$M_m(A) \otimes_F M_n(B) \simeq M_{mn}(A \otimes_F B). \quad (3.11)$$

- \* We have also a natural isomorphism of  $F$ -algebras :

$$M_m(M_n(A)) \simeq M_{mn}(A). \quad (3.12)$$

- \* For a field extension  $E/F$ , we have a natural  $F$ -algebra isomorphism  $M_n(F) \otimes_F A \simeq_F M_n(A)$ . Also we have a natural  $E$ -algebra isomorphism  $M_n(F) \otimes E \simeq_E M_n(E)$ .

**Proposition 3.2.6** Let  $F$  be a field and let  $A, B$  be  $F$ -algebras. The following statements hold :

- 1) If  $A$  and  $B$  are central, then so is  $A \otimes_F B$ .
- 2) If  $A$  is central simple and  $B$  is simple, then  $A \otimes_F B$  is simple.
- 3) If  $A$  and  $B$  are central simple, then  $A \otimes_F B$  is central simple.
- 4) If  $A \otimes_F B$  is a simple then  $A$  and  $B$  are simple algebras.

**Proof.** 1) Let  $x = \sum_i a_i \otimes b_i \in Z(A \otimes_F B)$ . We may assume  $b_i$  belong to a basis of  $B$ , so that the  $a_i$  are then uniquely determined. For every  $a \in A$ , we have

$$\sum_i aa_i \otimes b_i = (a \otimes 1)x = x(a \otimes 1) = \sum_i a_i a \otimes b_i$$

So, for all  $i$ , we have  $aa_i = a_i a$ , which implies  $a_i \in F$ . We can then write  $x = \sum_i 1 \otimes a_i b_i = 1 \otimes c$  where  $c = \sum_i a_i b_i$ . Using the fact that  $x$  commutes with  $1 \otimes B$ , we get  $c \in F$ . Thus,  $Z(A \otimes_F B) = F$ .

2) Let  $J$  be a nonzero two-sided ideal of  $A \otimes_F B$ . Fix a basis  $(b_i)_i$  of  $B$  and let  $x = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i \otimes b_i \in J$  with  $r$  is minimal. In particular,  $a_1 \neq 0$ , so by the simplicity of  $A$  we have  $Aa_1A = A$ , we may modify  $x$  on both sides by elements of  $A \otimes 1$  to arrange that  $x$  is of the form  $x = 1 \otimes b_1 + \sum_{i \geq 2} a_i \otimes b_i$ . Now, for  $a \in A$ , we have

$$(a \otimes 1)x - x(a \otimes 1) = \sum_{i=2}^n (aa_i - a_i a) \otimes b_i \in J$$

This must be zero (by minimality of  $r$ ), hence  $aa_i = a_i a$  for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $i \geq 2$ . So,  $a_i \in Z(A) = F$ . Therefore, we can write the element  $x = 1 \otimes b$  for some nonzero element of  $B$ . Thus,  $J$  contains an element of the form  $1 \otimes b$  with  $b \neq 0$ . Note that  $B$  being a simple algebra, then so is  $1 \otimes B$ . Note also that  $J \cap (1 \otimes B)$  is a two-sided ideal of  $1 \otimes B$ , it is nonzero because it contains  $1 \otimes b$ , so it must be equal to  $1 \otimes B$ . Therefore,  $J$  contains  $1 \otimes B$ . But then it contains  $(A \otimes 1)(1 \otimes B) = A \otimes B$ .

3) Follows from 1) and 2).

4) Since  $A \otimes_F B$  is simple algebra, then  $A \otimes_F B \neq 0$ , hence  $A \neq 0$  and  $B \neq 0$ . Assume that  $A$  is not a simple algebra. Then, there exists be an  $F$ -algebra  $C$  and a nonzero homomorphism of  $F$ -algebras  $\psi : A \rightarrow C$  such that  $\ker(\psi) \neq 0$ . Let  $\Phi := \psi \otimes id_B : A \otimes_F B \rightarrow C \otimes_F B$ , then  $\Phi$  is a nonzero homomorphism and we have

$$\ker(\psi) \otimes B \subseteq \ker(\Phi)$$

So,  $\ker(\Phi) \neq 0$ . But this yields that  $A \otimes_F B$  is not a simple algebra, a contradiction.

**Definition and Notation 3.2.1** Let  $A$  be an  $F$ -algebra and  $B$  be a subalgebra of  $A$ . The **centralizer** (or the commutator) of  $B$  in  $A$  is

$$C_A^B = \{a \in A \mid ab = ba, \text{ for all } b \in B\}. \quad (3.13)$$

It is easy to check that  $C_A^B$  is also a subalgebra of  $A$  which contains  $Z(A)$ . Furthermore, we have  $B \subseteq C_A^B$  if and only if  $B$  is commutative. Note that  $C_A^{Z(A)} = A$  and  $C_A^A = Z(A)$ .

**Lemma 3.2.5** Let  $A$  be a (finite-dimensional) central simple  $F$ -algebra,  $B$  be a simple subalgebra of  $A$  with  $E$  and  $C$  a subalgebra of  $C_A^B$ , then the following statements are equivalent :

- 1)  $A = BC$
- 2)  $\dim_F(A) = \dim_F(B)\dim_F(C)$ .
- 3) The canonical injections  $\iota_B : B \rightarrow A$  and  $\iota_C : C \rightarrow A$  induce canonically an isomorphisms of algebras  $\Phi : B \otimes C \rightarrow A$ .

**Proof.** 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Let  $(e_i)_{i \in I}$  be a basis of  $B$ ,  $(e'_j)_{j \in J}$  be a basis of  $C$  and assume that there exist  $\gamma_{ij} \in F$  such that  $\sum_{i,j} \gamma_{ij} e_i e'_j = 0$ . We have  $\sum_i e_i (\sum_j \gamma_{ij} e'_j) = 0$ , so putting  $d_i = \sum_j \gamma_{ij} e'_j$ , we get  $\sum_i e_i d_i = 0$  with all  $d_i \in C$ , so for all  $d_i = 0$ , i.e.  $\sum_j \gamma_{ij} e'_j = 0$  but since  $(e'_j)_{j \in J}$  is a basis of  $C$ , so for all  $i, j$ , we have  $\forall j \in J \gamma_{ij} = 0$ . This shows that  $(e^i e'_j)_{(i,j) \in I \times J}$  is a free family of elements of  $A$  (over  $F$ ). By assumption, we have  $A = BC$ , so  $(e^i e'_j)_{(i,j) \in I \times J}$  is a basis of  $A$ . Hence  $\dim_F(A) = \dim_E(B) \dim_F(C)$ .

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3) Since  $\iota_B : B \rightarrow A$  and  $\iota_C : C \rightarrow A$  are homomorphisms of algebras and  $C \subseteq C_A^B$ , then the bilinear map  $b : B \otimes_F C \rightarrow A$ ,  $(b, c) \mapsto bc$ , induces an algebra homomorphism  $\Phi : B \otimes_F C \rightarrow A$ . Since all  $F$ -linearly independent family of elements of  $B$  is still linearly independent over  $C$ , then necessarily  $\Phi$  is injective. Moreover, since  $\dim_F(A) = \dim_F(B) \dim_F(C)$ , then  $\Phi$  is an algebra isomorphism.

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Clear.

**Lemma 3.2.6** Let  $A, B$  be two  $F$ -algebras and  $C := A \otimes_F B$ . Then :

$$1) C_C^{A \otimes_F F} = Z(A) \otimes_F B.$$

$$2) Z(C) = Z(A) \otimes_F Z(B)$$

**Proof.** 1) Let  $(e_i)_{i \in I}$  be a basis of  $B$ . Then every element  $d \in A \otimes_F B$  can be written in the form  $d = \sum a_i \otimes e_i$  for some  $a_i \in A$ . In particular, if  $d = 0$ , then  $a_i = 0$ , for all  $i$ . Now if  $d = \sum a_i \otimes e_i \in C_C^{A \otimes_F F}$ , then for any  $a \in A$ , we have  $(a \otimes 1)d = d(a \otimes 1)$ , so  $\sum (aa_i - a_i a) \otimes e_i = 0$ , which implies that  $aa_i = a_i a$ , for all  $i$ , i.e.,  $a_i \in Z(A)$ . Hence  $C_C^{A \otimes_F F} \subseteq Z(A) \otimes_F B$ . The inverse sense is trivial. Thus  $C_C^{A \otimes_F F} = Z(A) \otimes_F B$ .

$$2) \text{ We have } C = A \otimes_F B = (A \otimes_F F)(F \otimes_F B), \text{ so } Z(C) = C_C^{A \otimes_F F} \cap C_C^{F \otimes_F B} = (Z(A) \otimes B) \cap (A \otimes_F Z(B)) = Z(A) \otimes_F Z(B).$$

**Proposition 3.2.7** Let  $E/F$  be a field extension and  $A$  be a central simple  $F$ -algebra. Then  $A \otimes_F E$  is a central simple algebra over  $E$  (when we identify  $F \otimes_F E$  with  $E$ ).

**Proof.** By proposition 3.2.6  $A \otimes_F E$  is simple  $E$ -algebra and by lemma 3.2.6  $Z(A \otimes_F E) = Z(A) \otimes E = F \otimes_F E \simeq E$ .

**Definition 3.2.5** (*Opposite algebra*) Given an  $F$ -algebra  $A$ , we denote by  $A^{op}$  the  $F$ -algebra that we get from  $A$  just by reversing the order of multiplication in  $A$  (i.e., the algebra over  $F$  having the same underlying set of element as  $A$  and for which the addition and scalar multiplication are those of  $A$ ). We call this algebra the *opposite algebra* of  $A$ .

**Proposition 3.2.8** Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$ . Then,  $A^{op}$  is a central simple algebra over  $F$ .

**Proof.** Clear.

**Proposition 3.2.9** Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$ . Then the dimension of  $A$  over  $F$  is a square.

**Proof.** Let  $\bar{F}$  be an algebraic closure of  $F$ , then by corollary 3.2.2, there is a positive integer  $r$  such that  $A_{\bar{F}} \simeq M_r(\bar{F})$  (as  $\bar{F}$ -algebras). Thus,

$$\dim_F(A) = \dim_{\bar{F}}(A_{\bar{F}}) = \dim_{\bar{F}}(M_r(\bar{F})) = r^2 \quad (3.14)$$

**Definition 3.2.6** Let  $A$  be a central simple  $F$ -algebra. The integer  $\sqrt{\dim_F(A)}$  is called the *degree* of  $A$ . The Schur index of  $A$  is the degree of the underlying division algebra of  $A$ . We denote it by  $\text{ind}(A)$ , i.e.,  $\text{ind}(A) = \text{deg}(D)$ , where  $D$  is the underlying division algebra of  $A$ .



**Lemma 3.2.7** Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$  with degree  $r$ . Then  $A \otimes_F A^{op} \simeq M_r(F)$  (as  $F$ -algebras).

**Proof.** Let's consider the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi : A &\longrightarrow \text{End}_F(A) \\ a &\longmapsto \Psi(a) := l_a \end{aligned}$$

where  $l_a(x) = ax$ , for all  $x \in A$ . It is clear that  $\Psi$  is  $F$ -algebra homomorphism. In the same way, we define the  $F$ -algebra homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : A^{op} &\longrightarrow \text{End}_F(A) \\ a &\longrightarrow \Phi(a) := l_a^{op} \end{aligned}$$

where  $l_a^{op}(x) = xa$ , for all  $x \in A$ . One can check that the images of  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  commute in  $\text{End}_F(A)$ . So, there is a unique  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\Theta : A \otimes_F A^{op} \longrightarrow \text{End}_F(A)$  satisfying  $\Theta(a \otimes b) = \Psi(a)\Phi(b)$ . Since  $A \otimes_F A^{op}$  is simple,  $\Theta$  is injective. Moreover, we have the equalities  $\dim_F(A \otimes_F A^{op}) = \dim_F(\text{End}_F(A)) = r^2$ . So hence,  $\Theta$  is also surjective. It suffices now to see that  $\text{End}_F(A)$  is isomorphic to  $M_r(F)$  (as  $F$ -algebras).

**Theorem 3.2.2** (*Double centralizer theorem (DCT)*) Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$  and let  $B$  be a simple subalgebra of  $A$ . Then, the following properties hold :

- 1) The centralizer  $C_A^B$  of  $B$  in  $A$  is a simple subalgebra of  $A$  having the same center as  $B$ . Moreover, we have

$$\dim_F(A) = \dim_F(B)\dim_F(C_A^B). \quad (3.15)$$

- 2) We have  $C_A^{C_A^B} = B$ .

**Proof.** 1) To show that  $C_A^B$  is simple, we will show that  $C_A^B \simeq \text{End}_C(A)$ , where  $C := B \otimes_F A^{op}$  and where  $A$  is considered as a left  $C$ -module for the operation defined by linearly extending the following equalities :

$$(\alpha \otimes \gamma)x = \alpha x \gamma \text{ for all } \gamma \in A^{op}, \alpha \in B \text{ and } x \in A \quad (3.16)$$

Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : C_A^B &\longrightarrow \text{End}_C(A) \\ c &\longmapsto \Phi(c) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Phi(c) : x \longmapsto cx$ , for any  $x \in A$ . It is clear that  $\Phi$  is a  $F$ -algebra homomorphism. In particular, we have  $c = \Phi(c)(1) = 0$ , hence  $\Phi$  is injective. One can easily see that  $\Phi$  is also surjective. Indeed, let  $g \in \text{End}_C(A)$  and let  $c = g(1)$ , then for every  $b \in B$ , we have :

$$cb = (1 \otimes b)c = (1 \otimes b)g(1) = g((1 \otimes b)1) = g(b).$$

We have also  $bc = (b \otimes 1)c = (b \otimes 1)g(1) = g((b \otimes 1)1) = g(b)$ , Consequently,  $cb = bc$ , that is  $c \in C_A^B$ . Moreover, for any  $x \in A$ , we have

$$\Phi(c)(x) = cx = (1 \otimes x)c = (1 \otimes x)g(1) = g((1 \otimes x)) = g(x)$$

Thus  $g = \Phi(c)$ . Now, we aim to prove the two  $F$ -algebras  $C_A^B$  and  $\text{End}_C(A)$  have same dimension (over  $F$ ). Note that by proposition 3.2.6  $C$  is a simple algebra. Moreover, since  $C$  is finite-dimensional over  $F$ , then  $C$  is also semisimple, so there is a  $C$ -module  $N$ , up to an isomorphism, such that every  $C$ -module is a finite direct sum of copies of  $N$ . In particular,  $A \simeq N^r$ , for

some positive integer  $r$ . Let  $D := \text{End}_C(N)$ . As  $N$  is a simple  $C$ -module, it follows by lemma 3.1.1 that  $D$  is a division algebra. We proved above that  $C_A^B \simeq \text{End}_C(A)$ , so

$$C_A^B \simeq \text{End}_C(A) \simeq \text{End}_C(N^r) \simeq M_r(\text{End}_C(N)) = M_r(D).$$

Therefore, we have

$$\dim_F(C_A^B) = \dim_F(M_r(D)) = r^2 \dim_F(D) \quad (3.17)$$

It is clear that  $N$  is also a  $D$ -module, so we have  $N \simeq D^m$ , for some positive integer  $m$ , so

$$C = \text{End}_D(N) \simeq \text{End}_D(D^m) \simeq M_m(D).$$

Thus  $A \simeq D^{rm}$ , hence

$$\dim_F(A) = r m \dim_F(D) \quad (3.18)$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\dim_F(A)^2 = \dim_F(C) \dim_F(\text{End}_C(A)) = \dim_F(B \otimes_F A^{op}) \dim_F(C_A^B) = \dim_F(B) \dim_F(A^{op}) \dim_F(C_A^B)$$

Hence

$$\dim_F(A) = \dim_F(B) \dim_F(C_A^B).$$

2) Since  $C_A^B$  is simple, applying 1) gives

$$\dim_F(C_A^B) \dim_F(C_A^{C_A^B}) = \dim_F(A)$$

Since

$$\dim_F(B) \dim_F(C_A^B) = \dim_F(A)$$

We deduce that

$$\dim_F(B) = \dim_F(C_A^{C_A^B})$$

Now, the definition easily imply that  $B \subseteq C_A^{C_A^B}$ . The equality between dimensions then implies that  $B = C_A^{C_A^B}$ .

## The Skolem<sup>s</sup>-Noether theorem

For a ring  $R$  and unit  $r \in R^\times$ ,  $\text{Int}(r)(x) := r^{-1}xr$  is an automorphism of  $R$ . Such automorphisms are called an *inner* automorphisms of  $R$ .

**Lemma 3.2.8** Let  $A$  be a (finite-dimensional) simple  $F$ -algebra and suppose that  $B$  is an  $F$ -space. Let  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  be two  $F$ -algebras homomorphisms of  $A$  to  $\text{End}_F(B)$ , then there exists  $\theta \in \text{End}_F(B)^\times$  such that  $\phi(a) = \theta^{-1}\psi(x)\theta$  for all  $x \in A$ .

**Proof.** See [21, Lemma, p. 230].

**Theorem 3.2.3** Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$  and let  $B$  be simple  $F$ -subalgebra of  $A$ . For any  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\varphi : B \longrightarrow A$  there exists  $a \in A^\times$  such that  $\varphi(x) = a^{-1}xa$  for all  $x \in B$ .

---

<sup>s</sup>**Thoralf Albert Skolem** (Norwegian 23 May 1887-23 March 1963) was a Norwegian mathematician who worked on mathematical logic and set theory.

**Proof.** By lemma 3.2.7, there is an algebra isomorphism  $\Lambda : A \otimes A^{op} \longrightarrow \text{End}_F(A)$ . Define  $\phi := \Lambda(\text{id} \otimes \varphi) : A^{op} \otimes B \longrightarrow \text{End}_F(A)$  and  $\psi := \Lambda(\text{id} \otimes j) : A^{op} \otimes B \longrightarrow \text{End}_F(A)$ , where  $j : B \longrightarrow A$  is the inclusion homomorphism. Since  $A^{op} \otimes B$  is simple (see proposition 3.2.6), it follows from lemma 3.2.8 that there exists  $\theta \in \text{End}_F(A)^\times$  such that  $\phi(x \otimes y) = \theta^{-1}\psi(x \otimes y)\theta$  for all  $x \in A^{op}, y \in B$ . Let  $z = \Lambda^{-1}(\theta) \in A^{op} \otimes A$ . Since  $\theta$  is unit, so is  $z$  and  $\theta^{-1} = \Lambda(z^{-1})$ . Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda(z(x \otimes \varphi(y))) &= \Lambda(z)\Lambda(x \otimes \varphi(y)) \\ &= \theta\phi(x \otimes y) \\ &= \psi(x \otimes y)\theta \\ &= \Lambda((x \otimes y)\Lambda(z)) \\ &= \Lambda(x \otimes y)z \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\Lambda$  is injective, then

$$x \otimes \varphi(y) = z^{-1}(x \otimes y)z \text{ for all } x \in A^{op}, y \in B \quad (3.19)$$

By taking  $y = 1$  in (3.19), we get  $z(x \otimes 1) = (x \otimes 1)z$  that is  $z \in C_{A \otimes A^{op}}^{A^{op} \otimes F} = F \otimes A$  (see lemma 3.2.6). Similarly,  $z^{-1} \in F \otimes A$ , therefore  $z = 1 \otimes v$  and  $z^{-1} = 1 \otimes u$ , with  $u, v \in A$ . Hence  $uv = 1$ ,  $u \in A^{op}$  and  $v = u^{-1}$ . Finally, if  $x = 1$  in (3.19) then  $1 \otimes \varphi(y) = 1 \otimes u^{-1}yu$  for all  $y \in B$ , therefore  $\varphi(y) = u^{-1}yu$ .

### 3.3 Cyclic algebras

We will usually denote a **cyclic Galois group** by  $\langle \sigma \rangle$ , where  $\sigma$  is a generator of the group  $G$ .

**Definition 3.3.1** Let  $M/F$  be a cyclic **Galois field extension** of dimension  $n$  with Galois group  $G = \text{Gal}(M/F)$  generated by  $\sigma$ . Choose an element  $\beta$  a nonzero element of  $E$ . We construct a non-commutative algebra  $A$ , denoted by  $(M/F, \sigma, \beta)$ , as follows :

$$A = M \bigoplus Me \bigoplus \cdots \bigoplus Me^{n-1}$$

where  $e$  is an indeterminate satisfying the multiplicative conditions :

$$e^n = \beta \text{ and } \lambda e = e\sigma(\lambda) \text{ for all } \lambda \in M \quad (3.20)$$

(the addition and scalar multiplication being defined componentwise). Such an algebra is called a **cyclic algebra**.

**Notation.** When there is no risk of confusion, we omit  $F$  and the algebra  $A$  we will denoted by  $(M, \sigma, \beta)$ .

**Remark 3.3.1** Assume that  $\text{char}(F) \neq 2$ ,  $M = F(\sqrt{d})$  be a quadratic extension, defined by an element  $d \in F^*$ , and let  $\sigma$  be the unique nontrivial  $F$ -automorphism of  $M$ . Then we have  $(M/F, \sigma, \beta) \simeq_F (a, b)_F$ . Hence **cyclic algebras** may be viewed as a generalization of **quaternion algebras**. (See [4, Remark VII.1.4, p.130]).

Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$  and let  $K$  be a subfield of  $A$  (i.e., a field extension of  $F$  in  $A$ ), then  $\dim_F(K) \leq \deg(A)$  (see [21, Corollary a, p.236]). Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$  and let  $K$  be a subfield of  $A$ . If  $\dim_F K = \deg(A)$ , then we say that  $K$  is a **strictly maximal subfield** of  $A$ . Such subfield does not always exist, but when  $A$  is a division algebra, then any maximal subfield of  $A$  is strictly maximal (see [21, corollary b, p.236]). We say that a field extension  $L$  of  $F$  is a **splitting field** of  $A$  if  $A \otimes_F L$  is isomorphic to a matrix algebra over  $F$ , i.e., if and only if the underlying division algebra of  $A \otimes_F L$  is  $L$ .

If  $K$  is a strictly maximal subfield of  $A$ , then  $K$  is a splitting field of  $A$  (see [21, Corollary, p.241]). In particular, if  $A = (M/E, \sigma, \beta)$  is a cyclic algebra, then  $M$  is a strictly maximal subfield of  $A$ , so  $M$  is a splitting field of  $A$ .

**Example 3.3.1** Consider the real matrix algebra  $A = M_r(\mathbb{H})$  for some positive integer  $r$ . We have  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}}(A) = 4r^2$ . Note that  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  are the only finite field extensions of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Therefore  $A$  has no strictly maximal subfields for any  $r \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .

**Theorem 3.3.1** The cyclic algebra  $A = (M/F, \sigma, \beta)$  is a central simple algebra over  $F$ .

**Proof.** The arguments of this proof were used before several times. Let

$$x = x_0 + x_1e + \dots + x_{n-1}e^{n-1}$$

be an element of the center of  $A$ . The equation  $xe = ex$  gives rise to the following equalities

$$x_{n-1}\beta + x_0e + \dots + x_{n-2}e^{n-1} = \sigma(x_{n-1})\beta 1 + \sigma(x_0)e + \dots + \sigma(x_{n-2})e^{n-1}.$$

Now the equation  $x(\alpha 1) = \alpha x$  for all  $\alpha \in M$  gives

$$x_0\alpha 1 + x_1\sigma(\alpha)e + \dots + x_{n-1}\sigma^{n-1}(\alpha)e^{n-1} = \alpha x_0 1 + \alpha x_1e + \dots + \alpha x_{n-1}e^{n-1}.$$

Hence  $x_1 = \dots = x_{n-1} = 0$ . So,  $Z(A) = F$ .

Let  $J$  be a two-sided nonzero ideal of  $A$  and let  $x = x_0 + x_1e + \dots + x_me^m$  be a nonzero element of  $J$  with  $m$  minimal. If  $m = 0$ , then  $x = x_0 \in E$ , so  $J = A$ .

Suppose that  $m > 0$ , and suppose that  $J \neq A$ , then consider an element  $\alpha \in M$  such that  $\sigma^i(\alpha) \neq \alpha$  for all  $\sigma^i \neq \text{id}$ . Then, the following contradicts the minimality of  $m$ :

$$(\alpha x - x\alpha)e^{-1} \in J.$$

**Theorem 3.3.2** A central simple algebra  $A$  of dimension  $n^2$  is isomorphic to a cyclic algebra if  $A$  contains a subfield  $M$  of dimension  $n$  over  $F$  such that  $M/F$  is a cyclic Galois field extension.

**Proof.** Let  $\sigma$  be a generator of the Galois group of  $M/F$ . By *Skolem-Noether theorem*, there is an invertible element  $e$  of  $A$  such that

$$\sigma(\alpha) = e\alpha e^{-1}.$$

for all  $\alpha \in M$ . Since conjugation by  $e^n$  is the identity on  $M$ , we see  $e^n \in C_A^M = M$ . Since  $ee^n e^{-1} = e^n$ , in fact  $e^n$  is a central element of  $A$ , so  $e^n \in F$ . It remains to prove that  $1, e, \dots, e^{n-1}$  are linearly independent over  $M$ . Otherwise, we consider a relation

$$x = x_0 + x_1e + \dots + x_me^m = 0$$

with  $x_m \neq 0$  and  $m$  minimal. This leads to a contradiction in the same way as above: Choose a primitive element  $\alpha \in E$  and consider the equality  $0 = (\alpha x - x\alpha)e^{-1}$ . This leads to a contradiction with the minimality of  $m$ .

**Definition 3.3.2** (*Norm and Trace*) Let  $M/F$  be a Galois field extension of dimension  $n$ , with  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  denoting all elements of  $\text{Gal}(M/F)$ . For an element  $x$  of  $M$ , the elements  $\sigma_1(x), \sigma_2(x), \dots, \sigma_n(x)$  are called the *conjugates* of  $x$  and

$$N(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(x), \text{Tr}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(x).$$

are called, respectively, the *norm* and the *trace* of  $x$ .

**Remark 3.3.2** Whenever the context is not clear, we write  $N_{M/F}$ , resp.,  $\text{Tr}_{M/F}$  to avoid ambiguity.

**Definition 3.3.3** A cyclic algebra which is also a *division algebra* is called a *cyclic division algebra*.

**Theorem 3.3.3** Let  $M/F$  be a cyclic field extension of dimension  $n$  with Galois group  $\text{Gal}(M/F) = \langle \sigma \rangle$ . If  $0 \neq \beta, \beta^2, \dots, \beta^{n-1}$  are not a norm of elements of  $M$ , then  $(M/F, \sigma, \beta)$  is a cyclic division algebra.

**Proof.** See [21, 45, p.279].

## 3.4 Brauer group and Crossed products

### 3.4.1 The Brauer group

Let  $F$  be a field and let  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  be the class of all **central simple algebras** over  $F$ . We say that two central simple  $F$ -algebras  $A$  and  $B$  are similar, denoted by  $A \sim \mathbb{I} B$ , if there are positive integers  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  such that  $M_{r_1}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $M_{r_2}(B)$  as a  $F$ -algebra. In the next lemma we prove that this defines an equivalence relation on  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$ , which reduces to  $F$ -algebra isomorphism when the two central simple algebras have the same dimension over  $F$ .

**Lemma 3.4.1** *Let  $F$  be a field. Then  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$ , which reduces to  $F$ -algebra isomorphism when two central simple algebras have the same dimension over  $F$ .*

**Proof.** It is clearly that  $\sim$  is reflexive and symmetric on  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$ . Let  $A, B$  and  $C$  be elements of  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  such that  $A \sim B$  and  $B \sim C$ . Then there are  $r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4 \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that

$$M_{r_1}(A) \simeq M_{r_2}(B) \text{ and } M_{r_3}(B) \simeq M_{r_4}(C)$$

So we have

$$M_{r_1 r_3}(A) \simeq M_{r_3}(M_{r_1}(A)) \simeq M_{r_3}(M_{r_2}(B)) \simeq M_{r_2}(M_{r_3}(C)) \simeq M_{r_2}(M_{r_4}(C)) \simeq M_{r_2 r_4}(C).$$

Hence  $A \simeq C$ . Consequently,  $\sim$  is also transitive. The rest follows by applying Wedderburn's theorem.

The next proposition shows that the tensor product is a class invariant under similarity.

**Proposition 3.4.1** *Let  $A, B, A'$  and  $B'$  be central simple  $F$ -algebras such that  $A \sim A'$  and  $B \sim B'$ . Then  $A \otimes_F B \sim A' \otimes_F B'$ .*

**Proof.** There exists  $r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4 \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that

$$M_{r_1}(A) \simeq M_{r_2}(A') \text{ and } M_{r_3}(B) \simeq M_{r_4}(B')$$

Observe that

$$M_{r_1}(A) \otimes_F M_{r_2}(B) \simeq M_{r_3}(A') \otimes_F M_{r_4}(B').$$

and that (3.11) implies that we have the  $F$ -algebra isomorphism

$$M_{r_1 r_2}(A \otimes_F B) \simeq M_{r_3 r_4}(A' \otimes_F B').$$

Hence  $A \otimes_F B \sim A' \otimes_F B'$ .

**Remark 3.4.1** *Observe that for a field  $F$  the class  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  is not empty, since for every positive integer  $n$ , the matrix algebra  $M_n(F)$  is an element of  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$ .*

**Theorem 3.4.1** *Let  $F$  be a field. Then there exists a pair  $(G, s)$  consisting of a group  $G$  and a surjective map  $s : \mathbf{CSA}(F) \rightarrow G$  that satisfy for every two central simple  $F$ -algebras  $A$  and  $B$  the following conditions :*

$$i) \ s(A \otimes_F B) = s(A)s(B).$$

ii) *The equality  $s(A) = s(B)$  holds if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are Brauer equivalent.*

---

$\mathbb{I}$  When  $A \sim B$  we say also  $A$  and  $B$  are Brauer equivalent.

Moreover, the pair  $(G, s)$  is uniquely determined up to a unique isomorphism, that is, if  $(G', s')$  is another pair satisfying the above, then there is a unique group isomorphism  $\beta : G \longrightarrow G'$  such that we have the equality  $s' = \beta \circ s$ .

**Proof.** Let  $K$  be a subclass of  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  that is a set such that every element of  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  is isomorphic as a  $F$ -algebra to at least one element of  $K$ , and let  $G$  be the quotient set of  $K$  by  $\sim$ , i.e.,  $G := K / \sim$ . For an element  $A$  of  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  we let  $[A]$  denote the element of  $G$  that contains the elements of  $K$  that are Brauer equivalent to  $A$ , which gives a surjective map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi : \mathbf{CSA}(F) & \longrightarrow & G \\ C & \longmapsto & [C] \end{array}$$

Now, We will show that  $G$  is an **abelian group** under the tensor product over  $F$ . To this end, observe that the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} u : G \times G & \longrightarrow & G \\ ([B], [C]) & \longmapsto & [B \otimes_F C] \end{array}$$

is well-defined by proposition 3.4.1, so it remains to prove that  $G$  satisfies the **group axioms** and **commutativity** with respect to the tensor product.

- \* Observe that for any central simple algebra  $A$  over  $F$ , it clearly holds that  $A \otimes_F F$  is isomorphic to  $A$  as a  $F$ -algebra. Hence,  $[F]$  functions as the identity element of  $G$  under the tensor product over  $F$ .
- \* Associativity follows from (3.8), and commutativity follows from (3.9).
- \* The existence of inverse elements in  $G$  is proven by lemma 3.2.7, which states that the inverse of an element  $[A]$  of  $G$  is given  $[A^{op}]$ , where  $A^{op}$  is the opposite algebra of  $A$ .

Consequently, we have showed that  $G$  is an abelian group under the tensor product over  $F$ .

It is clear that for every  $A, B \in \mathbf{CSA}(F)$  the map  $\pi$  satisfies the equality  $\pi(A \otimes_F B) = \pi(A)\pi(B)$ , hence, we have a pair  $(G, \pi)$  with  $s = \pi$  that satisfies the theorem.

Now, if  $(G', s')$  is another pair that satisfies the theorem, and define

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \beta : G & \longrightarrow & G' \\ [A] & \longmapsto & s'(A) \end{array}$$

It is clear that  $\beta$  is a unique group isomorphism satisfying the equality  $s = \beta \circ s'$ . It follows that  $(G, s)$  is uniquely determined up to isomorphism.

**Definition 3.4.1** The group of the uniquely determined pair  $(G, s)$  is called the **Brauer group** of  $F$ , denoted by  $\text{Br}(F)$ , and is written multiplicatively. For a central simple algebra  $A$  over  $F$ , we denote  $s(A)$  by  $[A]$ .

Moreover, an element  $b$  of  $\text{Br}(F)$  is often denoted by  $[A]$ , where  $A$  is an element of  $\mathbf{CSA}(F)$  that is similar to an element of  $b$ .

**Definition 3.4.2** The **exponent** of  $A$  (or **period** of  $A$ ) is the order of  $[A]$  in  $\text{Br}(F)$ .

**Proposition 3.4.2** Every element of  $\text{Br}(F)$  contains a unique central division  $F$ -algebra up to isomorphism.

**Proof.** This follows by applying **Wedderburn's theorem**.



## Some examples of Brauer groups

- 1) We have already seen in corollary 3.2.2 that there are no nontrivial central division algebras over an algebraically closed field. So the Brauer group of an algebraically closed field is trivial.
- 2) Let  $F$  be a finite field, then by [Joseph Wedderburn]  $F$  is the unique central division algebra over  $F$ , so the Brauer group of  $F$  is trivial.
- 3) By [15, 6.6 Die Brauergruppe von  $\mathbb{R}$ , p.54],  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{H}$  are the only central division algebras over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Consequently, the Brauer group of  $\mathbb{R}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

## The Brauer group as a functor

For any nonzero homomorphism  $\psi : F \rightarrow M$  between fields, one can consider  $M$  as a field extension of  $F$  and then form the tensor product  $A \otimes_F M$  that we denote by  $A_\psi$ . In what follows a homomorphism between fields will always mean a nonzero homomorphism.

**Lemma 3.4.2** Let  $\psi : F \rightarrow M$  be a field homomorphism. Then the mapping  $Br(\psi) : Br(F) \rightarrow Br(M)$  defined by  $[A] \mapsto [A_\psi]$ , is a group homomorphism.

**Proof.** Let  $\psi : F \rightarrow M$  be a field homomorphism and let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$ .  $A_\psi$  is central simple over  $E$ . Define the map

$$\begin{aligned} Br(\psi) : Br(F) &\longrightarrow Br(M) \\ [A] &\longmapsto [A_\psi] \end{aligned}$$

and observe that this is a well-defined function by proposition 3.4.1. Moreover, by *associativity* and *commutativity* of the tensor product (see (3.8) and (3.9)), we have

$$\begin{aligned} Br(\psi)([A])Br(\psi)([B]) &= [A \otimes_F M][B \otimes_F M] \\ &= [(A \otimes_F M) \otimes_M (B \otimes_F M)] \\ &= [A \otimes_F (M \otimes_F B)] \\ &= [(A \otimes_F B) \otimes_F M] \\ &= Br(\psi)([A \otimes_F B]) \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $Br(\psi)$  is a group homomorphism.

**Notation.** Let  $\mathcal{F}ield$  denote the category of *fields* with morphisms given by field homomorphisms, and let  $\mathcal{A}b$  denote the category of *abelian groups* with morphisms given by group homomorphisms.

**Theorem 3.4.2** The *Brauer group* defines a covariant functor  $Br : \mathcal{F}ield \rightarrow \mathcal{A}b$  that maps a field  $F$  to  $Br(F)$  and maps a field homomorphism  $\psi$  to  $Br(\psi)$ .

**Proof.** Clear.

Let  $K$  be a field extension of  $F$  and consider the canonical group homomorphism  $\phi_{K/F} : Br(F) \rightarrow Br(K)$ ,  $[A] \mapsto [A \otimes_F K]$ . Plainly,  $\ker(\phi_{K/F})$  is a subgroup of  $Br(F)$ . We call it the relative Brauer group of  $K/F$ .

## Relative Brauer groups

In this subsection, we show that for every **central simple algebra**  $A$  over a field  $F$  there exists a **finite Galois extension** of  $F$  (i.e., a finite-dimensional Galois field extension of  $F$ ) that splits  $A$ . This enables us to write the Brauer group of  $F$  as a union of **relative Brauer groups** of finite Galois extensions of  $F$ , i.e

$$\mathrm{Br}(F) = \bigcup_{K \supseteq F \text{ finite Galois}} \mathrm{Br}(K/F).$$

**Remark 3.4.2** Let  $A$  be a central simple algebra over  $F$  and let  $K$  be a field extension of  $F$ . Then, by definition  $K$  is a splitting field of  $A$  if and only if  $[A] \in \mathrm{Br}(K/F)$ .

**Theorem 3.4.3** Let  $x$  be an element of  $\mathrm{Br}(F)$ . Then there is a separable field extension  $K \supseteq F$  such that  $x$  is an element of  $\mathrm{Br}(K/F)$ .

**Proof.** See [15, *Existenz eines separablen Zerfällungskörpers*, p.47].

**Corollary 3.4.1** Let  $x$  be an element of  $\mathrm{Br}(F)$ . Then there is a finite Galois field extension  $E \supseteq F$  such that  $x$  is an element of  $\mathrm{Br}(E/F)$ .

**Proof.** Indeed, by the previous theorem, we can consider a separable field extension  $M$  of  $F$  such that  $x \in \mathrm{Br}(M/F)$ . It suffices to take a Galois field extension  $K$  of  $F$  that contains  $M$ .

**Corollary 3.4.2** For any field  $F$ . We have the following equality

$$\mathrm{Br}(F) = \bigcup_{K \supseteq F \text{ finite Galois}} \mathrm{Br}(K/F).$$

**Proof.** Clear.

## 3.4.2 Crossed products

In this section, we will construct a very important type of central simple algebra via a finite **Galois field extension** of  $F$ . This algebra is called **crossed product**. As will be seen later, this algebra will connect the Brauer group of a field  $F$  to a second Galois cohomology group obtained by considering all finite-dimensional Galois field extensions of  $F$ .

Throughout this subsection, when not mentioned, we assume that  $K/F$  is a **finite Galois** field extension. We assume throughout the rest familiarity with basic (Galois) cohomological notions. In particular, recall that when considering a finite Galois field extension with Galois group  $G$ , then a 2-cycle of  $G$  with values in  $K^*$  is a map  $a : G \times G \longrightarrow K^*$  satisfying  $a(\sigma, \tau)a(\sigma\tau, \gamma) = a(\sigma, \tau\gamma)\sigma(a(\sigma, \gamma))$  for all  $\sigma, \tau, \gamma \in G$ .

**Proposition 3.4.3** Let  $K/F$  be a finite Galois extension with Galois group  $\mathrm{Gal}(K/F)$ . Let  $a$  be a 2-cocycle of  $G$  with values in  $K^*$  and let  $A$  be a left vector space over  $E$  with basis  $\{e_\sigma\}_{\sigma \in G}$  the multiplication defined by

$$\left( \sum_{\sigma \in G} x_\sigma e_\sigma \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{\tau \in G} y_\tau e_\tau \right) = \sum_{\sigma \in G} \sum_{\tau \in G} x_\sigma \sigma(y_\tau) a(\sigma, \tau) e_{\sigma\tau} \quad (3.21)$$

where  $x_\sigma, y_\tau \in K$  for  $\sigma, \tau \in G$ . Then,  $A$  is a central simple algebra over  $F$  that contains  $K$  as a strictly maximal subfield.

**Proof.** Let  $\sigma, \tau, \rho \in G$ , Then

$$a(\sigma, \tau)a(\sigma\tau, \rho) = \sigma(a(\tau, \rho))a(\sigma, \tau) \quad (3.22)$$

Using (3.22), one can see that  $A$  is indeed an associative algebra with unit (equal to  $a(\mathrm{id}, \mathrm{id})^{-1}e_{\mathrm{id}}$ ). It is clear that  $\dim_F A = (\dim_F K)^2$ , so  $K$  is a strictly maximal subfield of  $A$ . Also, since for all  $x, y \in K^*$

and  $\sigma, \tau \in G$ , we have  $x_{\sigma} y_{\tau} = x\sigma(y)a(\sigma, \tau)e_{\sigma\tau}$ , then one can easily see that  $Z(A) = K^*$  (for  $K/F$  is a Galois field extension).

$A$  is a simple algebra. Indeed, let  $I$  be a nonzero two-sided of  $A$  and let  $x = \sum_{i=1}^r x_{\sigma_i} e_{\sigma_i}$  be a nonzero element of  $I$ , where all  $x_{\sigma_i} \in K$  (with  $r$  is minimal integer). Suppose that  $r > 1$  and choose  $z \in K$  such that  $\sigma_1(z) \neq \sigma_2(z)$

$$\sigma_1(z)^{-1}xz = \sigma_1^{-1}x_{\sigma_1}\sigma_1(z)e_{\sigma_1} + \sigma_1^{-1}(z)x_{\sigma_2}\sigma_2(z)e_{\sigma_2} + \dots$$

We get  $0 \neq x - \sigma_1(z)^{-1}xz \in I$ , which contradicts the minimality of  $r$ , so  $x = ye_{\sigma}$  for some  $y \in E^*$ ,  $\sigma \in G$ . But in this case,  $x$  will be an invertible element of  $A$ , so  $I = A$ .

**Definition 3.4.3** The central simple algebra  $A$  over  $F$  defined in proposition 3.4.3 is called the **crossed product algebra** over  $F$  of  $K$  and  $G$  with respect to  $a$ , denoted by  $(K, G, a)$ .

**Proposition 3.4.4** Let  $K/F$  be Galois field extension with Galois group  $G$ , and let  $a, b : G \times G \rightarrow K^*$  be two 2-cocycle. Then

$$(K, G, a) \otimes_F (K, G, b) \sim (K, G, ab).$$

**Proof.** See [15, Multiplikativitätssatz, p.68].

**Remark 3.4.3** A **cyclic algebra** is an example of a **crossed product**. Indeed, let  $(K, G, \beta)$  be a cyclic algebra as defined in section 3.3. We can define a 2-cocycle as follows :

$$a : G \times G \longrightarrow E^* \\ (\sigma^i, \sigma^j) \longmapsto \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i+j < n \\ \beta & \text{if } i+j \geq n \end{cases}$$

One can check that the  $F$ -algebra  $(K, G, a)$  is isomorphic to  $(K, \sigma, \beta)$ . For more details we refer to [15, section 10.3 Existenzsatz, p.83].

## 3.5 Cohomological interpretation of the Brauer group

As claimed in the previous subsection, we will see here that the relative Brauer group  $Br(K/F)$  of a (finite) Galois field extension  $K/F$  is isomorphic to the second **cohomology group**  $H^2(Gal(K/F), K^*)$ .

**Proposition 3.5.1** Let  $K \supseteq F$  be a finite Galois extension with Galois group  $G$ . Then two 2-**cocycles**  $a$  and  $b$  of  $G$  with values in  $K^*$  are **cohomologous** if and only if  $(K, G, a)$  and  $(K, G, b)$  are isomorphic as  $F$ -algebras.

**Proof.** See [15, 7.7 Isomorphiekriterium für verschränkte Produkte, p.63].

**Theorem 3.5.1** Let  $x$  be an element of  $Br(F)$ . Then for each finite Galois extension  $K \supseteq F$  that splits  $x$ , there exists a 2-cocycle  $a$  of  $Gal(K/F)$  with values in  $K^*$  that is unique up to cohomology such that the crossed product algebra  $(K, Gal(K/F), a)$  is Brauer-equivalent to  $x$ .

**Proof.** See [15, 8, Die Isomorphie  $H^2(G, L^*) \simeq Br(L/K)$ , p.68].

**Theorem 3.5.2** Let  $K/F$  be a **finite Galois field extension**. Then the map

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi : H^2(Gal(E/F), E^*) &\longrightarrow Br(E/F) \\ [a] &\longmapsto [(E, Gal(E/F), a)] \end{aligned}$$

is a group isomorphism.

**Proof.** Using theorem 3.5.1, one sees that the map  $\Psi$  is well-defined and injective.

By theorem 3.5.1, for any element  $x$  of  $Br(K/F)$  there exists a 2-**cocycle**  $a$  of  $G$  with values in  $K^*$  such that  $x = [(K, G, a)]$ . So  $\Psi$  is **surjective**. Hence  $\Psi$  **bijection**. Also by proposition 3.5.1, one sees that  $\Psi$  is a group homomorphism, hence a group isomorphism.

### 3.6 Some non-abelian cohomology

In this section we recall elementary facts about **non-abelian group cohomology**. For more details we refer the reader to [24, *Cohomologie Galoisienne*].

**Definition 3.6.1** Let  $G$  be a finite group.

- i) A  $G$ -set  $E$  is a set equipped with a  $G$ -operation from the left. We will use the notation  ${}^g x := g \cdot x$  for  $x \in E$  and  $g \in G$ .
- ii) A morphism of  $G$ -sets, a  $G$ -morphism for short, is a map  $\gamma : E \longrightarrow F$  between  $G$ -sets such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G \times E & \longrightarrow & F \\ \text{id}_G \times \gamma \downarrow & & \downarrow \gamma \\ G \times F & \longrightarrow & F \end{array}$$

commutes.

- iii) A  $G$ -group  $M$  is a  $G$ -set carrying a **group structure** such that  ${}^g(xy) = {}^g x {}^g y$  for every  $g \in G$  and  $x, y \in M$ .

Note that, for all  $g \in G$  this forces  ${}^g 1_M = 1_M$  and for all  $x \in M$   ${}^g(x^{-1}) = ({}^g x)^{-1}$ . If  $M$  is abelian then it is called a  **$G$ -module**.

**Example 3.6.1** Let  $G$  be an abelian group and  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ . Then we can view  $G$  as a  $H$ -set.

For a  $G$ -set  $M$ , we let  $M^G := \{x \in M \mid {}^g x = x \text{ for all } g \in G\}$

**Definition 3.6.2** Let  $G$  be a **finite group**.

- i) For any  $G$ -module  $M$ , we set  $H^0(G, M) := M^G$ , the **zeroth cohomology** set of  $G$  with coefficients in  $M$  is just the subset of  $G$ -invariants in  $M$ . If  $M$  is a  $G$ -group, then one can see that  $H^0(G, M)$  is a group.
- ii) If  $M$  is a  $G$ -group. A map  $\rho : G \longrightarrow M$  is called a **1-cocycle** if for any  $g, h \in G$ , we have

$$\rho(gh) = \rho(g) {}^g \rho(h). \quad (3.23)$$

- iii) Let  $M$  be a  $G$ -group. We say that 1-cocycles  $\rho, \rho' : G \longrightarrow M$  are **cohomologous** if there is  $x \in M$

$$\rho(g) = x^{-1} \rho'(g) {}^g x, \text{ for all } g \in G.$$

**Remarks 3.6.1** \* The map  $G \longrightarrow M$  sending every element of  $G$  to  $1_M$  is a 1-cocycle. We call this the **trivial cocycle**.

- \* For any  $G$ -group  $M$  and any  $x \in M$ , the map  $G \longrightarrow M$  given by  $g \longmapsto x^{-1} {}^g x$  is a 1-cocycle.
- \* For any 1-cocycle  $\rho : G \longrightarrow M$  we necessarily have  $\rho(1_G) = 1_M$  (this follows by (3.23)).
- \* For any  $G$ -group  $M$ , one can easily see that 'to be cohomologous' is an equivalence relation on the set of 1-cocycles of  $G$  in  $M$ .  
The quotient set of this equivalence relation, called the **first cohomology set** of  $G$  with coefficients in  $M$ , is denoted by  $H^1(G, M)$ , i.e.,  $H^1(G, M) = \{ \text{equivalence classes of 1-cocycles } \rho : G \longrightarrow M \}$ .

- \*  $H^0(G, M)$  and  $H^1(G, M)$  are **covariant functors** in  $M$ . If  $\iota : M \longrightarrow M'$  is a morphism of  $G$ -sets then the induced map will be denoted by  $\iota_* : H^0(G, M) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M')$ , resp.,  $\iota_* : H^1(G, M) \longrightarrow H^1(G, M')$ .
- \* If  $M$  is abelian then the definitions above coincide with the **usual group cohomology** as one of the possible descriptions for  $H(G, M)$  is just the cohomology of the complex

$$0 \longrightarrow C^0(G, M) \xrightarrow{\theta_0} C^1(G, M) \xrightarrow{\theta_1} \dots \longrightarrow C^n(G, M) \xrightarrow{\theta_n} C^{n+1}(G, M) \longrightarrow$$

where  $C^n(G, M) := \{f : G^n \longrightarrow M\}$ ,  $C^0(G, M) = M$ , with the differential map  $\theta_n$  defined by  $\theta_n(f)(g_1, \dots, g_{n+1}) := g_1 f(g_2, \dots, g_{n+1}) + \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^j f(g_1, \dots, g_j g_{j+1}, \dots, g_{n+1}) + (-1)^{n+1} f(g_1, \dots, g_n)$ .

**Theorem 3.6.1** Let  $G$  be a **finite group**.

- i) If  $N \subseteq M$  is  $G$ -group extension (i.e.,  $M$  and  $N$  are  $G$ -groups and the action of  $g \in G$  on an element  $x \in N$  coincides with the action of  $g$  on  $x$  when  $x$  is considered as an element of  $M$ ) and  $M/N$  is the set of left cosets, then there is a natural exact sequence of pointed sets

$$1 \longrightarrow H^0(G, N) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M/N) \xrightarrow{d} H^1(G, N) \longrightarrow H^1(G, M)$$

- ii) If in addition  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $M$ , then there is a natural exact sequence of pointed sets

$$1 \longrightarrow H^0(G, N) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M/N) \xrightarrow{d} H^1(G, N) \longrightarrow \dots$$

$$H^1(G, M) \longrightarrow H^1(G, M/N)$$

- iii) ) If in particular  $N$  is a subgroup of the center of  $M$ , then there is a natural exact sequence of pointed set

$$1 \longrightarrow H^0(G, N) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M) \longrightarrow H^0(G, M/N) \xrightarrow{d} H^1(G, N) \longrightarrow \dots$$

$$\dots \longrightarrow H^1(G, M) \longrightarrow H^1(G, M/N) \xrightarrow{d'} H^2(G, M)$$

Here the abelian group  $H^2(G, M)$  is considered as a pointed set with the unit element.

We note that a sequence

$$(M, a) \xrightarrow{i} (N, b) \xrightarrow{j} (P, c)$$

of pointed sets is said to be exact in  $(N, b)$  if  $i(M) = j^{-1}(P)$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 1.4, p.6].

**Definition 3.6.3** Let  $\psi : G \longrightarrow G'$  be a homomorphism of finite groups. Then for an arbitrary  $G$ -set  $E$  one has a natural **pull-back** map  $\psi^* : H^0(G', E) \longrightarrow H^0(G, E)$ .

If  $E$  is a  $G$ -group then the **pullback** map is a group homomorphism.

For an arbitrary  $G$ -group  $M$  there is the natural **pullback** map  $\psi^* : H^1(G', M) \longrightarrow H^1(G, M)$  which is a morphism of pointed sets.

- \* If  $\psi$  is the inclusion of a subgroup then the pullback  $\text{res}_{G'}^G := \psi^*$  is usually called the **restriction map**.
- \* If  $\psi$  is the **canonical projection** on a quotient group then  $\text{inf}_{G'}^G := \psi^*$  is said to be the **inflation map**.
- \* The composition of  $\text{res}_{G'}^G$  or  $\text{inf}_{G'}^G$  with some extension of the  $G$ -set  $E$  (the  $G$ -group  $M$ ) is usually called the **restriction**, respectively **inflation**, as well.

**Remark 3.6.1** Note that **Non-abelian group cohomology** can easily be extended to the case where  $G$  is a **profinite group** and  $M$  is a **discrete**  $G$ -set (respectively  $G$ -group) on which  $G$  operates continuously. Indeed, set for  $i = 0, 1$

$$H^i(G, M) := \varinjlim_{G'} H^i(G/G', M^{G'}).$$

where the direct limit is taken over the inflation maps and  $G'$  runs through the normal open subgroups  $G'$  of  $G$  such that the quotient  $G/G'$  is finite.

### 3.7 Some geometric interpretations of Galois descent

Let  $E/F$  be a **finite Galois extension** of fields with Galois group  $G = \text{Gal}(E/F)$ .

The descent problem deals with the following question : When can a scheme  $X$  over  $E$  be descended to  $F$ , that is, is there a scheme  $Y$  over  $F$  such that  $X \simeq Y \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$ ? Grothendieck explored the analogy with the classical case, where a **topological space** or a **differentiable manifold** can be constructed by glueing together open subsets via transition functions which satisfy a compatibility condition on triple intersections. A "descent datum" is an analogue of this for schemes.

Throughout  $F$  is a field, and  $E/F$  is usually a **Galois field extension**. We may assume  $E/F$  to be finite.

**Definition 3.7.1** Let  $E$  be a field and  $F \subseteq E$  be a subfield such that  $E/F$  is a **finite Galois extension**. Let  $p_1 : X_1 \rightarrow \text{Spec}(E)$  and  $p_2 : X_2 \rightarrow \text{Spec}(F)$  be two  $E$ -schemes. Then, by a morphism from  $p_1$  to  $p_2$  that is twisted by  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(E/F)$  we will mean a morphism  $\phi : X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  of schemes such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \xrightarrow{\phi} & X_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(E) & \xrightarrow{\sigma^\#} & \text{Spec}(E) \end{array}$$

commutes. Here  $\sigma^\# : \text{Spec}(E) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(E)$  denotes the morphism of **affine schemes** induced by

$$\sigma^{-1} : E \rightarrow E.$$

The next theorem gives some equivalences of categories.

**Theorem 3.7.1** Let  $E/F$  be a **finite Galois extension** of fields and  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  be its Galois group. Then :



i) There are the following equivalences of categories

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \{ \text{F-vector spaces} \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E - \text{vector spaces with a} \\ G - \text{operation from the left where each} \\ \sigma \in G \text{ operates } \sigma - \text{linearly} \end{array} \right\} \\
 \{ \text{F-algebras} \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E - \text{algebras} \\ \text{with a } G\text{-operation from the left} \\ \text{where each } \sigma \in G \text{ operates } \sigma - \text{linearly} \end{array} \right\} \\
 \{ \text{central simple algebras over } F \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E - \text{algebras} \\ \text{with a } G\text{-operation from the left} \\ \text{where each } \sigma \in G \text{ operates } \sigma - \text{linearly} \end{array} \right\} \\
 \{ \text{commutative F-algebras} \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{commutative } E\text{-algebras} \\ \text{with a } G\text{-operation from the left} \\ \text{where each } \sigma \in G \text{ operates } \sigma - \text{linearly} \end{array} \right\} \\
 \{ \text{commutative F-algebras with unit} \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{commutative } E\text{-algebras with unit} \\ \text{with a } G\text{-operation from the left} \\ \text{where each } \sigma \in G \text{ operates } \sigma - \text{linearly} \end{array} \right\} \\
 A & \longmapsto A \otimes_F E
 \end{array}$$

ii) here is the following equivalence of categories,

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \{ \text{quasi-projective F-schemes} \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{quasi-projective } E\text{-schemes} \\ \text{with a } G\text{-operation from the left} \\ \text{by morphisms of F-schemes} \\ \text{where each } \sigma \in G \text{ operates} \\ \text{by a morphism twisted by } \sigma \end{array} \right\} \\
 X & \longmapsto X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)
 \end{array}$$

iii) Let  $X$  be a  $F$ -scheme and  $r$  be a natural number. Then there are the following equivalences of categories

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \{ \text{quasi-coherent sheaves on } X \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{quasi-coherent sheaves } \mathcal{M} \\ \text{on } X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \\ \text{together with a system } (i_\sigma)_{\sigma \in G} \\ \text{of isomorphisms } i_\sigma : x_\sigma^* \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M} \text{ satisfying} \\ i_\tau \circ x_\tau^*(i_\sigma) = i_{\sigma\tau} \\ \text{for every } \sigma, \tau \in G \end{array} \right\} \\
 \{ \text{locally free sheaves of rank } r \text{ on } X \} & \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{locally free sheaves of rank } r \text{ on } X \\ \text{on } X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \\ \text{together with a system } (i_\sigma)_{\sigma \in G} \\ \text{of isomorphisms } i_\sigma : x_\sigma^* \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M} \text{ satisfying} \\ i_\tau \circ x_\tau^*(i_\sigma) = i_{\sigma\tau} \\ \text{for every } \sigma, \tau \in G \end{array} \right\} \\
 \mathcal{F} & \longmapsto \mathcal{M} := \pi^* \mathcal{F}
 \end{array}$$

Here the morphisms in the categories are the obvious ones, i.e. those respecting all the extra structures  $\pi : X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \longrightarrow X$  is the canonical morphism and  $x_\sigma : X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \longrightarrow X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$  denotes the morphism that is induced by  $\sigma^\sharp : \text{Spec}(E) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(E)$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Theorem 2.2, p.7].

**Proposition 3.7.1** (*Galois descent-geometric version*) Let  $E/F$  be a *finite Galois extension* of fields and  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  its Galois group. Further, let  $Y$  be a *quasi-projective*  $E$ -scheme together with an operation of  $G$  from the left by twisted morphisms, i.e., such that the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\phi_\sigma} & Y \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(E) & \xrightarrow{\sigma^\sharp} & \text{Spec}(E) \end{array}$$

commute, where  $\sigma^\sharp : \text{Spec}(E) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(E)$ . Then there exists a *quasi-projective*  $E$ -scheme  $X$  such that there is an isomorphism of  $E$ -schemes

$$X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \xrightarrow{f} Y$$

where  $X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$  is equipped with the  $G$ -operation induced by the one on  $\text{Spec} L$  and  $f$  is compatible with the operation of  $G$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 2.5, p.9].

**Proposition 3.7.2** (*Galois descent for quasi-coherent sheaves*) Let  $E/F$  be a finite Galois extension of fields and  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  be its Galois group. Further, let  $X$  be a  $F$ -scheme,  $\pi : X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \rightarrow X$  the canonical morphism and  $x_\sigma : X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \rightarrow X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$  be the morphism induced by  $\sigma^\sharp : \text{Spec}(E) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(E)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a quasi-coherent sheaf over  $X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$  together with a system  $(\iota_\sigma)_{\sigma \in G}$  of isomorphism  $\iota_\sigma : x_\sigma^* \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  that are compatible in the sense that for each  $\sigma, \tau \in G$  there is the relation  $\iota_\tau \circ x_\tau^*(\iota_\sigma) = \iota_{\sigma\tau}$ .

Then there exists a *quasi-coherent* sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  over  $X$  such that there is an isomorphism

$$\pi^* \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{b} \mathcal{M}$$

under which the canonical isomorphism  $i_\sigma : x_\sigma^* \pi^* \mathcal{F} = (\pi x_\sigma)^* \mathcal{F} : \pi^* \mathcal{F} = \pi^* \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \pi^* \pi^* \mathcal{F}$  is identified with  $\iota_\sigma$  for each  $\sigma$ , i.e. the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_\sigma^* \pi^* \mathcal{F} & \xrightarrow{x_\sigma^*(b)} & x_\sigma^* \mathcal{M} \\ i_\sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \iota \\ \pi^* \mathcal{F} & \xrightarrow{b} & \mathcal{M} \end{array}$$

commute.

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 2.6, p.10].

**Remark 3.7.1** Note there is a *Galois descent-algebraic version*. We refer the reader to [14, Proposition 2.3, p.8].

The next proposition gives the import result of Galois descent for homomorphisms.

**Proposition 3.7.3** Let  $E/F$  be a finite Galois extension of fields and  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  be its Galois group. Then it is equivalent.

- 1) to give a homomorphism  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  of  $F$ -vector spaces (of algebras over  $F$ , of *central simple algebras* over  $F$ , of commutative  $F$ -algebras, of commutative  $F$ -algebras with unit,  $\dots$ ).

- 2) to give a homomorphism  $f_E : V \times_F E \longrightarrow V' \otimes_F E$  of  $E$ -vector spaces (of algebras over  $E$ , of central simple algebras over  $E$ , of commutative  $E$ -algebras, of commutative  $E$ -algebras with unit,  $\dots$ ) which is compatible with the  $G$ -operations, i.e., such that for each  $\sigma \in G$  the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \otimes_F E & \xrightarrow{f_E} & V' \otimes_F E \\ \sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma \\ V \otimes_F E & \xrightarrow{f_E} & V' \otimes_F E \end{array}$$

commutes.

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 2.7, p.11].

**Proposition 3.7.4** (*Galois descent for morphisms of schemes*) Let  $E/F$  be a finite Galois extension of fields and  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  be its Galois group. Then it is equivalent.

- i) to give a morphism of  $F$ -schemes  $\psi : X \longrightarrow X'$ .
- ii) to give a morphism of  $E$ -schemes  $\psi_E : X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \longrightarrow X' \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$  which is compatible with the  $G$ -operations, i.e., such that for each  $\sigma \in G$  the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) & \xrightarrow{\psi_E} & X' \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \\ \sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma \\ X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) & \xrightarrow{\psi_E} & X' \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \end{array}$$

commutes.

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 2.8, p.12].

**Remark 3.7.2** Note that there is a *Galois descent for morphisms of quasi-coherent sheaves*, we refer the reader to [14, Proposition 2.9, p.12].

We conclude this section, by giving the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.7.2** (*A. Grothendieck and J. Dieudonné*) Let  $E/F$  be a *finite field extension* and  $X$  be a  $F$ -scheme such that  $X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$  is

- i) *reduced*.
- ii) *irreducible*.
- iii) *compact*.
- iv) *locally of finite type*.
- v) *of finite type*.
- vi) *locally Noetherian*.
- vii) *Noetherian*.
- viii) *proper*.
- ix) *quasi-projective*.

x) *projective*.  
or

xi) *regular*.

Then  $X$  admits the same property.

**Proof.** See [14, Lemma 2.12, p.14].

### 3.8 Central simple algebras and non-abelian cohomology

In this section, we will give the relation between *Central simple algebras* and *non-abelian cohomology*.

**Lemma 3.8.1** (*Theorem of Skolem-Noether*) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unit. Then  $GL_n(R)$  operates on  $M_n(R)$  by conjugation,

$$(g, m) \mapsto gmg^{-1}.$$

If  $R = F$  is a field then this defines an isomorphism

$$PGL_n(F) := GL_n(F)/F^* \longrightarrow \text{Aut}_F(M_n(F)).$$

**Proof.** See [14, Lemma 3.4, p.34].

**Definition 3.8.1** Let  $n$  be a natural number.

- i) If  $F$  is a field then we will denote by  $Az_n^F$  the set of all isomorphy classes of *central simple algebras*  $A$  of dimension  $n^2$  over  $F$ .
- ii) Let  $E/F$  be a field extension. Then  $Az_n^{E/F}$  will denote the set of all isomorphy classes of central simple algebras  $A$  which are of dimension  $n^2$  over  $F$  and split over  $E$ . Obviously,  $Az_n^F := \bigcup_{E/F} Az_n^{E/F}$ .

**Theorem 3.8.1** Let  $E/F$  be a *finite Galois* extension of fields,  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  its Galois group and  $n$  be a natural number. Then there is a natural bijection of pointed sets.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a = a_n^{E/F} : & Az_n^{E/F} & \longrightarrow H^1(G, PGL_n(E)) \\ & A & \longmapsto a_A \end{array}$$

**Proof.** See [14, Theorem 3.6, p.20].

**Proposition 3.8.1** Let  $E/F$  be a *finite Galois* extension of fields and  $n$  be a natural number

- 1) Let  $K$  be a field extension of  $E$  such that  $K/F$  is Galois again. Then the following diagram of morphisms of pointed sets commutes,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Az_n^{E/F} & \xrightarrow{a_n^{E/F}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E/F), PGL_n(E)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{inf}_{\text{Gal}(E/F)}^{\text{Gal}(K/F)} \\ Az_n^{K/F} & \xrightarrow{a_n^{K/F}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(K/F), PGL_n(K)) \end{array}$$

2) Let  $K$  be an intermediate field of the extension  $E/F$ . Then the following diagram of morphisms of pointed sets commutes,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Az_n^{E/F} & \xrightarrow{a_n^{E/F}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E/F), \text{PGL}_n(E)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{inf}_{\text{Gal}(E/F)}^{\text{Gal}(E/K)} \\ Az_n^{E/K} & \xrightarrow{a_n^{E/K}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E/K), \text{PGL}_n(E)) \end{array}$$

**Proof.** See [14, Lemma 3.7, p.21].

**Corollary 3.8.1** Let  $F$  be a field and  $n$  be a natural number. Then there is a unique natural bijection

$$a = a_n^F : Az_n^F \longrightarrow H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_n(F^{\text{sep}})).$$

such that  $a_{n|Az_n^{E/F}}^F = a_n^{E/F}$

**Proposition 3.8.2** Let  $F$  be a field and  $m$  and  $n$  be natural numbers. Then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Az_n^F & \xrightarrow{a_n^F} & H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_n(F^{\text{sep}})) \\ A \mapsto M_m(A) \downarrow & & \downarrow (i_{nm}^n)_* \\ Az_{nm}^F & \xrightarrow{a_{nm}^F} & H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_{nm}(F^{\text{sep}})) \end{array}$$

commutes where  $(i_{nm}^n)_*$  is the map induced by the block-diagonal embedding

$$\begin{array}{ccc} i_{nm}^n : \text{PGL}_n(F^{\text{sep}}) & \longrightarrow & \text{PGL}_{nm}(F^{\text{sep}}) \\ \bar{E} & \longmapsto & \begin{pmatrix} E & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & E & \cdots & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & E \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 3.9, p.22].

**Remark 3.8.1** The proposition above shows

$$\text{Br}(F) \simeq \varinjlim_n H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_n(F^{\text{sep}})).$$

### 3.9 Severi-Brauer varieties

In the final section of this chapter, we arrive at the objects we are most interested in studying; *Severi-Brauer varieties*. We focus here especially in the relation between these *varieties* and *central simple algebras*.

**Definition 3.9.1** Let  $F$  be a field. A scheme  $X$  over  $F$  is called a *Brauer-Severi variety* if there exists a finite, separable field extension  $E/F$  such that  $X_E$  is isomorphic to a projective space  $\mathbb{P}_E^n$ . A field extension  $E$  of  $F$  admitting the property that  $X \times_F E \simeq \mathbb{P}_E^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is said to be a *splitting field* for  $X$ . In this case one says  $X$  splits over  $E$ .

**Notation.**  $X_E := X \times_F E := X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E)$ .

**Remark 3.9.1** *Severi-Brauer varieties are twisted forms of projective space.*

We now come to the fundamental result about *Severi-Brauer varieties*.

**Proposition 3.9.1** *Let  $X$  be a Brauer-Severi variety over a field  $F$ . Then*

- 1)  $X$  is a variety, i.e. a *reduced* and *irreducible* scheme.
- 2)  $X$  is *projective* and *regular*.
- 3)  $X$  is *geometrically integral*.
- 4) One has  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = F$ .
- 5)  $F$  is *algebraically closed* in the function field  $F(X)$ .

**Remark 3.9.2** For 3) Recall that for  $X$  be a scheme over the field  $F$ . We say  $X$  is *geometrically integral* over  $F$  if the scheme  $X_E$  is integral for every field extension  $E$  of  $F$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 4.2, p.23].

**Theorem 3.9.1 (Châtelet)** *Let  $X$  be a Severi-Brauer variety of dimension  $n - 1$  over the field  $F$ . The following are equivalent :*

- i)  $X$  is isomorphic to projective space  $\mathbb{P}_F^{n-1}$  over  $F$ .
- ii)  $X$  is *birationally isomorphic* to projective space  $\mathbb{P}_F^{n-1}$  over  $F$ .
- iii)  $X$  has a  *$F$ -rational* point.
- iv)  $X$  contains a *twisted-linear* subvariety<sup>11</sup>  $Y$  of codimension 1.

**Proof.** See [10, Theorem 5.1.3, p.115].

Passing to the next paragraph, we will give the relation between *Severi-Brauer varieties* and *non-abelian  $H^1$* .

### *Severi-Brauer varieties and non-abelian $H^1$*

**Proposition 3.9.2** *Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unit.*

- 1) Then  $GL_n(R)$  operates on  $\mathbb{P}_R^{n-1}$  by morphisms of  $R$ -schemes as follows :  $A \in GL_n(R)$  gives rise to the morphism given by the graded automorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : R[T_0, \dots, T_{n-1}] &\longrightarrow R[T_0, \dots, T_{n-1}] \\ f(T_0, \dots, T_{n-1}) &\longmapsto f((T_0, \dots, T_{n-1}) \cdot A^t) \end{aligned}$$

of the coordinate ring.

- 2) If  $R = E$  is a field then this induces an isomorphism

$$\text{PGL}_n(E) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \text{Aut}_{E\text{-schemes}}(\mathbb{P}_E^{n-1})$$

<sup>11</sup> We say that a closed subvariety  $Y \rightarrow X$  defined over  $F$  is a *twisted-linear* subvariety of  $X$  if  $Y$  is a *Severi-Brauer* variety and moreover over  $\bar{F}$  the inclusion  $Y_{\bar{F}} \subseteq X_{\bar{F}}$  becomes isomorphic to the inclusion of a linear subvariety  $\mathbb{P}_{\bar{F}}^{n-1}$ .



**Proof.** See [14, Lemma 4.3, p.24].

**Definition 3.9.2** Let  $m$  be natural number.

- i) If  $F$  is a field then we will denote by  $BS_m^F$  the set of all isomorphy classes of Brauer-Severi varieties  $X$  of dimension  $m$  over  $F$ .
- ii) Let  $E/F$  be a field extension. Then  $BS_m^{E/F}$  will denote the set of all isomorphy classes of **Severi-Brauer** varieties  $X$  over  $F$  which are of dimension  $m$  and split over  $E$ . Obviously,  $BS_m^F := \bigcup_{E/F} BS_m^{E/F}$ .

**Theorem 3.9.2** Let  $E/F$  be a **finite Galois** extension,  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  its Galois group and  $m$  be a natural number. Then there exists a natural bijection of pointed sets

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \beta = \beta_{m-1}^{E/F} : BS_{m-1}^{E/F} & \longrightarrow & H^1(G, \text{PGL}_m(E)) \\ X & \longmapsto & \beta_X \end{array}$$

**Proof.** See [14, Theorem 4.5, p.25].

**Lemma 3.9.1** Let  $E/F$  be a **finite Galois** extension of fields and  $m$  be a natural number.

- i) Let  $E'$  be a field extension of  $E$  such that  $E'/F$  is Galois again. Then the following diagram of morphisms of pointed sets commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BS_{m-1}^{E/F} & \xrightarrow{\beta_{m-1}^{E/F}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E/F), \text{PGL}_m(E)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{inf}_{\text{Gal}(E/F)}^{\text{Gal}(E'/F)} \\ BS_{m-1}^{E'/F} & \xrightarrow{\beta_{m-1}^{E'/F}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E'/F), \text{PGL}_m(E')) \end{array}$$

- ii) Let  $K$  be an intermediate field of the extension  $E/F$ . Then the following diagram of morphisms of pointed sets commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BS_{m-1}^{E/F} & \xrightarrow{\beta_{m-1}^{E/F}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E/F), \text{PGL}_m(E)) \\ \downarrow \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(K) & & \downarrow \text{inf}_{\text{Gal}(E/F)}^{\text{Gal}(E'/F)} \\ BS_{m-1}^{E/K} & \xrightarrow{\beta_{m-1}^{E/K}} & H^1(\text{Gal}(E/K), \text{PGL}_m(E)) \end{array}$$

**Proof.** See [14, Lemma 4.6, p.26].

**Corollary 3.9.1** Let  $F$  be a field and  $m$  be a natural number. Then there is a natural bijection

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \beta = \beta_{m-1}^{E/F} : BS_{m-1}^{E/F} & \longrightarrow & H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_m(F^{\text{sep}})) \\ X & \longmapsto & \beta_X \end{array}$$

**Proposition 3.9.3** Let  $m$  be a natural number. If  $X$  is a **Severi-Brauer** variety of dimension  $m$  over a field  $F$  and  $X(F) \neq \emptyset$  then, necessarily,  $X \simeq \mathbb{P}_F^m$ .

**Proof.** See [25, Exercises 1 (Châtelet), p. 168].

**Proposition 3.9.4** Let  $E/F$  be a *finite Galois* extension of fields,  $G := \text{Gal}(E/F)$  its Galois group and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $H^1(G, \text{GL}_m(E)) = 0$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Lemma 4.10, p.27].

**Definition 3.9.3** Let  $F$  be a field,  $m$  a natural number and  $X$  be a *Brauer-Severi* variety of dimension  $m$ . Then a *linear subspace* of  $X$  is a *closed subvariety*  $Y \subseteq X$  such that  $Y \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(F^{\text{sep}}) \subseteq X \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(F^{\text{sep}}) \simeq \mathbb{P}_{F^{\text{sep}}}^m$  is a linear subspace of the projective space. This property is independent of the isomorphism chosen.

**Theorem 3.9.3** (F. Châtelet, M. Artin) Let  $F$  be a field,  $m$  and  $d$  be natural numbers,  $X$  be a *Severi-Brauer* variety of dimension  $m$  and  $Y$  a linear subspace of dimension  $d$ . Then the natural boundary maps send the cohomology classes  $\beta_m^F(X) \in H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_{m+1}(F^{\text{sep}}))$  and  $\beta_d^F(Y) \in H^1(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), \text{PGL}_{d+1}(F^{\text{sep}}))$  to one the same class in the cohomological Brauer group  $H^2(\text{Gal}(F^{\text{sep}}/F), (F^{\text{sep}})^*)$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 4.13, p.28].

The next paragraph gives the connection between *Central simple algebras* and *Severi-Brauer varieties*.

## Central simple algebras and Severi-Brauer varieties

**Theorem 3.9.4** Let  $A$  a *central simple* algebra over  $F$  of dimension  $n^2$

- i) Then there exists a *Severi-Brauer* variety  $X_A$  of dimension  $n - 1$  over  $F$  satisfying
  - (+) If  $E/F$  is a *finite Galois* extension being a splitting field for  $A$  then is a splitting field for  $X_A$ , too, and there is one and the same cohomology class

$$a_A = \beta_{X_A} \in H^1(\text{Gal}(E/F), \text{PGL}_n(E)).$$

associated with  $A$  and  $X_A$ .

- (+) determines  $X_A$  uniquely up to isomorphism of  $F$ -schemes.

- ii) The assignment  $A \longrightarrow X_A$  admits the following properties.

- a) It is compatible with extensions  $E/F$  of the base field, i.e

$$X_{A \otimes_F E} \simeq X_A \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E).$$

- b)  $E/F$  is a splitting field for  $A$  if and only if  $E/F$  is a splitting field for  $X_A$ .

**Proposition 3.9.5** 1) Let  $F$  be a field and  $n$  a natural number. Then  $X$  induces a bijection

$$X_n^F : \text{Az}_n^F \longrightarrow \text{BS}_{n-1}^F$$

- 2) Let  $E/F$  be a field extension. Then  $X$  induces a bijection

$$X_n^{E/F} : \text{Az}_n^{E/F} \longrightarrow \text{BS}_{n-1}^{E/F}$$

3) These mappings are compatible with extensions of the base field, i.e., the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Az_n^F & \xrightarrow{X_n^F} & BS_{n-1}^F \\
 \downarrow \otimes_F E & & \downarrow \times_{\text{Spec}(F)} \text{Spec}(E) \\
 Az_n^E & \xrightarrow{X_n^E} & BS_{n-1}^E
 \end{array}$$

commutes for every field extension  $E/F$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Corollary 5.3, p.30].

**Proposition 3.9.6** Let  $F$  be a field,  $n$  be a natural number and  $A$  a central simple algebra of dimension  $n^2$  over  $F$ . Then there is an isomorphism

$$x_A : \text{Aut}_F(A) \longrightarrow \text{Aut}_{F\text{-schemes}}(X_A).$$

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 5.5, p.30].

**Theorem 3.9.5** Let  $F$  be a field,  $n$  and  $d$  be natural numbers, and  $A$  be a **central simple algebra** of dimension  $n^2$  over  $F$ . Then the **Severi-Brauer** variety  $X_A$  associated with  $A$  admits a linear subspace of dimension  $d$  if and only if  $d \leq n - 1$  and  $d \equiv -1[\text{ind}(A)]$ .

**Proof.** See [14, Proposition 5.6, p.31].

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