

Localization, prime ideals, maximal ideals, Zariski topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

$R$ : a commutative ring.

Def: 1) A prime ideal of  $R$  is an ideal  $P \subsetneq R$  such that  $R/P$  is an integral domain.

2) A maximal ideal of  $R$  is an ideal  $M \subsetneq R$  such that  $R/M$  is a field.

Rmk maximal ideals (equiv: The only ideals  $I$  in  $R$  are prime ideals)  $\Leftrightarrow M \subseteq I \subseteq R$  are  $M$  and  $R$

Recall: (1) Every comm. ring has at least one  $\mathcal{J}$  max ideal. (Exer. Prove this statement using Zorn's lemma)

$\Leftrightarrow \forall$  ideal  $I \subsetneq R$   
 $\exists$  a maximal ideal  $M$  of  $R$  which contains  $I$

Cor: Existence of prime ideals in any given commutative ring.

Suppose  $S$  is a multiplicative subset  $S \subset R \setminus \{0\}$

Let  $h: R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  be the natural ring homomorphism.

Lemma: There exists a natural bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{prime ideals of } R \\ \text{which do not meet } S \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad \zeta \quad} \\ \xleftarrow{\quad \zeta^{-1} \quad} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{prime ideals} \\ \text{of } S^{-1}R \end{array} \right\}$$



In particular,  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$  is a commutative local ring  
def<sup>n</sup>: A commutative ring  $R$  is local  
 if  $R$  has exactly one maximal ideal.

Lemma: Let  $R$  be a commutative ring.  
 Let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ .

Then  $\underbrace{(R \setminus P)^{-1} R}_{\substack{!! \\ R_P}}$  is a local ring,  
 with  $P \cdot R_P$  as the  
 unique maximal ideal of  $R_P$ .

(Exer.)

Def: Let  $R$  be a commutative ring.

1) Let  $\text{Spec}(R) := \{P : \text{prime ideals of } R\}$   
 (spectrum of  $R$ )

2) Define the Zariski topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ ,  
 $\uparrow$   
 Oscar Zariski.

as follows:

(a) A subset  $T$  of  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is closed iff  
 $\exists$  an ideal  $I \subseteq R$  s.t.

$$T = \{P \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid P \supseteq I\}$$

(exer show this defines a topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ )

(b) Subsets of the form  

$$h_f^{-1}(\text{Spec}((S^{\mathbb{N}})^{-1}R)) = U_f = \{P \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid P \not\ni f\}$$

where  $f \in R$ ,  $f$  not nilpotent

$$S^{\mathbb{N}} = \{f^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

$$h_f: R \longrightarrow \underbrace{(S^{\mathbb{N}})^{-1}R}_{R_f}$$

forms a basis of open neighborhoods  
of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

(Exer.)

Idea / Phenomenon: There is a sheaf <sup>of commutative rings</sup> on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ ,  
called the structural sheaf on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

often denoted by  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}$ , characterized  
by the property that

$$\Gamma(\underbrace{\text{Spec}(R_f)}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{an open subset} \\ \text{of } \text{Spec}(R)}}, \underbrace{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{a sheaf on } \text{Spec}(R)}}) = R_f$$

non-nilp  
 $\forall f \in R$

In particular,

$$\Gamma(\text{Spec}(R), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}) = R$$

2) Every  $R$  module  $M$  defines a sheaf  $\tilde{M}$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}$ -modules on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , characterized by

$$\Gamma(\text{Spec}(R_f), \tilde{M}) = M_f := (f^N)^{-1}M$$

$\forall \substack{f \in R \\ f \neq 0}$

Example:  $R = \mathbb{C}[x, y]$

$\text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[x, y])$

(Hilbert Nullstellensatz:)

$$\text{Max}(R) = \mathbb{C}^2$$

" maximal ideals of  $R$        $\downarrow$   $(z, w)$

$$\mathfrak{m}_{(z, w)} := \left\{ f(x, y) \in \mathbb{C}[x, y] \mid f(z, w) = 0 \right\}$$

Fact: There are 3 kinds of prime ideals in  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ .

$$(0), \quad \mathfrak{m}_{(z, w)} = (x-z)\mathbb{C}[x, y] + (y-w)\mathbb{C}[x, y]$$

the generic pt.  $\rightarrow$

$(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^2$   
maximal ideals of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$

$f(x, y) \in \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ , where  $f(x, y)$  is an irreducible elt. of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ .

The Zariski topology on  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[x, y])$  has many open subsets:

$$U_f := \{P \in \text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[x,y]) \mid P \not\ni f\} \quad f \in R$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[x,y]) \setminus U_f &= \{P \in \text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[x,y]) \mid P \ni f\} \\ &\stackrel{\text{can. bij}}{\cong} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[x,y]/f \cdot \mathbb{C}[x,y]) \\ &\cong V(f \in \mathbb{C}[x,y]) \end{aligned}$$

Given  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x,y] \setminus 0 \rightsquigarrow \left\{ (a,b) \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid f(a,b) = 0 \right\} \stackrel{V_f^{(0)}}{\cong}$   
 $\cong V(f)$  // the affine algebraic curve on  $\mathbb{C}^2$   
 $=$  the zero locus of  $f(x,y)$

$$V(f) := V_f^{(0)} \cup \left\{ g \in \mathbb{C}[x,y] \mid g \text{ is an irreducible factor of } f \right\}$$

$$f = a \cdot g_1^{e_1} \cdots g_r^{e_r} \quad g_i \text{ irred}$$

$$= V_f^{(0)} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{generic pts } \mathbb{C}^x \\ \text{of irred. components of the zero locus of } f \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(U_f, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec}(R)}) &= \text{rational functions which are regular (i.e. no poles) on } U_f \\ &= \mathbb{C}[x,y] \left[ \frac{1}{f} \right] = (f^n)^{-1} \mathbb{C}[x,y]. \end{aligned}$$