

$I$  ideal  $\xrightarrow{Z} Z(I)$  variety  $\xrightarrow{I} \mathcal{L}(Z(I))$

how does this relate to  $I$ ?

Ex:  $R = k[x]$ ,  $I_n = (x^n)$   $n \geq 1$

$Z(I_n) = \{0\}$  for all  $n$

What do all these different ideals have in common?

Remark  $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ ,  $\underline{a} \in A^d$

$f(\underline{a}) \neq 0 \iff f(\underline{a})$  invertible

$\iff b f(\underline{a}) - 1 = 0$  for some  $b$

$\implies y f(\underline{a}) - 1 = 0$  has a solution

$\exists$ :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_1 = 0 \\ \vdots \\ f_m = 0 \end{array} \right.$  and  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g_1 \neq 0 \\ \vdots \\ g_n \neq 0 \end{array} \right.$  has a solution

$\iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_1 = 0 \\ \vdots \\ f_m = 0 \end{array} \right.$  and  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} y g_1^{-1} = 0 \\ \vdots \\ y g_n^{-1} = 0 \end{array} \right.$  has a solution

$\implies \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_1 = 0 \\ \vdots \\ f_m = 0 \\ y g_1^{-1} g_n^{-1} = 0 \end{array} \right.$  has a solution

thm (Strong Nullstellensatz)  $k = \bar{k}$   
 $R = k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$

$$f \in \mathcal{I}(Z(\mathcal{I})) \iff f^n \in \mathcal{I} \text{ for some } n$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} (\Leftarrow) \quad f^n \in \mathcal{I} &\Rightarrow f^n(a) = 0 && \text{for all } a \in Z(\mathcal{I}) \\ &\Downarrow k \text{ field} \\ &f(a) = 0 && \text{for all } a \in Z(\mathcal{I}) \\ &\Downarrow \\ &f \in \mathcal{I}(Z(\mathcal{I})) \end{aligned}$$

$$(\Rightarrow) \quad f \in \mathcal{I}(Z(\mathcal{I}))$$

so  $\text{polynomials in } \mathcal{I} = 0 \implies f = 0$

thus  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{polynomials in } \mathcal{I} = 0 \\ f \neq 0 \end{array} \right\}$  has no solutions

$$\Rightarrow Z(\mathcal{I} + (yf - 1)) = \emptyset \text{ in } R[y]$$

weak  
 $\implies$   
Nullstellensatz

$$\mathcal{I} + (yf - 1) = R[y]$$

$$\iff 1 \in \mathcal{I} + (yf - 1)$$

$$\text{If } I = (g_1, \dots, g_m),$$

$$1 = x_0 \cdot (1 - yf) + x_1 g_1 + \dots + x_m g_m$$

$$\downarrow y \mapsto \frac{1}{f} \quad \text{in } \text{frac}(R[y])$$

$$1 = x_1(\underline{x}, \frac{1}{f}) \cdot g_1(x) + \dots + x_m(\underline{x}, \frac{1}{f}) g_m(x)$$

take the largest negative power of  $f$  appearing  $\Rightarrow$  clear denominator

$$f^n = s_1 g_1 + \dots + s_m g_m$$

$\uparrow$   
only on  $\underline{x}$

$\searrow$  equation in  $R$

$$\Rightarrow f^m \in I$$

Definition the radical of an ideal  $I$  is

$$\sqrt{I} = \{ f \in R : f^n \in I \text{ for some } n \}$$

$I$  is a radical ideal if  $I = \sqrt{I}$

Ex: the radical of an ideal is an ideal

Example prime ideals are radical

$$f^n \in \mathcal{P} \Rightarrow f \in \mathcal{P} \text{ or } f^{n-1} \in \mathcal{P} \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow f \in \mathcal{P}$$

$R$  is reduced if  $\sqrt{(0)} = (0)$

$\Leftrightarrow R$  has no nilpotent elements ( $f^n = 0, f \neq 0$ )

Exercise  $R/I$  reduced  $\Leftrightarrow I = \sqrt{I}$

Strong Nullstellensatz says:

$$f \in I(Z(I)) \Leftrightarrow f \in \sqrt{I}$$

so  $I(Z(\mathcal{I})) = \sqrt{\mathcal{I}}$

and

$$Z(I) = Z(\mathcal{I}) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{I} = \sqrt{\mathcal{I}}$$

$X$  variety in  $A_k^d$  the coordinate ring of  $X$  is

$$k[X] := \frac{k[x_1, \dots, x_d]}{I(X)}$$

the algebraic properties of  $k[X]$  translate into geometric properties of  $X$ .

We can interpret  $k[X]$  as the ring of polynomial functions on  $X$

Note Every reduced finitely generated  $k$ -algebra is the coordinate ring of some variety

Remark In general  $I \cap \bar{\sigma} \neq I\bar{\sigma}$ , but  $\sqrt{I \cap \bar{\sigma}} = \sqrt{I\bar{\sigma}}$

since  $Z(I \cap \bar{\sigma}) = Z(I\bar{\sigma})$

Remark Even if  $k \neq \bar{k}$ ,  $Z_k(\bar{\sigma}) = Z_k(\sqrt{\bar{\sigma}})$

$\sigma \subseteq \bar{\sigma} \Rightarrow Z_k(\sqrt{\bar{\sigma}}) \subseteq Z_k(\bar{\sigma})$

If  $a \in Z_k(\bar{\sigma})$  and  $f \in \sqrt{\bar{\sigma}}$ ,  $f^n \in \bar{\sigma}$  for some  $n$ , so

$f^n(a) = 0 \Rightarrow f(a) = 0$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $k \text{ field}$

$\therefore a \in Z_k(\bar{\sigma})$

What fails then?  $I(Z(\bar{\sigma}))$  is not necessarily  $\sqrt{\bar{\sigma}}$

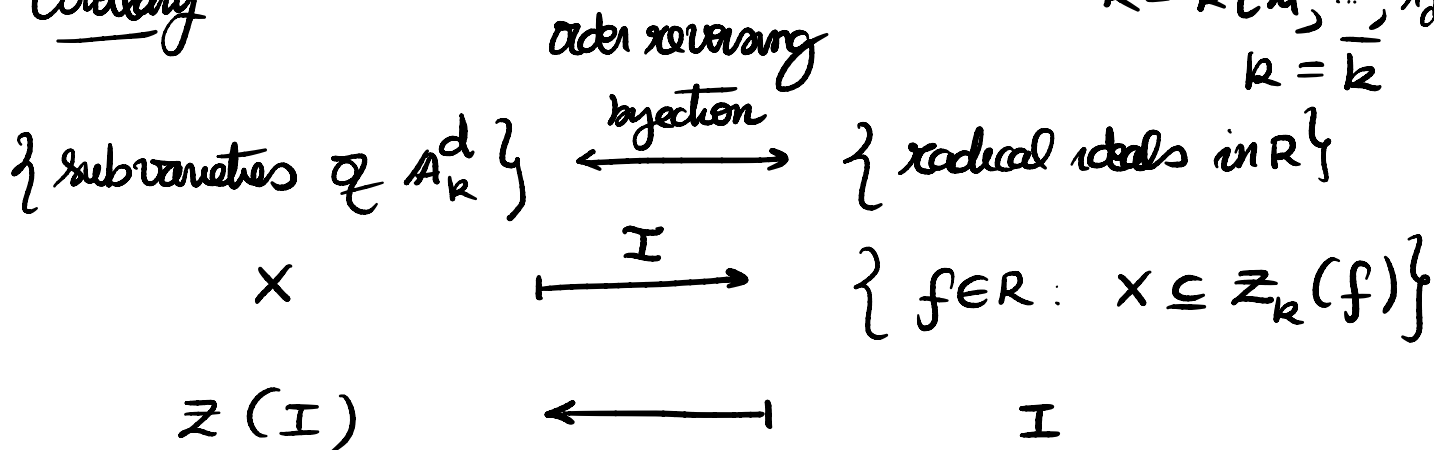
eg,  $Z_{\mathbb{R}}(x^2+1) = \emptyset$

$\Downarrow$   
 $I(Z_{\mathbb{R}}(x^2+1)) = I(\emptyset) = \mathbb{R}[x] \neq \sqrt{(x^2+1)} = (x^2+1)$

What failed here was the Weak Nullstellensatz!

Corollary

$R = k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$   
 $k = \bar{k}$



Proof  $I(Z(\bar{\sigma})) = \sqrt{\bar{\sigma}}$  for any  $\bar{\sigma}$

$$I \text{ radical} \Rightarrow I(Z(I)) = \sqrt{I} = I$$

Given a variety  $X$ ,  $X = Z(\bar{\sigma})$  wlog  $\bar{\sigma} = \sqrt{\bar{\sigma}}$

$$\Rightarrow Z(I(X)) = Z(I(Z(\bar{\sigma}))) = Z(\bar{\sigma}) = X$$

Lemma  $X \subseteq \mathbb{A}_k^d$  reducible  $\Leftrightarrow I(X)$  prime

Proof ( $\Leftarrow$ )  $X = V_1 \cup V_2$ ,  $V_1, V_2 \subsetneq X$  varieties

so  $I(X) \subsetneq I(V_1), I(V_2)$ , and  $I(X) = I(V_1) \cap I(V_2)$

so  $\exists f \in I(V_1), f \notin I(V_2)$      $g \in I(V_2), g \notin I(V_1)$

$$fg \in I(V_1) \cap I(V_2) \Rightarrow fg \in I(X)$$

but  $fg \notin I(X)$ , so  $I(X)$  is not prime.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $I(X)$  is not prime, let  $f, g \notin I(X), fg \in I(X)$ .

$$X \subseteq Z(fg) = Z(f) \cup Z(g)$$

$$\Rightarrow X = (Z(f) \cap X) \cup (Z(g) \cap X)$$

$$= \underbrace{Z(I(X) + (f))}_{V_f} \cup \underbrace{Z(I(X) + (g))}_{V_g}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f \notin \underbrace{I(X)}_{\text{radical}} \Rightarrow V_f \subsetneq X \\ g \notin I(X) \Rightarrow V_g \subsetneq X \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow X \text{ is reducible}$$

Any variety  $X$  can be decomposed into a finite union

$$X = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_n$$

where  $V_i \subsetneq X$  are all irreducible

We can find this decomposition algebraically:

Def A prime  $\mathcal{P}$  is a **minimal prime** of  $I$  if

$$I \subseteq Q \subseteq \mathcal{P} \Rightarrow Q = \mathcal{P}$$

or prime

$$\text{Min}(I) = \{ \mathcal{P} \text{ minimal prime of } I \}$$

Will show:  $\sqrt{I} = \bigcap_{\substack{\mathcal{P} \supseteq I \\ \mathcal{P} \text{ prime}}} \mathcal{P} = \bigcap_{\mathcal{P} \in \text{Min}(I)} \mathcal{P}$

Will show  $\mathcal{R}$  Noetherian  $\Rightarrow |\text{Min}(I)| < \infty$

so:  $X$  variety

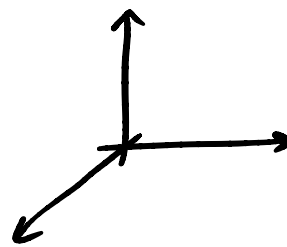
$$\Rightarrow I(X) = \mathcal{P}_1 \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{P}_k \quad \mathcal{P}_i \text{ prime}$$

$$\Rightarrow X = Z(\mathcal{P}_1) \cup \dots \cup Z(\mathcal{P}_k)$$

is a decomposition into irreducible varieties

Ex  $k[x, y, z]$

$$I = (xy, xz, yz) \longleftrightarrow$$



||

$$I = (x, y) \cap (y, z) \cap (x, z) \longleftrightarrow$$



Dictionary      Algebra       $\longleftrightarrow$       Geometry

radical ideals

varieties

prime ideals

irreducible varieties

maximal ideals

points

(0)

$A^d$

$k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$

$\emptyset$

larger ideals

smaller varieties

smaller ideals

larger varieties