

# A GLOSSARY OF ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY

JIEWEI XIONG

## CONTENTS

1.	Algebra	1
2.	Geometry	1

### 1. ALGEBRA

**Definition 1.1** (Properties of a ring). Let  $A$  be a ring.

- (1)  $A$  is *reduced* if for each  $a \in A$ , we have  $a^2 = 0 \implies a = 0$  (that is,  $A$  has no nonzero nilpotent elements).
- (2)  $A$  is *normal* if the localisation  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  at each prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $R$  is a normal (integrally closed) domain, that is,

$$R_{\mathfrak{p}} = \{s \in \text{Frac}(R_{\mathfrak{p}}) : \exists \text{ monic } g \in R_{\mathfrak{p}}[x] : g(s) = 0\}.$$

- (3) In the case that  $A$  is noetherian, we say  $A$  is *regular* if each  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is regular, that is, the Krull dimension of  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  equals the minimal number of generators of its maximal ideal.

**Definition 1.2** (Properties of a ring map). Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a ring map.

- (1)  $f$  is *flat* if the functor  $- \otimes_A B : \text{Mod}_A \rightarrow \text{Mod}_A$  is exact, that is,  $B_1 \rightarrow B_2 \rightarrow B_3$  is exact implies  $B_1 \otimes_A B \rightarrow B_2 \otimes_A B \rightarrow B_3 \otimes_A B$  is exact for  $A$ -modules  $B_1, B_2, B_3$ .
- (2)  $f$  is *faithfully flat* if moreover the converse implication holds.
- (3)  $f$  is *integral* if for each  $b \in B$ , there is a monic  $g \in A[x]$  such that  $\bar{g}(b) = 0$  (there is a slight abuse of notation: the last  $g$  denotes the image of the first  $g$  in  $B[x]$ ).
- (4)  $f$  is *finite* if  $B$  is a finitely generated  $A$  module, that is, there a surjective  $A^{\oplus n} \rightarrow B$  for some  $n$ . Every finite ring map is integral.
- (5) In the case that  $A$  and  $B$  are local with maximal ideals  $\mathfrak{m}_A, \mathfrak{m}_B$ , we say  $f$  is a *local ring map* if  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{m}_B) = \mathfrak{m}_A$ .

**Definition 1.3.** A local ring map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  with maximal ideals  $\mathfrak{m}_A, \mathfrak{m}_B$  is *unramified* if  $f(\mathfrak{m}_A)B = \mathfrak{m}_B$ , and  $B/\mathfrak{m}_B$  is a finite separable extension of  $A/\mathfrak{m}_A$ .

### 2. GEOMETRY

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a ringed space.  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a *locally ringed space* if each stalk  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is a local ring. In this case we denote the (unique) maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  by  $\mathfrak{m}_x$ , and the residue field by  $\kappa(x)$ .

A *morphism of locally ringed spaces*  $(\pi, f) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  is a pair where  $\pi : X \rightarrow Y$  is a continuous map of topological spaces and  $f : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow \pi_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is a natural transformation of functors, such that the induced map  $f_x : \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  of stalks is a local ring map.

**Definition 2.2.** A *scheme* is a ringed space locally isomorphic to affine  $(\text{Spec } A, \mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } A})$ . They are locally ringed spaces. A *morphism of schemes* is a morphism of them as locally ringed spaces.

An  $S$ -scheme refers to a scheme  $X$  with a fixed morphism  $X \rightarrow S$ , and for a ring  $A$ , an  $A$ -scheme is a  $\text{Spec } A$ -scheme.

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of schemes. The *diagonal morphism* of  $f$  is the unique morphism  $\delta_{X/Y} : X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  such that  $\text{pr}_1 \circ \delta_{X/Y} = \text{pr}_2 \circ \delta_{X/Y} = \text{id}_X$ .

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a scheme and  $U \subset X$  an open subset. Then  $(U, \mathcal{O}_{X|U})$  is a scheme, and we say  $U$  is *affine open* in  $X$  if this  $(U, \mathcal{O}_{X|U})$  is affine.

**Definition 2.5** (Properties of a scheme). Let  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  be a scheme, which by abuse of notation is often shortened to  $X$ .

- (1) In the case that  $X$  is a scheme over a field  $k$ , we say  $X$  is *geometrically*  $\bullet$  if  $X_{k'}$  is  $\bullet$  for each field extension  $k' \supset k$ , where  $\bullet$  can be any of the defined properties below.
- (2)  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is *irreducible* (resp. *quasicompact*, resp. *connected*) if  $X$  is irreducible (resp. quasicompact, resp. connected).
- (3)  $X$  is *integral* if  $X \neq \emptyset$  and for each affine open  $\emptyset \neq \text{Spec } R \subset X$ , we have  $R$  is an integral domain.
- (4)  $X$  is *reduced* if each  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is reduced, or equivalently  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  for each affine open  $U$  is reduced.  
 $X$  is integral if and only if  $X$  is reduced and irreducible.
- (5)  $X$  is *normal* if each  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is a normal domain, or equivalently  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$  for each affine open  $U$  is a normal ring.
- (6)  $X$  is *locally noetherian* if for each  $x \in X$ , there is an affine open  $\text{Spec } R \ni x$  such that  $R$  is noetherian.
- (7)  $X$  is *noetherian* if  $X$  is locally noetherian and quasicompact.
- (8)  $X$  is *regular* or *nonsingular* if  $X$  is locally noetherian and each  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is regular.

**Definition 2.6** (Properties of a morphism of schemes). Let  $(\pi, f) : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  be a morphism of schemes. By abuse of notation,  $(\pi, f)$  is often shortened to  $f$ .

- (1) If the  $f$  is fixed or canonical, we say  $X$  is  $\bullet$  over  $Y$  where  $\bullet$  can be any of the defined adjectives below. Moreover, if  $Y = \text{Spec } A$  is affine and this base is fixed, we simply say  $X$  is  $\bullet$ .  
 $f$  is *universally*  $\bullet$  if for any morphism  $S \rightarrow Y$ , the base change  $f' : X \times_Y S \rightarrow S$  is  $\bullet$ , where  $\bullet$  can be any of the defined properties below.
- (2)  $(\pi, f)$  is a *closed immersion* if  $\pi$  is a homeomorphism of  $X$  with a closed subset of  $Y$ , and  $f$  is surjective. In this case we say  $X$  is a closed subscheme of  $Y$ .
- (3)  $(\pi, f)$  is an *open immersion* if  $\pi$  is a homeomorphism of  $X$  with an open subset of  $Y$ , and  $f$  is an isomorphism. In this case we say  $X$  is an open subscheme of  $Y$ .
- (4)  $f$  is an *immersion* if it can be factored as  $j \circ i$  where  $i$  is a closed immersion and  $j$  is an open immersion. In this case we say  $X$  is a *subscheme* of  $Y$ .
- (5)  $(\pi, f)$  is *dominant* (resp. *surjective*, resp. *open*, resp. *closed*) if  $\pi$  is dominant (resp. surjective, resp. open, resp. closed).
- (6)  $f$  is *affine* if for each affine open  $U \subset Y$ , we have  $f^{-1}(U)$  is affine open in  $X$ .
- (7)  $f$  is *quasicompact* if for each affine open  $U \subset Y$ , we have  $f^{-1}(U)$  is quasicompact.
- (8)  $f$  is *quasiseparated* (resp. *separated*) if  $\delta_{X/Y}$  is quasicompact (resp. a closed immersion).
- (9)  $f$  is *of finite type at*  $x \in X$  if there are affine opens  $\text{Spec } A \ni x$  and  $\text{Spec } B \subset Y$  such that  $f(\text{Spec } A) \subset \text{Spec } B$  and  $A$  is isomorphic to  $B[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$  for some  $n$  and  $I$ .
- (10)  $f$  is *locally of finite type* if  $f$  is of finite type at each  $x \in X$ .
- (11)  $f$  is *of finite type* if  $f$  is locally of finite type and quasicompact.
- (12)  $f$  is *of finite presentation at*  $x \in X$  if it's of finite type at  $x \in X$ , with the extra hypothesis that  $I$  is finitely generated.
- (13)  $f$  is *locally of finite presentation* if  $f$  is of finite presentation at each  $x \in X$ .
- (14)  $f$  is *of finite presentation* if  $f$  is locally of finite presentation, quasicompact and quasiseparated.
- (15)  $f$  is *flat at*  $x \in X$  if  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is a flat ring map.
- (16)  $f$  is *flat* if  $f$  is flat at each  $x \in X$ , is *faithfully flat* if  $f$  is moreover surjective, and is *fppf* (resp. *fpqc*) if  $f$  is moreover of finite presentation (resp. quasicompact).
- (17)  $f$  is *smooth at*  $x \in X$  (*of relative dimension*  $d$ ) if there are affine opens  $\text{Spec } A \ni x$  and  $\text{Spec } B \subset Y$  such that  $f(\text{Spec } A) \subset \text{Spec } B$ , and an open immersion

$$\text{Spec } A \rightarrow \text{Spec } B[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(f_1, \dots, f_{n-d})$$

for some  $n$  and  $f_i$  such that the Jacobian

$$\left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}(x) \right)_{ij}$$

has rank  $n - d$ . (In particular  $f$  is of finite presentation at  $x$ .)

- (18)  $f$  is *smooth of relative dimension*  $d$  if  $f$  is smooth at each  $x \in X$  of relative dimension  $d$ .
- (19)  $f$  is *unramified at*  $x \in X$  if  $f$  is of finite type at  $x \in X$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is unramified.
- (20)  $f$  is *unramified* if  $f$  is unramified at each  $x \in X$ .
- (21)  $f$  is *étale* if  $f$  is smooth and unramified.
- (22)  $f$  is *proper* if  $f$  is separated, of finite type, and universally closed.
- (23)  $f$  is *integral* (resp. *finite*) if  $f$  is affine and for each affine open  $\text{Spec } A \subset Y$  with  $f^{-1}(\text{Spec } A) = \text{Spec } B \subset X$ , the ring map  $A \rightarrow B$  is integral (resp. finite).

Every finite morphism of schemes is integral.

- (24) In the case that each fibre  $X_y$  is a locally noetherian scheme, we say  $f$  is *normal* (resp. *regular*) if  $f$  is flat and  $X_y$  is geometrically normal (resp. regular).

**Definition 2.7** (More properties for a scheme over a field  $k$ ). Let  $X$  be a scheme over  $k$ .

- (1) *Algebraic* is another word for “of finite type over  $k$ ” for  $X$ .
- (2)  $X$  is a *variety* if  $X$  is separated and algebraic (sometimes geometrically reduced is also added).
- (3)  $X$  is *complete* if  $X$  is proper over  $k$ .

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, MATHEMATICS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF READING, WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS, READING RG6 6AX, UNITED KINGDOM

*Email address:* `jiewei.xiong@pgr.reading.ac.uk`