

lecture 4

Nullstellensatz and its consequences

K alg. closed

Thm 1

All maximal ideals in $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ are of the form $(x_1 - a_1, x_2 - a_2, \dots, x_n - a_n)$ [Proved Friday]

Thm 2 $I \subset K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ proper ideal $\Rightarrow Z(I) \neq \emptyset$

Thm 3 $I \subset K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ some ideal, $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ vanishes at all points of $Z(I) \Rightarrow f \in \sqrt{I}$.

Proof of Thm 3 Define $J \subset K[x_1, \dots, x_n, x_{n+1}]$

$$J = I[x_{n+1}] + (x_{n+1}f - 1)$$

let us prove that $Z(J) = \emptyset$. Indeed,

suppose $(a_1, \dots, a_{n+1}) \in Z(J)$, then

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in Z(I) \text{ and } a_{n+1} \cdot f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 1$$



$f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$ contradiction.

By Thm 2 we get $J = K[x_1, \dots, x_n, x_{n+1}] \Rightarrow 1 \in J$

$$1 = \sum g_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) x_{n+1}^i + h(x_1, \dots, x_n, x_{n+1})(x_{n+1}f - 1)$$

Plug in $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{f}$, get identity of rational functions

$$1 = \sum g_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) \left(\frac{1}{f}\right)^i + \cancel{h \cdot 0}$$

Clear denominators: $f^N = \sum g_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) f^{N-i} \in I$.

$Y = \text{subset of } A^n$

Def $I(Y) = \{ f \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n] \mid f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0 \text{ for all points } (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in Y \}$

Lemma $I(Y)$ is a radical ideal

Proof : • $f, g \in I(Y)$, f, g vanish at all point $p \in Y$

$$\Rightarrow f(p) + g(p) = 0 \Rightarrow f + g \in I(Y)$$

• $f \in I(Y)$, g arbitrary $\Rightarrow f(p)g(p) = 0$ for $p \in Y$

$\Rightarrow I(Y)$ is an ideal.

• $f^n \in I(Y) \Rightarrow f^n(p) = 0$ for all $p \in Y \Rightarrow f(p) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow f \in I(Y)$.

□

Lemma (a) If $Y_1 \subset Y_2$ then $I(Y_1) \supset I(Y_2)$

$$(b) I(Y_1 \cup Y_2) = I(Y_1) \cap I(Y_2)$$

(c) Suppose J is an ideal in $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$$\text{Then } I(Z(J)) = \sqrt{J}.$$

In particular, if J is radical then $I(Z(J)) = J$.

Proof (a) If $f(p) = 0$ for all $p \in Y_2$ then $f(p) = 0$ for all $p \in Y_1$.

(b) Clear / exercise

(c) This is Thm 3 (Nullstellensatz),

(2)

Def Given $Y \subset \mathbb{A}^n$, we define $\overline{Y}$ as the smallest algebraic set containing Y .

Lemma (a) $I(\overline{Y}) = I(Y)$ (b) $Z(I(Y)) = \overline{Y}$

Proof: (a) $Y \subset \overline{Y} \Rightarrow I(\overline{Y}) \subset I(Y)$. Conversely,

Suppose $f \in I(Y)$. Then $\{f=0\}$ is an algebraic set containing Y . Recall that intersection of

alg sets is algebraic, so $\{f=0\} \cap \overline{Y}$ is algebraic set containing $Y \Rightarrow \{f=0\} \cap \overline{Y} = \overline{Y} \Rightarrow \overline{Y} \subset \{f=0\}$.

Therefore f vanishes at all points of $\overline{Y}$.

(b) $Z(I(Y)) = \text{alg set containing } Y \Rightarrow$

$Z(I(Y)) \supset \overline{Y}$. Conversely, since $\overline{Y}$ is algebraic we can write $\overline{Y} = Z(J)$

for some ideal J . Then

$$I(Y) \underset{(a)}{=} I(\overline{Y}) = I(Z(J)) \overset{\text{Nullstellensatz}}{=} \sqrt{J}$$

$$Z(I(Y)) = Z(\sqrt{J}) = Z(J) = \overline{Y}.$$

Thm Assume K alg.-closed. There is an inclusion-reversing bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{algebraic subsets} \\ \text{of } \mathbb{A}^n \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{I} \\ \xleftarrow{Z} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{radical ideals} \\ \text{in } K[x_1, \dots, x_n] \end{array} \right\}$$

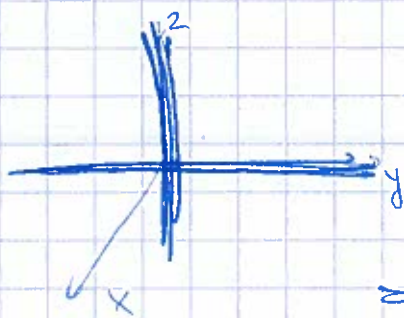
Cor $\sqrt{I}$ = unique radical ideal J
such that $\mathcal{Z}(I) = \mathcal{Z}(J)$.

Ex $I = (x^2, xy, xz, yz)$

(compare with
lecture 2)

$$\mathcal{Z}(I) = \{x^2 = xy = xz = yz = 0\}$$

$$= \{x = 0 = yz\}$$



2 lines

$(x, yz) \supset$ radical (prove it!)

$$\Rightarrow (x, yz) = \sqrt{I}.$$
