Chapter 9

Projective schemes

Let us consider the usual construction of complex projective space: As a topological space,  $\mathbb{CP}^n$  is the quotient space

$$\mathbb{CP}^n = \left(\mathbb{C}^{n+1} - 0\right) / \mathbb{C}^*$$

where  $\mathbb{C}^*$  acts on  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  by scaling the coordinates. Of course the orbits of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  in  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}\setminus\{0\}$  are just the lines through the origin, which is the traditional "variety-way" of thinking about  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ .

We can translate this into algebra as follows: if f is a function on  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$  a complex number, we get a new function  $f^{\lambda}$  by defining  $f^{\lambda}(x) = f(\lambda x)$ , and this gives an action of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  on the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{C}[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ .

where  $A \in C^*$  acts on Rd by  $\lambda^d \cdot f$ .

as the action gives the usual grading on R.

Leaving the realm of complex manifolds and entring the world of schemes, we want to take the quotient of  $\mathbb{A}^{n+1}_{\mathbb{C}} - 0 = \operatorname{Spec} \mathbb{C}[x_0, \dots, x_n] - V(x_0, \dots, x_n)$  by

this action. We write  $\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$  for the corresponding quotient space equipped with the quotient topology. The notation  $\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$ , rather than  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ , is used to emphasise

P( = "Spec ([ko.-xn] - 0 / C\* "

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We can try to put a scheme structure on  $\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$  by looking for reasonable open covers. Note that the open subsets of  $\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$  correspond to  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -invariant open subsets of  $\mathbb{A}^{n+1}_{\mathbb{C}} - 0$ . It is not too hard to see that  $D(f) \subset \mathbb{A}^{n+1}_{\mathbb{C}}$  is  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -invariant if and only if f is a homogeneous polynomial. We write  $D_+(f) \subset \mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$  for the open subset corresponding to  $D(f) \subset \mathbb{A}^{n+1}_{\mathbb{C}} - 0$ .

To define a structure sheaf on  $\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}$  we must figure out what the spaces of sections  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}}(D_+(f))$  should be. While it is true that D(f), being an affine scheme, has a structure sheaf, we have to take more care in deciding which sections to take, to make things compatible with the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -action: a function on  $D_+(f)$  should be a function on D(f) that is invariant under the action of  $\mathbb{C}^*$ .

That is, we should have  $g^{\lambda} = g$ , which means precisely that g has degree zero. Thus we define

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n_{\mathbb{C}}}(D_+(f)) = \mathbb{C}[x_0,\ldots,x_n,f^{-1}]_0.$$

where the subscript means that we take the degree 0 part.

We can generalize the above for any affine  $\mathbb{C}$ -scheme with an action of  $\mathbb{C}^*$ . Such a scheme corresponds to a graded  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra R. To make a reasonably good quotient, it is necessary remove the locus in Spec R that is fixed by  $\mathbb{C}^*$ , and it is not too hard to prove the following:

**LEMMA 9.1** The fixed locus of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  acting on Spec R is  $V(R_+)$ , where  $R_+$  denotes the ideal generated by element of positive degree.

We then proceed to consider the quotient space P of Spec  $R - V(R_+)$  by  $\mathbb{C}^*$ . Again, the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -invariant distinguished open subsets in Spec R of the form D(f) where f is homogeneous constitute a basis for the topology on Spec  $R - V(R_+)$ ,

where f is homogeneous constitute a basis for the topology on  $\operatorname{Spec} R - V(R_+)$ , and these correspond to open subsets  $D_+(f) \subset P = (\operatorname{Spec} R - V(R_+)) / \mathbb{C}^*$ , which form a basis for the quotient topology. Finally, we define a  $\mathscr{B}$ -sheaf on P by setting  $\mathcal{O}_P(D_+(f)) = \mathcal{O}_{\operatorname{Spec} R}(D(f))_0$ , and check that we get a scheme P.

Beside of inducing a grading on R, the action of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  plays very little role here. Realizing this, we can in fact build a scheme P from any graded ring R: We construct the topological space of P from the set of *homogeneous* prime ideals of R (with the induced Zariski topology), and define a structure sheaf on it by the formula like the one above. This is essentially the 'Proj'-construction.

## 9.2 Basic remarks on graded rings

A *graded ring R* is a ring with a decomposition

$$R = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} R_n = R_0 \oplus R_1 \oplus \cdots$$

as an abelian group such that  $R_n \cdot R_n \subset R_{m+n}$  for each  $m, n \ge 0$ . Note that  $R_0$  is a subring of R and that each of the  $R_n$ 's is an  $R_0$ -module. The elements in  $R_n$  are said to be *homogeneous* of degree n, and one writes deg x = n when  $x \in R_n$ .

Every element  $x \in R$  can be expressed unambiguisely as a sum  $x = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} x_n$  with  $x_n \in R_n$ . The non-zero terms in the sum are called the *homogeneous* components of x.

An R-module M is *graded* if it has a similar decomposition  $M = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} M_n$  as an abelian group such that  $R_m \cdot M_n \subset M_{m+n}$  for all. A map of graded R-

modules is an R-linear map  $\phi : M \to N$  such that  $\phi(M_n) \subset N_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Note that contrary to what we required for maps between graded rings, degrees are preserved.

As usual, a non-zero element  $x \in M$  is *homogeneous* of degree n if it lies in  $M_n$ . Just like ring elements, any member  $x \in M$  may be expressed in a unique way as  $x = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} x_n$  with each  $x_n$  in  $M_n$ , and the non-zero terms are called the *homogeneous components* of x.

An ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$  is *homogeneous* if the homogeneous components of each element in  $\mathfrak{a}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{a}$ . This is the case if and only if  $\mathfrak{a}$  is generated by homogeneous elements. It is readily verified that intersections, sums and products of homogeneous ideals are homogeneous.

We will write  $R_+$  for the sum  $\bigoplus_{n>0} R_n$ ; this is naturally a homogeneous ideal of R, which we call the *irrelevant ideal*.

$$P = p[x_0, x_1] \qquad \text{deg} x_i = 1$$

$$P + = (x_0, x_1)$$

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We let  $R^{(d)}$  denote the subring of R given by  $\bigoplus_{n \ge 0} R_{nd}$ 

## Localization

Occasionally we shall meet graded rings having elements of negative degree; they are defined as above except that they decompose as

$$R = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} R_n$$
.

Some authors refer to these as <b>Z</b> -graded rings. One way such rings appear
is as localizations of graded rings. Indeed, if $T \subset R$ is a multiplicative system

all whose elements are homogeneous, one may define a grading on  $T^{-1}R$  by

letting deg  $g/t = \deg g - \deg t$  for  $t \in T$  and g a homogeneous element from R. In other words, one puts

 $(T^{-1}R)_n = \{ f/t \in T^{-1}R \mid f \in R_n, t \in T \text{ and } \deg f - \deg t = n \}.$ 

Then, as is easily verified, the localized ring  $T^{-1}R$  decomposes as the direct sum as  $T^{-1}R = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (T^{-1}R)_n$ , which makes it a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded ring. The same construction also works very well for graded modules, so that  $T^{-1}M$  is a graded module whose homogeneous elements are of shape  $xt^{-1}$  with x homogeneous and  $\deg xt^{-1} = \deg x - \deg t$ .

One example of multiplicative sets of the graded sort, are the sets  $T(\mathfrak{p})$  consisting of all homogeneous elements in R not lying in a given homogeneous prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Another example is the set S of non-negative powers of a homogeneous element f.

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**DEFINITION** 9.2 For a homogeneous prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p} \subset R$  and a homogeneous element  $f \in R$ , we define for an R-module M

i) 
$$M_{(\mathfrak{p})} = (T(\mathfrak{p})^{-1}M)_0$$
;  $\leftarrow$   $\mathfrak{I}$ 

*ii)* 
$$M_{(f)} = (M_f)_0$$
;  $\leftarrow$ 

where the subscript indicates the degree 0 part.

**EXAMPLE 9.3** For the polynomial ring  $R = A[x_0, ..., x_n]$  with standard grading, the degree 0 part of  $R_{x_j}$  is generated by the monomials  $x_0x_j^{-1}, ..., x_j^{-1}$ , so

$$R_{(x_i)} = A[x_0x_i^{-1}, \dots, x_nx_i^{-1}].$$

ex 
$$k(x_0, x_1)$$
  $deg x_0 = 1$   
 $deg x_1 = 2$   
 $k(x_0, x_1)(x_0) \Rightarrow \frac{x_1}{x_0^2}$ 

## 9.3 The Proj construction

Motivated by the discussion in the introduction, we make the following definition:

**DEFINITION** 9.4 Let R be a graded ring. We denote by Proj R the set of homogeneous prime ideals of R that do not contain the irrelevant ideal  $R_+$ .

One endows Proj R with a topology by setting, for a homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{b}$ ,

$$V(\mathfrak{b}) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Proj} R \mid \mathfrak{p} \supset \mathfrak{b} \},$$

and just like in the case of Spec *R*, these sets comply to the axioms for the closed sets of a topology, which is called the *Zariski topology* on Proj *R*. Indeed, the

i)  $V(\sum \mathfrak{b}_{\mathfrak{i}}) = \bigcap V(\mathfrak{b}_{\mathfrak{i}});$ 

 $ii) \ V(\mathfrak{ab}) = V(\mathfrak{a}) \cup V(\mathfrak{b});$ 

iii)  $V(\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}) = V(\mathfrak{a}),$ 

the pertinent remark being that sums, products and radicals persist being homogeneous when the involved ideals are. Notice that this topology is nothing but the one induced from the inclusion  $\operatorname{Proj} R \subset \operatorname{Spec} R$ .

$$D_{+}(\varphi) = \begin{cases} \varphi \in P_{nj} R \mid \varphi \notin \varphi \\ = D(\varphi) \land P_{nj} R \end{cases}$$

As with the affine case, we define distinguished open sets. For  $f \in R$  homogeneous of positive degree, we let  $D_+(f)$  be the collection of homogeneous ideals (not containing  $R_+$ ) that do not contain f, or in other words,  $D_+(f) = D(f) \cap \operatorname{Proj} R$ . These are open sets with respect to the Zariski topology on  $\operatorname{Proj} R$  the complement of  $D_+(f)$  equals the closed set V(f).

The relevance of the name the irrelevant ideal is that  $R_+$  does not play any role when it comes to forming closed sets in Proj R, neither do ideals whose radical equals  $R_+$ . This is made clear by the following lemma. Note that  $V(R_+) = \emptyset$  by definition.

**LEMMA** 9.5 For any homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  it holds that  $V(\mathfrak{a}) = V(\mathfrak{a} \cap R_+)$ . In fact, if  $\mathfrak{I}$  is an ideal such that  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{I}} = R_+$ , it holds that  $V(\mathfrak{a}) = V(\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{I})$ .

PROOF: Since  $V(R_+) = \emptyset$ , condition *iii*) above implies that  $V(\mathfrak{I}) = \emptyset$ , and condition *ii*) then gives  $V(\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{I}) = V(\mathfrak{a}) \cup V(\mathfrak{I}) = V(\mathfrak{a})$ .

The next result is important in understanding the local structure of Proj R. In particular, it will be essential when defining the scheme structure on it.

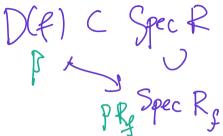
**PROPOSITION** 9.6 We have  $D_+(f) \cap D_+(g) = D_+(fg)$ . Also, the  $D_+(f)$  form a basis for the topology on Proj R when f runs through the homogeneous elements of R of positive degree.

$$D_{+}(f) \cap D_{+}(g) = D_{+}(fg)$$

$$P \in RHS \Rightarrow P \not = f \cdot g \iff P \not = f \cdot g$$

$$\iff P \in LHS$$

PROOF: The first part is evident, by the definition of a prime ideal. We prove the second. Note that  $V(\mathfrak{a})$  is the intersection of the V((f))'s for the homogeneous  $f \in \mathfrak{a} \cap R_+$ . Thus  $\operatorname{Proj} R - V(\mathfrak{a})$  is the union of these  $D_+(f)$ . So every open set is a union of sets of the form  $D_+(f)$ .



Dehomogenization and homogenization

In the affine case there is a canonical homeomorphism between D(f) and  $\operatorname{Spec} R_f$  which associates  $\mathfrak{p}R_f$  with a prime  $\mathfrak{p} \in D(f)$ . In perfect analogy with this, associating the degree zero part of  $\mathfrak{p}R_f$  with  $\mathfrak{p} \in D_+(f)$  gives a homeomorphism between  $D_+(f)$  and  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(f)}$ .

**EXAMPLE 9.7** To illustrate this correspondence in a simple case which hopefully eases the digestion of the general case, let us consider the ring R = k[x,y,z], and the distinguished open set  $D_+(z)$ . The monomials of degree zero in  $R_z$  are products of  $xz^{-1}$  and  $yz^{-1}$  so that  $R_{(z)} = k[xz^{-1}, yz^{-1}]$ . Consider a principal ideal  $\mathfrak{a} = (f)$  in R generated by a homogeneous polynomial f of degree d. Because z is invertible in  $R_z$  and because of the identity

$$f(xz^{-1}, yz^{-1}, 1) = z^{-d}f(x, y, z),$$

the ideal  $\mathfrak{a}R_z$  becomes  $\mathfrak{a}R_z = (z^{-d}f)$ , and since  $z^{-d}f$  is of degree zero, it holds true that  $(\mathfrak{a}R_z)_0 = \mathfrak{a}R_z \cap R_0 = (z^{-d}f)$ . So when we pass to  $R_{(z)}$ , the generator f is replaced by the *dehomogenized* polynomial  $z^{-d}f$ .

There is also simple way of making a polynomial g in  $k[xz^{-1}, yz^{-1}]$  homogeneous, one simply gives g a factor  $z^d$  with d being the degree of g. This will almost all the time be an inverse to the dehomogenization process; there is just one fallacy, any factor of f which is a power of z, disappears when f is dehomogenized, and there is no means of recovering it knowing only  $z^{-d}f$ .  $\star$ 

The general set up of the isomorphism  $D_+(f) \simeq \operatorname{Spec} R_{(f)}$  follows the pattern in the example, basically one dehomogenizes and homogenizes generators, but expressed in a necessarily general formalism.

**PROPOSITION 9.8** Let  $f \in R$  be homogeneous of degree d. There is a canonical homeomorphism  $\phi: D_+(f) \to \operatorname{Spec} R_{(f)}$  given by

$$\phi(\mathfrak{p})=\mathfrak{p}R_f\cap R_{(f)},$$

that sends homogeneous prime ideals of R not containing f into primes of  $R_{(f)}$ . Moreover,

- i) For any homogeneous  $g \in R$  such that  $D_+(g) \subset D_+(f)$ , letting  $u = g^d f^{-\deg g} \in R_{(f)}$ , we have  $\phi(D_+(g)) = D(u)$ ;
- ii) For any graded R-module M, there is a canonical homomorphism  $M_{(f)} \rightarrow M_{(g)}$  which induces an isomorphism  $(M_{(f)})_u \simeq M_{(g)}$ ;  $M_{(g)} = R_{(g)} = R_{(g$
- iii) If  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$  is a homogeneous ideal, then  $\phi(V(\mathfrak{a}) \cap D_+(f)) = V(\mathfrak{a}R_f \cap R_{(f)})$ .

## Proj R as a scheme

We shall now make X = Proj R into a locally ringed space. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the base of Proj R made up by the distinguished open subsets.

$$B = \begin{cases} D_t(f) & f \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$
 homogen

For each 
$$D_+(f)$$
 we define 
$$\mathcal{O}(D_+(f)) = R_{(f)}.$$

Spec 
$$R(\xi) = D_{+}(\xi)$$

$$= |D_{+}(\xi)| = |D_{$$

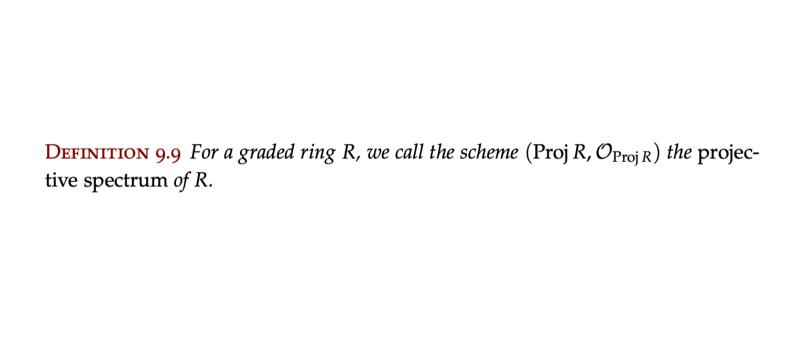
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The previous proposition shows that this gives a well-defined  $\mathscr{B}$ -presheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  of rings, and using the homeomorphism  $\phi$  from  $D_+(f)$  to Spec  $R_{(f)}$ , we see that it actually is a  $\mathscr{B}$ -sheaf. (Alternatively, we could modify the proof for the case of Spec to see this directly). We will denote the unique sheaf extension by  $\mathcal{O}_X$ .

$$O(D_{t}(f)) = R(f)$$

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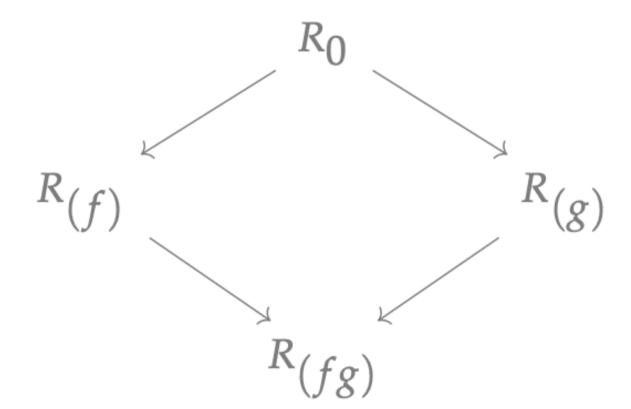
It follows that X is has the structure of a ringed space. This is in fact a *locally* ringed space, because the stalk  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is just  $R_{(\mathfrak{p}_x)}$ , which is a local ring. Indeed, the unique maximal ideal is generated by  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Moreover, the previous discussion has shown that the basic open sets  $D_+(f)$  are each isomorphic as locally ringed spaces to  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(f)}$ , which are affine schemes, and so  $\operatorname{Proj} R$  is a scheme.



In fact, the projective spectrum Proj R is naturally a scheme over Spec  $R_0$ : the homomorphisms  $R_0 \to R_{(f)}$  induce maps Spec  $R_{(f)} \to$  Spec  $R_0$ , and these glue together to a morphism

$$\operatorname{Proj} R \to \operatorname{Spec} R_0$$
,

ex 
$$R = k[x_0, ..., x_n]$$
  
 $\sim$   $P_R = Proj R \longrightarrow Spec k$ .



Moreover, if R is a finitely generated over  $R_0$ , the spectrum Proj R is of finite type over Spec  $R_0$ . This follows by looking at the distinguished open sets  $D_+(f)$ 

– each ring  $R_{(f)}$  is finitely generated as an  $R_0$ -algebra if R is.

**DEFINITION** 9.10 We define the projective *n*-space to be the scheme

$$\mathbb{P}^n = \operatorname{Proj} \mathbb{Z}[x_0, \dots, x_n].$$

More generally, for a ring A, the projective n-space over A is the scheme

$$\mathbb{P}_A^n = \operatorname{Proj} A[x_0, \dots, x_n].$$

Examples

9.11 Let A be a ring and let R = A[t] with the grading given by  $\deg t = 1$  and  $\deg a = 0$  for all  $a \in A$ . Then the structure map gives an isomorphism  $\operatorname{Proj} R \simeq \operatorname{Spec} A$ .

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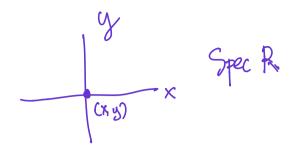
9.12 (The projective line  $\mathbb{P}^1_A$  once more) Let us study the case of a polynomial ring in R = A[s,t] where s and t have degree one. The scheme  $X = \operatorname{Proj} R$  coincides with  $\mathbb{P}^1_A$  as defined in Chapter 5 (in Section 5.1 on page 94); indeed, we shall see that it is glued together from affine schemes in precisely the same manner as is  $\mathbb{P}^1_A$ . Note that X is covered by  $D_+(s)$  and  $D_+(t)$  (since s and t generate the irrelevant ideal). Write for simplicity  $U = D_+(s) \simeq \operatorname{Spec} R_{(s)}$  and  $V = D_+(t) \simeq \operatorname{Spec} R_{(t)}$ . It holds true that X is glued together from U, V along  $U \cap V = D_+(st) \simeq \operatorname{Spec} R_{(st)}$ .

Note first that the degree zero part  $R_{(s)}$  of  $R_s \simeq A[s,s^{-1},t]$  equals  $A[s^{-1}t]$ , and by symmetry we have  $R_{(t)} = A[st^{-1}]$ . The intersection  $D_+(st)$  is the degree zero part of  $R_{st}$  which is given as  $R_{(st)} = A[s^{-1}t,st^{-1}]$ . In other words, if we write  $u = s^{-1}t$ , it holds true that  $R_{(s)} = A[u]$ ,  $R_{(t)} = A[u^{-1}]$  and that  $R_{(st)} = A[u,u^{-1}] = A[u]_u$ . Hence  $U \simeq \operatorname{Spec} A[u] = \mathbb{A}^1_A$  and  $V \simeq \operatorname{Spec} A[u^{-1}] \simeq \mathbb{A}^1_A$  are glued together along  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(st)}$ , and this is exactly the glueing scheme used to construct  $\mathbb{P}^1_A$  in Section 5.1.

9.13 (*Projective n-space*) The case when  $R = k[x_0, ..., x_n]$  is a polynomial ring over a field k is the most interesting. In this case  $\mathbb{P}^n_k$  is a scheme whose closed k-points  $\mathbb{P}^n(k)$  coincides with the *variety* of projective n-space.

Since  $\mathbb{P}_k^n$  is covered by n+1 copies of  $\mathbb{A}_k^n$ ,  $\mathbb{P}_k^n$  is integral of dimension n. We also have  $k(\mathbb{P}_k^n) = k(\mathbb{A}_k^n) = k(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ . More intrinsically, we may also write

$$k(\mathbb{P}^n) = \left\{ \frac{g(x_0, \dots, x_n)}{h(x_0, \dots, x_n)} \, | \, g, h \text{ homogeneous of the same degree} \right\}$$



9.14 Let R = k[x,y]/(xy). Spec R is the union of the x- and y-axes. So Spec R - V(x,y) is the union of the axes with the origin excluded. On the other hand,

$$\left(k[x]_{x}\right)_{0} = \left(k[x, x^{-1}]\right)_{0} = k$$

Proj R consists of just two points: Proj R is obtained by gluing  $\operatorname{Spec}(R_{(x)})$  and  $\operatorname{Spec}(R_{(y)})$  together. Now,

$$R_{(x)} = k[x,y]_{(x)}/xy = k[x,y]_{(x)}/y = k[x]_{(x)} = k,$$

and the corresponding chart of Proj R is just Spec k. Similarly, the other chart Spec( $R_{(y)}$ ) also equals Spec k. We have  $R_{(xy)} = 0$ , so the overlap is empty, and it ensues that Proj R consists of the two points.

## Proposition 9.16 (Properties of Proj R) Let R be a graded ring.

- *i)* Proj *R* is separated.
- ii) If R is noetherian, then Proj R is noetherian.
- iii) If R is finitely generated over  $R_0$ , then Proj R is of finite type over Spec  $R_0$ .
- iv) If R is an integral domain, then Proj R is integral.

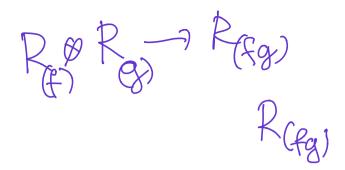
De(f) = Spec R(f)
integral

PROOF: We use the fact that X is covered by the affine open sets  $D_+(f)$  where f runs over the elements of  $R^+$ . These sets are clearly affine, and so is their intersection:  $D_+(f) \cap D_+(g) = D_{(fg)}$ . Thus to prove that Proj R is separated,

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-  $V_i$  offin overletner

-  $V_i$  offin  $V_i$  offin



we need only check condition ii) above, namely that  $R_{(f)} \otimes R_{(g)} \to R_+(fg)$  is surjective for any  $f, g \in R^+$ , but this is straightforward.

The remaining properties are properties which can be checked on an affine covering. In our case  $\operatorname{Proj} R$  is covered by the affines  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(f)}$  which are noetherian (resp. of finite type, integral) provided R is noetherian (resp. finitely generated, an integral domain).

## 9.4 Functoriality

Unlike the case of affine schemes, a graded ring homomorphism  $\phi : R \to S$  does not induce a morphism between the projective spectra Proj S and Proj R. The reason is that some primes in S may pullback to R to contain the irrelevant ideal  $R_+$ . However, as we will see shortly, this is the only obstruction to defining a morphism.

Given a homomorphism  $\phi : R \to S$ , we define the set  $G(\phi) \subset \operatorname{Proj} S$  to be the set of homogeneous prime ideals  $\mathfrak p$  in S that do not contain  $\phi(R_+)$ , in particular those prime ideals have their inverse images  $\phi^{-1}(\mathfrak p)$  in  $\operatorname{Proj} R$ . The assignment  $\mathfrak p \mapsto \phi^{-1}(\mathfrak p)$  then sets up a map

 $F: G(\phi) \to \operatorname{Proj} R$ .

The set  $G(\phi)$  is an open subset of Proj S; indeed, let  $\mathfrak{p} \subset S$  be a homogeneous prime ideal in  $G(\phi)$ . Then  $\mathfrak{p}$  does not contain  $\phi(R_+)$ , so (assuming  $\phi(R_+) \neq 0$ ) there exists an  $r \in R_+$  such that  $s = \phi(r) \notin \mathfrak{p}$ , and we may clearly assume that s is homogeneous. It the holds that  $\mathfrak{p} \in D_+(s)$ , but also  $D_+(s) \subset G(\phi)$  since each

 $\mathfrak{q} \in D_+(s)$  does not contain s. Hence  $G(\phi)$  is open. That  $\phi(R_+) = 0$  implies that

 $G(\mathfrak{p}) = \emptyset$ , and  $G(\phi)$  is open in that case also.

• •	bset $G(\phi)$ has the canonical induced scheme structure as an Proj $S$ , and giving it that structure, we have:

**PROPOSITION 9.18** Let  $\phi : R \to S$  be a homomorphism of graded rings. Then the map  $F : G(\phi) \to \operatorname{Proj} R$  is a morphism of schemes.

PROOF: First of all, the map F is continuous because the Zariski topologies on Proj R and Proj S are induced from those of Spec S and Spec R, and because F is the restriction of the map between the two Spec's induced by  $\phi$ . Or more explicitly, the inverse image  $F^{-1}(D_+(f))$  equals  $G(\phi) \cap D_+(\phi(f))$ , which is open.

Write  $X = G(\phi)$  and Y = Proj R. The rest of the job is to define the map F on the level of sheaves, *i.e.* we desire a map

$$F^{\#}: \mathcal{O}_{Y} \to f_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X}.$$

As usual, it suffices to define it on the basis of distinguished open subsets. To define it on  $D_+(f) \subset \operatorname{Proj} R$  we rely on the isomorphism between  $D_+(f)$  and  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(f)}$  from Proposition 9.8. Of course, only opens  $D_+(f)$  so that  $F^{-1}(D_+(f))$  are non empty matter; then  $\phi(f) \notin R_+$ , and then the localization of  $\phi$  induces a map  $R_{(f)} \to S_{\phi(f)}$ . Moreover, since  $F^{-1}(D_+(f))$  is open in  $D_+(\phi(f)) = \operatorname{Spec} S_{(\phi(f))}$ , we get the desired map

$$\mathcal{O}_Y(D_+(f)) = R_{(f)} \to \mathcal{O}_X(F^{-1}(D_+(f)))$$

by restriction of  $\Gamma(D_+(f), \mathcal{O}_Y) \to \Gamma(D_+(\phi(f)), \mathcal{O}_{\text{Proj }S})$ .

$$\mathbb{P}^{2} \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{1} \qquad A^{3} \longrightarrow (x_{0}, x_{1}, x_{2}) \qquad (x_{0}, x_{1})$$

**EXAMPLE 9.19** To see why restriction to the open set  $G(\phi)$  is necessary, we consider the case where  $R = k[x_0, x_1]$ ,  $S = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$  and  $\phi$  is the inclusion map. Note that the prime ideal  $\mathfrak{a} = (x_0, x_1)$  defines an element in Proj S, but its restriction to R is the whole irrelevant ideal of R. In fact,  $G(\phi) = \operatorname{Proj} S - V(\mathfrak{a})$ , and the map

$$\psi: \mathbb{P}^2_k - V(\mathfrak{a}) \to \mathbb{P}^1_k$$

is nothing but the projection from the point (0:0:1) which sends a point with homogeneous coordinates  $(x_0:x_1:x_2)$  to the one with coordinates  $(x_0:x_1)$ . It is a good exercise to prove that there can be no morphisms  $\mathbb{P}_k^m \to \mathbb{P}_k^n$  for m > n in general. (See Section 16).

## Closed immersions

The primary example of the above construction is considering the graded quotient homomorphism  $\phi: R \to R/\mathfrak{a}$ , where  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$  is a homogeneous ideal. In this case  $\phi(R_+) = (R/\mathfrak{a})_+$  so  $G(\phi) = \text{Proj}(R/\mathfrak{a})$ , and the corresponding map  $\psi$ is defined everywhere; that is, we get a map

$$\psi: \operatorname{Proj}(R/\mathfrak{a}) \to \operatorname{Proj} R$$

$$\psi: \operatorname{Proj}(R/\mathfrak{a}) \to \operatorname{Proj} R.$$

$$Proj R/\alpha \longrightarrow Proj R \qquad R(x) \longrightarrow R$$

We claim that this is a closed immersion. As usual, homogeneous primes in  $R/\mathfrak{a}$  not containing  $R_+$  pull back to homogeneous primes in R containing  $\mathfrak{a}$  but not  $R_+$ . It follows that  $\psi$  is injective with image the closed subset  $V(\mathfrak{a})$  in Proj R. Finally,  $\psi^{\#}$  is surjective on stalks (where it is just the map  $R_{(\mathfrak{p})} \to (R/\mathfrak{a})_{(\mathfrak{p})}$ ), and so  $\psi$  is a closed immersion. We will see later that there is a converse to this statement, under some mild assumptions on R.

**EXAMPLE 9.20** The most simple conceivable closed immersion is that of a closed point in  $\mathbb{P}^n_k$ . At least if k is algebraically closed, such points are given by their homogeneous coordinates  $a = (a_0 : \cdots : a_n)$ , the maximal ideal corresponding is generated by the minors of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_0 & x_1 & \dots & x_n \\ a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_n \end{pmatrix}. \tag{9.2}$$

**EXAMPLE 9.20** The most simple conceivable closed immersion is that of a closed point in  $\mathbb{P}^n_k$ . At least if k is algebraically closed, such points are given by their homogeneous coordinates  $a = (a_0 : \cdots : a_n)$ , the maximal ideal corresponding is generated by the minors of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_0 & x_1 & \dots & x_n \\ a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_n \end{pmatrix}. \tag{9.2}$$

Indeed, the vanishing of those minors describes vectors in  $k^{n+1}$  dependent on  $(a_0, \ldots, a_n)$ ; or in other words, points lying on the line through  $(a_0, \ldots, a_n)$ .

There is an analogue of this for projective spaces  $\mathbb{P}_A^n$  over an arbitrary ring A that to an n-tuple  $a=(a_0,\ldots,a_n)$  of elements from A gives an A-point of  $\mathbb{P}_A^n$ ; that is, a section of the structure map  $\pi\colon \mathbb{P}_A^n\to \operatorname{Spec} A$ . The appropriate

 $\mathbb{P}_A^n$ ; that is, a section of the structure map  $\pi \colon \mathbb{P}_A^n \to \operatorname{Spec} A$ . The appropriate necessary condition on the  $a_i$ 's that generalize the condition familiar from the theory of varieties that not all  $a_i$  be zero, is that the  $a_i$ 's generate the unit ideal in A. And two such tuples give the same section if and only if they are proportional by a unit from A.

Let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be the ideal in  $A[x_0, \ldots, x_n]$  generated by the minors of the matrix (9.2); in other words

$$\mathfrak{a}=(a_ix_i-a_ix_i|0\leqslant i,j\leqslant n).$$

We claim that  $\pi$  induces an isomorphism between  $V(\mathfrak{a})$  and Spec A; its inverse will then be a closed embedding  $\iota_a$ : Spec  $A \to \mathbb{P}^n_A$ . The open distinguished sets  $D(a_i)$  cover Spec A, and it will suffice to see that the restriction  $\pi|_{\pi^{-1}(D(a_i))}: V(\mathfrak{a}) \cap \pi^{-1}(D(a_i)) \to D(a_i)$  is an isomorphism for each i. So replacing Spec A by  $D(a_i)$ , we may well assume that one of the  $a_i$ 's, say  $a_0$ , is

invertible. Since  $a_0x_i - a_ix_0$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{a}$ , we deduce that  $x_i - a_ia_0^{-1}x_0 \in \mathfrak{a}$ , and hence  $A[x_0, \ldots, x_n]/\mathfrak{a} = A[x_0]$ . By Example 9.11, it follows that the structure map restricts to an isomorphism on  $V(\mathfrak{a})$ . Clearly a simultaneous scaling does not change  $a_ia_0^{-1}$ , and if  $a_ia_0^{-1} = a_i'a_0'^{-1}$ , it holds that  $a_i' = a_0'a_0^{-1}a_i$ .

It is not true in general that all maps Spec A to  $\mathbb{P}^n$  are of the "homogeneous coordinate form"  $(a_1 : \cdots : a_n)$ , but if A is local (e.g., a field) it holds true.

**LEMMA 9.21** Assume that A is a local ring. Then every section Spec  $A \to \mathbb{P}_A^n$  of the structure map is given by  $(a_1 : \cdots : a_n)$  where at least one  $a_i$  is a unit. Another such tuple  $(a'_1 : \cdots : a'_n)$  gives the same map if and only if  $a'_i = \alpha a_i$  for a unit  $\alpha \in A$ .

One must remember that the lemma is relative to a *fixed* sequence of variables  $x_0$ 

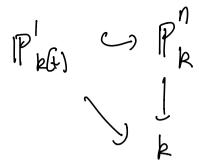
 $x_0, \ldots, x_n$ .

PROOF: Assume that a morphism  $f \colon \operatorname{Spec} A \to \mathbb{P}^1_A$  given. Then the image of the closed point lies in  $D_+(x_\nu)$  for some  $\nu$  and f factors through  $D_+(x_\nu)$ . This means that  $f^{\sharp}$  is a map  $k[x_\nu x_\nu^{-1}, \ldots, x_n x_\nu^{-1}]$ , the image of  $a_i = f^{\sharp}(x_i x_\nu^{-1})$  are elements in A an  $(a_0 : \cdots : 1 : \cdots : a_n)$  are appropriate homogeneous coordinates giving the map f (where the 1 is in the  $\nu$ -th slot).

Let S be a scheme and let X be a scheme over S. We say call X is *projective* over S (or that the structure morphism  $f: X \to S$  is projective) if  $f: X \to S$  factors as  $f = \pi \circ i$  where  $i: X \to \mathbb{P}^n_S$  is a closed immersion and  $\pi: \mathbb{P}^n_S \to S$  is the projection. X is *quasi-projective* over S if  $X \to S$  factors via an open immersion  $X \to \overline{X}$  and a projective S-mophism  $\overline{X} \to S$ .

The primary examples is of course  $X = \mathbb{P}_A^n \to \operatorname{Spec} A$  for a ring A. More generally, if  $X = \operatorname{Proj} R$  where R is a graded  $R_0$ -algebra generated in degree 1 and  $S = \operatorname{Spec} R_0$ , then X is projective over S. In this case, we can define the projective immersion i by taking a surjection  $R_0[x_0, \ldots, x_n] \to R$ , which upon

taking Proj, gives a closed immersion  $X \to \mathbb{P}^n_{R_0}$ .



Note that projectivity is a relative notion: It is the morphism  $X \to S$  which is projective, not X itself. For instance,  $\mathbb{P}^1_{k[t]}$  is projective over Spec k[t], but it is not over Spec k. Still, if we are working in the category of schemes over, say, a field k or  $\mathbb{Z}$ , we still refer to a scheme X being 'projective' if it is projective over the base scheme.

**EXAMPLE** 9.22 For  $A = \mathbb{C}[t]$ , the scheme  $X = \text{Proj } A[x,y,z]/(zy^2 - x^3 - txz^2)$  is projective over  $\mathbb{A}^1_{\mathbb{C}} = \operatorname{Spec} A$ . The preimage of  $X \to \mathbb{A}^1_{\mathbb{C}}$  over any closed point  $a \in \mathbb{A}^1_{\mathbb{C}}$  is an integral projective subscheme of dimension one:  $V(zy^2 - x^3$  $axz^2) \subset \mathbb{P}^2_{\mathbb{C}}$ . Spec ([[t] = Al"

$$R^{(d)} = \bigoplus_{k \neq 0} R_{dk} \rightarrow R$$

## 9.6 The Veronese embedding

Let *R* be a graded ring and let *d* be a positive integer. The inclusion  $\phi: R^{(d)} \to R$  induces a morphism

$$v_d: \operatorname{Proj} R \to \operatorname{Proj} R^{(d)}$$

Indeed, in this case  $G(\phi) = \text{Proj } R$ , since any prime  $\mathfrak{p}$  such that  $\mathfrak{p} \supset R_+ \cap R^{(d)}$  must also contain all of  $R_+$  – if  $r \in R_+$ , note that  $r^d \in R_+ \cap R^{(d)}$  and so  $r \in \mathfrak{p}$  as well! This map is called the *Veronese embedding*, or *d-uple embedding* of X.

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}[u,v,w]}{(v^2-uw)} = \mathbb{P}[x^2,xy,z^2] \subset \mathbb{P}[x,y]$$

**Proposition** 9.23 The Veronese embedding  $v_d$  is an isomorphism.

PROOF: There are many things to check here, so we will sketch the proof, and leave the remaining verifications for the reader.

 $v_d$  is injective: If  $\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q} \in \operatorname{Proj} R$  such that  $\mathfrak{p} \cap R^{(d)} = \mathfrak{q} \cap R^{(d)}$ . Then for a homogeneous element  $x \in R$  we have

$$x \in \mathfrak{p} \Leftrightarrow x^d \in \mathfrak{p} \Leftrightarrow x^d \in \mathfrak{q} \Leftrightarrow x \in \mathfrak{q}$$

and hence so  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{q}$ . To show that  $v_d$  is surjective, let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \operatorname{Proj} R^{(d)}$ , and define the homogeneous ideal in R by

$$\mathfrak{p} = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \left\{ x \in R_n | x^d \in \mathfrak{q} \right\}.$$

It is not too hard to check that  $\mathfrak{p}$  is prime, and that  $\mathfrak{p} \cap R^{(d)} = \mathfrak{q}$ , so  $v_d$  is bijective.

The proof then proceeds to show that the maps  $v_d$  and  $\mathfrak{q} \mapsto \mathfrak{p}$  are closed, so that  $v_d$  is a homeomorphism. Then one checks directly that  $v_d$  induces an isomorphism when restricted to the open affines  $D_+(f)$  as well, so we get an isomorphism on the level of schemes as well.

REMARK ON RINGS GENERATED IN DEGREE ONE We will frequently assume that the ring R is generated in degree one, that is, R is generated as an  $R_0$ -algebra by  $R_1$ . The reason for this will become clear in the next section. Intuitively, it is because we want  $\operatorname{Proj} R$  to be covered by the 'affine coordinate charts'  $D_+(x)$  where x should have degree 1.

We remark that this assumption is in fact not not too restrictive: Any projective spectrum of a finitely generated ring is isomorphic to the Proj of a ring generated in degree 1. This is because of the basic algebraic fact that if R is finitely generated, then some subring  $R^{(d)}$  will have all of its generators in one degree, and since  $\operatorname{Proj} R^{(d)} \simeq \operatorname{Proj} R$ , we don't change the Proj by replacing R with  $R^{(d)}$ .

**EXAMPLE** 9.24 (*The weigthed projective space*  $\mathbb{P}(p,q)$ ) Let k be a field and p and q two relatively prime natural numbers and let n=pq. Consider the polynomial ring R=k[x,y], but endow it with the non-standard grading with x having degree p and y degree q. We claim that  $\operatorname{Proj} R \simeq \mathbb{P}^1_k$ , or more specifically that  $R^{(n)}$  is isomorphic to the polynomial ring A=k[u,v] graded in the non-standard but innocuous way that  $\deg u=\deg v=n$ . Clearly  $\operatorname{Proj} A\simeq \mathbb{P}^1_k$ .

Observe that a homogeneous element in  $R^{(n)}$  is a linear combination of monomials  $x^{\alpha}y^{\beta}$  with  $p\alpha + q\beta = \gamma n$ ; hence q divides  $\alpha$  and p divides  $\beta$  and so  $\alpha' + \beta' = \gamma$  with  $\alpha = q\alpha'$  and  $\beta = p\beta'$ . There is a homomorphism of graded k-algebras  $A = k[u,v] \to R^{(n)}$  that sends  $u \to x^q$  and  $v \to y^p$ . This is clearly injective, so to see it is an isomorphism, it suffices to check it is surjective on each homogeneous component: now  $(R^{(n)})_{dn}$  has a basis consisting of the monomials  $x^{q\alpha'}y^{p\beta'}$  with  $\alpha' + \beta' = d$ ; and for the same  $\alpha'$  and  $\beta'$  the monomials  $u^{\alpha'}v^{\beta'}$  form

\*

a basis for  $A_d$ .

**EXAMPLE 9.25** (*The weighted projective space*  $\mathbb{P}(1,1,p)$ ) Another example along the same lines. Again we begin with a polynomial ring R = k[x,y,z] endowed with a slightly exotic grading; we put  $\deg x = \deg y = 1$  and  $\deg z = p$  for some natural number p. Then  $\operatorname{Proj} k[x,y,z]$  is a so-called *weighted projective space* and one often sees it denoted by  $\mathbb{P}(1,1,p)$ .

The scheme X = Proj R has a covering of the three open affines  $D_+(x)$ ,  $D_+(y)$  and  $D_+(z)$ . Both  $D_+(x)$  and  $D_+(y)$  are isomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^2_k$ ; it is a straightforward exercise to verify that  $R_{(x)} = k[yx^{-1}, zx^{-p}]$  and  $R_{(y)} = k[xy^{-1}, zy^{-p}]$ , and that these are polynomial rings. However the third distinguished open affine  $D_+(z)$ 

exercise to verify that  $R_{(x)} = k[yx^{-1}, zx^{-p}]$  and  $R_{(y)} = k[xy^{-1}, zy^{-p}]$ , and that these are polynomial rings. However the third distinguished open affine  $D_+(z)$  is not isomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^2_k$ . In fact, it has a singularity! Clearly  $x^{p-i}y^iz^{-1}$ , for  $0 \le i \le p$ , are homogeneous elements of degree zero in  $R_{(z)}$ , and it is almost trivial that they generate  $R_{(z)}$ , so that  $R_{(z)} = k[x^pz^{-1}, \ldots, y^pz^{-1}]$ . One recognizes this ring as an isomorphic copy of the  $p^{th}$  Veronese ring  $A^{(p)}$  of the polynomial ring A = k[u,v]. And anticipating parts of the story, this is the cone over a so-called *projective normal curve* of degree p, whose apex is a singular point.  $\star$ 

## Example 9.26 (*The Blow-up as a Proj*) Consider the ring A = k[x, y] and the ideal

I = (x, y). We can form a new graded ring by introducing a new formal variable t and setting

$$R = \bigoplus_{k \geqslant 0} I^k t^k$$

where  $I^0 = A$ . In R, the new variable t has degree 1, and the other variables x and y have degree 0. One may think about R as the subring of A[t] of polynomials shaped like  $\sum_{\nu} a_{\nu} t^{\nu}$  where the coefficient  $a_{\nu}$  belongs to  $I^{\nu}$ .

The map  $\mathfrak{p} \mapsto \mathfrak{p} \cap A$ , induces a morphism

$$\pi: \operatorname{Proj} R \to \operatorname{Spec} A = \mathbb{A}^2_k$$

The irrelevant ideal  $R_+$  is generated by xt and yt so that  $\operatorname{Proj} R$  is glued together by the two open affine subschemes  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(xt)}$  and  $\operatorname{Spec} R_{(yt)}$ . These are both isomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^2_k$ . Note that there is a map of graded rings

$$\phi: A[u,v] \rightarrow R$$

$$u \mapsto xt$$

$$u \mapsto yt$$

This is clearly surjective, since I is generated by x and y. Note also that the kernel contains the element xv - yu. In fact, by Exercise 9.12 below, we have

## **LEMMA 9.27** $R \simeq A[u,v]/(xv-yu)$ .

From this description we see that  $\operatorname{Proj} R$  is covered by the two distinguished open sets  $D_+(u) = \operatorname{Spec} R_{(v)}$  and  $D_+(v) = \operatorname{Spec} R_{(v)}$ . Here

$$R_{(u)} \simeq (A[u,v]_u/(xv-yu))_0 = k[x,vu^{-1}]$$

and

$$R_{(v)} \simeq (A[u,v]_v/(xv-yu))_0 = k[y,uv^{-1}].$$

These are glued along  $R_{(uv)} \simeq (A[u,v]_{uv}/(xv-yu))_0$ , and one finds

$$(A[u,v]_{uv}/(xv-yu))_0 = k[x,y,uv^{-1},vu^{-1}]/(x\cdot vu^{-1}-y) \simeq k[x,uv^{-1},vu^{-1}]$$

In particular, we see that Proj R coincides with the previous blow-up description.

