

Today: Finish the lecture from Oct 2, which got interrupted by bad internet.

Topic: "Zariski tangent spaces."

The ideal of a point:

Consider  $F[\vec{x}] = F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . For any point  $\vec{p} \in F^n$  define ideal

$$M_{\vec{p}} := \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - p_i) F[\vec{x}].$$

(a)  $M_{\vec{p}}$  is kernel of  $F[\vec{x}] \rightarrow F$  ( $f(\vec{x}) \mapsto f(\vec{p})$ ), hence is maximal.

(b) Given ideals  $A, B \subseteq F[\vec{x}]$ , let  $AB$  be smallest ideal containing the set  $\{fg : f \in A, g \in B\}$ . Then

$$M_{\vec{p}}^k = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_k} (x_{i_1} - p_{i_1}) \cdots (x_{i_k} - p_{i_k}) F[\vec{x}]$$

(c) The Taylor expansion at  $\vec{x} = \vec{p}$  defines an isomorphism of vector spaces:

$$\mathbb{F}[\vec{x}] \xrightarrow{\sim} \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} \frac{M_{\vec{p}}^k}{M_{\vec{p}}^{k+1}}$$

where  $M_{\vec{p}}^0 := \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ , and

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}} \left( \frac{M_{\vec{p}}^k}{M_{\vec{p}}^{k+1}} \right) = \binom{n+k-1}{k}.$$

(d) Any generating set of ideal  $M_{\vec{p}}$  maps to a spanning set of  $M_{\vec{p}}^1/M_{\vec{p}}^2$ . Since  $\dim(M_{\vec{p}}^1/M_{\vec{p}}^2) = n$ , then  $M_{\vec{p}}$  cannot be generated by fewer than  $n$  elements. [In particular, if  $n \geq 2$  then  $\mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$  is not a PID.]



(a) Claim:  $M_{\vec{p}} = \{f : f(\vec{p}) = 0\}$ .

One direction:  $f \in M_{\vec{p}} = \sum (x_i - p_i) \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$

then we have

$$f = (x_1 - p_1) f_1 + \dots + (x_n - p_n) f_n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f(\vec{p}) &= (p_1 - p_1) f_1(\vec{p}) + \dots + (p_n - p_n) f_n(\vec{p}) \\ &= 0 + \dots + 0 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, let  $f(\vec{p}) = 0$ , consider Taylor expansion:

$$f(\vec{x}) = \underbrace{f(\vec{p})}_0 + \sum_{\sum I \geq 1} \frac{1}{I!} D_{\vec{x}}^I(f)_{\vec{p}} (\vec{x} - \vec{p})^I$$

Since  $\sum I \geq 1 \Rightarrow i_k \geq 1$  for some  $k$ ,  
hence  $f(\vec{x}) \in M_p$ .

(b)  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$  finitely generated:

$$A = f_1 \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}] + \dots + f_n \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$$

$$B = g_1 \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}] + \dots + g_m \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}].$$

Then, claim  $AB = \sum f_i g_j \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ .

Indeed, each  $f_i g_j \in AB$ , hence  $\mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ -linear combinations  $\in AB$ .

Conversely, any element of  $AB$  is a sum of terms  $f_j h$ ,  $f \in A, g \in B$ ,

$h \in \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ . Suppose

$$f = f_1 \varphi_1 + \dots + f_n \varphi_n$$

$$g = g_1 \gamma_1 + \dots + g_m \gamma_m.$$

$$\text{Then } f g h = \sum_{i,j} f_i g_j (\varphi_i \gamma_j h). \quad \checkmark$$

Apply to  $M_p = \sum (x_i - p_i) \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$

to get  $M_p^k = \sum (x_{i_1} - p_{i_1}) \dots (x_{i_k} - p_{i_k}) \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ .

(c) Recall, each  $f \in \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$  has unique expansion  $f = \sum a_I (\vec{x} - \vec{p})^I$ .

Indeed:  $a_I = \frac{1}{I!} D_{\vec{x}}^I (f)_{\vec{p}}$ .

Now for any  $f$  define the homogeneous filtration at  $\vec{x} = \vec{p}$ :

$$f = f_{\vec{p}}^{(0)} + f_{\vec{p}}^{(1)} + \dots$$

$$f_{\vec{p}}^{(k)} = \sum_{\sum I = k} a_I (\vec{x} - \vec{p})^I$$

Send  $f$  to the formal sequence

$$(f_p^{(0)} + M_p, f_p^{(1)} + M_p^2, f_p^{(2)} + M_p^3, \dots) \in \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} M_p^k / M_p^{k+1}$$

To see this is a vector space isom,

$$\text{I claim } \left\{ (\vec{x} - \vec{p})^{\mathbf{I}} + M_p^{k+1} : \sum \mathbf{I} = k \right\}$$

is a basis for  $M_p^k / M_p^{k+1}$ .

Spanning ✓

Independence? Suppose  $\nexists$  nontriv.

linear relation:  $\exists \sum \mathbf{I} = k$  where

$$(\vec{x} - \vec{p})^{\mathbf{I}} + \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{J} \neq \mathbf{I} \\ \sum \mathbf{J} = k}} a_{\mathbf{J}} (\vec{x} - \vec{p})^{\mathbf{J}} \in M_p^{k+1}$$



Recall: for any  $\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{J} \in \mathbb{N}^n$ ,

$$D_{\vec{x}}^{\mathbf{I}} (\vec{x} - \vec{p})^{\mathbf{J}} = \begin{cases} \text{non-constant} & \mathbf{I} < \mathbf{J} \\ \text{non-zero constant} & \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{J} \\ 0 & \mathbf{I} \neq \mathbf{J} \end{cases}$$

So apply  $D_{\vec{x}}^{\mathbf{I}}$  to  $(*)$ :

If  $\sum I = \sum J$  &  $I \neq J$  then  $I \neq J$ .

$\Rightarrow$  polynomial  $\rightsquigarrow$  non-zero const.

However,  $D_{\bar{x}}^I$  applied to any element of  $M_p^{k+1}$  gives a non-constant or zero,

since  $k = \sum I < \sum J$  implies that

$I < J$  or  $I \neq J$ .  $\parallel$

$$\dim(M_p^k / M_p^{k+1}) = \# \{ \sum I \in \mathbb{N}^n : \sum I = k \}$$

"Stars & Bars":  $I \leftrightarrow$  binary strings of 0s & 1s.

$$(i_1, \dots, i_n) \leftrightarrow \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{i_1} 1 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{i_2} 1 \dots 1 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{i_n}$$

$k$  copies of 0  
 $n-1$  copies of 1.

$$\# \text{ of such is } \binom{n-1+k}{k} = \binom{n-1+k}{n-1}.$$

$$\text{Remark: } \sum_{k \geq 0} \dim\left(\frac{M_p^k}{M_p^{k+1}}\right) \lambda^k = \frac{1}{(1-\lambda)^n}.$$

(d) Have surjective map  $M_p \rightarrow M_p/M_p^2$   
given by  $f \mapsto (\nabla f)_p(\vec{x} - \vec{p}) + M_p^2$ .

Now suppose  $M_p = f_1 \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}] + \dots + f_m \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ .

Want to show  $(\nabla f_i)_p(\vec{x} - \vec{p}) + M_p^2$  are a  
spanning set for vector space  $M_p/M_p^2$ .

Indeed: Every elt of  $M_p/M_p^2$  looks  
like  $(\nabla F)_p(\vec{x} - \vec{p})$  for some  $f \in M_p$ .

By hypothesis,  $F = f_1 g_1 + \dots + f_m g_m$ .

for some  $g_1, \dots, g_m \in \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ . Product Rule:

$$\begin{aligned}(\nabla F)_p &= \sum_i \nabla(f_i g_i)_p \\ &= \sum_i \left( (\nabla f_i)_p g_i(\vec{p}) + \cancel{f_i(\vec{p})} (\nabla g_i)_p \right) \\ &= \sum_i g_i(\vec{p}) (\nabla f_i)_p,\end{aligned}$$

hence  $(\nabla F)_p(\vec{x} - \vec{p}) + M_p^2$

$$= \sum_i g_i(\vec{p}) (\nabla f_i)_p(\vec{x} - \vec{p}) + M_p^2. \quad \text{//}$$



Zariski: Tangent Space of Hypersurface.

Let  $V_f \subseteq \mathbb{F}^n$  be hypersurface,

let  $\vec{p} \in V_f$ , let  $T_{\vec{p}} V_f$  be the  
tangent space  $\{ \vec{v} : (\nabla f)_{\vec{p}} \vec{v} = 0 \}$ .

Then:

$$(T_{\vec{p}} V_f)^* \approx M_p / (M_p^2 + f(x) \mathbb{F}[x])$$

Proof:  $M_p \twoheadrightarrow (\mathbb{F}^n)^* \twoheadrightarrow (T_p V_f)^*$

surjective

$$f \longmapsto [\vec{v} \mapsto (\nabla f)_{\vec{p}} \vec{v}]$$

Claim:  $\ker = M_p^2 + f(x) \mathbb{F}[x]$ .

One direction easy (see notes).

Other direction. Let  $g$  be in  $\ker$ .

i.e.,  $\vec{v} \mapsto (\nabla g)_{\vec{p}} \vec{v} = 0 \quad \forall \vec{v} \in T_p V_f$ .

i.e.,  $(\nabla f)_{\vec{p}} \vec{v} = 0 \implies (\nabla g)_{\vec{p}} \vec{v} = 0$ .



$$\text{i.e., } H_{(\nabla f)_p} \in H_{(\nabla g)_p}$$

$$\text{by dimension} \Rightarrow H_{(\nabla f)_p} = H_{(\nabla g)_p}.$$

$$\Rightarrow H_{(\nabla g)_p}^\perp = H_{(\nabla f)_p}^\perp.$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla g)_{\vec{p}} = \lambda (\nabla f)_{\vec{p}}.$$

Finally, let  $h = g - \lambda f \in \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}]$ .

$$h(\vec{p}) = g(\vec{p}) - \lambda f(\vec{p}) = 0 - \lambda \cdot 0 = 0.$$

$$(\nabla h)_{\vec{p}} = (\nabla g)_{\vec{p}} - \lambda (\nabla f)_{\vec{p}} = \vec{0}.$$

$$\Rightarrow h \in M_p^2.$$

$$g - \lambda f \in M_p^2$$

$$g \in M_p^2 + \{ \lambda f : \lambda \in \mathbb{F} \}$$

$$\subseteq M_p^2 + \mathcal{I}(\vec{x}) \mathbb{F}[\vec{x}] \quad \checkmark$$

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Remark:  $\mathbb{F}$  need not be algebraically closed!