

Lecture 29: Finitely generated algebras

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As we discussed in the previous lecture, $\dim A \geq \text{ht } \mathfrak{p} + \dim A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ for any $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A$; but equality does not necessarily hold.

Thm. k : field; A : f.g. k -algebra; A : integral domain. Then

$$\forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A, \text{ht } \mathfrak{p} + \dim A_{\mathfrak{p}} = \dim A.$$

We start with a stronger form of Noether's normalization lemma.

Strong version of Noether's normalization lemma

Let $\tilde{A} = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be the ring of polynomials over a field k .

Suppose $\mathcal{O} \triangleq \neq \tilde{A}$. Then $\exists y_1, \dots, y_n \in \tilde{A}$ s.t.

(1) y_1, \dots, y_n are algebraically indep. over k .

(2) \tilde{A} is integral over $k[y_1, \dots, y_n]$.

(3) $\mathcal{O} \cap k[y_1, \dots, y_n] = \langle y_{d+1}, \dots, y_n \rangle$.

Remark. Connection with the previous version of Noether's

normalization lemma: a f.g. k -algebra $A \simeq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/\mathcal{O}$.

Choose y_i 's as above for \mathcal{O} . Then A is integral over

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$$k[y_1, \dots, y_n] / \langle y_{d+1}, \dots, y_n \rangle \simeq k[y_1, \dots, y_d].$$

Pf. Step 1. $\mathcal{O} = \langle f \rangle$.

Pf of step 1. We have proved that $\phi_M: k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$$\phi_M(x_n) = x_n, \quad \phi_M(x_i) = x_n^{M^i} + x_i \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n-1$$
 is

an automorphism of \tilde{A} and, if $M \gg 1$, then $\phi_M(f)$ is

monic as a poly. in terms of x_n . So applying ϕ_M ,
w.l.o.g. we can and will assume f is monic in terms

of x_n . Let $y_1 = x_1, \dots, y_{n-1} = x_{n-1}$, and $y_n = f$.

Then x_n is integral over $k[y_1, \dots, y_n]$ (as f is monic
in terms of x_n); y_i 's are algebraically indep. over k ;
and $\langle f \rangle \cap k[y_1, \dots, y_n] = y_n k[y_1, \dots, y_n]$.

Step 2. We proceed by induction on n .

• Base. If $n=1$, then $k[x_1]$ is a PID $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}$ is principal.

• Induction step. For $f \in \mathcal{O}$, $\exists y_1, \dots, y_n$ as in step 1.

Consider $\mathcal{O}' := \mathcal{O} \cap k[y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}] \triangleq k[y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}]$. By the

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induction hypothesis, $\exists z_1, \dots, z_{n-1} \in k[y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}]$ s.t.

(1) z_i 's are alg. inde. over k .

(2) $k[y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}]$ is integral over $k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}]$

(3) $\mathcal{O}' \cap k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}] = \langle z_{d+1}, \dots, z_{n-1} \rangle$.

Consider $k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n]$:

(1) y_1, \dots, y_n alg. ind. $\left. \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n \text{ are alg. inde.} \\ z_1, \dots, z_{n-1} \in k[y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}] \\ \text{alg. ind.} \end{array} \right\}$

(2) $k[x_1, \dots, x_n] / k[y_1, \dots, y_n]$ integ. $\left. \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_n] / k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n] \\ k[y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}] / k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}] \text{ inte.} \end{array} \right\} \text{ integ.}$

(3) $\mathcal{O}' \cap k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n] \stackrel{?}{=} \langle z_{d+1}, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n \rangle$

(\supseteq) is clear. (\subseteq) $g \in \mathcal{O}' \cap k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n] \Rightarrow$

$$g = g_0 + y_n p \quad \text{where } g_0 \in k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}], p \in k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n].$$

Since $y_n \in \mathcal{O}'$, $g_0 \in \mathcal{O}' \cap k[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}] = \langle z_{d+1}, \dots, z_{n-1} \rangle$.

Hence $g \in \langle z_{d+1}, \dots, z_{n-1}, y_n \rangle$. \blacksquare

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pf of theorem. By Noether's normalization lemma, $\exists x_1, \dots, x_d \in A$ s.t.

(1) x_i 's are algebraically independent over k .

(2) A is integral over $k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$.

Since $k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ is a UFD, it is integrally closed. Hence

$f^*: \text{Spec } A \rightarrow \text{Spec } k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ has the Going-Up and the

Going-Down properties. Therefore

$$\text{ht}(\mathfrak{p}) = \text{ht}(f^*(\mathfrak{p})) \quad (\text{Going-Down}) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\dim(A/\mathfrak{p}) = \dim(k[x_1, \dots, x_d]/f^*(\mathfrak{p})) \quad (\text{Going-Up}).$$

By the stronger version of Noether's normalization lemma,

$\exists y_1, \dots, y_d \in k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ s.t. (1) y_i 's are algebraically indep. over k .

(2) $k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ is integral over $k[y_1, \dots, y_d]$.

(3) $g^*(f^*(\mathfrak{p})) = \langle y_{d+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle$ where

$g^*: \text{Spec } k[x_1, \dots, x_d] \rightarrow \text{Spec } k[y_{d+1}, \dots, y_d]$ is the contra. map.

Again by Going-Down and Going-Up,

$$\text{ht}(\mathfrak{p}) = \text{ht}(f^*(\mathfrak{p})) = \text{ht}(g^* f^*(\mathfrak{p})) = \text{ht}(\langle y_{d+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle) \quad \text{and}$$

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$$\dim(A/\mathfrak{p}) = \dim\left(k[x_1, \dots, x_d]/\mathfrak{p}^*(\mathfrak{p})\right) = \dim\left(k[y_1, \dots, y_d]/\langle y_{d'+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle\right)$$

Since $k[y_1, \dots, y_d]/\langle y_{d'+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle \simeq k[y_1, \dots, y_{d'}]$, we deduce

$$\dim A/\mathfrak{p} = d'. \quad (\text{I})$$

By Krull's HT, $\text{ht}(\langle y_{d'+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle) \leq d - d'$; and we have that

$0 \subsetneq \langle y_{d'+1} \rangle \subsetneq \langle y_{d'+1}, y_{d'+2} \rangle \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \langle y_{d'+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle$ is a

chain of prime ideals of length $d - d'$. Hence

$$\text{ht}(\mathfrak{p}) = \text{ht}(\langle y_{d'+1}, \dots, y_d \rangle) = d - d'. \quad (\text{II})$$

$$(\text{I}), (\text{II}) \Rightarrow \text{ht } \mathfrak{p} + \dim A/\mathfrak{p} = (d - d') + d'$$

$$= d = \dim k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$$

$$= \dim A \quad \text{as } A/k[x_1, \dots, x_d] \text{ is integral.}$$

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