

**Historical Intermezzo:**

The Italian School consisting of Cremona, Severi, Enriques, Segre and others dealt with  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ . They defined dimension and degree in the following manner.

**Definition 0.1.**  $\dim X = d$ , if  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  are general hyperplanes in  $\mathbb{P}^n$  then  $\#(X \cap H_1 \cdots \cap H_n) < \infty$ .

**Definition 0.2.**  $\deg X$  is defined as  $\#(X \cap H_1 \cdots \cap H_n)$ .

However, these definitions only work for projective varieties.

**Definition 0.3.** Let  $X$  be a prevariety over  $k$  then  $\dim X = \text{tr.deg}_k k(X)$ . Recall that  $\text{tr.deg}_k k(X) = n$  iff  $\exists f_1, \dots, f_n \in k(X)$  which are algebraically independent over  $k$  and  $k(f_1, \dots, f_n) \hookrightarrow k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an algebraic extension.

- Remark 0.4.**
1. Loosely speaking it the  $\dim X$  is the maximum number of linear coordinates on  $X$ .
  2.  $\emptyset \neq U \subseteq X, k(U) = k(X) \Rightarrow \dim X = \dim U$ .
  3.  $\dim \mathbb{A}^n = n$
  4.  $\dim X = 0$  iff  $k(X) = k$  iff  $X$  is a point.

**Proposition 0.5.** If  $X$  is a prevariety,  $Y \subsetneq X$  is a proper subvariety  $\Rightarrow \dim Y < \dim X$

*Proof.*  $Y \subsetneq X$ . Pick  $U \subseteq X$  affine and  $U \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ .

$$\dim X = \dim U$$

$$\dim Y = \dim(Y \cap U)$$

So we restrict ourselves to the affine case. Let  $R = \mathcal{O}_X(U)$ . Then  $Y \cap U$  is an affine subvariety given by some ideal  $\mathfrak{F} = \mathcal{I}(Y \cap U) \subseteq R$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  is prime.

$$\dim(Y \cap U) = \text{tr.deg}_k Q(R/\mathfrak{F}) = \text{tr.deg}_k (R/\mathfrak{F})$$

We have to prove  $\text{tr.deg}_k (R/\mathfrak{F}) < \text{tr.deg}_k (R)$

**Lemma 0.6.** Let  $R$  be an integral domain,  $(0) \neq \mathfrak{F} \subseteq R$  prime. Then if  $\text{tr.deg}_k (R) < \infty$ , then  $\text{tr.deg}_k (R/\mathfrak{F}) < \text{tr.deg}_k (R)$

*Proof.* Suppose  $\text{tr.deg}_k (R) = n$ . Suppose  $\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in R$  such that  $\overline{x_1} = x_1 \bmod \mathfrak{F}, \dots, \overline{x_n} = x_n \bmod \mathfrak{F}$ .

Fix  $q \in \mathfrak{F} - 0$ .

$\therefore q, x_1, \dots, x_n \in R \Rightarrow \exists f \in k[y_0, \dots, y_n]$  such that  $f(q, x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$ .

We may also assume  $f$  is irreducible. Also  $f$  cannot be  $y_0$ .

Hence  $F(y_1, \dots, y_n) = f(0, y_1, \dots, y_n) \neq 0$ .

$$F(\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n) = f(\bar{q}, \bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n) = f(q, x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0.$$

Hence  $\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n$  are not algebraically independent. A contradiction.

**Definition 0.7.**  $Y \subseteq X$  be a subvariety, then  $\text{codim}(Y, X) = \dim X - \dim Y \geq 0$

**Theorem 0.8.** Let  $X$  be a variety and  $U \subseteq X$  be an open set. Let  $g \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$  and  $Z$  an irreducible component of  $\mathcal{Z}(g) = \{x \in U : g(x) = 0\}$ . Then  $\dim Z = \dim X - 1$ .

**Example 0.9.**  $Q : xz = yw$  in  $\mathbb{P}^3$

$$f = \frac{x^2 + z^2 - 3xw}{y^2 + yx + 3z^2}$$

Any component of the locus  $Q \cap \mathcal{Z}(f)$  has dimension 1.

*Proof.* Let  $U_0 \subseteq U$  be affine such that  $U_0 \cap \mathcal{Z}(g) \neq \emptyset$ .

$$R = \mathcal{O}_X(U_0)$$

$f := g|_{U_0}$  corresponds to the ideal  $(f)$ .

The irreducible components of  $U_0 \cap \mathcal{Z}(g)$  correspond to minimal primes  $\mathfrak{F} \subseteq R$  such that  $(f) \subseteq \mathfrak{F}$ . We want  $\text{tr.deg}_k(R/\mathfrak{F}) \leq \text{tr.deg}_k(R) - 1$

**Theorem 0.10. (Krull Hauptidealsatz)** Let  $R$  be a finitely generated integral domain over  $k$ , let  $0 \neq f \in \mathfrak{F}$  be a minimal prime ideal. Then  $\text{tr.deg}_k(R/\mathfrak{F}) \leq \text{tr.deg}_k(R) - 1$

**Corollary 0.11.** If  $X$  is a variety and  $Z \subseteq X$  is a maximal closed proper subset. Then

$$\dim Z = \dim X - 1$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $\dim Z \leq \dim X - 2$ . We can assume  $X$  is affine.

$R = \mathcal{O}_X(X)$  and  $(0) \neq I(Z) \subseteq R$  a prime ideal.

Take  $f \in I(Z) \Rightarrow Z \subsetneq \mathcal{Z}(f) \subset X$

$Z \neq \mathcal{Z}(f)$  because each component of  $\mathcal{Z}(f)$  has codimension 1.

This contradicts the maximality of  $Z$ .

**Corollary 0.12.**  $\dim X = \max\{r : \exists \emptyset \neq Z_0 \subset Z_1 \subset \dots \subset Z_r = X\}$ . The  $Z_i$ 's are closed irreducible subsets

*Proof.* Induction on  $r$ .

### A third approach to dimension

Let  $R$  be a localring. Let  $\underline{m} \subseteq R$  be a maximal ideal.

$\dim(R) = \max\{n, \exists (0) = \mathfrak{F}_0 \subset \mathfrak{F}_1 \subset \dots \subset \mathfrak{F}_n = \underline{m}\}$ . The chain is a chain of prime ideals. This is the Krull dimension of  $R$ .

**Proposition 0.13.** If  $X$  is a variety and  $p \in X \Rightarrow \dim X = \dim \mathcal{O}_{X,p}$

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be affine and  $p \in X$  and  $R = \mathcal{O}_X(X)$

$$\mathcal{O}_{X,p} = R_{\underline{m}_p} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{m} = \underline{m}_p$$

There is a one to one correspondence between prime ideals in  $R_{\underline{m}}$  and prime ideals of  $R$  contained in  $\underline{m}$ .

Chain of prime ideals contained in  $\underline{m}_p \leftrightarrow$  chain of irreducible closed subsets starting with  $Z_0 = \{p\}$ .  
 $\therefore \dim \mathcal{O}_{X,p} = \dim X$ .