

Exercise Sheet 1.

Algebraic geometry

23.02.2022

Let k be an algebraically closed field. Exercises below are from [Ellingsrud-Ottem].

Q1 (1.8) Let F_1, \dots, F_r be homogenous polynomials in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ and let $X = Z(F_1, \dots, F_r)$ be the closed algebraic subset they define. Show that X is a cone with apex at the origin; that is, show that if x is a point in X , the line joining x to the origin lies entirely in X .

Draw a picture of X when $r = 1, n = 2$ $F_1 = X_1X_2$.

Q2 (1.10) Let $M_{n,m}$ be the space of $n \times m$ -matrices with coefficients from k . It can be identified with the affine space \mathbb{A}^{nm} with coordinates x_{ij} where $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $1 \leq j \leq m$. Let r be a natural number less than both n and m , and let W_r be the set of $n \times m$ -matrices of rank at most r . Show that W_r is a closed algebraic subset. Show that all the W_r 's are cones over the origin. Hint: Determinants are polynomials.

Q3 (1.11) Let for every natural number $d \geq 2$ let $C_d \subset \mathbb{A}^d$ be the curve defined by the parametric representation $\phi(t) = (t, t^2, \dots, t^d)$, and let \mathfrak{a} be the ideal $\mathfrak{a} = (x_i - x_1x_{i-1} : 2 \leq i \leq d)$. Show that C_d is a closed algebraic set, that $I(C_d) = \mathfrak{a}$ and that \mathfrak{a} is a prime ideal.