EXAMPLES

Contents

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1. Introduction

This chapters will contain examples which illuminate the theory.

2. Noncomplete completion

Let R be a ring and let $\mathfrak m$ be a maximal ideal. Consider the completion

$$R^\wedge = \lim R/\mathfrak m^n.$$

Note that $R^\wedge$ is a local ring with maximal ideal $\mathfrak m' = \text{Ker}(R^\wedge \to R/\mathfrak m)$. Namely, if $x = (x_n) \in R^\wedge$ is not in $\mathfrak m'$, then $y = (x_n^{-1}) \in R^\wedge$ satisfies $xy = 1$, whence $R^\wedge$ is local by Algebra, Lemma 15.2. Now it is always true that $R^\wedge$ complete in its limit topology (see the discussion in More on Algebra, Section 26). But beyond that, we have the following questions:

(1) Is it true that $\mathfrak m R^\wedge = \mathfrak m'$?
(2) Is $R^\wedge$ viewed as an $R^\wedge$-module $\mathfrak m'$-adically complete?
(3) Is $R^\wedge$ viewed as an R-module $\mathfrak m$-adically complete?

It turns out that of these questions all have a negative answer. The example below was taken from an upublished note of Bart de Smit and Hendrik Lenstra. It also is discussed in [Bou61, Exercise III.2.12] over a finite field. It is further discussed in [Yek11, Example 1.8]

Let k be a field, $R = k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots]$, and $\mathfrak m = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots)$. We will think of an element f of $R^\wedge$ as a (possibly) infinite sum

$$f = \sum a_I x^I$$

(using multi-index notation) such that for each $d \geq 0$ there are only finitely many nonzero a_I for $|I| = d$. The maximal ideal $\mathfrak m' \subset R^\wedge$ is the collection of f with zero constant term. In particular, the element

$$f = x_1 + x_2^2 + x_3^3 + \ldots$$

is in $\mathfrak m'$ but not in $\mathfrak m R^\wedge$ which shows that (1) is false in this example. Note that we do have $\mathfrak m R^\wedge \subset \mathfrak m'$. Hence, $R^\wedge$ is not $\mathfrak m$-adically complete as an R-module, then it is also not $\mathfrak m'$-adically complete. To show that $R^\wedge$ is not $\mathfrak m$-adically complete (as an R-module) it suffices to show that $K_2 = \text{Ker}(R^\wedge \to R/\mathfrak m^2)$ is not equal to $\mathfrak m^2 R^\wedge$, see Algebra, Lemma 88.6. Note that an element of $\mathfrak m^2 R^\wedge \subset (\mathfrak m')^2$ can be written as a finite sum

$$\sum\nolimits_{i=1,\ldots,t} f_i g_i \qquad (2.0.1)$$

with $f_i, g_i \in R^\wedge$ having vanishing constant terms. To get an example we are going to choose an $z \in K_2$ of the form

$$z = z_1 + z_2 + z_3 + \ldots$$

with the following properties

(1) there exist sequences $1 < d_1 < d_2 < d_3 < \ldots$ and $0 < n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \ldots$ such that $z_i \in k[x_{n_i}, x_{n_i+1}, \ldots, x_{n_{i+1}-1}]$ homogeneous of degree d_i, and

(2) in the ring $k[[x_{n_i}, x_{n_i+1}, \ldots, x_{n_{i+1}-1}]]$ the element z_i cannot be written as a sum (2.0.1) with $t \leq i$.

Clearly this implies that z is not in $(\mathfrak{m}')^2$ because the image of the relation (2.0.1) in the ring $k[[x_{n_i}, x_{n_i+1}, \ldots, x_{n_{i+1}-1}]]$ for i large enough would produce a contradiction. Hence it suffices to prove that for all $t > 0$ there exists a $d \gg 0$ and an integer n such that we can find an homogeneous element $z \in k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ of degree d which cannot be written as a sum (2.0.1) for the given t in $k[[x_1, \ldots, x_n]]$. Take $n > 2t$ and any $d > 1$ prime to the characteristic of p and set $z = \sum_{i=1,\ldots,n} x_i^d$. Then the vanishing locus of the ideal

$$(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_1}, \ldots, \frac{\partial z}{\partial x_n}) = (dx_1^{d-1}, \ldots, dx_n^{d-1})$$

consists of one point. On the other hand,

$$\frac{\partial(\sum_{i=1,\ldots,t} f_i g_i)}{\partial x_j} \in (f_1, \ldots, f_t, g_1, \ldots, g_t)$$

by the Leibniz rule and hence the vanishing locus of these derivatives contains at least

$$V(f_1, \ldots, f_t, g_1, \ldots, g_t) \subset \text{Spec}(k[[x_1, \ldots, x_n]]).$$

Hence this is a contradition as the dimension of $V(f_1, \ldots, f_t, g_1, \ldots, g_t)$ is at least $n - 2t \geq 1$.

Lemma 2.1. *There exists a local ring R and a maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}$ such that the completion $R^\wedge$ of R with respect to $\mathfrak{m}$ has the following properties*

(1) *$R^\wedge$ is local, but its maximal ideal is not equal to $\mathfrak{m}R^\wedge$,*
(2) *$R^\wedge$ is not a complete local ring, and*
(3) *$R^\wedge$ is not $\mathfrak{m}$-adically complete as an R-module.*

Proof. This follows from the discussion above as (with $R = k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots]$) the completion of the localization $R_\mathfrak{m}$ is equal to the completion of R. □

3. Noncomplete quotient

Let k be a field. Let

$$R = k[t, z_1, z_2, z_3, \ldots, w_1, w_2, w_3, \ldots, x]/(z_i t - x^i w_i, z_i w_j)$$

Note that in particular $z_i z_j t = 0$ in this ring. Any element f of R can be uniquely written as a finite sum

$$f = \sum\nolimits_{i=0,\ldots,d} f_i x^i$$

where each $f_i \in k[t, z_i, w_j]$ has no terms involving the products $z_i t$ or $z_i w_j$. Moreover, if f is written in this way, then $f \in (x^n)$ if and only if $f_i = 0$ for $i < n$. So x is a nonzero divisor and $\bigcap(x^n) = 0$. Let $R^\wedge$ be the completion of R with respect to the ideal (x). Note that $R^\wedge$ is (x)-adically complete, see Algebra, Lemma 88.7. By the above we see that an element of $R^\wedge$ can be uniquely written as an infinite sum

$$f = \sum\nolimits_{i=0}^{\infty} f_i x^i$$

where each $f_i \in k[t, z_i, w_j]$ has no terms involving the products $z_i t$ or $z_i w_j$. Consider the element

$$f = \sum\nolimits_{i=1}^{\infty} x^{i-1} w_i = x w_1 + x^2 w_2 + x^3 w_3 + \ldots$$

i.e., we have $f_n = w_n$. Note that $f \in (t, x^n)$ for every n because $x^m w_m \in (t)$ for all m. We claim that $f \notin (t)$. To prove this assume that $tg = f$ where $g = \sum g_l x^l$ in canonical form as above. Since $tz_iz_j = 0$ we may as well assume that none of the g_l have terms involving the products z_iz_j. Examining the process to get tg in canonical form we see the following: Given any term cm of g_l where $c \in k$ and m is a monomial in t, z_i, w_j and we make the following replacement

(1) if the monomial m does not involve any z_i, then ctm is a term of f_l, and
(2) if the monomial m does involve a z_i then it is eqal to $m = z_i$ and we see that cw_i is term of f_{l+i}.

Since g_0 is a polynomial only finitely many of the variables z_i occur in it. Pick n such that z_n does not occur in g_0. Then the rules above show that w_n does not occur in f_n which is a contradiction. It follows that $R^\wedge/(t)$ is not complete, see Algebra, Lemma 88.13.

Lemma 3.1. *There exists a ring R complete with respect to a principal ideal I and a principal ideal J such that R/J is not I-adically complete.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

4. Completion is not exact

A quick example is the following. Suppose that $R = k[t]$. Let $P = K = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbf{N}} R$ and $M = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbf{N}} R/(t^n)$. Then there is a short exact sequence $0 \to K \to P \to M \to 0$ where the first map is given by multiplication by t^n on the nth summand. We claim that $0 \to K^\wedge \to P^\wedge \to M^\wedge \to 0$ is not exact in the middle. Namely, $\xi = (t^2, t^3, t^4, \ldots) \in P^\wedge$ maps to zero in $M^\wedge$ but is not in the image of $K^\wedge \to P^\wedge$, because it would be the image of $(t, t, t, \ldots)$ which is not an element of $K^\wedge$.

A "smaller" example is the following. In the situation of Lemma 3.1 the short exact sequence $0 \to J \to R \to R/J \to 0$ does not remain exact after completion. Namely, if $f \in J$ is a generator, then $f : R \to J$ is surjective, hence $R \to J^\wedge$ is surjective, hence the image of $J^\wedge \to R$ is $(f) = J$ but the fact that R/J is noncomplete means that the kernel of the surjection $R \to (R/J)^\wedge$ is strictly bigger than J, see Algebra, Lemmas 88.1 and 88.13. By the same token the sequence $R \to R \to R/(f) \to 0$ does not remain exact on completion.

Lemma 4.1. *Completion is not an exact functor in general; it is not even right exact in general. This holds even when I is finitely generated on the category of finitely presented modules.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

5. The category of complete modules is not abelian

Let R be a ring and let $I \subset R$ be a finitely generated ideal. Consider the category $\mathcal{A}$ of I-adically complete R-modules, see Algebra, Definition 88.5. Let $\varphi : M \to N$ be a morphism of $\mathcal{A}$. The cokernel of φ in $\mathcal{A}$ is the completion $(\text{Coker}(\varphi))^\wedge$ of the usual cokernel (as I is finitely generated this completion is complete, see Algebra, Lemma 88.7). Let $K = \text{Ker}(\varphi)$. We claim that K is complete and hence is the kernel of φ in $\mathcal{A}$. Namely, let $K^\wedge$ be the completion. As M is complete we obtain a factorization

$$K \to K^\wedge \to M \xrightarrow{\varphi} N$$

Since φ is continuous for the I-adic topology, $K \to K^\wedge$ has dense image, and $K = \text{Ker}(\varphi)$ we conclude that $K^\wedge$ maps into K. Thus $K^\wedge = K \oplus C$ and K is a direct sum of a complete module, hence complete.

We will give an example that shows that $\text{Im} \neq \text{Coim}$ in general. We take $R = \mathbf{Z}_p = \lim_n \mathbf{Z}/p^n\mathbf{Z}$ to be the ring of p-adic integers and we take $I = (p)$. Consider the map

$$\text{diag}(1, p, p^2, \ldots) : \left(\bigoplus\nolimits_{n \geq 1} \mathbf{Z}_p\right)^\wedge \longrightarrow \prod\nolimits_{n \geq 1} \mathbf{Z}_p$$

where the left hand side is the p-adic completion of the direct sum. Hence an element of the left hand side is a vector $(x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots)$ with $x_i \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ with p-adic valuation $v_p(x_i) \to \infty$ as $i \to \infty$. This maps to $(x_1, px_2, p^2x_3, \ldots)$. Hence we see that $(1, p, p^2, \ldots)$ is in the closure of the image but not in the image. By our description of kernels and cokernels above it is clear that $\text{Im} \neq \text{Coim}$ for this map.

Lemma 5.1. *Let R be a ring and let $I \subset R$ be a finitely generated ideal. The category of I-adically complete R-modules has kernels and cokernels but is not abelian in general.*

Proof. See above. □

6. Regular sequences and base change

We are going to construct a ring R with a regular sequence (x, y, z) such that there exists a nonzero element $\delta \in R/zR$ with $x\delta = y\delta = 0$.

To construct our example we first construct a peculiar module E over the ring $k[x, y, z]$ where k is any field. Namely, E will be a push-out as in the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
\frac{xk[x,y,z,y^{-1}]}{xyk[x,y,z]} & \longrightarrow & \frac{k[x,y,z,x^{-1},y^{-1}]}{yk[x,y,z,x^{-1}]} & \longrightarrow & \frac{k[x,y,z,x^{-1},y^{-1}]}{yk[x,y,z,x^{-1}]+xk[x,y,z,y^{-1}]} \\
\downarrow{\scriptstyle z/x} & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\frac{k[x,y,z,y^{-1}]}{yzk[x,y,z]} & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & \frac{k[x,y,z,x^{-1},y^{-1}]}{yk[x,y,z,x^{-1}]+xk[x,y,z,y^{-1}]}
\end{array}$$

where the rows are short exact sequences (we dropped the outer zeros due to typesetting problems). Another way to describe E is as

$$E = \{(f, g) \mid f \in k[x, y, z, x^{-1}, y^{-1}], g \in k[x, y, z, y^{-1}]\}/\sim$$

where $(f, g) \sim (f', g')$ if and only if there exists a $h \in k[x, y, z, y^{-1}]$ such that

$$f = f' + xh \bmod yk[x, y, z, x^{-1}], \quad g = g' - zh \bmod yzk[x, y, z]$$

We claim: (a) $x : E \to E$ is injective, (b) $y : E/xE \to E/xE$ is injective, (c) $E/(x, y)E = 0$, (d) there exists a nonzero element $\delta \in E/zE$ such that $x\delta = y\delta = 0$.

To prove (a) suppose that (f, g) is a pair that gives rise to an element of E and that $(xf, xg) \sim 0$. Then there exists a $h \in k[x, y, z, y^{-1}]$ such that $xf + xh \in yk[x, y, z, x^{-1}]$ and $xg - zh \in yzk[x, y, z]$. We may assume that $h = \sum a_{i,j,k}x^iy^jz^k$ is a sum of monomials where only $j \leq 0$ occurs. Then $xg - zh \in yzk[x, y, z]$ implies that only $i > 0$ occurs, i.e., $h = xh'$ for some $h' \in k[x, y, z, y^{-1}]$. Then $(f, g) \sim (f + xh', g - zh')$ and we see that we may assume that $g = 0$ and $h = 0$. In this case $xf \in yk[x, y, z, x^{-1}]$ implies $f \in yk[x, y, z, x^{-1}]$ and we see that $(f, g) \sim 0$. Thus $x : E \to E$ is injective.

Since multiplication by x is an isomorphism on $\frac{k[x,y,z,x^{-1},y^{-1}]}{yk[x,y,z,x^{-1}]}$ we see that E/xE is isomorphic to

$$\frac{k[x,y,z,y^{-1}]}{yzk[x,y,z] + xk[x,y,z,y^{-1}] + zk[x,y,z,y^{-1}]} = \frac{k[x,y,z,y^{-1}]}{xk[x,y,z,y^{-1}] + zk[x,y,z,y^{-1}]}$$

and hence multiplication by y is an isomorphism on E/xE. This clearly implies (b) and (c).

Let $e \in E$ be the equivalence class of $(1, 0)$. Suppose that $e \in zE$. Then there exist $f \in k[x,y,z,x^{-1},y^{-1}]$, $g \in k[x,y,z,y^{-1}]$, and $h \in k[x,y,z,y^{-1}]$ such that

$$1 + zf + xh \in yk[x,y,z,x^{-1}], \quad 0 + zg - zh \in yzk[x,y,z].$$

This is impossible: the monomial 1 cannot occur in zf, nor in xh. On the other hand, we have $ye = 0$ and $xe = (x, 0) \sim (0, -z) = z(0, -1)$. Hence settting δ equal to the congruence class of e in E/zE we obtain (d).

Lemma 6.1. *There exists a local ring R and a regular sequence x, y, z (in the maximal ideal) such that there exists a nonzero element $\delta \in R/zR$ with $x\delta = y\delta = 0$.*

Proof. Let $R = k[x,y,z] \oplus E$ where E is the module above considered as a square zero ideal. Then it is clear that x, y, z is a regular sequence in R, and that the element $\delta \in E/zE \subset R/zR$ gives an element with the desired properties. To get a local example we may localize R at the maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} = (x, y, z, E)$. The sequence x, y, z remains a regular sequence (as localization is exact), and the element δ remains nonzero as it is supported at $\mathfrak{m}$. □

Lemma 6.2. *There exists a local homomorphism of local rings $A \to B$ and a regular sequence x, y in the maximal ideal of B such that $B/(x, y)$ is flat over A, but such that the images $\overline{x}, \overline{y}$ of x, y in $B/\mathfrak{m}_A B$ do not form a regular sequence, nor even a Koszul-regular sequence.*

Proof. Set $A = k[z]_{(z)}$ and let $B = (k[x,y,z] \oplus E)_{(x,y,z,E)}$. Since x, y, z is a regular sequence in B, see proof of Lemma 6.1, we see that x, y is a regular sequence in B and that $B/(x, y)$ is a torsion free A-module, hence flat. On the other hand, there exists a nonzero element $\delta \in B/\mathfrak{m}_A B = B/zB$ which is annihilated by $\overline{x}, \overline{y}$. Hence $H_2(K_\bullet(B/\mathfrak{m}_A B, \overline{x}, \overline{y})) \neq 0$. Thus $\overline{x}, \overline{y}$ is not Koszul-regular, in particular it is not a regular sequence, see More on Algebra, Lemma 21.2. □

7. A Noetherian ring of infinite dimension

A Noetherian local ring has finite dimension as we saw in Algebra, Proposition 55.8. But there exist Noetherian rings of infinite dimension. See [Nag62, Appendix, Example 1].

Namely, let k be a field, and consider the ring

$$R = k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots].$$

Let $\mathfrak{p}_i = (x_{2^{i-1}}, x_{2^{i-1}+1}, \ldots, x_{2^i - 1})$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots$ which are prime ideals of R. Let S be the multiplicative subset

$$S = \bigcap\nolimits_{i \geq 1} (R \setminus \mathfrak{p}_i).$$

Consider the ring $A = S^{-1}R$. We claim that

(1) The maximal ideals of the ring A are the ideals $\mathfrak{m}_i = \mathfrak{p}_i A$.

(2) We have $A_{\mathfrak{m}_i} = R_{\mathfrak{p}_i}$ which is a Noetherian local ring of dimension 2^i.
(3) The ring A is Noetherian.

Hence it is clear that this is the example we are looking for. Details omitted.

8. Local rings with nonreduced completion

In Algebra, Example 107.4 we gave an example of a characteristic p Noetherian local domain R of dimension 1 whose completion is nonreduced. In this section we present the example of [FR70, Proposition 3.1] which gives a similar ring in characteristic zero.

Let $\mathbf{C}\{x\}$ be the ring of convergent power series over the field $\mathbf{C}$ of complex numbers. The ring of all power series $\mathbf{C}[[x]]$ is its completion. Let $K = \mathbf{C}\{x\}[1/x] = f.f.(B)$ be the field of convergent Laurent series. The K-module $\Omega_{K/\mathbf{C}}$ of algebraic differentials of K over $\mathbf{C}$ is an infinite dimensional K-vector space (proof omitted). We may choose $f_n \in x\mathbf{C}\{x\}$, $n \geq 1$ such that $\mathrm{d}x, \mathrm{d}f_1, \mathrm{d}f_2, \ldots$ are part of a basis of $\Omega_{K/\mathbf{C}}$. Thus we can find a $\mathbf{C}$-derivation

$$D : \mathbf{C}\{x\} \longrightarrow \mathbf{C}((x))$$

such that $D(x) = 0$ and $D(f_i) = x^{-n}$. Let

$$A = \{f \in \mathbf{C}\{x\} \mid D(f) \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]\}$$

We claim that

(1) $\mathbf{C}\{x\}$ is integral over A,
(2) A is a local domain,
(3) $\dim(A) = 1$,
(4) the maximal ideal of A is generated by x and xf_1,
(5) A is Noetherian, and
(6) the completion of A is equal to the ring of dual numbers over $\mathbf{C}[[x]]$.

Since the dual numbers are nonreduced the ring A gives the example.

Note that if $0 \neq f \in x\mathbf{C}\{x\}$ then we may write $D(f) = h/f^n$ for some $n \geq 0$ and $h \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]$. Hence $D(f^{n+1}/(n+1)) \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]$ and $D(f^{n+2}/(n+2)) \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]$. Thus we see $f^{n+1}, f^{n+2} \in A$! In particular we see (1) holds. We also conclude that the fraction field of A is equal to the fraction field of $\mathbf{C}\{x\}$. It also follows immediately that $A \cap x\mathbf{C}\{x\}$ is the set of nonunits of A, hence A is a local domain of dimension 1. If we can show (4) then it will follow that A is Noetherian (proof omitted). Suppose that $f \in A \cap x\mathbf{C}\{x\}$. Write $D(f) = h$, $h \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]$. Write $h = c + xh'$ with $c \in \mathbf{C}$, $h' \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]$. Then $D(f - cxf_1) = c + xh' - c = xh'$. On the other hand $f - cxf_1 = xg$ with $g \in \mathbf{C}\{x\}$, but by the computation above we have $D(g) = h' \in \mathbf{C}[[x]]$ and hence $g \in A$. Thus $f = cxf_1 + xg \in (x, xf_1)$ as desired.

Finally, why is the completion of A nonreduced? Denote $\hat{A}$ the completion of A. Of course this maps surjectively to the completion $\mathbf{C}[[x]]$ of $\mathbf{C}\{x\}$ because $x \in A$. Denote this map $\psi : \hat{A} \to \mathbf{C}[[x]]$. Above we saw that $\mathfrak{m}_A = (x, xf_1)$ and hence $D(\mathfrak{m}_A^n) \subset (x^{n-1})$ by an easy computation. Thus $D : A \to \mathbf{C}[[x]]$ is continuous and gives rise to a continuous derivation $\hat{D} : \hat{A} \to \mathbf{C}[[x]]$ over ψ. Hence we get a ring map

$$\psi + \epsilon\hat{D} : \hat{A} \longrightarrow \mathbf{C}[[x]][\epsilon].$$

Since $\hat{A}$ is a one dimensional Noetherian complete local ring, if we can show this arrow is surjective then it will follow that $\hat{A}$ is nonreduced. Actually the map is an isomorphism but we omit the verification of this. The subring $\mathbf{C}[x]_{(x)} \subset A$ gives rise to a map $i : \mathbf{C}[[x]] \to \hat{A}$ on completions such that $i \circ \psi = \text{id}$ and such that $D \circ i = 0$ (as $D(x) = 0$ by construction). Consider the elements $x^n f_n \in A$. We have

$$(\psi + \epsilon D)(x^n f_n) = x^n f_n + \epsilon$$

for all $n \geq 1$. Surjectivity easily follows from these remarks.

9. A non catenary Noetherian local ring

Even though there is a succesful dimension theory of Noetherian local rings there are non-catenary Noetherian local rings. An example may be found in [Nag62, Appendix, Example 2]. In fact, we will present this example in the simplest case. Namely, we will construct a local Noetherian domain A of dimension 2 which is not universally catenary. (Note that A is automatically catenary, see Exercises, Exercise 12.2.) The existence of a Noetherian local ring which is not universally catenary implies the existence of a Noetherian local ring which is not catenary – and we spell this out at the end of this section in the particular example at hand.

Let k be a field, and consider the formal power series ring $k[[x]]$ in one variable over k. Let

$$z = \sum\nolimits_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i x^i$$

be a formal power series. We assume z as an element of the Laurent series field $k((x)) = f.f.(k[[x]])$ is transcendental over $k(x)$. Put

$$z_j = x^{-j}(z - \sum\nolimits_{i=1,\ldots,j-1} a_i x^i) = \sum\nolimits_{i=j}^{\infty} a_i x^{i-j} \in k[[x]].$$

Note that $Z = z_1$. Let R be the subring of $k[[x]]$ generated by x, z and all of the z_j, in other words

$$R = k[x, z_1, z_2, z_3, \ldots] \subset k[[x]].$$

Consider the ideals $\mathfrak{m} = (x)$ and $\mathfrak{n} = (x - 1, z_1, z_2, \ldots)$ of R.

We have $x(z_{j+1} + a_j) = z_j$. Hence $R/\mathfrak{m} = k$ and $\mathfrak{m}$ is a maximal ideal. Moreover, any element of R not in $\mathfrak{m}$ maps to a unit in $k[[x]]$ and hence $R_\mathfrak{m} \subset k[[x]]$. In fact it is easy to deduce that $R_\mathfrak{m}$ is a discrete valuation ring and residue field k.

We claim that

$$R/(x-1) = k[x, z_1, z_2, z_3, \ldots]/(x-1) \cong k[z].$$

Namely, the relation above implies that $(x-1)(z_{j+1} + a_j) = -z_{j+1} - a_j + z_j$, and hence we may express the class of z_{j+1} in terms of z_j in the quotient $R/(x-1)$. Since the fraction field of R has transcendence degree 2 over k by construction we see that z is transcendental over k in $R/(x-1)$, whence the desired isomorphism. Hence $\mathfrak{n} = (x - 1, z)$ and is a maximal ideal. In fact the map

$$k[x, x^{-1}, z]_{(x-1,z)} \longrightarrow R_\mathfrak{n}$$

is an isomorphism (since x^{-1} is invertible in $R_\mathfrak{n}$ and since $z_{j+1} = x^{-1}z_j - a_j = \ldots = f_j(x, x^{-1}, z)$). This shows that $R_\mathfrak{n}$ is a regular local ring of dimension 2 and residue field k.

Let S be the multiplicative subset

$$S = (R \setminus \mathfrak{m}) \cap (R \setminus \mathfrak{n}) = R \setminus (\mathfrak{m} \cup \mathfrak{n})$$

and set $B = S^{-1}R$. We claim that

(1) The ring B is a k-algebra.
(2) The maximal ideals of the ring B are the two ideals $\mathfrak{m}B$ and $\mathfrak{n}B$.
(3) The residue fields at these maximal ideals is k.
(4) We have $B_{\mathfrak{m}B} = R_{\mathfrak{m}}$ and $B_{\mathfrak{n}B} = R_{\mathfrak{n}}$ which are Noetherian regular local rings of dimensions 1 and 2.
(5) The ring B is Noetherian.

We omit the details of the verifications.

Whenever given a k-algebra B with the properties listed above we get an example as follows. Take $A = k + \text{rad}(B) \subset B$, in our case $\text{rad}(B) = \mathfrak{m}B + \mathfrak{n}B$. It is easy to see that B is finite over A and hence A is Noetherian by Eakin's theorem (see [Eak68], or [Nag62, Appendix A1], or insert future reference here). Also A is a local domain with the same fraction field as B and residue field k. Since the dimension of B is 2 we see that A has dimension 2 as well, by Algebra, Lemma 101.4.

If A were universally catenary then the dimension formula, Algebra, Lemma 102.1 would give $\dim(B_{\mathfrak{m}B}) = 2$ contradiction.

Note that B is generated by one element over A. Hence $B = A[x]/\mathfrak{p}$ for some prime $\mathfrak{p}$ of $A[x]$. Let $\mathfrak{m}' \subset A[x]$ be the maximal ideal corresponding to $\mathfrak{m}B$. Then on the one hand $\dim(A[x]_{\mathfrak{m}'}) = 3$ and on the other hand

$$(0) \subset \mathfrak{p}A[x]_{\mathfrak{m}'} \subset \mathfrak{m}'A[x]_{\mathfrak{m}'}$$

is a maximal chain of primes. Hence $A[x]_{\mathfrak{m}'}$ is an example of a non catenary Noetherian local ring.

10. Non-quasi-affine variety with quasi-affine normalization

The existence of an example of this kind is mentioned in [DG67, II Remark 6.6.13]. They refer to the fifth volume of EGA for such an example, but the fifth volume did not appear.

Let k be a field. Let $Y = \mathbf{A}^2_k \setminus \{(0,0)\}$. We are going to construct a finite surjective birational morphism $\pi : Y \longrightarrow X$ with X a variety over k such that X is not quasi-affine. Namely, consider the following curves in Y:

$$\begin{matrix} C_1 & : & x = 0 \\ C_2 & : & y = 0 \end{matrix}$$

Note that $C_1 \cap C_2 = \emptyset$. We choose the isomorphism $\varphi : C_1 \to C_2$, $(0, y) \mapsto (y^{-1}, 0)$. We claim there is a unique morphism $\pi : Y \to X$ as above such that

$$C_1 \underset{\varphi}{\overset{\text{id}}{\rightrightarrows}} Y \xrightarrow{\pi} X$$

is a coequalizer diagram in the category of varieties (and even in the category of schemes). Accepting this for the moment let us show that such an X cannot be quasi-affine. Namely, it is clear that we would get

$$\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = \{f \in k[x, y] \mid f(0, y) = f(y^{-1}, 0)\} = k \oplus (xy) \subset k[x, y].$$

In particular these functions do not separate the points $(1, 0)$ and $(-1, 0)$ whose images in X (we will see below) are distinct (if the characteristic of k is not 2).

To show that X exists consider the Zariski open $D(x+y) \subset Y$ of Y. This is the spectrum of the ring $k[x, y, 1/(x+y)]$ and the curves C_1, C_2 are completely contained in $D(x+y)$. Moreover the morphism

$$C_1 \coprod C_2 \longrightarrow D(x+y) \cap Y = \mathrm{Spec}(k[x, y, 1/(x+y)])$$

is a closed immersion. It follows from Algebra, Lemma 45.10 that the ring

$$A = \{f \in k[x, y, 1/(x+y)] \mid f(0, y) = f(y^{-1}, 0)\}$$

is of finite type over k. On the other hand we have the open $D(xy) \subset Y$ of Y which is disjoint from the curves C_1 and C_2. It is the spectrum of the ring

$$B = k[x, y, 1/xy].$$

Note that we have $A_{xy} \cong B_{x+y}$ (since A clearly contains the elements $xyP(x, y)$ any polynomial P and the element $xy/(x+y)$). The scheme X is obtained by glueing the affine schemes $\mathrm{Spec}(A)$ and $\mathrm{Spec}(B)$ using the isomorphism $A_{xy} \cong B_{x+y}$ and hence is clearly of finite type over k. To see that it is separated one has to show that the ring map $A \otimes_k B \to B_{x+y}$ is surjective. To see this use that $A \otimes_k B$ contains the element $xy/(x+y) \otimes 1/xy$ which maps to $1/(x+y)$. The morphism $X \to Y$ is given by the natural maps $D(x+y) \to \mathrm{Spec}(A)$ and $D(xy) \to \mathrm{Spec}(B)$. Since these are both finite we deduce that $X \to Y$ is finite as desired. We omit the verification that X is indeed the coequalizer of the displayed diagram above, however, see (insert future reference for push outs in the category of schemes here). Note that the morphism $\pi : Y \to X$ does map the points $(1, 0)$ and $(-1, 0)$ to distinct points in X because the function $(x + y^3)/(x+y)^2 \in A$ has value $1/1$, resp. $-1/(-1)^2 = -1$ which are always distinct (unless the characteristic is 2 – please find your own points for characteristic 2). We summarize this discussion in the form of a lemma.

Lemma 10.1. *Let k be a field. There exists a variety X whose normalization is quasi-affine but which is itself not quasi-affine.*

Proof. See discussion above and (insert future reference on normalization here). □

11. A locally closed subscheme which is not open in closed

This is a copy of Morphisms, Example 2.10. Here is an example of an immersion which is not a composition of an open immersion followed by a closed immersion. Let k be a field. Let $X = \mathrm{Spec}(k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots])$. Let $U = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} D(x_n)$. Then $U \to X$ is an open immersion. Consider the ideals

$$I_n = (x_1^n, x_2^n, \ldots, x_{n-1}^n, x_n - 1, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \ldots) \subset k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots][1/x_n].$$

Note that $I_n k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots][1/x_n x_m] = (1)$ for any $m \neq n$. Hence the quasi-coherent ideals $\widetilde{I_n}$ on $D(x_n)$ agree on $D(x_n x_m)$, namely $\widetilde{I_n}|_{D(x_n x_m)} = \mathcal{O}_{D(x_n x_m)}$ if $n \neq m$. Hence these ideals glue to a quasi-coherent sheaf of ideals $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{O}_U$. Let $Z \subset U$ be the closed subscheme corresponding to $\mathcal{I}$. Thus $Z \to X$ is an immersion.

We claim that we cannot factor $Z \to X$ as $Z \to \overline{Z} \to X$, where $\overline{Z} \to X$ is closed and $Z \to \overline{Z}$ is open. Namely, $\overline{Z}$ would have to be defined by an ideal $I \subset k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots]$ such that $I_n = I k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots][1/x_n]$. But the only element $f \in k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots]$ which ends up in all I_n is 0! Hence I does not exist.

12. Pushforward of quasi-coherent modules

In Schemes, Lemma 24.1 we proved that f_* transformes quasi-coherent modules into quasi-coherent modules when f is quasi-compact and quasi-separated. Here are some examples to show that these conditions are both necessary.

Suppose that $Y = \text{Spec}(A)$ is an affine scheme and that $X = \coprod_{n \in \mathbf{N}} Y$. We claim that $f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ is not quasi-coherent where $f : X \to Y$ is the obvious morphism. Namely, for $a \in A$ we have

$$f_*\mathcal{O}_X(D(a)) = \prod\nolimits_{n \in \mathbf{N}} A_a$$

Hence, in order for $f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ to be quasi-coherent we would need

$$\prod\nolimits_{n \in \mathbf{N}} A_a = \left(\prod\nolimits_{n \in \mathbf{N}} A\right)_a$$

for all $a \in A$. This isn't true in general, for example if $A = \mathbf{Z}$ and $a = 2$, then $(1, 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, \ldots)$ is an element of the left hand side which is not in the right hand side. Note that f is a non-quasi-compact separated morphism.

Let k be a field. Set

$$A = k[t, z, x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots]/(tx_1z, t^2x_2^2z, t^3x_3^3z, \ldots)$$

Let $Y = \text{Spec}(A)$. Let $V \subset Y$ be the open subscheme $V = D(x_1) \cup D(x_2) \cup \ldots$. Let X be two copies of Y glued along V. Let $f : X \to Y$ be the obvious morphism. Then we have an exact sequence

$$0 \to f_*\mathcal{O}_X \to \mathcal{O}_Y \oplus \mathcal{O}_Y \xrightarrow{(1,-1)} j_*\mathcal{O}_V$$

where $j : V \to Y$ is the inclusion morphism. Since

$$A \longrightarrow \prod A_{x_n}$$

is injective (details omitted) we see that $\Gamma(Y, f_*\mathcal{O}_X) = A$. On the other hand, the kernel of the map

$$A_t \longrightarrow \prod A_{tx_n}$$

is nonzero because it contains the element z. Hence $\Gamma(D(t), f_*\mathcal{O}_X)$ is strictly bigger than A_t because it contains $(z, 0)$. Thus we see that $f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ is not quasi-coherent. Note that f is quasi-compact but non-quasi-separated.

Lemma 12.1. *Schemes, Lemma 24.1 is sharp in the sense that one can neither drop the assumption of quasi-compactness nor the assumption of quasi-separatedness.*

Proof. See discussion above. ☐

13. A nonfinite module with finite free rank 1 stalks

Let $R = \mathbf{Q}[x]$. Set $M = \sum_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \frac{1}{x-n} R$ as a submodule of the fraction field of R. Then M is not finitely generated, but for every prime $\mathfrak{p}$ of R we have $M_\mathfrak{p} \cong R_\mathfrak{p}$ as an $R_\mathfrak{p}$-module.

14. A finite flat module which is not projective

This is a copy of Algebra, Remark 70.3. It is not true that a finite R-module which is R-flat is automatically projective. A counter example is where $R = \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbf{R})$ is the ring of infinitely differentiable functions on $\mathbf{R}$, and $M = R_\mathfrak{m} = R/I$ where $\mathfrak{m} = \{f \in R \mid f(0) = 0\}$ and $I = \{f \in R \mid \exists \epsilon, \epsilon > 0 : f(x) = 0\ \forall x, |x| < \epsilon\}$.

The morphism $\text{Spec}(R/I) \to \text{Spec}(R)$ is also an example of a flat closed immersion which is not open.

Lemma 14.1. *Strange flat modules.*

(1) *There exists a ring R and a finite flat R-module M which is not projective.*
(2) *There exists a closed immersion which is flat but not open.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

15. A projective module which is not locally free

We give two examples. One where the rank is between 0 and 1 and one where the rank is $\aleph_0$.

Lemma 15.1. *Let R be a ring. Let $I \subset R$ be an ideal generated by a countable collection of idempotents. Then I is projective as an R-module.*

Proof. Say $I = (e_1, e_2, e_3, \ldots)$ with e_n an idempotent of R. After inductively replacing e_{n+1} by $e_n + (1 - e_n)e_{n+1}$ we may assume that $(e_1) \subset (e_2) \subset (e_3) \subset \ldots$ and hence $I = \bigcup_{n \geq 1}(e_n) = \text{colim}_n\, e_nR$. In this case

$$\text{Hom}_R(I, M) = \text{Hom}_R(\text{colim}_n\, e_nR, M) = \lim_n \text{Hom}_R(e_nR, M) = \lim_n e_nM$$

Note that the transition maps $e_{n+1}M \to e_nM$ are given by multiplication by e_n are are surjective. Hence by Algebra, Lemma 78.4 the functor $\text{Hom}_R(I, M)$ is exact, i.e., I is a projective R-module. □

Lemma 15.2. *Let R be a ring. Let $n \geq 1$. Let M be an R-module generated by $< n$ elements. Then any R-module map $f : R^{\oplus n} \to M$ has a nonzero kernel.*

Proof. Choose a surjection $R^{\oplus n-1} \to M$. We may lift the map f to a map $f' : R^{\oplus n} \to R^{\oplus n-1}$. It suffices to prove f' has a nonzero kernel. The map $f' : R^{\oplus n} \to R^{\oplus n-1}$ is given by a matrix $A = (a_{ij})$. If one of the a_{ij} is not nilpotent, say $a = a_{ij}$ is not, then we can replace A by the localization A_a and we may assume a_{ij} is a unit. Since if we find a nonzero kernel after localization then there was a nonzero kernel to start with as localization is exact, see Algebra, Proposition 7.9. In this case we can do a base change on both $R^{\oplus n}$ and $R^{\oplus n-1}$ and reduce to the case where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \ldots & \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} & \ldots \\ 0 & a_{32} & \ldots & \\ \ldots & \ldots & & \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence in this case we win by induction on n. If not then each a_{ij} is nilpotent. Set $I = (a_{ij}) \subset R$. Note that $I^{m+1} = 0$ for some $m \geq 0$. Let m be the largest integer such that $I^m \neq 0$. Then we see that $(I^m)^{\oplus n}$ is contained in the kernel of the map and we win. □

Suppose that $P \subset Q$ is an inclusion of R-modules with Q a finite R-module and P locally free, see Algebra, Definition 70.1. Suppose that Q can be generated by N elements as an R-module. Then it follows from Lemma 15.2 that P is finite locally free (with the free parts having rank at most N). And in this case P is a finite R-module, see Algebra, Lemma 70.2.

Combining this with the above we see that a non-finitely-generated ideal which is generated by a countable collection of idempotents is projective but not locally free. An explicit example is $R = \prod_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \mathbf{F}_2$ and I the ideal generated by the idempotents

$$e_n = (1, 1, \ldots, 1, 0, \ldots)$$

where the sequence of 1's has length n.

Lemma 15.3. *There exists a ring R and an ideal I such that I is projective as an R-module but not locally free as an R-module.*

Proof. See above. ☐

Lemma 15.4. *Let K be a field. Let C_i, $i = 1, \ldots, n$ be smooth, projective, geometrically irreducible curves over K. Let $P_i \in C_i(K)$ be a rational point and let $Q_i \in C_i$ be a point such that $[\kappa(Q_i) : K] = 2$. Then $[P_1 \times \ldots \times P_n]$ is nonzero in $A_0(U_1 \times_K \ldots \times_K U_n)$ where $U_i = C_i \setminus \{Q_i\}$.*

Proof. There is a degree map $\deg : A_0(C_1 \times_K \ldots \times_K C_n) \to \mathbf{Z}$ Because each Q_i has degree 2 over K we see that any zero cycle supported on the "boundary"

$$C_1 \times_K \ldots \times_K C_n \setminus U_1 \times_K \ldots \times_K U_n$$

has degree divisible by 2. ☐

We can construct another example of a projective but not locally free module using the lemma above as follows. Let C_n, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ be smooth, projective, geometrically irreducible curves over $\mathbf{Q}$ each with a pair of points $P_n, Q_n \in C_n$ such that $\kappa(P_n) = \mathbf{Q}$ and $\kappa(Q_n)$ is a quadratic extension of $\mathbf{Q}$. Set $U_n = C_n \setminus \{Q_n\}$; this is an affine curve. Let $\mathcal{L}_n$ be the inverse of the ideal sheaf of P_n on U_n. Note that $c_1(\mathcal{L}_n) = [P_n]$ in the group of zero cycles $A_0(U_n)$. Set $A_n = \Gamma(U_n, \mathcal{O}_{U_n})$. Let $L_n = \Gamma(U_n, \mathcal{L}_n)$ which is a locally free module of rank 1 over A_n. Set

$$B_n = A_1 \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} A_2 \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} \ldots \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} A_n$$

so that $\text{Spec}(B_n) = U_1 \times \ldots \times U_n$ all products over $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{Q})$. For $i \leq n$ we set

$$L_{n,i} = A_1 \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} \ldots \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} M_i \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} \ldots \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} A_n$$

which is a locally free B_n-module of rank 1. Note that this is also the global sections of $\text{pr}_i^*\mathcal{L}_n$. Set

$$B_\infty = \text{colim}_n B_n \quad \text{and} \quad L_{\infty,i} = \text{colim}_n L_{n,i}$$

Finally, set

$$M = \bigoplus\nolimits_{i \geq 1} L_{\infty,i}.$$

This is a direct sum of finite locally free modules, hence projective. We claim that M is not locally free. Namely, suppose that $f \in B_\infty$ is a nonzero function such that M_f is free over $(B_\infty)_f$. Let $e_1, e_2, \ldots$ be a basis. Choose $n \geq 1$ such that $f \in B_n$. Choose $m \geq n+1$ such that $e_1, \ldots, e_{n+1}$ are in

$$\bigoplus\nolimits_{1 \leq i \leq m} L_{m,i}.$$

Because the elements $e_1, \ldots, e_{n+1}$ are part of a basis after a faithfully flat base change we conclude that the chern classes

$$c_i(\text{pr}_1^*\mathcal{L}_1 \oplus \ldots \oplus \text{pr}_m^*\mathcal{L}_m), \quad i = m, m-1, \ldots, m-n$$

are zero in the chow group of

$$D(f) \subset U_1 \times \ldots \times U_m$$

Since f is the pullback of a function on $U_1 \times \ldots \times U_n$ this implies in particular that

$$c_{m-n}(\mathcal{O}_W^{\oplus n} \oplus \text{pr}_1^*\mathcal{L}_{n+1} \oplus \ldots \oplus \text{pr}_{m-n}^*\mathcal{L}_m) = 0.$$

on the variety

$$W = (C_{n+1} \times \ldots \times C_m)_K$$

over the field $K = \mathbf{Q}(C_1 \times \ldots \times C_n)$. In other words the cycle

$$[(P_{n+1} \times \ldots \times P_m)_K]$$

is zero in the chow group of zero cycles on W. This contradicts Lemma 15.4 above because the points Q_i, $n+1 \leq i \leq m$ induce corresponding points Q'_i on $(C_n)_K$ and as $K/\mathbf{Q}$ is geometrically irreducible we have $[\kappa(Q'_i) : K] = 2$.

Lemma 15.5. *There exists a countable ring R and a projective module M which is a direct sum of countably many locally free rank 1 modules such that M is not locally free.*

Proof. See above. □

16. Zero dimensional local ring with nonzero flat ideal

In [Laz67] there is an example of a zero dimensional local ring with a nonzero flat ideal. Here is the construction. Let k be a field. Let X_i, Y_i, $i \geq 1$ be variables. Take $R = k[X_i, Y_i]/(X_i - Y_iX_{i+1}, Y_i^2)$. Denote x_i, resp. y_i the image of X_i, resp. Y_i in this ring. Note that

$$x_i = y_ix_{i+1} = y_iy_{i+1}x_{i+2} = y_iy_{i+1}y_{i+2}x_{i+3} = \ldots$$

in this ring. The ring R has only one prime ideal, namely $\mathfrak{m} = (x_i, y_i)$. We claim that the ideal $I = (x_i)$ is flat as an R-module.

Note that the annihilator of x_i in R is the ideal $(x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots, y_i, y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}, \ldots)$. Consider the R-module M generated by elements e_i, $i \geq 1$ and relations $e_i = y_ie_{i+1}$. Then M is flat as it is the colimit $\text{colim}_i R$ of copies of R with transition maps

$$R \xrightarrow{y_1} R \xrightarrow{y_2} R \xrightarrow{y_3} \ldots$$

Note that the annilator of e_i in M is the ideal $(x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots, y_i, y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}, \ldots)$. Since every element of M, resp. I can be written as fe_i, resp. hx_i for some $f, h \in R$ we see that the map $M \to I$, $e_i \to x_i$ is an isomorphism and I is flat.

Lemma 16.1. *There exists a local ring R with a unique prime ideal and a nonzero ideal $I \subset R$ which is a flat R-module*

Proof. See discussion above. □

17. An epimorphism of zero-dimensional rings which is not surjective

In [Laz69] one can find the following example. Let k be a field. Consider the ring homomorphism

$$k[x_1, x_2, \ldots, z_1, z_2, \ldots]/(x_i^{4^i}, z_i^{4^i}) \longrightarrow k[x_1, x_2, \ldots, y_1, y_2, \ldots]/(x_i^{4^i}, y_i - x_{i+1}y_{i+1}^2)$$

which maps x_i to x_i and z_i to $x_i y_i$. Note that $y_i^{4^{i+1}}$ is zero in the right hand side but that y_1 is not zero (details omitted). This map is not surjective: we can think of the above as a map of $\mathbf{Z}$-graded algebras by setting $\deg(x_i) = -1$, $\deg(z_i) = 0$, and $\deg(y_i) = 1$ and then it is clear that y_1 is not in the image. Finally, the map is an epimorphism because

$$y_{i-1} \otimes 1 = x_i y_i^2 \otimes 1 = y_i \otimes x_i y_i = x_i y_i \otimes y_i = 1 \otimes x_i y_i^2.$$

hence the tensor product of the target over the source is isomorphic to the target.

Lemma 17.1. *There exists an epimorphism of local rings of dimension* 0 *which is not a surjection.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

18. Finite type, not finitely presented, flat at prime

Let k be a field. Consider the local ring $A_0 = k[x, y]_{(x,y)}$. Denote $\mathfrak{p}_{0,n} = (y + x^n + x^{n+1})$. This is a prime ideal. Set

$$A = A_0[z_1, z_2, z_3, \ldots]/(z_n z_m, z_n(y + x^n + x^{2n+1}))$$

Note that $A \to A_0$ is a surjection whose kernel is an ideal of square zero. Hence A is also a local ring and the prime ideals of A are in one-to-one correspondence with the prime ideals of A_0. Denote $\mathfrak{p}_n$ the prime ideal of A corresponding to $\mathfrak{p}_{0,n}$. Observe that $\mathfrak{p}_n$ is the annihilator of z_n in A. Let

$$C = A[z]/(xz^2 + z + y)[\frac{1}{2zx + 1}].$$

Note that $A \to C$ is an étale ring map, see Algebra, Example 123.8. Let $\mathfrak{q} \subset C$ be the maximal ideal generated by x, y, z and all z_n. As $A \to C$ is flat we see that the annihilator of z_n in C is $\mathfrak{p}_n C$. We compute

$$\begin{aligned} C/\mathfrak{p}_n C &= A_0/(y + x^n + x^{2n+1}) \\ &= k[x]_{(x)}[z]/(xz^2 + z - x^n - x^{2n+1}) \\ &= k[x]_{(x)}[z]/(z - x^n) \times k[x]_{(x)}[z]/(xz + x^{n+1} + 1) \\ &= k[x]_{(x)} \times k(x) \end{aligned}$$

because $(z - x^n)(xz + x^{n+1} + 1) = xz^2 + z - x^n - x^{2n+1}$. Hence we see that $\mathfrak{p}_n C = \mathfrak{r}_n \cap \mathfrak{q}_n$ with $\mathfrak{r}_n = \mathfrak{p}_n C + (z - x^n)C$ and $\mathfrak{q}_n = \mathfrak{p}_n C + (xz + x^{n+1} + 1)C$. Since $\mathfrak{q}_n + \mathfrak{r}_n = C$ we also get $\mathfrak{p}_n C = \mathfrak{r}_n \mathfrak{q}_n$, It follows that $\mathfrak{q}_n$ is the annihilator of $\xi_n = (z - x^n)z_n$. Observe that on the one hand $\mathfrak{r}_n \subset \mathfrak{q}$, and on the other hand $\mathfrak{q}_n + \mathfrak{q} = C$. This follows for example because $\mathfrak{q}_n$ is a maximal ideal of C distinct from $\mathfrak{q}$. Similarly we have $\mathfrak{q}_n + \mathfrak{q}_m = C$. At this point we let

$$B = \mathrm{Im}(C \longrightarrow C_{\mathfrak{q}})$$

We observe that the elements ξ_n map to zero in B as $xz + x^{n+1} + 1$ is not in $\mathfrak q$. Denote $\mathfrak q' \subset B$ the image of $\mathfrak q$. By construction B is a finite type A-algebra, with $B_{\mathfrak q'} \cong C_{\mathfrak q}$. In particular we see that $B_{\mathfrak q'}$ is flat over A.

We claim there does not exist an element $g' \in B$, $g' \not\in \mathfrak q'$ such that $B_{g'}$ is of finite presentation over A. We sketch a proof of this claim. Choose an element $g \in C$ which maps to $g' \in B$. Consider the map $C_g \to B_{g'}$. By Algebra, Lemma 5.3 we see that B_g is finitely presented over A if and only if the kernel of $C_g \to B_{g'}$ is finitely generated. But the element $g \in C$ is not contained in $\mathfrak q$, hence maps to a nonzero element of $A_0[z]/(xz^2 + z + y)$. Hence g can only be contained in finitely many of the prime ideals $\mathfrak q_n$, because the primes $(y + x^n + x^{2n+1}, xz + x^{n+1} + 1)$ are an infinite collection of codimension 1 points of the 2-dimensional irreducible Noetherian space $\text{Spec}(k[x, y, z]/(xz^2 + z + y))$. The map

$$\bigoplus\nolimits_{g \not\in \mathfrak q_n} C/\mathfrak q_n \longrightarrow C_g, \quad (c_n) \longrightarrow \sum c_n \xi_n$$

is injective and its image is the kernel of $C_g \to B_{g'}$. We omit the proof of this statement. (Hint: Write $A = A_0 \oplus I$ as an A_0-module where I is the kernel of $A \to A_0$. Similarly, write $C = C_0 \oplus IC$. Write $IC = \bigoplus Cz_n \cong \bigoplus (C/\mathfrak r_n \oplus C/\mathfrak q_n)$ and study the effect of multiplication by g on the summands.) This concludes the sketch of the proof of the claim. This also proves that $B_{g'}$ is not flat over A for any g' as above. Namely, if it were flat, then the annihilator of the image of z_n in $B_{g'}$ would be $\mathfrak p_n B_{g'}$, and would not contain $z - x^n$.

As a consequence we can answer (negatively) a question posed in [GR71, Part I, Remarques (3.4.7) (v)]. Here is a precise statement.

Lemma 18.1. *There exists a local ring A, a finite type ring map $A \to B$ and a prime $\mathfrak q$ lying over $\mathfrak m_A$ such that $B_{\mathfrak q}$ is flat over A, and for any element $g \in B$, $g \not\in \mathfrak q$ the ring B_g is neither finitely presented over A nor flat over A.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

19. Finite type, flat and not of finite presentation

In this section we give some examples of ring maps and morphisms which are of finite type and flat but not of finite presentation.

Let R be a ring which has an ideal I such that R/I is a finite flat module but not projective, see Section 14 for an explicit example. Note that this means that I is not finitely generated, see Algebra, Lemma 98.5. Note that $I = I^2$, see Algebra, Lemma 98.2. The base ring in our examples will be R and correspondingly the base scheme $S = \text{Spec}(R)$.

Consider the ring map $R \to R \oplus R/I\epsilon$ where $\epsilon^2 = 0$ by convention. This is a finite, flat ring map which is not of finite presentation. All the fibre rings are complete intersections and geometrically irreducible.

Let $A = R[x, y]/(xy, ay; a \in I)$. Note that as an R-module we have $A = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} Ry^i \oplus \bigoplus_{j > 0} R/Ix^j$. Hence $R \to A$ is a flat finite type ring map which is not of finite presentation. Each fibre ring is isomorphic to either $\kappa(\mathfrak p)[x, y]/(xy)$ or $\kappa(\mathfrak p)[x]$.

We can turn the previous example into a projective morphism by taking $B = R[X_0, X_1, X_2]/(X_1X_2, aX_2; a \in I)$. In this case $X = \text{Proj}(B) \to S$ is a proper flat morphism which is not of finite presentation such that for each $s \in S$ the fibre X_s is isomorphic either to $\mathbf{P}^1_s$ or to the closed subscheme of $\mathbf{P}^2_s$ defined by the vanishing of X_1X_2 (this is a projective nodal curve of arithmetic genus 0).

Let $M = R \oplus R \oplus R/I$. Set $B = \text{Sym}_R(M)$ the symmetric algebra on M. Set $X = \text{Proj}(B)$. Then $X \to S$ is a proper flat morphism, not of finite presentation such that for $s \in S$ the geometric fibre is isomorphic to either $\mathbf{P}^1_s$ or $\mathbf{P}^2_s$. In particular these fibres are smooth and geometrically irreducible.

Lemma 19.1. *There exist examples of*

(1) *a flat finite type ring map with geometrically irreducible complete intersection fibre rings which is not of finite presentation,*
(2) *a flat finite type ring map with geometrically connected, geometrically reduced, dimension 1, complete intersection fibre rings which is not of finite presentation,*
(3) *a proper flat morphism of schemes $X \to S$ each of whose fibres is isomorphic to either $\mathbf{P}^1_s$ or to the vanishing locus of X_1X_2 in $\mathbf{P}^2_s$ which is not of finite presentation, and*
(4) *a proper flat morphism of schemes $X \to S$ each of whose fibres is isomorphic to either $\mathbf{P}^1_s$ or $\mathbf{P}^2_s$ which is not of finite presentation.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

20. Topology of a finite type ring map

Let $A \to B$ be a local map of local domains. If A is Noetherian, $A \to B$ is essentially of finite type, and $A/\mathfrak{m}_A \subset B/\mathfrak{m}_B$ is finite then there exists a prime $\mathfrak{q} \subset B$, $\mathfrak{q} \neq \mathfrak{m}_B$ such that $A \to B/\mathfrak{q}$ is the localization of a quasi-finite ring map. See More on Morphisms, Lemma 32.6.

In this section we give an example that shows this result is false A is no longer Noetherian. Namely, let k be a field and set

$$A = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \ldots \mid a_0 \in k, a_i \in k((y)) \text{ for } i \geq 1\}$$

and

$$C = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \ldots \mid a_0 \in k[y], a_i \in k((y)) \text{ for } i \geq 1\}.$$

The inclusion $A \to C$ is of finite type as C is generated by y over A. We claim that A is a local ring with maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} = \{a_1x + a_2x^2 + \ldots \in A\}$ and no prime ideals besides (0) and $\mathfrak{m}$. Namely, an element $f = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \ldots$ of A is invertible as soon as $a_0 \neq 0$. If $\mathfrak{q} \subset A$ is a nonzero prime ideal, and $f = a_ix^i + \ldots \in \mathfrak{q}$, then using properties of power series one sees that for any $g \in k((y))$ the element $g^{i+1}x^{i+1} \in \mathfrak{q}$, i.e., $gx \in \mathfrak{q}$. This proves that $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{m}$.

As to the spectrum of the ring C, arguing in the same way as above we see that any nonzero prime ideal contains the prime $\mathfrak{p} = \{a_1x + a_2x^2 + \ldots \in C\}$ which lies over $\mathfrak{m}$. Thus the only prime of C which lies over (0) is (0). Set $\mathfrak{m}_C = yC + \mathfrak{p}$ and $B = C_{\mathfrak{m}_C}$. Then $A \to B$ is the desired example.

Lemma 20.1. *There exists a local homomorphism $A \to B$ of local domains which is essentially of finite type and such that $A/\mathfrak{m}_A \to B/\mathfrak{m}_B$ is finite such that for every prime $\mathfrak{q} \neq \mathfrak{m}_B$ of B the ring map $A \to B/\mathfrak{q}$ is not the localization of a quasi-finite ring map.*

Proof. See the discussion above. □

21. Pure not universally pure

Let k be a field. Let

$$R = k[[x, xy, xy^2, \ldots]] \subset k[[x, y]].$$

In other words, a power series $f \in k[[x, y]]$ is in R if and only if $f(0, y)$ is a constant. In particular $R[1/x] = k[[x, y]][1/x]$ and R/xR is a local ring with a maximal ideal whose square is zero. Denote $R[y] \subset k[[x, y]]$ the set of power series $f \in k[[x, y]]$ such that $f(0, y)$ is a polynomial in y. Then $R \to R[y]$ is a finite type but not finitely presented ring map which induces an isomorphism after inverting x. Also there is a surjection $R[y]/xR[y] \to k[y]$ whose kernel has square zero. Consider the finitely presented ring map $R \to S = R[t]/(xt - xy)$. Again $R[1/x] \to S[1/x]$ is an isomorphism and in this case $S/xS \cong (R/xR)[t]/(xy)$ maps onto $k[t]$ with nilpotent kernel. There is a surjection $S \to R[y]$, $t \longmapsto y$ which induces an isomorphism on inverting x and a surjection with nilpotent kernel modulo x. Hence the kernel of $S \to R[y]$ is locally nilpotent. In particular $S \to R[y]$ is a universal homeomorphism.

First we claim that S is an S-module which is relatively pure over R. Since on inverting x we obtain an isomorphism we only need to check this at the maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \subset R$. Since R is complete with respect to its maximal ideal it is henselian hence we need only check that every prime $\mathfrak{p} \subset R$, $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$, the unique prime $\mathfrak{q}$ of S lying over $\mathfrak{p}$ satisfies $\mathfrak{m}S + \mathfrak{q} \neq S$. Since $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$ it corresponds to a unique prime ideal of $k[[x, y]][1/x]$. Hence either $\mathfrak{p} = (0)$ or $\mathfrak{p} = (f)$ for some irreducible element $f \in k[[x, y]]$ which is not associated to x (here we use that $k[[x, y]]$ is a UFD – insert future reference here). In the first case $\mathfrak{q} = (0)$ and the result is clear. In the second case we may multiply f by a unit so that $f \in R[y]$ (Weierstrass preparation; details omitted). Then it is easy to see that $R[y]/fR[y] \cong k[[x, y]]/(f)$ hence f defines a prime ideal of $R[y]$ and $\mathfrak{m}R[y] + fR[y] \neq R[y]$. Since $S \to R[y]$ is a universal homeomorphism we deduce the desired result for S also.

Second we claim that S is not universally relatively pure over R. Namely, to see this it sufffices to find a valuation ring $\mathcal{O}$ and a local ring map $R \to \mathcal{O}$ such that $\text{Spec}(R[y] \otimes_R \mathcal{O}) \to \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O})$ does not hit the closed point of $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{O})$. Equivalently, we have to find $\varphi : R \to \mathcal{O}$ such that $\varphi(x) \neq 0$ and $v(\varphi(x)) > v(\varphi(xy))$ where v is the valuation of $\mathcal{O}$. (Because this means that the valuation of y is negative.) To do this consider the ring map

$$R \longrightarrow \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \ldots \mid a_0 \in k[y^{-1}], a_i \in k((y))\}$$

defined in the obvious way. We can find a valuation ring $\mathcal{O}$ dominating the localization of the right hand side at the maximal ideal (y^{-1}, x) and we win.

Lemma 21.1. *There exists a morphism of affine schemes of finite presentation $X \to S$ and an $\mathcal{O}_X$-module $\mathcal{F}$ of finite presentation such that $\mathcal{F}$ is pure relative to S, but not universally pure relative to S.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

22. A formally smooth non-flat ring map

Let k be a field. Consider the k-algebra $k[\mathbf{Q}]$. This is the k-algebra with basis $x_\alpha, \alpha \in \mathbf{Q}$ and multiplication determined by $x_\alpha x_\beta = x_{\alpha+\beta}$. (In particular $x_0 = 1$.)

Consider the k-algebra homomorphism

$$k[\mathbf{Q}] \longrightarrow k, \quad x_\alpha \longmapsto 1.$$

It is surjective with kernel J generated by the elements $x_\alpha - 1$. Let us compute J/J^2. Note that multiplication by x_α on J/J^2 is the identity map. Denote z_α the class of $x_\alpha - 1$ modulo J^2. These classes generate J/J^2. Since

$$(x_\alpha - 1)(x_\beta - 1) = x_{\alpha+\beta} - x_\alpha - x_\beta + 1 = (x_{\alpha+\beta} - 1) - (x_\alpha - 1) - (x_\beta - 1)$$

we see that $z_{\alpha+\beta} = z_\alpha + z_\beta$ in J/J^2. A general element of J/J^2 is of the form $\sum \lambda_\alpha z_\alpha$ with $\lambda_\alpha \in k$ (only finitely many nonzero). Note that if the characteristic of k is $p > 0$ then

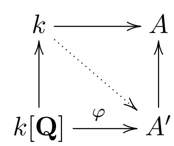
$$0 = p z_{\alpha/p} = z_{\alpha/p} + \ldots + z_{\alpha/p} = z_\alpha$$

and we see that $J/J^2 = 0$. If the characteristic of k is zero, then

$$J/J^2 = \mathbf{Q} \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}} k \cong k$$

(details omitted) is not zero.

We claim that $k[\mathbf{Q}] \to k$ is a formally smooth ring map if the characteristic of k is positive. Namely, suppose given a solid commutative diagram



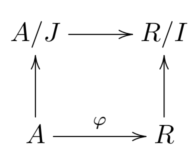
with $A' \to A$ a surjection whose kernel I has square zero. To show that $k[\mathbf{Q}] \to k$ is formally smooth we have to prove that φ factors through k. Since $\varphi(x_\alpha - 1)$ maps to zero in A we see that φ induces a map $\overline{\varphi} : J/J^2 \to I$ whose vanishing is the obstruction to the desired factorization. Since $J/J^2 = 0$ if the characteristic is $p > 0$ we get the result we want, i.e., $k[\mathbf{Q}] \to k$ is formally smooth in this case. Finally, this ring map is not flat, for example as the nonzero divisor $x_2 - 1$ is mapped to zero.

Lemma 22.1. *There exists a formally smooth ring map which is not flat.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

23. A formally étale non-flat ring map

In this section we give a counterexample to the final sentence in [DG67, 0_{IV}, Example 19.10.3(i)] (this was not one of the items caught in their later errata lists). Consider $A \to A/J$ for a local ring A and a nonzero proper ideal J such that $J^2 = J$ (so J isn't finitely generated); the valuation ring of an algebraically closed non-archimedean field with J its maximal ideal is a source of such (A, J). These non-flat quotient maps are formally étale. Namely, suppose given a commutative diagram



where I is an ideal of the ring R with $I^2 = 0$. Then $A \to R$ factors uniquely through A/J because

$$\varphi(J) = \varphi(J^2) \subset (\varphi(J)A)^2 \subset I^2 = 0.$$

Hence this also provides a counterexample to the formally étale case of the "structure theorem" for locally finite type and formally étale morphisms in [DG67, IV, Theorem 18.4.6(i)] (but not a counterexample to part (ii), which is what people actually use in practice). The error in the proof of the latter is that the very last step of the proof is to invoke the incorrect [DG67, 0_{IV}, Example 19.3.10(i)], which is how the counterexample just mentioned creeps in.

Lemma 23.1. *There exist formally étale nonflat ring maps.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

24. A formally étale ring map with nontrivial cotangent complex

Let k be a field. Consider the ring

$$R = k[\{x_n\}_{n\geq 1}, \{y_n\}_{n\geq 1}]/(x_1y_1, x_{nm}^m - x_n, y_{nm}^m - y_n)$$

Let A be the localization at the maximal ideal generated by all x_n, y_n and denote $J \subset A$ the maximal ideal. Set $B = A/J$. By construction $J^2 = J$ and hence $A \to B$ is formally étale (see Section 23). We claim that the element $x_1 \otimes y_1$ is a nonzero element in the kernel of

$$J \otimes_A J \longrightarrow J.$$

Namely, (A, J) is the colimit of the localizations (A_n, J_n) of the rings

$$R_n = k[x_n, y_n]/(x_n^n y_n^n)$$

at their corresponding maximal ideals. Then $x_1 \otimes y_1$ corresponds to the element $x_n^n \otimes y_n^n \in J_n \otimes_{A_n} J_n$ and is nonzero (by an explicit computation which we omit). Since $\otimes$ commutes with colimits we conclude. By [Ill72, III Section 3.3] we see that J is not weakly regular. Hence by [Ill72, III Proposition 3.3.3] we see that the cotangent complex $L_{B/A}$ is not zero. In fact, we can be more precise. We have $H_0(L_{B/A}) = \Omega_{B/A}$ and $H_1(L_{B/A}) = 0$ because $J/J^2 = 0$. But from the five-term exact sequence of Quillen's fundamental spectral sequence [Rei, Corollary 8.2.6] and the nonvanishing of $\text{Tor}_2^A(B, B) = \text{Ker}(J \otimes_A J \to J)$ we conclude that $H_2(L_{B/A})$ is nonzero.

Lemma 24.1. *There exists a formally étale surjective ring map $A \to B$ with $L_{B/A}$ not equal to zero.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

25. Ideals generated by sets of idempotents and localization

Let R be a ring. Consider the ring

$$B(R) = R[x_n; n \in \mathbf{Z}]/(x_n(x_n - 1), x_nx_m; n \neq m)$$

It is easy to show that every prime $\mathfrak{q} \subset B(R)$ is either of the form

$$\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}B(R) + (x_n; n \in \mathbf{Z})$$

or of the form

$$\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}B(R) + (x_n - 1) + (x_m; n \neq m, m \in \mathbf{Z}).$$

Hence we see that

$$\mathrm{Spec}(B(R)) = \mathrm{Spec}(R) \amalg \coprod\nolimits_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} \mathrm{Spec}(R)$$

where the topology is not just the disjoint union topology. It has the following properties: Each of the copies indexed by $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ is an open subscheme, namely it is the standard open $D(x_n)$. The "central" copy of $\mathrm{Spec}(R)$ is in the closure of the union of any infinitely many of the other copies of $\mathrm{Spec}(R)$. Note that this last copy of $\mathrm{Spec}(R)$ is cut out by the ideal $(x_n, n \in \mathbf{Z})$ which is generated by the idempotents x_n. Hence we see that if $\mathrm{Spec}(R)$ is connected, then the decomposition above is exactly the decomposition of $\mathrm{Spec}(B(R))$ into connected components.

Next, let $A = \mathbf{C}[x, y]/((y - x^2 + 1)(y + x^2 - 1))$. The spectrum of A consists of two irreducible components $C_1 = \mathrm{Spec}(A_1)$, $C_2 = \mathrm{Spec}(A_2)$ with $A_1 = \mathbf{C}[x, y]/(y - x^2 + 1)$ and $A_2 = \mathbf{C}[x, y]/(y + x^2 - 1)$. Note that these are parametrized by $(x, y) = (t, t^2 - 1)$ and $(x, y) = (t, -t^2 + 1)$ which meet in $P = (-1, 0)$ and $Q = (1, 0)$. We can make a twisted version of $B(A)$ where we glue $B(A_1)$ to $B(A_2)$ in the following way: Above P we let $x_n \in B(A_1) \otimes \kappa(P)$ correspond to $x_n \in B(A_2) \otimes \kappa(P)$, but above Q we let $x_n \in B(A_1) \otimes \kappa(P)$ correspond to $x_{n+1} \in B(A_2) \otimes \kappa(P)$. Let $B^{twist}(A)$ denote the resulting A-algebra. Details omitted. By construction $B^{twist}(A)$ is Zariski locally over A isomorphic to the untwisted version. Namely, this happens over both the principal open $\mathrm{Spec}(A) \setminus \{P\}$ and the principal open $\mathrm{Spec}(A) \setminus \{Q\}$. However, our choice of glueing produces enough "monodromy" such that $\mathrm{Spec}(B^{twist}(A))$ is connected (details omitted). Finally, there is a central copy of $\mathrm{Spec}(A) \to \mathrm{Spec}(B^{twist}(A))$ which gives a closed subscheme whose ideal is Zariski locally on $B^{twist}(A)$ cut out by ideals generated by idempotents, but not globally (as $B^{twist}(A)$ has no nontrivial idempotents).

Lemma 25.1. *There exists an affine scheme $X = \mathrm{Spec}(A)$ and a closed subscheme $T \subset X$ such that T is Zariski locally on X cut out by ideals generated by idempotents, but T is not cut out by an ideal generated by idempotents.*

Proof. See above. □

26. Non flasque quasi-coherent sheaf associated to injective module

For more examples of this type see [BGI71, Exposé II, Appendix I] where Illusie explains some examples due to Verdier.

Consider the affine scheme $X = \mathrm{Spec}(A)$ where

$$A = k[f, g, x, y, \{a_n, b_n\}_{n \geq 1}]/(fy - gx, \{a_n f^n + b_n g^n\}_{n \geq 1})$$

is the ring from Properties, Example 21.2. Set $I = (f, g) \subset A$. Consider the quasi-compact open $U = D(f) \cup D(g)$ of X. We have seen in loc. cit. that there is a section $s \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$ which does not come from an A-module map $I^n \to A$ for any $n \geq 0$.

Let $\alpha : A \to J$ be the embedding of A into an injective A-module. Let $Q = J/\alpha(A)$ and denote $\beta : J \to Q$ the quotient map. We claim that the map

$$\Gamma(X, \widetilde{J}) \longrightarrow \Gamma(U, \widetilde{J})$$

is not surjective. Namely, we claim that $\alpha(s)$ is not in the image. To see this, we argue by contradiction. So assume that $x \in J$ is an element which restricts to $\alpha(s)$ over U. Then $\beta(x) \in Q$ is an element which restricts to 0 over U. Hence we know that $I^n\beta(x) = 0$ for some n, see Properties, Lemma 21.1. This implies that we get a morphism $\varphi : I^n \to A$, $h \mapsto \alpha^{-1}(hx)$. It is easy to see that this morphism φ gives rise to the section s via the map of Properties, Lemma 21.1 which is a contradiction.

Lemma 26.1. *There exists an affine scheme $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ and an injective A-module J such that $\widetilde{J}$ is not a flasque sheaf on X. Even the restriction $\Gamma(X, \widetilde{J}) \to \Gamma(U, \widetilde{J})$ with U quasi-compact open need not be surjective.*

Proof. See above. □

27. A non-separated flat group scheme

Every group scheme over a field is separated, see Groupoids, Lemma 7.2. This is not true for group schemes over a base.

Let k be a field. Let $S = \text{Spec}(k[x]) = \mathbf{A}^1_k$. Let G be the affine line with 0 doubled (see Schemes, Example 14.3) seen as a scheme over S. Thus a fibre of $G \to S$ is either a singleton or a set with two elements (one in U and one in V). Thus we can endow these fibres with the structure of a group (by letting the element in U be the zero of the group structure). More precisely, G has two opens U, V which map isomorphically to S such that $U \cap V$ is mapped isomorphically to $S \setminus \{0\}$. Then

$$G \times_S G = U \times_S U \cup V \times_S U \cup U \times_S V \cup V \times_S V$$

where each piece is isomorphic to S. Hence we can define a multiplication $m : G \times_S G \to G$ as the unique S-morphism which maps the first and the last piece into U and the two middle pieces into V. This matches the pointwise description given above. We omit the verification that this defines a group scheme structure.

Lemma 27.1. *There exists a flat group scheme of finite type over the affine line which is not separated.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

28. A non-flat group scheme with flat identity component

Let $X \to S$ be a monomorphism of schemes. Let $G = S \amalg X$. Let $m : G \times_S G \to G$ be the S-morphism

$$G \times_S G = X \times_S X \amalg X \amalg X \amalg S \longrightarrow G = X \amalg S$$

which maps the summands $X \times_S X$ and S into S and maps the summands X into X by the identity morphism. This defines a group law. To see this we have to show that $m \circ (m \times \text{id}_G) = m \circ (\text{id}_G \times m)$ as maps $G \times_S G \times_S G \to G$. Decomposing $G \times_S G \times_S G$ into components as above, we see that we need to verify this for the restriction to each of the 8-pieces. Each piece is isomorphic to either S, X, $X \times_S X$, or $X \times_S X \times_S X$. Moreover, both maps map these pieces to S, X, S, X respectively. Having said this, the fact that $X \to S$ is a monomorphism implies that $X \times_S X \cong X$ and $X \times_S X \times_S X \cong X$ and that there is in each case exactly one S-morphism $S \to S$ or $X \to X$. Thus we see that $m \circ (m \times \text{id}_G) = m \circ (\text{id}_G \times m)$. Thus taking $X \to S$ to be any nonflat monomorphism of schemes (e.g., a closed immersion) we get an example of a group scheme over a base S whose identity component is S (hence flat) but which is not flat.

Lemma 28.1. *There exists a group scheme G over a base S whose identity component is flat over S but which is not flat over S.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

29. A non-separated group algebraic space over a field

Every group scheme over a field is separated, see Groupoids, Lemma 7.2. This is not true for group algebraic spaces over a field.

Let k be a field of characteristic zero. Consider the algebraic space $G = \mathbf{A}^1_k/\mathbf{Z}$ from Spaces, Example 14.8. By construction G is the fppf sheaf associated to the presheaf

$$T \longmapsto \Gamma(T, \mathcal{O}_T)/\mathbf{Z}$$

on the category of schemes over k. The obvious addition rule on the presheaf induces an addtion $m : G \times G \to G$ which turns G into a group algebraic space over $\text{Spec}(k)$. Note that G is not separated (and not even quasi-separated or locally separated). On the other hand $G \to \text{Spec}(k)$ is of finite type!

Lemma 29.1. *There exists a group algebraic space of finite type over a field which is not separated (and not even quasi-separated or locally separated).*

Proof. See discussion above. □

30. Specializations between points in fibre étale morphism

If $f : X \to Y$ is an étale, or more generally a locally quasi-finite morphism of schemes, then there are no specializations between points of fibres, see Morphisms, Lemma 18.8. However, for morphisms of algebraic spaces this doesn't hold in general.

To give an example, let k be a field. Set

$$P = k[u, u^{-1}, y, \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbf{Z}}].$$

Consider the action of $\mathbf{Z}$ on P by k-algebra maps generated by the automorphism τ given by the rules $\tau(u) = u$, $\tau(y) = uy$, and $\tau(x_n) = x_{n+1}$. For $d \geq 1$ set $I_d = ((1 - u^d)y, x_n - x_{n+d}, n \in \mathbf{Z})$. Then $V(I_d) \subset \text{Spec}(P)$ is the fix point locus of τ^d. Let $S \subset P$ be the multiplicative subset generated by y and all $1 - u^d$, $d \in \mathbf{N}$. Then we see that $\mathbf{Z}$ acts freely on $U = \text{Spec}(S^{-1}P)$. Let $X = U/\mathbf{Z}$ be the quotient algebraic space, see Spaces, Definition 14.4.

Consider the prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}_n = (x_n, x_{n+1}, \ldots)$ in $S^{-1}P$. Note that $\tau(\mathfrak{p}_n) = \mathfrak{p}_{n+1}$. Hence each of these define point $\xi_n \in U$ whose image in X is the same point x of X. Moreover we have the specializations

$$\ldots \rightsquigarrow \xi_n \rightsquigarrow \xi_{n-1} \rightsquigarrow \ldots$$

We conclude that $U \to X$ is an example of the promised type.

Lemma 30.1. *There exists an étale morphism of algebraic spaces $f : X \to Y$ and a nontrivial specialization of points $x \rightsquigarrow x'$ in $|X|$ with $f(x) = f(x')$ in $|Y|$.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

31. A torsor which is not an fppf torsor

In Groupoids, Remark 9.5 we raise the question whether any G-torsor is a G-torsor for the fppf topology. In this section we show that this is not always the case.

Let k be a field. All schemes and stacks are over k in what follows. Let $G \to \text{Spec}(k)$ be the group scheme

$$G = (\mu_{2,k})^\infty = \mu_{2,k} \times_k \mu_{2,k} \times_k \mu_{2,k} \times_k \ldots = \lim_n (\mu_{2,k})^n$$

where $\mu_{2,k}$ is the group scheme of second roots of unity over $\text{Spec}(k)$, see Groupoids, Example 5.2. As an inverse limit of affine schemes we see that G is an affine group scheme. In fact it is the spectrum of the ring $k[t_1, t_2, t_3, \ldots]/(t_i^2 - 1)$. The multiplication map $m : G \times_k G \to G$ is on the algebra level given by $t_i \mapsto t_i \otimes t_i$.

We claim that any G-torsor over k is of the form

$$P = \text{Spec}(k[x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots]/(x_i^2 - a_i))$$

for certain $a_i \in k^*$ and with G-action $G \times_k P \to P$ given by $x_i \to t_i \otimes x_i$ on the algebra level. We omit the proof. Actually for the example we only need that P is a G-torsor which is clear since over $k' = k(\sqrt{a_1}, \sqrt{a_2}, \ldots)$ the scheme P becomes isomorphic to G in a G-equivariant manner. Note that P is trivial if and only if $k' = k$ since if P has a k-rational point then all of the a_i are squares.

We claim that P is an fppf torsor if and only if the field extension $k \subset k' = k(\sqrt{a_1}, \sqrt{a_2}, \ldots)$ is finite. If k' is finite over k, then $\{\text{Spec}(k') \to \text{Spec}(k)\}$ is an fppf covering which trivializes P and we see that P is indeed an fppf torsor. Conversely, suppose that P is a G-torsor for the fppf topology. This means that there exists an fppf covering $\{S_i \to \text{Spec}(k)\}$ such that each P_{S_i} is trivial. Pick an i such that S_i is not empty. Let $s \in S_i$ be a closed point. By Varieties, Lemma 12.1 the field extension $k \subset \kappa(s)$ is finite, and by construction $P_{\kappa(s)}$ has a $\kappa(s)$-rational point. Thus we see that $k \subset k' \subset \kappa(s)$ and k' is finite over k.

To get an explicit example take $k = \mathbf{Q}$ and $a_i = i$ for example (or a_i is the ith prime if you like).

Lemma 31.1. *Let S be a scheme. Let G be a group scheme over S. The stack G-Principal classifying principal homogeneous G-spaces (see Examples of Stacks, Subsection 13.5) and the stack G-Torsors classifying fppf G-torsors (see Examples of Stacks, Subsection 13.8) are not equivalent in general.*

Proof. The discussion above shows that the functor G-*Torsors* $\to$ G-*Principal* isn't essentially surjective in general. □

32. Stack with quasi-compact flat covering which is not algebraic

In this section we briefly describe an example due to Brian Conrad. You can find the example online at this location. Our example is slightly different.

Let k be an algebraically closed field. All schemes and stacks are over k in what follows. Let $G \to \text{Spec}(k)$ be an affine group scheme. In Examples of Stacks, Proposition 14.4 we have seen that $\mathcal{X} = [\text{Spec}(k)/G]$ is a stack in groupoids over $(Sch/\text{Spec}(k))_{fppf}$ which can be described as follows. A 1-morphism $T \to \mathcal{X}$ corresponds by definition to an fppf G_T-torsor P over T. The diagonal 1-morphism

$$\Delta : \mathcal{X} \longrightarrow \mathcal{X} \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} \mathcal{X}$$

is representable and affine. The reason for this is that given any pair of G_T-torsors P_1, P_2 in the fppf topology over a scheme S/k the scheme $Isom(P_1, P_2)$ is affine over T. The trivial G-torsor over $\mathrm{Spec}(k)$ defines a 1-morphism

$$f : \mathrm{Spec}(k) \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}.$$

We claim that this is a surjective 1-morphism. The reason is simply that by definition for any 1-morphism $T \to \mathcal{X}$ there exists a fppf covering $\{T_i \to T\}$ such that P_{T_i} is isomorphic to the trivial G_{T_i}-torsor. Hence the compositions $T_i \to T \to \mathcal{X}$ factor through f. Thus it is clear that the projection $T \times_{\mathcal{X}} \mathrm{Spec}(k) \to \mathcal{X}$ is surjective (which is how we define the property that f is surjective, see Algebraic Stacks, Definition 10.1). In a similar way you show that f is quasi-compact and flat (details omitted). We also record here the observation that

$$\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{\mathcal{X}} \mathrm{Spec}(k) \cong G$$

as schemes over k.

Suppose there exists a surjective smooth morphism $p : U \to \mathcal{X}$ where U is a scheme. Consider the fibre product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \longrightarrow & U \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec}(k) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X} \end{array}$$

Then we see that W is a nonempty smooth scheme over k which hence has a k-point. This means that we can factor f through U. Hence we obtain

$$G \cong \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{\mathcal{X}} \mathrm{Spec}(k) \cong (\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_k \mathrm{Spec}(k)) \times_{(U \times_k U)} (U \times_{\mathcal{X}} U)$$

and since the projections $U \times_{\mathcal{X}} U \to U$ were assumed smooth we conclude that $U \times_{\mathcal{X}} U \to U \times_k U$ is locally of finite type, see Morphisms, Lemma 14.8. It follows that in this case G is locally of finite type over k. Alltogether we have proved the following lemma (which can be significantly generalized).

Lemma 32.1. *Let k be a field. Let G be an affine group scheme over k. If the stack $[\mathrm{Spec}(k)/G]$ has a smooth covering by a scheme, then G is of finite type over k.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

To get an explicit example as in the title of this section, take for example $G = (\mu_{2,k})^\infty$ the group scheme of Section 31, which is not locally of finite type over k. By the discussion above we see that $\mathcal{X} = [\mathrm{Spec}(k)/G]$ has properties (1) and (2) of Algebraic Stacks, Definition 12.1, but not property (3). Hence $\mathcal{X}$ is not an algebraic stack. On the other hand, there does exists a scheme U an a surjective, flat, quasi-compact morphism $U \to \mathcal{X}$, namely the morphism $f : \mathrm{Spec}(k) \to \mathcal{X}$ we studied above.

33. A non-algebraic classifying stack

Let $S = \mathrm{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p)$ and let μ_p denote the group scheme of pth roots of unity over S. In Groupoids in Spaces, Section 19 we have introduced the quotient stack $[S/\mu_p]$ and in Examples of Stacks, Section 14 we have shown $[S/\mu_p]$ is the classifying stack for fppf μ_p-torsors: Given a scheme T over S the category $\mathrm{Mor}_S(T, [S/\mu_p])$ is canonically equivalent to the category of fppf μ_p-torsors over T. Finally, in Criteria for Representability, Theorem 17.2 we have seen that $[S/\mu_p]$ is an algebraic stack.

Now we can ask the question: "How about the category fibred in groupoids $\mathcal{S}$ classifying étale μ_p-torsors?" (In other words $\mathcal{S}$ is a category over Sch/S whose fibre category over a scheme T is the category of étale μ_p-torsors over T.)

The first objection is that this isn't a stack for the fppf topology, because descent for objects isn't going to hold. For example the μ_p-torsor $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p(t)[x]/(x^p - t))$ over $T = \text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p(T))$ is fppf locally trivial, but not étale locally trivial.

A fix for this first problem is to work with the étale topology and in this case descent for objects does work. Indeed it is true that $\mathcal{S}$ is a stack in groupoids over $(Sch/S)_{étale}$. Moreover, it is also the case that the diagonal $\Delta : \mathcal{S} \to \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}$ is representable (by schemes). This is true because given two μ_p-torsors (whether they be étale locally trivial or not) the sheaf of isomorphisms between them is representable by a scheme.

Thus we can finally ask if there exists a scheme U and a smooth and surjective 1-morphism $U \to \mathcal{S}$. We will show in two ways that this is impossible: by a direct argument (which we advise the reader to skip) and by an argument using a general result.

Direct argument (sketch): Note that the 1-morphism $\mathcal{S} \to \text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p)$ satisfies the infinitesimal lifting criterion for formal smoothness. This is true because given a first order infinitesimal thickening of schemes $T \to T'$ the kernel of $\mu_p(T') \to \mu_p(T)$ is isomorphic to the sections of the ideal sheaf of T in T', and hence $H^1_{étale}(T, \mu_p) = H^1_{étale}(T', \mu_p)$. Moreover, $\mathcal{S}$ is a limit preserving stack. Hence if $U \to \mathcal{S}$ is smooth, then $U \to \text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p)$ is limit preserving and satisfies the infinitesimal lifting criterion for formal smoothness. This implies that U is smooth over $\mathbf{F}_p$. In particular U is reduced, hence $H^1_{étale}(U, \mu_p) = 0$. Thus $U \to \mathcal{S}$ factors as $U \to \text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p) \to \mathcal{S}$ and the first arrow is smooth. By descent of smoothness, we see that $U \to \mathcal{S}$ being smooth would imply $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p) \to \mathcal{S}$ is smooth. However, this is not the case as $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p) \times_{\mathcal{S}} \text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p)$ is μ_p which is not smooth over $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p)$.

Structural argument: In Criteria for Representability, Section 19 we have seen that we can think of algebraic stacks as those stacks in groupoids for the étale topology with diagonal representable by algebraic spaces having a smooth covering. Hence if a smooth surjective $U \to \mathcal{S}$ exists then $\mathcal{S}$ is an algebraic stack, and in particular satisfies descent in the fppf topology. But we've seen above that $\mathcal{S}$ does not satisfies descent in the fppf topology.

Loosely speaking the arguments above show that the classifying stack in the étale topology for étale locally trivial torsors for a group scheme G over a base B is algebraic if and only if G is smooth over B. One of the advantages of working with the fppf topology is that it suffices to assume that $G \to B$ is flat and locally of finite presentation. In fact the quotient stack (for the fppf topology) $[B/G]$ is algebraic if and only if $G \to B$ is flat and locally of finite presentation, see Criteria for Representability, Lemma 18.3.

34. Sheaf with quasi-compact flat covering which is not algebraic

Consider the functor $F = (\mathbf{P}^1)^\infty$, i.e., for a scheme T the value $F(T)$ is the set of $f = (f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots)$ where each $f_i : T \to \mathbf{P}^1$ is a morphism of schemes. Note that $\mathbf{P}^1$

satisfies the sheaf property for fpqc coverings, see Descent, Lemma 9.3. A product of sheaves is a sheaf, so F also satisfies the sheaf property for the fpqc toplogy. The diagonal of F is representable: if $f : T \to F$ and $g : S \to F$ are morphisms, then $T \times_F S$ is the scheme theoretic intersection of the closed subschemes $T \times_{f_i, \mathbf{P}^1, g_i} S$ inside the scheme $T \times S$. Consider the group scheme SL_2 which comes with a surjective smooth affine morphism $\mathrm{SL}_2 \to \mathbf{P}^1$. Next, consider $U = (\mathrm{SL}_2)^\infty$ with its canonical (product) morphism $U \to F$. Note that U is an affine scheme. We claim the morphism $U \to F$ is flat, surjective, and universally open. Namely, suppose $f : T \to F$ is a morphism. Then $Z = T \times_F U$ is the infinite fibre product of the schemes $Z_i = T \times_{f_i, \mathbf{P}^1} \mathrm{SL}_2$ over T. Each of the morphisms $Z_i \to T$ is surjective smooth and affine which implies that

$$Z = Z_1 \times_T Z_2 \times_T Z_3 \times_T \ldots$$

is a scheme flat and affine over Z. A simple limit argument shows that $Z \to T$ is open as well.

On the other hand, we claim that F isn't an algebraic space. Namely, if F where an algebraic space it would be a quasi-compact and separated (by our description of fibre products over F) algebraic space. Hence cohomology of quasi-coherent sheaves would vanish above a certain cutoff (see Cohomology of Spaces, Proposition 7.2 and remarks preceding it). But clearly by taking the pullback of $\mathcal{O}(-2, -2, \ldots, -2)$ under the projection

$$(\mathbf{P}^1)^\infty \longrightarrow (\mathbf{P}^1)^n$$

(which has a section) we can obtain a quasi-coherent sheaf whose cohomology is nonzero in degree n. Altogether we obtain an answer to a question asked by Anton Geraschenko on mathoverflow.

Lemma 34.1. *There exists a functor $F : Sch^{opp} \to Sets$ which satisfies the sheaf condition for the fpqc topology, has representable diagonal $\Delta : F \to F \times F$, and such that there exists a surjective, flat, universally open, quasi-compact morphism $U \to F$ where U is a scheme, but such that F is not an algebraic space.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

35. Sheaves and specializations

In the following we fix a big étale site $Sch_{étale}$ as constructed in Topologies, Definition 4.6. Moreover, a scheme will be an object of this site. Recall that if x, x' are points of a scheme X we say x is a *specialization* of x' or we write $x' \rightsquigarrow x$ if $x \in \overline{\{x'\}}$. This is true in particular if $x = x'$.

Consider the functor $F : Sch_{étale} \to Ab$ defined by the following rules:

$$F(X) = \prod\nolimits_{x \in X} \prod\nolimits_{x' \in X, x' \rightsquigarrow x, x' \neq x} \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}$$

Given a scheme X we denote $|X|$ the underlying set of points. An element $a \in F(X)$ will be viewed as a map of sets $|X| \times |X| \to \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}$, $(x, x') \mapsto a(x, x')$ which is zero if $x = x'$ or if x is not a specialization of x'. Given a morphism of schemes $f : X \to Y$ we define

$$F(f) : F(Y) \longrightarrow F(X)$$

by the rule that for $b \in F(Y)$ we set

$$F(f)(b)(x, x') = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is not a specialization of } x' \\ b(f(x), f(x')) & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Note that this really does define an element of $F(X)$. We claim that if $f : X \to Y$ and $g : Y \to Z$ are composable morphisms then $F(f) \circ F(g) = F(g \circ f)$. Namely, let $c \in F(Z)$ and let $x' \rightsquigarrow x$ be a specialization of points in X, then

$$F(g \circ f)(x, x') = c(g(f(x)), g(f(x'))) = F(g)(F(f)(c))(x, x')$$

because $f(x') \rightsquigarrow f(x)$. (This also works if $f(x) = f(x')$.)

Let G be the sheafification of F in the étale topology.

I claim that if X is a scheme and $x' \rightsquigarrow x$ is a specialization and $x' \neq x$, then $G(X) \neq 0$. Namely, let $a \in F(X)$ be an element such that when we think of a as a function $|X| \times |X| \to \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}$ it is nonzero at (x, x'). Let $\{f_i : U_i \to X\}$ be an étale covering of X. Then we can pick an i and a point $u_i \in U_i$ with $f_i(u_i) = x$. Since generalizations lift along flat morphisms (see Morphisms, Lemma 23.8) we can find a specialization $u'_i \rightsquigarrow u_i$ with $f_i(u'_i) = x'$. By our construction above we see that $F(f_i)(a) \neq 0$. Hence a determines a nonzero element of $G(X)$.

Note that if $X = \text{Spec}(k)$ where k is a field (or more generally a ring all of whose prime ideals are maximal), then $F(X) = 0$ and for every étale morphism $U \to X$ we have $F(U) = 0$ because there are no specializations between distinct points in fibres of an étale morphism. Hence $G(X) = 0$.

Suppose that $X \subset X'$ is a thickening, see More on Morphisms, Definition 2.1. Then the category of schemes étale over X' is equivalent to the category of schemes étale over X by the base change functor $U' \mapsto U = U' \times_{X'} X$, see Étale Cohomology, Theorem 45.1. Since it is always the case that $F(U) = F(U')$ in this situation we see that also $G(X) = G(X')$.

As a variant we can consider the presheaf F_n which associates to a scheme X the collection of maps $a : |X|^{n+1} \to \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}$ where $a(x_0, \ldots, x_n)$ is nonzero only if $x_n \rightsquigarrow \ldots \rightsquigarrow x_0$ is a sequence of specializations and $x_n \neq x_{n-1} \neq \ldots \neq x_0$. Let G_n be the sheaf associated to F_n. In exactly the same way as above one shows that G_n is nonzero if $\dim(X) \geq n$ and is zero if $\dim(X) < n$.

Lemma 35.1. *There exists a sheaf of abelian groups G on $Sch_{étale}$ with the following properties*

1. $G(X) = 0$ *whenever* $\dim(X) < n$,
2. $G(X)$ *is not zero if* $\dim(X) \geq n$, *and*
3. *if* $X \subset X'$ *is a thickening, then* $G(X) = G(X')$.

Proof. See the discussion above. □

Remark 35.2. Here are some remarks:

1. The presheaves F and F_n are separated presheaves.
2. It turns out that F, F_n are not sheaves.
3. One can show that G, G_n is actually a sheaf for the fppf topology.

We will prove these results if we need them.

36. Sheaves and constructible functions

In the following we fix a big étale site $Sch_{étale}$ as constructed in Topologies, Definition 4.6. Moreover, a scheme will be an object of this site. A *constructible stratification* of a scheme X is a locally finite disjoint union decomposition $X = \coprod_{i \in I} X_i$ such that each $X_i \subset X$ is a locally constructible subset of X. Locally finite means that for any quasi-compact open $U \subset X$ there are only finitely many $i \in I$ such that $X_i \cap U$ is not empty. Note that if $f : X \to Y$ is a morphism of schemes and $Y = \coprod Y_j$ is a constructible stratification, then $X = \coprod f^{-1}(Y_j)$ is a constructible stratification of X. Given a set S and a scheme X a *constructible function* $f : |X| \to S$ is a map such that $X = \coprod_{s \in S} f^{-1}(s)$ is a constructible stratification of X. If G is an (abstract group) and $a, b : |X| \to G$ are constructible functions, then $ab : |X| \to G, x \mapsto a(x)b(x)$ is a constructible function too. The reason is that given any two constructible stratifications there is a third one refining both.

Let A be any abelian group. For any scheme X we define

$$F(X) = \frac{\{a : |X| \to A \mid a \text{ is a constructible function}\}}{\text{locally constant functions } |X| \to A}$$

We think of an element a of $F(X)$ simply as a function well defined up to adding a locally constant one. Given a morphism of schemes $f : X \to Y$ and an element $b \in F(Y)$, then we define $F(f)(b) = b \circ f$. Thus F is a presheaf on $Sch_{étale}$.

Note that if $\{f_i : U_i \to X\}$ is an fppf covering, and $a \in F(X)$ is such that $F(f_i)(a) = 0$ in $F(U_i)$, then $a \circ f_i$ is a locally constant function for each i. This means in turn that a is a locally constant function as the morphisms f_i are open. Hence $a = 0$ in $F(X)$. Thus we see that F is a separated presheaf (in the fppf topology hence a fortiori in the étale topology).

Let G be the sheafification of F in the étale topology. Since F is separated, and since $F(X) \neq 0$ for example when X is the spectrum of a discrete valuation ring, we see that G is not zero.

Let $X = \text{Spec}(k)$ where k is a field. Then any étale covering of X can be dominated by a covering $\{\text{Spec}(k') \to \text{Spec}(k)\}$ with $k \subset k'$ a finite separable extension of fields. Since $F(\text{Spec}(k')) = 0$ we see that $G(X) = 0$.

Suppose that $X \subset X'$ is a thickening, see More on Morphisms, Definition 2.1. Then the category of schemes étale over X' is equivalent to the category of schemes étale over X by the base change functor $U' \mapsto U = U' \times_{X'} X$, see Étale Cohomology, Theorem 45.1. Since $F(U) = F(U')$ in this situation we see that also $G(X) = G(X')$.

The sheaf G is limit preserving, see More on Morphisms of Spaces, Definition 4.1. Namely, let R be a ring which is written as a directed colimit $R = \text{colim}_i R_i$ of rings. Set $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ and $X_i = \text{Spec}(R_i)$, so that $X = \lim_i X_i$. Then $G(X) = \text{colim}_i G(X_i)$. To prove this one first proves that a constructible stratification of $\text{Spec}(R)$ comes from a constructible stratifications of some $\text{Spec}(R_i)$. Hence the result for F. To get the result for the sheafification, use that any étale ring map $R \to R'$ comes from an étale ring map $R_i \to R'_i$ for some i. Details omitted.

Lemma 36.1. *There exists a sheaf of abelian groups G on $Sch_{étale}$ with the following properties*

(1) $G(\text{Spec}(k)) = 0$ *whenever* k *is a field,*
(2) G *is limit preserving,*
(3) *if* $X \subset X'$ *is a thickening, then* $G(X) = G(X')$*, and*
(4) G *is not zero.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

37. The lisse-étale site is not functorial

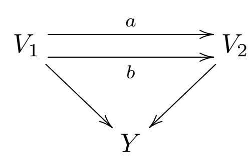
The *lisse-étale* site $X_{lisse,étale}$ of X is the category of schemes smooth over X endowed with (usual) étale coverings, see Cohomology of Stacks, Section 11. Let $f : X \to Y$ be a morphism of schemes. There is a functor

$$u : Y_{lisse,étale} \longrightarrow X_{lisse,étale}, \quad V/Y \longmapsto V \times_Y X$$

which is continuous. Hence we obtain an adjoint pair of functors

$$u^s : Sh(X_{lisse,étale}) \longrightarrow Sh(Y_{lisse,étale}), \quad u_s : Sh(Y_{lisse,étale}) \longrightarrow Sh(X_{lisse,étale}),$$

see Sites, Section 13. We claim that, in general, u does **not** define a morphism of sites, see Sites, Definition 14.1. In other words, we claim that u_s is not left exact in general. Note that representable presheaves are sheaves on lisse-étale sites. Hence, by Sites, Lemma 13.5 we see that $u_s h_V = h_{V \times_Y X}$. Now consider two morphisms



of schemes V_1, V_2 smooth over Y. Now if u_s is left exact, then we would have

$$u_s \text{Equalizer}(h_a, h_b : h_{V_1} \to h_{V_2}) = \text{Equalizer}(h_{a\times 1}, h_{b\times 1} : h_{V_1 \times_Y X} \to h_{V_2 \times_Y X})$$

We will take the morphisms $a, b : V_1 \to V_2$ such that there exists no morphism from a scheme smooth over Y into $(a = b) \subset V_1$, i.e., such that the left hand side is the empty sheaf, but such that after base change to X the equalizer is nonempty and smooth over X. A silly example is to take $X = \text{Spec}(\mathbf{F}_p)$, $Y = \text{Spec}(\mathbf{Z})$ and $V_1 = V_2 = \mathbf{A}^1_{\mathbf{Z}}$ with morphisms $a(x) = x$ and $b(x) = x + p$. Note that the equalizer of a and b is the fibre of $\mathbf{A}^1_{\mathbf{Z}}$ over (p).

Lemma 37.1. *The lisse-étale site is not functorial, even for morphisms of schemes.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

38. Derived pushforward of quasi-coherent modules

Let k be a field of characteristic $p > 0$. Let $S = \text{Spec}(k[x])$. Let $G = \mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z}$ viewed either as an abstract group or as a constant group scheme over S. Consider the algebraic stack $\mathcal{X} = [S/G]$ where G acts trivially on S, see Examples of Stacks, Remark 14.3 and Criteria for Representability, Lemma 18.3. Consider the structure morphism

$$f : \mathcal{X} \longrightarrow S$$

This morphism is quasi-compact and quasi-separated. Hence we get a functor

$$Rf_{QCoh,*} : D^+_{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X}) \longrightarrow D^+_{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_S),$$

see Cohomology of Stacks, Proposition 14.1. Let's compute $Rf_{QCoh,*}\mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X}$. Since $D_{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_S)$ is equivalent to the derived category of $k[x]$-modules (see Coherent, Lemma 4.1) this is equivalent to computing $R\Gamma(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X})$. For this we can use the covering $S \to \mathcal{X}$ and the spectral sequence

$$H^q(S \times_\mathcal{X} \ldots \times_\mathcal{X} S, O) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X})$$

see Cohomology of Stacks, Proposition 10.4. Note that

$$S \times_\mathcal{X} \ldots \times_\mathcal{X} S = S \times G^p$$

which is affine. Thus the complex

$$k[x] \to \text{Map}(G, k[x]) \to \text{Map}(G^2, k[x]) \to \ldots$$

computes $R\Gamma(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X})$. Here for $\varphi \in \text{Map}(G^{p-1}, k[x])$ its differential is the map which sends $(g_1, \ldots, g_p)$ to

$$\varphi(g_2, \ldots, g_p) + \sum\nolimits_{i=1}^{p-1} (-1)^i \varphi(g_1, \ldots, g_i + g_{i+1}, \ldots, g_p) + (-1)^p \varphi(g_1, \ldots, g_{p-1}).$$

This is just the complex computing the group cohomology of G acting trivially on $k[x]$ (insert future reference here). The cohomology of the cyclic group G on $k[x]$ is exactly one copy of $k[x]$ in each cohomological degree ≥ 0 (insert future reference here). We conclude that

$$Rf_*\mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X} = \bigoplus\nolimits_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{O}_S[-n]$$

Now, consider the complex

$$E = \bigoplus\nolimits_{m \geq 0} \mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X}[m]$$

This is an object of $D_{QCoh}(\mathcal{X})$. Note that in the derived category we have

$$E = \prod\nolimits_{m \geq 0} \mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X}[m]$$

because this is true on affine objects over $\mathcal{X}$ by Injectives, Remark 17.5 (details omitted). Since cohomology commutes with limits we see that

$$Rf_*E = \prod\nolimits_{m \geq 0} \left(\bigoplus\nolimits_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{O}_S[m-n] \right)$$

Note that this complex is not an object of $D_{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_S)$.

Lemma 38.1. *A quasi-compact and quasi-separated morphism $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$ of algebraic stacks need not induce a functor $Rf_* : D_{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_\mathcal{X}) \to D_{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_\mathcal{Y})$.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

39. A big abelian category

The purpose of this section is to give an example of a "big" abelian category $\mathcal{A}$ and objects M, N such that the collection of isomorphism classes of extensions $\text{Ext}_\mathcal{A}(M, N)$ is not a set. The example is due to Freyd, see [Fre64, page 131, Exercise A].

We define $\mathcal{A}$ as follows. An object of $\mathcal{A}$ consists of a triple (M, α, f) where M is an abelian group and α is an ordinal and $f : \alpha \to \text{End}(M)$ is a map. A morphism $(M, \alpha, f) \to (M', \alpha', f')$ is given by a homomorphism of abelian groups $\varphi : M \to M'$ such that for *any* ordinal β we have

$$\varphi \circ f(\beta) = f'(\beta) \circ \varphi$$

Here the rule is that we set $f(\beta) = 0$ if β is not in α and similarly we set $f'(\beta)$ equal to zero if β is not an element of α'. We omit the verification that the category so defined is abelian.

Consider the object $Z = (\mathbf{Z}, \emptyset, f)$, i.e., all the operators are zero. The observation is that computed in $\mathcal{A}$ the group $\text{Ext}^1_{\mathcal{A}}(Z, Z)$ is a proper class and not a set. Namely, for each ordinal α we can find an extension $(M, \alpha{+}1, f)$ of Z by Z whose underlying group is $M = \mathbf{Z} \oplus \mathbf{Z}$ and where the value of f is always zero except for

$$f(\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This clearly produces a proper class of isomorphism classes of extensions. In particular, the derived category of $\mathcal{A}$ has proper classes for its collections of morphism, see Derived Categories, Lemma 26.6. This means that some care has to be exercised when defining Verdier quotients of triangulated categories.

Lemma 39.1. *There exists a "big" abelian category $\mathcal{A}$ whose Ext-groups are proper classes.*

Proof. See discussion above. □

40. Other chapters

(1) Introduction
(2) Conventions
(3) Set Theory
(4) Categories
(5) Topology
(6) Sheaves on Spaces
(7) Commutative Algebra
(8) Brauer Groups
(9) Sites and Sheaves
(10) Homological Algebra
(11) Derived Categories
(12) More on Algebra
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(15) Sheaves of Modules
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(35) Groupoid Schemes
(36) More on Groupoid Schemes
(37) Étale Morphisms of Schemes
(38) Étale Cohomology
(39) Crystalline Cohomology
(40) Algebraic Spaces
(41) Properties of Algebraic Spaces
(42) Morphisms of Algebraic Spaces
(43) Decent Algebraic Spaces
(44) Topologies on Algebraic Spaces
(45) Descent and Algebraic Spaces
(46) More on Morphisms of Spaces
(47) Quot and Hilbert Spaces
(48) Spaces over Fields
(49) Cohomology of Algebraic Spaces
(50) Stacks
(51) Formal Deformation Theory
(52) Groupoids in Algebraic Spaces
(53) More on Groupoids in Spaces
(54) Bootstrap
(55) Examples of Stacks

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