

The Ring $k[x, y, u, v]/(xy - uv)$ is normal

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November 22, 2021

Let $A = k[x, y, u, v]/(xy - uv)$, is this ring normal (integrally closed in its field of fraction)? To check that the ring $k[x, y, u, v]/(xy - uv)$ is normal, we check Serre's criteria for normality:

Theorem 0.1. *Let A be Noetherian, then A is normal if and only if both of the following hold: (1) $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a DVR for all primes \mathfrak{p} of height 1. (2) For all $0 \neq x \in A$, if $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(A/xA)$ then $ht(\mathfrak{p}) = 1$.*

(1) Let \mathfrak{p} be a prime ideal of height 1. Then \mathfrak{p} doesn't contain all x, y, u, v otherwise \mathfrak{p} is maximal with height > 1 . We may assume $x \notin \mathfrak{p}$, then x becomes invertible in $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$. In $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$, $y = uv/x$ and we can write $A_{\mathfrak{p}} = k(x)[u, v]_{\bar{\mathfrak{p}}}$ where $\bar{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a prime ideal in $k(x)[u, v]$ of height 1. Note that $k(x)[u, v]$ is a domain, (0) is a prime ideal, thus any height 1 prime ideal in $k(x)[u, v]$ must be of the form $(f(u, v))$ for some nonzero irreducible polynomial f . So $\mathfrak{p}A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is principal which verifies that $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a DVR.

(2) Take any $0 \neq x \in A$. Since A is a domain, x is a non zero-divisor. Note that A is Cohen-Macaulay of dim 3 (check that a maximal A -sequence can be given by $\{x, y, u - 1\}$). And $\dim A/xA = 2$, A/xA is Cohen-Macaulay of dimension 2.

Take any essential prime \mathfrak{p} of xA , there is an injection

$$A/\mathfrak{p} \hookrightarrow A/xA.$$

Since p consists of zero divisor of A/xA , $\text{depth } A/\mathfrak{p} = \text{depth } A/xA = 2$. Moreover, $\dim A/\mathfrak{p} \leq \dim A/xA = 2$, thus $\dim A/\mathfrak{p} = 2$. Since A is Cohen-Macaulay, $ht(\mathfrak{p}) = \dim A - \dim A/\mathfrak{p} = 1$. This verifies condition (2). \square