

DECENT ALGEBRAIC SPACES

06NK

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Conventions	2
3. Universally bounded fibres	2
4. Finiteness conditions and points	4
5. Conditions on algebraic spaces	9
6. Reasonable and decent algebraic spaces	12
7. Points and specializations	14
8. Stratifying algebraic spaces by schemes	16
9. Integral cover by a scheme	19
10. Schematic locus	20
11. Points on spaces	23
12. Reduced singleton spaces	26
13. Decent spaces	29
14. Locally separated spaces	31
15. Valuative criterion	32
16. Relative conditions	33
17. Points of fibres	38
18. Monomorphisms	42
19. Generic points	43
20. Generically finite morphisms	44
21. Birational morphisms	46
22. Jacobson spaces	49
23. Local irreducibility	51
24. Other chapters	52
References	53

1. Introduction

06NL In this chapter we study “local” properties of general algebraic spaces, i.e., those algebraic spaces which aren’t quasi-separated. Quasi-separated algebraic spaces are studied in [Knu71]. It turns out that essentially new phenomena happen, especially regarding points and specializations of points, on more general algebraic spaces. On the other hand, for most basic results on algebraic spaces, one needn’t worry about these phenomena, which is why we have decided to have this material in a separate chapter following the standard development of the theory.

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2. Conventions

06NM The standing assumption is that all schemes are contained in a big fppf site Sch_{fppf} . And all rings A considered have the property that $\text{Spec}(A)$ is (isomorphic) to an object of this big site.

Let S be a scheme and let X be an algebraic space over S . In this chapter and the following we will write $X \times_S X$ for the product of X with itself (in the category of algebraic spaces over S), instead of $X \times X$.

3. Universally bounded fibres

03JK We briefly discuss what it means for a morphism from a scheme to an algebraic space to have universally bounded fibres. Please refer to Morphisms, Section 53 for similar definitions and results on morphisms of schemes.

03JL **Definition 3.1.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S , and let U be a scheme over S . Let $f : U \rightarrow X$ be a morphism over S . We say the *fibres of f are universally bounded*¹ if there exists an integer n such that for all fields k and all morphisms $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ the fibre product $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is a finite scheme over k whose degree over k is $\leq n$.

This definition makes sense because the fibre product $\text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ is a scheme. Moreover, if Y is a scheme we recover the notion of Morphisms, Definition 53.1 by virtue of Morphisms, Lemma 53.2.

03JM **Lemma 3.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $V \rightarrow U$ be a morphism of schemes over S , and let $U \rightarrow X$ be a morphism from U to X . If the fibres of $V \rightarrow U$ and $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded, then so are the fibres of $V \rightarrow X$.*

Proof. Let n be an integer which works for $V \rightarrow U$, and let m be an integer which works for $U \rightarrow X$ in Definition 3.1. Let $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ be a morphism, where k is a field. Consider the morphisms

$$\text{Spec}(k) \times_X V \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(k) \times_X U \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(k).$$

By assumption the scheme $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is finite of degree at most m over k , and n is an integer which bounds the degree of the fibres of the first morphism. Hence by Morphisms, Lemma 53.5 we conclude that $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X V$ is finite over k of degree at most nm . \square

03JN **Lemma 3.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $Y \rightarrow X$ be a representable morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $U \rightarrow X$ be a morphism from a scheme to X . If the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded, then the fibres of $U \times_X Y \rightarrow Y$ are universally bounded.*

Proof. This is clear from the definition, and properties of fibre products. (Note that $U \times_X Y$ is a scheme as we assumed $Y \rightarrow X$ representable, so the definition applies.) \square

¹This is probably nonstandard notation.

03JO **Lemma 3.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $g : Y \rightarrow X$ be a representable morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $f : U \rightarrow X$ be a morphism from a scheme towards X . Let $f' : U \times_X Y \rightarrow Y$ be the base change of f . If*

$$\mathrm{Im}(|f| : |U| \rightarrow |X|) \subset \mathrm{Im}(|g| : |Y| \rightarrow |X|)$$

and f' has universally bounded fibres, then f has universally bounded fibres.

Proof. Let $n \geq 0$ be an integer bounding the degrees of the fibre products $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y (U \times_X Y)$ as in Definition 3.1 for the morphism f' . We claim that n works for f also. Namely, suppose that $x : \mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is a morphism from the spectrum of a field. Then either $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is empty (and there is nothing to prove), or x is in the image of $|f|$. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3 and the assumption of the lemma we see that this means there exists a field extension $k \subset k'$ and a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec}(k') & \longrightarrow & Y \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec}(k) & \longrightarrow & X \end{array}$$

Hence we see that

$$\mathrm{Spec}(k') \times_Y (U \times_X Y) = \mathrm{Spec}(k') \times_{\mathrm{Spec}(k)} (\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U)$$

Since the scheme $\mathrm{Spec}(k') \times_Y (U \times_X Y)$ is assumed finite of degree $\leq n$ over k' it follows that also $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is finite of degree $\leq n$ over k as desired. (Some details omitted.) \square

03JP **Lemma 3.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Consider a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U & \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} & V \\ & \searrow g & \swarrow h \\ & & X \end{array}$$

where U and V are schemes. If g has universally bounded fibres, and f is surjective and flat, then also h has universally bounded fibres.

Proof. Assume g has universally bounded fibres, and f is surjective and flat. Say $n \geq 0$ is an integer which bounds the degrees of the schemes $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ as in Definition 3.1. We claim n also works for h . Let $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ be a morphism from the spectrum of a field to X . Consider the morphism of schemes

$$\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X V \longrightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U$$

It is flat and surjective. By assumption the scheme on the left is finite of degree $\leq n$ over $\mathrm{Spec}(k)$. It follows from Morphisms, Lemma 53.11 that the degree of the scheme on the right is also bounded by n as desired. \square

03JQ **Lemma 3.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S , and let U be a scheme over S . Let $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ be a morphism over S . If the fibres of φ are universally bounded, then there exists an integer n such that each fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ has at most n elements.*

Proof. The integer n of Definition 3.1 works. Namely, pick $x \in |X|$. Represent x by a morphism $x : \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$. Then we get a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec}(k) \times_X U & \longrightarrow & U \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(k) & \xrightarrow{x} & X \end{array}$$

which shows (via Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3) that the inverse image of x in $|U|$ is the image of the top horizontal arrow. Since $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is finite of degree $\leq n$ over k it has at most n points. \square

4. Finiteness conditions and points

03JR In this section we elaborate on the question of when points can be represented by monomorphisms from spectra of fields into the space.

03II **Remark 4.1.** Before we give the proof of the next lemma let us recall some facts about étale morphisms of schemes:

- (1) An étale morphism is flat and hence generalizations lift along an étale morphism (Morphisms, Lemmas 34.12 and 24.8).
- (2) An étale morphism is unramified, an unramified morphism is locally quasi-finite, hence fibres are discrete (Morphisms, Lemmas 34.16, 33.10, and 19.6).
- (3) A quasi-compact étale morphism is quasi-finite and in particular has finite fibres (Morphisms, Lemmas 19.9 and 19.10).
- (4) An étale scheme over a field k is a disjoint union of spectra of finite separable field extension of k (Morphisms, Lemma 34.7).

For a general discussion of étale morphisms, please see *Étale Morphisms*, Section 11.

03JS **Lemma 4.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *there exists a family of schemes U_i and étale morphisms $\varphi_i : U_i \rightarrow X$ such that $\coprod \varphi_i : \coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective, and such that for each i the fibre of $|U_i| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is finite, and*
- (2) *for every affine scheme U and étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is finite.*

Proof. The implication (2) \Rightarrow (1) is trivial. Let $\varphi_i : U_i \rightarrow X$ be a family of étale morphisms as in (1). Let $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from an affine scheme towards X . Consider the fibre product diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U \times_X U_i & \xrightarrow{p_i} & U_i \\ q_i \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi_i \\ U & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \coprod U \times_X U_i & \xrightarrow{\coprod p_i} & \coprod U_i \\ \coprod q_i \downarrow & & \downarrow \coprod \varphi_i \\ U & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X \end{array}$$

Since q_i is étale it is open (see Remark 4.1). Moreover, the morphism $\coprod q_i$ is surjective. Hence there exist finitely many indices i_1, \dots, i_n and a quasi-compact opens $W_{i_j} \subset U \times_X U_{i_j}$ which surject onto U . The morphism p_i is étale, hence locally quasi-finite (see remark on étale morphisms above). Thus we may apply

Morphisms, Lemma 53.10 to see the fibres of $p_{i_j}|_{W_{i_j}} : W_{i_j} \rightarrow U_i$ are finite. Hence by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3 and the assumption on φ_i we conclude that the fibre of φ over x is finite. In other words (2) holds. \square

03JU **Lemma 4.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *there exists a scheme U , an étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$, and points $u, u' \in U$ mapping to x such that setting $R = U \times_X U$ the fibre of*

$$|R| \rightarrow |U| \times_{|X|} |U|$$

over (u, u') is finite,

- (2) *for every scheme U , étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ and any points $u, u' \in U$ mapping to x setting $R = U \times_X U$ the fibre of*

$$|R| \rightarrow |U| \times_{|X|} |U|$$

over (u, u') is finite,

- (3) *there exists a morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k a field in the equivalence class of x such that the projections $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ are étale and quasi-compact, and*

- (4) *there exists a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k a field in the equivalence class of x .*

Proof. Assume (1), i.e., let $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from a scheme towards X , and let u, u' be points of U lying over x such that the fibre of $|R| \rightarrow |U| \times_{|X|} |U|$ over (u, u') is a finite set. In this proof we think of a point $u = \text{Spec}(\kappa(u))$ as a scheme. Note that $u \rightarrow U, u' \rightarrow U$ are monomorphisms (see Schemes, Lemma 23.7), hence $u \times_X u' \rightarrow R = U \times_X U$ is a monomorphism. In this language the assumption really means that $u \times_X u'$ is a scheme whose underlying topological space has finitely many points. Let $\psi : W \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from a scheme towards X . Let $w, w' \in W$ be points of W mapping to x . We have to show that $w \times_X w'$ is a scheme whose underlying topological space has finitely many points. Consider the fibre product diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W \times_X U & \xrightarrow{p} & U \\ q \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi \\ W & \xrightarrow{\psi} & X \end{array}$$

As x is the image of u and u' we may pick points \tilde{w}, \tilde{w}' in $W \times_X U$ with $q(\tilde{w}) = w, q(\tilde{w}') = w', u = p(\tilde{w})$ and $u' = p(\tilde{w}')$, see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3. As p, q are étale the field extensions $\kappa(w) \subset \kappa(\tilde{w}) \supset \kappa(u)$ and $\kappa(w') \subset \kappa(\tilde{w}') \supset \kappa(u')$ are finite separable, see Remark 4.1. Then we get a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} w \times_X w' & \longleftarrow & \tilde{w} \times_X \tilde{w}' & \longrightarrow & u \times_X u' \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ w \times_X w' & \longleftarrow & \tilde{w} \times_S \tilde{w}' & \longrightarrow & u \times_S u' \end{array}$$

where the squares are fibre product squares. The lower horizontal morphisms are étale and quasi-compact, as any scheme of the form $\text{Spec}(k) \times_S \text{Spec}(k')$ is affine, and by our observations about the field extensions above. Thus we see that the top horizontal arrows are étale and quasi-compact and hence have finite fibres. We

have seen above that $|u \times_X u'|$ is finite, so we conclude that $|w \times_X w'|$ is finite. In other words, (2) holds.

Assume (2). Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from a scheme U such that x is in the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$. Let $u \in U$ be a point mapping to x . Then we have seen in the previous paragraph that $u = \text{Spec}(\kappa(u)) \rightarrow X$ has the property that $u \times_X u$ has a finite underlying topological space. On the other hand, the projection maps $u \times_X u \rightarrow u$ are the composition

$$u \times_X u \longrightarrow u \times_X U \longrightarrow u \times_X X = u,$$

i.e., the composition of a monomorphism (the base change of the monomorphism $u \rightarrow U$) by an étale morphism (the base change of the étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$). Hence $u \times_X U$ is a disjoint union of spectra of fields finite separable over $\kappa(u)$ (see Remark 4.1). Since $u \times_X u$ is finite the image of it in $u \times_X U$ is a finite disjoint union of spectra of fields finite separable over $\kappa(u)$. By Schemes, Lemma 23.11 we conclude that $u \times_X u$ is a finite disjoint union of spectra of fields finite separable over $\kappa(u)$. In other words, we see that $u \times_X u \rightarrow u$ is quasi-compact and étale. This means that (3) holds.

Let us prove that (3) implies (4). Let $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ be a morphism from the spectrum of a field into X , in the equivalence class of x such that the two projections $t, s : R = \text{Spec}(k) \times_X \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ are quasi-compact and étale. This means in particular that R is an étale equivalence relation on $\text{Spec}(k)$. By Spaces, Theorem 10.5 we know that the quotient sheaf $X' = \text{Spec}(k)/R$ is an algebraic space. By Groupoids, Lemma 20.6 the map $X' \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism. Since s, t are quasi-compact, we see that R is quasi-compact and hence Properties of Spaces, Lemma 14.3 applies to X' , and we see that $X' = \text{Spec}(k')$ for some field k' . Hence we get a factorization

$$\text{Spec}(k) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(k') \longrightarrow X$$

which shows that $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism mapping to $x \in |X|$. In other words (4) holds.

Finally, we prove that (4) implies (1). Let $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ be a monomorphism with k a field in the equivalence class of x . Let $U \rightarrow X$ be a surjective étale morphism from a scheme U to X . Let $u \in U$ be a point over x . Since $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X u$ is nonempty, and since $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X u \rightarrow u$ is a monomorphism we conclude that $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X u = u$ (see Schemes, Lemma 23.11). Hence $u \rightarrow U \rightarrow X$ factors through $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$, here is a picture

$$\begin{array}{ccc} u & \longrightarrow & U \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(k) & \longrightarrow & X \end{array}$$

Since the right vertical arrow is étale this implies that $k \subset \kappa(u)$ is a finite separable extension. Hence we conclude that

$$u \times_X u = u \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} u$$

is a finite scheme, and we win by the discussion of the meaning of property (1) in the first paragraph of this proof. \square

040U **Lemma 4.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. Let U be a scheme and let $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *x is in the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$, and setting $R = U \times_X U$ the fibres of both*
- $$|U| \longrightarrow |X| \quad \text{and} \quad |R| \longrightarrow |X|$$

over x are finite,

- (2) *there exists a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k a field in the equivalence class of x , and the fibre product $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is a finite nonempty scheme over k .*

Proof. Assume (1). This clearly implies the first condition of Lemma 4.3 and hence we obtain a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ in the class of x . Taking the fibre product we see that $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is a scheme étale over $\text{Spec}(k)$ with finitely many points, hence a finite nonempty scheme over k , i.e., (2) holds.

Assume (2). By assumption x is in the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$. The finiteness of the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is clear since this fibre is equal to $|\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U|$ by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3. The finiteness of the fibre of $|R| \rightarrow |X|$ above x is also clear since it is equal to the set underlying the scheme

$$(\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U) \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} (\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U)$$

which is finite over k . Thus (1) holds. \square

03JV **Lemma 4.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *for every affine scheme U , any étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ setting $R = U \times_X U$ the fibres of both*

$$|U| \longrightarrow |X| \quad \text{and} \quad |R| \longrightarrow |X|$$

over x are finite,

- (2) *there exist schemes U_i and étale morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X$ such that $\coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective and for each i , setting $R_i = U_i \times_X U_i$ the fibres of both*

$$|U_i| \longrightarrow |X| \quad \text{and} \quad |R_i| \longrightarrow |X|$$

over x are finite,

- (3) *there exists a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k a field in the equivalence class of x , and for any affine scheme U and étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ the fibre product $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is a finite scheme over k ,*
- (4) *there exists a quasi-compact monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k a field in the equivalence class of x , and*
- (5) *there exists a quasi-compact morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k a field in the equivalence class of x .*

Proof. The equivalence of (1) and (3) follows on applying Lemma 4.4 to every étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ with U affine. It is clear that (3) implies (2). Assume $U_i \rightarrow X$ and R_i are as in (2). We conclude from Lemma 4.2 that for any affine scheme U and étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is finite. Say this fibre is $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$. Then, as Lemma 4.3 (1) applies to $U_i \rightarrow X$ for some i such that x is in the image of $|U_i| \rightarrow |X|$, we see that the fibre of $|R = U \times_X U| \rightarrow |U| \times_{|X|} |U|$ is finite over (u_a, u_b) , $a, b \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Hence the fibre of $|R| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is finite.

In this way we see that (1) holds. At this point we know that (1), (2), and (3) are equivalent.

If (4) holds, then for any affine scheme U and étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ the scheme $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is on the one hand étale over k (hence a disjoint union of spectra of finite separable extensions of k by Remark 4.1) and on the other hand quasi-compact over U (hence quasi-compact). Thus we see that (3) holds. Conversely, if $U_i \rightarrow X$ is as in (2) and $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism as in (3), then

$$\coprod \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U_i \longrightarrow \coprod U_i$$

is quasi-compact (because over each U_i we see that $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_X U_i$ is a finite disjoint union spectra of fields). Thus $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is quasi-compact by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 8.7.

It is immediate that (4) implies (5). Conversely, let $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ be a quasi-compact morphism in the equivalence class of x . Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism with U affine. Consider the fibre product

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

Then $F \rightarrow U$ is quasi-compact, hence F is quasi-compact. On the other hand, $F \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k)$ is étale, hence F is a finite disjoint union of spectra of finite separable extensions of k (Remark 4.1). Since the image of $|F| \rightarrow |U|$ is the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3), we conclude that the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is finite. The scheme $F \times_{\mathrm{Spec}(k)} F$ is also a finite union of spectra of fields because it is also quasi-compact and étale over $\mathrm{Spec}(k)$. There is a monomorphism $F \times_X F \rightarrow F \times_{\mathrm{Spec}(k)} F$, hence $F \times_X F$ is a finite disjoint union of spectra of fields (Schemes, Lemma 23.11). Thus the image of $F \times_X F \rightarrow U \times_X U = R$ is finite. Since this image is the fibre of $|R| \rightarrow |X|$ over x by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3 we conclude that (1) holds. \square

03JT **Lemma 4.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *there exist schemes U_i and étale morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X$ such that $\coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective and each $U_i \rightarrow X$ has universally bounded fibres, and*
- (2) *for every affine scheme U and étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded.*

Proof. The implication (2) \Rightarrow (1) is trivial. Assume (1). Let $(\varphi_i : U_i \rightarrow X)_{i \in I}$ be a collection of étale morphisms from schemes towards X , covering X , such that each φ_i has universally bounded fibres. Let $\psi : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from an affine scheme towards X . For each i consider the fibre product diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U \times_X U_i & \xrightarrow{p_i} & U_i \\ q_i \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi_i \\ U & \xrightarrow{\psi} & X \end{array}$$

Since q_i is étale it is open (see Remark 4.1). Moreover, we have $U = \bigcup \mathrm{Im}(q_i)$, since the family $(\varphi_i)_{i \in I}$ is surjective. Since U is affine, hence quasi-compact we

can finite finitely many $i_1, \dots, i_n \in I$ and quasi-compact opens $W_j \subset U \times_X U_{i_j}$ such that $U = \bigcup p_{i_j}(W_j)$. The morphism p_{i_j} is étale, hence locally quasi-finite (see remark on étale morphisms above). Thus we may apply Morphisms, Lemma 53.10 to see the fibres of $p_{i_j}|_{W_j} : W_j \rightarrow U_{i_j}$ are universally bounded. Hence by Lemma 3.2 we see that the fibres of $W_j \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded. Thus also $\coprod_{j=1, \dots, n} W_j \rightarrow X$ has universally bounded fibres. Since $\coprod_{j=1, \dots, n} W_j \rightarrow X$ factors through the surjective étale map $\coprod q_{i_j}|_{W_j} : \coprod_{j=1, \dots, n} W_j \rightarrow U$ we see that the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded by Lemma 3.5. In other words (2) holds. \square

03IH **Lemma 4.7.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *there exists a Zariski covering $X = \bigcup X_i$ and for each i a scheme U_i and a quasi-compact surjective étale morphism $U_i \rightarrow X_i$, and*
- (2) *there exist schemes U_i and étale morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X$ such that the projections $U_i \times_X U_i \rightarrow U_i$ are quasi-compact and $\coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective.*

Proof. If (1) holds then the morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X_i \rightarrow X$ are étale (combine Morphisms, Lemma 34.3 and Spaces, Lemmas 5.4 and 5.3). Moreover, as $U_i \times_X U_i = U_i \times_{X_i} U_i$, both projections $U_i \times_X U_i \rightarrow U_i$ are quasi-compact.

If (2) holds then let $X_i \subset X$ be the open subspace corresponding to the image of the open map $|U_i| \rightarrow |X|$, see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.10. The morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X_i$ are surjective. Hence $U_i \rightarrow X_i$ is surjective étale, and the projections $U_i \times_{X_i} U_i \rightarrow U_i$ are quasi-compact, because $U_i \times_{X_i} U_i = U_i \times_X U_i$. Thus by Spaces, Lemma 11.4 the morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X_i$ are quasi-compact. \square

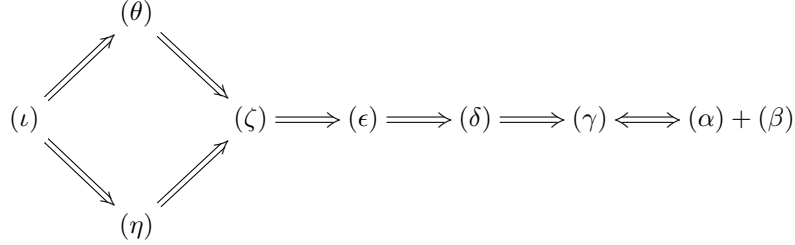
5. Conditions on algebraic spaces

03JW In this section we discuss the relationship between various natural conditions on algebraic spaces we have seen above. Please read Section 6 to get a feeling for the meaning of these conditions.

03JX **Lemma 5.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Consider the following conditions on X :*

- (α) *For every $x \in |X|$, the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.2 hold.*
- (β) *For every $x \in |X|$, the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.3 hold.*
- (γ) *For every $x \in |X|$, the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.5 hold.*
- (δ) *The equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.6 hold.*
- (ϵ) *The equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.7 hold.*
- (ζ) *The space X is Zariski locally quasi-separated.*
- (η) *The space X is quasi-separated*
- (θ) *The space X is representable, i.e., X is a scheme.*
- (ι) *The space X is a quasi-separated scheme.*

We have



Proof. The implication $(\gamma) \Leftrightarrow (\alpha) + (\beta)$ is immediate. The implications in the diamond on the left are clear from the definitions.

Assume (ζ) , i.e., that X is Zariski locally quasi-separated. Then (ϵ) holds by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.6.

Assume (ϵ) . By Lemma 4.7 there exists a Zariski open covering $X = \bigcup X_i$ such that for each i there exists a scheme U_i and a quasi-compact surjective étale morphism $U_i \rightarrow X_i$. Choose an i and an affine open subscheme $W \subset U_i$. It suffices to show that $W \rightarrow X$ has universally bounded fibres, since then the family of all these morphisms $W \rightarrow X$ covers X . To do this we consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 W \times_X U_i & \xrightarrow{p} & U_i \\
 q \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 W & \longrightarrow & X
 \end{array}$$

Since $W \rightarrow X$ factors through X_i we see that $W \times_X U_i = W \times_{X_i} U_i$, and hence q is quasi-compact. Since W is affine this implies that the scheme $W \times_X U_i$ is quasi-compact. Thus we may apply Morphisms, Lemma 53.10 and we conclude that p has universally bounded fibres. From Lemma 3.4 we conclude that $W \rightarrow X$ has universally bounded fibres as well.

Assume (δ) . Let U be an affine scheme, and let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism. By assumption the fibres of the morphism $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded. Thus also the fibres of both projections $R = U \times_X U \rightarrow U$ are universally bounded, see Lemma 3.3. And by Lemma 3.2 also the fibres of $R \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded. Hence for any $x \in X$ the fibres of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ and $|R| \rightarrow |X|$ over x are finite, see Lemma 3.6. In other words, the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.5 hold. This proves that $(\delta) \Rightarrow (\gamma)$. \square

03KE **Lemma 5.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let \mathcal{P} be one of the properties (α) , (β) , (γ) , (δ) , (ϵ) , (ζ) , or (θ) of algebraic spaces listed in Lemma 5.1. Then if X is an algebraic space over S , and $X = \bigcup X_i$ is a Zariski open covering such that each X_i has \mathcal{P} , then X has \mathcal{P} .*

Proof. Let X be an algebraic space over S , and let $X = \bigcup X_i$ is a Zariski open covering such that each X_i has \mathcal{P} .

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\alpha)$. The condition (α) for X_i means that for every $x \in |X_i|$ and every affine scheme U , and étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X_i$ the fibre of $\varphi : |U| \rightarrow |X_i|$ over x is finite. Consider $x \in X$, an affine scheme U and an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Since $X = \bigcup X_i$ is a Zariski open covering there exists a finite affine open covering $U = U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_n$ such that each $U_j \rightarrow X$ factors through some X_{i_j} . By assumption

the fibres of $|U_j| \rightarrow |X_{i_j}|$ over x are finite for $j = 1, \dots, n$. Clearly this means that the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x is finite. This proves the result for (α) .

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\beta)$. The condition (β) for X_i means that every $x \in |X_i|$ is represented by a monomorphism from the spectrum of a field towards X_i . Hence the same follows for X as $X_i \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism and $X = \bigcup X_i$.

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\gamma)$. Note that $(\gamma) = (\alpha) + (\beta)$ by Lemma 5.1 hence the lemma for (γ) follows from the cases treated above.

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\delta)$. The condition (δ) for X_i means there exist schemes U_{i_j} and étale morphisms $U_{i_j} \rightarrow X_i$ with universally bounded fibres which cover X_i . These schemes also give an étale surjective morphism $\coprod U_{i_j} \rightarrow X$ and $U_{i_j} \rightarrow X$ still has universally bounded fibres.

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\epsilon)$. The condition (ϵ) for X_i means we can find a set J_i and morphisms $\varphi_{i_j} : U_{i_j} \rightarrow X_i$ such that each φ_{i_j} is étale, both projections $U_{i_j} \times_{X_i} U_{i_j} \rightarrow U_{i_j}$ are quasi-compact, and $\coprod_{j \in J_i} U_{i_j} \rightarrow X_i$ is surjective. In this case the compositions $U_{i_j} \rightarrow X_i \rightarrow X$ are étale (combine Morphisms, Lemmas 34.3 and 34.9 and Spaces, Lemmas 5.4 and 5.3). Since $X_i \subset X$ is a subspace we see that $U_{i_j} \times_{X_i} U_{i_j} = U_{i_j} \times_X U_{i_j}$, and hence the condition on fibre products is preserved. And clearly $\coprod_{i,j} U_{i_j} \rightarrow X$ is surjective. Hence X satisfies (ϵ) .

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\zeta)$. The condition (ζ) for X_i means that X_i is Zariski locally quasi-separated. It is immediately clear that this means X is Zariski locally quasi-separated.

For (θ) , see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 12.1. □

03KF **Lemma 5.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let \mathcal{P} be one of the properties (β) , (γ) , (δ) , (ϵ) , or (θ) of algebraic spaces listed in Lemma 5.1. Let X, Y be algebraic spaces over S . Let $X \rightarrow Y$ be a representable morphism. If Y has property \mathcal{P} , so does X .*

Proof. Assume $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a representable morphism of algebraic spaces, and assume that Y has \mathcal{P} . Let $x \in |X|$, and set $y = f(x) \in |Y|$.

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\beta)$. Condition (β) for Y means there exists a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ representing y . The fibre product $X_y = \text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ is a scheme, and x corresponds to a point of X_y , i.e., to a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X_y$. As $X_y \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism also we see that x is represented by the monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X_y \rightarrow X$. In other words (β) holds for X .

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\gamma)$. Since $(\gamma) \Rightarrow (\beta)$ we have seen in the preceding paragraph that y and x can be represented by monomorphisms as in the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec}(k') & \xrightarrow{x} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(k) & \xrightarrow{y} & Y \end{array}$$

Also, by definition of property (γ) via Lemma 4.5 (2) there exist schemes V_i and étale morphisms $V_i \rightarrow Y$ such that $\coprod V_i \rightarrow Y$ is surjective and for each i , setting $R_i = V_i \times_Y V_i$ the fibres of both

$$|V_i| \longrightarrow |Y| \quad \text{and} \quad |R_i| \longrightarrow |Y|$$

over y are finite. This means that the schemes $(V_i)_y$ and $(R_i)_y$ are finite schemes over $y = \text{Spec}(k)$. As $X \rightarrow Y$ is representable, the fibre products $U_i = V_i \times_Y X$ are schemes. The morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X$ are étale, and $\coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective. Finally, for each i we have

$$(U_i)_x = (V_i \times_Y X)_x = (V_i)_y \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} \text{Spec}(k')$$

and

$$(U_i \times_X U_i)_x = ((V_i \times_Y X) \times_X (V_i \times_Y X))_x = (R_i)_y \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} \text{Spec}(k')$$

hence these are finite over k' as base changes of the finite schemes $(V_i)_y$ and $(R_i)_y$. This implies that (γ) holds for X , again via the second condition of Lemma 4.5.

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\delta)$. Let $V \rightarrow Y$ be an étale morphism with V an affine scheme. Since Y has property (δ) this morphism has universally bounded fibres. By Lemma 3.3 the base change $V \times_Y X \rightarrow X$ also has universally bounded fibres. Hence the first part of Lemma 4.6 applies and we see that Y also has property (δ) .

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\epsilon)$. We will repeatedly use Spaces, Lemma 5.5. Let $V_i \rightarrow Y$ be as in Lemma 4.7 (2). Set $U_i = X \times_Y V_i$. The morphisms $U_i \rightarrow X$ are étale, and $\coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective. Because $U_i \times_X U_i = X \times_Y (V_i \times_Y V_i)$ we see that the projections $U_i \times_Y U_i \rightarrow U_i$ are base changes of the projections $V_i \times_Y V_i \rightarrow V_i$, and so quasi-compact as well. Hence X satisfies Lemma 4.7 (2).

The case $\mathcal{P} = (\theta)$. In this case the result is Categories, Lemma 8.3. \square

6. Reasonable and decent algebraic spaces

0317 In Lemma 5.1 we have seen a number of conditions on algebraic spaces related to the behaviour of étale morphisms from affine schemes into X and related to the existence of special étale coverings of X by schemes. We tabulate the different types of conditions here:

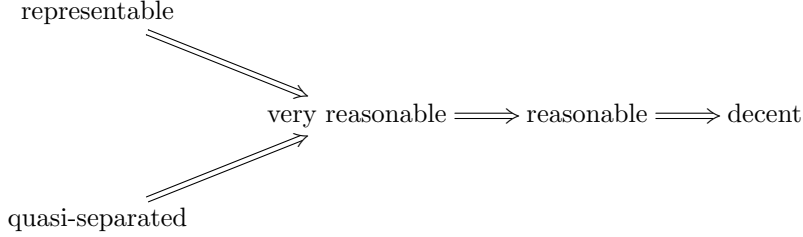
(α)	fibres of étale morphisms from affines are finite
(β)	points come from monomorphisms of spectra of fields
(γ)	points come from quasi-compact monomorphisms of spectra of fields
(δ)	fibres of étale morphisms from affines are universally bounded
(ϵ)	cover by étale morphisms from schemes quasi-compact onto their image

The conditions in the following definition are not exactly conditions on the diagonal of X , but they are in some sense separation conditions on X .

0318 **Definition 6.1.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S .

- (1) We say X is *decent* if for every point $x \in X$ the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.5 hold, in other words property (γ) of Lemma 5.1 holds.
- (2) We say X is *reasonable* if the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.6 hold, in other words property (δ) of Lemma 5.1 holds.
- (3) We say X is *very reasonable* if the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.7 hold, i.e., property (ϵ) of Lemma 5.1 holds.

We have the following implications among these conditions on algebraic spaces:



The notion of a very reasonable algebraic space is obsolete. It was introduced because the assumption was needed to prove some results which are now proven for the class of decent spaces. The class of decent spaces is the largest class of spaces X where one has a good relationship between the topology of $|X|$ and properties of X itself.

03ID **Example 6.2.** The algebraic space $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{Q}}^1/\mathbf{Z}$ constructed in Spaces, Example 14.8 is not decent as its “generic point” cannot be represented by a monomorphism from the spectrum of a field.

03JY **Remark 6.3.** Reasonable algebraic spaces are technically easier to work with than very reasonable algebraic spaces. For example, if $X \rightarrow Y$ is a quasi-compact étale surjective morphism of algebraic spaces and X is reasonable, then so is Y , see Lemma 16.8 but we don’t know if this is true for the property “very reasonable”. Below we give another technical property enjoyed by reasonable algebraic spaces.

03K0 **Lemma 6.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a quasi-compact reasonable algebraic space. Then there exists a directed system of quasi-compact and quasi-separated algebraic spaces X_i such that $X = \text{colim}_i X_i$ (colimit in the category of sheaves).*

Proof. We sketch the proof. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.3 we have $X = U/R$ with U affine. In this case, reasonable means $U \rightarrow X$ is universally bounded. Hence there exists an integer N such that the “fibres” of $U \rightarrow X$ have degree at most N , see Definition 3.1. Denote $s, t : R \rightarrow U$ and $c : R \times_{s,U,t} R \rightarrow R$ the groupoid structural maps.

Claim: for every quasi-compact open $A \subset R$ there exists an open $R' \subset R$ such that

- (1) $A \subset R'$,
- (2) R' is quasi-compact, and
- (3) $(U, R', s|_{R'}, t|_{R'}, c|_{R' \times_{s,U,t} R'})$ is a groupoid scheme.

Note that $e : U \rightarrow R$ is open as it is a section of the étale morphism $s : R \rightarrow U$, see Étale Morphisms, Proposition 6.1. Moreover U is affine hence quasi-compact. Hence we may replace A by $A \cup e(U) \subset R$, and assume that A contains $e(U)$. Next, we define inductively $A^1 = A$, and

$$A^n = c(A^{n-1} \times_{s,U,t} A) \subset R$$

for $n \geq 2$. Arguing inductively, we see that A^n is quasi-compact for all $n \geq 2$, as the image of the quasi-compact fibre product $A^{n-1} \times_{s,U,t} A$. If k is an algebraically closed field over S , and we consider k -points then

$$A^n(k) = \left\{ (u, u') \in U(k) : \begin{array}{l} \text{there exist } u = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \in U(k) \text{ with} \\ (u_i, u_{i+1}) \in A \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, n-1. \end{array} \right\}$$

But as the fibres of $U(k) \rightarrow X(k)$ have size at most N we see that if $n > N$ then we get a repeat in the sequence above, and we can shorten it proving $A^N = A^n$ for all $n \geq N$. This implies that $R' = A^N$ gives a groupoid scheme $(U, R', s|_{R'}, t|_{R'}, c|_{R' \times_{s, U, t} R'})$, proving the claim above.

Consider the map of sheaves on $(Sch/S)_{fppf}$

$$\operatorname{colim}_{R' \subset R} U/R' \longrightarrow U/R$$

where $R' \subset R$ runs over the quasi-compact open subschemes of R which give étale equivalence relations as above. Each of the quotients U/R' is an algebraic space (see Spaces, Theorem 10.5). Since R' is quasi-compact, and U affine the morphism $R' \rightarrow U \times_{\operatorname{Spec}(\mathbf{Z})} U$ is quasi-compact, and hence U/R' is quasi-separated. Finally, if T is a quasi-compact scheme, then

$$\operatorname{colim}_{R' \subset R} U(T)/R'(T) \longrightarrow U(T)/R(T)$$

is a bijection, since every morphism from T into R ends up in one of the open subrelations R' by the claim above. This clearly implies that the colimit of the sheaves U/R' is U/R . In other words the algebraic space $X = U/R$ is the colimit of the quasi-separated algebraic spaces U/R' . \square

0ABT **Lemma 6.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X, Y be algebraic spaces over S . Let $X \rightarrow Y$ be a representable morphism. If Y is decent (resp. reasonable), then so is X .*

Proof. Translation of Lemma 5.3. \square

0ABU **Lemma 6.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $X \rightarrow Y$ be an étale morphism of algebraic spaces over S . If Y is decent, resp. reasonable, then so is X .*

Proof. Let U be an affine scheme and $U \rightarrow X$ an étale morphism. Set $R = U \times_X U$ and $R' = U \times_Y U$. Note that $R \rightarrow R'$ is a monomorphism.

Let $x \in |X|$. To show that X is decent, we have to show that the fibres of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ and $|R| \rightarrow |X|$ over x are finite. But if Y is decent, then the fibres of $|U| \rightarrow |Y|$ and $|R'| \rightarrow |Y|$ are finite. Hence the result for “decent”.

To show that X is reasonable, we have to show that the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded. However, if Y is reasonable, then the fibres of $U \rightarrow Y$ are universally bounded, which immediately implies the same thing for the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$. Hence the result for “reasonable”. \square

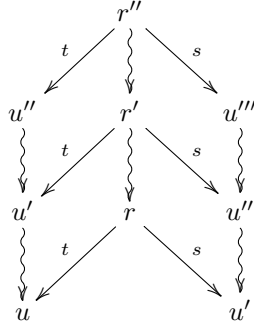
7. Points and specializations

03K1 There exists an étale morphism of algebraic spaces $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and a nontrivial specialization between points in a fibre of $|f| : |X| \rightarrow |Y|$, see Examples, Lemma 43.1. If the source of the morphism is a scheme we can avoid this by imposing condition (α) on Y .

03IM **Lemma 7.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from a scheme to X . Assume $u, u' \in |U|$ map to the same point x of $|X|$, and $u' \rightsquigarrow u$. If the pair (X, x) satisfies the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.2 then $u = u'$.*

Proof. Assume the pair (X, x) satisfies the equivalent conditions for Lemma 4.2. Let U be a scheme, $U \rightarrow X$ étale, and let $u, u' \in |U|$ map to x of $|X|$, and $u' \rightsquigarrow u$. We may and do replace U by an affine neighbourhood of u . Let $t, s : R = U \times_X U \rightarrow U$ be the étale projection maps.

Pick a point $r \in R$ with $t(r) = u$ and $s(r) = u'$. This is possible by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.5. Because generalizations lift along the étale morphism t (Remark 4.1) we can find a specialization $r' \rightsquigarrow r$ with $t(r') = u'$. Set $u'' = s(r')$. Then $u'' \rightsquigarrow u'$. Thus we may repeat and find $r'' \rightsquigarrow r'$ with $t(r'') = u''$. Set $u''' = s(r'')$, and so on. Here is a picture:



In Remark 4.1 we have seen that there are no specializations among points in the fibres of the étale morphism s . Hence if $u^{(n+1)} = u^{(n)}$ for some n , then also $r^{(n)} = r^{(n-1)}$ and hence also (by taking t) $u^{(n)} = u^{(n-1)}$. This then forces the whole tower to collapse, in particular $u = u'$. Thus we see that if $u \neq u'$, then all the specializations are strict and $\{u, u', u'', \dots\}$ is an infinite set of points in U which map to the point x in $|X|$. As we chose U affine this contradicts the second part of Lemma 4.2, as desired. \square

03K2 **Lemma 7.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x, x' \in |X|$ and assume $x' \rightsquigarrow x$, i.e., x is a specialization of x' . Assume the pair (X, x') satisfies the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.5. Then for every étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ from a scheme U and any $u \in U$ with $\varphi(u) = x$, exists a point $u' \in U$, $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ with $\varphi(u') = x'$.*

Proof. We may replace U by an affine open neighbourhood of u . Hence we may assume that U is affine. As x is in the image of the open map $|U| \rightarrow |X|$, so is x' . Thus we may replace X by the Zariski open subspace corresponding to the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$, see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.10. In other words we may assume that $U \rightarrow X$ is surjective and étale. Let $s, t : R = U \times_X U \rightarrow U$ be the projections. By our assumption that (X, x') satisfies the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.5 we see that the fibres of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ and $|R| \rightarrow |X|$ over x' are finite. Say $\{u'_1, \dots, u'_n\} \subset U$ and $\{r'_1, \dots, r'_m\} \subset R$ form the complete inverse image of $\{x'\}$. Consider the closed sets

$$T = \overline{\{u'_1\}} \cup \dots \cup \overline{\{u'_n\}} \subset |U|, \quad T' = \overline{\{r'_1\}} \cup \dots \cup \overline{\{r'_m\}} \subset |R|.$$

Trivially we have $s(T') \subset T$. Because R is an equivalence relation we also have $t(T') = s(T')$ as the set $\{r'_j\}$ is invariant under the inverse of R by construction. Let $w \in T$ be any point. Then $u'_i \rightsquigarrow w$ for some i . Choose $r \in R$ with $s(r) = w$. Since generalizations lift along $s : R \rightarrow U$, see Remark 4.1, we can find $r' \rightsquigarrow r$

with $s(r') = u'_i$. Then $r' = r'_j$ for some j and we conclude that $w \in s(T')$. Hence $T = s(T') = t(T')$ is an $|R|$ -invariant closed set in $|U|$. This means T is the inverse image of a closed (!) subset $T'' = \varphi(T)$ of $|X|$, see Properties of Spaces, Lemmas 4.5 and 4.6. Hence $T'' = \overline{\{x'\}}$. Thus T contains some point u_1 mapping to x as $x \in T''$. I.e., we see that for some i there exists a specialization $u'_i \rightsquigarrow u_1$ which maps to the given specialization $x' \rightsquigarrow x$.

To finish the proof, choose a point $r \in R$ such that $s(r) = u$ and $t(r) = u_1$ (using Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3). As generalizations lift along t , and $u'_i \rightsquigarrow u_1$ we can find a specialization $r' \rightsquigarrow r$ such that $t(r') = u'_i$. Set $u' = s(r')$. Then $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ and $\varphi(u') = x'$ as desired. \square

0B7W **Lemma 7.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : Y \rightarrow X$ be a flat morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $x, x' \in |X|$ and assume $x' \rightsquigarrow x$, i.e., x is a specialization of x' . Assume the pair (X, x') satisfies the equivalent conditions of Lemma 4.5 (for example if X is decent, X is quasi-separated, or X is representable). Then for every $y \in |Y|$ with $f(y) = x$, there exists a point $y' \in |Y|$, $y' \rightsquigarrow y$ with $f(y') = x'$.*

Proof. (The parenthetical statement holds by the definition of decent spaces and the implications between the different separation conditions mentioned in Section 6.) Choose a scheme V and a surjective étale morphism $V \rightarrow Y$. Choose $v \in V$ mapping to y . Then we see that it suffices to prove the lemma for $V \rightarrow X$. Thus we may assume Y is a scheme. Choose a scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Choose $u \in U$ mapping to x . By Lemma 7.2 we may choose $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ mapping to x' . By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3 we may choose $z \in U \times_X Y$ mapping to y and u . Thus we reduce to the case of the flat morphism of schemes $U \times_X Y \rightarrow U$ which is Morphisms, Lemma 24.8. \square

8. Stratifying algebraic spaces by schemes

0A4I In this section we prove that a quasi-compact and quasi-separated algebraic space has a finite stratification by locally closed subspaces each of which is a scheme and such that the glueing of the parts is by elementary distinguished squares. We first prove a slightly weaker result for reasonable algebraic spaces.

07S8 **Lemma 8.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $W \rightarrow X$ be a morphism of a scheme W to an algebraic space X which is flat, locally of finite presentation, separated, locally quasi-finite with universally bounded fibres. There exist reduced closed subspaces*

$$\emptyset = Z_{-1} \subset Z_0 \subset Z_1 \subset Z_2 \subset \dots \subset Z_n = X$$

such that with $X_r = Z_r \setminus Z_{r-1}$ the stratification $X = \coprod_{r=0, \dots, n} X_r$ is characterized by the following universal property: Given $g : T \rightarrow X$ the projection $W \times_X T \rightarrow T$ is finite locally free of degree r if and only if $g(|T|) \subset |X_r|$.

Proof. Let n be an integer bounding the degrees of the fibres of $W \rightarrow X$. Choose a scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Apply More on Morphisms, Lemma 38.8 to $W \times_X U \rightarrow U$. We obtain closed subsets

$$\emptyset = Y_{-1} \subset Y_0 \subset Y_1 \subset Y_2 \subset \dots \subset Y_n = U$$

characterized by the property stated in the lemma for the morphism $W \times_X U \rightarrow U$. Clearly, the formation of these closed subsets commutes with base change. Setting

$R = U \times_X U$ with projection maps $s, t : R \rightarrow U$ we conclude that

$$s^{-1}(Y_r) = t^{-1}(Y_r)$$

as closed subsets of R . In other words the closed subsets $Y_r \subset U$ are R -invariant. This means that $|Y_r|$ is the inverse image of a closed subset $Z_r \subset |X|$. Denote $Z_r \subset X$ also the reduced induced algebraic space structure, see Properties of Spaces, Definition 11.6.

Let $g : T \rightarrow X$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces. Choose a scheme V and a surjective étale morphism $V \rightarrow T$. To prove the final assertion of the lemma it suffices to prove the assertion for the composition $V \rightarrow X$ (by our definition of finite locally free morphisms, see Morphisms of Spaces, Section 45). Similarly, the morphism of schemes $W \times_X V \rightarrow V$ is finite locally free of degree r if and only if the morphism of schemes

$$W \times_X (U \times_X V) \longrightarrow U \times_X V$$

is finite locally free of degree r (see Descent, Lemma 20.30). By construction this happens if and only if $|U \times_X V| \rightarrow |U|$ maps into $|Y_r|$, which is true if and only if $|V| \rightarrow |X|$ maps into $|Z_r|$. \square

086T **Lemma 8.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $W \rightarrow X$ be a morphism of a scheme W to an algebraic space X which is flat, locally of finite presentation, separated, and locally quasi-finite. Then there exist open subspaces*

$$X = X_0 \supset X_1 \supset X_2 \supset \dots$$

such that a morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ factors through X_d if and only if $W \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ has degree $\geq d$ over k .

Proof. Choose a scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Apply More on Morphisms, Lemma 38.10 to $W \times_X U \rightarrow U$. We obtain open subschemes

$$U = U_0 \supset U_1 \supset U_2 \supset \dots$$

characterized by the property stated in the lemma for the morphism $W \times_X U \rightarrow U$. Clearly, the formation of these closed subsets commutes with base change. Setting $R = U \times_X U$ with projection maps $s, t : R \rightarrow U$ we conclude that

$$s^{-1}(U_d) = t^{-1}(U_d)$$

as open subschemes of R . In other words the open subschemes $U_d \subset U$ are R -invariant. This means that U_d is the inverse image of an open subspace $X_d \subset X$ (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 11.3). \square

0BBN **Lemma 8.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a quasi-compact algebraic space over S . There exist open subspaces*

$$\dots \subset U_4 \subset U_3 \subset U_2 \subset U_1 = X$$

with the following properties:

- (1) *setting $T_p = U_p \setminus U_{p+1}$ (with reduced induced subspace structure) there exists a separated scheme V_p and a surjective étale morphism $f_p : V_p \rightarrow U_p$ such that $f_p^{-1}(T_p) \rightarrow T_p$ is an isomorphism,*
- (2) *if $x \in |X|$ can be represented by a quasi-compact morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ from a field, then $x \in T_p$ for some p .*

Proof. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.3 we can choose an affine scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. For $p \geq 0$ set

$$W_p = U \times_X \dots \times_X U \setminus \text{all diagonals}$$

where the fibre product has p factors. Since U is separated, the morphism $U \rightarrow X$ is separated and all fibre products $U \times_X \dots \times_X U$ are separated schemes. Since $U \rightarrow X$ is separated the diagonal $U \rightarrow U \times_X U$ is a closed immersion. Since $U \rightarrow X$ is étale the diagonal $U \rightarrow U \times_X U$ is an open immersion, see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemmas 38.10 and 37.9. Similarly, all the diagonal morphisms are open and closed immersions and W_p is an open and closed subscheme of $U \times_X \dots \times_X U$. Moreover, the morphism

$$U \times_X \dots \times_X U \longrightarrow U \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbf{Z})} \dots \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbf{Z})} U$$

is locally quasi-finite and separated (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 4.5) and its target is an affine scheme. Hence every finite set of points of $U \times_X \dots \times_X U$ is contained in an affine open, see More on Morphisms, Lemma 38.12. Therefore, the same is true for W_p . There is a free action of the symmetric group S_p on W_p over X (because we threw out the fix point locus from $U \times_X \dots \times_X U$). By the above and Properties of Spaces, Proposition 13.1 the quotient $V_p = W_p/S_p$ is a scheme. Since the action of S_p on W_p was over X , there is a morphism $V_p \rightarrow X$. Since $W_p \rightarrow X$ is étale and since $W_p \rightarrow V_p$ is surjective étale, it follows that also $V_p \rightarrow X$ is étale, see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 15.3. Observe that V_p is a separated scheme by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 13.3.

We let $U_p \subset X$ be the open subspace which is the image of $V_p \rightarrow X$. By construction a morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ with k algebraically closed, factors through U_p if and only if $U \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ has $\geq p$ points; as usual observe that $U \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ is scheme theoretically a disjoint union of (possibly infinitely many) copies of $\text{Spec}(k)$, see Remark 4.1. It follows that the U_p give a filtration of X as stated in the lemma. Moreover, our morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ factors through T_p if and only if $U \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ has exactly p points. In this case we see that $V_p \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ has exactly one point. Set $Z_p = f_p^{-1}(T_p) \subset V_p$. This is a closed subscheme of V_p . Then $Z_p \rightarrow T_p$ is an étale morphism between algebraic spaces which induces a bijection on k -valued points for any algebraically closed field k . To be sure this implies that $Z_p \rightarrow T_p$ is universally injective, whence an open immersion by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 49.2 hence an isomorphism and (1) has been proved.

Let $x : \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ be a quasi-compact morphism where k is a field. Then the composition $\text{Spec}(\bar{k}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is quasi-compact as well (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 8.4). In this case the scheme $U \times_X \text{Spec}(\bar{k})$ is quasi-compact. In view of the fact (seen above) that it is a disjoint union of copies of $\text{Spec}(\bar{k})$ we find that it has finitely many points. If the number of points is p , then we see that indeed $x \in T_p$ and the proof is finished. \square

07S9 **Lemma 8.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a quasi-compact, reasonable algebraic space over S . There exist an integer n and open subspaces*

$$\emptyset = U_{n+1} \subset U_n \subset U_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset U_1 = X$$

with the following property: setting $T_p = U_p \setminus U_{p+1}$ (with reduced induced subspace structure) there exists a separated scheme V_p and a surjective étale morphism $f_p : V_p \rightarrow U_p$ such that $f_p^{-1}(T_p) \rightarrow T_p$ is an isomorphism.

Proof. The proof of this lemma is identical to the proof of Lemma 8.3. Let n be an integer bounding the degrees of the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ which exists as X is reasonable, see Definition 6.1. Then we see that $U_{n+1} = \emptyset$ and the proof is complete. \square

07SA **Lemma 8.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a quasi-compact, reasonable algebraic space over S . There exist an integer n and open subspaces*

$$\emptyset = U_{n+1} \subset U_n \subset U_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset U_1 = X$$

such that each $T_p = U_p \setminus U_{p+1}$ (with reduced induced subspace structure) is a scheme.

Proof. Immediate consequence of Lemma 8.4. \square

The following result is almost identical to [GR71, Proposition 5.7.8].

07ST **Lemma 8.6.** *Let X be a quasi-compact and quasi-separated algebraic space over $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{Z})$. There exist an integer n and open subspaces*

$$\emptyset = U_{n+1} \subset U_n \subset U_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset U_1 = X$$

with the following property: setting $T_p = U_p \setminus U_{p+1}$ (with reduced induced subspace structure) there exists a quasi-compact separated scheme V_p and a surjective étale morphism $f_p : V_p \rightarrow U_p$ such that $f_p^{-1}(T_p) \rightarrow T_p$ is an isomorphism.

Proof. The proof of this lemma is identical to the proof of Lemma 8.3. Observe that a quasi-separated space is reasonable, see Lemma 5.1 and Definition 6.1. Hence we find that $U_{n+1} = \emptyset$ as in Lemma 8.4. At the end of the argument we add that since X is quasi-separated the schemes $U \times_X \dots \times_X U$ are all quasi-compact. Hence the schemes W_p are quasi-compact. Hence the quotients $V_p = W_p/S_p$ by the symmetric group S_p are quasi-compact schemes. \square

This result is almost identical to [GR71, Proposition 5.7.8].

9. Integral cover by a scheme

0D2T Here we prove that given any quasi-compact and quasi-separated algebraic space X , there is a scheme Y and a surjective, integral morphism $Y \rightarrow X$. After we develop some theory about limits of algebraic spaces, we will prove that one can do this with a finite morphism, see Limits of Spaces, Section 16.

09YB **Lemma 9.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a quasi-compact and quasi-separated algebraic space over S .*

- (1) *There exists a surjective integral morphism $Y \rightarrow X$ where Y is a scheme,*
- (2) *given a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ we may choose $Y \rightarrow X$ such that for every $y \in Y$ there is an open neighbourhood $V \subset Y$ such that $V \rightarrow X$ factors through U .*

Proof. Part (1) is the special case of part (2) where $U = X$. Choose a surjective étale morphism $U' \rightarrow U$ where U' is a scheme. It is clear that we may replace U by U' and hence we may assume U is a scheme. Since X is quasi-compact, there exist finitely many affine opens $U_i \subset U$ such that $U' = \coprod U_i \rightarrow X$ is surjective. After replacing U by U' again, we see that we may assume U is affine. Since X is quasi-separated, hence reasonable, there exists an integer d bounding the degree of the geometric fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ (see Lemma 5.1). We will prove the lemma by induction on d for all quasi-compact and separated schemes U mapping surjective and étale onto X . If $d = 1$, then $U = X$ and the result holds with $Y = U$. Assume $d > 1$.

We apply Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 50.2 and we obtain a factorization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U & \xrightarrow{\quad j \quad} & Y \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \pi \\ & X & \end{array}$$

with π integral and j a quasi-compact open immersion. We may and do assume that $j(U)$ is scheme theoretically dense in Y . Note that

$$U \times_X Y = U \amalg W$$

where the first summand is the image of $U \rightarrow U \times_X Y$ (which is closed by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 4.6 and open because it is étale as a morphism between algebraic spaces étale over Y) and the second summand is the (open and closed) complement. The image $V \subset Y$ of W is an open subspace containing $Y \setminus U$.

The étale morphism $W \rightarrow Y$ has geometric fibres of cardinality $< d$. Namely, this is clear for geometric points of $U \subset Y$ by inspection. Since $|U| \subset |Y|$ is dense, it holds for all geometric points of Y by Lemma 8.1 (the degree of the fibres of a quasi-compact étale morphism does not go up under specialization). Thus we may apply the induction hypothesis to $W \rightarrow V$ and find a surjective integral morphism $Z \rightarrow V$ with Z a scheme, which Zariski locally factors through W . Choose a factorization $Z \rightarrow Z' \rightarrow Y$ with $Z' \rightarrow Y$ integral and $Z \rightarrow Z'$ open immersion (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 50.2). After replacing Z' by the scheme theoretic closure of Z in Z' we may assume that Z is scheme theoretically dense in Z' . After doing this we have $Z' \times_Y V = Z$. Finally, let $T \subset Y$ be the induced closed subspace structure on $Y \setminus V$. Consider the morphism

$$Z' \amalg T \rightarrow X$$

This is a surjective integral morphism by construction. Since $T \subset U$ it is clear that the morphism $T \rightarrow X$ factors through U . On the other hand, let $z \in Z'$ be a point. If $z \notin Z$, then z maps to a point of $Y \setminus V \subset U$ and we find a neighbourhood of z on which the morphism factors through U . If $z \in Z$, then we have a neighbourhood $V \subset Z$ which factors through $W \subset U \times_X Y$ and hence through U . \square

10. Schematic locus

06NN In this section we prove that a decent algebraic space has a dense open subspace which is a scheme. We first prove this for reasonable algebraic spaces.

03JI **Proposition 10.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . If X is reasonable, then there exists a dense open subspace of X which is a scheme.*

Proof. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 12.1 the question is local on X . Hence we may assume there exists an affine scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.1). Let n be an integer bounding the degrees of the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ which exists as X is reasonable, see Definition 6.1. We will argue by induction on n that whenever

- (1) $U \rightarrow X$ is a surjective étale morphism whose fibres have degree $\leq n$, and
- (2) U is isomorphic to a locally closed subscheme of an affine scheme

then the schematic locus is dense in X .

Let $X_n \subset X$ be the open subspace which is the complement of the closed subspace $Z_{n-1} \subset X$ constructed in Lemma 8.1 using the morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Let $U_n \subset U$ be the inverse image of X_n . Then $U_n \rightarrow X_n$ is finite locally free of degree n . Hence X_n is a scheme by Properties of Spaces, Proposition 13.1 (and the fact that any finite set of points of U_n is contained in an affine open of U_n , see Properties, Lemma 29.5).

Let $X' \subset X$ be the open subspace such that $|X'|$ is the interior of $|Z_{n-1}|$ in $|X|$ (see Topology, Definition 21.1). Let $U' \subset U$ be the inverse image. Then $U' \rightarrow X'$ is surjective étale and has degrees of fibres bounded by $n - 1$. By induction we see that the schematic locus of X' is an open dense $X'' \subset X'$. By elementary topology we see that $X'' \cup X_n \subset X$ is open and dense and we win. \square

086U **Theorem 10.2** (David Rydh). *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . If X is decent, then there exists a dense open subspace of X which is a scheme.*

Proof. Assume X is a decent algebraic space for which the theorem is false. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 12.1 there exists a largest open subspace $X' \subset X$ which is a scheme. Since X' is not dense in X , there exists an open subspace $X'' \subset X$ such that $|X''| \cap |X'| = \emptyset$. Replacing X by X'' we get a nonempty decent algebraic space X which does not contain *any* open subspace which is a scheme.

Choose a nonempty affine scheme U and an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. We may and do replace X by the open subscheme corresponding to the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$. Consider the sequence of open subspaces

$$X = X_0 \supset X_1 \supset X_2 \dots$$

constructed in Lemma 8.2 for the morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Note that $X_0 = X_1$ as $U \rightarrow X$ is surjective. Let $U = U_0 = U_1 \supset U_2 \dots$ be the induced sequence of open subschemes of U .

Choose a nonempty open affine $V_1 \subset U_1$ (for example $V_1 = U_1$). By induction we will construct a sequence of nonempty affine opens $V_1 \supset V_2 \supset \dots$ with $V_n \subset U_n$. Namely, having constructed V_1, \dots, V_{n-1} we can always choose V_n unless $V_{n-1} \cap U_n = \emptyset$. But if $V_{n-1} \cap U_n = \emptyset$, then the open subspace $X' \subset X$ with $|X'| = \text{Im}(|V_{n-1}| \rightarrow |X|)$ is contained in $|X| \setminus |X_n|$. Hence $V_{n-1} \rightarrow X'$ is an étale morphism whose fibres have degree bounded by $n - 1$. In other words, X' is reasonable (by definition), hence X' contains a nonempty open subscheme by Proposition 10.1. This is a contradiction which shows that we can pick V_n .

By Limits, Lemma 4.3 the limit $V_\infty = \lim V_n$ is a nonempty scheme. Pick a morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow V_\infty$. The composition $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow V_\infty \rightarrow U \rightarrow X$ has image contained in all X_d by construction. In other words, the fibred $U \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ has infinite degree which contradicts the definition of a decent space. This contradiction finishes the proof of the theorem. \square

0BA1 **Lemma 10.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $X \rightarrow Y$ be a surjective finite locally free morphism of algebraic spaces over S . For $y \in |Y|$ the following are equivalent*

- (1) y is in the schematic locus of Y , and
- (2) there exists an affine open $U \subset X$ containing the preimage of y .

Proof. If $y \in Y$ is in the schematic locus, then it has an affine open neighbourhood $V \subset Y$ and the inverse image U of V in X is an open finite over V , hence affine. Thus (1) implies (2).

Conversely, assume that $U \subset X$ as in (2) is given. Set $R = X \times_Y X$ and denote the projections $s, t : R \rightarrow X$. Consider $Z = R \setminus s^{-1}(U) \cap t^{-1}(U)$. This is a closed subset of R . The image $t(Z)$ is a closed subset of X which can loosely be described as the set of points of X which are R -equivalent to a point of $X \setminus U$. Hence $U' = X \setminus t(Z)$ is an R -invariant, open subspace of X contained in U which contains the fibre of $X \rightarrow Y$ over y . Since $X \rightarrow Y$ is open (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 29.6) the image of U' is an open subspace $V' \subset Y$. Since U' is R -invariant and $R = X \times_Y X$, we see that U' is the inverse image of V' (use Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3). After replacing Y by V' and X by U' we see that we may assume X is a scheme isomorphic to an open subscheme of an affine scheme.

Assume X is a scheme isomorphic to an open subscheme of an affine scheme. In this case the fppf quotient sheaf X/R is a scheme, see Properties of Spaces, Proposition 13.1. Since Y is a sheaf in the fppf topology, obtain a canonical map $X/R \rightarrow Y$ factoring $X \rightarrow Y$. Since $X \rightarrow Y$ is surjective finite locally free, it is surjective as a map of sheaves (Spaces, Lemma 5.9). We conclude that $X/R \rightarrow Y$ is surjective as a map of sheaves. On the other hand, since $R = X \times_Y X$ as sheaves we conclude that $X/R \rightarrow Y$ is injective as a map of sheaves. Hence $X/R \rightarrow Y$ is an isomorphism and we see that Y is representable. \square

At this point we have several different ways for proving the following lemma.

06NG **Lemma 10.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . If there exists a finite, étale, surjective morphism $U \rightarrow X$ where U is a scheme, then there exists a dense open subspace of X which is a scheme.*

First proof. The morphism $U \rightarrow X$ is finite locally free. Hence there is a decomposition of X into open and closed subspaces $X_d \subset X$ such that $U \times_X X_d \rightarrow X_d$ is finite locally free of degree d . Thus we may assume $U \rightarrow X$ is finite locally free of degree d . In this case, let $U_i \subset U$, $i \in I$ be the set of affine opens. For each i the morphism $U_i \rightarrow X$ is étale and has universally bounded fibres (namely, bounded by d). In other words, X is reasonable and the result follows from Proposition 10.1. \square

Second proof. The question is local on X (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 12.1), hence may assume X is quasi-compact. Then U is quasi-compact. Then there exists a dense open subscheme $W \subset U$ which is separated (Properties, Lemma 29.3). Set $Z = U \setminus W$. Let $R = U \times_X U$ and $s, t : R \rightarrow U$ the projections. Then $t^{-1}(Z)$ is nowhere dense in R (Topology, Lemma 21.6) and hence $\Delta = s(t^{-1}(Z))$ is an R -invariant closed nowhere dense subset of U (Morphisms, Lemma 45.7). Let $u \in U \setminus \Delta$ be a generic point of an irreducible component. Since these points are dense in $U \setminus \Delta$ and since Δ is nowhere dense, it suffices to show that the image $x \in X$ of u is in the schematic locus of X . Observe that $t(s^{-1}(\{u\})) \subset W$ is a finite set of generic points of irreducible components of W (compare with Properties of Spaces, Lemma 10.1). By Properties, Lemma 29.1 we can find an affine open $V \subset W$ such that $t(s^{-1}(\{u\})) \subset V$. Since $t(s^{-1}(\{u\}))$ is the fibre of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x , we conclude by Lemma 10.3. \square

Third proof. (This proof is essentially the same as the second proof, but uses fewer references.) Assume X is an algebraic space, U a scheme, and $U \rightarrow X$ is a finite étale surjective morphism. Write $R = U \times_X U$ and denote $s, t : R \rightarrow U$ the projections as usual. Note that s, t are surjective, finite and étale. Claim: The union of the R -invariant affine opens of U is topologically dense in U .

Proof of the claim. Let $W \subset U$ be an affine open. Set $W' = t(s^{-1}(W)) \subset U$. Since $s^{-1}(W)$ is affine (hence quasi-compact) we see that $W' \subset U$ is a quasi-compact open. By Properties, Lemma 29.3 there exists a dense open $W'' \subset W'$ which is a separated scheme. Set $\Delta' = W' \setminus W''$. This is a nowhere dense closed subset of W' . Since $t|_{s^{-1}(W)} : s^{-1}(W) \rightarrow W'$ is open (because it is étale) we see that the inverse image $(t|_{s^{-1}(W)})^{-1}(\Delta') \subset s^{-1}(W)$ is a nowhere dense closed subset (see Topology, Lemma 21.6). Hence, by Morphisms, Lemma 45.7 we see that

$$\Delta = s((t|_{s^{-1}(W)})^{-1}(\Delta'))$$

is a nowhere dense closed subset of W . Pick any point $\eta \in W$, $\eta \notin \Delta$ which is a generic point of an irreducible component of W (and hence of U). By our choices above the finite set $t(s^{-1}(\{\eta\})) = \{\eta_1, \dots, \eta_n\}$ is contained in the separated scheme W'' . Note that the fibres of s are finite discrete spaces, and that generalizations lift along the étale morphism t , see Morphisms, Lemmas 34.12 and 24.8. In this way we see that each η_i is a generic point of an irreducible component of W'' . Thus, by Properties, Lemma 29.1 we can find an affine open $V \subset W''$ such that $\{\eta_1, \dots, \eta_n\} \subset V$. By Groupoids, Lemma 24.1 this implies that η is contained in an R -invariant affine open subscheme of U . The claim follows as W was chosen as an arbitrary affine open of U and because the set of generic points of irreducible components of $W \setminus \Delta$ is dense in W .

Using the claim we can finish the proof. Namely, if $W \subset U$ is an R -invariant affine open, then the restriction R_W of R to W equals $R_W = s^{-1}(W) = t^{-1}(W)$ (see Groupoids, Definition 19.1 and discussion following it). In particular the maps $R_W \rightarrow W$ are finite étale also. It follows in particular that R_W is affine. Thus we see that W/R_W is a scheme, by Groupoids, Proposition 23.9. On the other hand, W/R_W is an open subspace of X by Spaces, Lemma 10.2. Hence having a dense collection of points contained in R -invariant affine open of U certainly implies that the schematic locus of X (see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 12.1) is open dense in X . \square

11. Points on spaces

03IG In this section we prove some properties of points on decent algebraic spaces.

03K4 **Lemma 11.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Consider the map*

$$\{\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X \text{ monomorphism}\} \longrightarrow |X|$$

This map is always injective. If X is decent then this map is a bijection.

Proof. We have seen in Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.11 that the map is an injection in general. By Lemma 5.1 it is surjective when X is decent (actually one can say this is part of the definition of being decent). \square

The following lemma tells us that the henselian local ring of a point on a decent algebraic space is defined.

0BBP **Lemma 11.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . For every point $x \in |X|$ there exists an étale morphism*

$$(U, u) \longrightarrow (X, x)$$

where U is an affine scheme, u is the only point of U lying over x , and the induced morphism $\text{Spec}(\kappa(u)) \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism.

Proof. We may assume that X is quasi-compact by replacing X with a quasi-compact open containing x . Recall that x can be represented by a quasi-compact (mono)morphism from the spectrum of a field (by definition of decent spaces). Thus the lemma follows from Lemma 8.3. \square

0BGU **Definition 11.3.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in X$ be a point. An *elementary étale neighbourhood* is an étale morphism $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ where U is a scheme, $u \in U$ is a point mapping to x , and $\text{Spec}(\kappa(u)) \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism. A *morphism of elementary étale neighbourhoods* $(U, u) \rightarrow (U', u')$ is defined as a morphism $U \rightarrow U'$ over X mapping u to u' .

If X is not decent then the category of elementary étale neighbourhoods may be empty.

0BGV **Lemma 11.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let x be a point of X . The category of elementary étale neighborhoods of (X, x) is cofiltered (see Categories, Definition 20.1).*

Proof. The category is nonempty by Lemma 11.2. Suppose that we have two elementary étale neighbourhoods $(U_i, u_i) \rightarrow (X, x)$. Then consider $U = U_1 \times_X U_2$. Since $\text{Spec}(\kappa(u_i)) \rightarrow X$, $i = 1, 2$ are both monomorphisms in the class of x , we see that

$$u = \text{Spec}(\kappa(u_1)) \times_X \text{Spec}(\kappa(u_2))$$

is the spectrum of a field $\kappa(u)$ such that the induced maps $\kappa(u_i) \rightarrow \kappa(u)$ are isomorphisms. Then $u \rightarrow U$ is a point of U and we see that $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ is an elementary étale neighbourhood dominating (U_i, u_i) . If $a, b : (U_1, u_1) \rightarrow (U_2, u_2)$ are two morphisms between our elementary étale neighbourhoods, then we consider the scheme

$$U = U_1 \times_{(a,b), (U_2 \times_X U_2), \Delta} U_2$$

Using Properties of Spaces, Lemma 15.6 we see that $U \rightarrow X$ is étale. Moreover, in exactly the same manner as before we see that U has a point u such that $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ is an elementary étale neighbourhood. Finally, $U \rightarrow U_1$ equalizes a and b and the proof is finished. \square

0BGW **Definition 11.5.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The *henselian local ring of X at x* , is

$$\mathcal{O}_{X,x}^h = \text{colim } \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_U)$$

where the colimit is over the elementary étale neighbourhoods $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$.

To be sure, the henselian local ring of X at x is equal to the henselization $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}^h$ of the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$ of any elementary étale neighbourhood. This follows from the definition, Lemma 11.4, and More on Morphisms, Lemma 31.5.

The following lemma shows that specialization of points behaves well on decent algebraic spaces. Spaces, Example 14.9 shows that this is **not** true in general.

03K5 **Lemma 11.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from a scheme to X . If $u, u' \in |U|$ map to the same point of $|X|$, and $u' \rightsquigarrow u$, then $u = u'$.*

Proof. Combine Lemmas 5.1 and 7.1. \square

03IL **Lemma 11.7.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x, x' \in |X|$ and assume $x' \rightsquigarrow x$, i.e., x is a specialization of x' . Then for every étale morphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ from a scheme U and any $u \in U$ with $\varphi(u) = x$, exists a point $u' \in U$, $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ with $\varphi(u') = x'$.*

Proof. Combine Lemmas 5.1 and 7.2. \square

03K3 **Lemma 11.8.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Then $|X|$ is Kolmogorov (see Topology, Definition 8.4).*

Proof. Let $x_1, x_2 \in |X|$ with $x_1 \rightsquigarrow x_2$ and $x_2 \rightsquigarrow x_1$. We have to show that $x_1 = x_2$. Pick a scheme U and an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ such that x_1, x_2 are both in the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$. By Lemma 11.7 we can find a specialization $u_1 \rightsquigarrow u_2$ in U mapping to $x_1 \rightsquigarrow x_2$. By Lemma 11.7 we can find $u'_2 \rightsquigarrow u_1$ mapping to $x_2 \rightsquigarrow x_1$. This means that $u'_2 \rightsquigarrow u_2$ is a specialization between points of U mapping to the same point of X , namely x_2 . This is not possible, unless $u'_2 = u_2$, see Lemma 11.6. Hence also $u_1 = u_2$ as desired. \square

03K6 **Proposition 11.9.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Then the topological space $|X|$ is sober (see Topology, Definition 8.4).*

Proof. We have seen in Lemma 11.8 that $|X|$ is Kolmogorov. Hence it remains to show that every irreducible closed subset $T \subset |X|$ has a generic point. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 11.4 there exists a closed subspace $Z \subset X$ with $|Z| = |T|$. By definition this means that $Z \rightarrow X$ is a representable morphism of algebraic spaces. Hence Z is a decent algebraic space by Lemma 5.3. By Theorem 10.2 we see that there exists an open dense subspace $Z' \subset Z$ which is a scheme. This means that $|Z'| \subset T$ is open dense. Hence the topological space $|Z'|$ is irreducible, which means that Z' is an irreducible scheme. By Schemes, Lemma 11.1 we conclude that $|Z'|$ is the closure of a single point $\eta \in T$ and hence also $T = \overline{\{\eta\}}$, and we win. \square

For decent algebraic spaces dimension works as expected.

0A4J **Lemma 11.10.** *Let S be a scheme. Dimension as defined in Properties of Spaces, Section 8 behaves well on decent algebraic spaces X over S .*

- (1) *If $x \in |X|$, then $\dim_x(|X|) = \dim_x(X)$, and*
- (2) *$\dim(|X|) = \dim(X)$.*

Proof. Proof of (1). Choose a scheme U with a point $u \in U$ and an étale morphism $h : U \rightarrow X$ mapping u to x . By definition the dimension of X at x is $\dim_u(|U|)$. Thus we may pick U such that $\dim_x(X) = \dim(|U|)$. Let d be an integer. If $\dim(U) \geq d$, then there exists a sequence of nontrivial specializations $u_d \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow u_0$ in U . Taking the image we find a corresponding sequence $h(u_d) \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow h(u_0)$ each of which is nontrivial by Lemma 11.6. Hence we see that the image of $|U|$ in $|X|$ has dimension at least d . Conversely, suppose that $x_d \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow x_0$ is a sequence of specializations in $|X|$ with x_0 in the image of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$. Then we can lift this to a sequence of specializations in U by Lemma 11.7.

Part (2) is an immediate consequence of part (1), Topology, Lemma 10.2, and Properties of Spaces, Section 8. \square

0ABW **Lemma 11.11.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $X \rightarrow Y$ be a locally quasi-finite morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $x \in |X|$ with image $y \in |Y|$. Then the dimension of the local ring of Y at y is \geq to the dimension of the local ring of X at x .*

Proof. The definition of the dimension of the local ring of a point on an algebraic space is given in Properties of Spaces, Definition 9.2. Choose an étale morphism $(V, v) \rightarrow (Y, y)$ where V is a scheme. Choose an étale morphism $U \rightarrow V \times_Y X$ and a point $u \in U$ mapping to $x \in |X|$ and $v \in V$. Then $U \rightarrow V$ is locally quasi-finite and we have to prove that

$$\dim(\mathcal{O}_{V,v}) \geq \dim(\mathcal{O}_{U,u})$$

This is Algebra, Lemma 124.4. \square

The following lemma is a tiny bit stronger than Properties of Spaces, Lemma 14.3. We will improve this lemma in Lemma 13.2.

03IK **Lemma 11.12.** *Let S be a scheme. Let k be a field. Let X be an algebraic space over S and assume that there exists a surjective étale morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$. If X is decent, then $X \cong \text{Spec}(k')$ where $k' \subset k$ is a finite separable extension.*

Proof. The assumption implies that $|X| = \{x\}$ is a singleton. Since X is decent we can find a quasi-compact monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X$ whose image is x . Then the projection $U = \text{Spec}(k') \times_X \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is a monomorphism, whence $U = \text{Spec}(k)$, see Schemes, Lemma 23.11. Hence the projection $\text{Spec}(k) = U \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k')$ is étale and we win. \square

12. Reduced singleton spaces

06QU A *singleton* space is an algebraic space X such that $|X|$ is a singleton. It turns out that these can be more interesting than just being the spectrum of a field, see Spaces, Example 14.7. We develop a tiny bit of machinery to be able to talk about these.

06QV **Lemma 12.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let Z be an algebraic space over S . Let k be a field and let $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ be surjective and flat. Then any morphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow Z$ where k' is a field is surjective and flat.*

Proof. Consider the fibre square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T & \longrightarrow & \text{Spec}(k) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(k') & \longrightarrow & Z \end{array}$$

Note that $T \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k')$ is flat and surjective hence T is not empty. On the other hand $T \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is flat as k is a field. Hence $T \rightarrow Z$ is flat and surjective. It follows from Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 30.5 that $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow Z$ is flat. It is surjective as by assumption $|Z|$ is a singleton. \square

06QW **Lemma 12.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let Z be an algebraic space over S . The following are equivalent*

- (1) Z is reduced and $|Z|$ is a singleton,
- (2) there exists a surjective flat morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ where k is a field, and
- (3) there exists a locally of finite type, surjective, flat morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ where k is a field.

Proof. Assume (1). Let W be a scheme and let $W \rightarrow Z$ be a surjective étale morphism. Then W is a reduced scheme. Let $\eta \in W$ be a generic point of an irreducible component of W . Since W is reduced we have $\mathcal{O}_{W,\eta} = \kappa(\eta)$. It follows that the canonical morphism $\eta = \text{Spec}(\kappa(\eta)) \rightarrow W$ is flat. We see that the composition $\eta \rightarrow Z$ is flat (see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 29.3). It is also surjective as $|Z|$ is a singleton. In other words (2) holds.

Assume (2). Let W be a scheme and let $W \rightarrow Z$ be a surjective étale morphism. Choose a field k and a surjective flat morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$. Then $W \times_Z \text{Spec}(k)$ is a scheme étale over k . Hence $W \times_Z \text{Spec}(k)$ is a disjoint union of spectra of fields (see Remark 4.1), in particular reduced. Since $W \times_Z \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow W$ is surjective and flat we conclude that W is reduced (Descent, Lemma 16.1). In other words (1) holds.

It is clear that (3) implies (2). Finally, assume (2). Pick a nonempty affine scheme W and an étale morphism $W \rightarrow Z$. Pick a closed point $w \in W$ and set $k = \kappa(w)$. The composition

$$\text{Spec}(k) \xrightarrow{w} W \longrightarrow Z$$

is locally of finite type by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemmas 23.2 and 38.9. It is also flat and surjective by Lemma 12.1. Hence (3) holds. \square

The following lemma singles out a slightly better class of singleton algebraic spaces than the preceding lemma.

06QX **Lemma 12.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let Z be an algebraic space over S . The following are equivalent*

- (1) Z is reduced, locally Noetherian, and $|Z|$ is a singleton, and
- (2) there exists a locally finitely presented, surjective, flat morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ where k is a field.

Proof. Assume (2) holds. By Lemma 12.2 we see that Z is reduced and $|Z|$ is a singleton. Let W be a scheme and let $W \rightarrow Z$ be a surjective étale morphism. Choose a field k and a locally finitely presented, surjective, flat morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$. Then $W \times_Z \text{Spec}(k)$ is a scheme étale over k , hence a disjoint union of spectra of fields (see Remark 4.1), hence locally Noetherian. Since $W \times_Z \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow W$ is flat, surjective, and locally of finite presentation, we see that $\{W \times_Z \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow W\}$ is an fppf covering and we conclude that W is locally Noetherian (Descent, Lemma 13.1). In other words (1) holds.

Assume (1). Pick a nonempty affine scheme W and an étale morphism $W \rightarrow Z$. Pick a closed point $w \in W$ and set $k = \kappa(w)$. Because W is locally Noetherian the morphism $w : \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow W$ is of finite presentation, see Morphisms, Lemma 20.7. Hence the composition

$$\text{Spec}(k) \xrightarrow{w} W \longrightarrow Z$$

is locally of finite presentation by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemmas 28.2 and 38.8. It is also flat and surjective by Lemma 12.1. Hence (2) holds. \square

06QY **Lemma 12.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $Z' \rightarrow Z$ be a monomorphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume there exists a field k and a locally finitely presented, surjective, flat morphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$. Then either Z' is empty or $Z' = Z$.*

Proof. We may assume that Z' is nonempty. In this case the fibre product $T = Z' \times_Z \text{Spec}(k)$ is nonempty, see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3. Now T is an algebraic space and the projection $T \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is a monomorphism. Hence $T = \text{Spec}(k)$, see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 10.8. We conclude that $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ factors through Z' . But as $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ is surjective, flat and locally of finite presentation, we see that $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ is surjective as a map of sheaves on $(\text{Sch}/S)_{fppf}$ (see Spaces, Remark 5.2) and we conclude that $Z' = Z$. \square

The following lemma says that to each point of an algebraic space we can associate a canonical reduced, locally Noetherian singleton algebraic space.

06QZ **Lemma 12.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. Then there exists a unique monomorphism $Z \rightarrow X$ of algebraic spaces over S such that Z is an algebraic space which satisfies the equivalent conditions of Lemma 12.3 and such that the image of $|Z| \rightarrow |X|$ is $\{x\}$.*

Proof. Choose a scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Set $R = U \times_X U$ so that $X = U/R$ is a presentation (see Spaces, Section 9). Set

$$U' = \coprod_{u \in U \text{ lying over } x} \text{Spec}(\kappa(u)).$$

The canonical morphism $U' \rightarrow U$ is a monomorphism. Let

$$R' = U' \times_X U' = R \times_{(U \times_S U)} (U' \times_S U').$$

Because $U' \rightarrow U$ is a monomorphism we see that the projections $s', t' : R' \rightarrow U'$ factor as a monomorphism followed by an étale morphism. Hence, as U' is a disjoint union of spectra of fields, using Remark 4.1, and using Schemes, Lemma 23.11 we conclude that R' is a disjoint union of spectra of fields and that the morphisms $s', t' : R' \rightarrow U'$ are étale. Hence $Z = U'/R'$ is an algebraic space by Spaces, Theorem 10.5. As R' is the restriction of R by $U' \rightarrow U$ we see $Z \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism by Groupoids, Lemma 20.6. Since $Z \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism we see that $|Z| \rightarrow |X|$ is injective, see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 10.9. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3 we see that

$$|U'| = |Z \times_X U'| \rightarrow |Z| \times_{|X|} |U'|$$

is surjective which implies (by our choice of U') that $|Z| \rightarrow |X|$ has image $\{x\}$. We conclude that $|Z|$ is a singleton. Finally, by construction U' is locally Noetherian and reduced, i.e., we see that Z satisfies the equivalent conditions of Lemma 12.3.

Let us prove uniqueness of $Z \rightarrow X$. Suppose that $Z' \rightarrow X$ is a second such monomorphism of algebraic spaces. Then the projections

$$Z' \longleftarrow Z' \times_X Z \longrightarrow Z$$

are monomorphisms. The algebraic space in the middle is nonempty by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3. Hence the two projections are isomorphisms by Lemma 12.4 and we win. \square

We introduce the following terminology which foreshadows the residual gerbes we will introduce later, see Properties of Stacks, Definition 11.8.

06R0 **Definition 12.6.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The *residual space of X at x^2* is the monomorphism $Z_x \rightarrow X$ constructed in Lemma 12.5.

In particular we know that Z_x is a locally Noetherian, reduced, singleton algebraic space and that there exists a field and a surjective, flat, locally finitely presented morphism

$$\mathrm{Spec}(k) \longrightarrow Z_x.$$

It turns out that Z_x is a regular algebraic space as follows from the following lemma.

06R1 **Lemma 12.7.** *A reduced, locally Noetherian singleton algebraic space Z is regular.*

Proof. Let Z be a reduced, locally Noetherian singleton algebraic space over a scheme S . Let $W \rightarrow Z$ be a surjective étale morphism where W is a scheme. Let k be a field and let $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ be surjective, flat, and locally of finite presentation (see Lemma 12.3). The scheme $T = W \times_Z \mathrm{Spec}(k)$ is étale over k in particular regular, see Remark 4.1. Since $T \rightarrow W$ is locally of finite presentation, flat, and surjective it follows that W is regular, see Descent, Lemma 16.2. By definition this means that Z is regular. \square

13. Decent spaces

047Y In this section we collect some useful facts on decent spaces.

0BB6 **Lemma 13.1.** *Any locally Noetherian decent algebraic space is quasi-separated.*

Proof. Namely, let X be an algebraic space (over some base scheme, for example over \mathbf{Z}) which is decent and locally Noetherian. Let $U \rightarrow X$ and $V \rightarrow X$ be étale morphisms with U and V affine schemes. We have to show that $W = U \times_X V$ is quasi-compact (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 3.3). Since X is locally Noetherian, the schemes U, V are Noetherian and W is locally Noetherian. Since X is decent, the fibres of the morphism $W \rightarrow U$ are finite. Namely, we can represent any $x \in |X|$ by a quasi-compact monomorphism $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$. Then U_k and V_k are finite disjoint unions of spectra of finite separable extensions of k (Remark 4.1) and we see that $W_k = U_k \times_{\mathrm{Spec}(k)} V_k$ is finite. Let n be the maximum degree of a fibre of $W \rightarrow U$ at a generic point of an irreducible component of U . Consider the stratification

$$U = U_0 \supset U_1 \supset U_2 \supset \dots$$

associated to $W \rightarrow U$ in More on Morphisms, Lemma 38.10. By our choice of n above we conclude that U_{n+1} is empty. Hence we see that the fibres of $W \rightarrow U$ are universally bounded. Then we can apply More on Morphisms, Lemma 38.8 to find a stratification

$$\emptyset = Z_{-1} \subset Z_0 \subset Z_1 \subset Z_2 \subset \dots \subset Z_n = U$$

by closed subsets such that with $S_r = Z_r \setminus Z_{r-1}$ the morphism $W \times_U S_r \rightarrow S_r$ is finite locally free. Since U is Noetherian, the schemes S_r are Noetherian, whence the schemes $W \times_U S_r$ are Noetherian, whence $W = \coprod W \times_U S_r$ is quasi-compact as desired. \square

047Z **Lemma 13.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S .*

- (1) *If $|X|$ is a singleton then X is a scheme.*

²This is nonstandard notation.

(2) If $|X|$ is a singleton and X is reduced, then $X \cong \text{Spec}(k)$ for some field k .

Proof. Assume $|X|$ is a singleton. It follows immediately from Theorem 10.2 that X is a scheme, but we can also argue directly as follows. Choose an affine scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Set $R = U \times_X U$. Then U and R have finitely many points by Lemma 4.5 (and the definition of a decent space). All of these points are closed in U and R by Lemma 11.6. It follows that U and R are affine schemes. We may shrink U to a singleton space. Then U is the spectrum of a henselian local ring, see Algebra, Lemma 148.10. The projections $R \rightarrow U$ are étale, hence finite étale because U is the spectrum of a 0-dimensional henselian local ring, see Algebra, Lemma 148.3. It follows that X is a scheme by Groupoids, Proposition 23.9.

Part (2) follows from (1) and the fact that a reduced singleton scheme is the spectrum of a field. \square

049D **Remark 13.3.** We will see in Limits of Spaces, Lemma 15.3 that an algebraic space whose reduction is a scheme is a scheme.

07U5 **Lemma 13.4.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Consider a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec}(k) & \longrightarrow & X \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & & S \end{array}$$

Assume that the image point $s \in S$ of $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow S$ is a closed point and that $\kappa(s) \subset k$ is algebraic. Then the image x of $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is a closed point of $|X|$.

Proof. Suppose that $x \rightsquigarrow x'$ for some $x' \in |X|$. Choose an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ where U is a scheme and a point $u' \in U'$ mapping to x' . Choose a specialization $u \rightsquigarrow u'$ in U with u mapping to x in X , see Lemma 11.7. Then u is the image of a point w of the scheme $W = \text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$. Since the projection $W \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is étale we see that $\kappa(w) \supset k$ is finite. Hence $\kappa(w) \supset \kappa(s)$ is algebraic. Hence $\kappa(u) \supset \kappa(s)$ is algebraic. Thus u is a closed point of U by Morphisms, Lemma 19.2. Thus $u = u'$, whence $x = x'$. \square

08AL **Lemma 13.5.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Consider a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec}(k) & \longrightarrow & X \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & & S \end{array}$$

Assume that the image point $s \in S$ of $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow S$ is a closed point and that $\kappa(s) \subset k$ is finite. Then $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is finite morphism. If $\kappa(s) = k$ then $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is closed immersion.

Proof. By Lemma 13.4 the image point $x \in |X|$ is closed. Let $Z \subset X$ be the reduced closed subspace with $|Z| = \{x\}$ (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 11.4). Note that Z is a decent algebraic space by Lemma 6.5. By Lemma 13.2 we see that $Z = \text{Spec}(k')$ for some field k' . Of course $k \supset k' \supset \kappa(s)$. Then $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Z$ is

a finite morphism of schemes and $Z \rightarrow X$ is a finite morphism as it is a closed immersion. Hence $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is finite (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 44.4). If $k = \kappa(s)$, then $\mathrm{Spec}(k) = Z$ and $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ is a closed immersion. \square

0AHB **Lemma 13.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Suppose X is a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$ be a closed point. Then x can be represented by a closed immersion $i : \mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ from the spectrum of a field.*

Proof. We know that x can be represented by a quasi-compact monomorphism $i : \mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ where k is a field (Definition 6.1). Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism where U is an affine scheme. As x is closed and X decent, the fibre F of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ over x consists of closed points (Lemma 11.6). As i is a monomorphism, so is $U_k = U \times_X \mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow U$. In particular, the map $|U_k| \rightarrow F$ is injective. Since U_k is quasi-compact and étale over a field, we see that U_k is a finite disjoint union of spectra of fields (Remark 4.1). Say $U_k = \mathrm{Spec}(k_1) \amalg \dots \amalg \mathrm{Spec}(k_r)$. Since $\mathrm{Spec}(k_i) \rightarrow U$ is a monomorphism, we see that its image u_i has residue field $\kappa(u_i) = k_i$. Since $u_i \in F$ is a closed point we conclude the morphism $\mathrm{Spec}(k_i) \rightarrow U$ is a closed immersion. As the u_i are pairwise distinct, $U_k \rightarrow U$ is a closed immersion. Hence i is a closed immersion (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 12.1). This finishes the proof. \square

14. Locally separated spaces

088H It turns out that a locally separated algebraic space is decent.

088I **Lemma 14.1.** *Let A be a ring. Let k be a field. Let \mathfrak{p}_n , $n \geq 1$ be a sequence of pairwise distinct primes of A . Moreover, for each n let $k \rightarrow \kappa(\mathfrak{p}_n)$ be an embedding. Then the closure of the image of*

$$\coprod_{n \neq m} \mathrm{Spec}(\kappa(\mathfrak{p}_n) \otimes_k \kappa(\mathfrak{p}_m)) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(A \otimes A)$$

meets the diagonal.

Proof. Set $k_n = \kappa(\mathfrak{p}_n)$. We may assume that $A = \prod k_n$. Denote $x_n = \mathrm{Spec}(k_n)$ the open and closed point corresponding to $A \rightarrow k_n$. Then $\mathrm{Spec}(A) = Z \amalg \{x_n\}$ where Z is a nonempty closed subset. Namely, $Z = V(e_n; n \geq 1)$ where e_n is the idempotent of A corresponding to the factor k_n and Z is nonempty as the ideal generated by the e_n is not equal to A . We will show that the closure of the image contains $\Delta(Z)$. The kernel of the map

$$\left(\prod k_n\right) \otimes_k \left(\prod k_m\right) \longrightarrow \prod_{n \neq m} k_n \otimes_k k_m$$

is the ideal generated by $e_n \otimes e_n$, $n \geq 1$. Hence the closure of the image of the map on spectra is $V(e_n \otimes e_n; n \geq 1)$ whose intersection with $\Delta(\mathrm{Spec}(A))$ is $\Delta(Z)$. Thus it suffices to show that

$$\prod_{n \neq m} \mathrm{Spec}(k_n \otimes_k k_m) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Spec}\left(\prod_{n \neq m} k_n \otimes_k k_m\right)$$

has dense image. This follows as the family of ring maps $\prod_{n \neq m} k_n \otimes_k k_m \rightarrow k_n \otimes_k k_m$ is jointly injective. \square

088J **Lemma 14.2** (David Rydh). *A locally separated algebraic space is decent.*

Proof. Let S be a scheme and let X be a locally separated algebraic space over S . We may assume $S = \text{Spec}(\mathbf{Z})$, see Properties of Spaces, Definition 3.1. Unadorned fibre products will be over \mathbf{Z} . Let $x \in |X|$. Choose a scheme U , an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$, and a point $u \in U$ mapping to x in $|X|$. As usual we identify $u = \text{Spec}(\kappa(u))$. As X is locally separated the morphism

$$u \times_X u \rightarrow u \times u$$

is an immersion (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 4.5). Hence More on Groupoids, Lemma 11.5 tells us that it is a closed immersion (use Schemes, Lemma 10.4). As $u \times_X u \rightarrow u \times_X U$ is a monomorphism (base change of $u \rightarrow U$) and as $u \times_X U \rightarrow u$ is étale we conclude that $u \times_X u$ is a disjoint union of spectra of fields (see Remark 4.1 and Schemes, Lemma 23.11). Since it is also closed in the affine scheme $u \times u$ we conclude $u \times_X u$ is a finite disjoint union of spectra of fields. Thus x can be represented by a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ where k is a field, see Lemma 4.3.

Next, let $U = \text{Spec}(A)$ be an affine scheme and let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism. To finish the proof it suffices to show that $F = U \times_X \text{Spec}(k)$ is finite. Write $F = \coprod_{i \in I} \text{Spec}(k_i)$ as the disjoint union of finite separable extensions of k . We have to show that I is finite. Set $R = U \times_X U$. As X is locally separated, the morphism $j : R \rightarrow U \times U$ is an immersion. Let $U' \subset U \times U$ be an open such that j factors through a closed immersion $j' : R \rightarrow U'$. Let $e : U \rightarrow R$ be the diagonal map. Using that e is a morphism between schemes étale over U such that $\Delta = j \circ e$ is a closed immersion, we conclude that $R = e(U) \amalg W$ for some open and closed subscheme $W \subset R$. Since j' is a closed immersion we conclude that $j'(W) \subset U'$ is closed and disjoint from $j'(e(U))$. Therefore $\overline{j(W)} \cap \Delta(U) = \emptyset$ in $U \times U$. Note that W contains $\text{Spec}(k_i \otimes_k k_{i'})$ for all $i \neq i', i, i' \in I$. By Lemma 14.1 we conclude that I is finite as desired. \square

15. Valuative criterion

06NP For a quasi-compact morphism from a decent space the valuative criterion is necessary in order for the morphism to be universally closed.

03KJ **Proposition 15.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume f is quasi-compact, and X is decent. Then f is universally closed if and only if the existence part of the valuative criterion holds.*

Proof. In Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 41.1 we have seen one of the implications. To prove the other, assume that f is universally closed. Let

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec}(K) & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Spec}(A) & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

be a diagram as in Morphisms of Spaces, Definition 40.1. Let $X_A = \text{Spec}(A) \times_Y X$, so that we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec}(K) & \longrightarrow & X_A \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \\ & & \text{Spec}(A) \end{array}$$

By Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 8.3 we see that $X_A \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ is quasi-compact. Since $X_A \rightarrow X$ is representable, we see that X_A is decent also, see Lemma 5.3. Moreover, as f is universally closed, we see that $X_A \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ is universally closed. Hence we may and do replace X by X_A and Y by $\text{Spec}(A)$.

Let $x' \in |X|$ be the equivalence class of $\text{Spec}(K) \rightarrow X$. Let $y \in |Y| = |\text{Spec}(A)|$ be the closed point. Set $y' = f(x')$; it is the generic point of $\text{Spec}(A)$. Since f is universally closed we see that $f(\overline{\{x'\}})$ contains $\overline{\{y'\}}$, and hence contains y . Let $x \in \overline{\{x'\}}$ be a point such that $f(x) = y$. Let U be a scheme, and $\varphi : U \rightarrow X$ an étale morphism such that there exists a $u \in U$ with $\varphi(u) = x$. By Lemma 7.2 and our assumption that X is decent there exists a specialization $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ on U with $\varphi(u') = x'$. This means that there exists a common field extension $K \subset K' \supset \kappa(u')$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Spec}(K') & \longrightarrow & U \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \text{Spec}(K) & \longrightarrow & X \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 & & \text{Spec}(A)
 \end{array}$$

is commutative. This gives the following commutative diagram of rings

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K' & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{O}_{U,u} \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 K & & A \\
 & \swarrow & \\
 & & A
 \end{array}$$

By Algebra, Lemma 49.2 we can find a valuation ring $A' \subset K'$ dominating the image of $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$ in K' . Since by construction $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$ dominates A we see that A' dominates A also. Hence we obtain a diagram resembling the second diagram of Morphisms of Spaces, Definition 40.1 and the proposition is proved. \square

16. Relative conditions

03KW This is a (yet another) technical section dealing with conditions on algebraic spaces having to do with points. It is probably a good idea to skip this section.

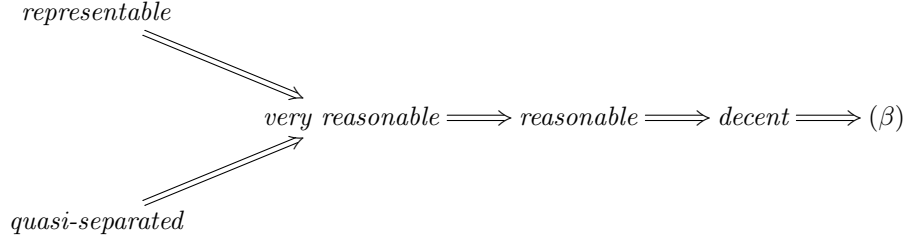
03KZ **Definition 16.1.** Let S be a scheme. We say an algebraic space X over S has *property* (β) if X has the corresponding property of Lemma 5.1. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S .

- (1) We say f has *property* (β) if for any scheme T and morphism $T \rightarrow Y$ the fibre product $T \times_Y X$ has property (β) .
- (2) We say f is *decent* if for any scheme T and morphism $T \rightarrow Y$ the fibre product $T \times_Y X$ is a decent algebraic space.
- (3) We say f is *reasonable* if for any scheme T and morphism $T \rightarrow Y$ the fibre product $T \times_Y X$ is a reasonable algebraic space.

- (4) We say f is *very reasonable* if for any scheme T and morphism $T \rightarrow Y$ the fibre product $T \times_Y X$ is a very reasonable algebraic space.

We refer to Remark 16.10 for an informal discussion. It will turn out that the class of very reasonable morphisms is not so useful, but that the classes of decent and reasonable morphisms are useful.

- 03M5 **Lemma 16.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . We have the following implications among the conditions on f :*



Proof. This is clear from the definitions, Lemma 5.1 and Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 4.12. \square

Here is another sanity check.

- 0ABX **Lemma 16.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . If X is decent (resp. is reasonable, resp. has property (β) of Lemma 5.1), then f is decent (resp. reasonable, resp. has property (β)).*

Proof. Let T be a scheme and let $T \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism. Then $T \rightarrow Y$ is representable, hence the base change $T \times_Y X \rightarrow X$ is representable. Hence if X is decent (or reasonable), then so is $T \times_Y X$, see Lemma 6.5. Similarly, for property (β) , see Lemma 5.3. \square

- 03L0 **Lemma 16.4.** *Having property (β) , being decent, or being reasonable is preserved under arbitrary base change.*

Proof. This is immediate from the definition. \square

- 0ABY **Lemma 16.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $\omega \in \{\beta, \text{decent}, \text{reasonable}\}$. Suppose that Y has property (ω) and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ has (ω) . Then X has (ω) .*

Proof. Let us prove the lemma in case $\omega = \beta$. In this case we have to show that any $x \in |X|$ is represented by a monomorphism from the spectrum of a field into X . Let $y = f(x) \in |Y|$. By assumption there exists a field k and a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ representing y . Then x corresponds to a point x' of $\text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$. By assumption x' is represented by a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$. Clearly the composition $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X$ is a monomorphism representing x .

Let us prove the lemma in case $\omega = \text{decent}$. Let $x \in |X|$ and $y = f(x) \in |Y|$. By the result of the preceding paragraph we can choose a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Spec}(k') & \xrightarrow{x} & X \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\
 \text{Spec}(k) & \xrightarrow{y} & Y
 \end{array}$$

whose horizontal arrows monomorphisms. As Y is decent the morphism y is quasi-compact. As f is decent the algebraic space $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ is decent. Hence the monomorphism $\mathrm{Spec}(k') \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ is quasi-compact. Then the monomorphism $x : \mathrm{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X$ is quasi-compact as a composition of quasi-compact morphisms (use Morphisms of Spaces, Lemmas 8.3 and 8.4). As the point x was arbitrary this implies X is decent.

Let us prove the lemma in case $\omega = \textit{reasonable}$. Choose $V \rightarrow Y$ étale with V an affine scheme. Choose $U \rightarrow V \times_Y X$ étale with U an affine scheme. By assumption $V \rightarrow Y$ has universally bounded fibres. By Lemma 3.3 the morphism $V \times_Y X \rightarrow X$ has universally bounded fibres. By assumption on f we see that $U \rightarrow V \times_Y X$ has universally bounded fibres. By Lemma 3.2 the composition $U \rightarrow X$ has universally bounded fibres. Hence there exists sufficiently many étale morphisms $U \rightarrow X$ from schemes with universally bounded fibres, and we conclude that X is reasonable. \square

03L1 **Lemma 16.6.** *Having property (β) , being decent, or being reasonable is preserved under compositions.*

Proof. Let $\omega \in \{\beta, \textit{decent}, \textit{reasonable}\}$. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ be morphisms of algebraic spaces over the scheme S . Assume f and g both have property (ω) . Then we have to show that for any scheme T and morphism $T \rightarrow Z$ the space $T \times_Z X$ has (ω) . By Lemma 16.4 this reduces us to the following claim: Suppose that Y is an algebraic space having property (ω) , and that $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a morphism with (ω) . Then X has (ω) . This is the content of Lemma 16.5. \square

0ABZ **Lemma 16.7.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$, $g : Z \rightarrow Y$ be morphisms of algebraic spaces over S . If X and Z are decent (resp. reasonable, resp. have property (β) of Lemma 5.1), then so does $X \times_Y Z$.*

Proof. Namely, by Lemma 16.3 the morphism $X \rightarrow Y$ has the property. Then the base change $X \times_Y Z \rightarrow Z$ has the property by Lemma 16.4. And finally this implies $X \times_Y Z$ has the property by Lemma 16.5. \square

03L2 **Lemma 16.8.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $\mathcal{P} \in \{(\beta), \textit{decent}, \textit{reasonable}\}$. Assume*

- (1) f is quasi-compact,
- (2) f is étale,
- (3) $|f| : |X| \rightarrow |Y|$ is surjective, and
- (4) the algebraic space X has property \mathcal{P} .

Then Y has property \mathcal{P} .

Proof. Let us prove this in case $\mathcal{P} = (\beta)$. Let $y \in |Y|$ be a point. We have to show that y can be represented by a monomorphism from a field. Choose a point $x \in |X|$ with $f(x) = y$. By assumption we may represent x by a monomorphism $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$, with k a field. By Lemma 4.3 it suffices to show that the projections $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y \mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k)$ are étale and quasi-compact. We can factor the first projection as

$$\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y \mathrm{Spec}(k) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y X \longrightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k)$$

The first morphism is a monomorphism, and the second is étale and quasi-compact. By Properties of Spaces, Lemma 15.8 we see that $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ is a scheme. Hence it is a finite disjoint union of spectra of finite separable field extensions of k . By

Schemes, Lemma 23.11 we see that the first arrow identifies $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y \mathrm{Spec}(k)$ with a finite disjoint union of spectra of finite separable field extensions of k . Hence the projection morphism is étale and quasi-compact.

Let us prove this in case $\mathcal{P} = \textit{decent}$. We have already seen in the first paragraph of the proof that this implies that every $y \in |Y|$ can be represented by a monomorphism $y : \mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$. Pick such a y . Pick an affine scheme U and an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$ such that the image of $|U| \rightarrow |Y|$ contains y . By Lemma 4.5 it suffices to show that U_y is a finite scheme over k . The fibre product $X_y = \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ is a quasi-compact étale algebraic space over k . Hence by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 15.8 it is a scheme. So it is a finite disjoint union of spectra of finite separable extensions of k . Say $X_y = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ so x_i is given by $x_i : \mathrm{Spec}(k_i) \rightarrow X$ with $[k_i : k] < \infty$. By assumption X is decent, so the schemes $U_{x_i} = \mathrm{Spec}(k_i) \times_X U$ are finite over k_i . Finally, we note that $U_y = \coprod U_{x_i}$ as a scheme and we conclude that U_y is finite over k as desired.

Let us prove this in case $\mathcal{P} = \textit{reasonable}$. Pick an affine scheme V and an étale morphism $V \rightarrow Y$. We have to show the fibres of $V \rightarrow Y$ are universally bounded. The algebraic space $V \times_Y X$ is quasi-compact. Thus we can find an affine scheme W and a surjective étale morphism $W \rightarrow V \times_Y X$, see Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.3. Here is a picture (solid diagram)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 W & \longrightarrow & V \times_Y X & \longrightarrow & X & \xleftarrow{\dots} & \mathrm{Spec}(k) \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \swarrow \dots \\
 & & V & \longrightarrow & Y & &
 \end{array}$$

(Dotted arrows x and y are also shown in the original image.)

The morphism $W \rightarrow X$ is universally bounded by our assumption that the space X is reasonable. Let n be an integer bounding the degrees of the fibres of $W \rightarrow X$. We claim that the same integer works for bounding the fibres of $V \rightarrow Y$. Namely, suppose $y \in |Y|$ is a point. Then there exists a $x \in |X|$ with $f(x) = y$ (see above). This means we can find a field k and morphisms x, y given as dotted arrows in the diagram above. In particular we get a surjective étale morphism

$$\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{x, X} W \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{x, X} (V \times_Y X) = \mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{y, Y} V$$

which shows that the degree of $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{y, Y} V$ over k is less than or equal to the degree of $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \times_{x, X} W$ over k , i.e., $\leq n$, and we win. (This last part of the argument is the same as the argument in the proof of Lemma 3.4. Unfortunately that lemma is not general enough because it only applies to representable morphisms.) \square

03L3 **Lemma 16.9.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $\mathcal{P} \in \{(\beta), \textit{decent}, \textit{reasonable}, \textit{very reasonable}\}$. The following are equivalent*

- (1) f is \mathcal{P} ,
- (2) for every affine scheme Z and every morphism $Z \rightarrow Y$ the base change $Z \times_Y X \rightarrow Z$ of f is \mathcal{P} ,
- (3) for every affine scheme Z and every morphism $Z \rightarrow Y$ the algebraic space $Z \times_Y X$ is \mathcal{P} , and
- (4) there exists a Zariski covering $Y = \bigcup Y_i$ such that each morphism $f^{-1}(Y_i) \rightarrow Y_i$ has \mathcal{P} .

If $\mathcal{P} \in \{(\beta), \textit{decent}, \textit{reasonable}\}$, then this is also equivalent to

- (5) *there exists a scheme V and a surjective étale morphism $V \rightarrow Y$ such that the base change $V \times_Y X \rightarrow V$ has \mathcal{P} .*

Proof. The implications (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4) are trivial. The implication (3) \Rightarrow (1) can be seen as follows. Let $Z \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism whose source is a scheme over S . Consider the algebraic space $Z \times_Y X$. If we assume (3), then for any affine open $W \subset Z$, the open subspace $W \times_Y X$ of $Z \times_Y X$ has property \mathcal{P} . Hence by Lemma 5.2 the space $Z \times_Y X$ has property \mathcal{P} , i.e., (1) holds. A similar argument (omitted) shows that (4) implies (1).

The implication (1) \Rightarrow (5) is trivial. Let $V \rightarrow Y$ be an étale morphism from a scheme as in (5). Let Z be an affine scheme, and let $Z \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism. Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z \times_Y V & \xrightarrow{q} & V \\ p \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Z & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

Since p is étale, and hence open, we can choose finitely many affine open subschemes $W_i \subset Z \times_Y V$ such that $Z = \bigcup p(W_i)$. Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} V \times_Y X & \longleftarrow & (\coprod W_i) \times_Y X & \longrightarrow & Z \times_Y X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ V & \longleftarrow & \coprod W_i & \longrightarrow & Z \end{array}$$

We know $V \times_Y X$ has property \mathcal{P} . By Lemma 5.3 we see that $(\coprod W_i) \times_Y X$ has property \mathcal{P} . Note that the morphism $(\coprod W_i) \times_Y X \rightarrow Z \times_Y X$ is étale and quasi-compact as the base change of $\coprod W_i \rightarrow Z$. Hence by Lemma 16.8 we conclude that $Z \times_Y X$ has property \mathcal{P} . \square

- 03L4 **Remark 16.10.** An informal description of the properties (β), decent, reasonable, very reasonable was given in Section 6. A morphism has one of these properties if (very) loosely speaking the fibres of the morphism have the corresponding properties. Being decent is useful to prove things about specializations of points on $|X|$. Being reasonable is a bit stronger and technically quite easy to work with.

Here is a lemma we promised earlier which uses decent morphisms.

- 03M6 **Lemma 16.11.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume f is quasi-compact and decent. (For example if f is representable, or quasi-separated, see Lemma 16.2.) Then f is universally closed if and only if the existence part of the valuative criterion holds.*

Proof. In Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 41.1 we proved that any quasi-compact morphism which satisfies the existence part of the valuative criterion is universally closed. To prove the other, assume that f is universally closed. In the proof of Proposition 15.1 we have seen that it suffices to show, for any valuation ring A , and any morphism $\text{Spec}(A) \rightarrow Y$, that the base change $f_A : X_A \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ satisfies the existence part of the valuative criterion. By definition the algebraic space X_A has property (γ) and hence Proposition 15.1 applies to the morphism f_A and we win. \square

17. Points of fibres

0AC0 Let S be a scheme. Consider a cartesian diagram

0AC1 (17.0.1)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{q} & Z \\ p \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

of algebraic spaces over S . Let $x \in |X|$ and $z \in |Z|$ be points mapping to the same point $y \in |Y|$. We may ask: When is the set

0AC2 (17.0.2) $F_{x,z} = \{w \in |W| \text{ such that } p(w) = x \text{ and } q(w) = z\}$

finite?

0AC3 **Example 17.1.** If X, Y, Z are schemes, then the set $F_{x,z}$ is equal to the spectrum of $\kappa(x) \otimes_{\kappa(y)} \kappa(z)$ (Schemes, Lemma 17.5). Thus we obtain a finite set if either $\kappa(y) \subset \kappa(x)$ is finite or if $\kappa(y) \subset \kappa(z)$ is finite. In particular, this is always the case if g is quasi-finite at z (Morphisms, Lemma 19.5).

0AC4 **Example 17.2.** Let K be a characteristic 0 field endowed with an automorphism σ of infinite order. Set $Y = \text{Spec}(K)/\mathbf{Z}$ and $X = \mathbf{A}_K^1/\mathbf{Z}$ where \mathbf{Z} acts on K via σ and on $\mathbf{A}_K^1 = \text{Spec}(K[t])$ via $t \mapsto t+1$. Let $Z = \text{Spec}(K)$. Then $W = \mathbf{A}_K^1$. Picture

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{A}_K^1 & \xrightarrow{q} & \text{Spec}(K) \\ p \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ \mathbf{A}_K^1/\mathbf{Z} & \xrightarrow{f} & \text{Spec}(K)/\mathbf{Z} \end{array}$$

Take x corresponding to $t = 0$ and z the unique point of $\text{Spec}(K)$. Then we see that $F_{x,z} = \mathbf{Z}$ as a set.

0AC5 **Lemma 17.3.** *In the situation of (17.0.1) if $Z' \rightarrow Z$ is a morphism and $z' \in |Z'|$ maps to z , then the induced map $F_{x,z'} \rightarrow F_{x,z}$ is surjective.*

Proof. Set $W' = X \times_Y Z' = W \times_Z Z'$. Then $|W'| \rightarrow |W| \times_{|Z|} |Z'|$ is surjective by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3. Hence the surjectivity of $F_{x,z'} \rightarrow F_{x,z}$. \square

0AC6 **Lemma 17.4.** *In diagram (17.0.1) the set (17.0.2) is finite if f is of finite type and f is quasi-finite at x .*

Proof. The morphism q is quasi-finite at every $w \in F_{x,z}$, see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 27.2. Hence the lemma follows from Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 27.9. \square

0AC7 **Lemma 17.5.** *In diagram (17.0.1) the set (17.0.2) is finite if y can be represented by a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ where k is a field and g is quasi-finite at z . (Special case: Y is decent and g is étale.)*

Proof. By Lemma 17.3 applied twice we may replace Z by $Z_k = \text{Spec}(k) \times_Y Z$ and X by $X_k = \text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$. We may and do replace Y by $\text{Spec}(k)$ as well. Note that $Z_k \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is quasi-finite at z by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 27.2. Choose a scheme V , a point $v \in V$, and an étale morphism $V \rightarrow Z_k$ mapping v to

z. Choose a scheme U , a point $u \in U$, and an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X_k$ mapping u to x . Again by Lemma 17.3 it suffices to show $F_{u,v}$ is finite for the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} V & \longrightarrow & V \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ U & \longrightarrow & \text{Spec}(k) \end{array}$$

The morphism $V \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is quasi-finite at v (follows from the general discussion in Morphisms of Spaces, Section 22 and the definition of being quasi-finite at a point). At this point the finiteness follows from Example 17.1. The parenthetical remark of the statement of the lemma follows from the fact that on decent spaces points are represented by monomorphisms from fields and from the fact that an étale morphism of algebraic spaces is locally quasi-finite. \square

0AC8 **Lemma 17.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Let $y \in |Y|$ and assume that y is represented by a quasi-compact monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$. Then $|X_k| \rightarrow |X|$ is a homeomorphism onto $f^{-1}(\{y\}) \subset |X|$ with induced topology.*

Proof. We will use Properties of Spaces, Lemma 15.7 and Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 10.9 without further mention. Let $V \rightarrow Y$ be an étale morphism with V affine such that there exists a $v \in V$ mapping to y . Since $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ is quasi-compact there are a finite number of points of V mapping to y (Lemma 4.5). After shrinking V we may assume v is the only one. Choose a scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} U & \longleftarrow & U_V & \longleftarrow & U_v \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X & \longleftarrow & X_V & \longleftarrow & X_v \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Y & \longleftarrow & V & \longleftarrow & v \end{array}$$

Since $U_v \rightarrow U_V$ identifies U_v with a subset of U_V with the induced topology (Schemes, Lemma 18.5), and since $|U_V| \rightarrow |X_V|$ and $|U_v| \rightarrow |X_v|$ are surjective and open, we see that $|X_v| \rightarrow |X_V|$ is a homeomorphism onto its image (with induced topology). On the other hand, the inverse image of $f^{-1}(\{y\})$ under the open map $|X_V| \rightarrow |X|$ is equal to $|X_v|$. We conclude that $|X_v| \rightarrow f^{-1}(\{y\})$ is open. The morphism $X_v \rightarrow X$ factors through X_k and $|X_k| \rightarrow |X|$ is injective with image $f^{-1}(\{y\})$ by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3. Using $|X_v| \rightarrow |X_k| \rightarrow f^{-1}(\{y\})$ the lemma follows because $X_v \rightarrow X_k$ is surjective. \square

0AC9 **Lemma 17.7.** *Let X be an algebraic space locally of finite type over a field k . Let $x \in |X|$. Consider the conditions*

- (1) $\dim_x(|X|) = 0$,
- (2) x is closed in $|X|$ and if $x' \rightsquigarrow x$ in $|X|$ then $x' = x$,
- (3) x is an isolated point of $|X|$,
- (4) $\dim_x(X) = 0$,
- (5) $X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is quasi-finite at x .

Then (2), (3), (4), and (5) are equivalent. If X is decent, then (1) is equivalent to the others.

Proof. Parts (4) and (5) are equivalent for example by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemmas 33.7 and 33.8.

Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism where U is an affine scheme and let $u \in U$ be a point mapping to x . Moreover, if x is a closed point, e.g., in case (2) or (3), then we may and do assume that u is a closed point. Observe that $\dim_u(U) = \dim_x(X)$ by definition and that this is equal to $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{U,u})$ if u is a closed point, see Algebra, Lemma 113.6.

If $\dim_x(X) > 0$ and u is closed, by the arguments above we can choose a nontrivial specialization $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ in U . Then the transcendence degree of $\kappa(u')$ over k exceeds the transcendence degree of $\kappa(u)$ over k . It follows that the images x and x' in X are distinct, because the transcendence degree of x/k and x'/k are well defined, see Morphisms of Spaces, Definition 32.1. This applies in particular in cases (2) and (3) and we conclude that (2) and (3) imply (4).

Conversely, if $X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is locally quasi-finite at x , then $U \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is locally quasi-finite at u , hence u is an isolated point of U (Morphisms, Lemma 19.6). It follows that (5) implies (2) and (3) as $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ is continuous and open.

Assume X is decent and (1) holds. Then $\dim_x(X) = \dim_x(|X|)$ by Lemma 11.10 and the proof is complete. \square

0ACA **Lemma 17.8.** *Let X be an algebraic space locally of finite type over a field k . Consider the conditions*

- (1) $|X|$ is a finite set,
- (2) $|X|$ is a discrete space,
- (3) $\dim(|X|) = 0$,
- (4) $\dim(X) = 0$,
- (5) $X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is locally quasi-finite,

Then (2), (3), (4), and (5) are equivalent. If X is decent, then (1) implies the others.

Proof. Parts (4) and (5) are equivalent for example by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 33.7.

Let $U \rightarrow X$ be a surjective étale morphism where U is a scheme.

If $\dim(U) > 0$, then choose a nontrivial specialization $u \rightsquigarrow u'$ in U and the transcendence degree of $\kappa(u)$ over k exceeds the transcendence degree of $\kappa(u')$ over k . It follows that the images x and x' in X are distinct, because the transcendence degree of x/k and x'/k is well defined, see Morphisms of Spaces, Definition 32.1. We conclude that (2) and (3) imply (4).

Conversely, if $X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is locally quasi-finite, then U is locally Noetherian (Morphisms, Lemma 14.6) of dimension 0 (Morphisms, Lemma 28.5) and hence is a disjoint union of spectra of Artinian local rings (Properties, Lemma 10.5). Hence U is a discrete topological space, and since $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ is continuous and open, the same is true for $|X|$. In other words, (4) implies (2) and (3).

Assume X is decent and (1) holds. Then we may choose U above to be affine. The fibres of $|U| \rightarrow |X|$ are finite (this is a part of the defining property of decent

spaces). Hence U is a finite type scheme over k with finitely many points. Hence U is quasi-finite over k (Morphisms, Lemma 19.7) which by definition means that $X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is locally quasi-finite. \square

0ACB Lemma 17.9. *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S which is locally of finite type. Let $x \in |X|$ with image $y \in |Y|$. Let $F = f^{-1}(\{y\})$ with induced topology from $|X|$. Let k be a field and let $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ be in the equivalence class defining y . Set $X_k = \text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$. Let $\tilde{x} \in |X_k|$ map to $x \in |X|$. Consider the following conditions*

- 0ACC (1) $\dim_x(F) = 0$,
- 0ACD (2) x is isolated in F ,
- 0ACE (3) x is closed in F and if $x' \rightsquigarrow x$ in F , then $x = x'$,
- 0ACF (4) $\dim_{\tilde{x}}(|X_k|) = 0$,
- 0ACG (5) \tilde{x} is isolated in $|X_k|$,
- 0ACH (6) \tilde{x} is closed in $|X_k|$ and if $\tilde{x}' \rightsquigarrow \tilde{x}$ in $|X_k|$, then $\tilde{x} = \tilde{x}'$,
- 0ACI (7) $\dim_{\tilde{x}}(X_k) = 0$,
- 0ACJ (8) f is quasi-finite at x .

Then we have

$$(4) \xrightarrow[f \text{ decent}]{} (5) \iff (6) \iff (7) \iff (8)$$

If Y is decent, then conditions (2) and (3) are equivalent to each other and to conditions (5), (6), (7), and (8). If Y and X are decent, then all conditions are equivalent.

Proof. By Lemma 17.7 conditions (5), (6), and (7) are equivalent to each other and to the condition that $X_k \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is quasi-finite at \tilde{x} . Thus by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 27.2 they are also equivalent to (8). If f is decent, then X_k is a decent algebraic space and Lemma 17.7 shows that (4) implies (5).

If Y is decent, then we can pick a quasi-compact monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow Y$ in the equivalence class of y . In this case Lemma 17.6 tells us that $|X_{k'}| \rightarrow F$ is a homeomorphism. Combined with the arguments given above this implies the remaining statements of the lemma; details omitted. \square

0ACK Lemma 17.10. *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S which is locally of finite type. Let $y \in |Y|$. Let k be a field and let $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ be in the equivalence class defining y . Set $X_k = \text{Spec}(k) \times_Y X$ and let $F = f^{-1}(\{y\})$ with the induced topology from $|X|$. Consider the following conditions*

- 0ACL (1) F is finite,
- 0ACM (2) F is a discrete topological space,
- 0ACN (3) $\dim(F) = 0$,
- 0ACP (4) $|X_k|$ is a finite set,
- 0ACQ (5) $|X_k|$ is a discrete space,
- 0ACR (6) $\dim(|X_k|) = 0$,
- 0ACS (7) $\dim(X_k) = 0$,
- 0ACT (8) f is quasi-finite at all points of $|X|$ lying over y .

Then we have

$$(1) \longleftarrow (4) \xrightarrow[f \text{ decent}]{\quad} (5) \iff (6) \iff (7) \iff (8)$$

If Y is decent, then conditions (2) and (3) are equivalent to each other and to conditions (5), (6), (7), and (8). If Y and X are decent, then (1) implies all the other conditions.

Proof. By Lemma 17.8 conditions (5), (6), and (7) are equivalent to each other and to the condition that $X_k \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is locally quasi-finite. Thus by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 27.2 they are also equivalent to (8). If f is decent, then X_k is a decent algebraic space and Lemma 17.8 shows that (4) implies (5).

The map $|X_k| \rightarrow F$ is surjective by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 4.3 and we see (4) \Rightarrow (1).

If Y is decent, then we can pick a quasi-compact monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow Y$ in the equivalence class of y . In this case Lemma 17.6 tells us that $|X_{k'}| \rightarrow F$ is a homeomorphism. Combined with the arguments given above this implies the remaining statements of the lemma; details omitted. \square

18. Monomorphisms

06RY Here is another case where monomorphisms are representable. Please see More on Morphisms of Spaces, Section 4 for more information.

06RZ **Lemma 18.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let Y be a disjoint union of spectra of zero dimensional local rings over S . Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a monomorphism of algebraic spaces over S . Then f is representable, i.e., X is a scheme.*

Proof. This immediately reduces to the case $Y = \text{Spec}(A)$ where A is a zero dimensional local ring, i.e., $\text{Spec}(A) = \{\mathfrak{m}_A\}$ is a singleton. If $X = \emptyset$, then there is nothing to prove. If not, choose a nonempty affine scheme $U = \text{Spec}(B)$ and an étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. As $|X|$ is a singleton (as a subset of $|Y|$), see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 10.9) we see that $U \rightarrow X$ is surjective. Note that $U \times_X U = U \times_Y U = \text{Spec}(B \otimes_A B)$. Thus we see that the ring maps $B \rightarrow B \otimes_A B$ are étale. Since

$$(B \otimes_A B)/\mathfrak{m}_A(B \otimes_A B) = (B/\mathfrak{m}_A B) \otimes_{A/\mathfrak{m}_A} (B/\mathfrak{m}_A B)$$

we see that $B/\mathfrak{m}_A B \rightarrow (B \otimes_A B)/\mathfrak{m}_A(B \otimes_A B)$ is flat and in fact free of rank equal to the dimension of $B/\mathfrak{m}_A B$ as a A/\mathfrak{m}_A -vector space. Since $B \rightarrow B \otimes_A B$ is étale, this can only happen if this dimension is finite (see for example Morphisms, Lemmas 53.9 and 53.10). Every prime of B lies over \mathfrak{m}_A (the unique prime of A). Hence $\text{Spec}(B) = \text{Spec}(B/\mathfrak{m}_A)$ as a topological space, and this space is a finite discrete set as $B/\mathfrak{m}_A B$ is an Artinian ring, see Algebra, Lemmas 52.2 and 52.6. Hence all prime ideals of B are maximal and $B = B_1 \times \dots \times B_n$ is a product of finitely many local rings of dimension zero, see Algebra, Lemma 52.5. Thus $B \rightarrow B \otimes_A B$ is finite étale as all the local rings B_i are henselian by Algebra, Lemma 148.10. Thus X is an affine scheme by Groupoids, Proposition 23.9. \square

19. Generic points

0BB7 This section is a continuation of Properties of Spaces, Section 10.

0ABV **Lemma 19.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The following are equivalent*

- (1) x is a generic point of an irreducible component of $|X|$,
- (2) for any étale morphism $(Y, y) \rightarrow (X, x)$ of pointed algebraic spaces, y is a generic point of an irreducible component of $|Y|$,
- (3) for some étale morphism $(Y, y) \rightarrow (X, x)$ of pointed algebraic spaces, y is a generic point of an irreducible component of $|Y|$,
- (4) the dimension of the local ring of X at x is zero, and
- (5) x is a point of codimension 0 on X

Proof. Conditions (4) and (5) are equivalent for any algebraic space by definition, see Properties of Spaces, Definition 9.2. Observe that any Y as in (2) and (3) is decent by Lemma 6.6. Thus it suffices to prove the equivalence of (1) and (4) as then the equivalence with (2) and (3) follows since the dimension of the local ring of Y at y is equal to the dimension of the local ring of X at x . Let $f : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism from an affine scheme and let $u \in U$ be a point mapping to x .

Assume (1). Let $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ be a specialization in U . Then $f(u') = f(u) = x$. By Lemma 11.6 we see that $u' = u$. Hence u is a generic point of an irreducible component of U . Thus $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{U,u}) = 0$ and we see that (4) holds.

Assume (4). The point x is contained in an irreducible component $T \subset |X|$. Since $|X|$ is sober (Proposition 11.9) we T has a generic point x' . Of course $x' \rightsquigarrow x$. Then we can lift this specialization to $u' \rightsquigarrow u$ in U (Lemma 11.7). This contradicts the assumption that $\dim(\mathcal{O}_{U,u}) = 0$ unless $u' = u$, i.e., $x' = x$. \square

0BB8 **Lemma 19.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . Assume*

- (1) every quasi-compact scheme étale over X has finitely many irreducible components, and
- (2) every $x \in |X|$ of codimension 0 on X can be represented by a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$.

Then X is a reasonable algebraic space.

Proof. Let U be an affine scheme and let $a : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism. We have to show that the fibres of a are universally bounded. By assumption (1) the scheme U has finitely many irreducible components. Let $u_1, \dots, u_n \in U$ be the generic points of these irreducible components. Let $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subset |X|$ be the image of $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$. Each x_j is a point of codimension 0. By assumption (2) we may choose a monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k_j) \rightarrow X$ representing x_j . Then

$$U \times_X \text{Spec}(k_j) = \coprod_{a(u_i)=x_j} \text{Spec}(\kappa(u_i))$$

is finite over $\text{Spec}(k_j)$ of degree $d_j = \sum_{a(u_i)=x_j} [\kappa(u_i) : k_j]$. Set $n = \max d_j$.

Observe that a is separated (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.4). Consider the stratification

$$X = X_0 \supset X_1 \supset X_2 \supset \dots$$

associated to $U \rightarrow X$ in Lemma 8.2. By our choice of n above we conclude that X_{n+1} is empty. Namely, if not, then $a^{-1}(X_{n+1})$ is a nonempty open of U and hence

would contain one of the x_i . This would mean that X_{n+1} contains $x_j = a(u_i)$ which is impossible. Hence we see that the fibres of $U \rightarrow X$ are universally bounded (in fact by the integer n). \square

0BB9 **Lemma 19.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be an algebraic space over S . The following are equivalent*

- (1) X is decent and $|X|$ has finitely many irreducible components,
- (2) every quasi-compact scheme étale over X has finitely many irreducible components, there are finitely many $x \in |X|$ of codimension 0 on X , and each of these can be represented by a monomorphism $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$,
- (3) there exists a dense open $X' \subset X$ which is a scheme, X' has finitely many irreducible components with generic points $\{x'_1, \dots, x'_m\}$, and the morphism $x'_j \rightarrow X$ is quasi-compact for $j = 1, \dots, m$.

Moreover, if these conditions hold, then X is reasonable and the points $x'_j \in |X|$ are the generic points of the irreducible components of $|X|$.

Proof. In the proof we use Properties of Spaces, Lemma 10.1 without further mention. Assume (1). Then X has a dense open subscheme X' by Theorem 10.2. Since the closure of an irreducible component of $|X'|$ is an irreducible component of $|X|$, we see that $|X'|$ has finitely many irreducible components. Thus (3) holds.

Assume $X' \subset X$ is as in (3). Let $\{x'_1, \dots, x'_m\}$ be the generic points of the irreducible components of X' . Let $a : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism with U a quasi-compact scheme. It suffices to show that U has finitely many irreducible components whose generic points lie over $\{x'_1, \dots, x'_m\}$. It suffices to prove this for the members of a finite affine open cover of U , hence we may and do assume U is affine. Note that $U' = a^{-1}(X') \subset U$ is a dense open. The generic points of irreducible components of U' are the points lying over $\{x'_1, \dots, x'_m\}$ and since $x'_j \rightarrow X$ is quasi-compact there are finitely many points of U lying over x'_j (Lemma 4.5). Hence U' has finitely many irreducible components, which implies that the closures of these irreducible components are the irreducible components of U . Thus (2) holds.

Assume (2). This implies (1) and the final statement by Lemma 19.2. (We also use that a reasonable algebraic space is decent, see discussion following Definition 6.1.) \square

20. Generically finite morphisms

0BBA This section discusses for morphisms of algebraic spaces the material discussed in Morphisms, Section 48 and Varieties, Section 17 for morphisms of schemes.

0ACZ **Lemma 20.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume that f is quasi-separated of finite type. Let $y \in |Y|$ be a point of codimension 0 on Y . The following are equivalent:*

- (1) the space $|X_k|$ is finite where $\mathrm{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ represents y ,
- (2) $X \rightarrow Y$ is quasi-finite at all points of $|X|$ over y ,
- (3) there exists an open subspace $Y' \subset Y$ with $y \in |Y'|$ such that $Y' \times_Y X \rightarrow Y'$ is finite.

If Y is decent these are also equivalent to

- (4) the set $f^{-1}(\{y\})$ is finite.

Proof. The equivalence of (1) and (2) follows from Lemma 17.10 (and the fact that a quasi-separated morphism is decent by Lemma 16.2).

Assume the equivalent conditions of (1) and (2). Choose an affine scheme V and an étale morphism $V \rightarrow Y$ mapping a point $v \in V$ to y . Then v is a generic point of an irreducible component of V by Properties of Spaces, Lemma 10.1. Choose an affine scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow V \times_Y X$. Then $U \rightarrow V$ is of finite type. The morphism $U \rightarrow V$ is quasi-finite at every point lying over v by (2). It follows that the fibre of $U \rightarrow V$ over v is finite (Morphisms, Lemma 19.14). By Morphisms, Lemma 48.1 after shrinking V we may assume that $U \rightarrow V$ is finite. Let

$$R = U \times_{V \times_Y X} U$$

Since f is quasi-separated, we see that $V \times_Y X$ is quasi-separated and hence R is a quasi-compact scheme. Moreover the morphisms $R \rightarrow V$ is quasi-finite as the composition of an étale morphism $R \rightarrow U$ and a finite morphism $U \rightarrow V$. Hence we may apply Morphisms, Lemma 48.1 once more and after shrinking V we may assume that $R \rightarrow V$ is finite as well. This of course implies that the two projections $R \rightarrow V$ are finite étale. It follows that $V/R = V \times_Y X$ is an affine scheme, see Groupoids, Proposition 23.9. By Morphisms, Lemma 39.8 we conclude that $V \times_Y X \rightarrow V$ is proper and by Morphisms, Lemma 42.10 we conclude that $V \times_Y X \rightarrow V$ is finite. Finally, we let $Y' \subset Y$ be the open subspace of Y corresponding to the image of $|V| \rightarrow |Y|$. By Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 44.3 we conclude that $Y' \times_Y X \rightarrow Y'$ is finite as the base change to V is finite and as $V \rightarrow Y'$ is a surjective étale morphism.

If Y is decent and f is quasi-separated, then we see that X is decent too; use Lemmas 16.2 and 16.5. Hence Lemma 17.10 applies to show that (4) implies (1) and (2). On the other hand, we see that (2) implies (4) by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 27.9. \square

0AD0 **Lemma 20.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume that f is quasi-separated and locally of finite type and Y quasi-separated. Let $y \in |Y|$ be a point of codimension 0 on Y . The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *the set $f^{-1}(\{y\})$ is finite,*
- (2) *the space $|X_k|$ is finite where $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow Y$ represents y ,*
- (3) *there exist open subspaces $X' \subset X$ and $Y' \subset Y$ with $f(X') \subset Y'$, $y \in |Y'|$, and $f^{-1}(\{y\}) \subset |X'|$ such that $f|_{X'} : X' \rightarrow Y'$ is finite.*

Proof. Since quasi-separated algebraic spaces are decent, the equivalence of (1) and (2) follows from Lemma 17.10. To prove that (1) and (2) imply (3) we may and do replace Y by a quasi-compact open containing y . Since $f^{-1}(\{y\})$ is finite, we can find a quasi-compact open subspace of $X' \subset X$ containing the fibre. The restriction $f|_{X'} : X' \rightarrow Y$ is quasi-compact and quasi-separated by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 8.9 (this is where we use that Y is quasi-separated). Applying Lemma 20.1 to $f|_{X'} : X' \rightarrow Y$ we see that (3) holds. We omit the proof that (3) implies (2). \square

0BBB **Lemma 20.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume f is locally of finite type. Let $X^0 \subset |X|$, resp. $Y^0 \subset |Y|$*

denote the set of codimension 0 points of X , resp. Y . Let $y \in Y^0$. The following are equivalent

- (1) $f^{-1}(\{y\}) \subset X^0$,
- (2) f is quasi-finite at all points lying over y ,
- (3) f is quasi-finite at all $x \in X^0$ lying over y .

Proof. Let V be a scheme and let $V \rightarrow Y$ be a surjective étale morphism. Let U be a scheme and let $U \rightarrow V \times_Y X$ be a surjective étale morphism. Then f is quasi-finite at the image x of a point $u \in U$ if and only if $U \rightarrow V$ is quasi-finite at u . Moreover, $x \in X^0$ if and only if u is the generic point of an irreducible component of U (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 10.1). Thus the lemma reduces to the case of the morphism $U \rightarrow V$, i.e., to Morphisms, Lemma 48.4. \square

0BBC **Lemma 20.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume f is locally of finite type. Let $X^0 \subset |X|$, resp. $Y^0 \subset |Y|$ denote the set of codimension 0 points of X , resp. Y . Assume*

- (1) Y is decent,
- (2) X^0 and Y^0 are finite and $f^{-1}(Y^0) = X^0$,
- (3) either f is quasi-compact or f is separated.

Then there exists a dense open $V \subset Y$ such that $f^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$ is finite.

Proof. By Lemmas 19.3 and 19.1 we may assume Y is a scheme with finitely many irreducible components. Shrinking further we may assume Y is an irreducible affine scheme with generic point y . Then the fibre of f over y is finite.

Assume f is quasi-compact and Y affine irreducible. Then X is quasi-compact and we may choose an affine scheme U and a surjective étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$. Then $U \rightarrow Y$ is of finite type and the fibre of $U \rightarrow Y$ over y is the set U^0 of generic points of irreducible components of U (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 10.1). Hence U^0 is finite (Morphisms, Lemma 19.14) and after shrinking Y we may assume that $U \rightarrow Y$ is finite (Morphisms, Lemma 48.1). Next, consider $R = U \times_X U$. Since the projection $s : R \rightarrow U$ is étale we see that $R^0 = s^{-1}(U^0)$ lies over y . Since $R \rightarrow U \times_Y U$ is a monomorphism, we conclude that R^0 is finite as $U \times_Y U \rightarrow Y$ is finite. And R is separated (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 6.4). Thus we may shrink Y once more to reach the situation where R is finite over Y (Morphisms, Lemma 48.5). In this case it follows that $X = U/R$ is finite over Y by exactly the same arguments as given in the proof of Lemma 20.1 (or we can simply apply that lemma because it follows immediately that X is quasi-separated as well).

Assume f is separated and Y affine irreducible. Choose $V \subset Y$ and $U \subset X$ as in Lemma 20.2. Since $f|_U : U \rightarrow V$ is finite, we see that $U \subset f^{-1}(V)$ is closed as well as open (Morphisms of Spaces, Lemmas 39.6 and 44.9). Thus $f^{-1}(V) = U \amalg W$ for some open subspace W of X . However, since U contains all the codimension 0 points of X we conclude that $W = \emptyset$ (Properties of Spaces, Lemma 10.2) as desired. \square

21. Birational morphisms

0ACU The following definition of a birational morphism of algebraic spaces seems to be the closest to our definition (Morphisms, Definition 47.1) of a birational morphism of schemes.

0ACV **Definition 21.1.** Let S be a scheme. Let X and Y algebraic spaces over S . Assume X and Y are decent and that $|X|$ and $|Y|$ have finitely many irreducible components. We say a morphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is *birational* if

- (1) $|f|$ induces a bijection between the set of generic points of irreducible components of $|X|$ and the set of generic points of the irreducible components of $|Y|$, and
- (2) for every generic point $x \in |X|$ of an irreducible component the local ring map $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ is an isomorphism (see clarification below).

Clarification: Since X and Y are decent the topological spaces $|X|$ and $|Y|$ are sober (Proposition 11.9). Hence condition (1) makes sense. Moreover, because we have assumed that $|X|$ and $|Y|$ have finitely many irreducible components, we see that the generic points $x_1, \dots, x_n \in |X|$, resp. $y_1, \dots, y_n \in |Y|$ are contained in any dense open of $|X|$, resp. $|Y|$. In particular, they are contained in the schematic locus of X , resp. Y by Theorem 10.2. Thus we can define \mathcal{O}_{X,x_i} , resp. \mathcal{O}_{Y,y_i} to be the local ring of this scheme at x_i , resp. y_i .

We conclude that if the morphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is birational, then there exist dense open subspaces $X' \subset X$ and $Y' \subset Y$ such that

- (1) $f(X') \subset Y'$,
- (2) X' and Y' are representable, and
- (3) $f|_{X'} : X' \rightarrow Y'$ is birational in the sense of Morphisms, Definition 47.1.

However, we do insist that X and Y are decent with finitely many irreducible components. Other ways to characterize decent algebraic spaces with finitely many irreducible components are given in Lemma 19.3. In most cases birational morphisms are isomorphisms over dense opens.

0ACW **Lemma 21.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S which are decent and have finitely many irreducible components. If f is birational then f is dominant.*

Proof. Follows immediately from the definitions. See Morphisms of Spaces, Definition 18.1. \square

0BBD **Lemma 21.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a birational morphism of algebraic spaces over S which are decent and have finitely many irreducible components. If $y \in Y$ is the generic point of an irreducible component, then the base change $X \times_Y \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{Y,y})$ is an isomorphism.*

Proof. Let $X' \subset X$ and $Y' \subset Y$ be the maximal open subspaces which are representable, see Lemma 19.3. By Lemma 20.3 the fibre of f over y is consists of of points of codimension 0 of X and is therefore contained in X' . Hence $X \times_Y \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}) = X' \times_{Y'} \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{Y',y})$ and the result follows from Morphisms, Lemma 47.3. \square

0BBE **Lemma 21.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a birational morphism of algebraic spaces over S which are decent and have finitely many irreducible components. Assume one of the following conditions is satisfied*

- (1) f is locally of finite type and Y reduced (i.e., integral),
- (2) f is locally of finite presentation.

Then there exist dense opens $U \subset X$ and $V \subset Y$ such that $f(U) \subset V$ and $f|_U : U \rightarrow V$ is an isomorphism.

Proof. By Lemma 19.3 we may assume that X and Y are schemes. In this case the result is Morphisms, Lemma 47.5. \square

0BBF **Lemma 21.5.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a birational morphism of algebraic spaces over S which are decent and have finitely many irreducible components. Assume*

- (1) *either f is quasi-compact or f is separated, and*
- (2) *either f is locally of finite type and Y is reduced or f is locally of finite presentation.*

Then there exists a dense open $V \subset Y$ such that $f^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$ is an isomorphism.

Proof. By Lemma 19.3 we may assume Y is a scheme. By Lemma 20.4 we may assume that f is finite. Then X is a scheme too and the result follows from Morphisms, Lemma 48.6. \square

0B4D **Lemma 21.6.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S which are decent and have finitely many irreducible components. If f is birational and $V \rightarrow Y$ is an étale morphism with V affine, then $X \times_Y V$ is decent with finitely many irreducible components and $X \times_Y V \rightarrow V$ is birational.*

Proof. The algebraic space $U = X \times_Y V$ is decent (Lemma 6.6). The generic points of V and U are the elements of $|V|$ and $|U|$ which lie over generic points of $|Y|$ and $|X|$ (Lemma 19.1). Since Y is decent we conclude there are finitely many generic points on V . Let $\xi \in |X|$ be a generic point of an irreducible component. By the discussion following Definition 21.1 we have a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{X,\xi}) & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(\xi)}) & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

whose horizontal morphisms are monomorphisms identifying local rings and where the left vertical arrow is an isomorphism. It follows that in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{X,\xi}) \times_X U & \longrightarrow & U \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(\xi)}) \times_Y V & \longrightarrow & V \end{array}$$

the vertical arrow on the left is an isomorphism. The horizontal arrows have image contained in the schematic locus of U and V and identify local rings (some details omitted). Since the image of the horizontal arrows are the points of $|U|$, resp. $|V|$ lying over ξ , resp. $f(\xi)$ we conclude. \square

0BBG **Lemma 21.7.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a birational morphism between algebraic spaces over S which are decent and have finitely many irreducible components. Then the normalizations $X^\nu \rightarrow X$ and $Y^\nu \rightarrow Y$ exist and there is a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X^\nu & \longrightarrow & Y^\nu \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

of algebraic spaces over S . The morphism $X^\nu \rightarrow Y^\nu$ is birational.

Proof. By Lemma 19.3 we see that X and Y satisfy the equivalent conditions of Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 47.1 and the normalizations are defined. By Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 47.5 the algebraic space X^ν is normal and maps codimension 0 points to codimension 0 points. Since f maps codimension 0 points to codimension 0 points (this is the same as generic points on decent spaces by Lemma 19.1) we obtain from Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 47.5 a factorization of the composition $X^\nu \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y$ through Y^ν .

Observe that X^ν and Y^ν are decent for example by Lemma 6.5. Moreover the maps $X^\nu \rightarrow X$ and $Y^\nu \rightarrow Y$ induce bijections on irreducible components (see references above) hence X^ν and Y^ν both have a finite number of irreducible components and the map $X^\nu \rightarrow Y^\nu$ induces a bijection between their generic points. To prove that $X^\nu \rightarrow Y^\nu$ is birational, it therefore suffices to show it induces an isomorphism on local rings at these points. To do this we may replace X and Y by open neighbourhoods of their generic points, hence we may assume X and Y are affine irreducible schemes with generic points x and y . Since f is birational the map $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{Y,y}$ is an isomorphism. Let $x^\nu \in X^\nu$ and $y^\nu \in Y^\nu$ be the points lying over x and y . By construction of the normalization we see that $\mathcal{O}_{X^\nu, x^\nu} = \mathcal{O}_{X,x}/\mathfrak{m}_x$ and similarly on Y . Thus the map $\mathcal{O}_{X^\nu, x^\nu} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{Y^\nu, y^\nu}$ is an isomorphism as well. \square

0B4E **Lemma 21.8.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a morphism of algebraic spaces over S . Assume*

- (1) X and Y are decent and have finitely many irreducible components,
- (2) f is integral and birational,
- (3) Y is normal, and
- (4) X is reduced.

Then f is an isomorphism.

Proof. Let $V \rightarrow Y$ be an étale morphism with V affine. It suffices to show that $U = X \times_Y V \rightarrow V$ is an isomorphism. By Lemma 21.6 and its proof we see that U and V are decent and have finitely many irreducible components and that $U \rightarrow V$ is birational. By Properties, Lemma 7.5 V is a finite disjoint union of integral schemes. Thus we may assume V is integral. As f is birational, we see that U is irreducible and reduced, i.e., integral (note that U is a scheme as f is integral, hence representable). Thus we may assume that X and Y are integral schemes and the result follows from the case of schemes, see Morphisms, Lemma 51.8. \square

0BBH **Lemma 21.9.** *Let S be a scheme. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be an integral birational morphism of decent algebraic spaces over S which have finitely many irreducible components. Then there exists a factorization $Y^\nu \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y^\nu \rightarrow X$ is the normalization of X .*

Proof. Consider the map $X^\nu \rightarrow Y^\nu$ of Lemma 21.7. This map is integral by Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 44.12. Hence it is an isomorphism by Lemma 21.8. \square

22. Jacobson spaces

0BA2 We have defined the Jacobson property for algebraic spaces in Properties of Spaces, Remark 7.3. For representable algebraic spaces it agrees with the property discussed

in Properties, Section 6. The relationship between the Jacobson property and the behaviour of the topological space $|X|$ is not evident for general algebraic spaces $|X|$. However, a decent (for example quasi-separated or locally separated) algebraic space X is Jacobson if and only if $|X|$ is Jacobson (see Lemma 22.4).

0BA3 **Lemma 22.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a Jacobson algebraic space over S . Any algebraic space locally of finite type over X is Jacobson.*

Proof. Let $U \rightarrow X$ be a surjective étale morphism where U is a scheme. Then U is Jacobson (by definition) and for a morphism of schemes $V \rightarrow U$ which is locally of finite type we see that V is Jacobson by the corresponding result for schemes (Morphisms, Lemma 15.9). Thus if $Y \rightarrow X$ is a morphism of algebraic spaces which is locally of finite type, then setting $V = U \times_X Y$ we see that Y is Jacobson by definition. \square

0BA4 **Lemma 22.2.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a Jacobson algebraic space over S . For $x \in X_{ft-pts}$ and $g : W \rightarrow X$ locally of finite type with W a scheme, if $x \in \text{Im}(|g|)$, then there exists a closed point of W mapping to x .*

Proof. Let $U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism with U a scheme and with $u \in U$ closed mapping to x , see Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 25.3. Observe that W , $W \times_X U$, and U are Jacobson schemes by Lemma 22.1. Hence finite type points on these schemes are the same thing as closed points by Morphisms, Lemma 15.8. The inverse image $T \subset W \times_X U$ of u is a nonempty (as x in the image of $W \rightarrow X$) closed subset. By Morphisms, Lemma 15.7 there is a closed point t of $W \times_X U$ which maps to u . As $W \times_X U \rightarrow W$ is locally of finite type the image of t in W is closed by Morphisms, Lemma 15.8. \square

0BA5 **Lemma 22.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent Jacobson algebraic space over S . Then $X_{ft-pts} \subset |X|$ is the set of closed points.*

Proof. If $x \in |X|$ is closed, then we can represent x by a closed immersion $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$, see Lemma 13.6. Hence x is certainly a finite type point.

Conversely, let $x \in |X|$ be a finite type point. We know that x can be represented by a quasi-compact monomorphism $\text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$ where k is a field (Definition 6.1). On the other hand, by definition, there exists a morphism $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow X$ which is locally of finite type and represents x (Morphisms, Definition 15.3). We obtain a factorization $\text{Spec}(k') \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow X$. Let $U \rightarrow X$ be any étale morphism with U affine and consider the morphisms

$$\text{Spec}(k') \times_X U \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k) \times_X U \rightarrow U$$

The quasi-compact scheme $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U$ is étale over $\text{Spec}(k)$ hence is a finite disjoint union of spectra of fields (Remark 4.1). Moreover, the first morphism is surjective and locally of finite type (Morphisms, Lemma 14.8) hence surjective on finite type points (Morphisms, Lemma 15.6) and the composition (which is locally of finite type) sends finite type points to closed points as U is Jacobson (Morphisms, Lemma 15.8). Thus the image of $\text{Spec}(k) \times_X U \rightarrow U$ is a finite set of closed points hence closed. Since this is true for every affine U and étale morphism $U \rightarrow X$, we conclude that $x \in |X|$ is closed. \square

0BA6 **Lemma 22.4.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Then X is Jacobson if and only if $|X|$ is Jacobson.*

Proof. Assume X is Jacobson and that $T \subset |X|$ is a closed subset. By Morphisms of Spaces, Lemma 25.6 we see that $T \cap X_{\text{ft-pts}}$ is dense in T . By Lemma 22.3 we see that $X_{\text{ft-pts}}$ are the closed points of $|X|$. Thus $|X|$ is indeed Jacobson.

Assume $|X|$ is Jacobson. Let $f : U \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism with U an affine scheme. We have to show that U is Jacobson. If $x \in |X|$ is closed, then the fibre $F = f^{-1}(\{x\})$ is a finite (by definition of decent) closed (by construction of the topology on $|X|$) subset of U . Since there are no specializations between points of F (Lemma 11.6) we conclude that every point of F is closed in U . If U is not Jacobson, then there exists a non-closed point $u \in U$ such that $\{u\}$ is locally closed (Topology, Lemma 18.3). We will show that $f(u) \in |X|$ is closed; by the above u is closed in U which is a contradiction and finishes the proof. To prove this we may replace U by an affine open neighbourhood of u . Thus we may assume that $\{u\}$ is closed in U . Let $R = U \times_X U$ with projections $s, t : R \rightarrow U$. Then $s^{-1}(\{u\}) = \{r_1, \dots, r_m\}$ is finite (by definition of decent spaces). After replacing U by a smaller affine open neighbourhood of u we may assume that $t(r_j) = u$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$. It follows that $\{u\}$ is an R -invariant closed subset of U . Hence $\{f(u)\}$ is a locally closed subset of X as it is closed in the open $|f|(|U|)$ of $|X|$. Since $|X|$ is Jacobson we conclude that $f(u)$ is closed in $|X|$ as desired. \square

23. Local irreducibility

0DQ5 We have already defined the geometric number of branches of an algebraic space at a point in Properties of Spaces, Section 22. The number of branches of an algebraic space at a point can only be defined for decent algebraic spaces.

0DQ6 **Lemma 23.1.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$ be a point. The following are equivalent*

- (1) *for any elementary étale neighbourhood $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$ has a unique minimal prime,*
- (2) *for any elementary étale neighbourhood $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ there is a unique irreducible component of U through u ,*
- (3) *for any elementary étale neighbourhood $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$ is unibranch,*
- (4) *the henselian local ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}^h$ has a unique minimal prime.*

Proof. The equivalence of (1) and (2) follows from the fact that irreducible components of U passing through u are in 1-1 correspondence with minimal primes of the local ring of U at u . The ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}^h$ is the henselization of $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$, see discussion following Definition 11.5. In particular (3) and (4) are equivalent by More on Algebra, Lemma 89.3. The equivalence of (2) and (3) follows from More on Morphisms, Lemma 33.2. \square

0DQ7 **Definition 23.2.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. We say that X is *unibranch at x* if the equivalent conditions of Lemma 23.1 hold. We say that X is *unibranch* if X is unibranch at every $x \in |X|$.

This is consistent with the definition for schemes (Properties, Definition 15.1).

0DQ8 **Lemma 23.3.** *Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$ be a point. Let $n \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ be an integer. The following are equivalent*

- (1) for any elementary étale neighbourhood $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ the number of minimal primes of the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$ is $\leq n$ and for at least one choice of (U, u) it is n ,
- (2) for any elementary étale neighbourhood $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ the number irreducible components of U passing through u is $\leq n$ and for at least one choice of (U, u) it is n ,
- (3) for any elementary étale neighbourhood $(U, u) \rightarrow (X, x)$ the number of branches of U at u is $\leq n$ and for at least one choice of (U, u) it is n ,
- (4) the number of minimal prime ideals of $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}^h$ is n .

Proof. The equivalence of (1) and (2) follows from the fact that irreducible components of U passing through u are in 1-1 correspondence with minimal primes of the local ring of U at u . The ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ is the henselization of $\mathcal{O}_{U,u}$, see discussion following Definition 11.5. In particular (3) and (4) are equivalent by More on Algebra, Lemma 89.3. The equivalence of (2) and (3) follows from More on Morphisms, Lemma 33.2. \square

0DQ9 **Definition 23.4.** Let S be a scheme. Let X be a decent algebraic space over S . Let $x \in |X|$. The number of branches of X at x is either $n \in \mathbf{N}$ if the equivalent conditions of Lemma 23.3 hold, or else ∞ .

24. Other chapters

Preliminaries	(25) Schemes
(1) Introduction	(26) Constructions of Schemes
(2) Conventions	(27) Properties of Schemes
(3) Set Theory	(28) Morphisms of Schemes
(4) Categories	(29) Cohomology of Schemes
(5) Topology	(30) Divisors
(6) Sheaves on Spaces	(31) Limits of Schemes
(7) Sites and Sheaves	(32) Varieties
(8) Stacks	(33) Topologies on Schemes
(9) Fields	(34) Descent
(10) Commutative Algebra	(35) Derived Categories of Schemes
(11) Brauer Groups	(36) More on Morphisms
(12) Homological Algebra	(37) More on Flatness
(13) Derived Categories	(38) Groupoid Schemes
(14) Simplicial Methods	(39) More on Groupoid Schemes
(15) More on Algebra	(40) Étale Morphisms of Schemes
(16) Smoothing Ring Maps	Topics in Scheme Theory
(17) Sheaves of Modules	(41) Chow Homology
(18) Modules on Sites	(42) Intersection Theory
(19) Injectives	(43) Picard Schemes of Curves
(20) Cohomology of Sheaves	(44) Adequate Modules
(21) Cohomology on Sites	(45) Dualizing Complexes
(22) Differential Graded Algebra	(46) Duality for Schemes
(23) Divided Power Algebra	(47) Discriminants and Differents
(24) Hypercoverings	(48) Local Cohomology
Schemes	(49) Algebraic Curves

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (50) Resolution of Surfaces | (80) Formal Deformation Theory |
| (51) Semistable Reduction | (81) Deformation Theory |
| (52) Fundamental Groups of Schemes | (82) The Cotangent Complex |
| (53) Étale Cohomology | (83) Deformation Problems |
| (54) Crystalline Cohomology | Algebraic Stacks |
| (55) Pro-étale Cohomology | (84) Algebraic Stacks |
| Algebraic Spaces | (85) Examples of Stacks |
| (56) Algebraic Spaces | (86) Sheaves on Algebraic Stacks |
| (57) Properties of Algebraic Spaces | (87) Criteria for Representability |
| (58) Morphisms of Algebraic Spaces | (88) Artin's Axioms |
| (59) Decent Algebraic Spaces | (89) Quot and Hilbert Spaces |
| (60) Cohomology of Algebraic Spaces | (90) Properties of Algebraic Stacks |
| (61) Limits of Algebraic Spaces | (91) Morphisms of Algebraic Stacks |
| (62) Divisors on Algebraic Spaces | (92) Limits of Algebraic Stacks |
| (63) Algebraic Spaces over Fields | (93) Cohomology of Algebraic Stacks |
| (64) Topologies on Algebraic Spaces | (94) Derived Categories of Stacks |
| (65) Descent and Algebraic Spaces | (95) Introducing Algebraic Stacks |
| (66) Derived Categories of Spaces | (96) More on Morphisms of Stacks |
| (67) More on Morphisms of Spaces | (97) The Geometry of Stacks |
| (68) Flatness on Algebraic Spaces | Topics in Moduli Theory |
| (69) Groupoids in Algebraic Spaces | (98) Moduli Stacks |
| (70) More on Groupoids in Spaces | (99) Moduli of Curves |
| (71) Bootstrap | Miscellany |
| (72) Pushouts of Algebraic Spaces | (100) Examples |
| Topics in Geometry | (101) Exercises |
| (73) Quotients of Groupoids | (102) Guide to Literature |
| (74) More on Cohomology of Spaces | (103) Desirables |
| (75) Simplicial Spaces | (104) Coding Style |
| (76) Duality for Spaces | (105) Obsolete |
| (77) Formal Algebraic Spaces | (106) GNU Free Documentation License |
| (78) Restricted Power Series | (107) Auto Generated Index |
| (79) Resolution of Surfaces Revisited | |
| Deformation Theory | |

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