

Exercise 4:

“ \Rightarrow ” Assume that $X = \text{Spec } A$ is proper over $\text{Spec } k$, we want to show that $\dim X = 0$.

Proof: First we recall a theorem from Hartshorne.

Theorem A: Let A be a subring of a field K , then the integral closure of A in K is the intersection of all valuation rings of K containing A .

Denote $K := \text{Frac}(A)$, where A is a domain, since X is integral. Then consider any valuation of K containing k , i.e., $k \subset R \subset K$, we have first by the above Theorem A, the integral closure of k in K is

$$\bar{k}^K = \bigcap_{k \subset R \subset K} R,$$

where R are the valuation rings of K containing k . Also, by the properness of X , for any valuation ring R of K we have the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K & \longleftarrow & A \\ \uparrow j & \swarrow i & \uparrow \\ R & \longleftarrow & k \end{array}$$

and a unique homomorphism $h : A \rightarrow R$, with h an injection, since both i and j injective homomorphisms. Hence especially we get

$$A \subset \bigcap_{k \subset R \subset K} R.$$

Thus by above argument we have A is integral over k , which implies $\text{Transdeg } K/k = 0$. Hence $\dim X = 0$.