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# Computing and Using Minimal Polynomials



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SC<sup>2</sup>: H2020-FETOPEN-2016-2017-CSA project 712689 [www.sc-square.org](http://www.sc-square.org)

# Definition

## Definition: Minimal Polynomial

$K$  a field,  $P = K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $I$  zero-dimensional ideal in  $P$ .

The **minimal polynomial** of a polynomial  $f$  modulo  $I$ ,  $\mu_{f,I}(z) \in K[z]$ , is the monic polynomial in  $K[z]$  of minimum degree such that

$$\mu_{f,I}(f) \in I \quad \text{or equiv.} \quad \mu_{f,I}(\bar{f}) = \bar{0} \text{ in } P/I$$

```
/**/ I := ideal(x^2, y^2);
/**/ MinPolyQuot(x+y, I, t);
t^3 -----> (x+y)^3 is in I
/**/ f := x^2 - 3*x*y + 1;
/**/ MinPolyQuot(f, I, t);
t^2 - 2*t + 1 -----> f^2 - 2*f + 1 is in I
```

## Remark

If  $x_i$  an indeterminate in  $P = K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$\mu_{x_i, I}(x_i)$  is the lowest degree  $x_i$ -univariate polynomial in  $I$

i.e.  $I \cap K[x_i] = \langle \mu_{x_i, I}(x_i) \rangle$ .

```
/**/ I := IdealOfPoints(P, mat([[1,2], [3,2], [5,4]]));  
/**/ MinPolyQuot(x,I, x);  
x^3 -9*x^2 +23*x -15 ----> (x-1)(x-3)(x-5)  
/**/ MinPolyQuot(y,I, y);  
y^2 -6*y +8 ----> (y-2)(y-4)
```

## Remark

For a CAS like CoCoA  $\rightarrow$  Gröbner Bases  $\rightarrow$  elimination:  
well known solution, simple and elegant 😊

... but slow and memory hungry 😞

$\rightarrow$  worth implementing a dedicated algorithm

# “by definition” → Linear algebra

**ALGORITHM MINPOLYQUOTDEF**  $P = K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , term-ordering  $\sigma$

**Input:**  $I$  a zero-dimensional ideal in  $P$ ,  $f$  polynomial in  $P$

- compute  $GB$ , the  $\sigma$ -Gröbner basis for  $I$   
from  $GB$  compute  $QB$ , the monomial quotient basis of  $P/I$
- let  $r_0 = f^0 (= 1)$
- **Main Loop:** for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \text{len}(QB)$  do
  - compute  $r_i = \text{NF}(f^i) [= \text{NF}(f \cdot r_{i-1})]$
  - if there is a linear dependency  $r_i = \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} c_j r_j$  with coefficients  $c_j \in K$   
**return**  $z^i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} c_j z^j$

**Output:**  $\mu_{f,I}(z) \in K[z]$

```

/**/ QuotientBasis(I); -----> [1, y, x]
/**/ y^0; --> 1 [1, 0, 0]
/**/ NF(y^1, I); --> y [0, 1, 0]
/**/ NF(y^2, I); --> 6*y -8 [-8, 6, 0]

```

Timings over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ MinPolyQuotDef carefully optimized  $\rightarrow$ 

Example	GB	MinPoly			MinPoly degree
		Def	Mat	Elim	
charp-deg500 $f_1$	0.38	4.10	7.06	50.54	500
charp-deg500 $f_2$	0.38	5.77	9.14	$\infty$	500
charp-split6	0.00	2.43	12.29	$\infty$	720
1000000007-randomp	0.17	4.43	9.02	$\infty$	590
23largeCI	0.00	1.06	20.68	$\infty$	880

**Def:** “by definition”**Mat:** by multiplication matrix**Elim:** by elimination

... and with rational coefficients?



## Rational coefficients: modular methods

Definition  $\pi_p$ : reduction modulo  $p$

Let  $\delta \in \mathbb{N}_+$  and  $p$  a prime not dividing  $\delta$ .

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \pi_p : & \mathbb{Z}_\delta & \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_p \quad a/\delta^d \mapsto \bar{a}_t/\bar{\delta}^d \\ \pi_p : & \mathbb{Z}_\delta[x_1, \dots, x_n] & \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, \dots, x_n] \quad \sum_t c_t t \mapsto \sum_t \pi_p(c_t) t \end{array}$$




But how can we define the reduction modulo  $p$  of an **ideal**?

Theorem (Reduction modulo  $p$  of Gröbner Bases)

$I$  non-zero ideal in  $\mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $GB$  its reduced  $\sigma$ -Gröbner basis.  
Let  $p$  be any prime not dividing  $\text{den}(GB)$ .

- 1 the reduced  $\sigma$ -Gröbner basis of  $\langle \pi_p(GB) \rangle$  is  $\pi_p(GB)$
- 2  $f$  such that  $p \nmid \text{den}(f) \longrightarrow$  the NF of  $\pi_p(f)$  is  $\pi_p(\text{NF}_{\sigma, I}(f))$

$\longrightarrow I_{(p, \sigma)} = \langle \pi_p(G) \rangle$  More in Abbott, Bigatti, Robbiano: “Ideals mod  $p$ ”



# Modular methods for minimal polynomials

$I$  zero-dimensional ideal,  $f$  polynomial in  $\mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

## Proposition

$\delta = \text{den}(f) \cdot \text{den}(GB_\sigma(I))$  then  $\mu_{f,I}(z)$  has all coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_\delta$ .

## Example 1


$P = \mathbb{Q}[x, y]$  and  $I = \langle 2x + 3y, y^2 - 4 \rangle$ .

Two possible Gröbner bases:  $\{x + \frac{3}{2}y, y^2 - 4\}$  and  $\{y + \frac{2}{3}x, x^2 - 9\}$

$f = 23x + 17y$  then  $\mu_{f,I}(z)$  has integer coefficients ( $= z^2 - 1225$ ).

## Theorem (Bad primes)

- 1 There are only finitely many bad primes.
- 2  $\pi_p(\mu_{f,I}(z))$  is a multiple of  $\mu_{\pi_p(f), I_{(p,\sigma)}}(z)$ .

→ detect bad primes 



Timings over  $\mathbb{Q}$ Modular computation + CRT + rational reconstruction  $\rightarrow$ 

Example	GB <i>time</i>	MinPoly				coeff	deg
		$\mathbb{Q}$ <i>time</i>	Modular verified <i>time</i>	# <i>p</i>			
QQ-rand	0.15	$\infty$	15.43	64	$10^{389}, 10^{188}$	116	
QQ-CI1 $l_1$	0.00	47.86	0.39	12	$10^{93}, 10^0$	107	
QQ-CI1 $l_2$	0.00	226.34	1.31	25	$10^{210}, 10^0$	108	
QQ-CI2	0.00	$\infty$	3.77	38	$10^{330}, 10^0$	144	
QQ-split5	0.00	$\infty$	0.67	9	$10^{64}, 10^0$	120	
QQ-split6	0.00	$\infty$	175.14	58	$10^{503}, 10^0$	720	
QQ-largeCI	0.00	233.24	0.39	5	$10^{29}, 10^4$	230	
twomaxhard	0.42	$\infty$	18.12	30	$10^{234}, 10^{19}$	149	
twomaxsimple	0.33	5.33	0.67	15	$10^{108}, 10^{12}$	55	
PrimaryNotMax	0.00	510.85	3.45	3	$10^{11}, 10^0$	252	

# Using Minimal Polynomials

## Remark

$\ell \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  a **generic** linear form,  $I$  zero-dimensional ideal

- $I$  not radical  $\implies \mu_{\ell, I}$  not square-free
- $I$  radical  $\implies \deg(\mu_{\ell, I}) = d$

If  $K$  is **big enough generic**  $\longrightarrow$  **random**

[More in Kreuzer, Robbiano book:

*“Computational Linear and Commutative Algebra”*]



Some applications  $\longrightarrow$

# IsMaximal( $I$ ): practically effective NON-algorithm!

[ALGORITHM] ISMAXIMAL

Input  $I$ , an ideal in  $P$

- Loop: repeat
  - pick a **random** linear form  $\ell \in P$ ; compute  $\mu = \mu_{\ell, I}$
  - if  $\mu$  is reducible then **return false**
  - if  $\deg(\mu) = d$  then **return true**

Output *true/false* indicating the maximality of  $I$ .

## Remark

ISMAXIMAL *is not an algorithm because termination is not guaranteed.*  
*But in practice recall: if  $\ell$  a **random** linear form ( $K$  is **big enough**) then*  
 *$I$  not radical  $\implies \mu_{\ell, I}$  not square-free*  
 *$I$  radical  $\implies \deg(\mu_{\ell, I}) = d$*

This is neat and elegant, but better faster ISMAXIMAL  $\longrightarrow$



# IsMaximal( $I$ ): a *very* effective NON-algorithm!

[ALGORITHM] ISMAXIMAL

Input  $I$ , an ideal in  $P$

- 1 if  $I$  is not zero-dimensional, **return false**
- 2 compute  $d = \dim_K(P/I)$
- 3 *First Loop*: for each indeterminate  $x_i$  do
  - 3.1 compute  $\mu = \mu_{x_i, I}$
  - 3.2 if  $\mu$  is reducible then **return false**
  - 3.3 if  $\deg(\mu) = d$  then **return true**
- 4 if  $K$  is finite then (..Frobenius space..)
- 5 *Second Loop*: repeat
  - 5.1 pick a **random** linear form  $\ell \in P$ ;  
compute  $\mu = \mu_{\ell, I}$
  - 5.2 if  $\mu$  is reducible then **return false**
  - 5.3 if  $\deg(\mu) = d$  then **return true**

Output *true/false* indicating the maximality of  $I$ .

## Radical

## ALGORITHM RADICALODIM

Input  $I$ , a zero-dimensional ideal in  $P$

- 1 let  $J = I$  and compute  $d = \dim_K(P/J)$
- 2 *Main Loop*: for each indeterminate  $x_i$  do
  - 2.1 compute  $\mu = \mu_{x_i, J}$
  - 2.2 if  $\mu$  is not square-free then
    - 2.2.1 let  $\mu = \text{rad}(\mu)$
    - 2.2.2 let  $J = J + \langle \mu(x_i) \rangle$
    - 2.2.3 **compute**  $d = \dim_K(P/J)$   
(if it is worth it  $\rightarrow$  **Timeout**)
  - 2.3 if  $\deg(\mu) = d$  then **return**  $J$
- 3 **return**  $J$

Output the radical of  $I$

# Many application of minimal polynomials

## / zero-dimensional ideal

- **IsRadical(I)**
- **Radical(I)** (seen)
- **IsMaximal(I)** (seen)
- **IsPrimary(I)**:  
combination of IsMaximal and Radical
- **PrimaryDecomposition(I)**:  
combination of MinPoly and IsPrimary
- and probably **most of the applications** found in literature  
which mention *Lex Gröbner bases*!

Thank you!!

# Many application of minimal polynomials

## / zero-dimensional ideal

- **IsRadical( $I$ )**
- **Radical( $I$ )** (seen)
- **IsMaximal( $I$ )** (seen)
- **IsPrimary( $I$ ):**  
combination of IsMaximal and Radical
- **PrimaryDecomposition( $I$ ):**  
combination of MinPoly and IsPrimary
- and probably **most of the applications** found in literature which mention *Lex Gröbner bases*!

Thank you!!