

Special Properties of Zero-Dimensional Ideals: new Algorithms

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but a program also needs to be fast.*
(John Abbott)

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Specific Sources



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Affine or Projective?

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- The structure of the coordinate ring and its canonical module can be described via multiplication matrices.
- The affine setup is suitable for generalizing everything to families of 0-dimensional ideals via the border basis scheme.

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The Setting, I

- We let K be a field and R a d -dimensional affine K -algebra, i.e. $R = K[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ where $d \geq 1$, $\dim_K R = d$. We also put $\mathfrak{m} = \text{Rad}(R)$ and $L = R/\mathfrak{m}$ a d -dimensional local K -algebra.
- We let $\mathcal{L} = \{L_1, \dots, L_s\}$ be a finite family of d -dimensional local K -algebras such that $\mathfrak{m} = \bigcap_{i=1}^s \mathfrak{m}_i$ where $\mathfrak{m}_i = \text{Rad}(L_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, s$. Then we have $\langle 0 \rangle = \mathfrak{q}_1 \cap \dots \cap \mathfrak{q}_s$ and $\mathfrak{m}_i = \text{Rad}(\mathfrak{q}_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, s$.
- We have $\tau : R \cong R/\mathfrak{q}_1 \times \dots \times R/\mathfrak{q}_s$ which is called the decomposition of R into local rings. For $i = 1, \dots, s$, the ring $R_i = R/\mathfrak{q}_i$ is a 0-dimensional local K -algebra with maximal ideal $\bar{\mathfrak{m}}_i = \mathfrak{m}_i/\mathfrak{q}_i$. The ideal $\text{Soc}(R_i) = \text{Ann}_{R_i}(\bar{\mathfrak{m}}_i)$ is called the socle of R_i . For all fields $L_i = R_i/\bar{\mathfrak{m}}_i \cong R/\mathfrak{m}_i$ we put $\ell_i = \dim_K(L_i)$.

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- We assume that $\mathfrak{m}_i \cap \mathfrak{m}_j = (0)$ for $i \neq j$.
 - The image of L_i in R is denoted by q_i , and for the image of \mathfrak{m}_i in R we write m_i . Then we have $(0) = q_i \cap \dots \cap q_s$, and $m_i = \text{Rad}(q_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, s$.
- We have $\iota: R \cong R/q_1 \times \dots \times R/q_s$ which is called the decomposition of R into local rings. For $i = 1, \dots, s$, the ring $R_i = R/q_i$ is a 0-dimensional local K -algebra with maximal ideal $\bar{m}_i = m_i/q_i$. The ideal $\text{Soc}(R_i) = \text{Ann}_{R_i}(\bar{m}_i)$ is called the socle of R_i . For all fields $L_i = R_i/\bar{m}_i \cong R/m_i$ we put $\ell_i = \dim_K(L_i)$.

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- We let K be a field and R a **0-dimensional affine K -algebra**, i.e. $R = P/I$, where $P = K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is a polynomial ring over K and I is a 0-dimensional ideal in P , hence $\dim_K(R) < \infty$.
- The ideal I has a primary decomposition of the form $I = \Omega_1 \cap \dots \cap \Omega_s$, where the ideals Ω_i are called the **primary components** of I . The corresponding primes $\mathfrak{M}_i = \text{Rad}(\Omega_i)$ are maximal ideals, called the **maximal components** of I .
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The Setting, II

We equip P with the (standard) degree filtration $\mathcal{F} = (F_i P)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$, where

$$F_i P := \{f \in P \mid \deg(f) \leq i\} \subseteq \{0\}$$

For every $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $F_i J = F_i P \cap J$ and let $F_i R = F_i P / F_i J$. Then the family

$(F_i J)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is called the induced filtration on J and the family $\mathcal{F} = (F_i R)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$

is called the induced filtration on $R = P/J$.

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We equip P with the (standard) **degree filtration** $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = (F_i P)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$, where

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For every $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $F_i I = F_i P \cap I$, and let $F_i R = F_i P / F_i I$. Then the family $(F_i I)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is called the **induced filtration** on I , and the family $\mathcal{F} = (F_i R)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is a \mathbb{Z} -filtration on R which is called the **degree filtration** on R .

Definition

Let $R = P/I$ be a 0-dimensional affine K -algebra as above.

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Definition

Let $R = P/I$ be a 0-dimensional affine K -algebra as above.

- (a) The map $\mathrm{HF}_R^a : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ where $i \mapsto \dim_K(F_i R)$ is called the **affine Hilbert function** of \mathbb{X} .
- (b) The number $\mathrm{ri}(R) = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z} \mid \mathrm{HF}_R^a(j) = \dim_K(R) \text{ for all } j \geq i\}$ is called the **regularity index** of R .
- (c) The first difference function $\Delta \mathrm{HF}_R^a(i) = \mathrm{HF}_R^a(i) - \mathrm{HF}_R^a(i-1)$ of HF_R^a is called the **Castelnuovo function** of R , and $\Delta_R = \Delta \mathrm{HF}_R^a(\mathrm{ri}(R))$ is the **last difference** of R .

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Example

Let $I = \langle x^3, y^3 \rangle$. Then we have $\Delta \mathrm{HF}_R^a = (1, 2, 3, 2, 1)$. Therefore we have $\mathrm{ri}(R) = 4$ and $\Delta_R = 1$.

The same for two generic (no common factor) cubics.

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Complete Intersections or Regular Sequences



H. Wiebe, *Über homologische Invarianten lokaler Ringe*, Math. Ann. 179 (1969), 257-274.

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H. Wiegand, *Über homologische Dimensionen lokaler Ringe*, Math. Ann. 179 (1969), 257-274.

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A Result of Wiebe

Recall that a 0-dimensional local ring of the form $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathfrak{M}}/I$ with a field K , a maximal ideal \mathfrak{M} , and a 0-dimensional ideal I , is called a **complete intersection** if I can be generated by a regular sequence of length n .

The i -th **Fitting ideal** of a module M is denoted by $\text{Fitt}_i(M)$.

Recall that a maximal ideal in the polynomial ring can always be generated by a regular sequence of length n (see [3], Cor. 5.3.14).

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Proposition (Wiebe)

A local ring R with maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} is a 0-dimensional complete intersection if and only if the 0-th Fitting ideal of \mathfrak{m} satisfies $\text{Fitt}_0(\mathfrak{m}) \neq \langle 0 \rangle$.

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Proposition (Wiebe)

Let $P = K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, let \mathfrak{M} be a maximal ideal of P , let $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ be a system of generators of \mathfrak{M} , let $I \subset P$ be an \mathfrak{M} -primary ideal, let $\{f_1, \dots, f_r\}$ be a system of generators of I , let $R = P/I$, and let $\mathfrak{m} = \mathfrak{M}/I$.

For $i = 1, \dots, r$, write $f_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}g_j$, and form the matrix $\overline{W} \in \text{Mat}_{n,r}(R)$ of size $n \times r$ whose columns are given by $\sum_{j=1}^n \overline{a}_{ij}e_j$ for $i = 1, \dots, r$, where \overline{a}_{ij} denotes the residue class of a_{ij} in R .

Then the 0-th Fitting ideal $\text{Fitt}_0(\mathfrak{m})$ is generated by the minors of order n of \overline{W} .

An Algorithm

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Algorithm (Checking Local Complete Intersection Schemes)

Let \mathbb{X} be a 0-dimensional scheme in \mathbb{A}^n , let $R_{\mathbb{X}} = P/I_{\mathbb{X}}$ be the affine coordinate ring of \mathbb{X} , and let $\mu = \dim_K(R_{\mathbb{X}})$. The following instructions define an algorithm which checks whether \mathbb{X} is a local complete intersection and returns the corresponding Boolean value.

- (1) Compute the primary decomposition $I_{\mathbb{X}} = \mathfrak{Q}_1 \cap \cdots \cap \mathfrak{Q}_s$ of the ideal $I_{\mathbb{X}}$, where $\mathfrak{Q}_i = \langle f_{i1}, \dots, f_{i\nu_i} \rangle$ is a primary ideal in P and $f_{i1}, \dots, f_{i\nu_i} \in P$ for $i = 1, \dots, s$.
- (2) For $i = 1, \dots, s$, check whether P/\mathfrak{Q}_i is a local complete intersection ring using the following commands. If the answer is always TRUE (i), return TRUE and stop.
- (3) Compute a regular sequence $(g_{i1}, \dots, g_{in}) \in P^n$ which generates the maximal ideal $\mathfrak{M}_i = \text{Rad}(\mathfrak{Q}_i)$.
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Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, let $P = K[x, y, z]$, and let \mathbb{X} be the 0-dimensional subscheme of \mathbb{A}^2 defined by the ideal $I_{\mathbb{X}} = \langle f_1, \dots, f_4 \rangle$, where $f_1 = z^2 - y$, $f_2 = x^2 - 2xz + y$, $f_3 = yz - z - 1$, and $f_4 = y^2 - y - z$.

Let us use our Algorithm to check whether \mathbb{X} is a local complete intersection scheme. The calculation of the primary decomposition of $I_{\mathbb{X}}$ yields that $I_{\mathbb{X}}$ is a primary ideal and its radical is the maximal ideal $\mathfrak{M} = \langle x - z, y - z^2, z^3 - z - 1 \rangle$. Here the polynomials $g_1 = x - z$, $g_2 = y - z^2$, and $g_3 = z^3 - z - 1$ form a regular sequence which generates \mathfrak{M} .

Thus we represent f_1, \dots, f_4 as required by Step (4) of the algorithm and get the matrix

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The tuple of residue classes in $P/I_{\mathbb{X}}$ of the minors of order 3 of W is $(\bar{x} - \bar{z}, \bar{x}\bar{z} - \bar{y}, 0, -\bar{x}\bar{y} + \bar{x} + 1)$. Therefore the scheme \mathbb{X} is a local complete intersection.

We also obtain that $I_{\mathbb{X}}$ is, e.g., generated by $\{f_1, f_2, f_3\}$, but not by $\{f_1, f_3, f_4\}$.

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Figure: Daniel-Gorenstein (1923 –1992)

Why Gorenstein?

From an article of Craig Huneke (1997)

- Daniel Gorenstein is famous for his role in the classification of finite simple groups.
- Gorenstein is also famous for his work in algebraic geometry, Gorenstein rings, and commutative algebra.
- The term “Gorenstein ring” is used to describe a local Artinian Gorenstein ring, a Gorenstein local ring, or a Gorenstein ring.

of Noetherian rings, or Serre rings. The word definition now used in most textbooks goes back to the work of Bass in the paper

On the ubiquity of Gorenstein rings, *Mathematische Zeitschrift* (1963)

*I'd like to buy a new boomerang,
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- Going back even further, one could make an argument that the origins of Gorenstein rings lie in the work of W. Gröbner, and F.S. Macaulay. Indeed, a 1934 paper of Gröbner explicitly gives the basic duality of a 0-dimensional Gorenstein ring and recognizes the role of the socle.

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- 3 His name being attached to this concept goes back to his **thesis on plane curves**, written under Oscar Zariski and published in the Transactions of the American Mathematical Society in 1952.
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Definition and Remarks

The following remark provides a large class of locally Gorenstein rings.

Definition

Let R be a zero-dimensional affine K -algebra.

- (a) Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be a local ring. We say that R is a **Gorenstein local ring** if we have $\dim_{R/\mathfrak{m}}(\text{Soc}(R)) = 1$.
- (b) Let $\mathfrak{q}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{q}_s$ be the primary components of the zero ideal in R . We say that R is a **locally Gorenstein ring** if R/\mathfrak{q}_i is a locally Gorenstein local ring for $i = 1, \dots, s$.

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Remark

A field is clearly a Gorenstein ring. Consequently, every reduced zero-dimensional affine K -algebra R is a locally Gorenstein ring, as we can see by applying the isomorphism $R \cong R/\mathfrak{m}_1 \times \dots \times R/\mathfrak{m}_s$ induced by the primary decomposition of R .

Characterization of Locally Gorenstein K -algebras

The next theorem characterizes locally Gorenstein rings and provides a link between this property of the ring R and the commendability of its multiplication family \mathcal{F} .

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Theorem (Characterization of Zero-Dimensional Locally Gorenstein Algebras)

Let R be a zero-dimensional affine K -algebra. The following conditions are equivalent.

- (a) The ring R is a Gorenstein ring.*
- (b) The multiplication family \mathcal{F} of R is commendable.*
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An Algorithm

With the help of this theorem, we can write down an algorithm which checks whether R is a locally Gorenstein ring.

Let X be a 0-dimensional scheme in k^n , let $R_k = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be the coordinate ring of X , and let $\mathfrak{m} = \mathfrak{m}_{(0)}(R_k)$. The following instructions define an algorithm which checks whether X is a locally Gorenstein scheme and returns the corresponding Gorenstein value.

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Let \mathbb{X} be a 0-dimensional scheme in \mathbb{A}^n , let $R_{\mathbb{X}} = P/I_{\mathbb{X}}$ be the affine coordinate ring of \mathbb{X} , and let $\mu = \dim_K(R_{\mathbb{X}})$. The following instructions define an algorithm which checks whether \mathbb{X} is a locally Gorenstein scheme and returns the corresponding Boolean value.

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- (1) Compute a tuple of polynomials whose residue classes $B = (b_1, \dots, b_{\mu})$ form a K -basis of $R_{\mathbb{X}}$.
- (2) For $i = 1, \dots, n$, compute the matrix $M_{b_i} \in \text{Mat}_{\mu}(K)$ representing the multiplication by b_i on R in the basis B .
- (3) Let z_1, \dots, z_{μ} be new indeterminates, and let $C \in \text{Mat}_{\mu}(K[z_1, \dots, z_{\mu}])$ be the matrix whose columns are $M_{b_i}^{\text{tr}} \cdot (z_1, \dots, z_{\mu})^{\text{tr}}$ for $i = 1, \dots, \mu$.
- (4) If $\det(C) \neq 0$ return TRUE, otherwise return FALSE.

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An Example

Let us check whether R is locally Gorenstein or not. Note that the given generating set is the reduced Gröbner basis of I with respect to DegRevLex.

So, a K -basis B of R is given by the residue classes of the elements in the tuple $(1, z, y, x, z^2, yz, xz, y^2, xy)$.

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Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, let $P = K[x, y, z]$, and let $R = P/I$, where I is the ideal of P generated by

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} &x^2 - 18xy + 43y^2 + 12xz - \frac{170}{3}yz + \frac{218}{3}z^2 - 4x + \frac{340}{3}y - 216z + \frac{166}{3}, \\ &xy^2 - 3xy - \frac{4}{9}y^2 + xz - \frac{32}{27}yz - \frac{28}{27}z^2 + \frac{64}{27}y + \frac{28}{9}z - \frac{32}{27}, \\ &y^3 - \frac{17}{9}y^2 + \frac{17}{27}yz - \frac{2}{27}z^2 - \frac{88}{27}y + \frac{20}{9}z - \frac{10}{27}, \\ &y^2z - \frac{10}{9}y^2 - \frac{17}{27}yz + \frac{83}{27}z^2 + \frac{34}{27}y - \frac{74}{9}z + \frac{64}{27}, \\ &z^3 + \frac{2}{9}y^2 - \frac{11}{27}yz - \frac{40}{27}z^2 + \frac{22}{27}y - \frac{14}{9}z + \frac{16}{27}, \\ &xz^2 - xy - \frac{1}{9}y^2 - \frac{8}{27}yz - \frac{7}{27}z^2 + \frac{16}{27}y + \frac{7}{9}z - \frac{8}{27}, \\ &y^2z^2 + \frac{2}{9}y^2 - \frac{38}{27}yz - \frac{67}{27}z^2 - \frac{32}{27}y + \frac{49}{9}z - \frac{38}{27}, \\ &xyz - \frac{1}{9}y^2 - 3xz - \frac{8}{27}yz - \frac{7}{27}z^2 + x + \frac{16}{27}y + \frac{7}{9}z - \frac{8}{27} \end{aligned} \right\}.$$

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So, a K -basis B of R is given by the residue classes of the elements in the tuple $(1, z, y, x, z^2, yz, xz, y^2, xy)$.

As the computation of the determinant of the matrix $C \in K[z_1, \dots, z_9]$ of size 9×9 in Step (4) of the Algorithm is quite demanding, we substitute in C the indeterminates (z_1, \dots, z_9) by the numbers $\lambda = (1, -3, -1, 2, 4, -1, -1, 1, 3)$ and get

$$C_\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 2 & 4 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ -3 & 4 & -1 & -1 & \frac{23}{27} & \frac{671}{27} & \frac{191}{27} & -\frac{1015}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 3 & \frac{671}{27} & -\frac{1015}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{178}{27} & \frac{710}{27} \\ 2 & -1 & 3 & -\frac{2719}{3} & \frac{191}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{108017}{27} & \frac{710}{27} & -\frac{107924}{27} \\ 4 & \frac{23}{27} & \frac{671}{27} & \frac{191}{27} & \frac{257}{9} & \frac{493}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{338}{27} & \frac{200}{9} \\ -1 & \frac{671}{27} & -\frac{1015}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{493}{27} & \frac{338}{27} & \frac{200}{9} & -\frac{2696}{27} & -\frac{266}{27} \\ -1 & \frac{191}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{108017}{27} & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{200}{9} & -\frac{35938}{9} & -\frac{266}{27} & \frac{348632}{27} \\ 1 & -\frac{1015}{27} & \frac{178}{27} & \frac{710}{27} & \frac{338}{27} & -\frac{2696}{27} & -\frac{266}{27} & \frac{1163}{27} & \frac{1715}{27} \\ 3 & -\frac{25}{27} & \frac{710}{27} & -\frac{107924}{27} & \frac{200}{9} & -\frac{266}{27} & \frac{348632}{27} & \frac{1715}{27} & -\frac{143783}{9} \end{pmatrix}$$

Since we have $\det(C_\lambda) = \frac{114824810760065082500447360}{10460353203} \neq 0$, we know that $\det(C) \neq 0$, and hence the ring R is locally Gorenstein.

It turns out that $I = \Omega_1 \cap \mathfrak{M}_2 \cap \mathfrak{M}_3$ where $\Omega_1 = \langle (x - y^3 - 1)^2, y - z^2, z^3 - 3z + 1 \rangle$, $\mathfrak{M}_2 = \langle x, y^2 - 2, z - 2 \rangle$, $\mathfrak{M}_3 = \langle x - 1, y + 1, z \rangle$.

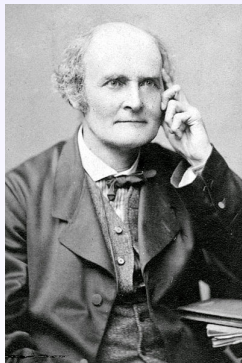
As the computation of the determinant of the matrix $C \in K[z_1, \dots, z_9]$ of size 9×9 in Step (4) of the Algorithm is quite demanding, we substitute in C the indeterminates (z_1, \dots, z_9) by the numbers $\lambda = (1, -3, -1, 2, 4, -1, -1, 1, 3)$ and get

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Cayley and Bacharach



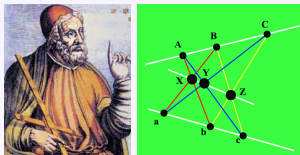
Arthur Cayley (1821 – 1895)



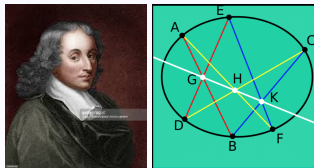
Isaak Bacharach (1854 – 1942)

The Story Begins

*even the longest journey
begins with the first step*
(Chinese Proverb)



1644: The theorem of Pascal¹

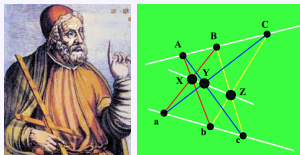


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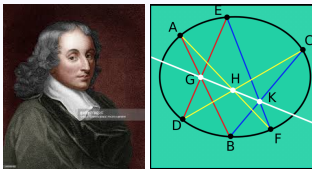
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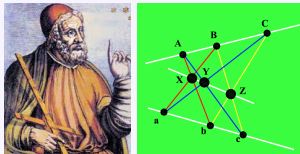
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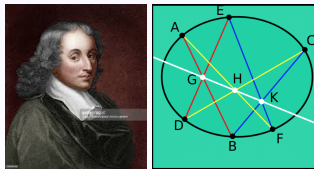
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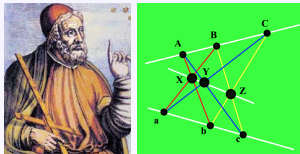
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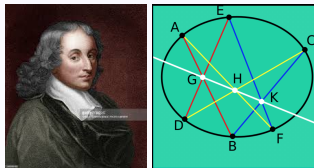
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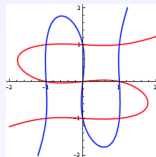


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The Story Continues, I

1748: Chasles-Euler paradox.



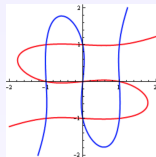
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The Modern Era, I

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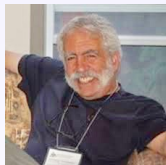
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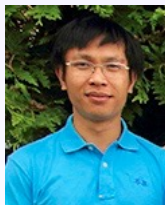
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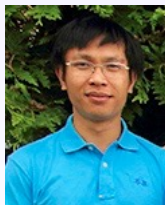
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divide et impera

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- (a) The ideal J in P is called a **\mathfrak{Q}_i -divisor** of I if J is of the form $J = \mathfrak{Q}_1 \cap \cdots \cap \mathfrak{Q}'_i \cap \cdots \cap \mathfrak{Q}_s$ with an ideal \mathfrak{Q}'_i in P such that $\mathfrak{Q}_i \subset \mathfrak{Q}'_i \subseteq \mathfrak{M}_i$.
- (b) The ideal J in P is called a **minimal \mathfrak{Q}_i -divisor** of I if it is a \mathfrak{Q}_i -divisor of I and $\dim_K(J/I) = \ell_i = \dim_K(P/\mathfrak{M}_i)$.

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Example

Let K be a field, let $P = K[x, y]$, and let $\mathfrak{Q} = \langle x^2, y^2 \rangle$. Clearly, the ideal \mathfrak{Q} is \mathfrak{M} -primary for $\mathfrak{M} = \langle x, y \rangle$, and we have $\ell = \dim_K(P/\mathfrak{M}) = 1$.

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Let I be a 0-dimensional ideal in P and let $I \subset J$.

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Next we look at the ideal $J_2 = \Omega + \langle xy \rangle = \langle x^2, xy, y^2 \rangle$. Again it is clear that J_2 is \mathfrak{M} -primary, and therefore a Ω -divisor of Ω . In this case we get the equality $\dim_K(J_2/\Omega) = 1 = \ell$, whence J_2 is even a minimal Ω -divisor of Ω .

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For $f \in R \setminus \{0\}$, let $\text{ord}_{\mathcal{F}}(f) = \min\{i \in \mathbb{Z} \mid f \in F_i R \setminus F_{i-1} R\}$. This number is called the **order** of f with respect to \mathcal{F} .

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Given a maximal ideal \mathfrak{m}_i of R , the separators for \mathfrak{m}_i may not be uniquely determined in two different ways:

- (1) It is possible that two separators f, g for \mathfrak{m}_i correspond to the same minimal Ω_i -divisor of I . Then the ideals $\langle \bar{f} \rangle$ and $\langle \bar{g} \rangle$ in R/\mathfrak{q}_i are equal, but if we have $\ell_i = \dim_K(R/\mathfrak{m}_i) > 1$, the orders of f and g with respect to \mathcal{F} may not be equal.*
- (2) If $\dim_K(\text{Soc}(R/\mathfrak{q}_i)) > \ell_i$, there exist separators f, g for \mathfrak{m}_i which correspond to different Ω_i -divisors of I . In this case, the ideals $\langle \bar{f} \rangle$ and $\langle \bar{g} \rangle$ in R/\mathfrak{q}_i are not equal.*

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Example

Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, let $P = K[x, y]$, let $I = \langle xy, y^3, x^4 + x^2 \rangle$, and let $R = P/I$.

We have $I = \Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2$, where $\Omega_1 = \langle y, x^2 + 1 \rangle$ and $\Omega_2 = \langle xy, x^2, y^3 \rangle$.

And $\mathfrak{M}_1 = \text{Rad}(\Omega_1) = \Omega_1$ and $\mathfrak{M}_2 = \text{Rad}(\Omega_2) = \langle x, y \rangle$.

The affine Hilbert function of R is $(1, 3, 5, 6, 6, \dots)$, and hence $\text{ri}(R) = 3$.

The residue classes of x^2 and x^3 in R are separators for \mathfrak{m}_1 . Their orders are 2 and 3.

Thus $\Omega_1 + \langle x^2 \rangle = \Omega_1 + \langle x^3 \rangle = \langle 1 \rangle$ shows a case of non-uniqueness of the first kind.

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The Separator Degree

Example

Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, let $P = K[x, y]$, let $I = \langle xy, y^3, x^4 + x^2 \rangle$, and let $R = P/I$.

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The Cayley-Bacharach Property (CBP)

- There is an algorithm which checks whether the maximal ideal \mathfrak{m}_i of R has maximal separator degree, i.e. $\text{sepdeg}(\mathfrak{m}_i) = r_i(R)$.
- The ring R of the above example does not have the CBP.
- The coordinate ring of the classical nine points which are the complete intersection of two plane cubics has the CBP.

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Proposition

The following conditions are equivalent.

- (a) *For every minimal \mathcal{Q}_i -divisor J of I and its image \bar{J} in R , there is a generator f of \bar{J} such that $\text{ord}_{\mathcal{F}}(f) = \text{ri}(R)$.*
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Definition

Let $R = P/I$ be a 0-dimensional affine K -algebra, and let $\mathbb{X} = \text{Spec}(P/I)$ be the 0-dimensional affine scheme defined by I . We say that R has the **Cayley-Bacharach property (CBP)**, or that \mathbb{X} is a **Cayley-Bacharach scheme**, if the equivalent conditions of the above proposition are satisfied for all maximal ideals of R .

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Let $R = P/I$ be a 0-dimensional affine K -algebra.

- (a) If we equip the K -vector space $\omega_R = \text{Hom}_K(R, K)$ with the R -module structure defined by $f \cdot \varphi(g) = \varphi(fg)$ for $f, g \in R$ and $\varphi \in \omega_R$, we obtain the **canonical module** of R .
- (b) For every $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $G_i\omega_R = \{\varphi \in \omega_R \mid \varphi(F_{-i-1}R) = 0\}$. Then the family $\mathcal{G} = (G_i\omega_R)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is a \mathbb{Z} -filtration of ω_R which we call the **degree filtration** of ω_R .
- (c) The map $\text{HF}_{\omega_R}^a : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ defined by $\text{HF}_{\omega_R}^a(i) = \dim_K(G_i\omega_R)$ for all $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ is called the **affine Hilbert function** of ω_R .

Remark

Let $d = \dim_K(R)$, and let $B = (f_1, \dots, f_d)$ be a degree filtered K -basis of R . Then the dual basis $B^* = (f_1^*, \dots, f_d^*)$ defined by $f_i^* : R \rightarrow K$ with $f_i^*(f_j) = \delta_{ij}$ for $i, j = 1, \dots, d$ is a degree filtered K -basis of ω_R , and we have the equality $\text{ord}_{\mathcal{G}}(f_i^*) = -\text{ord}_{\mathcal{F}}(f_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, d$.

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- (a) If we equip the K -vector space $\omega_R = \text{Hom}_K(R, K)$ with the R -module structure defined by $f \cdot \varphi(g) = \varphi(fg)$ for $f, g \in R$ and $\varphi \in \omega_R$, we obtain the **canonical module** of R .
- (b) For every $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $G_i\omega_R = \{\varphi \in \omega_R \mid \varphi(F_{-i-1}R) = 0\}$. Then the family $\mathcal{G} = (G_i\omega_R)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is a \mathbb{Z} -filtration of ω_R which we call the **degree filtration** of ω_R .
- (c) The map $\text{HF}_{\omega_R}^a : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ defined by $\text{HF}_{\omega_R}^a(i) = \dim_K(G_i\omega_R)$ for all $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ is called the **affine Hilbert function** of ω_R .

Remark

Let $d = \dim_K(R)$, and let $B = (f_1, \dots, f_d)$ be a degree filtered K -basis of R . Then the dual basis $B^* = (f_1^*, \dots, f_d^*)$ defined by $f_i^* : R \rightarrow K$ with $f_i^*(f_j) = \delta_{ij}$ for $i, j = 1, \dots, d$ is a degree filtered K -basis of ω_R , and we have the equality $\text{ord}_{\mathcal{G}}(f_i^*) = -\text{ord}_{\mathcal{F}}(f_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, d$.

Main Theorem and Main Algorithm

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Theorem

Let $R = P/I$ be a 0-dimensional affine K -algebra. TFAE

- (a) The ring R has the Cayley-Bacharach property.
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