

## Lecture 2-13-1

# Polynomial systems, computer algebra and applications

Gröbner bases and Buchberger's algorithm

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# Warm-up

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**We need algorithms**

# Gröbner bases – Definition

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  an admissible monomial ordering over  $R$ .

## Definition

Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal. One says that  $G \subset R$  is a Gröbner basis for  $(I, \prec)$  if the following conditions hold:

- $G$  is finite;
- $G \subset I$ ;
- $\langle \text{LM}_{\prec}(g) \mid g \in G \rangle = \langle \text{LM}(f) \mid f \in I \rangle$ .



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**How to compute Gröbner bases?**

# **Reductions of a polynomial modulo a polynomial family**

Definitions, properties and algorithms

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**Decide**  $f \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$ ?

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- note that  $r = 0 \implies f \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$
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# A first example

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Take  $f = x_1x_2^3 + x_1^2x_2^2 + x_1^3$ ,  $f_1 = x_1x_2$  and  $f_2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2$

$$\boxed{\text{LM}_{\text{revlex}}(f) = x_1^2x_2^2}$$

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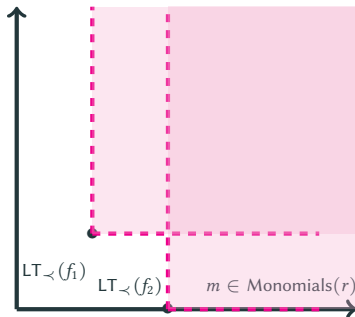
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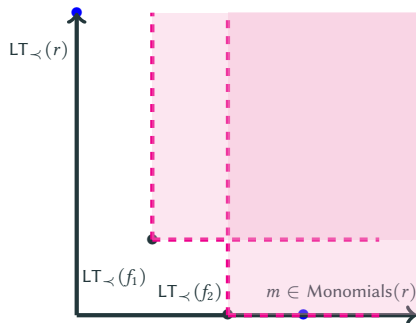
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$\rightsquigarrow$  **Decide**  $f \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$ ?

For  $g \in R$ , denote by  $\text{Monomials}(g)$  the monomial support of  $g$ .

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## Example (I)

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Take  $f = x_1x_2^3 + x_1^2x_2^2 + x_1^3$ ,  $f_1 = x_1x_2$  and  $f_2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2$

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Pushing further the reduction, we obtain

$$\bullet r = f - x_2^2f_2 - x_2^2f_1 \boxed{-x_1f_2 + x_2f_1} = \boxed{-x_2^4}$$

## Example (II)

---

Take  $f = x_1x_2^2 + 1$ ,  $f_1 = x_1x_2 + 1$  and  $f_2 = x_2 + 1$ .

$$\boxed{\text{LM}_{lex}(f) = x_1x_2^2}$$

$$\boxed{\text{LM}_{lex}(f_1) = x_1x_2}$$

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$$\Rightarrow f - x_2f_1 + f_2 = 2$$

Note that we can deduce that  $\langle f, f_1, f_2 \rangle = \langle 1 \rangle$

## Example (III)

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Take  $f = x_1^2 x_2 + x_1 x_2^2 + x_2^2$ ,  $f_1 = x_1 x_2 + 1$  and  $f_2 = x_2^2 - 1$ .

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$$r = r_1 - f_2 = x_1 + x_2 + 1.$$

# Reduction algorithm REDUCTION

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INPUT: •  $f, f_1, \dots, f_s$  in  $R$

•  $\prec$  an admissible monomial order over  $R$

OUTPUT:  $r \in R$  such that  $\text{LT}_{\prec}(r) \notin \langle \text{LT}_{\prec}(f_1), \dots, \text{LT}_{\prec}(f_s) \rangle$  and  $f - r \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$



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4. while  $\text{boo} = \text{true}$

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4.2 for  $1 \leq i \leq s$  do

4.2.1 if  $\text{LM}_{\prec}(f_i)$  divides  $\text{LM}_{\prec}(r)$  then

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**Termination**

☛ because  $\prec$  is admissible

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**Correction**

☛ loop invariant

# Reduction algorithm

We reuse the above notation.

There exist  $(g_1, \dots, g_k) \subset \{f_1, \dots, f_s\}^k$  and monomials  $m_1, \dots, m_k$  such that

- $f - r = m_1g_1 + \dots + m_kg_k$
- $\text{LM}_{\prec}(m_kg_k) \prec \text{LM}_{\prec}(m_{k-1}g_{k-1}) \prec \dots \prec \text{LM}_{\prec}(m_1g_1) \preceq \text{LM}_{\prec}(f)$

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# Full reduction algorithm FULLREDUCTION

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INPUT: •  $h$  and  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_s)$  in  $R$

•  $\prec$  an admissible monomial order over  $R$

OUTPUT:  $r \in R$  such that for any  $m \in \text{Monomials}(r)$   $m \notin \langle \text{LT}_{\prec}(f_1), \dots, \text{LT}_{\prec}(f_s) \rangle$  and  $f - r \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$

# Full reduction algorithm FULLREDUCTION

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INPUT: •  $h$  and  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_s)$  in  $R$

•  $\prec$  an admissible monomial order over  $R$

OUTPUT:  $r \in R$  such that for any  $m \in \text{Monomials}(r)$   $m \notin \langle \text{LT}_{\prec}(f_1), \dots, \text{LT}_{\prec}(f_s) \rangle$  and  $f - r \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle$

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**Correction**

☛ loop invariant

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Let us do it and emphasize the difference...

# Back to Hilbert's basis theorem

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

## Refined statement of Hilbert's basis theorem

Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal. There exists a finite set  $g_1, \dots, g_s$  in  $R$  such that

- $I = \langle g_1, \dots, g_s \rangle$
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... but this proof is not constructive

# **Characterizations and first properties of Gröbner bases**

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# Normal forms

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**Gröbner bases with the full reduction algorithm solve the ideal membership problem**

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- Recall that the **kernel** of the map

$$\text{NF}_{\prec} : f \mapsto \text{FULLREDUCTION}(f, G, \prec)$$

is  $\langle G \rangle$ . The function  $\text{NF}_{\prec}(\cdot, G)$  is a projection on a linear subspace which is normal to  $\langle G \rangle$ .

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- The function  $\text{NF}_{\prec}(\cdot, G)$  returns a canonical representative of the **quotient ring**  $\frac{R}{\langle G \rangle}$ .

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Equivalence classes of  $\frac{R}{\langle G \rangle}$ ?

This will be developed further.

# Characterizations of Gröbner bases

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  an admissible monomial ordering over  $R$ .

## Warm-up - S-polynomials

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $R - \{0\}$ . Let  $\lambda = \text{lcm}_{\prec}(f, g)$ .

We define the **S-polynomial** of  $(f, g)$  w.r.t.  $\prec$  as

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## Buchberger's criterion

Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal and  $G = (g_1, \dots, g_s) \subset R$  be such that  $I = \langle G \rangle$  ( $G$  is a basis for  $I$ ).

It holds that  $G$  is a Gröbner basis for  $(I, \prec)$  if and only if

for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq s$ ,  $\text{NF}_{\prec}(\text{spol}_{\prec}(g_i, g_j))$  is identically zero.

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We reuse the above notation. It holds that

$$g = \text{NF}_{\prec}(\text{spol}(g_i, g_j), G) \in \langle G \rangle.$$

When it is not zero  $\text{LM}_{\prec}(g) \notin \langle \text{LM}_{\prec}(G) \rangle$ .

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**Idea.**

Consider all pairs  $(g, g')$  in the current basis  $G \rightsquigarrow \text{Pairs}(G)$

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- INPUT:
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OUTPUT: A Gröbner basis for  $(\langle \mathbf{f} \rangle, \prec)$ .

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- Use the theorem on ascending chain of ideals.

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**Modern algorithms (F4/F5) bring new efficient solutions to these issues**

## Example (I)

---

Take  $f_1 = x_1^3 - 2x_1x_2$  and  $f_2 = x_1^2x_2 - 2x_2^2 + x_1$  and  $\prec_{\text{grevlex}}$ .

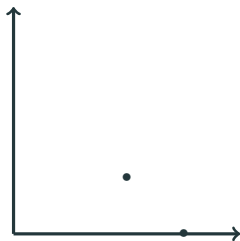
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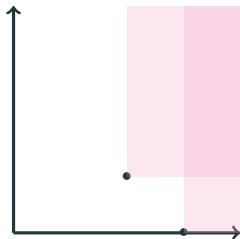
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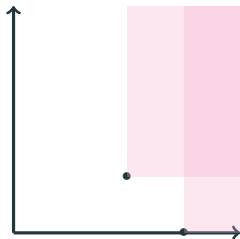
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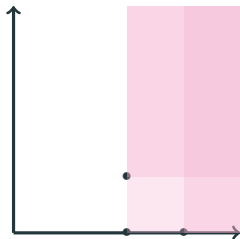
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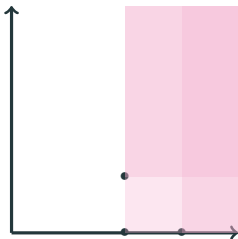
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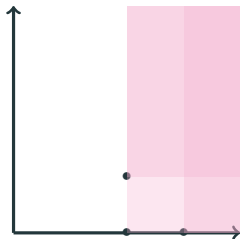
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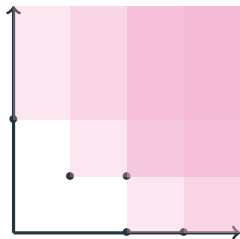
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If remains to investigate  $(f_1, f_4), (f_2, f_4), (f_3, f_4), (f_1, f_5), \dots$

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**We can conclude that  $G$  is a Gröbner basis for  $(\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle, \prec_{\text{grevlex}})$**

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$$G = \begin{cases} x_1^3 - 2x_1x_2 \\ x_1^2x_2 - 2x_2^2 + x_1 \\ f_3 = -x_1^2, & f_4 = -x_1x_2 \\ f_5 = -2x_2^2 + x_1 \end{cases}$$

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Let  $G$  be a Gröbner basis for  $(I, \prec)$ . One says that  $G$  is a **minimal** Gröbner basis if for all  $f \in G$ :

- $\text{LC}_{\prec}(f) = 1$ ;
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Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  be a an admissible monomial ordering.

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- Uniqueness: by contradiction + uniqueness of the normal form

## Uniqueness of Gröbner bases (II)

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  be a an admissible monomial ordering.

Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$  which is not  $\{0\}$ . There exists a **unique** reduced Gröbner basis for  $(I, \prec)$ .

- $G$  reduced  $\Rightarrow G$  minimal  $\Rightarrow \langle \text{LM}_{\prec}(G) \rangle$  is unique
- Existence:  
design an algorithm which makes a Gröbner basis reduced (!)
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**One can decide whether two ideals  
given by distinct generating sets are equal.**



# Properties of Gröbner bases

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# The elimination theorem (I)

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**Remark.** Let  $\pi_i$  be the canonical projection  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (x_i, \dots, x_n)$  and  $V \subset \overline{\mathbb{K}}^n$  be a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebraic set. It holds that  $\pi_i(V)$  may **not** be a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebraic set.

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Let  $V \subset \overline{\mathbb{K}}^n$  be an algebraic set and  $\pi_i$  as above. Then,  $\pi_i(V)$  is a **constructible set**.

## The elimination theorem (II)

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  be an admissible monomial ordering.

### Elimination ordering

We say that  $\prec$  is an elimination ordering, which eliminates  $(x_1, \dots, x_i)$  if for all  $f \in R - \{0\}$ ,

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- Consider  $\prec_{\text{grevlex}_1}$  and  $\prec_{\text{grevlex}_2}$ , two grevlex orderings over monomials of  $\mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_i]$  and  $\mathbb{K}[x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n]$ . The block ordering  $\prec$  using these two grevlex orderings is an elimination ordering.

## The elimination theorem (III)

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Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  be a an admissible block monomial ordering which eliminates  $x_1, \dots, x_i$  built with  $\prec_1$  and  $\prec_2$ .

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- It suffices to prove that  $\langle \text{LM}_{\prec_2}(G_i) \rangle = \langle \text{LM}_{\prec_2}(I_i) \rangle$ .

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See **Cox, Little, O'Shea** for a proof of the 2nd statement.

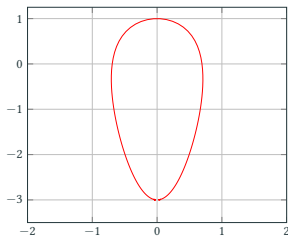
# Application: implicitization

Consider the parametric curve

$$t \mapsto \left( \frac{2t}{1+2t^2}, \frac{1-3t^2}{1+t^2} \right)$$

**Problem.** Compute the implicit equation

$$f = 0 \text{ (for } f \in \mathbb{Q}[x, y])$$





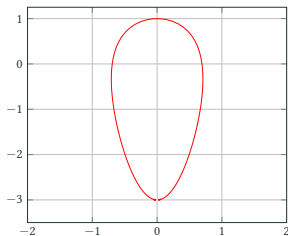
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$\leadsto$  **Gröbner basis computation** for an elimination ordering  $t \succ_{elim} x, y$

$$f = x^2y^2 - 10x^2y + 25x^2 + 4y^2 + 8y - 12$$

# Shape of Gröbner bases (lex)

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal and  $G$  be a Gröbner basis for  $(I, \prec_{lex})$ . Then  $G = T_n \cup T_{n-1} \cup \dots \cup T_1$  with:

- $T_i \subset \mathbb{K}[x_i, \dots, x_n]$ ;
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     $\implies$  Comprehensive description of varieties through projections

# Consequence

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Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal. The quotient ring  $\frac{R}{I}$  is defined as the set of equivalence classes  $f \sim g \Leftrightarrow f - g \in I$  (where  $+$  and  $\times$  are induced by polynomial addition and multiplication). It is also a  $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space.

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When  $V(I)$  is finite and a Gröbner basis is known for  $(I, \prec)$ , we obtain unique representatives in  $\frac{R}{I}$  (depending on the chosen basis). **Many algorithmic questions can then be rephrased as linear algebra problems / matrix operations.**

## Shape of Gröbner bases (graded ordering)

Let  $f$  be a homogeneous polynomial in  $R$ .

- if for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x_n^k$  divides  $\text{LM}_{\text{grevlex}}(f)$  then  $x_n^k$  divides  $f$ ;
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Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal and  $d = \min(\deg(f) \mid f \in I \setminus \{0\})$ . Consider a Gröbner basis  $G$  for  $(I, \prec_{\text{grevlex}})$ .

It holds that

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- $G$  contains polynomials of the least possible degree in  $I \setminus \{0\}$

# Back to Hilbert series (I)

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We had defined Hilbert series for **monomial ideals**. We define the **Hilbert function** as follows:

$$d \mapsto \text{HF}_I(d) = \#\{\beta \in \mathbb{N}^n \mid \deg(\mathbf{x}^\beta) = d \text{ and } \mathbf{x}^\beta \notin I\}.$$

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There is a monomial basis for  $\frac{R}{I}$ .

$\text{HF}_I(d)$  counts the number of elements in this basis of degree  $d$ .

⇒ The Hilbert series is actually associated to  $\frac{R}{I}$

## Hilbert series (II)

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We can now extend the definition to ideals in  $R$ .

Let  $I$  be in  $R$ .

Degree compliant monomial basis  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\frac{R}{I} \leftrightarrow$  Monomial basis  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\langle \text{LM}_{\text{grevlex}}(I) \rangle$ .

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$$\text{HF}_{R/I} : d \mapsto \#\{\beta \in \mathcal{B} \mid \deg(\beta) = d\}.$$

The Hilbert series is then defined as

$$\text{HS}_{R/I}(t) = \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \text{HF}_{R/I}(d)t^d.$$

## Hilbert series (III)

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### Some interesting Hilbert series.

- When  $I = \langle R \rangle$ ,  $\text{HS}_{R/I}(t) = ?$
- When  $I = \langle 0 \rangle$ ,  $\text{HS}_{R/I}(t) = ?$
- When  $I = \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ ,  $\text{HS}_{R/I}(t) = ?$

## **The hunt of reductions to zero**

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# A crucial activity

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☛ The ratio of critical pairs which reduce to 0 tends to 1.

This is observed for all known monomial orderings.

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Some reductions to 0 arise naturally:

- $f_i f_j = f_j f_i$  yields a reduction to 0
- If there exists  $h \in R$  such that  $h f_i \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_{i-1} \rangle$  and  $h \notin \langle f_1, \dots, f_{i-1} \rangle$  then a reduction to 0 will occur.

↪ **Syzygies**

# Buchberger's first criterion

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\prec$  be a an admissible monomial ordering.

## Product criterion (First Buchberger criterion)

Let  $G \subset R - \{0\}$  and  $g_1, g_2$  in  $G$ . Assume that  $\text{lcm}_{\prec}(f, g) = \text{LM}_{\prec}(f)\text{LM}_{\prec}(g)$ . Then  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, g)$  reduces to 0 modulo  $G$ .

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**Proof.** Assume  $f = \text{LM}_{\prec}(f) + p$ ,  $g = \text{LM}_{\prec}(g) + q$ . Write  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, g) = pg - qf$ .

Observe that  $\text{LM}_{\prec}(\text{spol}(f, g)) = \max_{\prec}(\text{LM}_{\prec}(pg), \text{LM}_{\prec}(qf))$

(using again  $\text{lcm}_{\prec}(f, g) = \text{LM}_{\prec}(f)\text{LM}_{\prec}(g)$ ).

# Buchberger's second criterion (I)

## Standard representation.

Let  $G \subset R - \{0\}$  be a finite set. We say that  $f$  has a standard representation w.r.t.  $G, \prec$  if:

- $f = \sum_{i=1}^s m_i g_i$  for some  $m_i \neq 0$  (and the  $g_i$ 's are pairwise distinct)
- $\max_{\prec}(\text{LM}_{\prec}(m_i g_i), 1 \leq i \leq s) \prec \text{LM}_{\prec}(f)$ .

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## A second characterization of Gröbner bases

Let  $G \subset R - \{0\}$  be a finite set. If for any  $f \in \langle G \rangle$  with  $f \neq 0$ ,  $f$  has a standard representation w.r.t.  $G, \prec$  then  $G$  is a Gröbner basis for  $(\langle G \rangle, \prec)$ .



## Buchberger's second criterion (II)

### Chain criterion (Second Buchberger criterion)

Let  $f, g$  and  $h$  in  $R$ , and  $G \subset R - \{0\}$  finite. If

- $LM_{\prec}(h)$  divides  $\text{lcm}(LM_{\prec}(f), LM_{\prec}(g))$
- and  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, h)$  and  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(g, h)$  both have a standard representation w.r.t  $G$

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then  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, g)$  has a standard representation w.r.t  $G, \prec$ .

⇒  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, h)$  and  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(g, h)$  reduce to 0 modulo  $G$ , then  $\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, g)$  will reduce to 0 modulo  $G$

## Back to the example

---

We had  $G = (f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4)$  with

$$\text{LM}(f_1) = x_1^3, \text{LM}(f_2) = x_1^2 x_2, \text{LM}(f_3) = x_1^2, \text{LM}(f_4) = x_1 x_2, \text{LM}(f_5) = x_2^2$$

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- $(f_3, f_4)$  reduces to 0 and we know that  $(f_3, f_5)$  will reduce to 0.  
     $\Rightarrow (f_4, f_5)$  will reduce to 0 (look at the LM's).

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**Gebauer/Möller'88**

# Improved Buchberger

- $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_s)$  in  $R$
- $\prec$  an admissible monomial order over  $R$

OUTPUT: The reduced Gröbner basis for  $(\langle \mathbf{f} \rangle, \prec)$ .

1.  $G \leftarrow \mathbf{f}$  and  $m \leftarrow s$
2.  $\mathcal{P} \leftarrow \emptyset$
3. while  $\mathbf{f} \neq \emptyset$ 
  - 3.1 Choose  $f \in \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{f} \setminus \{f\}$
  - 3.2  $(G, \mathcal{P}) \leftarrow \text{UPDATE}(f, G, \mathcal{P}, \prec)$
4. while  $\mathcal{P} \neq \emptyset$ 
  - 4.1 **select**  $(f, g)$  from  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{P} \leftarrow \mathcal{P} \setminus \{(f, g)\}$
  - 4.2  $f_{m+1} \leftarrow \text{FULLREDUCTION}(\text{spol}_{\prec}(f, g), G, \prec)$
  - 4.3 if  $f_{m+1} \neq 0$  then
    - $m \leftarrow m + 1$
    - $(G, \mathcal{P}) \leftarrow \text{UPDATE}(f_m, G, \mathcal{P}, \prec)$
5. return  $\text{REDUCEBASIS}(G, \prec)$



# The Update routine

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1.  $\mathcal{P}_1 \leftarrow \{(f, g) \mid g \in G\}$
2.  $\mathcal{P}_2 \leftarrow \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2 \leftarrow \emptyset$
3. while  $\mathcal{P}_1 \neq \emptyset$ 
  - 3.1 select  $(f, g)$  from  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_1 \leftarrow \mathcal{P}_1 \setminus \{(f, g)\}$
  - 3.2 if **CRITERION1** $(f, g)$  or NOT(**CRITERION2** $(f, g, \mathcal{P}_1 \cup \mathcal{P}_2)$ )
  - 3.3 3.3.1
  - 3.3.2

# Change of orderings

The FGLM algorithm

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