

A STABLE VERSION OF HARBOURNE'S CONJECTURE

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BACKGROUND

Symbolic Power

The n -th **symbolic power** of a radical ideal I in a regular ring R is

$$I^{(n)} = \bigcap_{P \in \text{Min}(R/I)} (I^n R_P \cap R).$$

How do symbolic powers compare to ordinary powers?

(1) $I^n \subseteq I^{(n)}$ for all $n \geq 1$.

(2) $I^{(n+1)} \subseteq I^{(n)}$ for all $n \geq 1$.

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- (2) $I^{(n+1)} \subseteq I^{(n)}$ for all $n \geq 1$.
- (3) If I is generated by a regular sequence, then $I^n = I^{(n)}$ for all n .
- (4) In general, $I^n \neq I^{(n)}$.

Containment Problem (Schenzel)

When is $I^{(b)} \subseteq I^a$?

Theorem (Ein-Lazarsfeld-Smith, 2001, Hochster-Huneke, 2002, Ma-Schwede, 2017)

Let I be a radical ideal in a¹ regular ring R and h be the big height of I . Then for all $n \geq 1$, $I^{(hn)} \subseteq I^n$.

¹Excellent in the mixed characteristic case.

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EXAMPLE

$P \subseteq R = k[x, y, z]$ the defining ideal of $k[t^3, t^4, t^5]$.

$$h = 2 \Rightarrow P^{(2n)} \subseteq P^n \Rightarrow P^{(4)} \subseteq P^2.$$

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$$\text{In fact, } P^{(3)} \subseteq P^2.$$

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Question (Huneke, 2000)

Let P be a height 2 prime in a regular local ring. Is $P^{(3)} \subseteq P^2$?

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Conjecture (Harbourne, ≤ 2008)

Let I be a radical ideal in a regular ring, and let h be the big height of I . For all $n \geq 1$,

$$I^{(hn-h+1)} \subseteq I^n.$$

Theorem (Hochster–Huneke)

Let I be a radical ideal of big height h in a regular ring of characteristic $p > 0$. Then for all $q = p^e$,

$$I^{(hq)} \subseteq I^{[q]} \subseteq I^q.$$

Notation: $I^{[q]} = (f^q \mid f \in I)$.

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Harbourne's Conjecture

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$$I^{(hn-h+1)} \subseteq I^n.$$

DUMNICKI, SZEMBERG, TUTAJ-GASIŃSKA, 2015

There exists a radical ideal in $\mathbb{C}[x, y, z]$ such that $I^{(3)} \not\subseteq I^2$:

$$I = (z(x^3 - y^3), x(y^3 - z^3), y(z^3 - x^3)).$$

Harbourne's Conjecture

Let I be a radical ideal in a regular ring, and let h be the big height of I . For all $n \geq 1$,

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When does Harbourne's Conjecture hold?

- For general points in \mathbb{P}^2 (Harbourne–Huneke), \mathbb{P}^3 (Dumnicki).
- If R/I is an F -pure ring (G–Huneke).
Eg, when I is a squarefree monomial ideal, or when R/I is direct summand of a polynomial ring over a perfect field.

Theorem (G–Ma–Schwede)

Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be an F -finite Gorenstein local ring of characteristic $p > 0$ and $Q \subseteq R$ be a radical ideal of finite projective dimension with big height h .

- 1) If R/Q is F -pure, then $Q^{(hn-h+1)} \subseteq Q^n$ for all $n \geq 1$.*
- 2) If R/Q is strongly F -regular, then $Q^{((h-1)(n-1)+1)} \subseteq Q^n$ for all $n \geq 1$.*

HARBOURNE'S CONJECTURE (STABLE VERSION)

MAIN QUESTION

Does Harbourne's Conjecture always hold *eventually*?

Evidence for the Stable Harbourne Conjecture

Let $a \geq 3$, k be a field, and the Fermat ideal

$$I = (x(y^a - z^a), y(z^a - x^a), z(x^a - y^a)).$$

This is a well-known counterexample to $I^{(3)} \subseteq I^2$. However,

$$I^{(2n-1)} \subseteq I^n$$

for all $n \geq 3$, which follows from work of Dumnicki, Harbourne, Nagel, Secoreanu, Szemberg, and Tutaj-Gasińska.

MAIN QUESTION

Does Harbourne's Conjecture always hold *eventually*?

Harbourne's Conjecture (stable version)

Given a radical ideal I of big height h in a regular ring, does

$$I^{(hn-h+1)} \subseteq I^n$$

for all $n \gg 0$?

Question

If there exists a value of m such that

$$I^{(hm-h+1)} \subseteq I^m,$$

does that imply that

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GOOD ENOUGH IN PRIME CHARACTERISTIC

In characteristic p , this would prove the stable version of Harbourne's Conjecture, since $I^{(hp-h+1)} \subseteq I^p$.

Theorem

*Let I be a radical ideal of big height h in a regular ring ~~containing~~
~~a field~~. If there exists a value of n such that*

$$I^{(hn-h)} \subseteq I^n,$$

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Theorem

Let I be a radical ideal of big height h in a regular ring ~~containing~~
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for all $m \gg 0$.

EXAMPLE

The defining ideal of $k[t^3, t^4, t^5]$ in $k[x, y, z]$ verifies
 $P^{(2 \times 3 - 2 = 4)} \subseteq P^3$, and thus $P^{(2m-2)} \subseteq P^m$ for all $m \geq 6$.

Theorem

Let k be a field of characteristic not 2 nor 3, let $a = 3$ or $a = 4$, and let $a < b < c$ be integers. If P is the defining ideal of $k[[t^a, t^b, t^c]]$ or $k[t^a, t^b, t^c]$ in $R = k[[x, y, z]]$ or $R = k[x, y, z]$, respectively. Then

$$P^{(4)} \subseteq P^3.$$

As a consequence, $P^{(2n-2)} \subseteq P^n$ for all $n \gg 0$.

EXAMPLE

The defining ideal P of $k[t^9, t^{11}, t^{14}]$ fails $P^{(4)} \subseteq P^3$, but Macaulay2 computations show that

$$P^{(2 \times 4 - 2 = 6)} \subseteq P^4,$$

so $P^{(2n-2)} \subseteq P^n$ for all $n \gg 0$.

EXAMPLE

The squarefree monomial ideal

$$I = \bigcap_{i \neq j} (x_i, x_j) \subseteq k[x_1, \dots, x_v].$$

has $I^{(2n-2)} \not\subseteq I^n$ for $n < v$, but $I^{(2v-2)} \subseteq I^v$. Therefore,

$$I^{(2n-2)} \subseteq I^n \text{ for all } n \gg 0.$$

Definition (Bocci-Harbourne)

The resurgence of an ideal I is given by

$$\rho(I) = \sup \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : I^{(a)} \not\subseteq I^b \right\}.$$

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$$\rho(I) = \sup \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : I^{(a)} \not\subseteq I^b \right\}.$$

$$1 \leq \rho(I) \leq h.$$

If $\frac{a}{b} > \rho(I)$, then $I^{(a)} \subseteq I^b$.

Observation

Let I is a radical ideal, and h be the big height of I . If $\rho(I) < h$, then for every constant $C > 0$,

$$I^{(hn-C)} \subseteq I^n$$

for all $n \gg 0$.

Observation

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for all $n \gg 0$.

Question

Is there an ideal I with $\rho(I) = h$?

EXAMPLE

Let $a \geq 3$, k be a field, and Dumnicki, Harbourne, Nagel, Secleanu, Szemberg, and Tutaj-Gasińska showed that

$$I = (x(y^a - z^a), y(z^a - x^a), z(x^a - y^a)).$$

has resurgence $\frac{3}{2}$, so $I^{(2n-1)} \subseteq I^n$ for all $n \geq 3$.

Question

Let I be a radical ideal of big height h in a regular ring R . Fix an integer $C > 0$. Does

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hold for all $n \gg 0$?

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Let I be a radical ideal of big height h in a regular ring R . Fix an integer $C > 0$. Does

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hold for all $n \gg 0$?

Yes, if

- ☐ if $\rho(I) < h$, and
- ☐ if $I^{(hm-C)} \subseteq I^m$ for some m and $I^{(n+h)} \subseteq II^{(n)}$ for all $n \geq 1$.

EXAMPLE (SECELEANU)

The ideal $I = (x(y^3 - z^3), y(z^3 - x^3), z(x^3 - y^3)) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x, y, z]$ fails $I^{(n+2)} \subseteq II^{(n)}$ for n arbitrarily large.

Yet in this example it is still true that given any C , $I^{(2n-C)} \subseteq I^n$ for all $n \gg 0$.

Theorem

Let R be a regular ring of characteristic $p > 0$. Let I be an ideal in R such that R/I is an F -pure ring, and let h be the big height of I . Then for all $n \geq 1$,

$$I^{(n+h)} \subseteq II^{(n)}.$$

In particular, if $I^{(hk-C)} \subseteq I^k$ for some k and C , then $I^{(hn-C)} \subseteq I^n$ for all $n \geq k$.

Obrigada!