# Applications of Gröbner Fans

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Gröbner basis computation: the Gröbner Walk

## Cones, Fans and Ideals

**Idea:** Incremental approach to Gröbner basis computation, based on polyhedral geometry.

# Cones, Fans and Ideals

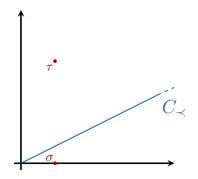
**Idea:** Incremental approach to Gröbner basis computation, based on polyhedral geometry.

Let I be a fixed ideal in  $\mathbb{Q}[x_1, \dots x_n]$ . Each Gröbner basis  $G_{\prec} = \{g_1, \dots g_s\}$  of I is associated to a polyhedral cone  $C_{\prec} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{cc} & \text{Initial ideals} \\ & in_{\prec}(I) \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} & \text{marked Gr\"{o}bner bases} \\ & G_{\prec} \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} & \text{Gr\"{o}bner cones} \\ & C_{\prec} \end{array} \right\}.$$

The cones form a **polyhedral fan**, called the *Gröbner Fan* of *I*.

**Task:** Given a starting Gröbner basis  $G_{\prec}$  and a target ordering  $\prec'$ , compute  $G_{\prec'}$ 



**Strategy:** Starting from  $C_{\prec}$ , 'walk' to  $C_{\prec'}$ , computing every intermediate Gröbner basis along the way.

# Lemma 0 (Monomial order matrices)

#### Lemma

Let  $\prec$  be a monomial order on  $\mathbb{Q}[x_1,...,x_n]$  and  $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{k,n}$  be a monomial order matrix of  $\prec$ . Let  $a_1 \in \mathbb{Q}^n_{\geq 0}$  denote the first row of A. Then  $\prec$  refines  $a_1$ , i.e. :

$$\langle a_1, \beta \rangle < \langle a_1, \alpha \rangle \implies x^{\beta} \prec x^{\alpha} \text{ for all } \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}^n.$$

In particular:  $a_1 \in C_{\prec}$  holds for any ideal  $I \triangleleft \mathbb{Q}[x_1, ..., x_n]$ .

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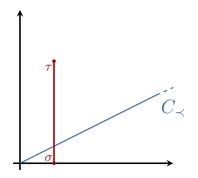
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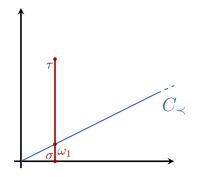
This means that  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are already known a priori! We use this informatio  $+ C_{\prec}$  to compute a boundary point of  $C_{\prec}$ 

**Task:** Given a starting Gröbner basis  $G_{\prec}$  and a target ordering  $\prec'$ , compute  $G_{\prec'}$ 



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### Lemma 1

A Marked Gröbner basis is a reduced Gröbner basis with the leading terms identified.

#### Lemma

Let I be an ideal and  $\prec$  a monomial order. For  $G_{\prec} = \{g_1, ..., g_r\}$  and  $\omega \in C_{\prec} \cap \mathbb{Q}^n_{>0}$ , the set

$$in_{\omega}(G_{\prec}) = \{in_{\omega}(g_1), ..., in_{\omega}(g_r)\}$$

is the marked Gröbner basis of  $in_{\omega}(I)$  w.r.t  $\prec$ .

This holds in particular when  $\omega \in \partial C_{\prec}$ . So given  $\omega$  and  $G_{\prec}$ , we obtain a basis of  $in_{\omega}(I)$  "for free".

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This holds in particular when  $\omega \in \partial C_{\prec}$ . So given  $\omega$  and  $G_{\prec}$ , we obtain a basis of  $in_{\omega}(I)$  "for free". The basis of  $in_{\omega}(I)$  corresponds to the lower-dimensional cone in the Gröbner fan!

# Lemma 2 (Lifting)

#### Lemma

Let H be the Gröbner basis of I with respect to a term ordering < and let  $\omega \in \mathbb{Q}^n$  lie on the boundary of the cone in the Gröbner fan  $\mathbb{G}(I)$  corresponding to <.

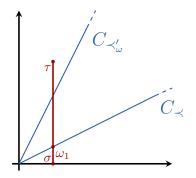
If  $M = \{m_1, ..., m_r\}$  is the marked Gröbner basis of  $in_{\omega}(I)$  with respect to the refinement ordering  $\prec'_{\omega}$ , then

$$G := \{m_1 - \overline{m_1}^H, ..., m_r - \overline{m_r}^H\}$$

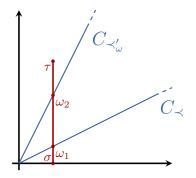
is a Gröbner basis of I with respect to  $\prec'_{\omega}$ .

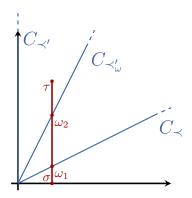
This process is known as "lifting"

If  $\tau$  lies in our new cone, we're done!



If not, update the starting cone/basis and go again!





# My Contribution

#### From this...

```
Algorithm 1 StandardGroebnerWalk(G_{\prec}, A_{\prec}, A_{\prec'})
Input: G_{\prec}, A_{\prec} and A_{\prec'}
Output: G_{\prec'}
   \sigma \leftarrow (A_{\prec})_1.
   \tau \leftarrow (A_{\sim \ell})_1.
   done ← "False"
   while done = "False" do
        \omega \leftarrow \text{GetNextW}(G_{\prec}, \sigma, \tau)
         G' \leftarrow \text{Lift}(G_{\sim}, \omega, \tau)
         G' \leftarrow \text{Reduce}(G')
         if \omega = \tau then
              done ← "True"
         else
              \sigma \leftarrow \omega
              G_{\sim} \leftarrow G'
              A_{\prec} \leftarrow A_{\prec'}
         end if
    end while
    return G'
```

#### To this!

```
Oscar.il / experimental / GroebnerWalk / src / common.il
Code
         Blame 138 lines (110 loc) - 4.49 KB
            lex([x, y])
          function groebner_walk(
           I::MPolyIdeal,
            target::MonomialOrdering = lex(base_ring(I)),
            start::MonomialOrdering = default_ordering(base_ring(I));
            algorithm::Symbol = :standard
            if algorithm == :standard
              walk = (x) -> standard walk(x, target)
            elseif algorithm == :generic
              walk = (x) -> generic_walk(x, start, target)
              throw(NotImplementedError(:groebner_walk, algorithm))
            Gb = groebner basis(I; ordering=start, complete reduction=true)
            Gb = walk(Gb)
            return Oscar.IdealGens(Gb. target: isGB=true)
   78
          end
```

https://github.com/
oscar-system/Oscar.jl/

## OSCAR demonstration

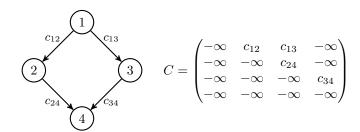


fpnowell.github.io

## A Gröbner fan in the wild

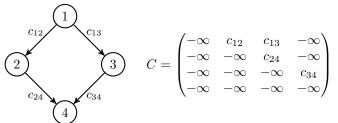
# Combinatorics of shortest paths

Let  $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$  be a directed acyclic graph (DAG) with non-negative edge weights  $c_{ij}$  for  $i \to j \in E$ .



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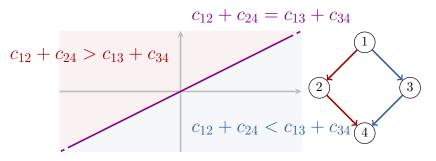
Let  $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$  be a directed acyclic graph (DAG) with non-negative edge weights  $c_{ij}$  for  $i \to j \in E$ .



**TASK:** Classify the sets of edge weights which give rise to the same max-weighted paths.

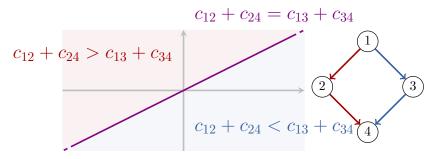
(The weight of a directed path from i to j is the sum of the weights of its edges.)

## It's a fan!



In the space of all matrices  $\mathbb{R}[E]$  supported on  $\mathcal{G}$  (this is  $\mathbb{R}^4_{\geq 0}$ ), the matrices giving rise to the same max-weighted paths lie in a *cone!* 

### It's a fan!



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## It's a Gröbner fan!

Let P(i, j) denote the set of all directed paths from i to j The Gröbner fan of G = (V, E) is

$$I_{\mathcal{G}} = \langle \sum_{\pi \in P(i,j)} \prod_{k_1 \to k_2 \in \pi} c_{k_1,k_2} : i, j \in V, |P(i,j)| > 1 \rangle \triangleleft \mathbb{R}[E].$$

In the example:  $I_{\mathcal{G}} = \langle c_{12}c_{24} + c_{13}c_{34} \rangle$ .

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**Bottom line:** All of the different possible structures of max-weighted paths can be computed with a Gröbner fan computation!