

I. Polynomial Rings and Ideals

1. Preliminaries

Def'n 1.1. **Algebraically Closed** Field

We say a field K is *algebraically closed* if every nonconstant $f \in K[\vec{x}]$ has a root.

Def'n 1.2. **Degree, Support** of a Polynomial

Let $f = \sum_i c_{\vec{a}} \vec{x}^{\vec{a}}$ be a polynomial. Then the **degree** of f is

$$\deg(f) = \max \left\{ \sum_i a_i : c_{\vec{a}} \neq 0 \right\}.$$

The *support* of f is

$$\text{supp}(f) = \{ \vec{a} : c_{\vec{a}} \neq 0 \}.$$

Def'n 1.3. **Homogeneous** Polynomial

We say f is **homogeneous** of degree i if it is only supported in degree i .

Def'n 1.4. **Hilbert Series** of a Graded Ring

A *Hilbert series* of a graded ring S is

$$H(S; t) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \dim(S_i) t^i.$$

Def'n 1.5. **Ideal** of a Polynomial Ring

An *ideal* is a nonempty subset $I \subseteq K[\vec{x}]$ such that

$$f, h \in I, g \in K[\vec{x}] \implies fg + h \in I.$$

Def'n 1.6. Ideal **Generated** by a Subset

Let $F \subseteq K[\vec{x}]$. We define the ideal *generated* by F , denoted as $\langle F \rangle$ (or (F)), to be

$$\langle F \rangle = \bigcap \{ I \supseteq F : I \text{ is an ideal} \},$$

or the smallest ideal containing F .

Def'n 1.7. **Homogeneous** Ideal

An ideal $I \subseteq K[\vec{x}]$ is *homogeneous* if there exist homogeneous polynomials that generate I .¹

¹Polynomials need not have the same degree.

Def'n 1.8. **Quotient Ring**

Let $I \subseteq K[\vec{x}]$ be an ideal. Given any $f \in K[\vec{x}]$, the *residue class* of f modulo I is the set

$$f + I = \{ f + i : i \in I \}.$$

Then there is an equivalence relation \sim on $K[\vec{x}]$ by

$$f \sim g \iff f + I = g + I.$$

The *quotient ring* S/I is the ring structure on the set of all residue classes S/\sim , with addition

$$(f + I) + (g + I) = (f + g) + I$$

and multiplication

$$(f + I)(g + I) = fg + I.$$

Def'n 1.9. **Product Ideal, Colon Ideal** of Two Ideals

Let I, J be ideals. We define the *product ideal* of I, J , denoted as IJ , to be

$$IJ = \langle fg : f \in I, g \in J \rangle.$$

We also define the *colon ideal* of I, J , denoted as $I : J$, as

$$I : J = \{f \in S : \forall j \in J [fj \in I]\} = \{f \in S : fJ \subseteq I\}.$$

Def'n 1.10. **Radical** of an Ideal

Let I be an ideal. The *radical* of I is

$$\sqrt{I} = \left\{ f \in S : \exists k \in \mathbb{N} [f^k \in I] \right\}.$$

II. Algebraic Geometry

1. Introduction

Def'n 2.1. **Vanishing Locus** of a Subset of a Polynomial Ring

For any $F \subseteq S$, we define a *variety* $V(F)$ (or $V_K(F)$ when we want to specify the field K) by

$$V(F) = \{\vec{p} \in K^n : \forall f \in F [f(\vec{p}) = 0]\},$$

called the *vanishing locus* of F .

2. Schemes

Def'n 2.2. **Radical Ideal** of a Variety

Let $X = V(F)$ be a variety. Then the *radical ideal* of X is the set

$$I(X) = \{f \in K[\vec{x}] : \forall x \in X [f(x) = 0]\}.$$

Def'n 2.3. **Scheme** of a Set of Polynomials

For every $F \subseteq K[\vec{x}]$, we define the *scheme* of F , denoted as $V_\infty(F)$, by

$$V_\infty(F) = \{V_R(F) : R \supseteq K \text{ is a ring extension of } K\}.$$

3. Monomial Ideals

Def'n 2.4. **Monomial Ideal**

A *monomial ideal* in $K[\vec{x}]$ is an ideal generated by monomials.

Def'n 2.5. **Hyperplane** of a Vector Space

A *hyperplane* is a codimension 1 vector subspace.

We say a hyperplane is *coordinate* if it is spanned by axes.

Def'n 2.6. **Minimal Set of Monomials**

Let M be a set of monomials. We say M is *minimal* if for every proper subset $N \subset M$, $\langle N \rangle \subset \langle M \rangle$.

Def'n 2.7. **Canonical Generating Set** of a Monomial Ideal

Let I be a monomial ideal. The *canonical generating set* of I , denoted as $G(I)$, is the unique minimal set of monomial generators in Proposition 2.9.

4. Operations on Monomial Ideals

5. Grobner Bases

Def'n 2.8. **Monomial Order**

A *monomial order* is a total order on \mathbb{N}^n such that

- (a) if $a < b$ in \mathbb{N}^n , then $a + c < b + c$ for all $c \in \mathbb{N}^n$; and
- (b) for all $a \in \mathbb{N}^n$, $a \geq (0, \dots, 0)$.

shifting

Def'n 2.9. **Initial Monomial** of a Polynomial

Let $S = K[\vec{x}]$ and fix a monomial order $<$. For $f \in S$, if f is nonzero, we define the *initial monomial* (or *leading monomial*) of f , denoted as $\text{in}_<(f)$, as

$$\text{in}_<(f) = \text{<-greatest monomial of } \text{supp}(f).$$

The coefficient k of $\text{in}_<(f)$ is called the *leading coefficient* (or *initial coefficient*), and $k \text{in}_<(f)$ is called the *leading term* (or *initial term*).

In case $f = 0$, we set $\text{in}_<(f) = 0$.

Def'n 2.10. **Initial Ideal** of an Ideal

Let I be an ideal. We define the *initial ideal* of I , denoted as $\text{in}_<(I)$, by

$$\text{in}_<(I) = \langle \text{in}_<(f) : f \in I \rangle.$$

Def'n 2.11. **Grobner Basis** for an Ideal

We say $G = \{g_i\}_{i=1}^k$ is a *Grobner basis* for an ideal I if

$$\text{in}(I) = \langle \text{in}(g_i) \rangle_{i=1}^k.$$

6. Division Algorithm

7. Buchberger's Algorithm for Finding a Grobner Basis

Def'n 2.12. **S-polynomial**

Fix a monomial order. For all $f, g \in K[x]$, the *S-polynomial* of f by g , denoted as $S(f, g)$, is defined as

$$S(f, g) = \frac{\text{lcm}(\text{in}(f), \text{in}(g))}{c \text{in}(f)} f - \frac{\text{lcm}(\text{in}(f), \text{in}(g))}{d \text{in}(g)} g,$$

where $c, d \in K$ are the leading coefficients of f, g , respectively.

Def'n 2.13. **Reduces to 0 Modulo g_1, \dots, g_m**

We say $f \in K[\vec{x}]$ *reduces to 0 modulo g_1, \dots, g_m* if

$$f = \sum_{i=1}^m q_i g_i$$

for some q_1, \dots, q_m with $\text{in}(f) \geq \text{in}(q_i g_i)$.

8. Reduced Grobner Bases

Def'n 2.14. **Reduced Grobner Basis**

Let $G = \{g_k\}_{k=1}^m$ be a Grobner basis for an ideal I . We say G is *reduced* if

- (a) all leading coefficients of g_j 's are monic; and
- (b) for $i \neq j$, no $u \in \text{supp}(g_i)$ is divisible by $\text{in}(g_j)$.