

# Virtual Resolutions of Monomial Ideals (REU)

Mentor: Jay Yang  
TA: Elizabeth Kelley

University of Minnesota

June 24, 2020

# Monomial Ideals

## Definition

A monomial ideal is an ideal that can be generated by monomials.

## Example

- $\langle x - y, y \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$
- $\langle x^2, y^2, z^2 \rangle$

# Staircase Diagrams

Staircase diagrams are a pictorial way to characterize monomial ideals, they rely on the following facts.

## REU Exercise (8.1)

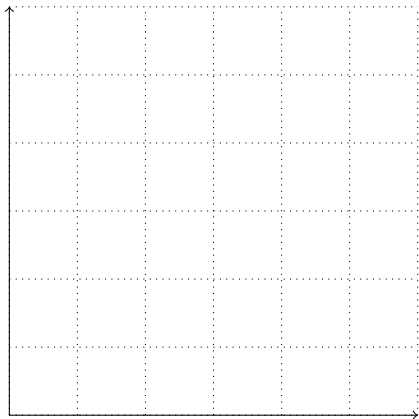
Show the following facts about monomial ideals

- 1 A monomial ideal is uniquely characterized by the set of monomials it contains. i.e. if two monomial ideals containing the same monomials, they are the same ideal.
- 2 Every monomial ideal has a unique minimal set of monomial generators.

# Staircase Diagrams

## Example

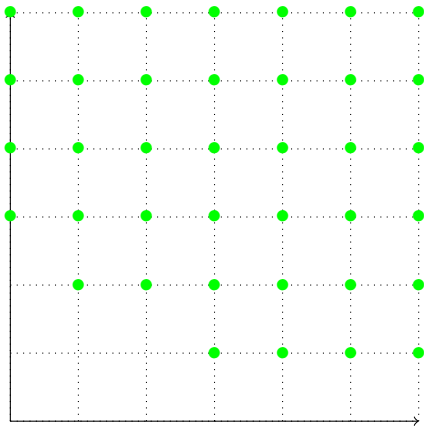
$$\text{Let } I = \langle x^3y, xy^2, y^3 \rangle$$



# Staircase Diagrams

## Example

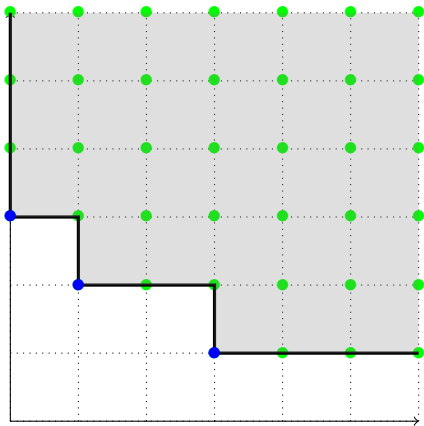
Let  $I = \langle x^3y, xy^2, y^3 \rangle$



# Staircase Diagrams

## Example

Let  $I = \langle x^3y, xy^2, y^3 \rangle$



# Squarefree Monomial Ideals

Squarefree monomial ideals are a special case of monomial ideals where none of the variables show up in a generator with degree higher than 2.

## Definition (Stanley-Reisner Correspondence)

For a simplicial complex  $\Delta$  on  $n$  vertices, define  $I_\Delta \subset k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  to be the ideal generated by the minimal non-faces.

## Theorem (Hochster's Formula)

For  $\Delta$  a simplicial complex and  $I_\Delta$  the associated Stanley-Reisner Ideal

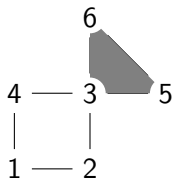
$$\beta_{i,j}(S/I_\Delta) = \sum_{|\alpha|=j} \dim \tilde{H}_{i-j-1}(\Delta|_\alpha)$$

## Example

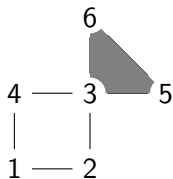
|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 6 |   |
| 4 | 3 |   | 5 |
| 1 | 2 |   |   |



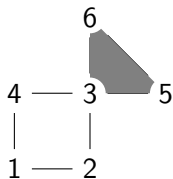
## Example



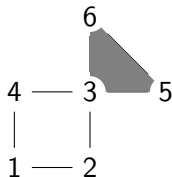
## Example



## Example



## Example



$$I_{\Delta} = (x_1x_3, x_1x_5, x_1x_6, x_2x_4, x_2x_5, x_2x_6, x_4x_5, x_4x_6)$$

# Randomness

Two sides to randomness:

- Use Randomness to sample to space of possible outcomes
- Prove facts about certain distributions of ideals to

Same Starting Point: Construct a model of a “Random Monomial Ideal”.

# Random Graphs

The main inspiration for all of this is the theory of Random Graphs.

## Theorem (Erdős-Rényi 1976)

*Choose a random graph  $G$  with  $M(n)$  edges on  $n$  vertices uniformly. Then for  $\epsilon > 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  if  $M(n) \geq (1 + \epsilon)n \log n$ , then asymptotically almost surely, the graph is connected. Conversely, if  $M(n) \leq (1 - \epsilon)n \log n$ , then asymptotically almost surely the graph is disconnected.*

# Existing models of random (monomial) ideals

- 1 Erdős-Rényi type Random monomial ideals.
- 2 Random Stanley Reisner Ideals via Random Flag Complexes
- 3 “RandomIdeals” package in Macaulay 2

# Erdos-Renyi type Random Monomial Ideals

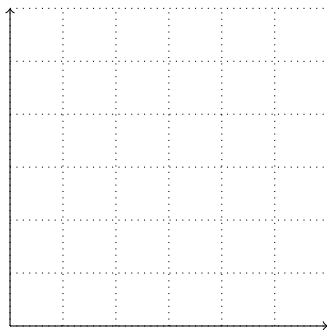
First described by De Loera, Petrović, Silverstein, Stasi, and Wilburne in 2018. This model uses 3 parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables,  $D$  for the maximum degree, and  $p$  for the probability (of taking a particular monomial). Consider  $n = 2, D = 6, p = 0.1$



# Erdos-Renyi type Random Monomial Ideals

First described by De Loera, Petrović, Silverstein, Stasi, and Wilburne in 2018. This model uses 3 parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables,  $D$  for the maximum degree, and  $p$  for the probability (of taking a particular monomial). Consider  $n = 2, D = 6, p = 0.1$

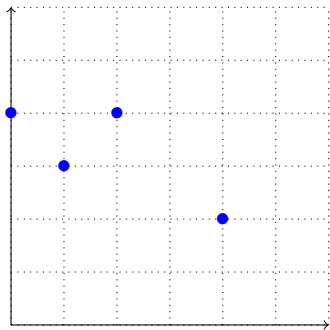
## Example



# Erdos-Renyi type Random Monomial Ideals

First described by De Loera, Petrović, Silverstein, Stasi, and Wilburne in 2018. This model uses 3 parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables,  $D$  for the maximum degree, and  $p$  for the probability (of taking a particular monomial). Consider  $n = 2, D = 6, p = 0.1$

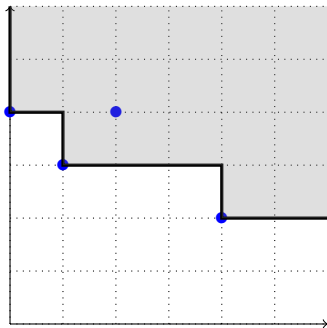
## Example



# Erdos-Renyi type Random Monomial Ideals

First described by De Loera, Petrović, Silverstein, Stasi, and Wilburne in 2018. This model uses 3 parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables,  $D$  for the maximum degree, and  $p$  for the probability (of taking a particular monomial). Consider  $n = 2, D = 6, p = 0.1$

## Example

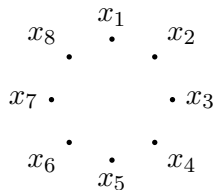


# Random Squarefree Monomial Ideals

First described in a joint paper with Daniel Erman also in 2018. This model has two parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables, and  $p$  for an “attaching probability”. Choose a random graph, then create the largest simplicial complex with these edges.

## Example

$n=8$  and  $p=0.4$

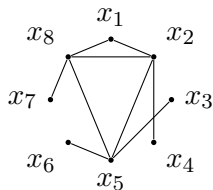


# Random Squarefree Monomial Ideals

First described in a joint paper with Daniel Erman also in 2018. This model has two parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables, and  $p$  for an “attaching probability”. Choose a random graph, then create the largest simplicial complex with these edges.

## Example

$n=8$  and  $p=0.4$

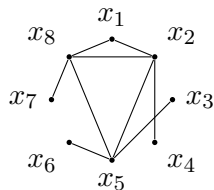


# Random Squarefree Monomial Ideals

First described in a joint paper with Daniel Erman also in 2018. This model has two parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables, and  $p$  for an “attaching probability”. Choose a random graph, then create the largest simplicial complex with these edges.

## Example

$n=8$  and  $p=0.4$

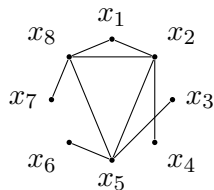


# Random Squarefree Monomial Ideals

First described in a joint paper with Daniel Erman also in 2018. This model has two parameters,  $n$  for the number of variables, and  $p$  for an “attaching probability”. Choose a random graph, then create the largest simplicial complex with these edges.

## Example

$n=8$  and  $p=0.4$



$$I = \langle x_1x_3, x_1x_4, x_1x_5, x_1x_6, x_1x_7, x_1x_8, x_2x_3, x_2x_4, x_2x_5, x_2x_6, x_2x_7, x_2x_8, x_3x_4, x_3x_5, x_3x_6, x_3x_7, x_3x_8, x_4x_5, x_4x_6, x_4x_7, x_4x_8, x_5x_6, x_5x_7, x_5x_8, x_6x_7, x_6x_8 \rangle$$

# Random Syzygies

Theorem (Erman-Y. 2018)

Fix some  $r \geq 1$ . Let  $\Delta \sim \Delta(n, p)$  with  $\frac{1}{n^{1/r}} \ll p \ll \frac{1}{n^{2/(2r+1)}}$ , then asymptotically almost surely  $r + 1 \leq \text{reg}(S/I_\Delta) \leq 2r$ .



# Product of Projective Spaces

Goal: Work with syzygies over a product of projective spaces (or more generally a Toric Variety).

- For  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^r$  we write  $\mathbb{P}^{\mathbf{n}}$  for  $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \mathbb{P}^{n_2} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_r}$ .
- Need to define a “Coordinate Ring” for  $\mathbb{P}^{\mathbf{n}}$ .
- Need to figure out what syzygies should look like.

# Multigraded Polynomial Rings

## Definition

We say the polynomial ring  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ -graded if  $\deg(x_i)$  is an element of  $\mathbb{Z}^r$

## Example

The polynomial ring  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with the “standard grading” is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded, with  $\deg(x_i) = 1$ .

## Example

Consider the polynomial ring  $k[x_0, x_1, y_0, y_1, y_2]$  with  $\deg(x_i) = (1, 0)$  and  $\deg(y_i) = (0, 1)$ . Then the degrees of the following monomials are

- $\deg(x_0x_1) = (2, 0)$
- $\deg(x_1^2y_1y_2) = (2, 2)$

# Polynomial Rings for Products of Projective Spaces

## Example

The polynomial ring  $k[x_0, x_1, y_0, y_1, y_2]$  with  $\deg(x_i) = (1, 0)$  and  $\deg(y_i) = (0, 1)$  is the homogeneous coordinate ring for the space  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$

More generally, for  $\mathbb{P}^n$  the homogeneous coordinate ring is

$$S := k[x_{1,0}, x_{1,1}, \dots, x_{1,n_1}, x_{r,0}, \dots, x_{r,n_r}]$$

with  $\deg(x_{i,j}) = e_i$  where  $e_i$  is the  $i$ -th standard basis vector in  $\mathbb{Z}^r$  and the irrelevant ideal is  $B = \bigcap_{i=1}^r \langle x_{i,0}, \dots, x_{i,n_i} \rangle$

This is a special case of a more general theory of **Toric Varieties**.

# Geometry of a Product of Projective Spaces

$\mathbb{P}^n$  is a quotient of  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$ . In particular, we write a coordinate as  $[a_0 : a_1 : \cdots : a_n]$  where we require  $a_i$  not all be 0 and two coordinates represent the same point if they differ by a non-zero constant. i.e.  $[a_0 : a_1 : \cdots : a_n]$  and  $[\lambda a_0 : \lambda a_1 : \cdots : \lambda a_n]$  for  $\lambda \neq 0$  are the same point.

## Example

Now consider  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$ . The coordinates are of the form  $([a_0 : a_1], [b_0 : b_1 : b_2])$  where not all  $a_i$  are 0 and not all  $b_i$  are 0. Finally  $([a_0 : a_1], [b_0 : b_1 : b_2])$  and  $([\lambda_1 a_0 : \lambda_1 a_1], [\lambda_2 b_0 : \lambda_2 b_1 : \lambda_2 b_2])$  represent the same point for  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \neq 0$

# Irrelevant Ideal

## Remark

The irrelevant ideal corresponds to the coordinates that don't have any geometric realization in  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . That is to say, it corresponds to the “invalid coordinates”.

For example, for  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$  the irrelevant ideal is  $B = \langle x_0, x_1 \rangle \cap \langle y_0, y_1, y_2 \rangle$ . But if  $f \in B$ , then  $f$  is zero on the coordinates where  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  are 0 or where  $b_0, b_1$ , and  $b_2$  are all zero.

# Homogeneous Polynomial

## Definition

A polynomial  $f$  in a  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ -graded polynomial ring is homogeneous if the degree of every term is the same.

## Proposition

*If  $f$  is homogeneous, then  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^r$  with  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ ,  $f(\dots, \lambda_i \cdot x_{i,j}, \dots) = 0$  if and only if  $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$*

## Remark

This is exactly the condition that we need to be able to tell if a polynomial is zero at a point in  $\mathbb{P}^n$ .

# Ideals in a Product of Projective Space

## Proposition

*Subvarieties of a product of projective spaces correspond to homogeneous  $B$ -saturated radical ideals in the homogeneous coordinate ring*

$$\{\text{Varieties in } \mathbb{P}^n\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{homogeneous } B\text{-saturated radical ideals}\}$$

## Remark

All monomial ideals are homogeneous and a monomial ideal is radical if and only if it is squarefree.

# Saturation

## Definition

The saturation of an ideal  $I$  by an ideal  $B$  is given by

$$I : B^\infty := \left\{ r \in S : r \cdot B^k \subset I \text{ for } k \text{ sufficiently large} \right\}$$

Geometrically, the saturation “removes the component corresponding to  $B$ ”

## Proposition

$$V(I : B^\infty) = \overline{V(I) \setminus V(B)}$$



# Saturation Example

## Example

$$I = \langle x_0^2, x_0 * y_0, x_1 * y_0 \rangle$$

$$B = \langle x_0 y_0, x_0 y_1, x_1 y_0, x_1 y_1 \rangle$$

$$I : B^\infty = \langle x_0^2, y_0 \rangle$$

## REU Exercise (8.2)

- 1 Given the monomial ideal  $\langle x_0x_1^2y_0, y_0y_1^2 \rangle$ , compute its saturation with respect to  $\langle x_0y_0, x_0y_1, x_1y_0, x_1y_1 \rangle$  (You may assume that the saturation of a monomial ideal is a monomial ideal)
- 2 Check your answer using Macaulay 2
- 3 Try computing the saturation of some square free monomial ideals. Can you give a geometric method for computing the saturation of a squarefree monomial ideal by another squarefree monomial ideal?

# Free Resolutions

Recall the main features of a minimal free resolution

## Definition

A complex  $C_0 \xleftarrow{d_0} C_1 \xleftarrow{d_1} C_2 \xleftarrow{d_2} \cdots$  is a minimal free resolution if

- 1  $C_i$  are free modules,
- 2 It is minimal,
- 3  $d_{i+1} \circ d_i = 0$  for  $i > 0$ ,
- 4  $\text{img } d_{i+1} = \ker d_i$  for  $i > 0$

# Virtual Resolutions (for a product of projective spaces)

## Definition

A complex  $C_0 \xleftarrow{d_0} C_1 \xleftarrow{d_1} C_2 \xleftarrow{d_2} \cdots$  is a virtual resolution if

- 1  $C_i$  are free modules,
- 2  $d_i \circ d_{i-1} = 0$  for  $i > 0$ ,
- 3  $H_i(C_\bullet) := \ker d_{i-1} / \text{img } d_i$  is irrelevant for  $i > 0$ .

# Why Virtual Resolutions

## Remark

Over  $\mathbb{P}^n$  minimal free resolutions don't accurately reflect the geometry.

## Theorem (Hilbert Syzygy Theorem)

*If  $I$  is a non-maximal  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ -graded ideal on  $\mathbb{P}^n$ , then  $S/I$  has a free resolution of length at most  $n$*

## Theorem (Berkesch-Erman-Smith, 2017)

*Every finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ -graded  $B$ -saturated module on  $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_r}$  has a virtual resolution of length at most  $n_1 + \cdots + n_r$*

# Example of a Virtual Resolution

## Example

This example is taken from the BES 2017 paper. For  $I$  the ideal corresponding to a specific curve in  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$ , we have that the minimal free resolution of  $I$  is

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & S(-3, -1)^1 & & & & & \\
 & \oplus & S(-3, -3)^3 & & & & \\
 & S(-2, -2)^1 & \oplus & S(-3, -5)^3 & & & \\
 & \oplus & S(-2, -5)^6 & \oplus & & & \\
 S^1 \leftarrow & S(-2, -3)^2 \leftarrow & \oplus & S(-2, -7)^2 \leftarrow & S(-3, -7)^1 \leftarrow & 0. & \\
 & \oplus & S(-1, -7)^1 & \oplus & & & \\
 & S(-1, -5)^3 & \oplus & S(-2, -8)^1 & & & \\
 & \oplus & S(-1, -8)^2 & & & & \\
 & S(0, -8)^1 & & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

# Example of a Virtual Resolution

## Example

This example is taken from the BES 2017 paper. For  $I$  the ideal corresponding to a specific curve in  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$ , we have that the minimal free resolution of  $I$  is

$$S^1 \leftarrow S^8 \leftarrow S^{12} \leftarrow S^6 \leftarrow S^1 \leftarrow 0.$$

However there is a virtual resolution of the form

$$S^1 \leftarrow \begin{array}{c} S(-3, -1)^1 \\ \oplus \\ S(-2, -2)^1 \\ \oplus \\ S(-2, -3)^2 \end{array} \leftarrow S(-3, -3)^3 \leftarrow 0.$$

# What is known?

- Virtual resolutions in a product of projective spaces have length  $\leq \sum_i n_i$  (BES 2017)
- Virtual resolution of a pair  $(M, \mathbf{b})$  where  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{reg}(M)$ . (BES 2017)
- Monomial ideals on a toric variety  $X$  have virtual resolutions of that have length  $\leq \dim X$  (Y. 2019)
- Conditions for points in  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  to be virtual complete intersections (Gao, Li, Loper, Mattoo 2020)
- Certain 1-dimensional monomial ideals have length  $\dim X - 1$  virtual resolutions. (Work in progress)



# Special Case of Virtual Resolutions

## Lemma

*If  $I$  is a  $B$ -saturated ideal, and  $J : B^\infty = I$  then a minimal free resolution of  $S/J$  is a virtual resolution of  $S/I$ .*

# Multigraded Regularity

See the paper “Multigraded Castelnuovo-Mumford Regularity” by Diane Maclagan and Greg Smith for a definition. In the case of  $\mathbb{P}^{\mathbf{n}}$  for  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^r$  we have the following properties:

- 1  $\text{reg}(M) \subset \mathbb{N}^r$ .
- 2 If  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{reg}(M)$  then  $\mathbf{b} + \mathbb{N}^r \in \text{reg}(M)$ .
- 3 In the case of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ ,  $\min(\text{reg}(M))$  is the usual regularity.
- 4 Macaulay2 can compute it.

# Resolution Regularity

## Definition (Sidman-Van Tuyl 2006)

For a module  $M$ , given a minimal free resolution  $F_0 \leftarrow F_1 \leftarrow \dots$  of  $M$  define the resolution regularity denoted  $\text{res-reg}(M) \in \mathbb{N}^r$  given by

$$\text{res-reg}(M)_l = \max \{ \mathbf{a}_l : \mathbf{a} + i \cdot e_l \text{ is the degree of a generator in } F_i \}$$

## Remark

The resolution regularity gives a bound on the multigraded regularity. But in general, it does not give the whole multigraded regularity.

## Resolution Regularity

$$\text{res-reg}(M)_l = \max \{ \mathbf{a}_l : \mathbf{a} + i \cdot e_l \text{ is the degree of a generator in } F_i \}$$

## Example

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 S(-3, -1)^1 & & & & & & \\
 \oplus & & & & & & \\
 S(-2, -2)^1 & & S(-3, -3)^3 & & & & S(-3, -5)^3 \\
 \oplus & & \oplus & & \oplus & & \\
 S^1 \leftarrow S(-2, -3)^2 \leftarrow & S(-2, -5)^6 & \leftarrow & S(-2, -7)^2 \leftarrow & S(-3, -7)^1 \leftarrow & 0. \\
 \oplus & \oplus & & \oplus & & \\
 S(-1, -5)^3 & S(-1, -7)^1 & & S(-2, -8)^1 & & \\
 \oplus & \oplus & & & & \\
 S(0, -8)^1 & S(-1, -8)^2 & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$\text{res-reg}(S/I) = (2, 7)$$

## REU Exercise (8.3)

- Use the VirtualResolutions package in Macaulay2 to compute some examples of multigraded regularity
- Write code to compute the resolution regularity

# REU Problem

## REU Problem

Use random methods to characterize the virtual resolutions of monomial ideals that are given by free resolutions of monomial ideals.

- 1 Which multidegrees show up as twists in virtual resolutions.
- 2 What can we say about the “virtual resolution regularities”, do they still give bounds on the multigraded regularity?
- 3 Is there any structure to the set of virtual resolutions coming from monomial ideals?
- 4 What about monomial modules