

Simplifying Bases

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How can we simplify a basis B for an ideal I in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$?

Lemma (very useful Lemma)

Let I be an ideal in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ with basis $\{f_1, \dots, f_s\}$.

(i) If $s \in k \setminus \{0\}$ then $B \setminus \{f_i\} \cup \{s f_i\}$ is a basis for I .

(ii) If $h \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ then $B \setminus \{f_j\} \cup \{g_j\}$ is a basis for I where $g_j = f_j - h \cdot f_i$.

Proof.

$$(f_j \in J) \quad f_j = 1 \cdot \underbrace{g_j}_{\in J} + h \cdot \underbrace{f_i}_{\in J} \in J. \quad \begin{array}{l} I = \langle f_1, \dots, f_i, \dots, f_j, \dots, f_s \rangle \\ J = \langle f_1, \dots, f_i, \dots, g_j, \dots, f_s \rangle \end{array}$$

$$(g_j \in I) \quad g_j = 1 \cdot \underbrace{f_j}_{\in I} - h \cdot \underbrace{f_i}_{\in I} \in I.$$

Example. Let $\langle x^2 + y^2 - 1, x + y \rangle = I$

$$\text{Let } f_3 = f_1 - x \cdot f_2 = x^2 + y^2 - 1 - (x^2 + xy) = -xy + y^2 - 1.$$

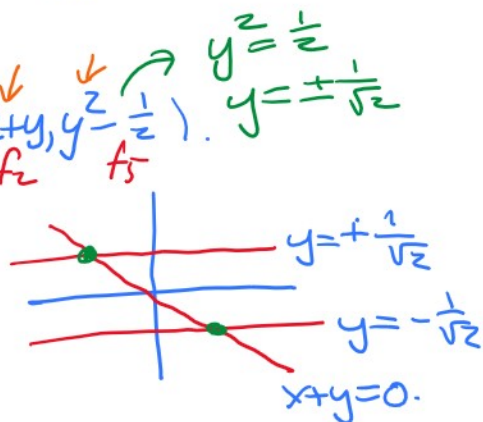
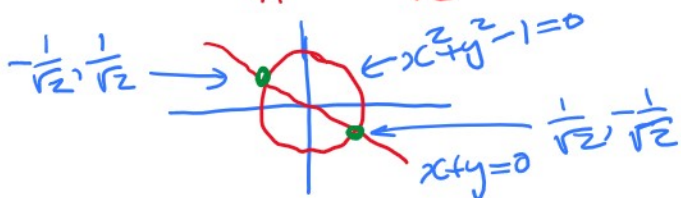
$$\Rightarrow I = \langle x + y, -xy + y^2 - 1 \rangle \text{ by vuc (ii).}$$

$$\text{Let } f_4 = f_3 + y f_2 = -xy + y^2 - 1 + xy + y^2 = 2y^2 - 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow I = \langle x + y, 2y^2 - 1 \rangle \text{ by vuc (ii).}$$

$$I = \langle x + y, y^2 - \frac{1}{2} \rangle \text{ by vuc (i).}$$

Notice that $V(x^2 + y^2 - 1, x + y) = V(x + y, y^2 - \frac{1}{2})$.



What is the connection between ideals in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ and varieties in k^n .

Prop 4. If $\langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle = \langle g_1, \dots, g_t \rangle$ then

$$V(f_1, \dots, f_s) = V(g_1, \dots, g_t).$$

The converse is not true in general. It's true if k is algebraically closed e.g. $k = \mathbb{C}$.

Ex. In \mathbb{R}^2 $V(x^2 + y^2 + 1) = \emptyset = V(1)$

but $\langle x^2 + y^2 + 1 \rangle \neq \langle 1 \rangle = \mathbb{R}[x, y]$.

Questions about ideals in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Let I be an ideal in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Does I have a finite basis? Yes. Hilbert basis theorem.

What is a good basis for I ? Grobner basis.

How can I test if $f \in I$? Divide by a Grobner basis for I .

Def. If $I = \langle g \rangle$ for some non-zero $g \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ then I is called a principal ideal. $E = \{g\}$ is a G.B. for I .

$$I = \{h \cdot g : h \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]\} \text{ so } f \in I \Leftrightarrow g \mid f.$$

CLO 1.5 Ideals in $k[x]$.

Theorem Let I be an ideal in $k[x]$.
Then $I = \langle f \rangle$ for some $f \in k[x]$.

Proof. Case $I = \{0\}$. Take $f = 0$. $I = \langle 0 \rangle = \{0\}$.

Case $I \neq \{0\}$. Let f be a non-zero polynomial in I of least degree. I claim $I = \langle f \rangle$.

Proof. $\langle f \rangle \subset I$: Let $g \in \langle f \rangle = \{h \cdot f\} \Rightarrow g = h \cdot f$ for some h .
But $f \in I \Rightarrow g \in I$.

Let $g \in I$. Is g a multiple of f ?
 $I \subset \langle f \rangle$: Consider $g \div f$. $\underline{k[x]}$
 $\exists q, r \in k[x]$ s.t. $g = qf + r$ with $r=0$ or $\deg(r) < \deg(f)$.
 $\Rightarrow r = \underbrace{g}_{\in I} - \underbrace{qf}_{\in I} \Rightarrow r \in I$.

If $r \neq 0 \Rightarrow \deg(r) < \deg(f) \Rightarrow \boxed{\times}$ contradicts our choice of f
 $r \in I$.

$\Rightarrow r=0 \Rightarrow g = f \cdot q \Rightarrow g \in \langle f \rangle$.

How do we find f ??

Lemma. Let $I = \langle f_1, \dots, f_s \rangle \in k[x]$.
 $I = \langle g \rangle$ where $g = \gcd(f_1, \dots, f_s)$.

Proof. $\langle g \rangle \subset I$ For $I = \langle f_1, f_2, f_3 \rangle$.

$\exists s_1, s_2$ s.t. $s_1 f_1 + s_2 f_2 = \gcd(f_1, f_2) = h$. by the EEA.

$\exists t_1, t_2$ s.t. $t_1 h + t_2 f_3 = \gcd(h, f_3) = \gcd(f_1, f_2, f_3) = g$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow g &= t_1 (s_1 f_1 + s_2 f_2) h + t_2 f_3 \\ &= \underbrace{t_1 s_1 h}_{\in R} f_1 + \underbrace{t_1 s_2 h}_{\in R} f_2 + \underbrace{t_2}_{\in R} f_3 \in I. \end{aligned}$$

Exercise. Let $V = \mathbb{V}(x^2 + y^2 - 3, x^2 - y^2 - 1)$

Solve V by simplifying the basis for

$I = \langle \overset{f_1}{x^2 + y^2 - 3}, \overset{f_2}{x^2 - y^2 - 1} \rangle$ using the VUL.

Let $f_3 = f_1 - f_2 = (y^2 - 3) - (-y^2 - 1) = 2y^2 - 2$.

$\Rightarrow I = \langle \cancel{2y^2 - 2}, \overset{f_2}{x^2 - y^2 - 1} \rangle$ by VUL (ii)

$= \langle \overset{f_4}{y^2 - 1}, \overset{f_2}{x^2 - y^2 - 1} \rangle$ by VUL (i)

Let $f_5 = f_2 + f_4 = x^2 - 2$.

$\Rightarrow I = \langle \overset{f_4}{y^2 - 1}, \overset{f_5}{x^2 - 2} \rangle$.

$$\Rightarrow I = \langle y^{2+4}, x^{2+5} \rangle.$$

$$\text{Hence } V = V(y^2-1, x^2-2) = \{(\pm\sqrt{2}, \pm 1)\}.$$

Note. $\{x^2-2, y^2-1\}$ is a GB for I wrt any monomial ordering. If $\gcd(\text{LT}(g_i), \text{LT}(g_j)) = 1$ $\forall i \neq j$ then $\{g_1, \dots, g_t\}$ is a GB for $I = \langle g_1, \dots, g_t \rangle$.

$$\text{E.g. } \langle x+y, y+z, z-1 \rangle = I.$$

$\{x+y, y+z, z-1\}$ for lex with $x > y > z$ is a GB for I . \uparrow in row Echelon form.