

New Algorithms for Decomposing Algebraic Sets

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joint with Christian Eder, Pierre Lairez and Mohab Safey El Din
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Introduction

Let $\mathbb{K}$ be a field, $R := \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $\overline{\mathbb{K}}$ algebraic closure.

$f_1, \dots, f_r \in R$, $X := V(f_1, \dots, f_r) := \{f_1 = f_2 = \dots = f_r = 0\} \subset \overline{\mathbb{K}}^n$ algebraic set.

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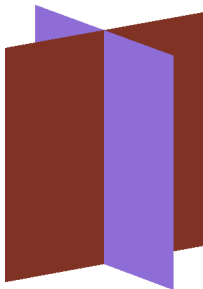
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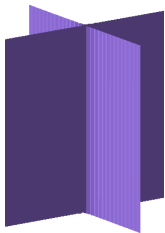
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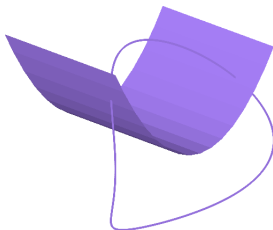
$$X = V(xy) = V(x) \cup V(y)$$

Definition

$X \subset \overline{\mathbb{K}}^n$ **equidimensional** if all irreducible components of X have the same dimension.



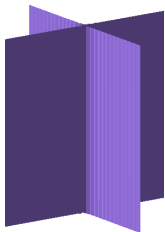
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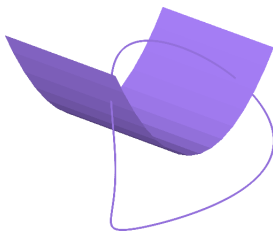
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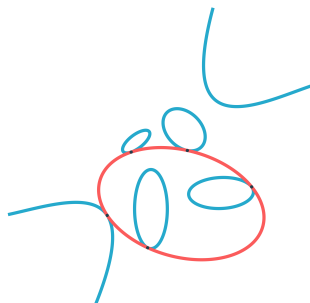


not equidimensional

Given X as $X = V(f_1, \dots, f_r)$ with $f_1, \dots, f_r \in \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$,
compute a representation $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^m X_i$, each X_i **equidimensional**.

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conic: cut out by polynomial of degree 2 in 2 variables

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Polynomial System S in 5 equations, 5 variables

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We expect $V(S)$ to have finitely many solutions.

Problem: $V(S)$ has 2-dimensional component corresponding to squares of linear forms! $\leadsto$ **degenerate** solutions

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Main algorithmic tool:

Definition

Gröbner basis G of ideal I w.r.t $\prec$:

Finite set $G \subset I$ s.t.

$$\langle \text{lm}(G) \rangle = \text{lm}(I).$$



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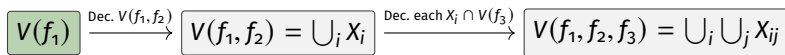
Ideal membership via polynomial long division

triangular sets (e.g. [Hubert 2003](#)) and geometric resolutions (e.g. [Giusti, Lecerf, and Salvy 2001](#))...

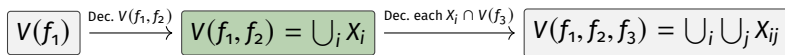
The Incremental Strategy

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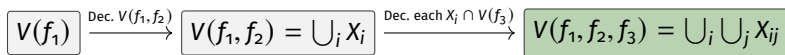
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Frequently used in other algorithms, e.g. (Lecerf 2003), (Moroz 2008), (Duff, Leykin, and Rodriguez 2022)...

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$$X \cap V(f) = \underbrace{[V(x, y) \cup V(x, z)]}_{\dim=1} \cup \underbrace{[V(y, z, x(x-1))]}_{\dim=0}$$

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Definition

Regular Intersection: $f|_Y \neq 0$ for every irred. component Y of X .

Regular Sequence: $f_1, \dots, f_r$ s.t. f_i regular over $V(f_1, \dots, f_{i-1}) \forall i$.

$$I(X) := \{f \in R \mid f|_X = 0\}.$$

Lemma

f intersects X regularly



For every g with $gf \in I(X)$ (**syzygy cofactor**) we have $g \in I(X)$

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$gf \in \langle xy, xz, yz \rangle$ but $g \notin \langle xy, xz, yz \rangle$.

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Algorithmic Principle:

Using Gröbner basis computations,

find g with $gf \in I(X)$, $g \notin I(X)$



Use g to modify X

Computing the Nondegenerate Locus

Algorithm 1

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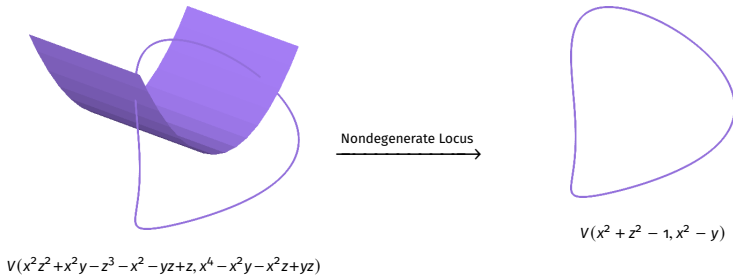
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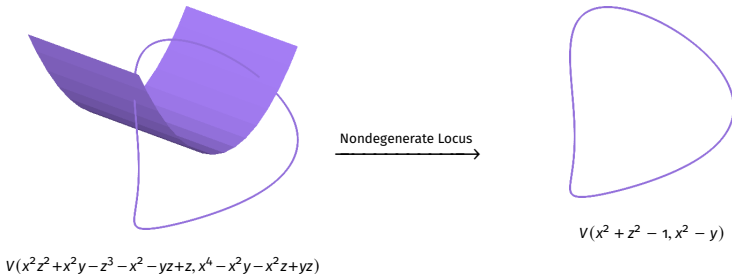
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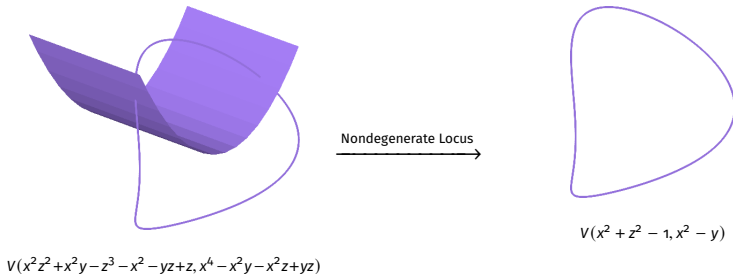


In Steiner example: Nondegenerate Locus gives tangent conics!

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Note: $f_1, \dots, f_c$ regular sequence $\Rightarrow \text{ndeg}(V(f_1, \dots, f_c)) = V(f_1, \dots, f_c)$

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Idea: Change X to $X \setminus V(h)$ s.t. all g with $gf \in I(X)$ lie in $I(X \setminus V(h))$.

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Example

Compute y and x using Gröbner basis computations!

$$X = V(xy, f_2 - xz).$$

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How to compute Gröbner bases?

Fix: Polynomial Ring $R := \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n], f_1, \dots, f_c \in R, I := \langle f_1, \dots, f_c \rangle$.

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Buchberger's criterion (Buchberger 1965):

Theorem

G is a Gröbner basis for I iff for every $g_1, g_2 \in G$, the *S-polynomial*

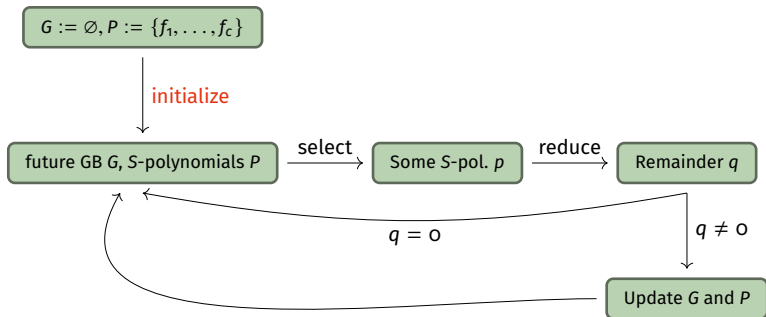
$$\frac{\text{lcm}(\text{lm}(g_1), \text{lm}(g_2))}{\text{lm}(g_1)} g_1 - \frac{\text{lcm}(\text{lm}(g_1), \text{lm}(g_2))}{\text{lm}(g_2)} g_2$$

reduces to zero by G via polynomial long division.

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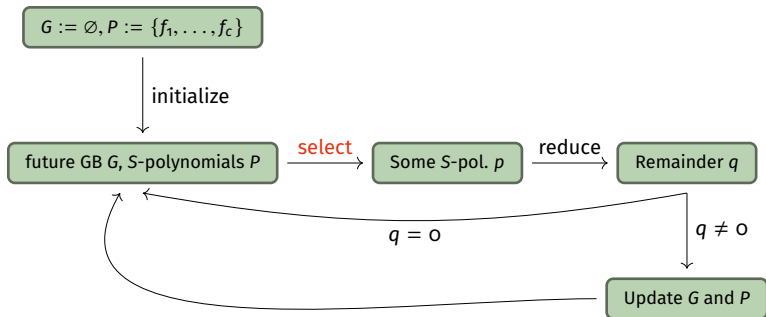
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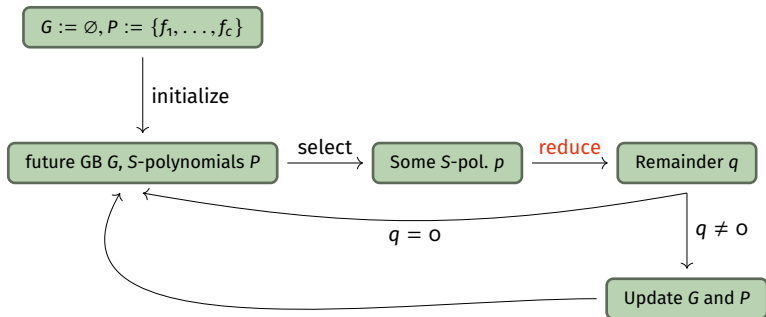
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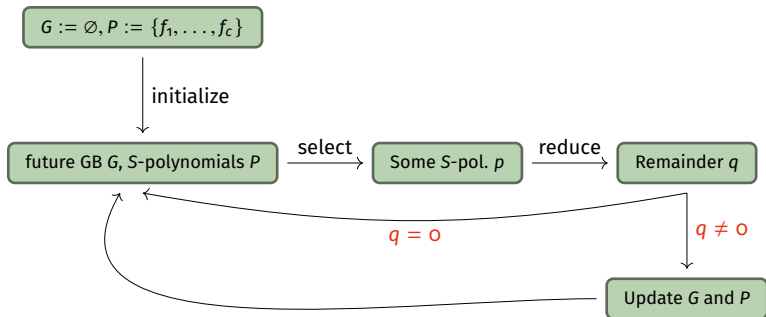
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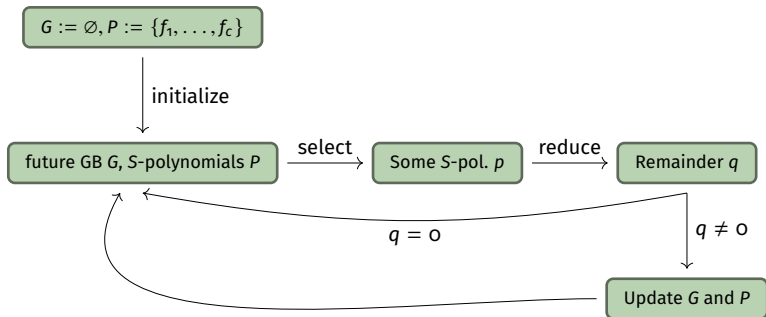
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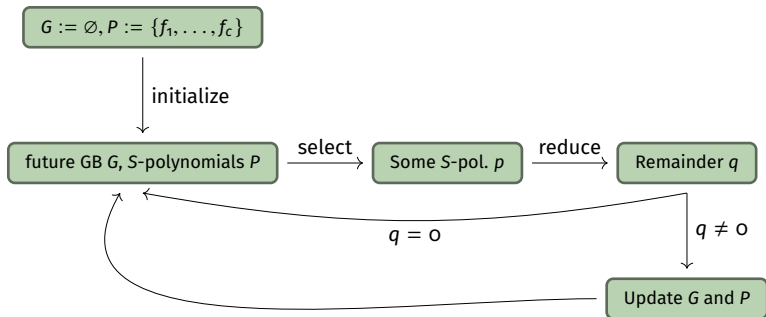
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Think of every S-polynomial as ug_i , g_i i th element in G , u monomial

$\leadsto$ computational history

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Theorem

Result of reducing an S-polynomial depends *only* on its signature $(\text{lm}(g), f_{k+1})$.

Koszul Criterion – An S-pol. with signature $(\text{lm}(g), f_{k+1})$ reduces to zero if $\text{lm}(g) \in \text{lm}(I(X))$.

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in sGB algorithm:

Zero reduction with cofactor $g \Rightarrow gf_{k+1} \in I(X)$ but $g \notin I(X)$



Furnishes nondegenerate locus computations as before!

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Algorithm with **Black box** GB usage



Dedicated GB algorithm

	Our Algorithm	●	●	●
Sing(2,8)	0.68s	23m	∞	∞
Sing(2,10)	2.9s	∞	∞	∞
Sos(2,6,4)	169s	∞	∞	∞
Steiner	42m	∞	∞	∞

Computed in characteristic 65521 on Intel Xeon Gold 6244.

- Elimination method in Singular, see e.g. (Decker, Greuel, and Pfister 1999).
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Reference: Eder, Lairez, Mohr, and El Din 2023,
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	sGB	Our Algorithm	Ratio	GB in Maple	●	Ratio
Sing(2,10)	1.9s	2.9s	1.5	0.11s	1.642s	15
Sos(2,6,4)	148s	160s	1.08	0.172s	22.7s	132
Sos(2,7,4)	3m	30m	10	0.433s	1h	8314
Sos(2,7,5)	25m	20h	48	2.294s	>359h	>564366

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- Homological method in Macaulay2 presented in (Eisenbud, Huneke, and W. Vasconcelos 1992) plus Saturation.
- "Naive" implementation of nondegenerate locus algorithm in Maple.

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Computing Equidimensional Decompositions

Algorithm 2

This time: Compute full equidimensional decomposition of given $V(f_1, \dots, f_r)$ with **incremental strategy**.



Have to solve:

Given X equidimensional, $f \in \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$
Compute equidimensional decomposition of $X \cap V(f)$

After decomposing $X \cap V(f)$ another equation coming in!

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$\Rightarrow$ Philosophy: Split $X \cap V(f)$

As **much** as possible, as **irredundantly** as possible

After decomposing $X \cap V(f)$ another equation coming in!

⇒ Philosophy: Split $X \cap V(f)$

As **much** as possible, as **irredundantly** as possible



Components of lower degree while avoiding exponential blow up!

Incremental step: **Again** suppose we have function

$\text{syzcof}(X, f)$: returns g s.t. $gf \in I(X)$, $g \notin I(X)$

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Example

$$X = V(xy, xz, yz), f = x(x - 1), g := \text{syzcof}(X, f) = y$$

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X	$V(x, y)$	$V(x, z)$	$V(y, z)$
	$f = 0$	$f = 0$	$f \neq 0$
	$g = 0$	$g \neq 0$	$g = 0$

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Set $X_1 := \overline{X \setminus V(g)} = V(x, z)$. Then

$f = 0$ on X_1 !

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$$X \cap V(f) = X_1 \cup \underbrace{[(X \setminus X_1) \cap V(f)]}$$

split with same approach!

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$$X \cap V(f) = X_1 \cup \underbrace{[(X \setminus X_1) \cap V(f)]}$$

split with same approach!

- ⚠ Splitting a lot via **recursion**
- ⚠ Irredundancy via **disjointness**
(and no fake components!)

Algorithm: intersect

```
if  $X \cap V(f)$  equidimensional then  
  return  $X \cap V(f)$   
else  
   $g \leftarrow \text{syzcof}(X, f)$   
   $X_1 \leftarrow X \setminus V(g)$   
  return  $X_1 \cup \text{intersect}(\text{remove}(X, X_1), f)$   
end if
```

Algorithm: intersect

if $X \cap V(f)$ equidimensional **then**

return $X \cap V(f)$

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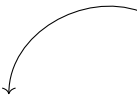
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Decompose further $X \setminus X_1$!



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Decompose further $X \setminus X_1$!

Algorithm: remove

```
Write  $X_1 = V(h_1, \dots, h_r)$   
 $X'_1 \leftarrow V(h_2, \dots, h_r)$   
return  $X \setminus V(h_1) \cup \text{intersect}(\text{remove}(X, X'_1), h_1)$ 
```

Algorithm: intersect

if $X \cap V(f)$ equidimensional **then**

return $X \cap V(f)$

else

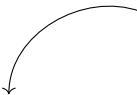
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$X'_1 \leftarrow V(h_2, \dots, h_r)$

return $X \setminus V(h_1) \cup \text{intersect}(\text{remove}(X, X'_1), h_1)$

$X \setminus X_1 = X \setminus V(h_1) \sqcup [(X \setminus X'_1) \cap V(h_1)]$



Algorithm: intersect

if $X \cap V(f)$ equidimensional **then**

return $X \cap V(f)$

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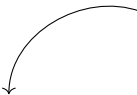
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end if

Decompose further $X \setminus X_1$!



mutually recursive algorithms for
decomposition of $X \cap V(f)$ and $X \setminus X_1$!

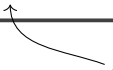
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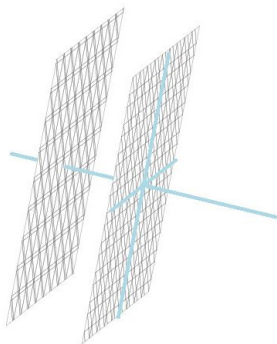
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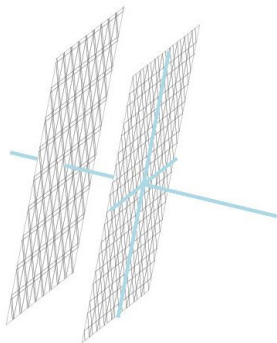
$\text{intersect}(X, f)$
 $\text{syzcof}(X, f) = y$



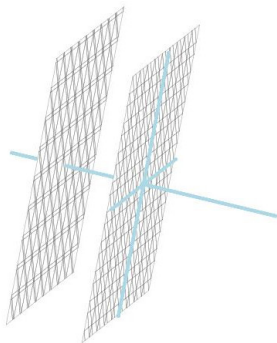
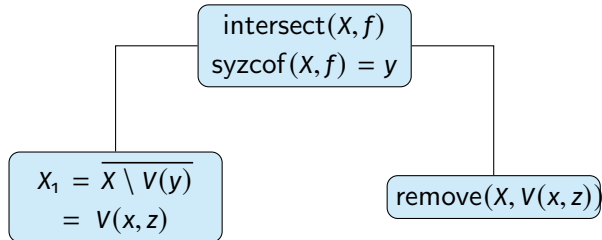
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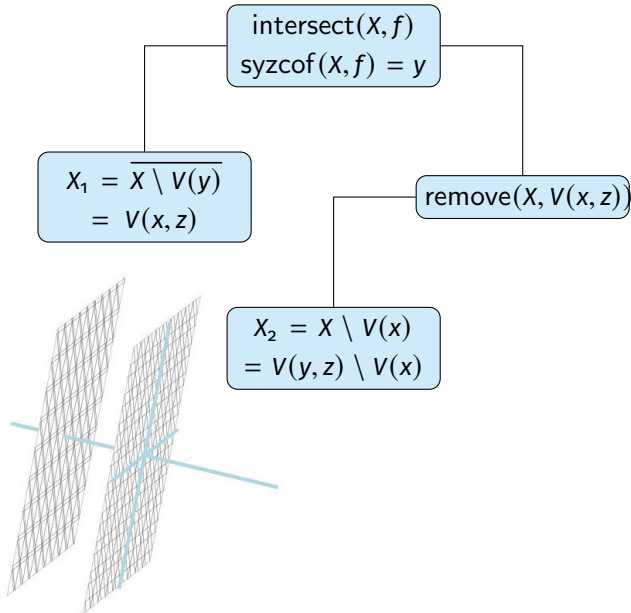
$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \overline{X \setminus V(y)} \\ &= V(x, z) \end{aligned}$$



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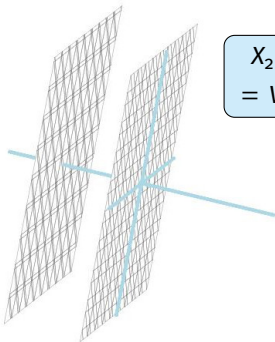
intersect(X, f)
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$$X_1 = \overline{X \setminus V(y)} \\ = V(x, z)$$

remove($X, V(x, z)$)

$$X_2 = X \setminus V(x) \\ = V(y, z) \setminus V(x)$$

$$X_3 = X \setminus V(z) \\ = V(x, y) \setminus V(z)$$



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syzcof(X, f) = y

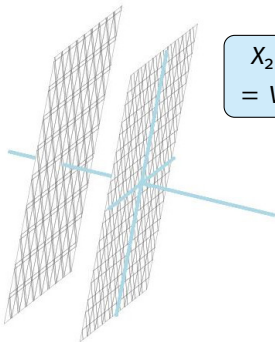
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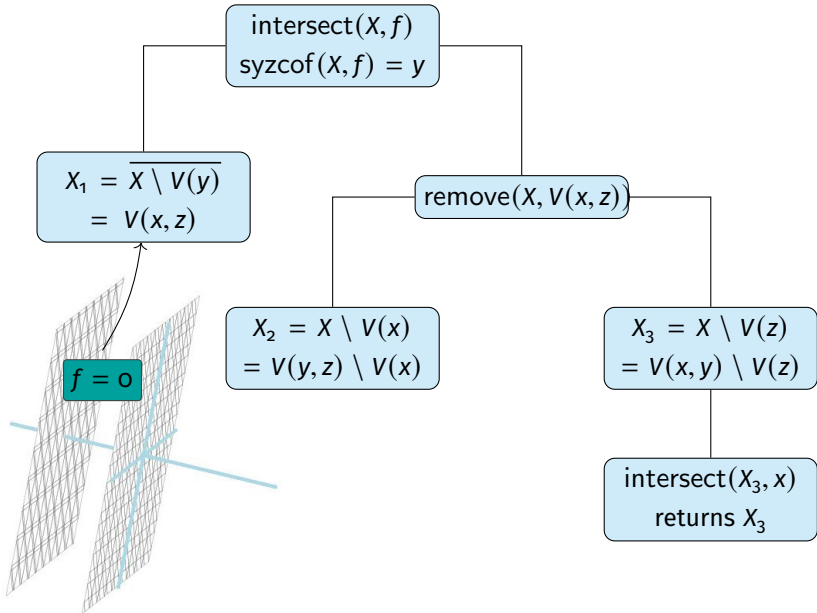
$$X_2 = X \setminus V(x) \\ = V(y, z) \setminus V(x)$$

$$X_3 = X \setminus V(z) \\ = V(x, y) \setminus V(z)$$

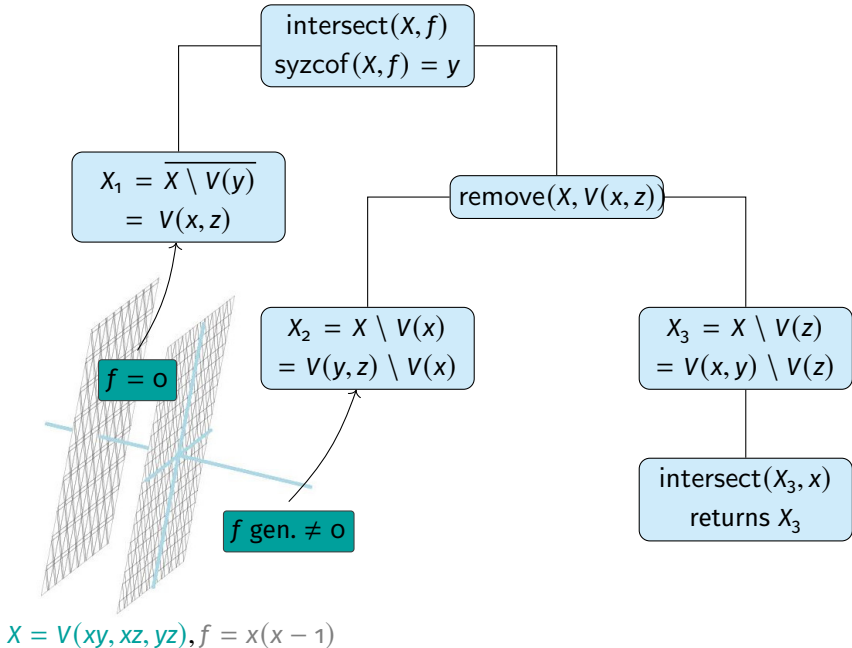
intersect(X_3, x)
returns X_3

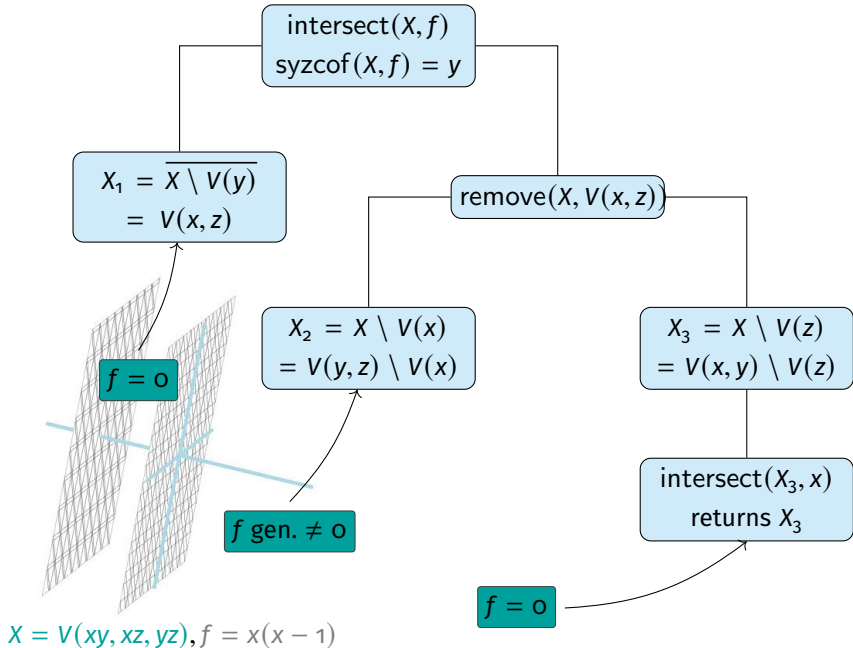


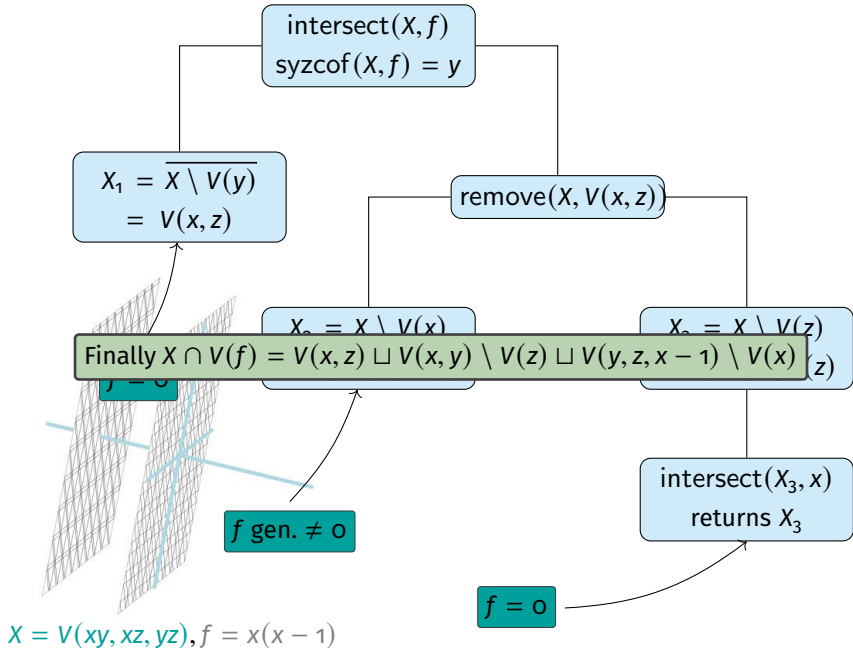
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“Naive” data structure:

- (F, h) modelling $X := V(F) \setminus V(h)$ ($F \subset \mathbb{K}[\mathbf{x}]$ finite, $h \in \mathbb{K}[\mathbf{x}]$).
- Gröbner basis of $I := (\langle F \rangle : g^\infty)$ (satisfies $\sqrt{I} = I(X)$).

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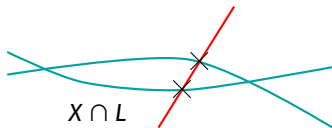


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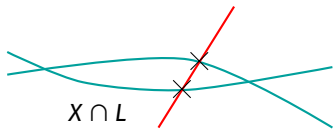
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-



$X \cap V(f)$ *already equidimensional* if
 $f|_X = 0$ or $f \neq 0$ generically on $X \Leftrightarrow$
this happens at randomly selected
points on X

“Naive” data structure:

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-



L general affine subspace of complementary dimension

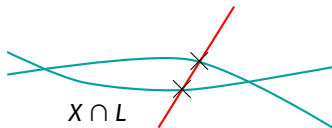
$X \cap V(f)$ already equidimensional if
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$\Rightarrow$ Avoid knowing a GB of I !

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$\Rightarrow$ Avoid knowing a GB of I !

$X \cap L$ called *lifting fiber* or *witness set*

(Lecerf 2003; Sommese, Verschelde, and Wampler 2005)

	nb. comps.	Our Algorithm	●	●	●	●
Cyclic(8)	6	381.20	∞	∞	∞	∞
KdV		∞	352.61	∞	∞	7108.56
Leykin-1	13	2.63	4.38	640.52	∞	1.37
C1	4	128.84	∞	∞	∞	∞
PS(12)	2	51.21	∞	∞	∞	2060.03
Sing(10)	2	0.36	∞	∞	∞	∞
SOS(6,4)	2	4.83	∞	∞	∞	∞
SOS(6,5)	2	13.72	∞	∞	∞	∞
Steiner	2	869.79	∞	∞	∞	∞
sys2161	33	7.54	28.76	∞	∞	7.57
sys2880	50	4.27	144.30	1.80	3.44	4.00

Computed in characteristic 65521 on Intel Xeon Gold 6244.

- Elimination method in Singular, see e.g. (Decker, Greuel, and Pfister 1999).
- Regular Chains library in Maple, see e.g. (Kalkbrener 1993; Lemaire, Maza, and Xie 2005).
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- Prime decomposition in Magma.

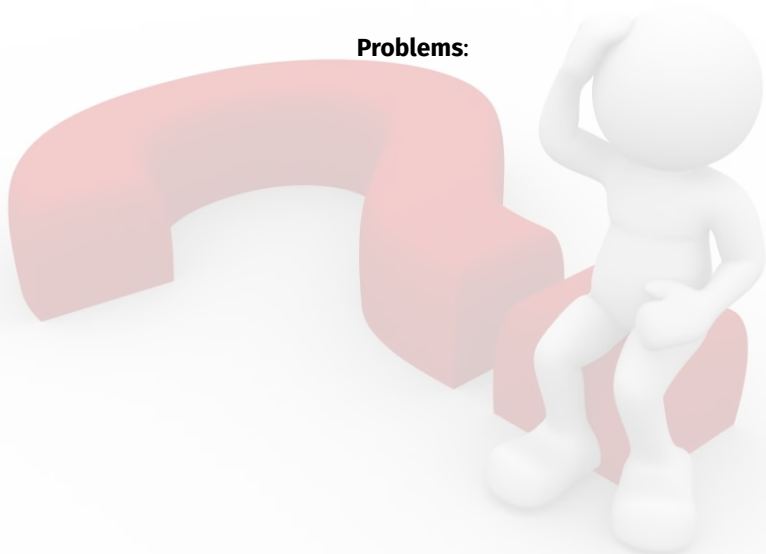
Reference: Eder, Lairez, Mohr, and Safey El Din 2023,
A Direttissimo Algorithm for Equidimensional Decomposition



A Non-Incremental Algorithm

Algorithm 3

Problems:



Problems:

Last algorithm produces *disjoint* decomposition

$$X = \bigsqcup_i Y_i$$

into **locally closed sets**



$$X = \bigcup_i \overline{Y_i}, \text{ but some of the } \overline{Y_i} \text{ superfluous}$$

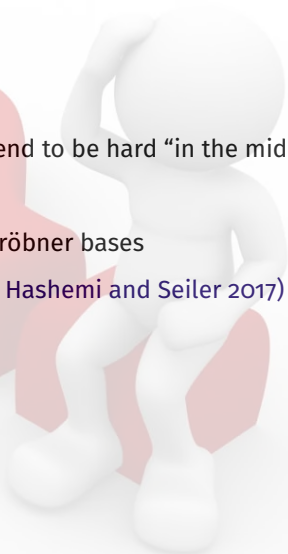
Problems:

Incremental structure $\leadsto$ computations tend to be hard “in the middle”

$\approx$

complexity bounds for Gröbner bases

(Bardet, J.-C. Faugère, and Salvy 2015; Hashemi and Seiler 2017)



Definition

$f_1, \dots, f_c$ regular sequence iff for every i and every g with $gf_i \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_{i-1} \rangle$ we have $g \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_{i-1} \rangle$.

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vs. (W. V. Vasconcelos 1967), if $f_1, \dots, f_c$ homogeneous

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Non-incremental regularity criterion

$$X = V(f_1, \dots, f_c)$$

This time suppose we have function

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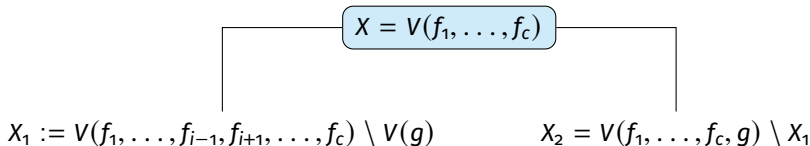
$\leadsto$ done with **signature-based** computations

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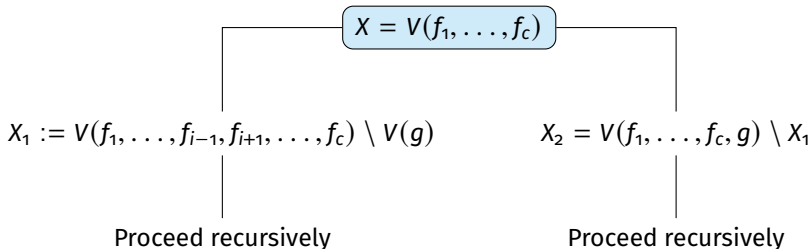
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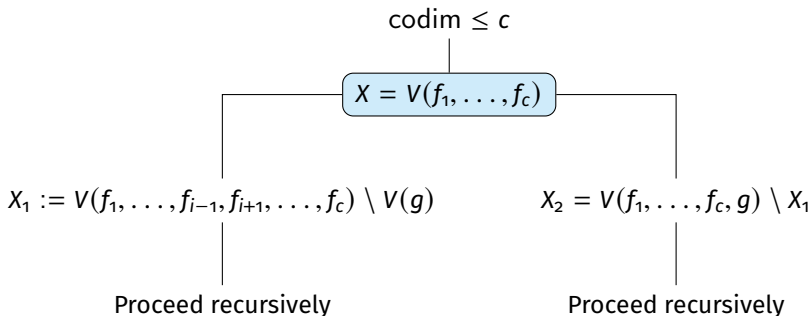
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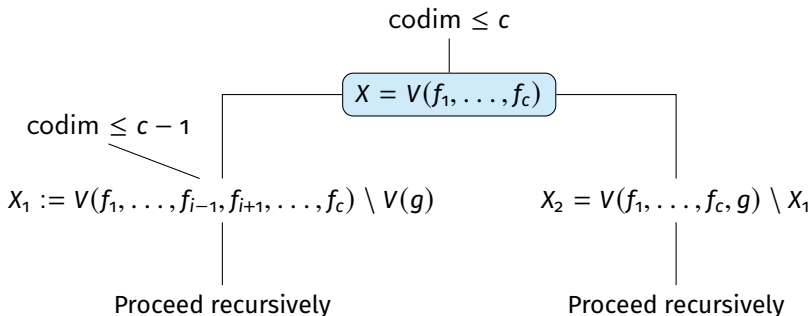
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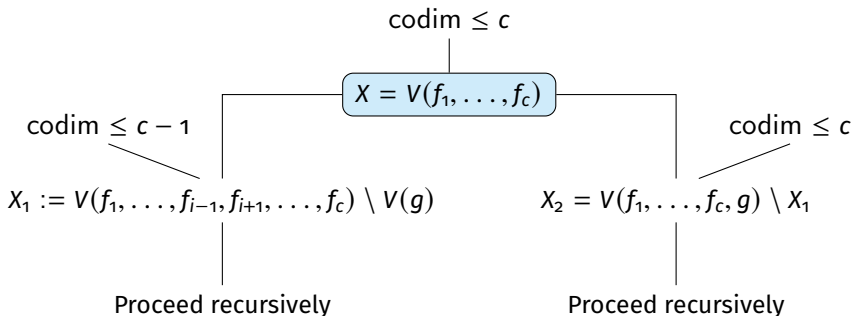
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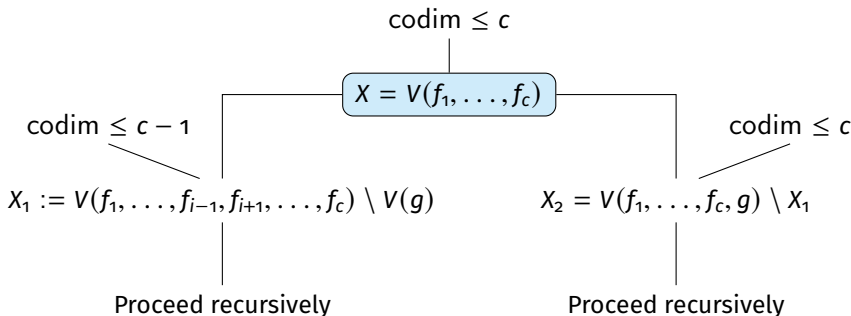
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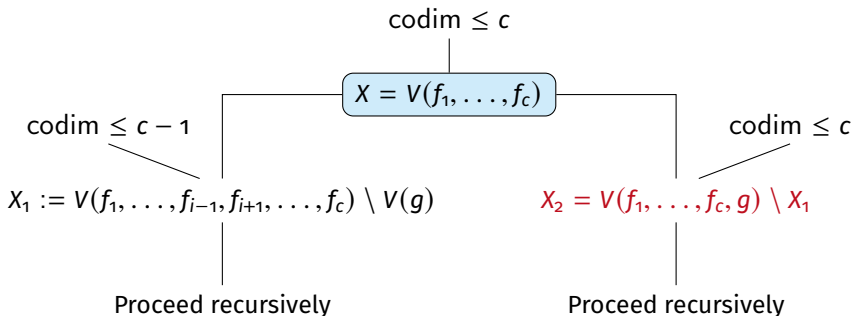


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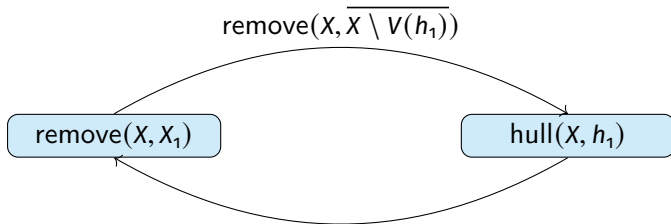
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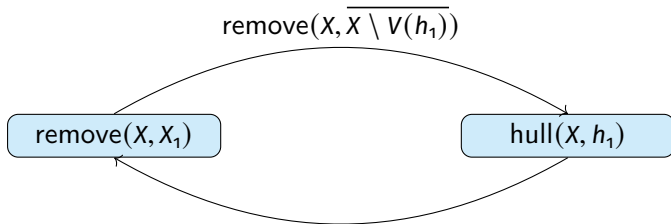


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Output has **no redundancies**

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Cyclic(8)	∞	381.2
PS(14)	248.2	3128.3
PS(16)	13666.2	∞
SOS(7,5)	112.2	∞
Steiner	404.9	870.0
sys2161	26.2	7.54
ED(3,4)	30.7	294.1
ED(3,5)	828.1	∞

Computed in characteristic 65521 on Intel Xeon Gold 6244.
Reference: Preprint to come!

Other strategy: (BERTHOMIEU, MOHR 2024), Computing Generic Fibers of Polynomial Ideals using FGLM and Hensel Lifting



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Thank you!

