

# Monomial Orderings

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## CLO 2.2 Monomial Orderings

Let  $M$  be a set of monomials in  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , i.e.,

$$M = \{ X^\alpha = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n} : \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n \}$$

$\alpha$  is called an exponent vector.

Def An order relation  $<$  on  $M$  is a total ordering if

$$\forall X^\alpha, X^\beta, X^\gamma \in M$$

$$(1) \text{ Either } X^\alpha < X^\beta \text{ or } X^\alpha > X^\beta \text{ or } X^\alpha = X^\beta$$

$$(2) X^\alpha > X^\beta \text{ and } X^\beta > X^\gamma \Rightarrow X^\alpha > X^\gamma$$

Suppose  $f = 2x^\alpha + 3x^\beta + 4x^\gamma$  where  $\alpha > \beta > \gamma$ .

$$\text{Def. } LT(f) = 2x^\alpha, LC(f) = 2, LM(f) = x^\alpha$$

We'll define monomial orderings on  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$  rather than  $X^\alpha$ .

Def 1. A monomial ordering on  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a relation  $>$  on  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$  s.t.

$$(i) > \text{ is a total ordering } \Rightarrow LM(f) \text{ is unique}$$

$$(ii) \forall \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n \quad \alpha > \beta \Rightarrow \gamma + \alpha > \gamma + \beta \Rightarrow LM(fg) = LM(f) \cdot LM(g)$$

$$(iii) \text{ Every non-empty subset } S \subset \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n \text{ has a least element under } >. \Rightarrow (\div \text{ alg. terminates}).$$

(a well ordering)

Ex. In  $k[x]$  there is only one monomial ordering, namely

$$\dots x^4 > x^3 > x^2 > x^1 > 1.$$

Notice  $1 > x > x^2 > x^3 > \dots$  satisfies (i), (ii) but not (iii).

In  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with  $n \geq 2$  there are an infinite # of monomial orderings. Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  be  $n$  distinct primes.

$$\text{Define } X^\alpha > X^\beta \iff \prod p_i^{\alpha_i} > \prod p_i^{\beta_i}$$

$$\text{Notice } 1 = x^0 \dots x^0 \dots x^0 \rightarrow 1.$$



Graded lex. order Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$  with  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

Def.  $\deg(\alpha) = \sum \alpha_i = \deg(x^\alpha)$ .

Then  $\alpha >_{\text{grlex}} \beta$  if  $\deg(\alpha) > \deg(\beta)$  or  $\deg(\alpha) = \deg(\beta)$  and  $\alpha >_{\text{lex}} \beta$ .

E.g.  $xz^4 >_{\text{grlex}} xy^2z$   
 $\alpha = [1, 0, 4]$        $\beta = [1, 2, 1]$   
 $\deg(\alpha) = 5$        $\deg(\beta) = 4$

Prop 4. Lex. order is a monomial ordering.

Proof (iii) TAC suppose  $>_{\text{lex}}$  is NOT a well ordering.

Then by Lemma 2 there is an infinite strictly decreasing sequence in  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$  i.e.

$$\alpha^{(1)} > \alpha^{(2)} > \alpha^{(3)} > \dots$$

$$S = [\alpha_1^{(1)}, \alpha_2^{(1)}, \dots, \alpha_n^{(1)}] > [\alpha_1^{(2)}, \alpha_2^{(2)}, \dots, \alpha_n^{(2)}] > \dots$$

In  $>_{\text{lex}}$   $\alpha_1^{(1)} \geq \alpha_1^{(2)} \geq \alpha_1^{(3)} \geq \dots$  where  $\alpha_1^{(i)} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ .

But  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  is a well ordering  $\Rightarrow$  this sequence must "stabilize" (stops decreasing), i.e.,  $\exists k \geq 1$  s.t.

$$\alpha_1^{(k)} = \alpha_1^{(k+1)} = \alpha_1^{(k+2)} = \dots$$

Now consider  $S$  starting at  $k$  i.e.

$$\alpha^{(k)} > \alpha^{(k+1)} > \alpha^{(k+2)} > \dots$$

$$[\alpha_1^{(k)}, \alpha_2^{(k)}, \dots, \alpha_n^{(k)}] > [\alpha_1^{(k+1)}, \alpha_2^{(k+1)}, \dots, \alpha_n^{(k+1)}] > [\alpha_1^{(k+2)}, \alpha_2^{(k+2)}, \dots, \alpha_n^{(k+2)}]$$

In lex  $\alpha_2^{(k)} \geq \alpha_2^{(k+1)} \geq \alpha_2^{(k+2)} \geq \dots$

$\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  is a well ordering hence this sequence must stabilize, at index  $l \geq k$ . I.e.

$$\alpha_2^{(l)} = \alpha_2^{(l+1)} = \alpha_2^{(l+2)} = \dots$$

Repeating this argument  $n$  times, the sequence  $S$  must stabilize i.e. stop decreasing, a contradiction.

Ex. Let  $>$  be a relation on  $\mathbb{Z}_{>0}^n$  that satisfies props. (i) and (ii) in Def' (monomial ordering).

Show that  $>$  is a well ordering  $\Leftrightarrow$   
the monomial  $[0, 0, \dots, 0] \leq \alpha \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^n$ .