



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR MATHEMATICS
IN THE SCIENCES

Hilbert functions of chopped ideals

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Motivation: Symmetric tensor decomposition

Task: Given $F \in T = \mathbb{C}[X_0, \dots, X_n]$ of degree D , calculate decomposition

$$F = L_1^D + \dots + L_r^D, \quad L_i \in T_1, \quad r = \text{rk}(F) \text{ minimal}$$

▷ If $r < \binom{\lfloor D/2 \rfloor + n}{n}$, then **generically unique**

$$[F] \dashrightarrow Z = \{[L_1], \dots, [L_r]\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}(T_1)$$

▷ $S := \mathbb{C}[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ acts on T via differentiation (*Catalecticant map*)

$$C_F(d, D-d): S_d \rightarrow T_{D-d}, \quad g \mapsto g(\partial_0, \dots, \partial_n)F$$

▷ $I(Z)_d \subseteq \text{Ker } C_F(d, D-d)$ with equality for $d \leq \lfloor D/2 \rfloor$ and F general

↪ Obtain low degree equations – **do these suffice to recover Z ?**

Key example: $F \in \mathbb{C}[X_0, X_1, X_2]_{10}$ of rank 18, obtain equations of degree ≤ 5

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} I_5 = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} S_5 - 18 = 3$$

Motivation: Eigenvalue methods for polynomial system solving

Task: Given 0-dim'l system $J \subseteq S$, compute $Z = \{z_1, \dots, z_r\} = V(J) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$

- ▷ Our situation: $J = \langle I(Z)_d \rangle$, a **chopped ideal** of r general points
- ▷ For d large enough, $h_{S/J}(d) := \dim_{\mathbb{C}}(S/J)_d = r$ and $J_d = I(Z)_d$
- ▷ **Multiplication map:** $g \in S_e$, $M_g: (S/J)_d \xrightarrow{\cdot g} (S/I)_{d+e}$
- ▷ Under “suitable conditions” $M_h^{-1}M_g: (S/J)_d \rightarrow (S/J)_d$ has left eigenpairs

$$\left\{ \left(\text{ev}_{z_i}, \frac{g}{h}(z_i) \right) \mid i = 1, \dots, r \right\}, \quad \text{ev}_{z_i}(f) = f(z_i)/h(z_i)$$

↪ Translate problem into large eigenvalue problem, solve numerically

- ▷ For this need $h_{S/J}(d+e) = h_{S/J}(d) = r$, want $d, d+e$ **as small as possible**

Goal

Study Hilbert functions of chopped ideals of general sets of points!

Key example: 18 points in the plane

$Z = \{z_1, \dots, z_{18}\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^2$ general, $I := I(Z) \subseteq S$, $\langle I_5 \rangle \subsetneq I$

d	...	3	4	5	6	7
$h_I(d)$	...	0	0	3	10	18
$h_{\langle I_5 \rangle}(d)$	...	0	0	3	9	18

d	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$h_{S/I}(d)$	1	3	6	10	15	18	18	18
$h_{S/\langle I_5 \rangle}(d)$	1	3	6	10	15	18	19	18

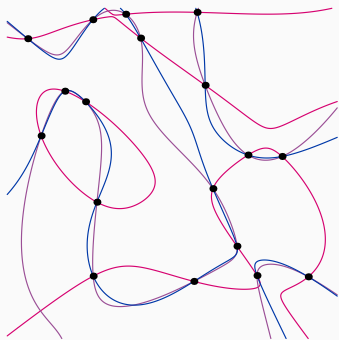


Figure 1: Three quintics $\langle q_1, q_2, q_3 \rangle_{\mathbb{C}} = I_5$ passing through 18 general points (left) and the missing split sextic $cc' \in I_6$ (right).



Chopped ideals and their saturation

- ▶ For a homogeneous ideal $I \subseteq S$ let $I_{\langle d \rangle} := \langle I_d \rangle$ be its **chopped ideal** in degree d
- ▶ Usually consider **chop degree** $d = \min \{ d \mid I_d \neq 0 \}$
- ▶ Generally $I_{\langle d \rangle} \subsetneq I$, but maybe

$$I \stackrel{?}{=} (I_{\langle d \rangle})^{\text{sat}} := \bigcup_{k \geq 0} (I_{\langle d \rangle} : \mathfrak{m}^k) \iff \underbrace{V(I)}_{\text{schemes}} \stackrel{?}{=} V(I_{\langle d \rangle}) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$$

Theorem

Let $Z \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ be a general set of r points and let d be the chop degree of $I = I(Z)$.

1. If $r > \binom{n+d}{n} - n$, then $V(I_{\langle d \rangle})$ is a positive-dimensional complete intersection.
2. If $r = \binom{n+d}{n} - n$, then $V(I_{\langle d \rangle})$ is a complete intersection of d^n points.
3. If $r < \binom{n+d}{n} - n$, then $I_{\langle d \rangle}$ cuts out Z scheme-theoretically.

In particular, $I = (I_{\langle d \rangle})^{\text{sat}}$ if and only if $r < \binom{n+d}{n} - n$ or $r = 1$ or $(n, r) = (2, 4)$.

The expected Hilbert function of chopped ideals

From now on: Z general set of $\binom{d-1+n}{n} < r < \binom{d+n}{n} - n$ points, $I = I(Z)$

- ▶ For general points, $h_{S/I(Z)}(d) = \min\{h_S(d), r\}$, where $h_S(d) = \binom{d+n}{n}$ for $d \geq 0$
- ▶ Graded components of $I_{\langle d \rangle}$ are images of multiplication map

$$\mu_e: S_e \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} I_d \rightarrow I_{d+e}, \quad g \otimes f \mapsto g \cdot f$$

- ▶ Kernel contains Koszul syzygies $f_i \otimes f_j - f_j \otimes f_i$
- ▶ **Expectation:** These are the only syzygies, and they have only Koszul syzygies, and ...

Expected syzygy conjecture (ESC)

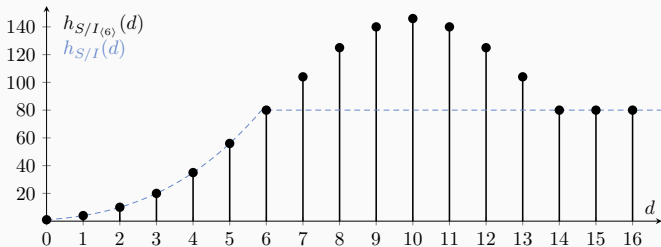
For $j \geq d$ one has

$$h_{S/I_{\langle d \rangle}}(j) = \max \left\{ \sum_{k \geq 0} (-1)^k \cdot h_S(j - kd) \cdot \binom{h_S(d) - r}{k}, r \right\}.$$

This is always a lower bound due to Fröberg.

Unraveling the conjecture

- ▷ $j = d + 1$: Predict the number of minimal generators of I in degree I_{d+1}
- ↪ **Ideal generation conjecture (IGC)**: μ_1 is injective or surjective
- ▷ For \mathbb{P}^2 the **(ESC)** says $h_{I_{\langle d \rangle}}(j) = \min\{h_I(d) \cdot h_S(j - d), h_I(j)\}$, i.e.
“ μ_e is injective until it is surjective – always maximal rank”
- ▷ This is no longer true in higher dimension – more terms are required.
- ▷ **Example**: 80 points in \mathbb{P}^3 : $h_{S/I_{\langle 6 \rangle}}(j) = \max\{h_S(j) - 4h_S(j - 6) + 6h_S(j - 12), 80\}$



Theorem

Conjecture (ESC) is true in the following cases:

- ▷ $r_{\max} := h_S(d) - (n + 1)$ for all d in all dimensions n .
- ▷ In the plane for $r_{\min} = \frac{1}{2}(d + 1)^2$ when d is odd.
- ▷ $r \leq \frac{1}{n}((n + 1)h_S(d) - h_S(d + 1))$ and [$n \leq 4$ or generally whenever (IGC) holds].
- ▷ In a large number of individual cases in low dimension (next slide).

The length of the *saturation gap* is bounded above by

$$\min \{ e > 0 \mid (I_{\langle d \rangle})_{d+e} = I_{d+e} \} \leq (n - 1)d - (n + 1).$$

Whenever $I_{\langle d \rangle}$ is non-saturated, one has $\operatorname{reg}_{\text{CM}} S/I_{\langle d \rangle} = \operatorname{reg}_{\text{H}} S/I_{\langle d \rangle} - 1 = d + e - 1$.

Verification using computer algebra

- ▷ Testing the conjecture for particular values of (n, r) :
 - Sample r random points from $\mathbb{P}^n(\mathbb{Q})$
 - Calculate $h_{S/I(Z)_{\langle d \rangle}}$ using a computer algebra system
 - If the sample satisfies (ESC), then the conjecture is true for general such Z

Theorem

The map $Z \mapsto h_{S/I(Z)_{\langle d \rangle}}(j)$ is upper semicontinuous on the set $U \subseteq (\mathbb{P}^n)^r$ of points with generic Hilbert function.

- ▷ To speed up computation, perform calculations over a finite field \mathbb{F}_p
- ▷ Using Macaulay2 we verified the conjecture in the following cases

n	r	d
2	≤ 1203	≤ 47
3	≤ 642	≤ 13
4	≤ 289	≤ 6

Visualization of the saturation gaps

- ▷ ESC predicts exactly how large the difference between I and $I_{\langle d \rangle}$ is

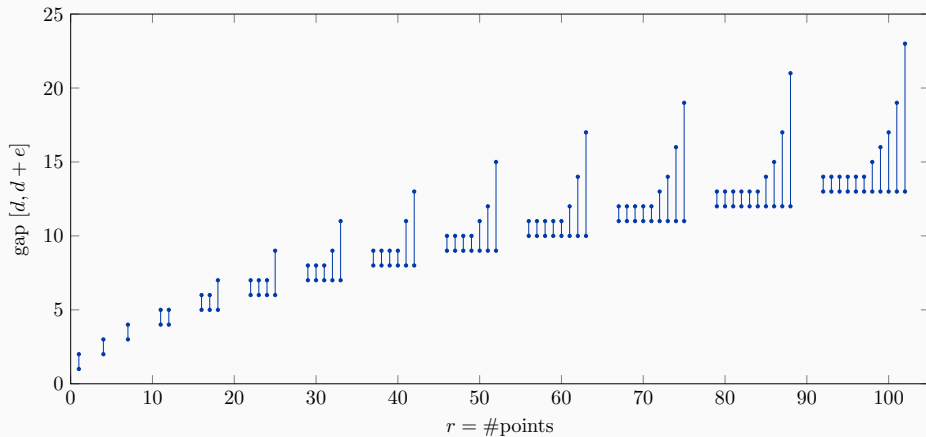








Figure 3: The saturation gaps for all values of $r \leq 102$ in \mathbb{P}^2 .

- ▷ Characteristic $p > 0$? \rightsquigarrow Yes (mostly).
- ▷ Proving the conjecture in \mathbb{P}^2 ?
- ▷ Improve code to verify more cases
- ▷ Generalizations multi-graded setting, e.g. points in $\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m$
- ▷ State a conjecture for the minimal free resolution of $I(Z)_{\langle d \rangle}$

Thank you! Questions?

Preprint soon™

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