PCMI USS 2008

- \* 1. Let  $I \subseteq k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  be a monomial ideal generated by a set of monomials M. Show that  $f \in I$  iff each term of f is divisible by some monomial in M.
- \* 2. Calculate the Hilbert function of  $I = (x_1x_3, x_1x_4, x_2x_4)$  by hand using the algorithm presented in Lecture 13.
- \* 3. Order the terms in the following polynomials using lex, deglex, and revlex ordering, in turn. What is the initial term in each case?

(a) 
$$f = x + 3x - x^2 + z^2 - y^3$$
.

(b) 
$$g = x^2yz + xy^6 + 2xy^3 - 4x^2y^3z^2$$
.

- \* 4. Give a simple example of an ideal  $I = (f_1, \ldots, f_s)$  such that  $in_>(I) \neq (in_>(f_1), \ldots, in_>(f_s))$ .
- \* 5. Macaulay's theorem. Let  $S = k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  with monomial ordering >, and let  $I \subseteq S$  be an ideal. Let B be the set of monomials of S that are not in  $in_>(I)$ . Prove that B is a k-vector space basis for S/I.

Hints:

- (a) To show linear independence, let  $f = \sum \alpha_i x^{a_i} \in S$  with  $\alpha_i \neq 0$  and  $x^{a_i} \in B$ . Suppose that  $f = 0 \in S/I$ , i.e.,  $f \in I$ . Now think about the initial term of f.
- (b) To show B spans, suppose it does not. Among all elements of S/I not in the span of B, choose one, f, with a smallest initial term. There are two cases to consider depending on whether  $in_>(f) \in in_>(I)$ . In either case, argue there is an element of S/I not in the span of B but with an even smaller initial term.
- 6. With  $I \subset S$  as in the previous problem, Macaulay's theorem says that S/I and  $S/in_>(I)$  are isomophic as k-vector spaces but not necessarily as rings. Now let S = k[x, y] with deglex monomial ordering, and let  $I = (y x^2)$ .
  - (a) Use Macaulay's theorem to exhibit k-bases of S/I and of  $S/in_>(I)$  consisting of the same set of monomials.
  - (b) Show that S/I and  $S/in_>(I)$  are not isomorphic as rings.
- 7. Let  $x^{a_1}$  be a monomial and  $I' = (x^{a_2}, \ldots, x^{a_s})$  be a monomial ideal in  $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ . In Lecture 13, we considered the mapping which is multiplication by  $x^{a_1}$ :

$$S \xrightarrow{\cdot x^{a_1}} S/I'.$$

Show that

$$\ker(\cdot x^{a_1}) = \left(\frac{x^{a_2}}{\gcd(x^{a_1}, x^{a_2})}, \dots, \frac{x^{a_s}}{\gcd(x^{a_1}, x^{a_s})}\right)$$

where  $gcd(x^a, x^b) = x_1^{\min\{a_1, b_1\}} \cdots x_n^{\min\{a_n, b_n\}}$ .