

# LEFSCHETZ PROPERTIES IN ALGEBRA, GEOMETRY AND COMBINATORICS

## EXERCISES

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**Exercise 1** Prove that in the ring  $R = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  there are  $\binom{d+n-1}{n-1}$  monomials of degree  $d$  for any  $d \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

$$h_{R/I}(c) = \dim R_c - \dim I_c$$

$$R[x, y, z]_6 \ni x^3 y z^2 \leftrightarrow (3, 1, 2)$$

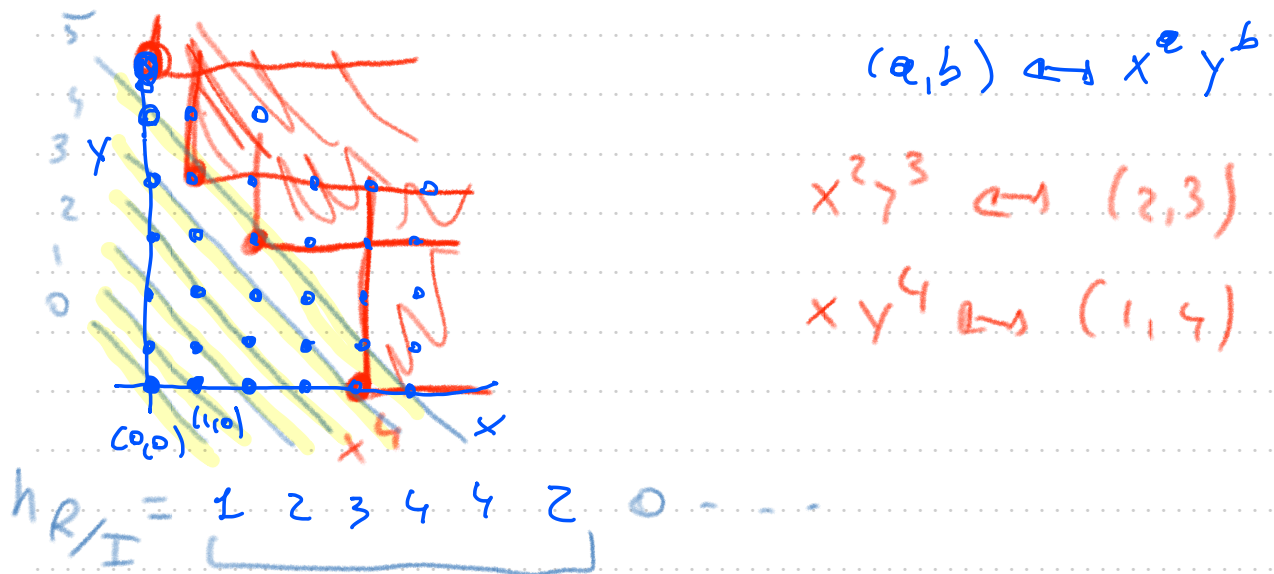
$$\binom{8}{6} = \binom{8}{2}$$

$$\frac{\dots | \cdot | \cdot \dots}{6 \cdot + 2 |} = 8$$

$$h_R(d) = \binom{d+n-1}{n-1}$$

**Exercise 36** Let  $R = k[x, y]$  and let  $I = \langle x^4, x^2y^3, xy^4, y^6 \rangle$ .

- Draw a picture, using the integer points in the first quadrant and shading, to represent the monomials in  $I$ .
- What are the monomials *not* in  $I$ ?
- What is the Hilbert function of  $R/I$ ?
- What is the Hilbert polynomial of  $R/I$ ?



Exercise 37 Is the following an  $O$ -sequence?

(1, 5, 12, 17, 25, 36)

0	1	2	3	4	
1	1	1	1	1	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	6	10	15	21
1	4	10	20	35	
1	5	15			

$$12 = 10 + 2$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$20 \quad 3$$

$$17 = 10 + 6 + 1$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$15 \quad 10 \quad 1 = 26$$

$$25 = 15 + 10$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$21 + 15 = 36$$

$$R[x_1, \dots, x_5] \quad I_{\text{lex}} = x_1^2, x_1 x_2, x_1 x_3, x_1 x_4^2, \dots$$

**Exercise 24** Let  $\phi$  be an automorphism of  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . What this means is that there is some invertible  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  such that for  $P = [p_1, p_2, p_3]$ ,

$$\phi(P) = A \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $P, Q, R$  be three points in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . Show that if  $P, Q, R$  are collinear then  $\phi(P), \phi(Q), \phi(R)$  are collinear. Is the converse true?

$$ax + by + cz = 0$$

$$(a, b, c) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(a, b, c) \begin{pmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\underbrace{(a, b, c)}_{1 \times 3} \cdot \underbrace{A^{-1}}_{3 \times 3} \cdot \underbrace{A}_{3 \times 3} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$1 \times 3$

$$A \begin{pmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix} = \phi(P)$$

$$(a', b', c') \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$



**Exercise 49** An important tool for studying Lefschetz properties for *monomial* algebras is the fact that  $R/I$  has the WLP (or SLP) if and only if the linear form given by the sum of the variables is a Lefschetz element.

$R/I$  has WLP

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_n x_n \quad a_i \in R, \quad a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \neq 0$$

I

$$x_1 \mapsto \frac{x_1}{a_1}$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n$$

$$x_2 \mapsto \frac{x_2}{a_2}$$

...

$$x_n \mapsto \frac{x_n}{a_n}$$

$$x_1^{e_1} \dots x_n^{e_n} \mapsto \frac{x_1^{e_1}}{a_1^{e_1}} \dots \frac{x_n^{e_n}}{a_n^{e_n}} \quad \square$$

$K[x, y, z]$

$$ax + by + cz$$

- $a \neq 0$
- $b \neq 0$
- $c \neq 0$

$$ax + by = 0$$

$$ax + cz = 0$$

$$by + cz = 0$$

**Exercise 26** A beautiful fact about projective space is the notion of **duality**. Let's limit ourselves to the real projective plane  $\mathbb{P}^2 = \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}}^2$

Recall that a line  $\ell$  in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  is the vanishing locus of a homogeneous linear polynomial, i.e.  $\ell = \mathbb{V}(ax + by + cz)$  for some choice of  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$  not all zero.

- (a) Show that  $ax + by + cz = 0$  defines the same line as  $3x + 4y + 5z = 0$  if and only if there exists some  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a = 3t$ ,  $b = 4t$  and  $c = 5t$ . (Of course 3, 4, 5 is just an example.) [Hint:  $\Leftarrow$  is almost immediate. For  $\Rightarrow$ , you can use the fact that in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ , either two lines meet at a single point or they are the same line. It may help to take the linear algebra point of view.]
- (b) Based on (a), show that the **set** of lines in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  itself can be viewed as a projective plane, which we will denote by  $(\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 ax + by + cz & \leftrightarrow & (a, b, c) \in \mathbb{P}^2 \\
 \mathbb{P}^2 = (\mathbb{P}^2)^{\vee\vee} & & (\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee \\
 (a, b, c) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & ax + by + cz \\
 & \xleftarrow{\quad} & (a, b, c)
 \end{array}$$

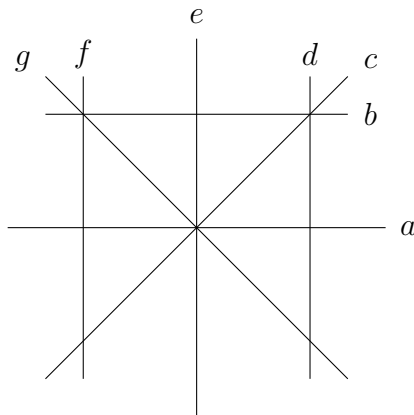
- (c) Let  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  be points of  $(\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee$  and let  $\ell_{P_1}, \ell_{P_2}, \ell_{P_3}$  be the lines in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  that they correspond to. Show that  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  all lie on a line in  $(\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee$  if and only if  $\ell_{P_1}, \ell_{P_2}, \ell_{P_3}$  all pass through a common point.

- (d) Using (c), if you take a **line** in  $(\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee$ , what does the collection of all the points on this line correspond to back in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ ? Explain your answer carefully.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{P}^2 & & (\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee \\
 ex + by = 0 & \longrightarrow & (e, b, 0) \quad z=0 \\
 ex + cz = 0 & \longrightarrow & (e, 0, c) \quad y=0 \\
 by + cz = 0 & \longrightarrow & (0, b, c) \quad x=0
 \end{array}$$

$z=0$

(e) The following is a set of lines in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ , labelled  $a$  to  $g$ .



Sketch the set of points in  $(\mathbb{P}^2)^\vee$  dual to these lines, and label them  $A$  to  $G$  **corresponding to the similarly named lines**. Make sure that your sketch reflects when three or more of the points are on a line. [Hint: in addition to the obvious places where three or more lines meet, the three vertical lines meet at infinity!! Part (c) is crucial in this problem.]

**Exercise 50** Let  $I = \langle x^2, y^2, z^2 \rangle \subset R = k[x, y, z]$ .

$R/I$

(a) Prove that the Hilbert function of  $R/I$  is  $(1, 3, 3, 1)$  (writing only the non-zero values).

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & \\
 1 & x & xy & \boxed{xyz} & 0 & \\
 & y & yz & & & \\
 & z & z^2 & & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$[R/I]_1 \quad [R/I]_2$$

(b) Let  $L = x + y + z$ . Show that  $\times L$  is injective from degree 0 to degree 1 and surjective from degree 2 to degree 3.

$$1 \xrightarrow{\times L} x + y + z \in R_1$$

$$xy \xrightarrow{\times L} \cancel{x^2y} + \cancel{xy^2} + \boxed{xyz}$$

(c) Show that  $\times L$  is bijective from degree 1 to degree 2 if and only if  $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$ . Combining (b) and (c), conclude that  $R/I$  has the WLP if and only if  $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$ .

$$x \mapsto \cancel{x^2} + xy + xz$$

$$y \mapsto xy + \cancel{y^2} + yz$$

$$z \mapsto xz + yz + \cancel{z^2}$$

$$\times L: (R/I)_1 \rightarrow (R/I)_2$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = -1 - 1 = -2 \neq 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{if } \text{ch}(K) \neq 2 \\ \text{if } \text{ch}(K) = 2 \end{array}$$

(d) If  $\text{char}(k) = 2$ , find an element in  $[R/I]_1$  which is in the kernel of  $\times(x+y+z)$  from degree 1 to degree 2.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Exercise 51** [Brenner-Kaid] Let  $R = k[x, y, z]$  and  $I = \langle x^3, y^3, z^3, xyz \rangle$ .

(a) Prove that  $R/I$  is artinian.

0	1	2	3	4
1	3	6	6	3

(b) Find the Hilbert function of  $R/I$ .

0	1	2	3	4	5
1	x	x <sup>2</sup>	x <sup>2</sup> y	x <sup>2</sup> y <sup>2</sup>	
	y	xy	x <sup>2</sup> z	x <sup>2</sup> z <sup>2</sup>	
	z	xz	yz <sup>2</sup>	y <sup>2</sup> z <sup>2</sup>	
		y <sup>2</sup>	xz <sup>2</sup>		
		yz	y <sup>2</sup> z		
		z <sup>2</sup>	yz <sup>2</sup>		

(c) Show that  $R/I$  fails the WLP in any characteristic. (Hint: focus on the multiplication from degree 2 to degree 3. It is a fact, which you can use, that for studying WLP for a monomial ideal, it is enough to consider  $xL$  for  $L = x + y + z$ .)

$$\dim \left[ \frac{R}{I + (L)} \right]_3 = 0$$