

DISCRETE INVARIANTS IN COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRA AND IN  
ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY

20th National School on Algebra

Mangalia, Romania

2 - 8 September 2012

Toric Ideals and Minimal systems of generators

Hara Charalambous

Department of Mathematics University of Thessaloniki, Greece

# Circuits, Universal Grobner bases and Primitive polynomials

Let  $A = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$  and  $I_A$  the corresponding toric ideal in  $K[x_1, \dots, x_m]$ .

- $\deg_A(x_1^{u_1} \cdots x_m^{u_m}) := u_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \cdots + u_m \mathbf{a}_m \in \mathbb{N}A$
- $I_A = \langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}} : \deg_A(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}) = \deg_A(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}}) \rangle$ .

## Theorem

*(Sturmfels) For any toric ideal  $I_A$  the following containments hold:*

$$\text{Circuits}_A \subset \text{UGB}_A \subset \text{Graver}_A$$

## Definition

An irreducible binomial  $B \in I_A$  is called a circuit if there is no binomial  $B' \in I_A$  such that  $\text{supp}(B') \subsetneq \text{supp}(B)$ .

where if

$$B = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}} \text{ then } \text{supp}(B) = \text{supp}(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}) \cup \text{supp}(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}})$$

and

$$\text{supp}(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}) = \{i \mid x_i \text{ divides } \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}\}$$

## Definition

An irreducible binomial  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}^+} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}^-} \in I_A$  is called primitive if there exists no other binomial  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}^+} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}^-} \in I_A$  such that  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}^+}$  divides  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}^+}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}^-}$  divides  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}^-}$ .

## Example

Let  $A = \{1, 2, 4\}$ .

Then  $I_A = \langle x_1^2 - x_2, x_1^4 - x_3, x_2^2 - x_3 \rangle$ .

- $x_1^2 - x_2, x_1^4 - x_3, x_2^2 - x_3$  are circuits.
- $x_1^2 x_2 - x_3$  is primitive, but not a circuit.
- $x_1^2 x_2 - x_3$  is primitive, but not in the Universal Grobner basis of  $I_A$ .

Proof: Let  $x_1^2 x_2 - x_3$  be in the reduced Grobner basis  $G$ .

Fact:  $x_1^2 - x_2 \in I_A$ . Thus there is  $g \in G$  such that  $\text{in}_<(g)$  divides  $\text{in}_<(x_1^2 - x_2)$ .

Case 1:  $\text{in}_<(x_1^2 - x_2) = x_1^2$ . Then  $\text{in}_<(g)$  divides  $x_1^2 x_2$ , a contradiction.

Case 2:  $\text{in}_<(x_1^2 - x_2) = x_2$ . Again we derive a contradiction.

What is a minimal generating set of  $I_A$ ? Is it unique?

## Question

*When is a primitive binomial not in the Universal Grobner basis? When is  $UGB_A = \text{Graver}_A$ ?*

# Pointed semigroups

## Definition

The affine semigroup  $\mathbb{N}A := \{l_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \cdots + l_m\mathbf{a}_m \mid l_i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is pointed if

$$\{x : x \in \mathbb{N}A \text{ and } -x \in \mathbb{N}A\} = \{\mathbf{0}\} .$$

## Example

- $A = \{1, -1\}$ .  $\mathbb{N}A$  is not pointed.
- $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .  $\mathbb{N}A$  is pointed.
- $A \subset \mathbb{N}^n$  then  $\mathbb{N}A$  is pointed.
- The semigroups of toric ideals of graphs are pointed.

# Example where $\mathbb{N}A$ is pointed

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 1, 0), (1, 2, 0), (2, 0, 1), (1, 0, 2), (0, 2, 1), (0, 1, 2)\}$ .

- $I_A = \langle x_1x_6 - x_2x_4, x_1x_6 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle$ .
- $I_A = \langle x_1x_6 - x_2x_4, x_2x_4 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle$ .
- $I_A = \langle x_3x_5 - x_2x_4, x_1x_6 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle$ .

Are there other generating sets of  $I_A$ ? What do these minimal generating sets of  $I_A$  have in common?

The  $A$ -degrees of the binomials are:

$(2, 2, 2)$ ,  $(2, 2, 2)$ ,  $(2, 2, 5)$ ,  $(1, 4, 4)$ ,  $(4, 1, 4)$ ,  $(2, 5, 2)$ ,  $(4, 4, 1)$ ,  $(5, 2, 2)$ ,  $(3, 3, 3)$ .

Example where  $\mathbb{N}A$  is not pointed

## Example

Let  $A = \{1, -1\}$ . In  $k[x_1, x_2]$ ,  $\deg_A(x_1) = 1$ ,  $\deg_A(x_2) = -1$ .

- $I_A = (x_1x_2 - 1)$ .
- **Claim:**  $I_A = (x_1^2x_2^2 - 1, x_1^3x_2^3 - 1)$ .  
Proof  $x_1x_2 - 1 = x_1x_2(x_1^2x_2^2 - 1) - (x_1^3x_2^3 - 1)$ .
- $I_A = (x_1^6x_2^6 - 1, x_1^{10}x_2^{10} - 1, x_1^{15}x_2^{15} - 1)$ .
- Is it true that for every  $n$  there is a minimal generating set of  $I_A$  of cardinality  $n$ ?

# Characteristics of Toric ideals

## Definition

Let  $\mu(I_A)$  be the least cardinality of a minimal system of binomial generators of  $I_A$ .

## Definition

Let  $\nu(I_A)$  be the number of different minimal systems of binomial generators of  $I_A$  of least cardinality, where for counting  $B$  is the same as  $-B$ .

## Question

Are these numbers:  $\mu(I_A)$  and  $\nu(I_A)$  computable? Are they finite?



# Motivation

A recent problem, arising from Algebraic Statistics asks what conditions are needed for  $\nu(I_A) = 1$ .

To study this problem Ohsugi and Hibi introduced the notion of indispensable binomials while Aoki, Takemura and Yoshida introduced the notion of indispensable monomials.

# Minimal and Indispensable binomials

## Definition

A binomial  $B = \mathbf{x}^u - \mathbf{x}^v \in I_A$  is indispensable binomial if every system of binomial generators of  $I_A$  contains  $B$  or  $-B$ .

## Definition

A monomial  $\mathbf{x}^u$  is indispensable monomial if every system of binomial generators of  $I_A$  contains a binomial  $B$  such that the  $\mathbf{x}^u$  is a monomial of  $B$ .

# Markov binomials

## Definition

A binomial  $B = \mathbf{x}^u - \mathbf{x}^v \in I_A$  is a minimal binomial if there exists a minimal system of binomial generators of  $I_A$  which contains  $B$ .

A binomial  $B \in I_A$  is Markov if there exists a minimal system of binomial generators of  $I_A$  of least cardinality which contains  $B$ .

The Universal Markov Basis of  $I_A$  is the union of all minimal generating sets of  $I_A$  of least cardinality.

Is the Markov basis of  $I_A$  finite? What is the relation of the Markov basis with the Universal Grobner basis?

# Example (Pointed case)

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 1, 0), (1, 2, 0), (2, 0, 1), (1, 0, 2), (0, 2, 1), (0, 1, 2)\}$ .

- $I_A = \langle x_1x_6 - x_2x_4, x_1x_6 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle$ .
- $I_A = \langle x_1x_6 - x_2x_4, x_2x_4 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle$ .
- $I_A = \langle x_3x_5 - x_2x_4, x_1x_6 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle$ .

The last 7 generators are common in all generating sets. Are they indispensable? Which of the monomial terms of the binomials that appear in these generating sets are indispensable?

# Example (non-Pointed case)

## Example

Let  $A = \{1, -1\}$ .

- $I_A = (x_1x_2 - 1)$ .
- $I_A = (x_1^2x_2^2 - 1, x_1^3x_2^3 - 1)$ .

$x_1x_2 - 1$  is Markov. There are no indispensable binomials.  $x_1^0x_2^0 = 1$  is the only indispensable monomial. What about the degrees of the elements in minimal generating sets of  $I_A$ ?

# Betti $A$ -degrees

An  $A$ -degree  $\mathbf{b}$  is called *Betti  $A$ -degree* if there exists a minimal binomial generator  $B$  of  $I_A$  with  $\deg_A(B) = \mathbf{b}$ .

The number of times that a Betti  $A$ -degree  $\mathbf{b}$  appears as an  $A$ -degree of a binomial in a given minimal generating set is called *Betti number*.

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathbb{N}A$  be pointed. The Betti  $A$ -degrees of  $I_A$  and their corresponding Betti numbers are independent of the choice of a minimal generating set of  $I_A$ , (graded Nakayama Lemma).*

When  $\mathbb{N}A$  is pointed the notions of minimal and Markov are the same.

# Example

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 1, 0), (1, 2, 0), (2, 0, 1), (1, 0, 2), (0, 2, 1), (0, 1, 2)\}$ .

$$I_A = \langle x_1x_6 - x_2x_4, x_1x_6 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2 \rangle.$$

The Betti  $A$ -degrees are:

$$(2, 2, 2), (2, 2, 5), (1, 4, 4), (4, 1, 4), (2, 5, 2), (4, 4, 1), (5, 2, 2), (3, 3, 3).$$

The Betti number for  $(2, 2, 2)$  is 2 while the other  $A$ -graded Betti numbers are 1.

# Questions on generating Toric ideals

- How is  $I_A$  generated?
- What are the Betti degrees of  $I_A$ ?
- What are the Betti numbers of  $I_A$ ?
- How do we find minimal binomials for  $I_A$ ?
- How do we find the Markov binomials of  $I_A$ ?
- Why are there indispensable binomials of  $I_A$ ?
- What are the values of  $\mu(I_A)$  and of  $\nu(I_A)$ ?



# Order in $\mathbb{N}A$

## Definition

When  $\mathbb{N}A$  is pointed we can partially order it with the relation

$$\mathbf{c} \geq \mathbf{d} \iff \text{there is } \mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}A \text{ such that } \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{d} + \mathbf{e}.$$

## Example

When  $\mathbb{N}A$  is not pointed the above relation is not an order.

Consider  $A = \{-1, 1\}$ . Then  $1 = 0 + 1$  and  $0 = 1 + (-1)$ . So we would get to situations where  $1 > 0$  and  $0 > 1$ .

Fibers of  $\mathbb{N}A$ 

## Definition

Let  $b \in \mathbb{N}A$ . The fiber at  $b$  is the following set of monomials:

$$\deg_A^{-1}(\mathbf{b}) = \{\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} \mid \deg_A(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}) = \mathbf{b}\}$$

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 1, 0), (1, 2, 0), (2, 0, 1), (1, 0, 2), (0, 2, 1), (0, 1, 2)\}$ .

$$\deg_A^{-1}(2, 2, 2) = \{x_1x_6, x_2x_4, x_3x_5\}$$

$$\deg_A^{-1}(1, 4, 4) = \{x_2^2x_3, x_1^2x_5\}$$

## Example

Let  $A = \{1, -1\}$ .

$$\deg_A^{-1}(0) = \{1, x_1x_2, x_1^2x_2^2, \dots\}$$

# Cardinality of Fibers

## Remark

*When  $\mathbb{N}A$  is pointed the fiber  $\deg_A^{-1}(\mathbf{b})$  is finite for every  $b \in \mathbb{N}A$  .*

When  $\mathbb{N}A$  is not pointed then there is a  $b \in \mathbb{N}A$  such that the fiber  $\deg_A^{-1}(\mathbf{b})$  is not finite.

Subideals of  $I_A$  in degrees less than  $b \in \mathbb{N}A$ 

For what follows  $\mathbb{N}A$  will be pointed.

**Definition**

For any  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{N}A$  we let

$$I_{A,\mathbf{b}} = (\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}} \mid \deg_A(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}) = \deg_A(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}}) \not\leq \mathbf{b}) \subset I_A.$$

## Example

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 2, 2, 0, 0), (2, -2, -2, 0, 0), (2, 2, -2, 0, 0), (2, -2, 2, 0, 0), (3, 0, 0, 3, 3), (3, 0, 0, -3, -3), (3, 0, 0, 3, -3), (3, 0, 0, -3, 3)\}$ .

$$I_A = (x_1x_2 - x_3x_4, x_5x_6 - x_7x_8, x_1^3x_2^3 - x_5^2x_6^2)$$

The Betti  $A$ -degrees are  $\mathbf{b}_1 = (4, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_2 = (6, 0, 0, 0, 0)$  and  $\mathbf{b}_3 = (12, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ . Note that

$$b_1, b_2 < b_3 .$$

- $I_{A, \mathbf{b}_1} = I_{A, \mathbf{b}_2} = 0$  (why?):  
 $\mathbf{b}_1$  and  $\mathbf{b}_2$  are minimal binomial  $A$ -degrees
- $I_{A, \mathbf{b}_3} = (x_1x_2 - x_3x_4, x_5x_6 - x_7x_8)$ .

# The graph of a $b \in \mathbb{N}A$

## Definition

Let  $G(\mathbf{b})$  be the graph with vertices the elements of the fiber  $\deg_A^{-1}(\mathbf{b})$  and edges all the sets  $\{\mathbf{x}^u, \mathbf{x}^v\}$  whenever  $\mathbf{x}^u - \mathbf{x}^v \in I_{A, \mathbf{b}}$ .

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 2, 2, 0, 0), (2, -2, -2, 0, 0), (2, 2, -2, 0, 0), (2, -2, 2, 0, 0), (3, 0, 0, 3, 3), (3, 0, 0, -3, -3), (3, 0, 0, 3, -3), (3, 0, 0, -3, 3)\}$ .

$$I_A = (x_1x_2 - x_3x_4, x_5x_6 - x_7x_8, x_1^3x_2^3 - x_5^2x_6^2)$$

$\mathbf{b}_1 = (4, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_2 = (6, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_3 = (12, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ , and  $b_1, b_2 < b_3$ .

- $G(\mathbf{b}_1)$  and  $G(\mathbf{b}_2)$  consist of two points each.
- Connected components of  $G(\mathbf{b}_1)$ :  $\{x_1x_2\}$  and  $\{x_3x_4\}$ ,
- Connected components of  $G(\mathbf{b}_2)$ :  $\{x_5x_6\}$  and  $\{x_7x_8\}$

# Example (continued)

## Example

$$I_A = (x_1x_2 - x_3x_4, x_5x_6 - x_7x_8, x_1^3x_2^3 - x_5^2x_6^2)$$

$$\mathbf{b}_3 = \deg_A(x_1^3x_2^3 - x_5^2x_6^2) = (12, 0, 0, 0, 0)$$

It is clear that  $x_1^3x_2^3, x_5^2x_6^2$  belong to two different components of  $G(\mathbf{b}_3)$ .

$$\deg_A^{-1}(\mathbf{b}_3) = \{x_1^3x_2^3, x_1^2x_2^2x_3x_4, x_1x_2x_3^2x_4^2, x_3^3x_4^3, x_5^2x_6^2, x_5x_6x_7x_8, x_7^2x_8^2\}$$

$G(\mathbf{b}_3)$  has two connected components:  $\{x_1^3x_2^3, x_1^2x_2^2x_3x_4, x_1x_2x_3^2x_4^2, x_3^3x_4^3\}$  and  $\{x_5^2x_6^2, x_5x_6x_7x_8, x_7^2x_8^2\}$ . For example

$$x_1^3x_2^3 - x_1^2x_2^2x_3x_4 = x_1^2x_2^2(x_1x_2 - x_3x_4) \in I_{A,(\mathbf{b}_3)}$$

and indeed  $x_1^3x_2^3, x_1^2x_2^2x_3x_4$  are in the same component of  $G(\mathbf{b}_3)$ .

How many components does  $G(\mathbf{b})$  for all other  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{N}^A$ ?

# Remarks on $G(\mathbf{b})$

Suppose that  $G(\mathbf{b})$  has  $n_{\mathbf{b}}$  connected components  $G(\mathbf{b})_i$ , i.e.

$$G(\mathbf{b}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n_{\mathbf{b}}} G(\mathbf{b})_i,$$

and let  $t_i(\mathbf{b})$  be the number of vertices of the  $i$ -component. Every connected component of  $G(\mathbf{b})$  is a complete subgraph. If  $\mathbf{b}$  is not a Betti  $A$ -degree, then  $G(\mathbf{b})$  is connected.

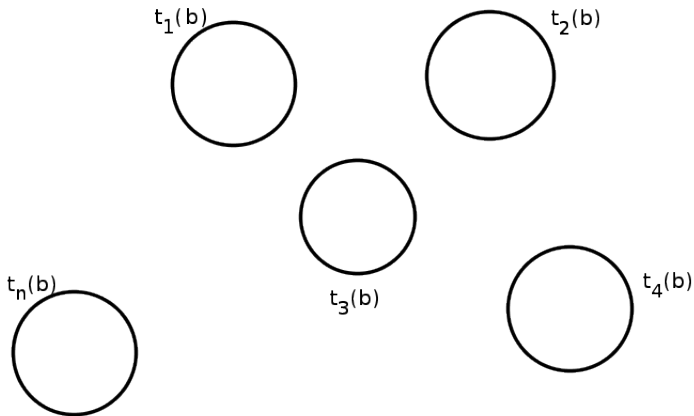
## Theorem

$\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{N}A$  is a minimal binomial  $A$ -degree if and only if every connected component of  $G(\mathbf{b})$  is a singleton.



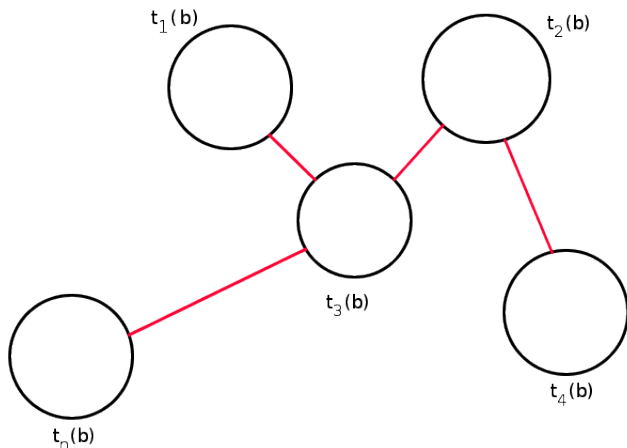
# The graph on the components of $G(\mathbf{b})$

We consider the complete graph with vertices the connected components  $G(\mathbf{b})_i$  of  $G(\mathbf{b})$ ,



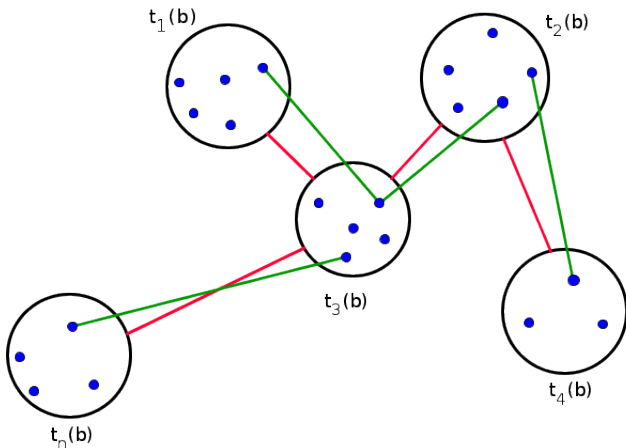
# Spanning trees and generators

Let  $T_b$  be a spanning tree of this graph.



# Spanning trees and generators

For every edge of  $T_b$  joining two components  $G(\mathbf{b})_i, G(\mathbf{b})_j$  of  $G(\mathbf{b})$  we choose a binomial  $\mathbf{x}^u - \mathbf{x}^v$  with  $\mathbf{x}^u \in G(\mathbf{b})_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}^v \in G(\mathbf{b})_j$ .

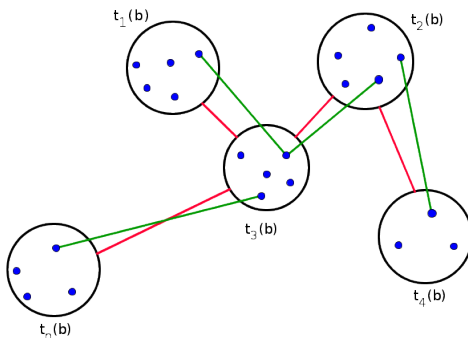


# Markov basis for $I_A$

We call  $\mathcal{F}_{T_{\mathbf{b}}}$  the collection of these binomials. Note that if  $\mathbf{b}$  is not a Betti  $A$ -degree, then  $\mathcal{F}_{T_{\mathbf{b}}} = \emptyset$ .

## Theorem

*The set  $\mathcal{F} = \cup_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{N}^A} \mathcal{F}_{T_{\mathbf{b}}}$  is a minimal generating set of  $I_A$ .*



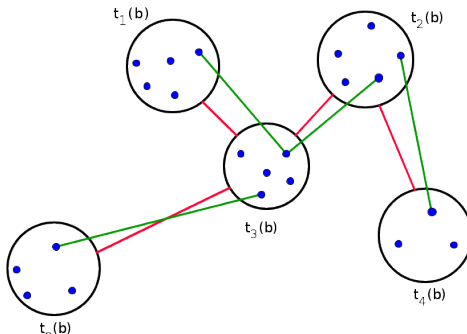
# Cardinality of minimal generating sets of $I_A$

## Theorem

For a toric ideal  $I_A$  we have that

$$\mu(I_A) = \sum_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{NA}} (n_{\mathbf{b}} - 1)$$

where  $n_{\mathbf{b}}$  is the number of connected components of  $G(\mathbf{b})$ .

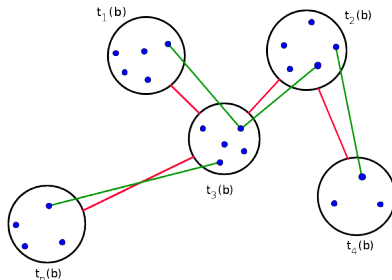


# Number of minimal generating sets of $I_A$

## Theorem

$$\nu(I_A) = \prod_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{NA}} t_1(\mathbf{b}) \cdots t_{n_{\mathbf{b}}}(\mathbf{b}) (t_1(\mathbf{b}) + \cdots + t_{n_{\mathbf{b}}}(\mathbf{b}))^{n_{\mathbf{b}}-2}$$

where  $n_{\mathbf{b}}$  is the number of connected components of  $G(\mathbf{b})$  and  $t_i(\mathbf{b})$  is the number of vertices of the  $G(\mathbf{b})_i$ .



# Indispensable binomials

## Theorem

*Let  $B = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}} \in I_A$  with  $A$ -degree  $\mathbf{b}$ . Then  $B$  is indispensable if and only if the graph  $G(\mathbf{b})$  has only two connected components:  $\{\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}}\}$ .*

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_q$  be the degrees of a minimal generating set of  $I_A$ . The ideal  $I_A$  is generated by indispensable binomials if and only if for  $i = 1, \dots, q$  the connected components of  $G(\mathbf{b}_i)$  are two one element sets.*

If  $I_A$  is generated by indispensable binomials then the degrees of a minimal generating set of  $I_A$  are minimal binomial  $A$ -degrees

# Example

## Example

Let  $A = \{3, 1, 1\}$ .

$$I_A = (x_1 - x_2^3, x_2 - x_3)$$

The Betti  $A$ -degrees are  $\mathbf{b}_1 = 1$  and  $\mathbf{b}_2 = 3$ .

The  $A$ -graded Betti numbers are:  $\beta_{0,1} = 1$  and  $\beta_{0,3} = 1$ .

$G(1)$  consists of 2 vertices and has two connected components.

$G(3)$  has two connected component: the singleton  $\{x_1\}$  and  $\{x_2^3, x_2^2x_3, x_2x_3^2, x_3^3\}$ .

$$\nu(I_A) = 4.$$

## Exercise

Let  $A = \{a_0 = k, a_1 = 1, \dots, a_n = 1\} \subset \mathbb{N}$  be a set of  $n + 1$  natural numbers with  $k > 1$ . Find  $\nu(I_A)$ .



# Generic binomial ideals

Connection to Integer Programming.

## Theorem

(Peeva, Sturmfels) If  $I_A$  is generated by binomials of full support then  $\nu(I_A) = 1$ .

## Example

Let  $A = \{20, 24, 25, 31\}$ .

$$I_A = (x_3^3 - x_1x_2x_4, x_1^4 - x_2x_3x_4, x_4^3 - x_1x_2^2x_3, x_2^4 - x_1^2x_3x_4,$$

$$x_1^3x_3^2 - x_2^2x_4^2, x_1^2x_2^3 - x_3^2x_4^2, x_1^3x_4^2 - x_2^3x_3^2)$$

$$\nu(I_A) = 1$$

# Recognizing indispensable binomials and monomials

- Ohsugi and Hibi proved that a binomial  $B$  is indispensable if and only if either  $B$  or  $-B$  belongs to the reduced Gröbner base of  $I_A$  for all lexicographic term orders.
- Aoki, Takemura and Yoshida have shown that a monomial  $\mathbf{x}^u$  is indispensable if the reduced Gröbner base of  $I_A$ , with respect to any lexicographic term order, contains a binomial that has  $\mathbf{x}^u$  as one of its terms.

There are quite few lexicographic term orders for large  $m$ !

# Indispensable monomials

We let  $\mathcal{M}_A$  be the monomial ideal generated by all  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}$  for which there exists a nonzero  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}} \in I_A$ . Let  $T_A := \{M_1, \dots, M_k\}$  be the unique minimal monomial generating set of  $\mathcal{M}_A$ .

## Theorem

*The indispensable monomials of  $I_A$  are precisely the elements of  $T_A$ .*

## Remark

*To compute  $T_A$  it is enough to find **one** generating set of  $I_A$ .*

# Indispensable binomials and indispensable monomials

## Theorem

A binomial  $B = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}} \in I_A$  is indispensable if and only if  $\deg_A(B)$  is a minimal binomial  $A$ -degree and  $\{\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}}, \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{v}}\}$  is the maximal (with respect to inclusion) subset of  $T_A$  whose elements have degree  $\deg_A(B)$ .

## Algorithm

- Let  $\{B_1 = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{11}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{12}}, \dots, B_s = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{s1}} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{s2}}\}$  a system of binomial generators or a Gröbner base of  $I_A$  with respect to any term order on  $K[x_1, \dots, x_m]$ .
- $\mathcal{M}_A = (\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{11}}, \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{12}}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{s1}}, \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}_{s2}})$
- compute the elements of  $T_A$  and their  $A$ -degrees
- Check how many monomials of  $T_A$  have the same  $A$ -degree.
- Check minimality of degrees whenever you find exactly two such monomials.

# Example

## Example

Let  $A = \{(2, 1, 0), (1, 2, 0), (2, 0, 1), (1, 0, 2), (0, 2, 1), (0, 1, 2)\}$ .

$$I_A = (x_1x_6 - x_2x_4, x_1x_6 - x_3x_5, x_2^2x_3 - x_1^2x_5, x_2x_3^2 - x_1^2x_4, \\ x_1x_5^2 - x_2^2x_6, x_1x_4^2 - x_3^2x_6, x_4^2x_5 - x_3x_6^2, x_1x_4x_5 - x_2x_3x_6, x_4x_5^2 - x_2x_6^2) .$$

$$T_A = \{x_1x_6, x_2x_4, x_3x_5, x_3x_6^2, x_4^2x_5, x_2x_6^2x_4x_5^2, x_3^2x_6, \\ x_1x_4^2, x_2^2x_6, x_1x_5^2, x_1^2x_5, x_2^2x_3, x_1^2x_4, x_2x_3^2, x_2x_3x_6, x_1x_4x_5\} .$$

The  $A$ -degrees of the elements of  $T_A$  are

$(2, 2, 2), (2, 2, 5), (1, 4, 4), (4, 1, 4), (2, 5, 2), (4, 4, 1), (5, 2, 2), (3, 3, 3)$ . All are minimal .

$I_A$  has 7 indispensable binomials.

- H. Charalambous, A. Katsabekis, A. Thoma, “Minimal systems of binomial generators and the indispensable complex of a toric ideal”, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, 135 (2007) 3443-3451.
- H. Charalambous, A. Sinefakopoulos, A. Thoma, “Markov Bases of Binomial ideals”, work in progress
- H. Charalambous, A. Thoma, M. Vladioiu “On the Universal Markov basis and the generalized Lawrence Liftings”, work in progress
- D. Eisenbud, B. Sturmfels, “Binomial Ideals”, Duke Math. J. No 84 (1) (1996) 1-45.
- I. Peeva, B. Sturmfels, “Generic Lattice Ideals”, J. Amer.Math.Soc. No. 11 (1998) 363-373.