

Title	REGULARITY OF POWERS OF SOME IDEALS (Free resolution of defining ideals of projective varieties)
Author(s)	Kamoi, Yuji
Citation	数理解析研究所講究録 (1999), 1078: 185-189
Issue Date	1999-02
URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2433/62656">http://hdl.handle.net/2433/62656</a>
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Type	Departmental Bulletin Paper
Textversion	publisher

## REGULARITY OF POWERS OF SOME IDEALS

YUJI KAMOI

### INTRODUCTION

Let  $A = K[x_1, \dots, x_d]$  be a polynomial ring over a field  $K$  and  $\mathfrak{m} = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$ . We regard  $A$  as a graded object with some positive degree  $\deg(x_i) = w_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$ . Let  $I$  be a graded ideal of  $A$ . In this note, we consider the regularity  $\text{reg}(I^n)$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . For a graded  $A$ -module  $M$ ,  $\text{reg}(M)$  is define to be the following,

$$\text{reg}(M) = \max\{\text{reg}_i(M) \mid i \geq 0\}$$

where  $\text{reg}_i(M) = \max\{a \mid [\text{Tor}_A^i(K, M)]_{a-i} \neq 0\}$ . In other word,  $\text{reg}(M)$  is a maximal degree shifts in a graded minimal  $A$ -free resolution of  $M$ .

In thier paper[1], Cutkosky-Herzog-Trung showed the following theorem.

**Theorem.** *Let  $I$  be a graded ideal of  $A$  and  $i \geq 0$ . Then there exist integrers  $c_i(I)$  and  $d_i(I)$  such that*

$$\text{reg}_i(I^n) = c_i(I)n + d_i(I)$$

*for every sufficiently large  $n$ . Furthermore,  $\text{reg}(I^n)$  is also linear and a leading coefficient coincides with  $c_0(I)$ .*

It is natural to ask the following.

#### Question.

- (1) To describe the function  $\text{reg}(I^n)$ , precisely.
- (2) What is the smallest number  $\text{reg}(I^n)$  to be linear.

We put  $s = \min\{t \mid \text{reg}(I^n) \text{ is linear for all } n \geq t\}$ . It is easy to see that the constant term of  $\text{reg}(I^n)$  is  $\text{reg}(I^s) - c_0(I)s$ . Thus it is enough to decide  $c_0(I)$  for describing  $\text{reg}(I^n)$ .

### 1. ABOUT $c_0(I)$

$c_0(I)$  is closely related to a reduction of  $I$ . We first define the following numbers arising from reduction ideals.

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Date: Dept. of Commerce, Meiji Univ.

**Definition 1.1.** We set

$$rdeg(I) = \min\{\text{reg}_0(J) \mid J \subset I \text{ is a graded reduction ideal}\}.$$

An element  $a \in I$  is said to be reduced modulo  $\mathfrak{m}I$ , if each homogeneous component of  $a$  is nonzero in  $I/\mathfrak{m}I$ . Also, a sequence  $a_1, \dots, a_l \in I$  is called reduced modulo  $\mathfrak{m}I$ , if every  $a_i$  is reduced modulo  $\mathfrak{m}I$ .

Now, we give an answer of Question (1) as follows.

**Proposition 1.2.** Let  $I$  be a graded ideal of  $A$ . Assume that  $I$  has a minimal reduction. Then  $c_0(I) = rdeg(I)$ . More precisely, if  $a_1, \dots, a_l \in I$  is a minimal reduction which is reduced modulo  $\mathfrak{m}I$ , then  $c_0(I) = rdeg(I) = deg(a_1, \dots, a_l)$ , where  $deg(a_1, \dots, a_l) = \max\{deg(a_i) \mid i = 1, \dots, l\}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $a_1, \dots, a_l \in I$  be a minimal reduction of  $I$  and  $c = deg(a_1, \dots, a_l)$ . A reduction property does not depend on the difference of elements of  $\mathfrak{m}I$ . Hence, we may assume that  $a_1, \dots, a_l$  is reduced modulo  $\mathfrak{m}I$ .

Let  $J'$  be a graded ideal generated by all homogeneous components of  $a_1, \dots, a_l$ . (Note that  $J'$  depends on the choice of minimal generators of  $J$ ).

Then  $J'$  becomes a reduction of  $I$ . Indeed, we have the following inclusions for all  $n \gg 0$

$$I^n = JJ^{n-1} \subset J'I^{n-1} \subset I^n.$$

This shows that  $rdeg(I) \leq c$ .

For a graded reduction  $J \subset I$ , if  $I^{n+r} = J^n I^r$  for  $n \geq 0$ , then

$$\text{reg}_0(I^{n+r}) \leq \text{reg}_0(J^n) + \text{reg}_0(I^r) \leq \text{reg}_0(J)n + \text{reg}_0(I^r)$$

for all  $n \leq 0$ . Hence we have

$$c_0(I) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{reg}_0(I^n)}{n} \leq \text{reg}_0(J).$$

This implies that  $c_0(I) \leq rdeg(I)$ .

Finally, we will show that  $c \leq c_0(I)$ . We may assume that  $deg(a_1) = c$  and denote by  $b$  a homogeneous component of  $a_1$  in degree  $c$ . Since  $a_1, \dots, a_l$  is analytically independent,  $b^n$  (a head term of  $a_1^n$ ) is nonzero in  $I^n/\mathfrak{m}I^n$  for all  $n > 0$ . In other words,  $[I^n/\mathfrak{m}I^n]_{cn} \neq 0$ . Thus

$$cn \leq \max\{t \mid [I^n/\mathfrak{m}I^n]_t \neq 0\} = \text{reg}_0(I^n).$$

This shows that  $c \leq c_0(I)$  in the same way as above. Hence we have  $c_0(I) = rdeg(I) = c$ .

At this moment, we don't have enough tool solving Question (2). In the next section, we give a trivial answer for the simple situation.

## 2. REGULARITY FOR D-SEQUENCES

In this section, we prove the following.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $I \subset A$  be a ideal generated by monomial d-sequence. Then  $\text{reg}(I^n) = \text{reg}_0(I)n + (\text{reg}(I) - \text{reg}_0(I))$ .*

Recall that a sequence  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  of elements of  $A$  is a *d-sequence* (cf. [3]), if it generates  $(a_1, \dots, a_r)$  minimally and satisfies the following condition

$$(a_1, \dots, a_i) : a_{i+1}a_j = (a_1, \dots, a_i) : a_j$$

for every  $1 \leq i < j \leq r$ .

By results of [4], we can construct a free resolution of the Rees algebra of  $(a_1, \dots, a_r)$ . Such a resolution contains  $A$ -free resolutions of  $I^n$ . In our case, these  $A$ -free resolutions are reduced to be minimal. Thus we can compute  $\text{reg}(I^n)$  for a monomial d-sequence.

In the following, we give a construction of resolutions.

Let  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  be a d-sequence and  $I = (a_1, \dots, a_r) \subset A$ . We set  $S = A[T_1, \dots, T_r]$  and  $\text{deg}(T_i) = 1$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ . (At this moment, we don't consider the grading on  $A$ . In fact, the following argument is possible for any ring. Thus we regard  $\text{deg}(a) = 0$  for  $a \in A$  in the grading on  $S$ .)

We put  $\mathcal{Z}_i(I, S) = \mathcal{Z}_i(I) \otimes_A S(-i)$  for  $i = 0, \dots, r$  where  $\mathcal{Z}_\bullet(I)$  is a cycle of a Koszul complex of  $I$ . Then the Koszul complex  $K_\bullet(T_1, \dots, T_r; S)$  induces

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_r(I, S) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_2(I, S) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_1(I, S) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_0(I, S) \rightarrow 0$$

,so call  $\mathcal{Z}$ -complex. By [4], if  $I$  is generated by a d-sequence, then  $\mathcal{Z}_\bullet(I, S)$  is acyclic with 0th homology isomorphic to the Rees algebra  $R(I)$ .

Let  $P_\bullet^{(i)}(I)$  be a  $A$ -free resolution of  $\mathcal{Z}_i(I)$  ( $i = 0, \dots, r$ ) and  $P_{i,\bullet}(I, S) = P_\bullet^{(i)}(I) \otimes S(-i)$ . Then the differentials  $\mathcal{Z}_i(I, S) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{i-1}(I, S)$  lifts to a chain map  $\varphi : P_{i,\bullet}(I, S) \rightarrow P_{i-1,\bullet}(I, S)$  and  $P_{i,\bullet}(I, S)$  becomes a  $S$ -double complex.

By the stadard arguments of a spectral sequence and a cyclicity of  $\mathcal{Z}_\bullet(I, S)$ , the associated total complex  $\text{Tot}(P_{i,\bullet}(I, S))$  gives a  $S$ -free resolution of the Rees algebra  $R(I)$ .

In this case,  $\text{Tot}(P_{i,\bullet}(I, S))$  is not only acyclic, but also it has some information about the differential  $\varphi$ . If we put  $I' = (a_1, \dots, a_{r-1})$ , then

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_\bullet(I') \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_\bullet(I) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_\bullet(I')[-1] \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

Now, we consider the monomial case. Assume that  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  is a monomial d-sequence.

For  $F \subset [r]$  and  $1 \leq i \leq r$ , we set

$$a_F^{(i)} = \begin{cases} \text{LCM}(\prod_{j \in G} a_j \mid G \subset F, \#G = i), & (\#F \geq i) \\ 0, & (\#F < i). \end{cases}$$

Then we can choose that  $P_{\bullet}^{(i)}(I) = \bigoplus_{F \in [n], |F| > i} Ae_I^{(i)}$  with a differential  $\partial$

$$\partial(e_F^{(i)}) = \sum_{j \in F} \sigma(j, F) \frac{a_F^{(i)}}{a_{F \setminus \{j\}}^{(i)}} e_{F \setminus \{j\}}^{(i)}.$$

((2.3) in [5]) Furthermore, the lifting  $\varphi : P_{i,\bullet}(I, S) \rightarrow P_{i,\bullet}(I, S)$  is give by

$$d(e_F^{(i)} \otimes 1) = (-1)^{|F|-i} \sum_{j \in F} \sigma(j, F) \frac{a_F^{(i)}}{a_{F \setminus \{j\}}^{(i-1)} a_j} T_j e_{F \setminus \{j\}}^{(i-1)} \otimes 1.$$

Then there is a exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P_{\bullet,\bullet}(I', S) \rightarrow P_{\bullet,\bullet}(I, S) \rightarrow P_{\bullet,\bullet}(I', S)[-1, 0] \rightarrow 0$$

of double complexes. Then, by induction on  $r$ , the following is also exact

$$C = \dots \rightarrow P_{3,\bullet}(I, S) \rightarrow P_{2,\bullet}(I, S) \rightarrow \varphi(P_{2,\bullet}(I, S)) \rightarrow 0.$$

Finally, we have the exact sequence  $Tot(P_{\bullet,\bullet}(I, S)/C \cong P_{1,\bullet}(I, S)/\varphi(P_{2,\bullet}(I, S))$  and this is actually  $A$ -free . After the small Gröbner basis computation, this resolution is wriiten in the following form.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $\Sigma = \{(F, \alpha) \mid F \subset [r], \alpha \in \mathbb{N}, \max(F) \geq \max(\alpha)\}$ . Here we denote  $\max(F)$  is a maximal number in  $F$  and  $\max(\alpha) = \max(\text{supp}(\alpha))$ . Then  $I^n$  has a free resolution  $P_{\bullet}$  of the form*

$$P_i = \bigoplus_{(F, \alpha) \in \Sigma} Ae_F^{(i)} \otimes T^\alpha.$$

Furthermore, if  $a_r$  does not divide  $LCM(a_1, \dots, a_{r-1})$ , then the above  $A$ -free resolution is minimal.

At last, it is easy to compute degrees of  $e_F^{(i)} \otimes T^\alpha$ , and then we have

$$\text{reg}(I^n) = \text{reg}_0(I)n + (\text{reg}(I) - \text{reg}_0(I))$$

for all  $n > 0$ .

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Yuji Kamaoi  
Department of Commerce  
Meiji University  
Eifuku 1-9-1, Suginami-ku  
Tokyo 168-8555, Japan  
03-5300-1264  
03-5300-1203 (FAX)  
kamaoi@isc.meiji.ac.jp