

Real Powers of Monomial Ideals

by Josiah Lim, Ethan Roy and Ethan Partida
on Mar 14, 2021

» What is a monomial?

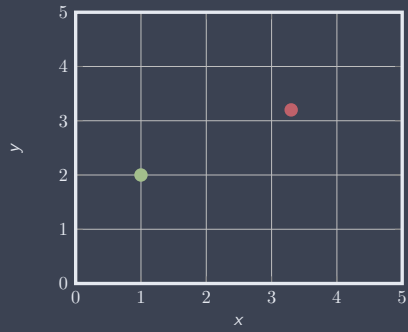
Definition (Monomial)

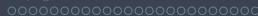
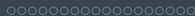
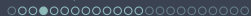
A *monomial* is a product of variables.

» Lattice Points

Definition (Lattice Point)
A point $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a lattice point if it has integer coordinates

Green: Lattice Point, Red: Not a Lattice Point





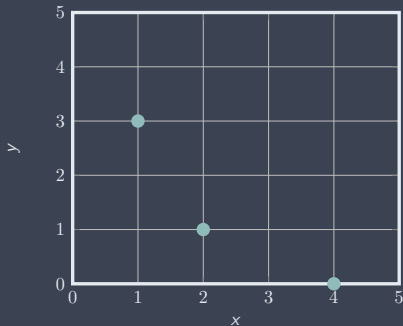
» Monomials \rightarrow Lattice Points

- * Each monomial has a corresponding lattice point.
- * A monomial $x^a y^b$ corresponds to (a, b)

» Generators \rightarrow Lattice Points

- * Monomials ideals may seem complicated, but pictures are not!
- * For the ideal $I = (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)$, the generators are $(1, 3)$, $(2, 1)$ and $(4, 0)$.

Generators of the ideal $I = (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)$



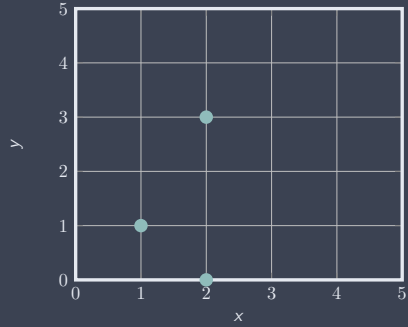
» Divisibility

- * Monomials in an ideal are those divisible by some of its generators

» Points → Ideals

Given a set of points, we can construct a monomial ideal by looking at the staircase the points generate.

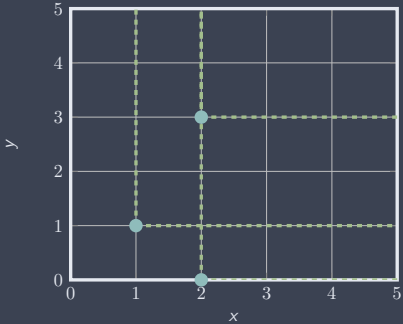
The points $(1, 1), (2, 0), (2, 3)$



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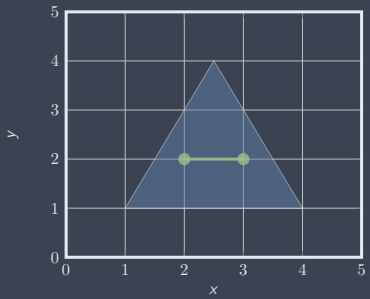
The staircases of $(1, 1)$, $(2, 0)$, $(2, 3)$



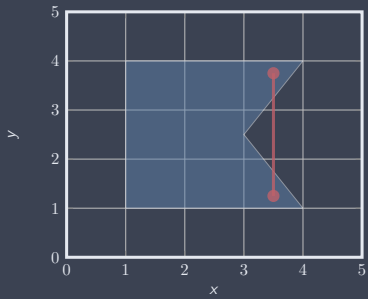
» Convexity

Definition (Convex)
A space $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is convex if $\forall a, b \in K$, the line between a and b is contained in K .

Left: Convex



Right: Not Convex



» Convex Hull

Definition (Convex Hull)

The convex hull of $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the smallest convex space containing K .

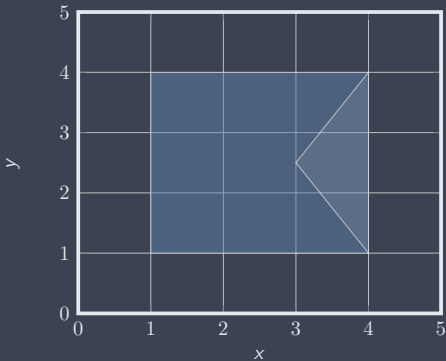
» Convex Hull

Definition (Convex Hull)

The convex hull of $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the smallest convex space containing K .

This is the space formed by "wrapping a rubber band around K ".

The Convex Hull of K

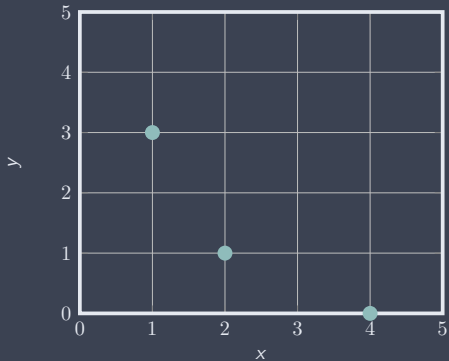


» What is a Newton Polytope?

Definition (Newton Polytope)

The Newton polytope of an ideal I , $np(I)$, is the convex hull of its generators.

Generators of (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)

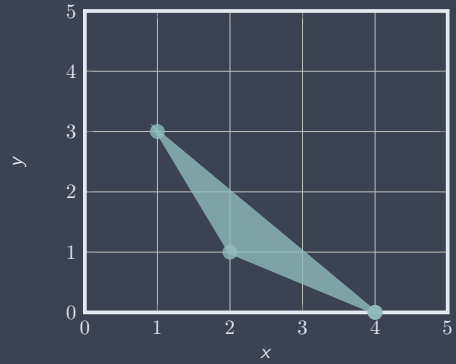


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Newton Polytope of (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)

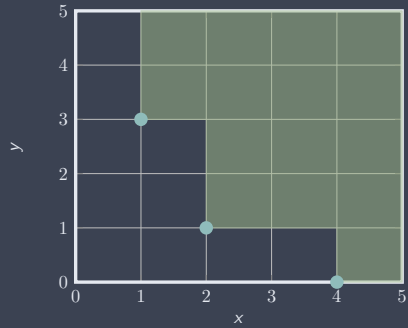


» What is a Newton Polyhedron?

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The staircase of (x^2y, xy^3, x^4)

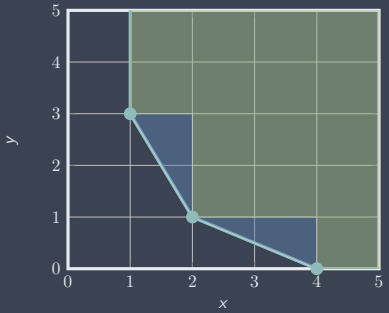


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Newton Polyhedron of (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)

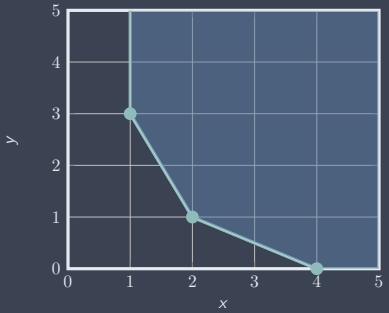


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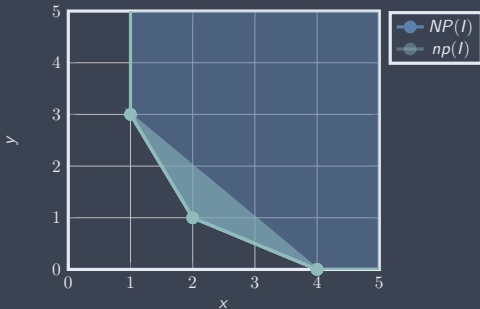
Newton Polyhedron of (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)



» *NP* vs *np*

$NP(I)$ can be thought of as an extension of $np(I)$, everything up and to the right.

Newton Polyhedron and Newton Polytope of $I = (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)$



» What is a Real Power?

Definition (Real Power)

The real power r of an ideal I , $\overline{I^r}$, is the ideal corresponding to the staircase of the lattice points in $r \cdot NP(I)$.

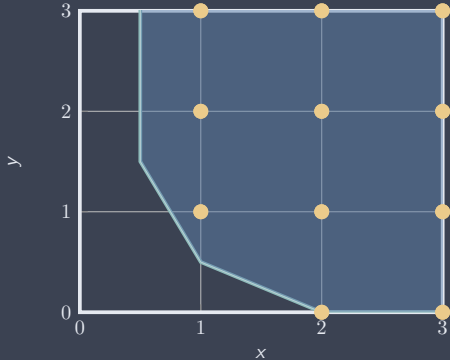
» Example of Real Power

Let's compute $\overline{(xy^3, x^2y, x^4)}^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

» Example of Real Power

We now identify the lattice points and draw their staircases.

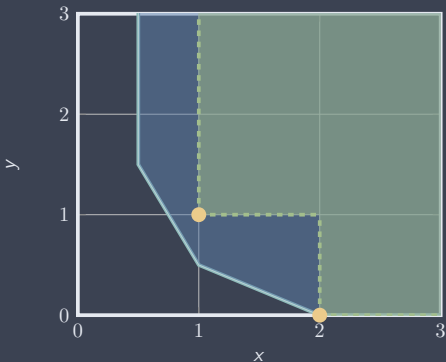
Lattice points of $\frac{1}{2} \cdot NP(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$



» Example of Real Power

Thus $\overline{(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)}^{\frac{1}{2}} = (xy, x^2)$.

The staircase of $\overline{(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)}^{\frac{1}{2}} = (xy, x^2)$



» Why compute the real powers?

- 1. Not much is known about real powers
- 2. Looking for Patterns

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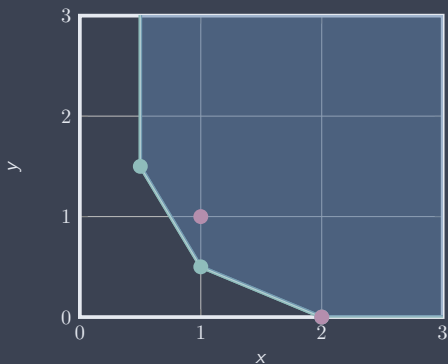
- 1. Not much is known about real powers
- 2. Looking for Patterns
- 3. Patterns require lots of examples
- 4. Examples are hard to compute
 - * computer programs are FASTER than working it out by hand



» Example

Notice that the minimal generators are "close" to the boundary of $NP(I)$.

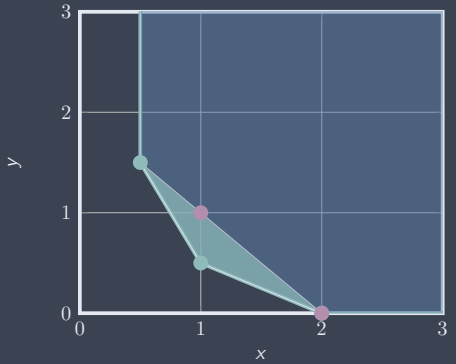
$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot NP(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$$



» Example

Could the generators of $r \cdot NP(I)$ be in $r \cdot np(I)$?

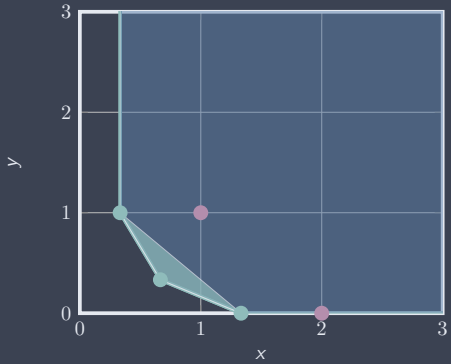
$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot NP(x^4, x^2y, xy^3) \text{ and } \frac{1}{2} \cdot np(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$$



» Example

No:(

$\frac{1}{3} \cdot NP(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$ and $\frac{1}{3} \cdot np(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$



» Bounding Theorem

But very close!

Bounding Theorem (Real Powers Team [Don+21])

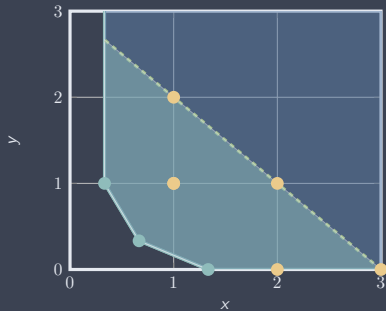
Let $r = \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q}$ and I be a monomial ideal in d variables.

Then the minimal generators of $\overline{I^r}$ are within a distance of $(d - \frac{1}{q})$ from $r \cdot np(I)$.

» Algorithm Steps

1. Find all lattice points within the bounded distance of $r \cdot np(I)$ (Minkowski Sum)

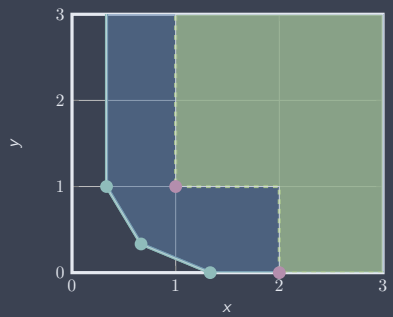
The lattice points within a bounded distance of $r \cdot np(I)$



» Algorithm Steps

1. Find all lattice points within the bounded distance of $r \cdot np(l)$ (Minkowski Sum)
2. Compute the ideal corresponding to the staircase of these points

The staircase of $\overline{(x^4, x^2y, xy^3)}^{\frac{1}{3}} = (x^2, xy)$



» What is a Jumping Number?

Definition (Jumping Number)

We say that a number r is a jumping number if $\overline{r} \neq \overline{r+\epsilon}$ for all $\epsilon > 0$.

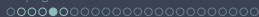
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For $I = (x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$, we have that

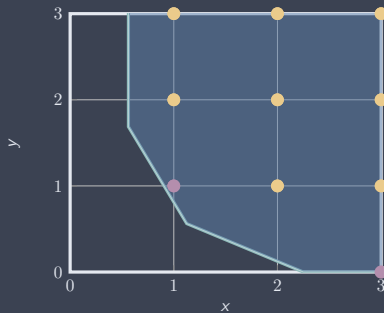
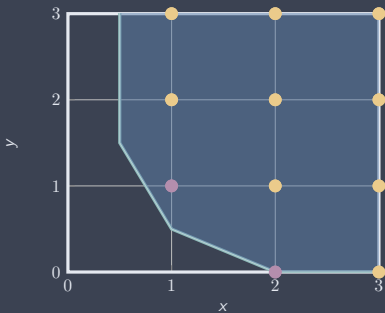
- * $\frac{1}{2}$ is a jumping number
- * $\frac{1}{3}$ is not a jumping number



» $\frac{1}{2}$ is a Jumping Number

Increasing $\frac{1}{2}$ just a little bit will no longer include the point (2, 0). This removes a minimal generator and changes the ideal.

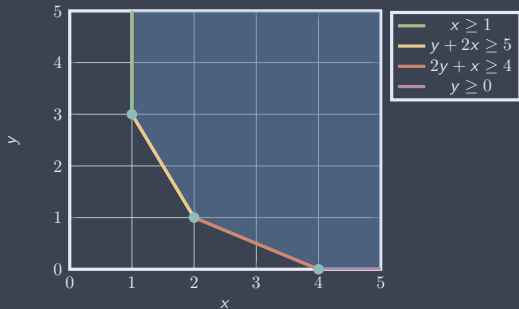
$$r = \frac{1}{2} \text{ vs } r = \frac{5}{8}$$



» A new perspective

We can describe Newton polyhedron by a system of linear inequalities.

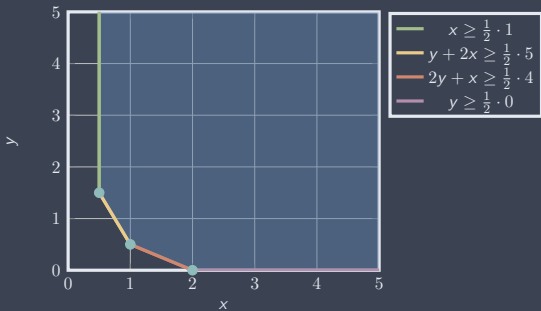
Newton Polyhedron for (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)



» A new perspective

Scaling a Newton polyhedron corresponds to scaling constants in our inequalities.

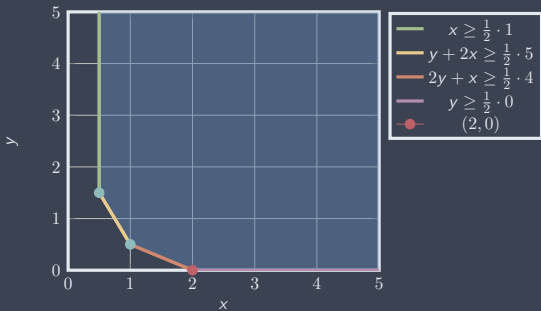
Newton Polyhedron for $(xy^3, x^2y, x^4)^{\frac{1}{2}}$



» A new perspective

Notice that $(2, 0)$ gives equality in $2y + x \geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4$ and inequality for the rest of our bounding equations.

Newton Polyhedron for $(xy^3, x^2y, x^4)^{\frac{1}{2}}$



» A new perspective

Theorem (Real Powers Team [Don+21])

$r \in \mathbb{R}$ is a jumping number for a monomial ideal I if and only if there is an integer solution to the bounding inequalities of $r \cdot NP(I)$ which gives equality to one of the (interesting) inequalities.

» Example

With $I = (x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$, the system of linear inequalities for $I^{\frac{1}{2}}$ is:

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With $I = (x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$, the system of linear inequalities for $\overline{I^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ is:

$$x \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y + 2x \geq \frac{5}{2}$$

$$2y + x \geq 2$$

$$y \geq 0$$

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$$y + 2x \geq \frac{5}{2}$$

$$2y + x \geq 2$$

$$y \geq 0$$

Notice $x = 2, y = 0$ is a solution to these inequalities that gives equality in $2y + x = 2$.

» Example

With $I = (x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$, the system of linear inequalities for $I^{\frac{1}{3}}$ is:

$$x \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

$$y + 2x \geq \frac{5}{3}$$

$$2y + x \geq \frac{4}{3}$$

$$y \geq 0$$

There are no integer solutions since no product and sum of integers is a non-integer.



» Rationality

Using this reformulation, we were able to prove many interesting corollaries:

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Rationality (Real Powers Team [Don+21])

- * All jumping numbers are rational.

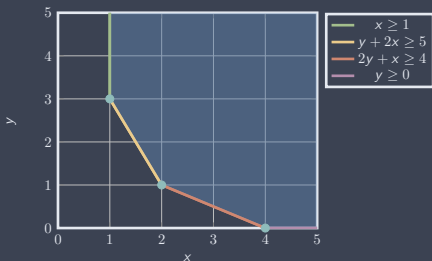
» Rationality

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Rationality (Real Powers Team [Don+21])

- * All jumping numbers are rational.
- * For each $r \in \mathbb{R}_+$ there exists $r' \in \mathbb{Q}$ so that $\overline{r} = \overline{r'}$.

Newton Polyhedron for (xy^3, x^2y, x^4)



» **Linearity**

Since $NP(I)$ is a linear system of inequalities, a notion of multiplicity exists for jumping numbers.

» Restriction of Solutions

For a given ideal, we can restrict the set of possible jumping numbers using the following lemma:

Restriction Lemma

The equation $ax + by = c$ where a and b are integers and c is not an integer, has no integer solutions.

» Example

Using these results, we can systematically determine all jumping numbers of a given ideal. We use this to find all jumping numbers of $I = (x^4, x^2y, xy^3)$ that are less than one.

» Scaled Inequalities

Scaling our Newton polyhedron by r we get the following system of inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned}x &\geq r \cdot 1 \\y + 2x &\geq r \cdot 5 \\2y + x &\geq r \cdot 4 \\y &\geq r \cdot 0\end{aligned}$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

The restriction lemma limits our jumping numbers to those of the form: $\frac{n}{5}$ or $\frac{m}{4}$ for $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$.



» Possible Jumping Numbers

So our possible jumping numbers less than 1 are:

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\}.$$

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We can now manually check the validity of each of these possible jumping numbers.



» $\frac{2}{5}$ is not a jumping number

We perform the calculation to find that $\frac{2}{5}$ is not a jumping number.

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$$x \geq \frac{2}{5}$$

$$y + 2x \geq 2$$

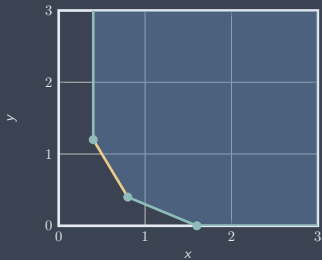
$$2y + x \geq \frac{8}{5}$$

$$y \geq 0$$

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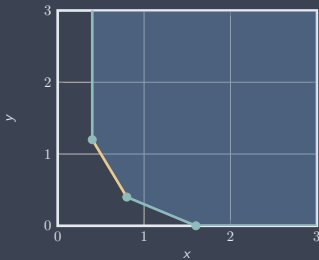
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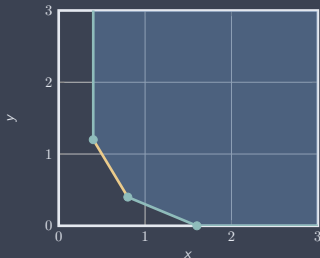


Since $x \geq \frac{2}{5}$ and $y \geq 0$, our only possible integer solution to $y + 2x \geq 2$ is $x = 1, y = 0$.

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Since $x \geq \frac{2}{5}$ and $y \geq 0$, our only possible integer solution to $y + 2x \geq 2$ is $x = 1, y = 0$. But $2(0) + (1) \not\geq \frac{8}{5}$ so there are no solutions and $\frac{2}{5}$ is not a jumping number.

» Jumping Numbers of (x^4, x^2y, xy^3)

Doing this for every possibility we find the jumping numbers of (x^4, x^2y, xy^3) less than 1 to be:

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\}.$$

In fact, $\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{2}{5}$ are the only possible jumping numbers which are not jumping numbers. So the full set of jumping numbers of I is:

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In fact, $\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{2}{5}$ are the only possible jumping numbers which are not jumping numbers. So the full set of jumping numbers of I is:

$$\left\{ \frac{n}{4}, \frac{m}{5} : n \geq 1, m \geq 3 \right\}.$$

» Future Work

- * Jumping Numbers Algorithm
- * Numerical Semi-Groups

» References



Sturmfels Miller. *Combinatorial Commutative Algebra*. Springer, 2005.



Pratik Dongre et al. *Real powers of monomial ideals*. 2021. arXiv: 2101.10462 [math.AC].

