

# Lean Characteristic Set

YuXuan Xiao

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# Chapter 1

## Definitions

**Definition 1.** The class of a multivariate polynomial  $p$  is the largest variable index appearing in  $p$ .

**Definition 2.** The degree of  $p$  with respect to its class.

**Definition 3.** The rank of a polynomial  $p$  is the pair  $(mainVar(p), deg(p))$  ordered lexicographically.

**Definition 4.**  $q$  is reduced with respect to  $p$  if the degree of  $q$  in the main variable of  $p$  is strictly less than the main degree of  $p$ .

**Definition 5.**  $q$  is reduced with respect to a polynomial set  $PS$  if it is reduced with respect to all elements of  $PS$ .

**Definition 6.** The initial of a polynomial  $p$  with respect to a variable  $i$ . It is the coefficient of the highest power of  $x_i$  appearing in  $p$ .

**Definition 7.** The initial of a polynomial  $p$  is the initial with respect to its class.

**Definition 8.** The product of initials of a set of polynomials.

**Definition 9.** A Triangulated Set is a finite ordered sequence of non-zero polynomials with strictly increasing classes.

**Definition 10.** The rank of a Triangulated Set is a lexicographic sequence of ranks of its polynomials. More intuitively,  $S < T$  if one of the following two occurs:

- There exists some  $k < S.length$  such that  $S_0 \sim T_0, S_1 \sim T_1, \dots, S_{k-1} \sim T_{k-1}$ , while  $S_k < T_k$ .
- $S.length > T.length$  and  $\forall i < T.length, S_i \sim T_i$ .

**Definition 11.** "S.takeConcat p" tries to construct a new Triangulated Set by taking a prefix of  $S$  and appending  $p$ .

- If  $p$  fits naturally at the end of  $S$ , it behaves like "S.concat p".
- If  $p$  conflicts with some element in  $S$  (in terms of class order), "takeConcat" finds the first element in  $S$  that has a higher or equal class than  $p$ , truncates  $S$  before that element, and appends  $p$ .

**Definition 12.** A remainder  $r$  of  $g$  by  $f$  is a polynomial which is reduced with respect to  $f$  and satisfies  $init(f)^s \cdot g = q \cdot f + r$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q \in R[X_\sigma]$ .

**Definition 13.** A remainder  $r$  of  $g$  by a set  $S$  is a polynomial which is reduced with respect to  $S$  and satisfies  $(\prod S_i^{e_i}) \cdot g = \sum q_i \cdot S_i + r$  for some  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{q_i\}$ .

**Definition 14.** Pseudo-division of  $g$  by  $f$  with respect to  $i$ .

Returns a triple containing the exponent, the quotient and the remainder.

**Definition 15.** Pseudo-division of  $g$  by  $f$  with respect to  $mainVar(f)$ .

Returns a triple containing the exponent, the quotient and the remainder.

**Definition 16.** Pseudo-divides  $g$  successively by elements of  $S$ . Typically, this involves dividing by  $S_{l-1}$ , then  $S_{l-2}$ , ..., down to  $S_0$ .

Returns a triple containing the exponents, the quotients and the remainder.

**Definition 17.** A Triangulated Set is an Ascending Set if every element is reduced with respect to its predecessors. Here "reduced" is an abstract predicate.

**Definition 18.** A Triangulated Set is a Standard Ascending Set if every element is reduced with respect to its predecessors.

**Definition 19.** A Triangulated Set is a Weak Ascending Set if the initial of every element is reduced with respect to its predecessors.

**Definition 20.** The interface for algorithms computing Basic Sets. Any instance of this class provides a "basicSet" function that computes a minimal ascending set contained in a given list of polynomials.

**Definition 21.** Computes the Standard Basic Set of a list of polynomials.

The algorithm works by:

1. Sort the list and let  $BS = \emptyset$ .
2. Pick the first (minimal) element  $B$  in the list.
3. Append  $B$  to the tail of the current basic set  $BS$ .
4. Filter the remaining list to keep only elements reduced w.r.t. the new  $BS$  and go to step 2.

**Definition 22.** Computes the Weak Basic Set of a list of polynomials.

Difference from Standard: The filter condition includes  $mainVar(p) > mainVar(B)$ .

**Definition 23.**  $CS$  is a characteristic set of  $PS$  if every polynomial in  $PS$ , 0 is its remainder by  $CS$ , and  $Zero(PS) \subseteq Zero(CS)$ .

**Definition 24.** Computes the Characteristic Set of a polynomial list  $l$ .

Algorithm:

1. Set  $l_0 = l$ .
2. Compute  $BS = BasicSet(l)$ .
3. Compute remainders  $RS$  of  $l \setminus BS$  with respect to  $BS$ .
4. If  $RS = \emptyset$ ,  $BS$  is the characteristic set.

5. If not, let  $l = l_0 + +RS + +BS$  and go to step 2.

Termination is guaranteed by the well-ordering of ranks.

**Definition 25.** Decomposes the zero set of a polynomial list into a union of zero sets of triangular sets. The algorithm recursively computes the characteristic set  $CS$  and adds branches for the initials of  $CS$ .

## Chapter 2

# Theorems

**Lemma 26.**  $q$  is reduced w.r.t.  $p$  if  $\text{mainVar}(q) < \text{mainVar}(p)$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 27.** If  $\text{mainVar}(p) = \text{mainVar}(q)$ , then  $q$  is reduced with respect to  $p$  if and only if  $q < p$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 28.**  $\text{mainVar}(p) < \text{mainVar}(q)$  if  $p \leq q$  and  $q$  is reduced with respect to  $p$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 29.**  $\text{init}_i(p) = p$  if  $\deg_i(p) = 0$  (i.e.  $x_i$  does not appear in  $p$ ).

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 30.**  $\deg_i(\text{init}_i(p)) = 0$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 31.**  $\text{init}_i(\text{init}_i(p)) = \text{init}_i(p)$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 32.**  $\forall i, j, \deg_j(\text{init}_i(p)) \leq \deg_j(p)$

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 33.**  $\text{init}_i(p)$  is the leading coefficient when viewing  $p$  as a univariate polynomial in  $x_i$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 34.**  $p = \text{init}_i(p)x_i^d + q$ , where  $\deg_i(q) < d = \deg_i(p)$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 35.**  $\deg_i(p + q) < \deg_i(p)$  if  $\deg_i(p) = \deg_i(q)$  and  $\text{init}_i(p) + \text{init}_i(q) = 0$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 36.**  $\text{init}_i(p \cdot q) = \text{init}_i(p) \cdot \text{init}_i(q)$  if there is no zero divisors in the coefficient ring.

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 37.**  $\text{mainVar}(\text{init}(p)) < \text{mainVar}(p)$  for non-constant  $p$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 38.**  $\text{init}_i(p)$  is reduced w.r.t.  $q$  if  $p$  is reduced w.r.t. to  $q$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 39.**  $\text{init}_i(p)$  is reduced w.r.t.  $p$  for non-constant  $p$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 40.** The set of Triangulated Sets is well-founded under the lexicographic rank ordering. This guarantees the termination of the Characteristic Set Algorithm.

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 41.** If  $p \neq 0$  and is reduced with respect to  $S$ , then modifying  $S$  by appending  $p$  (using "takeConcat") strictly decreases the rank of  $S$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 42.**  $\deg_i(r) < \deg_i(g)$  where  $r$  is the remainder of  $g$  by  $f$  w.r.t.  $i$  if  $\deg_i(f) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 43.** The remainder  $r$  of  $g$  by  $f$  is reduced with respect to  $f$  and satisfies  $\text{init}(f)^s \cdot g = q \cdot f + r$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q \in R[X_\sigma]$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Lemma 44.** The remainder  $r$  of  $g$  by  $f$  satisfies  $\deg_i(r) \leq \deg_i(g)$  if  $\deg_i(f) = 0$

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 45.** The remainder  $r$  of  $g$  by a set  $S$  is reduced with respect to  $S$  and satisfies  $(\prod S_i^{e_i}) \cdot g = \sum q_i \cdot S_i + r$  for some  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{q_i\}$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 46.** The remainder of  $g$  by  $f$  is 0 if  $f$  is a divisor of  $g$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 47.** The remainder of  $g$  by  $f$  is  $g$  if  $\deg_c(g) = 0$  where  $c = \text{mainVar}(f)$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 48.** The remainder of  $p$  by a set  $S$  is 0 if  $p$  is in  $S$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 49.** If  $p$  is in  $S$  and  $\text{mainVar}(p) \neq \perp$ , then  $\text{init}(p)$  is in  $S$ .

*Proof.*

□

**Theorem 50.** *The algorithm computes a minimal standard ascending set contained in the input list.*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 51.** *The algorithm computes a minimal weak ascending set contained in the input list.*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 52.** *Appending an element which is reduced w.r.t. the basic set of list strictly decreases the rank. Crucial for proving termination of characteristic set and zero decomposition algorithms.*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 53.** *Well-ordering principle (1):  $\text{Zero}(CS/IP) \subseteq \text{Zero}(PS)$ , where  $IP$  is the initial-product of  $CS$ .*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 54.** *Well-ordering principle (2):  $\text{Zero}(CS/IP) = \text{Zero}(PS/IP)$ , where  $IP$  is the initial-product of  $CS$ .*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 55.** *Well-ordering principle (3):*

$$\text{Zero}(PS) = \text{Zero}(CS/IP) \cup \left( \bigcup_{p \in CS} \text{Zero}(PS \cup \text{init}(p)) \right)$$

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 56.** *The algorithm computes a valid characteristic set for the input list.*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 57.** *The computed characteristic set is an ascending set.*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 58.** *The rank of computed characteristic set  $\leq$  the rank of the input list.*

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 59.**  $\forall CS \in \mathcal{ZD}(PS), g \in PS, 0$  is the remainder of  $g$  by  $CS$ .

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 60. Zero Decomposition Theorem:** *The zero set of a polynomial system  $PS$  is the union of the zero sets of the triangular systems computed by the algorithm:*

$$\text{Zero}(PS) = \bigcup_{CS \in \mathcal{ZD}(PS)} \text{Zero}(CS/IP(CS))$$

*Proof.* □