

# Generic Initial Ideals; Lecture 3

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# Outline

Almost regular sequences

Generic annihilator numbers

Extremal Betti numbers

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The linear form  $y \in S_1$  is called **almost regular** on  $M$ , if  $0 :_M y$  has finite length.



**Lemma 1:** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $S$ -module.  
Then the set

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**Proof:** The submodule  $N = 0 :_M \mathfrak{m}^\infty \subset M$  is of finite length and  $M/N$  has positive depth. It follows that any nonzero divisor  $y \in S_1$  is almost regular on  $M$ . Let  $\text{Ass}(M/N) = \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$ . Since  $\text{depth } M/N > 0$  and since  $K$  is infinite, it follows that  $P_i \cap S_1$  is a proper linear subspace of  $S_1$  for all  $i$ . Thus  $U = S_1 \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^r (S_1 \cap P_i)$  is a nonempty Zariski open subset of  $S_1$ . Any  $y \in U$  is regular on  $M/N$  and hence almost regular on  $M$ . ✓

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**Definition:** A sequence  $\mathbf{y} = y_1, \dots, y_r$  with  $y_i \in S_1$  an **almost regular** sequence on  $M$ , if  $y_i$  is an almost regular element on  $M/(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1})M$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, r$ .

**Corollary 1:** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $S$ -module. Then there exists  $K$ -basis of  $S_1$  which is an almost regular sequence on  $M$ .

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Indeed, by using an induction argument it suffices to show that  $x_n$  is almost regular. But this is obvious since for each  $P \in \text{Ass}(S/I)$  we have  $P = (x_1, \dots, x_i)$  for some  $i$ . Thus the element  $x_n$  does not belong to any associated prime ideal of  $S/I$  which is different from  $\mathfrak{m} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

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Let  $\mathbf{y}$  be an almost regular sequence.

We denote by  $A_i(\mathbf{y}; M)$  the graded module  $0 :_{M/(y_1, \dots, y_i)M} Y_{i+1}$  and call the numbers

$$\alpha_{ij}(\mathbf{y}; M) = \begin{cases} \dim_K A_i(\mathbf{y}; M)_j, & \text{if } i < n, \\ \beta_{0j}(M), & \text{if } i = n. \end{cases}$$

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We set  $\alpha_i(\mathbf{y}; M) = \sum_j \alpha_{ij}(\mathbf{y}; M)$ .

**Proposition 1:** Let  $\mathbf{y}$  a  $K$ -basis of  $S_1$  which is almost regular on  $M$ . Then  $\alpha_i(\mathbf{y}; M) = 0$  if and only if  $i < \text{depth } M$ .

**Proposition 2:** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $S$ -module, and  $\mathbf{y} = y_1, \dots, y_r$  a sequence of elements in  $S_1$ . The following conditions are equivalent:

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- (a)  $\mathbf{y}$  is an almost regular sequence on  $M$ .
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- (c)  $H_1(y_1, \dots, y_i; M)$  has finite length for all  $i = 1, \dots, r$ .

**Proof:** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): We prove the assertion by induction on  $i$ . We have  $H_j(y_1; M) = 0$  for  $j > 1$  and  $H_1(y_1; M) \simeq 0 :_M y_1$ . This module is of finite length by assumption.



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Now let  $i > 1$ . Then there is the long exact sequence of graded Koszul homology

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow H_{j+1}(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}; M) \rightarrow H_{j+1}(y_1, \dots, y_i; M) \rightarrow H_j(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}; M)(-1) \\ \cdots \rightarrow H_1(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}; M) \rightarrow H_1(y_1, \dots, y_i; M) \rightarrow A_{i-1}(\mathbf{y}; M)(-1) \end{aligned}$$

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Since  $A_{i-1}(\mathbf{y}; M)$  has finite length and since by induction hypothesis the modules  $H_j(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}; M)$  have finite length for all  $j > 0$ , the exact sequence implies that also  $H_j(y_1, \dots, y_i; M)$  has finite length for all  $j > 0$ . ✓

# Generic annihilator numbers

**Theorem 1:** Let  $I \subset S$  be a graded ideal. With each  $\gamma = (g_{ij}) \in \mathrm{GL}_n(K)$  we associate the sequence  $\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x})$  with  $y_j = \sum_{i=1}^n g_{ij}x_i$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Then there exists a nonempty Zariski open subset  $U \subset \mathrm{GL}_n(K)$  such that  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  is almost regular for all  $\gamma \in U$ .

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Moreover, the open set  $U$  has the property that

$$\dim_K A_{i-1}(\gamma(\mathbf{x}); S/I)_j = \dim_K A_{i-1}(x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1; S/\mathrm{gin}_{<_{\mathrm{rev}}}(I))_j$$

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**Definition:** A sequence  $\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x})$  with  $\gamma \in U$  and  $U \subset \mathrm{GL}_n(K)$  as in Theorem 1 is called a **generic sequence** on  $S/I$ .

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We set  $\alpha_{ij}(S/I) = \alpha_{ij}(\mathbf{y}; S/I)$  for all  $i$  and  $j$ , where  $\mathbf{y}$  is a generic sequence on  $S/I$ . The numbers  $\alpha_{ij}(S/I)$  are called the **generic annihilator numbers**.

The proof Theorem 1 is based on the following

**Lemma 2:** Let  $I \subset S$  be a graded ideal. Then for all  $i$  one has

$$\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) = (\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I), x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n),$$

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and

$$\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}((I, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) : x_i) = (\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I), x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) : x_i.$$



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**Proof:** We only prove the statements for the colon ideals. That the left-hand side is contained in the right-hand side is easy to see and true not only for the reverse lexicographic order but for any other monomial order as well.

For the converse inclusion it suffices to show that each monomial  $u$  in  $(\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I), x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) : x_j$  belongs to  $\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}((I, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) : x_j)$ .

We may assume that no  $x_j$  with  $j > i$  divides  $u$ . Then there exists a homogeneous element  $f \in I$  with  $ux_j = \text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(f)$ . Because we use the reverse lexicographic order it follows that  $f = cux_j + h$  with  $h \in (x_i, \dots, x_n)$  and  $c \in K \setminus \{0\}$ . Write  $h = g_j x_j + \dots + g_n x_n$ , and set  $f_1 = cu + g_j$ . Then  $f_1 x_j \in (I, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$  and  $\text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(f_1) = u$ . This shows that  $u \in \text{in}_{<_{\text{rev}}}((I, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) : x_j)$ . ✓

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**Corollary 1:** Let  $I \subset S$  be a graded ideal. Then

$$\alpha_{ij}(S/I) = \alpha_{ij}(S/\text{gin}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I)).$$

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**Proof:** We have

$$\alpha_{ij}(S/I) = \dim_K A_i(x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1; S/\text{gin}_{<\text{rev}}(I)),$$

and

$$\alpha_{ij}(S/\text{gin}_{<\text{rev}}(I)) =$$

$$\dim_K A_i(x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1; S/\text{gin}_{<\text{rev}}(\text{gin}_{<\text{rev}}(I))) =$$

$$\dim_K A_i(x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1; S/\text{gin}_{<\text{rev}}(I)). \text{ Hence the conclusion.}$$

✓

# Extremal Betti numbers

By using the long exact sequences of Koszul homology attached to a sequence one obtains

**Proposition 3:** Let  $M$  be a graded  $S$ -module and let  $\mathbf{y} = y_1, \dots, y_n$  be a  $K$ -basis of  $S_1$  which is almost regular on  $M$ . Then

$$\beta_{i,i+j}(M) \leq \sum_{k=0}^{n-i} \binom{n-k-1}{i-1} \alpha_{kj}(\mathbf{y}; M) \quad \text{for all } i \geq 0 \quad \text{and all } j.$$

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We say that  $M$  has **maximal Betti numbers** if equality holds.

This is the case if and only if  $mH_j(y_1, \dots, y_i; M) = 0$  for all  $j > 0$  and all  $i$ .

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$M = S/I$  satisfies this condition, if  $I$  is a stable ideal.



**Definition.** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $S$ -module and let  $\mathbf{y}$  be a  $K$ -basis of  $S_1$  which is almost regular on  $M$ . Let  $\alpha_{ij}$  be the annihilator numbers of  $M$  with respect to  $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\beta_{ij}$  be the graded Betti numbers of  $M$ .

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(a) An annihilator number  $\alpha_{ij} \neq 0$  is called **extremal** if  $\alpha_{k\ell} = 0$  for all pairs  $(k, \ell) \neq (i, j)$  with  $k \leq i$  and  $\ell \geq j$ .

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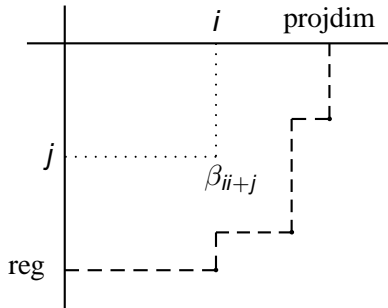
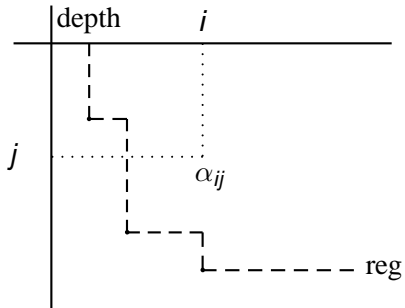
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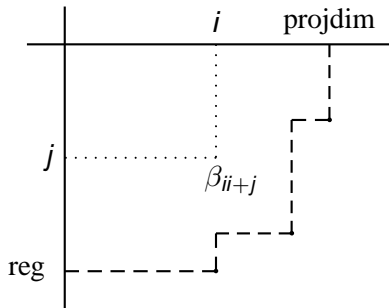
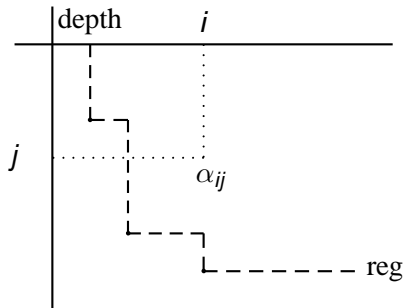
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The next picture illustrates this concept.





The Figure reflects the result of the next theorem

**Theorem 2:** (Aramova-H) Let  $M$  be a graded  $S$ -module and let  $\mathbf{y}$  be a  $K$ -basis of  $S_1$  which is almost regular on  $M$ . Let  $\alpha_{ij}$  be the annihilator numbers of  $M$  with respect to  $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\beta_{ij}$  be the graded Betti numbers of  $M$ .

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Moreover, if the equivalent conditions hold, then

$$\beta_{i,i+j} = \alpha_{n-i,j}.$$

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(d)  $\text{reg}(I) = \text{reg}(\text{gin}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I))$ . In particular  $I$  has a linear resolution if and only if  $\text{gin}_{<_{\text{rev}}}(I)$  has a linear resolution.

**Problem:** Given coordinates  $(i_1, j_1), \dots, (i_r, j_r)$  with  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_r$  and  $j_1 > j_2 > \dots > j_r$  and positive integers  $a_1, \dots, a_r$ .

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There are some special case known by Crupi and Utano:

A lexsegment ideal can have at most 2 extremal Betti numbers.

**Example:** Let  $I \subset K[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6]$  be the ideal

$$I = (x_1^2, x_1 x_2, x_1 x_3, x_1 x_4, x_1 x_5, x_1 x_6, x_2^3, x_2^2 x_3, x_2 x_3^3, x_2 x_3^2 x_5, x_3^5).$$

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 $I$  has the three extremal Betti numbers  $\beta_{2,2+5} = 1$ ,  $\beta_{3,3+4} = 1$   
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$I$  has two extremal Betti numbers:  $\beta_{2,2+3} = 1$  and  $\beta_{4,4+2}(I) = 2$ .