# Subalgebras of a polynomial ring with minimal Hilbert function 

Lisa Nicklasson<br>Stockholm University

Combinatorial Algebra meets Algebraic Combinatorics 2020
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{u} \in R$ homogeneous of degree $d$, linearly independent
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{u} \in R$ homogeneous of degree $d$, linearly independent
$S=K\left[f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right] \subseteq R$ subring generated by $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$.
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{u} \in R$ homogeneous of degree $d$, linearly independent
$S=K\left[f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right] \subseteq R$ subring generated by $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$.
$S=\bigoplus_{i \geq 0} S_{i}$
$S_{i}$ is the set of homogeneous polynomials of degree $i$ in $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{u} \in R$ homogeneous of degree $d$, linearly independent
$S=K\left[f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right] \subseteq R$ subring generated by $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$.
$S=\bigoplus_{i>0} S_{i}$
$S_{i}$ is the set of homogeneous polynomials of degree $i$ in $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$, a vector space over $K$
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{u} \in R$ homogeneous of degree $d$, linearly independent
$S=K\left[f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right] \subseteq R$ subring generated by $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$.
$S=\bigoplus_{i \geq 0} S_{i}$
$S_{i}$ is the set of homogeneous polynomials of degree $i$ in $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$, a vector space over $K$

Hilbert function: $\mathrm{HF}_{S}(i)=\operatorname{dim} S_{i}$
$R=K\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$ polynomial ring over a field $K$
$f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{u} \in R$ homogeneous of degree $d$, linearly independent
$S=K\left[f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right] \subseteq R$ subring generated by $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$.
$S=\bigoplus_{i \geq 0} S_{i}$
$S_{i}$ is the set of homogeneous polynomials of degree $i$ in $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$, a vector space over $K$

Hilbert function: $\mathrm{HF}_{S}(i)=\operatorname{dim} S_{i}$ a polynomial in $i$

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

## Proposition

Fix $n, u, d$, and $i$. To minimize $\mathrm{HF}_{S}(i)$, choose $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ as a strongly stable set of monomials.

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

## Proposition

Fix $n, u, d$, and $i$. To minimize $\operatorname{HF}_{S}(i)$, choose $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ as a strongly stable set of monomials.

## Definition

A set $W$ of monomials is strongly stable if

$$
m \in W, x_{i} \left\lvert\, m \Longrightarrow \frac{x_{j}}{x_{i}} m \in W\right. \text { for all } j<i
$$

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

## Proposition

Fix $n, u, d$, and $i$. To minimize $\operatorname{HF}_{S}(i)$, choose $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ as a strongly stable set of monomials.

## Definition

A set $W$ of monomials is strongly stable if

$$
m \in W, x_{i} \left\lvert\, m \Longrightarrow \frac{x_{j}}{x_{i}} m \in W\right. \text { for all } j<i
$$

Is there one strongly stable set $\left\{f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right\}$ that minimizes $\mathrm{HF}_{S}(i)$ for all $i$ ?

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

## Proposition

Fix $n, u, d$, and $i$. To minimize $\operatorname{HF}_{S}(i)$, choose $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ as a strongly stable set of monomials.

## Definition

A set $W$ of monomials is strongly stable if

$$
m \in W, x_{i} \left\lvert\, m \Longrightarrow \frac{x_{j}}{x_{i}} m \in W\right. \text { for all } j<i
$$

Is there one strongly stable set $\left\{f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right\}$ that minimizes $\mathrm{HF}_{S}(i)$ for all $i$ ? No!

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

## Proposition

Fix $n, u, d$, and $i$. To minimize $\operatorname{HF}_{S}(i)$, choose $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ as a strongly stable set of monomials.

## Definition

A set $W$ of monomials is strongly stable if

$$
m \in W, x_{i} \left\lvert\, m \Longrightarrow \frac{x_{j}}{x_{i}} m \in W\right. \text { for all } j<i
$$

Is there one strongly stable set $\left\{f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right\}$ that minimizes $\mathrm{HF}_{s}(i)$ for all $i$ ? No! $\mathrm{HF}_{s}(i)$ is a polynomial.

For fixed $n, u$ and $d$, which $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ gives the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ ?

## Proposition

Fix $n, u, d$, and $i$. To minimize $\operatorname{HF}_{S}(i)$, choose $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}$ as a strongly stable set of monomials.

## Definition

A set $W$ of monomials is strongly stable if

$$
m \in W, x_{i} \left\lvert\, m \Longrightarrow \frac{x_{j}}{x_{i}} m \in W\right. \text { for all } j<i
$$

Is there one strongly stable set $\left\{f_{1}, \ldots, f_{u}\right\}$ that minimizes $\mathrm{HF}_{S}(i)$ for all $i$ ? No! $\mathrm{HF}_{s}(i)$ is a polynomial.

- Minimize the degree
- Minimize the leading coefficient

Fix $d=2$.

Fix $d=2$. Strongly stable sets can be drawn as shifted Ferrers diagrams.


Fix $d=2$. Strongly stable sets can be drawn as shifted Ferrers diagrams.


The degree of $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ is $n-1$.

- Minimize the number of columns (variables).

Fix $d=2$. Strongly stable sets can be drawn as shifted Ferrers diagrams.


The degree of $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ is $n-1$.

- Minimize the number of columns (variables). $\rightsquigarrow\binom{n}{2}<u \leq\binom{ n+1}{2}$

Fix $d=2$. Strongly stable sets can be drawn as shifted Ferrers diagrams.


The degree of $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ is $n-1$.
(Leading coefficient).( $n-1$ )!
$=$ multiplicity of $S$
$=\#$ maximal NE-paths in the diagram.

- Minimize the number of columns (variables). $\rightsquigarrow\binom{n}{2}<u \leq\binom{ n+1}{2}$

Fix $d=2$. Strongly stable sets can be drawn as shifted Ferrers diagrams.


The degree of $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ is $n-1$.
(Leading coefficient)•( $n-1$ )!
$=$ multiplicity of $S$
$=\#$ maximal NE-paths in the diagram.

- Minimize the number of columns (variables). $\rightsquigarrow\binom{n}{2}<u \leq\binom{ n+1}{2}$
- Minimize the number of maximal NE-paths.


## Example

$u=71, n=12, \quad\binom{12}{2}=66,\binom{12+1}{2}=78$
There are five strongly stable sets:


## Example

$u=71, n=12, \quad\binom{12}{2}=66,\binom{12+1}{2}=78$
There are five strongly stable sets:


Multiplicities:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& e\left(K\left[W_{1}\right]\right)=1984, e\left(K\left[W_{2}\right]\right)=2010, e\left(K\left[W_{3}\right]\right)=2019, \\
& e\left(K\left[W_{4}\right]\right)=2009, e\left(K\left[W_{5}\right]\right)=1981,
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example

$u=71, n=12, \quad\binom{12}{2}=66,\binom{12+1}{2}=78$
There are five strongly stable sets:


Multiplicities:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& e\left(K\left[W_{1}\right]\right)=1984, e\left(K\left[W_{2}\right]\right)=2010, e\left(K\left[W_{3}\right]\right)=2019, \\
& e\left(K\left[W_{4}\right]\right)=2009, e\left(K\left[W_{5}\right]\right)=1981,
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example

$u=71, n=12, \quad\binom{12}{2}=66,\binom{12+1}{2}=78$
There are five strongly stable sets:


Multiplicities:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& e\left(K\left[W_{1}\right]\right)=1984, e\left(K\left[W_{2}\right]\right)=2010, e\left(K\left[W_{3}\right]\right)=2019, \\
& e\left(K\left[W_{4}\right]\right)=2009, \underline{e\left(K\left[W_{5}\right]\right)=1981,}
\end{aligned}
$$

| $i$ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{1}\right], i\right)$ | 1246 | 11389 | 70051 | 328771 | 1266005 | 4188859 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{2}\right], i\right)$ | 1256 | 11524 | 71012 | 333593 | 1285193 | 4253378 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{3}\right], i\right)$ | 1259 | 11565 | 71306 | 335075 | 1291108 | 4173307 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{4}\right], i\right)$ | 1255 | 11511 | 70922 | 333151 | 1283464 | 4247645 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{5}\right], i\right)$ | 1248 | 11406 | 70124 | 328965 | 1266265 | 4188404 |

## Example

$u=71, n=12, \quad\binom{12}{2}=66,\binom{12+1}{2}=78$
There are five strongly stable sets:


Multiplicities:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& e\left(K\left[W_{1}\right]\right)=1984, e\left(K\left[W_{2}\right]\right)=2010, e\left(K\left[W_{3}\right]\right)=2019, \\
& e\left(K\left[W_{4}\right]\right)=2009, \underline{e\left(K\left[W_{5}\right]\right)=1981,}
\end{aligned}
$$

| $i$ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{1}\right], i\right)$ | 1246 | 11389 | 70051 | 328771 | 1266005 | 4188859 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{2}\right], i\right)$ | 1256 | 11524 | 71012 | 333593 | 1285193 | 4253378 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{3}\right], i\right)$ | 1259 | 11565 | 71306 | 335075 | 1291108 | 4173307 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{4}\right], i\right)$ | 1255 | 11511 | 70922 | 333151 | 1283464 | 4247645 |
| $\operatorname{HF}\left(K\left[W_{5}\right], i\right)$ | 1248 | 11406 | 70124 | 328965 | 1266265 | 4188404 |

Strongly stable sets giving the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{S}$ for $u=56, \ldots, 66$. $(n=11)$


Strongly stable sets giving the minimal $\mathrm{HF}_{s}$ for $u=56, \ldots, 66$. $(n=11)$


## Conjecture

The subalgebra generated by $u$ homogeneous polynomials of degree two with minimal Hilbert function is generated by a Lex or RevLex segment.

## Conjecture

The subalgebra generated by $u$ homogeneous polynomials of degree two with minimal Hilbert function is generated by a Lex or RevLex segment.

The conjecture is proved in the following cases.

- The polynomials are in at most 80 variables. $(u \leq 3240)$


## Conjecture

The subalgebra generated by $u$ homogeneous polynomials of degree two with minimal Hilbert function is generated by a Lex or RevLex segment.

The conjecture is proved in the following cases.

- The polynomials are in at most 80 variables. $(u \leq 3240)$

Recall that $\binom{n}{2}<u \leq\binom{ n+1}{2}$. Write $u=\binom{n}{2}+r$ where $1 \leq r \leq n$.

- $u=\binom{n}{2}+r$, for $n \geq 80$ and $1 \leq r \leq 50$

RevLex

- $u=\binom{n}{2}+r$, for $n \geq 80$ and $n-25 \leq r \leq n \quad$ Lex


## Example

$$
n=80 \quad u=\binom{80}{2}+r, 1 \leq r \leq 80
$$

| $r$ |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| $1-50$ | RevLex |
| 51 | Lex |
| 52 | Lex |
| 53 | RevLex |
| 54 | RevLex |
| $55-80$ | Lex |

## Thank you!

## References

M. Boij and A. Conca. On the Fröberg-Macaulay conjectures for algebras. Rend. Isit. Mat. Univ. Trieste, 50:139-147, 2018
L. Nicklasson. Subalgebras generated in degree two with minimal Hilbert function. Preprint arXiv:1911.11038

