

Subadditivity and Symbolic Powers

JMM 2018: AMS Special Session on Commutative Algebra in All Characteristics

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- Answer [ELS '01, HH '02, Hara '05, MS '17]: If R is regular, then $h = \dim R$ works for all \mathfrak{p} !
- **Question:** can we find a uniform h that works for non-regular rings?

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Sketch of ELS/Hara/MS proof: set $d = \dim R$.

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Key idea: replace $\tau(\mathfrak{p}^{(dn)})$ with an ideal so that (2) holds always, and hope (1) holds sometimes

Interlude: Cartier Algebras and Test Ideas

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- An R -linear map $\varphi: F_*^e R \rightarrow R$ satisfies

$$\varphi(F_*^e(a + b)) = \varphi(F_*^e a) + \varphi(F_*^e b),$$

$$\varphi(F_*^e r^{p^e} x) = \varphi(r F_*^e x) = r \varphi(F_*^e x)$$

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- **Test ideal of \mathcal{D} :** $\tau(R, \mathcal{D}) :=$ the unique, minimal $J \neq 0$ such that $\varphi(F_*^e J) \subseteq J \forall e, \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}_e$.

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 - “ J, φ are compatible”

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Multiplying a Cart. Alg. by an ideal

- Given \mathcal{D} , $\mathfrak{a}_i \subseteq R$, construct

$$\mathcal{D}\mathfrak{a}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{a}_n := \bigcup_e \left\{ \varphi(F_*^e x \cdot -) \mid \varphi \in \mathcal{D}_e, x \in \prod_i \mathfrak{a}_i^{p^e - 1} \right\}$$

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- $\tau(R, \mathfrak{a}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{a}_n) := \tau(R, \mathcal{C}_R \mathfrak{a}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{a}_n)$

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- For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define $\mathcal{D}(n)_e$ as the set of $\varphi : F_*^e R \rightarrow R$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_*^e R \otimes n & \xrightarrow{\exists \widehat{\varphi}} & R \otimes n \\ \downarrow F_*^e \mu & & \downarrow \mu \\ F_*^e R & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & R \end{array}$$

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Theorem (S.)

$$\tau(R, \mathcal{D}(n)\mathfrak{a}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{a}_n) \subseteq \tau(R, \mathfrak{a}_1) \cdots \tau(R, \mathfrak{a}_n)$$

Proof.

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The set $\mathcal{D}(n)$ is constructed specifically so that

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Thus, $\mathfrak{p}^{((r+s+1)n)} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(k[x_0, \dots, x_r] \# k[y_0, \dots, y_s])$

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Theorem (S.)

If R affine toric, then $\mathcal{D}(2)_e$ is generated by

$$\{\pi_a \mid P_R \cap (a - P_R) \text{ is "big"}\}$$

$\mathcal{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is big if $\forall v \in \frac{1}{p^e} \mathbb{Z}^d \exists s \in \mathbb{Z} : v + s \in \mathcal{Z}$

Example

$$R = k[x, y, u, v]/(xy - uv) \cong k[x, y, u, xyu^{-1}]$$

