# Homogenized modular algorithms for Gröbner bases

#### Yuji Kobayashi

Department of Information Science, Toho University, Funabashi 274–8510, Japan

#### 1 Introduction

Gröbner bases and the Buchberger algorithm (Buchberger [3]) are now central techniques in Computational Algebra ([2]). One of serious problems is the intermediate swell of the size of the coefficients of polynomials during computation of Gröbner bases (Ebert [4]).

To avoid this, the modular algorithm is considered to be useful (Winkler [5]). Choosing a suitable prime p compute a Gröbner basis  $\overline{G}$  over the field  $\mathbb{Z}_p = \mathbb{Z}/(p)$ , then reconstruct a system G over  $\mathbb{Z}$  from  $\overline{G}$ . If p is large enough and lucky, G is a correct Gröbner basis. But there is no effective way to check that p is lucky and large enough beforehand.

Let H be a finite set of polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[X] = \mathbb{Z}[X_1, ..., X_n]$  and let p be a prime number. For a polynomial f in  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ ,  $f_p$  denotes the polynomial on  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X]$  induced from f. Moreover, define  $H_p = \{f_p | f \in H\}$ . Let > be a term order on  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$  and  $\overline{G}$  be the Gröbner basis obtained by the Buchberger algorithm from  $H_p$  on  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X]$ . Let G be a set of polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$  such that  $G_p = \overline{G}$ .

To see that G is a Gröbner basis we check that (i) every S-polynomial of G is reduced to 0 modulo G. If this is checked, then G is a Gröbner basis of 'some' ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ . To see that G is a Gröbner basis of the ideal I(H) generated by H, we check that (ii) every  $h \in H$  is reduced to 0 modulo G. If this is checked,  $I(H) \subset I(G)$  holds. Here, if the converse inclusion  $G \subset I(H)$  is satisfied, G is a correct Gröbner basis for H.

Arnold [1] proved that if H is homogeneous, the converse inclusion holds if the conditions (i) and (ii) above are checked. If H is not homogeneous, we homogenize it to  ${}^{\rm h}G$ , and complete it to G' by the modular algorithm, and then ahomogenizing it we obtain the Gröbner basis  $G = {}^{\rm a}G'$  of I(H). In this note we examine these steps precisely.

## 2 Compatible orders and weights

A quasi-order  $\geq$  on a set A is a reflexive, transitive and comparable relation on A. For  $a, b \in A$  we write  $x \sim y$  if  $x \geq y$  and  $y \geq x$ , and x > y if  $x \geq y$  and

 $(x \stackrel{>}{\sim} y).$ 

A quasi-order  $\geq$  on A is well-founded if there is no infinite decreasing sequence  $a_1 > a_2 > \dots$ , or equivalently, any nonempty subset of A has a minimal element. A well-founded order is a well-order.

Let  $X = \{X_1, X_2, ..., X_r\}$  be a finite set of symbols (variables). Let M(X) be the set of (monic) monomials, that is, M(X) is the free abelian monoid generated by X. Any element x in M(X) is written as

$$x = X_1^{e_1} X_2^{e_2} \cdots X_r^{e_r} \tag{1}$$

with  $e_i \in \mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , in particular, 1 denotes the identity element (the empty monomial). For another  $y = X_1^{f_1} X_2^{f_2} \cdots X_r^{f_r} \in M(X)$ , we have

$$xy = X_1^{e_1+f_1} X_2^{e_2+f_2} \cdots X_r^{e_r+f_r}.$$

From now on we consider only (quasi-)orders on M(X). A quasi-order on M(X) is compatible, if

$$x \ge y \implies sxt \ge syt$$

for any  $x, y, s, t \in M(X)$ . It is positive (resp. non-negative), if

$$x > 1$$
 (resp.  $x \ge 1$ )

for any  $x \neq 1 \in M(X)$ .

As is well known as a variant of Dickson's lemma (see [2]), a non-negative compatible quasi-order on M(X) is well-founded.

A weight function (simply a weight)  $\omega$  is a homomorphism from M(X) to the additive group  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers. The weight  $\omega$  is determined by the values  $\omega(X_i)$  of  $X_i \in X$ . In fact, for  $x \in M(X)$  in (1) we have

$$\omega(x) = e_1\omega(X_1) + e_2\omega(X_2) + \cdots + e_r\omega(X_r).$$

The set of weights on M(X) forms an  $\mathbb{R}$ -space of dimension d. A weight  $\omega$  is positive (resp. non-negative), if

$$\omega(X_i) > 0 \text{ (resp. } \omega(X_i) \ge 0)$$

for every i. It is rational (resp. integral), if

$$\omega(X_i) \in \mathbb{Q} \ (\text{resp. } \omega(X_i) \in \mathbb{Z})$$

for every i. The degree function deg is a typical positive integral weight. For a weight  $\omega$ , the associated quasi-order  $\geq_{\omega}$  is defined by

$$x \ge_{\omega} y \Leftrightarrow \omega(x) \ge \omega(y)$$

for  $x, y \in M(X)$ .

For a weight  $\omega$  on M(X),  $\geq_{\omega}$  is a compatible quasi-order on M(X). If  $\omega$  is positive (resp. non-negative), so is  $\geq_{\omega}$  and it is well-founded.

A weight  $\omega$  is  $\geq$ -monotone (simply monotone), if

$$x \ge y \Rightarrow \omega(x) \ge \omega(y),$$

or equivalently,

$$\omega(x) > \omega(y) \Rightarrow x > y$$

for  $x, y \in M(X)$ .

#### 3 Gröbner bases

Let K be a field and let K[X] be the polynomial ring in  $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_r$  over K. A compatible positive order on M(X) is called a *term order*, and we fix a term order  $\geq$  in this section.

For a polynomial

$$f = \sum_{x \in M(X)} k_x \cdot x \quad (k \in K)$$
 (2)

in K[X], the maximal x such that  $k_x \neq 0$  is the leading monomial of f denoted by lt(f), here  $k_x$  is the leading coefficient denoted by lt(f) and  $k_x \cdot x = lt(f) \cdot lm(f)$  is the leading term denoted by lt(f). We set rt(f) = f - lt(f). For a subset G of K[X], set

$$lm(G) = \{ lm(g) \mid g \in G \}.$$

We extend  $\geq$  to the quasi-order  $\geq$  on M(X) as follows. First,

(i) f > 0

for any nonzero  $f \in K[X]$ , and

(ii)  $f \ge g$  if lm(f) > lm(g) or (lm(f) = lm(g)) and  $rt(f) \ge rt(g)$  for any nonzero  $f, g \in K[X]$ .

Let  $G \subset K[X]$ . If some term of  $f \in K[X]$  is divided by lm(g) for some  $g \in G$ , f is G-reducible, otherwise, f is G-irreducible. Let Red(G) (resp. Irr(G)) denote the set of G-reducible (resp. G-irreducible) monomials. Clearly,

$$\operatorname{Red}(G) = \operatorname{Im}(G) \cdot M(X), \operatorname{Irr}(G) = M(X) \setminus \operatorname{Red}(G).$$

For  $f \in K[X]$ , if some term  $k \cdot x (k \in K \setminus \{0\}, x \in M(X))$  of f is G-reducible;  $x = x' \cdot \text{lm}(g)$  for some  $x' \in K[X]$  and  $g \in G$ , then we can rewrite f to

$$f' = f - k \cdot x' \left( \operatorname{lm}(g) - \frac{\operatorname{rt}(g)}{lc(g)} \right) = f - \frac{k}{\operatorname{lc}(g)} \cdot x'g.$$

In this situation we write as

$$f \to_G f'$$
.

The reflexive transitive closure of the relation  $\to_G$  is denoted by  $\to_G^*$ . If  $f \to_G^* f'$  for  $f, f' \in K[X]$ , we say that f is reduced to f' modulo G.

Let I be an ideal of K[X]. A finite set  $G \subset K[X]$  is a Gröbner basis of I, if (i)  $G \subset I$ , and

(ii) every  $f \in I$  is reduced to 0 modulo G.

The condition (ii) is equivalent to the inclusion  $lm(I) \subset Red(G)$ .

G is reduced, if any  $g \in G$  is  $(G \setminus \{g\})$ -irreducible. G is monic, if every  $f \in G$  is monic, that is lc(f) = 1. Any ideal in K[X] has a unique monic reduced Gröbner basis (if the order  $\geq$  is fixed).

**Lemma 3.1.** Let I be an ideal, and for  $x \in \text{lm}(I)$  choose one  $f_x$  in I such that  $\text{lm}(f_x) = x$ . Then,  $\{f_x\}_{x \in \text{lm}(I)}$  is a K-linear base of I. If is G a Gröbner basis of I, then  $\{f_x\}_{x \in \text{Red}(G)}$  is a K-linear base of I.

Suppose that K is the quotient field of an integral domain R. Let P be a maximal ideal of R and let  $\rho_P$  be the canonical surjection from R to the quotient  $\overline{R} = R/P$ . The homomorphism  $\rho_P$  extends to the homomorphism  $\rho$ :  $R[X] \to \overline{R}[X]$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** With the situation above, suppose that a subset G of R[X] is a Gröbner basis of an ideal I of K[X]. If lc(G) is out of P, then  $G_P = \rho_P(G)$  is a Gröbner basis of the ideal  $I_P = \rho_P(I \cap R[X])$  in  $R_P[X]$ .

## 4 Homogeneous ideals

Let  $\omega$  be a weight on M(X) and let  $v \in \mathbb{R}$ . A polynomial  $f \in K[X]$  is  $\omega$ -homogeneous (we simply say homogeneous) of weight v, if all the monomials in f have the same weight v. In this case v is the weight of f and we write  $\omega(f) = v$ . Any polynomial f is decomposed as a sum of the homogeneous polynomials;

$$f = \sum_{v \in \mathbb{R}} f[v],$$

where f[v] is homogeneous with weight v.

For a subset H of K[X], H[v] denotes the set of homogeneous elements with weight v. H is homogeneous, if every element of it is homogeneous, that is,  $H = \bigcup_{v \in \mathbb{R}} H[v]$ . An ideal of K[X] is homogeneous if it is generated by homogeneous polynomials. If I is a homogeneous ideal, then any element in I is a sum of homogeneous elements of I. Thus, I[v] is the set of homogeneous elements of I of weight v. A homogeneous ideal I has a homogeneous Gröbner basis. In fact, a reduced Gröbner basis of I is homogeneous.

If  $\omega$  is positive, then the set M(X)[v] of monomials with a given weight  $v \in \mathbb{R}$  is finite. If I is a homogeneous ideal, then for  $x \in \text{lm}(I)$ ,  $f_x$  can be chosen from I[v] such that  $\text{lm}(f_x) = x$ . By this observation together with Lemma 3.1, we have

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $\omega$  be a positive weight on M(X) and I be a homogeneous ideal of K[X]. Then, I[v] is a finite dimensional K-space with base  $\{f_x|x\in \text{Im}(I)[v]\}$ , and  $\dim_K I[v]=|\text{Im}(I)[v]|$ . If G is a Gröbner basis of I, then  $\dim_K I[v]=|\text{Red}(G)[v]|$ 

From here in this section R is a principal ideal domain, K is its quotient field, p is a prime element of R, and  $\rho_p$  denotes the canonical surjection from R to  $R_p = R/(p)$  as well as the canonical surjection from R[X] to  $R_p[X]$ . For an ideal I of K[X],  $I_p$  denotes the ideal  $\rho_p(I \cap R[X])$  of  $R_p[X]$ . If J is an ideal of R[X], then  $J_p = \rho_p(J)$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $\omega$  be a positive weight on M(X) and let I be a homogeneous ideal of K[X]. Then, for any  $v \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\dim_K I[v] \ge \dim_{R_p} I_p[v].$$

**Lemma 4.3.** Let  $\omega$  be a positive weight on M(X), and let I be a homogeneous ideal of K[X]. Let G be a (homogeneous) Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal L. Let  $\overline{G}$  be a (homogeneous) Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal  $\overline{J}$  of  $R_p[X]$ . If (i)  $I \subset L$ , (ii)  $\operatorname{Im}(G) = \operatorname{Im}(\overline{G})$ , and (iii)  $\overline{J} \subset I_p(=\rho_p(I \cap R[X]))$ , then I = L and G is a Gröbner basis of I.

Corollary 4.4. Let  $\omega$  be a positive weight on M(X), and let H be a homogeneous subset of R[X]. Let I (resp. J) be the ideal of K[X] (resp. R[X]) generated by H. Let G be a (homogeneous) Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal L. Let  $\overline{G}$  be a (homogeneous) Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal  $J_p$  of  $R_p[X]$ . If (i)  $I \subset L$ , and (ii)  $\operatorname{Im}(G) = \operatorname{Im}(\overline{G})$ , then I = L and G is a Gröbner basis of I.

## 5 Homogenization and ahomogenization

Let  $\omega$  be a fixed non-negative integral weight on M(X) with  $\omega(X_i) = v_i$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, r$ . For  $f \in K[X]$ , let  $m_{\omega}(f)$  denote the maximum of the weights of the monomials appearing in f.

We introduce a new indeterminate  $X_0$  and the weight  $\omega_0$  on  $M(X_0, X) = M([X_0, X_1, \ldots, X_r])$  defined by  $\omega_0(X_0) = 1$ , and  $\omega_0(X_i) = v_i$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, r$ . Let  $K[X_0, X] = K[X_0, X_1, \ldots, X_r]$ .

For  $f \in K[X]$ , define  ${}^{\mathrm{h}} f \in K[X_0, X]$  by

$$^{\mathbf{h}}f = X_0^t f(X_1 X_0^{-v_1}, \dots, X_r X_0^{-v_r}),$$

where  $t = m_{\omega}(f)$ . Then  ${}^{h}f$  is  $\geq_{0}$ -homogeneous. On the other hand for  $f \in K[X_{0}, X]$ , we define  ${}^{a}f \in K[X]$  by

$$^{\mathbf{a}}f = f[1, X].$$

For a subset H of K[X] (resp.  $K[X_0, X]$ ), set

$${}^{\mathbf{h}}H = \{{}^{\mathbf{h}}f \mid f \in H\} \text{ (resp. } {}^{\mathbf{a}}H = \{{}^{\mathbf{a}}f \mid f \in H\}).$$

For an ideal I of K[X],  ${}^{\bar{h}}I$  denotes the ideal of  $K[X_0, X]$  generated by  ${}^{h}I$ . Because the mapping sending  $f \in K[X_0, X]$  to  ${}^{a}f \in K[X]$  is a homomorphism,  ${}^{a}I$  is an ideal of K[X] for an ideal I of  $K[X_0, X]$ .

An order  $\geq_0$  on  $M(X_0, X)$  is defined as follows. For  $x, y \in M(X_0, X)$ 

$$x \ge_0 y \iff \omega_0(x) > \omega_0(y) \text{ or } (\omega_0(x) = \omega_0(y) \text{ and } {}^{\mathrm{a}}x \ge {}^{\mathrm{a}}y).$$

If  $\geq$  is positive (non-negative, well-founded, compatible) on M(X), so is it on  $M(X_0, X)$ . If  $\omega$  is monotone,  $\geq_0$  is an extension of  $\geq$ , that is,  $\geq_{0|M(X)} = \geq$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** (1)  $h(f \cdot g) = hf \cdot hg$  for  $f, g \in K[X]$ .

- (2)  $^{\mathrm{ah}}f = f$  for any  $f \in K[X]$ .
- (3)  ${}^{\mathrm{ah}}H = H$  and  ${}^{\mathrm{ah}}I = I$  for a subset H of K[X] and an ideal I of K[X],
- (4) For any homogeneous  $f \in K[X_0, X]$ ,  $X_0^t \cdot {}^{ha}f = f$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{N}$
- (5) For any  $f \in K[X] \operatorname{lm}({}^{h}f) = X_0^t \cdot \operatorname{lm}(f)$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $\omega$  is monotone,  $\operatorname{lm}({}^{h}f) = \operatorname{lm}(f)$ .
  - (6) For any homogeneous  $f \in K[X_0, X]$ ,  $X_0^t \cdot lm({}^{\mathbf{a}}f) = lm(f)$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Lemma 5.2.** (1) If G is a homogeneous Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal I of  $K[X_0, X]$ , then  ${}^{\alpha}G$  is a Gröbner basis of the ideal  ${}^{\alpha}I$  of K[X].

(2) Suppose that  $\omega$  is monotone. If G is a Gröbner basis of an ideal I of K[X], then  ${}^{h}G$  is a homogeneous Gröbner basis of  ${}^{\bar{h}}I$ .

Hereafter in this section, K is the quotient field of a principal ideal domain R and p is a prime element of R.

**Lemma 5.3.** Let  $\omega$  be a compatible positive integral weight on M(X). Let H be a subset of R[X], and let I (resp. J) be the ideal of K[X] (resp. R[X]) generated by H. Let G be a Gröbner basis of an ideal L of K[X]. Let  $\overline{G}$  be a Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal  $J_p$  of  $R_p[X]$ . If (i)  $I \subset L$ , and (ii)  $\operatorname{lm}(G) = \operatorname{lm}(\overline{G})$ , and (iii)  $\operatorname{lm}(f_p) \in (\overline{{}}^h I)_p$  for all  $f \in J$ , then I = L and G is a Gröbner basis of I.

If the condition (iii) in the above Lemma is satisfied, p is called lucky, but there is no way to find p is lucky effectively. Next we work in the homogenized side.

**Proposition 5.4.** Let H be a subset of K[X] and let I be an ideal of K[X] generated by H. Let I' (resp. J') be the ideal of  $K[X_0.X]$  (resp.  $R[X_0,X]$ ) generated by  ${}^{\rm h}H$ . Let  $\overline{G}$  be a homogeneous Gröbner basis of  $J'_p$  and let G be a homogeneous Gröbner basis of a homogeneous ideal L' of  $K[X_0,X]$ . If  $I' \subset L'$ , and  ${\rm lm}(G) = {\rm lm}(\overline{G})$ , then  ${}^{\rm h}G$  is a Gröbner basis of I. Moreover, if  $\omega$  is monotone,  ${}^{\rm h}G$  is a Gröbner basis of I

## 6 Algorithms and examples

Let p be a odd prime and let > be a term order on M(X). For  $f = a_n X^n + a_{n-1} X^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 X + a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ , let ||f|| be the maximal norm of f, that is,

$$||f|| = \max\{|a_i| | i = 0, \dots, n\}.$$

For  $f \in \mathbb{Z}_p[X]$ , let g = re(f) is a polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$  with minimal ||g|| satisfying  $g_p = c \cdot f$  with  $c \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ . For a set G of polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X]$ , set  $\text{re}(G) = \{\text{re}(f) \mid f \in G\}$ . Let H be a finite subset of  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ .

- (i) Compute the reduced Gröbner basis  $\overline{G}$  of  ${}^{\mathrm{h}}H_p$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X_0,X]$  with respect to  $>_0$ .
  - (ii) Compute  $G_0 = \operatorname{re}(\overline{G})$ .
  - (iii) Check if every S-polynomial reduced to 0 modulo  $G_0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[X_0, X]$ .
  - (iv) Check if every  $h \in {}^{\mathrm{h}}H$  is reduced to 0 modulo  $G_0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[X_0, X]$ .
  - (v) Let  $G = {}^{a}G_{0}$ .

If  $G_0$  obtained in (ii) passes the tests (iii) and (iv), then G is a correct Gröbner basis of H.

#### Example 6.1. Let

$$H = \{X^2 + 2Y, XY + 1\}.$$

We consider the pure lexicographic order with X > Y. We have an S-polynomial  $X - 2Y^2$ , and reducing the system  $H \cup \{X - 2Y^2\}$  we have a Gröbner basis

$$G = \{2Y^3 + 1, X - Y^2\}$$

of I(H). On the other hand, homogenizing H, we have

$${}^{\mathbf{h}}H = \{X^2 + 2YZ, XY + Z^2\}.$$

Let p = 5, Completing  ${}^{\rm h}H_p$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X,Y,Z]$ , we have a Gröbner basis

$$\overline{G} = \{X^2 + 2YZ, XY + Z^2, XZ^2 + 3Y^2Z, 2Y^3Z + Z^4\}$$

of  $I({}^{\rm h}H_p)$ . From this we reconstruct a Gröbner basis

$$G' = \{X^2 + 2YZ, XY + Z^2, XZ^2 - 2Y^2Z, 2Y^3Z + Z^4\}$$

of  $I({}^{\rm h}H)$  on  $\mathbb{Z}[X,Y,Z]$ . Then, a homogenizing it we have a Gröbner basis

$${}^{\mathbf{a}}G' = \{X^2 + 2Y, XY + 1, X - 2Y^2, 2Y^3 + 1\}.$$

of I(H). Then, reducing it we have  $\{2Y^3 + 1, X - Y^2\} = G$ .

As seen in the above example  ${}^{a}G'$  may not be reduced, though G' is reduced. Sometimes, G' can be very big compared with G. In these cases, our methods are not practical.

#### Example 6.2. Let

$$H = \{3X^2 + 5X^3 - 3Y^2, -4 - 4X^2 + 3XY + Y^3, 3 + XY + 5X^2Y + 4Y^2 - 3XY^2\}.$$

The reduced Gröbner basis of H is  $\{1\}$ . However, the reduced Gröbner basis of  ${}^{h}H$  is very big with a polynomial which involves an integer with 1120 digits in decimal expression in its coefficients.

## References

- [1] E.A. Arnold, Modular algorithms for computing Gröbner bases, J. Symbolic Comp. **35** (2003), 403–419.
- [2] T. Becker, V. Weispfenning, Gröbner bases, Springer, 1993.
- [3] B. Buchberger, Gröbner-bases: an algorithmic method in polynomial ideal theory, In: Multidimensional Systems Theory (1985), 184–232.
- [4] G.L. Elbert, Some comments on the modular approach to Gröbner-bases. ACM SIGSAM Bulletin 17, (1983), 28–32.
- [5] F. Winkler, A p-adic approach to the computation of Gröbner bases, J. Symbolic Comp. 6 (1987), 287-304.