## ON PERTURBATIONS OF IDEAL COMPLEMENTS

### BORIS SHEKHTMAN

To Nigel Kalton on occasion of his 60th birthday.

ABSTRACT. Let  $\mathbb{F}[x]$  be the space of polynomials in d variables, let  $\mathfrak{G}^N$  be the Grassmannian of N-dimensional subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}[x]$  and let  $J_N$  stand for the family of all ideals in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$  of codimension N. For a given  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  we let

$$\mathfrak{J}_G := \{J \in \mathfrak{J}_N : J \cap G = \{0\}\}$$

Is it true, that (with appropriate topology on  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ ) the set  $\mathfrak{J}_G$  is dense in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ ? In general the answer is "No". What is even more surprising, that there are "good ideals"  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  such that every "neighborhood"  $\mathcal{U}(J) \subset \mathfrak{J}_N$  has a non-empty intersection with  $\mathfrak{J}_G$  for any  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  and there are "bad" ideals  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  (for  $d \geq 3$ ) such that some "neighborhoods"  $\mathcal{U}(J) \subset \mathfrak{J}_N$  have an empty intersection with  $\mathfrak{J}_G$  for some  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$ . This contrast illuminates the non-homogeneous nature of  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ .

## 1. Preliminaries

Let F be a normed linear space, let  $\mathfrak{G}^N(F)$  be the Grassmannian of N-dimensional subspaces of F and let  $\mathfrak{G}_N(F)$  denotes the Grassmannian of all subspaces of F of codimension N. For a given  $G \in \mathfrak{G}_N(F)$  let

$$\mathfrak{G}_G(F) := \{ J \in \mathfrak{G}_N(F) : J \cap G = \{ 0 \} \}$$

i.e.,  $\mathfrak{G}_G(F)$  is a family of all subspaces J in F that are "missing" G or, equivalently, the family of all subspaces of F that complement G.

It is well-known and easy to see that (with appropriate topology on  $\mathfrak{G}_N(F)$ ) for any  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N(F)$ , the set  $\mathfrak{G}_G(F)$  is an open and dense subset of  $\mathfrak{G}_N(F)$ .

The main focus of this article is an investigation of the following "ideal" version of this statement.

Let  $F = \mathbf{F}[x] = [x_1, ..., x_d]$  be the space of polynomials in d variables over the field  $\mathbb{F}$  of real or complex numbers. Let  $J_N$  stand for the family of all ideals in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$  of codimension N. Let  $\mathfrak{G}^N := \mathfrak{G}^N(\mathbb{F}[x])$ . For a given  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  we let

$$\mathfrak{J}_G := \{J \in \mathfrak{J}_N : J \cap G = \{0\}\}$$

**Question :** Is it still true, that  $\mathfrak{J}_G$  is dense in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ ?

In general the answer is "No". What is even more surprising, that there are "good ideals"  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  such that every "neighborhood"  $\mathcal{U}(J) \subset \mathfrak{J}_N$  has a non-empty intersection with  $\mathfrak{J}_G$  for any  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  and there are "bad" ideals  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  (for  $d \geq 3$ ) such that some "neighborhoods"  $\mathcal{U}(J) \subset \mathfrak{J}_N$  have an empty intersection with  $\mathfrak{J}_G$ for some  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$ . This contrast illuminates the non-homogeneous nature of  $\mathfrak{J}$  (as oppose to  $\mathfrak{G}_N$ ).

<sup>1991</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 46H10,46J05,46J20; Secondary 14C05. Key words and phrases. Ideal complements, Ideal projections.

#### BORIS SHEKHTMAN

We will use the rest of this section to describe the topology on  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ . Actually, any norm on  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  and any "reasonable" notion of convergence of a sequences of ideals in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$  will lead to the same results. The underlined reason for it is the existence of intrinsic (Zariski) topology on the Hilbert scheme  $\mathfrak{F}^N(\mathbb{F}^d)$  parametrizing  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ , which is formally weaker then any reasonable topology (cf. [6]).

For the sake of specificity, define the norm of  $f = \sum \hat{f}(\mathbf{k}) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  by

$$\|f\| := \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left| \hat{f}(\mathbf{k}) \right|,$$

which turns  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  into a normed space with continuous multiplication. Let  $(\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}])'$  be the dual of  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ . An ideal  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  induces an N-dimensional subspace  $J^{\perp} \subset (\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}])'$  defined as

$$J^{\perp} := \{ \lambda \in (\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}])' : \lambda(f) = 0, \forall f \in J \}$$

that uniquely identifies the ideal J via  $(J^{\perp})^{\top} = J$ . We will adopt the following definition of convergence:

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $(J_m, m \in \mathbb{N})$  be a sequence of ideals in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$  and let  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$ . We say that  $J_m \to J$  if for every  $\lambda \in J^{\perp}$  there exists  $\lambda_m \in J_m^{\perp}$  such that

(1.1) 
$$\lambda_m(f) \longrightarrow \lambda(f)$$

for every  $f \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ .

A simple perturbation argument yields the following:

**Theorem 1.2.** (cf [8]) Let  $(J, J_m, m \in \mathbb{N})$  be a sequence of ideals in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$  such that  $J_m \to J$ . Let  $E \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  complements J. Then the space E complements  $J_m$  for sufficiently large m and

$$(1.2) P_m f \to P f$$

for all  $f \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ , where  $P_m$  and P are projections onto E with ker  $P_m = J_m$ , ker P = J.

Conversely, let  $P_m$  and P be projections onto a space E with ideal kernels, such that (1.2) holds. Then ker  $P_m \rightarrow \text{ker } P$ .

**Definition 1.3.** (Birkhoff, [1]). A linear idempotent operator P on  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  is called an ideal projection if ker P is an ideal in  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ .

The symbol  $\mathfrak{P}_N$  will stand for all N-dimensional ideal projections and for a  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  we let  $\mathfrak{P}_G$  be the family of all ideal projections onto G. Thus  $\mathfrak{J}_G$  is in one-to-one correspondence with  $\mathfrak{P}_G$ .

A nice characterization of ideal projections is due to C. de Boor [2]:

**Proposition 1.4.** Let P be a linear mapping on  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ . Then P is an ideal projection if and only if

(1.3) 
$$P(fg) = P(f \cdot Pg)$$

for all  $f, g \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ .

In one variable, the space  $F_{\leq N}[x]$  of polynomials of degree less than N complements every ideal  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  (cf. proof of Proposition 2.1 below). In two or more variables there does not exist a subspace  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$  with this property. However: **Theorem 1.5.** For every N and d there exists a fixed finite family  $\mathcal{E}^N$  of Ndimensional (translation-invariant and spanned by monomials) subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ such that every  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  complements at least one  $E \in \mathcal{E}^N$ .

Let  $\mathbb{F}_{< N}[\mathbf{x}]$  be the space of polynomials of degree less than N and  $\mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]$  be the space of polynomials of degree at most N. It follows from Theorem 1.5 that every  $E \in \mathcal{E}^N$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_{< N}[\mathbf{x}]$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{E}^N \subset \mathfrak{G}^N(\mathbb{F}_{< N}[\mathbf{x}])$ 

The next theorem is a consequence of Theorem 1.5 and the de Boor's formula.

**Theorem 1.6.** Let  $(J, J_m, m \in \mathbb{N})$  be a sequence of ideals in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$ . Then  $J_m \to J$  if and only if there exists a subspace  $E \in \mathbb{F}_{< N}[\mathbf{x}]$  and a sequence of ideal projections  $(P, P_m, m > M)$  such ker P = J, ker  $P_m = J_m$  and

(1.4) 
$$\|P - P_m\|_{\mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]} \to 0.$$

*Proof.* If  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  then by Theorem 1.5 there exists a subspace  $E \subset \mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]$  that complements J and since  $\mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]$  is finite-dimensional, by the Theorem 1.2, (1.3) implies (1.4).

Conversely, suppose that  $f \in \mathbb{F}_{\leq K}[\mathbf{x}]$  for some  $K \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $K \leq N$  then (1.2) follows from (1.4). Assuming (1.2) for all monomials  $f \in \mathbb{F}_{\leq K}[\mathbf{x}]$ , let g be a monomial of degree K + 1. Then  $g = x_j f$  for some j = 1, ..., d and by (1.3):

$$\left\|Pg - P_mg\right\|_{\mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]} = \left\|P(x_j P f) - P_m(x_j P_m f)\right\|_{\mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]} \to 0$$

since  $x_j Pf, x_j P_m f \in \mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]$  and  $x_j P_m f \to x_j Pf$  by inductive assumption. Hence (1.2) holds for all monomials.

This theorem allows us to define an  $\varepsilon$ -neighborhood of an ideal  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$ : Let  $E \in \mathcal{E}^N$  be such that  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_E$ . Let P be an ideal projection onto E with ker P = E. Define

$$\mathcal{U}(E, J, \varepsilon) = \{ \ker Q, : Q \in \mathfrak{P}_E, \|P - Q\|_{\mathbb{F}_{\leq N}[\mathbf{x}]} < \varepsilon$$

and

$$\mathcal{U}(J,\varepsilon) = \underset{J \in \mathfrak{J}_E}{\cap} U(E,J,\varepsilon).$$

# 2. "Good Ideals"

We will now examine closely one special space  $E \in \mathcal{E}^N$ :

(2.1) 
$$E := \operatorname{span}\{1, x_1, x_1^2, ..., x_1^{N-1}\}$$

viewed as an N-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] = \mathbb{F}[x_1, x_2, ..., x_d]$ . Let P be an ideal projection onto E. Then

(2.2)  

$$P(x_1^N) = p_1 = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{1,j} x_1^j,$$

$$P(x_2) = p_2 = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{2,j} x_1^j,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$P(x_1) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{2,j} x_1^j,$$

$$P(x_d) = p_d = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{d,j} x_1^j.$$

Let B be the collection of coefficients

(2.3) 
$$B = (b_{k,j}, k = 1, ..., d; j = 0, ..., N - 1)$$

Then, by the de Boor's formula (1.3), we have

$$P(x_1^{N+1}) = P(x_1 P x_1^N) = P(x_1(\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{1,j} x_1^j))$$
  
=  $P(\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{1,j} x_1^{j+1}) = b_{1,N-1}(\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} b_{1,j} x_1^j + \sum_{j=0}^{N-2} b_{1,j} x_1^{j+1})$   
=  $b_{1,N-1} b_{1,0} + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} b_{1,N-1} (b_{1,j} + b_{1,j-1}) x_1^j.$ 

Inductively, we conclude that

$$P(x_1^k) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} q_{k,j}(B) x_1^j$$

for all k, where  $q_{k,j} \in \mathbb{F}[B]$  are polynomials in dN variables B. Now, using  $P(x_j f) = P(fPx_j)$  for every  $f \in E$  we conclude that

(2.4) 
$$Pf = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} q_{f,j}(B) x_1^j$$

for  $f \in x_j E$ , where  $q_{f,j} \in \mathbb{F}[B]$ . Inductively, (1.8) holds for all  $f \in \mathbf{x}^k E$  and therefore for all  $f \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  with  $q_{f,j} \in \mathbb{F}[B]$ .

Hence a sequence of d polynomials  $(p_1, ..., p_d)$  given by (1.4) (or equivalently the sequence of dN coefficients B) completely determines the ideal projector P onto E. What so special about this particular space E is that the converse also holds:

**Proposition 2.1.** Every sequence  $(p_1, ..., p_d)$  of polynomials in E defines an ideal  $J = \langle x_1^N - p_1, x_2 - p_2, ..., x_d - p_d \rangle$  that complements E. Hence every sequence B of dN scalars defines an ideal projection  $P_B$  onto E by (2.4) and every ideal projection P onto E defines a sequence  $B_P$  by (2.2). Clearly

$$P_{B_P} = P$$
 and  $B_{P_B} = B$ .

*Proof.* It is clear from the construction of E that  $E \cap J = \{0\}$ . Let  $f \in \mathbb{F}[x_1]$  be a polynomial in only one variable. Using the division algorithm in  $\mathbb{F}[x_1]$  we have  $f = q(x_1^N - p_1) + r$  with deg r < N. Thus the ideal  $\langle x_1^N - p_1 \rangle$  generated by  $x_1^N - p_1$ complements the space  $\mathbb{F}_{< N}[x_1]$  of polynomials of degree less than N in  $\mathbb{F}[x_1]$  and  $E + J \supset \mathbb{F}[x_1]$ . Inductively, we assume that  $E + J \supset \mathbb{F}[x_1, ..., x_k]$ , k < d and prove that  $E + J \supset \mathbb{F}[x_1, ..., x_k, x_{k+1}]$ , i.e., we need to show that  $x_{k+1}^n \mathbb{F}[x_1, ..., x_k] \subset E + J$ for all n. For  $f \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, ..., x_k]$  we have

(2.5) 
$$x_{k+1}f = (x_{k+1} - p_{k+1})f + p_{k+1}f \in E + J$$

since the first term is in the ideal J and the second belongs to E + J by inductive assumption. Using induction on n, assume that  $f \in x_{k+1}^n \mathbb{F}[x_1, ..., x_k]$  and conclude that  $x_{k+1}f \in x_{k+1}^{n+1}\mathbb{F}[x_1, ..., x_k]$  has a representation (2.5).

**Corollary 2.2.**  $B_m \to B$  if and only if ker  $P_{B_m} \to \ker P_B$ .

*Proof.* Since  $q_{f,j}(B)$  in (2.4) are polynomials (hence continuous function of B)  $B_m \to B$  implies  $P_{B_m} f \to P_B f$  for every f. Conversely, if  $P_{B_m} f \to P_B f$  then  $P_{B_m}x_1^N \to P_Bx_1^N$  and  $P_{B_m}x_j \to P_Bx_j$  for all j = 2, ..., d. Now  $B_m \to B$  follows from (2.2).

We are now ready to prove that every ideal  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_E$  is a "good ideal".

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_E$  and  $G \in \mathfrak{G}^N$ . Then every neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}(J)$  has a non-empty intersection with  $\mathfrak{J}_G$ .

*Proof.* First, we establish that  $\mathfrak{J}_E \cap \mathfrak{J}_G \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $g_1, ..., g_N$  be a bases in G and  $e_1, ..., e_N$  be a bases in E. There exists a sequence  $\{\mathbf{z}_1^*, ..., \mathbf{z}_N^*\}$  of points in  $\mathbb{F}^d$  such that  $g_j(\mathbf{z}_k^*) = \delta_{j,k}$  and hence the polynomial

$$\det(g_j(\mathbf{z}_k), j=1, \dots N)$$

in dN variables (coordinates of the points  $\mathbf{z}_k$ ) is not identically zero. Therefore the set

$$\mathcal{Z}_G := \{ (\mathbf{z}_1, ..., \mathbf{z}_N) : \det(g_j(\mathbf{z}_k)) \neq 0 \}$$

is an open and dense set in  $(\mathbb{F}^d)^N$ . Similarly the set

 $\mathcal{Z}_E := \{ (\mathbf{z}_1, ..., \mathbf{z}_N) : \det(e_j(\mathbf{z}_k)) \neq 0 \}$ 

is an open and dense set in  $(\mathbb{F}^d)^N$ . Thus  $\mathcal{Z}_G \cap \mathcal{Z}_E \neq \emptyset$  and for any  $(\mathbf{z}_1, ..., \mathbf{z}_N) \in \mathcal{Z}_G \cap \mathcal{Z}_E$ , the ideal

$$J := \{ f \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] : f(\mathbf{z}_j) = 0, j = 1, ...N \}$$

complements E and G.

Therefore, there exists a sequence  $B^* \in \mathbb{F}^{dN}$  such that  $P_{B^*}$  is an ideal projection onto E and ker  $P_{B^*} \in \mathfrak{J}_G$ . Let

$$\mathcal{B}_G := \{ B \in \mathbb{F}^{dN} : \ker P_B \in \mathfrak{J}_G \}$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{B}_G \neq \emptyset$ . Suppose that ker  $P_B \in \mathfrak{J}_G$  i.e., ker  $P_B \cap G = \{0\}$ . Then

$$P_B(\sum_{k=1}^N \alpha_k g_k) = \sum_{k=1}^N \alpha_k P_B g_k = 0$$

implies  $\alpha_k = 0$  for all k = 1, ..., N. Hence ker  $P_B \in \mathfrak{J}_G$  is the same as linear independency of the sequence of polynomials  $(P_B g_k, k = 1, ..., N)$ . Since, by (2.4),  $P_B f = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} q_{g_k,j}(B) x_1^j$  this is equivalent to

$$\det(q_{g_k,j}(B)) \neq 0.$$

Since  $\mathcal{B}_G \neq \emptyset$ , this determinant is a non-zero polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}[B]$ , hence there exists an open and dense set of  $B \subset \mathbb{F}^{dN}$  such that ker  $P_B \in \mathfrak{J}_G$ .

# 3. "BAD IDEALS"

In this section we will use a beautiful construction of A. Iarrobino and modified the reasoning of [7] to show that for  $d \geq 3$  and for sufficiently large Nthere exists an ideal  $J \in \mathfrak{J}_N$  such that J is not the limit of ideals in  $\mathfrak{J}_E$ , where  $E := \operatorname{span}\{1, x_1, x_1^2, ..., x_1^{N-1}\}$  is the space considered in the previous section.

Let  $W := M_{\leq n}^d[\mathbf{x}]$  be the set of monomials of degree less than n. Let  $U \cup V = M_n^d[\mathbf{x}]$  be a non-trivial partition of the set  $M_n^d[\mathbf{x}]$  of all monomials of degree n in  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ . Let H be the subspace of  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  spanned by  $\mathbb{F}_{\leq n}^d[\mathbf{x}]$  and V and let

(3.1) 
$$N = \dim H = \#V + \#W$$

#### BORIS SHEKHTMAN

For any choice of matrix  $C \in \mathbb{F}^{U \times V}$ , the space  $J_C$  spanned by monomials of degree greater than n and the specific polynomials

$$(3.2) p_u := u - \sum_{v \in V} C(u, v)v, \ u \in U,$$

complements H and is an ideal. The latter is so because each  $p_u$  is homogeneous, thus every product of a monomial with  $p_u$  is in  $J_C$ . Furthermore, as is easy to see

(3.3) 
$$\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] = H \oplus J_C.$$

for each C.

**Theorem 3.1.** For any  $d \geq 3$  and for sufficiently large n, there exists a partition  $U \cup V = M_n^d[\mathbf{x}]$  and a matrix  $C \in \mathbb{F}^{U \times V}$  such that the ideal  $J_C$  can not be perturbed to complement E.

*Proof.* Assume that  $J_C$  complements H and that there is a small perturbation of  $J_C$  that complements E. In other words, assume the existence of a sequence of ideals  $\{J_m\}$  such that each  $J_m$  complements G and  $J_m \to J_C$ . This is the same as the existence of a sequence of ideal projections  $P_m$  onto H such that ker  $P_n$  complements E and H at the same time and  $P_m f \to P f$  for every  $f \in \mathbb{F}^d[\mathbf{x}]$ . In particular

$$u - P_m u \to u - \sum_{v \in V} C(u, v)v, \forall u \in U.$$

Since  $P_m$  is a projection onto H it follows that

(3.4) 
$$P_m u = \sum_{v \in V} C_m(u, v)v + \sum_{w \in W} C_m(u, w)w$$

and

$$(3.5) C_m(u,v) \to C(u,v), \forall u \in U \text{ and } C_m(u,w) \to 0, \forall w \in W.$$

Since ker  $P_m$  complements E, we let  $Q_m$  be the ideal projection onto E with ker  $Q_m = \ker P_m$ . Then  $u - P_m u \in \ker P_m = \ker Q_m$  and

$$0 = Q_m(u - P_m u) = Q_m u - (\sum_{v \in V} C_m(u, v)Q_m v + \sum_{w \in W} C_m(u, w)Q_m w)$$

or

(3.6) 
$$\sum_{v \in V} C_m(u,v)Q_mv + \sum_{w \in W} C_m(u,w)Q_mw = Q_mu.$$

At this point it is important to notice that, as projections onto E, the operators  $Q_m$  depend polynomially on  $d \times N$  parameters B as in (2,4):

(3.7) 
$$Q_m f = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} q_{k,f}^{(m)}(B) x_1^k$$

where  $q_{k,f}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{F}^{dN}[B]$ . Rewriting (3.6) we have:

(3.8) 
$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\sum_{v \in V} C_m(u, v) q_{k,v}^{(m)}(B) + \sum_{w \in W} C_m(u, W) q_{k,w}^{(m)}(B)) x_1^k = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} q_{k,u}^{(m)}(B) x_1^k$$

or equivalently (3 0)

$$\sum_{v \in V}^{(3,9)} C_m(u,v) q_{k,v}^{(m)}(B) + \sum_{w \in W} C_m(u,w) q_{k,w}^{(m)}(B) = q_{k,u}^{(m)}(B), u \in U, k = 0, ..., N-1.$$

Since #V + #W = N, this is the system of  $N \times \#U$  equations with the same number of unknowns  $\{C_m(u, v), u \in U\}$  and  $\{C_m(u, w), u \in U\}$ . By Cramer's rule

(3.10) 
$$C_m(u,v) = \frac{\det V_{m,u,v}(B)}{\det V_m(B)},$$

where det  $V_m(B)$  is the determinant of the matrix on the left-hand side of (3.9), and det  $V_{m,u,v}(A)$  is the determinant of the same matrix with the (u, k)-th column replaced by the column  $(q_{k,u}^{(m)}(B))$ . Notice that that makes  $C_m(u, v)$  rational function of  $d \times N$  parameters B with common denominator. Thinking of  $1/\det V_m(B)$ as just another variable, say z, we conclude that the set

$$\mathfrak{C} := \{ z \det V_{n,u,v}(B), \ B \in \mathbb{F}^{dN}, z \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\} \} \subset \mathbb{F}^{\#U \times \#V}$$

is a polynomial image of  $\mathbb{F}^{dN+1}$  where the first dN parameters are the parameters of B. As such  $\mathfrak{C}$  forms an affine subvariety of  $\mathbb{F}^{\#U \times \#V}$  with dim  $\mathfrak{C} \leq dN + 1$  (cf [4], Theorem 2, p. 466). Hence if

$$(3.11) \qquad \qquad \#U \times \#V > dN + 1$$

then there exists a collection  $C(u, v) \in \mathbb{F}^{\#U \times \#V}$  which is not in the closure of  $\mathfrak{C}$ , contradicting (3,5).

Now we only need to count. As was pointed out in [5], we have  $\#M_n^d[\mathbf{x}] = \binom{n+d-1}{d-1} \approx (\frac{n^{d-1}}{(d-1)!})$ , choosing the partition  $U \cup V = M_n^d[\mathbf{x}]$  such that  $\#U = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} \binom{n+d-1}{d-1} \right\rfloor$  we have

$$\#U \times \#V = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} \binom{n+d-1}{d-1} \right\rfloor \left\lceil \frac{1}{2} \binom{n+d-1}{d-1} \right\rceil \approx \frac{1}{4} (\frac{n^{d-1}}{(d-1)!})^2 \approx n^{2d-2}$$

while  $N = \dim H = \dim \mathbb{F}_{\leq n}^{d}[\mathbf{x}] - \#U = \binom{n+d}{d} - \lfloor \frac{1}{2} \binom{n+d-1}{d-1} \rfloor \approx \frac{n^{d}}{d!} \approx n^{d}$ . Hence for sufficiently large n, (3.11) holds. Direct computation yield (3.11) with n = 7, for d = 3; n = 3 for d = 4 or 5 and n = 2 for d > 5.

**Remark 3.2.** The "bad" ideals do not exist in  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$  for d = 1, as follow from the Theorem 2.3, since, for d = 1, every ideal in  $\mathfrak{J}_N$  is complemented to

$$E := span\{1, x_1, x_1^2, ..., x_1^{N-1}\}.$$

"Bad" ideals also do not exist in  $\mathbb{C}[\mathbf{x}]$  for d = 2 as noted in [8]. The existence of "bad" ideals in  $\mathbb{R}[\mathbf{x}]$  for d = 2 is an open problem.

## References

- Birkhoff, G. The Algebra of Multivariate Interpolation, in "Constructive approaches to mathematical models." (C.V. Coffman and G.J.Fix Eds.), pp345-363, Academic Press, New-York, 1979
- [2] de Boor, C. Ideal Interpolation, Approximation Theory XI: Gatlinburg 2004, C. K. Chui, M. Neamtu and L.L.Schumaker (eds.), Nashboro Press (2005), pp.59–91.
- [3] Cox, D., J.Little and D. O'Shea, Using Algebraic Geometry, Graduate Texts in Mathematics, Springer-Verlag, New-York-Berlin-Heidelberg, 1997.

### BORIS SHEKHTMAN

- [4] Cox, D., J.Little and D. O'Shea, Ideals, Varieties, and Algorithms, (second edition), Springer-Verlag, New-York-Berlin-Heidelberg, 1997.
- [5] Iarrobino, A. Reducibility of the Families of 0-dimensional Schemes on a Variety, Inventiones Math. 15, (1972) pp.72-77.
- [6] Mumford, D., The Red Book of Varieties and Schemes, Lecture Notes in Mathematics 1358, Springer-Verlag 1988.
- [7] Shekhtman, B., On a Conjecture of Carl de Boor Regarding the Limits of Lagrange Interpolants. Constr. Approx. 3, (2006) 24: 365–370
- [8] Shekhtman, B., On Bivariate Ideal Projectors and their Perturbations, Advances in Comput. Math. (to appear).

Department of Mathematics,, University of South Florida,, Tampa, Fl. 33620 $E\text{-}mail\ address:\ boris@math.usf.edu$ 

8