# ON THE MINIMAL GRADED FREE RESOLUTION OF POWERS OF LEXSEGMENT IDEALS

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ABSTRACT. We consider powers of lexsegment ideals with a linear resolution (equivalently, with linear quotients) which are not completely lexsegment ideals. We give a complete description of their minimal graded free resolution.

### Introduction

Let  $S = K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  be the polynomial ring in n variables over a field Kand  $<_{lex}$  the lexicographical order with respect to  $x_1 >_{lex} > \cdots >_{lex} x_n$ . Fix an integer  $d \ge 2$  and let u and v be two monomials of degree d in S such that  $u >_{lex} v$ . The lexsegment ideal determined by the monomials u and v,  $(\mathcal{L}(u, v))$ , is the monomial ideal generated by all the monomials w in S of degree d which have the property that  $u >_{lex} v$ .

Defined by H. Hulett and H. M. Martin [8], lexsegment ideals have been studied in several papers [1, 4, 5, 6, 9]. Their properties such as being Gotzmann, normally torsion-free or sequentially Cohen–Macaulay have been completely characterized [9, 10, 11]. All the characterizations are in terms of the numerical data of the monomials that determine the lexsegment.

It is known that any ideal with linear quotients generated in one degree has a linear resolution, but the converse does not hold (see, for instance, [3, Lemma 1 and Example 4.2]). In [5, Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 2.1], it is proved that these two notions are equivalent for the class of lexsegment ideals. Moreover, for the case of completely lexsegment ideals with linear quotients, the minimal graded free resolution can be described. It is natural to ask whether the powers of an ideal with linear quotients have again linear quotients. Conca's example shows

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that this is not true in general [2, Example 3.2], but for lexsegment ideals, this property is preserved by their powers [6, Theorem 2.10 and Corollary 3.9].

We will consider powers of lexsegment ideals with a linear resolution which are not completely lexsegment ideal and we describe their minimal graded free resolution by proving that their decomposition function is regular and using the result of J. Herzog and Y. Takayama for this case [7]. In this way, the minimal graded free resolution of lexsegment ideals with linear quotients is completely described.

The paper is organized in three sections. In the first section, we define all the notations and the terminologies and we recall some known results which will play a key role in the proofs.

In the second section, we consider powers of a lexsegment ideal I with linear quotients which is not a completely lexsegment ideal. We describe the decomposition function associated with the increasing reverse lexicographical order and we show that this is regular. By using the results of J. Herzog and Y. Takayama [7], we write the minimal graded free resolution of  $I^k$  for all  $k \ge 1$ .

In the last section, we consider an example in order to illustrate the results.

### 1. Preliminaries

Let  $S = K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  be the polynomial ring in n variables over a field Kand we fix the lexicographical order,  $\langle_{lex}$ , on S with respect to the order of the variables  $x_1 >_{lex} > \cdots >_{lex} x_n$ . For a monomial  $m = x_1^{a_1} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$ , we denote by  $\nu_i(m)$  the exponent of the variable  $x_i$  in the monomial m, that is,  $\nu_i(m) = a_i$ . The set  $\operatorname{supp}(m) = \{i : \nu_i(m) \neq 0\}$  is called the *support* of the monomial m. Let us denote  $\min(m) := \min(\operatorname{supp}(m))$  and  $\max(m) := \max(\operatorname{supp}(m))$ . If Iis a monomial ideal in S, then G(I) will be the set of its minimal monomial generators.

For  $d \geq 2$  an integer, we denote by  $\mathcal{M}_d(S)$  the set of all monomials of degree d in S. Let  $u, v \in \mathcal{M}_d(S)$  be two monomials such that  $u >_{lex} v$ . The set

$$\mathcal{L}(u,v) = \{ w \in \mathcal{M}_d(S) : u >_{lex} w >_{lex} v \}$$

is called the *lexsegment set* determined by the monomials u and v. A *lexsegment ideal* is a monomial ideal generated by a lexsegment set. An important notion in the study of the lexsegment ideals is the shadow of a set of monomials. For a set of monomials  $T \subseteq S$ , one may define its *shadow* as being the set  $\text{Shad}(T) = \{x_iw : 1 \leq i \leq n, w \in T\}$ . Moreover, the *i*th shadow is recursively defined as  $\text{Shad}^i(T) = \text{Shad}^{i-1}(\text{Shad}(T))$ .

A lexsegment set is called a *completely lexsegment set* if all the iterated shadows are again lexsegment sets. An ideal generated by a completely lexsegment set is called a *completely lexsegment ideal*.

In [7, pg. 278], the class of ideals with linear quotients is considered.

**Definition 1.1** ([7]). A monomial ideal  $I \subseteq S$  has *linear quotients* if there exists an ordering of its minimal monomial generators  $m_1, \ldots, m_r$  such that the ideal  $(m_1, \ldots, m_{i-1}) : (m_i)$  is generated by a set of variables for all  $i \geq 2$ .

If I is a monomial ideal which has linear quotients with respect to the sequence  $m_1, \ldots, m_r$ , then one may consider the sets

$$set(m_i) = \{j : x_j \in (m_1, \dots, m_{i-1}) : (m_i)\}$$

for all  $i \geq 2$ .

The following result collects known results on lexsegment ideals.

**Theorem 1.2** ([1, 5, 6]). Let  $u = x_1^{a_1} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$  with  $a_1 > 0$  and  $v = x_1^{b_1} \cdots x_n^{b_n}$  be monomials of degree d with  $u \ge_{lex} v$  and let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  be a lexsegment ideal. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) I has a linear resolution.
- (2) I has linear quotients.
- (3) All the powers of I have linear quotients.
- (4) All the powers of I have a linear resolution.

If we restrict to the case of lexsegment ideals which are not completely lexsegment ideals, we have the following result which combines [1, Theorem 2.4], [5, Theorem 2.1], and [6, Corollary 3.9]:

**Theorem 1.3.** Let  $u = x_1^{a_1} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$  with  $a_1 > 0$  and  $v = x_2^{b_2} \cdots x_n^{b_n}$  be monomials of degree d with  $u \ge_{lex} v$ , and let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  be a lexsegment ideal which is not completely lexsegment. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(1) u and v have the following form:

$$u = x_1 x_{l+1}^{a_{l+1}} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$$
 and  $v = x_l x_n^{d-1}$ 

for some  $l, 2 \leq l \leq n-1$ .

- (2) I has a linear resolution.
- (3) I has linear quotients.
- (4) All the powers of I have linear quotients.
- (5) All the powers of I have a linear resolution.

The order of the minimal monomial generators for which  $I^k$  has linear quotients for all  $k \ge 1$ , where I is a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not completely lexsegment ideal, is the increasing reverse lexicographical order. We recall that  $m_1 <_{revlex} m_2$  if there is some  $s, 1 \le s \le n$ , such that  $\nu_i(m_1) = \nu_i(m_2)$  for all  $i \ge s$  and  $\nu_s(m_1) > \nu_s(m_2)$ .

Remark 1.4. Let  $u, v \in \mathcal{M}_d$  be two monomials,  $u \geq_{lex} v$ , and  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  be the corresponding lexsegment ideal. Note that we may always assume  $x_1 \mid u$  and  $x_1 \nmid v$ . Indeed, if  $x_1 \mid v$ , then we denote  $u = x_1^{a_1} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$  and  $v = x_1^{b_1} \cdots x_n^{b_n}$  with  $a_1 \geq b_1 > 0$ . If  $a_1 = b_1$ , then  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  is isomorphic, as an S-module, to the ideal generated by the lexsegment  $\mathcal{L}(u/x_1^{a_1}, v/x_1^{b_1})$  of degree  $d - a_1$ . This lexsegment may be studied in the polynomial ring in a smaller number of

variables. If  $a_1 > b_1$ , then  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  and  $(\mathcal{L}(u/x_1^{b_1}, v/x_1^{b_1}))$  are isomorphic as S-modules and we have  $\nu_1(u/x_1^{b_1}) > 1$  and  $\nu_1(v/x_1^{b_1}) = 0$ . Therefore, we will always assume that  $x_1 \mid u$  and  $x_1 \nmid v$ .

## 2. Powers of lexsegment ideals with a linear resolution which are not completely lexsegment ideals

In the sequel, we show that all the powers of lexsegment ideals with a linear resolution which are not completely lexsegment ideals have a regular decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. For two monomials u, v of degree d, we denote by  $\mathcal{L}(u, v)$  the corresponding lexsegment ideal. We will consider only the case when  $x_1 \mid u$  and  $x_1 \nmid v$ .

By using Theorem 1.3, we will assume that u and v are monomials of degree  $d \geq 2$  such that  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  is a lexsegment ideal which is not a completely lexsegment ideal, and that u and v have the following form:

$$u = x_1 x_{l+1}^{a_{l+1}} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$$
 and  $v = x_l x_n^{d-1}$ 

for some  $l, 2 \leq l \leq n-1$ .

For a lexsegment  $\mathcal{L}(u, v)$ , we assume that the elements are ordered by the increasing reverse lexicographical order. We denote by  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  the lexsegment ideal, and by  $I^k_{\leq revlex} w$ , the ideal generated by all the monomials  $z \in G(I^k)$  with  $z <_{revlex} w$ .  $I^k_{\leq revlex} w$  will be the ideal generated by all the monomials  $z \in G(I^k)$  with  $z \leq_{revlex} w$ .

In order to describe the decomposition function, we need some preparatory results.

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $m \in G(I^k)$  a monomial. If  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ , then  $s > \min(m)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in set(m)$ , there exists a monomial  $w \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w <_{revlex} m$  such that  $x_s m = x_t w$  for some  $t, 1 \le t \le n$ . Obviously,  $m \ne w$ implies  $s \ne t$  and  $x_t \mid m$ . Moreover,  $w = x_s m / x_t m <_{revlex} m$  gives s > t. The statement follows since  $x_t \mid m$  implies  $t \ge \min(m)$ .

One may note that, once we fix an integer  $l, 2 \leq l \leq n-1$ , a monomial  $m \in S$  may be uniquely written as  $m = \overline{m}\tilde{m}$  with  $\overline{m} \in K[x_1, \ldots, x_l]$  and  $\tilde{m} \in K[x_{l+1}, \ldots, x_n]$ . In particular, we have  $\max(\overline{m}) \leq l < \min(\tilde{m})$ . On the set of all monomials of degree kd in S,  $\mathcal{M}_{kd}(S)$ , we define the order  $\prec$  as follows: for  $m_1, m_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{kd}(S)$ , we say that  $m_1 \prec m_2$  if  $\deg(\overline{m_1}) < \deg(\overline{m_2})$  or  $\deg(\overline{m_1}) = \deg(\overline{m_2})$  and  $m_1 <_{lex} m_2$ .

If  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  with  $x_1 \mid u$  and  $x_1 \nmid v$  is a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal, then  $u = x_1 x_{l+1}^{a_l+1} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$  and  $v = x_l x_n^{d-1}$  for some integer  $l, 2 \leq l \leq n-1$ . Therefore, through this paper, we will assume that the fixed integer which will be used in the order  $\prec$  is l.

Remark 2.2. If  $m \in G(I^k)$ , then  $\deg(\overline{m}) \ge k$  since  $u = x_1 x_{l+1}^{a_{l+1}} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$  and  $v = x_l x_n^{d-1}$  for some  $l, 2 \le l \le n-1$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $m \in G(I^k)$  a monomial. If  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$  and  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \prec v^k$ , then  $s > \min(\tilde{m})$ .

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we have  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \prec v^k$ . Writing m as  $m = \overline{m}\tilde{m}$ , we get that the only possible case is when  $\deg(\overline{x_s m/x_{\min(m)}}) < \deg(\overline{v^k}) = \deg(\overline{x_l^k x_n^{k(d-1)}}) = k$ . Indeed, if we assume that  $\deg(\overline{x_s m/x_{\min(m)}}) = \deg(\overline{v^k}) = k$ , then  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} <_{lex} v^k = x_l^k x_n^{k(d-1)}$ . In particular,  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \leq_{lex} x_l^{k-1} x_{l+1}^{k(d-1)+1}$  since

 $x_l^{k-1} x_{l+1}^{k(d-1)+1} = \max_{lex} \{ w \in \mathcal{M}_{kd}(S) : w <_{lex} x_l^k x_n^{k(d-1)} \},\$ 

a contradiction. Therefore, we have  $\deg(\overline{x_s m / x_{\min(m)}}) < k$  which implies that  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k$  and s > l.

Since  $s \in \text{set}(m)$ , as in the proof of Lemma 2.1, we have  $x_s m = x_t w$  for some  $w \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w <_{revlex} m, t \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$  and s > t. One may note that since  $w \in G(I^k)$  and  $x_t \mid m$ , we must have  $t \ge \min(\tilde{m})$  because otherwise, we get that  $w = x_s m/x_t$  has  $\deg(\overline{w}) = k - 1$ , which is impossible.

In [7], J. Herzog and Y. Takayama defined the decomposition function of a monomial ideal with linear quotients. We recall their definition.

**Definition 2.4** ([7, Definition 1.9]). Let  $I \subset S$  be a monomial ideal with linear quotients with respect to the sequence of minimal monomial generators  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  and set  $I_j = (u_1, \ldots, u_j)$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, m$ . Let M(I) be the set of all monomials in I. The map  $g: M(I) \to G(I)$  defined as  $g(u) = u_j$ , where jis the smallest number such that  $u \in I_j$ , is called the *decomposition function* of I.

By using the above results, we may completely describe the decomposition function associated to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. Note that since I is a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment, I has linear quotients with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. Moreover,  $I^k$  has linear quotients for all  $k \ge 1$  by [6, Corollary 3.9].

**Proposition 2.5.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $g : M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  the decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. Then

 $g(x_sm) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} x_sm/x_{\min(m)}, & x_sm/x_{\min(m)} \succeq v^k, \\ x_sm/x_{\min(\tilde{m})}, & x_sm/x_{\min(m)} \prec v^k \end{array} \right.$ 

for any  $m \in G(I^k)$ ,  $s \in set(m)$ , and  $m = \overline{m}\tilde{m}$ 

We divide the proof into a sequence of lemmas.

**Lemma 2.6.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $g : M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  the decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. If  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$  such that  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \succeq v^k$ , then  $g(x_s m) = x_s m/x_{\min(m)}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in set(m)$ . We need to show that  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} \in G(I^k)$  and that

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(m)}} = \min_{revlex} \{ w \in G(I^k) : w <_{revlex} m, x_s m \in I^k_{\leq_{revlex} w} \}.$$

If  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} = v^k$ , then it is obvious that  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \in G(I^k)$ . Let us assume that  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \succ v^k$ . By Lemma 2.1, we have  $s > \min(m)$ . Since  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \succ v^k$ , we have either  $\deg(\overline{x_s m/x_{\min(m)}}) > \deg(\overline{v^k}) = k$  or  $\deg(\overline{x_s m/x_{\min(m)}}) = \deg(\overline{v^k}) = k$  and  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} >_{lex} v^k$ .

In order to show that  $x_s m / x_{\min(m)} \in G(I^k)$ , we split the proof into two cases:

Case I: We assume that  $\deg(\overline{x_sm/x_{\min(m)}}) > \deg(\overline{v^k}) = k$ . Since  $m \in G(I^k)$ , there exist  $m_1, \ldots, m_k \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$  such that  $m = m_1 \cdots m_k$ . Let  $1 \le i \le k$  be such that  $\min(m) = \min(m_i)$ . Then

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(m)}} = x_s m_1 \cdots m_{i-1} \frac{m_i}{x_{\min(m_i)}} m_{i+1} \cdots m_k \ge v^k.$$

If  $x_s m_i / x_{\min(m_i)} \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$ , then we are done. Now let us assume that

$$x_s m_i / x_{\min(m_i)} \notin \mathcal{L}(u, v),$$

that is,  $x_s m_i / x_{\min(m_i)} <_{lex} v = x_l x_n^{d-1}$  since  $s > \min(m_i) = \min(m)$ . In particular,  $\operatorname{supp}(x_s m_i / x_{\min(m_i)}) \subseteq \{l+1, \ldots, n\}$  and  $s \ge l+1$ . Since

$$\deg(x_s m / x_{\min(m)}) > k,$$

there exist  $1 \leq j, r \leq l$  and  $1 \leq \alpha \leq k$  such that  $x_j x_r \mid m_{\alpha}$ . In particular, we must have  $j, r \geq 2$  by using the form of the monomials u and v. Then

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(m)}} = m_1 \cdots \frac{x_s m_\alpha}{x_j} \cdots \frac{x_j m_i}{x_{\min(m_i)}} \cdots m_k \ge_{lex} v^k,$$

where  $v \leq_{lex} x_j m_i / x_{\min(m_i)} \leq_{lex} m_i \leq_{lex} u$  and  $v \leq_{lex} x_s m_\alpha / x_j <_{lex} m_\alpha \leq_{lex} u$ . This implies  $x_s m / x_{\min(m)} \in G(I^k)$ .

Case II: We assume that  $\deg(\overline{x_s m/x_{\min(m)}}) = \deg(\overline{v^k}) = k$ . Therefore, we must have  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} >_{lex} v^k$ . Since  $\deg(\overline{x_s m/x_{\min(m)}}) = k$ , we have either  $s \leq l$  or s > l and  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k + 1$ .

Since  $m \in G(I^k)$ , there exist  $m_1, \ldots, m_k \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$  such that  $m = m_1 \cdots m_k$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq n$  be such that  $\min(m) = \min(m_i)$ .

If  $s \leq l$ , then since  $m = m_1 \cdots m_k$  and using the above notations, we get

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(m)}} = m_1 \cdots m_{i-1} \frac{x_s m_i}{x_{\min(m_i)}} m_{i+1} \cdots m_k \ge v^k \in G(I^k)$$

because  $\min(m) = \min(m_i) < s \le l$ .

Analysis similar to that in the Case I shows that if s > l, then  $x_s m / x_{\min(m)} \in G(I^k)$ .

We need to prove that

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(m)}} = \min \ _{revlex} \{ w \in G(I^k) \ : \ w <_{revlex} m, \ x_s m \in I^k_{\leq_{revlex} w} \}.$$

Let  $w \in G(I^k)$  be such that  $w <_{revlex} m$  and  $x_s m \in I^k_{\leq_{revlex} w}$ . Then there exists  $w_1 \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w_1 \leq_{revlex} w$ , such that  $x_s m = x_t w_1$  for some  $t, 1 \leq t \leq n$ . As  $m \neq w_1$ , we have  $s \neq t$ , and hence  $x_t \mid m$ . Thus  $t \geq \min(m)$ . Therefore,

$$w \ge_{revlex} w_1 = \frac{x_s m}{x_t} \ge_{revlex} \frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(m)}}$$

as desired.

**Lemma 2.7.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $g : M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  the decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. If  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$  such that  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \prec v^k$ , then  $g(x_s m) = x_s m/x_{\min(\tilde{m})}$ .

*Proof.* As in the proof of Lemma 2.3, we see that  $\deg(\overline{x_sm}/x_{\min(m)}) < k$  which implies that  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k$ . By Lemma 2.3, we have  $s > \min(\tilde{m}) > l$ .

Firstly, we prove that  $x_s m/x_{\min(\tilde{m})} \in G(I^k)$ . Since  $m \in G(I^k)$ , there exist  $m_1, \ldots, m_k \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$  such that  $m = m_1 \cdots m_k$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq k$  be such that  $x_{\min(\tilde{m})} \mid m_i$ . Then

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(\tilde{m})}} = m_1 \cdots m_{i-1} \frac{x_s m_i}{x_{\min(m'_i)}} \cdots m_k \in G(I^k)$$

since  $x_s m_i / x_{\min(m'_i)} \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$  because  $s > \min(\tilde{m}) \ge l + 1$ .

Next, we prove that

$$\frac{x_s m}{x_{\min(\tilde{m})}} = \min \ _{revlex} \{ w \in G(I^k) \ : \ w <_{revlex} m, \ x_s m \in I^k_{\leq_{revlex} w} \}.$$

Let  $w \in G(I^k)$  be such that  $w <_{revlex} m$  and  $x_s m \in I^k_{\leq_{revlex} w}$  which implies that there exists  $w_1 \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w_1 \leq_{revlex} w$  such that  $x_s m = x_t w_1$  for some t,  $1 \leq t \leq n$ . Obviously,  $m \neq w_1$  implies  $s \neq t$ . Hence we must have  $x_t \mid m$ . In particular,  $t \geq \min(m)$ . Since  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k$ ,  $s > \min(\tilde{m}) > l$ , and  $w \in G(I^k)$ , we must have that  $\deg(\overline{w}) = k$  which implies that  $t \geq \min(\tilde{m})$  since  $x_t \mid m$ . Therefore,  $w_1 = x_s m/x_t \geq_{revlex} x_s m/x_{\min(\tilde{m})}$ , which ends the proof.  $\Box$ 

Let I be a monomial ideal with linear quotients. We say that the decomposition function  $g: M(I) \to G(I)$  associated to the corresponding order of monomials is *regular* if  $set(g(x_s u)) \subseteq set(u)$  for all  $s \in set(u)$  and  $u \in G(I)$ . In

the sequel, we show that for the powers of lexsegment ideals I with a linear resolution which are not completely lexsegment, the decomposition function  $g: M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  associated to the increasing reverse lexicographical order of the generators from  $G(I^k)$  is regular.

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subseteq S$  be a lexsegment ideal generated in degree d > 1 with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal. Then the decomposition function  $g : M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  associated to the increasing reverse lexicographical order of the generators from  $G(I^k)$  is regular.

For simplicity, we divide the proof into a sequence of lemmas.

**Lemma 2.9.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $g : M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  the decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. Let  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$  be such that  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} \succ v^k$  and let  $t \in \operatorname{set}(g(x_sm))$ . Then  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.1, we have  $s > \min(m)$ . By hypothesis,  $x_s m / x_{\min(m)} \succ v^k$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2.5, we have  $g(x_s m) = x_s m / x_{\min(m)} = w_1$ . Since  $t \in \operatorname{set}(w_1)$ , we get  $x_t w_1 \in I^k_{<_{revlex} w_1}$ . Hence there exist  $w \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w <_{revlex} w_1$ , and  $1 \le j \le n$  such that  $x_t w_1 = x_j w$ , that is,

$$x_t x_s m = x_j x_{\min(m)} w.$$

One may note that  $j \neq t$  (otherwise,  $w = w_1$ , a contradiction), and hence  $x_j \mid x_s m$ . Since  $t \in \text{set}(w_1)$  and by using Lemma 2.1, we obtain that  $t > \min(w_1) \geq \min(m)$ .

If j = s, then  $x_t m = x_{\min(m)} w$  and  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

Let us assume that  $j \neq s$ . We show that  $x_{\min(m)}w/x_s \in G(I^k)$ . We write  $m = m_1 \cdots m_k$  with  $m_1, \ldots, m_k \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq k$  be such that  $x_j \mid m_i$ . Now, the fact that  $w <_{revlex} w_1$  implies that  $x_{\min(m)}w <_{revlex} x_{\min(m)}w_1 = x_s m$ . Therefore,  $x_{\min(m)}w/x_s <_{revlex} m$  and, taking into account that  $x_{\min(m)}w/x_s = x_t m/x_j$ , we get  $x_t m/x_j <_{revlex} m$ , that is, t > j.

Firstly, let us assume that  $\deg(\overline{m}) > k$  and let  $1 \le i \le k$  such that  $x_j \mid m_i$ . Then

$$\frac{x_t m}{x_j} = m_1 \cdots \frac{x_t m_i}{x_j} \cdots m_k.$$

If  $x_t m_i/x_j \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)$ , then we are done. Thus let us assume that  $x_t m_i/x_j \notin \mathcal{L}(u, v)$ , which implies that  $x_t m_i/x_j <_{lex} v$  since  $x_t m_i/x_j <_{lex} m_i \leq_{lex} u$ (t > j). In this case, there exist  $1 \leq p \leq k$  and  $1 \leq \alpha \leq l$  such that  $\deg(\overline{m_p}) \geq 2$ and  $x_\alpha \mid m_p$ . In particular, we must have  $\alpha \geq 2$  (by using the form of the monomials u and v). In this case,

$$\frac{x_t m}{x_j} = m_1 \cdots \frac{x_\alpha m_i}{x_j} \cdots \frac{x_t m_p}{x_\alpha} \cdots m_k,$$

which implies  $x_t m/x_j \in G(I^k)$  since  $v \leq_{lex} x_\alpha x_n^{d-1} \leq_{lex} x_\alpha m_i/x_j <_{lex} u$  and  $v \leq_{lex} x_\alpha x_n^{d-1} \leq_{lex} x_t m_p/x_\alpha <_{lex} u$ .

Let us assume that  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k$ . Since j < t, we get  $x_t m/x_j <_{lex} m$ . If  $\deg(\overline{x_t m/x_j}) = k$ , then we obviously have  $x_t m/x_j \in G(I^k)$ . We assume that  $\deg(\overline{x_t m/x_j}) = k - 1$ , that is,  $j \leq l$  and t > l. We also have  $\min(m) \leq l$ . Hence  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k$  and the equality  $x_t x_s m = x_j x_{\min(m)} w$  imply

$$k \leq \deg(\overline{w}) = \deg(\overline{m}) + \nu_1(x_t x_s) + \dots + \nu_l(x_t x_s) - 2,$$

which yields  $\nu_1(x_tx_s) + \cdots + \nu_l(x_tx_s) = 2$ , that is,  $t, s \leq l$ , a contradiction.

We proved that  $x_{\min(m)}w/x_s <_{revlex} m$  and that  $x_{\min(m)}w/x_s \in G(I^k)$ . Hence  $t \in set(m)$ .

**Lemma 2.10.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $g: M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  the decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. Let  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$  be such that  $x_s m/x_{\min(m)} \prec v^k$  and let  $t \in \operatorname{set}(g(x_s m))$ . Then  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

*Proof.* According to Proposition 2.5, we have  $g(x_sm) = x_sm/x_{\min(\tilde{m})} = \omega$ . Since  $t \in \text{set}(\omega)$ , we get  $x_t\omega \in I^k_{<_{revlex}\omega}$ . Hence as in the proof of Lemma 2.1,  $x_t\omega = x_jw$  for some  $w \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w <_{revlex} \omega$ , and  $t > j \ge \min(\omega)$ . Therefore, we get that

$$(*) x_t x_s m = x_j x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w$$

Also, one may note that the only possible case is that in which

$$\deg(\overline{x_s m / x_{\min(m)}}) < k.$$

Indeed, since  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} \prec v^k$ , we have either  $\deg(\overline{x_sm/x_{\min(m)}}) < \deg(\overline{v^k}) = k$  or  $\deg(\overline{x_sm/x_{\min(m)}}) = \deg(\overline{v^k})$  and  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} <_{lex} v^k = x_l^k x_n^{k(d-1)}$ . If we assume that  $\deg(\overline{x_sm/x_{\min(m)}}) = \deg(\overline{v^k})$  and that  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} <_{lex} v^k = x_l^k x_n^{k(d-1)}$ , then we have  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} \leq_{lex} x_l^{k-1} x_{l+1}^{k(d-1)+1}$  and  $\deg(\overline{x_sm/x_{\min(m)}}) < k$ , a contradiction. By Lemma 2.3, we have  $s > \min(\tilde{m})$ . In particular,  $\deg(\overline{m}) = \deg(\overline{\omega}) = k$ . Moreover,  $\deg(\overline{w}) \leq \deg(\overline{\omega})$  implies  $\deg(\overline{w}) = k$  since  $w \in G(I^k)$ .

If j = s, then  $x_t m = x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w$  and  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

We assume now that  $j \neq s$ . By the equality (\*), we also have  $x_{\min(\tilde{m})}w/x_s = x_tm/x_j$ . If  $\overline{w} = x_1^k$ , then  $x_1^k \mid m$  since  $s > \min(\tilde{m}) > l$  and  $t > j \ge \min(\omega) = \min(m)$ . Now, equality (\*) gives j > l. Therefore,  $x_tm/x_j \in G(I^k)$ , and thus  $x_{\min(\tilde{m})}w/x_s \in G(I^k)$ .

Let us consider the case when  $\overline{w} \neq x_1^k$  and let  $w = w_1 \cdots w_k$ . Therefore, there exists  $1 \leq i \leq k$  such that  $x_1 \nmid w_i$ . If  $x_s \mid w_i$ , then  $v \leq_{lex} x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w_i / x_s <_{lex} w_i \leq_{lex} u$  and  $x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w / x_s \in G(I^k)$ . If  $x_s \nmid w_i$ , then let  $1 \leq j \leq k$  be such that  $x_s \mid w_j$  and

$$\frac{x_{\min(\tilde{m})}w}{x_s} = w_1 \cdots \frac{x_{\max(w_i)}w_j}{x_s} \cdots \frac{x_{\min(\tilde{m})}w_i}{x_{\max(w_i)}} \cdots w_k.$$

Since  $\deg(\overline{w}) = k$ , we must have  $\max(w_i) > l$ . Thus  $v \leq_{lex} x_{\max(w_i)} w_j / x_s \leq_u$ and  $v \leq_{lex} x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w_i / x_{\max(w_i)} \leq_{lex} u$ , and therefore,  $x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w / x_s \in G(I^k)$ . Moreover,  $x_{\min(\tilde{m})} w / x_s = x_t m / x_j <_{revlex} m$ . Hence  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

**Lemma 2.11.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with a linear resolution which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $g : M(I^k) \to G(I^k)$  the decomposition function with respect to the increasing reverse lexicographical order. Let  $m \in G(I^k)$  and  $s \in \operatorname{set}(m)$  be such that  $x_sm/x_{\min(m)} = v^k$  and let  $t \in \operatorname{set}(g(x_sm))$ . Then  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

*Proof.* In this case, one can easily see that we can have either  $s \leq l$ , which implies, in fact, that s = l, or s > l and  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k + 1$ .

By Proposition 2.5, we have  $g(x_sm) = x_sm/x_{\min(m)} = v^k = w_1$ . Since  $t \in set(w_1)$ , we get  $x_tw_1 \in I^k_{\leq revlexw_1}$ . Hence as in the proof of Lemma 2.1,  $x_tw_1 = x_jw$  for some  $w \in G(I^k)$ ,  $w <_{revlex}w_1$ , and  $t > j \ge \min(w_1) = l$ . Note that  $deg(\overline{w}) \le deg(\overline{w_1}) = k$ , which implies  $deg(\overline{w}) = k$ . Therefore, we get that

$$x_t x_s m = x_j x_{\min(m)} w$$

If j = s, then  $x_t m = x_n w$  and  $t \in set(m)$ . Therefore, we assume that  $j \neq s$ .

The case when s = l is impossible. Indeed, if s = l, then we must have j > l since  $j \ge \min(w_1) = l$  and  $j \ne s$ . Thus j = n since  $x_j \mid w_1 = v^k$ . But this is a contradiction since  $t \ne j$ .

If s > l, then s = n. In this case,  $\deg(\overline{m}) = k + 1$ , which implies that  $\deg(\overline{w}) = k$  and l < j < n. Therefore,  $x_j w/x_s \in G(I^k)$ . Thus  $x_t m = x_n(x_j w/x_s)$  and  $t \in \operatorname{set}(m)$ .

By using the decomposition function, one may completely describe the resolution as shown by J. Herzog and Y. Takayama [7].

**Lemma 2.12** ([7, Lemma 1.5]). Suppose deg  $u_1 \leq \deg u_2 \leq \cdots \leq \deg u_m$ . Then the iterated mapping cone  $\mathbb{F}$  derived from the sequence  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  is a minimal graded free resolution of S/I, and for all i > 0, the symbols

$$\mathcal{E}(\sigma; u)$$
 with  $u \in G(I), \ \sigma \subset \operatorname{set}(u), \ |\sigma| = i - 1$ 

form a homogeneous basis of the S-module  $F_i$ . Moreover,  $\deg(f(\sigma; u)) = |\sigma| + \deg(u)$ .

**Theorem 2.13** ([7, Theorem 1.12]). Let I be a monomial ideal of S with linear quotients and  $\mathbb{F}_{\bullet}$  the graded minimal free resolution of S/I. Suppose that the decomposition function  $g: M(I) \to G(I)$  is regular. Then the chain map  $\partial$  of  $\mathbb{F}_{\bullet}$  is given by

$$\partial(f(\sigma; u)) = -\sum_{s \in \sigma} (-1)^{\alpha(\sigma; s)} x_s f(\sigma \setminus s; u) + \sum_{s \in \sigma} (-1)^{\alpha(\sigma; s)} \frac{x_s u}{g(x_s u)} f(\sigma \setminus s; g(x_s u))$$
  
if  $\sigma \neq \emptyset$ , and

 $\partial(f(\emptyset; u)) = u,$ 

otherwise. Here,  $\alpha(\sigma; s) = |\{t \in \sigma \mid t < s\}|.$ 

In our specific context, we get the following.

**Corollary 2.14.** Let  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v)) \subset S$  be a lexsegment ideal with linear quotients with respect to increasing reverse lexicographical order which is not a completely lexsegment ideal and  $\mathbb{F}_{\bullet}$  the graded minimal free resolution of  $S/I^k$ . Then the chain map of  $\mathbb{F}_{\bullet}$  is given by

$$\partial(f(\sigma;w)) = \sum_{\substack{s \in \sigma: \\ x_s w/x_{\min(w)} \succeq v^k}} (-1)^{\alpha(\sigma;s)} x_{\min(w)} f\left(\sigma \setminus s; \frac{x_s w}{x_{\min(w)}}\right) \\ + \sum_{\substack{s \in \sigma: \\ x_s w/x_{\min(w)} \prec v^k}} (-1)^{\alpha(\sigma;s)} x_{\min(\tilde{w})} f\left(\sigma \setminus s; \frac{x_s w}{x_{\min(\tilde{w})}}\right) \\ - \sum_{s \in \sigma} (-1)^{\alpha(\sigma;s)} x_s f(\sigma \setminus s; w)$$

if  $\sigma \neq \emptyset$ , and

$$\partial(f(\emptyset; w)) = w,$$

otherwise. For convenience, we set  $f(\sigma; w) = 0$  if  $\sigma \nsubseteq \text{set } w$ .

### 3. An example

Let  $u = x_1 x_4$  and  $v = x_2 x_5$  be monomials in the polynomial ring  $S = k[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5]$ . Then

$$\mathcal{L}(u,v) = \{x_1x_4, x_1x_5, x_2^2, x_2x_3, x_2x_4, x_2x_5\}.$$

The ideal  $I = (\mathcal{L}(u, v))$  is a lexsegment ideal which is not completely lexsegment. According to [6, Corollary 3.9], the ideal  $I^2$  has linear quotients with respect to the following order of the generators:  $u_1 = x_2^2 x_5^2$ ,  $u_2 = x_1 x_2 x_5^2$ ,  $u_3 = x_1^2 x_5^2$ ,  $u_4 = x_2^2 x_4 x_5$ ,  $u_5 = x_1 x_2 x_4 x_5$ ,  $u_6 = x_1^2 x_4 x_5$ ,  $u_7 = x_2^2 x_3 x_5$ ,  $u_8 = x_1 x_2 x_3 x_5$ ,  $u_9 = x_2^3 x_5$ ,  $u_{10} = x_1 x_2^2 x_5$ ,  $u_{11} = x_2^2 x_4^2$ ,  $u_{12} = x_1 x_2 x_4^2$ ,  $u_{13} = x_1^2 x_4^2$ ,  $u_{14} = x_2^2 x_3 x_4$ ,  $u_{15} = x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4$ ,  $u_{16} = x_3^2 x_4$ ,  $u_{17} = x_1 x_2^2 x_4^2$ ,  $u_{18} = x_2^2 x_3^2$ ,  $u_{19} = x_3^2 x_3$ ,  $u_{20} = x_4^2$ . We have set $(u_1) = \emptyset$ , set $(u_2) = \{2\}$ , set $(u_3) = \{2\}$ , set $(u_4) = \{5\}$ , set $(u_5) = \{2, 5\}$ , set $(u_{10}) = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{11}) = \{5\}$ , set $(u_{12}) = \{2, 5\}$ , set $(u_{10}) = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{11}) = \{5\}$ , set $(u_{12}) = \{2, 5\}$ , set $(u_{13}) = \{2, 5\}$ , set $(u_{14}) = \{4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{15}) = \{2, 4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{16}) = \{3, 4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{17}) = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{18}) = \{4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{19}) = \{3, 4, 5\}$ , set $(u_{20}) = \{3, 4, 5\}$ . Note that in this case, the integer l that we fix for defining the order  $\prec$  is l = 2. Let  $\mathbb{F}_{\bullet}$  be the minimal graded free resolution of S/I.

Since  $\max\{|\operatorname{set}(w)| : w \in \mathcal{L}(u, v)\} = 4$ , we have  $F_i = 0$  for all  $i \ge 6$ .

A basis for the S-module  $F_1$  is  $\{f(\emptyset; u_1), \ldots, f(\emptyset; u_{20})\}$ .

A basis for the S-module  $F_2$  is  $\{f(\{i\}; u_j) : i \in set(u_j), 1 \le j \le 20\}$  having cardinality 44.

A basis for the S-module  $F_3$  is  $\{f(\{i, j\}; u_k), \{i, j\} \subseteq \text{set}(u_k), 1 \le k \le 20\}\}$ having cardinality 37. A basis for the S-module  $F_4$  is

$$\{f(\{2,4,5\};u_8), f(\{3,4,5\};u_9), f(\{2,3,4\};u_{10}), f(\{2,3,5\};u_{10}), f(\{2,4,5\};u_{10}), f(\{3,4,5\};u_{10}), f(\{2,4,5\};u_{15}), f(\{3,4,5\};u_{16}), f(\{2,3,4\};u_{17}), f(\{2,3,5\};u_{17}), f(\{2,4,5\};u_{17}), f(\{3,4,5\};u_{17})\}.$$

A basis for the S-module  $F_5$  is  $\{f(\{2,3,4,5\}; u_{10}), f(\{2,3,4,5\}; u_{17})\}$ . We have the minimal graded free resolution  $\mathbb{F}_{\bullet}$ :

$$0 \to S(-8)^2 \xrightarrow{\partial_4} S(-7)^{14} \xrightarrow{\partial_3} S(-6)^{37} \xrightarrow{\partial_2} S(-5)^{44} \xrightarrow{\partial_1} S(-4)^{20} \xrightarrow{\partial_0} S \to S/I \to 0.$$

We will determine only the differentials  $\partial_0$  and  $\partial_4$ .

It is easily seen that the differential  $\partial_0$  is given by

$$\partial_0(f(\emptyset; u_i)) = u_i \text{ for } 1 \le i \le 20.$$

We determine now the differential  $\partial_4$ . For  $\partial_4(f(\{2,3,4,5\};u_{10}))$ , one may note that  $x_s u_{10}/x_{\min(u_{10})} \succeq v^2$  for all  $s \in \text{set}(u_{10})$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \partial_4(f(\{2,3,4,5\};u_{10})) &= x_1f(\{3,4,5\};u_9) - x_1f(\{2,4,5\};u_7) \\ &\quad + x_1f(\{2,3,5\};u_4) - x_1f(\{2,3,4\};u_3) \\ &\quad - x_2f(\{3,4,5\};u_{10}) + x_3f(\{2,4,5\};u_{10}) \\ &\quad - x_4f(\{2,3,5\};u_{10}) + x_5f(\{2,3,4\};u_{10}) \\ &\quad = x_1f(\{3,4,5\};u_9) - x_2f(\{3,4,5\};u_{10}) \\ &\quad + x_3f(\{2,4,5\};u_{10}) - x_4f(\{2,3,5\};u_{10}) \\ &\quad + x_5f(\{2,3,4\};u_{10}) \end{split}$$

since  $\{2, 4, 5\} \not\subseteq \text{set}(u_7), \{2, 3, 5\} \not\subseteq \text{set}(u_4)$ , and  $\{2, 3, 4\} \not\subseteq \text{set}(u_3)$ . For  $\partial_4(f(\{2, 3, 4, 5\}; u_{17}))$ , one may note that  $x_s u_{17}/x_{\min(u_{17})} \succeq v^2$  for all  $s \in \text{set}(u_{17})$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \partial_4(f(\{2,3,4,5\};u_{17})) &= x_1f(\{3,4,5\};u_{16}) - x_1f(\{2,4,5\};u_{14}) \\ &\quad + x_1f(\{2,3,5\};u_{11}) - x_1f(\{2,3,4\};u_4) \\ &\quad - x_2f(\{3,4,5\};u_{17}) + x_3f(\{2,4,5\};u_{17}) \\ &\quad - x_4f(\{2,3,5\};u_{17}) + x_5f(\{2,3,4\};u_{17}) \\ &\quad = x_1f(\{3,4,5\};u_{16}) - x_2f(\{3,4,5\};u_{17}) \\ &\quad + x_3f(\{2,4,5\};u_{17}) - x_4f(\{2,3,5\};u_{17}) \\ &\quad + x_5f(\{2,3,4\};u_{17}) \end{split}$$

since  $\{2, 4, 5\} \not\subseteq \operatorname{set}(u_{14}), \{2, 3, 5\} \not\subseteq \operatorname{set}(u_{11}), \text{ and } \{2, 3, 4\} \not\subseteq \operatorname{set}(u_4).$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ x_1 & 0 \\ x_5 & 0 \\ -x_4 & 0 \\ x_3 & 0 \\ -x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x_1 \\ 0 & x_5 \\ 0 & -x_4 \\ 0 & x_3 \\ 0 & -x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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