

## ON GORENSTEIN MONOMIAL IDEALS OF CODIMENSION THREE

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**Introduction.** Let  $S = K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be a polynomial ring over a field  $K$  and  $I \subset S$  be an ideal generated by monomials. Buchsbaum-Eisenbud's structure theorem [1] tells us that if  $I$  is a Gorenstein ideal of codimension three, then it is generated by pfaffians of certain skew-symmetric matrix.

Our aim in this paper is to give explicit description of generators of codimension three Gorenstein monomial ideals, and we state our result as follows.

**Theorem 0.1.** *We put  $m = \mu(I)$  a number of minimal generators of  $I$  and  $s = (m + 1)/2$ . Let  $\nu : \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  be a map such that  $i \equiv \nu(i) \pmod{m}$  for  $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $I$  is a Gorenstein monomial ideal of codimension three.
- (2)  $m$  is odd and  $I = Pf_{m-1}(M)$  where  $M = (a_{ij})$  is an  $m \times m$  skew-symmetric matrix of monomials satisfying the following conditions.
  - (a)  $a_{ij} = \begin{cases} \text{nonzero,} & \text{if } j = \nu(i + s - 1) \text{ or } \nu(i + s) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
  - (b)  $\{a_{ij} \mid a_{ij} \neq 0, i < j\}$  is the set of pairwise coprime monomials.
  - (3)  $m$  is odd and there exist  $m$  pairwise coprime monomials  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  such that

$$I = \left( \left\{ \prod_{k=1}^{s-1} b_{\nu(i+k)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m \right\} \right).$$

**Example 0.2.** Let  $M$  be a matrix with coefficients in  $K[X_1, \dots, X_7]$

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such that

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & X_4 & -X_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & X_5 & -X_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & X_6 & -X_3 \\ -X_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & X_7 \\ X_1 & -X_5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & X_2 & -X_6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & X_3 & -X_7 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $M$  satisfies conditions (a) and (b) of (0.1), (2) and  $Pf_6(M)$  is generated by

$$\{X_1X_2X_3, X_2X_3X_4, X_3X_4X_5, X_4X_5X_6, X_5X_6X_7, X_6X_7X_1, X_7X_1X_2\}.$$

**1. A syzygy module of a monomial ideal.** In this section we consider the first syzygy module of a monomial ideal and determine minimal generators of this module for a Gorenstein monomial ideal of codimension three.

Let  $S = K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be a polynomial ring over a field  $K$ . We denote by  $\mathbf{Z}$  (respectively  $\mathbf{N}$ ) the set of all integers (respectively, the set of all nonnegative integers). We define a  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -grading on  $S$  by  $\deg(X_i) = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{i}{1}, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbf{Z}^n$ . For  $\alpha = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbf{Z}^n$ , we set  $X^\alpha = X_1^{a_1} X_2^{a_2} \dots X_n^{a_n}$ .

Let  $I$  be a monomial ideal of  $S$  with minimal generators  $X^{\alpha_1}, \dots, X^{\alpha_m}$  and  $F$  be a free  $S$ -module with free basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$ . We define a map  $\varphi : F \rightarrow S$  by  $\varphi(e_i) = X^{\alpha_i}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . We put  $\deg(e_i) = \alpha_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and regard  $F$  as a  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -graded module. Then  $\varphi$  preserves  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -gradings and  $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$  can be regarded as a  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -graded module.

We set

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma &= \{X^\alpha e_i \mid \alpha \in \mathbf{N}^n, 1 \leq i \leq m\} \\ \Sigma_\beta &= \{X^\alpha e_i \mid \alpha + \alpha_i = \beta\}, \quad \beta \in \mathbf{N}^n \\ I_i &= (\{X^{\alpha_j}\}_{j \neq i}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.1.** We define an equivalence relation on  $\Sigma_\beta$ ,  $\beta \in \mathbf{N}^n$ , as follows. For  $u, v \in \Sigma_\beta$ , we denote  $u \sim v$  if either  $u = v$  or there

exist  $X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1}, \dots, X^{\beta_p}e_{i_p} \in \Sigma_\beta$  such that  $u = X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1}, v = X^{\beta_p}e_{i_p}$  and  $\text{Gcd}(X^{\beta_i}, X^{\beta_{i+1}}) \neq 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq p - 1$ .

Let  $X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1}, \dots, X^{\beta_p}e_{i_p} \in \Sigma_\beta$  be representatives of  $\Sigma_\beta / \sim$  with  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq m$ . We put

$$G_\beta = \begin{cases} \{X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1} - X^{\beta_2}e_{i_2}, \dots, X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1} - X^{\beta_p}e_{i_p}\}, & \text{if } p \geq 2 \\ \phi, & \text{if } p \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

and  $G = \cup_\beta G_\beta$ . Then it is easy to see that  $G$  is a minimal basis of  $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$ . (The proof is essentially the same as Proposition 1 in Eliahou [2] or Proposition 1.5 in Herzog [3].)

We define a graph  $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$  on vertices  $V = \{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  and the set of edges  $E = \{e_i e_j \mid X^\alpha e_i - X^\beta e_j \in G \text{ or } X^\beta e_j - X^\alpha e_i \in G \text{ for some } X^\alpha e_i, X^\beta e_j \in \Sigma\}$ . We put  $\text{deg}_V(e_i) = \# \{e_j \mid e_i e_j \in E\}$ .

*Remark 1.2.* (1)  $\mathcal{G}$  is connected.

(2) For any  $X^\alpha e_i - X^\beta e_j \in \text{Ker}(\varphi)$ , we have

$$X^\alpha e_i - X^\beta e_j = X^\gamma \left( \frac{\text{Lcm}(X^{\alpha_i}, X^{\alpha_j})}{X^{\alpha_i}} e_i - \frac{\text{Lcm}(X^{\alpha_i}, X^{\alpha_j})}{X^{\alpha_j}} e_j \right)$$

for some monomial  $X^\gamma$ . Thus, if  $\pm(X^\alpha e_i - X^\beta e_j)$  and  $\pm(X^\gamma e_i - X^\delta e_k)$ , are distinct elements of  $G$ , then  $j \neq k$ . Therefore, we have  $|G| = |E| = \sum_{i=1}^m \text{deg}_V(e_i)/2$ .

We want to determine elements of  $G$  more precisely.

Let  $\Gamma = \{X^\alpha e_i \mid X^\alpha \text{ is in the minimal basis of } [I_i : X^{\alpha_i}], 1 \leq i \leq m\} \subset \Sigma$  and  $\Gamma' = \{(X^\alpha e_i, X^\beta e_j), (X^\beta e_j, X^\alpha e_i) \mid X^\alpha e_i - X^\beta e_j \in G\} \subset \Sigma \times \Sigma$ . We define a map  $\Phi : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma'$  as follows.

Let  $X^\alpha e_i \in \Gamma$  and  $\beta = \alpha + \alpha_i$ . Since  $X^\alpha \in [I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]$ , we have  $|\Sigma_\beta| \geq 2$ . If there exists  $u \in \Sigma_\beta$  such that  $u \neq X^\alpha e_i$  and  $u \sim X^\alpha e_i$ , then by definition of the relation, we have  $X^\alpha \in m[I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]$  where  $m = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ . This contradicts that  $X^\alpha$  is in the minimal basis of  $[I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]$ . Thus the equivalence class of  $X^\alpha e_i$  in  $\Sigma_\beta$  is equal to  $\{X^\alpha e_i\}$ . Since  $|\Sigma_\beta| \geq 2$ , we have  $G_\beta \neq \phi$ . We put  $G_\beta = \{X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1} - X^{\beta_2}e_{i_2}, \dots, X^{\beta_1}e_{i_1} - X^{\beta_p}e_{i_p}\}$  with  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq m$ .

Then there exists  $1 \leq q \leq p$  such that  $X^{\beta_q} e_{i_q} = X^\alpha e_i$ . Therefore we define a map  $\Phi$  by

$$\Phi(X^\alpha e_i) = \begin{cases} (X^{\beta_1} e_{i_1}, X^{\beta_q} e_{i_q}), & q > 1 \\ (X^{\beta_q} e_{i_2}, X^{\beta_1} e_{i_1}), & q = 1. \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 1.3.** *We have  $\deg_V(e_i) \geq \mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}])$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . Hence,*

$$\mu(\text{Ker}(\varphi)) = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\deg_V(e_i)}{2} \geq \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}])}{2} \geq \frac{m(\text{ht}(I) - 1)}{2}.$$

*Proof.* Considering the correspondence between  $\Gamma'$  and  $E$  (cf. Remark 1.2, (2)), the first assertion is trivial. We show the last inequality of the second assertion. Since  $\dim(S/I) \leq \dim(S/I_i) \leq \dim(S/I) + 1$ , we have  $\text{ht}(I) - 1 \leq \text{ht}([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}])$ . Hence  $\sum_{i=1}^m \mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]) \geq \sum_{i=1}^m \text{ht}([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]) \geq m(\text{ht}(I) - 1)$ .

**Lemma 1.4.** *Suppose that  $I$  is a Gorenstein ideal of  $\text{ht}(I) = 3$ . Then  $\mathcal{G}$  is a cycle of length  $m$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is a connected graph, we only need to show that  $\deg_V(e_i) = 2$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq m$ .

Since  $I$  is Gorenstein and  $\text{ht}(I) = 3$ , the second betti number  $b_2(S/I)$  of  $S/I$  is equal to  $m$ . Hence, by (1.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} m = b_2(S/I) = |G| &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\deg_V(e_i)}{2} \geq \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}])}{2} \\ &\geq \frac{m(\text{ht}(I) - 1)}{2} = m. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\sum_{i=1}^m \deg_V(e_i) = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}])$  and, by (1.3),  $\deg_V(e_i) = \mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}])$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . Also, since  $\mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]) \geq \text{ht}(I) - 1 = 2$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^m \mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]) = 2m$ , we have  $\deg_V(e_i) = \mu([I_i : X^{\alpha_i}]) = 2$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{G}$  is a cycle of length  $m$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 1.5.** *Suppose that  $I$  is a Gorenstein ideal of  $\text{ht}(I) = 3$ . Then a homogeneous minimal basis of  $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$  (with respect to  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -grading) is uniquely determined for  $I$  (up to multiplication by units). Furthermore, after the renumbering of  $X^{\alpha_1}, \dots, X^{\alpha_m}$ ,  $G$  can be written in the form*

$$G = \{X^{\alpha_{ii}}e_i - X^{\alpha_{ii+1}}e_{i+1}, X^{\alpha_{mm}}e_m - X^{\alpha_{m1}}e_1 \mid 1 \leq i \leq m - 1\}.$$

*Proof.* By the proof of (1.4),  $\Phi$  is bijective and, by definition of  $\Phi$ , if  $G_\beta \neq \phi$ , then  $|G_\beta| = 1$ . If we put  $G_\beta = \{X^{\beta_1}e_i - X^{\beta_2}e_j\}$ , then  $X^{\beta_1}e_i, X^{\beta_2}e_j \in \Gamma$  and, by the construction of  $\Phi$ ,  $\Sigma_\beta = \{X^{\beta_1}e_i, X^{\beta_2}e_j\}$ . Note that the set of all degrees of a homogeneous minimal basis of  $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$  is independent on the choice of a minimal basis and is equal to  $\{\beta \mid G_\beta \neq \phi\}$ . Therefore,  $G$  is the unique homogeneous minimal basis of  $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$ .

The second assertion follows from (1.4). □

**2. A proof of the main theorem.** First, we determine  $Pf(M)$  of a skew-symmetric matrix  $M$  satisfying condition (a) of Theorem 0.1, (2).

Let  $m > 0$  be an odd integer and  $s = (m + 1)/2$ . We denote by  $[m] = \{1, \dots, m\}$  and by  $\nu : \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow [m]$  a map such that  $i \equiv \nu(i) \pmod{m}$ .

Let  $\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_m$  be a permutation on  $[m]$ . We denote by  $(\tau) = (\tau_{ij})$  an  $m \times m$ -matrix such that

$$\tau_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & i = \tau(j) \\ 0, & i \neq \tau(j). \end{cases}$$

For an  $m \times m$  matrix  $M = (a_{ij})$ , we set  $\tau M = (\tau) \cdot M$  and  $M\tau = M \cdot (\tau)^{-1}$ . Namely, if we put  $\tau M = (b_{ij})$ , respectively,  $M\tau = (c_{ij})$ , then  $b_{\tau(i)j} = a_{ij}$ , respectively,  $c_{i\tau(j)} = a_{ij}$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $M = (a_{ij})$  be an  $m \times m$  matrix.

(1) We say that  $M$  is of *type (I)*, if

(a) for  $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ ,

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} \text{nonzero} & j = i \text{ or } \nu(i + 1) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $a_{ii} = -a_{\nu(i+s-1)\nu(i+s)}$ .  
 (2) We say that  $M$  is of *type (II)*, if  $M$  is skew-symmetric and, for  $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ ,

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} \text{nonzero} & j = \nu(i + s - 1) \text{ or } \nu(i + s) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We define a permutation  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_m$  by  $\sigma(i) = \nu(i - s + 1)$  ( $= \nu(i + s)$ ) for  $i \in [m]$ . Then it is easy to see that  $M$  is of type (I) if and only if  $\sigma M$  is of type (II) for an  $m \times m$  matrix  $M$ .

For an  $m \times m$  matrix  $M$ , we denote by  $M_k$  the submatrix of  $M$  consisting of the first  $k$  rows and columns and by  $M_{ij}$  the  $(m-1) \times (m-1)$  matrix obtained from  $M$  by deleting the  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th column.

By definition of type (I), we have the following.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $M = (a_{ij})$  be an  $m \times m$  matrix of type (I).*

- (1)  $M_{ms}$  can be written in the form

$$M_{ms} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{s-1} & 0 \\ 0 & {}^t(-M_{s-1}) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (2) Let  $1 \leq k \leq m$  and  $\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_m$  such that  $\tau(i) = \nu(i - k)$  for  $i \in [m]$ . Then  $\tau M \tau$  is again of type (I).

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $m$  be an odd integer and  $M = (a_{ij})$  be an  $m \times m$  matrix of type (I).*

- (1)  $Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M)$  is generated by  $\{\prod_{k=1}^{s-1} a_{\nu(i+k)\nu(i+k)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\}$  and, for any  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq m$ , there exists  $1 \leq k \leq m$  such that  $k \neq i, j$  and  $Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M) \subset (a_{ii}, a_{jj}, a_{kk})$ .

(2) Furthermore, we assume that coefficients of  $M$  are monomials. Then the following are equivalent.

- (a)  $\text{ht}(Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M)) = 3$ .  
 (b)  $\{a_{11}, \dots, a_{mm}\}$  is the set of pairwise coprime monomials.

*Proof.* (1) By definition of  $\sigma$ , we have  $\det((\sigma M)_{\sigma(i)\sigma(i)}) = (-1)^p \det(M_{i\nu(i+s)})$  for some  $p \geq 0$ . Let  $\tau \in \mathfrak{G}_m$  such that  $\tau(j) = \nu(j - i)$  for  $j \in [m]$  and  $N = \tau M \tau$ . Then, by (2.2), we have  $\det(M_{i\nu(i+s)}) = (-1)^q \det(N_{ms}) = (-1)^{q+1} (\det(N_{s-1}))^2$  for some  $q \geq 0$ . Thus,  $\det((\sigma M)_{\sigma(i)\sigma(i)}) = (-1)^r (\prod_{k=1}^{s-1} a_{\nu(i+k)\nu(i+k)})^2$ ,  $r \geq 0$ , and

$$Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M) = \left( \left\{ \prod_{k=1}^{s-1} a_{\nu(i+k)\nu(i+k)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m \right\} \right).$$

The second statement follows from the first.

(2) (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). Suppose that  $\text{Gcd}(a_{ii}, a_{jj}) = b \neq 1$ . Then, by (1),  $Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M) \subset (b, a_{kk})$  for some  $k \neq i, j$ . This contradicts that  $\text{ht}(Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M)) = 3$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). By (1), we have already seen that  $\text{ht}(Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M)) \leq 3$ . Conversely, for any  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq m$ ,  $(a_{ii}, a_{jj})$  contains only  $m - 1$  elements of  $\{\prod_{k=1}^{s-1} a_{\nu(i+k)\nu(i+k)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\}$ , since  $a_{11}, \dots, a_{mm}$  are pairwise coprime. Hence,  $2 < \text{ht}(Pf_{m-1}(\sigma M)) = 3$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 0.1.* By (2.3), we have already proved implications (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3). Furthermore, by Theorem 2.1 of Buchsbaum-Eisenbud [1], the statement (2) implies that  $I$  is a Gorenstein ideal.

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Let  $I$  be a Gorenstein ideal of  $\text{ht}(I) = 3$  with minimal basis  $X^{\alpha_1}, \dots, X^{\alpha_m}$ . Then, by a theorem of Watanabe [6], we may assume that  $m$  is odd. We put  $s = (m + 1)/2$  and denote a  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -graded minimal free resolution of  $S/I$  by

$$\mathbf{F} := 0 \longrightarrow S(-\gamma) \xrightarrow{d_3} \oplus_{i=1}^m S(-\beta_{p_i}) \xrightarrow{d_2} \oplus_{i=1}^m S(-\alpha_i) \xrightarrow{td_1} S$$

where  $d_1 = (X^{\alpha_1} \dots X^{\alpha_m})$  and  $d_3 = ((-1)^{r_1} X^{\alpha_{p_1}} \dots (-1)^{r_m} X^{\alpha_{p_m}})$ ,  $r_i = 0$  or  $1$ . Furthermore, by (1.5), we can write the  $m \times m$  matrix  $d_2 = (a_{ij})$  as

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} X^{\alpha_{ii}} & 1 \leq i \leq m, j = i, \\ -X^{\alpha_{ii+1}} & 1 \leq i < m, j = i + 1, \\ -X^{\alpha_{m1}} & (i, j) = (m, 1) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since  $d_3 \cdot d_2 = 0$ ,  $r_1 = \cdots = r_m$ , and we may assume that  $d_3 = (X^{\alpha_{p_1}} \cdots X^{\alpha_{p_m}})$ . Then we shall show that the matrix  $d_2$  is of type (I) of (2.1).

Taking  $S(-\gamma)$ -dual of  $\mathbf{F}$ , we have a minimal free resolution

$$\mathbf{G} = 0 \longrightarrow S(-\gamma) \xrightarrow{d_1} \bigoplus_{i=1}^m S(-\beta_i) \xrightarrow{{}^t d_2} \bigoplus_{i=1}^m S(-\alpha_{p_i}) \xrightarrow{{}^t d_3} S$$

of  $S/I$ . Then, by Theorem 1.5 and Theorem 2.1 of Buchsbaum-Eisenbud [1], there exists a  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -graded isomorphism  $t. : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}$  such that the matrix  $t_2 \cdot d_2$  is skew-symmetric. Since  $t.$  preserves a  $\mathbf{Z}^n$ -grading,  $t_1$ , respectively  $t_2$ , is determined by a permutation of free-basis of  $F_1$ , respectively  $F_2$ , and a multiplication of a unit. Hence, we have  $t_1 = (-1)^q(\tau^{-1})$  and  $t_2 = (-1)^{q'}(\tau)$  where  $\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_m$  such that  $\tau(p_i) = i$  for  $i \in [m]$ . Since  $t_0$ , respectively  $t_3$ , is an identity, we have  $q = 0$ , respectively  $q' = 0$ .

On the other hand, by the form of  $d_2$  and  ${}^t d_2$ , we have either  $p_i = \nu(p_1 - (i - 1))$  for all  $i \in [m]$  or  $p_i = \nu(p_1 + (i - 1))$  for all  $i \in [m]$ , cf. (1.5). Namely,  $\tau$  is determined as  $\tau(i) = \nu(p_1 - i + 1)$  for any  $i \in [m]$  or  $\tau(i) = \nu(i - p_1 + 1)$  for any  $i \in [m]$ .

We note that the matrix  $t_2 \cdot d_2 = \tau d_2$  is skew-symmetric. It is only possible in the case that  $\tau(i) = \nu(i - p_1 + 1)$  for any  $i \in [m]$  and  $p_1 = s$ . This implies that  $\tau d_2$  is of type (II) (or  $d_2$  is of type (I)).

This completes the proof of Theorem 0.1.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Let  $I \subset S$  be a Gorenstein monomial ideal of codimension three. Then the Rees algebra  $R(I) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} I^i$  is isomorphic to the symmetric algebra  $\text{Sym}(I)$  and is Cohen-Macaulay. Furthermore, the associated graded ring  $G(I) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} I^i / I^{i+1}$  is Gorenstein.*

*Proof.* By a theorem of Huneke [5] and Theorem 2.6 of Herzog-Simis-Vasconcelos [4], we only need to show that  $\mu(I_P) \leq \text{ht}(P)$  for any  $P \in V(I)$ .

Let  $P \in V(I)$  of  $\text{ht}(P) = t \leq n$ . Then there exist  $1 \leq i_1 < \cdots < i_{n-t} \leq n$  such that  $X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_{n-t}} \notin P$ . We put  $A = K[X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_{n-t}}]$  and  $T = S \otimes_A K(X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_{n-t}})$ . Then  $T$  is a polynomial ring over  $K(X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_{n-t}})$  with  $t$  variables and  $IT$  is a Gorenstein monomial



ideal of codimension three. Hence, by (0.1),  $\mu(IT) \leq t$  and thus  $\mu(I_P) \leq \mu(IT) \leq t = \text{ht}(P)$ .  $\square$

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