

# Approximate Vanishing Ideal Computations at Scale

**Elias Wirth**<sup>1,2</sup>   Hiroshi Kera<sup>3</sup>   Sebastian Pokutta<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Technische Universität Berlin

<sup>2</sup>Zuse Institute Berlin

<sup>3</sup>Chiba University

September 19, 2022



# Binary Classification

- Input space  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and output space  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\}$
- Training sample

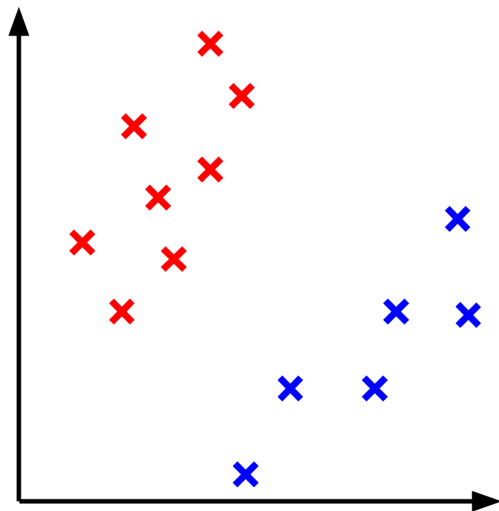
$$S = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\} \in (\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^m$$

drawn *i.i.d.* from some unknown distribution  $\mathcal{D}$

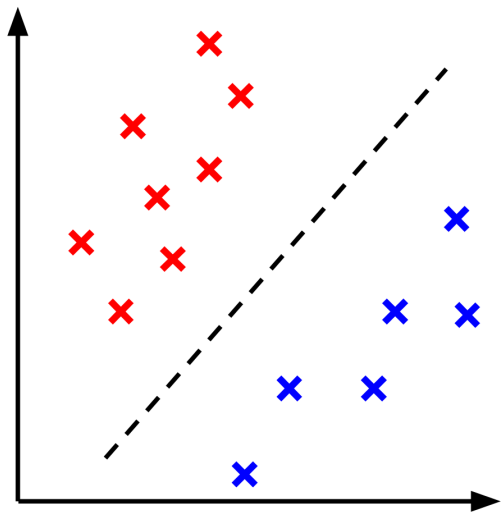
- Determine a *hypothesis*  $h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  with small *generalization error*

$$\mathbb{P}_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathcal{D}}[h(\mathbf{x}) \neq y]$$

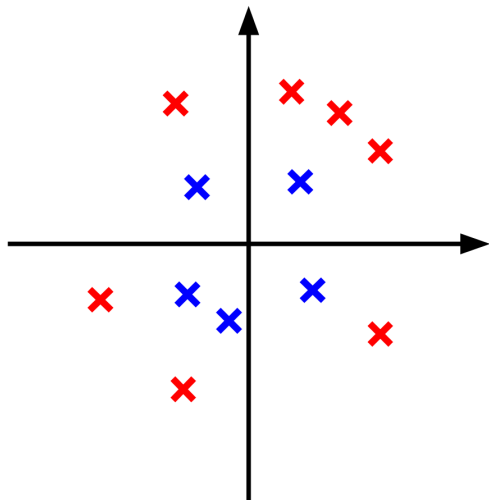
## Linearly Separable Case



## Linearly Separable Case



## Non-Separable Case



# Algebraic Set

- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  denote the polynomial ring in  $n$  variables

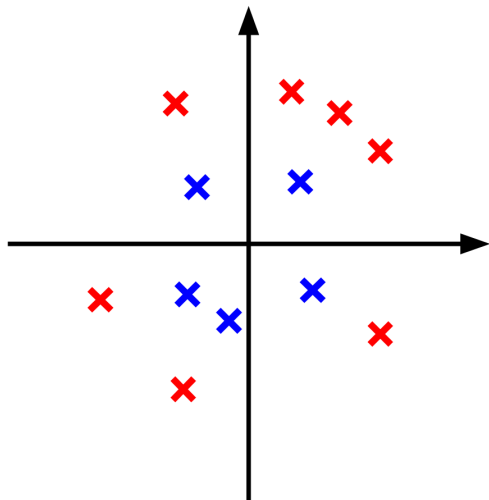
## Definition 1 (Algebraic Set).

A set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is *algebraic* if there exists a finite set of polynomials  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$ , such that  $X$  is the set of common roots of  $\mathcal{G}$ .

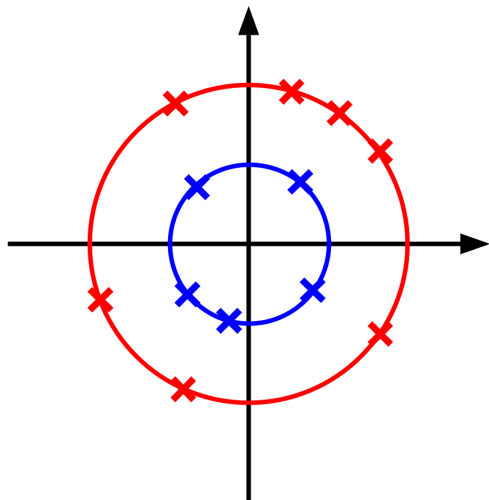
## Example 2 (Ball of Radius 1).

$$X = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1\} \Rightarrow \mathcal{G} = \{x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1\}$$

## Non-Separable Case

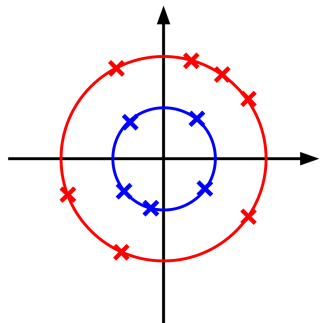


## Non-Separable Case





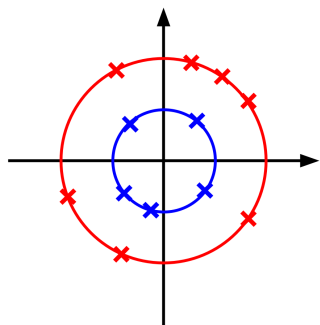
## Non-Separable Case



$$X^{+1} \subseteq \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1\}$$

$$X^{-1} \subseteq \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 2\}$$

## Non-Separable Case



$$X^{+1} \subseteq \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1\}$$

$$X^{-1} \subseteq \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 2\}$$

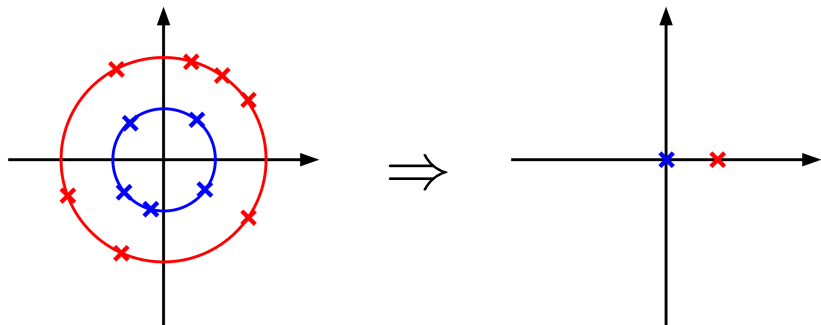
$$g(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1$$

$$|g(\mathbf{x}^{+1})| = 0$$

$$|g(\mathbf{x}^{-1})| = 1$$

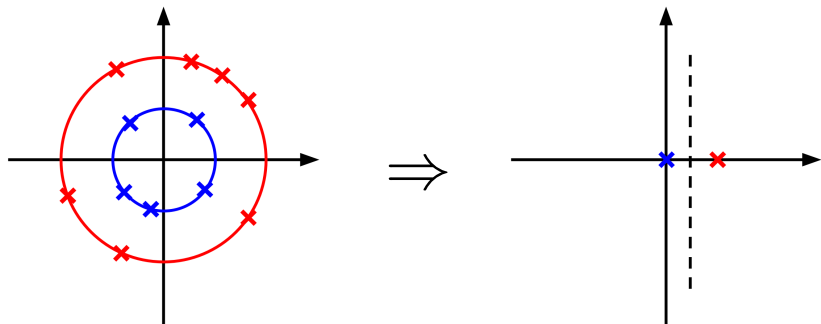
## Non-Separable Case

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1$$



## Non-Separable Case

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1$$



## Vanishing Ideal

- Data set  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$
- Vanishing Ideal

$$\mathcal{I}_X = \{f \in \mathcal{P} \mid f(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \in X\}$$

- Finite set of generators  $\mathcal{G} = \{g_1, \dots, g_k\} \subseteq \mathcal{I}_X$  such that for all  $f \in \mathcal{I}_X$ , there exist  $h_1, \dots, h_k \in \mathcal{P}$  with

$$f = \sum_{i=1}^k g_i h_i.$$

[Cox et al., 2013]

## Approximately Vanishing Polynomial

### Definition 3 (Approximately Vanishing Polynomial).

Let  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . A polynomial  $g = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i t_i \in \mathcal{P}$  is called  $(\psi, 1, \tau)$ -approximately vanishing (over  $X$ ) if

- 1  $\text{MSE}(g, X) := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m g(\mathbf{x}_i)^2 \leq \psi$ ,
- 2  $\text{LTC}(g) = c_k = 1$ ,
- 3  $\|g\|_1 := \|\mathbf{c}\|_1 \leq \tau$ .

### Definition 4 (Approximate Vanishing Ideal).

Let  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . The  $(\psi, \tau)$ -approximate vanishing ideal is the ideal generated by all  $(\psi, 1, \tau)$ -approximately vanishing polynomials.

# Classification Pipeline

---

**Algorithm 1:** Pipeline

---

**Input** : Training sample  $S = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$  with  
 $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_m \in \{-1, +1\}$ .

$X^{\pm 1} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{x}_j \in X \mid y_j = \pm 1\} \subseteq X$

$\mathcal{G}^{\pm 1} \leftarrow$  generating set of the approximate vanishing ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{X^{\pm 1}}^\psi$

$\mathcal{G} = \{g_1, \dots, g_{|\mathcal{G}|}\} \leftarrow \mathcal{G}^{+1} \cup \mathcal{G}^{-1}$

**for**  $j = 1, \dots, m$  **do**

$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j \leftarrow (|g_1(\mathbf{x}_j)|, \dots, |g_{|\mathcal{G}|}(\mathbf{x}_j)|)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{G}|}$

**end**

train linear classifier on  $\tilde{X} = \{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \mid \mathbf{x} \in X\}$

---

# Algorithm

---

**Algorithm 2:** Oracle Approximate Vanishing Ideal Algorithm (OAVI)

---

**Input** :  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi \geq 0$ , and  $\tau \geq 2$ .

**Output:**  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ .

---

$d \leftarrow 1$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \leftarrow \{\mathbb{1}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $\partial_d \mathcal{O} = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \neq \emptyset$  **do**

**for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$  **do**

$g \leftarrow$  construct candidate polynomial

**if**  $g$  vanishes approximately **then**

$\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \mathcal{G} \cup \{g\}$

**else**

$\mathcal{O} = \{t_1, \dots, t_\ell\} \leftarrow \mathcal{O} \cup \{u_i\}$

**end**

**end**

$d \leftarrow d + 1$

**end**

---



# Algorithm

---

**Algorithm 2:** Oracle Approximate Vanishing Ideal Algorithm (OAVI)

---

**Input** :  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi \geq 0$ , and  $\tau \geq 2$ .

**Output:**  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ .

---

$d \leftarrow 1$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{1}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $\partial_d \mathcal{O} = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \neq \emptyset$  **do**

**for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$  **do**

$g \leftarrow$  construct candidate polynomial

**if**  $g$  vanishes approximately **then**

$\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \mathcal{G} \cup \{g\}$

**else**

$\mathcal{O} = \{t_1, \dots, t_\ell\} \leftarrow \mathcal{O} \cup \{u_i\}$

**end**

**end**

$d \leftarrow d + 1$

**end**

---

# Algorithm

---

**Algorithm 2:** Oracle Approximate Vanishing Ideal Algorithm (OAVI)

---

**Input** :  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi \geq 0$ , and  $\tau \geq 2$ .

**Output:**  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ .

---

$d \leftarrow 1$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \leftarrow \{\mathbb{1}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $\partial_d \mathcal{O} = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \neq \emptyset$  **do**

**for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$  **do**

$g \leftarrow$  constructed candidate polynomial

**if**  $g$  vanishes approximately **then**

$\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \mathcal{G} \cup \{g\}$

**else**

$\mathcal{O} = \{t_1, \dots, t_\ell\} \leftarrow \mathcal{O} \cup \{u_i\}$

**end**

**end**

$d \leftarrow d + 1$

**end**

---

## Algorithm: Border

- Let  $\mathcal{T}$  denote the set of monomials in  $n$  variables

### Definition 5 (Border).

Let  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ . The (degree- $d$ ) border of  $\mathcal{O}$  is defined as  $\partial_d \mathcal{O} = \{u \in \mathcal{T}_d : t \in \mathcal{O}_{\leq d-1} \text{ for all } t \in \mathcal{T}_{\leq d-1} \text{ such that } t \mid u\}$ .

### Example 6 (Simple Border Example).

Let  $n = 2$  and  $\mathcal{O} = \{1, x, y, xy, y^2\}$ . Then,  $\partial_3 \mathcal{O} = \{xy^2, y^3\}$ .

$y^3$	$xy^3$	$x^2y^3$	$x^3y^3$
$y^2$	$xy^2$	$x^2y^2$	$x^3y^2$
$y$	$xy$	$x^2y$	$x^3y$
$1$	$x$	$x^2$	$x^3$

# Algorithm

---

**Algorithm 2:** Oracle Approximate Vanishing Ideal Algorithm (OAVI)

---

**Input** :  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi \geq 0$ , and  $\tau \geq 2$ .

**Output:**  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ .

---

$d \leftarrow 1$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{1}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $\partial_d \mathcal{O} = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \neq \emptyset$  **do**

**for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$  **do**

$g \leftarrow$  constructed candidate polynomial

**if**  $g$  vanishes approximately **then**

$\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \mathcal{G} \cup \{g\}$

**else**

$\mathcal{O} = \{t_1, \dots, t_\ell\} \leftarrow \mathcal{O} \cup \{u_i\}$

**end**

**end**

$d \leftarrow d + 1$

**end**

---

## Algorithm: Candidate Polynomial

- $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$
- $\mathcal{O} = \{t_1, \dots, t_\ell\} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  and let  $A := \mathcal{O}(X) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times \ell}$
- $u \in \partial_d \mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  and let  $\mathbf{b} := u(X) \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- Solve  $\mathbf{c}^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\|\mathbf{c}\|_1 \leq \tau} \frac{1}{m} \|\mathbf{b} + A\mathbf{c}\|_2^2$
- $g \leftarrow u + \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} c_i^* t_i$

### Theorem 7 (Wirth and Pokutta, 2022).

*If there exists a  $(\psi, 1, \tau)$ -approximately vanishing polynomial, then  $g$  is one of them.*

# Algorithm

---

**Algorithm 2:** Oracle Approximate Vanishing Ideal Algorithm (OAVI)

---

**Input** :  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi \geq 0$ , and  $\tau \geq 2$ .

**Output:**  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ .

---

$d \leftarrow 1$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{1}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $\partial_d \mathcal{O} = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \neq \emptyset$  **do**

**for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$  **do**

$g \leftarrow$  constructed candidate polynomial

**if**  $g$  vanishes approximately **then**

$\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \mathcal{G} \cup \{g\}$

**else**

$\mathcal{O} = \{t_1, \dots, t_\ell\} \leftarrow \mathcal{O} \cup \{u_i\}$

**end**

**end**

$d \leftarrow d + 1$

**end**

---

## Theorem 8 (Complexity [Wirth and Pokutta, 2022]).

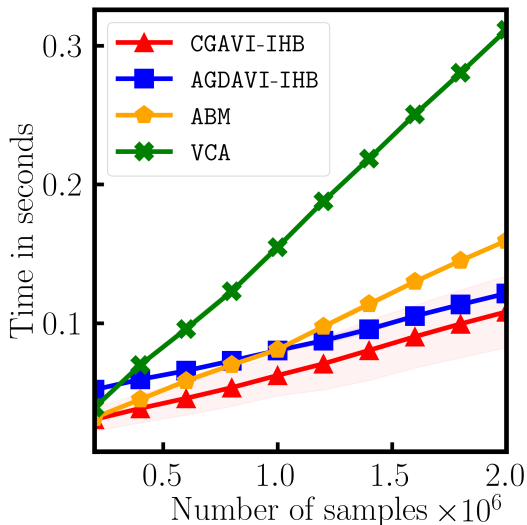
Let  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi \in [0, 1[$ ,  $\tau \geq 2$ , and  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{O}) = \text{DAVI}(X, \psi, \tau)$ .

- Time:  $O((|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}|)^2 + (|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}|)T_{\text{ORACLE}})$ .
  - Space:  $O((|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}|)m + S_{\text{ORACLE}})$ .
- 
- $|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}| = O(mn)$  [Limbeck, 2013, Livni et al., 2013, Wirth and Pokutta, 2022]

## Corollary 9.

- Time:  $O(m^3)$
- Space:  $O(m^2)$

# Computational Complexity: Experiment





## Computational Complexity: Theory II

- Time:  $O((|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}|)^2 + (|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}|)T_{\text{ORACLE}})$ .
- Space:  $O((|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}|)m + S_{\text{ORACLE}})$ .

### Theorem 10 ([Wirth et al., 2022]).

Let  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \subseteq [0, 1]^n$ ,  $\psi \in ]0, 1[$ ,  
 $D = \lceil -\log(\psi) / \log(4) \rceil$ ,  $\tau \geq (3/2)^D$ , and  
 $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{O}) = \text{DAVI}(X, \psi, \tau)$ . Then,  $|\mathcal{G}| + |\mathcal{O}| \leq \binom{D+n}{D}$ .

### Corollary 11.

- Time:  $O(m^3) \Rightarrow O(m)$
- Space:  $O(m^2) \Rightarrow O(m)$

# Learning Guarantees

## Theorem 12 ([Wirth and Pokutta, 2022, Wirth et al., 2022]).

Let  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq [-1, 1]^n$ , let  $\psi \in ]0, 1[$ , let  $D = \lceil -\log(\psi)/\log(4) \rceil$ , let  $\tau \geq (3/2)^D$ , let  $k = \binom{D+n}{D} \leq \left(\frac{e(D+n)}{D}\right)^D$ , and let  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\} \in \mathcal{X}^m$  be drawn i.i.d. according to a distribution  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{O}) = \text{DAVI}(X, \psi, \tau)$ . Then, for any  $\delta > 0$ , with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , the following inequality holds for all  $g \in \mathcal{G}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{D}} [\text{MSE}(g, \{\mathbf{x}\})] \leq \text{MSE}(g, X) + 4\tau^2 \sqrt{\frac{2k \log(2(n+1)k)}{m}} + 12\tau^2 \sqrt{\frac{\log(2\delta^{-1})}{2m}}.$$

# Conclusion

## Contributions

- Learning Guarantees [Wirth and Pokutta, 2022]
- Computational complexity depends linearly on the number of samples [Wirth et al., 2022]

## Open Problems

- Learning guarantees for related methods
- A "better" notion than approximate vanishing ideal

## References I

- D. Cox, J. Little, and D. O'Shea. *Ideals, varieties, and algorithms: an introduction to computational algebraic geometry and commutative algebra*. Springer Science & Business Media, 2013.
- J. Limbeck. Computation of approximate border bases and applications. 2013.
- R. Livni, D. Lehavi, S. Schein, H. Nachliely, S. Shalev-Shwartz, and A. Globerson. Vanishing component analysis. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 597–605. PMLR, 2013.
- E. Wirth and S. Pokutta. Conditional gradients for the approximately vanishing ideal. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2202.03349*, 2022.
- E. Wirth, H. Kera, and S. Pokutta. Approximate vanishing ideal computations at scale. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2207.01236*, 2022.