

## SUBRINGS OF $k[X, Y]$ GENERATED BY MONOMIALS

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**1. Introduction.** In this paper we study subrings  $A$  of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials over  $k$ . If  $A$  is normal and  $A \subset B$  integral, we can completely characterize  $A$ . If  $\dim A = 2$ , we show that  $A$  is isomorphic to a subring  $A'$  of  $B$  generated by monomials with  $A' \subset B$  integral. The author became interested in these rings while studying projective modules over subrings of  $k[X, Y]$ . For some applications, see [1].

In Section 4 we calculate  $\text{Cl}(A)$ , the divisor class group of  $A$ . We also show that  $\tilde{G}_0(A)$  is precisely  $\text{Cl}(A)$ .

Rings generated by monomials may also be studied by considering the semi-group of the exponents of their monomials. For example, see [4].

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**2. Subrings of  $k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials.**  $k$  will always denote a field, but in most cases it is clear that  $k$  could be any normal domain.

We first note that if  $A$  is a subring of  $k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials, then  $A$  is a homogeneous or graded ring with the natural grading it inherits from  $k[X, Y]$ . In fact,  $A$  is also bihomogeneous, that is,  $\sum a_{ij}X^iY^j$  is in  $A$  if and only if each  $a_{ij}X^iY^j$  is in  $A$ . We also note that if  $A$  is any bihomogeneous subring of  $k[X, Y]$  containing  $k$ , then necessarily  $A$  is generated by monomials over  $k$ .

First we study the case when  $A \subset k[X, Y]$  is integral. Later (Proposition 2.8) we will see that we can always reduce to this case when  $(\text{Krull}) \dim A = 2$ . The following lemma is obvious.

**LEMMA 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be an affine subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials, then  $A \subset B$  is integral if and only if  $X^m$  and  $Y^n$  are in  $A$  for some positive  $m$  and  $n$ .*

If some power of  $X$  and  $Y$  is in  $A$ , clearly  $A$  is affine and  $A \subset k[X, Y]$  is integral. Of course not all subrings of  $k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials are affine; for example, consider  $A = k[\{X^n Y\}_{n=0}^{\infty}]$ .

**LEMMA 2.2.** *Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. Let  $X^m$  and  $Y^n$  be the smallest positive powers of  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $A$ . Then*

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(1) if  $X^a$  and  $Y^b$  are in  $A$ , then  $m|a$  and  $n|b$ .

Also assume that  $k[X^m, Y^n] \subsetneq A$ , and let  $X^i Y^j$  be in  $A$  with  $ij \neq 0$  and  $i$  as small as possible. Then

- (2)  $0 < i < m$  and  $i|m$ ;
- (3) if  $X^c Y^d$  is in  $A$ , then  $i|c$ .

*Proof.* We prove (1); the proofs of (2) and (3) are similar. Let  $X^a$  be in  $A$ , then  $a = mq + r$  with  $0 \leq r < m$ . Clearly  $X^r = (X^a)(X^m)^{-q}$  is in the quotient field of  $A$ . But  $X^r$  is integral over  $A$ , and  $A$  is normal, so  $X^r$  is in  $A$ .  $m$  was chosen to be minimal, so  $r = 0$ , and thus  $m|a$ .

Let  $A$  be as in Lemma 2.2 and  $X^i Y^j$  in  $A$  with  $i$  as small as possible. As above, by dividing by powers of  $Y^n$ , we can also assume that  $0 < j < n$ . So there is a  $X^i Y^j$  in  $A$  with

- (1)  $0 < i < m$ ,
- (2)  $0 < j < n$ , and
- (3)  $i$  as small as possible.

It is easy to see that  $j$  is uniquely determined. These three monomials  $X^m$ ,  $Y^n$ , and  $X^i Y^j$  completely determine  $A$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.3.** *Let  $A$  be as above. Then  $A = k(X^m, X^i Y^j, Y^n) \cap k[X, Y]$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $K$  be the quotient field of  $A$  and  $R = k(X^m, X^i Y^j, Y^n) \cap k[X, Y]$ .  $k(X^m, X^i Y^j, Y^n) \subset K$ , so  $R = k(X^m, X^i Y^j, Y^n) \cap k[X, Y] \subset K \cap k[X, Y]$ . But  $A$  is normal and  $A \subset k[X, Y]$  integral, so  $K \cap k[X, Y] = A$ . Thus  $R \subset A$ . Conversely, suppose that  $X^a Y^b$  is in  $A$ . By arguments similar to Lemma 2.2, clearly  $X^a Y^b$  is in  $k(X^m, X^i Y^j, Y^n)$ . But thus  $A \subset R$  since  $A$  is generated by monomials, so  $A = R$ .

**COROLLARY 2.4.** *Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. Let  $X^m$  and  $Y^n$  be the least positive powers of  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $A$ . Suppose that  $k[X^m, Y^n] \subsetneq A$ , then let  $X^i Y^j$  be in  $A$  with  $0 < i < m, 0 < j < n$ , and  $i$  as small as possible. Then*

$$A = k[X^m, X^i Y^j, X^{2i} Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{(q-1)i} Y^{\overline{(q-1)j}}, Y^n]$$

where  $m = qi$  and *overscoring* denotes mod  $n$ .

*Remarks.* (1). We could carry out the above arguments with  $X^i Y^j$  in  $A$  with  $0 < i < m, 0 < j < n$ , and  $j$  as small as possible. Clearly we would obtain similar results.

(2) If  $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ , then  $A = k[X^m, Y^n]$ . For if not, then there exists an  $X^i Y^j$  in  $A$  with  $0 < i < m, 0 < j < n$ , and  $i$  as small as possible.  $i|m$ , say  $m = qi$ , so  $(X^i Y^j)^q = X^m Y^{jq}$  is in  $A$ . Thus  $Y^{jq}$  is in  $A$ , so  $n|jq$ . But  $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ , so  $n|j$ , which is a contradiction.

(3) Assume that  $m = n$  and  $i = 1$ , so  $A = k[X^n, X Y^j, X^2 Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{n-1} Y^{\overline{(n-1)j}}, Y^n]$ . By the usual arguments,  $\gcd(j, n) = 1$ . Clearly any such  $j$  will work. So for fixed  $m = n$  and  $i = 1$ ,  $j$  can take on precisely  $\phi(n)$  values, where  $\phi$  is the Euler phi function. Distinct values of  $j$  may define isomorphic

subrings; but for distinct values of  $n$ , none of these rings are isomorphic (Theorem 4.4).

Our next result shows that we may actually assume, up to isomorphism, that  $m = n$  and  $i = 1$ .

**THEOREM 2.5.** *Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. Then  $A$  is isomorphic to either  $B = k[X, Y]$  or  $A' = k[X^n, XY^j, X^2Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{n-1}Y^{(n-1)j}, Y^n]$  where  $0 < j < n$  and  $\gcd(j, n) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* If  $A$  is not isomorphic to  $k[X, Y]$ , then  $A = k[X^m, X^iY^j, X^{2i}Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{(q-1)i}Y^{(q-1)j}, Y^n]$  by Corollary 2.4. By Lemma 2.2,  $i$  divides all powers of  $X$  in any monomial of  $A$ . By replacing  $X$  by  $X^{1/i}$ , we may assume  $i = 1$ ; thus  $A = k[X^m, XY^j, X^2Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{m-1}Y^{(m-1)j}, Y^n]$ . Let  $b$  be the smallest power of  $Y$  which appears in any monomial of  $A$ . Then  $b$  divides all powers of  $Y$  in any monomial of  $A$ . By replacing  $Y$  by  $Y^{1/b}$ , we may thus assume that both  $XY^j$  and  $X^aY$  are in  $A$ . Thus  $(XY^j)^n$  is in  $A$ , so  $m|n$ . Similarly  $n|m$ , so  $m = n$ .

*Remark.* Let  $A$  be as above. Assume that  $X^m$  and  $Y^l$  are the lowest powers of  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $A$ . Also let  $X^iY^j$  and  $X^aY^b$  be the monomials in  $A$  for which  $0 < i, a < m, 0 < j, b < n$ , and  $i$  and  $b$  are as small as possible. Then in Theorem 2.5,  $n = m/i = l/b$ .

So far we have characterized the affine normal subrings  $A$  of  $B = k[X, Y]$  with  $A \subset B$  integral. We next consider the case when  $A$  is not normal. Let  $\bar{A}$  be the integral closure of  $A$  in its quotient field  $K$ . Since  $A$  is generated by monomials,  $K = k(X^m, X^iY^j, Y^n)$  where  $m$  and  $n$  are the least positive powers of  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $K$  respectively, and  $0 \leq i < m$  and  $0 \leq j < n$  with  $i$  as small as possible. Clearly  $\bar{A} = k(X^m, X^iY^j, Y^n) \cap k[X, Y]$ , so  $\bar{A}$  is generated by monomials.

Let  $A$  and  $\bar{A}$  be as above, and let  $I = \{x \in \bar{A} | x\bar{A} \subset A\}$  be the conductor of  $\bar{A}/A$ .  $A$  and  $\bar{A}$  have the same quotient field, and  $\bar{A}$  is a finitely generated  $A$ -module; so it is well-known that  $I \neq 0$ . In fact, using a similar proof, it is easy to see that  $I$  actually contains a nonzero monomial  $X^aY^b$ . However, this also follows from the next lemma which shows that  $I$  is actually a bihomogeneous ideal.

**LEMMA 2.6.** *Let  $A = \bigoplus A_{(m,n)}$  and  $B = \bigoplus B_{(m,n)}$  be bihomogeneous commutative rings with  $A \subset B$  and each  $A_{(i,j)} \subset B_{(i,j)}$ . Then  $I = \{x \in B | xB \subset A\}$  is a bihomogeneous ideal.*

*Proof.* Let  $\sum a_{ij}$  be in  $I$ , we must show that each  $a_{ij}$  is also in  $I$ . If  $x_{mn}$  is in  $B$ , then  $(\sum a_{ij})x_{mn}$  is in  $A$ , and hence each  $a_{ij}x_{mn}$  is in  $A \cap B_{(i+m, j+n)} = A_{(i+m, j+n)}$ . Thus  $a_{ij}$  is in  $I$ , so  $I$  is bihomogeneous.

Combining the previous remarks and the above lemma, we have proved the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 2.7. *Let  $A$  be an affine subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. Then  $\bar{A}$ , the integral closure of  $A$ , is also an affine subring of  $B$  generated by monomials. The conductor ideal is bihomogeneous and thus contains a nonzero monomial.*

Clearly not all affine subrings of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials have  $A \subset B$  integral. By Lemma 2.1, this happens if and only if some power of  $X$  and  $Y$  is in  $A$ . If  $A$  is affine and contained in  $B$ , then  $\dim A = \text{tr deg}_k A \leq 2$ . If  $\dim A = 0$ , then of course  $A = k$ . If  $\dim A = 2$ , we show that we can change variables so that  $A$  is isomorphic to an affine subring  $A'$  of  $B$  generated by monomials with  $A' \subset B$  integral. Clearly this can happen only when  $\dim A = 2$  because  $A \subset B$  integral implies  $\dim A = \dim B = 2$ . If  $\dim A = 1$ , then we can change variables so that  $A$  is isomorphic to an affine subring  $A''$  of  $k[T]$  generated by monomials.

Let  $A$  be an affine subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials. Say  $A = k[X^{a_1}Y^{b_1}, \dots, X^{a_n}Y^{b_n}]$ , and let  $S = \{X^{a_1}Y^{b_1}, \dots, X^{a_n}Y^{b_n}\}$ . Pick  $X^a Y^b$  in  $S$  with  $a/b$  maximum and  $X^c Y^d$  in  $S$  with  $d/c$  maximum. (We define  $a/0 > i/j$  if  $j \neq 0$  or  $j = 0$  and  $a > i$ .) We note that for  $X^i Y^j$  in  $A$ ,  $aj \geq bi$  and  $di \geq cj$ .

Define a  $k$ -homomorphism  $\phi : k[X, Y] \rightarrow k(X, Y)$  by

$$\phi(X) = X^d/Y^b \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(Y) = Y^a/X^c.$$

Then  $\phi(X^a Y^b) = X^{ad-bc}$ ,  $\phi(X^c Y^d) = Y^{ad-bc}$ , and  $\phi(X^i Y^j) = X^{di-cj} Y^{aj-bi}$ . Thus  $\phi(A) \subset k[X, Y]$  and  $\phi(A)$  is generated by monomials.

If  $ad - bc = n > 0$ , then  $X^n$  and  $Y^n$  are in  $\phi(A)$ , so  $\phi(A) \subset k[X, Y]$  is integral. Thus  $\dim \phi(A) = 2$ , so  $\phi|_A$  is injective.

Next we show that  $n = 0$  if and only if  $\dim A \leq 1$ . If  $\dim A \leq 1$ , then  $\dim \phi(A) \leq 1$ , so  $\phi(A) \subset B$  is not integral, and thus  $n = 0$ . Conversely suppose that  $n = 0$ . For any  $X^i Y^j$  in  $A$ ,  $a/b \geq i/j$  and  $d/c \geq j/i$ , so  $bi = aj$ . Thus  $(X^i Y^j)^b = (X^a Y^b)^j$ . We define a  $k$ -homomorphism  $\psi : A \rightarrow k[T]$  by  $\psi(X^i Y^j) = T^i$ . By the above remarks  $\psi$  is injective, so  $\dim A \leq 1$ .

PROPOSITION 2.8. *Let  $A$  be an affine subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials. If  $\dim A = 1$ , then  $A$  is isomorphic to an affine subring of  $k[T]$  generated by monomials. If  $\dim A = 2$ , then  $A$  is isomorphic to an affine subring  $A'$  of  $B$  generated by monomials with  $A' \subset B$  integral.*

Examples. (1) Let  $A = k[X^2 Y^2, X^3 Y^3]$ ,  $\dim A = 1$ , so define  $\psi : A \rightarrow k[T]$  by  $\psi(X^2 Y^2) = T^2$  and  $\psi(X^3 Y^3) = T^3$ . Thus  $A$  is isomorphic to  $k[T^2, T^3] \subset k[T]$ .

(2) Let  $A = k[XY, XY^{n-1}, X^{n-1}Y]$ ,  $\dim A = 2$ , so define  $\phi : A \rightarrow k[X, Y]$  by  $\phi(X) = X^{n-1}/Y$  and  $\phi(Y) = Y^{n-1}/X$ . Then  $\phi(XY) = X^{n-2}Y^{n-2}$ ,  $\phi(XY^{n-1}) = Y^{n(n-2)}$ , and  $\phi(X^{n-1}Y) = X^{n(n-2)}$ . So  $A$  is isomorphic to  $k[X^{n(n-2)}, X^{n-2}Y^{n-2}, Y^{n(n-2)}]$  which is isomorphic to  $k[X^n, XY, Y^n] \subset k[X, Y]$ .

**3. Rings of invariants.** Affine normal subrings  $A$  of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials arise naturally in two ways. First, let  $G$  be a finite subgroup of automorphisms of the form

$$\theta : \begin{cases} X \rightarrow aX \\ Y \rightarrow bY, \quad a, b \in k. \end{cases}$$

Then  $A = B^G = \{f \in B \mid \theta(f) = f, \text{ for all } \theta \text{ in } G\}$  is an affine normal subring of  $B$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. We give three examples.

*Examples.* (1) Let  $\omega \in k$  be a primitive  $n$ th root of unity with  $\gcd(n, \text{char } k) = 1$ . Define  $\theta$  in  $\text{Aut}_k(B)$  by  $\theta(X) = \omega X$  and  $\theta(Y) = \omega Y$ ; then  $A = B^{(\theta)} = k[X^n, XY^{n-1}, \dots, X^{n-1}Y, Y^n]$ .

(2) Let  $\omega$  be as in (1), and define  $\theta$  by  $\theta(X) = \omega X$  and  $\theta(Y) = \omega^{-1}Y$ ; then  $A = B^{(\theta)} = k[X^n, XY, Y^n]$ .

(3) Let  $p$  be a prime not equal to  $\text{char } k$  and  $\omega \in k$  a primitive  $p$ th root of unity. For fixed  $1 \leq i \leq p - 1$ , define  $\theta$  by  $\theta(X) = \omega X$  and  $\theta(Y) = \omega^i Y$ . Let  $j$  be the least positive integer such that  $p \mid 1 + ij$ . Such a  $j$  exists, and  $0 < j < p$  because  $\gcd(i, p) = 1$ . Then  $A = B^{(\theta)} = k[X^p, XY^j, X^2Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{p-1}Y^{(p-1)j}, Y^p]$ .

Next, let  $k$  be a field with  $\text{char } k = p \neq 0$  and  $D : B \rightarrow B$  a  $k$ -derivation of the form  $D(X) = aX$  and  $D(Y) = bY$  with  $a, b \in k$ . Then  $A = \ker D \subset B = k[X, Y]$  is an affine normal subring of  $B$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. We note that  $D(X^i Y^j) = (ia + jb)X^i Y^j$  and  $k[X, Y]^p \subset A$ . We give three examples.

*Examples.* (1) Let  $k$  be as above and  $D$  defined by  $D(X) = X$  and  $D(Y) = Y$ , then  $A = \ker D = k[X^p, XY^{p-1}, \dots, X^{p-1}Y, Y^p]$ .

(2) Let  $D$  be defined by  $D(X) = X$  and  $D(Y) = -Y = (p - 1)Y$ , then  $A = \ker D = k[X^p, XY, Y^p]$ .

(3) Let  $i$  be a fixed integer with  $1 \leq i \leq p - 1$ . Define  $D$  by  $D(X) = X$  and  $D(Y) = iY$ , then  $A = \ker D = k[X^p, XY^j, X^2Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{p-1}Y^{(p-1)j}, Y^p]$  where  $j$  is the least positive integer such that  $p \mid 1 + ij$ .

These examples lead one to ask when an affine normal subring  $A$  of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials is either the ring of invariants of a  $k$ -automorphism of finite order or the kernel of a  $k$ -derivation of  $B$ . Of course, it is necessary to have  $A \subset B$  integral. But there are still many subrings  $A$  which are not of these two types. We give three examples.

*Examples.* (1)  $k$  may not contain the necessary roots of unity. For example,  $A = \mathbf{R}[X^4, XY, Y^4]$ .

(2) If  $\text{char } k = p \neq 0$ , then for any  $k$ -derivation  $D$  of  $B$ ,  $k[X, Y]^p \subset A = \ker D$ . For example  $A = \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}[X^4, XY, Y^4]$  cannot be obtained in this manner.

(3) Let  $A = \mathbf{C}[X^4, X^2Y^2, Y^4]$ , then  $A$  is not  $B^{(\theta)}$  for any  $\theta$  in  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbf{C}}(B)$ . If such a  $\theta$  exists, then necessarily  $\theta_n(X) = \omega X$ ,  $\theta_n(Y) = \omega^n Y$  where  $\omega \in \mathbf{C}$  is a

primitive 4th root of unity and  $n = 1$  or  $n = 3$ . If  $n = 1$ , then  $B^{(\theta_1)} = \mathbf{C}[X^4, XY^3, X^2Y^2, X^3Y, Y^4]$ ; while for  $n = 3$ ,  $B^{(\theta_3)} = \mathbf{C}[X^4, XY, Y^4]$ . Note that  $A = B^G$  where  $G$  is generated by  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_3$ .

However, these are essentially the only types of exceptions. In many cases, even though  $A$  is not a ring of invariants or the kernel of a derivation, we can show that  $A$  is isomorphic to a ring of the desired type.

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *Let  $k$  be a field with  $\text{char } k = p \neq 0$  and  $A$  an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials. If  $k[X^p, Y^p] \subset A$  and  $A$  is not isomorphic to  $B$ , then there exists a  $k$ -derivation  $D$  of  $B$  with  $A = \ker D$ .*

*Proof.* If  $X^n$  is in  $A$ , then  $p|n$  since  $p$  is prime. Similarly for powers of  $Y$ , so by Corollary 2.4,  $A = k[X^p, X^iY^j, X^{2i}Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{p-1}Y^{(p-1)j}, Y^p]$  where  $0 < i, j < p$  and  $i|p$ .  $p$  is prime, so  $i = 1$ . Also  $\text{gcd}(j, p) = 1$ , so there are integers  $c$  and  $d$  with  $dp = 1 + cj$ . Define a  $k$ -derivation  $D$  of  $B$  by  $D(X) = X$  and  $D(Y) = cY$ . Then  $D(XY^j) = (1 + cj)XY^j = 0$  since  $p|1 + cj$  and  $\text{char } k = p$ . So  $XY^j \in \ker D$ , and thus  $A = \ker D$ .

The next proposition may be proved in a similar manner.

**PROPOSITION 3.2.** *Let  $k$  be a field with  $\text{char } k = p$  and  $q$  a prime distinct from  $p$ . Assume that  $k$  contains a primitive  $q$ th root of unity. Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials with  $k[X^q, Y^q] \subset A$  and  $A$  not isomorphic to  $B$ . Then there exists a  $k$ -automorphism  $\theta$  of  $B$  of finite order with  $A = B^{(\theta)}$ .*

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** *Let  $k$  be a field with  $\text{char } k = p$  and  $A = k[X^m, X^iY^j, X^{2i}Y^{2j}, \dots, Y^n]$ . Let  $l = m/i$  and assume that  $\text{gcd}(l, p) = 1$  and that  $k$  contains a primitive  $l$ th root of unity. Then there exists a  $k$ -automorphism  $\theta$  of  $B = k[X, Y]$  of finite order with  $A$  isomorphic to  $B^{(\theta)}$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.5  $A$  is isomorphic to  $A' = k[X^l, XY^q, X^2Y^{2q}, \dots, X^{l-1}Y^{(l-1)q}, Y^l]$  where  $\text{gcd}(l, q) = 1$ . There exist integers  $c$  and  $d$  so that  $cl = 1 + dq$ . Let  $\omega \in k$  be a primitive  $l$ th root of unity. Define  $\theta$  by  $\theta(X) = \omega X$  and  $\theta(Y) = \omega^d Y$ .  $X^l$  and  $Y^l$  are in  $B^{(\theta)}$ , and these are the smallest such positive powers because  $\text{gcd}(l, d) = 1$ .  $\theta(XY^q) = \omega^{1+dq}XY^q = XY^q$  because  $l|1 + dq$ , so  $XY^q \in B^{(\theta)}$ . Thus  $X^l, Y^l$ , and  $XY^q$  are in  $B^{(\theta)}$ , so  $B^{(\theta)} = A'$ .

**4. The divisor class group of  $A$ .** Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials. Then  $A$  is a Krull domain. In this section we calculate  $\text{Cl}(A)$ , the divisor class group of  $A$ .

Let  $A$  be a Krull domain with quotient field  $K$ .  $\text{Div}(A)$  is the free abelian group on the height one prime ideals of  $A$ .  $\text{Prin}(A)$  is the subgroup of  $\text{Div}(A)$  generated by  $\sum_P V_P(x)(P)$  for  $0 \neq x \in K$ .  $\text{Cl}(A)$ , the divisor class group of  $A$ , is defined to be  $\text{Div}(A)/\text{Prin}(A)$ .

There is another description of  $\text{Cl}(A)$  which we will use. A fractional ideal  $I$  is *divisorial* if it is an intersection of principal fractional ideals. Any prime ideal

of height one is divisorial. A fractional ideal  $I$  is contained in a minimal divisorial ideal  $\bar{I} = A : (A : I)$  where  $A : I = \{x \in K \mid xI \subset A\}$ . This defines an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on the set of fractional ideals of  $A$  with  $I \sim J$  if and only if  $\bar{I} = \bar{J}$ .  $\text{Div}(A)$  is just the abelian group of equivalence classes of fractional ideals with the usual multiplication.  $\text{Prin}(A)$  is then the subgroup of  $\text{Div}(A)$  generated by principal ideals.

If  $A$  is isomorphic to  $k[X, Y]$ , then  $A$  is factorial, so  $\text{Cl}(A) = 0$ . Otherwise  $A = k[X^m, X^i Y^j, X^{2i} Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{(q-1)i} Y^{(q-1)j}, Y^n]$  where  $m = qi$ . We show that  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/q\mathbf{Z}$ .

Special cases of  $A$  have been calculated in other ways, and they depend on the field  $k$ . Suppose first that  $A = B^G$  where  $G$  is a finite subgroup of  $\text{Aut}_k(B)$ . If no height one prime ideal of  $B$  is ramified over  $A$ , then  $A$  is isomorphic to  $H^1(G, B^*)$  [3, p. 82]. In our case,  $B^* = k^*$ , so if  $G$  is a finite cyclic group of order  $n$ , then  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ . For example, if  $k$  contains a primitive  $n$ th root of unity, then  $\text{Cl}(k[X^n, XY, Y^n])$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ .

If  $\text{char } k = p \neq 0$  and  $A = \ker D$ , where  $D$  is a  $k$ -derivation of  $B$ , then  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $L/L'$ . Here  $L$  and  $L'$  are the logarithmic derivatives,  $L' = \{D(t)/t \mid t \in B^*\}$  and  $L = \{D(t)/t \in B \mid t \in K^*\}$ . In our special case,  $B^* = k^*$ , so  $L' = 0$ . Thus  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $L$ , which is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z}$  [5, p. 61].

Waterhouse [7] has combined these two theories using the cohomology theory of Hopf algebras. He has shown, for example, that if  $\text{char } k = p \neq 0$ , then  $\text{Cl}(k[X^{p^n}, XY, Y^{p^n}])$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/p^n\mathbf{Z}$ . Note that none of the above methods is applicable for calculating  $\text{Cl}(\mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}[X^6, XY, Y^6])$ , for example.

If  $A = A_0 \oplus A_1 \oplus \dots$  is a homogeneous Krull domain, it is well-known [3, p. 42] that  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{HDiv}(A)/\text{HPrin}(A)$  where  $\text{HDiv}(A)$  is generated by the homogeneous prime divisorial ideals of  $A$  and  $\text{HPrin}(A) = \text{HDiv}(A) \cap \text{Prin}(A)$ . If  $A = \bigoplus A_{(i,j)}$  is a bihomogeneous Krull domain, we show that  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{BDiv}(A)/\text{BPrin}(A)$  where  $\text{BDiv}(A)$  is the subgroup generated by bihomogeneous prime divisorial ideals and  $\text{BPrin}(A) = \text{BDiv}(A) \cap \text{Prin}(A)$ .

**LEMMA 4.1.** *Let  $A = \bigoplus A_{(i,j)}$  be a bihomogeneous ring and  $P$  a prime ideal of  $A$ . Let  $I$  be the ideal generated by the bihomogeneous elements of  $P$ . Then  $I$  is prime.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $xy$  is in  $I$ , but neither  $x$  nor  $y$  is in  $I$ . Write  $x = \sum a_{ij}$  and  $y = \sum b_{ij}$ , and assume that  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{lk}$  are the first terms not in  $I$ . But then  $a_{ij}b_{lk}$  is in  $I \subset P$ , so say  $a_{ij}$  is in  $P$ . Thus  $a_{ij}$  is also in  $I$ , a contradiction; so  $I$  must be prime.

**LEMMA 4.2.** *Let  $A$  be a bihomogeneous Krull domain and  $S$  the multiplicatively closed set of bihomogeneous elements of  $A$ . Then  $S^{-1}A$  is factorial.*

*Proof.* Let  $A = \bigoplus A_{(i,j)}$ , then  $S^{-1}A = \bigoplus_{i,j \in \mathbf{Z}} (S^{-1}A)_{(i,j)}$  where  $(S^{-1}A)_{(i,j)} = \{x_{(m,n)}/y_{(l,k)} \mid m - l = i, n - k = j\}$ . Clearly  $F = (S^{-1}A)_{(0,0)}$  is a field. We may assume that the bigrading of  $A$  is not trivial, so there exists a bihomo-

geneous  $U$  in  $S^{-1}A$  of degree  $(0, \alpha)$  with  $\alpha > 0$  as small as possible. Let  $V$  in  $S^{-1}A$  be a bihomogeneous element of degree  $(\beta, \gamma)$  with  $\beta, \gamma > 0$  and  $(\beta, \gamma)$  as small as possible with respect to the lexicographic order on  $\mathbf{N} \times \mathbf{N}$ . Clearly  $U$  and  $V$  are transcendental over  $F$ , so  $F[U, U^{-1}, V, V^{-1}] \subset S^{-1}A$ . Let  $t$  in  $S^{-1}A$  be bihomogeneous of degree  $(i, j)$ ; we may assume  $i > 0$ . Write  $i = q\beta + r$  with  $0 \leq r < \beta$ , so  $V^{-qt}$  has degree  $(r, j - q\gamma)$ . Thus  $r = 0$ , so the degree of  $V^{-qt}$  is  $(0, j - q\gamma)$ . But then for a suitable multiple of  $U$ , namely  $p = (j - q\gamma)/\alpha$ ,  $U^{-p}V^{-qt} \in F$ . Hence  $t \in F[U, V, U^{-1}, V^{-1}]$ , so  $S^{-1}A = F[U, V, U^{-1}, V^{-1}]$ , which is factorial.

**THEOREM 4.3.** *Let  $A$  be a bihomogeneous Krull domain. Then  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{BDiv}(A)/\text{BPrin}(A)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A = \bigoplus A_{(i,j)}$  and  $S$  be the multiplicatively closed set generated by the bihomogeneous elements of  $A$ . By Nagata's theorem [3, p. 36], there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow \text{Cl}(A) \xrightarrow{f} \text{Cl}(S^{-1}A) \rightarrow 0$$

where  $\ker f$  is generated by the prime divisorial ideals of  $A$  that meet  $S$ . By Lemma 4.1 these are precisely the height one prime ideals which are bihomogeneous. By Lemma 4.2,  $S^{-1}A$  is factorial, so  $\text{Cl}(S^{-1}A) = 0$ . Thus  $\text{Cl}(A) = \ker f$  is isomorphic to  $\text{BDiv}(A)/\text{BPrin}(A)$ .

*Remark.* Theorem 4.3 clearly holds for more general gradings of  $A$ .

Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials with  $A \subset B$  integral. We may assume that  $A = k[X^n, XY^j, X^2Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{n-1}Y^{\overline{(n-1)j}}, Y^n]$  where  $0 < j < n$  and  $\text{gcd}(j, n) = 1$ . Let  $P$  be a prime bihomogeneous ideal of height one. Then some  $X^aY^b$  is in  $P$ .  $A \subset B$  is integral, so  $P$  can be lifted to a prime ideal  $\bar{P}$  of  $B$  of height one. But  $X^aY^b \in \bar{P}$ , so  $\bar{P}$  is either  $XB$  or  $YB$ . Thus  $P = \bar{P} \cap A$  is either

$$P_1 = (X^n, XY^j, \dots, X^{n-1}Y^{\overline{(n-1)j}}) \quad \text{or} \quad P_2 = (XY^j, \dots, X^{n-1}Y^{\overline{(n-1)j}}, Y^n).$$

So  $\text{BDiv}(A)$  is the free abelian group on  $(P_1)$  and  $(P_2)$ . Let  $[ \ ]$  denote the image of an element in  $\text{BDiv}(A)/\text{BPrin}(A)$ .

**THEOREM 4.4.** *Let  $k$  be a field and  $A = k[X^n, XY^j, X^2Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{n-1}Y^{\overline{(n-1)j}}, Y^n]$  where  $0 < j < n$  and  $\text{gcd}(j, n) = 1$ . Then  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show that

- (1)  $[P_1]^n = [P_2]^n = 0$ ,
- (2)  $[P_1][P_2]^j = 0$ , and
- (3) for  $0 < m < n$ , neither  $[P_1]^m$  nor  $[P_2]^m$  is 0.

*Proof of (1).* We show that  $[P_1]^n = 0$ . Let  $I = P_1^n$ , we show that  $A : (A : I) = X^nA$ . It is sufficient to show that any principal fractional ideal which contains  $I$  also contains  $X^nA$ . For  $I \subset X^nA$  and  $A : (A : I)$  is the intersection of

all principal fractional ideals which contain  $I$ . Let  $(f/g)A$  be a fractional ideal containing  $I$ . Since  $I$  is bihomogeneous we may assume  $f = X^a Y^a$  is in  $A$ .  $X^{n^2}$  is in  $I$ , so  $X^{n^2} = (X^a Y^b)(h/g)$  for some  $h$  in  $A$ . Thus  $g = x^{a-n^2} Y^b h$ , so  $f/g = X^{n^2}/h$ , and hence  $I \subset (X^{n^2}/h)A$ . Also  $X^n Y^{jn}$  is in  $A$ , so  $X^n Y^{jn} = X^{n^2}(h'/h)$  for some  $h'$  in  $A$ . Thus  $Y^{jn}|h'$ , so  $X^n = (X^{n^2}/h)(h'/Y^{jn})$  is in  $(X^{n^2}/h)A = (f/g)A$ . So  $X^n A \subset (f/g)A$  and the proof is complete.

*Proof of (2).* Let  $I = P_1 P_2^j$ , we show that  $A : (A : I) = XY^j A$ . It is sufficient to show that  $I \subset (X^a Y^b/h)A$  with  $X^a Y^b$  and  $h$  in  $A$  implies that  $XY^j$  is also in  $(X^a Y^b/h)A$ .  $XY^j Y^{jn}$  is in  $I$ , so  $hXY^{j+jn} = X^a Y^b h'$  for some  $h'$  in  $A$ . Thus  $X^a Y^b/h = XY^{j+jn}/h'$ . For some  $c$ ,  $X^c Y \in P_2$  (see the remark after Theorem 2.5), so  $X^{n+jc} Y^j$  is in  $I$ . Hence  $h'X^{n+jc} Y^j = XY^{j+jn} g$  for some  $g$  in  $A$ . But thus  $h'X^{n+jc} = XY^{jn} g$ , so  $Y^{jn}|h'$ . Hence  $(X^a Y^b/h)A = (XY^j/h')A$  for some  $h'$  in  $A$ , so  $XY^j$  is in  $(X^a Y^b/h)A$ .

*Proof of (3).* Let  $I = P_1^m$  with  $0 < m < n$ , we show that  $A : (A : I)$  is not principal. Clearly  $A : (A : I) \subsetneq A$  because  $I \subset P_1 \subset (X^n/X^{n-1}Y^{(n-1)^j})A$  and  $A \not\subset (X^n/X^{n-1}Y^{(n-1)^j})A$ . So it is sufficient to show that  $A$  is the only principal ideal of  $A$  containing  $I$ . But if  $I \subset fA$  with  $f = X^a Y^b$  homogeneous, clearly  $f = 1$ , so (3) is proved.

**COROLLARY 4.5.** *Let  $R$  be factorial and  $A = R[X^n, XY^j, X^2 Y^{2j}, \dots, X^{n-1} Y^{(n-1)^j}, Y^n]$  with  $0 < j < n$  and  $\gcd(j, n) = 1$ . Then  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* If  $R$  is any Krull domain with quotient field  $K$  and  $S = R \setminus 0$ , then again by Nagata's theorem there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow \text{Cl}(A) \xrightarrow{f} \text{Cl}(S^{-1}A) \rightarrow 0.$$

$\ker f$  is generated by the height one prime ideals of  $A$  which meet  $S$ . But these correspond to the height one primes of  $R$ , so  $\ker f$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Cl}(R)$ . Clearly  $S^{-1}A = K[X^n, XY^j, \dots, X^{n-1} Y^{(n-1)^j}, Y^n]$ , so  $\text{Cl}(S^{-1}A)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ . If  $R$  is factorial, then  $\text{Cl}(R) = 0$ , so  $\text{Cl}(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ .

Theorem 4.4 may be used to calculate  $G_0(A)$ . Recall that  $G_0(A)$  is the Grothendieck group with generators  $[M]$  for isomorphism classes of finitely generated  $A$ -modules and relations  $[M] = [M'] + [M'']$  for each short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$ .  $\tilde{G}_0(A)$  is  $G_0(A)$  modulo the subgroup generated by  $[A]$ . If  $A$  is a domain, then  $G_0(A)$  is naturally isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z} \oplus \tilde{G}_0(A)$ . When  $A$  is a Krull domain, there is a natural epimorphism  $\tilde{G}_0(A) \rightarrow \text{Cl}(A)$  [2, p. 500]. In general this map is not an isomorphism.

Let  $A$  be an affine normal subring of  $B = k[X, Y]$  generated by monomials. In [1] it is shown that all finitely generated projective  $A$ -modules are free, so  $K_0(A)$  is just  $\mathbf{Z}$ . Here we show that  $\tilde{G}_0(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Cl}(A)$ , so  $G_0(A)$  is  $\mathbf{Z} \oplus \text{Cl}(A)$ .

**THEOREM 4.6.** *Let  $A = k[X^n, XY^j, X^2\bar{Y}^{2j}, \dots, X^{n-1}\bar{Y}^{(n-1)j}, Y^n]$  where  $0 < j < n$  and  $\gcd(j, n) = 1$ . Then  $\tilde{G}_0(A)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Cl}(A)$  (isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ .)*

*Proof.* For  $s \in A$  and  $S = \{1, s, s^2, \dots\}$ , by [6, p. 122] the following localization sequence

$$\tilde{G}_0(A/sA) \rightarrow \tilde{G}_0(A) \rightarrow \tilde{G}_0(A_S) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. Let  $s = X^n$ , then  $A_S = A[1/X^n] = k[X^n, X^cY][1/X^n]$ , so  $\tilde{G}_0(A_S) = 0$ . Let  $R = A/X^nA$  and  $B = R/\text{nil}(R)$  where  $\text{nil}(R)$  is the nilradical of  $R$ . The natural map  $G_0(B) \rightarrow G_0(R)$  is an isomorphism [2, p. 454]. Clearly  $B = k[\bar{Y}^n]$ , so  $G_0(B) = \mathbf{Z}$  on  $[B]$ . Thus  $G_0(R) = \mathbf{Z}$  on  $[B]$  also. As a  $B$ -module,

$$R = B \oplus \bar{X}\bar{Y}^jB \oplus \dots \oplus \bar{X}^{n-1}\bar{Y}^{(n-1)j}B,$$

so  $[R] = n[B]$  in  $G_0(R)$ . Hence  $n[B] = 0$  in  $\tilde{G}_0(R)$ , so  $|\tilde{G}_0(R)| \mid n$ . Thus  $|\tilde{G}_0(A)| \mid n$ , but  $\tilde{G}_0(A) \rightarrow \text{Cl}(A) \approx \mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$  is surjective; so it must be an isomorphism.

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