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Kriti Goel and **Vivek Mukundan*** (vm6y@virginia.edu), 141 Cabell Drive, Office 131, Charlottesville, VA 22902, and **Jugal K Verma**. *Tight closure of powers of ideals and tight Hilbert polynomials.*

Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be an analytically unramified local ring of positive prime characteristic p . For an ideal I , let I^* denote its tight closure. We introduce the tight Hilbert function $H_I^*(n) = \ell(R/(I^n)^*)$ and the corresponding tight Hilbert polynomial $P_I^*(n)$ where I is an \mathfrak{m} -primary ideal. It is proved that F-rationality can be detected by the vanishing of the first coefficient of $P_I^*(n)$. We find the tight Hilbert polynomial of certain parameter ideals in hypersurface rings and Stanley-Reisner rings of simplicial complexes. (Received September 01, 2018)