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Mark R. Johnson and **Susan E. Morey*** (morey@txstate.edu), Department of Mathematics,
Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 78666. *Normality of Rees Algebras.*

An important tool in the resolution of singularities is the Rees algebra $R[It]$ of an ideal I . We give criteria identifying classes of ideals for which the Rees algebra is normal. In particular, we give conditions under which strongly Cohen–Macaulay ideals with the expected reduction number are normal. (Received March 06, 2006)