

# BASES FOR PROJECTIVE MODULES IN $A_n(k)$

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ABSTRACT. Let  $A_n(k)$  be the Weyl algebra, with  $k$  a field of characteristic zero. It is known that every projective finitely generated left module is free or isomorphic to a left ideal. Let  $M$  be a left submodule of a free module. In this paper we give an algorithm to compute the projective dimension of  $M$ . If  $M$  is projective and  $\text{rank}(M) \geq 2$  we give a procedure to find a basis.

## INTRODUCTION.

The study of finitely generated projective modules over a ring is an interesting topic. We know that over polynomial rings they are free, as it was shown by Quillen and Suslin. There are several algorithmic versions of this theorem [Logar et al.(1992), Laubenbacher et al.(1997), Gago(2002)] that compute a basis from a system of generators. All of these procedures use Gröbner bases in polynomial rings. It is natural to extend these results to the Weyl Algebra  $A_n(k)$ , with  $k$  a field with characteristic zero. It is known that if a left finitely generated  $A_n(k)$ -module is projective and has rank greater or equal 2 then is free [Stafford(1978)]. Our goal is to give an algorithm to find a basis of these modules.

Projective modules in  $A_n(k)$  are stably free [Stafford(1977)], so the first step is to find an isomorphism  $P \oplus A_n(k)^s \simeq A_n(k)^t$  for some  $s, t$ . We develop this procedure in Section 1, together with an algorithm to compute the projective dimension of a module, that is valid for a broad class of rings. We note by  $\text{pdim}(M)$  the projective dimension of a module  $M$ . We require the computation of Gröbner bases in the ring and that every module has a finite free resolution. If  $M$  is projective we find a matrix that defines an isomorphism  $M \oplus R^s \simeq R^t$ . The starting point is a left  $R$ -module  $M$  defined by a system of generators in some  $R^m$ .

In Section 2 we follow the proof of [Stafford(1978)] with algorithmic tools to find a basis of a projective module. We develop, for completeness, the reference to [Swan(1968)] used in [Stafford(1978), Thm. 3.6(a)], to clarify where these computations are needed. We follow describing the minor changes to [Hillebrand et al.(2002)] to obtain two special generators of a left ideal, according to [Stafford(1978), Theorem 3.1]. Finally, we give an example of this procedure to build a basis of a projective module in  $A_2(\mathbb{Q})$ .

For all the computations we need an effective field  $k$  in the sense of [Cohen(1999)] to apply the Gröbner bases algorithm in  $A_n(k)$ . We have used in the examples  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ .

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## 1. COMPUTING PROJECTIVE DIMENSION.

Let  $R$  be a ring where it is possible to compute a finite free resolution of a left module, and we can determine if a right submodule of  $R^k$  is equal to  $R^k$ . Such a ring may be  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $A_n(k)$  or more general rings like PBW algebras [Bueso et al.(1998)]. We make use of a characterization given in [Logar et al.(1992)], based on a finite free resolution of a module. The existence of a finite free resolution for a projective module  $M$  is equivalent for  $M$  to be stably free [McConnell et al.(1987)]. With the algorithm described in this section we test whether  $M$  is projective, and if the answer is yes we compute an isomorphism  $M \oplus R^s \simeq R^t$  for some  $s, t$ . The procedure is by induction on the length of the resolution. We identify the homomorphisms with their matrices to simplify the notation.

Suppose

$$0 \rightarrow F_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

is a free resolution of  $M$ , with  $\text{rank}(F_i) = r_i$ . If  $M$  is a projective module, this sequence splits, so there exists  $\beta_1 : F_0 \rightarrow F_1$  such that  $\beta_1 \alpha_1 = I_{r_1}$ . We can compute this matrix from the rows of the matrix  $\alpha_1$ : if we consider them as vectors of  $F_1$ , the right  $R$ -module generated must be equal to  $F_1$ . We express each vector of the canonical basis of  $F_1$  as a linear combination of the rows of  $\alpha_1$ , and with these coefficients we construct the matrix  $\beta_1$ . So we can give the isomorphism  $F_1 \oplus \ker(\beta_1) \simeq F_0 \simeq F_1 \oplus M$  and a basis of  $F_1 \oplus \ker(\beta_1)$ .

Let

$$\mathcal{F} : 0 \rightarrow F_t \xrightarrow{\alpha_t} F_{t-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-1}} F_{t-2} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-2}} F_{t-3} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-3}} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

be a finite free resolution of  $M$  with  $\text{rank}(F_i) = r_i$  and  $t \geq 2$  (we take  $\alpha_{-1}$  the null homomorphism). Again, if  $M$  is a projective module, then the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker(\alpha_0) \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

splits, so  $\ker(\alpha_0) = \text{im}(\alpha_1)$  is projective. By induction, the modules  $\text{im}(\alpha_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$  are projective. In particular,  $\text{im}(\alpha_{t-1})$  is projective and the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F_t \xrightarrow{\alpha_t} F_{t-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-1}} \text{im}(\alpha_{t-1}) \rightarrow 0$$

splits. Then there exists  $\beta_t : F_{t-1} \rightarrow F_t$  such that  $I_{r_t} = \beta_t \alpha_t$ . The module  $\ker(\beta_t)$  is projective, isomorphic to  $\text{im}(\alpha_{t-1})$  and we can compute the isomorphism  $\ker(\beta_t) \oplus F_t \simeq F_{t-1}$ . We consider the following sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_t} F_{t-1} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}} F_{t-2} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-2}} F_{t-3} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-3}} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\alpha}_t(\mathbf{v}_t) &= (\alpha_t(\mathbf{v}_t), \mathbf{0}), & \tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}(\mathbf{v}_{t-1}, \mathbf{v}_t) &= (\alpha_{t-1}(\mathbf{v}_{t-1}), \mathbf{v}_t), \\ \tilde{\alpha}_{t-2}(\mathbf{v}_{t-2}, \mathbf{v}_t) &= \alpha_{t-2}(\mathbf{v}_{t-2}) \end{aligned}$$

Then it is an exact sequence and again the module  $\text{im}(\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1})$  is projective. As before, the sequence

$$(1) \quad 0 \rightarrow F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_t} F_{t-1} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}} \text{im}(\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}) \rightarrow 0$$

splits and there exists  $\tilde{\beta}_t : F_{t-1} \oplus F_t \rightarrow F_t$  such that  $I_{r_t} = \tilde{\beta}_t \tilde{\alpha}_t$ . In this case,

$$\tilde{\beta}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_t & \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\theta$  is the null matrix with order  $r_t \times r_t$ . Then  $\tilde{\beta}(\mathbf{v}_{t-1}, \mathbf{v}_t) = \beta_t(\mathbf{v}_{t-1})$ , so  $\ker(\tilde{\beta}_t) = \ker(\beta_t) \oplus F_t \simeq F_{t-1}$ . We can compute the isomorphism

$$\tilde{\nu}_{t-1} : F_{t-1} \rightarrow \ker(\tilde{\beta}_t).$$

Let

$$(2) \quad \tilde{\gamma}_{t-1} = \tilde{\alpha}_{t-1} \tilde{\nu}_{t-1} : F_{t-1} \rightarrow F_{t-2} \oplus F_t.$$

Then the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F_{t-1} \xrightarrow{\tilde{\gamma}_{t-1}} F_{t-2} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-2}} F_{t-3} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-3}} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. Because the sequence (1) splits, the homomorphism  $\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}$  is an isomorphism between  $\ker(\tilde{\beta}_t)$  and  $\text{im}(\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1})$ , so  $\tilde{\gamma}_{t-1}$  is an isomorphism between  $F_{t-1}$  and  $\text{im}(\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}) = \ker(\tilde{\alpha}_{t-2})$ , and we have the exactness of the sequence (2). We apply again the process to  $\tilde{\gamma}_{t-1}$  to check the projectiveness of the module  $M$ .

We need the following result:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and*

$$\mathcal{F} : \dots \rightarrow F_d \rightarrow F_{d-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

*a projective resolution. Let  $d$  be the smallest number such that  $\{\text{im } F_d \rightarrow F_{d-1}\}$  is projective. Then  $d$  does not depend on the resolution and  $\text{pdim}(M) = d$ .*

*Proof.* [Eisenbud(1995)], exercise A.3.13.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *The previous algorithm allows us to compute the projective dimension of a module.*

*Proof.* Let

$$0 \rightarrow F_n \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} F_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{n-1}} \dots \rightarrow F_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

be a finite free resolution given by the procedure. Then  $\text{im}(\alpha_{n-1})$  is not projective, because the matrix  $\alpha_n$  has not left inverse. We can suppose that  $M$  is not projective, otherwise we have had shortened the resolution. Then the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker(\alpha_0) \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

does not split, so  $\text{im}(\alpha_1) = \ker(\alpha_0)$  is not projective. In the same way, the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker(\alpha_1) \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow \text{im}(\alpha_1) \rightarrow 0$$

does not split and  $\text{im}(\alpha_2) = \ker(\alpha_1)$  is not projective. Then the modules

$$\text{im}(\alpha_1), \text{im}(\alpha_2), \dots, \text{im}(\alpha_{n-1})$$

are not projective and the module  $\text{im}(\alpha_n)$  is projective. Then the projective dimension of  $M$  is equal to  $n$ .  $\square$

**Algorithm 1.1.** *Projective dimension.*

*Input:* a left  $R$ -module  $M$  defined by its generators in  $R^r$ .

*Output:* Projective dimension of  $M$  and a minimal length free resolution. If  $\text{pdim}(M) = 0$ , i.e.  $M$  is projective, the algorithm returns an isomorphism  $M \oplus R^s \simeq R^t$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a finite free resolution of  $M$ :

$$0 \rightarrow F_t \xrightarrow{\alpha_t} F_{t-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-1}} F_{t-2} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-2}} F_{t-3} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-3}} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

START:

**if**  $\alpha_t$  has no left inverse **then**

$\text{pdim}(M) = t$ . *STOP*.

**else**

let  $\beta_t$  be a left inverse of  $\alpha_t$ .

**end if**

**if**  $t = 1$  **then**

$\text{pdim}(M) = 0$  and  $M \oplus F_1 \simeq \ker(\beta_1) \oplus F_1 \simeq F_0$ . *STOP*.

**else**

compute the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_t} F_{t-1} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}} F_{t-2} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-2}} F_{t-3} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-3}} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0$$

and the matrix  $\tilde{\nu}_{t-1}$  that gives the isomorphism  $\ker(\beta_t) \oplus F_t \simeq F_{t-1}$ .

**end if**

Let  $\tilde{\gamma}_{t-1} = \tilde{\alpha}_{t-1}\tilde{\nu}_{t-1}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the finite free resolution

$$0 \rightarrow F_{t-1} \xrightarrow{\tilde{\gamma}_{t-1}} F_{t-2} \oplus F_t \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_{t-2}} F_{t-3} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{t-3}} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} M \rightarrow 0.$$

**go to** *START*.

This algorithm has been programmed with *Macaulay 2* [Grayson et al.(1999)], using the routines for  $D$ -modules developed by A. Leykin and H. Tsai [Leykin et al.(2002)].

*Example 1.* Let  $W = A_2(\mathbb{Q})$  and  $I = W\langle x\partial_x - 1, x\partial_y, \partial_x^2, \partial_y^2 \rangle$ . We found a resolution of  $I$  of the form

$$0 \leftarrow I \xleftarrow{\tilde{\alpha}_0} W^4 \xleftarrow{\tilde{\gamma}_1} W^3 \leftarrow 0$$

where

$$\tilde{\gamma}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -\partial_x^2 & -x\partial_x + 1 & 0 \\ \partial_y & 0 & -x \\ 0 & \partial_y & \partial_x \\ -\partial_x & -x & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The rows of the matrix  $\tilde{\gamma}_1$  do not generate  $W^3$ , because a Gröbner basis is given by the columns of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \partial_y & \partial_x \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then the ideal  $I$  is not projective, and its projective dimension is 1.

## 2. COMPUTING A BASIS.

Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic zero. Given a projective module over  $A_n(k)$  with rank greater than 1, we are going to describe a procedure to compute a basis. We will need the standard Gröbner basis theory on  $A_n(k)$  to make the computations. See for example [Castro(1987)] for a description of this algorithm. In [Hillebrand et al.(2002)] we found

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $\mathcal{R} = k(x_1, \dots, x_n)[\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n]$  and  $I = \mathcal{R}\langle a, b, c \rangle$ . Then we can compute  $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b} \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $I = \mathcal{R}\langle a + \tilde{a}c, b + \tilde{b}c \rangle$ .*

As pointed out in [Hillebrand et al.(2002), Remark 3.15], the algorithm can be extended to  $W = A_n(k) = k[x_1, \dots, x_n][\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n]$ . We need the following stronger result [Stafford(1978), Thm. 3.1]:

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $I = W\langle a, b, c \rangle$  be a left  $W$ -ideal, and let  $d_1, d_2 \in W - \{0\}$  be arbitrary elements. Then we can find  $f_1, f_2 \in W$  such that*

$$I = W\langle a + d_1 f_1 c, b + d_2 f_2 c \rangle.$$

This can be accomplished with some minor changes to the proof of [Hillebrand et al.(2002), Lemma 3.10]. Following their notation, it is enough to take  $g_1, g_2 \in W$  such that  $h_1 d_1 g_1 + h_2 d_2 g_2 = 0$ , and to apply [Hillebrand et al.(2002), Lemma 3.9] to  $v = t d_2 g_2$ . These changes appear in the proof of [Stafford(1978), Theorem 3.1]. The procedure is analogous for right ideals.

**Definition 1.** Let  $M$  be a left  $W$ -module and  $\mathbf{v} \in M$ . We say that  $\mathbf{v}$  is unimodular in  $M$  if there exists  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_W(M, W)$  such that  $\varphi(\mathbf{v}) = 1$ .

*Remark 1.* If  $\mathbf{v}$  is a column vector in some  $W^m$  then  $\mathbf{v}$  is unimodular if and only if the right ideal generated by its entries is equal to  $W$ . Through Gröbner bases, we can give the homomorphism that apply  $\mathbf{v}$  in 1.

The following Lemma is a direct consequence of Theorem 4, and it will allow a 'cancellation' in some direct sums.

**Lemma 1.** [Stafford(1978), Lemma 3.5] *Let  $M \subset W^m$  be a left  $W$ -module with  $\text{rank}(M) \geq 2$  and  $\mathbf{a} \oplus t \in M \oplus W$  unimodular. Then there is an algorithm to find  $\Phi \in \text{Hom}_W(W, M)$  such that  $\mathbf{a} + \Phi(t)$  is unimodular in  $M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{a}_1 \in M \subset W^m$  be a non zero element and consider  $\Phi_1 : W^m \rightarrow W$  a projection such that  $\Phi_1(\mathbf{a}_1) \neq 0$ . Let  $M_1 = M \cap \ker(\Phi_1)$ , that we can compute by Gröbner bases. Then  $\text{rank}(M_1) = \text{rank}(M) - 1 \geq 1$ , so there exists  $\mathbf{a}_2 \in M_1 - \mathbf{0}$ . Let  $\Phi_2 : W^m \rightarrow W$  be a projection such that  $\Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_2) \neq 0$ . If  $\Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_1) \neq 0$  we can compute syzygies to get  $r_1, r_2 \in W$  such that  $\Phi_1(\mathbf{a}_1)r_1 + \Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_2)r_2 = 0$  and replace  $\Phi_2$  by the homomorphism  $\Phi_1 r_1 + \Phi_2 r_2$ . Then  $\Phi_1(\mathbf{a}_2) = \Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_1) = 0$ . Let  $d_1 = \Phi_1(\mathbf{a}_1), d_2 = \Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_2)$  and consider the right ideal

$$I = \langle \Phi_1(\mathbf{a}), \Phi_2(\mathbf{a}), t \rangle W.$$

Then there exist  $f_1, f_2 \in W$  such that

$$I = \langle \Phi_1(\mathbf{a}) + t f_1 d_1, \Phi_2(\mathbf{a}) + t f_2 d_2 \rangle W.$$

Let  $\Phi : W \rightarrow M$  be the homomorphism defined by  $\Phi(1) = f_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + f_2 \mathbf{a}_2$ . Then, as shown in [Stafford(1978), Lemma 3.5],  $\mathbf{a} + \Phi(t)$  is unimodular, and we can compute  $j \in \text{Hom}_W(M, W)$  such that  $j(\mathbf{a} + \Phi(t)) = 1$ .  $\square$

*Remark 2.* The case  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is of special interest. In this case we can take  $\mathbf{a}_1 = \mathbf{a}$  and obtain  $\Phi_2(\mathbf{a}) = 0, d_1 = \Phi_1(\mathbf{a})$ . We have to find  $f_1, f_2$  such that

$$I = \langle d_1, 0, t \rangle W = \langle d_1 + t f_1 d_1, t f_2 d_2 \rangle W.$$

Note that the problem is not to find two generators for the ideal  $I$ . We are looking for two special generators.

**Proposition 1.** [Swan(1968), Corollary 12.6] *Let  $M \subset W^m$  be a left  $W$ -module with  $\text{rank}(M) \geq 2$  and  $h : W \oplus N \rightarrow W \oplus M$  be an isomorphism with  $N$  a left  $W$ -module. Then  $M \simeq N$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $h(1, \mathbf{0}) = (t_0, \mathbf{a}_0) \in W \oplus M$ . The vector  $(1, \mathbf{0})$  is unimodular so  $(t_0, \mathbf{a}_0)$  too. Then we compute  $\Phi : W \rightarrow M$  such that  $\mathbf{a}'_0 = \mathbf{a}_0 + \Phi(t_0)$  is unimodular in  $M$  and we get the homomorphism  $j : M \rightarrow W$  with  $j(\mathbf{a}'_0) = 1$ . We consider the following homomorphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} g : W \oplus M &\rightarrow W \oplus M, & g(t, \mathbf{a}) &= (t, \mathbf{a} + \Phi(t)) \\ k : W &\rightarrow W, & k(1) &= t_0 \\ l : W \oplus M &\rightarrow W \oplus M, & l(t, \mathbf{a}) &= (t - (k \circ j)(\mathbf{a}), \mathbf{a}), \\ i : W \oplus N &\rightarrow W \oplus M, & i &= l \circ g \circ h \end{aligned}$$

Then  $i$  is isomorphism and  $i(1, \mathbf{0}) = (0, \mathbf{a}'_0)$ . We have  $M = W\mathbf{a}'_0 \oplus \ker(j)$  and the following chain of isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} N &\simeq (W \oplus N)/W\mathbf{e}_1 \xrightarrow{i} (W \oplus M)/W\mathbf{a}'_0 = (W \oplus \ker(j) \oplus W\mathbf{a}'_0)/W\mathbf{a}'_0 \simeq \\ &W \oplus \ker(j) \simeq W\mathbf{a}'_0 \oplus \ker(j) = M \end{aligned}$$

The isomorphism is defined as follows. Take  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$  a set of generators of  $N$ . Let  $i(0, \mathbf{v}_i) = (\alpha_i, \mathbf{u}_i)$  where  $\alpha_i \in W, \mathbf{u}_i \in M$ . The map  $(W \oplus M)/W\mathbf{a}'_0 \rightarrow W \oplus \ker(j)$  works taking an element of  $W \oplus M$ , decomposes the component in  $M$  as a sum  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$  with  $\mathbf{v} \in W\mathbf{a}'_0, \mathbf{w} \in \ker(j)$  and takes  $\mathbf{w}$ . For this step note that if  $\mathbf{u} \in M$  and  $\lambda = j(\mathbf{u})$  then  $\mathbf{u} = (\lambda\mathbf{a}'_0) + (\mathbf{u} - \lambda\mathbf{a}'_0)$  is the desired decomposition.  $\square$

*Remark 3.* When the module  $N$  is of the form  $W^s$ , then  $M$  is isomorphic to a free module, so it has a basis. Such a basis is the image of  $\mathbf{e}_i, i = 1, \dots, s$ .

**Algorithm 2.1.** *Computing a basis.*

*Input:* an isomorphism  $W^t \xrightarrow{h} W^s \oplus M$ , with  $t - s \geq 2$ .

*Output:* a basis of the module  $M$ .

**START:**

**if**  $s = 0$  **then**

$\{ h(\mathbf{e}_1), \dots, h(\mathbf{e}_t) \}$  is a basis.

**STOP.**

**end if**

Let  $h(1, \mathbf{0}) = (t_0, \mathbf{a}_0)$ , with  $t_0 \in W, \mathbf{a}_0 \in W^{s-1} \oplus M$ .

Compute  $\Phi : W \rightarrow W^{s-1} \oplus M$  such that  $\mathbf{a}'_0 = \mathbf{a}_0 + \Phi(t_0)$  is unimodular.

Compute  $j : W^{s-1} \oplus M \rightarrow W$  such that  $j(\mathbf{a}'_0) = 1$ .

Let  $i : W \oplus W^{t-1} \rightarrow W \oplus (W^{s-1} \oplus M)$  as defined in Prop. 1.

Let  $h : W^{t-1} \rightarrow W^{s-1} \oplus M$  the isomorphism defined by

$$h(\mathbf{e}_i) = \alpha_i \mathbf{a}'_0 + \mathbf{u}_i - \lambda_i \mathbf{a}'_0$$

where  $i(0, \mathbf{e}_i) = (\alpha_i, \mathbf{u}_i), \alpha_i \in W, \mathbf{u}_i \in W^{s-1} \oplus M, \lambda_i = j(\mathbf{u}_i)$ .

**go to START**

As in the previous section, this algorithm has been programmed with *Macaulay2*.

*Example 2.* Let  $W = A_2(\mathbb{Q})$ , and  $\mathbf{f} = (x\partial_y \quad xy \quad \partial_x)$ . Then  $P = \ker \mathbf{f}$  is a projective module, because  $\mathbf{f}$  is a unimodular row. Let

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} -y\partial_x \\ \partial_x\partial_y \\ -x \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\mathbf{f} \cdot \beta = 1$ , and  $\text{im } \beta \oplus P = W^3$ . The isomorphism  $h : W \oplus W^2 \rightarrow W \oplus P$  is given by the matrix

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} x\partial_y & xy & \partial_x \\ xy\partial_x\partial_y + x\partial_x + 1 & xy^2\partial_x & y\partial_x^2 \\ -x\partial_x\partial_y^2 & -xy\partial_x\partial_y + 1 & -\partial_x^2\partial_y \\ x^2\partial_y & x^2y & x\partial_x + 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$t_0 = x\partial_y, \mathbf{a}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} xy\partial_x\partial_y + x\partial_x + 1 \\ -x\partial_x\partial_y^2 \\ x^2\partial_y \end{pmatrix}.$$

We must find  $\Phi : W \rightarrow P$  such that  $\mathbf{a}'_0 = \mathbf{a}_0 + \Phi(t_0)$  is unimodular. Let  $\Phi_1 : P \rightarrow W$  be the projection over the first component and  $\mathbf{a}_2 \in P \cap \ker(\Phi_1)$  not null. For example,

$$\mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \partial_x^2\partial_y \\ -xy\partial_x\partial_y - x\partial_x - 2y\partial_y - 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and let  $\Phi_2 : W \rightarrow P$  be the projection over the second component. Because  $\Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_0) \neq 0$ , we have to compute  $r_1, r_2 \in W$  such that  $\Phi_1(\mathbf{a}_0)r_1 + \Phi_2(\mathbf{a}_2)r_2 = 0$ . In this case, we get

$$r_1 = -\partial_x^2\partial_y, r_2 = xy\partial_x\partial_y - 2y\partial_y + 1,$$

and following the notation of the proof of Lemma 1,

$$d_1 = xy\partial_x\partial_y + x\partial_x + 1, d_2 = xy\partial_x^3\partial_y^2 + x\partial_x^3\partial_y + \partial_x^2d_1.$$

We have to find  $f_1, f_2 \in W$  such that  $\langle d_1, t_0 \rangle W = \langle d_1 + t_0f_1d_1, t_0f_2d_2 \rangle W$ . Applying the modified procedure of [Hillebrand et al.(2002)], we find

$$f_1 = 0, f_2 = x + y.$$

Let  $\Phi : W \rightarrow P$  be the morphism defined by  $\Phi(1) = (x+y)\mathbf{a}_2$ . Then  $\mathbf{a}'_0 = \mathbf{a}_0 + \Phi(t_0)$  is unimodular and we can compute the morphism  $j : P \rightarrow W$  such that  $j(\mathbf{a}'_0) = 1$ . The output is too large to be included here, but has the form

$$j = \left( -\frac{2}{63}x^2y^7\partial_x^4\partial_y^5 - \frac{2}{63}xy^8\partial_x^4\partial_y^5 + \frac{5}{126}x^3y^6\partial_x^3\partial_y^6 + \dots - \frac{433}{9}x\partial_x + 17x\partial_y + 1, \right. \\ \left. \frac{2}{63}xy^8\partial_x^3\partial_y^4 - \frac{5}{126}x^2y^7\partial_x^2\partial_y^5 + \frac{10}{63}xy^8\partial_x^2\partial_y^5 + \dots + \frac{5}{3}xy - \frac{137}{6}y^2, 0 \right)$$

Also we can build the matrices associated to the other morphisms

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \Phi & I_3 \end{pmatrix}, k = (x\partial_y), l = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -k \cdot j \\ \mathbf{0} & I_3 \end{pmatrix}, \\ i = l \cdot g \cdot h = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 \\ \mathbf{a}'_0 & \mathbf{u}_2 & \mathbf{u}_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

where

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = (xy^2\partial_x, x^2y\partial_x^2\partial_y + xy^2\partial_x^2\partial_y - xy\partial_x\partial_y + 1, \\ -x^3y^2\partial_x\partial_y - x^2y^3\partial_x\partial_y - x^3y\partial_x - x^2y^2\partial_x - 2x^2y^2\partial_y - 2xy^3\partial_y - x^2y - 2xy^2)^t, \\ \mathbf{u}_3 = (y\partial_x^2, x\partial_x^3\partial_y + y\partial_x^3\partial_y, \\ -x^2y\partial_x^2\partial_y - xy^2\partial_x^2\partial_y - x^2\partial_x^2 - xy\partial_x^2 - 4xy\partial_x\partial_y - 3y^2\partial_x\partial_y - 3x\partial_x - 3y\partial_x - 2y\partial_y)^t$$

Then

$$\mathbf{w}_1 = (\alpha_2 - \lambda_2)\mathbf{a}'_0 + \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{w}_2 = (\alpha_3 - \lambda_3)\mathbf{a}'_0 + \mathbf{u}_3$$

is a basis of  $P$ , where  $\lambda_i = j(\mathbf{u}_i), i = 2, 3$ .

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