

# CONSTRUCTIONS IN $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . APPLICATIONS TO K-THEORY

JESÚS GAGO-VARGAS

**ABSTRACT.** A classical result in K-Theory about polynomial rings like the Quillen-Suslin theorem admits an algorithmic approach when the ring of coefficients has some computational properties, associated with Gröbner bases. There are several algorithms when we work in  $\mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $\mathbb{K}$  a field. In this paper we compute a free basis of a finitely generated projective module over  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $R$  a principal ideal domain with additional properties, test the freeness for projective modules over  $D[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , with  $D$  a Dedekind domain like  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  and for the one variable case compute a free basis if there exists any.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Quillen-Suslin theorem asserts that if  $A = D[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a polynomial ring over a Dedekind domain  $D$  then every finitely generated projective  $A$ -module is extended from  $D$  ([21, 22]). When  $D$  is a principal ideal domain every finitely generated projective  $A$ -module is free. This is equivalent to say that if  $R$  is a principal ideal domain and  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_m)$  is a unimodular row of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m$  then there exists a matrix  $U \in \text{GL}(m, R[x_1, \dots, x_n])$  such that  $\mathbf{f} \cdot U = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ , or that we can complete  $\mathbf{f}$  to an invertible matrix. An algorithm for the Quillen-Suslin theorem produces such matrix, and we call it a QS-algorithm. The last  $m - 1$  columns of the matrix  $U$  form a free basis of the module defined by  $\ker(\mathbf{f}) \subset R[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m$ . There are several algorithms when  $R$  is a field ([16, 6, 14, 15], [20] as a corollary). The main tool in the procedure is the algorithm to compute Gröbner bases, which we can find in other rings like  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

In Section 2 we give some algorithmic results over the ring  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  that we need later, namely, the construction of a maximal ideal that contains an ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and how to compute in  $S^{-1}R[x]$  and  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ , rings obtained from  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

In Section 3 we present two QS-algorithms for  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , that avoid the normalization step used in [7]. The first one follows [14, 15] and the second one [19, 17]. Our starting point is a projective module  $P$  given as kernel of a unimodular row or as a submodule of a free module. Then we can generalize the results in [14] to monoid rings  $R[M]$ , because the induction step reduces the problem to a free monoid, where we have solved the problem. In a similar way the QS-algorithm

---

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary: 13C10, 13P10, 19A49, 68W30. Secondary: 15A33.

*Key words and phrases.* Serre Conjecture, Quillen-Suslin Theorem, Gröbner bases, Dedekind domains, projective modules.

Partially supported by DGICYT PB97-0723 and Junta de Andalucía FQM-218.

This is a preliminary version of this article.

for quotients of polynomial rings by monomial ideals, that is, rings of the form  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$ , with  $I$  a monomial ideal and  $R$  a PID, is easily extended, such as appears in [13].

In Section 4 we consider  $D$  the ring of integers of a number field, a Dedekind domain in which it is possible to compute. First we give a new algorithm using Gröbner bases to get the factorization of an ideal of  $D$  as product of prime ideals, and we apply it to find a free basis of a projective module over  $D$ , if there exists one. The next step is to study the freeness of a projective module  $P$  over  $D[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . We can do it by reducing the problem to a module over  $D$ , and for one variable, we give an algorithm to compute a free basis when there exists one.

## 2. PRELIMINARY ALGORITHMSE

Let  $R$  be a ring. We recall that linear equations are solvable in  $R$  if we have an algorithm to decide the membership problem of a element with respect to an ideal and we can compute a set of generators of the module  $Syz(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ , with  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in R$ . With these conditions we can build Gröbner bases in the ring  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  ([1, chapter 4]). We need to add another one.

**Definition 1.** Let  $R$  be a ring. We say that  $R$  is an MC-ring if we can solve linear equations in  $R$  and, given  $I \subset R$  a proper ideal, it is possible to compute a set of generators of a maximal ideal that contains  $I$ .

For example,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  are MC-rings. Additionally, we need the factorization of polynomials in  $(R/\langle p \rangle)[x]$ ,  $p \in R$  a prime element, and  $Q(R)[x]$ ,  $Q(R)$  the field of fractions of  $R$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $R$  be a ring. We say that  $R$  has effective coset representatives if given  $J$  an ideal of  $R$  it is possible to find a complete set  $\mathcal{C}$  of coset representatives of  $R/J$ , and there is a procedure to find, for all  $a \in R$ , an element  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $a \equiv c \pmod{J}$ .

This definition appears in [1, p. 226], and we need this property in  $R$  to compute the normal form of a polynomial with respect to an ideal.

We include here the algorithm described in [7] to compute a set of generators of a maximal ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $R$  an MC-PID, that contains an ideal.

**Algorithm 1.** *Input:*  $F = \{f_1, \dots, f_r\}$  set of generators of an ideal  $I$  of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . *Output:*  $H = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\}$  set of generators of a maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M} \subset R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  that contains  $I$ .

- (1) Compute  $\langle s \rangle = \langle F \rangle \cap R$ .
- (2) If  $s \neq 0$ , let  $p \in R$  be a prime element such that  $p$  divides  $s$ .
  - (a) Compute  $\bar{g}_1, \dots, \bar{g}_k \in (R/\langle p \rangle)[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  generators of a maximal ideal  $\bar{\mathcal{M}}$  that contains  $\bar{I}$  in  $(R/\langle p \rangle)[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .
  - (b) Lift to  $g_1, \dots, g_k \in R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and let  $H = \{p, g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ . **STOP.**
- (3) If  $s = 0$ , compute  $d \in R, d \neq 0$  such that  $I = (I, d) \cap I^{ec}$ , where  $I^{ec} = IQ(R)[x_1, \dots, x_n] \cap R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  ([9]).
- (4) If  $(I, d) \neq R$ , set  $F \leftarrow F \cup \{d\}$ , and go to step 1. Otherwise, compute  $\tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_k \in Q(R)[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  generators of a maximal ideal  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$  that contains  $\tilde{I}$  in  $Q(R)[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

- (5) Let  $J$  be ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  such that  $J^e = \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}$ . Compute  $r$  the least common multiple of the coefficients of a Gröbner basis of  $J$ . Let  $p \in R$  be a prime element that does not divide  $r$ . Set  $F \leftarrow F \cup \{p\}$ , and go to step 1.

*Example 1.* Let  $I = \langle xy + 1 \rangle$  be ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ . Then  $I \cap \mathbb{Z} = 0$ , so there exists  $d \in R, d \neq 0$  such that  $I = (I, d) \cap I^{ec}$ . In this case,  $d = 1$ . The ideal  $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}} = \langle x - 1, y + 1 \rangle$  is a maximal ideal in  $\mathbb{Q}[x, y]$  that contains  $I^e$ . Set  $J_1 = \langle x - 1, y + 1 \rangle \subset \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ , and  $s = 1$ . Take  $p = 2$  and set  $I' = (J_1, 2) \supset I$ . Applying the algorithm to  $I'$ , we get  $\mathcal{M} = \langle 2, x - 1, y - 1 \rangle$  maximal ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$  that contains  $I$ .

Let  $S$  be the set of monic polynomials of  $R[x]$ , and write  $R' = S^{-1}R[x]$ . When  $R$  is a field, the ring  $R'$  is the field of rational functions over  $R[x]$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $R$  be a principal ideal domain where we can divide and compute the greatest common divisor and  $I = \langle f, g \rangle \subset R'$  be an ideal of  $R'$ . Then it is possible to compute  $h, f', g' \in R'$  such that  $I = \langle h \rangle, f = f'h$  and  $g = g'h$ .*

*Proof.* By [11, p. 117], we know that  $R'$  is a principal ideal domain. Then  $I = \langle h' \rangle$ , where  $h'$  is the greatest common divisor of  $f$  and  $g$  in  $R'$ . We can assume  $f, g \in R[x]$  taking off denominators and compute  $h = \gcd(f, g)$  in  $R[x]$  with the pseudo-division algorithm ([4, algorithms 3.2.10, 3.1.2]). Every irreducible element of  $R[x]$  is irreducible or a unit of  $R'$ . Then  $I = \langle h \rangle$ , and by division we obtain  $f', g' \in R[x]$  such that  $f = f'h, g = g'h$ .  $\square$

*Remark 1.* In [2] it is shown that if  $R$  is an euclidean domain, then  $S^{-1}R[x]$  is an euclidean domain too. However, the division algorithm passes through a formal power serie.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $R$  be an MC-PID. Then  $R'$  is an MC-PID.*

*Proof.* Given  $I = \langle f_1, \dots, f_n \rangle \subset R'$  ideal of  $R'$ , by iterative applications of Lemma 1, we compute  $h$  a generator of  $I$ . If  $f \in R'$ , we can check whether  $f \in I$  by reducing to  $R[x]$  and making the division by  $h$ . If  $f \in I$ , we obtain  $f' \in R'$  with  $f = f'h$ . The syzygy module of a set  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  in  $R'$  is easily reduced to a computation of a syzygy module in  $R[x]$ .

Let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R'$ . By Lemma 1, we find a not monic polynomial  $f(x) \in R[x]$  such that  $I = \langle f(x) \rangle R'$ . We get  $f_1(x) \in R[x]$  an irreducible and not monic polynomial that divides  $f(x)$  in  $R[x]$ , by factoring in  $Q(R)[x]$  and Gauss's Lemma. Then  $I \subset \langle f_1(x) \rangle R'$ , maximal ideal in  $R'$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $R$  be an MC-ring. If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a maximal ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  then  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$  is an MC-ring.*

*Proof.* The construction of a maximal ideal that contains a given ideal is trivial, because  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$  is local. We have to check the conditions about linear equations. Note that through Gröbner bases in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  we can check if a polynomial  $f$  belongs to an ideal  $I$ , and if so, express it as linear combination of generators, and this procedure is valid in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ . Let  $I_{\mathcal{M}} = \langle f_1, \dots, f_m \rangle$  be an ideal in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ , and  $f \in R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ . We can suppose  $f, f_1, \dots, f_m \in R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . If any  $f_i$  is not in  $\mathcal{M}$ , then  $I_{\mathcal{M}} = R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ , and we are done. Then assume that  $I \subset \mathcal{M}$ , and  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . We have that  $f \in I_{\mathcal{M}}$  if and only if there exists  $s \notin \mathcal{M}$  such that  $s \cdot f \in I$ , i.e.,  $s \in (I : f)$ . We can compute  $c_1, \dots, c_m \in R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  a set of generators of  $(I : f)$ . If every  $c_i$  is in  $\mathcal{M}$  then

$f \notin I_{\mathcal{M}}$ . If, for example,  $c_1 \notin \mathcal{M}$ , then  $c_1 \cdot f \in I$ , and we can express  $f$  as a linear combination of the generators of  $I_{\mathcal{M}}$  with coefficients in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ .

In a similar way to Corollary 1, we can get a set of generators of the module  $Syz(f_1, \dots, f_m)$  with  $f_1, \dots, f_m \in R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ .  $\square$

*Remark 2.* If  $R$  has effective coset representatives then, for a given  $I_{\mathcal{M}}$  proper ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ , we can compute the cosets of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$  and the same set is valid for  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}/I_{\mathcal{M}}$ .

### 3. QS-ALGORITHMS IN $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

Let  $R$  be an MC-PID,  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_m)$  a unimodular row in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m$  and  $P = \ker(\mathbf{f})$ . Then  $P$  is a projective module, and we want to get a free basis of it. The process described in [7] uses the primary decomposition of an ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . To avoid it, we give two new QS-algorithms. The procedures are by induction on  $n$ , the number of variables. If  $n = 0$  we have a projective module over an MC-PID, and we can compute the Smith normal form. Assume that  $n \geq 0$  and that we have an algorithm for rings of polynomials with  $n$  variables and coefficients in an MC-PID. Now consider the polynomial ring  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]$  in  $n + 1$  variables. The first step is reducing the problem to find a free basis of the modules  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  over the rings  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}[y]$  for a finite set of maximal ideals  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Here we need Algorithm 1 to compute a maximal ideal that contains an ideal in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . These free bases are patched together to obtain a basis of the module  $P$ , as shown in [16], so the problem is reduced to give an algorithmic proof of Horrocks' theorem ([17, p. 28]).

#### 3.1. First QS-algorithm in $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $P$  be a projective module over  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]$ , defined as the kernel of a unimodular row  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_m)$ , and  $\mathcal{M}$  a maximal ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Then there exists a  $m \times m$ -invertible matrix  $U$  with entries in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}[y]$  such that  $\mathbf{f} \cdot U = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ . The last  $m - 1$  columns of  $U$  form a free basis of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $A = R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}[y]$ . Let  $S$  be the multiplicative set of monic polynomials of  $A$ , and  $S_0 \subset R[y]$  the set of monic polynomials. As  $\mathbf{f}$  is a unimodular row, we can compute a column  $\mathbf{g}$  such that  $\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{g} = 1$ , and  $M = I - \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{f}$  is a matrix whose columns form a set of generators of the  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]$ -module  $Syz(\mathbf{f})$ . From the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y] & \rightarrow & (S_0^{-1}R[y])[x_1, \dots, x_n] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}[y] & \twoheadrightarrow & A_S \end{array}$$

we see that the module  $S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  is extended from  $S_0^{-1}P$ . By Corollary 1,  $S_0^{-1}R[y]$  is an MC-PID, and by the induction hypothesis and extension we compute a matrix  $U_S \in \text{GL}(m, S^{-1}R[y])$  such that  $\mathbf{f} \cdot U_S = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ . Let  $v_1, \dots, v_{m-1} \in P_{\mathcal{M}}$  be the last  $m - 1$  columns of  $U_S$ . These vectors form a free basis of  $S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  in  $A_S$ . Let  $k = R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}/\overline{\mathcal{M}}, \overline{A} = A/\overline{\mathcal{M}}A = k[y]$  and  $\overline{A}_S = k(y)$ . Compute a matrix  $\overline{U} \in \text{GL}(m, k[y])$  such that  $\mathbf{f} \cdot \overline{U} = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$  and let  $\overline{e}_1, \dots, \overline{e}_{m-1}$  be the last  $m - 1$  columns of  $\overline{U}$ . This set is a free basis of  $\overline{P}_{\mathcal{M}}$ . Take  $a_1, \dots, a_{m-1} \in A$  such that  $\overline{a}_i = \overline{e}_i, i = 1, \dots, m - 1$ . Then  $e_i = a_i - \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{f} \cdot a_i, i = 1, \dots, m - 1$ ,

are elements of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  that go over  $\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_{m-1}$ . By solving a linear system, we get  $\bar{W} \in \text{GL}((m-1), k(y))$  such that

$$(\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_{m-1})\bar{W} = (\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_{m-1})$$

because  $\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_{m-1}$  and  $\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_{m-1}$  are bases of the vector space  $\bar{P}_S$  over the field  $k(y)$ . As pointed in [3, 14], we can take  $W \in \text{GL}(m-1, A_S)$  that lifts to  $\bar{W}$ . Change the basis  $v_1, \dots, v_{m-1}$  of  $S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  by the basis  $(v_1, \dots, v_{m-1}) \cdot W$ . Then

$$e_i = v_i + h_i, \quad h_i \in \mathcal{M}S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

Following [12, 3], if  $C$  is the subring of  $S^{-1}R[y]$  formed by  $f/g$ , with  $g \in S$  and  $\deg(f) \leq \deg(g)$ , then  $\mathcal{M}S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}} = \mathcal{M}P_{\mathcal{M}} + \mathcal{M}Q$ , where  $Q = \bigoplus v_i y^{-1}C$ . By the division algorithm, decompose  $h_i = g_i + g'_i$ , where  $g_i \in A^m$ , and the degree of the denominators of  $g'_i$  are greater than the degree of numerators. Compute  $z_i$  the normal form of  $g_i$  with respect the module  $\mathcal{M}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  over the ring  $A$ . Then, by [12, 3], the elements  $v'_i = v_i + z_i + g'_i, i = 1, \dots, m-1$  form a basis of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ .  $\square$

*Remark 3.* The algorithm described in [14, algorithm 4] is incomplete, because to extract the component in  $\mathcal{M}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  we need normal forms, and not only quotients. An analogous remark is applied to [14, p. 418].

*Example 2.* Consider the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , the unimodular row  $\mathbf{f} = (13, x^2 - 1, 2x - 3)$  and  $P$  the projective module defined by  $\ker(\mathbf{f})$ . We can compute  $\mathbf{g} = (2, -20, 10x + 15)^t$  with  $\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{g} = 1$ . A basis of  $S^{-1}P$  over  $S^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is formed by the vectors

$$v_1 = \left(1, -\frac{13}{x^2-1}, 0\right)^t, v_2 = \left(0, -\frac{2x-3}{x^2-1}, 1\right)^t.$$

For every maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , a basis of the module  $S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  is obtained by extension. Let  $\mathcal{M} = \langle 2 \rangle$  maximal ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\bar{A} = (\mathbb{Z}/\mathcal{M})[x]$ . By Euclidean algorithm in  $\bar{A}$ , we get a basis of  $\bar{P}_{\mathcal{M}}$  with elements  $\bar{e}_1 = (-x^2 + 1, 1, 0)^t, \bar{e}_2 = (1, 0, 1)^t$ . Then

$$\bar{W} = \begin{pmatrix} -x^2 + 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{GL}(2, \bar{A}_S)$$

is a matrix with

$$(\bar{v}_1 | \bar{v}_2)\bar{W} = (\bar{e}_1 | \bar{e}_2).$$

Lift to

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} -x^2 + 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{GL}(2, A_S)$$

and a new basis of  $S^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  is

$$v_1 = (-x^2 + 1, 13, 0)^t, v_2 = \left(1, -\frac{2(5+x)}{x^2-1}, 1\right)^t.$$

We can compute elements  $e_1 = \bar{e}_1 - \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{f} \cdot \bar{e}_1, e_2 = \bar{e}_2 - \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{f} \cdot \bar{e}_2 \in P_{\mathcal{M}}$  such that they apply over  $\bar{e}_1, \bar{e}_2$ . Let  $h_1 = e_1 - v_1 = g_1 + g'_1, h_2 = e_2 - v_2 = g_2 + g'_2$ , where  $g_1 = h_1, g'_1 = 0$ , and

$$g_2 = (-20 - 4x, 200 + 40x, -150 - 130x - 20x^2)^t, \quad g'_2 = \left(0, 2\frac{x+5}{x^2-1}, 0\right)^t.$$

The respective normal forms of  $g_1, g_2$  with respect to  $\mathcal{M}P_{\mathcal{M}}$  are

$$z_1 = (0, 0, 0)^t, z_2 = \left(\frac{-4x^2 + x^3 + 4x - 1}{x^3 - 2x^2 - 1}, -\frac{(x-1)x^2(x^2 - 3x + 1)}{x^3 - 2x^2 - 1}, 0\right)^t.$$

Then  $v'_1 = v_1, v'_2 = (0, 2x - 3, -x^2 + 1)^t$  form a free basis of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ . If  $U = (\mathbf{g}|v'_1|v'_2)$ , then  $\det(U) = -13$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}$ . To obtain a matrix with determinant 1, we consider  $U_1 = (\mathbf{g}|-\frac{1}{13}v'_1|v'_2)$ . Let  $r_1 = 13$ .

We repeat the process for  $\mathcal{M}_2 = \langle 13 \rangle$ , and obtain the matrix

$$U_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -20 & -\frac{52}{5} & 2x - 3 \\ 10x + 15 & \frac{26}{5}x + \frac{39}{5} & -x^2 + 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this case,  $r_2 = 5$ , and  $\langle r_1, r_2 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}$ . By patching together the solutions as described in [16], we get

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} -128x^2 + 60x^3 + 60x & 1 + 1144x^2 - 780x^3 & -144x^2 + 100x^3 - 4x \\ -1 - 30x & 13 + 390x & -50x - 3 \\ 270x - 375x^2 & -130x + 4875x^2 & 1 - 625x^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\det(V) = 1$  and  $\mathbf{f} \cdot V = (1 \ 0 \ 0)$ .

**3.2. Second QS-algorithm in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .** The algorithm described in the previous section uses the normal form of a vector with respect to a module. We give another method, based on [19, 17], where is not needed. We begin with an easy lemma.

**Lemma 2.** ([17, Lemma 3.2.5].) *Let  $R$  be an MC-PID and  $M$  a free  $R$ -module. Let  $v$  be a nonzero element of  $M$ . Then  $M$  has a basis  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  such that  $v = \alpha v_1$  for some  $\alpha \in R$ .*

The following algorithm solves the local step, i.e., compute a basis of the  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\mathcal{M}}$ -module  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ . Our starting point is a set of generators of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  as a submodule of a free module, and proceed by induction over  $\text{rank}(P) = m$ . We build a set of generators of a projective module  $P'$  with rank  $m - 1$ . Remember that if  $P'$  is projective then it is torsion free, so it is isomorphic to a submodule of a free module of finite rank ([10, Prop. 10.11]). This isomorphism can be computed, because the relations between the generators of  $P'$  can be found by solving a linear system in the field  $Q(R)$ . Then we apply the induction hypothesis.

**Theorem 2.** ([17, Thm. 3.2.1] *Let  $P$  be a projective  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]$ -module, generated by a set of vectors of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]^s$ , and  $\mathcal{M}$  a maximal ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Then we can find a free basis of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a matrix whose columns are the generators of  $P$ , and  $m = \text{rank}(P)$ .

- (1) If  $m = 1$  then  $P$  is isomorphic to an ideal of  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]$ . Then  $S_0^{-1}P$  is a projective ideal of  $(S_0^{-1}R[y])[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , so it is free, hence principal. Using a Gröbner basis we can find its generator, that is a basis.
- (2) If  $m \geq 2$ , let  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  a basis of  $S_0^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$ , that we can compute because  $S_0^{-1}(R[x_1, \dots, x_n][y]) = (S_0^{-1}R[y])[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Choose  $v_i \in P_{\mathcal{M}}$  taking off denominators.
- (3) Let  $\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_m$  be a basis of  $\bar{P}_{\mathcal{M}}$  over  $k[y]$ , with  $k = R[x_1, \dots, x_n]/\mathcal{M}$ .
- (4) Compute a basis  $\bar{q}_1, \dots, \bar{q}_m$  of  $\bar{P}_{\mathcal{M}}$  with  $\bar{v}_1 = \alpha \bar{q}_2$  (Lemma 2). Let  $\bar{V}$  be a change basis matrix and  $V$  a lifting with entries in  $A$ .
- (5) Lift  $q_1$  to  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  through  $M \cdot V$ .
- (6) By solving a linear system, let  $q_1 = \sum_{i=1}^m a'_i v_i$  in  $S^{-1}A$ , so we can find  $s \in A$  such that  $sq_1 = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i, a_i \in A$ .

- (7) Take  $k$  such that  $a_1 + sy^k$  is a monic polynomial in the variable  $y$ .  
(8) Let  $p = q_1 + y^k v_1$ , and  $P' = P/pA$ . Then  $P'$  is projective and  $\text{rank}(P') = m - 1$  ([17, 19]), so is torsion free, and we can compute a set of generators. Set  $P \leftarrow P'$ , and go to step 1.

□

*Example 3.* Consider Example 2, and let  $\mathcal{M} = \langle 2 \rangle \subset \mathbb{Z}$ . We want to compute a free basis of the  $A = \mathbb{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}[x]$ -module  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ . A set of generators of  $P$  is formed by the columns  $s_1, s_2, s_3$  of  $M = I - \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{f}$ . It is easy to see that  $\text{rank}(P) = 2$ . As  $S_0^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is an MC-PID, we can find the Smith normal form of the module  $S_0^{-1}P_{\mathcal{M}}$ . Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} 10 & 1 & 0 \\ 10x + 15 & 0 & -2 \\ 13 & x^2 - 1 & 2x - 3 \end{pmatrix} M \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -10 & -20 \\ 0 & 5x + 7 & 10x + 15 \end{pmatrix} = V_1 M V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The nonzero columns  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  of  $M \cdot V_2$  form a basis of  $S_0^{-1}P$ . Now it is easy to see that the vectors  $\bar{e}_1 = (-1, 0, -1)^t$ ,  $\bar{e}_2 = (0, -1, -x^2 + 1)^t$  are a basis of the module  $\bar{P}_{\mathcal{M}}$ . As  $\bar{v}_1 = \bar{e}_2$ , we take  $\bar{q}_1 = \bar{e}_1$ ,  $\bar{q}_2 = \bar{e}_2$ , and  $q_1 = (-25, 260, -130x - 195)^t \in P_{\mathcal{M}}$  goes over  $\bar{q}_1$ . Then  $sq_1 = a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2$  with  $a_1 = 10$ ,  $s = 1$  and  $a_1 + sx$  is monic in  $x$ , so

$$p = q_1 + xv_1 = (-25 - 2x^3 + 2x, 260 - 19x + 20x^3, -115x - 195 - 10x^4 + 10x^2 - 15x^3)^t.$$

We know that  $P' = P_{\mathcal{M}}/pA$  is a projective  $A$ -module with rank equal to 1. Now we have to compute a free basis  $w + \langle p \rangle$  of  $P'$ , which is generated by  $s_1 + \langle p \rangle$ ,  $s_2 + \langle p \rangle$ ,  $s_3 + \langle p \rangle$ . The first step is to find  $d_2, d_3 \in A$  such that  $d_2(s_2 + \langle p \rangle) = \lambda_2(s_1 + \langle p \rangle)$ ,  $d_3(s_3 + \langle p \rangle) = \lambda_3(s_1 + \langle p \rangle)$ , so we solve the system

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c} s_2 & s_3 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} p & s_1 \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

in the field of fractions of  $A$ . Let  $d = 5x(2x + 3)$ ,  $\lambda_2 = -5(2x + 3)$ ,  $\lambda_3 = -2(10 + x)$ , and consider the morphism between  $A$ -modules  $\varphi : P' \rightarrow (s_1 + \langle p \rangle)A$  defined by  $\varphi(v) = d \cdot v$ . Then  $\varphi$  is injective, and  $P' \simeq \varphi(P') \subset (s_1 + \langle p \rangle)A$ . Since  $\varphi(P')$  is generated by only one element, it must be a multiple of  $s_1 + \langle p \rangle$ . Then consider the ideal  $J = \langle d, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \rangle A$ . By computing a Gröbner basis in  $A$  we obtain  $u = 85 = 0 \cdot d + \lambda_2 - 5\lambda_3$ , a unit in  $A$ , so  $P'$  is generated by  $\varphi^{-1}(s_1 + \langle p \rangle) = u^{-1}(s_2 - 5s_3) + \langle p \rangle$ . Let

$$w = u^{-1}(s_2 - 5s_3) = \frac{1}{85} (-2x^2 + 20x - 28, 20x^2 - 200x + 281, -10x^3 + 85x^2 + 10x - 215)^t.$$

Then  $\{p, w\}$  is a free basis of  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ .

*Remark 4.* These algorithms allow us to extend the results in [14] to find bases of projective modules over a monoid ring  $R[M]$ , because all we need are the constructions in  $S^{-1}R[x]$  described in Section 2 and the Quillen-Suslin algorithm in  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  ([8]). In the same way, we have a QS-algorithm for quotients of the form  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$ , with  $I$  a monomial ideal, extending [13].

4. QS-ALGORITHM IN  $D[x]$ 

**4.1. Ideal factorization in a Dedekind domain.** Let  $D$  be the ring of integers of a number field, and  $I$  an ideal of  $D$ . Then  $D$  is a Dedekind domain, and there is an algorithm ([5, algorithm 2.3.22]) to compute the factorization of  $I$  as product of prime ideals of  $D$ . We present here another algorithm based in Gröbner bases. We know that  $D$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of finite rank, and we can find  $\omega_0 = 1, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  a free basis ([4, algorithm 6.1.8]). Then  $\omega_i \omega_j = \sum_{k=0}^n a_{i,j,k} \omega_k, i, j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  for some  $a_{i,j,k} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $s_{ij} = x_i x_j - \sum_{k=0}^n a_{i,j,k} x_k$  be polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , and call  $J$  the ideal generated by them.

**Lemma 3.** (1)  $D \simeq \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]/J$ .

- (2) There is a primality testing algorithm for ideals of  $D$ .
- (3) Let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $D$ . Then there exists an algorithm to find a set of generators of a maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $D$  that contains  $I$ .
- (4) Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a maximal ideal of  $D$ . Then it is possible to compute a set of generators of the  $D$ -module  $\mathcal{M}^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $p \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be a polynomial such that  $p(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) = 0$ . By reducing  $p$  by the polynomials  $s_{ij}$ , we have that  $p \equiv q \pmod{J}$ , where  $q(x_1, \dots, x_n) = a_0 + a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n, a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $p(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) = 0$ , then  $q(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) = 0$ , so  $a_0 = a_1 = \dots = a_n = 0$ , because of linear independence of  $\omega_i$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and then  $p \in J$ .

If  $I$  is an ideal of  $D$ , we note  $\tilde{I}$  the lifted ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

- (2)  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $D$  if and only if  $\tilde{I}$  is a prime ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , and by [9, prop. 4.3] we have an algorithm to test the primality of  $\tilde{I}$ .
- (3) Apply Algorithm 1 to  $\tilde{I}$ .
- (4) Follow [4, p. 199]. Observe that we can always find  $p \in \mathbb{Z} \cap \mathcal{M}$  a prime element through  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}} \cap \mathbb{Z}$ .

□

**Proposition 2.** Let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $D$ . Then we can find prime ideals  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_r$  of  $D$  such that  $I = \mathfrak{p}_1 \cdot \dots \cdot \mathfrak{p}_r$ .

*Proof.* If  $I$  is prime, we are done. Otherwise, let  $\mathfrak{p}_1$  be a maximal ideal that contains  $I$ . Let  $I_1 = \mathfrak{p}_1^{-1}I$ . Then  $I_1$  is an integer ideal and  $I \subsetneq I_1$  ([18]). We apply again the process to the ideal  $I_1$ , and we obtain an ascending chain of ideals  $I \subset I_1 \subset \dots \subset I_r$  that becomes stationary because  $D$  is a noetherian ring. If  $I_r = I_{r+1}$ , we know that  $I_{r+1} = \mathfrak{p}^{-1}I_r$ , where  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a maximal ideal of  $D$  that contains  $I_r$ . Then  $I_r = \mathfrak{p}^{-1}I_r$  and this would imply that  $\mathfrak{p} = D$ . So  $I_r$  is a maximal ideal, the algorithm stops and we obtain the expression  $I = \mathfrak{p}_1 \cdot \dots \cdot \mathfrak{p}_r$ . □

*Example 4.* Let  $I = \langle 6 \rangle$  be ideal of  $D = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ , with  $\omega = \sqrt{-5}$ . An integral basis of  $D$  is  $\{1, \omega\}$ . Now consider  $\tilde{I} = \langle 6, t^2 + 5 \rangle$  ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[t]$ . Then  $\tilde{I}$  is not prime, because  $\langle 6 \rangle \mathbb{Z} = \tilde{I} \cap \mathbb{Z}$  is not a prime ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $p_1 = 2$  be a prime number that divides 6, and consider the ideal  $\tilde{I}' = \langle p_1, t^2 + 5 \rangle$ , that contains  $\tilde{I}$ . We compute  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_1 = \langle t + 1 \rangle$ , a maximal ideal of  $(\mathbb{Z}/p_1)[t]$  that contains the polynomial  $t^2 + 5$ . Then  $\mathfrak{p}_1 = \langle 2, 1 + \omega \rangle$  is a maximal ideal that contains  $I$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_1^{-1} = D + \frac{1+\omega}{2}D$ . Hence we obtain  $I_1 = \mathfrak{p}_1^{-1}I = \langle 6, 3 + 3\omega \rangle$ .

Again,  $I_1$  is not a prime ideal, so we apply the process to it. It is contained in the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{p}_2 = \langle 2, 1 + \omega \rangle$ , so we define  $I_2 = \mathfrak{p}_2^{-1}I_1 = \langle 3 \rangle$ . The ideal  $I_2$  is not



prime, because  $t^2 + \bar{5}$  is reducible in  $(\mathbb{Z}/3)[t]$ . A maximal ideal that contains  $I_2$  is  $\mathfrak{p}_3 = \langle 3, 1 + \omega \rangle$ , and  $\mathfrak{p}_3^{-1} = D + \frac{1-\omega}{3}D$ . Now  $I_3 = \mathfrak{p}_3^{-1}I_2 = \langle 3, 1 - \omega \rangle$ , that it is prime. Putting  $\mathfrak{p}_4 = I_3$  we get  $I = \mathfrak{p}_1^2 \mathfrak{p}_3 \mathfrak{p}_4$ .

**4.2. Projective modules over  $D[x]$ .** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $D$ -module. Then  $M$  is projective if and only if  $M$  is torsion free. In this case, if  $\text{rank}(M) = r$ , then  $M \simeq D^{r-1} \oplus \mathfrak{a}$  where  $\mathfrak{a}$  is an ideal of  $D$ .  $M$  is free if and only if  $\mathfrak{a}$  is principal ([5, Thm. 1.2.23]). This decomposition can be computed when  $D$  is the ring of integers of a number field ([5, Thm. 1.2.19]), and the crucial step is the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.** *If  $I$  and  $J$  are fractional ideals of  $D$  then  $I \oplus J \simeq D \oplus IJ$  as  $D$ -modules.*

A way to obtain this isomorphism is through the prime decomposition of ideals in  $D$  (see [5, Prop. 1.3.12]) or applying [5, Algorithm 1.3.16]. Then, if we have determined the freeness of a torsion free module  $M$  we can compute a basis using this isomorphism.

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a maximal ideal in  $D$  then the local ring  $D_{\mathcal{M}}$  is a discrete valuation ring, so a PID. If  $P(x)$  is a projective module over  $D[x]$ , then for each maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $D$ , the module  $P(x)_{\mathcal{M}}$  is projective over  $D_{\mathcal{M}}[x]$ , and by the Quillen-Suslin theorem  $P(x)_{\mathcal{M}}$  is free. Then  $P(x)$  is extended from  $P(0)$  ([21]). When  $D$  is the ring of integers of a number field, we have an algorithm for the previous result analogous to [14]. This shows us that for checking the freeness of  $P(x)$  over  $D[x]$  is enough to test  $P(0)$  over  $D$ . The problem is reduced to compute a free basis of the module  $P(x)_{\mathcal{M}}$  over  $D_{\mathcal{M}}[x]$  for a maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $D$ . But  $D_{\mathcal{M}}$  is an MC-PID, and by sections 3.1, 3.2 we have two algorithms to get a free basis.

*Example 5.* In  $D = \mathbb{Z}[\omega], \omega = \sqrt{-5}$  consider  $\mathbf{f}(x) = (f_1(x) \ f_2(x) \ f_3(x))$  the unimodular row in  $D[x]^3$  where

$$f_1(x) = -5x^2 - 2\omega x + 2x + \omega - 2, f_2(x) = x^2 - x, f_3(x) = \omega x - \omega + 1.$$

Let  $P(x)$  be the projective module defined by  $\ker(\mathbf{f}(x))$ , whose generators in  $D[x]^3$  are given by the columns of the matrix  $M(x) = I_3 - \mathbf{g}(x)\mathbf{f}(x)$ , where  $\mathbf{g}(x) = (x-1, 5x-2, 2x-1)^t$ . To check the freeness of  $P(x)$  we consider the  $D$ -module  $P(0)$  generated by the columns of  $M(0)$ . We can see that  $P(0) \simeq D \oplus J$ , where  $J = \langle 2 - \omega \rangle$ . Then  $P(0)$  is free, so  $P(x)$ . Let  $\mathcal{M} = \langle 2, 1 + \omega \rangle$  be maximal ideal of  $D$ . Applying Theorem 2 to  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  we get the matrix

$$\begin{aligned} & [x-1, -5x^4 + 6x^3 + \omega x^2 - 3x^2 + \omega x - \omega x^4 - \omega + 1, -(x-1)(10086662778x \\ & + 20424937041\omega - 6861175910\omega x - 27394274848x^2 + 8528154248\omega x^3 \\ & - 5214150542\omega x^2 - 45243672650x^3 + 28030914183) / \beta] \\ & [5x-2, -25x^4 - 2\omega x^3 + 14x^3 + 2\omega x^2 - 12x^2 + 5\omega x - x - 6\omega x^4 - 2\omega + 2, \\ & -(144679169033x - 61623674056\omega + 99695086617\omega x + 120872168654x^2 \\ & - 36583582778\omega x^3 - 17235547982\omega x^2 + 36521518173\omega x^4 - 44295714782x^3 \\ & - 240865770565x^4 - 18225840353) / \beta] \\ & [2x-1, 2-4x^2-11x^4-\omega x^3+7x^3+\omega x^2+2\omega x-2\omega x^4-\omega+x^5, \\ & (-65754728708x + 28500912245\omega - 41229027211\omega x - 52828252348x^2 \\ & - 6119253067x^5 + 15325343098\omega x^3 + 13191112346\omega x^2 - 18717821941\omega x^4 \\ & + 14918939512x^3 + 94101342265x^4 + 2929481463x^5\omega + 15681952346) / \beta], \end{aligned}$$

with  $\beta = (-37835988013 + 20773799974\omega)$ .

## REFERENCES

- [1] W.W. Adams and P. Lounstaunau, *An Introduction to Gröbner Bases*, Graduate Studies in Mathematics, vol. 3, (Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI 1994).
- [2] D.D. Anderson, D.F. Anderson and R. Markanda, The Rings  $R(X)$  and  $R\langle X \rangle$ , *J. Algebra*, **95** (1985), 96–115.
- [3] V.A. Artamonov, Serre’s quantum problem, *Russian Math. Surveys*, **53:4**, (1998), 657–730.
- [4] H. Cohen, *A Course in Computational Algebraic Number Theory*, Graduate Texts in Mathematics, vol. 138, (Springer, Berlin, 1993).
- [5] H. Cohen, *Advanced Topics in Computational Number Theory*, Graduate Texts in Mathematics, vol. 193, (Springer, New York, 2000).
- [6] N. Fitchas and A. Galligo, Nullstellensatz effectif et conjecture de Serre (Théorème de Quillen-Suslin) pour le calcul formel, *Math. Nachr.*, **149** (1990), 231–253.
- [7] J. Gago-Vargas, On Suslin’s Stability Theorem for  $R[x_1, \dots, x_m]$ , in *Ring Theory and Algebraic Geometry*, Lecture Notes in Pure and Applied Mathematics, vol. 221, 203–210, (Marcel Dekker, New York, 2001).
- [8] J. Gago-Vargas, *Algoritmo para el teorema de Quillen-Suslin en  $R[M]$* , Comunicación en EACA-2000, Barcelona (2000).
- [9] P. Gianni, B. Trager and G. Zacharias, Gröbner bases and primary decomposition of polynomial ideals, *J. Symbolic Comput.*, **6** (1988), 149–167.
- [10] N. Jacobson, *Basic Algebra II*, (W.H. Freeman and Co., San Francisco, 1980).
- [11] E. Kunz, *Introduction to Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Geometry*, (Birkhäuser, Boston, 1985).
- [12] T.Y. Lam, *Serre’s Conjecture*, Lecture Notes in Math., vol. 635, (Springer, New York, 1978).
- [13] R. Laubenbacher and K. Schlauch, An algorithm for the Quillen-Suslin theorem for quotients of polynomial rings by monomial ideals, *J. Symbolic Comput.*, **30** (2000), no. 5, 555–571.
- [14] R. Laubenbacher and C. Woodburn, An algorithm for the Quillen-Suslin theorem for monoid rings, *J. Pure Appl. Algebra*, **117-118** (1997), 395–429.
- [15] R. Laubenbacher and C. Woodburn, A new algorithm for the Quillen-Suslin theorem, *Beiträge Algebra Geom.*, **41** (2000), 23–31.
- [16] A. Logar and B. Sturmfels, Algorithms for the Quillen-Suslin theorem, *J. Algebra*, **145** (1992), 231–239.
- [17] S. Mandal, *Projective modules and Complete Intersections*, Lecture Notes in Math., vol. 1672, (Springer, Berlin, 1997).
- [18] M.P. Malliavin, *Algèbre commutative. Applications en géométrie et théorie des nombres*, (Masson, Paris, 1985).
- [19] B. Nashier and W. Nichols, Ideals containing monics, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, **99** (1987), 634–636.
- [20] H. Park and C. Woodburn, An algorithmic proof of Suslin’s stability theorem for polynomial rings, *J. Algebra*, **178** (1995), 277–298.
- [21] D. Quillen, Projective modules over polynomial rings, *Invent. Math.* **36** (1976), 167–171.
- [22] A.A. Suslin, Projective modules over polynomial rings are free, *Soviet Math. Dokl.* **17** (1976), no. 4, 1160–1164.

DPTO. DE ÁLGEBRA, UNIVERSIDAD DE SEVILLA, APDO. 1160, 41080 SEVILLA, ESPAÑA  
*E-mail address:* gago@algebra.us.es.