



Ehrenpreis–Palamodov Theorem  
(actually, Noetherian operators and primary ideals)

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## A little bit of history and context

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Later, other slightly different proofs were given by Björk and Hörmander.

# The Theorem

Let  $I = (p_1, \dots, p_m) \subset \mathbb{C}[\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n]$  and  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a compact convex set. We consider the system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned} p_1(i\partial) \cdot u &= 0, \quad p_2(i\partial) \cdot u = 0, \quad \dots, \quad p_m(i\partial) \cdot u = 0, \\ u &\in C^\infty(\mathcal{K}). \end{aligned}$$

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## Ehrenpreis–Palamodov Theorem

There exist polynomials  $\{A_j(x_1, \dots, x_n, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)\}_{j=1}^t$  (**independent of  $\mathcal{K}$** ) s.t.: If  $u \in C^\infty(\mathcal{K})$  is a solution of the above system, then there exist measures  $\{\mu_j\}_{j=1}^t$  on a variety  $V_j \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  that corresponds with an associated prime of  $I$ , s.t.:

$$u(x) = \sum_{j=1}^t \int_{V_j} A_j(x, \xi) \exp(-i\langle x, \xi \rangle) d\mu_j(\xi).$$

What is so special about these polynomials  $A_j(x, \xi)$ ?

Make the substitutions  $\xi_i \mapsto \partial_i$  and  $\partial_i \mapsto x_i$ :

$$A_j(x, \xi) \mapsto A_j(x, \partial) \in \mathbb{C}\langle x, \partial \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad p_k(\partial) \mapsto p_k(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x].$$



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Fix one of the varieties  $V_j$ , then for all  $p_k$  we can prove that

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Equivalently, we have

$$A_j(x, \partial) \cdot p_k(x) \subset I(V_j) \subset \mathbb{C}[x].$$

By setting  $I = (p_1(x), \dots, p_m(x)) \subset \mathbb{C}[x]$ , we obtain

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# Noetherian operators

This is a theorem of “local nature”. Suppose that there is only variety  $V_j$ , that is  $V_1 = V_2 = \dots = V_t$ , then we are in the following situation:

- $I = (p_1(x), \dots, p_m(x)) \subset \mathbb{C}[x]$  is a primary ideal and

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## Condition of Ehrenpreis-Palamodov Theorem: Noetherian operators

$I \subset \mathbb{C}[x]$  primary ideal, if we find  $\{A_j(x, \partial)\}_{j=1}^t$  such that

$$I = \left\{ f \in R \mid A_j(x, \partial) \cdot f \in \sqrt{I} \text{ for all } 1 \leq j \leq t \right\},$$

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**then the statement of the theorem holds!**

# Our problem

## Classical problem of finding Noetherian operators

Let  $\mathfrak{p} \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be a prime ideal and  $I \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be a  $\mathfrak{p}$ -primary ideal. Find differential operators  $A_1, \dots, A_t \in D_n(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n, \partial_1, \dots, \partial_n \rangle$ , such that

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## More general problem

Let  $R$  be a **Noetherian ring**,  $\mathfrak{p} \subset R$  be a prime ideal and  $I \subset R$  be a primary ideal. Describe  $I$  via “differential operators”.



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- Ulrich Oberst (1999). “The construction of Noetherian operators”. In: *J. Algebra* 222.2, pp. 595–620.

## Definition

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $A$  be a subring. Let  $M, N$  be  $R$ -modules. The  $n$ -th order  $A$ -linear differential operators  $\text{Diff}_{R/A}^n(M, N) \subseteq \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  are defined inductively by:

- 1  $\text{Diff}_{R/A}^0(M, N) := \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ .
- 2  $\text{Diff}_{R/A}^n(M, N) := \{ \delta \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N) \mid [\delta, r] \in \text{Diff}_{R/A}^{n-1}(M, N) \text{ for all } r \in R \}$ ,  
where  $[\delta, r](m) = \delta(rm) - r\delta(m)$  for all  $m \in M$ .

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## Example

For  $R = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  we have that

$$D_n(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n, \partial_1, \dots, \partial_n \rangle = \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}(R, R).$$

What “kind of differential operators” can we use to describe primary ideals?

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## Life can be hard outside polynomial rings...

Consider  $R = \frac{\mathbb{C}[x,y,z]}{(x^3+y^3+z^3)}$ , then Bernstein, Gelfand, and Gelfand 1972 showed that:

- 1  $\text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}(R, R)$  is not a Noetherian ring.
- 2 Let  $\mathfrak{m} = (x, y, z) \subset R$ . For all  $\delta \in \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}(R, R)$ , we have that  $\delta(\mathfrak{m}) \subset \mathfrak{m}$ .

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## Observation

The differential operator “ $\partial_x$ ” does not exist in  $\text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}(R, R)$  because we would obtain  $0 = \partial_x(0) = \partial_x(x^3 + y^3 + z^3) = 3x^2$



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$$\mathfrak{m}^2 = \{f \in R \mid \delta_i \cdot f \in \mathfrak{m} \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq m\}$$

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## (Simplified) Data

Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be a field,  $R$  be a  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra of finite type,  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$  be a prime ideal, and  $I \subset R$  be a  $\mathfrak{p}$ -primary ideal.

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The canonical map  $\pi : R \twoheadrightarrow R/\mathfrak{p}$  induces a map

$$\text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{k}}(\pi) : \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{k}}(R, R) \rightarrow \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{k}}(R, R/\mathfrak{p}), \quad \delta \mapsto \bar{\delta} = \pi \circ \delta.$$

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Therefore,  $\text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{k}}(\pi)$  is **not surjective**.

# The main result

## Theorem

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- 2 If  $\mathbb{k}$  is a perfect field and  $I \supseteq \mathfrak{p}^{n+1}$ , then there exist  $\delta_1, \dots, \delta_m \in \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{k}}^n(R, R/\mathfrak{p})$  such that

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## Important result (from Grothendieck 1967 EGA IV)

If  $R$  is smooth over  $\mathbb{k}$ , then the map

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# Non reduced schemes

## Basic Question

It is well known that the reduced scheme structure of a scheme is unique. But, how to differentiate schemes with the same underlying topological space?

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- $R = \mathbb{C}[x]$  and  $X = \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{C}}^1 = \text{Spec}(R)$ .
- $X_n = \text{Spec}(R/(x^n))$  – “ $n$ -th multiple point at 0”.

Equivalently, we could give the following data:

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$$X_n \cong \left( X_1 = \text{Spec}(R/(x)), \{1, \partial_x, \dots, \partial_x^{n-1}\} \right).$$

Follows from:  $(x^n) = \{f \in R \mid \partial_x^j(f) \in (x) \text{ for all } 1 \leq j \leq n-1\}$ .

# Zariski-Nagata Theorem

Let  $V$  be a variety in  $\mathbb{C}^r$  and  $\mathfrak{p} = I(V) \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_r]$ . The  $n$ -th symbolic power of  $\mathfrak{p}$  is defined as:  $\mathfrak{p}^{(n)} = \mathfrak{p}^n R_{\mathfrak{p}} \cap R$ .

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## Easy reinterpretation (in the sense of Noetherian operators)

$$\mathfrak{p}^{(n)} = \{f \in R \mid \frac{\partial^\alpha f}{\partial x^\alpha} \in \mathfrak{p} \text{ for all } |\alpha| \leq n-1\}$$

# Extension of Zariski-Nagata Theorem

Theorem (Dao, De Stefani, Grifo, Huneke, and Núñez-Betancourt 2018)

Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be a perfect field,  $R$  be a **smooth** algebra of finite type over  $\mathbb{k}$ , and  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$  be a prime ideal. Set

$$\mathfrak{p}^{\langle n \rangle} := \{f \in R \mid \delta(f) \in \mathfrak{p} \text{ for all } \delta \in \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{k}}^{n-1}(R, R)\}.$$

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We can prove the following further extension:

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Then:

- $\mathfrak{p}^{(n)} = \mathfrak{p}^{\{n\}}$ .
- If  $R$  is **smooth** over  $\mathbb{k}$ , then  $\mathfrak{p}^{(n)} = \mathfrak{p}^{\{n\}} = \mathfrak{p}^{(n)}$ .

# Lets compute **THE EXAMPLE**

For the rest of the presentation we fix:

- $R = \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_3]$ .
- $I = (x_1x_3 - x_2, x_2^2, x_3^2) \subset R$ .
- $\mathfrak{p} = (x_2, x_3) = \sqrt{I} \subset R$ .

The Noetherian operators for  $I$  are  $A_1 = 1$  and  $A_2 = \partial_3 + x_1\partial_2$ , that is

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This example was given by Palamodov as a counter-example to Ehrenpreis claim: “*Noetherian operators can always be chosen with constant coefficients*”.

Probably the simplest example, because the claim holds for the monomial and zero-dimensional cases (see Sturmfels 2002).

Since  $I \supset \mathfrak{p}^2$ , our main theorem says that we can find differential operators inside  $\text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}^1(R, R)$ .

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Now,  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(R, R)$  is a  $(R - R)$ -bimodule or a  $(R \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R)$ -module:

$$(r_1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} r_2) \cdot \delta \text{ is defined by } ((r_1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} r_2) \cdot \delta)(t) = r_1 \delta(r_2 t).$$

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$$= \{\delta \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(R, R) \mid (1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} r_2 - r_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} 1)(1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} r_1 - r_1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} 1) \cdot \delta = 0 \text{ for all } r_1, r_2 \in R\}.$$

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By writing  $\Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}} = (1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} x_1 - x_1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} 1, 1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} x_2 - x_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} 1, 1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} x_3 - x_3 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} 1)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}^1(R, R) &= \{\delta \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(R, R) \mid \Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}^2 \cdot \delta = 0\} \\ &\cong \{\delta \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(R, \text{Hom}_R(R, R)) \mid \Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}^2 \cdot \delta = 0\} \\ &\cong \{\delta \in \text{Hom}_R(R \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R, R) \mid \Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}^2 \cdot \delta = 0\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}^1(R, R) \cong \text{Hom}_R \left( \frac{R \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R}{\Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}^2}, R \right).$$



# Proposition (Grothendieck 1967, Heyneman and Sweedler 1969)

We have the isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_R \left( \frac{R \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R}{\Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}^{n+1}}, R \right) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Diff}_{R/\mathbb{C}}^n(R, R)$$
$$\varphi \mapsto \varphi \circ d^n$$

where

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## Reminder (“Derivations are the dual of Kähler differentials”)

We have the isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Hom}_R (\Omega_{R/\mathbb{C}}, R) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathrm{Der}_{\mathbb{C}}(R)$$
$$\varphi \mapsto \varphi \circ d$$

where

$$d : R \rightarrow \Omega_{R/\mathbb{C}} = \frac{\Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}}{\Delta_{R/\mathbb{C}}^2}, \quad r \mapsto \overline{1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} r - r \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} 1}.$$

We have  $R = \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_3]$ ,  $I = (x_1x_3 - x_2, x_2^2, x_3^2)$ ,  $\mathfrak{p} = (x_2, x_3)$ . We want to show  $I = \left\{ f \in R \mid f \in \mathfrak{p} \text{ and } (\partial_3 + x_1\partial_2) \cdot f \in \mathfrak{p} \right\}$ .

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**STEP 1.** Since  $\mathbb{C}[x_1] \cap \mathfrak{p} = 0$  ( $V(\mathfrak{p}) = \{(\alpha, 0, 0) \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{C}\}$ ) we will “naively” consider the ring  $R' = \mathbb{C}(x_1)[x_2, x_3]$  and the differential operators inside

$$\text{Diff}_{R'/\mathbb{C}(x_1)}^1(R', R') \subset D_2(\mathbb{C}(x_1)) = \mathbb{C}(x_1)\langle x_2, x_3, \partial_2, \partial_3 \rangle.$$

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**STEP 2.** The canonical map  $R' \twoheadrightarrow R'/(x_2, x_3) \cong \mathbb{C}(x_1)$  induces the map

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**STEP 3.**  $\text{Diff}_{R'/\mathbb{C}(x_1)}^1(R', \mathbb{C}(x_1)) \cong \text{Hom}_{R'} \left( \frac{R' \otimes R'}{(1 \otimes x_2 - x_2 \otimes 1, 1 \otimes x_3 - x_3 \otimes 1)^2}, \mathbb{C}(x_1) \right)$   
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**STEP 4.** Since  $(x_2, x_3)^2 \subset I' = (x_1x_3 - x_2, x_2^2, x_3^2) \subset R'$ , then we have the inclusion

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}(x_1)} \left( \frac{1 \otimes R'}{1 \otimes I'}, \mathbb{C}(x_1) \right) \subset \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}(x_1)} \left( \frac{1 \otimes R'}{(1 \otimes x_2, 1 \otimes x_3)^2}, \mathbb{C}(x_1) \right) \cong \mathrm{Diff}_{R'/\mathbb{C}(x_1)}^1(R', \mathbb{C}(x_1)).$$



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**STEP 5.** Note that  $1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}(x_1)} R' \cong R'$ , that  $1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}(x_1)} I' \cong I'$  and that

$$I' = \left\{ f \in R' \mid (\varphi \circ d^1)(f) = \varphi(1 \otimes f) = 0 \text{ for all } \varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}(x_1)} \left( \frac{1 \otimes R'}{1 \otimes I'}, \mathbb{C}(x_1) \right) \right\}.$$

**STEP 6.** We have that  $\frac{1 \otimes R'}{1 \otimes I'} \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}(x_1)[x_2, x_3]}{(x_1x_3 - x_2, x_2^2, x_3^2)} \cong \mathbb{C}(x_1) \cdot \{\bar{1}, \bar{x}_3\}$  is a **dimension two**  $\mathbb{C}(x_1)$ -vector space.

By **pulling back** the dual basis  $\mathbb{C}(x_1) \cdot \{(\bar{1})^*, (\bar{x}_3)^*\}$  we obtain the two Noetherian operators  $A_1 = 1$  and  $A_2 = \partial_3 + x_1\partial_2$  inside

$$D_3(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, x_2, x_3, \partial_1, \partial_2, \partial_3 \rangle.$$

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Thanks a lot!

Danke vielmals!