

## NEW CONSTRUCTION OF ALGEBRAS AS QUOTIENTS

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### ABSTRACT

In this article we have presented a new approach to define algebras using for a natural number  $k \geq 2$ , the set of natural numbers in base  $k$ , none of their digits equal to zero. The study was developed in the context of vector  $\mathbb{R}$ -spaces and the vector space definitions of the formal multiples of any element  $x$  of the field  $\mathbb{R}$ , of the direct sum of vector spaces and binary operations on vector spaces were used. The results obtained were the construction of a vector space denoted by  $\mathbb{V}$ , on the basis of the particular set of natural numbers in base  $k$  mentioned, which allowed novel ways of defining the well-known and very important algebras of complex numbers and that of quaternions on  $\mathbb{R}$  as quotients of ideals of  $\mathbb{V}$ , for suitably chosen ideals  $I$ . With this new approach and with the help of the vector spaces  $\mathbb{V}$ , known algebras can be presented in a different way than those found up to now, by using certain ideals of those spaces in their quotient form. The spaces  $\mathbb{V}$  can be over any field  $K$  and other algebras such as Clifford algebras can be constructed using this procedure.

**Keywords:** Algebras, Quotients in algebras, Complex numbers and quaternions as quotients of algebras.

## NUEVA CONSTRUCCIÓN DE ÁLGEBRAS COMO COCIENTES

### RESUMEN

En este artículo se ha presentado un nuevo enfoque para definir álgebras usando para un número natural  $k \geq 2$ , el conjunto de números naturales en base  $k$ , ninguno de sus dígitos iguales a cero. El estudio se desarrolló en el contexto de los  $\mathbb{R}$ -espacios vectoriales y se usaron las definiciones de espacio vectorial de los múltiplos formales de un elemento cualquiera  $x$  del cuerpo  $\mathbb{R}$ , de la suma directa de espacios vectoriales y operaciones binarias sobre espacios vectoriales. Los resultados obtenidos fueron la construcción de un espacio vectorial denotado por  $\mathbb{V}$ , sobre la base del particular conjunto de números naturales en base  $k$  mencionado, que permitió novedosas formas de definir las conocidas y muy importantes álgebras de los números complejos y la de los cuaterniones sobre  $\mathbb{R}$  como cocientes de ideales de  $\mathbb{V}$ , para ideales  $I$  convenientemente elegidos. Con este nuevo enfoque y con la ayuda de los espacios vectoriales  $\mathbb{V}$  se pueden presentar álgebras conocidas de manera distinta a las encontradas hasta ahora, al usar en su forma de cociente ciertos ideales de esos espacios  $\mathbb{V}$ . Los espacios  $\mathbb{V}$  pueden ser sobre cualquier cuerpo  $K$  y otras álgebras como las álgebras de Clifford se pueden construir usando este procedimiento.

**Palabras clave:** Algebras, cocientes en álgebras, Números complejos y cuaterniones como cocientes en álgebras.

# NOVA CONSTRUÇÃO DE ÁLGEBRAS COMO QUOCIENTES

## RESUMO

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Neste artigo apresentamos uma nova abordagem para definir as álgebras usando para um número natural  $k \geq 2$ , o conjunto de números naturais na base  $k$ , nenhum de seus dígitos igual a zero. O estudo foi desenvolvido no contexto de espaços vetoriais  $R$  e foram utilizadas as definições de espaço vetorial dos múltiplos formais de um elemento qualquer  $x$  do campo  $R$ , da soma direta de espaços vetoriais e operações binárias em espaços vetoriais. Os resultados obtidos foram a construção de um espaço vetorial denotado por  $V$ , com base no conjunto particular de números naturais na base  $k$  mencionados, o que permitiu novas formas de definir as conhecidas e muito importantes álgebras de números complexos e dos quatérnions em  $R$  como quocientes de ideais de  $V$ , para ideais  $I$  adequadamente selecionados. Com esta nova abordagem e com a ajuda dos espaços vetoriais  $V$ , as álgebras conhecidas podem ser apresentadas de uma forma diferente das encontradas até agora, usando certos ideais desses espaços na sua forma de quociente. Os espaços  $V$  podem estar em qualquer campo  $K$  e outras álgebras, tais como álgebras de Clifford, podem ser construídas usando este processo.

**Palavras-chave:** Álgebras, quocientes nas álgebras, Números complexos e quatérnions como quocientes nas álgebras

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Given any symbol  $x$ , we define the vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  denoted by  $\langle x \rangle$ , consisting of all formal real multiples of  $x$  as the set  $\{ rx / r \in \mathbb{R} \}$ , together with the sum  $+: \langle x \rangle \times \langle x \rangle \rightarrow \langle x \rangle$ , defined for all  $rx, sx \in \langle x \rangle$  by  $rx + sx = (r + s)x$  and the product  $\cdot: \mathbb{R} \times \langle x \rangle \rightarrow \langle x \rangle$ , defined  $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\forall rx \in \langle x \rangle$  by  $a(rx) = (ar)x$ .

We will also deal with the (external) “direct sum” of vector spaces:

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a collection of vector spaces, the direct sum of all vector spaces  $V$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set denoted by  $\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V$ , whose elements are the tuples  $(u_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}}$ , where  $u_V \in V$ , for each  $V \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $u_V = 0_V$  for almost all  $V \in \mathcal{C}$  (that means  $u_V = 0_V$  for all but a finite number of vector spaces  $V$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ ).

This set turns into a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  with the operations:

Sum:  $+: [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V] \times [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V] \rightarrow [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$ ,  $\forall (x_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}}, (y_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}} \in [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$ ,  $(x_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}} + (y_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}} = (x_V + y_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}}$  and the product  $\cdot: \mathbb{R} \times [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V] \rightarrow [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$ , defined for all  $(x_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}} \in [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$  and all  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  by  $r \cdot (x_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}} = (rx_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}}$ .

Notation: If  $U \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $u \in U$ , with  $\bar{u}$  we will understand the tuple  $(x_V)_{V \in \mathcal{C}} \in [\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$ , where  $x_V = 0$  if  $V \neq U$  and  $x_U = u$ .

Given basis  $B_V = \{ u_{1_V}, \dots, u_{n_V} \}$  of each vector space  $V \in \mathcal{C}$ , we consider the subset  $\overline{B_V} = \{ \overline{u_{1_V}}, \dots, \overline{u_{n_V}} \}$  of  $[\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$ . The union  $\bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{C}} \overline{B_V}$  is a basis of  $[\bigoplus_{V \in \mathcal{C}} V]$ .

Next we consider for all natural number  $k \geq 2$ , the set  $\mathbb{N}_k^*$  of all natural numbers written in basis  $k$ , none of its digits null. The digits used to express the numbers of  $\mathbb{N}_k^*$  are the elements of  $\mathcal{D} = \{ 1_{\mathbb{N}^*}, \dots, 9_{\mathbb{N}^*}, d_{10}, \dots, d_{k-1} \}$

( $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_k$  when needed).

The next step is to consider the direct sum  $\langle 1_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle [\bigoplus_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*} \langle x \rangle]$  or  $\mathbb{R}V[\bigoplus_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*} \langle x \rangle]$ , which is a vector space denoted by  $\mathbb{V}$  ( $\mathbb{V}_k$  when needed).

Vectors of  $\mathbb{V}$  are the tuples  $(r, (r_x x)_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*})$ , where  $r, r_x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $r_x = 0$  for almost all  $x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*$  with  $r_x = 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*$ , will be denoted by  $\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}$  and, for

The tuple  $(1, (r_x x)_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*})$ , with  $r_x = 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*$ , will be denoted by  $\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}$  and for all real number  $r$ , with  $\bar{r}$  the tuple  $r - \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} = (r, (r_x x)_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*})$  with  $r_x = 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*$  We recall for all  $y \in \mathbb{N}_k^*$  we denote the

tuple  $\bar{y} = (0, (r_x x)_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*})$ , where  $r_k = 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{N}_k^* \setminus \{y\}$  and  $r_y = 1$ . Once these has been said, any tuple  $(r, (r_x x)_{x \in \mathbb{N}_k^*})$ , where  $r_x = 0$  for all digit  $x$  different from  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , can be written as  $\bar{r} = \sum_{i=1}^n r_{x_i} \bar{x}_i$ .

In order to provide  $\mathbb{V}$  with an algebra over  $\mathbb{R}$  structure, we define the operation  $\cdot: \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{V}$  as follows:

- i)  $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{V}, \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} \cdot \alpha = \alpha \cdot \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} = \alpha$
- ii)  $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_k^*, \alpha = x_0 x_1 \dots x_n, \beta = y_0 y_1 \dots y_m$ , where  $x_0 \dots x_n, y_0 \dots y_m \in \mathcal{D} = \{1, \dots, 9, d_{10}, \dots, d_{k-1}\}$ ,  $\alpha \cdot \beta$  is the ordered concatenation of the  $\alpha$ -digits with the  $\beta$ -digits, meaning  $\alpha \cdot \beta = [x_0 x_1 \dots x_n y_0 y_1 \dots y_m]$ .
- iii) Lastly,  $\forall u, v \in \mathbb{V}$ , where  $u = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} r_i \bar{\alpha}_i$  and  $v = \sum_{j=1}^{j=m} s_j \bar{\beta}_j$  with  $\alpha_i, \beta_j \in \mathbb{N}_k^* \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\forall 1 \leq j \leq m$  then  $u \cdot v = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} \sum_{j=1}^{j=m} (r_i s_j) (\overline{\alpha_i \beta_j})$

It can be easily proven that this operation is associative and bilinear, which makes  $\mathbb{V}$  an algebra over  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}$  the multiplicative identity, only commutative when  $k = 2$ , because for all  $k > 2, 1 \cdot 2 = 12 \neq 21 = 2 \cdot 1$ .

In order to keep the usual exponential notation for the digits  $= \{1, \dots, 9, d_{10}, \dots, d_{k-1}\}$ , we write  $x^n = xx \dots x$  (n-times  $x$ ) and  $x^0 = \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}$ .

For themes related with general algebra, like vector spaces and direct sums see (Atiyah & Macdonald, 1969; Hartley & Hawkes, 1983).

## 2. ALGEBRAS AS QUOTIENTS

Our aim here is to build algebras over  $\mathbb{R}$  as quotients of conveniently chosen two sided ideals of  $\mathbb{V}$ .

For instance, lets choose the ideal  $I$  of  $\mathbb{V}_2$  generated by  $11 + \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}$  and the quotient  $\mathcal{A}_2 = \mathcal{A}_{(2,I)} = \frac{\mathbb{V}}{I}$ .

The set of digits  $\mathbb{V}_2$  of is the singleton  $\mathcal{D}_2 = \{1\}$  and a basis of  $\mathbb{V}_2$  is  $\{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}\} \cup \mathbb{N}_2^* = \{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}\} \cup \{1, 11, 111, \dots\} = \{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}\} \cup \{1^n / n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , therefore the set  $\mathcal{G} = \{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I\} \cup \{1^n + I / n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  generates  $\mathcal{A}$ .

We claim that one basis of the quotient over  $I$  is the set  $\mathcal{B} = \{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I, 1 + I\}$ , which we will proceed to prove right now.

- i)  $\mathcal{B}$  generates  $\mathcal{A}_2$

It can be easily check that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$

$$1^k + I = \begin{cases} \pm(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) & \text{si } k \text{ es par} \\ \pm(1 + I) & \text{si } k \text{ es impar} \end{cases}$$

Which implies  $\mathcal{B}$  actually generates  $\mathcal{A}_2$ .

ii)  $\mathcal{B}$  is linearly independent:

Consider the null linear combination of vectors of  $\mathcal{B}$ :  $a(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) + b(1 + I) = 0 + I$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . With the product of  $\mathcal{A}_2$  inherited from  $\mathbb{V}_2$  multiply by  $a(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) + b(1 + I) = 0 + I$  at both sides of the equality to obtain  $(a^2 + b^2)(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) = 0 + I$ , from which  $a^2 + b^2 = 0$  and  $a = b = 0$

It turns out, that  $1_{\mathcal{A}} = \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I$ , and denoting with  $i = 1 + I$  we have the following table for the product on the basis  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\mathcal{A}_2$ .

$\cdot$	$1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$I$
$1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$I$
$i$	$i$	$-1_{\mathcal{A}}$

Which means  $\mathcal{A}_2 \approx \mathbb{C}$  and, algebraically speaking, both fields:  $\mathcal{A}_2$  and  $\mathbb{C}$ , are the same object. (Yaglom, 1968).

Another interesting construction is the one of the quaternions, usually denoted by  $\mathbb{H}$  (Gürlebeck 1997; Hamilton, 1866).

On that purpose consider the two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $\mathbb{V}_4$  generated by all elements of the form:

- i)  $x^2 + \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}$ , for all  $x \in \mathcal{D}$
- ii)  $xy + yx$ , for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{D}$ , such that  $x \neq y$
- iii)  $12 - 3, 23 - 1$  and  $31 - 2$

In this case the set  $\mathcal{B} = \{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I, 1 + I, 2 + I, 3 + I\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{A}_4$  fact that will be proven right now.

i)  $\mathcal{B}$  generates  $\mathcal{A}_4$

A basis of  $\mathbb{V}_4$  is  $\{\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}}\} \cup \mathbb{N}_4^*$  therefore the set  $\{x_1^{\delta_1} x_2^{\delta_2} \dots x_k^{\delta_k} + I / k \in \mathbb{N} \wedge \forall i = 1, \dots, n, x_i \in \mathcal{D} \wedge \delta_i = 0 \text{ ó } \delta_i = 1\}$  generates  $\mathcal{A}_4$ .

Check that for all  $x \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$x^k + I = \begin{cases} \pm(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) & \text{if } k \text{ is even} \\ \pm(x + I) & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \end{cases}, \text{ which implies that } \mathcal{B} \text{ generates } \mathcal{A}_4$$

ii)  $\mathcal{B}$  is linearly independent:

Consider the null linear combination  $a(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) + b(1 + I) + c(2 + I) + d(3 + I) = 0$ , where  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$  and right-multiply at both sides of the equality by  $a(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) - b(1 + I) - c(2 + I) - d(3 + I)$ , to obtain  $(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)(\overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I) = 0$ , which implies  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 0$  and  $a = b = c = d = 0$ .

To conclude  $\mathcal{A}_4$  just rename the elements of  $\mathcal{B}$  as  $1_{\mathcal{A}} = \overline{1_{\mathbb{R}}} + I, I = 1 + I, j = 2 + I, k = 3 + I$

and consider the following table of the product restricted to  $\mathcal{B}$ :

$\cdot$	$1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$i$	$J$	$k$
$1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$i$	$J$	$K$
$i$	$i$	$-1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$K$	$-j$
$j$	$j$	$-k$	$-1_{\mathcal{A}}$	$I$
$k$	$k$	$j$	$-i$	$-1_{\mathcal{A}}$

### 3. CONCLUDING REMARKS

With this new approach and with the help of the vector spaces  $\mathbb{V}$ , known algebras can be presented in a different way than those found up to now, by using certain ideals of those spaces in their quotient form. The spaces  $\mathbb{V}$  can be over any field  $K$  and other algebras can be constructed using this procedure. In particular, as quotients of  $\mathbb{V}_k$  the Clifford Algebras (Brackx, Delanghe & Sommen, 1982; Játem & Vanegas, 2018), may also be built, which will appear in a second article now in preparation.

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