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**Projective resolutions of Cohen-Macaulay algebras.**
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The goal of this paper is to write down a "universal" resolution for certain factor rings which is minimal in some cases of interest. Let $A$ be a ring of the form $k[x_1,\cdots,x_n]/I$; $k$ is a field. By the Noether normalization theorem, $A$ will be, after a change of variables, a finitely generated module over $R=k[x_1,\cdots,x_d]$, $d=\dim A$. The ring $A$ is a Cohen-Macaulay ring if and only if $A$ is free over $R$. In this case $A=R\oplus E$, as $R$-modules, for a certain $R$-module $E$. The main result, Theorem 3.2, provides a resolution of $A$. The main technical tool in constructing this resolution is the "universal" resolution of G. Scheja and U. Storch [Manuscripta Math. **19** (1976), no. 1, 75–104; MR0407039; errata, ibid. **20** (1977), no. 1, 99–100; MR0429932]. Other cases of interest are 2-dimensional rational singularities and the ("relatively Cohen-Macaulay") total space of the versal deformation of a ring of the form $k[x_1,\cdots,x_r]/(x_1,\cdots,x_r)^2$. *P. Schenzel*