

# Euler Class Construction

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## 1 Introduction

The proof of the following theorem of Boratynski ([B] or see [Ma1]) gave rise to a method for explicit construction of projective modules in complete intersections theory.

**Theorem 1.1** ([B]) *Suppose  $A$  is a commutative ring and  $I$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Let  $I = (f_1, \dots, f_r) + I^2$  and  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{r-1}) + I^{(r-1)!}$ . Then  $J$  is image of a projective  $A$ -module  $P$  with  $\text{rank}(P) = r$ .*

This method of construction of Boratynski was used later by various authors ([MK], [Sw], [Mu], [Ma2], [DM]) to achieve a variety of objectives. In this paper, we do the same in the context of Euler class groups and Euler classes of projective modules.

The work of Boratynski was considered for the universal ring

$$A_n = \mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n, Z] / \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i Y_i - Z(1 + Z) \right)$$

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by N. Mohan Kumar and M. V. Nori ([MK], [Sw]). They proved that *the ideal*  $I = (X_1^{r_1}, \dots, X_n^{r_n}, Z^N)A_n$ , for  $N$  large enough, is the image of a projective  $A_n$ -module  $Q$  of rank  $n$  if and only if  $r_1 r_2 \cdots r_n$  is divisible by  $(n-1)!$ . The Grothendieck group  $K_0(A_n) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}[A] \oplus \mathbb{Z}[A/I]$  was also computed (see [Sw]).

Murthy used the description of  $K_0(A_n)$  of the universal ring to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2** ([Mu]) *Let  $A$  be a noetherian commutative ring and  $I \subset A$  be a local complete intersection ideal of height  $r$ . Suppose  $I = (f_1, \dots, f_r) + I^2$  and  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{r-1}) + I^{(r-1)!}$ . Assume  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  is a regular sequence. Then there is a projective  $A$ -module  $P$  of rank  $r$  and a surjective homomorphism  $P \rightarrow J$ , such that  $[P] - [A^r] = -[A/I] \in K_0(A)$ .*

This theorem of Murthy ([Mu]) was a key ingredient that led to the proof of his theorem that for a projective  $A$ -module  $P$  of with  $\text{rank}(P) = n = \dim(A)$ , over an affine algebra  $A$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$ , we have  $P \approx Q \oplus A$  if and only if the top Chern class  $C_n(P) = 0$ . These techniques were also used in [Ma2] in a similar way to obtain results for arbitrary noetherian commutative rings. Following is a result from ([Ma2]).

**Theorem 1.3** ([Ma2]) *Let  $A$  be a commutative noetherian ring. Suppose  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  is a regular sequence of length  $r \leq \dim A$ . Suppose  $P$  is a projective  $A$ -module of rank  $r$  that maps onto the ideal  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{r-1}, f_r^{(r-1)!})$ . Then  $[P] = [Q \oplus A]$  in  $K_0(A)$ , for some projective  $A$ -module of  $Q$ .*

In a recent paper, Das and Mandal ([DM]) used similar techniques for some construction of projective modules in the context of weak Euler classes.

Euler class of a ring was originally defined by Nori (see [MS], [BRS1]) for smooth affine algebras. We will use the definition of the Euler class group that was given by S. M. Bhatwadekar and Raja Sridharan ([BRS2]).

Given a commutative ring  $A$  with  $\dim A = n$  and a line bundle  $L$  on  $\text{Spec}(A)$ , we write  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$ . An Euler  $L$ -cycle is a pair  $(I, \omega)$  where  $I$  is an ideal of height  $n$  and  $\omega : F/IF \rightarrow I/I^2$  is an equivalence class of surjective maps. An Euler  $L$ -cycle  $(I, \omega)$  is said to be a global Euler  $L$ -cycle, if  $\omega$  lifts to a surjection  $F \rightarrow I$ . The Euler class group, relative to  $L$ , was defined as the quotient group  $E(A, L) = G(L)/H(L)$ , where  $G(L)$  is the free abelian group generated by the set

$$S = \{(N, \omega) : (N, \omega) \text{ is an Euler } L\text{-cycle and } N \text{ is a primary ideal}\}$$

and  $H(L)$  is the subgroup of  $G(L)$  generated by global  $L$ -cycles.

For a projective  $A$ -module  $P$  with  $\text{rank}(P) = r \leq \dim A$  and determinant  $\det(P) = L$ , a pair  $(P, \chi)$  will be called an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module, where  $\chi : L \xrightarrow{\sim} \wedge^r P$  is an isomorphism. Given such an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module  $(P, \chi)$  of rank  $n = \dim A$  the Euler class  $e(P, \chi) \in E(A, L)$  of  $(P, \chi)$  has been defined in [BRS2] (see the section on preliminaries for details).

In this paper we construct, following the work of Boratynski ([B]), oriented projective modules with a given Euler class as follows.

**Theorem 1.4** *Let  $A$  be a commutative noetherian ring of dimension  $n$ . Let  $L$  be a line bundle on  $\text{Spec}(A)$  and  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$ . Let  $J$  be a local complete intersection ideal of height  $n$  with  $J/J^2$  free and  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n) + J^2$ . Let*

$$I = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}) + J^{(n-1)!}.$$

*Let  $(I, \omega)$  be any  $L$ -cycle in  $E(A, L)$ .*

*Then, there is an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module  $(P, \chi)$  of rank  $n$  such that*

1.  $[P] - [F] = -[A/J]$  in  $K_0(A)$ ,
2.  $P$  maps onto  $I$ ,
3. the Euler class  $e(P, \chi) = (I, \omega) \in E(A, L)$ , if  $A$  contains the field of rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

In this paper, all rings we consider are noetherian and commutative and modules are finitely generated. The dimension of all the rings we consider is at least 2.

In section 2, we discuss some of the preliminaries and in section 3 we discuss our main results.

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## 2 Preliminaries

In this section on preliminaries, we recall the definition of the Euler class group and include some basic facts about patching techniques and complete intersections.

### 2.1 Definition of the Euler Class Group

First, we define oriented projective modules.

**Definition 2.1** *Let  $A$  be a noetherian commutative ring and  $L$  be a line bundle on  $\text{Spec}(A)$ . An  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module of rank  $r$  is a pair  $(P, \chi)$  where  $P$  is a projective  $A$ -module of rank  $r$  and  $\chi : L \xrightarrow{\sim} \wedge^r P$  is an isomorphism. Such an isomorphism  $\chi$  will be called an orientation of  $P$ .*

Now we will recall the definition of the Euler class group ([BRS2]).

**Definition 2.2** *Let  $A$  be a noetherian commutative ring with  $\dim A = n$  and let  $L$  be a rank one projective  $A$ -module. Write  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$ .*

1. *For an ideal  $I$  of height  $n$ , two surjective homomorphisms  $\omega_1, \omega_2 : F/IF \rightarrow I/I^2$  are said to be equivalent if  $\omega_1 \sigma = \omega_2$  for some automorphism  $\sigma \in SL(F/IF)$ . An equivalence class of surjective homomorphisms  $\omega : F/IF \rightarrow I/I^2$  is called a local  $L$ -orientation.*
2. *A local  $L$ -orientation  $\omega : F/IF \rightarrow I/I^2$  of an ideal  $I$  of height  $n$  is said to be a global Euler  $L$ -orientation, if  $\omega$  lifts to a surjection  $F \rightarrow I$ .*
3. *Let  $G(L)$  be the free abelian group generated by the set  $S$  of all pairs  $(N, \omega)$  where  $N$  is a primary ideal of height  $n$  and  $\omega$  is a local  $L$ -orientation of  $N$ . Elements of  $G(L)$  will be called Euler  $L$ -cycles.*
4. *Let  $J$  be an ideal of height  $n$  and  $\omega : F/IF \rightarrow J/J^2$  be a local  $L$ -orientation of  $J$ . Let  $J = N_1 \cap N_2 \cap \cdots \cap N_k$  be a primary decomposition of  $J$ . Then  $\omega$  induces a local  $L$ -orientations  $\omega_i : F/N_i F \rightarrow N_i/N_i^2$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Let  $(J, \omega)$  denote the element  $\sum_{i=1}^k (N_i, \omega_i)$  in  $G(L)$ . We say that  $(J, \omega)$  is the Euler  $L$ -cycle determined by  $(J, \omega)$ .*
5. *Let  $H(L)$  be the subgroup of  $G(L)$  generated by the set of all pairs  $(J, \omega)$  where  $\omega$  is a global Euler  $L$ -orientation.*

6. Define  $E(A, L) = G(L)/H(L)$ . This group is called the **Euler class group** of  $A$  (relative to  $L$ ).
7. **Notation:** The image of an Euler  $L$ -cycle  $(J, \omega) \in G(L)$ , in  $E(A, L)$  will be denoted by the same notation  $(J, \omega)$  and also be called an Euler  $L$ -cycle. It will be clear from the context, whether we mean in  $G(L)$  or in  $E(A, L)$ .
8. Let  $\chi_0 : L \rightarrow \wedge^n F$  be the isomorphism defined by  $\chi_0(l) = e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{n-1} \wedge l$ , where  $e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}$  is the standard basis of  $A^{n-1} \subseteq F$ . This orientation  $\chi_0$  will be called the **standard orientation** of  $F$ .
9. Now we assume that the field of rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$  is contained in  $A$ . Let  $(P, \chi)$  be an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module with  $\text{rank}(P) = n$ . (So  $\det(P) = L$ .) Let  $f : P \rightarrow I$  be a surjective homomorphism, where  $I$  is an ideal of height  $n$ . Suppose  $\gamma : F/IF \rightarrow P/IP$  is an isomorphism such that  $\wedge^n \gamma \overline{\chi_0} = \overline{\chi}$  where "overline" denotes "modulo  $I$ ". Let  $\omega = \overline{f} \gamma$ . Define the Euler class of  $(P, \chi)$  as  $e(P, \chi) = (I, \omega) \in E(A, L)$ . In fact, this association  $e(P, \chi) = (I, \omega)$  is well defined.

## 2.2 Patching Techniques

For our later discussions, it will be convenient to have the following notation regarding fiber product of modules.

**Notation 2.1** Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $As + At = A$  for some  $s, t \in A$ . Let  $M$  be an  $A_t$ -module,  $N$  be an  $A_s$ -module and  $\alpha : M_s \xrightarrow{\sim} N_t$  be an isomorphism. The  $A$ -module obtained by patching  $M$  and  $N$  via  $\alpha$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{P}(M, N, \alpha)$ . So, following

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{P}(M, N, \alpha) & \longrightarrow & N \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 M & \longrightarrow & M_s \xrightarrow{\alpha} N_t
 \end{array}$$

is a fiber product diagram.

Before we proceed any further, we want to recall the definition of isotopy, due to Plumstead ([P] or see [Ma1]).

**Definition 2.3** ([P]) *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $f, g : M \xrightarrow{\sim} N$  be two isomorphisms of  $A$ -modules. We say that  $f$  is isotopic to  $g$ , if there is an isomorphism  $H[T] : M \otimes A[T] \xrightarrow{\sim} N \otimes A[T]$  such that  $H(0) = f$  and  $H(1) = g$ , where  $T$  is a variable.*

The following is a result of Plumstead ([P]) on patching techniques.

**Lemma 2.1** ([P]) *Suppose  $A$  is a commutative ring and  $M, N$  are two  $A$ -modules. Let  $s, t \in A$  be such that  $As + At = A$ . Suppose  $f_1 : M_t \rightarrow N_t$  and  $f_2 : M_s \rightarrow N_s$  are two isomorphisms. Assume that  $(f_2)_t^{-1}(f_1)_s$  is isotopic to  $Id_{M_{st}}$ . Then  $M \approx N$ .*

**Proof.** See ([P] or [Ma1]).

The following lemma on isotopy of isomorphisms will be useful later.

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  and  $N$  be two  $A$ -modules. Let  $\varphi : M \rightarrow M$  be an automorphism that is isotopic to  $Id_M$ . Then  $\sigma^{-1}\varphi\sigma$  is isotopic to  $Id_N$ , for any isomorphism  $\sigma : N \xrightarrow{\sim} M$ .*

**Proof.** Proof is obvious.

The following is another lemma on patching that will be needed later in this paper.

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. Let  $s, t \in A$  be two elements such that  $As + At = A$ . Let  $\alpha : M_{st} \rightarrow M_{st}$  be an automorphism. Let  $\beta = \epsilon\alpha$ , where  $\epsilon : M_{st} \rightarrow M_{st}$  is an automorphism that is isotopic to identity. Let  $M', M''$  be the  $A$ -module obtained by patching  $M_t$  and  $M_s$ , respectively, via  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . Then  $M' \approx M''$ . Notationally,*

$$\mathcal{P}(M_t, M_s, \alpha) \approx \mathcal{P}(M_t, M_s, \epsilon\alpha).$$

**Proof.** We have,  $M'$  and  $M''$  are given by the following

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M' & \xrightarrow{p_2} & M_s \\ \downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow \\ M_t & \longrightarrow & M_{st} \xrightarrow{\alpha} M_{st} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
M'' & \xrightarrow{q_2} & M_s \\
\downarrow q_1 & & \downarrow \\
M_t & \longrightarrow & M_{st} \xrightarrow{\beta} M_{st}
\end{array}$$

two fiber product diagrams. Here  $p_1, p_2$  are the natural maps for the first diagram and  $q_1, q_2$  are the same for the second diagram.

Let  $f_1 = ((q_1)_t)^{-1}(p_1)_t : M'_t \rightarrow M''_t$  and  $f_2 = ((q_2)_s)^{-1}(p_2)_s : M'_s \rightarrow M''_s$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
(f_2^{-1})_t(f_1)_s &= ((p_2)_s)^{-1}(q_2)_s((q_1)_t)^{-1}(p_1)_t = ((p_2)_s)^{-1}\beta(p_1)_t \\
&= ((p_2)_s)^{-1}\epsilon\alpha(p_1)_t = ((p_2)_s)^{-1}\epsilon(p_2)_s.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\epsilon$  is isotopic to identity, by Lemma 2.2, we have  $(f_2^{-1})_t(f_1)_s$  is also isotopic to identity. By lemma 2.1,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  will induce an isomorphism  $f : M' \rightarrow M''$ . This completes the proof of this lemma.

For our later discussions, it will be convenient to have the following formulation of the Murthy's ([Mu]) version of the theorem of Boratynski ([B]).

**Theorem 2.1** ([Mu]) *Let  $A$  be a noetherian commutative ring. Suppose  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_r$  is a regular sequence and  $s(1+s) = f_1g_1 + \dots + f_rg_r$  for some  $s \in A$  and  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  in  $A$ . Write  $I = (f_1, \dots, f_r, s)$ .*

Let

$$A_r = \mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_r, Y_1, \dots, Y_r, Z]/(\sum X_i Y_i - Z(1+Z)).$$

Consider the map

$$A_r \longrightarrow A$$

that sends  $X_i, Y_i$ , respectively, to  $f_i, g_i$  and  $Z$  to  $s$ .

Let  $\Gamma \in GL_r((A_r)_{z(1+z)})$  be an invertible matrix whose first row is  $(x_1, \dots, x_{r-1}, x_r^{(r-1)!})$ , where  $x_i$  denotes the image of  $X_i$  in  $A_r$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the image of  $\Gamma$  in  $GL_r(A_{s(1+s)})$ .

Let  $P = \mathcal{P}(A_{1+s}^r, A_s^r, \alpha)$  be the projective  $A$ -module obtained by patching  $A_{1+s}^r$  and  $A_s^r$  via  $\alpha$ .

Then

1.  $[P] - [A^r] = -[A/I] \in K_0(A)$  and
2.  $\det(P) = A$ .

3. Further, if  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{r-1}) + I^{(r-1)!}$ , then  $P$  maps onto  $J$ .

**Proof.** See ([Mu]) or [DM]).

### 3 Main Results

Suppose  $A$  is a commutative noetherian ring of dimension  $n$  and  $L$  be a line bundle on  $\text{Spec}(A)$ . Also suppose  $I$  is a local complete intersection ideal of height  $n$  and  $I/I^2$  is  $n$  generated. Following the theorem (1.1) of Boratynski ([B]), our main result constructs an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module  $(P, \chi)$  of rank  $n$  with a given Euler class  $e(P, \chi) \in E(A, L)$ . Our main theorem is a consequence of the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $A$  be a commutative noetherian ring of dimension  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $L$  be a line bundle on  $\text{Spec}(A)$  and  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$ . Suppose  $J$  is a local complete intersection ideal of height  $n$  such that  $J/J^2$  is generated by  $n$  elements and  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n) + J^2$ . Write  $N = (n-1)!$ . Let*

$$I = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}) + J^N.$$

*Let  $e_i$  be standard basis of  $A^{n-1} \subseteq F$  and  $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, e) \in F$  be such that  $e$  generates  $L/IL$ . (Here "overline" will denote modulo  $I$ .) Define a local  $L$ -orientation  $\omega : F/IF \rightarrow I/I^2$  such that  $\omega(\overline{e_i}) = \overline{f_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$  and  $\omega(\overline{e_n}) = \overline{f_n^N}$ .*

*There is a projective  $A$ -module  $P$  of rank  $n$  such that*

1.  $\det(P) = L$ , and  $[P] - [F] = -[A/J]$  in  $K_0(A)$ ,
2.  $P$  maps onto  $I$ ,
3. an orientation  $\chi : L \rightarrow \wedge^n P$ , will also be defined such that
4. the Euler class  $e(P, \chi) = (I, \omega) \in E(A, L)$ , if  $A$  contains the field of rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Proof.** If necessary, we replace  $f_i$  by  $f_i + \lambda_i$  for some  $\lambda_i \in J^{2(n-1)!}$ , and assume that  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  is a regular sequence. This can be done because for all prime ideals  $\wp$  containing  $I$ , we have  $\text{depth}_I A_\wp = n$ .

There is an isomorphism  $\zeta_0 : L/IL \rightarrow A/I$  such that  $\zeta_0(\overline{e}) = 1$ . Let  $\zeta_1 : L \rightarrow A$  be a lift of  $\zeta_0$ . Then  $\zeta_1(e) = 1 + s_0$  for some  $s_0 \in I$ . Note that  $(\zeta_1, s_0)$



is an unimodular element in  $\text{Hom}(L, A) \oplus A$ . For some  $\zeta_2 \in \text{Hom}(L, A)$ ,  $\zeta = \zeta_1 + s_0\zeta_2$  is basic on  $V(I) \cup \text{Ass}(A)$  (see [EE]). Then  $\zeta$  is injective and  $t_1 = \zeta(e) = 1 + s_1$  for some  $s_1 \in I$ . So, identifying  $L$  with  $\zeta(L)$ , we can assume that

1.  $L$  is an invertible ideal,
2.  $L + I = A$ ,
3. we have,  $1 = \bar{e}$ , in this identification  $L/IL \cong A/I$ .

There is an  $s \in J$  such that  $(1 + s)J \subseteq (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n)$ . Write  $t = 1 + s$ . Replacing  $t$  by  $tt_1$ , we can assume that  $t \in L$ . So,  $L_t = A_t$  and  $I_t = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n^{(n-1)!})$ .

We have  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$ . Let  $\chi_0 : L \rightarrow \wedge^n F$  be the standard orientation given by  $\chi_0(l) = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_{n-1} \wedge l$ , for  $l \in L$ .

Let

$$A_n = \mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n, Z]/(\sum X_i Y_i - Z(1 + Z)).$$

We have  $\sum_{i=1}^n f_i g_i = st$  for some  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  in  $A$ . There is a homomorphism

$$A_n \longrightarrow A$$

that sends  $X_i$  to  $f_i$ ,  $Y_i$  to  $g_i$  and  $Z$  to  $s$ .

By the theorem of Suslin ([S]), there is a matrix  $\Gamma \in \mathbb{M}_n(A_n)$  with first row  $(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n^{(n-1)!})$  and  $\det(\Gamma) = (z(1 + z))^r$  for some integer  $r \geq 0$ . Let  $\alpha \in M_n(A)$  be an the image of  $\Gamma$ . Then,

1. the first row of  $\alpha$  is  $(f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n^{(n-1)!})$ ,
2.  $\det(\alpha) = s^r t^r$  for some integer  $r \geq 1$ .

Define  $\varphi_1 : F_t \rightarrow I_t$  by

$$\varphi_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, l_n) = f_1 x_1 + \dots + f_{n-1} x_{n-1} + f_n^{(n-1)!} l_n$$

for  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, l_n) \in F_t = A_t^{n-1} \oplus L_t$ .

Define  $\varphi_2 : F_s \rightarrow I_s$  by

$$\varphi_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, l_n) = x_1$$

for  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, l_n) \in F_s = A_s^{n-1} \oplus L_s$ .

Note that both  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  are surjective. Also note that  $\alpha$  defines a homomorphism  $\alpha : F_{st} \rightarrow F_{st}$ . Consider the following

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 P & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & & \longrightarrow & F_s \\
 \downarrow \varphi & \searrow & & & \downarrow \varphi_2 \\
 I & \xrightarrow{\quad} & & \longrightarrow & I_s \\
 \downarrow \pi_1 & \downarrow & & & \downarrow \\
 F_t & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F_{st} & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & F_{st} \\
 \downarrow \varphi_1 & \downarrow & \searrow \varphi_1 & & \downarrow \varphi_2 \\
 I_t & \xrightarrow{\quad} & I_{st} & \xrightarrow{Id} & I_{st}
 \end{array}$$

fiber product diagram. Here  $P$  is the fiber product of  $F_t$  and  $F_s$  via  $\alpha$ . Note that  $\varphi_2 \alpha = \varphi_1$ . The map  $\varphi : P \rightarrow I$  is obtained by the properties of fiber product diagrams. Since  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  are surjective, so is  $\varphi$ .

We will now construct an orientation  $\chi : L \rightarrow \wedge^n P$ .

Let  $\chi_1 = (\wedge^n \pi_1)_t^{-1}(\chi_0)_t : L_t \rightarrow \wedge^n P_t$  and  $\chi_2 = (\wedge^n \pi_2)_s^{-1}(\chi_0)_s : L_s \rightarrow \wedge^n P_s$ .

Now  $(\chi_2)_t^{-1}(\chi_1)_s = (\chi_0)_{st}^{-1}(\wedge^n \pi_2)_{st}^{-1}(\wedge^n \pi_1)_{st}(\chi_0)_{st} = \det(\alpha) = s^r t^r$ .

Let  $\chi'_1 = t^{-r} \chi_1 : L_t \rightarrow \wedge^n P_t$  and  $\chi'_2 = s^r \chi_2 : L_s \rightarrow \wedge^n P_s$ . Now  $(\chi'_1)_s = (\chi'_2)_t$ . Let  $\chi : L \rightarrow \wedge^n P$  be the isomorphism such that  $\chi_t = \chi'_1$  and  $\chi_s = \chi'_2 = t^{-r} \wedge^n (\pi_t)^{-1}(\chi_0)_t$ . So,  $\chi : L \rightarrow \wedge^n P$  is an orientation of  $P$ .

Note that  $\alpha$  also defines a map  $\alpha : F_s \rightarrow F_{st}$  (this is possible because  $L$  is an ideal). We define a map  $\eta : F \rightarrow P$  by the following

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 F & \xrightarrow{\quad} & & \longrightarrow & F_s \\
 \downarrow \eta & \searrow & & & \downarrow \alpha \\
 P & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & & \longrightarrow & F_s \\
 \downarrow & \downarrow & & & \downarrow \\
 F_t & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & F_{st} & \xrightarrow{Id} & F_{st} \\
 \downarrow Id & \downarrow & \searrow & & \downarrow \alpha \\
 F_t & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F_{st} & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & F_{st}
 \end{array}$$

fiber product diagram. We also have the following

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
F_t & \xrightarrow{\eta_t} & P_t & \xrightarrow{\varphi_t} & I_t \\
Id \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi_1 & & \downarrow Id \\
F_t & \xrightarrow{Id} & F_t & \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} & I_t
\end{array}$$

commutative diagram. It follows from this that  $\varphi\eta \equiv \omega_I$  (modulo  $I$ ). Also the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
L_t & \xrightarrow{(\chi_0)_t} & \wedge^n F_t & \xrightarrow{\wedge^n \eta_t} & \wedge^n P_t \\
Id \downarrow & & \downarrow Id & & \downarrow \wedge^n (\pi_1)_t \\
L_t & \xrightarrow{(\chi_0)_t} & \wedge^n F_t & \xrightarrow{Id} & \wedge^n F_t
\end{array}$$

is commutative. So,  $\wedge^n \eta_t (\chi_0)_t = \wedge^n (\pi_1)_t^{-1} (\chi_0)_t = \overline{(\chi_1)_t}$ .

Let "overline" denote (modulo  $I$ ). Therefore  $\overline{\wedge^n \eta_t (\chi_0)_t} = \overline{\chi_1} = \overline{\chi'_1}$ . So,  $\overline{\wedge^n \eta \chi_0} = \overline{\chi}$ .

This establishes that  $e(P, \chi) = \omega_I$ .

It remains to prove that  $[P] - [F] = -[A/J]$ . Let  $F_0 = A^n$  be the free  $A$ -module of rank  $n$ . Let  $P'$  be the projective  $A$ -module obtained by patching  $(F_0)_t$  and  $(F_0)_s$  via  $\alpha : (F_0)_{st} \rightarrow (F_0)_{st}$ . Since  $\alpha$  comes from  $A_n$ , it follows, from Murthy's version ([Mu]) of Boratynski's ([B]) theorem 2.1, that  $[P'] - [A^n] = -[A/J]$  and  $\det(P') = A$ . Therefore, it is enough to prove that  $P' \oplus L \approx P \oplus A$ .

Recall that  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$  and  $F_0 = A^n$ . Define  $\epsilon : F \oplus A \rightarrow F_0 \oplus L$  by

$$\epsilon(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, l_n, x_{n+1}) = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -x_{n+1}, l_n)$$

where  $x_i \in A$  and  $l_n \in L$ . So,  $\epsilon$  switches the last two coordinates with a sign adjustment.

Similarly, define  $\epsilon' : (F_0 \oplus L)_{st} \rightarrow (F_0 \oplus L)_{st}$  by

$$\epsilon'(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, x_{n+1}) = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -x_{n+1}, x_n)$$

Note that  $L_{st} = A_{st}$  and so  $(F_0 \oplus L)_{st} = A_{st}^{n+1}$ . Note also that  $\epsilon'$  is in  $SL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ . So,  $\epsilon'$  is an elementary matrix and hence isotopic to identity.

Let  $\beta = (\alpha \oplus Id_A) : (F \oplus A)_{st} \rightarrow (F \oplus A)_{st}$ .

Let  $\beta' = \epsilon'(\alpha \oplus Id) : (F_0 \oplus L)_{st} \rightarrow (F_0 \oplus L)_{st}$ . Then

$$\epsilon\beta = \beta'.$$

Let  $Q$  be the projective  $A$ -module obtained by patching  $(F_0 \oplus L)_t$  and  $(F_0 \oplus L)_s$  via  $\beta'$ . Consider the following

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
P \oplus A & \xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}} & (F \oplus A)_s & & & & \\
\downarrow & \searrow \Psi & \downarrow & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & & & \\
& & Q & \xrightarrow{\pi_2''} & (F_0 \oplus L)_s & & \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
(F \oplus A)_t & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}} & (F_0 \oplus L)_t & \xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}} & (F_0 \oplus L)_s & & \\
& \searrow & \downarrow \pi_1'' & \xrightarrow{\beta} & (F \oplus A)_{st} & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & (F_0 \oplus L)_{st} \\
& & (F \oplus A)_{st} & & \downarrow & & \\
& & & & (F_0 \oplus L)_{st} & \xrightarrow{\beta'} & (F_0 \oplus L)_{st}
\end{array}$$

fiber product diagram. Here the homomorphism  $\Psi : P \oplus A \rightarrow Q$  is obtained by the properties of fiber product diagrams. Since, the maps on upper right hand and lower left hand corners are isomprhisms,  $\Psi$  is also an isomorphism.

By lemma 2.3, we have  $Q = \mathcal{P}((F_0 \oplus L)_t, (F_0 \oplus L)_s, \beta') \approx \mathcal{P}((F_0 \oplus L)_t, (F_0 \oplus L)_s, \alpha \oplus Id) = P' \oplus L$  So,  $P \oplus A \xrightarrow{\Psi} Q \approx P' \oplus L$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

**Remark 3.1** Theorem 2.1 holds for any locally complete intersection ideal  $J$  with  $J/J^2$  free and invertible ideals  $L$  with  $L + J = A$ . Although, the last item that  $e(P, \chi) = (I, \omega)$ , in the statement of the theorem, needs to be appropriately formulated.

Now we are ready to prove our main theorem.

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $A$  be a commutative noetherian ring of dimension  $n$ . Let  $L$  be a line bundle on  $\text{Spec}(A)$  and  $F = A^{n-1} \oplus L$ . Let  $J$  be a local complete intersection ideal of height  $n$  and  $J = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n) + J^2$ . Let*

$$I = (f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}) + J^{(n-1)!}.$$

*Let  $\omega : F/IF \rightarrow I/I^2$  be any surjective homomorphism.*

*Then there is an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module  $(P, \chi)$  of rank  $n$  such that*

1.  $[P] - [F] = -[A/J]$  in  $K_0(A)$ ,
2.  $P$  maps onto  $I$ ,
3. the Euler class  $e(P, \chi) = (I, \omega) \in E(A, L)$ , if  $A$  contains the field of rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Proof.** As in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we can assume that  $f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n$  is a regular sequence. Since  $I/I^2$  is free, we have  $\omega$  is an isomorphism. Let  $e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}$  be the standard basis of  $A^{n-1} \subseteq F$  and  $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, l) \in F$  is such that  $L/IL = (A/I)l$ . Let "overline" denote modulo  $I$ . So,  $\overline{e_1}, \dots, \overline{e_{n-1}}, \overline{e_n}$  is a basis of  $F/IF$ .

Since  $\dim A/I = 0$ , there is a  $\sigma \in SL(F/IF)$  such that  $\omega_1 = \omega\sigma$  has the following form:

$\omega_1(\overline{e_1}) = \overline{uf_1}$ , where  $u \in A$  and image of  $u$  is a unit in  $A/I$ ,  $\omega_1(\overline{e_i}) = \overline{f_i}$  for  $i = 2, \dots, n-1$  and  $\omega_1(\overline{e_n}) = \overline{f_n^{(n-1)!}}$ .

In fact, we can assume that  $u$  is a non zero divisor. To see this, let  $uv+x = 1$  for some  $x \in J$ . Let  $\wp_1, \dots, \wp_k, \wp_{k+1}, \dots, \wp_m$  be maximal among the associated primes of  $A$  such that  $u$  is in  $\wp_{k+1}, \dots, \wp_m$  and not in  $\wp_1, \dots, \wp_k$ . Pick  $\lambda \in J^{2(n-1)!} \cap \wp_1 \cap \dots \cap \wp_k \setminus \bigcup_{i=k+1}^m \wp_i$ . Let  $U = u + \lambda$ . Then  $Uv + (x - \lambda v) = 1$  and  $U$  is a nonzero divisor on  $A$ . Replacing  $u$  by  $U$ , we will assume that  $u$  is a non zero divisor.

Write  $F_1 = uf_1$ . Since  $u$  is also a unit in  $A/J$  we have

$J = (F_1, f_2, \dots, f_n) + J^2$  and  $F_1$  is a non zero divisor. We also have  $I = (F_1, f_2, \dots, f_{n-1}) + J^{(n-1)!}$ .

We will pick  $F_2, \dots, F_n$  such that

1.  $J = (F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n) + J^2$ ,
2.  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n$  is a regular sequence,
3. for  $i = 2, \dots, n$  we have  $F_i - f_i \in J^{2(n-1)!} \subseteq I^2$ .

The proof, by induction, is similar to above. Suppose we have picked  $F_1, \dots, F_r$ . Let  $\wp_1, \dots, \wp_k, \wp_{k+1}, \dots, \wp_m$  be the maximal among the associate primes of  $A/(F_1, \dots, F_r)$  such that  $f_{r+1}$  is in  $\wp_{k+1}, \dots, \wp_m$  and not in  $\wp_1, \dots, \wp_k$ . We pick  $\lambda \in J^{2(n-1)!} \cap \wp_1 \cap \dots \cap \wp_k \setminus \bigcup_{i=k+1}^m \wp_i$ . Write  $F_{r+1} = f_{r+1} + \lambda$ . Then

1.  $J = (F_1, F_2, \dots, F_{r+1}, f_{r+2}, \dots, f_n) + J^2$ ,

2.  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_{r+1}$  is a regular sequence,
3. for  $i = 2, \dots, r + 1$  we have  $F_i - f_i \in J^{2(n-1)!}$ .

For  $i = 2, \dots, n - 1$  we have  $f_i - F_i \in J^{(n-1)!}$ . So,  $I = (F_1, f_2, \dots, f_{n-1}) + J^{(n-1)!} = (F_1, F_2, \dots, F_{n-1}) + J^{(n-1)!}$ .

Also, since  $f_n - F_n \in I^2$ , we have  $f_n^{(n-1)!} - F_n^{(n-1)!} \in I^2$ .

So,  $\omega_1(\overline{e_1}) = \overline{uf_1} = \overline{F_1}$ ,  $\omega_1(\overline{e_i}) = \overline{f_i} = \overline{F_i}$  for  $i = 2, \dots, n - 1$  and  $\omega_1(\overline{e_n}) = \overline{f_n^{(n-1)!}} = \overline{F_n^{(n-1)!}}$ .

So,  $\omega_1$  is a local  $L$ -orientation of the type in Theorem 3.1 above, with respect to the generators  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  of  $J/J^2$ . By Theorem 3.1, there is an  $L$ -oriented projective  $A$ -module  $(P, \chi)$  that satisfies the assertions of the theorem. This completes the proof of the theorem.

**Remark 3.2** For a noetherian commutative ring  $A$  of dimension  $n$  and a line bundle  $L$  over  $\text{Spec}(A)$ , not all cycles  $x \in E(A, L)$  can be realized as Euler class of an oriented projective projective  $A$ -module  $(P, \chi)$ . This follows from the fact that the top Chern class map  $C^n : K_0(A) \rightarrow CH^n(A)$  is not always surjective.

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