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Modules of differential operators for vector field Lie algebras.

The Lie algebra $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ of vector fields on Euclidean space contains the projective Lie algebra $\mathfrak{sl}(m+1)$ as a maximal subalgebra. The space of differential operators on \mathbb{R}^m is naturally a module under $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. In this talk we will discuss the decomposition of this module under the projective subalgebra, and the use of this decomposition in analyzing the action of $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. We will also mention some generalizations: the module of differential operators can be generalized to modules of differential operators between arbitrary tensor field modules, and in odd dimensions, $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ can be replaced by the Lie algebra of contact vector fields, in which case the projective subalgebra is replaced by the conformal subalgebra, a copy of $\mathfrak{sp}(m+1)$. (Received August 03, 2009)